



## ARMOR BITS

March 2024

Newsletter of the ChicagoLand Armor Builders Society



Armor March-April 2004



## ARMOR BITS



Welcome to another edition of  
**ARMOR BITS!**

We started off the year with another great meeting in February . Nine members made it to the Education bldg. at Cantigny, with great models and plenty of laughs!

I have received an update from Cantigny concerning our meetings for this year. The Medill room is no longer available as it has become a dining area. The Education bldg. will be our regular meeting space unless its occupied, as it will be in March, in which case we will be in the Le Jardin dining room which is in the visitors center.

Speaking of meetings, since the April meeting is the same weekend as the convention in South Bend, I am canceling our meeting at Cantigny.

Even if you are unable to attend the entire convention, South Bend is only a couple hour drive from Chicago and I hope you can at the least, attend on Saturday!

If you have never attended a National convention, this is your chance. Believe me when I say it's a terrific experience.

This months newsletter has some interesting links to peruse, AND many great models from the February show & tell.

There's also a link to our web site where you can view pictures from the Atlanta show by Chuck Aleshire.

I hope to see you at the March meeting! Cheers!

*Stan*

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday **10am March 9th@ LeJardin room in the Visitors center at Cantigny.**

## FEBRUARY '24 MEETING NOTES

Welcome –

Treasure's report/AMPS Nats Update – *everything proceeding well. The treasury is in fine fettle.*

AMPS Best Diorama award sponsorship - *Vote approved to sponsor award for \$30*

IPMS 2024 Madiso contest; *Model Geeks Ep 70 podcast Has an interview with Jeff Herndon - in charge of the nats in Madison is excellent*

2024 Cantigny Meeting list – *No update yet*

New business?

Show & Tell



# 1944



**AMPS '24**  
**GLOBAL FRONTS**

SOUTH BEND April 11—13



# Volunteers needed for the 2024 AMPS Nationals Security Team

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The job is easy. The time commitment: a short stint at the door (checking for wristbands) or where needed and a watchful eye as you go about your normal show business over the course of the weekend. Be my backup if I have any problems. Report to me if you spot any problems.

If you would like to volunteer, or have any questions about volunteering for security please email me at [docon9780@sbcglobal.net](mailto:docon9780@sbcglobal.net) .

From you I will need your email, cellphone number and the dates when you arrive and when you leave so that I can prepare a schedule.

I will also have an on-site signup sheet in the registration area.

Thank You

Dan O'Connor

## So Bend Convention info

Greetings Fellow Armor Modelers,

The year 2023 is in the books and that means the AMPS 2024 International Show in South Bend, IN, April 11-13, 2024, is that much closer. In fact, the show is less than 80 days away. So, keep hunkered down in the man cave and build away so you are ready to roll when April gets here.

A few updated notes, reminders and AMPS 2024 Convention Fees (near the end):

Hotel Reservations: Hotel reservations for the show are open and you can book yours fast and all on-line by visiting the AMPS homepage (<https://www.amps-armor.org>). So, if you didn't reserve your room before the New Year, now would be a good time to start the year off right and ensure you've got a place to stay. For the best service, use the links for the Doubletree by Hilton or Courtyard by Marriott on the AMPS homepage and check this chore off your list.

NOTE: Both hotels are just across the street from the Convention Center.

Pre-registration: Pre-registration is open and ready to go. This is a great time saver, especially for when you arrive at the show. Simply drop off your paperwork, hand off your model to the ramrod, meet up with friends, recon on the vendor tables and enjoy the show. Follow the easy links on the AMPS homepage (<https://www.amps-armor.org>), pay on-line and register your entries. Remember, you don't need your entries to be completed when pre-registering.

NOTE: Once you complete your registration forms, remember to print them out and bring them with you to the show.

Category Sponsorships: AMPS is still looking for sponsorships in the "Best of's" and in most entry category sponsorships. Sponsoring a specific category or a "Best of" is a great way to directly support the show. Visit the AMPS homepage, select "The Society" link at the top of the page, then select "Contact the AMPS Executive Board" and send Marketing Director Frank Froment a message indicating what you or your chapter would like to sponsor.

Call for Judges: It's not G-2 (Intelligence and Security) information that AMPS always needs many judges to help ensure all entries are reviewed and scored by the judges. If you haven't judged before, now would be a great time to step up and give it a try. It will help make you a much better and observant modeler. Check out the Judges' Training modules on the AMPS home page (<https://www.amps-armor.org>) and consider volunteering for a shift or more at the show.

NOTE: When you pre-register, you can sign up for judging shifts or volunteer for other duties needed to help make the show run smooth for everyone.

Kit Donations: It's no surprise the ever-popular AMPS raffle is one very cool convention activity that people get excited about. Attendees have a chance to win exciting items like kits, aftermarket items and reference materials. At the same time they are donating to help support AMPS through raffle ticket purchases. AMPS relies on donations from manufacturers, vendors and AMPS members like you to add to the diversity of raffle items. So, as you wander through your stash of kits, aftermarket items, and books; please consider making a donation to help grow the AMPS raffle. This directly supports the society to host future shows and preservation projects. Newer (complete) kits, diorama items, figures, aftermarket items, photo-etch sets, decals, reference books/manuals, and unused tools, are most welcome. Contact Raffle Coordinator Georg Eyerman via email at [zululand66@gmail.com](mailto:zululand66@gmail.com) regarding what you will be donating before heading to the show.

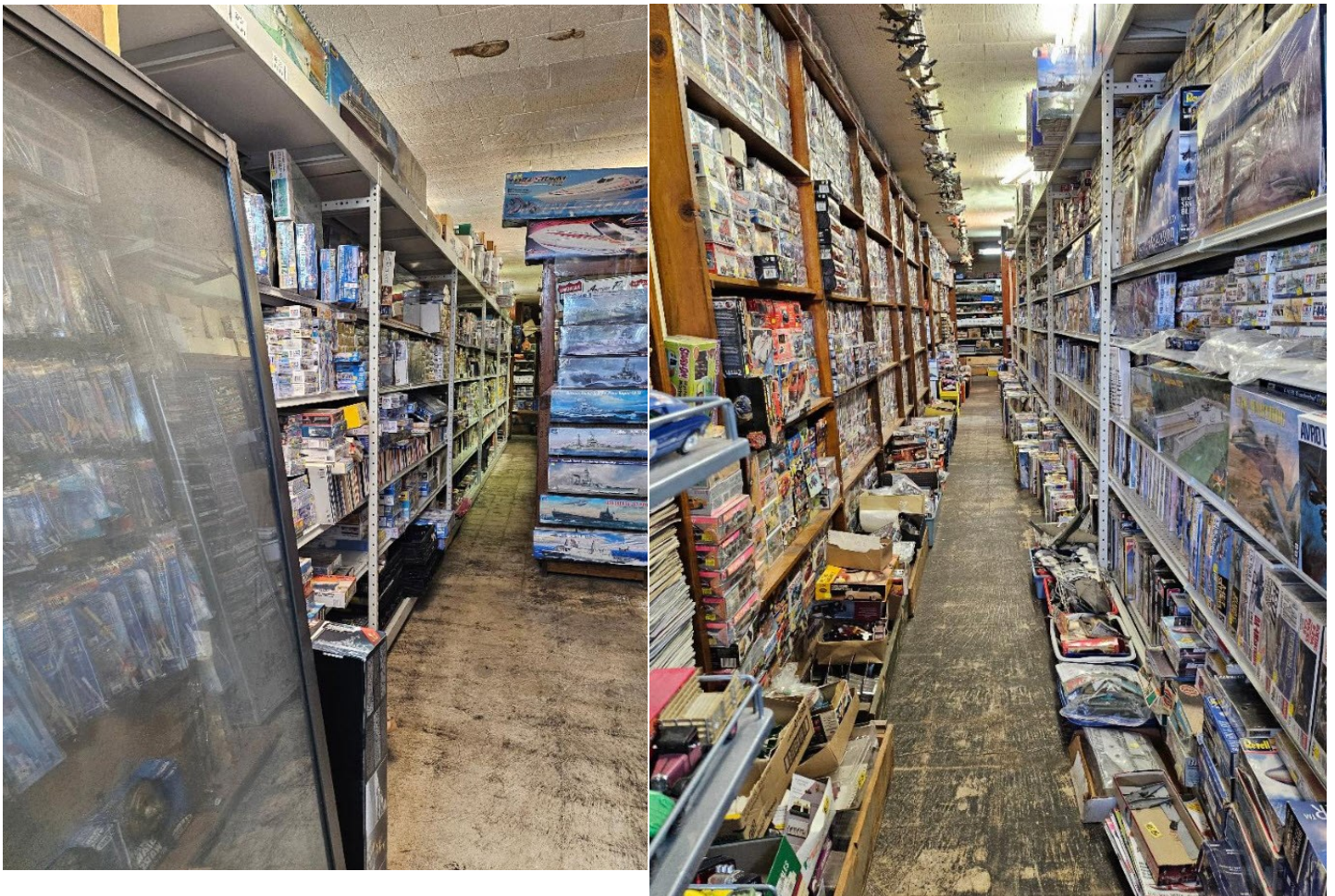


# TRACK LINKS

## Lee Lygiros sends this:

Just went to Happy Hobby in Milwaukee. Place is jammed with models, many are recent releases and there's a good selection. There's also consignment stuff available. Armor, aircraft and cars seem to have standard brick and mortar hobby shop prices with a few overpriced exceptions. Ships are expensive. Consignment stuff is a bargain.

There are a couple of **Happy Hobby shops** in Milwaukee. You want the one on Burleigh, at least according to the proprietor. I asked him if the other Happy Hobby has a similar inventory. He told me it's owned by his Sister In Law and her inventory doesn't come close to his, at least for plastic, although I'll probably pay a visit there sometime to make sure myself.



# TRACK LINKS

Ukraine Situation Report: Battle-Damaged HIMARS Return To United States

<https://www.twz.com/news-features/situation-report-battle-damaged-himars-return-to-united-states>



Tankenstein Vehicles of the Russia Ukrainian War Part III

[Link](#)



The MT-LB artillery tractor continues to be the most popular basis for DIY vehicle conversions in the Russia-Ukraine War. This example is a Ukrainian conversion modified at Kharkov, it combines a pair of S-8 rocket pods with the MT-LB to produce a mobile rocket system



# TRACK LINKS

**Kit Maker** FORUMS

## German Raw colour footage Eastern front June - Sept 1942

■ Armor/AFV ■ WWII Axis

<https://youtu.be/RYpc35zDAY4>



Littorio British Bulldog

15d

German Raw Color Footage from the Eastern Front in Ukraine/Southern Russi...



**Kit Maker** FORUMS

## February 1945 German Newsreel

■ Armor/AFV ■ WWII Axis 1:1



Littorio British Bulldog

15d

German newsreel from February 1945 with German wartime commentary.

Don't be fooled by the  
aero plane! Lots of very  
interesting images of Kö-  
nigstiger unloading from  
train, Sd.Kfz 251/21  
Ausf.D "Drilling"s on the  
move, Panthers with an-  
gular striped camo,  
Jagdpanzer IVs with  
sheet side shields, etc

[https://youtu.be/  
RsL8KIOysRo](https://youtu.be/RsL8KIOysRo)

German Newsweek No. 752- 17 February 1945



# TRACK LINKS

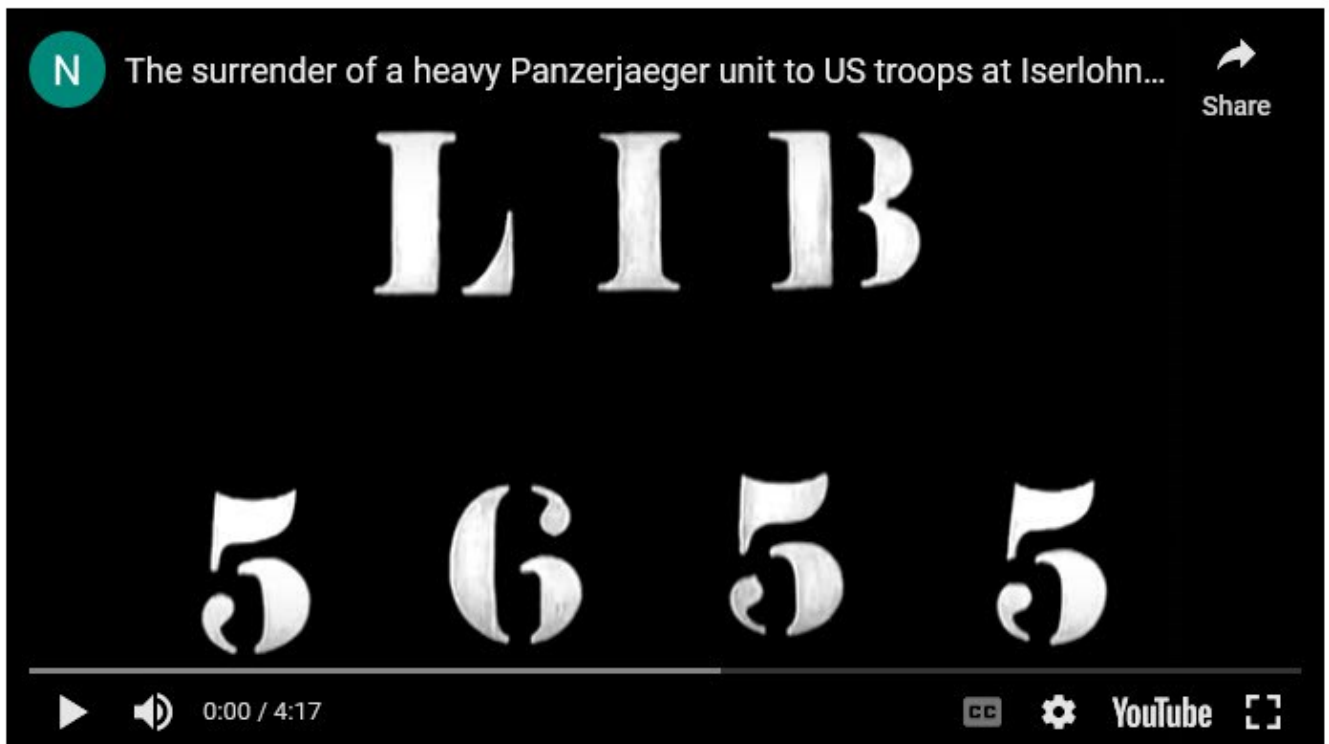


## Schwerer-Panzer-Abteilung-512 surrenders 16th April 1945

■ Armor/AFV ■ WWII Axis 1:1



Of interest are the 'slow, unmaneuverable' Jagdtigers. just proves when working that they were not slow. Spot the German M3 scout car.



<https://youtu.be/46gCr8NAWYw>

Mute US Signal Corps footage showing the formal surrender of remnants of the schwerer-Panzer-Abteilung-512 to US troops at the Schillerplatz at Iserlohn on 16 April 1945.

Rare shots of Jagdtiger heavy tank hunters armed with the 12.8cm PAK 44 L/55 cannon and a Panther armored recovery vehicle or Berge panther on the move.

# TRACK LINKS



Due to the size and number of pictures Chuck took at the recent **Atlanta AMPS/ Atlanta Military Figure Society** we ran out of space in the newsletter; So they have been uploaded to our website for viewing. [LINK](#)





# TRACK LINKS

## small SUBJECTS

Big Ideas About Miniatures  
& Modeling



Small Subjects is a podcast devoted to discussing big topics in the worlds of scale modeling, diorama-building, and sculpting and painting miniature figures, as well as presenting interviews with some of the top artists in the field, including every era, and ranging from historical to fantasy subjects.

<http://www.boxdioramas.com/smallsubjects>



Don't forget about the **Zoom call reminiscence** up on the club web page in 3 parts for ease of viewing; <http://www.amps-chicago.org/PhotosMeetings.htm>



For a meeting by meeting description go here:

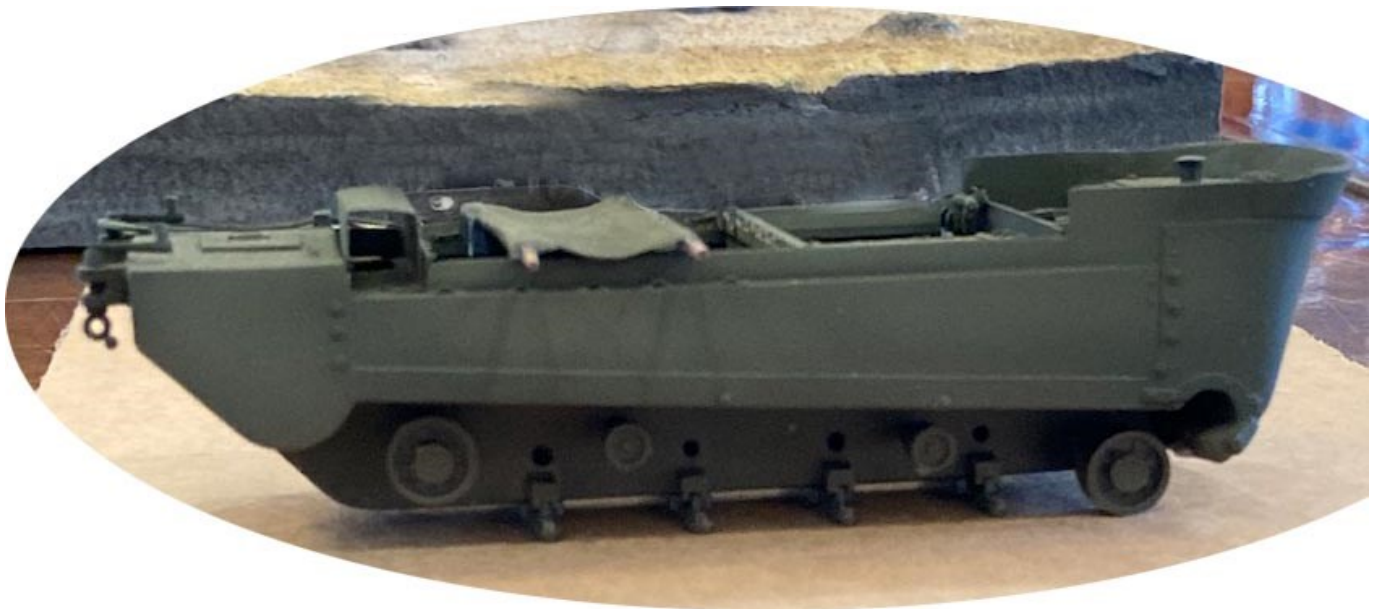
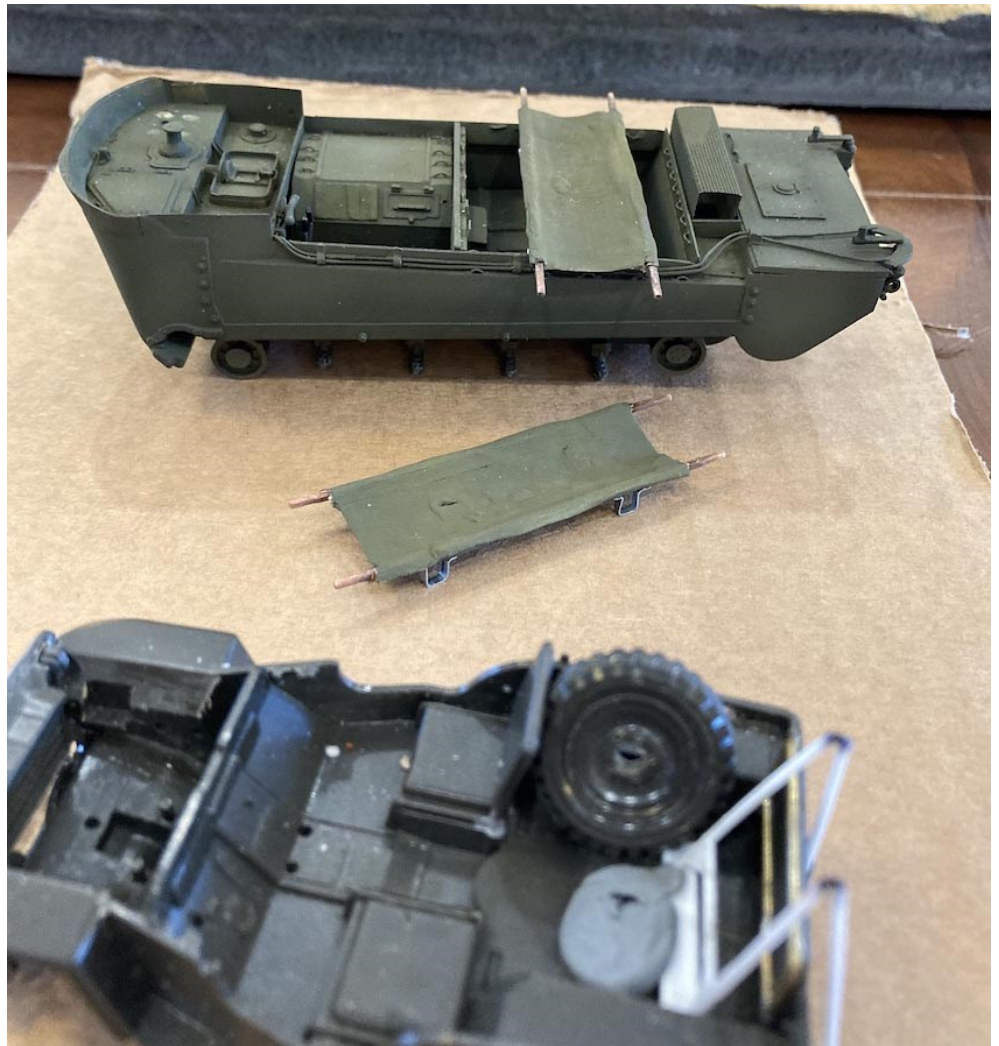
<http://www.amps-chicago.org/News.htm>

For a simple list of photos try this:

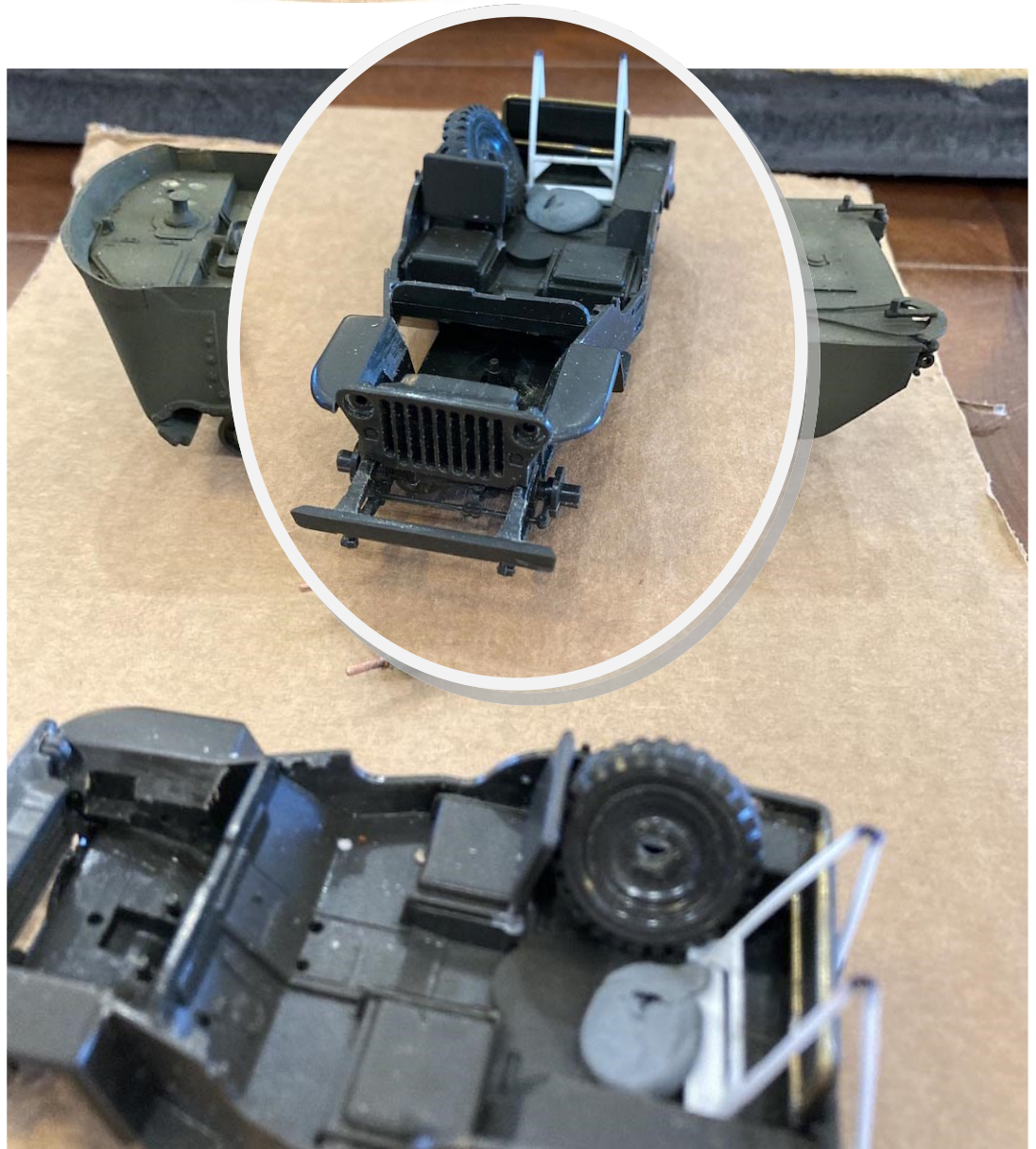
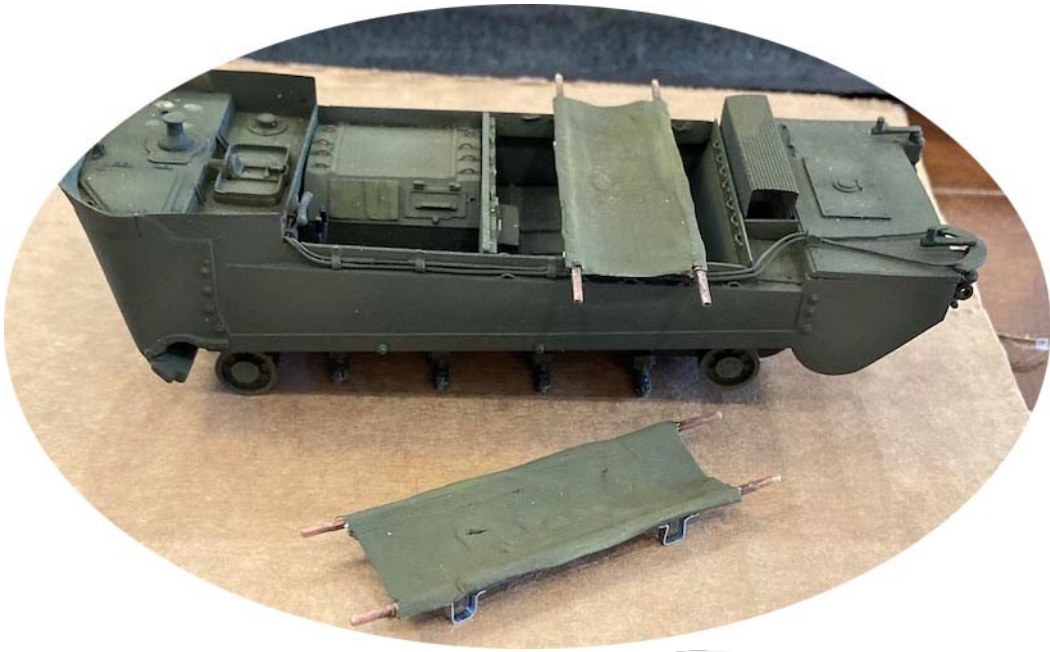
<http://www.amps-chicago.org/PhotosMeetings.htm>

## Feb Show & Tell

Stan Kurcz	1/35 Monogram M29 Weasel Tamiya Jeep W/wire spool
Bob Kita	1/35 Tanker Figure Hummel (DML)
Victor	1/35 SDKFZ 232 halftrack (Tamiya)
Ihor	1/35 SDKFZ 6 Dina w/munitions trailer (Bronco) 1/35 DAK figures (Dragon)
Scott	1/35 M60A3 w/Dozer blade
Bill Horn	1/35 Panther G (DML)
Paul Larock	1/35 "Making a new friend" dog diorama
Tommie K	1/35 Nebelwerfer 51

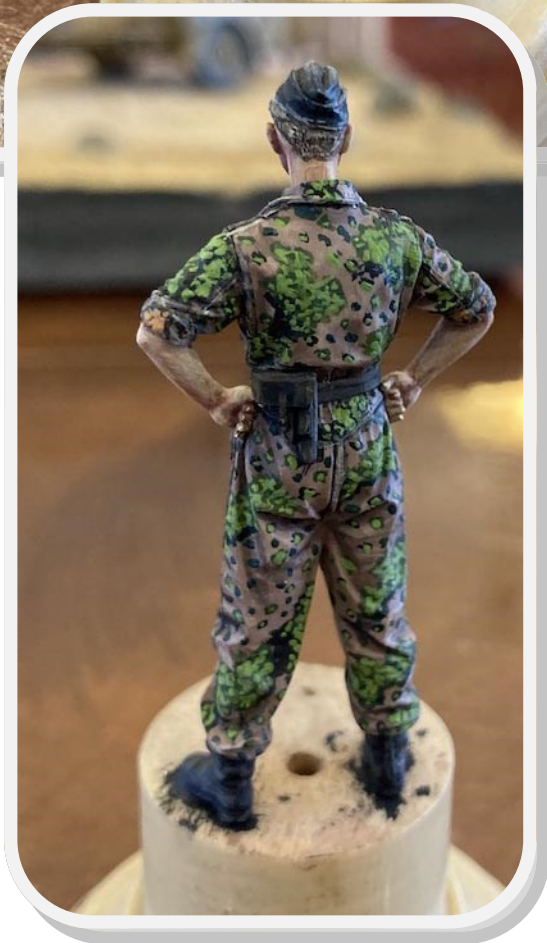






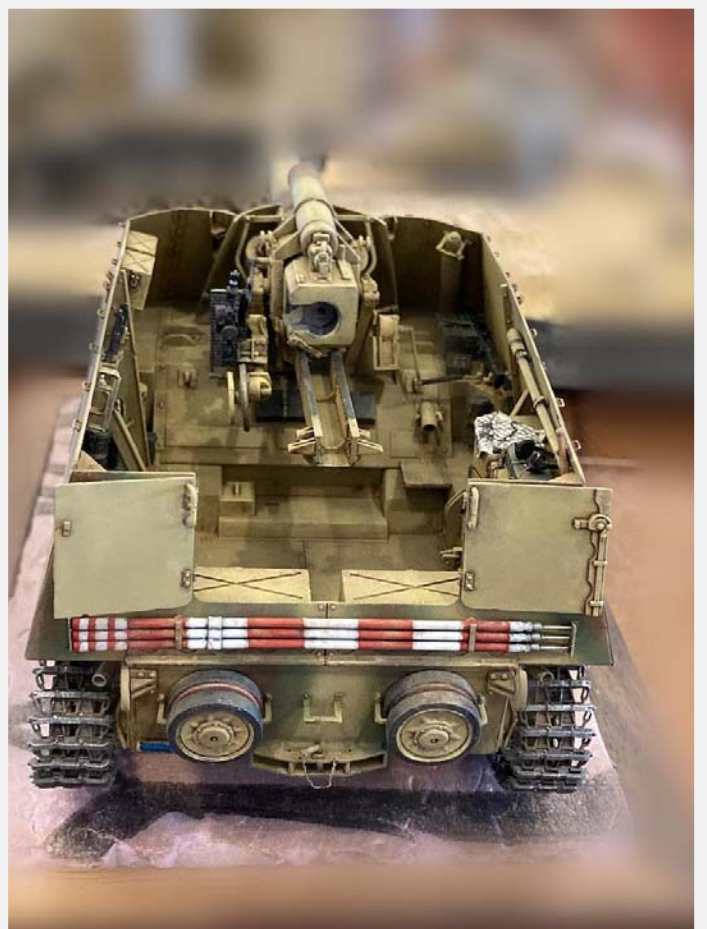
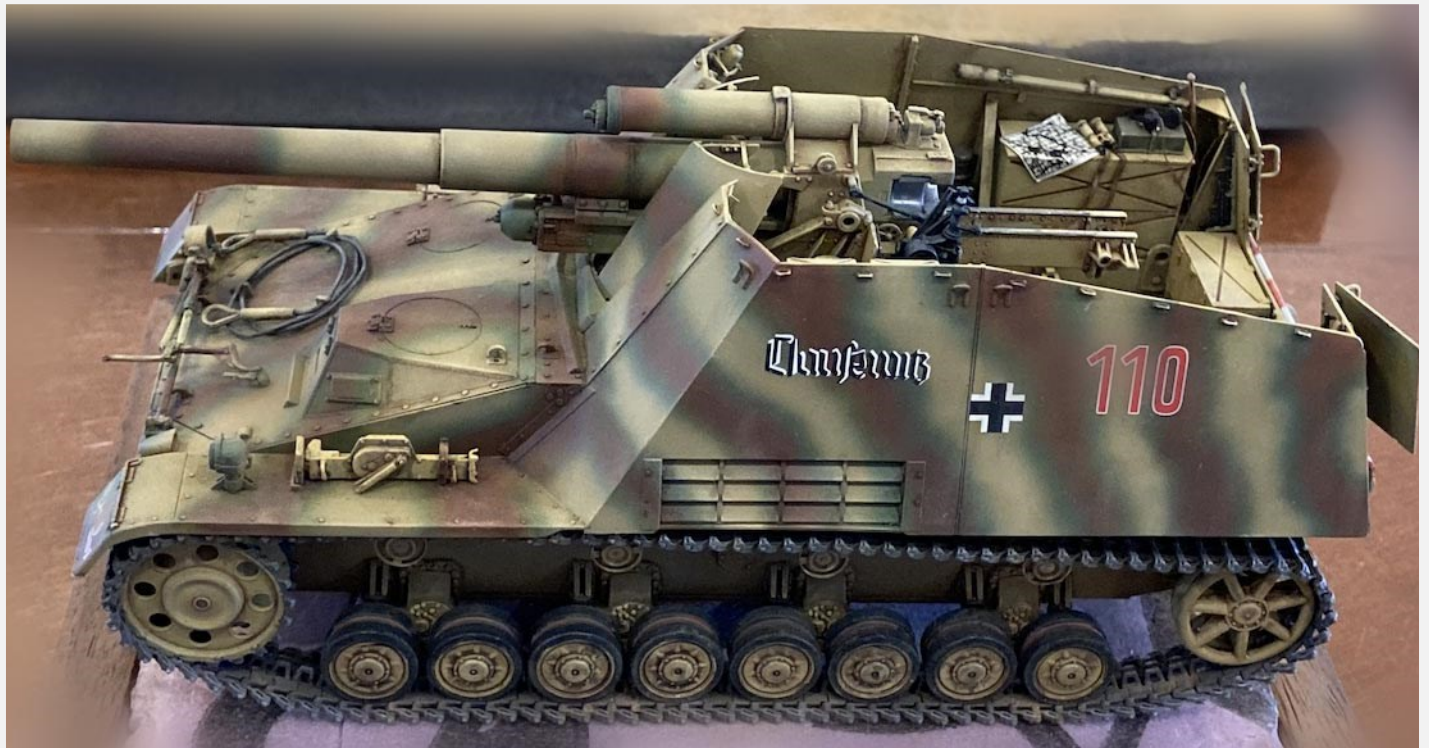


Bob Kita

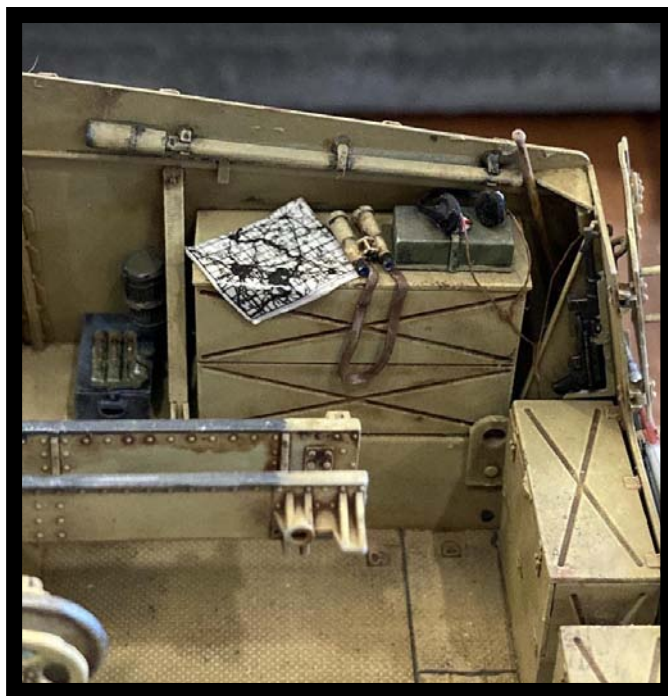
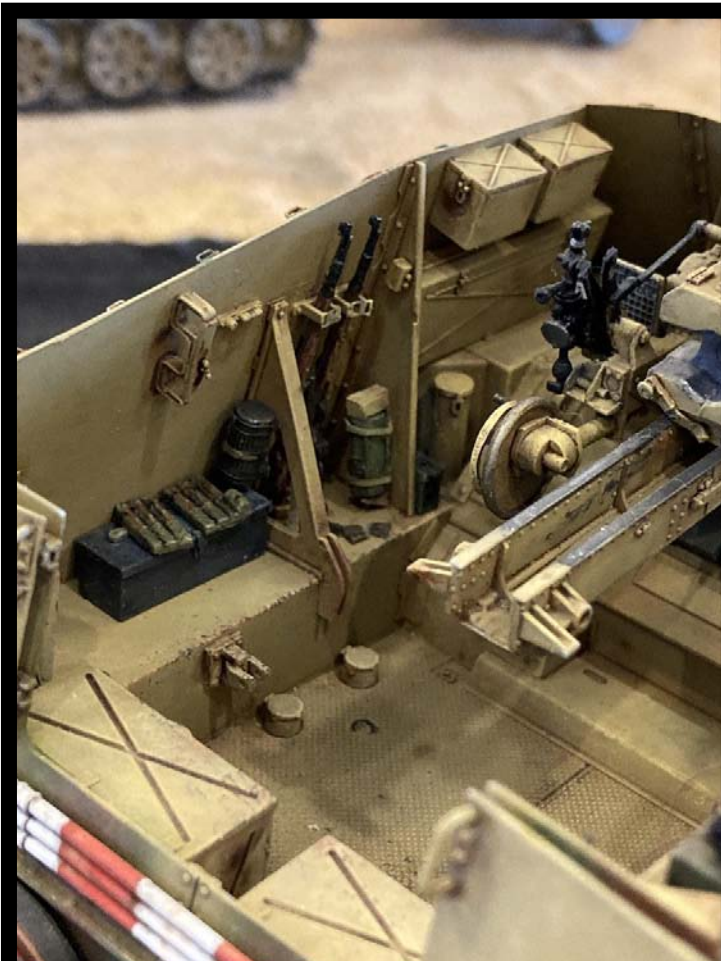




DML Hummel









Victor



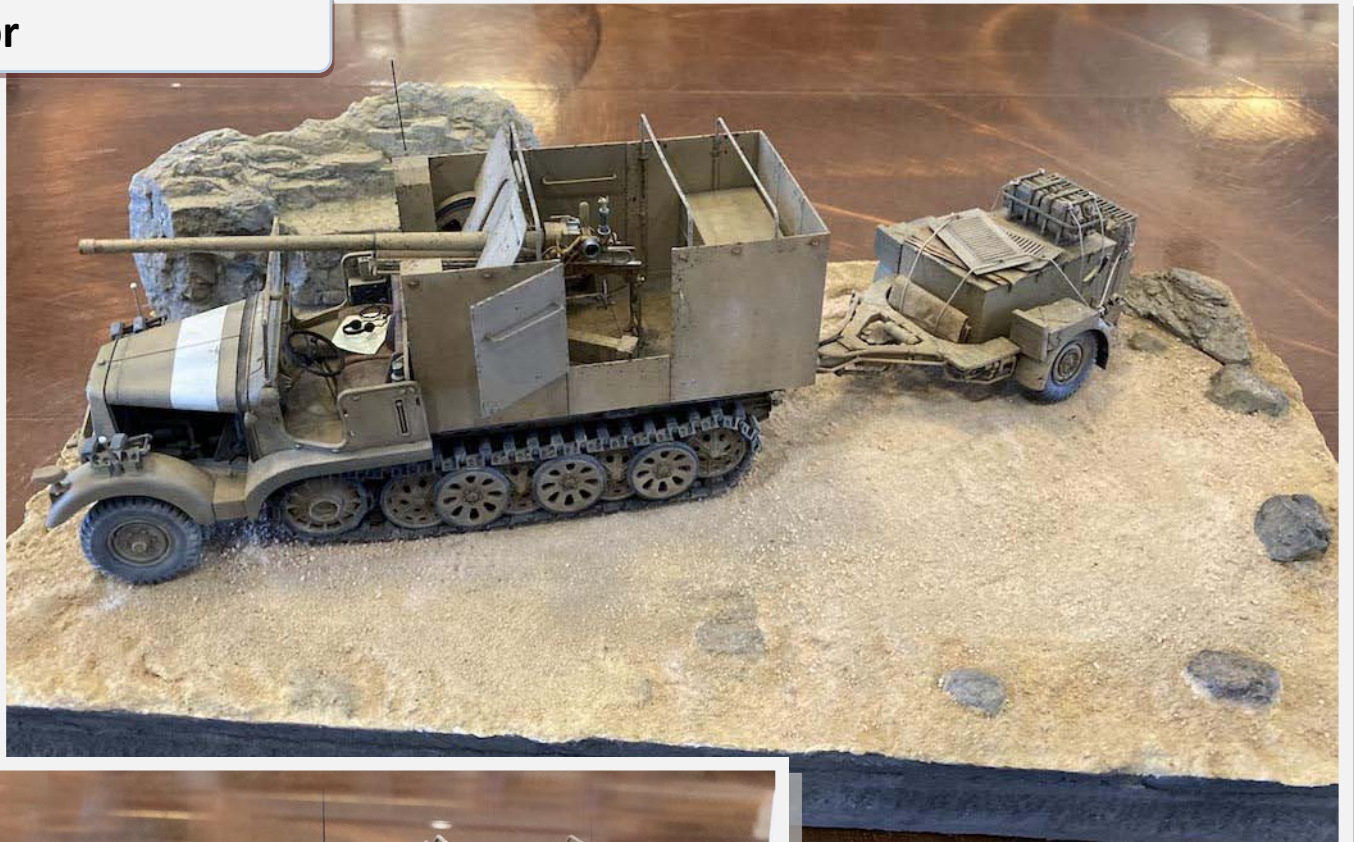


Victor





Ihor









Scott









Bill Horn







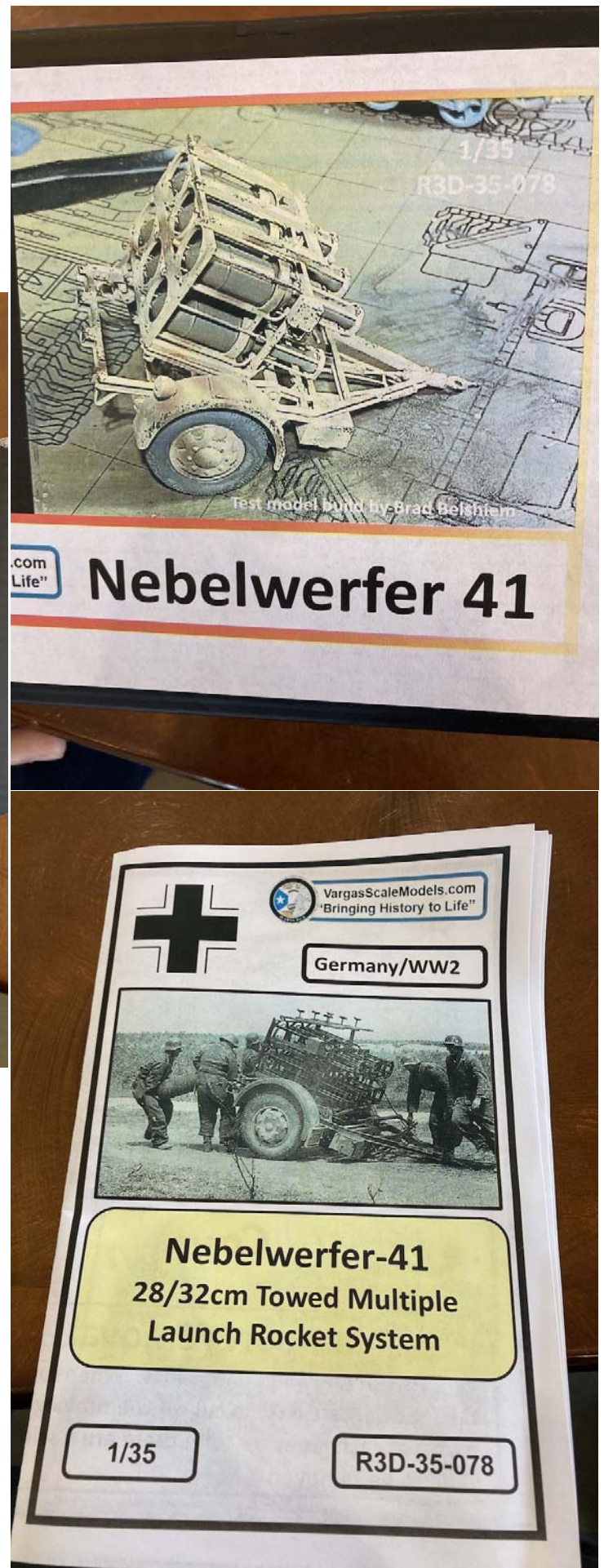


Paul Larock





Tommie K













# The Last Round

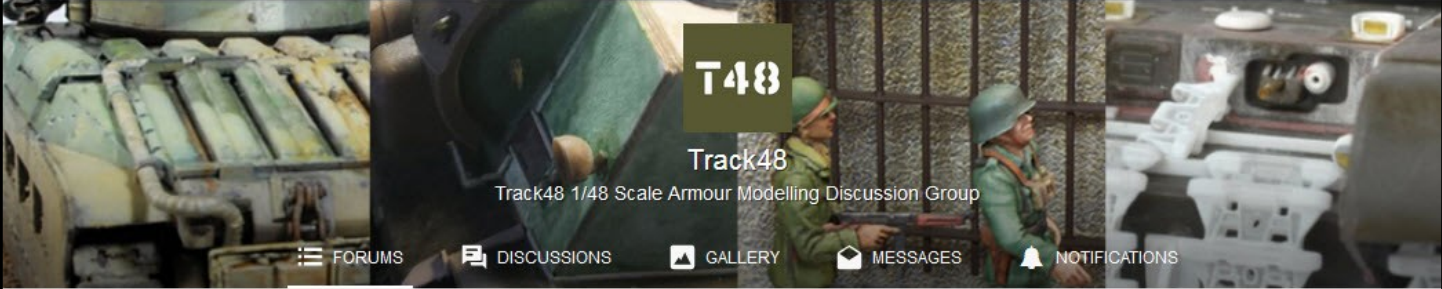


For any 1/48 modelers, here's a site for you!






<https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/track48/>

 Track48








**T48**  
Track48  
Track48 1/48 Scale Armour Modelling Discussion Group

 FORUMS  DISCUSSIONS  GALLERY  MESSAGES  NOTIFICATIONS


New to this group?

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<https://www.afvregister.org/Download.aspx>

**THE AFV REGISTER**

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Keeping track of surviving AFV's

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**Documentes available for download**

The Belgian Historical Afv register (OLD 2012)



The USA Historical Afv register (2024)



The World Afv register (TomTom format .ov2)



The World Afv register (Garmin format .gdb)



The World Afv register (GPS Exchange Format .gpx)



The World Afv register (Google earth)



The files below contain the entries for the USA AFV Register locations divided into separate States, all by Paul Hannah. The GPX files can be loaded directly into a Garmin GPS unit. The KML/KMZ files can be used with Google Earth and Google Maps. The Excel files can be used to create custom maps or for consolidating information.

The US Afv register by Paul Hannah(GPS Exchange Format .gpx)



The US Afv register by Paul Hannah(Google earth)



The US Afv register by Paul Hannah(Excel file)



## AMPS ChicagoLand

On September 8, 2007, 11 people met for the first time in Pat Keenan's living room, creating AMPS-ChicagoLand. Since that day, AMPS ChicagoLand has been an active chapter in the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society (AMPS) with members from Southern Wisconsin, throughout Illinois to Northwest Indiana. We specialize in all eras, scales and aspects of building military ground vehicle models.



These subjects include tracked vehicles, wheeled vehicles, artillery and figures. Our members consist of novice to master level, so all are welcome in our fun and inviting environment.

The AMPS – ChicagoLand Chapter's philosophy is that having a good time and enjoying oneself while engaging in the military modeling hobby is of paramount importance. This means we do NOT take the hobby or ourselves too seriously and its members are expected to "play nice with others". There's just no drama.

For more information about AMPS ChicagoLand, please visit our website at [www.amps-chicago.org](http://www.amps-chicago.org)

# JOIN AMPS TODAY

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **COUNTRY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

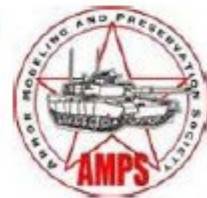
<b>MEMBERSHIP TYPES</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>2 Year</b>	<b>3 Year</b>
Regular U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$55)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$80)
Regular Canada/Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$35)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$95)
Regular Rest of the World	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$40)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$75)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$110)
Junior (17 or under)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$15)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$45)
Family Member*	<input type="checkbox"/> ( \$ 5 )	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$10)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$15)

\*For anyone living at the same address with a regular active member. Family member DOES NOT receive an individual copy of Borelight but enjoy vendor discounts, website access, and can enter in the national competition as long as he/she is accompanied by the regular active member.



**IF PAYING BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER SEND YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP DUES AND COMPLETED FORM TO:**

**AMPS**  
ATTN: MEMBERSHIP DEPT.  
P.O. BOX 227, FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719  
U.S.A.



All payments must be made in U.S. funds. AMPS accepts payments by check and money order, as well as PayPal. To join using PayPal, just visit the AMPS website:

[www.amps-armor.org](http://www.amps-armor.org)



THE END