



ARMOR BITS

April 2023

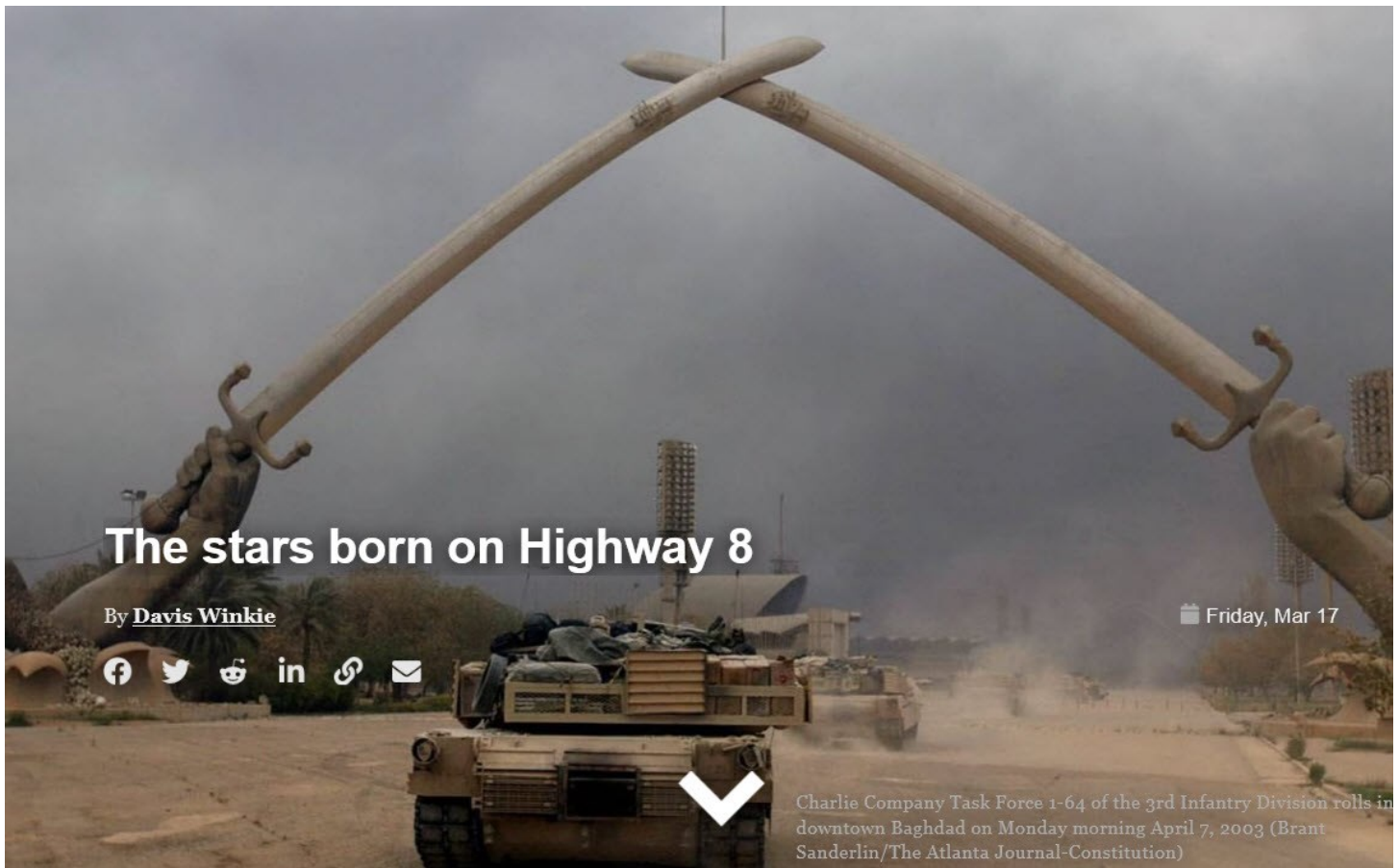
Newsletter of the ChicagoLand Armor Builders Society

20 Year Anniversary of the battle of Baghdad and the 3rd I.D. "THUNDER RUN"



Armor March-April 2004

Great story about the 2003 **Thunder Run**



[Army Times Article](#)

There is a Washington Post article about the Thunder Run and the battles around checkpoints “Moe” “Larry” and “Curly”. These were intense battles and it’s a great story. I was unable to create a link to the story , however the video link appears to work. Its an 8 minute video of the action. Well worth watching! If you can’t open it or the video, and/or you want to read the story, email and I’ll send it separately. I apologize for the difficulty but it’s the times we live in!(ed)

[Video](#)



Welcome to the latest edition of the newsletter.

By now you probably have heard the news of Dan Tisoncik's home disaster. There is a complete telling of the story inside but I would like to thank Chuck Aleshire, John Wendt, and all of the club members who helped with the clubs contribution to Dan. It was a marvelous effort! Thanks again to ALL!

This month also marks the 20 year anniversary of the Battle for Baghdad and the Thunder Run by the 3rd Infantry Division. It was a remarkable feat of arms and there is a link inside to a great story about part of it. The video is both inspiring and terrifying.

There is also a link to a couple of short videos at the National Archives about WW1. You can also find many other pictures and videos at the Archives and I encourage everyone to explore it. In fact, with just a little effort, you can find many historical articles and photographs at US Government sites for free or

sometimes with a simple registration.

For the remainder of the year, we will be meeting at Cantigny; however, due to special circumstances, we often will not have the exact location until shortly before the meeting. So please pay special attention to the meeting reminder that I email in the days shortly beforehand.

One other note. Inside is a short explanation and "rant" about the difficulties of publishing in these times. Please check consider it.

We'll enjoy this edition of the Newsletter and I hope to see you on Saturday April 8th!

Cheers

Stan

Our next meeting is scheduled for 10am April 8th @ the Cantigny Education Bldg. Watch for the tram service.

MARCH '23 MEETING NOTES

- **Welcome –**
- Treasure's report \$824
- 2023 Meeting list – will be a monthly assignment. Check the monthly newsletter and especially the monthly meeting reminder.
- The AMPS web site has some great articles and videos on judging.
- You may have heard about the water pipe that burst in Dan Tsonceks home while he was away. It was totally destroyed and to help ou we will hold a kit auction today with proceeds going to Dan.
- John Wendt donated 2 large boxes of unbuilt models kits to the club. We will use some for the auction today and the rest will be donated to the AMPS National raffle table in Johns name. A big THANKYOU to John for his contribution!
- New business
- Show & Tell
- Auction



ARMOR BITS



TRACK LINKS

By now you probably have heard the BIG news. Dan Tisoncik returned recently from a family trip to Florida recently to find a burst water pipe had totally destroyed his home with thousands of gallons of water. Just before I heard the news, John Wendt had dropped off two boxes of models that he was unable to fit into his new home in Colorado, or so his wife had told him! Upon a suggestion by Chuck Aleshire, we decided to take approximately a half dozen models to hold a charity auction for Dan (the remainder to be donated to the AMPS Nationals raffle table).

After the word went, out a number of members also donated kits. We held an auction at the March meeting and raised \$460 which were divided evenly into gift cards to Sprue Bros and David Doyle books. David, after hearing about Dan's plight, graciously offered an additional 25% discount to Dan as well as a 15% discount to all Chicago AMPS members this month!

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to John Wendt and everyone who donated kits as well as purchased them or donated money to the cause! I also think that there is no better way to thank Dave Doyle than to purchase some books from him. He is a gentleman in the truest sense of the term!

I would also like to acknowledge Chuck Aleshire for leading the effort and meeting with Dan and his wife to present the gift cards!



TRACK LINKS

Afterwards, Dan wrote me the following:

I wanted to thank all the members for their generous gift certificates from the auction! I was amazed and dumbfounded about the generosity of the clubs gift .

Could you please tell them all how appreciative I am and proud to know a club members such as Amps Chicagoland !!

And

Thanks so much for your and the clubs support but it is overwhelming. With the size of the loss I will be having a disaster garage sale for sure come spring time once a dig out from everything.

Cheers

Dan Tisoncik

Thanks Dan, and we are all looking forward to a future house warming! (ed)

TRACK LINKS

Editors Rant

In creating this newsletter I have repeatedly come up against a wall. That is, copyright as well as Big corporate restrictions and the internet itself.

Firstly, I support copyright and the protection of intellectual property. The problem to me seems to be twofold. The internet and corporate greed.

The internet is a great invention that allows a flow of information that is unprecedented in human history. Unfortunately it also encourages the worst of humanity to be propagated. Just as in earlier days, there were thieves and people ready and willing to steal the results of hard work, there are those same thieves willing to steal others work posted on the net.

This has made it increasingly difficult to share information legitimately. It has become difficult to receive approval to post others work online. To this add the additional corporate need to maximize even the smallest profit, that prevents usage for any reason other than profit, and you have a situation that is becoming worse than that before the printed page.

So here is my dilemma. There are many great photos and articles available. Since we can't all spend hours or days looking on the internet, I have attempted to produce access to what I find. In most cases the content is too large to copy outright and because of copyright issues I try to provide links to the information. Most of the time this works well, but because of the internet and issues with connecting to sites and increasingly the requirement to subscribe or, at the least register, connections can be problematic!

SO, I will continue to provide links to sites and articles, I at least, find interesting (LOL). If you come across one of these links that are broken or send you off into the Netherlands WRITE me. I would be happy to either provide a better link or send you personally, the story or video. The intention is not to avoid purchase of a publication, or recognition of hard work. There will always be the original source data. However, how many web sites do we have to subscribe to? How many passwords to keep track of, (or be stolen). How many are selling our information for their profit?

So going forward, if you have an issue with a link, please let me know so we can work it out. This is only going to get worse with the rise of AI! Thanks for reading.

Bob Sarnowski— Carl Reid 1/10th Napoleonic Guards artillery Bust.



Bob Sarnowski— Tamiya Sherman in Israeli markings



APRIL SHOW AND TELL



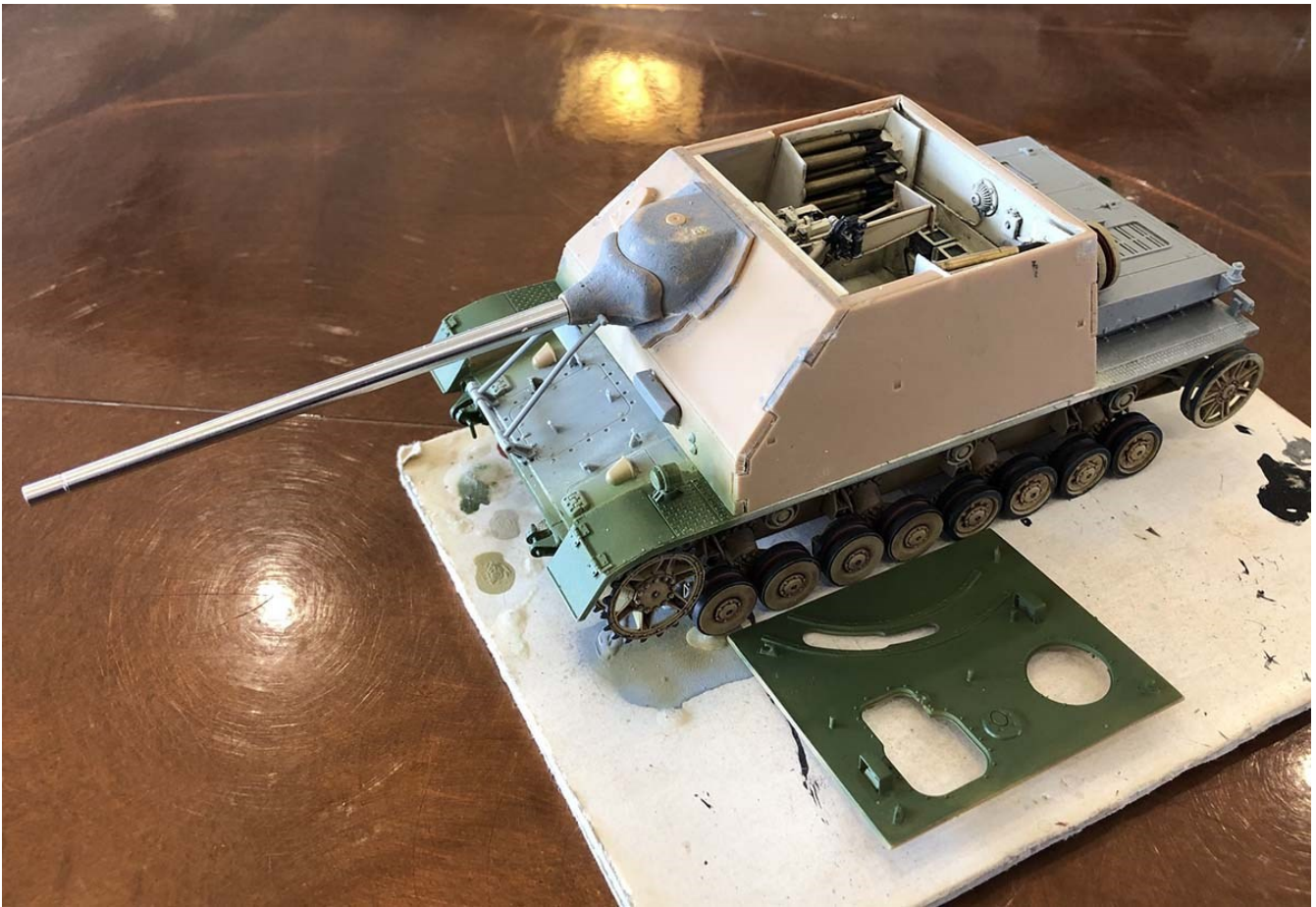
Chuck Aleshire — AFV Club “ding ho” kit, Vintage build.



Bob Kita — Dragon Panther “vintage” and DML Hetzer



Bob Kita — Lang L70—will have open hatches with full interior.





Joe Kozak— Tamiya 2-1/2 ton. 1/35 “Vintage” build. Building supplies in back are all to scale. Ropes are crochet yarn from hobby lobby





Ron Damratowski

— Amusing Hobby T-72; the lighting kit below from Evann Design will be used



Scott Graupner — Tamiya Stug 3,
Cavalier Zimmerit set. Rye Field indiv
tracks were problematic.



Scott also purchased a Heavy Hobby 3d printed tracks for a future build and was disappointed with the quality; they were fragile & no extras for breakage.

Mike Oberholtzer — Dragon Black Label Saladin Mk2 2019
“vintage” build.





Mike Kinowski

Tamiya Caro Amata
M13/40. The figures
still in progress.

Dragon Stug 3 Diora-
ma 1/35th

Minimart figures & ac-
cessories; the clock
was a mini kit in itself.



Joe Berton — Vintage (1980's) Tamiya SAS jeep. The children were scratch built.



Paul LaRock - Nitto MaK 1/24th SciFi kit
painted in German N. African colors.







The Last Round



Here are two videos from WW1 at the National Archives.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

They are silent but of good quality and I found them very interesting. (ed)



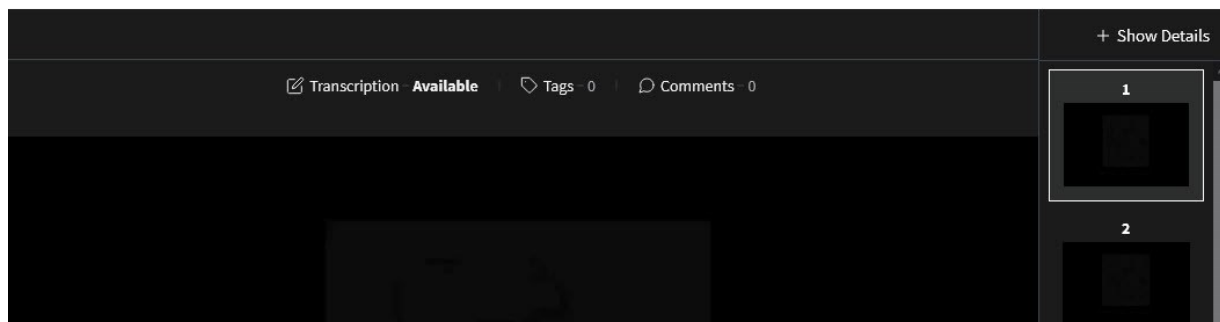
Record Group 111: Records of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer >> Series: Historical Films

Item

MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE, SEPTEMBER 26 TO NOVEMBER 11, 1918, HEAVY AND RAILWAY ARTILLERY ACTIVITIES

Other title: **Historical Film, No. 1409**

NAID: 24911 | Local ID: 111-H-1409 | Moving Images | Produced: 1936 | 9 Images | 2 Videos | 1 File





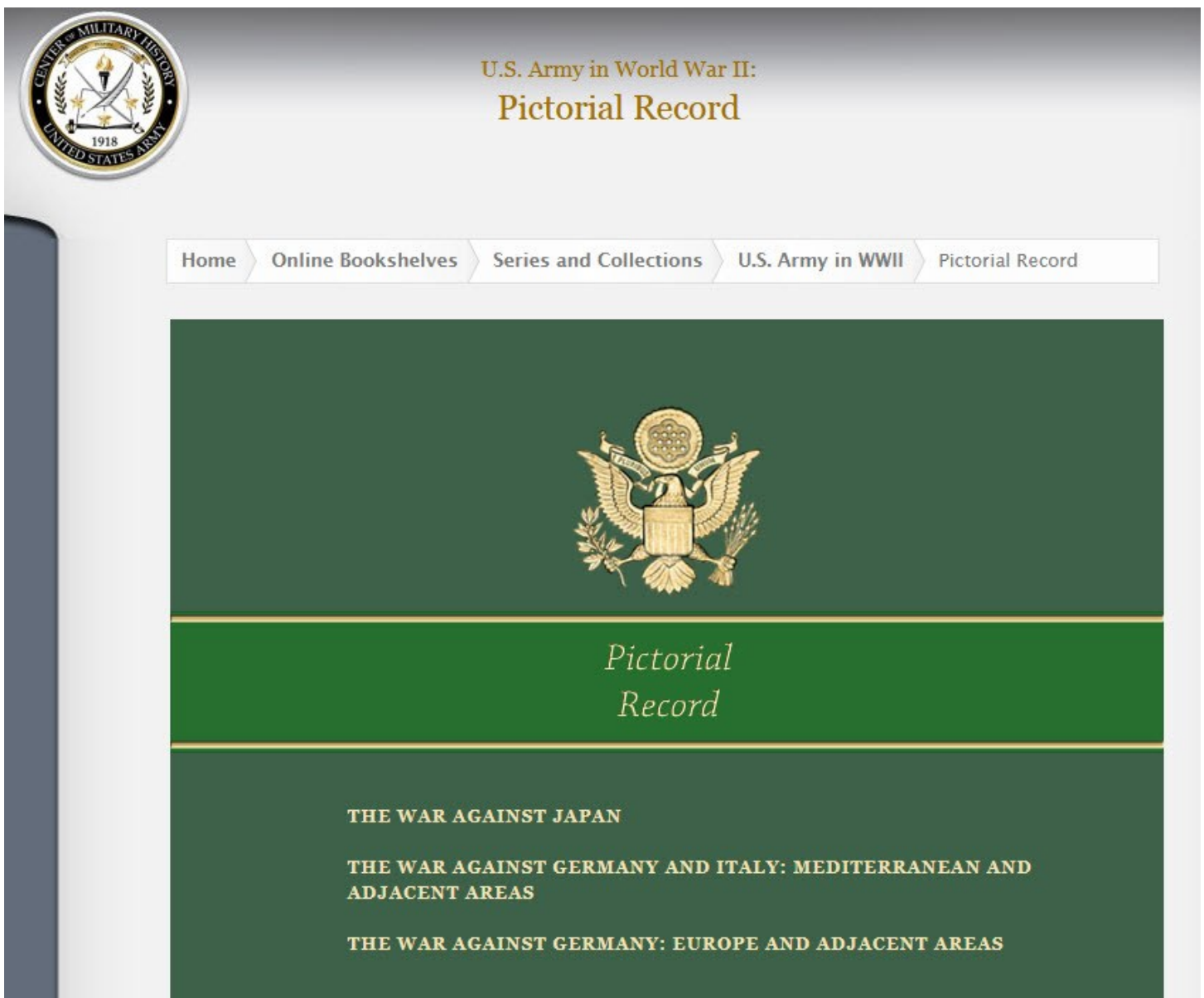
The Last Round



Here is another [link](#) to a series done by the U.S. Army shortly after WW2 . This LINK is to the “Pictorial” series which contains nothing but pictures with descriptions. My Uncle was a caretaker at a VFW post in the city and whenever I visited him I would plunk down in an old leather chair and would spend hours looking through these, way before all of the books and magazines out in the past 20 years.

They can be hard to find (College of DuPage Library) but here is an online resource that you can download. It’s a great resource for diorama or model base ideas..

The following link takes you one level up to the Historical articles: <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/24911?objectPage=10> (ed)





The Last Round



**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.

The latest episode features : Tools (And Other Stuff) That We CAN Live Without

<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>

From the Kitmaker web page, an announcement about the 2023 AMPS Convention

AMPS 2023 Show Announcement - Sunglasses, suntan lotion and a beach chair

With the holidays fast approaching, 2022 will soon be in the rearview mirror. It's not too early to start looking ahead to the AMPS International Convention, May 4 - 6, 2023, at the Penn Harris Hotel, in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania.

In addition to the usual categories, the AMPS 2023 show theme "The Pacific" is open to any model, figure, vignette or diorama that fought in a Pacific campaign from 1940 to 2022. For the purposes of this theme, we will define "The Pacific" as any theater of conflict from Burma in the west, to Hawaii and the US west coast in the east, and from Australia and New Zealand in the south to the Aleutian Islands in the north. Examples of conflicts are the entire Pacific Theater, Burma or China in WW2, Korean War, Vietnam, the Cold War in Korea, or other documented conflicts in that region (i.e., the UN peacekeeping action in East Timor from 1999 to 2005 and the brief civil wars in Fiji during 1994, 2000, and 2006).

Vendor coordinators, seminar coordinators, show sponsors and many other AMPS members are working behind the scenes to put together a fantastic show this year. Although we are a little more than 20 weeks out from the big show, don't let that time slip away on getting those builds done and please note the following:

Seminar Topic Voting: AMPS conventions always have a variety of excellent seminars led by knowledgeable presenters. For the 2023 show, AMPS is planning to conduct several hands-on "How to" seminars wherein materials for the participants will be provided free of charge though seating will be limited. Several seminar topics are listed for consideration for AMPS members to vote on their choice of what seminars will be presented. Voting can only be done on the AMPS homepage by AMPS members with active memberships. So, go to the AMPS homepage ([amps-armor.org 1](https://amps-armor.org)), sign in and scroll down the page to "Seminar Voting" and follow the instructions. Voting is open until December 31, 2022. Results will be announced in early January 2023.

Hotel Reservations: The AMPS special hotel room rate is \$128.00 per night. While no complimentary breakfast is included, the hotel restaurant is offering a 20% discount. WiFi and parking are included in the room rate. Visit the AMPS homepage at [amps-armor.org 1](https://amps-armor.org) and check out how easy it is to register for a room on-line. Don't forget: When you call, be sure to include the AMPS group code **050323AMP** block so you get the discounted AMPS rate. The hotel will accept room reservations by telephone, by calling 717-763-7117 and quote group code **050323AMP**. The cut-off date for getting the AMPS special rate is April 12, 2023.

Pre-registration: AMPS 2023 show pre-registration opens on January 1, 2023. Pre-registration is a great way to get all the paperwork done beforehand. There is no model limit for this show, so finish up those partial builds and shelf queens and get ready for a great convention weekend.

Call for Judges: AMPS is always looking for more judges to help spread the work around and allow more modelers to enjoy the show. Sharing in the judging duties helps others who might be otherwise working

several judging shifts to enjoy the show. AMPS has judges' training on-line for those who would like to get involved in serving as well as for those who would like a refresher course.

Donations: One of the memorable events at the AMPS convention is the ever popular, always fantastic raffle. Our Raffle Coordinator, Frank Ciccarella reminds AMPS members that donations are always welcome and will only help to make the raffle that much more enticing. Contact Frank on the AMPS homepage ("The Society" link) if you have anything you would like to donate to this year's raffle. New or very good condition items such as kits, tools, reference material, aftermarket sets, etc., would be most welcome.

Membership Note: If you have not renewed your membership, now would be a great time so you don't miss any Boresight issues or access to the product reviews put together by the AMPS Review Crew. Visit the AMPS homepage (amps-armor.org) for news and updates on the 2022 show and other news happening around the AMPS community.

Attendance Note: Non-AMPS members are welcome and encouraged to attend the AMPS International Convention. By paying the show entrance fee, non-AMPS members can access the model display room, attend the various seminars, take a chance at the ever-popular AMPS raffle, shop at the many vendors, attend judging certification classes and even participate as a judge.

Till the next AMPS 2023 show announcement,

Model on...

chuck

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

JOIN AMPS TODAY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____

ZIP CODE: _____ **COUNTRY:** _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

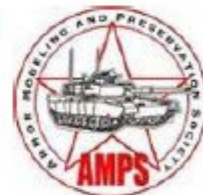
MEMBERSHIP TYPES	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Regular U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$55)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$80)
Regular Canada/Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$35)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$95)
Regular Rest of the World	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$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