



## ARMOR BITS

February 2023

Newsletter of the ChicagoLand Armor Builders Society



## Operation Shingle: Landing at Anzio, Italy

22 January 1944

(Navy History and Heritage command)



Whenever I first sit down to write these comments, I always wonder how I can possibly fill this space. SO Far it always seems to fill itself, so here we go again!

Good news! Although we will have a new contact at Cantigny this year, I received approval for Feb, with the remaining year. Dates shortly

Our January meeting was at AGWS courtesy of John Wendt. John, who is one of the founding members of the club, is moving to Colorado this year and January's meeting was his last one.

John is a great modeler, always ready to extend a helping hand, a modeling tip, or a word of encouragement. He's been a great fiend over the years and will be sorely missed. Hes promised to pop in from time to time and we are already looking forward to them.

On another note, the latest Fine Scale Modeler is out and there was an interesting article concerning the state of our hobby.

The responses to a survey ranged from "the hobby is dying" to "Its never been Better", with everything in between.

I think the most accurate view is that its not dead, its simply changing. There are many new and young modelers, they simply don't build WW2 models or join clubs. There interests lie in current media ... SciFi, Gundam, fanrasy, etc.

And certainly foreign interest is growing exponentially! The largest model maker in the world is Bandai and they do not produce a single tank or airplane kit.

Another trend is 3D printing. Again views ranged from we'll be printing our own kits at home to its only a niche good for replacing resin or making custom items.

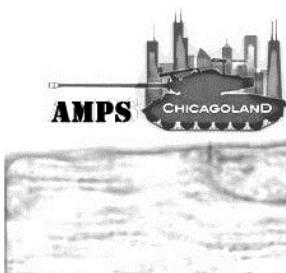
To me, it feels like digital cameras 20 years ago. Every 6 months a new round of improved cameras would emerge pushing the envelope untill, nearly everyone uses one & kids nolonger know what "film" is. It will be interesting to see how it ultimately plays out.

Well that's all for this edition. I hope you can make the February meeting!

*Cheers*

*Stan*

Our next meeting is scheduled for **10am February 11th @ Cantigny Education Bldg. Tram service as usual.**



## Jan Agenda

-Welcome – First meeting of the year

-Treasurers report/ Amps 2024 SO Bend convention bid

-2023 Meeting list – Still not Available yet; *Since then we are good for our Feb. meeting*

*with subsequent days/location posted shortly.*

-If you have not made up your mind about the 2023 Convention in PA look up the email that I sent Jan3, about the seminars listed so far.

“How to Do” seminars

1. **Soldering Photo Etch (PE)** delivered by Rob Riviezzo

2. **Weathering Track** delivered by Dan Feldman

3. **Desert Groundwork** delivered Frank Blanton

4. **Creating stone / brick / cobblestone with foam board** delivered by Jeff Feller

In addition, we have one informational seminar from Bob Burik on “**A Modelers Guide to US Tactical Marking Systems (Iraq, 2003)**”.

- 2 Roundtable seminars

- They are now open for registration. See ***the Last Round*** below,

-Parting Gift presentation to John Wendt

## Show & Tell





# Farewell John



Hello Everyone, I just wanted to say Thank You again for the kind words and the \$50 Gift Card to Sprue Brothers. Very nice of you to contribute to my continuing - collecting illness.

My departure for Colorado is rushing towards Cathy and I and its time to get really busy so I won't be coming around for a while but I sure would appreciate being able to see what you all are up to and stay in touch through the Newsletters and maybe I'll even get to finish something and shoot a picture in from time to time.

I've really enjoyed all of your friendships and will miss the candid wit, the transfer of artistic and technical knowledge and the camaraderie that the AMPS Chicagoland group has always extended to its members and guests.

Thanks again for everything and I'll be seeing you around

John Wendt

# TRACK LINKS



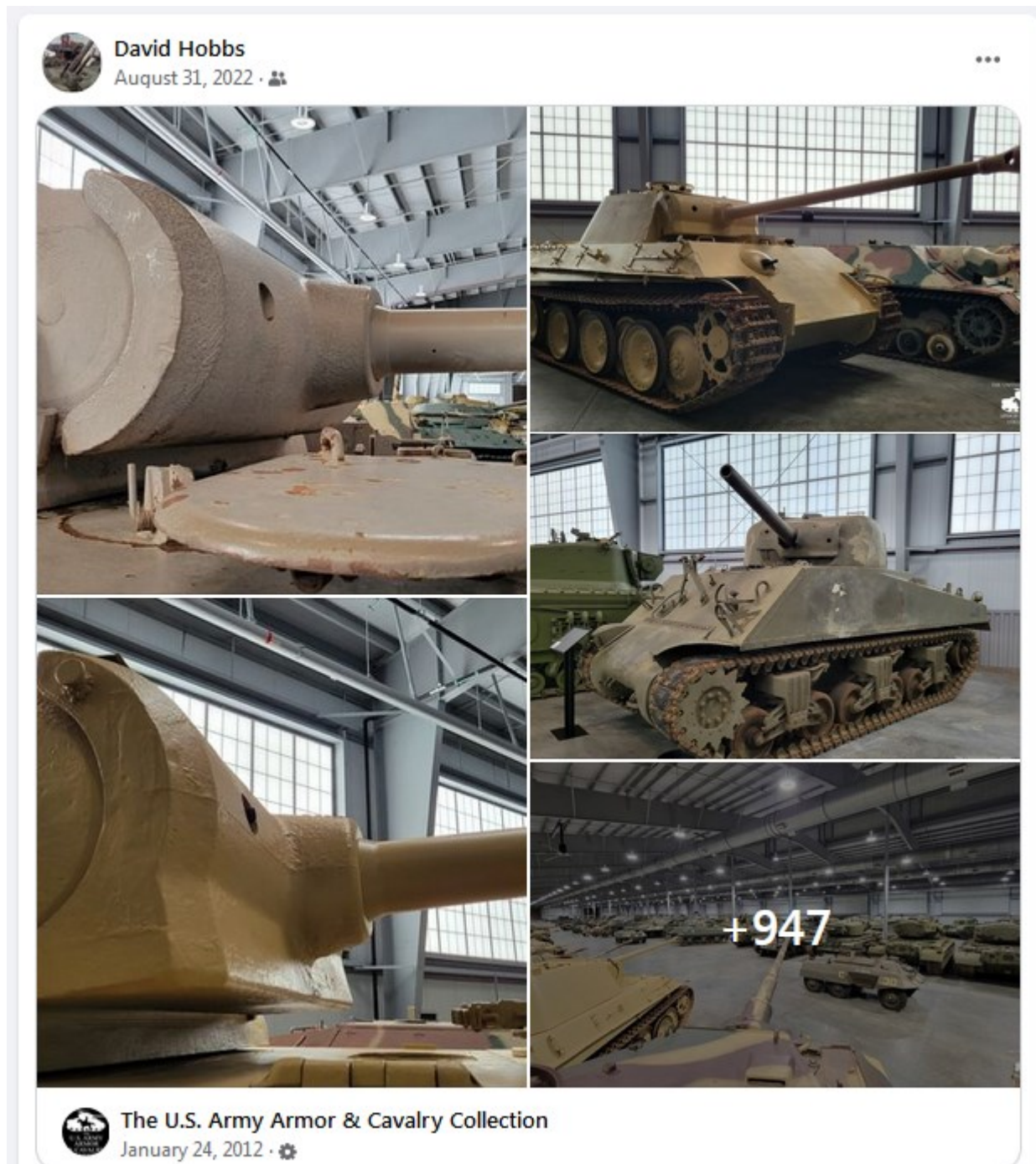


# TRACK LINKS

## Photos from the US Armor and Cavalry collection

From David Hobbs on Facebook; hundreds of pictures!

<https://www.facebook.com/saved/?cref=28>

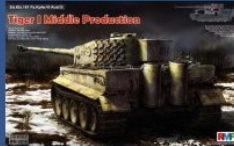


# TRACK LINKS



## Scale model kits

Information about models of the Tiger



**Rye Field Model**

RM5010

Tiger I Middle Production



**Revosys Hobby**

RS3001

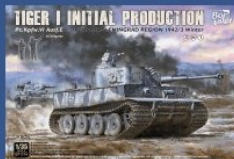
Pz.Kpfw.VI Ausf. C/B



**Dragon**

DR6850

Bergepanzer Tiger 1



**Border Models**

BT014

Tiger 1 Initial Production



**Dragon**

DR6252

Tiger I Initial Production



**Fujimi**

F722344

Pz.Kpfw.VI Tiger 1 early version

This is a web site devoted to German Tiger tanks. The link will take you to a review of every model kit in existence.

The upper left logo will take you to the main site with links to information, drawings and pictures of tank details.



## TIGER1.INFO

Scale model kits  
Physical index  
s.Pz.Abt.501 (Africa)  
s.Pz.Abt.503  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Italy)  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Africa)  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Sicily)  
s.Pz.Abt.508  
Privacy policy

### *Tiger 1 : my latest writings*

The Tiger's transformers were under the floor.



<https://tiger1.info/EN/Radio-transformers.html>

Base plates for radio transformers were found in all Panzers.

<https://tiger1.info/kits.html>



## vehicle of the Tiger 1

Scale model kits  
Physical index  
s.Pz.Abt.501 (Africa)  
s.Pz.Abt.503  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Italy)  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Africa)  
s.Pz.Abt.504 (Sicily)  
s.Pz.Abt.508  
Privacy policy

### *This is part of;*

### *This contains;*

**Comms**

turret  
hull

### *About this;*

Command tank tactical numbers  
Tactical numbers  
Command Tiger antennas  
Stowage for direct vision blocks  
Tiger 101 and Kurt Knispel  
The Befehlstiger (P)

<https://tiger1.info/comms.html>

# JAN. SHOW AND TELL



**Scott** — Trumpeter 1/35 Ukranian T84 OOB with only tow cables added; Digital Camo scheme





**Scott** — Takom 1/35 Chueftan Mk11. Recycled from years ago. Masked over the decals, repainted & reweathered it!

**Bill Horn** — Italeri 1/35 Panther A;  
Old kit off the shelf of doom. Metal barrel,  
model kasten tracks, and loads of  
details added.







**Bob Kita**—Panzer 4J Late, in an Ambush scheme with an Alpine figure





**Bob Kita**—Recently finished Schwimm wagon with figures. There was a short discussion about “Flat” solutions. Bob recommends AK flat; Also good for dabbing with a brush. Vallejo flat was also recommended

**Tommie K** – 3D printed USA prototype tank for a infantry support vehicle.







**John Wendt — In Progress —** Leopard 2A7 Meng 1/72

& E-50/Panther3 Modelcollect 1/35 “PaperPanzer”







**Lee Lygiros**— Young Miniatures Hoplite 1/10 Spartan completed. The rock base is actually from Thermopylae.

**Sean Lynch** —Czech T55-M2 Takom 1/35; The Camo scheme came from an old Osprey book.





**Mike Kinowski - 1/35 CyberHobby SU85**

-NOT a very good kit. It took a LOT of extra work..







A group of men are gathered in a room, possibly a workshop or a meeting. One man in the foreground is holding a large box labeled 'MONO RAIL PUNK'. There are several other boxes on a table in front of him, including one labeled 'M16 MGMC KIFV'. The room has framed pictures on the wall, including one of a bird and another of a building.







# The Last Round



Hail and Farewell John Wendt



# The Last Round



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

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



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>



## Sign Up for a seat at the How to Do seminars

We are now accepting reservations for the How to Do seminars for the 2023 AMPS International Convention in May.

To reserve a seat in one (or more) of these HTD Seminars, you need to either be pre-registered for the contest, or have pre-purchased admission to the show. To pre-register or purchase admission, scroll up a bit to the pre-registration announcement and click one of the buttons.

To reserve a spot, make sure you are logged into the AMPS website and then [Click here](#) Next to each of the HTD seminars, there is a Sign Up button. Click on the button to reserve a seat.

Once reserved, you will receive an email informing you about your reservation. The first 25 to sign up will reserve a seat. Reservations for seat number 26 and beyond will have standby seats if space becomes available.



# *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:

**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](https://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](http://www.amps-chicago.org)

# JOIN AMPS TODAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

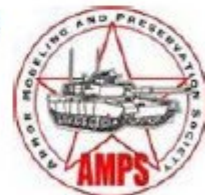
<b>MEMBERSHIP TYPES</b>	<b>1 Year</b>	<b>2 Year</b>	<b>3 Year</b>
Regular U.S.	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$30)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$55)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$80)
Regular Canada/Mexico	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$35)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$65)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$95)
Regular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



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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

