



ARMOR BITS

November 11th

Newsletter of the ChicagoLand Armor Builders Society



Armor March-April 2004



ARMOR BITS



Welcome to another edition of

ARMOR BITS!

Last meeting was without a theme. However although the turnout was lighy there were still a good number of terrific models.

This months newsletter includes a short summary of the MMSI show, an article about the new Takom “Weasel” and of course our normal Show & Tell pictures.

You can view the complete list of show awards at the MMSI website as well as many pictures from the show. If you missed the show, you missed a very rare opportunity to view many of Shep Paines box dioramas, all refurbished and together for the first time. It was an amazing sight and having only seen pictures of them previously, there was simply no comparison to experiencing the originals in person! They are truly amazing works of art.

Hope to see you at the next meeting November 11th

Cheers

Stan

Our next meeting is scheduled for Saturday **10am Nov 11th @ the Cantigny Medill room** Watch for the reminder to verify.

OCTOBER '23 MEETING NOTES

Welcome

Treasure's report— No change

- *AMPS INT show - Hotels are up on the AMPS web site., everything is proceeding normally.*
- 2023 Meeting list – Next Month - Nov 11th will be a normal meeting
- Christmas Party— Chuck has volunteered to host a meeting/party in January at his house, since Cantigny will be closed. Decembers meeting will be a “normal” club meeting at Cantigny. Stay tuned for further details!
- Local Shows

Nov 4th Butch O'Hare contest @ DuPage Fairgrounds

New business -

Show & Tell

TRACK LINKS



48th ANNUAL MMSI CHICAGO SHOW

Here are a few pictures from the show. More can be found at the IPMS Richard I Bong Facebook page as well as the MMSI website, along with a list of medalists. AMPS had entries by Mike Kinowski, Ihor Hlohowskyj, Chris Chapman, Paul LaRock, Stan Kurcz, Bob Sarnowski and Dave Peschke.



Two of Shep Paines Box Dioramas



The inside of an original Box





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>

TRACK LINKS

Takom released a 1/35 kit of the M29 Weasel. At first it received some bad reviews as “unbuildable”, However I've included a build article that details problem areas and fixes for them, and really demonstrates that the criticism is unwarranted.

There is also a kit review by [Brian Eberle](#) on the AMPS web site. I also have a copy of the TM-9-772 technical manual that has many pictures. Email me for a copy if interested. (Ed)

Another link here on [Facebook](#) - And another opinion below by Steve Zaloga:



Steven Zaloga

★ Favorites · October 2 at 3:27 PM · 🌐

...

I wrapped up my Takom 1/35 M29 Weasel this weekend. I need to add the windshield wipers and a few small things. It's straight out-of-the-box. It's a very nice kit with very delicate details. However, I suspect that many of these kits will end up on modelers' "Shelf-of-Doom" due to the aggravating suspension. Unlike the rest of the kit, it is badly designed and poorly fitting that makes it a nightmare to assemble.

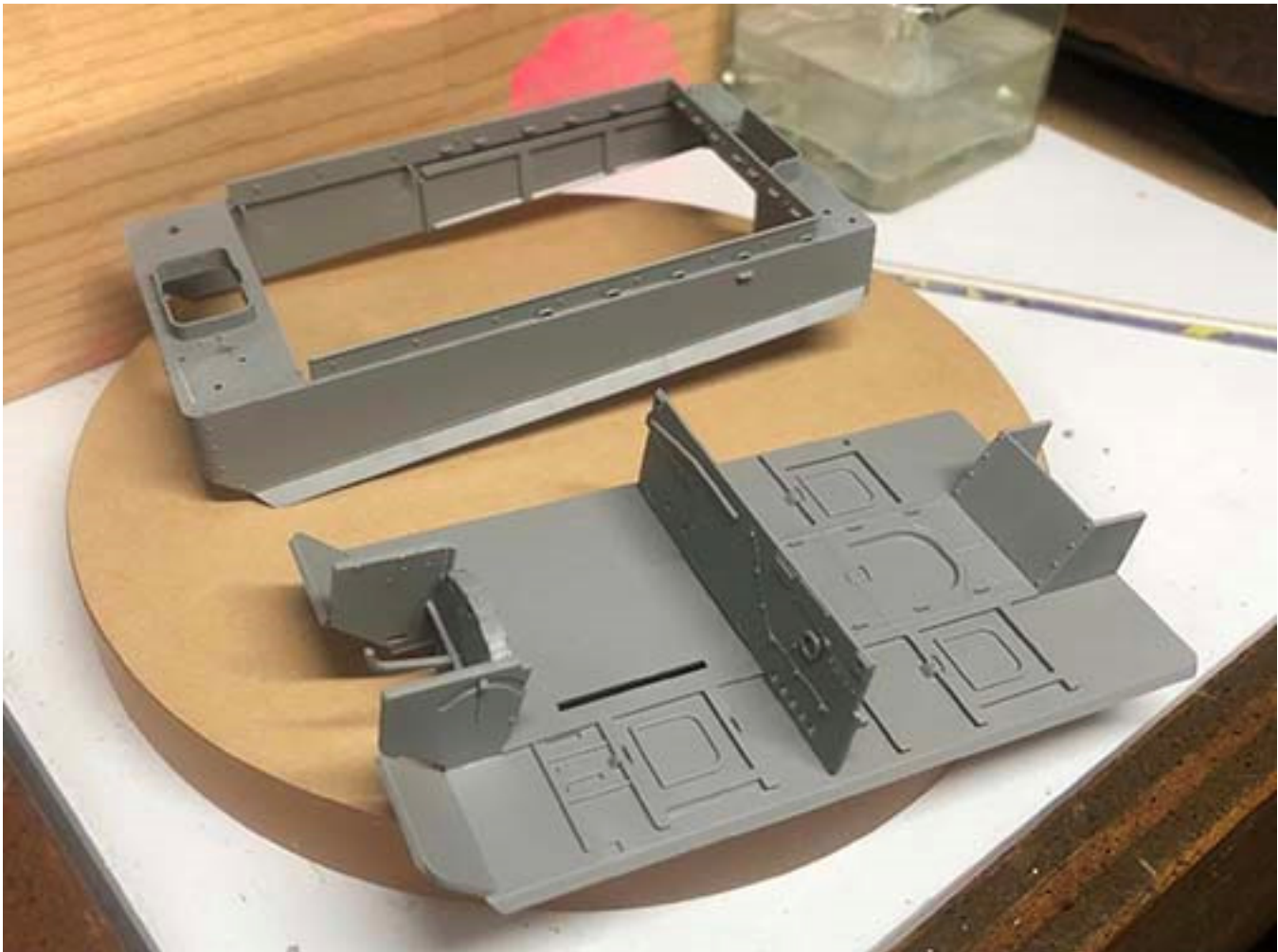


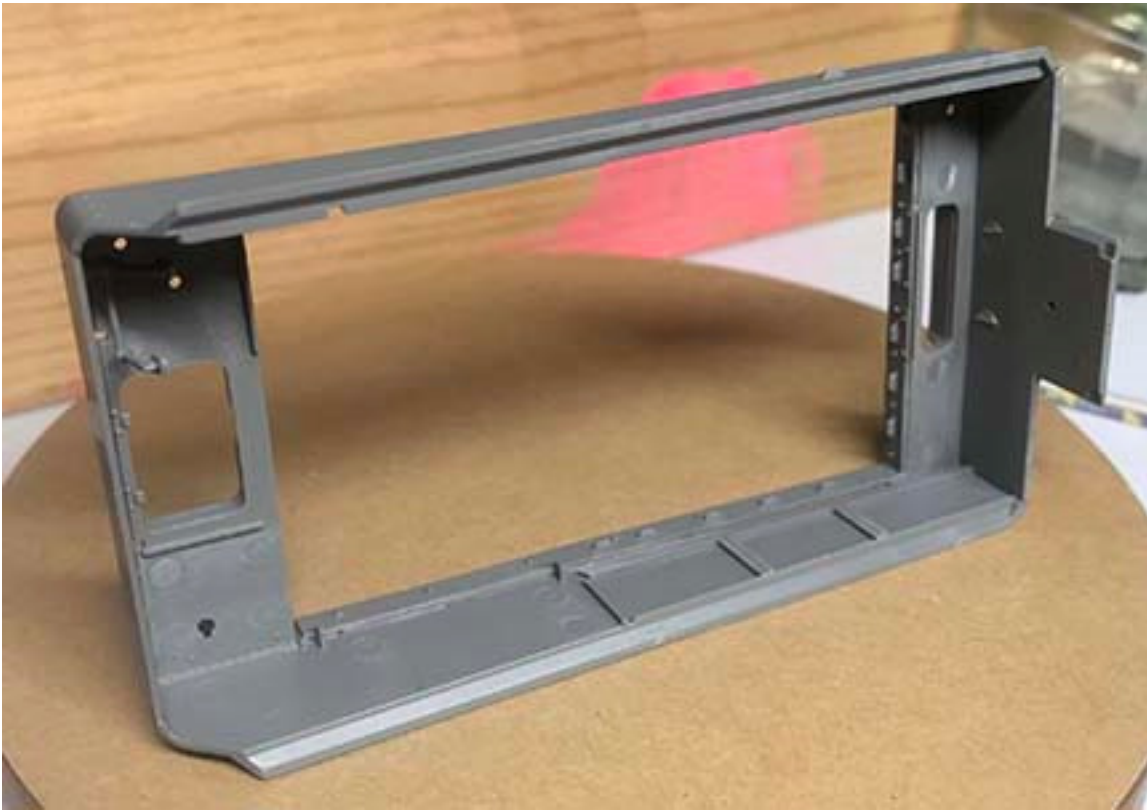
Takom 1/35 Studebaker M29 Weasel

Rol Domantay [Advanced Modelers and Techniques](#)

Takom 1/35 Studebaker M29 Weasel... There is a YouTube build review that absolutely bashes this kit as being almost unbuildable, plastic doesn't take glue, nothing fits, huge gaps and ill fitting parts... He scared a lot of modelers away from this kit, judging by the comments... Don't go by that review, I watched the whole thing and it seemed to me that it was clumsily assembled with no thought on test fitting, cleaning of parts etc... This kit is definitely not for the faint of heart and the modeler must have advanced skills and patience to get it right... My first tip is "Do not follow the instructions step by step concerning the build of the hull and related pieces... If you do you will end up having the same bad results as that YouTube build review... I will be ordering another M29 that I will turn into a civilian version in a duck hunting setting...

1 Once the 3pc floorboard (step 5) is assembled proceed to (step 6) radiator, assemble the instrument panel fully but do not attach engine cover (ptC5) as shown in the instructions... Attach radiator assembly, center bulkhead(step 7) and part C14... Attaching these pieces will help align the main tub... Test fit all before committing to glue... Assemble the tub, use the floorboard to line everything up... I used tape to hold everthing in place while I lined everything up before glue, I started by glueing the corners first and worked my way front to back checking square and fit the whole time... When everything was dry I put a light bead of super glue on all the mating joints... This assembly needs to be strong...

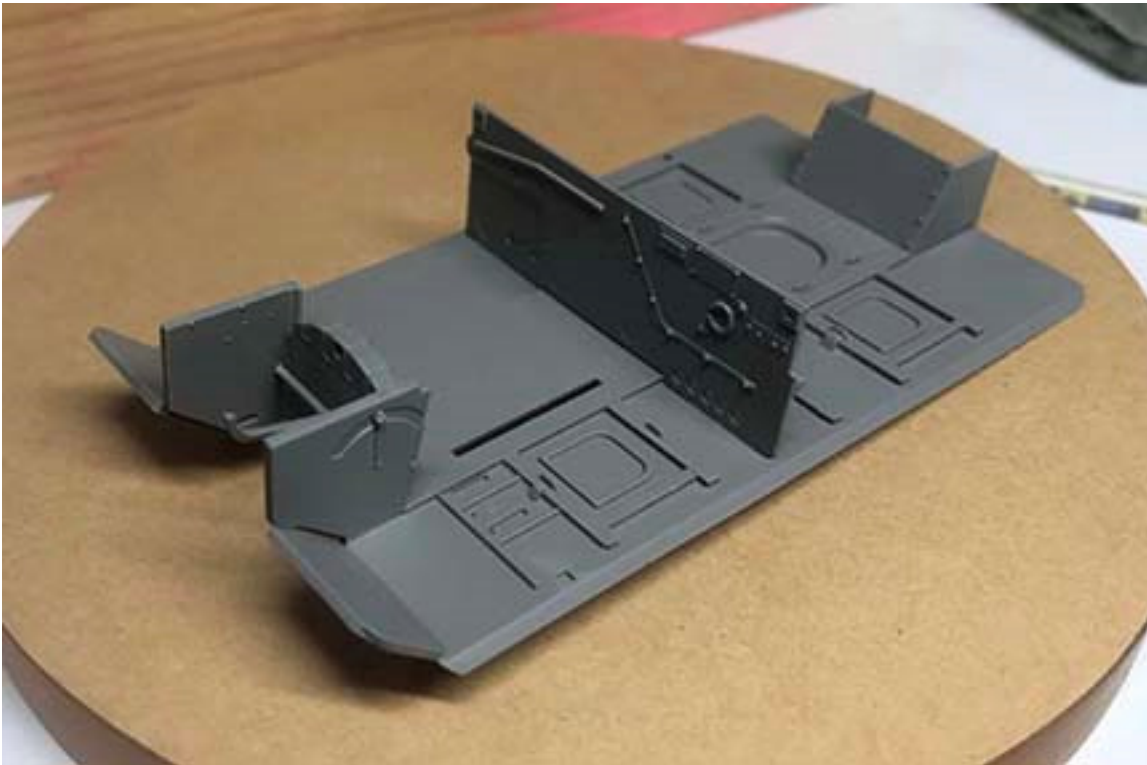




2 Assemble the tub, use the floorboard to line everything up... I used tape to hold everthing in place while I lined everything up before glue, I started by glueing the corners first and worked my way front to back checking square and fit the whole time... When everything was dry I put a light bead of super glue on all the mating joints... This assembly needs to be strong...



3As a result the tub is square, level and tight with minimal seams... some light sanding needs to be done on the location points for parts C7, C8, C10, these pieces need to be at a right angle to the side panels... There will still be room to add some PE at a later time...



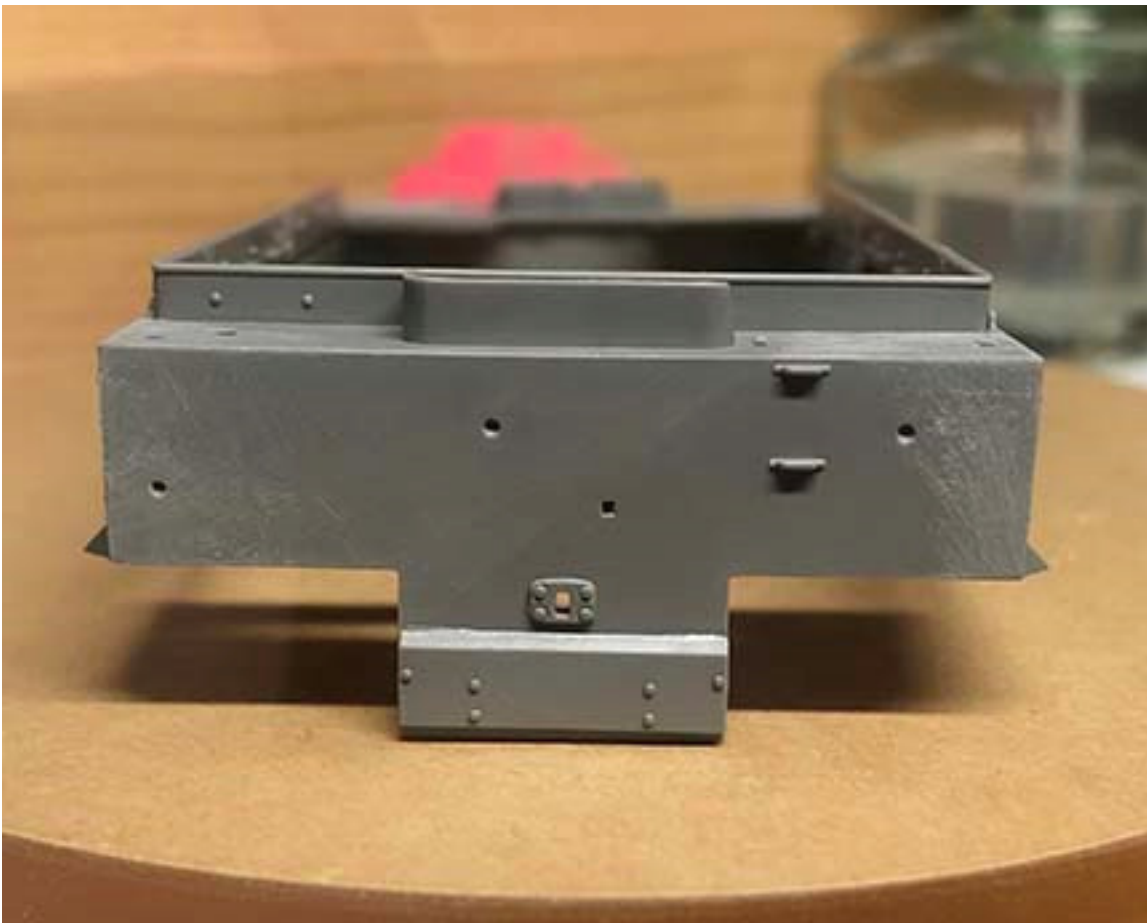
4 There are some small parts that are attached to the bulkhead, I'm skipping the steps (for now) that attaches the control arms/levers... I will attach later...



5 Attach part E46 to the panel, not the radiator frame... This will also help in alignment of certain panels...



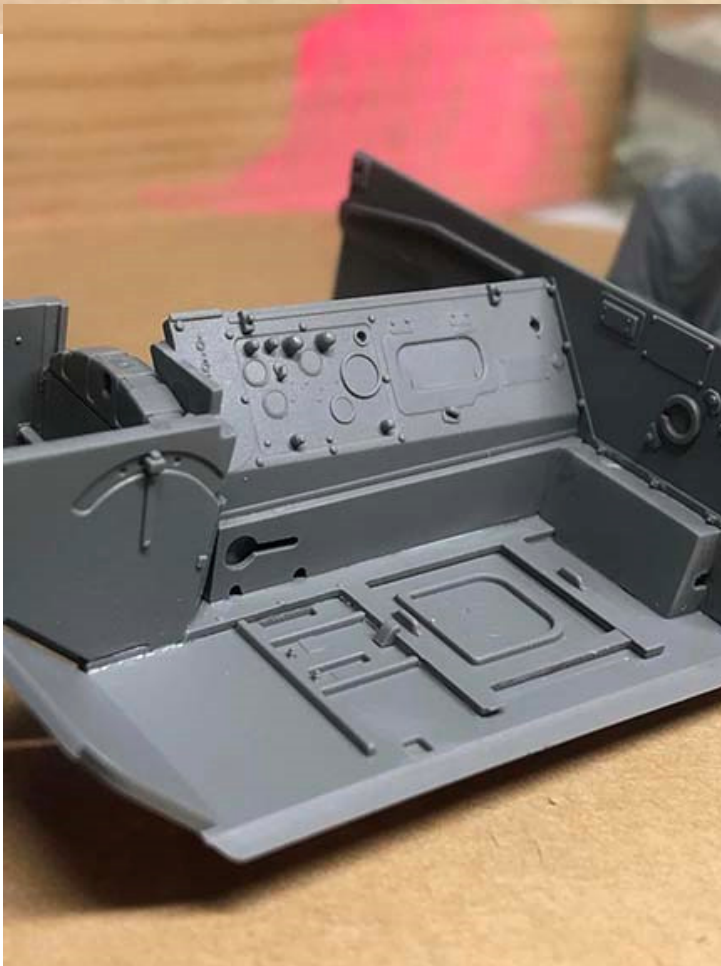
6 Back view of instrument panel with part E46 attached...



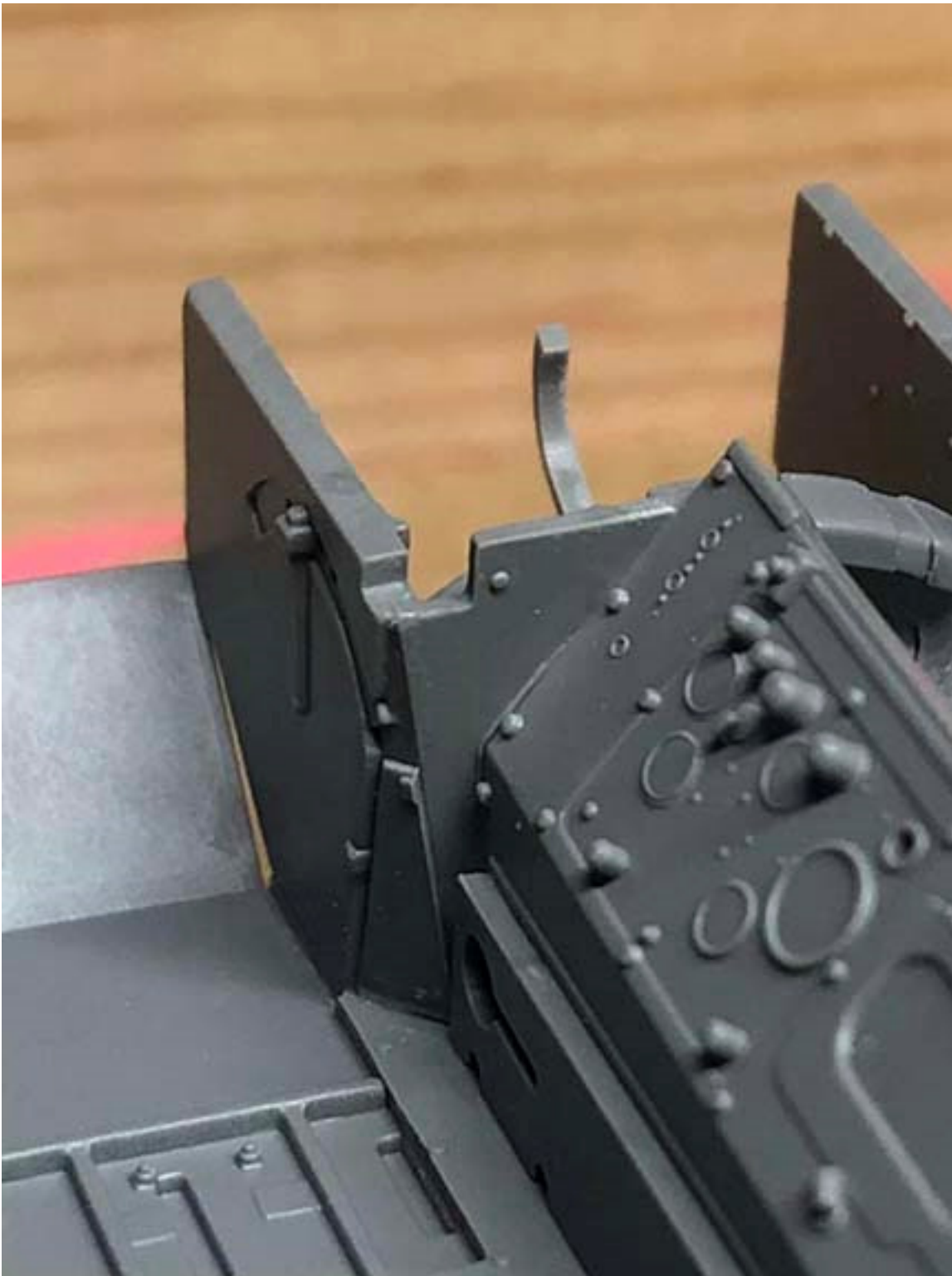
7 Rear view... Square, solid, and tight with minimal seams... all other parts for this area can be attached later...



8 Front view...



9 Attach instrument panel, test fit this area, it's a bit finicky... I reinforced the back of this where it glues to the floor with styrene rod and CA glue...



10 Part E46 should
mate tightly to the
Radiator panels, glue
this area well...



11 It should look like this... level and square... not glued yet where it meets the top panel... to make body assembly removable...

12 Top view... top section is removable for now, but it all fits nice, no gaps...it easily slides onto the floor with a little tweaking...





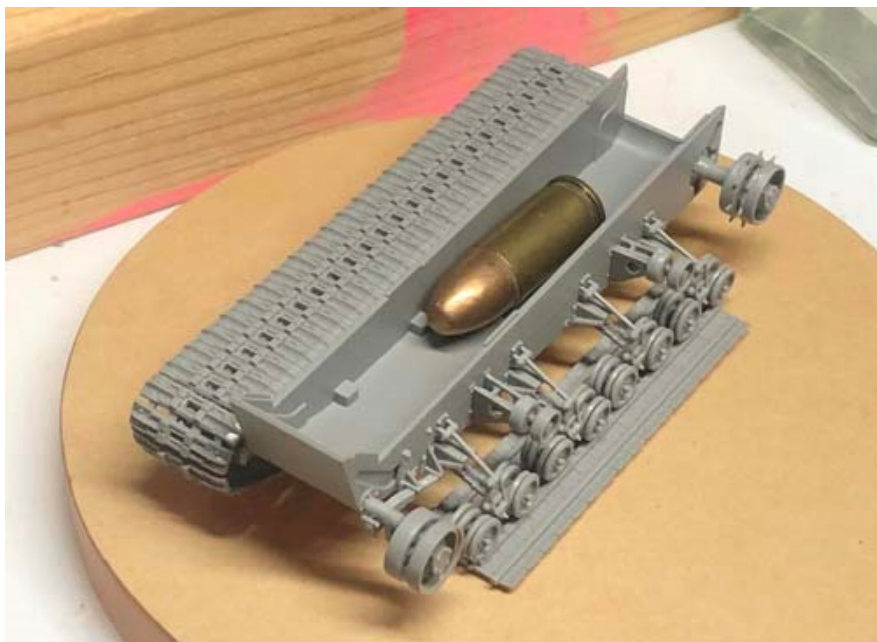
13 Top view... nice and square...



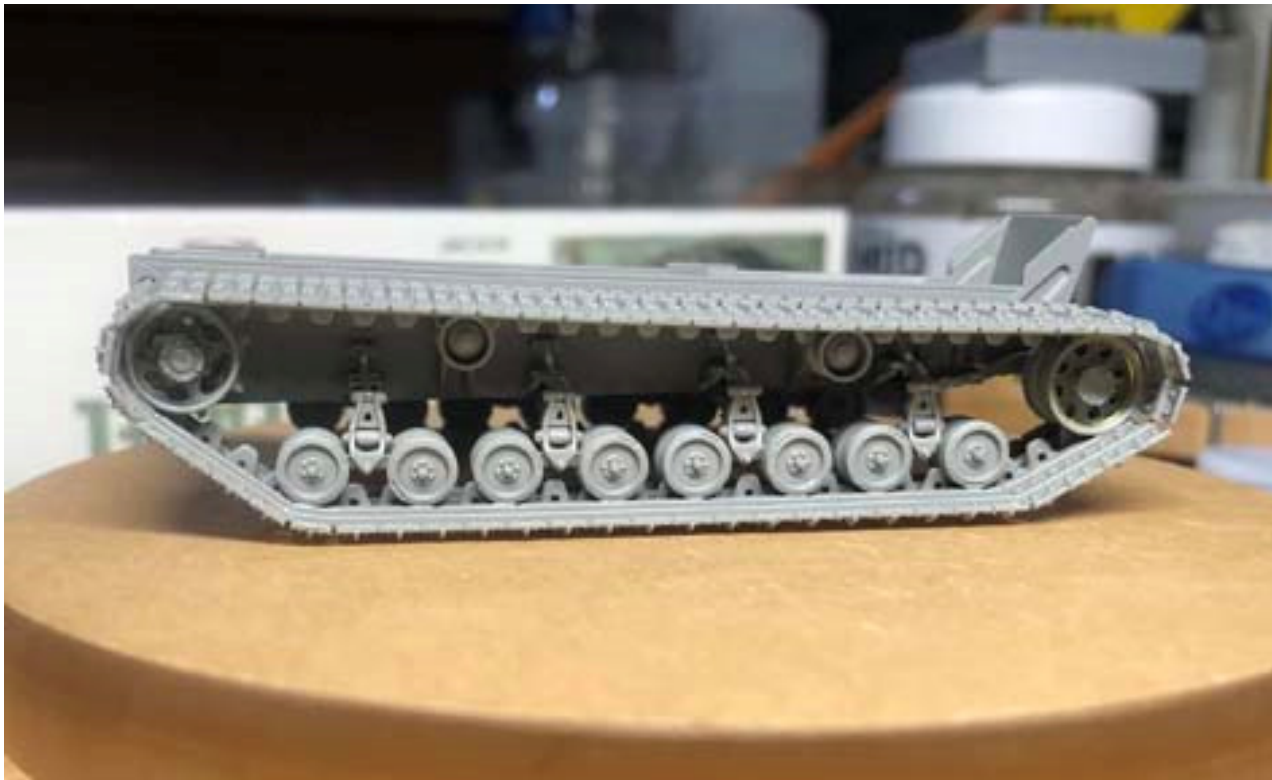
14 Engine cover, perfect fit... will be glued later...
YouTube build review had a huge gap on the side wall area... Reviewer hid the hideous gap with a sculpted tarp and tons of filler...



15 Top section removable so as to complete the build... drivers seat, control levers, photo etch etc... I'm also checking to see if I can modify the windscreen so it's in the folded down position, might not be possible, we'll see...



A Tracks went together easily... Attention must be paid to the assembly sequence and direction...



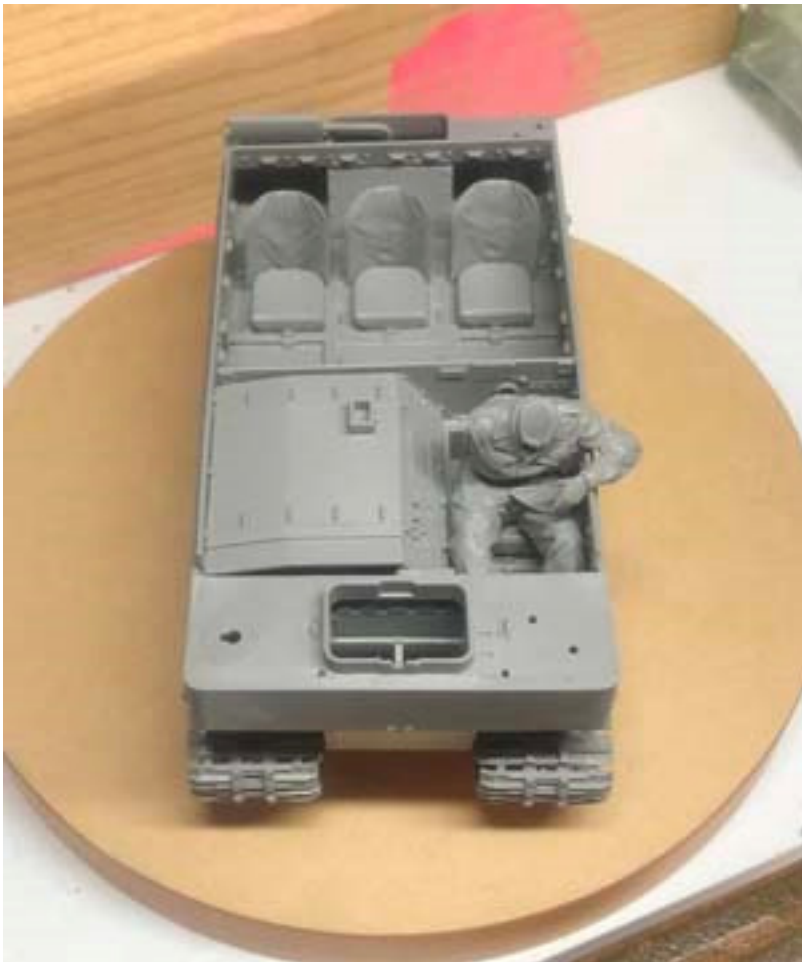
B The small sections of track have a curve that wrap around the drive wheel/sprocket ... Care must be taken lining up the track to the toothed drive sprocket... Bogie/idler wheels are glued to the track...]

C Floorboard is permanently mated to the main hull





D
Right
side



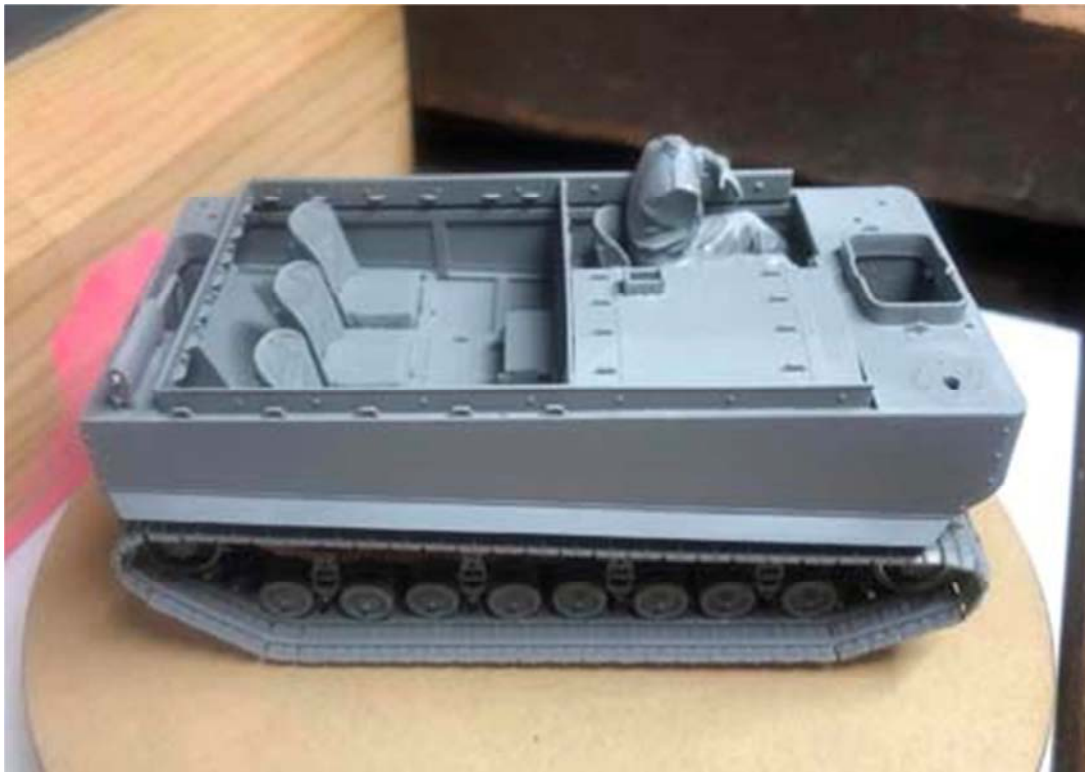
E Tub is not permanent yet, etch and small
details first...



F Sam at the controls...



G I Rear view, will need some gear in there





Some buddies, Alpine Miniatures AFV crew... For a 3 figure vignette...



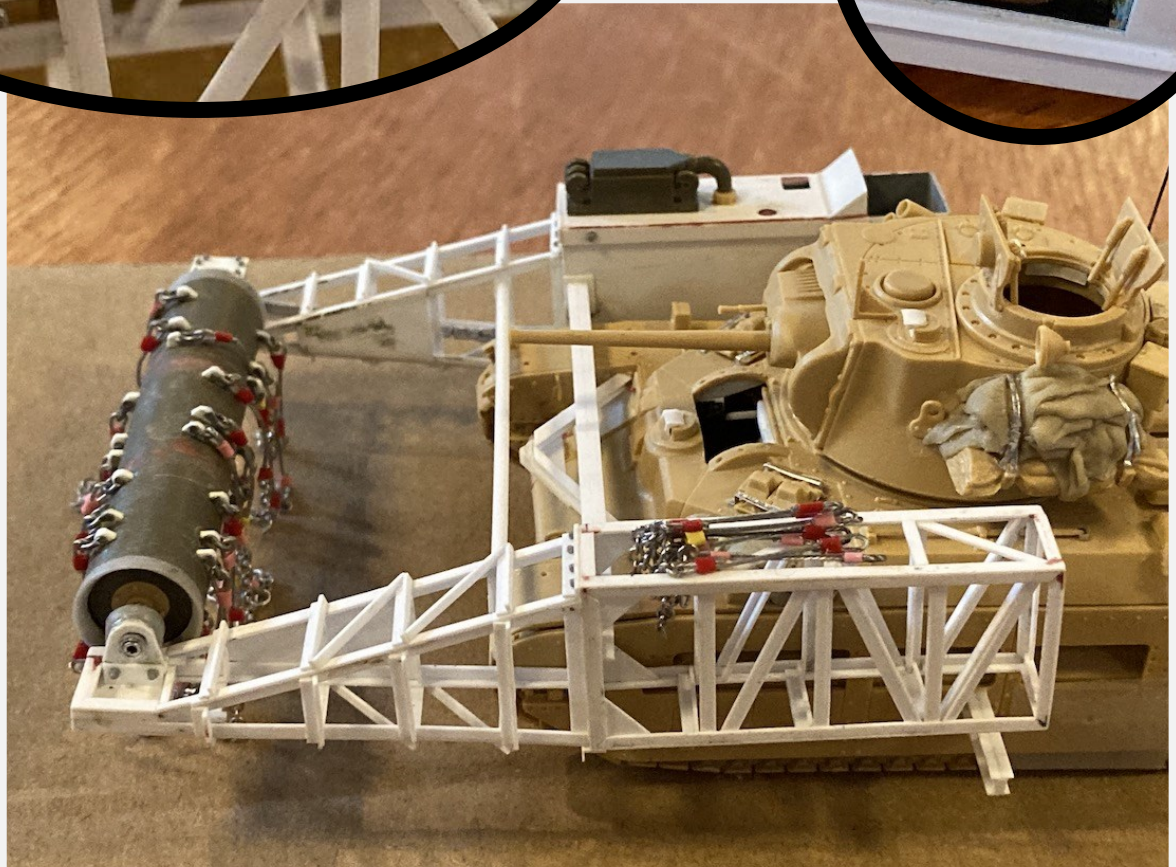
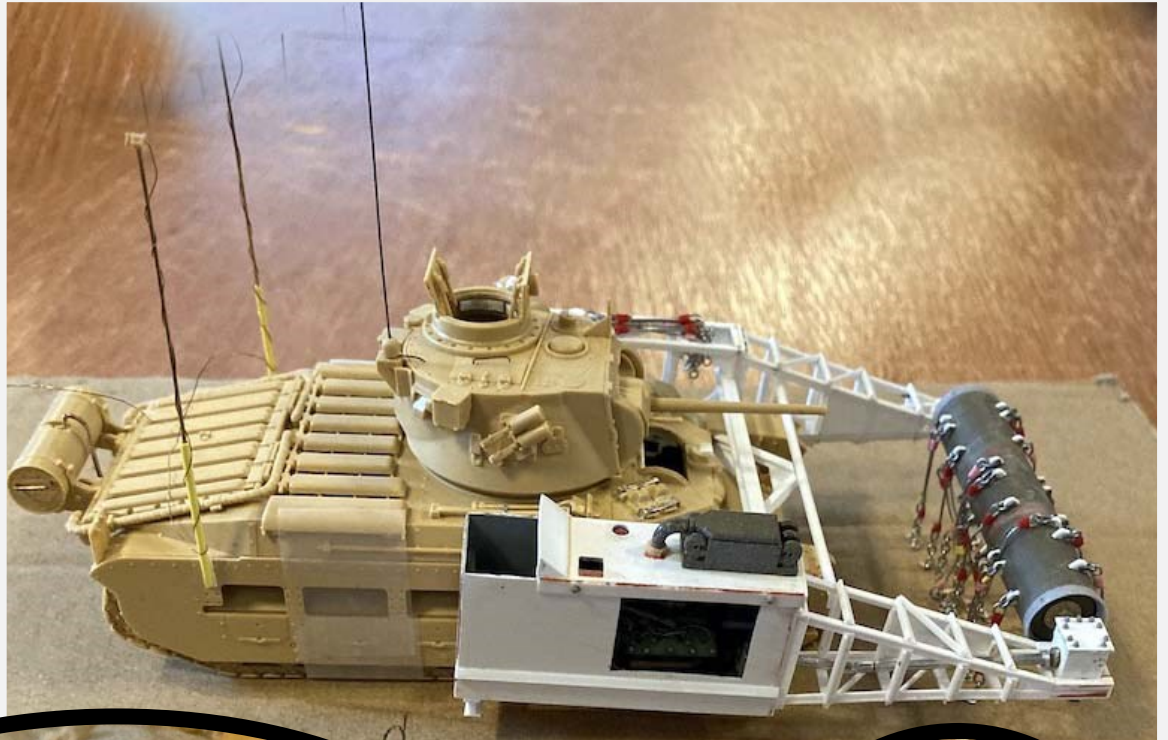
October Show & Tell

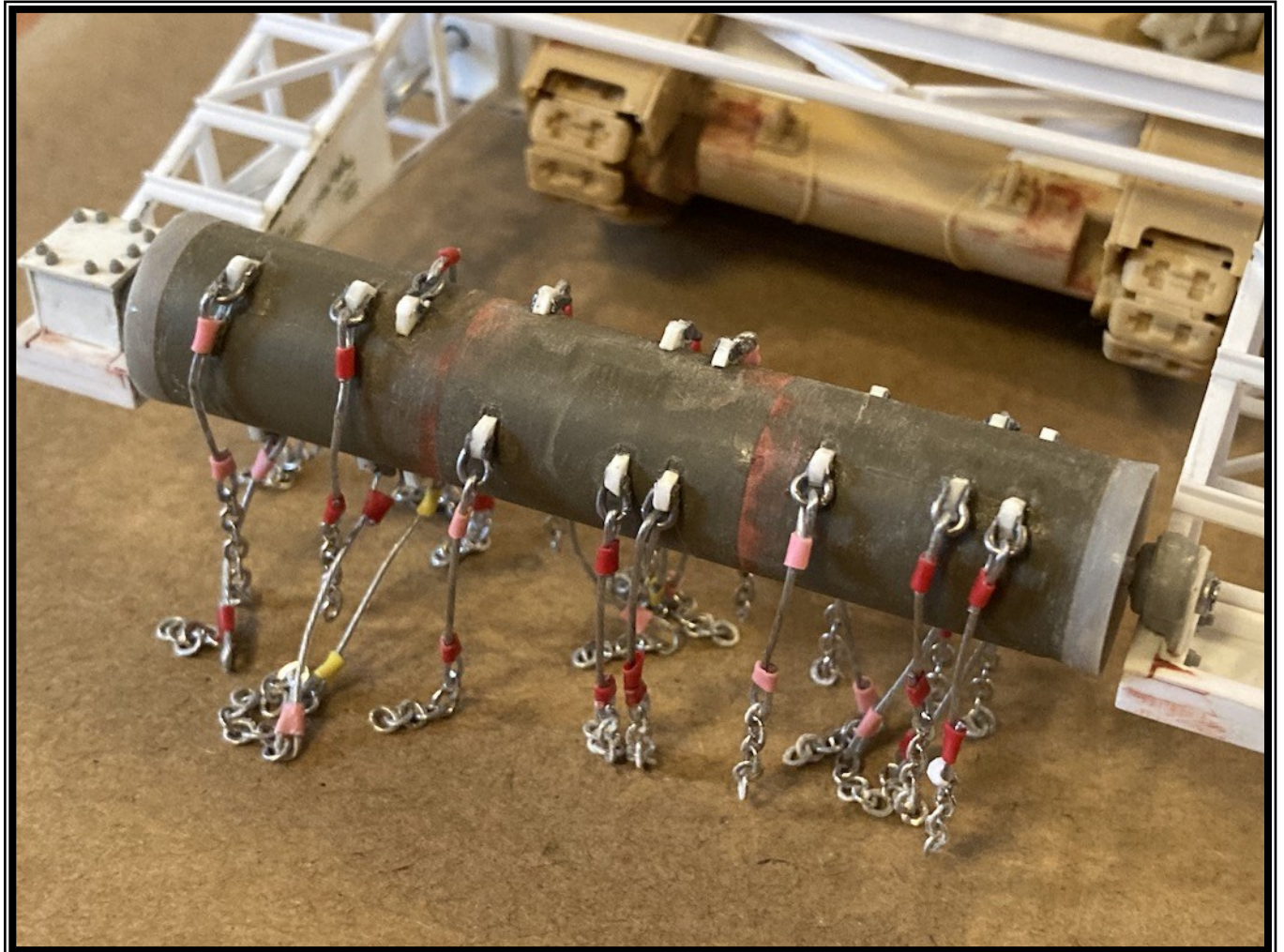
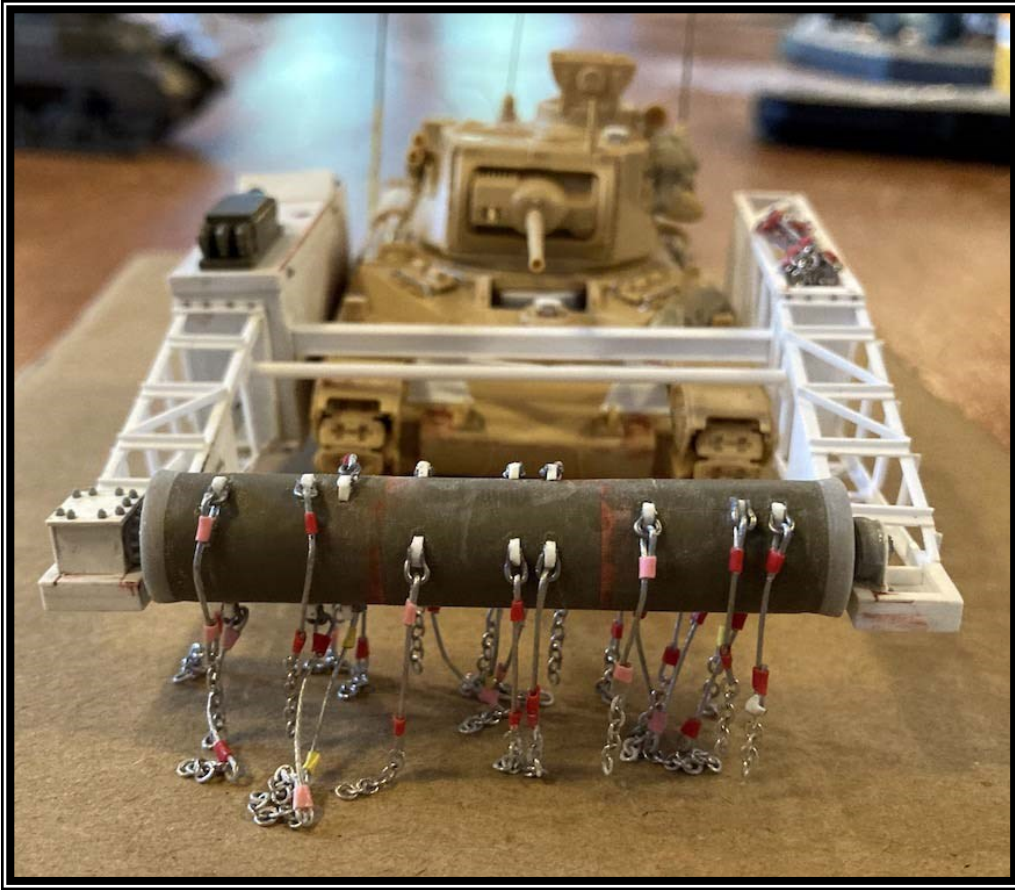
Victor Hernandez	1/35 AFV Club M3A3 Stuart 1/48 Tamiya Matilda (Scorpion) Scratch built
Bob Kita	54 mm Greek “Son of Poseidon” 1/9 Scale- ERecon Productions USMC Recon LRRP
Scott G	1/35 Taiya Panther “G” 135 Tasca Jumbo Sherman
Mike Kinowski	1/35 M8 Tamiya—GMC Phhaso Imperial Guard Grenader Drummer
Joe Kozak	1/35 Italeri 925 Guntrck Iraq 2005

Victor









Bob K

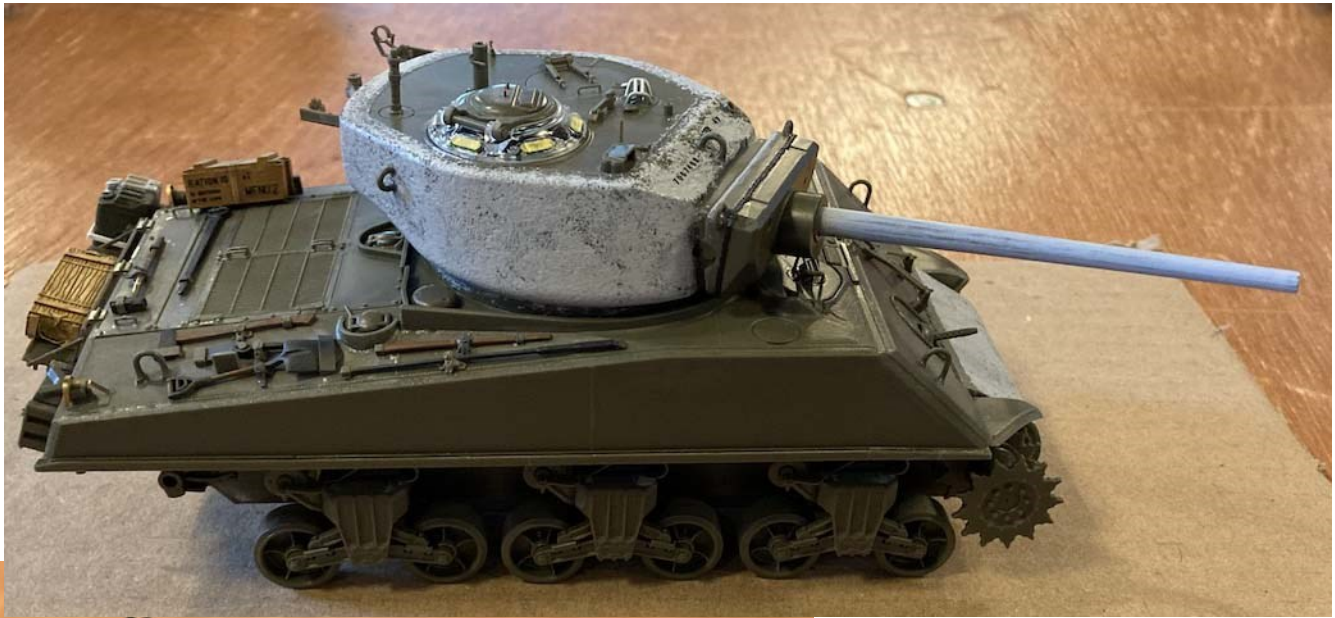






Scott G.





Mike Kinowski





Joe Kozak





Oct Meeting





The Last Round



We will save the last round for next month!

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:** _____

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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.



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www.amps-armor.org

THE END