



Check out our website for more information & photos: <http://www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org/>

All righty, then!

Momentum and excitement are already building in the AMPS community for the 2016 AMPS International Show that we're hosting in Sumter. During the 2015 show, a couple of weeks ago in Auburn, IN, I passed out flyers with the basic travel planning information, and I was also able to speak a little about our plans during the Annual General Membership meeting. I got a lot (A LOT!) of positive feedback from everyone I spoke with about the 2016 show.

During this year's AGM, the 2016 show theme was selected. It will be "WW I" and open to all WWI subjects that otherwise qualify for AMPS. I'm sure there will be some more details about eligibility forthcoming, but that's the gist of the 2016 theme.

We've already had a couple of vendor inquiries, and there will be many more, I'm sure. Auburn had 100% vendor table sales at 134, and we have 138 available with no reason to expect that we'll have any less than 100% sales, too. So start saving your allowance now! There will be no shortage of goodies to spend it on in the "World's Largest Armor Modeling Hobby Shop"! (And that is no exaggeration!)

Your convention committee members are working hard for you right now, but we would welcome any and all additional help that you, our local members, would like to offer. If you want to become involved in the 2016 convention's panning and preparations right now, just let either me or Tim Darrah know. We'll definitely get you in the mix. There's no secret handshake or exclusive invitation needed. It's our chapter's convention, and everyone in the chapter is welcome to be a part of it.

It's also none too soon for all of us to be making our plans and arranging our calendars to be sure we can be available for the duration of the convention next year. The show dates for us will be Wednesday through Saturday, April 6-9, 2016.

We will need each and every member of our chapter to try his or her best to be available to lend a hand during the show. There are jobs for everyone.

Set up and tear down, vendor area security, manning our club's display table, general admission ticket sales, registration, Ram Rods, model Runners, ACJs, Table Captains, Field Judges, scoring, data entry, the raffle table, logistics officer, entry forms concierge, and on and on... As soon as you get done with one job, there will be another that needs doing and not enough people to do it.

As the hosting chapter and the folks who asked for the job, getting all of it done is our responsibility. Of course, with great responsibility, comes great opportunity, so being members of the hosting chapter, you'll be rewarded with front row seats and unfettered access to the entire show. You should have excellent opportunities to meet some modeling world celebrities and the best chances at the vendors. We'll all be the early birds looking for the juiciest worms at the 2016 show!

The designated convention HQ hotel, the Quality Inn, Broad Street, Sumter, is already taking reservations, and although we have a 50 room block set aside, those rooms are filling fast even now. I know for those of us who live too far away from Sumter to easily commute to and from on a daily basis, getting a reservation now is a good idea. Remember, you can always cancel a reservation, but there's a real possibility that there will literally be no room in the inn if you wait too long. Tim is working hard to get us some more rooms blocked in over-flow hotels, but one of the joys of attending the convention is hanging around afterhours with fellow AMPS members from all over. If you can, you won't want to miss out on that.

So... Come on AMPS 2016!

Previous Meetings' Minutes:

Since our last newsletter, we've held three meetings at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road, Columbia.

February

Our February meeting was held 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 11 February, 2015 We had 20 members in attendance and 13 models brought in for Show & Tell. The raffle prize was Italeri's M109A6 Paladin which was won by Phil Cavender.

1. Pz.Kpfw. III Ausf. J (DML Armor Pro), 1/72 – Rebecca Hettmansperger
2. T-34/85 Mod. 1944 (DML + Spade Ace Metal Tracks?), 1/35 – Tom Wingate
3. M4A3 Sherman (Tamiya), 1/35 – Phillip Cavender
4. BMD with Ukrain Troops (Panda + Masterclub Resin Tracks), 1/35 – Dave Verattoni
5. M-47 Somali 1990 (Italeri + Eduard PE, DEF Models S. Korean Upgrade)1/35 – Dave Varettoni
6. German E-100 Super Heavy Tank (Trumpeter, OOB), 1/35 – Trevor Edwards
7. Loyd Carrier No. 2 Mk. II & British Ordnance QF Mk. IV A-T Gun 6 Pdr (Bronco & Riich), 1/35 – Mike Roof
8. "What If" Plane-Tank (Tamiya Pz III + Monogram P-39 Air Cobra), 1/35 & 1/48 – Paul Lovell
9. U.S. Light Tank M5A1 & Close Combat US Tank Crew (Tamiya & Miniart), 1/35 – Michael Child
10. Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther G Late Production (DML), 1/35 – Ben Brandes
11. Mercedes Benz G4/W31 (Hasegawa), M4A1 Halftrack (Hasegawa), Sd.Kfz. 7 8 Ton Halftrack (Hasegawa) & PzSp P204(f) with CDM turret (RPM), 1/72 – Kevin Cook
12. Sherman III DV Initial Production (Cyber Hobby), 1/35 – Philip Cavender

13. Panzer III Sd Kfz Airsoft 2.4GHz RTR RC Tank (Taigen + many scratch-built details), 1/16 – Adam Lasek

Photo Album on our webpage: http://www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org/Meeting_Photos.php

During the meeting: **1)** Treasurer reported. **2)** Deposits have been made for the venue and table vendor for the 2016 AMPS International Show. **3)** Deposit has been made on an order for more G-S-B medals for our local shows. **4)** There was no new business.

March

Our March meeting was held 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 11 March, 2015. We had 16 Members in attendance with 12 models brought in for Show & Tell. The raffle prize was Trumpeter's Russian BMP-3E IFV won by Tom Wingate.

1. Sd.Kfz.186 Jagdtiger Porsche Production Type (DML + Spade Ace Tracks, PE extras, scratch Radiator & Fans), 1/35 – Tom Wingate
2. M26 Dragon Wagon (Academy) & M4A2(76)W Red Army (DML), 1/72) – Adam Lasek
3. German E-100 Super Heavy Tank (Trumpeter, OOB), 1/35 – Trevor Edwards
4. Tiger I Mid-Production Model Kommandant Otto Carius (Tamiya), 1/35 – Trevor Edwards
5. Russian KV-1 Mod 1939 (Trumpeter), 1/35 – David Varettoni
6. German GTK Boxer (GTFz) (Revell), 1/35 – Dave Varettoni
7. Merkava (Mk. I) (Italeri / ESCI), 1/72 – Tony Abbott
8. Strv 122 (Tamiya Leopard 2A5 + HK Creation Conversion, Echelon Decals), 1/35 – Tim Darrah
9. M1A1 Abrams (Revell "Snap-Tite), 1/35 – Noah Brandes
10. Sd.Kfz. 171 Panther G Late Production (DML), 1/35 – Ben Brandes
11. M60 Patton (Italeri M60A1 + AEF Designs resin Early M60 Turret), 1/35 – Carl Wethington
12. U.S. Light Tank M5A1 & Close Combat US Tank Crew (Tamiya & Miniart), 1/35 – Michael Child

Photo Album on our webpage: http://www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org/Meeting_Photos.php

During the meeting: **1)** Treasurer reported that we have \$3024.31 in the treasury. **2)** Our order for new G-S-B medals has been paid in full and the medals have been received. **3)** A show report from the Atlanta AMPS 2015 Regional – Our club was represented by 8 members with Tony Abbott, Rebecca, Carl, Dave, and Trevor all earning awards. All of our club members present volunteered for numerous judging shifts and other show support (scoring and data entry). There were 137 models entered by 43 entrants. Mike Petty, AMPS National CJ, announced that the national membership has reached 700+ and encouraged local club members who have not to join AMPS. **4)** New Business - Club members voiced a desire to try to bring a local food truck vendor to our June show. **5)** We also held another Intra-Club Contest:

AMPS Central SC Intra-club Contest: Heavy Tanks, 47 Tons & Up

For our fourth quarterly Intra-Club Contest, the subject was " Heavy Tanks, 47 Tons & Up ", consisting of any armored combat vehicle that weighed 47 tons or more. We had four 4 Intermediate Skill Level entries, judged by Club members using the standard AMPS Rules. The winners received Hobby Town USA gift cards: 1st place - \$25; 2nd place - \$20; 3rd place - \$15.

Here's the entries and results:

<u>Entry #</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Skill-Level</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	Sd.Kfz.186 Jagdtiger Porsche Production Type (1/35, DML + Spade Ace Tracks, PE extras, scratch Radiator & Fans)	Tom Wingate	Advanced	28.5
2	German E-100 Super Heavy Tank (1/35, Trumpeter)	Trevor Edwards	Intermediate	20.5
3	Tiger I Mid-Production Model Kommandant Otto Carius (1/35, Tamiya)	Trevor Edwards	Intermediate	24.5
4	Russian KV-1 Mod 1939 (1/35 Trumpeter)	Dave Varettoni	Intermediate	22.5
5	Merkava (Mk. I) (1/72, Italeri / ESCI)	Tony Abbott	Intermediate	26.5
6	Strv 122 (1/35, Tamiya Leopard 2A5 + HK Creation Conversion, Echelon Decals)	Tim Darrah	Intermediate	22.0
7	M1A1 Abrams (1/35, Revell "Snap-Tite)	Noah Brandes	Junior	27.0

Winners:

1st – Tom Wingate’s Sd.Kfz.186 Jagdtiger Porsche Prod. (Advance – 28.5 points) [GOLD]

2nd – Noah Brandes’ M1A1 Abrams (Junior – 27 points) [GOLD]

3rd – Tony Abbott’s Merkava Mk. I (Intermediate – 26.5 points) [SILVER]

DNP – Trevor Edwards’s Tiger I Mid Kommandant Otto Carius (Intermediate – 24.5 points) [SILVER]

DNP – David Varettoni’s Russian KV-1 Mod 1939 (Intermediate – 22.5 points) [BRONZE]

DNP – Tim Darrah’s Strv 122 (Intermediate – 22.0 points) [BRONZE]

DNP – Trevor Edwards’s German E-100 Super Heavy Tank (Intermediate – 20.5 points) [BRONZE]

Photo Album: <http://media5ik1.onlineview.it/FullScreenSlideShow.aspx?gallery=4621726&mt=Photo>

Low-Country Convention (Lo-Co-Con) 2015

Five "Wildcats" members attended the Lo-Co-Con 2015 on March 14, 2015, run by the IPMS Coastal Carolina Chapter, which was held at the R.B. Stall High School, 3625 Ashley Phosphate Road, North Charleston, SC 29418. This was a great venue, and the High School's JROTC Unit provided Food and Beverages. Our Contest Flyers were available, and a few of us talked up our show with the other attendees.

There were 51 Contestants with a total of 231 models entered. We had four club members with five armor-related models, entered into two categories, which were judged using the IPMS Rules.

Here's the entries and the results:

<u>Entry #</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Category</u>
200-4	Sd.Kfz.186 Jagdtiger Porsche Production Type (DML + Spade Ace Tracks, PE extras, scratch Radiator & Fans), 1/35	Tom Wingate	202 - 1/35 AFVs, 1945 & Earlier ~ Axis
202-1	Pz.Kpfw. III Ausf. J (DML Armor Pro), 1/72	Rebecca Hettmansperger	209 - 1/72 & Smaller AFVs
212-1	IJN Type 2 (Ka-Mi) Amphibious Tank (DML Armor Pro), 1/72	Paul Lovell	209 - 1/72 & Smaller AFVs
217-1	Tiger I Initial, 100 sPzAbt502 (DML Panzer Korps), 1/144	Jeff Nelson	209 - 1/72 & Smaller AFVs
217-2	Tiger I Initial,142 sPzAbt501 (DML Panzer Korps), 1/144	Jeff Nelson	209 - 1/72 & Smaller AFVs

Winners:

1st Place – Tom Wingate (Category 202 – 1/35 AFVs, 1945 & Earlier ~ Axis)

1st Place – Jeff Nelson (Category 209 – 1/72 & Smaller AFVs)

2nd Place – Paul Lovell (Category 209 – 1/72 & Smaller AFVs)

Two 1st Places and a 2nd Place Awards out of FIVE entries is another great showing by AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"!

Photo Album: <http://media5ik1.onlineview.it/FullScreenSlideShow.aspx?gallery=4621729&mt=Photo>

Still one more month to cover...

April

Our April meeting was held 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 8 April, 2015. We had 20 members in attendance with 16 models brought in for Show & Tell, and pictures of 2 models shared from Dave Neuman, a chapter member in a land far, far away. Dave entered his two models into the "KCCON 2015", a joint show with IPMS Great Plains, which was held on March 14, 2015. In Wildcat tradition, won with both

entries, and here's a link to check out the contest: <http://www.kcamps.org/gallery/Shows/KCCON-2015>. The raffle prize was Tamiya's 1/35 M1046 Humvee TOW Missile Carrier won by Ben Brandes.

1. Jagdpatton (ESCI Jagdpanther & M60A1 Blazer kitbash), 1/72 – Dave Neuman ~ KCCon Category XII (Advanced), **won SILVER & Best Hypothetical/Prototype**
2. US Willys Jeep M.B. Cargo / 37mm Gun (Hasegawa kitbash), 1/72 – Dave Neuman ~ KCCon Category V (Advanced), **won SILVER**
3. Pz. Bef.Wg. III Ausf. J w/ Schurzen (DML), 1/35 – Ben Brandes
4. M41 Walker Bulldog (Tamiya), 1/35 – Noah & Ben Brandes
5. M113 ACAV (Trumpeter/S-Model + Eduard PE), 1/72 – Rebecca Hettmansperger
6. M60 Patton (Italeri M60A1 + AEF Designs resin Early M60 Turret), 1/35 – Carl Wethington
7. Staghound Mk I Canadian (Tamiya & Italeri + PE, Aber Barrels, Armorscale Wheels & Antenna Bases, Scratch-Built Stowage), 1/35 – Phil Cavender
8. General George Pickett 1863 (Michael Roberts, Ltd), 120mm – Tom McCoy
9. Sturmbannfuhrer Joachim Peiper (Verlinden), 200mm – Tom McCoy
10. 14th Alabama (Shenandoah + HAD?), 54mm – Tom McCoy
11. WWI German Infantryman, 133rd Regiment, Winter, 1916 (Dr. Tekla), 54mm – Tom McCoy
12. Germanic Warrior, Suebian Confederation, 1st Century BC (Pegaso), 75mm – Tom McCoy
13. Marshall Ney (Quadra Concept), 75mm – Tom McCoy
14. U.S. Light Tank M5A1 & Close Combat US Tank Crew (Tamiya & Miniart), 1/35 – Michael Child
15. German GTK Boxer (GTFz) (Revell), 1/35 – Dave Varettoni
16. German A7V Tank (Krupp) (Meng), 1/35 – Mike Bishop
17. JGSDF Type 60 APC (Finemolds + Finemolds PE, Academy ROK Armor Crewmen, Scratch-Built), 1/35 – Jeff Nelson
18. Ambush at Poteau (Ardennes 1944) (DML), 1/35 – Michael Child

Photo Album on our webpage: http://www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org/Meeting_Photos.php

During the meeting: **1)** Treasurer reported that we have \$3559.31 in the treasury. **2)** Rebecca presented an update on the raffle for our June show. **3)** Dave V. presented an overview of his plans for seminars at the 2016 AMPS International Show. **4)** There was no new business.

Holy Bovine! That's a lot of models and info!

Next Meeting's Agenda:

Our next regular meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 13 May, 2015 at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road, Columbia.

6:00 pm (1800): Meeting starts / Admin Business – **1)** Bank balance on May 9 = \$3,199.31 after payment of \$260 for special awards for our June show. We have several pending deposits for

awards sponsorships. **2)** Discuss and vote on sponsoring Best Mil. Vehicle at the IPMS Arm/Air show at \$40 and sponsoring a category at the AMPS Great White show at \$21. **3)** Our special awards for June have been designed and ordered from T-S productions (Tim Sloan). Cost was \$260, including shipping, for a total of 12, laser engraved clear acrylic awards. These are unique designs made exclusively for our show. **4)** The HQ hotel for the 2016 AMPS International Show in Sumter is taking reservations now. We have a block of 50 rooms, but these are filling fast. **5)** A brief report on the 2015 AMPS International Show held in Aubrun, IN. Excitement for 2016 is building! **6)** Floor will be open for new business.

REMINDER: The HobbyTown USA store will close at 8:00 pm (2000). This means that all purchases at the store must be made before then so that the cash registers can be closed.

6:15 pm (1810): Admin business and Show & Tell.

6:50 pm (1850): Break: Shopping & Social Mixer. Cash registers close at 8:00 pm.

7:10 pm (1910): Reconvene: Continue Show & Tell: Builds and WIPs

8:00 pm (2000): Meeting ends (officially)

Regular meetings are held on 2nd Wednesdays of each month at 6:00 pm (1800) at the HobbyTown USA store, 10120 Two Notch Road, Suite 5, Columbia, SC 29223, (803) 736-0959.

Up-coming Events:

May 13, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road

May 29-30, 2015: AMPS Great White North regional show. Oshawa Tank Museum, Oshawa, Ontario.

Jun 5-6, 2015: IPMS R-12 Convention, Fayetteville, NC, hosted by Layfayette Scale Modelers.

Jun 10, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.
Interclub contest: "Germany 1945."

Jun 19-20, 2015: AMPS Central SC Show. Crane Creek Gym, 7405-B Fairfield Road, Columbia, SC. Friday (set up, judges training, and local registration) – 4 to 9 pm. Saturday – 7 am to 8 pm.

Jul 08, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road

Aug 12, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.
Interclub display: "Build Something from Scott's Stash!"

Sep 09, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road

Sep 25, 2015: IPMS/AMPS Northeast Military Modelers Association (NMMA), ARMORCON, Crown Plaza Danbury, 18 Old Ridgebury Rd., Danbury, CT.

Oct 14, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road

Oct 17, 2015: IPMS Arm/Air Contest, First Ministry Center, 220 North Front St., Salisbury, NC.

Nov 11, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.
Interclub contest: "Militarized Civilian Vehicles."

Dec 09, 2015, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS Christmas Party at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road

April 06-09, 2016: AMPS International Convention, Sumter County Civic Center, Sumter, SC hosted by the AMPS Central SC "Wildcats."

AMPS Central SC Annual Show, 19-20 June, 2015

AMPS CENTRAL SC "WILDCATS"

"GO TRACKLESS"

MODEL CONTEST

7am - 8pm Saturday, June 20, 2015

Crane Creek Gymnasium
7405-B Fairfield Road
Columbia, SC 29203
I-20, Exit #70
www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org

Theme Award Eligibility: Any era or nationality. Actual or hypothetical. Scale is immaterial. Entry must be entirely wheeled, intended to run on roads and / or cross-country and must be armored. The armor may be factory designed or field expedient. The vehicle does not have to be fully armored or enclosed. Partial armor and open tops are eligible if all other requirements are also met. The wheeled armored vehicle may or may not be armed with weapons intended to be fired from under armor from within the vehicle or a turret. (I.e. armored but un-armored vehicles that meet all other requirements are eligible.) Vehicles bound only to rails are not eligible. However, armored vehicles that are primarily wheeled to run on roads or cross-country but which have supplementary rail wheels are eligible. Half-tracked vehicles are not eligible. Vehicles that are designed to run on "convertible" tracks or wheels are not eligible. Vehicles designed to run primarily on skies or skids are not eligible. The wheels of eligible armored vehicles do not have to have rubber tires. Composite or all-steel wheels, with or without spuds, pads, or other traction enhancing or ground pressure reducing devices satisfy the eligibility criteria for wheels. Eligible wheeled armored vehicles may be equipped with supplemental, removable tracks or chains intended to temporarily improve the traction of their wheeled drive systems. Any questions about eligibility will be decided by the Chief Judge whose decision will be final.

(I still say that is one cool poster!)

"The Day Room"

In the US military, most company-level units have a "day room" in the barracks where the troops hang-out, relax, and BS. When you want to learn the latest in "rumor control," you swing by the day room and chat-up the Joes and Janes hanging out there. They might not always get it right, but they're always willing to tell ya just what they think! So, welcome to "the Day Room..."

Alright, "Wildcats," we've got a lot on our plates over the next year.

However, don't forget our up-coming June show, Friday and Saturday, 19-20 June at the Crane Creek Gym on US312 / Fairfield Road.

We'll be setting up on Friday afternoon, from about 3:00 pm, and immediately following set-up, we'll be conducting the AMPS Field Judges Certification training seminar.

The show, proper, will be on Saturday from 7:00 am until complete, and complete means that we have to tear down and clean-up the venue. Please make yourselves available to lend a hand with whatever needs doing – especially JUDGING!

This year, Jeff Nelson will be presenting the Field Judges training and certification seminar as AMPS' newest authorized Field Judge trainer, and this is an event that we should pause and reflect on for a moment.

Of course, it's a great honor and recognition for Jeff and our chapter. We are one of only three AMPS chapters that have authorized Field Judge trainers (the Northeast Military Modelers Association – NMMA and AMPS Central VA – AMPSCV, are the other chapters), but we will be the only chapter with two such trainers. This speaks highly about our commitment to AMPS and the "AMPS-way," model judging conducted with the intent, purpose and goal of helping other modelers develop their skills and craft.

Jeff's accession into the ranks of authorized judge trainers is also a milestone for the growth of AMPS as an organization. In order for AMPS to grow its membership and geographic footprint, we need to be able to spread our shows out to reach more and more modelers and potential members. This can't be done on the back of a single person, but takes the efforts of a robust group of dedicated "true believers." The key to our success in this endeavor is our judging philosophy, our judging process and consistency within our judging corps. To achieve those, we have to have Field Judge trainers that know, understand and can teach the "AMPS-way" to others, so that those new Field Judges can conduct their assessments consistently, fairly and in keeping with our core judging values.

So, when you get a chance, shake Jeff's hand and give him a pat on the back, and not just because he's doing our chapter proud, but because he represents the future direction of AMPS and our continued growth. And after that...

Signup for another Judging shift!

Mike Roof

Chapter Contact
AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"