



Greetings everyone! Hope your football team won yesterday's Super Bowl...

This last month has been a bit slow for me on the modeling front. Don't know what it is, but it does seem like I'm in a little slump. Maybe it's that my current project has dragged out for over two years now (yikes!) or maybe it's that painting figures is one of my least favorite parts of model building, but for whatever reason, I'm finally reaching the end, so hopefully once it's done a fresh building subject will bring with it some fresh motivation!

But, enough of my whining...

This last month, I did confirm with our SCMA friends that Saturday, 14 July, 2012 is the final and fixed date for our next contest and model show. So, mark it down on your calendars and start making plans. Also, last month, we finalized our show theme, "Stranger in a Strange Land." This month, Jeff will have a final draft of the proposed show poster, so over the next few weeks, we'll be forging ahead with contest and show promotion efforts, to include updating our website's Contest Page.

Last Meeting Minutes:

At our last regular meeting on 11 Jan, 2012, there were 11 members in attendance. The following items were addressed: (1) Discussed and approved sponsoring a "Best of" trophy at the AMPS International Show. Cost was \$60. (Chapter Contact has sent money to Glen Martin who acknowledged receipt. Our club is down for sponsoring the "Best Soviet" award, as our first choice was already taken.) (2) Read the letter of thanks from the SCHAF for our recent membership and event participation. Our club's SCHAF membership number is #1097. (3) Discussed and approved our show theme. (4) During "new business" discussion, several members brought up issues and problems with their AMPS national memberships. Chapter contact took down the names and issues and will refer the problems to the Regional 2VP for advice and action. (See the "Day Room" section of this newsletter for the resolutions of these issues.) (5) Members voted to move the August 2012 regular meeting from 08 to 15 August to avoid a conflict with the IPMS / USA National Convention. (See the change in "Up-Coming Events of Interest.") (6) Held our monthly raffle. Bob Spagnola was the winner. (7) Conducted "Show & Tell" for models and related items of interest.

Next Meeting Agenda:

Our next meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 08 Feb, 2012.

6:00 pm (1800): Meeting starts / Admin Business – This month's business (1) Approval of Show Theme Poster (2) Review of Tim Darrah's Club Display Board (3) Discuss and vote on purchase of large vinyl club banner for shows and displays. Tim Darrah has the information. Cost will be

approximately \$140 (4) Reminder that annual dues are due. Members should see Scott Amey, Treasurer. Payment is \$12 each. (5) Final coordination for link-up in Atlanta for those attending that show.

6:10 pm (1810): Show & Tell: Builds and WIP's

6:50 pm (1850): Break / Shopping / Mixer

7:10 pm (1910): Reconvene / Continue: Show & Tell: Builds and WIP's

8:00 pm (2000): Meeting ends (officially – but we'll carry-on as long as the store will stay open)

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 of Interest:

Feb 08, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Feb 17-19, 2012: AMPS Atlanta Regional Contest, Marriott Century Center Hotel, Atlanta, GA.

Mar 14, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Apr 11, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Apr 26-28, 2012: AMPS International Show, WW2 Victory Museum, Auburn, IN.

Apr 28, 2012, 9am -5pm: IPMS Mid-Carolina R-12 Contest, NG Armory, Bluff Road, Columbia, SC.

May 09, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Jun 13, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Jul 11, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Jul 14, 2012: AMPS Central SC Regional Contest, Gym, Ball Park Rec. Facility, Ball Park Road, Lexington, SC.

Aug 15 (Changed Date), 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road. (Original date conflicted with IPMS / USA Nat'l Convention.)

Aug 8-11, 2012: IPMS / USA National Convention, Disney Land, Lake Buena Vista (Orlando), FL.

Sep 12, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Oct 10, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Nov 14, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

Dec 12, 2012, 6:00 pm (1800): Our next meeting at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.
Christmas Party !

National AMPS Elections and Region Reorganization:

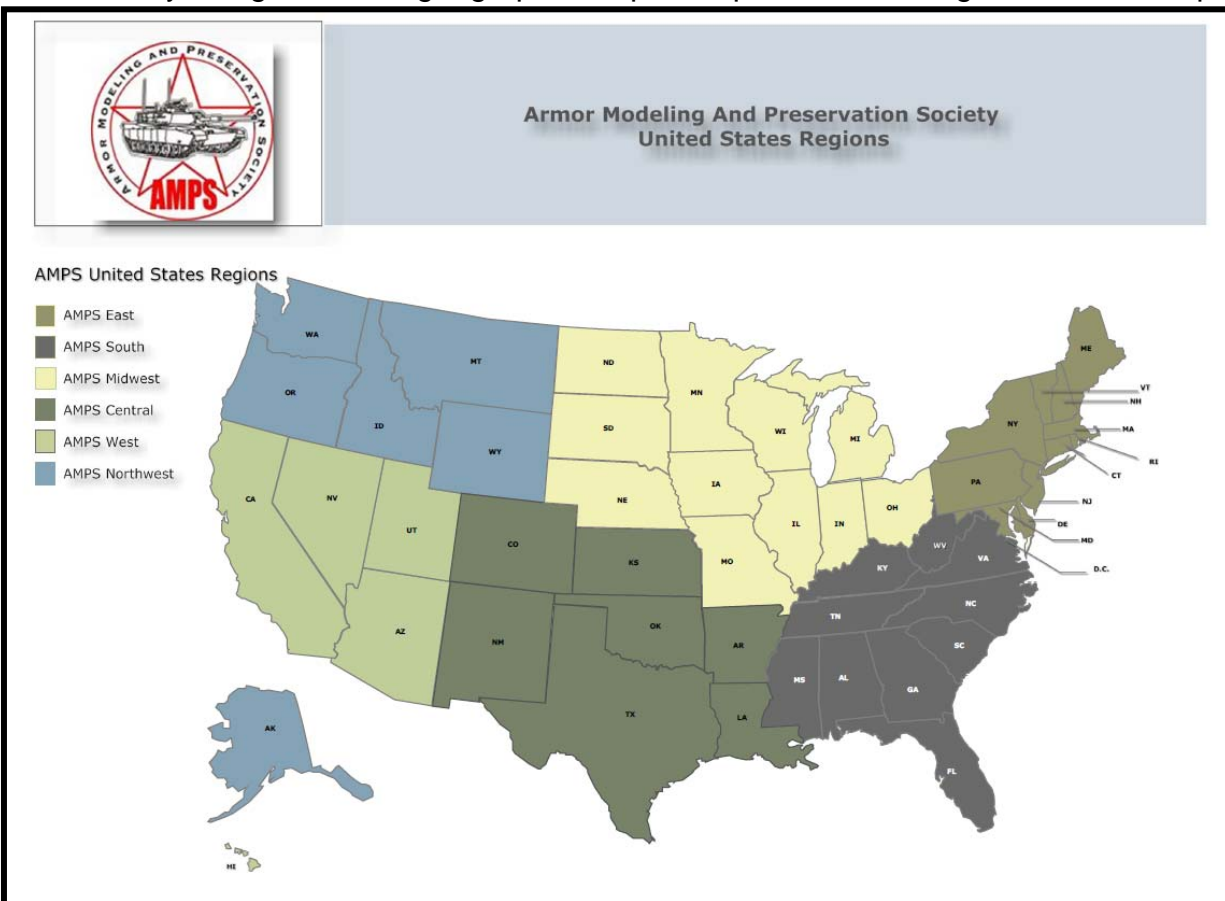
AMPS holds its elections for officers on a biannual basis. That is, every two years, approximately half of the elected board of officers is up for re-election. This year, we have several very important elections that directly effect us and out our region.

The elections this year will be held between 1 and 14 March, 2012. It is quite likely that this will be done electronically on the AMPS website (instead of by paper ballot distributed with the *Boresight*). This will require a member log-in, so if you're a national member in good standing, make sure that you can log on to the AMPS website and stay up on any election announcements.

First up is the position of 1st VP. The incumbent is Charles "Chuck" Aleshire. Chuck is also the guy who runs the "AMPS Review Crew" that do all of the great product, book, and kit reviews on the AMPS website. Chuck also manages the circulation for the *Boresight* magazine. Chuck's passion and concern for the organization is clear, and he obviously spares himself no amount of effort to see that his parts of the AMPS world are running well. I highly endorse Chuck for re-election to the position of 1st VP.

Second up is the position of Secretary. Up until a couple of weeks ago, the incumbent, Kurt Laughlin, was also on the ballot for re-election. However, he has now resigned from the position, and Mark Corbett is filling in as the interim secretary until the election. Mark was already nominated for secretary and his name is on the ballot. (Although it's unclear to me if Kurt Laughlin's name will remain on the ballot.) As I talk about below in "The Day Room" section of this newsletter, Mark has already done an outstanding job as secretary with resolving several rather long-standing membership issues for guys in our club, so I also give Mark my full endorsement for the position of Secretary.

Finally, we have the newly created position of Regional 2nd VP for the AMPS South Region. AMPS has recently reorganized its geographic map, and part of this reorganization was splitting the AMPS



East Region into two parts, AMPS East and AMPS South. Our club now falls under the new AMPS South Region.

The next election will also include the position of AMPS 2nd VP for the AMPS South Region. Right now, Mike Petty has been nominated

for this position. I'm sure that Mike doesn't need much of an introduction from me, since almost all of you know him from attending his AMPS Judging Seminar and Certification Training at our show last July. (Mike is also the AMPS National Chief Judge.) Although the election has not been held, Mike Petty has stepped up and taken charge already in making things happen in our new region, and in fact, he was instrumental along with Mark Corbett in getting the membership issues that some of you had resolved. He did this by ensuring that these problems remained visible and received the priority attention that they deserved. So, once again, I give Mike my highest endorsement for the position of AMPS 2nd VP for the AMPS South Region.

I highly encourage each and every AMPS national member to cast his vote in the up-coming elections. Although it might seem trivial (and perhaps pointless given that most of these guys are running unopposed), AMPS is an organization that only functions when good people are willing to put forth the time and effort to make it work. This goes for all of the elected and appointed positions, and as many of you can testify, when you have a problem with the national organization, you rely on that willingness to take care of the organization and its members in a timely manner.

Your participation and vote in the elections is a demonstration of how important you think it is to have the right guys in charge. Silence and apathy in the membership at large can ultimately translate into apathy in the officers at the national level. All of us want AMPS to be the best that it can be, so care enough to do your part and VOTE!

“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!

Although this last month was a slow one for me for model-building-wise, it was pretty busy in regards to trying to help sort out several membership issues and problems that some of our club mates were having with AMPS at the national level.

Fortunately, I think that I can now say that all of these problems have been finally resolved. Once we were able to get these issues to the right AMPS officers, they got the attention that was needed to fix them in short order. Mike Petty, Chuck Willis (our "official" 2nd VP until the new regions actually take effect), John Robinson (AMPS *Boresight* Editor), Rod Bell (AMPS Webmaster) and Mark Corbett all came together and in short order resolved these issues. So, a big "thanks" to all of these guys for stepping up and covering our backs!

In the future, if you have a problem or issue with your AMPS membership, please don't hesitate to bring it to my attention. Even if you're communicating (or trying to communicate) with someone at the national level, please either include me as a "cc" on your messages, or keep me in the loop by separate message. You deserve a timely response and resolution for your membership issues, and by keeping me up on your messages, if you don't get timely action, I can help you out just that much quicker.

However, I do believe that now with guys like Mike Petty and Mark Corbett in key positions, we won't experience these kinds of problems to start with, and when the inevitable "ankle-biters" do arise, they'll be quickly taken care of.

Happy modeling! Your Chapter Contact, Mike Roof