



Well, I guess they know who "AMPS Central SC" is.

I would say that our club's participation and showing at this year's AMPS International Show and Convention was nothing short of spectacular! First, the show signage and posters that Jeff designed and which we all constructed were a big hit. They added a ton of eye-candy, creating the appearance of a truly professional organization's annual international convention, and everyone in our club and AMPS should be proud of how the show looked this year! Our club received many complements on the signage from the AMPS president, Roy Chow, on down to casual walk-in attendees. Everyone seemed very impressed!

Our club had 13 members attend the show (including Dave and Lisa Bridges – charter members now living in Savannah, GA - and our "adult supervisor," Sheila Roof). Everyone was wearing their club tee-shirts, so our members certainly stood out from the crowd as unified group. (I didn't notice any other AMPS chapter or club that was as clearly visible as ours.) We had at least 7 members volunteer for at least 2 or more judging shifts. Two members performed ACJ duties for at least 5 different judging shifts, and two members performed Table Captain duties for at least 3 shifts. One member volunteered over 8 hours of time entering scores and other judging administrative duties, and one member presented 2, 2-hour judges' training sessions and a 2-hour seminar. All told (and not counting the time spent on the show signage and posters), our members put in well over 40 volunteer hours in judging, show support and seminars. All of this volunteer work was also performed while in our club "colors," giving us even more public exposure. (BTW: Ten members also earned their coveted "AMPS Crew" tee shirts at this show!)

Finally, we had 9 members enter models for judging in skill-levels ranging from Basic to Advanced. During the awards ceremony, our members were called to the podium 17 (!) times for bronze, silver, or gold medals! (BTW: Every model entered by everyone of our members scored well enough to earn a medal, but our 17 medal total only counts the highest scores in each category entered!) Our members also earned two of the show's special awards – the "Andy Smith Best Basic Model" and the "Best Figure" special awards. So, seventeen medals and two special awards, that's a pretty respectable club showing by any account!

Good job guys and gals! You all have earned the right to be proud of your own efforts and show results, as well as being proud of how much our little club was able to contribute to this year's "BIG SHOW."

Oh yea, they all know who "AMPS Central SC" is!

#### **Last Meeting's Minutes:**

Our last meeting was held at 6:00 pm, April 10, 2013. We had 14 members in attendance, and those members brought in 7 models to show and tell. John Sherrer won the raffle, a Tamiya Marder III.

During the meeting: A reminder that this year's dues are due; Scott gave us a treasurer's report: We have approximately \$2700 (pending final totals on several additions); To-date, we have received over \$780 in category and special award sponsorships; We received an up-date on our June Contest from Tony Abbott; All show preparations are on track with no outstanding issues; We made some final corrections on the AMPS International Show schedule posters for Atlanta; Keith Frape introduced a new item of business – Reimbursement of material expenses for the AMPS Int'l Show signage; After a brief discussion, a motion was made and seconded to reimburse these expenses, and a unanimous vote passed the motion; Members who have incurred such expenses can present their receipts to Scott who will reimburse them from the treasury.

### **Next Meeting's Agenda:**

Our next meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 08 May, 2013 at the HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road, Columbia.

6:00 pm (1800): Meeting starts / Admin Business – This month's business: Treasury Report (Scott Amey); Reminder to members to solicit for category and awards sponsors; Report on preparations for our pending show (Tony Abbott / Mike / Tim); Note to members that a new "joint" entry fee has been made for both the AMPS and IPMS sides our the June show; Discussion of proposal to make a bid for and host the AMPS 2016 International Show in Columbia, SC; Report on site survey of Medallion Center as possible venue for 2016 show (Tim / Mike /Jeff); Open discussion of member impressions and experiences at the AMPS 2013 Int'l Show in Atlanta. ("There I was in the judging pits, surrounded by models and knee-deep in paperclips, when my pencil point broke...")

6:10 pm (1810): Show & Tell: Builds and WIPs.

6:50 pm (1850): Break: Shopping & Social Mixer

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

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:**

**May 08, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Jun 12, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**June 21-22, 2013:** AMPS Central SC contest co-hosted with IPMS Sumter/Gamecocks at the Sumter County Convention Center, Sumter, SC. This will be the IPMS R-12 Convention with AMPS handling all of the armor categories IAW AMPS judging rules and procedures with separate AMPS awards.

**Jul 10, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Aug 14, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Sep 11, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Oct 09, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800):** AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Nov 09 (T)**, 2013: Plan date for the AMPS All-American / Lafayette Scale Modelers show in Fayetteville, NC.

**Nov 13**, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS meeting at HobbyTown USA store on Two Notch Road.

**Dec 11**, 2013, 6:00 pm (1800): AMPS Christmas Party anyone?

### **AMPS National "Boresight" Circulation News – 6 May, 2013**

Largely due to our Boresight magazines being printer-shipped ( huge hooray! ) these days, the task of Boresight Circulation now aligns much more closely to the functions of the AMPS Membership Secretary than any other position. Membership Secretary Mark Corbett has graciously agreed to take on this position, replacing me.

Thanks Mark!

Chuck

Chuck Aleshire  
AMPS  
1st Vice President  
Reviews Coordinator

*Editor Note: This notice appeared on the AMPS website under the "General AMPS Discussions" forum. Interested members should refer to this discussion for additional details: <http://www.amps-armor.org/ampssite/BBS/BBSDetail.aspx?ID=17987&forum=5&page=0>*

### **Timmy's Tips**

There is a guy in Spain (I think) that provides free downloadable paper products, such as boxes, maps, posters, etc. Go to <http://www.fcmodeltips.com/search/label/descargas%20downloads> and there you'll find many very cool items for free!! I go there every once in awhile and save everything as who knows when you might need that item.

Also, Dave V. turned me onto the Winsor-Newton Artisan Water Mixable Oil Varnishes; they have Gloss, Satin and Matt. I used to be able to get them at the local Hobby Lobby a 75ml bottle for \$8.99, but they no longer carry this item; so I've had to find another place to get it. Well, boy have I!! Try out Dick Blick Art Supplies at <http://www.dickblick.com/>. Here you can get the 75ml bottle for \$6.11 or a 250ml bottle for \$12.23!! Shipping is cheap and very fast. I've ordered from them on a Monday and it's at the house on the Friday.

Tim Darrah, AMPS #2545

*Editor's Note: Dick Blick is also where I get my Gamblin dry artist pigments and also my Winsor & Newton Series 7 sable brushes. They are great folks to do business with!*

### **AMPS 2013 International Show Report**

The 2013 ARMOR MODELING AND PRESERVATION SOCIETY International Convention was held April 18-20 in Atlanta Georgia.

AMPS shows are by design always held near a Military Ground forces museum of some kind. The

first day featured a trip to the Motor Pool at the Fort Benning U.S. Army base. A treat I missed but many of those who attended describe as well: WOW!

The show was well attended with 144 modelers entering 430 models and figures. A little down from the previous year this show was the first in this region of the country as the Society grows and expands past its traditional North and Mideast roots.

Keeping with its new location the theme was; Models named after American Civil War Officers

The show featured a number of Seminars including Adam Wilder sharing metal finishing tips and David Doyle on research. Also included was a vendor area that filled two rooms and spilled out into the hallway.

AMPS uses a modified open system awarding Gold, Silver, or Bronze medals, judging each model on its own merits. Models are dropped off at the Ramrod Station out side of the judging room. Teams of four judges sit at tables and are brought the models by runners. Vignettes, Dioramas and figures are judged in place in the main room. All projects are judged on a scale of 1 to 10 with the lowest individual score being dropped so a perfect score would be 30. Awards are earned by a point scale depending on the level the modeler enters; Basic, Intermediate, or Advanced with higher point totals needed to medal. There are also levels for Juniors and Masters. While this may sound complicated it is actually easier, more fun, less stressful, and more rewarding than 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place judging. First off there are no hard choices, no searching for flaws to eliminate a contender. You're rewarding good work. This allows judges more time to study the entries. Not to find mistakes but to learn how the modeler did things and offer constructive criticism in the form of written feedback. The results are usually a positive experience for both judges and entrants.

People interested in our club or contest can find more info about us at [www.amps-armor.org](http://www.amps-armor.org)

Steve Andreano

*Editor's Note: Steve Andreano is a charter member of AMPS. From 1993 until 2000, he was instrumental in developing and revising the AMPS show procedures and rules set and served as the AMPS Chief Judge from the very first AMPS show in 1995 until 2000. Steve generously allowed us to print his 2013 show news release here in this issue of the "Wildcat." Steve's news release will appear with show photos in a future issue of "Military Modeling."*

### **AMPS International Show and Convention Attendee Impressions**

*I asked a week or so ago for anyone who had attended the AMPS Int'l Show to share any of their impressions with the rest of the club. I know I had a great time, but I often felt like I "didn't have the time of day" much less time for any shopping or enjoying the model display room. (A classic example of being careful what you ask for..!) So, I wanted to hear what the rest of you thought about your time in Hot-lanta. Here're a few of the responses:*

"This was my first AMPS International Show, and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

I planned to attend 2 or 3 seminars, but didn't make one.

I did make the Braille Scale Round Table Meeting and met some great small scale builders. This meeting should be officially scheduled during future shows.

I submitted two small models and they did well.

I helped with a couple Judging Shifts, saw many excellent models, and got to meet a Master, Alexander DeLeon, who is REALLY cool. 😊

I bought some tools, some materials, a couple Archer Decals, a bottle of paint, and a few odds and ends.

I didn't win anything in the raffle, but then I didn't buy many tickets.

I was completely humbled at the awards ceremony, and glad to see that my chapter-mates received numerous medals.

I had a great time, learned a lot, and now I'm motivated to build more and to a higher standard.

Hotel Room = \$200+

Vendor Items Purchased = \$40+

AMPS Show Early Registration = \$30

The AMPS Experience = Priceless!

Or you could just say I had a great time. ;-P" Jeff Nelson, AMPS #2102

"It was hard for me to believe, but this was my first AMPS in 10 years! It was great to have you guys to hang with during the weekend. I hated that I had to miss [Mike's] seminar, but at least I have been able to enjoy the slide show on the chapter site. So, I guess the next most enjoyable experience was Rob Ervin's seminar on resin casting. It was much more advanced than what I do, but gave me some great information to improve my casting results. Also, he seemed to be a very down-to-earth guy. His interaction with Joe Backanovich(?) was also great. Even though they were business competitors, they seemed to have been friends. I enjoyed their back and forth banter.

Last, it was great to see all the guys do well with their awards." Carl Wethington

Keith Frape sent in a message about how impressed he was with all of the modeling "celebrities" in attendance. (You'll have to ask Keith to quote you what he actually wrote! LOL!)

"On Thursday evening, at the AMPS social, Sheila, Carl, Dave V., Keith and I had a great time sitting around and telling tails of our past glories. Personally, I have to say that some of Keith's military service stories are among the funniest that I have ever heard, bar none (and, trust me, I've heard a lot!). Hopefully we can get him pinned down sometime for an encore presentation! You will NOT want to miss that!

After the awards ceremony Saturday evening, Jeff, Tom, Carl, Dave V, Sheila and I went out to a local pub for some grub and a few frosty "adult" beverages, after which we returned to the hotel and kept the bar tender busy. We had a great time hanging out, and for me, these two evenings were the absolute best times during the entire show." Mike Roof, AMPS #1632

### **"AMPS Central SC" 2013 International Show: Club Member Results**

*I apologize in advance if I've gotten any of these results wrong. I confess that I didn't write them down as the names and awards were announced. If I've made any mistakes, please don't hesitate to let me know, and I'll correct them in the next issue – Mike*

**Jeff Nelson (Basic) –**

Tiger I, Initial Production: Gold and "Andy Smith Best Basic Model"

**Bob Spagnola (Intermediate) –**

Panzer IV Ausf E – Silver

M51 "Isherman" – Bronze

Archer 17pdr – Bronze

**Tom Wingate (Intermediate) –**

Panther G w/ IR – Gold

M10 Tank Destroyer – Bronze

**Rebecca Hettmansperger (Intermediate) –**

Mech-walker - Silver

LAV – Bronze

**Tony Abbott (Intermediate) –**

LVT – Bronze

**David Varettoni (Advanced) –**

T-55 Czech – Silver

**David Bridges (Advanced) –**

Kannonenjagdpanzer 4-5 – Silver

Marder II – Silver

E-100 StuG – Bronze

**Carl Wethington (Advanced) –**

M4 (Composite Hull) – Gold

**Mike Roof (Advanced) –**

Italian Alpini – Gold and "Best Figure"

M13/40 vignette – Gold

Panther G – Gold

Congratulations to all of our club members who earned awards at the 2013 show!

Please see our club website's "Meetings Photos" page for a photo album slide show of the AMPS 2013 International Show and Convention -

<http://www.ampscentralsouthcarolina.org/MemberPhotos.php>

### **“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...”*

Again, you all have something to be proud of in our club's support and showing at the AMPS 2013 International Show and Convention. You were all living examples of how even the biggest model shows are really all about the people who make them happen. AMPS is not some anonymous organization sitting high up on a Mount Olympus; AMPS is model builders just like you. In fact, AMPS IS you!

Without the participation and volunteer work by you and others, AMPS would quite simply not exist. So, what ever success the AMPS Int'l Show can claim is also success that its members can claim, and you all deserve your share of that credit.

But there is no time to sit back on your laurels – It's time to get to work on the next BIG SHOW – Ours! Our June 21-22 show is fast approaching, so catch your breath and hang-on tight!

See ya Wednesday! Happy modeling!

*Mike Roof*

Chapter Contact  
AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"