



Alright guys, it's decision time. Our friends from the Sumter IPMS chapter have invited us to joint host the 2013 IPMS R-12 Convention, running all of the armor portion of the show according to AMPS judging rules and procedures.

I sent a "white paper" to everyone last week which outlined the details of the proposal and invitation and also spelled out some of the other important considerations. At the end of that paper, I put down my opinion about the proposal. As I said there, I believe that this proposed event is entirely "doable" from the resources and management points of view. I also believe that it presents us with a great opportunity to move our AMPS show and organizational presence to the next level in our region. (I've also posted this SPECIAL EDITION to our newsletter on our website if you missed the email.)

However, there are some significant risks. The most dire of these risks is that we, AMPS, will fall flat on our faces by dropping the ball on our judging. This risk is completely manageable IF WE ALL COMMIT 100% TO THE SHOW. If we're all willing to make that commitment, then we can move forward and accept this invitation and the opportunity that comes with it. On the other hand, if we're not ALL behind this effort, then we run the risk of failure and ruining the well-earned reputation that our club now holds in regards to our shows.

The choice is up to you...

Last Meeting Minutes:

At our last regular meeting on Wednesday, 15 August, 2012, we had 13 members in attendance and Bob Spagnola won our raffle.

Agenda items covered were: Treasury Report from Scott; A report on the SE Toy Soldier Show at the SC State Museum by the guys who manned our table there; We discussed the proposal and invitation by IPMS/Gamecock Sumter-Shaw AFB to joint host the IPMS R-12 Regional Convention in June, 2013. A decision on this proposal was tabled until the September meeting. Final donations were collected for the Support the Troops Initiative. Tim Darrah will send the final packages ASAP.

Next Meeting Agenda:

Our next meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 12 September, 2011.

We will have an on-going automated slide show of the Bovington and Imperial War Museum exhibits starting as soon as I get the meeting area set-up (~5:30pm until we call the meeting to order). The photos will be from Jeff Nelson's recently trip. Jeff will be on-hand to answer questions.

6:00 pm (1800): Meeting starts / Admin Business – This month's business: Final discussion and vote on the IPMS/Gamecocks proposal and invitation to co-host the R-12 Convention; Pending the vote, a discussion on show themes for our 2013 AMPS show. We will vote on the show theme at our October meeting.

6:10 pm (1810): Discussion / Explanation of the AMPS' "Bonus Research Half-Point" by Mike Roof.

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:

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

Sep 15, 2012, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm: Piedmont Scale Modelers 3rd Annual "Fall Modelfest," Byrnes High School, 150 East Main St., Duncan, SC.

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

Nov 10, 2012, IPMS Lafayette Scale Modelers and AMPS All-American combined show and contest, Honneycutt Kiwanis Rec. Center, 352 Devers Street, Fayetteville, NC. Note the armor judging will be conducted IAW the AMPS judging system.

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!

Feb, 2013 (exact dates still TBA): Atlanta AMPS Regional Show, Atlanta Marriott Century Center Hotel, Atlanta, GA.

Apr 18-20, 2013: AMPS International Show and Convention, Atlanta GA. Venue is the Atlanta Marriott Century Center Hotel (same venue as the Atlanta AMPS Regional Show).

Product Reviews

By: Tim Darrah, AMPS #2545

WolfPack Decals www.millcreekconsultants.com/WolfPak_home.html

At the recent IPMS/USA Nationals in Orlando, WolfPack Decals out of Ohio released two armor decal sheets; 35-001 is "Gun Trucks +" and 35-002 is "Big Bad 'n Tracks" and both cost \$17 a sheet. 35-001 has 6 vehicles on it 3 M35 Gun Trucks, an M-113, an M-548 and M-728. 35-002 has 7 vehicles an M-110, M-577, M-13A1, M-113, M-42 and 2 M-54 Gun Trucks. Both sheets will be cool to go with the upcoming M-35 Gun Truck.



I have used their decals three times (on aircraft, most of the WolfPack line is for 1/72nd aircraft) and since the decals are made by Microscale, so you know how good their decals are. I haven't bought these yet for myself, but I plan on doing that soon as WolfPack only prints a couple hundred and once they are gone, they're gone for good.

Sticko Shimmering Silver Dots <http://www.amazon.com/Sticko-Shimmering-Silver-Dots-Sticker/dp/B00409RC8U>

Dave Bridges told me about these cool looking "dots". He uses them in place of MV Lenses on his armor kits and he thinks that they look just as good as MV Lenses, plus they are a lot cheaper. I have bought two packets of these from the URL above, they haven't arrived yet, but at \$0.98 for 1 packet of about 90 "dots", they represent great value for money. If they arrive before the next meeting, I'll bring them along.

Bead Landing Stringing Wire

We were at Michael's the other day and found these in the Jewelry section. They come in different gauges – I bought 26 gauge and 20 gauge wire, both were just under \$4 and come in long sections, the 26 gauge is 30 yards long and the 20 gauge is 8 yards long!. I just got them this week and haven't used them yet, but I figure that they should work for handles, steps, etc. I haven't looked but I'm sure Hobby Lobby or AC Moore might have something like this.



“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!

Hey, it is just me, or have any of the rest of you felt it? You know, that something in the air that signals the changing of the seasons – summer giving way to autumn. I know a lot of folks associate this with the coming of the new school year, or football season, but for me, this time of year always signals the beginning of the "model building season!"

This is the time of year when the model contest / show season picks up steam, and the cooler weather and shorter days means that there's more time for model building.

At the end of this week, Saturday, 15 September, we have one of the first of the autumn-winter model shows coming up, the IPMS Piedmont Scale Modelers' "Fall Fest" show up in Duncan, SC. In November, our Fayetteville, NC AMPS friends are co-hosting their first AMPS-style show with IPMS Lafayette Scale Modelers. Right after the holidays and New Year, the AMPS Atlanta Regional show is scheduled, and don't forget the AMPS International Convention and Show is also scheduled for Atlanta in April.

I know these contests and shows always have a motivating effect on me. It's not that I actually build with a particular show in mind, but I do find that I tend to stay more focused and on-track with my modeling projects with the thought of maybe attending some show or another. At any rate, this is the beginning of my building season. What about you?

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting.

'Til then, happy modeling!

Mike Roof

Chapter Contact
AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"