



It's official!

By a unanimous vote of all members present and those voting absentee (17 total members voting), AMPS Central SC will join our friends in the IPMS Sumter/Gamecocks chapter when they host the IPMS Region 12 2013 Convention and Contest on Friday and Saturday, June 21 and 22, 2013. AMPS Central SC will handle all of the armor related categories, conducting the judging IAW AMPS rules and procedures and also presenting AMPS G-S-B awards for those same categories with additional awards for the armor "Best of's" along with other special AMPS awards (armor theme and Judges' Best in Show).

As we discussed, this is a great opportunity for us to spread the AMPS "gospel" to a lot of model builders in our region as well as increasing the size and scope of our previous show efforts and maybe even positioning ourselves for even bigger things in the future. The newly renovated venue is outstanding and will afford us a dedicated judging area and much more display and vendor space than our previous venue (as nice as it was). The new day-and-a-half show format, Friday afternoon and all-day Saturday, will also allow us more time for judging and more time for AMPS members to put their work on exhibit.

Although this next show will be more work than our last two, I know that we can not only handle the extra effort, but that all of our members will come together as always and do their usual superlative job!

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Sumter IPMS friends for inviting us to come down to play with them and for what I think will be a great opportunity for our club and AMPS in our region.

Last Meeting Minutes:

At our last regular meeting on Wednesday, 12 September, 2012, we had 14 members in attendance.

Agenda items covered were: Final discussion and vote on proposal to joint-host a contest with the Sumter IPMS/Gamecocks. The vote was unanimous with 17 votes in favor (14 present and 3 absentee). The contest will be held on Friday and Saturday, 21-22 June, 2013 at the Sumter County Convention Center in Sumter, SC. Tentative AMPS show themes were discussed with a decision tabled until our October meeting. We also held a seminar / discussion about how to earn the AMPS "Research Bonus Half-Point." (The Demo/Discussion slides are up on our website.)

Next Meeting Agenda:

Our next meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, 10 October, 2012.

6:00 pm (1800): Meeting starts / Admin Business – This month's business: Final discussion and vote on the show theme (new proposals as well as previous proposals- see list elsewhere in this newsletter). Discussion and vote to sponsor a trophy package for the AMPS All-American (Fayetteville) show on 10 November, 2012. Discussion about proposed "special" category for our next show in June 2013 – a "Naked Models" category for unfinished builds.

6:10 pm (1810): A "round table" discussion and show & tell- Members' favorite and most used glues.

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:

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).

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 and separate AMPS awards.

This Month's Demo / Discussion: Your Favorite Glues

This month we're going to do something a little different with our meeting demo. This month we're going to hold a "round table" discussion with each member present showing and talking about his favorite glues (plastic especially, but CA and other types too).

What we'd like is for each member who will be present to bring along his favorite plastic cement or glue(s) and using a show & tell type format, explain why you like that particular glue as opposed to any others that you've used in the past. Tell us what you think are its pros (and any cons!) and share any special tips or techniques you use in doing your basic and detail assembly and glue-ups.

Hopefully this will give us all a chance to learn from each other and to maybe get exposed to some new products and ideas. Between all of us, I'm guessing that we have several hundred years of combined model-building experience, and given the breadth and depth of that experience, I'm

absolutely sure that very few of us use exactly the same glues and methods. However, I'm also sure that no matter how much experience you have, there's bound to be something new to see and learn.

A big "thanks" to Keith Frape for coming up with this idea, too! I think it's a great one, and one that we can build on in the future with other similar "tools of the trade" type discussions.

So, this month, bring your favorite plastic cement or glue (and any others that you use regularly) and be prepared to share it with everyone else.

AMPS 2013 Show Theme Proposals

We need to decide on a contest theme for our 2013 show so that we can get going with promotion and other things.

Our IPMS Sumter/Gamecocks friends have already selected "The Atomic Age" and "Aggressors/Adversaries" as special military related themes. One thing that we might want to consider is coordinating our AMPS armor theme with theirs (doesn't have to be the same, just along the similar lines) to make show promotion more unified.

So far, though, these AMPS themes have been proposed:

Southeast Asia: From Burma east to the Int'l Date Line and south to Vietnam, the Philippines, the Solomon Islands, New Zealand and Australia. All periods from pre-WWII to the present.

France: Any armor used by French forces from WWI to the present based on markings.

Recovery/Engineer Vehicles: Design purpose vehicles or specifically modified for recovery/engineering. All eras and nationalities.

The "Three's": Armor used during years ending in "3." Must document and can be based on markings or other features – 1933- Manchurian Crisis; 1943- Kursk, Tarawa, Tunisia, Sicily, Italy; 1953- Korea (Pork Chop Hill); 1963- Republic of Vietnam; 1973- Yom Kippur War; 1983 – Grenada, Beirut Lebanon; 1993- Somalia; 2003- Baghdad; 2013- ?.

"Hand Grenades and Atom Bombs:" Cold War armor along the Iron Curtain from the Arctic Circle to Turkey, 1950 to 1985, Warsaw Pact, NATO, Finland and Sweden.

Members can also propose a theme at the next meeting. We will discuss the themes and vote to pick one.

Proposed "Naked Model" Special Category

Special categories featuring built, but un-finished (i.e. not painted) models have been a growing element of model shows, especially in overseas shows like Euro-Militaire. Most recently, the large 2-day AMPS-East show up in Connecticut offered a "naked models" category and special award.

You can find a few photos of some of the entries here: <http://www.amps-armor.org/ampssite/BBS/BBSDetail.aspx?ID=16791&forum=4&page=0>

The AMPS judging rules were basically changed by taking all of the points in the Finishing and Weathering Scoring Group and moving them to the Construction Scoring Group. All of the other

judging was kept the same. The un-finished models are not eligible for any of the regular "best of's" nor the "Judge's Best in Show" awards, however, the AMPS-East crew did offer a special "naked model" award for the best model in this particular category.

I'm not sure if we would get enough entries to justify adding a "naked models" category to our upcoming show, but it's definitely worth considering and maybe even trying out. Give it some thought and let's see what everyone thinks...

“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!

Well, guys, that does it for this month's newsletter. I think we've taken a pretty bold step with taking our little show to the next higher level, but I also believe that this move offers a huge potential payoff for the future of our club and AMPS in our region!

Finally, don't forget about the AMPS All-American show up in Fayetteville, NC on Saturday, 10 November. We owe our Fayetteville friends some payback for all the help they've given us over the last two years with our shows, so if you can, please plan to attend their show and give them a hand with judging, etc. Remember, what goes around, comes around...

See ya Wednesday! Happy modeling!

Mike Roof

Chapter Contact
AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"