



# The WILDCAT



So MUCH Modeling stuff, we've had to add a Table of contents!

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Welcome to the latest issue of our newsletter. We try REALLY hard to publish this each month, but sometimes stuff happens, or you know, CRS flair ups occur. Of course, what's published in this newsletter is probably out of date, known by everyone already, or completely off-topic. Maybe everyone will like the pretty colors, but then your ink cartridge will probably run out after only printing a couple pages. This paragraph is what's known as "filler text", which we needed since we added the snazzy table of contents and this area was kinda empty.

Check out our website for more info & photos:

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



Visit us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ampscentralsouthcarolina>

## Regular Meeting Minutes, 13 July, 2016

Our last meeting was held on Wednesday, 13 July, 2016 from 6-8 pm at the HobbyTown store in the Publix Shipping Center (North Pointe Shopping Center), Two Notch Road, Columbia (NE). We had 24 members in attendance, and they brought in about 21 models for Show & Tell, plus Daniel Karnes sent in pictures of the progress on his current builds. This month's raffle prize was a Two-For: DML's "Tiger Aces" Figure Set with an Italeri "House Corner" Diorama Accessory, both in 1/35 scale. The winner was Jeff Nelson.

1. T26E4 Super Pershing Pilot #1 (Hobby Boss + Fruel metal tracks, metal barrel), 1/35 – Trevor Edwards
2. 15cm Sturm-Infanteriegeschutz 33B (DML + Fruilisimo Tracks), 1.35 – Steve Reid
3. M8 75mm Howitzer Motor Carriage (Tamiya + LOTS of scratch built parts), 1/35 – Carl Wethington
4. U.S. Army 3 inch AT Gun M5 on Carriage M6 (AFV Club), 1/35 – Carl Wethington
5. U.S. Army 3 inch AT Gun M5 on Carriage M6 (KMC Resin Conversion + Italeri 105mm Howitzer), 1/35 – Carl Wethington
6. Pz.Kpfw. I Ausf. F (VK18.01) Early (Flyhawk), 1/72 – Bob Kerfonta

7. Praga RV Truck (First to Fight), 1/72 – Bob Kerfonta
8. T-34 Russian Tank (Metal Earth 3D Laser Cut Steel Model), 1/72 – Bob Kerfonta
9. Armored Sentinel & Cadian Shock Troops (Games Workshops), 28mm – Dave Varettoni
10. Schwerer Panzerspahwagen 8 Rad Sd.Kfz. 232 (Tamiya + Tiger Prod. Tunisian Base), 1/35 – Robin Evans
11. 7.5 cm Pak 40 with Heer Gun Crew (DML + Verlinden German 75mm Pak Gear-Ammo-Crew-Base), 1/35 – Robin Evans
12. M4A3E8 Sherman “Thunderbolt VII” (DML + Alpine & DML Crew Figures), 1/35 – Ben Brandes
13. U.S. Medium Tank M4A3 Sherman 75mm Gun Late Production (Tamiya), 1/35 – Noah Brandes
14. U.S. M60A3 105mm Gun Tank (Tamiya + Eduard PE), 1/35 – Ben Brandes
15. M4A3 (76) W VVSS Sherman “Battle of The Bulge” (DML + Miniart U.S. Tank Crew - NW Europe), 1/35 – Michael Child
16. Kubelwagen vw Type 21 “Kastenwagen” (Academy + JV Models Resin Conversion), 1/72 – Paul Lovell
17. Pz.Kpfw.V Ausf.G Panther Late Version (Italeri), 1/35 – Phil Cavender
18. Tiger 1 Late Production Pz.Kpfw.VI Ausf. E (DML + Model Club Metal tracks), 1/35 – Tom Wingate
19. T-44 Soviet Medium Tank (Miniart), 1/35 – Mike Roof
20. WWII Luftwaffe Oil Cart & Luftwaffe Drum Cart (Signifier & Verlinden), 1/35 – Brian Moeller
21. M1078 LMTV (Armored Cab)(Trumpeter + Voyager Armor Upgrade, ET Model Weighted Road Wheels, Minor Workable Leaf Springs), 1/35 – Daniel Karnes [Pictures sent in post-meeting]

Photo Album on our webpage:

<http://media5ik1.onlineview.it/FullScreenSlideShow.aspx?gallery=4770224&mt=Photo>

**Business items:** **1)** Treasurer’s report: Only one significant expense over the last month - \$100 category sponsorship to IPMS/USA for category 720, Armor Diorama, Small Composition. No new deposits. Current bank balance is approximately \$4,187 along with approximately \$200 in cash-on-hand. Pending major expense is \$400 to update our website. **2)** Mike Petty will be heading up the AMPS National table at the IPMS/USA Nat’s. Mike will setup a SignUP Genius page to get volunteers listed up against specific time slots to man the AMPS National table. Our local club display tables should be co-located with the national table, so we should be able to do “double duty” watching both. Mike Roof will send out a message to all club members when the SignUP Genius page is ready. **3)** We should have two local AMPS club display tables at the IPMS/USA Nat’s, so there should be quite a lot of room for members to bring in “display only” works. Please contact Mike Roof before the show to let him know what models you want to bring to put on display. That way he can manage the space available. **4)** New business: **a)** We voted to obligate funds to purchase a Humvee kit that will be constructed by Steve Reid as a donation to the SC Military Museum. Steve will purchase the kit and provide the treasurer with a receipt for reimbursement. **b)** We voted to organize a club trip to the American Armor Foundation in Danville, VA for the 15 October “Armor Run Day.” The club will reserve rental vans and members will sign up, first come – first served, for seats. **c)** The club will continue to pursue the trip to the National Armor & Cav. Museum, Ft. Benning, GA for November.

## Tentative Agenda, Regular Meeting, 10 August, 2016

Our next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, 10, August, 2016, 6-8 pm, at the HobbyTown store in the Publix Shopping Center (North Pointe Shopping Center), on Two Notch Road, Columbia (NE).

**Tentative Agenda Business items:** **1)** Treasurer's report: No changes, current bank balance is approximately \$4187 with approximately \$200 cash-on-hand. Pending major expense is \$400 to update our website. **2)** The trip to the American Armor Foundation (AAF) Museum, Danville, VA has been organized. We have reserved two, 7-pax rental vans (possible to reserve another). Currently have 12 members signed up with 2 seats left. Cost per head will be \$34.50 + share of the gas if we get 14 riders. (If we don't fill all 14 seats, we can either cancel one van or spread the prorated cost to everyone going.) Museum tickets will be \$9 if we reserve them ahead of time. Steve Reid and Mike Roof will drive, picking up the vans from CAE on Friday, 14 Oct, and returning them on Sunday, 16 Oct. Request that all riders pay in advance NLT our 12 Oct regular meeting. We have several members who will join us in Danville. Mike Roof will need a firm list of those folks to reserve the museum tickets. **3)** We need to discuss and select a Saturday date for our next "Club Build Day. Available Saturdays in September are: 3, 10, 17 and 24. **4)** The November trip to Ft. Benning to tour the NACM is on. David Hobbs (our POC) has contacted me to say that he is open to any Saturday that month. We need to select a weekend. Best options are probably 4-6 and 18-20, but 11-13 (Veteran's Day Weekend) is also an option. Tentative itinerary is to drive to Columbus, GA on Friday, tour the museum on Saturday, and return on Sunday. Options are to rent vans or drive POVs and book hotel rooms in the same property or go it individually for lodging. Suggest that we offer to take our POC and a guest to dinner on Friday or Saturday (paid for by the club). **5)** Floor is open for discussion of the IMPS / USA National Convention. **6)** Floor will be open for new business.

**Regular Show & Tell** to follow the business portion of the meeting. All topics and model subjects are welcome – completed builds, works in progress, "new stuff" (kits, books, tools, materials, etc). Don't forget, if you can make it, the "meeting after the meeting" for dinner and socializing. This month probably at Schianos, but we're open to other ideas...

*Mike Roof*

**REMINDER:** The HobbyTown USA store will close at 7:00 pm (1900). 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 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

**SC Military Miniatures Society 2016 Annual Toy Soldier Show**, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at the SC State Museum located at 301 Gervais St, Columbia, SC 29214. Hours: 10am to 5pm

**Americans in Wartime Museum 2016 Open House**, September 24 and 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. "Tank Farm" in Nokesville, VA. [www.nmaw.org](http://www.nmaw.org)

**South Carolina Modelers 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Model Contest**, 15 October 2016, Cokesbury United Methodist Church, Gym, 4990 Dorchester Road, North Charleston, SC, 29418. More information about this show can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/South-Carolina-Modelers-Association-154759921252065/?fref=ts>.

**AAF TANK MUSEUM, America Armored Foundation (AAF) Museum's "Run Day"** on Saturday, 15 October 2016, 3401 US Highway 29, Danville, VA 24540, Call: 434-836-5323. Info on the museum can be found on their webpage: <http://www.aaftankmuseum.com/>



**AMPS 2017 International Convention**, Crown Plaza Hotel, 18 Old Ridgebury Road, Danbury, CT 06810, Phone: (203) 794-0600, April 20 to 22, 2017. See the AMPS Homepage for info at: <http://www.amps-armor.org/ampssite/default.aspx>

**Club Build Day**

Date to be announced.

## 2016 New Releases

- **US Medium Tank M4A1 Sherman (Mid Production)** - Asuka, 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale, # TAS35010.



- **MIM-104B Patriot Surface-To-Air Missile (SAM) System (PAC-1) w/ M983 HEMTT** -, Dragon "Black Label Series", 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale, # 3563



- **IDF Magach 3 Main Battle Tank** – Dragon Smart Kit, 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale, # 3567



- **Personenwagen TYP 170V Saloon** – MiniArt, 1/35 scale, # 35203



## Members Build Blogs

Build Blogs give an in-depth review of the construction process and allow the builders to share their knowledge. We are fortunate to have some of the members in our club with build blogs on modeling web sites.

Mike Roof has 2 on Track-Link.com:



MiniArt T-44 Soviet Medium Tank, Kit # 35193  
[http://www.track-link.com/forums/site\\_blogs/27686](http://www.track-link.com/forums/site_blogs/27686)



Bronco Loyd Carrier No. 2, Mk II (Tracked Towing 6-pdr Anti-Tank Gun Tractor), # CB35188, towing a Riich British Ordnance QF Mk. IV A-T Gun 6 Pdr, # 35042  
[http://www.track-link.com/forums/site\\_blogs/22053](http://www.track-link.com/forums/site_blogs/22053)

Jeff Nelson has 1 on Armorama.com:



Fine Molds Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Type 60 APC, FM40  
[http://www.armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquadBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic\\_id=213731&page=1#2056793](http://www.armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquadBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic_id=213731&page=1#2056793)

Additionally, Jeff did an In-Box-Review of this kit.  
<http://armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=Reviews&file=index&req=showcontent&id=9272>

Keith Frape also has 2 on Armorama.com:



Chieftain Mk. 7 ARR (Tamiya + Accurate Armor Conversion)  
[http://www.armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquawkBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic\\_id=241027](http://www.armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquawkBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic_id=241027)



Up Armored Scimitar LEP with Bar Armor (AFV Club + Castoff Models Conversion)  
[http://armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquawkBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic\\_id=212968](http://armorama.com/modules.php?op=modload&name=SquawkBox&file=index&req=viewtopic&topic_id=212968)

## New Technique – Multi Grit Sanding Stick

Here is a tip for one of my favorite and most useful modeling tools.

I first found this tip in the December, 2010, issue of FineScale Modeler® to make a multi-grit sanding stick, and modified it to fit my needs:

Many times you only need a small amount of sandpaper to finish small parts. Larger pieces of sandpaper are not as convenient to use and may shift around while sanding. Foam-backed sanding sticks often result in rounded edges when I want a sharply sanded surface. This sanding stick has a flat, solid surface that enables the part to be finished without rounding the edges. The small size of the various grades makes it convenient to use.

I used a strip of .040" x 8" of styrene stock as the backing to attach 4 different grades of 2" x 2" sandpaper. I coated the plastic strip with double sided tape so I can change the sandpaper as it becomes worn. I use the following grades of sandpaper to allow working from coarse to progressively finer grades. The four grades from coarse to extra fine are:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grit</u>
Coarse	100
Medium	220
Fine	400
Extra Fine	600



Carl Wethington  
Guest Contributor

### **New Technique – Inexpensive Display Plaques**

Here is a tip for printing a great looking plaque for your display bases using a computer, Microsoft Word and glossy photo paper. Most software programs have the ability to print labels but, Microsoft Word is probably the most common program everyone uses. This technique comes from an inspired, original idea that Ralph Nardone sometimes uses on his bases. Metal labels are expensive so this tip is another way to print great looking labels at an affordable price.

- Start by loading plain white paper in your computer, go to Word and bring up a blank document.
- Next go to the Insert Tab and choose Tables. Place cursor over top left box for 1 row & 1 column and right click.
- Add desired text and resize box to approximate size needed. Color of background and font will be chosen after the correct size of the label is achieved.
- Here is where test sizes come into play. Insert several sizes so you can choose the size which best fits your base
- Print out this sheet and check which size best fits your base.



- After the size has been selected high light the text and choose the text color from the Text Color Icon Box under Font.
- After you have selected the correct color you are looking for, go to the Shading Icon under the Paragraph tab and select which background color to choose. In this example I have chosen Gold lettering with a Black background.
- Copy and paste into your document several labels of the size selected. This gives you many labels to cut out if one makes a mistake.
- Next load photo paper and print out the sheet. This must dry before spraying with a clear acrylic to protect the label. I usually wait a couple of hours to ensure the label is thoroughly dry.



- Spray the sheet containing the labels with a clear Acrylic spray such as Krylon Crystal Clear Acrylic Coating. Depending on the quality of your printer, you can either spray clear acrylic on or not.
- This coating dries in about 10-15 minutes. Apply one more coat and allow to thoroughly dry for 2 hours. Two coats does ensure protection to the label surface.
- After the label has been allowed to dry cut out the label and apply an adhesive on the back. Most any adhesive can be used. Some examples are Loctite Spray Adhesive and 3M Super Multipurpose Adhesive.



- Then apply the label to the base.

**Pz.Kpfw. V Panther Ausf. G Late**

*Finished Label*

Phil Cavender & Ralph Nardone  
Editor & Guest Contributor

## Interesting Articles

### ***AMPS Central South Carolina “Wildcats” T-34 Group Build***

Russia’s T-34 Tank hardly requires introduction. So if you’d rather not read one, skip ahead to the asterisks line below!



*“Battle of the Dukla Pass of 1944” Memorial, on the Slovak side of the Dukla Pass*

**Some History:** Developed as a medium tank in the 1930's, production began September 1940. It arrived in time to face the unexpected German invasion of the Soviet Union in June 1941. The tank, with a variety of modifications, participated in every costly battle as the Russian military slowly ground the vaunted German war machine into dust on the Eastern front.

When Germany's Panther and Tiger tanks began to appear on the battlefield, Russian designers enlarged the turret ring, replaced the turret, and up-gunned the tank from 76mm to 85mm. The T-34 in its most capable form had arrived. A total of over 54,000 tanks were manufactured between 1941 and 1945. There were over 4800 SU- series assault guns as well.

With the war over, 85mm tanks and 100mm SU-100's were retained in service in large numbers. Meanwhile, 76mm tanks and SU-85's and 122's became range targets or were converted into a myriad of military and civilian tractors.

The T-34-85 served in the armed forces of many countries in the post war period. They participated in the Middle East Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and the Balkans conflicts. T-34 wrecks can be found in Afghanistan, Greece, Africa, South America, Korea, and Vietnam. When I am searching for new pictures of T-34's I often go to Google and type in: "T-34" and the name of a country. T-34's show up everywhere!

Like the Sherman Tank, this is one of those modeling subjects that can absorb a modeler. It is literally a genre of its own. An interested person can dig into types, and the minute and myriad differences in vehicles produced at individual factories, and over 70 years of modifications and paint schemes.

The fun (or pain depending upon your perspective) in this subject is in the variations. The turrets, the road wheels, the tracks, the guns, the fuel tanks, the hatches can all be identified by factory and year of production. However, the typical WWII T-34 was rebuilt several times when knocked out or worn out. This resulted in a variety of oddball combinations that are utterly fascinating.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Model Kits:** So what is available for the modeler? Enough kits, photoetch, tracks and resin conversions to fill several typed pages!

When most of us started modeling the only kits were Tamiya's T-34 model 1941, Model 1943, T-34-85, SU-85 and SU-122 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale. Now we have kits from Dragon (Cyberhobby), Zvesda, ICM, AFV Club, Academy, Revel in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale. New kits in 1/48<sup>th</sup> from Hobby Boss and Tamiya, Giant 1/16<sup>th</sup> scale from Trumpeter and 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale from Dragon, Ace, AER, Armorfast, and Eastern Express. Between the plastic kits and the resin aftermarket we are spoiled for choice.

If you want to dive into the world of T-34's I would recommend starting with one of the basic gun tanks. A "small turret" 1940 or 1941 model, a "hex turret" model 1943, or a T-34-85. Don't spend too much time digging into the minutia, much of the available information can seem contradictory and confusing. Find a picture of what you are interested in and make an inquiry on your favorite modeling forum, Model related Facebook Group, or Model club meeting. "What kit should I start with to make that?" ....And let the fun begin.

## T-34/76 Model 1940



Dragon Kit #6092 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



Dragon Kit #7258 in 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

## T-34/76 Model 1941 Welded Turret



Dragon Kit #6205 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



Dragon Kit #7259 in 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

## T-34/76 Model 1941 Cast Turret



Dragon Kit #6418 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



Trumpeter Kit #07206 in  
1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale



Dragon Kit #7262 in  
1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

## Model 1943 "Hex Turret"



Dragon kit #6242 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



Dragon kit #6564 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



ICM Kit #35365 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



AFV Club Kit #35144 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale (Full Interior)



ICM Kit #35366 in  
1/35<sup>th</sup> scale (with Cupola)



Dragon Kit #7266 in  
1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

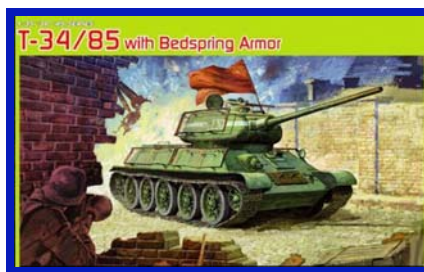


Armourfast Kit #99022 in 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

**T-34-85**



Dragon Kit #6319 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale



Dragon Kit #6266 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale (with Bedspring Armor – Berlin 1945)



Academy Kit #13290 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale [This is a brand new kit appropriate for late and post war T-34 85's]





AFV Club Kit # AF35S55 in 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale  
(Full Interior)



Dragon Kit #7270 in 1/72<sup>nd</sup> scale

Hopefully that is enough of an introduction to get you interested in a Group T-34 build. If you have any questions about T-34's, post them on the AMPS Central South Carolina Wildcats Facebook page or ask at a meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing some cool models!

See you at the next meeting!

Stephen Reid  
Guest Contributor

## The USA Historical AFV Register

Mike Roof has provided us with a great link he found that may be of interest to all.

"For those who are interested in preserved AFVs or photographing them for research, here's a link to the latest issue of the AFV Register Organization's "The USA Historical AFV Register."

The register is broken down by state and city, with the AFVs listed along with their exact locations (to include GPS lat/long coordinates). This is a good list to keep saved on your computer.

If you travel around you can plan accordingly (look up your travel destination or itinerary stops to see what interesting AFVs might be there), and if you need reference material on a particular vehicle, you can often contact one of your "virtual" friends online who lives near an exhibit to take some pictures for you".

### The USA Historical AFV Register

*Armored Fighting Vehicles Preserved  
in the United States of America*

**V4.0** **March 2016**

**Michel van Loon  
Neil Baumgardner**

**For the AFV Association**

Picture by Paul Hannah

<http://afvregister.org/Downloads/The%20USA%20Historical%20AFV%20register%204.0.pdf>

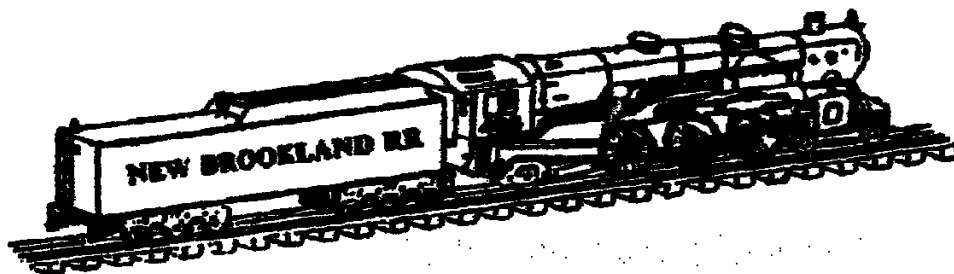
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[htusasc@yahoo.com](mailto:htusasc@yahoo.com)

(\* Denotes New Store Hours)

*Sunday	12-5
Monday	11-7
*Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	11-7
*Thursday	12-6
*Friday	11-8
Saturday	10-8



405 State Street  
 West Columbia, SC 29169  
 (803) 791-3958  
 Mon – Sat, 10am to 6pm



5633 Broad Street  
 Sumter, SC 29154  
 (803) 983-5084  
 Mon – Sun, 2pm to 7pm



## **“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...”*

Well, folks, this is the 5th issue I've had the pleasure to be the editor. Don't forget about the upcoming events to show our support and to our next club build day.

Also don't forget to send me your favorite techniques you've learned through the years. We all would benefit. I'll include them in our next newsletter.

Also if you aren't a member of AMPS, now is the time to join. **Join AMPS Now!**

[www.amps-armor.org](http://www.amps-armor.org)

Happy modeling,

*Phil Cavender*

Editor, The Wildcat  
AMPS Central SC "Wildcats"