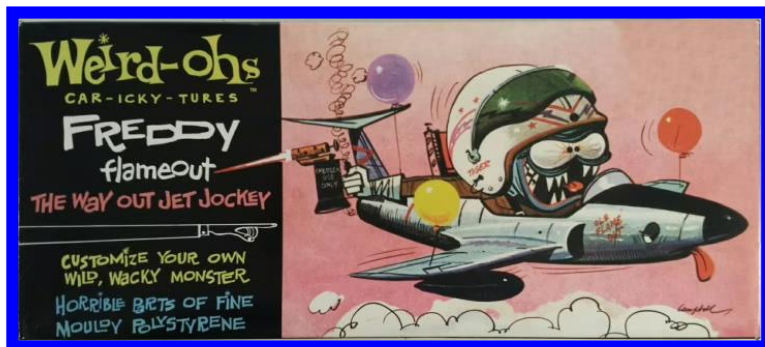




www.gatormodelers.org



Clarence Snyder scores a BRONZE at Jaxcon! Congratulations Clarence!





www.gatormodelers.org

Club officers

Dan Contento
President

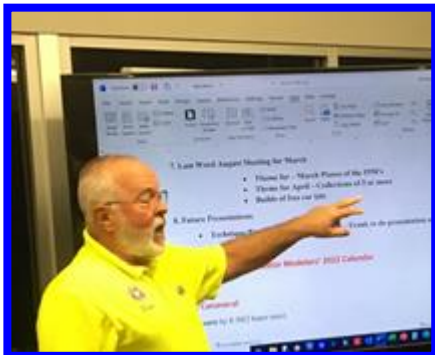
Chuck Lassiter
Vice President

Frank Ahern
Secretary

Bruce Doyle
Historian

Doug Spinney
Webmaster

Bill Winter
Treasurer &
Newsletter Editor



Prez Sez.....

By Dan Contento

The yearly contest with the Ocala Club is back on. We have agreed to some rule changes. This years contest will still be based on a Tamiya kit, but any additional parts used can be Tamiya, aftermarket, or from any brand kit. Sorry to those that built from Tamiya only, but both Clubs felt that one brand only was too restrictive. Also the backstory will be important too.

The contest is scheduled for Saturday June 25th at the Ocala Club meeting site around noon. Ocala will provide pizza for lunch and work their monthly meeting in with the contest.

Since we will have no auction this year both clubs wish to have a swap meet. If you have things you wish to sell bring them along and you keep the money.

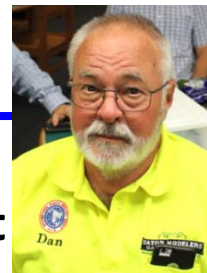
Has anyone found that the war has hindered their acquiring kits or aftermarket items they're looking for? I would think not too much yet. If some other countries become involved it could be a major problem for our hobby.

Hope to see everyone at the March meeting – theme planes of the 50's and those car snap kits many took at the end of last year. See you soon.

Dan



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

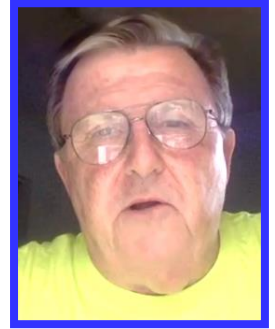


March – IPMS Gators –

**We will meet March 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM at
Oak Hall Library**



Minutes of the Club Meeting from Tuesday, February 15, 2022



President Dan Contento opened the meeting at 6:40pm. There were 15 club members present, plus guest presenter Bradley Weirick. The meeting opened with discussion about the recent model show in Jacksonville. About a dozen club members attended the show (see Photo later in the newsletter) and most felt it was better than last year, which was affected by the pandemic. There was further talk about upcoming model shows in the region. The next show takes place in Pompano Beach in March.

Contento presented a proposal for possible changes to the monthly theme model contest. One change would be awarding an extra point to a winning model which was built specifically for the contest. He explained that the goal of the contest is to encourage model building and the extra point toward the Modeler of the Year award would help do that.

Another change proposed by Frank Ahern would be to expand the number of winning entries to the top two vote getters. Ahern explained that the voters are already choosing 2 models, so awarding two winners would increase the number of modelers recognized for their efforts. Contento said that the proposals would be voted on at the next meeting. The theme for the next meeting, on March 15, is "Planes of the 50's".

Contento reminded the club that the contest involving the Snap-Tite models given out last fall is also scheduled for the March meeting.

The meeting was paused for the theme contest and Show & Tell presentations. Models on the theme "First Responders" - were submitted by Bruce Doyle, Frank Ahern, Don Martin, Doug Spinney and Bill Winter. The winning model was an Opel fire truck by Don Martin.

The monthly attendance raffle was held and the winners were - Bill Winter and Mike Martinez.

Finally, guest presenter Bradley Weirick gave a talk on the subject of car painting, drawing on his 40 years as a commercial car painter and his recent entry into the hobby of model car building. Weirick stressed the theme's of Cleanliness and Patience as the only way to achieve the "perfect" paint job that wins awards.

The meeting ended at 8:15pm.

Frank Ahern - Club secretary





Forgotten Fighters

By Frank Ahern



There have been several distinct eras in aviation history brought on by technological advances and changing combat requirements. The 1930's saw aviation emerge from its infancy with more powerful engines and improved aerodynamics, ending the biplane era. Rapid advances during and after WW2 brought about the development of the jet engine and the need for even more speed. The 1950's were a time when our nation's armed aviation forces were desperately trying to stay ahead of the curve as newer and better jet engines were being brought into production. The result was that many promising aircraft became obsolete almost overnight, and today are largely forgotten.

I chose Navy fighters for my collection because the Air Force fighters of that era - known as the Century Series - are much better remembered by most modelers. For some reason most of the Navy's fighters of the 50's have slipped into obscurity. I know this because finding models of some of these planes became a real scavenger hunt.



Grumman F9F-8 Cougar



Forgotten Fighters

I'll begin the series with a profile of the **Grumman F9F-8 Cougar**.

Prior to the Korean war the Navy had taken a conservative approach to the acceptance of swept-wing aircraft. There was much skepticism among top brass that the higher landing speeds and longer take-off requirements of swept-wing planes would work on carrier-based fighters.



F9F-3 Panther

This is why Grumman's first carrier jet was the straight-winged F9F-3 Panther. It quickly became clear, however, that the Panther was no match for the Mig-15 in aerial combat. Back burner plans to create a swept wing version of the Panther suddenly moved to the front burner. In remarkably short time (just over a year) Grumman produced the F9F-6 which was renamed *Cougar* to avoid confusion. Unfortunately, it did not appear in time to see combat in Korea.



Cougar w/sidewinders

The ultimate version of the *Cougar* was the F9F-8 which was still sub-sonic in performance but was not plagued with engine problems like most of the Forgotten Fighters because it used the Pratt-Whitney J48 turbojet rather than the ill begotten Westinghouse J40. Engine problems will be one of the recurring themes of these profiles.

Another was the changing mission requirements of the Navy. The Cougar was seen as a jack-of-all-trades, but eventual was replaced by the faster F-11 *Tiger* and the bigger F-8 *Crusader*.



Twogar in Vietnam

Ironically, the two seat trainer version, always known as the "Twogar", was the longest-lived version and the only one that saw combat as a forward air control spotter in Vietnam. Most of the Navy.

Forgotten Fighters

pilots who saw combat in Vietnam got their training in the “Twoogar”, and although the Blue Angels only



flew the Cougar for three years, the two-seater remained their VIP aircraft for a dozen more.



I built the older Hasegawa-Minicraft kit which is probably the best in 1/72, but a newer Kitty Hawk kit in 1/48 is the best available overall.

It was a decent kit that presented no unusual problems. I’ve always liked the Navy’s grey/white color scheme of that era.



A capable, if unexciting, airplane the Cougar paved the way for the bigger, faster planes of the next generation and deserves an honored spot among the Forgotten Fighters.

Show n' Tell

Don Martin's firetruck



Winner of the
January 2022
Intraclub
contest for
Emergency
Vehicles



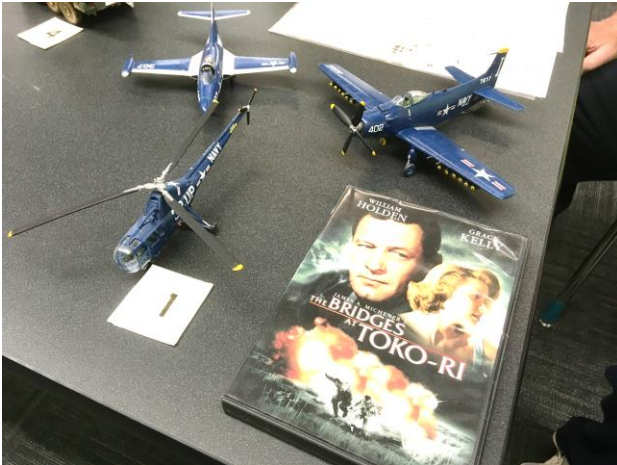
Show n' Tell

Don Martin's firetruck



Show n' Tell

Bruce Doyle:
Helicopter from "The Bridges at Toko-Ri"



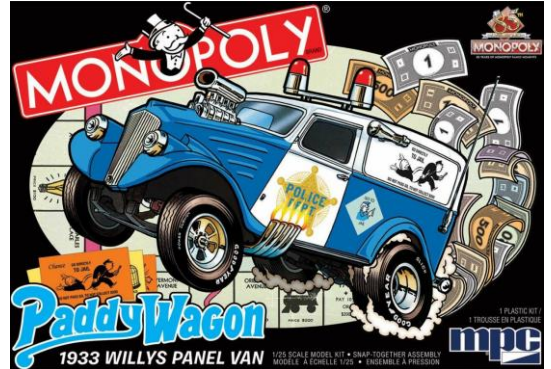
Show n' Tell

Frank Ahern's Rescue Van



Show n' Tell

Doug Spinney



Show n' Tell

Bill's M1133 Stryker MEV



Show n' Tell

Mark Box



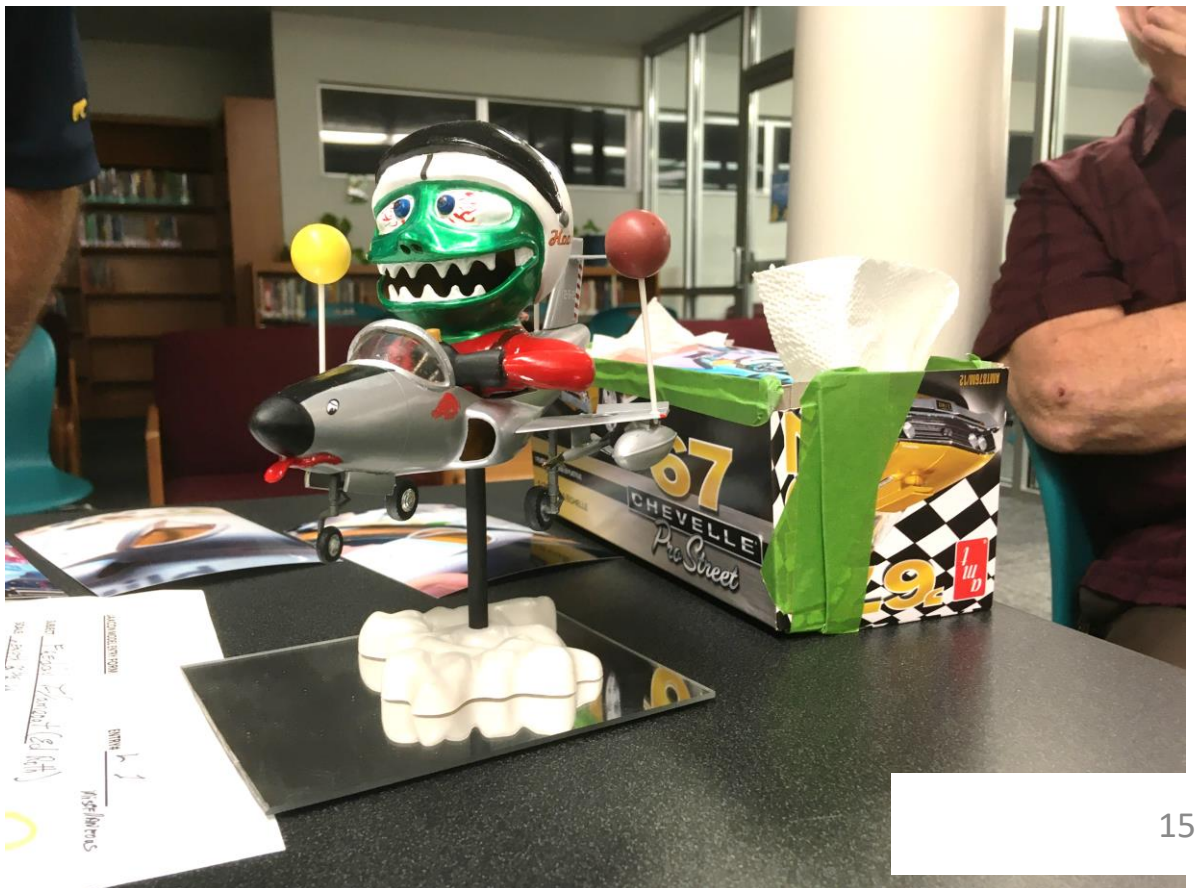
Show n' Tell

Mark Box

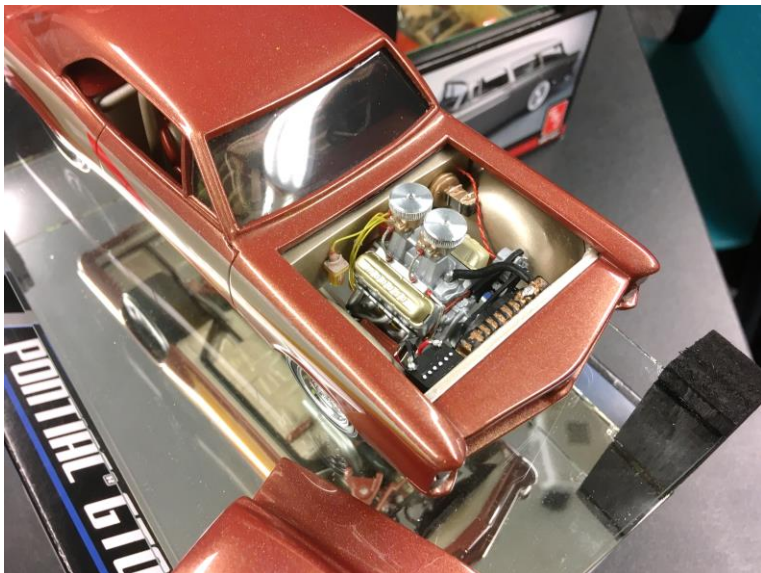


Show n' Tell

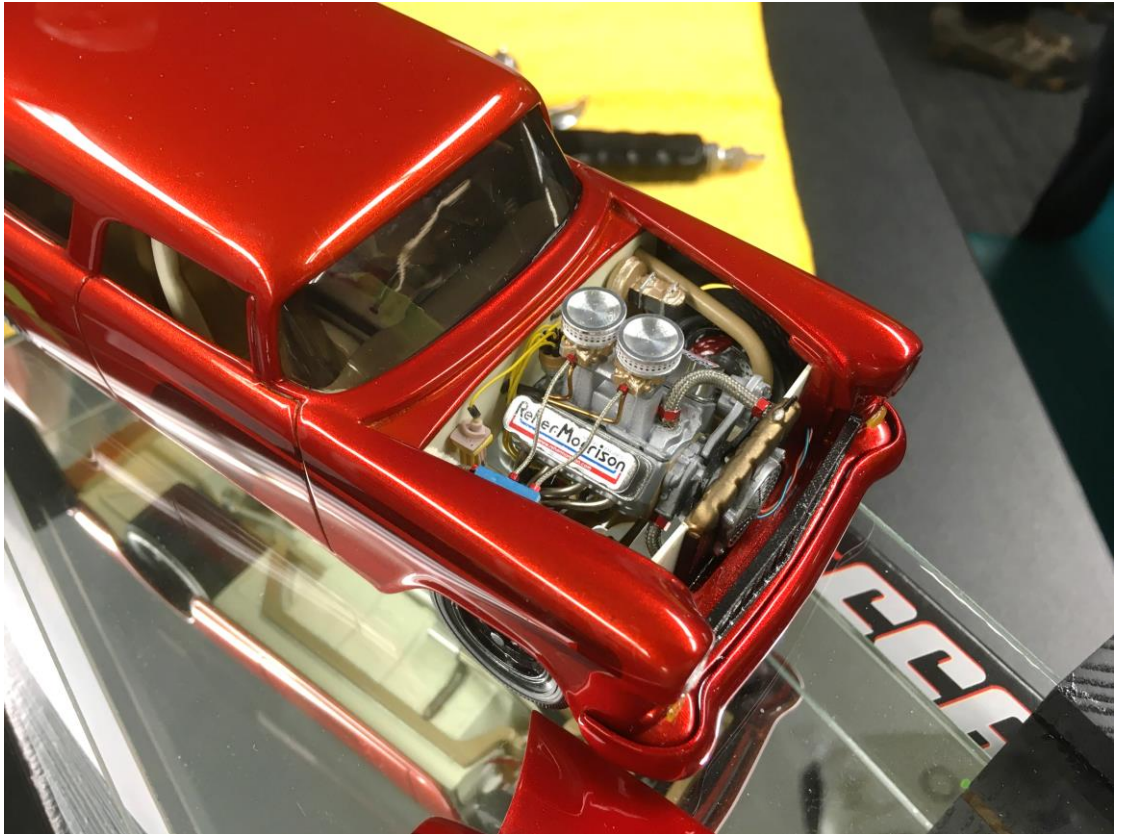
Clarence Synder



Bradley Weirick presented tips on getting a great paint job!



Bradly presented tips on getting a great paint job!



Members in Attendance on 2-15-2022



From the work bench of Doug Spinney - >

Polar Lights Frankenstein's Flivver

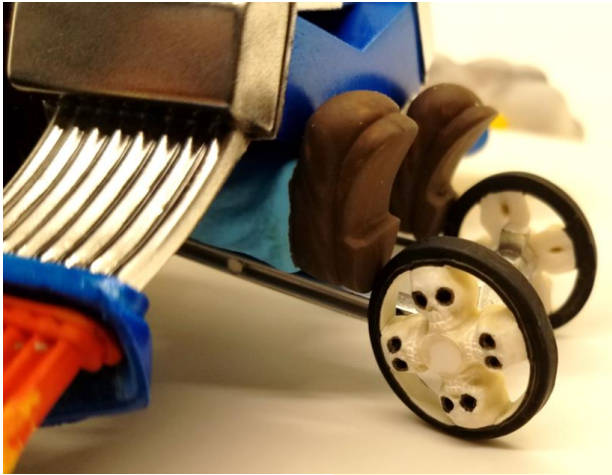
Frank is painted entirely with Vallejo Model Colors.

The Flivver is based in black, marbled with Spaz Stix Chrome, and finished with Tamiya Clear Red

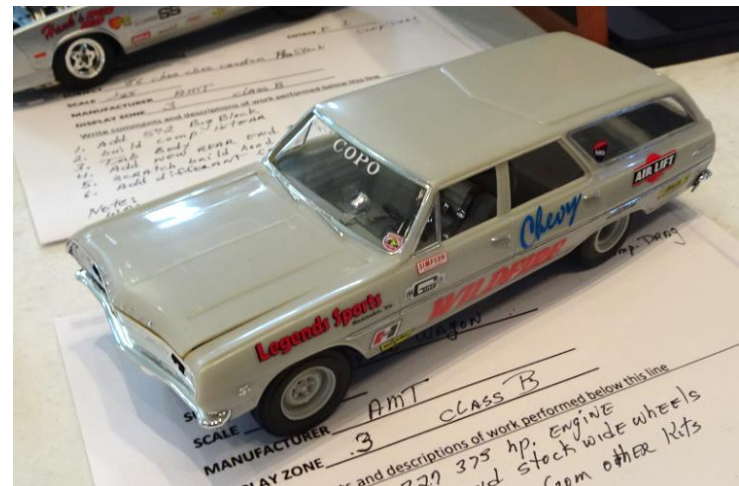
All the chrome is Spaz Stix, comes in a rattle can and was purchased from Toys & More in Gainesville. The left hand is supposed to hold a yoyo, but I had an extra 1/8 scale skull and thought it looked better.



From the work bench of
Doug Spinney - >



Gators at Jaxcon!



If I made any mistakes in identification of member's models, please let me know and I will correct the mistakes next issue. – The Editor

Gators at Jaxcon!



Gators at Jaxcon!



Hollywood Heroes



By Frank Ahern

This continuing feature is designed to showcase the often-unpublicized military service of many of the entertainment icons of the previous generation who served their country without complaint or protest.

Brian Keith

Soon after his high school graduation, Brian Keith had planned to follow his father's footsteps and become an actor, but WW2 intervened, and he joined the Marine Corps in 1942.



He was trained as an aerial gunner and spent almost 3 years in the South Pacific Theater serving as a gunner/radioman on SBD Dauntless dive bombers.

He saw considerable combat action and was awarded the Air Medal for his service in the Solomon Islands campaign. The Air Medal was considered the equivalent of the Bronze Star. He was honorably discharged in 1945



Hollywood Heroes

Brian Keith (continued)

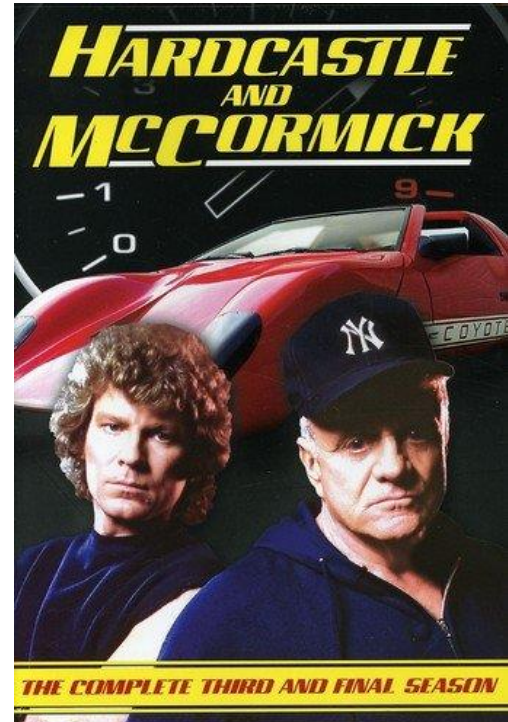


Like many actors Keith had a long career playing a variety of roles in movies and television but is best remembered for his TV part as a single dad in the CBS series *Family Affair*. He was well suited to the role due to his previous work in the popular Disney Movie - *Parent Trap*.



His other major TV series found him playing a retired judge in the crime drama *Hardcastle & McCormick*.

He died in 1997 and was posthumously given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2008 next to his close friend Walt Disney.



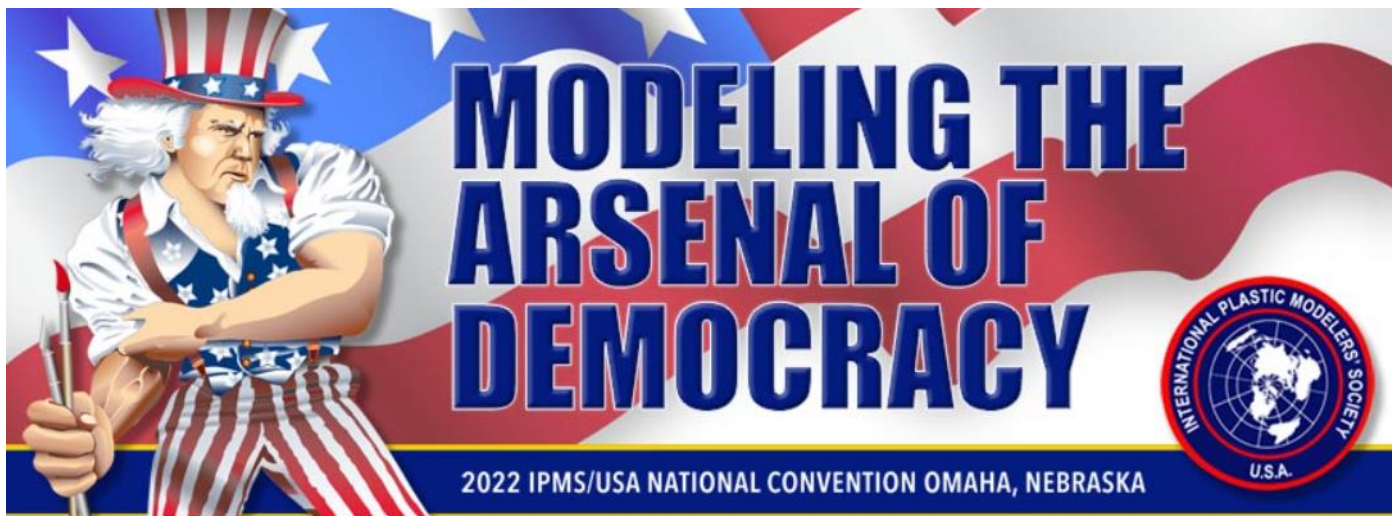
Stop the presses -- > From Bruce Doyle

Odds & Ends.

This video was sent to me by my buddy Pete Frizell, the Ploesti Mission expert. Pete and I have a vested interest in the fatal crash of the B-17 "909" both having flown in it from Gainesville to Fernandina Beach. This is a classic case of pilot error with fatal consequences. Moreover this crash is jeopardizing the future of warbird enthusiasts from getting the thrill of flying on these aircraft. The evidence presented on why this crash occurred is chilling.

Bruce

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3p-hGR3ZyY>



*Fort Crook IPMS/USA would like to welcome everyone
to the 2022 IPMS/USA National Convention!*

July 20-23, 2022

La Vista Conference Center
12520 Westport Parkway La Vista, Nebraska 68128

Modeling the Arsenal of Democracy

GATOR MODELERS

Frank Ahern, – Secretary – ahernf@gmail.com
Home: (352) 375-3723; Cell: (352) 226-6785

If you have a modeling tip you would like to share with your fellow modelers, please send us a copy so we can put it in the newsletter. We need articles for the Newsletter and the Web Site!

If you just opened up that new kit and want to give a box or build review, write it up and we'll put it in the newsletter and put it on the Web Site. Just read a good book, tell us about it! Got a great tip, share it with your fellow club members. This is your Newsletter and your Web Site and they're only going to be as good as YOU make them so contribute something to the cause. Don't be afraid to ask for assistance if you have something you want to share, we'll be happy to assist you in making it happen!

Don't forget to support your local hobby shop: Rob's Hobby World (Rob Stevely: Proprietor 8585 SW Hwy 200 unit 14) Ocala, FL 34474 www.robshobbyworld@MSN.com; Mon.-Fri.: 10 AM to 5:30PM; Sat.: 9AM to 4PM; Sun: Closed.

Please check out WWW.IPMSUSA.ORG for the latest information from IPMS National Headquarters and for information about joining IPMS.

Please use one of the links below or go to the IPMS Membership page for more information about joining IPMS USA.

http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms_application_form_2016.pdf

<http://www.shopipmsusa.org/product-p/adult-membership.htm>

<http://www.shopipmsusa.org/product-p/family-membership.htm>

Frank Ahern, – Secretary – Newsletter Editor ahernf@gmail.com
Home: (352) 375-3723; Cell: (352) 226-6785

This list contains **UPCOMING** modeling events. For a complete list of IPMS events visit: <https://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/> **2022**

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <i>March 19</i> | <i>AtlantaCon, Marietta GA Suncoast Model Jam Plastic Model Swap Meet, 11919 Alric Pottberg Road, Shady Hills, FL</i> |
| <i>Apr 7-11</i> | <i>AMPS 2022 International Event, Newport News, VA</i> |
| <i>April 29 - May 1</i> | <i>ModelFest, Region 11, Cape Canaveral FL</i> |
| <i>June 25</i> | <i>PamsCon 2022, Plant City FL</i> |
| <i>July 20 - 23</i> | <i>IPMS Nationals, Omaha NE visit - ipmsusa2022.com</i> |
| <i>Oct. 7 - 9</i> | <i>Modelpalooza, Kissimmee FL</i> |

It is of great importance, both at the local level (IPMS Gators) and at the national level. The Club officers strongly recommend joining IPMS as an individual which provides six yearly issues of the IPMS Journal (which is better than ever) and the opportunity to participate at the IPMS National Convention .

A copy of the membership application is on the right or available at the IPMS / USA website address, www.ipmsusa.org.

Complete the form and return it to the address listed at the bottom of the form along with your method of payment.

IPMS Membership



International Plastic Modelers' Society/USA Membership Application / Renewal Form

New Renewal IPMS #:

Name:

Address:

City: State:

Zip Code:

Phone: E-Mail:

Chapter Affiliation, if any:

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Junior (17 years or younger) | \$17.00 | <input type="text"/> | Date of Birth: | <input type="text"/> |
| Adult | One year | \$30.00 | | <input type="text"/> |
| | Two years | \$58.00 | | <input type="text"/> |
| | Three years | \$86.00 | | <input type="text"/> |
| Canada & Mexico | | \$35.00 | | <input type="text"/> |
| Foreign | Surface | \$38.00 | | <input type="text"/> |

Family (1 set of Journals) ← Adult fee + \$5.00 # of cards?

Your Signature:

If recommended by an IPMS member, please provide his/her:
Name: IPMS #:

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Cash Amount:

Check Check #: Amount:

Billing Address, if different than above -

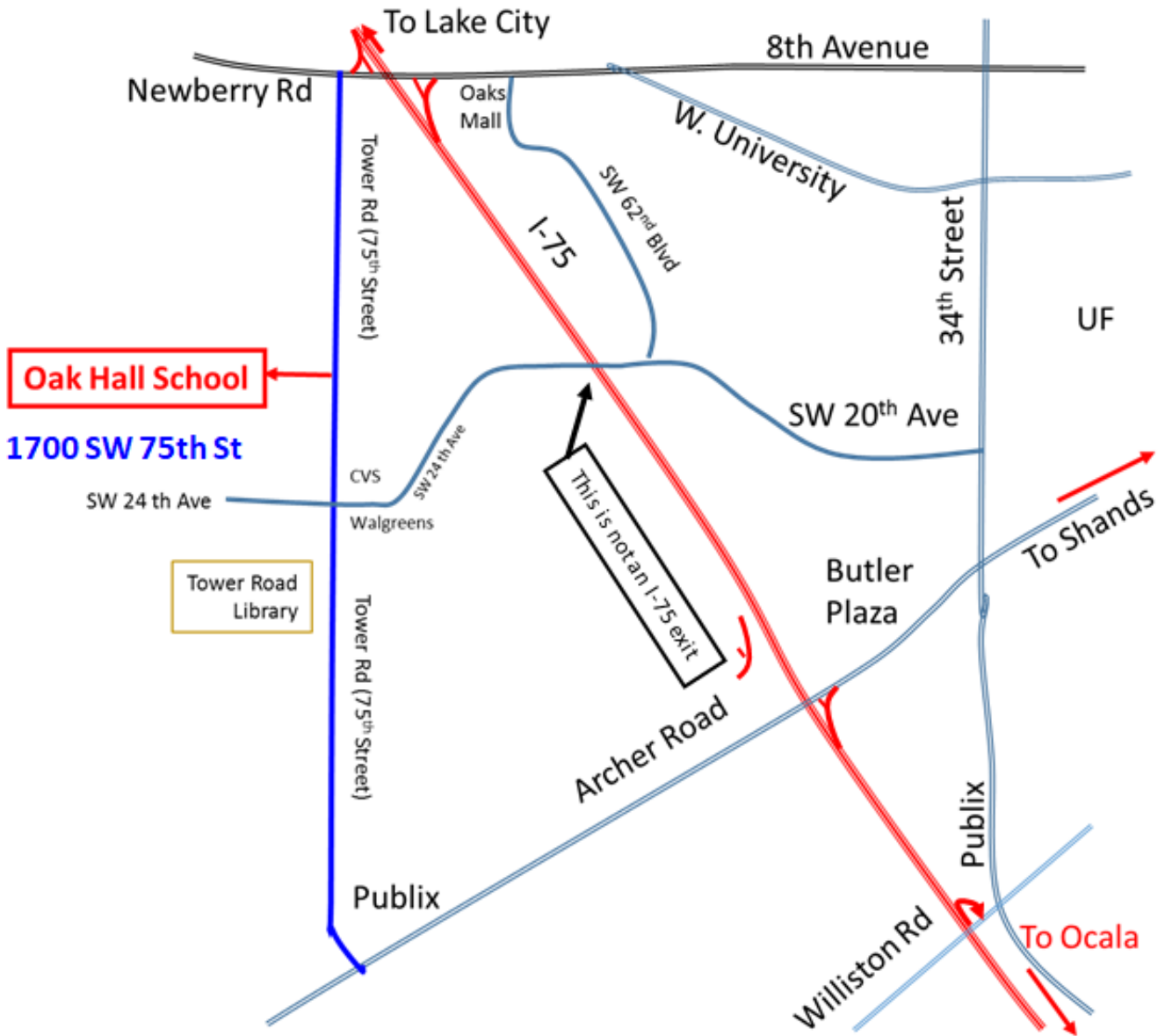
Address:

City: State:

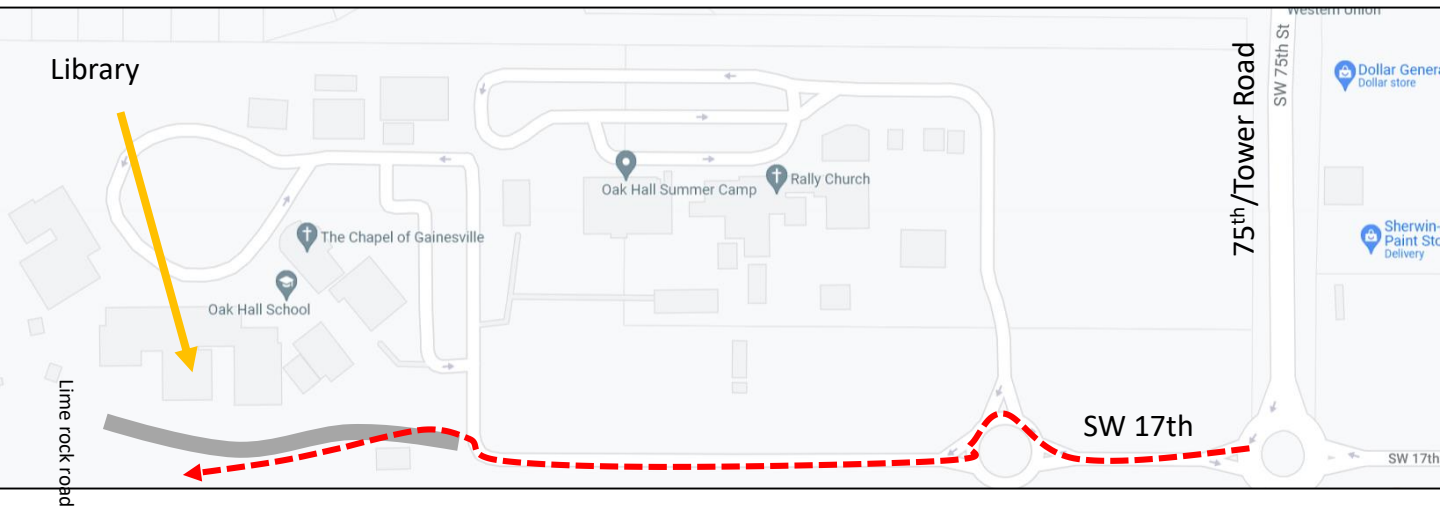
Zip Code:

Applications should be printed and mailed to: IPMS/USA, PO Box 1411, Riverview, FL 33568-1411

Directions to OAK HALL (1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville, FL)



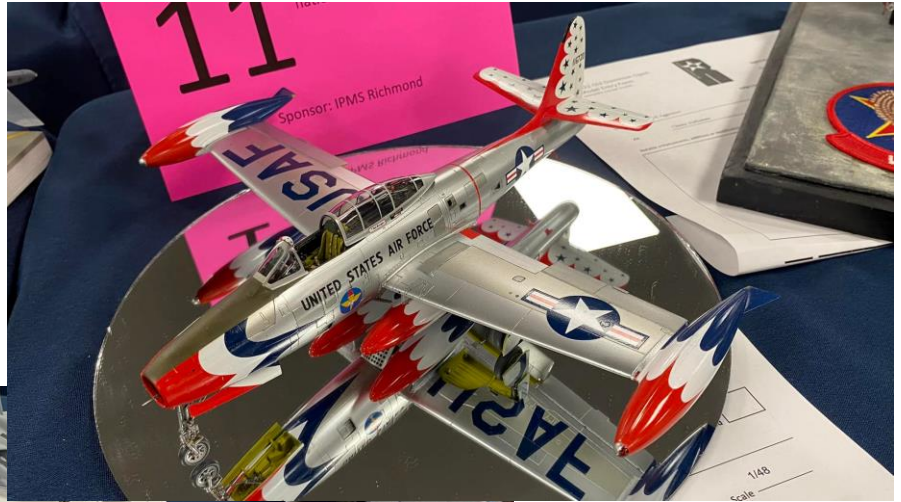
IPMS GATORS' MEMBERS: We will meet at Oak Hall on Tuesday **March 15** at 6:30 PM in the **LIBRARY**.



The top image is the satellite view of OAK HALL. The bottom view is a line drawing.

Pretty Paint ...

By Jack Mugan



A note about monthly themes for 2022

- Mar. -** Planes of the 50's
- Apr. - Collections of 5 or more
- May - Military non-combatant
- June - Made in France
- July - Anything Blue
- Aug. - Made of wood or canvas
- Sept. - More than 4 tires on the ground
- Oct. - Figures & Fantasy
- Nov. - Ships

Bye for now!

