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²hoto courtesy of Paul Bennett

The November Club Contest theme was "amphibians" that was won by Ed Ingersoll with his LVT-A4.







Club officers

Dan Contento President

Frank Ahern Secretary

Bruce Doyle Historian

Paul Bennett Photographer

Tracy Palmer Webmaster

Bill Winter Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

GATOR

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

www.gatormodelers.org

Next meeting:

Tuesday December 17, 2019 at: 6:30 PM Oak Hall Library 1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville FL

(See the map on page 27)

Prez Sez..... By Dan Contento

I hope all who attended enjoyed the annual Christmas Party. If you have any thoughts on improving it bring them to the next meeting.

Congratulations to ______ (*) for winning Modeler of the Year and to Chuck Lassiter for his unanimous vote for Vice President.

If I'm correct our next 2 events are Jaxcon in February (Feb 8, Saturday) and the club auction, normally in March or April. The auction will also be the Contest with the Ocala Club. We will discuss the contest at our next meeting and begin locking down the date.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone. May your stashes grow and your model building increase in the new year. (*: to be announced at the Christmas Party)

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Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2019

GATOR (

By Frank Ahern

President Dan Contento opened the meeting at 6:40pm welcoming 16 club membe Bob Goetz and John Wegenka. He reminded the club of several upcoming events in display, which will be set up on Dec.1, Collectors Day at the Florida Museum on Jar Christmas party on Dec.15.

The library display theme is models inspired by a book or movie. The Collectors Day the Bulge. The Christmas party begins at 2pm at the Hardt/Winter condo with a lur gift exchange and presentation of annual awards.

Those planning to attend are asked to contact Bill Winter and RSVP.

Nominations were sought for the election of club officers. Those holding office – Dan Contento, president; Bill Winter, treasurer and Frank Ahern, secretary, agreed to continue. Chuck Lassiter was nominated for vice president and approved by unanimous vote. Annual dues of \$20 were collected from members who were prepared to pay.

MODELERS

A break in the meeting was declared while everyone gathered at the model display table for the semiannual club contest judging and Show & Tell discussion. The club contest theme was "Amphibious" and the contest was won by Ed Ingersoll with his model of an amphibious tank used in the Normandy invasion. Ingersoll selected the theme "funnies" for the next contest in May 2020.

The monthly attendance raffles were held and were won by Aaron Alt, who selected a Dragon Ju-88, and by Ed Ingersoll who picked the M-113 fire support APC.



Finally, Aaron Alt gave a presentation on his visit to the Air Force Academy last summer, and Paul Bennett showed pictures from the club display at the Veterans Day ceremony in Alachua county. ³ The meeting concluded at 8:00pm.



Welcome to Veteran's Day

By Paul Bennett

First, my thanks to Ed, Frank, and Jack for their help.

Over the years I have hoped that one day our club would bring their historical interests and model building skill to the **Alachua County Veterans Day Ceremony**. This year we did. Over the last several months setting up a display has been discussed and the Vietnam War was chosen. With thanks to Ed Ingersoll, Frank Ahern, and Jack Mugan we were able to set up a display.

I arrived shortly after 7:00 AM to set up. We were located next to the Korean War Veterans Association. I provided my cell phone number so folks could call me. However there was one little problem. Yours truly is NOT a cellphone user to speak of, so when it rang, I would get this puzzled "What's that noise?" look. And by the time I figured it out, the caller had already hung up.

Anyway, I brought the tables, sunshade, and chairs. First discovery, it takes four people to set up and tear down the sunshade. Once that was taken care of, all else when well and we were set up. The day itself was beautiful, sunny and comfortable.

We did not have the number of uniformed re-enactors we have had in the past. That being said, ShandsCair and the Sheriff's office helicopters were there. Another of our members was there working with a youth group providing food. ROTC and Junior ROTC groups provided a color guard and drill team.

Here is a picture of our setup.



The colors were posted at the beginning of the ceremony.



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MODELERS

Welcome to Veteran's Day

An overview.



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Welcome to Veteran's Day

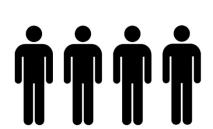
Our table had quite a few visitors. Kids were fascinated. We passed out quite a few business cards.

The ceremony wrapped up at noon with the arrival of the Flag by a parachutist. We packed up soon afterwards.

I hope the club will be interested in doing this again next year. Things to remember and thoughts to improve.

1.) Paul... That weird ringing noise is your cell phone. Answer IT!





- 2.) It takes four people to set up the sunshade.
- 3.) Between Ed, Jack, and Frank there were several suggestions made.

Instead of selecting a theme, do a selection of models from the periods of 1900 until present. Also, incorporate a small number of models that would appeal specifically to kids, specifically things like Egg Planes, Toon Tanks, and Cute Planes. Is there an equivalent for ships?



4.) We did have a small problem with a few of the kids. "Do Not Touch!" was not in their vocabulary, even with the parents standing there.

5.) The club banners on the table were nice, but looking at the other displays, perhaps it would be possible to have a long banner made that could hang from the sunshade.

6.) Just a thought, are any of our members re-enactors who might be willing to be there in their period uniform?

MODELERS

Midway: movie review

By Frank Ahern

As someone who doesn't go to many movies I was surprised when my oldest son said he wanted to take me to a movie for my birthday. Because he shares my interest in history and WW2 he suggested we go see "Midway". Here are my impressions from the movie.





In many ways it's like an old war movie – good guys vs. bad guys, heroes and villains. There is an effort to bring historical accuracy to the story, but like all movies it must compromise for the sake of time and entertainment value.

Although I was impressed with the appearance, sound and accuracy of the computer-generated airplanes and ships (much better than using old trainers to simulate Zeros) I was disappointed in the action sequences that looked like a video game rather than real combat. The attack on Pearl Harbor in the beginning of the movie was especially overdone. Zeros were shown flying between the ships and darting around like they were in a zero-gravity Star Wars environment. Any pilot could tell you that a real airplane, no matter how maneuverable, simply can't do the tricks in real life that the computer can make them do on screen. This is what spoils modern movies for me. Ever since Star Wars, directors have been pushing CG effects into hyper-reality to try and impress the audience.

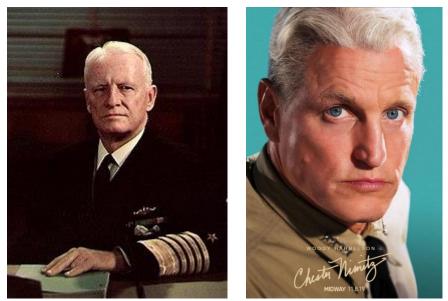


Unfortunately, it only makes me aware that I'm watching a movie instead of a depiction of the real event. On the positive side, this is the first movie to acknowledge the importance of the "code-breakers" and the overall role of intelligence in the American victory at Midway. We were outgunned and outmanned and no amount of individual

heroism would have mattered if we had not known what the Japanese were planning to do. I would have appreciated a little more clarity on the actual strategy of the battle, which is alluded to but never explained in detail. This is another area where history buffs must take a back seat to the general audience that doesn't really care.

Midway: movie review

The focus is on the stories of the pilots of Squadrons 6 & 8 as they prepare for the battle, specifically on the character of Lt. Dick Best, the hotshot "cowboy" pilot who takes command of Squadron 6. This is classic "old" war movie script writing designed to make you care about the people and their fate. The acting was competent but not outstanding. I did like Woody Harrelson's portrayal of



Admiral Nimitz. With white hair he looked like a younger version of Spencer Tracy and gave some personality to a figure who has generally been regarded as colorless.

There was also a vignette showing director John Ford filming a documentary during the attack. He is profiled this month in Hollywood Heroes.



Midway does make an effort to show the Japanese perspective. Admiral Yamamoto is portrayed as a moderate trying to restrain the fanatical war machine Japan had become. One element I had not seen in a movie before – the film shows the deep animosity between the Japanese Navy and Army about the role each will play after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

On balance I found the movie to be entertaining despite my dislike of the excesses of CG action sequences, the overall look and feel seems right, the history is reasonably factual, and the pacing is fast, so the 2 hours goes by quickly. Basically, this is an old war movie updated with better special effects and a more modern perspective on the "other" side.

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Notes on the Moebius[™] Flying Sub

By Paul Bennett

Some years back I purchased the **1/32nd Scale Moebius Models™ Flying Sub**. And, as in cases such as this, I seem to be completely unable to leave well enough alone. I also bought the **VoodooFX™ lighting kit** and the **Paragraphix™ photoetch kit with decals**.

Then we go back to the last contest and Bob Lundeen selected anything amphibian (and specifically mentioned the Flying Sub. Note, Bob, ever see the British TV series UFO, with their Skydivers?? Just be thankful I could not afford that kit.)



So, a brief overview, pro and con, on the kit. Well, for starters, while this kit did not come with the landing gear, or remote manipulator arm, it was clear the kit was designed for their installation. Paint call-out was in Testors[™]. It did come with two cast figures, one of Captain Crane, the other of Admiral Nelson. The instructions could use some work and the paint callout was a bit confusing. One big problem I had was I could not find the paint color called out for the ejection seats.

MODELERS

I did have a fit issue in the bow where the top and bottom come together. I had to carve down the left and right interior forward sides (part numbers 22 and 23) to get a good fit. Another issue, not a problem unless you are installing the lighting kit, was the deck. Without the lighting kit, the three floor panels would have been painted. As I was installing the lighting kit with its three yellow LEDs, I did not paint it, leaving the round bottom of the model visible. This left the mound of the bottom docking ring and hatch very visible.

I do have one major concern with the model. Given the weight of the model the stand seems like it could be stronger and more rigid.

So, for starters, as lighting was being installed I painted most of the model interior flat black. After giving it time to dry I then painted a layer of gloss white, FS17925, over select areas where I wanted a diffused surface for lighting. Under the floor I hot glued the LED's pointing down at the white areas. A side note, next time I would remove the rounded area from under the floor and use a piece of white plastic as a fill in, instead I was left with a round raised area.

Next scrape off the indicated areas of the instrument panels as called for by **Paragraphix**[™] for the photoetch. I took it a step farther and also removed the areas directly underneath where the photoetch would be mounted on the communications console next to the tunnel airlock, both power control panels, and the three video displays on the front instrument console.

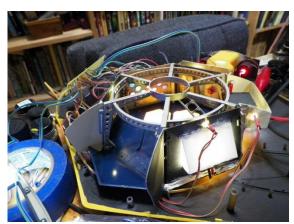
Then came the diffuser panel where the fusion reactor is. I used the glue gun for mounting the curved panel the LEDs would shine on. The lighting instructions showed only one of the fancy RGB LEDs, but I used both. Now here is where, if I did it over, I would make a change. I would make a plastic hood over the top of the reactor area, curving down to behind the RGB LED's to keep the light from shining over the top. I discovered that light leak only after the final assembly and painting.

As for the rest of the LED's, moving on to the two power and the communications console. As to the power consoles, I used white styrene plastic sheet to make triangular light boxes, the ½" base at the bottom with a piece of plastic sloping up and glued to the wall above the top of the console area. I mounted one of the warm white LED's in each base, pointed up. This worked very nicely, giving an even glow. If you look to the upper part of the picture you can see the power distribution board.9 Part of the reactor area is also visible (see photo top of next page).

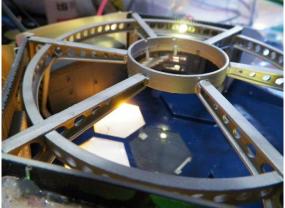
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MODELERS

Notes on the Moebius[™] Flying Sub



In this next picture if you look through the ring, you can just see one of the illuminated power console panels.



I tried the same behind the video displays on the front console. Did not work quite as well. The bunk light and the bright white headlights were no problem.

In the next picture you can see the other power console and the front instrument panel displays.



As to the exhaust lights, pretty much by the instructions, but I also added pieces of diffuser film left over from the reactor lights area.

MODELERS

Notes on the Moebius[™] Flying Sub

Then we came to the tunnel... The VoodooFX[™] instructions showed what looked like a single LED mounted through the roof. Being overtaken by a moment of creativity (and the two tunnel light fixtures provided with the kit) I pulled out my **Ngineering[™] micro yellow white LEDs**, my **Dremel[™] tool** (and my **microscope**). Using a very small (my smallest) carving bit, I cut away the center portion of each tunnel fixture location and a small groove past the edge of the tunnel plastic. I then soldered very fine wire leads to two of the LEDs and glued them in place, running the leads past the edges of the plastic. I glued the LED's in place, glued the clear light fixtures on top of them and routed the wires through the slots. I then filled the slots and after they dried, carefully sanded them. The LED's I used were about the size of the letters of the "Liberty" on a penny. In this picture you can see both exhausts and one of the tunnel lights. I used the hot glue gun to hold the very fragile fine wire and the other wiring in place.



As to the top and bottom docking ring/hatch assemblies, on the bottom you can either use a hatch, or the mounting assembly. As I would be using the stand, I used the mounting adapter. The top docking ring/hatch assembly can either be glued in position or modified per kit instructions, to be removable. I choose the modification to make the assembly removable.

As for the lighting itself, **VoodooFX™** provided a distribution board that mounted using the right main landing gear pins. They also provided two different values of resistor, 220 ohm for bright and 1500 ohm for soft. I used the 220 ohm resistors for the headlights. For the rest I used the 1500 ohm resistors.

And how did I power it? Well one of the pictures I had seen of the built kit had a 9 volt transistor battery hidden in the tunnel. Instead, early on in the build I routed a two cable pair under where the floor would be located, drilled holes through the bottom next to either side of the support and fed the wires through. I then hot glued other wires on either side of the vertical support and into the base of the support. I added a small toggle switch on one side of the base and two battery boxes, each holding 3 "AA" batteries. At the Flying Sub end, I used a pair of MicroMark™ mini-connectors, females carrying power up and males on the Flying Sub end.

What would I do different? Well, I mentioned the hood over the RGB LEDs. Next, I would address the big lump in the base so it would not be visible when the area is lighted. A better way to light the front console displays. Then the big one, find a way to reinforce the mounting stand. This picture is a head-on view of the flying sub with the working headlights (see photo top of next page).

MODELERS

Notes on the Moebius[™] Flying Sub



And a couple more Flying Sub pictures.



Technique Topic:

Paint Swatches

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By Frank Ahern



MODELERS

Not a lot of things that I did early on in my re-entry into modeling have survived the test of time. Things that didn't work or proved to be more trouble than they were worth were quickly discarded. One thing that has survived and causes me to thank myself on almost every model I build is my collection of paint swatches.



If you have been modeling for a while you probably have a large assortment of paints from many different manufacturers. I'm sure that most people have it separated into general color categories like I do. The problem I have is that my color vision is not very good and sometimes distinguishing between colors within a category is difficult.



MODELERS

Technique Topic:

Paint Swatches



I have also found color names to be confusing. One brands Light Grey might look like another brands Medium Grey. As Don Martin pointed out earlier this year, there are lots of "shades of grey" in modeling.

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My idea, which I'm sure is not original, was to take a piece of white styrene plastic sheet and paint a swatch from each jar with a label that indicates where it came from. This way you can see the various shades in an evenly lit, painted-on environment, which allows a true comparison of the different colors. I have found that most paints look a lot different when they are dry than when they are in the bottle. You also get a good idea of how flat or glossy the paint will look when dry. Although it takes some time and effort if you have a lot of paints to make a complete set of swatches, I have never regretted the work I did on this little project.



Hot Glue Guns

By Paul Bennett

Over the years I have experimented with various methods of mounting LEDs and was often (almost always) dissatisfied. Then I build the **Moebius Flying Sub**, using the **VoodooFX[™] lighting kit**. In the **VoodooFX[™]** instructions they suggested using a hot glue gun.

Interesting idea... I had never thought of that. So I thought "Why not give it a shot" even though my previous experiences had been of the large ones used for bigger projects.

So then came a visit to Lowes. I was delighted to find the **Arrow™ Model OT20DT precision** glue tip gun.



Very nice and compact. It has a very small output, about 1/8" in diameter. It is dual temperature, has a built in stand, and fits nicely in my hand. Unlike the big glue guns, as you can see in the picture, it uses a mini glue stick.

Did it work? Yes, very nicely, and not just for the LED's. There were several occasions where I actually used it during the assembly. Yes, it does get hot, but not enough to really give a burn. The bead is thin and precise. It did not damage either the LED's or the model plastic. Also, if necessary, and if one is careful, the glue can be scraped off with a minimum of damage. The glue does not actually affect the plastic. The same cannot be said for adhesives like model cement, epoxy, or super glue. You do have to be careful as the glue bead is thick so watch assembly points and I did not try painting the glue bead.

One minor problem... Beware the glue spider webs! They are glue strands that can form as you move from one point to another. Very thin, but easily removable strands of glue do occur.



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MODELERS

Show and Tell



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Show and Tell









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Show and Tell





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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.

John Ford

During World War II, Ford served as head of the photographic unit for the Office of Strategic Services and made documentaries for the Navy Department.



He was commissioned as a commander in the United States Navy Reserve. He won two more Academy Awards during this time, one for the semi-documentary The Battle of Midway (1942), and one for the propaganda film December 7th: The Movie (1943). Ford filmed the Japanese attack on Midway from the power plant of Sand Island and was wounded in the arm.

Ford was also present on Omaha Beach on D-Day. He crossed the English Channel on the USS Plunkett which anchored off Omaha Beach at 0600. He observed the first wave land on the beach from the ship, landing on the beach himself later with a team of Coast Guard cameramen who filmed the battle from behind the beach obstacles, with Ford directing operations. The film was edited in London, but very little was released to the public. Ford explained in a 1964 interview that the US Government was "afraid to show so many American casualties on the screen". He remained in the Naval Reserve and was discharged with the rank of Rear Admiral.



MODELERS

Hollywood Heroes

John Ford

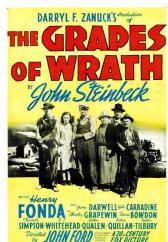
In a career that spanned more than 50 years, Ford directed over 140 films (although most of his silent films are now lost) and he is widely regarded as one of the most important and influential filmmakers of his generation. (See photo right). He is renowned both for Westerns such as Stagecoach (1939), The Searchers (1956), and The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962), as well as adaptations of classic 20th-century American novels such as the film The Grapes of Wrath (1940). His four Academy Awards for Best Director (in 1935, 1940, 1941, and 1952) remain a record. One of the films for which he won the award, How Green Was My Valley, also won Best Picture.















Library Display – December 2019 – January 2020

From Jack Mugan . . .

This year's display was once again, books that inspired modeling. We did this theme several years ago and the feedback was very positive.

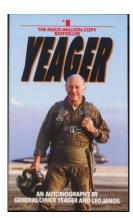
Contributors for this year are Frank, Bruce and Jack. The display will be up until the end of January.

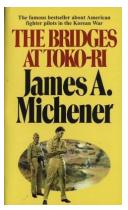






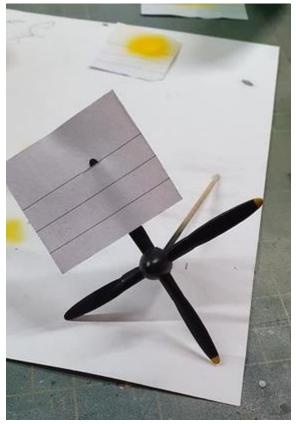






Odds and Ends Contributed by Club Members & Friends

From Jack Mugan . . . How to paint prop tips.







... Nice photo of F-105s.

..... New from MiniArt







Zvezda 1/35 "Bumerang" BM Russian Infantry Fighting Vehicle Kit

Odds and Ends Contributed by Club Members & Friends

From AJ Kwan . . . Found these on Facebook -- >





NITED STATES AIR FORCE THUNDERBIRDS

From Joe Caputo: How to make stowage:

 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFfTsor

 y_l&feature=share&fbclid=lwAR1CxaAUnmAGrNjBhCz25UeSWOr7F8jrccBOtDevBzYQNBfLJQFcO

 H9UBj8
 2001 A Space Odyssey: HAL9000 w/LED Red

From Bill Winter. . 2001 – A Space Odyssey



Light (14") Moebius

GATOR A 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: Close

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

This list contains modeling events with the IPMS Region-11 Events listings in bold.

January 11, 2020. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Collector's Day Feb 8, 2020 JAXCON, Jacksonville, FL March or April (TBA) – GNV-Ocala Interclub Contest March 28, 2020 – Caloosacon, Venice Fl July 29-Aug 1 – IPMS Nationals – San Marcos, Texas

GATOR MODELERS

UPCOMING EVENTS



MONTHLY CLUB THEMES

These are the themes for the 12 months beginning in December, 2019. The rationale for these themes is that they cover the major recent historic periods (WW1 thru Golden Age (pre-WW2); WW2 & post war (to 1949); Korea & Cold War (to 1962); Vietnam to 1980; and 1981 to present) and the major subject matters (Aircraft; Armor; Ships; Cars; and Figures/sci-fi/what-nots). This should accommodate modelers creativity over a wide spectrum. November and May are reserved for the club contest.

- Dec WW1 thru Golden Age (pre-WW2).
- Jan Aircraft
- Feb WW2 & post war (to 1949).
- Mar Armor
- Apr Korea & Cold War (to 1962).
- May Club contest
- June Ships
- July Vietnam to 1980.
- Aug Cars
- Sept 1981 to present
- Oct Figures/sci-fi/what-nots
- Nov Club contest

MODELERS GATOR

IPMS Membership

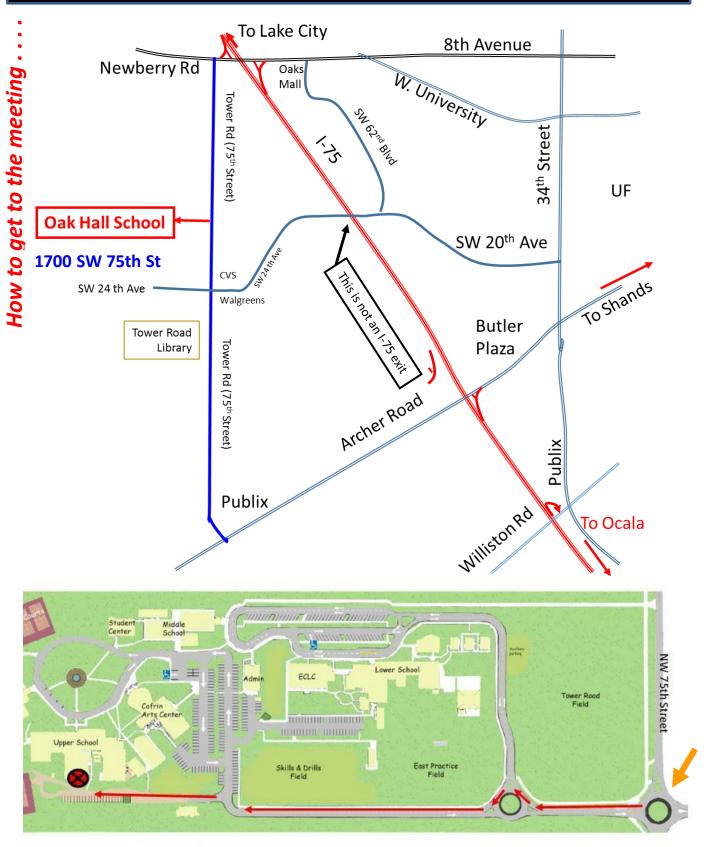
It is of great importance, both at the local level (IPMS Gators) and at national level. The Club officers strongly recommend joining IPMS as an individual which provides yearly six issues of the IPMS Journal (which is better than ever) and the opportunity to participate at the **IPMS** National Convention.



Applications should be printed and mailed to: IPMS/USA, PO Box 56023, St. Petersburg, FL 33732-6023.

For folks renewing on-line: http://www.shopipmsusa.org/category-s/100.htm

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Note: There is a new entrance to Oak Hall School south of the previous entrance that we used. This entrance is off of a roundel on NW 75th Street (a.k.a. – Tower Road). 27



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Wild Paint

By Jack Mugan



JANUARY MEETING: TUESDAY, JAN 21, 2020!