



[www.gatormodelers.org](http://www.gatormodelers.org)



***Inside see: The winner of March's Intra-Club Contest: Mark Box's Winning Model for March 2024.***

**The Gator/Ocala interclub contest is Saturday, April 27. Please see a previously sent email about this.**



Club officers  
**Doug Spinney**  
President

**Chuck Lassiter**  
Vice President

**Frank Ahern**  
Secretary

**Bruce Doyle**  
Historian

**Doug Spinney**  
Webmaster

**Bill Winter**  
Treasurer &  
Newsletter  
Editor



[www.gatormodelers.org](http://www.gatormodelers.org)

### Prez Sez.....

I am a virtual newcomer in model building, only about six short years. I've gone from being a bit skeptical about talking about what I managed to put together to being the president of Gator Modelers. Six years ago I wouldn't dream of getting in front of the club and talking about anything, now I do it once a month. And in those six short years I've gone from being a member of one club, our club, to being a paid member of four model clubs. Which brings me to my dilemma, what to put together for the monthly theme for four different chapters.

Three of the model clubs are IPMS, the fourth is AMPS. If I could find a club for humor in modeling I'd probably join it as well. Fortunately, the three IPMS clubs don't really mind if you bring something in that doesn't have anything to do with the monthly theme. If you choose, you really don't need to bring anything, just yourself. One club is cars, trucks, and motorcycle only, one of their monthly themes was "convertibles." I didn't have one, so my wife came up with the idea of taking the turret off a tank and call it a convertible. I thought it was a great idea, but calling it a convertible didn't go over very well at the meeting.

I digress, four clubs, four different monthly themes. So for which club do I build my monthly themed model? My first choice is Gator Modelers, I can usually come up with something for the monthly theme. What I build for Gators I take to IPMS Ocala, so that is two down. The cars, trucks, and motorcycles club is the one that I struggle with the most. My patience in putting together a car is thin at best, a few attempts have ended up in the circular file. There are several members of the club that can build, paint, and finish a car model in one day. I just can't figure out how. I have built several cars that are humorous, those I like.

The fourth club, certainly not in last place, is AMPS. Since the vast majority of my models are armor I can almost always have something to take to the meetings. In fact, much of what I take to the other meetings, not the car club, are tanks or artillery. But, I still can't keep up with four different clubs and four different themes. If I did manage to keep up with all four themes each month I would more than likely get burned out, so I'll do my best at keeping up with one club for the time being.

### April – IPMS Gators

**We will meet**  
**Tuesday, April 16,**  
**2024 at 6:30 PM at**  
**Oak Hall Library**

- **Doug**

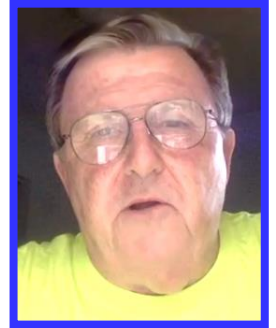


## *Minutes of the Club Meeting from Tuesday March 19, 2024*

President Doug Spinney called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. A total of 16 club members were present.

Doug mentioned upcoming modeling events including Modelfest in Melbourne on May 4 and Pamscon in Plant City on June 22.

He also reminded the club of the inter-club contest with IPMS Ocala on April 27. The theme is "What-If" and the rules are a fantasy model built using at least 2 kits accompanied by a written back story, which will be given equal judging weight as the model. Doug urged club members to give their best effort to keep the trophy with Gatormodelers who won the first two contests. He encouraged members to take club flyers and post them in places where prospective members might visit, like public bulletin boards or craft stores.



The meeting paused for Show & Tell and contest model presentations.

The monthly modeling theme was Movies or TV. There were 11 entries in the competition judged by vote of members in attendance.

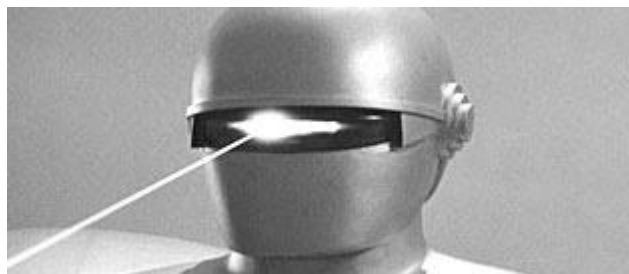
The theme contest was won by Mark Box with a model of an Alaskan bush plane seen in the TV series Alaska State Troopers.

The monthly attendance raffles were won by Chuck Lassiter (6N1 Saiun Aoshima | No. 203 | 1:72; AOSHIMA Goshikisen Airplane Model 1:72 Scale Kit JAPAN ARMY KIT; Mitsubishi A6M2 Zero Airfix | No. 01028 | 1:72 – these 3 kits were 1 prize) and Jack Mugan (F22).

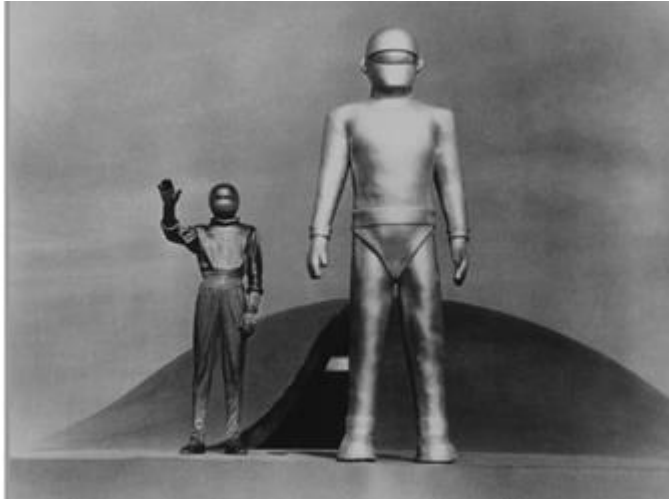
The meeting concluded with a presentation by Don Martin on using the metal finish wax paste product called Rub-n-Buff.

The meeting ended at 7:55pm.

Submitted by:  
*Frank Ahern*  
*Club Secretary*







## The Day Detroit Stood Still

By Frank Ahern  
(My "What if" entry)

Two years to the day after landing his flying saucer on the National Mall in Washington DC, Klaatu and his robot Gort descended on Detroit, Michigan to deliver a "gift" to the people of earth.



Out of the cargo hold of the spaceship an unusual vehicle was slowly rolled down the ramp and came to rest on the grass outside the Ford factory.



On the windscreen of the vehicle was attached the following note:

### ***People of Earth***

*We have watched your efforts to produce personal transportation devices to improve your lives. We also see your efforts so far have not been highly successful.*

*Because we believe your species has potential to advance to a higher level of consciousness and technological achievement, we have decided to give you an example of such a device that we have developed.*

*You may remove the anti-gravity velocity assist mechanism which we use for inter-stellar travel and adapt the vehicle for purely terrestrial operation. We call this vehicle the DS-19. Please share it with all the nations on your planet.*

### ***Klaatu***



As the saucer disappeared from sight, Ford engineers poured over the vehicle and began the process of evaluating its features. Here is what they found:

- Hydro-pneumatic 4 wheel independent suspension with automatic ride height adjustment for improved control and comfort.
- Disc brakes on forward wheels for safety.
- Front wheel drive with the engine between the axles for better weight distribution.
- Advanced aerodynamic design for more efficient use of fuel.
- Use of light weight material on the roof to improve center of gravity.
- Radial tires to enhance handling and stability.

Since none of these features were currently available on cars being produced in the United States, the Ford engineers decided that it would be "financially impractical" to attempt to incorporate them on American vehicles.

Their recommendation was to offer the DS-19 to a foreign country like France which did not import many cars to the US. That way there would be no direct competition with the US auto market, and the American auto industry could maintain its status quo.



Ford management approved the idea and the DS-19 was quietly shipped to France where the Citroen company had expressed high interest in the concept. No mention of this transaction has ever been found in Ford's records.

Citroen introduced the DS-19 at the Paris auto show in 1954 to the astonishment of the automotive world, except for Ford Motor Company, which was strangely silent.

Watching from the command center of his flying saucer,  
Klaatu could only exclaim:



**"Klaatu barada nikto"**



Mark Box and his winning model from March 2024.



Mark Box's PA13 Piper Cub (1:32) from the Alaska State Trooper TV Show by Revell





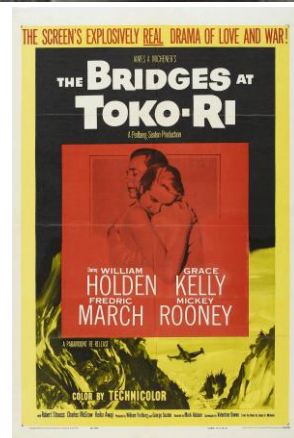
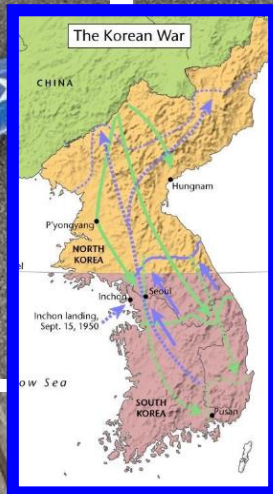
***Alaska State Troopers*** is an American documentary television series that airs on National Geographic Channel and premiered on October 14, 2009. It is narrated by Marc Graue. The show follows the daily beats of various bureaus within the Alaska State Troopers. In addition, the show features segments that follow village public safety officers from small rural villages as well as officers from other cities such as Wasilla, Palmer, Anchorage, and Soldotna.

The show follows the exploits of a number of officers from all regions of the state. Troopers who are seen on the show include James and Anne Sears, Howie Peterson, Jon Simeon and Brent Johnson, Scott Quist, Odean Hall, Lonny Piscoya, Luis Nieves, Dan Dahl, Rick Roberts, Abraham Garcia, Dan Cox, Gabe Rich, Michael Munson, Jonathan Stroebele, Joshua Varys, JJ Hennessey, Melvin Colley, Ken Van Spronsen, Daron Cooper, Lance Ewers, Jared Noll, Terrence Shanigan, Blake Calhoun, Brandon Viator, Tony Wegrzyn, William Connors, Jimmy Buttrey, Kamau Leigh, and Garrett Frost.

Although the show is aired in many countries, the National Geographic Channel has so far not released DVDs of the series outside of the United States. Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska\\_State\\_Troopers\\_\(TV\\_series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alaska_State_Troopers_(TV_series))



Bruce Doyle's AD1 Skyraider (1:72) by Fujimi, Sikorsky (1:72) Dragonfly by Mach 2, and F9F Panther (1:72) by Hasegawa from the movie "The Bridges at Toko-Ri."



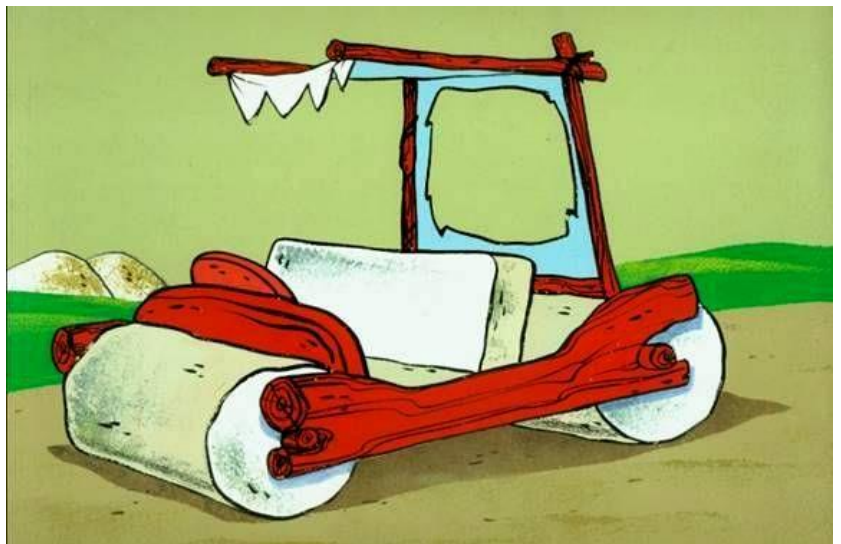
Brian's 1:350 scale Razor Crest by Bandai.



**STAR  
WARS**

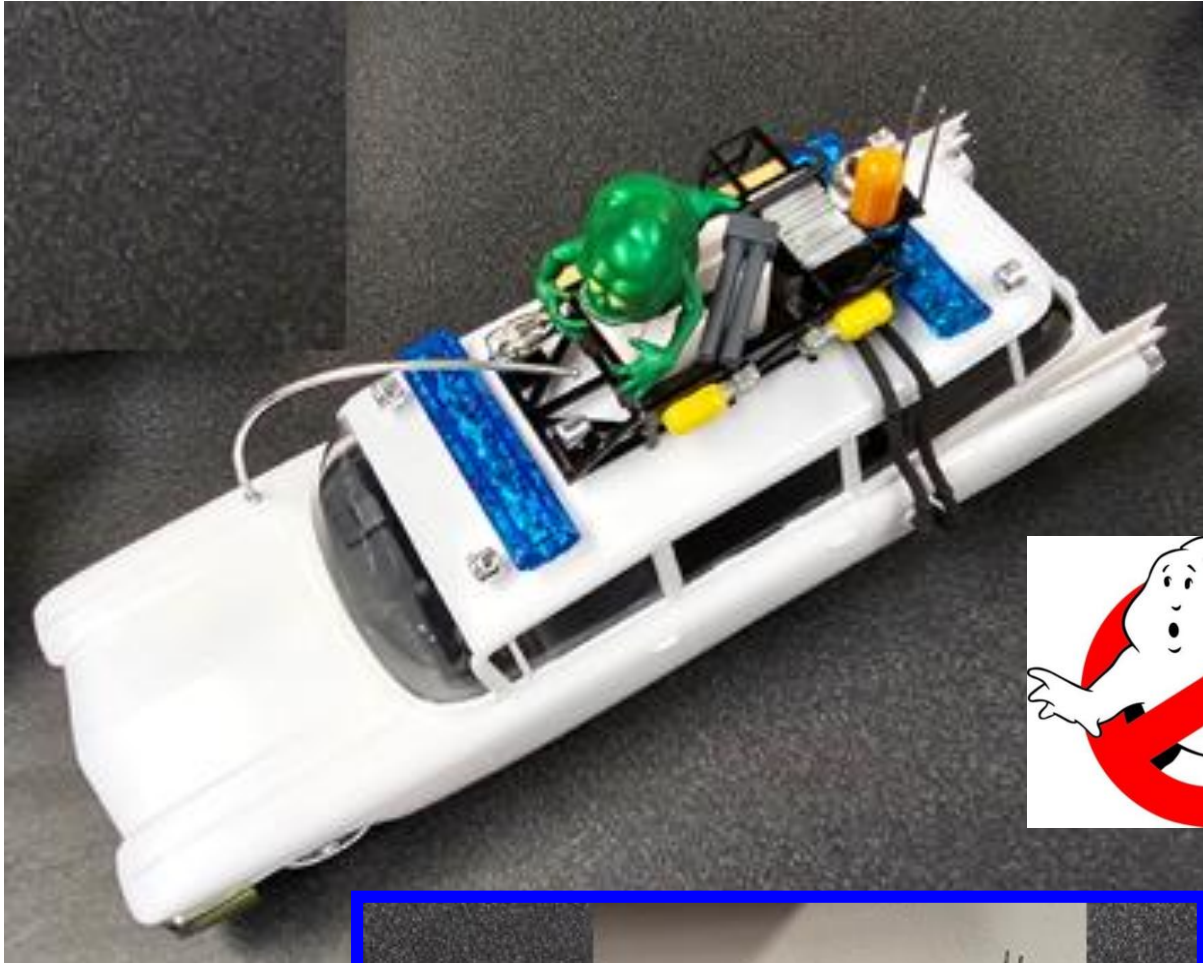


Clarence Snyder's 1:20 scale "Fred's Car" from the "Flintstones" movie.





Doug Spinney's 1:25 scale "ECTO-1" by Polar Lites and 3D-printed Slimer.





GATOR



MODELERS

## Frank Ahern's American Graffiti hot rod!



*American Graffiti*





Bob Lundeen's Mercury "Right Stuff" rocket



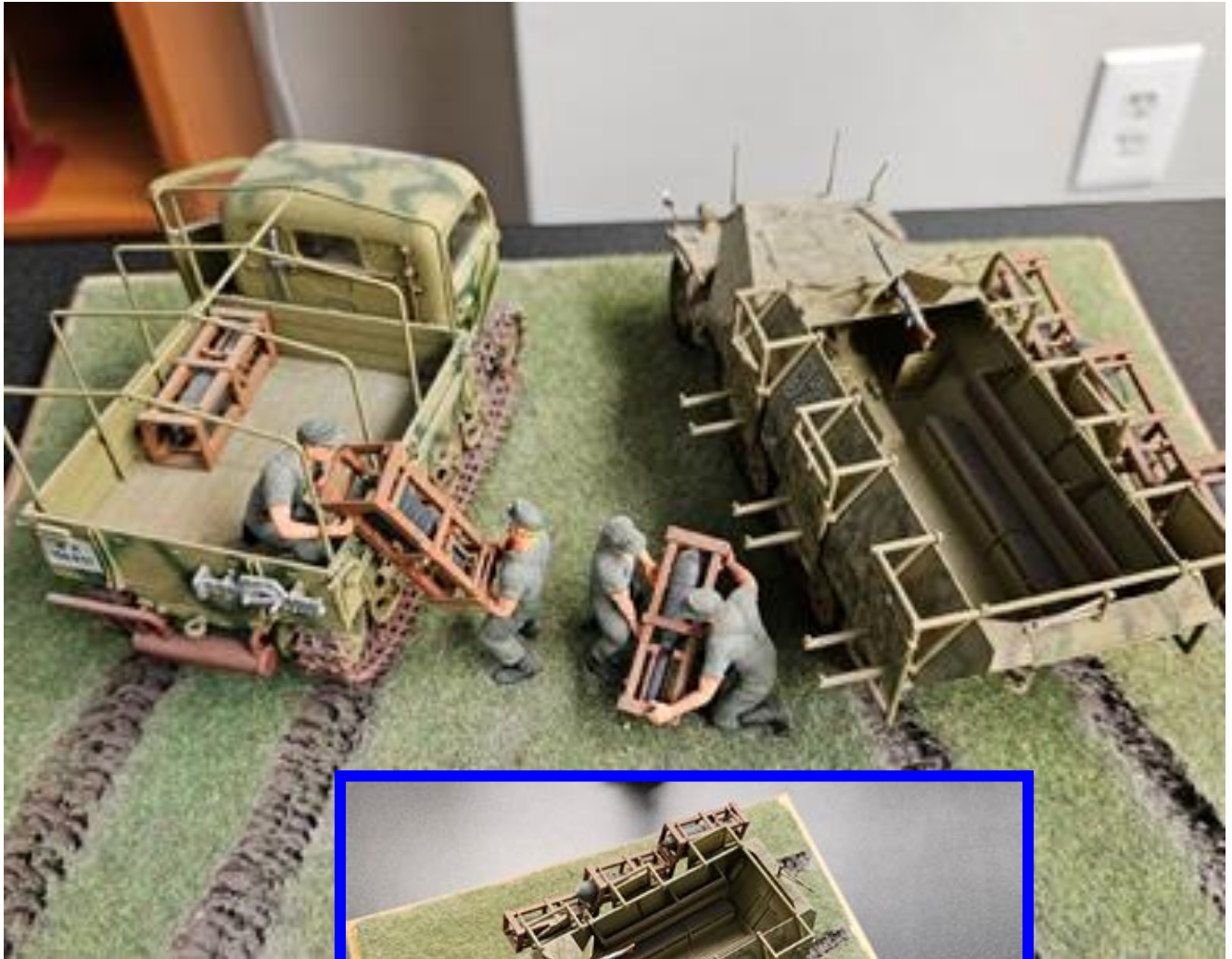


Errol Whisler's 1:72 scale Razor Crest with LED lights for engines, cockpit and navigation by AMT

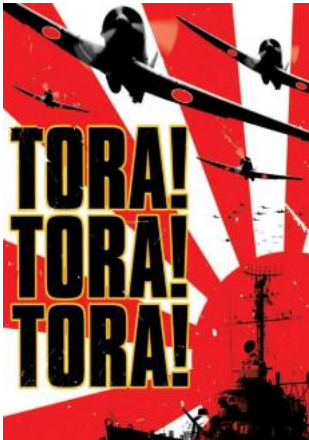




## Bob Lundeen's Ostschleper Stulezufuss

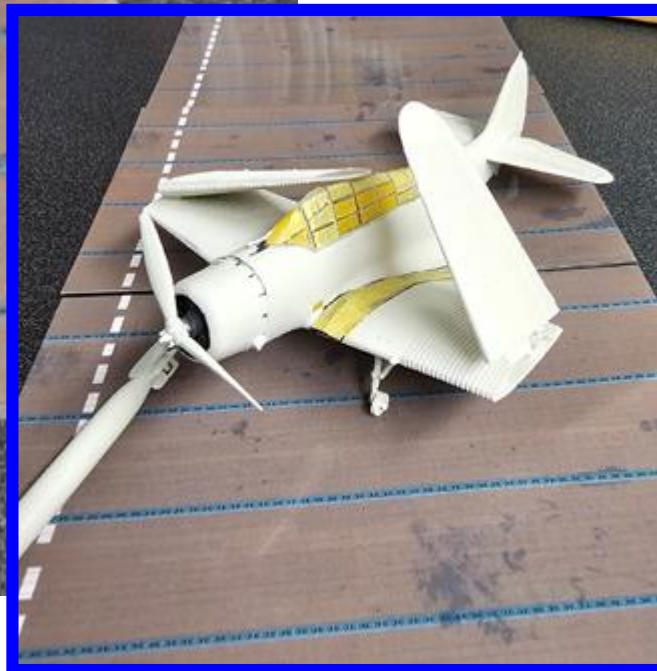


Chuck Lassiter's 1:72 scale SBD from the movies "Midway" and "Tora, Tora, Tora" by Testors





Chuck Lassiter's 1:72 scale TBD from the movies "Midway" and "Tora, Tora, Tora" by MPC

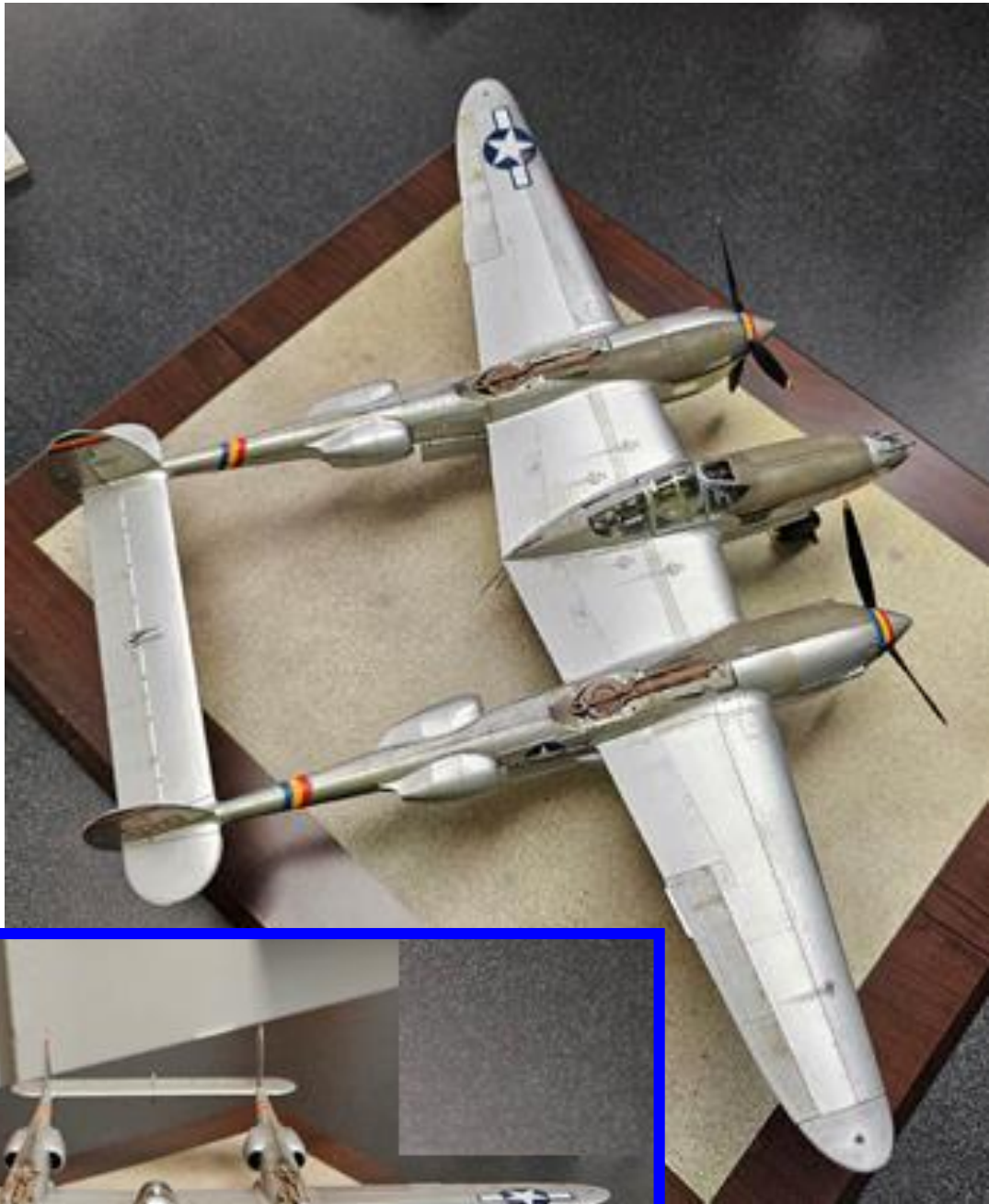


Clarence Snyder's 1:25 scale "Hot Rod" from Straight 8 Resin and scratch built.

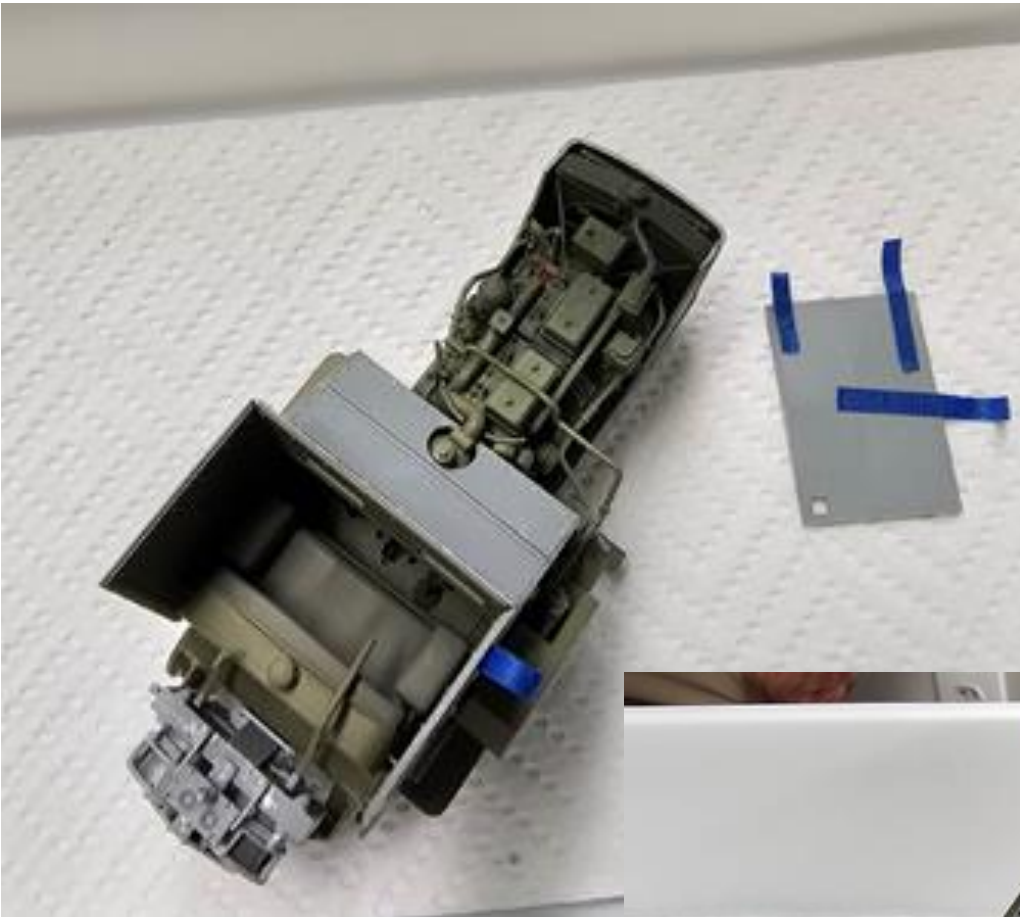




Don Martin's 1:48 scale Putt Putt Maru P-38 by Tamiya.



Ed Ingersoll's 1:35 scale armored bulldozer in progress.





Frank Ahern's first car!



Jack Mugan's Pappy Boyington figure





Nicely built P-51 by Joel Hurov



Multiple Panzer III's from Tony Aguilar





# GATOR MODELERS



Members and Friends at the March meeting





*From the desk of Clarence Snyder!*





*From the desks of Jack Mugan and Mark Box!*



I was so impressed with the amount of detail this kit provided that I had to share my discovery with my model buddy Mark Box. The more I raved about it, the more interested Mark became, so we decided to each build one so we could share the experience. We did not put a deadline on the project which turned out to be a wise decision.

It did not take long to find that all that detail was going to require lots of test fitting and that the smart move was to stick to the instructions one step at a time and to carefully study the illustrations, otherwise you will find yourself in trouble later in the build. Having said that, we still spent a lot of time on the phone helping each other out through some of the more difficult stages of the project.

You can see in the photos we decided to each build different cars and that Mark chose to use the complete body whereas I chose to leave the rear shell off the car. My thinking was that was where most of the detail (and work) was and therefore I did not want to hide it inside the bodywork.

After several months the project was completed. Both Mark and I were glad it was over and said we would never build another project that complex again. Accurate Miniature did a fine job on the kit, but we both spent a lot of time and effort correcting our own mistakes.



Frank Ahern, – Secretary – [ahernf@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:www.robshobbyworld@MSN.com); Mon.-Fri.: 10 AM to 5:30PM; Sat.: 9AM to 4PM; Sun: Closed.

Please check out [WWW.IPMSUSA.ORG](http://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.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](mailto:ahernf@gmail.com)  
Home: (352) 375-3723; Cell: (352) 226-6785

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

For a complete list of IPMS events visit: <https://calendar.ipmsusa3.org/>





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](http://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:

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

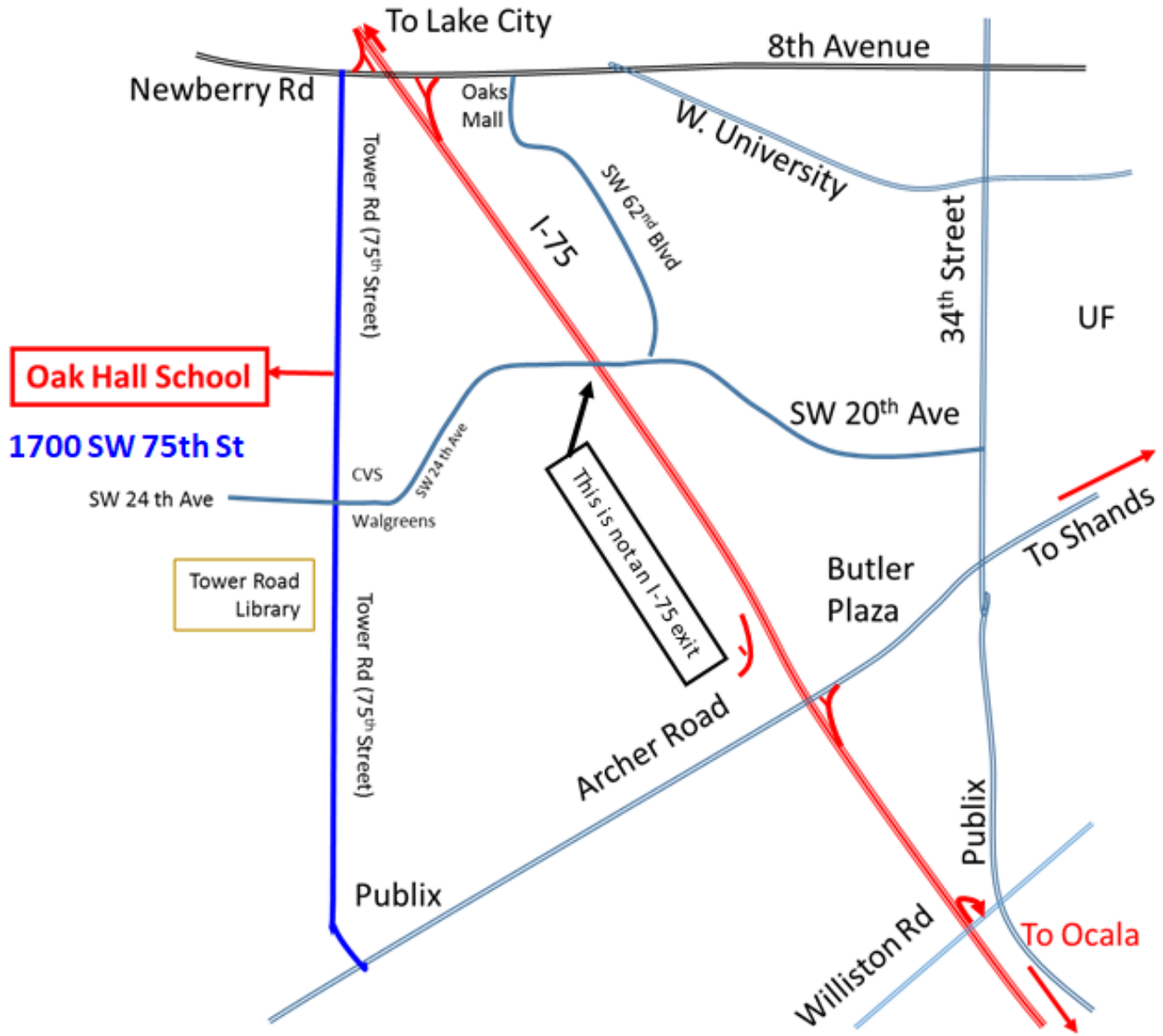
City:  State:

Zip Code:

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



## Directions to OAK HALL (1700 SW 75<sup>th</sup> St, Gainesville, FL)



### A note about monthly themes for 2024

Apr. Anything carrying chemicals, fuel, ammo

May 1930's

Jun Diorama/Vignette

Aug Sci-Fi

Oct Figures

Dec. Kit Bash

Jul Colossal Failures

Sep Emergency Vehicle

Nov. Animal Names





**PAMMS**  
POLK AREA MODEL SOCIETY IPMS CHAPTER 1130

## PAMSCON '24

June 22, 2024  
Vendor set up 7am to 9am  
Doors open at 9am - Public

**Black and White  
(and shades of grey)**



**Show  
Themes**

**The Longest Day  
80 years since  
D Day Invasion**





**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL  
FAIRGROUNDS /TECO EXPO HALL  
2301 W OAK AVE, PLANT CITY, FL  
33563**

**ONE-DAY SHOW LOADED WITH CONTENT  
CONTESTANT REGISTRATION ENDS AT NOON  
LEGENDARY RAFFLE**

**For more information:**  
 email: [bowhunterwill@aol.com](mailto:bowhunterwill@aol.com)  
 website: [polkareamodelsociety.com](http://polkareamodelsociety.com)  
 phone: William Finley (863) 514-6188



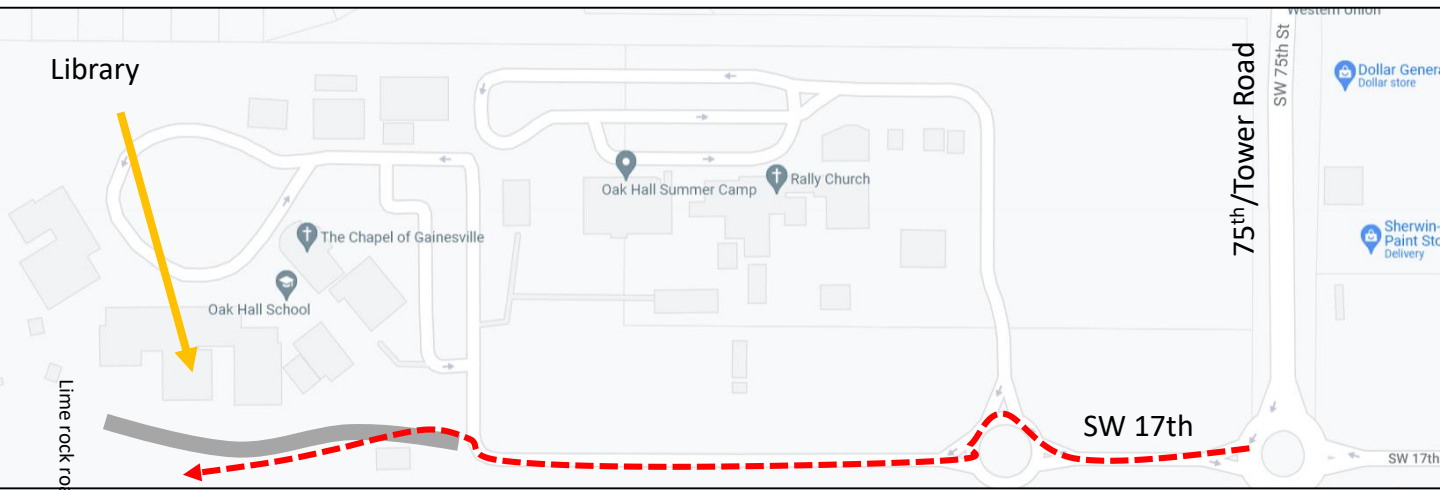
In celebration of the 80th anniversary of D-Day, come invade Warner Robins, GA on June 8, 2024. The Robert L. Scott Chapter IPMS/USA presents.

## Scottcon 2024

- The International Plastic Modeler Society (IPMS), Brigadier General Robert L. Scott Chapter/USA presents Scottcon 2024.
- The modeling contest will be held in the Century of Flight Hangar at The Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, GA
- The hours are from 9 am to 4 pm
- IPMS/USA contest categories and rules will apply.
- Entries: Adults \$15.00 (includes 5 model entry)
- Additional models: \$1.00
- Juniors (under 17) \$5.00 (unlimited model entries)
- Check out our website for details and entry forms. [ipmswr.org](http://ipmswr.org)
- Vendors: For or more info contact us: [sm236@bellsouth.net](mailto:sm236@bellsouth.net)



**IPMS GATORS' MEMBERS:** We will meet at Oak Hall on Tuesday April 16 at 6:30 PM in the LIBRARY.



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





**Fancy Paint** ... submitted by Jack Mugan



**Dear Readers** – If you sent me something for the IPMS Gators' newsletter and I missed it, or if I misidentified any photos, please let me know. I'll fix it in the May 2024 newsletter. - Bill