



www.gatormodelers.org



In October, there was a 3-way tie for the best Korean War model: Ed Ingersoll's F9F-2 Panther, Brian Cormack's F-51 Mustang, and Chuck Lassiter's F4U-4B Corsair (all were in 1:72 scale)

Notice: Dues (\$20/year) will be collected at the November meeting. If you want to pay by check, please make your check out to "William Winter." If you make the check out to "IPMS Gators," I cannot cash it, and it cannot be accepted. Thank you. – Bill, IPMS Gators' Treasurer



Club officers
Doug Spinney
President

Chuck Lassiter
Vice President

Frank Ahern
Secretary

Bruce Doyle
Historian

Doug Spinney
Webmaster

Bill Winter
Treasurer &
Newsletter
Editor

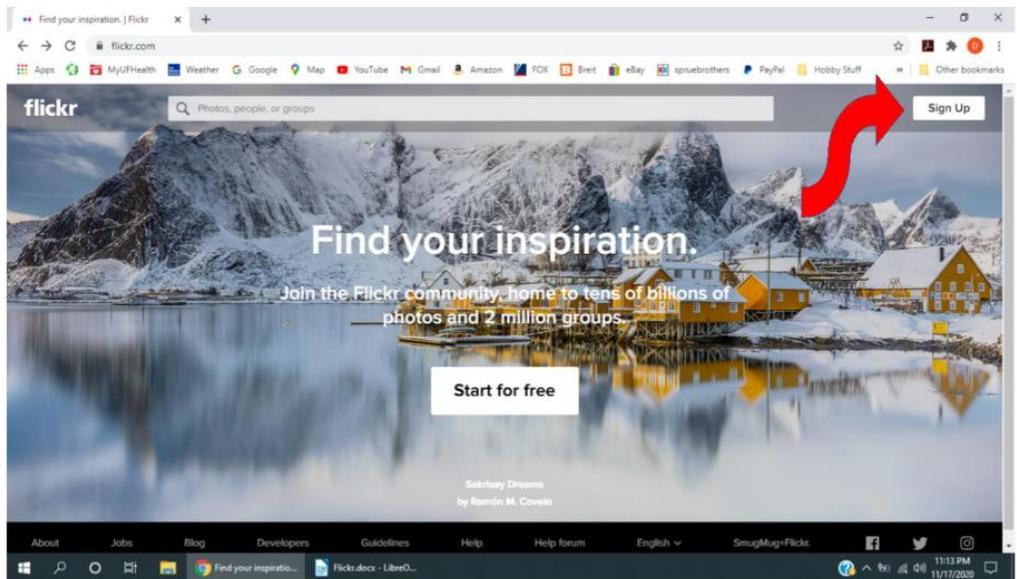
Prez Sez..... www.gatormodelers.org

At the last few meetings, I've mentioned that the club has a member photo link on our Gatormodelers.org web page. I look out at the members, and some have a "deer in the headlight" look. So here is a how-to on creating a Flickr account. Before I forget, I hope to see a full house at the next meeting, the theme is 3-color camouflage. And don't forget about our upcoming Christmas get together, December 14th at 1 PM (we will request an RSVP for the party at a future date closer to December).

Signing up for Flickr is free, with the free version you can load 1000 photos or videos, vids are limited to 3 minutes each. There is also a Pro version of Flickr at \$81.96 per year with unlimited photo storage and few other perks. If you have any issues, give me a call.

How to Sign Up for the free Flickr Account

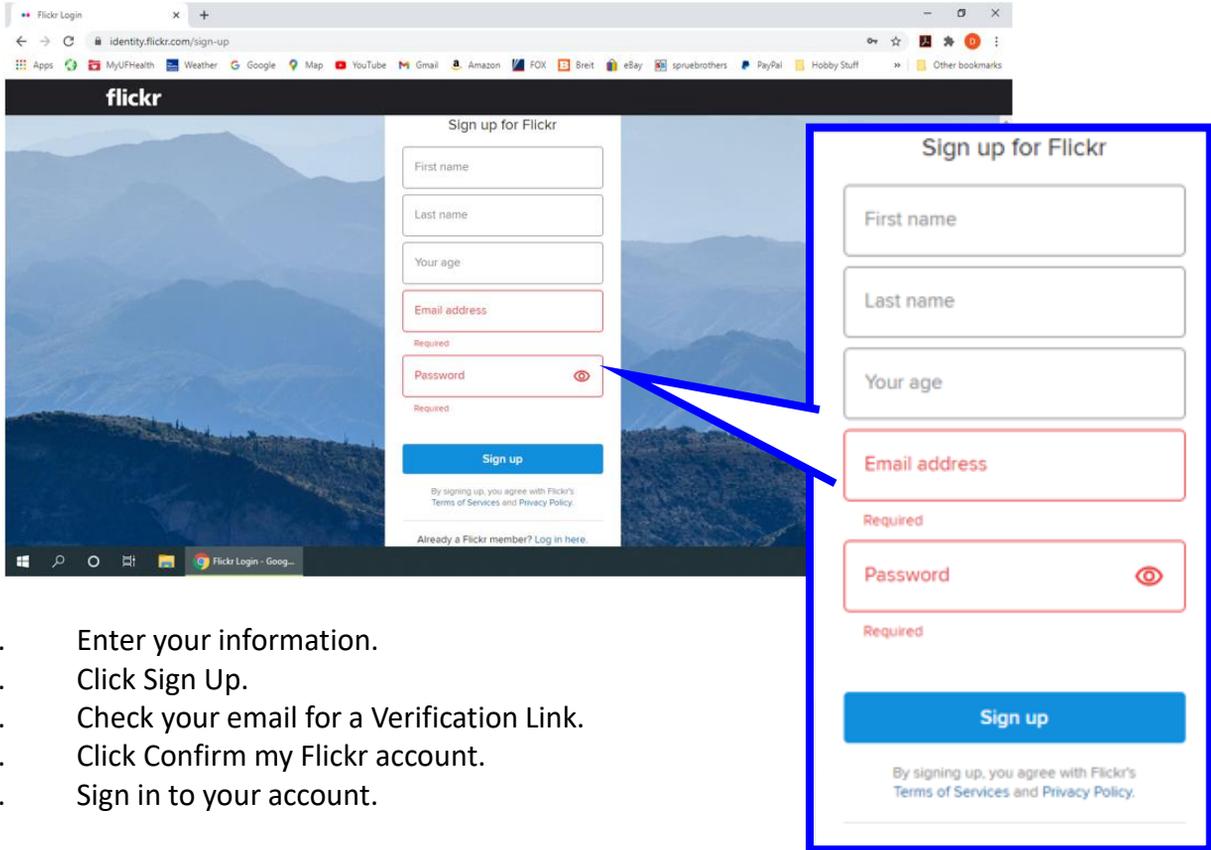
Open the Flickr homepage at: <https://www.flickr.com/>



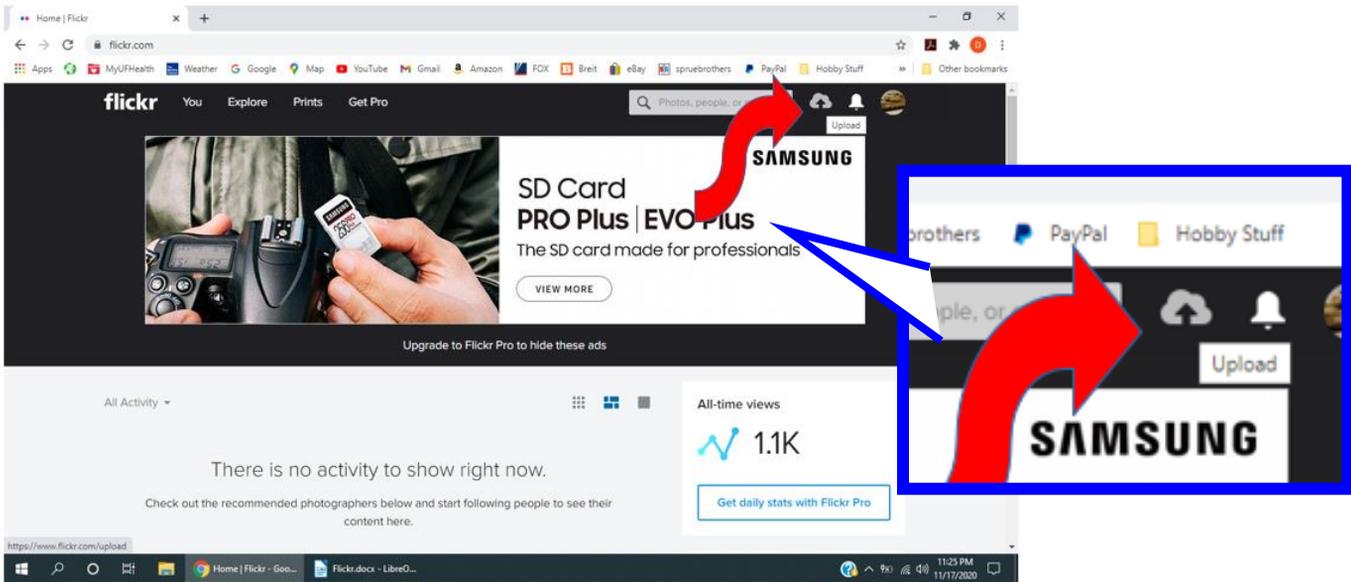
1. **In the upper right corner press Sign Up**

July – IPMS Gators

We will meet
Tuesday, November
18, 2025, at 6:30
PM at
Oak Hall Library



Once you login to Flickr for the first time your homepage will be empty, in order to upload photos to Flickr press the cloud icon with the up arrow, upper right, third from the right. Place your mouse over the icon and it should pop up with Upload.

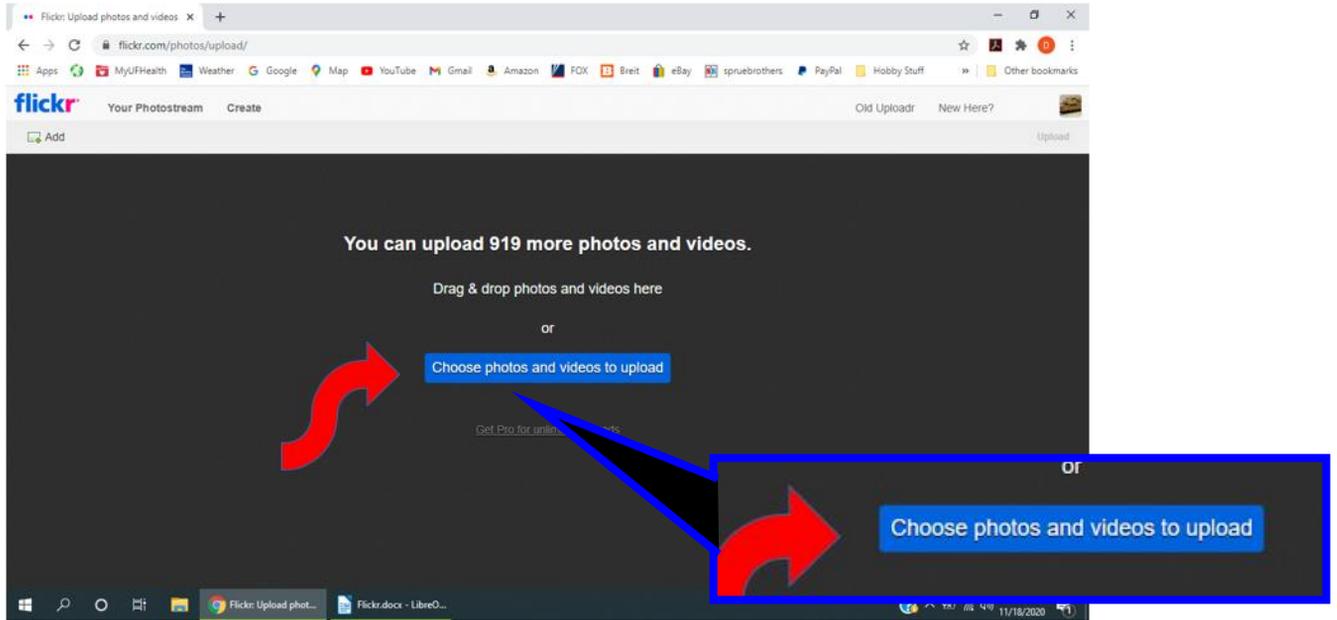


This takes you to the upload page, if you have two screens or a large screen that can be split in two then you can simply drag your photo files to this screen. If you only have one screen, like me, press Choose the photos or videos to upload button.

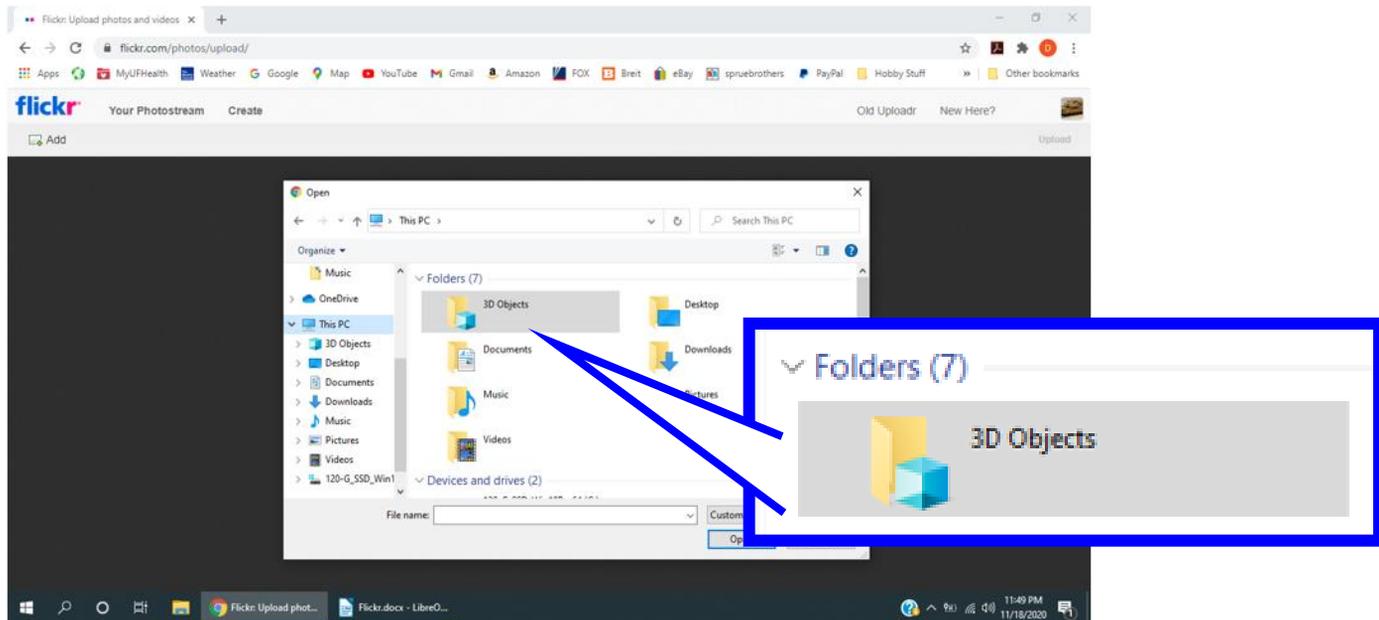
GATOR MODELERS



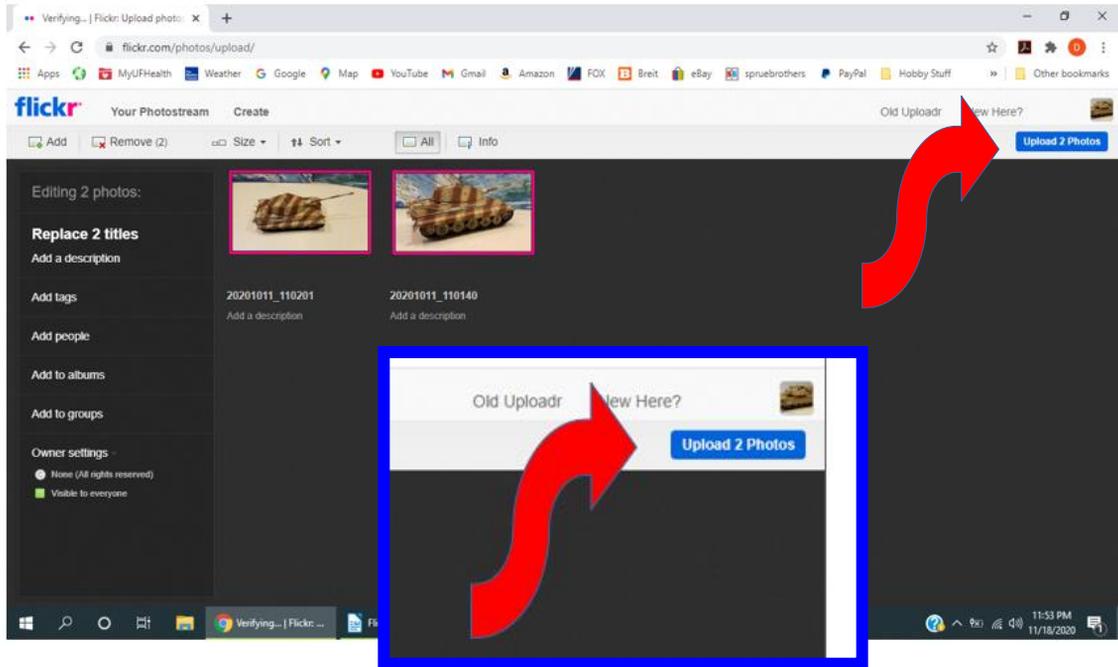
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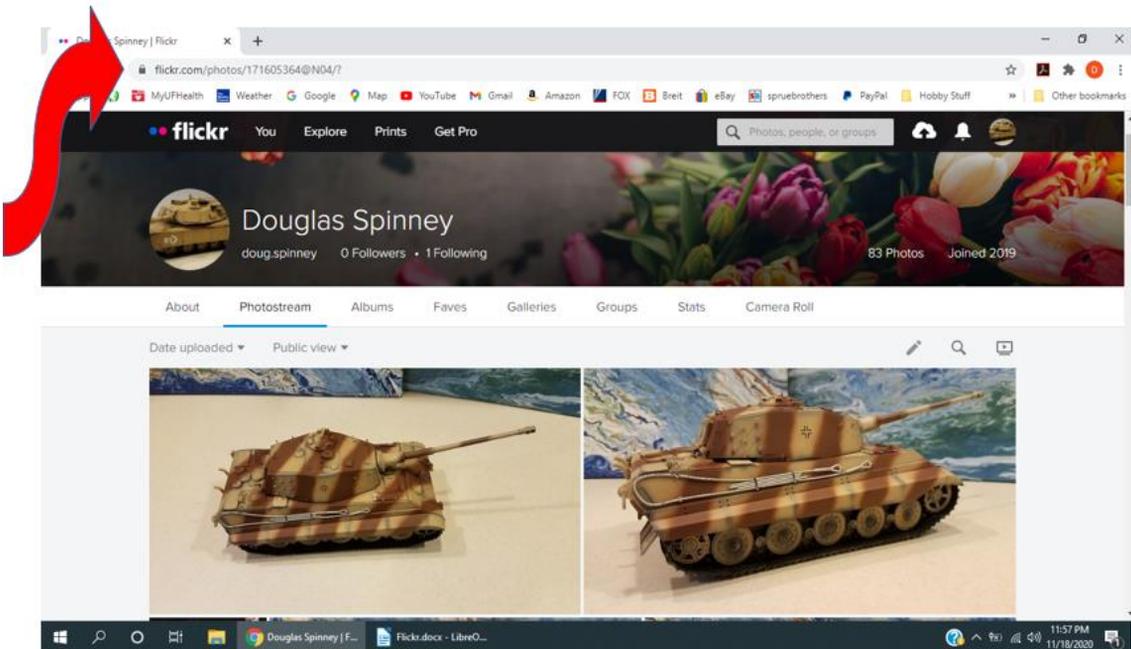
From the File Manager popup screen choose the files that you wish to upload to Flickr and press Open.



Once the files are in your Flickr account you can rename the file and add a description. When you are finished with the uploads and/or changing the name and adding a description, press the Upload Photos button, another small screen will open asking if you want to upload or continue editing, press Upload (see next page).



Depending on your internet speed and the number of photos, this could take a few seconds to several minutes. Your pictures should now be in Public, meaning anyone that has your link can view your pictures. The link is the address on the top of the webpage, such as <https://www.flickr.com/photos/171605364@N04/>



If you want a link in the Gator Modelers webpage then you will need to email your Flickr address to me. I will place a shortcut to your public Flickr page in the Member Photos section.

My email is doug.spinney@gmail.com or give me a call.



Minutes of the Club Meeting from Tuesday October 21, 2025

President Doug Spinney called the meeting to order a 6:35pm. A total of 15 members were present.



Doug reviewed model shows coming up including the ACME Southern Nationals this weekend in Cartersville GA, and the JAXCON show Feb.6-7.

Those who went to Modelpalooza talked about their experience. Several members won awards, including Don Martin who received a gold medal for his Citroen food truck.

Bill Winter confirmed that the Christmas party will be held at the condo on Dec.14. Those who want to participate in the gift exchange should plan to bring a wrapped modeling-related gift of at least \$20 value. A sign up list for party food will be circulated in November.

The meeting paused for presentations by those who brought models.

The monthly theme was Korean War. The contest ended in a three way tie. Ed Ingersoll, Chuck Lassiter and Brian Cormack were the winners.

Next month's theme is 3-color camouflage.

The attendance raffles were won by Chuck Lassiter and Ed Ingersoll.

Frank Ahern gave a presentation on the debate about whether the Mig-15 or F-86 Sabre was more effective in the Korean war.

The meeting concluded with a discussion about a display of artifacts collected by Don Martin during his time in the Army in Korea.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Submitted by

Frank Ahern, club secretary

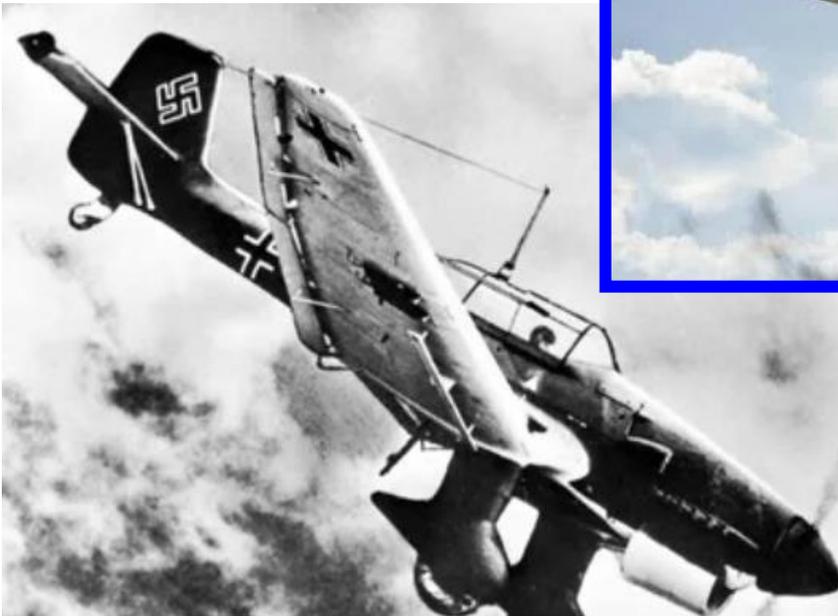
Submitted by: *Frank Ahern, Club Secretary*



Stuka

By Frank Ahern

It was the fearsome face of the Blitzkrieg. Looking like a giant bird of prey, it dove with a shrieking sound and delivered bombs with pinpoint accuracy. But in many ways the Ju-87 was an anomaly in a German military that prided itself on technological superiority.



It was an old design with inherent flaws that would quickly become apparent. Its detractors within the Luftwaffe were overruled by Germany's most famous pilot, *Ernst Udet*, an ardent supporter of the dive-bomber concept.



Stuka

After its vulnerability to fighter attack was exposed in the Battle of Britain (photo, previous page) the Stuka was shuttled to the Eastern Front. For a while it was effective because the Luftwaffe ruled the skies in the beginning, but as the Soviets counter-attacked with better aircraft, the Stuka once again showed its limitations.



It took a bold idea from its most famous pilot, *Hans-Ulrich Rudel*, to give the old bird new life. Rudel mounted 2-37mm anti-tank cannons under the wings and suddenly a potent tank killer was born. Rudel



claimed to have destroyed over 500 Russian tanks and became the most highly decorated German pilot of the war.



Stuka



My Stuka adventure began with the newly tooled Airfix kit. I love the new generation of Airfix kits for their precise fit and beautiful surface detail. They are also reasonably priced, which I appreciate.



Since the kit was an early model Stuka I had to stick with the standard German splinter camo pattern, but I was happy with the results. - Frank





TOPS
O' THE
BOX



Rat Finks and Weir-Ohs

Artistic geniuses don't often see their work turned into plastic models, but for a brief moment in

the early 1960s, madmen like Ed "Big Daddy" Roth, "Weird-Oh" Bill Campbell and Stanley "Mouse" Miller not only wound up on box tops—they drove the whole model industry in a weird new direction.

'Big Eddie' Roth was an okay student at Bell High School in the Los Angeles suburbs, but there were only two subjects he was keen on: art and auto shop. The son of a German cabinet maker, he was born to do things with his hands. At age 14, he built his first hot rod out of a '33 Ford Coupe and parts scavenged from post-war junkyards. He drew cartoons that amused his classmates and enraged his teachers. At six-foot four, he could barely fit in his desk; he was loud and sweet, and he had a hot temper.

After graduating in 1949, he attended UCLA as an engineering student, but it didn't suit him. He did a four-year stint in the Air Force overseas, then returned to California and took a job at Sears to feed his wife and five children. At night, he built and pin-striped hot rods.



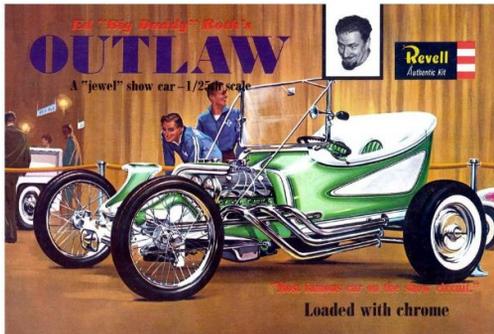
Early Roth ad for his pinstriping business.

Ed Roth had landed back in L.A. just as three nascent underground scenes were coalescing — beatniks, surfing, and Kustom Kar Kulture. He found kinship and competition in other artistically inclined gear heads like Von Dutch and George Barris. Roth started experimenting with metal flake and fiberglass, creating his first automotive art piece—the Outlaw—in 1958. He also started airbrushing cartoons on sweatshirts at drag races and car shows. It was here that he created Rat Fink, a disgusting, pot-bellied rodent with splintered teeth and leering, bloodshot eyes. If Mickey Mouse was a symbol of cheery optimism, R.F. was a bony, unmanicured middle finger extended at licensed properties.

Roth and his creations drew a lot of attention at car shows. One spectator was young Jimmy Keeler, a model car fanatic from San Diego. At first, he was put off by the loutish and arrogant Roth, but the two soon developed a friendship. Later, when Keeler, at the improbable age of 19, became a product developer for Revell Models, he briefly moved in with Roth and his large family.

TOPS
O' THE
BOX

Rat Finks and Weird-Ohs



By 1962, Revell was struggling to gain dominance in the fast-growing model car market. Keeler was their new ticket to youth culture. He brought Ed Roth into corporate headquarters. By then, Roth was hot off his ultimate masterpiece, the Beatnik Bandit, a brown and cream pin-striped show rod with a futuristic bubble top. They signed him to a ten-year contract, whereby he would receive one cent on every model sold.

Next, the publicity department got to work on Roth's image. He was fashioned into a genial beatnik goofball with a penchant for silly hats and outrageous poses, featured prominently on box art and magazine ads. After mulling over marketable nicknames, they landed on "Big Daddy".

The Outlaw and Beatnik Bandit models became instant hits, followed by Tweedy Pie, the Mysterion, and the Road Agent. By 1963, Revell had sold over 3.2 million Roth kits, and Big Daddy had moved up to a modern studio in Maywood. He was also becoming celebrated outside of kustom culture. Author Tom Wolfe, in his essay, "The Kandy-Kolored Tangerine-Flake Streamline Baby", compared Roth to Salvador Dali: "A surrealist in his designs, a showman by temperament, a prankster."

Meanwhile, in chilly Chicago, Hawk Models illustrator Bill Campbell was getting tired of painting missiles and jet fighters. He'd been following developments in California, as well as Aurora's breakout success with monster kits. It was all part of the zany, irreverent gross-out aesthetic young boys were embracing. Campbell started sketching some MAD-magazine-worthy cartoons of show rods with huge, grotesque drivers. He made sculptures to match the artwork. He called them Weird-Ohs—or "Car-Icky-Tures", if you will. They were instantly rejected by his bosses. However, when some visiting distributors saw the sketches left out on a desk, they asked how soon they could get them in their shops.

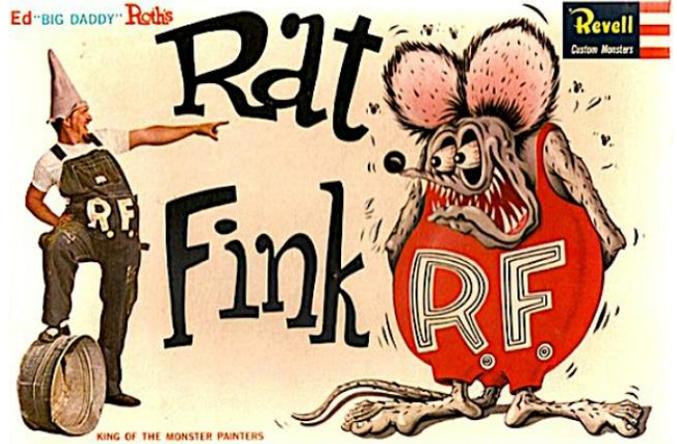


The first Weird-Ohs—Endsville Eddie, Digger, and Drag Hag—were the hits of the 1963 Chicago Hobby Convention. The Weird-Ohs line was soon followed by the Silly Surfers and the Frantics.

TOPS
O' THE
BOX

Rat Finks and Weird-Ohs

The gauntlet was thrown at Revell, who countered by turning to Big Daddy's secret weapon. A 3-D Rat Fink —no car included—was rushed out onto the market. It seemed to be exactly what kids were screaming for, and R.F. was quickly joined by Mr. Gasser, Drag Nut, Mother's Worry, Scuz-Fink, Angel Fink, Surf Fink, and Brother-Rat-Fink-on-a-Bike.



Not to be beaten at its own monstrous game, Aurora drew on its Universal Pictures licensing to put out whimsical crates steered by Dracula, Frankenstein, The Mummy and Wolf Man. Next, the Lindberg Line jumped into the fray with their "Lindy Loonies" and the aptly-named "Repulsives."



Even straightlaced Monogram succumbed, retaining the talents of underground artist Stanley "The Mouse" Miller to dream up the Fred Flypogger series. There was Super Fuzz (a fanged police officer) and Flip-Out the Beachcomber (a surfer with an uncomfortable resemblance to our current president), among others.



Plastic monstrosities were suddenly everywhere, and it didn't stop with models—there were record albums, board games, jigsaw puzzles, comic books and Halloween costumes. Adults in the supply chain, from mold toolers to hobby shop owners to worried mothers, must have wondered what the heck was going on.



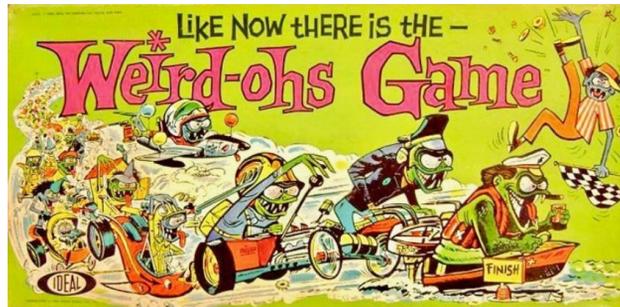


TOPS
O' THE
BOX



Rat Finks and Weird-Ohs

What's interesting about this period is how creatively free it was. For the first time, model companies were not restricted to making precise replicas of automobiles, airliners and military craft. Molds were being stretched and expanded into strange new shapes, and outsider artists were gaining exposure in mainstream culture.



Unfortunately, it wouldn't last. The kustom kraze cooled off as fast as it began. "Big Daddy" invested in an ill-fated chopper magazine, and run-ins with the Hell's Angels tarnished his image to the point where Revell dissolved his contract. By the early 1970s, Roth had left the L.A. street scene behind, joined the Church of Latter-Day Saints, remarried and was scraping together a living painting signs at Knotts Berry Farm. Bill Campbell left Hawk to be creative director for DeSoto Chemical Coatings. Mouse Miller went on to design psychedelic album covers for the Grateful Dead.

In the 1990s, a resurgence of interest in kustom kulture brought Big Daddy back to car shows and art galleries, this time as an elder statesman of 60s counterculture. Today, modelers can once again inhale those nostalgic styrene fumes thanks to companies like Round 2 and Atlantis, who've reproduced many kits by Roth, Campbell, Miller and others, complete with original box art from the glory days of Rat Finks and Weird-Ohs.

- *Darryl Palmer*

Further reading:

Tom Wolfe provides an entertaining look at early Kustom Kulture in his 1965 collection "The Kandy-Kolored Tangerine-Flake Streamline Baby."

Bill Campbell talks about how he created the Weird-Ohs series here:

<https://www.oldmodelkits.com/blog/plastic-model-kit-history/a-biography-of-bill-campbell-box-artist-for-hawk-plastic-model-kits/>

A nostalgic look back at Kustom Kar models is offered here: <https://www.dembruders.com/weird-ohs-roth-finks-flypoggers-and-lindy-loonies.html>

Brian Cormack's F-51 Mustang



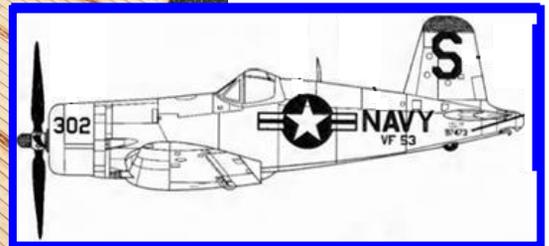
In October, we had a three-way tie for the best Korean War model: Congratulations to Brian Cormack on his 1:72 scale F-51 Mustang by Airfix.



Chuck Lassiter's F4U-5 Corsair (1:72 scale) By Italeri



Congratulations to Chuck Lassiter's F4U-4B Corsair (1:72 scale) By Italeri



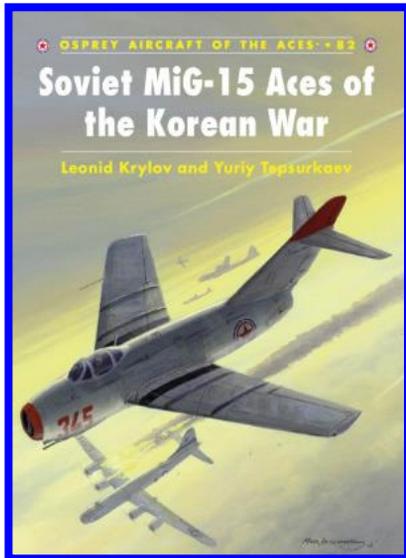
Ed Ingersoll's F9F-2 Panther



Congratulations to Ed Ingersoll for his 1:72 scale F9F-2 Panther by Hasegawa



Frank Ahern's MiG-15



Bruce Doyle's 1:72 scale P-51D Mustang in Korean War markings (with rockets) (by Hasegawa) and his 1:72 scale USN AD2 Skyraider by Fujimi



Clarence Snyder's T-6 Texan was used as a trainer during the Korean War



This photo is of Clarence when he was assigned to the U.S.S. Bushnell which was a Fulton-class submarine tender in service with the United States Navy from 1943 to 1948 and from 1952 to 1970.

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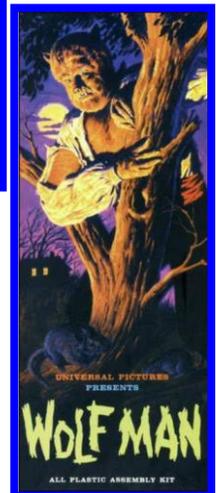
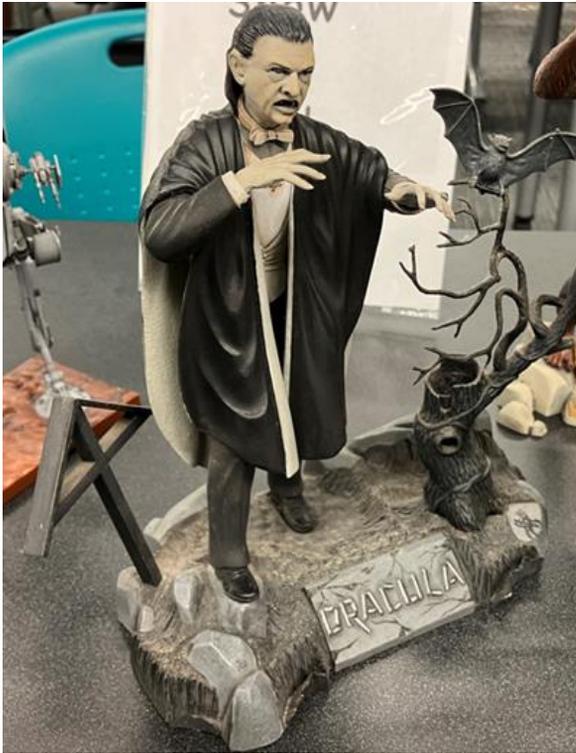
< --- This photo is of Clarence's father who served as a mechanic on T-6 Texans during the Korean War

Bill's 1:35 scale U.S. Marine (by Dragon) in the Chosin Reservoir carrying a BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle)

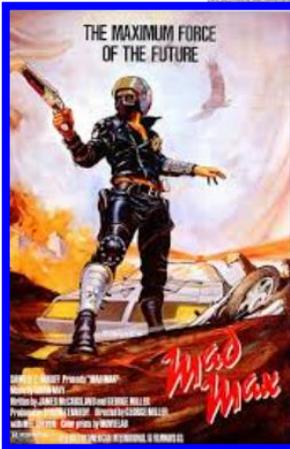


GATOR MODELERS

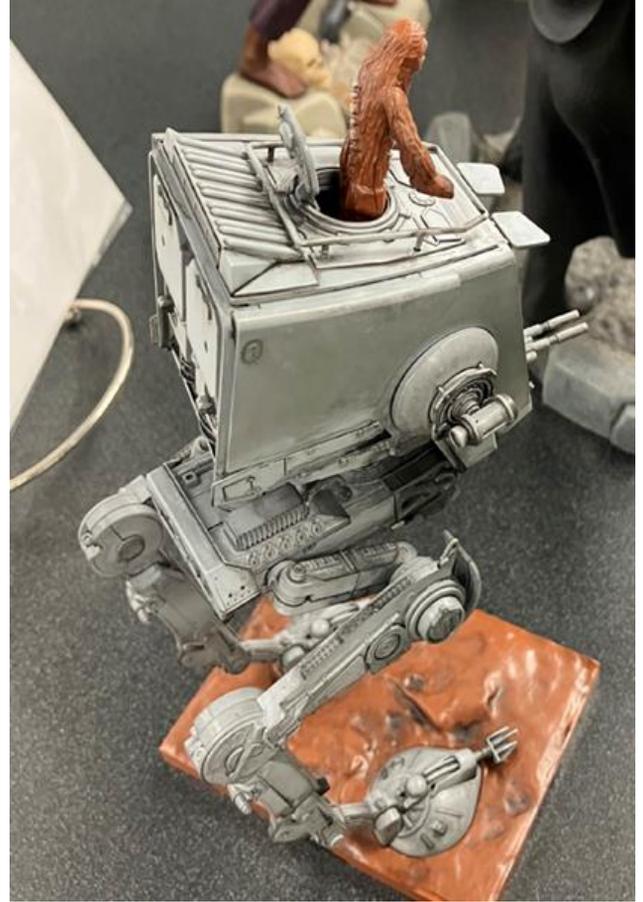
Darryl Palmer's Aurora Monsters in 1:8 scale. He added leaves, rope, etc.



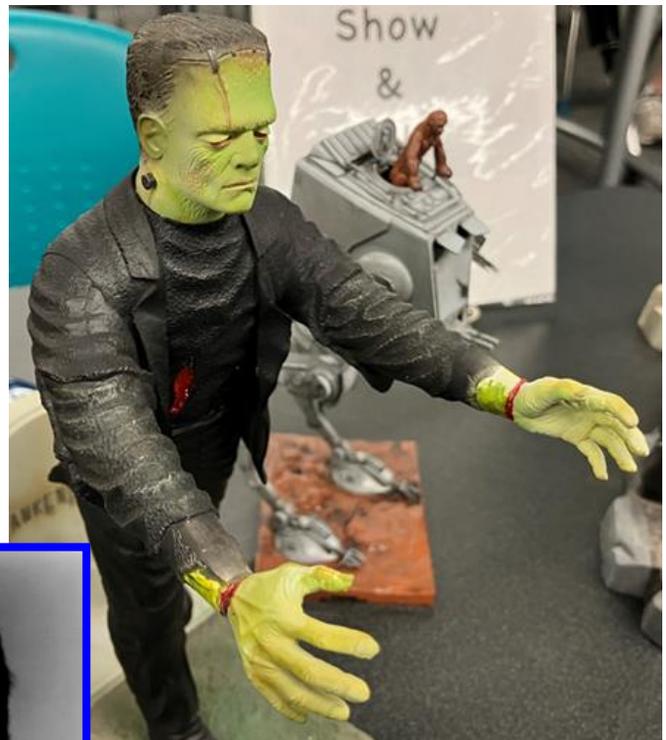
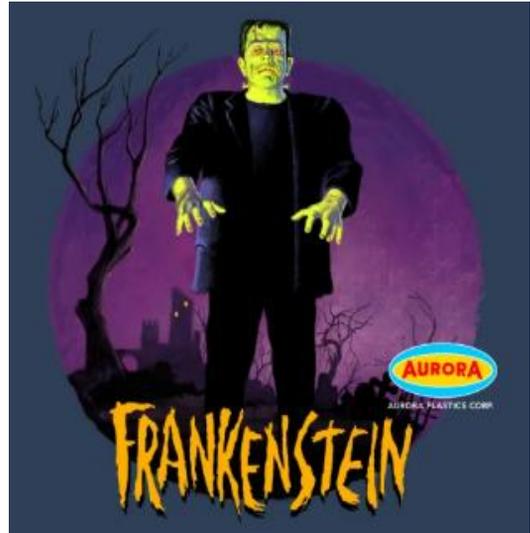
Tony Aguilar's "Mad Max-type" vehicles from a post-apocalyptic road-warrior world.



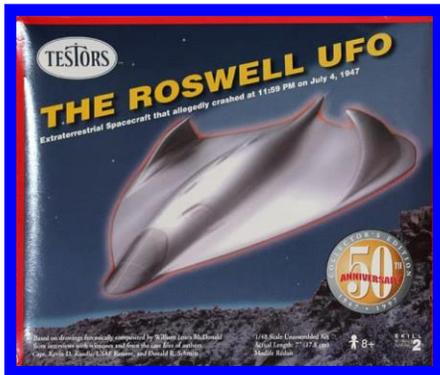
Bob Lundeen's Bandai 1:48 scale Star Wars AT-ST with Chewbacca-like figure



Bill's Aurora Frankenstein monster to help celebrate Halloween!



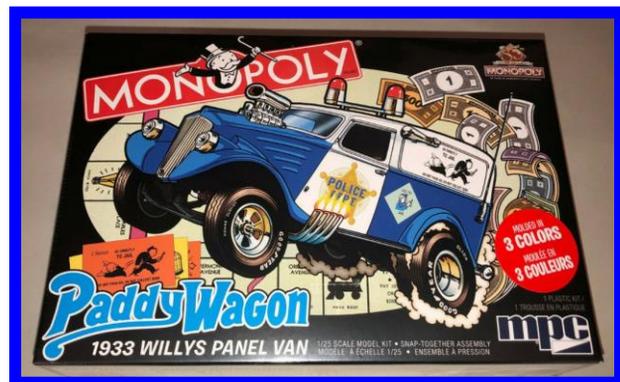
Clarence Snyder's Dodge 310, Dodge Pickup, Flying Car and Corvette road racer



Doug Spinney's 1:35 scale Glencoe Model's Piasecki ZV-8P Airgeep



Doug Spinney's '33 Willys Paddy Wagon finished in Ural Paint
(by MPC)



GATOR MODELERS

Don Martin had a military tour in Korea and brought in some of his collection of ordnance, gloves, rifle clips, bombs, etc.



Don Martin brought in his 1:24 scale *Citroen H "Food Truck at Le Mans"* by Ebbro that won best automobile at this year's Modelpalooza show in October.



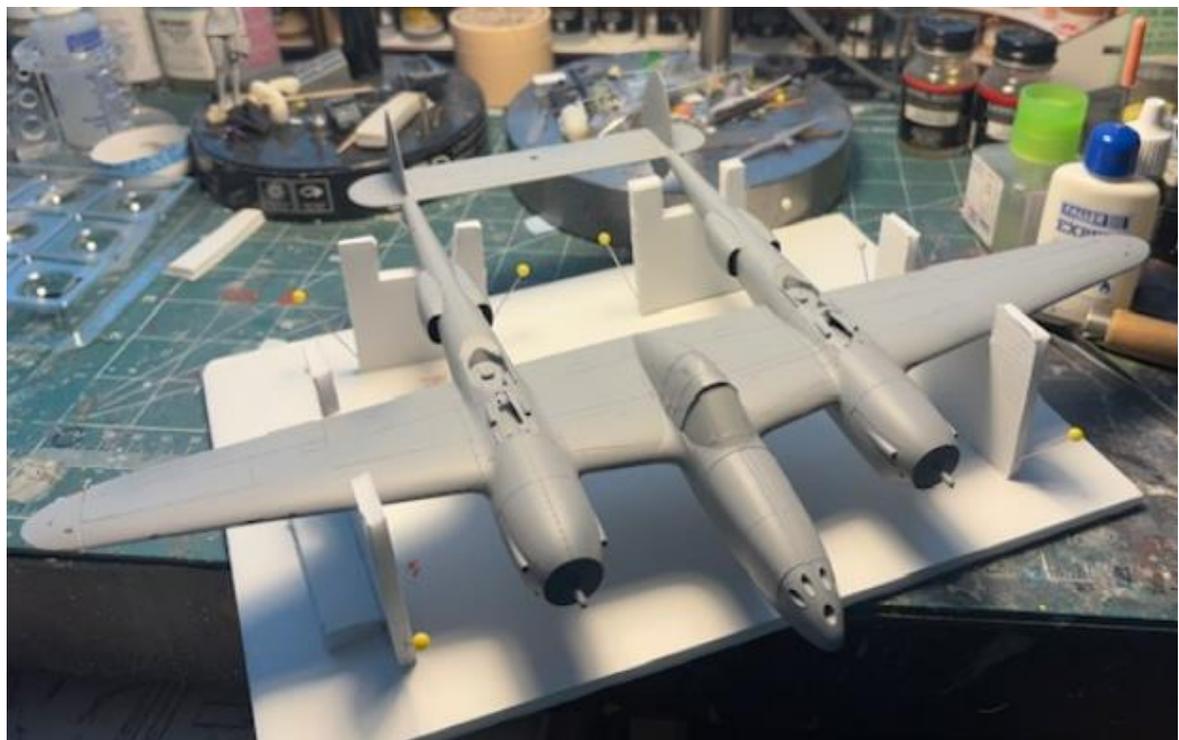
He used doll-house items to enhance his model.



Members at the October 2025 meeting of IPMS Gators



From the work bench of Jack Mugan



F-86 versus MiG-15: Which was better?

This was the topic of [Frank Ahern's](#) October 2025 presentation. From Google AI: *"The F-86 Sabre was generally considered the better all-around fighter in the Korean War, primarily due to superior high-speed handling, a better roll rate, and later upgrades like the radar-ranging gunsight, which gave it a significant advantage in combat. While the MiG-15 had better acceleration, a higher service ceiling, and a more powerful cannon, its slower roll rate and less stable airframe made it less effective in high-speed dogfights, especially against a well-equipped F-86."*



Early USAF reports cited a loss ratio of MiG-15s to F-86s of 10:1 (for every 1 F-86 lost, 10 MiGs were lost). From Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_American_F-86_Sabre): *"The research by Dorr, Lake and Thompson claimed an F-86 kill ratio closer to 2:1. A recent RAND report made reference to "recent scholarship" of F-86 v MiG-15 combat over Korea and concluded that the actual kill:loss ratio for the F-86 was 1.8:1 overall, and likely closer to 1.3:1 against MiGs flown by Soviet pilots."*





NEWS THAT YOU CAN BUILD:

Super Hornet, Helicopter Assigned to USS Nimitz Crash in South China Sea in Separate Incidents, *Crew Safe*

An F/A-18F Super Hornet and an MH-60R Sea Hawk helicopter assigned to aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (CVN-68) crashed in the South China Sea on Sunday (Oct 26, 2025) in two separate incidents in the Pacific, USNI News has learned.

“At approximately 2:45 p.m. local time, a U.S. Navy MH-60R Sea Hawk helicopter, assigned to the ‘Battle Cats’ of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 73 went down in the waters of the South China Sea while conducting routine operations from the aircraft carrier, reads a statement from U.S. Pacific Fleet. “Search and rescue assets assigned to Carrier Strike Group 11 safely recovered all three crew members.”



Upcoming shows



Jaxcon 2026 will be held on Friday evening and all day Saturday Feb. 6/7th. It will once again be at the fabulous North Jacksonville Baptist Church recreation hall where it's been for the last 5 years or so. The good news is that this year there will be 75 vendor tables available!



----- Atlanta Natural History Museum -----



Fernbank Museum of Natural History (767 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30307) has many interesting displays and 2 fabulous dinosaur skeletons. Check it out when you're up north.

Upcoming shows

Theme for the 2026 Gainesville- Ocala Interclub contest: ICE WORLD

With the onset of massive global freezing, the polar ice caps extended south and north as far as 40th parallel and resulted in freezing solid Seattle's Puget Sound, New York's Hudson River and Ports, all of the Great Lakes, even northern sections of the Mediterranean Sea (ice bergs occasionally clogged the strait of Gibraltar).



In efforts to overcome the economic constraints of a frozen world, 'brilliant' minds diligently proposed various means of developing advantages out of difficulties, addressing issues of freighters, mass transits, recreation, and the military in a frozen world.

Let the Gainesville/Ocala IPMS club challenge propose solutions to this future problem in the form of a kit-bash of two (or more) kits of which at least one is plastic; use of other materials optional. Entry to be accompanied with a narrative of no more than 3 pages explaining the presentation. Judging will be based 2/3 on the model and 1/3 on the narrative. A new category is being introduced, a Junior Class for entrants 18 years of age or younger. Judging to be done by entry members.

TBD. Contest dates being targeted (depending on availability of a meeting place) are, first choice, Saturday 25th of April 2026 or second choice, Saturday 11th of April 2026.

Note: Interclub contest was last held in Gainesville April 27, 2024

Examples of theme builds:



GATOR BUILD DAY

Is anybody interested in having a monthly build day? Many clubs do this. It could be followed by lunch. Let's talk about it! - Bill

Books of Possible Interest to the Modeler

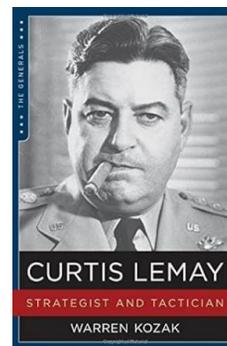
If you are interested in the Cold War and enjoyed the Tom Hanks' movie "Bridge of Spies," I recommend Michael R. Beschloss' book entitled "Mayday." The book describes the early development of the U-2 spy plane and the downing of Francis Gary Power's U-2C on May 1, 1960. Such CIA-sponsored U-2 overflights of the USSR (these were not USAF flights) began on July 4, 1956, when the Leningrad shipyards were photographed. Prior to the downing of Powers' U-2 by an S-2 surface-to-air missile, the USSR was unable to shootdown any of the previous 23 flights. There were no other USSR flyovers after the Powers' incident.



Eisenhower had been empathically told that if a U-2 were shot down, neither the pilot nor the airplane would survive. This was not the case as the U-2's wreckage was recovered and Powers survived. After this fabrication of the truth was released by the U.S. government, the USSR revealed that they had wreckage of a spy plane, and they had the pilot! The May 16, 1960, summit between Eisenhower and Khrushchev failed when the U.S. refused to apologize for the overflights.



I love military biographies. Years ago, I read "Eisenhower - Soldier and President" By Stephen Ambrose which is excellent. I recently finished a biography on Curtis Lemay ["Curtis LeMay: Strategist and Tactician (The Generals)"] by Warren Kozak. Lemay got the job done for the USAAF in Europe and then the Pacific. He was demanding but fair. Lemay was responsible for the firebombing of Japanese industry and cities beginning in March of 1945. More Japanese were killed on the first Tokyo mission than on either of the atomic bomb missions. This is neither good nor bad.



After WWII, SAC was struggling. Lemay was brought in to lead SAC in 1948, and he continued in this role until 1957. He had a short political career as George Wallace's running mate in 1968. Politics were not Lemay's strength. He died in 1990.



GATOR'S BOOK CLUB

Is anybody interested in having a quarterly book club? There are great new and classical military history books that we could discuss. *Let's talk about it!* - Bill

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.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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



*August 5 – 8, 2026
Fort Wayne, Indiana*

*It is of great importance, both at the local level (IPMS Gators) and at the national level, that all IPMS Gators members **join IPMS USA.***

This membership includes six bimonthly issues of the IPMS Journal (now: "IJ"; which is better than ever) and the opportunity to participate in the IPMS National Convention .

Joining IPMSUSA or renewing your membership are done on-line.

<https://myipmsusa.org/join-us>



INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC MODELERS' SOCIETY

By Modelers, for Modelers



MEMBERSHIP HOME ▶ 60TH ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL! CHAPTER DIRECTORY JOIN US IPMS/USA ONLINE STORE

Go to IPMS/USA

Renew My Membership

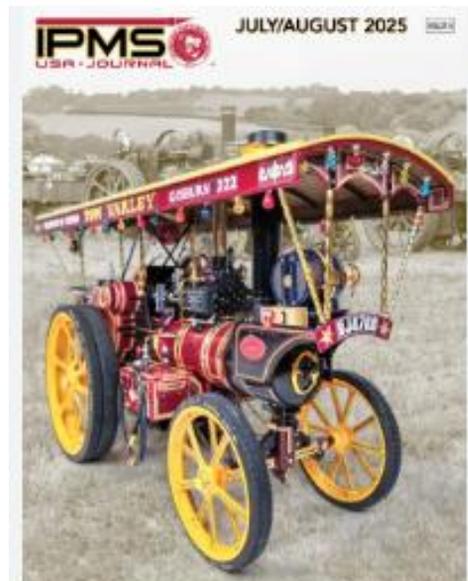
IPMS/USA

P. O. Box 45235

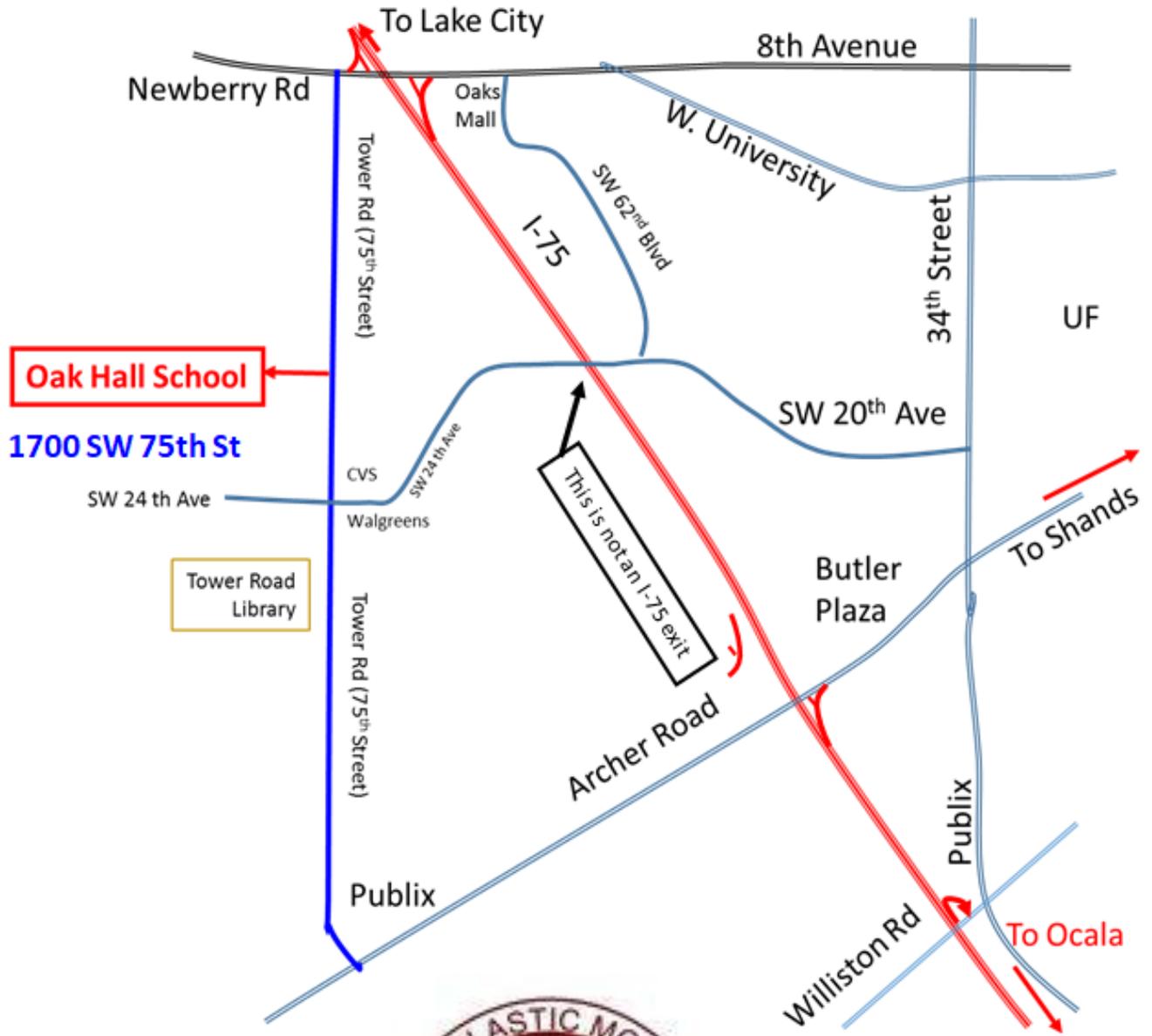
Omaha, Nebraska 68145-0235

Phone: 727-537-6886

Email: manager@ipmsusa.org



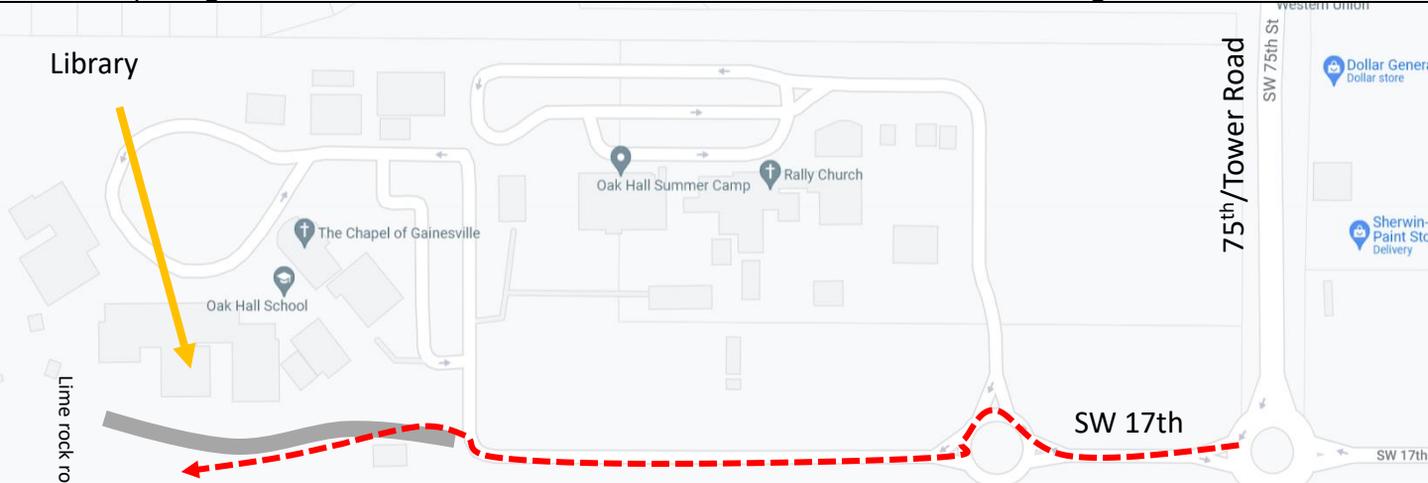
Directions to OAK HALL (1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville, FL)



IPMS GATORS' MEMBERS: We will meet at Oak Hall on Tuesday November 18 at 6:30 PM in the LIBRARY.



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



A note about monthly themes for 2025

Nov. 3 color camouflage

Dec. Sci-Fi



Newsletter editor note: In either November or December, I'd like to take some informal portraits of members for the NL. Let me know if you are interested. Thx.



Fancy Paint ... inspired 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 December 2025 newsletter. - Bill