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Don Martin's Winning YZR-M1 Yamaha Motorcycle for the Month's Theme: Vehicles that Won "Something"

The Yamaha YZR-M1 is a purpose-built 1000cc Grand Prix racing motorcycle developed by Yamaha for MotoGP, replacing the YZR500 in 2002. Historically known for its inline-four engine, it is transitioning to a new V4 configuration for 2026. It is characterized by high-speed handling, advanced aerodynamics, and numerous championship titles with riders like Valentino Rossi.



Club officers
Doug Spinney
President

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Bill Winter
Treasurer &
Newsletter
Editor

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

Here it is March already and there have been several model shows so far, with many more to come. Get those show quality models dusted off and those new ones under construction finished. Bill, Ed, Errol, and I recently paid a visit to Fort Benning, specifically the Armor Museum. We spent four hours Friday morning taking pictures, talking to friends we hadn't seen since last year, and had a tour of the Restoration Building. But, not me, I took a 2-hour nap in Errol's car. Once I was well



rested, we drove over to Marietta, GA for the Atlanta AMPS & Figure Show. A two-day event of the best armor and figures in the south. The four of us walked out with a bundle of models we either purchased or won in the raffle, along with several awards. Sunday morning, we packed up and came home. I should note that Errol drove all the way down from Greenville, SC to join us for the weekend. The weather was perfect, highs in the mid 70's until Sunday morning, we walked out to something in the neighborhood of 25 degrees. But we were packing to come home, once we made it a few hundred miles south it was nice and warm once again.

The next meeting is fast approaching, and the theme is "Ice Age", so get those cold weather models ready for the meeting.
See you there. – Doug!

July – IPMS Gators

We will meet
Tuesday, March 17,
2025, at 6:30 PM at
Oak Hall Library





Minutes of the Club Meeting from Tuesday Feb. 17, 2026

President Doug Spinney called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. There were 13 members present and one visitor - Jim Hales.

Doug asked members about the Jaxcon model show and a report on their results in the model contest.

Don Martin won 2 gold, 2 silver and 2 bronze medals. Bill Winter won 3 bronze medals. Bob Lundeen won a bronze.

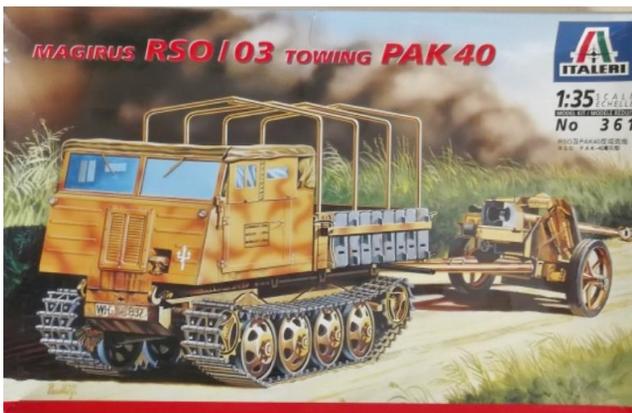
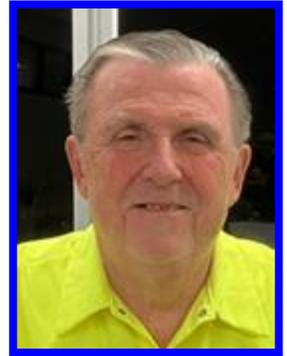
Doug also highlighted upcoming shows including the Atlanta AMPS show in Marietta Feb.20-22, Pelicon in Tampa March 14 and Scale Model Expo in the Villages April 11.

The Kit Bash contest with the Ocala club has been postponed until sometime in May, depending on the availability of their meeting space. The theme of the contest is "Ice Age" and requires a combination of at least 2 kits and a written backstory with the entry. Doug will keep the club updated on a new meeting date.

The meeting paused to give time for those who brought a model to make a Show & Tell presentation.

The monthly theme was "vehicles that won something". The contest was judged by members in attendance. Don Martin won with a model of a Yamaha racing motorcycle. Next month's theme is Ice Age.

The attendance raffles were won by Ian Breheny, who chose a German tracked vehicle, and Mike Martinez who picked an M-48 tank.



Tool Time presentations were made by Bruce Doyle and Doug Spinney.

Finally, the meeting concluded with a Powerpoint slide talk by Bill Winter on the USAF X-planes from the X-1 to X-15.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15. Submitted by: *Frank Ahern, Club Secretary*

At the February meeting, Don Martin, 2024 IPMS Gators member of the Year and Ed Ingersoll, 2025 IPMS Gators member of the Year , received their certificates from IPMS Gators President Doug Spinney.



Tools you may need!



**Trumpeter® Track Maker
(Assembly Jig for Tank Track
Links),Black**

4.5 ★★★★★ (43)

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=Trumpeter+master+tools&crd=2Z32U7E16SHSH&sprefix=trumpeter+master+tools%2Caps%2C889&ref=nb_sb_noss



<https://spraygunner.com/products/cordless-airbrush-battery-powered-compressor-with-airbrush-kit?variant=44377172377762>

My Favorite Things

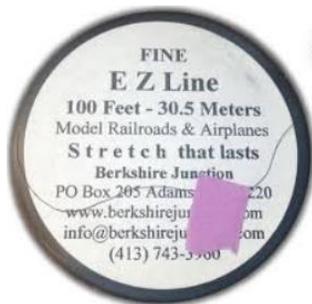
By Frank Ahern

While driving to Jaxcon with our newest member - Joe Swails - I was reminded of my own struggles as a new modeler when I first joined the club almost 20 years ago. I tried to reassure Joe that, by trial and error, he will find his own path through the confusing thicket of choices and often conflicting advice that abounds in the magazines and on the internet.

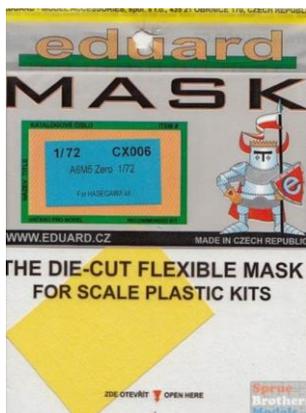


If you are a perfectionist, it will be a much harder road because perfection is a harsh master. Obviously, if your goal is winning model contests you must travel that road. Since that is not my goal, I try to find the simplest way to produce an acceptable result. I'll share my favorite modeling tools and products that have reduced the frustration that plagued my early years in the hobby.

E Z Line - High on the list of frustrating things in modeling is rigging a biplane or a ship. I can't imagine tackling a project like the Wright Flyer without E Z Line. What's great is that it's elastic and won't sag, unlike rigid line.



Eduard Masks - Just as frustrating is the task of masking clear parts on an airplane. Some WW2 bombers had up to 100 individual panes to mask. Until I discovered Eduard mask sets, I avoided those kits. Now, if I can find the set to match the kit, I'll try anything.





My Favorite Things

Super Glue Gel - Controlling the application of glue is essential to producing a clean looking model. This has been a struggle for me. Something that helps is the new gel form of super glue. Unlike the liquid glues, it stays where you put it, which I appreciate.



Micro Brush applicators - Another element of glue application is the way its applied. The micro brush applicators have been a major improvement over the toothpick method I originally used. They also work well for painting small parts.

Vallejo "Model Air" paint - Speaking of painting, I must praise the paint I use almost exclusively - Vallejo "Model Air." I love the fact that it requires no thinning for use in my airbrush, and it comes in a wide variety of colors. It also brush paints very well, which many other brands do not.



Metallic Sharpies/ Chrome Pen - My love of simplicity led me to use the metallic color Sharpies whenever possible on small areas. The silver Sharpie is my favorite, although it's more of an aluminum color than silver (which makes it even more useful). The new Chrome pens do an outstanding job of replicating chrome. This is invaluable in car modeling.



My Favorite Things



Stynlrez Primers - I'll wrap up with my favorite primer - Stynlrez. It makes the perfect base coat for all the camouflage colors that will follow and it can be the topcoat if you need white, grey or black for that purpose.

I'm sure that your list might be different than mine, but one big thing I like about modeling is that there are as many ways to do something as there are modelers. Learning from each other is what makes our club meetings interesting. Most of these "favorite things" I learned from other club members. - Frank

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

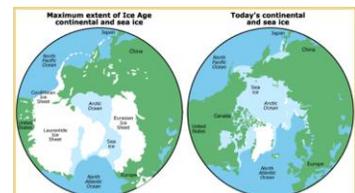
With the onset of massive global freezing, the polar ice caps extended south and north as far as 40th parallel and resulted in freezing solid Seattle's Puget Sound, New York's Hudson River and Ports, all of the Great Lakes, even northern sections of the Mediterranean Sea (ice bergs occasionally clogged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

Contest date presently is May 2 at 11 AM in Ocala.

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





N.O.T.S.-NIK: The Little Rocket That (Almost) Could

By Darryl Palmer

The launch of Sputnik 1 on October 4, 1957 took America by surprise and set off frantic activity in its emerging satellite missile programs. The Naval Research Laboratory began rushing its Vanguard booster towards a launchpad at Cape Canaveral. Over in Huntsville, Alabama, Wernher Von Braun's team of rocketeers at the Army Ballistic Missile Agency were readying their Redstone to take Explorer 1 into orbit.



Left: Navy's Vanguard TV-3 blows up on the launchpad. Right: Explorer I poised for launch at Cape Canaveral.

Meanwhile, unbeknownst to the public and most others in the military, a small group of engineers at the Naval Ordnance Test Station (NOTS) in China Lake, California were putting together their own challenge to Khrushchev's cosmic snowball.

The story goes that in the Fall of 1957, some NOTS technicians were out at night stargazing. The October skies were remarkably clear over China Lake, deep in the Mohave Desert and 150 miles from the lights of Los Angeles. They could see the stars, the Milky Way, and even Sputnik as it passed overhead.

"We ought to be able to do that," said one engineer, awed by the sight of the satellite and its trailing booster reflecting sunlight from far over the horizon.

"Hell," said another, "We ought to be able to shoot the damn thing down!"

This was the same team that developed the AIM-9 Sidewinder, an air-to-air missile still in use today; they felt they were more than capable of building a spacecraft, one that would take on—maybe even take out—Sputnik.

N.O.T.S.-NIK: The Little Rocket That (Almost) Could

Using their own resources, the NOTS team tried to purchase ground-to-air rocket motors from the Army. However, these were the days before the establishment of NASA. Space exploration was a Wild-West of military branches, research laboratories and private industry jealously competing for dominance of the skies. The Army refused.



Douglas F4D-1 Skyray with NOTS EV-1 Pilot test vehicle at China Lake.

Without powerful engines to get their satellite off the ground, the NOTS engineers would have to improvise. They eventually settled on using a stripped-down Douglas F4D-1 Skyray as an aerial launch platform. Above 35,000 feet, the pilot would perform a 0.9-Mach upward turn to hurl the missile on its way.

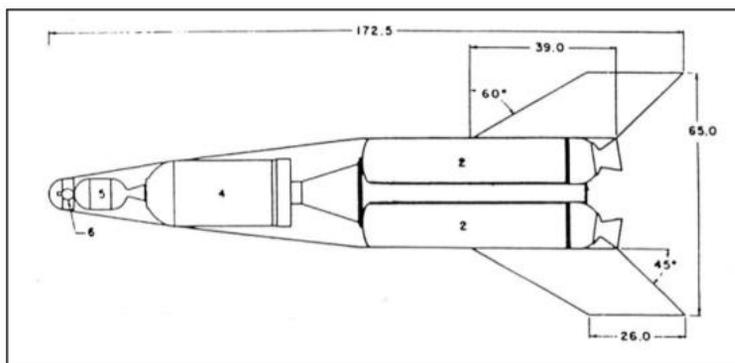


Diagram of NOTS-EV-1 Pilot.

The rocket itself was only 14 feet long—about the size of a johnboat—the smallest satellite booster ever built. On this tiny frame the NOTS engineers managed to fit five stages of solid-fuel thrust, weighing a total of 2,100 lbs. The satellite instrumentation would be described today as a Raspberry Pi—a simple 8-inch donut of sensors, transmitters and batteries sunk into floral foam.

N.O.T.S.-NIK: The Little Rocket That (Almost) Could



Pilot satellite.

Together with the F4D-1, the whole system weighed 18,000 lbs—less than one-third the first stage of Von Braun’s Jupiter C. Officially known as Project Pilot, they cheekily dubbed it NOTS-NIK.

With the successful launch of Explorer 1 in January 1958, NOTS-NIK missed its chance to be the first U.S. satellite in space, but the program proceeded, with added interest and funding from the Pentagon. The military was gearing up for Project Argus, a top-secret program to measure radiation from nuclear tests in the ionosphere. Every available high-atmosphere instrument would be needed up in the air when the nukes went off. The China Lake team received \$4 million to complete Project Pilot.

But with the funding windfall came impossible deadlines. Argus had to be conducted in August of 1958, to squeak in before a pending nuclear test ban treaty with the Soviet Union was signed. NOTS had mere months to put their tiny satellite into orbit.



Skyray pilot William West prepares to fly at dawn.

The engineers threw themselves into their work and all-up testing began July 25. Cmdr. William West took the Skyray to 35,000 feet above the Santa Barbara Channel, then performed the stomach-churning 2-g pullup to 41,000 feet to lend an underhand toss as two HOTROC motors ignited. NOTS-NIK was immediately lost to sight, and after failing to raise a signal, it was assumed the rocket had failed. However, a few minutes

N.O.T.S.-NIK: The Little Rocket That (Almost) Could

later, a tracking station in Christchurch, New Zealand picked up a single faint ‘beep’ at about the same time the probe was expected to pass over. But we’ll never know for sure if the first NOTS-NIK flight ever attained orbit.

Subsequent launches failed, with some risk to pilot West as the rockets exploded immediately upon release. Finally, on August 22, the red rocket was observed streaking over the horizon. Again, there were faint signals picked up at the New Zealand tracking station during the expected first and third orbits, then nothing. Even at this early stage of satellite technology, it was impossible to tell if the signals came from NOTS-NIK.



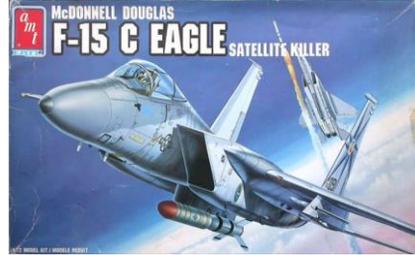
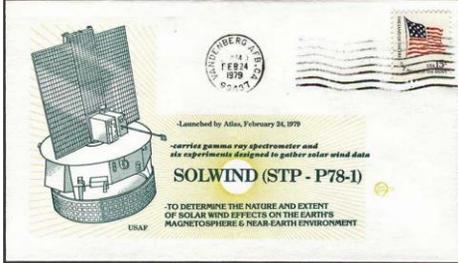
After several more failed tests, the Navy pulled the plug on Project Pilot, and NOTS-NIK sunk into the classified files. However, the idea of an aerial launch platform endured and would eventually be put into practice, first in 1985 as an anti-satellite missile fired from an F-15, then as the basis for the Pegasus satellite program beginning in 1990.

In 1994, Project Pilot was officially declassified. After 36 years, the vision of a small team of maverick engineers at China Lake had been vindicated.

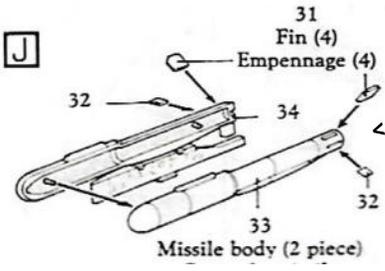


Pegasus satellite launch from L-1011 “Stargazer”.

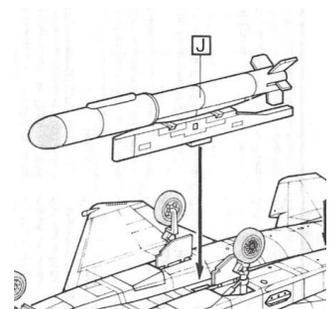
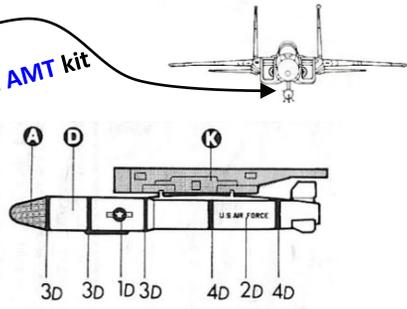
Just for the record In August 2018 issue of the IPMS Gators Newsletter, there was a short article about the anti-satellite missile (which is different from Pegasus) --> "Recently I was reading an excellent article in the Smithsonian Air & Space Magazine (May, 2018) on the ASAT missile launched by an F-15A that actually "shot down" (destroyed) a satellite on September 13, 1985. The target was a Solwind (solar wind) P78-1 satellite. Built by Ball Aerospace (yes, this is correct, not "Bell"), this satellite was designed to obtain scientific data from earth and sun-oriented experiments. Launched in Feb 1979, by 1985 many of the Solwind satellite systems had failed and it was selected as a target for the ASAT."



FYI: This kit is available as a door prize.

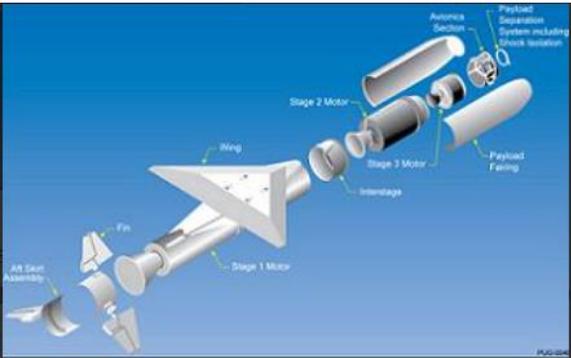


ASAT missile in the AMT kit



If you are interested in Pegasus satellite program

.. Here is another model in this genre.



At the time that this kit from DML was first produced in 1991, the Boeing NB-52B was NASA's only B-52 remaining with over 450 test programs to its credit. The NB-52B operated from NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California. The veteran NB-52B (SN52-008) had been the launch platform for both the X 15A 2 and the Pegasus

Pegasus was a three-stage, solid-fuel propelled, inertially guided air-launched booster designed to deliver small payloads into the low Earth orbit such as small communication satellites, both commercial and military. The program may still be active as Wikipedia records a flight from 6-13-2021 (TacRL-2/Odyssey) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northrop_Grumman_Pegasus

2026 Jaxcon Report from Don Martin

JAXCON 2026 saw 497 registered models on the show tables as modelers from around the southeast exhibited their best work. The festivities started Friday evening as the vendors found their table locations and began unloading their wares. The doors opened for model registration at 5 pm and the "early birds" lined up to register their models and place them on the show tables. The very popular pizza party, now becoming a JAXCON tradition, continued with the pizzas arriving around 6:45 - a great way to set the stage for the next day's main event.

Saturday dawned bright and clear and a little on the chilly side. Fortunately, the first of four food trucks arrived early and was open for business at 9 am. They sold a lot of hot coffee! The models continued to flow in and registration went smoothly. A representative from "Scale Model Enthusiast", a new modelling magazine, was on hand to take photos of selected models.

There were two noticeable differences in the show this year. The "Ace of Aces" category was discontinued. Previously, this category was open to any model which had won a "Best of" or Gold award at any model show. Also, there was no "People's Choice" award this year.

Lunchtime arrived and we were greeted with four food trucks - the aforementioned coffee truck, one serving traditional burgers, chicken and fish, one serving tacos and nachos and the fourth serving sweets and desserts. No one went hungry!

Vendor sales seemed to be hit or miss. Some vendors did very well and others not so well. Maybe their prices were too high?

Judging wrapped up early and the awards presentation went smoothly with Gold, Silver and Bronze medals placed by the winning models on the table. Special awards and "Best ofs" were announced so the winning modelers could receive appropriate recognition.

All in all, another well-run and well-received show! - Don

Jaxcon Feb 6-7, 2026 (total entries: 497) --> Club results

Bob Lundeen	1:32 scale N1K2-J George	Bronze
Don Martin	1:72 scale Merkava 1:24 scale Ebbro Citroen H food Truck w/Interior Details/Figures P-51 diorama Oscar II submarine 1:35 Stalker figure 1:48 scale F-4B Phantom II	Gold Gold Silver Silver Bronze Bronze
Bill	1:72 scale Rhedosaurus 1:35 scale K2GF tank 1:25 scale Bluesmobile	Bronze Bronze Bronze





Brian Cormack's 1:72 scale, Minicraft/Hasegawa YF-16 fighter jet painted in a cloud scheme

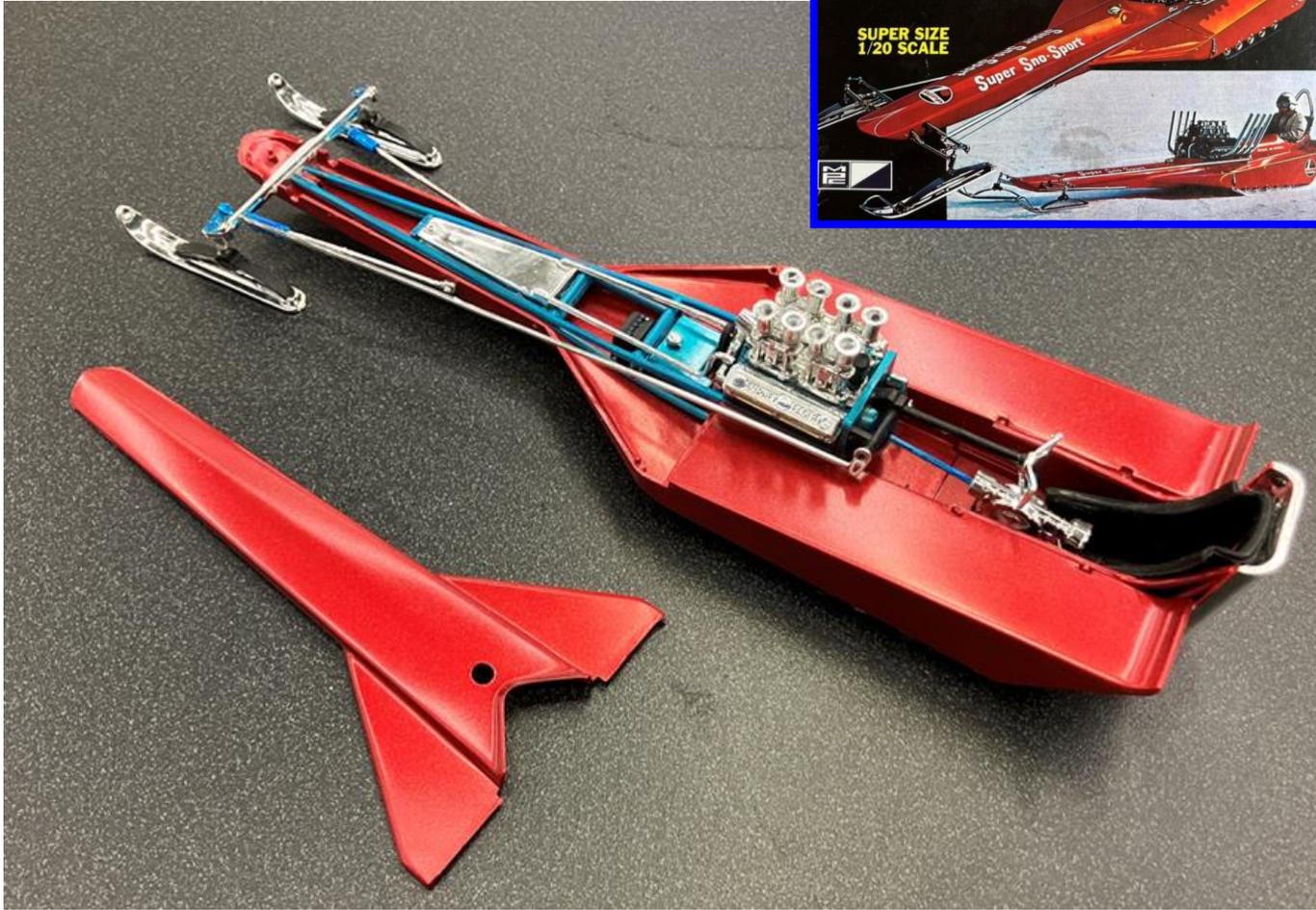


The prototype YF-16 (#72-1567) was rolled out at Fort Worth on December 13, 1973, and was air freighted by C-5A to Edwards AFB on January 8, 1974. Its first flight was an unintended short hop around the pattern on January 21, 1974 at the hands of test pilot Phil Oestricher.

John G. Williams, a structural flight test engineer on the YF-16, recalls:

During the first high-speed taxi test, a violent lateral oscillation had set in as a direct result of pilot-commanded oscillations (several maximum left/right commands) as the airplane reached rotation speed (~120 kt). Remember, this was the first airplane to have a fixed stick, and there was no opportunity for Phil to gain any feel for the airplane, until that high-speed taxi test. As the nose of the aircraft rose, the tailplane inadvertently scraped on the runway. The left wingtip missile and the right tail static probe also lightly contacted the runway. Phil chose to take off because the bird had begun to veer off to the left side of the runway, and he was faced with plowing through the desert or flying. Thankfully he chose to fly and possibly saved the entire program. After take off, Phil regained control and stayed up for six minutes and landed uneventfully. Prior to the next flight, the stick sensitivity was reduced by 50% with gear down. Later, after complaints of not enough sensitivity, it was returned to the original."

Doug Spinney's 1:24 scale MPM
Super Sno-Sport Dragster



Frank Ahern's 1966 Fujimi LeMans-winning Ford GT40



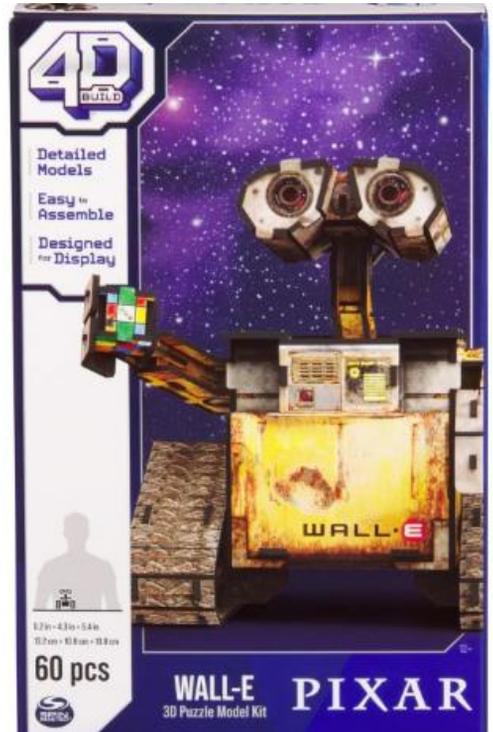
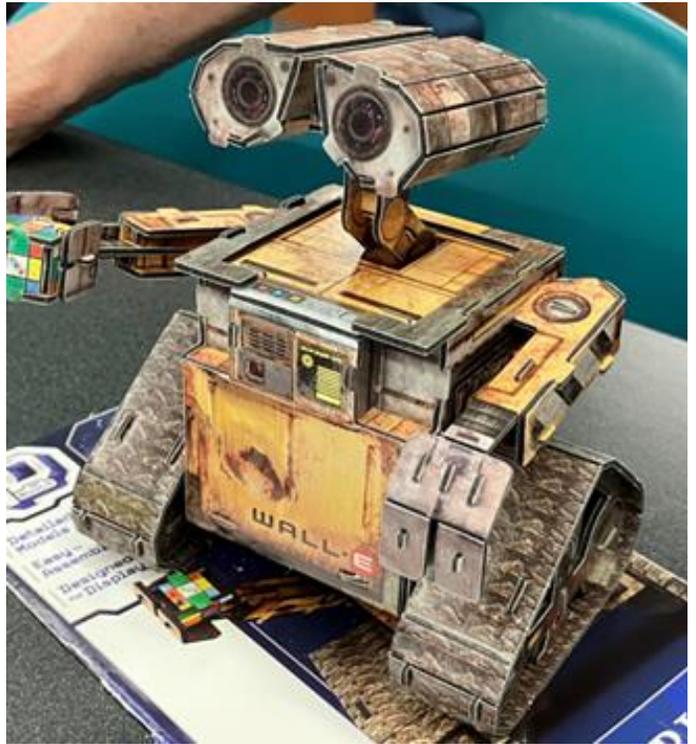
Darryl Palmer's 1:72 scale MPM L. Vega model 5 Winnie Mae with after market decals



Bill's Stone Woods Cook '41 Willys Gasser



Doug Spinney's WALL-E
By Spin Master



Chuck Lassiter's 1:72 scale Curtis Tomahawk and Kittyhawk by Airfix



Don Martin's Jaxcon Award-Winning 1:72 scale Meng Merkava 4M with added storage



From the workbench of Jack Mugan



From the workbench of Clarence Snyder!

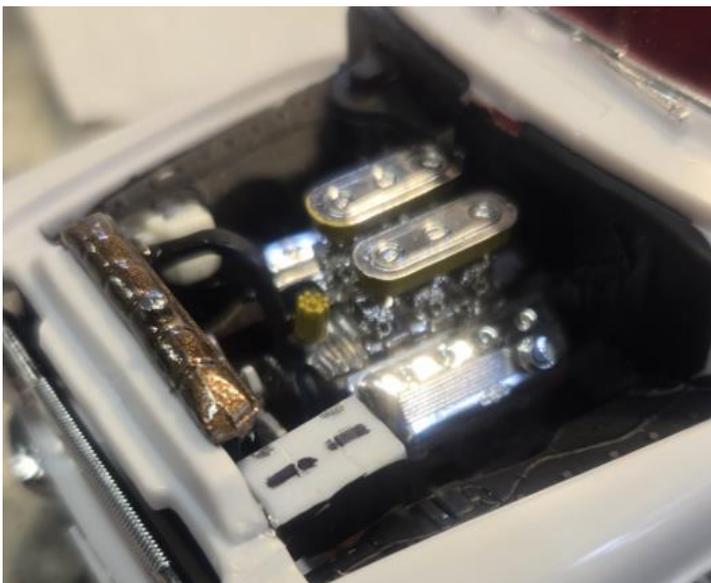
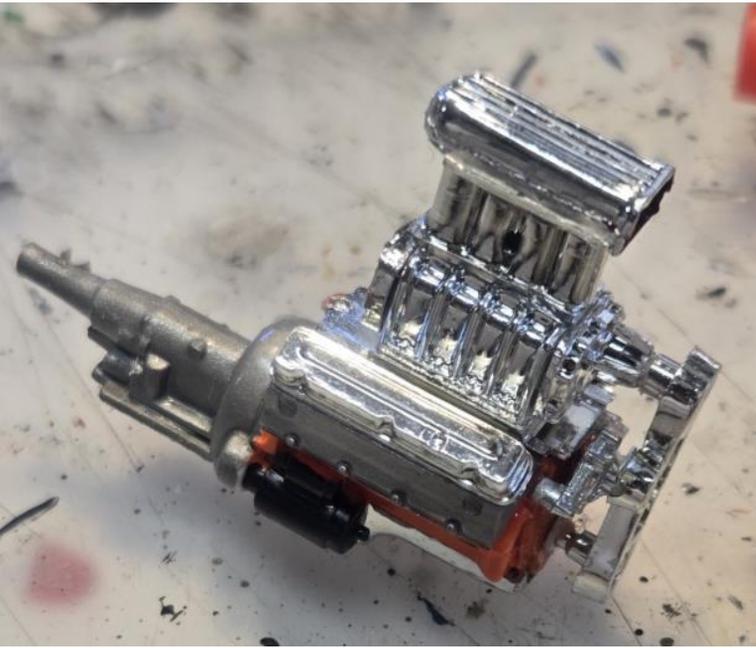


From the workbench of Clarence Snyder!

Picked this up used for \$5 at Jaxcon Friday night. I cleaned it up to rebuild it. I am taking the 289 CID engine out of it and I am putting a 360 CID engine/ I will make 3 Cobras: one for drag racing, one for a road course and one stock: one blue ,one yellow and this one silver.



From the workbench of Clarence Snyder!



Members at the February 2026 meeting of IPMS Gators



Upcoming shows



SAVE the DATE **MARCH**

Pelikan MODEL CLUB
Pelicon '26
Scale Model Convention and Contest
www.pelikanmodelclub.org

Sat. March 14, 2026
St. Lawrence Higgins Hall
5225 N. Himes Ave., Tampa FL 33613

f Check us out on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/PelikanModelClub
Contact Donn Buerger for questions: donn_buerger@yahoo.com

SCALE MODEL EXPO '26

📅 April 11, 2026

📍 The Savannah Center • The Villages, FL



VILLAGES
SCALE MODEL CLUB

- 🏆 Gold • Silver • Bronze judging
- ✂️ Aircraft • Armor • Auto • Ships • Sci-Fi
- 👦 Youth Category Added
- 🏆 Best Of Awards + Best of Show

👤 Entry: \$15 Adults | \$5 Youth

👤 Admission: \$10 | Kids under 17 FREE

f Facebook: scalemodelclubofthevillages.com/scale-model-expo

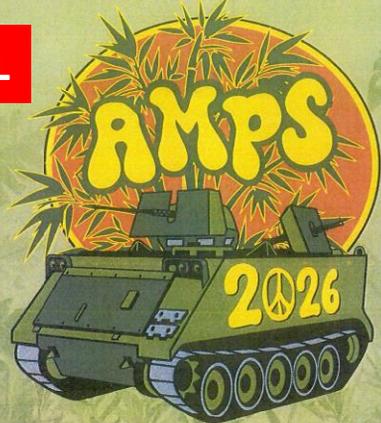
#ScaleModelExpo #MiniaturePainting #ScaleModeling #ModelContest #Florida

The Armor Modeling & Preservation Society



2026 International Convention

APRIL



Vietnam: Welcome to the Jungle

April 16-18

Century Center
120 Doctor M.L.K. Jr Blvd
South Bend, IN 46601

AMPS-Armor.org

Upcoming shows

SAVE THE DATE!!

Model FEST 2026

Saturday May 2, 2026
9:00am-5:00pm

At The
Azan Shriners Center
1591 W Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, FL. 32935

Presented by...

This Years Themes:

- Spirit of 76....** Any type of model with 76 theme to it...Examples: 76 markings on an aircraft, 1976 Pontiac Trans Am, Revolution War diorama, Centennial / Bicentennial themed models etc..
- Jon Thompson Memorial award** for Best British 1/72 scale Aircraft. Jon's specialty was 1/72 scale British Aircraft (the more obscure the better) however there is a caveat. To honor Jon your model **MUST BE BRUSH PAINTED** just like Jon did!!!! Let's see how good you really are!!!

Schedule of Events:

6:30 am - 9:00 am	Vendor Set Up.
9:00 am	Open to Public..
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Judging..
9:00 am - Noon	Model Registration.
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Awards..

For more information:
Rick Ostman - 321-890-7666 rickostman@yahoo.com
Chuck Smith - 321-615-5373 rangersractor1957@gmail.com
Andy Caldwell 321-633-4541 42hemitehr@gmail.com
IPMS Space Coast Website www.ipmspacecoast.com

Gold, Silver and Bronze awards in all categories!
Packed Vendor Room for all of your modeling needs!
(Admission: Adults \$5 - Kids Free)

MAY

Three for the Price of One!

Mark Your Calendars!
Model and Miniature Show and Contest!
May 16, 2026

Panhandle Automotive Modeling Society

PAMS POC: "Shaggy" Maverick at rikw71@gmail.com

Panhandle Miniature Figure Society

PMFS POC: Bob Waltman at waltman3@outlook.com

Gulf Coast Chapter of the Armor Modeling and Preservation Society - "Armorgators"

AMPS POC: Bob Edwards at LTC.Robert.J.Edwards@gmail.com

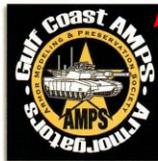
- When:** From 9AM to 5 PM on 16 May 2026 (Saturday)(Vendor set up from 4-8 PM on 15 May and starting at 8AM on 16 May)
- Where:** Santa Rosa County Auditorium (4530 Spikes Way, Milton, FL 32583)
- Admission:** \$5 (General); \$10 (Family); \$20 (5-entries in any contest); \$1 (each additional entry in either contest). Vendor Tables: \$25 each (2.5'x6')
- Raffles:** Each club will sponsor its own raffle.
- Vendors:** Vendors on hand to cater to all of your modeling and miniature needs. Bargains to be had!
- Registration:** Check the respective clubs for pre-registration and contest details for the respective contests.
- Vendor Contact:** John Struck at johnsmodels@hotmail.com or (850) 968-6008

Each club has a Facebook presence.

MAY

The Gulf Coast Chapter of the Armor Preservation and Modeling Society (AMPS) presents an

Armor Model Contest



- When:** From 9AM to 5 PM on 16 May 2026 (Saturday)(Vendor set up from 4-8 PM on 15 May and starting at 8AM on 16 May)
- Where:** Santa Rosa County Auditorium (4530 Spikes Way, Milton, FL 32583)
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- Armor Theme:** Red Storm Rising (NATO and Warsaw Pact armored vehicles of the mid-1980's)
- Co-Host:** Panhandle Miniature Figure Society (PMFS) and the Panhandle Automotive Modeling Society (PAMS). Three contests in one! Registration fees cover all contests. The other clubs have a Facebook presence.
- General Information:** AMPS rules with all categories. Pre-registration and forms for AMPS can be found at <https://armorgators.org/>, Facebook ("Armorgators") or email below.
- Registration:** AMPS Pre-registration is available on line. Early registration: Friday, 5-8 PM). Show registration: Saturday, 9-12 PM. **Registration closes at 12 PM Saturday**
- Contact:** Vendor POC: John Struck, johnsmodels@hotmail.com, (850) 968-6008; AMPS POC: Bob Edwards at LTCedwards@att.net

Red Storm Rising

NATO VS WARSAW PACT

PAMS CON PRESENTS

June 27th, 2026
Teco Expo Hall
2301 W Oak Ave
Plant City, FL 33563

Celebrating 250 years of the Brave, the Bold, the Beautiful USA

Salute to America

Sponsored By:

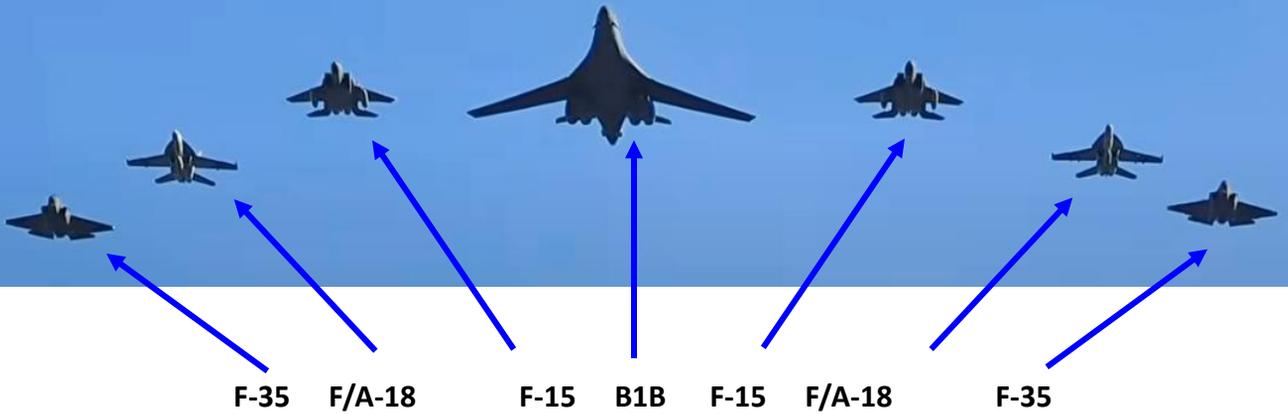
MODEL CITIZEN HOBBIES | HobbyTown

For more info:
Website - polkareamodelsociety.com
Email - president@polkareamodelsociety.com

JUNE

IPMS Gators Challenge Page

Which airplanes were in the 2026 LX Superbowl Flyover?



https://www.google.com/search?q=which+planes+were+in+the+super+bowl+flyover&rlz=1C1GCEA_enUS1057US1057&ooq=Which+planes+were+in+th&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUqBggAEEAYAzIGCAAQABgDMgYIARBFgDkyCagCEAAyFhgeMgglAxAGBYHjIICAQQABgWGB4yCagFEAAyFhgeMg0lBhAAGIYDGAIEGloFMg0lBxAA GIYDGAIEGloFMg0lCBAAGIYDGAIEGloFMg0lCRAAGIAEGKIE0gEJMTE2NzdqMGo3qAlAsAIA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:57290022,vid:t-RtJv29skk,st:0



USAF B-1B Lancers (2): Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota.

USAF F-15C Eagles (2): 144th Fighter Wing, Fresno Air National Guard Base, California.

USN F/A-18E Super Hornets (2): Naval Air Station Lemoore, California.

USN F-35C Lightning IIs (2): Naval Air Station Lemoore, California.

There was a second B-1B that trailed the first 7 aircraft



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.

Frank Ahern, – Secretary – Newsletter Editor 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/>



GATOR MODELERS

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 (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 (or via hard copy – see form below). <https://myipmsusa.org/join-us>



Join IPMS/USA Today!

Join online at [MyIPMSUSA.org](https://myipmsusa.org), scan the QR code below, or mail in this application.

New Renewal IPMS #

Name:

Address:

City: State/Province: Zip/Postal Code:

Phone: Email:

IPMS Chapter Affiliation (if any):

Junior (17 years or younger)	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$17.00	Family US Address One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00
Adult US Address One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$30.00	Two Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$63.00
Two Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$58.00	Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$101.00
Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$86.00	International One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$38.00
Canada or Mexico One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00	Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$110.00
Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$101.00	International Family		
Canada or Mexico Family			One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$43.00
One Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$40.00	Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$125.00
Three Years	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$115.00			

Pay by credit or debit card online, by PayPal to Treasurer@ipmsusa.org, or mail a US Dollar check with your application to:

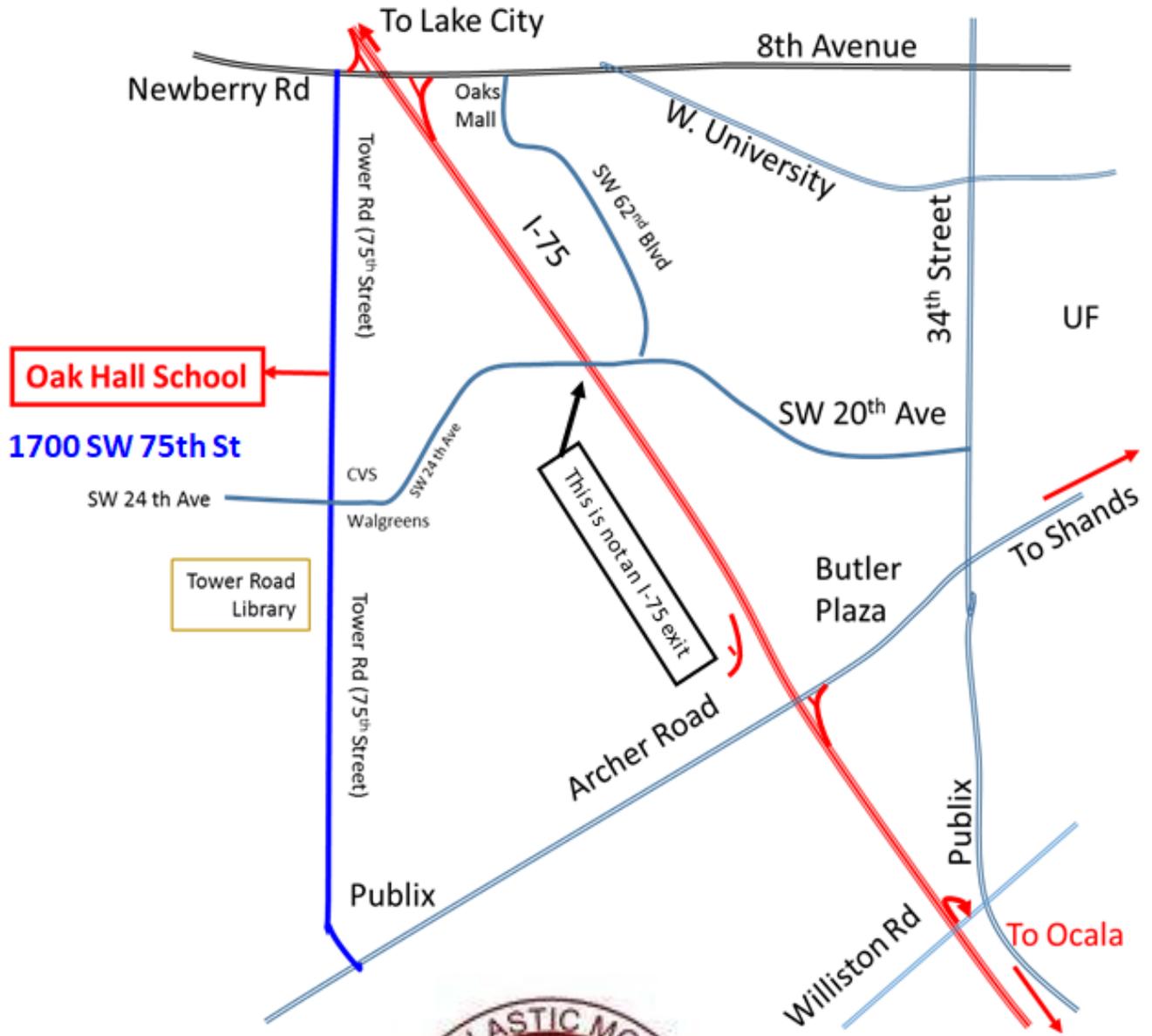
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Join IPMS/USA
Today!



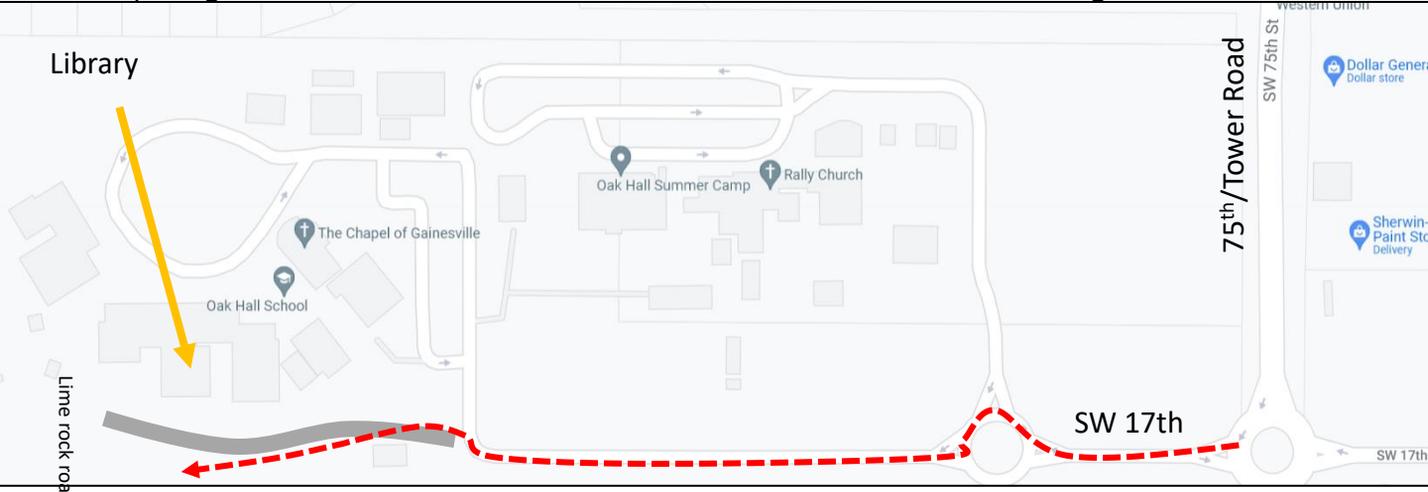
Directions to OAK HALL (1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville, FL)



IPMS GATORS' MEMBERS: We will meet at Oak Hall on Tuesday March 17 at 6:30 PM in the LIBRARY.

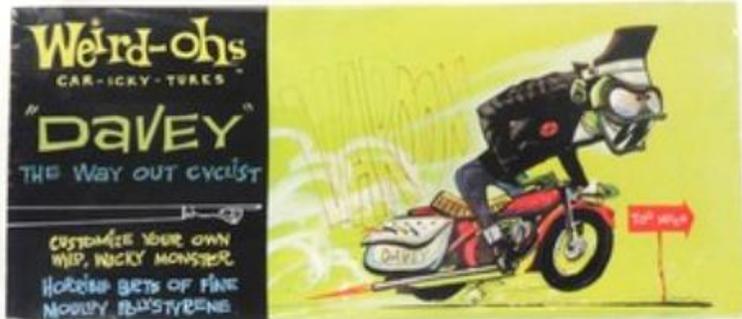


The top image is the satellite view of OAK HALL. The bottom view is a line drawing.



A note about monthly themes for 2026

- Mar. Ice World
- Apr. 1 or 2 wheels
- May Sci-Fi
- June Gundam
- July Animal name
- Aug. Snap Tite
- Sept. Monster
- Oct. Real Space
- Nov. Ships
- Dec. Amphibious





Fancy Aircraft ... inspired by Jack Mugan



IPMS GATORS



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 April 2026 newsletter. - Bill