



www.gatormodelers.org



The February Club Contest theme was "WWII through the late 1940's" that was won by *Jack Mugan* with his TA-152 fighter.

IPMS Gators- IPMS Ocala contest

The IPMS Gators- IPMS Ocala contest AND the IPMS Gators auction will be **NOT** held at on APRIL 11, 2020. It will be rescheduled at a later date.



March Meeting – IPMS Gators

The meeting is **canceled**. Please stay tuned regarding the April meeting.



Club officers
Dan Contento
President

Chuck Lassiter
Vice President

Frank Ahern
Secretary

Bruce Doyle
Historian

Paul Bennett
Photographer

Tracy Palmer
Webmaster

Bill Winter
Treasurer &
Newsletter
Editor

www.gatormodelers.org

[Next meeting:](#)

TBA (the March meeting is cancelled)

Oak Hall Library

1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville FL

(See the map on page 24)

Prez Sez..... By Dan Contento



First of all great news on the health home front for Bruce. He is the longest serving member of our Club and is the Club's local historian. We've missed him at our Executive Board luncheons and at our meetings.

On March 21 the Gainesville Airport is hosting the 2020 Fly In and Armed Forces Appreciation Day. Private plane owners will be by their planes to talk about them and the Military will have some planes on display. Unfortunately, I believe there is an AMPS meeting that day, though it may be open late enough for them to attend. Do you have kits, maybe started, missing some parts, decals or accessories that aren't appropriate for the Auction, too good to throw out, but you would like to pass on if someone might want it? We are considering a \$1 box at the Auction where you can donate to the club and attendees can rummage through items and buy what they is useful to them. We'll discuss at a future meeting.

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Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2020

By Frank Ahern

President Dan Contento opened the meeting at 6:40pm welcoming 15 club members and guest, former member Ken Wilson who re-joined the club.

Dan talked about the upcoming club auction, which was scheduled for April 11. (Note: the auction for April 11 has been canceled will likely be rescheduled in The fall).



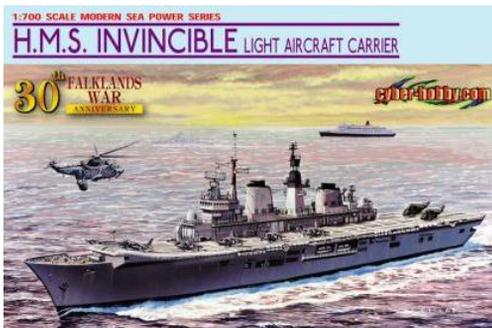
The auction is the club's main fundraising event and the President talked about how important it is now that the club is paying \$100 per month to use the school library. There was also some discussion of looking for another meeting site after the 1-year contract with Oak Hall school expires. Frank Ahern said he will check with the Alachua county library to see if it would be possible to use their facilities on a regular basis.

Part of the auction will include the inter-club model contest with the Ocala IPMS club. Contento asked how many club members are planning to enter the contest and encouraged them to begin preparing for it.

Bill Winter commented that there should be some coordination with the auctioneers at the auction to try and get good prices for the kits. It was suggested that those donating kits specify a minimum bid price based on the value of the kit and accessories so that expensive kits are not sold too cheaply. Members planning to attend were also asked to let Bill Winter know and tell if they are going to bring a side dish or dessert for the lunch.

A break was declared while the group gathered at the model tables for viewing the theme contest and show & tell models. A vote by the group was taken and Jack Muga's model of the Ta-152 w/diorama was voted the best theme model.

The monthly raffles were held, and Tracy Palmer won the first drawing and selected the Luna rocket kit. Jack Muga won the second raffle drawing and deferred his choice to Ethan Alt who picked the HMS Invincible kit.



Invincible - Awarded to Jack Muga -- > gifted to Ethan Alt



Luna Rocketship
Awarded to Tracy Palmer

Finally, Tracy Palmer continued his PowerPoint presentation on painting figures. The meeting concluded at 8:30.

February's theme build winner speaks out about the

TA-152

by Jack Mugan

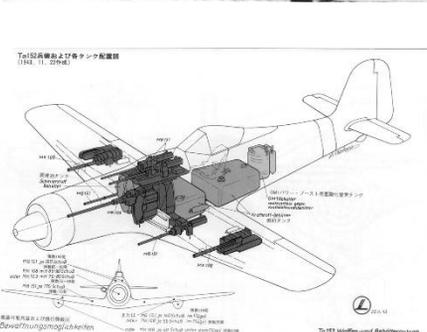
Way back in the day there was a huge demand for the 48th scale Tri-Master kit of the TA-152.....they were very rare and hard to find. As it turned out there was a fellow club member who had one, and I



<https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/focke-wulf-ta-152-h-0r11>



pestered him time and time again to get him to sell it to me. That went on for a couple of years, and then one day out of the clear blue, he rang my door bell and handed me the kit, asking for no money, and said build it. Well the pressure was on and I dropped all my current projects to start the project. I felt that I had bugged him for so long that I wasn't about to leave it sitting on the shelf.



TA-152

The kit wasn't up to today's standards, though it was pretty good for that time. It did have a short-shot left wing that had to be dealt with however. I managed to find a photo of the plane in a Monogram Close-Up magazine number 24 to use as reference.

The model is of the Ta 152 V7, W Nr. 110007 C1+XM. Following completion early in January 1945.

I believe the kit became available later as a DML kit and later a Dragon offering.



Editor's Note: I don't know if these are re-boxes or new kits; however, Revell makes a 1:72 scale Ta 152 H as does Aoshima and Italeri (see below). The SMS kits must be new (in 1:32 scale).





Okinawa:

The Bloody Finale

By Frank Ahern



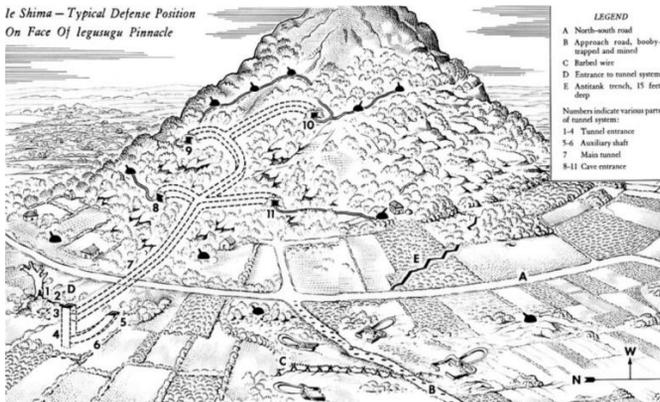
As we trudge down the historic gauntlet of the 75th anniversary of the end of WW2, beginning with the Battle of the Bulge and continuing along the island-hopping of the Pacific war, there is a tendency to overlook the final major battle and skip ahead to the triumphant conclusion. It's sort of like averting your eyes when you finally get to the accident on the interstate and rejoicing at the clear road ahead.



The battle of Okinawa was like a head-on crash between a tractor trailer and a Greyhound bus – carnage, death and destruction everywhere. The desperate last stand of an enemy who considered surrender unthinkable and suicide honorable. From the Allied perspective Okinawa was to be the launching pad for the invasion of Japan – like England was for Europe. The more realistic Japanese leaders saw it as the last chance to drive the Allies to the bargaining table for a negotiated peace settlement rather than total surrender. The fanatics saw it as a last chance to die with honor in a war that was already lost.

It began with the largest amphibious invasion of the Pacific war on April 1 and lasted 82 days of some of the most intense fighting of the war, despite the fact that the initial invasion was almost unopposed.

*Ie Shima – Typical Defense Position
On Face Of Iegusugu Pinnacle*



Okinawa: *The Bloody Finale*

What made Okinawa so difficult was that the Japanese had burrowed down in the hills on the southern end of the Island determined to fight to the last man.



Allied victory was inevitable, but the Japanese were committed to making it as costly as possible. Suicidal attacks were the defining characteristic of Okinawa both from the air and on the ground. Almost 25% of the massive Allied fleet that supported the invasion was damaged or destroyed by kamikaze-style attacks.



This was the only battle in the Pacific where the number of Navy personnel killed exceeded the Marines or Army. I will do a more detailed presentation on the kamikazes at an upcoming meeting. The death totals on the Japanese side were horrific. About 90% of the 110,000-man defense force was lost, and an estimated 50% of the 300,000 native Okinawans who were forced to fight for the Japanese were also killed. Some of these were school children no more than 13 years old.

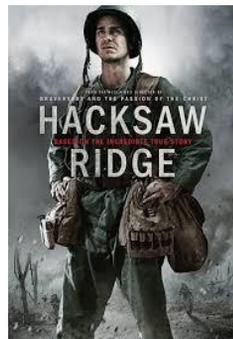


Okinawa: *The Bloody Finale*

Notable deaths on the Allied side included the Pulitzer Prize winning war correspondent Ernie Pyle (image right), and the highest-ranking US officer killed by enemy fire – Lt-Gen. Simon Buckner, commander of the combined 10th Army (image left) . It was also the scene of the action that produced 24 Medal of Honor awardees,



including the only conscientious objector to ever win the award – Desmond Doss, who was recently memorialized in the movie *Hacksaw Ridge*. If you want a visceral experience of the nature of the fighting on Okinawa watch that movie.



What was the final impact of the bloodiest battle in the South Pacific? At the time it was seen as just a prelude for Operation Downfall, the invasion of the island of Japan. Unbeknownst to the weary soldiers and commanders however a decision was begin made in Washington regarding the use of atomic weapons. The sacrifice and struggle of Okinawa played a big part in that decision. As President Harry Truman said about the potential invasion "*it would be like Okinawa from one end of Japan to the other*". In his mind that made the final decision an easy one.



Show and Tell



Lot's of models were displayed



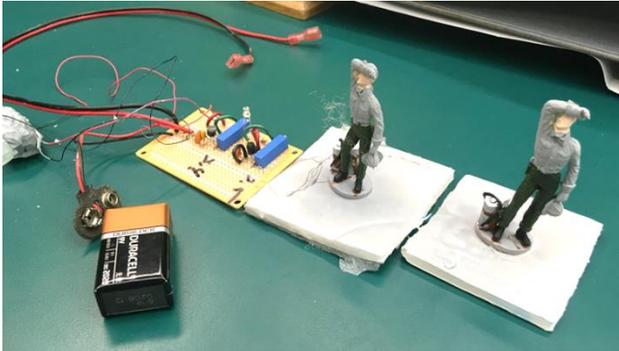
Show and Tell



A Pibber by Ken Wilson (welcome back Ken!)



Show and Tell



Paul Bennett showed his LED lighting system and 2 new figures



Doug Spinney “wowed” us with this 1”72 scale WWII Pacific Sherman and Japanese Type 94 tanket at Kwajalein. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanks_in_the_Japanese_Army. Another source says that this photo was taken in Burma

(https://www.reddit.com/r/TankPorn/comments/9nkwlp/supposedly_taken_in_burma_american_tank_jokingly/)



GATOR MODELERS
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA
www.gatormodelers.org
Ed Ingersoll



GATOR MODELERS
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Doug Spinney

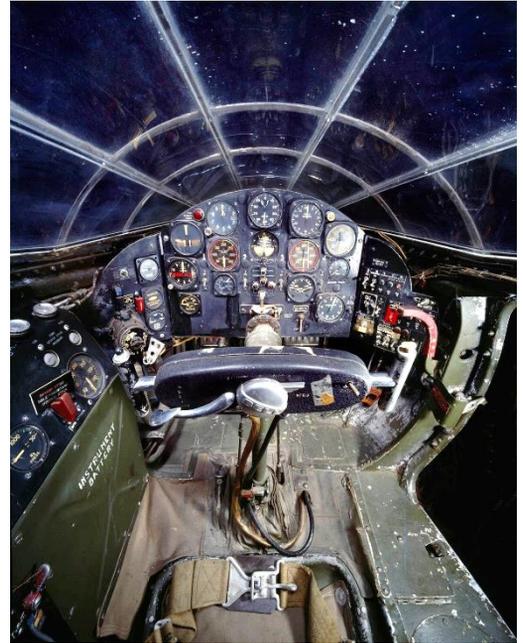
Show and Tell



Frank Ahern's EA-6B



Show and Tell



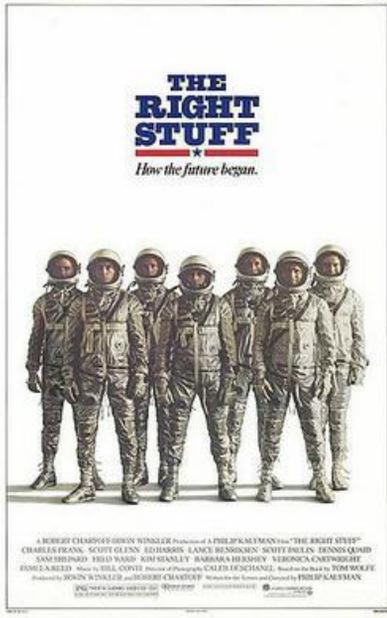
Reminds one of the Millennium Falcon
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<https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/bell-x-1>

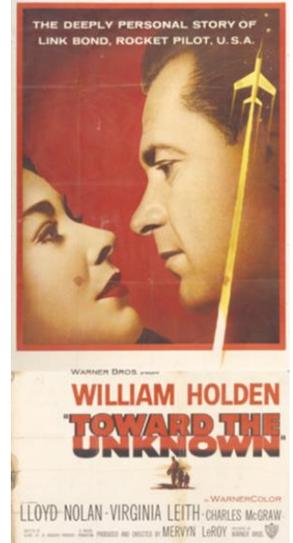


Editor's note – If you are interested in the early jet era, there are many fine (but sometimes romantic) films both recent and not so recent. From the 1980's check out: "The Right Stuff."



Also check out: Toward The Unknown.

In this film the XB-51 is renamed the XB-120 Gilbert



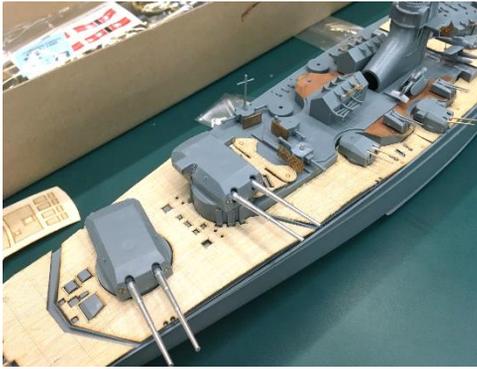
If you are interested in the early days of SAC, try "Strategic Air Command" with Jimmy Stewart.



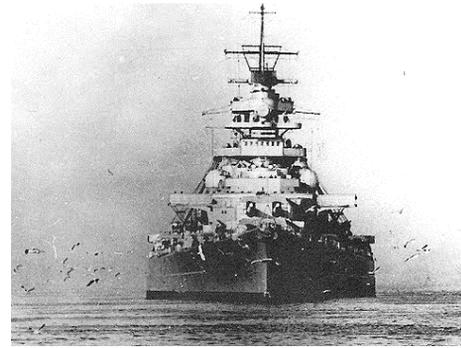
Back in January (I believe) Howard Burke brought these photos to the Ocala meeting to show the "real" Jimmy Stewart going on a real mission in Vietnam. Thanks Howard.



Show and Tell



Aaron Alt surprised us by bringing in his “in progress” Bismark with a real wood deck and metal barrels.



Paid members

Frank Ahern
Howard Burke
Ed Ingersoll
Chuck Lassiter
Jack Muga
Errol Whisler

The Alts
Dan Contento
Tony Ivone
Bob Lundeen
Tracy Palmer
Bill Winter

Paul Bennett
Brian Cormack
Allen Kaufman
Don Martin
Mike Redmond

Don Billups Mark Box
Bruce Doyle

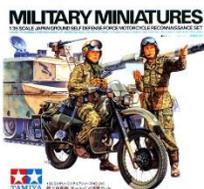
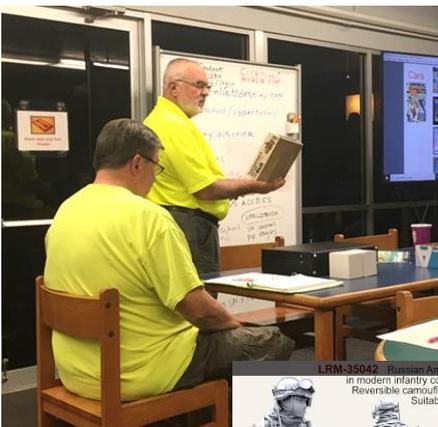
Michael Martinez
Doug Spinney

Please let me know if I made an error. – Bill (IPMS Gators’ Treasurer)

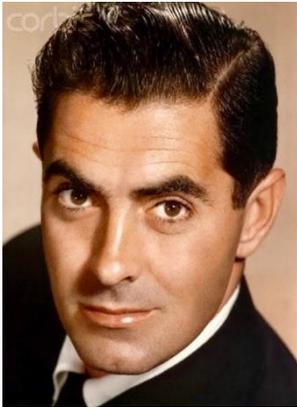
Members in Attendance



Tracy Palmer from Lake City gave a presentation that focused on figures.



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.

Tyrone Power

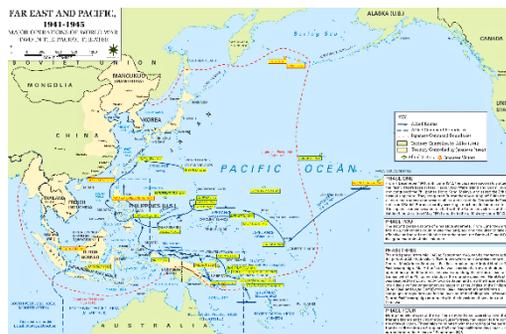
In August 1942, Power enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. As he had already logged 180 solo hours as a pilot before enlisting, he was able to do a short, intense flight training program at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas. The Marine Corps considered Power over the age limit for active combat flying, so he volunteered for piloting cargo planes that he felt would get him into active combat zones.



He flew missions carrying cargo in and wounded Marines out during the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. For his services in the Pacific War, Power was awarded the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two bronze stars, and the World War II Victory Medal.



WWII Victory medal



Hollywood Heroes - Tyrone Power

With his “matinee idol” good looks, Power was one of the biggest stars of the 19-30’s and ranked as the number 2 box office draw in 1939.



He was often cast in musical comedies like *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, and (Insert Power Zorro) swashbucklers like *Mark of Zorro* (photo below).



After the war he wanted to play more challenging roles and fought with the studio to take the lead in the film noir classic *Nightmare Alley*.



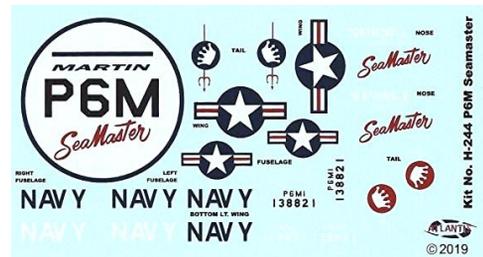
He died suddenly of a heart attack at age 44 while filming in Spain.

Odds and Ends from Members and Friends

From Bill – I came across an old set of instructions for the Lindberg “McDonnell XF-88 Voo Doo.” At first glance I thought the aircraft was rather unappealing; however as I looked at it more, WHAT A COOL AIRPLANE! If Ollies has one, please let me know. Thanks.



A blast from the past The Seamaster -> now available from Atlantis (<https://www.atlantis-models.com/p-6mmartinseamasterwithswivelstand1136scale.aspx>).



Odds and Ends from Members and Friends

From Bill – New from Hobby Boss is a 1/32 scale A-26B Invader Kit!



This adds to Hobby Boss' growing list of 1:32 scale kits.





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
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UPCOMING EVENTS

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

July 29-Aug 1 – IPMS Nationals – San Marcos, Texas



MONTHLY CLUB THEMES

~~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



A note about IPMS Gators' yearly dues

Below is the schedule of dues for people that join mid-year.

<u>Month you join</u>	<u>Your membership fee</u>	<u>Fee rounded to whole dollars</u>
Nov	\$20	\$20
Dec	\$18.37	\$18
Jan	\$16.70	\$17
Feb	\$15.00	\$15
Mar	\$13.36	\$13
Apr	\$11.69	\$12
May	\$10.00	\$10
Jun	\$8.35	\$8
July	\$6.68	\$7
Aug	\$5.00	\$5
Sept	\$3.34	\$3
Oct	\$1.67	\$2



IPMS Membership

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

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

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



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

New Renewal IPMS #:

Name:

Address:

City: State:

Zip Code:

Phone: E-Mail:

Chapter Affiliation, if any:

Junior (17 years or younger) \$17.00 Date of Birth:

Adult One year \$30.00

Two years \$58.00

Three years \$86.00

Canada & Mexico \$35.00

Foreign Surface \$38.00

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:

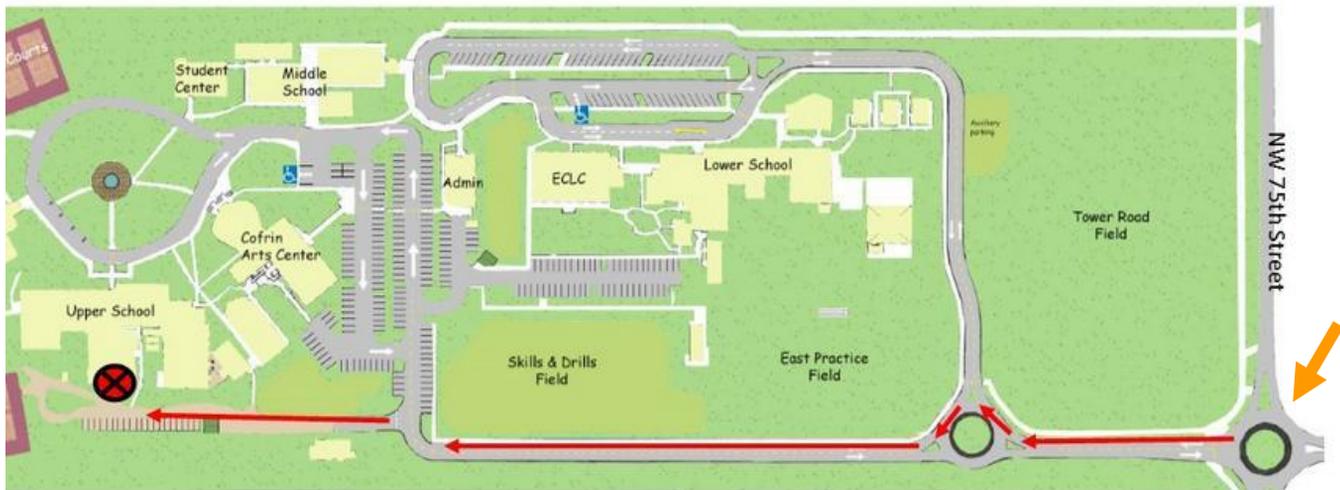
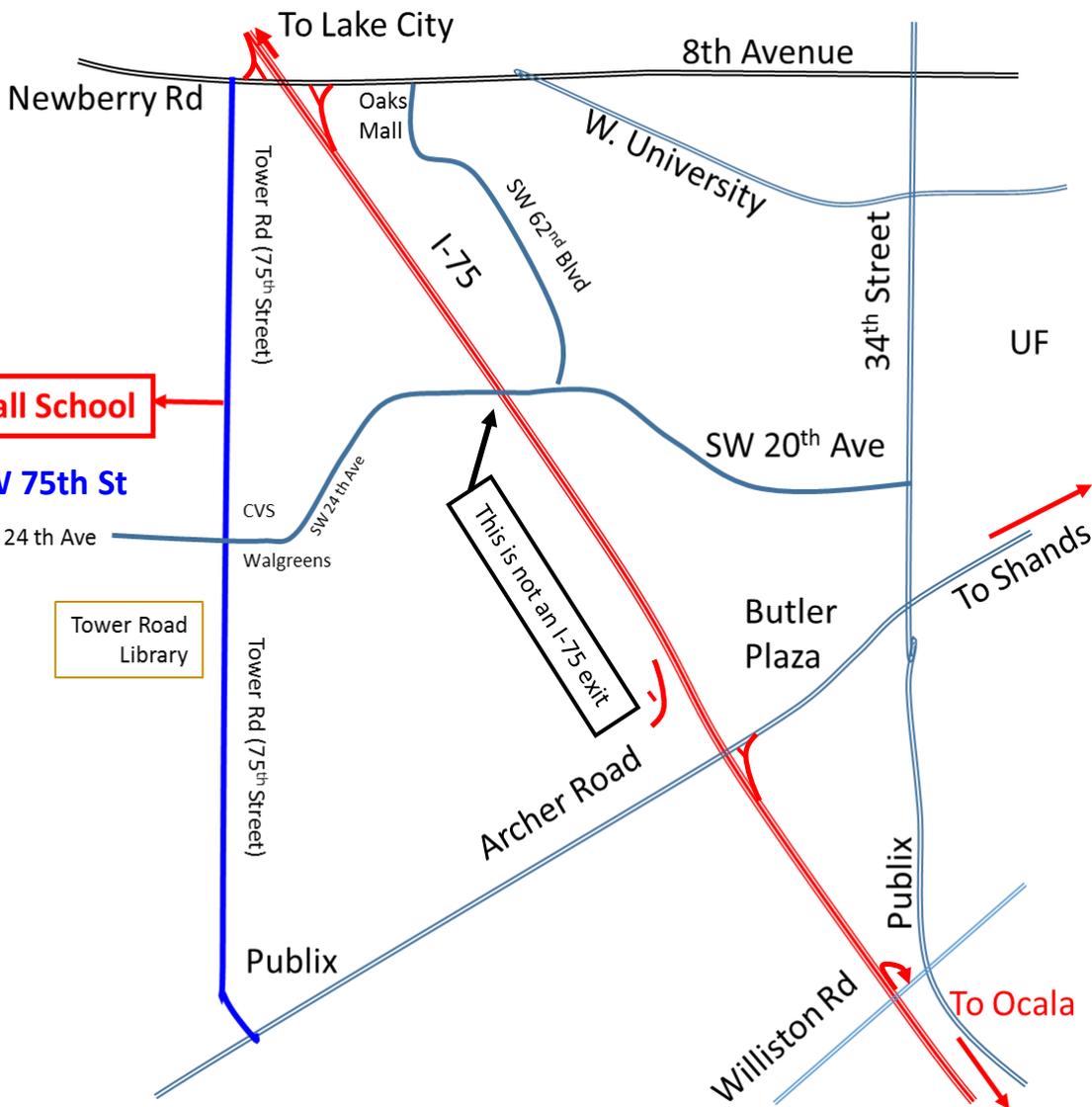
Zip Code:

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



How to get to the meeting

Oak Hall School
1700 SW 75th St



Note: The entrance is off of a roundel on NW 75th Street (a.k.a. – Tower Road).



www.gatormodelers.org

Wild Paint

By Jack Mugan



**APRIL MEETING:
STAY TUNED.**