



www.gatormodelers.org



Also see Frank Ahern's **PT 109**



MEMBER OF
IPMS

GATOR MODELERS

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

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

Prez Sez..... It is December already and Christmas is just around the corner. November was election day for not only the country but also the club. I, Doug Spinney, was elected President, more so because nobody else was nominated, but I'll still take it as a win just the same. Chuck Lassiter will remain our Vice President, Frank Ahern will stay on as our Secretary, and also staying on is our Treasurer/Newsletter Editor William Winter. Our outgoing President is Dan Contento and his leadership will be missed. He stayed on for three plus years and carried the club through the dreaded COVID lockdown, and with the help of Frank Aherns, led the club via Zoom meetings. We hear Dan actually builds models, time will tell.

The club Christmas party has come and gone, we had a good turnout. For the first time that I can recall we all chose a gift and each of us kept our choice with no takeaways. Plenty of food topped off with Chuck's famous Key Lime Pie.

Now that elections are over it is time for yearly dues again, so please be prepared to pry open those purse strings and wallets and pony up twenty bucks for the upcoming year*.

And just around the corner is JAXCON, February 10th and 11th, North Jacksonville Baptist Church, 8531 North Main Street, Jacksonville. I'm sure there will be several of our club members that will head that way, both to show winning models and to purchase future show winners.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

- Doug

* Editor's note: *If you pay by check, make the check out to: "Bill Winter."* It's kind of like making your check out to "John Powers" if you live in Alachua County and pay taxes.

December – IPMS Gators –

**We will meet Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM at
Oak Hall Library**

Minutes of the Club Meeting from Tuesday November 15, 2022

President Dan Contento opened the meeting at 6:35pm. 11 members were present.

He began with a discussion of the club Christmas party. It was agreed that it will take place on Sunday, Dec.4 beginning at 1pm at the condo at 2566 SW 14th Dr. (contact Bill Winter for a map: winter@pathology.ufl.edu).



A main dish will be provided and attendees should bring a side dish of dishes. An email signup will be circulated this week. A white elephant gift exchange is planned. Those who want to participate should bring a wrapped model kit or modeling-related item of at least \$20 in value.

The floor was opened for nominations for club officers. Existing officers - Bill Winter, treasurer; Chuck Lassiter, vice president; Frank Ahern, secretary - were re-elected. Doug Spinney was nominated for President and approved unanimously.

Dan Contento was given a plaque to honor his service as President from 2020-2022.



The new monthly modeling themes were announced and Contento led a discussion of the themes to provide clarification. A listing of the themes can be found at the end of every newsletter. The theme for December is Africa.

The meeting was paused to provide for viewing and judging of the theme models and discussion of Show & Tell items. The theme for November was Ships and the contest was won by Don Martin with his model of a Swedish gunboat.

The attendance raffles were drawn and Ed Ingersoll won and selected a Tamiya JagdPanzer kit. Errol Whisler also won and chose a Panzer II.

The planned presentation on The Ploesti Raid was postponed and Bruce Doyle filled in with remembrances of his interactions with WW2 aces Joe Forester and Gabby Gabreski when he attended Fighter Ace gatherings.

The meeting concluded at 8:00pm. Frank Ahern, Club Secretary



Emergency Fighters:

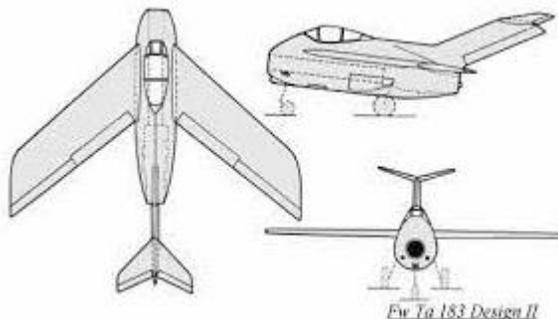


The Luftwaffe's Last Gasp

By Frank Ahern

As a kid who spent too much time doodling airplanes instead of paying attention in class, I have always been fascinated by the late war efforts of German aviation companies to save their nation with advancements in aircraft design.

By 1944 it was obvious to the Luftwaffe's high command that only a radical improvement in interceptor performance could stop the stream of Allied bombers that was destroying their country. They believed that stream would soon include the B-29, which was in the final stages of its development. The Me-262 had the performance but required 2 engines, making it too expensive for mass production. In mid-1944 an urgent request titled *Emergency Fighter Program* was sent to the major German aircraft manufacturers to submit designs based on using a single engine - the new Heinkel HeS-011 - which was under development and expected to be a big improvement over the Junkers Jumo 04 used in the Me-262.



A variety of radical designs emerged that took advantage of Germany's great technological lead in aerodynamics, specifically in the use of swept wings, and turbojet engines.



Emergency Fighters: The Luftwaffe's Last Gasp



The winner of the competition was Focke-Wulf's Ta-183, designed by Kurt Tank's protégé Hans Multhoff. It was nicknamed the "Huckebein", after a mischievous raven in a German fairy tale.

Much of the testing of the design was done using models, such as the 1/10 scale flying model shown being demonstrated to top Luftwaffe officials.



The promised Heinkel engine was not yet available due to lack of critical materials and the deteriorating war situation. Allied troops found only incomplete prototypes under construction when the war ended.





Emergency Fighters: The Luftwaffe's Last Gasp

This was not the end of the story for the Hückebein. Soviet troops discovered a treasure trove of research on the Ta-183 in the Luftwaffe's offices in Berlin and shipped it back of Moscow.



It's not hard to see the influence it had on the design of the Mig-15, which came as a nasty surprise to the USAF in the skies over Korea. Swedish engineers also borrowed heavily from the German design in

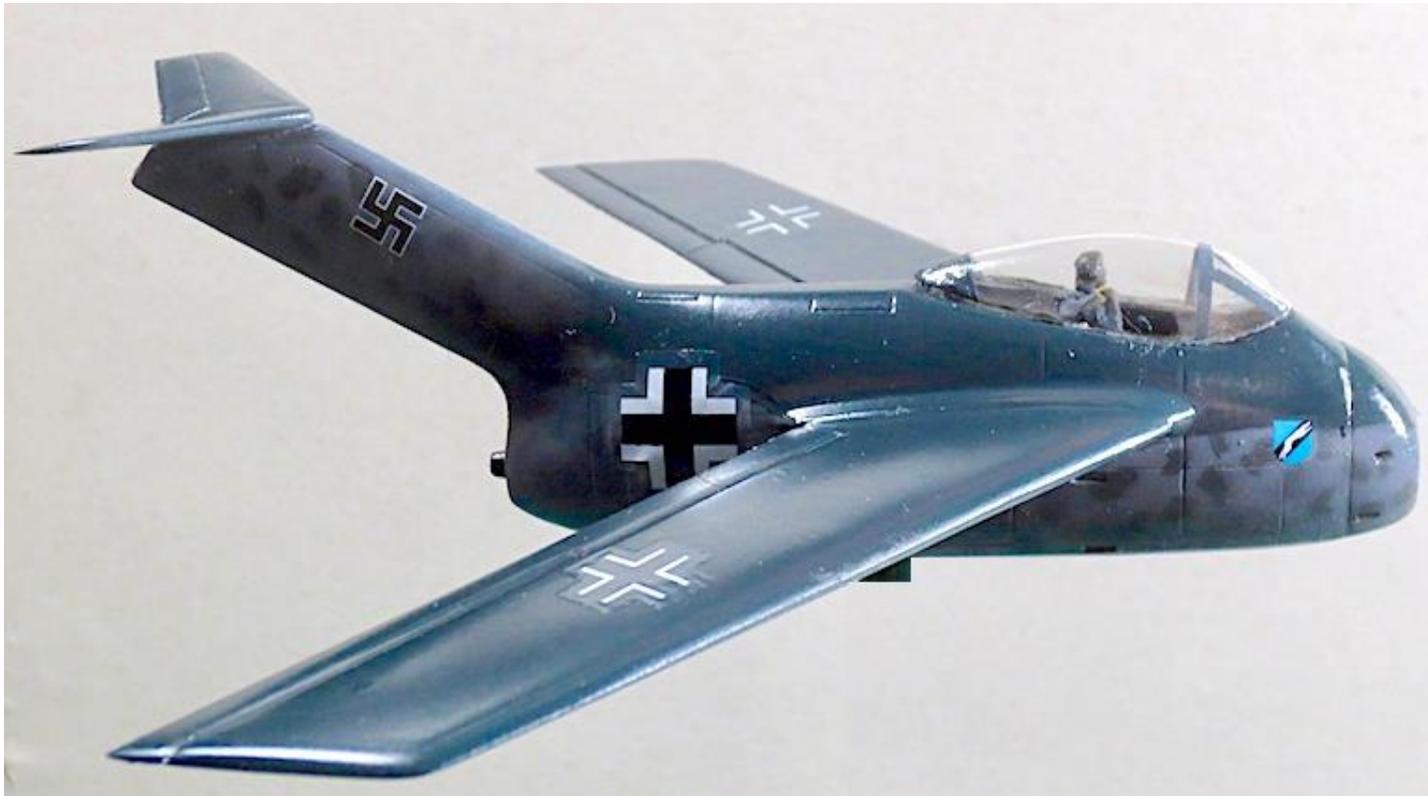


producing the Saab J-29 Tunnan (Barrel), which was the first operational swept wing jet in Western Europe.



My attempt to build the Hückebein was based on a model I bought during the swap meet after our inter-club contest in Ocala last summer. The only good thing I can say about the model is it was cheap. A number

Emergency Fighters: The Luftwaffe's Last Gasp

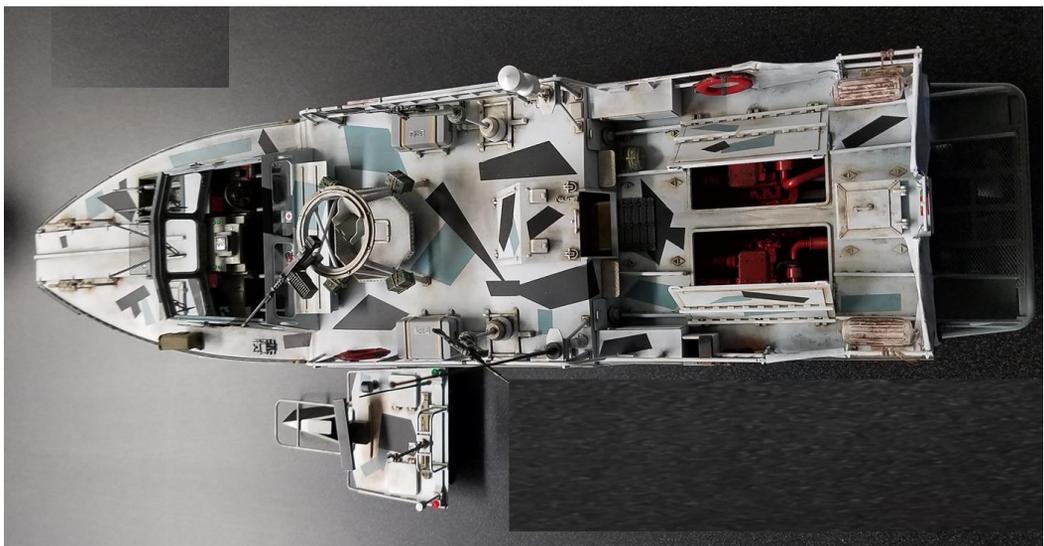
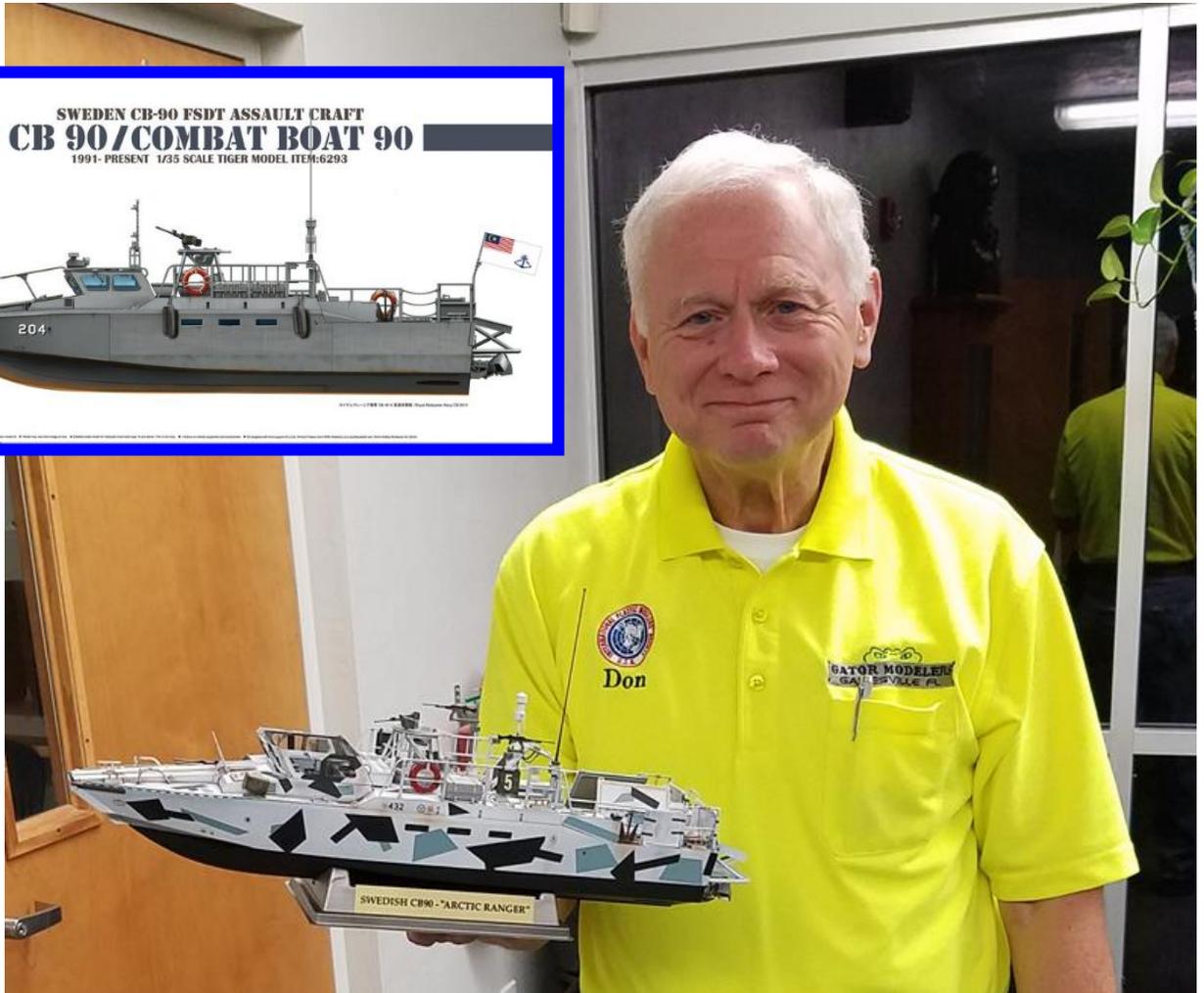


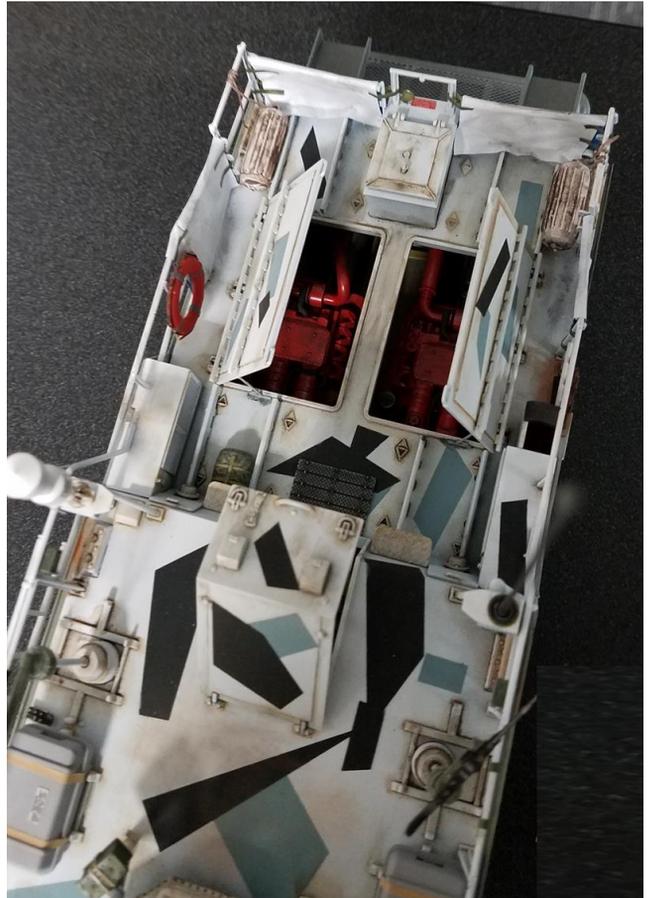
of better quality models of the Ta-183 have been produced in 1/48 scale, but I have restricted myself to 1/72 ,which limited me to the PM model from Turkey. The worst part of the kit was the fit of the canopy which I struggled with for weeks until Jack Muga came to the rescue with a vacu-formed replacement.

I have several other "Luft 46" kits from PM models which I will attempt to build in coming months if my patience holds out.



Don Martin Tiger Model, CB-90, lots of additions
Winner of the Monthly Contest: Theme: Ships





Frank Ahern Revell, PT-109, 1:72



PT-109 was an 80' Elco PT boat (patrol torpedo boat) last commanded by Lieutenant (junior grade) John F. Kennedy, future United States president, in the Solomon Islands campaign of the Pacific theater during World War II. Kennedy's actions in saving his surviving crew after PT-109 was rammed and sunk by a Japanese destroyer made him a war hero. Back problems stemming from the incident required months of hospitalization at Chelsea Naval Hospital and plagued him the rest of his life. Kennedy's postwar campaigns for elected office referred often to his service on PT-109. **Source:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrol_torpedo_boat_PT-109



Frank Ahern Revell, PT-109, 1:72



Revell
LEVEL 4
1 2 3 4 5
1:72
◆ 146 PARTS
↔ 34,1 cm
Patrol Torpedo Boat
PT-109

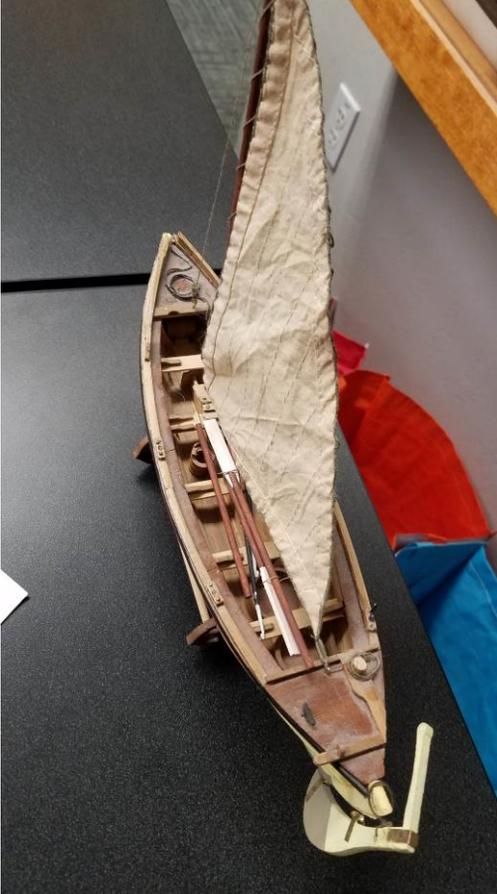
05147

Ed Ingersoll Testors, PT-109, 1:200, Scratch-built cages & barrels

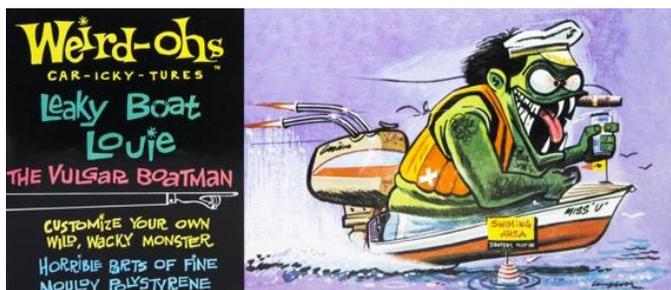




Dan Contento Wood Whale Boat



Doug Spinney Hawk, Leaky Boat Louie, OOB



Bob Lundeen Trumpeter Moskova, 1:700, diorama



Bob Lundeen Trumpeter Moskva, 1:700, diorama



ON THE BENCH from Mark Box

Back in September I started this Moebius Models 1/25 '68 Ford F-250 long wheelbase , converted to 4X4. I removed the XL Custom chrome on the sides, opened the bed side pockets, added wiring and plumbing. This is gonna be a replica build of my (deceased) cousin's 1 on 1 real truck, his widow's gift for Christmas. I converted this one to 4x4 and one month after I got the drivetrain done, Moebius released the '72 F-250 4X4 long bed with a snow plow. Not cheap but a SUPER nice kit!

Please align the photos showing the '68 kit at the top. Then the new snow plow kits after the text.



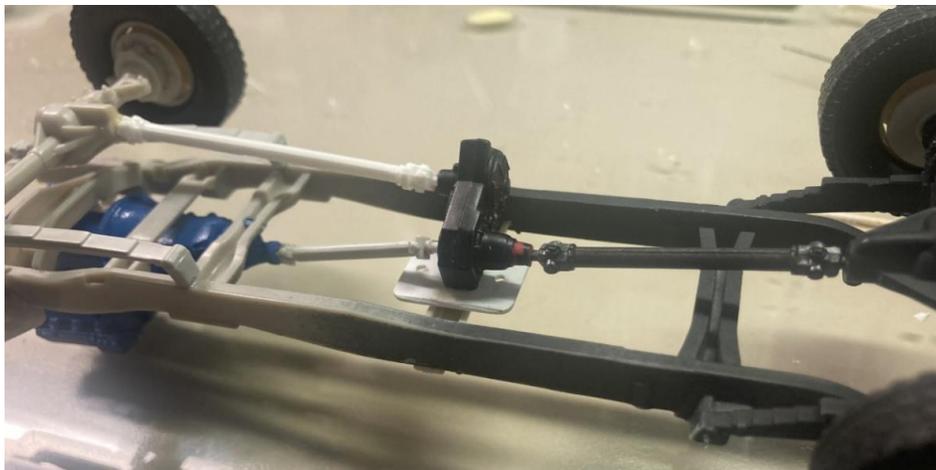
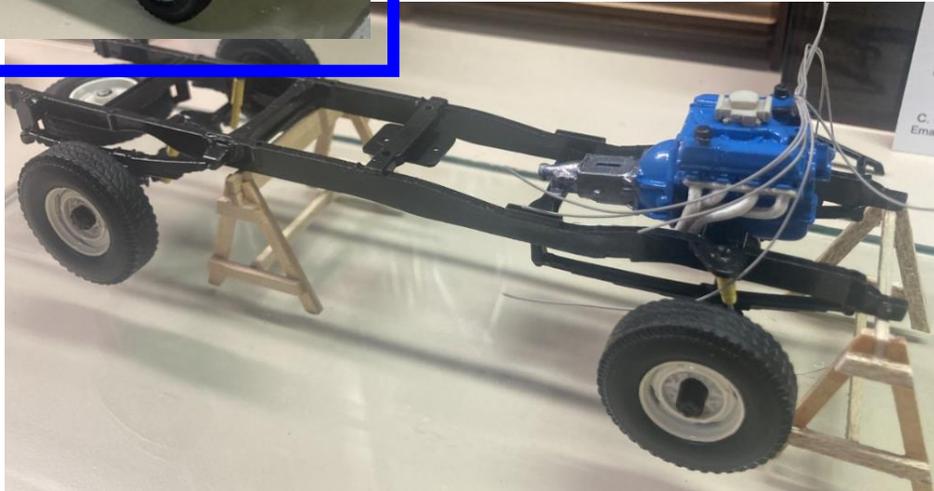
ON THE BENCH from Mark Box



ON THE BENCH from Mark Box



ON THE BENCH from Mark Box





From the desk of AJ Kwan.....

Last month Bruce Doyle and the Editor had an extensive discussion about B-17's in the 15th Air Force based in Foggia, Italy during WWII. AJ shared the following.....

Howdy,

*Hello from TX. The 5th Bomb Wing is active and at Minot AFB, ND. That is my old outfit, where I retired from. When I retired we were still part of the 8th Air Force. Just some FYI. Hope this is OK?**

AJ Kwan



**AJ – WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU.. The Editor!*

The **5th Bomb Wing** (5 BW) is a United States Air Force unit assigned to Air Force Global Strike Command's Eighth Air Force. It is stationed at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. The wing is also the host unit at Minot. The 5 BW is one of only two active duty Boeing B-52H Stratofortress wings in the United States Air Force, the other being the 2d Bomb Wing at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. Also, stationed at Barksdale Air Force Base, and operating the B-52H is a third unit, the 307th Bomb Wing, which is part of the Air Force Reserve Command.

Its 5th Operations Group is a successor organization of the 5th Group (Composite), one of the 15 original combat air groups formed by the Army before World War II.

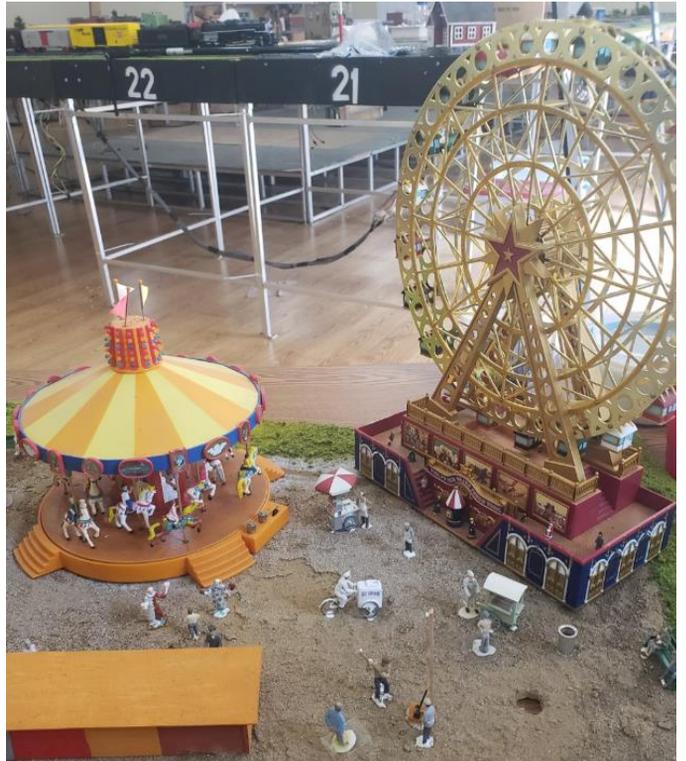
On 7 December 1941, the 5th Bombardment Group suffered the loss of B-17 Flying Fortress and B-18 Bolo bombers when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, but it sent two B-17s to search vainly for the Japanese task force. After the attack, the group patrolled the waters off the Hawaiian Islands until November 1942, taking part in the Battle of Midway (3–6 June 1942). Active for over 60 years, the 5 BW was a component wing of Strategic Air Command's heavy bomber deterrent force throughout the Cold War.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5th_Bomb_Wing

From the Bench of Clarence Snyder



From the Bench of Clarence Snyder





From the desk of Bruce Doyle.....

Lest we forget. .. Check out: <https://battleofthebulge.org/>

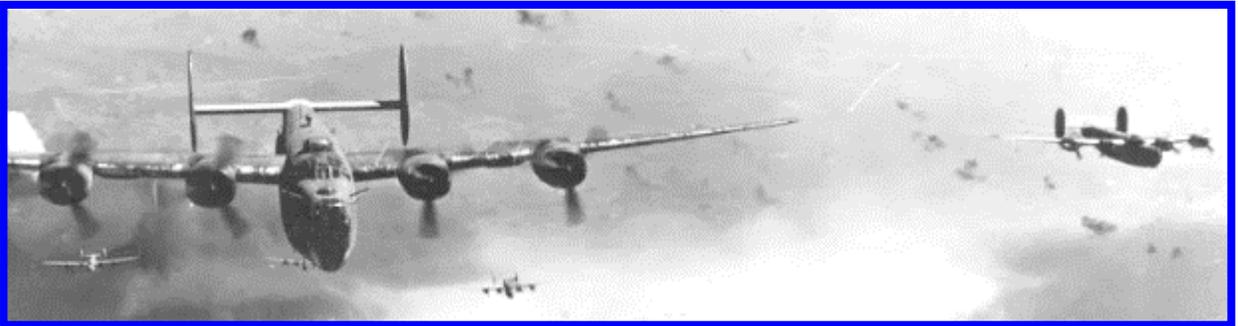
Battle of the Bulge Association®

Honoring the Veterans, Preserving Their Legacy



Ploesti Pete & "Florida Cracker"

... Pete emailed me this morning (11-16-2022) and feels terrible about missing the meeting. Pete's no spring chicken, and he's been working as a carpenter for three weeks. (I got tired just hearing that.) Worse, he fell off a scaffold yesterday and is laid up. He had everything set and ready to go to do his presentation so he is really disappointed. He apologizes, and hopes to get a restart if we'll have him.



If I knew I was going to talk about my friend Joe Forester I would have made some notes on what I was going to say. Since I did not prepare beforehand, let me add two items that I should have mentioned.

Joe visited the club twice, once at CH2M Hill and once at the Downtown Library. At the Library meeting someone brought a 1/48 model of a Tony. Seeing it Joe remarked that on a mission over New Guinea he saw one below him on his starboard side, ready to pass under him. Rolling his P-38 "Florida Cracker" in a left hand bank to get on the Tony's tail, he couldn't find him! He said because of the Tony's camo scheme it disappeared over the jungle canopy. Never to me has there been such a wonderful convergence of history and modeling! A living witness on why replicating the camouflage scheme on your Tony model was confirmed that it worked by someone who encountered the real thing in combat.

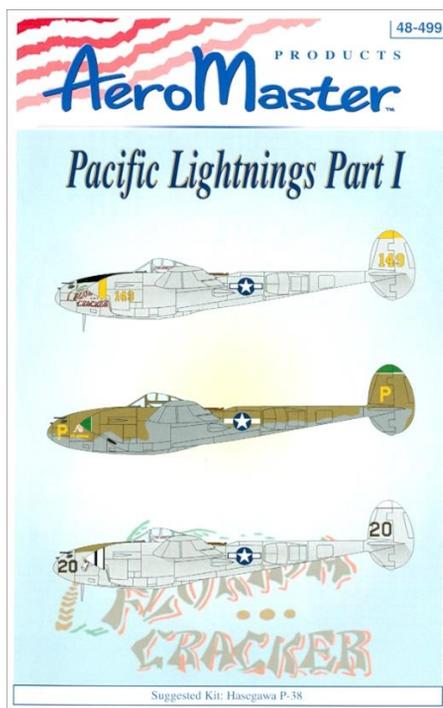


From the desk of Bruce Doyle.....

If you want to build a model of Joe's P-38, you're in luck! You can find on the secondary market a decal sheet for his aircraft. The late, lamented Aero Master made a deal sheet that includes it: Aero Master 48-499 P-38 Pacific Lightnings, Part 1. Rare Plane Detectives has a sheet of the decals for \$10. Back in the day I bought one and sent it to Joe so someone at the local IPMS Club could make an example of his plane for him.

So thanks for letting me share some of the things I've picked up about the Air War, the planes and the men who flew them, and building the models of their aircraft. I really enjoyed it, and would love to do it again if you would let me.

AeroMaster 48-499 Pacific Lightnings, Part I



There are dozens and dozens more tales and modeling tips. *Two quick modeling tips* I've learned from the men who flew the planes. The surface of the wings of the P-51 Mustang were not shiny, bare metal mirror like that you see on so many models. Because of the laminar flow wing design, the panels were filled and made smooth to help lessen drag and provide more lift. They were then painted with aluminum/silver colored dope. *Speaking of lift (tip #2):* all the WWII aircraft in all the services had the top wing color extended around the leading edge of the wing so as not to interfere with the flow of air over the wing. No big deal on your 1/72 models but maybe something to consider when building larger scale aircraft.

As Joe would say when signing off that I've copied many times: "Stay tuned...."



Some time in many past yesterdays, I bought a set of **Russian solders** (see photo below) that the box calls "Polite People." Not being sure who these polite gentlemen were, I found an interesting article on=



line (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-26532154>) published by the **BBC**. It turns out that these gentlemen were (are) Russian soldiers who annexed (invaded) Ukraine's Crimea in 2014. .. So they weren't very nice men.

Abstracted rom the BBC article are the following passages:

"Little green men" or "Russian invaders"?; Published 11 March 2014

Armed servicemen wait in Russian army vehicles outside a Ukrainian border guard post in the Crimean town of Balaclava March 1, 2014.

*Highly organised local 'self-defence groups' or Russian military?
By Vitaly Shevchenko, BBC Monitoring*

The internet has no shortage of photographs and videos showing armed men in Crimea who look like members of the Russian military. Their guns are the same as those used by the Russian army, their lorries have Russian number plates and they speak in Russian accents. Yet according to President Vladimir Putin, they are in fact members of "self-defence groups" organised by the locals who bought all their uniforms and hardware in a shop.

The state-run and pro-government media in Russia have chosen to take little notice of them, and the heavily armed men are rarely if ever shown on TV. Instead, they show groups of lightly-armed "volunteers" described as local "self-defence groups".

"Polite men" - Russian journalists less aligned with the Kremlin often use the phrase "polite men". According to centrist daily Nezavisimaya Gazeta, "'polite, armed men' are in charge of Crimea now". Describing them as Russian troops in the Russian media "is not the done thing, and even dangerous, too," prominent photojournalist Denis Sinyakov comments on - >





Russian media suggest that the heavily armed "polite men" have come to defend peaceful Crimean residents. According to popular blogger Ilya Varlamov, the term "polite men" was invented by spin doctors who arrived in Crimea from Moscow. "They are creating an image of a Russian liberator-soldier wearing a nice new uniform and armed with beautiful weapons, who has come to defend peaceful towns and villages," Mr Varlamov says.

Another phrase used by reporters in Russia and Ukraine alike is "little green men", which refers both to the colour of their uniforms and their unconfirmed origin. Their involvement in Crimea is a "tragicomic masquerade", says Russian liberal newspaper Novaya Gazeta, which argues that "the little green men will turn into Russian troops very soon".

According to Kiev-based private TV channel One Plus One, the term "little green men" was coined by local residents in Crimea. It is now frequently mentioned on Ukrainian TV, by a defence ministry spokesman in his posts on Facebook and even by Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk in his recent addresses to parliament.

Some Ukrainian journalists have criticised the use of this term. "Colleagues, stop using the affectionate term 'little green men' to describe the Russian troops," tweeted journalist Svyatoslav Tseholko. "Otherwise you get the impression that we trust Putin more than we do common sense."

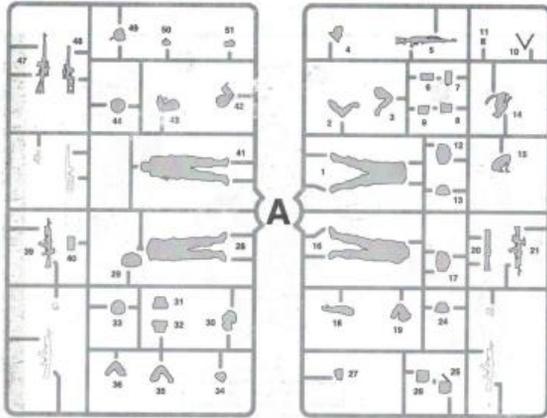


Most journalists in Ukraine, however, have little doubt about the true identity of the pro-Russian armed men. ... Ukrainian papers openly call the troops "Russian invaders"

"Russian invaders" and "occupiers from Russia" is how popular Kiev-based news website Ukrayinska Pravda describes the military men in Crimea.

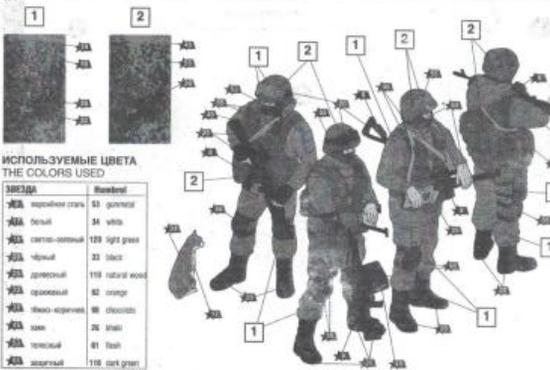


NOTE: This piece is not meant to be a political commentary but is a reflection on what Zvezda is producing for the world.



ОКРАСКА

PAINTING



ИСПОЛЬЗУЕМЫЕ ЦВЕТА THE COLORS USED

ЗВЕЗДА	Имя/цвет
1	темно-зеленый 53 dark green
2	темно-серый 34 white
3	светло-зеленый 139 light green
4	черный 33 black
5	бронзовый 119 natural wood
6	оранжевый 62 orange
7	фиолетовый 96 blue/black
8	красный 36 light
9	желтый 41 light
10	коричневый 118 dark green

СОВРЕМЕННАЯ РОССИЙСКАЯ ПЕХОТА "ВЕЖЛИВЫЕ ЛЮДИ"



MODERN RUSSIAN INFANTRY "POLITE PEOPLE"

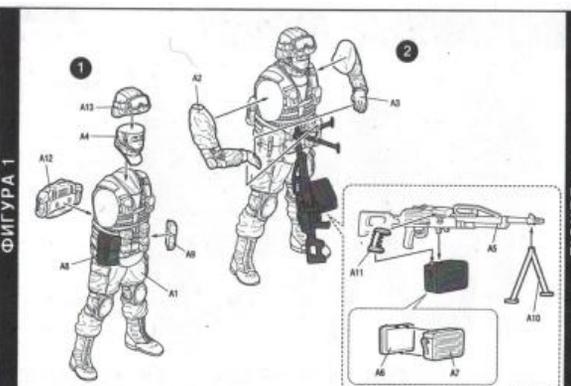
СДЕЛАНО В РОССИИ / MADE IN RUSSIA

Выбор из четырех фигур, так называемых «Вежливые люди» и фигуры котика. Звездочные подразделения появились в Крыму в конце февраля 2014 года. Подразделение появилось благодаря тому, что «Вежливые люди» представляли собой расформированные бригады ФСО.

The kit includes 4 figures of the so called "Polite people" and 1 cat figure. Mysterious military units appeared in Crimea at the end of February 2014 - later one started to suspect that these "Polite people" are in fact the units of the Russian army.

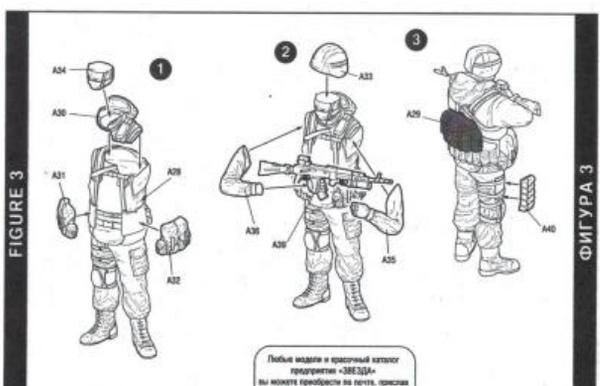
ВНИМАНИЕ! Прежде, чем приступать к сборке модели, внимательно ознакомьтесь с инструкцией. Собирайте и окрашивайте модель согласно инструкции. Не используйте краски, несовместимые с пластиком. Не используйте растворители. Не используйте инструменты, которые могут повредить модель. Не используйте инструменты, которые могут повредить модель. Не используйте инструменты, которые могут повредить модель.

ATTENTION - Before you start assembly, please read the instructions carefully. Assemble the model according to the instructions. Do not use paints that are not compatible with plastic. Do not use solvents. Do not use tools that can damage the model. Do not use tools that can damage the model. Do not use tools that can damage the model.



ФИГУРА 1

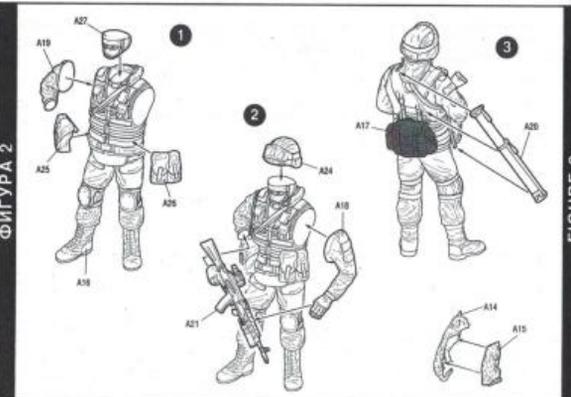
FIGURE 1



ФИГУРА 3

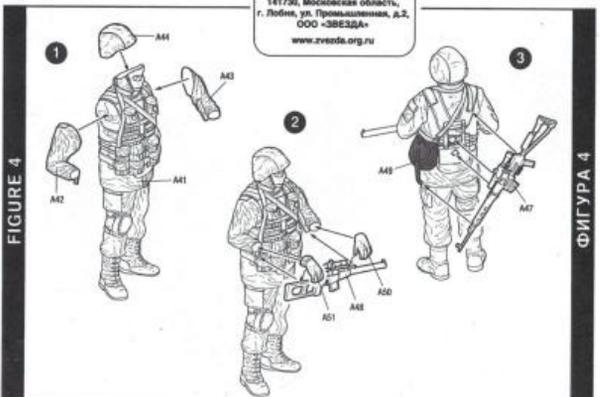
FIGURE 3

Любые модели и пластиковые детали производства «ЗВЕЗДА» вы можете приобрести по почте, прислав деньги по адресу:
141730, Московская область, г. Лобня, ул. Промышленная, д.2, ООО «ЗВЕЗДА»
www.zvezda.org.ru



ФИГУРА 2

FIGURE 2



ФИГУРА 4

FIGURE 4

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.

Please use one of the links below or go to the IPMS Membership page for more information about joining IPMS USA.

http://www.ipmsusa3.org/uploads/ipms_application_form_2016.pdf

<http://www.shopipmsusa.org/product-p/adult-membership.htm>

<http://www.shopipmsusa.org/product-p/family-membership.htm>

Frank Ahern, – Secretary – Newsletter Editor ahernf@gmail.com
Home: (352) 375-3723; Cell: (352) 226-6785

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Jaxcon 2023

February 10, 2023 - 5:00pm EST to February 11, 2023 - 6:00pm EST

North Jacksonville Baptist Church, 8531 N. Main St., Jacksonville, FL, 32218

AMPS Atlanta Annual Show

17-18 February 2023

Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd,
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092 ·



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.

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:

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

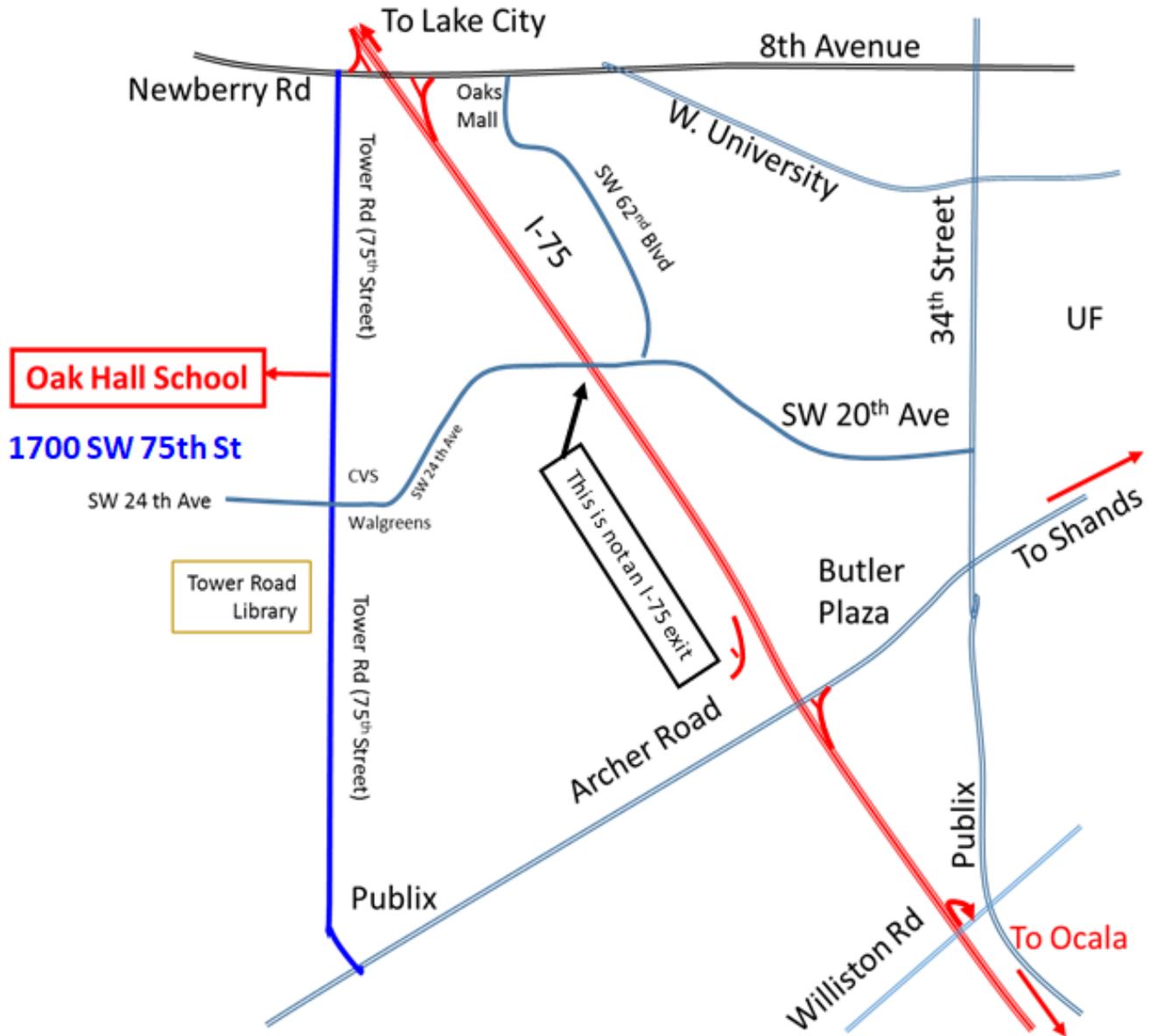
City: State:

Zip Code:

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



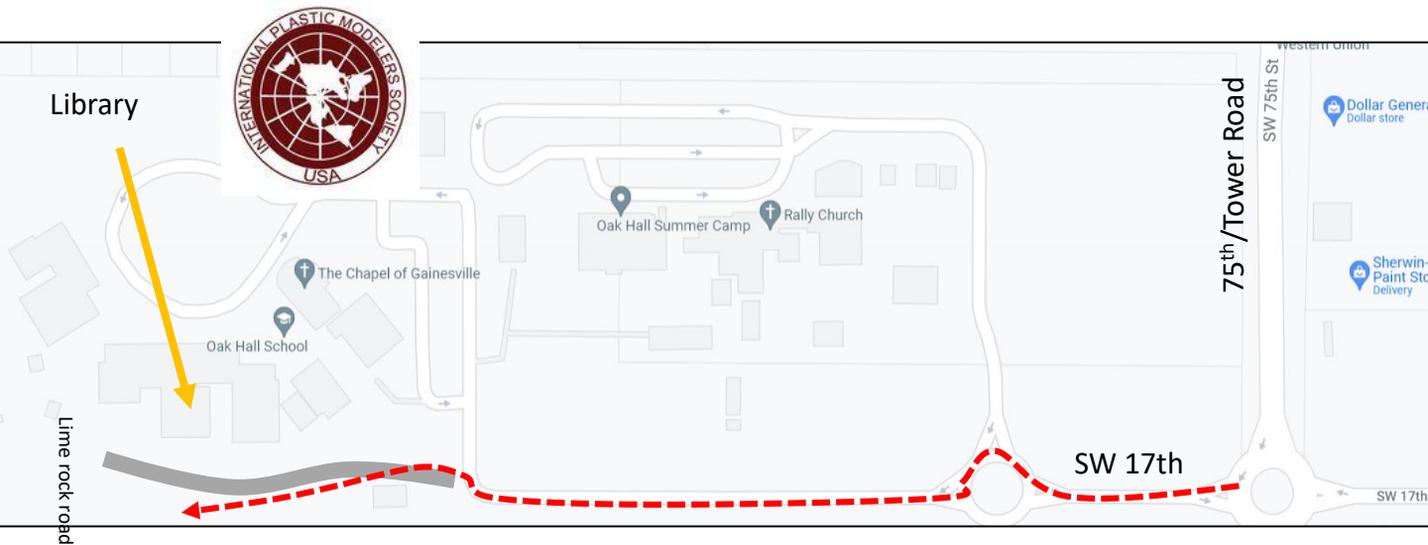
Directions to OAK HALL (1700 SW 75th St, Gainesville, FL)



From the editor: Can you ID this airplane?



IPMS GATORS' MEMBERS: We will meet at Oak Hall on Tuesday December **20** at 6:30 PM in the **LIBRARY**.



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

Answer to the previous quiz question: The B-21 Raider is a new high-tech stealth bomber being developed to replace the Air Force's aging bomber fleet.

Designed to be long-range, highly survivable and capable of carrying a mix of conventional and nuclear ordnance, the B-21 will join the nuclear triad as a visible and flexible nuclear deterrent; supporting national security objectives and assuring our nation's allies and partners.

Aircraft of the month...



B-29

A note about monthly themes for 2022 & 2023

Dec.	Africa
Jan.	Famous Ships
Feb.	Made In Italy
Mar.	Vehicle that arrives with less people than it started with.
Apr.	Worst model kit
May.	One of a Kind
June.	Real cars that race
July.	Prototypes
Aug.	Winter War
Sept.	Operation Torch WW2
Oct.	Anything that races
Nov.	Sci-Fi



Dear Readers – If you sent me something for the IPMS Gators' newsletter and I missed it, please let me know. I'll put it in the January newsletter. - Bill