



www.gatormodelers.org



2011 IPMS Region-11 ‘Chapter of the Year’, ‘Newsletter of the Year’ and ‘Web Site of the Year’

Next meeting:

Oct 15th at the Gainesville HobbyTown
7420 W. Newberry Road
Gainesville, FL 32609

Gator Modeler Officers:

- President: Frank Ahern
- Vice President: Mike Martinez
- Secretary: Ed Ingersoll
- Treasurer: Bill Winter
- Newsletter Editor: Ed Ingersoll
- Web Master: Andy Renshaw
- Club Historian: Bruce Doyle
- Club Photographer: Paul Bennett

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GATOR MODELERS UNVEIL FLORIDA’S AVIATION HISTORY DISPLAY AT MODELPALOOZA EVENT IN ORLANDO



Gator Modelers participated in the Modelpalooza Event in Orlando last month where they unveiled their Florida’s Aviation History display. (continued)

Prez Sez



Next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the beginning of World War 2 – the greatest conflict in human history. Nothing before or since comes close to the scope and scale of WW2. Although the history of the war is alive and well (as you can see in my review of *An Army at Dawn*), the people who fought in it and survived are quickly passing away.

Prez Sez (Continued)



The video of the veterans from Mississippi visiting the WW2 monument in Washington on the day of the government shutdown was a poignant reminder that those few who are left are nearing the end. Our club has the honor of hosting one of the few at our next meeting on Oct. 15, and not just any veteran, but the winner of a Distinguished Flying Cross and 3 Silver Stars.

Tom Hardeman was a fighter pilot who flew missions in the Panama Canal Zone, North Africa and Italy, ending the war with 4 kills. Thanks to the effort and contacts of club historian Bruce Doyle, Tom will come to our next meeting to share his experiences and some of the artifacts from his time in service. Those who have models of the P-51, P-39, P-40 or Spitfire are encouraged to bring them to the meeting, as these are some of the planes that Tom Hardeman flew. Hope you can make it for what promises to be a fascinating and historically significant evening!

Gator Modelers Unveil Florida's Aviation History Display (Continued)

Mike Martinez arranged for and coordinated the display table at the event. Several modelers from the club provided models for the display most of which Mike transported to the show. Many thanks go to Mike for coordinating the display in Orlando. The display should grow over time as more members add their models. The plan is to have at least two models representing Florida Aviation History from each decade. The display will be used at events in and around Gainesville in hopes of attracting new members to the club. Plans are already underway to set up the display at Jaxcon in February.

Thanks to all the modelers that provided models for the event.



Gator Modelers Participate at Modelpalooza Event



Several Gator Modelers participated in the Modelpalooza Event last month. There were about 150 entrants with a total of nearly 500 models entered into the event. Three club members entered models and all three managed to bring home medals. Jack Mugan won a Bronze Medal in Dioramas with his S-Boat, Bob Lundeen won a Bronze Medal in Armor with his T-34 and he also won a Certificate of Commendation in Dioramas with his FW-190, Ed Ingersoll won a Bronze Medal in Armor with his WLA Motorcycle and a Bronze in Aircraft with his Jaguar T.2. Congratulations to all of the winners. There were about 70 vendor tables with

many good deals to be had! Bill, Jack and Ed shared a vendor table with former club member Claude Moulton and managed to sell a few kits but they all also managed to replace them with new projects from many of the other vendors. Ed spent about 3 and a half hours helping with the judging on Saturday afternoon. The judging took a lot of extra time to complete due to the Gold, Silver, Bronze style of judging. Many additional members took a trip down to the event to check out the models on display and to add new kits to their stashes. All in all, the event was a lot of fun for everyone that attended.



Gator Modelers September Meeting Hi-lights

12 club members and 1 visitor attended the Gator Modelers Club meeting on September 17th. Club President, Frank Ahern, opened the meeting asking for a status update on the Florida's Aviation History Display models. Several models were displayed at the meeting. Mike Martinez volunteered to update the model information cards and take the models down to Orlando where he would be setting up the display table at the Modelpalooza

Event. He discussed the presentation that was scheduled for the meeting. Frank also discussed the upcoming Christmas Party that is scheduled for December 14th in lue of the regular meeting. The party will be held at Bill Winter's Residence like we did last year. Frank also asked that each person attending the party to bring a covered dish to share and a wrapped model related gift for the gift exchange if you wish to participate. Bruce also mentioned a possible club presenter for the October meeting by the name of Tom Hardeman who had served in WWII with the 31st Fighter Group also known as the "Candy Tails". Bill reminded everyone about the Club Contest that is fast approaching.

Frank ended the business meeting by opening up the floor for Show-n-Tell.

Gator Modelers September Meeting Models

Steve: Gulf Breeze UFO

Frank: 1/144 Boeing 707, Air Force One

Paul: 1/72 Mercury Capsule

David: 1/25 1966 Chevy Nova in progress

Ed: 1/330 Navy Blimp K-74

Bob: 1/48 F4 Phantom

Nate: 1/72 F-22A Raptor





Next Gator Modeler Club Contest Reminder

Jack Mugan won the May Club Contest and has selected “Any kind of Racer” as the theme for the next club contest which will be held during the November 19th meeting.

October Business Meeting

The Gator Modeler Executive Officers held a lunch meeting on October 2nd at Steak-n-Shake. Four executive committee members attended the meeting. The topics discussed were:

- Club Auction Fund Raiser
- Modelpalooza Contest and Display update
- October Meeting Presentation- WWII Pilot Tom Hardeman will share his experiences during the war

October Meeting Presentation

The October Meeting presentation will be Tom Hardeman who will come to our next meeting to share his experiences and some of the artifacts from his time in service.

IPMS Update

I did not receive anything this month from IPMS Region-11 Regional Coordinator, Tony Ivone. The Chapter of the Year, Newsletter of the Year and Web Site of the Year awards for IPMS Region 11 were given out at the Modelpalooza Event in Orlando. Jacksonville won Chapter and Web site of the Year awards and the FAST club won Newsletter of the Year. Congratulations to all the winners for a job well done!

IPMS Region-11 Contests

2013

Sept. 28-29	Regional Contest; Modelpalooza IPMS Orlando	Orlando, FL
Oct. 26-27	Pumpkin Run IPMS FAST	Ocala, FL

2014

Feb. 1	IPMS First Coast	Jacksonville, FL
Mar. 15	IPMS Flight 19	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Apr. 5	IPMS Wings Wheels Keels	Venice, FL
May 2-3/17-18	IPMS Space Coast Regional Contest / Show	Cocoa, FL
Jun. 7	ScottCon 2014	Warner Robins, GA
Aug.	IPMS 2014 National Convention	Hampton, VA
Sept. 27-28	IPMS Orlando	Orlando, FL
Oct. 25	IPMS FAST	Ocala, FL

Links, Reads, and Views

For the latest news from Fantasy of Flight

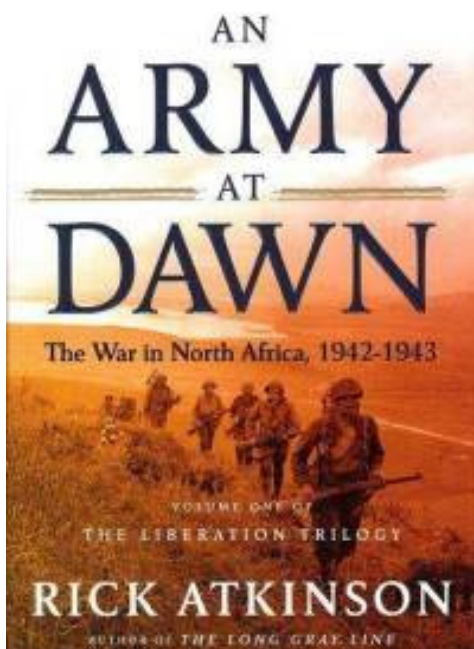
fantasyofflight.com

Pictures of the Modelpalooza show are placed at this link below

Courtesy of Andy Mason

<http://s111.photobucket.com/user/warthog1vr/slideshow/Modelpalooza%202013>

Book Review:



An Army at Dawn.

By Rick Atkinson

Reviewed by: Frank Ahern

Anyone with more than a passing interest in military history has by now heard of the monumental “*Liberation Trilogy*” by Rick Atkinson, which chronicles the US involvement in the European theater of WW2. I have read my share of military history books, but I must say that this one is different. Atkinson’s style is the exact opposite of that other famous WW2 historian – Stephen Ambrose. Where Ambrose focused on individuals with the purpose of showing feats of heroism and valor, Atkinson looks at the big picture and is ruthless about showing the failings of commanders and the foibles of war. Ambrose often relies on post-war interviews for source material. Atkinson draws his insight from letters and communications recorded during the conflict – the raw and often nasty notes that reveal what soldiers and commanders were really thinking at the time, not sanitized after the fact to protect post-war

reputations. The result is you get a glimpse of what it was like to sit in a strategy meeting with the top brass, or share a foxhole with a grunt on the front line.

Atkinson is no romanticizer of war. You will not come away from this book with a sense of pride about the efficiency and character of our military, or the nobility of the struggle to free Europe from Hitler. Instead I was left with a feeling of amazement that we did prevail in spite of seemingly endless screw-ups caused by poor planning, bad leadership, and lack of coordination, cooperation and mutual respect with the armies that were supposed to be our allies.

It's not surprising that America was unprepared for war in 1942. There was a strong, isolationist mood in this country during the 19-30's that resisted any foreign involvement. Combine that with a national economy that had not fully recovered from the Great Depression and its no wonder that the US military was second rate at best in the beginning of the war. For this reason we tend to focus on D-Day and events after the invasion of Normandy and ignore the bumbling and stumbling efforts that characterized the two and a half years prior. Our ineptitude was made more glaring by the fact that we were facing the German Wehrmacht, a well-oiled military machine that had been preparing for war for a decade.

That said, I don't want to give the impression that this book is just a recitation of tactics and casualties.

Atkinson is a wonderful scene-setter, with an eye and ear for little details that give you a real sense of what it was like to be there, both for the troops and the generals.

It is the generals who get the closest scrutiny, however, and few emerge unscathed. Eisenhower is portrayed as an armchair commander who doesn't want to get too close to the fighting, an indecisive political leader worn to a frazzle trying to keep the peace between the allies. Patton was bold but often foolish and a poor planner who didn't comprehend the need for logistical support. Montgomery comes off as an egotistical buffoon who won't risk his reputation on any battle unless he is assured of victory.

One of the revelations of this book for me was the depth of the distrust and dislike between the British and American commanders. Our military leaders saw no purpose in the "soft underbelly" strategy sold by Churchill to Roosevelt, which delayed the inevitable invasion of Europe by skirmishing with the Germans in North Africa. Our brass saw this as British fear of getting their nose bloodied on the continent again such as happened in the events leading up to Dunkirk.

The British saw our woeful initial performance in North Africa and surmised that the Yanks were poor fighters and totally unprepared to face the Germans. There were large elements of truth in both viewpoints.

It was the disaster at Kasserine Pass that brought things to a head. It was probably the worst single defeat ever suffered by the US Army. It resulted in a shakeup of command structure and a realization that this was serious business. Fortunately for us and unfortunately for Rommel, the Germans were preoccupied with the Eastern Front and failed to provide the support necessary to follow up the victory. In the end it was America's industrial output, which was the real hero of WW2, that tipped the balance in favor of the Allies.

Some have complained that Atkinson is too negative in his assessment of our performance in North Africa, and I can't deny that this is a generally negative assessment. I have not finished reading the second book on the invasion of Sicily and the Italian campaign, but it continues the same theme, and shows that we didn't learn all the lessons we should have. This book and the two that follow are important works of history. *An Army at Dawn* won the Pulitzer Prize, and deservedly so, for by focusing on first-hand contemporary accounts it strips away the myths and propaganda that inevitably get layered over time on the story of any war. Now we can finally see it for what it was – and it wasn't a pretty sight.

Ten Commandments of Membership

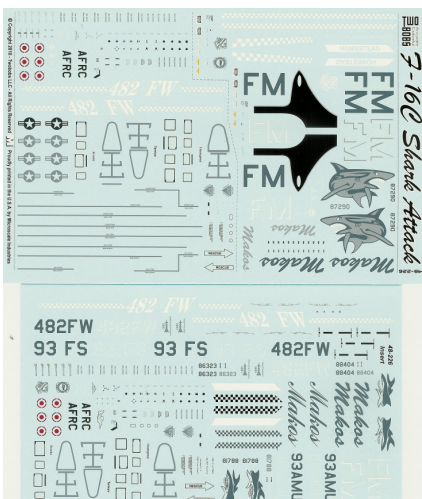
by Tony Humphries from Albuquerque Scale Modelers Newsletter

- 1) Thou shalt enjoy thyself; otherwise why bother?
- 2) Thou shalt build whatever tickles thy fancy (as long as thy fancy is not tickled by anything too perverse, disturbing or downright illegal. Or that actually involves tickling. If it is, seek help).

- 3) Thou shalt build whenever and wherever possible and are positively encouraged to enter competition and/or display your work at club meetings and IPMS events. Incentives may be introduced in this regard ranging from prizes to thumbscrews, as the occasion warrants.
 - 4) Thou shalt not wear sandals to club meetings. Especially with white socks.
 - 5) Thou shalt extol the virtues of IPMS whenever possible and membership is encouraged, although not of course required unless you are an Executive Board member.
 - 6) Thou shalt not allow disagreements over paint schemes, decals, techniques or indeed anything else to degenerate into squabbles of any kind, verbal or written abuse or actual fisticuffs. At least, not until you get out into the carpark outside and have given the rest of us the opportunity to catch up and to start placing bets.
 - 7) Thou shalt volunteer to help out with club events wherever possible and shall absolutely stand for election to E-Board positions (hint, hint-nomination time is here again) particularly when thou hast been a member for a couple years or so. Fresh perspectives and ideas are always welcome and you can provide them. Ditto for newsletter contributions. Let's face it-anything has got to be better than this nonsense, right?
 - 8) Thou shalt not build anything French. Unless it is an official club build, in which case a temporary exception may be granted. Actually no, let's just go with the first sentence after all...
 - 9) Diversity and variety shall be celebrated. No member shall discriminate against any other on the basis of class, creed, sex, religion, orientation or nationality. Unless they are French, obviously, in which case they knew the risks before joining and shall deserve no sympathy.
 - 10) Thou shalt share your knowledge, tips, hints etc. whenever possible for the betterment of all. People will generally be grateful for this. Where they are clearly not listening, a vigorous slap about the head is permissible. Preferably with a large root vegetable.
- So there we have it. A simple set of guidelines, for a happier club, I'm sure you'll agree. The actual, real official club By-laws, rules etc. are all accessible from the club website by the way and I encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with them. There may be a pop quiz at the next club meeting!

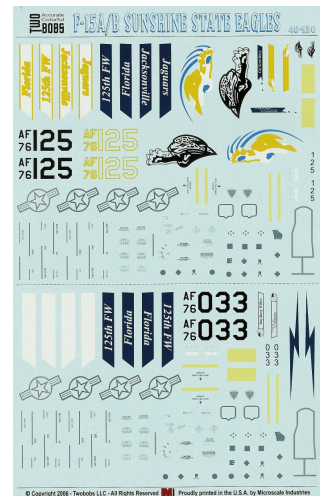
New Kit Releases

By Bill Winter



What do you want Winter?

I purchased some 1:48 scale F-16 decals from TwoBobs and I wanted to let you know it was easy to do (over the web) and it was "relatively" inexpensive. I needed FANG (Florida Air National Guard) decals to put on an F-16 for the club build. I ordered 2 sets of F-16C Florida (see FANG F-16C Makos Shark Attack). The list price was \$12 per set and they were on sale for \$9. Possibly even better, TwoBobs had on sale for \$3, a set of FANG F-15A/B decals. No sharks. . . . but still nice (see FANG F-15 A and B). I got 4 sets because they were so cheap.



For armor guys (or gals), it's a great time to be alive. AFV club just released a new 1:35 scale M-109A6 Paladin (. . . can you remember Richard Boone in "Have Gun - Will Travel" who played the character of Paladin).



I heard that there was a kit of the D9R Doobi at Modelpalozza in Orlando that sold for ~\$80.00. Lucky Model lists the kit for \$42.99 plus \$20.95 for shipping. Squadron lists the kit for \$89.99 and sells it for \$80.99. It is out of stock at Squadron. Patience can pay off - in a few years I predict it will sell for no more than \$40.

Hot Off the Presses - There may be a new plastic-model producing company: Mirror Models. They are from Ireland and produce very cool subjects - trucks from WWII. What caught my eye is their production of a **US Diamond T969 Wrecker** but other trucks are equally interesting such as: **US Diamond T9698 Cargo, Hard top, MP Chevrolet C60L GS Truck, CMP C15A Chevy Lorry Van, Cab 13 and CMP C15A Chevrolet Lorry Van.** I haven't read any reviews of these kits but the photos that are on-line look good!

Events Calendar

See The IPMS Update for the latest IPMS Region-11 Events listing.

Oct. 15	October Gator Modelers Meeting	
Nov. 19	November Gator Modelers Meeting/Club Contest	
Dec. 14	Gator Modelers Christmas Party at Bill Winters Residence (no regular meeting)	
Jan. 10-11	Chattanooga ModelCon	Chattanooga, TN
Feb. 1	Jaxcon	Jacksonville, FL
Feb. 14-15	AMPS Atlanta Regional Show	Atlanta, GA
Apr. 3-5	AMPS International Convention	Fredericksburg, VA

Modeler's Tip of the Month

Free modeling tip!

From FineScale Modeler newsletter

Mike Allen, Pensacola, Florida, submitted this helpful modeling tip:

Have you built model aircraft you can see through after completion because certain openings don't have blocking plates? I recently built a P-47, and it was obvious during test-fitting that you would be able to see through the exhaust near the cowl.

It's easy and simple to solve this problem with facial or toilet tissue. First, paint it black with a spray can or airbrush. Let that dry, then trim off a section or two and use white glue to attach it where you want to block an opening. I position such pieces so they sort of float above the area to give it some depth. You don't want to be able to see the paper; instead, it should look like a black void.

It's easy to try - and you'll never have to build a bulkhead again. Also, tissue is so light it won't upset the center of gravity on tricycle-gear aircraft. I have used parts of a single tissue on several different models.

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; they support us in many ways.

Gainesville HobbyTown

Eric Canto: Proprietor

7420 W. Newberry Road (next to Sports Authority)

Gainesville, FL 32606

www.gainesvillefl.hobbytown.com

Mon.-Fri.:10 AM to 7PM

Sat.: 10AM to 5PM

Sun: 12PM to 4PM

Please check out WWW.IPMSUSA.ORG for the latest information from IPMS National Headquarters and for information about joining IPMS.

IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION	
IPMS No.: _____	Name: _____ <small>Leave Blank First Middle Last</small>
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____	E-mail: _____
Signature (Required by PO): _____	
Type of Membership: <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 1 Year: \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 2 Years: \$49 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult, 3 Years: \$73	
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Under 18 Years): \$12 <input type="checkbox"/> Family, 1 Year: \$30 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada & Mexico: \$30 <input type="checkbox"/> Other / Foreign: \$32 (Surface) <input type="checkbox"/> Other / Foreign: \$55 (Air)	
Payment Method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card (MC / Visa Only)	
Credit Card No.: _____	Expiration Date: _____
If Recommended by an IPMS Member, List His / Her Name and Member Number:	
Name: _____	IPMS No.: _____
IPMS/USA	
P.O. Box 2475	
Check out our webpage: www.ipmsusa.org North Canton, OH 44720-0475	

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