



[www.gatormodelers.org](http://www.gatormodelers.org)



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

**Next meeting:**

September 16<sup>th</sup> at the  
Gainesville Hobby Lobby  
6111 W. Newberry Road  
Gainesville, FL 32605

**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 Moving Meeting Location

The Gator Modelers will be move the meeting location over to Hobby Lobby which is located at 6111 W Newberry Road just behind the Burger King **starting with the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting**. The meeting will be held in the Hobby Lobby classroom which is located on the east side of the store and is near the Framing Counter. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM and it needs to wrap up as close to 8 PM as possible since Hobby Lobby closes at 8PM. Don't forget to bring one of the Hobby Lobby 40% off coupons with you for a little quick shopping before the meeting!!

## Prez Sez



This month will mark the beginning of a new era for our club, as we transition to holding our monthly meetings at Hobby Lobby. As I have often said, the monthly meetings are the lifeblood of the club, so this is a big deal for our future. I know that some are concerned about this harming our relationship with HobbyTown, which has been gracious to host our meetings for the past 5 years, even though they lacked the space and facilities to do it. I made sure that Eric Canto understood that we appreciate his efforts for the club, and that we still intend to patronize his store. It's important that all modelers continue to support those "brick and mortar" stores that carry modeling products. The alternative is a future where everything must be ordered online and shipped, and, more importantly, a future where the next generation never sees a model on a shelf.

This is one reason that I am excited about the move to Hobby Lobby. Not only do they have a substantial display of models, but the store also generates a lot of traffic, exposing the public to that display.

(continued)

## Prez Sez (Continued)

The day I was there I saw several parents with their children looking over the models and talking about which ones they want to build. The fact that we are meeting in the store means that Hobby Lobby will post a Gator Modelers Club flyer in the front of the store, and list our monthly meetings on their website calendar. These are seen by thousands of people each month.

Hobby Lobby is also eager to make their classroom available for any instructional courses, such as “make-n-takes” or Adult Building Course activities we want to sponsor.

I think you will enjoy the meeting room that Hobby Lobby provides and the possibilities it creates for growth and new opportunities for our hobby and our club.

## Wasted Opportunity

*Editorial By Jack Mugan*

Fifty years, five decades, half a century...that is a long time in a fast moving world. Fifty years ago we witnessed the Beatles' US Invasion, we passed the Civil Rights Act and countless other events transpired fifty years ago, including the formation of the US Branch of IPMS.

This 2014 National IPMS Convention was supposed to be a celebration of fifty years of modeling here in the good old US of A. We were led to believe this National Convention was really going to be “SPECIAL” to commemorate and to celebrate those fifty years. It appears that something went wrong, and this convention was basically the same as past conventions, not setting any records of attendance or entries, with just an additional pin and shirts to commemorate the event. How disappointing is that?



Certainly with two hundred and twenty four chapters to work with, and several years to prepare, we certainly should have had something really memorable to celebrate this milestone. We have a Historian as a staff position for crying out loud, couldn't we get something from there? We have fifty years of working with model manufacturers and vendors, couldn't we do something with that? Did anyone think of ways to utilize the social medias to promote this event? No wonder we have trouble growing the membership, if we can't even toot our own horn when we have a really good reason to do so.

Did anyone think to reach out to the chapters for some input or ideas? I did not see any such request from the national organization. Did anyone reach out to the kit companies or vendors, who make their living from modelers, for ways that they could be part of this celebration? Did we use the Journal to promote this milestone throughout the year leading up to the convention? Aside from an embarrassing admission that we lost track of our founder and missed his passing by two years, nothing else was mentioned. A pin and a shirt are nice items, but they only mark the date, they do not relate the history of the organization to the members who have not been here for all those years.

Certainly after fifty years there must have been something interesting we could have focused on. Do we have a photo archive established that a Highlights CD of past conventions could have been prepared and made available in the entrant's registration package? The national organization has worked with kit manufacturers

throughout the years and many members are not aware of these collaborations. We have a number of members who have taken their hobby to a whole other level and have created a business to serve the hobby, and it would have been a nice idea to recognize their contributions. I am sure there are a lot of convention stories, highlights and success stories that could have been shared. Someone could have canvased the chapters for “My most memorable convention stories”. Here was an opportunity to feature pivotal moments in the growth of IPMS/USA and how it has contributed to our hobby. Come on guys, this isn’t rocket science, just good PR.

These are just a few ideas that could have been considered and maybe some were, we just did not know about it. I know from experience that there is a huge talent and resource pool available from the membership that should have been called into action for their ideas on making this event really special. I know there are also costs involved but I know many of those cost issues can be resolved through partnerships and sponsorships in many instances.

Why wasn’t time set aside at the convention, especially with the cancellation of several other events, to celebrate the past fifty years? I know that this would have taken a bit of effort, but with a large membership of talent to draw from, and a substantial time frame to work with, I really do not understand how badly the ball was dropped. We could have made this a spectacular and really memorable Fiftieth Anniversary event. The opportunity has now passed, and unfortunately, no one will notice, and that is a shame.

## IPMS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shirts and Pins Available

IPMS National HQ has 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Golf and T-shirts available along with a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pin for those wanting to order them. The shirts are Deep Blue with Gold printing on front of both but on back of the T-shirt only; the pin is one inch in diameter and is bronze in color. Maybe the club can do a group order if enough folks are interested. The shirts are sized from S-3XL and are priced according to size.

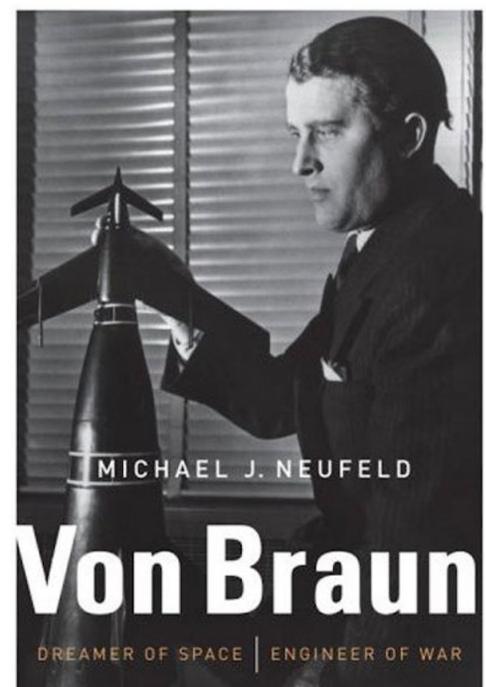
## Book Review: *Von Braun*

By *Frank Ahern*

One of the most complex and fascinating characters to emerge from WW2 was the Nazi’s wunderkind rocket engineer Wernher von Braun. Despite his unsavory past as the driving force behind one of Hitler’s “vengeance” weapons – the V-2 ballistic missile, von Braun was allowed to immigrate to America where he successfully led the monumental effort to place a man on the moon. Was he a hero or a villain? Most of his biographers tend to start from one viewpoint or the other.

Michael Neufeld, curator of space history at the Smithsonian, has tried to balance these viewpoints in his new book *von Braun*, which benefits from his exhaustive research and some new sources of material. In the end, however, your opinion of von Braun will be swayed by how you interpret his service on behalf of the German Army in WW2.

There is no doubt that Wernher von Braun was a member of the Nazi party and eventually became an officer in the SS. His explanation was that party membership was a political necessity in order to be allowed to continue to develop rockets for his dream of space travel. It seems that von Braun accepted the fact that the V-2 was intended as a weapon by the Nazi’s as a Faustian bargain in exchange for government financing





of his research. To be fair it must be pointed out that the decision to join the Nazi party was made in 1937, when he was just 25 years old and several years before the full extent of Hitler's evil plans were known by most Germans. The book traces the development of the *Aggregat 4* (the name V-2 was given by German propagandists) through the costly and difficult early phases. Failures were common and dangerous. At a time when most airplanes could barely reach 300 mph, the V-2 was traveling at Mach 3 and climbing to the upper limits of our atmosphere. This made it completely invulnerable to interception, unlike the V-1 Buzz Bomb, a much less sophisticated weapon.

At first Hitler was cool to the idea of a ballistic missile, viewing it as just an expensive form of artillery. However, when the fortunes of war turned against Germany in 1942, suddenly the Führer seized on the "wonder weapons" as his

final chance to pull victory from the jaws of defeat.

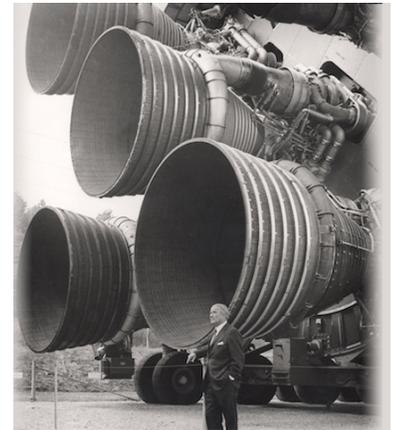
It is this period from 1942 till the end of the war that is most problematic for those who would defend von Braun. There was a desperate push to get the rocket ready for deployment in large numbers. This led to the use of slave labor in underground mines away from the allied bombers, working in hellish conditions, dying by the thousands to produce the V-2. It is said that the V-2 has the unique distinction of being the only weapon that killed more people in its manufacture than in its use. The book concludes that, while von Braun was certainly aware of the horrific conditions at the Mittelwerk rocket plant, he had little influence over it, nor could he have stopped it. Like Faust, von Braun learned that bargains with the devil always have consequences.

The actual impact of the V-2 on the war was minimal. Due to its crude and inaccurate guidance system it seldom struck anywhere near its intended target. Problems with materials and poor assembly quality, often due to sabotage, also caused a high percentage of the rockets to fail in flight. Nazi leadership became so disenchanted that, late in the war, SS leader Heinrich Himmler had von Braun arrested, accused of being a communist sympathizer more interested in space travel than developing the V-2 as a weapon. Only the intervention of Armaments Minister Albert Speer got him released.

As the war ended, von Braun and his fellow rocket engineers became the focus of an intense competition between the Russians and the other allies to be the first to capture the brains behind this technological leap forward. The US Army called it Operation Paperclip and it resulted in most of the German rocket team being relocated to the United States. Those who accuse von Braun of whitewashing his war record must realize that that the US Army public relations staff had a big hand in crafting a sanitized version of his Nazi service that conveniently overlooked the slave labor factory and its horrors. Our government was less interested in his past than what he could do to help us stay ahead of the Russians in weapon development.

The rest of the Wernher von Braun story is less controversial and better known. Working for the US Army, he led the development of the Redstone ballistic missile and the Jupiter C missile, which launched our first satellites. His first love remained space travel and following a series of articles on the subject in *Collier* magazine he attracted the attention of Walt Disney. Three appearances on the *Wonderful World of Disney* in 1955 made him a national celebrity and the acknowledged national expert in the area of space exploration.

The crowning achievement of Wernher von Braun's life, of course, was his role in developing the Saturn V launch vehicle, which was instrumental in fulfilling President John Kennedy's pledge to place a man on the moon before the end of the 19-60's. All of those involved in the effort agree that without von Braun it would not have happened. Cancer struck in the early 19-70's and he died in 1977, but not before being awarded the National Medal of Science. He is certainly the only former Nazi to win such a prestigious Presidential citation.



Brilliant, charismatic, talented, and charming Wernher von Braun seemingly had all the gifts that one person could receive. However, his complicity with the most evil regime of the 20<sup>th</sup> century will forever taint his legacy. This book is considered the definitive biography of the man who represents both the best and the worst uses of science in the service of man.

## Gator Modelers July Meeting Hi-lights

16 club members attended the Gator Modelers Club meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Club President, Frank Ahern opened the meeting with introductions and then discussed a possible meeting location move to Hobby Lobby. It just so happened that HobbyTown didn't have tables and chairs available for our August meeting but this had no bearing on the discussion about the move. The group voted after a short discussion and they decided to move the meeting to Hobby Lobby starting with the September meeting. Frank also asked how many planned to attend the Modelpalooza event next month and about members raised their hands. Frank adjourned the meeting with Show-n-tell. Afterwards Ed showed pictures that he and Bill had taken at the IPMS National event in Hampton, Virginia.

## Gator Modelers July Meeting Models



1/72 Photo Etch Tiger Tank  
By Geoff Warnock



1/48 F-4 Phantom  
By Jack Mugan



1/48 Shinden  
By Bob Lundeen



1/35 Puma  
By Bob Lundeen



1/25 50' Olds Coupe  
By Frank Ahern



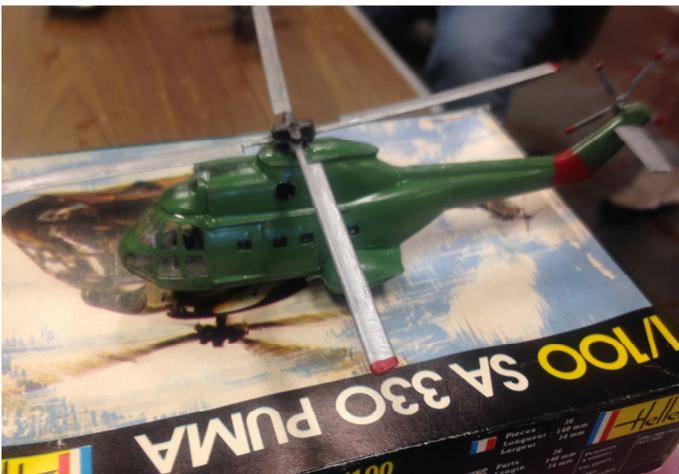
1/48 V-1 Buss Bomb  
By Frank Ahern



1/35 Centurion Mk.II  
By Nate Kiker



1/72 Sea Knight  
By Nate Kiker



1/100 SA 330 Puma  
By Aaron Alt



1/72 German Pak-40  
By Ed Ingersoll

**Models not pictured:**

1/72 SA 321 Gazelle by Nate Kiker

## Gator Modelers Main Library Display in November

The Gator Modelers will be setting up a display at the Gainesville Main Library in November. Frank will discuss the display at the September meeting.

## Gator Modelers Annual Dues are Due in November

Bill will start collecting the Gator Modeler Annual Dues of 2015 at the November meeting. The dues are \$20.00 per year. Please remember that the dues are an important part of the club and allow the club to participate in many things like annual registration with the IPMS National Organization. The dues also provide funds to support trophy packages for national and regional events. The funds also fund costs associated with maintaining our Web site. **Please pay your dues promptly.**

## Next Gator Modeler Club Contest Reminder

Paul Bennett won the May Club Contest with his Seaview and he has selected “Real Space” as the theme for the next club contest which will be held during the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Start looking for subject matter that pertains to Historical Space Exploration.

## September Business Meeting

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

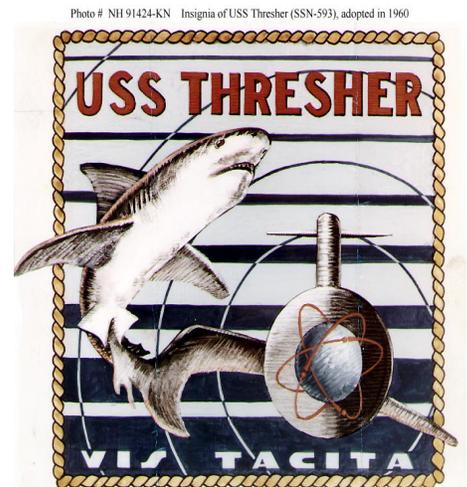
- New Meeting Location
- November Elections
- Modelpalooza
- November Library Display
- Annual Christmas Party
- September Meeting Presentation- *“Submarine Down- Lessons Learned from the USS Thresher Disaster”* by Geoff Warnock

## September Meeting Presentation

Geoff Warnock will give a presentation on research he did pertaining to the Sinking of the USS Thresher SSN 593. The title of his presentation is: *“Submarine Down - Lesson's Learned from the USS Thresher Disaster”*

## IPMS Update

IPMS Region-11 Regional Coordinator, Tony Ivone wanted to remind everyone that the IPMS Orlando Modelpalooza event is this weekend at a new location in Orlando called the International Palms Resort. The



location is just north of the previous location on I-Drive. The Vendor area is open from 7 to 9 on Friday, 9 to 5 Saturday and 9 to Noon Sunday. Registration is open Friday evening and from 9 till Noon Saturday with the Awards being presented at 1 PM Sunday.

**Please check your IPMS Membership to insure that you are current.**

## Links, Reads, and Views

Paul sent in a link to information about Alclad Paint System.

Sounds like Alclad is pretty resistant.  
I found this website. It may be a help to someone else!

[www.swannysmodels.com/Alclad.html](http://www.swannysmodels.com/Alclad.html)

New War Movie about a US Tank Crew in WWII titled “*Fury*” due to hit Theaters on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

(2) [Fury - Fury - International Trailer - At Cinemas October 22](#)

<https://m.hobbylobby.com/coupon>

## Bills' Thrill's

*By Bill Winter*

Bills' Thrill's - September 2014

I hope this first image will attract your attention and you will read on!



Back in early July 2014, Jack Muga passed on to me (and others) a plea from Captain Dan Porsa of Movie Features, Movies 6, that we should see EDGE OF TOMORROW, Tom Cruise's summer sci-fi flick with Emily Blunt (see photo). She is a real, kick - \_ \_ \_ soldier who wields what appears to be a helicopter blade as a sword. She is also incredibly funny in the "Devil Wore Prada" with Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway and Stanley Tucci.



EDGE OF TOMORROW is a far better movie than the lame "Starship Troopers." That being said, this new movie is still a "bug hunt" (like Starship Troopers) as Bill Paxton's character Pvt. Hudson stated in "Aliens." Pvt. Hudson said to the Marine officer Lt. Gorman (played by William Hope), "Is this another bug hunt, sir?"

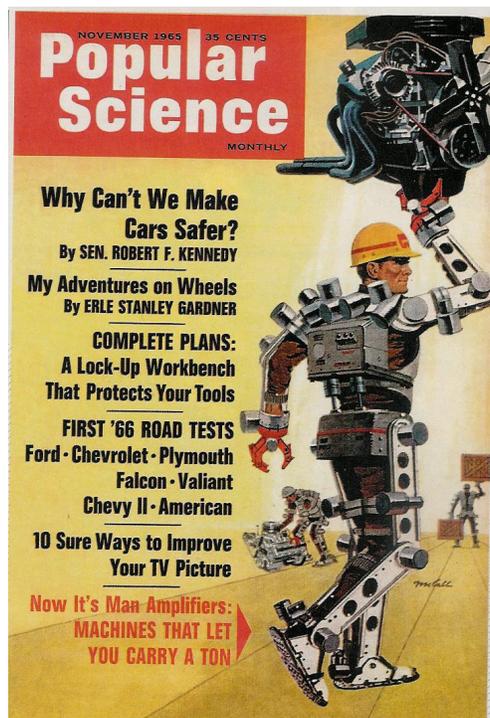


Jack wrote: "I did. . . ." Indeed, I did too, that is, . . . I did see EDGE OF TOMORROW. Even though Tom Cruise is 50 (and it's been a long time since "Top Gun" and "Maverick"), the movie is excellent.

Okay, this column is supposed to be about modeling and what's new. This is not a movie column. However, it's my column. Well, in *EDGE OF TOMORROW*, the soldiers wear exo-skeletons with munitions of various types attached.



So where is Winter going? The punch line here is that conceptually, exo-skeletons are not new. Below is from *Popular Science* in 1965. I remember this very magazine because my Grandfather had a subscription.



Well, to return to modeling, something you should see someday is the National Museum of the Marine Corp in Triangle, VA (near Fredericksburg, VA where the 2014 AMPS international meeting was held). For pure military themes (both armor and aircraft), it is the best military museum that I've been to in the U.S. where the focus is on ground pounders (although Marine aviation is included). A variety of vehicles are presented including a Sherman (M-4), a Pershing (M-26) and a Stuart.



Below is a life-size mannequin in one of the many displays. It is hard to believe that this is not a real person. Indeed, all of the Marines in the life-size dioramas are sculpted from the faces and bodies of actual Marines.



Check out the museum at: <http://www.usmcmuseum.com/index.asp>.

Below is my favorite model from the AMPS show. This is some type of Russian radar vehicle: an “IS32 Pat H and H-Band Radar.”



Here are some photos of the “real deal.” The radar is classified as an “Engagement and Fire Control Radar” (source: <http://www.ausairpower.net/APA-Engagement-Fire-Control.html>).





I am looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting. - Bill

## Events Calendar

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

Sept. 16	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Sept. 19-21	<b>IPMS Orlando</b>	<b>Modelpalooza</b>	Orlando, FL
Oct. 21	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Oct. 25	<b>IPMS FAST</b>	<b>Pumpkin Run Car Contest</b>	Ocala, FL
Nov. 18	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting & Club Contest		
Dec. 20	Gator Modelers Annual Christmas Party		
<b>2015</b>			
Jan. 20	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Feb. 7	<b>IPMS First Coast</b>	<b>Jaxcon</b>	Jacksonville, FL
Feb. 13-15	<b>AMPS Atlanta</b>	<b>Atlanta Model Figure Show</b>	Atlanta, GA
Feb. 17	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Mar. 17	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Apr. 21	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
May 16	<b>IPMS Pensacola</b>	<b>2015 Blue Angel Modelfest</b>	Pensacola, FL
May 16-17	<b>IPMS Pelikan</b>	<b>Pelicon 2015</b>	Oldsmar, FL
May 19	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Jul. 21	Gator Modelers Regular Meeting		
Jul. 22-25	<b>IPMS 2015 National Convention</b>		Columbus, OH

## Modeler's Tip of the Month

*Courtesy of the Fine Scale Modeling Newsletter*

## Free modeling tip!

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Richard Morimoto, Mililani, Hawaii submitted this helpful modeling tip:

*When I had a set of old yellowed decals, I tried placing the sheet in a window to bleach them out. However, even in Hawaii, the sunlight at the window did not do the trick. Then it occurred to me that my car sits in the sun all day while I am at work. So, I taped the decals to the inside of my windshield. Within a couple of days, the yellowing was significantly less.*

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**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](http://www.gainesvillefl.hobbytown.com)**

**Mon.-Fri.: 10 AM to 7PM**

**Sat.: 10AM to 5PM**

**Sun: 12PM to 4PM**

## IPMS/USA NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

IPMS No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Leave Blank First Middle Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Required by PO): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:  Adult, 1 Year: \$25  Adult, 2 Years: \$49  Adult, 3 Years: \$73  
 Junior (Under 18 Years): \$12  Family, 1 Year: \$30 (Adult + \$5, One Set Journals) How Many Cards? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Canada & Mexico: \$30  Other / Foreign: \$32 (Surface)  Other / Foreign: \$55 (Air)

Payment Method:  Check  Money Order  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**

Check out our webpage: [www.ipmsusa.org](http://www.ipmsusa.org)

**P.O. Box 2475**

**North Canton, OH 44720-0475**

Please check out [WWW.IPMSUSA.ORG](http://WWW.IPMSUSA.ORG) for the latest information from IPMS National Headquarters and for information about joining IPMS.

Ed Ingersoll, – Secretary – Newsletter Editor [ingersollle@gru.net](mailto:ingersollle@gru.net)

Home: (352) 375-2027; Cell: (352) 339-3367