

MODEL CLUB HISTORY

By Bob Miller

Millard Solomon, owner of Solly's Hobby Shop in Winter Haven, gathered several of us together at the Clock restaurant in Winter Haven to discuss the formation of a model club. At that meeting it was decided to accept Bob Miller's offer of a place to meet in the Lake Shipp Baptist Church where he was pastor. For the next several years the club met there once a month. There was no charge for the facility.

It was decided that the name of the club would be Imperial Polk Modeling Society. IPMS for short. The meetings were well attended once a month with about fifteen or twenty people there. We had two model shows a year at the Winter Haven Mall. That was always an adventure.

Memory fails as to why or when the club went away, but a few years later we started meeting again, this time at Doug Bohannon's hobby shop on Spirit Lake Road in Winter Haven. After a few years, the club went away again. Some years later I found out about a club meeting in Lakeland. And here we are. Those who were involved in the original Winter Haven club were as follows: Millard Solomon, Gene Hayden, Richard Spinks, Jerry Sasser, Harry Anderson, Bob Miller, Andy Helgeson, Darius Skidmore, Jim Milne, Steve Hardwick, Frank Kauble, Frank Swartwood, and Doug Bartley.

And that folks, is what this old man remembers. Any corrections are certainly welcome.