

MAMA Sez!

Volume 15, Issue 11 July, 2002



This is the newsletter of the **Maryland Automotive Modelers Association**

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2002 Meeting Schedule

January 19th
February 16th
March 16th
April 20th
May 18th
June 15th
July 20th
August 17th
September 21st
October 19th
November 16th
December 21st

Sun, Sun, Sun! Don't take the car shows away!

Last month's meeting was a rather spirited affair. Talk centered around *possible Mid-Atlantic NNL themes for our '03 show*. After discussion, it was determined that we would vote on them at this month's meeting. So, hope you guys are ready to decide! And while on the subject, our *illustrious Treasurer Matt Guilfoyle* was able to secure paperwork guaranteeing the Ruhl Armory for our '03 show! The date will be the second Saturday in May (*the 10th, to be exact!*). So, set yer calendars, and get to work on those projects (*that is, after we decide on the themes this month!*). Some themes discussed include

(*but are not limited to*): **Ford, Cadillac, and Harley-Davidson Anniversaries, Farewell F-Bodies** (Firebird/Camaro), **Space-Themed cars** (Ford Galaxie, Mercury Meteor, etc.), **Lemons, Orphan/Dead cars** (Oldsmobile, Plymouth, etc.), and **Vintage models**. Any better ideas? Bring 'em up this month when we vote on themes!!

The club received a thank you card from the family of Joel Chevery for the expression of sympathy in his untimely passing.

This issue is *jam-packed* with lotsa neat stuff (*foreign and domes-*

tic, Neons to Vipers, and everything in between!).

The raffle brought in **\$58.00** (while the box contributed **\$45.00**). The *raffle coordinator* would like to thank the following people this month: **Ron Bradley, Lyle Wil-lits, Bob Ege, Rich Wil-son, Bob Foster, Brad, Tim Powers, Ray Wick-line, Sean Brian Kirby, yours truly, and Repli-cas & Miniatures Com-pany of Maryland.**

A word here about the raffle – with *no review samples* arriving from the 'Little Three', we can always use automo-tive-related items to help pay the monthly rent! **Thanks, I 'preciate it!** 🚗

Super Caddy!

Specialty-vehicle execs **John Heinrichy, Mark Reuss, and Corvette Chief Engineer Dave Hill**, recently visited several small automakers in the United Kingdom. Their goal? To find one capable of producing up

to **300 Cadillac Cien**s a year! This trip shows GM's will-
ingness to con-
sider a *limited
production
run of this
7.5-liter V-12*,
which produces **750 hp**
and **450 lb-ft of torque**,
coupled to a *six-speed
semi-automatic gearbox*.



Do ya think this could have anything to do with **Ford's** decision to produce a *limited run of the GT40?!* **Nah!**

A decision is expected by Summer's end. **The car led the pre-race parade for the 24 Hours of Lemans!** 🏁

Next Gen Vette

GM says the *next-gen* (C6) *Corvette*, originally scheduled for late Fall of '03, is on track for a *Spring '04 debut*.

It's claimed that GM will make the car shorter and narrower to boost European sales. Pop-up headlights may be MIA in favor of new Xenon fixed units. Rumor has it that the *exterior* of the new car was *designed by Tom Peters* (of *Aztek fame!!*)!

It reportedly packs small block power in the form of the *Gen IV V-8*, which is based on the current *LS1* and *LS6 V-8s*. Standard mill output is rumored to be **400 hp**, with **400 lb-ft of torque**, while the *Z06 LS6 motor* (due out as an '06 model) is rated at **425 hp**, and **415 lb-ft torque**. GM is hard at work on a *variable-displacement, power-on-demand management system* called, appropriately enough, *Displacement on Demand!* It can shut down two or four cylinders when not needed for better fuel economy on the highway. This system is expected to debut on GM's '04 pickups, with car applications to follow.

The new car will share chassis, brakes, and suspension bits with the *Caddy XLR*, although the platforms will be *different lengths*. Upgraded brakes, with slotted disks and a longer lasting pad material will be fitted, along with the latest version of GM's active handling system (*Magnetic Ride Control*). Goodyear run-flat tires may be replaced with Z06 Goodyear Eagle F1 rubber. *Time will tell!* 🚗

Euro Supercars

More bang for yer buck! Purchasers of the new *Ferrari FX* (to debut Sept. 26th at the Paris Motor Show) can look forward to **ONE** of the following (at least, according to sources within Ferrari): a carbon fiber chassis signed by *Michael Schumacher*

and managing director Luca Cordero di Montezemolo, a custom set of luggage (even though there will be nowhere to put it in the car!), trips to take factory delivery with a two-day driving seminar taught by Ferrari test pilots, a custom helmet and racing togs, and post-delivery follow-up by Ferrari reps in Italy. *Whoa!* The price, you ask? Somewhere in the neighborhood of **\$600,000**, which is somewhat higher than the originally announced **\$450,000** sticker! Cut out the options, I say! For that, you get a *V12* with *horsepower* projected around **650** in a car weighing about 2,650 pounds. That works out to a 0 to 60 time of about **3.2 seconds**, and a top end

of about **217 mph!** Just what you need for those early-morning commutes! *Flash!* According to Autoweek's website, the car will be named **'Enzo'**, in honor of the company's founder. Sadly, they

have taken more than a year to come to this conclusion!

Meanwhile, Bentley Motors will add a **'super' GT coupe** to their

lineup of luxury performance cars. They have worked closely with

German parent company *Volkswagen* to develop the car's **6.0-liter turbocharged W-12 motor**, which is reportedly capable of **nearly 500 hp**. This leads to claims by

Bentley of **sub-five second 0 to 60 runs**, and a **top speed over 180**

mph. The car will reportedly also be equipped with **all-wheel-drive, a stability control system, and a six-speed automatic with paddle shifter**.

No word as to how much this speed is

gonna cost (although, nothing Bentley sells in the U.S. starts be-

low **\$200,000**, up to the top of the line *Azure convertible*, at **\$365,900!**). And maybe even a high-end *Ma-*

serati?! Talk about yer high-priced spreads! 🚗



The Enzo Ferrari!



Bentley GT coupe



This 'N That!

Corvette tuner **Dick Guldstrand** will unveil the **Guldstrand 50th Anniversary Signature Edition Corvette** June 27th –



50th Anniversary Signature Edition Dick Guldstrand Corvette

30th at the **Corvette 50th Anniversary Kickoff** at the Corvette plant in Bowling Green, KY. While he wouldn't talk engine specs, he claims that the powerplant will reintroduce, as he puts it, **"one of the great performance icons from the past."** Hmmm.....**CAFÉ be Damned!** GM is so anxious to give the upcoming **Pontiac GTO more (tire-shredding) power**, that it is willing to subject the car to the **dreaded gas-guzzler tax!** **"For a car to be credible, accepted as a re-birth of the rear-drive American muscle car, it has got to have that rocket-sled acceleration off the line,"** says GM's Bob Lutz. While GM has not released the GTO's horsepower, when asked if the target is **350 hp.**, Bob Lutz responded, **"You are in the right neighborhood."** **Awright, Bob!!**.... And speakin' of returns, didja hear that actor-turned-congressman **Ben 'Cooter' Jones** is attempting to jump-start his political career? 'Cooter', er Ben (from **"Dukes of Hazzard"** fame) currently owns **Cooter's Place**, a restaurant, bluegrass hangout, and **"Dukes of Hazzard"** memorabilia emporium located in Virginia's Blue Ridge mountains. He just opened another restaurant in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, too! Maybe we need more actors as politicians! **Good luck, Ben!...**

Mercedes will plug their **2003 E-Class** in the Summer sequel **Men in Black II**, which opens July 3rd. A commercial for the car will debut on July 24th....**Nissan** has **pre-sold 6,200** of the new **350Z** since January, and the car won't be in showrooms until mid-August! It will feature a 280+ horsepower, 3.5-liter, front-mounted V-6, with either a six-speed manual or a five-speed automatic transmission, and will sell for between **\$26,269** and **\$34,079**....For all you **'Macho Men'** (nothing personal against **'The Village People'**!), GM is reportedly pushing back plans to offer a **Hummer pickup** from calendar year 2003 to 2004. The first model, the **H2 SVT**, goes on sale in late June with a base price of **\$48,800**, while the **H2 SUT (Sport Utility Truck?)** (featuring a small pickup bed and a cargo door at the rear of the passenger cabin, GM's mid-gate), was supposed to come out within 12 months of each other. Apparently, Lutz feels they can hold the market's attention for a longer period (i.e., **string the public along!**) and build up a demand for the truck! No word on the cost of the truck yet, though.....**Germans seeing red!!** According to the Business section of a local paper, **Germany's Commerzbank** agreed to buy a **10 percent stake in Ferrari** for \$223 million...**Z3 put to sleep!** Not to worry BMW fans, they intend to rebadge it as the Z4 for '03....Meanwhile, **Cadillac** is sup-

posed to add a **V-8-powered CTS model (known as the CTSi)** for the '04 model year. Listening to their own **Rock 'n Roll commercials** too long?....**Gibbs racing to Chevies?** Rumor has it that **Pontiac stalwart Joe Gibbs** may go **Bowtie** next year....**Kudos** to MAMA's **BoyZ Bill Kilby**, and **Bill Geary** for their cars featured in the **NNL East** coverage in the latest SA (no E!) - Bill Kilby for his **'Pink Panther'**, and Bill Geary for his **awesum '58 Impala convert!**....And, speakin' of kudos, several members also got coverage in that **'other' magazine (I don't read it, I got the info secondhand!)**. Specifically, **Bill Geary** with a **two page feature on the Impala**, and **Lyle Willits ('65 Nova)**, and **Max Wolfthal ('57 Plymouth suburban curbside)**. **Congrats, guys!....NASCAR and Britney Spears – a marriage made in Heaven?!** Britney's production company and NASCAR have come to an agreement to produce a movie. She will co-star as a team owner's daughter who uses her **'knowledge and expertise'** in the family business to inspire a former NASCAR driver to regain his desire to return to NASCAR racing. NASCAR reportedly will help market the film, and will receive licensing fees for the actual race footage to be used in the film (are you surprised?). The movie could cost \$50 million. Rumor has it that Britney was a big fan of **"Days of Thunder"** (a scary thought!)....And, speaking of NASCAR, **'The Intimidator,' Dale Earnhardt**, was

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

recently inducted into the **Motor-sports Hall of Fame of America!**

According to Motortrend.com, when his wife **Theresa** went onstage to accept the award, she walked over to his car, kissed it, and turned to the audience and said, **"Don't you just miss him?"**

Sho' do!...Route 66 Revisited!

Saw an ad recently for a **Route 66 home video** with none other than **Martin Milner**, the star of the original Route 66 hit TV series!

An 85-minute VHS tape, it is available for only **\$12.95**, from

Publishers Choice, Box 4174

Dept. RG50-AA, Huntington Station, NY 11746,

by calling **1-800-**

360-0053, or by

visiting **publish-**

erschoice.com!....

GM is considering

a **rear-wheel drive**

platform for the

Pontiac Solstice

concept car, and a second car to be sold in Europe, possibly by

Opel....Rumor also has it that **Jag-**

uar is postponing plans to develop

its' **F-Type roadster**....**'Crocodile**

Dundee' fired?! Subaru may ac-

tually sever its ties with Paul Ho-

gan. Time will tell....**Toyota** re-

cently made a deal to supply **diesel**

engines to **BMW** for its new

Mini....Automakers offered a rec-

ord **1,314 light vehicles** in the U.S.

for '02 (545 cars, 769 pickups,

vans, SUVs)! **Whoa!....Danbury**

Mint will release a **'32 Ford De-**

luxe Roadster in 1/24th scale. It

will feature **opening hood to dis-**

play a fully plumbed V-8, opening

doors, leather upholstery, rotating

wheels (fronts steerable via the steering wheel), and a removable

top and boot cover (for top up or down display). All for only **\$112**,

payable in four convenient monthly installments of **\$28 (plus**

a total of \$7.80 shipping and han-

dling). You can reach 'em at 1-

888-854-7108 Monday through

Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern

time...**Putting the top down!**

When getting your car washed in

Moscow, Idaho, roll up your win-

dows, and the tops will come

down. You see, Daisy Mace runs a

successful **topless carwash (Gee, I**

wonder why it's so successful?)! In

response to this, the city council is

attempting to en-

act a law to ban

such businesses.

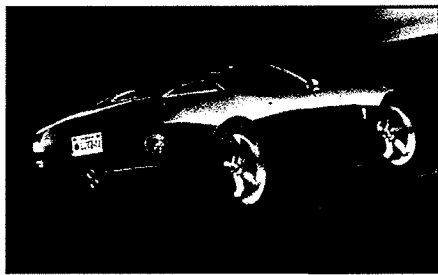
The debate centers

on how much of a

breast can be le-

gally uncovered?

Road trip!



Pontiac Solstice

Where's that **MAMA van?!**

Croozin'!

Okay gang, **REALLY** nice weather brings Croozers out of the woodwork (*some spots that may be near you*). So, check 'em out!

Every Tuesday:

- From 6 to 9 p.m. at Ledo's Pizza at Park Plaza (*on Ritchie Highway*) in Glen Burnie, MD.

Every Thursday:

- From 6 to 10 p.m. at Cetrone's Restaurant off Route 450 (*behind AutoPro Auto Parts*) in Bowie, MD

- Sam's Club paring lot on Route 301/5 in Waldorf, MD

Every Friday:

- From 7 p.m. to ?? At Roy Roger's on Route 40 in Edgewood, MD
- From 6 p.m. to ?? At Tastee Freeze on Route 1 in Laurel, MD
- From ?? To 10 p.m., the Street Survivors of MD cruise the Burger King parking lot corner of Route 2 (*Ritchie Highway*) and Mountain Road in Pasadena, MD
- 1st Friday of each month at the Denny's on Route 50 in Easton, MD

Every Saturday:

- Siciliy's Pizza on Route 176 (*Dorsey Road*) near the airport in Glen Burnie, MD
- From 6 to 11 p.m. at Ledo's Pizza at Park Plaza (*on Ritchie Highway*) in Glen Burnie, MD.
- Gathering of the Gearheads Mid-Atlantic 4 x 4 and Speed on Ritchie Highway, between 6th and 8th avenues, in Glen Burnie, MD
- Big M Drive-in in Churchville, MD
- 1st/3rd Saturday of each month at Jimmy Cone's in Mt. Airy, MD
- 2nd/4th Saturdays of each month at the Dairy Queen on Liberty Road, in Eldersburg, MD
- 2nd Saturday of each month at Downey's on Route 213, in Chestertown, MD
- 4th Saturday of each month the Mid-Shore Cruisers meet in the Wal-Mart parking lot off Route 50, in Cambridge, MD

Every Sunday:

- Cheeseburgers in Paradise in Frederick, MD. ☺

Events

- 🏆 **July 18th to 21st – Super Chevy Show** at Maple Grove Raceway in Reading, PA. Info: call (800) 692-6230; or visit our website, <http://www.superchevyshow.com>.
- 🏆 **July 19th to 21st – The National Grand Prix of Washington, D.C.** presents the **American LeMans Series**, a three-day international motorsports event and festival in and around RFK stadium. Info: call 1-888-456-8448, or visit their website at <http://www.nationalgrandprix.com>.
- 🏆 **July 20th – Celebrate Damascus**, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., a free unjudged cruise-in at Damascus Chevrolet in Damascus, MD. Info: Chuck Kenney (301) 253-3127.
- 🏆 **July 26th to 28th – Summer Carlisle** at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA.
- 🏆 **July 27th – 4th Annual Antique, Classic, Rod & Custom, you name it Car, Van, Truck, Fire Truck, & Motorcycle show (phew!)**, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Branchville Vol. Fire Co. & Rescue Squad, Inc. hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Prince George's County Vol. Fire and Rescue Assoc. Free admission to the public, Music, dash plaques to the first 100 vehicles, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, swap meet. Info: Vivian Morgan at (301) 736-7176, Mary Russell at (301) 449-3995, or E-mail pgvfdlacarshow01@aol.com.
- 🏆 **July 28th – Pontiacs at the Grove car show & drag race**, at Maple Grove Raceway, in Reading, PA.
- 🏆 **July 31st – Nova Nationals** in Harrisburg, PA. Info: call (717) 252-4192.
- 🏆 **Aug. 3rd & 4th – The August Fest (Das Awkscht Fescht)** south of Allentown in Macungie, PA. Open to display of AMC, Ramblers, Nashs only. Info: contact Kathy McMullen, (610) 966-4289.
- 🏆 **Aug. 10th – 6th Annual Visual Reality Day in the Park Auto Show, Flea Market, & Craft Show** rain or shine from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Mount Wolf Community Park. Food, music, games, 16 car classes, **model car contest (!)**. I-83 north to exit 22. Info: (717) 266-5404.
- 🏆 **Aug. 10th & 11th – Tri-Power Pontiac Show & Races** in Norwalk, OH. Info: call (419) 663-7383.
- 🏆 **Aug. 17th – Jet Car Nationals** at MIR, in Budd's Creek, MD.
- 🏆 **Aug. 23rd to 25th – Corvettes at Carlisle** at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA.
- 🏆 **Aug. 24th – Concours** sponsored by York County Corvette Club at Carlisle fairgrounds. The largest Corvette weekend in the East. Info: contact Glen Reigart, (717) 755-0782, PA; e-mail: sray-grr92@cyberia.com.
- 🏆 **Aug. 25th – Road Rallye** sponsored by Cumberland Valley Corvette Club at Carlisle fairgrounds. Come see the beautiful mountain roads. Info: contact J Walter, (717) 691-9320, e-mail: david.j.walter@verizon.net.
- 🏆 **Aug. 28th – Concours & Road Rallye** sponsored by Free State Corvette Club at the Boardwalk in Ocean City, MD. Enjoy a cruise down the Boardwalk and experience the ocean views. Info: contact Grant B Ridgley, (410) 795-4576; e-mail: ragtop6799@aol.com.
- 🏆 **Sept. 1st – Big Rig Fall Nationals** at MIR, in Budd's Creek, MD.
- 🏆 **Sept. 1st – 14th Annual Out of the Past Review**, hosted by The Washington Times, at the Spring Hill Recreation Center in McLean, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The show is open only to vehicles that have appeared in Vern Parker's "Out of the Past" weekly column in the paper.
- 🏆 **Sept. 6th to 8th – US Vintage Grand Prix Weekend** in Watkins Glen, NY. Info: call (607) 535-2481.
- 🏆 **Sept. 7th & 8th – Fourth Annual Reisterstown Festival Car and Truck Shows** sponsored by Mustang Club of Maryland at Hanna More Center, Reisterstown Rd, Saturday 12 p.m.-dark, Sunday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., \$8 registration each day, two day event open to all makes and models, trophies and door prizes will be awarded each day. Entertainment, and free admission. Info: contact Len Dodson, 2317 Bulls Sawmill Rd, Free-land, MD 21053, (410) 357-5615; e-mail: lhodsonjr@yahoo.com or <http://>

www.bcpl.net/~ldodson/mcom.html.

🚗 **Sept. 8th – Maryland Chevelle Club presents the 1st Annual Open Car and Truck show** at the Catonsville Arts and Crafts Festival, on a closed section of the 600-800 block of Frederick Road, in Catonsville, MD from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., with proceeds to benefit Grant-A-Wish, the children's Promise Foundation. Car show registration is \$10 the day of the show. Info: contact David R. Leasure, 107 Hillside Road, Catonsville, MD 21228.

🚗 **Sept. 15th – 3rd Annual All-Pontiac Car Show**, sponsored by Mason Dixon Dragway, and hosted by the Pontiac Club of Mid-Maryland, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Pontiac drag racing and car show – 3 trophies per class, plus **Best of Show**, and **Club Choice**. Info: Wayne Smith, (301) 694-0742, or www.masondixondragway.com.

🚗 **Sept. 15th – Thirteenth Annual Big M Drive In Mustang and Ford Fall Show** sponsored, by Mustang Club of Maryland at Big M Drive-In, Rt. 22, in Churchville, MD. \$10 registration, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., registration 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., trophies, entertainment, food, door prizes, free admission. Info: Len Dodson, 2317 Bulls Sawmill Rd, Freeland, MD 21053, (410) 357-5615; e-mail -lhdodsonjr@yahoo.com or <http://www.bcpl.net/~ldodson/mcom.html>.

🚗 **Sept. 21st – Tri-County Cruis-**

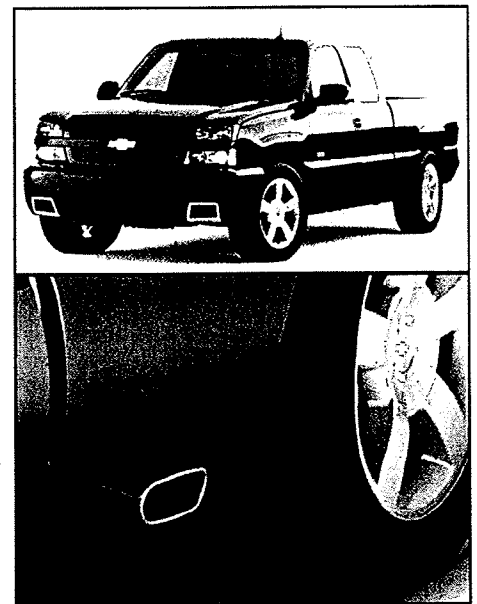
ers and Brandywine Lions Club present the 3rd Annual Summer's End 2002 Car Show/Bull Roast from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. at US Rt. 301 and Cherry Tree Crossing Road (*across from veteran's cemetery*). Live entertainment by Road House, cash prizes, 50/50 drawings, and food. Dash plaques to first 200 registered cars. Pre-registration \$12.00, \$15.00 the day of the show. Info: contact Roger at (301) 292-3238, or Steve at (301) 259-2872.

🚗 **Sept. 22nd – Super September Showdown III Model Car Contest and Vendor Show**, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., hosted by The Model King, Fantastic Plastics, and the Central Pennsylvania Model Car Club, at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall on Route 73, in Gilbertsville, PA. Admission is \$3.00, and includes contest entries. Info: Len Feinberg (610) 923-7534, Dave Burket (732) 240-3987, or E-mail FmPlastics@aol.com. 🚗

Chevy Thunder!

The gang over at Chevy are set to expand their performance lineup – the **SS nameplate** will multiply! GM will revive the **SS nameplate** next year, both on the **Impala** line, and a new idea (*I assume, based on favorable show appearances*) of a **Silverado SS**. Don't get yer panties in a bunch as far as the Impala SS is concerned, though. The 'performance' market they will attempt to enter with the

car (*presumably against the new Mercury Marauder*), they will be at a **distinct disadvantage** – two cylinders shy! Yup, they are stuffing the **3800 Supercharged V-6** between the fenderwells, ala the Pontiac Grand Prix. Not that this is a bad package, it will simply be no competition for the kick-ass Marauder. **Better luck next time, GM!** On the other hand, the **Silverado SS** will be an extended cab short bed truck stuffed full of **6.0-liters (345 hp) of V-8 power, full time all wheel drive, locking rear end, and 20" wheels and tires (a.k.a. Dubs!)**. It will also feature a **single, specially tuned 3.5" outlet pipe that will give the truck a "Throaty NASCAR-inspired roar,"** according to GM. It'll be available in red, blue, and black, w/pewter-colored leather interior. **Sounds much neater than the Monte Carlo SS, albeit more expensive!!** 🚗



The Silverado SS pickup. Don't even look as racy as my V-6 Xtreme, although it is packin'!!

'58 T-Bird

[Revell/Monogram kit #85-2385; 137 parts total; white, chrome, clear, clear red, vinyl tires]

Known as the **'Square Birds'**, the 1958 to 1960 T-birds were low slung like a factory built lead sled. The first generation had been wildly popular and still are to this day - note the 2003 T-birds. But Ford, under leadership of Robert McNamara, decided that sales of 3 to 1 better than Chevy's Corvette were still not good enough, and created the four-seater T-birds. I would have thought these to be less popular than the first generation car, given the popularity of the two-seater, but in fact were even more popular than the 1955 to 1957 cars.

This kit, originally issued in 1964, has been reissued more times than I can remember, but according to my sources, this is the sixth time we have been offered this great kit which has stood the test of time very well. Never since the first issue have we gotten the radical custom parts including the bubble top (*in clear plastic*). In its original issue, it was done in four colors of plastic for the body including black, yellow, and possibly red and green. The molds were polished to such a degree that painting the body wasn't necessary. I believe the black kits were the most common while the yellow ones are rare. This kit really is a milestone kit in that it builds up off the chassis like the better kits

of today. Originally the windows and bubble top were tinted slightly green. Other firsts for this kit were the separate chromed windshield frame, sun visors, hardtop, opening doors and separate whitewall inserts. The hood has a working cast in hinge that works well; just think of the hood hinges, or lack thereof, the competition had in 1964.

As a huge fan of T-birds, the 1958 to 1960 cars have always been my least favorite, yet this is the third time I've bought this kit. I've built the other two, and can say they go together very well and easily, even compared to kits of today. The interior builds up off of the chassis, and then slots into the body. No screws or glue are needed to keep the car together, and no, the chassis doesn't fall out when you lift the model by the body. There are no metal axles for the wheels; they mount to accurate suspensions with small plastic retainers inside the wheel assemblies. With a little care, they will rotate. In most circa 1964 model kits, the inner fender panels are generic and inaccurate, but in this kit they were done correctly as were the un-chromed stock valve covers, and the antennae which are actually scaled right, instead of a tree trunk with a huge ball on top that was the norm back then.

Missing from this issue are the mild custom grille that inserted into the stock bumper/grille, and the custom straight exhaust system that went down the chassis under the rear axle while splitting into four pipes. The dropped front arms/spindles are included for the

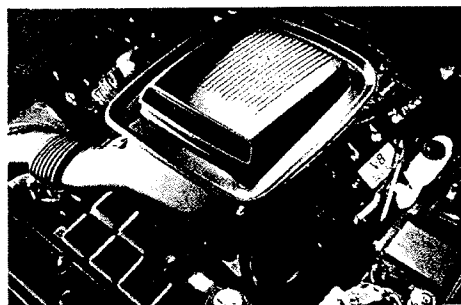
first time in years, but there is no mention in the instructions of cutting two coils off the rear coil springs to lower the rear of the car. The only other missing parts seem to be the chrome band that went over the bubble top and the Ansen mags.

The decal sheet is all new with white scallops (*with blue outlines*) that might look better on the mild custom T-bird like the custom cars of the early 60's. The bubble top custom begs for a 'flake and candy paint job. There are also light blue pin striping scrollwork decals and white decal inserts for a two-tone upholstery. But by far the most sought after parts in this kit will be the tri-bar spinner wheel covers.

Despite appearances, this is a very buildable kit even for a builder with less experience. No reference pictures are needed to build a very accurate looking model, but would serve to further enhance an already great kit. Thanks should go to **Norm Veber** for his needed assistance.

By: Rick Wilson 🇺🇸

(Thanks to Rich for his insight, too!)



Not a 1958 T-Bird, but a neat shot of the '03 Mach 1 engine w/cool retro shaker hood scoop!

H & McC Coyote

[RC/ERTL kit # 31559; 160 parts total; gray, chrome, clear, vinyl tires]

This kit has always been a disappointment to me because I have always been a big fan of the Ford GT-40/MK-IV/J car upon which this car is based. MPC converted the mold to do this Coyote, and it just isn't done right. The car in the Hardcastle and McCormick TV show was based in part on a real kit car that was available at the time. I remember reading that there were, of course, several cars on the set for the various shots and stunts. The "*glamour*" car had a *Porsche engine* in it, but since it didn't have the sound the show producer wanted, the sound effects department dubbed in the sound of a *Ferrari engine*.

The dimensions of the upper body look correct, but it doesn't fit on this chassis properly, insofar as the engine is half way into the interior. Look at the box art car and you can see a red engine box between the firewall and the seats. Having built this kit just after it was originally released years ago, I'd recommend leaving out part #54, which is the previously mentioned engine box then move the firewall forward to the seats.

Anything you do with the engine as far as the H&McC car is concerned will be wrong as mentioned above, but it is a nice big block Ford with either single or twin 4-barrel intakes. There is a very nice set of 'Le Mans' valve

covers and an equally nice transaxle and halfshafts to back up the engine as well.

The fact is the whole chassis is the best part of this kit and the only thing worth keeping. It's very accurate and well done and one of the best kits MPC ever did. Strangely, RC made the same mistake with the tires that MPC made years ago. They gave us four small B.F. Goodrich hollow tires that are great for small cars like the Fiero, but look stupid on the rear of this car. You can see this on the box art car. Replacing them with the appropriate larger tires will make a world of difference. I'm beginning to see a pattern with RC/ERTL in that they seem to not know what parts go with the various versions of old kits, so they throw in extra parts in an effort to cover themselves. I suppose this is better than being shortchanged a crucial piece. Case in point - there are three firewalls, One for the H&McC car, one for the MKIV, and one for the J car. There are two dash tops as well. The really queer thing is there are several parts that never were in any of the three mentioned versions of this kit and are not in the instructions. There are the two F.I.A. suitcases (*required for endurance racing*) that have been redone with straps and buckles, since any of the three versions were last issued, but are not needed for this kit.

By: Rick Wilson

(Ed. Note: Thanks, Rich!) 🍷

Polish!

An item we discussed at last month's meeting which is near and dear to many of our hearts is *polishing cloths*. Well, *club treasurer Matt Guilfoyle* recently found such a deal online for this stuff (*are you surprised?*) by way of a company called *Micro-Surface Finishing Products, Inc.* (www.micro-surface.com, E-mail salesms@netins.net). Read on!

You can buy the cloths (1500 to 12000) in finishing disks (1", 1 3/8", 2", 3", 5", 6", 8", & 12"); rolls (4", 6", 12", & 16", and lengths of 25', 50', & 250'); sheets (3" x 6" - \$1.85 ea., 6" x 12" - \$6.00 ea., & 12" x 12" - \$9.90 ea., meaning a 12" x 12" cloth works out to an amazing \$.07 per square inch!!); belts (from 1/2"); pads (3", 4", 5", 6", & 8"); or tapes (widths from 1/2", & lengths up to 500')!! Some custom stuff is available on request as well. There is no minimum order, either!

For those of you who don't have computers, their address is **Box 70, Wilton, Iowa 52778**, phone (800) 225-3006.

Matt also located a supply of the *polishing flannel* used for final polishing at *local craft stores*, for pennies on the dollar! Matt says to ask for a yard or two of *white flannel*. It can be cut into small pieces, and should yield enough to last you for years! **Thanks, Matt!** *I'm sure that everybody (except maybe Norm Veber, whom you just put out of business!) appreciates this money-saving info!* 🍷

Snake Repellant?!

Enclosed for your enjoyment are shots of the **2001 ALMS GTS** *championship-winning car*, and

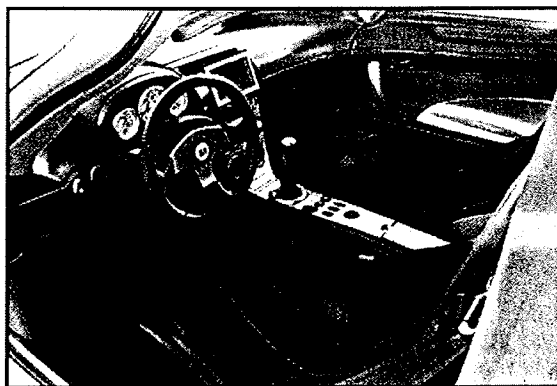
soon-to-be released (?) street legal version of same, the **Saleen S7R!** All the magazines are makin' this one sound like it is the *most fun you can have with your clothes on!* Basically,

a race car detuned for the street! The debut of these guys has been delayed several times, for various and sundry reasons. Motivation comes from a

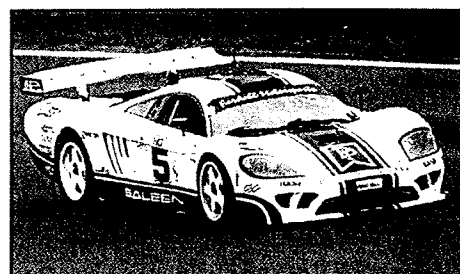
7.0-liter aluminum block V-8, putting out **550 horsepower** and **520 lb-ft of torque**, at 6400 rpm (the race engine cranks out about **600 hp.**, and **550 lb-ft of torque** at the same speed). Power is routed to a **six-speed**

manual with a 3.22:1 final drive (limited slip, of course!). All this sits in a **4130 alloy steel space frame chassis**. Body panels are **carbon fiber**, baked in an autoclave. It

weighs just **2,750 lb.** In street trim

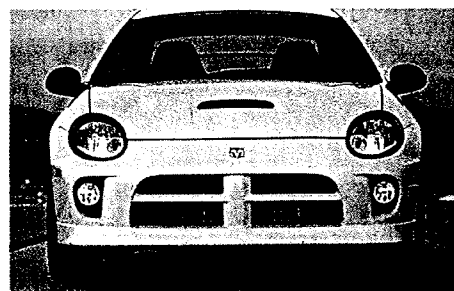


(2,350 race!), giving it a power to weight ratio of **1:5 (street)** or **1:4.22 (race)**. A **Lambo Murcielago** ranks at only **1:6.93!!!** How much is all this gonna cost? **Only \$395,000**, that's all!! "*Speed costs – how fast do you wanna*



And finally, the on-track version of this killer car!

go?!" Thanks to the *Autoweek* website for the pics and the stats on this incredible piece! 🚗



And from the other end of the spectrum, how 'bout a pumped-up, cross-eyed Neon SRT4?!

'Classic Plastic 2!'

Remember the item on the Classic Plastic Series one last month? Well gang, here for your enjoyment is **Series two!** As you can see, Johnny Lightning is tugging at both our heart and purse strings with this series! This series covers a few more old *Johan* releases, as well as one from *Pyro*, and another from *Aurora!* And as in the first release, the packaging includes not only the car, but a small representation of the actual kit box itself in

which it was packaged! As depicted in the enclosed

photo, the series includes: the **'Black Beauty'**, **'The Machine'**, the **SC/Rambler**, the (motorized) **Volkswagen**, a **'27 Ford Model T**, and the **'69 AMX**.

Thanks again to **'Mr. Diecast'**, my son **Nick!** 🚗



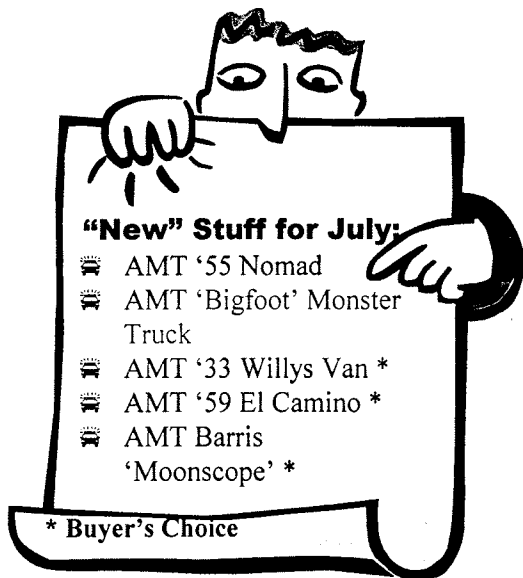
This is the newsletter of the
Maryland Automotive Modelers
Association

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Email: gtoguy@mindspring.com

MAMA's BoyZ do it in scale!



Chrome Cruiser!

Looks as though Chrysler will offer a **chrome accent pack-**

age for '03 (!) It will cost **\$595** (Touring Edition), and **\$1,270** (Limited Edition), and is supposed to include 16-inch chrome wheels, chrome exhaust tip, a monotone grille w/horizontal chrome bars, a chrome molding all around the vehicle, chrome lower bodyside moldings, gas cover, brushed



chrome sill plates and lock knobs. **I gotta get me one 'o dese!** 🚗



Kickin' Asp!!

A *'Viper vs. Viper' test* was held recently, pitting two **2003 Viper SRT-10s** against the **USAF's Lockheed Martin F-16 'Viper'** in acceleration trials at Luke AFB in Glendale, CA. The challenge pitted the combatants against each other in a **side-by-side, standing start half-mile drag race** on parallel base runways, accelerating to the speed at which the jet became airborne (*approx. 150 mph*).

The second pair had a **tweaked Viper (525 hp.)**, on racing slicks, while the Viper jet used **full after-burners!** The segment was to be presented on **Ripley's "Believe it or Not"** to be aired, sadly, on **July 10th!** I Don't know who won, but I thought it was kinda neat, and it filled up some space! **Bye!** 🚗

Bye! Bye!

The following list contains cars that will **disappear** after the **2002 model year!** It's been quite a year, eh? In alphabetical order, then:

- 1 Cadillac Eldorado
- 2 Chevrolet Camaro
- 3 Chevrolet Prism
- 4 Chrysler Prowler
- 5 Lincoln Blackwood
- 6 Lincoln Continental
- 7 Mercury Cougar
- 8 Oldsmobile Intrigue
- 9 Pontiac Firebird
- 10 Suzuki Esteem

Farewell! Y'all come back now, ya hear?! 🚗

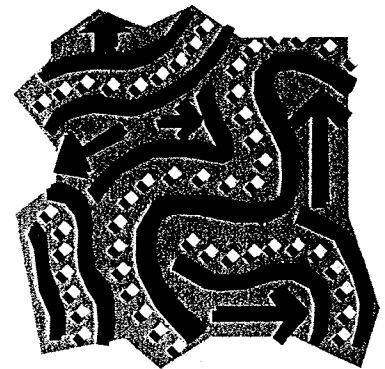
We're on the web!

<http://www.geocities.com/MAMAzboyz/>

Directions

From the Baltimore Beltway (RT 695): Take Exit 7, Route 295 (Baltimore-Washington Parkway) south towards Washington approx. 18 miles to Route 193 (Greenbelt Road), and exit. When on the off-ramp, stay to the right and merge right onto Southway (*see below*).

From the Washington Beltway (RT 495): Take Exit 22 north, towards Baltimore. Stay in the right lane and take the first exit onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road). When on the off-ramp, bear to the right and take Greenbelt road west, towards College Park. Stay in the right lane and immediately after passing over the Parkway, make a right (*at the light*) onto Southway (*read on!*)



Once on Southway: Go straight to the second (2nd) STOP sign. Make a left onto Crescent road. Go to the STOP sign and make a right into the parking lot behind the Greenbelt Library. Once in parking lot, look to the right. The large, white building is the Greenbelt Community Center. Enter building using the doors near fenced tot lot. The multi-purpose room is on the second floor. There is an elevator to the left of the entrance. 🚗