

MAMA SEZ!

Volume 21, Issue 9

May, 2008



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

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2008 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for the third Saturday of the month (unless noted otherwise). Do **NOT** assume meeting dates—confirm them with a club officer!

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



Inclement weather phone number: (301) 474-5255. ☞

It's (Outdoor) Showtime!

Last month's meeting was called to order by Prez Lyle Willits with special guests—**Chris Charon** and **Harry's ex-wife Sarah** showed up. Also in attendance were **Mr. and Mrs. Murphy**, to begin liquidating a small portion of a large model collection. See their ad on pg. 14.

We talked about the new **Revell '69 Nova SS**,

which is actually being built on the Spotlight Hobbies website. From what I've seen, it looks mighty nice!

Inside, there's words on Revell's new **'Ferrari 599 GTB Fiorano by 'Ford-natic (?)' Rich Wilson, Diecast Madness**, and coverage of **TWO** NNL events!

The take at last month's meeting was

\$96.00 (raffle—\$51.00, door—\$45.00). Do the math—we *didn't* make the room rent. So, let's dig deeper this month, OK? Thanks to the following donors: **Brad, Ron Bradley, Bob Foster, Ron Hamilton, Phil Jones, Charlie Magers, Rich Wilson, yours truly, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD.** Thanks, everyone! ☞

K & J Speed Shop Fall Kruise!

Many of you know **honorary MAMA's Boy Ken Hamilton**—he's responsible for those incredible dioramas?!? Well, just in case you missed it, he 'organized' a **'Kruise'** recently.

The cool thing about it is, if I'm not mistaken, that it was all done in **HO**

scale!!

The following link to the **B & D Builders forum** (similar to **Spotlight Hobbies**) showcases the story —http://z13.invisionfree.com/B_n_B_Auto_Builders/index.php?showtopic=6125, while

the Fotki link below to Ken's album includes all these photos, plus some that didn't make the cut—<http://public.fotki.com/khamilton/models/kj-2007-fall-kruise/>.

It took several months worth of planning to pull it off.

Ken—thanks! You are a maniac!! ☞



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NNL East '08

Well gang, the dust has settled from this year's relocated *NNL East* event. A few minor issues aside, everything seemed to go well for the Tri State gang in their new digs.

Negatives seemed to include getting access to the Ramada Inn. Several MAMA's BoyZ I talked to passed it more than once before pulling into its parking lot. It may take a few visits to get used to getting in and out of the Ramada Inn.

The PAL building was about 10 minutes away. It seemed much larger than the previous hall. Aisles seemed much wider, tho, tables seemed a bit emptier. I'm not sure whether or not this was due to a slightly lower than expected turnout due to gas prices, or simply the presence of more tables allowing everyone to spread out.

Kudos to *MAMA's Boy Marcos Cruz*, who garnered the special web theme of Revell '49 Mercury Custom Kit. Woulda been nice if we coulda seen it at the meeting, Cruz! (*Let's not forget*

Mike Napoleon, either!)

The remainder of the winners are as follows:

The John Slivoski Award Best In Show

'66 Volkswagen Touring—Gary Kulchock

Show Theme "To A T" 100 Years of the Ford Model T

'23 Model T "Half Track"—Mike Napoleon

Show Sub-Theme "Beetle-may-nee-aaa"

'66 Volkswagen Touring—Gary

Kulchock

Special Web Theme Revell 1949 Mercury Custom Kit

'49 Mercury—Marcos Cruz

Best Junior Award

James Dean Porsche 550 Spyder—Patrick Lewis

Joe Cavorley Award

(*For The Model Joe Would Have Appreciated Most*)

'49 Ford Grain Truck—Mike Randall

Mark your calendars for the 23rd annual version of this

event—*April 18th, 2009*. Word is the themes are *Fins & Feathers* (tailfins, sharkfins, anything with fins!), while the subtheme is *"Compact Class"* (anything from Pintos to Novas, to Civics and WRXs!). So, start those projects now! 🚗



Mid-Atlantic NNL '08

Looks as though we've got a case of dueling NNLs here. Our show, while not as large as NNL East, was no less fun.

It's always fun to see friends from out of the area that are able to attend, not to mention their latest completed projects.

After the dust had settled, we had *over 200 people* come through the doors, and *460 models* on the display tables! Both numbers are more than acceptable, given the current economy (*read: gas prices!*).

Kudos to the following— "*the Few, the Proud, the Winners*":

Competition

'58 Plymouth Pro Mod—Del Paone

Curbside

'00 Volkswagen—Bill Stillwagon

Custom

Delahaye—Rick Martin

Replica Stock

'69 Camaro—John Bowers

Street Machine

'69 Camaro—Ray Carey

Street Rod

'40 Ford—Barry Fadden

Truck/Light Commercial

'75 Mack—Mike Randall

People's Choice—Shoebox Fords ('49-'51)

'50 Ford convertible—Bill Stillwagon

Gary Burkey Award

'40 Ford—Barry Fadden

People's Choice—Nostalgic Racers (pre-'89)

'70 Corvette—Jack Bowman

People's Choice—Junior

Tiger Shark—Alex Forrester



People's Choice—Adult

'66 Volkswagen Touring—Gary Kulchock

Chris Charon, son of recently deceased club member Harry Charon was in attendance (*with his latest acquisition—a 1:1 '70 Torino GT*), along with his sister and Harry's ex-wife Sarah. They were speechless and appreciative of the Replica Stock class trophy being renamed in Harry's memory.

I'd like to take this occasion to thank all of our door prize supporters, vendors, attendees, and most importantly, all those MAMA's BoyZ (*and girlZ*) who worked tirelessly to set up, run, and tear down this show. Thanks also to *Tim Phelps*, flame painter extraordinaire! We couldn't have done it without any of you!

More info on next years' show date as it becomes available. I'll tell ya this much, though. Next year's themes are *'9' cars* and *Ferraris*. So, put yer thinking cap on and come up with something unique for these themes. Or, just build anything that suits yer fancy, and bring it on out and have some fun in '09! 🚗



Ferrari 599 GTB Fiorano

[Revell #4204; 96 pieces, plated, clear & white plastic]

I've reviewed only muscle car kits in the past, but let's see what we can find with this 'Italian job (?)'. I have it on excellent authority (*namely, Brad!*) that this is a fairly accurate kit. The only other kit of this car doesn't have an engine so this must be the better kit, right? How's that for a short review? This is a re-boxed Revell-Germany kit though that was cast in red plastic. This kit is cast in white plastic so rejoice guys—you can paint it any color you want. Do you hear that kit manufacturers? Red plastic is a pain in the ass. Plastic of any color other than white is a **PAIN IN THE ASS**.

The 599 was introduced at the Geneva Auto show in February '06. It replaced the 575M and apparently does so very well; though at **\$255,000 (!)** it should. It has a curb weight of 3720 pounds and 620 brake horsepower with a 6-speed paddle shifted, rear mounted transaxle. The new Corvette ZR-1 is 400 pounds lighter with the same amount of horsepower and one would assume faster but this 599 has much better styling. If you need detailing pictures the June '06 issue of ***Forza*** magazine has the best. ***Road & Track*** July '06 has a good review as well. ***Car & Driver*** July '06 has a review but it's not worth looking for.

The **V-12 engine** is a 10-piece affair, well executed except for the front cover/fan belt assembly, which is very poor. The exhaust manifolds are strange looking but

accurate, nothing like do-

mestic car headers. But can you imagine the cost of replacing 4 Ferrari catalytic converters (*Ed. Note: I'd rather not!*)!? A long torque tube connects the engine to the 3-piece transaxle and half-shafts; very similar to the Corvette's though, Corvette's is a copy of Ferrari's. The brake rotors/calipers fasten the wheels to the 4-wheel A-arm suspension. The shocks contain magnetorheological fluid, which is a fluid whose viscosity is controlled electronically. What looks like rear wheel steering is actually part of the traction control system. The tires and wheels are 245/40-19 in front and 305/35-20 in the rear and the kit versions look quite accurate.

The **interior** is platform-style with separate door panels. The seats are two pieces that are split so that the builder can paint the front portion the upholstery color,

and the rear half can be covered with carbon fiber, as in the real car. The dash is in two pieces, which again makes a two tone finish much easier. But the dash mounts to the body instead of the interior. I recall some reviewer complaining about a kit not having any decals for the gauges. Well there are no less than 11 for this dash. There is a separate plated paddle shifter that is trapped between the steering wheel and column. On the real car gears are changed in 100 milliseconds. I'd like to see hot rodders or street racers beat that!

The engine hood has a dog-legged hinge that is fairly realistic; I'd like to see this on more domestic model kits rather than the either/or fixed hinges we usually get. There is a piece of vinyl screening to be cut into various shapes (*patterns provided*) for the many openings in the body. All the glass is individual pieces that fit from the outside. I just wish

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Old School Hybrid?

Finally something to wipe the smug off you hybrid owners, you high-mileage acolytes, you global-cooling zealots who wash your Priuses (*Prii?*) with graywater while wearing reclaimed plastic fleece and hemp undies.

Don't choke on your organic soy-double-decaf-fair-trade-carbon-neutral macchiato, but how does

376.59 miles per gallon (!)

sound? Makes your Civic hybrid look Hummeresque, don't it?

That number doesn't come from some manta ray-shaped, wind tunnel-vetted carbon fiber space car. No, it's from a chop-top, steel-frame '59 Opel T-1 (*think melting jelly bean, but uglier*). And the record was set in **1973** in a contest sponsored by Shell Oil Co.

Yes, that Shell Oil, better known now as Royal Dutch Shell.

Evan McMullen, owner of Seattle-based Cosmopolitan Motors, rediscovered the Guinness world-record-setting but forgotten car in Florida.

The buzz of the automotive engineering circles in the early 1970s and winner of the Wood River Competition for the planet's top mileage car, the little Opel had been bought by the **France family**, owners of **NASCAR**, and gifted to the mu-



seum at Talladega raceway.

And

there it sat, mostly in anonymity, until McMullen, 45, heard about it and made his move. He now owns the car and hopes to sell it, maybe to a technological museum at an auction in September in Indiana.

He has a few questions about the car, about its worth mainly, but the provenance seems genuine. **Guinness** listed it in its **1975**

record book. Technological journals from the era waxed about the Opel's simple but effective modifications and engineering.

But McMullen's biggest question is why? Why didn't this technology find its way into the mainstream? Why did the car sit unmarked, unremembered for so long?

"If this is something they could do back in the 1970s, what happened?" he asked, poring over paperwork, including patents, for the car.

"Certainly in 34 years we could do something to make this work."

especially with gas climbing and then bivouacking above \$3 a gallon. Especially when its relatively ancient technology

bettered the best hybrid mileage by a **6-1 ratio**.

To be sure, the Opel isn't much on looks, luxury or performance. The team that built it stripped the interior of everything but a seat, chopped the top to lower its wind resistance. They narrowed the rear axle, used super-hard low-friction tires and a chain drive to save weight.

The mileage from the mostly stock four-cylinder came from heating and insulating the fuel line so the gas entered the engine as lean vapor. Then they drove the car on a closed course at a steady 30 mph.

So some of that wouldn't work in the street, McMullen concedes.

But if the car were made more drivable and lost 200 mpg—it still would get 176 mpg.

"Here's a car that was 20 years old at the time of the contest that was the project of a couple of guys in a garage," he said. "You

can't tell me we can't do better than this with cars today."

So McMullen wants to see who wants the car.

And he hopes there's something to be learned about the future while looking at the past, in an era when even the oil companies sometimes responded to OPEC fuel crises by promoting conservation.

"They tell us hybrids are the answer," he said. "I think the answer, at least part of it, is right here." (*Thanks to autoweek.com for this one*) 🍷



This 'n That

Cars, Part Deux! Pixar has announced through parent company Disney that a sequel to its hit movie *Cars* is under development. That's right, *Cars 2* is slated for a **Summer 2012 re-release**, and it will be created in **3-D animation**. Imagine: Mater the tow truck's buck teeth just jutting out right there in your face. Or Lightning McQueen's tires shredding and throwing racetrack 'marbles' right at the audience. The good news is that Oscar-winning producer Brad Lewis, who brought the world *Ratatouille* and *Antz*, has been tapped to direct this high-performance epic, which reportedly will take place around the world. It oughta be a great ride...**Street Fighter Camaro?** This Camaro was



recently spied at the Nürburgring, undergoing 'testing.' Rumor is that it could be a performance model, as evidenced by the slightly larger wheels and tires, red brake calipers, and exhaust tips. **Camaro SS? Z28?**

Time will tell...**Hot Rod Caddy, too?!** Cadillac aims for the '09 **CTS-V** to be the **fastest production sedan in the world**—and the goal is in sight after a prototype fitted with production components posted a sub-eight-minute lap time at Nürburgring.

The car lapped the 12.9-mile track in 7 minutes, 59.32 seconds, which GM says appears to be the fastest time ever for a production sedan. **John Heinrichy**, head of GM's performance division and race-car driver, piloted

the car. It goes on sale this fall. Under its hood is a **supercharged 6.2-liter V8** that makes about **550 hp**, though final SAE figures haven't been released. Six-speed manual and automatic transmissions will be available. The CTS-V's lap time puts it close to the 7:56 posted by a Z06 Corvette. It's about half a minute behind the 7:29 that Nissan officials say was posted by a new **Nissan GT-R** in mid-April. The fastest lap time by a production car at the historic track is believed to be 6:55, set in September 2005 by a car made by British company Radical. A video of the CTS-V's performance is expected to be posted soon at www.cadillac.gmblogs.com...



Faster One!?! Bugatti Veyron owners, get ready to check your rearview mirrors. A Swiss company is building what it says is the **world's fastest street-legal sports car**, called the **Weber Sportscars Faster One**, and it's backing up the claim with numbers that are borderline mind-numbing, including a top speed of **248.5 mph**. Weber Sportscars, based in Tobel, Switzerland, announced its performance data in metric units, but the conversions equal **0 to 62 mph** in about **2.5 seconds**, **0 to 124 mph** in **6.6 seconds** and **0 to 186 mph** in **16.2 seconds**. It uses a **GM LS7 engine**—with **twin superchargers** bolted on for an output of **900 hp**. They strip the engine down to the block and add a precision-balanced crank and rods, a cam with sharper timing and cylinder heads with larger valves. They also add a modified performance fuel-injection system, stainless-steel exhaust and **all-wheel drive**. The engine, mounted behind the seats, is mated to a **Weber-developed semiautomatic six-speed sequential gearbox with steering-mounted paddle shifters**. The company says **shift time** is **50 milliseconds**. To slow it down, they fit the car with **12-piston aluminum fixed brake calipers and vented ceramic discs**. The

(Continued on page 7)

T 'n T (contd)

(Continued from page 6)

two-seater has a carbon-fiber body with Lambo-style doors. The hood is fronted by a dual vertical grille that extends to the lower part of the bumper. Cost, you ask? About **\$1.56 million** at current exchange rates. Production is expected to start this summer. No word on whether it will be sold in the US (Ed. Note: Last time I checked, the Veyron's claimed top end of **253.19 mph** was faster than the **248.5** claimed by this car!)...

Welcome Back MG—Again?!

Shanghai Automotive Industry Corp., the Chinese owners of the **British marque MG**, said recently that production of the **TF LE500** sports car would begin in August, with the cars arriving in showrooms in September. The TF, which is expected to be an updated version of the car that went out of production in '05, would be built at MG's historic Longbridge plant in Birmingham, England (Will we have to fret about possible lead paint contamination?!?)... **Buh-Bye Tiburon?**

The '08 model year will be the last for the sporty **Hyundai Tiburon** two-door hatchback.

Hyundai says it will be produced until the new rear-wheel-drive **Genesis coupe** goes on sale next spring. The Genesis coupe is not a replacement for the front-wheel-drive Tiburon. They are seriously looking at a small front-wheel-drive coupe to replace the Tiburon. Through the first three months of this year, Tiburon sales fell 28.7 percent... **LA HQ for Lamborghini.** Lamborghini has

created a separate sales arm for its North American operations—the first such business unit outside of Italy in the Los Angeles suburb of Santa Monica. For '07, Lamborghini posted a net pre-tax profit of **\$72.8 million** on revenues of \$721.7 million, up from an **\$28.0 million** profit on \$535.2 million in revenues in '06. Said CEO Stephan Winkelmann: **"It's the first time we've ever earned real money"...**

Ford Racing. Blue Oval enthusiasts, get ready to bookmark a website.

Ford Racing has launched a new website to better connect customers with the company and each other, offering club information, lifestyle events and a link to the Ford Racing accessory page. The site includes information about Ford's SVT cars, technical data and memorabilia. It also has a heritage section and is linked to Ford's performance and tech hotline. The idea is to provide a central clearinghouse for Ford loyalists. The site has received the backing of several influential Ford clubs, including the **Mustang Club of America**, **Special Vehicle Team Owners Association** and **International Mustang Bullitt Owners Club**. Plans are ongoing to get more groups, including **Mach 1** and **Mercury Marauder** enthusiasts, online. Go to www.fordperformance.com...

Faux Shelby Club? Team Shelby, the car club launched in the wake of **Shelby's** legal dispute with the **Shelby American Automobile Club**, says its membership has reached **2,000** after about three months of activity. Shelby ended his licensing agreement with the

Shelby American Automobile Club Jan. 31, and threw his support behind Team Shelby, which launched in January. The new club is now the **only officially licensed group**. It was originally called the **\$197 Shelby Owners Association**. Team Shelby says its duties are to distribute newsletters, compile an online registry and plan events, including tours and track days. **The new club is an offshoot of Shelby Automobiles, and is organized under the company's marketing department.**

Shelby marketing VP Jim Owens says the club's growth can be linked to the launch of new Shelby products, particularly from Ford, and rising consumer interest. A message left through an intermediary for Shelby American Automobile Club executive Rick Kopec recently was not immediately returned. Meanwhile, Shelby and SAAC have filed **dueling lawsuits**. At issue is control of records, financial documents and Shelby merchandise. The 5,000-member SAAC, founded 33 years ago, maintains a registry on Shelby cars and checks their authenticity... **Call My Lawyer!**

Electric carmaker Tesla Motors is suing **Fisker Automotive** and two of its execs, alleging they stole Tesla's hybrid technology and are using it to bring their own hybrid, the Karma, to market (Thanks to the *Washington Times*, *autoweek.com*, and other Internet sources for this insanity! Ya just can't make some of this up!!

Thanks also to those of you in the 'Peanut Gallery' who have attempted to help me entertain y'all by sending stuff along—I 'preciate it!) ☺

NNL East Model Buffet

Anyone who attended *NNL East* this year was treated to an entirely new location and a few new and interesting (*depending on who you are, and what your tastes are*) resin items. Lets take a look.

First up is that old standby, *Modelhaus* (<http://modelhaus.com/>). I don't know how Don and Carol do it—suffice it to say that they do (*and I'm sure many of you are very glad, too!*).

Their new stuff starts off with *station wagons* (*hey, Maaaaatt!*). That's right—station wagons, or *'longroof sedans,'* as many rodders now refer to them (*guess that's how they can rationalize driving 'em!*). A *'70 Ford* is available in either *Country Sedan* or *Country Squire* trim levels, at prices ranging from **\$50 to \$95** (*depending on transkit/full kit status*). Next up is your choice of a *'68* or *'69 Coronet R/T* (\$63/\$70). We can now move on to the *'70 Coronet 4-door sedan* (\$60/\$92), and last but not least, a *'70 Charger R/T* (\$65), which uses a Dukes Charger as a donor kit.

Next up is *Model Car World* (<http://ourworld-top.cs.com/mcwautofinishes/index.html>). Proprietor Dave Dodge supplements his extensive paint lineup with resin kits that seem to grow every year. He has added something near and dear to my heart—*Pontiacs* (*whatdja expect?!?*). They include a *'64 Catalina 2-door hardtop* or *2-door sedan*, a *'64 Grand Prix 2-door hardtop*, or your choice of two *'64 Catalina NASCAR racers*—*Bobby Johns*, or *H. B. Bailey*. Prices range from **\$57.95** (*stock*) to

\$65.95 (*racers*). All are complete kits, with the exception of the stock cars, which lack wheels and tires.

Awright, pipe down, you Chevy guys! Dave has something for you, too. He lists a *'61 Biscayne 2-door sedan* (\$31.95), with several *drag car variants* (\$39.95 each), and calls for the Lindberg '61 Impala as a donor.

Next up is a *'65 Chevy II stock wheel-base match racer* (\$44.95) with *Dick Harrell decals* (*not sold separately, so Dave Dodge sez "Don't even ask!"*), which uses the Rat Packer as a donor. While on the subject, how 'bout a *'66 Chevy II 100 2-door sedan* (\$24.95)? Or, the *"Duce and a Half" A/S drag racer* (\$32.95). These guys use the AMT '66 Nova SS as a donor.

Be sure to check their respective websites for ordering info and postage requirements.

MAMA's Boy Bob Korunow of *Model Car Garage* (<http://www.modelcargarage.com/>) was in attendance. And, while Bob had few new items at the show (*in his defense, there has been very little released lately, right?!?*), he intimated that he has some good stuff that should be out shortly, so watch the website!



Got the chance to talk at length with the owners of a new company, *TJ's Custom Castings* (www.tjscustomcastings.com), *Tom Yocum* and his dad, *Tim* (*an ex-racer*), and their excitement is infectious. They are from PA and specialize in *dirt racing bodies, hoods, chassis, tires, wheels, engines, accessories, and even kits*.

Check out the photos of the incredible set of *'Wide 5' wheels* enclosed—each wheel is *three pieces!* You can e-mail Tom at tyocum@tjscustomcasting.com.

As usual, a special thanks goes out to Matt Guilfoyle for creating this monster of a column. If you see something you like, contact the company. If you find something that everyone might want to know about, send it to me for inclusion in a future column! Thanks in advance, guys. 🏁



Model Buffet

With so much going on, we will start off close to home again this month to find some new and interesting resin goodies to fill some space here.

Historic Racing Miniatures (a.k.a. *Harold Bradford*) has apparently chained himself to his workbench. The ink is barely dry on the Hasegawa Ferrari 250 Testa Rossa, and Brad awreddy has a corrected engine/transmission for this historic machine! The kit will completely replace what passes for an engine in this kit, from carbs ("Veber's Webers," as Brad calls 'em!!), and front cover to trans tailshaft. The kit is also rumored to include **Norm Veber's** (a.k.a. *Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD!*) linkage kit, accompanied by



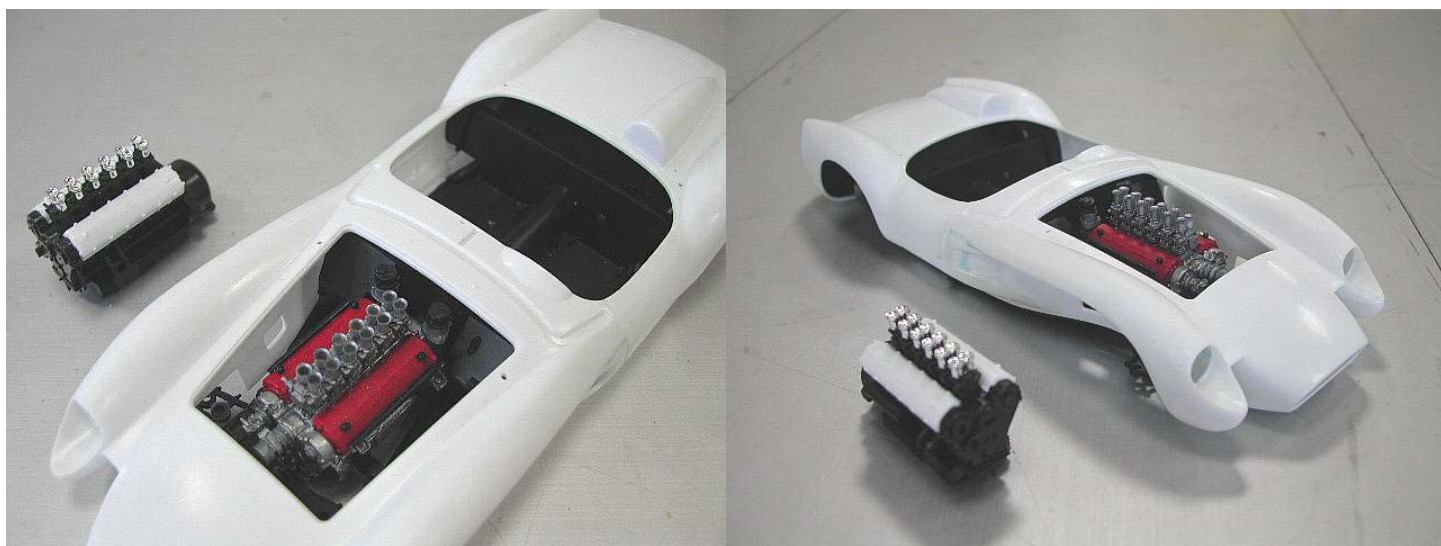
range. Check out the attached photos and see for yourself Brad's handiwork. I'm told that this may be just the tip of the iceberg for goodies for this kit—stay tuned. And, let's not forget the upcoming Z06 Corvette and Mercedes-Benz 300SLR.

voluminous instructions! I'm told the kit should retail in the

\$40 to \$50

For further info, contact Harold Bradford at 14008 Adkins Road, Laurel, MD 20708, his-toricracingminiatures@comcast.net. It is also available from Norm.

As usual, a special thanks goes out to Matt Guilfoyle for creating this monster of a column. If you see something you like, contact the company. If you find something that everyone might want to know about, send it along to me for inclusion in a future column! Thanks in advance, guys. 🍷

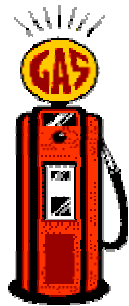


Miscellania!

Got Gas?!?



I betcha Cruz is **STILL** smiling over his good fortune at NNL East!! Way-togo, buddy!



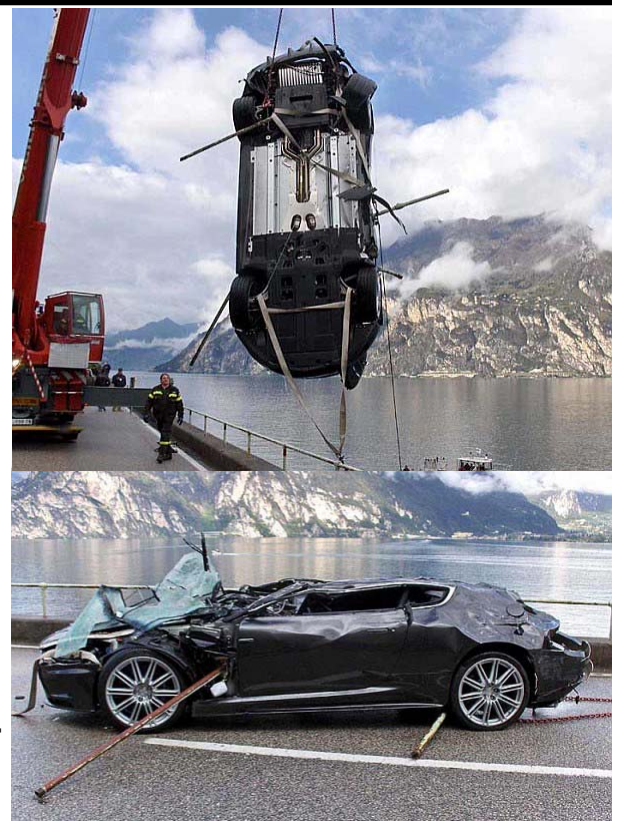
Ken Hamilton, sportin' the official "K & J Speed Shop" apparel. Looks good, Ken!

Thought you'd like to know that the car on the bottom of the next page built by Terry Henline was carved from a solid block of poplar wood, with over 80 separate pieces of polished aluminum used for details and painted a cool metallic blue. Terry is a famous GM auto designer who got periodic coverage in Motor Trend and Automotive News working for GM from 1961 to 2001—a 40- year career. As Chief Designer, he led Buick, Chevrolet and Pontiac Studio teams, with 17 years of focus on Pontiac exterior styling and design. He takes credit for the 1988 Pontiac Grand Prix and Grand Am models in that same time period. He also served as Director of GM's Advanced Design Center in CA and was Director of Design of the new GM Hummer (H-2) Brand. Wow—all that from building a model!! 🚗

"That Hadda Hurt!"

Didja hear that they were making a *new James Bond flick*? Sho' nuff. It's called "*Quantum of Solace*." No kiddin'!

Apparently, the new Aston Martin (*worth \$250,000*) was being delivered to a filming location near Italy's Lake Garda. The driver reportedly lost control and the *car wound up crashing through a safety barrier and into the lake*. Variety reports the driver sustained only minor injuries, and was released from the hospital. Well, scratch one Aston! I wouldn't wanna be this guy's insurance agent! My guess is that he's also actively looking for a job right about now, too! 🚗



"Blast From The Past!"

I don't know about you guys, but when I was growing up, I used to love see those styling exercises from the future entered in the Fisher

Body Craftsman's Guild contests. Well, if you did as well, then **MAMA's Boy John Jacobus** has got just the thing—check out the press release below. If you're in the area, check it out! And remember, John is an accomplished author (*unlike yours truly!*) having written a book on the subject entitled **"The Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild An Illustrated History,"** and will gladly sell you a copy for only \$49.95. His contact info is: John L. Jacobus, MFA-FBCG Exhibition Coordinator (*and Card-Carrying MAMA member*), 10103 Gates Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland 20902, 301-681-0335, johnjacobus1@aol.com, www.fisherguild.com. 📖

PRESS RELEASE Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild (1930-1968) Retrospective
5/01/08 Title: "1950s & 1960s 'Dream Car' Model-rama"

Date: August 9 -10, 2008

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

WHAT: A "once-in-a-lifetime," nostalgic educational *Retrospective and Exhibition* of some thirty (30) National and Styling Scholarship award winning models, as well as some thirty (30) State & Regional Award winning models - never seen before by the public. See some exquisite examples of the top award winning 1/12 scale, "Dream Car" models made by Harley J Earl's Guildsmen, which have been groomed especially for you to see and enjoy. A two-day look at the results of General Motors' infamous 50's & 60's industrial arts program, called on the street by the name **Fisher Body Design Contest** [formally called **Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild (1930-1968)**]. A 1/12 scale [1"=1'] model-rama in honor of GM's 100th Centennial Birthday (9/16/08).

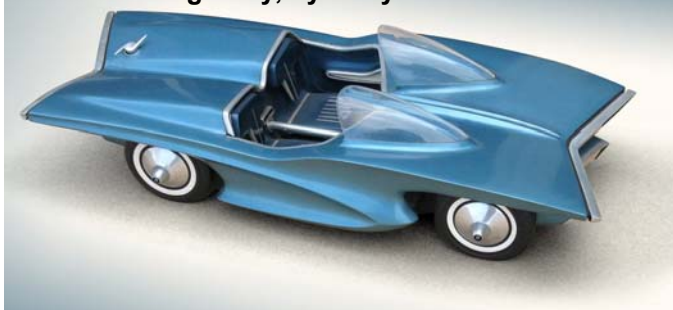
Also, remembering Harley J. Earl, V.P. GM Styling (1940-1958) and his cadre of aspiring student auto designers (*his Disciples*) many of whom became GM's, and the Auto Industry's, 2nd Generation Auto Designers; + Auto Design Directors, Executives and Consultants.

WHEN: August 9-10, 2008. 2-days, Saturday & Sunday, 10 AM to 5 PM. **WHERE:** Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA 02115. **Located:** 465 Huntington Avenue (*Avenue of the Arts*) Boston 02115. General Info Phone 617-267-9300; TTY: 617-267-9703, Take MBTA Green Branch, "E" Heath Street Subway train Outbound to the MFA Subway Stop (See www.mbta.com) MFA Parking Building & Park Lots cost \$22 per day.

GUILD EXHIBIT LOCATION: 2nd Floor, West Wing, in the **renovated** and former Gund Gallery Gift Shop space (*approx. 21' X 90'*) above the outdoor Japanese Garden.

DESCRIPTION: 1/12 scale, *Model "Dream Car" Retrospective* representative of the Harley J. Earl auto design era, with **21** top national scholarship winner's models; **11** styling scholarship winner's models; **16** Regional winner's models; (*includes one stunning 1947 Regional Miniature Model Napoleonic Coach; like those made for the FBCG model design competition 1930 to 1947*); and **15** state winner's models – for some **64 models total**. Meet the winning Guildsmen and see their models; Meet many Guildsmen who became professional auto designers; Participate in a public info & education (*PI&E*) program and join the discussions about the Fisher-Guild and automotive design.

1/12 scale, 1958 - 2nd national scholarship, \$4,000 award winning entry, by Terry R. Henline



FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM (*with your \$17 General Admission Fee*)

Presented by: the Guildsmen-Exhibitors themselves will deliver the PI&E program.

Place: Mabel Louise Riley Conference Room, MFA First Floor near the Cafe.

Times: 4 Shows - 11 AM & 2 PM Saturday as well as 12 Noon & 2:30 PM Sunday

GENERAL ADMISSION FEE: \$17.00 ticket (*good for 10 days*)
Cameras allowed without any flash, please! See www.mfa.org. and

see www.fisherguild.com for further information about the Fisher-Guild and a unique 2005 McFarland book: **"The Fisher Body Craftsman's Guild: An Illustrated History,"** by John L. Jacobus, ISBN 978-0-7864-1719-3. 📖

Harry E. Schoepf's 1961 National Styling Scholarship model



Diecast Madness

Again this month we start off with diecasts from one of the industry leaders in smaller-scale (1/24th) diecasts, **Danbury Mint**.

For you Mopar guys, DM is releasing a **limited edition '68 Charger R/T**, in bright red, no less. Only **5,000** cars will be produced. Equipped with Magnum 500 wheels sporting redline tires, and a 440 cu. in. V-8, hooked to a torqueflite tranny. Price is only **\$140** plus **\$7.80** shipping and service, payable in four monthly installments of **\$36.95**.

Next up, for you Ford fans, a limited edition **Twilight Turquoise '65 K-code Mustang GT**, riding on styled wheels wearing dual redline tires. I notice a small price increase here, in that this one'll set you back **\$149** plus **\$9.00** shipping and service, payable in four monthly installments of **\$39.50**.

And, fittingly last, after what was reportedly a two-year gestation period—longer than normal in the die-cast world—Danbury has created a spectacular **1/12th scale '30 Cadillac V16 Roadster**. It is comprised of **1300+ pieces**, weighing in at 14 pounds, spanning 18.5 inches, this two-tone

green replica does everything

the real car does except burn gas. If you're interested in obtaining a copy, get in line soon. All of their production of this **\$495** piece is already spoken for

through June. For more information, call 'em at 1-800-822-6133 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or go to www.danburymint.com.

Meanwhile, the gang at **GMP** have also been busy. **GMP** is also releasing a pair of **supercharged '91 Mustang GT 'Street Fighters'** - Blue with White Stripes (#G1801825), and White with Blue Stripes (#G1801826). Cost is only \$105.95 per model, again with only **600 of each** available worldwide. They should be available in late May.

For those of you with a bit more 'disposable income,' GMP is also releasing a pair of **1/12th scale 289 Street Cobras**, available in Guardsman Blue (#G1202613) or Red (#G1202612). They feature opening doors, hood, trunk, wired and plumbed race-inspired 289

with Weber induction and velocity stacks, four-speed transmission, hand laced spoke wheels with new threaded spinner technology (*easier installation and removal*), highly detailed brakes, suspension,



and undercarriage, soft touch leatherette seat upholstery, cloth seatbelts with photoetched buckles, and accurately detailed instrument cluster and interior. Only **350 of each** worldwide—**MSRP \$499.95** US funds only.

They are also adding to their lineup of 'Modern Muscle' with the inclusion of a **1/18th scale Impulse Blue Metallic '06 Pontiac GTO** (#G1802408). This one is limited to only 1,000 pieces, and will set you back \$109.95. This one, though a GMP offering, was made for and available via **Guy-cast**, (917) 771-3622, guy-cast1@gmail.com. That means that the current-gen GTO (2004-06) is now available in eight colors: **Torrid Red, Yellow Jacket, Cyclone Gray Metallic, Quicksilver Metallic, Phantom Black Metallic, Midnight Blue Metallic, and Brazen Orange Metallic**. I know, 'cuz I've got 'em all (*What'dja expect?!?*)!

So, there you have it for this month's dreaded 'D' word column. Maybe a name change is in order, what with the way folks feel about 'em?! If this is your thing, ya pays yer money, and takes yer choice! Don't wait too long with these limited numbers, though. 🚗





May 31st & June 1st—**Online Show 'n Shine & Garage Tour** for all large scale (1/12th or larger) street rod, race, custom, vintage and classic models, hosted by scalemotorcars.com. Membership is not required, and participants are eligible for prizes, such as an R/M 1/8th scale Deuce body,

\$100 gift certificate, for aftermarket products, and a one-year sub to Model Cars. Check it out!

June 14th—**2nd Annual Trick My Ride Open Car & Truck show**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at South Carroll high school. The event is a fundraiser for the South Carroll H.S. PTSA. Info: Kim Hobin, at 410-693-9665, or Default-girl@aol.com.

June 6th to 8th—**35th Annual**

Street Rod Nats East model car show sponsored by the CPMCC, at the York Expo Center (south end of Memorial Hall west), in York, PA. Info: Mike, (610) 733-8547, or mjcole@epxi.net.

Aug. 6th to 9th—"Gateway to the Atlantic" **'08 IPMS USA National Convention** at the VA Beach Convention Center. Info: www.ipmsusa2008.org.

That's all for now! ☺

Let's Go Racin'!

Oh...my...God! Toyota does it AGAIN! And again?! And (almost) yet AGAIN?! They seem to have broken Chevy's stranglehold at Talladega. Kurt Busch won the most recent race (4/27) there, with teammate Denny Hamlin third, and Brian Vickers in the Red Bull Camry fifth. I think I heard that Chevy had won 17 of the last 18 races here, with only Dale Jarrett spoiling that record in a Taurus (in 2000?).

Toyota's next victory came at Darlington with, you guessed it—**Kyle Busch!**

Kyle very nearly also won the race at **Richmond** the week prior. He was in second place, shadowing Dale Earnhardt Jr., when they got together. Busch fans will say that Junior cut down on him, while Junior fans will say that Busch got loose and got into him. At any rate, Junior went spinning into the wall, and Kyle

got loose long enough to let third-place Clint Bowyer slip by for the win. As a result, he not only received a chorus of boos at Richmond, but got the same treatment at Darlington, too. From what I've read, he's eating it up. Several drivers, including none other than Jeff Gordon have taken their turns in this position, and Kyle relishes it.

Looks like **Joe Gibbs'** poster boy for **Anger Management**, **Tony Stewart**, has several offers to **leave JGR**, including **owning his own team**. Guess time will tell where he ends up.

Let's change gears just a bit (*pun intended!*). What do you think of **Open Wheel Hottie star Danica Patrick** winning her first race?! She won the rain-delayed Japan Indy 300 (*her 50th start*) over Helio Castroneves and Scott

Dixon, leading just three of the 200 laps (*but the most important one, right?!*), finishing 5.86 seconds over Castroneves. A huge achievement for Danica's fans and female drivers everywhere! ☺



Fiorano (contd)

(Continued from page 4)

more model manufacturers would adopt Tamiya's masking idea. The chrome tree needs to be completely stripped and refinished with various metalizers to be more accurate. The grille could be left chromed but the interior of it needs to be blackened. The muffler/tailpipe pieces could stay chromed as well with maybe a coat of clear flat to 'kill' the shine.

The **decal sheet** numbers to 50 but some have multiples such as the wheel centers. There are seven pairs of euro license plates. The required U.S. side marker lights are decals allowing the builder to leave them off for a euro version; kool idea. For a kit with 'only' 100 parts, its well detailed and seems like there are many more parts than there are. If anyone pays attention to recommended skill levels, I'm not sure a younger person with limited abilities will be able to build this, but it will certainly extend his/her confidence.

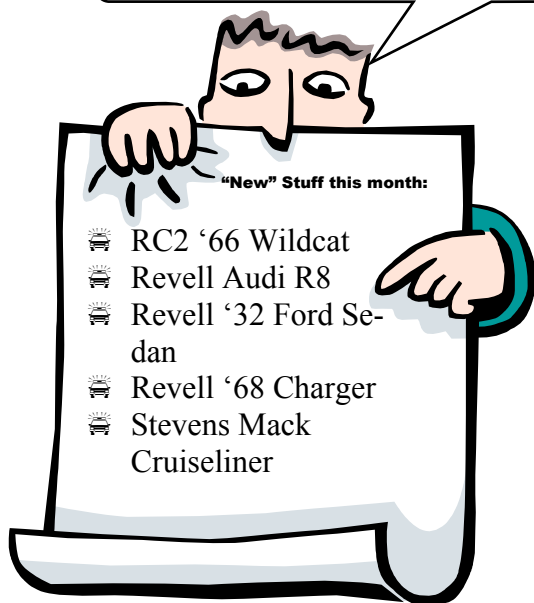
By: Rich Wilson ☺

This is the newsletter of the
Maryland Automotive Modelers
Association

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Email: gtoguy@verizon.net

MAMA's BoyZ do it in scale!



Websites

Carlisle Events:

<http://www.carlisleevents.com>

East Coast Indoor Nationals

(Timonium, MD):

www.eastcoastindoornats.com

Maple Grove Raceway: <http://www.maplegroveraceway.com/>

Philly Area Car Modelers: <http://www.pacms.org/>

Maryland Intl Raceway:

<http://www.mirdrag.com/>

Old Toyland Shows: <http://www.oldtoylandshows.com/>

York US30 Musclegar Madness:

www.yorkus30.com 🚗



Club Contact Info

Classified

FOR SALE: Classic scale models (50's, 60's, 70's, & 80's) from a private collection. Planes, cars, motorcycles, tanks, airplanes, rockets, helicopters, jets, various ships, truck trailers & tractors, military figures, vintage cars, race cars, much more-all scale sizes - various makers including: Adams, AHM (RivArossi) trains, Airfix, AMT, Aurora, Bandai, Entex, ERTL, ERTL (International Harvester), ESCI, Fujimi, Hasegawa, Hawk, Hleler, IMAI, IMC, Italeri, JoHan, Lindberg, Marines Model Co., Minicraft, Model Shipways, Monogram, MPC, Para-



mount, Pocher, Pyro, Renwal, Revell, Revell Authentic kits, Tamiya, Testors, UPC, VHT Denmark, and more. Please call (443)-817-2407.

FOR SALE/TRADE:

Thinning/narrowing focus, not quitting. Contact Tim Sickle at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting.

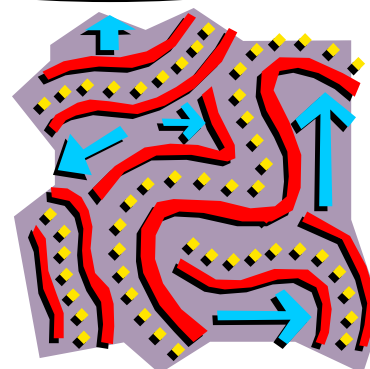
Got an ad? E-mail me, and we'll see if we can fit it in! 🚗

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<http://www.mamasboyz.org/>

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 495/95): 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. 🚗

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