



Volume 34, Issue 4

December, 2021

"Serving Delmarva Car Modelers for 30+ Years!"



This is the newsletter of the Maryland Automotive Modelers Association

VFTB	1
Rusty Christmas	3
On The Mend	4
Get-Together	4
Virtual Meeting	5
Gov't Motors	6
WTF?!	7
T 'n T	8
Miscellania	10
"New" Stuff	10
Poncho Perfection	11
Classified	12

Beep-Beep! Tight

2021 <u>Get-Together</u> Schedule

In the near-term, with our Greenbelt location unavailable (alternate locations are being considered, including the Fire museum), interested modelers may "show up" at the Fire museum on the schedule listed below (based on their comfort level), from 10 am to 2 pm:

- July 17th
- ♠MAugust 21st
- September 18th
- October 16th
- November 20th
- December 18th

Hope to see you there

"Merry Christmas, MAMA!!"

Another "Gettogether" was held last month on the traditional MAMA meeting day at the MD Fire Museum. Thanks to Lyle Willits for Get-Together pix!

Due to circumstances beyond Tim P's control, *Virtual Meeting pix* combined October and November.

Now, for a big announcement—MAMA is

back! Starting with the January meeting, what had been known as "Gettogethers" at the Fire museum will become officially sanctioned MAMA meetings. For the moment, the plan appears to be that until such time as we outgrow the space allotted at the museum, that this will be MAMA's "new home." Those interested in join-

ing us in January, please refer to the piece on the last page of this newsletter for museum location details. *See you there!*

Poncho Parade this month shares some progress on **Kevin Kovach's Poncho projects**.

I hope all of you are still doing whatever is necessary to be safe, especially if you are in the target group—*Tim*

When Revell released their kit of the stock version of the 1956 Ford F-100 pickup truck, I snapped one up right away as it immediately reminded me of the one my dad drove in the late 60's.

I never knew why but around 1967 or 1968 my dad changed out his silver-blue 1962 Chevrolet Impala convertible in favor of a red and white 1956 Ford F-100 pickup truck. It was dead stock with red and white paint, a V8 engine, manual transmission, and a side-

FROM THE BASEMENT

mount spare tire. At the time I thought that sidemount spare was the coolest thing ever. Well, I was only five or six years old and this was the first truck I'd ever been in or climbed on. I thought the running boards were great, too.

My earliest memory of that truck was nearly falling out of it while Dad was making a left turn. It was summertime and I wanted to roll down the window in the passenger door. The window crank and the door latch handle are not only positioned very close to each other, they have a very similar appearance. And I was very young and didn't notice the minor

(Continued on page 2)

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Page 2 MAMA Sez!

VFTB (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

difference and so, you guessed it, I grabbed the door latch handle thinking it was the window crank just as the G-force of the truck making its arc to the left was nigh unto its zenith. The weighty door flung open, pulling my young self across the seat with it. There were no seat belts in those days to restrain such unexpected moves.

Fortunately, Dad had good peripheral vision and was keenly aware of my antics/situation and managed to grab me by the belt while simultaneously bringing the truck to halt. Luckily, I never lost my grip on the door latch handle during this event or at best I'd have been oriented with my face on the running board and my hands on the road surface by then.

Another very strong memory I have of that truck happened not too much later. A perpetually intoxicated neighbor who lived two houses down and on the other side

of the street had what appeared to me at the time as the world's Boxer largest dog. It was as big as I was. Well, maybe nearly as big. Either way, it was big enough in a first grader's eves. And it was loud.

It barked like crazy at everyone who ever passed by on foot or on wheels.

Riding my bike home for dinner one evening that dog got loose as I passed by its house and it came charging after me. I sped up. All I knew was it was growling, barking, and gnashing its teeth, and staring straight at me as it closed in. I saw Dad's truck parked on the road out in front of our house, so I pedaled fast as I could toward it. I recall making one of those really cool actionhero style leaps from one vehicle

to another like



you see in the movies as I jumped from my speeding purple Western Flyer Buzz Bike into the relative safety of Dad's pickup bed. Maybe it was really more like I threw the bike down and rapidly climbed into the bed, I don't know—that part's a bit fuzzy.

I was able to stand there in the bed of the truck watching the hound from hell warily as it paced back and forth bearing its teeth and barking incessantly. Dad heard the commotion and came outside. Fearlessly he walked straight to the dog, scruffed it like you would a kitten and carried it

(Continued on page 12)



I don't have any photos of Dad's '56 F-100, but this truck is similar to the one he had. His was all red, wore black wall tires, and sported a white painted grille. The running boards and bumpers were painted black. His truck did not 11 or 12 year old daily driver it was



In this image of a stock 1956 F-100 passenger door panel, have fog lights. And his wasn't so shiny, it looked like the you can see for yourself how a 5 or 6 year-old kid might mistake that door latch handle for the window crank

Volume 34, Issue 4 December, 2021 Page 3

"Rusty Chevy Christmas"

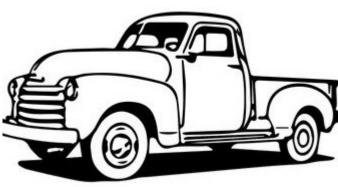
Dashing through the snow in my Rusty Chevrolet Down the road I go Sliding all the way

I need new piston
rings
I need new snow
tires
My car is held together
By a roll of chicken wire

Oh, rust and smoke, heater's broke The door just blew away I light a match to see the dash And then I start to pray

Frame is bent, the muffler went The radio, it's okay Oh what fun it is to drive This Rusty Chevrolet

I went to the IGA
To get some Christmas cheer
I just passed up my left front tire
And it's getting hard to steer



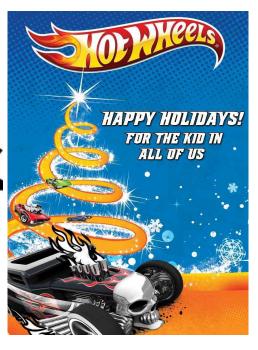
Speeding down the highway Right past a county cop I have to drag my swampers Just to get the car to stop

Bouncing through snowdrifts In a big blue cloud of smoke People laugh as I drive by And I wonder what's the joke

Got to get to Wal-Mart To pick up the lay-away 'Cause Santa Claus is coming soon In his big old rusty sleigh

—Assorted sources 🚔





On the Mend!

By now, many of you my know that our founder, Norman Veber, was recently hospitalized, and eventually underwent a triple bypass operation.

This happened very quickly, just before Thanksgiving. He was actually released just prior to Thanksgiving, so both he and Mary have a lot to be thankful for.

He will have to take it easy, and follow doctor's orders for the best possible recovery.

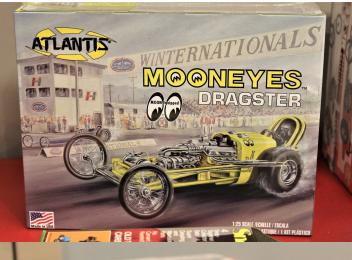
What you may not have known was that MAMA Prez Tim Powers also went "under the knife" for rotator cuff surgery earlier this year. From what I understand, he is also doing well, but again, his recovery will be a slow, deliberate one.

I'm sure we all wish for a speedy, full recovery for both of them. We all have a lot to be thankful for with regard to the care and attention they both received. Keep them both in your thoughts—*Tim*

Page 4 MAMA Sez!













Volume 34, Issue 4 December, 2021 Page 5

Virtual Meeting LOOK Don Krone's replica of his 1:1 '72 Nova \circ

'Til next time, help yourself to a cookie!

Page 6 MAMA Sez!

'GMC' and NHTSA have issued a recall for *an unknown number* of *2013 Chevy Malibus*, *Buick Regals* and *Buick La-Crosses* over an issue related to the rear toe links.

These vehicles may have rear toe links that received an excessive amount of electrocoating (ecoat) corrosion protection at the factory. This can cause the e-coat to become brittle and break away when contacted by road debris.

Over time, the e-coat may chip away completely, exposing the metal toe link and making it more susceptible to rust/corrosion. Corrosion may eventually cause the toe link to thin and ultimately fracture. This will increase the risk of a crash, as a vehicle with a broken rear toe link will be very hard to control.

Dealer techs will be instructed to replace the rear suspension toe links and adjuster fasteners. These repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehicle owner.

Only vehicles that were sold or ever registered in cold weather states are affected. This includes the following: Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

'GMC' will notify owners of affected vehicles and instruct them to make an appointment with their dealer. If owners are unsure whether or not their vehicle is affected by this recall, they can visit my.gm.com/recalls and type in their VIN to see any open recalls

or other actions that may be active on it.

'GMC' and **NHTSA** have issued a product safety recall for roughly 5,700 2018-21 Chevy 6500 Low Cab Forward commercial trucks for front steering knuckle. The related Isuzu FTR truck is also affected by this recall.

In these trucks, a bolt on the left front steering knuckle may come loose, resulting in an increased turning radius and difficulty steering to the left.

A sudden unexpected change in turning radius and/or difficulty steering to the left could make the vehicle more difficult to control, increasing the risk of a crash.

Dealers will replace both the

front right and front left side stopper bolt jam nuts in affected vehicles and clean or replace the extensions, as necessary. These repairs will be performed at no cost to the vehi-

cle owner.

Owners are advised to wait for 'GMC' to get in contact with them, at which point they will be instructed to make an appointment with the nearest dealership. Owner notifi-

GOVERNMENT MOTORS

IN SOVIET AMERIKA, THE CAR DRIVES YOU... BANKRUPT!



AN AMERIKAN REVOLUTION

cation letters are expected to be mailed out on December 29th, 2021

'GMC' is asking owners of the *Chevy Bolt EV* or *Bolt EUV* to park 50 feet away from other vehicles when they are in a parking garage due to fire risks.

According to Reuters, 'GMC' has implemented this precaution to "reduce potential damage to structures and nearby vehicles in



the rare event of a potential fire." The automaker had already suggested owners park their vehicles outdoors and not leave them

(Continued on page 7)

Volume 34, Issue 4 December, 2021 Page 7

Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)

charging unattended due to fire risks, but issued this new guidance in response to owners who had questions regarding the safety of using parking garages/parking decks. Owners are also advised to limit charging their vehicles to under 90-percent capacity using the Target Charge Level mode, avoid frequent charging sessions and avoid depleting their battery below 70 miles of range.

'GMC' expanded its recall of the Chevy Bolt EV in August to include the 2020 and 2021 model-year Bolt EV, along with the refreshed 2022 Bolt EV and new 2022 Bolt EUV crossover. The recall now includes more than 140,000 vehicles from the 2017 to 2022 model years. 'GMC' has yet to issue a permanent fix for the problem and says its engineers, along with experts from its battery manufacturing partner LG Energy Solution, "continue to work

around the clock on the issues."

'GMC' has traced the battery fires back to a torn anode tab and folded separator within one or multiple battery cells. The automaker said recently it is working with LG Energy Solution to find the

root cause of these battery manufacturing issues and to "clean up the manufacturing process" at two LG Energy Solution plants in Michigan and South Korea. It is also seeking reimbursement from LG for the cost of the recall, which is expected to top \$1.8 billion.

Production of the Chevy Bolt EV and Bolt EUV has been put on pause at the 'GMC' Orion Assembly plant in Michigan until further notice in light of the recall. Production will not return until the

automaker is "confident LG can provide us with good battery modules," a 'GMC' spokesperson said this week. A stop-sale order is effective on all Chevy Bolt EV and Bolt EUV models, as well—
Assorted sources

'GMC' Recall Ticker

of Recalls
231 (!)
of Vehicles Affected
53.799.758

WTF?!

"A Brick that Hauls"!?! SOME-ONE (obviously, a fan of 'GMC'!) with a very vivid imagination

came up with this Chevy drag truck. Yay or Nay?—
Assorted sources

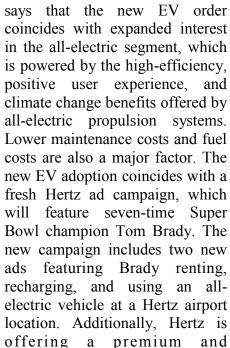


Page 8 MAMA Sez!

T 'n T

Hertz Electric?! As 'GMC' moves to reduce its rental car agency sales, Tesla just inked a deal with Hertz, with the latter placing an order for 100,000 new Tesla vehicles. Starting last month, Hertz customers will be able to rent a Tesla Model 3 sedan airport and neighborhood locations in the US throughout Europe. What's more, those customers that opt for a Tesla Model 3 as their rental vehicle will have access to more 3,000 Tesla-branded than supercharger stations. Hertz says that it is the first US car rental company to introduce electric vehicles to its fleet, first adding EVs in 2011. The rental company also says it was the first to implement a wireless charging system for electric vehicles. With this new order of 100,000 Tesla Model 3 sedans, Hertz says that EVs will comprise over 20 percent of its available global fleet, with support for both Level 2 and DC quick-charging stations in roughly 65 markets by the end of

2022 t h e calendar year, expanding to 100 markets by the end of 2023. As the rental company points out. external factors like the ongoing global microchip shortage mav affect these timelines. Hertz



differentiated rental experience for electric vehicle customers, such as an expedited rental process via the Hertz mobile Meanwhile, General Motors has pledged to launch 30 new electric vehicle models globally



by 2025, investing billions into all-electric vehicle technology and vehicle autonomous technology...Pipes!! Exhaust note fanatics of New York beware, there's a chance that a hefty fine is waiting for you. Thanks to a new law passed by New York Governor Kathy Hochul, owners of cars with excessively loud exhausts could face a \$1,000 fine. This new fine is the highest in the country and part of a new push to reduce illegal racing in New York State. This new exhaust fine is part of New York's new SLEEP bill, which stands for, "Stop Loud and Excessive Exhaust Pollution." This new bill increased fines for loud aftermarket exhausts from \$150 to the wallet crushing the \$1,000 mark. The bill may have a catchy acronym but what does it mean for car enthusiasts with loud cars? The goal of this new law focuses on cutting down on illegal drag racing. The New York government explained that illegal racing increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic so this is a way to combat this new trend. Now anyone caught drag racing will have a hefty fine to pay in addition to a fine related to reck-

(Continued on page 9)

Volume 34, Issue 4 December, 2021 Page 9

T 'n T

(Continued from page 8)

less racing on public roads. It's also no secret that your loud car isn't loved by local neighbors who would happily support a law that forces you to quiet things down. To cut off the supply of loud aftermarket exhausts, any shop caught installing illegal mufflers has three strikes and you're out a policy with the state having the ability to pull a shop's license to operate. This harsh stance on loud car exhausts isn't welcomed news for those who enjoy modifying their

cars. It seems that moving forward a more conservative approach is required for those who would prefer to straight pipe their Honda Civic and hit the highfor wav friendly drag race...Big Boys Toys! I thought that this was 'waaay too cool not to include in





the newsletter. These were taken by *Billy Kirk*, a "*Pontiac Brother-in-Arms*" at the recent *Musclecar and Corvette Nationals* in Chicago last month. Many of you older members will recognize these and their significance. *Thanks, Billy!* I'm gonna have to check MCACN out next year (*Thanks to GM Authority, Autoweek, and other Internet sources for this insanity! Ya just can't make some of it up!! Thanks also to those of you in the Peanut Gallery who have helped entertain by sending stuff—I 'preciate it!)—Assorted sources*



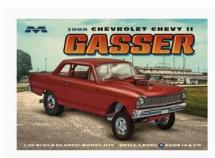


Merry Christmas from the Kovach's—Ken and Kevin!



Page 10 MAMA Sez!

Miscellania



PRE-ORDER NOW! \$33.99

Chevrolet 1965 Chevy II Gasser 1/25 SCale Model Kit

Here is an all new 1/25 Scale model kit of the classic 1965 Chevy II Gasser Hot Rod. Comes with all new Box Art and Instructions.





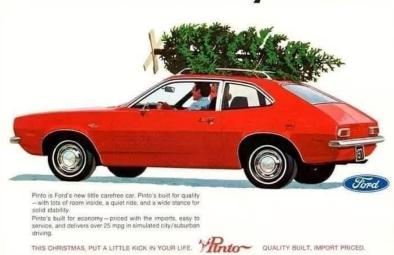
PRE-ORDER NOW! \$33.99

Batman Forever Batmobile 1/35 Scale Model Kit by AMT

Here is an all new 1/25 Scale model kit of the classic 1964 Chevy Nova SS. Comes with all new Box Art, Instructions.

(Disregard the incorrect verbiage under the stock Nova)





"New" Stuff?!

Ya never know what you can trust on social media, but the following kits were recently posted as being 2022 releases:

- ♦ George Barris "T" Buggy— April '22
- '56 Ford Victoria hardtop— May '22
- '67 Z28 Camaro—May '22

- '62 Corvette—May '22
- '77 "USPS" Ford Pinto-May '22
- ♦ George Barris Rickshaw show rod—May '22
- '53 Ford pickup "Modified Stocker" hauler (Gulf?)— June '22
- '63 Studebaker Avanti— June '22
- '32 "Hot Wheels" Phantom Vicky—June '22



- AMT Mach V
- AMT '65 Bonneville
- **AMT Meyers Manx**
- AMT '63 Nova wagon w/trailer
- AMT '59 "Surf Shark" Caddy ambulance
- AMT '66 427 Fairlane
- AMT "Sandkat" dune dragster
- AMT Kenworth W-925 "Watkins" version
- Atlantis "Mooneyes" dragster
- Atlantis '71 Firebird (T/A, 1/32nd)
- MPC '74 Larson Vega
- Revell '51 Henry J
- Revell '30 Model A Coupe 🚔

(1/25th, unless noted)

'80 "Class Action" Monte Carlo—June '22

Regardless if these are actually even in the pipeline or not, with our supply chain disruption, I guess all dates are suspect.

If you see anything you like, remember, Ron Shirey is your guy. Let him know of your interest, and I'm quite sure he will help you "scratch that itch"—Assorted sources 🚔

Volume 34, Issue 4 December, 2021 Page 11



This month, we will revisit a project of Kevin Kovach's—his sweet GTO Gasser.

Kevin admits to being frustrated (like many of us, I think) about the lack of time he seems to have for his many projects, Pontiac or otherwise.

I know he seemed to be pretty pumped to have finally shot some color on his 'ol Goat. And I have to admit that it is lookin' "Good as Gold" (sorry—I couldn't resist!).

I was also able to help Kevin out sourcing parts for an upcom-

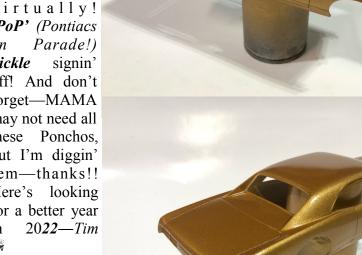
ing late-seventies Firebird project that fell into his lap—and I was happy to be able to do so!

You're absolutely KILLIN' me here, Kevin! I'm really lookin' forward to see how this one turns out.

So, let's continue bringin' 'em and

showin' 'emvirtually! 'PoP' (Pontiacs Parade!) on Sickle signin' off! And don't forget-MAMA may not need all these Ponchos, but I'm diggin' 'em-thanks!! Here's looking for a better year in 2022—Tim

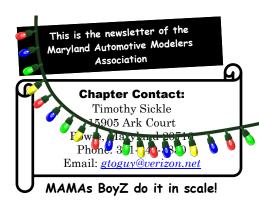












VFTB (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

that way down the street to the neighbor's house. There pounded on the door till the neighbor opened it. As Dad threw the yelping dog at the man, he very loudly said, "Here's your god -dammed dog, ya drunk. If it ever chases my kid again, I'll kill it." The dog never got loose after that.

Hmmm, I think I just gave myself an idea for a diorama with a truck, a kid, a bike, and a dog...

—Tim Powers \\ \equiv \)

Websites

Central PA Model Car Club:

https://www.freewebs.com/cpmcc/ LIARS Model Car Club:

https://www.liarsmodelcarbuilder s.com/

Philly Area Car Modelers:

http://www.pacms.org/

NNL East:

https://www.nnleast.com/

Carlisle Events:

https://www.carlisleevents.com

East Coast Indoor Nationals:

https://motoramaproductions.com/ east-coast-indoor-nats

Online Event Calendar:

www.NortheastWheelsEvents.com

If you would like to attend the monthly "Gettogether "there

Sary info: The Maryland Fire Museum is located off York Road (1301) at the Beltway I-695, Exit 26B, in Lutherville, 410-321-7500. Go north on York Road and make the first right to go behind the Heaver Plaza Office Building. Free parking is avail-

Maryland

able, and it is handicap accessible. No RSVP is required. FYI—current

COVID-19 guidelines will be respected and enforced.

Come join the fun!

Classifieds WANTED: I Unhu trebuildable

Ponchos (GTOs, specifically '68 MPC hardtops and convertibles, and '71 hardtops in particular!). I have a collection to trade from. Want a Red Baron, an 1/8th scale Monogram '79 T/A, , '66 Bonneville (MPC or Hasegawa), '69-'72 Grand Prixs, '70-'81 Firebirds, and empty Pontiac kit boxes. Would like to buy/borrow old model car catalogs. Contact me at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting. Thanks!

Were on the web! http://www.mamasboyz.org/



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