



MAMA Sez

Volume 37, Issue 2

Oct, 2024

"Serving Delmarva Car Modelers for 36 Years!"



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

MAMA @ 36!	1
MAMA Meeting	2
Hot Wheels	4
C8 News	5
Gov't Motors	6
ROYAL GTO Show	7
Ron's Rant	8
Poncho Perfection	9
Classified	10

Happy Halloween, MAMA!

September's meeting featured *pizza* and a *MAMA Anniversary cake* (or, so I'm told, since I was *MIA!*).

As far as *MAMA's Boy Ron Hamilton* is concerned, he tells me that his return is imminent. *Can't be soon enough, Ron!*

The "*Pontiac Garage*" was *NOT* in atten-

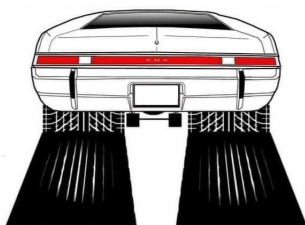
dance (*due to a family function*), but I *WAS* there (*in spirit!*), along with Nick.

As a result, I included a few pics of the Royal GTOs car show inside, including a *really slick '40 Ford pickup street rod*. Apparently, Nick works with the owner! They



even discussed the show prior to it happening. Good thing too, as due to several days worth of rain, that the rain date had to be put into play. Luckily, he had the fortitude to keep in touch with Nick about the show's status!

(Continued on page 10)



2024 MAMA Schedule

We meet in our new location, the *Salaried Employees Association (SEA) Union Hall*, 1300 Hanover Road, Hanover, MD 21076, on the schedule listed below, from **10 am to 2 pm**:

- ☞ January 20th
- ☞ February 17th
- ☞ March 16th
- ☞ April 20th
- ☞ May—**No Meeting!**
- ☞ June 15th
- ☞ July 20th
- ☞ August 17th
- ☞ September 21st
- ☞ October 19th
- ☞ November 16th
- ☞ December 21st

Hope to see you there 🚗

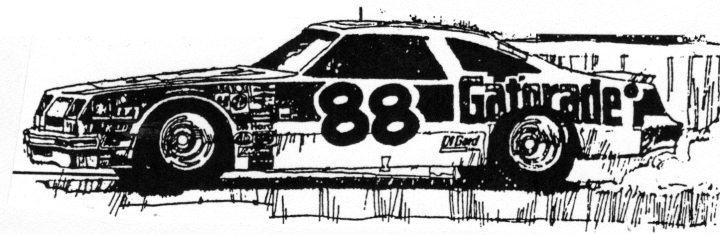


MAMA Sez is the official monthly publication of the Maryland Automotive Modelers Association. Articles as attributed by author and source, and may be reprinted with proper credit given. Opinions expressed are those of nobody of any importance. Any correspondence or contributions should be sent to: Timothy Sickle, 356 Maker's Way, Martinsburg, WV 25405 📧

MAMA Meeting



MAMA Meeting



Hot Wheels!

Among the lowrider culture born in California in the post-WWII era, the Chevy Monte Carlo endures as an icon to this day. Its long, two-door body, dramatic character lines, and V8 power make it an attractive candidate for lowrider conversions, and **Hot Wheels** is recognizing that with a new collectible 1975 Chevy Monte Carlo.

This 1/64th model has what Hot Wheels calls a “Spectraflame teal” body color on the ZAMAC-made body and a custom stripe pattern “that would turn heads anywhere from Whittier Boulevard in LA to Route 66 in Albuquerque.” A real articulated suspension system allows for radical positioning of the body on the frame and can even sit on three wheels. The windows are lightly smoked, and the interior is a metallic white with teal detailing.

Even the box of this model is custom. The box’s decorative slip-cover is adorned in a teal color scheme with palm trees, pin-stripes, the “Monte Carlo” script logo, and the Hot Wheels logo.

Interestingly, this isn’t the first

Hot Wheels RLC Exclusive ‘75 Chevy Monte Carlo lowrider model. A similar model was offered in 2023, also with articulated suspension and a wild paint job. That one also had a

“Spectraflame” paint scheme, but in a color Hot Wheels called “antifreeze.” Hot Wheels has also offered multiple ‘64 Chevy Impala lowrider models.

The ‘75 Chevy Monte Carlo was part of the personal luxury car’s second generation underpinned by the A-body platform and offering a range of four V8 engines. Performance-wise, ‘75 was actually a sad year for the Monte. It was the first year a catalytic converter was added, decreasing



dropped for California cars. Regardless, the ‘75 Chevy Monte Carlo is still a legend in the lowrider community. This Hot Wheels model was made available on Tuesday, October 1st,



the power rating for all of its V8 engine options. It was also the year the 454ci V8 was

at 9 AM PT for \$30. Mattel is limiting sales to two per customer, and it’s only available to Red Line Club (RLC) members. RLC membership is \$9.99 per year (*Ed. Note: Talk to Nick!*)—Assorted sources 🍷



C8 News

Sadly, popular YouTube content creator **Nathan Narra** was **killed late last month** after he lost control of his C8 in Michigan. The single-car accident resulted in a rollover that reportedly ejected Narra from the vehicle. He was 23 years old.

According to reports, the accident occurred around 7:00 AM local time near the intersection of Dequindre and 16 Mile Road, near the border of Troy and Sterling Heights. Locals say that the area is notorious for speeding. Narra was taken to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Photos and video from the crash scene show the C8 destroyed, resting on its side, upside down.

In a report from Fox 2 Detroit, a witness, Issac Jajawie, said that he was on his way to church when he spotted the destroyed C8.

"I detail cars and I detail his car all the time. So, once I saw the car, and me being the car fanatic that I am, something in my gut told me, that's him," Jajawie said.

Narra grew up in Detroit and attended Warren Mott High School. Narra created the **NateNation YouTube channel** in February of 2015, amassing a following of 270,000 subscribers in the time since. Channel content included vlogs, challenges, and pranks, however, the channel content is currently blank. In July of 2016, Narra garnered media attention after running out onto the field during a baseball game between the Minnesota Twins and Detroit Tigers. According to a report from

The Express Tribune, Narra was charged with reckless driving and evading arrest following a high-speed chase with police in 2020.

"It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of our beloved son, Nathaniel Haytham Narra," reads his obituary. "Loving son of Haytham Narra and Areej Atto Narra. Devoted brother to Jonathan, Vania, and Manny. Cherished by all his family."

Condolences to family and friends of Nathan Narra.

On a lighter note, most car thieves have the skills necessary to break into a car. But to be truly successful in this illegal profession, one must also have the skills to get **OUT** of the vehicle. This appears to have been overlooked by alleged would-be car thief, 33-year-old Ravesh Rabindranauth, who apparently **trapped himself inside a C8** he is suspected of trying to steal late last month.

Julio Solano, who owns the C8 in question, arrived at his car to find a stranger trapped inside. "My brother," Solano can be heard saying to the alleged burglar, "This is not your car. This is my car. Why are you in my car?"

What is perhaps most bewildering is that Rabindranauth actually expected Solano to help him get out of the vehicle. He can be seen indicating through gestures that he was unable to open the door and asking Solano to let him out. Not surprisingly, Solano was



not in a helpful mood.

"No, you can't get out," Solano responded, "We're calling the cops."

"For what?" he asked nonchalantly.

"What do you mean for what?" Solano replied, "This is Grand Theft Auto. Are you trying to steal my car? What are you doing?"

Rabindranauth was finally helped out of the C8, but not by Solano. Police arrived on scene, opened the vehicle, and arrested him on the spot. He was booked for burglary of an unoccupied conveyance, according to local reports. Why couldn't he exit the vehicle? According to the police report, trouble exiting the C8 had to do with "an unconventional door mechanism he could not figure out."

The C8 would certainly make a tempting target for anyone inclined to steal a car, but it also features a set of unique door handles and mechanisms. The buttons located on the doors unlatch the door, propping it open, but this mechanism sometimes doesn't work, such as in the event of a dead battery. For that reason, Chevy includes a set of mechanical door release handles on each

(Continued on page 10)

'GMC' has issued product recalls for the following vehicles:

- ♦ A total of **449,671 vehicles** across several vehicle models, including the **2023-24 Cadillac Escalades/Escalade ESVs, Chevy Tahoes/Chevy Suburbans, and 2023-24 GMC Sierra 1500s/GMC Yukons/GMC Yukon XLs.**

The BRAKE warning light may not illuminate if a brake fluid leak occurs, even when the fluid falls below the threshold when such a warning should appear, so that the owner is not warned of the leak.

Low fluid levels will cause brake pedal performance to become worse before the warning light appears because of this problem. Poor brake pedal performance could cause braking to become more difficult, possibly resulting in a heightened chance of collisions or other accidents. The brake fluid warning light will not appear until some time after the threshold set by FMVSS 135 where loss of brake fluid should cause a warning to appear.

A fix is available for affected SUVs, with no components needed for the repair, which is entirely a matter of **software**

reprogramming.

Owners can choose to receive the software fix via **over-the-air (OTA) updates** if their vehicle can accept these. Alternatively, an affected truck can be brought to a dealership for a scheduled repair, with service personnel reprogramming the brake system control module in order to restore the proper brake fluid leak warning. Both OTA and dealership reprogramming is offered free of charge.

- ♦ **18,325 2013-19 Chevy Express and GMC Savana cut-away vehicles**, that were produced with brake lines that may not meet the recommended clearance to the body mounts. If brake lines contact the body mounts, excessive wear on the brake lines could cause a brake fluid leak. Dealers will inspect affected vehicles and make necessary repairs. The safety and satisfaction of our customers are our highest priorities and we're working to remedy this matter as quickly as possible." The trucks were built with body mounts too close to the brake lines.

GOVERNMENT MOTORS

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



AN AMERIKAN REVOLUTION™

If brake lines come into contact with the body mounts, the extra wear could cause a brake fluid leak.

Dealers will inspect the brake lines of affected vehicles and replace them if necessary

- ♦ **151 2023-24 Chevy Colorado/GMC Canyon pickups** that were produced with front-seat belt buckle bolts improperly fastened by the supplier. Trucks affected by this issue were built with front seat belt buckle bolts improperly fastened to the seat side structure. If a truck with improperly fastened front seat belt buckle bolts is involved in an accident, the seat belt may not perform as intended in certain crash conditions, increasing the risk of injury.

(Continued on page 8)

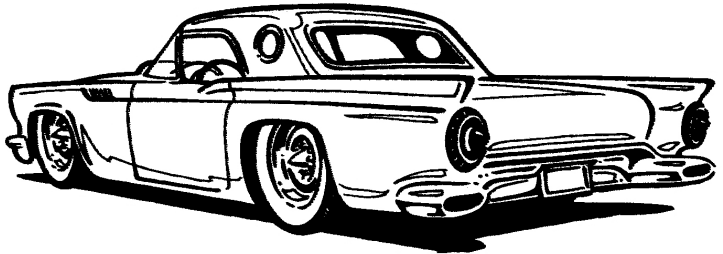


'GMC' Recall Ticker

of Recalls
343 (!)

of Vehicles Affected
58,845,836

ROYAL GTOs Show



Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)

Certified 'GMC' service techs are instructed to tighten seat belt buckle attachment bolts to the specified torque for both front seats.

♦ 527 2024 Buick Envisions

due to a missing tire information label.

These vehicles may be missing the label that provides the tire size, cold tire pressure, and gross vehicle weight ratings. The 'GMC' supplier contracted to install the label failed to do so on affected vehicles.

Without tire and gross vehicle weight rating information available on the label, customers may overinflate or underinflate their tires or exceed the recommended weight ratings, increasing the risk of a crash. 'GMC' dealers will install the missing label.

'GMC' will mail letters to owners of affected vehicles instructing them to make an appointment with their dealer. If owners are unsure whether or not their vehicle is affected by these recalls, they can visit my.gm.com/recalls and input their VIN to see any open recalls or other actions that may be active.

Speaking of Colorado and Canyon pickups, 'GMC' has issued a **stop-sale order effective immediately** on about **13,200 2024 GMC Canyons** in new and used inventory. Although all 2024 GMC Canyon models come standard with the same LED projector headlamps, the recall only applies

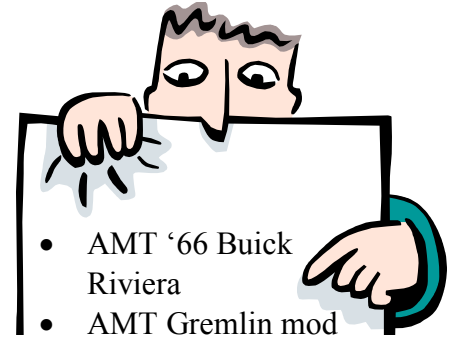
to certain models.

Although mechanically related, the Chevy Colorado is not impacted by the recall. The two trucks have different headlights, which is part of what sets them apart aesthetically. The stop-sale order has to do with a failure to conform to the "required lamps and reflective devices" regulations of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) number 108, which concerns "lamps, reflective devices, and associate equipment." The headlights may flicker in various conditions, both while driving and while in park. Driving at night with defective headlights creates obvious safety hazards, which is what makes this stop-sale order such an urgent matter. Luckily, 'GMC' has a fix. Dealers are to replace a module in the headlamp that includes the right software to correct the problem. Until GMC dealers receive further instructions, they are not to sell, trade, or auction any 2024 GMC Canyons.

Current 2024 GMC Canyon owners may receive a recall notice in the near future.

This isn't the first stop-sale order that 'GMC' has placed on the GMC Canyon. Back in February, 'GMC' issued a stop-sale order on 2024 Canyons and Colorados for "intermittent software quality issues" affecting as many as 15,000 units. Although production of the 2024 model year for these midsize pickups began in January 2024 at the 'GMC' Wentzville plant in Missouri, they didn't start shipping in significant numbers until March. Not long thereafter, 'GMC' hit the Canyon with a recall for an unsecured fuel

Ron's Rant



- AMT '66 Buick Riviera
- AMT Gremlin mod stocker
- AMT Dart "Kit car" Sportsman short tracker
- AMT '69 Falcon mod stocker
- Aoshima Knight Rider Season 1 (1/24th)
- Aoshima Speed Racer Mach 7 full version (1/24th)
- MiniArt D8506 German tractor (1/24th)
- MPC '66 Barracuda "Hemi Hustler" f/c
- Tamiya Alfa Romeo Giulia Sprint GTA (1/24th) 🚗



tank lock ring.

Software issues and Over The Air (OTA) updates will be the death of 'GMC'—Assorted sources 🚗





Since I was MIA last month, Nick wasn't bringing the Pontiac Reserved Parking to the meeting.

The move went as well as could be expected, but I feel that my minimal building will be impacted for a while, as I am looking to source new furniture to set up the new "man cave."

It should be noted that the space is likely the biggest I have ever had, meaning that I will need more furniture to fill it!

So this month, I thought I

would post you all a few pictures of some Pontiacs from my club's show.

We are settled in, and there were a few issues requiring attention. But, we have plenty of time to work them out, as after 40 years in Bowie, we don't intend to move again anytime soon!

Here's hoping that you'll all



keep buildin', bringin' and showin' 'em! **'PoP'** (Pontiacs on Parade!) **Sickle** signin' off! And don't forget—MAMA may not need all these Ponchos, but I'm diggin' 'em—thanks!!—Tim 🍷



This is the newsletter of the
Maryland Automotive Modelers
Association

Chapter Contact:

Timothy Sickle
356 Makers Way
Martinsburg, West Virginia
25405

Email: gtoguy@verizon.net

MAMAs BoyZ do it in scale!

C8 (cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)

side of the vehicle's floor.

For background, the C8 is equipped with multiple anti-theft features. For example, the 1LT trim is equipped with push button start, the immobilizer feature, and an audible visual alarm. Both the 2LT and 3LT trims also come standard with vehicle inclination and interior movement theft deterrent sensors that will activate an alarm if the car tilts or if someone is inside the vehicle when the key fob is not nearby. None of these

C8 (cont'd)

features will lock a thief inside, however.

The good and bad this month—*Assorted sources* 🍷

Intro (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

The raffle raised **\$150.00**, while the door added **\$206.00 (!)**. Paid the rent again—in spades!! Thanks to the following donors: **Steve M. Buter, Bill Booz, Brad, Mike Costic, Matt Guilfoyle, Russ Kirkpatrick, Rich Meany, Gerald Neilson, Mark Parkhurst, Ron Shirey, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD (Norman)**. Thanks guys—we 'preciate it—*Tim* 🍷



Classifieds

WANTED: Unbuilt/rebuildable Pontiacs (*any scale?*)—Tempests, GTOs, Catalinas, Venturas, Bonnevilles, Grand Prixs, and Firebirds. Also interested in a Red Baron, and empty Pontiac kit boxes and instructions. Contact me at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting. Thanks! (*Tim Sickle*) 🍷

We're on the web!

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

Websites

Carlisle Events:

<https://www.carlisleevents.com>

Central PA Model Car Club:

<https://www.cpmcc.org>

East Coast Indoor Nationals:

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

LIARS Model Car Club:

<https://www.liarsmodelcarbuilder.com/>

NNL East:

<https://www.nnleast.com/>

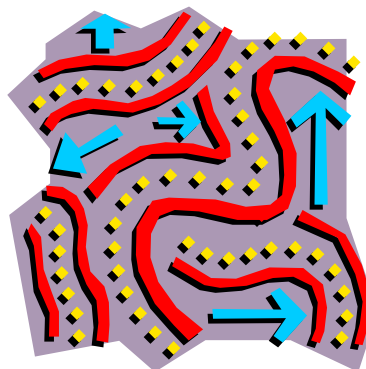
Online Event Calendar:

www.NortheastWheelsEvents.com

Directions

From MD Route 29, I-95, MD Route 1, or I-295: Take MD Route-100 East, then take exit 10-B for MD-713 North (*New Ridge Road*). Turn left onto Ridge Road, then left onto Hanover Road.

From I-97 or MD Route-2: Take



I ♥ MODEL CARS



MD Route-100 West, then take exit 10 for MD-713 North (*New Ridge Road*). Turn left onto Ridge Road, then left onto Hanover Road.

Free parking is available and the building is handicap accessible. 🍷

Club Contact Info

President: Tim Powers, partsbox@broadstripe.net

Vice President: Dave Toups, davetoups351@gmail.com

Treasurer: Matt Guilfoyle, blackbuick1941@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: Tim Sickle, gtoguy@verizon.net

Club Photog: Lyle Willits 🍷

