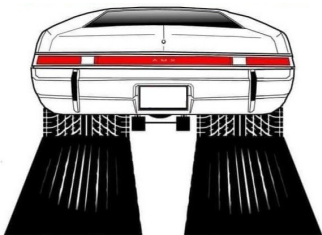


This is the newsletter of the **Maryland Automotive Modelers Association**

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2025 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 18th
- February 15th
- March 15th
- April 19th
- May—**No Meeting!**
- June 21st
- July 19th
- August 16th
- September 20th
- October 18th
- November 15th
- December 20th (10-3!)

Hope to see you there 🚗

Merry Christmas MAMA!



November's meeting was quiet to me, and seemed to be over before it started!

As usual, you all turned out for the **Toys for Tots Challenge—thank you!** We appeared to be off a bit from last year, but I'm sure that Tim Powers still had some difficulty packing it

all into his Subaru!

Ron Shirey took the floor to inform us about upcoming releases—**Thanks, Ron!**

The "**Pontiac Garage**" was in attendance, as normal.

The raffle raised **\$124.50**, while the door added **\$124.50**. Paid the rent again—

in spades!!

Thanks to the following donors: **Steve M. Buter, Bill Booz, Brad, Mike Costic, Mal Douglas, Matt Guilfoyle, Dean Lewis, Rich Meany, Gerald Nielsen, Mark Parkhurst, Chuck Rudolph, Dave Schmitt, Ron**

(Continued on page 10)

Ode To 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 some new snow tires
My car is held together
By a piece of chicken wire

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

The 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 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 swam-



pers
Just to get the car to stop

Bouncing through snow-drifts
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** 🚗

MAMA Meeting



MAMA Meeting



Raffle Goodies!



C8 News

A *high-speed collision* in Irvine, California, involving a white C8 Stingray ended in a dramatic rescue, as the driver survived a violent crash with a traffic signal pole.

The incident occurred in the early morning of November 29th, 2024, leaving the car mangled and the driver trapped inside the wreckage. First responders managed to free him before transporting him to a local hospital.

According to a report from County News, the crash happened at the intersection of Still Night and Modjeska. Footage from the scene shows the C8 embedded in the traffic signal pole, with the pole penetrating into the cabin on the passenger side. The front of the vehicle is nearly unrecognizable, reduced to a heap of crumpled metal, shattered glass, and a dislodged windshield. The roof is pushed upward and away from the car's body, while various vehicle components litter the adjacent roadway.

Despite the catastrophic damage to the front end, the rear of the vehicle remained relatively intact, highlighting the specific point of impact and direction of travel. The force of the collision suggests the car was traveling at a significant speed when it struck the pole. Emergency crews arrived swiftly and worked for approximately 15 minutes to free the driver from the vehicle.

Once extricated, the driver was transported to OC Global Medical Center in serious condition. No other passengers or vehi-

cles were involved in the crash, and the driver remains the sole person affected by the incident.

The survival of the driver in such a devastating crash is miraculous, to say the least, although it remains uncertain what may lie ahead with regard to the driver's recovery.

The '25 C8 ZR1 coupe has been tagged for pace car duty for the **109th Indy 500** (*surprised?!).* The race will take place on Sunday, May 25th, at the iconic Indy Motor Speedway and will be broadcast live on Fox. The C8 will be piloted by **Pro Football Hall of Fame member Michael Strahan**. Strahan played a long career as a defensive end for the New York Giants from 1993-2007 and has been an active media personality since then, including as a analyst on Fox NFL Sunday.

The livery for the C8 ZR1 pace car is forthcoming. It's an obvious choice for next year's Indy 500 pace car due to its multiple milestone achievements, including being the first Corvette with a four-digit horsepower rating from the factory and the fastest American production car of all time with a top speed of 200+ mph.

In fact, the new ZR1 is billed as the pinnacle of the current eighth-gen C8 lineup, dropping in with 1,000+ hp and a top speed in



excess of 233 mph to become the most powerful and fastest production Vette ever made.

ZR1 ordering will open in February 2025, so orders will be well under way by the time the green flag drops at next years' race. Although 'GMC' has yet to release an official MSRP number, a **GM Authority (GMA)** poll shows that a majority of readers believe it will be **between \$175,000 and \$200,000 (!?)**.

In addition to a new exterior style that offers an iconic split rear window design and an optional high-downforce aero kit, the new ZR1 is motivated by the twin-turbo 5.5L V8 LT7 gas engine, which is rated at **1,064 hp at 7,000 rpm**. Making the boost are the largest passenger car twin turbos currently on the market.

If you like the style of the split rear window on the new C8 ZR1, but want to apply the look to a different C8 variant, then the aftermarket has you covered. As it turns out, several companies are now offering a split rear window accessory to customize the eighth-gen Corvette, giving a nod to the iconic 1963 Vette and new 2025

(Continued on page 8)

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

- ♦ A total of **514,059 2021 Cadillac Escalades/ESVs, 2020-22 Chevy Silverado 1500s, 2020-21 Chevy Silverado HDs, 2021 Chevy Tahoes/Suburbans, 2020-22 GMC Sierra 1500s, 2020-21 GMC Sierra HDs, and 2021 GMC Yukons/XLs** in the US and Canada for a problem with control module software that can fail to detect transmission valve problems and the potential for the issue to cause momentary rear wheel lock-up. The issue occurs when the transmission control module in the trucks are unable to detect excess transmission valve wear, enabling pressure problems to continue and eventually develop to the point where the valve may fail during certain transmission shifts. In the trucks, the transmission control valve wears out faster than anticipated, so that it gradually loses pressure over the course of extended driving. Shifts become harsher until the valve has the possibility of failure, specifically when the

diesel drivetrain shifts down from eighth gear.

If the transmission control valve fails, the rear wheels of the SUV may experience momentary lock-up while driving. Depending on the situation, speed of the vehicle, and presence of other traffic, the lock-up could increase the chances of an accident or crash.

The trucks should have new transmission control module software installed to rectify the problem of valve wear non-detection. Dealers are instructed to carry out this repair both on customer vehicles and on their own inventory.

The corrected software will detect the excess valve wear roughly 10,000 miles before transmission valve failure is likely to occur.

As soon as the software detects this condition, it activates "reduced propulsion" and "service engine" on the instrument panel. Furthermore, it prevents the transmission from up-shifting past

GOVERNMENT MOTORS

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fifth gear, thus preventing the risk of eighth gear rear-wheel lock-up. 'GMC' will release a special coverage program to repair transmissions affected by a defective control valve, as detected by the newly installed software. As of mid-November, no parts are available for the transmission fix. 'GMC' will carry out the fix for the recalled problem free of charge to the owner. Additionally, if the vehicle is still under the appropriate warranty, the dealership may provide courtesy transportation until the fix can be applied.

- ♦ A total of **77,824 2022-23 Chevy Express vans and 2022-23 GMC Savana vans** for a problem related to a control module defect that can cause a

(Continued on page 7)



'GMC' Recall Ticker

of Recalls

350 (!)

of Vehicles Affected

59,445,790

New Stuff!

From the recently held DAAM show (*Detroit Area Auto Modelers*) we have the following pictures from the guys over at AMT.

It stands to reason that with the release of these kits, that variations may follow, given the cost of tooling.

No details on when they will be available. Thanks to Howard Cohen, and social media—*Assorted sources*



howardcohen24@gmail.com

York Toy Show

General Lee? Looks more like a GTO ☺!!



Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)

brief lockup of the rear wheels or a sudden change in direction at low speed.

The transmission control module may be incorrectly calibrated to respond successfully to electric failures within the transmission of the vans involved in the recall. This, in turn, can lead to loss of power while the transmission is shifting.

The malfunction of the transmission control module can potentially cause several problems to the affected van, especially when moving at low speed. Among these problems are reduced power, harsh shifting, abrupt deceleration, momentary rear wheel lockup and even turning in an unexpected direction.

Any of these effects have the possibility of causing a crash or accident, since they occur unexpectedly and can lead to collisions with other vehicles or objects depending on the situation.

'GMC' techs are instructed to update the calibration of the transmission control module to a new, correct condition. This process requires about three quarters of an hour and needs no components.

Notably, the issue only affects Express and Savana vans with certain drivetrain combinations. These include the naturally aspirated 4.3L V6 gas engine paired with the GM 8-speed automatic transmission

and the 2.8L I4 turbodiesel Duramax engine paired with a different GM 8-speed automatic transmission.

- ◆ A total of **25 2025 Cadillac XT4s**, for a failure in the front passenger-side airbag deployment. Notably, this recall only affects the 2025 model year for the compact luxury crossover.

A fix will soon be available for the CUVs. Any units still in dealership inventory must have the fix applied before they can be traded to other dealers, sold, delivered, or demonstrated under US law. The supplier may have scored the perforation on the underside of the instrument panel cover incorrectly, allowing the passenger-side airbag to deploy properly.

If the perforation in question isn't scored correctly, the passenger-side airbag may not deploy properly in an accident, increasing the risk of injury. Dealers will replace the instrument panel upper cover with one with a properly scored perforation.

And finally, an "Almost" recall? Read on, for the details from **GM Authority**.

The GMC Sierra AT4 was the first-ever AT4 production model, debuting for the 2019 model year. It replaced the old All Terrain trim as a new sub-brand of GMC, focusing on off-road capability and



matching styling. It's been a hit ever since, with the AT4 moniker spreading to most models in the GMC brand.

However, GMC Sierra AT4 and Sierra AT4X owners are noticing a problem with their trucks. It's not a problem with its capabilities for off-roading, towing, or hauling. It's a problem with **a trim piece on the front grille flying off of the truck.**

Their reader, Max, brought this strange issue with these trucks to their attention. ***"Multiple users on Reddit and [AT4forum.com](#) (myself included) have been reporting the top piece of the 2022 AT4 grill is flying off at high speed,"*** Max told us. "Mine came off going 60 miles an hour, hit my windshield, and scratched up the truck." This happened to Max while his truck only had 18,000 miles on it, and he reported the issue to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

This trim piece is at the very top of the grille opening, where the grille meets the hood. When you pop the hood of the GMC Sierra AT4 or AT4X, the part that opens is right above this trim piece. When zooming into photos of the problem posted online, it looks like a failure in the plastic

(Continued on page 10)

C8 (cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

ZR1. The new component is available in both painted and unpainted versions.

For customers who want to paint the piece themselves, Drake Muscle Cars offers a split window applique made from ABS plastic that can be applied to the rear window of C8 coupe models. The applique is not compatible with the convertible body style. Installation is accomplished using double-sided tape, and maintains visibility of the V8 engine underneath. Pricing is set at \$237.95, as listed at Holley.com.

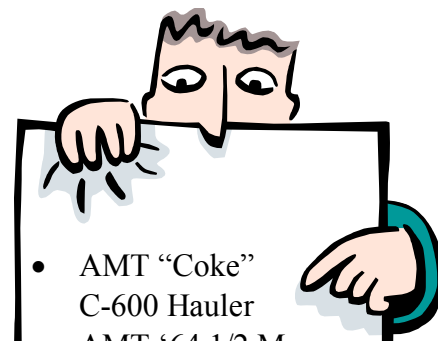
There are also a few painted and color-finish options available, including via **Top Flight Automotive**, plus another from **Sigala Designs**. The **Scott Drake** piece is available in a wide variety of C8 paint colors, from Arctic White to Hysteria Purple, while the Sigala

Designs piece is available in Carbon Flash, Carbon Fiber, and Forged Carbon. Pricing is set at \$499.99 for the Scott Drake piece and \$549.99 for the Sigala Designs piece.

All three components are applied to the rear window and lend a custom appearance to the rear end of the C8. Naturally, these pieces will obstruct rear visibility, but with the rear camera mirror installed, that shouldn't really be an issue.

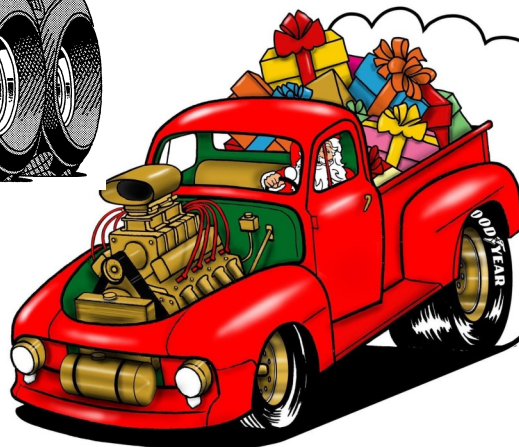
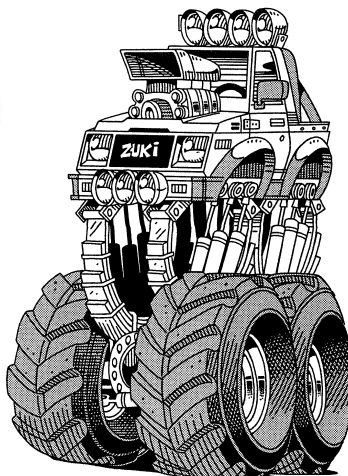
As **GMA** covered before, the 2025 C8 ZR1 is also equipped with a rear split window. Interestingly, this feature was hiding in plain sight on the back of the **C8 Z06 GT3.R**, Chevy's turnkey race car, and provides a considerable improvement in evacuating hot air from the rear engine compartment. Unfortunately, the split window accessories outlined above provide no such benefit, and are merely an aesthetic change—*Assorted sources* 🍷

Ron's Rant



- AMT "Coke" C-600 Hauler
- AMT '64 1/2 Mustang hardtop (1/16th)
- Atlantis "Mongoose" f/e dragster
- Atlantis "Snake" f/e dragster
- Atlantis "Snake" r/e dragster
- Heller '47 Renault CV (1/24th)
- Heller '31 Bugatti T.50 (1/24th)
- Moebius A. Beswick '65 Comet Cyclone reissue
- Revell '69 Camaro (1/12th)
- SalvinosJR '24 C. Elliott Gold #9 Camaro (1/24th) 🍷

(1/25th, unless noted)





Last month's parking lot had a decided **"GOAT"** (*Greatest Of All Time!*) flavor.

Steve M. Buter "parked" his '62 Bonneville convertible, as a likely reminder of the days of Summer past (*complete with appropriately attired female!*).

I managed to find another "killer" diecast machine—**Milt Schornack's "ROYAL" '66 GTO**, in one phase of the unpacking

process, which joined a '64 **GTO** as part of the **"Beswick Project."**

Still workin' to try to get the e-mail roster back up and running.

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* 🍷



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Chapter Contact:

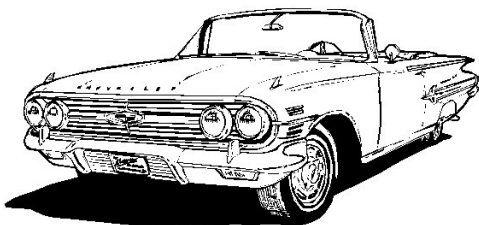
Timothy Sickie
856 Makers Way
Martinsburg, West Virginia
25405
Email: gtoGuy@verizon.net

MAMAs BoyZ do it in scale!

Intro (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

Shirey, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD (Norman). Thanks—we 'preciate it. Oh, and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you guys—Tim 🍷



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

Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 7)

anchors that attach the trim piece to the hood. It appears to only be a problem on 2022 and newer trucks from the Sierra's most recent face-lift.

They took to Reddit and found this to be a disturbingly common issue. "Going down the interstate, and something starts flapping. All of a sudden, part of the grill flies off and narrowly missed a vehicle behind us," Reddit user Lolo5sue posted on the r/gmcSierra board. "Anyone else having issues with this cheap piece of plastic?"

Several users responded, saying it either happened to them or they've seen this issue pop up on forums. The original poster said it was not covered under warranty and cost \$1,300 to replace.

Hopefully, drawing attention to the problem will lead to a solution. As of this writing, GM hasn't publicly addressed the issue.

Again, the "Standard of the World" at work—*Assorted sources* 🍷



YEARS OF DAEWOO, ER,
CHEVROLET

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 Sickie) 🍷

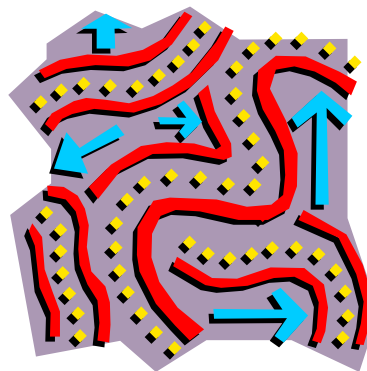
We're on the web!

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

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. 🍷

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Newsletter Editor: Tim Sickie, gtoGuy@verizon.net

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