



MAMA Sez!

Volume 37, Issue 6

Feb, 2025

“Serving Delmarva Car Modelers for 36 Years!”



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

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Time Ta Go Racin’!

Last month’s meeting seemed to be well attended, despite chilly winter weather.

The main focus was a discussion about the planning for our NNL in May.

Next, **Ron Shirey** informed us about upcoming releases—**Thanks, Ron!**

Speakin’ of Ron, no

word on **MAMA’s Boy Ron Hamilton.**

The “**Pontiac Garage**” “**was in da house.**”

The raffle raised \$170.00, while the door added \$197.00. Paid the rent again—in spades!!

Thanks to the following: **Steve M. Buter, Mike Costic,**

Cruz, Mal Douglas, Bob Guarino, Matt G, Rich Meany, George Openhym, Mark Parkhurst, Ron Shirey, Don Stone, Don Sutherland, Lyle Willits, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD (Norman). Thanks — we appreciate it—Tim 🇺🇸



MAMA
LEONARD HARROD BUILDS A 25TH SCALE CAR

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 🇺🇸

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MAMA Meeting



MAMA Meeting



Raffle Goodies!

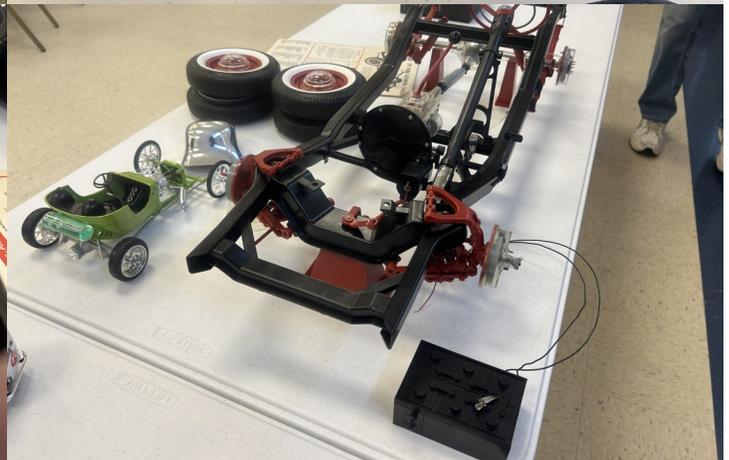
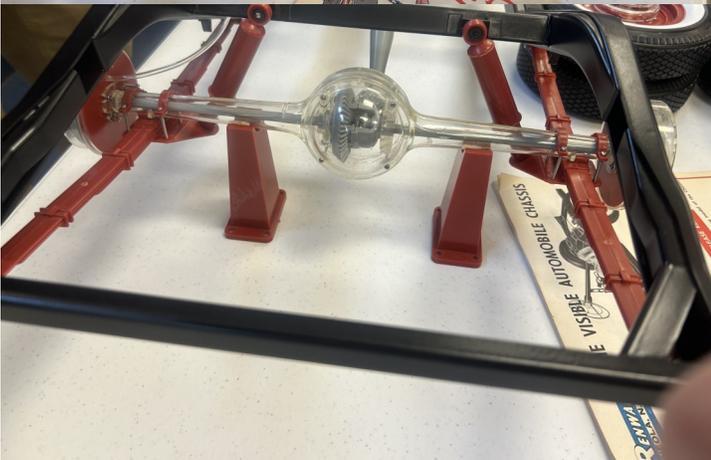


Big Stuff!

“Shout Out” to MAMA’s Boy Gordon “Big Stuff” Chin, for his impressive visible chassis display last month.

In a brief discussion with him, it sounded like he had amassed *several* of these monster kits to get **ONE** complete one! He then set out not only to build it, but upgrade it too, wherever he could.

Not done yet, I think he has plans to *install a visible V8* into it as soon as he gets the chance. **Kudos, Gordon!**—Tim 🍷



C8 News

The *first production '25 C8 ZR1 is now spoken for*, auctioned off for a cool *\$3.7 million* at *Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale 2025*. The full hammer price of VIN 001 will be donated to charity, benefitting the Red Cross with all auction fees waived.

Unsurprisingly, *Rick Hendrick*—Corvette aficionado, championship NASCAR Cup series team owner, and the man at the helm of Hendrick Automotive Group—will be the one to take that Vette home.

Hendrick has an expensive Corvette VIN 001 habit. He scored the first production '24

Corvette E-Ray for *\$1.1 million*, along with the first '23 Corvette Z06 for *\$3.6 million*, the first retail '20 Corvette convertible for *\$400,000*, and the first C8 coupe *\$3 million*. He also placed the winning bid on the first production '19 C7 ZR1 'way back in '18, so his latest acquisition will fit right in with



It wants to be a Trans Am when it grows up ☺

his collection. 'GMC' pulled the sheets off the latest ZR1 in July, unleashing the fastest, most powerful production Corvette in the nameplate's history. The lean, mean, supercar-killing machine harnesses the twin-turbocharged 5.5L V8 LT7 gas engine, tuned to deliver a blistering *1,064 hp at 7,000 RPM*. All those ponies can gallop from 0 to 60 mph in just

2.3 seconds, and it boasts a top speed of over 230 mph.

Of course, when the '25 C8 ZR1 starts rolling off the assembly line in droves, it won't cost nearly as much as Hendrick paid for his. As previously reported by *GM Authority (GMA)*, pricing for the '25 ZR1 1LZ coupe will start at *\$174,995*, including destination freight charges (DFC). The most expensive model of the bunch is the Corvette ZR1 3LZ convertible, starting at *\$195,995*. That's a pretty penny for sure, but nowhere near the \$3.7 mil hammer price raked in by VIN 001—*Assorted sources* 🍷



‘GMC’ has issued product recalls for the following vehicles:

- A total of **5 2024 Chevy Silverado EVs** and **2024-25 GMC Sierra EVs** with improperly secured rear center seat belts.

The bolt that secures the rear center seat belt assembly to the seat structure in affected vehicles may not have been properly tightened.

An improperly secured seat belt poses a safety risk to passengers occupying the rear center seat of the affected trucks.

‘GMC’ service techs at EV-certified dealers are instructed to tighten the bolt that attaches the center seat belt assembly to the rear seat to the proper torque specifications.

‘GMC’ is currently facing a **major quality control issue** related to the naturally aspirated 6.2L V8 L87 gas engine, found in the **2021-24 Cadillac Escalades/Escalade ESVs, 2019-24 Chevy Silverado 1500s, 2021-24 Chevy Tahoes, 2021-24 Chevy Suburbans, 2019-24 GMC Sierra 1500s, and 2021-24 GMC Yukons/Yukon XLs**, among others, including a **Cadillac Escalade failing on the dealer’s lot with only FOUR miles on it!** Reports

of engine failures have surged, leaving many owners stranded with disabled vehicles and no clear timeline for repairs. The problem has become so severe that National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has launched an investigation after receiving over a thousand complaints from affected owners, with **877,710 vehicles now under the microscope.**

The failures are rooted primarily in bearing failures and collapsed lifters, both of which can render the engine completely inoperable. According to a report from The Drive, while many of the affected vehicles are still under warranty, ‘GMC’'s inability to supply enough replacement engines has left owners without much recourse. Not only that, but dealers have struggled to meet repair demands as ‘GMC’ attempts to balance new vehicle production with replacement parts, creating an ex-

GOVERNMENT MOTORS

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tended repair backlog.

As highlighted by The Drive, the issue is particularly impactful for business owners and fleet operators, who rely heavily on their vehicles for daily operations. As mileage quickly accumulates, often exceeding warranty limits, affected owners are sometimes forced to spend upwards of **\$10,000 for a new engine**, with no guarantee of when repairs will

(Continued on page 12)

<p>‘GMC’ Recall Ticker</p> <p><i># of Recalls</i></p> <p>352 (!)</p> <p><i># of Vehicles Affected</i></p> <p>59,446,179</p>
--

EV Blues

A *Cadillac Lyriq* owner is facing a frustrating experience and a major expense over a simple replacement part for his new all-electric crossover.

According to a report from [NJ.com](https://www.nj.com), Levan Azrumelashvili has waited **NINE months** for a **new bumper**, leading to a major impact on his limousine business. Azrumelashvili purchased his new *Cadillac Lyriq* as a company vehicle in December of 2023, shelling out **\$86,000**. However, the vehicle has been out of service since a minor accident in April of 2024, leaving him unable to operate his business while incurring significant financial losses.

According to Azrumelashvili, the new crossover costs him **\$1,100 in monthly insurance** and **\$1,437 in monthly car loan payments**, all while his Lyriq sits unusable as it awaits repair. Despite initial reassurances from Cadillac that the replacement part would arrive soon, Azrumelashvili has faced months of delays, inconsistent updates, and a lack of clarity on a possible solution. His efforts to escalate the issue included reaching out directly to **'GMC' CEO Mary Barra** and other company executives, as well as contacting media.

In response, 'GMC' offered a

small **"good will adjustment"** of **\$3,593.47** last October, representing less than half of Azrumelashvili's monthly payments. Alternatively, a 'GMC' representative said that the crossover could be eligible for a vehicle buyback. However, the buyback proposal was later rescinded without explanation, deepening Azrumelashvili's frustration. Adding to the confusion, 'GMC' later claimed the part had arrived, only for the body shop to report further delays amid rumors of a recall.

'GMC' has stated that it will work directly with Azrumelashvili to resolve the matter, but after nine months, no solution has materialized.

"I'm at a sheer loss situation and my car has lost a year of its value. I was unable to work and provide for my family this year and we faced many hardships," Azrumelashvili said, per [NJ.com](https://www.nj.com). **"Ultimately, I'm very disappointed I chose Cadillac to only face what I did. I feel as if I was taken advantage of and thrown to the curb."**

Youtuber Steve Lehto, a Michigan attorney, also covered the story in a recent video online.

No solution as of this article.

Meanwhile, a Memo-



randum of Understanding signed by **'GMC'** and **Hyundai Motor Group** in September is taking shape, and we're getting glimpses of what the collaboration between two of the world's largest automakers will look like. In recent statements on an analyst call, a Hyundai executive revealed that the Korean automaker is considering **selling electric commercial vehicles in North America rebadged as 'GMC' models**.

"We are considering rebadging our commercial EVs and supplying 'GMC'... The deal will pave the way for our entry into the North American commercial vehicle market," Hyundai Chief Financial Officer Lee Seung Jo said on the call, according to Reuters.

It's unclear at this time which commercial vehicles Hyundai and 'GMC' are considering marketing in North America. One possible candidate is the Hyundai ST1, a commercial EV platform with a customizable ladder frame optimized for cargo loading. Its most common application will likely be as a small cube truck. Hyundai also makes the Elec City electric city bus, which could be marketed as a 'GMC' model for North

(Continued on page 14)



New Stuff!

LOOK



The old Galaxy Chebby, coming soon from Moebius (note pickup truck in the background)



Matchbox Corvair Rampside pickup 1/64th scale)



Revell
CLICK SYSTEM

NEW
11/2025

2024 Mustang GT
Adrenaline chasers: This is your wake-up call.

NEW TOOL 1:25 | 20,0 cm | 60 Parts | 07743

Ford

Revell

NEW
11/2025

McLaren

McLaren 750S
BENCHMARKS EXIST TO BE BEATEN

NEW TOOL
1:24 | 19,0 cm | 100 Parts | 07734

Coming from Revell—release date unknown

The SS Slasher
CHEVELLE SS STREET MACHINE

mpc

1/25 MODEL KIT - MODELE REDUIT

FOR AGES 10 TO ADULT

The KAT'S COLLECTION
New Vintage Kits
NEW CHASSIS TOOL

Streaker

Made in USA 1/25 Scale Made from the original vintage molds

1 PLASTIC KIT / 1 KIT EN PLASTIQUE / 1 KIT PLÁSTICO

RAR

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& Coffee**

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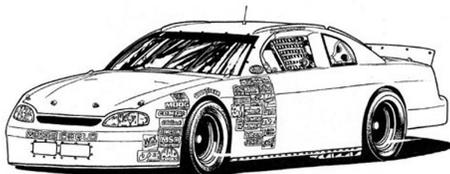
Sunday March 23, 2025 9am -2pm
312 Gernant's Church RD. Leesport, PA 19533
No Trophies or Rewards
There will be vendors, Bring as many cars as you want.
Contact:Rickscarsandcoffee@yahoo.com

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Presents:

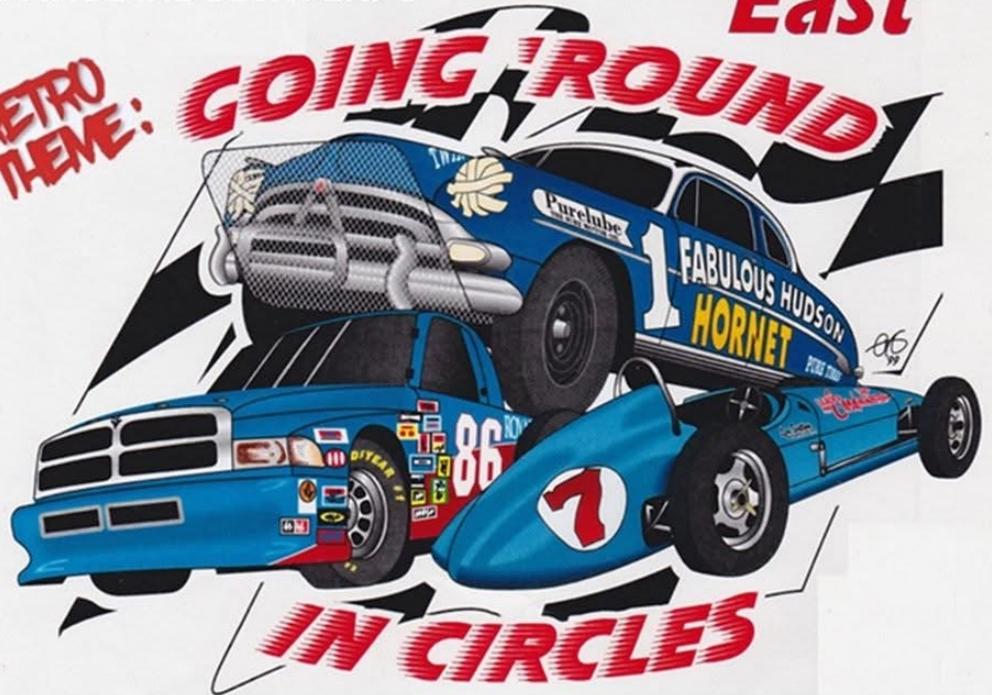
THE **37th** ANNUAL

NNL™
East

- MODEL CAR SHOW
- SCALE MARKETPLACE
- COTTAGE INDUSTRY EXPO

**RETRO
THEME:**

GOING 'ROUND



IN CIRCLES

Show Theme:

CIRCLE TRACK VEHICLES

Sub- Theme:

Race Team Transporters

25th Anniversary of NNL East 14

April 26, 2025

1 Pal Drive, Wayne NJ 07470

Show Information: WWW.NNLEAST.COM

Or Write: nnleast@aol.com

May 10, 2025

30th Annual

Mid-Atlantic NNL

9 AM—2 PM

Admission \$15.00 (under age 16, free)

(Ease check-in—download & complete the registration from the website prior to arrival)

www.mamasboyz.org



Main Theme:

'60s Drag Cars



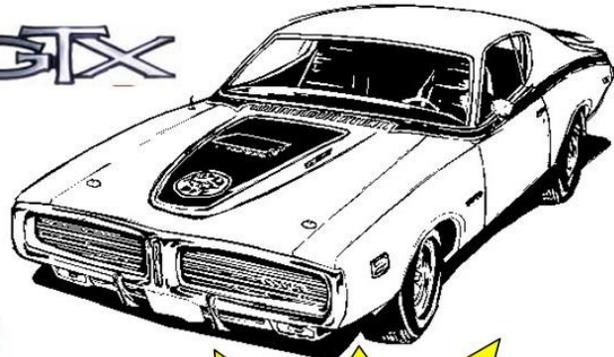
Sub-Theme:



Mopars



GTX



440 6BB2

DEMON 340

Level Volunteer Fire Company

3633 Level Village Rd

Havre De Grace, MD 21078

Vendor/Show Info—Contact Dave Toups

E-mail: davetoups351@gmail.com



Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)
be completed.

One livery service owner states that as soon as her **2023 Cadillac Escalade** began exhibiting signs of lifter failure, she acted immediately to quickly source a new engine. Unfortunately, her efforts were in vain, as although she sought to address the issue weeks before the Escalade's L87 was rendered inoperable, a replacement engine simply could not be found. Now, her vehicle has now been out of commission for weeks, costing her an **estimated \$30,000 in lost revenue**, all with no clear resolution from 'GMC.'

'GMC' dealerships are also facing the impact, with some resorting to hoarding replacement engines for high-priority customers, leaving others to fend for themselves. Social media posts

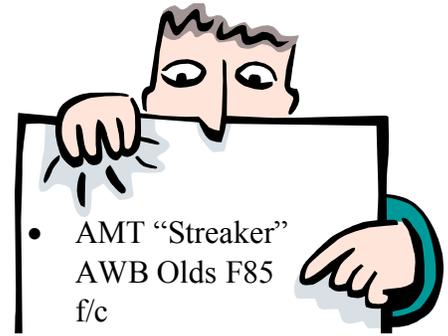
indicate that dealers are now attempting in-house rebuilds as well, despite 'GM's' recommendation to avoid such practices.

For some customers, an entirely new vehicle is the only solution to keep their businesses operational, adding yet another financial burden to the mix.

Finally, a 'special coverage program' announced in a recent bulletin by 'GMC' related to a problem with the evaporative emissions purge pump will result in "special coverage" extending the time during which a free fix is available for an **unknown number** of vehicles, including **2022-23 Cadillac CT4s, CT5s, XT4s, XT5s, and XT6s, 2022 Chevy Silverado 1500s, 2022-23 Chevy Blazer crossovers, and 2022 Chevy Traxes**. This period is extended to **15 years or 150,000 miles, whichever comes first**.

Looks like 'GMC' has their work cut out for themselves in the short-term—*Assorted sources* 🍷

Ron's Rant



- AMT "Streaker" AWB Olds F85 f/c
- AMT "Helldrivers" Mustang II
- AMT "Fanta" '77 Ford Van
- AMT Goodyear Polyglas GT tires
- Atlantis '57 Nomad
- Atlantis T. Daniels "Pie Wagon" (1/24th)
- Hasegawa Subaru 360 (1/24th)
- Italeri Lancia StratosHFGr.4 (1/24th)
- MPC "SSlasher" '72 SS454 Chevelle
- MPC "Weekend Warrior" '76 Dart
- SalvinoJR '78 "Bertha" Monte Carlo D. Waltrip
- SalvinoJR '23 Mustang B. Keselowski (1/24th)
- SalvinoJR K. Busch '24 Camaro (1/24th)
- SalvinoJR W. Byron '24 Camaro (1/24th)
- Tamiya Honda City Turbo w/scooter (1/24th) 🍷

(1/25th, unless noted)



PONCHO PERFECTION

Last month's parking lot was a cornucopia of Pontiac Power.

Don Stone parked two very cool racing 1971-72 Venturas (and "threatened" to bring several more over the next few months!).

George Openhym is responsible for the green '67 GTO hard-top (labeled "unbuildable" by some). I sincerely hope that is not the case, as I have a significant number of various issues this kit.

To these, I added a few tired 'ol projects that I am trying to resurrect—my red '86 Fiero GT, and

my '70 Bonneville project.

Things are still moving slowly, so I pulled out my favorite GTO in my collection, bar none—the red '68, and threw in the green '72 GTO, for Christmas.

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 🍷



