

# MARYLAND AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS ASSOCIATION

*Volume 13, No. 5, January 2000*

by: "GTO"

(The Maryland Automotive Modelers Association is a chapter of the IPMS)

Well gang, the *December meeting* had our usual excellent turnout of about 68 people in attendance. That was to be expected though, as there were *copious amounts of food and drink* available!! And, thanks to all, my plea in last month's newsletter actually paid off in that I actually got to the brownies before 'you know who' (*Larry Boothe*) polished 'em off!

I sincerely hope that you all got what you wanted from 'The Big Guy' (or, for those of you who don't believe, your 'Significant Other'!). I also hope it was a safe and happy holiday for all of you.

If everything works as intended (or if we just get lucky!), elections will most likely take place in the month of January. *President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Editor* (even though everyone tells Matt and I that we are lifetime appointees!) would/could be up for grabs. So, if you wish to nominate someone for an officers' position, or want to run yourself, come on out and let your voice be heard! *After all, it IS your club!*

The raffle raised \$71.00 (as well as \$55.00 from the box). The club would like to thank the following raffle donors: *Ron Bradley, Harry, Brad, Ron Hamilton, Mike Hemp, Bill Kilby, Irvin Arter, Chris Henard, Walt Rook, Mike Zimmerli, and Replicas & Miniatures Company of Maryland.* Special thanks also go out to those listed below:

Tom Walsh,  
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8601 Waukegan Road  
Morton Grove, IL 60053-2295

## Double Zero (Y2K) MEETING SCHEDULE

Well guys, here it is, just as I promised ya! Ain't it great when things work out like they are supposed to? Thanks to Matt Guilfoyle for his hard work in ensuring that we have a place to meet every month next year! Yup, we are back at the *Greenbelt Community center* multipurpose room for the dates listed below. As usual, the meetings start at noon, and last until 3 or 4 P.M. (and maybe even later, depending on what is going on!).

January 15th  
February 19th  
March 18th  
April 15th  
May 20th  
June 17th



July 15th  
August 19th  
September 16th  
October 21st  
November 18th  
December 16th

**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):** 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 (see below).

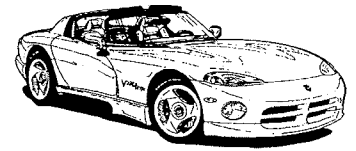
**Once on Southway:** Go straight to the second (2nd) STOP sign. Make a left onto Crescent road. Go to STOP sign and make a right into the parking lot behind the Greenbelt Library. Once in parking lot, look to right. The large, white building is the Greenbelt Community Center. Enter building using doors near fenced tot lot. The multi-purpose room is on the second floor. There is an elevator to the left of the entrance.

## **SNEAKIN' A PEEK!**

This column appears as frequently (*or infrequently!*) as new releases from the manufacturers. The idea behind it is to give a "thumbnail review" of the releases as they hit the shelves with a more detailed review to follow at a later date (*hopefully!*). We'll see how it goes! How about this, gang? To better identify possible kit reviews, at the end of the item on the kit, the words 'Available' or 'Not Available' will appear. Obviously, a club member may reserve any kit that is available with a simple call to the Editor. Conversely, a kit which is 'Not Available' was either already reserved by someone, or was something new inserted by yours truly, and paid for with my hard-earned moolah! (*Ed. Note: The kits are listed in no particular order*):

- **'41 Chevy pickup** (Revell #85-7668): Molded in white....20-piece straight 6-cylinder engine....steering box/drag link included....steel wheels and dog dish hubcaps (*NO trim rings*) with paint detailing instructions....5th rubber tire included for spare....separate door handles/window cranks for interior....separate front and rear bumper brackets....separate outside trim (*hood hinges, door handles, mirror, gas filler tube*)....decals include *'Pleasant Acres Farm'*, *'Killins Gravel Co.'*, and *'Bruce Wigle Plumbing & Heating Co.'*, dash gauge face, and (5) sets of vintage license plates. (*Not Available*).
- **'Visteon' Reynard** (Revell #85-2326): Molded in white....6-piece driver figure....simplified kit w/minimal engine detail....mirrors molded to windshield, feature separate chrome faces....3-piece mag wheels mount either slick or rain tires....choice of road course or speedway building option....decals appear to be very well done, including 'Firestone Firehawk' tire markings, driver's seat belt, along with most other major/minor sponsors. (*Available*)
- **'Shell' Reynard** (Revell #85-2327): Molded in white....with the exception of the necessary Shell markings, see the 'Visteon' Reynard for the remainder. (*Not Available*).
- **'36 Ford Coupe** (Revell #85-2595): Molded in white....9-piece tri-carb flathead V-8....big 'n bigger tires mount slotted wheels....separate, ribbed running boards (*easier to be smoothed for that 'Hi-Tech' street rod!*)....trunk-mounted spare tire included....exhaust manifolds and exhaust system molded in to engine/chassis....decals include flames, tri-tone purple Vees, and a **'SLIK 36'** CA plate set. (*Available*).
- **'Super Stallion' Mustang** (Revell #85-2571): Molded in white....14-piece V-8....inner fenderwells molded to interior tub....drop-in door panels....1-piece dual exhausts....upper/lower radiator hoses....glass frosted on rear for paint....neat twin-scooped hood....twin foglights in front bumper below grille....nice 5-spoke mags mounting Goodyear Eagle F-1 tires....decals include drilled holes for disc brake rotors, 'Brembo' markings for calipers, Cobra white-faced gauges, green/blue striping, and carbon fiber. (*Not Available*).
- **'87 Monte Carlo SS Aeroback** (Revell #85-2576): Molded in white....modified reissue of notchback coupe....drop-in door panels....package shelf extension....23-piece 5.0-liter V-8....Z28-style wheels mounting Goodyear GT Radials....headlights are three pieces per side, and turn signals two per side....decals alone are worth the price of admission! Three different sets of SS markings are included (*red, gold, dark grey*), making any color choice possible. On top of that, you get a handful of underhood markings, a gauge face decal, wheel centers, and (3) sets of license plates-**'AERO SS'**, **'AEROCPE'** (*both CA*), and **'NASCAR'** (*NC*)!! (*Not Available*).
- **Acura NSX** (Revell #85-2577): Molded in white....5-piece Honda V-6....2-piece exhaust....tub-style interior....2-piece 7-spoke chrome wheels which mount Goodyear VR-series tires....glass frosted on rear for paint....decals include gauge face, Acura logo for hood, **'NSX'** and **'F-1 FAN'** FL plate (*Not Available*).
- **Street fighter Too** (Revell #85-2597): Molded in white....reissue of **'Bad Actor'** (*and 'Street Fighter'*)....cannot be built stock....14-piece small block V-8 equipped with two 4-barrels on a crossram manifold and headers....sidepipe exhaust system....interior includes a deeply dished steering wheel, 4-speed shifter, and 3-piece roll bar....big 'n bigger Goodyear Rally GT tires mount 12-hole Centerline-style mags....body customized to include a tilt front end....decals include yellow scallops outlined in red, tach gauge face, (2) seat/shoulder belt decals, a black front window band w/a red Chevy Bowtie on it, a larger Bowtie for the rear window, and a **'TOO BAD'** plate (*yellow/black lettering*) (*Available*).
- **'Blue Max' Mustang funny car** (Revell #85-7661): Molded in white....appears to be a modified reissue of Revell's earlier funny car chassis mated to a newly-tooled '71-'73 Mustang fastback body....very nice 24-piece blown, injected Hemi V-8....1-piece Goodyear slicks, teamed up with smaller Goodyear front tires....decals are beautiful, and again, seem to include everything necessary (*should be lotsa fun puttin' 'em on the body!!*) (*Available*).
- **Champion Porsche GT-1 EVO** (Revell #85-2549): Molded in white....incredibly nice, compact packaging which easily could have fit into a smaller box....very nice gold pre-painted rims on big 'n bigger racing treads....silver pre-painted headlight buckets....simplified 7-piece engine/trans assembly....disc brakes all around, with what appear to be posable front wheels....drop-in door panels, roll cage, everything mounts onto chassis plate....multi-piece dash (*w/decals*)....all windows frosted on rear for paint....silver mylar for mirror faces....small, colorful decals sheet (*Available*).

- **Mobil 1 Porsche GT-1 EVO (Revell #85-2548):** Molded in white...with the exception of the markings, see the Champion Porsche GT-1 EVO above for the remainder (*Available*).
- **Dodge Viper RT/10 Complete (Revell #85-2150):** Molded in red...snap kit...disc brakes all around...chrome sidepipes (*rather than black*)...separate chrome mirror faces...opening hood...decals include (2) red 'Viper' logos, 'SNAKE' TX plate...also included are 3 plastic containers of paint, a paintbrush, and a tube of glue (*Available*).
- **'99 Mustang Cobra Complete (Revell #85-2151):** Molded in Metallic Blue...25-piece 4.6-liter DOHC V-8...inner fenderwells molded to interior tub...separate drop-in door panels...13-piece independent rear suspension...1-piece dual exhausts...disc brakes all around...glass frosted on rear for paint...decals include assorted underhood markings, Cobra white-faced gauge cluster, (2) sets of license plates-'THE-753' WI, and 'HISSSSS' CA...paint, paintbrush, and glue also included (*Available*).
- **'99 Z28 Camaro Complete (Revell #85-2153):** Molded in 'Hugger' Orange...14-piece LS-1 V-8...upper/lower radiator hoses...2-piece exhaust system...disc brakes all around...glass frosted on rear for paint...drop-in door panels...decals include several underhood markings, gauge cluster, and (2) sets of license plates-'LS1 Z28' KY, and 'SEE YA' MO...paints, paintbrush, and glue also included (*Available*).
- **'53 Chevy Lowrider Complete (Revell #85-6680):** Molded in Metalflake Blue...reissue of earlier stock Chevy, w/additional lowrider items [custom wheels/tires, chain link steering wheel, graphics, and (3) sets of license plates-'OL SKOOL', 'ZOOT', and 'NT STORM' (all CA)]...paint, paintbrush, and glue also included (*Available*).
- **Off Road display base (Revell #85-1319):** Prepainted base w/muddy tire tracks in green grass (*skeleton is a nice touch!*)...clear cover, including a scene for the rear of the diorama (*Available*).
- **Street Scene display base (Revell #85-1331):** Prepainted street corner base with lamp post...again, clear cover and scene for rear of diorama included (*Not Available*).
- **'57 Chrysler 300C (AMT #3-0046):** Molded in Lt. Gray...30-piece 392 cu. in. Hemi V-8 (*even includes trans dipstick!*)...(4) BF Goodrich Silvertown whitewalls, mounting chrome hubcaps...platform-style interior, w/separate drop-in door panels...chassis and floorpan separate items...4-piece dual exhaust system...7-piece front/8-piece rear suspension... (4) tail lights-2 stock, and 2 smoother (*custom version on the way?*)...(10) sets of headlights (?!)...gauge face decals, air cleaner decals, one set of vintage WI plates (*Not Available*).
- **Ramblur (AMT #30091):** Prepainted in Teal Green with flames prepainted on the hood and front fenders...slammed Rambler convertible w/up convertible top (*reasonable representation of an early 60's Rambler convertible!*)...blower poking out through the hood, and 'zoomie' pipes poking out from underneath the chassis...Moon tank mounted in front grille...Giant Pro Street meats out back (*with flamed tread, no less!!*), mounting 5-spoke mag wheels. (*Available*)



[Note to all concerned: It has been brought to my attention of late that there is a potential problem with regard to the review articles published in this newsletter. Let me give you a little background on this subject. The model manufacturers (AMT/ERTL, Revell-Monogram, and Lindberg) all attempt to send our club current releases in exchange for our critiques on what we liked and didn't like about them. That means that we need to get written reviews published in the newsletter in a reasonable time frame to accomplish this. If you will recall, I have stood up at recent club meetings to enlist the aid of the members in attendance to get kit reviews. At present, Ron Hamilton has done more than his fair share of reviews. In the past, Lyle Willits also did his share of reviews, as well as yer Fearless Editor. If anyone wishes to see reviews written by someone else (or take a crack at it him or herself), they need to contact me, in order to determine which kits are available for review. I don't have the time to chase anyone down and browbeat him or her for a review. Rest assured though, if you take a review sample, I will be your worst nightmare if I don't get a review within a reasonable time (right, Leonard?). You may also rest assured that if you take a kit for a review, and do not return a review of it within a reasonable time, that you will not receive another!]

## Seminar Listing

Bare Metal Foil-Ron Hamilton ✓

Gold Foil application-Matt Guilfoyle ✓

Fear of Photoetch-Lyle Willits ✓

Interior Detailing

Panel Opening-Bill Geary ✓

Engine Detailing-Norman Veber

Paint Polishing

Airbrush Technique

Restoration of a Built-up model

Decal Application

Scratchbuilding small details (acetate windows, antennas, etc.)

Building a resin kit/conversion

Tire Detailing

## Tweedy Pie 2

[Revell #7675; 1/25th scale; Reissue; 122 pieces, including 56 chromeplated]

When I heard that Revell was going to release a new *“Tweedy Pie” show rod kit*, I was elated. Like most *“Forty-something” car modelers* I have many fond memories of that particular era of automotive modeling.... Drag racing was exploding nationwide, and show promoters were touring increasingly wilder creations every year. Revell led the way in those days with their detailed depictions of both “Show” and “Go” subjects, such as the *Tommy Ivo, Tony Nancy, Mickey Thompson competition cars*, and *Ed “Big Daddy” Roth’s custom rods*....and therein lay my cause for celebration.. With the resurgence in interest in the good ‘ol days of hot rodding (*especially all things Roth*), I have managed to reacquire many of the kits that had fueled my imagination as a youngster in the days of beach music, cheap gas, and mythical places where there were *“...Two girls for every guy.”* The only kit missing from Revell’s Roth line was Ed’s cute little purple bugger with the name reminiscent (*but spelled differently*) of the famed cartoon character. I had scoured the vendor’s tables at model shows, but had found only the non-Roth retreads of the now-extinct kit....and it seemed to me that Revell was missing the boat by not continuing to cash in on this nostalgia craze. Rumors of a cancellation of the impending re-release due to waning sales of other Roth kits didn’t seem to fit. Perhaps there were new copyright issues, or maybe the molds were no longer usable. Upon seeing the new box art, it was readily apparent why Revell has named this kit *“Tweedy Pie 2”*, as it is not a return to the original subject, but yet another version of the previous renditions.

In *researching the history* of this little *Street-T*, I was surprised to learn that *it was not in fact a Roth creation*, but a *modification of a car built by another Southern California rodder* by the name of *Bob Johnston*. In *Tony Thacker’s* 1995 book, *“Hot Rods by Ed ‘Big Daddy’ Roth”* (*the bible for all Fink-natics, by Motorbooks International*), Ed explains that when royalties for his first Revell release, *“The Outlaw”* started rolling in, he had more and more public appearances to make and less time to work in the garage. Roth had actually pinstriped Johnston’s *“Tweedy Pie”* at the 1958 Long Beach car show (*Andy Southard has a neat picture of the car in its earlier incarnation in his 1995 book “Hot Rods of the 1950’s”- another great reference from Motorbooks International*). In its infancy, the car was a true street rod....it was driven around Southern California by Johnston, who was an instrument mechanic at one of the local aircraft manufacturing plants. The car’s uniqueness came from its tiny T-bucket body sitting on a radically shortened ‘32 Ford frame. The original engine was a ‘48 Merc flathead with Navarro heads and dual carbs, but Johnston soon opted for a ‘57 Corvette mill to keep pace with rodding developments of the day. It was at this time that Roth bought the T and completed the Chevy installation, topping it off with an Offy manifold, six carbs, and lotsa chrome. Roth wisely kept the chopped ‘34 Ford truck radiator shell and added the distinctive dual headlights as well as custom-fabricated nerf bars. The car was then spruced up and put on the show circuit. Revell’s next Roth release soon followed.

The subsequent releases of the *“Tweedy Pie”* (*“The Rodfather” in 1972-73, and “The T-Bucket” in 1983*) had the car sporting an old Tin Lizzie-style radiator shell with Motometer and a shortened pickup bed, looking more like a generic rod (*such as Monogram’s classic “Little T”*) rather than the Johnston-Roth hybrid. My theory is that the basic make-up of the kit was changed by Revell just enough to get around the loss of copyright to Roth’s work and extend the shelf life of the product through the lackluster sales of the 70’s and 80’s, hence the disappearance of elements that made the *“Tweedy Pie”* unique (*Revell achieved similar results with their “Canned Heat” release of Roth’s “Outlaw” and their Street Demons series of “Orange Crate” and other 60’s kits*). In addition to the loss of the distinctive grille shell, Revell dispensed with the 60’s style big ‘n little street rod tires with chrome reverse rims in favor of mag wheels and hugely oversized *“Monster Meats”* on the rear wheels.

The box art of the new release tells the tale of the kit’s continuing metamorphosis. *“Pie Two”* rescues the chopped radiator from modeling Purgatory, but strangely, Revell fails to fully resurrect the original by opting to keep the pickup bed instead of the cylindrical fuel tank that resided over the rear axle. The Bucket now sports cycle wheels and tires up front, looking like its *“Outlaw”* sibling. But, let’s get down to specifics....

Upon opening the box, one discovers that the new *“Tweedy Pie”* is molded in white with a separate bag for the nicely rendered Pirelli Cinturato P7 tires (*with a Monogram ‘7137-9010’ label, made in Japan*). Unfortunately, the chrome tree is not separately bagged, and the plated oil pan and firewall exhibit scuff and wear marks where they rubbed against other trees in the bag....candidates for foil or rechroming.

**Engine:** A 32-piece update of Revell’s venerable *283 Chevy cu. In. V-8*. The plated valve covers have *‘Chevrolet’ script* rather than the *‘Corvette’ lettering* depicted on the box art model, which is *actually more accurate* than the original. The carburetor scoops are the flared trumpet-style of the non-Roth 80’s release rather than the correct curved Stromberg-style. The new kit gives you the choice of the original chromed *“Tweedy Pie”* headers or two-piece Sanderson-style headers (*again molded in white*). The fan belt/pulleys, generator, intake manifold, oil filler tube, carburetors, and fuel line/throttle linkages are all plated, as in the original.

**Chassis:** A 25-piece assembly based on the original chopped ‘32. The kit furnishes the original I-beam front axle as well as a new tube axle, although the instructions show only the tube front. All other suspension parts are as in the initial issue, with upper and lower front spindles, tie rod, and radius rods all being plated.

**Wheels/Tires:** The aforementioned well detailed Pirelli rear tires are complemented by Goodyear cycle skins up front. The chromed wire wheels are nicely done, but freeing them from the trees without doing damage to the rims will be a challenge. The deep dish mags for the rear tires exhibited uneven plating, but a request for a replacement tree of chrome parts from Revell will be honored if one is warranted (*I received a new set of plated parts for my Roth "Mysterion" kit when I wrote Revell and informed them of my 'Two-tone tree'*). Rear brake drums are per the original issue, with new disc units up front.

**Interior/Body:** The T-bucket body with its hinged passenger side door is the genuine article, with a drop-in interior that fits snugly, showing the pleated seat and side panels. The simple dash panel has accurately rendered aircraft-style gauges, and the clutch, brake, and gas pedals are all separate units. A choice of shifters is offered, the elongated beer tap, or a shorter, floor-mounted one, both plated. The windshield frame is about as delicate as can be made in 1/25th scale without being impossible to handle. A strip of clear acetate is provided with a two-piece pattern on the printed instructions to make the windshield. The non-Roth radiator shell is offered as a plated piece, while the original chopped '34 Ford unit in white (*mislabeled as 'Deuce'*) is supplied with the grille molded in. There is a choice of headlights too, either the dual plated units, or larger, single, non-plated buckets with chromed inserts (*why anyone would want THEM is beyond me, although I appreciate the offer!*). A plated nerf bar/tail light unit with separate license plate attaches to the rear of the frame while only the pickup bed with separate "Ford"-emblazoned tailgate is furnished (*a real letdown*). You can still see the semi-circular notch-outs in the rear of the chassis where the cylindrical gas tank once resided. The instructions even suggest "*Scratch buildin' your own custom gas tank*"..."*If you feel up to it*" (*evidently Revell did not*). The two-piece soft top with lozenge-shaped rear window cutouts is a holdover from the non-Roth 70's and 80's releases. A surprise offering is the plated club plaque attached to the windshield on the chrome tree...it features a finely detailed Hot Rod coupe with "*Tridents Car Club*" name and "So Cal" lettering. It's a little gem, and a throwback to the days when such goodies were commonplace. The real 1:1 "Tweedy Pie" had an "*Ignitors*" of Orange County club plaque, but hey, I'll take this one over a decal any day. Which brings me to the decals...

**Decals:** While small in size, the sheet is a beaut!! It includes two sets of gauge faces, black and white, as well as four pairs of license plates...the original black on yellow California '**NKE 687**', plus yellow on blue '**EVIL T**', '**NOVEL T**', and '**T TIME**' California plates. A pair of black on white "*Tweedy Pie*" name tags, two sets of 'Roth' logo labels (*again, black and white*), and a *marvelously rendered Rat Fink* in black and white (*probably the most detailed version yet, with every hair, sweat drop, and fly in the face!*). A Roth monster in a cartooned "*Tweedy Pie*" is also offered in black and white. Lastly, *white and pink pinstripes* for the radiator, cowl, and non-existent gas tank are included.

Overall, the kit is a welcome addition to the Roth line that Revell has reinvigorated, although I was disappointed that this kit was not more faithful to the original...I would have preferred box art similar to the 60's edition (*as Revell did with their "Outlaw", "Beatnik Bandit", "Mysterion", "Surfite", and "Road Agent" re-releases*). And if they can include the lost '34 radiator of the original, why not follow through with the rear tank and get it all the way right, instead of getting Roth to sign off on an imitation essentially made from 'retreaded' kits from the 'Disco Era' of car modeling? This kit does lend itself to some good old-fashioned customizing/kitbashing (*and scratchbuilding!*) with all the extra (*and missing*) parts...so that's something of a plus. I'm thinking of using a *Replicas & Miniatures of Maryland's* excellent line of *flathead parts* to recreate Bob Johnston's pre-Roth "Tweedy Pie" of the 50's (*how about some Navarro heads, Norm?!*), and some Evergreen plastic tubing of the right diameter, which could be used for the fuel tank. *Replicas and Miniatures* also has a *suitable set of 60's big 'n little whitewall tires*, or you could go the *Modelhaus* route. Monogram's Pro Modeler '58 Corvette has the proper chrome reverse rims, and baby moons as well! This kit is also at starting point for a *replica* of *Norm Grabowski's "Kookie's Car"* from the "*77 Sunset Strip*" TV series. You can source the *appropriate 354 cu. In. Caddy mill* from Revell's reissued parts pack engine kit (*Ed. Note: Better hurry-it's just been discontinued!*). I plan on buying several "Tweedy Pie 2's" in the near future to pursue my modeling trips down Memory Lane. The past awaits!

By: Steve Strauss

## **BITS & PIECES**

- ❑ **Diecast 'T'.** Well, the gang at *Danbury Mint* are at it again, this time with a *1925 Ford Model T*. The *louvered hood* lifts to show off the 4-cylinder engine, the *'turtleback' rear deck opens* to show off the *battery*, and the *tool box* on the running board *opens* to show off the tools inside. Additionally, the *roof is removable*, and the dashboard features authentic gauges and dials. This one is available for only **\$112**, payable in four convenient monthly installments of \$28 (*Plus a total of \$7.80 shipping and handling*). You can reach 'em at 47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06857, or call toll-free at 1-888-854-7108, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time.
- ❑ **Strange Bedfellows!** As reported recently in *The Washington Times* Business section, *General Motors* recently struck a deal with *Honda Motor Co.* that could result in *some GM cars sold in the good old U. S. of A.* being

powered by *Honda low-emission V-6 engines hooked to automatic trannies!* In return, *Honda* would buy *diesel engines* through *GM subsidiary Isuzu Motors Corp.*

- **GM Saabing!** According to a recent item in The Washington Times Business section, *GM* will buy from Investor AB the *half of Sweden's Saab Automobile AB it doesn't already own* by the end of January. Word is, it could cost the General somewhere around *\$735 million*.
- **Satellite Radio!** And, speaking of *General Motors*, Both *GM* and *Ford* are planning on installing *new radio receivers* in cars, which will pick up *radio broadcasts from satellites!* This should pretty much make it impossible to drive out of a radio station's range, as frequently happens now. Unfortunately, and to no one's surprise, these two systems will use *non-compatible technologies*, meaning that *the receivers will not be interchangeable*. *GM* and *Fords* plan to *charge about 10 bucks per month* for this privilege. Both systems should be available early in model year 2001. (*'2001: A space odyssey'?!*) Thanks to The Washington Times for this item.
- **General Hummer?!** Seems as though *General Motors* is at it yet again! They recently *completed acquisition of the Hummer brand name* worldwide from *AM General Corp.*. *AM General* will continue to make the vehicle at its plant in Mishawaka, Ind., and retain the right to sell the military version of the vehicle. *GM* will take over marketing and distributing the beast through its dealers next year. Earlier this year, *AM General agreed to buy from GM the rights and machinery to build the Hummers 6.5 liter diesel powerplant*. *GM* wants to stop producing this engine and work to improve efficiency under increased pressure from its market rivals. Again, thanks to The Washington Times for this item.
- **Pulling the Plug!** And, in an unrelated item, to no one's surprise, *GM has pulled the plug*, so to speak, on its *slow-moving (pun intended!) EV-1 Electric vehicle!* *Strangely enough, it was a victim of an attempt to increase output of full-size cars at GM!* Seems as though all those *Cavalier* and *Sunfire convertibles* are built at the Lordstown, Ohio plant, and shipped to a small plant in Lansing, MI (where the EV-1 is also built) for their conversion to *droptops*. The full-size *DeVille*, *Seville*, and *Eldorado*, along with the *Buick LeSabre* are produced at a plant in Hamtramck, Michigan. To boost output, *GM* will move the *Eldo* to the Lansing center. The *Cavalier/Sunfire converts* will be *discontinued*, leaving room for the *Eldo*. *Kinda ironic, isn't it?* Again, thanks to The Washington Times for this item.
- **What a concept!** A recent issue of the USA Today highlighted several new *concept vehicles*. From *Ford*, the *Equator*, which is based on the *F-150*, but uses the 6-inch-wider interior of *Ford's Super Duty* pickups for more space and comfort. It has more wheel travel and higher ground clearance, and Kevlar lower body panels; again from *Ford* is the *24.7*, an all-day, every day vehicle, which would be available in coupe, station wagon, or pickup. It would contain telephones, voice-controlled instruments, Internet access, stock market updates, weather reports, and tiny cameras in lieu of mirrors for better visibility; the *Chevrolet SSR*, an *El Camino-style vehicle*; the *Chevy Avalanche*, a *real vehicle, arriving next year*. Based on the *smooth-riding Suburban*, it has a 5-foot, 3-inch cargo box out back, with the rear cab bulkhead able to fold down, to allow expansion to full pickup size bed. It also has a three-panel folding cargo cover, which can be removed and stored (by one person) in the bed, if need be. Word is that *Cadillac* will also get a version of this truck to battle the *Lincoln Blackwood!* And last but not least, is the *Chrysler 300 Hemi C*. You heard me-*HEMI!* This one is a sexy, *rear-drive convertible* with a *5.7 liter Hemi V-8* putting out *353 hp.*, and *353 ft. lbs. of torque*. Again, for further info, keep watching the Internet for coverage of the *LA Auto show*, and the *North American Auto Show!*
- **STOP!!** Apparently afraid of the *unknown* with regard to *Y2K*, city and county officials across southern, central, and western Virginia were *stockpiling Stop signs* in late December! If traffic signals started failing just after midnight Saturday, they would intersections. They wouldn't be able to cover all of them, but figured they could at least cover some of the major ones. *Guess they can just 'Stop' now, eh?*
- **Large scale Diecast!** The folks at Danbury Mint seem to have adopted the *"Bigger is Better"* philosophy, because they just announced a *1/16th scale 1953 Cadillac Eldorado!!* Comprised of *almost 200 hand-assembled parts*, this one features *opening hood (to display the 331 cu. In. V-8), doors, and trunk (complete with real rubber spare and jack), steerable wheels via the steering wheel, carpeted interior, real leather seats, wire wheels, and a removable convertible top!* Price on this one is a *surprisingly reasonable \$199*, payable in five monthly installments of only *\$39.80 (plus a total of \$8.00 for shipping and handling)*. They can be reached at *Danbury Mint, 47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06857*, or call them at *1-888-854-7108*, Monday through Friday, between the hours of *9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern Time*.
- **"Call the auto club-from jail!"** A *bank robber* in Columbia, Tennessee who *left the motor running in his getaway car* outside the bank was forced to flee on foot when he realized that he had *inadvertently locked the car door with the keys in the ignition!!* The car had been stolen from a dealer's lot just prior to the incident. Police are confident that they will catch him soon, as when last seen, *"he was running as fast as he could from the scene."* Thanks to The Washington Times for the entertainment!



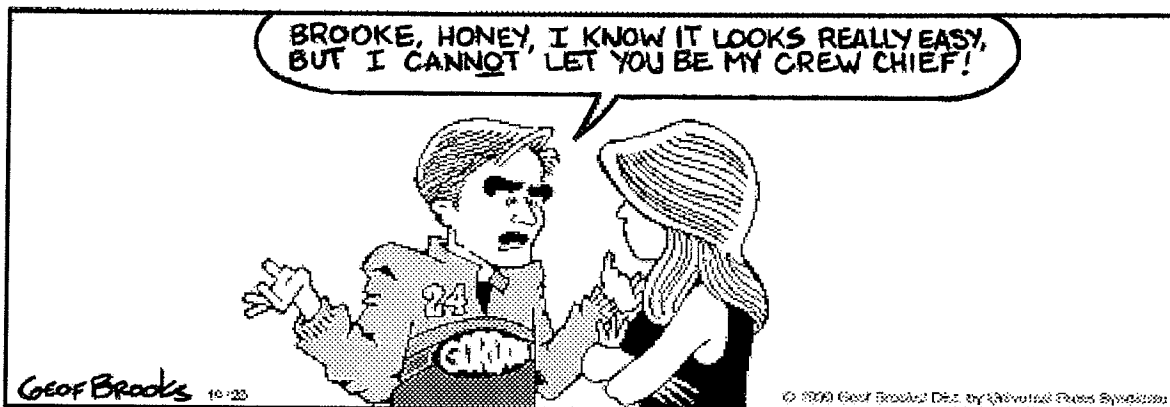
- ❑ **Mopar in Petty's future?!** An item on [www.racer.com](http://www.racer.com)'s website reports that *Petty Enterprises* has signed a deal with Chrysler that would *make the entire Petty stable part of the Mopar team for 2001!!* The announcement could take place at the *North American International Auto show* in Detroit, so again, keep your eyes peeled on the Internet for further news!
- ❑ **Thanks for the ride!** In Illinois recently, a *man jumped into a car, put a gun to the driver's head, and ordered him to get moving.* The crook told him to *take him to an ATM*, where he would most likely be *forced to withdraw money.* Well, they arrived at the bank, and oddly enough, the *crook got out, and made the withdrawal!!* While doing so, the *intended victim drove away.* Unfortunately for the crook, the bank knew exactly who he was, because not only was he *caught on the bank's security cameras*, he had *taken the money out of his own account!!! Duh!*
- ❑ **Rumor Mill!** Word reaches me about one of the model kit manufacturers, which is busily at work on producing a *Ford F-350 Super Duty pickup!!* It is rumored to be an *extended cab dually* as well! Another rumor is a possible *full detail 1/25th scale kit of the V-8 Interceptor* from the movie *'Mad Max'*! This one is rumored to be coming from *Comet Miniatures.* Check out their website at <http://home.btconnect.com/comet-miniatures>.
- ❑ **More Club meetings.** Mark Wheeler, founder of the *"Our Model is Christ" model car club*, has announced their *2000 meeting schedule: January 16th, February 20th, March 19th, April 9th, May 21st, June 11th, July 9th, August 13th, September 17th, October 22nd, November 12th, and December 3rd (Christmas gift exchange and Christmas party as well!).* Mark's club meets at *Fork Christian Church, 6908 Sunshine Avenue, Fork, Maryland 21051, (410) 592-2292.* Meetings will be held from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays. For further info, call Mark at (410) 551-4230.

## COMING EVENTS

- ❑ *Jan. 20th- Super Sunday Collectors Toy Show* at the Shrewsbury Fire Hall in Shrewsbury, MD from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For info, call Joe Golabiewski at (410) 592-5854, or Carl Daehnke at (717) 764-5411.
- ❑ *Feb. 27th- 48th Pennsylvania Model car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall in Gilbertsville, PA from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$4.00, children 12 and under are free. For info, contact John Carlisle, Old Toyland Shows, P.O. Box 1007, Lockport, NY 14095-1007.
- ❑ *March 4th-The Birmingham Classic NNL Model car show and swap meet* at the Oporto Armory in Birmingham, AL from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Theme awards this year are *"Birds and Bees"* (*Anything with a bird or insect name in it!*). For *Vendor info*, contact Dan Morgan at P.O. Box 988 Cullman, AL 35056, or call [(256) 739-1819]. For *Show info*, contact Tommy May at MCCM 5605 12th Ave. South Birmingham, AL [(205) 591-8038] (SASE for flyer), or E-mail [TMayMCCM@mindspring.com](mailto:TMayMCCM@mindspring.com).
- ❑ *April 7th- Street Survivors of Maryland* will be hosting their **Opening Show 2000** from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Burger King in Southgate Shopping Center on Mountain Road and Ritchie Highway. Trophies will be awarded for Best of Car, Show Truck, Club Participation, as well as the Top 20 cars, and Top 5 trucks. Dash plaques to the first 125 vehicles. For info, contact Bob & Joan at (410) 437-1683, or Roger & Linda (*after 6 p.m.*) at (410) 284-6990.
- ❑ *April 8th- Model Classic 2000* at Fairfax High School, 1500 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA. Hosted by the Northern VA IPMS modelers. The theme is *"Milestones in History"*. For info, contact Tom Henderson, 15491 Wheatfield Road, Woodbridge, VA 22193, or E-mail [ThomasH281@aol.com](mailto:ThomasH281@aol.com).
- ❑ *April 9th- WCCA Millennium Spring Toy Show* at the York Fairgrounds in York, PA from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. For info, contact club office at (717) 653-7327.
- ❑ *April 9th-Coming Out 2000 Car Show* at Charlotte Hall, MD. All proceeds go to charity. No vans, mini-trucks, or trailered vehicles (*due to lack of space*). For info, call Bill Bushey at (301) 645-5744, Pat Goslee at (301) 843-3219, or Ed Miller at (301) 705-9763.
- ❑ *April 22nd- Delaware Model Car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the NUR Shrine Temple on Rt. 13 and Rt. 40 split, just off I-95. For info, contact John Carlisle (*See listing for Gilbertsville show on Feb. 27th*).
- ❑ *April 29th- The First Annual Scenic City Classic NNL Model Car Show/Expo* sponsored by the Chattanooga Auto Replicas in Scale at the Camp Jordan Arena in scenic Chattanooga, TN *Themes* are *"Anything with a 'I' in it"*, and *"Fun in the Sun."* For *vendor info*, contact *Lee Baker* at 927 Belvoir Hills Cir. East Ridge, TN 37412 [(423) 629-0121], or E-mail [augie@vol.com](mailto:augie@vol.com); for *sponsorship* and *other show info*, contact *David Rose* at 3856 S. Quail Lane Chattanooga, TN 37415 [(423) 870-9619], or E-mail [cars@vol.com](mailto:cars@vol.com). Check out their website at <http://www.CARSMoDelCarGallery.com>!
- ❑ *April 30th- Fifth Annual Car & Truck Show* sponsored by the *Cruisers Unlimited Car Club* and *Mars Supermarkets* from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lynch Manor Shopping Center, 7800 block of Wise Avenue, in Dundalk, MD. Top 30 awards, Club participation, door prizes, raffle, dash plaques to first 125 registered, and DJ will be there. Proceeds to benefit the Disabled Students that attend Battle Monument School in Dundalk. For info, contact Bill Hewitt at (410) 388-9391, Mike Carbaugh at (410) 592-6296, or Mike Barborka at (410) 282-5296.

- *May 12th to 14th-Flowmaster Pro Street Invitational* at Norwalk Raceway Park in Norwalk, Ohio. For further info, check out the website: [spittleproductions.com](http://spittleproductions.com) or E-mail Frank at [s.spittle@worldnet.att.com](mailto:s.spittle@worldnet.att.com).
- *May 18th to 21st- Cruisin' Ocean City 2000*. For info, call (410) 798-6304.
- *May 21st- 49th Pennsylvania Model car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall in Gilbertsville, PA from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$4.00, children 12 and under are free. For info, contact John Carlisle (*See listing for Gilbertsville show on Feb. 27th*).
- *May 27th & 28th- 14th Annual Rod Run* sponsored by *the Custom Cruisers of Northern Virginia* at historic Ida Lee Park on Rt. 15 north of the city limits in Leesburg, VA. Streets closed 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday night, live band, car show at Ida Lee Park on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., with dash plaques, door prizes, Top 50 awards, Club participation. Open to Pre-1972 Street Rod, Street Machine, Custom, Antique, Muscle Car, and Classic vehicles only. For info, call Chuck Sommers at (703) 777-3632, or John Ennis at (703) 754-7453.
- *June 15th to 18th- Bowtie/Late Great/Yesteryears Chevy Eastern National Convention* in Baltimore, MD. Open to all 1955-1972 Chevy cars/trucks. For more info, call April Grammont at (410) 876-8898.
- *June 24th & 25th- 13th Annual Mid-Atlantic Chevelle Show & Swap Meet/ ACES Northeast Regional* in NorthEast Community Park in Northeast, MD.
- *July 15th & 16th-York US 30 Dragway Reunion* at York Fairgrounds in York, PA. *Race car art, vintage photos and T-shirts, diecasts, books, magazines, videos, toys, signs, models, well, you get the picture!* A one-day ticket is \$10, or you can get a 'York Club Package (*two-day pass, VIP parking, name badge, and program*) for \$25. Vendor space (*one or both days*) is 10X10, and costs \$50. Reply to *Frank Spittle*, P.O. Box 490, Cornelius, NC 28031; (704) 892-8008.
- *July 23rd- 50th Pennsylvania Model car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall in Gilbertsville, PA from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$4.00, children 12 and under are free. For info, contact John Carlisle (*See listing for Gilbertsville show on Feb. 27th*).
- *Oct. 29th- 51st Pennsylvania Model car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall in Gilbertsville, PA from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission is \$4.00, children 12 and under are free. For info, contact John Carlisle (*See listing for Gilbertsville show on Feb. 27th*).
- *Nov. 25th- 2nd Delaware Model Car, Diecast, & Kit Collector's meet* at the NUR Shrine Temple on Rt. 13 and Rt. 40 split, just off I-95. For info, contact John Carlisle (*See listing for Gilbertsville show on Feb. 27th*).
- *Dec. 2nd & 3rd-11th Annual Street Cars of Desire Car Show* at the MD State Fairgrounds, in the Cow Palace at Timonium, MD.

## ***TRADIN' PAINT***



## **CLASSIFIEDS**

**WANTED-** SAE magazine binders; old custom parts; old model boxes, empties, any condition-even just tops. Call Mark Mason at (540) 371-8931, or see me at the meetings.

Anyone having an item for the newsletter, whether it is a Bit, a Piece or even a Classified, it can be included by contacting one of the individuals listed below:

Timothy C. Sickle  
15905 Ark Court  
Bowie, Maryland 20716  
(301) 249-3830

Norman F. Veber  
317 Roosevelt Ave., S.W.  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061  
(410) 768-3648