

## MARYLAND AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS ASSOCIATION

*Volume 13, No. 7, March 2000*

by: "GTO"

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

Well gang, the *February meeting* had about 56 members turn out to acknowledge the (*triumphant*) return of *Chad Shapiro* from his *excellent Parisian adventure* (*are you listening, Bill & Ted?!*) The hot topic of discussion was the upcoming *NNL East show*, with those in attendance busily attempting to line up rides. Quite a few *MAMA's BoyZ* attend this show every year, and in the past we have been able to go up in carloads. It is much more fun that way, as well as even being a bit more economic! This in turn means that you've got more hard-earned cash to blow, er spend on those all-important purchases! **I imagine there will be a few last minute deals being struck this month, so keep yer ears peeled!**

The raffle raised **\$71.00** (*as well as \$49.00 from the box, and \$25.00 from the 'Special' auction-see below*). The club would like to thank the raffle donors listed below: *Ed Brown, Brad, Chris Whalley, Mike Hemp, Bill Spradlin, Mark Mason, Ron Bradley, 'Mad Max', Lyle Willits, Dave Hebler, Bob Waudby, Ron Hamilton, Rick Wilson, Jim McGuinness, Dave Schmitt, and Replicas and Miniatures Company of MD*. Thanks to *Dave Hebler*, who donated the *autographed pictures* of *Brett Bodine* and his "*Ralph's*" #11 *NASCAR Taurus*, and especially the print of *George Barris surrounded by Batmobiles!* The '*mini-affle*' raised a few bucks for the club (*bidding on the Barris picture was quite spirited!*) **Thanks, Dave!** Special thanks also go to those listed below:

Tom Walsh,  
The ERTL Company  
Highways 136 & 20  
Dyersville, IA 52040-0500

Ed Sexton/Bill Lastovich,  
Revell-Monogram, LLC  
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.

## 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

## 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*):

- **"Jeg's" Olds Cutlass** (Revell #85-7678): Molded in white....reissue of "Goodwrench" Cutlass (*with the exception of a set of larger slicks in this version, thankfully!*)....floorpan with separate chassis....multi-piece chassis/roll cage....4-bar rear suspension....rear disc brakes....multi-piece Olds big block V-8....upper and lower radiator hoses....glass frosted on rear for black paint....two-piece hood scoop....large decal sheet containing "Jeg's" markings. (*Not Available*)
- **'34 Ford Highboy** (Revell "Wheels of Fire" #1911): Molded in red, black, tan, and chrome....tub-style interior, with drop-in door panels....simplified one-piece front suspension....three-piece chassis....separate radius rods...big 'n bigger tires mounting five-spoke mags....chrome grille....separate headlight buckets w/clear lenses....adhesive-backed peel and stick markings include scallops for the hood and body side, dash cluster, tail lights, license plate, and speaker grilles. (*Available*)
- **Custom Silverado w/Waverider Boat** (Revell #7666): Molded in white....Modified reissue of the earlier stock Silverado....20-piece small block V-8 with upper and lower radiator hoses....disc brakes all around....two-piece chrome five-spoke mags mount big 'n bigger Goodyear rubber...custom hood, grille, and lower aero package....multi-piece dual axle trailer hauling a 10-piece Waverider....complementary matching graphics. (*Available*)
- **"Superman Goodwrench" Pro Stock Firebird** (Revell #85-7645): Molded in white....Modified reissue of the "Pennzoil" Firebird...late-model Firebird sheetmetal (*er, plastic!*)....two-piece hood scoop....22-piece big block V-8....multi-piece roll cage/chassis with separate floorpan....upper and lower radiator hoses....glass frosted on rear for black paint....incredible graphics, including blue and white paint treatment for the front end, and Superman for quarter panels. (*Available*)
- **#20 "Home Depot" Grand Prix** (Revell #2986): Molded in white....Reissue of earlier Grand Prix (John Deere, for example)....glass is bagged!!....22-piece small block V-8....separate steering shaft....four corrugated hoses for interior ventilation....glass frosted on rear for paint with requisite rails molded in....very nice "Home Depot" graphics (*all seemingly included*). (*Available*)
- **#18 "Interstate Batteries" Grand Prix** (Revell #2987): Molded in white....with the exception of the necessary "Interstate Batteries" graphics, see "Home Depot" Grand Prix for remainder. (*Available*)
- **#22 "Caterpillar" Grand Prix** (Revell #2992): Molded in white....with the exception of the necessary "Caterpillar" graphics, see "Home Depot" Grand Prix for remainder. (*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!]

## **The Orange Crate**

[Revell #4162; 1/25th scale reissue; 120 pieces, including 72 chrome-plated]

At last...a faithful rendition of the good 'ol '**Orange Crate**, the '32 Ford sedan from the Pacific Northwest that took the West Coast's biggest events in both '**Show**' and '**Go**' in the early 60's! This fine kit has been out of circulation for a while now, and was only recently available in the 80's as doctored-up street rod versions (Revell's "**Street Demons**'-**Chopped Deuce**", kit #7395 in 1983, and a **Hot Rod** magazine variant as kit #7126) These 'mutations' featured alterations to the body and interior to make them 'streetable'....such as cycle fenders up front, odd-looking boxed headlight pods on the hood, and dual bucket seats. A competent car modeler could take these kits and with a little effort (and a twenty-plus dollar price tag from most collectors/vendors) recreate the original....but finding usable decals would be a challenge. Now, Revell has given all of us 60's car nuts yet another opportunity to revisit our modeling past.

The original "**Orange Crate**" debuted in 1962 as an '**A-Altered**' competition sedan built with such a degree of craftsmanship that it simultaneously won show car events as well as drag races. My brother Jim, who regularly 'surfs' Internet sites for **Hot Rod** nostalgia, recently sent me a copy of the **February Hot Rod** magazine the year Bob Tindle's car first grabbed the national spotlight. Based on one of Bob's earlier rods, the project started with its beautiful chassis work....3-inch, .120 wall, seamless Shelby tubing, virtually **ALL** chrome-plated. That which wasn't plated was painted or polished to a brilliant luster. Motivation was provided by a **417.63 cubic inch 1960 Olds engine**, sporting a **front-mounted Potvin blower**, which was fed by **Hilborn injectors**. The inner workings included a Racer Brown cam, Smith Bros. Pushrods, McGurk rockers, and Forgedtrue pistons. Plated Offenhauser heads, and a Joe Hunt Vertex magneto capped off the mill, which was connected to a B+M Hydro transmission, providing plenty of Go-power to the Halibrand Sprint rear axle, with 3.78 ratio quick-change gears inside. Wheels were also by Halibrand, deep-dish magnesium, riding on Firestone Speedway tires up front, and Inglewood slicks in the rear. The body received a 5-inch channel and a 6-inch chop, giving the sedan a rakish, predatory stance. **Von's Body Shop** in Portland, Oregon completed the project with a **blazing "Naples Orange" paint job**.

In 1962, the "**Orange Crate**" won the **Sweepstakes Trophy** at the **Los Angeles Winternationals**, as well as the **Oakland Roadster Show's trophy for Best Competition Car**....two of the premier events on the West Coast for both racing and show cars. At the time, Tindle's speedy sedan was touring the quarter-mile at speeds in excess of **130 mph**, while turning **ET's in the low-elevens**, giving a good account of itself at many venues up and down the Pacific coast. The following year, the car made history by **winning both the Winternationals and the Oakland Roadster Show's Competition trophies a second consecutive time**, an **unheard of accomplishment**, establishing the sedan as a **true "Show and Go" champion**.

Revell's reissue is faithful to its initial **1963 release, right down to its box art**, with its distinctive black and orange on white motif, with giant Oakland trophy featured prominently alongside the car....brings back memories to us '**Oldies**.' When you open the box, you realize immediately that once again a chromed tree is left unbagged, and, sure enough, there are going to be a few scuff-marks on that chrome (and there are a **LOT** of chrome parts-60 percent of this kit's total!) My kit's **oil pan** and **fuel tank** showed signs of a '**rough trip**' in the box. Curiously, the white plastic pieces are packed separately in a 'bag within a bag'....the belly pan and non-chrome engine parts placed in a smaller bag, separated from the others. What purpose this serves I do not know, but I put my chrome tree in the larger bag to prevent further abuse, and put all the white parts in the smaller one (get the hint, Revell?) I'm not the big fan of chrome-plated parts that I was as a 10-year-old (back then, the more the better....get me my sunglasses!), but modeling accuracy demands that the chassis and engine show a lot of '**gleam**'...and Revell has not disappointed here. Excluding the scuffmarks, the plating quality in this kit was pretty good, with far less flash than my 80's "**Chopped Deuce**" edition. Of particular interest to accurate reproduction advocates is the fact that the **Potvin blower** and **deep-dish mag wheels** may be **dechromed**, as my brother's '**scholarly**' research has discovered that the **1:1 "Crate" had those specific items in a polished metal finish, rather than chrome**.

The **engine** is a finely executed **36-piece assembly**....with care and attention to detail, it can be a real showpiece....but its preponderance of chrome will be a challenge to pull off without mishap. The same holds true for the **tubular chassis** and front and rear assemblies....this work demands patience and disciplined, clean and orderly workmanship, and is not for the faint of heart, but what 60's Revell kits went together without such demands?! These kits taught us a few things about working with "**Fiddly little bits**" as the **English call them** (Remember Revell's '31 Woody?), and they really separated the men from the boys back then (....I remained a 'boy' for some time afterwards....Revell kits were for experts!)

The kits **black vinyl front tires** are very accurate renditions of the ribbed-tread **Firestones**, but Revell opted for **M+H Racemaster dragster slicks** in the rear-their standard issue for most of their quarter-milers of that era. The chassis, powertrain, front and rear assemblies are a **55-piece operation**....a full **40 of them chrome plated**.

The most interesting feature of the *body assembly* is the inclusion of a *resin-cast one-piece hood* for the engine compartment. Cast in putty-colored resin in the *Czech Republic* (*I kid you not!*), it is light and flexible, but take care in trimming the excess at the rear...it is oversized for a reason-to give you a little extra for trial and error grinding and fitting. The front end mates up nicely with the Deuce grille shell. This resin piece was necessitated no doubt, by the irreversible alterations to the original "*Orange Crate*" kit by well-meaning Re-Marketers. *Kudos to Revell for their 'Restoration' work.* The opening doors on my kit seemed to align better with the body than my 80's issue "Chopped Deuce" kit, although perfectionists will take the time to fill and shape to create more uniform joint lines.

Completing the kit parts but not indicated in the instructions are *four wheel covers* (*apparently remnants of the 80's Hot Rod magazine "Custom Chopped Sedan" reissue*). These wheel covers may be adapted for use as *Salt Flats-style discs* by sanding off the 'Art Deco-style' triple line accents, if one wished to create a Bonneville sedan (*Hmmm....a Chrysler 392 Hemi, some different tires?*)

Last, but not least, is the *tiny decal sheet*. Revell scores *more points* here by including not only the original-issue wooden crate on wheels with smokin' headers caricatures for the front and rear, but also has provided more accurate artwork, modeled after the designs shown on the February '62 Hot Rod magazine cover story...so, you can go for the original Revell kit rendition, or the newly-created, historically correct items. Nice touch, Revell. The instructions also include '*Customizing hints*' (*allegedly by Ed "Big Daddy" Roth, according to the box art*), utilizing Revell's now-extinct Custom Car parts packs. They suggest transplanting a different engine, swapping wheels and tires, or even switching body styles (*A Revell Fiat body, #C-1129, for a 'Way Out' look!*) Not that we need any assistance in kit-bashing on *THIS* project...but it does bring to mind once again the freedom and imagination we once had during the "*Golden Age*" of car modeling in the mid-sixties, and how the aftermarket explosion of this "*Platinum Age*" in which we now find ourselves has given us the tools and the reach we junior "*George Barrises*" or "*Daryl Starbirds*" couldn't have dreamed of. So, get 'em while they are hot...this is a limited reissue, and whether your tastes run to scale replica, dry lakes jalopy, or contemporary street rod, this sedan screams for attention!

By: Steve Strauss

## **'57 Chrysler 300C**

*[AMT/ERTL #30046; 1/25th scale; 120+ pieces; Molded in Lt. Gray, chrome, clear, clear red, vinyl tires]*

This is a long awaited (*and desired*) release by AMT. This is a state of the art kit for AMT and warrants only a few small suggestions for improvement. The kit is offered in a stock version only.

**Engine:** The kit provides an excellent depiction of the "*Fire Power*" *392 cu. in. V-8*. The engine is comprised of *30 separate parts*, not including decals. This is one of the most detailed kit engines yet released. The block has cylinder and piston detail and the cylinder heads offer rocker arm detail for those interested in showing the engine disassembled. The *oil breather tube* and *transmission dip stick tube* are very nice inclusions. This engine is sure to please all Mopar fans.

**Chassis:** The kit features a separate chassis (*with detailed torsion bars*) which then attaches to the interior platform. The make-up of the front suspension will allow for *posable wheels*. I'm sure the *15 piece assembly* will show up under more than a few Johan re-pops at shows in the near future. The exhaust pipes have nicely molded clamp detail.

**Wheels:** Nicely done *B.F. Goodrich Silverstone* tires are supplied with snap-in plastic whitewalls, along with full wheel covers.

**Interior:** The interior is provided with a platform floor and separate side panels. The *instruments* are supplied as *decals*. A review of reference material shows that the dashboard painting instructions are right on the money. Care should be used when painting the side panels as the "*300*" *emblems* are very finely represented and can be lost quite easily (*see the review of the Model Car Garage photoetch detail set*).

**Body:** The body is very well done and is crisply molded, as would be expected. The headliner, courtesy lights, and sunvisors are molded into the roof. There are ejector pin marks in this area, but they do not mar the molded in detail and you should be able to remove them with careful light sanding. The engine bay provides optional hood hinges for those wishing to display the hood open. Other than some dust apparent in the chrome finish, the chrome tree reflects the best effort by AMT in quite some time. I especially appreciate the separate clear plastic headlight lenses and clear red taillight lenses. (*It does make me wonder why there are two different size taillight lenses. Perhaps a '58 300D is in our future?*)

All in all, *probably the finest offering yet by AMT*. My only small gripe would be a request for separate, chromed, door handles (*inside and out*). Of course, *Bill Geary* has already begun the "*Geary-ization*" of the *300C* by correcting a slight mis-formation of the fins on the body. It's something I've decided to live with.

Review by Matt Guilfoyle

## 1957 Chrysler 300C Detail Set for AMT kit, by Model Car Garage

[Part no. MCG-2165, \$19.95]

This is the latest photoetch set released by Model Car Garage. The 41 piece set exhibits MCG's standard of excellence that we have come to expect. Virtually any part that can be reproduced in photo-etch is supplied. The set provides sufficient detail parts for one vehicle.

Highlights are a *two piece grille* and *additional scripts*. These include *Saratoga, Windsor, and New Yorker scripts, along with Chrysler 300D emblems*. Additional pieces and instructions allow you to build a '58 300D.

The *clear acetate* provided for *dash gauges* has three different speedometers (*a 120 m.p.h., 160 m.p.h., and 240km European style*). Also included is a *radio face*.

A *resin cast grille shell* will be *available from Replicas and Miniatures Company of Maryland* for those that do not wish to grind away on the kit piece.

This is a highly recommended detail set for an already great model.

Review by Matt Guilfoyle.

## BITS & PIECES

- ❑ "I am Curious, Citronyella!" With the release this year of the *AMT Chrysler 300-C*, and the '71 *Charger R/T*, I hope some of you guys were able to scarf up the *March 2000 issue* of *Mopar Muscle magazine*. It featured a *1958 Chrysler 300-D convertible*, and a '71 *Dodge Charger R/T*. Granted, after reading the article, the Charger was originally a different color, but it is still a good reference! And, with *photoetch sets* coming out this year for *BOTH* of these 'hot rods' from 'da gang' at *Model Car Garage*, I'm quite sure you'll want at least two of each of these kits (*three, if you are a Mopar fan!*).
- ❑ **Mopar to Ya!!** And, speaking of *Mopar*, guess all you 'Roundy Round' fans have heard that the two teams of 'King Richard' Petty (*John Andretti, and Kyle Petty*) and the *Bill Davis teams* of *Dave Blaney* and *Ward Burton* will be running *Intrepids in 2001?! Well, the Ford camp will lose none other than Bill 'Awesome Bill from Dawsonville' Elliott!!* This announcement was made at the race in Atlanta last weekend. I guess with *Petty running a Dodge truck, his switch to Pentastar power* was not a huge surprise. I'm waiting to see them run one of the *Mercedes coupes!*
- ❑ **Condolences.** It is my sad duty to report the passing of *MAMA member Ed Brown's mother* sometime in the month of February. The club acknowledged her passing with flowers. *Our condolences, Ed.*
- ❑ **Say it ain't so!** Looks like *another tradition has bitten the dust!* As of *March 1st, local Daytona Beach officials* have effectively *banned Beach Driving!* The ban affects a *historic 1-mile strip* on the beach known as *Daytona's 'Flying Mile'*, where *NASCAR auto racing was born, and many records set*. Apparently, *greedy developers* felt that *beach driving 'cheapened' their \$200-a-day rooms*, so they made a *deal with the devil (in this case, Daytona Beach officials) to kill this unique Florida attraction*. Sadly, since it worked once, surely all future developments will attempt to secure this concession. Thanks to The Washington Times.
- ❑ **Hey, 'Gearheads'!** Just heard about a website aimed specifically at you. *Gearhead Hobbies* is apparently in close proximity to the *Volo Antique Auto Museum* ([www.volocars.com](http://www.volocars.com)) in Volo, Illinois. They feature a complete line of diecast, plastic kit, and resin goodies. They also carry decals, tools, paints, and even some aircraft and military kits! According to the flyer I received, they are "The next best thing to Model Heaven!" Check 'em out at [www.gearheadhobbies.com](http://www.gearheadhobbies.com).
- ❑ **Attaboys all around!!** The recently held *World of Wheels car show* in Baltimore (*with model car show*) saw several *MAMA's BoyZ* in the *limelight*. Our own *Ron Hamilton* nabbed *First place* in *Replica Stock* with a '99 *Corvette Coupe, First place* in *Light Commercial* with his 'slammed '96 *Jimmy, Second place Street Machine* with his '67 *Corvette, and Third place* with his '66 *Riviera. Leonard Harrod* managed to snare the *Best of Show award*, along with *First Place Adult* for his 1/18th scale *Pro Street Nova SS*. At a recent *IPMS event, Steve Strauss* took home a *First place award* in the *Automotive Competition class* with his *Modified 'T' Dry Lakes racer. Waytogo, guys!*
- ❑ **Drag'n Wagon!** And, speaking of reference material, for you drag racers, the *November/December 1999 issue* of *Pontiac Enthusiast* contained a 6-page feature (*the majority in color!*) on the restoration of a *421 SD '63 Tempest station wagon (reportedly the only one known to have survived!)*.
- ❑ **Plate Debate!** Seems as though *Scott Bard* from *Heinrico county, in nearby Virginia, is fighting to keep a personalized plate*, which has been on his *Pontiac Trans Sport minivan for 12 years!* Apparently, after receiving *one* complaint, the offending tag failed a review by *DMV's crack team* known as the '*Special Plate Review Committee.*' Scott is currently appealing the decision. A *DMV spokesperson* says that the *list of 'forbidden' plates is now as large as the Richmond phone book!* Oh, the plate? **UPD WAZU!**

- **Pro Attitude!** Well, the gang at *Danbury Mint* are at it again, this time with a *Pro Street 1957 Chevy*. The car screams out at you, especially with its *bright yellow paint* and *removable hood scoop*, which is accented with a nice set of *big 'n' littles*, with *aluminum rims*. The *hood opens* to show off the *supercharged 'fat block' V-8 (complete w/wiring)*. The *doors, and trunk open as well*. The *fuel cell* and *dual batteries* are evident in the trunk. In the interior, a *full roll cage* is present, along with *twin bucket seats* with *five-point harnesses (no rear seat)*, *tach, 4-speed shifter, billet pedals, fire extinguisher, and nitrous bottle!* Or, if that don't flat yer boat, how about *1970 Olds 442 W30 convertible?* In addition to the now-standard *steerable wheels, opening doors, hood, and trunk*, this one also features a *lift-off up convertible top, folding front seats, and a removable rubber spare tire!* Done in *'Arrest-Me Red'* with a white interior, this is one striking car! Either 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.
- **Age-old question. Coke or Pepsi?** Well, recently in Corpus Christi, Texas, someone *broke into the Coca-Cola warehouse*, but the only thing they stole was a *Coke van*. You with me so far? The individual then *drove through the security fence to the Pepsi plant next door!!* He then proceeded to *break into a delivery truck* and *stole 47 cases of Pepsi*, with a *'Street Value' of about 700 bucks*, and managed to *haul 'em away in the Coke van*, no less! Word is that the people at the Pepsi plant are flattered, but they still want the creep caught! Thanks to the Internet for this one!
- **"Where did I leave my hand?!"** Ever have trouble with *misplacing or losing your car keys?* Well, your troubles may soon be over! Several automakers are experimenting with systems where a *driver's finger or thumbprint would be scanned, allowing access to the car, and possibly even adjust everything to the driver's taste!!* Daimler Chrysler installed one of these fingerprint systems on a concept car, which debuted at the Detroit Auto show. And GM is going to install one in a *Cadillac prototype* later this year. This feature could make it decidedly more difficult for someone to steal your car, too. Unless they simply *cut of your finger to get your car!* Even then, some of these systems can distinguish between live and dead tissue. Don't rush out and put in your order for a new car just yet, though. Apparently, there are other *'bugs' to work out*, such as problems with exposure of these sensitive machines to the elements (*sun, rain, etc.*), and turning your car over to a valet to be parked, or even taking it to a repair shop. Given time, I'm quite sure the engineers will figure a way around these nagging problems. *Word is this nifty feature is probably at least two years away.* Thanks to The Washington Times for this item.
- **Someone call the Auto Club!** Recently in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a woman went into a *Waffle House* early in the morning. She proceeded to order breakfast, finished her meal, and sat for a while, seemingly deep in thought. When she went to pay her bill, she told the cashier that she had a gun, and demanded money. She got about 300 bucks, after warning the cashier not to sound the alarm. She got out into the parking lot to her *getaway car*, a *1980 Datsun*, and then she hit a slight snag-the *car stalled and wouldn't restart!* Two customers (*one a retired cop*) pretended to help her (*one pushing, the other pulling*), keeping her from going anywhere until the *cops could arrive and arrest her!*
- **Mad Max!** With regard to the item a few months ago about the *full detail 1/25th scale kit of the V-8 Interceptor* supposedly coming from Comet Miniatures-apparently, the website address was not quite correct. For you *'Interceptor' fans*, try their website at <http://home.btconnect.com/COMET-MINIATURES>. I haven't had the chance to check it out as yet, but I will! Thanks to *Leon Tefft of the CARS in Miniature club* for clearing this up.
- **Two Lane Blacktop!** Many of you know about this film, which stars *Warren Oates*, James Taylor, and *Dennis Wilson*. But the *REAL stars* are the *tunneltram-equipped '55 Chevy*, and *1970 GTO* which are in an *'unofficial' cross-country race for pink slips!* Well, the only reason I bring this cult classic up is that it has been *extremely difficult to find on video*. Until now, that is! I got a catalog in the mail the other day from Motorcam Auto Media (*138 N. Alling Road, Tallmadge, OH 44278; [www.motorcam.com](http://www.motorcam.com)*) which contains all sorts of automotive and motorcycle video, music, and art between the covers. A copy of this classic could be yours for the obscenely low price of *\$16.95!* So, check out their website! I guarantee you won't be disappointed!
- **Ford Harley truck update.** Check out [http://www.pickuptruck.com/html/news/hd\\_pricing.html](http://www.pickuptruck.com/html/news/hd_pricing.html) for pricing on the new *Harley-themed F150 pickup* from the Blue Oval guys. Don't have the Internet? Then I'll boil it down for you-*Suggested MSRP of ONLY \$32,995 (Harley NOT included)!!* If I recall correctly, this would put the truck squarely between *Ford's NASCAR truck replica* released last year (*starting around nineteen grand*), and their ultimate bad boy, the *SVT Lightning*, which stickers right at *thirty grand*. And for my money, there ain't that many Harley stickers, 20" custom wheels (*a first*), and leather interiors worth that kinda money! Guess there's a whole lotta licensing to be paid for there!
- **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.

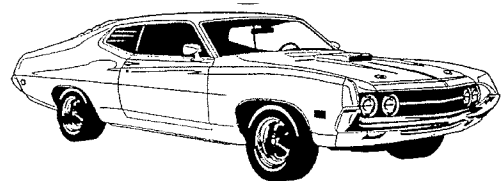
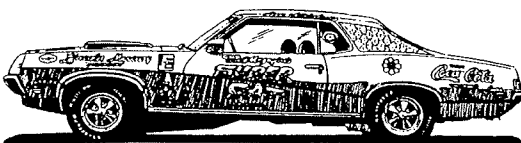
## COMING EVENTS

- April 2nd- **Three Rivers Model Car, Collector's Show, and Contest** at the Charleroi Volunteer Fire Hall, on Route 88 S. (Fallowfield Road) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For vendor info, contact Gary Branik at (412) 343-3741; [automdl@aol.com](mailto:automdl@aol.com). For contest info, contact John Boettger at (724) 325-4831, or Tony Brownlee at (412) 885-0344 (6-10 p.m. EST). NNL style judging format. **Awards include-Best Replica Stock, Best Street Rod/Street Machine, Best Commercial, Best Competition, Best Custom/Lowrider, Best Junior (under 16), and Best Diorama (one trophy in each class).**
- April 2nd- **Millennium Meltdown** sponsored by Vintage Tin and the Glen Burnie Mall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Rain date April 9th). Dash plaques, music, trivia, award plaques. \$10 donation gets you in (no pets, please). For info, call Glen Burnie Mall at (410) 766-6527, or Don & Debbie at (410) 247-8272.
- 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- **Lost in the 50's 3rd Annual Swap Meet and Flea Market** at 2301 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD (the Cruise lot behind Sicily's Pizza). For info, call Sally Evans at (410) 224-6406, or Bill Bogdan at (410) 761-1320.
- 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 7th- **Car show** presented by the Asphalt Angels Car club at Cetrone's Catering on Annapolis Road in Bowie (behind Footlocker and AutoPro) from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dash plaques for the first 50 cars, **People's Choice trophies**, bake sale. \$5 pre-registration, \$10 day of show. For info, call Marty Pierpont at (301) 459-6925, or Lyn Hubbard at (301) 262-6026.
- 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 13th- **9th Annual Mid-Atlantic NNL Model Car show and Swap meet** sponsored by the **Maryland Automotive Modelers Association** at the Ruhl Armory in Towson, MD from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Themes are **Woodies, Wagons, & Deliveries**, and **'40 Fords**.
- May 18th to 21st- **Cruisin' Ocean City 2000**. For info, call (410) 798-6304.
- May 20th- **2nd Annual Antique and Classic Car, Van, Truck, Fire Truck, & Motorcycle show (whatta mouthful!)** at the Prince George's Equestrian Center & Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, MD from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to benefit the Mary Baker fundraiser. Dash plaques to the first 150 vehicles, vendor spots available (\$25.00), door prizes, and music by way of a DJ. For more info, contact Carol Kiernan (swap meet) at (301) 345-9463, Vivian Morgan at (301) 736-7176, or Mary Russell at (301) 449-3995 (all after 6 p.m., please!).

- ❑ *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* hosted by *Baltimore's Best Classic Chevy club* at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn in Baltimore, MD. Open to all 1955-1972 Chevy cars/trucks. For more info, call April Grammont at (410) 876-8898; AprilG57@Juno.com.
- ❑ *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*).
- ❑ *Sept. 10th- 12th Annual Out of the Past Revue Antique Auto Show* at Spring Hill Recreation Center in McLean, VA, featuring *Washington Times' Autoweekend cars*.
- ❑ *Sept. 15th to 17th- East Coast Nationals* hosted by *The Goodguys* in Rhinebeck, New York. If you are in possession of *model cars, pedal cars, or other 'Cool Nostalgia Stuff'*, then the Goodguys want you to bring it out! For info, contact Rick Hanmore at (914) 564-3757.
- ❑ *Oct. 7th- Volunteer Classic VII* presented by the *Knoxville Scale Modelers* and the *Ridge Runners Car club* at the Sevier County Fairgrounds in Sevierville, Tenn. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (*Rain or Shine!*). 20 trophies to be awarded! Door prizes, vendor swap meet. For info, contact Bruce Cloninger at (865) 693-3496, or Bill Crowder at (865) 983-3336.
- ❑ *Oct. 14th- Inaugural 2000 Great American Car Show and Picnic* sponsored by *Start Your Engines* from noon until 7 p.m. Fireworks, food, raffles, games, entertainment, hydraulic competition, Top 50 plaques. For ticket info (*Pre-registration only!*), call (410) 335-5545.
- ❑ *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.

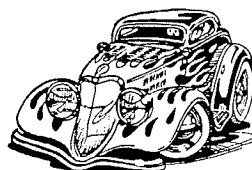
## CLASSIFIEDS

**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



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