

*Volume 13, No. 12, August 2000*

by: "GTO"

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

Well gang, the *July meeting* had about **40** members in attendance. All those *Summer activities* (read: car shows!) are apparently still taking their toll on meeting attendance. The *National Model Car Builder's Museums relocation to its permanent facility* was discussed, as well as *another contribution* to the museum in support of the hobby we all hold near and dear of **\$200.00**. In an attempt to top this move of outright generosity, our award-winning Junior member, *Chad Shapiro* conducted a *seminar on the use of solder in building headers*. *Very informative Chad - Thanks!*

Kudos to not only *Larry Boothe* for the appearance of a certain 'brown' Mustang in *Scale Auto Enthusiast*, but also to our own *Tim Powers* for penning the enlightening piece - *"Everything you always wanted to know about Boothe's Mustang, but were afraid to ask!"*

A *representative* of the *soon-to-be open Nostalgic Plastic Automotive hobby shop* in Silver Spring came by to give us an update on where things stand with regard to when the store will be open. It is expected to be open the day of our meeting. I (hope) that I remembered to include the *map* elsewhere in this newsletter, as well as the *map* to our *September picnic shindig* at *Patapsco State Park*. *Bring some food and yer appetite!*

There was more (read: final!) discussion on the 'Build the Same Kit' display. It was rehashed yet again, and the final response for this extravaganza is the *Revell 1940 Ford convertible* (*Thank Yew very much, Mr. President!*). So, if you would like to participate in this display, all I can say is, *"Gentlemen, start your 1940 Fords!"* The plan is to display them at our *April, 2001 meeting*, with another possible appearance the *following month at our NNL show*.

The raffle raised **76.00** (as well as **\$26.50** from the box). The club would like to thank the raffle donors listed below: *Brad, Rich Wilson, yours truly, Mike Hemp, and Replicas and Miniatures Company of MD*. As always, 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

On an unrelated note, check out the club calendar, and don't forget the *club picnic*, on September 23rd of this year!

## ***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*):

**Corvette Pace Car** (*Revell Profinish #1344*): Prefinished in red w/black and white checkerboard graphics across the front end....tub-style interior, consisting of two-piece bucket seats, drop-in door panels, dash, steering wheel, and shifter....one-piece chassis, which attaches via screws....very nice Goodyear F-1 tires and chrome five-spoke Corvette mags....additional graphics for either Daytona or Lemans Pace car, as well as 'Corvette' window band, crossed flag logos, and dash marking (*Available*).

**"Mad" Firebird funny car** (*Revell Profinish #1340*): Prefinished in black and red....simplified 10-piece Hemi V-8....very nice tampo-printed tires, with chrome wheels, which mount onto metal axles....prototypically correct single wheel wheelie bar....three-piece rear wing....additional markings on clear adhesive-backed vinyl include parking and taillights, and assorted smaller sponsor decals (*Not Available*).

**'57 Chevy Bel Air** (*Revell #1345 Profinish*): Prefinished in Turquoise w/a cream top....tub-style interior, w/drop-in door panels, front bench seat (two pieces)....metal axles to mount wheel/tire (w/whitewall insert) combo....chassis attaches w/screws....separate chrome headlight bezels, and clear lenses....self-adhesive-backed markings include scallops, and two plates-'FIFTY7' FL, and a vintage plate (*Available*).

**'63 Impala Lowrider** (*Revell #1644 Profnish*): Prefinished in Candy Apple red, w/graphics....opening hood and trunk....13-piece small block V-8, incl. Chrome valve covers....platform-style interior, w/bucket seats (two pieces each), dash, w/separate steering wheel and column....puny Goodyear tires, and gold-toned lowrider wheels....chassis and floorpan are separate items....two-piece exhaust system....chrome front bumper, w/separate top grille bar, and clear headlight lenses....waterslide graphics include dash gauge face, two sets of plates-'LOCO 63' CA, and 'SIX T 3' II (*Not Available*).

**Arciero-Wells 'Pioneer' Reynard** (*Revell #2338*): Molded in white....reissue of earlier Indy car kits....very nice, apparently complete decal sheet, including tire markings, helmet/driver uniform, and seat belt....again, includes choice of road course or speedway build-up (*Not Available*).

**Shelby Series 1** (*Revell #2534*): Molded in white....nice 20-piece Aurora V-8....platform-style interior, w/two-piece bucket seats, drop-in door panels, shifter, and console....four-piece wheel/tire combo at each corner (*incl. Disc brakes*)....separate, clear head, fog, and headlight covers....three-piece exhaust system....choice of red or blue stripes, dash gauge face, 'SERIES 1' CA plate, and some underhood markings (*Available*).

**#24 'Dupont' Monte Carlo** (*Revell #2568*): Molded in white....modified reissue of excellent Monte Carlo tool....excellent new Monte body, complete with hood restraints mandated this year....crisp decals include all major and associate sponsor markings (*Available*).

**#6 'Valvoline' Taurus (Revell #2586):** Molded in white....modified reissue of earlier Taurus, with proper changes to enhance its aerodynamics....massive 'Valvoline' graphics, to cover almost the entire side of the race car are included! Also included are the many associate sponsor decals, tire lettering, head and tail light representations, and a seat belt decal (*Available*).

**'70 Plymouth Roadrunner (Revell #2980):** Molded in white....reissue of earlier '70 GTX....16-piece 440 6 Pack motor....choice of chrome Magnum 500 wheels, or chrome dog dish wheels!....platform-style interior, w/pistol grip 4-speed shifter, bench seat....separate Air Grabber hood insert (*open or closed*)... clear head and parking light lenses, chrome tail lights....decals are a good news/bad news proposition....good news is that they thoughtfully included some of the 'Rapid Transit Authority' advertising; the bad news is that the Roadrunner at the head of the dust trail side stripe is the same color as the stripe! Otherwise, decals consist of '440+6', 'Air Grabber', and '383', '440', and 'Hemi' hood insert markings, air cleaner decals, two 'Plymouth Makes It' plates, and three other plates (*one Vintage Wisconsin*)-'70 BEEP' CA, and '440+6' IL (*Not Available*).

**'26 Ford T Sedan Delivery (Revell #2982):** Molded in white....23-piece small block Ford V-8, equipped with unplated 'Cobra' valve covers, and a single 4-barrel....nine-piece (each) front and rear suspensions....Halibrand mags w/knockoffs, mounting big 'n bigger rubber....upper and lower radiator hoses, two-piece radiator shell....platform-style interior, w/two-piece bucket seats....three-piece hood....decals include "Lil' John's Hot Rod & Race Car Works" and a Trucking company logo, and three license plates-a 'TALL T' CA, and Connecticut and Wisconsin plates (*Not Available*).

**Slix Lumina stock car (Revell #2988):** Molded in white....reissue of earlier Lumina tool, sans decals, but with a 'coupon good for two bucks off a Slix decal set of your choice (*Available*).

**#31 "Lowe's" Monte Carlo (Revell #2991):** Molded in white.... modified reissue of excellent Monte Carlo tool....excellent new Monte body, complete with hood restraints mandated this year....crisp decals include all major and associate sponsor markings (*Available*).

**#3 "Goodwrench" Monte Carlo (Revell #2585):** Molded in white.... modified reissue of excellent Monte Carlo tool....excellent new Monte body, complete with hood restraints mandated this year....crisp decals include all major and associate sponsor markings (*Available*).

**'70 Torino GT 2 'n 1 (Monogram ProModeler #5958):** Molded in white....(*Not Available - See review this issue!*).

**Amigo Pack '63 Chevy Lowrider (Revell #6682):** Molded in white....somewhat simplified 13-piece small block V-8, equipped with chrome valve covers and open element air cleaner....two-piece fan shroud which attaches to radiator....upper and lower radiator hoses....option of raising front and rear suspensions....gold-toned lowrider mag wheels, mounting on requisite small rubber....battery packs/hydraulic pumps foe trunk included....platform-style interior, w/two-piece bucket seats, 4-speed shifter, and separate steering wheel/column mounting to dash (w/pedals suspended from it)....separate chassis and floorpan....two-piece exhaust system....clear headlight lenses, clear red tail lights....decals include two 'AZTEC' CA plates, wheel center logos, dash gauge, a hood mural with an Aztec theme, and multi-colored stripes to conform to the Impala's lines....matching 1/64<sup>th</sup> scale diecast included (*Not Available*).

**Baldwin-Motion Drag Cobra (Revell #7664):** Molded in white....modified reissue of earlier Cobra....20-piece 427 cu. in. V-8....six-piece exhaust system....tub-style interior, w/two bucket seats, brake handle, and shifter....Halibrand mags w/knockoffs mount onto small front tires and Goodyear slicks....new hardtop not only includes glass rear window, but side windows, too....decals include the necessary "King Cobra" and motion Performance markings, along with a 'Motion' plate, and some smaller associate markings (*Not Available*).

**Mustang Cobra combo (Revell #6861 - includes #7121 '69 Mustang Super CJ, #2530 '93 Mustang Cobra, & #2460 '96 Cobra convertible):** All three Molded in white....1996 Cobra convertible: 22-piece 32 valve 4.6 liter V-8....tub-style interior, w/underhood area attached....separate console, shifter, and handbrake....five-spoke mags mounting Goodyear tires....choice of boot or up top (molded in white, not clear)....underhood markings, gauge face, and two sets of plates....1993 Cobra: 19-piece 5 liter V-8....one-piece exhaust system....Cobra-specific finned wheels mounting Goodyear rubber....tub-style interior....all glass is separate, and frosted on the rear for paint...Cobra-specific rear spoiler included....decals include gauge face, underhood markings, two sets of plates, and a window sticker....1969 Mustang Super CJ: 24-piece 428 Cobra Jet motor....tub-style interior....one-piece exhaust system....slotted GT style wheels....decals include red Mach I stripes, IL 'JET' plates, and markings for the Dick Brannan Ford race car (*Not Available*).

**'57 Chrysler 300-C (AMT #30247 CustomShop):** Prefinished in dark green, with a tan interior....packaging is nothing short of incredible, with everything bagged!....30-piece Hemi V-8....tires include separate whitewall....platform-style interior....separate chassis and floorpan....four-piece exhaust system....clear head and tail light lenses....minimal decals include two air cleaner markings, dash gauges, and two vintage plates, which FINALLY appear to be more true to scale (*Not Available*).

**'41 Woody Street Rod (AMT #30248 CustomShop):** Prefinished in Lt. Green Metallic....20-piece fuel-injected Flathead V-8....surfboard included (*as you would expect from a well-equipped woodie!*)....Goodyear GS-C tires mounting slotted wheels....two-piece seats (front and rear) mount to floorpan, upon which multi-piece body assemblies....two-piece chassis, and two-piece exhaust system....clear acetate and templates provided for side windows....decals include two license plates, and woodgrain on clear backing (*Not Available*).

**1966 Buick Riviera (AMT #30083):** Molded in Lt. Gray....20-piece Buick 'nailhead' V-8, w/two separate four-barrel carbs....tires with double whitewall inserts, and Buick five-spoke road wheels....platform-style interior, with two-piece front bench and one-piece rear seat/package shelf unit....separate chassis, w/six-piece exhaust system, 10-piece rear suspension, eight-piece front....separate front and rear glass....upper and lower radiator hoses, and heater hoses....(3) sets of vintage plates, along with a few underhood markings (*Not Available*).

**'39 Wagon rod (AMT #30087):** Molded in Lt. Gray....23-piece ZR-1 powerplant....four-piece exhaust system (two chrome tips)....four-wheel discs....12-piece front, and 10-piece rear suspensions....chrome six-spoke rims....platform-style interior w/molded-in console, and bucket seats....(3) sets of vintage plates, and woodgrain overlay trim (*Available*).

**Raiders Coach (AMT/ERTL #30261):** Molded in Lt. Gray....(2) 21-piece 'Pontiac' V-8 engines....platform-style interior, minimally detailed 'tractor' (engine) assembly, which attaches to a one-piece chassis/floorpan 'trailer' (coach) unit....vestigial traces of a '68 GTO bumper and hood....(4) Goodyear tires, and (2) larger plastic two-piece tires for the rear....**VERY** simplified suspensions (front and rear. After all, this **IS** a 60's reissue!)....decals include 'Raider Coach' logos, a few musical notes, and several sets of 'optional' decals (according to the instructions) (*Not 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!]*

### ***"A Tale of Two Chargers"***

*[1971 Dodge Charger [AMT/ERTL #30053; 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale; 108 pieces plus decals; new tool]*

*[1967 Dodge Charger 2 in 1 [Revell #7669; 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale; 118 pieces plus decals; modified reissue]*

The popularity of the Dodge Charger in the model car realm has been tremendous. From the introduction of the car in the 1966 model year through 1976, MPC (*one of the Forbears of AMT/ERTL*) produced a scale version of the car in assorted scales and variations, including stock car (NASCAR) and drag racing (NHRA) version, not to mention show cars, custom cars, and of course, replica stock. In the 80's, we were treated to reissues of the '69 Charger, in different variations including but not limited to the *Daytona*, *Charger 500*, and a certain *orange car* from a popular TV show. These were all that we had, and frankly, they were mediocre at best in terms of overall detail. Fast forward to 1997. Revell/Monogram introduced its '**ProModeler**' series of kits, marketed with the '**adult**' modeler in mind, featuring such amenities as:

- Higher parts count, with a correspondingly higher level of detail in the various assemblies
- More detailed instructions, including photographs of an actual car, in order to provide more reference for the modeler to build the kit properly
- More than one building version

All these pluses had a small minus-a higher price tag. One that it has been proven, that modelers would gladly pay.

As a modeler who could be expected to appreciate such a concept, I was among the first to purchase the **1969 Dodge Charger kit** in this series. To make a long story short, while I expected a great modeling experience, I was very disappointed in the kit, due to the ill-proportioned body (*the roof was too low*). Being the outstanding company that they were, **R-M retooled the correct body for the car, and promptly replaced the incorrect parts to any modeler who requested them**. I have seen several of these kits built up into beautiful models. The company also produced a reduced content, replica stock version of the **1969 Dodge Charger R/T**, at a lower price, as well as a **1969 Dodge Charger Daytona** in the '**ProModeler**' series as a



2 in 1 kit, complete with photoetch parts, and a *1968 Dodge Charger R/T as a Super Stock drag racer, replicating a car campaigned by "Dandy" Dick Landy. All very nice kits.*

Fast forward to 1999. AMT/ERTL and Revell made their product announcements, and a Dodge Charger was included in each of their lines. A 1967 model in the case of Revell, and a 1971 model in the case of AMT/ERTL. Let's take a look at both kits.

### **1971 AMT/ERTL Dodge Charger R/T**

**Pros** - A newly tooled kit in the current AMT/ERTL style that we've grown accustomed to (*read: spoiled by!*).

**Cons** - Less-than-popular vehicle options - tires.

**Engine:** A 25-piece depiction of the *Dodge 440 Magnum four-barrel V-8 engine*, hooked to the ubiquitous *Torqueflite automatic transmission*. This assembly is very accurate, and goes together with ease. The instructions are comprehensive, including proper painting tips. All that is necessary are a few aftermarket detail items to make it a contest-quality unit. I wish that the gang at AMT/ERTL would have given us either the *440 6-Pack version* of this engine, or the *King Kong Hemi V-8*. Oh well, the parts box can handle my requests.

**Chassis assembly:** An eight-piece assembly, consisting of a 'K' member, a simplified, non-steerable (*but posable*) suspension system, radiator, and header panel make up the working chassis, or front subframe of this kit, just like the real car. The exhaust system is separate, as is the floor pan. The rear axle assembly includes separate leaf springs, a two-piece 8 3/4" rear axle assembly, shock mounts, shocks, and a driveshaft. Again, while correct for the car as measured, the kit lacks certain accessories that are corrected by the Mopar muscle fanatic, such as the *Dana 60 rear axle*, and the *'Bazooka-style' exhaust tips*.

The nine-piece *interior* depicts the *up-level split bench front seat, column shift, and deluxe steering wheel*. Very accurate for the car as measured, but not the most popular combination. I would much rather have seen the bucket seats and console with the floor shift, and the *'Tuff' steering wheel*.

The *wheels and tires* are very accurate, but I do not like the tires included in the kit. While they fill the wheelwells, and fit the rims, they are too tall, too shiny, and the lettering not well defined enough to highlight. A better tire choice would have been the old Goodyear Polyglas GT L60-15 tires found in various AMT/ERTL kits.

The *body* of the car is right on the money. Proportion and detail-wise, it is very good. It includes the standard Charger R/T louvered hood, exposed headlight grille, left hand manual outside mirror, and optional spoilers for the rear deck and front valance, as well as a decal stripe set in basic black. All underhood detail is present, including A/C system, heater hoses, steering shaft, battery and brake system, and it all goes together well.

Overall, the 1971 Dodge Charger R/T from AMT/ERTL is a very good kit of a very good car. I wish they would have used a more representative car as the master pattern, as this example was an oddly equipped version of the car, in my humble opinion.

### **1967 Dodge Charger**

**Pros** - Beautifully executed kit.

**Cons** - Tires.

**Engine:** A 22-piece rendition of the fabulous *426 cu. in. Hemi V-8*. When assembled, this is one of the most accurate kit renditions of the engine, bar none. The only suspect part of the assembly (*again, in my humble opinion*) are the carburetors, which are blob-like at best, but at least they are covered by the air cleaner. We even get a set of *tube headers*, in addition to the cast iron exhaust manifolds, and an *open element air cleaner (along with the stock one)* for those of us wanting to spice up this already hot engine.

The *body* is drop-dead gorgeous! The proportions are right on the money. All emblems are molded in, with the exception of the sail panel Charger scripts and symbols. The *glass* is all separate with no runners. The vent windows are separate and must be trimmed in bare metal foil to be accurate. The underhood detail is also present, in that there is a master cylinder, wiper motor (*which must be dechromed to be accurate*), radiator, fan shroud, and radiator hoses, horns, steering box, battery, and windshield washer jar. Exterior-wise, we are treated to separate door handles, windshield wipers, and an outside rear view mirror.

The *interior* is also very well represented, in that it features crisp engraving and the proportions are also correct. A bit of detail painting will go a long way on this assembly. The only mistake I see within this assembly is that the *steering wheel* should be painted the *interior color*, rather than brown, as it is the standard plastic steering wheel. Otherwise, it is accurate.

The *chassis assembly* is pretty simple as compared to the AMT/ERTL example, in that the 'K' member is part of the chassis pan. The front and rear suspensions are pretty much single piece units for ease of location to the chassis pan, with the shock absorbers, stabilizer bar, exhaust system, and differential and cover as separate items.

The *wheel and tire combination* consists of the *Chrysler Road wheel* mounted on a *Goodyear Polyglas GT tire*. While the wheels are fine, the tires are wrong for a replica stock version, as these tires were not available from the factory until

1970. The optional wheels are a very nice set of *Cragar S/S mags*, with a pair of *drag slicks*, if the builder chooses to use them.

Properly painted and assembled, this kit will yield a beautiful example of the 1967 Charger. The only thing missing is the roof accent stripe, and that isn't all that bad. I really like these Chargers. They are definitely must-have kits for the Moparphiles out there!

By: Ron Hamilton

### **Tamiya Tips**

No, this is not a new column on painting. This tidbit comes to us from *MAMA's Boy Bill Richards*, out of the *September, 2000 issue of Fine ScaleModeler*. Apparently, questions were raised, and FSM went directly to the source, Tamiya America's own Eric Sands, who replied with the following tips:

"Because Tamiya spray paints may be handled such a short time after application, most modelers assume that they are indeed fully cured. Au Contraire! It can actually take a considerable length of time for the carrier to become fully free of the paint. During this curing stage, the paint actually shrinks onto the model, though, normally, this isn't really noticeable. The problem occurs when another coat is applied. It must be applied either very soon (within an hour of the pigmented coats), so that the shrink rates are the same, or you must wait a minimum of about two weeks (so that the pigmented coats are stable, and not continuing to shrink). If you apply clear after an hour, but before two weeks, the two layers will contract at different rates, and your clearcoat may develop tiny cracks."

"Decals add an extra variable to the equation. The primary reason for using a clear coat is to hide decal lines. Tamiya's gloss spray paints provide a deep, glossy shine, so normally you don't need a clear coat to help with that. Applying the decals onto fresh paint and then clear coating over them within an hour or two is not only really hard to do, but also traps moisture under the clear that will cause its own set of problems. Again, the best method of applying Tamiya clear lacquer over pigmented Tamiya paints is to wait two weeks (or longer) before the clear is applied, so you need to take your time. Thinner coats can speed up the curing time, but the technique that most modelers use (one or two dusting coats, and a heavier 'wet' coat) would require the above interval before the clear coat application. If you do manage to apply all of your coats within the one hour intervals, you will notice that the paint sets up to the touch very quickly, enabling you to complete assembly, and thus speeding up the build time."

Another interesting effect of the spray cans can be seen when the cans are held too close to the subject. What happens here is the propellant, which dissolves into the paint within the can, has insufficient time to separate from the paint while in the air, and continues to gas out of the paint once it is on the subject. This can cause bubbles in the paint, so make sure that you don't hold the paint too close."

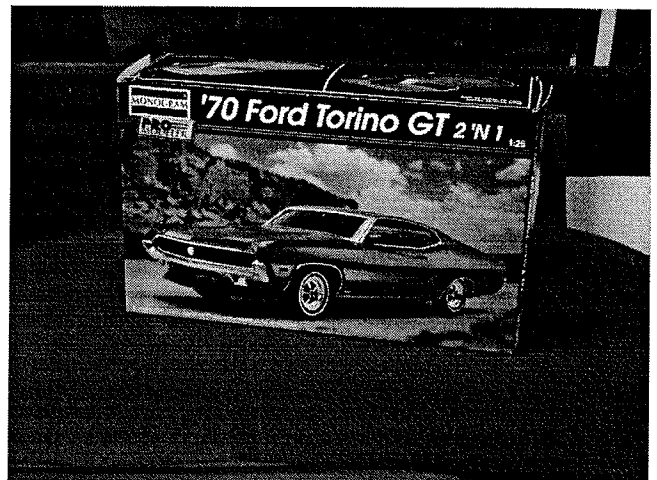
[Well, let's all send a big MAMA Thank Yew to not only Eric Sands of Tamiya for the info, but also to FineScale Modeler and MAMA's Boy Bill Richards for the heads up!]

### **1970 Ford Torino GT sportroof**

[Revell-Monogram kit # 85-5958; 148 parts total; 89 white, 8 clear, 3 cl. Red, 6 tires, 10 photoetch]

It's finally here, the '70 Torino that we've been waiting for what seems like 2 years or more. The good news is it's a fabulous kit despite its seemingly high price. Interestingly, there is little mention of the photoetch parts on the outside of the box. This leaves one wondering "*Why the high price?*". Also, the kit description on the outside of the box claims that the clear parts are in their own plastic bag. While this has been the case in various other kits, it was not true with this kit. The only other problem in this kit is the Cragar S/S mags that look worse than the ones in the recent '67 Charger kit, but I suspect that most builders will be doing replica stock versions anyway.

The *engine* is the 429 C.I. single 4-barrel Cobra Jet. It comes in 22 pieces in stock form and has "*Ford Motorsport*" *valve covers, headers and custom air cleaner* for the *drag version*. Both sets of valve covers are spot on perfect as is the rest of the engine. But don't complain about the chromed air cleaner. You will need to mask off the top of it and paint the lower half Ford engine blue.



The *interior* is of the platform type that has become standard fare and gives great three-dimensional detail. There is a separate console with Hurst-type shifter. The dashboard has a three-pedal assembly that fastens to it as well as five decals that make up various gauges and emblems. There are also wood grain decals for the interior sides. Drag parts include a three-piece roll bar. The rear seat is cast separate and the front bucket seats are two piece type all with correct upholstery. And yes, these bucket seats are correct base model seats. The better known high back bucket seats were optional on the real car.

The *chassis* has a total of 16 pieces, featuring posable steering. Extra care is recommended in assembling the lower A-arms to the chassis in the drag version, because of the beautiful set of optional drag headers that are included. It's been a long time since us Fordnatics got headers as nice as these. As a side note, many of the Fairlanes and Torinos suffered in drag racing because these big engines in such small engine compartments made it difficult to route a decent set of headers without cutting the inner fender panels. Cutting the inner fender panels would weaken the unit body construction to the point that the front of the car would collapse, destroying the car. Consequently, headers had to be developed that would snake around various obstacles and still allow exhaust gases to flow properly. These headers almost became permanent parts of the car.

The *tires* are *Goodyear Speedway Widetreads* on one side only and blank on the other. There are *optional whitewall decals* that could be used on either side or *Goodyear Polyglas lettering* to be used on the blank side to represent an optional grade of tire. This gives 4 different types of tires to choose from; very cleaver. There is also a pair of drag slicks for the drag version.

The *body* is perfectly proportioned with a *new twist* never seen before in scale. The *side marker lights are cut out of the body so that 2 clear and 2 clear red lenses will fasten from behind*. Because the wipers were hidden under the engine hood they are cast in place. But there are separate brake booster, wiper motor, starter relay, washer bottle, dual elec. horns, a battery, and upper and lower radiator hoses. The radiator support is a five-piece assembly featuring the striker plate, which is the assembly that locks and unlocks the engine. There are an incredible eight decals that are applied to various spots under the hood. The remainder of the body trim pieces are standard fare and well done. Of special interest are the *drilled out chromed exhaust tips* and the photoetch parts. There is a honeycomb photoetch piece that overlays the taillight after being painted flat black. The dual sport mirrors get color keyed to the chosen body color, and have separate chromed reflectors. There are separate chromed door handles, 429 fender emblems, as well as photoetch Torino and G.T. emblems, photoetch rocker panel moldings, and a photoetch grille emblem.

The *decalsheet* is huge with too many decals to list, the standout among them being the *four sets of laser stripes*. I have been unable to verify whether the colors are correct but the fading of colors in their length does not seem quite right. In truth these laser stripes may be impossible to reproduce any better in scale due to cost. Additionally, I remember the real ones having a prismatic effect that created color changes their entire length depending on the angle you looked at them. Revell-Monogram has thoughtfully given us a set of color charts listing interior and exterior colors and which laser stripe goes with which color. The instruction booklet is riddled with special finishing tips to help less experienced builders complete a better-looking model.

Revell-Monogram has done an exceptional job with this kit. I wish every kit could be done with this level of detail, but this would be cost-prohibitive to R-M and us. Buy as many of this kits as you can so you can use its parts in those older kits that may never get kitted like this one. This kit stands a very good chance of being voted "*The kit of the year*," in my humble opinion.

By: Rich Wilson

## ***BJTS & PJECES***

- "Gimme a break, OK?" Just a reminder to those of you who for whatever reason, are unable to make a club meeting, and can't do without your monthly MAMA fix, the club newsletter. The *rule of thumb* for *getting backissues* is that it is impossible for me to fulfill a request received on Friday evening before the meeting. If you don't provide a SASE for them to be returned by mail, you should allow at least 24 hours. In other words, since I do not keep a ready supply on hand (*do you KNOW how many newsletters that would be for the last ten years?! Do the math, OK?*), if you can give me one days notice, I do not mind filling your request. Heck, I'm honored that you guys go to such lengths to read my drivel! Better yet, my E-mail address is at the back of this newsletter. For those of you online, you can request a copy by E-mail, or even get a copy from the Hobby Works website (
- **Kudos!** Our own 'MAMA's Boy', Ron Hamilton had his '67 Corvette appear in *Car Modeler*. Waytogo, Ron!
- **New Hemmings.** There is reportedly a *new Hemmings magazine* on the newsstands this month. Entitled *Hemmings Rods & Performance*, it was established to help automotive enthusiasts buy or build the high-performance car of their dreams.
- **Harley-Davidson, Inc.** has recently dropped its *six-year effort to trademark the sound of its V-Twin motorcycle engines*, saying it was tired of spending money with no end in sight!
- **Grand Opening!** If everything goes well, we will have another hobby shop opening, coincidentally enough, on the very day of our August meeting (*the 19th*). Many of you may have already received at least one mailing from

Nostalgic Plastic Automotive (some more than one!). Look elsewhere in this newsletter to see if yours truly remembered to include a map to the new shop!

- ❑ **"Napping can be hazardous to your health!"** A driver's quick nap behind the wheel rudely awakened another man. Seems as though *Michael Harold, 30*, of Glen Burnie, *fell asleep while on the way home from the night shift*. His *car coasted off the road, down an embankment, and into a garbage bin, before hitting a parked truck, sending the truck smashing through the bedroom wall of Mark Beck's apartment!!* Mr. Beck's apartment three-story building was then *declared unsafe*, and *residents were evacuated*.
- ❑ **Sexcapades!** An alert *State trooper* was able to stop a car carrying two guys crossing the *Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel* when he observed them *watching a sex movie!!* The *1997 Hyundai* was equipped *with two custom-built TV screens in each headrest, a third screen near the dashboard, and a VCR mounted in the trunk, all controlled with a wireless remote!!* Sounds as though he had more invested in the electronics than the car!! The passenger, *21-year-old Jonathon Washington* was charged with *possession of crack cocaine*, and *possession of marijuana*, while the driver, *22-year-old Paris R. Williams* was charged with *public display of obscene material*. A third man watching the movie in the back seat was not charged. Seems as though the group was headed for a *VA Beach strip club* to *celebrate Mr. Williams' Birthday. Happy Birthday! Maybe you can get someone to bake you a cake with a file in it!*
- ❑ **Still more Diecast goodies!** This time, the guys from *Danbury Mint* have strayed into the area of petroliana (*Gas station stuff!*) with the release of their *1/8<sup>th</sup> scale 1956 Texaco Sky Chief gas pump*. It features an accurately scaled removable pump handle, which, when removed, turns on the globe light and starts the dial rotation and pumping sounds! This one goes for *\$69*, payable in two monthly installments of only *\$34.50 (plus a total of \$7.50 for shipping and handling)*. You can reach 'em at 47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06857, or call 'em toll-free at 1-888-854-7108 Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. eastern time!
- ❑ **Customizers!!** Check out [www.sambarristribute.org](http://www.sambarristribute.org) – *'Nuff Said!*
- ❑ **Bird Watchers!** *Danbury Mint* is releasing one *'bird'* for two distinct types of bird watchers. An *early Ford Thunderbird convertible*, resplendent in *Baltimore Orioles colors!* It includes the usual *operating features – hood, doors, trunk, and console lid. Additionally, the wheels spin, bucket seat backs fold, the 'Swing Away' steering wheel swings, and the convertible top is removable.* It sells for *\$116*, payable in four convenient installments of only *\$29 (plus a total of \$7.80 for shipping and Handling)*. And remember their 30-day money-back guarantee. They can be reached at *47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06857*.
- ❑ **Sun Worshippers!** *Danbury Mint* has your number as well, with their *1949 Ford convertible*. Comprised of almost *215 parts (at a reported development cost of \$300,000)*, the workmanship and level of detail is said to be incredible. *Opening doors, hood (to show off the fully detailed flathead V-8 engine), and trunk (featuring a removable genuine rubber spare tire), operable seat backs (done in genuine leather, with Bedford Cord detailing), and a fully detailed undercarriage.* It sells for *\$112*, payable in four convenient installments of only *\$28 (plus a total of \$7.80 for shipping and Handling)*. And remember their 30-day money-back guarantee. Refer to previous item for contact info!
- ❑ **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**

- ❑ *Aug. 26th- 3rd Annual Taneytown Fire Department Car show* from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Carnival grounds (*Rain or shine!*). Open to all antiques, rods, customs, special interest, and trucks.
- ❑ *Sept. 10th- 15th Annual Fall Old Nostalgia Drags, Show & Shine* at 75-80 dragway, in Monrovia, MD (*No rain date*) hosted by the *Heart of Maryland Classic Chevy Club*.
- ❑ *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.
- ❑ *Sept. 16th- Wyoming Valley Model Car Championship* presented by the *Luzerne Merchant's Association* at the Merchants Fall Festival. For further info, please send an LSASE to Model Contest, Suite 301, 161 Main Street, Luzerne, PA 18709.

- ❑ *Sept. 23rd- Annual MAMA Picnic* at the Patapsco Valley State Park, in beautiful Elkridge, MD! Look for us at the *Avalon area, Shelter #104*, and bring your appetite!
- ❑ *Sept. 24th- The Super September Showdown Model Contest and Vendor Show* from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Gilbertsville Fire Hall, in Gilbertsville, PA sponsored by *The Model King* and *Fantastic Plastics* in conjunction with the *Central Pennsylvania Model Car Club*. Old and new kits, parts, decals, built-ups, diecasts, etc. Contest entries and registrations accepted from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., awards at 3 p.m. For info, call Dave Burket at (732) 240-3987, or Len Feinberg at (610) 923-7534 [or fax to (610) 252-3051], **OR**, E-mail [FnPlastics@aol.com](mailto:FmPlastics@aol.com).
- ❑ *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. 11th- Modcon 2K Third Annual Model Show and Contest* sponsored by the North Central West Virginia Scale Modelers at the Ramada Inn [(304) 296-3431] in Morgantown, WV. Trophies for 1st through 3rd, 10+ "Best of..." Awards, 45+ Contest categories, and room for 75+ vendor tables! Last year's show had over 500 models in competition. For info, E-mail Tom Gilpin at [tgilpin@wvu.edu](mailto:tgilpin@wvu.edu), Chip Wamsley at [chip@wamsleycycles.com](mailto:chip@wamsleycycles.com), or Gary Kulchock at [gkulchock@aol.com](mailto:gkulchock@aol.com), or visit their website at <http://wvnm.wvnet.edu/~tgilpin/home.html>.
- ❑ *Nov. 11th- 2000 NNL Southern Nationals* hosted by the Atlanta Car Model Enthusiasts (*ACME*) at the Smyrna Community Center in Smyrna, Georgia. Themes are *Box Stock*, and *Car of the Century!* For Vendor info, contact Paul Wehner at 2459 Jacks View Ct. Snellville, GA 30078, (770) 985-5953.
- ❑ *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***

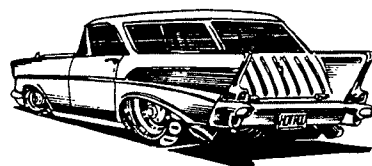
**WANTED** – *CM Sept. 1990 back issue* (Vol. 1, No. 3). Call Roman Podolak at (410)882-6942, or E-mail [podolakfamily@aol.com](mailto:podolakfamily@aol.com), or see me at a meeting.

**FOR SALE** – *1968 Pontiac 455 HO* bored .060 over, with an extra set of heads for \$600. E-mail Dan Chicorelli at [danchic@netzero.com](mailto:danchic@netzero.com).

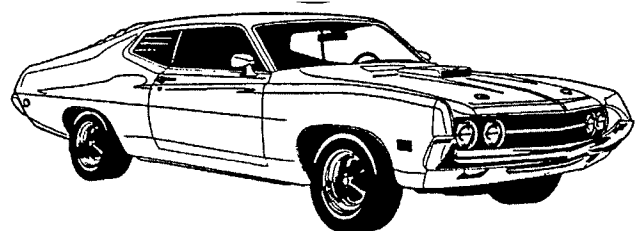
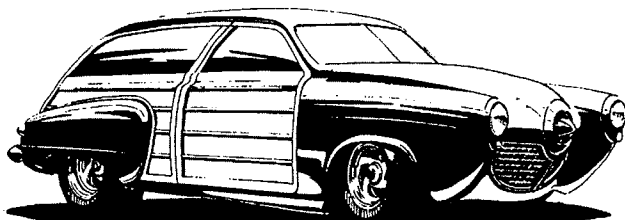
**FOR SALE** – *Assorted kits*, ranging from *Street Rods*, to *Exotics*, to *Pickup trucks*. Thinning collection, not quitting. See me at a meeting for a list. *Tim Sickle* (Or, E-mail me at [gtoyguy@mindspring.com](mailto:gtoyguy@mindspring.com)).

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  
[gtoyguy@mindspring.com](mailto:gtoyguy@mindspring.com)



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



## Annual MAMA's BoyZ Club Picnic

**Where:** Patapsco Valley State Park, Pavilion #104

**When:** 10 a.m. to Sunset

### Basic Rules:

- Park in designated areas
- Alcoholic beverages may be consumed at shelters or picnic tables only, and you must be 21 to do so
- Pets are prohibited
- Loud noise allowed by permit only
- Ballfields are available on a first come, first serve basis

**Fees:** Weekends & Holidays: \$2.00 per adult (anyone between 16 & 62); children under 16 are free

with an adult; seniors 62 and over are free with a Golden Age Pass; buses pay the regular per person fees. For additional info, or to make reservations, call (410) 461-5005 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Grand Opening of Nostalgic Plastic Automotives!

**Where:** 2425 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, MD

**When:** Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

This is the Washington area's first store dedicated to Car & Truck modelers! All cars and trucks, along with tools, paints, resin parts, photoetch, and a selection of older car and truck models. We buy old kits and collections as well! For location, see map at right.

Free drawing at 11 a.m.!

[www.nostalgicplastic.com](http://www.nostalgicplastic.com)  
[nostalgicplas@annapolis.net](mailto:nostalgicplas@annapolis.net)

