

This is the newsletter of the Maryland Automotive Modelers Association

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MAMA SEZ!

Volume 17, Issue 6

February, 2004

Let's Go Racin'

Well gang, more than 50 members entertained a lively discussion last month on 2005 NNL themes. As I mentioned last month, if we could announce the following years' themes at the 2004 awards ceremony, it would actually give the impression that we are organized (?!)! Come prepared to vote.

Another long-lost MAMA's Boy showed up last month. That would be *Joe 'The Hat'* Atwell, along with his lovely new wife, Kathy. Congrats, you two, and glad to see ya back!

This month's issue in-

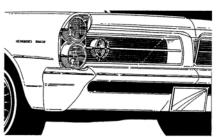
cludes some coverage of the *Baltimore new car* show (courtesy of Rex Turner), and the *DC* World of Wheels (thanks to yours truly, son Nick, and Walt Rook). We also have more info on the new *Trumpeter 1960* Pontiac Bonneville due out shortly, for those of you of the Pontiac persuasion (both of us, Matt!).

Lyle is back with yet another Street Rod Modeler fantasy cover.

Remember the *Cu-ban '51 Chevy pon-toon boat?* Be sure not to miss the Cuban

Buick 'boat anchor!'

The raffle yielded \$84.00 (plus \$85.00 from *the box!*). Kudos to the following people this month: Irv Arter, Brad, Ron Bradley, Mike Brown, Bob Foster, Ron Hamilton, Phil Jones, Charlie Magers, JC Reckner, Walt Rook, Ken Shanks, Mark & Lisa Wheeler, Rich Wilson/Frank Knapik (are these two interchangeable?), and Replicas & Miniatures Company of MD. ⊜



2004 Meeting Schedule

All club meetings are scheduled for the third Saturday of the month, but will be *confirmed quarterly*, and are subject to change prior to confirmation. Do *NOT* assume meeting dates confirm them with a club officer!

January 17th

February 14th

March 20th

Confirmation to follow on remaining dates.

Inclement weather phone number: (301) 474-5255.

R.I.P., Fireball V-8

Production of the venerable *General Motors all-aluminum 215 cubic inch Fireball V8* first used in the 1961 Buick Special, will end this Summer, just shy of one million units.

Development work on

the first mass-produced, all-aluminum, Americanmade engine started in 1958, according to Buick: A Complete History by Larry Gustin and

According to *The Rover V8 Engine by*

Terry Dunham.

David Hardcastle, a

Rover official spotted an unused Buick V8 engine at a boat engine factory while visiting the U.S. in 1966 and learned that the engine was out of production. That year, Rover struck a deal with GM, buying the blueprints and all tooling for an undis-

(Continued on page 10)

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Motor Trend Baltimore Auto Show

The National Capital Region Mustang Club and the Shelby American Automobile Club of Maryland managed to pull off a 40th Anniversary Mustang display including Shelbys and assorted Mustangs at the Baltimore convention center, on the same weekend that the World of Wheels was held at the new DC Convention Center. They had a *new Ford GT* there, as well as a *2005 Mustang* (photos too dark to use–sorry!). Thanks to *Rex Turner* (NCRMC member). *Enjoy!*













Washington D.C. World of Wheels

Several MAMA's BoyZ (awright, Walt Rook, my son nick, and I. Jeez!) made the trek to the new convention center in DC (using Metro) after last month's meeting to the WoW. Pretty good show, albeit more expensive than necessary, at \$12.00 (!) a head. Guess they want to pay for that new building in a hurry this year! Upon arrival back in MD, we were greeted with snow, and not a scraper between us! Back to reality! Enjoy!



Just yer average blown, black, Deuce!



The Fast Forward Fastback has 'Artertude' (i.e., the Irv Arter 'rake!'), don'tcha think?



Colorful, blown Vette. Looks like something Prez Lyle would build!

Trumpeter 1960 Pontiac

With performance credentials won on oval tracks and drag strips across America, the 1960 Pontiac Bonneville combined the clean style of California customs with race—proven 389 cubic inch power. The Bonneville was the top of the line Pontiac in 1960, riding on a 124" wheelbase, and a revolutionary 64" wide-track stance that could turn corners as easily as it could turn heads. With options ranging from tri-power carburetion, aluminum 8 lug wheels and leather bucket seating, Pontiac's Bonneville lived up to the title of "America's #1 Road Car". Coveted by enthusiastic drivers when new, and highly prized by



collectors today, the 1960 Pontiac Bonneville still remains as a benchmark of American style and performance.

This 1/25 scale replica is produced as the result of extensive research using actual vehicles and Pontiac specifications. Injection molded from high quality beryllium steel tooling, this model features white styrene, clear and plated parts, with vinyl tires. For added realism, the fully detailed hood and deck lid are operable and the steering is posable (*taken from the Trumpeter website*).

Stats:

A preview of what we can expect!

Length: 223 mm

Width: 82.5mm Height: 54.5mm

209 pieces (hardtop) 219 pieces (convertible)

Metal hood hinges

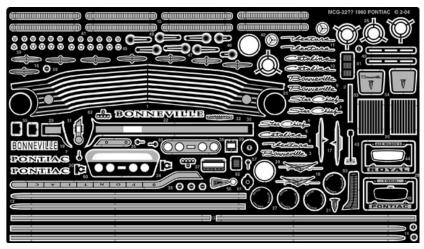
6 sprues plus body, plus 8 rubber tires (hardtop)

7 sprues plus body, plus 8 rubber tires (convertible)

Working steering Opening hood

Opening trunk lid

Complete engine & trunk details 🚆



Upcoming Model Car Garage photoetch set (as posted on the Hobby Heaven message board). Yowza!

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This 'n That

Profuse apologies! Yer fearless editor forgot to include the info in last month's newsletter that our own Norman and Mary Veber are again proud grandparents! This time, it's 8lb., 6oz. Evan Francis, born last month. Congrats to the proud parents, AND grandparents... Collectible Sale! By the time you read this, the Franklin *Mint closing sale* will be over! Their retail stores are closing forever, and are offering up to 75% off—everything must go! This deal was in effect only through January 31st. Ironically, I received a Franklin Mint catalog

(?!) a few days behind the closing sale post card—go figure!... GMP is on a tear, with the release of a new 1/24th scale diecast line! I received a mailing in early January, touting a black 1987 Buick GN, an Orbit Orange 1970 Judge convertible, and not one, but TWO Cyclone Spoiler *IIs*—the red/white *Cale*

Yarbotrough version, and the blue/white Dan Gurney edition! They all feature opening doors, hood, trunk, steerable wheels, down to and including keys in the ignition (on a GMP keyfob, no less!). They are set to sell for only \$119.95 each. But the neatest part of this is that apparently, they are also giving away the actual Spoiler II measured for these miniature masterpieces (Ed. Note: Why not the Judge, George?)! Not too much info was included though, so you'll have to go to their website (www. gmpdiecast.com) for more details.

Thanks, George!... Killer cases! If you need something to display all your really nice stuff in, well GMP **GMP Single door** is there again! They have available two outrageous display cases, which feature glass doors and shelves, mirrored backing, and lighted globes and interiors. They ain't cheap, though, with prices of \$1,695.00 (single door, 24 1/4" wide x 15" **GMP Double door**

\$2,195.00 (double door, 41 3/4" *wide x 15" deep x 6' high)*

deep x 6' high), and

Pony. While on that hated set to release a black 1969 Mustang Boss 429, with a black interior, and Magnum 500 wheels. It'll have opening doors, hood, trunk, steerable wheels via the steering wheel, and hinged sports slats on the rear window.

It'll set you back only \$115. payable in four monthly installments of \$28.75 (plus \$7.80 total shipping and service). You can reach 'em at Danbury Mint, 47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06857...Reference. Easton Press is taking orders for "Classic American Cars" (60 Greatest U. S. Cars of the past 60 Years), a large 192 page, leather-bound edition, accented w/24kt gold. It can be yours for only two payments of \$44 (includes shipping), and features a money-back guarantee.

Contact The Easton Press, 47 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT

> 06857, 1-800-367-4534...Roundyrounders in print. A new monthly magazine for NASCAR enthusiasts will be available this month. It

will be called American Thunder, and it'll cost just \$4.99...Now, anyone can at least walk in a

> Hummer owners' shoes, even if they can't afford the vehicle. **Hummer Footwear** will be selling waterproof outdoor boots, shearing

boots, and slippers. Prices will range anywhere from \$100 to \$300...New Stuff! In addition to the *Mack DM 800* in March, there will be a *Mack DM 600* and some Tobias Chassis modifieds—the Gremlin, the 40 Ford Coupe, and the 35 Chevy Sedan, as well as two MPC modifieds—the 36 Chevy Wild One, and the Pinto (plus more to come later). Thanks to Dave 'Model King' Burkett, and Len 'Fantastic Plastics' Feinberg...Blue Light Special! The hottest black market item in Coral Gables, Florida right now are high-intensity discharge headlights. You know, the ones that cast a bluish beam? These 'headlight thieves' are prying the lamps out of pricy cars (i.e., Porsche), and using the bulbs and transformers in casings of other cars. Damages to affected owners can reach \$7,000. I've seen the light!...World's Fastest Truck revisited! NASCAR driver Brendan Gaughan piloted a stock



respectively...Diecast subject, **Danbury Mint** is

(Continued on page 5)

T'n T (contd)

(Continued from page 4)

Dodge Ram SRT-10 off the Saltillo, Mexico, assembly line into the Guinness Book of World Records as the "World's Fastest Production Pickup Truck." The truck, which was not modified in any way for additional power or enhanced aerodynamics, posted a two-lap, two-way average speed of 154.587 mph over a "flying"

kilometer" on the 4.71-mile oval at the DaimlerChrysler Proving Grounds in Chelsea, Michigan, on Feb. 2. The record run was

certified by Guinness World Records and the Sports Car Club of America. The previous record was 147.54 mph, set last July by the Ford SVT F-150 Lightning, before the Ram SRT-10 went into production..."Blast from the Past?" Starting in January, Dodge will begin cranking out 3700 specialedition Ram SLTs with the "Rumble Bee" package. The truck gets no extra horsepower, but it will have unique body cladding, body-colored taillight guards, a hood scoop, chrome exhaust, 20-inch wheels and cool exterior graphics and interior trim, including Rumble Bee logos on the door inserts, and a numbered badge. Like its namesake, the truck comes in two colors, yellow and black. Package price is \$2,600, available only on the Ram 1500 SLT regular cab, two- or four-wheel-drive models...Bigengined Caddys to return? The Cadillac Escalade SUV will muscle into the fast lane with a V-10 or V-12 engine, possibly as early as the 2006 model year. The move is in keeping with General Motors' plans to create a series of *exclusive high-performance cars* and *SUVs* for Cadillac called the V Series. The first of those models, the CTS-V sports sedan, is in showrooms, and is powered by a Corvette V-8, and costs \$49,300. GM is building a plant in Wixom, Mich., to produce engines for low-volume, high-performance vehi-

cles. Engineers are testing on Detroit roads at least four high-performance engines in a fleet of Escalades. Engineers

have reportedly shoehorned the 16-cylinder engine from the Cadillac Sixteen concept car into one. But that engine, rated at 1,000 hp, may be too expensive to produce. The most likely big displacement engine for the highperformance Escalade is the Northstar-based XV-12, which fits in the same space as the vehicle's current optional 6.0-liter V-8. That means the Escalade could get a V-12 without extensive reworking of the sheet metal. The Escalade is scheduled for a redesign in 2007 or 2008. A highperformance engine for 2006 would help keep interest in the current model strong while Cadillac prepares the next version... Rocket Scientist?! A man who drove an old car into a pond in a failed attempt to jump over it. Evel Knievel-style, has been sentenced to 270 days in jail. Wayland Justin Williams, 24, of Sheridan, pleaded guilty Tuesday

to property destruction, dispensing an offensive matter in a pond and abandoning a motor vehicle on state land. Circuit Judge John Sampson fined him \$690. For driving through a fence, Williams must also pay \$200 to a rancher who holds a state permit to graze livestock on the land. According to court documents, Williams polluted the bass pond with oil and gasoline when he drove the old **Buick** into it. States the Sheridan County sheriff's report: "Wayland claimed he had tried to jump the pond with the green Buick, and that he would have made it had he built a ramp." The incident and other damage to the 8,000-acre tract of state land prompted the state Board of Land Commissioners to close the area to motorized vehicles Jan. 1st to July 1st. Sheriff Dave Hofmeier was pleased with the sentence. "It's also nice to see a severe punishment for damaging our state lands. This will be a message to the rest of the public, and hopefully we can get better care of our state lands," he said... GTO Drifter?!? General Motors officials confirmed the Pontiac division will tap former U.S. rally racer-cum-aftermarket parts guru Rhys Millen to take a factory-sponsored Pontiac GTO into the Sports Car Club of America's Formula Drift Series. The new racing series kicks off in April in Atlanta. Drifting is a form of motorsports (?) developed mostly in Japan and new to the United States that calls for drivers to control a car while sliding it sideways at high speeds through a marked course. It is similar to

(Continued on page 7)

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Model Buffet

This column will continue to appear depending upon the flow of information and new products of interest to MAMA members.

Bob Korunow, proprietor of **Model Car Garage**, is hot on the release of the upcoming **Trumpeter 1960 Bonneville**, with a photoetch set (refer to related story on page 3).

From our own Lyle Willits (by way of Matt Guilfoyle!), comes info about getting Model Car Garage photoetch sets chrome and/or gold plated. The company, listed below, is working in conjunction with

Bob Korunow (MCG) and if you request a *plated* PE set, Bob can have it plated before sending it to you. *OR* (as I understand it) you can contact the plater directly and he will get the PE set from Bob Korunow and send it directly to you after plating. Also, if you already have a PE set from MCG, you can send it in to be plated. Interested? Contact Jernigan II, 1929 Cleveland Street, Clearwater, FL. 33765, Phone: 727-298-8838 (He'll be at NNL East, at Bob's table).

Eduard, longtime aftermarket supplier to the aircraft and armor crowd, has introduced a line of 1/24th scale Sparco/Sabelt fourpoint seatbelts in pre-finished photo-etch. The sets, which retail for \$9.95 each, are currently offered in Black, Blue, Red, and

Yellow. These are available direct from Eduard (http://www.eduard.com/) or from David Durst at Scale Race Cars (http://www.scaleracecars.com/).

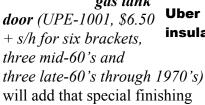
If you're looking to be the next *Bill Geary* or *Larry Boothe*, a new aftermarket company offering photoetch parts will make your job a bit easier. Dennis Braun of *Ubermodel (http://public.fotki.*

com/ubermodel/) debuts two products in

1960 Ford set, chrome

and gold plated.

1/24-1/25 scale. The 1960's-1970's GM rear license plate bracketgas tank

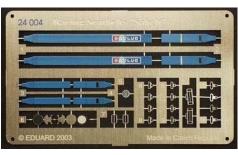


will add that special finishing touch to make your model shine when you just can't stand to slap on another set of kit license plate decals.

The second introductory item is a set of *Hood Insulation Retainers* (UPE-1401, \$6.50 + s/h for a package of 24 square and 24



Uber Model rear tag frames.



Eduard 1/24th scale seatbelt sets

round retainers) for 1960's &

1970's vehicles. These pieces will really set off all the hard work detailing the engine of your latest creation.

Thanks again to our own *Matt Guilfoyle* for his diligence in bringing us this column! Remember, if you find something interesting, lemme know, and I'll run it here, with proper credit given, natch!



Uber Model hood insulation clips.

WANTED—Revell kit # 85-7661, Blue Max Mustang funny car. Contact Chuck Connor, (301) 737-0528, or e-mail cconnor@gmpexpress.net.

WANTED–(3) sets of *1957 Chevy flip-nose taillights*, or someone able to cast parts. Call Russ Kirkpatrick, (410) 905-5419

WANTED-MPC "Super Stocker" complete kit of any body style, or any parts. I have two bodies (Mustang & Cuda) and most of the Cuda chassis. I would like to be able to build both cars but would be happy if I could finish either. If any one has an extra kit lying around for sale or trade please let me know. JC Reckner, 410-923-3699

□

T'n T (contd)

(Continued from page 5)

rally racing but is done on a closed, paved course. It is judged on execution and style rather than just time. So-called tuners compose its largest audience, according to SCCA officials. In addition, an announcement that Pontiac will also take the **GTO** road racing in **Grand-Am** next year with the Pratt & Miller team is expected in the near future. Pratt & Miller runs the Corvette ALMS program as well as the Cadillac CTS-V in the SCCA Speed World Challenge. NOW, I know why GM pulled Pontiac out of NHRA (I was waitin' to see a Pro Stock 2004 GTO!) and NASCAR—so they could go after all those 'Tooners' out there, who can't afford a GTO anyway! What're they thinkin'?!?...Greenbacks from Heaven? Police in Iowa spent almost an hour retrieving approximately \$87,000 in cash money that *spilled from the rear* of an armored car and was swept into a snowy field by high winds. A bag containing the money apparently spilled across US 61 after it 'somehow' fell out the open (?) rear door of the armored car. The driver stopped when he noticed the green 'storm' in his rear view mirror... "Bad boys, bad boys. Whatcha gonna do?" Police in Ohio have added a small musical twist to the booby-trapped car they entice would-be car thieves with. It is now rigged to play the theme from the TV show "Cops" when officers disable the engine, lock the doors, and nab

Lyle Willits Collectible Cover PPY HOLIDAYS OD) IL RAT RODS: Hot Trend or **Excuse For** Crappy Modelers? Scratchbur Tiny Reindeer * * * *UNCOVERED DIECAST SALES FUND Free-Merry Christmas TERRORISTS ACTI

the crooks! "Whatcha gonna do when they come for you indeed!"...Mo' Money Road Trips! The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission just unanimously voted to raise tolls an average of 42 percent (effective August 1st) for all vehicles, making this the first increase in 13 years...Getting

'Sauced!' A recent truck accident on a stretch of Interstate 70 on the freeway near Zanesville, Ohio spilled 40,000 pounds of ketchup, tomato juice, and spaghetti sauce. Pasta, anyone? (Thanks to the Washington Times, autoweek.com, as well as other Internet sources for this insanity!)

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\$\$\$ Ouch!!!

What a waste of a perfectly good Buick!!



Classic Anchor?!

** Nove to the state of the sta

BALDWIN ROAD - PARSIPPANY, N.J.

For Show Information: Ken Walkley (201) 556-0270 + Email-TSSMCC KJW@aol.com

Tom Geiger (732) 264-9305 + Email-Medicitizn@aol.com

Eleven Cubans trying to sail to Florida in a *Buick* converted into a *tailfin-ned boat* were intercepted at sea by the Coast Guard and will be returned.

Marciel Basanta Lopez and Luis Grass Rodriguez, who turned the classic into a floating vessel, tried a similar stunt last summer and got caught: They set out for Florida in a *1951 Chevy pickup* with empty 55-gallon drums for pontoons, and a propeller that pushed it along at about 8 mph.

Recently, they set out again, with four other adults and five children. The Coast Guard intercepted them about 90 miles southwest of Miami.

The Coast Guard sank the Buick. They refused to confirm the floating car's status, but used machine gun fire to sink the vehicle-powered barge.

The Buick's doors were sealed to keep water out and it was powered by its original nail head V-8.

"My cousin isn't crazy. He wants to be free," Basanta Lopez's cousin Kiriat Lopez told The Miami Herald.

Gee, what's this guy gonna use the next time?!

TAUTOSHOW

- Mar. 6th-Birmingham Classic 2004, sponsored by The Magic City Car Modelers and IPMS Birmingham, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Clay-Chalkville High School. This years' theme is **TV Tuners**—and if tuners aren't your thing, just build your favorite movie or TV show car! Show info: Tim Kolankewicz, 1028 J Eagle View Dr. Birmingham, AL 35212, TimKustom@aol.com. Vendor info: Dan Morgan, Magic City Car modelers, P.O. Box 988 Cullman, Al 35056.
- March 21st-MD Model Car, Diecast & Kit Collector's Meet, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p. m. at the MD City Fire department, on Route 198. Info: oltoyland@aol.com, www. oldtoylandshows.com.
- March 27th-18th Annual NNL East, sponsored by the Tri-State Model Car Club, at the Parsippany P.A.L. building, on Baldwin Road, in Parsippany, NJ., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Themes are "The Big Four-Oh!" (marques that celebrate their 40th Anniversary), and "Gone But Not Forgotten" (model companies no longer with us). Info: Ken Walkley, TSSMCCKJW@aol. com, or Tom Geiger Modl-Citizn@aol.com.
- Mar. 27th−PENNCON 2004

 Model Show and Competition
 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the
 Holiday Inn South, exit 40A
 off RT 83, in New Cumberland, PA. Info: Robbin

- Crossley (717) 236-4866; email: RLCTTFN@aol.com, or Allen Chubb (717) 362-1120; email: Chubbins@epix. net
- April 4th–Capitol Miniature
 Auto Collectors Club Spring
 Meet, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at
 the Dunn Loring VFD on Gallows Road. Info: (703) 9410373, jwbrostrom@yahoo.
 com.
- **April 24th Annual Car & Truck Show, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Eastern Technical High School, in Essex, MD. Info: (410) 887-0190 (Rain

- date: Saturday, May 8th).
- May 8th-Mid-Atlantic NNL
 Model Car Show an Swap
 Meet, sponsored by the MD
 Automotive modelers Association, Central PA Model Car
 Club, and Midnight Modelers, at the Ruhl Armory, in Towson, MD, from 9 a.m. to 3
 p.m. Themes this year are 50s
 Style Hot Rods, and Resin
 Kits. Show info: Lyle Willits,
 MAMAprez@aol.com; vendor info: Norman Veber, (410)
 768-3648.

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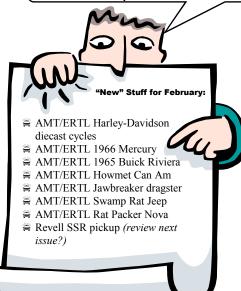
MINIMUM OF A COMPLETE RESIN BODY

This is the newsletter of the Maryland Automotive Modelers Association

Chapter Contact:

Timothy Sickle 15905 Ark Court Bowie, Maryland 20716 Phone: 301-249-3830 Email: gtoguy@mindspring.com

MAMA's BoyZ do it in scale!



R.I.P. (contd)

(Continued from page 1)

closed sum, and began producing the engines in England.

Buick's chief engineer, Joe Turlay, retired, moving to England to work for Rover. He helped Rover set up the production lines and improved casting of the aluminum block, heads, and pistons.

When the redesigned Land Rover Discovery comes to the U.S. next year, it will be powered by an overhead-cam Jag engine, not the aluminum V8 Land Rover has used since 1970.

The engine has seen duty in Buicks, Oldsmobiles, Rovers, Land Rovers, MGs, Tri-

umphs, Morgans, Marcos's, and TVRs.

When the engine re-entered the American market, it had undergone a major transformation, via

modern electronic fuel injection, electronic ignition system, and a stiffer block.

Place a new Rover engine next to the original Buick-built version, and you would

never know the two are related. The valve covers, ignition system, water pump and fuel system have all been improved over the years, while displacement has grown from 3.5-liters (215 cubic inches) to 4.6 liters (288 cubic inches).

We're on the web! http://www.toadmail.com/~mama/

Late Breaking!

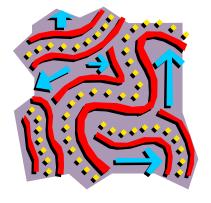
For those of you unaware, *MAMA's Boy Bob Ege* has been experiencing some medical problems since late last year. They actually caused him to miss the *Christmas party meeting* (so, you KNOW they must have been serious!). Bob needs some cheering up. For updates on Bob's condition, or to contact him to cheer him up, call *Ray Wickline* at (301) 474-7563, or e-mail *Lois-rayW@aol.com*. I'm sure Bob would love to hear from you!

Still more sad news. Long-time *MCCA member Ray Denney* suffered a *massive stroke* earlier this month, and was unable to recover. His wife Carole is very appreciative of the outpouring of support in this difficult time.

Directions

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 offramp, stay to the right and merge right onto Southway (see below).

From the Washington Beltway (RT 495/95): 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 (read on!)



Once on Southway: Go straight to the second (2nd) STOP sign.

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