



MAMA Sez!

Volume 38, Issue 5 February, 2026

“Serving Delmarva Car Modelers for 37 Years!”



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

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2026 MAMA Schedule

We meet in our new location, the **Salaried Employees Association (SEA) Union Hall**, 1300 Hanover Road, Hanover, MD 21076, on the schedule listed below, from **10 am to 2 pm**:

- 🔊 January 17th
- 🔊 February 21st
- 🔊 March 21st
- 🔊 April 18th
- 🔊 May—**No Meeting!**
- 🔊 June 20th
- 🔊 July 18th
- 🔊 August 15th
- 🔊 September 19th
- 🔊 October 17th
- 🔊 November 21st
- 🔊 December 19th (10-3!)

Hope to see you there 🍷

Show Season Commences!

January was another in a long line of well attended meetings, especially given the whispers of a “weather event.”

The main topic of discussion was MAMA NNL prep by the officers. Please remember that this is a team effort, so please step up and volunteer to help out at the show. Thanks!

Before I forget, here’s a quick shout-out to **Susan Lewis**, for the bagged chocolate chip cookies available to hungry MAMA members.

Ron Shirey did his usual excellent work on what to expect with regard to upcoming releases.

The “**Pontiac Garage**” was onsite as

usual.

The raffle raised **\$116.00**, while the door added **\$243.00 (!)**. Paid the rent again—and then some! Thanks to the following donors: **Bill Booz, Brad, Bruce Black, Steve M. Buter, Mike Costic, Matt Guilfoyle, Greg Johnson** (northern VA benefac-

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Condolences

Ed “Isky” Iskenderian, a hot-rodding pioneer and beloved figure in the automotive world passed away in early February at **104 years old**. From a young age, Isky learned to tinker with cars, making something ordinary, extraordinary. After serving in the Second World War, he returned to start a business grinding custom camshafts for a generation of hot rodders, hungry for more horsepower. His home-grown

expertise and larger than life personality made him a landmark in the

automotive world and earned him the nickname, “The Camfather.”

It is deeply saddening to hear of his passing, though he leaves behind a legacy of technical know-how, history, and passion for the automobiles we know and love.

Godspeed, “Camfather”—*Assorted Sources* 🍷

Edward “Isky” Iskenderian



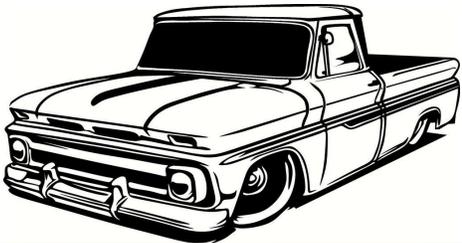
July 10, 1921 – February 4, 2026

“THE CAM FATHER”
Rest in Peace



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MAMA Meeting



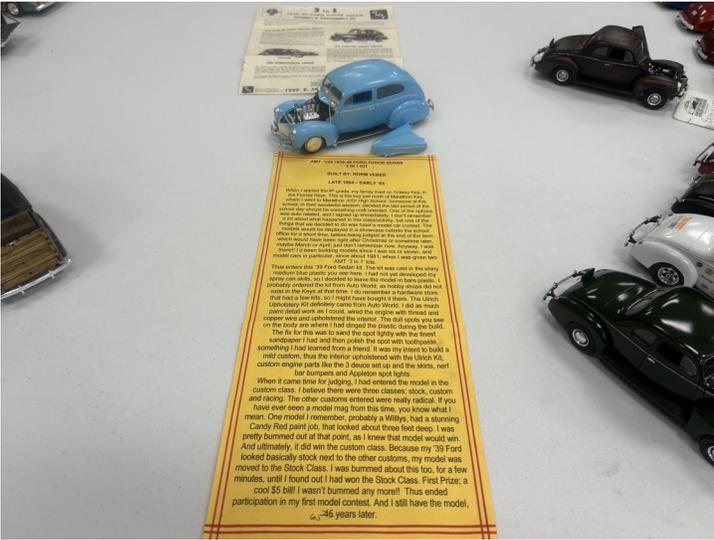
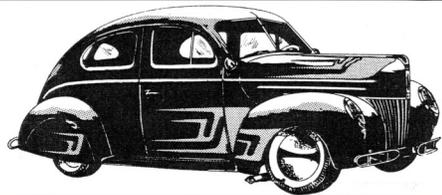
MAMA Meeting



Raffle Goodies!



Theme Table



AMT 1/25 1939-40 FORD TUDOR SEDAN
 BUILT BY: NORM VEBER
 LATE 1964 - EARLY '65

When it came time for judging, I had entered the model in the custom class. I believe there were three classes, stock, custom and racing. The other customs entered were really radical. If you have ever seen a model map from this time, you know what I mean. One model I remember, probably a Willys, had a stunning Candy Red paint job that looked about three feet deep. I was pretty bummed out at that point, as I knew that model would win. And ultimately, it did win the custom class. Because my '39 Ford looked basically stock next to the other customs, my model was moved to the Stock Class. I was bummed about this too, for a few minutes, until I found out I had won the Stock Class. First Prize: a cool '65 Buick I wasn't bummed any more! This ended participation in my first model contest. And I still have the model, 46 years later.

ated the 8th grade, my family

M.O.M*

The January honoree for this “official unofficial” award is **MAMA’s Boy Marcos Cruz.**

Cruz started out with the **Revell Land Rover.**

It was meant for a co-worker who owns a late model Land Rover himself.

Aftermarket items include:

- ◆ The farm jack on top of the hood, front rear bumpers and wheels and tires (*including he rear-mounted spare*) are from Fireball Modelworks
- ◆ The winch at the front is a 3D print from MCV Products
- ◆ Paint is True Colors Light Green

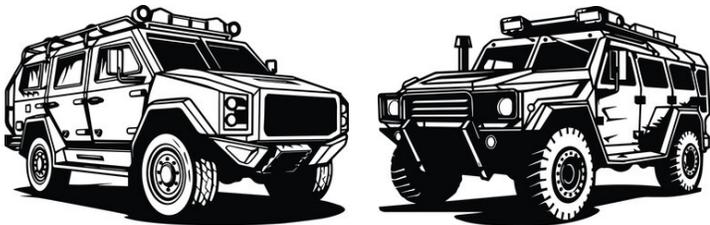
The front and rear bumpers are designed to be used on the Revell Broncos, but Cruz made a few little modifications to get them in place.

He did not have to modify the ride height, just very little details to get those Fireball Modelworks rims and tires replacing the kit provided rolling stock.

The True Colors Light Green was overcoated with a 2K Clear for the gloss.

The kit builds like a dream without any kind of issues.

Great job on a unique kit subject, Cruz—Tim 🍷



'GMC' has issued product recalls for the following vehicles:

- ◆ **65 2024-25 Chevy Blazer EVs** (20 in the US, and 45 in Canada) due to an issue with the rear parking brake wiring harness. It addresses electric crossovers that may have been repaired incorrectly under a recall issued last year. The units may have a condition in which the rear parking brake wiring harness becomes damaged or corroded, resulting in unintended actuation of the parking brake or loss of parking brake function. Although a recall of this problem was issued in 2025, some units may have been serviced with an incorrect chassis harness. If the parking brake actuates while driving, there is an increased risk of a crash. If the parking brake function is lost, the vehicle may roll away while unattended, also increasing the risk of a crash. Dealers will inspect the harness and, if necessary, reroute the harness and install anti-abrasive tape. If a damaged harness is found, it will be replaced.

'GMC' will notify owners of affected vehicles via letter, and instruct them to make an appointment with their local dealer.

A new analysis from **Consumer Reports** delivers a pointed warning for used car shoppers considering certain 'GMC' vehicles, pinpointing specific models and years with a record of **"much worse-than-average reliability."** This assessment extends beyond recall notices to highlight vehicles that may drain owners' wallets

through repeated, inconvenient repairs long after the warranty has expired.

The 'GMC' models flagged for poor reliability in the 2024 analysis are concerning for their breadth, covering popular SUVs, crossovers, trucks, and EVs. The list includes the **2025 Cadillac XT5, 2024 Chevy Blazer EV, 2021 Chevy Bolt EV, and the 2025 Chevy Colorado and Equinox.** Also cited are the large **2021 Chevy Suburban and Tahoe**, along with their **GMC counterparts, the 2021 Yukon and Yukon XL.** The **2025 GMC Acadia, Canyon, and Terrain** round out the warning. As a bonus, the GM-built **2024 Honda Prologue** is also on the list.

While some platformmates find themselves sharing spots on the list, there are also some confusing inconsistencies. For example, the Chevy Tahoe and Suburban, GMC Yukon and Yukon XL from the 2021 model year are all on the list of cars to avoid, but the Cadillac Escalade isn't. Similarly, the 2024 Chevy Blazer EV and Honda Prologue are on the list, but the Cadillac Lyriq and Acura ZDX aren't. The GMC Acadia is on the list, but the Chevy Traverse

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and Buick Enclave aren't. It's a reminder that predicted reliability ratings should be taken with a grain of salt, regardless of how good the data on which they're based is.

For buyers determined to avoid costly mistakes, the advice is straightforward but essential. First, always check a specific vehicle's VIN for open recalls at NHTSA's website, as used car dealers are not legally required to fix them before sale. Second, con-

'GMC' Recall Ticker

of Recalls
350 (!)

of Vehicles Affected
59,161,339

(Continued on page 14)

C8 Watch

A man in Colorado is pointing to divine intervention after he crashed his newly purchased C8 into a parked Ford pickup truck.

According to KRDO13, the incident occurred in mid-January, in Colorado Springs, where police say the C8 left the roadway, crossed the sidewalk, and smashed into the parked Ford. The impact forced the C8 underneath the pickup truck, damaging both vehicles in the process. Luckily, no injuries were reported as a result of the crash. The C8 in question appears to be a 2020-model-year Stingray 3LT Convertible with 79,139 miles on the clock, per Levi's Auto Sales Facebook page.

Photos from the scene quickly spread online, prompting speculation about the cause of the crash. In response, the C8's driver spoke with KRDO13 to explain what he says led to the collision.

According to the driver, he experienced what appears to be a sudden medical episode moments before losing control of the vehicle. The driver told the outlet that

while driving near Pikes Peak Avenue, his eyes crossed and he believed he saw a place to turn. He then said he has no memory of what happened after that point.

The driver also described regaining awareness after the crash. According to his account, he asked his passenger "are you ready?", only to be told by his passenger that he had just crashed the C8. Smith said he did not initially believe her until she pointed out the pickup truck resting on top of their vehicle.

Doctors reportedly believe Smith may have suffered a seizure, though no official diagnosis has been made.

According to the driver, the C8 symbolized a fresh start after his release from prison four years ago after spending more than two decades incarcerated on robbery charges. Since then, the driver said he has worked to help others



turn their lives around and hopes that sharing his experience encourages people to prioritize their health.

driver said. Orlando firefighters faced an unusual recovery task recently when they spotted a flash of metallic red where it didn't belong—***partially submerged in a roadside retention pond.*** The vehicle, quickly identified as a C8 Stingray, was lodged in the water near the busy interchange of State Road 417 and State Road 528. Dive teams from the Orlando Fire Department and Orange County Fire Rescue swiftly responded to the scene.

The department's social media post stated the facts plainly: "Orlando fire crews noticed a vehicle partially submerged in water in Orange County near the 417 and 528 ramp." Their subsequent operation confirmed the essential, and perhaps strangest, detail: nobody was inside the luxury sports car or in the surrounding water. The driver had vanished.

This left authorities and onlookers with a pressing question: how does a modern C8, a machine with a starting price well north of \$70,000, end up abandoned in a pond? The car suffered visible front-end damage, but the muddy, alligator-prone water

(Continued on page 12)



turn their lives around and hopes that sharing his experience encourages people to prioritize their health.

"It's kinda symbolic because for me, when I walked out of prison God had my hand and he was leading me," the

THE BIG SIT - 2026

FEBRUARY 28,,, 10AM - 2PM



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1:25

2005 MITSUBISHI **LANCER EVOLUTION VIII**

am

1/25 SCALE MODEL KIT
MODELE À L'ÉCHELLE 1/25

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Huge Modeler's Drawing
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Judges' Best In Show • Best Junior
Best Aircraft • Best Automotive • Best Diorama • Best Figure
Best Mecha • Best Maritime • Best Military Vehicle
Best Real Space & Sci-Fi

Doors open at 8:30 a.m.

Model Registration:

8:30 a.m - 12:00 p.m.

Judging Starts at 12:30 p.m.



Richmond Raceway Complex

The Old Dominion Building

600 E. Laburnum Ave.

Richmond, VA 23222

Model Entry (cash only): \$20 for up to 20 models

General Admission (cash only): ages 13 & older: \$10.00 / ages 12 & under: free

General inquiries, please contact Bob Walls: robertwalls@comcast.net

IPMSRVA.org



@Rick_Da_Builder Presents:

Model Cars & Coffee

**\$10.00 Per Person
Children Under 12 Free**



Sunday March 22, 2026 9am -2pm

312 Gernant's Church RD. Leesport, PA 19533

No Trophies or Rewards

There will be vendors, Bring as many cars as you want.

Contact: rickyscarsandcoffee@yahoo.com

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The **Tri-State Scale Model Car Club**

Presents:

THE **38th** ANNUAL

NNLTM East

- MODEL CAR SHOW
- SCALE MARKETPLACE
- AFTERMARKET VENDORS

Show Theme:
The 63rd Anniversary of 1963

Sub Theme:
250th Anniversary of USA
The Red, White & Blue!

SATURDAY, April 25 2026 9:00AM TO 4:00PM
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TOM GEIGER (732) 687-8171

EMAIL: NNLEAST@AOL.COM

FOR THE LATEST SHOW INFORMATION, GO TO WWW.NNLEAST.COM

C8 (cont'd)

(Continued from page 7)

likely sealed its fate as a total loss. Without a driver to explain, speculation filled the void. Common theories circulating online point to a stolen vehicle joyride, an attempt at insurance fraud, or a driver under the influence fleeing the scene. As one online commenter joked on the recovery photos, “Dry it off and bring it to me.”

The incident underscores a bizarre, but recurring trend of late-model vehicles, particularly high-performance ones, being discovered in similar circumstances. While the C8's mid-engine layout provides thrilling grip on pavement, it clearly offers no advantage in aquatic environments. The Orlando Fire Department completed its recovery mission with professional efficiency, but the mystery of the pond-bound Stingray remains entirely unresolved. Until the driver comes forward or further evidence surfaces, the story of this sunken American sports car will remain a curious footnote in local automotive lore.

“C8 abuse” to the extreme!

The 2026 C8 ZR1X already looks great, but ‘GMC’ took things a step further by building a one-of-a-kind version sporting a subtle Stars & Steel-inspired design. The special C8 was recently auctioned for charity at Barrett-Jackson on January 24th, 2026, hammering for a cool **\$2.6 million**.

The 2026 C8 ZR1X Stars & Stripes commemorates the 250th anniversary of the US, kitted out

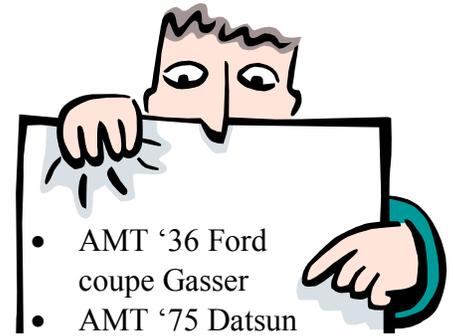
with a Stars & Steel graphics package inspired by the American flag. It was hand-painted at the GM Design Fabrication shop and features a Dark Satin Steel finish over a Santorini Blue interior. The sports car is shot through with blue accents like brake calipers and special blue accents on the Carbon Aero rear wing. Note that this one-off build is not part of the Stars & Steel Limited Edition Corvette models, although it sports a similar exterior design.

Unsurprisingly, *Corvette aficionado and champion NASCAR team owner Rick Hendrick placed the winning bid*. He'll get the chance to build the twin-turbocharged 5.5L V8 LT7 engine that delivers power to the rear wheels of the 2026 C8 ZR1X. That engine works in tandem with an electric drive unit up front, delivering a combined 1,250 horsepower. Hendrick will also be the first customer to take delivery of a C8 at the GM Design Dome, and will get a package of memorabilia to go with it.

All **\$2,605,000** of the 2026 C8 ZR1X Stars & Steel will benefit the *Tunnel to Towers Foundation*. The organization was selected as the recipient in recognition of its mission to mortgage-free homes to Gold Star and fallen first responder families with young children, building custom smart homes for injured veterans and first responders, plus providing housing and services for homeless veterans.

For comparison, the “regular” ZR1X 1LZ coupe without the Stars & Steel Limited Edition treatment starts at **\$209,595**—*Assorted Sources* 🇺🇸

Ron's Rant



- AMT '36 Ford coupe Gasser
- AMT '75 Datsun BRE pickup
- AMT '77 “Stranger Things” GMC “The Squawk” van
- AMT '05 Mitsubishi Lancer EVO VIII
- Moebius '63 Nova SS convertible
- Moebius '63 Nova SS hardtop
- Moebius '78 Monte Carlo Landau
- Revell '24 Mustang GT 🇺🇸

(1/25th, unless noted)



Don Keege's
**PONCHO
 PERFECTION**



Given that this year, Pontiac celebrates their *100th Anniversary*, last month I brought the “long and short” of Pontiac’s lengthy history.

The “long”—the *brown ‘65 Bonneville*, a part of my ever-increasing “*Rebuilding Excitement*” collection.

The “short”—Pontiac’s innovative compact in the form of my *Purple ‘61 Tempest 4-door sedan*.

Here’s hoping that you all will keep bringin’ and showin’ ‘em! ‘*PoP*’ (Pontiacs on Parade!) Sickle signin’ off! And don’t forget—MAMA may not need all these Ponchos, but I’m diggin’ ‘em. Thanks!!
 —Tim 🍷



This is the newsletter of the
Maryland Automotive Modelers
Association

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25405
Email: goguy@verizon.net

MAMAs BoyZ do it in scale!



SAVE THE TIGER

Feb. Theme

This month's theme is *commercial vehicles*. Bring whatever your fertile imaginations can conceive of (*and you my need to be even more creative!*). So, let's all dig deep or raid your display cases, stashes or finish bench projects to display at the meeting, okay? Again, thanks to the *MAMA Presidential Monthly Theme selection sub-committee*, including *Don Sutherland, Lyle Willits, and Dino Lewis*—Tim 🍷

Gov't (cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)

sider investing in a pre-purchase inspection from an independent mechanic to uncover any hidden mechanical issues. Finally, consider consistently reliable alternatives. *Consumer Reports'* data show that brands like Toyota and

Lexus consistently rank at the top for long-term reliability, offering a safer harbor for your investment, whether in new or used vehicles.

Just goes to show you that 'GMC' can screw up a Honda—*Assorted sources* 🍷



A MEME SO GOOD



NO WORDS NEEDED!

VeePee Haiku

What follows is a model car themed Haiku poem (5-7-5 format) submitted by MAMA Prez Tim Powers, intended as both filler and entertainment:

I build model cars

Chop, channel, section, swap parts

Cannot build box stock—*Tim Powers* 🍷



Websites

Central PA Model Car Club:

<https://www.cpmcc.org>

LIARS Model Car Club:

<https://www.longislandautoreplica.com/>

NNL East:

<https://www.nnleast.com/>

Carlisle Events:

<https://www.carlisleevents.com>

East Coast Indoor Nationals:

<https://motoramaproductions.com/east-coast-indoor-nats>

Online Event Calendar:

www.NortheastWheelsEvents.com

Intro (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

tor), Dean Lewis, Mark Mason, Dave Matiko, Rich Meany, George Openhym, Mark Parkhurst, Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD (Norman), Ron Shirey, and Vinny Tufano. Thanks guys—we appreciate it—Tim 🍷



Classifieds

WANTED: Unbuilt/rebuildable Pontiacs (*any scale?*)—Tempests, GTOs, Catalinas, Venturas, Bonnevilles, Grand Prixs, and Firebirds. Also interested in empty Pontiac kit boxes and instructions. Contact me at goguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting. Thanks! (*Tim Sickle*) 🍷

We're on the web!

<http://www.mamasboyz.org/>

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Newsletter Editor: Tim Sickle, goguy@verizon.net

Club Photog: Lyle Willits 🍷

