

# MARYLAND AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS ASSOCIATION

**Volume 2, No.10 June 1990**

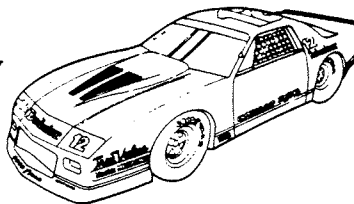
Editor: Tim Sickle

About 25 people attended the May meeting which was highlighted by a filling demonstration conducted by Frank Collins which extolled the virtues of using Milliput epoxy putty in place of regular filler. Ease of application, no shrinkage and easy clean up are some of the bonuses. Thanks, Frank! I'm sure this clinic opened more than just my eyes! Another highlight of this meeting was the reappearance of our wayward President Norm! Seems as though he isn't quite finished with the job in sunny Florida, he's back to replenish his dwindling stock and will finish the job later this year. On the down side though, he dropped a bombshell on the meeting attendees. Effective immediately, Norman is stepping down as President! It was a very hard decision on his part, but business commitments require his full attention. This means that if we intend to sponsor a model car contest next year, we all must work that much harder because Norman cannot devote any time whatsoever to this endeavor! For the time being, Larry "Hot Rod" Boothe will assume all Presidential duties while Jerry Flynn will become acting Vice President. I'm sure that if Norm needs it, anyone in this club would give him any help they can (seeing as he has helped many club members in this club out in one way or another!)

The May raffle raised \$58.00. The club would like to thank the raffle donors as shown below: Harold Bradford, Tim Sickle & Replicas & Miniatures Co. of Md. Special thanks also go to those as shown below:

Charlie Atkinson,  
Family Hobbies  
5411 East Drive  
Baltimore, Md. 21227

Jerry & Nina Flynn,  
Detail Depot  
7901 West End Drive  
Baltimore, Md. 21226



John O'Neill,  
AMT/ERTL  
Highways 136 & 20  
Dyersville, Ia. 52040

Joe Formato,  
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\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE ! \*\*\*\*\*

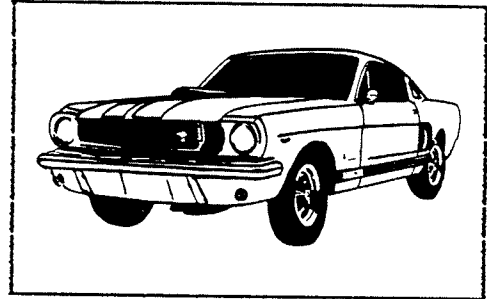
It's my understanding that we will be in Room K-100 for the months of June, July & August & then back to Q-305 for September. An Questions?

## MAMA's Boys

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by: Tim Powers

At 31 years young, Rex Turner, MAMA's undisputed Ford Fanatic (Ed. Note: First On Race Day, Eh Rex?) is just beginning his second year of marriage to his supportive wife, Maryanne. I suppose that even deranged Ford fans need understanding and support. Now that I think about it, they probably need even more than the rest of us. But seriously, you gotta give Rex a lot of credit for the way he handles all the Ford fan abuse heaped on him by this club.



Although Rex is a self-described passionate modeler, a good portion of his day is taken up by working as a Tax Analyst for MCI in Washington, D.C. Tax Analyst, huh? Does that mean he's the guy that puts tacks on chairs for people to sit on? Sort of a bun pun, get it? Never mind, ya hadda be there!

Here's what Rex has to say—it's gotta be better than my poor jokes (Amen to that!)

**MAMA:** Do you spend a lot of money on the hobby?

**Rex:** No, not in relation to what other people spend on other hobbies, e.g. R/C cars, trains, etc.

**MAMA:** How long have you been building model cars?

**Rex:** 15+ years, or half my life (Ed. Note: whichever comes first?)

**MAMA:** What were the first model car kits you built?

**Rex:** Not sure, probably a snap kit of some kind.

**MAMA:** What sparked your interest in model cars?

**Rex:** My third real car was a 1972 Mustang Mach I. I began collecting and building Mustang kits of all years as well as some Matchbox and other diecasts. I also bought and built Cobras, GT-40's, and Panteras.

**MAMA:** How many built and unbuilt kits do you have in your collection?

**Rex:** I have 93 unbuilt and 21 built kits. Most are 1/24 & 1/25 scale, but I also have some 1/43 scale metal and resin kits, and some snap kits and large scale kits.

**MAMA:** What kind of work area do you have? Is it dedicated to model building?

**Rex:** A dining room table which is also occasionally used for eating. All my tools and paints are kept in Tupperware containers.

**MAMA:** Where do you do your painting?

**Rex:** I paint outside on my balcony. Obviously, I'm limited as to what days I can paint so I usually paint as many bodies as I can when the weather is nice.

**MAMA:** What kinds of paints do you use?

**Rex:** Usually, Testor's Model Master or Car Colors and sometimes Dupli-color for special projects.

**MAMA:** What kinds of special tools & equipment do you have?  
**Rex:** Nothing unusual. I don't have an airbrush. I have a good selection of drill bits, files, tweezers, brushes and flexi-grit sandpaper.

**MAMA:** Do you keep a big spare parts inventory for swapping?  
**Rex:** I have more parts than I could use on existing kits because of kits having multiple engine, wheel options, etc. I usually don't buy a kit just for the spare parts.

**MAMA:** Do you use cottage industry products?  
**Rex:** Yes, but I have not used them very much. Most of the models I build are box stock. I try to build them as clean as possible and I don't feel you have to use "extras" to win contests. It's great to have all the different parts available, unlike when I first began building car models.

**MAMA:** Do you build other types of models?  
**Rex:** I built all types of models as a child but I have narrowed my interests to Mustangs and other exotic Fords.

**MAMA:** Do you find that your modeling skills carry over from one type of modeling to another?  
**Rex:** If I ever build a diorama I will use my automobile skills to make a racing garage or other similar type of scene.

**MAMA:** What's your favorite type of model car to build?  
**Rex:** As if you couldn't figure that one out by now.

**MAMA:** What's your favorite scale to build in?  
**Rex:** 1/24 & 1/43. Larger scales take up a lot of room.

**MAMA:** What is your favorite model company?  
**Rex:** Revell and Monogram are my favorites. They are more accurate than AMT/MPC/ERTL in my opinion.

**MAMA:** What older kits would you like to see reissued?  
**Rex:** A '67 or '68 Mustang fastback and a '65 or '66 convertible. Also the UPC 1/16 scale GT-40.

**MAMA:** What new subjects would you like to see produced?  
**Rex:** A Detomaso Pantera equipped with the 351 Cleveland engine. None of the current Japanese Pantera kits have a scale engine. Nothing else I build could be considered new.

**MAMA:** What do you like most about today's kits? The least?  
**Rex:** I like the greater attention to detail by Revell, Monogram & Fujimi. I dislike rehashed reissues with no improvement from AMT/MPC/ERTL.

**MAMA:** What current projects are you working on? Future plans?  
**Rex:** I'm working on a 1970 Trans Am Boss 302, 1967 Shelby GT 500, 1969 Mach I, a Pantera, a replica of my 1972 Mach I with working lights and GT-40 MKII's. These should keep me busy for a few years.

**MAMA:** Do you subscribe to any model car magazines?  
**Rex:** Scale Wheels, Scale Auto Enthusiast, Car Modeler and several Mustang magazines.

**MAMA:** What other hobbies are you involved in?  
**Rex:** Keeping my Mach I looking & running good.

**MAMA:** Do you have any tips, suggestions or advice to anyone just starting into car modeling?

**Rex:** Take your time. Keep it simple at first. Build to please yourself. Try to improve with each kit. Use magazines & books for reference.

**MAMA:** What do you like most about MAMA? The least? Suggestions for improvement?

**Rex:** I like the friendly atmosphere. It's a long drive but well worth it. **Love those brownies!**

**MAMA:** Any closing remarks?

**Rex:** Thanks to all MAMA members for sharing their love of car models with others.

### "Mello Yello" Lumina Stock Car

(Monogram # 2921; 1/24; one version; 94 pieces; black, clear, satin chrome, vinyl tires)

Well guys (an' gals!), a few months ago your fearless(?!) editor gave you his impressions on one of Monogram's latest efforts, the "Zerex" T-Bird stock car Plus. With the accessories provided with the "Plus" option as well as minor updates here and there (not to mention a new body!) they were a cut above Monogram's excellent original stock cars. Well, Monogram has upped the ante again (in a biiggg way!) with the "Mello Yello" Lumina stock car from the soon-to-be-released movie "Days of Thunder" starring Tom Cruise. At first glance, with the possible exception of the wheels and tires, the whole kit appears to be new! Read on for my observations.



To begin with, this kit will be offered (at least initially?) in 3 different versions-The "Hardee's" car (molded in dayglo orange), the "City Chevrolet" car (molded in yellow) and obviously, the "Mello Yello" car (molded in black). This kit is molded well and is free of flash. This car is definitely a Superspeedway car, complete with roof rails, rocker panel strip and passenger side door glass! (YaY!) The body consists of 4 pieces (not counting windows)-the body itself, hood, and front and rear bumper. There is a large notch molded onto the body to aid in mounting the front bumper. The word "Lumina" is nicely engraved below the lower intake in the front air dam. The hood exhibits such a good fit, it may actually have to be narrowed slightly to fit properly after painting (as it should be)!

The engine (with the exception of the carburetor) appears to be all new as well. All new pieces include the oil pan, headers (non-180°!) as well as exhaust dumps out both sides of the car, new satin chrome Pontiac heads (Ed. note: How do I know this? Easy! The word "Pontiac" is molded right on them!), Hendricks motorsports valve covers (with heat shields still attached), and upper and lower radiator hoses! How about a molded plastic "spider" that looks suspiciously like a distributor with wires? Rather than include a length of fine wire (as in their "High Performance Series"), Monogram chose to mold the plug wires and

distributor as one piece. The jury is still out on this one.

The interior definitely shows updates. Again as in the T-Bird, the front window braces mount to the roll cage rather than being molded to the window. The driver's seat is also similar to the one in the T-Bird. The roll cage is all new incorporating molded-in padding (as well as weld marks if you get out your magnifying glass to see them!). The shifter is also new, having the same molded-in padding present (to protect the driver's leg in the event of an accident). There are molded corrugated hoses present to provide fresh air from the NACA ducts. Oh, did I forget to mention these? The quarter windows contain molded-in NACA ducts which connect to the aforementioned ducts in the interior. The front window has the retaining clips molded in while the rear has the window straps molded in. The glass is all frosted on the back side to show where it will be painted black. As noted earlier, the passenger side window is also included!

And now on to the chassis. I may sound like a broken record but it too is all new (1990 spec). It is a front-steer chassis which includes a new front suspension, a new rear suspension (both including single shocks per wheel), as well as the oil tank, coolant pump, belt and cover. The radiator and shroud are also new pieces. As mentioned earlier, the wheels and tires appear to be one of the few parts in this kit that remain unchanged.

In conclusion, may I simply say that superlatives fail me! Monogram appears to have expended much effort to bring us this new Lumina! I can only hope that now that they have a Lumina tool, that they continue to use it in the near future (Ex. Derrick Cope-winner at both Daytona & Dover, Darrell Waltrip, Greg Sacks & Dale Earnhardt). Quite possibly they could sneak an Olds body in there somewhere? (That way, they would have every body style covered, in the same scale!). Monogram is furiously trying to keep us modelers broke with all these neat new releases and I am no exception. If the crew at Monogram keep bringing out kits as good as (or even better than?) these, then I will stay consistently broke trying to keep up. Thank you Jay Adams and what's next?

by: Tim Sickle

### Mercedes 300SL-24 Coupe

(Revell #7174; 1/24; one version; 109 pieces; white, gray, clear, chrome, vinyl tires)

Many advances have been made within the last few years with respect to the level of detail possible in plastic kits and this kit shows it (this kit, as well as the BMW Z1 kit came into my hands with the help of our "German Correspondent" Oliver Daniel from Revell of Germany's line but both will be released here as well in a premium series).

The basic body is 7 pieces (body, front & rear bumpers, hood & separate underhood bracing & mirrors) and is very smooth and free of flash and sink marks. Vent openings on the front fenders and front bumper are open and are very nice!

The interior consists of 18 pieces. Door panels are separate drop-in items. The dashboard appears to have very nicely engraved instrument faces which are wasted but more on that later. Another slight problem area is the obvious lack of any engraved texture for the interior surfaces and carpeting.

The engine is the six cylinder which mounts into a chassis which has quite a few nicely detailed parts. The front suspension is a 1 piece unit, so poseable steering isn't possible (without some work!). The exhaust system alone is 7 pieces (not counting the exhaust manifolds on the engine)! The detail on the rear suspension pieces is also very nice.

Now to get back to the lack of engraved texture and why it won't be a problem—the decal sheet. Mine is ever so slightly out of register, but is still very nicely done. It contains numerous different license plates, underhood decals, woodgrain dash and console decals, dash gauge decals, small exterior emblems and seat and door panel upholstery decals!

This, the latest redesigned version of the venerable SL from Mercedes has garnered more than it's fair share of attention with it's new "aero" styling. From all the articles that I have seen it appears that Revell has done a very good job in capturing the lines of this Teutonic "Wundercar". The lack of any engraved texture throughout the model (engine, chassis & interior) is the only real fault I can find and that alone doesn't dissuade me in the slightest from wanting to build this kit.

### BMW Z1

(Revell # 7175; 1/24; one version; 104 pieces; white, gray, clear, chrome, vinyl tires)

The subject of this review is a fierce competitor of Mercedes Benz. I speak of course of BMW, and in particular, the Z1. This one is rather unique. In addition to an opening hood with an engine and opening trunk, it also has **two sets of doors**. (Ed. note: For those of you unfamiliar with "Furrin" cars, this particular roadster has doors which slide down into the lower portion of the body). Revell courteously provides one set of doors in the open position and one set in the closed position so as to allow the builder to choose. A nice convertible up-top is also provided.

Similarities between the Z1 & the 300SL abound. The Z1 also has an excellent decal sheet which includes numerous license plates, smaller emblems and logos, seat upholstery and door panel decals.

The chassis is a pan on which you build up the nicely detailed six cylinder engine (all 12 pieces of it) as well as the interior. From the looks of the instructions, poseable steering is possible. The dashboard is a nicely engraved unit made up of 5 pieces (dash top, gauge face, steering wheel, column and pedal assembly). To add to this, gauges are included on the decal sheet which would show up very well on this little drop-top sportster. The BMW 7 spoke wheels mount very nice Pirelli tires.

The box cover has a few very good detail shots of the actual car in both bright red and a very pretty dark green which should make it easier to build this machine.

To sum up, my closing remarks regarding the 300SL apply equally here. The lack of any engraved texture throughout the model (engine, chassis, interior) is the only minor flaw I can find in this otherwise excellent kit and that by itself wouldn't dissuade me from going out tomorrow and buying one to build. Revell, bring on the 850i!

by: Tim Sickle

#### BITS & PIECES

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- \* We have our priorities straight, so we lead off with the important stuff. Thanks Muchly to Karen Roehrle for the Brownies & Cupcakes (right, Larry?) and to Leslie for the Chocolate Chip cookies!
- \* Contest News! Larry Boothe, Dave Roehrle and Jerry Flynn take GSLMCC #11 by storm! The "Hot Rod" man did it again, taking 1st Custom and People's Choice with the infamous '49 Super Coupe. Dave Roehrle also showed up with his '49 Ford taking 2nd Street Machine. Congrats, guys! While Jerry Flynn didn't enter anything, he nevertheless raised more than a few eyebrows with his line of AN fittings. I understand there was at least one modeler who was "mildly upset", eh Jerry?
- \* Hobby Shop news! We have a new hobby shop in the area, Knight's Hobbies & Crafts owned by George T Knight located at 1438 Liberty Road, Unit C, Eldersburg, Md. 21284. Their phone number is 301-795-4451. They are open Mon-Thurs 9-8, Fri 9-9, Sat 9-7 & Sun 9-4. Welcome Aboard! Another hobby shop that is near & dear to us has moved. Hobby World has moved to Waterford Plaza (see map elsewhere in this newsletter).
- \* New Items! For those so inclined, you too can have a copy of Cadzilla from Don Holthaus. When ordering however, you must specify the '51 Chevy Custom (he cannot fill orders for Cadzilla because ZZ Top holds the rights) and for \$35.00 you get the body with separate front end, dashboard and chassis. For the rest, you're on your own! New items from R & D Unique include Coilover shock absorbers, Ford 9" rear, Disc brake kit, Disc/Drum brake kit, Independent Front suspension and last but certainly not least, a Deuce Street Rod frame!. When do we get a good Deuce Coupe body to go with these goodies, guys?
- \* Our illustrious Ex-President, Norman has a video tape produced by the Adirondack Glue Crue which is available to anyone who wishes to view it. Simply contact Norm and arrange it with him.
- \* Joe Formato of Page One Graphics now has available in his line '70 1/2 Z28 Scripts for AMT's Z28. A set was given away at last month's meeting. Thanks, Joe! They look pretty good!
- \* Deals on wheels! Apparently, K-Mart has available numerous '40 Ford Coupe kits (Ed. note: To those unaware, AMT has discontinued this kit! If interested, hop to it and get 'em before they disappear!)

- \* "Days of Thunder" fans! Your investigative reporter recently uncovered the latest licensed property from the movie. It seems as though Matchbox will be issuing a 5 car set of "Thunder" cars including the #51 Mello Yello car, #46 City Chevrolet car, #18 Hardee's car, #46 Superflo car & the #51 Exxon car. Thank you Matchbox and thank you Nick (keep reading those cereal boxes!)

#### COMING EVENTS

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- \* July 15 (Sun)- 1990 Model Car Collector's Association National Convention #8 held at the Sheraton-Springdale Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. For info, contact Randy Wilson, 5416 Country Lane, Milford, Ohio 45150 or call (513)831-6879.
- \* July 15 (Sun)- 15th Pa. Model Car, Diecast & Kit Collector's Meet held in Gilbertsville, Pa. For info, contact John Carlisle, 409 Bewley Building, Lockport, NY 14094.
- \* July 13-15 (Fri-Sun)- 1990 Good guys East Coast Nationals held in Carlisle, Pa. For info, write Goodguys, P.O. Box 424, Alamo, Ca. 94507 or call (415)838-9876.
- \* Sept 3 (Sun)- Plastic East Model Car Show & Swap Meet part of Lead East Car Show/'50's Weekend. For info, contact Joel Naprstek, 76 Park Place, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 or call (201)285-0692.
- \* Sept 23 (Sun)- Three Rivers Automodelers Model Car, Toy, & Collector's Show & Model Car Contest held at the Sheraton Inn, Warrendale, Pa. (I-79 & Turnpike) from 9 A.M.-3 P.M. Admission \$2.00, under 12 free w/adult. For vendor info, call John Elwell at (412)921-3524 after 5. Contest info call Dave Kelley at (412)368-8248 after 5.
- \* Nov 4 (Sun)- 16th Pa. Model Car, Diecast & Kit Collector's Meet held in Gilbertsville, Pa. For info, contact John Carlisle, 409 Bewley Building, Lockport, NY 14094.

#### CLASSIFIED

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WANTED- 1/43 scale '57 Chevy. Call Dave Roehrle at 876-8007.

WANTED-Any Ferrari-related items as well as back-issues of Cavallino magazine. Call Harold Bradford at 604-8591.

WANTED-'87 & '88 Mustang GT's, '89 Regal Promo, 1990 Revell catalog. Call Tim Sickle at 249-3830.



FOR SALE (OR TRADE)-AMT "Knaco" Indy car, Monogram 1969 GTD Judge. What have you got? Let's talk! Call Tim Sickle at 249-3830.

FOR SALE- My entire unbuilt assorted model car collection. No reasonable offer refused. Call Dave Lewis at 484-5070.

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

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

Norman F. Veber  
7479-D Furnace Branch Road  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061  
(301)768-3648

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