

## MARYLAND AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 4, No.7 March 1992

by: Timothy Sickle

About 37 people were in attendance at the February meeting which had as its highlight discussions concerning our upcoming NNL Show, last minute items and circulation of sign-up sheets to allow everyone who wants to help out to do so. Very early indications are that this show is "on a roll" as I have heard of more than one local club that will attend "en masse" so don't be surprised if we outgrow this hall for our 1993 show!

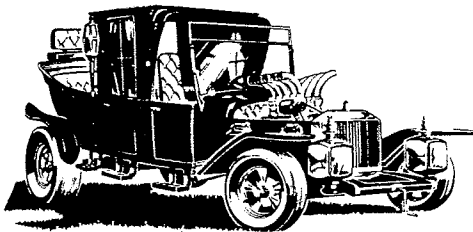
As you can obviously see by our letterhead, our 'ol standby Merc has returned. Although many people enjoyed the "change of pace", many people have cornered me at meetings lately about bringin' back our Merc. After all, this is our logo, and as the old song goes, "you don't tug on Superman's cape!"

I would like to point out that in this month's newsletter, there are no fewer than three different writers whose bylines appear! I want to thank you very much for your help and point out that there appears to be more interest about doing reviews as several people have approached me and "put in their orders". Hey guys, thanks a lot, I 'preciate it!

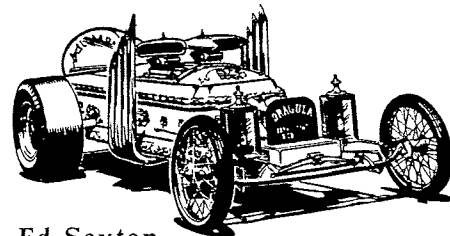
The raffle raised \$80.00(I think!). The club would like to thank the raffle donors as shown below: Gary Sutherlin, Pat Maphis, Matt Guilfoyle, Irvin Arter, Lyle Willits, Randy Paschke, Dave Roehrl, Chris Whalley, Brad, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of Md. Special thanks also go out to those as shown below:

Tim Powers,  
Scale Resin Detailers  
808 224th Street  
Pasadena, Md. 21122

Gary Becker,  
The ERTL Company, Inc.  
P.O. Box 500  
Dyersville, Ia. 52040



John Mauchamer,  
Wheels Hobby Shop  
45 Waverly Dr, Unit O  
Frederick, Md. 21701

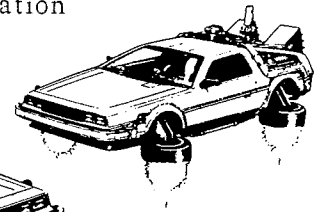
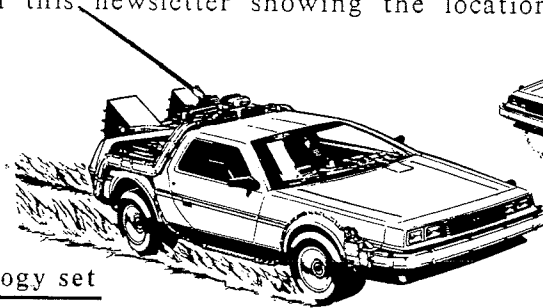
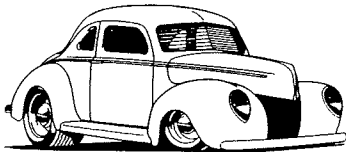


Ed Sexton,  
Monogram/Revell  
363 North Third Avenue  
Des Plaines, Ill. 61101

It also bears mentioning at this time that Dirk Johnson (a.k.a. Detail Master, P.O. Box 1465, Sterling, Va. 22170) will be a very active supporter of not only our club, but many other clubs across the country as well. It's up to us to actively patronize Detail Master in appreciation of his continued support [Ed. Note: With the detail items he has currently available (or on the way!), I don't believe this will be a problem!]

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE !! \*\*\*\*\*

The rundown for the January thru May meetings is as follows-January:Third Saturday from 12:30-5:30 in **Building B** (Upper level). Park near bldgs D & E and enter the upper floor of bldg B (the "Quad"). The months of February, March and May-Third Saturday from 12:00-5:00. The month of April we will be meeting on the **fourth Saturday** from 12:30-5:30. So, please note the room change in January (Bldg. B) and the day change in April (Fourth Saturday). See ya there! If everything works as planned, there will be a map elsewhere in this newsletter showing the location for the January meeting.



"Back to the Future" Trilogy set

(AMT/ERTL; "B.T.T.F." #1-118 pieces; "B.T.T.F." #2-113 pieces; "B.T.T.F." #3-127 pieces for a total of 358 pieces; molded in black, gray, chrome, clear, vinyl tires)

This set is basically three "Back to the Future" kits (Ed. Note: Or "B.T.T.F." for short!) in one box except that AMT has added parts to complete the cars not previously made in kit form. Since the original kit actually built the car as it appeared in "B.T.T.F II", I will review it first. (As you may remember, Doc Brown added the hover conversion and the "Mr. Fusion" generator when he finally got to the twenty-first century at the end of B.T.T.F I.

**B.T.T.F. II.** There is no engine in these kits at all. The chassis is one piece with molded-in details that are difficult to discern. There is a well-engineered mechanism for the folding wheels for the hover mode. The instructions are well-detailed and most of this construction is snap together with grease (supplied) and poly-caps. The wheels are two pieces and the chrome makes them look very true to life by not being too shiny. The interior is a three-piece affair with very nice detailing and the seats comprise one piece each. The dash is two pieces with the pedals cast on it. The steering wheel has two stalks on it, one for turn signals and one for tilt wheel, but I'm not sure. The best news is that all the standard gauges as well as Doc Brown's gauges, dials, lights, switches, etc. are all multi-colored decals. The accumulator assembly is in two pieces. There is a two-piece overhead console with decals for dial gauges. The engine compartment is covered with a panel with some molded-in detail and several other parts to complete this portion of the time machine. Included is a box with the now famous **Flux Capacitor** and a clear cover for it. The body is extremely well scaled and proportioned. It leaves me wishing that AMT would also make a stock **DeLorean** kit from this humble beginning (Are you listening, AMT?). There are separately molded windshield wipers and mirrors already molded in black. The twin units so prominent on the rear of the car are made up of six pieces each. The **taillights** are 4-color decals that apply between the body and a clear lense. The remaining pieces, twenty in all, make up the rest of the time machine and are well detailed. The "Mr. Fusion" unit even has decals indicating this fact. All this and a display stand to

display it in the hover mode. The instructions are filled with painting instructions so that anyone from novice to master modeler can create a convincing model without having to research the subject any further.

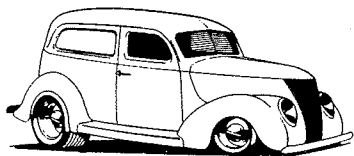
**B.T.T.F. I.** This car goes together in the same fashion except that the fishing pole device which Doc Brown used to snare the overhead wire charged from the lightning bolt to allow Marty to return to the future (1985) replaces the "Mr. Fusion" feature. My only complaint with this set is that this car has the folding wheels for the hover mode which did not exist until the very end of the first movie. It should have been eliminated from this car to be correct, but one need only disable these parts by gluing them in place or putting tape across the actuating mechanism.

**B.T.T.F. III.** Again a great deal of this kit is identical to the B.T.T.F. II car. The most notable change is the railroad wheels. The hover mechanism has been eliminated in favor of four separate axle stubs to which the railroad wheels are mounted. There is a front rail piece (Ed. Note: Cowcatcher?) which mounts to the front of the chassis. I believe this was for hitching the six-horse team to the car in Doc Brown's first attempt to accelerate the car to eighty-eight miles per hour in 1885, but I was unable to confirm this while viewing the movie. The display stand consists of a molded gravel bed with railroad ties molded in and separate railroad tracks which are chrome plated. Why these are chromed I do not know but they can be painted for those of you who crave scale realism. Also included is the circa 1955 electronics package that was mounted on the front of the car to replace the micro-chip circuit which was damaged at the beginning of B.T.T.F. III.

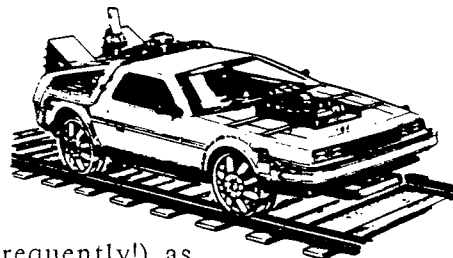
All in all, flash and sink holes are non-existent in conjunction with mold seams that are nearly impossible to spot. Ejection pin marks are non-existent or out of sight as well. In my opinion, this set can be enjoyed by modelers of all skill and age levels. It is a shame that it is so expensive and difficult to obtain. Thanks to AMT for providing our review sample.

by: Richard Wilson

Ed. Note: The set reviewed above is available only in a special offer in conjunction with Universal Studios. You must purchase the "Back to the Future" Trilogy set on video cassettes which includes Parts I, II, and III as well as the Secrets of Back to the Future. In this set is where you will find the special offer to purchase this 1/24 scale set and this is the only way you will be able to get one so if you are a Back to the Future fan, better get out and get that "Trilogy" set and commence to mailin"! Oh, the price? Only \$29.95.



Sneakin' a Peek!



This column will appear 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 detailed review to follow at a later date (hopefully!). We'll see how it goes!

\* "Havoline" T-Bird (Monogram #2430): Molded in black...

...Re-hash of "Maxwell House" T-Bird...new single shock front suspension...NACA ducts on both 1/4 windows as well as passenger side window...exhausts dump one per side (Texaco card set seems to show both dumps to one side)...colorful, thin decal sheet.

\* GMC Syclone (Lindberg #72504): Molded in black...separate ground effects...smooth, shiny chrome...clear lenses for all lights and markers...molded tonneau cover...very nicely done engine...skill level 2 (glue required- more challenging).

\* Mitsubishi 3000GT VR4 (Lindberg #72503): Molded in yellow...Re-hash of Dodge Stealth (including all turbo plumbing)...includes all specific (odd?) Mitsubishi parts...Colorado 'XLR8' plate...skill level 2 (glue required-more challenging).

\* Knight Rider 2000 (AMT # 8084); Molded in translucent(?) red...simplified assembly (no engine)...special care in instructions (for kids) about getting directional tires and nice 5-spoke mags installed properly...minimal piece count...seemingly a combination of a Stealth and a Banshee (a Stealth?).

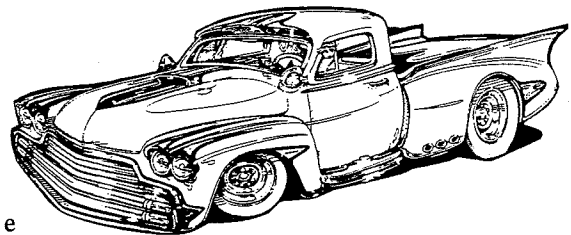
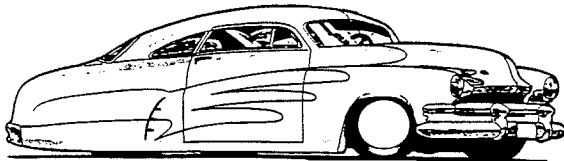
\* '72 'Vette LT-1 Conv. (AMT #6080): Molded in light blue...includes both up convertible top and hardtop... "No Parking except for Bob" (ain't he the Nissan guy?!)...even, shiny chrome...Goodyear Polyglas GT tires...instructions contain the usual painting instructions. ..2-piece chrome luggage rack.

\* Ford F-150 XLT AMT #6809): Molded in light gray...nicely done interior...crisp engraving throughout kit...again, full size painting instructions included along with actual colors...clear red insert for the tailgate...nice Holley valve covers...hard tonneau cover...10-hole factory Ford mags w/nice 5-star mags as optional.

\* "Havoline" T-Bird (Monogram #1086): Molded in Black... ..1/32 snap kit...superspeedway car...**outstanding** molded-in detail!...open 9-hole wheels...rubber tires... vinyl stick-on decals (remember, these are for the kids!).

\* ""Valvoline"" T-Bird (Monogram #1087): Molded in Dk. Blue...see "Havoline" T-Bird above.

\* "Goodwrench" Lumina (Monogram #1088): Molded in Black... ..see "Havoline" T-Bird above. (Ed. Note: Check these guys out, you might be pleasantly surprised!).



#### NASCAR comes to Ferndale

The Ferndale Texaco station at 7201 B & A Boulevard isn't just for gas anymore. Now it's for all you stock car racing fans as well. With the addition of Victory Lane Souvenirs, you can get all the NASCAR paraphernalia you need just minutes from Catonsville Community College.

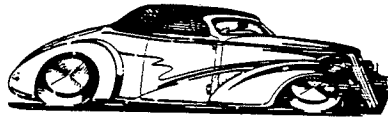
Victory Lane Souvenirs features a full line of collectibles by Racing Champions, Revell, Matchbox, ERTL, Hot Wheels, Vitesse, and Pit Row-the newest collectible on the market. Some of the neat stuff they have in stock is first edition Dale Earnhardt Matchbox haulers, the Bobby Hillin 1/24 scale Racing Champion error car, and haulers by Winross. They also carry the latest in

racing apparel, such as shirts, jackets, sweaters, and hats (gotta have them hats!). And if that's not enough, they've got pictures, calendars, clocks, and glassware. These guys even have our beloved editor's needs covered with **Maxx, Traks, and PRO SET** racing cards (Ed. Note: Who squealed?). They even carry special release cards.

In the garage, they've got a real stock car on the lift for you to personally check out. Below that they've got a life-like Daytona slot car track where you can run one of their cars or you can "run whatcha brung". These guys like their fun too! In fact, they like their fun so much-they threw a **Daytona 500 party** at Ashley's Lounge in Ferndale. Over 200 NASCAR fans got to watch the 500 on Ashley's big screen for only twelve bucks. Is that cool or what?

If all that still isn't enough, Curt, Smitty, Bill, Dave, and Kevin will personally assist you in making the NASCAR souvenir purchase you want. And, they can handle your questions.

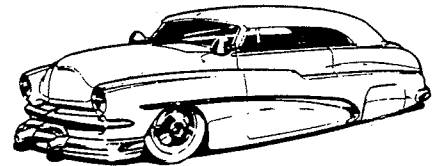
So, if there's a NASCAR souvenir you need, give Victory Lane Souvenirs a call at (410)969-RACE or just drop in at 7201 B & A Boulevard from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. seven days a week-they're ready.



1991 Mercury Cougar XR-7

by: Tim Powers

Stardate 9111.19



(Revell #7432; 1/25 scale; 2 versions; 104 pieces; red, clear, clear red, chrome, vinyl tires)

One of the good things about building a car that is currently in production is that reference material is readily accessible. Since I usually build older cars, the change is most welcome! Time to get started!

The body is molded in a rather bright shade of red. This must be a very popular color on the real car as the majority of the late model Cougars that I have seen since acquiring this kit seem to match the box art. Flash is not a problem on this car except on the driver's side quarter panel where the edge is rather ragged due to being **ripped** off a tree prior to packaging (Wasn't me)! Numerous scratches also appear on several of the body panels. A "body bag" would not be a bad idea.

Moving on to the **engine**, we find a **5.0 Liter H.O.** which is an exact duplicate of the engine found in the 5.0 Mustang (we're talkin' real cars here, I haven't seen the Mustang model yet!). It consists of 21 pieces and appears to be well detailed down to and including the transmission pan that says **Ford Automatic Overdrive-Metric**. Another nice touch is the alternator which has it's own bracket!

The **chassis/suspension** is an 8-piece set-up that looks very nice with it's "semi-dual exhaust" system.

The interior is tub-style with very nice separate door panels and two piece seats. The dashboard also exhibits very nice detail and this whole subassembly is 12 pieces when assembled.

The tires are 15" Goodyear Eagles with stock 7-spoke wheels as well as an optional set of 3-spoke wheels that I believe are also stock. In the center of these wheels are clear, round separate centers with an engraved Cougar emblem.

All the **windows and lenses** look nice and the windshield even has sunvisors molded onto it.

The decals include 2 South Carolina 'COU-GAR' plates as well as 5 other underhood decals. Also included in this kit were

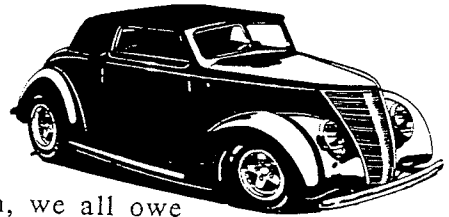
instructions as to how to get a free model kit. Yeah, that's right. Two sent in in one year with no response. How 'bout you?

The 29-step instructions seem to be fairly clear with the usual introduction on the front with the words, "hottest machine, exciting, sleek, sensual, etc. etc.". It also labeled this car as the Autobahn Burner'. Hmmm.

All in all, this is quite a decent model for the money which the hobby shops will charge for it. If you are looking for a model of a new car to add to your collection this one will surely make a nice addition. Looks like it would be fairly easy to customize too. A little off the top here, a little section there, lower to suit....



by: Chris Bonaiuto



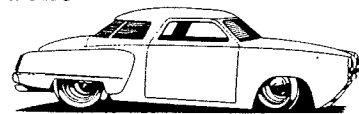
### BITS & PIECES

- \* Food! Now that I have your undivided attention, we all owe Dave & Karen Roehrle our thanks for providing the donuts at our last meeting (Shucks! I knew somethin' was missin'!).
- \* Thank yew very much! At this time, we would like to extend even more thanks. First of all, to Matt Guilfoyle for the donated seat belt material and also to one, Ron Bradley for the free foam. Also of particular note, Ken Hamilton for the Oakland Roadster Show Diorama update which was part of the entertainment at last month's meeting (Ed. Note: The guys are lookin' forward to seein' this baby, like maybe at NNL East? By the way Ken, thanks for the accurate rivet count!)
- \* Congrats! Seems as though another member has received even more exposure (no, he wasn't arrested for flashing!). Custom Rodder ran an article on the Toledo NNL show and apparently, Lyle Willits' '50 Ford phantom mysteriously found its way into the magazine. If he keeps this up, we'll have to start callin' him Mr. Willits. OOOOOhhhhhh, can I have your autograph??
- \* Missing! While on the subject of Lyle Willits, he made an interesting discovery the other day. Do you all recall the '69 RS Z28 Camaro from Revell (the one with the incorrect grille?). Well, it seems to have disappeared from store shelves entirely. Lyle finally found one to use for parts the other day and, ya know what? It apparently disappeared because they retooled the grille to remove the incorrect RS emblem (which is exactly the part he needed!), hence the reason they were in short supply recently! Hats off to Revell, guys! Even though the kit was released, they still took the time to "get it right". No change in the box art, though so you can't spot 'em that way. Thanks for the info, Lyle!
- \* NNL Show! Yes, our NNL show is fast approaching so if you are going to volunteer or have a project to finish, as Bo would say, "Just do it!" This one is shaping up to be even better than last year. Vendor space is sold out, and it is my understanding that we will see several members of our "sister club" in Pa. (they changed their meeting day to be able to attend!) so lets show 'em some real down home hospitality! Y'all come! There is a slight possibility that we may be able to coax the owner of a certain well known '55 Cameo (full size!) to bring it to our NNL and show it (and make many people truly happy!). Cross your

fingers!

- \* **Reference!** Kalmbach has just recently published a hobby book as well. It doesn't pertain exclusively to cars and trucks, but one Norm Veber says that on a quick perusal of the book, he found something on just about every page that could be applied to our hobby. Sounds like it might be worth checkin' out.
- \* **Movie Stars!** For those of you who were unaware, the club was recently featured on a morning TV show, "Coffee with..." hosted by Don Scott and Marty Bass. It all came about rather suddenly, and several members set about trying to call interested members to come and bring models to display. All told, about 20 hardy souls made the trek in the pre-dawn hours to Charlie Scheerer's house (arrival time was 5:30 A.M. to be set up and ready for shooting!). It went very well. Charlie was the spokesperson and managed to put in a plug for our upcoming NNL event. We should all make sure that Charlie knows how much we appreciate his single-handed effort in pulling this feat off. It should also be mentioned here that Charlie's wife, Kathy deserves our thanks as well as she provided not only the "go juice" (coffee), but brownies and breakfast rolls as well! **Thanks to both of you!** By the way, I understand there were at least 20 VCR's whirring away to record this momentous event for all time, so if you missed it, someone in the club should be able to provide a tape for your viewing pleasure! The participants will be available for autographs at the March meeting!
- \* **Street Rodder** has a piece in it on NNL East and guess what? Seems as though they have seen fit to publish a photo of Lyle Willits' "ZZ Topless" therein. Pretty soon, the club will have to hold our meetings out in the parking lot 'cause Lyle won't be able to get through the door! **Congrats again, Lyle!**
- \* **New stuff!** According to the latest **Blueprinter**, AMT will be releasing a new **Batmobile** (revised tool w/engine!?!), a **Batmissle**, and a **Bat Ski Boat** all from the new movie, "**Batman Returns**" which will hit theaters on June 19. In their 1/32 scale Snap-Fast line, we'll get "**Valvoline**" and "**Motorcraft**" **T-Birds**, and a "**Purolator**" **Lumina**. In their 1/25 scale line, we'll also get the ""**Valvoline**"" and "**Motorcraft**" **T-Birds**, as well as the "**Phillips 66/Trop Artic T-Bird**" and the "**Orkin**" **Cutlass**. In 1/18 scale, we'll get the "**Valvoline**" and "**Motorcraft**" **T-Birds**, the "**Pennzoil**" **Grand Prix**, and the "**Goodwrench**", "**Western Auto**", and "**Purolator**" **Luminas**. All these in addition to the already released "**Kodak**", "**STP**", and "**Mello Yello**" cars. **Phew!!**

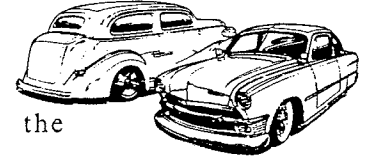
#### COMING EVENTS



- \* March 28, 1992-6th Annual NNL East Model car show sponsored by the Tri-State Model Car Club held at the Parsippany P.A.L. Building, 33 Baldwin Road, off Rte. 46, Parsippany, NJ from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. The theme this year is 25 years of the Firebird & Camaro as well as Light Commercial.
- \* April 4, 1992-2nd Annual NNL Mid-Atlantic Model Car Show & Swap Meet held at the Orchard Beach Volunteer Fire Department from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. For info, call Jerry Flynn at (301)255-3776.
- \* April 11, 1992-Northern Virginia Modelfest 92 sponsored by

Northern Virginia IPMS to be held at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department "Flame Room"(?!?), 200 Center Street, Vienna, Va. For further info, contact Peter Espada (703)379-7349, Mike Jackson (703)435-8636 or Bruce Buckner (703)941-8042. The show will include aircraft, armor, figure and diorama classes as well as (5) civilian classes. There will also be vendors, demos and door prizes, so check it out!

\* May 3, 1992-"The Classic" Model Car Contest held at the Ohio State Fairgrounds sponsored by the Buckeye Scale Auto Club. For further info, contact Bob Mako, 1721 Fallhaven Drive, W. Worthington, Oh. 43235.



**CLASSIFIEDS**

**WANTED**-A photograph of a Plymouth Superbird with the headlights in the open position. Contact Dave Johns at 437-1893.

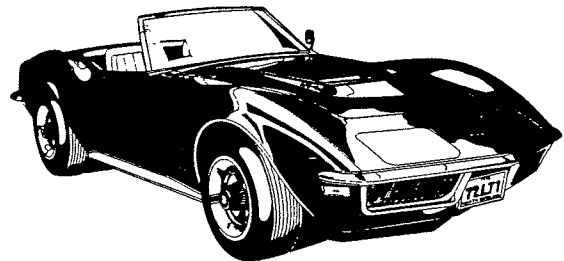
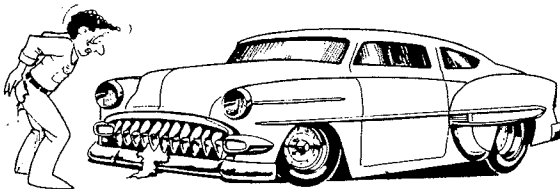
**FOR SALE**- Majority of personal collection. Call Matt Guilfoyle at 551-6070 for specifics and to place your order!

**FORSALE OR TRADE**-Musclecar fans! 100 card musclecar card collection-includes all your favorites such as GTO's, Cobra's, Shelby's, Trans Ams, etc. \$18.00 each or interesting trade. Contact Tim Sickle at 249-3830 or see me at a meeting.

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

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

Norman F. Veber  
317 Roosevelt Ave., S.W.  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061  
(301)768-3648



**WALNUT COVE/MARK CULLUM**

