

## MARYLAND AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS ASSOCIATION

Volume 7, No. 11 July 1995

by: "GTO"

About 43 people were in attendance at last month's meeting which was rather different. Seems as though club president, **Larry Boothe** and Vice President **Tim Powers** could not be in attendance for a particular reason. In Larry's case, he feels as though his job is more important than his hobby (talk about misplaced priorities!) and in Tim "Parts Box Powers" case, his cat took seriously ill and needed the attention. That meant that the meeting was ably chaired (?) by **Matt Guilfoyle** and yours truly. On a sad note, **Norm & Mary Veber's** close companion of 17 years, their cat **Sal**, died. It is very hard losing a loved one (human or pet) after that long a time. **Norm & Mary**, I'm sure I speak for the club when I tell you that our thoughts are with the two of you.

You may notice a different look with this month's newsletter. Well my employer has finally seen fit to "bring me into the 90's" with new software (including Windows), so you will have to bear with me as I familiarize myself with this strange, new software!

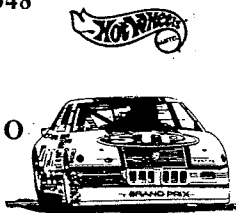
I am unsure of last month's raffle proceeds due to the fact that I have not received a treasurers report. Rest assured, that I will get one and it will be printed as soon as possible. In the meantime, the club would like to thank the raffle donors listed below: **Brad, Chris Whalley, Dave Toups, Fastrak Hobbies, Rick Wilson, Miké Hemp, Ron Bradley, Irv & Alex Arter, Lyle Willits, Dave Schmitt, Dan Noll**, yours truly, and **Replicas & Miniature Co. of MD**. Special thanks also go out to those as shown below:

**Tim Powers,**  
Scale Resin Detailers  
808 224th Street  
Pasadena, MD 21122-1348



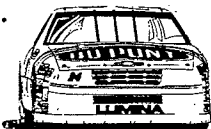
**Bob Korunow,**  
Model Car Garage  
537 S. Sequoia Dr., #309  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

**John Mauchamer,**  
Wheels Hobby Shop  
45 Waverly Drive, Unit O  
Frederick, MD 21701



**Bob Eager,**  
The ERTL Company  
P.O. Box 500  
Dyersville, IA 52040-0500

**Mike Perkins,**  
RPM Craft House Corp.  
50 E. Dresden Street  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

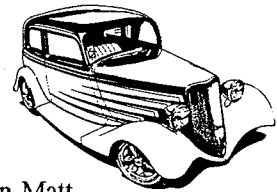


**Ed Sexton/Bill Lastovich**  
Monogram/Revell  
301 North Third Avenue  
Des Plaines, IL 61101

It also bears mentioning at this time that **Dirk "Smirk" Johnson** (a.k.a. Detail Master, P.O. Box 1465 Sterling, VA 22170) will be (and has been!) 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 currently has available (or on the way!), I don't believe this will be a problem!]



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

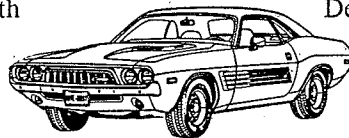
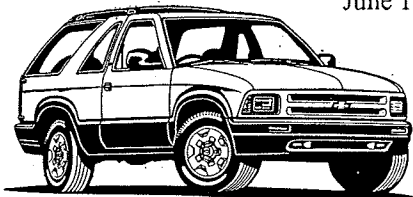


The meeting schedule for 1995 has been finalized (almost!) by our own Matt Guilfoyle. All meetings will be from Noon to 5 P.M. and astute MAMA's BoyZ will notice a few changes and one or two gaps in the schedule. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place in room K100. On two occasions, we will be in building Q, rooms 305 & 307 and in August, we will hopefully be scheduling rooms Q305 & 307 as well, but cannot do so before January 1st, 1995. Will advise upon confirmation of same. Got it?! Good, 'cause there will be a test on it!

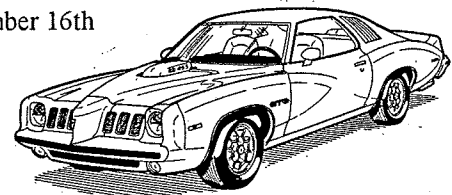
January 21st (Room Q305 & 307)  
February 18th  
March 18th  
April 22nd (Room Q305 & 307)  
May 20th  
June 17th

July 15th  
August (TBD)  
September 16th  
October 21st  
November 18th  
December 16th

(Room Q305)



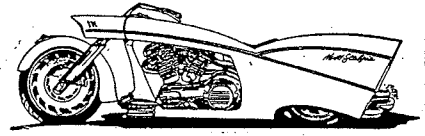
Sneakin' a Peek!



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! (Ed. Note: The kits are listed in no particular order)

- '50 Chevy Street Machine (AMT #6681): Molded in Lt. Gray....modified reissue of stock pick-up....no V-8 for "Street Machine"....Rod parts consist of a chrome valve cover/air cleaner for six cylinder, custom wheels and Goodyear Eagle VR series tires, custom mirrors, shifter, and ZR-1 style rear tail light panel....flame decals, "ST RIDER:", "CTYSLKR", IN plates.
- '95 Chevy Blazer (AMT #8978): Molded in Lt. Gray....glass frosted on the rear, installs from the outside (with exception of front glass)....(4) Goodyear Wrangler AT tires....Arkansas "BLAZING" plates....nice dash engraving, separate, engraved dash gauge face....(2) sets of wheels-stock 5-spokes and 10-hole aluminum....2-piece front bucket seats....platform-style interior....nicely done Vortec V-6 without the longitudinal seam!....nice, flash-free molding.
- '95 GMC Sonoma SLS (AMT #8109): Molded in Lt. Gray....(2) sets of wheels-5-spoke SS-style mags & 6-spoke smoothies....GMC grille with separate emblem....(4) Firestone tires....custom aero package and show car grille...."GMC Truck", "Sonoma" decal stripes (black and white) & emblems, Oklahoma "SONOMA" plate....see Blazer above for Vortec engine....separate door panels on interior....excellent instructions.
- '95 Ranger XLT (AMT #8945): Molded in Lt. Gray....chrome Ranger 5-spoke wheels (from Splash), and optional 3-spokers....(4) Firestone tires....correctly updated grille....modified reissue of Ranger STX...."Ranger XLT" emblems on cab....platform-style interior with separate door panels....8-piece aero

kit....custom grille w/integral fog lights...."95 RANGR" AZ, "RANGER"  
MI, and "XLT" Idaho plates.



**1994 Harley-Davidson FLSTN Heritage Softail Special**

(IMEX #405; 1:9th scale; 230 parts; white, black, chrome, clear, rubber  
tires, cables, springs, metal screws)

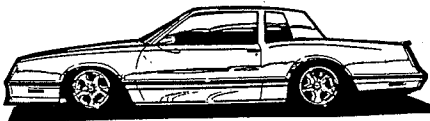
Now **THIS** is a Harley kit. In fact, building this model should be the  
employment test for prospective assemblers at the H-D plant in York, PA.

With about 230 parts, I won't detail each part or assembly, choosing  
instead just to hit the highlights. First of all, there is no flash and the high-gloss  
plastic is all separately bagged. The white fenders and tanks do not even need to be  
painted. There are five large chrome trees. Almost every individual part on the real  
bike is represented here in 1:9th scale. There are real axle bolts. The engine block  
mounts to the frame with tiny bolts. There are six separate steel springs for the  
working front and rear suspensions. A detailed battery mounts in the battery box  
which is located behind the oil tank, never to be seen again- but it's there! Cables  
for fuel, oil, brakes, and ignition are included. A three-piece carburetor holds a  
two-piece air cleaner. The builder drills the hole in the fuel tank to mount the  
detailed gas petcock. I could go on and on- the detail level is fantastic.

The decal sheet has all of the silver paint panels with very thin, red  
pinstripes and all of the other small, detailed markings on the real bike.

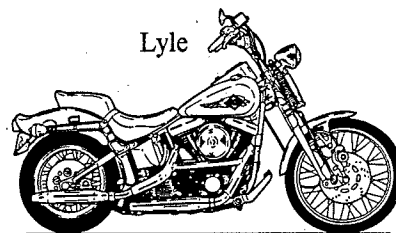
The builder must paint the whitewalls on the tires (I suggest thinned Polly  
S flat white). In fact, the only inaccuracy that I can find in the kit is the Dunlop  
Elite tires-they should be Goodyears.

I have purchased and built several motorcycle kits (and 1:1 scale bikes)  
over the last several years and would have to rate this kit the best ever, with the  
possible exception of the Gunze Sangyo '41 Indian. Although there is no skill  
rating on the box, this kit is for the experienced model builder (or Harley  
mechanic). If you are a fan of motorcycles, you **must** have this kit.



**1965 Pontiac 2+2**

(AMT/ERTL #6629-Modified Reissue)



I applaud AMT/ERTL's decision to market the 60's musclecars, as it is  
my favorite automotive segment. When I first looked at this kit, I was mildly  
disappointed, due to its lack of detail. Then I remembered that it was a  
modification of a 1965 Pontiac Bonneville kit, from the body, interior tub, engine  
and chassis, and that is not all bad.

Body: Modification of a 1965 Pontiac Bonneville 2 door hardtop as stated  
earlier, with the appropriate emblem changes to transform it into a 2+2. The  
emblems are crisp, yet faint in that they can be lost if there is a heavy build-up of  
paint. The two major inaccuracies in the body are 1) the tail light panel, where the  
tail lamps are too long, with no back-up lamp provisions, and 2) the body itself is 4  
scale inches too long in the wheelbase through the decklid. If the optional fender  
skirts are left off, the added length is not too noticeable.

Chassis: 1965 issue in that all components are molded in, and metal axles are used to attach the wheels to the chassis.

Interior: 1965 tub-style which has been rescribed to the 2+2 upholstery pattern.

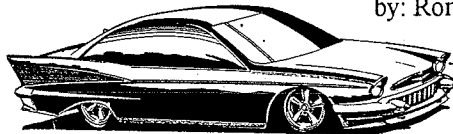
Engine: 1965 421 V-8 which is not very well detailed by today's standards i.e. hole in the sides of the engine block for the axle to pass through it, molded in starter and oil filter detail, as well as the unsightly seam down the middle of the oil pan.

Wheels & Tires: Pontiac's famous 8-lug wheels and 70's Goodyear Polyglas tires which can be red or white lined or replaced with Replicas & Miniatures Company of Maryland's red or white striped tires.

The car builds up easily and with some detailing and attention to detail will yield a wonderful addition to any muscle car fanatics collection.



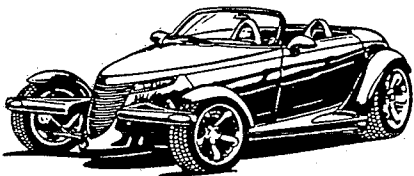
Chezoom By Boyd



by: Ron Hamilton

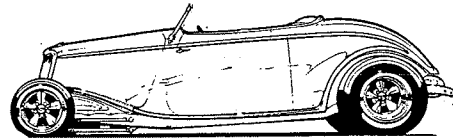
(Testors Quickbuilder; 1/24th scale; 21 parts; Teal, black, and chrome)

Having spent 8 months scratchbuilding this replica directly from photoreduced pictures of the real car, I can say with confidence that all 21 parts in this kit are wrong! The wheels can be used only if correctly modified and narrowed. There are no tires as we know them. Maybe the grille bar is accurate.....maybe. This is crap! Thank you for your attention.



### BITS & PIECES

Lyle



- **American Fast!** A Bowie resident no less has just entered his name into the record books. How? **He is the first person to exceed 200 miles per hour on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle!** 35-year old Andy Gotsis set the record on May 6th when his S & S-sponsored Harley reached a speed of **200.31 m.p.h.** at a meet in Richmond, VA. Thanks to the June 15th issue of the Bowie Blade News for this item.
- **Reference material!** The August '95 issue of Mopar Action has a feature on a red '69 Dodge Dart GTS convertible within its covers. In addition, you will also find a feature on Walker Evans' Dodge Nastruck along with Don Carlton's old Mopar Missile Pro Stock Duster. All this comes to ya from a confirmed Pontiac freak!
- **Kudos!** Bruce Rayner of the North Coast Automotive modelers had some nice words to say about Kelvin Brown's '32 Ford project upon seeing it at the recently-held NNL East show. He reported on the show in the latest issue of their newsletter, The Air Box. Thanks, guys!
- **SSP Goodies!** Well gang, Phase 11 of Monogram/Revell's SSP program has arrived with the following goodies: Revell-'57 Ford Ranchero (chopped top), **"T" Touring Street Rod**, Henry J, Don Schumacher's Vega funny car, and for you non-car guys, an atomic-powered submarine and an Apollo Astronaut on the moon. And from Monogram-**"Fast Buck"** (armored car

bank), '26 Mack Dump truck, '32 Cadillac V-16, Panzerspaahwagen, and again for non-car types, a Fokker D VII and an RB-66A. A disturbing trend seems to be emerging in that the prices for these items are creeping up. The Mack dump truck, for example, has a retail of \$26.25!!

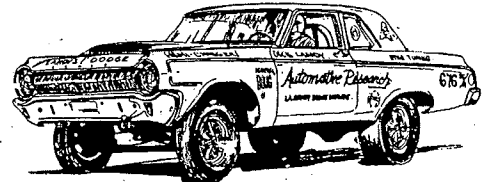
- **Press release!** The good folks at **Tamiya** have some more goodies for us. They are releasing two versions of the ever-popular **Jeep Wrangler**-a hardtop (#24150), and custom (#24154). Along with the Jeeps, they will also be giving us a **Jaguar MkII Saloon** (#24151). As near as I can tell from the press releases, these kits will all be fully detailed kits as opposed to curbside kits lacking any engine detail. No word yet on pricing for this trio.
- **What, no brownies?!** Yup, sad but true. There didn't appear to be any brownies at last month's meeting. (possibly 'cause Mr. Powers was not present?). This situation must be rectified! **Therefore, Tim is no longer allowed to miss a meeting!**
- **Unwanted XJ220s?!** In an out of court settlement, twenty-five people who paid deposits of 50,000 pounds (\$80,000) for an XJ220 will pay another 50,000 pounds not to take delivery! And they believe themselves to be lucky! Launched in 1992 at a price of 332,000 pounds (\$586,411 in 1992 dollars), the rest of these cars are priced at 215,000 pounds (\$344,000)! Wanna buy a Jag? Thanks to the August 1995 issue of *Automobile* for the scoop!
- **Cars of the King!** The Walker P. Stephens & Company (of *InScale Illustrated* fame), has published an illustrated history of stock cars as raced by "The King", Richard Petty. It is available either in a standard softbound edition for \$29.95 or a hardbound autographed edition for \$89.95. Either version will be ready for shipment October 15th, 1995. For info or to order, call (800)574-6229.
- **Resin news!** A recent issue of the San Diego model car clubs "*Concours*" newsletter brings news of a new company (BK Auto NOStalgia/Modern Scale Auto parts) offering for sale a 1963 Dodge Polara resin kit. It includes: '63 Polara body, hood, clear glass, clear red tail light lenses, front fender mount headlights, front and rear grille/bumper assemblies, interior bucket, dashboard and steering wheel, stock hubcaps, radiator, firewall, and pushbutton automatic transmission. No word on price. For further info, contact Bill Kovach, BK Auto NOStalgia/Modern Scale Auto parts, 6699 Beadnell Way #143, San Diego, CA 92117 or call (619)279-8182.
- **"Pontiac-Driving (by itself) excitement?!"** Scientists at *Carnegie Mellon University's Robotics Institute* are busy developing systems that will enable cars to "drive themselves" with software, computers, video cameras and other equipment. Last month, researchers took a **Pontiac Transport minivan** for a test drive from Pittsburg to Washington. The van averaged 57 mph on the approximately 250-mile trip. A video camera mounted below the rear view mirror "reads" the roadway, including oil spots and lane markers to determine its position. This info goes to a laptop computer mounted between the two front seats which processes it and sends signals to an electric motor which moves the steering wheel left or right. The system is powered by the cigarette lighter. To retake control of the van, you merely grab the steering wheel. There are some minor bugs to work out however. The van still doesn't know how to stop for red lights, can't brake on its own, cannot change lanes by itself, and sometimes mistakenly takes exit ramps which look inviting. Oh well, its progress! This tidbit appeared in the June 30th edition of the *Washington Times* Autoweekend section.
- **Slix new decals!** Got hold of a flyer the other day from Slix decals and they have some more neet stuff on the way. *Drag Racing: Roy Hill's '94 T-Bird/Mustang*, "Dyno Don's" '62 Then & Now, Al Hofmann's '94/'95

Western Auto f/c, Randy Andersen's '94 Slick 50 f/c, Roland Leong's 60's-90's Hawaiian f/c's; Stock Cars: Jarrett/Irvan '94/'95 Havoline T-Bird, Kinser '95 Quaker State T-Bird, Geoff Bodine's '95 Exide T-Bird, Jeff Purvis' Jackaroo BBQ sauce '95 Monte Carlo, Steve Grissom's '95 Meineke Monte Carlo; Trans Am series: Royal Oak ('94 Trans Am champion). Also included are several Busch series teams such as TIC Financial, Winn Dixie, Bayer, and Harris Teeter to name a few! If any of these "float yer boat", get hold of your local Slixx distributor and get yer order in now!

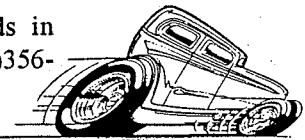
- **On the Fast Track!** Met a nice guy by the name of *Kevin Cecil* and his lady friend *Ami Pacifico* at last month's meeting. They have a business by the name of **FasTrak Hobbies** starting up out of their house. Everything from kits to Slixx decals, aftermarket detailing supplies, etc. can be had. So if you know of something you want, give Kevin & Amy a call, and if they don't have it, then they'll probably get it for ya!
- **Hey NASCAR fans!** There's a new shop just for you in beautiful downtown Glen Burnie! Located at 411 Crain Highway North, **Jeff's Racing Souvenirs** carries a complete line of NASCAR paraphernalia. They've got all the diecasts, trading cards, T-shirts, caps, plaques, magazines, newspapers, posters, photos, bumper stickers, belt buckles....well, you get the picture! And prices, this place is easy on the wallet. One rack had single-sided T-shirts as low as \$5.00! And if you're looking for Johan display cases, how's \$4.99 sound? Check'em out. If you can find Norman's world 'o resin, you can find this place which is only a few blocks away. Call *Jeff* and his enthusiastic wife *HwaCha* at (410)761-1937 if you need directions or information. Heck, you can even fax your order in at (410)761-1945 (*Ed. Note: After I got this note from our own Mr. Powers, Nick & I went by to check 'em out and everything he says is true!*)
- **Mopar fans!** Another tidbit from our illustrious VeeP. In typing a column recently, his word processor's spell checking software suggested the word "Crasher" for the word "Chrysler". Coincidence? You be the judge! Thanks, Tim!



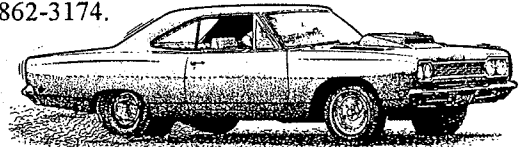
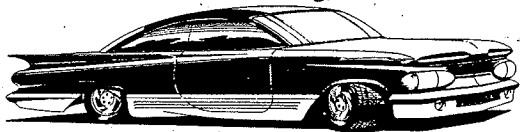
### COMING EVENTS



- **July 14 to 16-Chryslers at Carlisle** at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA. A **1972 Challenger Rallye 340** will be given away to a lucky attendee!
- **July 22 to 24-Parts Plus Super Chevy Sunday Show** at Maple Grove Raceway in Mohnton, PA. For further info, call (215)856-7812.
- **July 28 to 30- Summer Carlisle** at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA. A **1965 GTO convertible** will be given away to a lucky attendee (*Ed. Note: Nick & I will definitely be there scoutin' parts for a certain '68 GTO!*)
- **Aug 2- Mountain Motor Nats** at MIR.
- **Aug 11 to 13- Goodguys Rod & Custom Classic** at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA. There will be a model car contest. For info, call (410)356-4307.
- **Aug 13- Koons Pontiac Show** in Tyson's Corner, VA.
- **Aug 18 & 19- Volunteer State Classic II** hosted by our "sister club", the Knoxville Scale Auto Modelers & Tennessee model hobbies at Baron's room, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN. For vendor info, call **John Larkin** at (615)239-7070; for show info, call **Kenneth King** at (615)691-1846.



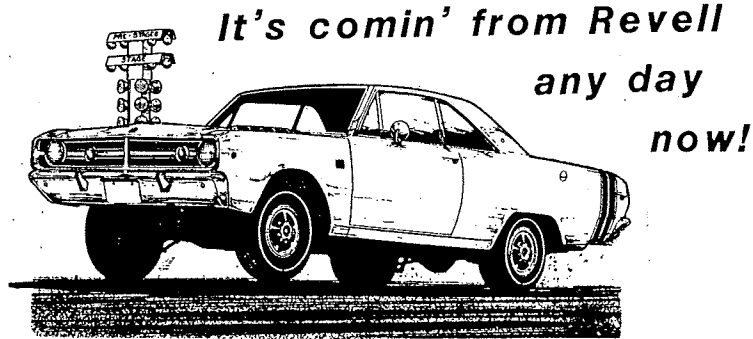
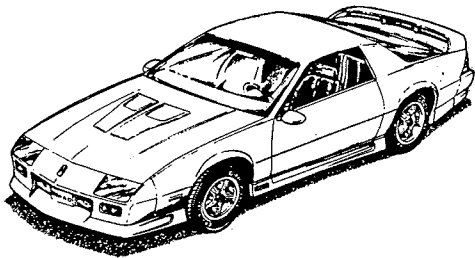
- Aug 25 to 27-Corvettes at Carlisle at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, PA. A 1975 Corvette will be given away to a lucky attendee.
- Aug 26- Jet Funny Car Nationals at MIR.
- Sept 9- 31st Annual Laurel Lions Show at Laurel race track in Laurel, MD
- Sept 10 & 11- Parts Plus Super Chevy Sunday Show at Raceway Park in Englishtown, NJ. For info, call (908)446-7800.
- Sept 14 to 17- Pioneer Electronics Keystone Nationals at Maple Grove Raceway in Mohnton, PA.
- Sept 17- Big Rig Truck Nationals at MIR.
- Sept 23- Fall Funny Car Classic at MIR.
- Sept 23- Maryland Camaro Club's All Chevy Car Show featuring all Chevis, all years at Win Kelly Chevy Geo in Clarksville, MD from 11 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. Car show, free sodas & hot dogs, face painting, clowns, spacewalk. For info, call 1-800-458-5640.
- Oct 7- NNL 16 at Maumee (Toledo!) Ohio. I understand this years' theme is Racing (*all types!*)
- Oct 14- Pro Challenge at MIR.
- Oct 15- Atlas Pontiac Show in Brandywine, MD
- Oct 15 & 16- Parts Plus Super Chevy Sunday Show at Virginia Motorsports Park in Petersburg, VA. For further info, call (804)862-3174.



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

Norman F. Veber  
317 Roosevelt Ave., S.W.  
Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061



*It's comin' from Revell  
any day  
now!*

**JUMP START/ROBB ARMSTRONG**





BROWNIES: BREAKFAST OF MARYLAND MODELLING CHAMPIONS.