



GTR Newsletter

June 2005

The Newsletter of IPMS/Grand Touring
and Racing Auto Modelers



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- Hasegawa's new 1/24 VW Kubelwagen kit

GTR Auto Modelers

2002/2003 IPMS/USA Region 5 Chapter of the Year

2005 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

Location alternates between member's homes and the Fountains of Crystal Lake

Next GTR Meeting: June 18, 2005

Chuck Herrmann's House

338 Alicia Drive Cary, IL

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: Tim Leicht (815) 344-9109

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Unless indicated, all articles written by the editor. All errors, misspellings and inaccuracies, while the editor's responsibility, are unintentional. Feel free to copy for any other nonprofit use.

Check out the GTR Auto Modelers website at: www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com

GTR MAILBox

by Chuck Herrmann

Industry News



Revell AG (Germany) will be issuing a series of 1/32 Dakar rally raid kits, including the VW Taureg and the race winning Mitsubishi. These will be pre-painted, are the same easy build style as their recent series of DTM race cars. They should be available in the US next month. They will also have several Ferrari 360 Cup race car kits in the same series.



If you are looking for some vintage race car decals, check out Professor Motor. While this is a web site (www.professormotor.com) primarily for the 1/32 slot racing market, there are lots of decal sheets here including 1/24 that static modelers may find useful. They carry DMC decals as well as other brands.

If you have had difficulty finding the Tamiya lacquer spray paints on hobby store shelves lately, it is because all the product had to be recalled. The issue had to do with labeling, not quality, so Tamiya pulled it all back to their California distribution center and relabeled the cans. So it should be available again soon, if not already by the time you read this.

Events

For details see the Calendar page.

GTR News

GTR Update

Our meeting site hosts, The Fountains of Crystal Lake, have asked GTR to participate in an open house type display at The Fountains on the morning of our June meeting, 6/18/05. The display will run from 10:30 to 11:30 am, if you make it please bring in some models to show off what GTR does.

The June meeting will be later that day, Saturday June 18 at my house, in Cary. Directions will be mailed with this newsletter. It will be a meeting and barbeque, since it is finally summertime in Chicago. We will start the food and refreshments early, feel free to arrive any time after 4:30. Please let me know if you are coming so there will be enough for all. That is LeMans weekend so I will have whatever coverage is on TV going. And bring along your latest built kits and projects.

The deadline for getting articles, reviews, etc. in the next (July, 2005) issue of the newsletter is July 4. Submissions always needed.

Newsletters

Since last time, we have received newsletters from: IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers, IPMS/Seattle, AMG Milwaukee, IPMS/C.A.R.S. in Miniature, IPMS/Bong Chapter, Rockford Wheels in Scale (RWIS) and Lake Michigan Model Car Club. Copies of all these will be available for viewing at the next meeting.

May GTR Meeting

The May GTR meeting was 5/21/05 at the Fountains of Crystal Lake. Turnout was great, lot of models and kits were on the table. Below are some photos from the meeting.

During the business section, we heard the treasury report and mailbag. We also decided to not hold a regular July meeting, it will be an outing to the Historics at Road America instead. And David Stone offered to host the August meeting at his home in Algonquin. Also we had pictures from both the IPMS Region 5 Convention and Milwaukee NNL events from April, thanks to Steve Jahnke



Tim Leicht: new 1/24 Revell kits, the latest Viper, the metal body CSI Miami Hummer, and the Dandy Dick Landy Dodge Dart with figure. Also the new resin Corvette GTR IMSA racer from QuickSkins.



Then it was on to show and tell. Among the highlights:

David Stone: 1/12 Airfix Bentley Blower project, engine in progress, and a 1/24 Hasegawa Toyota Celica.

Ron Spannraft: 1/12 Tamiya Tyrell GP car from 1971 season.

Ken Zinnen: some 1/43 kits of Indy cars: Tameo 1986 Bud March and 1989 Kraco March Rahal cars, and a SMTS 1985 March, the Danny Sullivan "spin and win" car. Also a built up Revell Target Reynard in 1/24.

Ed Sexton: an Aoshima 1/24 MGB, converted into a Group 44 SCCA racer. And the new Revell Monogram 1/32 65 Mustang GT slot racer.

Ron Thorne: lots of kits, the latest Fujimi 917 (molded in a wild shade of green plastic), Tamiya Nissan 350 Calsonic, a Gunze Sanyo Citroen 2 CV and a Protar Mercedes Benz W196. Also he was working on a Fujimi Ferrari PS4 kit.

John Schaefer: a completed model! The Revell 97 Ford Taurus NASCAR, lots of aftermarket resin and other conversions, in #97 Sharpie markings. And four NASCAR bodies in process, along with three new JWTBM decals sheets.

Doug Fisher: built kits of the Revell Batmobile and Tamiya Original Telle Mercedes Benz DTM racer. In progress kits of the Revell IMSA Mustang GTP racer and the Fisher resin Sunoco McLaren.

Chuck Herrmann: eight built up 1/24 Indy Cars, including an AMT #14 Copehagen AJ Foyt from 1988, a 1956 Curtis Kraft Roger Ward Filter Queen Special, Derek Daly Raynor #10 and Roberto Guerero STP #2 Marches, also a March-Porsche in phantom Martini markings.

First look: Hasegawa 1/24 Kubelwagen

Pkw. K1 KÜBELWAGEN TYPE 82



Subject: VW Kubelwagen
Manufacturer: Hasagawa
Kit #: **Scale:** 1/24

Reviewed by Chuck Herrmann

Subject: Everyone knows the original Volkswagen Beetle, which was in production until summer 2003, making it the most produced car in history. Originally a concept of Adolph Hitler for an affordable, basic "peoples car", it was designed by Dr Ferry Porsche in the late 1930's. The outbreak of World War II interrupted passenger car development and production, so the first full scale production of the design was as a military vehicle. Called the Kubelwagen, it was a low maintenance, air cooled (24.5 hp) rear engine rear wheel drive car that proved very reliable and maneuverable. It was essentially the German version of the US Willys Jeep. Over 50,000 Kubelwagens in various formats were produced from 1940 until the end of the war.

Kit: Hasegawa released a 1/24 kit of the US Willys Jeep in 2003, and this is another in that series. Most military kits are done in 1/35, so this is a somewhat unusual release.

This is a full detail kit, with over 150 pieces molded in beige and clear plastic, with vinyl tires. There is a full interior along with complete engine and suspension detail. For the military guys there are lots of guns and other extras, also there is a nice driver figure. The kit includes a small decal sheet to model three different versions. One negative is the molded on windshield wipers.

The design of this kit is similar to the style used in other military kits more often seen in 1/35 scale. Unlike most automotive kits, the body is not one separate piece, rather it is many pieces which build into subassemblies

much like the real thing, and then attach to the frame. Besides taking some getting used to, it will be hard to paint since it must be done prior in pieces, and there are some hard to reach corners so an airbrush will really help.

I have started building this kit, and it is different than the usual car kits. I had some issues getting the side panel and rear fender assemblies to line up. And I need to be careful to change the assembly sequence to allow me to get paint into all the nooks and corners.



Project: After WWII, other military and utility versions of the Beetle were developed, with a civilian model called the Thing sold in the US in the 70s. Other variations were offered in various markets through the 90's. In addition to military use, it was also used rough terrain and jungle conditions, where the poor heating of the Beetle was not a problem. Production of the old Beetles continued in Mexico until 2003, with many variations of the Thing appearing as commercial vehicles, taxi cabs and resort transport.

On my recent vacation to Puerto Vallarta, I saw hundreds of old Beetles (it was called the Sedan in Mexico) as well as VW vans, buses, pickups and lots of variations of the Thing. Since I am not a military modeler, my interest in this kit was to use it as the basis of modeling some version of a Thing, since no other model of that subject has been released in 1/24.



However, now that I have the kit, that would require a lot of work. The Thing has different head and tail lights, which could be found in the parts box. And this 1942 version has the original 24 hp flat four engine, but again you could kitbash a later version pretty easily.



The main problem will be the fenders and front body panel. As you can see in the photos, the WWII car had rounded fenders that stopped high in the front. The later civilian versions have squared off fenders. You would have to scratch build new fenders, and build in the headlights. Also, the hood has a raised hump to attach the spare tire, and the body stops way too high in the front. A new smoother hood should be easy, since it is a rectangular shape with no compound curves. But the fenders would be a much more difficult proposition.

So my final version will be a modified Kubelwagen beach or street machine, not a stock Thing. By gluing the engine cover shut I will make it a curbside, so I need not worry about engine upgrades. This will also help hide the mods I will need to make to mount some street wheels and tires to replace the skinny kit tires.



Other things that need to be kit bashed are bucket seats, a dashboard and other interior pieces to make the sparse military interior more comfortable for a street car. And maybe a chrome exhaust, I am looking for the single stinger type. Some street legal lights will be needed, maybe a roll bar? And bumpers of some kind. Hopefully I can do a follow up article on my progress



GTR Event Calendar

2005

June 11 7th Greater Minnesota Open NNL
Comfort Inn Airport
Bloomington, MN
jkampmann@comcast.net

June 19 US Grand Prix
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

June 18-19 24 Hours of LeMans

July 14-17 Brian Redman International Challenge
Historic Races
Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

July 20-23 2005 IPMS/USA National Convention
Cobb Galleria Convention Center
Atlanta, GA www.ipmsusa.org

August 7 NASCAR Allstate 400 at the Brickyard
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

August 14 1st Annual Summer Plastic Meltdown
Hosted by IPMS/CARS in Miniature
Algonquin Township Office
Cary, IL Details to come

August 21 Road America 500 ALMS
Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

September 10 Nordic Con IPMS/Twin Cities
Minneapolis, MN

Sept 18 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI
Jim Welytok 262-246-7171 unievents@aol.com
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

September 25 46th Illinois Plastic Kit and Toy Show
With modelcar contest hosted by Lake Michigan
Model Car Club
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL
Swap: 630-969-1847
Contest: 630-268-0859

October 1 The Show XI by IPMS/Will-Cook
James Hart/Millennium Cafetorium
Homewood, IL obviouschoice@juno.com
Ed Mate 915-478-4432

October 2 Tri-State Collectors Classic Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park, IL
Jim Welytok 262-246-7171 unievents@aol.com
(formerly Hillside) www.uniqueeventsshows.com

October 20-23
iHobby Expo Los Angeles, CA

October 29 IPMS Glue Crew
Wausau, WI Joseph Drew j.drew@dwave.net

November 6 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI
Welytok 262-246-7171 unievents@aol.com
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

November 12 23rd Annual Butch O'Hare Show
Details to be announced

December 4 Tri-State Collectors Classic Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park, IL
Jim Welytok 262-246-7171 unievents@aol.com
(formerly Hillside) www.uniqueeventsshows.com

? = event or date not yet confirmed as of this printing

IPMS USA
International Plastic Modelers Society

www.ipmsusa.org

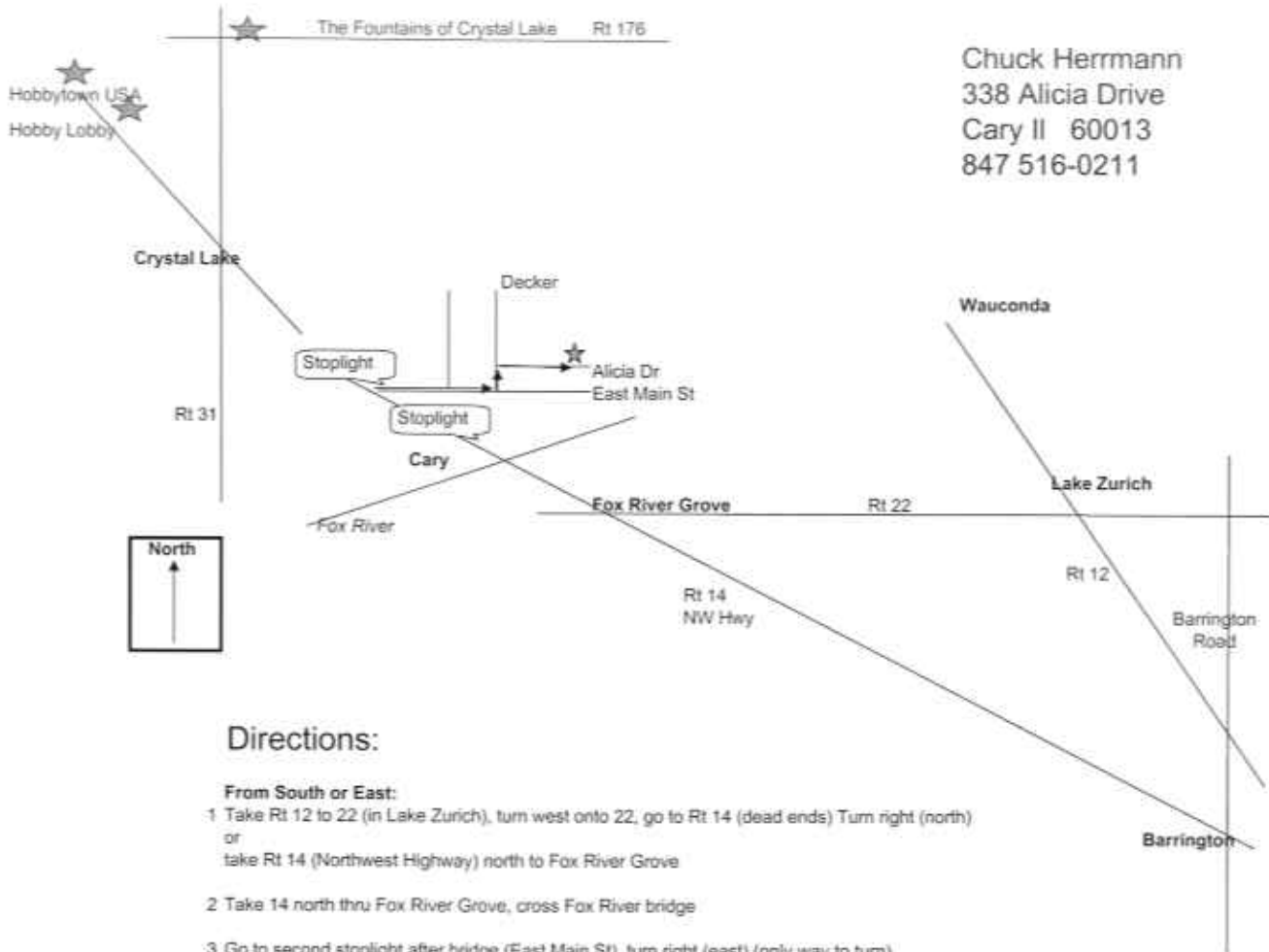
2006 National Convention Kansas City, MO



Directions to June, 2005 GTR Meeting

6/18/2005

BBQ 4:30 PM, Meeting 7:00 PM



Directions:

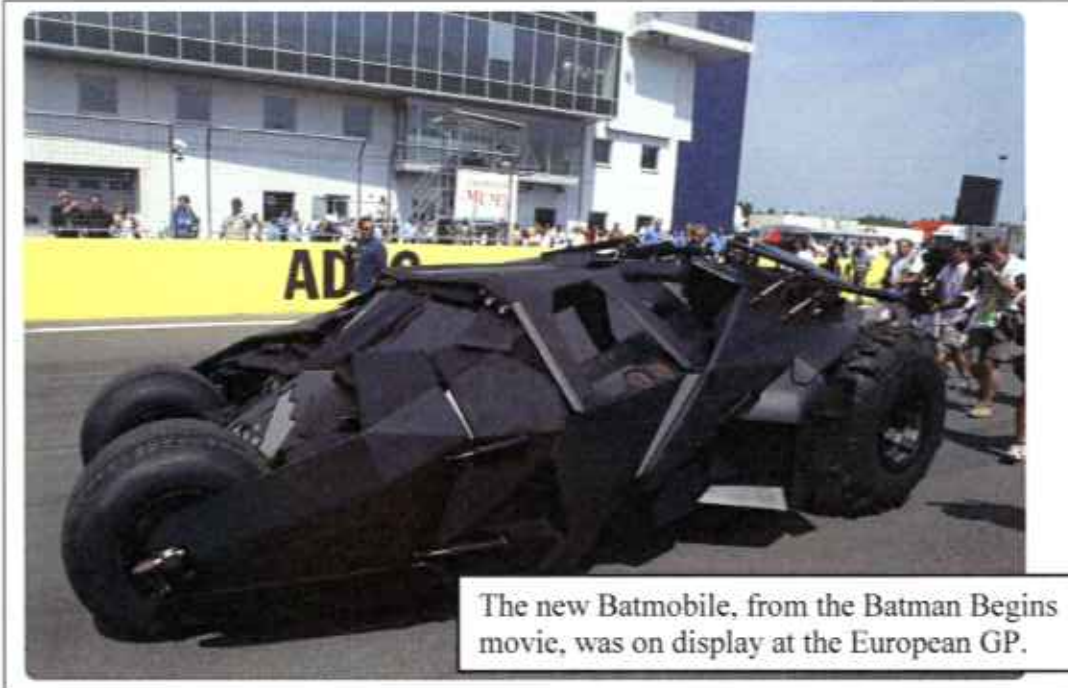
From South or East:

- 1 Take Rt 12 to 22 (in Lake Zurich), turn west onto 22, go to Rt 14 (dead ends) Turn right (north) or take Rt 14 (Northwest Highway) north to Fox River Grove
- 2 Take 14 north thru Fox River Grove, cross Fox River bridge
- 3 Go to second stoplight after bridge (East Main St), turn right (east) (only way to turn)
- 4 Go to second street (Decker, about two blocks), turn left (north) (only way to turn)
- 5 Go to first street (Alicia, 1/2 block), turn right (east) (only way to turn)
- 6 go to second house from the end of the street - it is a dead end street.

From North:

- 1 Take Rt 31 south to Rt 14
- 2 Exit Rt 14 South, go through Cary (Rt 14 veers to the left at the train station)
- 3 Turn right onto East Main St (stoplight by Centruy 21 Realty)
- 4 Go to second street (Decker, about two blocks), turn left (north) (only way to turn)
- 5 Go to first street (Alicia, 1/2 block), turn right (east) (only way to turn)
- 6 go to second house from the end of the street - it is a dead end street.

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Cary, IL 60013

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