



GTR Newsletter

December 2010

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers

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- Fujimi McLaren MP4/5 – First Look

Happy Holidays
from
GTR Auto Modelers!

GTR Auto Modelers

Based in the Chicago, IL Northwest Suburbs
2002/2003 IPMS/USA Region 5 Chapter of the Year
2007 and 2008 IPMS/USA Region 5 Newsletter of the Year
2010 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

**No December GTR Meeting –
see you next year!**

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

Your current GTR Officers are:

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The GTR Newsletter is edited by Chuck Herrmann

Please send all correspondence, newsletters, IPMS information, articles, reviews, comments, praise, criticism to:
Chuck Herrmann 338 Alicia Drive Cary, IL 60013

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 Mailbag

IPMS
GTR

by Chuck Herrmann

Real World

Multiple engine manufacturers in Indy Car in 2012

First Chevrolet announced they will provide an engine for use in the Indy Car series when the new rules go into effect in 2012. Then a third automobile manufacturer said they will join the IZOD Indy Car Series in 2012, as Lotus will build an engine and aero kit for the next-generation car in the series.

The new formula calls for 6 cylinder turbocharged engines and a new base chassis, which teams can modify with alternative wings and aero packages.

This should make for an interesting mix of cars on the Indy Car grid, finally getting away from the spec series the series has been for several seasons.

Hybrid Power

A sign of what may be coming in the future for sports car racing was the 6th place overall finish for the Hybrid Porsche 911 GT3 Hybrid at the Intercontinental LeMans Cup 1,000 KM race at Zhuhai, China last month. It was the first GT to place behind the prototypes and was well ahead of all the GT2 class entries.



Viper to Return

Chrysler has announced that the Viper will return! After halting production earlier this year, the new version will be available sometime in 2012. It is not based on any European Fiat platforms, it will remain a unique design but final details are still to be determined. A new Chrysler that will share technology with Chrysler owner Fiat Corp will be the new Chrysler 200, the replacement for the Sebring. A version of the car will be marketed in Europe under the Lancia brand.

Hobby Industry



Revell has announced a National Model Car Championship for 2011. Together with Speed TV series GearZ, Illinois-based Revell Inc. will conduct the inaugural Revell/GearZ National Model Car Championships. With the help of some 2,000+ hobby shops and retailers, participants will be able to enter online or go to their local hobby shop to pick up an entry form and mail in photos of their models.

In addition to awards and valuable prizes from Revell, Testors, Coast Airbrush and Iwata, the model car magazines, and GearZ, the winners in each category will be recognized along with images of their models shown on an episode of Stacey David's GearZ®.

For details see:

<http://www.hubgarage.com/mygarage/spdnmotion/blogs/27012>

Ulrich Mini Men

Years ago, I ordered some 1/24 figures from the original *Auto World* catalog to display along with my models. The Ulrich Mini-Men are now available again. They are kind of neat because you can pose them in all kinds of positions as they come as a kit. Check them out at:



<http://www.ulrichmodels.biz/servlet/the-590/Ulrich-Mini-dsh-Men-1-fdsh-24th-Scale/Detail>

Tamiya Fair Announcements

At their Tamiya Fair event last month we received word of several kit releases. Of particular interest to GTR members and fans would be the all new kit of the Lexus LFA supercar in 1/24.



Among the reissues are the 1/12 Datsun 240ZG Fairlady, and a lot of classic 1/24 sports car kits:

- VW Golf Racing
- Alfa Romeo GTA
- Renault 5 Turbo Rally
- VW Karmann Ghia Coupe
- Fiat Abarth 695
- Alpine A110
- Citroen 2CV
- Fiat 500

More Batstuff!

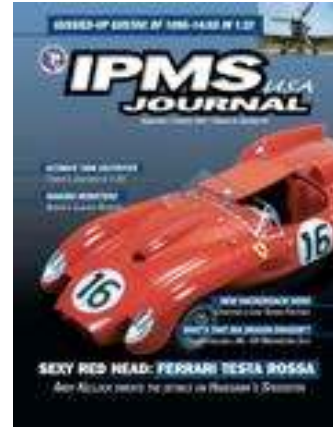
Moebius Models has announced a new Batmobile kit in 1/25, this time it will be the Batmobile Tumbler from the most recent series of movies. Also, the Bat Pod from the movies and a kit of 1/25 Batman figures to accompany the models

Speaking of Moebius Models, here is the box art for their upcoming 1/25 release of the 1953 Hudson Hornet



Media

The latest issue if the IPMS/USA Journal has a great article on building up the Hasegawa Ferrari Testa Rossa kit that came out last year. Maybe this will get me going on finishing mine and doing the follow up article I promised some 18 months ago....



Events

The 4th Annual GTR Summer NNL is on – the date is July 31, the theme is Made in Japn, with a sub theme of 50 Years of Winternationals Drag Racing. The format and location will be the same as past years. Again we will be at the Algonquin Township Office complex in Cary, IL.

The date for some other local events that GTR participates in have been established. The Classic Plastic Swap held by Rockford Wheels in Scale will be January 31, in Rockford IL. And the Ferrari Expo and Modle Contest held at Continental Motorsports in Hinsdale, IL will be March 19. Watch for final details, but GTR plans to have club tables at both shows.

See the events calendar for details of these shows and for all of the events that I know of. We are adding the 2011 events. If any readers wish their events or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to me.

Random Thoughts

By Les Whitfield

According to *Nightly Business Report* on PBS NASCAR tracks have been down 10% in attendance. TV ratings are down 25%! Yet they have 157M unique viewers.

Petrobras, the Brazilian oil company, discovered a field off their shore with a reported reserve of some 200 years!! Yet gas prices continue to rise because we are told there is an oil shortage. Concho Resources obtained drilling rights in the Permian Basin, which is located in

west Texas and eastern New Mexico. *Investors Business Daily* (Nov 22, 2010) mentioned this find, with new drilling techniques, has a potential 76 Billion barrels of oil.

New Jersey has the third lowest gas taxes after Alaska and Wyoming. It shares a unique position with Oregon and a city on Long Island. For 61 years NJ self-service gas pumps have been forbidden!

I was reading the box of a well known cereal looking to see if it was full of high fructose corn syrup. Low and behold it contained tri sodium phosphate (TSP) that well known cleaner that can dull polyurethane and banned from use in Chicago.

Chris Economaki mentioned Pepsi's Refresh Project in a recent column. It offers grants toward the support of the treatment, care and protection of abused children (a Jeff Gordon initiative), providing financial relief to pediatric bone marrow transplant patients (a Jimmy Johnson program) and building a computer lab for elementary school students (a Dale Earnhardt, Jr. program). These are Real Americans giving back.

I am tired of hearing that Citgo stations are independently owned. They still pay royalties to Caesar Chavez the president of the country and of the Venezuelan Oil Company, who stated he wants the destruction of the United States! What particularly frosts me is when I see a police car or any government vehicle fueling up at Citgo. Now BP stations are running the same sort of ads. My friend in Florida mentioned Citgo stations near him have converted to Shell. There are some near me that did the same thing. The actual refiner of the fuel you buy could be from any company. I have read that BP may have been involved in the release of the Lockerby bomber. Hence my refusal to imbibe in any single malt or gin products. It was stated he only had a few months to live, that was over a year now.

Al Gore of Vice-Presidential fame states he is doing a mea culpa. In a *Wall Street Journal* article he stated the benefits of ethanol are trivial. He now admits making a mistake by paying attention to farmers in Tennessee and Iowa during his run for President. In the same article they mentioned the *greens* are fuming about scientific evidence that bio-fuels increase carbon emissions more than fossil fuels do.

GM has been selling machine tools at auction at 10 to 30 cents on the dollar.

Auction news: RM Auctions recently attempted to sell a 1958 Ferrari 250 TR (s/n0738TR), one of 21 built, but was a no sell at a \$10.7 M bid. Over at the American side a restored #1 1965 Shelby Mustang sold at

\$247,500, a 1967 Shelby Cobra 427 went for \$715K and an original USSRC 289 Cobra (one of six built and one of two with dual side pipes) raced once by Shelby's team then was a backup car hammer-hammered down at \$1,595,000!! Who ever said there's nothing more worthless than a used racecar. The Ferrari information came from *Forza* magazine and the Shelby's info came from *Hemmings Muscle Machines* magazine.

At Bonham's a one off Daytona Targa Speciale one off was hammered down at \$1.9M.

The length of an on ramp leading to a highway is there so a driver can blend in with traffic. Even while the traffic is heavy there is usually a gap one could slide into. Yet there are those who must go to the end of the ramp and line up there and stop traffic on the highway so they can merge. **And then** demand that more than one of them at a time. I mean..."WHAT?"



GTR Update

Since the December meeting is so close to the holidays, we have cancelled the meeting, as we have for the past several years. So the next meeting will be Saturday, January 15, 2011 at the Fountains of Crystal Lake.

At the August meeting we discussed doing a club project kit or subject for next year using some of the proceeds from the NNL. After discussions and some feedback we have picked the **Revell Ferrari California**, either the coupe or roadster version, either the US or German release.



Members who complete a build of the kit, will receive a \$15 rebate by the club (essentially free membership) if the completed kit is shown at the GTR club display at the Ferrari Expo or the Milwaukee NNL, at our May GTR meeting or if I

receive a photo via email by the day of the May 2011 GTR meeting.

So start building! Any version or modifications are allowed.

GTR has successfully rechartered as an IPMS chapter. Dues for 2011 will remain at \$15; you may start renewing by sending me a check (made out to Chuck Herrmann or Steve Jahnke) or paying cash next meeting.

Any member who wants to bring up other ideas or suggestions for future meetings or activities, do so either at the meeting or contact me. We have several possible changes that will be discussed at the meetings early next year.

Past issues of the GTR newsletters are now available on line.

Go to www.carsandracingstuff.com, then click on Newsletters, find GTR and our newsletters are achieved back to 2004, more will be added. Thanks to Bill Crittenden for storing our newsletters on his site.

GTR Classifieds:

Wanted: Instruction sheet for Matchbox 1/32 Citroen 11 Legere Kit #PK-310
Chuck Herrmann gtrchab@yahoo.com

November GTR Meeting

The November meeting was back at the Fountains on November 29. We did the treasury report and did the mailbag, and discussed a little business, like the Summer NNL and the club project kit. Then it was on to Show and Tell. Besides the photos below, George Pritzen brought in a few of his current projects, a Lindberg Chrysler Atlantic and a Revell Ferrari F430. Guest Larry Fulhorst brought in some great vintage racing photography, especially some Can Am stuff from the 60's.

Here are photos from the meeting.



Chuck Herrmann: Your editor is still working through my rat rod/nostalgic custom craze. My projects are all still in primer. The Beer Wagon glue bomb rebuild is coming along.



The recent Ice T reissue, in progress with some modifications. Compare to an old built up of the original kit I recently bought and cleaned up a bit.



Finally a 2004 Corvette snap kit from Revell in process of being built into a Surf Vette, with the back opened up and a surfboard rack to be added.



Welcome back Ed Sexton! He brought in the latest 1/32 slot car from Revell, the McLaren M6 of Dan Gurney – the McEagle.



Dave Edgecomb brought in brought in two versions of the MPC 1/20 McLaren Mk8: an original high wing kit of the Mk8B and the more recent reissue of the Mk8D with the low attached wing. It was interesting to see the differences in the kits over the years.



IPMS News

GTR has successfully completed the annual renewal process to maintain our charter as a chapter of IPMS/USA for 2011. GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA. We urge those who have

lapsed to renew their IPMS/USA membership, or if you have never been a member enroll now! We need five active national IPMS/USA members to renew. Often we have had issues getting the required amount of IPMS members, and this year we had the minimum, so help out GTR as well as the IPMS and join or renew now! Details can be found at their web site, www.ipmsusa.org, or see me for membership forms.



IPMS USA

International Plastic Modelers Society

2011 Nationals: Aug 4-7 Omaha, NE
The website for the 2011 Nationals is now up and running:

<http://www.ipmsusa2011.org/>

No 2011 Region 5 Convention since the National is in Region 5

2012 Nationals: Orlando, FL

Tips and Tools

Each month this column will feature a short article on a new or unique technique or tool. All readers are encouraged to submit a few paragraphs, maybe a picture or two, of something you would like to share with fellow modelers. Feel free to pass along anything you feel would be of interest to fellow modelers – we welcome submissions from all readers, not just GTR members!

This month we have an update to a product discussed last issue from Skip Samples of the San Diego Model Car Club.

Hi Guys,

As you know, last month I passed along some info on an interesting product called Kosutte Gin-San which is a special powder that when rubbed onto a painted surface, makes it appear like chrome. As soon as I heard about it, I sent an order off to Hobby Link Japan, which was the only source I could find for it on-line. I've been

waiting for my order ever since then, but according to their Customer Service Rep, Corky Visminas, it appears that this product is no longer in production. This was confirmed by a modeling forum entry I just read from July of this year describing the product. The last line in this guy's entry says that he feels lucky that he even got some since the product is longer being produced.

So, the bottom line is that if you want to produce chrome-like finishes at home, you're going to have to work with Alclad, which I love, by the way.

Sorry for the false alarm on this. I was pretty excited about it myself.

Skip Samples (San Diego Model Car Club)

First Look: Fujimi 1/20 McLaren MP4/5 GP Kit



Subject: McLaren Honda MP4/5 Monaco GP 1989

Manufacturer: Fujimi

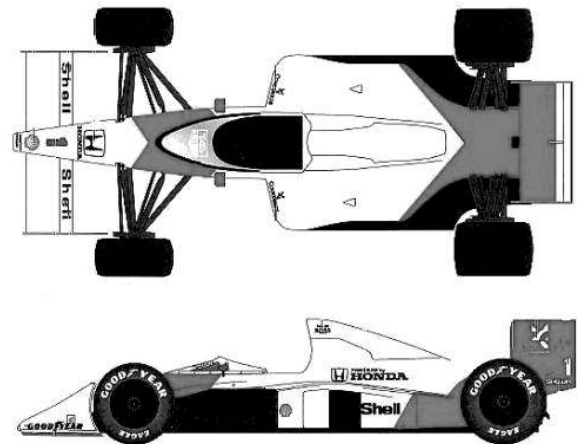
Kit#: 090573 **Scale:** 1/20

By Chuck Herrmann

Over the last several years Fujimi has been actively challenging Tamiya's dominance in the 1/20 scale Formula One GP kit marketplace. I had wanted to do one of their new kits to compare to the long time Tamiya standard, so when IPMS/USA offered the chance to review this kit for the IPMS website I jumped at it.

The Subject: In the late 80's when my interest in racing and modeling rekindled after several years of college, partying, marriage and work, McLaren was the team to beat in grand Prix racing. In 1989, the first year of completion after turbo engines were banned, McLaren designed and raced the MP 4/5, with a 3.5 liter normally aspirated V8 engine by Honda. That year the

drivers were GP legends Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna, and the team dominated the series, taking 10 of 16 race wins, the Constructors Championship and Prost won his third GP World Championship. The two drivers were bitter rivals who did not get along. At the next to last race in Japan the two collided in the first corner. Although Senna was able to continue, he was later disqualified for causing the accident and handed a controversial title to Prost. By the end of the season the two were not speaking and would not be photographed together. Prost always felt snubbed by the rising star of Senna, so even though he won the championship he left the team the next season to race for Ferrari, Senna staying at McLaren to win many races and a World Championship.



This model represents the car as raced at the 1989 Monaco Grand Prix, won by Senna with Prost finishing second. (Fujimi has also released a version of this kit with rain tires as needed for the Belgium Grand Prix, kit # 090665, as well a kit with later season wing changes as raced at the Spanish GP, kit # 090622).

The Kit: This is a full detail kit, nicely packaged with each sprue individually bagged in plastic. The parts come molded in white, black and clear plastic, with two satin chrome plated sprues.



The design of the kit is very similar to the typical Tamiya 1/20 F1 kit. There is a basic chassis plate, the interior sits on that, the rear suspension attaches to the engine and transmission unit which is mounted just behind the interior. The engine pieces all come on a satin plated sprue. This seems strange since all reference photos I have found show the engine as being semi-gloss or metallic black, not chrome. There is a full suspension in the front, attaching to the chassis and body.



A mask is provided to help with the two color paint scheme, but it is only to mask off the front red section. So you are on your own to mask off the back of the car.



There is a nice decal sheet, with numbers to do either drivers car. As is usually the case today, the tobacco markings of primary sponsor Marlboro are missing (these are available from an aftermarket sources). But the good news is that the Goodyear tire markings are here, decals for the body as well as rub ons for the tire sidewalls. The tires are black vinyl rubber, again similar to Tamiya in style but with less of a mold line. Note:

the instructions call out a color reference to #92, with no description. Based on photos of the real car, this looks to be semi gloss or metallic black.

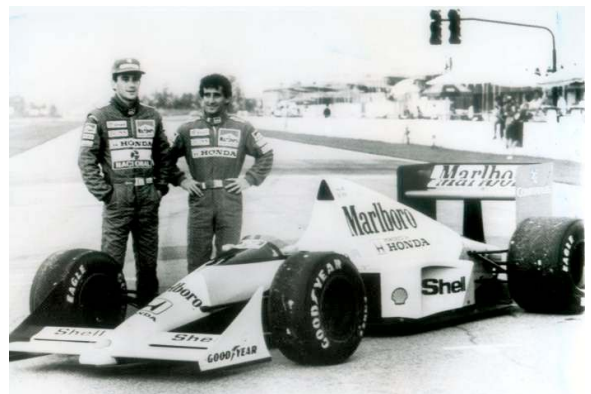
Summary: This looks like a very nice model. I have yet to begin assembly as I have building my reference file, but everything looks good. I am eager to start to see how it compares to the classic Tamiya F1 kits. Look for the full review and kit build up in a few months in a review article in the IPMS/USA website.

www.ipmsusa.org.

Thanks to IPMS/USA and Fujimi for this review sample.



The real car in action: Prost above, Senna below



Senna and Prost while they were still (barely) speaking.

2011 GTR Event Calendar

Jan 1-16 Dakar Rally
Argentina-Chile

Revell/GearZ National Model Car Championships
January 15, 2011, through May 15, 2011.

<http://www.hubgarage.com/mygarage/spdnmotion/blogs/27012>

Jan 29-30 Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona

Jan 30 Rockford Classic Plastic Swap
Hosted by Rockford Wheels in Scale
Ken Rock Community Center, Rockford IL
Contact dfmyers@aeroinc.net
(refer to RWIS Show in subject line)

Feb 20 NASCAR Daytona 500

Feb 27 57th Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL.
For info call Past Time Hobbies @ 630-969-1847

March 19 Ferrari Expo and Model Contest
Continental Motorsports, Hinsdale IL

March 19 ALMS 12 Hours of Sebring

Apr 9 Milwaukee NNL 19
Hosted by Automotive Modelers Group
Excellence Center Waukesha, WI
Scott Koch scottiekl@charter.net
Or Mike Dowd mdowd@wi.rr.com

Apr 10 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Spring Show
Waukesha County Expo Center Waukesha, WI
www.milwaukeeeminiaturemotors.com

Apr 16 NNL East New Jersey

Apr 28-May 1 GSL XXIII International Scale
Vehicle Championship and Convention
Sheridan City Center, Salt Lake City, UT
www.gslchampionship.org

May 1 31st Annual Hoosier Model Car Assoc
Swap and Contest Theme: 100 Years of Indy 500
First Church of the Nazarene, Indianapolis IN
Dave Williams 317-322-1852 indyhmca@aol.com

May 7 Mad City Modelers Show
Madison, WI
Kerry Fisk 608-438-1842

May 29 Indy 500

June 4-5 Heartland Model Car Nationals
Hosted by KC Slammers
Overland Park (KS) Convention Center,
Bill Barker 608-438-1842

June 11-12 24 Heures du Mans
LeMans, France

July 10 3rd Annual Attack of the Plastic
American Legion Hall, Delevan WI
262-728-5003

July 31 4th Annual GTR Summer NNL
Contest and Trunk Sale Swap Meet
Algonquin Township Office, Crystal Lake IL
Theme: Made in Japan
Subtheme: 50 Years of the WinterNationals
Contact : gtrchab@yahoo.com

Aug 4-7 IPMS/USA National Convention
Omaha, NE
<http://www.ipmsusa2011.org/>

Sep 25 58th Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL.
For info call Past Time Hobbies @ 630-969-1847

October 20-23 iHobby Expo
Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont IL
www.ihobbyexpo.com



GTR Auto

Modelers Newsletter

**Happy Holidays from
GTR Auto Modelers!**

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

Chuck Herrmann
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Cary, IL 60013

Next GTR Meeting: January 15, 2011

www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com