



GTR Newsletter

July 2011

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers



*Happy 4th of
July from GTR!*

Inside this issue:

- GTR News and 2011 Calendar
- Book Review: *Hot Rod Model Kits*

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
2011 Meetings: Every 1st Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

No July Regular Meeting

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

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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 Mailbag



by Chuck Herrmann

From the Editors desk:

Happy Fourth of July to everyone! In honor of this great American holiday, I have put the picture of my 32 Ford hot rod from last meeting on the cover. (it was the only American model displayed at the meeting that I had a quality picture of!). I know that recently I have had a fixation on hot rods/rat rods, but I will soon be back to more GTR style subject matters. But models are models, for me the fun is in the building, they're all good so always feel free to bring in any subject matter to our meetings!

Real World

Delta Wing to LeMans in 2012!

The Delta wing concept, originally designed to become the next generation Indy Car platform but which was not picked by Indycar, instead will make it racing debut at the 2012 LeMan 24 Hour endurance race. With a car so outside-the-box by any current set of regulations, the DeltaWing is the perfect candidate for Le Mans' 56th entrant, a car designated by the ACO to compete unclassified at Circuit de la Sarthe in an attempt to showcase its new technology.



In layman's terms, major differences about the DeltaWing compared to most current cars is how lightweight it is, how it generates downforce from the car's undertray compared to front and rear wings, and the ability to hit 200 mph or more from a small amount of power. All three aspects will contribute to a much more efficient car from a performance and environmental standpoint. The 1.6-liter turbocharged engine, for which discussions are ongoing as to who the manufacturer will be, will produce approximately 300 horsepower. The wide-track rear tires push the vehicle weight distribution rearward. The car will be built in the shops of Dan Gurney's All American Racers, and the car will be run by the Highcroft Racing team, 2010 ALMS champions.

Sports Car Racing at Indy!



The GRAND-AM Rolex Series, owned and operated by NASCAR, will run a three-hour enduro at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on the same weekend as the 19th annual NASCAR stock car race in 2012.

New Danish Supercar coming to US



The Zenovo ST-1 will soon be available in the US. 15 cars will be imported, costing \$1.8 million each. For that you get 1,104 HP and a Swiss made Aspen Zenovo watch worth \$49K!

Hobby Industry

Airfix Triumph Herald in 1/32

Starter Set #A55201



In the current Airfix catalog there is a listing for a Triumph Herald kit in 1/32. This is a new subject to me, but I assume it is a reissue? List price is 9.99 English Pounds. According to the Airfix online catalog:

The Triumph Herald was a small two door car introduced in 1959 by the Standard-Triumph Company of Coventry. The body design was by the Italian stylist Michelotti and total Herald sales numbered over 300,000

Media

LeMans on *Speed TV* – thank you!



As I complained about several months ago, the coverage of ALMS sports car racing in the US, since switching from *SpeedTV* to various *ESPN* outlets, has not been very good, especially Sebring. Luckily for LeMans fans, the 24 Hours was covered on *SpeedTV*, same old format with some 18 hours of coverage. It was great to be able to get into the endurance feeling you get by watching at various segments and waking up to see the finish.



Here's hoping someone does a kit of the closed top Audi R18 race winner.

New GP Movie

Last month we saw that the movie *Senna* is now being released worldwide. Now we hear that work on a screenplay to immortalize F1's 1976 season in process. 35 years ago, Austrian great Nikki Lauda almost burned to death in a fiery crash but returned six weeks later to battle James Hunt for the title. The movie is to be titled *Rush*.



Nikki Lauda, his crash at the Nurburgring- below



The LA Times quotes a source as saying *The Da Vinci Code's* Ron Howard is now being touted to lead the project. The film, having gained the financial backing for the project, "aims to shoot this year in Europe", added the report.

Tamiya Model Magazine

In the current issue of *Tamiya Model Magazine* in the new products section there is a short piece on two new plastic kits. SimiLR, from France has a 1/24 Ford Focus WRC rally racer from 2010 – see Show and Tell this issue to see the kit Ed Sexton brought to the last meeting. Also, Belkits, from Belgium has released a 2009 season Peugeot 207 S2000 WRC rally car in 1/24. It is good to see some new plastic by new manufacturers. Both kits look pretty decent hope they do well and we see more offerings.



Random Thoughts

By Les Whitfield

"Failure to accord credit to anyone for what he may have done is a great weakness in any man", William Howard Taft President, Supreme Court Chief Justice, United States of America.

As I write this, the price of gasoline is at \$4.50 locally down from \$4.75 near me. Is anyone beside me wondering, with gasoline prices so high because the oil costs so much, how can the analysts justify the high profits the companies are making? Why aren't the companies just passing along the extra costs and not increasing the price to us many fold? Shouldn't their profits be in line with the past?

Royal Dutch Shell has built the largest floating offshore structure. It is off Australia. It is drilling off shore natural gas and cooling it to liquid. It encompasses four football fields, contains enough steel to produce six aircraft carriers and can withstand a category 5 hurricane. Cost was in the neighborhood of \$105B.

Small cars from Japan are in short supply as are those assembled here. The problem is to assemble the cars here the parts must come from Japan. Too bad the parts are not manufactured here.

PBS program *NBR* reports automotive market share in China is: GM 19.6%, Ford 16.2%, Toyota 14.1%, Honda 10.3%, Chrysler 9.6%.

Mercedes-Benz E class cars are being built with a combination natural gas/gasoline Engine. They are calling it bivalent. As it runs out of NG it switches to the gasoline.

The late TV mogul Aaron Spelling's widow is selling the family mansion. It is 57,000 sq. ft and 123 rooms. The White House is 55,000 sq. ft. The estate is the largest in Hollywood. She had it listed for \$150M but settled for \$85M. Why do I mention this? The purchaser is none other then 22 year old Petra Ecclestone, daughter of F1 czar Bernie.

Have any of you seen the TV ad, sponsored by the AARP, regarding the loss of social security and Medicare benefits to seniors? All the old actors who are expounding make it seem all of the seniors (soon to be one) will be affected. The truth is any one who is now 55 or older will be receiving benefits under the old plan. Those younger than 55, you have the opportunity to start saving now. No job? Ask Washington to get you one.

Car maker SAAB cannot pay its employees because it doesn't have enough cash according to *First Business*. The company shut down production in April because of payment disputes

with its suppliers. A Chinese car dealer loaned them money to pay off its suppliers. After that they had to stop production again this month. SAAB is trying to raise \$47M cash by selling real estate including a factory. I believe GM got lucky getting this albatross off its balance sheets.

After many years, and laws passed, to finally get people to use their directional signals; cell phones and the "me" attitude have caused them to revert. Like the person who said "I don't like the tick, tick, tick". *I mean WHAT?*

Well you may not agree, but these are my random thoughts.

Les Whitfield

Events

Of course the big event for July is our 4th Annual GTR Summer NNL on July 31! See our full page flyer later in this newsletter. We are still selling trophy packages and accepting raffle donations. Hopefully this year the weather cooperates for the outdoor trunk sale.

The other local show in July is the 3rd Annual Attack of the Plastic at the American Legion Hall, Delevan WI on July 10.

See the events calendar for details for all of the events that I know of. If any readers wish their events or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to me.



GTR Update

Due to the first Saturday falling over the Independence Day holiday weekend we will have no regular July meeting. So the next regular meeting will be Saturday, August 6 at Doug Fisher's home in Elmhurst.

Then in September we will meet at the Township.

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.

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.

May GTR Meeting

Our regular meeting was May 7, at the Algonquin Township Building. First we did some business, the Treasury and Mailbag, talked about the Ferrari California club project. Then it was on to Show and Tell. Among the stuff on the table this month (hoped I remembered them all, I seem to have misplaced my notes!):

Larry Fulhorst: several 1/43 Solido die cast Porsche kits, built long ago, including a Porsche 914 which Larry says was modeled after his real car from those days!



Porsche 914



Porsche 935.



Gerry Paquette: Revell Ferrari California Down Top kit in progress, along with several aftermarket items to add additional details:



Photo etch bits and resin wheels....



And the Blanco Fuji paint to be used.



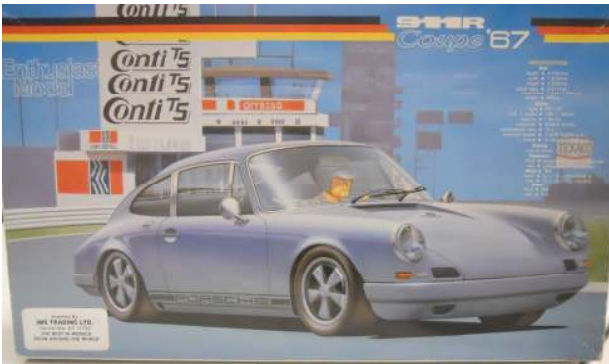
Ed Sexton: a 1/24 kit of the 2010 season Ford Focus WRC racer, from new manufacturer SimiIR, and



two pre built Marsh Model 1/43 models, including the 1967 Laguna Seca winning Lola T70 of John Cannon.



Dave Edgecomb: Dave brought in his Fujimi Porsche 911 RSR kit in progress, showing lots of body mods.



Chuck Herrmann: Monogram 32 Ford roadster, rebuilt from a \$2 swap meet glue bomb purchase, along with a Jimmy Flintstone figure.



And another swap meet bargain, a \$1 radio control Porsche 356 being converted to a slammer Carrerra Panamerica racer using Scale Design decals.



Steve Jahnke: a 1/24 diecast Cobra, the car driven by Elvis in the movie Viva Las Vegas,



And a recent auction purchase of a Monogram Circle Track two in one kit.



IPMS News

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA, in Region 5. 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.

The election of IPMS/USA officers is going on now, members are urged to vote – see the latest *IPMS/USA Journal* or go to the website above to vote.

Book Review

Title: *Hot Rod Model Kits*

Author: Terry Jesse 2000

Motorbooks International Publishing Co.

Reviewed by Chuck Herrmann



This book is a short history of American plastic model hot rod kits up until 2000. The author, Terry Jesse, is well known in the hobby as a writer and reviewer and was a frequent contributor to magazines such as *Scale Auto*.

Since hot rod and custom kits, along with factory stock annuals, were the great majority of kits released in the early days of plastic modeling back in the 50's and 60's, the book actually functions well as a history of the hobby and the modeling industry. It is broken into chapters covering each of the "Big 4" of American hobby manufacturers: AMT, Revell, Monogram and MPC. The final chapter covers the other smaller companies: Jo-Han, Aurora, Lindberg, Hawk, IMC, Palmer Eldon and Pyro. Also noted is the role the Auto World catalog played in helping develop the hobby (it was an early version of the internet) and how the early modeling articles in *Rod & Custom* magazine helped promote modeling. The format is soft cover, about magazine size, 96 pages with about

half the space devoted to lots of color photos of models and kit boxes.

Mention is made of all the classic early kits, sequentially in each company's dedicated chapter. Seeing all these kits brought back lots of memories from back in the days when they were all new. The individuals who were instrumental in the hobby industry are described as well. The development of kit design and the style and packaging of kits, such as the very successful "3 in 1" concept, are thoroughly covered.

What I found very interesting is that the plastic model industry, especially cars, was **huge** back in the early to mid sixties. The plastic industry and automobiles were very trendy, popular new themes back then. I would compare it's popularity at the time to the popularity today of electronic gaming and tech gadgets). Many of the plastic kits sold over a million copies each. And the Monogram Red Baron custom kit sold over two million! No wonder the old molds wore out or looked bad as kits were reissued. Model companies actually commissioned famous real car designers and customizers, such as George Barris and Big Daddy Roth to build real versions of the kits they designed as models, as well as scaled down real cars to promote the hobby. AMT even had a Speed and Custom Shop for a while, to produce real cars. There were many great designers beside Barris and Roth, like Tom Daniel and Daryl Starbird who created designs for successful model kits. The industry provided a good living to a lot of people as well as a great time for hobbyists.

So for a good overview of the hobby in the Golden Age this is a great read. There are no lists or compilations of kits, but it is arranged chronologically and there are lots of great photos. Apparently the book has been out of print for a while. I found this copy at a local public library, but if you do find one it is a fun book that will bring back a lot of memories. And maybe get you interested in finding and building some old school kits – I just pulled out my glue bomb 25 Ford chopped T- see the red car on the cover photo above! It will be at a meeting soon – as a rat rod of course.

2011 GTR Summer NNL

4th Annual Contest & Swap Meet
Hosted by: IPMS/GTR

Theme: **Made in
Japan**

Sub-Theme: **50 Years
of the Winternationals
Drag Racing**



Attention Automotive Modelers; we have a summer show and swap meet for you! You are invited to our GTR Summer NNL contest and swap meet.

The Summer NNL will be held on Sunday July 31st 2011 from 9:30AM to 2:00PM at the Algonquin Township Building, 3702 US Highway 14, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014

For the out-of-towners, there are tons of local accommodations from Days Inn to Holiday Inn. Admission to the show is a measly 5 bucks; you can enter as many models on the tables as you like (no additional charge) and we will serve a pizza lunch (again, no additional charge, soda extra; sorry had to draw a line somewhere) to all show entrants.

Did we mention that there is a swap meet too? There will be a free "trunk sale" swap meet in our spacious parking lot, vendors and show goers are encouraged to open their trunks and sell-sell-sell rain or shine. Vendor set-up starts at 8:30AM. Also we raffle off some nice prizes.

Our NNL style contest bestows "Best Of" awards as mandated by popular vote as determined by show attendees, official judging and nit-picking is strictly forbidden, praise and admiration from fellow modelers strongly encouraged.

GTR Auto Modelers

Classes:

Competition Open Wheel	All scales	F1, Indy, Drag, etc
Competition Closed Wheel	All scales	NASCAR, LeMans/IMSA, Can-Am, Drag
Street	All scales	Street legal - Muscle Cars, Sports/Exotics, Tuners, beaters, factory stock
Custom	All scales	Modified custom vehicles
Commercial	All scales	Trucks, Taxis, Police, Ambulance and Emergency
Motorcycles	All scales	All types
Curbside	All scales, all types	Hood closed, judged as displayed, includes slammers
Out of the Box	All scales, all types	No modifications to the kit except filler, paint, decals and foil
Theme: Japan	All scales, all types	Any automotive subject that is produced in Japan. Examples: Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Subaru, Mazda Includes: Production cars, Racing cars, Motorcycles, Trucks
Sub Theme:		
50 Years of the Winternationals	All scales, all types	Any drag racing cars that were eligible to compete at the Winternationals
People's Choice	Any model in the contest.	

Contact: gtrchab@yahoo.com
www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com



2011 GTR Event Calendar

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

July 14-17 Redman Vintage Weekend
Road America, Elkhart Lake WI

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

July 31 NASCAR Brickyard 400
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

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

August 12-14 Good Guys Model Car Show
With Good Guys Chicagoland Nationals
Sponsored by Revell
Chicagoland Speedway, Joliet IL
Roman Timokhin 847-361.5874
www-good-guys.com

August 18-20 American LeMans Series
Road America, Elkhart Lake WI

Sep 17 – Meadowdale Motorsports and
Memories Car Show
Raceway Woods Rt31 Carpentersville, IL
www.mira.org

Sept 24 Nordic CON 2011
IPMS/Twin Cities Aero Historians
North Aire Banquet Hall Fridley, MN
Bob Maderich 612-423-2985

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

October 8 Toledo Swap Meet and>NNL

Oct 15 – IPMS/Glue Crew Contest & swap
Howard Johnson Inn & Conf Center
Wausau, WI Joe Drew 715-842-0173

Oct 16 Countryside Collectors Classic Toy Show
With 1/43rd Collectors Club
Park Place of Countryside Countryside, IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

October 20-23 iHobby Expo
Public Days 10 am – 5 pm Saturday and Sunday
Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont IL
www.ihobbyexpo.com

Nov 6 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Nov 12 29th Annual IPMS Butch O'Hare Model
Contest and Swap Meet
Lakeview Jr HS Downers Grove IL
John Wendt 630-969-9016

December 4 Tinley Park Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

December 11 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter
Show – Swap and Contest
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI
www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com

IPMS USA
International Plastic Modelers Society

2011 Nationals: Aug 4-7 Omaha, NE
<http://www.ipmsusa2011.org/>

No 2011 Region 5 Convention since the
National is in Region 5
2012 Region 5 Regional - TBD
2012 Nationals: Orlando, FL



GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

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Next GTR Meeting: August 6, 2011

www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com