



GTR Newsletter

October 2007

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers
2007 IPMS/USA Region 5 Newsletter of the Year

GTR's Gary Dobson's
Tamiya Nissan Skyline



This Issue:

- GTR News and Calendar
- 2007 Road America
Historics Photo Gallery

GTR Auto Modelers

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

2007 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Next GTR Meeting: October 20, 2007

At Fountains of Crystal Lake

On Rt 31, about one mile north of Rt 176

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: Ed Sexton

Vice President: Steve Jahnke

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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

Real World



Colin McRae dies in helicopter crash

Well known World Rally driver Colin McRae died in a helicopter crash Sept 15 near his home in Scotland, along with his five year old son and two family friends. He was piloting the helicopter himself. McRae has been widely considered to be the most successful British rally driver ever, and the only one to date to win the coveted [World Rally Championship](#) title, in 1995. His active [WRC](#) career spanned from 1987 to 2003, primarily with the Subaru works team, with some one-off drives for Skoda and Kronos Citroen in 2005 and 2006. In the meantime, he participated in two legendary but very different events -- the 24 Hours of Le Mans and the Dakar Rally -- always with the total commitment so typical to McRae.

Industry News

From Hobby Link Japan:

On the eve of the 40th anniversary of its debut, Tamiya's Honda RA273 returns in this hotly anticipated reissue, made all the more realistic by new metal and photo-etched parts!

The kit was originally issued in 1967 as item 12001, the first ever kit in Tamiya's big F1 series. At that time the kit was motorized and lacked the detail it boasts today. In 1973, the firm revamped it almost in its entirety to create the item that was reissued in 1998 as TAM12011. Now this historic machine is back for an encore! Its level of detail is striking for a kit created decades ago; it's obvious just how proud they were of actually having won an F1 grand prix with a home-grown machine (although this 3.0-liter RA273 was not the one which did. The 1.5 liter RA272 in 1965 and the RA300 in 1967 were the only two Japanese-built cars to win an F1 event until Honda won the Hungarian Grand Prix in 2006).

The engine is very detailed and includes wire for the plugs. The suspension works (rubber tires, of course, and matte silver-plated wheels), with metal springs for the shocks. Wire mesh is included for the main grille, too. The new metal and photo-etch parts include the air funnel, radiator, steering spoke, oil cooler and brake disc. Markings are included for a number of cars from the 1966 and '67 seasons and you even get a well-molded driver figure. A fine kit, with a lot of history riding on it!



The Toyko Hobby Show is October 11-14, we await new product announcements.

Random Thoughts

By Les Whitfield

I mentioned in a previous column that the next generation of the Buick LaCrosse would be partially designed in China because China was purchasing more of them than here in the US. I now have the numbers, 304,000 sold in China and 241,000 sold in the US last year. Buick is tied with Lexus on the J.D. Power survey for first place. Maybe the rest of the world knows quality better than the people here. I remember that back in the 1970's the Buick engine produced more torque than any other in production at the time. I have seen reports that it was capable of beating Hemis in 1320 feet.

Another bit of trivial (maybe not so trivial) information is that a rather small German automobile manufacture named Porsche owns 20% of VW. Of course it was Dr. F. Porsche who designed the peoples car in the 1930's that became VW.

John Delorean was a man with many ideas that Detroit embraced. The motor company that born his name was not successful during his time. Along comes a man named Stephen Wynne who is now the president of the Delorean Motor Company located in Humble, Texas. He bought

out all the remaining parts from the defunct company in Ireland. He has been supplying parts to owners of the cars for quite some time now. He now is offering to rebuild one for \$42,500, and, if you're so inclined he will build you a new one out of parts for \$57,500.

A recent article in *Automotive News* mentioned Carroll Shelby's Children's Foundation. It seems the charity has only given out a fraction of what it has taken in, in this case less than 1%. It was also mentioned that Shelby has not put his own money into the foundation. Now there is no misappropriation of funds suspected (in fact it is reported that expenses do not appear to be out of line), however it seems he has been running his charity, (along with his wife) without direction. With Ford Motor Company joining in by donating cars for auction a new direction is being created. The board has been increased to assist in the organization and Wells Fargo Bank has been enlisted to help set up an endowment fund and better manage the money. The article stated that Shelby declined to be interviewed. The August 8, 2007 issue of *National Speed Sport News* stated that Shelby said no one from the publication contacted him personally about the story, explaining that he wanted to create an endowment, and his limitations and actions. The Better Business Bureau and Charity Navigator.com did not have any ratings of the foundation listed.

Newsletters

Since last time, we have received print and electronic newsletters from:

IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers, IPMS/Seattle, AMG Milwaukee, IPMS/C.A.R.S. in Miniature, *The Wingman* from IPMS/Bong Chapter, Winnebago Auto Modelers (WAM), Back Porch Modelers Group, Maryland Auto Modelers Assoc (MAMA), IPMS/Racing Plastic Modelers (RPM), IPMS/Quad Cities and Lake Michigan Model Car Club.

Copies of all these will be available for viewing at the next meeting.

Events

The iHobby Expo will be held in Rosemont at the Stephens Convention Center October 18-21. It is open to the Trade only on Thursday and Friday, on Saturday and Sunday it is open to both the Trade and the Public. We will see what new product announcements come from the show. For more details on the event see the website at: www.ihobbyexpo.com

With 2007 winding down I am adding 2008 events to the newsletter. See the events calendar for details and for all the events I know of.

GTR News

GTR Update

The October GTR meeting will be at the usual location, The Fountains of Crystal Lake. We will meet at The Fountains again in November. Then in December we will join with IPMS/CARS in Miniature again at their meeting at the Algonquin Township office in Cary, as we have done for the past several years. Note that this will be on the second Saturday (Dec 8) instead of our usual 3rd Saturday, so mark your calendars. If anyone has suggestions for a future meeting let me know.

We are going thru the annual IPMS/USA chapter renewal process; by the time this is published I will have mailed our application and fee (\$20). A local chapter needs five current national members (including all the officers) to remain in IPMS/USA. We have just met this requirement in recent years, so I urge those who have lapsed to renew their IPMS/USA membership, or if you have never been a member enroll now! Details can be found at their web site, www.ipmsusa.org, or see me for membership forms.

Past issues of the GTR newsletters are now available on line. Our website is rather basic, as are my webmaster skills, but if you 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.

September GTR Meeting



The September meeting was held 9/15/07 at The Fountains of Crystal Lake, and saw nine members in attendance. First we did a brief business update. President Ed Sexton gave us a brief description of the IPMS Nationals in Anahiem. We set the next several meeting locations, then it was on to Show and Tell.

Gary Dobson: two Tamiya kits, a Nissan Skyline and a 1/20 65 Honda F1 car



Chuck Herrmann: two 1953 Corvettes –the race version from the 1954 Carrera Panamerica written up last issue, built from the Revell kit and the AMT Snap Fast kit, built as the stock version.



John Schaeffer: die cast metal NASCAR bodies, a Ford and Chevy being converted to the CAR of Tomorrow configuration



Steve Jahnke: a Jimmy Flintstone resin new Camaro Nomad body, three painted bodies (AMT 62 Chrysler 300, AMT 62 T-Bird and Model King 72 T-Bird, and a diecast Datsun Z car.



Dave Edgecomb: 1/18 scale diecast, an Exoto 63 Cobra (Dave MacDonald/Fireball Roberts at Sebring 1963). Dave saw the real thing back in the day and finally found the model. Also a Peugeot 905 form LeMans 1992.

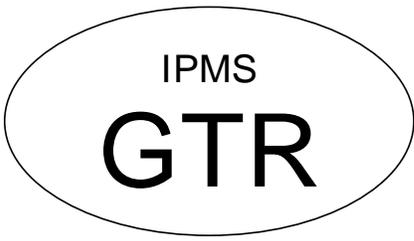




Ron Spannraft: two 1/12 Tamiya motorcycles, Suzuki Hayabaha and Yamaha YZF built up nice and clean



George Pritzen: Aoshima Mad Max Road Warrior kit, Tamiya Porsche Carrera GT kit and a Tamiya Nissan Skyline in progress



2007 Road America Brian Redman Historic Weekend

GTR's Gary Dobson attended the Road America Historic weekend in Elkhart Lake last July and passed along these great photos.



GTR Event Calendar

2007

October 7 Collectors Classic w/1/43 Collectors Club
Park Place of Countryside, Countryside IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

October 13 NNL Nationals (Toledo NNL)
Lucas Cty RecCenter, Maumee, OH

October 13-14 Toledo NL and Swap
Lucas Cty RecCenter, Maumee, OH

October 13 IPMS Glue Crew
Howard Johnson's, Wausau WI
Joe Drew 715-842-4840

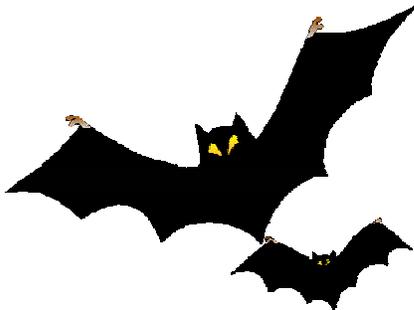
October 18-21 iHobby Expo
Donald E Stephens Conv Center, Rosemont, IL
www.ihobbyexpo.com

Nov 4 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Nov 10 25th IPMS/Butch O'Hare Model Contest
and Swap
Lakeview Jr HS, Downers Grove, IL
Marco Fernandez 773-804-1584
mgchi@sbcglobal.net

Dec 2 Tinley Park Toy Show
Tinley Park HS
Jim Welytok unievents@aol.com

December 9 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter
Show (with contest)
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI
www.milwaukeeeminiaturemotors.com



2008

February 24 Illinois plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County fairgrounds, Wheaton IL
Past Time Hobbies 708-485-4544
Pthpowerinc@aol.com

March 1 13th IPMS/ Mad City Modelers Show
Radisson Inn Madison, Madison WI
Jim Turek jltmodel@yahoo.com
www.madcitymodelers.com

April 5 Ferrari Expo with Model Contest
Continental Motorsports, Hinsdale IL

August 6-9 IPMS/USA National Convention
Virginia Beach Convention Center, Va. Beach, VA
www.ipmsusa2008.org

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

IPMS USA

International Plastic Modelers Society

National Conventions:

Aug 6-9, 2008 – Virginia Beach, VA

2009 – Columbus, OH

2008 Region 5 Convention:

May 16-17, Council Bluffs, IA

IPMS/Ft Crook

GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter



IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers
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www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com