



GTR

Newsletter

August 2008

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers



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- GTR News & Calendar
- 1st Annual GTR Summer NNL Event Coverage



- Revell 1/24 Escalade Review

GTR Auto Modelers

Based in the Northwest Chicago, IL Suburbs

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

2007 and 2008 IPMS/USA Region 5 Newsletter of the Year

2008 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

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

August Meeting at the Fountains of Crystal Lake

On Rt 31 about one mile north of Rt 176

Your current GTR Officers are:

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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.freemembers.com

GTR Mailbag

by Chuck Herrmann

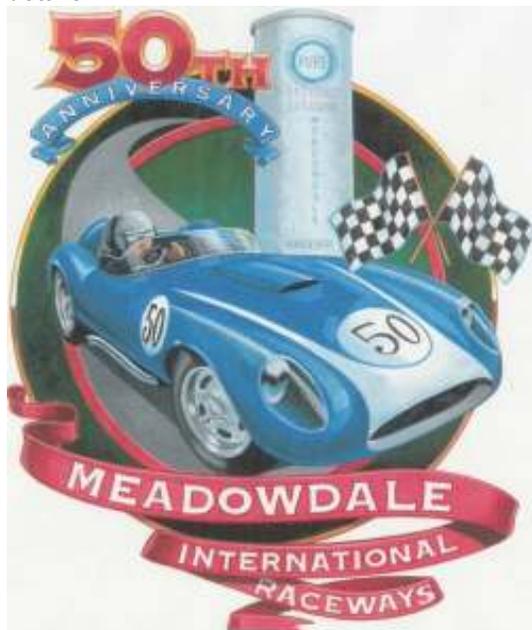
Events

The Geneva Concours d'Elegance will be held on August 24, on Third St in downtown Geneva, IL. Check out the website, it looks like there were a lot of nice cars there last year.



www.genevaconcours.net

The 50th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion of Meadowdale Raceway will be September 13-14 at Raceway Woods in Carpentersville, IL. Meadowdale was an auto racing facility that hosted many events, including the Trans Am series. There will be displays of 50's and 60's vehicles and other events, see the wed page for details.



www.meadowdalraceway.homestead.com

See the events calendar for details and for all the events that I know of. If any readers are aware of any other events of interest to GTR please send them along to me.

Money Problems for the Milwaukee Mile?

According to an article in the *Wisconsin State Journal* on 7/12/2008, the auto races at the famous Milwaukee Mile racetrack, located at the Wisconsin State Fair Park, will cost the state about \$1.1 million under the agreement with the promoter. The track hosts NASCAR Nationwide and Indycar races each year. The Indy event, the week after the Indy 500, has a longer tradition than the 500 itself. Some officials are indicating that the races should be ended and the property redeveloped. Hopefully this does not happen and some agreement is reached to continue racing at The Mile.

Correction

Last issue in my review of the Historic Racing Miniatures Daytona Coupe kit I forgot to mention that it is in 1/24 scale.

GTR Classifieds

For Sale: Selling Off Collection

Over 300 Plastic Kits: Tamiya, Fujimi, Hasagawa, Revell/Monogram, MPC, AMT and more 1/18th Diecast : Exoto, CMC, Auto Art, GMP, Minichamps, NASCAR, etc.

Resin Kits: Fisher, Renaissance, LeMans Miniatures, Profil 24, CMA, Scale Designs.

Most kits new, some slightly started, mostly race cars and exotics, ASA, Formula 1's.

Please contact: Dave Edgecombe, (815)334-1521, (815)566-2339, jedgco@hotmail.com

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, *Concours*, from IPMS/San Diego Model Car Club, and Lake Michigan Model Car Club.

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

GTR News

New GTR Logo

Note the new GTR logo we will be using on the newsletter and in our flyers. Thanks to Patrick McKeon for designing this logo to go on the ballot boxes used at the NNL.



GTR Update

The July regular GTR meeting was canceled, with all the usual summer activity and vacations we were not able to verify that enough members could attend to go ahead with a meeting. This month we will be back at the Fountains of Crystal Lake.

Any member who wants to bring up ideas or suggestions for this years meetings or activities, do so at either at the meetings or contact me.

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA. 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.

GTR Summer NNL Event Coverage

GTR hosted our 1st Annual Summer NNL on August 3. The heritage of this event goes back to the NIMO shows and most recently the Summer Plastic Meltdowns. The show was held at the Algonquin Township Office in Crystal Lake, IL. The NNL style contest was inside, the swap meet

was out in the parking lot, a literal “trunk sale” free to vendors.



Best Closed Wheel Comp and People's Choice winner – Greg Schmidt



Too much detail!



Bob Dineen's Chrysler 300 display



Porsche 917



Best Curbside – Larry Boileau



Rat rod custom



Ferrari Daytona LeMans



Best Motorcycle – Larry Boileau



A Ferrari powered Cuda funny car????



More motorcycle entries on the table.



Best Commercial Vehicle – by Glen Jaskolski



Out of the Box class table



People's Choice and Theme Awards



Cunningham Corvette



The Trunk Sale swap meeting in the parking lot.



Lots of neat stuff changed hands.



Award Winners

- **Competition Open Wheel**
Don Molitor, Sprint Car



- **Competition Closed Wheel**
Greg Schmidt, NASCAR Jack Daniels Chevy



- **Street**
Glen Jaskolski, 1970 Chevy Chevelle



- **Custom**
Al Stout, 1949 Mercury



- **Commercial**
Glen Jaskolski, American LaFrance Fire Engine
- **Motorcycles**
Larry Boileau, Green Chopper



- **Curbside**
Larry Boileau, VW Custom Van
- **Out of the box**
Al Stout, 1968 Dodge Dart

- **Theme: 100 Years of GM**
Glen Jaskolski, 1970 Chevy Chevelle



- **People's Choice**
Greg Schmidt, NASCAR Jack Daniels Chevy



There were 150 models on the display tables, and there were at least 20 vendors (maybe more, they came and went in the parking lot).

Many thanks to our sponsors:

Competition Open Wheel

GTR Newsletter

Competition Closed Wheel

Mike's Scale Speed Shop

Street

Gerry Paquette

Custom

Lake Michigan Model Car Club

Commercial

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

Motorcycles

TriState Scale Model Car Club (NY)

Curbsides

Gerry Paquette

Out of the box

Automotive Modelers Group (AMG) Mil, WI

Theme: 100 Years of General Motors

IPMS/CARS in Miniature

Gift Certificate thanks to Replicas and Miniatures of Maryland

People's Choice

IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers

Gift Certificate thanks to Replicas and Miniatures of Maryland

Thoughts on GTR's 1st Annual Summer NNL

By Steve Jahnke

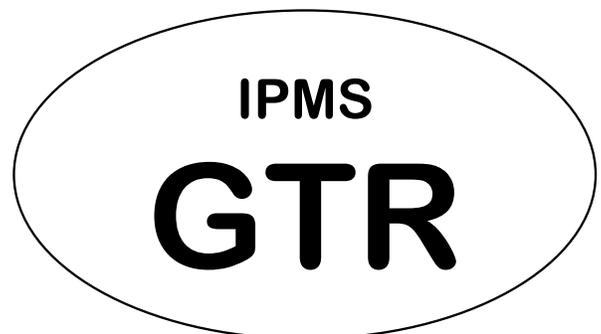
By all counts our first NNL event was a huge success thanks to the efforts of all involved from the very start with the idea of the show lodged in my head and Chuck's enthusiastic agreement to do the show, until the final table was put away at the Algonquin Township office. We were able to put on a great show with a handful of GTR people and friends of GTR due to the nature of NNL style shows and the known enthusiasm of the model car community including the guys that put in 2-3 hours of driving to come to our show.

There was plenty of plastic for sale in the parking lot as our "Trunk Sale" got off to a big bang. I was at the Township building at 6:50AM to be there for Judy Kreklow of the Township office to open our doors, by 7:15AM the first swappers were pulling into the lot and shortly thereafter it was a steady stream of swappers opening their trunks and selling and trading their wares, a number of times it was a real feeding frenzy. Thanks to our swappers that came in from the Springfield area and of course our

friends from Oshkosh and points south as well as the usual local suspects...thanks for making it a great show.

We had 9 eight-foot tables set up for the NNL contest with 150+ models on display with 10 "judging" categories. GTR is an IPMS chartered club and NNL style judging would not be considered "normal" IPMS judging etiquette. To the uninitiated, in NNL style contests, the contestants and general public are the ones that vote for the best model in each category; it is a very popular judging style for automotive model contests. It accomplishes a number of goals; it encourages all skill level of modelers to "compete" for peer approval because that is what it is all about. If you model has that certain "curb appeal" or is technically off the charts, they both have the same chance of winning. Personally, I was quite happy to see three of my models printed in the Winnebago Auto Modelers e-newsletter, and to me that was just as good as taking home a trophy.

We had an overwhelmingly favorable response to the show from our vendors, participants, show goers and folks that saw our sign on the highway or magazine advertisements and stopped in to see what our NNL was all about. We presented ourselves to people who were not familiar with our club but now have expressed a desire to learn more about us. Will the GTR Summer NNL be an annual event? We hope so, the club will vote on it at our next meeting...stay tuned for the announcement of the 2nd Annual GTR Summer NNL.



Kit Build: Revell's Cadillac Escalade



Kit Build: Revell's Escalade
Subject: 2004 Cadillac Escalade ESV
Mfg: Revell
Kit #: 85-2189 **Scale: 1/24**
Reviewed by Steve Jahnke



Background of the Escalade ESV

The Cadillac Escalade was introduced for the 1999 model year in response to [German](#) and [Japanese](#) competitors and to [Ford's](#) 1998 release of the [Lincoln Navigator](#). The Escalade was rushed through the design process to reach dealer lots quickly. Essentially little more than a badge-engineered [GMC Yukon Denali](#), the SUV's aesthetics were similar and identical to the Denali. **Our subject model represents the second generation Escalade.** [Rear-wheel drive](#) was standard; as was a 5.3 L V8; all-wheel drive and the special [high-output Vortec](#) 6.0 L [V8 engine](#) were optional. For 2004, 20-inch [chrome wheels](#) ([dubs](#)) were offered, and [XM Satellite Radio](#), second-row [bucket seats](#), and a [tire pressure](#) monitoring system were made standard on all Escalades ESV's . Source: Wikipedia

The Kit:

Your first thought might be what be why is this guy reviewing the behemoth Escalade for a sports car/exotic/racing car club like GTR? Good question. The answer is you need something to tow your race car to the race or your exotic to the rare show right? What could be better than a

6,800 pound tow vehicle, besides Tony Soprano drove one, forgettaaboughtit!

In reality when the new Testors "One Coat Lacquers" came out with a classic Pearl White called "White Lightning", I had to try it out on something and the Caddy immediately came to mind. As with all of the recent Revell kits on the market, this kit reflects up-to-the-minute tooling and engineering details that make it an excellent build and satisfying model. This kit went together extremely well with very few minor hitches.

The Build

Revell provides an excellent eight page instruction booklet for the build sequence and a great decal sheet. Unfortunately there were only two of the three 'Escalade' scripts on the sheet; I sanded all 3 of the molded on scripts favoring the decal for the side scripts leaving the tailgate Escalade unmarked. The body shell required minimal cleanup. I decided to paint the roof antennas body color for a cleaner look so I glued those to the shell as well as the side mirrors. I first painted the ceiling liner and inside panels of the body shell with Tamiya's Deck Tan acrylic paint. After masking the painted interior, I set about priming the body and tailgate with my old standby Plasticote platinum grey lacquer primer. After mounting the tailgate hinge to the tailgate I painted it with the Testors One Coat pearl white and was not happy with the opaqueness of the paint and decided to strip it and start again. I have found that 91 percent alcohol works better to strip the paint than Castrol Super Clean for this particular paint product. With the tailgate re-primed, I sprayed a base coat of Duplicolor "Super White" rattle can lacquer over the body shell and tailgate. When that had gassed out overnight, I sprayed the White Lightning Pearl over the basecoat and that yielded a beautiful pearl finish with depth. This new paint really does dry fast, and soon afterwards was able to spray on the One Coat "Wet Look" clear. The Wet Look clear is the glossiest clear yet in Testors lacquer line while in my opinion it is not quite as glossy as Testors old enamel based gloss which has a yellow tint that doesn't do justice to whites.



Chassis: This is a curbside so the chassis has the most of the basic elements are crisply molded in such as the motor, transmission, gas tank and spare tire. I sprayed the entire chassis with WalMart 99 cent rattle can flat black. I then picked out the motor, frame rails and transmission and in Tamiya semi-gloss black and Tamiya flat aluminum, the spare tire was painted Tamiya NATO Black. The separately molded exhausts were airbrushed flat aluminum, the front and rear suspension sub-assemblies were airbrushed semi gloss black. I decided to use the "turbine" style chrome wheels and painted the center 'turbine blades' semi-gloss black leaving the rims and center cone chromed. I waited for the final assembly to mount the 2 metal exhaust tips on the exhaust pipes. At this point mount the body colored end caps to the running boards and glue the running boards to the chassis plate.



Interior: The interior can be built as an eight passenger hauler or with the optional mega-watt ear-bleeding amp and sound system. Since I was building this as slightly customized stock light commercial vehicle, I chose the people friendly interior. The entire interior was painted Deck Tan. The dash and steering wheel have rosewood colored accents so I found a small bottle of rosewood red colored craft paint at Hobby Lobby to take care of that. There are numerous decals for the interior doors and councils. Check out Google images and you will find numerous pictures of Escalade interiors for reference painting.



Body: mount all of the glass to the shell at this time. I used my big chisel tipped marker to 'paint' the black masks on the windshield and aft side windows. Be sure and mount the tail light buckets at this time because you can't do it when the shell is on the frame. Mount the hinge retainer to the body shell but mount the hinge itself to the tailgate, the hinge itself is flexible enough to mount to the retainer during final assembly. The only thing I found tricky was mounting the clear back up light lenses to the stock taillights, but patience and perseverance prevailed and I was able to balance the backup lens steady enough to glue it securely to the tail light lens.

Summation

Overall I rate this kit at 4 and ½ lug nuts, the half point taken due to there not being optional stock Escalade wheels with the kit and one Escalade script left off of the decal sheet. The kit went together extremely well; a testament to Revell's modern kit engineering expertise which in my opinion is definitely world class and on par with the best that Japan and Korea can come up with. Now mount the hitch to the Caddy's towing receiver and take that prized Testa Rossa to the Concours show, we just paid \$200 to fill the tank.



2008 GTR Event Calendar

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

August 9 American LeMans Series
Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI
www.roadamerica.com

August 16 Plastic Model Contest
Greenfield News and Hobby Milwaukee, WI
www.greenfieldhobby.com

August 23 Plastic Car Model Contest and Show
(with 15th Annual Erie Car Show) Erie, IL
Northern Illinois Tabletop Crusiers
Tom Border 815-441-0720
Gtcs07stang@yahoo.com

September 6 10th Annual Air Zoo Model Contest
Air Zoo Museum, Portage, MI
www.ipmskalamazoo.org
cwentzel@ameritech.net

Sept 14 Red Bull Motorcycle GP
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Sept 27 Nordic Con hosted by IPMS/Twin Cities
Aero Historians North Aire Banquet Hall
Minneapolis, MN

Sept 28 52nd Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL
Past Time Hobbies 708-485-4544
pthpowerinc@aol.com

Oct 11 Toledo NNL and Toy Fair
Maumee, OH

Oct 16-19 iHobby Expo (18-19 Open to Public)
Donald Stephens Convention Cntr, Rosemont IL
www.ihobbyexpo.com

October 19 Countryside Collectors Classic Toy
Show with 1/43rd Collectors Club
Park Place of Countryside, IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

October 25 Hobbytown USA Model Contest
Hobbytown USA, Oshkosh, WI
www.HobbytownUSAoshkosh.com

Nov 2 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

November 8 26th Annual IPMS/Butch O'Hare
Model Contest and Swap
Lakeview Jr HS, Downers Grove, IL
Marco Fernandez mfchi@sbcglobal.net

Nov 8 13th Annual Southern Nationals NNL
Atlanta Model Car Enthusiasts
Smyrna Comm Center, Smyrna GA
www.acme-ipms.com/2008_nnl.htm

December 7 Tinley Park Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

December 14 34th Milwaukee Miniature Motors
Model Car Swap Meet
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI
www.milwaukee-miniaturemotors.com

IPMS USA
International Plastic Modelers Society

National Conventions:

2009 – Columbus, OH

2009 Region 5 Convention:

March 13-14 Madison, WI



GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

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Cary, IL 60013

August GTR Meeting: Aug. 16
www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com