

GTR Newsletter

October 2008

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers

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- Paul Newman 1925-2008
- Vintage Ferrari Kit: 342 America in 1/48 by Renwal



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

October Meeting at the Fountains of Crystal Lake
On Rt 31 about one mile north of Rt 176

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: John Schaefer	630-553-0719	johndstp43@cs.com
Vice President: Steve Jahnke	847-516-8515	stevejahnke@comcast.net
Secretary/Contact: Chuck Herrmann	847-516-0211	gtrchab@yahoo.com

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.freeservers.com

GTR Mailbag

by Chuck Herrmann

Industry News

The iHobby Expo, the annual hobby and model industry trade show held in Rosemont, IL is October 16-19, but only Saturday and Sunday are open to the public, the first two days are industry only. We hopefully await news on new products despite the dreadful economic news of late.

I have received news that Harold Bradford, a.k.a. Historic Racing Miniatures, is working on molds for a right hand drive version of the Hasegawa '58 Ferrari Testa Rossa kit, also an engine for the new Fujimi Ferrari 250 GTO (as well as a correct set of the Dunlop R6 tires for it).

Media

At Barnes and Noble recently I was looking through an issue of the *Tamiya Model Magazine* that featured several nice articles on auto models, on particular the 1/12 Tamiya Tyrell F1 racer. But I noticed the price, converted to US, was \$11.98. Ouch!

Next year's Indy Car Series will be broadcast on the Versus Network cable station for 13 races, with the other five, including the Indy 500 being shown on ABC.

Events

Date Correction: please note that the Hobbytown USA contest in Oshkosh, WI that had previously been listed as being held October 25 is actually to be held on October 18. Please mark your calendars appropriately.

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.

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), 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.

Paul Newman

1925-2008



Legendary American actor and racer Paul Newman passed away on September 27. After becoming a world famous Hollywood star, he picked up the racing bug after taking race driving lessons while making the movie *Winning* in 1968.

Starting his racing career in his 40's, Newman did not just buy his way into the sport. He progressed through the SCCA club ranks, first winning a class championship in 1976 at the SCCA runoffs. He eventually won four national titles, including 1979, 1985 and 1986.

Newman also raced in many endurance sports car races over the years. He became a professional racer, driving a Bob Sharp Nissan 280ZX Turbo in the Trans Am Series. He won two Trans Am races, in a Datsun in 1982 at Brainerd, MN and in a Corvette at Lime Rock Park.



1977 Daytona 24 Hours in a Ferrari 365/GTB



Nissan IMSA



Nissan Trans Am

Newman also became an race team owner, buying into the Sharp team, also owned Newman-Freeman Racing in the 1980's version of Can-Am, then joined with Carl Haas to form the Newman-Haas Racing team in the CART Indy Car series in 1983. He had a famous long standing relationship with driver Mario Andretti, then later his son Michael Andretti. Both won championships for the team, as did Nigel Mansel, Cristiano De Matta and Sebastian Bourdais. The team has won eight titles and over 100 races and is one of the premier racing operations in the world, based locally in Lincolnshire, IL.

And Newman continued to race on occasion, including winning the GT class at the 24 Hours of Daytona in 1995 at age 70!

Despite being a famous Hollywood star, Newman was serious about his racing, working his way up the ladder and then being very much a hands on participant in his racing teams.

In plastic, there have been several model kits of cars Newman either drove or owned. Looking through my shelves, I found a 1/24 Airfix Nissan 280-ZX Trans Am racer and a 1/24 Revell Porsche 911GT1 Evo, in Texaco/History Channel colors from the 2001 Daytona 24 Hours. There was a 1/25 MPC 1968 Indy Offy (a kit of Indy 500 winner Bobby Unser) that Newman "drove" in the movie *Winning*.

There are lots of examples of Newman Haas CART/Indy racers. AMT did 1/25 Lolas of both Mario and Michael Andretti, and Tamiya did the 1/20 Indy Lola from 1993 driven by Mario and Nigel Mansel. In 1/43 you can find lots more.



**Mario Andretti: Newman Haas Racing Team
CART Portland 1987**

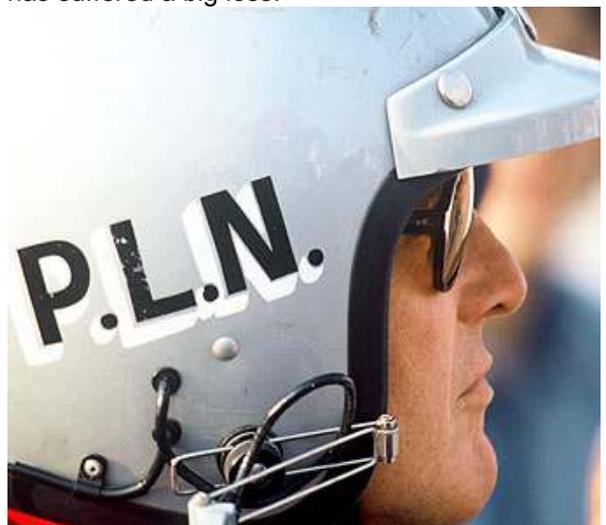


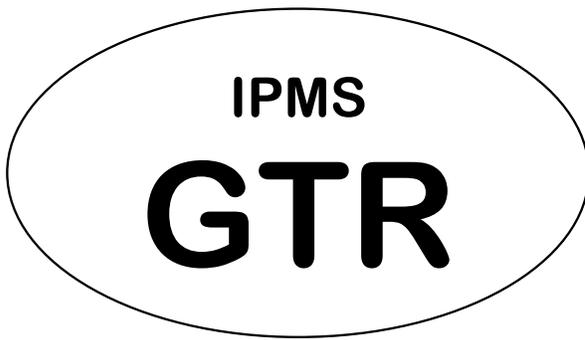
**2nd Place Overall, first in class, at LeMans 1979,
with Dick Barbour and Rolf Stommelen in a
Porsche 935**



Last Laps: practicing at Lime Rock August 2008

Obviously, Newman became involved in the sport too late in life to be a major star as a driver, although you can find many quotes from the racing community indicating he had the talent to be a star driver had he started younger. But he did prove a competent driver who earned his success rather than buying his way in, who recognized his level and did not try to exceed it. Added to his accomplishments as a team owner, along with his charitable activities and the popularity he brought along to motorsports, his presence in the paddock will be missed. Racing has suffered a big loss.





GTR News

GTR Update

The October meeting will be Oct. 18 at Fountains of Crystal Lake. The November meeting will also be at the Fountains. For December let me know if we want to move up the date as we have done recently, since the usual third Saturday is busy for many members since it is so close to Christmas.

We also need to decide if we want to host the Summer GTR NNL again last year, and begin the planning for it.

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

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA. We are now going through the annual re-charter process in October. That means I will update the member records, including national IPMS membership. A local chapter needs at least 5 national members to renew. Please let me know if you are a national member, I will probably be sending out emails to confirm. Or if you could join the IPMS it will help the club and the hobby. 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.

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 Meeting

The September meeting was held 9/20/2008 at the Fountains of Crystal Lake.

Turnout was light, so no real business was conducted.



For Show and Tell, the only models on the table were from John Schaefer, who brought in several Dodge Charge projects. Above, a painted resin two door body, in Moulin Rouge.



Above, chassis with added detailing.



A moon roof grafted onto the kit body



John also brought along examples of his JWTBM Decals sheet of Charger markings to do several actual and phantom version of the Charger.

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, jedgeco@hotmail.com

Wanted: Window glass for Revell Ferrari 612 Scaglietti kit

Chuck Herrmann 847-516-0211

www.gtrchab@yahoo.com

Wanted: 1. Right side door handle for Revell Chevelle station wagon (grip would be on right side of door button), original lost.
2. Front tire for Monogram Lotus Esprit Sport 300, kit number 2970. The tire tree is engraved with 6260-2300 flea market kit complete except for tire.

Contact Steve Jahnke 847-516-8515

stevejahnke@comcast.net

Vintage Kit Review: Renwal's Small Scale Ferrari America 342



Subject: Ferrari America 342

Mfg: Renwal

Kit #: 140

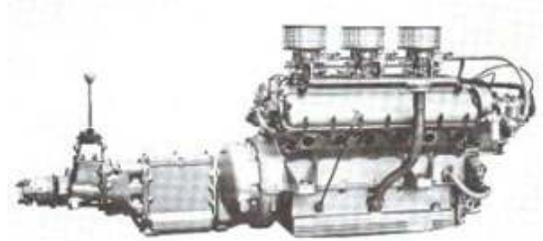
Scale: 1/48

Reviewed by Chuck Herrmann

Subject:

The Ferrari 342 America was a limited edition model with only six built in 1952-53, three coupes and three cabriolets. It featured a 4.5

liter V-12, and a long wheelbase which lead to the America (AL) designation. Each body was unique, five were designed by Pinin Farina and one by Vignale. They were a combination of a performance and luxury vehicle, a touring GT rather than a flat out sports car. One was ordered by the King Of Belgium. Only one was sold new in the US.



4.5 liter V12

The Kit:

Renwal issued a small scale Collectors Showcase Series back the 1960's that included antiques like the 1903 Rambler and Olds and a Stanley Steamer, Classics like a 34 Dusenber and 39 Mercedes 540-K, a 1965 Corvette, Jaguar XKE, 57 T-Bird as well as race cars like the 1965 Indy racer of AJ Foyt and a Lotus GP car. They came with a clear display cover and a base, for four coupons on the box sides you could get a free wall bracket to hold your collection. The price range for the series was 79 to 99 cents.

I acquired this kit at the trunk sale at the Trunk Sale at our Summer GTR NNL in August. My example is marked as a 1966 edition. The coupon on the side of the box has been cut out, I assume to take advantage of the display base offer described above.

It is a simple kit, about 35 pieces. There are detailed directions, but no decals are included. The parts are molded in bright red and black with clear and chrome pieces. It is a curbside design, with a flat chassis plate, metal axles, and rubber tires. The wire wheels are not very accurate there is a thick rim which makes it appear toylike. Also the red roof is a separate piece which fits over the clear glass greenhouse. The bumpers and body trim are chrome pieces.





Chassis 0234 AL, sold to King Leopold II of Belgium

2008 GTR Event Calendar

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

October 18 Hobbytown USA Model Contest
Hobbytown USA, Oshkosh, WI
www.HobbytownUSAoshkosh.com

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

October 25 14th Annual Model Contest & Swap
Circle City Modelers
First Church of the Nazarene Indianapolis, IN
Thomas Nungester 317-821-1110

October 31

Happy Halloween!

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

November 1 Lake 2 Lake 16th Annual Swap Meet
Butch's Opera House
204 S. 4th Avenue, St Nazianz WI
Dan Zboralski 920-758-2785

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 – Aug 19-22 Columbus, OH
2010 - Phoenix, AZ
2009 Region 5 Convention:
March 13-14 Madison, WI

