



GTR

Newsletter

November 2009

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers

Inside this issue:

- GTR News and Calendar
- iHobby Show Report
- First Look: Aoshima VW Super Beetle Kit

GTR models on display at the October Lake Michigan Model Car Club Open House

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

2009 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

November Meeting at the Fountains of Crystal Lake

On Rt 31, about one mile north of Rt 176 in Crystal Lake, IL

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.

GTR Mailbag

by Chuck Herrmann

Real World

VW passes Toyota as top automaker



The Number 1 manufacturer of motor vehicles this year is . . . Not **Toyota**. After less than a year, Toyota lost the crown to the new Volkswagen Porsche combine, according to the Guardian newspaper. Citing statistics from IHS Global Insight, the Guardian says **Volkswagen** has built some 4.4 million cars so far this year, compared with "just" 4 million for Toyota.

The real growth in the global car and light vehicles industry has moved to China and South America during the last two years. VW's dominance in the markets of Europe has also grown. Volkswagen has been clever about shifting assets to areas of the world where the downturn has had little effect on sales. The Chinese market is growing at a rate of nearly 70% year-over-year and has passed the US in terms of vehicles sold. VW may still rue the day that it did not use its foothold in America to get the sort of share that **Nissan** or **Honda** has. But, at least this year, it can claim that the U.S. market is almost unimportant.

From MSN Money 11/12/2009

Events

On December 6, The Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter Scale Model Show will be held at the Waukesha County Expo Center, one of the last events of 2009.

See the events calendar for details and for all of the events that I know of. I am adding 2010 events as I confirm the details. If any readers wish their events or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to me.

GTR News

GTR Update

The next meeting is November 21. It will be back at The Fountains of Crystal Lake.

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 going through our annual IPMS chapter renewal process. So I may need to get in touch with members as I update the chapter fact sheet. A local chapter needs at least five national members to renew. If you could join IPMS it will help out 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.



October GTR Meeting

The October meeting was a road trip to join with the Lake Michigan Model Car Club on October 17. It was their Annual Open House in Bensenville. The meeting featured display tables, an auction, a raffle and an NNL style contest along with lots of food. GTR had a club display (see cover photo) and took part in all the activities.



The auction table.



NNL Contest entries.



The head table.



A display of VW models.



Just in time for Halloween, Dragula.



LMMCC Members models.

Thanks to LMMCC for having us.

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. Also many slot cars.

Please contact: Dave Edgecombe, 815-566-2339 or jedgeco@hotmail.com

Wanted: Italeri #669 Ferrari 365GTB4 Daytona race version
Les Whitfield lwhitfield1@yahoo.com

We have the new GTR T-Shirts available for members who ordered one, cost is \$9. If you haven't gotten yours by the meeting you can do so there. If you did not let me know that you wanted a shirt, we ordered some extras but most are gone. I have three XL shirts left, first come first served so contact me ASAP if you want one.

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 archived back to 2004, more will be added. Thanks to Bill Crittenden for storing our newsletters on his site.

2009 iHobby Expo Reports



Several GTR members were in attendance at the 2009 iHobby Expo, held October 22-25 at the Donald Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL (adjacent to Chicago's O'Hare Airport). Following are their stories (photos by Chuck Herrmann):

Tim Leicht: I guess you could describe the theme of this year's I-Hobby Expo in one word: Nostalgic. With the show being smaller than ever, and the general lack of new products at least in the car model booths, every company was big on repops. I can see why after talking to some of the reps. Business is down, another victim of the economy, and obviously there isn't a lot of money available for new tooling. That wasn't the case for everyone, but most of the heavy hitters did not have a lot of all new items to show. There were some surprises however. So let's get to it.

NEW STUFF:

ROUND2 (AKA AMT, MPC, POLAR LIGHTS) had a big announcement for the car modelers, we FINALLY are getting a 1966 Batmobile from the TV show! They must have paid Universal Studios a hefty sum for the license. They own the trademark for the red bat logo on the car. There will be a 1/25 glue kit and a snap tite version as well.



And then, snuck in the catalog but not on display were two NASCAR C.O.T. kits, one Jeff Gordon, and one Dale Earnhart Jr. Rumor has it however, that these will be die cast cars molded in plastic. So I'm somewhat skeptical as to the detail level if that is the case. We shall see, as they say. They also announced a slew of repops, with some pleasant surprises including the Meyer's Manx dune buggy, TV Tommy Ivo's front engine rail dragster, and a '62 Pontiac 2 in 1 kit with what looks like Arnie Beswick graphics on the box art. Others include the Bugaboo rail and the MPC line of Zingers. Not my cup of tea but I assume they are to attract youngsters to build models and I'm all for that.

REVELL/MONOGRAM showed a new Dodge Viper SRT 10 race car and a supposed new tool of a 1968 Hemi Dodge Dart and a '62 Chevy Impala, along with a reboxed Revell Germany Ferrari California open top. The Viper ought to get some notice from the decal makers to make multiple versions for that car. They also are reissuing the Kurtis Kraft Indy car in the SSP line.



The big racing news is the partnership with the NHRA and the rerelease of the '70s Charger and Duster funny car dragster. Start the presses Sl maxx, your table is ready.



Notable rereleases include the GMC Syclo pick up and the VW Samba van. This was only the first half announcements so I'm sure there will be other surprises later.



MOEBIOUS/AURORA was the surprise hit of the show for car guys. Not known for car kits, they announced an all new tooling of a '53 Hudson Hornet and a '56 Chrysler 300. While not in person, the kits were shown on their video display and showed NASCAR graphics on the Hornet. I was told there are already on the water so they should be out soon. That was a stunner for everyone.

MRC/AOSHIMA had a surprise of they're own as well. Known for their Japanese Tuner car line, like the Nissan GTR R34, they had a Mercedes 600SLR with full detail on display. It was quite Tamiya like in terms of detail.



LINDBERG had a Little Red Wagon hauler with race car on display, probably a combo of existing tooling. They also had repops on display of the 1/24 D Type Jaguar and the Triumph TR3. They also had a new paint line as well, strikingly similar to Testors Acryl paint, with the same rack and bottles with Lindberg's name on them. No surprise since the owner of Lindberg is a former executive from Testors. There was a lack of literature there so I don't have any more to report.



HOBBY GEAR, a new player in the car model business had a new line of diorama accessories, pre-painted and packed as assortments or individual pieces in 1/10 and 1/24 scale. They had car show display poles with chains, mirrors, and trophies, repair garage scene with tool boxes, creeper, compressor and tire rack, and a nifty camper scene with a Weber grill, cooler, folding chairs, and sleeping bag. They also had a line of 1/24 scale engines including Fords, Chevies, everything from flatheads to full blown race motors. And, they had one of the nicest folding garage engine hoists I've ever seen. One problem, though. I saw no license listings in their catalog so I think the company may be getting a few phone calls real soon.



DIE CAST:

What I noticed was the small number of diecast car manufacturers in attendance. Notably gone were Mattel, Maisto, Exoto, and Auto Art. There was Minichamps, Sunstar, and SunRich Toys, a distributor of many product lines, including CMC, and True Scale Miniatures. Sunstar had a 1/18 scale Alfa DTM on their shelf. Everyone was busy when I was there so I have no idea when the release is. Minichamps had some new '60s Ferrari race cars coming soon, and they are now distributors of Amalgam 1/8 scale race cars. These are works of art! They had a Lotus 78 and a Ferrari 312T on display and they are flat out gorgeous! They come with a nice price tag, too: \$4,500.00 dollars to be exact! You have to see them to believe them. Even their brochures are works of art. They also are now distributors of Bauer 1/18 scale cars. The Bugatti Coupe de Ville was on display and was so realistic you would think if you reached in and turned the key the car would start! Exquisite details on that one as well. SunRich Toys had the new TrueScale miniatures Porsche 935 K3 race car on display in 1/18 scale and was very nicely done. They will also be doing the Porsche 962 in various liveries as well.

Well, that about wraps up my tour of the show. I'm sure our illustrious newsletter editor Chuck will have the whole list compiled for you. Not a LOT of new stuff coming, but what is coming are some good new subjects. While Tamiya was not there, they have already announced their all new 2008 Ferrari F1 car in 1/20 scale. Now that's one kit I'm DEFINITELY buying. So make room in your closet for more styrene. I'm sure everyone will find something they want.

Gerry Paquette: Let's start with the 2010 1st half Revell/Monogram releases:

Revell

'57 Cadillac Eldorado Brougham 1:25

Custom Ford Expedition/Snaptite 1:25

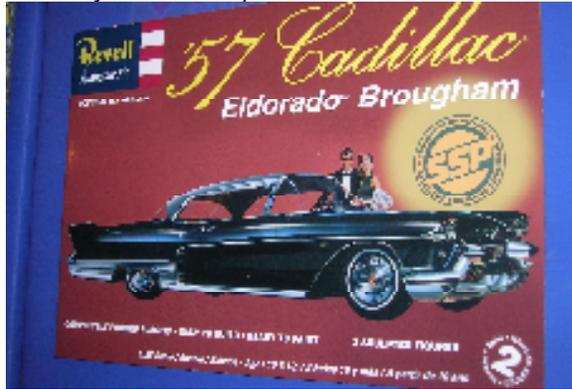
Corvette ZR1TM 1:25

'68 Dodge HEMI Dart2'n1 1:25

Dodge Viper SRT10 ACR 1:25

'62 Chevy Impala Hardtop 2'n1 1:25

'67 Dodge Charger 426 HEMI 2'n1 1:25
 Chi Town Hustler Charger Funny Car 1:25
 Hawaiian Charger Funny Car 1:25
 Mongoose Duster Funny Car 1:25
 '69 Mustang Cobra Jet 1:25
 Ferrari California (Open Top) 1:24
 VW Type1 Samba Bug 1:24
 Ed Roth Outlaw 1:25
 GMC Syclone Pickup 1:25



Monogram

Kurtis Kraft Indianapolis Racer 1:24
 '55 Ford Pickup Street Rod 1:24
 '56 Chevy BelAir 1:24
 '32 Ford Street Rod 1:24
 '57 Chevy Nomad 1:24
 '37 Ford Sedan 1:24
 '82 Corvette 1:24
 Mack "R" Conventional and Fruehauf Tanker
 Snaptide 1:32
 '39 Chevy Coupe Street Rod 1:24
 Buick Grand National 1:24
 '48 Ford Woody 1:25
 '66 Shelby Mustang GT350 1:24
 '55 Chevy Bel Air Hardtop 2'n1 1:25
 Ford F-250 Super Duty Pickup 1:24

Slot Cars

Lola T-70 MKII #98 Parnelli Jones 1:32
 67 Ford Fairlane #29 Dick Hutcherson 1:32
 McLaren M6A#5 Dennis Hulme 1:32

Revell had early test shots of a couple of model kits, including the 62 Impala, but the Hemi Dart test shot was delayed. The Monogram name is back on many reissues. Apparently, the name has as much distinction as Revell.



AMT (1:25 scale):

1961 Ford Galaxie 500 Styline Kit
 Double Dragster in standard packaging
 Munster Koach - original box with bonus figure
 Dragula - original box with bonus figure
 White Road Boss
 Fruehauf Van Trailer
 Ford C-900 Stake Bed
 Myers Manx Dune Buggy
 Bugaboo rail dragster



MPC (1:25scale):

Fire Truck
 Fire Truck Special Edition - for Chuck Miller
 Builder of the Year - Detroit Autorama 2010
 Zingers - all 8 originals (at least I believe there were, never a real fan of these but have seen some fun builds), also all 8 molded in new Metallic Flake-O-Delic Plastic. This Metal flake plastic actually looked pretty good. There was a sample on display
 Road Runner & Beep Beep 'T'
 Wile E. Coyote & Wile E. Willys
 Road Runner & Rail Rider

Polar Lights:

Batmobile (1/32 scale reissue)
 Batmobile (1/25 scale new tool)



When I talked with the Round 2 folks at the show, I specifically thanked them for the Meyers Manx reissue. I indicated that the first release of the Testors custom lacquers that had the more pronounced metal flake might be very useful for the Manx. The Round 2 gentleman then said he may do a special version of the Manx in the Metallic Flake-O-Delic Plastic.

Primary news from **Lindberg** is:
Charger Police cars
Lil Red Wagon Racing team hauler
No Dodge Rampage pickup. It was cancelled.

Testors is coming out with a line of textured paints in their Floquil brand.

Moebius confirmed the Hudson, Chrysler and International truck but indicated they would be late 2010 arrivals. All are to be 1:25 scale.

Both Lindberg and Moebius indicated that Chrysler had an official name change in the last week that is playing havoc with licensing.

MRC was showing off the new Mitsubishi Lancer and Mercedes 630 SL. The Mitsubishi is supposed to have LH dash. Ed Sexton indicated that he is trying to get Aoshima and Fujimi to release LH dash versions of kits that would be popular in the US. More work to do on that.

And the links to the photos is:

http://redirectingat.com/?id=252X400&url=http%3A%2F%2Fs150.photobucket.com%2Falbums%2Fs110%2Fexotics_builder%2F2010%2520Ihobby%2520Expo%2F

Chuck Herrmann: I will add some things not touched on by the above articles. I did not expect much given the economy but it turns out there was more news than I thought. Obviously the show was smaller than the golden years of 10-15 years ago, and Tamiya, Hasegawa and Fujimi were conspicuous by their absence as were the big die cast companies like Buragao and Maisto.

The 1/25 Batmobile was a very welcome announcement, and it looks like the NASCAR guys will get a COT kit. I am happy to see several VW subjects coming out, especially the Myers Manx. The new Revell van is not a reissue of the Hasegawa kit; it is new and features an engine and more detail.

There were several new display accessory companies, Hobby Gear as Tim mentioned, also American Diorama (figures and diorama accessories, pictured below) and pre-painted



figures from Motor Head Miniatures, including 1/24 scale. Alpha Precision Abrasives is a new to me tool company, with several interesting sanding tools. I spoke to Accurate Miniatures who confirmed that due to low sales of the Corvette Grand Sport kits they have no current plans for any more auto kits at this time.



Suncoast Woodstock VW van 1/18 diecast



I spoke to the Airfix rep. While the 1/32 Lewis Hamilton McLaren F1 kit (based on a slot car body) did very well in England (apparently there was a commercial in the UK for McLaren sponsor Santander, a Spanish bank, that showed Hamilton building a kit that morphed into a real car that prompted such strong demand they had to do a kit which sold over 10,000 units!) and they would like to do repops of some of their existing 1/24 auto kits they haven't been able to justify the cost. But they are still looking at it so maybe later.....

So despite low expectations these announcements from iHobby, along with those from the Tokyo show earlier in the month, should provide some nice new products to keep us busy for awhile.

First Look: Aoshima Super Beetle

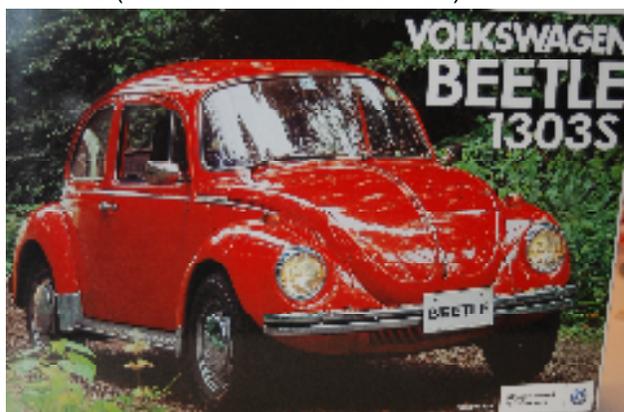
Kit: VW Beetle 1303S

Mfg: Aoshima Kit #: 047781

Scale: 1/24 MSRP: \$39.00

As readers of this newsletter know by now I am a big VW fan, so when I saw this kit on the shelf at Hobby Lobby and realized I didn't have it I grabbed one.

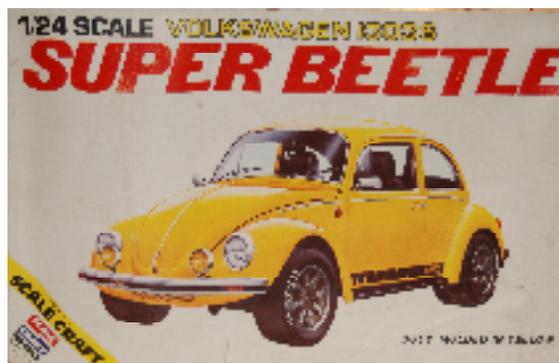
The box top art shows a picture of a factory stock Super Beetle, and the box sides feature nice cutaway views of interior, engine and suspension details. So when I opened it up once I got home I was a little disappointed that it was actually a curbside design, one of those motorized kits with a shallow interior to hold the batteries (no electric motor is included).



Something looked familiar to me so I poked through the pile of kits on my shelf and found the (almost) same kit previously issued under at least two other manufacturer names.



Above is an IMAI kit, molded in yellow. Below is a Scale Craft kit, also in yellow. The box art on these kits accurately shows the version of the car contained in the box, a sport version with wide tires, spoked wheels and extra driving lights.



The simplified kit features a one piece body, plated wheels and wide treaded vinyl tires. While the interior is somewhat shallow it has more depth than similar types of kit, so it looks like painting it all flat black would minimize the effect. This newest release has a body molded in red, the other parts are black along with chrome and clear pieces. On the body there were very noticeable mold lines at the top of both front and rear fenders that were hard to clean up. The chassis has a detachable lid for the battery compartment as well as several holes for wires and switches for the intended electric motor. One distinct feature of this kit is that there is an option of either left or right hand drive, with specific dashboards. The decal sheet contains markings to do the version seen on the earlier box art. The glass is one piece of clear plastic that snaps in from the bottom. The headlights and taillights feature clear lenses along with chromed buckets.



The new Aoshima kit.



The built up kit on display at the iHobby Expo.

GTR Event Calendar

December 6 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter
Scale Model Show
Waukesha County Expo Center
www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com

December 6 Tinley Park Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park IL
Jim Welytok 262-246-7171
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

2010

Feb 6 Hope It Don't Snow Show
IPMS/Zumbro Valley Scale Modelers
Ramada Hotel, Rochester, MN
[George Romano](mailto:George.Romano) 507 281 4175
romano@infonet.isl.net

April 10 IPMS/Mad City Modelers
Radisson Hotel, Madison, WI
Michael Luedke 262-567-9147

April 10 16th Annual IPMS Plastic
Surgeon's Contest
Valley Free Church, West Des Moines, IA
[Rob Folden](mailto:Rob.Folden) 515-661-1217
wdm.plasticsurgeons@gmail.com

April 10 Milwaukee NNL 18
Hosted by AMG
Excellence Center, Waukesha WI
Scottiek1@chater.net

April 11 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Spring
Scale Model Show
Waukesha County Expo Center
www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com

April 17 24th Annual NNL East
Wayne, NJ

May 1 Hoosier Model Car Assoc. 30th Annual
Miniature Vehicle Collectors Swap and Contest
First Church of the Nazarene Indianapolis, IN
indyhmca@hotmail.com

April TBD Ferrari Expo
Continental Motorsports, Hinsdale IL

August 4-7 IPMS/USA National Convention
Phoenix, AZ

October 21-24 iHobby Expo
Donald Stephens Convention Center
Rosemont, IL
www.iHobbyexpo.com
GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter



IPMS-USA
International Plastic Modelers Society
2010 Region 5 Convention:
Hosted by IPMS/Duneland – South
Chicagoland – details TBD
National and Regional Conventions:
2010 Nationals: Aug 4-7 Phoenix, AZ
2011 Nationals: Omaha, NE

**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING
FROM
GTR!**



GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter



1999 - 2009

GTR Celebrates our Tenth Year!

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

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Next GTR Meeting: November 21, 2009

www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com