



GTR

Newsletter

December

2012



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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
2012 Meetings: Every 1st Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: Tim Leicht

815-344-9109

benzwrench@msn.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

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Check out the GTR Auto Modelers website at: www.gtrautomodelers.freeservers.com

GTR Mailbag



by Chuck Herrmann

REAL WORLD

Suzuki to pull out of U.S. auto market, file Chapter 11 bankruptcy from autowwek.com

American Suzuki Motor Corp., beset by low sales, cutthroat competition and unfavorable foreign exchange rates, said it will pull out of the U.S. auto market and file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The company said it will continue its motorcycle and marine engine business units and will continue to honor customer warranties. Its Japanese parent company, Suzuki Motor Corp., is not filing for bankruptcy, the company said.

American Suzuki cited its poor U.S. auto sales, high costs, regulatory requirements and unfavorable foreign exchange rates as factors that contributed to the decision to wind-down its automotive business. Suzuki has about 246 U.S. dealers. Suzuki's U.S. sales through October totaled 21,188 vehicles, down 5 percent for the same period last year. The entire U.S. market has risen 14 percent through October.

Cars of the Stars



Ferrari offers the option of [personalization](#) on every car that it sells, so long as you have the coin. But if you're really flush, like guitar legend Eric Clapton, and you are a preferred Ferrari customer, you can go even further.

When Clapton made the request for a 512 Boxer Berlinetta-inspired version of the Ferrari [458 Italia](#), the company and design house Pininfarina happily obliged. What they came up with was a true one-off called the SP12 EC and a price of \$4.7 million.

The car retains the heart of the 458, a 4.5-liter V8 making 562 hp at a stratospheric 9,000 rpm. At one point, Clapton wanted a V12—like the 512's—but was persuaded that the 458 would be more practical and flexible. It would also make the build cheaper and easier.

When *Ferrari Magazine* asked if Clapton enjoyed the process, he said it was one of the most satisfying things he's ever done. "There will never be anything like this again. This is me listening to Fangio and Ascari. It's all there," said Clapton.

His first experience with Ferrari was when George Harrison arrived at his house in a 1969 Ferrari 365 GTC. Clapton said it was "the most beautiful thing I'd ever seen." He's owned three BBs since then, one of which was damaged in a crash that Clapton says was his fault. He says the integrity of the 512's design may have saved his life.



Clapton says the car won't just be a show piece: It will be driven (like all his cars).

"As much as it's a beautiful, one-off thing, it still has to be used properly. It's like riding a horse," Clapton told *Ferrari Magazine*. "At some point you have to establish the relationships. So the truth is there might be a few dents along the way . . . it's going to happen. And I'm fine with that."

Dodge Leaves NASCAR on Winning Note

It seems a bit ironic that Dodge is withdrawing from NASCAR next year after they won the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Championship by Brad Keselowski for owner Roger Penske.

MEDIA

Formula One Documentary Film *1*

A Formula One documentary entitled *1* premiered in Austin, Texas, as part of the kickoff celebration to the United States Grand Prix weekend. The film tells the stories of F1 drivers—in their own words—who raced in the 1960s and '70s. The premier was a result of the efforts of the SXSW Film Festival and the Circuit of The Americas. The film was produced by Spitfire Pictures, which is the documentary film production label of Los Angeles-based Exclusive Media. That company is also involved in the production of *Rush*, the Formula One feature film directed by Ron Howard which is due for release next September.

The film includes archived footage from the era, as well as interviews with stars of today and

12 F1 champions. Drivers and F1 personalities in the documentary include Bernie Ecclestone, Michael Schumacher, Sebastian Vettel, Lewis Hamilton, Jenson Button, Max Mosley, Sid Watkins, Jackie Stewart, Niki Lauda, Emerson Fittipaldi, Mario Andretti, Nigel Mansell, Jody Scheckter and Damon Hill.

"Millions of people worldwide watch the Formula One races as the circus travels the globe, but there are many who just don't know the history behind this, at one time, incredibly dangerous sport," filmmaker Paul Crowder said. "Our film conveys the essence of the era while telling this story and giving intimate insight into the life and personality, struggles and triumphs of racing's pivotal characters."

INDUSTRY NEWS

Local hobby store Woodstock Hobbies, which was located on Cass Street in the square in historic Woodstock, IL, has shut their doors.

AIRFIX 1/32 Ford Focus Rally Car

Airfix has announced the release of a 2011 Ford Fiesta WRC car in 1/32. Kit number A03413.



There are two versions; the second one is a set that contains glue and paints.



EVENTS

Tinley Park Annual Holiday Toy Show will be December 2.

Milwaukee Miniature Motors Autumn Show will be at the County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI on December 9.

We await confirmation of the 2013 Rockford Classic Plastic Event, usually held late January.

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

The next regular meeting will be Saturday, December 1 at the Algonquin Township Building. This will be our Christmas Pizza Party. So members who plan to attend please RSVP.

Until we firm up any alternate plans or events, the regular monthly meetings 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.

2013 6th Annual GTR Summer NNL

Following another successful GTR Summer NNL this year, IPMS has approved our event for next year, on Sunday August 4. I will be putting the flyer and announcement together soon.

The Theme will be 60 Years of the Corvette, with trophies for Best Street and Best Racing Corvette models.

Past issues of the GTR newsletters are available on line.

Go to www.carsandracingstuff.com, then click on Newsletters, find GTR and our newsletters are achieved back to 2004. Thanks to Bill Crittenden for storing our newsletters on his site.

November GTR Meeting

The regular November 2012 GTR meeting was held at the Algonquin Township Office on November 3. For the business portion of the meeting we did the treasury report and the mailbag, and then after Show & Tell once again Steve took pictures for the 2013 club calendar.

Then it was on to Show & Tell. Here is some of the stuff on the tables:

Jim Brooks: Jim brought some drag racers. Here is a 65 GTO, also



a 1964 Plymouth,



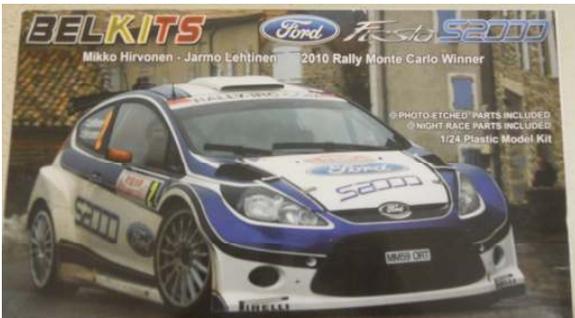
and a 1/18 diecast of the 68 Dodge Dart Jim was team manager for, back in the day.



Ed Sexton: Ed brought the 1/32 Entex Tyrell F1 Team transporter, first time I have seen this one built.



Also he had a new kit of a Ford WRC rally racer in 1/24 from BelKits.



Ed also brought in the winner of the Off Road Theme at this year's GTR Summer NNL, A Tamiya Mitsubishi Pajero.



Chuck Herrmann: I brought in an in progress rebuild of an old issue AMT 32 Ford Vicky, purchased at the Cedarville show in March,



and some Tiki stuff picked up on my recent Hawaii vacation, some of which may eventually work its way into a diorama or display.



George Pritzen: George brought in his now decaled Tamiya Lexus Japan GT racer.





IPMS News

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA, in Region 5. Local chapters need five active national IPMS/USA members to remain an IPMS chapter. We are in the process of renewing our charter so I will be contacting GTR members to update our records. We 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.

The 2013 IPMS/USA National Convention website is now up – see:

www.ipmsusa2013.com/

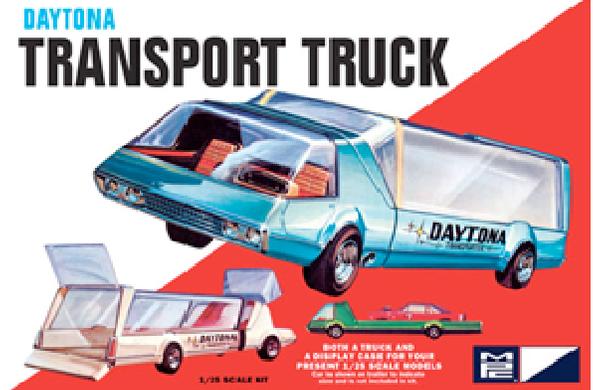
2013 IPMS Region 5 Convention

The 2013 Region 5 IPMS/USA Regional Contest and Convention will be held March 9 in Madison, WI. The last show in Madison, in 2009, saw a strong showing of Automotive models in the contest, over 300 as I recall, so it should be a good show to attend.



2013 Region 5 March 9, Madison, WI
 2013 IPMS/USA Nationals:
 August 14-17 Loveland, CO
 2014 50th Anniversary IPMS/USA
 Nationals at Hampton Roads, VA.

First Look: Round 2 MPC Daytona Transport Truck Reissue



Description: Daytona Transport Truck

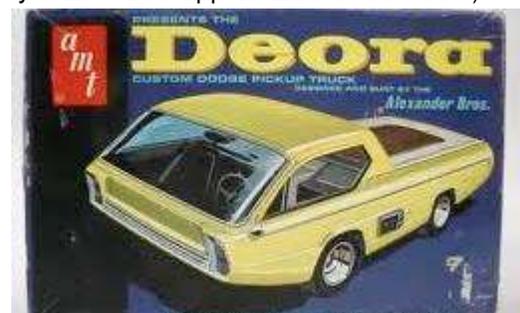
Manufacturer: Round2 - MPC

Kit#: 787

Scale: 1/25

By Chuck Herrmann

This is a reissue of a kit not seen for a long while. When it first came out in the late 60s-early 70s it was supposed to be what an auto hauler would look like in the future. Like around the turn of the century. Like about now. Oh well. It looks more like what the 60's thought the future would look like, think of the Jetsons TV show. Still, it is a nice piece of automotive nostalgia, similar to the Dodge Deora. (To me it looks like these are based on similar tooling, if anyone can confirm or deny that I would appreciate the feedback.)



Some of the previously released version of this model apparently included a car with the truck, such as a Ramchargers fuel dragster to model a drag race team. This time the truck is separate.

On to the kit. Like all the recent Round 2 kit releases, the packaging and presentation are first rate. Nice vintage artwork on the box and

instruction sheet. The trees are individually wrapped in plastic. The quality of the parts looks good, very little flash.

There is a lot of plastic in this box, but not a lot of pieces. It is molded in white with chrome and clear plastic. There are two sets of clear parts, one is clear and the other is tinted blue, like lots of other Round 2 product. This is a full detail kit, full interior and engine. The suspension is somewhat simplified. The trailer is nine inches long, and includes a clear plastic cover so you could use it as a display case. Add the cab and the finished model will be over thirteen inches long!



The cab features a custom style interior. The bucket seats are molded in. The engine sits between the front wheels, and is accessible through the interior cabin. So remember that any detail added to the engine is not going to be visible unless you leave the engine cover up.



The engine is an inline six cylinder unit with a front wheel drive transmission. Not noted on the instructions but included in the kit is an insert for the bottom of the frame that is a one piece representation of the engine and transmission. This will allow you to use the engine for another project, since six cylinder engines are not all that common in kits.



Oddly, the entire engine is on the chrome tree.



The trailer is a separate assembly, and it hinges to the cab in a unique fashion, at the midsection of the trailer. The taillights are clear red pieces.



The decal sheet included various striping and logs, as well as large white Auto World lettering.

My first test fit shows some poor fit issues, especially the frame to cab which provides no definite attachment points. And there are no inner wheel wells. There is some flash and mold marks, especially some mold circles on the trailer, also on the top of the clear plastic bed cover. But this is not too bad for an old mold.

I am not sure what my build will be, definitely I will save the six cylinder engine for another project rod by using the insert and I would paint the blue glass to model an enclosed hauler.

Below we see what a build of this new issue can look like. This is from the *Model Cars Magazine* on line forum.



Thanks to Dominick Weitzer from Wuerzburg, Germany for sharing his build up photos. (Note that the lack of inner wheel wells does not really show up with the wheels and tires in place)



GTR Event Calendar

Dec 2 Tinley Park Annual Holiday Toy Show
Tinley Park High School, Tinley Park IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Dec 9 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Autumn Show
County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI
Contact Joan Dunn (262) 646-4114 (Voicemail)
or email jdunn07@centurytel.net
<http://www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com/ihhtml/mainframe.ihhtml>

2013

February 24 61st IL Plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL
(630) 969-1847
Email: pthpowerinc@aol.com.

Mar 23? Ferrari Expo
Continental Autosports,
420 East Ogden Avenue, Hinsdale, IL 60521
Tom Tanner/Scale Designs
email: alfaromeo2465@yahoo

Apr 13 Milwaukee NNL21 hosted by AMG
Theme: "Legal in all 50 States", Alcohol, tobacco
& firearms sponsored model vehicles
Family Centers of Excellence, Waukesha, WI
Sub-theme: 60 Years of the Corvette
Info email: Scott Koch scottiekl@charter.net or
Mike Dowd mdowd@wi.rr.com

Apr 14 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Spring Show,
Waukesha County Expo Center,
1000 Northview Rd. Waukesha, Wisconsin.
Call (262) 646-4114 (Voicemail) or email
jdunn07@centurytel.net
<http://www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com/ihhtml/mainframe.ihhtml>

May 2-3 23rd Annual International Scale Vehicle
Championship and Convention
Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel, UT
www.gslchampionship.org

May13 HMCA Contest and Swap Meet, Knights
of Columbus, Indianapolis, IN
Contact Information:
Contest: Duane Tripp (317) 421-1453
or DCT2136@aol.com
Swap Meet: Dave Williams (317) 322-1852
or indyhmca@hotmail.com

May 19 13th NNL North Show & Swap
Knights of Columbus Hall, Bloomington MN
Bob Maderich 612-423-2985
www.RPMMModelClub.com

August 4 6th Annual GTR SUMMER NNL
Theme: 60 Years of Corvettes
Algonquin Township building
Crystal Lake, IL
gtrchab@yahoo.com

August 14-17 IPMS/USA National Convention
Loveland, CO
www.ipmsusa2013.com

? – awaiting confirmation of date/details



Happy Holidays from GTR Auto Modelers



IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

Chuck Herrmann
338 Alicia Drive
Cary, IL 60013

Next GTR Meeting: December 1, 2012

www.gtrautomodelers.freeservers.com