



GTR

Newsletter

July 2020

Summer NNL Canceled!
Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic,
The GTR/LMMCC Summer NNL
has been Canceled

In This Issue:

- **Summer NNL Canceled**
- **Hobby and Club News**
- **Modeling Finland's Folkrace**
- **Post Apocalyptic Sting Ray III**
- **IPMS Nationals Canceled**
- **Ron's Mundelein Hobbies for Sale**
- **Desert Sale Classic Virtual Contest**

President's Message: July

Since things have opened up a little, I have been able to get over to a couple of hobby shops in the area. I mostly needed paint to finish a model. I finished a Studio 27 Brabham BT44 Martini I had been working on for a long time. Part of that time it just sat there, I was distracted by other projects. But it is nice that now, finally, you can go in a store even if you need to have a mask on. But I think we're all concerned about what long term affect this will have on these stores. We've lost so many hobby shops already.

At the Nuremberg Toy Fair Revell Germany announced an all new 1/24 Jaguar XKE. We will also have a USA packaging of the kit after it is released in Germany. This kit is completely a Revell Germany effort and it looks like they have done a really fine job. There are some test shot pictures (see inside). On other industry news, while not supported by a direct company statement, Wingnut Wings has closed its doors. All of the staff have been made redundant. I'm not really surprised by this, it existed only because of a very wealthy owner (Peter Jackson, movie director of the Lord of the Rings trilogy and the WWI documentary They Shall Not Grow Old) who loved the models. There was no way the sales volume of their products could have supported the investment. He must have lost interest and moved on to other things. But the models were great while they lasted.

As I said in my last newsletter, I am spending more and more time reading books. So, I wanted to share my experiences with some reviews of these books. Each month I will write a selection of mini reviews on both recently published books and older out of print books. I hope you find them informative and they entice you into buying some of them. Locally the best source for recently published books is the Motorsports Collector in Downers Grove. On out of print books, you can also find these books there or you can try places like eBay or Abebooks.

Ed Sexton

Grand Touring & Racing Auto Modelers
Based in the Chicago, IL Northwest Suburbs
2002/2003 IPMS/USA Region 5 Chapter of the Year
2007, 2008 & 2015 IPMS/USA Region 5 Newsletter of the Year
2020 Meetings: Every 1st Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

Location alternates between member's homes and the Algonquin Township Building

Your current GTR Officers are:

President/Contact: Ed Sexton eagle48.1967@yahoo.com
Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Fisher kkfisher1@comcast.net

The GTR Newsletter is written and edited by Chuck Herrmann and Doug Fisher. If you or your club has news that you would like to pass on to the modeling community, send the info on to me digitally at kkfisher1@comcast.net and I will add it to this newsletter as a blurb or link. Show dates are subject to changes/cancelation as dates shown. 2020 club dues are due \$15 measly bucks, send check or give cash to me with your contact information. Thanks! Please make check out to "Doug Fisher" as we could not get a "club" named bank account)



MAILBAG
by Chuck Herrmann

**Due to the Corona Virus
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"As we got closer and closer to the date of our Summer NNL, we began to realize the restrictions around the corona virus have not improved as we had hoped. By our date we will still need to follow the "social distancing" guidelines. In the restricted environment of our facility this was just not going to be possible. In addition to everyone wearing masks, it was going to really splash cold water on our event. This is the reverse of what we were planning for. This was going to be the first year of the combined GTR and Lake Michigan Model Car Club Summer NNL. We were really looking forward to having it this year.

We considered postponing the event, but even by the end of Sept. we do not see any real improvement. With the outdoor swap meet as part of the show we can't go much later than the end of Sept.

So we will look to next year and plan for a really exciting Summer NNL."

Ed Sexton, President GTR *Rob Cantwell, President Lake Michigan Model Car Club*

Events

The 2020 IPMS/USA National Convention, probably the largest contest and swap in the country, scheduled for July 29-Aug 1 in San Marcos, TX has been cancelled. The event will now be held in 2023, as IPMS Nationals are scheduled two years out. Same host club, location and venue.

So as you already know, the Corona virus crisis is still raging, meaning all dates are of course tentative. Please check directly with the event hosts as events are being rescheduled or canceled daily. I will update as I am informed of changes, also I will share the notices on the GTR Facebook page.

See the events calendar for details for all the events that I know of. If any readers wish their

shows or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to GTR.

Real World

Bob Gibson, Auto Modeler



From Facebook: when Hall of Fame pitcher Bob Gibson wasn't dominating hitters on the mound, he enjoyed building model cars and playing the guitar.

Farewell Segway

From CNN Business

The Segway PT, which earned a place in pop culture but never realized its creators' world-changing ambitions, will come to an end this summer.



China-based Ninebot, which acquired Segway in 2015, will halt production of the PT, short for Personal Transporter, on July 15. Twenty-one staffers will be laid off at its Bedford, New Hampshire plant.

The Segway PT made a splash in December, 2001 when it was unveiled on *Good Morning America*. Inventor Dean Kamen said that an urban transportation revolution was coming and cars would be obsolete. Kamen felt it was absurd to use 4,000-pound cars and trucks for short trips.

But last year the Segway PT accounted for only 1.5% of Ninebot's revenue, according to Tony Ho, vice president of global business development at Segway. With a price tag starting

at \$6,000 and sometimes reaching \$10,000, only police departments and tour groups could afford it, he said.

"It was a great invention 20 years ago," said Ho. "Now it seems a bit outdated." He added that some police departments have shifted to Ninebot's cheaper electric scooters. Ninebot is also ending production of a three-wheeled Segway device that was designed for community policing.

Industry News Ron's Hobbies for Sale!



This was recently posted in Facebook on the Ron's Mundelein Hobbies page:

After 40 great years, it is time to retire! Ron's Hobbies is currently for sale, we are well stocked and have a wonderful and loyal customer base! Please see Ron for details or feel free to call us. Thank you all for making the last 40 years possible and we hope the business will continue far into the future!

I shopped there a lot while I was still living back in Illinois. It was close enough to work that I could get there over lunch break. While predominately a model railroad shop they had a very good selection of car models as well as full lines of tools, paints and modeling supplies. Hopefully someone steps up and buys the shop and keep it running. They also were glad to special order stuff o request.

But thanks to Ron and Betty and family for a great run of providing hobbyists with a fine store and friendly service. Best wishes for a well deserved retirement!

Revell Germany Jaguar XKE Test Shots

Here are the photos of Revell Germany upcoming Jaguar XKE kit Ed Sexton mentioned in his monthly update on the cover page.



Stylish Summer Wear



Not that we need much new summer apparel as we stay isolated this summer, but if I did this shirt I found on the internet would be nice. Somehow I keep getting all these Porsche wear ads, they must not have noticed my Porsches are all less that 1/1 scale!

Detail Junkees VW Photo Etch Set



I have been purchasing *Dedicated Scale Enthusiast* magazine, a quarterly that is not really focused on the GTR traditional interests but features lots of high quality builds. It also has ads and articles about other modeling products that are new to me.

When you order the magazine you are eligible to win a Golden Ticket prize, for one of the products from the advertisers in the magazine. For the last issue I was fortunate to win a Golden Ticket for one item from a company called Detail Junkees So I checked out their website at: detailjunkees.bigcartel.com.

They offer a number of photoetch detail sets, mostly aimed at the custom or lowrider genres. Some are kit specific, like 1951 and 1953 Chevies, and several Monte Carlos. There are several sets that can be used for other general projects. There are hood props, wheel knock offs, brake sets, trunk junk, an Optima Battery and license plate holders.

I chose to order the set for the Revell VW Mk I Rabbit and GTi kits. The set comes packed in a cassette tape case (bigger sets come in plastic CD cases). There are a sheet of instructions with a Parts Breakdown along with tips on tools and adhesives to use with photoetch parts.

This set includes over 50 pieces. The set is a little thicker than some brands of photoetch I have used. The detail looks nice and crisp. There are disc brakes, speaker grills, floor pedals, interior stuff and steering wheel spokes and emblem. There are also some under hood details like the alternator bracket, pulley faces and distributor cap. There are also some really neat detail pieces for a roof rack, the attachments and the hooks and buckles to attach the straps. Overall this looks like a nice set, the price is \$15 which is right in line with similar products.

At the moment I have several projects on the bench before I can get to a VW Golf kit from the stash so I cannot speak to fit but they look like it should be fine. I see on their website they have a set coming for a VW Type 1 Van, I am looking at my Jagermeister Revell Germany kit on the shelf as I type this so I may need to get that one.

Thanks to owner David Bayon for providing the prizes (David is also Chief Creative Biz Dev at *Dedicated Magazine*).



IPMS News

GTR is a proud member of the IPMS organization. GTR is a local chapter, in Region 5, of IPMS/USA. We need five current IPMS/USA members to remain a chapter. If you are a current IPMS/USA member let Doug know your member number and expiration date, and remember to renew your IPMS/USA membership by October each year to make the renewal process smooth. We encourage 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

IPMS Calendar

The 2020 IPMS/USA National Convention, probably the largest contest and swap in the country, scheduled for July 29-Aug 1 in San Marcos, TX has been cancelled. This was probably inevitable with the continued Corona virus situation, but now it is official. The event will be moved out to 2023, same host club, same venue and city. Remember IPMS Nats are awarded two years out so that is the next open year. The 2021 Nationals will be in Las Vegas, NV August 18th thru 21st.

July 29-Aug 1 2020 IPMS/USA Nationals **Canceled**
San Marcos, TX

2021 IPMS Region 5 Convention –**Date TBD**
hosted by IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers
McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL.

Aug 18-21 2021 IPMS USA Nationals: Las Vegas, NV
See their Facebook page

2022 IPMS USA Nationals Omaha, NE

2023 IPMS/USA Nationals San Marcos, TX



GTR Update

The June meeting, scheduled for Saturday June 5 was canceled due to the corona virus crisis. We will hold a meeting in July, but not at the Algonquin Township Building. It will be at President Ed's home in Northbrook. And it will be the **second Saturday in July, July 11**, not the first to avoid the 4th of July conflict. Our average attendance should not go over the current guidelines for gatherings, but let Ed know via email if you plan to attend. See the cover page for his email.

Eventually future regular monthly meetings will meet at the Algonquin Township Building. Any member who wants to bring up other ideas or suggestions for future meetings or activities, do so either at the meeting or contact us.

Virtual Show & Tell

With meetings being cancelled we will use this space usually used to show models at the meeting for a virtual show and tell. One advantage is that we can show stuff from our out of town members. Here are some along with comments from the Facebook posts or emails.

Roy Sorensen

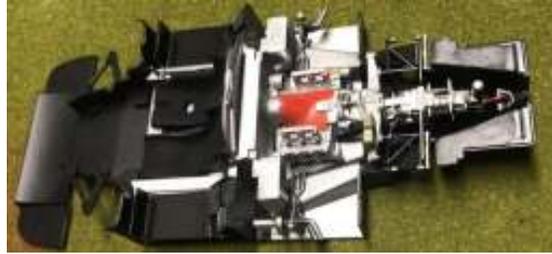


Tamiya Mustang GT3



(Editor note: This is the kit I did a first look at last issue. Check out the GTR Facebook page for a lot more pictures of both the finished build and in progress shots)

Gary Dodson



Tamiya Porsche 956

Chuck Herrmann



NuNu Audi R8LM GT3



Dave Raeder



1932 Ford Tudor Sedan Street Rod
a 1950's street rod with flathead power



1932 Ford Coupe Salt Flats Car
Chopped and channeled 5 window coupe with a modified model B four cylinder that has an OHV conversion



1966 Pontiac Tempest GTO 2 door post body
Very rare body style used by drag racers
because it was lighter than the hardtop.



1932 Ford 5 window coupe
built as a 1950's Jalopy dirt car



Robert Bernahl



Revell/Monogram 53 Chevy undergoing some
heavy customizing.

Elliot Doering



Rex White 1959 Chevy Convertible NASCAR



Dick Rathman 1952 Hudson NASCAR

Ed Sexton



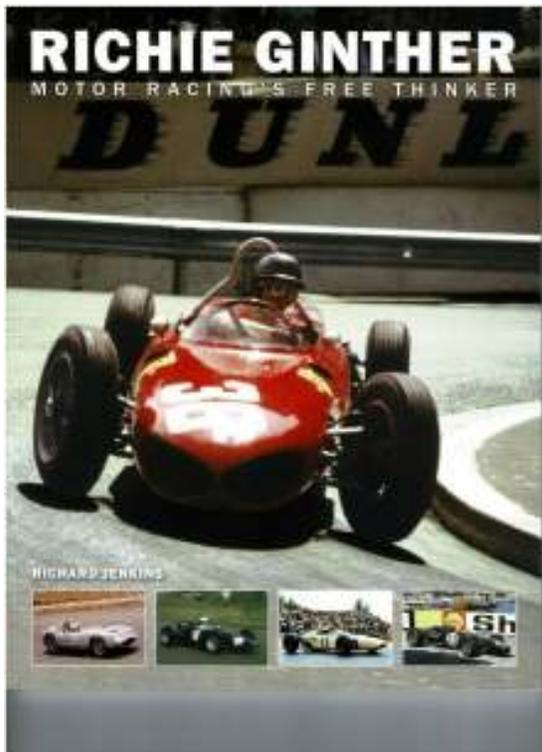
The Accurate Miniatures Corvette Grand Sport



Agent Orange 41 Willys

Book Reviews

By Ed Sexton



Richie Ginther, Motor Racing's Free Thinker

By Richard Jenkins SC 2020, 130 pages

After reading this book I had a new appreciation for Richie Ginther. I never took him for one of the very top line drivers, but this was wrong. He really was one of the best of his era. In addition to being very competitive in the races he ran, he was one of the best ever car developers and test drivers. This in many ways is a special talent that take more than bravery. It takes a real feel for what the car is doing and what can be done to improve it. Many of your acclaimed great drivers were great in their races, but couldn't communicate to the mechanics how the car was working. They just drove around problems if they were there.

While the records show Richie Ginther with only one Grand Prix win, he had many second-place finishes. Most of these were because he was the second driver on the team and followed team orders. In addition to Grand Prix racing Richie was an exceptional sports car racer. Here too his car development skills were used and made important contributions to the success of the teams.

The book is an easy read and loaded with important photographs which support the text. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested

in learning the true picture of this great driver from the 50s and 60s.



Jim McGee, Crew Chief of Champions

By Gordon Kirby HC 2014, 279 pages

Behind so many great drivers and teams there's a great mechanic. Jim McGee is one such mechanic. In the beginning he got his training from another great mechanic, Clint Brawner. McGee spent these first years learning from one of the all-time best mechanic/team manager in Brawner. This provided him with the foundation he needed to continue on his own and win championship after championship. The book follows McGee's career as it progressed from one great driver to the next like, Andretti, Sneva, Mears, Unser, Johncock, Rahal, Fittipaldi and Mansell.

Most of the book is filled with direct quotes from McGee himself. At the end of each chapter there are testimonials from the drivers he worked with. You get to hear how well he worked with each of them and their appreciation for what he did. The contrasts between the drivers is very interesting. In addition to the drivers, you also have commentaries from the car owners who McGee worked for during those years. You get interesting "behind the scenes" stories from the 1960s through to the 2000s from someone who was right there in the mix. I recommend this book to anyone interested in Indy car racing during those years.

GTR on Facebook

GTR has a Facebook page. Check it out and join up! We encourage members and fans to post photos of your models or projects. Also the GTR Newsletter including back issues can be accessed from the site.

Modeling Finland's Folkrace



by Dave Roeder St Louis MO

I have been working on some back burner projects during the Covid-19 restrictions. The most fun ones were two Finland Folkrace cars. Folkrace is a low cost form of racing for the everyman in Finland. The rules are pretty simple. Cars can be front wheel drive or rear wheel drive, but not 4 wheel drive and not diesels. They must have safety equipment according to the local rules. To keep the cost down, all cars regardless of finishing position can be purchased for \$1,650.00. These cars are not very neatly done inside or out. Many have hand painted decorations. There are six car heats with speeds exceeding 80 miles per hour on courses that average 1.5 miles in length. Tracks combine dirt and gravel with pavement. The races are also short (about 5 minutes) and feature a lot of action with frequent contact and resulting spins, rolls, and sliding crashes into large sand and gravel berms that line some of the courses. The season runs into winter with some races held during snow and sleet. The damaged cars are removed from the track with large rubber tired front end loaders. The forks are shoved under the cars and they are hauled off. The most common cars raced are Saabs and Volvos. Swedish Folkrace videos have entire fields of those two makes.

I began looking of an early VW for one of the cars and then found a Mazda 323 kit that was front wheel drive. After much searching, I even found some photos of these Mazda 323s' racing in Sweden. The VWs' were quite common up until about 2017. Videos show the occasional AUDI, Ford Euro compact, Skoda and Citroen in the mix. Volvo 244 station wagons are popular.

The cars sustain a lot of minor body damage and are run until a serious crash causes them to be cut up for scrap. Some other common features are the stoplights mounted inside the car body, arrows indicating tow points, full roll cages, larger tires and wheels, large bottles of windshield washer fluid mounted in the cockpit, electrical kill switches, and most of the front and rear bumpers and grilles replaced with crumpled up sheet metal caused by running off the track into the large sand and gravel piles lining the track.



The Real Thing



Post Apocalyptic Sting Ray III



Description: Sting Ray III
Manufacturer: Revell
Kit #: 7346 **Scale:** 1/25
by Chuck Herrmann Albuquerque NM



In all the craziness caused by the Corona Virus there have been lots of doomsday type paranoia stuff in the media. On some modeling sites there have been examples of the Post Apocalyptic type builds, made famous by the Mad Max and other Sci-Fi movies and TV shows. I had done something like this before but with the added time at the bench and model room lately here is my latest as inspired by this.

I was going through my collection to rearrange and possibly get rid of or sell some extraneous stuff. Among the built ups I no longer really wanted I came across the Revell Sting Ray III kit I built over 25 years ago.



The Sting Ray III was a concept version of the Corvette design in 1992 as one of the potential candidates for Chevy's upcoming C5 generation Vette. Revell did a kit shortly thereafter. My kit list

shows I acquired mine in 1993 at the RCHTA show in Chicago. I found images of at least two other boxes on line so it has been out a few times.

My retirement relocation move had not been kind to this particular kit, it was in pieces that had broken off but it was all there. To me the styling of this car has not stood the test of time. For my build I did not paint it. The model came molded in the same purple color as the real thing and it was swirl free so I just polished out the body and painted the rest of it per the real car. As I was ready to pack it up for sale or donation I somehow got the idea for this project. I already had a pile of parts for a similarly themed build.

These Post Apocalyptic builds are meant to show what these cars may look like in a post doomsday world. The usual style is something heavy duty, usable either off road or on poorly maintained streets, and with modifications and added part based on what would be available in a crude shop that survived whatever disaster hit civilization. Also they are often equipped with weapons to fight odd other survivors or zombies or whatever. So there is quite a bit of freedom to one of these, kind of like a militarized rat rod.

I planning this one, I knew I wanted a different window treatment, something more basic or crude looking. Also the interior needed to be dumbed down and the wheels had to change. Also almost all of these builds I have seen seem to have some kind of crash bar or shovelnose, I guess to crash through barriers or push opponents off the road.

First I decided this was to be a curbside, since body changes would make an opening hood very difficult. And this was also intended to be a side project, something to work on while paint or glue dried on more "serious" projects. Since the engine and chassis were already painted these I left alone except to add some weathering and dirt effects.



For a new front nose I found a large spoiler like pieces that were for the custom version, from a Revell 53 Chevy. This fit the width of then body, sheet stock was added to blend it in.



Then to cover some of the huge dash area in the original design I found a piece, I believe a front fascia from a Lamborghini Countach, to square off the front cowl area, again sheet stock filled some gaps.

I covered the large fancy headlights with some sheet tin. For drama I found a base metal skull and crossbones jewelry piece (my wife does jewelry making so I dig through the different shapes while we are at the bead shop) cut the hoops off and glued it onto the hood



For the interior I took out the fancy bucket seat and steering wheel, using some more basic seats and a larger retro style steering wheel from the parts box. I painted the seat frames aluminum, with some skull motif seats from a roll of Halloween masking tape. Most of the rest of the interior was painted flat black then weathered. I found a roll cage that I adapted to fit. I added some panels to the top of the dash to remove some of the more curved design. I added a skull bead for the shifter, and a fire extinguisher.



The kit wheels and tires are especially lame looking for this version. I wanted a wider and more substantial look so I found some rugged steelie type wheels, with wider ones for the rear.



The tires are treaded for off road use, sanded and weathered. Since these mount differently

than the kit I had to modify the suspension and hubs, somewhat crudely but since is intended to be displayed as a curbside build I did not spend too much effort here.

I needed a roof so I made one from a flat piece from the parts bin, it is removeable. Instead of a glass windshield I cut some screen material and painted it steel



A spare tire is mounted on the trunk and tied down with a steel (wire) cable to a tubular ear bumper. Headlights are some square housings and clear lenses from the parts bin.

For paint I used some Testors spray enamel flat olive drab over DupliColor grey primer which covered the purple plastic. For contrast the wheels and roof are DupliColor Red primer. Everything was weathered with acrylics.



For a project that was a side project as I was working on other things it came out okay. I enjoy the fact that these are build as you go, the rough finish and flat paints allow you to change things on the fly and cover up any rough spots with dirt or rust.

One issue I run across for this type of build is the weapons. These vehicles are usually armed but there are somewhat limited amount of guns and weapons in 1/24-25. Not like 1/35 with all the military kits. Eventually I made machine guns on the front bumper from sprue and tubing. And under the shovel nose I added some real metal teeth from a plastic wrap box.

High Desert Modeler



by Chuck Herrmann Albuquerque, New Mexico



16th Desert Scale Classic Contest Goes Online

DESERT SCALE CLASSIC 16

Model Car Championship
THE VIRTUAL VENUE

I know some local guys have gone to The Desert Scale Classic Event in Phoenix before. I want to attend some year, This year it was a virtual online event due to the Coronavirius. Below is the summary by their coordinator then some photos. Check out the whole event at: <http://www.dscv16.com>.

In essence, the idea was born from a reluctance to let Coronavirus cheat us out of an event in 2020. Our "live" event has been held in a City of Phoenix Community Center for years. When "stay-at-home" mandates resulted in loss of our venue, we considered other options. Other events were already starting to clog Fall weekends, and we did not want to just forego the entire year. We hit upon the idea of an internet-based Virtual Venue! Our IT/Webmaster Meister assured us he could pull it off and meet our standards. GoDaddy assured us our platform could handle the volume and promised tech support to guarantee the success.

So, dscV16 - The Virtual Venue was born as a substitute for our usual live Event, the 16th Desert Scale Classic.

We had 462 registered Entries from scores of builders hailing from 22 U.S. states, 3 Canadian provinces, and the United Kingdom (Scotland).

Our judges examined every entry and we conferred 103 awards (including 5 selected by our Entrants from models built by our club members).

Come see us in Phoenix in April 2021 for Desert Scale Classic 17.

Dan Baker



Best of Show, along with Best Engine and Best Detail Awards went to Tim Hoagland and his Bantam Fuel Altered



Best Paint Wes Salazar 56 Nomad



Competition Class Winner



Best Replica



Best VW



Best Out of the Box



Pikes Peak Toronado



Flying Porsche!





2020 Event Calendar

With all the disruption and uncertainty caused by the Corona virus crisis, all dates are of course tentative. Please check directly with the event hosts as events are being rescheduled or canceled daily. I will update as I am informed of changes, also I will share the notices on the GTR Facebook page.

Postponed TBD April 18 28th Milwaukee NNL
Host Automotive Modelers Guild AMG
Theme: Hot Rods
Sub Theme: Rat Rods
The Excellence Center, Waukesha WI
scottiek1@charter.net

July 29-Aug 1 **Canceled** 2020 IPMS/USA Nationals
San Marcos, TX

Aug 2 Canceled GTR/LMMCC Summer NNL
Theme: Pickups
Algonquin Township Bldg Crystal Lake IL

Postponed June 13-14 now Aug 22-23
Heartland Model Car Nationals
Hosted by KC Slammers (Kansas City area)
Overland Park convention Center, Overland Park
KS (special Theme American Graffiti)
-www.kcslammers.com

Postponed May 24 now August 23 Indy 500
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Postponed May 15-16 now September 19
40th Annual Hoosier Model Car Contest and
Swap Meet.
Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin, IN
mike51oleary@gmail.com

Postponed June 13-14 24 Hours of LeMans
now Sept 19-20 LeMans, France

Sep 26 IPMS/Nordic-Con 2020
Veterans Memorial Community Center
Inver Grove Heights, MN
robertmaderich69@hotmail.com

Sep 27 Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show
DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton IL
Info contact: (630) 969-1847 or
Email: pthpowerinc@aol.com

Oct 18 Countryside Collectors Classic Show
Park Place of Countryside, Countryside IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Oct 25 US Grand Prix
Circuit of the Americas, Austin TX

Oct 31 Winnebago Area Model Classic
Hilton Garden Inn, Oshkosh WI
WAMclassic@gmail.com

Nov 1 Scale Auto Hobby & Toy Show
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Postponed May 17 now Nov 1 NNL North Contest
Knights of Columbus Hall, Bloomington, MN
www.NNLNORTH.com

Postponed March 21 now November 14 Sebring
12 Hours IMSA
Sebring Intl Raceway, Sebring FL

Nov 14 Canceled Southern NNL Atlanta
acme-ipms.com

Nov 14 IPMS/Butch O'Hare Contest & Swap

Nov 15 Detroit NNL
The Macomb Community College informed The
Detroit Area Auto Modelers our show has been
canceled..

Dec 6 Tinley Park Holiday Toy Show
Tingley Park HS, Tingley Park IL
www.uniqueeventsshows.com