



# GTR Newsletter

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers

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## GTR Auto Modelers

Based in the Northwest Chicago, IL Suburbs  
2002/2003 IPMS/USA Region 5 Chapter of the Year  
2007 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

**Next GTR Meeting: January 19, 2008  
Fountains of Crystal Lake**

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

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: Ed Sexton

[ESexton@modelrectifier.com](mailto:ESexton@modelrectifier.com)

Vice President: Steve Jahnke

847-516-8515

[stevejahnke@comcast.net](mailto:stevejahnke@comcast.net)

Secretary/Contact: Chuck Herrmann

847-516-0211

[gtrchab@yahoo.com](mailto: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.freesevers.com](http://www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com)**

## GTR Mailbag

by Chuck Herrmann

*Happy New Year*

### Real World

#### VW Jetta Diesel Race Series in US (from motorsport.com)



Volkswagen will present a new racing series in 2008. The first ever all-diesel powered racing series will hit the tracks in 2008 with the formation of the Jetta TDI Cup, sanctioned by the [Sports Car Club of America \(SCCA\)](#) Pro Racing department. The newest series will have 30 Jetta TDIs ready for the 2008 competition. All will be prepared identically for the aspiring drivers who wish to take on the challenge next year, racing clean diesel powered racing machines. The prize at the end of the season will see two of the drivers participate in Germany at the season finale for the VW Polo A 2.0 liter, 4-cylinder turbo diesel engine will power the Jetta TDI race cars. All will have a six-speed double-clutch DSG transmission, ABS racing brakes and a fully independent racing suspension along with the required cockpit safety requirements.

#### Dakar Rally Cancelled!

(From [www.motorsport.com](http://www.motorsport.com))

The 30th Edition of the Dakar Rally, due to start in Lisbon (on), January 5, 2008, has been confirmed to be canceled. Scrutineering activities were halted in Lisbon at 10 AM local time, and Amaury Sport Organization, the rally organizer, issued a press release confirming this at 12:00 PM Jan 4.

"Based on the current international political tension and the murder of four French tourists last 24th of December (in Mauritana) linked to a branch of Al-Qaeda in Islamic Maghreb, but also and mainly the direct threats launched directly against the race by terrorist organisations, no other decision but the cancellation of the sporting event could be taken by ASO," per the press release.

The race recap was to broadcast on the Versus cable network daily for the two week event.

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### Hobby Industry



#### Porsche 962C from Revell Germany

On the Revell Germany website we see a new release of the Porsche 962C, kit 07251. This is a reissue of the Hasegawa tooling used in their series of 962 kits several years ago. It is a curbside which builds up into a nice looking model. This version is the factory team from Monza 1986, however no Rothmans (tobacco) markings are on the decal sheet. These should be available from the aftermarket.

Also, the Revell Germany website lets you print out the instructions for many of their kits as a pdf file.

#### Jim's Hobbies Shuts Down

Jim's Hobbies, on Rt 31 in McHenry, shut down at the end of last year. I was not a regular, and whenever I did stop in their plastic kit selection

was not very deep, however they did have paints and supplies. It is always bad news to see a local shop close, along with the facts below it all points out the overall decline in the modeling hobby.

**No More Wal-Mart:** In 2008 Wal-Mart will no longer offer plastic model kits. They may still sell pre-painted kits or diecast kits. Some of their newest stores, the super stores in Crystal Lake and Woodstock, never did stock kits. Even if you don't like WallyWorld, they were a significant part of the market for kit manufacturers. The new flat boxes for the Revell 49 Merc kits were designed for Wal-Mart, as were several repackaged kits so we will need to see how this plays out for future products. My last stop at Hobby Lobby saw their plastic shelf space down by at least half. And the local (Vernon Hills) Toy Liquidator is shutting down. Good thing I have a mountain of plastic in the basement to work on.

## 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 and Lake Michigan Model Car Club.

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

## Events

There will be several local events that GTR will have a presence at in the first part of 2008. The Rockford Wheels in Scale Classic Plastic event is January 27. The Ferrari Expo and contest at Continental Motorsports in Hinsdale is April 12. The Milwaukee NNL is April 19, with the Waukesha Swap Meet the next day. We finally received 2008 Region 5 details, see the list.

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

# GTR News

## GTR Update

For January we will be back at the Fountains of Crystal Lake, on the usual third Saturday January 19.

Among the business items to be covered are dues for 2008, also the club officers for 2008. Ed Sexton is stepping down as GTR President, so we will need a new president. Anyone interested can speak up next meeting or let me know

before the meeting. You would need to be an active IPMS/USA member to be president. Anyone with other ideas for club activities, projects or meetings is invited to bring it up at the meeting or contact me. Maybe a club build project (last year we did a motorcycle/chopper build project), or a meeting at your home? So far we will be at the Rockford show in January, the Ferrari Expo and Milwaukee NNL in April. In April the Milwaukee NNL falls on our meeting night, so instead of a regular meeting we will have our usual road trip to the NNL along with the GTR display table. If anyone has suggestions for a future meeting let me know.



GTR's own Doug Fisher is organizing a collection of donated model kits and related supplies for the troops stationed in Iraq. Doug has done this before, GTR has twice sent over some supplies so the troops can get their minds off their situation for awhile. We couldn't get the kits shipped during the holidays so you can bring kits in to the January meeting. Members of CARS in Miniature also joined us by donating kits at our joint December meeting.

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](http://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](http://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.

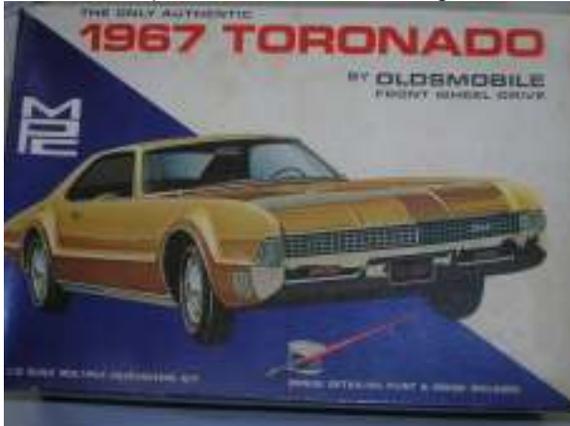
## December GTR Meeting



## December GTR Meeting

The December meeting was held December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Algonquin Township office in Cary, IL. It was a joint meeting with CARS in Miniature. It was a build night, so as people worked on their projects the show there was also a Show and Tell. Also there was a Christmas Gift exchange. Thanks to CARS for letting us join them again this year.

Here are pictures from the meeting.



# Kit Review: Tamiya Renault 5 Turbo



**Kit: Renault 5 Turbo**

**Mfg: Tamiya**

**Scale: 1/24 Kit # 2424**

By Chuck Herrmann

This particular kit is over 20 years old. As I stopped by VP Steve Jahnke's house to get the notes and photos from the October meeting, we went down to the hobby room/kit stash. While looking for a Citroen 2CV kit I had been bugging Steve about, we came across this Renault 5 Turbo. According to the note on the box Steve had given it a coat of Testors 1203 Red then tested the clearcoat over that back in 1988. Steve thought it would fit into my collection of unusual European and imports and said I could have it if I finished it and did a review. So, after about three weeks I finished it up.

This kit was issued by Tamiya probably mid 70s-early 80's. The box indicates that MRC was the distributor, and the instruction and box markings are partly in Japanese. It is designed to be a motorized toy, so design is somewhat simplified.



In the mid-70's Renault decided to build a turbo charged rear engine car to compete in the World Rally Championship in Group 4. In order to qualify for the WRC series Renault needed to manufacture 400 production versions, so the Renault 5 was launched. The basic design is based on the infamous LeCar subcompact. But this used a turbo 1.4 liter four cylinder. The wheelbase was extended and the body widened considerably. Numerous scoops and vents were added for cooling. The suspension was beefed up and wider tires were used along with a rear wheel drive set up.



This kit is a curbside, the only engine detail is molded onto the bottom of the chassis. A muffler is the only additional piece. Since there is not much there I did not bother to paint the chassis (it is molded in black) but I did paint the engine metallic gray. The front suspension is steerable, with spindles and tie rod while the rear is a metal axle.



The wheels are chrome and use the rubber mount rubber/plastic washers often used by Tamiya. They should probably be dull coated but I left them as is.

The body is basically one piece. There is a one piece windshield that mounts from underneath. The body has been painted by Steve as I noted earlier, I just painted the vents black along with the windshield trim. There are clear headlights; I painted the body behind them silver along with the parking and brake lights. Clear red and orange paint finished them off. The grille, gas cap, one mirror and windshield wipers are the only detail body pieces.



The old decals for the window and license plates worked fine after all these years!



The interior builds up off the floor. It is a basic interior, two seats, dashboard and shifter. I painted the floor Tamiya German Gray. The seat and deck were sprayed with Scale Motorsport Faux Fabric grey, to represent a cloth material finish.



The dashboard was painted black and the instrument detail was painted with a brush. The floor shifter completed the interior.



The dashboard was painted black and the instrument detail was painted with a brush. The floor shifter completed the interior.

The final results turned out pretty good. The kit builds up into a nice shelf model realizing that there are relatively few parts. And Steve's choice of red looks good.

The kit instructions provide the original factory color schemes, but the red version featured orange spoiler, roof sides and fascia along with some large decals on the sides. The interior was tan, yellow and blue, a pretty funky Euro 70's style. So this looks like a more contemporary update.

I believe Tamiya did do a rally racing version of this kit too.

# GTR Event Calendar

## 2008

January 5-20 Dakar Rally – **Cancelled**  
Lisbon, Portugal to Dakar, Senegal

January 26-27 Rolex 24 Grand Am  
Daytona Intl Speedway, Daytona FL

January 27 Classic Plastic Contest and Swap  
Hosted by Rockford Wheels in Scale  
Ken Rock Comm Center Rockford, IL  
Dan Myers [dfmyers@aeroinc.net](mailto:dfmyers@aeroinc.net)

February 2 Hope it Don't Snow Show  
IPMS/Zumbro Valley  
Kahler Hotel Rochester, MN  
Edward St Denis [edwardstdenis@msn.com](mailto:edwardstdenis@msn.com)

February 24 51<sup>st</sup> Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show  
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL  
Past Time Hobbies 708-485-4544  
[pthpowerinc@aol.com](mailto:pthpowerinc@aol.com)

February 8-17 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Chicago Auto Show  
McCormack Place, Chicago IL  
[www.chicagoautoshow.com](http://www.chicagoautoshow.com)

February 17 50th Daytona 500  
Daytona Intl Speedway, Daytona FL

March 1 13<sup>th</sup> IPMS/ Mad City Modelers Show  
Radisson Inn Madison, Madison WI  
Jim Turek [jltmodel@yahoo.com](mailto:jltmodel@yahoo.com)  
[www.madcitymodelers.com](http://www.madcitymodelers.com)

March 2 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet  
Serb Hall, Milwaukee  
[www.uniqueeventsshows.com](http://www.uniqueeventsshows.com)

March 15 Sebring 12 Hours ALMS  
Sebring, FL

April 12 Ferrari Expo with Model Contest  
Continental Motorsports, Hinsdale IL

April 12 14<sup>th</sup> IPMS/Plastic Surgeons Contest  
Point of Grace Church Waukee, IA (Des Moines)  
Rob Folen [viper.models@gmail.com](mailto:viper.models@gmail.com)  
[www.ipms-plasticsurgeons.co](http://www.ipms-plasticsurgeons.co)

April 19 Milwaukee NNL 16  
Hosted by Automotive Modelers Group  
Excellence Center Waukesha, WI

April 20 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Show  
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI  
[www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com](http://www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com)

May 16-17 IPMS Region 5 Convention  
Hosted by IPMS/Ft Crook  
Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs IA  
<http://fortcrook.hobbyvista.com/>  
or e=mail to [ipmsftcrook@cox.net](mailto:ipmsftcrook@cox.net)

May 25 Indianapolis 500  
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

June 14-15 24 Hueres du LeMans  
LeMans, France

August 6-9 IPMS/USA National Convention  
Virginia Beach Convention Center, Va. Beach, VA  
[www.ipmsusa2008.org](http://www.ipmsusa2008.org)

August 9 American LeMans Series  
August 10 Champ Car  
Road America, Elkhart Lake, WI  
[www.roadamerica.com](http://www.roadamerica.com)

Sept 28 52<sup>nd</sup> Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show  
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL  
Past Time Hobbies 708-485-4544  
[pthpowerinc@aol.com](mailto:pthpowerinc@aol.com)

? = event or date not yet confirmed as of this printing

**IPMS USA**  
International Plastic Modelers Society

**National Conventions:**  
**Aug 6-9, 2008 – Virginia Beach, VA**  
**2009 – Columbus, OH**  
**2008 Region 5 Convention:**  
**May 16-17, Council Bluffs, IA (Omaha)**

**GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter**  
*Happy New Year*

IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers  
Chuck Herrmann  
338 Alicia Drive  
Cary, IL 60013

**Next GTR Meeting: January 19, 2008**  
[www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com](http://www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com)