



# GTR

## Newsletter

### May 2009

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers



#### Inside this issue:

- GTR News
- 2009 Events Calendar
- Milwaukee NNL
- Ferrari Expo
- Kit Review: Revell Germany Bus Kit Review

## 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.

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

**May Meeting will be at the Fountains of Crystal Lake**

**On Rt 31 about one mile north of Rt 176**

Your current GTR Officers are:

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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

## Real World

### First Four Door Porsche



"The new Porsche Panamera.. (made).. its worldwide debut on April 19 at the Shanghai Auto Show. ...Never before has the premiere of a car been so anticipated. For with its introduction we're not simply adding to the automotive landscape, but changing it forever"

(From the Porsche Cars North America website)

### Detroit Update:

#### Farewell Pontiac, Chrysler Bankruptcy

The dreary news from Detroit keeps coming. Pontiac has officially been killed off after next year. Saturn, Saab and Hummer await their fates, none looking too good. And we will need to see the how the new Chrysler (Fiat?) looks after the bankruptcy proceedings play out. I still don't know why Fiat is interested in Chrysler but we will see.

## Industry News

### Revell Germany reissues Trabant kit



VEB Sachsenring Automobilwerke Zwickau built the Trabant 601 from 1964 onwards; it was meant to be built during a few years only but politics decided it should stay in production till 1990. During the years, the appearance of the 601 changed in the details only. The two-stroke engine driven car for the people should compete directly with small cars in the West. The basic 0,6 liter engine with 17 kW power originally was largely adequate to be compared with its main competitor, the VW Beetle. The Trabant 601 was the vehicle of the then DDR until the wall fell. More than 2.8 million were built

and even though the basic engineering was initially sound, it gradually became outdated because only small changes were applied. The car still was a desirable object, as the waiting time of more than 10 years for a new one clearly illustrates

Above is from the Revell.com website. This is kit 07256. I have one of these, in progress for quite some time because it is not a very good kit. In my opinion it is almost impossible to do an out of the box build without significant modeling skills to correct all the kit issues. But there is a neat decal sheet with lots of historical references to the fall of the Berlin Wall.

## Events

### GTR NNL Update:

GTR will host the Summer GTR NNL again this year. The date is Sunday, August 2, 2009. It will be the same NNL contest format and Trunk Sale swap meet as last year. The location is reserved, the Algonquin Township Office in Crystal Lake, and the theme is Brickyard: 100 Years of Racing at the Indy Motor Speedway. IPMS/USA has approved the date, it is listed on the IPMS/USA website, and the GTR website has a page with all the details. Trophy packages are now being offered, for \$35. Several have already been sold; contact GTR if you are interested.

See the events calendar for details and for all the events that I know of. I will continue to add 2009 events; if any readers wish their events or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to me.

## Newsletters

Since last time, we have received print and electronic newsletters from:

IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers, 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/Quad Cities Scale Modelers, Lake Michigan Model Car Club (LMMCC), Kansas City Slammers and The Hoosier Model Car Club.

Most of these I pass along via e-mail to GTR members and hard copies of most will be available for viewing at the next meeting.

Past issues of the GTR newsletters are now available on line.

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.



# GTR Celebrates our Tenth Year!

**1999 - 2009**

In 2009 IPMS/Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers will celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## GTR News

### GTR Update

The next meeting is May 16 at the Fountains of Crystal Lake. There was no regular April meeting as the date fell on the date of the Milwaukee NNL and we did our usual club display there instead.

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.

For 2009 the GTR dues will remain at \$15. Members can pay at the meeting or mail to me. There are still a few regulars who need to settle up for this year.

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA. A local chapter needs at least five national members to renew, we are close as usual. 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](http://www.ipmsusa.org), or see me for membership forms.



### 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:** Instruction sheet for the 1/24 STP Indy Turbine Car (#40 Parnelli Jones 1967) resin kit from Bill Jorgenson Resin Cars. Or up to date contact information for Bill Jorgenson Resin Cars.

Please contact Chuck Herrmann  
gtrchab@yahoo.com

### 2009 Milwaukee NNL

The NNL 17 was held on Saturday April 18, once again at the Excellence Center in Waukesha, WI. As usual it was a great event. There were a lot of race cars on the table, it looked like the customs table was a little light but the announced car count was 647, which apparently is virtually the same as last year.



GTR has our annual display table at the NNL.



Thanks to host AMG (Auto Modelers Group) of Milwaukee for another great show.



Revell had a display of new products.



Race car table was packed with great models.



The theme was Daytona Speedweeks, with a sub theme of Beach Racing.



Here is the Beach Racing sub theme winner.



The Daytona Speedweeks theme winner.



Above is the winning club display by Winnebago Area Modelers. It was a massive display of the Daytona banking with lots of cars along with historical notes and changes to the track over the years.



CARS in Minature club display, a 1/1 Daytona souvenir stand with lots of nice models too.



Spingfield (IL) Modelers club display.



Custom Merc



Pikes Peak Mustang



Tamiya VW Golf Racer

## 2009 Ferrari Expo



The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Ferrari Expo was held Saturday, April 25 at Continental Auto Sports in Hinsdale, IL. This is a show of Italian sports car and racing memorabilia held in a Ferrari and Maserati dealership. There is also a model contest as part of the event. The model portion is an attempt to carry on the contest that ran as part of the Strictly 43<sup>rd</sup> Show years ago, but is open to larger scales as well.



GTR had a club table in the vendor area, members were selling models.



There was a brand new 1/1 Ferrari California on hand giving rides all day.

The service bay was open to show off some really amazing real cars. There was an Allard, a 1954 Maserati A6GCS, a Ferrari 430 Challenge and a Ferrari Daytona, among others.



An Allard race car, below a nice Alfa



There were about sixty models in the contest. As in the past these were some of the best builds you are likely to see. Many start out as some great aftermarket kits (Studio 27, Model Hiro, etc) and go from there.



Voted Best Ferrari was a 1/12 Ferrari F1 car. GTR was a sponsor of the trophy packages.



This Mercedes was the class winner in 1/24-1/20.



As usual this turned out to be a great day. Thanks to Ferrari Club of America for putting on the show, Continental Auto Sports for hosting the event and Tom Tanner of Scale Designs for running the model contest.

# Kit Review: Revell Germany Cityliner Bus

**Kit:** Neoplan Cityliner

**Mfg:** Revell Germany

**Scale:** 1/24     **Kit#:** 07650

Reviewed by Carl Kietzke

Reprinted from IPMS/Seattle Newsletter

## Engine & Transmission

Hiding inside the legally mandated engine cocoon is a simplified, but well detailed engine/transmission assembly. The M.A.N (Machinenfabrik Augsburg-Nurnberg) D 2066 LOH 03 10.5 litre 400 hp is actually very well represented and I almost stole it for another project. The attached transmission represents the ZF TipMatic 12 speed automatic. Since all that can be seen is the engine front and transmission rear, those areas receive the most attention from the mold makers. The engine assembly slots neatly into position and it can be withheld until you are ready for final assembly of the chassis/interior bucket.

## Chassis

The chassis, as is the case with modern European buses, lacks noticeable detail. Almost everything is contained within the monocoque shell. The visible suspension components are slightly simplified, but perfectly adequate. Other underside details are molded in relief and could use a little detail paint to bring them out.



Interior

This is where all the detail - and work - lives. First off the passenger compartment underside was shot with Tamiya TS-4 German Gray Lacquer and was then mounted on the chassis bucket. Next the floor and side panels were painted and attached. This is a 55-passenger coach and all the seats are present, waiting to be detailed. 25 seat pairs, plus the 5-seat rear bench equals 56 seats total, including the driver's seat. If you include the two decals each for the upholstery patterns, you have 112 decals just for the basics of the seat assemblies! Detail painting on 50 seat backs consumed several sessions alone.

Once all the detailing was finished, the inside seat arms were attached and then the seats were mounted to the floor and sidewalls. The interior cabinets, rest room, and handrails were all assembled and mounted in their respective locations. An additional 38 decals

finished off the interior assembly. Then it was time to get on with the body shell assembly.

## Body

The body side panels are some of the largest single chunks of injection molding I have seen in a kit. Only three other kits in my personal experience have larger moldings and all three are marine subjects. The side ceiling and roof panels are all exquisitely formed and suffered no warpage at all. Revell Germany has a very well thought out system to assure proper alignment of, and a solid attachment to, the chassis assembly. This consists of multiple keys on the side panels that mate with holes in the chassis/interior. There is only one slight downfall, at least on the one I have - the sides are riddled with sink marks at the keys that were not apparent until I had applied the final clearcoat. Therefore next time round, I will glaze fill the side panels to assure they are gone.

All panels slot together along regular production panel lines, so nothing to hide there. There is a section of the roof that is designed to be removable to show off the interior. However, after studying the view available, I decided to secure the panel and just go with what can be seen through the windows and doors. Now for the last great challenge of this build. Since I had decided to go ahead with the factory demonstrator color scheme as provided on that huge decal sheet, it was time to apply the side logo decals. The left side decal is almost full length and has limited carrier film. Proper alignment to panel lines is absolutely crucial and required much care and finesse. One full day was required for each of the sides and rear and about half that again for the front. OK, decals on, hang mirrors, doors, and the last of the light lenses and the Neoplan is finally finished.



My few haggles with the kit have already been covered. Overall, this is a wonderful kit that fills a gaping hole in my personal commercial vehicle collection. Was it worth \$125? It was worth it to me, yes: I actually have purchased two. The next one I build will be for an actual in-service coach for a carrier yet to be determined. I do have some neat ideas from my trips to Europe. And I might just completely open the engine compartment for the challenge and detail possibilities. This kit is not for beginners, it does require some technical skill just to deal with the sheer size and available detail. Now, if I could just justify the purchase of four more of these kits so I could build the three-axle version AND possibly the articulated prototype that has been proposed...

# GTR Summer NNL

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Contest & Swap Meet

Hosted by: IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

Theme: Brickyard: 100 Years of the  
Indianapolis Motor Speedway

Attention Automotive Modelers; we have a summer show and swap meet for you! You are invited to our GTR Summer NNL contest and swap meet.

**The Summer NNL will be held on Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009  
from 9:30AM to 2:00PM at the Algonquin Township  
Building, 3702 US Highway 14, Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014**

For the out-of-towners, there are tons of local accommodations from Days Inn to Holiday Inn.

Admission to the show is a measly 5 bucks; you can enter as many models on the tables as you like (no additional charge) and we will serve a pizza lunch (again, no additional charge, soda extra; sorry had to draw a line somewhere) to all show entrants.

Did we mention that there is a swap meet too? There will be a free "trunk sale" swap meet in our spacious parking lot, vendors and show goers are encouraged to open their trunks and sell-sell-sell rain or shine. Vendor set-up starts at 8:30AM.

Our NNL style contest bestows "Best Of" awards as mandated by popular vote as determined by show attendees, official judging and nit-picking is strictly forbidden, praise and admiration from fellow modelers strongly encouraged.



Contact: [gtrchab@yahoo.com](mailto:gtrchab@yahoo.com)

See: [www.gtrautomodelers.freeservers.com](http://www.gtrautomodelers.freeservers.com)

# GTR 2009 Event Calendar

May 16 OmaCon 2009 (Omaha)  
Host: IPMS Fort Crook  
Mid America Center, Council Bluffs IA  
ipmsftcrook@cox.net

May 24 Indianapolis 500  
IndyCar Series, Indianapolis Motor Speedway

June 7 11<sup>th</sup> Annual NNL North  
Knights of Columbus Hall, Bloomington, MN  
[www.RPMMModelClub.com](http://www.RPMMModelClub.com)  
Swap Meet: Jim Kampmann@gmail.com

June 13-14 Heartland Model Car Nationals  
Hosted by Kansas City Slammers  
Overland Park Con. Center Overland Park KS  
Bill Barker wlb19@yahoo.com

July 5 Model Car Show and Swap Meet  
The Butchers Model Car Club  
American Legion Hall Delevan WI  
Keith Reimers 262-728-1483

July 16-19 Redman Historics  
Road America, Elkhart Lake WI  
[www.roadamerica.com](http://www.roadamerica.com)

August 2 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual GTR Summer NNL  
Theme: Brickyard  
Algonquion Township Offices Crystal Lake, IL  
Steve Jahnke [stevejahnke@comcast.net](mailto:stevejahnke@comcast.net)  
Chuck Herrmann [gtrchab@yahoo.com](mailto:gtrchab@yahoo.com)

August 13-16 American LeMans Series/IMSA  
Road America, Elkhart Lake WI  
[www.roadamerica.com](http://www.roadamerica.com)

August 19-22 IPMS/USA National Convention  
IPMS/Eddie Rickenbacker  
Greater Columbus Convention Center  
Columbus, OH [www.ipmsusa2009.org](http://www.ipmsusa2009.org)

Sept 12 Gateway to the West Initiation Model  
Contest and Swap Meet  
IPMS/Gateway (St Louis)  
<http://ipms-gateway.com>

Sept 19 Hawkeye Modelers I-Con 09  
Point of Grace Church  
Waukee, Iowa 50263  
Kevin Iutzeler [iatrekker@mchsi.com](mailto:iatrekker@mchsi.com)

Sept 27 54<sup>rd</sup> Illinois Plastic Kit and Toy Show  
DuPage Country Fairgrounds, Wheaton IL  
Info: Past Time Hobbies 630-969-1847  
GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter

October 22-25 iHobby Expo  
Donald E. Stephens Conv. Ctr, Rosemont IL  
[www.ihobbyexpo.com](http://www.ihobbyexpo.com)

November 1 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap  
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI  
Jim Welytok 262-246-7171  
[unievents@aol.com](mailto:unievents@aol.com)  
[www.uniqueeventsshows.com](http://www.uniqueeventsshows.com)

November 14 IPMS/Butch O'Hare 27<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Contest and Swap Meet  
Lakeview Jr HS, Downers Grove, IL  
[IPMS\\_Butch\\_Ohare@yahoo.com](mailto:IPMS_Butch_Ohare@yahoo.com)

December 20 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter  
Scale Model Show  
Waukesha County Expo Center  
[www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com](http://www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com)



## IPMS USA

International Plastic Modelers Society

National and Regional Conventions:

2009 Nationals: Aug 19-22

Columbus, OH

2010 Region 5 Convention:

Hosted by IPMS/Duneland – South

Chicagoland – details TBD

2010 Nationals: Phoenix, AZ

# **GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter**



**1999 - 2009**

**GTR Celebrates our  
Tenth Year!**

**IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers**

Chuck Herrmann  
338 Alicia Drive  
Cary, IL 60013

**Next GTR Meeting: May 16, 2009**  
[www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com](http://www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com)