



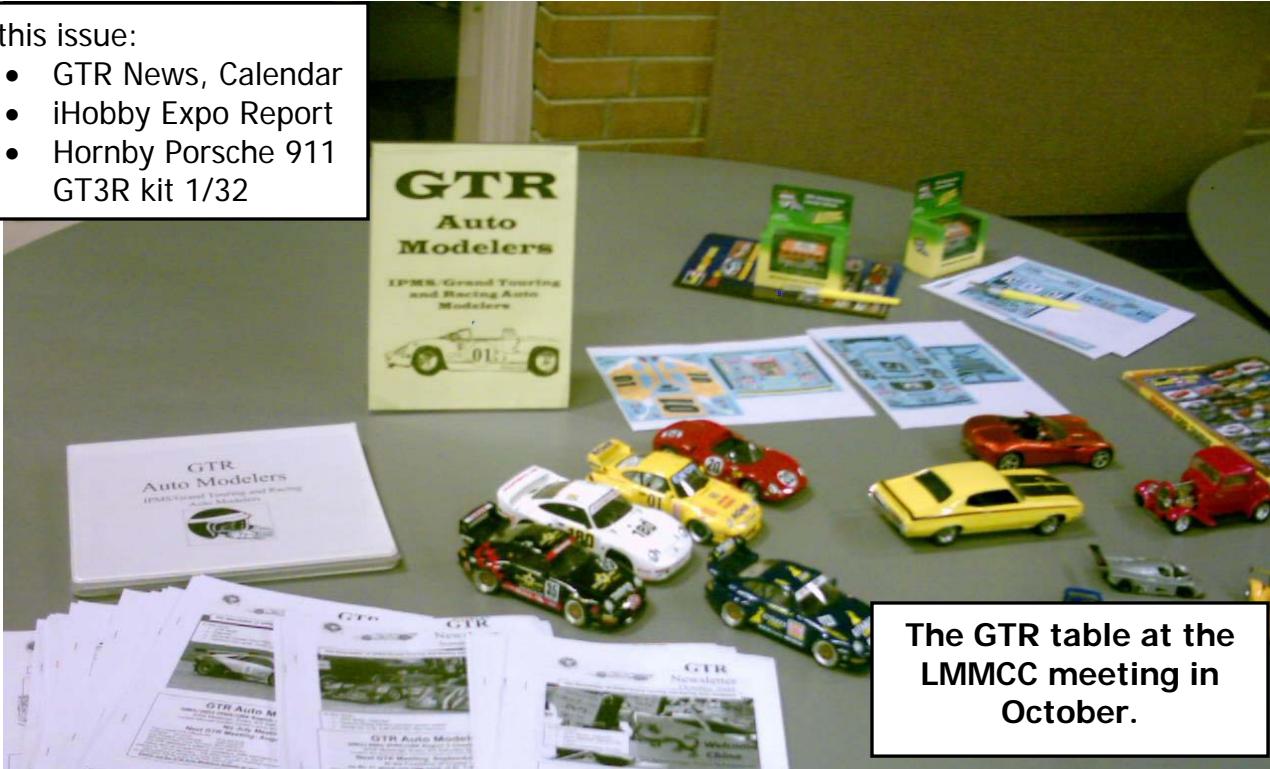
GTR

Newsletter November 2004

The Newsletter of IPMS/Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers

In this issue:

- GTR News, Calendar
- iHobby Expo Report
- Hornby Porsche 911 GT3R kit 1/32



The GTR table at the LMMCC meeting in October.

GTR Auto Modelers

2002/2003 IPMS/USA Region 5 Chapter of the Year

2004 Meetings: Every 3rd Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Next GTR Meeting: November 20, 2004

At The Fountains of Crystal Lake

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

Your current GTR Officers are:

President: Tim Leicht (815) 344-9109
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Check out the GTR Auto Modelers website at: www.gtrautomodelers.freeservers.com

GTR MAILBox

by Chuck Herrmann

Industry News

There was a recent internet story stating that Revell has canceled some die-cast and metal body kits to focus attention on new plastic model kits due to customer requests. If this is true it would be good news to plastic kit builders like GTR.

Another internet rumor is of a transkit to replace the decals provided as headlights on the Revell Greenwood Corvette racer kit.

Tim has a full report on what he saw at this years iHobby (aka RCHTA) show elsewhere this issue.

Events

The last major swap meets of the year are Tinley Park (ex-Hillside) and Waukesha in December. See details on these and other events on the calendar page and our website.

Real World

After several years of being dominated by open cockpit prototypes, it looks like the next big trend in sports car racing is back to the Grand Touring cars. In the GTS category, Aston Martin has made some big news recently with the announcement of their DBR9 racer.



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They plan to build 32 of these, for factory and privateer teams. The Maserati C12 has also been approved for LeMans and ALMS competition, along with the new C6 Corvettes and the Lamborghini Murcielago and rumored interest by other manufacturers (BMW and Porsche) this may be the future of sports car racing.

Chevy has announced they are pulling out of the IRL open wheel series. And there are rumors that Toyota will also be gone soon to attack NASCAR Nextel Cup in 2007. Add the uncertainty about Cosworth and the future holds a lot of concern for US open wheel

racing. Maybe Champ Car and IRL will eventually be forced to join after all due to lack of equipment?

More dropouts – Citroen and Peugeot will both end their factory team's participation in the World Rally Championship after 2005. These were great looking and highly technical race cars, and were the subject of many model kits by Tamiya, Hasegawa, Heller and others. So far only Ford and Subaru are left in the WRC for 2006.

Newsletters

Since last time, we have received newsletters from: IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers, IPMS/Seattle, AMG Milwaukee, IPMS/C.A.R.S. in Miniature, IPMS/Bong Chapter, and Lake Michigan Model Car Club

GTR News

Message from the Pres

Well, I'm AWOL but not dead yet. I missed last month's jaunt to Lake Michigan Model Car Club's meeting, as I was dealing with my mom's cancer surgery. She made it through, but has a long chemo treatment ahead of her. Dealing with her depression about dying was the hard part. For once in my life I'm glad I have eight brothers and sisters. We all spent a lot of time with her to encourage her that she's not leaving yet.

Once again, I'm happy to report Chuck Herrmann took home the People's Choice Award from the LMMCC meeting! Congrats to him! Plan on coming to this month's GTR meeting at the Fountains in Crystal Lake. Now that it's getting colder and we are all moving indoors for the winter, I'm sure a lot of you are back at the workbench again. So, bring along your latest project to show off. I'll look forward to seeing you guys after a long absence.

So, if you missed it, the National Hobby Show was last month at the Expo Center in Rosemont. What a bust! This was the WORST hobby show I was ever at. It was a third the size of last year, the new stuff was few and far between, and talking to people there, the Hobby Visions show at Las Vegas the week before was even worse. I know there was a big fight between the two organizers over having two shows so close, but believe me, they both lost. The hobby retailers were really let down because of politics. What a waste. Anyway, read my article to see what's coming.

I found some nifty paint stuff on Ebay this month. I'll bring it with to the meeting. Also,

I'm just about done with the 1/8 scale Ferrari from Rosso, so I'll bring that with too. I look forward to seeing you all in November. Happy modeling and keep on building!

Tim Leicht

GTR Update

The November GTR meeting will be back at the Fountains of Crystal Lake. And in December we will change the date to the second Saturday (Dec 11) and join the CARS in Miniature club at their meeting in Cary.

We have received our chapter charter renewal form from IPMS/USA. Chapter dues remain \$10. We need at least five active IPMS/USA members, including all the officers. Everyone please let me know your IPMS status, member number and expiration date. If you are not a member or have lapsed, I encourage you to join or renew, check out their website at www.ipmsusa.org for details.

At the meeting we will discuss our IPMS renewal along with the GTR 2005 dues and plans for next year. We especially need feedback from members on ways to improve meeting attendance, so all ideas are welcome. If you can't make the meeting let Tim or me know your thoughts.

The deadline for getting articles, reviews, etc. in the next (December 2004) issue of the newsletter is November 20 since we are meeting earlier in December. Submissions are always needed.

October GTR Meeting

Instead of the regular GTR meeting on October 16, we joined up with the Lake Michigan Model Car Club for their annual Open House meeting. The location was their meeting site at Peace Church in Bensenville.



Several GTR guys got together at Al's Hobbies in Elmhurst, grabbed some pizza then

GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter November 2004

went to the meeting. There were eight tables for display, one for GTR models and stuff, from Ken Zinnen, John Schaefer and myself. In addition to Show and Tell, there was a People's Choice contest, and yours truly was chosen the winner, for my Polar Lights Love Bug rat rod.(the third time in four years a GTR member has won!).

Since the meeting was on the same weekend of the iHobby Expo, there was a lot of discussion on the new products and the state of the hobby. Also there were several special guests, including Arnie "The Farmer" Beswick, and drag strip promoter "Broadway Bob" Metzler.



2004 iHobby Expo (NATIONAL HOBBY SHOW) REPORT

by Tim Leicht

Well you can call the iHobby Expo at the Expo Center in Rosemont last month (formerly RCHTA) the National Hobby Show, but if you really want to know, this was the SMALLEST hobby show here in Chicago in years. I don't know if it's the state of the hobby or, after talking to people there, political infighting among the show's organizers and the "bad guys" in Las Vegas, Hobby Visions. What I do know, is that they both shot themselves in the foot. The line was drawn, and split the industry right down the middle. Thanks to that, there will be NO hobby show in Chicago next year. It's moving to Los Angeles. This has gotten WAY out of hand, and I for one, will find it difficult going to "LA LA" land to see what's new next year. You don't alienate your core retailers by moving the show out of town. That is EXACTLY what is happening, and mark my words, this will be a dismal mistake. The Midwest is the CORE of the hobby business. Count the number of hobby manufacturers in the Midwest. See what I mean? But, what do I know? What I do see, however, is the Chinese invasion of the hobby, and the number of Chinese backed companies with offices in California. That's nice for receiving containers but not really nice for entertaining clients. The US needs shows on three fronts. The West Coast, the Midwest, and the East Coast, and always will. Anyway, I'll get off my soapbox now and talk about what's new!

What I did see as far as plastic models go is pretty lame. Guys, I really thought that we were in for some really knock out stuff, but I was pretty disappointed. If you are a race car modeler, the basis of this club, there wasn't much to see. BUT, there were a few surprises that are worth mentioning, most notably Tamiya's Nismo Nissan 350Z race car. Check out this month's *Automobile* magazine with a big article about Japanese Touring car racing. It's great. Now we need a new Raybrig Acura and a Nissan Skyline and that would be a good start. Revell/Monogram announced a few "new" race cars, like the 1966 Penske Corvette, but as of yet has no licensing for it (UUFGH!) here we go again! In the meantime, we get more NASCAR kits, a repop of the Mustang GT350R (which by the way, there are some new decal

sheets to make the only LeMans entry of this car) AND we get a new 2005 Mustang. I hope they wait for the Ford spec racer of this car to be released and add all the good stuff in the box (I must be dreaming!) On the bright side, Revell announced some diecast cancellations because of demand from retailers for more plastic kits. HHHMM! The other surprise was Polar Lights issuing the 2005 Ford GT (AKA the new Ford GT40) It is unknown if this will a curbside or full kit. I doubt the latter, as it will be pre-painted.

Meanwhile, back at Ertl, there were 11 new cars called "trends" that are repops with custom wheels. What's that all about? How many cruise nights do you go to where some guy "garbed up" his muscle car with some "rims"? Maybe in the city, and put the spinners on them too, ooohhh, way cool! Yeah! At least Revell did it right, with the California Wheels series where you get both stock and custom wheels in the box. And they also showed some more "new" NASCAR kits with outdated everything. Make room on the swap tables, more are coming! They also said a new kit of the 2005 Bentley Continental, but of course no licensing yet. It's funny, last year I talked to the Airfix rep and asked him why they don't make a Bentley or a new Rolls kit. Do the walls have ears in Rosemont? Well, here's the complete list- Enjoy!

AMT/ERTL

Modified racers:

- Gremlin
- Pinto
- Vega
- 40 Ford
- 35 Chevy
- 32 Ford 5 window Trends
- 40 Ford Sedan delivery Trends
- 49 Mercury Trends
- 55 Chevy Nomad trends
- 57 Chevy Trends
- 62 Corvette Trends
- 65 Ford Galaxie Trends
- 67 Chevy Impala trends
- 72 Chevy Fleetside Trends
- 97 Mustang GT Trends
- 02 Prowler w/trailer Trends
- 05 Bentley Continental GT (Maybe)
- Bantam Blast AA Fuel altered
- 32 Ford 5 Window Coupe
- 51 Chevy Fleetline Fastback
- 64 Mercury Marauder
- 69 Buick Riviera
- 69 Barracuda Fastback

72 Pontiac Ventura
 76 Chevy Nova
 77 Mustang II Fastback
 87 Mustang
 2005 NASCAR:
 Bud Monte Carlo
 Dupont Monte Carlo
 Home Depot Monte Carlo
 Lowes Monte Carlo

POLAR LIGHTS

64 Pontiac GTO, various colors
 65 Dodge Coronet convertible, various colors
 2005 Mustang fastback and convertible,
 various colors
 2005 Pontiac GTO "drift car" various colors
 2005 Ford GT (GT40) various colors



REVELL/MONOGRAM

NASCAR:

- 2005 DeWalt Taurus
- 2005 Goodwrench Lumina
- 66 Corvette racer (license pending)
- Chaparral 2D
- 65 Shelby GT350R
- 91 Ford F350 Dually
- Miami Vice Daytona Spider
- Miami Vice Ferrari Testarossa
- Paddy Wagon Show Rod (again?)
- 57 Chevy Hardtop
- 63 Corvette Convertible
- 70 Chevelle Hardtop
- 77 Monte Carlo
- 2005 Corvette C6
- 04 Impala Police Car
- 56 Chevy 210 Del Ray
- 59 Chevy Impala lowrider
- 59 Cadillac Eldorado hardtop
- 60 Chevy Impala lowrider
- 65 Chevy Impala lowrider
- 67 Chevelle Pro Street
- 69 Corvette Coupe
- 03-04 Acura RSX-S
- Hummer H2
- 1/16 Keeling & Clayton Dragster
- 1/12 69 Camaro Z28 Hardtop

TAMIYA

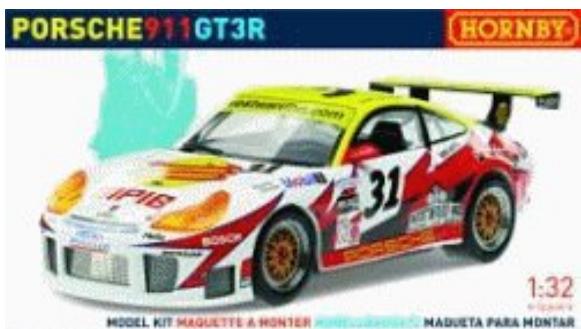
Nissan 350Z Nismo Japanese GT race car
 Kit 24277, plus a photoetch set?
 2004 Subaru WRX Rally car

So, that's it- so far. Some other news, Testor has added to its new lacquer paint line, including some new two step vinyl top colors. Slixx decals are now concentrating on drag race cars, and lots of them, and the 1/18 scale diecast market has some new rally cars coming. The rest of the diecast market is pretty much asleep. Is this the beginning of the end of that market? Maybe. This coming year will be very interesting in the die cast world. Although there is not much new out there, you will have plenty of plastic to keep you busy at the workbench. Enjoy!

Editor's Note: Somehow Tim missed it, but Maisto showed a 1/24 VW New Beetle diecast , prebuilt and in kit form, also a prebuilt VW Taureg in 1/24.



Kit Review: 1/32 Hornby Porsche 911 GT3R



Subject: Porsche 911 GT3R

Manufacturer: Hornby

Kit #: Scale: 1/32

Reviewed by Chuck Herrmann

With all the varied subjects that are modeled as 1/32 slot cars, I had often wondered why we can't get more of these as static models. Then I ran across a series of kits by the English company Hornby, which were initially slot cars but have also been adapted to static models. I am aware of six kits, the Ford Focus, Subaru Impreza and Mitsubishi Lancer WRC cars, the 1969 Penske Camaro and Parnelli Jones Mustang Trans Am racers, and the Porsche 911 GT3R. Since for some reason there are no race versions of the GT3 in 1/24, I decided to try this kit.

The subject of this kit is the Porsche 911GT3R that raced at the Rolex 24 Hours of Daytona. It was entered by the Peterson White Lightening team. This kit has 30 pieces, in white and clear with vinyl tires.

It is a curbside kit, similar in level of assembly to the Tamiya 1/24 Porsche GT2 and GT3 kits. The chassis has the front suspension and engine bottom molded in, with several separate rear suspension pieces. The exhaust system is also two separate pieces.

The interior is almost complete. There is a roll cage, shifter, steering wheel and fire extinguisher. But due to being a converted slot car body, the rear half of the interior tub is raised (to clear the electric motor in a slot car), so that is a bit inaccurate for a static kit.

The body is one piece, there is no opening hood or engine cover. The rear wing is one large separate piece. The interior glass is one piece that fits in from the inside. The head and taillights are clear and fit on the outside.

The wheels are nicely molded spoked units, with vinyl tires. There are no tire markings, either molded on or decals.

The biggest drawback to this kit is the markings. Instead of waterslide decals they are stick ons, very thick. Interestingly there are no tire logos either on the body or tires.

In summary, this is a nice shelf model of a car I have been waiting for. While I haven't built it yet, I have seen Hornby slot cars and the bodies are nicely done. The markings are a disappointment, I may try to see if there are any alternatives in the slot racing market. While I would prefer 1/24, if more previously unavailable subjects come out in 1/32 I would build them

CA Glue Tips

By Elliot Doering

Obviously, we model builders all use CA glues when doing our models. In past years, I'd just bop over to Walgreens or a hardware store, or buy the "ZAP" brand stuff at Alex. The "cheap stuff" always comes in maybe a "2 squirt" micro bottle, for up to \$3.00 - that's BALONEY! This "use it once & toss it out" baloney just ain't gettin' it! The crap always hardens, clogs or evaporates in the bottle too. Sooooooo, I got on the Net and found a Milwaukee based packaging supply shop that carries all kinds of CA products. Talked to Mike, and... luckily his CA supplier was sitting right next to him, so bounced numerous questions off them both.

They did tell me that a quart size bottle would be overkill, as it does evaporate somewhat, or it'll harden or turn thicker. But... he recommends two (2) ounce bottles, in a ten pack. He said use the THIN, LOW viscosity stuff, with hardener/"kicker" in 8 oz. pump bottles. Also, we can prolong the shelf life of the stuff by sticking it in the refrigerator. Just like film! So, I ordered some of it. I'll be the "guinea pig" on this, and will let you know how it goes/works, and then if it proves to be a-ok, I will post my comments. If you want to investigate it yourself, here's their website /contact info:

STAR PACKAGING SUPPLIES

616 South 92nd Street

Milwaukee, Wisc.

(414) 771-5717

www.starpackagingsupplies.com

GTR Event Calendar

2004

November 13 22nd Annual Contest & Swap
Hosted by IPMS/Butch O'hare
Lakeview Jr HS Darrien, IL
Jwendt001@aol.com

December 5 TriState Collectors Toy Show
Tinley Park HS , IL (formerly Hillside)
www.uniqueeventsshows.com

December 12 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Swap
Meeting
Waukesha County Expo Center
Joan Dunn 262-646-4114

2005

February 5 IPMS/Zumbro Valley
Stewartsville Civic Center
Stewartsville, MN
Ed St. Denis edstdenis@msn.com

February 27 Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show
With Model Contest hosted by the Lake Michigan
Model Car Club
DuPage County Fairgrounds
Wheaton, IL 630-969-1847

March 5 IPMS/Roscoe Turner 12th Annual Contest &
Swap Meet
Lakeside Elementary School
Indianapolis, IN

March 5 IPMS/Great Plains
Frank Ciccarelli FCiccarelli@aol.com

April 2 IPMS/Plastic Surgeons
Valley Free Church Des Moines, IA
Greg Metge gmgha@mchsi.com

April 16 NNL Milwaukee 13
Hosted by AMG
Quality Inn Waukesha, WI

April 16 IPMS/Mad City Modelers
Radisson Inn Madison, WI
Jim Turek jitmmodel@yahoo.com

September 10 Nordic Con
IPMS/Twin Cities
Minneapolis, MN

October 20-23
iHobby Expo
Los Angeles, CA

October 29 IPMS Glue Crew

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



2005 Region V Convention

April 29-30, 2005

Quad Cities, IL

grbroman@aol.com

2005 National Convention

July 20-23, 2005

Atlanta, GA

2006 National Convention

Kansas City, MO

www.ipmsusa.org

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