



GTR Newsletter November 2011

The Newsletter of IPMS Grand Touring and Racing Auto Modelers



Inside this issue:

- GTR News and Calendar
- iHobby/State of the Hobby Reports

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

2011 Meetings: Every 1st Saturday @ 7:00 p.m.

**November Meeting at Algonquin Township Building,
Rt. 14 about one mile east of Rt. 31**

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

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

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.freeservers.com

GTR Mailbag



by Chuck Herrmann

From the Editors desk:

Cover Photo

This month's cover photo was from our October meeting. Larry Fulhorst brought in this beautiful 1/18 die cast 1970 Plymouth Barracuda Trans Am race car. The real thing is the Cuda built and campaigned by Dan Gurney's All American Racers in 1970, driven by Swede Savage. Larry knows Andy Boone, the current owner of the restored car, which is raced on the vintage circuit. Several of these diecasts were built up from Highway 61 die cast models of the AAR street versions, reworked into the Trans Am racer with accurate markings and Larry was fortunate enough to receive one.



1970 at Road America



The restored car on the vintage circuit.

President's Message

Now I've gone and done it. I think everyone in the club thinks I lost it or gave up on model cars. Not the case fellow members. I'd like to explain my absence all summer long and hope you understand.

A year and a half ago my son decided to go racing, walking in his father's footsteps. We talked about the commitment, the expense, the hard work, and the fun of it all. He told me that what he wanted was a chance to race with me as a co-driver and bring everything full circle. So, we started on this journey, along with my good friend Martin Zimmerman who raced with Skip Barber for years and was tired of spending

all this money to race in the Barber Series. So, we decided to find a car, convert it to a race car and go racing economically and have fun while doing it. The result was a Corvette that we got for peanuts, and found another one for a donor car and went to work.



The before picture.....

And so it began. We stripped the car, swapped the whole rear suspension from the donor car to the black one, added all new polyurethane bushings to all the suspension pivots, built a roll cage, added a fire system, bought a new engine and six speed ZF gearbox, rebuilt them, added a new race clutch, put in a race seat, added six point harnesses, added a window net, had the graphics made, put C5 brakes on it with stainless brake lines, went with ZR1 wheels and race rubber, bought a trailer, sold my Durango, bought a Suburban 2500 with a 454 to tow everything, did a shakedown run at Gingerman in March, and made the first race school in April, IN THE SNOW, and my son got his novice race license.

Now the fun began. From then on, every other weekend was a race, either with Evan, my son, or Martin driving, with upkeep on the car on weekends in between (I still run a Foreign car repair shop during the week) along with going on a cruise for my wife's mother's 80th birthday in June, and seeing my godson get married in August in San Jose, CA. I had to go, I told my sister in law that he was going to be born on my birthday, and he was, EXACTLY 20 years to the day. How could I miss that? Well, that was also the week of my anniversary, so I had to take my wife to Sausalito and San Francisco for our celebration. (two of her favorite places) And we also visited her aunt and uncle in Fremont (he used to help run the Ford plant out there and his son hauls Bruce Canepa's restored race cars all over the country) and we went to the Gilroy Garlic Festival (the biggest supplier of garlic to the US!). Anyway, all that wiped out my chance to get my full competition license renewed until

next year due to finances, so I won't drive with my son until then.



But you know what the best part of this year was? In my 30 plus years of being involved in racing, I have never had a year of NOT DNFinG for the entire season until now. We started and finished every race! We had our share of problems, overcame them, and did pretty well.

So, now that things have calmed down, I'm getting back to some relaxing in my basement with my model cars and plan to make the next meeting, along with writing some kit reviews and doing some building. I hope you all forgive me for not being there and know that I am still a car modeler and always will be. Thanks to all of you for putting up with me and I hope you all understand. I look forward to seeing everyone in November.

Tim Leicht

REAL WORLD



Cuba Car Sales (from Autoweek.com)

For decades, driving down the streets of Cuba was like entering an automotive time warp. The streets are full of cars from the 1950s, and there's virtually nothing modern. But President Raul Castro recently announced the strict rules are going to be relaxed a bit, and Cubans and foreign residents now have the right to buy and sell cars made after 1959.

Previously, only cars that were in the country before the 1959 revolution could be bought and sold, and only a select few citizens could import cars. So the streets were crowded with decades-old American-made cars.

Now, newer cars can be bought and sold among residents, though such cars have not

been widely available to citizens not linked to the government.

"Any car owners can buy or sell their cars to anyone, and for that trade, they only will have to pay a tax," said Eduardo Mesejo, director of Havana's automotive museum.

The new regulations will allow only foreign residents and Cubans who have government permission to import cars. All others will still be limited to cars already on the island.

These altered rules took effect on October 1. What remains unclear is whether this shift indicates a move toward doing away with Cuba's old automobiles.



(With Revell releasing the 1950 Oldsmobile, and Mobeius Models their nice 1953 Hudson Hornet, modelers have new options to model some Cubano "contemporary" street cars – ed)

Formula One race in New Jersey Planned for 2013

The northern New Jersey waterfront will host a Formula One Grand Prix race in 2013, Gov. Chris Christie has announced. The 3.2-mile course will run along the Hudson River through Weehawken and West New York, then climb uphill before looping back around. Planners say the race will bring worldwide attention and economic growth to the region. Race officials expect more than 100,000 people to attend the three-day race weekend. The governor's office says no public money will be used to pay for the event.

The U.S. hasn't hosted a Formula One race since 2007 in Indianapolis. A race is also scheduled for Austin, Texas, in 2012. So now there will be two US GPs? We'll have to wait and see.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Wheels Deals Cheetah Kit

(from Hobby Link Japan hlj.com)

The "Deal's Wheels" kit that should have been, now is! Yes, thanks to *Motor Psycho* in conjunction with [Model Factory Hiro](http://ModelFactoryHiro.com), we now have a Dave Deal "Deal's Wheels" style kit of the 1962 Chevrolet Cheetah, the car built to take

it to the Shelby Cobras in the 1960s racing scene. With the car's light-weight chassis and powerful 500 hp Chevy V8, the Cheetah was a formidable competitor.

So just who was Dave Deal, and what were "Deal's Wheels"?



Dave Deal was an automotive artist specializing in wild caricatures of high performance cars, and he took that vision into the third dimension when he worked with Revell in the 1970s to produce plastic model kits of his outrageous and humorous designs. This was the "Deal's Wheels" series of kits, which included such memorable models as the "Trans Um Tirebird," "'57 cHEVY" "ZZZZZZZZ-28," "Swine Hunt," "Bug Bomb/Bug Out," "Van," "Glitter Bug," "Baja Humbug," "Ferd Phony Car," "Go-Mad Nomad," "McLapper Mk. V8," "Super Spurt," and "Stink Ray." Whew!

Japanese maker *Motor Psycho* has arranged with the Deal estate to produce this limited-run resin-cast kit of the 1962 Chevy Cheetah in a "Deal's Wheels" caricature style (designed from Dave's own drawings!), right down to the Deal-inspired instruction sheet! Even includes Dave himself in the driver's seat. With all parts cast by Model Factory Hiro, this multi-media kit features a cast resin body, chassis, and interior, cast metal detail parts, vacu-formed windscreen, black cast resin tires, and beautiful silkscreen printed decals. The castings are flawless (as you'd expect from Model Factory Hiro!), and the memories it'll bring back are priceless!

This is a very limited run kit, so be sure to grab yours quick! An unusual Model Factory Hiro kit, especially for the price (\$230 USD)!

Hobby Link Japan's website (www.hlj.com) features links to videos from last month's Motei Hobby Show. Some new announcements include a 1/20 F1 Sauber and a 1977 Tyrell P34 (the six wheeler). Also there will be a 1/24 kit of a BMW GT4 GT racing version,

RANDOM THOUGHTS

By Les Whitfield

The EPA stated just two of its rules **could end 48,000 jobs**, raise electricity prices by \$8.4 Billion and decrease U.S. exports!! So reported on the 27 September 2011 addition of PBS *Nightly Business Report*. Also in this episode Douglas Holty-Eakin (former Director of the Congressional Budget Office) stated new and proposed regulations will put a burden of \$108 Billion on businesses in 2011 will raise costs and impact U.S. competitiveness. The 2010 regulations consumed 82,000 pages and 8.8 billion hours of paperwork. 2011 added 80,000 pages of regulation and 7.4 billion hours.

Cadillac took their phenomenal 3.6L V-6 direct injected engine, twin turboed it and came up with a 425 HP and 430 lb-ft of torque mill for its new show car. VW's Golf R has a 2.0L turbocharged I-4 putting out 256 HP. Ah yes the wonders of computer power.

A 1972 Lamborghini 400GT 2+2, purchased new by Jack Riddell, accumulated 263,000 miles.

A 1957 pontoon fendered Ferrari Testa Rossa was recently auctioned of for \$16,390,000. So much for the economy affecting the good life.

Last month I went to the DuPage Toy and Model swap meet. It was great time connecting with old friends, seeing new products (thanks Jimmy Flintstone) and getting some great bargains.

The name Steve Ciatti is not a name you probably would not know. He has a doctorate in mechanical engineering and works at the U.S. Department of Energy. He is working on products the consumer may see in the near future. His latest project involves him working on a 1.9-liter gasoline-diesel engine built by GM. Yes; I said a gasoline-powered diesel. He estimates this combination is 1/3 more efficient than a conventional gas engine. It also produces fewer emissions than a diesel-fuel diesel so it doesn't require the expensive pollution controls of a diesel-diesel. He would like the octane lowered from the usual 87 to 75. This was reported in *Autoweek's* August 8th issue.

The government, you've got to love it. Recently the city stripped the old asphalt on throughway near me, repaired the curbs and sewers and repaved the same. Along the way they used money to paint the lane stripes in a unique method adding a bicycle lane (as the

previous mayor wanted), left and right turn lanes that put the bicycle lane in the middle. Lots of paint while other areas still have potholes from the past winters. Some areas have potholes in the bicycle lanes. You must know what I am about to tell you. After about a month of smooth riding the natural gas company found multiple leaks coming from their 1905 lines. You know it; they started digging holes in the newly repaired street. BIG holes, mostly in the bicycle lanes. Hope the old mayor comes over and enjoys bouncing over those patches. lol

GM has sold 4,000 Chevy Volts. Much less than the 10,000 they expected to sell. Nissan's Leaf has sold 6,000. Lack of charging stations is the excuse. I believe it is more a price and distance range reason. Just like diesel vehicles, I believe the price premium is the problem. The government has taken on the duty of installing charging stations unlike the private enterprise method that developed the service station network. This comes in the wake of the so-called *Zero Emission* requirements coming in Washington and California. Now *in my opinion*, as with everything I write, this requirement of *zero emissions* is just government speak. The CO2 emissions on the window sticker should include the emissions produced at the power generating plants needed to power these vehicles. In this way we would know the whole story and not the blind feeling good some folks like.

The sit ins on Wall Street and marches to the millionaires and billionaires homes made me wonder. Why aren't they going after the sports players? How about the Hollywood people? They are paid multiple millions of dollars. I mean...*WHAT??*

Well these are just my random thoughts.

EVENTS

This month the 29th Annual IPMS Butch O'Hare Model Contest and Swap Meet will be November 12.

CARS in Miniature will be hosting the model car contest at the Muscle Car & Corvette Nationals car show, Nov 19-20 at the Stephens Convention Expo in Rosemont,

See www.mcacn.com, or contact Craig Sincora csincora@d125.org for contest details.

See the events calendar for details for all of the events that I know of. I will be adding the 2012 events I am aware of soon. 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, November 5, 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 me.

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

Go to 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.

2012 GTR Summer NNL

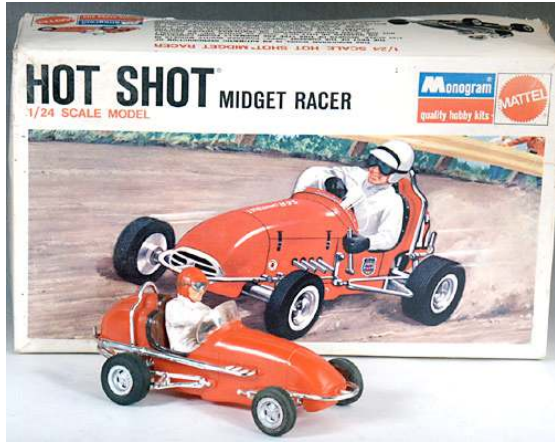
The date has been approved by IPMS and the Township Building has been reserved, so we are happy to announce we will go ahead with our fifth annual Summer NNL next year. The date will be August 5, 2012. The format and location will be the same as prior shows. The theme will be Dirt: Off Road Vehicles, anything designed or modified to be operated off the pavement. Such as dune buggies, rally racers, dirt track sprints, midgets and stockers, construction equipment and more. We will again have a sub theme, this time it will be commemorating 50 years of the Daytona 24 Hours race, any subject that was or is eligible to compete in the event is eligible.

Dirt Theme Kits

There are a lot of kits that will fit our 2012 GTR theme of DIRT. So even if you don't necessarily build off road kits, I will publish several pictures and suggestions over the coming months, for kits that are eligible for the theme for inspiration!

Revell Midgets – the great new kit, midgets often ran on dirt tracks.

Or an original Monogram Midget, 1/24 or the old large scale one.



SUVs, etc.



Rally Cars – lots have been built by Tamiya, Hasegawa, Esci, Revell etc. Baja and Dakar rally cars are definitely off roaders.



October GTR Meeting

The October GTR meeting was at the Algonquin Township Office on October 1. The business portion of the meeting covered the treasury update, and we decided to pursue a club project again next year. If during the next

year you build a model that fits the Summer NNL themes (Dirt: Off Road and 24 Hours of Daytona: Sports Racing cars) and present it at or before the Summer NNL you will get your club dues of \$15 refunded. We also decided to do a Christmas party at our meeting on December 3, details to be worked out. After that we did the mailbag. Then it was on to Show & Tell. Some of the stuff on the tables is pictured below.

Gerry Pacquette: a AMT 67 Corvaer kit, a future project,



Also, his Revell Ferrari California kit in progress with a lot of extra parts and upgrades.



Ed Sexton: a Tamiya WRC Peugeot 307 kit with some aftermarket extras.



George Pritzen: a Tamiya Nissan GT series racer in progress.



Dave Edgecomb: three versions of kits of one of his favorite cars, the Nissan GT-R.



Doug Fisher: his Tamiya LeMans winning Mazda 787B project in progress,



Also a Scale Motorsport Corvette C-6R transkit (for the Revell kit) to do up a very detailed model. Nice machined wheels.



Steve Jahnke: two 68 Mustang's by Revell.



Larry Fulhorst: 1/18 70 Cuda Trans Am die cast – see cover photo.

Chuck Herrmann: for Halloween, five Batman models: the new Polar Lights 60's TV show 1/25 Batmobile, the old 1/32 Polar Lights repop of the Aurora 60's kit, a 1/64 Ertl diecast kit of a 40's Bat Gyro, a Bat Coupe built from a Testors Alumacoupe kit, and a resin Batman figure.



IPMS News

GTR is a local chapter of IPMS/USA, in Region 5, renewed for 2012 which will be our 12th year. . We need five active national IPMS/USA members to remain an IPMS chapter. 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 location and dates for the 2012 Region 5 Convention have been announced, the show will be hosted by IPMS/West Central Missouri, May 19 in the Kansas City area.



The State of the Hobby 2011 by Tim Leicht

Well the iHobby Expo show is over and moving next year by the way (*see below*). Once again due to time constraints I did not go. However, there was enough stuff on the internet by last Friday to get a pretty good feel for what's happening out there in car model land.. All I can say is the age of repops is still alive and kicking, with a few notable exceptions.

Once again Revell led the way with some new tooling, including a '62 Chevy Corvette, a '50 Oldsmobile 2 in 1 coupe, and a new Stacey David Rat Rod. Along with that, are the new Revell Germany Audi R8 convertible and a snap tite Ferrari Enzo. Add to that a slew of repops including a Corvette C5R Compuware race car, and a curious looking Corvette Grand Sport (old Accurate Miniatures tooling maybe?) What I would have liked to see is a repop of the 1/12 scale Ford GT350 and a race version of the new 2010 1/12 scale Shelby. And how about an updated tow truck instead of a '67 GMC tow truck with a snow plow? Come on Revell, it can't be that difficult to get licensing for a flat bed tow body added to a current truck cab.

Now Round2/AMT is really stuck in the 60's and 70's. A new Gremlin? Huh? Along with a host of other repops of that era, they are filling the needs of the older modelers very well. I can say that they also have new tools of the 2010 Camaro and the 2010 Corvette Indy pace car. Oh, and don't forget the body in white version of the NASCAR kit, now available online in some places for \$10 or less now. (I told you it wouldn't work). Add to that a repop of the 2004 NASCAR glue bombs. Then on the MPC side, a repop of the 1/16 Petty Charger and a 1/25 Young America Dragster. And everyone is looking forward to the Meyers Manx dune buggy.

You know, come to think of it, Moebius ought to make a nice flat bed tow vehicle using the cab from the International Lonestar as a base. Just a thought. They also are doing a Tim Flock Hudson stock car, and adding convertibles to it's line up. Rumor has it Aoshima is close to announcing it's Cobra Daytona Coupe kit. And Hasegawa is doing the new Mini Cooper Countryman wagon.

Tamiya, while absent again this year, is repoping LOTS of old kits again, including the Mugan Honda race cars. Now for the BAD news. I read somewhere that Tamiya's automotive design engineers have left the building. Yikes! That can only be bad news for any upcoming racecars from them. Too bad. I was hoping for a Porsche 911 GTR to go against Fujimi and possibly some ALMS cars or other LeMans racers. That KILLER Audi winner of this year's LeMans would have been a perfect subject. I can only hope.

Without listing all the new/old kits for this year, you can see them all at Cybermodeler Online, or check out Gary Paquette's excellent reports on the Hobby Heaven web pages, or maybe even here (*see below*). There will plenty of plastic to please the young and old modelers everywhere. Keep on buying and the styrene will be flowing.

Tim Leicht

iHobby Show Report

by Gerry Paquette

The 2011 IHOBBOY Expo opened on Thursday, October 20. Overall, the show seemed to have fewer exhibitors than last year, including much fewer die cast companies. There were some booths that had materials in boxes but not set up. The previous day had storms that created flight problems into O'Hare airport, so this may also have been a factor.

For the car modeler, the exhibitors presented several new tools, modified reissues with new parts and reissues of past favorites. Continue reading for a review of what we saw and heard.

Revell continues their tradition of announcing only for the first half of 2012. Second half will be announced in April/May time frame. As a level setter to the overall market, Revell did say their biggest selling kits are Snaptite® and wear the bow tie emblem. Revell did indicate that 2012 2nd half will have some interesting announcements. Stay tuned for more on that.

Although previously announced, the full detail 2010 Camaro SS should be out in January. The delay is due to correcting the molds based on the test shots. Here's the information on their announcements.

Tony Nancy 22JR Dragster Set - 1/25 - Reissue
X-34 Landspeeder™ - ?? – RoG catalog lists as 1/14 scale but it appears smaller than that. Our best guess is between 1/24 and 1/20, perhaps close to G scale

Ferrari Enzo (Snaptite®) - 1/24 - New tool.

Peterbilt 359 (Snaptite®) - 1/32 - Reissue

'50 Olds™ Coupe 2 n 1 - 1/25 - New tool. Multiple options. Revell just received test shots so mounted on a display board. Expect late 2Q2012.

'62 Corvette® Roadster 2 n 1 - 1/25 - New tool. Multiple options. Appears to be new body on top of Pro Modeler C1 Corvette chassis and engine. Revell just received test shots so mounted on a display board. Expect late 2Q2012. Although all the test shots are still subject to change, there will be no hardtop in this kit.

'57 Ford Custom 3 n 1 - 1/25 - New tool. Multiple options. Revell just received test shots so mounted on a display board. Expect late 2Q 2012

56 Ford F-100 Pickup - 1/25 - Reissue

'67 Chevelle™ Pro Street - 1/25 - Reissue. Air cleaners may have been modified, but will need to dig out the Revell kit in the basement to confirm. I may be thinking of the AMT tool

'65 Chevy® Impala Convertible - 1/25 - Reissue

Audi R8 Spyder - 1/24 - Repackage of recently released Revell of Germany new tool. This kit does have an engine based on RoG photos

Lamborghini Countach - 1/24 - Reissue

K.S. Pittman Willys Drag Coupe - 1/25 – Modified reissue of Revell's very nice Willys. Same as new version Stone Woods and Cook Willys with new decals

Cadillac® Custom Lowrider - 1/25 - Reissue

Corvette® Grand Sport - 1/24 – Reissue of last run of Accurate Miniatures' Grand Sport. No plans to produce any new kits at this point, just sell off remainder of last run.



Stacey David's Rat Roaster - 1/25 – New tool based on Revell's very nice 32 Ford. Too many mods needed to do a modified reissue. In my opinion, this may spread into early 3Q 2012 given there are no test shots as yet

'77 Chevy® Van - 1/24 – Reissue. Same short wheelbase van as in the Van with Race Car Trailer issue a few years back

GMC® Pickup w/snow plow - 1/24 – Reissue, but with snow plow blade added.

Monogram Label

'70 Plymouth Road Runner - 1/24 - Reissue

Peterbilt 359 - 1/16 - Reissue

'31 Ford Model A Rat Rod - 1/25 – Reissue

'29 Ford Rat Rod - 1/25 - Reissue with new decals

Bad Medicine - 1/24 - Reissue

'40 Ford Coupe Street Rod - 1/25 - Reissue

Revell of Germany

London Bus – 1/24 – Just being released. It is full detail, including an engine.



nd2

Rou

Round2 is continuing to utilize the vast tooling inventory of AMT/MPC/Polar Lights to provide reissues of popular past model kits. In many cases these have been adjusted to repair or replace damaged or missing pieces. The only new tools at the show are the 2010 and younger Corvettes and Camaros in their Showroom Replica series. These are unassembled glue kit promos. Here's what I saw:

Polar Lights Batmobile – with Photo Etch fret

1951 Chevy Fleetline (tin packaging)

1965 Chevelle Wagon – older box art

1966 Mustang – older box art

AMC Gremlin - stock. Coming in Original art series. It will be in a larger box that carries a picture of the original art that can be framed.

Barnabas Vampire Van – They just got the sample done in time for the show

AMT Amtronic– original box art and will include the tinted glass, clear glass, cardboard diorama and prismatic solar panel.

Arnie Beswick '69 Super Judge GTO Funny Car – older box art

Chevy 100th Anniversary '57 Chevy Bel Air - (newer tool) with photo-etched parts and engine wire (tin packaging) it seems it is a repackage of the previous pro-series newer mold in the tin package

Dirty Donny "Vantasy" Chevy Van - two full-sized decal sheets

Ford Vantom Van reissue.

Ghostbusters' Ecto 1 –the AMT version not Polar Lights.

Hot Curl – Hot Shout, Gurl and Hot Curl



Meyers Manx – Should be out late December/early January. Nostalgic box art and hamburger stand cardboard piece is included. Two metal flake Meyers Manx bodies will be available. The red one would be a chase one, packed one per case with no indication on the box that it is different. The purple one will be a

limited edition offered only through Auto World's online store and the real Auto World store that just opened.

Monkeemobile - reissue

Petty 1/16 Nascar Charger – This was at last year's show as well, but looks like it is getting closer

White Western Star

2010 Camaro Convertible – Show Room Replica Series. Unassembled promo type. I asked if they were going to update to 2011 as there does not appear to be any indication of a 2010 convertible due to a supplier issue. The rep didn't know but would follow up.

2010 Camaro Convertible – Show Room Replica Series. Unassembled promo type.

2012 Corvette Coupe – Show Room Replica Series. Unassembled promo type.

2008 Corvette Convertible Pace Car – Show Room Replica Series. Unassembled promo type.

66 Nova Slot Racer, 57 Chevy Bel Air, 70 Camaro and 06 Camaro Concept Slot Racers – previous 1/24 plastic kit parts mated with a slot chassis and engine.

Some neat die cast was also on display as well as their Star Trek series.

Other Stuff:

Lindberg/Hawk continues primarily with reissues. They have updated their model display case with several improvements. Here are the noteworthy items:

Buddy G Toy Trucks – metal bodied. The ones at the show were prototypes. Didn't get scale, but they appeared to be smaller than 1/25. More to come

Bull Horn Model T – 1/16 scale.

1969 Yenko Camaro – initially die cast and plan for plastic down the road. Die Cast version in picture.

Red Devil racer – in planning stage for later 2012

Kustom Koffin – in planning stage for later 2012

White Lightning – in planning stage for later 2012

New Display Case – eliminated the "bubble" on the top of the clear case. Sturdy diamond plate chrome base and stackable

IMC, in the automotive space is doing Jo-Han reissues, particularly the Olds Cutlass, Chrysler Turbine Car and 59 Rambler Wagon. They also are offering the Johan plastic display case. They have additional plans for more Johan releases, but it is too soon to announce.

Moebius had a bunch of Sci-Fi and monster kits, but the automotive front only showed a new Hudson Convertible. There are some other items of interest to announce, but they are not locked down yet and too soon to publish anything.



To me, the biggest news was a new Bullit detail set for the Revell 1/12 Mustang from Scale Motorsports. Matt Wells had a prototype there, and, as is usual for Matt's offerings, looked fantastic.



Creative Miniatures: a 1/25 Packard Caribbean, 53 El Dorado Convertible and 427 Cobra from Creative Miniatures



Pegasus: 3 new wheel sets from as well as their now selling Model Parts Specialties cast metal engine parts and accessories. The Pegasus sets are 15" and will be sold with a higher profile tire than what was on display.

No new model news was available from **Trumpeter** and some new **Aoshima**, **Fujimi** and **Hasegawa** kits (many announced at the recent Japan Model show) were displayed.

Hobby Gear is updating their Car Show diorama set and has a tire shop and landscaper series coming out. **Phoenix Toys** showed a 1957 Chevy Convertible in 1/25 scale that is the equal of Danbury Mint/Franklin Mint and selling for \$99.57. They have about 200 (it's a limited edition) and is available from their website.

There were some interesting die cast including a 1/24 2010 Corvette Grand Sport and Pagoni Zonda from **Testor's**. The Grand Sport wheels were not prototypical though, although the body looked close.

Minicraft also displayed a series of 1/16 Model A kits, some with Flathead 4 and others with Flathead 8 engines.

Tools and Paints

Not a lot of new tools were shown or announced. Most notable were:

A new cutting mat from **Excel** where both sides are usable and stamped with a grid. Excel also showed a new set of fine tip tweezers.

Xuron was promoting their new PE cutter that they introduced last year. I just got one about two months and it is far more versatile than the original version.

Tool Tron showed some ergo handled cutters and an interesting rotating storage set with 4 stacked clusters that rotate. Retail is about \$19. Looks useful for holding select parts.

Alpha Abrasives is expanding their line with micro polishing sheets and pads, including sets with foam blocks with a soft and harder side to control polishing. They are also offering 6x6 inch micro fine sanding sheets up to 12,000 grit.

Ram continues to expand their scale lighting options, particularly for cars. Now that LED's are prevalent options continue to abound

Finally, **Innovative Hobby Supply** had some interesting products, including a tape that mimics canvas, peel and stick chrome, wood grain, trunk floor mat and others.

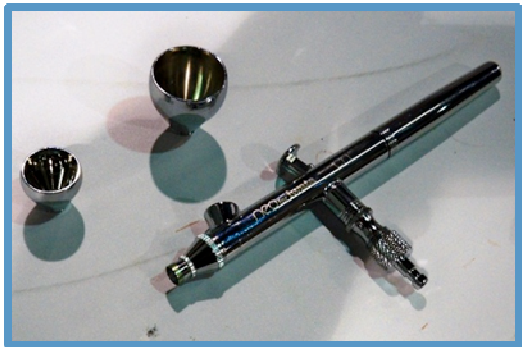
On the paint and accessory side:

Grex had nothing new since their pistol grip brush was announced a couple of years ago. The rep indicated they plan to have some new

product at next year's show but could not say anything at this point.

Badger has more lines of aqueous paint coming out. They also are selling sets for beginners which include air brush, compressor, hoses, paints, etc. They have several new compressors (some quite silent) and have a new chrome airbrush. They also displayed their Universal 360 set which includes the airbrush, hose and some bottles. The Universal 360 is a model that a gravity fed that can also be rotated to accept bottles. Very versatile. Finally Badger was showing their battery powered paint stirrer. It has been around for years, but is very good at mixing paints in the jar and easy to clean.

Iwata is introducing the Neo, an entry level double action airbrush that will retail in the \$50 range. An interesting facet is a removable gravity feed cup with small and large cup sizes.



Testor's has new color ranges coming out, including some new automotive colors in their synthetic lacquer range. The automotive paints will have more added to the enamels than lacquers. There will be improved primers made available in several color options, some flip-flop options, a wash and multi-colored pearl coat. There will be additional info on this by year-end.

A company called **E-Z-Mix** had some paint accessories of note. Most interesting was a syringe with a micro brush on top. You remove the micro brush, load the paint, reattach the brush and apply color to the brush through the syringe. There also was a clear plastic canister with a closing lid such as on paint cans to hold mixed colors. Finally, there were displayed small micron filters to transfer paint and strain it. Finally, a new (to me) company, **Sparmax**, is offering a line of compressors and airbrushes. Some of the airbrushes have pistol grips.

iHobby Expo moving to Cleveland

from modelretailer.com

The Hobby Manufacturers Association has announced that the 28th annual iHobby Expo will

move to The International Exposition Center (I-X Center) in Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 11-14, 2012.

HMA President Michael Bass, owner of Stevens International, said that the decision to move the expo hinged primarily on feedback from surveys of trade and exhibitor attendees.

2011 GTR Events

Nov 6 Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Swap Meet
Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI

www.uniqueeventsshows.com

Nov 12 29th Annual IPMS Butch O'Hare Model Contest and Swap Meet

Lakeview Jr HS Downers Grove IL
John Wendt 630-969-9016

December 4 Tinley Park Toy Show
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park IL

www.uniqueeventsshows.com

December 11 Milwaukee Miniature Motors Winter Show – Swap and Contest
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI

www.milwaukeeeminaturemotors.com



IPMS USA
International Plastic Modelers Society

2012 Region 5 May 19, KC MO.

2012 Nationals: Aug 8-11 Orlando, FL

www.ipms2012.org

2013 Nationals: Loveland, CO

GTR Auto Modelers Newsletter



IPMS/GTR Auto Modelers

Chuck Herrmann
338 Alicia Drive
Cary, IL 60013

Next GTR Meeting: November 5, 2011

www.gtrautomodelers.freesevers.com