



# GTR Newsletter March 2021

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## President's Message: March 2021

It looks like everyone is getting hit this winter. We've had a number of big storms hit us as well as some very low temperatures. But it is to be expected I guess. We didn't have a GTR meeting this past month, but I hope we will be able to get together for March. I've got a few projects going, couple of 1/43 models and a couple of 1/24s. But many times the winter weather really gets me down and I don't feel like working on anything. But it has warmed up somewhat and I have started back into my projects. I should have some pictures of them in the next newsletter.

I bought my first 3D printed parts and I'm working on them. I think most of you know how 3D printing works. They are making some fantastic parts, but the nature of the printing presents a problem. They are printed as layers and even with the finest printers these layers are visible. You can't sand them down because the layers go all the way through the part. As you sand down you just expose another layer. So, you have to cover the entire area with filler and sand that down. Now on detail items like say a seat or something the layers are not noticeable. But on flat panels (body parts) they sure are. My parts are Indy car road course wings. I'm trying Mr. Surface 500 spray because the layers are not too deep. But it takes many coats. Have any of you tried this? I'd like to hear some feedback. Hope to have pictures of the finished model in the next newsletter.



## 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 2021 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](mailto:eagle48.1967@yahoo.com)  
Secretary/Treasurer: Doug Fisher [kkfisher1@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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)



## GTR Update

There will be a March meeting. The Covid situation is easing, and the Algonquin Township Building is open again, so see you Saturday, March 6. 7:00 PM

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.

### February GTR Meeting

There was no February meeting.



## 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. So 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](http://www.ipmsusa.org)

## IPMS Calendar

June 12 2021 IPMS Region 5 Convention – hosted by IPMS/Lakes Region Scale Modelers McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL.

Aug 18-21 2021 IPMS USA Nationals: Las Vegas, NV

See the webpage at [www.natslv2021.com](http://www.natslv2021.com) and also their Facebook page **2021 IPMS Nationals Las Vegas "Very Best of the West"**

2022 IPMS/USA Nationals Omaha, NE

2023 IPMS/USA Nationals San Marcos, TX

## 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.



## Real World

### Ferrari to Return to Top Class of Sports Car Racing



Ferrari has announced that they will return to the top class of sports car racing to go for overall victories. This includes the 24 Hours of LeMans.

They are going to build and race a new hypercar that go into effect for the 2023 season. They will compete against Toyota, Peugeot, Glickenhaus and ByKolles. Also Audi, Porsche and Acura will build LMDh prototypes which will compete in the same class.

After several years of limited manufacturers and dominance by one make this should improve the competition. The new cars that have been shown on the internet also look much better, less aero stuff than the last several years. We can assume that we will see some new model kits of these once they start to hit the tracks.

## New US Postal Service Trucks Old one around for 30 years!

The USPS has announced the upcoming retirement of the Grumman LLV (long lasting vehicle). This fleet of 200,000 vehicles has been around longer than such common features of modern life as smartphones, online shopping, social media, streaming services or Google. About 70% of them are between 25 and 32 years old. Many but not all of the NGDVs will be electric vehicles. With electric vehicle changing at a fast

pace and the vehicles designed to last decades, the contract calls for the electric versions to be able to be retrofitted to keep pace with advances.



The vehicles have also been in the works for years. USPS has been working on the project with potential suppliers since 2016. The contract announced Tuesday was to Oshkosh Defense, a unit of Oshkosh Corp.

Under the contract it will build between 50,000 and 165,000 vehicles over a period of 10 years. In the online photos they look a bit cartoonish.

## Industry News Atlantis



Atlantis Models has been busy reissuing the old molds they acquired in the demise and reorganization of Hobbico/Revell USA a few years back. The Snoopy and Red Baron kits are now available again after 50 years! The following 1/25 scale kits will be available this spring:  
 '57 Cadillac El Dorado Brougham  
 '57 Chevy Bel Air  
 '57 Chevy Nomad

They have announced that the release of the 1/16 Green Elephant Chevy Vega Funny Car has been pushed back to late March / early April but also reported that newly-tooled tires for the kit 'came out great.' The model was originally

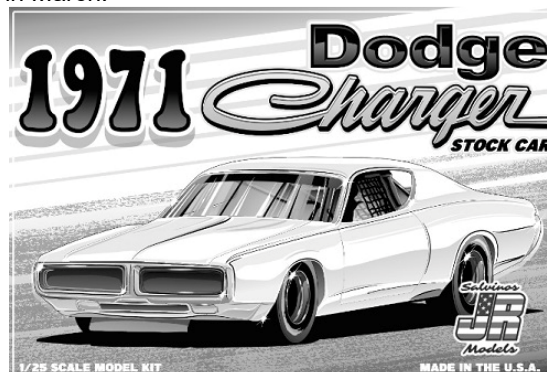
scheduled for release in February.



## Salvino JR



The 1973 Petty Dodge Charger is due to ship out in March.



Their next one is a 1971 Dodge Charger that will be a generic version, no sponsor decals. There will be aftermarket decals available as the kit is released.

## Revell

This photo of a potential new Revell combo release has surfaced on the internet. I can't say how accurate it is but the old buggy has not been available for quite awhile.

Ford Bronco Half Cab Sandman II (Model Car)

(1 image)



# Virtual GTR Show & Tell

With meetings being cancelled or lightly attended we will use this space to show models at the meeting, show on our Facebook page or emailed to me for a virtual show and tell. One advantage is that we can show stuff from our out of town members.

From Facebook we have:

Gary Dobson IL



"Calling it done. Sterling Marlins 22 Maxwell House NASCAR T-bird."



Gerry Paquette WA



"1949 Mercury Custom Wagon. Calling it done. A period custom per a club challenge, meaning nothing could be done to it that wasn't 1964 or earlier. Got the resin body some years back at

the DuPage County Toy Show. Given the body, it would have "poppers" for the doors. Trying to figure out the gas cap door, I decided that it would be in the trunk (ala some European sports cars). Did drill for a frenched antenna and frenched the taillights with 59 Caddy lamps.

But it is not a type that I have a big interest in and I needed to do a lot of research".



**Also from Gerry:**



"'66 GeeTO. Got the decals on, and they were a pain. Even with a strong coat of Microscale Decal Film, the long red accent lines came apart. Fortunately I have some Red Chatpak tape that is very close to the size of the stripes and quite thin. So, the tape "volunteered" to take the place of the decal stripes. There also was a "hickey" on the red part of one of the Hurst Logos. I did do a Hi-res scan of the decal sheet and could try to print off just the logo, but not yet sure if worth it. I have washed the model and getting ready to clear coat it. The decals really need a clear coat to better blend in."

**Roy Sorensen CA**



"I'm back working on the MENG 1/12th scale Ford GT40 but I'm having trouble getting the center of the car to sit properly. Once I do the car will be a matter of just a few details to finish it. The way the photo etch screen snaps into the back of the car is pretty cool!"



**Chuck Herrmann NM**



"This is a 1/24 figure by Master Box (a Ukrainian company). They make a lot of styrene figure kits in many genre and scales. This one is called *Tyra Jogging some miles*. It is posed in front of a photo I took of a mural in Albuquerque. Still need to work on the eyes and face, which is the tricky part of doing figures."



***Keep Safe, build more model cars!***

# Tamiya Mustang GT4



**Description:** Mustang GT4

**Manufacturer:** Tamiya

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

By Chuck Herrmann



It is rare for Tamiya to product a kit of an American subject. This 2020 release of the Ford Mustang GT4 look like it has been pretty popular based on the number of completed builds being posted online.



The Mustang GT4 is a track ready race car the Ford developed and sold to private race team to compete in various worldwide GT race series, such as the World Challenge Series in the US and the British GT series among others.



The kit comes in an oversized flat box. It is a curbside style design, pretty much a complete car minus the top half of the engine. There is a full suspension and interior. Seat belts are decals.



The body is two pieces, with a separate front fascia, the hood I molded shut with separate pieces for the large louvers which are molded with the louvers opened up.



The tires are large slicks, there is full brake detail which shows through the open spoke racing wheels.

The interior has a tub floor with separate door panel. There is a full roll cage, along with many accessories for the floor. This reminds me of NASCAR kits.



The clear windows mount from the inside, there are molded in lines to help with either painting the black trim or attaching the paint masks included in the kit.

There is a large rear wing along with several front spoiler pieces to complete the bodywork.

The kit decals allow you to do either the 2018 Ford Official presentation car, or the 2017 Goodwood demonstration car. No tire lettering is included with the kit. This car raced, and still races, in many different liveries. There are a lot of aftermarket decal sheets available through the usual on line sources.

I built my kit out of the box. There were no real issue, I did have the front and rear wheels mixed up, after cutting some suspension pieces I learned from a fellow modeler they are not the same so watch for that. The taillight I found to be tricky both assembling and painting, I found some paint tips on an online Facebook group. I went with a basic white paint scheme, using ACE Gloss White rattle can for the chassis and interior, with Tamiya White lacquer for the body. The livery is a phantom scheme, combining some kit decals with an old Chimneyville NASCAR set, and tire marking and Castrol decals from the Revell Ford GT.

Tamiya has once again come through with a first class kit of an interesting racing car. Typical Tamiya quality and design, it is highly recommended.

# NuNu Audi R8 GT3



**Description:** Audi R8 LMS GT3

**Manufacturer:** NuNu

**Scale:** 1/24 **Kit#:** PN24004

By Chuck Herrmann



NuNu Platz is an Asian model company that has been well known to military modelers but over the last several years has released some excellent automotive subjects. They have done GT, rally and recently Formula one subjects. They have released new tooling and have also acquired tooling from the former Beemax models. While their kits have often been delayed from their initial announced release date they are nice versions of new and classic racing subjects.



This is a kit of the Audi R8 GTS car that has raced in numerous international series. Specifically this kit is for the car that raced at the Spa 24 Hour race in 2015. There are marking in the kit to do the red #1 or the silver #2. The #2 car placed second in the race, while the #1 wound up 21<sup>st</sup> overall. But I thought the red car was more striking so that is what I built.



This kit could be called a curbside plus. While there is no lower engine it would be covered up anyway by the flat pan chassis anyway, so it is virtually a full kit.



The interior builds up off a floor/engine compartment; there are some separate exhausts and plenums. The seat belt is a decal, there is a full roll cage.



The top of the engine is visible through the clear rear window.



I painted the body Tamiya TS-49 Italian Red from the rattle can. The white and black are all from the decal sheet. Lots of decals here, I applied some polish over the large areas of black to get some gloss. Some of the white trim did not fit well, especially on the rear of the chassis so I took it off. The window frames are also black decal, a bit tricky.



Overall I was pleased with the kit, not quite as good as Tamiya's best but equal to most good Fujimi or Hasegawa. Definitely recommended.

# 1950 Ford Bluebird: Ford's First Thunderbird

By Dave Roeder MO

This is the story of what could have been the first Ford entry into the sports car market.

I was running out of models to build and started going through my collection of built up models and found a 1950 Ford Convertible that I had stuffed a 460 Lincoln engine into and tubbed the rear axle for some wide tires. It was otherwise a stock body.

I decided to cut it down in length to a 2 seater convertible. I cut the body into three sections starting with the door width, then again with the area behind the door. In total I removed 22" from the length of the body. This resulted in three pieces of the body that were fairly thin and did not have the strength to stand up to filling and sanding so I reinforced the sides with pieces of 1/16" steel wire super glued in place.



Body shortened 22" with reinforced sides.



Next I decided this car had to have a distinctive front end with a sports car look. I rummaged around in my scrap parts and found a 1957 Ford Thunderbird hardtop. The rear window looked like it could be modified

into a front end with a sports car look. After much cutting and fitting I molded the T-bird roof into the front of the Ford. The only thing I did to the opening was to file the bottom edge flat. It was slightly curved on the hard top to conform with the trunk lid shape. I then cut down a 1949 Ford hood to fit the new shorter opening.



The chassis was shortened and modified to fit under the body. I installed a 1950 Ford Flathead with finned aluminum heads and a triple carb manifold. I wired the engine and detailed it with black panel line filler. I scratch built the radiator with a large coolant overflow tank and added custom exhaust to the chassis. I made pins that set into brass tubes super glued into the suspension uprights to eliminate the slotted hole through the engine that was required with a solid front axle rod.



Interior detail



The interior was shortened leaving only the top of the rear seat and the rear package tray. I added a floor shift for the sports car look. The custom steering wheel is from a 1954 Hudson. The stock bench seat was



used because Ford did not have a bucket seat in production at the time.



Front bumper was cut down from a wider piece and Molochromed.



Grill insert was made from sheet styrene with a piece of cloth super glued in place.



Test fit of body and interior with convertible top cover in place.

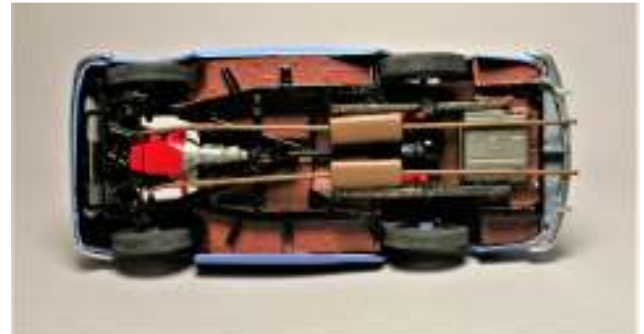


Completed model

A fantasy prototype that could have happened if Ford was thinking 7 years ahead in 1950. They already had the convertible and it would have been a short leap to a two seat version.



Completed model



Completed model



Completed model

Rear view showing radiused wheel wheels and custom tail lights.

# 1955 Chevy 1 Ton Stake Bed Truck Diorama in 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale

By Dave Roeder MO



This 1955 Chevy model stake bed has been around a long time and I have even found HO scale models of it from two different sources. It has never been released in 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale and I guess it would not be too difficult to kit bash/scratch build a version in that scale. I found this new old stock kit at a local hobby shop that apparently been buying up estate sale collections of unbuilt old kits. This one had a price of \$1.00 way back in the day and was priced at \$19.00 today. I do not have any 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale models and this one will be the only one for me. Typical of an old kit, the parts were not really close fit. The multiple piece cab had some serious fit issues and had to be put together in pieces after painting. This was where I spent the most time. I had to do some filling to get rid of some gaps and used window cement to fill gaps between the glass and the cab. The rest of the kit went together without problems.

I looked up examples of the paint schemes on these trucks and found that green with a white roof was fairly common. Wheels were black or off white and the front grill and bumper were white. I decided this paint scheme would fit for the AP Green foundry. I made up decals for the first stake sides as was typical for this bodywork. Painting and detailing the bed and stake sides was easy. After finishing the model, I wanted to add some details to the load. The kit came with a one piece "load" of wood crates that sat at the front of the bed. There was one crate that stuck out into the bed and was centered on the others.

I began by cutting off the last crate on the molded load that came in the kit. I filled the hole with styrene, painted it and added brown panel line wash. This allowed me to add more items to the load. Two wood barrels were included in the kit, so I painted and detailed those. That left room for two 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale pallets and another small crate with built in runners. I built a jig from styrene to make the 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale pallets. I used scale lumber from my scrap box and wood glue to assemble two pallets. The loads for the pallets are needle caps that I drilled out the blind end to make hexagonal castings to load on to the pallets. The wood was stained using brown panel line filler.

The cables around the castings is thread held in place with super glue. The final crate is made from scraps of lumber and siding. It is also stained with brown panel line filler.



Details of the load - two barrels, two pallets, a wood crate and the molded plastic crate load



The pallet jig and a finished pallet

I decided to take this a little further and create a diorama with the truck as the focal point. I have used Evan Designs Model builder software for years to create two and three dimensional structures in many different scales. This software allows you to create structures in a wide variety of materials and you can combine various materials to build a curtain wall factory that looks quite real.



The AP Green Foundry in 1/48<sup>th</sup> scale



Model builder software allows you to choose from a library of doors, windows and other details which once selected, can be re-sized and duplicated to complete the finished walls. Since the doors and windows are photographs, you can get very realistic looking results. In this case the red service door is simply printed on the wall background. The windows were selected, re-sized and then duplicated. The dock and garage door are made in 3D by cutting out the foam core board for the door opening, then printing out a door with surrounding brickwork and placing it in the opening. The dock is made from basswood scraps and covered with printed paper from the Model Builder software.



# GTR Event Calendar

*With all the continuing disruption and uncertainty caused by the Corona virus crisis, all dates are of course tentative. With the latest virus results some 2021 shows are being cancelled or delayed.*

*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.*

*The pandemic also is affecting the racing world. The opening GP in Australia has been moved back from March and the St Petersburg Florida IndyCar season opener was also moved back. So I will not be listing as many races here since they may yet be impacted.*

**Feb 13-24 Postponed** Chicago Auto Show  
McCormick Place, IL  
<http://www.chicagoautoshow.com>

**Feb 21** Illinois Plastic Kit & Toy Show **Cancelled**  
DuPage County Fairgrounds, Home Economics and Annex Buildings, Wheaton IL  
Info contact: (630) 969-1847  
Email: [pthpowerinc@aol.com](mailto:pthpowerinc@aol.com)

**Mar 7 Cancelled** Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Show  
American Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI  
e-mail: [Unievents1@aol.com](mailto:Unievents1@aol.com)  
Web site address: <http://uniqueeventsshows.com>



**Mar 14 Postponed new date TBD** 30<sup>th</sup> Annu  
Cedarville Model Car Contest and Swap Meet  
Jane Adams Community Center, Cedarville, IL  
Facebook page: Cedarville Toy Show and Model Car Contest

**Mar 21 Cancelled** Countryside Collectors  
Classic Toy Show  
Park Place of Countryside, Countryside IL  
Phone: Jim Welytok 262-366-1314  
e-mail: [Unievents1@aol.com](mailto:Unievents1@aol.com)  
Web site address: <http://uniqueeventsshows.com>

**April 17** Milwaukee NNL see new location

**Milwaukee**  
**NNL 28 1/2**  
**THEME HOT RODS**  
**Sub Theme: RAT RODS**  
HOSTED BY THE AUTO MODELERS GROUP  
SATURDAY APRIL 17, 2021 3-9pm  
PALLAS RESTAURANT/ARIS SPORTS BAR  
1657 S 108TH ST.  
WEST ALLIS, WI 53214 (414)771-8800  
FOR MORE INFORMATION E-Mail us  
[tnowak333.tn@gmail.com](mailto:tnowak333.tn@gmail.com) [scottiek1@charter.net](mailto:scottiek1@charter.net)  
WITH LIMITED SPACE, WE WILL HAVE NO CLUB DISPLAY AWARD THIS YEAR.  
PLEASE REFRAIN FROM LARGE DISPLAYS/PROGRAMS.  
WE ALSO ASK TO PLEASE WEAR A MASK.

**April 18 Cancelled** Milwaukee Miniature Motors  
Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha WI

**April** Virtual Desert Sale Classic, Phoenix AZ –  
now virtual – details soon.

**May 23** NNL North

**NNL NORTH**  
**MODEL CAR SHOW & CONTEST**  
SUNDAY, MAY 23rd, 2021  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL 1114 AMERICAN BLVD. W  
BLOOMINGTON MN, 10AM TO 4PM  
**This Year's Awards**  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE TOP TEN - JUNIOR BEST IN SHOW  
BEST COMPETITION VEHICLE (Presented by RPM)  
BEST ROAD CAR (Presented by Winnipeg MCC)  
BEST RAT ROD (Presented by Nick Amburgey)  
SIZZLIN' SIXTIES AWARD (Presented by Bob Halliday)  
"Cars you would see on Route 66 pre 1969"  
(Presented by MCCM)  
BEST AUTOMOBILE d'ITALIA SUBJECT  
(Presented by Marchio Andrea)  
Admission \$10.00 FOR ENTRANTS  
\$5.00 FOR SPECTATORS  
Children 4yrs and  
under \$2.50  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, FIND US ON FACEBOOK  
FOR VENDOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE EMAIL [TEAMMASH@annapolisraceway.com](mailto:TEAMMASH@annapolisraceway.com)

**June 12-13** Heartland Nationals Contest and Swap Meet. Hosted by the KC Slammers Model Car Club. [www.kcslammers.com](http://www.kcslammers.com), Overland Park Conv. Center, Overland Park, KS. Contact Bill Barker, [wlb19@yahoo.com](mailto:wlb19@yahoo.com), special theme: "American Graffiti."

**October 30** Winnebago Area Modelers Classic Hosted by Winnebago Auto Modelers Hilton Garden Inn Oshkosh WI

**Oct 17** Countryside Collectors Classic Toy Show Park Place of Countryside, Countryside IL  
Phone: Jim Welytok 262-366-1314  
e-mail: [Unievents1@aol.com](mailto:Unievents1@aol.com)  
Web site address: <http://uniqueeventsshows.com>

**Nov 7** Scale Auto Hobby and Toy Show  
**American Serb Hall, Milwaukee WI???????**  
e-mail: [Unievents1@aol.com](mailto:Unievents1@aol.com)  
Web site address: <http://uniqueeventsshows.com>

**Dec 5** Tinley Park Holiday Toy Show  
Tinley Park HS, Tinley Park IL  
e-mail: [Unievents1@aol.com](mailto:Unievents1@aol.com)  
Web site address: <http://uniqueeventsshows.com>

If any readers wish their shows or any other events of interest to GTR listed send the information along to GTR.

### Virtual Contests

Two IPMS contests that have been changed to virtual events are:

**IPMS Mexico Nacional y International 2021**  
[www.ipmsmexico.org](http://www.ipmsmexico.org)

**IPMS Italy 1<sup>st</sup> Concorso Internazionele IPMS Italia di Modellismo Statica Online**  
Facebook – IPMS Italia

I think it is always interesting to see what modelers around the world are doing so I will probably give these a shot. Lots cheaper than traveling there.

## Great Salt Lake Final Event has been Postponed One Year to 2023



The Trustees of the GSL International Scale Vehicle Championship and Convention have decided to postpone the GSL Finale until May of 2023. (The event was originally scheduled for early May of 2022). This decision was made after consulting with medical sources, the GSL Board of Trustees, the host hotel, and GSL competitors about the impact of the Covid-19 virus. The postponement takes into account the likely time frame in which competitors and attendees feel it would be safe to travel to Salt Lake. You will be updated by follow-up emails as information is available including when the revised website is ready for your enjoyment.

Plans for the Finale include a retrospective of GSL's people and history, some spectacular features and events, and from what we've heard, the fiercest and most challenging competition ever.

Plan on being at GSL-XXVIII - the Finale WILL be presented!

— The GSL Board of Trustees —

If you have any questions, please reply to Mark S. Gustavson at [mark@bomission.com](mailto:mark@bomission.com) - be sure to put "GSL" in the subject line

