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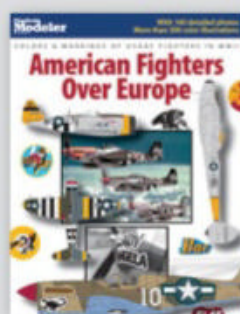
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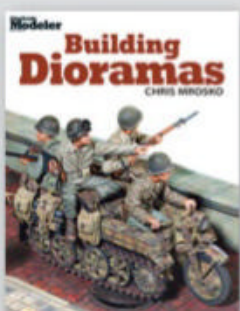
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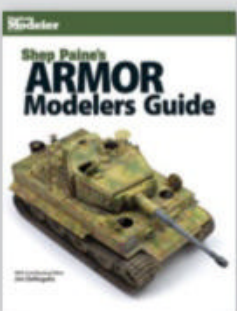
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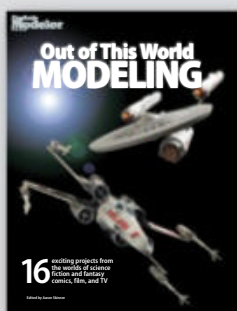
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Fall 2020 - Fall 2021



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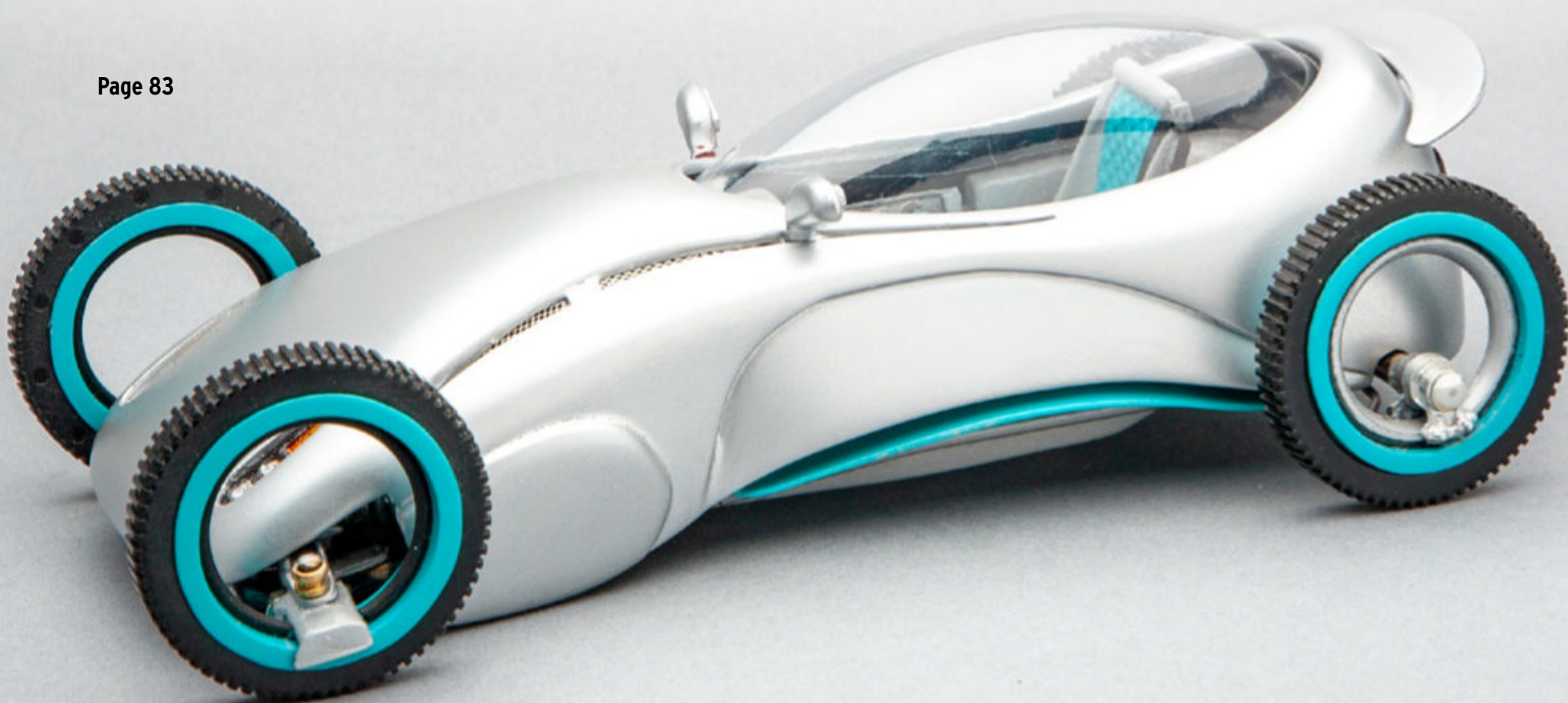
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1960 FORD RANCHERO (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1189M



'60
Ford
RANCHERO

1/25 SCALE
MODEL KIT
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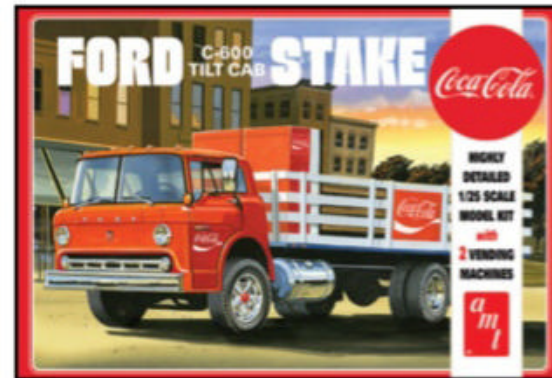
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1941 PLYMOUTH COUPE (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1197M



1977 FORD PINTO "POPPER" (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1166M



FORD C-600 STAKE BED (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1147



1972 CHEVY FLEETSIDE PICKUP (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1231M



CHEVY SILVERADO MONSTER TRUCK (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1184M



'77 FORD DELIVERY VAN (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1173M



1953 FORD PICKUP (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1144



1940 WILLYS PICKUP (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1145



1940 FORD SEDAN DELIVERY (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1161



1955 CHEVROLET CAMEO (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1094



PETERBILT 352 CABOVER (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1090



VW BEETLE SNAP KIT (1:25 SCALE)
#POL960M



GMC GENERAL TRUCK TRACTOR (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1179



FRUEHAUF VAN TRAILER (1:25 SCALE)
#AMT1109

Overcoming the odds

Welcome to 2021 *Contest Cars*!

In September 2020, *FineScale Modeler* Editor Aaron Skinner and I had a discussion with Wayne Webers, president of the Atlanta Car Model Enthusiasts (ACME). The club, like so many others, had to cancel the 25th annual Southern Nationals. Instead of going without, *FineScale Modeler* partnered with ACME and moved the show online for November 2020, where we saw more than 2,000 models entered.

We called NNL West's Andy Kellock and offered to help put on a similar event, which went live in March 2021 and included participants from the UK and Europe. What's more, by mid-year, a few in-person model shows were able to secure venues.

What you have here is a snapshot of a time when scale modelers, despite a pandemic and long odds, came together to celebrate their hobby and share in a collective passion. Tremendous thanks to show organizers, our stringers covering contests, and everyone who sent us caption information and hi-res images for the Southern Nationals and NNL West events. This special issue wouldn't have been possible without you.

Tim Kidwell
Editor



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ContestCars 2021

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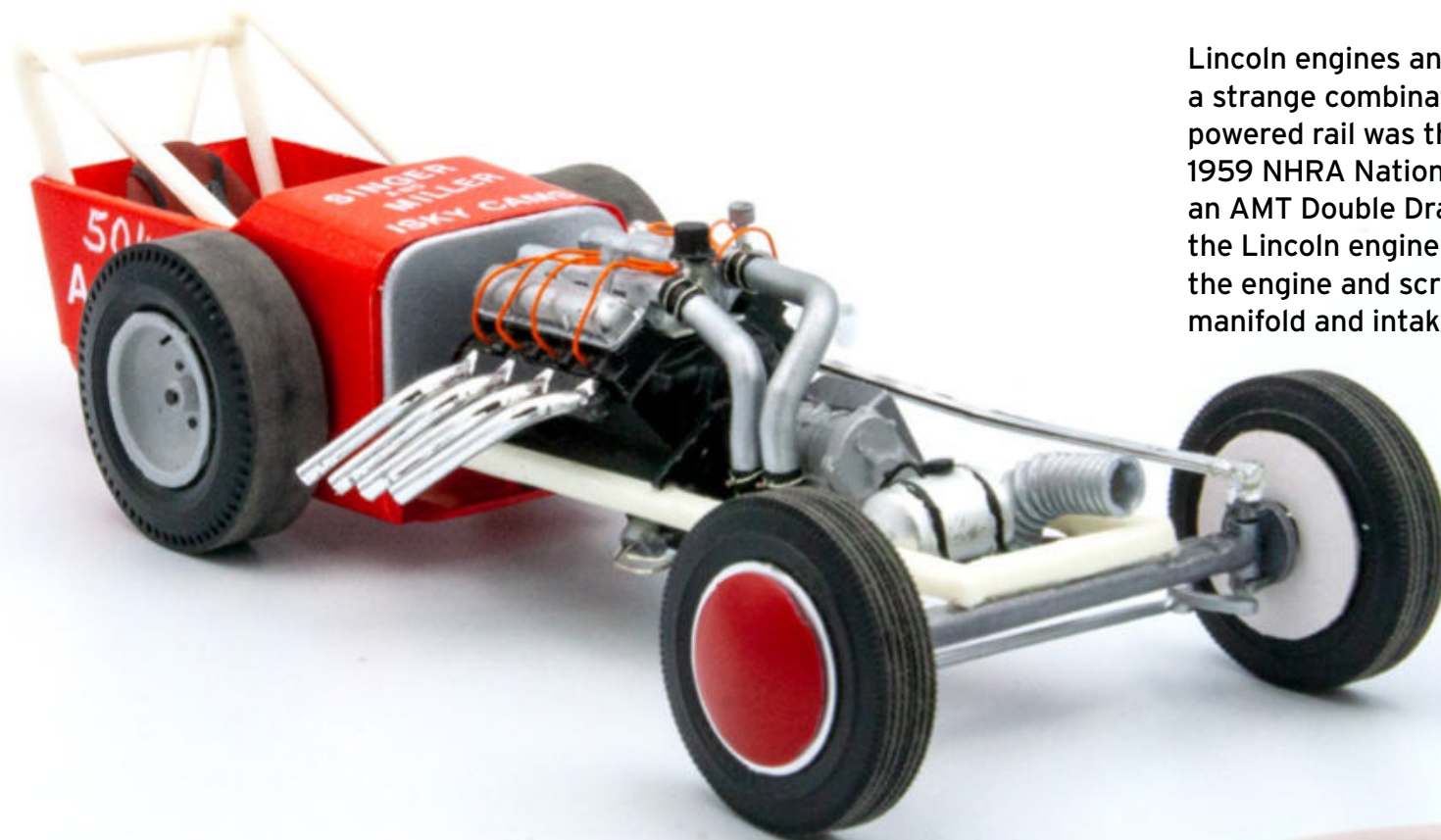
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■ Circle City Modelers

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA ■ OCTOBER 24, 2020 ■ BY JIM CASASSA



Lincoln engines and drag racing seem like a strange combination, but a Lincoln-powered rail was the Top Eliminator at the 1959 NHRA Nationals. Chuck Poi modified an AMT Double Dragster frame and added the Lincoln engine from a '25 T. He wired the engine and scratchbuilt the intake manifold and intake air pipes.

"I like Corvairs and off-the-wall cars," says Patrick Sluzas. A 1961 Corvair Rampside kit from Best Model Car Parts fit that description. Patrick used Limco Tahiti Coral metallic enamel for the color and trimmed it with Bare-Metal Foil.



Vern Heizer converted his JoHan '60 Plymouth wagon from a four-door to a two-door. He used the engine, chassis, and interior from a Dodge Magnum and made his own rims. The finish is House of Kolor Black Diamond Ice and Flash Orange.



Wes Salazar built this 1985 Cadillac over a period of six months. He modified the suspension, fully detailed the engine from a Foose Cadillac, and scratchbuilt the complete hydraulic system. For color, he used Splash Paint Sage Green.



Working from old photographs, Chuck Poi built a model of Richard Petty's 1960 Plymouth. He reconfigured the rear window of the JoHan body to make it smaller and used parts from an AMT Roadrunner for the chassis and interior.



They say the third time's a charm. That's how many times John Collett painted the Competition Resin body of his V-dub altered. He had to strip the first paint job after he dropped the body and then strip it again after a bug landed in the wet Testors paint.



A long-time Roger McCluskey fan, Lance Sellers, used one of his own resin kits to build model McCluskey's 1975 Indy 500 car. He scratchbuilt the suspension and much of the turbo system.

Lance Spangler is a racer and a model builder. His model of a late-'80s USAC midget started as a Revell sprint car, but Lance shrunk the chassis and fuel tank. He built the four-cylinder engine by cutting a Chevy V8 in half just like on the real thing.





Mel Frenger made the trip with some friends from Oklahoma to Indy to attend the Circle City show. He fit the bed and roof from an '85 El Camino to a Foose Cadillac and finished it off with House of Kolor paint.



"This is the fifth Hudson I've built" says Patrick Sluzas. "The box art for these Moebius kits is terrific." He painted this Hudson with Limco automotive enamel in a factory color: Grasshopper Green Metallic. Lots of Bare-Metal Foil finished the appearance.



A Jairus Watson drawing published shortly after the introduction of the Moebius Hudson models inspired Mel Frenger's Hudson wagon. He built the working tailgate from wood and painted the styrene wood trim to match.



One of the first new Chevrolets to come into the dealership where Len Carsner worked was a 1965 Impala painted Evening Orchid. Len re-created that auto with Gravity Colors and two-part clear and detailed the 409 engine.



The events of September 11, 2001, inspired Kenny Reiter to build *Rescue 911*. Kenny started with a Monogram 1978 Blazer and spent a year adding many scratchbuilt parts, including the leaf springs, shocks, and axle trusses.



John Collett decided he wanted to build a sports car for a change of pace. His Monogram 1965 Cobra features a flawless Tamiya Black and Gunmetal finish. John added seat belts and all the wiring and plumbing. Everything else came from the kit.



Wes Salazar calls his version of the Revell '29 Model A roadster a "clean" rat rod. He mixed in parts from various Revell '32 Ford kits and lowered the suspension. The details on the engine include machined blower pulleys.



This custom 1955 Pontiac shows how far you can go starting with a simple JoHan promo kit. Kenny Reiter opened the hood, trunk, and doors and built his own door jams and trunk panels. The chassis and interior came from a '66 Buick.



Karl Koons thought a Mini Cooper set up for racing was pretty cool. He used a Tamiya Morris Mini Cooper Monte Carlo Rally kit and built it straight out of the box. For the paint he used Rust-Oleum 2X.



Bill Cook demonstrated what can be done with a carefully painted and assembled small-scale Atlantis kit. Bill painted his White COE tanker in Sinclair markings with Tamiya colors. The cab hinges forward to display the detail painting on the engine.



It took a full sheet of paper for Bill Cook to explain all the features of his 1923 Ford Model T depot hack. The body was built from bass, cherry, and apple wood with a styrene roof. He carved the seat cushions from wood blocks and covered them with craft paper. If that wasn't enough, Bill also built the tailgate hinges from brass.



Wes Salazar likes the look of clean classic hot rods. His fenderless '32 Tudor fits that description. Wes combined parts like the wheels and Hemi engine from other Revell Deuce kits. The colors are Tamiya IJN Green and Brown.



Eric Nordstrom felt that orange artillery wheels would give his tan '32 Ford five-window coupe a unique look. Eric stripped all the chrome parts and painted them with Alclad II, installed a 1940 Ford dash inside, and fully detailed the engine and chassis.



Fonzell Brown's custom 1950 Mercury has a mouth full of Buick teeth. Fonzell modified the rear quarter panels and taillight of a Modelhaus resin Mercury before he painted it with PPG Blue Pearl. Saturn wheel covers completed the look.

■ Southern Nationals

ONLINE EVENT ■ NOVEMBER 13, 2020 ■ BY TIM KIDWELL & AARON SKINNER ■ PHOTOS BY THE ENTRANTS



Rexton Kemp from Indianapolis, Indiana, built his Tamiya 1/24 scale Mustang GT4 box stock. He made custom seat belts and finished it with Gravity Paints and Nason gloss clear.



This flaming hot 1950 Ford comes from Jim King. Just a few of the custom touches he re-created: removed the grille, modified and flocked the interior, detailed the flathead, and lowered it as far as it would go.



Robert Nagle's 1/25 scale big rig combines the AMT "Movin' On" Kenworth tractor with the Ertl Great Dane van trailer. He scratchbuilt the bumper, bug deflector, and mirrors. He painted with Testors, Tamiya, and Alclad II colors and made his own decals.



Claude Thibodeau cooked up Street-Za by mashing together Revell's Foose F100 and '55 Ford panel truck with AMT's '49 flathead engine. After a smorgasbord of scratchbuilt details, he painted it Tamiya Brilliant Orange and Candy Orange. Yummy!



Mike Wodka modeled this 1956 DKW three-cylinder motorcycle from a 1/9 scale Protar kit. He modified the gas tank to simulate the original hand-hammered finish and detailed the chassis with hydraulic lines and brake cables.



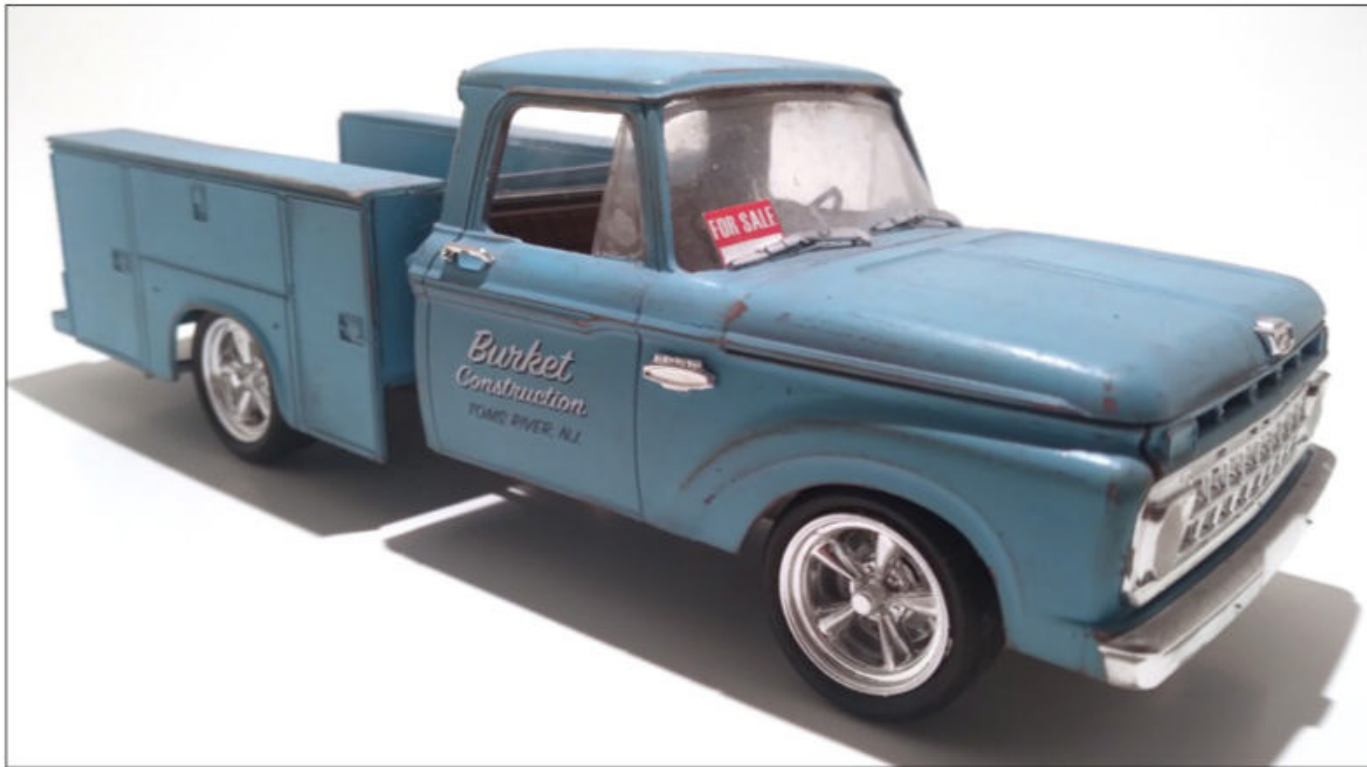
Going into the way-back machine, Henry Skocz resurrected an old 1/12 scale Revell *CHIPS* Kawasaki 1000. He filled seams and wrapped the wheels in real rubber. The white is a clear base coat on the plastic parts with another clear coat to seal the decals.

Richard Hudson from Palmer, Alaska, showed off his AMT 1/25 scale *Beverly Hillbillies* truck. The tools came from his spares box, and Richard scratchbuilt the bed frame. He painted the body with Model Master and Testors flat enamels over Krylon Red Oxide primer, then weathered using the hairspray method. A flat coat sealed it all down.

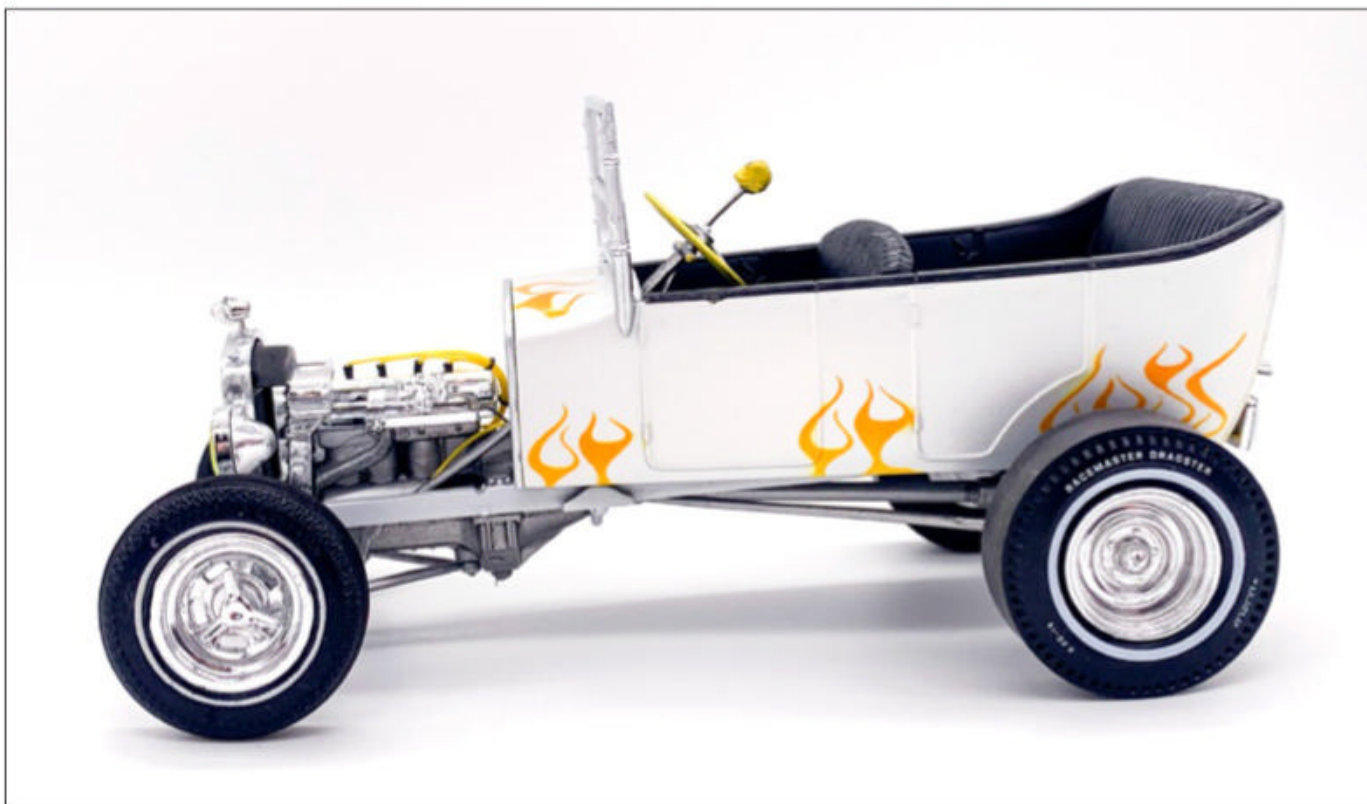


Taking on a “build the photo” challenge from his modeling club, Doug Pickett made this AMT '70 1/2 Camaro with a lowered suspension, customized removable roof panel, and a grille made from a cooking pan splash screen. He painted Dupli-Color GM Medium Metallic Blue with several coats of Model Master Ultra Clear lacquer on top.





Alex Flint painted his Moebius 1/25 scale 1965 Ford service truck with Rust-Oleum Satin Light Blue over a rusty metal primer and sanded through it for a nice patina. The wheels come from a Revell 1965 Chevy pickup street rod. He assembled the utility bed backwards to appear more like a short bed pickup.



Jim King finished his mostly box-stock AMT 1927 Ford Model T with Createx paints. He cut his own masks for the flames and was inspired by an article by Tim Boyd he read in *Scale Auto* magazine to model a clean, fun, straight-forward hot rod.



David Roeder built this Fujimi 1/24 scale 1971 Porsche 917 No. 3 Martini and Rossi box stock. He says the decals were a bit fussy but fit. He used dry-transfers for the Firestone tire markings and painted with Tamiya Gray Surface Primer and Silver straight from the cans. Testors High Gloss Clear enamel provides the shine.



Basically a parts-box build, Mark Hook's 1930 Ford Model A coupe features a scratchbuilt frame, floor, and interior. The rails up front cradle a Mopar 413. Mark painted the body with Rust-Oleum Yellow and weathered with real rust and Tamiya products.



Robert Badia's Pacer's Auto fuel-altered dragster uses an old Funny Car chassis that he built up with spare parts as a tribute to his one of his favorite racing teams. He painted with Createx colors and topped them with PPG 2K clear.



Boban Arsic wasn't monkeying around when he built his own take on the Monkees Mobile, inspired by Ed Newton. Starting with an AMT Li'l Yeller kit, Boban began a series of drastic alterations, including LEGO parts and steel guitar strings.



Amanda Deville modeled this immaculate 1957 DeSoto two-door hardtop from a resin body atop an AMT 1957 Chrysler chassis. It rides on AMT wire wheels and whitewalls she found in her spares box. That color is Electric Orange automotive paint under Tamiya Gloss Clear.



Pure Hell brings the fire courtesy DeLaun Fifield. He painted a Competition Resins Dodge Demon body House of Kolor Kandy Purple and Tamiya Camel Yellow with a two-part urethane clear overtop, sealing in those sweet Slixx decals.



Charlie Contreras displayed his Ferrari 430. A Hobby Design body kit helped him convert the Revell model to a convertible. He used Porsche 911 GT3 automotive paint on the body and wheels, setting off the latter with aluminum for a striking look.



Mike Brignola base-coated his AMT 1923 Ford Model T delivery van with Model Master enamels. Then he airbrushed black and red Tamiya acrylics over a coat of hairspray. Some methodical chipping with a toothbrush and you have a worn workhorse.



What do you do if you have Intense Pearl paint left over from your full-size Dodge Dart project car? Build a Moebius Models Lone Star like James DiBiase did and don't let that paint go to waste!



Following many show trucks on Instagram, Nathan Grubb built one of his own from an AMT 1/25 scale Chevy C1500. He scratchbuilt the bed floor and cover, tubbed the rear wells, scrubbed the rear bumper, and installed a sunroof.



Lyle Green's 1962 Pontiac Bonneville replicates his dad's car. To get the colors just right, he painted the body Tamiya Pure red, a generic hardware store gloss white for the top, and topped with Tamiya Gloss Clear over everything. The trim is Bare-Metal Foil.

A fan of café racers, Jay Gibbs couldn't help but put his own spin on an MPC 1/16 scale Honda Super Hawk CB77. He shortened the fenders, cast clear resin headlights, repositioned the handlebars, and kitbashed the seat from a Yamaha Racer. He painted with colors from Testors and Tamiya.



Not one for half measures, Gerry Paquette's V-dub T1 Samba bus wears wood panels made from styrene strips. He replaced the central seat with a table, made a custom roof rack, and strapped on surf boards. Fred Cady decals provide the wood grain.



Gary Johnston's '65 Ford Mustang wears Gravity Paints Ford Poppy Red. He also wired the engine and detail painted. He built it as a commission for one of his former piano students who wanted to gift it to a friend who'd owned the same car.



You'd never know this was a snap-together kit! Joe Fotchsky built an AMT '65 Dodge Coronet box stock and painted it Model Master Sublime Green under UPOL Clear; Tamiya Flat Black colors the hood.



This 1932 Ford five-window coupe by Jeff Baldwin has seen better days. He opened the AMT kit's doors and deck lid and made all the interior framework from styrene sheet. Wire covered with tissue dipped in thinned white glue serves for the seat frames. Jeff went to town painting and weathering, employing enamels, acrylics, pigments, and more for the appropriate look and setting. Awesome work, Jeff!



This impressive Model Factory Hiro 1/12 scale 1966 Shelby Cobra 427 replicates the 1966 12 Hours of Sebring Class Winner. Painted in actual Ford Silver Mink, it features additional wiring and plumbing, and a scratchbuilt dry-sump oil system.



Rusty Wallace's 1986 Alugard Pontiac presented by master modeler Clay Kemp! He built this miniature masterpiece from a Mike's Decals Pontiac 2+2 kit, painted the exterior Tamiya Mica Blue mixed with Metallic Blue, finished with Omni two-part clear. The decals come from Powerslide.



Charles Diersing built this AMT 1970 1/2 Baldwin Motion Camaro from the box as a color test for various water-based metallic paints. He mixed the metallic aquamarine you see, finished the car, and clear-coated with Pledge Floor Gloss.



Testors German Silver spray paint covers Robert Davidovich's No. 4 Coors Mustang Road Racer. A fantasy vehicle, Robert designed and photo-etched his own metal brake rotors, front grille, and side exhaust screens.



Lil' Murray is what Dave Read calls his 1/24 scale re-creation of his full-size 2005 Mini Cooper S Cabrio. He stripped and repainted a Welly die-cast model with MCW Sunoco Yellow, replaced the wheels and tires, and made new seats.



This '30s Modified race car rumbles in from John Leep in Goodyear, Arizona. He put the trappings of a sprint car on an AMT '34 Ford coupe body, and put down the two-tone scheme with Model Master spray paint. His wife chose the decals.

A rare find nowadays, the Revell Germany 1/25 scale Peterbilt 353 "Western Life" semi was modeled by Ed Gilbert. He painted with Tamiya Pearl White and applied plenty of Bare-Metal Foil. "When I saw the decals, I had to buy and build this model and make it pop!" Ed says. That it does.





This stunning replica of Butch Leal's California Flash 1965 Plymouth Hemi 426 Super Stock drag car comes from John Barker. Beginning with a Moebius kit, John ratcheted up the detail with Detail Master plug wires, distributor, looms, and velocity stacks; Fireball Resin Holley carbs; fuel lines of .5mm solder; and return springs made from stretched fine wire. Astounding job!



No, this motorcycle isn't about to get into a fight, but it is ready to conquer a steep hill! Rob Mairs modeled a 1/9 scale Harley-Davidson hill climber from an Italeri WLA 750 kit. He stretched the rear frame, and supports, modified the fender, and used necklace chain for added traction on the rear tire. He painted mainly with Tamiya Light Blue and took decals from an Imex Springer Softail.

A detailed 1:18 scale model of a green and white NASCAR race car, number 33, sponsored by Skoal. The car features numerous sponsor logos including Goodyear, 3M, Jiffy Lube, and others. It is displayed on a black and white checkered surface.



A lot of mods and scratchbuilding went into Jon Wrench's re-creation of the 1970 1/2 Firebird Esprit, including the fender flairs and rear spoiler. He modeled the wood-grain dash and added two more gauges to the console. He finished with Tamiya paints and Bare-Metal Foil for the trim.





Phil Scavo not only modeled a beat-up 1977 GMC pickup and snowplow with plenty of rust, dents, and dings, but he modeled it in action! He was pretty tight-lipped about what he did to get the model to look this real, but we appreciate his showing us what his skills can accomplish.



Todd Wingerter created this eye-popping 1929 Ford woody produce truck from an AMT kit. He made the crates and baskets along with all the fruit in the back. He painted the truck with Krylon Aquamarine and Testors Gloss Black. Todd hand-painted the wood grain. Now, we're hungry!





If sharp looks could kill, Tom Kren's sleek 1968 Chevelle would be a murderer. You could drown in the MCW Marina Blue Metallic, and the lowered front and rear over the 3D-printed wheels from Iceman Collections steals your breath away. Bare-Metal Foil brings just the right amount of sparkle to this dangerous dalliance.



Going for a Ford GT in an unexpected livery, Wayne Webers built a Fujimi 1/24 scale kit but airbrushed it a custom mix of Cobra Colors paints to match the 1968 Le Mans No. 12 car driven by Mike Salmon and Eric Liddell. Superb!



Bob Downie roars in with his Tamiya 1/24 scale Mustang GT4. It wears Splash Paints Ferrari Rosso Scuderia under Mr. Color clear lacquer in a fictitious track-day livery. "I did his livery to learn the kit and get ideas for a second build," Bob says.

Bill Brinegar enjoys modeling specially marked or particularly colorful cars. This NASCAR Lake Speed Cartoon Network No. 9 fits the bill! He painted a Revell Cheerios Ford Taurus with MCW color-matched paint, picked out details with Tamiya colors, and applied Slixx decals for the markings. Cartoon cartoon!





You can practically hear this '63 Olds Starfire wheeze its last. Built from a JoHan kit, Alan Nadel made wicked use of a rotary tool, No. 17 chisel blade, and a lighter to achieve this gnarly end.



Shane Harrold fashioned his 1972 Ford F-100 from a Moebius Models kit by lowering the body, altering the wheel wells, and slapping Zforce Modelworx wheels and tires underneath.



Alex Samardzich aggressively lowered and shaved the trim from a Hasegawa 1967 Volkswagen Type 2 delivery van for this custom. The two-tone paint is Tamiya Light Gunmetal and Candy Lime Green under Gloss Clear. The five-spoke wheels come from Pegasus, and the trim is – what else? – Bare-Metal Foil.



Except for the scratchbuilt truck rack, Fabrizio Fae's AMT 1960 Ford Ranchero is box stock. He wore down his white paint job with 600-grit sandpaper to let the red primer show through. He scratched and chipped with a hobby knife, and did a yellow wash over the paint for an unrestored appearance. He made stencils for the lettering and dry-brushed them on. Of course, there are the tires.

Tom Billings' built his Italeri 1/24 scale Freightliner FLC out of the box, except for the mudflaps. The color is General Motors Fayence Uni Metallic touch-up paint.



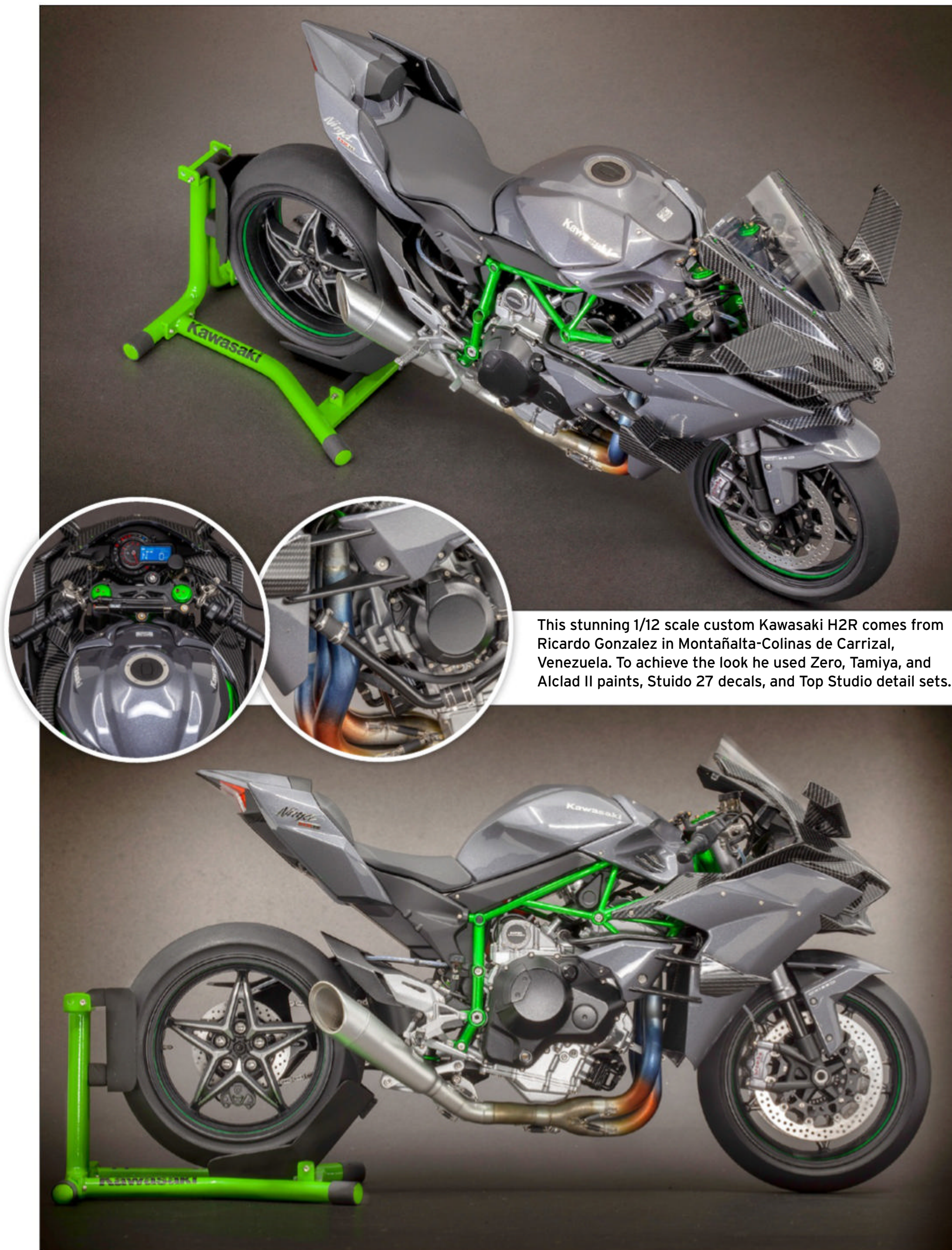
"In my opinion, the Porsche Carrera GT represents the pinnacle of the super car of the time," says Jason Wilson. He finished Tamiya Carrera GT with Tamiya paints with a subtle fade.



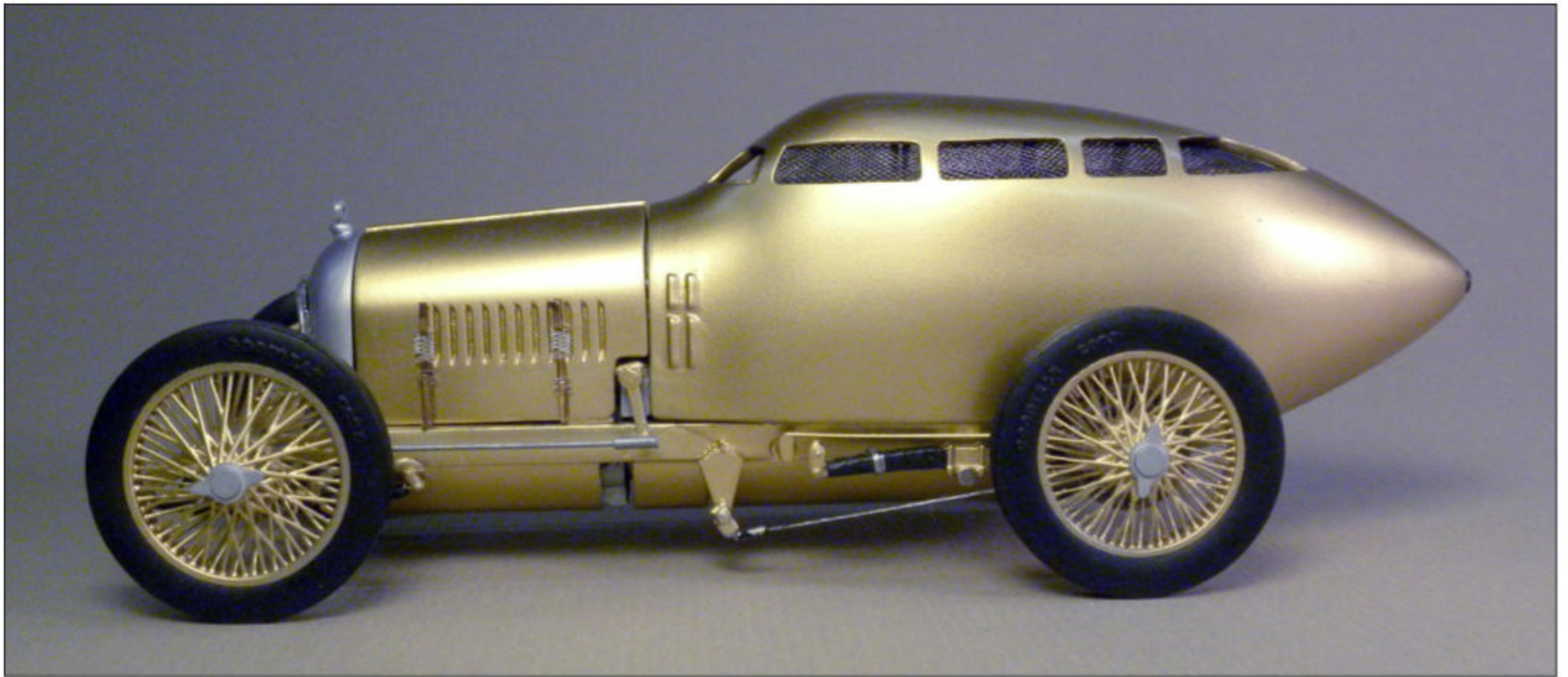
Preston Holcomb from Marietta, Georgia, built a Revell 1966 Hertz Ford Mustang kit box stock, proving a satisfying model can be achieved by adhering to the basics.

Tractors are a rare sight in *Contest Cars*, but we thought this one worthwhile: David Mason converted a Heller 1/24 scale Ferguson kit into a Ford 9N. He scratchbuilt the fuel system, including the sediment bowl, ran plug wires and battery cables, and crafted the exhaust clamps and mounting flanges. To get the colors right, David painted Farm Implement Ford Red and Ford Grey from the spray cans.





This stunning 1/12 scale custom Kawasaki H2R comes from Ricardo Gonzalez in Montañalta-Colinas de Carrizal, Venezuela. To achieve the look he used Zero, Tamiya, and Alclad II paints, Stuido 27 decals, and Top Studio detail sets.



Pico Elgin set himself the challenge of building Harry A. Miller's 1917 *Gold Sub* in 1/24 scale. He designed much of the model based on Miller's original designs in a CAD program and 3D printed the parts; those that needed more strength were made from brass.



This Tamiya 1/12 scale Suzuki RM250 was built box-stock by Erik Lane. He used Rust-Oleum Sunburst Yellow for the body, Dupli-Color Grabber Blue for the frame, and Tamiya acrylics and clears for the engine and exhaust details.



Tony Dawson put the "custom" in his Revell 1/12 scale Custom Chopper Set. He lowered the handlebars, wrapped the saddle in leather, and painted Testors Extreme Lacquer Emerald Green. Believe it or not, this was Tony's first motorcycle model!

Steve Morgan built this "Skip's Fiesta" 1959 Ford Skyliner directly out of the box from Revell. He painted the two-tone exterior with Krylon Coral and Gloss White. Bare-Metal Foil illuminates the brightwork. Why'd he build it? "I wanted to build a notoriously difficult kit for the box-stock class at model shows," Steve says. Well done!





After watching Aussie burnout competitions on YouTube, Rodney Clements wanted to build his own. His converted Dodge A100 *Hemi Thunder* from *Down Under!* features a 426 blown Hemi, fire suppression system, and custom offset wheels.



Ed Allen made this 1/24 scale Unimog crane truck using a Revell Unimog kit as its base. The shovel and most of the details behind the cab are scratchbuilt from Evergreen styrene. Ed articulated the crane arm and bucket to make them posable. The pistons are brass tubing inside of styrene tubing, and slide in and out. Even the door to the shovel controls opens! He painted it Rust-Oleum Caterpillar Yellow.



Meet *Ace of Spades*, a Revell 1/25 scale 1958 Chevy Impala built by John Anton. That sweet paint job is black pearl with pink flake/candy/pearl. He made a custom foam interior and trunk and fully detailed the engine and undercarriage. How long did it take John to complete *Ace of Spades*? 500 hours.

Richard Leininger's AMT 1/25 scale Caterpillar D8H bulldozer features scratchbuilt safety bracing and screens made from screen patch material. He ran hydraulic lines and wrapped metal chains where they would often be found. Richard mixed Testors Model Master paints to the proper shade of yellow and sprayed Metalizers on the tracks.



János Velics from Szombathely, Hungary, completed the AMT 1/25 scale Ford GT 90 Concept 1995, but wanted more detail before he was done. He improved the positioning lamps with clear plastic, opened the front and rear vents and covered them with metal mesh, and he made decals for the instrument dials. János also opened the doors and detailed the engine.



Henrik Ludwig designed and cast the resin body for his 1/24 scale model of Kyle Busch's NASCAR 2020 Skittles Toyota Camry. He used the chassis and roll cage from Revell's Ford Fusion stock car. Powerslide Decals provided colorful markings over Tamiya Pure Red.





Scott Callahan modeled an Airfix 1/32 scale 1910 B Type Omnibus and a Tommy's War driver in a scene from Belgium, 1915. He used all Acrylicos Vallejo products to paint, weather, and finish his vignette.



This Opel Astra V8 coupe from David Woods wears livery for Opel Team Phoenix. David used microballoons for fabric surfaces around the interior and decals for small carbon-fiber accents. He painted with Tamiya and AK Interactive colors and top-coated with Nason 2K.



Charles Shinkle constructed this 1970 Buick GSX basically box stock except for the wheels and tires from his parts box. But look at that quicksilver shine! He achieved it with Alclad II Bright Silver Candy.



This Ferrari 430 was Sandra Schmitt's first time seriously airbrushing a car body. She painted with Tamiya Bronze and top-coated with Pledge Floor Gloss. Sandra used Bare-Metal Foil under clear orange and red for the side markers and brake lights.



Gene King revisited his childhood by building this MPC 1/20 scale STP No. 40 Indy turbine car. Wanting to do it right this time around, he carefully painted and detailed the car, including an aluminum exhaust shroud and accurate resin-cast tires.



After building the Tamiya 1/12 scale Master's Coachwork Caterham Super Seven BDR, Mike Turco wanted to model another and chose the JPE 0-60 World Record Holder. He built it out of the box.



Das Uber-Kerboomer Wagon is Michael Turk's brainchild. He revamped the classic Mongram Red Baron kit into a COE bomb transport. He made the bomb made from a plastic Easter egg and painted with Krylon Forest Green.



An affianado of World War I armored cars, Allan Magnus built this 1/72 scale Austin Series III as a quick and easy model. He marked it for the Ukrainian army because the colors would brighten the rather drab camouflage.

A Formula One fan, Jeff Meister scratchbuilt many parts on his 1/20 scale Williams FW-13B Renault. He painted with assorted Testors colors.





Li'l Hearse has a complex heritage: Rob Mairs kitbashed parts from an AMT *Li'l Mixer*, a Monogram *Boot Hill Express*, and a Monogram *T'rantula* to come up with a one-of-a-kind show rod. He custom cut the glass in back from clear styrene.



Tim Slesak calls this racy custom *El Commotion*. To call his mods to an AMT 1959 El Camino radical would be an understatement. Chopped, sectioned, narrowed, and restyled, the body rests on an all-brass chassis with a chrome-plated working suspension.



Parts for a model can come from practically anywhere, and Bill King proves it with his 1/24 scale 1964 BRM P261 Formula One car driven by Graham Hill. Its body came from a 1960s Cox slot-car and he rescued the wheels and tires from a Monogram BRM kit. Bill built the suspension from sewing needles, aluminum rod, pen springs, and carved plastic. Way to go, Bill!



Jim Shepherd finished the body of his Revell 1/25 scale '70 Barracuda Street Machine with Tamiya Metallic Blue and Mica Silver. The chassis and interior received Tamiya acrylics and lacquers.

Michael Turk slammed together an AMT *Li'l 'Stogie* and *Royal Rail* – along with the fully wired Corvair 6 engine – to make one *Hot Prospect*. Michael hand-painted the woodwork and refinished the chrome with Spaz Stix Mirror Chrome.

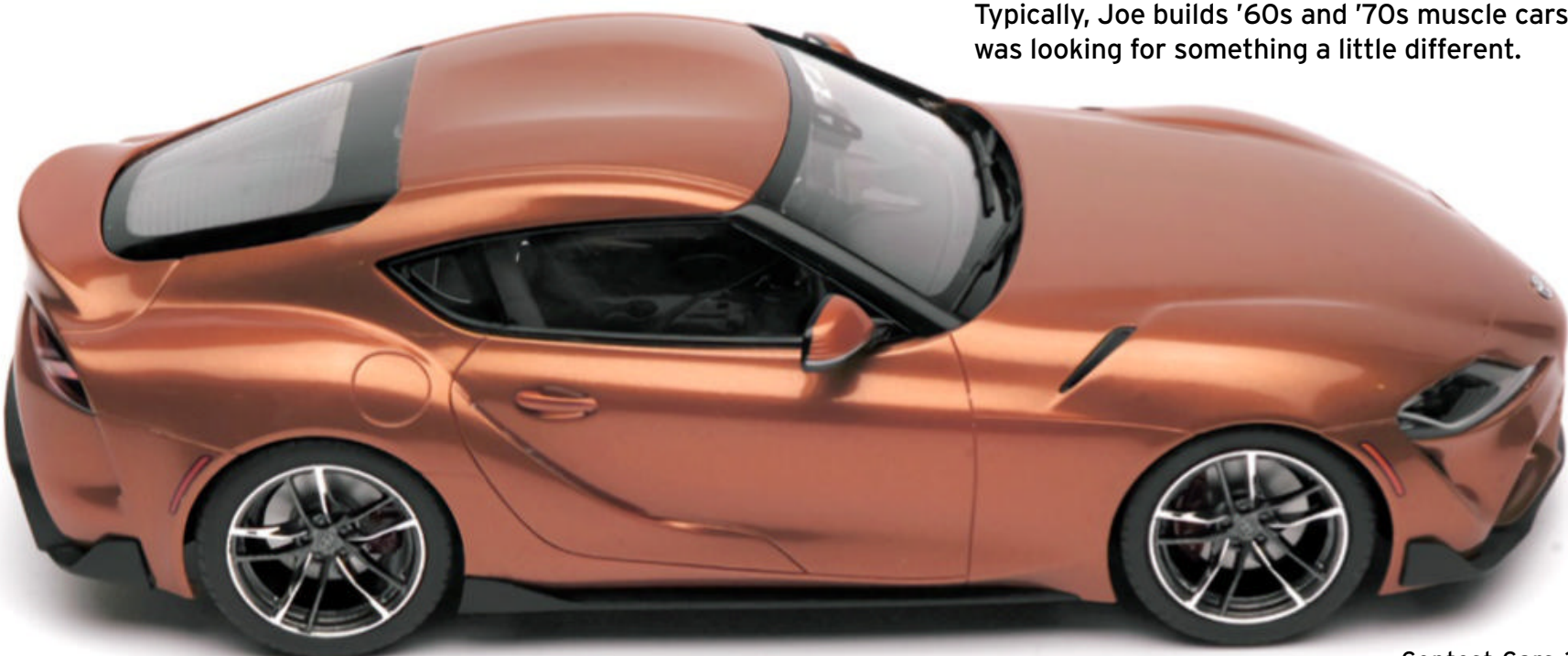




Deborah Salmon calls her Testors Sublime Green '49 Merc *Slimer* after the slimy apparition from *Ghostbusters*. She added flash to the interior with Pinewood Derby tie-dye skins and, for a little something extra, placed monster decals from an AMT Vantasy kit in choice locations.



Joseph Shaw's 1956 Ford F-100 is anything but box stock. A fan of Revell's Street Demons series as a kid, he wanted a second go at the pickup. Joseph lowered the suspension, narrowed the rear end, tubbed the rear wells, and brought in Draglite wheels. He detailed the engine with parts from True Details and RB Motion.



This 1/24 scale Toyota GR Supra was Joe Fotschky's first ever Tamiya kit. He built it as a review for his club. Typically, Joe builds '60s and '70s muscle cars, and he was looking for something a little different.



Bob Bickel detailed the interior of his Entex 1/16 scale Bugatti Royale Coupe de ville Binder with fabrics, stained balsa wood, and round-head pins. He dressed up the engine compartment with fine insulated wire and brass rod. Outside, the exterior finish includes spray paint and Bare-Metal Foil.



Ken Hart painted his '50 Olds mild custom in Folk Art acrylic craft paint thinned with Pledge Floor Gloss. He sealed it under a coat of Testors Wet Look Clear. Ken upgraded the interior with tuck-and-roll seats from Drag City Casting.

Frank Ianucilli bought a local car dealership's drag car when he was a senior in high school and converted it back to a street car. He re-created his '68 Hurst Olds from an AMT 1969 Hurst Olds kit, replacing the bumpers and hood with parts he found online. Frank even went so far as to find the 1968 factory-correct lacquer to revive the memory of his old friend.



Bob Carroll's 1957 Ford gasser replicates a car he drove around New England in the late '60s – or as near as he could get from memory. What's more, it was Bob's first model kit in more than 60 years!





The hauler started as a 1940 Ford pickup, then Tony Dean shaved the body, chopped the top, reversed the doors, replaced the interior, and scratchbuilt the back end. The car began life as a Wild Willie Borsch "Winged Express" and was upgraded with a blown Hemi and new body.



After seeing a Kalmar Ottawa yard truck (or terminal tractor) on the road outside a grocery distribution center, Bob Seminsky knew he had to build one. No problem that he didn't have a kit. To the internet! He found drawings for the tractor and set to scratchbuilding the cab, chassis, diesel engine, and interior. The wheels came from his spares box.



This 1940 Autocar from Bill Borgen uses a American Industrial Truck Models resin body mounted on an AMT Autocar frame. Bill scratchbuilt the bed from balsa wood and styrene. he painted with SEM Green Etch Primer and weathered with pigments.



This AFV Club 1/35 scale M35A2 cargo truck comes from Dan Knispel. He replaced the kit's .50-cal. machine gun with a photo-etched metal version from Eduard, and loaded some 55-gallon drums in back. Dan spent 24 years in the Army driving these.



To create this stunning custom, Kirby Hughes chopped, channeled, and sectioned Revell's 1957 Chevy 150. He raised and extended the rear fins and scratchbuilt the front and rear grilles.



Charles Shinkle built this MPC 1932 Ford panel van box stock, except the engine looked awful bare. He rescued a glue bomb engine, replaced the intakes and carbs with spares, and wedded the mill to a Funny Car transmission of unknown pedigree.

Picked up at a swap meet, Rick Doering's Datsun 720 originated as a Revell snap-together kit. Already pretty damaged, he leaned into the distress by adding more. He channeled the body, dropped a resin Mazda 13b rotary engine under the hood, put it on top of custom wheels and tires with disc brakes providing stopping power.





Finished in Plasticote GM Storm Gray Pearl, this AMT 1/25 scale GMC General rested in Graham Frey's stash for 20 years. "I never had room to display it until recently."



Dave Pross detailed ICM's 1/35 scale KHD S3000 truck with a scratchbuilt bed made from wooden coffee stirrers and a canvas tarp made from tissue and thin white glue. His model represents a World War II German army truck repurposed for civilian use and then abandoned.



Eugene Mitchell finished IBG's 1/35 scale Otter light reconnaissance car with Ammo by Mig Jimenez products. The armored fighting vehicle was built by GM Canada during World War II.



Inspired by the story of Danish Special Forces officer Helge Meyer and his 1979 Camaro driven to deliver supplies and aid into wartorn Bosnia in the '90s, George Rooney kitbashed his version of a similar vehicle for an apocalypse-themed club build.



Charles Ruth calls this Chevy Citation *Kambered Chaos*. "Just something crazy and wild!" he says. Beyond slamming the car, he cambered Aoshima 14-inch wheels, gave the windshield a roadster lean, whipped on BMW Z4 mirrors, and much more.

Inspired by the Chicago-area drag car *Shake, Rattle, & Run*, James DiBiase combined a Revell Snap Tite '57 Chevy Bel Air with a Funny Car chassis. He nestled a blown Hemi up front to power the quarter-mile terror.



Robin Edwards' super-cool 1940 Ford coupe features a scratchbuilt roof rack and luggage, a wired and plumbed engine, and a lowered suspension. Robin used salt weathering for the rusty finish.





A fan of Ken Block, Shane Harrold picked up a Belkits 1/24 scale Ford Fiesta WRC and built it out of the box. He picked up the colorful livery from Colorado Decals.



This resin Testors Model Master Mercohaulic was built and finished by Del Andrew. He painted with Testors Extreme Lacquer Deja Blue under five coats of Rust-Oleum Clear Gloss. "I love customs with nice, graceful curves," Del says.



Boban Arsic's Li'l Yeller school bus gave him some trouble at first, with ill-fitting and missing parts. But once he got in the swing, he had fun lowering the front, detailing the cooler with aluminum mesh, wiring the engine, and installing a homemade roof rail.



This serene Hyundai Santa Fe has a little more than what came in the box. Bob Downie scratchbuilt the Aero Package including front and rear splitters and side skirts. He spiffed up the tires and wheels with new ones from a Maisto die-cast Bugatti Chiron.

■ Hope It Don't Snow Show and Contest

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA ■ JANUARY 16, 2021 ■ BY TOM VALENTA



Robin Bittner's 1957 Ford gasser team consists of the Del Rio wagon towing a trailer with a modified sedan gasser. Both vehicles have fully wired and plumbed engines and matching interior details and paint.



Chris Owenby's 1941 Plymouth pro street features a detailed chassis and 528 Hemi engine. The Plymouth rolls on a set of big and little tires with turned-aluminum rims and the body is finished with a custom mix of gray and gold.



Kelly Coons built this 1950 Chevrolet beater pickup as a tribute to a modeler who passed away last year. It features distressed Wal-Mart Blue paint, the suspension and wheels from a 1984 Corvette, and was built in the style of his passed compadre.

Brian Jackson's AMT 1949 shoebox Ford features a tan craft-store acrylic finish, lowered suspension, a wired and plumbed engine bay, and a flocked and fully detailed interior. Brian says he really enjoyed doing the body in its two-tone scheme.





After building Revell's Foose Cadillac El Dorado out of the box, Kel Gaither finished it with Gravity Bullet Highland Green for the body and a custom tan mix for the roof and interior.



The wild paint scheme on this '65 Foose Impala was Brian Jackson's first attempt at a finish this complex. He used Testors lacquers on the big Chevy's body. He also lowered the suspension and wired and plumbed the big-block engine.



Kelly Coons modified Moebius Models' 1966 Ford flareside pickup with the suspension and wheels from a 1956 Foose pickup and the engine from Revell's 1932 Ford. He finished it with Bare-Metal Foil trim and killer high-gloss olive drab paint.



Jerel Wolfe won the show's Ford vs. Ferrari theme with his Jada 2007 Mustang. It took him 10 months to complete the 'Stang with its highly modified engine featuring too many machined parts to list. He finished the pony car with beautiful BMW silver topped with Sikkens two-part clear polished to perfection.

After shaving and decking the body of AMT's 1956 Ford Fairlane, Don Betterton added Pegasus wheels and tires. The sharp finish is Dupli-Color Metal Specks Blue.



Photos of Don Betterton's Monogram 1970 Ford Torino GT don't do it justice. The mild-mannered Grabber Green muscle machine features a fully wired, plumbed, and detailed engine and interior. Steel wheels and dog dish caps complete the sleeper look.



Taking a hiatus from the fully detailed builds he is known for, Ken Denza built Revell's Ferrari Enzo straight from the box for the show's Ford vs. Ferrari theme. Tamiya Bright Red and Clear created the classic Ferrari finish.



A fan of NASCAR and Richard Petty, Keith Wooten finished Revell's 1962 Plymouth Fury as a tribute to the King. Building for the show's stock-car challenge, he added a roll cage and used Tamiya Light Blue, a close match for Petty blue.



Don Betterton's 1929 Ford hot rod features a fully wired and plumbed parts-box 312-cubic-inch engine with AMT air cleaner and valve covers. The three-month build is coated with beautiful House of Kolor Tangerine candy paint and two-part clear.



Full-size customizer and painter Gary Seeds' 1/25 scale 1969 Camaro features a chopped top and custom front and tail treatments. If not for the restrained red highlights, you might mistake it for wild, monochromatic scheme.



Built for the show's Ford vs. Ferrari theme, Tim Coheen's Tamiya Ford GT features deep candy blue paint with a silver racing stripe. Studio 27 carbon fiber decals and Hobby Design photo-etched metal trimmed the body and interior.



Tim Goheen's AMT 1970 Corvette sports wild three-tone candy paint, modern-style Fujimi wheels, and a photo-etched metal grille. Tim added Lamborghini seats to the detailed interior and transplanted an LS2 powerplant from a Monogram ZO6.



Ken Denza's all-Ford race team starts with a Pinto modified with all the bells and whistles on a trailer with many scratchbuilt parts. To haul it, he finished a Ford F-350 dually pickup. All three models have been detailed extensively and finished with Tamiya Italian Red.



Before his passing, Buford Wilburn built this beautiful replica of Cale Yarborough's No. 11 Busch-sponsored Oldsmobile. Buford always researched his builds to make sure each and every one was true to the full-size ride.



David Hawkins' weekend-warrior '68 Chevrolet Camaro hobby stock car sports a rare sight in racing nowadays: a 250-cubic-inch six-cylinder engine. It is a replica of a car owned by a friend of David's and a major influence for his love racing.



Wanting to build something wild and crazy, Doug Soukup stepped out of his comfort zone with MPC's Rupp Super Sno-Sport Dragster. He wired and plumbed the engine, drilled the headers, and added a bright red Tamiya paint job to this quarter-mile snowmobile.



Tod Heitzelman won Best in Show with his Caterpillar D8 Bulldozer painted with craft paints and weathered with acrylic paints and washes, weathering powders, plaster, and, last but not least, real dirt.



Keith Wooten revived a basket-case build of an AMT Chevrolet camper van from a parts box by completely disassembling, repainting, and re-assembling it as it would have come out of the box. Various Testors paints completed the re-animation.



Kel Gaither built Revell's 1968 Chevrolet Chevelle straight out of the box. The muscular Chevy sports Gravity Colors Bronze Pearl that accents its beautiful curves.



Quincy Bennet always shows up with out-of-the-ordinary builds such as this JoHan 1962 Plymouth Fury. He lowered the suspension, added aftermarket parts box wheels, and slathered on slick gold mist paint.



A kit that's been around for a long time, but rarely seen at shows is AMT's 1963 Studebaker Avanti. Barbara Denza decided to change that with her beautiful two-month build of this iconic automobile. She wired and plumbed the 289-cubic-inch powerplant, and flocked and detailed the interior. The finish is Tamiya Mica Red.



Tony Gordon created his 1976 Vega Panel Funny Car by splicing together two AMT Vegas to lengthen the wheelbase. The engine on Tony's straight-line screamer is wired and plumbed. Inspiration for this wild build was Don Shumacher's *Wonder Wagon* Funny Car.



Doug Soukup wove some magic with Monogram's notoriously rough 1937 Cord 812. It sports a Tamiya Racing White exterior with a Rust-Oleum Poppy Red interior. Doug wired and plumbed the engine, flocked the interior, and added wide whitewalls.



Classic Japanese cars are all the rage with the younger generation, and junior modeler Cordell Waudby's Revell Datsun 510 is a prime example of the tuner scene. He added carbon-fiber decals to the hood to highlight the Tamiya blue finish.

■ NNL West Virtual 2021

ONLINE EVENT ■ MARCH 1, 2021 ■ BY TIM KIDWELL ■ PHOTOS BY ENTRANTS



Rodney Clements is no stranger to ambitious projects. Here, he converted an MPC 1/25 scale *Cannonball Run* ambulance and Airfix 1/24 scale Yamaha YZR500 into an amazing Dajiban combo in Dupli-Color paint.



Martin Aveyard built the reissued Revell '56 Chevy Delray 2-in-1 mostly out of the box. He designed and 3D-printed a set of plain steelies to fit the kit hubcaps and tires. The body was painted and weathered using salt, rust washes, and chalk pastels.



This hot '49 Ford was built primarily out of the AMT kit, but Steven Allemand added five-spoke wheels to the mix. Then he came at it with Tamiya Navy Blue, White, Yellow, and a flame mask set from The Lazy Modeler to light it up.

Inspired by digital artists updating the look of older supercars, Martin Aveyard built this Lamborghini Countach Twin Turbo from the 1/24 Aoshima kit. He upgraded with 3D-printed wheels, tires, turbos, intercoolers and plumbing. He modified the flares to accommodate the wheels, installed LED lighting, and attached the rear spoiler with magnets and custom mounts.





Tony Hartjes' AMT 1934 Ford five-window coupe houses a hemi from a '53 Ford pickup, and a weathered patina from Krylon Green over Red Oxide primer. He scratchbuilt the exhaust, electric fuel pump, working driveshaft, and rear suspension.



A Revell '32 Ford five-window sedan got a Drag City Casting resin four-door sedan upgrade courtesy of Tom Kren. He painted a custom mix of MCW Mango and Hemi Orange with a few drops of White. The rear windows are film negative.



Paula Wyn named her 1964 1/2 Mustang convertible Shelby, after the character from the movie *Steel Magnolias*. "She's a woman who exemplifies both traditional femininity and uncommon fortitude," Paula says. She finished the body with Tamiya Blush, and the interior's color is a custom mix Paula calls Bashful.



Gary Curry loves 1973 (the year he was born) and tries to build models of cars from that year. But he's also a fan of restomods. Thus, this 1973 Capri Group 2 restomod with aftermarket wheels and seats. He finished it with Splash Paints Selenite Grey Magno, Race Red, and two-part clear.



Matt Edwards' Dave Kindig-inspired 1967 Plymouth GTX originated as a Revell-Monogram kit upgraded with Hella wheels from Pegasus. He painted it House of Kolor (HoK) Bittersweet Pearl with Black Diamond Roman Gold pigment.



Encased in Testors Inca Gold under a satin finish, Ferby Miguel's *Beebop* '50 Ford pickup custom features a chopped top, channeled cab, and voluptuous, smooth body contours. Ferby scratchbuilt the rear fender skirts, running boards, and exhaust.



Gerald Haney's custom 1960 Chevy Apache features a slammed stance, a V8 mill under the hood, and a cowhide interior. The inner fenders, bed floor, and tubs were 3D printed and detailed with photo-etched metal bed strips.



This 1/25 scale 1955 Chevy pro street from Roy Sorenson has a Matt & Debbie Hays Pro Street Thunderbird chassis, AMT 1955 Chevy Bel Air hardtop body, and a 3D-printed Pro Charger Hemi from Iceman Collections. Roy plumbed and detailed the engine.





This Galaxy 1/25 scale 1948 Chevy Kustom has lengthened rear fenders and trunk and a chopped top. Built by Bill Stillwagon, he painted this cherry ride Jade Pearl.



Chris Meacham from Canton, Michigan, built an MPC 1973 Mustang customizing kit straight out of the box. He finished with Tamiya Tangerine Pearl and a couple of coats of 2K automotive clear. Black embossing powder provided carpet inside.



This 1959 Ford Galaxie came from an original AMT Craftsman kit, and Bob Mako added Modelhaus chrome parts during the build. He took the wheel covers from a Palmer kit and replaced the original tires with ones made by Modelhaus.



H.C. Stone's "Ultimate Street Machine" is a tribute to "Mad" Max Rockatansky. It started as a Revell *Fast and Furious* Dominic's Charger, and then H.C. added parts from his spares box, resin, and even did a little scratchbuilding.

Mike Tinucci had a warped Cadillac body and didn't want to throw it away. Instead, he went to work making this '55 Chevrolet Cadillac track truck. Mike scratchbuilt a roll cage, hood scoop, and exhaust and used parts from his spares to come up with a truly unique vehicle.



As a veteran firefighter returning to scale modeling, Scott Pursell thought it fitting to start with an AMT 1/25 scale Flameout Showrod. He turned up the heat with fire hooks, nitrous bottles, and seat cushions. Scott painted the frame and body with Wicked Pearl Red and refinished some of the chrome parts with Vallejo Model Color Brass.



Donn Kirchoff built this 1/25 scale '41 Plymouth as a project for his model club in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He lowered the greenhouse, sectioned the body and hood, and widened the fenders to accommodate wheels and tires from his spares box.



This AMT 1949 Ford is far from stock. Bennie Neveling reworked the chassis for a lowered look, removed the chrome from the bumpers and grille and finished them with Molotow Liquid Chrome, and mixed a custom pastel green for the body.

Testors Purple Pearl and Scale Motor Sports decals helped Guice Howell model this Wynn's Keating 2017 Ford GT raced at the 24 Hours of Le Mans. Besides those, the build was right out of the Revell box.

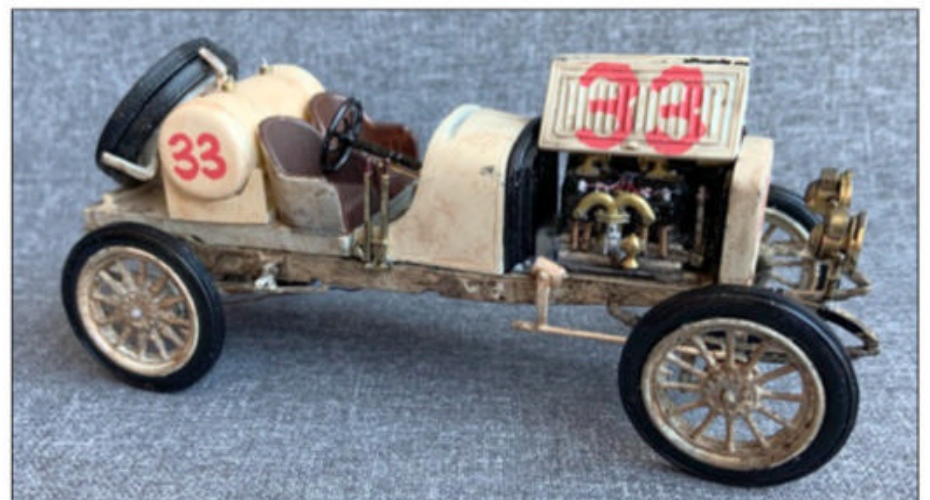




When GBmodels Italia released the detail sets for the Tamiya 1/12 scale Ducati 888 Superbike, Ken Misin knew it was time to model Doug Polens' racer from the 1992 Daytona 200. The sets include a ton of photo-etched metal parts and a turned fork. He used Studio 27 Ducati 888 AMA decals.



Built in 2004, this McLaren MP4/13 started life as a Tamiya 1/20 scale Jaguar R1. William Chan modified the front wing endplates and mount, elongated the winglet on top of the monocoque; and re-created the upper exhaust openings.



Dan Evans finished a Pyro 1/32 scale kit to represent the 1910 Lozier that finished second place at the first Indy 500. The engine is detailed with spring lifters, aluminum headers, and spark-plug wiring.



Dominic Flibotte's 1969 Chevrolet Chevelle SS 396 gives us chills. He used spray paint to create a vinyl top and styrene strip for molding. He painted real Chevy Monaco/Hugger Orange on the body. Then Dominic wired the engine and mixed paint to get the correct Parchment interior.

This spooky 1959 Cadillac hearse started as an AMT *Ghostbusters Ecto-1*. Rob Russel took everything off, painted it flat black followed by a semigloss clear. He hand-made the curtains and casket inside and took his model to Counts Kustom in Las Vegas for the airbrush artistry.



"I am a big fan of the 1980-90s Group C sports cars," says Chuck Herrmann. So, it makes sense he would build a Tamiya 1/24 scale Tom's Toyota 84C kit. He added engine wiring to his otherwise box-stock build and painted with Tamiya lacquers.



This 1937 Marmon-Herrington Ford all-wheel-drive pickup comes from Dave Roeder. He made the masters and resin-cast the tire-wheel combos and machined them on his lathe. Dave used a Revell-Mongram 1/25 scale kit as the base and went from there.



A *Doctor Who* fan, John Day built his customized 1925 Ford Model T and named it *Bad Wolf* in honor of the show. He used an aftermarket Tall T body with an AMT Chopped T kit and weathered the resulting rat rod with Tamiya products.



The Lotus 42 you see here came to Patrick Galleguillos as a Testors Lotus 38 glue bomb. He replaced the seat and steering wheel, dropped in a Chevy F5000 engine with Weber carbs and velocity stacks, and formed a new exhaust system from solder.



Jared Roach dropped a plumbed and wired six-cylinder powerplant in his AMT 1957 Chevy pickup, lowered it, and popped Pegasus wheels underneath. He finished with Dupli-Color and Tamiya paints and wet-sanded and buffed the clear coat.



Radek Pon a built his Revell 1/9 Ducati Monster S4 basically out of the box. He modified the handlebar, taillight, and signals to match his 1/1 motorcycle. Radek finished with Tamiya acrylic paints and washes and AK Interactive artist oils.



Jeff Vrba owned a 1/1 BMW K100 at one point and wanted to model his old ride. He bought a Tamiya 1/12 scale kit on eBay and replicated the original's non-standard paint scheme with Mission Models Red for the body and Tamiya acrylics for everything else.



When David Campbell started on his 1932 Ford woody, it was a Dan Fink Speedwagon. He cut the top off to turn it into an open-air cruiser and swapped in the hemi from a Revell '32 Ford five-window coupe and an air filter from his spares box.



This 1/16 scale 1977 STP Dodge Charger is based on Richard Petty's last win in a Dodge at the Firecracker 400. Jim Lafreeda re-created the stock car's small-block Dodge engine from an AMT Petty Pontiac kit, handmaking many of the parts.



Here we have a Galaxie Ltd. 1947 Chevrolet Country Club Aerosedan built out of the box by Tim Rhine. He finished with Splash Colors Bridgewater Brown and Ash Gold Metallic. Gravity 2K clear went over for a high gloss.



Rick Martin's '35 Delahaye Custom Roadster began as a Heller kit. He packed it with the chassis, engine, and bucket seats from a Viper. Then he bumped it up with a '36 Ford coupe trunk and fenders and topped it all with Mazda RX-7 dash and console.

Hurst gold strips, Tamiya Candy Lime Green, and Pegasus gold wire wheels make it impossible to ignore Mark Grove's 1972 Oldsmobile Cutlass 442. On top of all that, he painted the engine and exhaust AK Interactive True Metal Gold, and wrapped the chassis in gold Bare-Metal Foil.





Cliff Read's 1/24 scale '55 Canadian Pontiac Pathfinder sedan delivery began as a low-rider '57 Chevy station wagon toy. He reproportioned the body with styrene, tin, Bondo, and epoxy; scratchbuilt the interior, trim, fuel tank, and parking brake.



DeLaun Fifield modified a Revell 1949 Mercury kit to accept a Modelhaus '50 Buick grille. He sectioned and lowered the top of the rear fender to visually lower the car. And no decals here: DeLaun airbrushed the flames using his own templates.



William Just took an AMT '32 Ford sedan and dropped the front axle, changed out the wheels and tires for replacements from a part pack, and removed the running boards. He installed a Halibrand GQ rear end and detailed the Buick nailhead engine.



Cliff Read went all-in on his '31 Ford two-door phaeton raiding his parts bin for body parts, fenders, fuel tank, grille shell, windshield, and hood. He turned the spare-tire cover from Renshape on a lathe. The radiator is polished sheet brass.

Tom Lindsey made his '50 Austin Pro Mod from a Revell super gasser kit. He shaped in '39 Ford headlights, handmade the front spoiler, and built custom rear spoiler, parachute, taillights, and roll cage. The engine came from Shapeways, and Tom wired it.



After buying a 1/32 scale Isuzu Dekotora kit from Aoshima, Bob Sprueone researched the custom commercial truck culture in Japan. He built his Dekotora straight from the box, and used a combination of paints and colors from Testors, GSI Creos, Plastikote, Zynolyte, and Dutch Boy to get the desired appearance.



Forty years ago, Steven Sanders built this JoHan 1/25 scale '69 AMC AMX. Completed box stock except for a Chartpak vinyl rub strip, Steve thinks he used Testors paints to finish the model, but he's not entirely sure. And we absolutely understand why!



This Model A Roadster pickup from Tim Slesak has parts from MPC, AMT, and Revell kits. The frame and suspension, windshield frame, seat frames, headers, steering linkage, and wire wheels are all scratchbuilt from brass. Paints are Createx and Wicked.



As part of the mini-truck scene, Steve Courtney has always dug the two-sides paint jobs. He built Fujimi's Chevy Astro van, and set it rolling on Aoshima wheels. The finish includes 16 colors from Pro Spray and HoK.



Daniel Alarie originally built this Monogram 1978 GMC Jimmy as a kid and decided to restore it. He opened the grille and scratchbuilt the suspension, among other improvements.



"I wanted to create a nice farm truck," says John Dutze. He backdated an AMT 1972 Chevy Cheyenne pickup to 1971, and adjusted rear suspension for 150 watermelons in back.



Jim Kupstas transformed Revell Corvette CR5 and Sunoco Camaro kits into this Tommy Bahama Corvette Trans Am. He finished with Dupli-Color paint and Colin King custom decals.



Dwight Humphrey's Tamiya '99 Subaru Impreza WRC has Studio 27 photo-etched metal seat-belt hardware and ribbon belts. He painted with Gravity paints.



Shannon Schmidt combined the chassis from an AMT 1990 NASCAR Grand Prix and the body from an AMT 1972 Chevy Nova to build Rick Zemla's 1983 Beech Ridge Championship ride.



Dennis Satorious imagined what Brewster Baker's Camaro from the 1982 movie *Six Pack* would look like left outside for 30 years. Here is his answer!



This is Robin Corlett's third Tamiya Calsonic Skyline GTR 2003. Built box stock, he painted it Zero Paints Calsonic Blue and got that wet look with 2K Diamond clear.

Claude Thibodeau gleefully borrowed parts from several different kits to create his 1932 Ford sedan rat rod. But beyond the kit parts, he scratchbuilt the floor pan, front and rear suspensions, shocks, brake calipers, seats, door panels, and a heckuvalot more. Claude never lacks for vision or ambition.



Peter Espada's '32 Ford hot rod was a bucket-list build for him. He finished with Model Master Flame Red, a combination of washes, and Bare-Metal Foil. It won third place at the 2019 IPMS Nationals in the Auto Street Machine category.



Don't get swept away! Bernie Gilbow built *Tsunami* from a Revell '66 El Camino. Modifications include a tonneau cover from styrene sheet, wire board supports, wheels and tires from a Revell '69 Yenko Camaro, and surfboards from his spares box.

Ralph Esposito modeled a replica of Larry Quinn's 1962 Pontiac Catalina from an AMT kit. He modified the Pro Stock motor to match the real car, added lead weights in the trunk to do wheel stands, and fully detailed the interior. Ralph painted with Testors Light Blue mixed with White.





Photo-etched metal details Pat Cardinal's Revell 1965 Chevelle Z16, from scripts and emblems to posable wiper blades. It sits on Polyglas bigs and littles wrapped around Cragar SS wheels with valve stems. The finish is Dupli-Color Daytona Yellow.



Alain Thomas added a custom rear wing and tweaked the front and rear wheel arches on his Porsche 911 GT2 Club Sport. "The build was inspired by RWB Porsches," Alain says, "but I did not want to go as extreme as those." The color is a mix of Tamiya Metallic Blue and Clear Green.



Hungarian modeler János Velics shared his radiant 1977 Chevrolet Aerovette concept car. Building a Revell-Monogram kit, János made functioning gull-wing doors, which required major surgery on the A- and C-pillars. The paint is a 9:1 mix of Testors Aluminum and Titanium.



With a theme of a Day 2 Street Machine of the mid-1960's, Gerry Paquette modified the Revell '56 Delray with a detailed 327 engine and Turbohydro 350 transmission. Added details include redline tires, Cragar SS wheels, and dice door-lock buttons.



Ken Keltner saw a 1963 Corvette Grand Sport in a book and fell in love. For his model, he used an AMT kit and installed the hood scoop, intake manifold, oil cooler, and fender flares. The side pipes, wheels, and driver's seat came from his spares box.



It's always fun to see cars in dioramas. Here, Raul Pereira has beat up and weathered a Revell 1/32 scale VW Beetle. He used 3D-printed drums and scratchbuilt the wall and the rest of the scene. Raul says he built this junkyard Beetle to explore new modeling techniques.



James Piggitt kept the original engine in his 1962 Chevrolet Bel Air but added a supercharger and moved the exhaust. The interior features customized Corvette seats. He painted with spray-paint lacquers.



Chris Williams built the Moebius Models Golden Commandos Plymouth Satellite kit out of the box – plus engine wiring. He painted with Tamiya Pure White and Metallic Orange from spray cans.



Built mostly out of the box, Tom Veltri's '62 Pontiac Catalina SD Super Stock has ProTech spark-plug wires, looms, and wire details. He fashioned dump plates for the exhaust and made coil springs to replace those in the AMT kit. Airbrushed Model Master paints and two-part automotive clear for the finish.

An old Wave 1/24 scale Benetton B186 F1 kit presented John Zweber with the challenge he was looking for. He augmented the kit's resin and white-metal parts with Albion Alloys metal tubing for the suspension, detailed with RB Motion bolts, and painted with colors from Splash.



Woodies continue to be hot, and Shane Harrold brings the pepper with his '49 Mercury wagon. One could drown beneath the number of upgrades, including Zman wheels, frenched lights, and a shaved body. Shand hand-painted the wood finish.



As a kid, Frank Acuna's dad saw him staring at a photo of a Porsche 911 Turbo and bought the magazine for him. Years later, he built a replica from an Italeri kit. He lowered the suspension, and modified the headlights to better represent the real thing.

Charles Ruth combined a Revell 1929 Ford Model A roadster and a Matt & Debbie Hayes Pro Street Thunderbird kits to make this one-of-a-kind tire burner. He wrapped the body and firewall in Bare-Metal Foil, opened the trunk, and plumbed and wired the engine.





John Rothermel scratchbuilt a 1/24 scale cutaway model of Ron Kline's Dirt Modified race car. He soldered the chassis from 1/16-inch brass rod, and brought in 3D-printed components, like the engine, hubs, brakes and rotors, seat, and coil-over shocks from Custom Dirt Cars. John made the body from .040-inch styrene sheet. The wheels and tires come from ADC Diecast.



Andy Kellock calls this modified '55 Chrysler *Emperor Ming*. He frenched the bumpers, extended the taillights, frenched and extended the headlights, and placed a custom grille in front. The Larry Watson-inspired paint job is Testors Fiery Orange over gold.

Thinking ahead to when he buys a 1/1 Yamaha YZF, Nick Greene built a Tamiya 1/12 scale kit and tricked it out with a Top Studio Detail-up set and Studio 27 Tech 21 Dress-up decals. The colors for the body and frame are Zero Paints Lamborghini Blu Caelum and McLaren Graphite Grey.



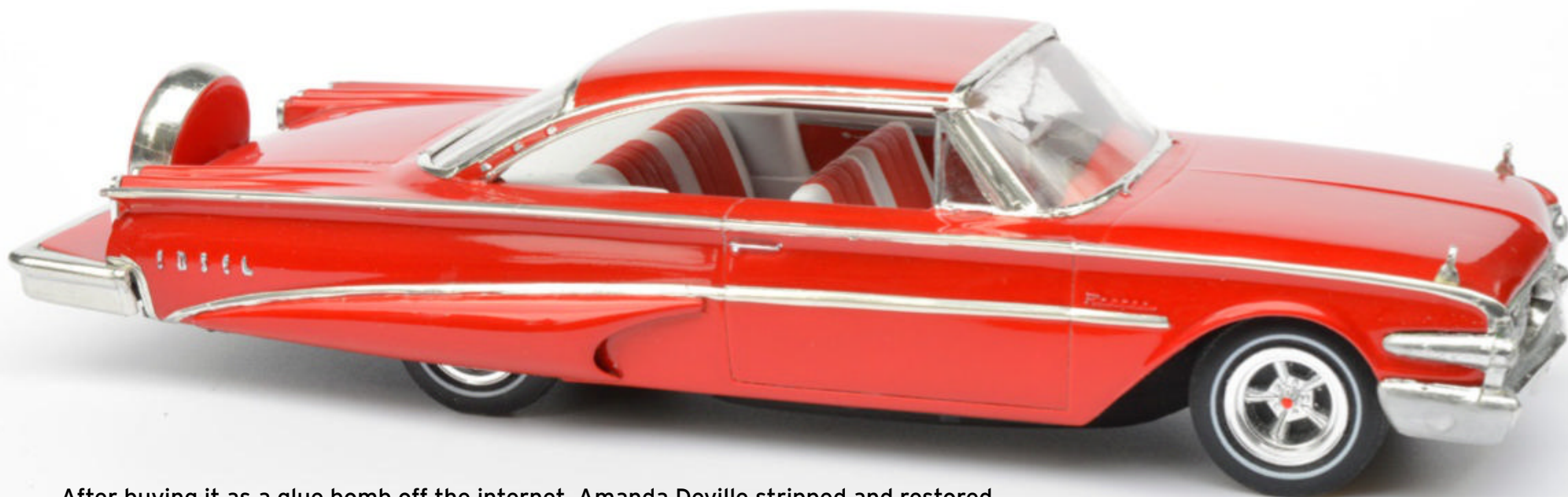
It took Mark Hubbard 25 years to rebuild and finish a JoHan glue-bomb into this top-notch DeSoto Adventurer. He used an AMT Chrysler 300 interior and modified chassis, with wheels from his spares. He finished with MCW paint and Bare-Metal Foil.



It takes guts to modify a kit as detailed as a Meng Ford F-350 Super Duty Crew Cab. But Mike Bales was up to the challenge, creating a one-of-a-kind custom pickup with dually rears that definitely makes sparks rolling on its JPS wheels and tires.

Living in Pennsylvania, John Rothermel often wondered what an Amish buggy would look like as a hot rod. So, he combined an AMT Thomas Flyer with a Jimmy Flintstone resin body. The suspension is scratchbuilt, but the motor, chain drive, grille shell, and headlights are all from the original kit.





After buying it as a glue bomb off the internet, Amanda Deville stripped and restored this 1960 Edsel Ranger with aftermarket chrome parts and wheels and tires from her spares box. She painted candy apple red with a clear coat; the trim is Bare-Metal Foil.



Inspired by Dave Kindig, Curt Raitz converted an AMT 1965 Ford Galaxie 500 to a convertible and dropped in a resin Ford Coyote V8 with an Edebrock E-Force supercharger and 427 SOHC valve covers. It's now parked in Dave Kindig's office.



This Sunbeam Tiger from an AMT kit underwent extensive modification in the engine compartment, including an electric fan and cowl braces. Builder Bill Giltzow finished with HoK Candy Royal Blue with a bit of Dupli-Color Honda Metallic Green.



An out-of-the-box build, Mark Case's AMT 1/25 scale Mack Cruise-Liner rolls in with a Tamiya Chrome Yellow exterior and decals from the kit. Mark says he built this model as a kid and wanted to build it again to see if he could do it better the second time around. We're betting he did.

Doug Jacobs made most of the modifications to his '69 Ford Mustang CJ in the engine compartment. He added all the necessary wiring, wiring harness, hoses, brake lines, and filters. Doug scratchbuilt the window handles inside, and finished everything with Testors paints.



"Red Bull gives you wings," and Kevin Stewart put all of that energy into his BMW Z4 GT3 2011. The livery and carbon-fiber decals came from Studio 27. Paints and finishes include Tamiya TS and acrylic colors, Model Master Metalizers, and Alclad II.



Michael Pearsall applied livery from SK Decals to a Revell 1/24 scale Bruno Spangler BMW M3 DTM kit to model the Crown Plaza Hotel car. The white is from Zero and the magenta is a custom mix of MR Color lacquers.



Chris Menor built *Rusty but Trusty* from a Hasegawa Volkswagen Type 2 pickup kit and weathered via Dr. Cranky's salt chip method. The logo belongs to a friend of Chris' who inspired the build.



This blue jewel was entered by Luis Sanchez. A '37 Ford pickup, he painted the body with a mix of Candy2o Marine Blue and Createx Metallic Blue; the wheels are painted Createx Quicksilver Chrome as a base coat with Candy2o Dirt Track Brown over top. For the seat, Luis used a Scale Motorsport decal. The chrome is AK Interactive Xtreme Metal.



Eric Maltais bought an old Monogram California 'Vette kit online and went to work. Built out of the box, Dupli-Color paints provide the finish.



Here is a Revell 1/24 scale JPS Trans Am Mustang built by Danny Rodriguez Jr. He modified the front suspension to lower the nose and added clear plastic to the rear spoiler to replicate the detail on the real car. He painted with Testors Gloss Black.



Rafał Lebioda improved the exhaust pipe and seats from a Revell VW Type 1 Samba to build his model. He achieved the intensive aging with Mr. Hobby paints and the hairspray method for chipping.



Amanda Deville's 1970 Pontiac Bonneville convertible land yacht started as a Model King repop. She tucked Pegasus wheels and tires underneath and painted it Daihatsu Lavender Mist topped with Tamiya Clear. Bare-Metal Foil brightens the trim.

After some finishing mishaps, Charles Ruth went from modeling a restored Mopar to an old 1967 Dodge Coronet R/T, sad and forgotten. Built box stock – except for the wheels and tires – Charles dinged and dented the exterior and weathered with chalks, acrylics, and washes.



Mike Wodka started his 1937 Auto Union Streamliner GP racer with a 1/20 scale Revival kit. He fabricated the frame, opened the fender tops, and modified the engine. The gas tank represents the car as raced on the high-speed GP tracks.



Inspired by a photo, Don Savage modified a Hasegawa VW Type 2 pickup for a special surf transporter. Some of the many mods include a lowered chassis, custom flatbed configuration, Porsche Fuchs wheels and tires, and Mod Squad Woody surf boards.



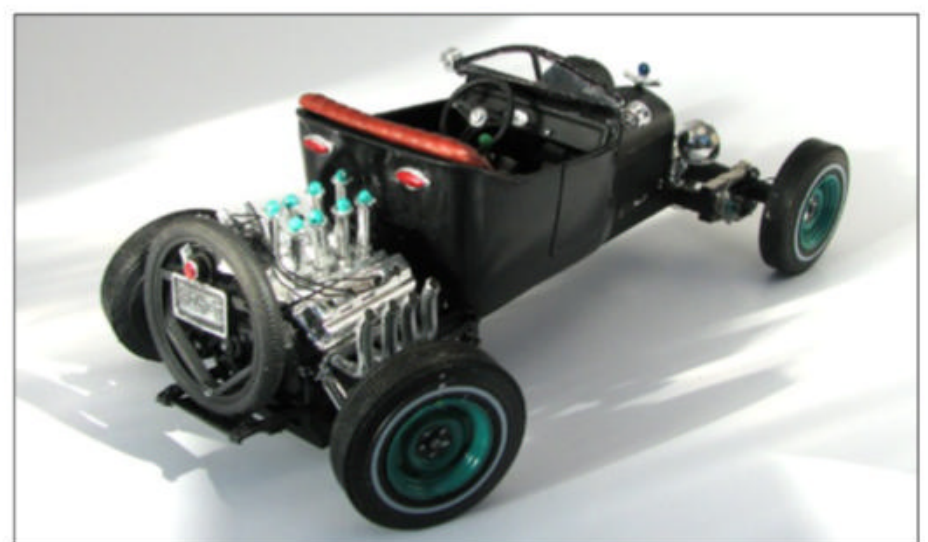
Peter Go dressed his Aoshima Haruhi Mazda FD3S RX-7 in the box supplied decals. Then he stuffed the interior with all sorts of anime goodies like posters, prints, a shopping bag full of toys, and a stuffed Raichu Pokemon doll in the driver's seat. He calls the car *Otaku's Dream*.



After seeing a photo of a 1914 Panhard et Levassor with a Skiff body by Labourdette in 1983, Pico Elgin knew he'd model it one day in 1/24 scale. That day came 8 years ago. He carved the body from basswood and overlaid it with cherry veneer. Pico scratchbuilt everything and incorporated plastic, wood, brass, and Aves Apoxie Sculpt. Incredible!



Bernard Kron went full custom with his '36 Ford roadster. He made the skirts, modified the interior, adapted a '40 Ford DeLuxe grille to the shell, and installed a DuVall-style windshield. The hubcaps came from an AMT '40 Ford sedan delivery.



Whoa! This modified '25 Ford Model T has front-wheel drive, rear-wheel steering. Inspired by a Steven Grimes original, Tom Dabkowski scratchbuilt the frame and drive shaft, dropped a hemi with injectors in the back, and narrowed the body.



Doug Wallin wanted to build a unique pickup, and the old Lindberg 1/12 scale Fiat Dragster/Cabriolet gave him an idea. He scratchbuilt the pickup bed for his woody from styrene and mahogany, and built a frame from rectangular brass tube.

This model is a Scale Designs multimedia resin kit. Basically a box-stock build, the only modification Andy Kellock made was to replace the roll bar with aluminum wire – easier than removing the molding seam. He painted with Tamiya Italian Red and Bright White.





Rob Miller laced Scale Motorsports spark-plug wires and monofilament fishing line for fuel lines on his 1/20 scale Jim Clark 1967 Dutch Grand Prix Lotus 49. The racing colors come from Tamiya; the stripes and roundels were all masked and painted.



With a Competition Resins 1969 Ford Mustang Funny Car body and JoHan Mustang Digger Funny Car kit in hand, Tom Territo set out to model Mickey Thompson's '69 Mustang. He painted with Model Master enamels and Metalizers.



Chaun Benfield built the AMT/Ertl 1/32 scale *Shockwave* jet truck box stock. He painted inside and out with Model Master Yellow, Flat Black, Silver, and Chrome. Chaun says the *Shockwave* is still rolling and open for rides.



Mark Grove's AMT 1955 Chevy Cameo Coca-Cola pickup summons memories of a bygone era in automotive and soft-drink history. He painted it Tamiya Italian Red and upgraded with Torq Thrust wheels and red-line tires.



This '34 Ford custom pickup from Dennis Mills utilizes an AMT '32 Ford coupe body for the cab; a shortened bed with basswood and N-scale railroad track; wheels and tires from a Revell '31 Model A sedan; and seats and inner door panels from a '29 Ford.

You can hear the V8 growl in Bob Duke's Revell 1957 Chevy street rod. Built out of the box, he painted the body Tamiya Bare-metal Silver and Pearl White and clear coated with Pledge Floor Gloss. Meguiar's automotive polish finished it off. Bob built it for his wife, who was born in '57.



For his '64 Ford Galaxie, Mark Hubbard took the motor from an AMT '60 Starliner and dropped it in fully wired. He detailed with aftermarket nuts and bolts. The bumpers and grille were shot with Alclad II Chrome, and Bare-Metal Foil decorates the rest of the trim.

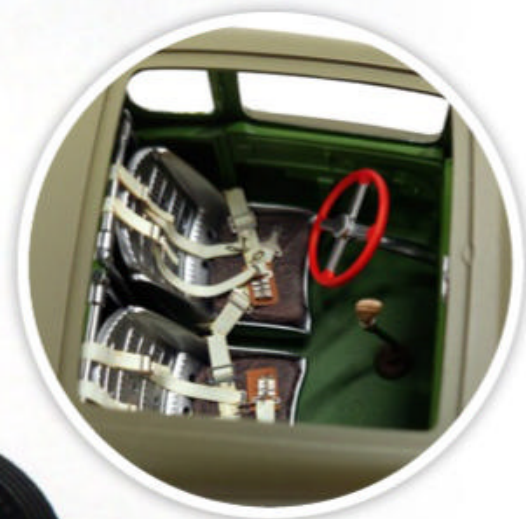




After seeing a yellow Yamaha YZR-M1 in a book, Leo Fu decided to model one for his model collection. He detailed the 1/12 scale Tamiya kit with a Top Studio detail set and added lots of nuts, bolts, and rivets. He painted with Tamiya Yellow spray paint and top-coated with Mr. Hobby Clear.



How much 'tude can one truck have? Apparently, not enough! Brian Rush chopped the top and channeled the bed and body of his '32 Ford pickup. He also customized the exhaust. It has a real wood bed and wears a glorious coat of Testors Inca Gold.



Luis Sanchez always wanted to see a hot rod painted like a P-51 Mustang, so he made it happen with this '30 Ford Model A coupe. He used AK Interactive and Vallejo paints.



Chris Hale built a Lindberg 1/32 scale 1955 Mercedes 300SL to be an SCCA track car. He detailed with photo-etched metal badging and gauges. Chris converted a seat from his spares box into a bomber and added aluminum rivets to the tonneau cover.



Tom Gore assembled his 1984 Pontiac Fiero Indy 500 Pace Car from an Monogram '85 Fiero kit (the basics) and an MPC '86 Fiero kit (six-cylinder engine and correct steering wheel). The different scales meant he had to make a few adjustments for fit.

Krylon Pumpkin Orange and Model Master Bright White clothe Rick Hudson's 1983 V-dub Westpahlia camper van. He opted to pop the top and open the sliding door and rear hatch to show off the detail inside. Interior cabinetry was painted with Testors and Model Master enamels.





This jaw-dropping 1970 Plymouth GTX took a JoHan promo body and floor pan from a Revell '69 Charger Pro Modeler kit to pull off. Francis Laflamme removed the molded gas tank, reconstructed the trunk floor, made a custom drag-car interior, and machined the drivetrain from aluminum and brass – including the Hemi powerplant! It took him 5 years to complete.



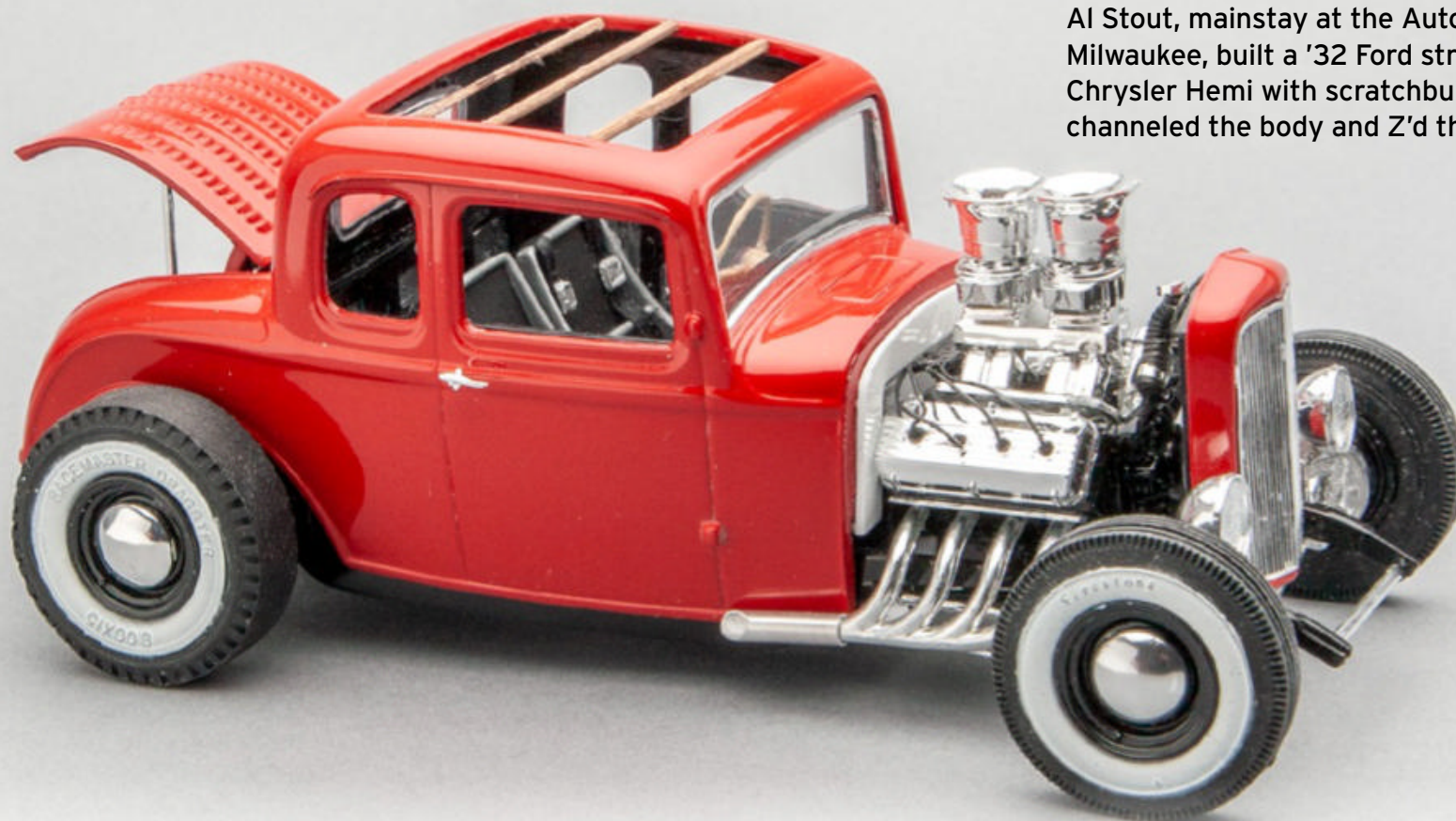
Pat Smulsky built his Late Model Wedge dirt racer on the chassis from a Revell American Speed Association race car. He added details to both the chassis and roll cage. Pat also employed resin wheels, hubs, air cleaner, and fuel cell. He painted with Krylon spray paint and printed his own decals to match the actual car's contingencies.



William Chun detailed a *Fast and Furious* Dom's '70 Charger from Revell with engine wires. He removed the headlight covers and installed headlights to match the Charger on the screen. He painted with Tamiya Black.

■ NNL Milwaukee

WEST ALLIS, WISCONSIN ■ APRIL 17, 2021 ■ BY TIM KIDWELL ■ PHOTOS BY PAUL JOHNSTON



Al Stout, mainstay at the Auto Modelers Group in Milwaukee, built a '32 Ford street rod bearing a Chrysler Hemi with scratchbuilt headers. He channelled the body and Z'd the frame. Great job!



Matt Key doesn't build a lot of model trucks, but after winning an AMT International Off-Road Scout SSII kit as a door prize, he thought, "Why not?" Matt added plug wires, a spare tire, seat belts, a NASCAR air cleaner, and fire bottle.



Chris Juno says he's always had a soft spot for Capris. This fun two-door silver bullet was built almost box stock from the AMT Mercury Capri II kit. Chris switched out the kit wheels for ones more suited to his tastes from his spares box.

This box-stock '49 Mercury sports a beautiful lace paint job by Nick Amburgey. Nick built this car for a story about painting lace that appeared in the October 2020 issue of *Scale Auto* magazine.





"Fantastic to build," says Mike Krueger of his Revell Germany 1961 V-dub camper. He assembled the van out of the box and modeled many of the doors and hatches open to show off interior and engine details.



Bringing the lowrider love, Luis Jiminez built an AMT kit and painted it old school. He lowered the suspension, plumbed the engine, provided custom speakers and amps, and placed hydraulic pumps in the rear.



This "barn find" was modeled by Mark Kuhr. He opened up the body to show rust holes and weathered the paint job.



Jim Kampmann roars in with a scale replica of Lee Smith's 1965 Plymouth Factory Altered Wheelbase drag car. He detailed the Moebius Models kit with aluminum velocity stacks, ignition wiring, and fuel lines. Jim finished with aftermarket decals and resin wheels.

Ed Doering summons ghosts of NASCAR's past with "Banjo" Matthew's 1957 "Zipper Top" convertible. He modified an AMT kit's top, opened the hood and doors, and scratchbuilt the roll cage and tonneau cover.



This eye-catching replica of Bill Dennis' 1972 NASCAR Monte Carlo comes from Tim Stevens' able hands. He melded the chassis of a vintage AMT Monte Carlo with a front clip from a '90s T-bird. Tim widened the MPC body's wheel openings.



Known for his immaculate race cars, Mike Klessig doesn't disappoint with this Le Mans Miniatures Audi R8 in the 2005 Le Mans-winning Champion Racing livery. Build box stock, this lovely goes into Mike's collection of Le Mans winners.

Bill Read modeled a 1965 Ford utility truck that has seen a lot of use. He dented up a Moebius Models kit, wired and plumbed the engine, and scratchbuilt the lumber rack. While weathering, he modeled corrosion on the battery terminals and duct-taped the seat and armrest.





Tim Kasper just might be the King of Funny Cars, at least in Wisconsin. He scratchbuilt this 1/25 scale '68 Camaro Pro Mod called *Arachnid* to honor his friend Rick "Spider" Kramer, who was a fireman and tattoo artist.



First issued as a die-cast model and then plastic kit from Monogram, Stew Edwards picked up Aoshima's 1/24 scale reissue of the Jaguar XK120. He added posable front wheels, Fujimi wheels, and painted with Tamiya colors.



Blowing in from Minnesota, Bob Maderich II brought with him a lovely 1932 Chrysler Imperial built from an MPC kit. He added interior and engine details and painted that deep burgundy with Tamiya colors. "I love classic cars," Bob says. We do, too.



Greg Schmidt's intimidating 1925 Model T chopped coupe started as an AMT "Chopped" T 3'n 1. Then he "unchopped" the top, slapped in a Hemi from Revell, and installed a dash and steering wheel from a 1959 Impala. He ran wire piping on the tuck-and-roll upholstery and upgraded with Modelhaus wheels and resin tires.



Matt Key imagined his own fantasy race car and set about building it with a Revell 1/24 scale Shelby Cobra 427 SC. He cut the spindles to lower its height, detailed the engine, and slipped NASCAR wheels and slicks underneath.



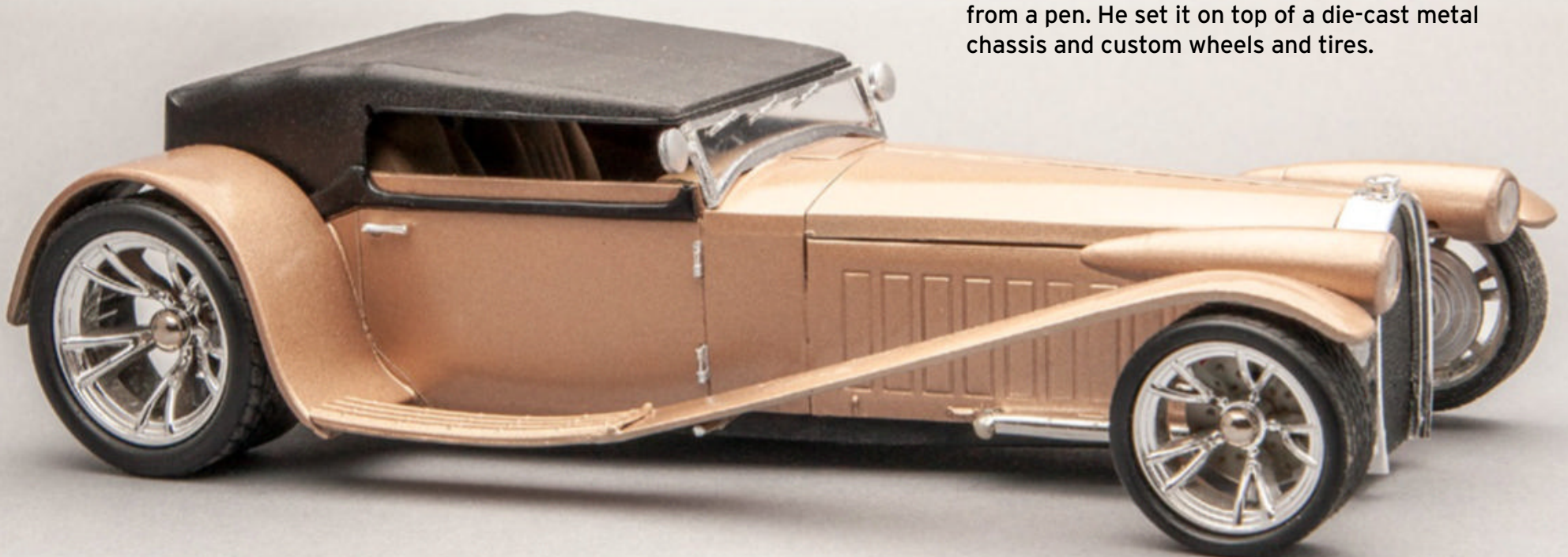
A Bobby Isaac fan, Dean Berndt modeled the NASCAR Charger Daytona Isaac drove on the Bonneville Salt Flats to the tune of 28 land-speed records. Dean's replica has a scratchbuilt roll cage, fuel cell, and front and rear cage.



To realize his 1966 Pontiac GTO, Steve Kijewski started with an AMT kit, then created a vinyl top, opened the trunk, and installed working parking lights. He wired the engine and gave it all a showroom shine with Bob's Paints.



Glenn Jaskolski built this Baldwin-Motion '68 Camaro SS/RS 427 from a Revell '67 Nickey Camaro kit. He removed the front bumper, added side marker lights, and split the taillights. Glenn painted with MCW Corvette Bronze Metallic.



This mean-looking 1931 Bugatti is anything but stock. Bill Stalter cut down the fenders, chopped the top, and mounted headlights made from a pen. He set it on top of a die-cast metal chassis and custom wheels and tires.



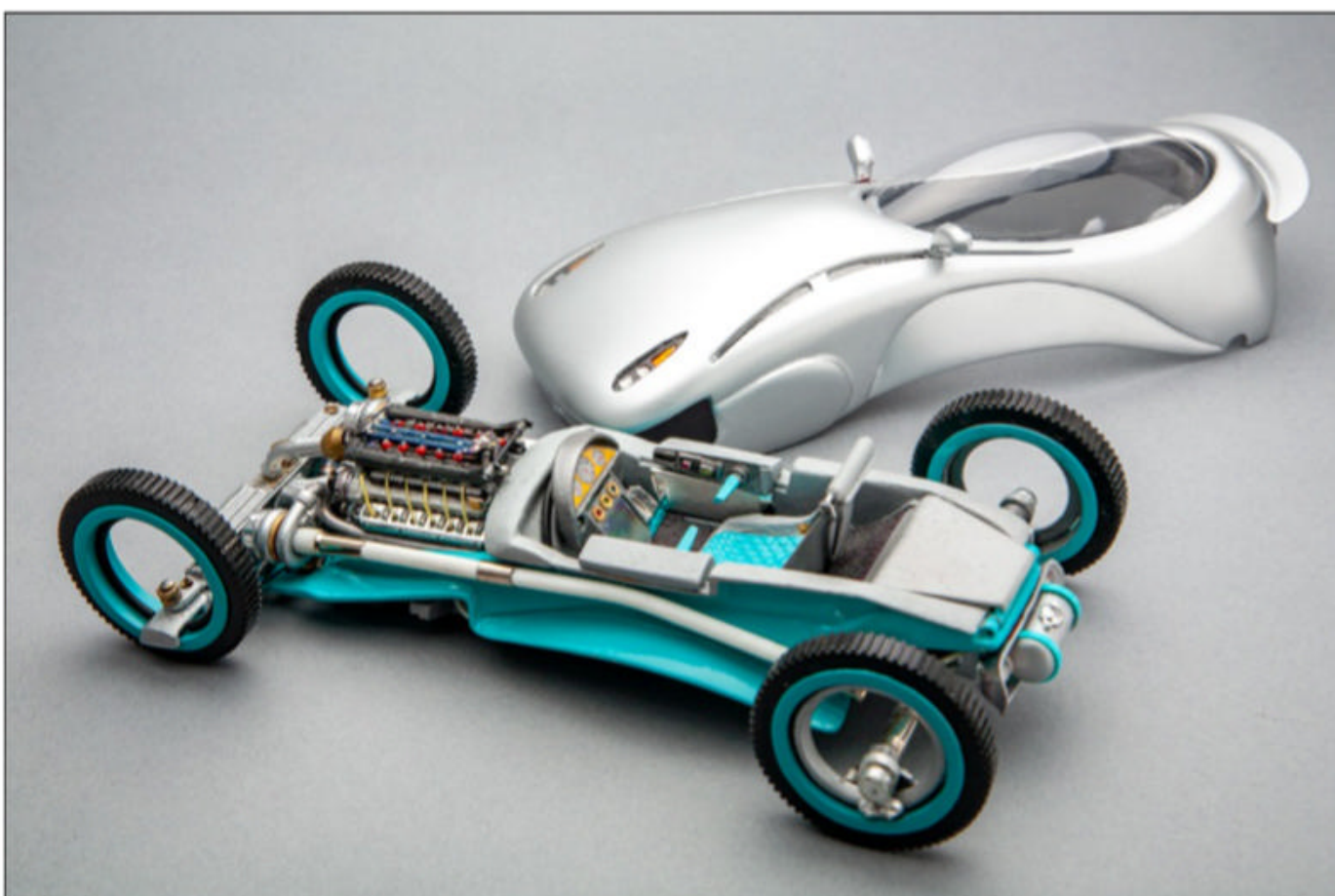
Mike Kollver turned to Czech company Smer for this pair of classy cars: a Lago Talbot 1949 (blue) and Alfa Romeo Type 159 *Alfeta*. He added spark-plug wires to the engines but otherwise built them out of the box. The front wheels can be posed.



The Polar Lights '55 Bad Boy snap kit got the works from Rich Clark. He replaced the wheels, tires, and exhaust with parts from an AMT Slammers *Ram Blur* kit and painted with Dupli-Color and Sherman Williams spray paints.



Tom Nowak went the extra mile for this 1967 Barracuda, finishing it in honor of his friend Mike Dowd. Using a 1971 Duster as a donor kit, Tom modified the chassis, rear wheel tubs, and interior and splurged on aftermarket parts to round it all out.



If there is a mad alchemist of scale car modeling, it is Victor Demichei. He showed off his Bubble Top Custom at the show – and wow! Fully scratchbuilt, this 1/24 scale machine of the future has a detailed Bugatti V12 under the monocoque and hubless wheels.

■ NNL North

BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA ■ MAY 23, 2021 ■ BY JIM KAMPMANN ■ PHOTOS BY SEAN BRZOWSKI



This Mercedes AMG GT-3 by Bill Read was built box stock and painted with Zero Paints Hell Green.



NASCAR enthusiast Matt McNally built a Salvino's Neil Bonnett 1977 Charger for the show. He used Rust-Oleum Poppy Red and Yesterday's decals to complete the build.



This Jaguar XJ-S Hasegawa kit was built by Doug Long to replicate a racer from the early '80s European Touring Car Series. Colors are Tamiya Racing Green and Pure White.



Tom Hoffman used the AMT '50 Chevy pickup to create this unique and weathered farm truck. He made straw bales for the back and plans to make it part of a diorama.



Rat-rod maestro Nick Amburgey scratchbuilt this 1932 Ford from several kit sources and 3D-printed parts.



Coleman Mjos created this diorama from an ICM 1913 Model T Speedster. He also added the figures designed for the kit.



This nicely built belly tank racer came from Bob Hood. He added plug wires to the resin kit.



Lots of customizing makes this radical pickup by Ben Neu stand out from others on the tables this year.



This Moebius F-100 Service Truck by Tristan Morgan was custom painted and features additional details including a light bar and fire hose.

Speaking of using your imagination, Dan Lauria showcased three unique variations of the *Monkee Mobile*, each one born from his fevered brain.





Tom Daniels would be proud of Jim Johnson's rendition of his famous *Mountain Mover* dump truck. Jim used Mission Models paint and weathered using the hair-spray chipping technique.



Steve Guthmiller built this 1964 Pontiac Grand Prix from an original AMT kit. He painted it Sunfire Red and added lots of detail.



Claiming this to be his favorite car, Bob Hyman's Revell 1969 Daytona Charger features fuel lines, plug wires, and Tamiya paint.



Making a silk purse from a sow's ear, Dave Linenberg painted the Revell Anglia gasser House of Kolor Candy Purple and added fuel lines and plug wires.



Mike Hartjes' custom MPC Cyclone features a 1969 Cutlass chassis, aftermarket wheels, and Tamiya paint.



This Moebius International Lone Star was nicely constructed by Tom Wagner and captured a Top 10 award at the show.



This Italeri 1/12 Fiat Mephistopheles land-speed record holder was built by Don Stauffer and garnered him a Top 10 award at the show.



This '57 Chevy Junior Stock replica was built by Jim Allen. Details include resin fender well headers, scratchbuilt oil pan, and traction bars.



Troy Stahnke's 1948 Ford coupe lead sled was built from a Revell kit and painted with Dupli-Color Cranberry Pearl. Troy also added plug wires and a flocked interior.



Troy Herk's AMT 1966 Olds 442 street machine features a vinyl top, custom wheels from a '69 442, and Dupli-Color paint.



Salvinos JR modeler extraordinaire Torben Rothgeb expanded his collection of Petty replicas with this wonderful 1973 STP Dodge Charger. Built box stock, it features MCW Petty Blue and Rocket Red paint.



The *Chevreligion* Bonneville racer was built from four stretched Hawk Bonneville kits and features four six-cylinder Chevy engines. Imagine what that might sound like! Just ask Don Hollesen.



This 1932 Ford coupe hot rod was built by Jim Kampmann. He used his own chopped resin coupe body, lowered the suspension, used a photo-etched metal grille from Model Car Garage, and finished it with Testors lacquer.



Chad Truss took a break from his love of rally cars to build this splendid 1950 Custom Ford pickup.



Adding to his collection of Le Mans winners, Mike Klessig built this 1973 Winner, the Matra 670B from the Le Mans Miniatures kit.



Paul Johnston built an older version of the Tamiya Porsche 935 kit using the original decals and Tamiya Pure White.

Erik Zabel's entry in the RPM club contest was this Revell 1940 Ford standard coupe. This stock build features Model Car World Lyon Blue, and Erik added spark-plug wires, too.





Combining a Chevrolet Suburban with a 1949 Chris Craft boat, Mike Tinucci added a big-block Chevy engine to the Suburban and scratchbuilt the trailer.



Metal modeler Scott Glatstein built this Morgan super sport three-wheeler from the 1/16 scale Minicraft kit. He painted with Splash Red and refined with lots of minute details.



Active Iowa modeler Mark Johnson built the MPC Mail Box Chopper out of the box and used various Alclad II finishes to make the model stand out.



Scott Harvieux's 1/12 scale Alfa Romeo captured the Best Italian Subject award at this year's show. Tamiya lacquer was used, and Scott wired and plumbed it all.



Mopar modeler Bob Halliday's Revell 1970 Plymouth Road Runner features aftermarket decals and factory Mopar Lemon Twist paint.



Noted custom builder Randy Metz was inspired to build this '56 Ford Victoria from a real car. Features include a 390 T-bird engine.



This BMW Z4 GT4 race car was nicely built out of the box by second-generation builder Toby Halliday. The markings are decals over a white Tamiya base color.



This Pontiac GTO replica was built by Wisconsin modeler Bob Kremer. Bob's model features resin wheels, modified headlights, and Pontiac Bermuda Blue paint finish.



Growing up around the dirt track pits inspired Tim Friederich to build this 1955 Chevy from an old Monogram Badman kit. It includes lots of body modifications as well as loads of scratchbuilding.

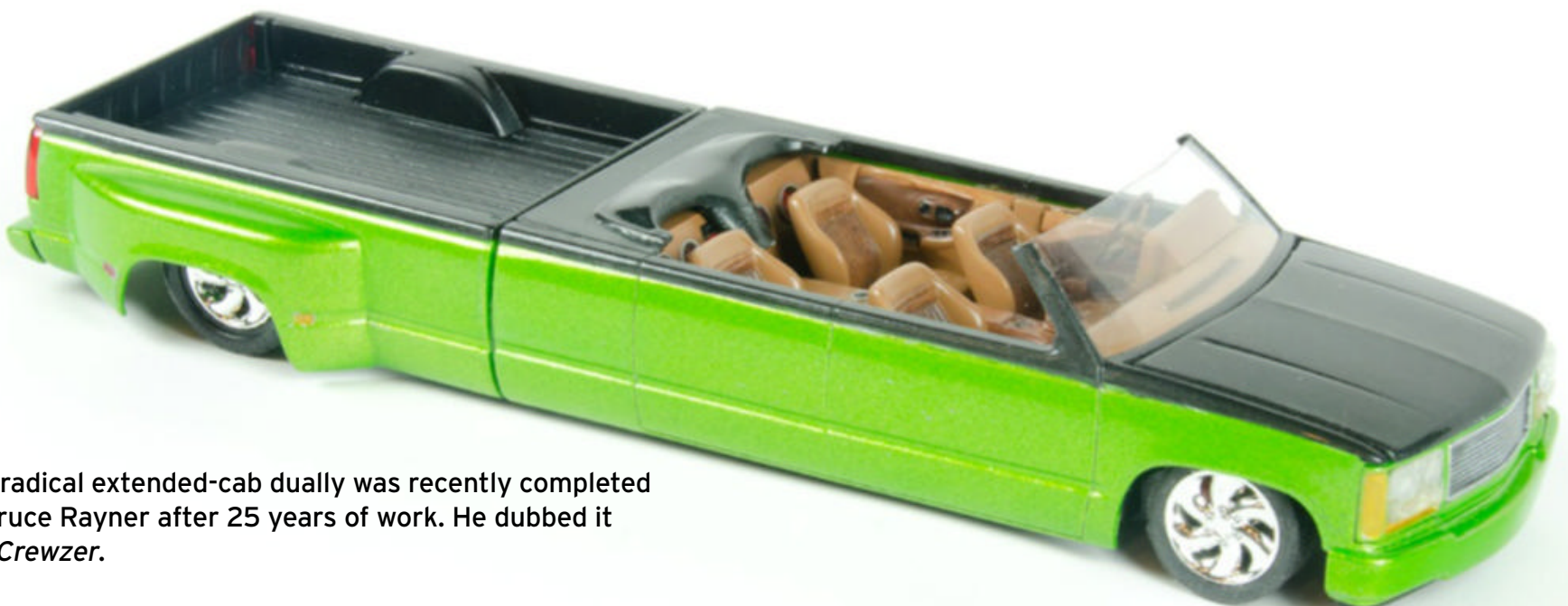
Bob Maderich built this replica of a 1924 Citroën B14 Borden milk truck. He added scale milk products to the rear of this Heller kit.



Mike Scott from Northfield, Minnesota, built this replica of the *Lil' Red Express* Dodge pickup using his own custom decals.



This imaginative Sublime Green Fiat 600 Super Gas race car features lots of kit bashing by local modeler Dave Ekberg.



This radical extended-cab dually was recently completed by Bruce Rayner after 25 years of work. He dubbed it *The Crewzer*.

■ Hoosier Model Contest & Swap Meet

FRANKLIN, INDIANA ■ MAY 21-22, 2021 ■ BY WAYNE MONTGOMERY



Disney fan Debbie Kasper modified Revell's '58 Ford Thunderbird to be the ride of the Haunted Mansion's husband-killing Constance Hatchaway. The finish is Bob's Paints.



John Ruiz spent two months building Revell's 1969 Chevelle SS mostly out of the box. He added a few details under the hood and finished the muscular Chevy with Tamiya lacquers.



"I call this build therapy," says Danny Hammond. He built Revell's Pontiac Firebird Pro Stock while on the mend after breaking his wrist in four places. Additions include parts from RB Motion, Futurattraction, and Ted's Modeling Marketplace.

James Darby brought this Revell 1941 Willys that he says he built in a week and was inspired by his wife. He added a photo-etched metal grille from Model Car Garage and a distributor from Morgan Automotive Detail. The stunning two-tone finish is Folk Art Color Shift craft acrylics.





Gene Mills removed all of the GSX trim from Monogram's 1970 Buick GSX to build a 1970 Gran Sport. He dressed up the model with Model Car Garage photo-etched metal and a fully detailed engine and interior. The finish is GM Aqua Mist lacquer.



For a Buick that's far from ordinary, Vern Heizer spent two months building Jimmy Flintstone's customized 1950 coupe. He trimmed it with a Modelhaus front bumper, a rear bumper from a Foose Caddy kit, and wire rims.



The matching finish on Vern Heizer's 1959 Olds station wagon, trailer, and jetski is fingernail polish topped with two-part clear. Vern doesn't know who made the kit of the customized long roof, but the jetski is from Revell. The flames came from Revell's El Camino kit – to took two sets to trim the hauler and its load.



To model a 2007 U.S. Army Top Fuel dragster, John Ruiz updated the chassis from a Revell kit and added fuel lines, a puke tank, 3D-printed magnetos, and carbon-fiber decals. The rail is finished with Tamiya and Revell lacquers.





Danny Hammond wanted to find out if he could successfully build a 24-hour race car. The results show he could. His Tamiya 1/24 scale Nissan uses a Scale Motorsports photo-etched metal kit and lots of scratchbuilt parts for detail. He finished it with fingernail polish and fictitious sponsor graphics.



Three days start to finish is how long it took Jesse Talmage to build Monogram's Ferrari 308 Racer out of the box to look like the box art. The black is Tamiya lacquer, but the yellow is the kit plastic sealed with Pledge Floor Gloss.



Starting with Revell's Foose Custom Cadillac Eldorado, Dale Bartley lowered the chassis, smoothed the roof, wired the engine, fitted brake and fuel lines, and added photo-etched metal belts. Tommy Dill painted the car with DuPont Ferrari Red.

When Vern Heizer's friend Bell Bellew passed away, he had been working on a Revell '32 Ford. Vern finished the build in Bell's honor, detailing the flathead V8 and frame and painting it white as a foundation for Slixx decals.





Tony Martin customized AMT's 1940 Ford sedan delivery with a 289-cubic-inch powerplant and flared fenders. After cutting open the doors, he modified the seats to rotate and fitted aftermarket racing harnesses.



"I finished the kit in a couple of weeks, after having painted it two years ago," says Jesse Talmage of MPC's 1979 Ford Pinto cruising wagon. He printed decals for the seats, wired the engine, and painted with Ford Tangerine lacquer.



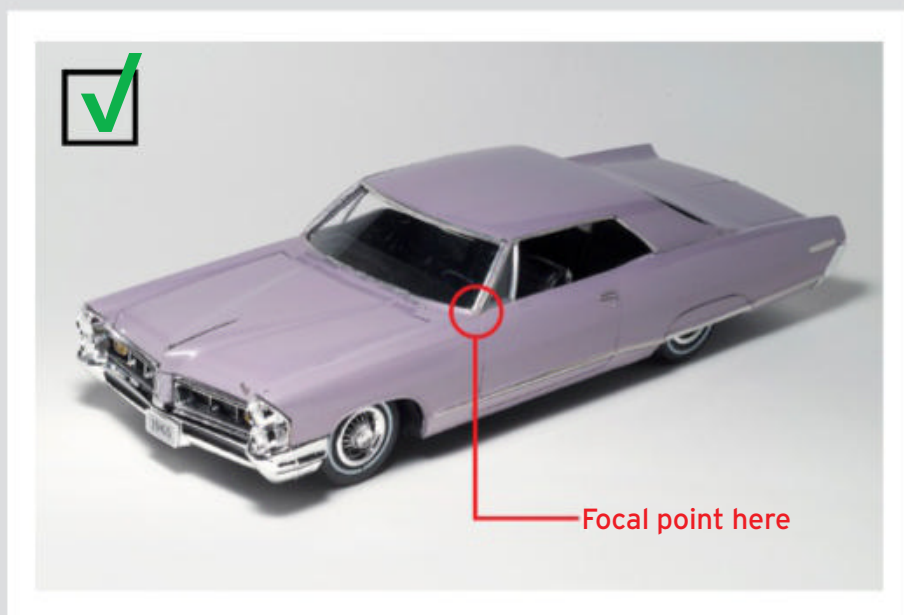
Classic American muscle as it would have looked straight from the factory was what Kenny Reiter was aiming for with AMT's 1967 Camaro. He wired the engine and installed brake and fuel lines. The finish is GM Butternut Yellow.



Based on a car he saw online, Vern Heizer turned JoHan's 1962 Rambler American into a straight-line speedster. The car is fitted with a 426 Hemi engine on a customized frame and rolls on slot-car rims. He painted the boxy dragster with nail polish topped with two-part clear.

Want to see your contest or show in next year's *Contest Cars*? Here's how.

Read our editorial staff's hints and tricks that make for better show coverage. Images are like building models: There are no shortcuts to good ones, and those good ones really stand out. The higher the quality of the image, the more likely it will be published and not skipped over during the final editing process.



This image was shot at f/22, using a DSLR camera. Notice how the model is in focus and sharp bumper-to-bumper, not dark or blurry, with the focal point at the A-pillar.



This image was shot with a point-and-shoot camera at f/8 (same focal point). The image goes soft (out of focus) at each end near the car bumpers. An image like this will not be published.

Please do

- **Use a card or information sheet.** Put yourself in the reader's place. If you see a nice car, what do you want to know about it? Which kit was that? How long did it take to build? Any modifications? Whose paint? Why build *that* model? The more descriptive the story is about the build, the more likely we'll publish it. We also need to be able to read your handwriting. Need a template? Send us an email.
- **Use a high-quality digital camera.** While phone cameras have come a long way in the last few years, they rely on digital focus and light balance that simply aren't as good as DSLR cameras. They're fine for selfies, but not so good for print. You will need f/11-f/16 or higher in order to get a car model in focus from bumper to bumper. Set your camera for the highest resolution and least image compression (RAW images preferred; and please, do not retouch your images). Use plenty of light and an ISO of 60-100 at f/16-22-27. For a typical 3/4 view, make the focal point at approximately the A-pillar or side-view mirror.
- **Include a hard copy.** This includes captions and index prints or thumbnails of the images.
- **Vary the camera angle.** Boring is bad. Photograph some models from the left, some from the right, some from the front, and some from the rear. *Please be sure to show the entire model in the image.*

Please don't

- **Submit tabletop images.** We want to focus our readers' attention on one model at a time — not a cluttered table with a number of blurry models.
- **Use point-and-shoot digital cameras or phone cameras.** The image quality isn't good enough.
- **Send us poor quality images.** Photos that are dark, lacking any information about the model and builder, or are blurry/out of focus, will be rejected.
- **Shoot photos on a textured background.** Avoid taking pictures of models on a blue, yellow, or textured background. A plain, solid white background is best. Do not use paper towels or bedsheets.
- **Submit profile (side view) images.** A flat view of the model shows little of its surface or details.

A few minutes of prep work and attention to detail can greatly improve your images. Please review this guide and help us present your show's models in the best way possible.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about submitting photos for *Contest Cars*, email ContestCars@FineScale.com.

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