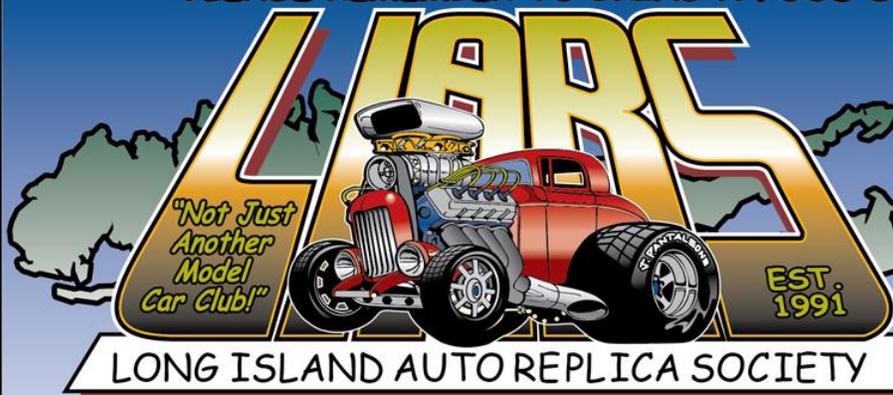


PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A FOOD STUFF FOR THE PANTRY



# MODEL CAR BRIEFS

LONG ISLAND AUTO REPLICAS SOCIETY

**Newsletter Stuff:**

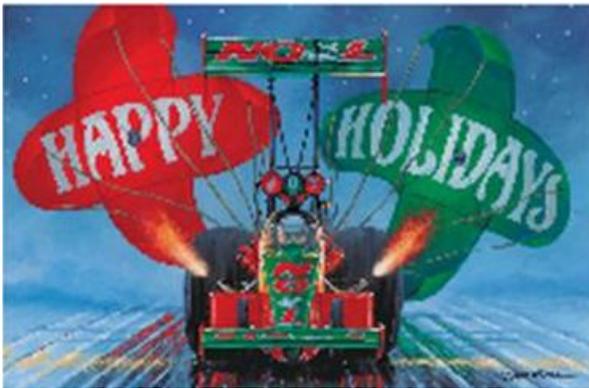
Bill Murray  
(516) 293-6378  
bill.murray@ngc.com

**Club Staff:**

Pat Vecchio  
(516) 375-6047  
patvssb@aol.com

*LIARS Christmas Party 12/8/22  
Next Real Meeting's theme:  
LIARS 2023 Goals!*

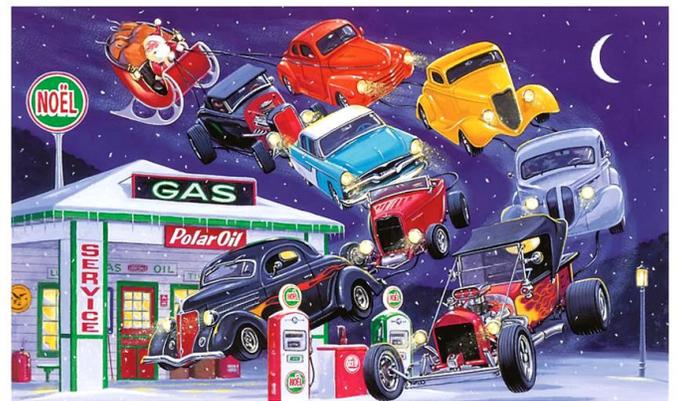
*Welcome to the 2022 Year End Edition*



*Arriving at LIARS party in Days Of Olde*



Happy Holidays



*We've started our 32<sup>nd</sup> year as a Club; let's hope that we all stay healthy during this post COVID-19 crisis and that we can all attain some measure of prosperity. Then perhaps we can build a new Club display...*

*MCB Contributors: Big Daddy Blake, Paul D, John The Artist, Joe Salierno, Pat V...*

*Hopefully you all will add 2023 articles to your 2023 New Year's Resolutions!*

*LIARS Web Page <http://www.liarsmodelcarbuilders.com/>*

**The LONG ISLAND AUTO REPLICAS SOCIETY (L.I.A.R.S.) Model Car Briefs is dedicated to bringing you the best and most up to date information about our great hobby of model building**

***Wishing you & your family a Happy Hanukkah and a very Merry Christmas***

**Thanks for supporting the LIARS. Please resume supporting the needy at our 2023 monthly meetings!**

## ***LIARS Unofficial Official***

Hello fellow club members,

First of all, I would like to wish you and your loved ones, a healthy and Blessed Christmas/Happy Holidays. In spite of all what's going on in this crazy world, we have many blessings for which we are thankful for.

Moving forward I have made a decision to move the monthly meeting back to Blue Point. This has been confirmed and it shall be the third Thursday of every month beginning January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Bill Murray was kind enough to offer his place of meeting for no charge. He wanted to save our club \$600.00 per year. I agreed to this but I felt there was going to be a problem with the membership of his club accepting us. Well it turned out that I was correct. July and August the (TOB) hall was closed (*since staff covered other events...*).

September the hall was not open. November the hall was not open and I found out that one of his member's decided to take it on his own to call and cancel the meetings for both November and December. We were going to have our auction in November. It was going to be a very important meeting. But oh well, as they say, little things bather little minds.

I cannot run a club this way. I want to have our club succeed. This is the reason why I wanted to bring it back to Blue Point. We gave it a try and it did not work.

At the January meeting we are going to discuss our upcoming show next November. I would like to get an early start and advertise this show to the max. Paul Drago and myself will be getting in touch with Freeport Rec Center to get the contract and date finalized.

Next month we will begin collecting our dues.

See you at the party or next month.  
[r.argus@juno.com](mailto:r.argus@juno.com)

### **HApPy Holidays EVERYONE!**

Well I must admit the past month just FLEW BY, and now the holidays are really upon us! I hope everyone's holiday will feel like a big heavy blanket: Warm, Comfortable, Happy, Content, and I'll throw in a "Thankful" for good measures. As for our plastics acquisitions: it will come. It might be during the holidays, it might be in July; but trust me, we will all get what. I'm just wishing everyone

the kind of gifts and blessings that Santa Can't bring.

No beating around the bush, it's been a rough year for the club. It seems we have had more "non-meetings" than real meetings. And even real meetings felt more like a gathering in the public square than a club house. Add to that the cancellation of our show, and uncertainty about the future meeting location. Remember also many of us have tried different approaches, ideas, and went out on a limb to accommodate everyone's needs: yet still there's some dissatisfaction among members.

Needless to say, we, as a club, can't continue on the same path, and so I do expect changes to take place in the next year. I just hope everyone can view change as a positive, not negative thing. As long as we act together as a team, nothing is impossible. Maybe we should approach the club the same way we build a model. It might be easy, it might be hard. It might be so frustrating we want to throw the thing across the room; it might be so rewarding we get a trophy to show it! In other words, it's all in the attitude and approach, and when all is said and done, no matter what, it should be FUN! Change is coming.

I hope to see you all at the Christmas party. Have a happy and blessed Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or miraculous styrene event.

***Paul " Hammer" Drago***

*PS Does anyone have access to a vinyl decal cutter like that crickut machine? I need a script lettering to put on the display case of my latest project. Call or email me anytime THANKS! Paul*

### **Passing Gas**

By Steve "Big Daddy" Blake

The other day, Mr. Bill sent out a snippet about a fellow's grave marker being a life size Mercedes Benz.

I attempted to reply with how all I wanted was to have a deep; hole with me in the bottom and my model collection covering me.

With that I tried to attach a very large dump of pics of my completed cars.

Well Google wouldn't let me do that I guess they thought I was divulging state secrets or something.

So after fiddling with the files I was able to send several packets of images to our illustrious editor in chief.

Well, in a phone call later Bill suggested I do a little article about the finished items.

**SO DON'T BLAME ME!**

**I thought I'd start with the oldest piece in the collection, my 1963 Custom Corvette I built for a contest in 1974.**



The idea came from an article one of the Vette mags of the day that feathered a Motion Vette

Taking AMT's 63 cruzin' Vette modifying the body with the tear drop hood bulge and side mirrors from an AMT 68 Shelby GT500KR, side "gills" from AMT 73 Vette convert. And stretched sprue layered up to make the wheel flairs.



Paint is auto touch up spray in Ford Wimbledon White with Pactra Aztec Gold.



The chassis is the AMT 73 part and the engine is from the same kit with part box extras.

Wheels and tires from AMT Riptide Vette.

Details are sewing tread for ign wires and electronics wire insulation for spark plugs and other little things.

**AND NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.**



Found these on e-Bay. I haven't used them yet. (Caution-they are a little pricy )



# rays kits DECALS

Hello fellow model car builders!

I am Joe Morgan, and I am the exclusive distributor for Rays Kits Decals here in North America. This great company out of The Netherlands offers dozens and dozens of different replica stock model car decals, many of which are not offered by anyone else that we are aware of commercially. I am personally trying to stock as many of these decals as possible for immediate purchase and shipment, and with time I am able to get access to every set of decals offered by the company. On a monthly basis, I am doing bulk orders shipped from Europe. If you want to see a complete list of available inventory, go to:

<http://www.rayskits.com/decals>

You can go to my Facebook Page, Rays Kits Decals North America, to see current inventory, upcoming orders, sales/specials, or to make custom requests of decals that you want to purchase. Check out the reverse side for a list of decals currently available for purchase. You can also reach me by email at: [sunbird93racer@yahoo.com](mailto:sunbird93racer@yahoo.com).

Thank you very much for your purchase of decals from me! These are brand new decals from Rays Kits Decals out of The Netherlands, and they are high quality and professionally printed. I am their exclusive distributor in North America, and am happy to help buyers get them quickly and affordably (cheaper shipping costs within North America, than from Europe).

Please check out my Facebook Page for "Rays Kits Decals North America" for lists of all decals that I currently have in stock, and for sales and specials on In Stock decals. In addition, feel free to check out the Rays Kits Decals website at <http://www.rayskits.com/decals>, for a list of all the decals that this great company offers. You can order directly from the website, or you can send me special requests that I may be able to obtain with my regular bulk decal shipments. Ordering directly from the company will likely cost you more in shipping costs than ordering from me directly, and may take some additional time. All of the In Stock decals I offer are available for immediate shipping. Special requests may take significantly longer. My shipments from The Netherlands have come in as little as 10 days, or as long as 10 weeks, depending on how fast Customs processes them.

Some tips for use of these high quality decals. Trim individual decals with sharp scissors close to the image to provide best appearance. These are not exactly like kit decal sheets, in that all the images share the same clear decal backing, and do NOT come off that backing individually. Use warm water to separate these waterslide decals from their backing. Depending on the quality of your tap water, you may want to use distilled or spring water, to avoid issues with minerals or contaminants that could affect the decals. I have had great success using Micro Set and Micro Sol decal solutions with these decals, but other solutions may work as well (however, use other solutions with caution, and test them on a small decal first). Some small sheets with your set may have white backing and read "PHOTOPAPER". These are NOT waterslide decals like the ones with light blue background. They are usually license plates and gauge faces, and should be cut out and attached with white glue. Use of clear coats over top of these decals is NOT recommended because some clear coat paints will attack the decals, causing them to wrinkle or "bleed". These decals look amazing on model cars, but do require care in their use. If you are not experienced with aftermarket model car decals, please use care, caution, and patience, in order to insure best results. Whenever I have had failures with decals in the past, it was always because I tried to "rush the process". Make sure that the point you apply these decals on top of is fully cured before applying decals. Make sure that after you apply the decals, you allow the model to sit in a protected place, and allow the decals to fully set for a number of days as well. I also encourage you to minimize the amount of handling after you apply the decals. Oils and contaminants on our hands may damage or ruin decals.

Thanks again for your purchase and happy modeling!

*Joe Morgan*  
Joe Morgan

Here is a list of currently available In Stock decals:

1977 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Brown/Gold) (\$27.50) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1979 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (1/24)(Red/Orange) (\$22.50) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1979 Chevrolet El Camino Royal Knight (Red) (\$27.50) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1981 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (1/24)(Red) (\$22.50) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1985 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (Gold) (\$30.00) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1985 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (Red) (\$30.00) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1996 Chevrolet Corvette Grand Sport (\$25.00) ONLY 1 SET!  
 2002 Chevrolet Camaro SS Brickyard 400 Pace Car (\$27.50)  
 1969 Dodge Charger 500 (White) (\$25.00)  
 1973-1979 Dodge D-Series Emblems/Gauges (\$16.50)  
 1977 Dodge Power Wagon 150 "War Horse" (\$27.50)  
 1978 Dodge Adventurer 150 Midnite Express (\$30.00)  
 1978-1979 Dodge Lil Red Express (\$30.00)  
 1972 Ford Gran Torino Sport (Burgundy/Yellow) (\$25.00)  
 1973-1996 F-150/Bronco Emblems (\$22.50) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1978 GMC Caballero Diablo (Red/Black) (\$28.00) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1978 GMC Caballero Diablo (Gold/Black) (\$28.00) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1977 Plymouth Volare Roadrunner (Blue/Black) (\$25.00)  
 1978 Plymouth Volare Roadrunner (Red/Yellow/Orange) (\$27.50)  
 1982 Plymouth Scamp GT (\$25.00)  
 1983 Plymouth Scamp GT (\$25.00)  
 1969 Pontiac Trans Am (\$22.50) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1970/1971 Pontiac GTO Judge (Red/Black/White) (\$27.50)  
 1970/1971 Pontiac GTO Judge (Black/Red/Yellow) (\$27.50)  
 1970/1971 Pontiac GTO Judge (Blue/Orange/Pink) (\$27.50) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1970/1971 Pontiac GTO Judge (Green/White/Yellow) (\$27.50)  
 1970/1971 Pontiac GTO Judge (Yellow/Blue/Red) (\$27.50)  
 1973 Pontiac GTO (\$25.00)  
 1973 Pontiac LeMans Formula X Division (\$25.00) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1976 Pontiac Firebird Formula (\$25.00)  
 1978 Pontiac Trans Am Gold Special Edition (\$32.50)  
 1979 Pontiac Trans Am (Blue) (\$25.00)  
 1979 Pontiac Trans Am (Red) (\$25.00)  
 1979 Pontiac Trans Am (Charcoal) (\$25.00)  
 1980 Pontiac Trans Am Turbo (Charcoal) (1/25) (\$25.00)  
 1980 Pontiac Trans Am Turbo (Charcoal) (1/24) (\$25.00) ONLY 2 SETS!  
 1980 Pontiac Trans Am Turbo (Gold) (1/25) (\$25.00)  
 1982-1992 Pontiac Trans Am Basic (Silver) (\$15.00)  
 1985 Pontiac Trans Am (Silver) (\$22.50)  
 1987 Pontiac Trans Am GTA (Gold) (\$22.50)  
 1999 Pontiac Trans Am 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Custom Black & Silver" (1/25) (\$25.00) ONLY 1 SET!  
 1999 Pontiac Trans Am 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Custom Black & Silver" (1/24) (\$25.00)

If you want to reserve any of the decals listed as Coming Soon, email me at [sunbird93racer@yahoo.com](mailto:sunbird93racer@yahoo.com) ASAP! I will hold them with just an email address & zip code.

COMING SOON!!! '69 AMC Hurst SC/Rambler "A-Scheme" & "B-Scheme", '70 AMC Rebel "The Machine", '76 AMC Gremlin X "Spirit of '76", '73 Chevrolet El Camino (White), '74 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28, '74 Chevrolet Vega "Spirit of America", '74-'81 Chevrolet Camaro Detail-Up Set, '76 Chevy Camaro RS AHC-100 "Black Hawk", '79 Chevy Camaro Z/28 (Lt Gold/Dk Gold)(1/24), '79 Chevy Camaro Z/28 (Lt Silver/Charcoal)(1/24), '79 Chevy Camaro Z/28 (Orange/Yellow-Orange)(1/24), '79 Chevy Camaro Z/28 (Lt Green/Dk Green)(1/24), '81 Chevy Camaro Z/28 (Red/Orange) 1/25, '85 Chevy Monte Carlo SS (Gold), '87 Chevy Camaro IROC-Z (Gold/Black), '87 Chevy Camaro IROC-Z (Silver/Black), '87 Chevy Monte Carlo SS (Blue), '89 Chevy S-10 BAJA (Orange), '92 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 Heritage Edition (Black, Gold, or Silver), '68-'70 MOPAR Underhood Detail-Up Set, '68-'79 MOPAR Engine Bay Set, '71 Dodge Demon 340/Sizzler, '73-'79 Dodge D-Series Emblems, '73 Dodge W-200 "Sno-Fiter", '78 Dodge "Dude II", '78 Dodge "Sno-Commander", '78 Dodge "Southbunder", '71 Ford Mustang Boss 351, '72 Ford Gran Torino Sport (Green/Gold), '73 Ford Mustang Mach 1, '76 Ford Mustang II Cobra II (Red), '77 Ford Thunderbird Town Landau (Burgundy side stripe), '73-'79 F-150/Bronco Emblems, '81 Ford Bronco "Free Wheelin", '91 GMC Syclone Marlboro Edition, '69 Mercury Cougar XR7 CJ-428, '69 Mercury Cougar XR7 CJ-428 (On Her Majesty's Secret Service Edition), '69 Plymouth Satellite GTX, '69 Plymouth Satellite Roadrunner (White), '70 Plymouth Duster 340, '73 Plymouth Duster 340, '74 Plymouth Duster "Gold Duster", '79 Plymouth Volare Roadrunner (Gold), '67 Pontiac Firebird Sprint H.O., (Black), '70-'81 Pontiac Firebird Detail-Up Set, '72 Pontiac GTO (D98 White or Black), '74 Pontiac GTO, Firestone Wide Oval (1/25) tire decals, & Goodyear Eagle GT White Outline (1/25) tire decals.

IN THE PIPELINE!!! '69 AMC Javelin SST-390 "BigBad", '70 AMC AMX, '70 AMC Javelin SST "Mark Donohue" (Black), 1970 AMC Javelin SST "Mark Donohue" (White), '76 Buick Century "Free Spirit" Indy Pace Car(Speedway Edition), Chevy/GMC Mega Set, '69 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Silver) 1/24, '73 Chevrolet Chevelle SS (Silver), '73 Chevrolet Chevelle SS (Black), '73 Chevrolet El Camino SS (Black), '74-'81 Chevrolet Camaro Detail-Up Set, '75 Chevrolet Vega Cosworth, '77 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (1/25), '78 Chevrolet El Camino "Black Knight", '80 Chevrolet Camaro RS (Blue), '80 Chevrolet Camaro RS (Dk Gold/Red/Med Gold), '81 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Tri-Silver) 1/25, '81 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Tri-Blue) 1/24, '81 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Tri-Blue) 1/25, '83-'88 Chevrolet Monte Carlo Detail-Up Set, '87 Chevrolet Camaro Z/28 (Silver/Yellow) 1/24, '87 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (Gray), '87 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (Purple), '87 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (Silver), '87 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS (White), '97-'02 Chevrolet Camaro Detail-Up Set, '02 Chevrolet Camaro SS 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, '70 Dodge Challenger T/A (Black) 1/24, '75 Dodge Dart Sport "Hang Ten", '70 Ford Torino King Cobra, '76 Ford Mustang II Cobra II (Blue), '77 Ford Econoline "Denimachine", '92 Ford F-150 "Nite" Edition, '70 Mercury Cyclone Spoiler II Prototype, '70 Mercury Cyclone Spoiler, '71 Mercury Cyclone Spoiler, AND MORE!

That's all folks. Studie is still in reengineering stage, the rambler ... well I made a mess of the trim. Trying to figure out how to fix it

### Ho, Ho, Ho Merry Christmas



#### Rudolf! You're Fired!!

Dr.V - Remember there are 2 parts 1 and 2, I know how it is with you old people, Steve "Big Daddy" Dr.V Read on...

#### Passing Gas Part 2

By Steve "Big Daddy" Blake

At or around the time I built the '63 Vette, I also built a series of projects. In those days I could put one out at the rate of one a month. Today...YEARS.

Here we have my concept of a '27 Lincoln as a Lakeland fire dept. Fire Chief parade car.



Started out as a MPC 27 Roadster, built stock with model railroad dry transfer lettering.



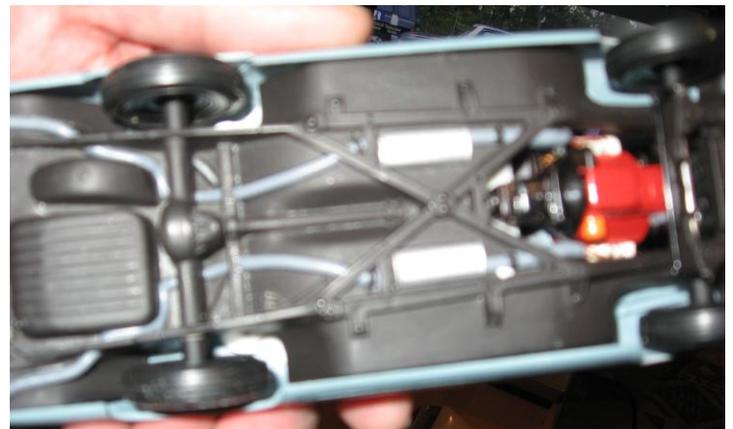
Next we have a '73 Vette that I guess had an identity crisis. It was first done as a semi-stock coupe painted medium blue metallic. Well I have a penchant of re-building finished projects. Its second life it became this light blue gasser.



The gasser version lasted a year or so, then I rebuilt it as a tribute to the SCCA A prod big iron I watched out at Bridgehampton in the mid seventies.



Next we have a box stock AMT '57 'Bird



Lastly is a '37 Chevy that started out as a dark blue street rod with a chopped top, 409 under the hood and American mags.



It morphed into this custom rod that while I was rebuilding it was carried around in my coat pocket, driving Phil Melfi absolutely crazy.



So, stand by for more of my gas expulsions in coming MCB's.



When you REALLY like green & do not have a care in the world, ready to go have fun.

Dr.V enjoys the following LIARS Transport candidate (well we could not agree on a LIARS Bus! *Picture provided By:Mike L*)

Honestly though... This could be you in the LIARS Transport driver's seat.



**Nov Non Mtg Highlights**

- Jan 2023 DUES ARE DUE @ the Jan.19 '23 mtg. Pat V. stated that 2023 dues ARE still \$30. – & are intended to offset the mtg. hall rental *Unless we conduct a 2023 auction &/or Model Car Challenge, LIARS shall need to cover insurance, Website charges, & other items) out of our reserves...*

**Some Words from the Editor At Large**

Dr. V elected to re-use last year's cheerful cover.

Good day to my fellow LIARS/friends - Dr. V (OK, Bill Murray) wishes to share latest insights...but needs your inputs...



**First Impressions**

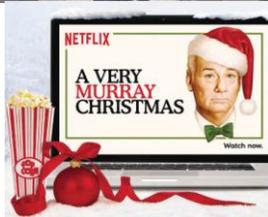
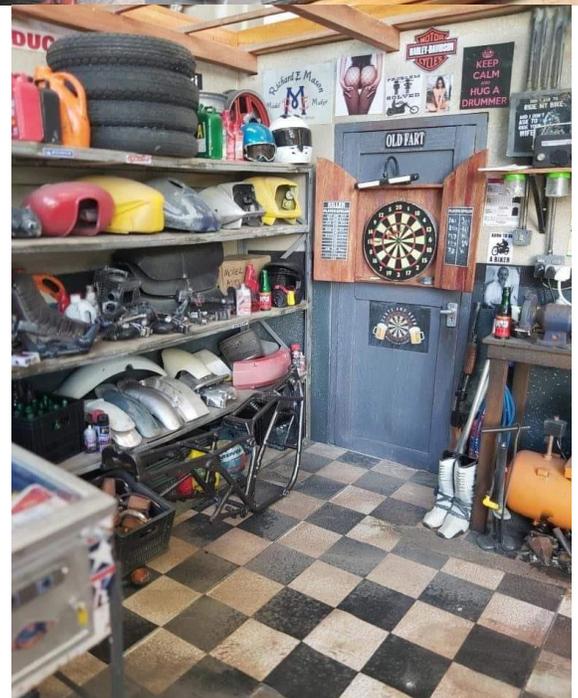
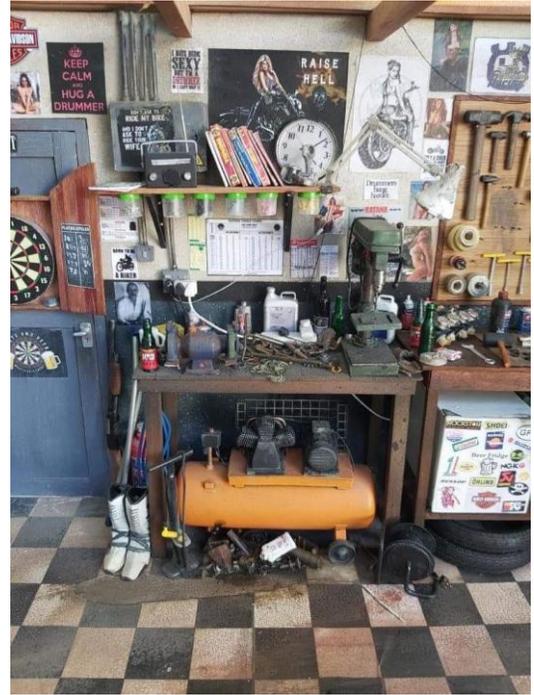
**POWER. STYLE. BEAUTY. GRACE**  
CELEBRATING THE DISTINCTIVE HERITAGE OF THE AUTOMOBILE.

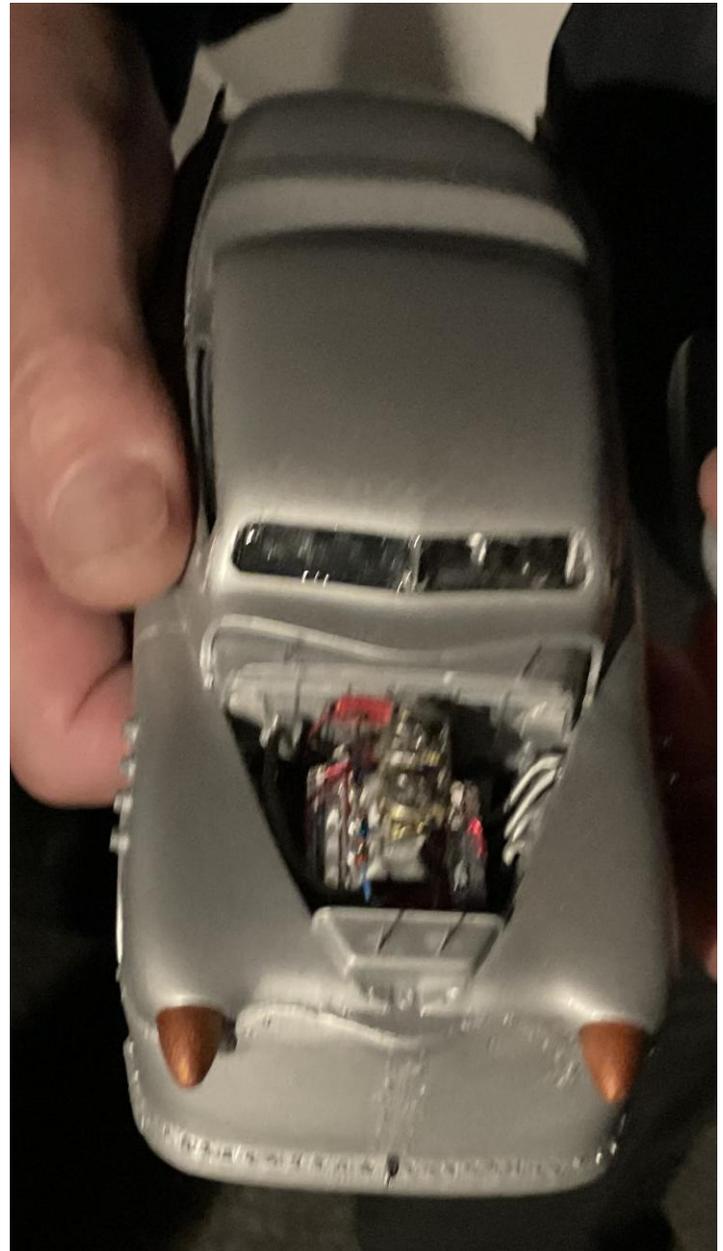
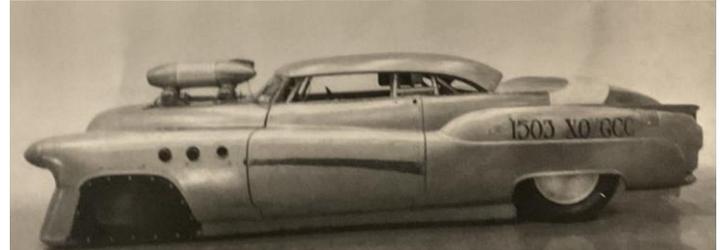
*There have been numerous he said she said discussions related to the LIARS future. These items shall be discussed at the Jsn. Mtg! be there or ...*

- **John The Artist: LET'S FACE THE REALITY OF IT FOLKS.** We have all been doing this hobby for way too many years not to realize that as time goes by, our generation, the one that grew up building models, is slow riding off into the sunset, and as we fade away, so does

participation in the hobby, and not just this hobby. I have been doing this for well over 25 years and have watched the steady decline in participation and attendance at model shows, that's the hard truth. Add to this the continual rise in the cost of running these shows, (as well as everything else), and it is not hard to understand the reasoning behind rising the admission. Buy a pizza and a couple of pin wheels, or go to Burger King and buy food for a family of 4, sit down at a diner and have breakfast with your wife, you're not leaving without spending \$40 to \$60. So WT\_ is \$30 to do something you love and to support the life of model car shows?

- *John routed the following diorama!!!*





REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED



ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL

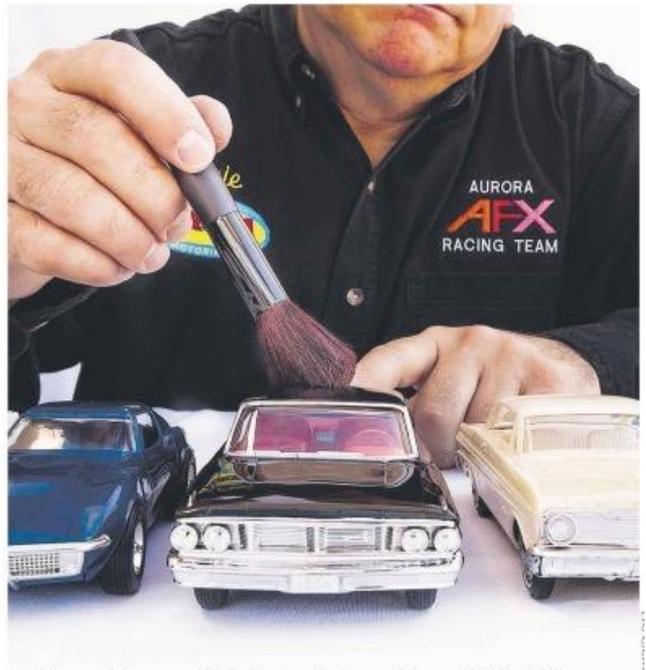
**GOD BLESS AMERICA!**

Pat Vecchio

One of our newest members, Joe Salierno displayed two examples of his Works Of Art in the parking lot! Dr.V apologizes for the poor picture quality attached. (It is hard to take a picture, when the LIARS attendees wanted to see Joe's Works Of Art up close at the same time!)



This came about when Joe tried to explain how he chops a car's top (since Pat still has not been able to accomplish this task) by using one of his models (as in '53 Buick) to describe the process.



Ernie Finamore of Massapequa Park brushes away dust on one of the models in his collection.

## Revvng up for a showdown

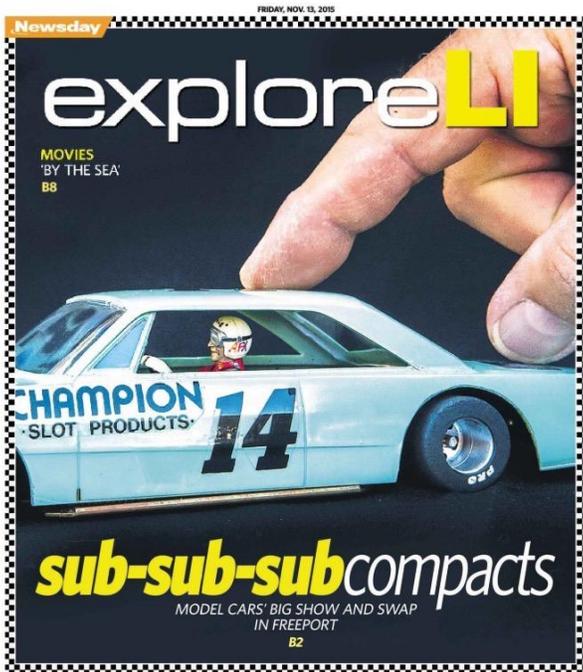
A model car challenge is coming to Freeport this weekend



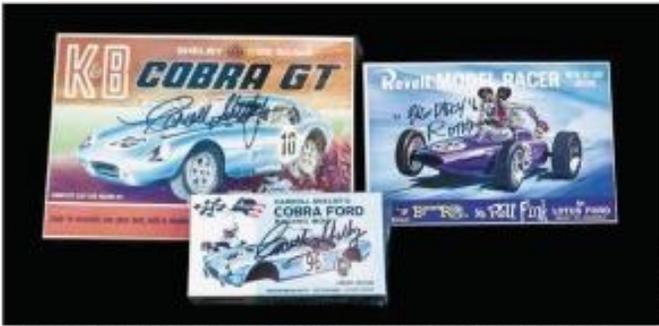
BY JANELLE GRIFFITH  
[janelle.griffith@newsday.com](http://janelle.griffith@newsday.com)

Start your engines . . . or at least, start building them. The Long Island Auto Replica Society, catering to a small but passionate crowd of hobbyists who enjoy building model cars to scale, hosts its annual model car challenge at the Freeport Recreation Center this weekend.

ON THE COVER Ernie Finamore shows off a model of a 1965 Ford Galaxie, with a driver figure, both of which he custom-painted.



Dear Santa,  
I've been good  
all year.  
Most of the time.  
Once in a while.  
Never mind,  
I'll buy my own stuff.



Collectible boxes for the Rat Fink Lotus Ford, right, signed by Ed "Big Daddy" Roth and the Cobra GT and Cobra Ford, both signed by Carroll Shelby.

**Long Island Auto Replica Society show and competition**

**WHEN | WHERE** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. tomorrow at the Freeport Recreation Center, 130 E. Merrick Rd., Freeport  
**INFO** 516-377-2310  
**ADMISSION** \$5 spectators (free younger than 17); \$10 model car registration for competition

The event — one of New York's largest model show contests and swap meets — has attracted spectators and participants from across the country since 1991. The types of models span decades of car design, mirroring a crowd of hobbyists that ranges in age from 20-somethings to retirees. The makes and models of the cars at the daylong event include NASCAR-style stock cars and Indy 500 speedsters.

Ernie Finamore, 62, of Massapequa Park, is a builder, racer and collector of model cars whose work will appear in Saturday's show.

"We typically get 250 models on display — cars, trucks and motorcycles," says Finamore, who has been involved with the event as a club member and vendor for close to 20 years.

Finamore, a retired commercial truck driver, began constructing the tiny, ornate vehicles more than 50 years ago, building model airplanes while his father was in the Navy.

**ABOUT THE HOBBY**

Enthusiasts say model car building is an accessible hobby, and part of the allure is the relatively low cost of building supplies. A basic kit costs about \$10.

"Your level of expertise increases as your experience increases," Finamore says. "The more you build, the better you get at it."

Finamore built his first model car at age 10.

Many of the tools necessary to

build a simple model are household items — rubber bands, toothpicks, tweezers, white glue, masking tape and scissors.

Expert-level model car builders not only build but paint and personalize their cars.

**BUILD OR BUY**

But not everyone at Saturday's car show is planning to show off their original work.

Bob Beers, 64, will be selling vintage car kits from the 1950s, '60s, '70s and '80s. "I became interested through the collecting end of it," says Beers, who grew up in West Islip.

Beers, now a Connecticut resident, travels to model car shows in the tri-state area and says his interest was piqued by the rarity of some of the cars.

**ATTRACTING A YOUNGER AUDIENCE**

While model car building is a relatively accessible hobby, both Beers and Finamore say the show has struggled to attract a younger crowd, something they blame partially on the patience required to construct a model.

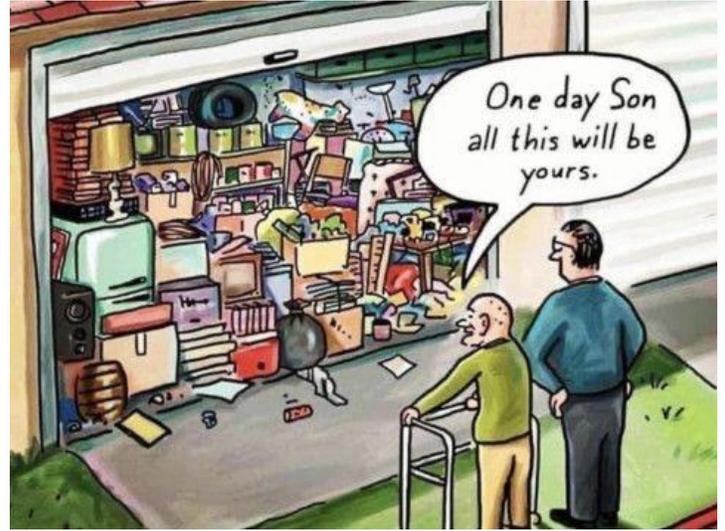
"Kids do like model cars in reality," Beers says. "But they're distracted by technology."

There's also a lack of exposure to this hands-on hobby, Beers says.

To help draw in younger spectators Saturday, the model car challenge will feature a "make and take" table where children can put together a model car at no cost. These kits will be of the most basic variety and will not require glues or paints.

Other models will be up for awards in a variety of categories.

"That's part of the thing with the hobby is that you can make all different types — a drag-race car, a street hot rod or a showroom stock car — and that's what lures people as far as customizing the models," Finamore says. "You are making it the way you want."



Rich's latest builds:



Next up is an interesting article By: David Dale entitled **Most Iconic TV Cars of the 1960s and 1970s Most can be had in plastic! TV cars** <https://www.msn.com/en-us/autos/enthusiasts/most-iconic-tv-cars-of-the-1960s-and-1970s/ss-AARIDBF?vid=5d86bf384cc244ceba25ae1b85259f34#image=1>

Assassinations. Vietnam. Civil Rights. Watergate. Oil Crisis. Cold War. The 1960s and 1970s could be considered two of the most tumultuous back-to-back decades in American history, when all types of strife beamed into American living rooms via the television — and in color. Perhaps as an antidote to this daily barrage of the information age, increased TV programming promised entertainment and escape from life's stark realities. Along with burgeoning TV show production came opportunities for automobiles to be viewed as more than props on a stage, but rather as characters adding to a show's depth and dimension. Here's a quick look at the most iconic TV cars of the 1960s and 1970s.





1966 Pontiac GTO ?Monkeemobile? ?The Monkees? (1966?1968)

“Hey hey, we’re the Monkees!” announced the theme song from the 1960s musical comedy classic. Created as an American challenger to the popularity of Britain’s Beatles, the Monkees TV show was a hit with American teens. The show centered around four bandmates — Davy Jones, Mike Nesmith, Peter Tork and Micky Dolenz — trying to make it big in the music business and craziness ensues with every episode, much to their dismay. The Monkees often cruised around in a highly modified 1966 Pontiac GTO designed by Dean Jeffries. The car features a big engine with blower, three rows of seats, a touring-car style convertible roof, and a parachute out back. With the recent passing of Michael Nesmith, Micky Dolenz is the last surviving member of the Monkees. Nesmith died at his home in California on December 10, 2021.



1962 Volvo P1800 ?The Saint? (1962?1969)

Predating the James Bond franchise, “The Saint” was a British spy thriller series that originally ran from 1962 through 1969. Starring Roger Moore as spy Simon Templar, the show was picked up by

NBC in the United States as summer filler during the 1966 season, and it became hugely popular. Part of Moore’s allure had to be his ride — a white Volvo P1800 that fans associated with the show so much that the retail vehicle eventually became known as the “Saint Volvo.” (It was also successfully reproduced in toy form by British toymaker Corgi and others.) During the show’s run the P1800 became a big star alongside Moore, who eventually went on to become an even bigger star in a little movie franchise known for portraying the daring escapades of a dashing British agent codenamed 007.



Model T Ford Munster Koach ?The Munsters? (1964-1966)

A family right out of the groovy 1960s, the Munsters were a hilarious American gothic horror show that happened to live right down the street — a little weird, a little scary, but always good for a laugh. And what a family car they drove. Designed by the undisputed king of TV cars George Barris, the Munster Koach was a ghoulish favorite of hot-rod obsessed kids — of all ages. An extension of this peculiar family, the Koach is constructed from of a Model T Ford chopped and elongated into a hearselike bit of horrific kit. Viewers were never quite sure who was scarier — Fred Gwynne as the Frankensteinish family patriarch Herman Munster, or the Koach itself.



### Lincoln Futura Batmobile ?Batman? (1966-1968)

Legend has it that well-known California car customizer George Barris had only three weeks to come up with a vehicle for “Batman.” According to personal accounts, Barris repurposed a Lincoln Futura concept car — which he had purchased for \$1 — into the foundation for the Batmobile. The reason this car captured the hearts of show fans and automotive buffs alike is its batlike looks at every angle — from batwing fins both front and rear to a formidable batlike face when viewed from the front. The car also sports a cockpit-like canopy reminiscent of another flying object, right down to its bat-logo mag wheels. The Batmobile possessed so much of the show’s essence (and cool gadgetry kids love) that eventually viewers considered it a character in the series.



### 1966 Chrysler Imperial Crown Limousine The Green Hornet? (1966-1967)

Although it aired for only one season in the mid Sixties, “The Green Hornet” became a cult classic. Two primary reasons for that status were the casting of up-and-coming martial arts star Bruce Lee, and the Green Hornet’s ride while fighting crime: a highly customized 1966 Chrysler Imperial Crown limousine. The prolific George Barris and Dean Jefferies designed and built the car, dubbed “Black Beauty.” At 19 feet long, this menacing vehicle was called a rolling arsenal in the show’s opening title sequence. At the Green Hornet’s disposal for fighting crime were Black Beauty’s rocket launchers and a gas gun in the grille, rocket launchers at the rear, as well as a surveillance satellite that launches out of the trunk — a prescient bit of tech similar to drones of today. Retractable quad green headlights cemented the Black Beauty’s hornetlike looks.



### 1974 Ford Gran Torino ?Starsky and Hutch? (1974-1976)

What represented the 1970s better than crime show “Starsky and Hutch?” Stars Paul Michael Glaser and David Soul were the epitome of Seventies cop cool, cruising the streets of fictional Bay City, California, in Starsky’s red Ford Torino. But look out when a typical day in Bay City took a turn and Hutch popped a flashing red gumball light on the roof of the Striped Tomato as the duo gave chase to countless crooks who never knew what they were in for. Throughout the series, the Torino was part of so many chase scenes that it became almost as popular as the detectives themselves, spawning countless copycat cars throughout America, such as the replica shown above.



### Kawasaki KZP Motorcycles ?CHiPs? (1977-1983)

Another show set under the California sun, “CHiPs” was an action-packed crime drama portraying the lives of two motorcycle cops of the California Highway Patrol (hence CHiPs). The show had two stars: Erik Estrada as macho officer Franck “Ponch” Poncherello and Larry Wilcox as his more straightlaced partner Jon Baker. Although stunt doubles were used for long shots or particularly dangerous maneuvers, Estrada and Wilcox learned to ride the behemoth Kawasaki Z1-P and Z900-C2 (seasons 1 and 2) and Kawasaki KZ1000-C1s (used until the end of the series). Estrada reportedly had a few crashes during filming, suffering multiple minor injuries and a

major one during which he broke both wrists and some ribs. Many years later it came to light that Estrada did not actually possess a motorcycle license while filming the series.



#### 1978 Checker Taxi Cab ?Taxi? (1978?1982)

From the opening sequence of a taxicab cruising across New York's Queensboro Bridge — accompanied by the show's dulcet theme music composed by jazz great Bob James — the 1980s series "Taxi" went on to elevate more than a few careers into the pantheon of TV stardom: Judd Hirsch, Andy Kaufman, Danny DeVito, Tony Danza, Marilu Henner, Christopher Lloyd, Jeff Conaway. Beyond these stars, an unsung hero of the show had to be the Checker cabs so often in the background (and sometimes foreground) of most shots throughout the four-year series. Always shown with typical NYC wear and tear, never getting the attention they deserved from garage mechanic Latka Gravas (played by brilliant comedian Andy Kaufman), the yellow cabs never the less left an indelible mark in the collective conscious of those who loved the show.



#### 1921 Oldsmobile Model 43-A (or 46) The Beverly Hillbillies? (1962-1971)

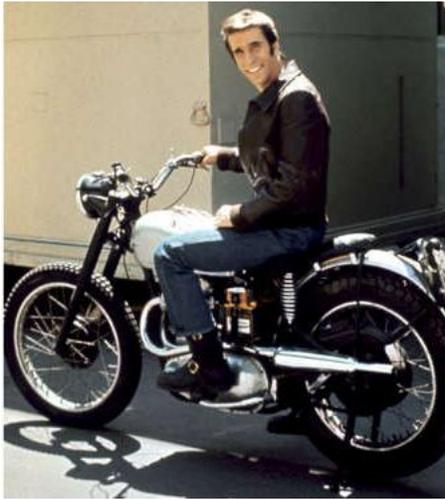
A TV gem likely better known for its theme song rather than the actual show, "The Beverly Hillbillies" was a popular situation comedy in its time and became a cult classic in subsequent

syndication. The show's famous set of wheels is a dilapidated truck the backwoods-but-oil-rich Clampett family drove cross country from the Ozarks to reach Beverly Hills, California. The truck was created by none other than legendary TV and movie car customizer George Barris. According to a book about Barris, he found a 1921 Oldsmobile touring car behind a feed store in Fontana, California, already decrepit enough in its own right. The truck is now on display at the Ralph Foster Museum at the College of the Ozarks — a donation from the show's producer Paul Henning, who grew up in nearby Missouri. Sources differ on the Oldsmobile model, some calling it a 43-A and some a 46, so there was likely more than one version created for the show.



#### Chevrolet Corvette Convertibles Route 66 (1960-1964)

The adventure crime drama "Route 66" had a total of 116 episodes during its four-year run. The show was an episodic anthology following two young men as they traveled America — most of the time far from the show's eponymous highway. The show initially starred Martin Milner (who later went on to a starring role in the police drama "Adam 12") and George Maharis, who eventually left the show citing health reasons. "Route 66" also starred various models of Chevrolet Corvette convertibles that corresponded with the show's run: 1960–1964. The image above shows Maharis in 1961 on location in New York City with a Horizon Blue Corvette. The series was shot in black and white, so the production team employed subdued car colors for filming to portray a broader spectrum of color than primary hues alone.



### 1949 Triumph Trophy TR5 Scrambler - Happy Days? (1974-1984)

A show that likely gained popularity due a nostalgic longing for a simpler time in post-Vietnam and Watergate America, “Happy Days” ran for 11 seasons. Achieving No. 1 in Nielsen ratings in its third season, the character-driven comedy grew immensely popular with a demographic that could identify with the 1950s time period portrayed. One of the show’s most popular characters was Arthur “The Fonz” Fonzarelli, a leather-jacket-clad tough who beneath a brash exterior had a heart of gold, played brilliantly by actor Henry Winkler. And one of the coolest things about the Fonz — beyond his hair and signature thumbs-up accompanied by an “Ayyyyyyyyy!” — was his Triumph motorcycle, which gained a cult following from kids of all ages when The Fonz jumped 14 garbage cans in a two-part episode called “Fearless Fonzarelli,” the title likely being a nod to legendary motorcycle daredevil Evel Knievel.



### 1951 Ford F100 ?Sanford and Son? (1972-1977)

One of the best-known and loved shows of the 1970s, “Sanford and Son” was a prime-time vehicle for comedian Redd Foxx and on-air son Demond Wilson. The father-son junk dealer duo had run-in after run-in with all types, from incredulous customers to Fred’s sister-in-law (and Lamont’s aunt) Esther, Fred’s arch nemesis. Esther was a foil for many of cantankerous Fred Sanford’s

catchphrases. Produced by Norman Lear, known for his other groundbreaking show “All in the Family,” Sanford and Son took place in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles. Fred’s rusted-out red Ford F100 appeared prominently in the show’s opening theme as well as in many episodes throughout the show’s five-year run. The truck is currently owned by two friends and former police officers (and “Sanford and Son” fans) who own a vehicle restoration business called Blueline Classics in North Royalton, Ohio.



### 1969 Dodge Charger - The Dukes of Hazard (1979-1985)

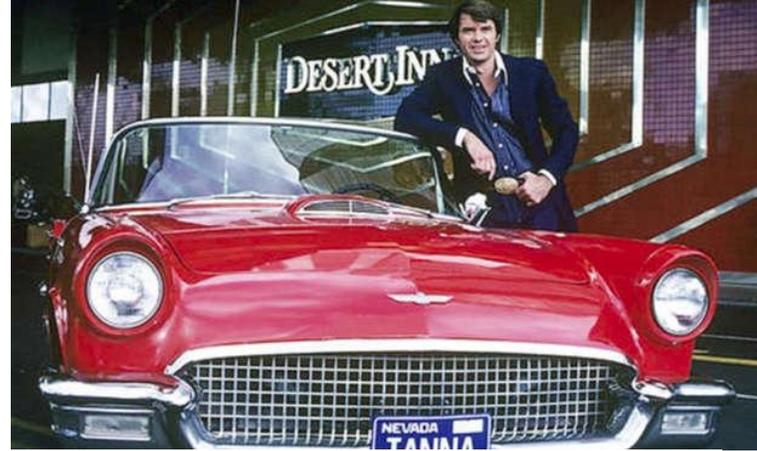
Barely sneaking onto a list of 1960s–70s TV cars, the outrageously popular show “The Dukes of Hazzard” ran from 1979 through 1985. The comedy series pitted Southern cousins Bo (John Schneider) and Luke (Tom Wopat) Duke — who are on five years’ probation for running moonshine — against a police department more crooked than a hound’s hind leg. The show spawned many beloved characters, including Sheriff Roscoe P. Coltrane (James Best), corrupt commissioner Boss Hogg (Sorrell Brooke) and cousin Daisy Duke (Catherine Bach). Although the strong cast created an entertaining show each week, the true star of “The Dukes of Hazzard” eventually became the customized bright orange 1969 Dodge Charger the boys used to evade the law and ultimately do good. The Duke brothers’ stunts are stuff of TV legend, speeding, skidding and jumping the bright red car through and over almost anything imaginable, constantly evading the Hazzard County police or Boss Hogg’s henchmen. Reportedly more than 350 Chargers were used (and wrecked) during show production, to the point where the producers had difficulty sourcing the cars and had to modify other model years and models.



### The Mystery Machine ?Scooby Doo, Where Are You?? (1969?1972)

One of the great animated cartoons of the 1970s, “Scooby Doo, Where Are You?” ran for three years spanning the late Sixties to early Seventies. Each week the gang of Freddy Jones (“Let’s split up gang!”), Velma Dinkley (“Jinkies!”), the irrepressible Scooby Doo (“Ruh Roh!”), Shaggy Rogers (“Zoinks!”) and Daphne Blake (“Jeepers!”) got into some crazy high jinks that always ended up being a mystery of some sort. The gang traveled around in The Mystery Machine — a nondescript brand of van painted in some groovy 1970s colors replete with flower power. The plots always ended with the unmasking of some ghoulish creature masquerading around to scare off various folks intent on discovering a dark secret (often involving ill-gotten gains). The gang always came through to solve the mystery, but the real stars of the show were The Mystery Machine and Casey Kasem, well-

known DJ of the popular Seventies-era “America’s Top 40” radio show and voice of Shaggy Rogers.



### 957 Ford Thunderbird ?Vega\$? (1978?1981)

Another detective show of the late Seventies, “Vega\$” starred Robert Urich as Dan Tanna, a Sin City PI who cruises the strip in his red 1957 Ford Thunderbird convertible. Tanna’s clients included casino owners, friends, families, private business associates and other characters trying to eke out a life in the Nevada desert oasis of neon and grit. The stubby red 1957 T-Bird is unmistakably Dan Tanna thanks to the vanity license plates, and Urich is often seen running and jumping into the vehicle after some “Aha!” moment that propels the plot forward. The car became such a part of the show’s identity that British toy manufacturer Corgi made a diecast reproduction of the car complete with a plastic figurine of Urich as Dan Tanna behind the wheel.

That’s it for this month - - - **Now enjoy the holidays and then go build a model**