Learn about the International Model Car Builders' Museum!



The International Model Car Builders' Museum was founded in 1987 to preserve the history of the scale vehicle hobby. Before the Museum opened its doors, early leaders of the Museum spent years acquiring historical information, letters between hobby personalities, collections of the famed magazines of the Sixties as well as obtaining models built by historic builders whose craftsmanship helped define the hobby. From the earliest days of the Museum, one chief goal of the effort was to gather together the largest possible collection of information, models, artifacts and documents so that hobbyists and scholars, decades in the future, would have a central place to research the wonderful history of the great model car hobby.

In 2000, the Museum moved to a 1,200 square foot facility in Sandy, Utah. At the new location, there was finally enough room to unpack the many historic items previously purchased or donated. For the first time, the library was organized and thousands of magazines were placed in archival plastic sleeves and then stored in protective binders. Also, models from both famed and obscure modelers were



John Estlow's nephew, Allen Taylor, represented the Estlow family's donation of John's famed "TV Merc" to the Museum.

organized by subject matter, and a very substantial collection of vintage and contemporary paints, adhesives, putties and Auto World items were finally unpacked and placed in cabinets. The Museum also hosts a bank of filing cabinets (filled with thousands of printed items), dozens of event videos, plaques, air boxes, Augie Hiscano and Mike Johnson models, and the Dave Shuklis collection and more.

The Museum features the famed Oakland Roadster Show Diorama and received, by donation in 2009, the incredible "TV Merc" from the family of legendary builder John Estlow who passed away before he could visit the Museum. With this model, John won the International Modelers Guild Motorama Championship in 1964.

The Museum has several major projects aimed at reproducing classic, influential models from the history of our hobby, and digitally scanning historic magazines so that future hobbyists and historians can learn about our hobby. And the Museum is also the principal sponsor of the leading competitive event in the hobby – the GSL International Scale Vehicle Championship and Convention.

Museum Programs

Scan the Past.

To achieve the goal of archiving historic and contemporary materials and memorabilia, the Museum inaugurated its Scan the Past program which archives high resolution scanned magazines in DVD format. So far, more than 110 magazines have been scanned in high resolution. Multiple dozens of monthly magazines and special issues publications have been scanned to date, with dozens more currently being scanned. *Can you scan some magazines for the Museum?*



Oakland Roadster Diorama. Currently on display at the Museum. Constructed by Ken Hamilton in 1993, dedicated to Bob Barnett.

The International Model Car Builders' Museum

Museum Programs Cont'd

Clone the Past.

Another major focus of the Museum is to display the most significant models in the history of the hobby. Museum Trustees and selected model car historians have assembled the list of the most models, and divided it into "ages" of the model car hobby. Subsequently, the Museum has attempted to acquire these models by donation or loan and, where those models aren't available, selected volunteer modelers have replicated – cloned – those models. Almost a dozen historic models have already been cloned by leading builders, with about that number underway presently. Will you clone a famous, historic model?

The Builder.

The Museum regularly publishes a large newsletter that acquaints the public with ongoing and current projects, and recent acquisitions. First started in the early Nineties, *The Builder* is shared, free of charge, with the public.

Contest and Event Sponsorship.

The Museum is also dedicated to current and future events in the hobby. The Museum is the chief sponsor of the world-famous GSL International Scale Vehicle Championship and Convention. We also sponsor other events.

Collected Artifacts.

In addition to collecting famous scale models, the Museum is working to organize its collection of vintage AMT, Pactra, Testor and other paints and building supplies. We have special display cabinets exhibiting interesting historical items from Auto World, Monogram, Revell, AMT, and MPC.

Library.

The Museum has an extensive library filled with thousands of individual magazines on the model car hobby, and vintage and contemporary books focused on our hobby. The magazines in the library are those being preserved through our Scan the Past program.



Clone The Past. Replica of Lonn Stern's Astrodan, circa 1964. Replica by Mike Good and Mark S. Gustavson.



One of the four "themed" display cases. Hundreds of models are presented in this format.



Angie Hiscano's co-winning "Adult" category model from 1964 Revell-Pactra national contest.

IMPORTANT NEWS! Soon, through the very generous help of the Tri-State Model Car Club, we'll start to inventory the collection for inclusion in a new website that Museum Trustee Paul Anagnostopoulos is creating. This inventory, and new website, will lead to a searchable data base for the new Museum website that will permit interested builders anywhere in the world to learn about, and enjoy, the incredible collection we've amassed.

We Need Your Help!

The Museum really needs your help. Can you scan some magazines, or clone a model, or make donation? We need your help – local Salt Lake City Trustees can't possibly do all of the work necessary to pursue and achieve the Museum's programs.

Can you make a monetary donation?

To help the Museum keep its doors open, monetary donations are always welcomed, and much needed. Donations to the Museum (whether monetary or in kind) are tax-deductible to the donor (though we encourage each donor to consult with their CPA or tax advisor).

Contact Us!

You can e-mail Museum Founder Mark S. Gustavson by sending a note to: msgsl@xmission.com
You can visit the current/outdated Museum website at: http://www.TheModelCarMuseum.org
For information about the GSL Championship, go here: http://www.gslchampionship.org/
Please mail all donations, letter and inquiries to the address at the bottom of this page.

The International Model Car Builders' Museum

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