

A Really Big Small-Scale Show

Over four days this past April 27-30 in Salt Lake City, Utah, the “26th GSL International Scale Vehicle Championship and Convention” was held at the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel. Registration was open Thursday, Friday and closed at 4pm on Saturday. Special “light boxes” were available to photograph the entries



Three large ballrooms in the Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel were lined with tables where all the cars in competition were on display and ultimately judged in over 30 categories.

as they registered. Numerous seminars were presented throughout the convention, including “How I Worked with Monogram Models in the Sixties” by the Show’s Guest of Honor Darryl Starbird, “The Predicta Project—a Car for all Scales,” “How I built my Best of Show Model for GSL XXV,” “3D Modeling,” “Craftsmanship Techniques” and an update on the “International Model Car Builders’ Museum.” A separate room was set aside for a large trade show/swap meet on Saturday morning and all after-
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noon buses were available to shuttle participants to the “International Model Car Builders’ Museum” in nearby Sandy, Utah. Saturday evening a large benefit auction of new model car kits and other items of interest to scale model builders was held to benefit the museum. Sunday morning a breakfast was held for all the participants before awards were presented in more than 30 categories. This year there were over 70 sponsors and trade show participants supporting the show.

Mark S. Gustavson founded the “Utah Model Car Association Salt Lake City Championship”



Nearly two dozen vendors participated in the Trade Show with a wide variety of new and used parts of interest to scale modelers of all kinds.

(which later became the GSL Championship) with just 14 contestants entering 38 models in 1979 to provide an encouraging, objective and hospitable venue for sophisticated scale vehicle modelers (regardless of



Mark S. Gustavson (L) founder of the “GSL International Scale Model Championship” and the “Model Car Builders’ Museum” welcomes Darryl Starbird, this year’s “Special Guest of Honor.”

what style of model vehicles they build) to compete against other great builders where craftsmanship, technical innovation and building skills would be recognized and rewarded. The Championship has been held at eight different hotels and has hosted many hundreds of differ-



On Saturday afternoon shuttle buses took participants on a short drive to Sandy, UT, to visit the “International Model Car Builders’ Museum” housing over 10,000 items. Tours are available by appointment only.