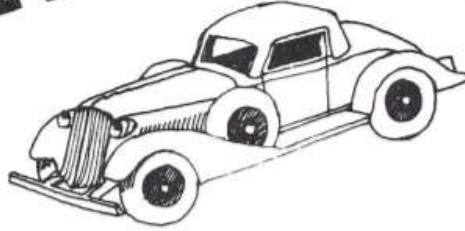


# CAPITOL MINIATURE AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB



**MARCH 2025**

**NEXT MEETING: MARCH 16, 2025**

# **CMACC MEETING DETAILS**

## **MARCH 2025**

**DATE AND TIME:** SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025 11:00 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

**LOCATION:** VIENNA FIREHOUSE BOARD ROOM (JACK WILL BE HAVING 1/64 SALE 8 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. IN MAIN HALL), 400 SOUTH CENTER ST., VIENNA, VA 22180

**THEME:** THINKING ABOUT SPRING—TOPLESS VEHICLES-MORGANS TO ELDORADO CONVERTS TO OPEN TOP BUSES—WHATEVER!

**RSVP:** HAROLD BLEVINS 517-224-1123,  
[shadyvalley48@gmail.com](mailto:shadyvalley48@gmail.com)

### **EVENTS: Let me know if you know!**

**March 16, 2025—8 a.m. to 2 p.m., JAX 1/64 sale at the Vienna Firehouse.**

**Now through third week of April, 2025, Reaching for Perfection, the story of the artistic impact of the Bugatti family (including five Bugatti autos, Art Nouveau furniture, etc.), Academy Art Museum, Easton, MD.**

## **Editor's Corner**

Again, thanks to the Blevins family for setting up our winter meetings! And thanks to our contributors, Doug Campbell, Dick Williams, Josh Pinho! And to Marc Star (see the last article). More please from everybody—doesn't have to be 25 photos—pick your favorite model, take a photo or two, and tell why it's your favorite, how you got it, etc.

I haven't gotten any health updates on Dan, but I did hear from Doug that Fred Harris had been hospitalized with the flu but was now home but using an oxygen tank—if you can reach out and cheer him up!

Harold particularly has been working with Nola Gurski to figure out how to recognize the value of Jeff's collection, and he is learning lessons that probably apply to all of us—like having an inventory, knowing something about likely auction sites, etc. See the minutes for more about current plans.

Fred

## **Minutes of the CMACC Meeting of February 16, 2025**

**by Fred Fravel**

Once again our monthly meeting took place at the Vienna firehouse during the Jack's monthly 1/64 sale, in the boardroom next to the meeting hall. Thanks again to Harold and the Blevins team for arranging this series of meetings, and for the lunch during our meeting—choice of hot dogs or barbeque sandwich, coleslaw, sodas, chips—all brought to your seat! Members in attendance included Harold, Todd Blevins, Doug Campbell (with Joan), Jim Brostrom, yours truly, Bill Patton and Dick Williams. We will have one more meeting in the firehall together with Jack's show on March 16, and we are looking for a venue for the April meeting. Share your collection by hosting!

Harold had updates on the work he has been doing to sell items from Jeff's collection. He has been talking to Lloyd Ralston auctioneers about possibly selling the collection. Also, he has been discussing having a "Club" sale in the basement before any auction with Nola. In addition, current plans include a separate sale at the firehouse sometime in April, similar to the Cadillac Club sale but not limited to Cadillacs. Harold has been putting a lot into helping Nola, and he had a long tale of his encounters with the DMV in trying to get new tags for Jeff's "new" Cadillac. This prompted several in the room to start recounting DMV/MVA horror stories. To me the point is that Harold was willing to do it on behalf of someone else—it's bad enough to do it for your own cars.

## Once Around, Show and Tell (OAST)

Harold started out by sharing several items from Jeff's collection that were made/sold by Lee Stokes Industries of Baltimore, Maryland. These are "plaster" cars in two scales, originally intended as model train accessories. They were unpainted, and Harold brought an "O" scale taxi that Jeff had painted. He also had two boxes with multiple cars, in the two scales. The HO set included Hudsons, Packards, Jeepsters, etc., while the "O" scale set was Chevrolet taxis—all cars circa 1950.





Bob Short brought a number of models. These included the 1970 Dodge D300 ramp truck for the Sox and Martin Racing Team, together with a Johnny Lightning S & M Dodge Challenger drag racing car. He also had two Corvairs, the 1/43 D'Agostini repro of the French Dinky Corvair four-door in red, and the new Oxford 1/87 1962 Corvair two-door coupe.



He also brought the new Corgi reproduction of the 1961 Oldsmobile Super 88, along with the original. Many remarked the new model was better looking, having a cleaner casting.



Finally, he had the new GiM 1/43 scale '55 Ford Sunliner in two-tone green.

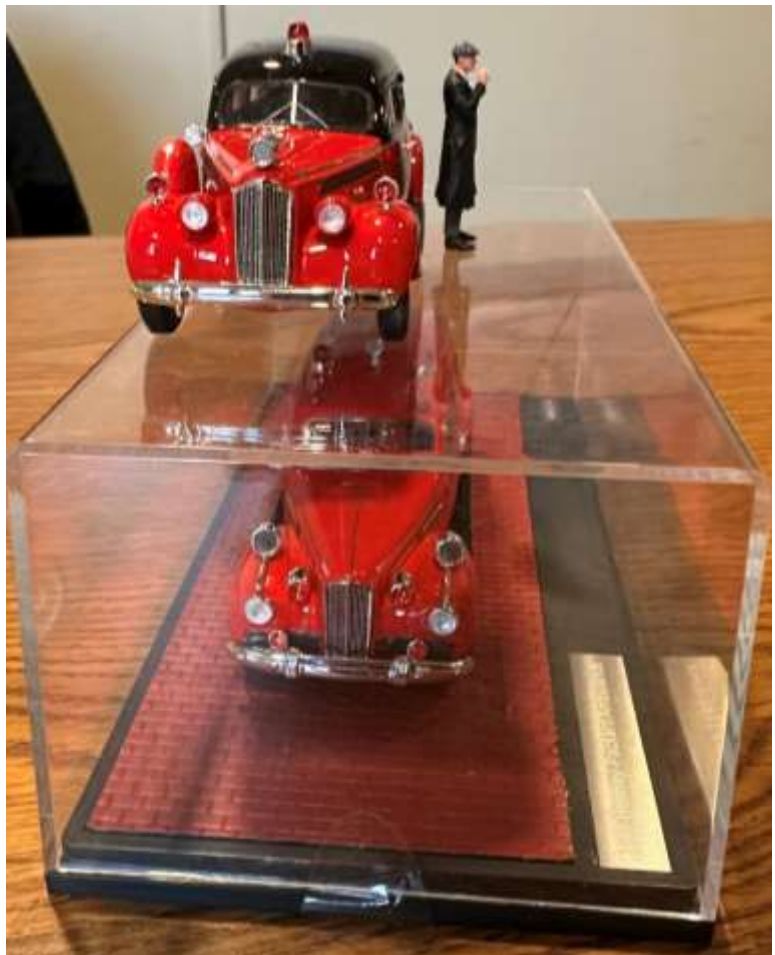


I brought a copy of Automobile Quarterly, Summer 1968, Volume 2, Number 2, which featured an article and drawings by our late Club member Bob Straub. The article, "GT cars in retrospect: Drawings and Captions, by Robert Straub, covered eleven pages with detailed drawings and text. I also brought three recent 1/87 models of Swiss Postal Buses by Reitze of Germany. Swiss Postal buses are an interest I shared with Roger Hirschland.

Jim Brostrom shared several models. They included a new 1/43 GLM model of a 1971 Plymouth 'Cuda convertible (the 'Cuda ended production in 1973), and GIM models of the 1975 Buick LeSabre convertible and the 1976 Buick Electra hardtop.



He also had Matrix models of the 1940 and 1941 Packard Henney ambulance. Dick pointed out that the light on top of the '40 was incorrect, it was not used until 1949. Discussion focused on how to tell the difference between 1940 and 1941 Packards by looking at the headlights (separate vs. in the fender) and the 1941 had grilles extending either side of the main Packard grille.







Jim also added to the Presidential limo theme by sharing the 2019 "Beast" by Kyosho, and the 2009 "Beast" by Luxury Model. He also had an additional figure, President Obama.



Dick Williams also brought a Corgi reissue, the 1959 Chevy Impala Police Car. He had the new one, but he did not have one as a kid, so he didn't have an example of the original for comparison. He also had a couple of "high-end" 1/64 police vehicles from 596 Vehicles: a D.C. Metropolitan Police Ford Interceptor, and a Suburban for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Todd brought us up to date on his visit to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum, where he and Harold got to see the underground storage area, which is where the 1965 LeMans winning Ferrari LM 250 and the Fangio 1954 Mercedes W196R LeMans winner were kept. The Museum just auctioned these cars to raise funds, and because they never ran at the Speedway. The Mercedes was auctioned by RM Sotheby at the Mercedes Museum in Stuttgart, it sold for \$53,017,370. The Ferrari was sold by RM Sotheby in Paris for \$36,344,960. You can see the auctions on YouTube.

Doug brought several interesting models for OAST. One was a large scale model of a Beiber Tourways coach made for the firm by Charles Wotring (he visited the Club once at Doug's house—made all those plastic promotional bus banks for various bus operators). Another interesting piece is a pmomo of the forthcoming Montgomery County Purple Line light rail vehicles (I have to get one of the those!), picked up at an open house for the project.





### **Program—Cars We had When We Were A' Courting...**

Harold picked the theme to coincide with Valentine's Day, focusing on the car we had when we had our first date(s) or girlfriends. Harold started off by remembering his "young and free" days when he met Carol in high school. She had the car, she got a 1966 red Austin-Healey, after her birthday—a car they still have, represented here by the Dinky Toys Austin-Healey 100. Harold bought a green Austin-Healey in March of the next year, and things proceeded from there.

I told about my first dates using the family 1965 Ford Falcon Squire wagon (burgundy, fake wood, 289 with Cruisomatic). I have never found a model of that car, but I brought a 1/25 scale AMT Falcon 2-door hardtop to represent it. My first car, also used for date nights, was my 1942 Pontiac Torpedo Six, famous among my peers who gave me \$50 for my seventeenth birthday to have it repainted—"Bullet" Mustang green. I brought a National Products 1948 Pontiac to represent that car. Finally, once off at college I got

a 1963 Renault R-8 which made many a trip between Durham and Falls Church. My model is a 1/18 Joustra in the exact colors of my car.

Jim Brostrom brought a 1960 Plymouth Fury convertible model to represent his teen car, a 1960 Plymouth Belvedere four-door with a 318 V-8 nicknamed the "White Whale". Jim replaced the domelight with a blue bulb to give a special cast for date night, and once got it up to 100 miles per hour (?) in an escape from a game warden.



Dick Williams' date car was a 1983 Honda Accord. The car is long gone, but he is still married. His first car was a 1949 Oldsmobile. He didn't bring models of either.

Doug Campbell brought a CKO model of a Ford Capri that he bought while on a tour in Heidelberg, Germany, to relate a story about being on a tour with Joan. He saw the model at a stop, and got off to get it, leaving her on the coach to continue the tour—she knew he had to do it, and he would catch up. His college vehicle was represented by a SEPTA PCC car, what he used in Philadelphia to get around when in pharmacy school.



Bill Patton brought several cars. His first car was a 1936 Ford coupe with rumble seat, bought for \$50. He told a story about being pulled over by the police—Dick Williams wanted to know if he had a photo of the police car! Bill sold that car, and then when he met Carolina he had a 1955 Austin-Healey, represented by a model of it. Somewhere in there he had a 1949 Olds V-8. He sold it and bought a 1955 Studebaker. She had a 1955 Chevy V-8, represented by a Road Champs model. Later, after he was married, his Studebaker interest morphed into a 1965 Avani, represented by a Japanese tin version.





## **ONCE AROUND, SHOW AND TELL (OAST)**

### **OAST- Doug Campbell**

Issued in 1973, this "Super Thrust" cab style TONKA TOYS(made in Mound , Minnesota) steel semi-truck, is a limited promotional model made exclusively back then for Stanley Home Products, and I recently saw this one on EBay, looking like it just came out of the Tonka factory, and bids starting at \$25, and they didn't go too much higher, as I think this model was unnoticed by Tonka collectors, as 2 other very rusted Stanley trucks like this one listed for starting bids of \$99 and \$140! The seller told me his Dad worked for Stanley Home Products, and he was selling one of the two mint condition ones he had, as he only wanted to keep one for himself.

Stanley Home Products was founded in 1931 by Frank Stanley Beveridge, who originally worked at Fuller Brush. He used his middle name on his company as he thought his last name would always be "mis-spelled", and Stanley Home Products was the first firm to sell through home parties, a system followed by such firms as Tupperware later on. In 1996, Fuller Brush Co, purchased Stanley Home Products and Stanley Home Products became part of American history!



This fully die-cast 1/43 Good Humor truck, was made by USA Models, and when I bought this one from the late Bob Hooper (Dominion Models), if I wasn't such an enthused "Good Humor" collector, I probably wouldn't have put out, if I remember, the \$150 price which was a lot at the time. In the recent Feb. Lloyd Ralston Auction, one of these was the highest selling item of the 500 lots, at \$2000 plus 18% buyers fee! Wow!!



In the recent Lloyd Ralston Feb. auction, this realistic De Hanes Models (USA) of a MUSHROOM Transportation 1947 Brockway semi, (model made in 1997), was in one of the lots I won.



In the same lot of the recent Lloyd Ralston Auction, I won this very heavy cast DeHanes Models (USA). 1956 Diamond T 931C semi, like the Mushroom, a production of just 50 models. I looked both trucks up in the nine-volume book set - [The Vanishing Trucking Pioneers](#)- and my models by DeHanes are both EXACT replicas of the real trucks that these old trucking companies actually ran on the highways!



Over the years, Hot Wheels has actually made some “nice” & “realistic” castings, like this Disney Citroen Type H van issued in 2022. Just recently in a following photo, I’ve found the only other version of this Citroen Type H van I have seen. Yes, my blister card is cut open on three sides, and I have had this very heavy metal model displayed here on my desk!



I couldn't get out to the recent Timonium, Md. train show until later Sunday afternoon , and it seemed as crowded as Saturdays usually are, and one vendor had all his German plastic HO models reduced that day to \$10 each, so I collected this mint(Mirrors were packed inside truck canopy), Mercedes German beer promotional double trailer rig.



Just after WWII, RALSTOY (USA) was able to get back into making METAL toys, and sold thousands of this CADILLAC toy in 5 & dime stores, all chrome silver plated. On EBay recently, I found this cheaply priced, nicely painted custom version, with all lights jeweled, which looks so much nicer than the original version!



A very cheaply-priced EBay find recently is this 1950 Tootsietoy Mack semi, which I wanted as it's the first one I have owned with the short, Tootsietoy heavy cast trailer, which was made with no rear doors....my many later promo versions use the longer, lighter cast trailer with removable tin roof and removable rear doors. I'm not sure if the "SEARS" labels are original, although few Tootsietoy factory promo models are listed in my many Tootsietoy reference books, so I wonder if this was made in the 1950's as part of a Tootsietoy gift set in a "Wish Book" holiday toy catalog!?? The labels look like those often used on Tootsietoy private-promotional models!



While in a local Wal-Mart recently I noticed a whole stack of these Hot Wheels sets, and noticed one of those Citroen H van was in those sets, so I had to buy one, and it really is quite an attractive set of models now that I have looked at them out of the awful packaging!



At a tiny 1 & 1/2 inches long, this heavy die-cast CHINA POST Express Tricycle is a replica of one of the current vehicles used to deliver mail in China. The model is by XCARTOYS, made in China.



When I grew up in the 1950's this was a very typical truck used by small grocery stores for delivery. This model is by ERTL (China) in 1994, and models a 1949 Chevy panel truck...the seller did not know where "Wayne Food Market" was located, but I see one was located years back outside of Philadelphia, so maybe it was their promotional model???



At the recent Timonium train show, these 2 German RIETZE HO scale plastic buses were sealed in original box and reduced to the true bargain price of \$10 each on Sunday, so I couldn't resist. The left one is a MAN R02 Lion's Star bus (took me about 1/2 hour to mount those tiny windshield wipers in place!), and at

the rear is a Mercedes 0404 RHD bus, (I have to mount the mirrors at a later date!) and these are made as advertising for those particular German motor coach carriers.





I have collected many of these die-cast ERTL TOYS promotional 1/64 scale trucks over the years, but this one recently really caught my eye, with its special packaging (graphics outside box introducing the SIROD "foam" material used in model packing new to this paper company from California)...and the great WHITE GM conventional cab masking colors/graphics make this such a special model indeed! All graphics are pad printed.

Back in my "archives" I'm showing this plastic MARATHON OIL tanker, a 1997 credit card holder only edition, with 3,504 produced with lighting, sounds, and a savings bank inside took! This truck model exactly replicates the MARATHON tankers I used to see when visiting the central US states ! Box graphics are from a painting hanging inside Marathon's corporate offices in Ohio.



While on a "Marathon" theme, I also am showing from my "archives", this plastic HO scale GERMAN MARATHON BEER Mercedes promotional truck, pulling a "dispensing" trailer probably seen in German beer gardens. This model was a "give-away" promotion with beer purchase in Germany a few years ago.



For the "CORGI" fans in our club, who are enjoying the wonderful re-issues by the new Corgi Model Club, it seems later this year they are releasing maybe the most complex re-issue casting yet....the 1st re-issued CORGI MAJOR toy...this wonderful ERURIE ECOSSE Race Car Transporter, from the 1960's era. This model was one of my favorite playtoys when younger, which I have luckily well preserved! I have the side door open to show the detailed workshop interior, and the truck carries three race cars(it's too late tonight for me to dig out three

3 Corgi race cars to display here!..this truck exactly replicates the real team Ecurie Ecosse race transporter...ramp folds down in back and top ramp lowers...my model has the orange cast lettering, but many were also painted originally in blue letters, which I'm hoping the re-issue will be released in, so I can have both colors! I hope the re-issue price won't be overwhelming, as this is a very complex casting to remake!



Many years ago, I collected the two versions of this 1930's PICKWICK NITECOACH bus by Retro 1-2-3 which were heavy, huge and truly works of art! I don't have room here in our small house to properly display my large Retro 1-2-3- models so I donated all of them, where they are now on public display for all to enjoy, at the Antique Automobile Club Of America Library in Hershey, Pa. (Largest automotive library in the world!) , so I was delighted to just recently see AUTOCULT MODELS (Germany- made in China) have made much

smaller, and actually well better detailed maybe 1/43 (???) scaled models of both of the colors of the "Alsacia" (each Pickwick NiteCoach is named after a woman). I ordered the nicer orange/black/white version from Italy, and its still in TransAtlantic shipment, but I found that Awesome Diecast, here in the USA, is stocking this blue/white later version of that bus- painted in these colors after Greyhound Lines purchased the old Pickwick Stages. , so now I can enjoy both versions, in much smaller size then my old Retro 1-2-3 editions of both buses! Even the little made-up sleeping berths are seen in this smaller version, although unlike the Retro models, the front engine block does not slide out as on the real coaches, for service, and no doors, nor spare tire compartment open on the Autocult versions. But the interior on these new Autocult models is truly filled with impressive details!



Here's the original color scheme of the 1930 "Alsacia" Pickwick NiteCoach by AutoCult Models... my model just arrived from Italy and this is my favorite color of this coach, before Greyhound painted it into the blue and white colors. All Pickwick NiteCoaches were of different and unique design.. the "Alsacia" was one of the most attractive and unusual and in this small model you can see the sleeping berths that were made up from day seating for sleeping at night on the long journey from Los Angeles nonstop to Chicago! The little porthole windows were for passengers to look out of when reclined on the sleeping beds !



I remember growing up in the 50's, I was a real fan of Roy Rogers on TV, so played with (still have!) the wonderful MARX Roy Riogers metal semi-trailer, still mint-boxed with accessories, and I remember eating delicious ROY ROGERS COOKIES which were baked by Carr Consolidated Biscuit Co. of Wilkes- Barre, Pa . They were delicious and somewhat healthy too- as they were baked with Quaker Oats, & enriched with HONEY, cashew nuts, raisins, flour, milk and creamery butter! So back in 2002 (not sure who for, or why this was issued) FIRST GEAR made this really colorful 1949 International kb-10 tractor-trailer model of the trucks that probably used to deliver those delicious cookies from the bakery to grocers. It is a heavy 1/34 scale fully die—cast truck model....and those graphics are spectacular, all tampo-printed directly onto the model truck! I've displayed the truck model with an actual 1950's newspaper comic in my collection advertising Roy Rogers Cookies!



Just published (2024) in a nice hardback "library style" book (shown in right rear), and in the left rear is a reprint of the smaller "pocket-size" (2021) earlier edition—both actually the SAME books....the kind author Bernard Veale, in the UK, when I ordered my larger book, he also autographed, and included one of the smaller ones..."to use at shows"! The volumes show & describe, in color photos, (supposedly!) every DURHAM MODEL(made in Canada) ever issued, although just after receiving my copy I send Bernard a photo of my Chevy Durham purple wrecker shown in front left, as it's NOT shown in the book, and I must look up my box in our garage when it gets warmer outside, as he wants to include it in next edition, and is writing Durham's old owners to get more details of my model! The other two models are some of the

others in my collection....If you have interest in the old DURHAM MODELS (Canada) , this book is a must for your library. Contact the. Author in the UK at [www.b.veale@btinternet.com](mailto:www.b.veale@btinternet.com), and he accepts PayPal if you have an account.



Although Switzerland was vey favorite nation to have visited, my next favorite was AUSTRIA, where I have made three visits to in my lifetime, and never know until I just received this TRULY SPECTACULAR new book, shown above, that many wonderful toys vehicles were actually made in Austria! The model buses shown in this beautiful volume are overwhelming..and far too rare for me to find..but in the last photo, I'll show a HO plastic Austrian SMART Cigeretts semi-truck/trailer that I bought in a little shop in Salzburg , AUSTRIA years ago, not realizing until I saw it pictured in this new book, that it was made only for the Austrian market, as some models are shown at the book's last pages, but as I can't get to it in my cases tonight, I believe it was made in Germany. You have to order in German from the publisher, and it's not too hard to figure out. At [www.hollinek.at](http://www.hollinek.at)



This little model, an Austria exclusive, is in my collection from many years ago, HO scale, plastic...one I bought while visiting Austria.



## OAST- Bob Short

An ebay find, Alskog 1956 Plymouth. Since I like mid 50s Mopars I had to buy this. An oddity to be sure I'd say is about 1/32 scale but it's kind of stubby. Made in Sweden, unknown when. It's somewhat like Auburn Rubber vinyl cars. There are other vehicles made by this manufacturer including a 1948 Cadillac, 1948 Buick and 1938 Ford. Interestingly it is stamped on the underside as a 1954 Plymouth.



# DAYTONA 500!

## BY JOSH PINHO

Earlier this month my dad and I made our annual road trip down to Florida for the Daytona 500. As per our tradition, on the drive down from New Jersey, we take a detour through Charlotte, NC to check out some of the teams' headquarters and some racing museums in the area. While I didn't end up purchasing too many diecasts this trip, I saw several cars in the various museums that I have models of in my collection, including Bill Elliott's "Thunderbat" which ran in 1995 to promote the movie Batman Forever. As a big Batman fan growing up, I have very fond memories of that car and still have my old t-shirt that featured it.

While in Charlotte, we took the "Feel the Thrill" tour of Charlotte Motor Speedway. When we saw the van we were being loaded into, we were a bit skeptical of how much of a thrill we were in for. Tracey, our tour guide, had a lot of very interesting stories from her time as a flight attendant for one of the team's private jets and having been married to a longtime spotter for several drivers (spotters are team members who watch the race from the top of the grandstands and relay information over the radio to their drivers). Once our van was clear to go on the track, it became very clear that Tracey's driving was at least as interesting as her stories, as she didn't hesitate to throw the van around Charlotte's road course and did a full lap of Charlotte's oval, including the 27 degree banked corners.

As you may remember from many of my OASTs, I'm a big fan of Martin Truex Jr. who also hails from New Jersey – very close to where I grew up.

After having retired from full-time racing at the end of last season, and with no confirmed entries in any upcoming races, this past 500 could very well be Truex's last NASCAR cup race. While the race could've gone much better for Martin – as he was involved in a wreck on lap 70 that took him out – as a longtime fan of his, it was good to see him out on track, for what could be, the last time.

This race was also, notably, the first NASCAR start for four-time Indy 500 winner, Helio Castroneves, whose race also unfortunately ended early as he was also involved in the lap 70 wreck.

In addition to the usual pre-race spectacle, which includes a flyover and brief airshow by the US Air Force Thunderbirds, we were also treated to a flyby by Air Force One. After landing at the Daytona airport, which sits just behind the backstretch of the speedway, President Trump made his way to the track and led the field for a few parade laps in the Cadillac Presidential State limousine – "the Beast." A nice added bonus for this year's running of the Great American Race.















## Another Visit to the Factory Antique Mall, Verona, VA

**By Dick Williams**

I've visited a lot of antique stores in several states over the past couple of years, photographing various diecast, pressed steel and plastic vehicular treasures. These stores are like small museums. I prefer antique malls, which house many small independent dealers and are more likely to have dealers who specialize, than one-owner stores. Fortunately, malls seem to be the trend these days. Obviously, some stores have more finds of interest to me than others, but after visiting dozens of places and taking scores of photos, I think I can make some general observations:

- The most likely model vehicles to find in antique stores seem to be trucks; the most prolific of these are large, pressed steel or tin toys, Winross trucks, some Lledo, and diecast or plastic toys. Hess trucks are still seen a lot, but the prices usually are quite low, and the ones seen the most are newer, “goofier” ones, not the older, more realistic trucks. Racing cars, mainly NASCAR, also are popular, and some “antique” stores have large selections of contemporary, popular small-scale cars like Hot Wheels, Matchbox and Greenlight. Older versions of MB and Hot Wheels are much more rare.
- The most sought-after true model vehicles in 1:43 scale are infrequent, but not unusual, finds. Old Dinky and Corgi toys are available, but sparse. The ones that are there tend to be trucks and military vehicles, with occasional cars seen, usually in poor condition. Other brands of diecast in that scale are rare gems, and I don’t think I’ve ever seen a white metal model in an antique store – possible one or two. On the other hand, 1:18 scale cars abound, but since that scale hasn’t been around that long, the cars available aren’t really in the “antique” class, and usually the prices are higher than I’d expect.
- Anyone who thinks they’ll find bargains galore in antique stores usually will be disappointed. It’s like “barn finds” for 1:1 scale car collectors – they do exist, but they’re rare. When one comes along, it’s like finding a buried treasure. I used to think that general antique dealers wouldn’t be cognizant of the true worth of some older toys, but now I believe most antique dealers check out the going rates on eBay for their finds. Often they’re the same or a little higher in the malls than on eBay. Some guys obviously price their toys and models according to the “if it’s old, it must be valuable” philosophy. What savings that come from shopping in antique stores usually come from not having to pay shipping – but again, I’ll caveat that by saying that there *are* bargains to be found, and there also are rare pieces that are worth the price.
- If you’re searching for any particular older model, you could spend half your life looking in antique stores and never find it – you’ll get a far better selection, and probably better prices, on eBay. The thrill of the hunt, and especially finding a rare piece or a good deal, is the prize in the antique stores. For example, I’ve bought very few items in my many antique store visits, and in fact I almost never see something that both fits my collecting interests and that I don’t already have. But I enjoy the hunt and perusing the old toys, like visiting a museum. These visits have really added to my knowledge and appreciation of old toys, particularly the pressed steel variety. I also enjoy seeing other toys, like Marx playsets, that are out of my line of collecting.
- It’s hard to tell from a store’s size, appearance or even its Facebook page how large a selection of toys and models it’s likely to have. I’ve found some great treasures in smaller stores, and I’ve been in large ones that had very few diecasts. In general, the larger the mall, the more likely it is to find diecast models. I’ve found several malls that have a few dealers who specialize in model and toy vehicles and have good selections of them.

And this leads me to the Factory Antique Mall. Located adjacent to I-81 in the Shenandoah Valley, the Factory used to modestly bill itself the largest antique mall on the East Coast but now boasts that it’s “America’s Largest.” While others probably would dispute that claim – it’s big. Even though I’ve mentioned this place in a previous article, I chose it because of its large selection of diecast and other toys and its relative proximity to the D.C. area (about 2-2.5 hours from northern Virginia). I’ve been there several times, and it’s one of the few places I’ve made purchases (a couple of Dinky military items for good prices).

Herewith, a selection of some of the items for sale during my most recent visit a couple of weeks ago on my way back from Florida:

- 1) The Factory itself! You have to know which exit to take because, despite its size, the building is almost invisible from the Interstate. There's a small sign going northbound, but I don't recall anything southbound. I've missed it more than once.



- 2) Dinky Triumph 2000 with opening features: No box, but in this condition at \$19.75 and no postage, I think it's a genuine good deal.



- 3) Here are three pieces of construction equipment that illustrate the vagaries of prices and bargains. The paver in the foreground is a Voegele Super 204 model in 1:50 scale by the German firm of Gescha. It's marked at \$55, but I found several on eBay, including at least one boxed example, for \$25-30 (I found some higher, too). On the other hand, the \$60 price tag on the Corgi Major Mack R chassis with Priestman crane seems to be lower than many examples on eBay, although conversely, I could find some lower. The Corgi Priestman Cub shovel is also in good shape, but I couldn't see the price tag.



- 4) I bought one of these plastic DG Productions GMC Topkick bucket trucks when they first came out as promotional items for utility companies (I'd hoped to model a GMC pumper from an area fire department). I think I paid around \$35 for it; these are \$50 each, and easily found on eBay for \$25 and up, though some are higher (I found one for \$97!).



5) \$40 isn't exactly a bargain, given the extensive paint "chipping" on it (bad pun intended!), but with the shipping saving it compares well with eBay examples. When I was at this mall last April, the seller also had a Chipperfields flatbed semi-trailer with animal cages selling for \$90. It was gone this time, proving that someone does buy from these dealers.



- 5) I couldn't figure out the reason for the price disparity in these two small (about 8 inches) Wyandotte pressed steel moving vans from the 1950s. The one on the left (\$45) looks to be in better shape than the one on the right for \$90, although that one has glossier paint on the cab. The higher price is about even with several examples on eBay, though I found much cheaper ones, too.



- 6) Here's a very nice example of a Tootsie toy tractor-trailer. It should be, with a price of \$75. I don't know how that compares with eBay, but it would be a nice addition to a truck or Tootsie toy collection. The Dinky McLean semi in the background is in excellent condition, but it's been there since I can remember. The \$225 price probably has something to do with that...



- 7) I've always liked this Yorkshire Diecast series of Bell Telephone trucks, and I've been surprised at how low the prices for mint, boxed examples are. This 1931 Ford Lineman's and Installer's truck is marked at 40 bucks, which is definitely on the high end for most Yorkshire products.



9) I had to include one Winross example for Doug. Most antique malls that have diecast have at least a few of these, sometimes quite a few. This Weaver Nut Company semi was selling for \$25.



10) I know it's hard to see (it was in a case), but this Budgie Scammell Scarab truck marked for the 150th anniversary of the GWR Railroad in the UK is a real steal at \$19.75. One eBay seller says that almost mint, boxed examples of this brown and cream anniversary livery are very unusual and hard to locate. I found several on eBay, usually selling in the \$30-60 range, also with shipping costs from the UK of more than \$25. The seller, J.E.S., is the top diecast dealer there (most of the trucks I've shown come from his cases) and also the seller of the Dinky Triumph. I'm not sure why those two pieces are priced so reasonably. The Solido 1950 Chevy taxi in front of it isn't particularly rare, but a very nice-looking example. I didn't see the price tag.



11) Here's a nice pair of European (left, \$25) and American (\$20) around 1:64 scale. I don't know the brands, but Doug probably can identify them.



12) Here's an example of the unusual or odd vehicle models sometimes found in antique stores, like the Canadian glacier excursion bus I found a couple years ago. This Bangkok Tuk Tuk model looks like it's a pretty inexpensive diecast tourist item, but it's unusual in this country and comes in mint condition with its box. Looks like about 1:18 scale. Another J.E.S. item for \$17.75.



13) Most of these military model trucks I photographed last April are still there, with prices ranging from \$20 to \$60. Most look to be Solido with a couple of Corgi International 6x6 trucks – prices on those (\$30 and \$45) seem pretty good.



14) On the high end is this immaculate pressed steel Allied moving van. I didn't see this on my last visit, but it was there last April. The seller wanted \$325 for it.



15) Another one from last April that I didn't see this time. This is an Ertl 1957 Chevy Coke stakebed truck with Coke machines. I really liked this model, but (fortunately), it doesn't fit my collection. I couldn't see the price tag.



16) I should have bought this last April – it wasn't there anymore this time, and now I see why. Even though it's an emergency vehicle set, I'm trying to cut down on my acquisitions, and these fire trucks seemed more toylike and less realistic than most. I did know that Fun Ho is a New Zealand diecast company, so it probably is rare in this country. The seller wanted \$19 for it. I found a single example recently on eBay and the seller said it was "super rare" – he was asking \$500!!



17) Returning to the present, I'll close out with another high end item from J.E.S., a 1950s-era Marx car transporter. This excellent example, with its box, is selling for \$275.75. I don't know if he just threw in the two plastic cars, since those Corvettes definitely aren't 1950s



# HAULIN' colors down the road!

**By Doug Campbell**

If you are sitting inside...look around you...and all those walls around you are probably covered with PAINT! ...That PAINT was made in a large factory somewhere, and then it had to make its journey to maybe a local paint store, hardware store, or some other retail store that sells PAINT! And that journey from factory to store, probably was on a TRUCK of some sort, and a fun little theme in my collection has always been PAINT TRUCKS, and I've taken a few examples from my collection to illustrate here, but one I know I can't locate easily tonight before writing is my Winross Benjamin Moore Paints semi, that has an interesting story behind it, so I'll feature that one maybe in a future OAST when I locate it in my vast 100's of Winross truck models here! I wish I was better organized! But I guess part of the FUN of being a collector is NOT being organized! ...

Paint trucks can be large or small, and also there are little trucks that the PAINTERS themselves drive out to jobs, also carrying PAINT...and one I have in mind is by the model railroad scenery folks- Woodland Scenics...and again, maybe I'll soon locate my model here to show in a future issue... But I'm sure there are even more of those type PAINTER trucks out there to collect too!...So let's at least take a look at a few PAINT TRUCK models....all haulin' colors down our model highways!

Menard's- those wonderful model train (and home supply!) folks in the Midwest, have over the past few years, always offered colorful TRUCK models, and recently, they issued this 1/48 scale plastic 1954 GMC DUTCH BOY PAINTS box truck. Their models are usually made in one time production runs.



Back in 1987, this Harrisburg, Pa. Paint dealer ordered this fleet replica of their DURON PAINT trucks from Winross (USA) in die-cast 1/64 scale. The truck cab is a Ford LTL.



When I read about this very limited private-issue DINKY TOY (England) back in 1970, there were no computers, so I had to go to a library to locate an address for Joseph Mason Paints in England, and I wrote them a letter, and luckily, via their reply letter shown in background, they were able to send me a complimentary model of their beautiful "Mini" paint delivery van, which i see in British auctions, is quite a valuable collector's item today! I have always prized this little Dinky Toy, and display it in a showcase with its box and the little Joseph Mason Paints brochure that was packed with the models.



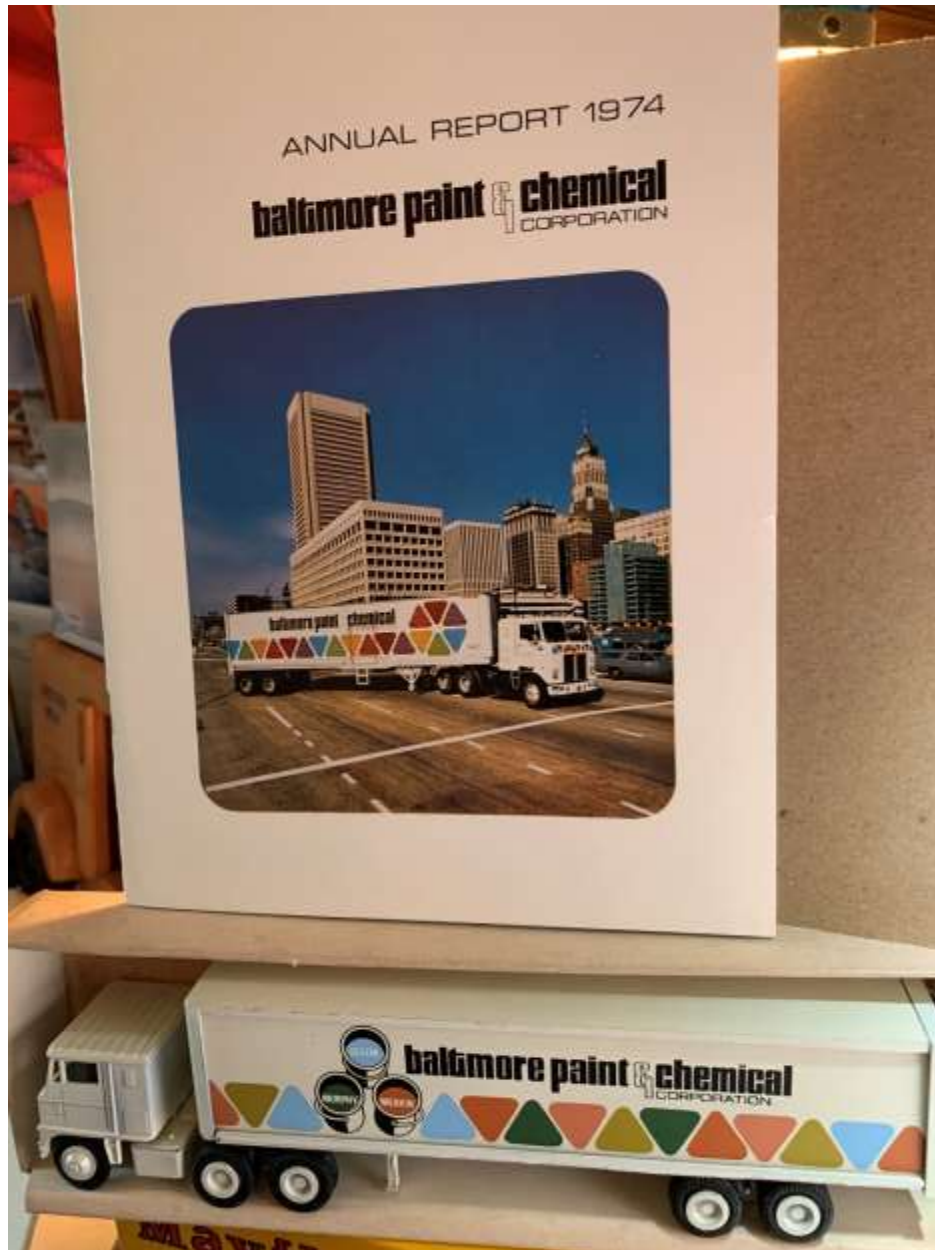
I thought you might enjoy the interior of the little brochure packed with the DINKY TOYS Joseph Mason Paints trucks..interesting is the line "Dinky isn't she.." ! Seemingly this little model was actually painted by Meccano in the Joseph Mason Masopar Q.D.paint!



Back in 1966 , a local paint manufacturer here in Baltimore- Baltimore Paint & Chemical Corp. -ordered a very limited run of this White 7000 cab 32' heavy cast trailer from The Winross Company (USA), and it was produced by Winross before the family had perfected their superior silk-screening graphics applications, so graphics on these early models were applied with water-line decals by Winross. I remember Baltimore Paint & Chemical was a difficult company to get a model from, but after a few phone calls, you actually had to ride down to the old plant in Westport to pick-up your model in person when they finally agreed to part with one! .They seem to come with different color cabs...this was the one I got from them in 1966!



In 1974, Baltimore Paint & Chemical Corp. ordered a second run of model trucks, from the Winross Company (USA) which closely resembles their later fleet look as shown on the 1974 annual report I picked up while at the plant in 1974, to pick up this newer Winross model truck. Some years later, Baltimore Paint & Chemical was purchased by Dutch Boy Paints and the firm moved its production out of town, and in 1980, DUTCH BOY was purchased and merged into Sherwin-Williams Paints of Ohio.



It was about 1960, that Dutch Boy Paints, purchased a small run of this wonderful Japanese tin "Ford" cab over toy semi trailer truck, with such BEAUTIFUL lithographed graphics, for use in its internal corporate advertising program. I found this mint-condition toy many, many years ago at an early Macungie, Pa. (Das Awkscht Fescht) toy show, and it has always been one of my favorite tinplate toy trucks! Dutch Boy's actual truck fleet probably looked just like this in the 1960's era!



The current SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS truck fleet still looks exactly like this 1/53 scale Tonkin Replicas(China) Freightliner Columbia with Great Dane trailer , as I see so many of the real trucks running up & down Route 83 north of Baltimore, as they seem to have a distribution warehouse somewhere maybe in Southern Pennsylvania .I've shown my model truck on top of the truly impressive 182 page 150th anniversary corporate history book published by Sherwin-Williams Paints in 2016...I enjoy reading corporate history books, and after seeing a copy back in 1996 in a local Sherwin-Williams store, who told me each store received one copy for store use & display, I wrote to Sherwin-Williams, and received a complimentary copy for my library, which I have read cover-to-cover, and often look through again. & again!...PAINTS have a fascinating HISTORY too!



Some years ago, DIAMOND VOGEL PAINTS of California, ordered this handsome, heavy die-cast Volvo 770 cab model of their current fleet, from Spec-Cast Collectibles (Iowa-made in China) so full of tiny details, and with full tampo-printed graphics all over the trailer and cab! The model is fully made of metal in 1/64 scale.(although it looks larger to me compared to Winross also claiming to be 1/64 scale) . Back trailer doors open & the cab has full interior details!



In the early 1990's, Diamond Vogel Paints, ordered this handsome wonderfully painted exact replica of their current fleet at the time, in 1/64 scale with a MACK Ultraliner cab and a VERY heavy die-cast trailer from Ertl Toys (Iowa-made in China) . Rear door opens, and the "Diamond Vogel Paints" logo on the orange rear door is applied with a vinyl label...rest of truck is fully painted-on graphics ..nice cab masking! ..the Spec-Cast Diamond Vogel truck that I showed in previous photo has more updated graphics!



Another actual fleet replica (I also pass many of these real such trucks on the highways around here!) is this 1/64 ERTL TOYS (lowa-parts made in China AND in USA, and assembled in USA!) International heavy die-cast cab with trailer. McCORMICK PAINTS Is the only brand of paints being made now in this Mid-Atlantic region, with their corporate headquarters and factory located in Rockville, Maryland! . They have many retail paint stores in this area. On their website there is a photo of a whole line of these real trucks ,like this model, parked at the factory loading docks! This model was used for McCormick Paints internal corporate advertising use only -a few years ago. I was able to obtain this model from one of their employees.

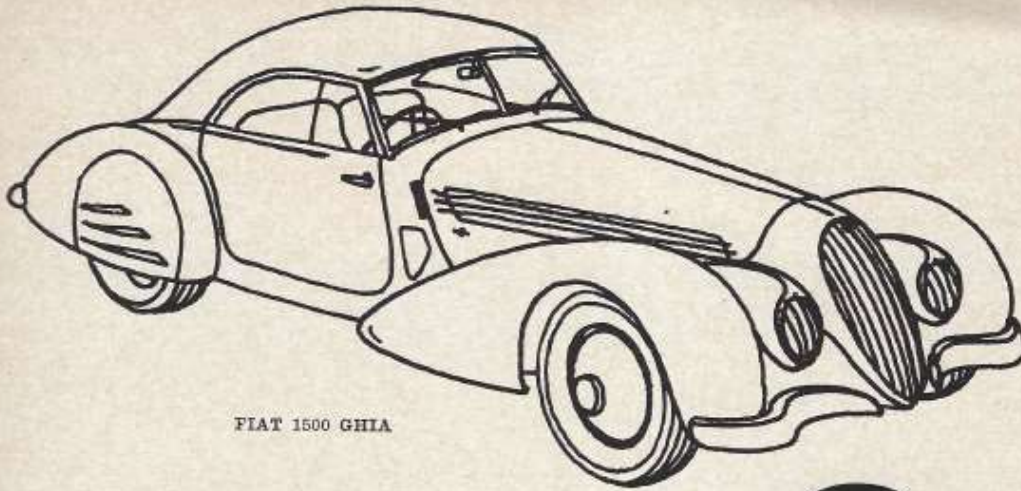


## **BOB STRAUB IN THE PAGES OF CAR AND DRIVER MAGAZINE**

Marc Star alerted me to the fact that Bob Straub's drawings were not only published in Automobile Quarterly but also in Car and Driver, specifically in the March 1962 issue. I have a box of old Sports Cars Illustrated, Car and Driver, and Road and Track magazines from my youth (treasures, every one), and I searched it for the magazine with Bob's article to no avail. So, on Ebay, I found that the March 1962 issue featured Italian cars, Italian design, Italian people, well worth the few dollars to order one and get it for my collection.

So, giving full credit to Bob Straub the author, Car and Driver for publishing, and Marc Star for finding it, here is that article from March 1962:

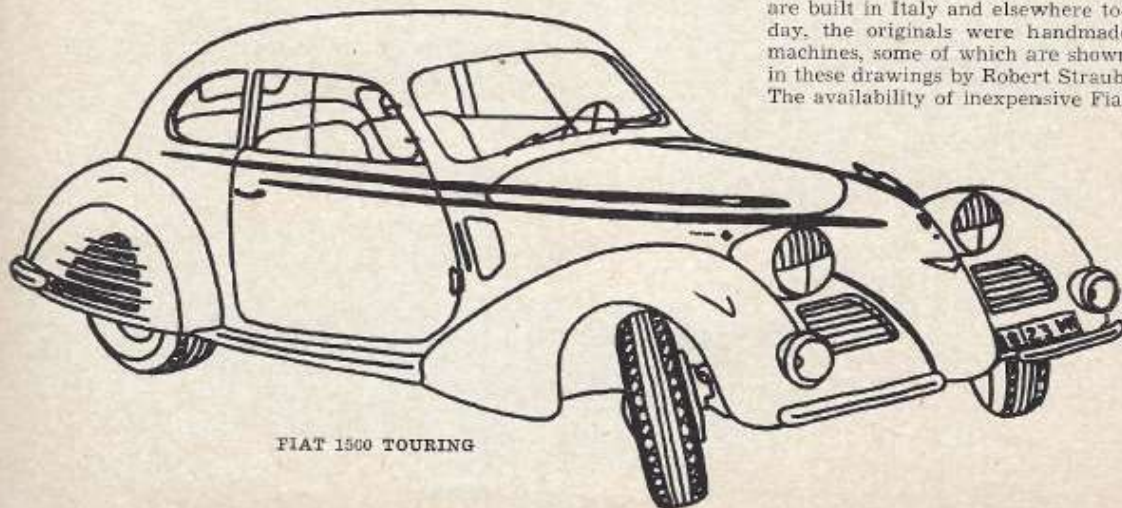
## ITALIA *Continued*



FIAT 1500 GHIA



FIAT 508 ZAGATO



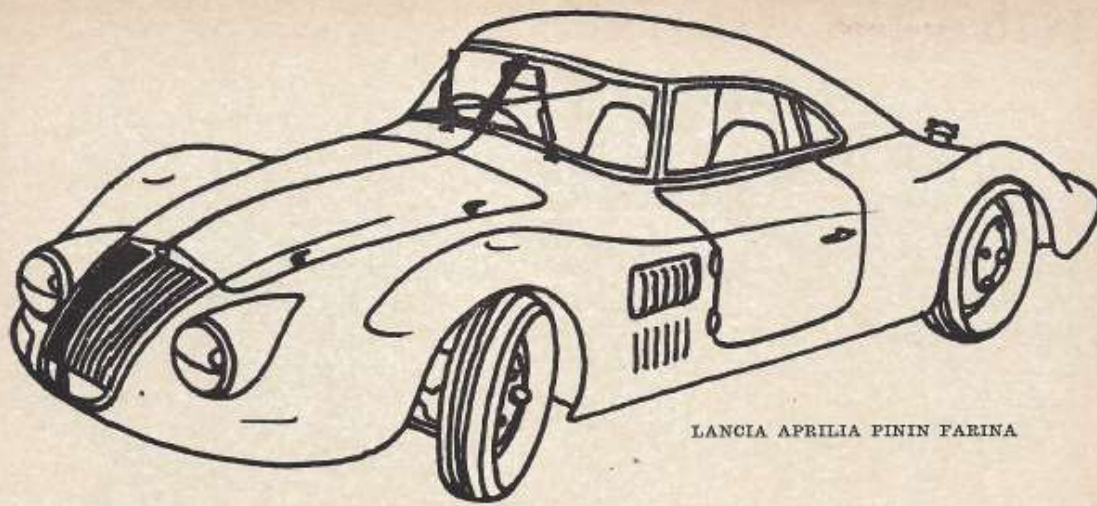
FIAT 1500 TOURING

# G

## RAN

### An Italian Concept

The first car that used the words Gran Turismo in its name was the Lancia Aurelia in 1950, but the term was coined during the 1930s when such races as the Mille Miglia (page 34), and Targa Florio exposed the crews of open sports cars to the weather for many long hours and created a need for fast but more comfortable cars with closed bodywork. While many types of GT cars are built in Italy and elsewhere today, the originals were handmade machines, some of which are shown in these drawings by Robert Straub. The availability of inexpensive Fiat

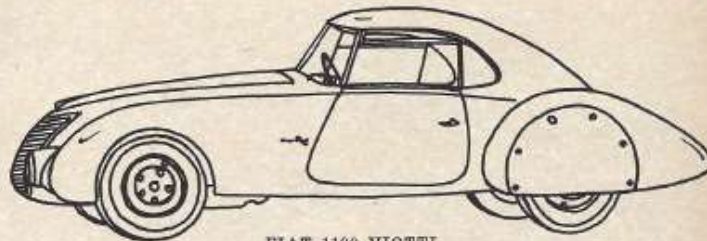


LANCIA APRILIA PININ FARINA

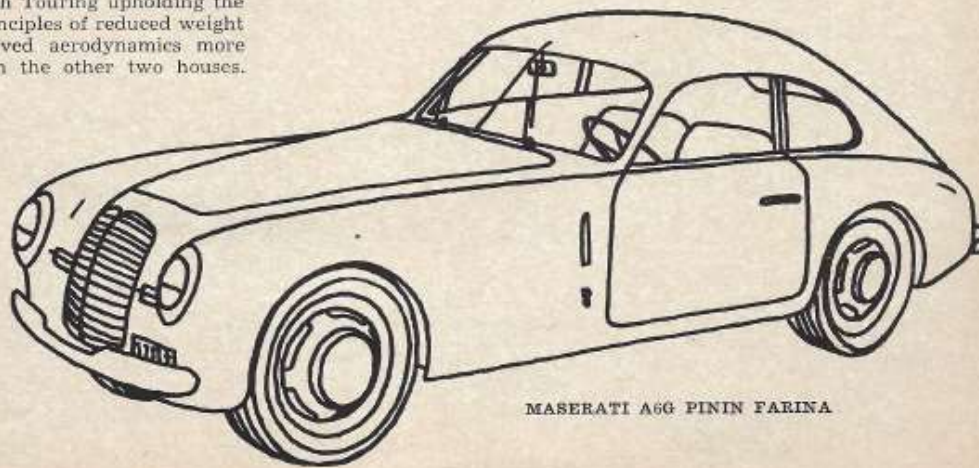
# TURISMO

## Swept The World

chassis gave the GT vogue much of its early popularity, but some coach-builders preferred models of higher performance for their creations. Touring (below, left) willingly made styling concessions to the fashion of the time while Ghia (top, left) and Pinin Farina (top, right) adhered to a more functional school of thought and consequently obtained smoother lines and lighter weight. Today the situation is reversed, with Touring upholding the worthy principles of reduced weight and improved aerodynamics more firmly than the other two houses.

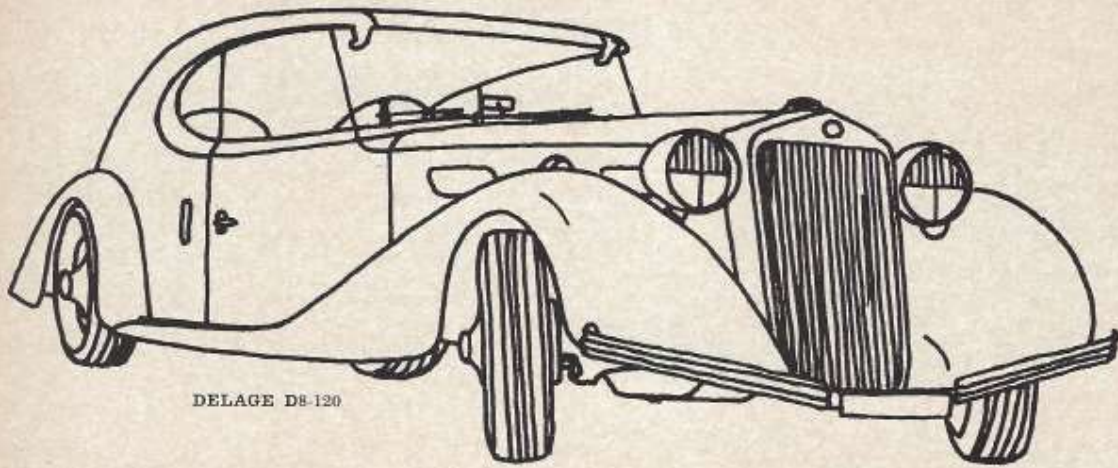


FIAT 1100 VIOTTI



MASERATI A6G PININ FARINA

**ITALIA** *Continued*



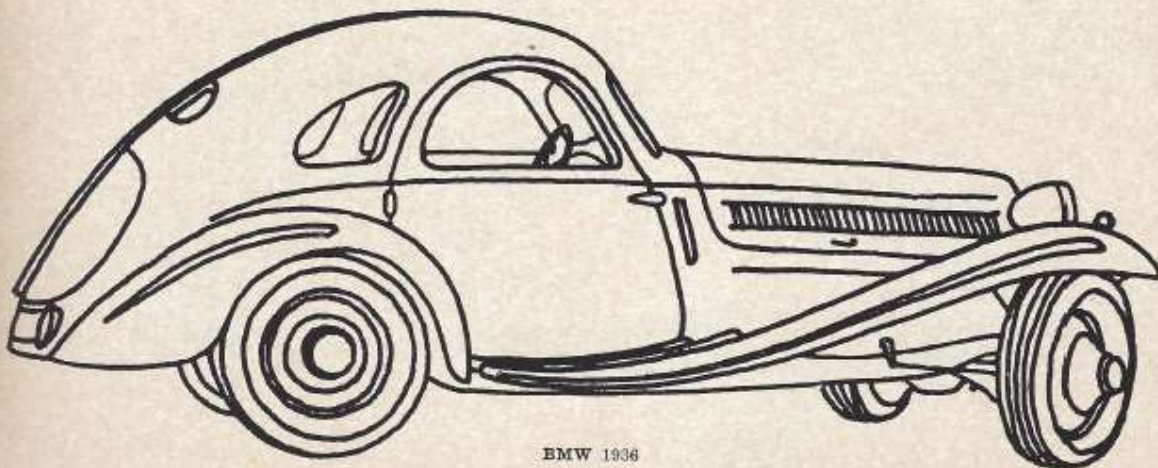
DELAGÉ D8-120

## GT Designs from Germany and France

German aerodynamicists contributed to the development of the Italian touring car by their efforts to streamline some of their own cars, such as the powerful Horch and Maybach, the nimble and fast BMW (below) and Adler, and various Mercedes-Benz models. Their more advanced theories were taken up in Italy and, at the end of the 1930s, Carrozzeria Touring built ultrastreamlined *Superleggera* bodies for specially designed BMW racing models (below). Out of the early experiments in France by Paul Jaray and Emile Claveau grew the subse-

quent evolution of the GT concept in the bodybuilding shops of Paris. The best of them, like Henri Chapron, Figoni & Falaschi, Guilloire or Antem, built bodies of such good proportions that the actual dimensions of the Delage (above) and Delahaye cars were overlooked. The post-war creed of GT cars started off where the leading Italian designers left off in 1940. For some years, all significant new body designs were in the GT class, and production GT models began to roll off the Milan and Turin assembly lines. After the initial success of the Lancia-Aurelia GT and


the Alfa Romeo Giulietta, the Gran Turismo vogue has spanned the whole world of automobile design and manufacturing, with the result that today the GT type of car is the center of attention at auto shows as well as an increasingly dominant factor in international racing, its importance growing ceaselessly from season to season. Whatever errors and exaggerations were made in the name of progress in the thirties, the period shall be revered for giving birth to the GT car, leading examples of which still approach perfection as closely as any cars have.




BMW 1936

*Alfa Romeo* ...winner of more Grand Prix Championships than any other marque, is truly one of the world's most exciting sports cars. Le Mans...Nurburg-Ring...Monaco...Monza...Targa Florio...are but a few of the G.P. courses where the Alfa Romeo marque has won everlasting fame. A competition tested and proven thoroughbred, its tradition is racing and its breeding is speed. Interior design and distinctive body styling by Pinin Farina, Zagato, Bertone and Touring. For further information or the name of your nearest Alfa Romeo, Inc. dealer, write:

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**alfa romeo** 



48 CAR and DRIVER

An ad from that magazine that followed Bob's article. Interesting tidbit, note that Alfa Romeo, Inc. was the distributor in 36 states and the District. Max Hoffman was still the distributor in the other states, Alfa was trying to take over full distribution from Hoffman Motor Car company who originally persuaded Alfa to develop the Giulietta roadster to sell in the U.S.