# The Builder



### The Quarterly Newsletter of the National Model Car Builders' Museum

### Museum Receives a Major Endowment

MUSEUM STAFF

This has certainly been the year for endowments for the Museum. At the start of the year, the West Coast NNL contributed \$4,000 to the Museum. That generous donation stunned everyone associated with or interested in the Museum and was promptly deposited into the Museum's Development Fund. Later, the Tri-State Model Car Club contributed \$1,210 that has been used to pay the rent, postage, and associated costs. Now, with the end of the year/century/millennium approaching, we have just been informed of a major endowment.

Dr. Constantine Anagnostopoulos has recently donated the sum of \$5,000 to the Museum, to be matched thereafter with a \$1,000 annual endowment. The donation is given in honor of Maria T. Anagnostopoulos. Dr. Anagnostopoulos has requested that his endowment be allocated to the Museum's long-term plan to host and present special exhibits to the public. Those exhibits will feature some significant aspect of the history of the scale vehicle hobby, focus on the work of a single modeler, or highlight a building theme where the work of several builders can be displayed.

The first of those exhibits, hope-

fully in 2001, may be the presentation of the work of a major European scratchbuilder (see article below) whose work transformed the hobby. If negotiations are successful, this exhibit will debut at the Eighteenth GSL International Model Car Championship in April, 2001.

Museum members and supporters everywhere express their profound appreciation to Dr. Anagnostopoulos for his generosity and support of the Museum.

### The Work of Manuel Olivé Sans

MUSEUM STAFF

Many of you older modelers may remember the pioneering work of Manuel Olivé Sans. Living in Spain, Manuel was an early pioneer of sophisticated scratchbuilding. Starting many decades ago, he was hammering bodies from brass and copper, machining wheels, applying brilliant lacquer paints, and generally distinguishing himself as one of the greatest scratchbuilders ever.

Señor Sans was born in 1924 and passed away a few years ago. After that sad occasion, his daughter, Joan Olivé Giambanco, with the help of others, established the Fundacio Manuel Olivé Sans, an organization to gather together, preserve, present, and exhibit the work of this

pioneering modeler. The foundation also conducts model making instructional sessions for selected hobbyists (imagine attending this school!).

Early this year, Señora Giambanco contacted the Museum to establish contact between the Museum and the Fundacio. She and Mark S. Gustavson corresponded, resulting in an exchange of books, including her donation of a special book on the work of her father, Manuel Olivé Sans, Una imagen de perfeccion. She received a donated copy of the GSL History Book. The relationship between the Museum and the Fundacio deepened, leading to the proposal—still in the early discussion stage—for the

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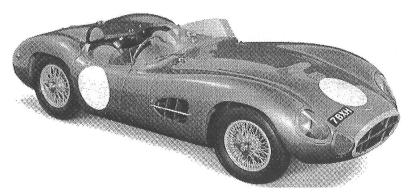
Manuel Olivé Sans at his workbench

Museum to host a special exhibit of selected items from the Sans collection. The Museum and the Fundacio are presently talking about how the Museum would satisfy the security expectations (and other concerns) of the Fundacio, as well as issues about timing, publicity, and the like. The Museum hopes that arrangements can be made so that the North American debut of selected items in the Sans collection can commence at GSL-XVIII in April, 2001.

The Museum is deeply honored to be considered for the display of the work of this famed modeler. In future issues, we'll disclose further details as they develop. In the meantime, enjoy the accompanying selected photos of the master builder and one of his greatest models. If all goes well and we can satisfy the Fundacio, we hope that the exhibition of the work of Manuel Olivé Sans will be the first special exhibit that the Museum presents (funded by the very generous endowment from Dr. Constantine Anagnostopoulos). This exhibition will also precipitate our move to larger facilities in the spring of 2000.

Please watch the next issue for further details.

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1958 Aston Martin DBR-2 by Señor Sans

# Time Capsule for the Future

MARK S. GUSTAVSON

The Museum's principal focus has always been to locate and preserve the history of the scale vehicle hobby. We have the *Clone the Past* program; we have saved literally thousands of historic documents; dozens of famous models have been acquired, restored, and placed on display; and we continue to scour the landscape for the memorabilia of our hobby.

But what about the future? Shouldn't we send a message to the future of our hobby? With the turn of the century and the millennium rapidly approaching, the Museum has created a Time Capsule that will be filled with information and artifacts from our time. The Time Capsule will be stored in the Museum and will be opened at GSL-XXV in April 2015. Complete details are contained in the enclosed press release. We are excited about this opportunity for hobbyists, publishers and editors, manufacturers, and other interested persons to create a legacy, predict the future of the hobby, or donate something to the hobby 15 years from now. You are cordially invited to participate, but be sure to send your materials to the Museum by the deadline!

# Cooperation with Other Museums

MUSEUM STAFF

The Museum's web page has put us in contact with model car activities in other countries. Carmelo Pennino, representing a museum in Venice, Italy, has contacted the Museum and asked for our help in setting up a model car display in connection with the car museum Luigi Bonfanti located in Bassano del Grappa near Vicenza, Italy. More details to come.

#### **Items We Need**

MUSEUM STAFF

The Museum is interested in expanding its collection of Ed Roth paints. Because we are unaware of the full range of colors, the Museum needs all colors (spray and bottle) except for the following. Paints that have recently been donated by John Greczula and Cody Grayland include spray paints: Silver Underbase, White pearl and competition orange; and bottle paints: White Pearl (26R), Red (18R), Yellow (25R), Orange (28R), Silver (21R), Primer (19R), Purple (17R), Gold (20R), Green (1R), Green (30R), Blue (15R), Blue (31R).

We need all colors other than those listed. Thanks for your help.

# Hot 150/Clone the Past: We Need Your Help!

PAUL ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

One of the missions of the Museum is to acquire and preserve the famous models in the history of our hobby. Many of the famous original models can't be located and obtained; therefore, we need to clone those models on our *Hot 150* list so that we can present a visual history of the Museum in a dedicated display case.

So far, the following cloning projects have been picked up by members of our Museum: The so-called *Indy Car Model* by Wayne Thomas is underway in the workshop of David Lumen. The *Nervous Nomad* by Paul Sable has been completed by Tim Pentecost, Richard Kemp is working on Don Jolley's 1929 Ford Pickup. Bill Taylor and

Rick Wright are both working on their individual versions of the famous Dixie Bee that appeared in Car Model magazine. Mark S. Gustavson will soon start on Lonio Stern's Astrodan and Jim Keeler's MCS-XI is ready for primer in Mark's workshop. John Mahaffey has committed to cloning a model and is thinking about which one. Paul Sable's custom Mercury has already been cloned by Rick Wright. Of course, the Shamrock (and other Shuklis models) and the Crusader have already been restored.

We recognize that many Museum members may not be acquainted with the items listed for the first and second ages of the *Hot 150* list and may not have access to the vintage magazines. Starting with this issue, we'll be featuring photographs of selected models from the *Hot 150* (see pages 6–8). Please select a model and help out!

Each cloned model will be featured on the Museum's web list and you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that you have contributed to one of the central projects for the Museum. This donation to the Museum won't cost much and will make such a huge difference.

### **Special Projects Division**

MARK S. GUSTAVSON

The Special Projects Division has been created to organize the many long-term projects and to separate them from the mundane tasks of paying the rent, cleaning the Museum, and so forth. This will also permit donors to select one or more of these special projects as the objects of their generosity. Here an update since our last issue:

1. Protect the magazine collection. We need to protect the magazines from inevitable deterioration.

Museum Trustee Alan Raab made a significant financial contribution to purchase three-ring binders to hold the magazines, and Alan also purchased thousands of individual archival-quality clear covers. The binders are on order from a speciality manufacturer in Salt Lake who quoted a good price. Members of the Utah Miniature Automotive Guild will handle the actual work of slipping the magazines into the covers. We hope that this effort will help preserve the significant and extensive Museum collection. Our great appreciation to Alan is extended, once again!

2. Scan the Past—digitize the magazines. With the magazines carefully protected in their clear sleeves, it is even less likely that casual visitors will be permitted to look at the magazines. Yet, the information and historical perspectives in those many decades-old magazines must be preserved and made generally available to visitors and researchers. Since our last issue, three Museum members have stepped forward and offered to digitize the magazines: Bob Heselton, Ron Norman, and Roger Yu. Each has the necessary equipment, the time, and the public-spiritedness! We express our appreciation to each of these Museum members for their help. Based on triage principles, a list of magazines has been identified and assigned to Bob, Ron, and Roger. As each magazine is scanned, the data will be downloaded to a CD for archival purposes. Additionally, an entire article (text plus photos) from each magazine will be sequentially uploaded to the Museum web site each month for visitors to enjoy. We are also exploring the possibility of selling copies of these CDs if we can secure copyright releases.

We'll start with these issues: Model Car Science, 1963 through

- A Few Ed Roth articles are still available! Ed "Bid Daddy" Roth autographed a few photocopies of an article from the 17 November 1997 issue of Salt Lake's daily newspaper, The Tribune. As you might expect, the article chronicles Ed's zany sense of humor as well as his intelligence, commitment to the car hobby, and religious disposition. We still have two copies of the article left for a \$15 donation to the Museum, postpaid. This is a rare opportunity and will not be repeated!
- \* The Revell-Pactra and Revell-Testor Contest History by Mark S. Gustavson, Randy Vandraiss, and Rex Barden. This book has been postponed until 2002, but watch for a big announcement in the next issue of The Builder.

### **Franklin Mint Donation**

PAUL ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

The Museum has just learned that Franklin Mint Precision Models will donate a die cast Duesenberg to be auctioned off as a fund raiser. Museum member George Bojaciuk, who is the Design Manager at the Mint, will donate the model through his offices. George will send us a photo that we can include in the next issue of *The Builder*. Our sincere thanks to the Mint for this wonderful donation.

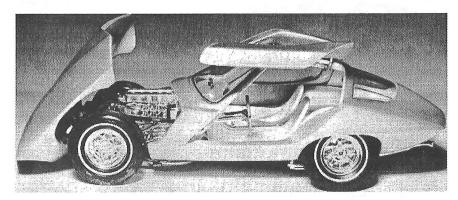
## Adopt the Museum for a Month!

MUSEUM STAFF

In order to properly acknowledge and honor those individuals and clubs that contribute one month's rent to the Museum (\$250), the Museum will issue a special certificate to each donor and mention that donation in each issue of this newsletter. Up to this time, all funds

contributed by donors have been deposited into a single account from which the rent checks have been cut.

Here are those groups and individuals who have contributed rent for 1999. The Museum expresses its profound appreciation for all those individuals and associations who have contributed funds to pay the rent.



A candidate for cloing: Charles Gibilterra's Sty-Ray. Car Model, October 1963, p. 49

January: Bill Slayton

February: John and Joan Mahaffey March: Tri-State Model Car Club April: Tri-State Model Car Club

May: GSL-XVII Auction June: GSL-XVII Auction July: GSL-XVII Auction

August: Tri-State Model Car Club September: Dr. Constantine E.

Anagnostopoulos

October: Pryor Passarino/Joel

Dirnberger

November: Paul Anagnostopoulos December: Magic City Car Mod-

elers

The remainder of the significant donation from the Tri-State Model Car Club and NNL East was used for the publication of *The Builder*.

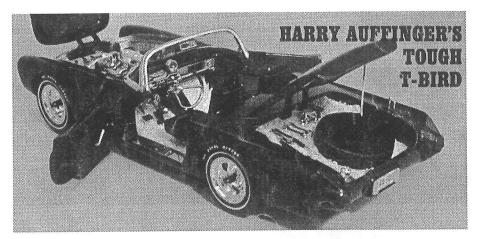
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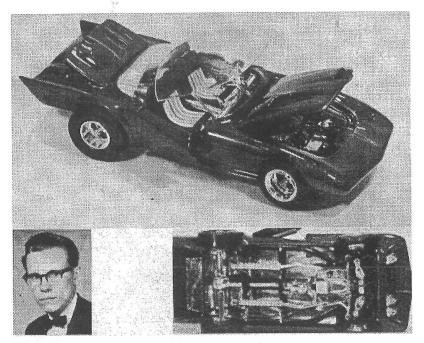
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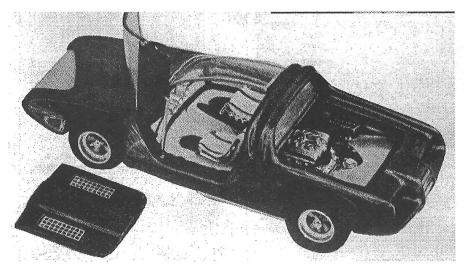
National Model Car Builders' Museum 353 East 400 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111



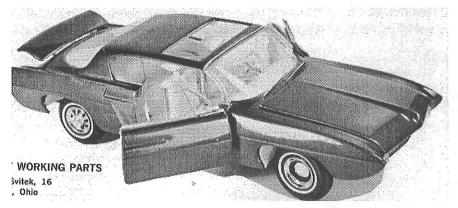
A candidate for cloning: Harry Auffinger's Tough T-Bird. Car Model, April 1965, p. 28



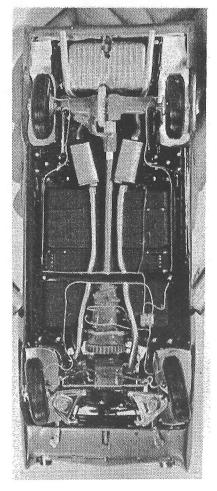
A candidate for cloning: Duane Gibson's '57 Thunderbird. Car Model, April 1965, p. 47



A candidate for cloning: Charles Jones's rear-engined custom. Car Model, August 1964, p. 56



A candidate for cloning: Jerry Svitek's '62 Pontiac. Model Champions, 1963, p. 10. The undercarriage detail (right) could compete with today's models





### Visit us on the "WEB": http://www.xmission.com/~msgsl/nmcbm

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SALT LAKE CITY, Utah. August 3, 1999

With the end of the Twentieth Century and the start of the new Millennia rapidly approaching, the National Model Car Builders' Museum announces that it is sponsoring a Time Capsule to capture and preserve current products and viewpoints on the model car hobby, as well as the objectives and plans of the Museum, for the future. The Museum Time Capsule, to be sealed on Friday afternoon, December 31, 1999, will be opened at a special presentation at the twenty-fifth GSL International Model Car Championship (GSL-XXV) to be presented in April 2015. The Time Capsule will be preserved in the Museum until it is opened.

Hobbyists, kit and aftermarket manufacturers, publishers, and other interested persons, and model car clubs are invited to submit, for inclusion in the Museum Time Capsule, anything of interest to future model car hobbyists, including (without limitation): a letter, a prognostication about the future of the hobby, a copy of a magazine, a memorandum, a product sample, or other item of potential historic significance.

#### A few guidelines must be observed:

- ✓ *All* items must be related to the model car hobby;
- ✓ Any item donated should be 'state of the art' or of other current or relatively contemporary historical significance;
- Concerning products: One item per contributor, with no single item larger than a current model car kit box;
- Printed material will be accepted, but only as a single copy. Posters and other large printed material will also be accepted if the item is rolled and placed in an *unsealed* tube. Manufacturers are strongly encouraged to send year-2000, or current, catalogs;
- ✓ Nothing of a defamatory nature will be accepted;
- Notes and letters are permitted and encouraged (no sealed letters, etc., will be accepted);
- Once submitted, no item can be returned;
- ✓ Each contributor must bear all costs associated with the submittal, including shipping;
- ✓ Each item MUST be received, at the Museum, *no later than* Wednesday, December 29, 1999;
- ✓ Each contributor must send a typewritten note, signed by the contributor, specifying exactly what item(s) are submitted;
- Any item that does not comply with these rules will be rejected and returned to the contributor.

A list of contributors will be published in the first issue of the Museum's newsletter, *The Builder*, published in 2000, and on the Museum web page; additionally, contributors' names will also be furnished to the hobby media.



October 12, 1999

#### Dear Museum Member:

Please find enclosed a Press Release from the National Model Car Builders' Museum concerning our Time Capsule program. We are excited about this opportunity for hobbyists, publishers/editors, manufacturers and other interested persons to create a legacy, predict the future of the hobby, or donate something to the hobby fifteen years from now. You are cordially invited to participate!

. The Time Capsule will be stored in the Museum, and will be opened at GSL-XXV in April 2015. Complete details are contained in the attached Press Release.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at my office (801.523.3683) or contact me by e-mail: msgsl@xmission.com

Thank you for your support.

Cyndiany

Mark S. Gustavson

Founder, National Model Car Builders' Museum