

LEND A HAND AND BRING A CAN!



• LONG ISLAND AUTO REPLICA SOCIETY •

**Meeting themes:**

**"Cars painted Green"**

**Discuss further planning for our club, 2026 show, addressing "road bumps"...**

**MCB NEWSLETTER**

**CLUB PRESIDENT**

**CLUB TREASURER**

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Moment of memoriam for Mike Brennan at the Feb MTG







MCB Issue 422

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY March 19<sup>th</sup> @7:30 PM**

**The LONG ISLAND AUTO REPLICA 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.**

**Were in our 34th year as a Club; let's hope 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 in memory of Rich Argus...**

**LIARS Web Page <https://www.longislandautoreplicasociety.com/> [LIARS- Car Model Building Club | New York](#)**

**LIARS Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/people/LIARS-Long-Island-Auto-Replica-Society-Model-Car-Club/100057442748403/>**

**MCB Contributors: Richard Manri, Dominick "Mickey" Gerace, Bill "Doc. V" Murray, John "The Artist" Pantelone, JC Dud,**

***From our LIARS Unofficial Official***

**I'd like to thank everybody who came down to the February meeting and had nice things to say in memory of Mike Brennan. There were so many people there, it was heartwarming. It was**

**very reminiscent of the old days in the 90s when we'd have a full room, all the time. I hope we can keep that mojo going!**

**John Pantaleone sent me a final on the Flyers for the LIARS Challenge in November. They look fantastic! Can't**

thank John enough! I will try to have some printed for the March meeting.

Anyone that wants to take some and maybe hand them out to local businesses is welcome to do so. They will be printed in both black-and-white and color. If you would like to make copies of the black-and-white ones to hand out at local businesses, feel free to do so!

We will probably be discussing the club build off kit for the 2026 show, plus a Mike Brennan tribute build and anything else regarding show setup and IMPS insurance renewal.

Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> is the IMPS show at Freeport rec center from 9-3:00 PM. I will be there along with a couple of our guys and more.

That's it for now! Thank you again to everybody! My schedule has been hectic, I could not have done this without you all! Dues are due for those who have not paid yet, and we will be collecting these until the end of the month!

If you have an idea or suggestion to make, please inform our committee during meetings or contact our board members via their phones and/or emails. If there are any issues at the meetings or regarding other club matters, please inform us and we will handle them to the best of our extent.

Also, please try to bring a canned good to donate for the center. We've all been guilty for being sporadic about this, but let's think about those who are much less fortunate than us. Also, try and bring a toy for a less fortunate

young girl or boy and please mark it as to which gender it is appropriate.

Look forward to seeing everybody, Thursday!

*Your unofficial official,*

*Dominick "McMonte" Gerace,*



Remember those folks who made a difference in your life in 2025 (good or bad) and use the lessons learned to be a better you. Life is made up of people, events and decisions. 2026 is a time to start fresh. So surround yourself with good people, be active, happy and make remainder of 2026 great. Richie.

### *Some Words from the Editor At Large*

*Last month we had a full house of people show up, an amount I haven't seen since at least 2011! Several guys came back and we have a few new ones who joined. Show setup and distribution seems to be going much better than last year, show flyer looks great from what I've seen!*

*After 2 months of harsh cold and snow, I managed to not only get some projects started but things painted as well, unfortunately I have nothing ready to go ATM so I will be without any completed builds at this mtg since*

**the last time I got really sick, which was back in 2014-ish?**

**About a week ago or so, I went to Men at Arms in Coram and met the new owner who acquired the business from longtime owner Jim. The new owners have the store mostly set up for role play board games like World of Warcraft, Warhammer 40,000, Dungeons and Dragons, etc., but will still carry traditional hobby products and model kits. Doc V got a pic of the stores new operation hours**



**Good for those like who don't have to worry about racing down before 6 after work!**

**Also, buying kits from Amazon is very YMVV. 3 I got with prime membership arrived looking like a giant gorilla smashed and ripped the warehouse**

**with severe damage and parts missing! Luckily returns are not an issue as they don't really seem to care now that the CS is based on an A.I bot system nowadays, but still!**

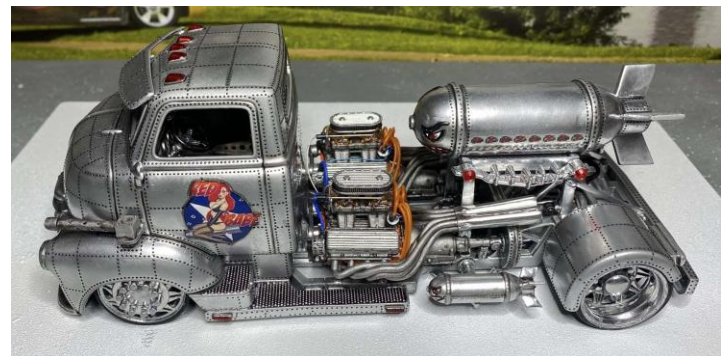
**This months theme is green cars, which would have been fuller if I had some stuff ready but due to winter shenanigans...**

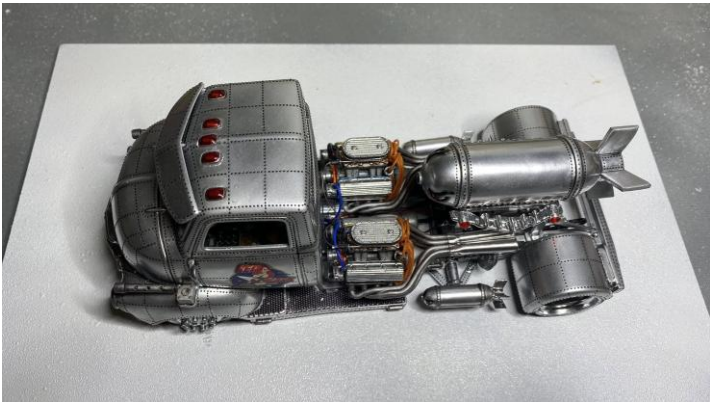
**Also, this is the last month leadership collects dues. I see many have already covered their dues for the year, but for those who haven't yet I'd do so ASAP!**

**All I got for this month! If anyone else have something to contribute or whatever, please do and send it over!**

**See you all Thursday!**

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**John Pantelone forwarded pics of a build he received from JC Dud:**





# USPS Lowrider Stamps Will Make You Search Out Pen Pals



No better way to announce to the world—and the gas company/phone company/Aunt Harriet—that you are cool than to launch all your correspondences with these sleek new lowrider stamps from the United States Post Office.

Sure, there are currently available Bruce Lee stamps, Muhammad Ali stamps, even sunflower stamps, but these lowrider issues are the coolest thing to come out of the post office since the hot rod stamps of 2014.

“Celebrate a culture that originated in the working-class Mexican American/Chicano communities throughout the America Southwest with the Lowriders Forever stamps,” USPS said.

They’re available in sheets of 15 stamps and celebrate these five “dazzling” car models.

- *8 Figures*, a blue 1958 Chevrolet Impala
- *The Golden Rose*, an orange 1964 Chevrolet Impala
- *Pocket Change*, a green 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme
- *Let the Good Times Roll/Soy Como Soy*, a blue 1946 Chevrolet Fleetline
- *El Rey*, a red 1963 Chevrolet Impala

You can order them from [store.usps.com](https://store.usps.com). You can also get:

- A framed column of all five stamps ready to hang on the wall for \$18.95

- Lowriders First Day Covers—a collection of five envelopes highlighting the new stamps—for \$6.80
- A Lowriders American Commemorative Collection Package Page showing the stamps and a paragraph about each one on a single page, for \$7.25.

If you grew up with a Six-Four as your aspirational vehicle, this is for you. Or for anyone who likes car culture in all its many facets. Buy some and send some letters to your car buddies

**[NYTF 2026 - Model Kit Sneak Peeks - NEW TOOLING GALORE! - YouTube](#)**

**[Revell 2026 Announcement Analysis & Review - The Good, the Bad & the OK - YouTube](#)**

**In other news, Revell has recently changed their logo, the last time this happened was in 1981**



**And...**



**Praesidian Capital’s Portfolio Company Round 2 Acquires Lionel, LLC; Forms Lionel Brands Group – A New Home for Iconic, Fan-First Brands**

*The deal brings together two companies with passionate communities across trains, model kits, die-cast, and racing – anchored by Lionel’s 125+-year heritage – to strengthen investment in product and storytelling*

**NEW YORK, NY, MARCH 4, 2026** – Round 2, a leading collectibles company and portfolio company of Praesidian Capital, today announced it has acquired Lionel, LLC (“Lionel”), a historic brand that has been beloved by generations of fans and collectors for more than 125 years. The transaction creates the Lionel Brands Group, a bigger, fan-first home for the brands and categories collectors care about most.

The deal unites two category leaders under one roof, giving the newly formed company the ability to strengthen its investment in product development and storytelling while enhancing what already works best for each brand and honoring the heritage and authenticity that have defined Lionel for more than a century. To accomplish that goal, the leadership and product teams behind both brands will remain in place.

The acquisition builds a stronger platform for adjacent product categories and shared fandom, while continuing to rely on the leadership and product development teams that know these brands best. Round 2 and Lionel bring complementary products and capabilities, additional opportunities in licensing, and increased ability to show up as an even more important partner to key retailers.

The acquisition closed on March 2. Transaction details were not disclosed.

Richard Barry, CEO of Lionel Brands Group, said: “Lionel is one of the most beloved and historic names in American collecting, with a history of craftsmanship that deserves thoughtful stewardship. We’re proud to be the custodians of this iconic, fan-first brand as we combine it with Round 2’s fan-first portfolio to invest in new products, better storytelling, and more ways to show up for fans and collectors.”

Howard Hitchcock, President and Chief Operating Officer of Lionel Brands Group, added: “Lionel has always been about that train-under-the-tree magic, and that same spirit shows up everywhere the brand lives, from the rails to the racetrack. This next stop on the brand’s journey will keep the heart of the brand intact and will put more support behind the people building it. We’re going to protect what fans and collectors love and give them even more reasons to climb aboard for what’s next.”

Jason Drattell, Praesidian Capital Founder and Managing Partner, said: “True heritage like Lionel’s is both rare and powerful. Combining the strength of Lionel’s legacy with Round 2’s fan-favorite products allows us to build a stronger platform for the communities that have kept these brands for

generations while increasing our ability to invest in long-term growth.”

Tom Duffy, Praesidian Capital Partner, added: “Lionel and Round 2 share a vision of delivering products built around authenticity and detail across brands collectors and fans love. We look forward to supporting the talented management team as they build a platform for the future.”

### **About Lionel Brands Group**

Lionel Brands Group is a home for iconic, fan-first brands focused on modern collectibles, including its legacy model trains, die-cast vehicles, model kits, slot cars, and other hobby products. Serving passionate communities of fans, hobbyists, and collectors across categories where authenticity and craftsmanship matter, the company owns several well-known brands, including Lionel, Lionel Racing, AMT, Polar Lights, Hawk, MPC, Lindberg, Auto World, and Big Country Toys. The company produces products through dozens of licensing agreements with iconic brands, such as NASCAR, Disney, Warner Bros., The Polar Express, Johnny Lightning, Racing Champions, General Motors, Ford, Star Trek, and Star Wars. For more information about Lionel Brands Group or to purchase products directly through the company’s dedicated e-commerce platform visit <https://www.lionelbrands.com/>.

### **About Praesidian Capital**

Praesidian Capital is a private equity firm focused on providing capital to established lower-middle-market businesses. With decades of experience, the Praesidian team partners with management to support growth, strategic acquisitions, and operational excellence. For more information, visit [www.praesidian.com](http://www.praesidian.com).



## **Model Mercantile Market**

**"Wanted or For Sale" section...**

**WANTED:** Stock wheel and tire for AMT '64 Chevrolet Covair annual kit or promo.

Contact John Heyer at [oldie383@gmail.com](mailto:oldie383@gmail.com) or his cell phone 631-575-6923.

**WANTED:** Door Panels for Revell/Monogram '66 Chevy El Camino. Can be painted or from gluebomb interior.

Contact Will Seagraves @ [Will.Seagraves@minmaxmachine.com](mailto:Will.Seagraves@minmaxmachine.com) or at cell # 631-704-7426

**WANTED:** CAR MODEL Magazine May 1974 issue. Will pay \$20 for it in excellent condition.

**WANTED:** AMT 1969 LINCOLN unbuilt kit. Will buy or have many vintage kits available for trade.

**WANTED:** Price lists for X-EL repro promo cars. Need lists from 1977-79, 1982, 1983, 1985-87, and 1990-1992.

Contact Gary Weickart at 631-581-5834 or [gweickart@aol.com](mailto:gweickart@aol.com).

**WANTED:** Large diameter wheels, tires, and disc brakes from Revell/AMT/Tamiya/Aoshima/ect. kits. 1/24<sup>th</sup> and 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale. ()

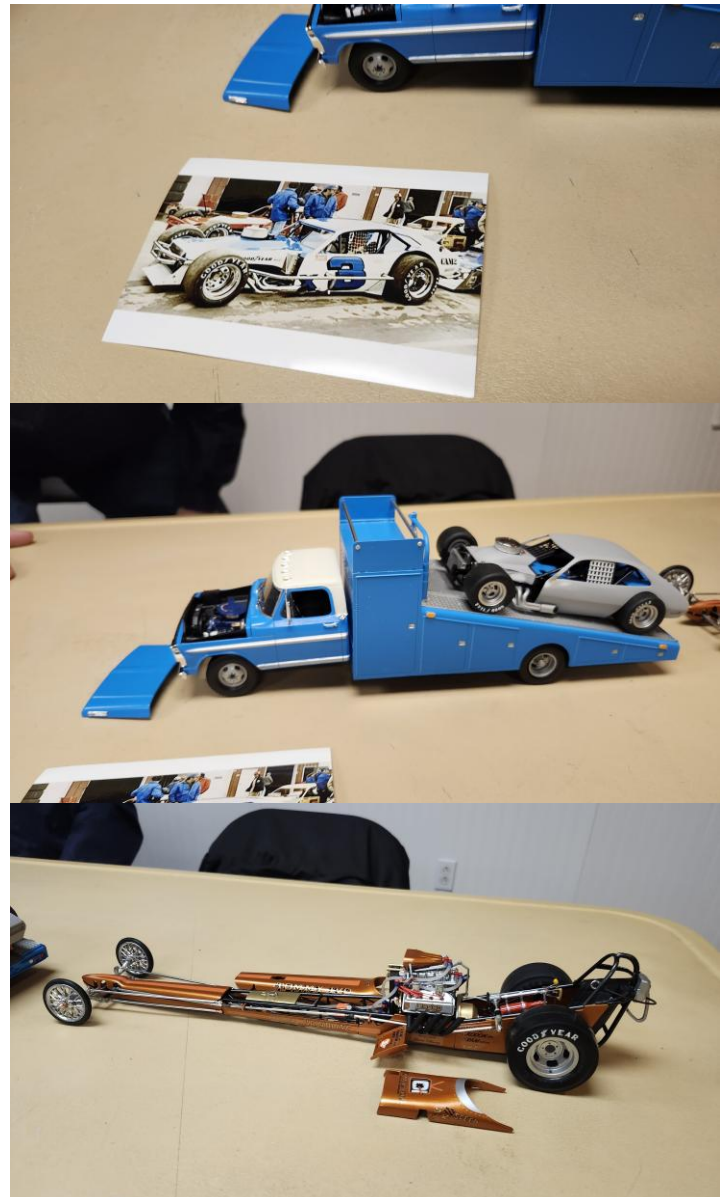
**WANTED:** Modular and modern motors like LS1s, HEMIs, DOHC 5.4 Cobra motors, import motors like Toyota 2JZ and Nissan Skyline RB. 1/24<sup>th</sup> and 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale.

**WANTED:** Vortech style superchargers, blower superchargers from 2007/2010 Shelby GT500 and

Revell Ford Mustang Mach III concept car, and turbochargers. 1/24<sup>th</sup> and 1/25<sup>th</sup> scale.

Contact Richard Manri @ 631-589-6876 or his email [picorro93@gmail.com](mailto:picorro93@gmail.com) to negotiate price or trade for the three above.  
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## **Scenes from Feburary MTG**

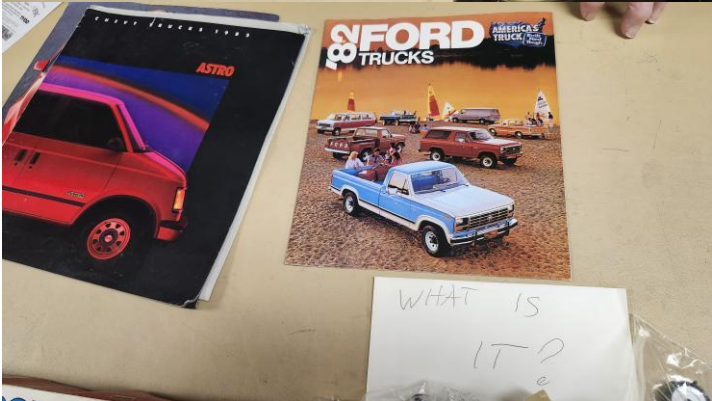


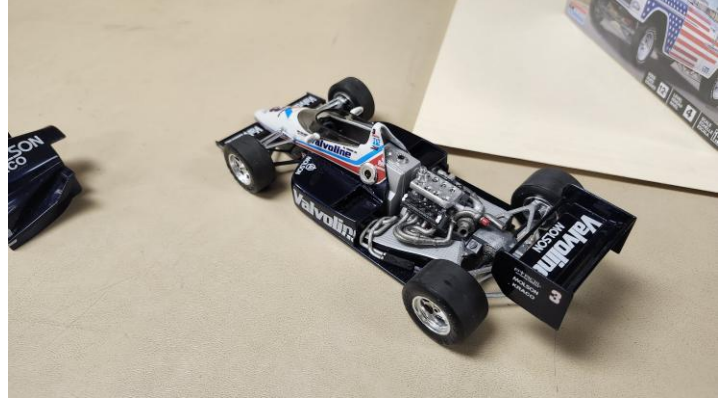






















***LIARS Annual (2026) INPUT AND PROFILE SHEET:***

**Here is your chance to have some input into this club without having everyone know where it came from. If you have a suggestion, an idea, or a problem you would like to discuss please put it in writing on this sheet and it will be discussed at the next meeting. Please bring your filled out sheet with you, or you can email it to your editors email address**

on the first page header. ALL subjects and suggestions will be brought up in front of the club.

**YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SIGN THIS SHEET.**

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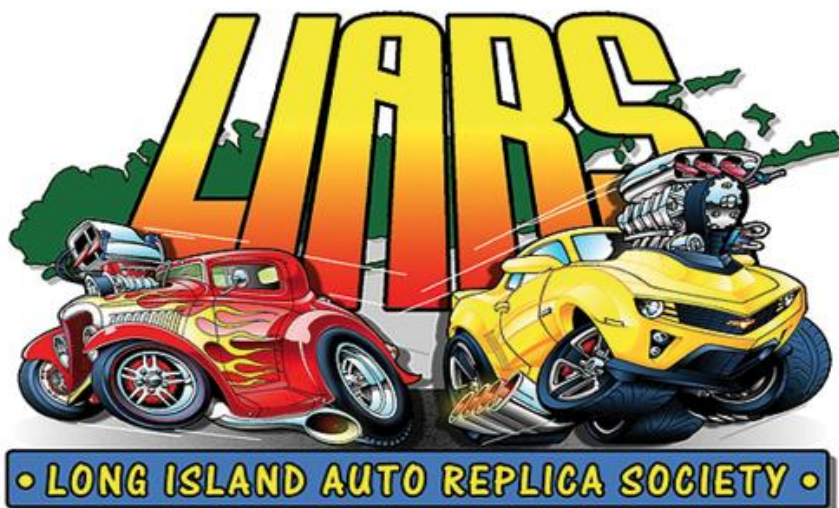
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**LIARS Profile:** (name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Can be your LIARS nickname or anonymous panhandle...)

- How long have you been building models? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long have you been a member of LIARS? \_\_\_\_\_
- What do you usually build? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where do you usually build? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many models do you have? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever had any failed builds that were scrapped or recycled for other projects?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever parted out old finished builds and recycled their contents for new projects?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- How many unbuilt models do you have? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are your favorite 3 models you have built? \_\_\_\_\_
- Have you ever won an award for building a model? \_\_\_\_\_
- What 3 models should win an all time kit of the (last) century award? \_\_\_\_\_
- What 3 models are so horrible that you would buy them just to protect others from having to build them?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What was the dumbest, most boneheaded mistake you've made in the past? (Can be model or general related)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Was there any kit you regretted ever purchasing?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- What do you drive now? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you bitter about anything? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are you saving your pennies for something fun to drive? \_\_\_\_\_
- With an unlimited budget, what 10 full size cars would you have in your garage?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  
- What (if any) person (living or dead) in the 1:1 automotive world would you like to meet? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you go to model car shows? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are your favorite model car shows and why? \_\_\_\_\_
- Do you have kids & if so, do they share your passion? \_\_\_\_\_
- Did you build models with them? \_\_\_\_\_

Don't Forget...  
***Save the Date!***



# 2026

## MODEL CAR CHALLENGE

### NOVEMBER 14, 2026

Freeport Rec. Center  
130 Merrick RD., Freeport NY 11520

9am to 4pm (Award Ceremony 3pm)  
24 Categories, 9 Master Awards  
Special theme to be announced.

Scan the QR Code to the LIARS'  
website for more information!



[www.LongIslandAutoReplicaSociety.com](http://www.LongIslandAutoReplicaSociety.com)