

**LEND A HAND AND BRING A CAN!**

# **LIARS MODEL CAR BRIEFS**



**• LONG ISLAND AUTO REPLICAS SOCIETY •**

**Meeting themes:**

*"Run what you've brung to the Model Car Challenge, first or last! "*  
*Discuss further planning for our club, next years' show, addressing "road bumps"...*

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Current pending threat





***Scenes from the Jan mtg...***

**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 33rd 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 <http://www.liarsmodelcarbuilders.com/>**

**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 Murray/Doc. V, NICO DEMATTIA,**

***From our LIARS Unofficial Official***

**Hello fellow car modelers! We are two weeks into February, Valentine's Day, and it's frigid out there! I've been working 16 hour days, every day since January 2! And until this weather breaks, I will continue to do so.**

**There could be a huge snowstorm approaching the day of our meeting. We'll keep an eye on things, but should we have to cancel on that day, going over a backup and reschedule plan would be good as well. We have lots to cover and go over, and hope the snow don't pile up much...**

**At the January meeting, club treasurer Pat, said his goodbyes. We took an official vote for a new treasurer, Donna Seagraves. I've been in touch with Donna a couple times about setting up a club bank account. She will be at the club meeting in February so her and I can discuss further, what needs to be done next.**

**Our other agenda is getting a schedule worked out as to what needs to be done and when throughout the year for our show and club needs. Show theme needs to be discussed and finalized as soon as we can to get flyers out by Mid-April the latest. I would like to go forward with the club build off and going over discussions with some folks last time, we think we made a decision on what the build should be but have to finalize it weather it snows or not.**

**I paid the deposit for our show in November at Freeport Recreation Center. The show will be on November 8.**

**There was a discussion about club dues, with all of the rising costs, they will need to be increased from \$30 to \$40**

**We are also coming up with a spreadsheet help raise money for trophy package. This way members could put in five dollars a month instead of a whole amount of one shot. Try to make it a little easier on the wallet!**

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

**Otherwise, I can't thank everybody enough for their input and all the support! Hope to see you all this Thursday!**

***Your unofficial official,***

***Dominick "McMonte" Gerace,***



Remember those folks who made a difference in your life in 2024 (good or bad) and use the lessons learned to be a better you. Life is made up of people, events and decisions. 2025 is a time to start fresh. So surround yourself with good people, be active, happy and make remainder of 2025 great.  
Richie.

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

***Last month two themes were suggested to me for Feb's mtg, but due to those holidays passing by the time the MCB publishes, the monthly theme has been finalized to Double-Vision (last Feb's theme of two of the same cars, one built different). I understand this was kind of last min, but should the Thurs mtg be canceled due to pending snowstorm, that theme or the Red/White/Blue presidents day theme will be carried over to the rescheduled MTG or combined with the March one (which will likely be Green cars for Saint Patricks Day).***

***Haven't gotten very much done this month, between starting up the new business name and financial stuff for it, plus constant rainy/snowy weather on prime weekend paint days. Maybe March will be better or maybe I'll have so much on my plate it'll crush me and get all the fat outta my body LOL.***

***Your author will be turning 32 on the 18<sup>th</sup>, wishes the MTG fell on his cake day like other years... Oh well, that's life and leap day for 'ya. It's been since 2009 being in this wonderful club and all the events and changes experienced.***

***Yours truly stopped by Gary's shop in Islip Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Got some good deals and was tempted by a few things in there as many of his shoppers are.***

***Some Ollies stores supposedly got more AMT kits in, mainly the Ford drag car set and Cement Mixer truck. Ollies Selden has same 'ol figurines and battleships; rumor has it Ollies opened up a store somewhere in Riverhead and might have different stock...***

***That is all for now, hope to see you all on Thursday depending on impending snowstorm.***

A simple build of a super unique subject

RELATED TOPICS: [KIT REVIEWS](#) | [DA INTERNATIONAL](#) | [UNLIMITED HYDROPLANE](#)

The American Power Boat Association Gold Cup is the ultimate prize in powerboat racing and the oldest trophy in motorsports. The wooden-hulled boats from 114 years ago evolved into three-point, prop-riding hydroplanes in the 1950s, and in the mid-80s, World War II Allison and Rolls Royce piston engines were replaced with a turbine, the Lycoming T-55 used on Chinook helicopters. Hull designs with rear engine placement, large wings, and a closed cockpit have stabilized, so boats built in the last three decades look generally similar.

DA International has provided promotional products to the H1 Unlimited hydroplane teams for years. Owner Dave Vaillancourt's love of the sport inspired him to develop a hydroplane kit that would raise awareness of it and promote model building as a hobby. The resulting 1/25 scale hydroplane kits are intentionally simplified for easier assembly by less experienced modelers. They are available through the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum in Kent, Washington ([hydromuseumstore.org](http://hydromuseumstore.org)). Production runs are limited, but DA International plans to do a new run of kits every year with decal sheets for that year's hydroplane teams.

Mercurys Coffee Company is a new sponsor for the 2024 season, with veteran driver Jamie Nilsen at the wheel. I chose to build my model as *Miss Mercurys Coffee* because the striking graphics are on a white background, the color of the bare kit plastic. In the spirit of building the kit as DA International intended, I suppressed my contest modeler urges and built the kit as a novice would: No spray paint, airbrushing, or even masking, and I did not fill in ejector pin marks. The model is supposed to be a quick, fun build, so that's how I did it.

The plastic is firm, and sands and trims well with a hobby knife, and the hull surfaces are a nice glossy white, perfect for my no-paint approach. Typical modeling solvent cements, such as Tamiya and Testors, did not create strong plastic welds, but the model held together fine. I used superglue for extra strength where the vertical stabilizers attach to the wing. The kit includes a sturdy, crystal-clear, laser-cut acrylic plastic display base and an electronic sound card, speaker, and switch for audio effects, as well as acrylic paint, brushes, and a small tube of glue.

Part numbers are not molded into the trees, but the trees are bagged and labeled with letters. The first page of the instructions includes a diagram of the part trees, giving a number for each piece, and that letter-number reference is used in the assembly illustrations.

The hull halves snap together with a minimal gap around the perimeter, but glue and clamps minimized gaps at the front canard wing and cockpit spar. The driver scales out to about 1/43 scale, so a 1/25 scale driver would be a good upgrade when I build a second kit.

The Step 3 illustration shows the relationship of the engine, driveshafts, and gearbox, and those are assembled into the hull in Step 4. I left off the exhaust nozzle cover (Part C8) because the photo on the box does not show this part on *Miss Mercurys Coffee*.

The kit paints did not include a match for the red-orange on the decals, so I mixed my own with Testors enamels and brush-painted parts of the front canard, rear wing, fairings, and cowl. The exhaust heat shield, cockpit, and fairings were painted with the kit's semigloss black, the engine red-orange, black, silver, and gold, and the exhaust nozzle with Tamiya

Chrome Silver. I painted the top of the canopy gloss white to represent the cockpit hatch. The decals are strong and respond well to setting solution and a hairdryer. The black stripes on the hull are 14 inches long, and I may have used too much solvent, resulting in a few small wrinkles. Instead, cut the long decals to make them more manageable and take it easy on the setting solution.

Leave the turning fin, rudder, and propeller shaft loose until the end of the build because you'll want the model on a flat, stable surface to install the wing and its vertical fairings. I removed material from the locating pins on the wing strut mount (Part B3) so that it could move to compensate for the strut length and attachment to the fairings during installation.

The base includes a sound card, speaker, and switch for sound effects. No instructions for installing the parts are given, but it is self-explanatory based on the placement of the holes in the base. I recommend putting all the sound components on Part F3 but don't glue the display base together for easy breakdown and transport.

DA International's Unlimited Hydroplane plastic boat kit is great! It's big, excellent value, and an exciting subject. Though the kit is simplified for a fun, quick build, the potential is there for a truly unique contest-quality entry, and the team markings yield a handsome model.



**Kit:**N/A // **Scale:**1/25 // **Price:**\$50.00 at [the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum, Kent, WA USA](#)

**Manufacturer:**

[DA International](#) (Sample courtesy of mfr.)

**Pros:**

Simplified for novice builders; many extras; comprehensive decal sheet

**Cons:**

Significant seams and ejector-pin marks; plastic does not weld securely with typical model glues; under-scale figure

**Comments:**

Injection-molded plastic (white, clear); 37 parts; decals; sound card and speaker; paint, brush, and glue.









Churn more water!

*The free online extra for the FineScale Modeler Drag and Ski Boat article is now active at this link. \*LINK\**

By:[tim boyd](#)

The eight page article in the new March/April Fine Scale Modeler mag references an additional online extra covering other 1/25th-25th scale boat kits, all the way from jet skis to the 10 all-new unlimited hydro kits announced a few months back. The linky referenced in the article is not working correctly at this time (hope to see it fixed soon), but the link below is up and running. There is no firewall so all can see it - check it out! Thanks for your interest...TIM

[Churn some 1/24th-25th scale water online extra link](#)

More scale model watercraft for you to build By

[Tim Boyd](#) | February 4, 2025

**RELATED TOPICS:** [SHIPS](#)

In the March/April 2025 FineScale Modeler, I documented the most important 1/25 scale water pleasure craft plastic model kits introduced by AMT and Revell over the years and showed builds based on these kits.

But let's say your biggest interest is in kits of smaller, personal watercraft in 1/25 scale. Or maybe Hydro kits from the late 1970s to 2000s belong on your workbench. There's plenty more to consider, from a personal jet ski to a replica of the 1977 Unlimited Hydro national champion, plus 10 all-new, fully detailed, modern-day Hydro kits.



If you're looking for more personalized watercraft in 1/25 scale, consider the AMT 1964 El Camino annual kit (No. 8734-200) that includes a Westcraft four-cylinder inboard/outboard. Revell paired a compact, two-seat outboard with a customized Chevy Luv pickup in its 1978 River Rat (No. H-1382) and included two unbranded wetbikes and a trailer in its 1982 Datsun King Cab kit (No. 7415); both these kits had highly detailed trailers, too. Revell released its WaveRider jet ski as a stand- alone kit with a pre-finished driver and resin wave base in 2002 (No. 85-5030). It had been previously part of a 1999 Chevy Silverado combo kit (No. 85-7776). Polar Lights licensed the Batman BatBoat and reissued the 1/25 scale model in 2010 (No. POL823).



Lindberg introduced a couple of cruiser boat kits in the early 1960s. These did not offer the quality of the AMT and Revell kits but added meaningful variety to 1/25 scale marinas. Round 2 reissued two of these kits, including the 1959 Century Coronado shown here (No. HL221) in the mid-2010s. Dumas offers several 1/24 scale Chris Craft wooden model-boat kits, including the 1938 27' Triple Cockpit Barrel Back (No. 1703) and the 1940 19' Barrel Back. These are multimedia kits that require wood hull planking; building one will be an extended hobby project compared to the other kits shown here. No trailers are provided in these Lindberg and Dumas kits.



In 1979, Testors introduced a one-time-only 1/25 scale replica of the 1977 Miss Budweiser unlimited hydroplane (No. 4179). It included a simplified Merlin V12 engine and automotive-style vinyl adhesive panels for the top deck graphics. Monogram introduced two combo kits in 1990 with slightly different iterations of USFORA "Formula 1" 3.0L outboards. The Mach I (No. 7240) and Yamaha boats (No. 7241) were somewhat simplified replicas without engine internals, while the trailers could be adapted to transport other relatively larger 1/25 scale watercraft.



Top Fuel Hydro racing boats have undergone a major evolution in designs over the last 50 years. Sadly, no 1/25 scale styrene kits of these beasts have been introduced, but there were at least two different resin transkits. An offering from Paul Rowe (on the right) dating from 1999 and an Altered States kit (on the left) from 2014 both included vacuum-formed

clear cockpit covers. You'd complete them by sourcing mechanicals from Revell Top Fuel dragster kits. My understanding is that these are no longer produced and are extremely hard to locate these days.



While the focus of our coverage has been 1/25 scale, several watercraft kits ranging from 1/16 to 1/32 scale have also been offered over the years. For example, the Monogram 1/32 scale *Miami Vice Scarab* powerboat (No. 3104) in 1986, and the rare 1968 MPC1/18 scale Chrysler Marine Charger 183 Hydro-Vee outboard kit (No.1001-400) was reissued in 2018 (No. MPC833). AMT/Ertl's licensed Batman *BatSkiBoat* (No. 38040) was released in 2005 without a scale noted but appears to be around 1/20 scale.



[The Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum](#) has introduced 10 1/25 scale modern-era hydroplane boat kits. Nine kits share a common tooling set with a gas turbine engine and complete driveline detail, with individual, large decal sheets for each kit subject. A tenth "vintage museum kit" adds a twin-turbo Allison V12 and decals for seven additional boats. At present, the kits are \$50 to \$60 plus shipping and are only available [directly from the museum](#).



**CHURN**  
*some*  
**WATER**



## Ideas for modeling- 1/25 scale drag and ski boats

BYTIM BOYD

In your modeling career, you've probably built more than a few scale car and truck kits, or perhaps you've produced models of historically significant ships in scale. However, I'll bet that few of you have considered building a 1/25 scale drag or ski boat kit. We're out to change that, starting right now. Drag and ski watercraft experienced immense growth in popularity and design progression from the late 1950s through the late 1960s. In their most advanced forms, they adapted automotive engines for power, with early Chrysler Hemis, Ford FE 390 and 427 V8s, 327 Chevy V8s, and even a few salvaged World War II Allison V12 engines seen most often. Designed primarily for between one to five people, they were used as tow boats for water skiers, quarter-mile drag races, and longer "enduro" competitions. In some cases, drag boats swapped their blown fuel Hemi engines (and yes, their drivers!) from rail dragsters to the water and back again. Soon, boating drag races

grew to attract as many as 30,000 racing fans to view the action, sometimes in purpose-built racing facilities. The book *Drag Boats of the 1960s Photo Archive*, by Don Edwards, Barry McCown, and Bob Silva (2008, Iconogرافix), does a great job of bringing this era to life and providing a wonderful range of scale boat-building ideas, too!

While the ski boats were slightly less extreme, they towed their skiers at ever increasing speeds. Out of the water, with their eye-catching paint and stylishly finished interiors, they became prominent attractions at car shows, leading some to characterize them as hot rods with propellers instead of wheels and tires.

Today, just as in the 1/1 scale hot rod world, some of the most famous 1960s ski and drag boats are being rescued and restored, bringing their stories to a new generation of boat and auto enthusiasts.

By the 1970s, racing boats had become prone to accidents and driver fatalities, so they diverged into much different, purpose-built designs with covered cockpits, spoilers, and parachutes. The evolution of the ski versions mostly involved moving to big-block Chevy and Olds V8s for power.

Anyone who experienced listening to one

of these ski boats at full song as it blasted across a lake was left an unforgettable memory!

Kit makers AMT and Revell viewed ski and drag boats as an obvious extension to their automotive catalogs. Their offerings captured the progression of drag and ski boats of the '50s and '60s and have much to offer us model builders.

These kits assemble without much hassle and comparatively quickly (for example, there's no chrome trim needing tedious applications of bright foil). Further, since these boats used automotive-based components, including engines, drivelines, and interior fittings, your choice of kitbashing components is essentially unlimited. The flat surfaces of boat hulls provide a great canvas for anyone who wants to add advanced paint treatments or real, wood veneers, and the prominently positioned engines nicely showcase engine wiring and detailing. The results can be just as eye catching as any car or truck model. Drag and ski boats also make great, attention-grabbing companions to tow vehicle and trailer projects.

What are your options if you'd like to build a drag or ski boat? Let's get wet!

# KITS OF 1/25 SCALE BOATS

Only five 1/25 scale drag and ski boat kits have been introduced since the late 1950s, and two of them remain mostly unknown. Fortunately, the other three are relatively available today and waiting for your modeling skills.



AMT released the first detailed 1/25 scale boat as part of its 1959 and 1960 annual kit catalogs (No.159). The kit was based on a Chris Craft design and could be built three ways: inboard "Cutlass" runabout, customized speed boat, and "crackerbox" style "sea going dragster." The kit included two complete engines: a Chris Craft in-line six and an approximation of a Lincoln Y-block V8, along with passenger compartments in front of or behind the engine, or both. This kit was reissued in the same box art in 1997 (No. 8125) and 2017 (No. 1056).

The second AMT 1/25 scale boat kit was merchandized as part of its Trophy Series and replicated one of most successful racing boat brands of the early 1960s, Rudy Ramos' Rayson-Craft (Nos. 2163- 149 and 2163- 170). Released in late 1963 and available through the middle of the decade, it was never reissued in this form. Powered by a Ford FE 390 V8 with either tri-carb or blower induction, the ski version included a fully upholstered interior with seating for four, while the drag-racing version added lower side sponsons and a two-blade racing prop. My personal favorite, this kit is rare and hard to find today.



Revell's first 1/25 scale boat kit also arrived in 1963. Powered by a first-generation Chrysler Hemi with six, two-barrel carbs and individual zoomie-style headers, its "Go & Show Drag Boat" (No. H-2088, 98) included a sheet of wood veneer for the front hull. A full tuck 'n'roll interior with two build options was credited to famous 1/1 scale upholsterer and drag racer Tony Nancy. The trailer and boat interior were both considerably more detailed than the AMT Rayson-Craft. This Revell offering was released once in this form.



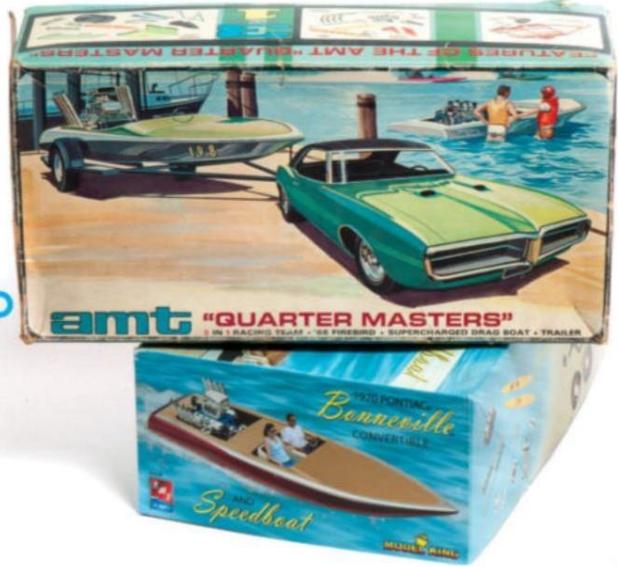
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In 1968, AMT introduced the "Hull Raiser" kit (No. 2463-170). By this time, race-boat hull design had evolved to be notably narrower and more streamlined. Accordingly, AMT's offering was a major (and irreversible) revamp of its earlier Rayson-Craft kit, with an all-new boat hull that replicated a 1/1 scale Kindsvater design. The engine became a SOHC Ford 427, and much of the Rayson-Craft kit's ski version interior parts were eliminated.

**R**  
RACE TEAM



The "Hull Raiser" has been reissued four times, but only in combination with various tow vehicles. In 1968, AMT offered "Quarter Masters" (No. T380-300), which included a custom-only Firebird tow vehicle (derived from its 1967 annual kit). In 1975, AMT combined the boat kit with its Chevy G30 van kit and "Aqua Rod" decals (No. T-561). Round 2 reissued this version in 2023 (No. AMT 1338/06), but with a decal sheet including a second graphics option based on the original 1975 catalog illustration. Lastly, in 2005 AMT/Ertl and The Model King paired this boat with a reissue of the MPC 1970 Pontiac Bonneville convertible (No. 21574P).



The last of the mainstream 1/25 scale boat kits was Revell's "Hemi Hydro" (Nos. H-1312 and H-1312:225). Introduced in 1971, it was a modest update of the earlier "Go and Show" drag boat kit with new headers and collectors and redesigned bench seating while dropping the racing buckets. The earlier kit's wood veneer also went by the board. This kit has seen multiple reissues, starting in 1994 with a taller box and carryover graphics (also No. H-1312:225), and most recently in 2014 with the "Hot Rod Hydro" box art (No. 85-3092). The latter included a new decal sheet designed by Sean Svendsen with multiple liveries and provided two different "wood" panel inserts for the front hull.



## YOU CAN DO PLENTY OUT OF THE BOX OR WITH MILD KITBASHING

You might think that with only five basic kits to choose from, your building options are limited at best. Not so! Built box stock or with a bit of kitbashing, the AMT and Revell kits can offer satisfying and surprisingly diverse results for your modeling work.

Here's  
paints  
panel

work was simulated with hand-brushed  
p decals and even instrument



These  
builds  
boat i  
scale  
graph

The fully detailed V-drive and supporting structures are a highlight along with AMT's rudder steering system components. The ski boat uses the kit's full interior with four-passenger seating and a matching upholstered V-drive cover. Even the propellers are specific to the ski and drag versions.



How  
Replic  
RM-1  
deck i  
plate i

ing Revell's "Hemi-Hydro" along with  
e kit's racing version omits the wood  
details extending from the cavitation



AMT  
pain  
Pon  
engi

to candy red achieved with spray  
MCW Automotive Finishes and a  
y hi-riser, dual-quad, big-block



These two are more involved racing-themed kitbashes. A 1/1 scale VI 2 Allison-powered boat from the 1965 Salton 500 endurance race inspired the red boat. It combines the front hull of the Revell "Hemi-Hydro" with the rear of the AMT "Hull Raiser" along with the Allison engine from the AMT Parts Pack and a modified front-deck layout. The yellow boat uses a shortened AMT "Hull Raiser" body along with a turbine engine from the rare 1970s AMT "Turbo-sonic" dragster.

Both of these came from Revell "Hemi-Hydro" kits. The pearl, mint-green boat (left) features a front hull insert made from wood veneer and a fully upholstered, five-seat interior sourced from the Replicas & Miniatures Co. of Maryland conversion parts mentioned above. The lime-green boat had its hull narrowed front to back and a Revell Parts Pack Pontiac V8 swapped in.

board/outboard jet drive. It uses club-  
Jet Drive propulsion system, both  
e mill isa tri- power Olds 400 V8  
s 442 kit.  
the hull.



# LET'S ADD TWO DRAGSTER ENGINES FOR SOME SERIOUS KITBASHING!

How involved your model-boat building gets remains entirely up to you. But these basic kits lend themselves to some complex drag and ski boat projects. Inspired by the "Mortician" and "AdiosTwo" drag boats, here are key steps to help you create a dual- engine drag boat of your own.



1 You'll need a "Hull Raiser" from the Round 2 "Aqua Rod" reissue and a reissue of the AMT Double Dragster. For the optional sponsons, you'll need an AMT Trophy Series Rayson-Craft boat kit or fabricate them from styrene sheet.



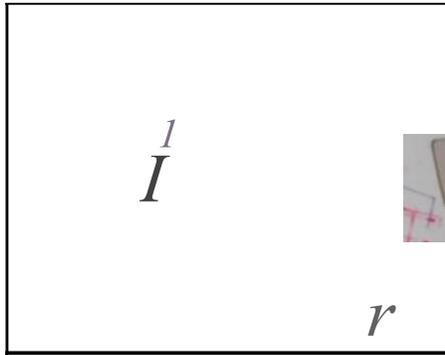
2 styrene strip and add it to the hull interior to make stringers (orange).



3 Three parts comprise the "Hull Raiser" body. Take the top part and use a jeweler's saw to remove the center section (the recessed portion with engraved wood grain). The part on the right is the hull's new top outer edge.



4 Drag boats in the mid-late 1960s migrated toward center-located single-seat driver compartments, often with a raised cowl in front of the driver. Cut the upper body of the Double Dragster streamliner lengthwise, retaining the part at the bottom.



5 Glue the cowl from Step 4 to the piece from Step 3 as shown. Use the rear edge of the cowl to establish the width of section to remove for the driver and engines. Remove the area inside the red lines and cut along the black lines to finish the top hull insert.



6 Test-fit your engines and driver's seat. If everything looks good, glue the top insert in place. I used plastic cement followed with superglue once the initial application had dried. Let these glue joints dry for several days before applying body putty to them.



7 Test-fit the Step 5 insert and fine-tune for a snug fit. Before gluing, turn it over and attach rectangular styrene strip around the edge of the central opening to reinforce the area. Also cut

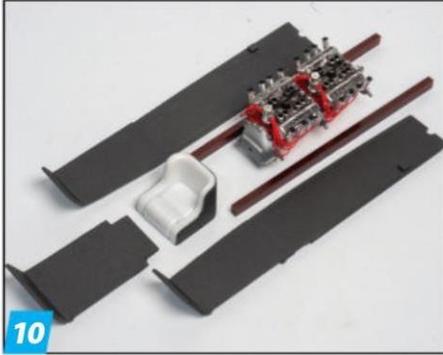
Tape a large sheet of .040- or .060-inch styrene sheet to your work surface. Take the new hull top from Step 2 and trace the inner edge onto the styrene sheet. This creates a new pattern for the center of the hull top.

Some 1960s dragboats included sponson on the hull to help lift the boat above the water during acceleration. I took these from a Rayson-Craft glue-bomb; you could build them from styrene sheet and two-part automotive putty. They are optional.

Time to paint the hull!! I painted this nine-color scheme with Testors One Coat lacquers - no airbrushing. You can achieve a similar result with other hobby paints. Note, I masked off the interior while painting the hull.



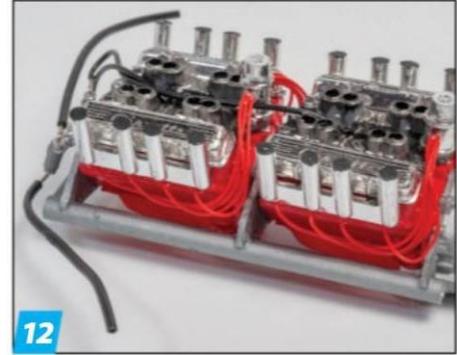
9



10 Inside, the stringers (front-to-rear frame rails in wood and fiberglass boats) are finished to look like dark wood. The seat wears Tamiya Pearl White (No. TS-45) and Semi-Gloss Clear (No. TS-79). The tandem Chevy engines can be built straight from the AMT Double Dragster box.



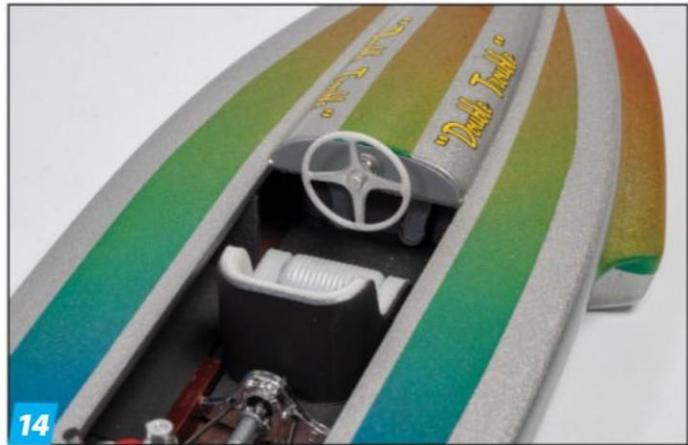
11 The engines wear Corvette ribbed valve covers, fabricated fuel lines, and spark-plug wires. The exhaust headers came from the chrome parts in the special edition version of the Round 2 AMT Double Dragster. The motor-mount plates are perfect for drag boats.



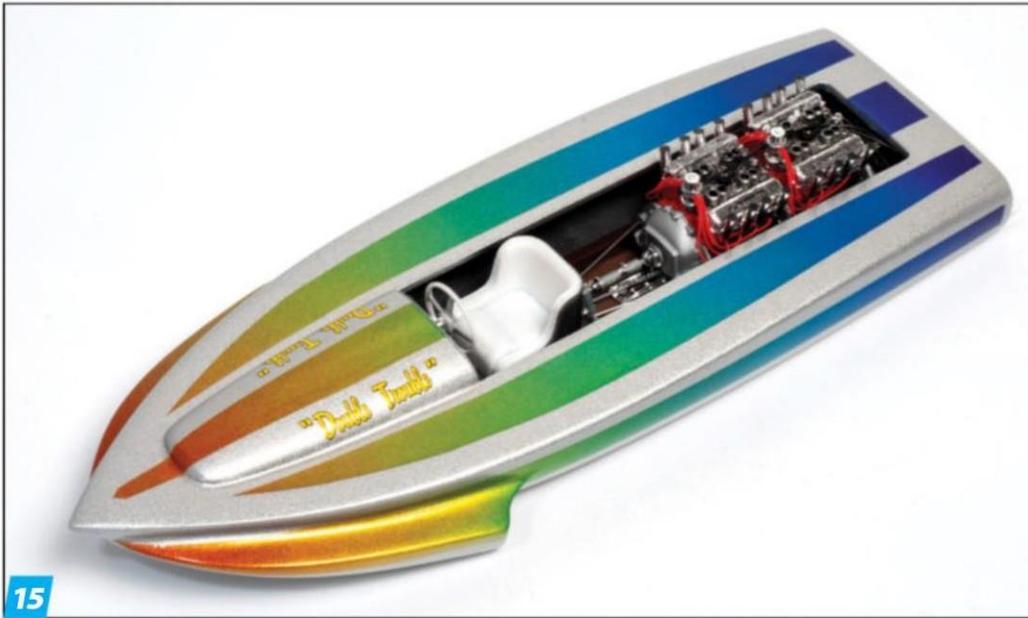
12 I cut down the Double Dragster steel frames to connect to the engine-mount plates to make runners on both sides. They elevate the engines relative to the hull and stringers and create clearance for the slightly cut-down oil pans and the bell housing.



13 After mounting the engine, it's time for the V-drive. I extended the driveshaft on the engine to connect to the gear box (chrome behind the seat), and shortened slightly the shaft from the gear box to the hull bottom to drive the prop. The braces were cut from steel rod and connected to the frame rails.



14 Cut a panel from .015-inch styrene sheet and mount it to the edge of the raised cowl behind the steering wheel. A simple, four-spoke steering wheel from my spares box was painted to match the upholstery. The "Moon" gas and cavitation plate pedals were sourced from Replicas and Miniatures Co. of Maryland.



15

All finished! This kitbashed project looks very different from the stock AMT "Hull Raiser." The "Double Trouble" decals came from the expanded markings in the special edition AMT Double Dragster.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

**INTRIGUED? I HOPE SO.** But maybe your greatest interest is in kits of smaller, personal watercraft. Or maybe you like 1970s to 2000s hydro kits. There's more to talk about, and I've taken the discussion to [FineScale.com/hydros](http://FineScale.com/hydros) to talk more 1/25 scale boat and pleasure craft kits. There's everything from a personal jet ski to a replica of the 1977 Unlimited Hydro national champion. Join me there and get serious about churning (scale) water! **FSM**

-[FbaeScale.com](http://FbaeScale.com) 53

## This 1969 Ford GT40 Race Car Has a Secret Slot Car Track Inside

Press a button and this GT40's body lifts open, revealing a 1:32-scale Le Mans replica slot car track with two remote controls.

[NICO DEMATTIA](#)

8



Slot Mods Raceways is back with a new handmade slot car track that hides inside a vintage car. A couple of years ago, one of Slot Mods' most popular creations—a [circuit built into the body of a replica Porsche 917](#)—sold on [Bring a Trailer](#) for an astonishing \$205,000. Now, the Detroit-based company has a new model, with another famous racing legend wearing those signature Gulf colors.

Like the Porsche 917, this GT40 features a 1:32-scale replica of the Le Mans pit lane, replete with team garages, pit crews, and fans in the grandstands. There's foliage outside the circuit, sponsorship signs, and two built-in slots for the remote controls. Also like that 917 and many other [Slot Mods](#) creations, the track is housed entirely within the replica Ford. At the push of a button, the GT40's shell lifts open, revealing the track that's built into the "chassis" of the car. Even if you aren't much of a slot car enthusiast, it's impossible not to be wowed by that.









The [Ford GT40](#) won Le Mans for the fourth time in a row in 1969 with Jackie Ickx and Jackie Oliver behind the wheel. That would also prove to be the GT40's final Le Mans victory, ending Ford's dominance over its European rivals. The Porsche 917KH took the win the very next year, ironically flying the same baby blue-and-orange livery.

According to Slot Mods founder Davie Beattie, the company caters to very high-end clientele with plenty of space for massive dioramas like this—and presumably enough cash to blow 911 GT3 money on a slot car track. Beattie has built bespoke examples for automakers including Ford and Audi, and even made [Ford CEO Jim Farley](#) a scale replica of Laguna Seca. McLaren Racing CEO Zak Brown apparently has a Slot Mods track, too.

















The level of craftsmanship in Slot Mods' tracks is sensational. If you didn't get too close to this GT40 or peer through its glass, you'd think you were looking at a decommissioned race car. And, like all of Slot Mods' replica builds, this Ford is a 1:1 scale model that looks identical to the real artifact, with matching scoops and vents, and even working headlights.

Slot Mods didn't say whether this GT40 was built for a specific client or if it would go on sale at some point. However, its [Facebook](#) post mentioned Art Basel, the international for-profit art show, and the next one is in Hong Kong in March. Perhaps that's where someone will take it home.

**Also:**

<https://bringatrailer.com/listing/library-2/#comments-anchor>

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.

### January 2025 Meeting pictures

#### Model Mercantile Market

"Wanted or For Sale" section...

**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.

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.

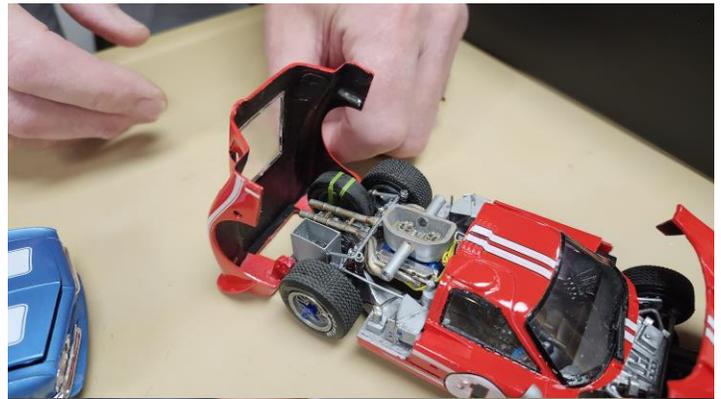






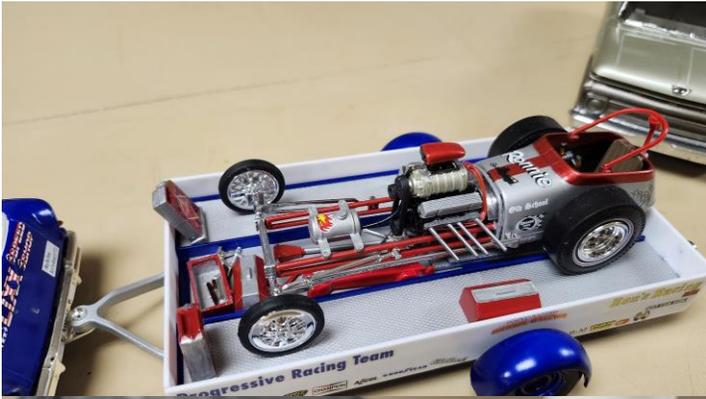




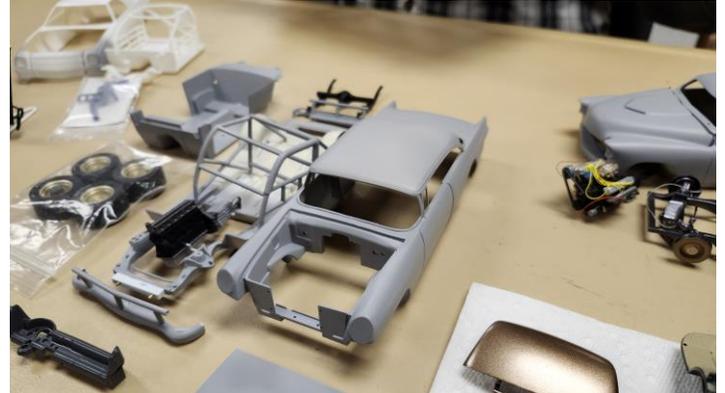




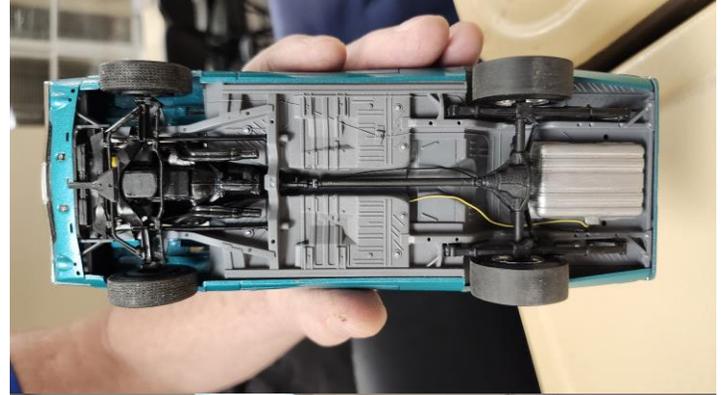
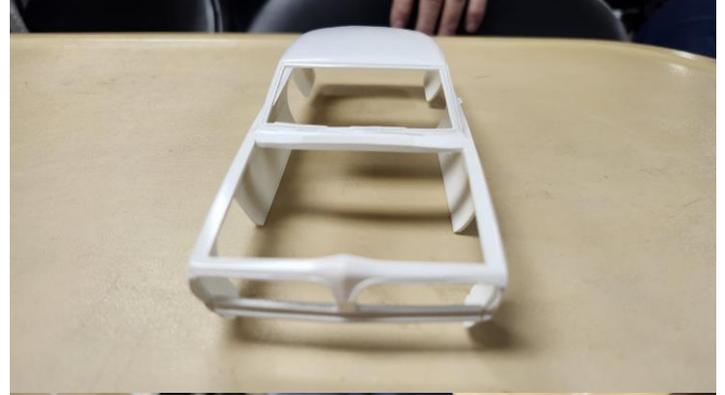
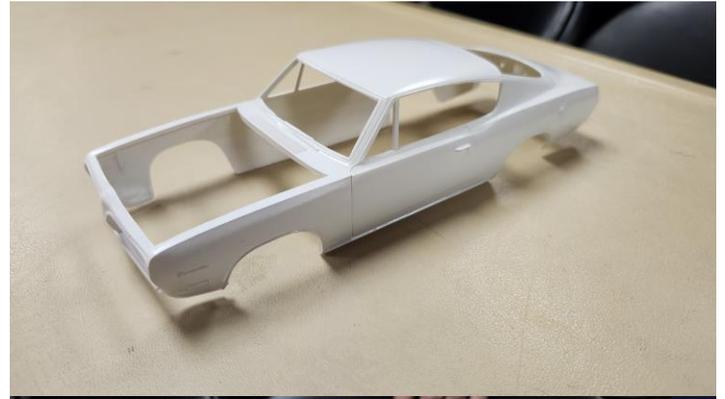
















***On the other hand:***

***Happy Valentines Day***

***Say it ain't snow bro!***



# ***Happy President's Day:***

***Salute our country and those who served for it***



***Happy birthday to your author:***



# Hope to see you all at a mtg!

## LIARS Annual (2025) 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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### 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? \_\_\_\_\_

