

Fall Flopper Challenge - 2013

Here we are again with more news from CAMS, first off, let me apologize for the delay in getting this done and on the website. Sometimes life, even your friendly neighborhood Scribes can get in the way of important things, but I am back and rearing to go.

Gordon Barret one of CAMS senior members issued a challenge for what he referred to as the "Fall Flopper Challenge".

An invitation to participate in the

ALL-OUT FALL FUNNIES

What you need:

Funny car model kit - flopper style only (ie. flip body).

Building skill.

Nerves of steel.



Rules:

All-out style - show what you have.

Can be super detailed or box stock but judging will be based on the quality of the workmanship in completing the kit, not the aftermarket parts or decals.

Judging to be by all in attendance at the CAMS meeting Oct. 1, 2013.

Only new builds - not previously judged at ANY show.

Open to ALL model builders.

Prizes:

Bragging rights!

In the ALL-OUT style - THE WINNER KEEPS THE LOSERS KITS!

The Gauntlet has been thrown!
Do you have what it takes?

******* LOSE THE CONTEST -
LOSE THE MODEL *******

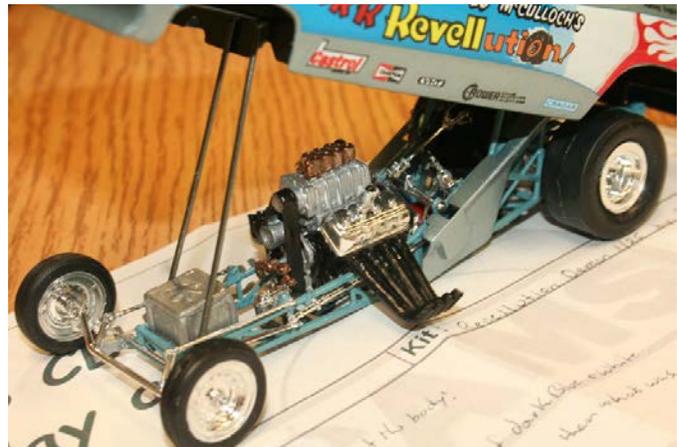
These challenges serve a number of purposes, first and foremost is to get the members of the club building after laying around and enjoying the outdoors for the summer, second to get the members to build something out of their comfort zone and last but not least we use it as a forum to practice out Judging skills for the spring show. The challenge was set to go on the first meeting in October but had to be delayed until the first meeting in November 2013, but it was definitely worth the wait.

Since it was Gordon's idea, his was the first to be looked at. He was building the Model King release of the AMT 69 GTO Judge funny car.



Sad to say he did not get it finished in time but gamely put it on the table to be judged. He did manage to do a pretty good job on what is a very daunting kit to build because of the poor design and fit issues. He built the kit basically out of the box changing only the rear slicks. All of the chrome was stripped and redone with various metalizers from Model Master and Alclad. The engine is a custom blend of Valajoy acrylics to match Pontiac engine blue and it is all topped off with GTO (Hugger Orange) on the body. Gordon is planning to finish the kit some time down the road but he has other building priorities at this time.

Next up was Steve MacKenzie with his 1/25 scale Revell release of Ed McCulloch's Revellution Dart Funny car. Steve built the kit out of the box with no major modifications using detail painting to make parts stand out. Steve is returning to the hobby after a long hiatus and his usual poison is Heavy Trucks but decided to give the funny car a shot. He did a good job and as his skills improve he will be producing many outstanding models in the days to come.



Up to the line next was Bob Kerasiotis with his build of the 1/25 Polar Lights "Hawaiian" Charger. Bob's kit was built as the car would have looked when it first raced in the early '70. The vents in the doors were filled along with the hood vents and the body was treated to a few coats of Testor's One Shot Star Spangled Blue with Wet Look clear to make it shiny. Next task was the application of the decals something Bob readily admits that he hates to do, but with a lot of patience, bad words and decal solutions he got them on and where they belonged mostly.



The chrome was thick and not well done so it was all stripped and various shades of Alclad such as aluminum, manganese, polished aluminum and many more were used in place of the plating. The engine was wired and featured a scratch built ignition box, blower belt, drilled headers. Some of the other details in the kit were a wired parachute with shroud lines and release handle in the driver's compartment.



The kit did not fall together there were some challenges with fit and warpage which required some extra diligence to keep the all 4 wheels on the ground, but in the end it was well worth the effort producing a replica that pulled in second place.

Before I move on to the winner there are two honorable mentions, Chris Martin was working on a Vega funny car with a number of major change but alas it never made it to the competition. Apparently during the cleaning of Chris's work area the kit was placed on a chair temporarily where it was involved in a rear end accident (I'll leave the rest to your imagination, but it was not a pretty sight, and Scott Milligan brought in his work in progress Revell's 1/25 offering of the Gene Snow Charger which was to be decaled in Elm City Hobbies custom livery, something we hope to see in the future..

I have saved the best for last, and that was Darren Anderson's 1/25 scale Revell Chi-Town Hustler 69 Charger. Darren returned to the hobby a couple years ago and has been storming along winning the first NY Challenge and winning best Automotive at the 2013 show. For this challenge Darren again worked his magic. The kit featured a flawless paint job of Testor's One Shot Revving Red followed by the kit decals which were then covered by Testor's Wet Look Clear. Once the paints had cured completely Darren went at it with the Micro-Mesh Polishing System to eliminate any minor imperfections. This was followed up with Maguire's Deep Crystal System Polish and Carnuba wax to give the car a mirror like finish.



The drive train also received the Anderson touch. The frame was painted the same as the body and all other components were enhanced with paint detail to bring out the features. The engine was next, the distributor was wired and the wires fed through PE looms to scratch built plug boots and the Parts by Parks ignition coil.



Scuffed tires and a paint detailed chute rounded out the build. The vote was close but Darren took the award hands down with a beautifully presented kit. This was a well-deserved win.

Kudos go out to all the participants and thanks to the members of the club who came out and judged these great builds. A special thanks to Gordon who supplied the winner's trophy and engraved plaques for the participants and Elm City Hobbies who supplied a gift certificate for the winner.

A good time was had by all and we are looking forward to the 2014 New Year's Challenge to see what marvelous miniatures show up on the judging stand.

The Scribe