

Build & Boogie/Model Car Contest

By Gary Krueger #667

Greetings Car Folks Small and Big,

Working on getting kits for the Build & Boogie again this year has had some challenges but it was a great event last year so I fight on. Actually last year was the first year that we didn't run out of snap kits having about 10 kits left for this year. The world around us continues to change as we learned with the TEN decision to drop 19 print car magazines. A bit of a shock but not a total surprise as the writing has been on the wall a while. That being said, less snap kits are being built now so we are very fortunate to have Bruce Gardner of Scale Model Supplies and Alex Geiger scouring the landscape for us to find them. There are some possibilities and I am quite confident we will get some.

I want to share several things I received that make me feel really good that we are the last association providing this gift to street rodding's youth. A friend I made over the last several years while working to keep the kits available sent the following email after their model car contest at the NSRA NATS EAST in York, PA last June:

From: Lawrence Landis **Sent:** Monday, June 3, 2019, 11:30:59 PM CDT **Subject:** Street Rod Nationals
Hi Gary,

The Nats in York were last weekend. It was a great show. We miss doing the Make n Take for the kids, but that is beyond our control. On the other hand, we had so much interest in the model car contest that we ran out of ballots. Hope your show goes as well.

Larry Landis

Having super good volunteers like we have at the model car contest allows me to spend time at the Build & Boogie to visit with the kids and their parents who are working on the kits. I came upon a nice young lady with enthusiastic kids building kits (actually it was a very nice grandma with neat grandchildren). As we visited I learned she was a friend of my friend, the late Greg Semanko, who helped me many times with my Allis Chalmers tractor. She said the kids really liked having a hands-on project they could do themselves so she said she would share her thoughts on that with MSRA:



Back to the 50's was made for family fun. My grandchildren look forward every year visiting the MSRA Back to the 50's event. In fact, each year they beg me, or their parents, with a day at Back to the 50's. I enjoy bringing them for as much time as is available in their busy schedules. Like most children they enjoy looking at the cars, visiting vendors and eating the great food available. They truly enjoy looking at all the cool cars, but, as it should be, it is a no touch world when it comes to classics and customs. And yes, they are very respectful of the rules of looking, no touching. But you know they are itching to just touch and glide their small hands along the vehicles, jump in the back seats, sit on the bumpers.... you get the idea.

One of the best things we discovered this past year was being able to assemble a model car. The cars were provided to youth at no charge. There were 3 choices for the child to choose from and each had a different

difficulty level. What a great way for a kid to get acquainted to cars! There was a place to assemble cars and there was also help available when needed. My granddaughter, Aubree, chose the easiest level car and grandson, Brady, chose the most difficult car. They each worked independently until they got stuck. There was help available as well as a spare parts kit. Each of them left the area with an almost completed model car to take home and a memory of putting their own car together. That's why it so great to have hands-on events like Model Car Building and Kids Day available to our youth. I am hopeful that MSRA will again offer this great activity to our youth.

Karen Bowman #22994

And speaking of good volunteers I want to share a picture of Michael Silver and his Dad Randy loading up the Build & Boogie kits at Scale Model Supplies with their beautiful 1959 Pontiac (The Pump Jack). Good that it has such a BIG TRUNK! I will have the details on the kits we get next month.



Thank you all for supporting the Build & Boogie and Model Car Contest.