

Scratch- built.com

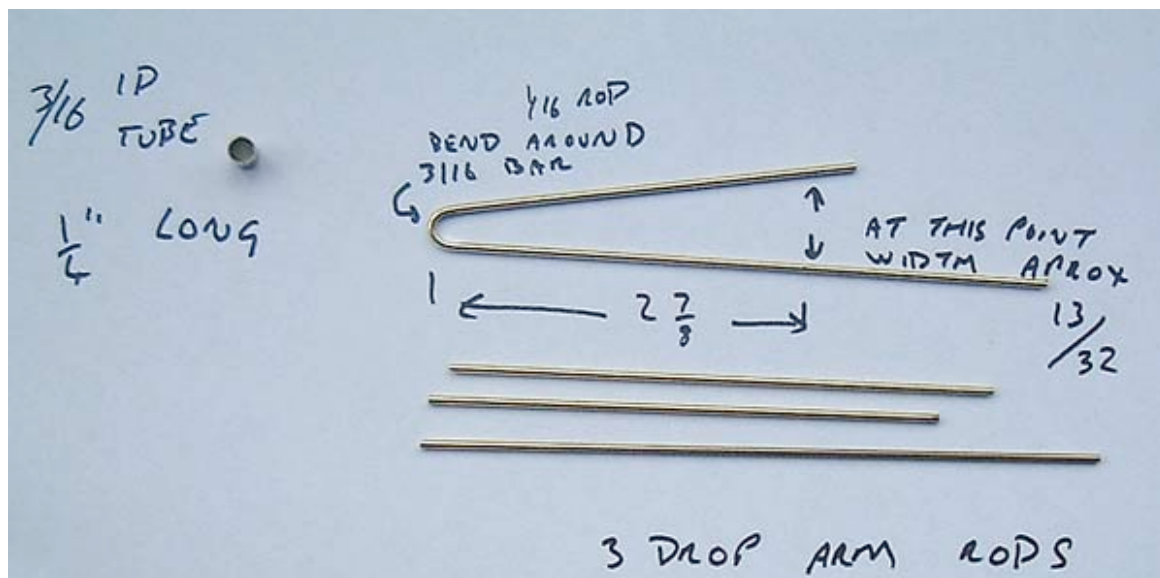
Collecting
vintage hand-made
brass slot car chassis

Articles

Building a Vintage Cukras Chassis, page 3

A photo-essay by Phillip Niyazi, Aug. 21, 2003

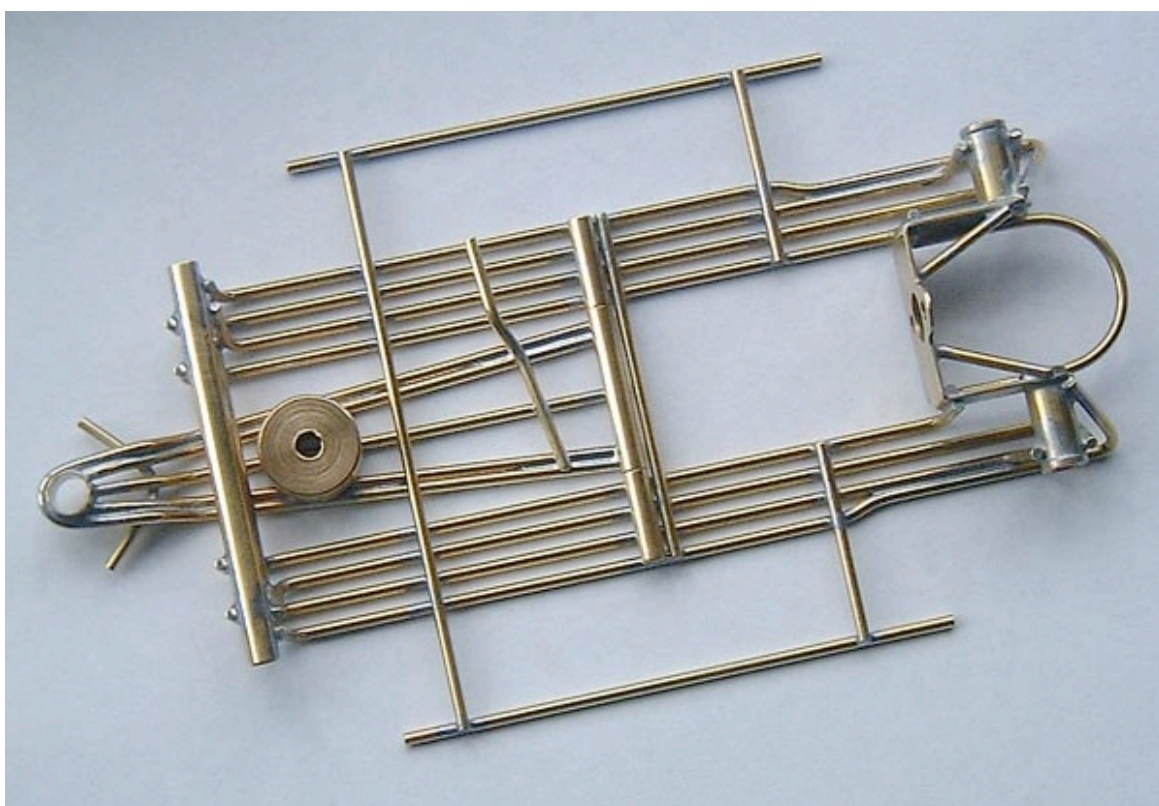
When you come to make the drop arm, the 3 inner rails are a tiny bit further forward than the outer rail. This is so that the little bent guide stop can sit on them. This will become clear when you get to that stage. (I had to scrap my first one.)





Below: Here is the finished chassis. [More pictures are [here](#).] As far as chassis go, this one is easy to make, but it really is a beautiful chassis. Top marks to John Cukras when he designed this one.

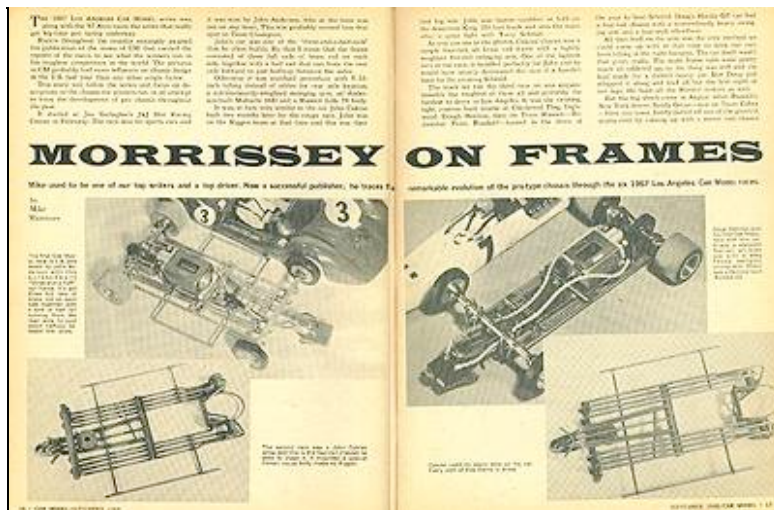
If anyone decides to build this chassis, and needs any help, feel free to e-mail me. [Phillip Niyazi](#)



Historical Comments by Jim Allen

Here is Car Model Magazine, September 1968, pages 16 and 17, which Phillip Niyazi used to build the John Cukras chassis. The pictures on the lower left and lower right show the chassis.

This article, by Mike Morrissey, traces the development of the pro slot car chassis in the 1967 Los Angeles Car Model race series, and is considered one of the most important articles ever for slot car historians.



Here's what Morrissey says in the article about the Cukras chassis:

"[Here is] the car John Cukras built two months later [April 1967] for the coupe race. John was on the Rigger Team at that time and this was their first big win. John was fastest qualifier at 6.25 on the American King 155-foot track and won the Main after a great fight with Terry Schmid.

As you can see in the photos, Cukras' chassis was a simple four-rail, all brass rod frame with a lightly weighted five-rail swinging arm. One of the lightest cars in the race, it handled perfectly for John and he would have utterly dominated the race if it hadn't been for the amazing Schmid."

The picture caption on the left says:

"The second race was a John Cukras show and this is the four-rail chassis he used to stage it. It mounted a special Ferrari coupe body made by Riggeren."

The picture caption on the right says:

"Cukras used no piano wire on his car. Every part of this frame is brass."

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