

SWANKS NEWS

Swanks Car Club

Established 1956

Swanks Newsletter

November-December 2022

The Shed Bob Marvin's Car Collection

Photos:
Cris Stokke



Cris and Scott Stokke toured Bob Marvin's *The Shed* which houses his amazing cars



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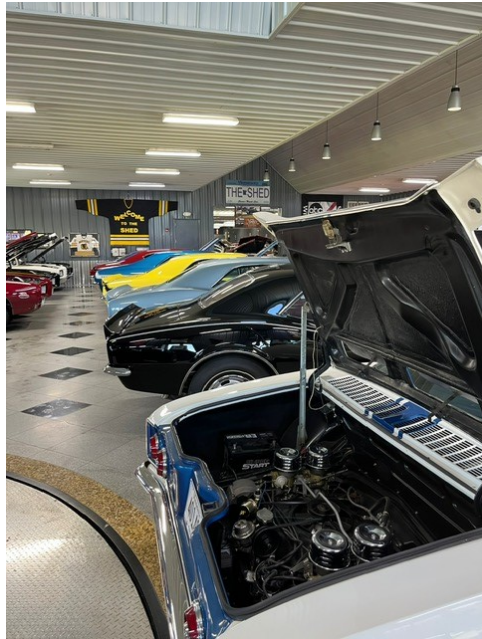
Issue Dates: Jan. 25th, March 25th, May 25th, July 25th, September 25th, November 25th

Going to a car show? Bring your camera and send in the photos for the next newsletter.

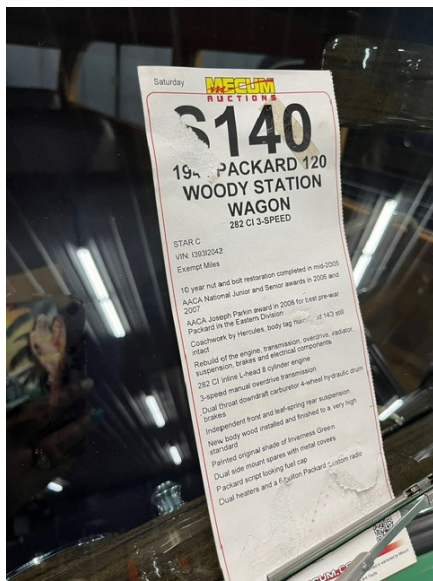
Got a project or a new car? Take a few photos and submit them to the newsletter.

Got something to sell? Put it into the newsletter—
rondahley@gmail.com

The Shed Continued...



The Shed is located in Warroad Minnesota. I have it on my list of car museums to visit, Swanks have talked about touring it together maybe we should do it.



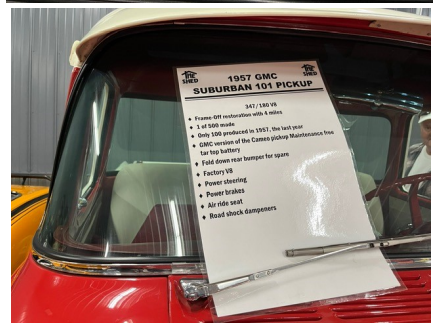
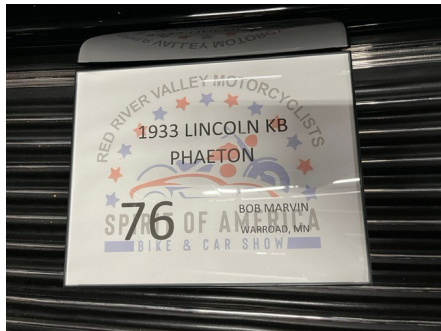
1969 Hurst/Olds

1969 was the debut of one of the most iconic Muscle Cars in history...the 1969 Hurst/Olds. There were (912) H/O cars built in 1969... with less than 1/3rd of those equipped with factory Air Conditioning.

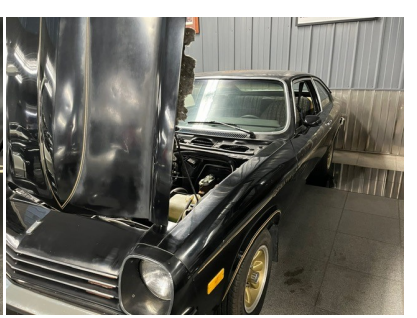
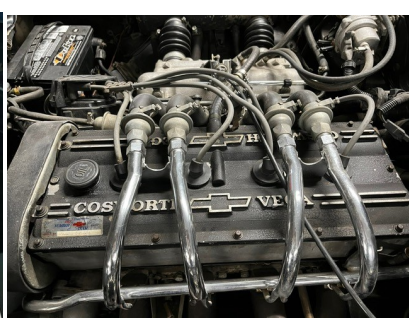
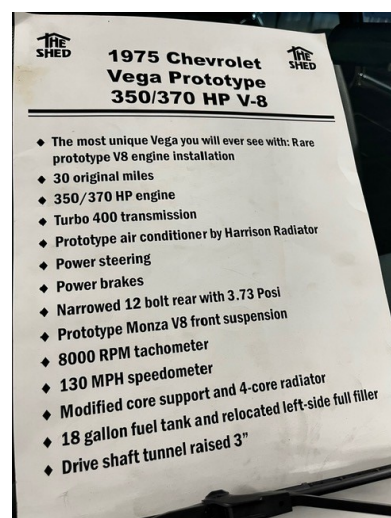
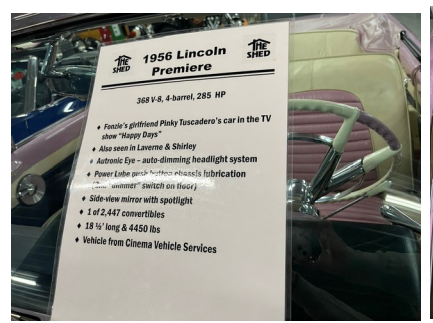
- VIN 344879M371283
- Bought from the original owner in Marshalltown, IA who purchased it from the local Oldsmobile dealership in 1969
- Car #411 out of 912 cars produced in 1969
- W-46 Factory Hurst Option
- TH-400 Transmission
- 15" Rally Wheels
- Rally Pac Gauges
- Factory Air Conditioning
- 3:91 Posi Rear End
- Hurst Dual Gate Shifter
- 455 CI / 390 Horsepower



The Shed Continued...



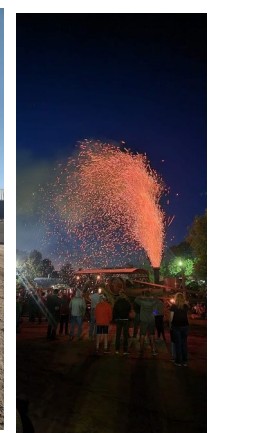
Bob Marvin has over 100 collectible cars.



Thanks to Cris and Scott Stokke for sharing their tour of *The Shed* in Warroad Minnesota.

The Western Steam Threshers Reunion 2022

Photos: Johnny "Rocket" Nustad





Photos: Google.com



Sun Records, a division of Sun Entertainment Corporation is an American independent record label founded on Memphis Tennessee, which began operations on March 27, 1952.

Sun Records Rockabilly and Rockers Group

Founded in 1952 by Sam Philips, who also founded the recording studio Sun Studios at the same time. Sun Records discovered and first recorded such influential musicians as Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis and Johnny Cash. Prior to those records, Sun records concentrated on mainly recording African-American musicians, because Phillips loved rhythm and blues and wanted to bring the music to a white audience.

There were also sixteen female recording artists whose records were released on the Sun and Phillips International label. These included Barbra Pittman and the Miller Sisters.

Sun Records was sold in 1969 and since then has re-released and re-packaged compilations of Sun's early artists in the Early 70's. It later introduced a rockabilly tribute singer Jimmy "Orion" Ellis in 1980, with Orion taking on the persona of Elvis Presley. Sun Records has also signed Julie Roberts to a recording contract in 2013. Sun remains mainly a re-issue label.

The music of Sun Records musicians helped lay part of the foundation of late 20th-century rock and roll and influenced many younger musicians, including the Beatles. In 2001, Paul McCartney appeared on a tribute compilation album titled Good Rockin' Tonight: The legacy of Sun Records. The 2010 tribute Million Dollar Quartet is based on the famous photograph of Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, and Jerry Lee Lewis grouped round Elvis Presley at the piano, the night when the four joined in an impromptu jam at Sun Record's one-room sound studios, the "Million Dollar Quartet" of December 4, 1956.



Photos:
Google.com



Bench Racing *with Bob Berry*

I met Bob at the West Fargo Cruise Night in September. I was admiring his 1964 Ford Falcon Sprint and we started conversing about his beautiful car. The conversation continued about other cars and Bob shared a story I found funny. Bob tells this story about his older brother who retired some years ago. When Bob's brother retired, he went to his wife and told her he was thinking about buying a classic car. Her response was positive, and she shared that she thought it was a good idea, after all he had worked his whole life and an interest in a car hobby might be the ticket to a happy retirement. With his wife's blessing Bob's brother started looking for that perfect classic car. He had owned a Ford Falcon in his earlier years and thought that might bring back fond memories. He found a nice Ford Falcon Ranchero and made a deal. Now the car was not perfect and so he put it in a shop where the restoration work began. He did not tell his wife as he thought it would be great fun to surprise her, maybe at a car show, he would have the Falcon at the car show take her to the show and introduce her to the completely restored ranchero. The Ford was coming along nicely and getting close to completion when it was time for Back to the 50's in St Paul Minnesota. They made the journey to the car show and while looking at the beautiful cars at the show they came across a Ford Falcon Sprint coupe. Bob's brother looked the car over closely and told his wife this is what I want, he went on and on about the car and how it was just perfect. The owner of the car was there and spoke to them about his Falcon. Bob asked if it was for sale and the gentleman said no, he did not intend on selling his car. Bob's brother gave his wife the act that this was really what he wanted and was sorry the owner was not selling. Please realize that Bob's Falcon was almost complete, and he had no intention to buy a car. The couple continued on and once again they come across a beautiful Ford Falcon Sprint Coupe and Bob goes into his act telling his wife that this car is perfect, just what he wants and once again the owner is near so they speak to him about his car. Again, Bob's brother asks "is this car for sale?". This time the owner responds with a yes, his child is going off to college and he could use some money for tuition. Now Bob must back off as he had no intention of purchasing a car, so he quickly ends the conversation and moves on. He does not talk about buying a car for the rest of the day. When it was time to head home, he and his wife head for their car when his wife asks him where he is going and he said to our car, she said your car is in the fairgrounds HAPPY BIRTHDAY! His lovely bride had purchased the Falcon Sprint for him. He called Bob and asked for guidance and Bob laughed and told him better ask for forgiveness. It must have worked because several years later Bob's brother now owns the Ranchero, the Sprint his wife bought him, and a convertible.

Bob purchased his Falcon Sprint over a year ago and has made lots of memories attending car shows with his brother. It isn't just the cars it is family sharing an interest that makes the car hobby so special.

Run for the Fallen Fargo Air Museum



Photos: Ted Bryans

West Fargo Car Cruise Sept. 2022

Photos: Kevin/Ron Dahley & Johnny "Rocket" Nustad

Words: Ron Dahley

I finally attended a West Fargo Car Cruise this year and Kevin and I found what we had been missing all summer. The weather contributed to the very nice atmosphere of the show. I found it to be a bit smaller than previous times, maybe making it better to see the cars. Two parking lots that had been used in previous years were not used this night and yet parking was limited but not impossible to find. Swanks members were visible with some wearing Swanks gear that looked great! Kevin and I had an enjoyable evening checking out the cars and visiting with car people. Car people are the best. The previous page has Bob Berry talking about his and his brother's passion for classic cars and especially Ford Falcons. The first few pictures are of Bob's beautiful Ford Falcon Sprint. If you have a chance look at this special and rare black beauty. Bob attends a lot of local car shows including the Swanks show.



Wearing the green looking good!



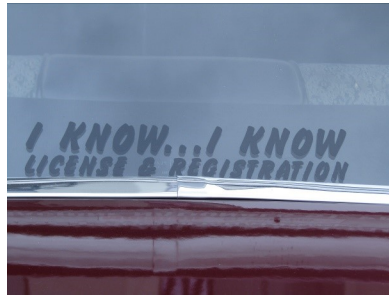
Donnie going for the Boyd Coddington look
Maybe Beach Boys either way they look good



Gary Johnson was on hand and Mark Kieffer and his son were cruising Sheyenne Street.



West Fargo Car Cruise Continued...



Ted Talk With Ted Bryans

Christmas is around the corner and what little boy, and some girls wouldn't enjoy a big Tonka Truck under the Christmas tree? Well, some of us never grow up and Tonka toy collecting is a much enjoyed hobby for many adults. Ted and his father Victor have been collecting and restoring these old Tonka's since Ted was a little boy.



The father son team are well known in the region among Tonka collectors so much so, they are called upon to hunt down specific models for others they also restore these Tonka's for customers. One of their new acquisitions is a Tonka Truck with a Fargo heritage.

Ted; My dad was scrolling through ebay and found a Tonka truck trailer with Fargo's Adams moving signage so he contacted the gentleman and a deal was made. Victor and the seller kept in contact and later the seller said he had the tractor for the trailer somewhere. He searched and sure enough he found the tractor to complete the truck. Back in the 50's and early 60's Tonka would personalize their trucks for companies for promotion. These companies sold or in some cases gave them to customers. The seller remembers his family living in Fargo and then moving to Sioux Falls SD. During the move the young child was given the truck in 1961 and he has cared for it ever since. Now downsizing he wanted to find a good home for this special toy. This 1961 Tonka truck will make a great addition to our collection.



United Automotive Car Show



Photos: Ted Bryans

Hot Rod Christmas



Now it is about that time where my wife begins talking about putting up Christmas decorations and I find it a lot of work. I was scrolling through pintrest and got some good ideas for decorating that caught my interest. I will share them with you, now all I have to do is talk my bride into it. I think I have two chances of talking Laurie into my decorating ideas: 1. fat and 2. slim LOL



From the Swanks News international offices

From all the staff of Swanks News, the editors, administrative assistants, photographers, copy boys, printers, lay out department, proof readers, writers, computer technicians, custodian's, and typesetters we wish you a

Merry Christmas

Feature Car The Kurtis Sports Car

This issues Ted Talk is about Ted and his dads' interest and collection of Tonka Trucks. I must admit I also have an addiction to children's toys, mine is 1/64 model cars. Hot Wheels, Matchbox and Green light models are my weakness. I pick them up at Walmart, Dollar stores and my favorite flea markets, I'm always on the lookout for a new old model to add to my collection. Sometimes I purchase more than one to share with my brother Kevin and also to give away to kids. I've been known to give hot wheels away at Halloween and when kids come to visit us including my granddaughters.

One day I was in a Dollar Store and browsing through the Match Box rack, pushing kids away from the area until their mother gives me the stink eye, came across a Kurtis Sports Car. I had never heard of such a car but bought it with the idea if it was a real historical car I would keep it otherwise it could go in my giveaway bin in my garage. I looked it up and found it was a keeper and since then I have found several other Kurtis Match Box cars for Kevin and to go into the give away bin. Here is what I found on the internet regarding the Kurtis Sports Car.

The Kurtis Sport Car (KSC) is a two-seat, aluminum-body sports car designed by Frank Kurtis and manufactured by Kurtis Kraft in 1949 and 1950. Built with numerous components (including the chassis and V8 engine) from a 1949 Ford, the KSC was built as both a production car and a kit car. It was sold at a base price of \$3,495, and with options it could cost up to \$5,000, which was approximately \$1,000 more than the then-new Jaguar XK120.

After Frank Kurtis realized that the car was not sustainable financially, largely due to production costs, he sold the KSC's manufacturing rights, along with its blueprints, parts, and tooling, to Earl "Madman" Muntz for \$200,000 in 1950. By that time, only 18 to 36 KSCs had been produced.

In August 1949, Wally Parks, founder of the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) and co-founder of Hot Rod magazine, drove a modified KSC to 142.515 mph (229.356 km/h) on the Bonneville Salt Flats. In September 1949, that same KSC was featured on the cover of the first issue of Motor Trend. The KSC also likely inspired Harley Earl's Project Opel at General Motors (GM), which ultimately created the production Chevrolet Corvette. The KSC was additionally described as the first "true American sports car" in the 2017 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance program.

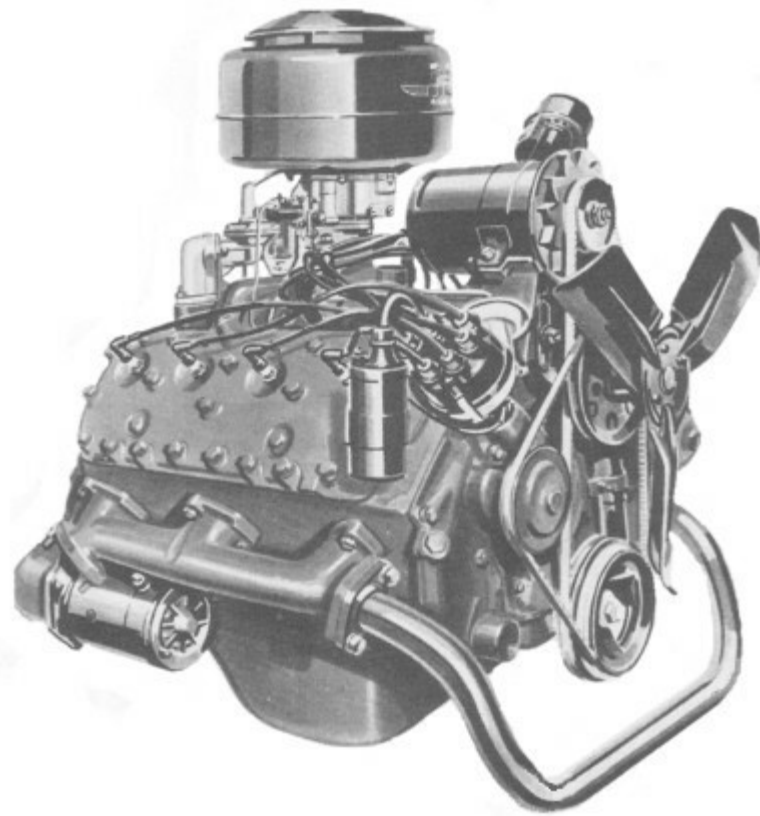


Important words: Wikipedia.org Photos: Google

For more information on the Kurtis Sport Car just google it as there is more information and stories on this little sports cars history including it on the salt flats.

What' the Diff? The Ford and Mercury Flathead

References: Google



Since the 50's I have heard hot rodder's talk about the flat head V8 and how many sought out the Mercury over the Ford. I did not know why but supposed it had to do with horsepower and I was correct. In 1932 Ford introduced the flat head V8 and it boasted 60 horse power, by 1953, the last year for the flathead, it had grown to 110 horsepower. The same year Mercury flatheads produce 125 horsepower. They were both produced by Ford and almost look identical so what's the diff.?



You can Differentiate a Mercury Flathead from a Ford Flathead visually. The only visual method of differentiating Mercury and Ford Flatheads is to look at the front counter weight of the crankshaft. Mercury crankshafts have a longer stroke and are identified by a dimple on the top of the crankshaft counter weight.

The internals of the flatheads are differentiated by the crankshafts, the Ford's Crankshaft measures 3 3/4" and the Mercury crankshaft measures 4". The s oil passages in the Mercury are also larger. Both flatheads have the same piston size of 3.1875. The ford had 239 cubic inches and the Mercury was 255 cubic inches. Now this if for the 49-53 Fords and Merc's. The earlier years Mercury always offered a larger engine however in earlier models some had the same size crankshaft with a little larger bore.

FUN Flathead Facts

References: Google

- The fastest flathead At an amazing speed of 302.204 m.p.h., a car powered by a supercharged 700 horsepower Ford flathead V8 holds the land speed record for its class at Bonnyville salt flats. The car was developed and driven by Ron Main of Chatsworth, California.
- Ford produced flathead 4 cylinder engines, 6 cylinder engines, V8 engines, and V12 engines for their Lincolns.
- The largest Ford flathead produced was a 337 cubic inch engine ranging from 125-154 horsepower used in their big Lincolns and large trucks.
- Stories tell of farmers bringing in their trucks powered by Mercury engines for rebuild and when they received their rebuilt engine with a new Ford crankshaft never knowing the difference. The rebuilders sold the mercury cranks to hot rod builders.

60 hp V8
(136 cubic inch)

All Years 17 Stud V8

85 - 125 hp V8
(221 to 255 cubic inch)

Early Years 21 Stud V8 (1932-38)

Middle/latter Years 24 Stud V8 (1938

125-154 hp V8
(337 cubic inch)

Big Lincoln/Truck V8

Happy Days Car Show Ramsey MN

Photos: Todd Schultz



Top Ten 11 Car Service Show

Photos: Johnny "Rocket" Nustad



The Night Before Christmas

Car Junkies Version

Twas the night before Christmas, my battery was dead,
My head gasket was blown, my tires had no tread,
The car parts were placed on the workbench with care,
In hopes the mechanic soon would be there.

The transmission was leaking, the oil-dry I spread,
With visions of dollar—signs danced through my head,
While surveying the problems, I started to weep,
Cause I knew in my heart it wouldn't be cheap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I threw up the garage door to see what was the matter,
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But the Snap-On man in a truck from Goodyear.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Saint Nick.
With his band of mechanics, out of the truck they came,
And he whistled and called them by name.

Now, Bruce! Now, George! Now, Earl and Fred!
On Matt! On Bob! On Charles and Ed!
Let's get to work quickly on this poor old wreck,
Although getting it running may be too much to expect.

The screwdrivers they glistened! The wrenches they flew!
I was anticipating a car that looked almost new!
They put on new tires, they fixed all the leaks,
I thought, "maybe I'll make the Power Tour with the freaks!"

Santa said, "There's no hope for this thing!"
"Let's get a car in here that has some real bling!"
He opened the trailer, he backed the car out,
And all the mechanics, they started to shout!

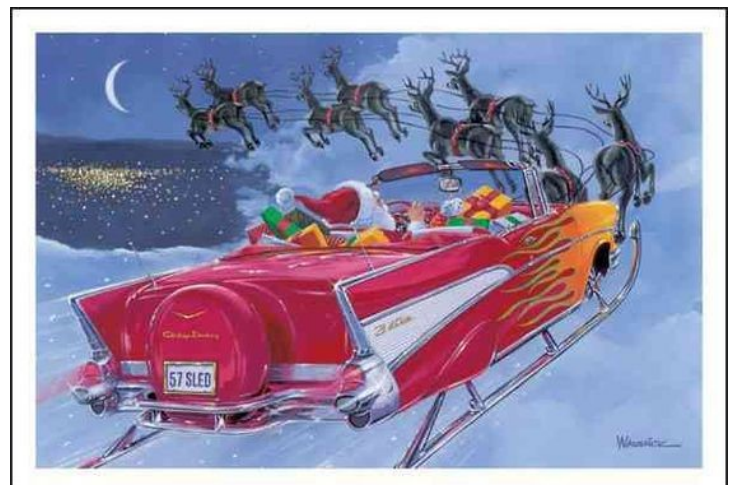
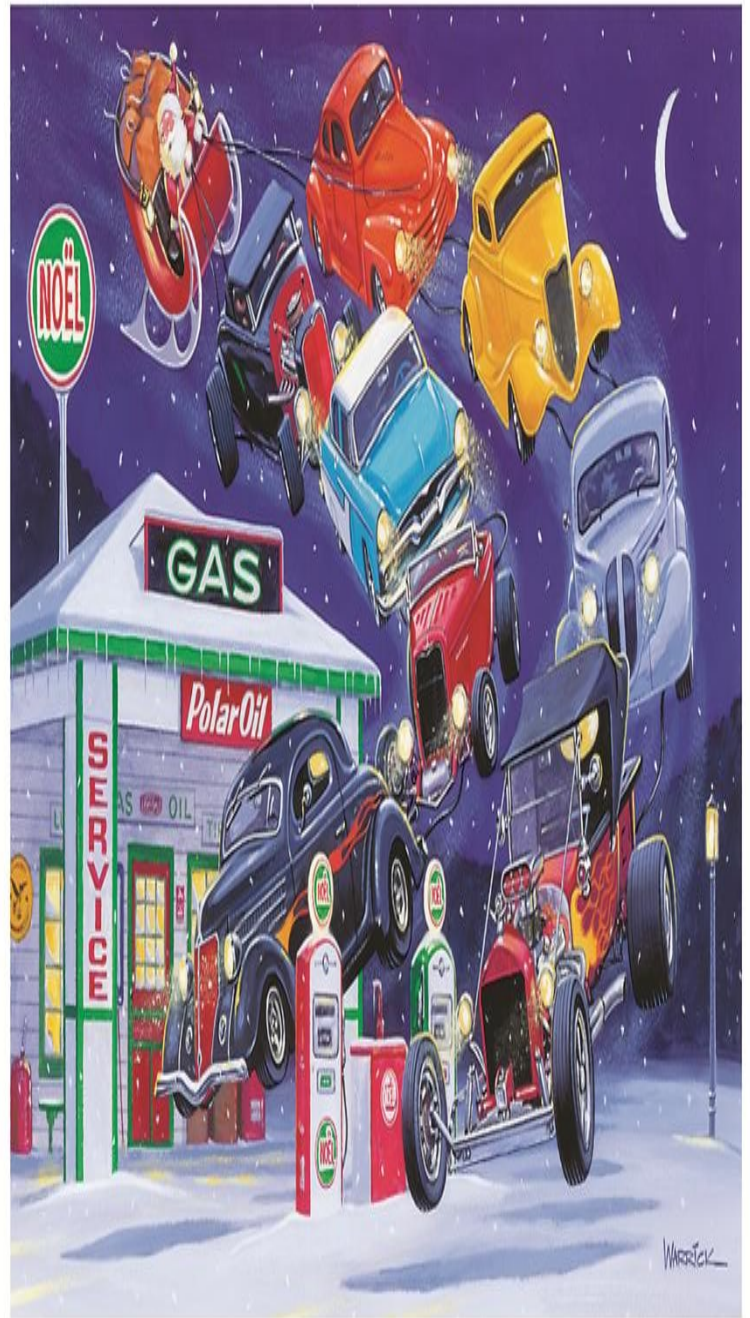
I could not believe it, I haven't digested it yet!
It was better than a midyear Sting Ray Corvette!
Down the driveway came something no one has yet seen,
A Camaro Convertible in Synergy Green!

He laughed when he saw me, in spite of himself,
Cause he was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf.
He said, "Consider this a gift from heaven,
Cause you're going on the Power Tour 2023 !

I don't know how to thank him, the mechanics they cheered,
I wouldn't be stuck at home like I feared
I hugged him and kissed him, my heart all a-quiver,
He said, "I must go, I have toys to deliver!"

He sprang to his truck, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew, like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!



Drive Careful Swanks



Up Coming Events 2023

Please call to ensure the events have not been cancelled.

Jan. 28, 2023 Winter of Wheels Car Show, Jamestown ND

February 3-5, 2023 Winterfest of Wheels, Sioux Falls SD

April 1-2 Toppers Car Show West Fargo ND

April 1-2 Gopher State Timing Assoc. Car Show, Lee and Rose Warner State Fair Coliseum, St Paul, MN

May 6-7 Spirit Of America Bike/Car Show Alerus Center Grand Forks ND

June 23-25 Back to the 50's St Paul MN

July 27 Cruise to Casselton, Swanks Car Show Casselton ND

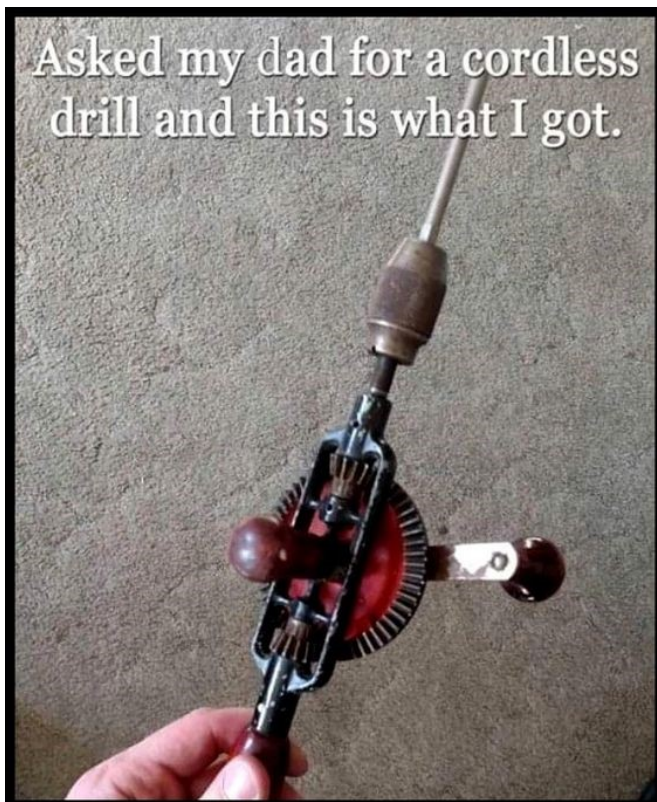
World of Outlaws Late Models

June 28 Fargo ND— **June 30** Grand Forks ND— **July 1** Fergus Falls MN.

NHRA

August 17-20 Brainerd MN

Ron's Helpful Hot Rod Tips



Asked my dad for a cordless drill and this is what I got.

Gift Idea?



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