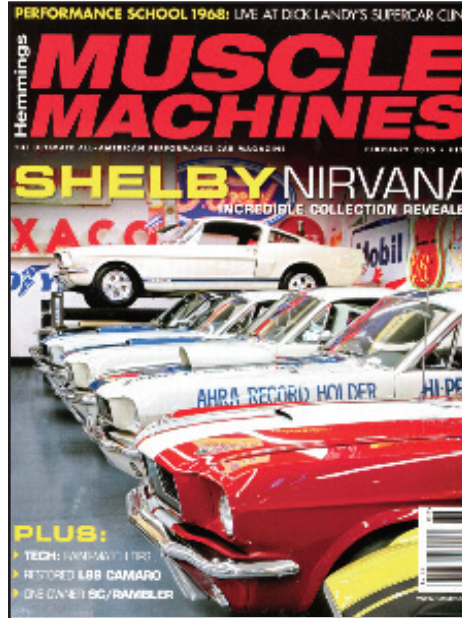


SHELBY AMERICANA



Once a year—just before the annual Scottsdale auction bacchanalia—*Sports Car Market* publishes their pocket price guide which they send to each of their subscribers. It's 4 1/2" x 6 1/2" and will fit into your pocket...which is probably why they refer to it a "pocket price guide." Duh. We immediately looked up Shelby and the listing is pretty complete, from 1962 through 1970. The prices (low as well as high) appear fairly accurate, and we're discounting the occasional absurd auction highs which would throw any price guide out of whack. They break out Cobra 260s and Daytona Coupes (\$10M-\$12M in case you were wondering what the buy-in was likely to be). They also advise that 10% should be deducted for 289 worm-and-sector cars and 20% deducted for 1966 Hertz cars and 1967 GT500 with automatic transmissions. The listing includes production figures, which are as accurate as possible for a condensed list of cars that seemingly have more exceptions than rules. The cover features an enticing photo of a 1966 Hertz car. Our point, here, is that they could have chosen any car for the cover of this guide, from a Abarth to a Vector (sorry, no Zil prices, which would have made for a tidy analogy). They chose the Shelby. That does not surprise us. Without choices like this, this would be a pretty sparse column. But every time another Shelby or Cobra appears on the cover of a publication like this it reinforces the fact that they are popular and interesting cars. Or does it cause it? The chicken or the egg?

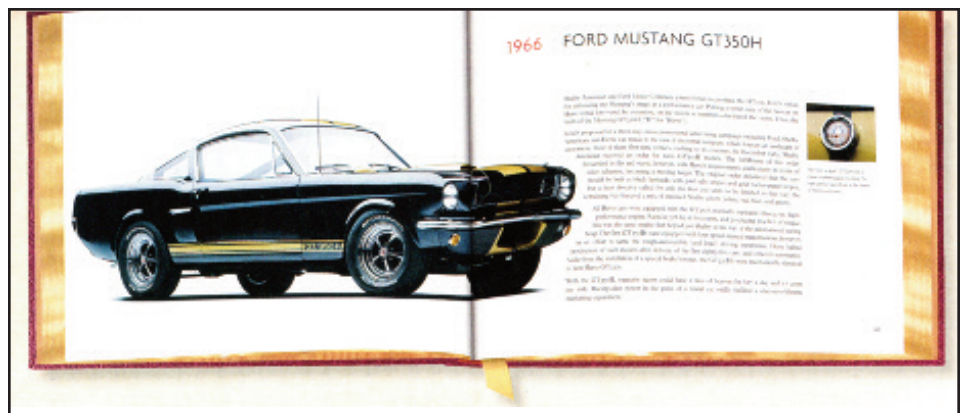


There are articles or pictures of Shelybs in almost any magazine, any month, on the newsstand today. The cars are popular and interest in them shows no signs of flagging that we can detect. So it takes a lot to catch our attention, but the February issue of *Hemmings Muscle Machines* succeeded. They visited the car and memorabilia collection of John Atzbach in Redmond, Washington. The collection is nothing short of astounding. We plan on visiting (again) next year and spending a little time taking some pictures and filing a full report. Until then, *Hemmings Muscle Machines* will have to hold you.



AMERICAN AUTO LEGENDS - Classics of Style and Design. Published by the Easton Press, Norwalk, Connecticut; three monthly installments at \$49 each.

Up front, we have to admit that we have not seen this book. This review is only based on a four-page color flyer we received. Our opinion of it would have been a lot different twenty years ago. We might have suggested it would make a good addition to your Shelby collection only because Shelybs and Cobras (we assume) were included. That used to be enough of a reason for us. But in the intervening years there has been so much published about these cars (a lot of it by SAAC) that it takes more than a few photos and brief mentions to compel us to suggest it be in your collection. There has just been too much out there for anyone to try to keep up with it all and get one of everything. This book has plenty of glitz: gold stampings on the leather cover, gilded page ends and a satin ribbon marker. None of it seems to justify the \$147 price.





Eagle-eye Tom Dankel of Hollister, California snapped this picture of a Cobra Co. Auto Oil t-shirt in a Lucky Brand store in LaJolla. Cobra Co, believe it or not, claims to be “the home of innovative outdoor living” and they sell a variety of outdoor decor: planters, hanging baskets, pot holders, garden stakes, shrub supplies and fire pits. Who knew?



When Cobrameister Ned Scudder sends us an eagle-eye sighting you can bet it's going to be a good one. While shopping for artichokes his eye was drawn to the box on Underwood Ranches (Camarillo, California, if you're taking notes). You don't need three guesses to see why. And we'll bet that if you go out to Scudder's garage you'll find this box up on a shelf with something in it. And it won't be artichokes!

Premium Sucker Rod Guides
Unparalleled technology to protect your investment

Whether you prefer to sucker rod your well or use a conventional downhole assembly, including more "benches" of steel in the well means the high performance sucker rod will maintain more strength and reduce wear and tear on the sucker rod string. Premium Sucker Rod Guides are the answer.

Golden Sucker Rod Guides
More Strength
 Golden guides run more than twice the available steel volume of competing steel sucker rod guides. Golden guides reduce the resulting diameter. Golden guides are a long lasting and low friction sucker rod guide.

More Protection
 Golden guides are made from a special design feature. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string.

King Cobra Sucker Rod Guides
More Corrosion
 King Cobra guides are made from a special design feature. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string.

More Protection
 King Cobra guides are made from a special design feature. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string.

King Cobra LT
Less Friction
 King Cobra LT guides are made from a special design feature. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string.

More Protection
 King Cobra LT guides are made from a special design feature. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string. The design feature is a special design feature that runs the entire length of the sucker rod string.

CODES BY EQUIPMENT?

King Cobra King Cobra LT King Cobra LT

Use correct codes when ordering to ensure proper installation and operation.

Ok, we don't know anything about Cobra sucker rod guides, either. James Grant of Austin, Texas sent this ad to us and after reading it we still don't have any idea what they are. We're guessing they're used on oil wells or pumps. No matter: they're called Cobra sucker rod guides and they come in two models: King Cobra and King Cobra LT. That's all we need to know. Now move along: there's nothing more to see here.



Dan Drury finds some pretty amazing stuff every now and then and this is one such example he recently discovered in a Kirkland's retail store in Paducah, Kentucky. It's not an original painting but a canvas art print which is stretched on a wood frame and the surface has textured brush strokes. So it looks like an original oil painting. The size is 40" x 40". For those who must have one, they are available through Kirkland's website <kirklands.com> item # 126635 and the cost is \$69.99 (shipping additional). Kirkland's is a chain, originating in Tennessee. They presently have almost 350 stores from Delaware to California, Minnesota to Florida.

YOUNG BOUNCES BACK LIKE AN INFLATABLE BOP-BAG

Ken Young must have a sixth sense that he was standing over the trap door. We received a sudden flurry of eagle eye sightings but some of them were so pathetic that we will not publicize them. So “Kenny-Boy” Young is back on the card, still in the ring scrapping with the other three master eagle eyes: “Gentleman Jim” Hutchinson, Ted “The Snake” Warren and “Battling Bob” Barranger.



The Genuine Hot Rod Hardware catalog calls this a Shelby Cobra “camp shirt.” Originally shirts like this had flower prints and were called “Aloha shirts” but we’ve seen all kinds of car prints. Including Cobras and Shelbys like this one. Hutchinson spotted it but he didn’t mention popping for \$45 for one.



The 1964/1965 World’s Fair was held in New York City (actually in Flushing Meadows, Queens—one of the city’s five boroughs). It ran for two six-month seasons (April 22 - October 18, 1964 and April 21 - October 17, 1965). The event was used by Ford to unveil the new Mustang when the Fair opened. Ford had a large display of its products and the new Mustang was the central focus. It generated a huge amount of interest. Ford’s display was updated on the second year and it included the new GT350. Young found this picture in a copy of *Hemmings Classic Car’s* January 2015 issue which contained an article on the World’s Fair.



A “drive marit?” We have to admit that before Warren sent this picture from a Kate Spade catalog we had no idea what a marit was. This one is identified in the online catalog as “Shelby” but that doesn’t really explain anything. Kate Spade New York is the purveyor of upscale women’s clothing, shoes and accessories. We’re told this is a cosmetics travel bag. The name “Shelby” explains why Warren sent it to us but it does not explain what Warren was doing browsing an upscale women’s clothing website. Maybe we don’t want to know. Oh, by the way, the Shelby drive marit is \$128.



Hutchinson found this interesting walking stick at an antique shop in New Orleans. It has four cobras entwined around it. Hutch was evasive about other details, leading us to believe he couldn’t resist adding it to his collection but may have been embarrassed about the price.



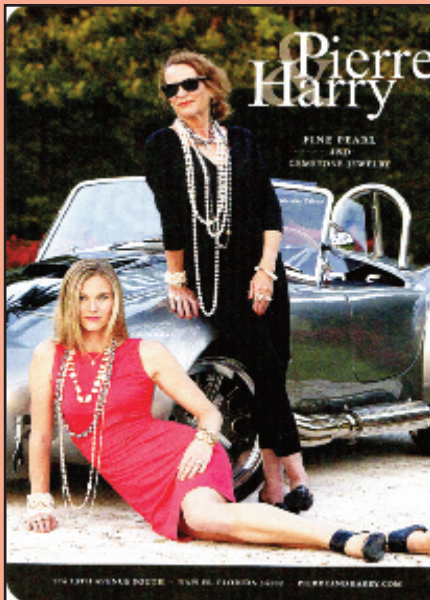
Young falls off ladder, lands on head, buys Corvette. That’s the cut-to-the-chase version of the story. When he came to his senses he reportedly said, “I bought a WHAT?” Oh, and one more thing: he overpaid for it.



As if to underscore that he is back, Young sent us a page he ripped out of a *Hot Rod Deluxe* magazine. The editors of this publication rummaged through Petersen Publications’ photo files looking for pictures that were never used back in the day. They printed this photo full-page but we reduced it by about 75% so it wouldn’t take up a whole page. The photo is of the staging lanes at the 1966 Winternationals drag racing championship at Pomona. It appears to have been taken early in the morning when it was still overcast. Young spotted the 427 Cobra among all those cars and that feat, alone, is a testament to his eagle eye talent. The car has to be CSX3198, the only factory 427 Dragon-snake produced. It was owned and sponsored by the Harr Motor Company in Worcester, Massachusetts and driven by Gus Zuidema. He set both ends of NHRA’s A/Sports class record at that event: 10.86 secs. @ 127 mph.



Young also spotted this photo in the *Hot Rod Deluxe* magazine. A GT40 mounting a dummy movie camera in the nose was towed in a Los Angeles parade by a Jeep sporting a “Grand Prix” movie banner. A real GT40 was used for some of the filming, but it wasn’t this car.



What the hell was Young doing over on the hoity-toity side of Naples, Florida? We’re guessing he took a wrong turn and was desperately trying to find his way back to the Dollar Store. Upscale jewelers Pierre & Harry specialize in pearls and gemstones that cost more than Young spends on those beater street rods he is attracted to. They’re not rat rods when he buys them but he certainly helps them on their way before the next owner shows up at his door. He spotted this ad in a Naples shopping newsletter. The Cobra replica is an eye-catcher. Somebody must have burned their calf on the side pipes because the chrome shields look like they came off a Kenworth. The models look like they fit right into the Naples scene, except they aren’t wearing nearly enough jewelry. However, if they had much more and fell off a pier they would sink right to the bottom.



If it’s Mardi Gras time that means prowling the costume shops in New Orleans, where there are always cobra opportunities. Who knows that Pharaoh Ted Warren will come up with?



After looking through a seed catalog in preparation for this year’s garden, Farmer Bob Barranger spotted these cobra beans. Should we expect him to be getting a vintage Ford tractor before too long?



“Hey buddy—got the time?” “Well, let me check my Cobra watch...” Hutchinson sent this ad. Every Cobra owner will want one of these, but the downside is that they are on sale: list price is \$1,581 but the 87% discount brings that down to a measly \$199. What Cobra owner worthy of the name would want to wear a cheapskate watch on his wrist?



Not likely many people will have spotted this in Mike Kelly’s *Cruise News* (Florida’s favorite auto enthusiast magazine). Point for Young. But as an eagle-eye sighting, even Stevie Wonder would have had trouble missing this. Minus 1 for Young. The article, a short history of Shelby cars, was written by Adam Icenogles who also supplied the accompanying artwork. It was an excellent opportunity for the artist to advertise his art. In this case Young was his pimp.



On 12/30/2014 the ClassicCars.com web page ran this cartoon and requested readers to supply a humorous caption. It was spotted and forwarded to us by Howard Pardee. He didn't include a caption suggestion of his own, but from the "Art Imitates Life" file, we recall an incident, many years ago, when Pardee was driving his sister and her two young sons somewhere. He was pulled over for exceeding the speed limit. There's nothing unusual about that: Pardee has been pinched for speeding more times than anyone else we know who hasn't lost his license. But on this particular occasion, as he was dealing with the state patrolwoman standing at his window, the kids were in the backseat happily chanting "P-I-G, P-I-G, P-I-G." Yes, he got the ticket.



We've seen these heavy-duty plastic laundry sinks in Home Depot but the thought never occurred to us to paint twin blue stripes on one. If you have a Shelby in the garage, however, it makes sense. Well, about as much sense as it makes to paint anything else in the garage white with blue stripes. Not only that, but this photo was sent to us with a note, "It's not mine." In certain circles it might not be something you'd want to brag about.

Artist Dana Forrester specializes in illustrations showing multiple car scenes in dealerships or at race tracks which he has made into posters. One of his latest (available at the B-J auction) shows Shelby American's transporter, loaded with Cobras and 5R002 in the foreground.



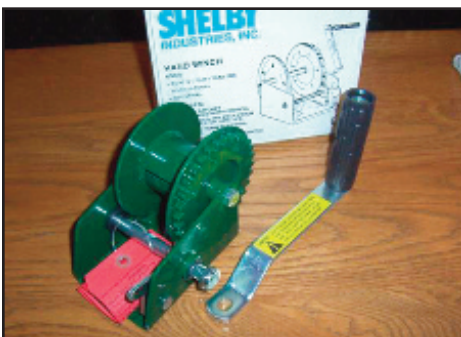
Jack Compton of Dublin, Ohio sent us his first Eagle Eye submission and it's one we had never seen before. The "Zip-It" tool isn't one you're likely to find in anyone's tool box, unless it's a plumber. It's a relatively short plastic snake that is used to unclog the sink trap J-bend. We showed the photo of this product to Howard Pardee and he got so excited about it that he ran out to buy one. As soon as he came home he couldn't wait to try it out. He said his sink was already slow to drain. He immediately employed the Zip-It and removed a few large wads of hair from the trap.



It doesn't look like much from the outside, but Okoboji Classic Cars' 65,000 square-foot facility is a combination classic car museum, car dealership and restoration facility in West Okoboji, Iowa. It began as a restoration shop with a showroom to display finished products. But now the showroom, which looks like a museum decorated like a small town with building facades and artifacts, houses about a hundred cars of all kinds (antiques, customs, fifties, muscle cars, sports cars) and all of them for sale. It's a little kitschy and we didn't see any bona fide high dollar classics, but in the YouTube video they look like very well done restorations. A video link has been making the rounds (we received it from about ten SAAC members so far) and we spotted only two Cobras in the clip (one an obvious replica and the other, a small block that was impossible to identify). We didn't see any Shelys but that's not surprising based on the present sale prices. These guys buy cars to restore and resell and there isn't much of a margin in Shelys. West Okoboji is in northwest Iowa and if you're driving through the area it would be worth a visit. To see it go to <http://www.okonojicc.com/the-occ-experience.php>



Radio-controlled cars have just been taken to the next level. The Baja 5R On-Road model is a 1/5-scale '70 Boss 302 with faux Minilite wheels and a lowered suspension (lower than their normal off-road cars) made for parking lot use (rather than off-road). It is powered by a 23cc engine and is rear-wheel drive, so wheel-spinning and powerslides are possible. Just like a real Boss 302! Want one? Be prepared to shell out \$1200. Thanks to RC master David Maffucci of Lakeville, CT for sending this in.



What? You don't have a Shelby winch on your trailer? Rodney Hengst of Mertztown, Pennsylvania came across this on Craigslist.

Brian Card of Seattle, Washington sent us this catalog page for the Steelman PRO Cobra series locking flex head ratchet. They are available in 1/4", 3/8" and 1/2" drives, long and extra long. It will cost you \$53.95 to show this off in your tool chest.

1/4" LOCKING FLEX-HEAD RATCHET - EXTRA LONG
JSP78629

The SteelmanPRO Cobra Series Locking Flex-Head Ratchets lock in 7 different positions allowing you to get the best fit possible on a fastener. With a movable slider to adjust the head, 90-tooth count, and a long or extra long durable body, these ratchets are ready to lock, load, and strike like a pro. These ratchets are longer than standard ratchets which increases allowable torque. The SteelmanPRO Cobra Flex Head ratchets test at 150%+ of the ANSI spec.
[Click on the picture above to view the video for the SteelmanPRO Cobra](#)



Tom Dankel of Hollister, California seems to have a good eagle eye. While we wouldn't put him in the category of the four master eagle eyes...yet...could be he just needs a little more time. He was traveling through Cottonwood, Arizona when he saw this sign on a chain link fence. Looks it might be a good place to get mufflers for your GT500KR.



Photos by Wheelbase Media
Most people have never seen a Cobra in aluminum, which was its original body composition. Write a check for \$180,000 and you can have your own.

Shelby's Cobra reaches the half-century mark: The car that defined American-style big-block performance was launched back in 1965. Originally, former racing driver and car builder Carroll Shelby built fewer than 350 of these potent roadsters, but thousands of mostly fiberglass pretenders plus Shelby's own "continuation series" cars have kept the flame burning brightly. Now the Sleuth has been informed that Shelby, the company, will build 50 copies of the 50th Anniversary Cobra 427, with each one bearing a numbered "XX of 50" badge plus that all-important CSX prefix in the serial number as proof of authenticity. Prices will start at \$120,000 for fiberglass-body versions or \$180,000 for an aluminum-bodied Cobra (all excluding engines and transmissions).

The Villages, a huge retirement community in central Florida, is the fastest growing small city in the United States. It has 39 golf courses and almost everyone rides around on golf carts. There are over 100 miles of roads. It has its own chapter of the AACA and there are a large number of retired automobile enthusiasts. There are several newspapers and Doug Cresanta of Haskell, New Jersey saw an article about the 50th Anniversary Shelby American 427 S/C Cobra. Cresanta made a point of telling us he is NOT moving there but we're not so sure. He might have picked up the newspaper on a reconnaissance mission. We're sure he will advise us of an address change.

SAAC member and big-time author Colin Comer was touted as the keynote speaker at a panel discussion at Scottsdale at this year's Barrett-Jackson "Insider's Seminar" which posed the question, "Restore or Modify." We weren't there but we are assuming it was a respectful, orderly discussion on this subject. We can't picture Comer grabbing some grayhair by the throat and throttling him until he has a mouthful of bloody chicklets. But then again, we weren't there.





Present the

ACC SCOTTSDALE INSIDER'S SEMINAR

"Restore or Modify?"

Keynote Speaker: Colin Comer,
ACC Editor at Large, author and Shelby expert, will discuss when to restore or modify your muscle car



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14
Monterra at Westworld, Barrett-Jackson Auction, 16601 N. Pima Road,
Scottsdale, AZ • 9-11 a.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

After Comer's presentation, ACC Editor Jim Pickering and a panel of experts will discuss the current collector market, choose best buys in five categories, and discuss ways to get young people more involved in the old-car world. Participation from the audience is encouraged.

SPACE IS LIMITED — SIGN UP TODAY!
Cost: No charge for American Car Collector Premium subscribers.

Forrest Straight of Los Gatos, California opened *Sports Car Market's* "2015 Insider's Guide to Concours d'Elegance" and was gobsmacked when he saw his 427 Cobra, CSX3183 in a snappy ad for Putnam Leasing. His first thought was, "Hey—how could they be leasing my car?" Then he realized that studio photographs of his Cobra had been taken a while back by professional photographer David Kimball. Is there a lesson to be learned for the rest of us? When a pro takes photos of your car, he owns them. And most pros might shoot on specific assignment but when they submit their work they are paid for the image or images that get used. It's usually a one-time use fee and everything then goes into their portfolio. If the opportunity arises to use the photos again, they will. For the car owner, it's the gift that keeps on giving. Once a pro has images of your car, you can never tell when they will show up in an ad or on a calendar or poster. So, if you are approached by a photographer who would like to shoot your car, jump on it. Five or ten years may go by and one day you'll open up a magazine and get gobsmacked, like Straight.



Mark Petri has the eagle eye. He submitted the Cobra Products sign and the truck from Shelby Mechanical, Inc. he spotted as he toiled around his hometown of Mt. Royal, New Jersey.



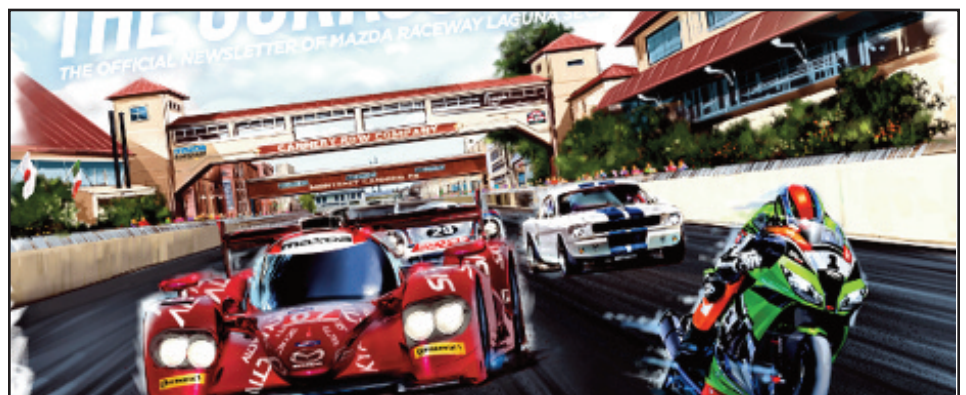
Mazda Raceway (Laguna Seca for us graybeards) has a newsletter called "The Corkscrew." They send it out to everyone on their mailing list and it's also available via their website. The header shows an illustration of a GTP car, a motorcycle and a GT350 race car—all representatives of the track's most popular race weekends. Ron Richards, SAAC's esteemed webmaster, spotted this.

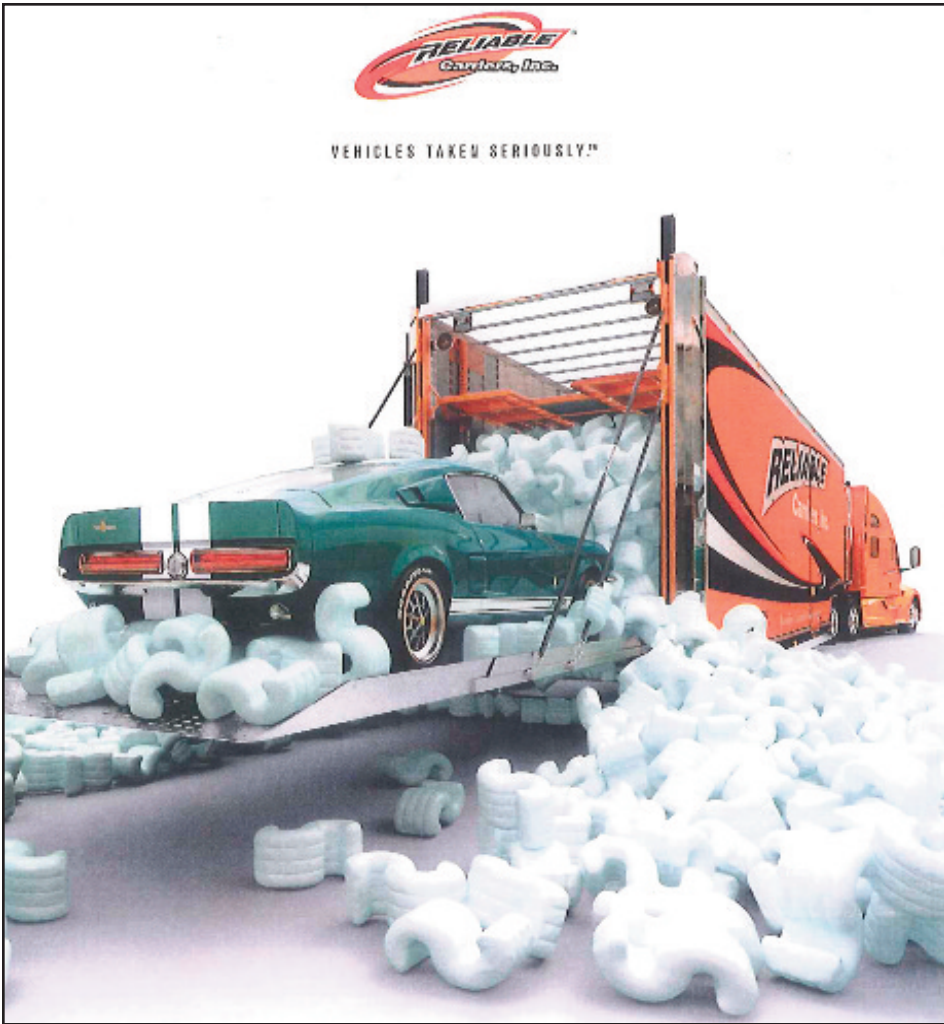
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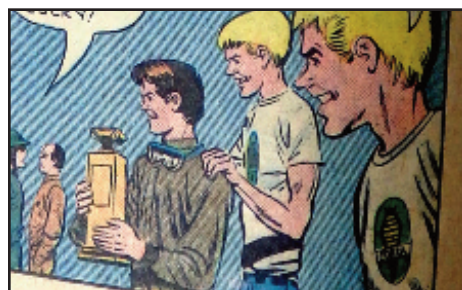





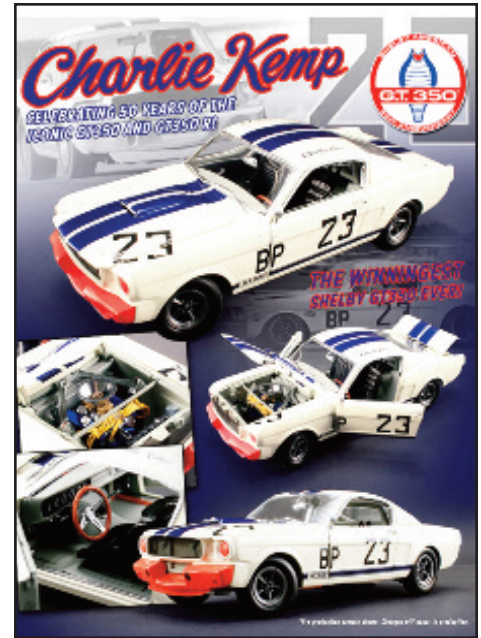
Roger Morrison of Salina, Kansas has been a SAAC member since the very beginning. He sent us this ad from Reliable Carriers. It's one of the cleverest ads we've seen in a long while.



Rod Hengst of Mertztown, Pennsylvania took great pains explaining that he does not spend his free time hanging out in comic book stores. However, he did discover this 1965 *Hot Rod* comic book.



Note Cobra t-shirts on crew.

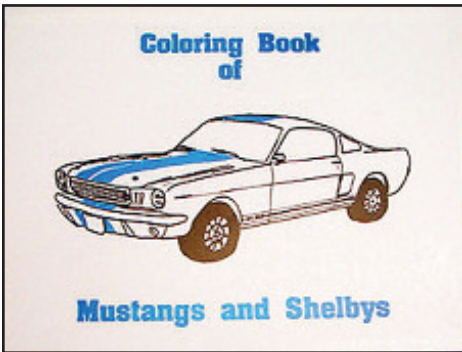


The latest diecast model to appear (available in June 2015) is 5R538, Charlie Kemp's legendary GT3590 racer. The car has been described as the winningest R-Model of all time because Kemp raced the car throughout the southeast between 1967 and 1974, at one time winning 17 races in a row. He was clocked at 184 mph at Daytona. Price will be \$134.95. The company producing it is Acme, which makes us think of Wylie Coyote but this car is no cartoon. It's as accurate as anything as you'll find, made from 996 pieces. The advanced notice was sent to us by Howard Pardee, who seems to keep up to speed with R-Model models and memorabilia as much as anybody we know. We're waiting patiently for some diecast manufacturer to come up with a model of 5R095.





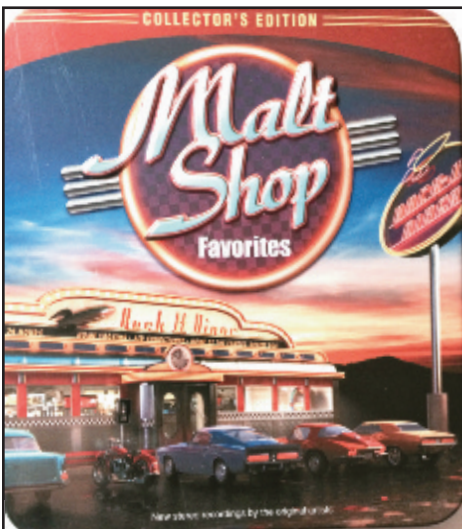
Nicholas Guisto III of Hinsdale, Illinois spotted the hand-carved Cobra sculpture in a gift shop in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico. We can't tell the actual size from the picture, but the image of him carrying it on the plane coming home is entertaining—not that it actually happened. He also snapped a couple of photos of interest in a Chicago parking garage. Seems logical that a garage would have automotive artifacts on display.



Cory Hitchcock of Granite Falls, Washington spotted a rare NOS coloring book of '60s, '70 and '80 Mustangs and Shelbys. They were originally available for \$3.75 each or three for \$10. The eBay price was \$19.60 with 22 days and 22 hours left.



The beginning of the year is always interesting for Shelby memorabilia collectors because that's when the new calendars come out. *Classic Motorsports Magazine* included an 8"x11" calendar to all subscribers. The January photo is of interest especially to 1967 Shelby enthusiasts. It is a Shelby American public relations photo of the then new 1967 GT350. The side running light identifies this car as an early production model. It's hard for today's enthusiasts to understand but the Lime Gold color was a popular one and that's why this color car was chosen for this shoot. The picture was taken in Redondo Beach, California. In the background is the famous Portofino Inn, the site of the finish of many of the late 1970s Cannonball Sea-to-Shining Sea Memorial Trophy Dash.



Ken Yeager of Loganville, Georgia spotted this two CD collection of hits from the 1950s and 1960s. The songs? Who cares? All he was worried about is if he beat Howard Pardee to the punch on this eagle eye sighting. He did. He noticed, of course, the blue '67 Shelby parked in front.



Greg Melnyk of Arroyo Grande, California saw this snake head at the Palm Springs Art Museum. He noted that the Year of the Snake began on February 2, 1965. Is it possible that the winning of the 1965 World Manufacturers Championship during the Year of the Snake was predetermined by the stars?