

The Rotunda Times



Volume 6 No. 4 The Official monthly Publication of the Ford & Mercury Restorer's Club of America April 2016

Feature Article **THE BIG IMPRINT**

Having a special car has many different meanings to each person. Some look back to a simpler time. Others are reminded of events in their life that involved a particular year and model of automobile. I feel that the word "imprint" would fit the bill for that event. How we are imprinted will have a pronounced effect on how we involve ourselves with the car hobby. Those that, we were with at the time of imprinting will be a long remembered part of the activity.

I took my grandson out for a ride in my 1964 Galaxie 500XL when he was around five years old. He was all safely secured in his booster seat and tightly belted in. I took the car around the subdivision for about twenty minutes to get everything ready for the first imprint of his (at that point) young life. I pulled up to Ten Mile Road and pointed the car east. Of course this is after double checking for traffic and of course 50. I eased the car on to the road and slammed the pedal to the floor. In a nano second the three two barrel carbs opened up to get fuel to the 428 Cobra Jet.

The young man was thrown back into the seat, and the car shot forward like it came out of a cannon. The motor screaming as it tried to suck all the air in the state into the motor at once. The tires spinning and howling in protest as we were propelled forward. The trans goes for second gear and the tires again howl in protest. The front end is settling down and the speedo is going to the far right side in a hurry. Got ready for the trans to shift to third and being a mature adult I got out of the carbs. Then I heard it. He was laughing so hard he was having trouble catching his breath. It was a laugh and scream all at once. The first words out of his mouth were, "let's do that again".

Not being one to rest on my laurels, I had to imprint him again. He is now ten years old and we are on Woodward the Thursday before the Saturday activity. I had a 2011 GT500 Shelby Mustang. With his uncle in the passenger seat and a mature adult behind the wheel (me) we are enjoying an evening of cruising. The lucky young man is, all secure, in the back seat as we are motoring south on Woodward. As we start to go way down into the lower level of Woodward at I-96 I give uncle a high sign. We start slowing down in the right lane as traffic is passing us. Almost to the lowest point of the road I gently slide the shifter into first gear and nailed the pedal to the floor. At that time I side step the clutch and all automotive hell breaks loose.

The sounds bouncing off the walls of the sides of the road and the overpass above us was a pure symphony of horsepower. With 550 hp at the end of the gas pedal it was a fantastic experience. What I found shocking was the comments from the back seat. Some language that was not what one would expect to hear from a ten year old lad. Never guess what his first comment was after we got to the surface streets. Yep, "let's do that again".

In 1967 while serving our Uncle Sam I was stationed in Germany. My wife and I were living in a rented flat in the local town. Every so often I would see a 1966 GT350 go past the flat. I could hear him coming into town as he down shifted and brought his speed down as he finished his run through the surrounding farms. My work schedule

was not steady by any stretch. So I would catch a look at this Shelby every so often. I was always on the look out for it. I looked on the base and never saw it. I was friendly with some of the security people on our base. Those that were gearheads said they never saw the car come through our gate. There were a few Army bases in the area and he could have been assigned to one of them. Was I imprinted by that GT350? You better believe it.

That is the preamble to the current car in my care. A 1966 GT350 clone. Yes, a clone. If it was the real deal I would be afraid to drive it. I started looking for a clone many years ago. I traveled to states near and far. Like the GT350 in Germany I was always on the look out. It is surprising what some people consider a great rust free car. That is a topic for another day.

I had pretty much given up on the idea of finding my imprint car. The search was getting harder and harder. I had pretty much given up. Can't say that I didn't try. I finally resolved myself to the fact that it wasn't going to happen.

Life takes funny turns and twists as we make our way.

One day I saw this green GT350 parked. WOW, a real deal. Way out of my beer budget for sure. Meet the owner and find out the car is for sale. Yipes, which bank do I rob to float this deal? Find out it is a clone. The heart rate goes up a few dozen ticks. Owner gives me the asking price and it is within my 12 pack budget.

I am not an expert on Shelby G350s by any stretch. Just an easily excited enthusiast. Sure looked real to me. Checking it out proves that it is about as close to real deal as you can get. Body is all original and rust free. The heart rate is really going north in a hurry. Pop open the hood and "Hold the phone Helen". A Paxton supercharger on a 347 ci stroker motor. This is mated to a T-5 five speed trans. With the 3:89 rear gear the extra gear makes for some enjoyable freeway runs. I can't believe my good fortune.

I have found my imprint car from 1968. It is far better than I had ever hoped to find.



- JERRY OSTALECKI



The Rotunda Times



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ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

When you hear of a member/spouse's death, please get all the information such as the funeral home and address, viewing times and dates, and the service time and date.

Then contact one of the following people:

Jim Crawford

734.259.8079 or jcrowfo1@wowway.com

Bob Guetschow

248.328.9113 or guetschowr@yahoo.com

These folks will ensure that the membership at large knows of the death.

FMRCOA FORD AND MERCURY RESTORERS CLUB of AMERICA

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The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and use of all Ford vehicles.

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President's Message

APRIL 2016

By all reports April's meeting was enjoyed with Jim Crawford conducting the meeting. I heard that the food folks did a good job AGAIN!!!! (Thank You all for your work).

I was told that, one person enjoyed the meeting a little more than others. Someone helped them self to one of the collectables that was on the Show and Tell table. I would like the item returned by the next meeting so it could be given back to the owner. I would never want a black mark on our club or any member because of one person and their personal miss conduct. PLEASE RETURN THE ITEM!!!!

Well I was told by many to "bring back some warm weather" so we hooked onto some and drug it back to Michigan. Been enjoying the warm and sun, had your car out to get the winter worked out of it. As we are getting our cars going so are other classic car owners and so begins the summer cruise and swap meet season.

Reports are coming back by members going to meets and they are busy so guys please cover any and all the events you can. **GET THE WORD OUT TO GET THE CROWD OUT**, the list of things to accomplish to kick off the swap meeting is growing small the greatest thing left is **FLYERS**, **REMEMBER BACK TO BELLEVILLE**. By early account of swap space sign up, we are well ahead of last year so **GET THE FLYERS OUT TO SUPPORT THE VENDORS AND THE CLUB!**

Mike Skinner will be our guest speaker for May he will be speaking about Edsel and Eleanor Ford. He may not be as pretty as Jerry and his get up but Mike should be very informative.

HAPPY CRUISING.
-TIM



**James Clark &
Sharon Mathews**

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY

1ST • **SHOW AND SHINE AT RIVERSIDE PARK YPSILANTI**

1ST • **BEARING BURNERS SWAP MEET SHELBY TOWNSHIP**

3RD • **FMRCOA CLUB MEETING**

7TH • **FMRCOA OUTING TO MILLIKEN'S WAREHOUSE**

14/15TH • **FMRCOA MEMBER ROGER HODYKA'S MOVING SALE M-52 PERRY.**

21ST • **SHELBY BIBLE CHURCH CAR SHOW**

22ND • **FLUID SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CAR SHOW ON 14 MILE CLINTON TOWNSHIP.**

21ST • **GILMORE MUSEUM: DONALD GILMORE CLASSIC CAR SHOW 1896-1942 PRE-WAR ONLY.**

22ND • **ARCA MENARDS 200 STOCK CAR RACE AT TOLEDO SPEEDWAY**

26TH • **AMERICAN LEGION POST 32 LIVONIA BEGINS EVERY THURSDAY CAR SHOW**

28TH • **ANN ARBOR CITY CLUB CAR SHOW**

JUNE

7TH • **FMRCOA CLUB MEETING**

Send want ads to Secretary for publication in newsletter via e-mail www.masrtr43@hotmail.com



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Just search Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America to post your photos and comments. Network fellow club members and invite your friends to share on Facebook.

THE FMRCOA MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGE!!!!

Your Board officers and editor take extra effort to bring you FREE classifieds and schedule of events found within your monthly newsletter. Take advantage of these benefits your membership provides. Post your schedule where you can refer to it easily. Submit your ads at a meeting or mail to

FMRCOA

P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123

For more information on becoming a member go to FMRCOA.org or write to the above address



YOUR CAR!

The Rotunda Times would like to feature your old car or truck in an upcoming issue. We are interested in how you came about finding your vehicle of choice, and what you have done to enhance its beauty, and/or mechanical condition. Simply mail or email us your article accompanied with a photo to:

TIM PUSILO

313.278.1325 • dean35aw@gmail.com

Our monthly club meetings are held at

AMERICAN LEGION POST 32

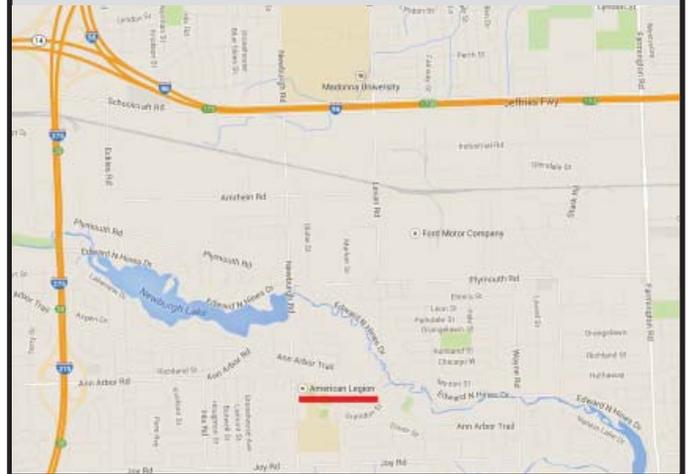
9318 Newburgh Rd. • Livonia, MI 48150

Between Plymouth and Joy Roads

This is a great facility where we had our last dinner dance. It has large parking lot (to the south) enabling club cars to easily park together.

Meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month and begin at 6:30pm with a snack.

DO BRING A FRIEND!



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MARCH 2016
FMRCOA MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2016

- Thanks to Wally, Robert , Curt and Laurel, Gerry, and Mark. The Food Committee repeated the popular Sub dinner. With meal donations and preparing our own dinners , the club has saved over one thousand dollars over the last year.
- With VP Jim hammering the gavel as Pres. Tim was in Florida tanning, 61 members took the pledge at 7:28pm. We had no guests but a visiting old member. Jim started off with issues pertaining to Dearborn 2016. Topics included sign up sheets, car show trophies, dash plaques ordered, tents, Friday Cruise, Boogie Brian retained for weekend. Secretary Mark priced 5 local D J's companies and Boogie Brian charges us about 50% less. The Friday night Cruise-in will have a 50/50 drawing and is scheduled for 6pm until 9pm. We will set up a table car show pre-registration and hopefully tshirt sales.
- The Club needs a historian as Roger is moving away as well an Events Chairman to plan club outings.
- We had a Guest Speaker who is also a current club member- Jerry Ostalecki. Jerry is a Gibbs All Purpose Lubricant distributor. He told us how he became a salesman for Gibbs. He explained the product and it uses before answering everyone's questions about Gibbs Oil.
- Current Newsletter is up on webpage. Our Facebook page shares pictures and comments from now 39 members with the latest to join up is Keith Ashley who was our clubs first Generator Award recipient.
- Stan gave Treasurer Report. Director Don will bring in trailer to accept donated parts to sell at the swap meet on behalf of the FMRCOA.
- Larry Wolohon set up a May outing to see the Milliken Car Collection.
- Director Bob ordered our Dearborn 2016 Tshirts. Show and tell turned out to be Show and Stole. Cole Grandy brought in 13 vintage cast iron motorcycles. Will the person who took Cole's motorcycle just please put it a box and mail it back to Cole. His address is in the roster book.
- Other items included an Early Ford V8 Club 50th Anniversary Book by author Henry Dominguez. Bill Timoszyk commented on the book and how the FMRCOA and the Early Ford V8 Club has a close relationship in the 1970's. Bill also brought in a denim vest with many Ford Badges and Pins which he used to wear to all of his swap meet adventures.
- Bob Guetschow took a few minutes to honor late member Roland "Toots" Arndt. Several other members told stories about Toots. Then, Bob gave an update to his recent health scare and recovery.
- Car Talk started with a member pleasant visit to Varsity Ford to purchase a new battery. Terry Worful asked we all get the word out to potential ladies vendor when handing out fliers. Jack called over 120 vendors about the move back to Belleville as well as setup locations.
- The recent Thunderbolt Project car that was a feature vehicle on the newsletter cover will be at Barrett Jackson as a charity car. We had 50/50 with Jerry donating several Gibbs Oil Cans to the drawing. Adjourn about 9:15pm. One Bad Apple will not Spoil this Bunch
PLEASE RETURN IT TO COLE.

MEETING MINUTES PICTURES



**VP JIM CRAWFORD
PRESIDING OVER MEETING**

APRIL 2016
FMRCOA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 22, 2016

- The Meeting was held at President Tim's Home with all Board Members present.
- Tim confirmed with Director Gerry that the Vendor Invitations were sent out for Dearborn 2016. Gerry was reimbursed for postage.
- Gerry had a list of competing prices for service contracts at Belleville. Tim reviewed them with the board and assigned finalizing deals with the contractors. Dir. Don will handle the Porta-Potty deal. Treasurer Stan will contract the Dumpster, Golf Carts and Tents. Tim talked to several car clubs about sharing the Gazebo area at the Hines Park Cruise / Club Picnic. He asked the Board Members to contact other Ford clubs in the area to create a Ford Friendly destination.
- VP Jim and Treasurer Stan were asked to coordinate the Pizza meal at the Club's Ed Meurer Collection outing.
- Director Bob T. showed his design ideas for the Dearborn 2016 Club Tshirt. A few minor changes along with pictures of a 1940 Ford which is car show's featured vehicle and the Artwork came together. Bob was authorized shop tshirt prices as per last years order/sales. 150 shirts will be created in Burgundy with white script as per the membership vote at the last club meeting.
- Russ informed Tim the Friday Night Belleville Street Cruisin will need a PA system or a DJ to operate a 50/50 drawing with a portion going to Toys for Tots Charity. The Board voted 5-1 to do this with the raffle off setting this expense. Dir. Bob suggested we sell Tshirts there too provided it is permitted.
- Treasurer Stan reported everything was good regarding Club Taxes.
- Sec. Mark inquired about a Meeting Cancellation Process in light of the last meetings horrible weather. The Board tabled the idea since the Club has had only 1 known meeting ever cancelled in almost 50 years {February 2011 due to a 24" Blizzard}.
- VP Jim our Car Show Chairman and Greg Petrovich will make trophies for this years car show from left over and donated trophies. He just needs a diecast 1/18th 1940 Ford for best of show trophy. This year 2nd and 3rd places will be getting ribbons. Jim will order car show dash plaques and he needs donations for grab bag giveaways.
- The Board thanks Bonnie Pusilo for making a Lasagna tray and Dir Gerry for the desserts served at this meeting.

**ADDITIONAL MEETING
MINUTES PICTURES**



**SHOW AND TELL • COLE GRANDY'S
CAST IRON MOTORCYCLES**



**SHOW AND TELL • BILL TIMOSZYK
WITH HIS SWAP MEET SHOPPING VEST**



**JERRY OSTALECKI
SPEAKING ON GIBBS OIL**

ROVING REPORTER

by
Lou Ironside

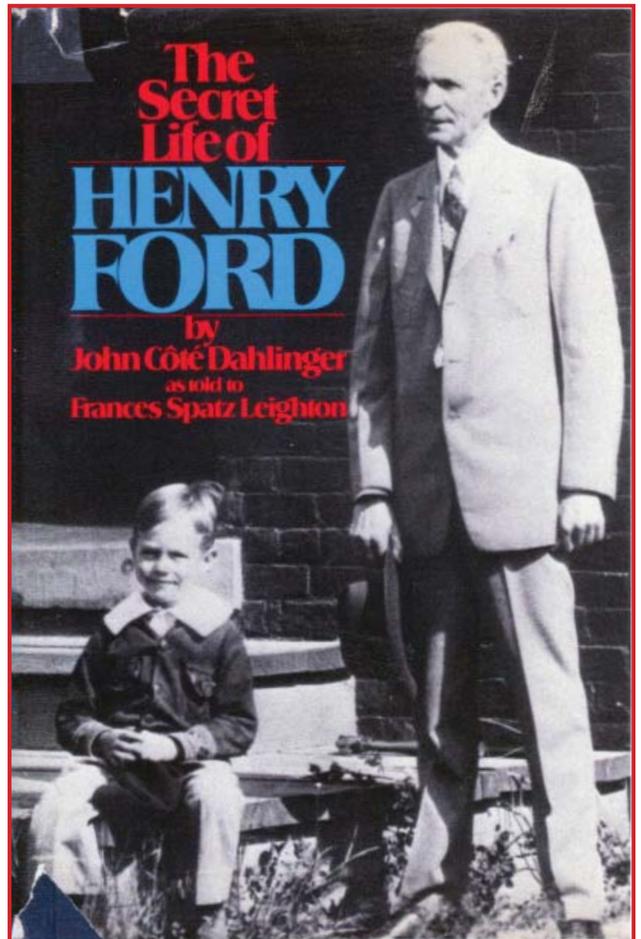
Only one swap meet to report on this month; and it was a good one. The annual swap meet at the Monroe County Fairgrounds, was the biggest ever, with nearly one hundred more spaces sold than in previous years. The crowd was big, and most of the vendors didn't start packing until nearly 2:00 pm....which is unusual in Michigan !! As a vendor I was very happy with the meet, and got rid of some "brand X" stuff that was cluttering up the garage. I saw quite a few FMRC members, and flyers for our swap meet

were being passed out to all the vendors...thanks guys !! I will be the first to admit that when the Chevy club sold the rights to the swap meet to Nick and Sue Avina, I saw little hope for the meet. Boy was I wrong. They have tripled the size and every year its gets bigger. They also have started a fall meet at the same location and it too is growing in size. Let's hope that swap meets are on the upswing again after a few years with depressed economy and it will rub off on our annual event.



BOOK FROM THE PAST

Although I am not going to make a habit of book reviews, there is one more "obscure" book on Henry Ford which I found very interesting. *The Secret Life of Henry Ford* was written in 1978 by John Cote Dahlinger who was "allegedly" the son of Henry Ford. The book shows a very different side of Henry Ford, and one in which he treats John Dahlinger almost as royalty and much better than his own son, who was 30, when John was born. In the book John makes it pretty clear that Henry, Clara, Edsel, and both his parents knew who the "real" father was. John had: a nanny, a bodyguard, a personal driver, and unlimited access to Henry Ford. All of this paid for by Henry. John's parents both were well-paid Ford employees, and Henry Ford also bought them houses, farms, cars, and most anything they desired. John Dahlinger paints a pretty good picture of his life as it intertwined with that of Henry Ford and his family. Too bad DNA testing was not available then, it would have solved a long standing mystery. If you get a chance, it is a great book to read.



BRIAN'S TIP 460 CHOKE PROBLEM

Ford made a lot of 460's, and for quite a few years there were choke problems. Sometimes the choke works good, sometimes it won't work at all, even after adjustments. Eventually that gets annoying, can be embarrassing, and for sure always inconveniencing. It's really a good carburetor that's is well suited for that engine, so don't be thinking of buying a new one to get away from that silly little problem. Often there is interference between the choke plate and the air horn that causes this problem. Remove the air cleaner, then move the choke plate to the open position to look for scrape marks on the inside of the air horn walls. Now check the choke plate travel by moving the plate from side to side to check for free travel between the air horn and choke plate to make sure there is a minimum of .006 – .007 inches on a fully opened choke. If this is your problem, I strongly suggest removing the carburetor to do the fix to avoid any debris from falling into the engine.

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DEATH DEFYING' EXPERIENCE DEAD MAN DRIVING

by Mark Sapienz

Brian Kuta and Stan Miller wrote of near death experiences in earlier newsletters. Well, in my life I have had a few close calls in some Fords. When I was 6 my Dad's F-150 broke a steering linkage on US12 and the truck hit the apron and flipped. Pre Seat belt era, I was tossed out the door window into a bush 40 foot away from truck. The thing I remember most about the accident was the bed cap was laid out flat in the middle of the road but everything in the bed of the truck was not even moved. Oh, and my mom broke her arm. Forward a few years, I was a teenager working at the Trenton Theater and parked next to the building in December and a huge chunk of ice fell onto my parents "71 Ranch Wagon crushing the hood. I got home and my Dad assumed my friends sat on the hood damaging it. Soon. I my butt was dented just like the hood. Numerous fender benders and 30 years later, I was in my work truck when a Lady ran a red light taking the front end off the truck. She flipped a few times and got out cursing me out. Luckily some witnesses stuck around. I was mandated to get a physical and Drug test per work policy. At the exam, the Doctor found a serious medical condition. Surgery and a 13 inch scar followed which left untreated would have been fatal. So, a near death experience motivated me to go out and buy my "66 LTD. I found and joined the FMRCOA while looking for period plates for my classic car. 10 years later I am still a lucky dead man driving.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Blast from the Past joins our Club's Facebook Page. Keith Ashley who was at the first club meeting. He was also our first Generator Award Winner 1971 and Club's 3rd President 1973-4. Although he is no longer an active club member since moving away to Northport Mi, Keith still owns the same 1947 Ford Woody he had bought back in 1968 prior to forming of the FMRCOA. Keith remains a Car Guy as he also has a '51 Barris Custom Chevy, '49 Cadillac Sedanette, and a '36 Boattail Roadster which is his current project car. Keith just sold his company Fairlane Automotive Specialities Inc. which produce fiberglass bodies and fenders for Classic Cars. He fondly remembers the first years of the club as being a family affair. The wives and kids all participated in events. He remembers the pressing issues at the founding of the club were deciding the eligibility of vehicles. 1940 or 1948 as cutoff years and later it was decided to go up to 1953- the end of the Ford Flathead V8. They started the swap meet at Ford Field in conjunction with the annual Early Ford V8 Club's national convention in 1973 when Keith was Club President. Keith keeps up with FMRCOA through our webpage and still talks with several members. He is not in any Car Clubs now since there are not many clubs in the Traverse City area.



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Mark Hamilton 313-563-1892

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Jeff Coleman 734-347-7023

1957 Thunderbird, Red on Red with White Soft Top, 323 V8 Automatic, Trophy Winning Restoration \$55,000. 1957 T-Bird Trim Parts, used 292/312 4 bbl intake and Teapot Carb {would like to sell all parts together}.

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Grant Beard 248-305-8031

4 items 1966 Mustang Black Standard Upholstery Bucket Front Seats new \$40each// 1966 Mustang Black Sun visors ,Convertible, nice, used pair \$8 // 2hp 4 gallon oil pancake air compressor never used \$45// Pocher Bugatti Type 50 T 1933 model kit for experienced modeler \$850.

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Too much to list. 517-282-4738.

Bill Stanley 248-321-7871

1958 Ford Relay Clutch for power seats.

Please bring used waste oil to meetings for John Miller.

Classified ads are free to all current FMRCOA members. \$20 to nonmembers to run an ad. You can submit e-mail ads to Club Secretary up to the 14th of the month to be included in the next newsletter.

Send e-mails www.masrtr43@hotmail.com please include FMRCOA in subject or risk deletion.

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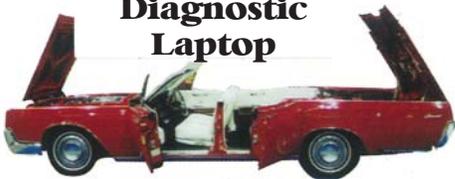
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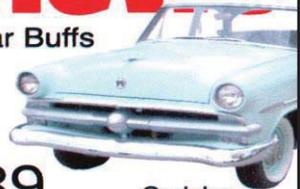
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