

TUMMY TUCK SECTIONING A 1940 FORD-FINISHING THE QUARTERS

Presented by



By Tim Bernsau

This '35 Ford Pickup is Back From a 40-Year Sleep

◆Ford Performance and STREET RODDER have teamed up for another season. We found this outstanding example in Building 6.

Brooks Laudin, of Walnut Creek, California, and his '35 Ford pickup, which is a true survivor from the "barn find" category, begin the year as our Best Ford in a Ford. The truck had been built as a project several decades ago, powered at that time by a Chevy 350 engine and automatic transmission. In 1973, it went into storage, where it remained for 40 years. Trucks don't sit in storage for almost half a century and remain pristine, but Laudin saw all Ford sheetmetal and a perfect-condition grille, and made up his mind to get the pickup back in shape.

An early step was pulling all the running gear (Laudin told us all about getting rid of the Chevy stuff). In March 2014, the project was sent to The Forge in Loveland, Colorado, where the truck was completed.

Everything was done with traditional taste. The solid axle front suspension is from Super Bell, with Koni shocks and SSBC brakes. The Ford 9-inch is from a '65 427 Ford Galaxie Montana Highway Patrol car, with parallel leaf springs reconfigured to fit the truck.

Jeff Irwin in Loveland handled the hot rod truck-style interior. We liked the banjo wheel and the choice of Smith Gauges and the Cobra dash tach. The pickup was painted sage green and black, with subtle pinstriping. Brooks decided on 15-inch Torq Thrust D five-spokes.

The make of engine that would power the truck was never in question. Laudin wanted a Ford in his Ford, and his choice was impressive. Ford Performance built their 331 starting with a 302 small-block. This engine, built by Dave Drolle, had previously powered a '65 Cobra. When the Cobra got a new engine, the 331 was repurposed for the truck. It runs Edelbrock heads, and four IDA-48 Weber carburetors. On the dyno, it made more than 500 hp. The transmission is a wide-ratio, Top Loader.

We're glad that Laudin made the decision to bring this beautiful Ford pickup back to life and to put a Ford back into the engine compartment. Congratulations for his enthusiasm and to the crew at The Forge for their outstanding work.



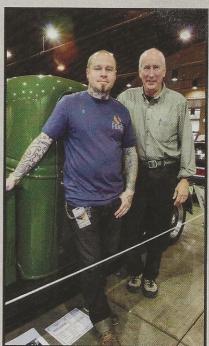












Class Results Summary

67th Grand National Roadster Show

Classification	Place	Booth	Name	City, State	Vehicle
4390.0 Custom Rod Convertible 35-48					
	Class	8-412	Alex Ruiz	Alta Loma, CA	1947 Cadillac Convertible
	Class	7-206	Roy Jolly	Yucaipa, CA	1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster Convertible
	2nd	4-253	Ged Tilden	Riverside, CA	1940 Ford Convertible
	1st	5-418	Tony Jurado	Pleasanton, CA	1940 Ford Convertible
4410.0 Custom Rod Wagon - 35-48					
	1st	8-105	Greg Chandler	Buena Park, CA	1940 Ford Deluxe Station Wagon
4430.0 Custom Rod Pickup - 35-47 except GM. 35-46 GM					
	Class	7-617	Mike Hinojosa	San Jose, CA	1936 Chevrolet Truck
	2nd	8-122	Tom McWeeney	Lakewood, CA	1937 Ford Pick Up
	1st	6-205	Brooks Laudin	Walnut Creek, CA	1935 Ford Pick Up
4433.0 Custom Rod Pickup 35-47 Full					
	1st	7-322	Jerry Rava	Atascadero, CA	1939 Studebaker Pick Up
4440.0 Radical Custom Rod Pickup - 35-47 except GM. 35-46 GM					as.
	1st		Randy Harris	New Braunfels, TX	1940 Ford Pick-Up
4450.0 Custom Rod Panel/Delivery - 35-48					
	2nd	7-502	Paul Hinkle	Clovis, CA	1948 Thames Panel Truck
	1st	4-263	Guy Murphy	Portland, OR	1948 Thames Panel Truck

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