

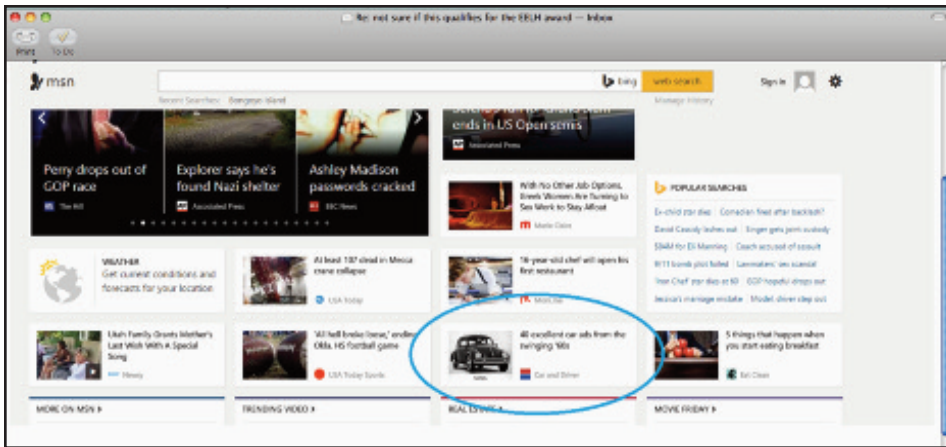
# SHELBY AMERICANA



There is probably no bigger fan of the 1960s rockers Paul Revere and the Raiders than George Watters of Cambria, California. So when he saw this YouTube video of an unaired promo for a Dick Clark television show titled, “Where The Action Is,” the first thing he did was send the URL to the second biggest Paul Revere fan, Howard Pardee. They both watched the video and spotted the small block Cobra and Sunbeam Tiger early in the show. Then, near the end when the credits were rolling, both cars made another appearance. And how about the guy jumping into the Cobra, holding the windshield and hopping onto the passenger seat? The last time we saw that happen was at SAAC-2 when someone offered Pardee a ride in their Cobra and he was so excited he could not control himself.

Don Johnston of Honolulu, Hawaii saw the blue 427 Cobra fender in an ad for Visa card. It spurred him into action, not because of seeing the Cobra but at the thought of earning 30¢. Known locally as something of a skin-flint (he prefers to describe himself as a “thriftoholic”), Johnston often parks his car as far away from the gas pump as the hose will reach, stretching it so he can drain out every drop of gas after he has shut it off. In larger stations, with a dozen or more pumps, he often visits them after hours with a small container and stretches each hose out to collect the gasoline left inside it. On a good night says he is able to milk them for as much as a half pint.





Jay Talbott was reading the MSN.com website and was curious about what the “40 excellent car ads from the swinging sixties” might contain. His curiosity turned into surprise, which was followed by satisfaction when the first handful of ads in the collection turned out to be Shelby-related. We can’t vouch for the fact that his curiosity ended there, or if he was moved to continue reading about the hacked passwords on the Ashley Madison website. Naaaaahh, not Jay.

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/autos/enthusiasts/advertising-the-1960s-40-excellent-car-ads-from-the-swinging-sixties/ar/AAe4Vkv?li=BBgzfz>



We saw a small ad for Car Nut Images that was enough to make us take a look at their website < [www.carnutimages.com](http://www.carnutimages.com) >. They offer photographic montages of specific cars, based on photos they have taken at various vintage races in the northwest. They also do commissions of your own car from professional photos you supply. They drop the backgrounds out so it’s not possible to tell at what track the photo was taken so the emphasis is only on the car. Prices aren’t cheap and some examples are: enlargements (8x10 for \$30); prints on canvas (16x20 for \$225); metal signs (11x14 for \$56) and digital files (\$200). We didn’t see any GT350s on their website’s menu but that’s likely to change following the latest Monterey Motorsports Reunion GT350 celebration.



Not much gets past Carl Gagnon of Ft. Meyers, Florida. As soon as he heard about the recall of Shelby’s chili mix he sounded the alarm. Shelby sold his chili company to Kraft back in the late 1980s and Kraft later sold it to Reily Foods Co. in New Orleans. They market about twenty different food products. The recall was set in motion when it was discovered that one or more spice ingredients, purchased from a third-party supplier, contained peanut and almond allergens that are not declared on the label. The recall is for the 4-oz. package, UPC #72396-1000.

You can never tell where stuff like this will turn up. Russ Dickey of Kearney, Missouri, on vacation at Hilton Head, South Carolina, spotted this GT40 MK IV sippy-cup in one of those shops crammed full of tourist junk. His sons, 7 and 9, were a little too old for something like this but there were only two left on the shelf so he convinced his wife, Sheila, that they could be used for Margaritas-on-the-rocks.

# IT'S NOT PRETTY, THESE EAGLE EYES RASSLIN' AROUND IN THE MUD, THE BLOOD AND THE BEER

To be honest, this four-way has gone on a lot longer than we would have imagined. Evidently none of these four guys, having gotten a meager taste of the notoriety this column has provided them, want to be the first one to throw in the towel, whimper a pathetic, "No mas" and slink out of the ring like a whipped Basset hound. What are they afraid of? That we would take advantage of them by using this space to insult and verbally abuse them? Stigmatize or shame them? Would we do that?



Young spotted this typical Corvette vs. Cobra showdown at the 1964 Riverside Hot Rod Championship Drags in the September 2015 issue of *Hot Rod* magazine. Sad to day, in this case the '61 Corvette shut the snake down.



Bob Barranger happened on this miniature Ford GT at his local Dollar store. It wasn't that he really needed it, but how often do you get to say that you bought a Ford GT for a dollar?

**HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE**

**A Tribute to Le Mans 1966**  
America's Finest Hour in International Racing.

**exoto**  
Inspired. Built to last.

This ad used a photo of an Exoto diecast GT40 MK II to sell its Exoto wristwatch, which it touts as a tribute to LeMans 1966. The black MK II, a representation of the car that Bruce McLaren and Chris Amon drove to first place ahead of Ken Miles and Dennis Hulme, also in a MK II. Ken Young saw the ad and immediately alerted, and sent it to us. It was run in a pre-holiday issue of whatever magazine he tore it out of and was so pixedated he neglected to let us know where it came from. After receiving it and losing track of it under a pile of stuff on our desk, we just recently discovered it. We wouldn't want to leave anyone with the impression that Young was just getting around to sending it to us eight months late. He may be behind the curve, but not *that* far behind it.



At some point every Cobra, GT40 and Shelby will be made into a diecast model. However, that will happen first with GT40s and Cobras due to their production numbers. 1968 cars will take a long, long time. Jim Hutchinson spotted this model of the Dan Gurney/Jerry Grant 1966 Sebring MK II in a California Car Cover catalog. Only \$69.95. In five years you'll wish you had bought four of them!



The Cobra GT4 heavy duty power electric 4WD mobility scooter was spotted by Barranger. It is powered by two 75AH batteries that provide a range of 10 miles. We are left to ponder if future SAAC conventions. Will open track events be conducted for graybeard members with electric scooters? Pardee is currently reviewing safety requirements for roll bars and seat belts.

Barranger also found a Swarovski silver crystal cobra designed by Heinz Tabertshofer of Austria. Living in the Austrian Tyrol provides him with "a constant source of energy and inspiration." Much like living in Toms River, New Jersey does for Barranger.



Legendary Motorcars is a high-end classic car dealer in Ontario, Canada. They also do paint and restorations. Yeah, they have a few Cobras in their inventory. Ted Warren got one of their e-blasts and he was impressed with this picture. So were we.



This hand-crafted stained glass window probably isn't one you might find in a cathedral. It caught Barranger's attention when he saw it in a craft shop. We recognize this cobra design as being associated with the GI Joe super hero comic books and video games.



Young spotted a Cobra in this ad for a rod run and doo-wop show in West Virginia. He's just a doo-wop guy.



Something for the grandkids? This "Wacky Tracks Cobra" was among the last batch of stuff that Barranger sent us. They are described as "fun fidget toys" and we can understand why. They can be bent endlessly and would be great on a long trip in the backseat of, say, a '67 Shelby.

### FIX NASTY SCRAPES FOR LITTLE SCRATCH

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## Your Say...

READERS' THOUGHTS ON PAST ISSUES

### 2014 Apologist Section

For those of you who, like me, have been reading the magazine for a long time, you know that the Apologist section is a great way to get your thoughts on past issues heard. I was particularly impressed by the article on the Shelby Cobra in the July 2015 issue. It was a great read and I enjoyed the insights into the history of the car. I hope to see more articles like this in the future.

### LETTER OF THE MONTH

**Fixes for Everything**  
I was very impressed by the article on the Shelby Cobra in the July 2015 issue. It was a great read and I enjoyed the insights into the history of the car. I hope to see more articles like this in the future.

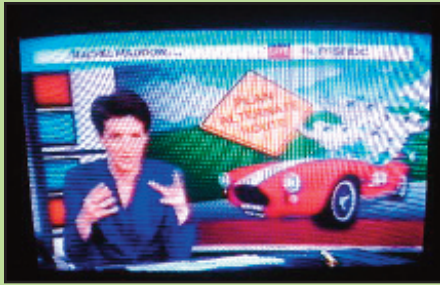
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**EVERYONE ELSE'S SECTION**  
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Young's eagle eye detected a tiny photo of a Shelby in the July 2015 issue of *Motor Trend*. It was only about the size of his thumb but he recognized it as a GT350. It was actually the cover of Colin Comer's latest Shelby book, "Shelby Mustang: Fifty Years." *M/T* was giving it to the writer of the best letter to the editor.



Cobra mascara? We're going to be watching Bob Barranger very closely after he sent us this. Is he favoring the Alice Cooper look?



Jim Hutchinson sent us this screen grab from MSNBC's hatchet-faced liberal Rachel Maddow, using a visual of a Cobra on her show. He claimed to be running through the channels after watching a Sci/Fi movie and this popped up on his screen. According to Hutchinson, Maddow was saying something about Republican Presidential Candidate Sen. Ted Cruz but he claims not to have paid any attention to it. If you'll recall, back in the Spring 2015 issue Hutchinson sent us evidence of a different background image of a Cobra on Maddow's evening baloneyfest. According to the ratings, only a handful of people watch her and the leftwing twaddle she peddles nightly. Think about this: what are the odds that Hutchinson would just happen to see Rachel Maddow when she is using a visual of a 427 Cobra as she was pontificating, not once but TWICE! We were born at night...but not last night. We suspect Hutchinson is spending a lot more time watching Rachel Maddow than he is willing to admit.



It's never too early for Christmas. Barranger saw these tree ornaments and couldn't help buying them. They will show up on his tree in late December.

Join us on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, October 4-11, 2015 for the 19th Annual Cruisin' The Coast featuring all your favorite activities like cruise-ins, headline bands & oldies entertainment, a Swap Meet, the CTC/Vicari Auto Auction and much, much more!

Book your rooms through MS Gulf Coast Hotel Reservations at 1-888-388-1006 and receive a FREE Window Decal!

VISIT MISSISSIPPI Mississippi Coast Budweiser Cruisin' The Coast

This ad for the 19th Annual "Cruisin' The Coast" Mississippi Gulf Coast cruise used a 427 Cobra to attract attention. And it caught Young's attention.



A *Hot Rod* magazine article on the World of Speed Museum in Wilsonville, Oregon (just outside of Portland) spotted by Young carried a couple of pages of photos, including this one that caught a 289 Cobra in the bottom of the frame. The museum's goal is to attract young people and to spark their interest in automobiles as a career. Schools no longer have auto shops and if students aren't college-bound, they often feel they are headed into a dead end. There is currently a need for 100,000 auto mechanics in this country and the occupation is increasingly more technical. All cars now employ on-board computers and diagnostics play an important part in repairing them. This museum includes a classroom, lounge and a working shop. It is a good example of what it takes to light the fire in a youngster who is good with his hands, but it's going to take a lot more than one facility in Portland. It is, however, an excellent start.



We have gotten some really far-out things from Jim Hutchinson over the past year or so but this one has to be very near the top of the list. This snake symbol is on a bottle of French opiate-scented dental cream. The product description states, "Brushing one's teeth with one of the scented dental opiates by L'Officine unerverselle Buly is a deliciously invigorating experience. Using a brush with very soft bristles and a nice, firm handle, this hygienic protocol should be repeated several times a day. The cleansing and soothing properties of dental opiates, along with their light and luscious fragrance, make for a suave and delectable breath – scented with rose, apple and mint tea." A bottle is only €29,00 (about \$26.50).



Does Warren find Cobra stuff or does it find him? This was on the back of a roofing contractor's truck. Don't ask us what it is...



Automotive artist Dana Forrester specializes in illustrations depicting cars parked in front of dealership brick walls. He uses one on his business cards, which Young grabbed as soon as he recognized the red '68 Shelby ragtop.

Young has the eagle eye. He picked the 427 Cobra out of this full-page Car Quest ad in record time.



Young spotted this picture in one of the street rod magazines that provide him with so many of his wet dreams. Sometimes he sees these eagle eye sightings and gets so flummoxed that he sends them to us without any information. Like he's expecting us to have ESP and fill in the blanks. According to this picture's minimal caption, it's an original 427 Cobra that was competing at a Good Guys autocross. Where? When? Who knows, thanks to Young.



Young saw this 1/32-scale slot car set that has a Cobra and GT350 to burn up twenty-feet of track. Fifty years ago just about every car-kid had a set up like this but the cars were nowhere as nicely detailed.



Warren got an online email from a company offering things you don't normally see for sale, like speakers for various events. This picture was in the email but it had nothing to do with anything they were selling.

We were going to describe this car as a "new Ford GT" but Holy Mackerel – they're ten years old already! Young won't win any eagle eye accolades for this one: the car is front and center in a full page ad in *Road & Track*. It is, nonetheless, interesting that Continental chose this car for their ad.



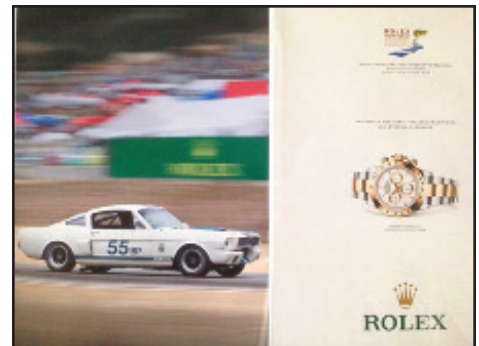
We've seen a couple of magazines with Ford's new 2016 GT either mentioned or pictured on the cover, so this one, eyeballed by Warren on a newsstand, isn't the first one. And it's not going to be the last one. Especially next year when Ford fields a team of GTs in the complete FIA series of endurance races like Daytona and LeMans. We'll have details.



Brian Styles couldn't resist buying these Scooby-Doo Cobras when he saw them in a duty-free shop at the Billund Airport in Denmark. We're not sure if they are available over here but if they are none of our eagle eye detectives have made us aware of it.



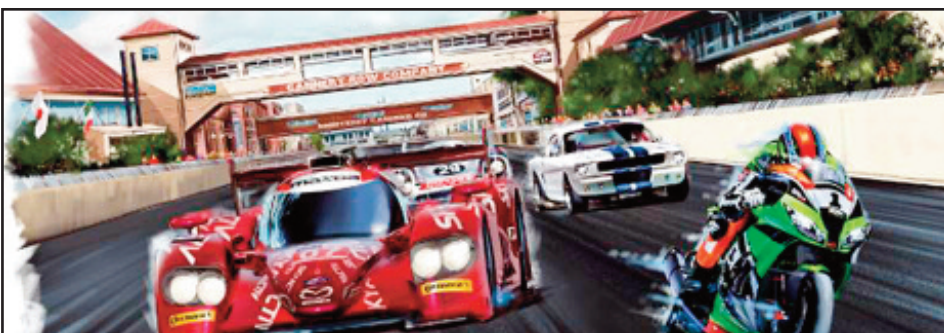
Think this portable jump starter/power pack will start a 427 Cobra S/C's dead Rebat batteries? Don't count on it. We're guessing that after seeing this at Best Buy, Don Johnston has one in his garage now. Sometimes you just can't help yourself when you see that "Cobra" name.



Johnston forwarded another sighting, a Rolex ad with a '66 GT350 at – where else? – the Monterey Motorsports Reunion. The white #55 car, 6S169, was formerly owned by one-time SAAC Board of Director Wes "Balloonfoot" Burmark. It is pictured being driven by Christie Edelbrock but we have been informed by the '65-'66 Registrar that the car has since been sold. We could not help but note that this is one a flurry of submissions sent by Johnston for this issue. Do we detect a potential eagle eye brawler getting ready to make a grand entrance into the ring? This is the way it begins, sportsfans. It's a good start but does he have a strong follow-through? He's got nuts the size of Macadamias.



A screen grab from the Ford video on the design of the [then] new 2012 Mustang shows a pair of designers at a desktop workstation with a copy of SAAC member Greg Kolasa's book, "The Definitive Shelby Mustang Guide 1965-1970." If the boss happens to walk by they can certainly say it is work-related. That will probably fly at Ford but it may not work if your workstation is at a business unrelated to automobiles.



The illustration at the left is being used by Mazda Raceway on their press releases. The racers represent the major events at the track this year: motorcycles, GTP endurance cars and vintage racers – the Shelby was chosen due to the 50th Anniversary doings. A closer look at the illustration shows the pedestrian bridges at Cannery Row.



If there is a cobra reference in a vintage movie we can count on eagle eye Steve Sloan of Pasadena, Texas to find it. The general plot of “The Smiling Ghost,” a 1941 release, is that three previous fiances of a wealthy heiress all met horrible fates, one of which was being bitten by a cobra on the 18th floor of a Boston hotel which was not an accident. An inept private detective is hired to be fiance number four in order to smoke out the killer, nicknamed “The Smiling Ghost” because of his appearance. *Sidenote: among the cast is Alan Hale, father of Alan Hale, Jr. who played the skipper on “Gilligan’s Island.”*



As soon as Howard Pardee saw this ad he said, “Oh yeah – I’ll buy a dozen bottles. What was the product, again?” After studying the ad intently for a couple of minutes he said, “Hey - there’s a Cobra in this ad!” Do we really need to comment on this?



Dana Mecum is a busy boy. He and his minions put on about 18 auctions a year, all over the country. They use a fair number of Shelbys and Cobras in their ads. This 1968 GT500 was used for their Harrisburg, Pennsylvania event. We’re wondering why they didn’t name it the “Bill Collins Invitational” because it’s in his backyard and we wouldn’t be surprised if he was on a buying and/or selling spree. Probably a little of both. Collins will be a busy boy that weekend, too.



Light ‘em if ya got ‘em. Is Cory Hitchcock of Granite Falls, Washington seeing Cobras everywhere he looks, or does this car have a definite Cobra resemblance?



A story on Fox News reported that an eight-foot long king cobra was loose in Orlando, Florida after escaping from the home where it was kept as a pet. We’re not Columbo but the first place we’d look is Orlando Mustang.





We're guessing it will only be a matter of time before these Cobra wheels show up on a car at a convention. They'll probably be on a replica first, but if they catch on, look for the owners of original Cobras to jump on the bandwagon. If you want something more than chrome, they also come painted so you can really bring out the color of your car. Howard Pardee spotted these on *Autoweek's* website and was reportedly researching to see if they would fit on his R-Model.



Cory Hitchcock of Granite Falls, Washington demonstrates what it takes to be an eagle eye. He spotted a guy wearing a CS t-shirt walking through this sea of Corvettes. We're guessing this photo was taken at Riverside Raceway (due to the mountains in the background), probably during a driver's school or open track. We enlarged the picture and were able to count no fewer than six Cobras in the background but no GT350s. That would pin the date as sometime before January 1965, because after that date at least a few GT350s would have shown up at an event like this. Hitchcock found this image while searching on the Internet for a picture of James Garner in a GT350.



Mary Sue Powell of Englewood, Colorado was cruising along the South Coast Highway in Laguna Beach, California and spotted this Cobra frisbee in rack of frisbees at a Chevron station. When you're located near a Southern California beach, frisbees are necessities, just like sun-block and flip-flops.



A cobra was found in a Houston apartment building. The USA today online news item was spotted by eagle eye Colleen Kopec, something of an amateur herpetologist herself.



We like Wilwood's advertising. This full-page ad from *Grassroots Motorsports* shows a healthy Solo-1 GT350. A previous ad used a 427 Cobra.

If this is the type of advertising we can expect for the 2016 Ford Shelby GT350R, we can hardly wait to see the full campaign. College-age kids should be worried. Be very worried.



Doug Cresanta of Haskell, New Jersey is no stranger to this column. While cruising around in Florida he spotted a couple of interesting wall murals. The Shiny Bird Car Wash is located in Cocoa Beach. The artist didn't get the roofline silhouette just right, but we're not complaining. There's no question it's a '67 Shelby. Harbor Auto Restoration in Rockledge, Florida has a long mural on it's fence with a black '67 Shelby on it. It is amazing how this stuff just keeps popping up. And what is more amazing is that it seems the same people keep finding it and reporting it to us. That's why they are eagle eyes.

Join the Classic Motorsports staff for a relaxing week featuring great cars, new friends and surprisingly fun roads. It's not the Florida you think you know.

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It's called a cobra lily and the bulb was sent to us by Carl Gagnon of Ft. Myers, Florida. Of course, we were curious but we knew our botanical limits. The chances of ever seeing this plant flower were nil. So we gave it to one of our friends at the Sharon Post Office, Kelly Kilmer, who is noted for her green thumb. Six weeks later, viola! She had coaxed the cobra out of its nest and didn't even need a flute.

This full-page ad for the Orange Blossom Tour next March was run in the September issue of *Classic Motorsports* magazine. Owners of these cars will be happy to see that Cobra roadsters don't get all the attention.