

## Treasures from the 3 Dog Garage by Richard Boyd

On Saturday, March 2, I met up with some guys from the Burtonsville crew and we drove up to Boyertown, PA, to attend an open house of the "3 Dog Garage." I had never heard of this place and had no clue as to what we were getting into. Turned out it was a really cool experience.

The 3 Dog Garage is a large old commercial building owned by Ross Myers and his wife Beth. They have a beautiful collection of mostly mid 60's race cars (all Ford products) that ran the IMSCA road race circuit. Several of the cars are stunning in that they are perfectly restored, "race ready," and FULLY documented. There were several mid 60's Mustangs driven by Dan Gurney and others. Also they have the last car driven by Paul Newman in 2005, at the 24 Hour Roledex Daytona race. This car was the promotional car used for the Disney movie "Cars."

The museum has a front "race" section, a back "garage" section, and a rear "display" section of older street rods and early Bonneville cars (approximately 20 total). Among the street rods is the 32 Ford Roadster owned by Ricky Nelson, the vintage hot rod named "Dream Boat" (a 36 Ford), and a 1957 Thunderbird named "Battlebird," a NASCAR type Thunderbird that ran at the Daytona speed week. There is a TON of old memorabilia, including a reconstructed vintage Mobil gas station (complete with full showroom) right in the museum. Everything is spotless and tastefully displayed. There is also a full body and paint shop, and a machine shop where they maintain and fabricate parts. Currently they are fully restoring an original 1967 AC Cobra (with 427 FE engine).

Perhaps one of the most compelling vehicles is a 1936 Ford (formerly owned by Ross' dad) that was given the full treatment in 2007, and won First Place at the Detroit Autorama--getting the famous RIDDLER AWARD. The car and trophy, and lots of

pictures are on full display in the front showroom. It is a stunning vehicle with a ton of handcrafted metal. I would estimate that over 2 million dollars was spent on this vehicle. The Riddler Award is an extremely prestigious award and we are fortunate to have this vehicle available for viewing right in our back yard!

Approximately 125 people attended the open house. Ross catered the event with sandwiches (turkey, roast beef, chicken), hot dogs and pretzels (excellent), along with coffee and soft drinks. We spent about four hours looking at everything. It's a wonderful facility and tours can be arranged by

appointment. I am thinking this would be a very neat, fun road trip for the club this summer.

