

A LITTLE CAR NEWS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS MICRONUTS CAR CLUB IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

MARCH 2007 BUS AND GARBAGE TRUCK EDITION

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, MARCH 8TH, 7:00 @ FUDDRUCKERS / ANDERSON LANE



Yep, Wayne Graefen is at it again. This installment provides yet more proof that folks will tweak anything that rolls. In this case, it's a **garbage truck** that's been retrofitted to serve as a mobile bachelor pad. Check the pix below:



Richard Lewis keeps a steady stream of Rally Isetta updates coming our way. Looks like the **French LeCarra wheel** has found its way onto the steering column where it belongs. This picture doesn't do the extensive polishing job justice but it would appear that Mr. Lewis has gone through a 55 drum of jeweler's rouge in the process of tweaking all that aluminum. By the way, all of Richard's resto pix can now be found at www.rallyisetta.com.

NEW LICENSE PLATES DON'T MEASURE UP

DETROIT - There's something a little screwy with some of Michigan's new license plates. A faulty die used to cut the plates and stamp the holes has made it so two of the holes on some of the new plates don't line up with the mounting holes in vehicles. Officials at the **Parr Highway Correctional Facility** where Michigan's plates are made, have since corrected the mistake. A spokesman for the Secretary of State's office, said it's difficult to pinpoint how many plates were affected, but **there's no need for customers to panic** ... Thanks again Detroit!



Ever heard an F1 car sing "My Country 'Tis Of Thee". You will if you click on this link. Unreal:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRXwWbo_mX0

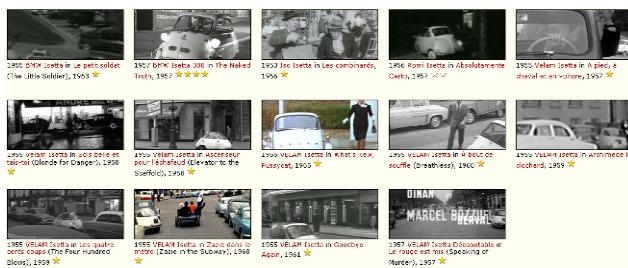


While we're on the subject of making a lot of racket, how about a new air horn for that microcar? The **Nautilus Compact Twin-Tone Air Horn** is a 139dB squawker you could hear going off at a Black Sabbath concert. It's small and sans all that clear plastic tubing that makes other ones look more like a chemistry experiment than a horn. Check out **Thompson Automotive Products** on the Web at www.thompson-automotive.com and click on the "Air Horn" link. \$42 USD.



Then there's **Horntones**, an accessory that ties into your regular car horn system, but allows you to play any standard audio file loudly at nearby drivers and pedestrians. The unit holds up to eight audio files at once and can be loaded from any USB flash drive. The Horntones **FX-550** will cost \$149.99 when it's released in April. Some bozo cut you off? Just smack the horn button and give 'em an earful of "Dead Man's Curve" or "Last Kiss".

Ed "Subaru360nut" Parsil sent us a copy of the Subaru 360 Drivers' Club newsletter. It's jam-packed with all sorts of 360 info and worth checking out. You can find it on the Web at: www.subaru360club.org. Very well done!



Need a handy-dandy online source for just about every kind of car that was ever in the movies? **Wayne Graefen** suggests that you check this out: <http://www.imcdb.org/>. And yes, the ZIL and the Savien are on the list.

Wanna check out one of the coolest Isetta videos to date? Americo posted this link on the Isetta bulletin board from, you guessed it, YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMB2Qsl6kdQ>

PS: Run a search on "Isetta" on YouTube. They've got lots of neat stuff to watch.



John Wallace sent us the link to the GM Futureliner Web site. Designed to be the centerpiece of the Parade Of Progress program in the 40's and 50's (they stopped here in Austin in May of 1955) , there were only 12 of these ever built and only a few remain in existence. Tons more pix and info at www.futurliner.org.



This one is a Canadian restoration on its way to Barrett-Jackson in Scottsdale this past January. Selling price? How about \$4M, a record.

The website features a sidebar with links for PRODUCTS, VIEW CART, CONTESTS, BOOK STORE, LINKS, and CONTACT US. The main content area displays a list of car sounds with small video preview icons and 'Buy Now' buttons:

- Tune up your Cell Phone with our new high performance ringtones! If you like the sound of rumbling big blocks & the roar of small blocks then you'll love our custom engine ringtones for your Cell Phone, only \$1.50 ea. and you can easily download em right to your phone and start enjoying the sounds of Horsepower today!
- Problems with your ringtone download? Contact our tech support, support@unusualappeal.com for fast friendly help.
- High Performance Ringtone return policy: No refunds or returns for Ringtones purchased.
- Big Block at Startup
- Big Block V8 Rumble 1
- Big Block V8 Rumble 2
- Big Horsepower V8 Firepower
- Chainsaw
- Import Turbo Screamer
- Lumpy Cam Big V8
- Revved Up Modified
- Small Block V8 Thunder 1
- Small Block V8 Thunder 2
- V8 Race Motor
- Wide Open Throttle

Wanna 86 that cheeseball factory ring tone on your cell phone? Cruise out to **Unusual Automotive Online** at www.unusualauto.com and check out the

"Products" section. You find a selection of sounds ranging from an engine starting, big block and small block racket with a trendy chain saw thrown in for good measure. For a really good time, be sure and click on several sounds in quick succession and listen to the mayhem with everything running full blast at one time.



Wayne Graefen forwarded a link to a pretty good report on a two year driving study of Smart cars. It's a straight up look at one long-term driver's observations. All the lowdown is on Autoweek's Web site at: <http://tinyurl.com/2jnvpc>

Hey, wait a minute! Wasn't there a little car that people used to park sideways back in the 50's and '60's? Seems like the door was in the front though.



Carl Jensen sent us this incredible barn find in Portugal. There were 180 classic cars sitting in this warehouse that had the door welded shut. Check these links for more pix:

<http://www.intuh.net/barnfinds/index.htm> and

<http://jalopnik.com/cars/retro/open-sesame-warehouse-opening-in-portugal-reveals-forgotten-collection-231918.php>

Wow! See you next month ... BF