

PUBLISHED BY APPRAISAL SPECIALTIES OF COLORADO FOR AUTO ENTHUSIASTS, DEALERS, INSURANCE, LAW & AUTO RESTORATION PROFESSIONALS

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Coming in the Summer 2012 issue of <u>WE VALUE CARS</u>

GREAT RESOURCES: Andy's Restoration

CAR SHOW HIGHLIGHTS: Various Car Shows including; Good-Guys / Loveland, Colorado NSRA Street Rod Nationals Louisville, Kentucky



<u>Appraising for Insurance Coverage</u>

Most of us never drive any of our cars with the intention to cause or be involved in an accident, but it happens sometimes no matter how hard we try. Some statistics have shown that on average driver's file an auto claim about every fourteen years. You may be one of the lucky ones that have driven for years and years without ever filing an auto insurance claim. That's great, we hope you never need to file a claim. However, that doesn't mean you shouldn't prepare for it and protect yourself and your property appropriately.

The owner of the 1968 Oldsmobile Ninety-Eight Convertible pictured above certainly didn't go out that day in early May hoping to be involved in an accident, but unfortunately he was! Not only was this owner not fully insured, he had never had this car appraised prior to this accident. He only had a liability policy on this car and was involved in a multi-car accident with front and rear damage to his car. The owner had to rely solely on the third party claim to pay for his car. We were able to help with an appraisal for insurance claim settlement in this situation, but he would have been much better off in the end if he had gotten an appraisal and had purchased the correct type of policy on his car prior to the loss.

Years ago most collectible cars were restored originals. While we still do a lot of appraisals on original and restored cars, most collector cars we appraise today are

modified to some degree, some are mild and then others are extremely wild everything and imaginable inbetween. This presents a challenge when determining the value of such cars, especially when contemplating proper insurance coverage. It's not as

simple as it once was to determine value on these cars, price guides or book values don't apply to modified cars. This is where we have a very unique background of knowledge and expertise. As a former antique car and street rod parts supplier along with our personal experience as a restorer/builder, we understand what it takes to restore or build your car, no matter if its completely original or if it's modified mild to wild.



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APPRAISING FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE (continued from page 1)

My previous background coupled with my training and almost twenty years experience as an auto appraiser along with my knowledge of the insurance industry through my involvement with insurance claim cases and as a former insurance agent, I have a very unique overall background that gives me an advantage over most other appraisers. You will see the difference when comparing our auto appraisal



service to other appraisers you may have encountered in the past.

First of all, my appraisal business is an independent full service and full time business. I constantly study all the auto markets, attend car shows and watch trends in the hobby and I attend or monitor collector car auctions nationwide. In addition, I'm not a car dealer and I do not buy, sell or take cars on consignment, consequently there is no possible conflict-of-interest.

There are several questions you must ask yourself when contemplating the value of any collector car for insurance coverage. Following are samples of just a few of those questions. How will you or your insurance company determine the value of your car without an appraisal? Will you trust your insurance company to value your car correctly? Would you actually be able to replace your car for the insured value if it were deemed a total loss by fire, theft or an accident? I see cars all the time that are underinsured because the insurance company didn't require an appraisal or an unqualified person appraised the car! Who will you hire to appraise your car? Is the cost of the appraisal your only concern? While you may find a dealer who knows a lot about cars and they may appraise cars on a part time basis, they are typically not properly trained in the methodology and legal aspects of auto appraising. They usually don't perform a proper inspection and they don't really understand the proper purpose and function for your insurance needs. Does your dealer or an officer in your car club have the proper training, knowledge, experience and credibility to do an accurate unbiased appraisal? Does your appraiser keep proper records, or any records at all? Are you certain that all of your appraisal information is kept strictly confidential? Would your appraiser be willing and able to testify in a court of law, if needed?

As your appraiser, we do a thorough visual inspection of your car, not just a five minute walkaround. The appraisal report has a detailed description of each vehicle including photographs. Our appraisal is based on actual market data, which makes the appraisal very difficult to dispute. We keep your appraisal records securely on file for at least five years and we are available with proper documentation to help you in the event of an insurance claim.

Our professional certified appraisal provides a higher level of protection on some of your most prized possessions and most valuable assets. When insuring your cars, having a qualified appraisal is just as important as the type of policy you choose. All of this protection for an average annual cost per car of only about the cost of a tank of gas. Call me today at 970-282-9054 to make sure your cars are properly valued for insurance. **HC**



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GREAT RESOURCES: JERRY'S AUTO UPHOLSTERY SHOP

This newsletter is mailed to our appraisal clients, auto enthusiasts and related business. It is our goal to help inform people in the collector car hobby about many of the great auto restoration resources we have in Colorado and the surrounding area.

This issue features Jerry's Auto Upholstery Shop, which is very well known in northern Colorado. Jerry's Auto Upholstery has been in business for many years and is conveniently located at 5732 S. College Ave., in Fort Collins, Colorado.

The shop has been managed for the past fifteen years by Todd Hermann. Todd's been interested in cars all of his life. His father was a big influence on him, as he owned auto body shops and an upholstery shop in Lincoln, Nebraska for many years. Naturally, Todd grew up around cars, started working on his own cars in his early teens and later on built some street rods. When asked how long he's been working on cars he will tell you, "I've pretty much been doing this type of work all my life".

There are four full time employees working at the shop including Todd, each having at least ten years of experience or more. They specialize in all types of motor vehicle and watercraft upholstery including original auto upholstery installations, custom street rod and muscle car interiors, convertible top replacement, custom motorcycle seats, boat and motorhome upholstery and much more. They've done upholstery work on cars built by some of the premier auto restoration shops in the area and they also do upholstery and interior repair work for many of the new and used car dealers in northern Colorado. They have a huge selection of materials to choose from including leathers, vinyl and all types of fabric.

Whenever you need a new convertible top or any upholstery work done on your early to late model car, truck, motorcycle, boat or motorhome we invite you to look at all your options and use the shop you feel most comfortable with. We recommend you make Jerry's Auto Upholstery Shop one of those shops you consider. Call Todd Hermann at 970-226-1170 or stop by the shop for a free estimate on your project. **IC**



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CALL 970-282-9054 For More Information

THANK YOU!

We wish to thank all of our clients, friends, colleagues and others for all of your positive thoughts and prayers during my wife's surgery and recovery through April & May. She is doing fine now, Thanks!

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