

Springtime trophy time

GOODGUYS 6TH SPRING NATIONALS
WESTWORLD / SCOTTSDALE / MARCH 13-15 2015

Photos and highlights by Joe Sage



Incredible devotion goes into creating and maintaining the beautiful machines on display at any Goodguys Rod & Custom Association show. As we look around the Goodguys 6th Spring Nationals at WestWorld in Scottsdale, we realize that just about everything there deserves a best of show trophy of one sort or another.

That amounts to more than 2,500 classics and customs in one place for three days. Every car is a gem, everyone is a friend and trophies are all in fun. Even the autocross events are held against the clock, not against each other. Defending PRO and Street Machine champion Kyle Tucker and his Detroit Speed '70 Camaro slalomed to an autocross win in 64.850 seconds. Brandy Phillips won the truck class in her Spectre Performance '72 Chevy C-10, at 69.901.

There were dozens of awards granted—some serious, some whimsical. A lot of folks went home happy, and—well, everybody goes home happy from Goodguys. Here are a few show car award examples (shown at right, top to bottom):

MIGHTY MUSTANG

1967 Ford Mustang
289 V8, C4 automatic daily driver
Randy Iverson, Queen Creek AZ

CLASS ACT

1955 DeSoto
291 HEMI, second owner, 40 actual miles
Gordon Aper, Scottsdale AZ

SUEDE & CHROME

1928 Ford
350 Chevy V8, Powerglide, blown, custom chassis
Vince Heuer, Granite City IL

PERIOD PERFECT

1956 Ford Thunderbird
Stock, all original
Mark Lorigan, Reno NV

Wide-ranging categories also included 75th Anniversary '40 Ford—and an all-new '40 Fords Forever group, with over 100 1940 Fords from the Phoenix club—as well as Best Ride on American Racing Wheels, One Fine Deuce, Timeless Traditional, Trick Truck Corral Pick, the flexible Wildcard Just 'Cause It's Neat, and many more.

About 60 were won by Arizonans. Others went to proud owners from neighboring states—California, New Mexico and Colorado—as well as everywhere from Texas to Illinois, to Manitoba and Alberta. The Long Distance Award went to Terry Eddy of Houghton Lake, Michigan, who traveled over 4000 miles round-trip.

A centerpiece of the Goodguys event is the Winners Circle lineup. Included are four Top 12

KEEP RIGHT >>





(At left) The all stock, all original Thunderbird V8 in Mark Lorigan's "Period Perfect" winner. • Ron and Jeannie Balfour drove their beautiful green '29 Ford with coordinated trailer down from Bloomfield NM and were "Rodding USA Pick" winner. • The steering wheel in Gordon Apker's "Class Act" winning '55 DeSoto. • Deep fried Oreos—'nuff said. • Stan and Donna Canter of Colbert WA won the "Memory Lane" award for their '33 Ford Cabriolet. • Caddys, Corvettes, Challengers and more, in the new all-years All American Sunday display.

Finalists (they'll be back at the end of the year) and ten All Ways Hot Rods Builder's Choice Top 10 winners. Shown at right and listed below are a sampling of these (left/right, top to bottom):

2015 TOP 12 FINALISTS:

2015 TRUCK OF THE YEAR (LATE)

1966 Chevrolet C-10 Stepside pickup
350, Vortec heads, 650 Demon carb, 700R4 trans
Yancey & Serita Taylor, Las Vegas NV

2015 MUSCLE CAR OF THE YEAR

1971 Plymouth 440 Six Pack Cuda
440 Six Pack, 4-spd, real shaker, 16 factory opts
Bob Leenstra, Kent WA

2015 MUSCLE MACHINE OF THE YEAR

1970 Chevrolet Camaro
416 cu.in. LS, 5-speed, Detroit Speed equipped
Paul Alderman, Ellensburg WA

2015 CUSTOM ROD OF THE YEAR

1959 Rambler (not shown)
Also a Builder's Choice Top 10 winner (below)
Dean Osland, Scottsdale AZ

2015 BUILDER'S CHOICE TOP 10 INCLUDE:

1933 Pontiac
Tuned-port fuel injection, 700R, one of 55 built
Dave & Marilyn Underwood, Scottsdale AZ

1958 Pontiac Bonneville
LS3 480hp, 700R4, rare bucket seat coupe
Dave Bertram, Scottsdale AZ

1953 Cadillac Coupe
6.0, 4L60 Air Ride custom
Lee & Marie Coleman, Phoenix AZ

1965 Pontiac GTO
LS3, 4L65 Kindig-it Build, Michelin redlines & Billet
Ron Meis, Lead SD

1932 Ford Roadster
392 '57 Chrysler HEMI, TKO 600 5-speed
Larry Christensen, Arvada CO, Fountain Hills AZ

The others included Custom of the Year, a 1959 Rambler belonging to Dean Osland of Scottsdale AZ, and five more Builder's Choice awards

Goodguys Rod & Custom Association opens and closes their busy annual event calendar here at WestWorld, returning this November for the Goodguys 18th Southwest Nationals—which will wrap up the year's 22-event season, including presentation of the final Top 12 for the year. For more information, visit www.good-guys.com. ■

