



Stars & Cars At Anniversary Celebration Attracts Thousands to Canada's Classic Car Capitol Raising Over \$300,000 For Charity

World Champion Racer Phil Hill, Award Winning Actor Edward Herrmann, Hollywood Car Customizer George Barris Celebrate With Collection of World's Rarest Vintage Automobiles On Display At Chatham, Ontario

CHATHAM, Ontario, Canada ([PRWEB](#)) August 26, 2004 -- RM Auctions Inc., a world-renown collector car auction house and the leader in the investment-grade collector car market in North America celebrated its silver anniversary milestone with an international celebration at its headquarters on July 16-18, 2004. The weekend celebration, held in RM's hometown community of Chatham-Kent, Ontario, attracted more than 50,000 car enthusiasts and visitors from across the globe to mingle amongst some of the world's rarest vintage cars and automotive celebrities.

"We pulled out all the stops to make this anniversary something people will remember for a long time," says RM founder Rob Myers. "After twenty-five years in this business we have been fortunate to make a lot of friends that share the same passion for rare and beautiful cars." Myers adds, "They all came together for this cause and we not only raised a few eyebrows in the community, but we raised an impressive amount of money for youth charities."

The weekend kicked off with a classic car museum tour followed by a historic presentation by world champion racing legend Phil Hill who shared stories of his amazing, 50-year racing career. Friday night the historic King-William block area played host to an old-fashioned downtown cruise night and concert featuring Mitch Ryder & the Detroit Wheels. Merchants enjoyed the crowds and a boost in sales as the downtown came alive with thousands of car enthusiasts.

The weekend crowds peaked on Saturday as more than 1,500 classic cars and collector vehicles surrounded RM's international headquarters beside Hwy #401 - Canada's busiest expressway. Leading the pack was the famous Batmobile TV and movie cars and other bat vehicles that were under the watchful eye of their creator and custom car builder George Barris, who signed hundreds of autographs to the delight of fans.

"The community and volunteers really went out of their way to support this event," states RM partner Mike Fairbairn. "With all the car shows and events in this community we have definitely earned the title of the Classic Car Capitol of Canada." "We not only celebrated our past with this event, but also the future of the classic car industry."

Sunday's Concours event in Tecumseh Park, hosted by Master of Ceremonies and Emmy Award winning actor Ed Herrmann, saw many rare autos collectively worth more than \$100 million including a ten-car display of Duesenbergs, three 1948 Tuckers, a 1947 Delahaye owned by Rita Hayworth and the Pebble Beach winning 1930 Mercedes-Benz SS Roadster that was restored by RM in 2001. Concours spectators were also treated to a very loud and boisterous WWII vintage B-25 Mitchell bomber fly-over courtesy of Canada's Hamilton Warplane Museum.

Following the Concours event, Rob Myers and Mike Fairbairn were joined on stage by RM partner Dan Warrenner who came good on a bet to shave their 25+ year-old beards for the cause, raising an additional



\$22,000 in donations. Celebrity friends and customers of RM each took a turn at the razors and deftly shaved the partners without a nick.

According to the municipality of Chatham-Kent, the event conservatively generated over \$2 million in economic impact leading the way for future auto-related events and firmly establishing Chatham-Kent as the Classic Car Capitol of Canada. Other classic car events around the town that followed included Wallaceburg's WAMBO Festival and Bothwell's Old Autos Car Show which both saw record numbers of classic cars and visitors a strong indication of the growing hobby and an increased awareness of this classic car community.

Photo highlights of the RM 25th event can be found at: www.rmauctions.com/25years/index.htm

RM Auctions, Inc., and its divisions, is the leader in the North American investment-grade collector car auction market and an international renowned specialist in vintage automobile restorations. Celebrating twenty-five years in the trade, RM has achieved incomparable records in worldwide sales and awards in the multi-billion dollar vintage car industry. For additional information on RM Auctions, Inc., please call (800) 211-4371 or visit the web site at: www.rmauctions.com



Contact Information

T. D. Lobzun

RM AUCTIONS INC.

<http://www.rmauctions.com>

519-352-4575

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