

What are they worth?

Landmark auction will shed light on the price of low mileage

By Angelo Van Bogart

Approximately 40 days before the VanDerBrink Auctions sale of the Lambrecht Collection in Pierce, Neb., on Sept. 28-29, the 50 never-sold and 500 low-mileage trade-in cars and trucks were already attracting online bids, some of that bidding quite heated. At press time, Yvette VanDerBrink said there were 2,000 registered online and in-person bidders; compare that to an August auction in Monterey, Calif., where there are a few hundred registered bidders at each sale.

Due to the huge amount of publicity of the Lambrecht auction, many of the vehicles' ultra-low mileage, and what we'll call the "Lambrecht Legend," bids on Lambrecht vehicles had already exceeded the value of vehicles in comparable condition. The 1958 Cameo had already been bid to \$12,000. The 1964 Impala two-door hardtop had been bid to \$14,250. The 1963 Impala was already at \$12,000, while the 1978 Corvette Pace Car led the pack at \$25,500.

Although most of the Lambrecht vehicles are in No. 4

condition from years of sitting, sometimes outside for their entire life, bidding is expected to match the legendary status of the collection. The prices the ultra-low-mileage vehicles will fetch once the gavel crashes are anyone's guess, but that didn't stop us from providing estimates of 16 select cars using our experience in covering hundreds of auctions (although admittedly, no one has ever covered an auction with so many unsold cars of this age with so few miles). We've also included the corresponding *Old Cars Report Price Guide* values in No. 1, No. 3 and No. 4 conditions, and the range of estimated prices provided by polled *Old Cars Weekly* Facebook followers for some of the vehicles shown here. For the final hard numbers, keep your eyes on the pages of *Old Cars Weekly*.

Note: *Old Cars Report Price Guide* value approximations are listed after the OCRPG notation; *OCW* staff pre-sale estimates are followed by the *OCW* notation; and reader estimates follow the RE notation.



NEW 1964 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe with 4 miles. A white sport coupe with a red interior, 327-cid V-8 and three-speed on the column. This is the car that brought everyone knocking on Ray Lambrecht's door, as it was visible in the dealership window, but Ray wouldn't sell. Car retains plastic on the seats and wheel covers in the truck, plus a window sticker. It has an AM radio and manual windows and locks. Due to its visibility, low mileage, indoor storage and general desirability, this car is expected to be among the high sellers. Watch for crazy bids on this hot number.

Old Cars Report Price Guide values: \$29,500 (No. 1); \$13,280 (No. 3); \$5,900 (No. 4).

Old Cars Weekly estimate: \$50,000-75,000.

Reader Estimate: \$8,000-35,000.



NEW 1965 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe in Artesian Turquoise with matching interior and 12 miles. Unlike most other low-mile cars from this collection, it drives and retains its window sticker. Most importantly, it has a 325-hp 396-cid V-8 with the Turbo Hydra-Matic. It has a clock and no radio with original rubber in and out. A running, driving, 12-mile 1965 Impala coupe with a 396-cid V-8? No matter it's a stripper with an automatic, this one will bring all the bidders to the block faster than cows to a trough at feed time.

OCRPG values: \$36,000 (No. 1); \$25,200 (No. 3); \$7,200 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$50,000-65,000.

RE: \$5,000-15,000.

USED 1969 Chevrolet Chevelle SS396 Sport Coupe with 75,837 miles. Unfortunately, the building in which this car was originally stored suffered a roof collapse, and so did this Chevelle. Afterward, the car suffered the indignity of outdoor storage, and after losing its glass, it received no favor from Mother Nature and began to rust. However, it is an SS-396 with an automatic in a console, and as a muscle car, it is restorable. If prospective buyers check the numbers and they match, this Chevelle is do-able. Only the carb is missing, so there is potential to make the effort match the value after a restoration (if the car is bought right).

OCRPG values: \$55,000 (No. 1); \$24,750 (No. 3); \$11,000 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$8,000-12,000.

Reader Estimate: \$3,500-8,000



NEW 1965 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe in white with a red interior and 10 miles. It packs a 325-hp 396-cid V-8 with the Turbo Hydra-Matic. The car has some surface rust around the backlight and front fender seams because the car was stored outdoors for a time. Water collected on the floor and the carpet was removed, and there is a slight ding in the roof. Unlike its turquoise counterpart, the car does not run. Since this car will need full attention to its exterior, interior and mechanics, bidding action on the 1965s will go toward the running, indoor-stored turquoise example in the sale, but don't count out this big-block hardtop.

OCRPG values: \$36,000 (No. 1); \$25,200 (No. 3); \$7,200 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$25,000-40,000.



NEW 1958 Chevrolet Cameo 1/2-ton pickup with 1.3 miles and a turquoise and black finish. Roof damaged from previous roof collapse. Windshield is cracked from but interior unharmed. Has plastic on the seats and the floor mat is rolled up behind the seat. Six-cylinder and three-speed powertrain combination. This truck was rolled off the carrier and rolled in the dealership. Has the original tires and belts. Retains a shine when dust removed. Original paperwork and owner's manual. Buyer will also get a poster of the truck as found in the dealership and signed. An expected star of the auction, as it's a desirable vehicle long housed indoors in a desirable color.

OCRPG values: \$31,000 (No. 1); \$13,950 (No. 3); \$6,200 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$50,000-65,000.



NEW 1959 Chevrolet Bel Air Sport Sedan in copper and white with a 283-cid V-8 with just 2 miles. The car was inside and then moved outside, so exposure is evident on the body and interior. There are also dents in the doors and thieves stole some of the trim. The spare is missing in the trunk, but the mat is present in the back. The VanDerBrink sale contains four unsold 1959 Chevys and they're all four-doors, this Bel Air hardtop probably being the rarest. However, interest drops off dramatically when more doors are added to a '59 Chevy, and given this four-door hardtop's condition, even its V-8 and scarcity won't help much.

OCRPG values: \$20,000 (No. 1); \$9,000 (No. 3); \$4,000 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$7,000-10,000.

RE: \$6,000-12,000





NEW 1978 Chevrolet Indy Pace Car Corvette with 4 miles. Car was rolled off the truck and put in the dealership and was only driven in and out of the building. It retains plastic on the seats and steering wheel and cardboard on the carpet. The original pace car decals are in the box with the car's center caps and emblems. The 350 V-8 is backed by an automatic on the console, but the car has not been run in decades. There seem to be more '78 Corvette Pace Cars with less than 100 miles than there are with more than 100; however, the "Lambrecht Legend" will send this car's sale price well above the average price.

OCRPG values: \$32,000 (No. 1); \$14,000 (No. 3); \$6,250 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$35,000-50,000.



NEW 1963 Chevrolet Impala Sport Coupe with 11 miles and in red with a white top and a red interior. Once folks saw the 1964 Impala in the window of Lambrecht Chevrolet, they caught a glimpse of this honey in the back corner. Power comes from a 327-cid V-8 with an automatic transmission. There is still plastic on the seats. Car has manual windows and locks, an AM radio, and the spare, front carpet and hubcaps are in the trunk. Minor paint defect on deck lid from bird waste. Red paint, low miles and indoor storage will do this unsold 1963 Impala well on the block. Watch for insane bidding action on the 1964 Impala hardtop.

OCRPG values: \$32,500 (No. 1); \$14,630 (No. 3); \$6,500 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$60,000-80,000.



NEW 1964 Chevrolet C10 1/2-ton pickup longbox in faded blue with some surface rust and just 5 miles. The six-cylinder is backed by a four-speed manual transmission. Upholstery is in silver with signs of weathering, but the floor mat remains in the cab. Many of these trucks from the collection were stored outside, but this one was among those parked inside for a time. There are 13 new 1964 Chevrolet trucks in the Lambrecht collection alone, and most, if not all are longbox sixes. There are also new 1963 and 1965 longboxes, so given the quantity, these trucks won't go for big bucks. In fact, some of these pastured trucks may finally get put to work on farms just as they were intended.

OCRPG values: \$15,200 (No. 1); \$6,625 (No. 3); \$3,000 (No. 4).
OCW estimate: \$4,000-7,000.



NEW 1958 Chevrolet Apache 31 Series 1/2-ton pickup with 5 miles. The truck has run in past year. It is light green in color with fade to the paint due to some exterior storage. There is also light rust in the tailgate area, some surface rust and rust in the lower door area. The wood in the box needs to be replaced. There is no radio, mat or carpet. It is powered by a six-cylinder engine with a four-speed manual transmission on the floor. This stepside will likely fetch a fraction of the 1958 Cameo high bid due to it lacking the fiberglass Cameo box, its less-desirable green finish and its minor rust.

OCRPG values: \$25,000 (No. 1); \$11,250 (No. 3); \$5,200 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$20,000-30,000. RE: \$5,000-20,000.

NEW 1959 Chevrolet Impala Sport Sedan in white with a green roof and 2 miles on the four-barrel 283-cid V-8 and automatic transmission. This four-door hardtop Impala was inside and then moved outside, causing rust to form on the lower body, surface rust to gather atop other panels and the interior to weather (even mice got to the guts). There is a radio in the green passenger compartment, and it's labeled "a great car to restore." Few take the time to restore a four-door 1959 since interest dwindles after two-door hardtops and convertibles, but if any deserve such work, it's this two-miler, likely to sell for a bargain in this sea of "new" '59 four-doors.

OCRPG values: \$21,000 (No. 1); \$9,450 (No. 3); \$4,200 (No. 4).
OCW estimate: \$5,000-7,500.



USED 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air Sport Coupe with the desirable 265-cid V-8 and two-speed automatic in that famous white-and-blue two-tone scheme. It has just 49,000 miles, but the years parked outside rusted the floors and left some rust forming in the body, but it still looks very restorable. It's also largely intact, retaining the radio and clock. The supply of complete and solid V-8 Tri-Five hardtop projects is drying up, and so this small-block-powered gem will be a belle of the ball. People pay big bucks for rusty shells, and given its exposure in this sale, watch bidder paddles to reach for the clouds.

OCRPG values: \$50,000 (No. 1); \$22,500 (No. 3); \$10,000 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$25,000-30,000.



NEW 1963 Chevrolet Corvair 95 Greenbrier van with 46 miles. Unfortunately, this Cor-rarity was stored outside for a long time and there is some rust forming on the faded blue-and-white body. Although there still is plastic on the seats, the interior is also weathered. There are eight unsold Corvairs in the Lambrecht Collection — four coupes, three sedans and this lone van — and we suspect this will get top billing among the Corvairs stored outside. In our opinion, Corvairs don't generally fetch what they're worth, and although this Greenbrier will attract attention, bidding won't be astronomical. But we could be wrong — with or without low miles, where are you going to get another?

OCRPG values: \$21,000 (No. 1); \$9,450 (No. 3); \$4,200 (No. 4).
OCW estimate: \$6,000-10,000.



USED 1957 Chevrolet One-Fifty coupe with a six-cylinder and two-speed Powerglide in white and blue. This 57,000-mile car is labeled as solid with a complete original silver-and-black interior, and apparently retains the radio and floor mat. It's also one of the few two-doors of the many '57s in this sale. Chevy-hungry bow-tie drivers will lust for this low-line '57 since its model year and number of doors are right. We dig One-Fifty six-cylinder coupes as much as the next guy, but we expect some will be scratching their heads at the lofty final price.

OCRPG values: \$34,500 (No. 1); \$15,530 (No. 3); \$6,900 (No. 4).

OCW estimate: \$15,000-25,000.

