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## VanDerBrink scores big with Menard sale

■ Ron Kowalke reporting

**CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis.** — The pandemic-related postponement of the Larry Menard Collection auction and subsequent 11th-hour relocation of the sale site did nothing to deter the auction's success. The sale, presented Oct. 2 by VanDerBrink Auctions, saw a standing-room-only crowd pack the event building at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds in Chippewa Falls. The crowd included 397 bidders onsite with an additional 768 bidding online for a total of 1,165.

The auction tallied 33 cars and trucks, three Cushman scooters, a 1948 Harley-Davidson Hummer motorcycle, two vintage tractors and 350 lots of memorabilia, the majority of the latter being petroliana. All were offered with no reserve. The sale of the 33 vehicles generated \$2,016,700 at the gavel.

An executive in the chain of Menards home improvement stores, Larry Menard had the financial means to buy the best. He and his wife Dawn's lifetime collection of vehicles and memorabilia proved that point. The 33 vehicles offered for sale were best described as "blue-chip level," with 14 being performance models and 11 being convertibles. The majority



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coupe that sold for \$285,000. It was followed by a '59 Chevy Impala convertible, \$136,000; '59 Cadillac Series 62 ragtop, \$116,000; '58 Chevy Impala convertible, \$109,000; and, a fuel-injected '57 Chevy Bel Air softop, \$103,000.

Perhaps the most interesting vehicle lot of the auction was a 1961 Chevy Impala four-door sedan bought for \$20,500. This factory-ordered "sleeper" housed a Power Pack 283-cid V-8 mated to a three-speed manual transmission that had its shift handle butting up to a front bench seat. Definitely speed wrapped in sensibility.

The bargain of the auction was a #3 condition 1987 Oldsmobile Calais GT hardtop that sold for \$2,700.



■ This 1945 Ford Series 59C half-ton stepside pickup sold for \$33,500 at the Larry Menard Collection sale presented by VanDerBrink Auctions in Chippewa Falls, Wis.



■ A nice factory-ordered “sleeper” 1961 Chevy Impala four-door sedan with Power Pack 283-cid V-8 and three-speed manual transmission sold for \$20,500.



■ A fuel-injected 1963 Chevy Corvette split-window coupe was one of the stars of the show. It changed hands for \$285,000.



■ This 1935 Ford 48 three-window coupe got plenty of attention from bidders. It eventually sold for \$42,000.



■ This “fin-tabulous” red and black 1959 Cadillac Series 62 convertible topped out at \$116,000.

**SEE VANDERBRINK MENARD SALE PRICE RESULTS ON PAGE 50**

