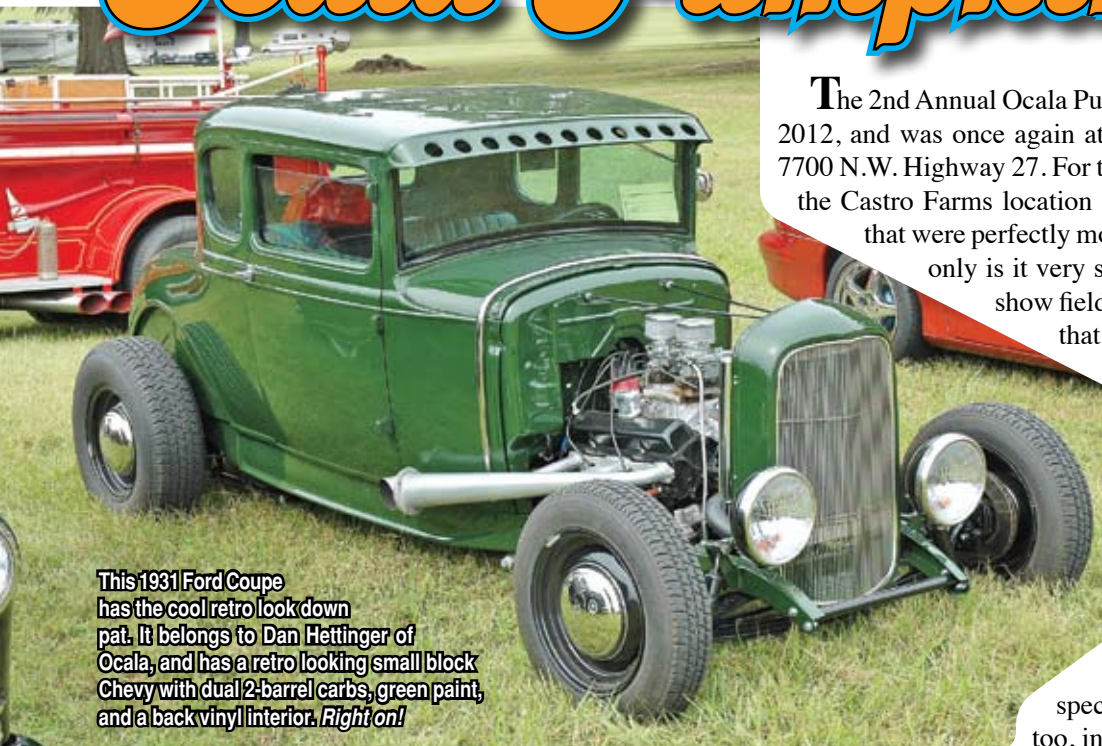


# Ocala Pumpkin Run



This 1931 Ford Coupe has the cool retro look down pat. It belongs to Dan Hettinger of Ocala, and has a retro looking small block Chevy with dual 2-barrel carbs, green paint, and a back vinyl interior. Right on!

The 2nd Annual Ocala Pumpkin Run was held on October 26-28, 2012, and was once again at the 400 acre Castro Farms located at 7700 N.W. Highway 27. For those who didn't attend this year or last, the Castro Farms location is a neat one. It has rolling grass hills that were perfectly mowed, making for a great show site. Not only is it very scenic, with a pond just down from the show field, it also has TONS of room. This means that show vehicles can park with plenty of space around them, allowing viewers to see them nicely, but also allowing the owners to rest a little easier.

We did not hear an exact count, but without a doubt the event had well over a thousand show cars and trucks on display over the course of the three days. With lots of promotion, and offering so much in the way of family fun, there were an awful lot of spectators that came out to enjoy the event too, including all the cool car and trucks.



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Speaking of family fun, you would be hard pressed to think of another show that focuses more on making sure there is something for everyone. That included things like a hayride around the event grounds, a pumpkin patch where kids could pick out their own free pumpkin to take home, half a dozen or more inflatable attractions like bounce houses and slides, a miniature golf course, a maze made

**RIGHT:** We snapped the picture of this neat 1934 International Fire Truck as it was driven into the Castro Farms grounds. It later settled into the car show area, where it had lots of admiring onlookers. Ocala resident Bill O'Brien is the owner, and it is done up with Philadelphia Fire Department lettering, and all the fire fighting goodies you'd expect on a nearly 80 year old truck. *So cool!*

**BELOW:** Though it shows only a portion of it, this picture gives you a feel for the expansive car show area....in addition to spotlighting the 1955 Chevy 210 belonging to Keith Showers. It has red and black paint, Boyd Coddington "Junk Yard Dog" wheels, black and red tweed upholstery, billet dash accents, white faced Autometer gauges, and a 383 stroker motor with a Tremed 5-speed manual transmission.



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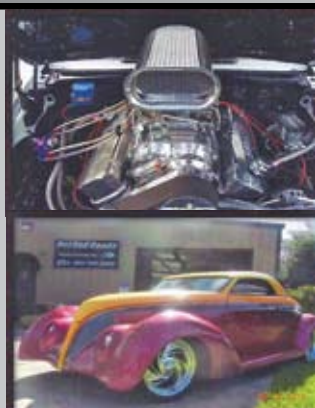
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A free pumpkin patch for the kids was a nice touch, and really neat!

## Specialty Awards:

**Best In Show:** Bill Henry • 1941 Willy's

**Best In Show Runner-Ups:**

Alan Clemon • 1968 Dodge R/T Convertible

Zip Simon • 1972 Chevelle

**Best Paint:** Tom Westfall • 1954 Chevy Panel

**Best Engine:** Allan Lafoe • 1987 Buick Grand National

**Best Interior:** Joe Tuckey • 1957 Chevrolet

**Best Exotic:** Nanci Lou Patton • 1998 Jaguar XK8

**Best Survivor:** Mark Manfredi • 1982 Dodge Mirada

**Best Military/Service:** Mark Manfredi • 1986 Police Car

**Show Committee Choice:** Wally Abela • 1932 Ford Coupe

**Kids Choice:** Dion Rentos • 2011 Black Camaro

well and had some neat items and vehicles crossing the block.

The car show included giveaways to the first 500 pre-registered cars, and lots of judged classes with awards and prizes. Show car registration was \$30, and when you take into account it included two passes for the weekend, it was a very good value.



**RIGHT:** This 1947 VW Beetle was really neat, thanks to a really low stance, flat gray paint, and an immaculate engine, complete with a dual carb setup. It is based out of Winter Park, and belongs to Tim, but since he didn't fill out his window card completely we don't know his last name.



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There were many great vehicles on hand, but on Sunday the Best In Show award went to the wild 1941 Willys belonging to Bill Henry of St. Cloud (see the photo on this page). It will be showcased in the upcoming promotion for the 2013 event....so that is another honor as well.

It was very evident that lots of planning once again went into making this event run so smooth. The organizers would like to thank the many volunteers and participants that once again made the Ocala Pumpkin Run a big success. Going forward the organizers of the Ocala Pumpkin



**ABOVE:** These 1969 Mercury Cyclone Spoiler II's are both special, with the one of the left being a Cale Yarborough Edition, and on the right is a Dan Gurney Edition. Both are powered by a 351W 4V engine. NASCAR required 500 cars to be produced to qualify for competition, but legend has it that after only building 372 Spoiler II's they mixed in 147 regular Cyclones (known today as "Mirage" or Mystery Cars") with the decals of the Spoiler II's they were being faked for, and NASCAR failed to notice. John Colucci of Ocala owns the pair, and only 23 are known to have survived.

**LEFT:** Best In Show honors went to this 1941 Willys Coupe, which has a big block Chevy with a BDS blower, dual 4-barrel carbs, and a "bug catcher" setup that was as high as the car's roof! It belongs to Bill Henry of St. Cloud, and is black with really subtle ghost flames, Weld wheels, and a dark gray leather interior with digital gauges.

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**ABOVE:** This year's Ocala Pumpkin Run was the first time for the collector car and memorabilia auction, and it went over well. Look for it to expand in upcoming editions of the show.

**RIGHT:** Spring Hill resident Jake MacDonald brought his slick looking 1953 Chevy out for some fun at the Ocala Pumpkin Run. It has a 355 Chevy engine, 2004R overdrive automatic, 3.73 posi rear, a gray vinyl and velour interior, blue paint, wide whitewall tires, and '57 Cadillac hub caps.



**See more pictures from the Ocala Pumpkin Run in the Coming Attractions section of this issue.**



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Run are shooting for another bigger, better, and louder show! The 2013 schedule is in development, and will begin to be posted around April. As you are planning your fall car show schedule, be sure and save the dates of October 25th-27th, 2013, and attend the 3rd Annual Ocala Pumpkin Run. For more info you can visit [www.OcalaPumkinRun.com](http://www.OcalaPumkinRun.com), E-Mail [Info@OcalaPumkinRun.com](mailto:Info@OcalaPumkinRun.com), or call 352-620-9998. We'll be there again next fall, and hope to see you there as well! **CN**

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