

STILL RUNNING



A Collection of Eccentric Rigs by Frederick W. Reardon Volume 1

Book Proposal

Photo/Coffee Table Book – Proposal is a sampling of larger collection of photos (1500 photos +/-) Please Note that photo quality is somewhat diminished on this software.

Title:

"Still Running" Copyright Frederick W. Reardon 2005

Submitted by:

Frederick W. Reardon - **Contact Information:** 319 Garnet Street
Redondo Beach, CA 90277 Phone: (310) 748 – 5428 Email: fredreardon@me.com

STILL RUNNING

Volume 1



by Frederick W. Reardon

Dedication

To Suzy and my friends & family for patiently sitting shotgun while I stalked unsuspecting motorists.

(COPYRIGHT AND PUBLISHER IDENTIFICATION PAGE)

This edition published in 2005 by [Insert Publishing Company Name Here]
Located in [Insert Publishing Company Address_Here].

First Published in 2005 by [Insert Publishing Company Name Here].

Copyright Frederick W. Reardon, 2005

All rights reserved. With the exception of quoting brief passages for the purposes of review, no part of this publication may be reproduced without prior written permission from the publisher.

The information in this book is true and complete to the best of our knowledge. All recommendations are made without any guarantee on the part of the author or Publisher, who also disclaim any liability incurred in connection with the use of this data or specific details.

This publication has been prepared solely by [Insert Publishing Company Name Here] and is not approved or licensed by any other entity. We recognize that some words, model names, and designations mentioned herein are the property of the trademark holder. We use them for identification purposes only. This is not an official publication.

[Insert Publishing Company Name Here] titles are also available at discounts in bulk quantity for industrial or sales-promotional use. For details write to [Insert contact title, Publishing Company Name, or Distributor's Name, Address and Phone Number].

ISBN [Insert ISBN Number Here]

Printed in [Insert Printing Location Here]

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	6
INTRODUCTION	7
CHAPTER ONE - STATION WAGONS	8
CHAPTER TWO - BUGS	13
CHAPTER THREE - CONVERTIBLES	17
CHAPTER FOUR - COUPES	22
CHAPTER FIVE - MICROBUSES	37
CHAPTER SIX - RVS	45
CHAPTER SEVEN - SEDANS	54
CHAPTER EIGHT - STANGS	60
CHAPTER NINE - BAJA RIGS	64
CHAPTER TEN - SURF RIGS	67
CHAPTER ELEVEN - TRIKES	70
CHAPTER TWELVE - TRUCKS	72
CHAPTER THIRTEEN - VANS	79

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank the owners of the vehicles represented in this collection. It is to you that I am most grateful. Through this book, I acknowledge your sacrifices. To all of you who have lived through vehicular judgment, roadside ridicule, jumper cables, rough rides, weird looks and scornful stares, I salute you! Through bad weather and rough roads, you have struggled beyond normal human comprehension to ensure that your vehicles are “Still Running.”

Introduction

I am a hunter. My prey is elusive. I am in search of history on wheels. I seek to capture the specimen in its natural state, habitat or environment.

Living in Southern California I spend most of my time in traffic. Rather than succumb to road rage, I decided to put down the gun and pick up my camera. Not only was it good therapy, but I've captured some of the rarest rides on the road.

Oddly enough, not everyone in the Inland Empire wanted their picture taken. Perhaps they thought I was stealing the souls of their motor powered machines? Maybe they were concerned that I was a parole officer?

Picture this. I spend thirty-five minutes chasing this guy, who looks like a fugitive, through cactus lined desert roads and arroyos. It is at this time that I go into paparazzi mode. Finally, the driver ("Mr. 20 to life") stops and parks on the side of the road. I step out of my rig, camera in hand, and situate myself with the prey in my crosshairs. This guy comes after me like I just insulted his wife.

He yells: "Why are you following me? You got a problem hoss? Can I help you with something?" All to which I respond: "Dude, your car is sweet. I'm doing this study about rare vehicles and yours is a gem! How about letting me get a couple of photos of your rig for my book?" 99.999 % of the time, I witness a metamorphosis. Now that he knows that I am not stalking him, he sheds his cocoon of anger, smiles and is stoked to tell me how he and his wheels came into being.

"Still Running" is collection of eccentric rigs captured in their natural habitat which aims to provide us with a visual landscape of days gone by.

Frederick Reardon

CHAPTER ONE

STATION WAGONS

(88 photos to select from)

“As far as station wagons go, there was nothing that compared to the 46 to 48 Ford Woody's. The other auto makers including GM and Chrysler tried to capitalize on the Woody's popularity. Chrysler even put the wood siding on some of their convertibles from 1947 to early 1950's. With all respect to the real wood sided station wagon, they became one of the biggest messes you ever tried to maintain.”

Chuck P. – Millersville, Pennsylvania

“Edsel production lasted 2 years and 2 months from 1958 to 1960. I had a 1959 Edsel Villager Station wagon. Its design didn't take. The grill looked like horse collar. It ran well, however the push drive buttons (shaking head)... sometimes you'd push them and it would go in reverse. Vinyl interior. Named after Edsel Ford the son of Henry Ford. One of the biggest failures in the automotive industry at that time.”

Lori B. – Monterey, California











CHAPTER TWO

BUGS

(77 photos to select from)

“I had a 66 Beetle. Pull the engine out in 30 minutes and overhaul the engine overnight. It was air cooled. The heater was bad. The side vent windows were more refreshing than Air Conditioning. Plus, it was so airtight it could float!”

Greg B. – Redondo Beach, California









CHAPTER THREE

CONVERTABLES

(100 photos to select from)

“Rollin’ the top down on a warm summer night...counting stars with my fella”

Suzanne N. – Alexandria, Virginia











CHAPTER FOUR

COUPES

(308 photos to select from)

“My first car was “Old Blue.” Beautiful. A 69 Pontiac, midnight blue paint and Carolina Blue interior. We took her to the Outer Banks on our honeymoon... opened her up on a deserted road...buried the needle at 120 MPH and she was still going up.”

Woody N. – Del Rey, Virginia

“When it came to transmissions, Hydramatic led the way and still does. There was nothing more frustrating than a fluid drive Chrysler or a Buick with a humming Dynaflow transmission.”

Albert A. – Cheshire, Connecticut

“I had a 50 Merc with dual pipes. That car was mean. We mounted spark plugs in the tail pipes and wired em. The wire ran back to a switch on the dash board. So you’d be going down the road creating all kinds of exhaust. Back in those days, we didn’t have catalytic converters so you had plenty of flammable stuff coming out the tail pipes. If some flake was riding too close, when you flipped the switch, you could burn the paint off the hood of their car.”

(“Still Running” its publishers and author do not recommend altering vehicles in a way such as described in the quotes. This could be dangerous!)

Howard R. – Denton, Maryland

“The 37 Chevy Coupe with rumble seat had the straight 6 cylinder overhead valve engine with a split manifold, dual pipes made from steel drive shaft covers, and high lift rocker arms. It was the sweetest sounding car on the road. Especially in the highway tunnel, when you could really bellow!”

Bruno R. – Williston, Maryland

“My 1973 340 Duster was lime green in the daylight and yellow at night. It had a special paint finish. The 4 speed 311 with rear end traction bar and Stuart Warner transmission with Hurst Shifter blew everything away. It had a bench seat with four on the floor. I got stock tires and just burned them off and recapped them. In first gear it went up to 6000 RPM and laid 45’ of black rubber. At a 60 mph there was another patch of black rubber from when I threw it into 2nd gear at 85 mph. Fourth gear was a waste of time in the ¼ mile because you were already there in 3rd. This car was so powerful, usually those who owned them ended up crashing them and dying. The Duster got 18 mpg no matter how fast.”

Jay R. – Westfield, N.Y.































CHAPTER FIVE

MICROBUSES

(172 photos to select from)

“The original Minivan, the Volkswagen Bus painted blue or white with flowers or all kinds of graffiti on it. The official vehicle of the flower children. They can still be seen today at many surfing beaches along the California coast. They were an art form and always will be.”

H. William R. – Williamsburg, Virginia

















CHAPTER SIX

RVS

(155 photos to select from)

“When I was looking for an RV, I thought the more unaerodynamic, the more trailer like, the more creepy looking...the better.”

Chris B. – San Clemente, California





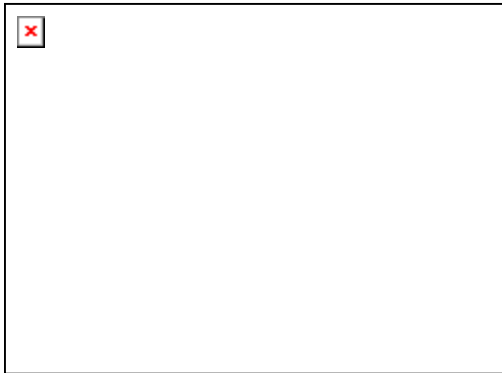












CHAPTER SEVEN

SEDANS

(104 photos to select from)

“Years ago, all the Automobile makers used Slogans. Buick had: “Better Buy Buick” and Packard had “Ask the man that owns one.” I had a 52 Packard Patrician. It was a cruiser. You could comfortably sit 4 in the front and 4 in back. It had soft mohair fabric. It was a four door sedan and it was like sitting in your living room. The engine was a flat head straight 8 cylinder and had optional Ultramatic power steering and power brakes. If you ask me, that was a fine automobile.”

Noel B. – Long Island, New York

“53 Lincoln Capri Sedan was the winner of the Mexican Road Race. That car was a runner! It trashed the Olds 88 in their 2nd year of the race in the quest for their 2nd win. Olds 88 was a hot car. The Lincoln Capri however, took them out.”

Mildred H. – Steubenville, Ohio

“Mercury Marquis Sedan had a roll down rear window and super sized V8 under the hood. A lot of Grandmothers showed up the local hot-rodder in this sedan.”

Ester R. – San Francisco, CA













CHAPTER EIGHT

STANGS

(49 photos to select from)

“The Mustang...the pony car of the White Lightning Runners. Made fools out of many a Revenuer. And, they’re still the fastest production car on the road.”

Ellen R. – York Town, Virginia









CHAPTER NINE

BAJA RIGS

(61 photos to select from)

“Baja is a love hate deal. On one hand you’ve got rocks & booby traps on the road, entrepreneurial police & Federales and scorpions. On the other hand you’ve got pleasant & friendly caballeros, righteous fish tacos, halfway decent uncrowded surf, and azul water on both sides.”

Mike O. – La Jolla, California







CHAPTER TEN

SURF RIGS

(66 photos to select from)

“There’s two types of Surf Rigs. One kind can fit all the stuff you need in it like extra wax, ding repair kit, sleeping bag, extra leashes, etc. The other kind is the old Plymouth Fury your Aunt Arlene gave ya...it’s a ‘beater’ but it’s got perfect rain gutters for attaching a surfboard rack.”

Chet W. – Manhattan Beach, California







CHAPTER ELEVEN

TRIKES

(8 photos to select from)

“Growing up in Torrance, CA, we had access to a lot of stuff other kids didn’t. Our Dads worked in the Space Technology field or for a company that supported it. That meant many of us had access to cutting edge machine shops, new methods and materials and stuff. We just built weird stuff like trikes. Sometimes they were fast and sometimes they were just cool looking. And sometimes we supped them up so that they really hauled ass!

Joe L. – Murrieta, CA

“It’s a Harley Frame with a VW undercarriage. It makes guys riding on two wheels look like they are riding a little toy.”

Clay V. – Sherman Oaks, California





CHAPTER TWELVE

TRUCKS

(222 photos to select from)

“The big GMC straight 6 truck engine was awesome. This was a commercial engine with thruster typically on a tractor trailer. The cubes, HP, and torque it generated were unique.”

Bill H. – Glen Dale, Maryland

“I’m gonna drive this truck till they rip the steerin’ wheel outa my cold dead hands.”

Trevor R. – Hemet, CA

“We’re so much better off today. You were lucky to get 10,000 miles out of a set of tires. When was the last time you had a flat?”

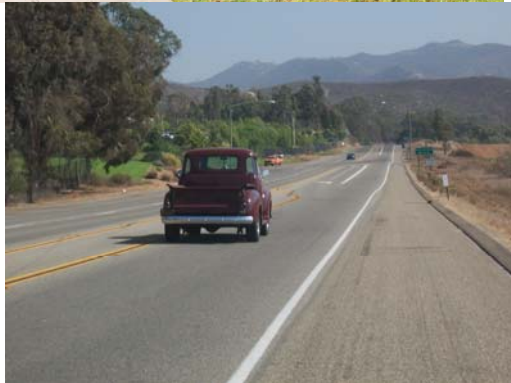
Eugene R. – Westfield, N.Y.















CHAPTER THIRTEEN

VANS

(155 photos to select from)

“Everybody in the whole Warlocks Van Club was jealous when I installed a waterbed in the back of my Dodge Van.”

John R. – San Francisco, California

“Shag, Shag, Shag!”

Kory M. – Dundalk, Maryland













[BACK COVER]

VOLUME ONE

STILL RUNNING...

Who drives these Rigs? You've seen them. You've spotted them. They are freakish glimpses into the past.

"Still Running" assembles evidence of a subculture which exists on the fringes of today's society. We are all snake fascinated by sightings of unique cars, trucks, RVs etc. We secretly hope to catch a glimpse of the species driving the vehicle.

Maybe you're nostalgic and want to take a modern day glimpse of a past you admonish or romanticize? Perhaps you have a youngster with whom you would like to share your enthusiasm for old cars or trucks?

In a way, "Still Running" represents another time. This collection of pictures provides us with a visual landscape of days gone by. We see the toys of eccentrics who refuse to let go of the past, or fun seekers who simply want to drive something unusual or creepy.

The collection of rigs contained in Volume One lets you bare witness to the sightings in their natural habitat.

Once you pick up this collection of photos, you will find yourself lost in time and memories.

