

Editor and Publisher

Scott Geyer (scott@farmshow.com)

Editor Emeritus

Mark Newhall (mark@farmshow.com)

Contributing Editors

Jim Ruen (edgecom@acegroup.cc)
 Dee Goerge (dee_goerge@yahoo.com)
 Lorn Manthey (redoakridge@mac.com)
 Lydia Noyes (lprunner58@gmail.com)
 Bruce Derksen (dbksen39@live.ca)

Circulation (circulation@farmshow.com)

Mary Lunde, Maddie Kammerer,
 Jenn Wetschka

FARM SHOW (ISSN #01634518) is published bi-monthly (6 times/year) for \$27.95 per year (\$31.95 in Canada) by Farm Show Publishing, Inc., 8500 210th St. W, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Periodicals postage paid at Lakeville, Minn., and additional post offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 (ph 952-469-5572; fax 952-469-5575; email: circulation@farmshow.com; website: www.farmshow.com). Single copy price is \$6.95 (\$8.95 in Canada). Publication No. 469490.

In Canada: Publications Mail Agreement No. 40032660, Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses To: Dycorn Mail Svcs, 495 Berry St., Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6; Email: circulation@farmshow.com

FARM SHOW does not accept advertising and focuses exclusively on new products and product evaluations in regular issues.

FARM SHOW does not charge for new products or services featured in the magazine. Anyone with a new product or service of interest to farmers - whether inventor, manufacturer, marketer, distributor or whatever - is invited to contact FARM SHOW regarding possible publication. Products and ideas published in FARM SHOW Magazine may appear in print, online, our newsletters, and or social media accounts.

FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., has not tested or used any of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., does not promote, recommend or endorse the use of the ideas or products described in its publications. FARM SHOW Publishing, Inc., disclaims any and all responsibilities and liabilities in the event of personal injury, death, property damage or losses as the result of the use or application of any such ideas or products. Anyone applying or using such ideas or products does so at his, her or their own risk.

Printed in U.S.A. All rights reserved, including the right of reproduction, in whole or in part, without written permission.

FARM SHOW Magazine respects the privacy of its subscribers, customers and readers. We don't knowingly sell, rent, loan, give away, or otherwise share the name, address or email of anyone who does business with us or communicates with us, if they have requested we not do so.

When you do business with us, we ask that you tell us if you do not want your name and mailing address included on our Special Offers list of people who would like to receive information from other related companies.

If you tell us you do not want to be part of the Special Offers list, we will flag your account so that it will not be used when compiling lists.

If you change your mind, you should contact us and request future inclusion on the list.

If you are on the Special Offers list, you may request removal at any time.

All requests for inclusion, removal or other matters relating to the Special Offers list should be emailed to the [Circulation Department](mailto:Circulation@farmshow.com). You may also send your request to Circulation Manager, FARM SHOW Magazine, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, MN 55044.



Sept.-Oct., 2024



Prince says his "original" 1962 Ford F-250 is the best driving truck he's ever had. It doesn't rattle or squeak and has very tight steering.

Six Decade Old F-250 Ford Pickup Gets New Life

By Lorn Manthey, Contributing Editor

"Over the years, I've appraised several rare vehicles, including a one-off Ford GT prototype, Shelby Mustangs, a custom Cadillac V-12 roadster made for the CEO of General Motors, and a 1963 split-window Corvette that sat in a barn for more than 40 years," says Greg Prince. "Even with all those special vehicles, a 62-year-old F-250 is my true 'once in a lifetime' find because now I own it."

Prince says he could hardly believe his eyes when he gazed at the original-condition 1962 Ford F-250 pickup under a cluttered metal carport. As an independent collector car appraiser, Prince found the pickup covered with debris, dust and old kayaks. The vehicle was part of a deceased family member's vintage collection that he was asked to appraise.

Prince and his wife cleaned all the vehicles and helped sell them, but the F-250, ironically for Prince, was left behind. Having just sold a vintage Ford pickup of his own, Prince bought the vehicle with the understanding that he'd keep it in original condition and preserve the truck's history, which the seller's father had so diligently maintained. The original sales invoice, service records and every license plate sticker from when it was new were included with the sale. Service

dates had been scribbled on the door jambs, inside the glove box and several places in the engine compartment.

"The pickup was ordered by Stan Tombs, a retired pilot who wanted a very special 'lifetime' pickup," Prince says. "He specified an industrial grade 6-cyl. engine, a 5-speed transmission with overdrive and 17 1/2-in., one-piece steel wheels. Even though those items were beyond Ford's options list, Tombs bargained long and hard with the dealer and eventually got them all included." Many features on the goldenrod yellow non-unibody style side were all "heavy-duty." Those included the vinyl bench seat, a 4.56:1 locking rear axle, progressive rear springs, an 11 1/2-in. clutch, a 70-amp battery and a "substantial" rear bumper. The list price new was \$2,787.20.

Prince says Tombs requested the "heavy-duty" features because he was passionate about reliability. He added several gauges to the instrument panel, installed auxiliary oil filters in the powertrain and even replaced the standard horn with long pipe air horns. When Prince acquired the pickup, it had been idled in the carport for 15 years.

Inside the dusty metal box top, Prince found a collection of junk, a thick sheet of plywood covering the bed and a 55-gal. steel

drum serving as an auxiliary gas tank. "The tank was definitely a safety hazard because it was only bolted to the plywood, not the floor, so I took it out right away," Prince says. Though the truck was 6 decades old, the body and box were rust-free. However, Prince says the exterior paint was oxidized and looked like a giant corn chip. He removed the topper and went to work.

Since he promised to keep the F-250 in its factory-original condition, Prince spent hours cleaning, polishing, buffing and sanding. Steam cleaning showed the underbody in excellent condition. Scouring pads with CLR removed some of the exterior body blemishes. He followed that with wet sanding using 2,000 and 3,000-grit paper. Eventually, he used six different products to bring back a semblance of the original finish.

Prince says his prized F-250, which he named Sunny D, is likely "one-of-a-kind." Its 262ci 6-cyl. engine was normally used in dump trucks, tug boats and other commercial vehicles. Records show the engine always had fluids changed regularly and was never overhauled. The dealership installed a Clark 5-speed transmission with overdrive and a new driveshaft. The long shift lever is easy for the driver to reach. The larger wheels with 17.5 x 6 tires weren't specified for the standard F-250, so the truck had 4-WD fenders installed on its 2-WD body.

"Sunny D is indeed a unicorn," Prince says. "The engine has never been apart, fluids were changed regularly, and it starts quickly every time. Steering is tight; everything is original except for a new battery and heater hoses. It was well cared for by Tombs and will be a cherished part of my collection to make many memories in the coming years."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Greg Prince, Greenbank, Wash. (prestigecca@hotmail.com).



The F-250's engine is original, except for a new battery and long pipe air horns.

Inn Features Cotton Gin Lobby, Historical Cotton Picker

By Cindy Ladage

At the Shack Up Inn in Clarksdale, Miss., you can stay in a former sharecropping shack/cabin at what was formerly the Hopson Plantation. The Inn's website states that the shacks have been restored "only enough to accommodate 21st-century expectations." They offer indoor bathrooms, heat, A/C, coffee makers, refrigerators, and microwaves.

The original cotton gin now serves as the lobby of the Inn and, on most nights, hosts live music. Sitting and rocking on the front porch of your shack is a big perk of this unique venue.

An array of agricultural items can be found across the grounds. One of the Shack Up Inn owners, Bill Talbot, shared the story of their most iconic piece—one of the first mechanized cotton pickers.

At the Hopson Plantation, on October 2, 1944, in front of 300 onlookers, an International Harvester mechanical cotton picker harvested the first cotton crop without hand labor. For the first time, cotton planting, cultivating, and harvesting were all done by machine.

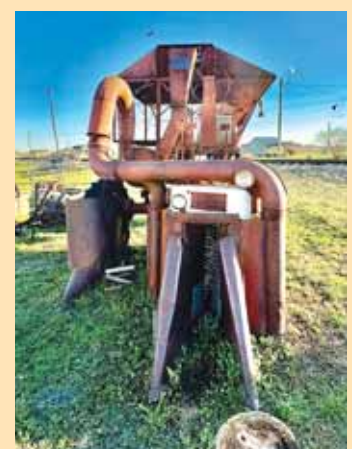
The model H-10-H spindle cotton picker allowed the picker to harvest the cotton boll

that holds the actual fiber. This invention had been in progress for around 40 years. Part of the credit goes to earlier patented ideas that International Harvester purchased and implemented into their machines. The pickers were mounted on Farmall H tractors.

The implementation of the mechanized cotton picker made Hopson Plantation a showplace and educational stop where many came to learn about this new invention in the Mississippi Delta. Today, you can see a later model of the 1-row cotton picker used on the Hopson Plantation in front of the Shack Up Inn lobby.

Blues music is intertwined with cotton history. The music originated in the cotton fields, first with slaves singing spirituals and field hollers, then during the sharecropper days. These songs eventually morphed into the music we're familiar with today as the blues, and Clarksdale, Miss., is the heart of that history. Several famous blues musicians worked on the plantations. One of the tractor drivers at Hopson Plantation was blues pianist Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins. Today, you can stay in Pinetop's cabin.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The



You can see a later model of the 1-row cotton picker used on the Hopson Plantation in front of the Shack Up Inn lobby.

Shack Up Inn, 001 Commissary Cir., Clarksdale, Miss. 38614 (ph 662-624-8329; www.shackupinn.com).