

**'The Auction' At The Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino Sets Record...**



"Legends in Concert" cast members who recreate (L to R) Jack Benny, Buddy Holly, Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe were taped by camera crews from "Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous" riding in this 1957 Chevrolet Convertible to the auction block at "THE AUCTION" which took place at the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino recently.

The first annual antique and classic car auction, appropriately titled "THE AUCTION," held at the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV, set a record for the most money exchanging hands in a two-day auction, number of cars sold and highest price ever paid for a Duesenberg.

"THE AUCTION," held recently, attracted over 7,500 participants, who bid a record-breaking \$21,750,000 for nearly 500 vehicles that came under the auctioneer's gavel. It was a record pace of bidding, with auctioneer Dean Kruse of Kruse International, averaging 35 cars per hour on the auction block.

A 1930 Duesenberg brought the highest price

ever paid for a Duesenberg, when Eric Traber of Switzerland bid \$1,150,000 for the privilege of owning the rare beauty.

Over 17 foreign countries were represented at "THE AUCTION" including bidders from Sweden, Denmark and Finland. Germany and Holland also actively participated in the two-day event as well as Japan, England, South Africa, France, Belgium, Greece, Italy and Guatemala.

"The response has proven to us that if you present the very best in a well-orchestrated format, buyers will show up," stated Richie Clyne, executive administrator of the Imperial Palace Auto Collection. "This is only the beginning of a bigger and better annual auction."

In addition to the full-size antique and classic autos up for bid, a special French Crystal replica of a classic car was also auctioned off. It was purchased by Mrs. Shirley Vaughn for \$3,500, with the proceeds going to the "Make a Wish Foundation of Las Vegas."

Press from all over the world covered this record-setting event including the television show, "Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous." The crew of "Lifestyles" captured the excitement of the bidders as well as cast members from the Imperial Palace's hit show, "Legends in Concert." Cast members, including re-creations of Jack Benny, Buddy Holly, Elvis Presley and Marilyn Monroe, rode to the auction block in a 1957 Chevrolet Convertible.

Numerous celebrities also participated in the fast-paced action of "THE AUCTION" including Ken Kragen, manager of entertainers such as Kenny Rogers, who bid \$31,000 for a 1957 Chevy Convertible. Michael Nesmith, formerly of the Monkees and founder of MTV, bought a 1957 Cadillac Brougham for \$26,000. Former football coach turned sportscaster, John Madden, purchased a 1957 Ford Thunderbird for \$27,000.

"We are already beginning to plan 'THE AUCTION' for next year," noted Don Williams, curator of Blackhawk Classics, who presented "THE AUCTION" in conjunction with the Imperial Palace. "And from what I heard during and after

this first event, next year could break the records we established this year."

"We have not announced the exact date for next year, but you can expect it to be held about this same time," Clyne said, following Sunday's finale. "And you can expect it to be even bigger and better, if that's at all possible."

For a slower-paced "trip down memory lane," the Imperial Palace invites you to tour the Imperial Palace Auto Collection with over 200 antique, classic and special-interest autos on display daily on the fifth floor of the hotel's parking facility from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

For even more nostalgia, "Legends in Concert" presented in the Imperial Theatre Showroom features a dazzling multi-media special effects extravaganza with live recreations of legendary superstars such as Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, Buddy Holly, Jack Benny, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, "The Beatles" and Judy Garland each evening at 8 p.m. & 11 p.m. (except Sundays). Cocktail shows are \$11.95 plus tax with a \$2.00 surcharge for Saturday performances.

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Current legal trends in medical malpractice in Nevada will be the topic of the sixth in a series of eight presentations celebrating the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution at the Las Vegas Senior Citizens Center, 450 E. Bonanza Rd. On Thursday, May 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Harold P. Gewerter, Esq. will present a discussion which will include topics such as Nevada's high cost for medical treatment and hospitalization and the resultant care afforded to senior citizens not being commensurate with the cost. He will also discuss the difficulty initiating a medical malpractice case due to the recent institution of the Medical - Legal Screening Panel in Nevada. The presentation will be discussed in light of recent law charges and court decisions and will be "practical" oriented.

The program is open to the public and a 50¢ donation is suggested. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 386-6454.

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