

The Watt family of Westlock, Alberta, began collecting "coral orange" vehicles back in 1977. Photo above shows 12 trucks and vans that they entered in a local parade. Their collection also includes a Supercab pickup pulling a pup trailer (inset photo).

Unique Collection Of "Coral Orange" Ford Trucks

Over the past 23 years, the Watt family of Westlock, Alberta, has put together one of the most unusual collections of trucks anywhere. Each truck the family owns has two things in common – they're all Fords, and they're all bright "coral orange" – a popular factory color that Ford discontinued back in 1981.

Wayne, Ron, and Darryl Watt run "Watt Bros. and Sons Drywall" in Westlock. They all share an interest in restoring old Fords. The passion has been carried on by Darryl's son James, and Wayne's three boys, Jerry, Kelly and Cameron.

The family's collection consists of 19 vehicles. They created quite a stir last summer when they entered 12 of the brightly colored

trucks and vans in a local parade. It was quite a sight to see 12 beautifully restored vehicles all with sparkling polished orange paint and lots of chrome, assembled in one place.

The parade entry consisted of three Supercabs, 6 identical 1/2-ton pickups, two Econoline vans, and one Ranchero.

The other trucks in the collection include two pickups, a 1956 dual-wheeled 1-ton flat deck truck, a 1923 T-Bucket Roadster (hot rod car), and three vehicles that are currently being restored - a dual wheeled four-door Crew Cab, another Supercab and another 1/2-ton truck.

In addition, Wayne and his sons own four "coral orange and white two-tone" 1964 1/2-tons. Although these vehicles are not solid

orange, they compliment the fleet nicely.

The Watt family keeps all of its vehicles in top condition, using five of them for their drywall business. The rest are stored indoors and rarely driven.

The hobby got its start in 1977 when Ron went to his local dealer and ordered a new coral orange Supercab from the factory. The order had to be specially filled at Ford's San Jose factory in California, as the color was unavailable elsewhere.

In 1978, Wayne and Ron each ordered two more Supercabs. Throughout the following years, the three brothers, and then their sons, continued to add to the collection. They were only able to find one used truck that was already coral orange. They had to paint the rest with factory paint, which is still available.

"I get more excited about finding another of these old trucks in mint condition with low miles than most people would get about buying a brand new Lincoln Navigator," Wayne says.

When asked why he chose coral orange when he made that first, fateful purchase back in 1977, Ron says, "It was a new color just out, and we just thought it would be kind of sharp."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Darryl Watt, 9811 - 96 St., Westlock, Alberta, Canada T7P 2A5, (ph 780 349-3700; fax 780 349-7070).



Rear-mount engine helps balance the snowblower's weight, making the ATV easy to steer at all times.

"They're a real novelty – people can't resist taking photos of them," says Ed Podhorodeski, Shipman, Sask., who makes 3 1/2-ft. high Deere model tractors out of pop and beer cans that are glued together. He has made three "pop can" tractors including two 1997 7810s and a 1949 D. Each tractor is about 42 in. long, 32 in. wide, and 42 in. high. He uses a hot glue gun to hold the cans together initially, then uses a caulking gun to apply silicone adhesive. When he's done attaching the cans together he spray paints them green, yellow, and black. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Edward Podhorodeski, Box 88, Shipman, Sask., Canada S0J 2H0 (ph 306 426-2350).

Rear-Mount Engine Drives Front-Mount ATV Snowblower

"The rear-mount engine on our new ATV-mounted snowblower helps balance the snowblower's weight, making the ATV easy to steer at all times," says Michael Gustafson, Erskine Mfg., Erskine, Minn. The new-style snowblower was introduced at the recent Big Iron Show in Fargo, N. Dak.

The system uses a 48-in. wide hydraulicdriven snowblower made by Polaris and is designed to mount on front of any Polaris 300 series or larger ATV. A 13 hp Tecumseh rope-start gas engine on back shaft-drives a hydraulic pump. The snowblower bolts onto the ATV's existing snow blade lift bracket. A pair of small rubber wheels mount behind the snowblower to help support its weight.

"Moving the engine back counter balances the weight of the snowblower on front," says Gustafson. "The blower throws snow 30 to 40 feet out. It takes only five minutes to remove the entire unit. A foot clutch is used to engage the snowblower. You rotate the chute by pulling on a lever that mounts just ahead of the steering wheel."

The snowblower is available from Polaris dealers. Sells for \$2,995 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Erskine Mfg. Co., Inc., 121 Bradley Blvd., Box 100, Erskine, Minn. 56535 (ph 218 687-4045; fax 5293).

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