

REARVIEW MIRROR: Kitchener car club history

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WHAT'S IN YOUR GARAGE

This is the final assembly room. From left to right, a 1972 Mustang coupe is a full resto and now features a stroker 347 SBF and ghost flames, a 1968 Camaro convertible in for a complete resto and now sporting a ProCharger supercharged SBC, another '68 Camaro owned by a star NHL player and Schmidt's wife's killer '69 Chevelle convertible which now sports an LS2, full air ride and Speed Tech suspension.



Another future project, Schmidt's 1963 Vette.

While back in Ontario for my annual March winter indoor car show tour I finally had a chance to go check out Boot Hill Automotive Resurrection — a massive restoration facility located in the small southern Ontario town of Erin. Owned and operated by former CFL offensive lineman Blaine Schmidt, he says Boot Hill was actually forced on him in a way...when his penchant for building and collecting cool American muscle started to take over the family residence.

When he decided to build the facility he didn't do it half-heartedly. He saw a need to build a business that was a one-stop, all inclusive place to shop. Every aspect of the restoration process — from upholstery to paint and body and everything else in between — takes place on site in the various buildings that make up Boot Hill Automotive.

Boot Hill's Kevin Horsman gave me a complete tour of the massive complex and as you can imagine there was plenty going on. Some of the cars in these photos — both finished and unfinished — are Schmidt's so you know he's not only a successful businessman, but a passionate member of this great car hobby.



The '57 Chevy is for sale while the 1967 Shelby is a customer's car.



1968 Cutlass S is another full resto, mostly stock but will feature 18" wheels and tires.





Still in the final assembly room is Schmidt's killer '59 Impala (future feature) with a 348 Tri-power under the hood and his equally jaw-dropping '57 Chevy with a 572 BBC for power.



Below, customer cars waiting their turn include a factory 1969 GTO Judge, a 1961 Caddy (factory Dusty Rose car) and '69 Charger.

While American muscle is the staple the Boot Hill gang has the skill and know-how to tackle any project...even a 1972 Dino Ferrari. Below, '66 GTO awaits resto.



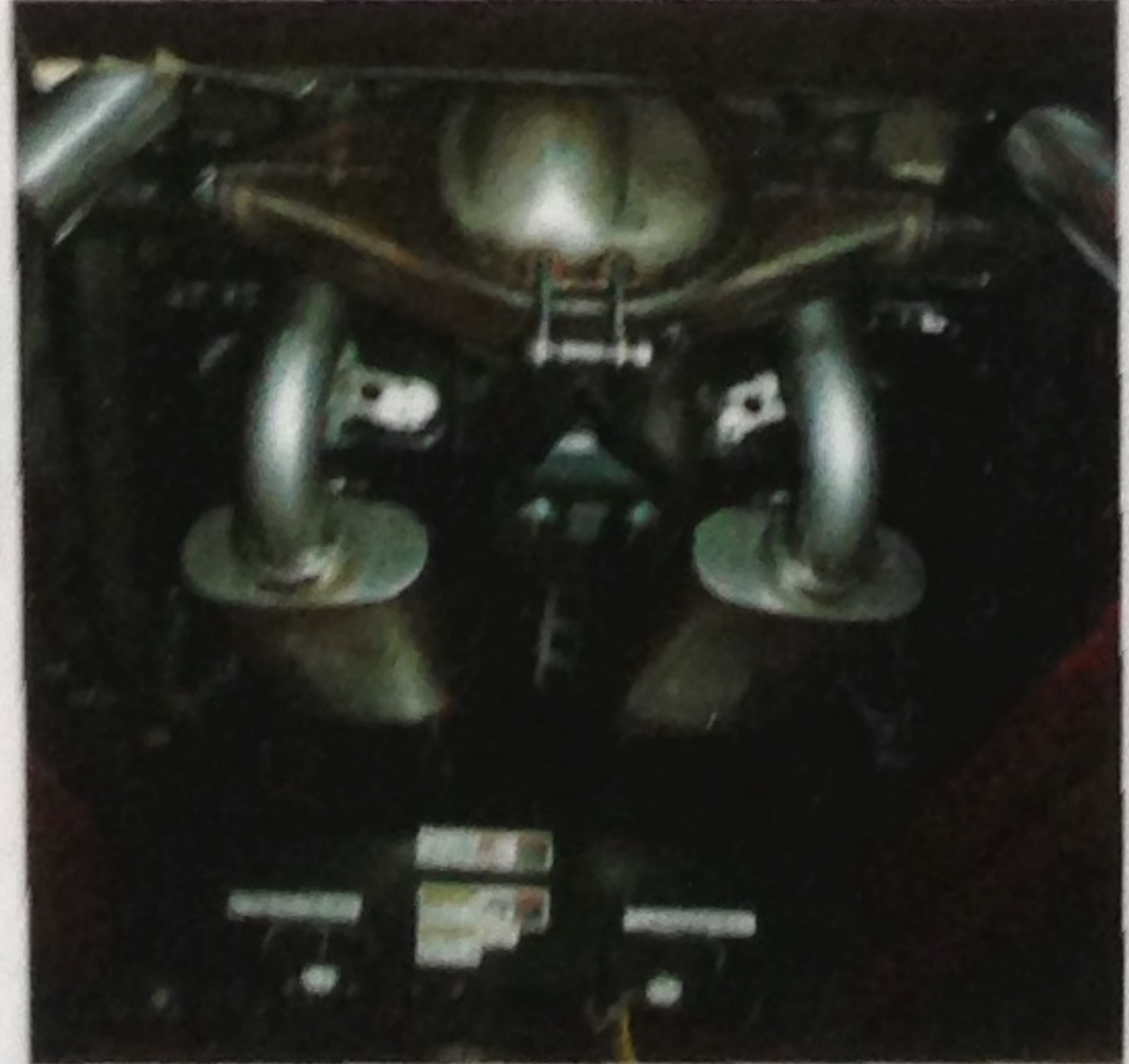
Schmidt's 1969 Chevelle big block is Canadian built.



This 1971 Challenger is another one of Schmidt's old projects and sports a 440 6-pack under the hood.



As a former professional athlete, Schmidt's shop attracts a lot of professional athletes. This '68 Camaro is being built for a current NHL star and features a 502 Ram Jet, SpeedTech suspension and 19" inch wheels front, 20" out back.



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