

Report by Geoff Archer
Market opinions in italics

Far beyond the realm of the clone, the replica, the tribute, and the fakey-doo lies the kit car. Some are better than others, of course, and while this month we bring you a few of the “some,” most are just plain “others.”

Condition inferred from seller’s descriptions; cars were not physically examined by the author. All quoted material take from the eBay listings. sf=seller’s feedback; bf=buyer’s feedback



#4628069770-1976 COVIN 911 TURBO replica coupe. S/N 10331. White/black. Odo: 11,700 miles. 9 photos. Akron, OH. Fiberglass replica on a “steel channel superstructure mated to a VW spine and suspension, including rear torsion bar.” Incorporates many authentic Porsche parts, including steel doors, engine cover, glass, and Fuchs alloys. “It is a Turbo, but not what you (or anyone else) would expect. The car is powered by a Ford 4-cylinder water



cooled Turbo engine, mounted longitudinally in the rear!” Needs TLC and a few trim pieces. 26 bids, sf 97, bf 3. Cond: 4+. **SOLD AT \$4,050.** *SCMer Myron Vernis closes this listing by suggesting that minimal work “will result in a car that will get all kinds of attention and will have die-hard Porsche purists truly in a tizzy!” This tempting objective almost drew me into the fray, but like Myron (who lost at least \$500 on his couple-week-long-ownership), I know there is no substitute.*

#1800258276-2000 PORSCHE CARRERA GT replica roadster. S/N WP0AA2998YS623042. Gray primer/black & gray leather. 14 photos. Los Angeles, CA. “THIS IS NOT A KIT CAR. THIS A REAL PORSCHE REBODY!!!” A wrecked ’00 996 coupe that was, ahem, redecorated to look like



a C-GT. “THE CAR IS FULLY DERIVABLE, WITH ALL THE OPTIONS WORKING.” Sold without a windshield in case you want to use a Boxster A-pillar and the included metal targa top. Non-specific text proposes it “NEEDS VERY LITTLE TO BE FINISHED.” 5 bids, sf 12, bf 9. Cond: 4+. **SOLD AT \$16,500.** *The following statement is a prime example of why I love to write this column: “PROBABLY VALUED CLOSER TO 80K AFTER IT FINISHED.. IF YOU ARE A PORSCHE ENTHUSIAST, THIS IS A PROJECT FOR YOU.” On the bright side, it did look to be fewer than 100 hours and about \$10k in paint and body from completion, which is probably a bargain if you’re into this sort of thing. You aren’t, are you?*

#1100422660-1965 AUTODYNAMICS HUSTLER. S/N 115402164. Red/black. 24 photos. Palm City, FL. Lotus Elan replica based on a VW Beetle. “The car is 95% complete with all the hard work done. It comes with a very detailed instruction manual.” To-Do list includes; “FUEL LINES, BRAKES, WINDSHIELD WIPER MOTOR, SEATS/SEAT BELTS,



LIGHTS/WIRING.” Seller misplaced the top. A five-footer, “paint has alligation on the hood and tops of front fenders.” (I think that is a Floridian term for crazing) 14 bids, sf 392, bf 12. Cond: 4. **SOLD AT \$1,900.** *Who thinks of basing an Elan replica on a Beetle? Based on that logic I’ll take a Rolls Phantom based on a ’66 Olds Toronado, please. The seller thought it would be fun to SCCA Pro Solo. Maybe so, and at this price it would be fun trying.*

#2000318561-1965 UNKNOWN KIT CAR sports racer. S/N 1965908POR. Orange & primer/gray. 24 photos. Pendleton, NY. “A



fiberglass kit car Can-Am Group 6 STYLE body.” Based on an aluminum drum brake 1961 Porsche 356 1600 Super (75-hp, engine # P*700258.) “Much 1/4 1/2 inch aluminum sheeting was used in the build.” Twin saddle tanks with flip-up caps. Seats missing. “The vehicle rolls, steers, fine...A very cool piece of our country’s automotive history” 22 bids, sf 213, bf 26. Cond: 4. **SOLD AT \$4,583.** *Seller says, “WE WANT TO HELP YOU MAKE THIS HAPPEN.” Considering the long block itself (with that all-important P* Porsche engine number) is worth about \$2,500 as a rusty lump, we don’t actually need any help to know that this was a good deal on a wacky special.*

#4629412497-1969 MANX-STYLE DUNE BUGGY. S/N 119564091. Yellow/yellow racing seats. 17 photos. Upstate, NY. Gorgeously prepared Manx-style dune buggy. Almost everything is new. Six-cylinder 110-hp Corvair engine. “ALTHOUGH IT HAS THE POWER TO PULL A WHEELIE AND I BUILT (bolt on) WHEELIE BARS FOR IT, I HAVE NEVER PULLED A WHEELIE WITH IT...” Diamond plate floors. Color-keyed details abound from the yellow cross-drilled rotors to



the yellow stenciled valve covers. “RUNS AND DRIVES GREAT, STARTS RIGHT UP AND DRIVES ANYWHERE, EXHAUST HAS A NICE RUMBLE, BUT NOT OBNOXIOUS.” 23 bids, sf 1264, bf private. Cond: 2+. **SOLD AT \$7,603.** *Ridiculous, insane, kick-yourself-repeatedly-and-then-some bargain. “Yourself” in this case can refer either to the seller; or any one of us who failed to buy this very well-finished toy for a fraction of its replacement cost.*

#4595906156-1970 WOMBAT CAR CO. HUMMBUG dune buggy. S/N 1102024600. Blue/black/black. Odo: 6,606 miles. 26 photos. Orange County, CA. Beetle-based HUMMER-looking dune buggy built in 1999. Fiberglass body never cracked or hit. Two-stage paint “is an 8 or 9 out of 10, very nice.” Pro-built 1,776-cc flat four w/dual Weber 40s. “Has a baja header system with dual exhaust that lets out a cool sounding growl when wide open, but quiet when not on the gas.” 29” BFG tires. 42 bids, sf 59, bf 75. Cond: 2. **SOLD AT \$9,100.** *The same wordplay that spawned “Hummbug” could have easily spelled “Bummer,” but surprisingly,*

Fresh Meat

Online sales of recent production cars.

2007 MERCEDES-BENZ E63 SEDAN



Date sold: 12/16/2006

eBay auction ID: 220057943532

Seller: Mercedes-Benz of Westminster, Westminster, CO, www.mercedes-benz-westminster.ebizautos.com

Sale Type: In stock.

Details: Black/black. Premium 2 package, Parktronic, Panorama roof, Voice Control.

Sale result: \$86,545, 1 bid, sf 12, bf 23

MSRP: \$94,545

Other current offering: Sears Imported Autos, Minnetonka, MN, www.searsimports.com, asking \$92,995 for similar car with fewer options.

2007 PORSCHE CAYMAN



Date sold: 12/22/2006

eBay auction ID: 160064151380

Seller: Prestige Porsche of Nanuet, Nanuet, NY www.driveprestige.com

Sale Type: Dealer demo with 3,030 miles and new car title.

Details: Speed Yellow/black. Tiptronic S, Bose, painted 19" Carrera S wheels, heated seats

Sale result: \$52,700, 3 bids, sf 130, bf 10.

MSRP: \$62,905

Other current offering: Morong Porsche, Falmouth, ME, www.morong-falmouth.porschedealer.com, asking \$53,025 for similar car with 5-speed and fewer options.

2007 LEXUS IS250



Date sold: 12/22/2006

eBay auction ID: 330063315614

Seller: Individual from Pittsburgh, PA, won car in office contest

Sale Type: 40 miles on new car

Details: Smokey Gray Metallic/black, wood trim, 18" wheels, HID lights, heated and cooled seats, preferred package.

Sale result: \$32,100, 13 bids, sf 0, bf 0.

MSRP: \$35,222

Other current offering: Bill Heard Cadillac, Columbus, GA, www.billheardcadillac.com, asking \$36,176 for silver one.♦



this concoction came out looking, well, factory. It's certainly better looking than most import Jeeps. The price seemed fair for this handsome, attention-grabbing dune buggy.

#1500291396-1973 959 SPEEDSTER kit car roadster. S/N 1132858925. Red/black. Odo: 8,000 miles. 6 photos. Centerville, MA. Fiberglass phantom 959 speedster kit car. Tellingly, at least to me, it "Had 5 owners and never registered until I got it with 234 miles on it." Ten year build on a '73 Beetle pan completed in '01. "Engine bored to unknown size." Was a 1600. "A road hugger at 4.5" off ground with



Good Year GT tires 4 port Monza exhaust." 20 bids, sf 0, bf 13. Cond: 3. **SOLD AT \$12,000.** *The seller claimed he "...had it up to 120." Do we think that is maybe the route number of a local highway? An elevation above sea level? A speed in kilometers per hour? All kidding aside, kudos for persistence, and yes, the "kit alone cost \$8k" means he probably just recouped about \$10 an hour for the job and should be glad he didn't lose money. Well sold.*

#2800559622-1977 BRADLEY GT coupe. S/N SW84317PA. White/baby blue. Odo: 3,661 miles. 24 photos. Huntingdon, PA. "If your looking for a Bradley GT1, Let me tell you I very rarely see one as close to done as this one." Built on a '67 VW pan. "When I had it running the motor leaked a little oil, I'd say a quart



every three tanks of gas. The last time she was running was 2003 when I took her out and the brakes went out." Needs everything except glass gullwing doors—which it has in spades. 11 bids, sf 9, bf 0. Cond: 4. **SOLD AT \$1,225.** *A fair deal all around, with a LOT of work and expense ahead. Absolutely no upside... not counting the blue-tinted view out of those glass gullwing doors.*

#2000570007-1985 UNKNOWN PORSCHE 356 Replica speedster. S/N S1448. Ruby Red/black. Odo: 3,476 miles. 18 photos. Myrtle Beach, SC. "This was a trade in on a new Pontiac GTO." (talk about culture shock) "Pans and axel beam look great! Amateur aftermarket stereo. Transaxle has small leak. Engine seems to run good. Body is nice. Top is not ripped up or damaged but is made of a cheap material. Missing sidecurtains. Do not bid on this car unless you are willing to tinker with it." 13 bids, sf 1, bf 21. Cond: 3-



SOLD AT \$8,598. *If I did not live 3,000 miles from the SCM home office, I would live in fear for quite a while after reviewing the ultimate car-guy taboo: A 356 speedster replica. I took that risk, not only because I do reside at a safe distance from Editor Martin and whatever ritual flaying he might be tempted to perform, but because this car was a deal by at least \$2k. As real Speedsters are accelerating further out of reach, expect to see more people cruising in a kit, and many of those will be more sordid than sorted.*

#1600310286-1983 ENVEMO 356C replica coupe. S/N R9886VA. Silver blue/blue leather. Odo: 78,325 km. 20 photos. Charlottesville, VA. One of about 200 fiberglass 356 C coupe replicas built in Brazil in 1983. Porsche-authorized with many interchangeable parts. Paint is faded and crazed. Both wind wing frames very rusty. RF brake drum seized. Interior soaking wet and rotten. 8 bids, sf 103, bf 272. Cond: 4+.



SOLD AT \$8,000. *Seller (who in this case was yours truly) found this cool rarity on craigslist for \$5,250. One tank of gas and at least one of my nine lives later I sold it on eBay to SCM's very own Jim Schrager, who probably would not have bought such a handsome piece of junk except for the fact that he had owned this very car in its 1980s heyday. Sale was a partial trade against a '69 911E, a fair deal for both of us (just ask Jim, who is hard at work scrubbing mildew from the door pockets).♦*