UVU’s 27th Annual Auto Expo and Swap Meet at Thanksgiving Point
By Kim Chiu

I hope all car show participants felt a sense of American pride as they drove through the flags as they entered into Electric Park. I know that many of our friends at the show have served in some area of service and we have wanted to honor them for some time. Thanks to Kelly Kirkpatrick and the American Legion Post 72 for their help and a touching flag ceremony.

To all of you who have served or are currently serving in our great military, THANK YOU so very much for your giving and preserving our freedoms!!!!

UVU automotive students spent several months refurbishing a van that had been donated by a UVU alum. At the show, the van was donated to a local veteran (Dennis Pegues). Don Wilson, a Collision Repair instructor who coordinated the project said, “It’s a good opportunity for these students in the program to learn to be engaged in community events, where they are actually giving back to the community. It gives them a sense of pride and ownership in UVU and also a sense of community and civility—basically learning how to be kind.”

Dennis said, “I just wanted to emphasize how grateful I am. This van will allow me the freedom to more fully participate in life.”

Making the donation to Dennis gave us all the warm fuzzies. Speaking of warmth, how did everyone like the beautiful sunny day? I will take credit for that.

With 700+ cars displayed and selected for 250 awards, it gave the public a great day of entertainment. The Swap Meet space sold out even earlier this year and was buzzing with customers looking for that elusive car part they have been searching for. Thanks to Ed “The Outlaw” Jones for his Stagecoach demonstration. Ed is a Malad, Idaho native who has been driving exhibition wheelstanding vehicles for nearly 40 years. As always, JC Hackett gave us great musical entertainment and kept us informed during the day.

Thanks to Bill Williams (Willy’s Garage) for bringing our surprise guest Charlie Hutton.

Also, thanks to our many sponsors, participants and Auto Expo Committee. It takes a lot of funding and work to pull off such a big event so everyone’s contribution is appreciated. REMEMBER the proceeds are used to fund scholarships for Automotive Students. This year we were able to fund three full scholarships.