THE BACK PAGE



63V21303 Is now owned by Chris Gurga. It was one of the five Prestolite Racing Team cars mentioned in Jet Thrust News #16 & #18. This Lark Daytona convertible was previously owned for several years by Diane and Pat Grey of Connecticut. It is equipped with an R2, 4-speed, has a white exterior, blue vinyl interior, standard suspension and 3.31 Twin Traction. 63V21303and was the only convertible among the five Prestolite racing team cars mentioned in JTN #16. The twin blue stripes are very evident on this first Prestolite team survivor to be found, which has been in Connecticut since 1964. Richard Yeats, Nelson Bove and Andy Petrass were instrumental in discovering and identifying the car. The Studebaker National Museum in South Bend has a familiar photo in their archives of these five cars parked in a semi-circle that a share the common paint scheme which all were white with twin medium blue stripes that run from the hood, and over the roof on the other four, ending just above the rear bumper. The 2002 museum calendar includes this photo. The five-car fleet includes an Avanti, a Daytona Skytop two door hardtop, a GT Hawk, a Wagonaire and this convertible. The latter three cars have been identified as Jet Thrust cars thanks to the work of Andy Beckman and Andy Petrass. The cars were all shipped to Daytona Beach, FL. What Prestolite did with these cars remains unknown. The name of Chuck Warren was on the build sheet of the Larks and Hawk. The JT cars were all R2 equipped. The GT is 63V20924, the wagon is 63V21077 and as stated, this convertible is 63V21303. Reportedly, besides this convertible, the Avanti was located at one time, leaving the other three so far unaccounted for. Photo provided by Chris Gurga.

