

by Robert Hinds, Sr.
1959 Tech Advisor
Birmingham, Alabama

Early in 2012 our phone rang and a gentleman asked us to bring our 1959 Sport Fury to the July Keeneland Concours d'Elegance in Lexington, Kentucky. Not having heard of this concours, my first reaction was to decline, because the Plymouth has always been driven wherever it goes and Lexington is 440 miles away.

This Sport Fury was purchased in 1990, and its restoration as a driver was completed in 1994. It looked so good that a friend who is an AACA judge thought it would do well at an AACA National Meet. In 1995 it won a First Junior award (National First Place) and a Senior award. My wife Jane encouraged participation in the Keeneland Concours, as it is an honor just to be invited, so we gave a tentative yes.

Even though the '59 has been driven about 25,000 miles since winning the AACA awards, it still shows well. Once a car is restored, it starts "unrestoring" itself, but storing our collector car out of the sun, in a climate-controlled garage under a car cover has slowed down its deterioration. Living in the South where no salt is used, we drive the car to local events year round.

Now to find someone who could trailer the car to Lexington. When this invitation was mentioned to a friend in the Mercedes Benz Club of America, he immediately volunteered to come with us and provide the enclosed trailer and tow vehicle.

The Keeneland application was submitted and approved; the car was to be displayed in the Collector American 1950-1975 Class # 6. Two weeks of detailing resulted in everything from the paint to the underside of the Sport Fury looking great.

The drive to Lexington was an experience, as we had never ridden in a truck pulling a car trailer. Although long, the trip was without incident and the car arrived unscathed.

On show day – July 21, 2012 – the weather was sunny and hot. There were seven other cars in the class: a 1954 Mercury, 1956 Imperial, 1957 Ford, 1960 Buick, and three Chevrolets: 1952, 1957 and 1958. The Sport Fury got a lot of attention and looked good, but newer restorations won the first and second place awards. We had not expected to win anything but were disappointed to see two black Chevrolet



convertibles win.

We arrived home safely the following day. We don't want to trailer again, as it was a hassle; driving is more fun.

PB



The photo was taken on the Keeneland Concours d'Elegance show field. *A license plate* and a green ribbon were given to each participant. *The above plaque* I made from left over 1959 Sport Fury parts.

ROBERT'S FURY WAS FEATURED AS THE COVER CAR ON BULLETIN 297.