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Lane Motor Museum Search For Zündapp Janus Now Complete

Nashville, TN, August 1, 2006. A vehicle on the “wish list” of director Jeff Lane has been found – a very unique 1956 Zündapp Janus 250. The 1956 Zündapp Janus has two doors and seats four people, but in a very different way.

Zündapp is one of the best-known makes of German motorcycles. Although the company’s first car was designed in 1931, Zündapp concentrated on motorcycles until 1956 when production began on this unusual microcar, designed by aircraft-builder Claudius Dornier.

The 1956 Zündapp Janus engine is mounted between two rows of seats which can be folded down to provide sleeping space for two people. This design simplified building as it called for fewer pressings. One seat faces toward the front, the other toward the back. Entry into the vehicle is through a door in the front or the door in the rear. This odd design was not well received. Production lasted for two years with fewer than 7,000 built.

The name “Janus” was appropriately chosen after the Roman god who faced in two directions. Options for the Zündapp Janus include a sun visor for both directions, sunroof, heater, and two-tone paint.

The 1956 Zündapp Janus joins other “unique” microcars including a 1965 Peel P50, 1965 Peel Trident, 1957 BMW Isetta, 1964 Scootacar, and a 1957 Messerschmitt.

About Lane Motor Museum

Lane Motor Museum showcases approximately 150 unique cars and motorcycles from around the world. Cars on display represent countries from Asia, Europe, North and South America, and date from 1922 to 2003. Highlights of the Museum include the largest Czechoslovakian vehicle collection outside Europe, microcars, amphibious vehicles, alternative fuel vehicles, competition cars, and prototypes. The Museum also offers a display of automotive art, a play area for children, and a gift shop.

Lane Motor Museum welcomes guests Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday; Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day & New Year’s Day. Regular admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors (55+), and free for children 17 and under. Group rates are available. Lane Motor Museum is located at 702 Murfreesboro Pike just minutes from downtown Nashville. For more information on the Museum, call (615) 742-7445 or visit the website at www.lanemotormuseum.org

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