



Finding Aid for

**BLAIR NELSON COLLECTION ON “LUCKY” LEE LOTT, 1958-1990**

**Accession 2009.32**

Finding Aid Published: May 2014



Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford  
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## OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center  
The Henry Ford  
20900 Oakwood Blvd  
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029  
[www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)  
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 2009.32

CREATOR: Nelson, Blair

TITLE: Blair Nelson collection on "Lucky" Lee Lott

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1958-1990

QUANTITY: 0.4 cubic ft. and 1 oversize box

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English

ABSTRACT: Photographs, printed material and video tapes covering the career of "Lucky" Lee Lott, auto thrill show driver and team owner.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open for research
- TECHNICAL RESTRICTIONS:** Access to original video recordings is restricted and may require production of digital copies for reading room use. Researchers interested in this material should contact Research Center staff in advance at [research.center@thehenryford.org](mailto:research.center@thehenryford.org).
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to the Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Donated, 2009
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 2009.32 Blair Nelson collection on "Lucky" Lee Lott, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Peter Kalinski, May, 2013
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Benson Ford Research Center Staff, May 2010, and published in December 2013.
- Finding aid written by Peter Kalinski, May 2013, and published in May 2014.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Born in 1915, Lee Willard Lott became enamored with public performances. By 1927, Lott traveled across the United States as a circus acrobat and stunt performer. In 1933-1934 Lott performed at the Chicago World's Fair as a daredevil stunt diver. In 1935 Lott and a group of friends put together their first daredevil auto stunt shows in a farmer's field. Between 1935 and 1955, "Lucky" Lee Lott's Hell Drivers jumped, flipped and otherwise destroyed hundreds of cars, trucks and motorcycles across the country at county and state fairs, race tracks and any place the Hell Drivers could get an audience. Lee Lott retired from stunt driving in 1955 and became a manager of various troupes of stunt drivers performing as the Hell Drivers. "Lucky" Lee Lott passed away in 2000.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Blair Nelson collection on "Lucky" Lee Lott consists of memorabilia and promotional material highlighting automobile thrill show performances. The collection also includes video tapes of various thrill show exhibitions and interviews in the 1970s and 1980s.

## **SUBJECT TERMS**

### Names, Personal and Corporate

Lott, Lee Willard 1915- 2000

Nelson, Blair

### Subjects

Automobiles--Exhibitions

Daredevils

Stunt driving

### Genre and Form

Photographs

Videotapes

## CONTAINER LIST

**Box no.**                      **Description**

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### VIDEO TAPES (VHS)

#### Box 1

"Lucky" Lee Lott Nash and factory, October 11, 1992  
Charlie Belknap's Hollywood Stunt Show, circa 2003  
Hollywood Stunt Show, Toyota clips, circa 2000  
Interview with "Lucky" Lee Lott, December 6, 1996  
Miscellaneous thrill show clips including: Chandler, IN; Indianapolis Raceway Park;  
    Xenia, OH; Oak Shade, OH; South Bend, IN; Bunker Hill, IN, circa, 1965  
Miscellaneous thrill show clips including: Zephyr Hills, FL; Blue Grass, IA, undated  
*World's Greatest Stunts* (TV broadcast) January 21, 1996, 1996 (2 tapes)  
Zephyr Hills (FL) show, February 6-8, undated (2 tapes)

### PHOTOGRAPHS AND EPHEMERA

#### Box 2 (oversize)

The Legend of the Lucky Lee Lott Hell Drivers (Lee Lott biography)  
Correspondence, 2000  
Photographs, undated  
Show advertisements (photocopies), circa 1935-1955  
Schedules, business cards and tickets, undated  
Color copies of Lucky Lee Lott interview and Hell Driver show, 1990  
Hell Drivers promotional posters, 1958