

# Two Bad Bee's.....OWNER : WARREN HURT

Attending car shows is a fun way to spend an afternoon. While perusing the autos on display at "History Road: the Ultimate Car Show" held annually in June at the Reynolds Alberta Museum in Wetaskiwin, I spotted a 1973 Plymouth 'cuda, 340 ci, 4 speed. Talking with the owner, I discovered he was tossing around the idea of selling it. Bringing back memories of my first car, a 1970 Duster 340, I expressed an interest in buying the 'cuda. While ultimately I didn't end up buying that car, I was bitten by the need for speed.

Kijiji: The Achilles Heel of a Car Enthusiast  
On-line car shopping is just too darn easy! What caught my interest that summer of 2016 was a 2007



She was the original purchaser who found the new car in Winnipeg at a Chrysler/Dodge dealer. Sure enough, it was in near perfect condition and showed just 38,000 km.

Acquiring a second Charger solved my dilemma of leaving the first wrapped in its blanket tucked away in my Alberta garage over winter while I escaped to the dry, pothole free roads of southern California.



Yes, a twin Charger in California would keep my happy face on year-round. It was meant to be. A quick comparison of the Vehicle Identification Numbers revealed interesting trivia. This second vehicle's VIN ended in 798. The VIN on my July 2016 purchase ended in 786, just 12 digits apart. What are the odds of not just finding a twin vehicle



Charger SRT8 Super Bee with just 12,000 km. Still in showroom condition, it's Detonator Yellow paint gleaming, I knew it would soon be parked in my garage.

Surfing Kijiji in June 2017, I stumbled across an identical Super Bee owned by someone in Edson.







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but identical siblings probably born on the assembly line the same day? Good karma perhaps.



However, I was baffled by the limited edition dash plaque numbering on these twins. VIN 798 wears badging 022 of 1000 produced. Yet VIN 786, the lower of the two, displays badging 660/1000. Not



only are the badge numbers 638 digits apart, the lower numbered VIN car sports the numerically higher badging. Some web surfing came up with a feasible explanation.

These SRT8's rolled off the Dodge assembly plant in



Brampton, ON missing the black decaling and dash plaques. They were then shipped to Windsor for application of the missing finishing touches. Order was not maintained resulting in the dash plaque numbering not following the VIN sequence. Who knew? No matter. These Super Bees are as happy as "bees in a bonnet" and so is their owner!

Warren Hurt

