



Emerald City Hot Rods was founded in 2020 by Sean Leger, whose path into custom car building began years earlier while apprenticing under Mark Cain of Cain Custom. For two years Sean learned the fundamentals of fabrication, craftsmanship, and traditional hot rod building from Mark until Mark's passing from ALS. Before he passed, Mark encouraged Sean to keep pushing forward and continue pursuing the craft. Sean later moved to Burbank, California, where he worked with Troy Ladd at Hollywood Hot Rods, gaining valuable experience in traditional Coach building techniques and high-end custom fabrication. During his career Sean has also appeared in multiple seasons of the television series *The Ride That Got Away*, hosted by Courtney Hansen. After five years of developing his skills, Sean returned to Bremerton and started Emerald City Hot Rods in Kyler Cain's garage before quickly outgrowing the space and moving the shop into a 3,500-square-foot building on Wheaton Way.

As the shop began to grow, Sean connected with a group of talented craftsmen who helped shape Emerald City Hot Rods into what it is today. Tom Gesicki serves as the shop's interior guru, bringing a lifetime of craftsmanship and artistic ability to upholstery and interior design. Keith Markovich brings deep knowledge of electrical systems and is known for building and installing custom wiring harnesses and replacement systems while contributing strong mechanical skills throughout many projects. John McKay, another experienced craftsman, played an important role in helping grow the shop's metal fabrication capabilities. Mike Shoudy spent his career as a master home builder and brings that same precision and attention to detail into the shop, particularly in metal fabrication, while always being willing to lend a helping hand wherever it's needed. Jack Sipla, who has since passed away, was also an important part of the shop's early growth and was always ready to step in and help wherever he could. The team has recently welcomed newcomer Jett Sweeney, who is learning the trade and gaining hands-on experience while helping around the shop.



Together the team at Emerald City Hot Rods is dedicated to pushing the boundaries of automotive craftsmanship—blending traditional coach building techniques with new artistic ideas and thoughtful engineering. Every build is approached with the goal of creating something unique, combining timeless design, functional drivability, and a strong attention to detail. At Emerald City Hot Rods, each project is treated as its own piece of hand-crafted automotive art, built not only to stand out but to be driven and enjoyed.



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