

RICHARD RAWLINGS HITTING THE ROAD... TO SPRAYFOAM 2016!

"I think Richard Rawlings is going to be a fantastic keynote for SPFA," said Kurt Riesenbergh, Executive Director. "He has such an interesting story, he's had to battle all the same battles as any small business, and he's overcome those challenges by turning them into opportunities. Plus, just like with SPF, he has a strong emphasis on the quality of his work, the training and experience of his team, and their relationship to his business, reputation, and future."



As star of the wildly popular *Fast N' Loud* on the Discovery Channel, motor mastermind Richard Rawlings searches the far flung corners of Texas and surrounding states for forgotten and derelict classic cars to buy and restore at his famous Gas Monkey Garage in Dallas, Texas. A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Richard followed in his dad's footsteps and developed a passion for cars from an early age, building cars and attending car shows with him. Richard bought his first car when he was 14 years old: a green '74 Mercury Comet. Richard says he has always worked just so he could have cars. He even took a bullet in the early '90s as he fought off a carjacker who was trying to steal his '65 Mustang 2+2 Fastback.

Richard has held several jobs to feed his car habit. He was a firefighter, police officer and paramedic all before he was 21 years old. He eventually left those jobs to start his own business, building a printing and advertising company from the ground up. He later sold it so he could fund his next venture: Gas Monkey Garage — a world-renowned hot rod shop that has produced and shipped cars for people around the world.

A veteran of transcontinental road rallies, Richard has won the Gumball 3000 and the Bullrun — twice. He is the current world record holder in the Cannonball Run and was even recognized by Jay Leno for this achievement, having broken the record that stood since 1979. He covered the 2,811 miles from New York to Los Angeles in 31 hours and 59 minutes with an average speed of 87.6 miles per hour.

Richard says: "Bottom line, if we're gonna have fun, it better have a motor!" ○

