



THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

Belltown Antique Car Club - P.O. Box 211, East Hampton, CT 06424

August, 2021

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at Haddam Neck Fairgrounds

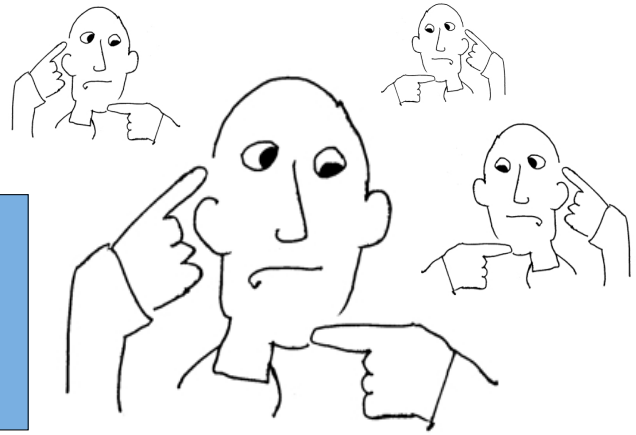
Please bring a mask if you have not been vaccinated for COVID-19.
Stay home if you show any signs of illness or have underlying health conditions.

- On the Agenda:
- Final preparations for our Vintage Motorcar Meet set-up on Saturday and show on Sunday
 - Coordination with HNFED EMTs, Boy Scouts, Explorers?
 - Contingencies for high show car and spectator counts?
 - Confirm volunteers for gate, registration, parking, etc.
 - Run through class judging team leaders and team assignments
 - Judging refresher by Jon Grant
 - No auction at this meeting

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.



- Clipped and submitted by *Polly Beckwith* [Wise words to heed in preparation for our 54th Vintage Motorcar Meet! - *Ed.*]

CLUB NOTES

BACC's seventh business meeting of the year was held on July 10, 2021 at *Karl Helming's* home garage. *Cliff Baker* was unable to attend although he arranged for *Scott Macgregor* to give his treasurer's report. Much of the meeting was spent discussing preparations for our upcoming Vintage Motorcar Meet.

Alan Carlson reconfirmed that the East Hampton Masonic Lodge will run the food concession as they have in recent years, *Maya Cigal* will be there with her Good Humor truck and the Newtown Lions Club will bring their raffle car. *Alan* said that he has not heard back from the Boy Scouts regarding assistance with spectator parking, but he has been in touch with the local Police Explorers to see if they could help out. The services of either group will be rewarded with a donation.

CLUB NOTES, continued from p. 1

The following members have volunteered to take responsibility for various aspects of the upcoming meet. To offer your support in any of these areas contact the lead member directly.

Set Up on Saturday - Karl Helming. *Karl, Ralph Phil, Tim Cone and Jon Grant* will retrieve material from the storage trailer at 8 a.m. Additional volunteers are needed at the field, from 9 a.m. onward to mark off the show field, post signs, etc.

Entry gate - Elaine Grant (*Jim Way* will cover the gate before 8 a.m. to let in show staff, flea vendors and any early arrivals). Elaine has a core support staff but welcomes others to volunteer.

Show car registration - Dan David, supported by *Cliff Baker, Charlie Murphy & Mark Aldieri* (TBD). Two more volunteers wanted, one possibly doing double-duty assisting with truck class parking behind the registration booth. Registration closes at 11:45.

Show car parking - Mark Hoydilla. Several volunteers needed to staff this activity up until noon.

Flea market - Peter Christianson will assist with getting it organized prior to show opening.

Show announcer - Steve Rossi. *Richard Beckwith* will procure the Staehly Farms "locomotive" as the announcer's stand and *Peter Christianson* will set up the public address system.

Judging - Jon Grant will again serve as Chief Judge. Jon successfully solicited volunteers to lead several of the class judging teams at this meeting. Judging team assignments will be finalized at the next meeting on the Wednesday prior to the meet. Judges may come from other car clubs as well. Judging begins promptly at noon.

Staff Hydration - Polly Beckwith will provide coolers with water and soda for the volunteers, to be available at the entrance to the blue building, behind the announcer's stand.

Clean Up - We need meet volunteers to stay beyond the 3 p.m. closing time to help with tear-down, trash patrol, etc. Karl Helming will lead collection of show material to return to storage.

Richard Beckwith suggested that consideration be given to Bill Reardon's daughter as appreciation for allowing BACC to keep our storage trailer on what is now her property. This will be taken up at a future meeting.

Our guest speaker at the July meeting was member Bill Nitschke. Bill told us that his grandfather, Billy Giblin, had a big influence on his boyhood interest in cars. Giblin had worked for Lozier as a young man and was involved in their brief but successful racing activities in 1910-11. He was a race car driver/mechanic in numerous early events including the Vanderbilt Cup on Long Island. He also was a chauffeur for various wealthy Lozier customers, one of whom used Giblin's services while his official duties took him to The Hague in The Netherlands prior to WWI. Upon his return, Giblin opened a Lozier service center in Brooklyn. Bill wrote a story about his grandfather's automotive adventures that was published in the July-August, 1989 issue of *Antique Automobile* (original issues were passed around at the meeting).

In his golden years his grandfather lived with Bill's family. When Bill was 9 and 10 he took Bill to Henry Austin Clark's antique car museum on Long Island where they saw the unrestored Thomas Flyer that had won the 1908 New York-to-Paris race. At the age of 14, Bill attended his first car shows and remembers that he took pictures mostly of Model A Fords. He postulated that perhaps his current interest in the Model A first arose from that time. After a fling with British sports cars, Bill bought his first Model A in 1982 for \$300 while he was living in Georgia. Others followed. In retirement Bill continues to enjoy his latest and probably last Model A, a 1930 Deluxe Roadster. His acquisition efforts are now focused on collecting old license plates and service tools particular to that era of Ford car. Bill enjoys what he calls the friendly "Hershey Hi Jinx" of the flea market experience. While his wife is beyond understanding, she is not interested. In a final anecdote, Bill told the story of the first Belltown meet he attended, before he became a member. His Model A won a trophy but it would not start when the announcement was made. *Jon Grant* and *Karl Helming* pushed Bill's car in reverse to the awards presentation. Bill quipped, "That's how I backed into membership in the Club."

MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Scott Macgregor	August 3rd (80)	Jim Olson	August 15th
	Gerry Rossi	August 3rd	Ilona Parhansky	August 19th
	Joe Jennings	August 7th	Joe Frey	August 22nd
	Tim Cone	August 9th	Rickey Edman	August 26th
	Jim Way	August 7th (84)	Gary Bogan	August 29th
	Jean Johnson	August 8th	Cliff Baker	August 30th
	Barbara Hoban	August 10th	Ron Miller	August 30th
	Dudley Diebold	August 12th (81)	Phil Guertin	August 31st

<u>Happy Anniversary to:</u>	Alan & Kathy Miller	August 10th
	Phil & Linda LaRose	August 17th (25)
	Chris & Jennifer Beckwith	August 23rd
	Ray & Betty Lichota	August 23rd
	Richard & Patty Skinner	August 26th
	Don & Chevi Super	August 31st

New Members: Please welcome *Paul & Margaret Seely* of Old Saybrook to BACC. They have a 1969 Ford Fairlane Cobra SportsRoof. Paul plans to work in the Masonic Lodge food concession at our Vintage Motor car Meet so stop by and say, "Hello." Please also welcome *Don & Chevi Super* of Old Lyme. They own a 1922 Ford Model T roadster. **Breaking News:** At the Chestelm cookout we recruited another new member, Paul Rich of Newport, N.C., who spends summers in the Conn. River Valley. He and his wife Angela own a 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air and a 1963 Corvette. With these new additions the Club roster now totals 93 primary members.

In Memoriam: Former member *Leonard Nicholas*, 73, passed away on June 27. Prior to his escalating battle with M.S. Len enjoyed his 1931 Ford Model A and was an avid motorcyclist, riding his BMW far and wide. He had been a long-term care resident at Chestelm in Moodus since 2016.

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

Send your sell/wanted ads for cars, parts and hobby-related services to dan12david@yahoo.com

For Sale – *1931 Ford Model A Tudor*, dark green body/black fenders, new Firestone tires. Asking \$11,500.

Call Jon Grant, 860-510-9550 (cell), or email him at standfast7@sbcglobal.net. [BACC member]



REMINDING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

If you don't have a blue Belltown logo shirt, wear a bright blue T-shirt or polo-shirt for easier identification. **Wear a hat for sun protection!** \ \ Your feet will thank you for wearing comfortable shoes, suitable for walking on the somewhat uneven grassy surface covering most of the field. \ \ **Different activities have their busy times during the meet and some do not last for the duration - if you are no longer needed, take a short break and find another activity that could use your help.** \ \ You don't need to know everything about every car to succeed as a class judge - team leaders are experienced judges who will guide you through the process. \ \ **The coolers with refreshments for volunteer staff are at the entrance to the blue building, where the chief judge will tally judging forms when they are turned in by 2 p.m.** \ \ Stay on the alert for moving vehicles, emergency situations, and any potential problems ... be safe and enjoy the day!

BACC Car Show for Chestelm Health & Rehab Center Residents on July 15th

Thanks to Charley Hnilicka for coordinating and to Chestelm for hosting a cookout for us. 32 BACC members (incl. a "game day" recruit) and 18 of their antique cars participated. 4 non-member cars also attended.



[Photo Credits: Dan David]

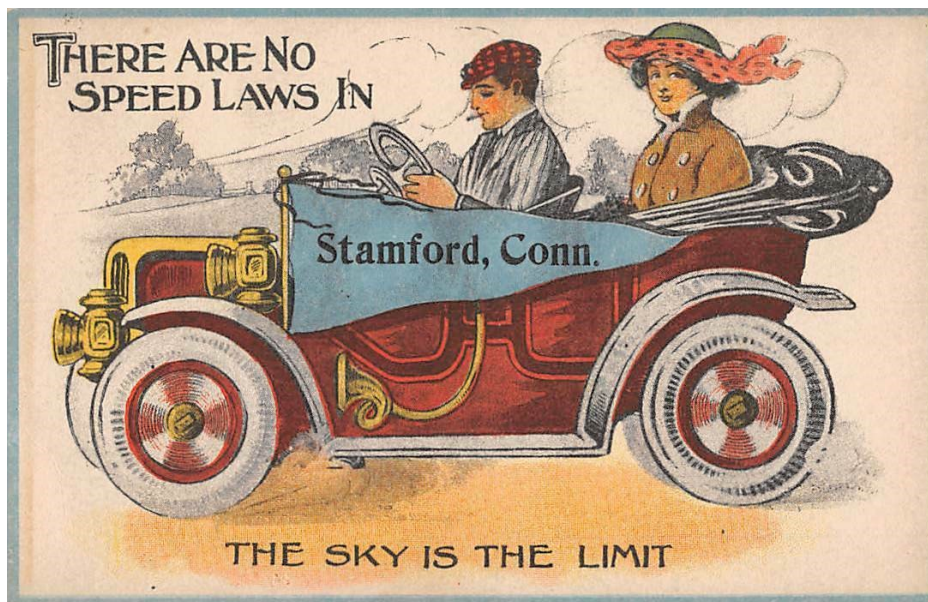


Clockwise from above: Early arriver Charley Hnilicka's '57 Nomad, Bruce Dutch's lovely '52 Lincoln Capri, Paul & Margaret Seely's '69 Fairlane Cobra SportsRoof, Don & Chevi Super's '22 Model T roadster, and Phil & June Guertin's just-revived '30 Model A Briggs sedan. Center: Steven Rossi's newly-acquired LTD Hershey Hauler.



CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi



UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

Wednesday, July 28 - **BACC special monthly meeting at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds off Rte. 151, at 6:30 p.m.;** car show and judging assignments will be made. Members are strongly encouraged to attend in order to ensure we are prepared and sufficiently staffed to put on a good show the following Sunday.

Saturday, July 31 - **Field set-up morning at Haddam Neck Fairgrounds for Sunday's Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet.** Volunteers: arrive at fairgrounds by 9 a.m.; material retrieval team will start earlier in preparation for set-up.

Sunday, August 1 - **54th Annual Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet**, Haddam Neck Fairgrounds, Haddam Neck, Conn., 8:00 a.m. - 3 p.m., cut-off year 1981. Info: www.belltownantiquecarclub.org.

Friday-Sunday, August 20-22 - First ever Fly-In at Goodspeed Airport, East Haddam, Conn., hosted by Young Pilots USA. Schedule & ticket info: <https://www.youngpilots.org/42bflvin>.

Friday-Sunday, August 20-29 - New York Int'l Auto Show, Javits Center, N.Y.C. Info: www.autoshowny.com.

Saturday, August 21 - Air Cooled at the Orchard, a show devoted to air-cooled Corvairs, VWs & other cars powered by air-cooled engines, Lyman Orchards, 32 Reeds Gap Rd., Middlefield, Conn., 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Free to spectators. Rain date, Sunday, August 22. Info: https://www.corvair.org/index.php?option=com_civcrm&task=civcrm/event/info&Itemid=445&reset=1&id=383.

Sunday, August 22 - Roaring Twenties Car Club's 50th Anniversary Car Show & Swap Meet, Southington Drive-In, Rte. 322, Plantsville, Conn., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., cut-off year 1985. Details at: <https://www.roaring20s.club>.

Sunday, August 29 - 33rd annual "British by the Sea" presented by CT MG Club, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Harkness Memorial Park, Waterford, Conn. Info at: <http://www.ctmgclub.com/BBtS.html>.

Friday-Monday, Sept. 3-6 - Lime Rock Park Historic Festival 39, including "Sunday in the Park" Concours, Lime Rock Park racetrack, Lakeville, Conn. Info at: <https://limerock.com/labor-day-historics>.

Saturday, September 11 - **BACC monthly business meeting at the home garage of Karl Helming**, 220 Jobs Pond Rd. in Portland, at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 12 - Yankee Yesteryear 61st Annual Auto Show & Swap Meet at Brooklyn Fairgrounds, Brooklyn, Conn. Judged show; opens 9 a.m., no cut-off. Show cars \$10, spectators \$5 (under 12, free).

Sunday, September 12 - Deep River Fire Dept. Automotive Extravaganza, Devitt Field, Deep River, Conn. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Show cars \$10, spectators free. Class awards based on People's Choice voting. Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 19.

~~Saturday, September 18 - 2nd Orphan Cars, Classic Cars & Trucks Show sp. by the Deep River Historical Society and D.R. Merchants Assoc., on the grounds of The Old Stone House, 245 Main St., Deep River, Conn. *CANCELED*~~

Wednesday-Saturday, October 6-9 - AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Hershey, Penn. Info: <https://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-division-fall-meet/>.

Saturday-Sunday, October 23-24 - Greenwich Concours d'Elegance, Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, Greenwich, Conn. Bonham's Auction is Saturday, 25th Anniversary Concours d'Elegance is Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details go to: www.greenwichconcours.com.

Local area cruise nights happening in 2021:

Mondays - Fish Family Farm, weekly in Bolton, 20 Dimock Ln off Rte. 85 near I-384, 5 to 8 p.m. on, <https://www.facebook.com/fishfamilyfarmcreamery/>.

Tuesdays - Misfits Car Cruise, weekly in Tylerville on Rte. 82, 5 to 8 p.m., <https://www.facebook.com/MisfitCruiseNights/>.
- Yesteryear of Oakdale Car Club, first Tues. of month at Nature's Art/Dinosaur Place in Chesterfield on Rte. 85, 5 p.m. to dark, pre-1978 only. Thursday is rain date. Check: <https://es-es.facebook.com/groups/102589163413912/>.

Wednesdays - Goodtimes Motoring Club; monthly, July 21, Aug. 11 & Sept. 15, on Colchester Green, for details and year cut-off please go to <https://www.goodtimesmotoringclub.com/blank-1>.

Thursdays - Carter Hill Farm, weekly in Marlborough at 86 E. Hampton Rd. (Rte. 66), from 5 p.m.

For more old car event listings check out the Conn. Council of Car Clubs @ <https://ctccc.net/events-calendar.html>, the Conn. Seaport Car Club based in Fairfield area @ <https://www.ctseaportcarclub.com/carshows.htm>, and Shoreline Antique Auto Connection based in Branford area @ <http://www.shorelineantiqueautoconnection.com/calendar.htm>.

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

1981 Models Eligible For Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet For The First Time - Among newest crop of 40 year old cars eligible for judging this year are the best selling 1981 Oldsmobile Cutlass, Motor Trend’s 1981 Cars of the Year, the Dodge Aries and Plymouth Reliant “K-Cars,” and the last of GM’s 2nd generation Camaros and Firebirds.



1981 Oldsmobile Cutlass



1981 “K-Cars”



1981 Camaro Z/28

Kaiser-Frazer Corporation formed on July 23, 1945 - Once dubbed “the last serious independent challenger to Detroit’s Big Three automakers” by the editors of *Consumer Guide*, the company went on to produce two lines of cars, the Kaiser and the better-equipped Frazer. Both launched the following year as early 1947 models, based on a spacious, shared body shell and modern styling by Howard “Dutch” Darrin. They were powered by 226 cid, L-head six-cylinder engines designed by Continental. The final year for the Frazer was 1951, the same year that an all-new, sleeker-looking Kaiser debuted along with the company’s first compact, the Henry J. The fiberglass-bodied 1954 Kaiser-Darrin sports car just beat Corvette to production but was dropped by year end.

In 1953 Kaiser-Frazer purchased Willys-Overland. The combined total assets of the company were still just over one-fifth those of Chrysler Corporation, the smallest of the Big Three. 1955 was the final year for the Kaiser and Willys nameplates in North America. However, the company relocated production of the two brands to Argentina and Brazil respectively, where sales continued into the 1960’s. Here in the U.S., Kaiser focused on making utility vehicles under the Jeep brand inherited from Willys-Overland. American Motors took over Jeep in the middle of the 1970 model year, at which time Kaiser was finished as an automobile manufacturer.



1947 Frazer



1951 Kaiser Deluxe

Notable Kaiser innovations:

- A secondary retail channel: Kaiser’s *Henry J* was also distributed by Sears, Roebuck & Co., rebranded as the *Sears Allstate*.
- The company introduced a four-door hatchback body style in 1951 and called it the Frazer *Vagabond*. It used a two-piece tailgate similar to station wagons of the day. The concept was then transferred to the Kaiser line and called the *Traveler*.
- The Kaiser Darrin sports car featured hingeless front doors that slid forward on tracks into the front fenders.

**Gearhead
at Large**

A Backroad Tour of Automotive
History and the Old Car Hobby

STEVEN ROSSI
with WEST PETERSON

The wait is over: BACC member *Steven Rossi*’s new book, a compilation of his best-loved columns that have appeared in the ACA’s bimonthly magazine, *Antique Automobile*, has just been published in paperback by McFarland. You can now order it from Amazon at \$29.95 per copy (expect delivery by early August).

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

Challenge your automotive history IQ

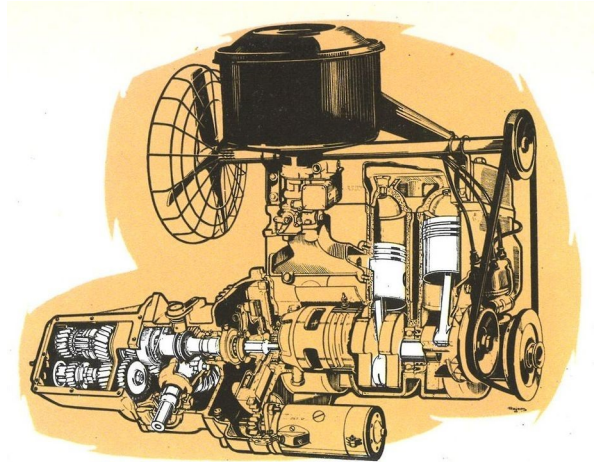
What groundbreaking automotive achievement is engineer Joseph Ledwinka best known for?

- A. Perfecting the monoblock design for Henry Ford's flathead V-8 that debuted in 1932
- B. The streamlined, rear-engine Tatra 77 introduced in 1934 in Prague
- C. A patent for variable-speed intermittent windshield wiper systems
- D. The continuously variable transmission pioneered by DAF of Holland
- E. Steel monoside bodies for enclosed cars, first introduced on the 1928 Dodge Victory Six sedan

The correct answer to last month's Who, What, Where, or When, "The 'overhead fanshaft' is a cooling system feature on which one of these vehicles?"

e). Pre-1965 three-cylinder, two-stroke Saabs

Early Saab 95s and 96s with so-called "bullnose" front ends had the radiator mounted between the engine and firewall. The engine faced forward in the chassis, with the crankshaft pulley in front. A cooling fan was positioned in front of the radiator, driven by an exposed shaft running above the cylinder head that, in turn, was driven by a belt off of the crankshaft pulley. Later Saabs with both two-stroke and four-stroke engines had a slightly elongated front end with the radiator moved to behind the grille, doing away with the unconventional shaft-driven fan.



NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the September, 2021 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Thursday, August 26. Monday the 30th is the publication date. E-delivery will take place no later than September 2.

Your content suggestions, comments, classified ads and other contributions are most welcome. Send them to the editor at dan12david@yahoo.com (or call 860-575-6194).

BELLTOWN ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

President - Alan Carlson
 Vice President - Mark Hoydilla
 Secretary - Peter Christianson
 Treasurer - Cliff Baker

Elected Directors* - Ray Lichota (yr. 1 of 2) & Dan David (yr. 2 of 2)
 Sunshine Chairperson - Polly Beckwith (860-345-4256)
 Newsletter Editor - Dan David (dan12david@yahoo.com, 860-575-6194)
 *) The BACC Board of Directors is comprised of the four current officers plus the previous president (Jon Grant) and two elected from the membership at large

Club web site - www.belltownantiquecarclub.org [webmaster: Ralph Phil, mail@rjphil.com]

E-mail address - belltowncarclub@gmail.com

Club Mailing address - BACC, P.O. Box 211, East Hampton, CT 06424

Facebook - www.facebook.com/BACC-Belltown-Antique-Car-Club-116729245345421/ [FB mgr.: Betty Lichota]

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By The Way...

While walking the Yesteryear of Oakdale Club's June 1st cruise night at Nature's Art in Chesterfield, we spotted *David Degregorio's* 1955 Thunderbird [right] with a stack of Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet flyers on the dashboard, available for the taking. Thank you, David, for helping to spread the word!

[Photo credits: Dan David]



We would be remiss if we did not also mention that *John and Barbara Hoban* attended the same cruise night with their two-tone blue 1956 Ford Sunliner. If you squint hard enough you can see them seated behind the car (left).

E-Delivery Bonus*

- ◆ Remember the map of The Pierce-Arrow Trail at Walden Preserve in Salem (see E-Delivery Bonus in the June issue)? *Jon Grant* took up the challenge and took to the trail with his daughter, an avid hiker. They found the remains of the Pierce-Arrow, and Jon has the photos on his phone to prove it. Bravo, Jon!
- ◆ C.O.R.S.A., the national Corvair club, posted a video on its web site that concerns the restoration of a 1964 Corvair Monza convertible originally owned by aviator/astronaut/businessman/politician John Glenn. Given the emphasis we place at our Vintage Motorcar Meet on “stock, unmodified” antique cars, this is worthwhile viewing regardless of the subject vehicle. It is a plain-spoken narrative about the challenges of restoring a car to factory stock and the varied expertise, thoroughness, inventiveness, and patience required to do it right. The choices are myriad and not for the faint of heart. The quality of the result depends on time and money, too; something we should respect when we judge show cars!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKoZQx-WaAQ>

Bonus pages 9 and 10 are the flyers for the “Air Cooled at the Orchard” show (free to spectators) at Lyman Orchards in Middlefield on Saturday, August 21 and the Roaring Twenties 50th Anniversary Car Show Southington Drive-In on Sunday, August 22. On Saturday, see lots of air-cooled VWs and Corvairs and maybe a few surprises, too. Afterwards stop by the orchard store for fresh vegetables or eat a casual lunch on the deck. On Sunday at Roaring Twenties, anything goes up to model year 1985 and there is a swap meet section, too.

Bonus page 11: more pictures from our Chestelm car show on July 15!

*) The E-Delivery Bonus is a feature not found in the printed version of this newsletter that is distributed via the USPS.

Note: All links in the electronic version are “clickable” as long as your browser is open.



Saturday, August 21st 2021

**Connecticut CORSA & The Connecticut Volkswagen Association
Presents**

"Air Cooled at The Orchard"

**ALL CORVAIR AND AIR COOLED VOLKSWAGEN
CAR SHOW**



At Beautiful Lyman Orchards
32 Reeds Gap Road Middlefield, CT
At the junction of routes 157 and 147

Open to all Corvair Powered vehicles, Air Cooled Volkswagens, and more! If it's a classic Air Cooled Car, come on down!

Show Times: 9 to 3 Car registration: \$10 entry.

People's Choice Judging, Top Awards Presented

Breakfast and Lunch available from Lyman's famous "Apple Barrel"

Bring the Whole Family!!!!!!

Check out Lyman's at www.lymanorchards.com.

The Rain Date Will Be The Next Day, Sunday August 22nd

For Corvair Info email CT Corsa at ctcorsa2@gmail.com

**For Volkswagen Info, email bill@ctvwa.org or
chris@ctvwa.org .**



A *Golden* Anniversary!

**Car Show & Swap Meet
Sunday August 22nd, 2021
Southington Drive-In
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

**8AM for show vehicles and swap meet vendors
Food trucks, Live DJ, 50/50 Raffle, Dash
Plaques, & Trophies - Cut-off year 1985**

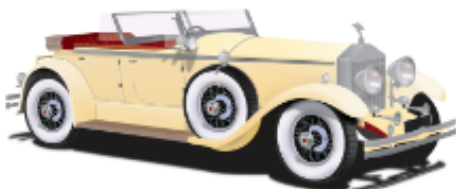
\$10 show vehicles \$5 spectators

Swap Meet spaces are limited - \$40

First come first served basis

**Portion of proceeds will benefit Southington
Bread for Life**

**995 Meriden Waterbury Turnpike
(Route 322, Plantsville)**



BREAD FOR LIFE

Sorry, there is NO rain date scheduled for this event.

FOR SHOW INFO, DIRECTIONS & COVID UPDATES VISIT:

www.roaring20s.club

FIFTY

FIFTY

BACC Car Show for Chestelm Health & Rehab Center Residents on July 15th

More images from the event to supplement what is on page 4 and what has been posted on Facebook.



Left: New Belltowners Chevi & Don Super with their 1922 Model T, "Nelli"

Below left: Guests lined up at the Chestelm Grill for hamburgers, hot dogs and other summertime favorites

Below: The local fife & drum corps provided entertainment

[Photo credits: Betty Lichota]



Below left: There were no French Fries at this cookout, but there was one French car (your editor's 1978 Citroen GS Pallas)

Below: Joe Lombardo in conversation at the corner of "General Motors row"

[Photo credits: Dan David]

