THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

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

May, 2022

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's in Portland

Please remember to bring your own chair

On the Agenda: - Recapping our 47th Annual Antique Engine & Tractor Meet

- Spring tours and activities

- Upcoming meeting dates and location

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

"You know, when a person dies, I think their spirit goes into a newborn baby. I think that's why some people are so much further advanced in knowledge than others and are gifted. A man when he dies, if he is a genius, his spirit will go into a newborn baby and that person will be an expert like Einstein or Edison."

- Attributed to Henry Ford, circa 1940-1947, as published in The Ford Legend, the newsletter of the Henry Ford Heritage Association, Volume MMXXII - No. 1.



[Photo: Henry Ford holding grandson Henry Ford II, ca. 1918]

CLUB NOTES

Our fourth business meeting of the year was held on April 2, and once again we thank *Karl Helming* for being our host. The turnout was one of the best so far this year, the unofficial headcount totaling 33 members and associates. A big 'Thank You' to *Joan Frey* for baking the delicious chocolate chip cookies for the meeting!

President *Alan Carlson* welcomed new members *John Bair, Jr.*, and his wife *Theresa*, attending for the first time. Currently, we have 94 primary members in good standing. <u>Included with this issue of the newsletter</u> is the official 2022 BACC Roster.

Peter Christianson's minutes from the March meeting clarified that the Fellowship Hall in Portland, where we decided to hold our 2022 holiday party, is associated with the Zion Lutheran Church (183 William St.). The term limits for the offices of president and vice-president that were approved by the Board and announced at the March meeting required a vote of the members to become part of the Club By-Laws. A motion was made and approved. Alan Carlson reiterated that no term limits were set for secretary and treasurer.

A motion was made and passed to make a donation to *Karl Helming* to offset the cost of hosting our meetings during the pandemic period. It's not free to heat that big garage, folks!

The upcoming Antique Engine and Tractor Meet - Jon Grant reviewed the CT DEEP's decision to grant us the special use permit for holding our April event on Fireman's Field at Salmon River State Forest. Set up will be Saturday, April 23, beginning at 9 a.m. on the field. Volunteers are needed to help mark the spaces with ribbon tape, fence off wet areas, and post signs. On Sunday we can expect vendors to arrive early, some perhaps as early as 6 a.m. Volunteers are needed to man the gate and direct traffic, park cars, and clean up afterwards. Jon has ordered porta-johns since the park no longer has permanent facilities. As previously noted, according to our permit from the State, the Club is not allowed to charge admission to vendors, exhibitors or spectators. Ditto for parking. However, donations may be accepted and Jon said he has two donation receptacles which he borrowed from another club that will be placed in high visibility locations. Peter Christianson volunteered to do the judging. Jim Way, our long-time exhibit judge, plans to be on hand to advise. Another volunteer to

Continued on p. 2

CLUB NOTES, continued from p. 1

help Peter would be welcome. *Polly* and *Richard Beckwith* will be away and cannot attend the event. Polly left the unassembled trophies with *Alan Carlson* at the meeting. The show plaques should be ready a week ahead of time, according to *Scott Macgregor*. *Betty Lichota* posted a notice on our Facebook page that our Antique Engine & Tractor show was a "go" for April 24th. It has had 2,100 views so far, which was taken as a good sign. Peter distributed copies of the new show flyer for posting on merchant bulletin boards. *Ralph Phil* will have the banner put up at Stop & Shop in East Hampton.

<u>Upcoming Events</u> - *Cliff Baker* confirmed the date of our Spring Dust-Off as April 30 (May 1 in case of rain). We will get together in the parking lot at Gillette Castle at 11 a.m. and stay through a BYO picnic lunch. Then we will caravan over to Staehly Farm's Yankee Cider Co., 23 Petticoat Lane in East Haddam. They have a high, level field available for extra parking if need be. There will be a charge of \$16 to participate in the wine/cider tasting. Please wear a BACC shirt or hat or have your membership card so they know you are eligible.

Jay Beveridge announced that the Essex Automobile Club is holding an informal cruise-in at the Conn. River Museum in Essex on April 17 (Easter Sunday), from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the upper lawn.

Guest Speaker - Jim Borbas, Sr. did the honors with a little help from Jim, Jr. The elder Jim explained that he is a member of C.H.A.S. and the Model A Club, and decided to join BACC in 2012 after having been to some of our events and met several of our members. He said he really wanted to join because we had a good newsletter! [No swelled head here, Bob Hellstrom was the editor at that time - Ed.] Jim has owned his familiar red '34 Ford pick-up since 1991, which is well before he retired in 1997. He learned to drive on a 1938 Plymouth way back when, and got his first car when he turned 18. He paid 30 dollars for it. It was minus a few parts and needed some work. He used his next car, a '41 Chevy sedan bought at 19, as a cab until he went off to the Korean War with the Navy. After returning to civilian life in 1954 he bought a leftover '53 Ford 4 dr. sedan that he drove for 17 years, including while he went to UConn on the G.I. Bill (he graduated in 1960). Having explained that his family was split into two brand camps, GM and Ford, Jim proceeded to tick off some of the cars he had after turning the ripe old age of 31: an Austin-Healy Sprite (the model after the Bug-Eye), a 1966 Buick Special, a 1958 Chrysler Saratoga with the Golden Lion V-8 and a pushbutton automatic, a Ford Pinto (he said he disliked the Vega and was turned off by an arrogant VW dealer). He reported having no problems with the Pinto. Next up, his wife won a 1977 Chevrolet Malibu in an Easter Seals raffle on CPTV - their first car with air conditioning. In 1978 he ordered a '79 Dodge Omni followed by a 4-cylinder Mustang, a Taurus sedan and an Olds Cutlass. Entering the 1990's he bought an '84 Ford F-150 "because it seemed like a good idea at the time." Since then he and his wife have run through a couple of Mercurys, a Buick LeSabre, a Ford Fusion and two AWD Fords, an Escape and an Edge. Jim tallies the lot and comes up with 22 motor vehicles in all, counting his one antique pick-up, plus he's had three dirt bikes and a "few" fishing boats. It seems that Jim has finally settled into the Ford camp, but he could still surprise us...

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

<u>Wanted</u> – *Original Model A Ford folding jack handle*. Contact Bill Nitschke, Deep River, Conn., 914-323-8958 (cell) or e-mail williamjnitschke@gmail.com [BACC member]

Wanted – Antique gas pump. A nice original would be fine. Contact Jay Beveridge, Essex, Conn., 860-767-3072 (home) or e-mail beveridge18@att.net [BACC member]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering Michael Sutton. Thank you to fellow Belltown members for your thoughts and prayers and for your cards. For those who attended the service at the Hamburg firehouse, it was much appreciated. Mike had been living up north for awhile but was still involved with his old cars and belonged to a club up there. - *Eleanor Sutton*

Leave It to Beaver (ref. CT AUTOMOBILIA, April Issue)? The very first tractor I drove was a Beaver. We were over at my Aunt and Uncle's house in Newtown. Her parents lived next door and her father had just bought a new Beaver and was anxious to show it off. After demonstrating it for all that were there, he let me try it. What a thrill. I am not sure that I was yet a teenager at the time - best guess is that I was eleven or twelve. - Scott Macgregor

MEMBER MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to: Don Brookes May 2nd (82) Nancy Pope May 13th (85)

Jane West May 14th (83) Jane Aldieri May 4th (70) May 6th Shari Karoll Dan David May 18th (60) Jane Shipman May 6th Bill Petras, Jr. May 18th (85) Florence Alison May 7th (85) Candice Cameron May 21st David Degregorio Rick Scott May 7th May 21st Donald Liepelt May 11th (79) Mary Everett May 23rd (89) **Deborah Hamilton** Rinaldo Magliano May 13th May 25th

Happy Anniversary to: Corky & Connie Lieder May 1st John & Barbara Hoban May 20th (55)

Donald & Nancy Liepelt May 16th Dudley & Nonie Diebold May 21st

Congratulations to: Christopher and Devon Hallberg on the birth of their first child.

Phil Hamilton, who was elected to a two-year term as a member of the Board of the H.H. Franklin Club. Phil has long been enamored with the air-cooled Franklin cars, built from 1902 to 1934 in Syracuse, N.Y., and has enjoyed attending many of the "Franklin Treks" held annually near there.

CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi



RESTART YOUR ENGINES

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

On April 24, after four years of mud bogs, rainouts, and COVID cancellations, the Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet was back, returning to its long-time location on the Fireman's Field at Salmon River State Forest. While the show was relatively low key, it was a welcome step in the right direction. We must be grateful for those who have stuck with the event, particularly the exhibitors. As expected the flea market was smaller, but it benefited in the opinion of many by being limited to hobby items. Although the State of Conn. (now the owner of the field in addition to the park itself) prohibits charging admission, donations from spectators as well as exhibitors and vendors were permitted. At press time we had not tallied the revenue from this year's event and were not yet able to compare it financially to Meets previously held at the same location. A discussion of the good and the need-to-do-better, as regards event awareness, preparation, field set-up, and participation, is on the agenda for our May meeting. A list of trophy winners appears on page 6 of this newsletter. Congratulations to them, and many thanks to everyone who came out and supported this year's Meet!

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

May 7th in Chrysler History - Chrysler Corporation bought Dodge Brothers in 1928. 70 years later, on the same date in 1998, Daimler-Benz bought Chrysler in the so-called "Merger of Equals." Today the Dodge and Chrysler brands continue as part of a new multi-national automaking enterprise called Stellantis, which resulted from the combination of PSA Group (Peugeot, Citroen, DS, Opel) and Fiat-Chrysler Automobiles in 2021.

75 Years Ago: Henry Ford Succumbs Quietly at 83 - In the evening of April 7, 1947, after a fulfilling day with his chauffeur, touring some flood damage in the Dearborn environs, driving through Greenfield Village, and visiting the Ford Administration Building, the Rouge Plant and the Ford cemetery, Henry Ford enjoyed a turkey dinner by candle-light with his wife Clara. Later, as he prepared for bed, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage that would end his days.

<u>UPCOMING EVENTS</u> (Club participation events in bold)

<u>Saturday, April 30</u> - **BACC Spring Dust-Off** to Gillette Castle and Staehly Farm's Yankee Cider Co. We meet up at Gillette in Hadlyme at 11 a.m. Bring your own lunch to have at noon; then it's over to Staehly's. Rain date: May 1.

Saturday, May 7 - BACC monthly meeting at Karl Helming's home garage in Portland, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

<u>Saturday - Sunday, May 7 & 8</u> - Zagray Spring Show & Swap Meet, 544 Amston Rd., Colchester, Conn.; adm. \$5. Info at <u>www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org</u>.

<u>Sunday, May 8</u> - Second 2022 Cars & Coffee at Guilford Commons Shopping Center ("The Rockpile"), 1919 Boston Post Rd., Guilford, Conn., held every two weeks, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Info: https://carsandcoffeeevents.com/event/ct-shoreline-cars-coffee/all/.

<u>Tuesday, May 10</u> - First 2022 "Misfits" Weekly Cruise Night, 5 p.m. to dusk, 95 Bridge Rd. ("Tony's"), Haddam, Conn. <u>Note</u>: Same location / under new management. New Facebook page to come. Contact Joe George, 203-410-0846.

Saturday, May 14 - Vintage & Specialty Car Event, Cardone & Daughter Automotive, 4 Custom Dr., Old Saybrook, Conn., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring a non-perishable food donation for the Shoreline Soup Kitchen. Coffee served a.m., hot dogs for lunch (while they last!). Rain date: Sunday, May 15. [See Flyer Attached]

Wednesday, May 18 - First 2022 Cruise Night on the Colchester Green, sp. by Good Times Motoring Club, Colchester, Conn., every third Wednesday, May - Sept., 5 p.m. to sunset; up to 1987 model year. Rain date: following Wednesday.

Wednesday, June 1 - BACC monthly meeting at the East Hampton Public Library, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

<u>Saturday-Sunday, June 4-5</u> - Greenwich Concours, Roger Baldwin Park, Greenwich, Conn., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday show includes Radwood and d'Lemons exhibits, Sunday is the Concours d-Elegance. Info: https://www.greenwichconcours.com/event.

<u>Sunday, June 5</u> - 34th Annual "British by the Sea," sp. by CT MG Club, Harkness Memorial Park, Waterford, Conn., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info at http://www.ctmgclub.com/BBTS.html.

<u>Sunday, June 12</u> - "Iron Range Swap Meet" at Dragone Classic Motorcars, 5 Connair Rd., Orange, Conn., 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vendors will have parts & automobilia for sale on site; the showroom will be open for browsers. Directions at https://www.dragoneclassic.com/.

<u>Wednesday, June 15</u>- 25th Anniversary Main St. Cruise, Middletown, Conn. 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Rain date: June 22. Pre-1997 vehicles. Info: https://cruisenightonmain.com/.

<u>Saturday, June 18</u> - Klingberg Motorcar Series, Klingberg Family Centers, 370 Linwood St., New Britain, Conn., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., adm. \$10 (seniors \$8). Includes 30th anniversary pre-war Concours and display of Conn.-made antique vehicles. Info: https://klingbergmotorcarseries.org/.

<u>Saturday, June 18</u> - The first leg of the 2022 Great Race stops at the New England Air Museum, Windsor Locks, Conn. See the cars beginning about 4:30 p.m. Info at <u>www.greatrace.com</u>.

<u>Sunday, June 26</u> - Housatonic Valley Region AACA Classic Car Show in cooperation with Conn. Antique Machinery Assn., 31 Kent Cornwall Rd. off Rte. 7, Kent, Conn.; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. [See Flyer Attached]

NOTE: More cruise night announcements will be issued via email as new information comes to light.

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 @ https://www.shorelineantiqueautoconnection.com/calendar.htm.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

Challenge your automotive history IQ

Henry Ford passed away on April 7, 1947. Despite extensive efforts on the part of the Ford Motor Co. Public Relations Dept. to locate a Lincoln hearse for the funeral, none could be found. Which vehicle did they end up pressing into service for Mr. Ford's last ride?

A. The new Cadillac hearse owned by the funeral home in charge of arrangements **B.** A hand-carved funeral coach pulled by a team of four horses **C.** A six-year old Packard "Combination Hearse" **D.** A 1924 Model T "Depot Hack"

These are the correct answers to Who Did What Where? in the "April Fuel" issue, "Over their storied careers in the automobile business, four of these men were employed by four vehicle manufacturers and two of them by five. Identify the companies each one worked for (post-retirement board appointments and consulting jobs do not count): [LEFT to RIGHT] Henry M. Leyland, Charles W. Nash, Walter P. Chrysler, Semon E. Knudsen, Robert A. Lutz, , and Steven "No Middle Initial" Rossi



Cadillac*
GM (Cadillac)
Lincoln*
Ford (Lincoln)

*) Founded company; sold out to subsequent employer in each case



4 GM (Buick) Jeffrey Nash* LaFayette**

*) Founded Nash using Jeffrey assets **) Ran LaFayette separately from Nash, 1920-23



GM (Buick)
Willys-Overland
Maxwell
Chrysler*

*) Founded Chrysler using Maxwell assets



General Motors Ford Rectrans RVs White Truck



GM-Europe (Opel) BMW Ford Chrysler General Motors



Ford
Saab
GM (Chevrolet)
Mercedes-Benz
DaimlerChrysler

NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the June, 2022 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Tuesday, May 17. Monday the 20th is the publication date, with e-delivery taking place no later than May 26.

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* - David Degregorio (yr. 1 of 2) & Ray Lichota (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]

<u>Disclaimers and Words to the Wise</u>: The opinions expressed by the authors of the content of this newsletter are theirs and are not intended to represent a position taken by the Belltown Antique Car Club or its officers. Reproduction of this newsletter in whole or in part is subject to prior approval by the editor. Information presented herein is for the edification and entertainment of antique automobile enthusiasts who should use their experience, prudence and good judgment in applying it. Product mentions should not be interpreted as endorsements.

By the Way...

Congratulations to the Award Winners at the 47th Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet -

- Del Burr Memorial Trophy (highest horsepower): Joe Lenahan of Oxford, Conn; 1904 International 10 hp
- Most Unique Engine: Vinnie Cavaliere (no address given); ca 1900 Capital 21/2 hp
- Best Unrestored Engine: Lee Sweet of Voluntown, Conn.; 1920 Bulldog 2 hp
- Heavy Weight Engines: 1st Place Don Hargreaves of Rockfall, Conn.; 1913 Sparta 2nd & 3rd Place - No trophies awarded
- Best Working Engine Display: 1st Place Rich Zappone of Torrington, Conn.
 2nd Place Cliff Lumberg of Salem N.H.
 3rd Place Chris Allen of West Hartford, Conn.



- Best Restored Engine: 1st Place Will & Barb Davison of Plainville, Conn.; Briggs & Stratton
 2nd Place Bob Grigerek & Jeff Bennet of Southington, Conn.; McCormick-Deering
 3rd Place Bill Lapointe of Westfield, Mass.; 1945 Lauson
- Best Miniatures: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place No trophies awarded
- Best Tractors Air-cooled: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place No trophies awarded
- Best Tractors Water-cooled: 1st Place Bob Hanna of Portland, Conn.; 1958 Ford 841 Power Master 2nd & 3rd Place No trophies awarded









Photo Credit: Dan David

E-Delivery Bonus*

More photos from the Antique Engine & Tractor Meet on pages 7-9.

Show flyers for coming attractions on pages 10-11.

Pardon us if you have already watched it, but this video, called "One Perfect Day," posted by *Hemmings Daily News* recently is a must-see for anyone who is interested in 1915-1948 Full Classic cars and harbors a desire to visit the Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, Mich. It was produced to mark the grand opening of the newly expanded Classic Car Club Museum on the Gilmore campus:

https://www.hemmings.com/stories/2021/10/25/one-perfect-day-gilmore-ccca-car-museum

The latter part of the video gives an overview of the Gilmore campus, which is comprised of the Gilmore Collection and 17 partner museums. If you have never been there, you owe it to yourself as a car guy or gal to make a pilgrimage to southeast Michigan. For more information on the Gilmore visit their website:

https://gilmorecarmuseum.org/

The Gilmore hosts several old car events throughout the season and you might want to consider timing your visit to take in an event of interest. Of course, your trip would not be complete without making some stops along the way. There are several notable car museums to check out in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, enough to keep you entertained throughout the round trip journey.

*) 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.

SCENES FROM THE 47th BELLTOWN ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTOR MEET



Photo Credit: Dan David

SCENES FROM THE 47th BELLTOWN ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTOR MEET, CONTINUED



<u>Left and Below</u>: Antique Engines, Large and Small ...













... and Reproductions, too.

Photo Credit: Dan David

SCENES FROM THE 47th BELLTOWN ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTOR MEET, CONTINUED

Trophy presentations ...







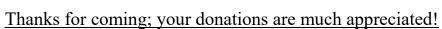






Photo Credit: Dan David









"See you in 2023."



4 Custom Drive, Old Saybrook (860) 664-0727

(Exit 66 off I-95, same road as the Old Saybrook DMV)

Saturday, May 14, 2022 - 9 am to 1 pm

(Rain Date: Sunday, May 15, 2022)



(Please follow prevailing Covid Policy at time of event)

Anyone owning a vintage/specialty vehicle is encouraged to drive it to the shop (vintage car not mandatory to attend, EVERYONE is invited!)

Enjoy morning coffee / afternoon hot dogs get 'em while they last!

Help us feed neighbors in need!

Please bring along a non-perishable food donation for our friends at the Shoreline Soup Kitchen!

www.CardoneAndDaughter.com



Housatonic Valley Region Chapter

45th Annual Classic Car Show Sunday - June 26, 2022

Gates open @9AM, Judging Starts @11:30AM Awards Start @ 2:30 PM (No Rain Date)

- \$15 Per Registered Car
- Spectators \$5
- Children under 12 Free
- Vendors (Automotive Related Only)

Dash Plaques for the 1st 200 Cars!

Classes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place Trophies

- 1931 & OLDER - 1932 - 1948
- CORVETTES (1953 1982)
- 1949 1959
- PONY CARS (CAMAROS, MUSTANGS, 'CUDAS,
- 1960 1965 1966 - 1969
- FIREBIRDS, CHALLENGERS)
- 1970 1979 1980 - 1994
- RESTO-MOD'S - HOT RODS/ STREET RODS
- 1997 PRESENT
- FOREIGN/IMPORT
- SPECIAL INTEREST
- TRUCKS STOCK, PERIOD CORRECT
- TRUCKS, MODIFIED

- SPECIAL AWARDS:
 PRESIDENT'S CHOICE AWARD
 - HVR MEMORIAL AWARD
 - CAMA AWARD
- BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

KIDS JUDGING/INFORMATION CLASS & RIDES!!!

*** New Location***

In Partnership with CAMA (Connecticut Antique Machinery Association)



31 Kent Cornwall Rd. Kent. CT 06757

(Directly off Route 7)

Contact us at HVRAACA@GMAIL.COM Check us both out on Facebook: @HVRAACA and @CAMAMuseum www.ctamachinery.com