

## NEXT MEETING

**Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the East Hampton Public Library**

**Begins with a Pot Luck Supper; Business Meeting starts by 7:30 p.m.**

Timely Topics: - Recapping our Antique Engine & Tractor Meet on April 30  
- 2nd quarter tours and activities  
- Klingberg Auto Restoration Program presentation

## FUEL FOR THOUGHT

### **THEN**

*"If I had asked my customers what they wanted, they would have said a faster horse."* - **Henry Ford**, founder, Ford Motor Co., reflecting on how his Model T came to be.



**Customers still want a faster horse!**

### **NOW**

*"Everything that our customers want and love is in this new [Mustang]. We've got some really cool new performance features ... 100% Mustang fun, no apologies."* - **Alicia Agius**, Ford product strategy mgr., speaking at the press introduction for the 7th gen., 2024 Mustang.

## CLUB NOTES

Our fourth business meeting of 2023 was held on April 1 at Karl Helming's home garage in Portland. "Thank you" *Joan Frey, Don Liepelt and Betty Lichota* for the after-meeting goodies!

### Old business

*Cliff Baker* reported on the status of membership renewals for 2023.

### Antique Engine & Tractor Meet readiness -

- *Ralph Phil* said that the Lions Club will try to have the health inspection of their trailer done the day before the event this year so they can start serving food earlier. *Ralph* also said he will bring a tank of water to have available for the make-and-break engine exhibitors to use.
- *Jon Grant* already has in his possession the borrowed donation box used last year.
- *Mark Hoydilla* confirmed that set-up on Saturday will begin at around 8 a.m.
- *Peter Christianson* and *Jim Way* will be on site early on Sunday to direct early-arriving vendors.
- *Mark Hoydilla* contacted a tractor-owning friend who indicated he could bring a half dozen tractors to exhibit. *Peter Christianson* and *Tim Cone* volunteered to assist *Jim Way* with consensus-based judging.
- *Mark Hoydilla* stressed again that we need additional volunteers to manage parking and run the event.
- Trophies are expected to be awarded around 1:30 to 2 p.m.

CLUB NOTES (continued from p. 1)New business

*Alan Carlson* informed us that long-time member and former president *Lee Harris* was no longer able to get around as he would like to. Alan passed around a card for us to sign for Lee which precipitated some discussion and a motion from *Mark Hoydilla* to elect Lee a Lifetime Member in appreciation for what he has done for the Club. [With that motion having passed, the roster currently stands at 93 members including six with Lifetime status. - *Ed.*].

Old Car Connections of the Month -

- ◆ *Ralph Phil* said that the Club had received a request from a non-member asking for the recommendation of a qualified antique car appraiser. The name that came up was AACA chapter president Richard Dabrowski, who operates a business called Classic Wheels LLC, telephone number 860-874-3406. For details of their services and qualifications go to <https://classicwheelsllc.com/>.
- ◆ Referencing last month's issue, there is another source for glass in eastern Conn.: Vintage Glass USA advertises in *Hemmings* that they reproduce flat glass from original patterns for cars from the teens to the '60's. Windshields also available, '50's - '80's. Call 800-889-3826 for a quote. To learn more, visit <https://vintageglassusa.com>.

Upcoming Club Activities -

*Ray Lichota* confirmed that Saturday, May 13 will be the date for the tour of Corvette Center, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ray would like a head count at our May meeting so he can make sure there are enough donuts on hand. Corvette Center is a sales, service and restoration shop located at 184 Day St. in Newington, Conn. Their website is <https://www.corvettecenter-ct.com/>.

Ray also announced that the Jaguar Club informed him that we are welcome to attend an open house at Redline Restorations on Saturday, April 22 beginning at 10 a.m. Their 120,000 sq. ft. facility at 2475 Fairfield Ave. in Black Rock, Conn. handles restorations and consignment sales. The Jaguar Club plans to have a lunch at the nearby Hub & Spoke after the visit. For info go to <https://www.redlinerestorations.net/>.

**Date Change:** The Spring Dust-Off organized by *Cliff Baker* will be on Sunday, May 7, weather permitting (no rain date). Per last year, we will congregate in the parking lot at Gillette Castle, have a box lunch, and then caravan over to the Yankee Cider Co. afterwards. Participants have the option to stop at the Zagray Spring Show on the way to Gillette for a look around (free designated parking for antique cars is usually offered).

*Polly and Richard Beckwith* will host a 3-club get-together on Sunday, May 14, followed by a tour of the old Haddam Jail just up Rte. 154 from their place on Camp Bethel Rd. Bring a box lunch and chairs for each of you. Polly will have coffee and dessert before we head to the jail. Be at their house by 11:30. Rain or shine.

Polly also reminded us that if we have automotive tools to donate to Klingberg we should bring them to the May 3rd business meeting. Any questions, call Polly at 860-345-4256. For that meeting we are back at the East Hampton Library and the business portion of the meeting will be preceded by a pot luck supper.

*Scott Macgregor* said he would arrange a joint visit with the Early Ford V-8 Club to Don Passardi's private museum of early Ford cars and memorabilia in Stafford Springs, Conn. The proposed date is Saturday, July 15. Don's collection was the subject of a story in *Old Cars Weekly* that was published in their April 1 issue. *Jon Grant* and others highly recommended taking the opportunity to see it.

*Mark Hoydilla* concluded the meeting by quoting from a publication produced by the Classic Car Club of America in 1959 which listed several local area classic car owners along with their award winning Packards, Lincolns, Duesenbergs, etc. Among those names were some familiar ones who later formed the Belltown Antique Car Club.

## MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Jane Aldieri	May 4th	Rinaldo Magliano	May 13th
	Dan David	May 6th	Nancy Pope	May 13th (76)
	Jane Shipman	May 6th	Bill Petras, Jr.	May 18th (86)
	Florence Alison	May 7th (86)	Candice Cameron	May 21st
	Rick Scott	May 7th	Mary Everett	May 23rd (90)
	Donald Liepelt	May 11th (80)	Deborah Hamilton	May 25th

<u>Happy Anniversary to:</u>	Corky & Connie Lieder	May 1st (58)	John & Barbara Hoban	May 20th (56)
	Peter & Marilyn Christianson	May 3rd	Dudley & Nonie Diebold	May 21st
	Donald & Nancy Liepelt	May 16th (53)		

## UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

Sunday, April 30 - **BACC's 48th Annual Antique Engine & Tractor Meet**, Salmon River SF, Rte. 16, Colchester, Conn.

Wednesday, May 3 - **BACC monthly business meeting** at the East Hampton Public Library, beginning with a pot-luck supper at 6:30 p.m. Meeting to start by 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker from Klingberg Auto Restoration Program.

Friday - Sunday, May 5-7 - Rhinebeck Auto Show at Dutchess Cty. Fair Grounds, Rhinebeck, N.Y.; Fri. swap meet, Sat. hot rods/race cars; Sun. unmodified classic cars -1998. Info: <http://www.rhinebeckcarshow.com>.

Saturday - Sunday, May 6-7 - Zagray Farm Spring Show & Swap Meet, 544 Amston Rd. (Rte. 85), Colchester, Conn., 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. Info at: <http://www.zagrayfarmmuseum.org>.

Sunday, May 7 - **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 box lunch to have at noon; then it's over to Yankee Cider. No rain date.

Saturday, May 13 - Judged Studebaker show at the Studebaker Drivers Club Northeast Meet, hosted by the Nutmeg Chapter of SDC, Sheraton Hartford South Hotel, 100 Capital Blvd., Rocky Hill, Conn.

Saturday, May 13 - **BACC tour of Corvette Center** in Newington, Conn. Contact *Ray Lichota*: 860-633-6561.

Sunday, May 14 - **BACC get-together w/Crankin' Yanks & C.H.A.S.**; meet around 11:30 a.m. at Beckwith residence, 48 Camp Bethel Rd., Haddam. Bring picnic lunch & chair(s). Coffee & dessert provided. Followed by tour of the historic Haddam Jail. Rain or shine. Let *Polly Beckwith* know if you plan to attend, 860-345-4256.

Friday, June 2 - 7th Annual Knights of Columbus Car Show, St. Mary Church, 45 Freestone Ave., Portland, Conn., lot opens at 3 p.m. \$15 entry fee. Benefit raffle. Food available from K of C kitchen. Rain date: June 9.

Saturday-Sunday, June 3-4 - Greenwich Concours, Roger Baldwin Park, Greenwich, Conn., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday: Concours de Sport, Sunday: Concours d'Elegance. Info: <https://www.greenwichconcours.com>.

Sunday, June 4 - 35th 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>.

Sunday, June 4 - 28th Annual Corvette Show, back at Moroso Performance in Guilford, Conn., Goose Lane exit off I-95. Info: <https://www.clubcorvettect.com/club-corvette-of-connecticut-annual-corvette-show-swap-june-4-2023/>.

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

### ***Repeating Cruise Nights / Cars & Coffee Events***

Every Tuesday - "Misfit Car Show," 95 Bridge Rd., Haddam (Tylerville), 3 p.m. to dusk; host: *Joe George*

Third Wednesday - Good Times Cruise Night, Colchester Green, 5 p.m. to sunset; -1987 (rain date following Wed.)

One Sunday/Month - Cruzin Hebron at Hebron Village Shoppes, Rte. 66, 4 p.m. onward (next ones: May 21, June 25)

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

## WHO ARE WE?

*Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor*

The first Belltown antique car meet was held in August, 1967 as part of East Hampton's Bicentennial celebration. The success of that event sparked the idea of forming a local car club. Twenty-six fellows got together in January, 1968 at the East Hampton town hall and did just that. At the May meeting that year the not-for-profit Belltown Antique Car Club had its original set of by-laws and elected its first slate of officers, including *Stanley Knotek* as president.

Over the years the August event, ultimately known as the Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet, has grown from about 120 cars and trucks organized in 11 classes to more than twice those numbers in some years. The show car cut-off has been revised upward from 1948 back then, to 1971 for a time, and lately, 40 years old or older. The venue has also changed, as the former location on the Center School grounds was outgrown and replaced by the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds. The timing (the first Sunday in August) and our focus on stock, antique vehicles remain the same.

Along the way a second event, which began as a flea market, was added on the last Sunday in April. This year marked the 48th running of what is now called the Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet - still featuring a flea market.

Membership has grown too, with the number of primary members exceeding 100 at times. Initially only men were allowed to attend meetings but, inevitably, that barrier to equality was removed. Eventually, we saw fit to elect the first woman as BACC president (a tip of the hat goes to *Polly Beckwith* for that honor)!

As BACC enters its 55th year as an organization, have a look at the updated roster enclosed with this issue. It is one that is blessed with broad experience and varied interests. Many members have been with us for 30 to 40 years, or longer! Not only do we have a strong core membership, the Club is continuously refreshed by the addition of new members, 11 just since the last annual roster came out. Let's ask ourselves, "Who is a good prospect to join BACC this year? Who will enjoy supporting our activities and contribute to our future well-being as an antique car club?"

You can learn more about today's BACC and read our current by-laws at [www.belltownantiquecarclub.org](http://www.belltownantiquecarclub.org).

## HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

**New-for-1983 Models Eligible for This Year's Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet** - The 1983 cut-off means that among the show cars and trucks we could see, for the first time, a Chevrolet S-10 Blazer or its GMC S-15 Jimmy twin, a Ford Ranger compact pickup, a 9th generation Ford Thunderbird or Thunderbird Turbo Coupe, a new for North America Toyota Camry, or, a Chevy Cavalier-based Oldsmobile Firenza or Buick Skyhawk. 1983 also was the first year for the all-new, third generation Chevrolet Camaro and Pontiac Firebird, and, the Renault-designed AMC Alliance.

## BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

*Send your sell/wanted ads for cars, parts and hobby-related services to [dan12david@yahoo.com](mailto:dan12david@yahoo.com)*

**For Sale – 1929 Ford Model A Roadster with Rumble Seat - \$22,000**

Body off frame restoration to driver condition, driven little since then. Gray leather LeBaron Bonney interior, exterior painted Bonney Gray with Chelsea Blue. Has etched wind wings, side curtains. Rebuilt carburetor installed in 2023.

Call **Phil Guertin**, 860-873-3459 - leave a message [BACC member]



**For Sale – 1931 Ford Model A Deluxe Roadster - Asking \$22,500**

Nice quality driver, very solid & correct. Black with Apple Green wheels & stripe, accessories incl. twin side mounts w/metal covers, whitewalls, quail, stone guard, etc. Has title.

Call **John Beveridge**, 860-767-3072 [BACC member]

**Wanted – Schrader cylinder-type tire pressure gauge, engraved with "for Model A Ford" + "Ford Motor Co."**

Looking for the LONG version, not the short "shotgun shell" size.

Call **Bill Nitschke**, 914-323-8958 [BACC member]



### CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

In keeping with our request to **bring used automotive tools to the May meeting** to donate to the Klingberg Auto Restoration Program, shown below is a vintage ad for Blackhawk hand tools made by the New Britain Machine Co. of New Britain, Conn. Of course, your donations are not limited to tools that were produced by companies located in the Nutmeg State.

**ARE YOU ON THE BALL?**

These *NEW* Blackhawk Tools belong in your Tool Kit *NOW!*

The *right* Tool for the job saves you time and money. You can count on your Blackhawk Jobber for everything you need, including the newest in improved and time-saving Tools to make any job a breeze. Get on the ball and in the money... Get the *right* Blackhawk Tool for your job.

**The Greatest**  
Big, sturdy 1/2" Drive Flex-Ratchet that handles every job in the shop. Full 180° flex action, 12" leverage.

METRIC COMBINATION WRENCHES

SNAP RING PLIERS

1/2" DRIVE SPARK PLUG SOCKET

3/8" DRIVE METRIC 6-POINT SOCKETS

CHAIN WRENCH

1/2" DRIVE SHORT EXTENSION

FLARE NUT WRENCHES

FORGED STEEL CLAW HAMMERS

HAND AND HEAVY DUTY SLEDGES

DIODE TOOL SET

UNIVERSAL JOINT TOOL

**Blackhawk** HAND TOOLS

THE NEW BRITAIN MACHINE COMPANY • NEW BRITAIN • CONNECTICUT

## WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

*Challenge your automotive history IQ*

Which of the following vintage cars feature front fenders that are integrated with the body shell and cannot be individually removed for repair or replacement without using cutting tools?

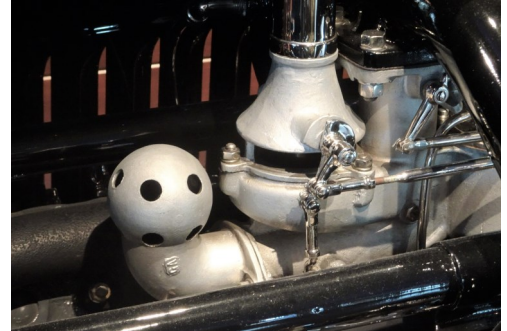
- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| A. 1934-37 Chrysler Airflow   | D. 1955-62 MG MGA                      |
| B. 1953-82 Chevrolet Corvette | E. 1956-65 Alfa-Romeo Giulietta Spider |
| C. 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird   | F. 1963-64 Studebaker Avanti           |

*The correct answer to Who, What, Where, or When in the last issue, "What is the purpose of this "wiffle ball" device?"*

### ANSWER:

That is the air inlet horn for the Packard-designed carburetor located just behind it. Air enters through the holes in the sphere. The bell-shaped part is the auxiliary air valve used for enriching the mixture for starting. Aft of the AAV is the main body of the updraft carburetor containing the mixture venturi, vaporizing chamber and throttle valve.

Photo (R) shows the installation on a 1916 Packard Twin-Six engine.



[Photo credit: Dan David]

## NEXT ISSUE

The next **Belltown Bulletin** will be the June, 2023 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Monday, May 22. Thursday the 25th is the publication date, with mail-out on May 27 and e-delivery no later than May 30.

Club member suggestions, comments, classified ads, and content submissions are most welcome. Send them to the editor at dan12david@yahoo.com (or call 860-575-6194). **Thanks go to this month's contributors: Steve Rossi, Cliff Baker and Bob Fiala.**

With the hard copies of the May issue limited to six pages to accommodate including the printed 2023 club roster, HAPPY MOTORING is on hiatus and will return in the June issue and CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA only appears in the digital edition of the May issue.

## BELLTOWN ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

President - **Mark Hoydilla**

Vice President - **Ray Lichota**

Secretary - **Peter Christianson**

Treasurer - **Cliff Baker**

Elected Directors\* - **Jon Grant** (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 (Alan Carlson) and two elected from the membership at large

Club web site - [www.belltownantiquecarclub.org](http://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/](https://www.facebook.com/BACC-Belltown-Antique-Car-Club-116729245345421/) [FB mgr.: **Betty Lichota**]

Disclaimers and Words to the Wise: The opinions expressed by the authors of the content of this newsletter are theirs and are in no way intended to represent a position taken by the Belltown Antique Car Club or its officers. The 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.

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## BY THE WAY...

Although the growing season is still a ways off, what better time than now to wonder what our resident Viking expert and “green thumb” might produce in his vegetable garden this year?

See what he grew during last summer’s drought:

**“That’sa YUGE teh-MAY-da!”**



## E-Delivery Bonus\*

The answer to last month’s trivia question (answered in this issue) about the pressurized carburetor on the Audrain Museum’s 1916 Packard Twin Six Runabout may have lusting for more information on this wonderful early car. If so, check out this detailed article on an original, surviving example published by *Vintage Road and RaceCar* three years ago:

<https://scottgrundfor.com/lambs-time-capsule-1916-packard-twin-six/>

The earliest photos taken of a Model A Ford has a story all its own. Here is that story, as told by the Brighton Area Historical Society of Brighton, Mich. [Thanks to *Steve Rossi* for sharing it . As he said, “It’s where automotive spy photography began.” - *Ed.*]:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF\\_U2IEhzuE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF_U2IEhzuE)

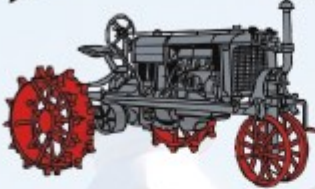
See also the show flyers for upcoming events (Zagray, K of C) reproduced on the following pages.

\*) The E-Delivery Bonus is not included 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.



# Zagray Farm



## Museum



## SPRING SHOW AND SWAP MEET May 6 & 7, 2023

544 Amston Road (RT. 85)  
Colchester, CT

## Come and enjoy our beautiful New England farm!

Join us as we step back in time at our educational family show featuring all things mechanical.

- One of New England's Premier Antique Engine Collections
- Antique Tractors & Farm Machinery on display in an 88'x200' Barn
- Cable Shovels & Bulldozers in the Sandpit Area
- Woodworking Machinery and Cordwood Saws
- Huge Vendor & Swap Meet Area
- Antique Machine Shop & Foundry
- 1873 Antique LANE Sawmill Demonstrations
- Antique Cars & Trucks
- Early 1900's Farmhouse with Guided Tours
- Tractor-Drawn Wagon Ride Tours of the Farm Museum
- Large Kids Sandbox & Pedal Tractor Area
- Breakfast & Lunch at the New Food Pavilion



Admission: \$10 per person - 15 and under free  
Location: 1.5 miles north of Colchester on Rt. 85  
Hours: 7am till 4pm - Rain or Shine  
Camping with your display ( no hookups )



Food menu

Follow us on FaceBook @zagrayfarmmuseum  
Our Website: ZAGRAYFARMMUSEUM.ORG  
Show info: Connor Bishop @ 203-313-5362  
Vendor Space - \$30 Weekend - 30' x 18'  
Vendor Space info: Karl Hansen @ 860-887-0144



Classic Cars  
Muscle Cars  
Street Rods  
Trucks & more!

We Support:  
Joey Logano  
FDN, & Special  
Olympics



*Knights of Columbus*

Freestone Council #7

# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show!

We Support:  
Local Youth  
Sports  
Ptld Food Bank  
Project  
Graduation

3  
\$1200  
Scholarships  
given  
annually

## FRIDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023

RAIN DATE JUNE, 9TH

**Parking Lot**

Opens at 3:00 pm

\$15.00 entry fee

Awards for: Best of Show,

Oldest, Classic, & Truck

*Benefit Raffle Items*

*Signed Joey Logano*

*Collectables*

*Car Accessories*

*Electronics*

*Gift Baskets*

*Wine*

*Much, much more!*

**Knights Kitchen Menu:**

Hot & Juicy Burgers,

Huge Hot Dogs,

Sausage & Pepper Grinders,

& Beverages

*Dedicated to Antonio 'Buddy' Hernandez*



ST. MARY CHURCH, 45 FREESTONE AVENUE

# PORTLAND, CT