



THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

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

November, 2021

NEXT MEETING - The "Annual Meeting"

Saturday, November 6, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's in Portland

The November business meeting, our last of 2021, is designated as BACC's Annual Meeting

Please bring your own chair and a mask

Stay home if you show any signs of illness or have underlying health conditions

- On the Agenda:
- Autumn/early winter activities, including holiday party details
 - Vote to approve changes to 2022 membership dues, By-Laws and other recommendations from the Board of Directors meeting
 - Close nominations and hold elections for 2022 officers and one member-at-large on the Board of Directors

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

"Within a year, I hope, we shall begin the manufacture of an electric automobile. I don't like to talk about things which are a year ahead, but I am willing to tell you something of my plans.

The fact is that Mr. Edison and I have been working for some years on an electric automobile which would be cheap and practicable. Cars have been built for experimental purposes, and we are satisfied now that the way is clear to success. The problem so far has been to build a storage battery of light weight which would operate for long distances without recharging. Mr. Edison has been experimenting with such a battery for some time."

- Henry Ford, as told to *The New York Times* on January 11, 1914.

Right: Second Ford Prototype Electric Car, in 1914



CLUB NOTES

Our tenth meeting of 2021 was held on October 2 and we thank *Karl Helming* for hosting it. President *Alan Carlson* introduced two new members, *Jackie Reardon* of East Hampton and *Don Giboski* of Haddam.

Treasurer *Cliff Baker* announced that he had received a sample of the new Club hat embroidered with our logo. Cliff said he would distribute a hat free of charge to new members who joined after the last hat supply ran out a couple of years ago. The new mesh-style hats will be made available at \$10 apiece to all members.

Ralph Phil reported that he has upgraded BACC's web site and modernized it using Squarespace. The photo gallery from our 2021 Vintage Motor Car Meet is now viewable directly from the web site. (Thanks, Ralph!)

The "Annual Meeting" was set for the first Saturday in November. At that time we will hold elections for 2022 officers. Presently, all current officers are willing to continue to serve for 2022 and so far no members have thrown their hat into the ring. *Dan David* indicated that he would step down as the member-at-large on the Board of Directors whose two year term is up at the end of this year, after having served two terms. It was reported that *David Degregorio* is interested to take over that position. Anyone who wishes to serve the Club in any elected capacity should make that known at or before the Annual Meeting.

CLUB NOTES, continued from p. 1

Our guest speaker was *Jim Way*, who told the story of his September trip to the New England Model A Meet in Maine, travelling in his Model A roadster with *Bob Sutton*. The trip was mostly uneventful for them, other than the fact that Jim left his cell phone at the host hotel when they departed. The happy ending was that the hotel staff had found the phone and they delivered it right to his car, some 60 miles away from the hotel, **by drone!** Jim's son had car-related problems and had to have his Model A trailered to Maine where he planned to get the water pump repaired at the Meet. This turned out to be a great learning experience for Jim's 13 year old granddaughter, Isabella, who helped get the job done. Later, their car got a flat tire out on tour and she took care of that, too. Isabella's efforts earned her recognition as "Top Mechanic" of the Meet. Bravo!

Betty Lichota also spoke up, telling us about her and *Ray's* participation in the 75th Revival AAA Glidden Tour from September 12 to 17. They had great fun using their 1941 Chevrolet convertible in the event, which was based out of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., with a different tour starting from there each day.

Don Liepelt closed the meeting by describing a couple of early Fords that he recently bought from the widow of a friend of his. One of them, a 1908 Model S, had been cosmetically restored as a static museum piece, but needed "unsticking" mechanically. It had also been disassembled. Don gathered it up and shipped it to his son in Michigan, minus a few parts that had unintentionally been sold at the estate sale. His son quickly got it together and running just in time to attend the Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village. Another happy ending!

MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Diane Baker	Nov. 2nd	Beverly Astles	Nov. 30th (84)
	Chevi Super	Nov. 7th (80)	Bill West	Dec. 3rd (84)
	Howard Maseles	Nov. 8th	Eileen Mastronunzio	Dec. 8th
	Harold Waters	Nov. 15th (82)	Ben Jermaine	Dec. 10th
	John Beveridge	Nov. 17th	Connie Lieder	Dec. 17th
	George Birner	Nov. 18th (96)	Doug Mackeown	Dec. 19th
	Tammy Mackeown	Nov. 18th	Peter Hoydilla	Dec. 26th
	Tony Adams	Nov. 19th (95)	Nancy Cardone	Dec. 27th
	Linda Elgart	Nov. 24th	Bill Thompson	Dec. 27th (75)
	Maureen Hartzell	Nov. 26th (75)		

In Memoriam: Our condolences to the families of *Vito N. Ignazio*, 83, of Colchester who passed away on October 16, and *John A. Hartzell*, 75, of East Haddam who passed away on October 21. They will be missed.

New Members: Please welcome *Don Giboski* of Haddam and *Jackie Reardon* of East Hampton to BACC. Don has a Model A Tudor that he recently acquired from *Jon Grant*. Jackie owns a 1939 Mercury sedan. Since our October meeting another new member joined us, *Fred Glabau* of Kensington. Fred is the owner of a 1930 Model A Town Sedan. The BACC roster currently has 96 primary members.

MAN OVER BOARD

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

The BACC Board of Directors met this month for the first time since before the pandemic. Without going into the nitty gritty of it all, there are recommendations that will come up for membership approval at the Annual Meeting. First of all, we agreed on some changes to the VMM judging form, reducing the points allocated to the undercarriage by one third, offset by increases for lighting and glass. We also made some progress on revising the show classes and cutting the total number, with a proposal possibly ready for membership review by November. A clarified (?) show admission policy for volunteers needs a final stamp of member approval, just don't expect me to explain it here. In any case, the Board is unanimously behind increasing Club dues, with the change to take effect from March 1, 2022. My suggestion to stipulate term limits for president and board members was debated; however, we only could agree that the elected board members be limited to two consecutive two-year terms. As a change to the By-Laws, this is subject to membership approval. Regardless of the outcome, my time is up and I am over the rail at year's end ...

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

Wanted – 1929-30 Ford Model A Car Jack #A-17080-B1, jack handle, and original Model A tool pouch (oval shape single or double snaps version).

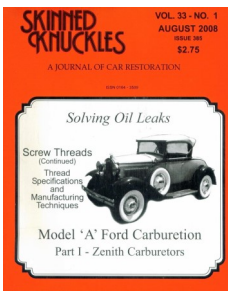
Contact Bill Nitschke by email, williamjnitschke@gmail.com or cell, 914-323-8958. [BACC member]

For Sale – 1929 Ford Model A Roadster with Rumble Seat, Bonnie Gray with Chelsea Blue accent. Etched wind wings. Body off restoration about 15 years ago. New L-B upholstery kit installed. Good driver. \$22,000 OBO.



Call Phil Guertin, 860-402-1423 (cell), or email him at pguertin@att.net. [BACC member]

For Sale – Skinned Knuckles magazine collection, 16 years, Sept., 2004 through August, 2021. Complete except for 3 or 4 missing issues (about 200 in total). Selling as a set. Reasonable offer accepted.



Call Jim Way, 860-319-6088 (cell). [BACC member]

Left: Skinned Knuckles, “A Journal of Car Restoration”

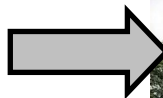
CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

Garage Find!

... and THEN

NOW



4 Willow St. in Norwich, Conn. was a Buick and Ford agency 100 years ago. More recently it has been used as a repair garage and hot rod shop. The 2-story, 6,000 sq. ft. building, built in 1910, is currently listed at a reduced price of \$380,000. Note: A rear ramp leads to the upper floor.

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Son of Bridgeport wins Zenith Award - A distinguished panel of AACA judges has chosen a 1917 Locomobile Model 48 Sportif Victoria as the winner of its 2021 Zenith Award, an honor bestowed upon the best of the best restorations shown at AACA events in the previous year. The winning car, owned by John McAlpin of Naples, N.Y., is painted in its original colors of Pacific Coral with dark blue-gray fenders, which match the signage of the Rexall Drug store chain once owned by the car's first owner. These magnificent Locomobiles were produced in a harbor-side factory in Bridgeport, Conn.

Right: The 2021 Zenith Award winner as shown at the AACA Eastern National Meet in July, 2019 [Photo by Dan David]



The Last of the Fabulous Farquahr has passed away - Robert P. "Bobby" McGowan, one of the three McGowan brothers from Branford, Conn. known far and wide in both the music business and antique car circles, passed away on September 15 at age 81. The brothers began singing as teenagers and many years later formed the Fabulous Farquahr, a group noted for their entertaining, humor-tinged performances and recordings. Bobby, together with brothers Frank and Dennis, became interested in classic cars along the way. When folk music began to decline in popularity, they turned to antique car restoration, operating a shop called C. Farquahr Co. in Branford. Over the years the McGowans restored, sold or traded hundreds of select vintage cars. They were regulars at the Eastern Fall Meet in Hershey throughout that time. Even as his health declined, Bobby was often seen at local old car shows, including Belltown, a smiling passenger in a beloved Shoebox Ford woodie.



Left: The Fabulous Farquahr (and brother Jack) with their Duesenberg, back in the day.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

Saturday, Nov. 6 - **BACC Annual Meeting**, Karl Helming's home garage in Portland, 1:30 p.m. Last business meeting of the year; 2022 officers to be elected. *Attendance is strongly encouraged!*

Saturday, Dec. 4 - **BACC holiday party** at the Deep River Historical Society's Carriage House, 245 Main St. (behind DRHS Stone House, south of Deep River town center). Starts at 1:00 p.m. After you receive your invitation in the mail, please RSVP Polly Beckwith by the date she specifies, indicating meal choice and including the per person remittance.

Wednesday, Jan. 5 - **BACC monthly meeting** at the East Hampton Library, 7:30 p.m. First business meeting of the new year, 2022 officers presiding. (Tentative date and location; to be confirmed in the December-January newsletter.)

Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 22-23 - Auto Parts Swap 'n Sell at Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave., Springfield, Mass. Parts for classics, street rods, race cars. Info for vendors and attendees at: www.apswapnsell.com.

Other Event News

- On exhibit through January 2, 2022 at Lyman Allyn Art Museum in New London, Conn. is "LUSTER - Realism and Hyperrealism in Contemporary Automobile & Motorcycle Painting." Info at <https://www.lymanallyn.org/luster/>.

- CSRA's Annual Fall Swap Meet at Lake Compounce in Bristol will not be held this year. Their Spring Swap Meet on May 1, 2022 will mark a move of these events to Pratt & Whitney Stadium (formerly known as Rentschler Field) in East Hartford. Info at: https://www.csra.org/pages/events_list.php.

- No Conn. Int'l Auto Show at Mohegan Sun this year. Next one: Nov. 11-13, 2022. Info at www.ctautoshow.com.

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>.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

Challenge your automotive history IQ

What is a Fratzog?

- A. A purpose-built chassis intended for mud racing and designed to accept a VW Beetle drivetrain
- B. The 3-pronged Dodge emblem introduced on the 1962 Polara 500 and 880
- C. A type of scooter built in East Germany from the early 1950's up until 1983
- D. The predecessor of the constant velocity joint, as used on the FWD Ruxton produced in 1930
- E. A cross between a hot dog and a bratwurst sold exclusively at Slinger Speedway in Wisconsin

The correct answers to last month's Who, What, Where, or When, "Name the only three Convertible Sedans offered on the American market since WWII" are:

- 1. 1949-50 Kaiser Deluxe 2. 1949-51 Frazer Manhattan 3. 1961-67 Lincoln Continental**



Left to Right, Above: 1949 Kaiser Deluxe (LeMay Collection), 1951 Frazer Manhattan (Mecum Photo), 1961 Lincoln Continental (TopSpeed Photo)

NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the December, 2021 - January, 2022 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Friday, December 17. Tuesday the 21st is the publication date, with mail-out expected on December 27 and e-delivery taking place no later than December 29, assuming that the next meeting falls on January 5.

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 - 2021 Officers

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...

- **Your 2022 BACC Membership Renewal form is attached to the cover email of this issue.** Extra forms will also be available at Club meetings or you can download it from the Club web site. **Dues are payable January 1.** The newsletter will be suspended as from the March issue if your dues are not paid by the late February publication date. Note that any approved increase in dues will not take effect until March 1, 2022, so be prompt and save.
- **Mail your membership renewal with applicable dues (checks only please, no cash) to the Club mailing address in East Hampton.** Please do not send it to the newsletter editor!

“THANKS” and a big tip of the Belltown hat (new or old) to *Jim Olson* for taking us through his personal collection in mid-October. On full display was Jim’s evolution from being a serious John Deere devotee to just having serious fun with his ever-expanding and eclectic array of American orphan makes. Wow!

Every one of Jim’s cars has something unique about it and a story to match. As is often the case, the smaller manufacturers had to innovate to survive up against the volume leaders. Examples of the ingenuity of Kaiser, Studebaker, AMC, et al, abound in Jim’s garage. We are most grateful for having had the opportunity to look, listen, and learn.

Photo credit: Dan David



E-Delivery Bonus*

Old Cars Weekly has a series of podcasts called “Rollin’ With Old Cars” available through their web site that includes this one, an interview with Craig Floyd of the Early Ford V-8 Foundation Museum in Auburn, Ind.

Listen here (scroll down to Craig Floyd interview, run time 17 mins.):

<https://www.oldcarsweekly.com/features/rollin-with-old-cars-podcast>



At our last monthly meeting your editor was encouraged by two members to check out an on-line magazine dedicated to vintage automobiles called *The Old Motor*.

Well, that one was a secret too good to keep, so it merits passing along to anyone else who has not already become hooked on reading this Vermont-based production. Start with their “About” page here:

https://theoldmotor.com/?page_id=2

They have a Facebook page also, if you are into that sort of thing:

<https://www.facebook.com/theoldmotor>



*) 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.

