



THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

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

November, 2022

NEXT MEETING: THE ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. at the East Hampton Library

- On the Agenda:
- Decision about the Featured Marque for our 2023 Vintage Motorcar Meet
 - Decision about increasing membership dues (would take effect 3/1/23)
 - Decision about day & location of monthly meetings during the winter period
 - Upcoming activities, including our 2022 Holiday Party
 - Election of officers for 2023

FUEL FOR THOUGHT



For our 2022 Vintage Motorcar Meet we added a Featured Marque to the list of judged classes, selecting the Ford Model T as the first one. The objectives were to spotlight a pre-war nameplate and to use it to increase the participation of early cars. It worked to a "T."

Now the question is, what do we do for an encore in 2023? Is there another early marque that exists in sufficient numbers in Southern New England that we could successfully attract to our Meet? Do you have any suggestions? Alternatively, we could pivot from a focus on bolstering the early car count and, instead, use the Featured Marque as a means to boost spectator attendance. For example, choosing the popular and highly promotable C1-C3 Corvette could draw a wider

and younger audience to the event. A successful second act will help secure the Featured Marque's place in future Meets. Decisions are needed so we can prepare a flyer and begin early event publicity.

CLUB NOTES

Our tenth business meeting of the year was held on October 8, at Karl Helming's home garage. Thanks to Karl for hosting it, and to all who made the effort to attend the meeting the day following the close of the AACA Eastern Fall Meet in Hershey. *Ray* and *Betty Lichota* were absent due to having contracted COVID. We wish them a speedy recovery. *Alan Carlson* gave the treasurer's report in *Cliff Baker's* absence.

Alan read a humorous newspaper article sent to him by *Gordon Hallberg*. *Dan David* agreed to reprint it in a future newsletter [see **e-Delivery Bonus** section]. Dan stated that he had heard from Gordon, now a full-time resident of Naples, Florida, and *Bill Petras, Jr.*, of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, after Hurricane Ian and they both reported that they were mostly unaffected by the storm. Each of their homes is situated some five miles inland from the coastal areas where the storm came ashore and, fortunately, neither one was directly in its path.

Old business

Richard Beckwith suggested that BACC give Christopher Staehly a complimentary one-year membership as a further show of our appreciation. The members approved.

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CLUB NOTES, continued from p. 1

Alan Carlson congratulated *Bill Nitschke* and his team of volunteers for the fine Orphan and Discontinued Car Show put on by the Deep River Historical Society last month.

New business

Alan Carlson briefly reviewed the discussions from the recent Board Meeting. With regard to next month's election of officers he noted that VP *Mark Hoydilla* was interested to step up to president and *Ray Lichota* agreed to run for VP, while *Peter Christianson* and *Cliff Baker* confirmed that they were willing to continue in their current roles of secretary and treasurer. Alan will replace *Jon Grant* as the ex-officio member on the Board. We will be electing two members-at-large to the Board, one for a two-year term, the other for one year, the time remaining on that vacated position. *Dan David* and *Jon Grant* each expressed an interest in re-joining the Board as elected members. Nominations for any open seat can be made prior to the election.

Karl Helming confirmed that our holiday party is on the calendar for the Zion Lutheran Church's Fellowship Hall in Portland. *Polly Beckwith* will check with our usual caterer about serving us at the new location.

Polly will get back in touch with Klingberg Family Centers to invite them to a future meeting to present their student automotive restoration program.

Next meetings and locations

- ◆ The November meeting (the Annual Meeting) will be back at the East Hampton Library on Wednesday, November 2, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- ◆ *Jay Beveridge* suggested that we consider having all future meetings at *Karl Helming's* home garage on Saturdays. We previously said that we would do so for the winter months so as to avoid driving at night when road conditions are iffy. Nevertheless, during the summer season, meeting on Wednesday evenings at the library has the advantage of not conflicting with other old car events on the weekend. This is to be further discussed at the Annual Meeting. The January 7, 2023 meeting will be held at *Karl's*.

MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Diane Baker	Nov. 2nd	Devon Hallberg	Nov. 30th
	John Bair, Jr.	Nov. 7th	---	---
	Chevi Super	Nov. 7th (81)	Eileen Mastronunzio	Dec. 8th
	Howard Maseles	Nov. 8th (84)	Richard Doggart	Dec. 9th
	Margaret Seely	Nov. 14th (70)	Ben Jermaine	Dec. 10th
	Harold Waters	Nov. 15th (83)	Connie Lieder	Dec. 17th (78)
	John Beveridge	Nov. 17th (79)	Doug Mackeown	Dec. 19th
	Tammy Mackeown	Nov. 18th	Kathy Waters	Dec. 23rd (81)
	Tony Adams	Nov. 19th (96)	Peter Hoydilla	Dec. 26th
	Linda Elgart	Nov. 24th (78)	Nancy Cardone	Dec. 27th (65)
	Beverly Astles	Nov. 30th (85)	Bill Thompson	Dec. 27th (76)

In Memoriam: *William (Bill) West*, 84, of Chester (formerly of Deep River) passed away at home on September 20, after a period of ill health. Bill was an accomplished mechanical engineer who was passionate about vintage cars, sailing, and helping those in need. Our condolences to his wife, Jane, and their family.

New Member: Please welcome *Bradley Smith* of Deep River to BACC. Brad is a long-time Ford Model A enthusiast who owns two A's, as well as a 1936 Ford Tudor. He is also a member of CMARC, and, a musician. The BACC roster now stands at 102 primary members, including six lifetime members.

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

For Sale – 2007 BMW X3. 125,000 miles, very clean, runs great.
\$6,700.

Call Joe Lombardo, 860-815-7437. [BACC member]



For Sale – Nice original “classic car” trunk for a Packard, Cadillac, etc. Base approx. 16” x 38.” \$850.

Contact John Beveridge, 860-767-3072 (home) or e-mail beveridge18@att.net [BACC member]

CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

September 25, 1919 AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRIES
THE AUTOMOBILE 69



**UNIVERSAL JOINTS
AND CONE CLUTCHES**



During the month of August, 1919, the production of Hartford Universal Joints exceeded that of the ENTIRE YEAR of 1914.

There is only one answer:
QUALITY.

**THE HARTFORD
AUTOMOTIVE PARTS CO.**
Hartford, Conn.



TACK SÅ MYCKET

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

Halloween still awaits us (ugh!), but I am already looking forward to my favorite holiday: Thanksgiving. It's a day for feasting (yes!) and also a time for reflection and giving thanks - which reminds me of the gratitude all of us owe to *Betty Lichota* and *Joan Frey* for the refreshments and chocolate chip cookies they provide at most BACC meetings (yum!).

So, pardon my Swedish (I sometimes have flashbacks from a former life), and allow me to get on with thanking those who have helped me do a better job as editor of *The Belltown Bulletin* in 2022:

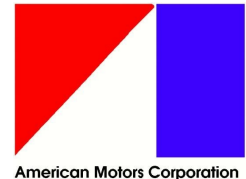
First, "**THANKS SO MUCH**" to the members who contributed content, including images, to the newsletter in the past 12 months, namely *Steven Rossi*, *Cliff Baker*, *Betty Lichota*, *Ralph Phil*, *Bill Blaufuss*, *Stan Mirecki*, *Jackie Reardon*, and *Joan Frey*. I am grateful to those who gave interviews or answered my inquiries, in particular *Ben Jermaine*, *Peter Christianson*, *Rick Scott*, *Cliff Baker*, *Phil La Rose*, *Ed Zeniski*, *Richard Skinner*, *Bill Nitschke*, *Barbara Hoban*, *Joe Lombardo*, *Steven Rossi*, *Jon Grant*, *Gordon Hallberg*, and *Bill Petras, Jr.* Many thanks as well to members who took time to write letters for publication - *Eleanor Sutton*, *Scott Macgregor*, *Jay Beveridge*, and *Bill Nitschke* - and to those who submitted classified ads throughout the year. Membership input adds value to the newsletter!

I should also express my appreciation to *Peter Christianson* and *Ralph Phil* for tolerating my "editorial suggestions" with regard to their own work on behalf of the Club. Finally, I want to tip my Belltown mesh cap to *Alan Carlson*, a.k.a. "El Presidente," who, during the five years of his leadership, gave me free rein with regard to this publication. Alan surely understands the headline above without my having to translate it for him. If only he had an email account...

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Hudson and Nash production ended 65 years ago - For model year 1958 the separate Hudson and Nash lines were discontinued. AMC replaced them with its corporate name and began marketing its cars using the Ambassador, Rambler and Metropolitan nameplates.

The Hudson Motor Car Co. was formed in 1909 in Detroit. Nash Motors Co. was created in 1916 in Kenosha, Wisc. The two companies merged to form American Motors Corp. in 1954.



95 years ago, the Ford Motor Company began producing the Model A - The all-new Ford Model A replaced the ubiquitous Model T. Over four model years, 1928-1931, Ford built more than 4,850,000 Model A's. Thousands of them are still in operation today. It has often been said that the antique car hobby was built upon the enduring popularity and affordability of the Ford Model A.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

Wednesday, November 2 - **BACC "Annual Meeting,"** 7:30 p.m. at the East Hampton Public Library. Election of 2023 officers will be held.

Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13 - Conn. International Auto Show (new cars - remember them?), Mohican Sun Expo Center, Uncasville, Conn. Info and tickets at: <https://ctautoshow.com/>.

Saturday, December 10 - **BACC 2022 Holiday Party** at Fellowship Hall at the Zion Lutheran Church, 183 William St., Portland, Conn., beginning at 1:00 p.m. In case of snow impeding travel it will be held on Sunday the 11th. Invitations will be mailed to members in advance; RSVP with your meal choice and check. Significant others welcome.

Saturday, January 7 - **BACC monthly business meeting**, 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's home garage in Portland, Conn. First meeting of 2023; newly-elected officers presiding.

Friday-Sunday, Jan. 20-22 - Carlisle Events presents Auto Mania, an indoor flea market and corral at the Ag Hall at the Allentown, Penn. Fairgrounds. Info: <https://carlisleevents.com/events/events-detail/index?id=auto+mania>.

Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 21-22 - Auto Parts Swap 'N Sell, Eastern States Exposition Better Living Center, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, Mass. Info: <http://www.apswapnsell.com/visitor-info.html>.

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

Two, unrelated, OHC in-line six-cylinder engines were produced in the U.S. between WWII and 1970. Identify them and the five vehicle lines in which they were offered.

*The correct answer to Who, What, Where, or When in the July issue, “Name five automobiles from the 1960’s that were *not* produced by General Motors but were powered by Chevrolet engines, and in which model years”:*

Studebaker, 1965-66, produced in Canada; std. engine was a Chevrolet I-6, optional was Chevrolet’s small block V-8

Avanti II, 1965-2004, standard with small block Chevrolet V-8 power

Checker, 1965-82, std. engine was a Chevrolet I-6, optional was Chevrolet’s small block V-8

Bizzarrini 5300 GT, 1964-68, produced in Italy featuring small block Chevrolet V-8 power

Iso Rivolta, 1963-70 & Iso Grifo, 1965-72, produced in Italy featuring small, and later, big-block Chevrolet V-8 power



Do you know of any others?



Above: 1967 Iso Grifo

NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the December, 2022 - January, 2023 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Monday, December 19. Thursday the 22nd is the publication date, with mail-out on December 27 and e-delivery no later than December 29. **Per our tradition, no newsletter is produced between late October and late December.**

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* - Vacated 9/22 (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]

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By the Way...

If you did not attend this year's By Land or By Sea event at Mystic Seaport on Saturday, September 24, you missed seeing our *Beverly Astles* (right), all decked out in a period outfit (made by her) and showing off her equally snazzy 1930 Ford Model A Cabriolet.

[Photo credit: Joan Frey]

Enclosed is your **2023 Membership Renewal Form**. Please return it with your check payable to "BACC" to the Club address by year end. Renewals are considered past due at the end of January.

Note: New members who joined on or after August 7 (the date of our Vintage Motorcar Meet) do not owe any additional dues for 2023. "Lifetime" members are exempt from annual dues.



E-Delivery Bonus*

- ⇒ Our Sunshine State colleague, *Gordon Hallberg*, sent us an article he saw in *The Naples News* under the headline, "Buying a classic car can be more than you bargained for," reprinted on page 7. It's funny and also it rings true, which is just what you would expect from Ray Magliozzi of *Car Talk* fame.
- ⇒ When you get tired of raking leaves and need a break, here is an interesting video that was posted recently on *Hemmings Daily News*. It explains an engine simulator program written by a fellow who goes by "Ange The Great." His idea was to create a better way to artificially create an engine soundtrack for video games but it evolved into something interesting in its own right:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RKT-sKtR970>

If V-8's aren't your thing he has a companion video simulating other piston engine configurations. Or maybe you just want to get back outside and rake some more...

*) 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.



Buying a classic car can be more than you bargained for



Car Talk

Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk: I am not a car nut; hence, I don't know much about the innards of a car. However, I would love to own a classic 1960-ish muscle car, like a Mustang Fastback. Is there anything I should be aware of before I get myself into it?

What would you warn me of before I get into buying myself a classic car?

— *Kunal*

I would warn you that you're not buying a car, Kunal, you're buying a hobby. Maybe a career. And possibly, a divorce.

From a mechanic's point of view, 50 to 60 years ago, cars were pretty lousy, compared to cars today. They were less reliable, less durable, they handled poorly, stopped poorly, and crashed less safely. But they looked great, right?

So, you're going to need several things before you embark on this bank-account-and-free-time depleting project, Kunal.

First, you'll need a modern car so you can make the classic your second car. You don't want to count on a 60-year-old car as your daily driver. So, don't sell your Corolla.

Next, you'll need some savings. Old cars are always reaching into your

pocket, so just accept that. It's not just the purchase price, it's the ongoing care and feeding.

After that, you'll need a subscription to Hemmings Motors News ("the bible of the old car hobby"). That'll be your bathroom reading for the next 20 or 30 years.

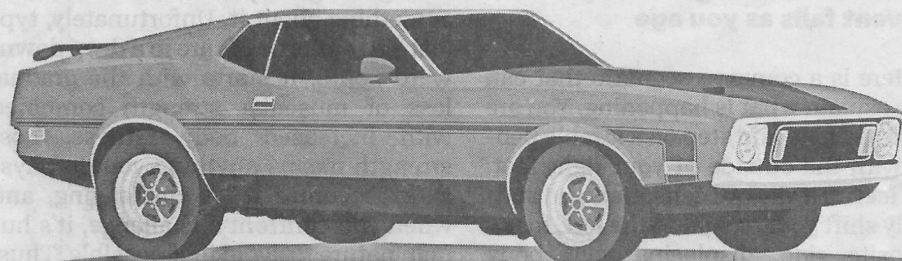
Finally, you'll need a support group. Fortunately, most areas have old car clubs, where nuts and aspiring nuts like you get together and enjoy themselves.

These will be your new people, Kunal. They'll recommend mechanics to you, give you tips on where to get parts that are no longer made, and share their knowledge. They'll also provide emotional support, giving you a shoulder to cry on when you spend two months of weekends replacing the transmission in your '66 Mustang, and on the first test drive, it won't shift out of second gear.

In fact, joining a club like that in advance will help you get advice on what year, make and model to seek out, and, even more importantly, what cars to avoid.

And if all that doesn't dissuade you, Kunal, you'll have a wonderful time with your classic car, and you'll make lots of new friends. Especially tow truck drivers and mechanics. Enjoy!

Got a question about cars? Write to Ray in care of King Features, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803, or email by visiting the Car Talk website at cartalk.com.



1973 Ford Mustang Mach1 GETTY IMAGES