



NEXT MEETING

Saturday, March 4, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's in Portland

- Timely Topics:
- First quarter tours and activities
 - Preparation for our Antique Engine & Tractor Meet in April
 - Membership renewal update

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

Linkage, a glossy magazine published quarterly by Audrain Motorsport, Inc., Newport, R.I., features a column by Jay Leno entitled, "Funny That You Asked." In the winter issue, Jay muses on The Risk of Not Taking Risks. He writes, "I was told the theme for this issue was risk, but what is risk exactly? The dictionary defines it as: 'Exposure to the chance of injury or loss; A hazard or dangerous chance: It's not worth the risk.' But what if it is worth the risk? Is it still a risk?"



Jay tells us, "I enjoy driving 100-year-old steam cars in L.A. traffic. People say to me, 'Aren't you afraid it might blow up? Isn't that risky?' Well, no, because steam cars don't blow up. The worst that can happen is you might scorch the boiler or blow a pressure relief valve and release a ton of steam into the atmosphere, which is great theater. Okay, maybe they catch fire once in a while but that's hardly risky. But isn't a little risk part of the fun? Isn't risk what makes life interesting?"

It's ironic (if not prognostic) that while the issue of *Linkage* that contains that column was coming off the presses last November, Leno himself suffered burns from an accidental flash fire in his garage while clearing a gas line on one of his steam cars. Despite the seriousness of his injuries he was quick to recover and get back to doing what he likes to do best, tinkering in his garage and telling jokes on stage. Unfortunately, Jay had a second mishap in January while entering a parking lot on his 1940 Indian motorcycle, breaking a couple of ribs and injuring his collarbone and knees. In light of these recent experiences, perhaps the 72 year old Leno will revisit the subject of risk in a future column. If so, will he double-down on his professed belief that a little risk makes life interesting, or, will he admit that a little risk can be larger than it appears, looking at it in the rear view mirror?

CLUB NOTES

Our second business meeting of 2023 was held on February 4 at Karl Helming's home garage in Portland. We opted not to have a pot luck meal this time, however, we did have lots of great cookies to choose from!

Old business

Cliff Baker said that Quality Nameplate had increased prices a little for the trophy nameplates we need this year, but the cost still seemed reasonable. No objections were raised, so ordering will proceed.

Peter Christianson brought some copies of the show flyer for our 48th Antique Engine & Tractor Meet for members to take and post locally.

CLUB NOTES (continued from p. 1)

Dan David reported that he notified the Studebaker Drivers Club's Nutmeg and Ocean Bay Chapters that our 2023 Vintage Motorcar Meet will showcase Studebaker as the Featured Marque. A show flyer as well as a complimentary newsletter were sent to both clubs. In addition, a request was sent to the event calendar editor of the SDC's *Turning Wheels* magazine to include our show since it will feature Studebakers. We got a positive reply indicating that our event will be listed beginning with their April issue.

Membership renewal status - As of the start of the meeting, 19 members (19%) had not yet paid their dues for 2023. *Cliff Baker* said he would call them during the month. According to the By-Laws, membership is considered to have lapsed for nonpayment of dues within 30 days of the second notice, which, in this case, coincided with the February newsletter sent to those affected.

New business

Cliff Baker said that Chubb Insurance will drop our policy as of its expiration on March 15. We made one claim against the policy last summer. Cliff is getting quotes for a new policy. Members agreed to give him the authority to sign up for a new policy ahead of the next meeting provided that the coverage is equal to Chubb's policy and the cost is in the same ballpark.

Scott Macgregor gave a report on the CT Council of Car Clubs and the status of legislation affecting the old car hobby in the legislative session so far. There is a 4C's meeting on Monday. Scott will pay our dues at that time, including an additional \$50 donation from BACC as was approved by members.

Members approved a \$200 donation to *Karl Helming* to help defray the cost to heat his garage during our winter meetings this year. While the February meeting was held under near record cold conditions (below 20 degrees outside), we were toasty warm inside thanks to Karl's industrial-strength heater.

Dan David raised the subject of how to ensure that there will be a reasonable turnout of antique tractors at our upcoming Antique Engine & Tractor Meet. Suggestions were made and considered to actively recruit tractor owners from outside the Club and to put together a half dozen tractors from within the membership ranks. One idea was to solicit tractor owners at the Chester Tractor Parade [held February 19th - *Ed.*]. This issue will be ripe for follow up at our next meeting.

Rob Szczepanski asked if anyone knew of a place that could custom make a flat, safety-glass windshield. *Jon Grant* recommended trying Middletown Plate Glass. [Be sure to request laminated safety-glass or you might get tempered single-sheet glass instead of two-sheet glass laminated with a layer of plastic in between. The latter is what came into general use for windshield applications in the 1920's and is the type that is required for windshields on all cars today. Tempered glass is for side windows and backlites. - *Ed.*]

Jon Grant said he has a friend who is looking for a Ford Model A roadster body for a project. It doesn't need to be pretty. Call him if you know of someone who has one for sale (860-510-9550).

Don Liepelt told a humorous story about visiting his local Auto Zone parts store to buy plasti-gauge for an antique engine rebuild project he is working on. Suffice it to say, the young man behind the parts counter did not have the training or experience to know what Don was asking for. After a false start, a phone call, and some digging, he managed to find the plasti-gauge for Don, way back in the storeroom.

Activities

- ◆ *Don Liepelt* is putting together a driving tour for C.H.A.S. in May that Belltowners may participate in. *Polly Beckwith* is working on a similar plan for the Model T Club. Members saw this as an opportunity to have a 3-club combined tour. Don and Polly will look into whether the two tours can be merged.
- ◆ No dates have been set for the previously proposed tour to Corvette Center in Newington, or a modern car tour to the collector car museums in Newport, R.I.

MEMBER MILESTONES

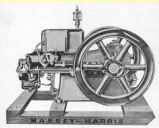
<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Mark Hoydilla	March 1st	Jon Grant	March 18th (75)
	Nonie Diebold	March 4th	Carl Bjorge	March 20th (81)
	Richard Shipman	March 9th	Bill Nitschke	March 26th
	Paul Rich	March 11th	Jared Lamenzo	March 28th
	Bradley Smith	March 15th	Paul Seely	March 31st (75)
	Frances Dutch	March 18th		

Happy Anniversary to: Stan & Terri Mericki March 26th

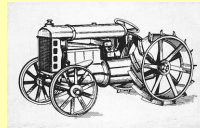
Condolences to: Ray and Betty Lichota with respect to the death of Ray's brother, Martin (Bob) Lichota, 81, who passed away on February 1st after a brief illness.

Congratulations to: Steven Rossi, for being elected to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Antique Automobile Club of America, based in Hershey, Penn. For the past fifteen years, Steve has been a contributing editor to AACAA's bi-monthly magazine, **Antique Automobile**. He intends to continue writing his columns in addition to assuming his new board responsibility as AACAA vice president for public relations and events.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)



*Less than 60 days to go until this year's
Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet!*



Saturday, March 4 - **BACC monthly business meeting**, 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's, 220 Jobs Pond Rd., Portland, Conn.

Sunday, March 12 - Antique & Collectible Toy Show, Franklin Fire Dept., 5 Tyler Dr., North Franklin, Conn., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., free admission. Dealer spaces \$20. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/franklinfire25>.

Saturday - Sunday, March 25-26 - Don Clady's 2023 Indoor Conn. Cabin Fever Car & Motorcycle Show, Naugatuck Entertainment Facility, 6 Rubber Ave., Naugatuck, Conn., sponsored in part by *Connecticut Cruise News*. Admission \$12. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/845969543478999/?ref=newsfeed>.

Sunday, March 26 - 27th Annual Winter Blahs Swap Meet presented by the Minuteman Model A Ford Club (MAFCA chapter), at the Elks Lodge, 34 Powdermill Rd, Rte. 62, Maynard, Mass., 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. Vendor tables \$20, general admission \$3. For registration info call Craig Martin at 508-561-3977.

Saturday, April 1 - **BACC monthly business meeting**, 1:30 p.m. at Karl Helming's home garage in Portland, Conn.

Saturday, April 1 - Automobilia Auction Spring 2023 at Winter Associates, 21 Cooke St., Plainville, Conn. Begins at 11 a.m. Info at: www.automobiliaauctions.com. For consignment info, email Jerry Lettieri at glettieri@cox.net.

Sunday, April 2 - 35th Annual Ty-Rod's Spring Swap Meet at Stafford Motor Speedway, Stafford Springs, Conn., 7 a.m.

Friday - Sunday, April 7-16 - New York Internat'l Auto Show, Jacob Javits Center, N.Y.C.; info: www.autoshowny.com.

Wednesday, April 19 - First 2023 monthly cruise night on the Green in Colchester, Conn. presented by the Good Times Motoring Club, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Rain date following Wednesday. Info: <https://www.goodtimesmotoringclub.com/>.

Saturday, April 22 - Cars & Coffee at Abingdon Spares, 900 Industrial Park Rd., Deep River, Conn. Focus is on British cars and sports cars; other interesting old cars are welcome. Updates: <https://www.facebook.com/abingdon.spares/>.

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

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>

HAPPY MOTORING

Congratulations to the Belltowners who won AACA National Show awards in 2022!

Randy Greenberg was the recipient of a ‘Senior Grand National’ award at the AACA Grand Nationals held in Virginia Beach, VA on May 21, 2022 for his 1959 Cadillac Coupe DeVille [below right], as well as a ‘Class HPOF Historic Preservation’ award at the AACA Eastern Fall Nationals in Hershey, PA on October 7, 2022 for his 1980 Cadillac Coupe DeVille [below left].



Joe Lombardo was the recipient of a Class HPOF ‘Original HPOF’ award at the AACA Eastern Fall Nationals in Hershey, PA on October 7, 2022 for his 1965 Buick Skylark 4-door sedan [below].



Don Liepelt & son David also won an award at the AACA Eastern Fall Nationals this year, for ‘Repeat Driver Participation’ in Class DPC, for their 1930 Willys-Knight sedan dubbed “Arthur” [below].



Photo credits: The owners

Share the news from your 2023 antique car show and touring adventures with your fellow Belltowners. They like to “Read all about it” ... in *The Belltown Bulletin!*

MARK MY WORDS

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

The word “**mark**” is a common one with an uncommon number of meanings. We got marks in school, we make marks on paper and we like to think that we made our mark at work. We remember the “GM Mark of Excellence,” or at least the corresponding blue and silver label stuck to the door jamb of our late 60’s GM-built cars. We know guys named Mark and we recall a succession of Lincoln coupes called Mark, followed by a Roman numeral. Companies will mark up prices when the market will pay them and they miss the mark when they guess wrong or aim too high.

Then there is “**marque**,” which is **pronounced the same as mark**. Marque has two different meanings, one being **a particular nameplate or emblem that identifies an automobile**. As an example, “Studebaker will be the Featured Marque at our Vintage Motorcar Meet later this year.”

That brings me to “**marquee**,” another word derived from French, like *marque*, but pronounced *mar-key*. A marquee is defined as the structure projecting over the entrance to a theater, in modern times usually displaying the name of the scheduled performance or film. In other words, a *marquee* rarely has any connection to a particular automobile unless the main attraction is a movie with a car brand in the title (i.e., “Tucker”).

Unless I missed the mark, by now you will have figured out one of my pronunciation pet peeves! [Cue the groans ...]

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Antique Car Parts Store in Palmer, Mass. Under New Ownership - Pease Antique Auto Parts, a go-to parts source for generations, has been sold. The new owner is Brian Keith, an experienced employee of the retired former owner, Nelson B. Pease. The business has been renamed Foundry Street Classic Parts and remains at the 43 Foundry St. location in Palmer. You can reach them at 413-283-7620.

New Stutz Museum Opens in Indianapolis - February 3rd marked the opening of a new museum dedicated to the storied Stutz marque in downtown Indianapolis, Ind. It occupies lobby space that anchors the first phase of a major redevelopment of the old Stutz automobile factory, which is comprised of seven buildings on 3.8 acres. The complex will be leased to entrepreneurs, artists, and food and beverage sellers, and will also include space for events. The car museum initially holds a dozen Stutz automobiles. Web site: <https://www.thestutz.com/>.

Breaking News: Klingberg Motorcar Series and Pre-War Concours will not be held in 2023 - Due to changes in personnel and retirements, Klingberg has decided to pause for a year and plan for the future of these events.

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

For Sale – **1929 Essex Super Six Rumble Seat Coupe**

Runs and drives great.

Asking \$15,000

Call **Don Super**, 860-304-4634 [BACC member],
or **Randy Hale**, 860-662-0649



For Sale – **1931 Model A Ford Deluxe Roadster**

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.

Asking \$22,500 (Has title)

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

For Sale – **2004 Toyota Camry V-6 4-Dr. Sedan**

101,000 miles, 1-owner, always garaged.
Well maintained (timing belt changed).

Asking \$4,500

Call **Alan Carlson**, 860-510-9847
[BACC member, representing the elderly seller]

CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

Before the company was bought by Pirelli in the late 1980's, the Armstrong Rubber Co. was a major player in the replacement market for car and truck tires and a prominent employer at its plant in West Haven, Conn. Armstrong's modern headquarters overlooking New Haven Harbor at the junction of I-95 and I-91, later used for a time by Pirelli, is a local landmark that has recently been repurposed as a hotel.

"We've standardized on Armstrongs"

MR. B. STOLZENBERG
National Builders Supply Corp.
Glendale, N. Y.

● "Our need of tires that can stand abuse caused by delivering heavy loads of building materials and coal, summer and winter, on and off the road, has been met most satisfactorily and economically by Armstrong Tires. We've tried them all and have standardized, as a result of our experience, on Armstrongs."

HUNDREDS of tire-wise commercial car operators are now acutely aware of this important fact: *you can't buy a better tire than an Armstrong!* Since 1912 Armstrong has pioneered in making tires that wear longer and cost less. You can count on Armstrong to give you a tire that will perform better, last longer, stand up under all conditions and cost you less per mile of use. That's not a statement—it's a promise!

For literature or information write your Armstrong Distributor or to Armstrong Rubber Company.

ARMSTRONG TIRES

Manufacturers of Quality Tires and Tubes Since 1912 • General Offices and Plant—465 Elm Street, West Haven, Conn.

8 MOTOR for

The Armstrong brand was being phased out by Pirelli in 2012 when the rights to the name were acquired by ZAFCO, an Asian tire producer-distributor with manufacturing facilities in Thailand and Indonesia. Today, Armstrong tires are once again readily available in the U.S. at big box retailers, including Walmart, and on-line sellers such as SimpleTire. - Ed.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

Challenge your automotive history IQ

Two Connecticut state highways feature a section where the speed limit is 0 mph. What are the two route numbers and where are these anomalies located?

The correct answer to Who, What, Where, or When in the last issue, "Match the name of the car with the last name of the man responsible for it":

- A. Ostentienne Opera Sedan - Bruce Mohs [car illustration, below left]
- B. Henry J - Henry J. Kaiser
- C. REO the Fifth Touring - Ransom E. Olds [car photo, below center]
- D. Lincoln Model L - Henry M. Leyland [car photo, below right]
- E. Franklin - John Wilkinson
- F. LaSalle Series 303 - Lawrence P. Fisher



NEXT ISSUE

The next **Belltown Bulletin** will be the April, 2023 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Friday, March 17. Tuesday the 21st is the publication date, with mail-out on March 22 and e-delivery no later than March 24.

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, Randy Greenberg, Joe Lombardo, Don Liepelt, and Ray Lichota.

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 [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]

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. Reproduction of this publication in whole or in part is subject to prior approval by the editor.

BY THE WAY...

In addition to the Studebaker Drivers Club*, the Cadillac & LaSalle Club has published recommendations on **lubricants for pre-war antique cars**. Under “Tech Tips” in the February, 2023 issue of *The Self-Starter*, CLC’s magazine, the author writes that engine oil “... must be a high zinc (>1,000 ppm) type to protect the valves, cams, flat tappets and rocker arms.” Under suitable oils, Castrol GTX Classic 20W-50 [right], Valvoline VR1 Racing 20W-50 (also available in SAE 30, 40, 50, and 60), and Shell T4 Rotella Triple Protection 15W-40 are listed as meeting the >1,000 ppm zinc requirement.

The author further states that “Shell T4 Rotella Triple Protection is a ‘diesel’ oil which is suitable for and recommended for pre-war gasoline engines. Shell’s technical department confirmed this to me and they were very informative.” The Shell oil also has a higher phosphorus content to combat wear and oxidation (a level of phosphorus not suitable for later cars with catalytic converters). The Shell T4 Rotella Triple Protection also “... has a higher level of detergent which tends to increase wear, but the anti-wear additive level more than compensates for this.”

*) See February’s *Belltown Bulletin* under HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY



E-Delivery Bonus*

- ◆ See page 9 for the final version of the show flyer for our upcoming Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet.
- ◆ Podcasts are all the rage today. Here is one from the CarStories series produced for the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles. It’s an interview of nationally known, local car guy, Wayne Carini:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/5f3w70KNkN0h30J5TETszW> (28 mins. on Spotify - also available on Apple)

If you have some more free time, have a listen to this CarStories interview with Randy Nonenberg, who is the co-founder of the popular on-line collector car auction site, Bring-a-Trailer:

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/4U22OiMh2l0sGkj09o1jdU> (41 mins. on Spotify - also available on Apple)

*) 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.



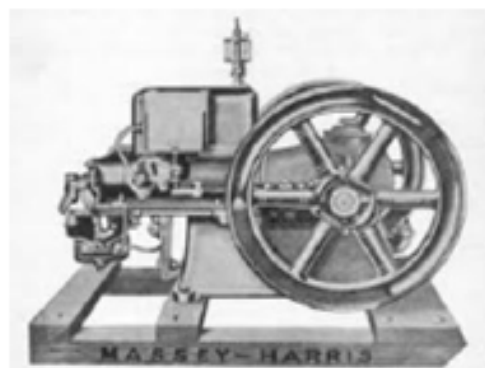
The Belltown Antique Car Club

Presents

The 48th Annual Antique Engine & Tractor Meet

Sunday, April 30, 2023

“Always the last Sunday in April”



Location:

Fireman's recreation area
at Salmon River State Park,
Rte. 16, East Hampton, CT
Entrance across from the
Comstock Covered Bridge

Show hours: 8 am to 3 pm

Rain or shine, field conditions
permitting

No charge for admission or
parking - applies to exhibitors,
vendors and spectators

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Children under 12 must be
accompanied by an adult

Food & refreshments provided
by the East Hampton Lions Club



Important Note to Flea Market Vendors:

Due to our use permit for the show
field, *flea market vending will be
restricted to items related to the
engine and tractor hobbies.*

Household items, plants and
general merchandise *will not* be
allowed on the field.

Display and sales of guns and
knives are *forbidden.*

No unauthorized food sales.

Show Updates & Information:

www.belltownantiquecarclub.org

Peter Christianson, 860-510-3340

BACC's Other 2023 Show:

56th Annual Belltown
Vintage Motorcar Meet
Sunday, August 6

Haddam Neck Fair Grounds,
Haddam Neck, CT