



NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the East Hampton Public Library

- Timely Topics:
- Preparations for our 56th Annual Vintage Motorcar Meet in August
 - Update on pre-show publicity for the Vintage Motorcar Meet
 - Summer tours and activities

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

“Studebaker history is an enigma of successes and failures, challenges met and opportunities missed. They were ahead of their time and they were also at times backwards. The nine years that the Hawk series was produced included consistently good looking and good performing cars for their time.



Magazines almost always gave outstanding reviews of the Hawks. The greatest testament to these cars lies in their popularity among Studebaker collectors today who proudly restore and show them. The last Hawk may have been built in 1963, but the legacy continues...”

- Ed Reynolds, from the introduction to his book, *Studebaker Hawk, 1956-1964 Photo Archive*, published by Iconogرافix, 2002

CLUB NOTES

Our fifth business meeting of 2023 was held on May 3 at the East Hampton Public Library. “Thank you” to everyone who contributed to a most enjoyable pot-luck supper. Thanks also to our guest speaker, Kara Preston from Klingberg Family Centers.

New member *Brad Smith* was on hand (his 2nd meeting) and *Phil Schuster* attended the meeting as a guest. [Phil caught up with us at our Dust-Off the following weekend and joined the Club. - *Ed*.]

Guest Speaker

Kara Preston explained that Klingberg’s mission is working with abused and neglected children. Depending on the circumstances they also work with the child’s parents to help them make better choices. The Klingberg Auto Restoration Program is relatively new and offers hands-on experience that is helpful to kids on the autism spectrum. That and their woodworking shop provide for mentoring and open up vocational opportunities for children who show an interest. At the conclusion of her remarks she took questions. A motion was made and approved to make a \$200 donation to the program. In addition, individual members donated several boxes of automotive tools.

Old Business

Cliff Baker reported the gross receipts from the Antique Engine & Tractor Meet held April 30. Most but not all of our expenses were accounted for, however, it looked like we would not break even due to the weather affecting turnout.

Mark Hoydilla said that he waived the vendor fee for the Lions Club considering that attendance impacted their food sales. He wanted to be sure they would support the Meet next year. Mark thanked all those who volunteered to run the event. He believes that it will take another year to build the Meet back to where it was before ... assuming the weather cooperates.

Photographs from the Meet and a list of award winners can be found on p. 6 of this newsletter.

CLUB NOTES (continued from p. 1)New Business

Peter Christianson reported that he has been getting calls from Studebaker owners regarding our Vintage Motorcar Meet, indicating early interest in participation in this year's Featured Marque class.

Jackie Reardon suggested that we put an insert about Studebaker in the meet registration packets to explain why it was chosen as our Featured Marque. We can also make it available to spectators as a hand-out or put it on a placard in the Featured Marque parking area. *Dan David* volunteered to draft it.

Upcoming Club Activities

Polly Beckwith reminded everyone about the get-together at her house on May 14, followed by the Haddam Jail tour.

MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	David Cardone	June 1st	Jeff DeMichael	June 14th
	Alex Lieuwma	June 1st (88)	Linda LaRose	June 19th
	Jennifer Beckwith	June 2nd	Betty Lichota	June 21st
	Phil Hamilton	June 5th	Polly Beckwith	June 22nd
	Jackie Reardon	June 10th	June Guertin	June 25th

<u>Happy Anniversary to:</u>	Gordon & Maureen Hallberg	June 7th	Peter & Vincenza McNulty	June 27th
	Doug & Tamzen Mackeown	June 10th (51)	Edward & Marie Zenisky	June 27th (59)
	Richard & Jane Shipman	June 12th	Jared Lamenzo & Ilona Parkanski	June 27th
	Ray & Eileen Mastronunzio	June 21st (30)	Gary & Donna Mae Bogan	June 29th
	Bill & Carol Petras	June 21st (65)		

New Members: Please welcome *Phil Schuster* of East Haddam (formerly of New Jersey) to BACC. Phil owns a 1952 Jaguar XK120 fixed head coupe and a 1962 Triumph TR3A roadster. Also, we welcome back *Edward Shumbo* of Moodus, who was with us in 2021. Ed pilots a Slant-Six Plymouth Duster.

Best Wishes: *Bob Fiala* is out of the hospital and recuperating at home. *Joe Frey* is facing health issues of his own that have begun to inhibit him from getting behind the wheel. We hope to see them again soon!

Our Sympathies to: *Paul Rich*, for the recent passing of both of his parents, Betty Rich and Wayne Rich.

GOING THE EXTRA MILE(S)

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

As I write this, the month of May is only half over and it has been jam packed with opportunities for old car activity ... more than can be accommodated by any one of us. Cruise nights seemed to start earlier this year and our Dust-Off to Gillette Castle happened after our cars had already been out and about at least once.

A one-off event that popped up on our schedules was the "surprise" 80th birthday bash for *Don Liepelt* at the eclectic Yankee Steamworks in Guilford. Don's sons, who live out of state, as well as his many friends from the old car hobby and the local community went all out to make it a very special celebration indeed.

Circling back to our Dust-Off, organizer *Cliff Baker* noted that there were 28 Belltowners and two guests in attendance, including new members *Phil Schuster* and his wife, *Wendy*. By my count there were at least 19 collector cars on hand, plus *Tim Cone's* motorcycle. In the mix were six Model T Fords, three of which were paraded in by the Liepelt clan. All in all, a fine day with an excellent turnout.

Unfortunately, *Jim Way's* well-traveled Model A roadster would not turn **over** when we were ready to leave the park to head over to Staehly's Yankee Cider Co. Despite two push-start attempts and some tinkering, the old A refused to start. Kudos to *Matt Elgart* and *Jon Grant* for coming back to lend further assistance in the futile effort to get Jim going. In the end, *Tim Cone* rode home, returned with his truck and trailer, and then transported Jim and his Model A up to Haddam Neck - a 25 mile round trip. "Bravo, Tim!"

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Ford Motor Company Founded 120 Years Ago - Henry Ford and eleven stockholders incorporated the company in Michigan on June 16, 1903, beginning the venture with \$28,000 in cash, some tools and early blueprints, and a lot of faith in Henry's vision.

First New Plymouth Produced 95 Years Ago - Chrysler Corporation built the first Plymouth on June 7, 1928 and introduced the brand to the public at Madison Square Garden in New York a month later. Plymouth was positioned as a competitor to Chevrolet and Ford in the low-priced field. The brand quickly rose to the number three position in U.S. sales and, by early 1957, ten million Plymouths had been produced. Plymouth built a reputation for muscle cars in the 1960's and minivans in the 1980's. Nevertheless, by the late '90's Plymouth sales were in decline, ultimately leading to its discontinuation by DaimlerChrysler in 2001.

75th Anniversary of the Tucker to be Celebrated June 16-18, 2023 - The Tucker Automobile Club of America will host an event at the AACA Museum in Hershey, Penn. Tucker family members, marque specialists, and club members and their cars will participate. (47 of the original 51 Tucker cars produced are known to exist today.) For more info on the celebration, as well as the AACA Museum's permanent Tucker exhibit, visit www.aacamuseum.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

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.

Wednesday, June 14 - 26th Anniversary Main St. Cruise, Middletown, Conn. 4:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Rain date: June 21. Pre-1998 vehicles. Info: <https://cruisenightonmain.com/>.

Sunday, June 25 - 46th Annual Housatonic Valley Region AACA Classic Car Show in partnership with Conn. Antique Machinery Assn., 31 Kent Cornwall Rd. off Rte. 7, Kent, Conn.; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info: www.ctamachinery.com.

Tuesday, July 4 - Essex Auto Club annual car show at the Conn. River Museum, head of Main St., Essex, Conn., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; \$20/show car, limited to first 80 cars (gate open at 7:30 a.m.); \$5 suggested donation for spectators. Rain date: Sept. 4 (Labor Day).

Wednesday, July 5 - **BACC monthly meeting** at the East Hampton Public Library, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Repeating Cruise Nights / Cars & Coffee Events

Every Tuesday - "Misfits 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.)

Every Other Sunday - CT Shoreline Cars & Coffee at Moroso Performance Products off Goose Lane in Guilford, entry \$2/car, 9 to 11 a.m. (next ones: June 11, 25)

Select Sundays - Cruzin' Hebron at Hebron Village Shoppes, Rte. 66, 4 p.m. onward (next ones: June 25, Sept. 24)

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>.

HAPPY MOTORING

In the cover email to the May newsletter, your editor referenced the oft-mentioned concern in the old car hobby that we are doing enough to get the younger generations more interested in it. Part of the answer begins with taking your kids or grand-kids to an antique car show, or, giving kids rides in your old car. So, to get the ball rolling, Club members were challenged to submit a fresh photo of your old car or truck with a young person in it / on it or next to it.

Barbara Hoban was the first to respond, sending me a nice shot of her grandson Joe Hoban (L) behind the wheel of his dad’s 1973 Mustang Mach 1 at the Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet. Barbara notes that Joe is just now in the process of getting his driver’s license. The second photo (R) is of father Bruce, young Joe, and grandpa John, three generations of Hoban car guys!

[Photo credit: Barbara Hoban]



On the first weekend in May, Don Liepelt’s sons were in town to celebrate Don’s 80th birthday. David and Paul Liepelt are already car guys (L) and don’t need any convincing. The next generation looks promising, too, judging by Paul’s daughter Esther (R), perched up front in one of the Liepelt family T’s at our Spring Dust-Off gathering at Gillette Castle.

[Photo credit: Dan David]



Email your photos of “Kids & Cars” (or your recent old car adventures) to the editor for publication in an upcoming issue of *The Belltown Bulletin*.

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

For Sale – 1931 Ford Model A Deluxe Roadster - Asking \$17,500

Brewster Green and black with Apple Green wheels & stripe. New LeBaron Bonney interior and correct T-14 top. Many accessories incl. quail, stone guard, whitewall tires, twin sidemounts with stainless steel tread covers, etc.

Solid, straight and rust free; a nice driver.

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



For Sale – 1937 Ford Model 78 Standard Fordor Sedan - \$11,500

Gray exterior with red pinstripe, good glass, driver quality chrome, upgraded to tubular shocks for better ride, whitewall tires, rebuilt starter, all steel top, no body repair required. This beauty runs like a charm with its flathead V8. Orig. tan interior, all gauges work, front passenger seat belts, Ford radio that buzzes. Selling for health reasons. Clean CT title in my name. Solid driver. Includes spare set of cast iron heads and assorted manuals.

Call **Joe Frey** for appointment, 860-219-1448 [BACC member]

SOLD!



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]



CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

New Haven, Conn. was once a place that made components for cars. Here are two examples from 1919:



48th ANNUAL BELLTOWN ANTIQUE ENGINE & TRACTOR MEET



[Photo credit, upper group: Dan David]



Trophies were awarded to the following exhibitors, by category:

Antique Engines

- Dell Burr Memorial Trophy (highest horsepower) - Lee Stolzer (6 hp) →
- Most Unique Engine - Donnie Hargreaves
- Best Unrestored Engine - Lee Sweet
- Heavy Weight Engine - 1st place, Randy Root
2nd place, John Drabik
- Working Engine Display - 1st place, Rich Zappone
2nd place, Seth Warren
- Restored Engine - 1st place, Jim Shea
- Miniatures - no trophy awarded



Antique Tractors

- Air Cooled - 1st place, Tim McCue (1967 John Deere)
2nd place, David Asplund (1952 Sit N Cut)
- Water Cooled - 1st place, Tim Marvin (1937 John Deere) →
2nd place, Tim Cone (1951 Ford 8N)
3rd place, Jason Burr (1935 John Deere)



[Photo credit, 1st place awards: Ralph Phil]

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN

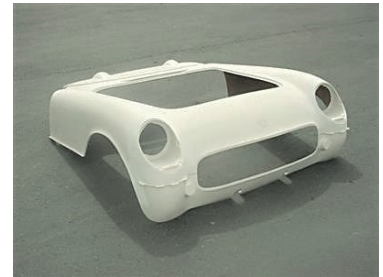
Challenge your automotive history IQ

Which of the following rear-wheel drive American cars have the transmission mounted in the rear, attached directly to the differential or integrated with it (i.e., a “transaxle”)?

1984-96 Chevrolet (C4) Corvette	1961-63 Pontiac Tempest
1984-88 Pontiac Fiero	1948 Tucker
1981-83 DeLorean	1940-41 Hupmobile Skylark
1966-69 Buick Riviera	1939-40 Crosley
1960-69 Chevrolet Corvair	1915-22 Stutz Bearcat

The correct answer to Who, What, Where, or When in the last issue, “Identify 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.”:

Answer: B) 1953-82 Chevrolet Corvette, C) 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird, E) 1956-65 Alfa-Romeo Giulietta Spider, and F) 1963-64 Studebaker Avanti have fully integrated front fenders. The fiberglass bodies of the Corvettes and Avantis are made in sections bonded together with outer seams filled. The other two cars have all-welded, steel body shells. The front fenders on Chrysler Airflows and MGAs are bolt-on units.



Right: One-piece replacement front clip for 1953-55 Corvette

NEXT ISSUE

The next **Belltown Bulletin** will be the July, 2023 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Monday, June 19. Thursday the 22nd is the publication date, with mail-out on June 26 and e-delivery no later than June 28.

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:** *Barbara Hoban, Steve Rossj, Ralph Phil, Betty Lichota and James Borbas, Jr.*

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.

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BY THE WAY...

“Thank you” to Kara Preston (L) of Klingberg Family Centers for speaking at our May meeting. “Congratulations” to *Don Liepelt* (R) for being able to blow out all of the candles on his two 80th birthday cakes!

[Photo credit: Betty Lichota]



[Photo credit: James Borbas, Jr.]



E-Delivery Bonus*

- ◆ See page 9 for a compilation of Ford Milestones relative to the 2023 calendar year, compiled by Dennis Schwecke of the Henry Ford Heritage Association for the Spring 2023 issue of their magazine, ***The Ford Legend***. To become an HFHA member, visit their website, www.HFHA.org.
- ◆ See page 10 for more photos from *Don Liepelt's* birthday bash on May 6 and our Spring Dust-Off on May 7.
- ◆ See page 11 for the flyer for the Housatonic Valley Region AACA car show on June 25.

*) The E-Delivery Bonus is not included in the printed version of this newsletter that is distributed via the USPS.



FORD MILESTONES

By Dennis Schwecke

1863 - One Hundred Sixty Years Ago:

Henry Ford is born in his parent's farm house in Springwells Township, MI.

1903 - One Hundred Twenty Years Ago:

Ford Motor Company is founded on June 16th.

1913 - One Hundred Ten Years Ago:

The Moving Assembly Line is installed at the Highland Park Plant.

1923 - One Hundred Years Ago:

Edsel and Eleanor Ford's daughter Josephine is born July 7th.

1933 - Ninety Years Ago:

Production of the Ford Trimotor Airplane ends due to poor depression era sales.

1943 - Eighty Years Ago:

Henry and Clara Ford's only son, Edsel Ford, dies on May 26th at the age of 49.

1953 - Seventy Years Ago:

The popular Ford 8N tractor is retired to make way for a new "Golden Jubilee" tractor.

1963 - Sixty Years Ago:

The legendary Ford small block 289 V8 engine is introduced.

Don Liepelt's 80th Birthday Celebration at Yankee Steamworks, May 6, 2023



BACC's Spring Dust-Off: the Meet-Up at Gillette Castle, May 7, 2023



[Photo credits: Top right, James Borbas, Jr.; all others, Dan David]



ANTIQUÉ AUTOMOBILE CLUB of AMERICA

HOUSATONIC VALLEY REGION CHAPTER

46TH ANNUAL CLASSIC CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW SUNDAY - JUNE 25, 2023

Gates open at 9AM — Awards at 2:30 PM

\$20 per Registered Vehicle • \$5 per Spectator • \$2 Seniors
Veterans and Children under 12- FREE

CLASSES: 1ST, 2ND, 3RD PLACE TROPHIES

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • 1900-1948 | • Corvette up to 1996 | Special Awards: |
| • 1949-1959 | • Pony Cars up to 1998 | • President's Award |
| • 1960-1969 | • Import up to 1998 | • CAMA Award |
| • 1970-1979 | • Hot Rod | • HVR Memorial Award |
| • 1980-1998 | • RestoMod | • Kids judging and education |
| • 1999-current | • Special Interest | |
| | • Motorcycles Stock and Modified | |
| | • Trucks Stock and Modified | |

31 KENT CORNWALL RD. (ROUTE 7) KENT, CT

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