



THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

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

March, 2021

NEXT MEETING

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

Please bring a chair and a mask - social distancing practices will be observed
Stay home if you show any signs of illness or have underlying health conditions

- On the Agenda:
- Go/No Go decision on our 2021 Antique Engine & Tractor Meet
 - Suggestions for possible spring activities
 - Membership update
 - Upcoming meetings and location

FUEL FOR THOUGHT

“Just as a problem shared is a problem halved, a pleasure shared is a pleasure doubled.”

- Alastair Clements, Editor in Chief of *Classic & Sports Car* magazine (U.K.), reflecting on last October's reimagined and crowd-less “Speed Week” at Goodwood, at which he appreciated the unobstructed views afforded by there being no spectators, but lamented that he sorely missed the passion they always brought.



Yes, that is a '65 Studebaker Lark Daytona race car in the paddock at Goodwood Speed Week 2020. Owned by Adrian Willmott, the V-8 Lark duked it out against a 1963 Ford Galaxie stock car and a Mk 1 Lotus-Ford Cortina to win the St. Mary's Trophy in its class.

[Photo credit: Joe Harding for Goodwood]

CLUB NOTES

Our second monthly meeting of 2021 was held on Saturday, February 6 in Portland. Once again we thank *Karl Helming* for hosting the meeting. Vice president *Mark Hoydilla* presided in *Alan Carlson's* absence.

In his secretary's report, *Peter Christianson* noted that BACC's contract with the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds, where our August show takes place, has expired and will need to be renegotiated.

Richard Beckwith recommended that we redesign our show plaques to eliminate the date and just show the meet number. That way if an event is cancelled the plaques are still usable for the subsequent one. It was

CLUB NOTES, continued from p. 1

already decided that there will be no show plaques for this year's April show, if it occurs, but there is support for producing plaques for the August show.

Jon Grant said that the State of Connecticut is still not willing to commit to letting us use the Salmon River State Forest grounds for our 2021 Antique Engine and Tractor Meet at the end of April and, subsequent to the meeting advised him that they are still limiting outdoor gatherings to a maximum of 50 people and they cannot say when this is likely to change. *Tim Cone* offered his property in East Haddam as an option as long as it is deemed suitable in terms of size and access by Club representatives who are experienced in running this show and provided that liability insurance is provided by the Club (*Cliff Baker* said we are covered). A motion was made at Cliff's suggestion and passed to raise the admission price for the April show to \$5 per spectator, and the same amount will be charged per flea market space and to each exhibitor. (Note: This will need to be handled on a donation basis if the event is held on state property.)

At the March meeting the members need to decide if we should cancel or postpone the April show, or, move it to another location (keeping the traditional date or rescheduling it). In the meantime, Jon will try to get an update on Salmon River and Cliff and Richard will visit Tim's property.

Scott Macgregor reported on the Connecticut Council of Car Clubs ("4-C's"), indicating that there are no bills being proposed in the current legislative session that could affect the old car hobby. There may be an action regarding newly-built replicars (i.e., continuation DeLoreans and the like), which is a subject that NHTSA has finally finished rulemaking on, at the urging of SEMA. There has also been some interest expressed by DMV to restart safety inspections, but we'll see if they act on it. Scott made a motion that the members approved to renew our membership in the 4-C's, at a cost of \$50. An additional donation will be considered after we have held an income-producing event.

Mark Hoydilla closed out the meeting by doing double duty as this month's guest speaker. He described how he got involved working on old cars with his father in their neighbor's garage. He got his first car in 1968, a 1938 Plymouth and continued driving old cars in college. He went through a couple of Ford Falcons; one a '64 convertible with a 170 c.i. six that he drove to 300,000 miles, a testament to the importance of regular oil changes. He met Rick Reale way back and Rick had the '41 Packard then that he still owned when he passed away recently. Mark said he started going to Hershey in 1970, and has gone every year since except 1971 and 2020. He found that he enjoyed working on old cars so he went into business running a Texaco station in Middlefield for ten years. In that simpler time he had a wrecker and it was not required to have a commercial license. He observed that the old timers in the hobby were always willing to help each other out. When *George Birner* decided to retire, Mark bought George's garage on a handshake deal. Over his long tenure in BACC, Mark said he has served as president twice.

MAIL BOX**Remembering Bob Hellstrom**

Thanks for the Bob Hellstrom tributes and pictures in [the February] issue. I never met him in person but had many contacts with him over the years via correspondences, and he was always super-gracious, and conveyed, I felt, a true friendship, and "connection" between fellow car club newsletter editors (and also fellow dog lovers). I feel my own car club newsletter interests & projects have been influenced very positively by Bob, and I can say that he is certainly missed.

- Steve Mierz, Stony Creek [editor of *The Shoreline Antique Auto Connection* web site & newsletter]

MEMBER MILESTONES

<u>Happy Birthday to:</u>	Mark Hoydilla	March 1st
	Kaye Cannon	March 4th
	Richard Shipman	March 9th
	Charlie Hnilicka	March 16th (92)
	Jon Grant	March 18th
	Carl Bjorge	March 20th
	Bill Nitschke	March 26th
	Jared Lamenzo	March 28th
<u>Happy Anniversary to:</u>	Bruce & Francis Dutch	March 18th
	Stan & Terri Mirecki	March 26th

New Members: Please welcome two new members, *Gary Bogan* and *Edward Shumbo*, both residing in Moodus. Gary owns a '57 T-Bird in addition to a few classic post-war Chevrolets, while Edward keeps a Plymouth Duster in his garage. Our thanks to *Tim Cone*, for inviting them to join BACC.

Get Well Soon: *George Birner* and *Bob Fiala* are reportedly "on the mend" and we offer our best wishes. *Alan Carlson* survived pink eye and a positive COVID test (without any symptoms) and will back at the front table at our March meeting.

With Sympathy: *Vito Ignazio* lost his wife Carol, 80, on February 7th. Vito and Carol were married 60 years. *Richard Beckwith's* sister Carol Zanelli, 79, passed away on January 28th. Our sincere condolences to the Ignazio and Beckwith/Zanelli families.

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

For Sale – 1941 Cadillac Series 60 Special Fleetwood Sedan, maroon, L-head V-8, 3-speed manual transmission. Asking \$28,500. Inquiries welcome.
Jon Grant, Cobalt: call 203-509-0977 or email standfast7@sbcglobal.net. [BACC member]



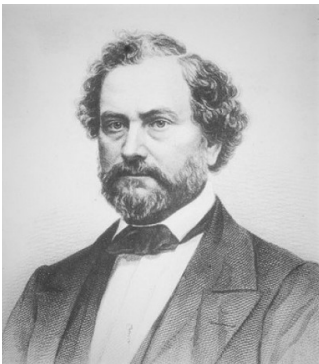
For Sale – 1962 Jeep pickup, green, pretty much original inside and out, low mileage, six cylinder, 4WD, new tires, driver quality with typical old work truck patina. \$9,995.
Steve Rossi, East Haddam: call 248-470-5788. [BACC member]

Wanted – Model A Ford car jacks A-17080-A (1929) and A-17080-B1 (1930). I can send you photos. I will buy them or trade other Model A parts if you prefer. This is to complete my collection of all 8 Model A jack types.
Bill Nitschke, Deep River: call 914-323-8958 or email williamnitschke@gmail.com. [BACC member]

HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Fifty Years Ago: Engine Horsepower Ratings Went from SAE Gross to SAE Net - Coincidentally, the changeover from gross to net ratings happened at the same time as manufacturers were revising engine specifications to allow them to run on unleaded gasoline, in preparation for EPA's stated intention to phase out tetraethyl lead from all motor fuel. As a result, published peak power declined from 1970 to 1971 and subsequent years, partly to enable lead-free operation and partly due to the measurement process. The difference between measuring net and gross hp on the same engine is a result of dyno testing it with and without the load of engine-driven accessories, and with and without the restriction of the air cleaner assembly and exhaust system. For 1970, Chevrolet's LT-1 350 c.i.d. engine, which had an 11:1 compression ratio, was rated at 370 SAE gross hp. For 1971, in order to be compatible with unleaded fuel, GM reduced the compression ratio to 9:1 and made other changes that resulted in a gross hp of 330, a reduction of 40 hp. For 1971, GM, as well as Chrysler, published both gross and net hp ratings, and the net hp rating given for the LT-1 was 255. While the LT-1's 255 net hp carried over for 1972, GM discontinued publishing gross hp figures as from that year.

Connecticut's Colt Industries Sold to Czech Arms Producer CZK - An American precision manufacturing icon for 175 years, founded in Hartford by Samuel Colt (1814-1862), the company built its reputation based on quality, innovation and Colt's patented, barrel-loaded pistol design. Colt was a pioneer of interchangeable parts, and the initial success of the company based on this concept is said to have influenced the later rise of **automobile manufacturers** and the aircraft engine industry in the state. Although Colt Industries' presence here has diminished in recent years, CZK has stated it intends to keep at least some Colt production in the greater Hartford area.



Above: Samuel Colt [Conn. State Library state archives]

Right: Lithograph of Colt Armory, ca. 1840-1848



AACA's Hornets Nest Region Cancels Spring AutoFair - Yet another sign that we have a ways to go before things return to normal in the antique car hobby, the annual event at Charlotte Motor Speedway in North Carolina, which was originally planned for April 8-11, has been canceled. The club still plans to hold its Fall AutoFair event at the track on September 9-11.

Dune Buggy Inventor Has Died - Bruce Meyers, who started the dune buggy craze in 1964 by creating the Meyers Manx on a shortened VW beetle platform, passed away at age 94 on February 19 at his home in California. He used his experience building sailboats to create a fiberglass body resembling a flowing tub. Meyers (L), together with his friend Ted Mangels (R), drove a Meyers Manx down the Baja peninsula in 1967 besting times normally set by motorcycles. This led to the formation of an off-road racing sanctioning body and the beginnings of the Baja 1000 race the following year. The inaugural race was won by a Manx driven by Mangels and a co-driver. Meyers' own companies built about 7,000 Manx cars, a number far outstripped by the knockoffs that quickly saturated the market. He continued to sell kits and related lifestyle merchandise until 2020, when he and his wife decided to sell the company to Trousdale Ventures. American Freeman Thomas, who designed the New Beetle and Audi TT, is CEO of the new company.



CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

Submitted by Steven Rossi

Here is a public service message that reverberates decades later. Back around the mid-1920's it seems that Bridgeport, Conn. police believed the best way to curb street crime was to advertise the city's own firepower, and they did so by demonstrating it against an unsuspecting touring car. Note that all four tires still hold air.



UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

Saturday, March 6 - **BACC monthly meeting** at Karl Helming's heated garage at 1:30 p.m., 220 Jobs Pond Rd. in Portland. Third business meeting of the year.

Saturday, April 3 - **BACC monthly meeting** at Karl Helming's heated garage at 1:30 p.m., 220 Jobs Pond Rd. in Portland. Fourth business meeting of the year. Date and location may change depending on reopening of the East Hampton Library community room (update at March meeting).

Saturday - Sunday, May 1 & 2 - Zagray Spring Show & Swap Meet, 544 Amston Rd., Colchester, Conn.; adm. \$5. Info at www.ZagrayFarmMuseum.org.

Saturday, June 12 - Annual Automobilia Auction at the Nest Egg Auction Gallery, 758 Four Rod Rd., Berlin, Conn. Info: <http://automobiliaauctions.com/index.html>; consignments: email glettieri@cox.net

 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>.

PUB SCRAWLING

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

Awhile back I asked around to find out what kinds of old car hobby publications members are reading these days. The selection of car magazines on the newsstand has gotten rather thin, although much of the slack has been taken up by the internet. While some of these outlets are brand new, from new sources, others are more or less serving the subscribers of defunct magazines with on-line content branded the same as it was in print.

What if you simply enjoy getting at least some of your hobby news and information in print form? What choices do you have if you like to turn pages and peruse stories in a format that we once took for granted?

BACC members seem to fall into two camps; those that appreciate one or more of the few national magazines still available, and those with more focused interests who rely on one or two marque club publications for the kinds of information they are looking for.



One of those “national” magazines is *Antique Automobile*, a bi-monthly that comes with membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America (www.aaca.org). Naturally, as a club publication, it covers club events in depth and features stories about member-owned vehicles (20 years old or older), including their restoration. It also covers the history of the automobile and automotive literature, as well as the goings on at the AACA Library. BACC member Steve Rossi is a regular columnist.

The next most frequently cited national publication is *Hemmings Motor News*, which has literally been the bible of the antique car hobby since before BACC was founded. Although nowadays its classified ad content is outdone by its own web site, *HMN* is still a good source of general hobby news and historical tidbits, which is valuable to anyone without internet access. They also publish the third most mentioned magazine, *Hemmings Classic Car*, a glossy monthly devoted to feature articles on old cars, plus automotive history, technology and design. Their web site is www.hemmings.com.

Other national publications to consider are *Old Cars* (formerly known as *Old Cars Weekly*), published twice monthly (www.oldcarsweekly.com). *OCW* includes hobby news, auction results, event updates, restoration articles and stories about old cars. Another, often overlooked resource your editor appreciates is *Collectible Automobile* (www.collectibleautomobile.com), a glossy, large format monthly that includes in-depth analyses of the model year evolution of specific makes and their design as well as photo features of collector cars and profiles of industry pioneers. Connecticut author Patrick Foster is a frequent contributor to both of these magazines and historian Kit Foster (no relation) is an *Old Cars* contributor.

Two other publications are worth mentioning here. The first is *Hagerty* magazine, published for the Hagerty Driver’s Club (www.hagerty.com). Collector car insurance from Hagerty is no longer required to become a member of the club and receive the magazine. Besides feature stories about all manner of stock and modified vehicles, *Hagerty* has a particular focus on the future of the collector car hobby and vehicle valuation trends. Keith Martin’s *Sports Car Market* (www.sportscarmarket.com) is another highly-produced monthly and one that is devoted to detailed coverage of collector car auctions, here and abroad. Each issue also highlights a number of recently-auctioned vehicles with analysis of the results achieved for buyer and seller.

As for the marque club magazines Belltowners read, Tony Adams loves the HH Franklin Club’s *Air Cooled News*, Jay Beveridge cites *The Restorer* from The Model A Ford Club of America, Jim Mulconry goes for *Smoke Signals* from the Pontiac-Oakland Club International, and Bill Nitschke enjoys the Model A Restorers Club’s *Model A News*. Most national clubs continue to do a stellar job with their publications, knowing that they are an essential ingredient holding the club together and keeping members and would-be members well informed about their favorite old car make and models.

Remember, too, that passing along your magazines is a way to entice new people to join the old car hobby. Besides, if those folks also become subscribers, it benefits our favorite “pubs!”

WHO, WHAT, WHERE OR WHEN*Challenge your automotive history IQ***Match the car designer to the vehicle(s) he was responsible for:**

Raymond Loewy	Jeep Wagoneer
Richard Teague	Studebaker GT Hawk
Alex Tremulis	Oscar Mayer Weinermobile
Brooks Stevens	AMC Cavalier Show Car
Chip Foose	Excaltiber SS Neoclassic Roadster

The correct answer to last month's Who, What, Where, or When, "Based on the following automobile repair shop invoice dated July 1, 1928, determine which one of the Big 3 automakers made Mrs. Holbrook's car. Why do you think so?"

Given the invoice date (mid-1928) and the fact that it stipulates repairs to the master cylinder plunger, the only Big 3 manufacturer it could be is **Chrysler**, which lead the way with four-wheel hydraulic brakes as standard equipment beginning in 1924.

GM did not build any cars with hydraulic brakes prior to 1928 and neither did Ford, which famously held out until the debut of its 1939 models.

[Anyone who disputes that answer is invited to debate it with the author of the question, *Richard Beckwith*, at the next meeting! - *Ed.*]

HENRY K. LINSLEY AUTOMOBILE REPAIRING 400 ELM STREET New Haven, Conn. July 1 1928		
Sold to Mrs. M. Holbrook Madison, Conn.		
June 16	Remove, repair and replace clutch	11 00
	Clutch Facing and bearing	9 15
	Straighten fenders and body	4 00
	6 qts. oil @ 30¢	1 80
	Oil and grease car, clean all plugs, pack universals, inspect transmission and rear end, and clean carburettor strainers	2 25
	Wash and polish	2 50
	Replace master cylinder plunger	2 50
	Plunger and brake liquid	1 10
	Tighten all shackles	50
	Flush tires and tube	17 50
		52 50
	Loan to William	5 00
		57 50

NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the April, 2021 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Thursday, March 18. Monday the 22nd is the publication date. E-delivery will take place March 25.

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* - 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

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...

The paper copies of the February issue of the newsletter were mailed on Wednesday, January 27. Normally this means that they would have arrived in members' mailboxes two, or perhaps three days later, i.e. about a week ahead of the next monthly meeting. Feedback from members indicated that many did not receive their newsletter until just before the February meeting, and a few never got it. If this continues to be a problem let's address it at the next meeting. This issue is being mailed a day earlier than planned just in case.

COVID-19 vaccination appointments are now available in Connecticut for anyone who is at least 65 years old. If you are unable to register on-line via VAMS or your doctor's portal (e.g. MyChart), contact your town's health officer or your doctor's office directly for guidance. Even under current restrictions, if every eligible BACC member gets vaccinated by the end of March, in total we will have achieved around 90% "club immunity" heading into show season. That would be a big plus for our ability to attend and manage events. Nevertheless, mask wearing and social distancing will continue to be best practices for some time to come.

If you have a **favorite old car magazine title** to share with your fellow Belltowners that was not covered on p. 6, feel free to send your editor an email. Ditto if you want to recommend a go-to web site that scratches your old car information itch. We will summarize them in a future issue.

The **Club Roster** head count stands at 84 primary members based on the 2021 renewals and new memberships posted to date. Six memberships from 2020 have not yet been renewed and will be considered to have lapsed as of the end of this month. The official 2021 Roster will be distributed with the May issue of the newsletter.

E-Delivery Bonus*

Do you enjoy seeing old cars in old movies? Or old cars in newly-made movies about earlier times? Well, a certain Club member who is addicted to Turner Classic Movies for his old car fix came across this web site that allows you to match your favorite cars to the movies they have appeared in. It seems as if there isn't a car made that hasn't been in at least one film, foreign or domestic:

<https://www.imcdb.org/>

LOOKING AHEAD ... Attached is the latest list of upcoming automotive shows and auctions planned by the **Carlisle Events** organization, many of which will be held at the fairgrounds in Carlisle, Penn.

... For something closer to home, how about making a pilgrimage to the nearby **Newport Car Museum** in Portsmouth, R.I.? The museum specializes in cars built from the 1950's onward. Their spacious 80,000 sq. ft. facility houses around 75 collector vehicles and they are open to visitors daily, with masks and social distancing protocols in effect. For info go to <https://newportcarmuseum.org>.

*) 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.





ANNUAL SCHEDULE

Event	2021	2022
AUTO MANIA <i>LOCATION FOR 2021:</i> Carlisle Expo Center / 100 K St. / Carlisle, PA 17013 <i>2022:</i> Allentown Fairgrounds / 302 N. 17 th St. / Allentown, PA 18104	Jan. 15-17	Jan. 14-16
WINTER AUTOFEST LAKELAND SUN 'n FUN Expo Campus / 4175 Medulla Rd. / Lakeland, FL 33811	CANCELLED FOR 2021	Feb. 25-27
CARLISLE AUCTIONS Lakeland Winter Collector Car Auction SUN 'n FUN Expo Campus / 4175 Medulla Rd. / Lakeland, FL 33811	Feb. 19-20	Feb. 25-26
SPRING CARLISLE Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	April 21-25*	April 20-24*
CARLISLE AUCTIONS Spring Carlisle Collector Car Auction Carlisle Expo Center / 100 K St. / Carlisle, PA 17013	April 22-23	April 21-22
CARLISLE IMPORT & PERFORMANCE NATIONALS Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	May 14-15	May 13-14
CARLISLE FORD NATIONALS Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	June 4-6*	June 3-5*
CARLISLE GM NATIONALS Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	June 25-26	June 24-25
CARLISLE AUCTIONS Summer Sale Carlisle Expo Center / 100 K St. / Carlisle, PA 17013	June 26	June 25
CARLISLE CHRYSLER NATIONALS Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	July 9-11*	July 8-10*
CARLISLE TRUCK NATIONALS Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	Aug. 6-8*	Aug. 5-7*
CORVETTES AT CARLISLE Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	Aug. 26-28	Aug. 25-27
FALL CARLISLE Carlisle Fairgrounds / 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd. / Carlisle, PA 17013	Sept. 29 – Oct. 3*	Sept. 28-Oct. 2*
CARLISLE AUCTIONS Fall Carlisle Collector Car Auction Carlisle Expo Center / 100 K St. / Carlisle, PA 17013	Sept. 30 – Oct. 1	Sept. 29-30

*REAR VIEW MIRROR SUNDAYS: 7 AM - 12 PM. Free admission on Sunday at Spring and Fall (vendor load-out), for other events, must have ticket stub from same event.
Enjoy last-minute shopping deals & showfield awards (when applicable).

CHILDREN 12 & UNDER ADMITTED FREE // EVENTS HELD RAIN OR SHINE // DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE
PLEASE CALL OR CHECK ONLINE TO CONFIRM DATES, PRICES & ACTIVITIES

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