THE BELLTOWN BULLETIN

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

September, 2021

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, Sept. 11, 2021 at Karl Helming's, 220 Jobs Pond Rd., Portland Pot-Luck Lunch starts at 12:30 p.m. Business Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m.

Masks optional - please wear one if you have not been fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Stay home if you show any signs of illness or have underlying health conditions.

- On the Agenda: Operational learnings from our 54th Vintage Motorcar Meet
 - Recommended changes to show car classifications & field layout
 - Suggested show attendance policy changes
 - Donations and other considerations
 - Ideas for autumn tours and activities
 - Timing & importance of October meeting (2022 officer nominations)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A sincere "thank you" to all who helped in any way to make our 54th Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet a success. I saw many new faces working that I had not seen in the past. A good thing because it is apparent to me that "most" show entrants want or need to be directed to where they should be parked!

Each time we improve our event it shows the attendees how we care about putting on a good show. I heard many nice compliments about the show throughout the day, including from a number of the trophy winners. That is the best indication that your efforts were much appreciated.

Let's see what we can do to make next year's Motorcar Meet even better!

- Alan Carlson, BACC president

August 1, 2021, Haddam Neck: Alan presents the President's Trophy to Bob Woynar of Kensington, Conn. for his 1969 Ford Shelby GT 350.

[Photo credit: Ralph Phil]



CLUB NOTES

BACC's eighth business meeting of 2021 was held on July 28 at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds in preparation for our 54th Annual Vintage Motorcar Meet. We noted that the new ticket building for the fair was nearly finished (we might consider using it next year) and the roads in the fairgrounds had recently been chip sealed, eliminating the potential for getting dust on the cars. As in 2019, we decided to use the left lane on the entrance road for registration, and use the gate behind the firehouse for exiting. *Alan Carlson* reported that neither the Boy Scouts nor the Police Explorers would be assisting with spectator parking. *Jon Grant* solicited volunteers for the judging teams, by show car class. A review of the judging process was given as a refresher for anyone intending to participate in that important aspect of the meet.

Cliff Baker reported that the Conn. Dept. of Revenue Services notified him that as of July, 2021, new legislation has ended the requirement that businesses and organizations collect admission taxes (with one limited exception), such that BACC no longer has to annually file a tax return to report and pay admissions tax for events we hold where we charge an admission fee.

<u>Post-show postscript</u> - Thanks to all BACC members who helped during set-up Saturday and/or on the day of the Meet. It was a great success by all measures, helped by fine weather and a strong turn-out of quality show cars on par with the 53rd running of the event. We will discuss results and lessons learned at the September meeting. Be sure to check out *Ralph Phil's* gallery of images on our Facebook page (you may also access it by clicking the link on our web site, www.belltownantiquecarclub.org). Special thanks to our food vendors, Anchor Masonic Lodge #112 of East Hampton and Maya Cigal with her vintage Good Humor truck, and to the EMTs of the Haddam Neck Fire Dept. for being on site and at the ready. Thanks also to the Staehly family of East Haddam and to *Richard Beckwith* for "trainsporting" their red and black engine to and from the fairgrounds for use as our show announcer's stand.

MEMBER MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to:	Steven Rossi	Sept. 5th	Eleanor Sutton	Sept. 19th (80)
	Frank Shaw	Sept. 5th	Rollin Karoll	Sept. 25th
	Joan Frey	Sept. 6th	Steve Fallis	Sept. 28th
	Matt Elgart	Sept. 8th	Joe George	Sept. 28th
	Suzanne Degregorio	Sept. 12th	Jacqueline Grant	Sept. 30th

Happy Anniversary to: Donald & Audrey Brookes Sept. 8th Phil & June Guertin Sept. 21st

Belated Happy Anniversary: Phil and Debby Hamilton celebrated their first anniversary on July 24 and we regret

failing to mark the occasion in the July issue. Time flies, doesn't it?

New Members: Please welcome Joe George of Madison and Rick Scott of Moodus to BACC. Joe owns a 1957

Chevrolet Bel Air 2-door hardtop and a 1968 Volkswagen Beetle. He has been helping out at the Misfits Car Cruise in Tylerville this summer. Rick enjoys a 1956 Ford Thunderbird as well as a 1965 Ford Mustang convertible. His Thunderbird earned a third place trophy in our Motorcar Meet,

where he signed up as our newest member. Our ever-growing roster now totals 95!

BELLTOWN CLASSIFIEDS

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

<u>For Sale</u> – <u>1929 Ford Model A Standard Roadster</u>, Chelsea blue body/black fenders, body off frame restoration about 15 years ago. Good driver. \$22,000 OBO.

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



AWARD WINNERS - 54th ANNUAL BELLTOWN VINTAGE MOTORCAR MEET

Club President's Trophy:

1969 Shelby Mustang GT 350 - Bob Woynar

Master of Ceremonies Trophy:

1937 Graham Supercharged Cpe. - Tom Tkacz

Trophy in Memory of Bob Helming:

1933 Packard - Bruce Woronoff

Judged Class Trophies:

Class A - *Up to 1927, all, including Ford Model T*

- 1. 1910 Mitchell George Dragone
- 2. 1922 Ford Model T Rdstr. Don & Chevi Super
- 3. 1925 Dodge Suburban Karl Hansen

Class B - Ford Model A, closed bodies

- 1. 1929 Model A Town Car Jim Romanello
- 2. 1929 Model A Coupe Matt Volatile
- 3. 1929 Model A Tudor Bill Brauch

Class C - Ford Model A, open bodies

- 1. 1930 Model A Rdstr. Jim & Sandy Bielunis
- 2. 1930 Model A Roadster John Beveridge

Class D - Full Classics, -1930, all

1. 1929 LaSalle Town Sedan - Brian Foley

Class E - Full Classics, 1931 to 1948, all

- 1. 1931 Cadillac Phaeton Allan Miller
- 2. 1948 Chrysler Town & Country Bob Donath
- 3. 1931 Packard Victoria Tom Laferriere

Class F - 1928-1936, closed (except Model A Fords)

1. 1933 Buick Sedan - Ronald Thresher

Class G - 1937-1942, closed bodies

1. 1937 Graham Supercharged Coupe - Tom Tkacz

Class H - 1928 to 1942, open (except Model A Fords)

- 1. 1934 Ford Cabriolet Ron & Joan Liska
- 2. 1931 Plymouth John Herbst
- 3. 1936 Ford Club Cabriolet Jim Clark

Class I - <u>1946 to 1951</u>, closed bodies

- 1. 1951 Ford Crestliner 2 Dr. Robert Barbieri
- 2. 1948 Ford Woody Sta. Wgn. Robert Sundman
- 3. 1951 Plymouth Concord Al Bernard

Class J - <u>1952 to 1956, closed bodies</u>

- 1. 1956 Chevrolet 210 2 Dr. Michael Gaudette
- 2. 1956 Packard 400 Sedan Gary Della Vecchio
- 3. 1956 Ford Fairlane Don Frick

Class K - 1957 to 1961, closed bodies

- 1. 1956 Chevrolet Impala Bob La'Madeleine
- 2. 1959 Cadillac Cpe. DeVille Randy Greenberg
- 3. 1959 Rolls-Royce Charles Leigus

Judged Class Trophies, continued:

Class L - 1946 to 1961, open bodies

- 1. 1959 Ford Thunderbird James Royster
- 2. 1953 Oldsmobile Don & Ruth Jack
- 3. 1960 Buick David Calabrese

Class M - 1962 to 1965, closed bodies

- 1. 1964 Pontiac GTO HT Salvatore Rossitto
- 2. 1964 Cadillac Sdn. Ron Perry
- 3. 1962 Studebaker Hawk GT Bill Steafather

Class N - 1966 to 1969, closed bodies

- 1. 1969 Hurst Olds HT Dino
- 2. 1969 Shelby Mustang GT 350 Bob Woynar
- 3. 1968 Plymouth GTX William Atwood

Class O - <u>1962 to 1969, open bodies</u>

- 1. 1969 Oldsmobile 442 Dominic Lucibello
- 2. 1966 Ford Mustang Mark Morello
- 3. 1963 Cadillac Bill Renda

Class P - 1970 to 1973, all

- 1. 1970 Chev. Monte Carlo SS454 Jim Boczar
- 2. 1972 Buick Riviera Thomas Lane
- 3. 1970 Chevelle SS HT David Sansoucy

Class Q - 1974 to 1981, all

- 1. 1978 Mercury Station Wagon Sal Sinardi
- 2. 1976 Mercury Grand Marquis Tom Matthews

Class R - Sports Cars up to 1964 (incl. 2-seat T-birds)

- 1. 1955 Ford Thunderbird David Degregorio
- 2. 1953 Jaguar C-Type Anthony Amato
- 3. 1956 Ford Thunderbird Rick Scott

Class S - Sports Cars, 1965 to 1981

- 1. 1981 Delorean Don Soukup
- 2. 1966 Cobra 427 Rdster. Henry VanWyngaarden
- 3. 1966 Chev. Corvette Conv. Cliff Lee

Class T - Light Commercial, up to 1952

- 1. 1936 Chevrolet Pickup Walter Horn
- 2. 1930 Ford Roadster Pickup Alan Bish

Class U - Light Commercial, 1953 to 1972

- 1. 1966 Ford Falcon Ranchero Durwood Winchell
- 2. 1971 Chev. K20 Fleetside Pickup Jeff Lavigne
- 3. 1970 Chevrolet El Camino Greg Bolton

Class V - Light Commercial, 1973 to 1981

- 1. 1977 Dodge Pickup Paul Sampieri
- 2. 1979 Dodge Pickup Anthony Durso

Class W - Heavy Commercial, up to 1981

1. 1944 Ford 11/2 Ton Rack - Lance & Lois Dimock

Class X - <u>Fire Trucks & Military Vehicles</u>

[None entered]

Scenes from our 54th Vintage Motorcar Meet







[<u>Photo credits</u>: 1931 Cadillac phaeton, BMW Isetta, and 1936 Cord conv. - Ralph Phil; remainder - Dan David]

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

Unmuffled Exhaust from the Editor

The Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet never fails to offer up surprises. Our announcer *Steve Rossi* spotted Tom Tkacz's rare 1937 <u>supercharged</u> six-cylinder Graham 116 coupe entering the field and it was such a shock to him to see one that he picked it for the Master of Ceremonies Trophy. It wasn't the only unusual sight at this year's event, either.

George Dragone pulled into registration towing an enclosed trailer. When yours truly inquired as to what was in it, Mr. Dragone declared that he was hauling a Mitchell. I asked him if they were considered a Full Classic (I thought I would save the time to check my CCCA reference list since he would, of course, know the answer). He matter-of-factly stated, "No ... it's too old." That was not the answer I expected! Sure enough, his brass beauty was built in 1910 and slotted into Class A, where it won Best in Class. Curious to learn more, I later found out that Mitchell cars were built in Racine, Wisc., from 1903 to 1923. Most likely it was the first one ever shown at Belltown.

While wandering around after the judging concluded, I came upon a vaguely familiar Conn. Early American license plate ("1953") displayed on a 1953 Oldsmobile 98 convertible owned by Ruth and Don Jack. According to Don, he once tried to buy a 1953 Olds owned by the late *Bob Hellstrom*, our former newsletter editor, but someone else beat him to it. Through fortuitous circumstances he ended up acquiring Bob's license plate from that car after it had later gone to auction, and he put it on a second-chance Oldsmobile he was able to buy instead of Bob's. Ironically, Don's car was awarded second place in Class L. What surprised you at this year's Meet?







<u>Left to right</u>: 1937 Graham, 1910 Mitchell, 1953 Oldsmobile [Photos, L-R: Ralph Phil/Ralph Phil/Dan David]

CONNECTICUT AUTOMOBILIA

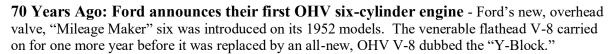
Submitted by Steven Rossi

Royal Auto Seat Covers, a retail store in South Norwalk, Conn., during its heyday around sixty years ago.



HOBBY HEADLINES & HISTORY

Pioneer Hot Rod Camshaft Grinder Turns 100 - Ed "Isky" Iskenderian turned 100 years old on July 10, 2021. Isky was not the first cam grinder who catered to the burgeoning post-war hot rod scene, however, he became one of the best-known and built his reputation on performance, quality and innovation (photo, right). He was also a founder and the first president of the trade organization now known as SEMA. Nowadays, Isky's sons run his eponymous speed equipment business.





UPCOMING EVENTS (Club participation events in bold)

<u>Thursday</u>, <u>September 2</u> - **BACC car show & picnic**, Masonicare at Chester Village, Rte. 148, Chester, Conn., 5:30 p.m. <u>Friday-Monday</u>, <u>Sept. 3-6</u> - Lime Rock Park Historic Festival 39, including "Sunday in the Park" Concours, Lime Rock Park racetrack, Lakeville, Conn. Info at: https://limerock.com/labor-day-historics.

<u>Saturday</u>, <u>September 11</u> - **BACC monthly business meeting at the home garage of Karl Helming**, 220 Jobs Pond Rd. in Portland, beginning with a pot-luck lunch at 12:30 p.m., meeting begins at 1:30 p.m.

<u>Sunday, September 12</u> - Yankee Yesteryear 61st Annual Auto Show & Swap Meet at Brooklyn Fairgrounds, Brooklyn, Conn. Judged show; opens 9 a.m., no cut-off. Show cars \$10, spectators \$5 (under 12, free).

<u>Sunday, September 12</u> - Deep River Fire Dept. Automotive Extravaganza, Devitt Field, Deep River, Conn. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. People's Choice awards. Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 19. Info: https://www.facebook.com/DRFDAE/.

<u>Saturday, September 18</u> - All Pontiac show, part of A Pontiac Celebration hosted by the Eastern Regional chapters of POCI, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, R.I. Info: https://nutmegchapterpoci.com/events.

<u>Sunday, September 19</u> - 24th Annual New England All-Oldsmobile Show, Southington Drive-In, 995 Meriden-Waterbury Tpke., Plantsville, Conn., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; rain date Sept. 26. Info: http://www.neolds.com/.

<u>Saturday, September 25</u> - 24th Annual By Land & By Sea Antique Car Show at Mystic Seaport, Mystic, Conn., 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., vehicles 1931 and older, advance registration, participation limited to 120 vehicles. Info: https://www.mysticseaport.org/calendar/.

<u>Sunday, September 26</u> - Annual Simsbury Fly-In, Car Show & Food Truck Festival at Simsbury Airport, 94 Wolcott Rd., Simsbury, Conn. Info: http://www.simsburyflyin.com/HOME.

<u>Thursday-Sunday</u>, <u>Sept. 30-Oct. 3</u> - Audrain Motor Week & Newport Concours, Newport, R.I. Concours d'Elegance on Sunday. For schedule and ticket info go to: https://www.audrainconcours.com/2021-concours-week-at-a-glance.

<u>Wednesday-Saturday, October 6-9</u> - AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Hershey, Penn. Info: <u>https://hershey.aaca.com/eastern-division-fall-meet/.</u>

<u>Saturday, October 9 (tentative)</u> - **BACC monthly business meeting at the home garage of Karl Helming**, 220 Jobs Pond Rd. in Portland, at 1:30 p.m. [Date, time and place TBD; to be finalized at Sept. 11 meeting.]

<u>Saturday-Sunday, October 23-24</u> - Greenwich Concours d'Elegance, Roger Sherman Baldwin Park, Greenwich, Conn. Bonham's Auction is Saturday, 25th Anniversary Concours d'Elegance is Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For details go to: <u>www.greenwichconcours.com</u>.

Local area cruise nights remaining in 2021:

Tuesday - Misfits Cruisers on Rte. 82 in Tylerville, 5 p.m.-, https://www.facebook.com/MisfitCruiseNights/, "last" one on Aug. 31.

- Yesteryear of Oakdale Car Club, last one of 2021 is on Sept. 1 at Nature's Art/Dinosaur Place in Chesterfield on Rte. 85, 5 p.m. to dark, pre-1978 only. Thursday is rain date. Check: https://es-es.facebook.com/groups/102589163413912/.

Wednesday - Goodtimes Motoring Club; monthly, last one of 2021 is on Sept. 15, on Colchester Green. Rain date Sept. 22. Pre-1988 only. For info go to https://www.goodtimesmotoringclub.com/blank-1.

Thursday - Carter Hill Farm in Marlborough at 86 E. Hampton Rd. (Rte. 66), last one in 2021 on Sept. 16, from 5 p.m., pre-1988.

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

Which of these Ford Motor Co. cars were NOT equipped with sequential rear turn signals?

A. 1964 Thunderbirds D. 1968 Mustang California Specials

B. 1967 Mercury Cougars E. 2010 Mustangs

C. 1969 Shelby Mustangs F. 2021 Mustang Mach-e Battery Electric CUVs

The correct answer to last month's Who, What, Where, or When, "What groundbreaking automotive achievement is engineer Joseph Ledwinka best known for?"

E. Steel monoside bodies for enclosed cars, first introduced on the 1928 Dodge Victory Six sedan

Joseph Ledwinka was chief engineer for the Budd Company, which pioneered "all-steel" car bodies in the 1920s. Ledwinka, seeking to reduce the number of parts and welds and the amount of afterwork needed to correct warping during manufacture, came up with the idea of stamping the entire side of the body in one piece (and entire



rear panels as well), which in turn necessitated a method of fabricating wider sheet steel stock from which to press the panels. Dodge, a primary customer of Budd, was first to adopt Ledwinka's ideas for the 1928 Dodge Victory Six (photo, right). The monoside concept is still widely-employed and is a key feature of modern day unit-body vehicles used throughout the industry, contributing to crash safety as well as fit and finish quality. While at Budd, Ledwinka also designed the body for the low-slung, front wheel drive Ruxton launched in 1930.

Note: Though denied by him, some sources claim that Vienna-born Joseph Ledwinka, who emigrated to the U.S. in 1896, was a distant relative of the Austrian designer of the 1934 Tatra 77 built in Czechoslovakia (incorrect answer B), Hans Ledwinka.

NEXT ISSUE

The next *Belltown Bulletin* will be the October, 2021 issue. The copy and classified ad deadline is Thursday, Sept. 23. Monday the 27th is the publication date. E-delivery will take place no later than September 30.

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 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...

Last month's 30 second review of the history of Kaiser Corporation's foray into the automobile business here in the U.S. was a harbinger of things to come, namely, that member *Jim Olson* was going to bring his 1952 Kaiser Manhattan "survivor" to the first Misfits Cruise Night of August. Here it is, a



E-Delivery Bonus*

See the following pages for copies of flyers for upcoming car club sponsored shows, including the Yankee Yesteryear Car Club show on Sept. 12, the All Pontiac show on Sept. 18, and the New England Oldsmobile show on Sept. 19.



Until next year ... the traditional trophy presentations marked the end of another Belltown Vintage Motorcar Meet. "Always the first Sunday in August!"

[Photo credit: Dan David]

*) 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.



YANKEE YESTERYEAR CAR CLUB 61st Annual Auto Show and Swap Meet Sunday Sept 12th, 2021 (Gates open at 9am.) AT the Brooklyn Fair Grounds, Rt. 169, Brooklyn CT.

ALL Vehicle model years Welcome!

Show Vehicles:

Registration: \$10 (includes 2 Adults) From 9am to Noon. Chairman: Bob Dumas

(860-705-9514)





Souvenir Dash Plaques Dash Plaques to first 200 entries.

Participation in this event is subject to the Discretion of YYCC's.



Trophies Shall be awarded *Plus President's Choice* General admission: \$5 each, children under 12 FREE!

Always FREE parking. Food & Refreshments are available from Vendors.

NO PETS! Service animals always welcome!

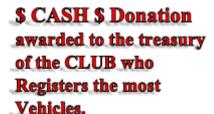
Watch for the 50/50 Raffle.
Winner must be present!

Swap Meet Vendor Space \$25 for approx. 20' X 30'

Early gate open at 6am for Vendors ONLY



ANY Vehicles FOR SALE, are to park in designated area ONLY! (\$15 per Vehicle)





As always, YYCC member's vehicles are NEVER JUDGED



- Saturday Night Family BBQ Party
- Sunday Farewell Breakfast
 - Swap Meet & Arts and Crafts **Charity Auction and Raffle**

SEE OUR ADS IN



10 YEARS & \$50,000 **Helping Children!**



child's gift or

FOR MORE INFORMATION: E-Mail: info@pontiacregistry.com or frdigi@cox.net / call 941-792-6279 or local (RI) 401-934-0663

New England Olds Club

Presents the

24th Annual All Oldsmobile Car Show

to benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children

Largest All Olds Show on the East Coast!

Free Entry for Pre-1950 cars!



Sunday September 19, 2021 9am-3pm

Rain date: Sunday September 26
See Rain Date Policy on back

Held at:

The Southington Drive-In Theatre

995 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike, Plantsville, CT 06479

Look for the Southington Drive-In Sign

- ★ Dash plaques to the first 100 cars (incl. all pre-registered)
- * Awards in all classes
- * Raffle Prizes
- * DJ Music

- ★ Food & beverages
- ★ Club Merchandise
- * Fun for all!







