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# Vapor Locks

Allegheny Mountain Region, AACA

Official Publication



Gladys Guyer, Editor  
11800 Guyer Rd.  
Huntingdon, PA 16652



January-February 2023

Vol. 72 Number 1



1928 Model A  
Owned by Clair and Carol Grove

**Allegheny Mountain Region,  
AACA**

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# COOK'S CORNER

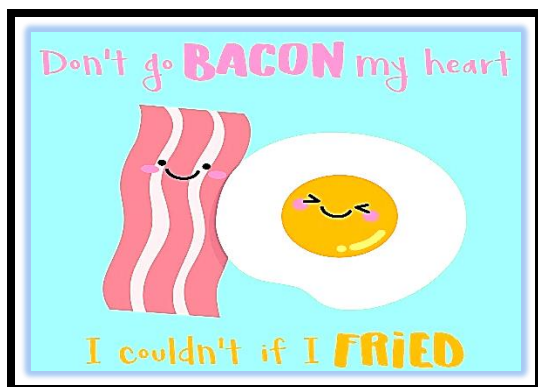
## STRAWBERRY VALENTINE'S DAY CHEX

- \*\*6 cups Rice Chex cereal
  - \*\*1 bag of white chocolate baking chips {12 oz}
  - \*\*1 box of Strawberry Creme Jell-O Pudding {pudding, NOT gelatin!}
  - \*\*Valentines M&M's and/or Sprinkles
- \*\*Measure out the Chex cereal into a large bowl.  
\*\*Pour the chocolate into a small glass dish. Add in 1/2 tsp of shortening, if desired, to help the chocolate coat the cereal more easily.  
\*\*Microwave for 1 minute 20 seconds. Let sit in the microwave for 3 minutes. Remove and gently stir. If once stirred the chocolate looks smooth, it's done. If not, return to the microwave in 15 second increments, letting it sit for 2 minutes each time, until melted & smooth.  
\*\*Add in 4 TBSP of the strawberry cream pudding into the white chocolate and stir gently until smooth. Add in 2 drops of red food coloring, if desired.  
\*\*Pour the chocolate mixture over the Chex cereal and then stir gently to coat.  
\*\*Transfer the cereal mixture to a large piece of wax paper. Sprinkle with M&M's and Valentine's colored sprinkles, if desired.

### Sweetheart Punch

- 4 cups water
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 2 quarts cranberry juice
- 1 can froze pineapple juice.
- 3 cups Sprite or 7-up

Combine water, sugar, cranberry juice, and pineapple juice from concentrate. Mix well and chill. Just before serving add Sprite or 7-up until desired taste is achieved.



ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN REGION WEBSITE <http://local.aaca.org/allegHENY/>

AACA NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS HERSHEY, PA ..... [www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org)  
501 West Governor R. Hershey, PA 17031 – Phone 717-534-1910

### 1951 Founding Officers

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Secretary / Treasurer – William A Huff, Jr.  
Advisory Committee – George W. Brisbin, David T. Davis, Paul K. Good, Carl E. Henderson, G. Bland Hoke, E.J. Leap, Fred Samuel, E.T. Studebaker

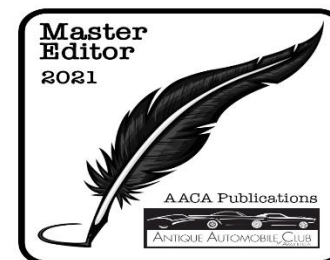
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1952-William E. Swigart, Jr.*	1975-Robert M. Struble	1999-John R. O'Brien *
1953-William E. Swigart, Jr.*	1976-Ferd D. Page, Jr.*	2000-John R. O'Brien *
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1956-David T. Davis*	1979-James L. Kingston*	2003-Patricia B. Swigart
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1963-Dr John C. Gourley, Jr.*	1986-James Fisher*	2010-Francis P. Searer
1964-William H. Harshbarger*	1987-James Fisher*	2011-Bill M. Loy
1965-Leonard L. LeCrone*	1988-William Eardley*	2012-Bill M. Loy
1966-Ferd D. Page, Jr.*	1989-Wiliam Eardley*	2013-Ernest Romanini
1967-Ferd D. Page, Jr.*	1990-Ralph B. Grove	2014 Ernest Romanini
1968-Stephen Leoras*	1991-Ralph B. Grove	2015 N. Scott Deno
1969-Stephen Leoras*	1992-Ralph B. Grove	2016 N. Scott Deno
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1971-Dr. James K. Gordon*	1994-Robert M. Struble	2018 William Forsht
1972-Dr. James K. Gordon*	1995-Russell Bambarger	2019 William Forsht
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Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted.



## President's Message



HAPPY NEW YEAR! The board has had its first meeting and the schedule is partially roughed out. Thanks Bill and Jackie Forsht for the use of your entertainment center. Some of the regular events are back: Boalsburg Museum on Memorial Day, Bill and Jackie's picnic in June, and Swigart meet in August. The return of Delgrosso's in September is a slight

possibility, stay tuned. So, the next warmer day, time to do some car prep for the season.

It's been winter since my last message and limited activities, but the after Christmas party was a great success with a good turnout. Gladys and Pat, as always, provided great starting refreshments. Thank you, Gladys and Pat. The new gift exchange was enjoyed by all. The only problem was that we had so many gifts, some folks had to leave with 2 gifts! Gifts, as requested, were very diverse. Everything from crafts to power tools to oil filters to car parts to etc.

At the Christmas party our "new" officers and board members were inducted. With limited nominees for the board, the previous year's officers and board were "renewed" for 2023. Please take time when you can to thank your board members for their continued service to your region. If you have interest in participating on the board, please don't hesitate to contact me or another board member. New "blood" on the board is an important part of the region's future, time involved is small, and pizza is sometimes involved.

No big projects in my shop this winter but stop by and say hello. Doing upgrades to our 1912 Buick. Starter and replacing burnt valve. You might enjoy this; the new 1912 Buick starter is off my 1960 Sears Garden tractor (works great!) and the new valve for the 1912 Buick is a Chevy 350 exhaust valve with slight modifications. Don't worry, the Sears tractor didn't die, it simply got a new engine. I am not sure where the 350 Chevy valves came from.

## President's Message page 2

The Deno's national touring schedule is up in the air with these as possibilities: AACA Spring nation show in Gettysburg in May (hosted by Don Barlup and Gettysburg region), Nickel region tour in Ohio in June, VMCCA Heritage tour in Virginia in September, Hershey show in October, HCCA Hershey Hangover in October in PA, and Glidden tour in October in Georgia. Let me know if you wish to join us on one of these great events or if you have an event, you wish us to join with you.

By the time you read this, I will have attended the AACA national convention in Williamsburg, VA. It should be interesting as this is the first time I have been to this location. Dave Kontor is also attending. If you also plan to attend, let me know. I will be giving my usual 2 seminars and the topic is electrical systems: starters, generators, magnetos, lighting, and ignition parts. At the board's request, I will also present a donation from the region of \$500 to AACA building fund.

I still have FREE national memberships for 2023 available for anyone who has never been an AACA member. Consider a friend or relative as new member you can sign-up!

See ya on the road soon!  
Scott



*"We'll be friends 'till we're old and senile.  
...then we will be new friends.  
anonymous*

**Allegheny Mountain Region Board Meeting**  
**Saturday, January 14, 2023**  
**Forsht Entertainment Center, Altoona, PA**

In attendance: President Scott Deno, Vice President Randy Clemens, Treasurer and Vapor Locks Editor Gladys Guyer and Secretary Patricia Swigart, Board Members, Jeff Boring, Zach Boring, Paula Clemens, Bill and Jackie Forsht and Bill Guyer, Absent: Lloy Blattenberger and James Burke

The meeting was called to order at 1:17 P.M. by President Deno.

Prior to the regular business meeting there was discussion regarding membership. All but 15 members have renewed for the year 2023. We had one new member joined National and the Region, Amber Boring. (Welcome Amber!) There are a number of persons who have renewed membership in the Region but have not renewed National. In order to be a member of a region you must also be a member of National

The minutes of the previous Board Meeting had been included in the Vapor Locks. Upon motion of Bill Forsht, seconded by Paula Clemens the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

The Financial Report was given by Treasurer Guyer. Upon motion of Randy Clemens, seconded by Jeff Boring, the treasurer's report was received. It will be filed for audit.

**Old Business**

Boalsburg Show The response in 2022 was very good. There were approximately 150 cars in attendance. There had been an oversight in making the arrangements and the porta potties were not ordered. Chairman Ernie Romanini got on the phone and immediately got the problem solved. (Quick work, Ernie!)

Jeff reported that he attended the Chet Geist auction and informed us of the outcome. There were a lot of people in attendance, many items to be sold and the prices were very variable. This was a two day sale. Chet and Jessica were long time members of the Allegheny Mountain Region.

**New Business**

The Annual Meeting of AACA will be held February 8 to 11 in Williamsburg, VA. Upon motion of Bill Forsht, seconded by Paula Clemens, it was decided to donate \$500.00 to the Building Fund of the new headquarters. Motion carried.

**Allegheny Mountain Region Board Meeting pg.2**

A letter was read from David Anspach, VP of National Activities, asking regions to consider hosting a national tour or meet for 2024. There was some discussion about hosting a Sentimental Tour. No decisions were made.

The After Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 21. President Deno has suggested that attendees bring an unwrapped gift if they wish. To supplement those who will not bring a gift it was suggested that we secure five (5) \$20.00 Sheetz gift cards. These will be used only if there are not enough gifts otherwise they will be used at the Boalsburg Show.

New board members were discussed. As the Nominating Committee wasn't able to secure any interested members for the board, upon motion of Bill Forsht, seconded by Jeff Boring the present members and officers will remain for the year 2023.

Event dates were discussed. Next board meeting will be February 19, the Spring Dinner will be April 23.- TBA Boalsburg Show - May 28 Forsht Picnic - June 25 Swigart Meet - August 4 - 5 Fall Dinner - October 15. Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Sunday, February 19 at 1:00 P.M. at the Forsht Center.

Adjournment There being no further business, upon motion of Paula Clemens, seconded by Jeff Boring the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia B. Swigart, Secretary

A big thank you to Bill and Jackie Forsht for their hospitality in hosting the meeting. They also supplied those in attendance with pizza and snacks.

**Welcome New Members**

**Frank and Lynn Dankanich**  
Bellefonte, PA 16823

**Amber Boring**  
Altoona, PA

# Allegheny Mountain Region

Calendar of events

April 23	Spring Dinner –Place TBA
April 19	Cook’s Nite – Place TBA
May 17	Cook’s Nite – Place TBA
May 28	Car Show, Military Grounds, Boalsburg
June 14	Cook’s Nite, Place TBA
June 25	Picnic at the Forsht’s
July 19	Cook’s Nite – Traditions, ( dessert at the “Blattenberger’s)
August 4&5	Swigart Meet
August 16	Cook’s Nite Place TBA
September 20	Cook’s Nite – Place TBA
October 15	Fall Dinner, Place TBA
October 18	Cook’s Nite – Place TBA
November 15	Cook’s Nite – Place TBA

## National Calendar

- March 5 – Hamburg Swap Meet & Car Corral – Hamburg, PA –
- April 15 – Southeastern Spring Nationals, Charlotte NC
- April 19-23 – Spring Carlisle
- Apr. 30 May 3 – Southeastern Divisional Tour, Oak Ridge, TN
- Mar. 24-25 – Sugarloaf Mtn. Region 54<sup>th</sup> Parts and Swap Meet, Westminster, MD
- May 18-20 – Eastern Spring Nationals –Gettysburg PA
- June 10 – Latimore Valley Car
- June 22-28 – AACA Eastern Divisional Tour, Hershey, PA
- July 16-22 – AACA Founders Tour, Ontario Canada
- July 26-29 – AACA Special Eastern Summer Nationals, Norwich, NY
- August 4-6 – Macungie Memorial Park – car show, flea market, car corral
- August 10-12 – AACA Grand Nationals, Bettendorf, IA
- September 27-Oct.1 – Fall Carlisle
- October 3-6** – Eastern Fall Meet – Hershey, PA –
- October 22-27** – Revival AAA Glidden Tour (1942 & earlier) – Thomasville, GA



# Christmas Hangover Party

On Saturday, January 21 nearly 40 members and guests attended the Region’s after Christmas Party at the Smithfield Fire Hall.

Socializing began at 1:00 with a variety of appetizers. Fruit, chicken phyllo cups, cheese spread, and punch.

At 2:00 everyone was seated as President Deno welcomed everyone to the event. John Mueller gave the nice invocation before our delicious turkey meal. The room became quiet as we enjoyed a wonderful turkey meal.

Following dessert President Deno reviewed the Region’s 2023 plans thus far and asked for anyone to have suggestions to enhance our club to contact him.

The afternoon continued with President Deno’s idea for bringing gifts to raffle was introduced. Tickets were given to everyone for a raffle. A table was covered with a variety of donated items to choose from for the drawing. Lucky ticket holders chose the item that best suited them. Everyone had a great time!

There was a special birthday in the room. Member Clair Grove was celebrating his 89th Birthday. A day to be celebrated! Everyone wished Clair a “Happy Birthday” and we all sang Happy Birthday to him. Bill Forsht asked if we were going to get to eat more cake as if we could fit another bite in his stomach. Well, the answer to Bill’s question was no more cake!

President Deno again thanked everyone for attending, and the fire company for delicious food.

## Happy Birthday Clair!



*Carol and Clair Grove*



# Just For Laughs

free stories

## Valentine's Daydream

One morning Emma woke up looking puzzled. Her husband Jim asked what was the matter? She told him, "I just had a dream that you gave me a pearl necklace for Valentine's Day. What do you think it means?"

"You'll know tonight", Jim said. That evening Jim came home with a small box and gave it to his wife. Delighted Emma opened it only to find a book entitled "The Meaning of Dreams."

## Classifieds

### FOR SALE:

1978 Chrysler LeBaron  
2 Dr. White with blue vinyl opera top.  
218 V-8, Auto, PS, PB, Cruise, AC, WW tires 2 years old. Ziebart rust proof protection. Radio need work. 18,200 miles.  
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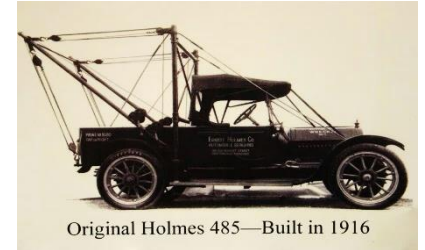
## 110 YEARS AGO

**Ernest Holmes,  
a Cadillac, and the invention of the tow truck**

[Hemmings.com/stories](http://Hemmings.com/stories)

The first tow truck was not built atop some heavy-duty truck chassis, as one would expect, but atop a 1913 Cadillac.

Ernest Holmes, a mechanic in Chattanooga, Tennessee, got a call one day in 1916 from his old business school professor, John Wiley, who had driven his Ford Model T off the road and upside down into a creek bed. Holmes eventually got the T out of the creek bed and upright, but it took eight hours, six men and untold amounts of manual labor.



Original Holmes 485—Built in 1916

The experience gave Holmes an idea. Back at his shop, he outfitted a three-year-old Cadillac - which sat on a fairly stout 120-inch-wheelbase chassis, and which used a 365.8-cu.in. L-head four-cylinder engine for power - with a crane and pulley system that would lift broken-down and wrecked vehicles and secure them for a tow back to a nearby mechanic's shop. After refining the idea with a pair of outriggers to provide stability while hoisting other vehicles, Holmes filed for a patent for his idea (US Patent [1254804](https://www.uspto.gov/patents/publications/1254804)) in November 1917.

Holmes didn't stop there, though. With patent in hand, he refocused his business to building Holmes Wrecker tow trucks and selling them to other mechanics and garage operators, advertising them as a means of literally capturing more business. Indeed, he became a rather prolific inventor afterward, patenting about a dozen improvements on the general tow truck theme as well as at least another half-dozen vehicle lifts, creepers, and jacks before his death in 1945.

## **Allegheny Mountain Region Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 19, 2023 @ 1:00  
At Bill Forsht's event center**



## Hazards of the Hobby

By Wayne Tuck 2022AACA National President

When we head for the garage to work on one of our old cars, most of our spouses know to have the Band-Aids ready. Most of us that enjoy working on our own cars know exactly what I'm talking about. A slip of the wrench, reaching around a tight angle, cutting, or stripping wire or just about anything can result in little cuts and scrapes.

A couple of weeks ago I noticed a friend of mine had a nick on his forehead. He credited the corner of the hood on his Packard for the injury. Of course, I had a similar scar from the corner of the hood on my Hudson to share with him. I guess for some of us it is just part of the price we pay for getting out and enjoying our hobby. I'm sure all of us have had bumps, blisters, bruises, and scrapes, maybe even scars in the pursuit of our hobby. Those are things we grow to expect. We do not expect injuries from more serious activities such as jacking, hoisting, burning, cutting, and welding. These activities are to be taken seriously and could result in severe injury or death if all correct procedures are not followed.

Remember, there are no shortcuts on safety. We all know the rules and should never ignore them. So, let's all get out there and have some fun... but keep the Band-Aids handy.

---

## CAR TRIVIA

1. What year do you think the first auto insurance policy created?
2. What year was anti-freeze first used?
3. In 1948 what was invented by Ralph Teetor a blind mechanical engineer?
4. What is the most popular color for a car?
5. Which U.S. State was the first to require the use of seat belts by law?

## Antifreeze

Ethylene glycol has been around since the 1850s. It was not considered for use as an automotive coolant until World War I when it was used in military vehicles to prevent radiators from icing up overnight. Initially it was used as a substitute for glycerol, a component in explosives. American production cars did not begin using any antifreeze until 1923, when an ethylene oxide-based coolant was first used. Ethylene Glycol, the green antifreeze we have all been using as long as we can remember, did not replace ethylene oxide as the industry standard until 1937. Life was simple then, just mix one part of the green stuff to one part water and you were good to go for up to three years. Occasionally you would check the potency of your mixture with a bulb-type antifreeze tester and maybe add a little to give you a little more protection, but that was about it.



In recent years, there have been many changes, given the new developments in engine coolant. Several manufacturers are specifying their own type of antifreeze and it can be confusing to the consumer as to which color or formulation of coolant is acceptable for their car. Some European and Asian coolants are produced to meet manufacturer's requirements and are based on the metallurgy of the components used in their engine manufacture or they can be based on the additives each engine requires to keep it running at its optimum. These European and Asian requirements can be vastly different from those made for American cars, further adding to the consumer's confusion.



My wife wanted me to park my truck in a safe spot!





## THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hello friends,

I hope 2023 is treating everyone well so far. January is gone and we are in mid-February. Did you make a 2023 New Year's resolution? If you did, I hope it included participating in club activities.

Here it is mid-February! Is it too soon to be thinking of Spring and Summer? I am looking forward to everything our Region is planning for the year. I hope you will be able to join in the fun.

The first organizational meeting for the region was held on January 14. Ideas were suggested, talked about and many are now in the planning stage. Additional info and events will be added, and I will publish up-dates and details in each issue of Vapor Locks. There will be opportunities to take the "old" car on tours, attend shows, dinners and more with other car enthusiasts. If you don't have an antique car, come in your modern car. We would love for you to become an active member.

I enjoy all the events the Region offers. It doesn't matter whether it is a show, tour, picnic, dinner, or anything else, I like all of it. One might think I must have lots of time on my hands. Not so but, I make time for a club and members that I am pleased to be a part of.

Mark your calendar with the dates and join members of the Region for each activity.

Meet you in the next issue.

*Gladys*



It's not about  
"Having Time"  
It's about  
**"MAKING TIME"**

## CRUISE CONTROL

The first version of cruise control appeared in the early 1900s, in a Wilson-Pilcher car. The driver was able to set the chosen speed using a lever on the steering column. What we'd consider modern cruise control came about in the late 1940s, invented by a man named Ralph Teetor. Teetor, who was completely blind, was one of the foremost automotive engineers of his generation. His invention, first called 'Speedostat', was introduced in a Chrysler car as a luxury option. Its surge in popularity led the brand to install a 'Speedostat' it in all its vehicles. It was officially christened 'cruise control' by General Motors when it began using it in its Cadillac vehicles.

---

## Just For Thought

Pearl, an 84-year-old woman, enjoyed waving to students everyday as they walked to school. "She's lived in the community many years and felt very connected to the kids. Pearl had all sorts of funny stories about the kids waving to her. She was a fireball, full of love, a ton of fun and perhaps that is what kept her young."

The students would always look towards her house, and she figured that if they were looking in, she would wave to them. "She loved it," and so did the students.

That's why, on Valentine's Day, the students invited Pearl to their school and gave her a gigantic Valentine. They also shared a video of thanks that they had made for her. One of the students said, "You can always count on her to be that warm smile on a dreary day." She was overwhelmed with happiness and could not hold back the tears of happiness.



# Me and My Indians

By Stan Smith 04-FEB- '23

A recent motorcycle accident by a popular West Coast car and motorcycle collector got me recalling my early days when I had three Indian Motorcycles ..... not all at the same time since my Dad was insistent that I never own or ride such a machine. Since I was living at home, I'd hide whatever I had on the other side of town. The times I got to ride was when he was on a 3-daybusiness sales trip or in a golf tournament. I never fell off ran into anything but came close more than once.

One that comes to mind was the day I tried showing off while leaving a friend's parents place that had a long gravel driveway from their backyard. I was on my 1936 Indian Chief that had a twist throttle on the left handlebar. On the same side was a tall hedge along the property line and their driveway. After I popped the clutch with the engine revved up, I felt the cycle kicking up a shower of stones and my hand rubbing along the hedge. The further I went the deeper my hand got which made me turn the grip the wrong way. By the time I got the cycle straightened out it was near the end of the driveway. Lucky for me traffic in those days was virtually zero and I got onto the street without hitting anyone coming by.

While on the subject of twist grip throttles were you aware that Indian for the most part in the 1920's and 30's had theirs on the left, but Harley Davidson put theirs on the right? And the hand gearshift lever next to the gas tank would be right or left depending on what make cycle you were riding.

BUT both companies in the mid 1930's decided to offer the opposite setup as an option to get more sales. Which side the clutch and foot brake pedals were put was just about as mixed up. I never got to ride a Harley and that's probably a good thing.

One more piece of trivia information about the Indian company. In 1922-23 they decided, for copyright and patent reasons, they would drop the letter "r" from the word motorcycle. From then up to their last days in the early 1950's the name on any stationary read INDIAN MOTOCYCLE COMPANY.

# Me and My Indians page 2

The photo shows me in my last Indian Chief. I sent a copy of it to Jay Leno who is recovering from his incident with his '40 Indian. Wished him well and added to the picture:

“Next time have someone younger take you for a ride!”



## COOK'S NITE OUT

No cooking tonight!

Gladys Guyer



Cook's Nite will be returning on April 19. There will be information on restaurants in the next issue of VL.

# Memorial Day Show

May 28, 2023

Military Museum Grounds, Boalsburg, PA

Allegheny Mountain Region will hold our annual car show on the lawn of the Museum Grounds on May 28.

Enjoy socializing at the show or walk across the highway to take in the town festivities. There will be food vendors by the show with a delicious variety of options.

**There will be no pre-registrations for the Memorial Day Show. Registrations will be done on show day with a \$10 entry donation.**

This is a **NON-JUDGED SHOW!!** There will NOT be trophies at the show! Some lucky participants by random drawing may receive a gift card or various items at the end of the day.

Come and enjoy a great day with fellow antique car enthusiasts!

Additional information will be included in the next issue of Vapor Locks as it becomes available.



## SPRING DINNER

**Save the date!**

**April 23, 2023**

The Region will be holding our Spring Dinner on Saturday April 23, 2023

**There is no information available for the event as this time.**

**Plans will be finalized at the Board meeting on February 19 and will be posted in the next issue of VL.**

**Save the Date!!!**

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. 1898
2. 1923
3. Cruise control
4. White
5. New York

# My First Car

by Clair R. Grove

VJ Day, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1944, stands out in my mind like a beacon. WWII was over and my brother, A. Dean Grove, would be coming home. Everyone was in a joyous mood. Church bells were ringing, horns were blowing, and families were having parties.

After brother Dean arrived home, he continued the farming operation that he left when he joined the United States Army Air Corps. Just over the hill, new neighbors arrived from Altoona. They decided a farming operation was to be a new venture for them and it would be in the chicken business. They were new to farming but savvy to things going on in Altoona, learning that Home Taste Bakery Company would be getting a new fleet of trucks, selling all their old 1930 Model A Fords they used during the war. Our neighbors purchased two trucks for their business and brother Dean purchased one of them.

Thus began my first experience with the Model A Fords. I was 13 years old at the time and loved that truck. I hauled manure, hay, and lumber with it. I could set the points, grease it, change the oil, fix the brakes, clutch etc.

When I celebrated my 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and Dad offered me the family car, a 1940 Willys as a birthday gift. His plans were to buy a new 1949 Ford. "Thanks a lot Dad," I told him, "But I'm saving my money for a Model A Car and I have \$23.00 saved up." "OK", Dad said, and that ended the conversation or so I thought.

Dad worked for the P.R.R. boarding at his cousin's home on 13<sup>th</sup> street in Altoona. On the next block lived a retired schoolteacher who planned to sell her 1928 Model A Sport Coupe for \$175. Dad discovered she walked the 2 blocks to school in good weather and drove the car when the walks were icy.

Well Dad was ready to make a deal. He called and ask if this '28 was to my liking, and I said it was, but I didn't have the money. I was ecstatic when Dad told me that he and my brother would buy it for me and that I could just work out the cost. What a deal!

The next step was to get the car. Driving it home from Altoona, we discovered the radiator was plugged from not being run and it boiled like a tea kettle. So, an engine over-haul was the next job along with a new clutch and pressure plate and she was ready for the road.

We used that A Model for everything from hauling produce and chickens to Huntingdon, to taking eggs and chickens across the mountain to Leamersville to the sale barn. I raised sweet corn, chicken, sold eggs and worked the threshing crew to help pay for that car.

## My First Car page 2

When I left home to join the Air Force in 1951, Dad and Dean used the Model A to get through snow drifts. It was unstoppable with a set of chains on the tires.

I returned home to the farm in 1955, now married and my model A was still perking right along. Where the '49 Ford wouldn't go the '28 Model A did.

We began once more to use the '28 to haul sweet corn to Snare Brothers in Smithfield. Weaver's Clover Farm store in Huntingdon bought eggs and produce. We sold corn to J.C. Blair Hospital, hauling it on the front fenders. Eggs were placed in the rumble seat. Chickens freshly cleaned were cooled in Spring water in wash tubs and wrapped in heavy sheets (ice was unheard of) and then put on the carriers taking them as quickly as possible to the Penn Hunt Hotel on Allegheny Street and to Sausman's Restaurant on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

In 1955 we purchased a herd of cow, shipping the milk in cans. Again, the Model A was put to use as a pickup truck. The rumble seat was removed, and a wooden bed was built accommodating the six milk cans. We also used the bed for hauling tools for timbering, gas, power saws oil etc.

After I purchased a pickup truck in 1961 the Model A was put into retirement. Then we decided to have it restored, taking it to Howard Bigley, who had a shop behind Laney's Feed Mill. The Model A was in his shop when hurricane Agnes in 1972 flooded our area with the flood completely covering it. Mr. Bigley had to clean the mud which was very caustic due to the chemicals in the flood water, re-upholstering the inside, putting on a new top, repainting the body. The car today is much the same as when he completed the task in 1975 except for new tires and miscellaneous parts as plugs and points.

We continue to enjoy driving it today as I many years ago. Only then there were two people on the fenders, five in the front seat and four in the rumble seat when we went to drive-in movies. There were no seat belts to worry with and gas was 18 cents a gallon...fill-up was less than \$2.00!! Wages were \$1.00 a day. At 22 miles to the gallon, I could do a lot of traveling for two bucks. Life doesn't get much better than that.

My first car continues to provide pleasure to our family. Incidentally, the '30 AA truck is still in my possession. A Galion dump bed was installed, enabling us to haul wood, stone, sand etc. with it. Because Ford made hardened intake valves like exhaust valves, unleaded gas is no problem, working well without additives.

"Henry Ford's" Model A's has been a reliable source of help in our farming business for the last 65 years and continue to do so today.