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Vapor Locks



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



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January - February 2020

Vol. 69

Number 1



Tom Orr's
1962 Chevrolet

Allegheny Mountain Region, AACA

1951 – 2020

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WHAT IS THIS VEHICLE?

wikipedia



ANYONE KNOW?

It is the "Fardier à vapeur"

The first recorded use of a self-powered vehicle was in 1769 when **Nicolas Cugnot**, a French military engineer, designed and built a small version of an awkward but workable three-wheeled vehicle powered by a steam engine. The vehicle was intended as a tractor for hauling heavy cannons.

In 1770, a full-size version which weighed 8000 pounds and had a top speed of 2 miles per hour which ran on the cobble stone streets of Paris. The vehicle was intended as a tractor for hauling heavy cannons and had a short career. It went out of control during a trial run and crashed, adding a colorful chapter in the history of cars. The vehicle was reported to have been very unstable owed to poor weight distribution, a serious disadvantage for a vehicle intended to be able to traverse rough terrain and climb steep hills. In addition, boiler performance was also particularly poor, even by the standards of the day. The vehicle's fire needed to be relit, and its steam rose again, every quarter of an hour or so, which considerably reduced its overall speed and distance. After running a small number of trials the project was abandoned

241 years later, in 2010, a copy of the "fardier de Cugnot" was built by pupils at the Arts et Métiers Paris Tech. This replica worked perfectly, proving that the concept was viable and verifying the truth and results of the 1769 tests.

1951 Founding Officers

Regional Director – William E. Swigart, Jr.
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

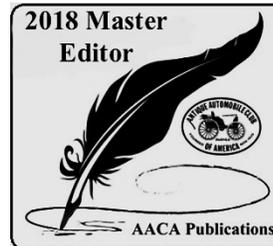
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1957-Leonard L. LeCrone*	1980-Larrie A. Derman	2003-Patricia B. Swigart
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*deceased		2020 William Forsht

Classified Ads:

For Sale or Wanted are **Free** of charge to members. Please include Name, Price (if selling), Phone and E-mail Address.

Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted.



President's Message



This decision to stay in PA for the winter might not have been very well thought out! Jackie is wandering around with 3 sweaters and a stocking cap on mumbling "This is the winter of our discontent..." I got her an electric heater, what does she expect?

The garden train in the front yard is now the Polar Express and the driveway looks like Galactic ice skating rink. Oh well, good excuse to stay in the garage and work on the Rancho. I found a good engine and transmission. The frame and body have turned out to be better than I had hoped. Only broke one bolt so far.

The after holiday dinner was well attended and we had a really good planning meeting afterwards. All our officers agreed to keep their positions for another year and we have a good start on the schedule or tours, shows and social events for the upcoming season.

One highlight of the meeting was finding out that Gladys has once again won the Masters Editor Award for the Vapor Locks. She continues to amaze us. Great job!

Thank you to Ed Hinkle for getting us the new venue at Toftrees!

Scott Deno and I are getting ready to leave in about 10 days for the AACA Annual Convention. I am looking forward to attending. It looks like a couple of very busy days. I have never been here to attend before. I will try to be as presidential as possible and not embarrass the club! Lol

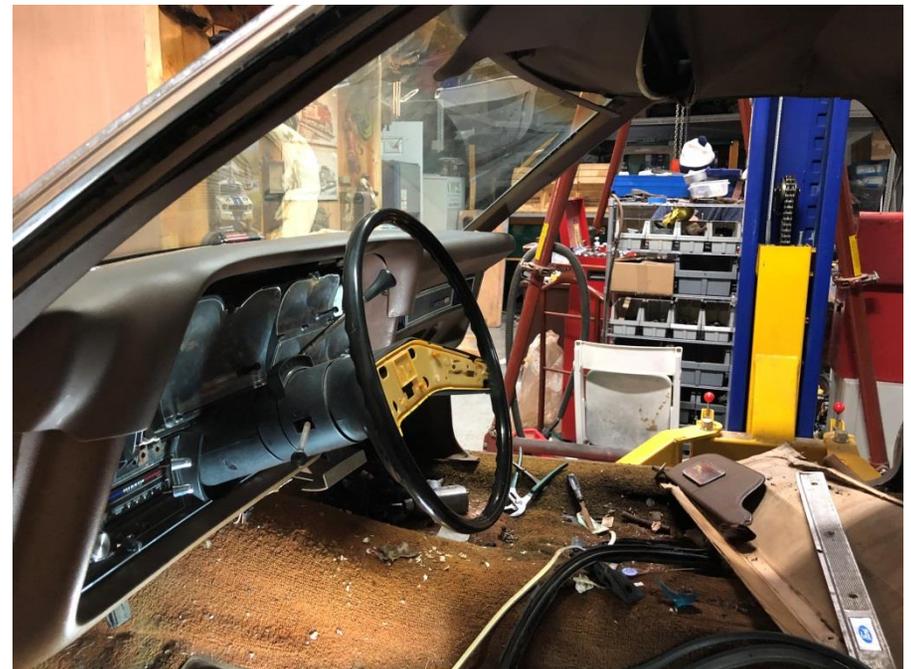
My newest acquisition is a 2004 ambulance. It is work related not a fun ride. Jackie's comment was "At least if I break a hip doing a Peggy Fleming imitation on my way to the mail box, you can get me to the hospital". I am thinking there will be extra trips to the beach required to thaw her out in the spring!

Keep the cars in the garage and don't drive the scenic route right now. It's iced over and covered with salt! See you in the Spring!

Bill (only 45 days till Spring) Forsht



Work In Progress Bill's 78 Rancho pg. 2



Work In Progress pg. 3



ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN REGION AACA

Toftrees, State College, PA

January 12, 2020

The January 12, 2020 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Allegheny Mountain Region was held at Toftrees in State College, PA

Attending were: President William Forsht, Vice President Randy Clemens, Treasurer and Vapor Locks Editor Gladys Guyer and Secretary Pat Swigart. Board members present were Jeff Boring, Paula Clemens, Scott Deno, Earl Eby, Jackie Forsht, Bill Guyer, Ed Hinkle and members of the Allegheny Mountain Region.
Absent: Michael Walter

The Organizational Meeting was called to order at 1:45 P.M. by President Forsht following a delicious After Christmas Dinner.

The first order of business was the election of officers for the 2020 year. Upon motion of Ed Hinkle, seconded by Jackie Forsht, the present officers shall remain.

The Minutes of the October 27th annual meeting were printed in the Vapor Locks. Upon motion of Paula Clemens, seconded by Scott Deno the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

Treasurer Guyer presented the Financial Report. Upon motion of Paula Clemens, seconded by Scott Deno the Treasurer's report was accepted. It will be filed for audit.

As the Antique Auto Restoration Department at Pennsylvania College of Technology has merged with the regular Auto Restoration program, upon motion of Scott, seconded by Ed we will continue with the scholarship money but have the check earmarked for an 'Antique Auto Restoration Student'.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership

As we receive four free memberships from National, Scott suggested that we give Leonard Fiore one of these. He has entertained us in the past and we are going to have another visit to his place this year. He does not charge for admission.

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN REGION AACA

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting

President Forsht will represent the Region at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Upon motion of Scott, seconded by Randy he will present a check in the amount of \$1000.00 toward the Building Fund at the President's Dinner.

Schedule of Events

Cook's Nite Out will again start in March. Tentative plans and scheduling of events for the coming year was discussed. These are listed in this issue of the Vapor Locks.

2021 will be the 70th Anniversary of the Region. Jeff Boring will look into the possibility of a special event in celebration. It was suggested that he check with the Bedford Springs Hotel. He will report on this.

Ed will check into a place to have the Spring Dinner. He suggested that maybe a Brunch would be a pleasant change.

Some possible tours were discussed. There were no definite plans made.

Memorial Day Show will be held May 25. Mike Walter and Scott Deno will be in charge.

June 28 will be the Region picnic at Forsht's. The board will meet at 1:00 P.M. and we will eat at 2:30 P.M.

The president announced that Gladys has gotten information that she will again receive the Master Editor Award for the Vapor Locks. CONGRATULATIONS, Gladys. This award is well deserved.

The next board meeting will be held on March 15th at River Billy's Grill at the Mill Stone Manor in Huntingdon. The meeting will be at 1:00 P.M. We will order pizza. Please contact Pat of your attendance.

Upon motion of Paula, seconded by Ed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted

Patricia B. Swigart, Secretary

2020 Calendar of Events

February 6-8	AACA national Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
March 1	Ontelaunee Region Swap Meet/Car Coral-Hamburg PA
March 15	Board/Club Meeting - Riverbilly's - Huntingdon
March 18	Cook's Nite - Village Pantry - Tyrone - Jeff Boring
April 15	Cook's Nite Marzonies - Greenwood - Paula Clemens
May 13-16	Eastern Divisional Tour (up to 1995) MD - Eastern Shore Region
May 20	Cook's Nite Wings
May 25	Memorial Day Show, Boalsburg, PA
June 7-12	Sentimental Tour (1928-1958) WV
June 17	Cook's Nite Paesano's - Alexandria - Gladys Guyer
June 24-27	Eastern Spring National, White Water Region - Beckley, WV
June 28	Forsht Picnic
June 28	Board/Club Meeting @1:00 - Forsht's Picnic
July 15	Cook's Nite Traditions - Martinsburg -
July 19-24	Reliability Tour (1915 & earlier) Lock Haven/Wellsboro
July 23-25	AACA Grand National - Allentown, PA
August 7-8	Swigart Museum Meet
August 19	Cook's Nite Ole New York - State College - Scott Deno
September 16	Slicks Ivy Stone, Osterburg - Jackie Forsht
September 13-18	Glidden Tour (1942 or earlier) VMMCA, Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
September 29	Delgrosso Show
October 7-10	Hershey
October 10	Fall Foliage Parade, Bedford - PA Fort Bedford Region
October 21	Cook's Nite Heidelberg Country Club, Altoona
November 18	Cook's Nite Jethro's, Altoona

Additional events will be posted as information is available.





Library Update

Chris Ritter

AACA Library Director

The 2019 Fall Meet was a huge success for the AACA Library. On Tuesday of Nationals week we held our annual Yard Sale and raised more than \$14,000 in just three hours. Items sold were duplicates to the library's existing holdings and included sales literature, shop manuals, antique road maps, reference books and so much more.

Hundreds of visitors visited the library during its regular Meet Week hours to request information and visit with old friends. On the flea market field, the AACA Library Bookmobile greeted visitors and ran a continuous-loop video of our future library in 3D rendering. On Friday evening, the library was awarded the Bradley Award from the Society of Automotive Historians. We are the first institution to ever receive the award twice (we first received it in 1992) which honors "the work of libraries and archives whose mission is to preserve motor vehicle resource materials.

From November through March, 2020, the Library Bookmobile will be on display at the Virginia Museum of Transportation in Roanoke, VA. Visitors seeing the Bookmobile will learn about the history and current offerings of the AACA and the importance of protecting our shared automotive heritage.

In the coming months the library will be very busy as we prepare to move to our new home in 2020. In addition, we will be launching a brand new online catalog system that will make searching easier and faster for our users. At our Annual Convention in February we will be hosting a Pinewood Derby challenge to all attendees. Participants will build cars to specification and race them on Friday evening. Look for more details in a future issue of *The Rummage Box*, *Speedster* and *Antique Automobile*.



THE EDITOR'S DESK

Greetings to all and Happy New Year! Each year there is loads of fun, fellowship and new roads to be traveled and 2020 will be no different.

Plans for the year are underway by a great group of members and will be confirmed soon. I will keep you informed of great excursions as the information become available.

I hope in 2020 more members will get involved and find out for themselves what great adventures they can enjoy with members of Allegheny Mountain Region.

Only a few more months until the covers some off the cars and we can begin to drive the "oldies". I am eager to get out on a tour soon. How about you?

So long for now I'll meet you in the next issue with plans for the road.

Gladys

Thank you

Ron Strapel, Maefield Enterprises
John Mueller, Johnny's U-Pull it and Muellers Auto
Larrie Derman, Derman Funeral Home
Earl Eby, Joel Confer Toyota and Joel Confer BMW
Pat Swigart, Swigart Museum
Harold Blattenberger, Jacob's Church
Jeff Boring, Borex Inc.

Advertising supporters of Vapor Locks 2019

COOL WITH OIL

Stan Smith – 22 Jan 2020

My latest issue of SKINNED KNUCKLES magazine specialized on the cooling of motors. There was a short history of what appeared on the market after the mixing of alcohol with the water to prevent freezing. Those were the first of the ethylene glycol mixes named ZERONE (normal-duty) and ZEREX (Heavy-duty).

These along with PRESTONE were colored green. But now days depending on what modern car or truck you drive the antifreezes come in at least five other colors. Valvoline produces their antifreeze in Orange, Yellow, Turquoise, Blue and Pink/Blue. Each has their own special blend of rust inhibitor and preservative like organic acid and or silicates and not just food colorant. Plus there has been on the market a waterless coolant (EVANS) that has gotten rave reviews.....both good and bad.

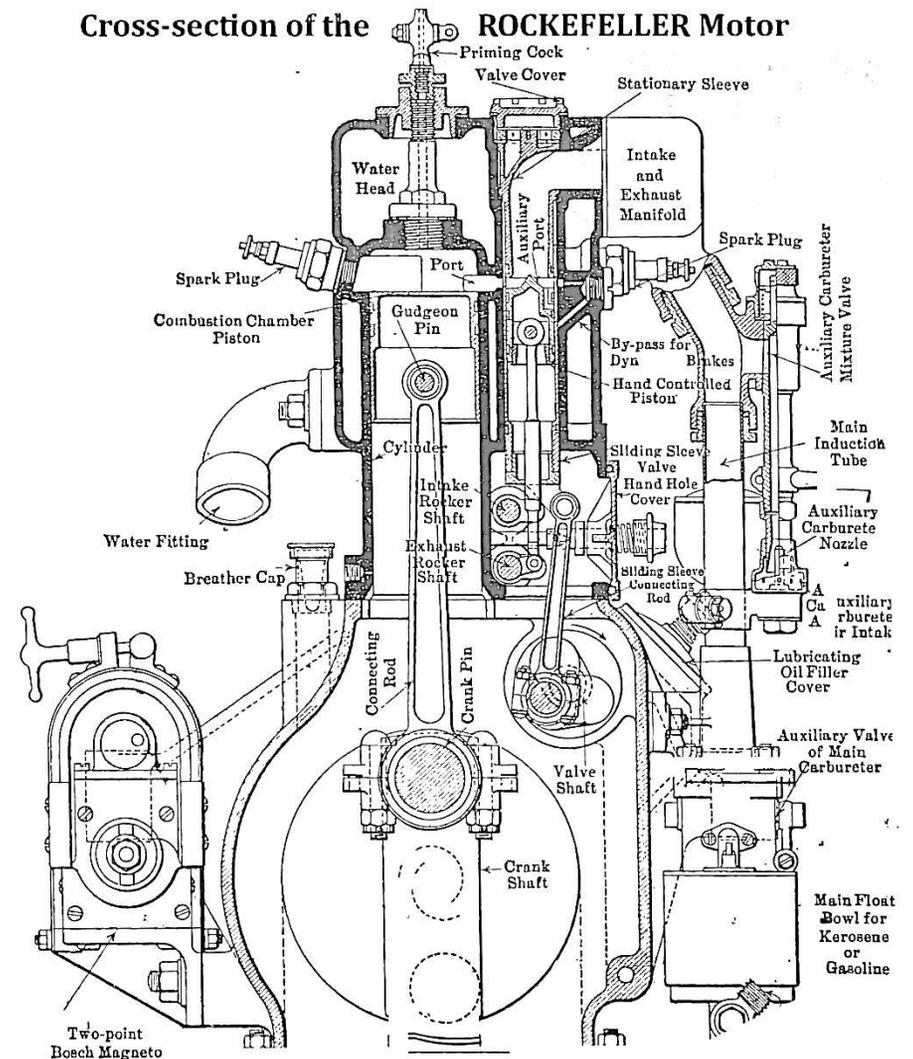
All this led me to pull off our book shelf a 1914 book that's titled "How To Buy an Automobile. Written by a former president of the SAE by the name of Thomas J. Fay who lived in Cleveland, Ohio. Besides on what to expect from a car salesman the book went into some fairly in-depth chapters on lubrication, the proper way to build and maintain leaf springs, the book also went into a detailed description of a new motor design. It was called the ROCKEFELLER and rather than using poppet valves off a camshaft it made use of small sleeves that were piston shaped that used a separate crankshaft. The intake and exhaust could be adjusted separately to make the motor more efficient.

But there was another special feature of the ROCKEFELLER motor...it made use of THERMOIL as a coolant. This was a quenching oil that would not freeze nor cause rust in the cooling system. Plus with its higher oiling point the motor could run on either gas or kerosene.

That brings up two questions:

Has any type of oil ever been used for a coolant?

Was the ROCKEFELLER motor ever used for a car?



Happy Valentine's Day!!

JUST FOR THOUGHT

Red Marbles

I was at the corner grocery store buying some early potatoes. I noticed a small boy, delicate of bone and feature, ragged but clean, hungrily appraising a basket of freshly picked green peas. I paid for my potatoes but was also drawn to the display of fresh green peas. I am a pushover for creamed peas and new potatoes. Pondering the peas, I couldn't help overhearing the conversation between Mr. Miller (the store owner) and the ragged boy next to me.

'Hello, Barry, how are you today?' Hello, Mr. Miller. Fine, thank you. Just admiring' them peas. They sure look good. They are good, Barry. How's your Ma? Fine. Getting stronger all the time. Good. Anything I can help you with?'

No, Sir. Just admiring them peas. "Would you like to take some home?" asked Mr. Miller. No, Sir. Got nothing to pay for them with. Well, what have you to trade me for some of those peas? All I have is my prize marble here. Is that right? Let me see it said Miller. Here it is. She's a dandy. I can see that. Hmmmmmm, only thing is this one is blue and I sort of go for red. Do you have a red one like this at home the store owner asked? Not zackly but almost. Tell you what. Take this sack of peas home with you and next trip this way let me look at that red marble, Mr. Miller told the boy. Sure will. Thanks, Mr. Miller.

Mrs. Miller, who had been standing nearby, came over to help me. With a smile, she said there are two other boys like him in our community; all three are in very poor circumstances. Jim just loves to bargain with them for peas, apples, tomatoes, or whatever. When they come back with their red marbles, and they always do, he decides he doesn't like red after all and he sends them home with a bag of produce for a green marble or an orange one, when they come on their next trip to the store. I left the store smiling to myself, impressed with this man.

A short time later I moved to Colorado, but I never forgot the story of this man, the boys, and their bartering for marbles. Several years went by, each more rapid than the previous one. Just recently, I had occasion to visit some old friends in that Idaho community, and while I was there, learned that Mr. Miller had died. They were having his visitation that evening, and knowing my friends wanted to go, I agreed to accompany them. Upon arrival at the mortuary, we fell into line to meet the relatives of the deceased and to offer whatever words of comfort we could. Ahead of us in line were

JUST FOR THOUGHT pg.2

three young men. One was in an army uniform and the other two wore nice haircuts, dark suits and white shirts...all very professional looking. They approached Mrs. Miller, standing composed and smiling by her husband's casket. Each of the young men hugged her, kissed her on the cheek, spoke briefly with her, and moved on to the casket. Her misty light blue eyes followed them as, one by one; each young man stopped briefly and placed his own warm hand over the cold pale hand in the casket. Each left the mortuary awkwardly, wiping his eyes.

Our turn came to meet Mrs. Miller. I told her who I was and reminded her of the story from those many years ago and what she had told me about her husband's bartering for marbles. With her eyes glistening, she took my hand. Those three young men who just left were the boys I told you about. They just told me how they appreciated the things Jim traded them. Now, at last, when Jim could not change his mind about color or size...they came to pay their debt. We've never had a great deal of the wealth of this world, she confided, but right now, Jim would consider himself the richest man in Idaho. With loving gentleness, she lifted the lifeless fingers of her deceased husband. Resting underneath, were three exquisitely shined red marbles.



We will not be remembered by our words, but by our kind deeds.
It's not what you gather but what you scatter
that tells what kind of life you have lived.

Author unknown



Car Trivia

1. Which car brand includes the Defender and Discovery?
2. The "Leaf" is a bestselling highway-capable all-electric car produced by which company?
3. In 1971, the Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow two door models were given what name?
4. The Beetle was the world's bestselling vehicle of all time until the late 1990s, when it was overtaken by which car?
5. Which automobile manufacturer's logo means "Advancement through Technology"?
6. Which luxury auto company was named after the founder of Detroit?

Answers elsewhere in Vapor Locks

CLASSIFIEDS

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1959 AMC Rambler Super two door

49,633 miles, original white paint, in a garage in Medford, NJ.

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1912 Buick Model 35 Touring

Very good condition, needs nothing, drive it home, older restoration

\$32,000 obo

Scott Deno

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COOK'S CORNER

Gladys Guyer

Slow Cooker Chicken Cordon Bleu

- 1 lb. Boneless skinless chicken breast cut into 1 inch pieces
- 2 C. Chicken broth
- 1 jar (15 oz.) jar Alfredo pasta sauce
- 1 T. Dijon mustard
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 8 oz. (about 2 1/4 cups) uncooked penne pasta
- 3/4 C. coarsely chopped deli-sliced ham (about 4 oz.)
- 1 C. shredded Swiss Cheese
- 1 T. Butter
- 1/2 C bread crumbs

Spray 5-quart slow cooker with cooking spray. In slow cooker, mix broth, Alfredo sauce, Dijon mustard and pepper. Stir in chicken. Cover; cook on High heat setting 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until chicken is cooked through (at least 165°F).

Stir pasta and ham into slow cooker. Cover; cook on High heat setting 25 to 30 minutes or until pasta is tender, stirring twice.

Stir in cheese until cheese melts. Let stand covered 5 to 10 minutes or until slightly thickened. Stir mixture.

In 8-inch skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add bread crumbs; cook 3 to 5 minutes, stirring frequently, until toasted. Top pasta with bread crumb mixture before serving

S'mores No-Bake Cookies

- 1-2/3 C milk chocolate chips
- 2 T Canola Oil
- 3 C Golden Grahams cereal
- 2 C miniature marshmallows

In a large microwave-safe bowl, microwave chocolate chips and oil, uncovered, at 50% power until chocolate is melted, stirring every 30 seconds, 1 to 1-1/2 minutes. Stir in cereal until blended; fold in marshmallows. Drop by rounded tablespoonful onto waxed paper-lined baking sheets. Refrigerate until firm, about 15 minutes.

BOARD MEETING

A Board Meeting has been schedule for March 15, 2020 at our meeting room at the Mill Stone Manor RiverBilly's in Huntingdon.

We are having pizza for lunch at 12:00 with the meeting following at 1:00. Please respond to Pat if you will be joining the lunch group at 814-251-2299 or pbts114@gmail.com.

Everyone is welcome! !

Trivia Answers

1. Land Rover
2. Nissan
3. Corniche
4. Toyota Corolla
5. Audi
6. Cadillac

Carlisle Schedule of Events

Spring Carlisle/Auction	April 22-26
Import&Performance Nationals	May 15-17
Ford Nationals	June 5-7
Chevrolet Nationals	June 26-27
Auctions Summer Sale	June 27
Chrysler National	July 10-12
Truck Nationals	August 7-9
Corvettes	August 27-30
Fall Carlisle	September 30-October 4



Just For Laughs

via Tom Orr

OFFICIAL CONVERSION CHART

How To Interpret Antique Car Ads

IF IT SAYS:

Rare Model
Older restoration
Needs Engine work
Uses no oil
No rust
Rough
One owner
No time to complete
Needs interior
Rebuilt engine
May run
Many new parts
29 coats of hand rubbed paint
Clean
Best offer
Always driven slowly
Prize winner
Stored 25 years
Real show stopper
Easy restoration
Ready to show
Top good
Good investment

It REALLY MEANS:

Nobody liked them when new
Can't tell it's been restored
It's been frozen for 30 years
Just throws it out
Body and fenders are missing
It's too bad to lie about
Never been able to sell
Can't find parts anywhere
Seats are gone
Has new spark plugs
But it never has
Keeps breaking down
Needed that much to cover rust
It sat out in the rain yesterday
About what I expect to get
Won't go any faster
Hard Luck Trophy times in a row
Under a tree
Orange with purple fenders
Parts will come off in your hand
Just washed it
Only leaks when it rains
Can't depreciate any more

COOK'S NITE OUT RETURNS

No cooking tonight!

Gladys Guyer



As you know, Cook's Nite Out is one of the region's most popular activities. We will kick off the 2020 Cook's Nite on March 18. Our schedule is below. Come on out and give the cook in your house the nite off!

WE GATHER AT 6:00 and ORDER AT 6:30

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| March 18 | Village pantry, Tyrone, PA - Jeff Boring |
| April 15 | Marzonies, Greenwood - Paula Clemens |
| May 20 | Wingman Brew N Que
9074 US-522, Lewistown, PA 17044 |
| June 17 | Paesano's, Alexandria, PA - Gladys Guyer
5731 William Penn Hwy, Alexandria, PA 16611 |
| July 15 | Traditions in Martinsburg, 2329 Curryville Rd,
Martinsburg, PA 16662 |
| August 19 | Ole New York - State College - Scott Deno
2298 East College Ave. State College, 16801 |
| September 16 | Slicks Ivy Stone, Osterburg - Jackie Forsht
8785 William Penn Rd, Osterburg, PA 16667 |
| October 15 | Heidelberg Country Club, Randy Clemens
812 Frankstown Rd. Altoona |
| November 18 | Cook's Nite Jethro's, Altoona - Paula Clemens |



After Christmas Party

January 12, 2020

Event planner, Ed Hinkle

The club's New Year got underway with the after Christmas Party at a new venue. Ed Hinkle was able to secure the clubhouse at Toftrees in State College and made plans for our afternoon.

Everyone arrived around 12:00 and socialized while munching on vegies and dip. Near 1:00 we took our seats and President Forsht welcomed everyone to the dinner. We bowed our heads for a minute of silent prayer before going to the buffet table. Our delicious meal of salad, turkey, stuffing, ham, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, soup, rolls, drinks and of course dessert was ready for the group. The meal was delicious!!

When the meal was over, President Forsht and our group thanked Ed for planning the day. It was wonderful!

Sleeping Beauty

Free Pictures



Chrome Bumpers:

Wikipedia

The Good Old Days When Bumpers Were Metal

A Little Bit of History

In 1901 Frederick Simms began testing fully functional, impact-absorbing bumpers and was granted a patent for them in 1905. The next several decades, bumpers would make spotty appearances before seeing widespread application on Ford Model A's introduced in 1927.



Early-1930s vehicles such as this Chrysler Airflow added style to bumper designs.

Chrome finish went hand-in-hand with metal bumpers on virtually every automobile in the 1930s to the finned sharks of the 1950s to powerful muscle cars of the 1960s.

During the 1960's and early-1970's, chrome bumpers became slimmer and trimmer - especially on performance-oriented cars such as the 1963 Studebaker Avanti (left) and 1970 Chevrolet Camaro (right). Vehicles would see much larger bumpers affixed to them by 1973.

The demise of chrome bumpers began in 1968 when the Pontiac GTO featured a plastic nose cap doubling as an impact-absorbing bumper.

Until the 1973 model year, there were no standards governing how much protection bumpers provided. Form over function often ruled in design studios, leaving consumers with expensive repairs after stylish bumper pieces provided little damage protection.

The United States Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard No. 215 mandated that 1973 model year bumpers must be strong enough to prevent headlights, tail lights, fuel system components, and other safety items from damage after a 5 mile-per-hour frontal impact and 2.5 mile-per-hour rear impacts.

Chevrolet Corvettes were early adopters of plastic end caps to cover more massive steel bumpers required to meet federal regulations. Corvettes got plastic bumper covers in front for 1973 and on the rear for 1974. For the 1974 model year, front and rear bumpers were required to protect lights, as well as engine and safety systems from 5 mph impacts tests that were now performed at an angle.

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Regulations were upped further on 1979 models, stating that all body panels must be protected from any damage in 5 mph tests instead of just lights.

Finally, the toughest standards were put into place during 1980-82 model years, which limited damage the bumpers themselves were allowed to sustain. A new requirement stating all bumpers must be mounted between 16 and 20 inches above the ground was added as well. For the 1983 model year, requirements were dropped back to 2.5 mph on front and rear straightforward barrier tests and 3 mph on corner impact tests. Bumpers and attachments could again be damaged as long as body panels and lights were unaffected. Regulations Affected Bumper Design Trends.

The beginning of the end for chrome bumpers came after the two oil crises of 1973 and 1979 dictated better fuel economy through lighter weight and improved aerodynamics. Wrap around bumper covers that have become the norm today were first introduced as a design feature on the new for 1980 Mercedes S-class. Because a smaller amount of metal was required underneath, plastic bumper covers saved weight. They were quickly imitated, and plastic end caps that had been used up until then were slowly phased out by other manufacturers.

Traditional steel-and-chrome exposed bumpers saw continued use through the 1980s on American vehicles nearing the end of their design cycles. The 1991 Ford LTD and 1992 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham were among the final U.S. market cars to wear traditional metal bumpers.

After 1991 Ford LTDs, 1992 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham, and 1995 Rolls Royce Corniche went out of production.

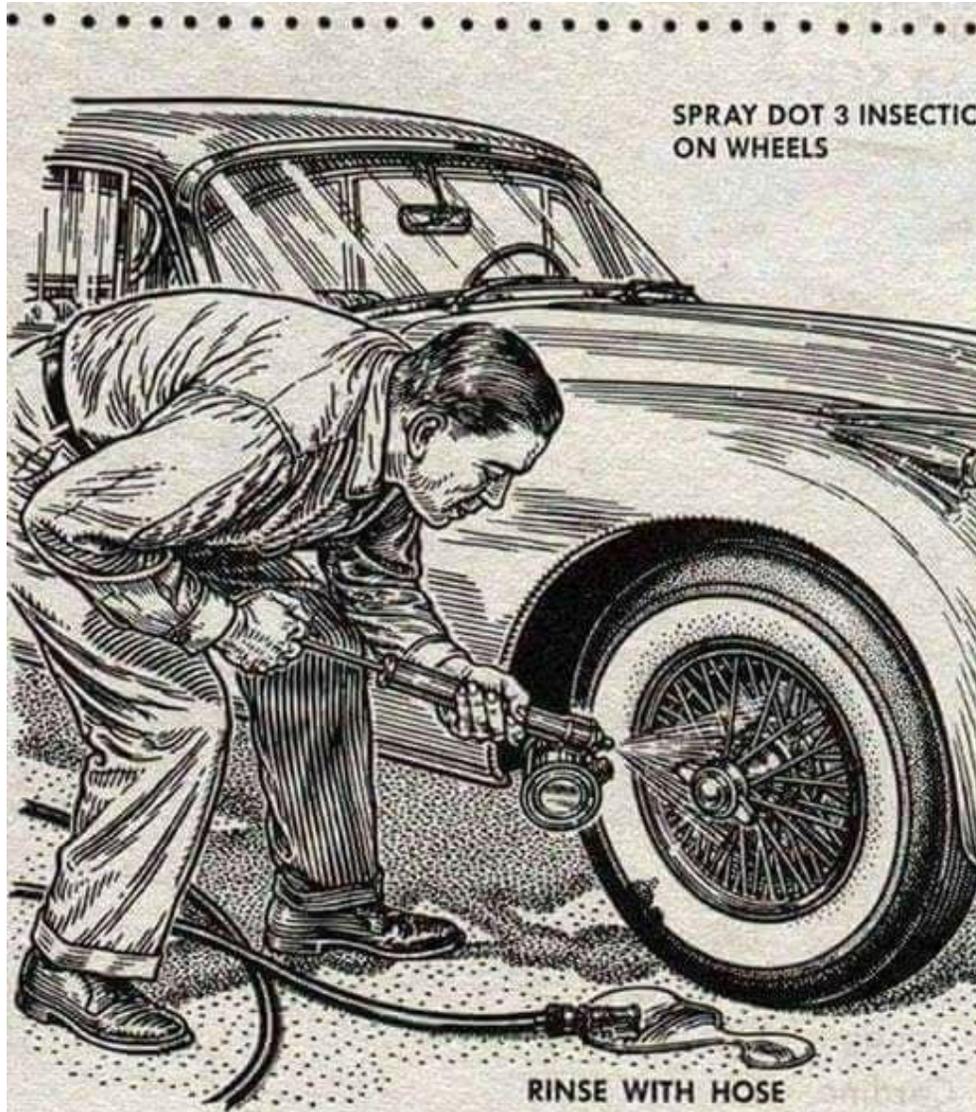


1991 Ford LTD

Even though traditional chrome bumpers made their last stand on American cars in the early 1990s, they live on today on many trucks.

It's a wonder we survived!

Via Tom Orr



Wheels can be thrown out of balance by buildup of wheel ants. Protect your car's smooth ride with weekly applications of automotive grade insecticide.

THE AMERICAN DREAM

Alt driver



Ever wondered what the longest car in the world looks like? Ponder that thought no longer - this is it, and it's called the "American Dream".

The massive limousine, which was built by California custom car guru Jay Ohrberg, measures in at a stunning 100 feet long and became certified as the longest car in the world by Guinness World Records in the mid '90s. It sports 26 wheels, a Jacuzzi, diving board, king-sized water bed, and even a helicopter landing pad. But while all that is spectacular on its own, it's the recent history of the longest car in the world that may be the most interesting. More on that in a minute.

The American Dream began life in the late 1980s at Ohrberg's Hollywood Cars shop. Ohrberg selected a golden 1970s Cadillac Eldorado as a starting point, and his team set about slicing up the land yacht... and developing that concept. 100 feet and 26 wheels later, the American Dream was complete, featuring the aforementioned Jacuzzi and helicopter pad, as well as a small lace and candelabra-festooned living room and two separate driver's cabins

The limousine could be driven in its straight-as-an-arrow state, or reset to bend in the middle. The separate driver's cabin was rather necessary in order to negotiate any turn, and the "backseat driver" would steer the rear axles. Expectedly, this movie car and display vehicle was not road legal, and period photos show that the American Dream was detachable in the midsection and could be trailered on flatbed trucks from location to location.

But its "longest car in the world" claim to fame apparently couldn't save it from an eventual demise. The American Dream was leased to a company which used it as a promotional vehicle, and upon the end of the lease, its caretakers abandoned it in a New Jersey warehouse. The car resurfaced in

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2012 at a salvage auction needing major repairs - damage to the body, tears in the roof, broken windows, and a rusty Jacuzzi - it didn't look promising.

However, the story has taken a positive turn. In 2014, New York's Autoseum Automotive Teaching Museum announced that the American Dream limousine had been acquired and will now be used to help teach students to fix, build and fabricate cars. Given its sheer size though, this restoration project may take some time.

Will this be the next thing in Bill Forsht's garage? Look out Jackie!

Love Stamps

Mike walked into a Valentine's Day, he post office just before he couldn't help noticing a middle-aged, balding man standing in a corner sticking "Love" stamps on bright pink envelopes with hearts all over them. Then the man got out a bottle of Channel perfume from his pocket and started spraying scent over the envelopes.

By now Mike's curiosity had got the better of him, and so he asked the man why he was sending all those cards. The man replied, "I'm sending out 500 Valentine cards signed, "Guess who?" "But why?" asked Mike.

"I'm a divorce lawyer," the man replied.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Yester Years News 1998

Gettysburg Tour

June 19-20-21 1998

GETTYSBURG, OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL TOWN

Scott Deno

We keep doing it year after year! Yes, another great tour -- full of fun, adventure and great weather. The wakeup call at 5 a.m. and the Hills Plaza at 6:00 a.m. was indeed the roughest part of the trip. Cheers greeted the last car to arrive (as we pulled in).



It was off to the Family Restaurant for breakfast on a beautiful morning, with most of the 13 cars falling into formation and a few rejoining along the way. On Mercers, on Marmons, Buicks, Packards and more. With the challenge of some hills and, of course, a rain shower the group drove south to their goal, Gettysburg.

After check-in on to a quick review of the battles on the Electric Map-where parking illegally is discouraged. (Did he really say, tow that Marmon!?) Then, some time to relax and enjoy the great company before dinner. The evening's entertainment was a late night ghost walk. A great guide told us plenty of ghost stories throughout the town and provided us with plenty of walking. (Everyone slept that night).

Early Saturday morning was initiated with radiator repairs (Ryan's Model A)

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and attention to a dry wheel bearing (Deno's Marmon). Some high tech cow manure sealed the radiator nicely as we relived the battles through the auto tour. I don't understand how everyone could start together and within 15 minutes I am passing most of our group --GOING THR OPPOSITE DIRECTION! They all must have been going the right way, everyone was smiling and waving --what an easy going group!

The afternoon train ride was nice, but it got a little slow toward the end. So slow that Carol Houtz jumped off the train a mile out and arrived at the station before us --what a woman!. Evening dinner was in a restored barn; a unique experience like I had never had in my life. After most of the group finished dinner, Frank conquered a challenging piano to accompany the AACAA Choir in our traditional concert. Darlene do you get hungry just thinking about the place, I know I do. Such a perfect night, we had to get lost on the way back to the hotel.

Sunday morning began with a fuel stop. Eleven cars headed west and one car went east. After about 20 minutes to regroup, we were ready for a second try. Back through Gettysburg, well almost. Yes, the route required one turn and we got lost. Twice! Better than that, we had an averaged less than one mile per hour since leaving the motel. I think that breaks the slow-speed record set on the Lancaster Tour. The crazier it gets the more fun we seem to have --what a group.

After pressing both the local sheriff's department and the county highway police into service, the lost sheep were reunited and remained in the fold all the way home.

There was a great group of people on the tour. Did you recognize them? We were a few years younger back in 1998 YIKES that is 22 years ago. Ages may have changed but the fun we have on tours has not changed at all!

We are sure to have as much fun on our 2020 summer tour where ever the roads take us. As soon as the date and destination is finalized I will let you know. Why not plan to go with the "group"? We would love to have you join us.

A vintage advertisement for the 1949 Mercury. The top half features a red Mercury coupe parked in front of a building labeled 'ATLANTIC BANK'. The bottom half features a blue Mercury sedan on a road. The text is arranged around these images, with large headlines at the top and detailed descriptions at the bottom.

"Best-looking! Best value, too!"

THAT'S WHAT OWNERS SAY ABOUT THIS BIG NEW 1949 **MERCURY**!

*Handsome? Yes! And owners also say it's the sweetest-handling, smoothest-riding new car, too—with a lively thriftness that's unmatched! No wonder they call the 1949 **MERCURY** the standout buy. For it is!*

Make your next car **MERCURY**

YES—you get the best of everything with the beautiful new 1949 Mercury!

And, best of all, you can be sure that everything's been thoroughly road-proven by thousands of satisfied owners for millions of miles!

You get a powerful new 8-cylinder, V-type engine with surprising economy! You get front coil

springing! A truly restful "comfort-zone" ride! Easier steering! "Super-safety" brakes! Increased all-round visibility! Plus the luxury of deep, soft, foam rubber-cushioned seats!

Compare it every way—and you'll say: "It's Mercury for me!"

MERCURY DIVISION OF FORD MOTOR COMPANY

White side-wall tires and rear wheel shields optional at extra cost

A technical illustration of a car chassis, showing the engine, transmission, and rear axle. Three people are standing around the chassis, one appears to be pointing at a component.