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# Vapor Locks

## Allegheny Mountain Region, AACA

Official Publication



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



## May - June 2022

Vol. 71 Number 3



1951 Willys Jeep  
Owned by Robert James

**Allegheny Mountain Region,  
AACA**

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An Adventure by Jeff Oaks

Vice President - Regions & Chapters Development  
& Support –SE Division



Have you ever found yourself going down memory lane while looking at the mementos and souvenirs you have collected over years of attending antique auto events? I have. It made me think about all the places I had been and all the things that I have seen and enjoyed as an AACA member.

I have travelled to car shows from Pennsylvania to Florida and to Minnesota and everything in between. We have visited many places along the way, including places I had never been and some I had not previously even heard of. We took up touring later and this has really been an adventure. There is nothing like riding along with 75 to 100 other antique cars and their owners for several days to unique destinations. I found there is a bond among the drivers and a challenge to see if your old jalopy, along with theirs, will make it to the peak of the mountain or sometimes to lunch in the next small town.

Many good friends and memories have been made on tours! There are special events that arise on occasion as well. One such instance happened a few weeks ago in my hometown of Wilmington, North Carolina. Jay Leno was doing a performance and sent word that he would like to see some of the local antique cars in our area. Our local AACA Chapter was invited and to our surprise, we had the privilege of meeting with Jay Leno as he looked at our display of cars!

Looking back over the past 27 years, the AACA has been as much of a great ad History of Auto Touring - venture for me as it is a great car club!



**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

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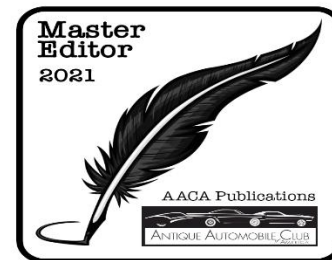
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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
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| 1965-Leonard L. LeCrone*      | 1988-William Eardley*       | 2012-Bill M. Loy           |
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| 1967-Ferd D. Page, Jr.*       | 1990-Ralph B. Grove*        | 2014 Ernest Romanini       |
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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        |
| 1973-Fred P. Lockcuff*        | 1996-Russell Bambarger      | 2020 William Forsht        |
| *deceased                     | 1997 Stanley B. Smith, Jr.  | 2021 William Forsht        |
|                               |                             | 2022 Scott Deno            |

### 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



Memorial Day car show ushered in the summer season in style, I understand. A special thanks to all the club members who made the show a success. Ernie Romanini and the Guyers deserve special thanks. I understand it was a warm day. Well, warm is all relative, as it was 110 in California where we attended our Grandson's high school graduation. We had a great time, but 110 was a little too hot for me.

Bill Forsht and I, did indeed, ventured to South Bend for the Studebaker meet. Pete Searer opted out after realizing he had a conflict. Bill's RV was perfect as we could stay on the show grounds instead of the expensive downtown hotel. We really did not know what to expect, since it was a first for both of us. What would have been a great week was reduced to a good week by rain on several days. The flea market was good sized and indoor. To my amazement, I found a user manual for the 1926 Studebaker. Avanti parts were most common, and Bill found a few he liked. All our machinery worked fine except one bad trailer tire – life was good.

Boy did you miss an event, if you missed our 1-day tour to Lenny's Classic car Museum. Lenny was the best host AND the cars! Lenny and his crew do the restorations to near perfection. After visiting Jay Leno's Museum and Lenny's Museum, I am not sure which has the finer restorations. Jay certainly has quantity, but Lenny has some beautiful automobiles. Surprisingly, Lenny's cars are mostly foreign, such as Jaguar, Rolls-Royce, and MG.

On the national events scene, remember the famous Glidden tour is nearby this year in Princeton, NJ the last week of September. Ellen and I will be at the Celebration of Brass at the Gilmore Museum complex in July. Ed Hinkle and I are going down to Bedford for a day to drop in on the 1- & 2-cylinder tour. Should be fun. Dave Kontor and I just finished reviewing some routes for the Sentimental Tour in Gettysburg in September and it looks like a great tour. Consider attending, as this tour is more than the usual Gettysburg battlefield tour.

On the local events scene, cook's nite out is Hosses in Altoona in June and Traditions in July. Hope to see you there. The Swigart meet in early August, and Bradford tour in later August.

I sure missed all you folks at Boalsburg!

Consider a friend or relative as new member you can sign-up!

Scott

## Auto Nostalgia

By Robert Tate, Automotive Historian and Researcher  
Images courtesy of the National Automotive History Collection



During the early days, older vehicles had their chassis lubricated on a regular basis because many of the chassis' parts were exposed to dust, dirt, rain and many other problems related to unpaved roads. In 1921, the auto "Wash Bowl" was invented to easily clean the dirt from the underbelly of the vehicle. For 25 cents, motorists could drive their vehicles around a washbowl to remove the mud and dirt from the running gear. The vehicle would later be sprayed with forced water and polish and wiped down. The Wash Bowl could handle between 75 to 100 vehicles an hour.

## Trivia Answers

1. 1977
2. There is none
3. 1963
4. 1967
5. Aston Martin DB5
6. General Motors

# "FORSHT'S PICNIC"

## SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH

### ALTOONA, PA



Jackie and Bill Forsht are hosting a picnic on June 18, 2022.

Everyone is invited for a fun afternoon with car club friends.

There will be a board meeting at 1:30 and we will eat about 3:00.

Bill will be behind the grill cooking perfectly grilled hamburgers, hotdogs etc. Everyone is asked to bring covered dishes to share.

- \*\* Bring the old car
- \*\* Bring your beverages.
- \*\* Bring covered dishes to share.
- \*\* Be prepared for a great afternoon.
- \*\* Bring a smile and your appetite.

**Call Bill at 814-931-7045 or email at [setter4@hotmail.com](mailto:setter4@hotmail.com) to let them know you will be attending or for any questions**

**Address 723 Forsht Lane, Altoona, PA 16601**

#### Directions to the Forsht Lane, Altoona PA 16601

Exit off I-99 on the 17 <sup>th</sup> St.	1.5Mi.
Turn right onto 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	.05 mi.
Turn right onto Chestnut Ave.	1.0 mi.
Turn left onto Juniata Gap Rd.	1.0 mi.
Turn right onto Wopsononock Ave.	.05 mi.
Continue onto State Rt. 4015/Grandview Rd.	
(E. Wopsononock turns into Grandview Rd.)	.04 mi.
Slight right onto Forsht Lane	164 ft.

## Allegheny Mountain Region

## Calendar of events

June 18	Picnic at the Forsht's
July 20	Cook's Nite – Traditions, dessert at the "Blattenberger's
August 5-6	Swigart Meet
August 17	Cook's Nite – Perkins
August 19-21	3-day tour, Bradford PA
September 21	Cook's Nite – Jethro's
October 15	One day tour, Mifflinburg
October 19	Cook's Nite – Prime Sirloin Buffett
November 16	Cook's Nite – Spruce Creek Tavern
December	Christmas Party

### National Calendar and others close to PA

**June 16-18** – Eastern Spring Nationals – Beckley, WV – West Virginia Whitewater Region

**August 5-7** – Macungie Memorial Park – three-day car show, flea market, car corral, crafts, and live entertainment. For additional information Contact Sue Manwiller at 610-823-5033 or email [www.awkscht.com](http://www.awkscht.com)

**August 28** – British Car Club Show at Lakemont Park 12:00 – 4:00

**September 10-16** – Sentimental Tour (1928-1958) – Gettysburg, PA – Buzzards Breath Region

**September 25-30** – Revival AAA Glidden Tour (1942 & earlier) – Central New Jersey – New Jersey Region – AACA Sponsored

**October 4-7** – Eastern Fall Nationals – Hershey, PA – Hershey Region

*Be happy with what you have  
Be excited about what you want.*

*Alan Cohen*



## THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hi Everyone,

Can you believe it is almost mid-June? Summer is going by, so I hope you have been able to get out and enjoy your antique car.

This issue of VL has been a bit delayed. Each year it seems that Bill and I get busier especially with the grandkids. Baseball, softball, and Lacrosse games, it seems like we are always on the go with something. Hopefully things will start to slow down soon.

We have had the "old car" on the road several times and can't wait for the three-day tours that Scott Deno is putting together. The date has been set for August 19, 20, 21. I will pass get the tour information in Vapor Locks as soon as it becomes available. In the meantime, mark your calendar and save the dates. Believe me tours are a lot of fun. You won't be disappointed.

If you did not make it Lenny Fiore's Museum, you missed a great day. He was a grand host, and his cars are exquisite.

The Memorial Day Show was very nice with 130 vehicles attending. There is an article elsewhere in Vapor Locks.

Don't forget about Cook's Nite Out, the Forsht Picnic as well as collector car appreciation day. They will be coming very soon.

Enjoy this issue of Vapor Locks and I'll meet you in the next, with plans for more cruising.

Have a great day!

See you on the road in the "Old Car"!

See you on the road in the "Old Car"!

*Gladys*



## Lenny's Classic Car Museum!!

**Organized by Bill and Jackie Forsht**

Saturday, May 14 Lenny Fiore rolled out the red carpet for a group of AMR members visiting his museum.

Lenny met our group and gave us the grand tour. The knowledge he has of his antique/classic vehicles is amazing. Lenny showed us each car on the show room including Jaguar, Rolls-Royce, and MG and shared the history of each one. If we had not known better, one would think he is a walking encyclopedia. The cars are amazing and gorgeous!

The antique English wooden bar was the next room we visited. Lenny told us about the history of the bar and how it was made. Refreshing drinks were offered to everyone.

We rode the elevator to the second floor where restorations were in progress and met a very social cat who guards of the cars and the guys who restore them. Lenny has the cat trained well. Our guys enjoyed looking at the restoration being done on each car's work in progress. The girls found a big comfy couch to admire the work from a distance.

Lenny clearly loves his antique cars and being a tour guide. There were so many beautiful cars to take photos of. Below is one of them.



DATE:

Saturday  
July 2, 2022  
1PM-4PM

# TELEGRAM

IMPORTANT BIRTHDAY INFORMATION  
ENCLOSED



S. Elwood Homan is turning **100!**

You are cordially invited to stop by  
for a birthday **open house** celebration on  
**Saturday July 2, 2022**  
**from 1PM-4PM**

5190 West Whitehall Road Pa Furnace, PA 16865  
**Farm Side**

**\*NO GIFTS CARDS ONLY!\***



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We hope to celebrate with you

If you can not make it please send a card to:  
S. Elwood Homan 5190 West Whitehall Road PA Furnace PA 16865

## COOK'S NITE OUT

No cooking tonight!

Gladys Guyer



Our June's cook's nite will take us to Hosses  
Valley View Blvd in Altoona. We will gather at  
6:00 and order at 6:30. Come and join the fun!

June 15 – Hosses, Valley View Blvd, Altoona – Jackie Forsht 814-943-8766

July 20 – Traditions Restaurant, 5:00 Cindy Smith - 814-224-2242  
Dessert at the Blattenberger's

August 17 – Perkins Restaurant, Altoona – Paula Clemens 814-943-8626

September 21, Jethro's, Altoona – Paula Clemens 814-943-8626

October 19 – Prime Sirloin Buffet, Duncansville, Jim Burke 814-224-2242

November 16 (weather depending) Spruce Creek Tavern, Jeff and  
Zach Boring 814-942-3373

If you know in advance you will be attending, please contact the  
person listed on the schedule. If not, no worries you can simply  
join us for a good evening.

## Car Trivia

1. What was the last year of the Ford Maverick compact car in USA?
2. On the '71 Volkswagen Beetle, where is the water pump located?
3. What year was the Corvette Stingray first introduced?
4. What year was the first Mercury Cougar made?
5. What car model was driven by the famous secret agent James Bond?
6. Which of the following is the parent company of Chevrolet?



1960 Corvette

# CAR SHOW

Sunday, August 22, 2022

**Bill Loy is coordinating a show with the Jaffa Shriners and Allegheny Mountain Region.**

The show will be held at the Peoples Natural Gas Field upper parking lot on Sunday August 28, 2022.

Registration is from 10am to 1pm. Drawing for gift cards at 3:30, show concludes at 4:00. The cost \$10 per car.

**THIS IS A NONJUDGED SHOW.**

Additional information will be included in the next issue of Vapor Locks.

Hope to see everyone at the show.



## Just For Laughs

Free funnies

An elderly man is stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and is asked where he is going at this time of night. The man replies, "I am on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer then asks, "Really? Who is giving that lecture at this time of night?" The man replies, "That would be my wife."

"Poor Old fool," thought the well-dressed gentleman as he watched an old man fish in a puddle outside a pub. So, he invited the old man inside for a drink. As they sipped their whiskeys, the gentleman thought he'd humor the old man and asked, "So how many have you caught today?"

The old man replied, "You are the eighth."



## Collector Car Appreciation Day

Due to a prior commitment, the Collector Car Appreciation cruise in at the Swigart Museum has been cancelled for 2022.





# COOK'S CORNER

## Strawberry Cooler

3 cups of water  
5 cups sliced fresh strawberries  
¾ to 1 cup sugar  
¼ cup lemon juice  
2 teaspoons grated lemon zest  
1 cup ginger ale  
Additional strawberries for garnish

In a blender, process the water, sliced strawberries, sugar, and lemon juice and zest in batches until smooth. Strain the berry seeds if desired. Pour mixture into a pitcher; stir in the ginger ale. Serve in chilled glasses over ice. If desired, garnish with strawberries.

## Strawberry Fluff Salad/Dessert

3-ounce strawberry jello gelatin (small box)  
1 cup boiling water  
1 cup crushed Ice  
20 oz Crushed Pineapple (undrained)  
3 oz Instant Vanilla Pudding mix (small box)  
16 oz Strawberries (fresh, trimmed and sliced)  
4 cup Mini Marshmallows  
8 oz thawed Cool Whip whipped topping

Add contents of the gelatin package to a medium bowl.  
Stir in boiling water with the jello until dissolved.  
Pour crushed ice into the bowl and stir until the ice has melted.  
Place into refrigerator for 10 minutes or until it begins to set.  
Pour crushed pineapple and juices along with vanilla pudding into a large bowl. Stir to combine.

Add the strawberries, mini marshmallows, and cool whip. Mix well.  
Add strawberry jello to the Cool Whip mixture. Mix well.  
Cover and refrigerate for at least one hour before serving.

# Memorial Day Show

Chairman, Ernie Romanini

Ernie and a team of volunteers made our Memorial Day come back show in Boalsburg at the Military Museum grounds a huge success with 130 vehicles on the show field.

Sunday evening Ernie retrieved the canopies and other things needed for the show from the Deno's garage. Several members assisted him, helping with the task of the assembly and a task it is.

Monday morning Ernie, Harry, Bill and Gladys were the first to arrive to finish some last-minute details like placing parking markers on the show field for the day and getting registration set up. Stan Smith placed car show signs in great locations for people to see. There were a couple of glitches that needed attention and chairman Ernie solved the issues.

Before 9:00 cars began arriving at the registration area greeted with a good morning and a friendly face from Gladys, Cathy Searer, Paula Clemens and Jackie Forsht. Each driver was given a dash plaque featuring Zach Borings 1965 International Scout and a ticket for a random drawing for gift cards.

Parking attendants, Bill Guyer, Mark Bigatel and Ernie Romanini lined the show field with great vehicles.

Registration closed at 12:30 so the girls and guys had time to go the canopies, take a break and get a bite to eat. We were able to acquire 2 food vendors for the day. Wingman BBQ and Sunset slush. The food was delicious, and each vendor was BUSY all day.

After a break, Paula Clemens and Jackie Forsht sold 50/50 tickets to those who were interested.

At 3:00 we could not hear TAPS being played so we had a moment of silence before Chairman Ernie held the Sheetz gift card drawing. When the drawing was completed, everyone was thanked for attending and invited them back in 2023.

The end was finished by volunteers helping to take down the canopies and returning them.

It was a great day with great people and great weather. A THANK YOU to Ernie and everyone who helped make the show a success.

**You can fix a broken strawberry  
with a strawberry patch.**

**Author unknown**



## Memorial Day Show page 2

The Firetruck below is owned by Rick James  
It was brought to the show by Ken Corl.



1923 Autocar served Penn state College 1923-1925  
Alpha Fire Company 1925-1936 and  
Boalsburg Fire Co. 1936-1946



1946 Willys owned by Bob Abernethy

## PIC FROM THE PAST



Don and Donna Bruner are looking good with their special ice  
cream machine at the Inghams picnic several years ago.

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

June 18, 2022  
1:30 PM at the Forsht Picnic  
Altoona, PA

Everyone is welcome!

# YESTER YEARS NEWS

## BULBS IN A BIRDHOUSE

In the earliest days of the automobile, navigating America's roads was a chaotic experience, with pedestrians, bicycles, horses, and streetcars all competing with motor vehicles for right of way. It became clear that a system of regulations was necessary to keep traffic moving and reduce the number of accidents on the roads



In 1912, Lester Farnsworth Wire, the director of traffic safety in Salt Lake City, Utah, constructed a traffic light resembling a birdhouse with two holes on each side. Inside each hole was a light socket. Wire inserted one green bulb and one red bulb into the holes on each side of the box. He mounted the box on a pole in the middle of a busy intersection and connected the device to overhead trolley and power lines. He strung another wire from the box to a pole at

a corner of the intersection. Police officers could control the lights with a switch on the corner pole. Since Wire didn't patent his birdhouse-style traffic light, his claim to inventing the first electric traffic light is disputed.

Two years later, James Hoge—a Cleveland resident—developed a system similar to Wire's. The system relied on an operator in a booth near the intersection activating a switch that would either illuminate a red or green light. The system was an operational success, and the city of Cleveland hired the American Traffic Signal Company to implement the electric traffic signal. On August 5, 1914, the very first electric traffic signal was installed at the corner of 105th Street and Euclid Avenue. City traffic was changed forever.

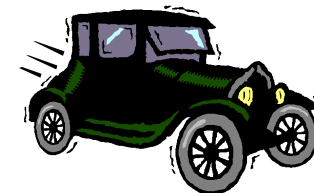
In 1918, James Hoge patented an electric traffic light system he designed several years earlier. The system consisted of four pairs of red and green lights mounted on intersection corner poles and wired to a central control booth. A policeman inside the booth manually changed signals to control the flow of traffic. The system was installed in 1914 at the corners of Euclid Avenue and East 105th Street in Cleveland, Ohio. Hoge's traffic light is generally considered the first electric traffic light.

In 1920, William Potts—a Detroit policeman—introduced the yellow light. Nevertheless, the original electric traffic signal that was installed on a busy Cleveland intersection helped pave the way to the modern automobile age and the traffic system we know today.

## Top Ten Things You'll Never Hear a Dad Say

10. Well, how 'bout that?... I'm lost! Looks like we'll have to stop and ask for directions.
9. You know Pumpkin, now that you're thirteen, you'll be ready for unchaperoned car dates. Won't that be fun?
8. I noticed that all your friends have a certain "up yours" attitude ... I like that.
7. Here's a credit card and the keys to my new car -- GO CRAZY
6. What do you mean you wanna play football? Figure skating not good enough for you, son?
5. Your Mother and I are going away for the weekend...you may want to consider throwing a party.
4. Well, I don't know what's wrong with your car. Probably one of those doo-hickey thingies -- you know -- that makes it run or something. Just have it towed to a mechanic and pay whatever he asks.
3. No son of mine is going to live under this roof without an earring -- now quit your bellyaching, and let's go to the mall
2. Whaddya wanna go and get a job for? I make plenty of money for you to spend.
1. Father's Day? aahh -- don't worry about that -- it's no big deal

## Happy Father's Day



# Central Penna's RUXTON

By Stan Smith

The last VAPOR LOCKS had a very nice article describing a rare classic from the 1930 period – the Art Deco Ruxton. I'd like to add a few notes relative to this make of car that was brought out to the public the same time as the front wheel drive Cord. Ruxton advertised that it was the 1<sup>st</sup> American car to be offered yet Cord made their L-29 machines available in showrooms which Ruxton never got around to doing. The total production of Ruxton cars has been thought to be close to 100 of which there are 19 restored examples. This makes them a rare sight compared to a Cord who produced and sold over 4000 of his front-wheel-drive cars by the early 1930's.

We early members of AACA will recall that there was a Ruxton Roadster here in our club that was owned by Doc Forsythe of Millheim, PA. He was a friend of my Father who had found the Ruxton for LeRoy in NJ while helping with the sale of duPont Speedster to another friend Frank Gullo of State College. Both men became members of our AACA region during its formation in the 1950's.

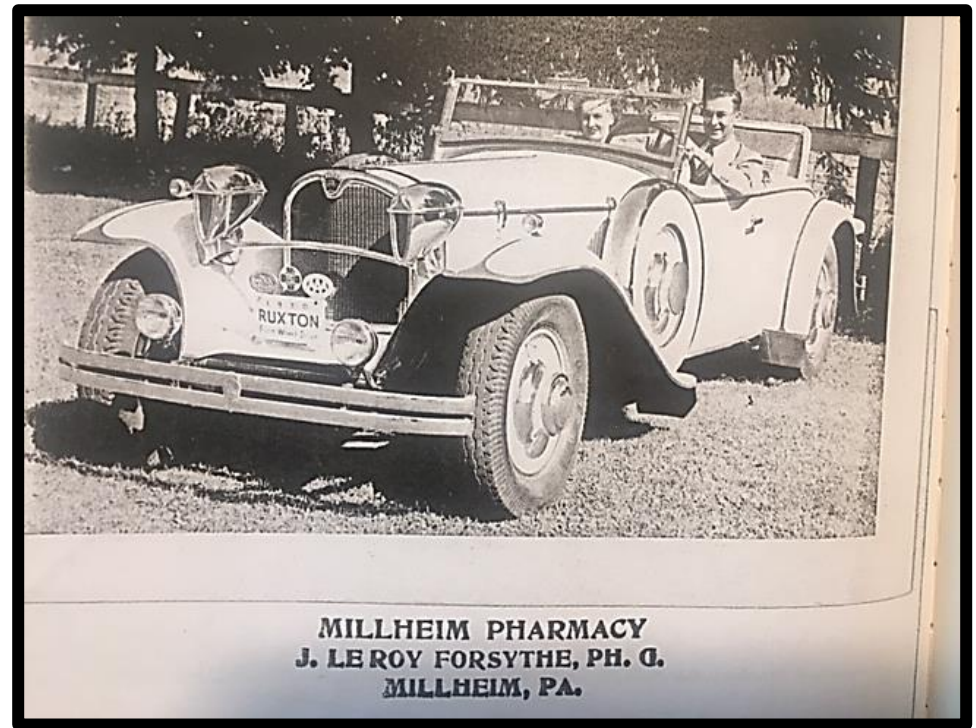
The Ruxton Roadster, which was later found to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> car produced after two prototypes, was painted a light cream with green trim and upholstery. Doc Forsythe and his wife Miriam attended all our shows driving the Ruxton whenever possible. They had one incident, that I recall, during initial ownership that occurred when driving to State College. One of the front wheels parted company while passing by Rockview Penitentiary. During a service overhaul the front wheel drive hub nut wasn't properly locked in place. After Doc passed away Miriam kept driving the Ruxton. They had owned several other interesting classic and sports cars of which there was a 1938 MG-PA sedan, a new MG-TD, and a 1931 Marmon V-16 Sedan that was painted all white except for a black charred area on the top side of the hood. That was the result of an engine fire. Doc was able to have his Ruxton, with himself standing on the front seat, in a Quaker State motor oil magazine color magazine ad.

Another car they had, which was bought new and immediately repainted two-toned lavender, was a 1952 Willys Jeepster. It was for Miriam who always wore in some manner that color on herself every day. I had the honor of riding in the backseat with them in the Jeepster on a trip to Watkins Glen to watch a race. That was in 1952 – the last year the race was run through the town due to a tragic incident at the first turn off main street. I was standing on a garage roof at that spot but will always recall my ride in that unusual colored Jeepster. I've always wondered about where it might be today.

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Back to the Ruxton automobile. Of the 19 that still exist one gentleman in Texas has 7 or 8 in his collection. He wrote a magnificent book on the marque and was able to get over a dozen Ruxton's to be on display at the 2015 Pebble Beach Concours. If you should ever come upon one at a show, and it's a sedan, you will be taken back by its multi-color paint scheme and the fact its roof is 8" lower than any other sedan of the same period except that of the Cord L-29.

STAN SMITH



The best thing about.  
*Memories*  
... is making them