

The Running Board



June

2015

Issue #267



President's Chatter



Well, it looks as though summer is coming fast. Several of our members left to go to the Nationals in Canada . We wish them well with their trip. That's a long way to go in a Model A. Several issues have come up this month. Member Paul Dubreuil designed a bumper plate for our club. I have emailed it out to the club and have had a terrific response. It will be one of our discussions at our meeting on the 30th. Paul and Archie are trying to get a estimate on pricing for each. I had sent out an email asking how many members were interested in purchasing one as there is a minimum of 25. If you have not done so please email me at (mb0808@aol.com) or call (860) 283-8959 as we are still in need of purchasers. Our picnic issue will also be discussed. Don Bruno has suggested Macedonia Park which is close to the New York border. I had also asked members for their opinion on this prior to the meeting so we have an idea of which way to go.

Our technical this month will be given by Curtis Adamo. He will be going over the gasoline issues with the A's and the proper octane preferred. Curtis, being in the gas industry for many years and having quite a collection of cars himself, he is quite knowledgeable on the subject. As he did last time afterwards, the floor will be open to other questions by the members may have for Curtis on any subjects they may be interested in.

Hope to see you at the meeting on the 30th. We have matters that need to be discussed. Since several of our members that attend meetings regularly will be in Canada I urge other members to attend this meeting. Any questions or comments please call me. Thanks!

President, *Bert Serra*

Directions to the Meeting

From Bristol- Take Rt. 6, after McDonalds, you will see Chute Gates Restaurant on the right. Take a left onto Town Hill Road toward the Terryville Fair Grounds. Go one mile and Bob and Lori Boutot's house is on the left, number 235.

From Route 8- Take exit 39 onto Rt. 6 toward Terryville. At Chute Gates Restaurant take a right onto Town Hill Road. Bob and Lori Boutot's house is one mile on the left, number 235.

Editor's Note: If anyone has items for sale, just email them to me and I will be glad to post them in the newsletter. Our newsletter has a wide range of exposure being on the internet. Please email your requests by the 15th of the month. Also, articles are always appreciated. cabrioletdave@yahoo.com



Minutes of Northwestern CT A's Meeting

Tues., May 26, 2015 Terryville, CT

Meeting Called to Order at 7:31 pm by our President, Bert Serra.

Guests: None

Secretaries Report: Read and accepted

Treasurer's Report: Read and Accepted.

Membership: 33 paid members.

Welcome New Member: John German

Video Library: Loan out some Great videos on Ford, Model A, and related subjects.

Cheers: Barbara Walcott broke her hip last Sept. at the train station. We just found out recently.

Historian: Do you have club pictures?? Send them on disc to Bob Boutot.

Apparel: See Lori. She can still take your order. Order forms are available.

Old Business New design plaque for a bumper with an oval logo of MAFCA inset with our club name around the outside. Layouts were passed around with a good reception from the members. Paul Dubreuil will get some quotes to produce them.

We were still looking for a site for our club picnic because the White Memorial Park location is not available. Then Bert Serra offered their place for the picnic now scheduled for Sunday, August 30th.

New Business The Central Conn. Region-AACA Car Show will be Sunday, June 14th. Several of our members will be going to this show in Glastonbury. Although it is a judged show with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners; with 65 trophies awarded; car owners decide if they want their car to be judged.

The following Saturday, June 20th will be the Klingberg Car Show in New Britain.

Tours:

Seven Cars and their occupants went to the Rhineback Show on May 3rd.

The dust-off tour on May 17th to Lime Rock directed by Don Bruno was a success. It was a great day.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Nesci, Secretary

Technical: Seat Belts: Paul Dubreuil brought his car in the garage for us to see how he installed his seat belts. Some body styles are different, which means that securing the belts to the frame may need some modifications. There were handouts with diagrams and pictures to help with an installation.

Attendance

Rick Fattibene	Archie Bardwell	Lori Boutot	Bob Boutot	George Scheyd
Nick Nesci	Jay Reynolds	Chris Mackenzie	Bill Doyle	Bob Watley, Sr.
Bert Serra	Mike Serra	John German	Dick Wells	John Thew
Don Bruno	Paul Dubreuil			

Ernest Hemmings, 1926-2015



An Illinois parts dealer who created an institution in the world of automotive history, Ernest Robert Hemmings, the father of *Hemmings Motor News*, died early today, February 26th at the age of 89. Ernie, as he liked to be called, was living in a nursing home in his hometown of Quincy, Illinois. He had been in fading health of late and died peacefully in his sleep, his son, Trent Hemmings, told us.

Ernie had taken over a parts business that his late father had founded, Standard Auto Parts, and began stocking components for antique Fords, especially the Model T and Model A. That was in 1945, when Ts and As were not quite yet out of the realm of used cars. Ernie was a fan of them, however, and Standard developed a regional and then national reputation as a parts source for early Fords. The growing interest led Ernie to a brainstorm: Create a newsletter that catered specifically to the owners of these obsolete cars that weren't yet considered relics. Customer friendly from the start, he offered free ads to read-ers.

The first edition of the newsletter was four pages, printed on mimeographed paper, issued in 1954, and all typed by Ernie's hand. He also came up with a free-hand logo, *Hemmings Motor News*. The first edition of "the magazine," as he called it from the outset, had a half-dozen classified ads in it. About 500 readers signed up for a yearly subscription to *Hemmings*, priced at 50 cents.

It only took a few years for *Hemmings Motor News* to become an established forum for people who wanted to buy cars or parts to restore them. Soon, circulation was up to about 3,000 copies each month. Ernie had transitioned from parts retailer to editor and author, typing out short features that ran amidst the growing number of classified advertisements. Another decade saw both the magazine's page count and subscriber rate boom, in the latter case to 40,000.

By that time, the whole enterprise had become too unwieldy for one man to handle. In 1969, Ernie agreed to sell *Hemmings* to Terry Ehrich, a classic-car enthusiast from Bennington, Vermont, who moved the magazine there and continued to grow and operate it until he died in 2002.

Hemmings Motor News and its three associated titles—*Hemmings Classic Car*, *Hemmings Muscle Machines* and *Hemmings Sports & Exotic Car*—now boast a combined readership in excess of half a million, and the Hemmings blog sees an equal number of unique viewers every month. While the home office is still in Bennington, Hemmings is an operating unit of American City Business Journals, based in Charlotte, North Carolina.

“A Letter of Gratitude”

Let me tell you a story about our club President and her husband Mike.....

George Scheyd , my neighbor and I decided to take a trip to Rhinebeck, NY. in my Model A. We made our annual breakfast stop at the Collins Diner in N. Canaan. After breakfast we set out for Rhinebeck, and after a great day of searching for parts, we set out again in the Model A and headed for home.

While starting up the steep grade on Route 6, just outside Thomaston, I heard a loud bang that none of us ever want to hear. Yes, the fan let go! I was lucky it didn't go thru the hood or radiator. Instead, it made a small crease in the lower left corner of the hood, an easy fix.

After pulling off at a safe location and before calling AAA, I realized I was 2 miles from Mike and Bert Serra's home. I called Mike to see if he had a spare fan. In a blink of an eye, Mike appeared and offered to trailer my car to his house. Instead, I removed the fan belt and drove to his house.

Mike offered to trailer my car to my shop in East Berlin, while Mike and I were loading the car onto the trailer a voice came from the house. I'm making pizza, Bert said, can you guys stay for some? Even though she had company she insisted that we stay.

After thanking Bert for inviting us and opening up her home to us, Mike drove us to my shop.

Arriving at my shop at around 10:45 in the evening Mike helped me unload my car. The only thing that Mike and Bert would expect from me was a thank you. They said friends help friends.

Thank you very much Bert and Mike.

*Your Friend,
Red Leiner*

◆ A HANDLE IS ALL THAT HE HAD ◆

When he started - a handle was all that he had
He's got a whole car now, and that ain't all bad
When he started he never even thought he could try
To build a Model A - always thought he would buy.

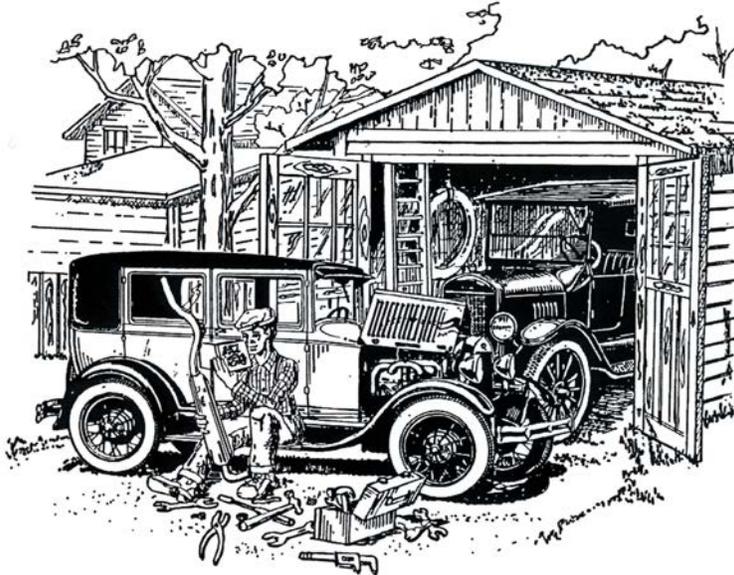
Then this handle feller found him a door
And quick as a wink he found him one more
Then 'fore he knew it he found him a hood
Four wheels he found next and three were real good.

Parts can be found all over, that's what they tell me
From what I've seen at flea markets, it could very well be
Oh yes! then he found a rusty old body
As bad as it was, he didn't think 'twas too shoddy.

Seats soon came after, then he freed up some old shocks
Found a lot of small parts in an old wooden box
Glass was all new - he was well on his way
To getting out on the road with his Ford Model A.

It's a big challenge but I'll give you my word
I'll build me this car - this Model A Ford
I'll build it around this handle I found
Way out in the woods - on top of the ground.

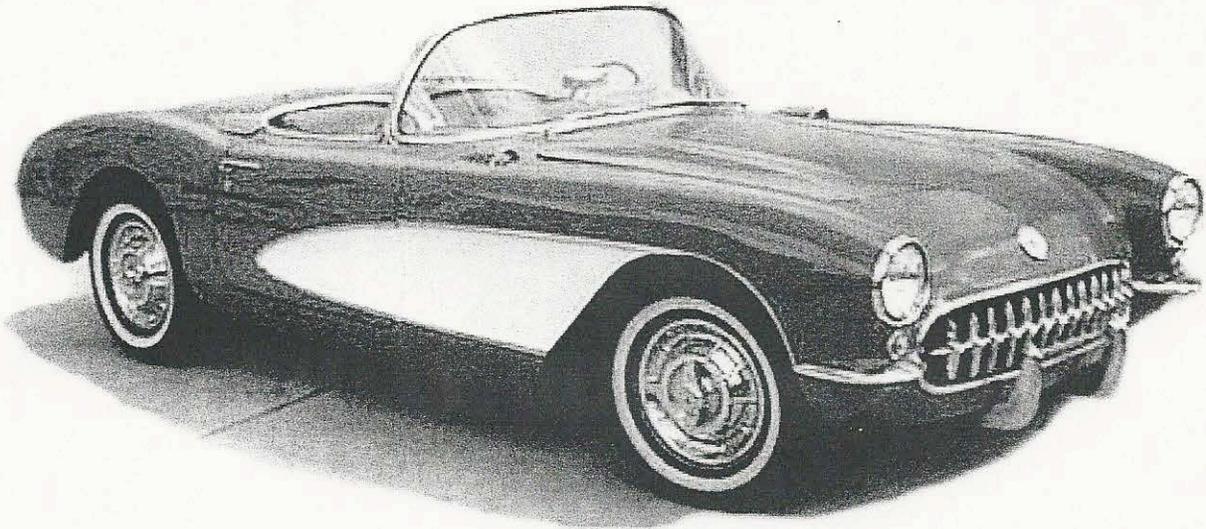
He soon finished up - with a whole pile of stuff
And believe it or not - he soon had enough
To put him together - a car not too bad
When he started - a handle is all that he had.



←—————→
A LITTLE HUMOR

A short Polish immigrant went to the DMV to apply for a driver's license. First, of course, he had to take an eye sight test. The optician showed him a card with the letters. On the bottom row were these letters: "CZWIXNOSTACZ". "Can you read this?" the optician asked. "Read it?" the Polish guy replied - "I know the fellow."

MAIN STREET D.A.R.E. CRUISE NIGHT



FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2015

5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

DOWNTOWN TORRINGTON

Show Cars - \$10 Entry Fee
Spectators - Free

Food, music, and more!

Enjoy a night of fun on Main Street while seeing some of the areas
best antique and classic cars.

Rain Date Saturday, June 27, 2015

Call Lt. Linas Venclauskas at the Torrington Police Dept., 860-489-2000,
or Glenn Royals, 860-489-4500, for details.

Northwestern Connecticut A's

2015

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