



HEADLIGHTS



South Jersey Region AACA

Club Website www.sjraaca.com

April, 2015

How I Became an Antique Car Buff

By Mike Torowus

Since 1953 I have been interested in old cars. At that time I was unmarried and lived on a small farm with my folks. One day my father and I were cleaning the property of accumulated junk that was around the farm. There were various old farm equipment that was either out dated and left out in the woods or it was worn out. Aside from that type of junk there was several old cars and trucks, two 1938 Chevy 2 doors, 1936 Chevy 4 door, a 1929 Buick which was made into a flat bed truck, a 1936 Chevy pickup and two Model 'A' chassis that were made into flat bed trucks too.

While cleaning and hauling all of the junk, I kept looking at those Model 'A' chassis, they were nearly complete. One was a 1929 and the other a 1931. I can recall learning how to drive on the 1929. My father had bought that one while he was building the house back in 1932. It originally was a panel delivery. Several years later he was doing a little farming and thought that it would be more useful as a flat bed truck. So he cut the body off and built a flat bed on it. The other chassis was bought for \$2,500 at a farm auction during the early forties.

(Continued on Page 4)



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

APRIL

- 6 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 13 7:00 PM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MTG.**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 15 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto, 595 Salem Quinton Rd., Salem, NJ
- 22 7:00 PM 2016 National Meet Committee Mtg at McFarlands**
- 23 6:30 PM Friendship & Food**
A'Pizze Tuscan Grill,
120 Center Square Rd.
Swedesboro, NJ 08085

MAY

- 4 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 17 JOINT REGION CAR TOUR**
Wheels in Motion &
Boyertown Museum PA
- 20 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto
595 Salem Quinton Rd., Salem
- 30 10 am-2 pm CARDINAL VILLAGE CAR SHOW**
Sewell, NJ



JUNE

- 1 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 17 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto
595 Salem Quinton Rd.
- 20 9 am-2 pm 60th Annual Ocean City NJ Memorial Antique Auto Show**



SJRAACA OFFICERS

President: Dave Birchmire - 856-371-9304
birchmiresr@hotmail.com
Vice President: Terry Shelton
Secretary: Leon Erdner
Treasurer: Edna Norris
Editor: Linda McFarland - 609-202-3907
sjraaca@gmail.com

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

- **SJRAACA dues are \$10 per year (due by Jan 1st).**
- **Must be a member of AACA National.**
- Meetings are at Woodstown Borough Hall at 7 p.m. the 1st Monday of every month except September then it is the following Monday. Call any board member for meeting cancellation notices during weather emergency.
- **CLUB WEBSITE: www.SJRAACA.com**
There is always more to see on our Website.

CLUB JACKETS OR SHIRTS??

Placing a shirt & jackets order soon.
The cost is on the members. See Linda
Golf Shirts: S-XL \$22; 2X & 3X \$24
Spring Jackets: S-XL \$38; 2X \$40 & 3X \$42
Winter Jackets S-XL \$60; 2X & 3X \$63

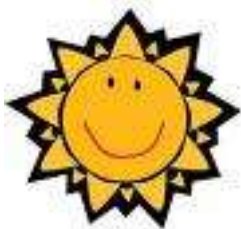


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



4-3	Linda McFarland
4-5	Ron Scott
4-7	Chris DeHaan
4-9	Cindy Sutton
4-17	Scott McFarland

BIRTHDAYS NEEDED! If you haven't been to a meeting lately and never gave me your birthday, then I don't have it. E-mail or mail your birthday to me so I can make sure it's in the newsletter.



SUNSHINE

Becky Counsellor reported that a get well fruit basket was delivered to Ed Plummer and sympathy flowers were delivered to Chip Hubler. Get well cards were sent to Terry Shelton & Bryan Lewis and a sympathy card was sent to Elaine Faunce.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dave Birchmire



As I sit here writing this column it's warm and sunny. Just a few short weeks ago we had snow, the day before our set up day on Saturday at the fair-grounds. We were all concerned how that would affect our turnout of volunteers. We depend on your help with the logistics of getting the facility prepared for the next day's swap meet. We should not have been concerned, as always you guys came through for the club. For that I thank you all very much. As your club President this year I worked closely with our co-chairs Gary and Chuck. I never realized how much time and effort went into making this event so successful. Thanks guys!

We will be deciding at the May meeting where to have our appreciation dinner for the members that worked at the 44th annual swap meet. Stay tuned.

In just a few short days our first cruise night at Bobbitt Auto will be held on the 15th of this month. Ed will be back spinning records that we all love to hear. The time is 5:00-8:00 pm, but I know some of us will be there a little before that.

We are trying something new this year. We are joining up with two other regions and having a Joint Region Car tour. Chuck is our region's tour chair. We will be going to "Wheels in Motion Restoration shop in Pottstown, Pa. and then travel to Boyerstown Museum of Historic Vehicles where we will have a catered lunch. Cost is \$20.00 person. It would be great if our region could have 10 or more cars participate in this event. You will have a GREAT time.

It's time to get our old cars and trucks out and start to enjoy them again. Hope to see everyone down the road.



Meeting Highlights of the South Jersey Region Monday, April 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Dave Birchmire. All stood for the flag salute. There were no new members or guests in attendance.

Leon Erdner read the minutes from the last meeting and they were approved as read.

Edna Norris read the treasurer's report and it was also approved as read and bills were approved for payment.

Membership: Eileen Niedzialek noted that she has received an application for membership from Carl & Angela Ernest. A motion was made and approved to accept their application for membership. Eileen will send them a membership packet.

Sunshine: Becky Counsellor reported that a fruit basket was delivered to Ed Plummer for his recent surgery and sympathy flowers were sent to Chip Hubler who recently lost his daughter. Get well cards were sent to Terry Shelton and Bryan Lewis and a sympathy card was sent to Elaine Faunce.

Correspondence: A thank you note was read from Ed Plummer. A verbal thank you was also received from Chip Hubler, Bryan Lewis and Terry Shelton.

Dave Birchmire thanked everyone for their work at the Swap Meet.

Gary Green also thanked all who helped make the Swap Meet a great success and then gave everyone the preliminary totals received for the Swap Meet.

The Swap Meet worker dinner will be planned and announced at the May meeting.

There will be a Board of Director's meeting on Monday April 13th at 7:00 PM at the Woodstown Borough Hall.

There will also be a **2016 National Meet Committee Meeting on April 22nd** at the McFarland Home. All are welcome to attend.

Chuck Gibson spoke on the upcoming Joint Region Tour on Sunday, May 17th. Our members will be meeting at 7:30 a.m. at the Pennsville Burger King and be meeting up with the other regions at approximately 10:30 am in Pottstown, PA at the Wheels in Motion Restoration Shop. Then travel to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles where we will enjoy a catered lunch and tour this great museum. Cost is \$20 per person. Deadline to register is May 1, 2015. Please make checks payable to SJRAACA and give to Edna Norris as soon as possible.

April 15th is our first Bobbitt Cruise Night. Time is 5:00-8:00 pm. Hot Dogs and soda to all who bring out their antique vehicle.

April 23rd @ 6:30 pm Friendship & Food Night Out will be at A'Pizze Tuscan Grill in Woolwich NJ.

May 30th is the Cardinal Village Car Show from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Lunch is provided to all drivers.

Chuck Gibson also spoke regarding his recent article in the VCCA Club Magazine where he was interviewed regarding his trip to California a few years ago when he transported VCCA literature to be housed and catalogued in the AACA Library. This Chevy literature is now accessible for everyone to use.

Dave Birchmire noted that a tentative date of Saturday, June 6th has been chosen for a Cruise at the Kountry Kitchen Restaurant on Route 40, Elmer, NJ.

Other dates to take note are as follows:

- **Saturday, April 12th, Brandywine Region AACA Swap Meet**, at the Mid Atlantic Antique & Collector Car Center, 400 Line Road, Kennett Square, PA.
- **Saturday, April 18th @ 10 am Auction Muscle Cars, Shop Tools and Lionel Trains** at Wamsley's Texaco Garage, 52 Harding Hwy (Rt. 40) Upper Pittsgrove, NJ 08318.
- **Saturday, June 20th - 20th Annual AACA Museum CARnival Car Show**, 9 am—3 pm for more information go to www.aacamuseum.org/events/

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:45 pm. All members were invited to have dessert & beverage at the Woodstown Diner.



**WELCOME NEW
MEMBERS
Carl & Angela
Ernest
Pittsgrove, NJ**



How I became an Antique Car Buff (Continued)

I made up my mind that I was going to get one of these running again. I remember the day that my father and I pulled them to the edge of the farm, that was 7 or 8 years before. Before that they were parked in a shed for about 5 years. All toll they had not run for about 12-13 years.

I tried to turn the engines and they both turned, even though the hood was blown off the 1929 and the other had only a partial hood on. They both had small amounts of water in the crankcase. I then doubted that they would ever run. However, I wanted to try to get one running anyway. I drained and changed the oil. The distributor was in very bad condition. The cap was missing and everything was rusted. After removing from the engine and taking out all the badly rusted parts I went to a local auto parts dealer and surprisingly had everything I needed. (I didn't know any antique part dealers even existed then.) It only cost me about \$1.50 to buy points, condenser, cam, rotor, distributor body and cap. After putting the distributor together and installed in the engine, I called a neighbor friend of mine and he told me how to set the timing. Next I had to use a pipe wrench to remove the badly rusted plugs. The store where I bought the distributor parts didn't have the plugs so I just cleaned and set the gap and put them back in.

The carburetor was another problem I had to work out. An insect made a nest in the choke area and the throttle and choke plate were rusted fast. By soaking the carburetor in kerosene for a day, I was able to take it apart. I cleaned and freed the plates and put the carburetor back on the engine.

After filling the radiator I found it had a number of small leaks, but it was good enough to see if the motor would run. I put gas in and worried if the carburetor would get dirty again because inside the tank looked very rusty. I hooked the battery up and tried to start it. The starter turned the motor three times with the choke pulled closed, and to my surprise it ran. It did not have a muffler on it so I could not determine how good the motor really was although it did not smoke. I drove it around and everything worked good even the brakes.

While I was fixing this chassis to run I found out that Sears Robuck sold Model 'A' parts through the catalog. From them I purchased a muffler and some other small parts like timing gear, etc. I must have drove that chassis around the farm for a year or more. I also got the other running but it did not sound as good as the first one.

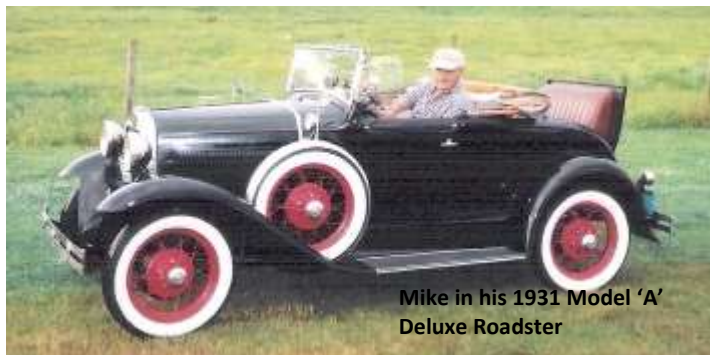
I then bought some books on antique cars and after purchasing Floyd Clymers and Les Henry's "Fabulous Model 'A'", I knew I was an old car buff, especially for the Model 'A'. It was then that I started to look for a Model 'A' body or a complete car. After two or three months I found a 1930 coupe that I could buy for \$125.00 The car was in very poor condition. It did not run and had body rust. However, after about a year of work, and putting that body on the running chassis, I had a presentable car that I ran for 7 years as a second car. The complete restoration of the coupe is another story that I may write soon.

As I look back now I should have saved all the other brand X cars and that 1929 Buick. I guess many people say

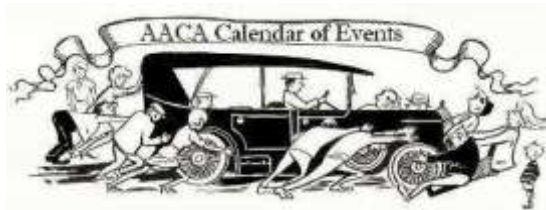
that now. I am now married and have a lovely wife and 2 find boys. I now own several Model 'A' cars which I hope to restore someday. Our favorite is a 1929 Model 'A' closed cab pickup with a canopy top and screened sides. We have a lot of fun going to meets and to parades in it.

This is my story of how I got started with antique cars and it is a great hobby.

Mike Torowus



Mike in his 1931 Model 'A' Deluxe Roadster



AACA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Listed below are some upcoming National tours and meets you may be interested in attending:

- **April 9-12, 2015** Southeastern Spring Meet—Hornets Next Region, Charlotte, NC
- **April 30-May 2, 2015** Eastern Spring Meet—Tidewater Region, Virginia Beach, VA
- **May 4-6, 2015** Southeastern Divisional Tour— East Tennessee Region, Pigeon Forge, TN
- **May 7-9, 2015** AACA Special Meet, Auburn IN
- **June 4-6, 2015** Central Spring Meet—Kansas City Region, Independence, Missouri
- **June 12-14, 2015** The Elegance at Hershey & Grand Ascent Hillclimb, Hershey PA
- **July 15-18, 2015** Southeastern Fall Meet, AACA 80th Anniversary— Kyana Region, Louisville, KY
- **July 27-31, 2015** Vintage Tour—Buzzards Breath Touring Region, Lancaster, PA
- **August 24-28, 2015** Western Tour—Redwood Empire Region, Northern California
- **August 30-September 4, 2015** AAA Revival Glidden Tour—AACA Hosted, Oklahoma City, OK
- **September 14-18, 2015** Founders Tour (Post '31 Vehicles) Canton & Meander Chapters of the Ohio Region, Northeast Ohio
- **October 7-10, 2015** Eastern Fall Meet—Hershey Region, Hershey PA

SJRAACA CLASSIFIEDS



FOR SALE 1955 Ford T-Bird -\$34,000

- Professionally restored body
- Detailed engine/trunk
- Car sand blasted and painted golden rod yellow
- Restored port hole top and new black canvas top and frame
- 4 new tires, new battery
- No rust runs and drives nice
- Continental kit available needs interior

Contact: Bill Wynne (856) 478-6103



FOR SALE 1970 Lincoln Mark III -\$8,900

- Nice white paint
- No rust
- Vinyl top
- New tires
- Runs good

Contact: Bill Wynne (856) 478-6103



FOR SALE 1976 Alfa Romeo Spider \$4,500 OBO

- 78,000 Original miles
- 5 speed, fuel injected
- New water pump, new radiator
- New fan shroud, new shocks
- New convertible top with separate hard top
- Runs well - Extremely fun to drive

Contact: Ray McFarland 609-202-3906

350 AUTO TRANSMISSION

- For Sale OR Trade - 350 Auto Transmission with Pontiac bolt up.

Call Dave at 856-542-0569

SJRAACA CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

**1925 Model T
Doctor's coupe with
(wagon-like) trailer.**

Asking \$15,000

There are also many parts, manuals, generating coils, starters, and a variety of other parts & tools.

Collecting since 1959.
Contact Bill Crockford
at 609-399-7168.





FOR SALE - 1988 Lincoln Town Car \$7,950 (negotiable)

- 302 V-8 with overdrive transmission that delivers great MPG!
- Runs and drives very well with 53000 miles.
- Light Sandalwood with matching leather interior.
- Cold A/C, new tires and brakes.
- Great tour car or HPOF. \$7950.00 (negotiable)

Contact Chuck Gibson, (609) 221-5435 or
GibsonORGNTNR@aol.com.



**LET US HELP YOU SELL
YOUR CAR AND/OR
PARTS.**

**Contact Linda McFarland with your items for
sale. sjraaca@gmail.com**

**The First Joint Region Car Tour
Sunday, May 17, 2015**

The New Jersey Region, South Jersey Region, Ontelaunee Region and Ford V8 Club will join together for a special joint tour on Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Each individual club will tour and meet at Wheels In Motion in Pottstown, PA then travel to the Boyertown Museum in Boyertown, PA for lunch and a tour of this outstanding antique car museum.

Reservations are required. Cost \$20 per person, includes lunch and admission to the Museum.

Reservation forms available at our April Meeting. Chuck Gibson will be the Chair for the South Jersey Region. Reservation Form on page 8.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING - Monday,
April 13, 2015 at 7:00 PM
Woodstown Borough Hall**



**FRIENDSHIP & FOOD
NIGHT OUT**

**Thursday, April 23rd
6:30 PM**

**A'Pizze Tuscan Grill
120 Center Square Road
Swedesboro, NJ 08085**



**2016 National Meet
Committee
Meeting**

**April 22, 2015
7:00 PM**

**At Ray & Linda McFarland's
224 Hogate Blvd.
Salem, NJ 08079**





Why does the chicken coop have only 2 doors?

Because if it had 4 doors it would be a chicken sedan!

Golden Crescent Region AACA



**SOUTH JERSEY REGION AACA
CRUISE NIGHT**

Bobbitt Auto

595 Salem Quinton Rd. Salem, NJ

WEDNESDAYS 5:00-8:00 PM

April 15th

July 22nd

May 20th

August 19th

June 17th

September 16th

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17th 3:00-6:00 PM



TOYS FOR TOTS CRUISE

Bring a NEW unwrapped TOY

**Hot Dogs & Beverage for all drivers
who bring out their antique auto
Come on out and enjoy the music by
Ed Counsellor and see old friends.**



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dave Birchmire 856-371-9304

Martin Erdner 856-935-0537

Check out our website www.sjraaca.com

44th ANNUAL SWAP MEET & CAR CORRAL March 22, 2015



**More
photos
on our
website**



JOINT REGION CAR TOUR
Pottstown, PA and Boyertown, PA
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2015

Join us for our First Joint Region Car Tour. The New Jersey Region, South Jersey Region, Ontelaunee Region and Ford V8 Club will join together for a special joint tour on Sunday, May 17, 2015.

We will meet at "Wheels in Motion" Restoration Shop in Pottstown, PA and then travel to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles where we will have a catered lunch and tour this massive museum with its beautiful collection of vehicles.

Cost is \$20 per person and reservations are required (Catered Lunch & Museum Entrance Fee Included)

7:30 a.m. - South Jersey Region AACA members will be meeting at the Pennsville Burger King and leaving at 7:30 a.m. to travel to Pottstown, PA.

10:30 a.m. - We will be meeting with the other Regions at approximately 10:30 a.m. at "Wheels in Motion", 525 High Street, Pottstown, PA. Mike Yannessa, owner of "Wheels in Motion", will provide a tour of his repair and restoration facility and give a brief talk about the PPG waterbase paint.

12:00 Noon - The Group will proceed to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles, 85 South Walnut Street, Boyertown, PA 19512.
We will enjoy a catered lunch and a tour of the museum.

This is a new venture for our Regions and we hope you will join in and meet new friends sharing the same hobby of touring with our antique cars.

Checks should be made payable to South Jersey Region AACA.

Deadline to register is May 4th, 2015.

Cost is \$20 per person (Catered Lunch & Museum Entrance Fee included)

Chuck Gibson will be heading up this tour for South Jersey Region.

If you have any questions call 609-221-5435.

If you are unable to attend our April or May club meetings with your registration, please mail your check payable to South Jersey Region AACA and the registration form below to: (PLEASE MAIL BY MAY 1ST)
Edna Norris, 410 Route 45, Mannington, NJ 08079.

Return Bottom Portion with your Check

JOINT TOUR TO "WHEELS IN MOTION" & BOYERTOWN AUTO MUSEUM
Sunday, May 17, 2015

Please list names of persons attending:

_____	Cell # _____	Home # _____
_____	Cell # _____	Home # _____
_____	Cell # _____	Home # _____
_____	Cell # _____	Home # _____

Cost: \$20 per person - Make checks payable to South Jersey Region AACA

DEADLINE: MAY 4, 2015

Mail to: Edna Norris, 410 Route 45, Mannington, NJ 08079

Deadline to Mail, May 1, 2015