



HEADLIGHTS



South Jersey Region AACA

Club Website www.sjraaca.com

June, 2015

Chuck & Joyce Gibson's 1942 Chevrolet Blackout

By Chuck Gibson



At the start of the 1942 model year, war clouds were looming closer and closer and on December 7, 1941, our nation was at war. The American auto industry had already begun to gear up for the obvious, as did Chevrolet. Hence, there were no significant changes from 1941. Externally, the grille was lowered and lengthened, the hood now stretched back to meet the doors and the front fenders had extensions added to the doors to make the fenders appear longer. The bumpers and bumper guards as well as the accessory wings were changed slightly. The changes were not significant but greatly changed the appearance of the car. Mechanically, the car was the same as 1941 with the 90 horsepower 216.5 CID engine, and 3 speed manual transmission with vacuum assisted shifting. Wheelbases remained at 116 inches. Fortunately the style was

successful because Chevrolet would have to be happy with it until 1949.
(Continued on page 7)



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

JUNE

- 1 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 11 6:30 PM Friendship & Food**
Franco's Italian Restaurant
185 N. Broadway, Pennsville NJ
- 14 5 PM SWAP MEET WORKER DINNER** - Pitman Country Club
- 17 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto
595 Salem Quinton Rd.
- 20 Pitman Manor Car Show**
- 20 9 am-2 pm 60th Annual Ocean City NJ Memorial Antique Auto Show**

JULY

- 6 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 11 4-8 PM Kountry Kitchen Cruise Night**
373 Harding Hwy, Pittsgrove NJ
- 15-18 Southeastern Fall Meet,**
Louisville, KY
- 22 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto
595 Salem Quinton Rd. Quinton

AUGUST

- 3 7:00 PM CLUB MEETING**
Woodstown Borough Hall
- 13 6:30 PM Friendship & Food**
To Be Announced
- 20 5-8 PM CRUISE NIGHT**
Bobbitt Auto



SJRAACA OFFICERS

President: Dave Birchmire - 856-371-9304
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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

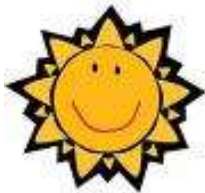


HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



June 1 Becky Counsellor
June 10 Russ Shipman
June 12 Ed Counsellor
June 24 Nancy Cobb
June 25 Doretta Scott
June 27 Mike Torowus

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 had no report because everyone has been well.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dave Birchmire



As I sit at the ole typewriter no I mean keyboard it is still raining as it has been for two days now. The weekend is looking better so we will be able bring out our antique pride and joys for car fun activities as they are called. The car season is really moving along. Just in the past few weeks we had eight cars from our region join in on a Joint Region Tour. Forty eight cars from three regions got together and toured two car museums with lunch included of course. What a Great time we had visiting with other car people from the other regions of A.A.C.A.

The Glassboro Memorial Day Parade was well attended this year with eight cars representing our club. It was a warm but not a overly hot day. But with older cars they sometimes overheat as one former President's car did right at the end of the event. lol

The Cardinal Village Show had a large attendance from SJRAACA as I understand is quite common. Being my first time attending I was very pleased with the way it was run. We received a nice lunch a dash plaque and a DJ playing oldies all for free. You can't beat that.

With no graduating seniors from the Vo-Tech Auto and Body shops attending higher education in the automotive field this year we will be using the money this year to buy tools for both programs instead. This will help the shops buy items that will enhance the quality of the education of the students.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our Friendship and food night that will be on **June 11th at 6:30 pm** at Franco's Italian Restaurant in Pennsville. It is located on 185 North Broadway.

June 17th is our Cruise night at Bobbitt's Auto and our club picnic is tentatively set for **Sunday Sept. 13th** at Ft. Mott Sate Park in Pennsville. The chairs this year will be Janet, Bonnie and the First Lady Sue.

South Jersey Region AACA Presents check to the Carneys Point/Penns Grove Police Explorers



Meeting Highlights of the South Jersey Region Monday, June 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Birchmire at 7:05 PM and all stood for the Pledge to the Flag.

There were no visitors or new members present but Eileen Niedzialek reported that she had a new membership application for Kevin Shipman, son of Russ & Mary Jane Shipman. Kevin was voted into membership.

Leon Erdner read the minutes from the last meeting and they were approved. There was no treasurer's report as Edna Norris was not feeling well and unable to attend the meeting.

Mike Torowus has not been feeling well and is having more tests tomorrow.

Dave noted that the cruise night for Kountry Kitchen has been changed to Saturday July 11 from 4-8 pm. The Kountry Kitchen will give 20% off to everyone who brings out a car for the cruise. They will also be providing a live band for the event.

Valerie & Bill Wynne will look into getting a visit organized to visit Frank Heiss, Sr.

A gift certificate was given to Hal Wentzell, of Red Oak Disposal, for donating the dumpsters for the Swap Meet.

Chuck Gibson reported on the Joint Region Tour. A total of 48 cars attended from the 3 regions and 8 of those cars were from South Jersey Region. Everyone enjoyed the museums and lunch. There will be another joint region tour planned in the future.

Eight South Jersey Region cars attended the Glassboro Memorial Day Parade. The club received \$100 for attending.

Vo-Tech Scholarships - Dave Birchmire and Gary Green visited the Auto Shops last month and spoke with the teachers regarding scholarships and needs for the shops. There were no graduating seniors furthering their education in the automotive field this year. The classes are mostly underclassmen this year. Therefore it was decided that the teachers would make up a wish list of needed tools to give to our club and we would purchase the needed items up to \$2,000 for the 2 shops. A motion was made and approved to do this for the Vo-Tech this year.

The Swap Meet dinner is scheduled for Sunday, June 14th at the Pitman Country Club. Cost for guests is \$21.95.

Chuck Gibson then explained our IRS responsibilities with regard to our 501C7 status (Social Club). Specifically with regard to our spending for food. Dave Birchmire noted that we have not abused this policy. A motion was made and approved that we only pay for the following activities:

Breakfasts for the Swap Meet, Glassboro/Elmer Memorial Day Parades, Lew Zane Elmer Day, Salem Christmas Parade, Swap Meet Dinner, Summer Picnic and Christmas Party. This motion was approved.

Our Friendship and Food night out will be on June 11th at 6:30 pm at Franco's Italian Restaurant in Pennsville.

June 17th is the Bobbitt Cruise and June 20th there are several car shows for members to attend, AACA Museum, Pitman Manor and Ocean City NJ.

Our Club Picnic is tentatively set for Sunday, September 13th at Ft. Mott. Janet Erdner, Bonnie Green & Sue Birchmire will be in charge of this.

A meeting for the 2016 Eastern Spring Meet will be planned shortly and members will be notified.

Dave Birchmire recognized Bill Flitcraft for his great article in the May newsletter.

Valerie Wynne noted that she visited Verna Locke at Pitman Manor and she was doing well despite the Alzheimer's.

Chuck Gibson thanked everyone for attending the Cardinal Village Car Show on May 30th. It was a great day. Many of our members attended. There were 60 cars there at the show. We also had a visit from Janet Gaunt, who drove over to see our members who were there.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

KEVIN SHIPMAN
Of Woodstown, NJ
Kevin has a 1946 Willys





FRIENDSHIP & FOOD NIGHT OUT

**Thursday, June 11th
6:30 PM**

**Franco's Italian
Restaurant
185 N. Broadway
Pennsville, NJ 08070**

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June 14th - 5:00 pm

**SWAP MEET
WORKER DINNER
The Pitman Country Club
501 Pitman Road
Sewell NJ 08080**

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**June 17th - 5:00-8:00 PM
BOBBITT CRUISE NIGHT
595 Salem Quinton Road
Quinton, NJ**

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**June 20 - 11:00 am—3:00 pm
PITMAN MANOR CAR SHOW
535 North Oak Ave., Pitman NJ
Registration starts at 9:00 am.
Free lunch to all car owners who attend.**

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**July 11th - 4:00-8:00 PM
KOUNTRY KITCHEN
CRUISE NIGHT
373 Harding Hwy, US Rt. 40
Pittsgrove, NJ 08318
20% discount to those bring out their
antique car**



AACA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

- **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
- **November 5-7, 2015** Central Fall Meet—Lagniappe Chapter, Louisiana Region, Houma, Louisiana

Question: What American luxury automaker began by making cages for birds and squirrels?



Answer: The George N Pierce Company of Buffalo, who made the Pierce Arrow, also made iceboxes.

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

JOINT REGION TOUR

Sunday, May 17, 2015

By Valerie Wynne

The forecast was 87 degrees and humid with thunderstorms in the afternoon predicted. There were 7 cars from the South Jersey Region at the Pennsville Burger King at 7:30. We were meeting John & Fran Shore at the McDonald's in Pennsylvania for a quick breakfast. Leaving McDonalds about 9:20 we headed for "Wheels in Motion Restoration Shop in Pottstown, PA to join the New Jersey Region, Ontelaunee Region Car Club and the Ford V8 Club.

Bill and I had a really nice reunion with Tom McMichael and wife, Barbara. They belong to Ontelaunee but are former South Jersey members, in fact, Tom used to write articles for "Headlights" on restoration, before being relocated.

The "Wheel's in Motion Shop" was a working establishment with several cars currently in different stages of being rebuilt. The owner Mike Yannessa, provided a tour of the shop and gave a brief talk on PPG waterbase paint.

We left in mass, I heard we were 48 vehicles strong at this point, for the Boyertown Auto Museum. That was something to see. There was a full size diner in there and an amazing display of vehicles, high wheel bikes, rare sleighs and carriages.

We had a delicious buffet lunch served on china with real silverware and stem glasses, a nice change from paper and plastic.

The Museum's main goal is to preserve and educate the public about Pennsylvania's transportation history. The building is dated from 1872 and it houses electric powered vehicles as early as 1910 and interactive exhibits.

It was really a very nice day, but there was one observation I made. The ladies couldn't go into "their" restroom at the museum because the men were using it!!! Thankfully I didn't recognize any of those mis-guided fellows and that means South Jersey Region knows the difference between a sign reading "Men" and "Women".

Those on tour were:

Dave & Sue Birchmire '85 Corvette

Terry Shelton '36 Ford

Chuck & Joyce Gibson '62 Chevy

Ron & Doretta Scott AMC Caballero

Gary & Bonnie Green '57 Chevy

Donald Edwards '41 Chevy

Fran & John Shore '49 Chevy

Bill & Valerie Wynne '70 Lincoln



More photos on page 8.

GLASSBORO PARADE Memorial Day, May 25, 2015

By Valerie Wynne

The Glassboro Memorial Day Parade seems to be the summer kick off for getting out our antique cars after a long winter. Once again it was well attended with lots of participants from string bands to military. And there were a lot of on-lookers who seemed delighted to see each entry pass by.

The antique cars drew cheers and questions like, "What year is it?" It was one of the nicest parade weather-wise (getting very warm near the end) that I remember. I counted 7 cars at the PB's Diner but others just fell-in-line.



SOUTH JERSEY REGION AACA CRUISE NIGHT

Bobbitt Auto

595 Salem Quenton 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

Gibson's 1942 Chevrolet Blackout (Continued)

Civilian production ended on February 9, 1942 but material shortages caused production decreases prior to that date. As early as December, 1941, the interior trim had been "blacked-out." Door handles and window cranks were a dark green or brown plastic, and all interior brightwork was now painted. Shortly thereafter, the exterior brightwork disappeared with the exception of the bumpers. Interestingly, bumper guards, and bumper accessories were painted although some cars were produced with chrome guards. All body moldings, taillight trim, external door handles, trunk handle and even the hub caps were painted. Chrome did not exist under the paint.



The 1942 Chevrolet Blackouts, sometimes called "war cars," were built from January 2 through January 30, 1942. About 20,000 of these cars were assembled during this short period. The only chrome allowed by the government was the standard bumpers and guards. The blackout models were considered

"ugly ducklings" and when new cars became readily available, most of the blackouts were scrapped.

One point of interest concerning all the Chevys built during this one month period is that all of the cars were "frozen" by the US Government and could only be purchased by high priority buyers with special permission granted from the U.S. Department of War Material. Our particular blackout Chevy remained in a U.S. Government warehouse until May



of 1943. That is where the myth originated about the 1942 Chevrolets. All passenger production ceased on or about January 30, 1942 for Chevrolet and did not resume until July 1, 1945. Some states titled the cars as the year it was released by the Government warehouse. Our car is titled as a 1943.



My father (Howard Parker) had purchased a 1942 Fleetline in November of 1971. This car was built in December of 1941 and exhibits the interior blackout components. After owning the car for about ten years, he thought it would be interesting to find a blackout '42 and have both models. After a long search and considering a few different cars, our car was found in Salisbury, PA in 1985 and was still in the family of the original owner. Dad was very excited when he went to look at the

car because it was a Fleetline Aerosedan like his other '42. And, it was in very good original condition. The car's original owner, Mr. Stanley Thomas, was the postmaster for the town of Salisbury, hence he was approved by the Government to purchase the car.



A few weeks later, we returned to Salisbury, PA to pick up the blackout. It didn't take us long to have the engine running well, the brake system was rebuilt and all other mechanicals checked through. The paint was factory original and needed some touch-up. The interior upholstery was in good original condition. New tires were also installed and the car received a good clean up and detailing. Dad enjoyed the car for several years, always wanting to restore it someday. When dad's health declined, he turned the blackout over to me and I immediately decided that it should not be restored but left original. The car is far from perfect but it truly represents how these cars were built.

Joint Region Tour Photos May 17, 2015

