

# HEADLIGHTS



South Jersey Region AACA

Club Website [www.sjraaca.com](http://www.sjraaca.com)

December, 2020

## Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles Tour Saturday, November 14, 2020

The South Jersey Region took a ride up to Boyertown on Saturday, November 14th. It was a beautiful Saturday for a ride, and we had 17 folks attend the tour.

The museum is located in the former home of the Boyertown Auto Body Works, which had continuous operations on this site from 1872 to 1990 and retains the factory setting, making it a unique and interesting setting for the vehicles.

John McCarthy along with several other volunteers gave us a guided tour of the museum. They have been continually updating and making improvements to the museum over the years. The last time our club visited the museum was in 2017.

Chuck & Joyce Gibson's 1942 Chevrolet Fleetline Blackout car was there on display for a few months.

It was amazing to discover how many types of vehicles have been made in and around Boyertown.

The museum recently acquired the building directly across from the museum that will be used for a library and offices. They are in the process of refurbishing this building and hope to have it open for visitors in the near future.

If you have never been up to this museum, you definitely need to put it on your list to visit.

They are noted for their many Duryea's on display and also for their yearly Duryea Day Show and Flea Market in September.

The following members and friends attended this tour: Ray & Linda McFarland, Gary & Bonnie Green, Don & Maria Symonds, Larry & Marge Irwin, Chuck & Joyce Gibson, Paul & Jane Kinsey, Ray & Judy Fischer, Ron & Nancy Hutchins and Brenda Zimmerman.

There are many more photos from our tour to enjoy on our website [sjraaca.com](http://sjraaca.com). You can also go to [boyertownmuseum.org](http://boyertownmuseum.org) and see much more on their website.



John McCarthy giving us a introduction by the Gibson car.



The Hill Car is the oldest motorized vehicle in the museum's collection



Some of the beautiful Duryea vehicles on display.



Model T Touring car

## SJRAACA OFFICERS

**President:** Terry Shelton - 856-769-0231

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**Vice President:** Ron W. Scott - 856-629-6085

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**Editor:** Linda McFarland - 609-202-3907

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**Board Member** - Larry Irwin - 302-528-1435

**Board Member** - Marven Chin - 856-371-0746

**Board Member** - Edward Fuller - 856-297-4025

**Past Pres.** - Ray McFarland - 609-202-3906

**Sunshine** - Bonnie Green - 856-575-5547

**Membership**-Larry & Eileen Niedzialek-856-691-7403

**Swap Meet** - Gary Green - 856-575-5547

**Website** - Linda McFarland - 609-202-3907

Questions?? Feel free to contact any officer or board member and they will be glad to help.

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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 **4th of July & September then it is the following Monday.** Call any board member for meeting cancellation notices during weather emergency.

• **CLUB WEBSITE:** [www.SJRAACA.com](http://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

Mens Golf Shirts: S-XL \$22; 2X & 3X \$24

Ladies Golf Shirts: same as above

Spring Jackets: S-XL \$46; 2X \$48 & 3X \$48

Winter Jackets S-XL \$70

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12-1 Carrie Walzer

12-8 Jill Bowling

12-19 Martin Erdner

12-23 Elizabeth Tumolo

12-29 Brenda Kaiser

12-31 Kathy McCarthy



**BIRTHDAYS  
THIS MONTH**

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**SUNSHINE - Bonnie Green**  
reports that she delivered sympathy  
flowers and card to Terry Shelton  
and sympathy card to Gene &  
Michelle Hamilton.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Terry Shelton*



Hello everyone!

Hoping you are all staying well.

Unfortunately we had to make the decision to cancel our Annual Christmas Party at the Paulsboro Sportsman's Club because of State ruling limiting gathering numbers. It will be sad not to see everyone but

much safer for all involved.

Please feel free to send a donation for our Sunshine Foundation. We are sponsoring 4 families again this year. Send your check made out to SJRAACA to Edna Norris. This is a worthy cause and the families could really use our help.

Thank you so much for your many cards, flowers, and attending the viewing and funeral for my dad. I really appreciate your expressions of sympathy.

Looking forward to 2021 we hope to be able to have some activities. But I guess we will just have to wait and see.

Thank you,  
Your President,  
Terry Shelton

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## FROM YOUR EDITOR

*Linda McFarland*

Hello All!

We had a wonderful tour to the Boyertown Museum of Historical Vehicles. We had 17 people on the tour.

We also had 20 attend our Friendship & Food Night Out at the Green Olive Restaurant.

We were all sorry to hear that our Annual Christmas Party had to be cancelled. But, we are still sponsoring 4 families with the Sunshine Foundation. If you would still like to donate, please send your check to Edna Norris.

We are still waiting for the Woodstown Borough Hall to open up to the public, so there will be no meeting in December.

PLEASE keep those stories and articles coming.

*Linda McFarland*





## South Jersey Region Events & Activities

### DECEMBER

- 5 4-8:00 PM ANNUAL CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY  
Paulsboro Sportsman Club **CANCELLED**
- 7 CLUB MEETING—**CANCELLED**  
Woodstown Borough Hall closed to public

### ANNUAL CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY



**CANCELLED**

Saturday, Dec. 5  
4:00-8:00 PM at  
Paulsboro Sportsman Club  
32 Riverview Ave., Paulsboro, NJ  
\$20 per person

REFUNDED upon attendance.

Please send your check payable to SJRAACA to:  
Edna Norris,  
410 Route 45  
Mannington, NJ 08079

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP DECEMBER 1st

We will be collecting money again for the  
Sunshine Foundation Families.  
We will have 4 families this year



**PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING A DONATION TO  
HELP SUPPORT THE 4 SUNSHINE FOUNDATION  
FAMILIES WE ARE SPONSORING. Please send  
your check payable to SJRAACA to Edna Norris  
at the above address. Please note on memo  
line that it is for Sunshine foundation.**

*Thank you to those members who have  
already donated.*



### TIME TO PAY YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please note that AACA Dues is \$45  
Please mail directly to AACA or pay on line at  
AACA.org

SJRAACA Dues is still only \$10  
Please mail your check payable to SJRAACA to  
Edna Norris  
410 Route 45  
Mannington, NJ 08079



The South Jersey Region AACA 2021  
Calendar is available. We will be selling the  
calendars to members and friends at cost,  
\$8.00. We still have a few left. Contact Linda  
McFarland if you would like one.

Linda will be glad to mail a calendar to  
you. Total cost with postage will be \$10.  
Please make check out to SJRAACA and  
send to:

Linda McFarland  
224 Hogate Blvd.  
Salem, NJ 08079



Photo from last years Christmas Party.



## Boyertown Museum Tour (Continued)



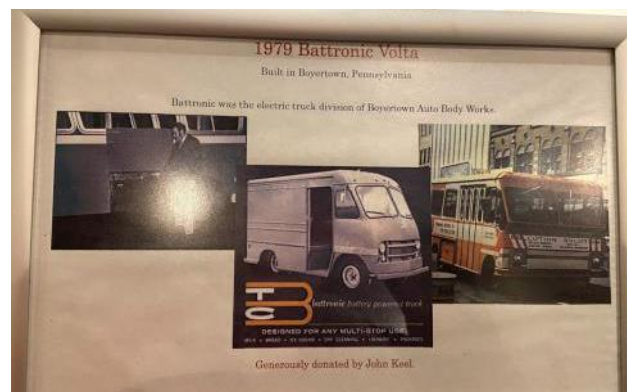
1938 Reading Diner



1921 Sunoco Gas Station



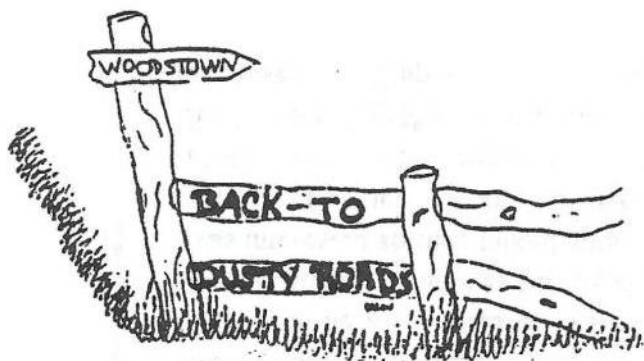
Desk inside Gas Station



1979 Electric Truck built in Boyertown

For more photographs of this tour go to [sjraaca.com](http://sjraaca.com)





With Bill Wynne

## Introducing The 1939 Buick

Buick's were well known in 1939 for styling, durability and speed. This year was no exception. Buick reworked last years successful body styling and power trains.

There were four series in 1939 they were, Special, Century, Roadmaster and Limited. The new Buick's were now two inches lower and had a completely new front styling appearance. It featured a wide, face-mask like, waterfall grill with fenders that flowed away from the grill. Headlights were now above of the grill on the fender area.

Side mount spare tires were still available, last years new horn ring was continued and was for many years after. Visibility was considerably increased over the last years Buick. New this year was a sliding sun roof, however it had a problem with leakage and was discontinued after the following year. Stream boards were a new option and they were tops in styling. They replaced running boards, leaving just a hint of the old running board.

Buick discontinued the old rumble seat in 1939. They now had opera seats, or jump seats, sometimes called "torture seats". They were a fold down little seat inside the rear compartment behind the front seat. It was only available in a coupe or convertible.

Buick was the first of the automobile manufacturers in 1939 to make rear turn signals standard equipment. The turn signal

was on the gear shift lever. Buick moved the gearshift lever from the floor to the steering column this year. Also, a new style dash board that resembled a log, because it was half round, was introduced. It also held the optional sonic manual push-button radio.

Under the hood was a dyna-flash overhead valve straight 8 engine. This was the standard engine in the Special series. It produced 107 hp. The other series carried a 141 hp straight 8 engine. The name Century indicated a 100 mile per hour automobile. Some say the fastest factory stocked vehicle was Buick at that time.

Buick's were often used by custom body builders and for commercial work. When it came to upper class, the limited Buick was often chosen over Cadillac. When the first royal visit took place in Canada, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth were chauffeured in a 1939 McLaughlin Buick. It was a custom 4 door convertible made by the McLaughlin employees. The body was stretched to about 20 feet and had a high roof line for the royal headgear.

If you remember back in 1936...King Edward VII ordered a custom McLaughlin Buick for his royal duties in "Merry Old England." He also ordered a standard 1936 McLaughlin Buick and had it sent over home for his girlfriend, Wallace Warfield Simpson.

The McLaughlin name in 1939 meant it was a Buick made in Canada. I would have to say that King Edward and I consider a McLaughlin Buick to be superior to a Rolls Royce.

The above article, written by member Bill Wynne, is a continuation of the 1939 Buick from last month. It was from one of our old Headlights newsletters from approximately 1997.

Bill Wynne wrote a feature article "Back to Dusty Roads" each month.

If you would like to feature your special car story one month, please send Linda McFarland your article.

## **“Hersheyburg” 2020 Special Fall Meet Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

*By Maria Symonds*

I thought I would not see Gettysburg PA again for a few years. We had been in the area in 2017, 2018 and 2019 – all for car related activities. What a great place, full of history, museums, food, shopping and ghosts. After so many other meets and shows were cancelled or postponed through 2020 our prospects of any travel seemed to fade. But then AACA pulled off the Grand Nationals, moving from Allentown to Gettysburg. Wow! Maybe the Hershey meet was going to come together after all? And then (maybe not so surprising) things got complicated, again. But the AACA was determined to hold this event so all those amazing people who make these things happen – made it happen again. In Gettysburg! Again! For the fourth year we found ourselves in familiar territory at the Gettysburg Wyndham complex. This is a terrific place to hold an event, even during a pandemic. Sure, things were harder – there were challenges with staffing at the hotels, space at the restaurants and generally keeping everyone as safe as possible. But all the participants, vendors, officials, hotel and restaurant staffs did their best – and it was pretty darn good.

And the weather was perfect. 70’s and sunny? In November? Thanks to Franklin Gage, he told me he was in charge of that 😊.

I know this event was not the Hershey as we know it. A “normal” year would be over 200,000 people in attendance, 9,000 vendor spaces, a full car corral and something like 1,400 show cars? So, no, this was not anywhere near that. But it was very successful and should make all our members proud of this organization. In 2020 the AACA was able to execute four complete events which is quite an accomplishment.

The grounds were laid out in a reasonable way, making it easy to walk around the entire show field safely. There were vendors and the usual AACA trailer with merchandise, membership information and some Hershey merchandise. But no chocolate. It also seemed to me that the venue offered more opportunity for the general public to attend and participate

The awards were all presented outside (of course) on the grass courtyard in front of the Wyndham. It was an informal affair with lots of lawn chairs and cheers. If I recall, there were over 600 presentations and they were handed out in record time. It was a nice ending to a lovely day.

Ray & Judy Fischer’s ‘93 Buick  
Roadmaster



Joyce Gibson’s ‘65 Impala



Don Symonds ‘76 Grand Prix



1955 Studebaker (Just a beautiful car I liked)





## This Week in Motorhead History: History's Slowest Winner

by [Ruby Rae Scalera](#) | Nov 23, 2020

[Carshowsafari.com](#)

The year is 1895. America is still skeptical of the gas-powered automobile. Henry Ford's assembly line would not begin rolling for eighteen years. The age of speed, turn signals or even roads is far in the distant future.

A future that would never have come to pass, were it not for Charles and Frank Duryea and the Duryea Motor Wagon Company, the very first American car company to build gasoline automobiles, paving the way for Ransom Olds, William C. Durant and, of course, Henry Ford.

Much of the Duryea brothers' early success can be attributed to a Thanksgiving morning in that first year 1895 when they proudly wore the title of another first – the first United States auto race where any of the entrants finished.

And finish they did.

Frank Duryea won the *Chicago Times-Herald* Race in Chicago in the second Duryea Motor Wagon produced, finished in 1894. He completed the 54-mile course at a blistering speed of 7.5 miles per hour. Eighty-three cars had been initially entered into the competition after the *Chicago Times-Herald* first announced it in July of that year, but only six were completed and capable of arriving to the starting line by Thanksgiving.

In fact, so few cars appeared at the originally scheduled date of November 2, 1895, that they were forced to push the event back. Recall, if you will, that the very first "cars" had barely been produced two years earlier, and that the sum total of the car industry at the time was madmen tinkering in their garages like over-excited fathers before a pinewood derby race.

In fact, the very intent behind the race was to stoke up excitement about the fledgling auto industry, as well as to boost sales. The idea of a car was so new – and so foreign – that the newspaper editors at the *Times-Herald* literally did not know what to call them. And neither did the police, who pulled over favored winner Elwood Haynes and one of three Benz drivers before they arrived at the race – on horseback, of course. This pushed the beginning of the first successful American auto race back even further, as organizers explained this newfangled technology to the coppers.

But despite the mishaps and confusion, it was clear that race organizers at the *Times-Herald* understood the value of this odd new industry, with prizes for the winners totaling \$5,000, over \$140,000 by today's standard.

And while the Duryea Motor Wagon would not go onto the fame of any of the Benz vehicles that it competed against, it most certainly benefited from the exposure and success of that very first race. They sold thirteen cars by the end of 1896, the first ten standing out as, yet another, first – the first production vehicles ever sold in America.

Despite their success and luck, the Duryea Motor Company suffered in-fighting, challenges, and setbacks as the auto industry slowly found its foothold. Competing against the vast new field of challengers, most of whom would not ever make it to the point of production, the Duryea brothers separated and worked together from a distance, with variations of their prized company limping along for several years. Charles would go on to produce



cars, mostly without success, until 1917 and Frank would share his expertise with the industry until 1927.

And yet, despite their ups and downs, despite their inability to recreate Henry Ford's success with the "Everyman's Car" or their inability to recreate their earlier luck, the Duryea brothers undoubtedly shaped the future of American cars. They are not particularly well-known, for after 1895 they were not particularly successful, but they are important, one of the puzzle pieces in what makes up the wild west history of early autos.

Could we have done it without them? Who's to say? If it had not been the Duryea Motor Wagon that day, it might have been an early Benz or a new-fangled motorcycle the next. Still, it was them, two scrappy boys from New England, who stand as a testament to fortitude, passion, and innovation, pillars upon which the entire auto industry stands.

And hey, if you sat in an open-cockpit beast going 7 miles per hour for over 10 hours and 23 minutes in weather where other challengers literally fainted from exposure, you'd be pretty worthy of a spot in the history books too. There's no doubt that they earned that win and set into motion a world they could have never expected.



**Thank you to [carshowsafari.com](#) for this great article about the Duryea Motor Vehicles. Our club just visited the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles where we saw a great number of Duryea vehicles. (See pages 1 & 4 of this newsletter)**

## SJRAACA CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE - 1952 Ford Custom \$14,500**

- V8, stick with OD
- 76,000 miles
- Excellent condition
- Runs great
- Great touring car
- Asking \$14,500

Contact Ray 732-873-3094  
(New Jersey)



**WANTED: SIDE VIEW MIRROR w/2 holes**  
for 1952 Ford Victoria  
Suppliers are currently out of stock.  
Hoping someone might have one or  
knows of someone who does



Contact: Ron 856-629-6085

**FOR SALE - 1930-31  
MODEL A Cowl \$50**  
Contact: Harry  
856-217-2686



**FOR SALE - WHEELS FOR SALE \$25 EACH**  
1-16"; 3-17"; 1-18"  
Contact: Harry 856-217-2686



**FOR SALE - 2 3A RACING  
SEATS \$220 Pair**  
• Bought 12 years ago  
• Seats stored in garage,  
never used



Contact: Harry 856-217-2686

**FOR SALE - MANUAL  
TIRE CHANGING  
MACHINE**  
w/Parts \$100 OBO



**FOR SALE - 40's/50's CHEVY  
DELUXE HEATER \$75 OBO**



**FOR SALE - PAIR VINTAGE  
US ARMY GAS CANS \$75 OBO**  
Contact: Bob 856-956-3765



## SJRAACA CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE - KwikLift 13 1/2' Ramps**

- \$1,000 OBO
- Max Vehicle  
Capacity  
5,000 lbs  
(not to exceed  
2,500 lbs per ramp)

Contact Matt Maliszewski 302-798-1601



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**FOR SALE - '28-'31 FORD MODEL A PARTS**

- Radiators \$100
- Fenders \$100-\$300
- Frames \$500
- Bumpers \$100
- Misc. parts

Contact: John 856-468-5107



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**FOR SALE - HUSKY 8 GAL. 1.5  
PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSOR**

- Little Use (bought larger one)
- \$100 or best offer

Contact: John 856-468-5107



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**WANTED: R10, 3 Speed Overdrive (GM)**  
With a 7 bolt side cover

Contact: Nick 302-359-4262

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**Need Automotive Batteries.**  
Call Ed Counsellor for Precision Batteries  
856-362-0001







### Surprises Kids find in Old Cars

By Wayne Tuck  
Executive Vice President

Features we find in old cars can be a new discovery for kids. I still laugh to myself every time I think about the time my youngest grandson came out to the garage for a visit with grandad. I was working on my 1952 Hudson at the time and put him in the front seat. The first thing he noticed was the size of the steering wheel. I'm sure he had never seen a car without power steering. This was a new discovery for him. He was even more surprised with the window crank handles. How many kids today have never seen crank down windows? Not only a crank down window, but crank open vent windows. Most of today's youth have never seen a vent window. He spent the next half hour working his way around the interior cranking windows up and down.

We found an entire new world of things he never knew existed. A cigar lighter? That is known as a power outlet today. You mean you need to push down the buttons individually to lock the car? You need a key to unlock it? Ash trays? Turn the knobs to change the radio station? Where are the seat belts? What is that button on the floor? No padding on the dashboard?

Now let's take a look at an even older car. A tassel on the string that pulls the shade down over the back window? You mean you need to put your arm out the window to signal a turn? That lever on the left controls the spark advance? What is a spark advance anyway? Step on a floor pedal to start it?

All you need to do to get their attention is show it to them. Kids are even more thrilled if you take them for a ride. Let's all do something to pique their interest. The future of the old car hobby depends on it!



### AACA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

#### 2021 National Calendar & Other Events

- February 11 - Annual Convention - Philadelphia, PA
- March 17-20 - Special Winter Nationals - San Juan, Puerto Rico
- March 19-Special Grand Nationals - San Juan, Puerto Rico
- April 8-10-Southeastern Spring Nationals - Charlotte, NC
- April 19-22-Southeastern Divisional Tour - Central Florida
- May 6-8-Central Spring Nationals - Auburn, IN
- May 20-25-Founders Tour - Davis, WV
- June 2-5-Eastern Divisional Tour - Eastern Shore of MD
- June 17-19-Eastern Spring Nationals - Saratoga Springs, NY
- July 11-16-Vintage Tour - Lock Haven/Wellsboro, PA
- July 22-24-Grand Nationals - New Ulm, MN
- Aug 13-14-Western Fall Nationals - Loveland, CO
- Sep 9-11-Southeastern Fall Nationals - Greenville, SC
- Sep 12-17-Revival AAA Glidden Tour® (VMCCA) - Saratoga Springs, NY
- October 6-9-Eastern Fall Nationals - Hershey, PA
- October 18-22-Central Divisional Tour - Broken Arrow, OK
- November 4-6-Special Western Nationals - Phoenix, AZ
- Nov 7-11-Western Divisional Tour - Metropolitan Phoenix & Central AZ



Address Label Here

South Jersey Region AACA  
c/o Linda McFarland  
224 Hogate Blvd.  
Salem, NJ 08079



## SOUTH JERSEY REGION ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA DATES TO REMEMBER



### DECEMBER

- 5 4-8:00 PM CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY **CANCELLED**  
Paulsboro Sportsman's Club
- 7 CLUB MEETING - **CANCELLED**  
Woodstown Borough Hall not open for public use



### December Headlights



- ◇ **Boyertown Museum Tour Pg1 & 4**
- ◇ **Presidents Corner Pg 2**
- ◇ **Upcoming Activities Pg 3**
- ◇ **Back to Dusty Roads Pg 5**
- ◇ **Hersheyburg Pg 6**
- ◇ **History's Slowest Winner Pg 7**
- ◇ **Classifieds Pg 8**
- ◇ **News from AACA National Pg 9**

