

# Classy Chassis

Volume 55

Westerly-Pawcatuck Region AACA

April, 2021

## Rubber Weatherstripping Blues, by Charlie Nash



### **This is the BEFORE photo of the original weatherstripping**

I finally decided to replace the original worn, badly distorted trunk weatherstripping on my 1951 Buick.

Assuming this would be a simple remove and replace project proved to be just the opposite.

It took me 2 days of hard labor to remove most of the old crusty glue adhesive, 2-3 more days to prime and paint the trunk lid, 2 days to chisel out the old sound deadening material and cut new material to fit in its place.

I replaced the broken trunk light (mercury switch) with a new reproduction one. That was easy.

Steele Rubber Products supplied the weatherstripping and recommended I use 3M's Rubber weatherstripping adhesive.

This is great stuff BUT, if the rubber stripping is not positioned correctly, forget about getting a 2nd chance. It hardens fast and is near impossible to completely remove.

Unfortunately, the trunk did not close properly and would have leaked, so I peeled all the stripping off, cleaned up the residue as best I could and took a few days off to compose myself.

Steele Rubber sells "peel and stick" weatherstripping but not for my year car. Go figure, that would be too easy.

However, that gave me an idea that so far, appears to have worked. I bought several feet of 2 sided mounting tape (Loctite Brand) at the local True Value Hardware store.

I used this to re-attach the trunk lid weatherstripping, this time in the correct position. So far, so good. I'm happy with it. If it loosens, I'll kill myself. Just kidding ! I'll pull out the old black 3M adhesive.

I suppose few people will ever look inside my trunk anyway. Nor will I ever need the trunk light, not to mention being caught out in the rain worrying about some make-believe luggage getting wet !! But isn't that the curse of the old car hobby?



**Two photos of the fully renewed trunk lid**

## 1901 Orient Update, by George King III



**Crew Eating and Drinking to Celebrate a Memorable Day**

Below is the URL for a video of the test run of the Aster engine which propels the Orient. It was taken on March 25. Three days later (last Sunday) we had a ceremony of the first run which was attended by those team members who could make it (**see above photo**). After the running of the engine, we adjourned to the house for a toast. Click the following link for a video of the working engine. <https://youtu.be/tIDkUiOStoc>

I had purchased good French champagne to mark the occasion. I proposed the first toast to recognize all of the work of our Orient crew which has resulted in the actual engine run that day. Here are some photos of the day's activities.

Below is a photo of some of the crew with the engine running. The photo to the right was taken by Frank Berstein's wife, Linda. I call it "Smiling George." There is nothing else to report this month. The only other thing we did was to work on the small parts to make the run possible. Let's see what we can do in April. **George King III**



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**Interesting Internet References: Gerry Lynn, John Curtiss**

"[The Echoes of My Mind](#)" 1950's 60's Hollywood Lost Los Angeles SFV" on YouTube  
A bit of nostalgia brought to you by member John Curtiss. <https://youtu.be/Okq3FNgt6oo>

[The Built Mustang](#) This is a fascinating story. Whatever happened to the most famous movie car of all time? <https://bit.ly/3roz2mn> , Gerry Lynn

Here's a click for the web page, "[The greatest American car engines ever made.](#)" It's a 25 shot slide show with some ad pages sprinkled in. <https://bit.ly/3d8jSO6> , Gerry Lynn

## Local Shows that are still Active, Gerry Lynn

Crusin Bruce has a ton listed here. Most are in RI or SE Ma.

<https://www.cruisinbruce.com/carshowcalendar>

DJ car guy has lots of potential shows also but many are not definite or open dates.

<https://djcarguy.com/calendar>

He has a separate page for cruise nights and many of the events are tied in to Rocky Point clam shack

<https://djcarguy.com/cruise-nights>

Then there is the CT council of car clubs. Their layout is a little hard to follow.

<https://www.ctccc.net/events-calendar/eventsbyyear/2021/-html?start=0>

Then there is Connecticut Cruise news that covers both bikes & cars. Their layout is also a little tough to wade through but useful. This is the first time I learned of a once a month cruise night in Brooklyn CT

<https://www.ctcruisenews.com/bike-and-cruise-nights.php>

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## National Scene

**Waterbury Vermont Car Show** : No decisions have been made as yet. Check their [website](#) for updates. [Vermont Antique & Classic Car Meet | Vermont Auto Enthusiasts \(vtauto.org\)](#)

### **Saratoga Springs Eastern Spring Nationals June 17 – 20, 2021**

Eastern Spring Nationals - Saratoga Region - Saratoga Springs, NY As of March 30, 2021 we have at least 5 members and their spouses interested in this event. You will need to book a hotel room as soon as possible because they go fast. If you are interested please send an email to Merrill Moone right away! ———New Details: see below; Hi All I spoke with the Adirondack Inn today [www.adarondackinn.com](http://www.adarondackinn.com) 518-584-3510 They are currently available to take your reservation for June 17 to 20 during the hours of 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Tell them you are part of the Westerly Car Club. You need to leave a one night non-refundable deposit. The room rate is \$125/night plus tax. \$141.25 total. They will take your name and other info when you call. Rooms have a microwave, mini-fridge and an extra sink outside bath. There is a Keurig coffee machine in the office when open. Also Gas Grills on the property to share. Check in is 2 PM. Or they will leave keys for each room if we arrive later. Just a quick note: Highway travel is about 4 hours. We will probably choose a less direct route, so the trip will probably be longer. We can probably meet at the next meeting and work out some details.  
Dave David F. Calabrese Treasurer

## Spring Dustoff / Shakedown, Friday, April 16

Our destination is [Buttonwood Farm](#) in CT. They serve gourmet ice cream. They also have fields of flowers, tulips in the spring and sunflowers in the summer.

Buttonwood is about 12 miles from the [PILOT Truck Stop](#) or 20 minutes.  
Pilot is 30 minutes from the Wakefield, Charlestown Area.  
Westerly is the same or less to the Pilot Truck Stop.

### **The Plan:**

Wakefield area members meet at RT 2 & RT 1 ([Simple Pleasures Parking Lot](#)) at 1:00 PM  
From there we could take 112/91/216 or Rt 1 to 216 to the Pilot  
That puts that group at Pilot around 1:30 PM  
That puts the shakedown at Buttonwood by 2:00 PM “”BUTTONWOOD OPENS AT 1 PM”

Westerly/Stonington/CT members could just plan arriving at the [Pilot](#) at 1:30 PM  
Then we could all drive to Buttonwood Farm.  
If we know who is coming from the CT area, someone there could organize a meeting place.

**If you are planning to participate, please contact Dave Calabrese. He would like find a CT contact person. Then we could organize that group better.**

**Simple Pleasures:** 5000 S County Trail Unit E\, Charlestown, RI 02813

**Pilot Truck Stop (Travel Center):** 273 Clarks Falls Rd, North Stonington, CT 06359

**Buttonwood Farm:** 473 Shetucket Turnpike, Griswold, CT, 06351

## New Member

We have a new member! His name is **Ken Chrostowski** and he is from Charlestown, RI. Please give him a warm welcome at our next meeting.

## Newsletter Contributors:

Dave Calabrese  
Ken Carr

John Curtiss  
George King III

Gerry Lynn  
Charlie Nash

## Club Officers

President: Merrill Moone  
Vice President: Charlie Nash  
Secretary: Ken Carr  
Treasurer: Dave Calabrese

## Volunteers

Newsletter: Ken Carr & Gerry Lynn  
Sunshine: Camille Carr  
Trip Coordinator: Don Oster  
Webmaster: Ken Carr

