

Classy Chassis

Volume 54

Westerly-Pawcatuck Region AACA

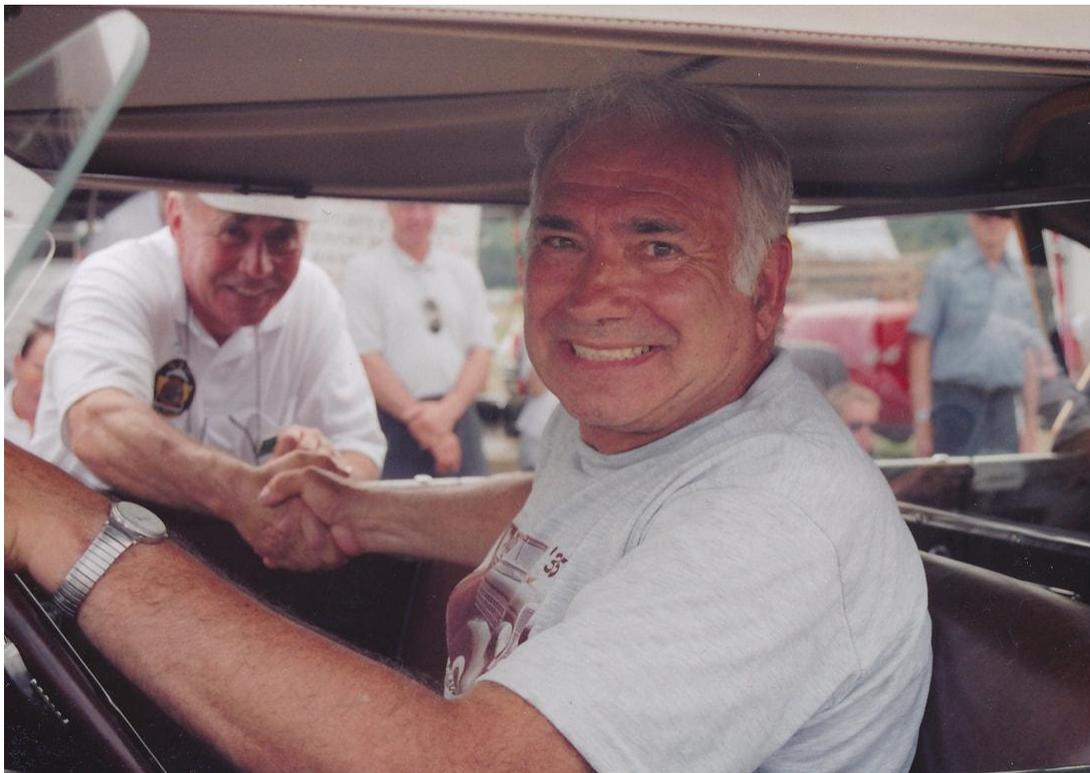
Issue 2

Passing of Jim Varas

It is with deep sorrow that we report the recent April 8 passing of Jim Varas. Jim represented all that is good about an automobile club or any such organization. He participated in just about everything and of course he was a past president of the W-PRAACA. His smiling face will be missed whenever we come together. Bob Burdick, another former president and long time member, had these words to share with you:

"It is very sad to lose a long time friend as Jimmy was to me. Jimmy was not only a good friend, but my business partner in the annual venture to Hershey PA AACA swap meet and auto show. We were friends for over thirty years and he will be missed.

PS I think the good lord has better plans for Jim than rusty old car parts."



The following notice has been posted by [Mystic Funeral Home](#) regarding final arrangements:
“Funeral services and burial will be held privately at this time. A celebration honoring his life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in his memory can be made to the Westerly Senior Citizens Center 39 State St. Westerly, RI. 02891.

The Mystic Funeral Home is handling Jim’s arrangements.

Gerry's Cruise Report

Cruise Nights:

- Misquamicutt Beach starts 6/2/2020 Every TUESDAY ightnt (change from previous years) 5:30-dusk Windjammer Surf Bar Atlantic Ave. Atlantic Beach east parking lot. Till Sept. 401-322-1026 www.misquamicutt.org
- Ocean Beach park New London every Mon 6-9 P April to Sept.
- Oak Harbor Village shopping center 567 South county Tr. (Rt. 2) Exeter, RI Every Monday 4-8 P April to Sept.
- Oakland Beach Sea Wall Oakland Beach Ave. Warwick, RI 5-dark every Tues. April-Sept.
- Tri State Cruisers cruise night Loos & Co lot, CT Rt 169 x CT Rt. 101 Pomfret Center CT Exit 93 off of I-395 Every Sat. 3P-dark. Dick Salvas 860-298-5635
- Nature's Art dinosaur cruise night Rt. 85 Chesterfield CT 1st Tues of every month April-Sept. Rain date 1st Thurs.
- SE CT Mustang club cruise 601 Rt. 32 Uncasville CT (the center of Montville) 5-8 P Sat. 5/16 and 3rd sat. of the month until Sept. www.facebook.com/SCMC1

Car Shows :

5/25 RI Street Rod show. Johnson memorial park, Johnson RI (Rt 6 off of Rt. 295) \$10 entry

5/30 Wheels of wonder, RICONN airfield, 2357 Plainfield Pike, Coventry RI \$10 entry + one food item

~~-Cancelled: Sun. Jue 7,2020 23rd British by the Sea Harkness Memorial State Park Waterford, CT 10a-4p~~

Is A Forum For You?

One of the most useful features of the AACA website is the forums. These are discussion groups that focus on a specific area of interest. They provide an opportunity for you to present questions and get answers from other automotive hobbyists from all over the globe. It is also your opportunity to offer advice and provide answers. Everyone in this club has intimate knowledge of at least one old car and as such qualifies as a valuable resource.

How do you participate? First you navigate to the AACA website and register. You will need to provide an email address and a password. Then you are free to check out and contribute to any forum that is of interest. Some representative forums are: [Forum Basics](#) (how to use a forum), [Meets and Tours](#), [Cars For Sale](#), [Parts For Sale](#), [AACA Library](#), [Technical](#), [Judging](#), [Junkyards](#), [Buick – Pre War – Technical](#), [Oldsmobile – General](#), [Chrysler Products – General](#), [Ford Model A](#), and many more. (Click on any of the blue hyperlinks to go right to the forum. You can view a forum without registering. You must register to comment.)

I subscribe to the Buick Pre-War Technical Forum. I have elected to get weekly updates on anything that is posted. You can get weekly or daily updates or none at all. The following is an example of what might be found in your email:

[Neil Morse is the owner of a 1941 Buick](#) and thus my interest in whatever he posts. Neil decided to create a topic all about the restoration work he does on his Buick. He frequently presents questions and hints. I and many other users subscribe to his topic and get regular updates. We also respond with our own comments. Click on the blue heading to this paragraph and you will get a taste of how dynamic a forum can be. If you are interested you can go to the [Forum Basics](#) page and get all the instructions you need to sign up.



Bill Buys a New Car

I received a very interesting email from Bill Ricker. As many of you know he has sold his 1948 Ford Deluxe Coupe and has been looking for another antique vehicle for some time. Well, he has succeeded. I'll let Bill tell you the story:

"Ken-

Just an FYI to tell you I sold our 1948 Ford Deluxe and bought a 1964 IH Scout 80. It has all the bells and whistles (of a 1964 Scout) including a kinda audible horn, lights, ww, ash tray, manpower steering and occasional defrost & heater. AC controlled by the roll down windows (2) and heat controlled by the roll up windows (same 2). Top speed on this 4-cyl baby appears to be 45 - 50 mph, but in low/low gear (4-wheel drive engaged hub) it can go 1/2 mph straight up a tree. Oh I almost forgot, she sports an outdoor mirror. The vibration makes it hard to see anything, but she looks good.

Oh, it's a pickup convertible as well. One only needs to take out 8 bolts (kinda hard to get at), disconnect the ww and have 2-3 men lift the solid top off. BUT, eat your heart out, once removed you can lower the windshield which attaches to the hood for top notch air conditioning. If it starts to rain, all you have to do is take out an optional umbrella or find a bridge. Plenty around. One convenience in the rain is the automatic windshield washer. The cab leaks a little but the factory installed holes in the floor board, and lack of any floor matting, makes this a minor inconvenience if in high heels.

All told, this 20 footer is a step up for us. Looks pretty darn good from 20'. It starts, runs, and is fun.

~Bill & Mary Ann

(NOTE: I requested that Bill send photos but he has not been able to do so as yet. Once this virus thing is over I am going to invite myself to check out the Scout first hand. I will bring a camera. The photo below is from an online ad. It is not Bill's car, as far as I know.)



Gerry is Selling his Riviera

I never thought it would happen but Gerry Lynn is selling his Buick Riviera to the highest bidder. He recently sent in the following email:

“On a lighter note, I am a registered bidder for the RM Sotheby's Palm Beach auction! It is now online bidding only from Fri. 3/20 to the next Fri. 3/27 with some lots closing between 3/25-27. I am trying to get a '67 Olds Toronado from the "Belle Mead" collection showing only 18K miles with working a/c. I'm hoping to get it for under \$20K. You can follow the auction progress on line if you want. Hey it was a toss-up between that or the Bugatti but I still need a roof over my head. . Thanks Gerry”



Judging by the dates Gerry may have a new car by now. Please excuse my keeping you in suspense. It has been very busy around here. More to follow next month.

The DeGoursey's Add On

No, it is not a new car. Here is the message I received:

“Last Saturday our new grandson was born, on my birthday of all days. Upon arrival he was not breathing so panic ensued. He spent a couple of days in ICU before being cleared to go home. He seems fine now, resting at home with mom, dad and the evil queen. Crazy times!”

Congratulations to Bob and Laura!

Our Sunshine Committee (Camille Carr) promptly sent Bob and Laura a card from our club. We can all use some good news!



Rhinebeck Retreats From Cornaviurs

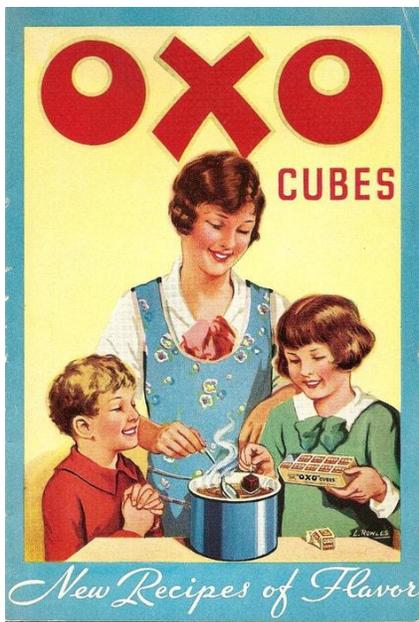
This Coronavirus struck at just the right time to cause the cancellation of the Rhinebeck Car Show. The April 30 – May 1 event will not happen this year. See their [website](#) for details.

AACA News and Updates

There are almost daily changes on the [AACA website](#). The offices are closed and many events have been cancelled or rescheduled. Please go directly to AACA for the most up to date information.

Refreshments for the April 28 Meeting (Unless it is cancelled and there is a very good chance of that happening):

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, at 7:00 PM. The lucky folks who have refreshments duty are: **Beth Lynn, John Leite, Kimberly Leite-Morris**



That's enough stuff for this issue.

Brought to you by:

Club Officers

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

