

# Classy Chassis

Volume 55

Westerly-Pawcatuck Region AACA

September, 2021



## Brookdale Senior Living

We had a really good showing of club members at Brookdale Senior Assisted Living in Westerly. You can see many of the attendees from our club in the banner photo above.

Many of the residents walked around and looked at our cars and talked with owners. One of the ladies who viewed the rolling relics was 102 years old and she had no problem talking about cars as she rolled along with her walker and attending care giver.



The most often-heard comment from our members was an enthusiastic endorsement of the food supplied by the staff. We had

hamburgers, hot dogs, cookies, chips, popcorn, and a selection of drinks. We were treated well. It was nice to see our members participating in this event which is a fun way of supporting the older residents of our community.



## Voluntown Cruise To Survive

The annual Voluntown event was once again a very successful show and fund raiser. Charlie Nash has been recommending this venue for years and 2021 had record attendance by the general public and WPRAACA members alike.

We received several photo submissions and they are all available for viewing on our website. Thank you to Charlie Nash, Margaret Moone, and Steve Tedino! Steve even took a video that showed the expanse of the show field. Watch it from our web home page or [click here](#).



**Relaxing Voluntown Style**

## **Annual Calabrese Picnic**

The Calabrese Picnic hosted by Pat and Dave Calabrese went off without a hitch. We had old cars parked all over the place and many of the cars were ones that few members had seen before. There was a large showing of new and old members who obviously were attracted by the scent of grilled hamburgers, steaming corn on the cob, and luscious roast pork.

Pat and Dave provided us with plenty of tables, chairs and a nice tent (was that Sonny's tent?). A host of over 60 photos are posted [on our website](#). If you attended you may have had your picture taken. Thank you Pat and Dave Calabrese for being such great hosts!



**Parking on the Lawn**



## 1910 Orient Restoration Progress ... George King III

When we moved into the new house, I had about eight weeks left before Hershey. Below is the engine and transmission in the car. One of the big problems at this point is figuring out how to control the operation of the transmission.

Many of these parts are missing. The fact that the engine and transmission was out of the car when I bought it did not provide any linkage ideas.

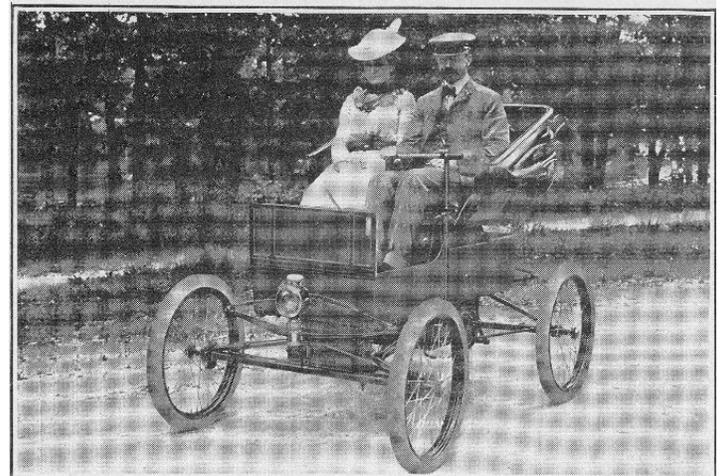


For the past several months, I have worked with members of the Orient Crew to figure out how this worked. We have not arrived at documented attachment. On August 1, I changed my course and focused on what will work well and with a 1901 look. Below is a view of the brake as seen from the center of the car looking back. I found that I had all of the parts that were necessary for this part. The brown part, near the top toward the right of the image, is the rod that is connected to the floor pedal in

the floor in front of the driver.



The next task was to figure out how to control the clutch. This has been a tough one. There is only one photo of a 1901 car. On this vehicle, being driven by Albert Champion, there is a forward and reverse control attached to the top of the steering column. In this photo, you can see the control lever for the transmission with the handle facing Champion's chest.



OUR LAST WATER-COOLED CAR, 1901

I found a photo of a 1902 Orient runabout where you can see the curved control outside of the car to the left of the driver. There is a nickel plated square that protects the entrance of the shaft through the body.

Now, just to make my car even more fun, the fact is that the lever cannot go on top of the steering column because there is a cap on it at the top and bottom. It also, cannot be on the side of the car because there is no hole in the body. So here is what we are going to do.



The lever that I have in my hand is a part that came with the car. It is quite a bit smaller than the lever used in 1902. I am working on a location that keeps the original steering column and body. I have extended the shaft for the rod to the sill of the car. The left can be supported by a connector that is shown as wood in this photo.

The next step will be to install two eye pieces in the brown shaft between the lever and the wooden piece. A small diameter rod will run from the eye pieces to the two bands over the transmission drums. One eye will be above the shaft and one will be below it. When the lever is moved forward the top eye will move forward on the shaft and pull one band tighter on the drum. When the lever is moved backward it will tighten the other band. The next invention will

be the clutch control but more on that later.



**Orient with engine & body installed**

When the storm hit, it was mostly over by the afternoon. I went down to the shop and took a big step. We had everyone home due to the storm so I had them lift up the body and put it on the car. This was the first time I saw my Orient with an engine in it. Since then, I have worked on the levers for the throttle and spark rods. Next, I ordered four modern sealed lead acid batteries to install in my faux dry cell box.



These are six volts and will be wired in parallel. This should allow me to run the car for one day.

The last thing I worked on this past week is the new gas tank for the car. I removed the modern fill cap and replaced it with one made of  $\frac{3}{4}$ " pipe. This will have a brass cap on it . . . at least to start with.

## 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

## **Meetings:**

**Executive Meeting, Wednesday, September 22, 6:30 PM, Westerly Burger King on Franklin St.**

**Club Meeting, Tuesday, September 28, 6:00 PM, Westerly Senior Center: Pot Luck Night**

**Remember, the next meeting is a Pot Luck Night at 6:00 PM**

**Pot Luck suggestions on website: [pot luck](#)**

