

CARS I REMEMBER



BY FRED NICHOLLS

In the late forties and early fifties, there were no Pizza Hut's, Wendy's or Bruister's, but we enjoyed the following places. Our studies took up most of the evenings, but Occasionally i would take a break and stop for a Coke at Felders, there was always someone you knew. The weekends were different. We would meet at Felders on a Friday evening, and usually headed to the "Everglades" which was located on Route 30, where a Pizza Hut was built, across from Lakeview Lounge. Located in a valley with Route 30 going both ways uphill, it was the ideal spot for some drag racing. Can you imagine that now? A young fellow from Jeannette had the first Olds Rocket 88 tudor, and was unbeatable until some fellow showed up with a Hudson Hornet and dusted him off.

At this time seat covers that looked like Zebra, Leopard and Tiger hides were in style and he had a set of Zebra on his Olds. Coming up Lowry Avenue to Route 30, we might turn West a short distance on Route 30 to "Gene's Musical Bar" and listen to what ever Combo was playing. Saturday evening if the weather was pleasant we would drop the top and head to Ligonier Valley Beach. In summer this was a great place, where they had an outdoor dance floor. It was popular place where girls vacationing in the valley always stop in.

We also might enjoy the Beach on a Sunday afternoon. The pool at Idlewild Park was a no no for fellows, as they required men to wear a top. Once was enough. Sunday was usually a lazy day, if there was a good movie in Greensburg, we might attend and then head to the "Blue Room" in Claridge. It was a private club, but very popular with the young set over 21, and you always had a friend inside who got you in. If we had a date we wanted to impress, we drove to the "Twin Coaches" on Route 51, or to the "Vogue Terrace" near McKeesport.

The best barbeque was at "Docs" at foot of Tollgate Hill, west of Greensburg, or West on Rt 30 to Irwin to "Serro's Diner" We enjoyed ourselves, had a good time and realized that school would soon be over and we would enter the real world "JOBS". 🍷

WRECKS OF THE PAST



SUBMITTED GARY COOPER

The picture was taken in front of my body shop during the winter of 1959. The three wrecks I towed in one morning due to ice. Two of the cars were hit head-on. I'm not sure which two. From left to right are a 1947 Plymouth Club Coupe with a visor, 1957 Chevrolet two-door and a 1955 Plymouth four-door.

I repaired the Chevy and the 55' Plymouth. The 47' Plymouth was totaled "too old."

They would be nice cars today. The wrecker I used to tow these cars was an antique 1936 Dodge with a hand-crank. Two years later I moved into a new building next door.

Lots of good wrecks to follow – next month...

