THE WESTERN ROUND-UP

June 2020

Promoting the Preservation & Enjoyment of Antique Automobiles Since 1950.





2020 Western PA Region AACA Directors

Bob Doppelheuer, *President* 405 Overholt Drive, Scottdale, PA 15683 724-366-5930

Craig DeFloria, Vice President 164 Millersdale Road, Greensburg, PA 15601 412-558-3100

Mark Jackson, *Treasurer* 133 Alexander Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601 724-832-9074 Mark DeFloria, Secretary 123 Fosterville Road, Greensburg, PA 15601 724-836-7414

John Kuhns, Sr., *Publicity* 2339 Raymond Avenue, Latrobe, PA 15650 work: 724-539-7574 home: 724-539-0889

John Ross Kuhns, *Safety* 2552 Raymond Avenue, Latrobe, PA 15650 412-558-0994

Membership Information

Do you like old cars? We at the Western PA Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America are excited to share our fun and exciting activities, events and resources.

You don't have to own an antique automobile to become a member, However, you must first join our national club, The Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) before joining our Region. For national membership information and to join online visit: <u>www.aaca.org</u> AACA is the largest and oldest antique automobile club in the world and offers a wide variety of resources, and activities. All national members also receive the beautiful *Antique Automobile Magazine.*

For a Western PA Region AACA new membership application visit: <u>http://westernparegion.org/membership/</u>wpr_application.html New members must attend a Western PA Region monthly meeting to be voted in and welcomed. Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month except December and January. We are a Latrobe-based club.

Upon receipt of your membership application, our Membership Chairman will contact you to schedule a convenient monthly meeting for you to attend. Our monthly meetings take place at several venues in the Latrobe and Greensburg, PA area.

To learn more about our club and activities visit our website: www.westenparegion.org

Please also feel free to contact any of the directors above with questions about memberships.



"Going green!" - Denny and Becky Blank's 2000 Chevy Monte Carlo SS Pace Car and Charlie and Connie Schifano's 1950 Chevy Pick Up on display at the recently revived King's Restaurant Cruise, Route 30 West, Greensburg on Monday, June 15, 2020. Patrons could enjoy limited seating in the restaurant. Take out was also available.

From the Directors - Important 2020 Updates

Greetings from the Directors of the Western PA Region! We hope our Region members are doing well during this "strange and unusual time."

The Directors discussed and voted on the following during the 6/12/20 Director's meeting. The discussion was on how to try proceed with our activities in a responsible way keeping with the current and future CDC guidelines.

Here's where we are as of right now. As usual, some items may change.

- The June 16th General Meeting is canceled.
- The July 21st General Meeting is moved to July 26th at 11:30 a.m. at the Cooperstown Club Pavilion, Latrobe (prior to the start of our annual picnic).
- The July 26th Picnic is ON! Annual Picnic Sunday, July 26th at 1:00 p.m. at the Cooperstown Club Pavilion, Latrobe.
 - The cost of the picnic will remain \$15/member.
 - Members will be asked to follow the CDC recommendations for our area at the time of the picnic.
 - All food, desserts and drink will be provided by the Region. Do not bring desserts this year.
 - We are looking into having food buffet style but served to the members trying to limit contact.

- If you want or need specific items, members should bring them for themselves, but not to share. More information and reservation form will follow.

- The hoped-for Progressive dinner tour is canceled for this year.
- We are looking into having a driving tour in August. Perhaps with bag lunches and limited stops.
- Annual Car Show Sunday, September 6th, Western PA Region AACA, Paul P. Bell Memorial Antique Auto, Custom and Street Rod Show at Legion Keener Park, Latrobe.
 The Directors regret that it does not seem possible (Region liability, restroom cleaning, money handling, social distancing etc.) for the Region to plan and have the car show as we have come to expect and love. Sponsors who have sent in checks etc. will be asked to choose to have their sponsor money refunded or rolled over until next year's show.

Current plans are to have the a "Cruise thru Show" (name may change) on the day of the show, where the participants will drive around the loop at Legion Keener Park, receive a flyer telling about the Western PA Region, AACA and receive a "special" dash plaque and drive on..... No organized parking etc.

• We are now looking for a chance car for a October 2021 Western PA Region, AACA Chance Car giveaway date.

Hope to see all of you at the July 26th monthly meeting (11:30 a.m.) and Annual Picnic (1:00 p.m.) that follows!

Mark DeFloria Secretary/Web Editor Western PA Region, AACA

From the Editor

The Western PA Region began 2020 at our Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner in January with high hopes. We had a good February monthly meeting too. Exciting plans were beginning to take shape, then wham! As we had to cancel our monthly meetings and events, we were not alone. Other countless organizations and businesses were doing the same in the interest of keeping people as safe as possible from the COVID-19 virus.

This has been like nothing any of us have ever experienced before. Although news can be very confusing at times, one thing is for certain - life is not moving at a normal pace. The best comparison I've heard is that this has been like an "ice age". Things have had to slow down, and in many cases freeze. Hopefully, Westmoreland County's entrance into the virus precaution "green stage" will start and continue a warming thaw.

Needless to say, without our regular Western PA Region activities it has become challenging to populate *The Western Round-Up* newsletter with interesting content. Several members have stepped up and regularly contributed stories and photos to the *Round-Up* over the last few months. Their efforts are sincerely appreciated. Guy Davis has written several entertaining and informative "The Road Less Traveled By" articles, along with great photos taken by his son Ben. Cris and Molly Detwiler have also sent articles and photos, as have Dave and Debbie Sheetz. President Bob Doppelheuer's Messages are always encouraging us to look forward to better times. Secretary/Web Master Mark DeFloria has also done an excellent job keeping everyone informed of developments via email and even personal phone calls.

I encourage all members to submit photos or articles for the *Round-Up* as the old car season progresses. If you go to a cruise take a "selfie" or group shot on your phone and email it to jacksonmark469@gmail.com or text it to 724-961-3563. Perhaps send a photo of you working on, or detailing your antique car, or going anywhere with your car from a little road trip to visiting family and friends.

Submit any news, calendar items or articles to the same email and text number above. You can also submit articles the old fashioned way. Type or hand write them out on paper and U.S. Mail them to: Mark Jackson, 133 Alexander Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601.

As has become our new way of wishing each other well - please "stay safe and healthy!"

Sincerely, Mark Jackson, Editor



Legislative Update



Kelly Adams VP Legislation



hope this message finds you all safe and well during this unprecedented time in the history of our planet. I hope some of you have been able to work on and/ or complete some of your projects! I, personally have not been able to work on my 1934 Ford for a couple of reasons; 1) I have had a modern 2007 VW GTI in my garage working on many things. I finally pulled it out yesterday and drove it for the first time in 3 months! 2) My 1934 Ford is at my Mom's house and to keep her safe, I have not been able to visit her.

Canceling many of our Nationals as well as many local shows has been the norm as of late. I do hope that we can

get together soon and enjoy this hobby that we all love. I do sincerely hope that our Nationals starting with the rescheduled Charlotte Auto Fair will be the beginning of a return to normalcy.

On the legislative front I have been in touch with Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) and they really have their "finger on the pulse" of legislation in the houses and senates of each state and the nation. I hope to soon be able to pinpoint and point out relevant bills that may affect our hobby both positively and negatively. It is important to keep informed and write letters or emails to our elected officials especially when legislation could negatively affect our hobby. If any of you know of any specific bills being looked at or recently passed that effect our hobby, please send an email to fordgal34@gmail.com.

In closing I hope you all are staying safe and I hope that this reminds us all to be more conscientious of covering our coughs and sneezes from here on out! LOL! I pray our world also becomes a bit more patient and kind towards one another.

-- The Rummage Box

Spring Opportunities for My Nashes

s many of you know, we are all looking for ways to get out and drive our antique or classic car during this pandemic, so I've decided to make use of the opportunity to drive my 1948 Nash Super 600 or my 1946 Nash Ambassador instead of my everyday driver. As an example, my mother is eligible for Meals on Wheels. However, she resides just outside the delivery area, so I have to pick up her meal at the Meals on Wheels site. I thought it would be fun to take her in my Nash since she learned to drive in this car. At least once a week, we took the car and it brought smiles to the volunteers at Meals on Wheels. My mother enjoyed the rides in the Nash because this was the car that she learned to drive in and brought back memories to her. We made a magnetic sign that I place on the door that reads 'Meals on My Wheels'. It was a big hit with the volunteers.

Our son was scheduled to graduate high school on May 28th, but with COVID-19 restrictions, his high school decided to honor the students with a "Senior drive" to the students' elementary and middle schools, ending at the high school. Since the high school prom was canceled, and the commencement ceremony was in doubt, the high school wanted to recognize those students who might not have the opportunity to say goodbye and to 'thank' their teachers before heading off to college. It was the perfect opportunity to show the car that had been in the family since 1950. In 1957, as a high school senior, my mother, drove the car to the high school. When I was a senior in 1981, I had driven the car to same high school. Now that my son is a senior we were able to drive the car for his "Senior drive." So for three generations, we have driven this car to the same high school.

Sincerely, Cris and Molly Detwiler







Our 1948 Nash has been in the family since 1950. My mother learned to drive in this car, and drove it to high school her senior year in 1957.



Our 1948 Nash Super 600 departs the high school grounds.



Our 2020 high school graduate enjoys his "Senior drive" continuing our family's senior high Nash legacy.

The Road Less Traveled By

by Guy Davis



"Maz gets the big hit" by Robert Riger - Tri-state area Ford dealers 1960 Baseball Portfolio tribute to the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates

very spring, for the past 144 consecutive years, baseball fans have turned their attention to the beginning of the Major League baseball season and opening day ceremonies. It is a time-honored tradition that has become such a part of the fabric of our national identity that spring time and baseball almost seem synonymous. The devastation caused by the Spanish Influenza of 1918, the participation of America in two world wars, and the strike shortened season of 1994 would not be enough to stop the arrival of spring nor the beginning of the baseball season. Today, however, in this spring of 2020, the bats remain in their racks, the buckets of baseballs are untouched, and the gloves line the shelf above the dugout seats. No one roams the fields of green and the stands remain eerily empty. A tradition that once stood the test of time has come to a frightening halt by a metabolically, inert, infectious agent.

Perhaps during this trying time, we can find some solace by searching the recesses of one's mind and bring to its forefront some of the more pleasant baseball memories. One such memory might be the 1960 Major League baseball season in which our beloved Pittsburgh Pirates captured the National League pennant. It is now the 60th anniversary of that momentous event. Shortly after winning the pennant, the Pirates met the American League champion New York Yankees in the World Series. The series would go the full seven games with the heavily favored Yankees outscoring our Buccos 46 to 17 through the first six games. Fortunately, the Pirates were able to win the close contests and both teams entered the final and deciding seventh game with three victories apiece. Entering the bottom of the last inning in that final game with the score tied at 9, Pittsburgh's second baseman Bill Mazeroski stepped to the plate. With the count of one ball and no strikes, Maz swung at the next pitch and sent it over the head of left fielder Yogi Berra who turned around to watch the ball clear the ivy covered outfield wall of Forbes Field and disappear into eternity. Many baseball historians regard Maz's homerun as the most memorable moment in World Series history.

In celebration of the Pirates triumph over the Yankees in that historic series, the Ford dealers of the tri-state area published a baseball portfolio as a tribute to the World Champion Pirates and to their many thousands of devoted fans who waited 35 years for the Buccos to bring home the third championship in their long, colorful history. The portfolio contained drawings of six members from that



STAR PERFORMERS OF THE NEW-CAR LEAGUE

Ford's All-Star Line-up for 1961



Rockie-of-the-year in 1960, Falcon is now a proven veteran. A Falcon with standard transmission, driven by an expert, averaged 32.6 miles per gallon under the cross-country test conditions of this year's Mobilgas Economy Run! Falcon now comes in a sporty new model - the Futura. It has bucket seats, console glove compartment and other luxury touches that make it a compact cousin of the Thunderbird!









Most-valuable-performer for style, comfort, power, luxury. Beautifully built to take care of itself, the classic Galaxie is equally handsome inside and out. You get luxury carpeting, rich seat fabrics, back-up lights, electric clock and many other deluxe features as standard equipment on the Galaxie that are extracost options on more expensive cars!



America's all-time favorite convertible, the Sunliner has the lines, the spirit and the elegance of the Classic Ford Look-with the top up or down. For performance, you can have it as lively as you like ... Choose from Ford's four great engines. This is a car for sports lovers who like to follow their fun in style and comfort!



COUNTRY SQUIRE

You can take the whole team out to the old ball game in the 9-passenger Country Squire-undisputed leader of the Station Wagon League. Like all Ford wagons, Country Squires aren't built for beauty alone. They're built for people-with big, wide doors ... wide, deep, cushioned-comfort seats ... forward-facing third seat. They're built for work, too-they convert to 931/2 cubic feet of cargo space in seconds!



In a league by itself, Thunderbird for '61 belongs in a Hall-of-Fame of distinctive, luxury cars. This is the magic car that flattens hills, straightens curves, makes rutted old roads feel like smooth new highways. The new 390 Special V-8 engine, automatic transmission, power brakes and power steering are all standard equipment-of course. This is the 4-passenger luxury car with sports car personality. It is unique in all the world.

See these All-Star Cars in action at your Ford Dealer's. Ford Motor Company

Promotion from the Tri-state area Ford dealers 1960 Baseball Portfolio tribute to the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates

The Road Less Traveled By - continued from page 6



Rain check for the game in which the Pittsburgh Pirates clinched the 1960 Baseball World Series

1960 team (i.e., pitchers Bob Friend and Vernon Law; shortstop Dick Groat; second baseman Bill Mazeroski; third baseman Don Hoak; and rightfielder Roberto Clemente). On the back cover of the portfolio were illustrations of six of Ford's 1961 line-up (e.g.; Falcon Futura; Sunliner; Failane; Country Squire; Galaxie; and Thunderbird). The descriptions of the new Fords utilized baseball terminologies such as "Rookie of the Year" for the Falcon Futura, "Most Valuable Performer" for the



"Hoak handles a hot shot at third" by Robert Riger - Tri-state area Ford dealers 1960 Baseball Portfolio tribute to the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates



"Bob Friend comes in with the fast one" by Robert Riger - Tri-state area Ford dealers 1960 Baseball Portfolio tribute to the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates

Galaxie, and "Hall of Famer" for the Thunderbird. It was a clever marketing tool utilized by the local Ford dealers to cash in on the euphoria surrounding the World Champion Pirates.

Even though the 2020 baseball season has been put on hold, the season of spring has enveloped us, and we can still dream of climbing into the Country Squire with family and friends and drive on that road less traveled by to the Oakland neighborhood of the Smoky City. We can park outside old Forbes Field, walk through the turnstile while the attendant tears our ticket in half and hands us back the rain check, find our section, tip the usher a dollar, then bask in the sunshine as we sit in the wooden field box seats. As the aroma of popcorn, hotdogs, and cigars fill our nostrils, we can anxiously check the scoreboard under the large Longines clock in left field as both the Yankees and Pirates exchange leads throughout the game. It's the ninth, we're on the edge of our seats, our hearts pounding, our throats hoarse from cheering, and our hands squeezed in prayer. We see Maz take a mighty swing; hear the crack of the bat, and watch, in disbelief, as the ball soars over the wall. It will be a memory that remains forever embedded in our hearts and in our minds and can be relived, and cherished and enjoyed even in these uncertain times.



"Clemente lines one over second" by Robert Riger - Tri-state area Ford dealers 1960 Baseball Portfolio tribute to the World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates

When I was Your Age...





Wayne Tuck Executive Vice President

ost of you have heard this. Remember how our parents would start a conversation with that phrase? Being one of the "Baby Boomer" generation and hearing this from our parents was frustrating. We would make fun of it (always behind their backs) with comments like "When I was your age I walked three miles to school bare footed, in the snow, uphill both ways!" As it turns out, they probably were a lot closer to the truth than we realized. The "greatest generation" grew up as children during the Great Depression, suffered great hardships and upon reaching adulthood were immediately thrust into WW II.

By now you must be asking yourself "What does this have to do with the old car hobby or AACA?". The answer is "a lot". The post-war era for the automobile industry was exciting. The new offerings and innovations the manufacturers presented year after year were now available and affordable for the average family. Many of the veterans had never dreamed of being able to own a car during their childhood. For those that couldn't afford a new car, the pre-war cars were plentiful and available at bargain prices.

Now I have come to realize the harsh reality that I have turned into my father. Compared to our children and grandchildren, we had a tough life. We had air raid drills in grammar school. We were threatened with the fear of nuclear annihilation during the cold war. Then it was being thrust into the Vietnam War. Again, what does that have to do with the old car hobby? I think it was a lot. Those great 1950's cars were affordable and plentiful for us during our teen years in the 1960s. Then came the muscle car era. Many veterans returning to civilian life bought a new muscle car to celebrate their new found freedom. Now those cars seem to be reaching their peak in the collector car hobby.

Just the other day I caught myself starting to tell my grandson "When I was your age I didn't have a car with air conditioning, power windows, automatic transmission, power steering and brakes". Suddenly I realize that I have come full circle. My children and grandchildren have faced challenges. Maybe their challenges have been different than those faced by previous generations, but that doesn't make them any less difficult. I hope that some day my grandson will pull his 2011 car out of the garage and tell his son, "When I was your age our cars ran on gasoline. Want to take a ride with me to our region AACA meeting to learn more about them? Here, I'll let you drive"

PHOTO FLASHBACK - from a collection provided by Al Wirick

Editor's Note: A few years before his passing, long time Western PA Region member Al Wirick gave me a shoebox of old photos which he thought our members might enjoy seeing someday. 2020 marks our Region's 70th Anniversary and is the perfect time to share some of these historic images. Watch for more in future 2020 issues of The Western Round-Up.

Remembering the Western PA Region's Car Shows at Greengate Mall



Greengate Mall's two floors are visible from the open court area where many cars were shown.





A 1954 Kaiser Manhattan on display

A nice 1957 Chevy Pickup at the open court area



A 1968 Mercury Monterey in another part of **Greengate Mall**

Greengate Mall, once located west of Greensburg along Route 30, was the first enclosed shopping mall in central Westmoreland County. It was developed in 1965 and featured anchor stores like Horne's, Montgomery Ward and J.C. Penney, along with specialty retailers like Radio Shack, KB Tovs. Waldenbooks and National Record Mart.

Greengate Mall was the source of many pleasant memories for local residents and visitors. Special shows and attractions would come and go in the open court area and throughout the mall. These included everything from and a special trout fishing tank to traditional holiday displays complete with kiddie train rides.

One event many looked forward to was the Western PA Region's Greengate Mall Antique Car Show. The Mall entrance marquee would post the dates of the show so that all driving Route 30 could see. Over the years, thousands enjoyed walking the mall, shopping and seeing the beautiful antique cars and trucks during the shows.

As the area retail situation changed in the mid-to-late 1990s Greengate's popularity declined. It was finally sold in 2003 and demolished to make way for Greengate Center, which opened in 2005.

Reference source - Wikipedia



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Name That Car

by Mark Jackson

May's Car



Denny and Becky Blank were the first to correctly identify May's car as a 1959 Buick Station Wagon. Ron Underwood also correctly identified the car, as did Gary Wiegand.

In my opinion, 1959 was the bang-up design finale for '50s automobiles. Just think of the 1959 Cadillac's magnificent vertical tail fins, and then the sweeping horizontal fins and body lines gracing GM's 1959 Chevrolet, Pontiac, Oldsmobile and Buick. Of them, the '59 Buick had the most "aggressive" looking front end. The rows of little chrome teeth in its grill are almost shark-like, and its "eyebrows" are arched down over the headlights as if to say, "Get out of my way!"

My son Regis and I saw this Buick Station Wagon at Das Awkscht Fescht in Macungie, PA several years ago. He had never seen anything like it and was supremely impressed.

The love of a good station wagon runs in my family. My dad always evaluated a station wagon on the ability to fit a 4 x 8 sheet of plywood in it with the back seat folded down. This Buick wagon would easily meet that criteria. My wife Jill came from a big family. There were six kids, so a large station wagon was imperative when she was growing up. She remembers her family taking two cars



to the drive-in movies and parking them side by side. The kids would make themselves comfortable in the station wagon, while mom and dad sat in the car next door with watchful eyes. To this day Jill still likes seeing a big old station wagon on the road and at car shows.

June's Car



June's car is certainly unique and ready for summer fun. It had some interesting features as well. Be the first to contact me with correct make and year of this sports car and win a \$10 Wendy's gift card. Call 724-832-9074 and leave a message or email jacksonmark469@gmail.com.

THE WESTERN ROUND-UP

The Western Round-Up is the official publication of the Western Pennsylvania Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. It is published on a monthly basis with January/February being a combined issue.

Each issue is also posted on the Region's website: www.westernparegion.org. Members may choose to receive this newsletter by email or a mailed hard copy at an additional cost.

Submission deadlines are the first day of each month for possible publication in that month's edition.

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> Mark Jackson, Editor 133 Alexander Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601 Phone and FAX: 724-832-9074 email: jacksonmark469@gmail.com

Special thanks to Guy Davis, Mark DeFloria and Cris and Molly Detwiler whose time and talent helped produce this issue.



Western Pennsylvania Region Antique Automobile Club of America P.O. Box 882 Latrobe, PA 15650





Advertisement for the 1949 Kaiser Traveler