

Vol. 24, No. 5

Ragtops &

Rumbleseats

May 2017



• 11th Annual Spring Dust-Off Recap

"THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO A LADY!"

"If a woman wants a kiss . . . she wants a kiss, not a blue-print! What I'm getting at is that you automobile people don't seem to understand women. We want results, not diagrams . . . facts, not names!

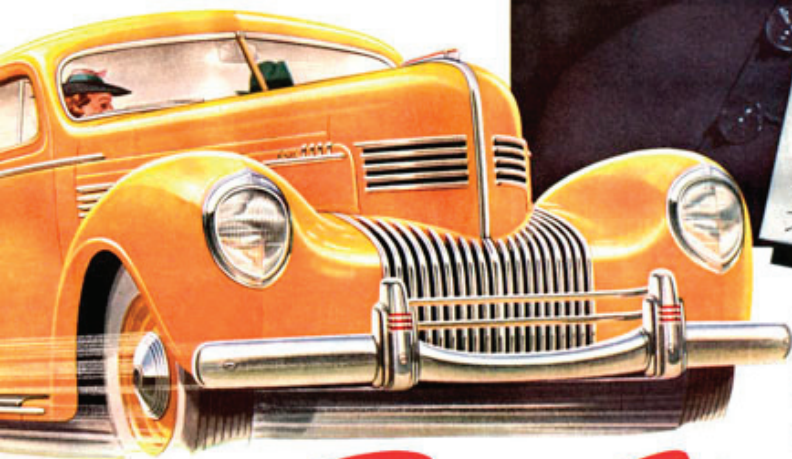
"Why should we try to understand Chrysler Floating Power, when what we are really interested in is the velvety smoothness it gives a Chrysler engine? Why tell us a Chrysler has 100- or 135-horsepower? What thrills us is the way it scampers up the hills and away from traffic.

"Why talk to us of dynamic symmetry, when a glance at this lovely Chrysler tells us that it is thoroughly beautiful and completely modern?

"And as for describing 'luxurious interiors' . . . any woman can run her hand over a Chrysler upholstery fabric and know more about its quality than a page full of print would tell her!

"Personally, I couldn't possibly understand how Chrysler's steering wheel gear-shift, or steering gear, or hydraulic brakes are designed . . . but I know, because I can *feel*, that Chrysler has the easiest known method for shifting gears and parking and stopping a car! And, without a tape measure, I know that its windows are bigger and its interior roomier.

"However, I'll admit . . . you Chrysler engineers are wonderful! You may not know how to talk to women . . . but you know how to give us what we want. That's the real reason why women are crazy about Chryslers!"



1939 CHRYSLER ROYAL . . . 100 horsepower, 119-inch wheelbase.
1939 CHRYSLER IMPERIAL . . . 135 horsepower, 125-inch wheelbase.
Also Chrysler's famous Custom Imperial in five and seven passenger sedans and limousines . . . with Chrysler's amazing new transmission advancement, the Fluid Drive.
* TUNE IN ON MAJOR BOWERS, COLUMBIA NETWORK, EVERY THURSDAY, 9 TO 10 P. M., E. S. T.

BE MODERN

Buy Chrysler!

Vintage Advertising

Relax. She's not angry at you because you're vulgar. She's miffed that Chrysler's engineers are trying to sell her features like Floating Power when she wants to hear about benefits like the velvety smoothness of their engines. Horsepower ratings? Nope, just sell her the thrill of the way this car scampers away from traffic.

Customers of all kinds will always focus on the benefits of a feature, not the feature itself. That holds true today.

This 1939 ad mentions a lineup that includes the Royal, the Imperial, and the Custom Imperial, featuring the "amazing new transmission advancement, the Fluid Drive". I'm sorry dear, but what's its benefit?

In This Issue

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Raffle car makes it debut on a chilly day.

Farewell to a long-time resident of the SIRAACA Garage.

Upcoming events to fill your weekends.

Trivia Question: Although the racing arm of this storied brand was founded in 1929, it did not produce its first branded auto until 1947. Name the brand.

Answer: Ferrari. Scuderia Ferrari was fielding Grand Prix cars for then-dominant Alfa Romeo before making their own cars after WWII.

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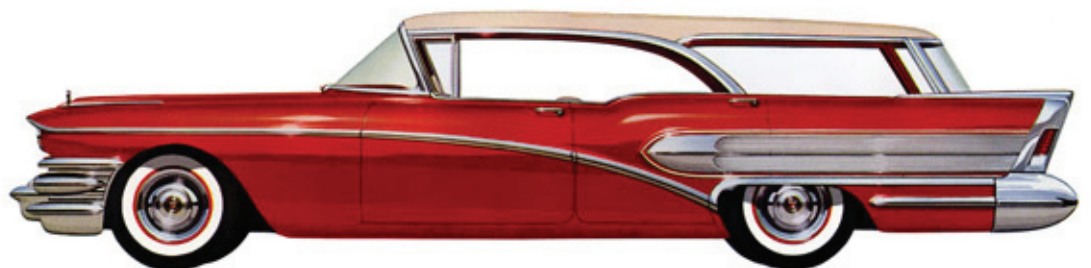
Minutes of the 503rd Meeting

April 4, 2017

1. The 503rd meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:20 pm by President Paul Jr. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a moment of silence before the minutes of the 502nd meeting were accepted as read.
2. The club welcomed guest Frank Saulle of Historic Richmond Town, who spoke about their upcoming BBQ and Chili Cook-Off, on April 8 and April 22. Volunteers are needed to help with their admission gates, and we are welcome to bring our raffle car to each event. A sign-up sheet was circulated among the members.
3. The raffle car now sports a pair of black racing stripes down its hood, and will have the small tear in its driver's seat repaired next.
4. We are booked to have the raffle car at Spring Englishtown. Volunteers are needed Friday through Sunday, April 28-30.
5. The Spring Dust-Off is all set for April 23. Members should be on site at 6:30 am. Please wear your Show Staff shirts if you have them. Work assignments will be shared that morning.
6. A Best Cadillac trophy in memory of Fred DiGiovanni has been added to the awards given out at the Spring Dust-Off.
7. Ed Vomero and Don Bosco reported on their trip to the Amelia Island Concours. Expensive, but fun!
8. Doc Corpus' national award winning 1958 Impala has gone to a new AACA member's home in Tennessee.
9. Phil Boffa gave a treasury report, with all in order.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm. The 50/50 collected \$34, with Jonathan Schulman winning \$17.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



284 Vehicles Attend 11th Annual Spring Dust-Off

The threat of rain that lingered all week ahead of April 23 was gone in time to go full speed ahead with our 11th Annual Spring Dust-Off. In fact, the sunny skies that day exceeded everyone's expectations, making for perfect weather to kick off our car show season. A total of 284 vehicles were on hand at The Commons Cafe, and 22 special awards were handed out to deserving winners. As usual, full point judging will return for the fall show in September.

Your 2017 winners include:

Best in Show, Stock - Joe Michelli, 1975 Cougar. **Best in Show, Modified** - Joe Goodwin, 1995 Chevrolet pickup truck. **Best GM** - Joe Teranova, 1970 Olds 442 W-30. **Best Ford** - Dom Petruzelli, 1930 Model A. **Best Mopar** - Henry Walburger, 1968 Dodge Coronet R/T. **Best Cadillac** - John Richichi, 1970 Eldorado (top photo). **Best Corvette** - Joe Marchese, 1975 Stingray. **Best Foreign Car** - Dmitri Shvetsov, 1957 GAZ Volga. **Oldest Car** - Joe Clark, 1926 Ford.

Decade Awards were also presented to the following owners and their vehicles:

David Sylvester, 1926 Ford Model T; Frank Barnard, 1930 Ford Model A; David Girshman, 1936 Packard Junior Sedan; Lou Dujmich, 1949 Chevrolet convertible; George Jensen, 1954 Mercury Montclair; Lou Torino, 1964 Willys pickup; Mike Zito, 1967 Pontiac GTO; Andrew Russo, 1973 Cadillac Coupe deVille; Fred DiAngelis, 1979 Oldsmobile 98 Hess & Eisenhardt convertible; Joe Gentile, 1984 Cadillac Eldorado; Anthony Monaco, 1998 Cadillac Eldorado; Lenny Reina, 2006 Saleen Mustang; and Paul Giovannini, 2014 Chevrolet Corvette.

Low mileage originals and other unique stories ruled the winner's parade. The 1975 Cougar has around 1,700 original miles, and the windows have never been rolled down. The 1970 Eldorado is an 8,000 mile original car. Frank Barnard's 1930 Model A (center photo) was found right here in Staten Island, an original Dongan Hills car, last registered in 1957.



One car, representing two decades, nearly fifty years apart. (Top and center photos by Sandy Arena; bottom photo by Paul Jr.)

From the President

Thanks to all of our members who helped us make our 11th Annual Spring Dust-Off a success. I look forward to our May meeting to hear the official results from Phil Boffa, but early indications are that we had a very strong showing.

Thanks also to those members who pitched in last weekend to man the raffle tables at Spring Englishtown. I was surprised at what appeared to be a significant downturn in the event this year. I was there on Sunday, when we usually take in over \$700. We didn't break \$300. Full figures for the weekend will be revealed at the May meeting. Theories are welcome.

Like any other business, we'll plan to make up for lost sales both in the short term (we'll be returning to EZ Pass weekly beginning shortly) as well as the long term. To that end, what other events can we be a part of, like Classic Car Day at the Staten Island Yankees in June? We are open to any and all suggestions, and hope our members will make big strides with their personal sales efforts, too. Tickets and photos will be available to members at the May meeting. This month's cover does a good job for you as well.

I am really excited about something in the works with Historic Richmond Town. Be sure to attend the May meeting to hear what we are planning and what the next steps will be.

- Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - May 2

Our May meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00 PM at The Staff House at Sea View Hospital and Home, located at 460 Brielle Avenue. As usual, each member is asked to contribute \$3.00 for coffee and donuts.

Raffle Car Debuts at Chili Cook-Off



Far from convertible weather at the Chili Cook-Off (photo by Paul Jr.)

Our 1996 Camaro convertible was ready for its debut a day ahead of our Spring Dust-Off, appearing at Historic Richmond Town's Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, April 22. It's appearance coincided with afternoon showers that dampened the crowd that still wanted its fair share of chili. Thankfully, the good folks at Richmond Town had a spare tent available to protect those who wished to take a chance on winning the car in September. Despite the rain, the car took in \$120. Members on hand to help at the Cook-Off included Paul Arena and Paul Jr., Mike Signorile, Mike DiPilato, and Bob Columbia. Members Don Bosco and Ed Vomero, also Board Members at Richmond Town, were on hand. Pitching in as well was Paul Jr.'s son, Vincent. Look for exciting news about Richmond Town at the next meeting.

Leaving the SIRAACA Garage

Here's a last look (or for some of you, a first look) at Doc Corpus' 1958 Chevrolet Impala coupe. Doc's car has travelled to a new garage down in Tennessee, where another AACA member will hopefully enjoy it half as much as Doc had.

Doc's car was honored with top awards wherever it was shown. It's a Senior Grand National winner on the AACA circuit, and has competed at concours in places like The Hamptons and Greenwich as well.

It's often said that we are not just the owners of our cars, but also caretakers of something that will hopefully pass on to a new home, and a whole new set of experiences for the next caretaker, and so on.

We'll keep an eye out in the AACA national magazine and other publications for future coverage of events in Tennessee and neighboring states. We're certain to spot this Cay Coral Impala with a white hardtop returning to the winner's circle again and again.

Perhaps a member would like to show us something new to take this car's old spot?

The SIRAACA Garage is home to all of our members' cars, past and present. Has your car been featured yet? Make sure you get the details to Paul Jr. if you want to share your car with us all.



The car may have left the SIRAACA Garage, but its ghost will remain within its walls so long as we will remember it. (photo by Paul Jr.)

Upcoming Events

Gather up the troops and hit the road for these upcoming events:



- New Jersey BCA Annual Car Show, Straub Buick, Keyport, NJ - May 6
- NJRAACA 66th Annual Spring Meet, Mennen Arena - May 7
- 15th Annual Hot Rods & Harleys, Rahway, NJ - May 13
- Carlisle Ford Nationals - June 2-4
- 22nd Annual Greenwich Concours - June 3-4
- 4th Annual New Dorp High School Car Show - June 4
- 8th Annual Troop 74, Sacred Heart Auto Show - June 4
- The Elegance at Hershey - June 9-11
- Antique Automobile Assn. of Bklyn. Show, Floyd Bennett Field - June 11
- North Central Kiwanis Car Show, The Teleport - June 11
- Our Lady Star of the Sea Car Show, 5411 Amboy Road - June 24



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Community Day Car Show is July 15

Once again, our club will host a free car show to celebrate National Collector Car Appreciation Day. Essentially, it's an informal gathering for a few hours to spur on awareness of our club, the hobby, and the charitable efforts of The Commons Cafe. Recall that the cafe donates all of its net profits to local charities, and is open six days a week.

As usual, we'll have fun presenting special awards in unique categories such as "Favorite Orphan", "Wildest Custom", "Disco Diva" and more. We usually look to recognize cars that represent relevant themes and anniversaries, without focusing on all of the nuts and bolts under the hood or on the undercarriage.

This year's Collector Car Appreciation Day will mark the eighth consecutive commemoration of the vital role automotive restoration and collection plays in American society. It recognizes how the collector car hobby fosters our nation's understanding and appreciation for the automobile's unique place in our history.

FREE CAR SHOW

@ **COMMONScafé**



SATURDAY
JULY 15th
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

**STATEN ISLAND
REGION ANTIQUE
AUTOMOBILE
CLUB**



**100% of net profits at the register
and from activities will benefit:**



**Help celebrate the vital role that automotive restoration
and collection plays in American society.**

**Special Awards in Unique Categories such as
"Favorite Orphan", "Wildest Custom", "Disco Diva"
and more!**



To host your nonprofit's 'Community Day', contact Social@NicotraOnline.com

www.CommonsCafeSI.com | 347-466-4207

2 Teleport Drive at The Teleport off South Avenue



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**WANTED:
DONATED VEHICLES.**
Any make, model,
year and condition.
Tax deductible.
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