

Vol. 27, No. 10

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Oct 2020



Members Needed on October 25



Vintage Advertising

1978. Emissions controls won over performance, so if a car couldn't go fast, perhaps it could look fast. That was the goal of the Plymouth Volare Street Kit Car. It was a gussied-up Volare Super Coupe (which was rare in its own right with just 494 built). The Street Kit added bolts along the flares, hood pins, windshield clips, and bold "Petty" graphics. "360 cu in" on the hood proclaimed the engine size, which was putting out 175 hp.

Just 247 were sold, along with 145 Dodge Aspens with the same treatment (in two-tone red). Perhaps it's because Richard Petty stopped racing Chrysler products that year, causing them to stop production.


In This Issue

All hands on deck for October 25 car show.

Hershey 2020 heading to Gettysburg.

A look back at an early SIRAA-CA show at Wagner College.

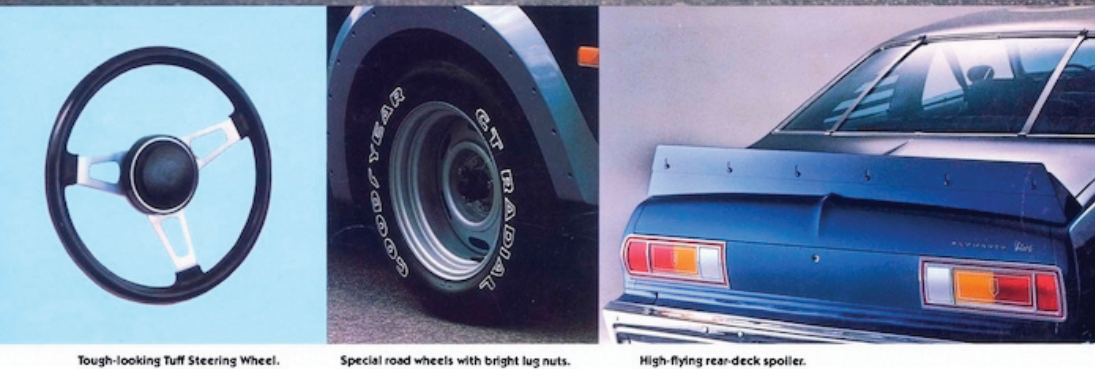
A trip to Matthews Motors courtesy of the SIRAA-CA Time Machine.



A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE.
Plymouth Volaré Street Kit Car

It isn't a race car, but it sure looks like one. And that's the appeal. It's the new Volaré Street Kit Car. Spoilers, louvers, radials, flares, rear sway bar, black-out treatment, road wheels, Tuff steering wheel . . . the works. Even a special package with Richard Petty's own number "43". Hey, let's not kid ourselves. This car isn't for everyone.

But it is your Direct Connection to racing enthusiasts—a group that's willing to pay for what they want. That's the name of the game. And something else. This car helps draw attention to all your Volarés, promoting a youthful, spirited image. Volaré Street Kit Car. A street car to help build desire for all your cars.



Did you know? The Plymouth Volare was introduced in 1976 to replace the Valiant, just as the Dodge Aspen was introduced to replace the Dart.

Trivia Question: Chrysler F-Bodies like the Volare and Aspen gave way to what new platform in 1981?

Answer: The famous "K-cars" debuted in 1981, sporting new names like Plymouth Reliant and Dodge Aries.

RAGTOPS & RUMBLESEATS

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Minutes of the 543rd Meeting

September 1, 2020

1. The 543rd meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA called to order on the lawn alongside Richmond Town's Courthouse around 6:30 PM. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a moment of silence to remember those we've lost over the years.
2. The minutes of the 542nd meeting were read by President Paul Jr.
3. Congratulations to those members who won at the AACA Grand National Meet in Gettysburg, including Phil Boffa, Kevin Keenan, Andrew Napoli and Paul Arena, Jr. They then provided a recap of the event.
4. New raffle tickets were on order in anticipation of some possible appearances before the car show season wraps up. Efforts are being made to attend a handful of shows in New Jersey, including a large one in Linden at the end of October.
6. Other upcoming shows include Hershey on October 10 as well as an Oldsmobile Meet in Morgantown, PA at the Classic Auto Mall.
7. We will ask Richmond Town for an update to return to the courthouse for monthly meetings. In addition, we'll ask about the timing of their plans for the Model T collaboration.
8. Phil Boffa gave a quick treasury report, with all in order.
9. There was no 50/50 held after the meeting was adjourned at 7:50.



Raffle Car Debut; Members Needed for Next Appearances

After resetting the 2020 raffle to take place at our fall show in 2021, the raffle car finally had a chance to get out with an appearance at one of the cruise nights in Linden, NJ. The car took in \$130. More importantly, however, we've arranged a return to Linden on October 25. Our raffle car will be on hand at their 6th Annual Car, Truck & Bike Show. Last year this show claimed to have over 700 cars in attendance. In return, we have committed to help them in selecting their trophy winners, and will need as many members as possible to join us that day. The show runs from 11:00 to 4:00, at Aviation Plaza at 601 West Edgar Road. Please make every effort to attend and help us out. Eight to ten judges, picking top cars (no points judging), would be ideal. No formal judging experience is necessary. More details will be shared as they are made available.

Before that show, note that their big Halloween Cruise nite is set for Columbus Day, Monday October 12. The raffle car will be there that day as well, and members planning to attend will meet on Staten Island for the ride over.

New raffle tickets have been printed and will be available at the October meeting.

6TH ANNUAL
Car, Truck & Bike Show
OVER 700
CARS LAST YEAR!



SCHOLARSHIP/FUNdraiser
IN MEMORY OF OFFICER FRANK VIGGIANO & JOSEPH RODRIGUEZ
All Proceeds to Benefit the Linden PBA Scholarship Fund, New Jersey Institute for Disabilities & Issy Dominguez

SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2020 • 11AM - 4PM
AVIATION PLAZA • 601 W. EDGAR RD. LINDEN, NJ
Rain Date - November 1, 2020

New Location! **\$20 REGISTRATION PER CAR** *Vendors Wanted!*
Please Make Checks Payable to Linden PBA

OVER 100 TROPHIES AWARDED • DJ HOT ROD MIKE • GIVEAWAYS
OVER 550 CARS LAST YEAR • MORE JUDGES FOR THIS YEARS SHOW!

PRESENTED BY
BOBBY BARKOFF JACK FROM HOT RODS & HARLEYS

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HOSTED BY MARK MANNUZZA
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At Least There's The Beach

The Sunday morning cruise at Great Kills Beach remained the one constant for the hobby this summer, and continues into fall with strong showings each week. While it's always packed with Corvettes and Cadillacs, there are plenty of interesting cars sprinkled in with the regulars. Take for example this 1974 Jaguar E-Type. Series 3. A Series 3, which debuted in 1971, has plenty of visual clues to help you identify it, like a large slatted grille, flared arches, and a V-12 badge on the rear deck. Cars sent to the US also had massive rubber bumper projections to meet 5-mph crash standards. This one was sporting the factory hard top.



(photo by Paul Jr.)

From the President

Instead of heading out to Hershey this week, many of us are left to reminisce about past trips to the AACA Eastern Fall Meet. I can recall many moments dating back to the early 1980's. Long Saturday's driving out and back on the same day. Phil Boffa monkeying around in a gorilla mask. Convoys of ten or more members in their old cars, making a breakfast stop at the Blue Mountain Restaurant. Staying in Midway because there weren't enough hotel rooms any closer. Realizing that a 1984 Plymouth minivan was old enough to be judged. Hearing banquet announcer Chip Green encourage others to cheer like "my folks from Staten Island". Watching Derek Jeter make "the flip" on a small TV in the lobby of the Hilton Gardens Inn. Fighting off the butterflies in your stomach as you waited to hear a club member's name called as a winner. Driving to the show field among throngs of spectators lining the roads. Checking out the auction cars. Hunting for a little treasure in the flea market. Seeing a Mohs Safarikar in person. Meeting Jay Leno in the car corral. Dealing with Paige the wacky waitress at the Hollywood Casino buffet. Dinner at Dafno's, where Doc thought scallopini was made with scallops. Watching the high wheeler races around the old stadium track. Getting a souvenir Winross truck model just for showing your car. Encountering a 100 year-old car in 1999. Like many of you, I'll miss Hershey for sure this year, but I know it'll be sweeter than ever in 2021. - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - October 6

Our October meeting will be held at 6:30 on Tuesday, October 6 at Pro Sho Sound at 4401 Arthur Kill Road. Members are encouraged to bring a chair if they prefer. Food will be ordered. Thanks to Frank Provenzano and Frank Jr. for providing the location.

When is Hershey Not Hershey?

The AACA worked hard to salvage the Hershey Fall Meet among coronavirus concerns and restrictions, to the point they had a plan to hold only the car show on October 10. Despite their best efforts, the plans were not good enough to present the show as we all know it. Undaunted, they have once again risen to the challenge to ensure an Eastern Fall Meet takes place, even if it's not actually "Hershey". The meet has been rescheduled to take place in Gettysburg on November 6-7. The AACA successfully held their Grand National Meet there, and has the blueprint in place to hold the Hershey show. Everything will be held on site of the host hotels (Wyndham Gettysburg/Marriott Courtyard), including race car certification and judging school on Friday. Awards will be presented on the show field around 3:30.

Whose Special Edition?

Spotted recently on the vinyl top of a car at a recent gathering was this "special edition" script and emblem. Members are asked to guess the car this is featured on. Obviously, many automakers created special editions, so the clue comes instead from the logo that accompanies the script.



The answer will be published in next month's newsletter, along with a photo of the car this is from. By the way, in the August issue, within the first SIRAACA Time Machine article, we asked members to identify the big 30's sedan in the photo. It was a 1933 Chrysler Imperial.

From the SIRAACA Archive

In the late 1970's and early 1980's, October was the time for our annual car show. Here's a look at part of the show field from that era, when our show was held on the football field on Wagner College.

Taken from the bleachers, the photo captures a little less than half of the total field. Cars from the 1930's and 1940's dominate the foreground, with what we recall as the modified classes wrapping themselves around the end zone.

Keep in mind that an antique car in 1980 was from 1955 or earlier. Mustangs, Camaros and muscle cars were simply used cars. All those 1979 Cadillacs that come to our show today were in the spectator lot.

The number of trophies we gave away at these shows could fit on a single table, or more accurately, on one set of steps for access to the bleachers, which is where we set them up. We awarded first, second and third place in each class, perhaps 40 in all.

The SIRAACA Archive is a treasure trove of old photos, articles and artifacts that represent our club's history dating back to our founding in 1974. These are not centrally collected, but in the hands of the many members past and present. If you have something from the past that you'd like to share here, let us know



Upcoming Events

Load up your car and head out to one of the few remaining shows on the calendar.



- Autoberfest Car Show, 175 RT 10, East Hanover, NJ - October 4
- Olds Club of America Meet, Classic Auto Mall, Morgantown - October 10
- Halloween Car Show, East Brunswick VFW Post 133 - October 11
- 6th Annual Car Show, Aviation Plaza, Linden, NJ - October 25
- AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Gettysburg, PA - November 6-7





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The SIRAACA Time Machine



(photos courtesy of NYC and Google)

We are back in 1940, this time at 419 Castleton Avenue, to see the “Beautiful 1940 Chrysler” at Matthews Motors. These buildings appear equally beautiful with their elaborate stonework and hand-painted signage on the brickface. The storefront on the left is the new car showroom, while the garage on the right facilitated repairs and served up used cars. So what’s parked out front? No surprise that a 1940 Chrysler is in the foreground of the photo on the left. On the sidewalk is a 1940 Plymouth four door sedan and a suddenly dated 1939 Plymouth two door sedan. Parked alongside the building on the right is a 1935 Chrysler Airstream. A pair of neat gas pumps complete the scene.



Here are the buildings today. The fancy brickface is covered up, and the tall building looks like it lost its third story.

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