

Vol. 30, No. 1

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Jan 2023



• **Best Wishes for 2023!**

Vintage Advertising

This ad for Jordan is titled "The Port of Missing Men" and ran in the Saturday Evening Post in 1920. Jordan automobiles were introduced in 1917 by Ned Jordan, a former ad exec for Jeffery and Rambler. An original version of the ad had an upstairs window aglow from within. Apparently, it had suggestive implications. Jordan relented to pressure and darkened the panes.

Jordans were "assembled cars" and used many outside suppliers for major parts, like Continental engines, Timken axles and Bosch ignitions. Jordan put the cars together, painted and mounted supplied bodies, and outfitted the interiors. Marketing was a big driver for sales efforts, with model names such as Tomboy, Playboy and Sport Marine. Production figures up until the final 1931 models are not verified.

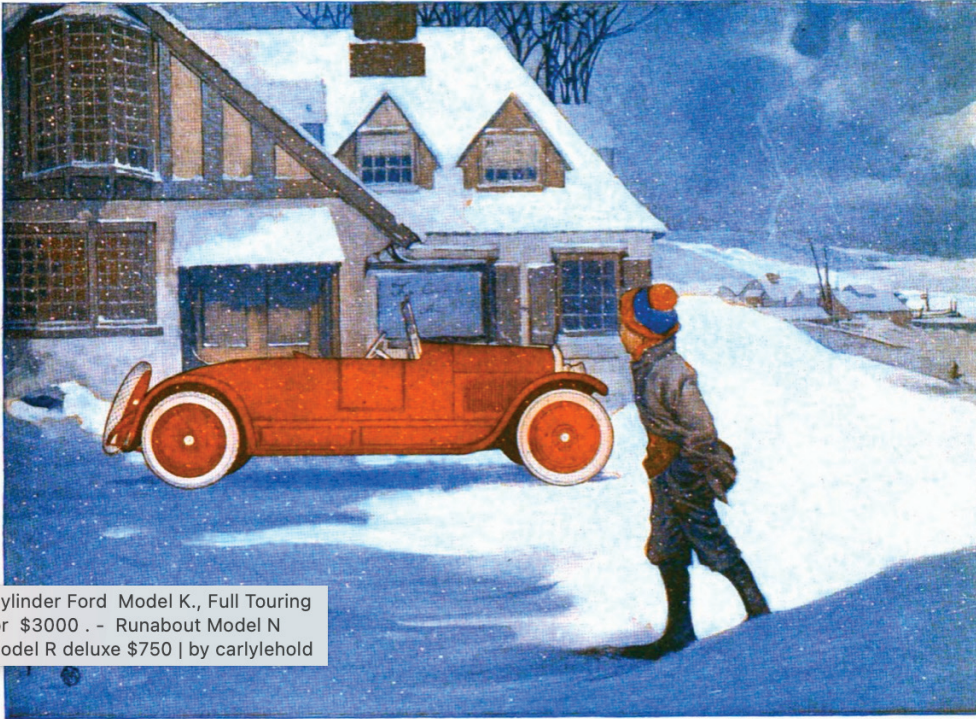
In This Issue

Generate SIRAACA donations via Amazon as well as via our new car donor partner

NYC's special ride in the SIRAACA Archive

The SIRAACA Time Machine gets gas from the front yard

THE PORT OF MISSING MEN



1917 Six Cylinder Ford Model K., Full Touring
Equipped for \$3000. - Runabout Model N
1918, - Model R deluxe \$750 | by carlylehold

The JORDAN Playboy

Somewhere far beyond the place where men and motors race through canyons of the town—there lies the Port of Missing Men.

It may be in the valley of our dreams of youth, or on the heights of future happy days.

Go there in November when the logs are blazing in the grate. Go there in a Jordan Playboy if you love the spirit of youth.

Escape the drab of dull winter's coming—leave the roar of city streets and spend an hour in Eldorado.

The Jordan Playboy—garbed in Arabian red—or in the plumage of the Bluebird, with gleaming

ivory wheels—will make you really happy as you go.

Balanced as a fine motor car must be—light and economical as your good judgment requires—distinctive as a car of personality can be—the Jordan Playboy is a fit companion for all Americans who dare never to grow old.

The lightest on the road for its wheelbase—with a national economy record of 24.1 miles per gallon—this style leader among the motor cars commands attention by its gratifying ease and commands respect by economy that is rare.



JORDAN MOTOR CAR COMPANY, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio

Did you know? Jordan considered the name "Doughboy" before choosing "Playboy" in consideration of returning WWI soldiers..

Trivia Question: In 1967, Chevy offered a one-year only purple paint on several models, including Camaro, Caprice, Impala and Chevelle. What was its name?

Answer: Chevy's purple for 1967 was called Royal Plum. Chrysler had their own purple fruit hue in Plum Crazy (along with In-Violet).

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Minutes of the 562nd Meeting

November 8, 2022 (reprint)

1. The 562nd meeting of The Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:15 on November 8 at Pro Sho Sound. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and offering a moment of silence, the minutes of the 561st meeting were accepted as read.
2. Members recapped our judging efforts at the Linden car show. Kevin Keenan, who tried helping the show organizers plan out a judging and award program, went into detail about their lack of commitment and understanding, and subsequent lack of respect for our help. It's agreed that we will decline any future requests to help them.
3. Mike Signorile recapped the New Dorp Lane Show and thanked those who volunteered to help that day.
4. Paul Jr. told a story of how an AACA member in Miami leveraged our club to help him buy a 1969 Road Runner convertible that was for sale on Staten Island. Paul gathered up Tony DiAngelo and Mike Signorile and they evaluated the car while broadcasting the effort via Face Time to the buyer. We learned afterwards that a deal was struck and the buyer donated \$150 to the club as a thank you.
5. New donor certificates have been printed and we will combine them with dash plaques and thank you letters before we give them out this year.
6. Paul Jr. is making an effort to reach out to former members from our club's early years in the hope that they have photos and details to make more of our history available to look back on or see for the first time. If long time members have photos to share, or contact info for others who do please let him know.
7. We will announce details for the upcoming Holiday Party as soon as the date and location are known. We will be donating new toys again this year to the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive.
8. Ideas for alternate meeting places are welcome for 2023.
9. Best of luck to Bob Columbia, who recently purchased a 1966 Thunderbird
10. Phil Boffa gave an updated treasury report, showing all in order.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25. The 50/50 collected \$51. Paul Arena won \$26. Phil Boffa won the Thanksgiving turkey gift card, and Bob Columbia won a Rock Auto Gift Certificate.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary

Amazon Smile Now Donates to SIRAACA

Our club is now a registered recipient of charitable donations via Amazon Smile. Amazon will now donate 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to SIRAACA if selected by the shopper. We encourage all of our members who shop on Amazon to begin their shopping trips on our Amazon Smile link now: smile.amazon.com/ch/13-3222046. The payout rate works out to \$0.50 for every \$100 spent. It may not be a lot individually, but all of the quarters can add up if our shopping audience grows in size. Hopefully our members and their families get us off to a good start. Any Q's, please ask.

Update on Car Donations

Apparently it's been some time since we took in a car donation via V-DAC. Long enough that when Rocky Pompa tried to donate his car for our benefit, we learned that V-DAC was absorbed by another organization a couple of years ago. We are now affiliated with CARS and are set up again to allow people to donate vehicles for tax benefits and to support our club. Donors can call 1-800-500-RIDE (800-500-7433) or visit our direct donation page at careasy.org/non-profit/Staten-Island-Region-Antique-Automobile-Club-of-America. We hope to have some supporting marketing materials soon.

National Dues Reminder

Did you remember to renew your national AACA membership for 2023? If not, please do so. You have more than one option available to you, including mailing a check to AACA headquarters or providing a credit card via the AACA web store. You can also call the AACA and give them a credit card over the phone. Annual dues are \$45. In January, we will begin collection of our local dues, which remain \$20. Please refer to aaca.org for online information on membership, or the insert found in the mailing of the November/December issue of your *Antique Automobile* magazine.

Farewell to T

Views like the one below where I was driving along Amboy Road in Annadale only to come upon Tony Ventrice and his Model T won't happen again this year. Tony's Ford has made its retirement trip up to the Poconos, where Tony and Marisol have a home awaiting their retirement as well. We will miss the various disguises their T would put on as it served to educate car show spectators. Sometimes it was a bootleggers ride loaded with cases of Canadian whiskey. Other times, it was an early camping vehicle pulling a period trailer and loaded with necessities for a weekend outdoors. Most recently it took on the guise of an NYPD car, allowing Tony and Marisol to showcase a cop's tools of the trade from 100 years ago.



photo by Paul Jr.

Fans of Henry Ford's Tin Lizzie shouldn't despair, however. We're fairly certain Don Bosco's Model T is around here somewhere, and we've been contacted by a Staten Island gentlemen who recently bought a 1926 Model T coupe and was having it transported here. He's seeking advice from fellow collectors like Tony and Don with regards to registration and licensing, and most likely will need a driving lesson or two as well. He's hoping to join our club and we hope he will. We also haven't given up on collaborating with The Advance to make their Model T delivery truck more visible to the public at our events.

From the President

It was great seeing everyone together for our holiday party, and I hope all who attended enjoyed the few hours we spent eating, drinking and celebrating the end of the year. Thanks to Tony Di-Angelo for all the planning and to Bob Ferone for donating some of his estate's wine as door prizes. In addition, thanks to all of you who donated toys once again as part of the club's support of the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive. We were happy to hear that they were returning in person with Santa to some of the local hospitals this year.

Looking towards 2023, we have targeted suggested dates for our spring and fall shows and will look to have them confirmed by the folks at Nicotra. We expect that our cost for renting the grounds will go up by \$500 for each show this year, and will strongly consider raising the fall gate to \$25 to help offset that. We continue our search for our next raffle car, and hope to see our 2022 success carry over into this new year. I appreciate each of you and your contributions to our club, as well as your confidence in allowing me to drive.

Happy New Year! - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - February 7

Our February meeting takes place on Tuesday, February 7th at a location still to be determined. Keep an eye out for an email notice or a text message for updates on where and when. We'll make sure pizza remains on tap.

Staten Islander Solved Ski Carry Issue

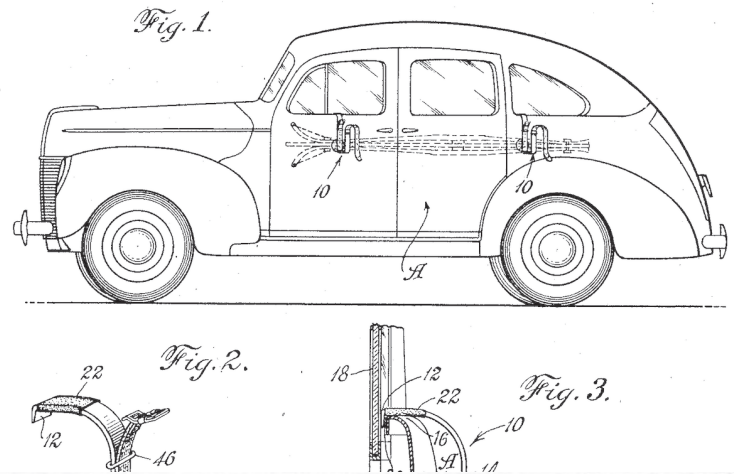
The ad at the bottom was found in the January 15, 1949 issue of Ski Magazine. It's for side mounted ski holders for your car, courtesy of William O. Davies & Co. of Staten Island. Research shows that Mr. Davies lived at 88 Nelson Avenue in Great Kills, and filed for patent on this device on May 31, 1940. They must have sold decently to be still selling nine years later, but who knows how much longer they lasted. Perhaps by the time the 1950's rolled around, skiers were driving big station wagons with roof racks and no longer needed to hang their skis along the door. Higher rates of speed could have posed a problem also. The ubiquitous 1940 Ford appears to be used in the patent at right.

Nov. 17, 1942.

W. O. DAVIES
CARRIER

2,302,300

Filed May 31, 1940



Will fit all cars. Carrier is easily attached by inserting hook knife edge between window frame. Secured to side of car by four suction cups. Window remains operational while using carrier.

Available at ski shops and sporting goods depts. If your dealer cannot supply you send check or money order for \$5.11 to

William O. Davies & Co.
P. O. Box 286
STATEN ISLAND 1
NEW YORK
Patentee and Distributor

\$5.00 plus 11¢ pair Excise tax.
Parcel Post charge 25¢ west of Denver, Colorado

DAVIES
SIDE CAR CARRIER



From the SIRAACA Archive

This month's archive photo is from 16 years ago, taken at our 2006 fall show at CSI's Willowbrook campus. It's NYC's 1952 Chrysler Imperial Parade Phaeton, part of a special display of city vehicles we featured that year.

It is one of just three built, with the others sent to Detroit and Los Angeles. They were owned by Chrysler and lent out for parade duty. In the early 1960's, New York and Los Angeles bought their cars for nominal fees. The third ended up in private hands and is now in the Petersen Museum.

You might think it looks too new to be a '52, and you'd be right. They were redesigned in 1955 with new noses and tails to reflect Chrysler's styling at the time. The New York car was originally black, then painted white at the time of its redesign. It's carried countless celebrities down Broadway, the Canyon of Heroes, showered by ticker-tape along the way. Perhaps it's time to invite it back to Staten Island?

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.



The "recall" of each phaeton in 1955 went beyond a physical refresh. The '52 versions were powered by Chrysler's 331cid Firepower V-8, mated to a semi-automatic Fluid Drive transmission. When revamped, they took on more power with the addition of a four-barrel carb and a boost in compression. A Fully-automatic Powerflite transmission completed the mechanical makeover, but without push-button controls seen in production by then. (photo by Paul Jr.).

All the Best for 2023!





J.C. TAYLOR

INSURANCE

JCTAYLOR.COM

1-888-ANTIQUE



The SIRAACA Time Machine



Who knew that working from home around 1940 could mean putting a gas station in front of your house? The SIRAACA Time Machine took a cue from this old matchbook and traveled over to an address no longer on today's map. We assume the widening of School Road as part of the Verrazzano Bridge construction claimed these two homes. Notice the attendant about to enter a door that appears to lead under the covered porch. Again, we wish we built our Time Machine out of a pickup truck instead of a DeLorean. The porcelain signs, gas pumps and other petroliana in this photo are worth many thousands of dollars today and we would have loved to bring them back to the future with us.

eBay is one place to hunt for pieces of Staten Island's automotive past. Old postcards, phonebooks and matchbooks help us navigate our Time Machine.



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Joseph Portagallo

M - Th 8 AM - 6:30 PM
Fri 8 AM - 5 PM
Sat 10 AM - 3 PM

**WANTED:
DONATED VEHICLES.
Any make, model,
year and condition.
Tax deductible.
Call 917-626-0233**