

Vol. 23, No. 9

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

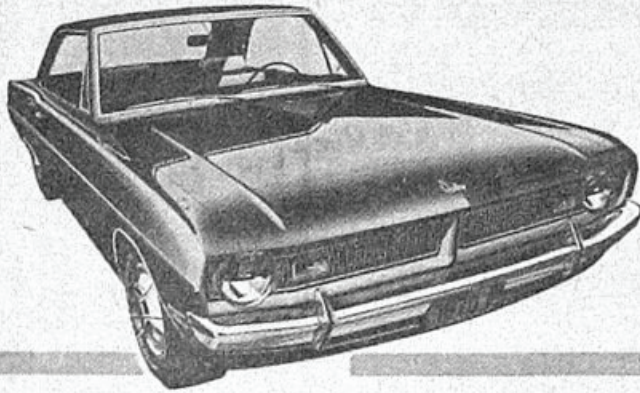
Sep 2016



- **40th Annual Fall Show - September 18**
- **Richmond County Fair Up First**



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Vintage Advertising

This month's ad is a local one that ran in the Staten Island Advance on April 5, 1970. Many of you will recall the Dodge dealerships of Memoly Motors, who had locations in both Port Richmond and New Dorp.

Memoly Motors was opened at 1893 Richmond Terrace by Joseph V. Memoly in 1933. The address for the New Dorp location is 2397 Hylan Boulevard, which is near Burbank Avenue and is most likely the site of Joe's Auto & Truck Parts.

So what were the likely lower prices on the 1970 Dart? Base price on a Swinger hardtop coupe was \$2,261, the mid-range Dart Custom hardtop coupe started at \$2,463, and the Swinger 340 started at \$2,631.

In This Issue

If you were a millionaire in 1919, what would you drive?

What won and what sold in Pebble Beach?

SIRAACA cars are YouTube stars.

A rare ghost of a car that once stayed in the SIRAACA Garage reappears.

Trivia Question: After leaving GM following a dispute with William Durant over World War I production, Cadillac founder Henry Leland created what automobile company?

will celebrate its centennial next year.

Answer: The Lincoln Motor Company, founded in 1917. Purchased by Ford in 1922, it

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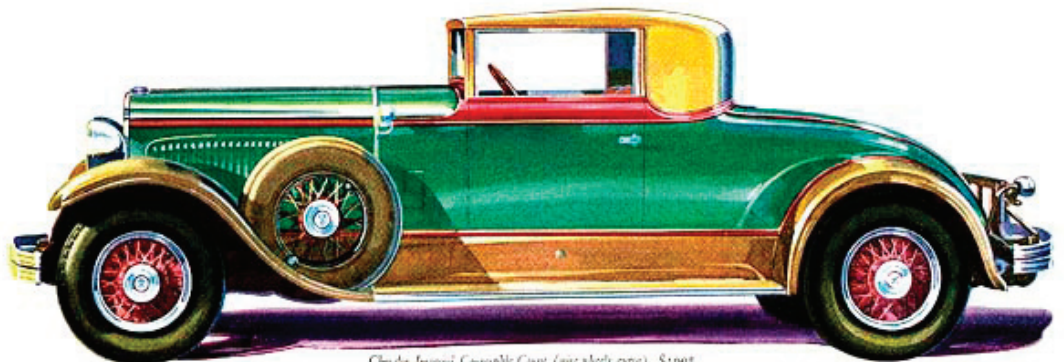
Minutes of the 495th Meeting

August 2, 2016

1. The 495th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order by President Paul Jr. at 7:20 pm. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence, the minutes of the 494th meeting were accepted as read.
2. Our community day car show was lightly attended due to the threat of rain, with 40 or so cars on hand. Trophies were given out in 15 categories plus two Cafe Choice awards. The focus was on cars worth recognizing that otherwise wouldn't win at our standard judged show. The raffle car took in \$55.00 and the cafe donation was \$80.00.
3. The raffle car took in \$738 at Back to the Beach. Thank you to all who spent the weekend with us.
4. Members who attended the Buick Club of America's 50th Anniversary show in Allentown recapped the event.
5. Upcoming events include a show at Our Lady Star of the Sea on August 20 and Macungie on August 5 - 7.
6. A first round of fall show planning discussed new field logistics, required supplies and the location of the flea market.
7. So far, SI Live has run videos featuring the cars of Mike Signorile, Paul Arena, Rocky Pompa. More are expected.
8. Jonathan Schulman reached out to GOOD360 to learn more about an auto parts donation program. He is awaiting a reply.
9. Phil Boffa gave a treasury report, with all in order.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The 50/50 collected \$28.00, with Kevin Keenan winning \$14.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



Chrysler Imperial Convertible Coupe (1935 steel coupe), \$1995

September is Our Busiest Month

September is here and the club is in full gear with three events that eventually wrap up our season. First up is the Richmond County Fair, held on Labor Day weekend. We are scheduled to appear all three days with cars for display and our raffle car. Once again we will be on Richmond Road between Court Place and Arthur Kill Road. Cars should be in place no later than 9:30 and should expect to remain on site all day. The weather forecast look great, and this is our final big event for raffle sales and fall show promotion. Next up is small but important event. On Saturday, September 10, we will display 10 or so cars at Clove Lakes Health Care and Rehabilitation Center. Set-up is around 9:30, with viewing scheduled from 10:00 to noon. We're then invited to Delicious Orchards in Colts Neck for their Apple Festival on September 11. After that, the big finale, our 40th Annual Fall Show & Flea Market set for Sunday, September 18. It's the club's first fall show at the Teleport, so it's no more running on auto-pilot as we all must ensure a smooth, successful show. Only then can we exhale, celebrate and enjoy the transition into autumn.

What Would Fatty Drive?

Roscoe Conklin Arbuckle, known on the silent screen as "Fatty", was one of Hollywood's first superstars. He was making \$1,000 per day plus 25% of all profits from his Paramount Pictures deal as early as 1914. He eventually signed a \$3 million deal for three years before 1920.

At the same time, young Harley Earl was working for his father at the Earl Automobile Works in Los Angeles. His custom coachwork was catching the eyes of the press, and cowboy Tom Mix and other rich silent film stars came calling for his services. Fatty was next.

Starting with the enormous chassis of a 1918 Pierce-Arrow Model 66 with a 147.5 inch wheelbase, Harley began by designing huge 38" wheels made of Burmese teak with nickel-plated rims. The entire body, from the radiator, hood, fenders and all trim is custom. It's powered by a huge 855 cubic inch T-Head Six.

Don Lee, a Los Angeles Cadillac dealer, bought out Earl's business, and the car is adorned with a plate stating "Designed and Built by Don Lee, California". The L.A. Times reported on May 2, 1920 that "ten-thousand people had filed through the Don Lee showroom in a few days just to see the car that cost \$25,000".

The car stands seven feet tall and weighs 6,000 pounds. It recently traveled from its home in Savannah, GA to The Elegance at Hershey, where it won the "This Car Matters" Award.



From the President

We meet formally as a group one more time before our upcoming fall show. Please make every effort to attend the September meeting on Tuesday, September 6. Since the show this year is the first fall event at The Commons Cafe, we have new logistics to review. In addition, if anyone has outstanding money collected from raffle sales, trophy donations or sponsorships, please bring it in that evening. If you are still selling raffles, we can collect the money up to and including the day of the show as long as you earmark it as a member sale for accounting's sake.

Excited? Nervous? Anxious? All three? - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - September 6

Our September meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 pm, and will be held at the Staff House at Seaview Home & Hospital, located at 460 Brielle Avenue. Each member is asked to contribute \$3.00 towards the purchase of coffee and doughnuts.

Have You Watched Our Members?

SILive.com has posted a series of six classic car ride-along rides thus far with our members' help. So far, you can listen in and ride along with Mike Signorile and his 1966 Buick Skylark, Paul Arena and his 1948 Dodge, Rocky Pompa and his 1967 Mustang, Don Bosco and his 1909 Cadillac and Mike DiPilato and his 1967 Pontiac Firebird. We believe that Bob Ferone's 1976 Corvette was also filmed, and as a bonus, club friend Mike Gorgia and his 1975 Pontiac Grand Ville Brougham convertible also was featured. We think SILive may pause this effort, and we are looking to produce our own going forward.

Records Fall, Lancia Stands Tall

This year's big weekend in Pebble Beach is history, and we have the notable news from the auctions and the Concours as well. RM Sotheby's set two world records at their sale. The highest price paid for a British car was set at \$21.78 million when the hammer fell on the LeMans-winning 1954 Jaguar D-Type XDD501 racecar. The highest price for an American car was set with the winning bid of \$13.75 million for a 1962 Shelby Cobra CSX2000. Hagerty Insurance totaled up all of the action and reported nearly \$345 million in sales across five auction houses. The overall sales rate of 56% lagged last year's figures.

On the show field, an Italian car won Best of Show for the third consecutive year. Following the 1954 Ferrari 375 MM Scaglietti in 2014 and the 1924 Isotta-Fraschini Tipo 8A Cabriolet last year, a 1936 Lancia Astura Pinin Farina Cabriolet took home the top prize. It beat out two other nominees, including a 1938 Delahaye 165 Figoni & Falaschi Cabriolet and a 1931 Stutz DV-32 LeBaron Convertible Victoria.

For those of you who hope to attend a Pebble Beach concours at least once in their lifetime, place an X on August 20, 2017 for your next chance. Some special classes next year include Isotta-Fraschini, Castagna Coachwork, Lincoln's Centennial and American Dream Cars of the 1960's.

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Inside the SIRAACA Garage

You've been told that ghosts lurk within the deepest corners of the SIRAACA Garage. This month we are fortunate to spot one. Unfortunately, not much is known to us about this particular car, a 1930 Lincoln Convertible Roadster owned by one-time member Birger Nilsen.

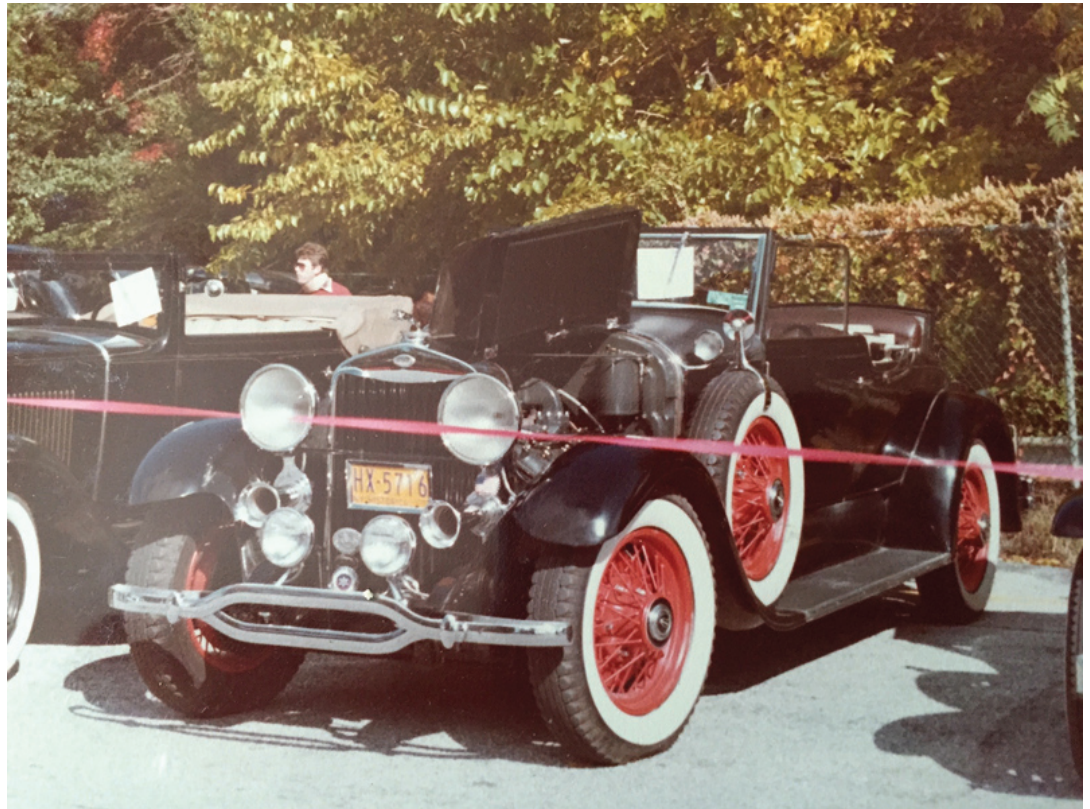
Longtime members should remember Birger. As I recall, he was a tall, jolly fellow with a neat accent.

As best as we can tell, this Lincoln was styled by LeBaron, and was one of only 100 of this body style built that year. Specs on such a car reveal that it was powered by a 384 cu. in. V-8 capable of 90 horsepower and sported mechanical drum brakes on all four wheels.

Birger's Lincoln was dressed up a bit with a pair of chrome trumpet horns perched above a pair of additional driving lights.

What came of the car since Birger's passing in the late 1990's is not known. If any members know additional details, please share them with us at the next meeting.

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 Lincoln was photographed at SIRAACA's 2nd Annual Car Show & Flea Market, held on October 15, 1978 at The Academy of St. Dorothy on Hylan Boulevard in Old Town. Notice the red tape keeping people from approaching the car. This car was 48 years old that year. Today, that translates to a 1968 model. (photo by Sal DeFrancesco)

Upcoming Events

Grab your friends, load up your car, and head out to one of these events:



- Richmond County Fair, Historic Richmond Town - September 3-5
- SIKK Car Show, Marine Corps League, Staten Island - September 4
- SIRAACA display at Clove Lakes Nursing Home - September 10
- SIRAACA 40th Annual Car Show, Staten Island - September 18
- 40th Annual Fall Englishtown, Raceway Park, NJ - September 23-25
- Monmouth County Concours, Hop Brook Farm, Holmdel, NJ - October 1
- AACA Eastern National Fall Meet, Hershey, PA - October 5-8



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Car Spotting on SI

It seems that everywhere you look, there's an old car. We're not talking cruise nites or cars & coffee gatherings, we're talking on the streets and in the driveways of Staten Island. Here are a two of six we spotted in one day all in Annadale recently.



2016 Fall Poster

Staten Island Region Antique Automobile Club of America

40th Annual Car Show and flea market

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2016**

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