

Vol. 28, No. 12

Ragtops &

Rumbleseats

Dec 2021



• **Vintage Buick Christmas Ads**

“The greatest gift of all”

WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BUILT BUICK WILL BUILD THEM



BUICK
MOTOR CARS

Vintage Advertising

These two ads from 1927 show Buick's Christmas push, highlighting a pair of sedans as the perfect holiday gift. Notice the differences in the bodies of each car. One features an oval rear quarter window with a decorative landau bar, which we believe is the five-passenger Brougham on the 128" wheelbase. Buick also offered a five-passenger sedan on 114" and 120" wheelbases, and a seven-passenger sedan on par with the Brougham's length.

Buick's details specifications for the Brougham indicate a two-tone body finished in light and dark Paul Revere Green, black moulding with Burnt Orange stripe.

Perhaps many lucky families got such a Christmas gift. Buick built 13,862 Brougham sedans in 1927. They cost \$1,925.

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

December 6, 1927

Make This Christmas last
for thousands of miles

A BUICK for Christmas

In This Issue

Year end reminders for Holiday Party and national dues

Unique vehicles spotted here and there

40 year old artifacts from the SIRAACA Archive

The SIRAACA Time Machine

Trivia Question: What automobile designer, who was a student of Harley Earl, is credited with the origin of Pontiac's silver streak design theme as well as the '55 T-Bird?

Answer: Franklin "Frank" Hershey, who was also responsible for the 1948 Cadillac tail-fin.

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Minutes of the 552nd Meeting

November 2, 2021

1. The 552nd meeting of The Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:30 on November 2 at Pro Sho Sound. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and offering a moment of silence, the minutes of the 551st meeting were accepted as read.

2. Members recapped and provided feedback on our judging efforts at the giant car show in Linden. It was very disorganized and not an easy day to manage, and Kevin Keenan let the organizers know what needs to change in order for us to continue helping them. All of these factors will also come into play if we decide to help the organizers of Hot Rods & Harleys, who visited us before the meeting to inquire about our help.

3. Many members made their way to Hershey for one or more days, spending time walking the car corral, shopping the flea market, or attending the show on Saturday. The size of the event was noticeably smaller than what's normal, but we are not in normal times.

4. The New Dorp Lane Show was held and seemed to run fairly smoothly despite the uncertainty leading up to the event. Several members were on hand displaying their cars, and all cars on hand received a participation award.

5. Our Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 12, from 2-6 at The RoadHouse. It's open to all members who participated in and helped at our events this year, along with their spouses. Please remember that we donate toys that day to the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive, so we ask all to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the party.

6. Phil Boffa gave an updated treasury report, showing all in order.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45. The 50/50 collected \$35. Bruce Campbell won \$18. Paul Arena was the winner of the \$25 Thanksgiving Gift Card.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



Holiday Party

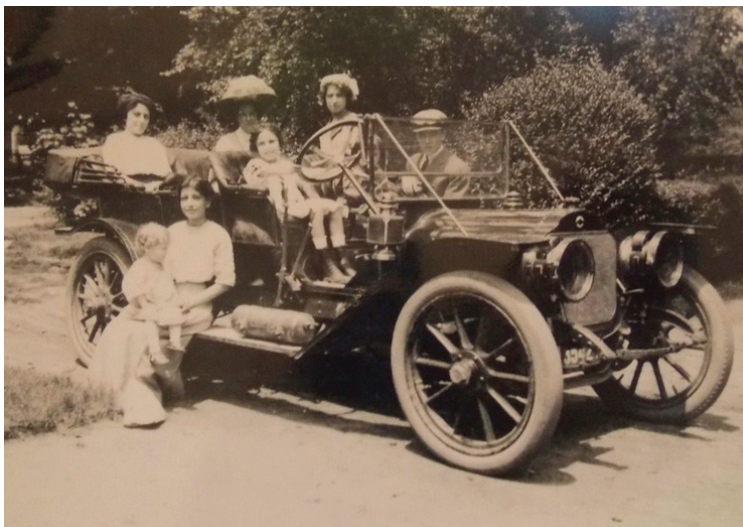
Our annual Holiday Party returns this year for all of our active members and their guests. It will be held on Sunday, December 12 from 2:00-6:00 at The RoadHouse, located at 1400 Clove Road. As usual, we will be donating new, unwrapped toys to the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive, who will stop by to collect them. Members are encouraged to donate as well. If you have yet to let us know that you are attending, please contact Tony DiAngelo (badbird70@aol.com).

Renew Your AACA Dues

It's easy to forget this time of year to renew your national AACA dues. You should have received the Nov/Dec issue of *Antique Automobile*, which includes a mailer insert used to send your renewal to headquarters. Alternatively, you can renew online at aaca.org. National membership is required to be a member of our local region. We'll collect our local dues beginning at our January meeting.

Old Photo Has Us Stumped

This photo appears for sale on eBay, taken in Arrochar on Staten Island. We've posted it to the AACA forum "What Is It?" and have yet to get a positive ID. The radiator is shaped like an early White, but the fender shapes don't match. Can any of our readers help out?



Where's the Fire(truck)?

Our shows routinely draw many hundreds of vehicles each year, and yet we regularly encounter some for the first time at other local events. Case in point is this Ford Model A fire truck that attended the recent Victory Boulevard car show. Is it new to Staten Island? Is it from an outlying borough? We never caught up with the owner to find out, but we hope to see it again at one of our shows.



Tony DiAngelo (left) and Paul Arena (center) look over this unknown Ford Model A fire truck. Does any member have more information about this particular vehicle? (photo by Paul Jr.)

Expanding Our Time Machine

The monthly SIRAACA Time Machine column that appears on our newsletter's back page usually allows for no more than three images, but oftentimes our "trips" reveal more than we can share. As a result, we've started a new photo album on our club's Facebook page. It's called "Staten Island's Automotive History" and it expands on some of the locations we've featured in our newsletter. It allows us to include original print advertisements for the dealerships and garages we've "visited", as well as additional photos that wouldn't fit in the newsletter. So far, there's coverage of Schick's Garage, Richmond Garage (Einziger Bros..) and Wagner's Garage, with more to come.

From the President

I usually write this column last, after filling in all of the other pages with stories about our club and the hobby. With little to report on now that our cars are tucked away for their winter nap, my typical December message would focus on the holidays and include well wishes to all.

Before I get to that however, I have to share some sad news on the passing of Doc Corpus. Doc was a long-standing member of our club and a fantastic friend to so many of us. In recent years, his health waned and he wasn't able to come out with us, but those of you who have been members for a while know that he was always on hand no matter where we went - local shows, raffle car events, national meets, concours, and more. He'll be sorely missed, but will never be forgotten. Our January newsletter will feature a tribute to him, and I encourage all of you to send me what you remember most about Doc.

As we approach the holidays and end of the year, please do all you can to enjoy yourselves, see your friends and family, and be grateful for the blessings we're all fortunate to have in our lives. - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - January 4

Our January meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 4 at 6:30 PM, to be held at Pro Sho Sound's warehouse at 4401 Arthur Kill Road. There is no December meeting. Thank you to Frank Provenzano and son Frank Jr. for providing the space. Food will be served.

Hershey Auction Spotlight

We had the opportunity to preview the cars for sale at RM Sotheby's auction at Hershey and found this particular car to be quite unique. It's a 1961 MG MGA Mk II Police Car. This is one of approximately 33 right-hand drive MGA's used for police duty. Authentic police parts were acquired from a retired London policeman who had helped restore two others. They were also able to locate the officer who was originally assigned to this car in 1961 after restoration was completed in 2013. The only changes made from original spec are the wire wheels and the addition of a luggage rack. It features a cast-iron 1,622 cubic centimeter four cylinder engine, good for 93-horsepower and a top speed of more than 100mph. A total 8,719 Mk II's were built between April 1961 and June 1962, before the introduction of the MGB. This car sold for \$66,000.



(photo by Paul Jr.)



From the SIRAACA Archive

We recently unearthed this club artifact, which predates a good number of our current members time with us. It's a forty years old car show flyer from our 5th Annual Antique Car Show & Flea Market, which was held on September 20, 1981.

The show was held on the football field at Wagner College, and we partnered with the Lions Club, who took care of the food concessions and some of the printing. While some details have remained consistent through the years, like dash plaques, big trophies and a raffle car, it's more fun to notice what's changed. For example, the cut-off year for a show car was 1969. Think of how many 1970's cars come to our show today.

We dug through an old album and found some pics from that show. The 1925 Pierce Arrow shown here was one of the many early autos that dominated the show field.

The entry fee was \$5, with a 20% discount if you pre-registered at \$4. Adjusted for inflation, \$5 in 1981 is about \$15 today.

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.



ADMISSION:

- ADULTS—\$2.00
- CHILDREN 6-12 \$1.00
- UNDER 6—FREE
- SENIOR CITIZENS—\$1.00

RAIN DATE: OCT. 4TH
INFO: 212-356-8962

DIRECTIONS:

From BROOKLYN—Verrazano Bridge to S.I. Expressway to Clove Rd. exit—follow service rd. & signs to Wagner College.
From N.J.—Take bridges to S.I. Expressway & exit Richmond Rd. Hylan Blvd—make left at Clove Rd. & follow signs to college.

REGISTER EARLY!

CAR REGISTRATION IS \$5.00 PER CAR PREREGISTRATION BY AUG. 15TH \$4.00	FLEA MARKET REGISTRATION 10'x20' SPACE FOR \$10.00
NAME: _____	NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____	ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____	CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP _____
MAKE: _____ MODEL: _____ YR. _____	HOW MANY SPACES? _____
A.A.C.A. SENIOR CAR? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	*MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO S.I.R.A.A.C.A.
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO S.I.R.A.A.C.A.	MAIL TO: DAN DALY 281 SEAVER AVE.





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The SIRAACA Time Machine

Located at the corner of Cary Avenue and Dongan Street in Port Richmond was Furlong's Automotive Service, where you could get your brakes adjusted for \$1.00 according to the 1954 ad we found. We traveled back to 1940 for the panoramic shot seen below, when Furlong's still used glass globe topped pumps.

Zooming forward to 1955 (at right) we see smaller contemporary gas pumps in use for that good Gulf gasoline. We're asking our readers to identify the two autos on the left side of the 1940 photo. They are of the same make, some ten years apart. Today the site is Automaster Land, a repair shop. Both houses

seen alongside and behind the property still stand today but the trees are gone.



(photos courtesy of NYC Dept. of Records and S.I. Historical Society. Ad from the Advance)



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