THE DISTRIBUTOR

News for Members of the
BAY COUNTRY REGION
Antique Automobile Club of America

Volume 21, Issues 2 & 3 — *May-June 2020*

Cool Car Ideas During the COVID-19 Shutdown

By Charles & Barbara Emery, Mardela Springs, MD, ccemery@verizon.net

We exist on the largely rural Eastern Shore of Maryland. In these stay-at-home/stay-in-car days, some of our members have found ways to responsibly and creatively bring joy to others by using our cars during our hiatus from regular Region activities.

This young man lost both his dad and his grandfather last year (separate illnesses, not an accident). Tuesday was his 10th birthday, which in the age of coronavirus-imposed social distancing of course could not be celebrated with a party or even a family gathering. The child has no siblings and no local family, except his mom.

The young fellow has gone with us in several Christmas parades in Salisbury as part of the **Eastern Shore Region (ESR)** and is very interested in antique cars. Parents of some of his Sunday School friends organized a "drive-by" to celebrate his birthday and asked me to lead it in the Buick. I was able to gather up six other ESR members, as well as Buck Burton who is also a **Bay Country Region** member. We practiced social distancing and only drove by honking our horns to make it a real parade.

What a cool idea! Don't forget to let us know if your region or chapter is doing something cool during the COVID-19 shutdown (**email Stacy**).

Coping with Covid-19

Charles and Barbara Emery organized an event for a young man in need of cheering up by using Eastern Shore Region members and their cars at a safe distance. They paraded past his front yard on his 10th birthday.

Charles submitted it to me, and Lee suggested that I submit it to the national organization. They made it a feature in the **Speedster,** a monthly AACA electronic newsletter. Here is how it appeared.

The Speedster is available to members. You can register at http://www.aaca.org/Community/speedster.html. It offers updates from the club and library, member contributions and stories, antique auto trivia, Nationals (Meets) & Tour details, interesting industry articles and much more.

Check it out!
Ken

Related: *Always a Buick Man!*

See page 4!

First cars: George Hatcher and his 1971 Mustang mach 1

Ken:

Your email sparked another idea for you and your newsletter. What if you asked members about their first cars? This is a sketch of the car that changed my life and eventually made me a Ford dealer here in Easton.

Our daughter, Lynn, calls cars my "fatal flaw". It started when I was really little. My dad loved cars, and we would always go to dealerships to see the latest.

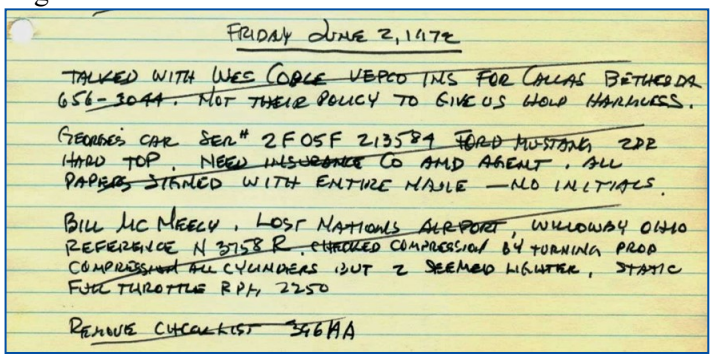
Yours truly and an early "car" with my dad's

As my 16th birthday drew nearer, I could not wait to actually look for my first car. When the **September 1970** ***Motor Trend*** arrived in our mailbox, I knew exactly what I wanted! The only problem was that that car wasn't exactly what my parents had in mind, so I asked what I had to do to get it. They gave me a laundry list designed to be unachievable—BUT I did it all!

So, my dad and I went to every Ford dealership everywhere—including the big ones in DC—to see all of the many combinations possible. I poured over the Mustang catalog and finally decided on this color, **Bright Blue Metallic:**

Prior to that decision, I wanted a **Grabber Orange mach 1,** but it was not a standard color, and a non-standard color was $95 extra—a lot back then. **I did, however, build this model,** which I still have.

The winter of 1972 arrived, and it was time to place the order at Massey Ford, in Hagerstown. We were driving down Oak Hill Avenue there, and a brand-new **mach 1** was parked on the opposite side of the street. I asked my dad to turn around to look at it. It was beautiful and painted in Light Pewter Metallic. On the spot, I switched the color I wanted, and shortly thereafter placed the order. On June 2, 1972, the car arrived, and I'll never forget that day! This is the entry from my dad's work log—the second item:

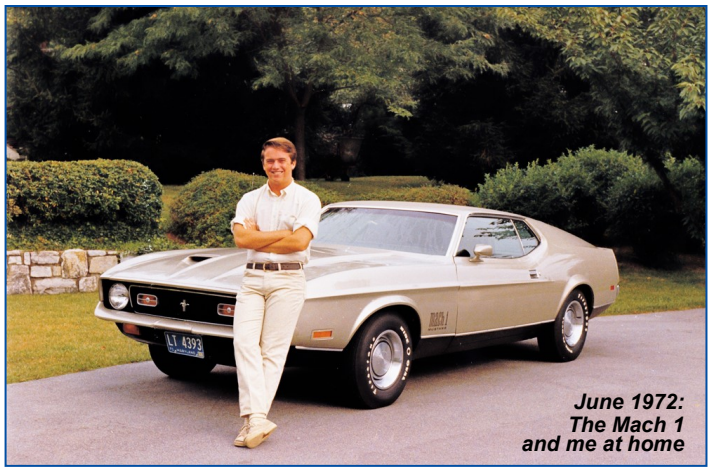

FRIDAY JUNE 2, 1972

TALKED WITH WES COBLE VEPCO INS FOR CALLAS BETHESDA 656-3044. NOT THEIR POLICY TO GIVE US GOLD HARNESS.

GEORGE'S CAR SER# 2F05F 213584 FORD MUSTANG 2DR HARD TOP. NEW INSURANCE CO AND AGENT. ALL PAPERS SIGNED WITH ENTIRE NAME —NO INITIALS.

BILL MC MEELY. LOST NATIONAL AIRPORT, WILLOWAY OHIO REFERENCE N 3158 R. CHECKED COMPRESSION BY TURNING PROP COMPRESSED ALL CYLINDERS BUT 2 SEEMED LIGHTER, STATIC FULL THROTTLE RPM 2250

REMOVE CHECKLIST 3168A



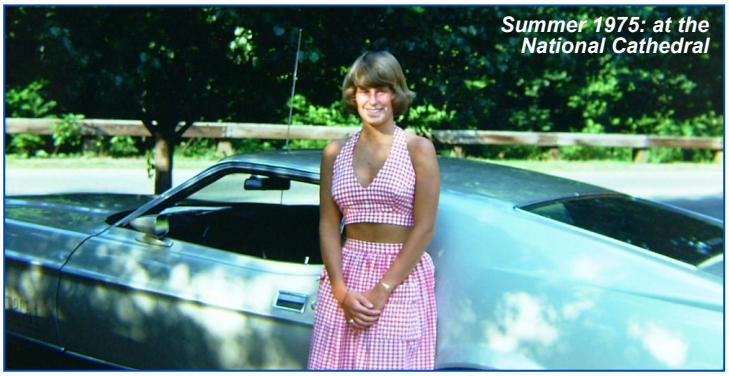
June 1972:
The Mach 1
and me at home

The first time I drove over to Kim's house and pulled into her driveway, her sister looked out of the window and said, "George is here, and he's driving a spaceship!" The **mach 1** always had that effect on people, and to this day, I think it's the most beautiful car I've ever seen. **And yes, I built a model of this car before the real one arrived—AND I still have it, too.**

mach 1

George and his mach 1

Summer 1975
Kim with the mach 1
at Rehoboth Beach
(Note the mach 1 t-shirt !)



Summer 1975: at the National Cathedral

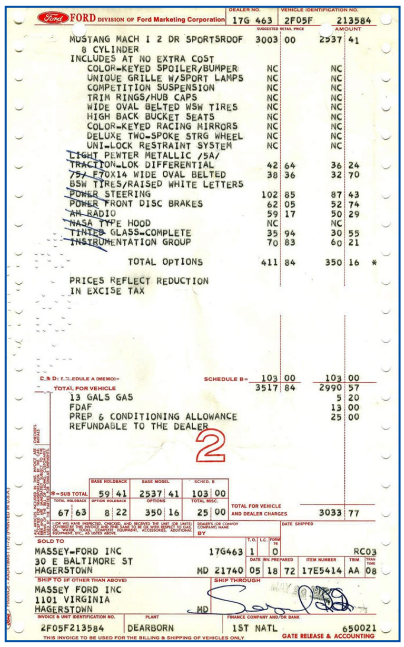
It's true that Kim is my first love, but maybe she's really my 2nd because I really did love that car. It was beautiful, fun to drive, took us everywhere in style, and it was where I proposed to her. So you can imagine how devastated we were when we were in a terrible accident in it. It happened near Clifford, Virginia, while we were in college, on October 22, 1976. The mach 1 saved our lives, but it was a total loss.

No car could replace it. But, after many years of searching, in 2002, Kim gave me a 1971 mach 1. It truly does occupy a special place in our hearts. It's like a time machine, able to take us back and relive many wonderful times. It also has generated many new memories. I think that both of those features are what draw all of us to this hobby, and to these amazing machines.

Others must have stories like this to share, and you should send them to Ken.

George

June 30, 2019 – Kim & me at the 2nd-annual Talbot Country Club car show with the '71 Mach 1



FORD DIVISION OF Ford Marketing Corporation — DEALER NO. 17G 463 — VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NO. 2F05F 213584

	SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE	AMOUNT
MUSTANG MACH 1 2 DR SPORTSROOF	3003 00	2937 41
8 CYLINDER		
INCLUDES AT NO EXTRA COST		
COLOR-KEYED SPOILER/BUMPER	NC	NC
UNIQUE GRILLE W/SPORT LAMPS	NC	NC
COMPETITION SUSPENSION	NC	NC
TRIM RINGS/HUB CAPS	NC	NC
WIDE OVAL BELTED WSW TIRES	NC	NC
HIGH BACK BUCKET SEATS	NC	NC
COLOR-KEYED RACING MIRRORS	NC	NC
DELUXE TWO-SPOKE STRG WHEEL	NC	NC
UNI-LOCK RESTRAINT SYSTEM	NC	NC
LIGHT PEWTER METALLIC /SA/		
TRACTION-LOK DIFFERENTIAL	42 64	36 24
75/ E70X14 WIDE OVAL BELTED	38 36	32 70
BSW TIRES/RAISED WHITE LETTERS		
POWER STEERING	102 85	87 43
POWER FRONT DISC BRAKES	62 05	52 74
AM RADIO	59 17	50 29
HASA TYPE HOOD	NC	NC
TINTED GLASS-COMPLETE	35 94	30 55
INSTRUMENTATION GROUP	70 83	60 21
TOTAL OPTIONS	411 84	350 16 *
PRICES REFLECT REDUCTION IN EXCISE TAX		
SCHEDULE B=	103 00	103 00
TOTAL FOR VEHICLE	3517 84	2990 57
13 GALS GAS		5 20
FDAF		13 00
PREP & CONDITIONING ALLOWANCE		25 00
REFUNDABLE TO THE DEALER		
BASE EQUIPMENT	59 41	2537 41
BASE MODEL		350 16
SCHED. B	103 00	25 00
TOTAL FOR VEHICLE AND DEALER CHARGES	67 63	8 22
		3033 77

SOLD TO: MASSEY-FORD INC, 30 E BALTIMORE ST, HAGERSTOWN MD 21740 — 17G463 — DATE INS. PROCESSED 05 18 72 — ITEM NUMBER 17E5414 — TRIM AA — TRANS 08 — RC03

SHIP TO OTHER THAN ABOVE: MASSEY FORD INC, 1101 VIRGINIA, HAGERSTOWN MD

SHIP THROUGH

INVOICE & UNIT IDENTIFICATION NO. 2F05F213584 — PLANT DEARBORN — FINANCE COMPANY AND/OR BANK 1ST NATL 650021

THIS INVOICE TO BE USED FOR THE BILLING & SHIPPING OF VEHICLES ONLY — GATE RELEASE & ACCOUNTING

Below: November 2016 – Our '71 mach 1 & me at Hagerstown Regional Airport, and at the old Fairchild Aircraft plant with a C-119 in the background

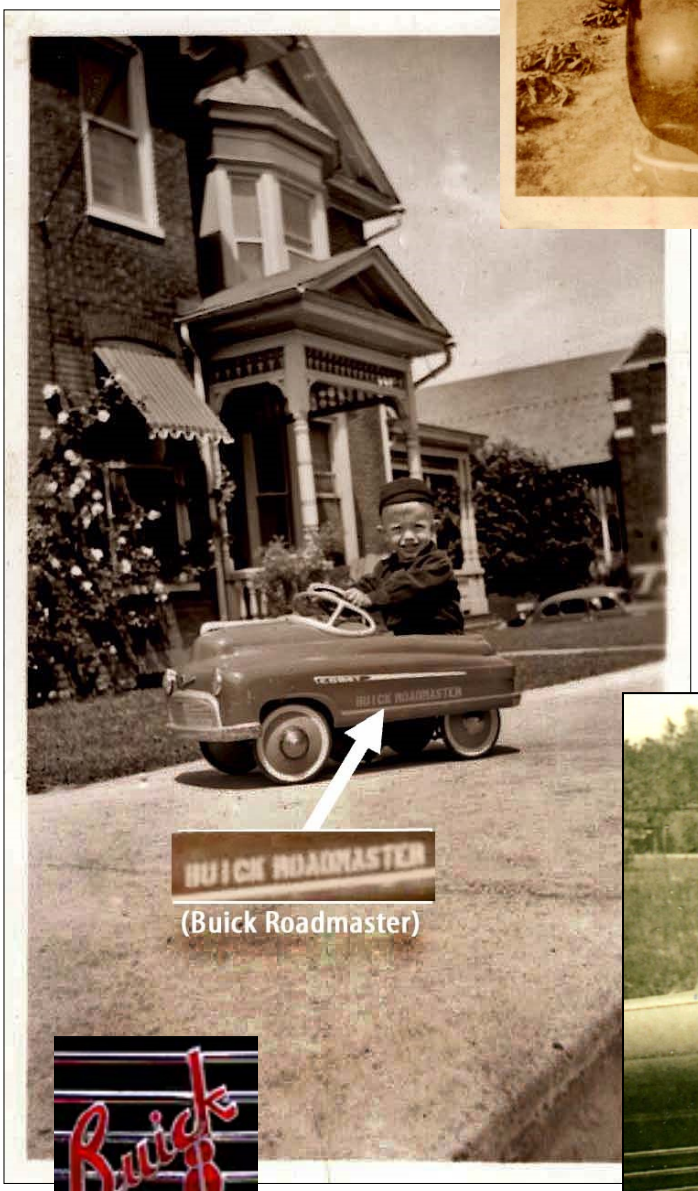
Always a Buick man!

Charles Emery sent in these photos, and he writes:

You know my preference for old Buicks. One of these pictures is of my parent's 1934 Buick Series 40 Coupe, with my mother at the wheel. Another picture is of my 4 year old brother taken on the fender of my parent's 1936 Buick Century. (Our home can be seen in the back left portion of the picture.) The other three pictures are of me, taken about 1947/48 in Shippensburg, PA.

(Note that three of the photos are of Buicks, if you count the pedal car, which is identified as a "BUICK ROADMASTER". Only trucks are found in the other two.)

Ken



(Buick Roadmaster)

A 6 Volt to 12 Volt Converter

I wanted to be able to plug things like a phone charger and a GPS into my 1940 LaSalle, but of course these accessories are 12v negative ground, and the LaSalle is 6v positive ground. I found an inexpensive 6v to 12v step-up converter on Amazon:
https://www.amazon.com/Converter-DROK-Voltage-Regulator-Transformer/dp/B01L90B3RI/

I considered installing it under the dash and connecting it to the cigarette lighter outlet, but that would mean I would need to electrically isolate the outside of the lighter outlet since it uses the car body as ground, the car is positive ground, and the 12v outlet would be negative ground. Instead, I decided to make a converter box that would plug into the 6v positive ground cigarette lighter and have an outlet for 12v negative ground. The box I chose was:
https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0002BBQUU/

I purchased a Y cigarette lighter port splitter and used the male part to plug into the cigarette lighter outlet and be the input to the converter and the female as the output of the converter. I have attached photos of the finished product.

It works great!

Craig Duerling

The first Cars & Coffee of 2020

The Saint Michaels Classic Motor Museum hosted its first Cars & coffee of the season on May 30th. It was well attended by a friendly group of masked enthusiasts who maintained a safe social distance. An awkwardly good time was had by all!

Walt Trice's 2006 Cadillac XLR

COVID-19 Consequences

As our Ford Edge sits, the cobwebs grow. *Ken*

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends:

- Region Picnic Canceled – May be rescheduled on an impromptu basis in the very late summer or fall.
- AACA 2020 Eastern Division Tour – status update
- 2020 St. Michaels Concours d'Elegance is cancelled
- AACA 2020 Eastern Fall Meet in Hershey is reduced to a one day show

In this year of our public health and economic discontent I write you from my 'safer at home' bunker, from where I have largely hidden myself away since at least March 15th, a period of 90+ consecutive days. I have gone outside. I have maintained my property. I have gassed up a car so I can drive four miles round trip to pick up groceries through the Harris Teeter Express-Lane®. I have had InstaCart® deliver food stuffs from BJ's that I order and paid for online. The FedEx and UPS drivers wonder what happened to us if a day goes by without a delivery.

I suspect these experiences have been repeated ad infinitum by most if not all of our members with differences accounting for geography and other circumstances. I feel your pain. That sentiment is appropriate for 'Presidents' to express, is it not? What more I have to tell you as it relates to the Antique Automobile Club of America, the Bay Country Region and the state of the classic car hobby in general will not make you feel better in the short term however.

Our shared tale of woe is taking place in the backdrop of a pandemic which is reordering our civic and economic existence. The pace of resuming civic and economic activity in Maryland is progressing slowly. Given what little I know about epidemiology and economics, the pace seems appropriate. Still I wish fewer people were infected and that fewer people died. I wish fewer people lost their jobs and that fewer businesses had to shutdown, with some having to close permanently.

As I anticipate events which are still technically active and open on our Region Calendar such as the Region Picnic, scheduled for late June, and the 2020 Eastern Division Tour scheduled for mid August I have to take notice of the efforts undertaken by Governor Larry Hogan and his Administration in resuming civic and economic activity in Maryland. On May 29 at 5PM the State of Maryland moved to fully implement Stage One of a three stage reopening plan which includes many sub-stage milestones. For those of you interested in looking at the State's three stage plan click the following link: https://governor.maryland.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/MD_Strong.pdf).

Of primary interest to us as we determine what we can keep, postpone or cancel on our calendar, two items from Maryland's yet to start Stage Two are most relevant. Initially Stage Two **will likely be a longer stage of the initial recovery.** This tells me, if it is likely going to take a month or more to progress through Stage One, it will take longer to get through Stage Two. The state indicates it will likely begin **raising the cap on social gatherings** during Stage Two but doesn't say by when or by how much.

The bottom line is that our Picnic cannot happen until we are assured a group of our size can reasonably get together. For that reason alone the Picnic scheduled for June 27th is indefinitely postponed. If we are able to reschedule the Picnic in 2020, the caterer Ken and Sally have so successfully used in the past is now a business casualty of the economic downturn and regulatory burdens brought on by the pandemic. At some point hopefully we can schedule a "bring your own – eat your own" impromptu picnic, but such a date is not currently discernable.

The 2020 AACA Eastern Division Tour, to be jointly hosted by the Bay Country and Eastern Shore Regions is still technically on the calendar. The Tour Committee is considering three options as to how to proceed with the Tour.

The first option is to maintain the Tour on its already rescheduled dates of August 12-15, 2020 but I think this is least likely option we will choose based on the same rationales that required we cancel the Region Picnic. The second option is to conduct the tour on rescheduled dates we are currently discussing with the national AACA. The third option is to cancel the Tour without rescheduling. There is too much uncertainty between options two and three for me to made an educated guess as to which will prevail.

I am also pained to let you know that the 2020 St. Michaels Concours d'Elegance, scheduled for September, within our Region footprint, has been cancelled. The organizers have announced the event will return on September 26, 2021.

Finally, and for the first time in anyone's memory, the full AACA Eastern Fall Meet has been cancelled by the Hershey Region. There only will be a one-day car show. More than anything else I've seen since I last wrote to you in April this tells me how far we have fallen, and how far we have to go to climb back out, to again enjoy our hobby as we have in the "before" times.

On the plus side our friends at the Classic Motor Museum restarted their Cars and Coffee tradition on May 30th. I didn't go but I am anxious to learn if any of our members attended. Consider posting your experience on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/BayCountryRegionAACA/

In closing, my service to you this year has been so devoid of substance that I do not expect to earn any service credit for being your 2020 President. Please keep yourselves safe and healthy. We will see each other again. I just don't know when or under which circumstances.

Lee Caplan, President

CLASSIFIEDS

KENT ISLAND CRUISERS

'27 Ford Model T Roadster Pickup hot rod, turn key, 302, C6, 12 bolt, almost all Ford, $16,500.

'31 Ford Model A Rumble Seat Roadster, 98% stock, Turn Key, needs some detailing, $24,500.

'40 Packard Coupe Hot Rod, Amazingly solid project, Crate 350, 700R4, tons of parts $15,000

'41 Ford Super Deluxe Coupe, Flathead V8 with goodies, been in storage 3 years, fine car that needs TLC, $23,500.

'51 Ford Custom Tudor, Flathead V8 with goodies, been in storage 3 years, fine car that needs TLC, $24,500.

'56 Thunderbird, also a solid project, both tops, cont. kit shaved, manual trans, stuck motor from sitting $10k

Vintage Bumper Car Tub, $450.
Load of Ford Model T Parts. $900

Model A Engine, Rotating assembly w/o pistons, Fresh. $500.

443-496-2887 or bchevy7@yahoo.com for photos

Bob, 443 496 2887, or with pics at bchevy7@yahoo.com

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Web Address: http://baycountryaaca.org/
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BayCountryRegionAACA/

Use the **Bay Country Region Hotline** to:
- find out about activity changes, club emergencies, etc.
- pass along urgent information to all club members

Contact **Lee Caplan at** 919-636-0955 **or lcaplan@icloud.com**

The Bay Country Region, AACA

The purpose of the club shall be the preservation, use, and enjoyment of self-propelled antique, classic, and special interest vehicles and related parts, materials, and services. The Board of Directors of the Region shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise specified. Membership meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Meeting announcements will be carried each month in the newsletter. Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and members are encouraged to submit news about personal interest items to the editor by the 20th of each month.

Items for the Distributor should be submitted by the 20th of the month. Submissions from members are greatly appreciated. Tell us about, or show us, your cars (and trucks) and what you are doing with them. If you're planning an event, here's the place to describe it.

Electronic submissions are preferred. Having avoided learning how to type all these years, the Editor doesn't want to have to learn now. On the other hand, photos and illustrations can be scanned, with no typing necessary, so send anything that you would like the membership to see.

Upcoming Events

June
17 **BCR Monthly Business Meeting. 7:30 pm; Dinner (optional) at 6:00 pm, Easton Diner (Tentative)**

July
7 **BCR Board Meeting.** 1:00-2:00 pm; at the home of Cathy Prouse **(Tentative)**

15 **BCR Monthly Business Meeting. 7:30 pm; Dinner (optional) at 6:00 pm, Easton Diner (Tentative)**

25 Delmarva Late Great Chevy Club Show @ Wright's Mkt.—Mardela Springs MD

August
1 7:00 am – 8:00 pm Bus trip to Mecum Auction/ Harrisburg; Depart Georgetown Walmart

4 **BCR Board Meeting. 1:00-2:00 pm; at the home of Cathy Prouse (Tentative)**

12-15 **AACA Eastern Divisional Tour (up to 1995); Cambridge, MD; Charles Emery: 410-742-8342**

19 **BCR Monthly Business Meeting. 7:30 pm; Dinner (optional) at 6:00 pm, Easton Diner (Tentative)**

22 Joint AACA Eastern Shore Region/Hebron Lions Club Show—Hebron MD More info to come

21-22 AACA Annual Grand Nationals—Allentown PA

September
1 **BCR Board Meeting. 1:00-2:00 pm; at the home of Cathy Prouse (Tentative)**

16 **BCR Monthly Business Meeting. 7:30 pm; Dinner (optional) at 6:00 pm, Easton Diner (Tentative)**

19 45th Edgar Rohr Memorial Car Meet sponsored by the Bull Run Region AACA at the Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William St., Manassas, VA. 20110. 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Free spectator admission and garage parking. Open to antique cars/trucks and street rods 1995 and earlier, and rare / exotic / limited production cars, post-1995. Thirty-six 'class' and 14 special awards. Antique car parts flea market, car corral, Model T Ford assembly demonstrations, 50-50 raffle, participant door prizes, silent auction. A minimum of 150 vehicles are expected; dash plaques go to first 175 vehicles registered. Located within 2 blocks of Old Town Manassas shops and farmer's market. The show goes on, "rain or shine." Information: Pete Pandolfi, (703) 919-8343; Bill Sessler, (703) 361-5491. On-line flyer and latest updates: http://bullrunaaca.org/rohr-show-information/

27 12:00–4:00 pm: 2nd Annual Rolling Sculpture Fun Car Show, Zion United Methodist Church, Cambridge MD. Noon-4:00 pm in concurrence with the Dorchester Arts Showcase. Prizes and door prizes will be awarded. Registration is $11 online in advance and $15 at the door. http://RollingSculpture.org

October
6 **BCR Board Meeting. 1:00-2:00 pm; at the home of Cathy Prouse (Tentative)**

10 AACA Eastern Fall Nationals, Hershey, PA. This year will be a car show, only, on a single day.

17 Delmarva Late Great Chevy Club Show @ Wright's Mkt.—Mardela Springs MD

21 **BCR Monthly Business Meeting. 7:30 pm; Dinner (optional) at 6:00 pm, Easton Diner (Tentative)**

Bay Country DISTRIBUTOR
May-June 2020

Ken Briers
736 5th ST NE Apt B
Washington, DC 20002-3587

Coming up:

Not much again!
Stay home!
-or take a ride by yourselves and send me a picture.

First Class Mail

Inside: George Hatcher's Mustang Mach 1

BIRTHDAYS

6/9	Paul Moore	7/8	Ed Nabb	7/22	Helen Plutschak
6/13	Bud Story	7/15	Barbara Gardella	7/30	Trudy Hamilton
6/21	Barbara Emery	7/16	Henry Schmidt	7/30	Danny Morris
6/23	Eleanor Smith	7/17	Harriet Reichard	8/2	George Hatcher
6/25	Wayne Morgan	7/18	Jeanne Avery	8/03	Max Avery
7/3	Buck Burton	7/18	Charles Emery	8/9	Mary McCarty

That Packard Building

In the January-February issue I described Philadelphia's Packard Motor Car Building, which I discovered while attending the AACA's National meeting. In the May/June issue of the AACA's magazine, **Antique Automobile,** mention was made of it that sheds some light on it. Editor West Peterson's article, on Page 10, describes his search for information about the original owner of his family's 1930 Packard 7-34 Speedster Eight runabout:

> "The car's identification number plate indicates that it was delivered to its new owner from "Packard Inc., Philadelphia, Pa., July 1930." (Packard Inc. was Packard Motor Company's Philadelphia *distributor,* which sold cars to surrounding dealers. Oftentimes, custom-built cars, such as the Speedster, were delivered directly by the distributor, and not a dealer.)"

Peterson gives an interesting account of his search for Nelson W. Brinkerhoff, the original owner, which I enjoyed reading, but I was particularly interested to learn more about the Packard Building.

Ken