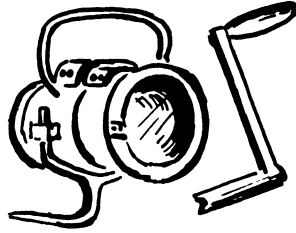
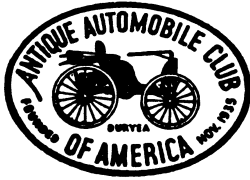


# “Tin n Brass”



OCTOBER 2020

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FROM:  
Michael Horning  
4230 Dorney Park Rd. Apt. 1018  
Allentown, PA 18104

**"TIN 'N BRASS"**

**AACA ONTELAUNEE REGION FOUNDED 1965**

**VOLUME FIFTY FIVE ISSUE NO. TEN OCTOBER 2020**

**Ontelaunee Region AACA holds monthly meetings on the first Saturday of each month, January through May and September through November, at 7:00 p.m.**

**Meetings are held on ZOOM (Contact Bob Hobaugh)**

**PRESIDENT**

**Robert Hobaugh  
710 E Walnut St.  
Kutztown, PA 19530  
610-683-3591  
rhobaugh@hometownnu.com**

**1st VICE PRESIDENT**

**Barbara Oswald  
2095 Greenawald Ave  
Allentown, PA 18104  
610-820-7191  
alsblue37@ptd.net**

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT**

**Marilyn Roth  
428 Adams Rd.  
Breinigsville, PA 18031  
610-395-3083  
margiggles@ptd.net**

**SECRETARY**

**Susan Manwiller  
20 Timothy Dr.  
Fleetwood, PA 19522  
610-944-8619  
Smanwi1321@aol.com**

**TREASURER**

**Lester Manwiller  
20 Timothy Dr.  
Fleetwood, PA  
610-944-8619  
lhedgehog1@aol.com**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Ken Dages  
Tim Hinkle  
Don Baer**

**Suzy McGovern - chairperson  
Mike Wolfe**

**Mike Horning - Tin 'N Brass Editor  
4230 Dorney Park Rd. Apt. 1018  
Allentown, PA 18104  
610-755-7445  
micycle@ptd.net**

**Phyllis J. Peters - Membership  
5265 Elgen Dr.  
Emmaus, PA 18049  
610-965-9236  
phyllispeters@hotmail.com**

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

**Budget - Lester Manwiller  
Hamburg Flea Market - Lester Manwiller  
Publicity - Don Baer**

**Registration - Susan Manwiller  
Das Awscht Fescht - Matt Manwiller  
Activities - Suzy McGovern**

**[www.ontelaunee.aaca.com](http://www.ontelaunee.aaca.com)**

## SMOKE SIGNALS

### October

3	The Camel Project Parade	Reading, PA
7-10	AACA Eastern Fall Meet	Hershey, PA
11	Ontelaunee President's Banquet	
17	Ontelaunee Business Meeting	ZOOM
18	Fall Foliage Tour	
19-23	AACA Central Tour	Tulsa, OK

### November

7	Ontelaunee Board Meeting	ZOOM
8	Apple Jack & Cider Tour	

### December

6	Budget and Reorganization Meeting	Krumsville, PA
13	Ontelaunee Christmas Party	

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow, what a September for your Ontelaunee Club! We enjoyed the Strausstown Show on September 13th, went to Ontelaunee Park and the Hudson Museum on September 19th, and Pennypacker Mills and Ott's Exotic Plants on September 20th! Special thanks go to Ken and Elsa Dages for restructuring our Two-Day Tour into two One-Day Tours. We have been invited to show a car on the AACA stage at the Carlisle Fall show from 7:00 am September 30th through noon on October 4th. Tell Wayne Tuck if you are interested. Phone him at 609-240-1561 or e-mail Wayne at [rwtuck@comcast.net](mailto:rwtuck@comcast.net).

We also met by Zoom on September 5, 2020 and welcomed new members Chris Hornaman and John Black. We will have another Zoom meeting on Saturday, October 17th at 7:00 pm. That is one week after usual because we will very busy on October 10th and 11th. You can join by telephone or computer. A link and numbers will be available online or you can call me.

On October 3rd, we will meet at 1:00 pm and parade at 2:00pm around the Berks County Community Foundation to benefit the Camel Project. This is an anti-bullying program run by noted speaker and author, Pam Gockley. Our own Cheri Dotterer will chair the parade so look for her announcement in this newsletter. On October 10th we will have the Hershey Show. Learn more about AACA shows and tours at [http://www.aaca.org/Meets/aaca\\_calendar.html](http://www.aaca.org/Meets/aaca_calendar.html).

The next day, October 11th, we will have our President's "Banquet" at the Maiden Creek Community Park Pavilion. This "Banquet" is early enough to have warm weather and enjoy Dave Kline playing guitar. We will not have installation of officers, just a good time, in-person with separation distance and masks. Look for the registration in this newsletter and let me know by October 5th how many will come with you.

October is time for submitting scholarship applications and nominations. Our Region supplies \$500 scholarships for post-secondary education. An application

appears in this edition of *Tin 'N Brass*. Nominations are sought for officer and director positions. Candidates will later be announced for vote in November. Please speak to me if you want to help make this Club all it can be.

Our tours will continue in October with the Fall Foliage Tour organized by Neil and Audrey Merkel. We will head north October 18th to Jerry's Classic Cars & Collectibles Museum in Pottsville. Please look for their tour notice in this newsletter. Our tours help engage us as members of a great Club and provide an opportunity to invite prospective members to enjoy our fellowship. Please think about prospective members you might invite on a tour!

In this edition of *Tin 'N Brass*, please enjoy articles about Lester and Susan Manwiller's 1927 Buick Standard Six and Charlie Potts' 1955 Chevrolet 210 hardtop coupe. Each car has a special story. Consider drafting an article about one of your cars for our *Tin 'N Brass*.

Please celebrate our Club! We have fun and you can see our smiling faces and cars in the Ontelaunee photo gallery at <http://ontelaunee.aaca.com/photo-gallery/>. Talk to our members and grow our fellowship! Visit our website for current information as it is posted at <http://ontelaunee.aaca.com/>.

President, Bob Hobaugh

#### BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES 9/5/2020 (Zoom Meeting)

President Robert Hobaugh welcomed Ontelaunee Region AACA members to a business meeting by Zoom on Sept. 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. We recited the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Susan Manwiller gave the Secretary's report from the business meeting held Aug 8, 2020 by Zoom. A motion to approve the Secretary's report from August was made by Tim Hinkle and seconded by Dave Bausch. The motion carried unanimously.

Lester Manwiller gave the Treasurer's report for August, 2020. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Tim Hinkle and seconded by Mike Horning. The motion carried unanimously. Lester mentioned that a \$50 donation was sent to First Presbyterian Church, Allentown, in memory of past president Burt Johnson. Burt was president in 1996 and 1997.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Membership:** Phyllis Peters reported 199 members as of tonight. A card was sent from the club to John and Diane Heyer who are recovering from an automobile accident. Online sympathies were sent to the funeral home for Burt Johnson. Bob said he's sorry we didn't get to see Burt Johnson on his drive-by tour. We welcomed new members John Black and Chris Hornaman to the meeting.

**Activities:** Suzy McGovern reported everything is going well. Bob thanked Lester Manwiller and Suzy McGovern for doing raffle tickets on the tours.

**Das Awkscht Fescht:** Bob is going to contact the AACA Museum to sign another contract

for the DAF feature car. Susan Manwiller received DAF post cards from Macungie Park to hand out at car shows.

Publicity: Don had nothing to report.

#### Tours:

Sept. 19 & 20, 2020 – Two-Day Tour, Ken and Elsa Dages will be the tourmasters for 2 one-day tours. On Saturday we will be touring the historic buildings at Ontelaunee Park in New Tripoli then go to the church to eat our lunch and after lunch we will tour the Hudson Museum on Old Route 22. On Sunday we will be going to Ott's Greenhouse in Schwenksville and then go to Pennypacker Mills to eat our lunch and take a tour of the mansion.

Oct. 18, 2020 – Fall Foliage Tour. Tourmasters Neil and Audrey Merkel are planning a tour over Hawk Mountain toward Pottsville, maybe lunch at Leiby's, and tour Jerry's Car Museum. Lester said he thinks the club should pick up the cost of the museum. Handicap parking is next to the museum, with more parking across the street on the bank parking lot.

Nov. 8, 2020 – Applejack & Cider Tour. Tourmasters Ken and Elsa Dages have a tour planned to Red Mill Village in Clinton, NJ. He will have a map for everyone with explicit directions. Everyone must have a navigator. Cost is \$10 per person. Susan Manwiller will bring the donuts; Ken will bring the cider, cups and napkins.

Newsletter: Mike Horning said the deadline for the next newsletter is September 15. Phyllis received a phone call from Shirley Schaffer about the Leighton Buick show on the TNB calendar for October 25, 2020. That show has been cancelled. Also the meetings listed on the TNB calendar should be by Zoom instead of at the church. Mike will make the corrections.

Website: Michael Dotterer said to send pictures for the photo gallery to ontelaunee.aaca.com. Bob said he feels Michael is getting us more attention on the internet.

#### Old Business:

Strausstown Show: Sept. 13 – Bob, Jeff Dotterer and other members are planning to attend.

Camel Project: October 3, 2020 – We will meet at the Yocum Library behind RACC. Michael Dotterer will be leading the parade around the block. Cheri Dotterer said if you choose to donate, the money will be used for Camel packs which will be going to 50 middle school students in the Reading School District who need assistance. Members from the Skyline Corvette Club might also participate. It is okay if you bring a car that isn't a classic. We can put our Ontelaunee magnets on our car if we want to or make our own computer generated sign for the rear window. Cheri will also make signs to hand out. WFMZ TV and others will be videotaping the parade.

Jack Mesch Tour: Bob received a thank you note from Jack Mesch saying he was delighted to see us.

Directory: Phyllis found out from Allegra Printing that three years ago the printing

and mailing of the rosters cost \$544.78. There were 112 mailed and she received 150. She has quite a few left. The new rosters will include the by-law changes. Additional comments and suggestions were made concerning printing of the roster.

**AACA Grand National:** It was held in Gettysburg, PA on August 21 & 22, 2020. Lester said it was hot and no shade where he was parked. He was happy he received a second. Bob and Florita were judges. Florita judged Thunderbirds and Bob judged Olds and Chevy Performance to 1980. There were a lot of beautiful cars.

**Virginville Grange:** Neil Merkel thanked everyone who helped him look for a Model T for the Grange's 100th anniversary. Paul Yenser from Kutztown showed his 1926 Model T.

#### **New Business:**

For member meetings, Florita bought unlimited data so we can do hybrid meetings where some members can meet in person and others by Zoom. Bob will meet with Cheri at the church to do a test.

Bob is asking anyone who has not been receiving emails from the club to please let him know.

The AACA Eastern Fall Meet at Hershey is scheduled for October 10, 2020 without the flea market and car corral.

Bob received a letter from AACA asking us to host a national meet. Previously Pottstown Region mentioned doing a national meet together. It is something to think about.

**President's Banquet:** Bob is thinking about having a catered picnic due to Covid-19. He is looking at pavilions at Strausstown, Crystal Cave and Maidencreek Park.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. was made by Jeff Dotterer and seconded by Marilyn Roth. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Manwiller, Secretary

#### **ACTIVITIES CORNER**

Can you believe we're in October already? I know I can't but we did have a lot of fun on our car runs. I want to thank everyone who volunteered to organize a run. You all did a great job. I'm hoping that we can return to normal soon.

Please keep staying safe.....Suzy McGovern

#### **CAMEL PROJECT**

Do you know a child that suffers from being bullied? Were you?

Join us Saturday, October 3rd at 1:00pm for a car parade.

For every \$12 you donate, that gives 1 pak to a middle school student in Berks County.

The event is sponsored by The Camel Project, a non-profit that teaches empathy and reputation to stop bullying. Their motto: Stop Bullying! I care!

We are meeting at 1:00pm in the Yocum Library parking lot. The parade begins at

2pm. The parade route takes us around the block near the Berks County Community Foundation.

Yocum Library is part of Reading Area Community College, Front St, Reading. The library is located on Front street behind the main building of the college.

See flyer for more details



**ALL SHOW CARS WELCOME**  
**Join us as we honor  
and celebrate the 2020  
Community Champions**

*We don't need superheroes.  
We have ordinary people doing extraordinary things.*

**Saturday, October 3rd, presentation at 1 pm (Invitation only)**  
**Berks County Community Foundation (BCCF),**  
**237 Court Street, Reading, PA**  
**All are invited to a car-parade at 2 pm**

**1:00-1:15pm** Cars line up Yocum Library, 30 South Front Street, Reading, PA

**1:55pm** Leave parking lot

**2:00pm** Car Parade

- Four-way flashers blinking
- 5-10 mph
- Route
  - Front Street to Washington Street (2-way: Goggleworks)
  - Right on Washington Street
  - Right on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - Left on Court Street
  - Left on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street
  - Left on Washington Street
  - Left on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - Repeat five times

- Encourage family and friends to stand at **3<sup>rd</sup> and Court** to cheer the parade.
- Please ask them to park on the Yocum Library lot and walk to the BCCF.

- Make banners to promote your club for each car.
- Place them in rear driver's window during parade.
- Audience will be on driver's side during the parade.
- Masks are required outside cars.

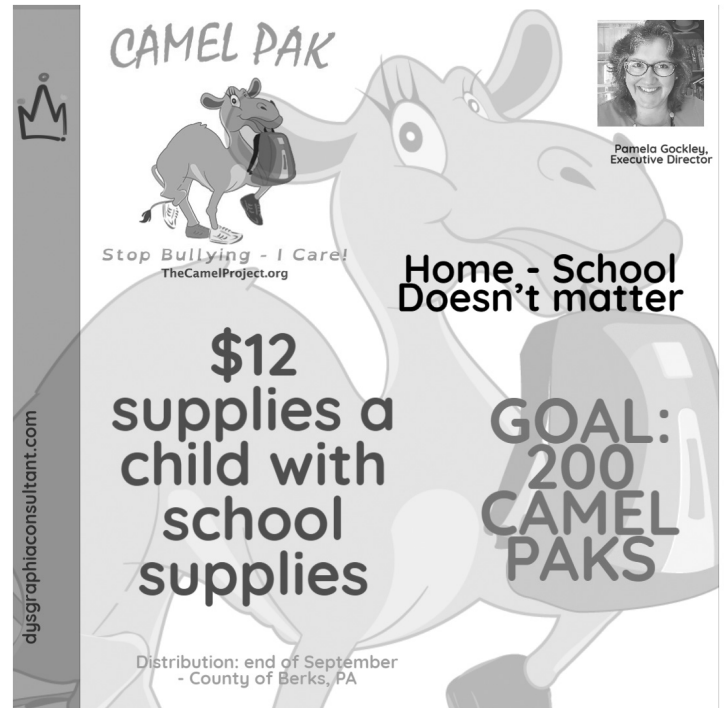
**Reading City Police Department** will be stopping traffic during the parade.

You will receive a donation envelop upon arrival at the Yocum parking lot.

Car Parade Coordinator: Cheri Dotterer 484-509-0518

Donations will be accepted in front of the BCCF

<https://www.thecamelproject.org/2020-community-champions>



## OLEY VALLEY TOUR – 8-23-20

On August 23, 2020, 29 Ontelaunee Indians departed from the LVHN Health Center at Moselem Springs to tour the great picturesque Oley Valley led by our tour masters, Lester and Susan Manwiller.

Our first slow stop was the the Jacob Keim Farmstead which is an example of 18th century German-influenced architecture.

We drove through 2 covered bridges, one of them named the Pleasantville Covered Bridge which was built in two stages due to wood shortages after the Great Flood of 1850. The bridge crosses the Manatawny Creek.

There were many beautiful, well-maintained homesteads of stone. Some with the house, barn and many out buildings made of stone. Many of these homesteads had tobacco barns, but I did not see any tobacco being grown only corn and soybeans. So I believe that years ago much of the land must have had tobacco growing.

Our tour ended at Jenn & Jessie's Ice Cream Parlor where we could fill our bellies with food and delicious Leiby's ice cream.

Submitted by Minnie Breininger

**PRESIDENT'S BANQUET 2020 - ONTELAUNEE CLUB**

**When: Sunday, October 11, 2020**

**Where: Maiden creek Community Park Pavilion  
753 Park Road, Blandon, PA 19510  
"Doors open" in the pavilion at 12:00 noon  
Dinner served at 1:00 pm**

**Entertainment: Dave Kline, guitarist, story teller and folklorist**

**Menu: Salad, ham, turkey, roasted red potatoes, green beans, cake and pie, coffee, soft drinks**

**Cost: Members and children 11 years and older.....\$13;  
Children 6 to 10 years old.....\$6;  
Children under 6 years of age.....Free; and  
Non-members 11 years of age and older.....\$20**

**Payment: Checks payable to Ontelaunee Region AACA**

**Deadline: Reservations must be made on or before Monday, October 5, 2020**

**Reservations: Please send checks and completed form to  
Bob Hobaugh  
710 East Walnut Street  
Kutztown, PA 19530**

**Questions: Call Bob at 610-360-6537**

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**ENTRY FORM – PRESIDENT'S BANQUET 2020 - ONTELAUNEE REGION AACA**

**Name(s) of Club Member(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of Non-Member(s):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Names of children up to 6 to 10 years of age attending:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Names of children under 6 years of age attending:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed:\_\_\_\_\_**

**Check Number:\_\_\_\_\_**



**ESTATE PUBLIC AUCTION  
CLASSIC & COLLECTOR VEHICLES**

**Saturday, October 17, 2020**

**12:30 PM**

**(Inspection Auction Day Only – 8:00 AM)**

**LOCATION: 339 Main Street, Red Hill, PA 18076**

**Borough of Red Hill, Montgomery County**

**1929 Ford Model-A Pickup Truck**

**1954 International R-130 Series Stake Body Truck**

**1961 Volvo 544 Sport Two Door Hardtop**

**1963 Dodge Custom 880 Hardtop Station Wagon**

**1964 Dodge Dart GT Golden Anniversary Two Door Convertible**

**1965 Chrysler Imperial LeBaron Four Door**

**Ford Ferguson 9-N Wide Front Tractor**

**For Photos, Full Listing, Terms, See Website: [www.witmanauctioneers.com](http://www.witmanauctioneers.com)**

**Auction For: Robert J. & Joan M. Wood Estate**

**Auction By: Witman Auctioneers, Inc., AY-000155-L**

**[www.witmanauctioneers.com](http://www.witmanauctioneers.com)**

**(717)-665-5735 • (717)-665-1300**

**FALL FOLIAGE TOUR**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020**

We will meet at New Jerusalem Zion United Church of Christ, 1456 Krumsville Road in Krumsville, Pennsylvania, at 10:00AM and leave at 10:15AM. Our tour will take us through the backwoods of Berks and Schuylkill Counties and hopefully nature will co-operate and put on a spectacular show of leaf colors for us to enjoy on our trip to Jerry's Classic Cars & Collectibles Museum in Pottsville.

We will be making a lunch stop at Leiby's Restaurant and Ice Cream Parlor in South Tamaqua. There will be 4 options for lunch:

1. Pack a lunch and eat in their parking lot
2. Pre-order curb-side delivery of your food and eat in the parking lot.
3. Pre-order inside pick-up and eat in the parking lot.
4. Pre-order and eat inside with other members of our group in a private room.

Meals for Leiby's will be paid individually by those ordering. You can view the menu of hot and cold sandwiches online at [www.leibysrestaurant.com](http://www.leibysrestaurant.com). Preordering will allow us to be served in a timely manner. Please call Helen at 570-778-3954 (but not the restaurant's phone number) to preorder your sandwiches and designate if you are eating in, picking up inside or using curbside delivery. We are allowing about an hour for everyone to eat lunch. Their restrooms will be available to all of us. There is an entrance for those at the curbside delivery doorway and it is not the main entrance for the restaurant. After leaving Leiby's we will travel the backroads of Schuylkill Co. on our way to the museum.

Please let Neil Merkel know if you will be attending and your choice about eating inside or outside by Friday, Oct. 9th by using the form below. Contact Neil at 610-756-4252, email berryhill.218@verizon.net.or use the form below and mail it for receipt by October 9th to 218 Robin Hill Road, Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania 19534.

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Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Packing our own lunch (number):\_\_\_\_\_

Pre Ordering for pick-up inside (number):\_\_\_\_\_

Pre Ordering for curbside delivery (number):\_\_\_\_\_

Pre Ordering for eating in private dining room (number):\_\_\_\_\_

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**APPLEJACK AND CIDER TOUR  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020**

**BRING MASKS, LUNCH, PAPER PRODUCTS AND CHAIRS**

**WE WILL MEET AT 9:30AM---LEAVE AT 10:00AM**

**NOTE: WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FOLLOW DUE TO AMOUNT OF TRAFFIC WE WILL ENCOUNTER. YOU MUST HAVE A NAVIGATOR FOR THIS TOUR**

**MEET AT WEGMANS'S PARKING LOT OFF OF THE SPRINGHOUSE ROAD ENTRANCE OF TILGHMAN STREET**

**(TAKE TILGHMAN STREET TO LIGHT AT SPRINGHOUSE AND TURN TOWARD WEGMANS. AT FIRST DRIVE ON RIGHT, TURN AND RIGHT AGAIN TO GET TO PARKING LOT WHERE WE WILL MEET)**

**WE WILL BE TRAVELING APPROX.1-1/2 TO 2 HOURS TO RED MILL VILLAGE IN CLINTON,NEW JERSEY. WE WILL BE GOING THROUGH ALLENTOWN,BETHLEHEM ANDEASTON ON LESSER TRAVELED CITY STREETS,GOING THROUGH PHILLIPSBURG AND THEN TO CLINTON.**

**THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF PLACES TO GET GAS AND USE REST ROOMS.**

**COST PER PERSON-\$10.00**

**QUESTIONS? CALL KEN OR ELSA DAGES AT 215-290-6730 BEFORE 9pm DAILY (RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN NOV. 1)**

-----  
CUT HERE AND MAIL THIS FORM AND CHECK TO:  
KENNETH DAGES, PO BOX 424, SOUDERTON, PA 18964

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PASSENGERS \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_  
(MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO ONTELAUNEE REGION-AACA)

-----  
**2020 EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATION TO ONTELAUNEE REGION AACA**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell# \_\_\_\_\_

What is your relationship to an Ontelaunee Region AACA Member and what is that Member's name:

Present Academic Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School you attend:

Is this your first time to apply for this Grant: ( ) Yes ( ) No

If the answer is no, what year did you apply? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive a Grant at that time? ( ) Yes ( ) No

**DEADLINE FOR THIS APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020**

Please send this application to:

Bob Hobaugh, 710 East Walnut Street, Kutztown, PA 19530-1316

If there are any questions, Please Call Tel. #610-360-6537

**CRITERIA:** (As was originally established in 2005) Any student beginning his/her second year of education beyond high school or vocational school, to attend a college or trade school of their choice will be considered for Education Monies from the Ontelaunee Region. The same student may be considered for a grant in his/her third or fourth, if they did not receive any past grants or there are no other candidates applying for the money in their Second Year. The determination shall be made by the Education Committee at the time the application is received. Any child or grandchild of an active member of the Ontelaunee Region may apply for this education money. Maximum award is \$500 per applicant.

## 1927 BUICK

By Lester Manwiller

It was January 1983 when someone in our club mentioned that he had purchased some old Buicks that had been stored in an old barn in Connecticut. He purchased



the cars because he intended to keep one and sell the others. That person was Keith Yost, Ontelaunee President in 1982, who passed away in 2001 at age 45. purchased from him a Standard Six 2-door, 5-passenger, coach model 27-20. In Connecticut at that time the cars didn't have a title just a bill of sale. The bill of sale allowed me to get a Pennsylvania title.

The car was in pretty sad shape but it was restorable. The roof was disintegrated with only the roof slats intact. The seats had very little material on the springs. I guess the mice were having a field day. The glue on the wooden steering wheel dried up and pieces to the steering wheel lay on the floor. The body was straight but needed a lot of work. Just to give you an idea how bad it was, when our local service station attendant came to pick up our modern car for inspection he asked my wife if I got the old car from the junk yard.

It took six long years to restore the car. It needed a lot of new wood which my father helped to replace. The hood had holes in it and Stitzer body shop fabricated a new one after a failed attempt at securing one from California resulted in having to send it back because it was for another model. Although I thought the wooden spoke wheels would have looked nicer with a natural finish, the 27-20 model's spokes were painted and then pin striped. The nickel, paint and upholstery were completed by Reinhold's restoration. The paint color is Washington Blue with black fenders and the interior has blue mohair plush upholstery.

I like driving the Buick and it can keep up with modern traffic but stopping it can be difficult. There is no ignition key, the car has a starter button on the floor. There is however a key to lock the transmission. This was also the last year Buick used a backward shift pattern meaning a reverse H.

Not much changed from the previous year in this car except the engine now had rubber motor supports, heavier flywheels, counter balanced crankshafts, a "vacuum ventilation" for the crankcase and a torsional balancer. Buick's sales slogan became "Vibrationless Beyond Belief". Horsepower increased to 63. Production was 33,190 for domestic sales and 870 for export. It sold for \$1,195.00 and weighed 3,215 pounds.

I was glad to have received an AACA Senior Award in 1989 and a Grand National second in Botavia, New York. Another highlight was to go on an AACA Vintage Tour in Maryland in 2007.



## MY 1955 CHEVROLET 210 HARDTOP COUPE

By Charlie Potts as told to Bob Hobaugh

Sometimes I call my 1955 Chevy “My Toy,” “My Hobby” or “My Teenage Car” because each is true: the car reflects who I have been and who I am. Most people who



know me know that I am a former car racer, a Carburetor Advisor for VCCA, and a Life Member in AACA. Each of those aspects of my life appears in this 1955 Chevrolet. Let's begin the story at the Chevrolet factory in Baltimore, Maryland, where this car was manufactured on Friday, August 19, 1955, one week before the last day of production for the 1955 Chevrolets. Only 11,675

examples of the 210 hardtop coupes were made that model year, with many Bel Airs later modified by owners to look like the 210 hardtop coupe.

My 210 came in the single color of black because the factory previously ceased production of two-tones. Factory options include: 265 cubic inch V-8 Corvette engine, 4-barrel Carter carburetor, dual exhaust, small disc hubcaps, back-up lights, 3-speed manual transmission with column shifter, overdrive with a 4.11 differential and tinted glass. Dealer options include wheel covers, chrome trim surround at the door covering the gasoline cap, and whitewall tires. The car sold new in New York and I became the second owner in 1958, purchasing as a youth at Tony Mauer's Used Cars on North 9th Street in Reading, PA. I proudly drove the car for two years as daily transportation until the racing bug got me.

Everyone knows that Chevrolet called its 1955 engine “The Hot One” because its V-8 design allowed high rpms with die-cast heads, integral interchangeable valve guides, aluminum pistons and a forged pressed-steel crankshaft. It appeared with 180 horsepower. In 1961 this 210 became my drag racer, competing on the 330-foot straightaways between turns 4 and 1 in the oval tracks at Reading Fairgrounds, Allentown Fairgrounds and Nazareth Speedway. I won “all the time.” My competitors frequently advanced the \$35 required to challenge me, usually protesting a locked rear-end. There was no locked rear-end. I discovered later that the engine one of 50 “racing” 1955 V-8s with Zora Arkus-Duntov designed camshafts, of which 2 were shipped to Baltimore. This camshaft increased valve lift and duration and allowed the engine to produce 195 horsepower. It got faster the more I raced it. Periodically, I added two 4-barrel Carter WCFB carburetors or a 1962 Rochester fuel injection system.



But by 1964 I had other race cars so the 1955 became a tow car until 1965. It pulled those racers with a tow bar to many venues, including Cecil County, Maryland, where my 1957 Chevrolet wagon set the NHRA record for Elapsed Time and Miles Per Hour in a Quarter Mile. More about that another time. My Toy received a frame-on restoration from 1977 to 1981, returning to stock condition. Today its odometer reads about 74,000



miles. That restoration allowed me to compete in AACA and VCCA.

In AACA, My Toy received straight awards of First Junior, First Senior, First (or Senior) Grand National, and Preservations in decennial series from the date of the First Junior. In the first cycle, it won these awards from 1981 to 1988 with 10 Preservations. The second cycle ran from 1991 to 2000 with a Senior Grand National

and 6 Preservations. The third cycle ran from 2001 to 2006 with 8 Preservations and the Senior Chevrolet National Award in 2003. The fourth cycle ran from 2011 with a SGNR at Gettysburg in 2020. In VCCA, My Toy won with 1,000 points at Morgantown in 2018 and again in 2019.

Our members often refer to their cars as having a gender, usually female; I call the 210 "it." That is good because "My Hobby" already takes a lot of time. My wife, Gloria, travelled to many of the races and shows, but now stays home telling me, "Whatever you want to do." In the fifth cycle of AACA shows, I don't know whether to enter the 210 in Class 32 or Racing, Class 24 or 24A, but I will continue show "My Teenage Car." Accompanying this article are pictures of the 210 in racing livery, as a tow car with the 1957 wagon, and as restored.

#### OCTOBER BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARIES

Albert Davis	10/2	
Chris Sullivan	10/2	
Linda Costa	10/4	
Jan Semmel	10/8	
Grace Fry	10/9	
	10/10	John & Kathrine McCarthy
	10/13	Leroy & Vasilia Hinkle
Raymond Huber	10/17	Allen & Barbara Oswald
Paul Remaley	10/17	
Robert Hobaugh, Jr.	10/17	
Wayne Tuck	10/17	
John McCarthy	10/20	
Allen Oswald	10/21	
	10/22	Neil & Audrey Merkel
	10/23	David & Debra Anspach
	10/24	Scott & Kathy Dages
Diane Maurer	10/24	
E. Fred Kriszat	10/25	
Glenn Danenhowser	10/25	
Donald Baer	10/26	
Bonnie Schorr	10/26	
Michael Schaffer	10/27	
Terry Naugle	10/29	