

THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN



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Antique Automobile Club of America



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Members Queue-Up For The October Rockville Show

By Bill Wurzell, Editor

Chesapeake Region was well-represented at the Saturday, October 17th Rockville Show as it is commonly known among car lovers of all makes. The rain free day, downright cold in the early morning but became sunny and warmed to the mid 50's by early afternoon.

This show is the one car owners look forward to all season. None more so than Charles Gillet, Jr., the gentleman with the spectacular collection of priceless vehicles. 'The Gillet Team' comprised of Charles Gillet, Jr., Chief Judge, Gene Sauter; many hearty associates and Al Prueitt & Sons Restoration, of Glen Rock, Pa., drove a trailered seven vehicles from the Gillet collection to the show at beautiful Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. If you haven't attended 'Rockville,' this venue features The 'Glenview' Mansion, with a long winding driveway that leads onto the waterfront. Many photographers and others stake out the driveway for an up-close view of the beautiful vehicles as they enter the grounds.

In a typical year, there will be upwards of 500 antique and classic vehicles of all descriptions. A live band performs all day, there are automotive related vendors along with food vendors for every taste.

The 'Magnificent Seven' ...

The Gillet Collection vehicles brought to Rockville were: 1934 Pierce-Arrow Durham Body 8; 1926 Rolls Royce Barker Body Phantom; 1931 Cadillac V16 Fleetwood body, four-door convertible; 1938 Packard V12 Durham Body convertible; 1948 Packard Victorian convertible 8; 1934 Packard convertible 8 rumble seat coupe and Gene Sauter's 1937 English Wolseley four door Saloon six.

While speaking with Mr. Gillet, my good friend, Dr. Harvey Rapp and I thanked him for going to the trouble and expense of bringing these priceless jewels out to share with the public. Charles said he is "glad to do it" and enjoys talking to other car owners about his collection. Other vehicles in Mr. Gillet's collection have won major awards and 'best of show' at many Concours d'Elegance events around the country for years. The '34 Pierce-Arrow and a '54 Bentley are up for a national award from AACA.



Chesapeake Region member Charles Gillet, Jr., poses with his award winning 1934 Pierce-Arrow four door convertible. The Pierce-Arrow was a crowd favorite all day and went on to capture 'The Mayor's and City Council's Award, October 17 at the 2015 Rockville Car Show at Rockville Civic Center Park. Well over 500 vehicles were displayed/or the single-day car extravaganza--Dr. Harvey Rapp photo

HUGE CROWD, LOTS OF VEHICLES

No Rain Saturday For AACA Hershey Eastern Fall Meet

By Bill Wurzell, Editor

Compared to the last few years, the weather for the 60th annual AACA Eastern Division Fall Meeting was stupendous! Well, it did rain on Friday, but Saturday was great, a little chilly in the early morning, but by mid-morning it was sunny and warming.

Rather than my normal 'modis operandi' of going alone to the Hershey Fall Meet, this year Chesapeake Region Secretary, Jim Turner accompanied me. I left home at 4:50 am and drove to the newly reincarnated 'Radisson Baltimore Hotel,' formerly 'Baltimore Plaza' on Greenspring Drive in Timonium where I rendezvoused with Jim.

We got back onto I-83 north for the next 78 miles to Hershey. This is the first time in many years I can remember not running into major road construction on the Baltimore-Harrisburg Expressway. Arriving at Hershey Park Drive we turned left into the huge 'day parking' lot and coughed up \$15 smacklers for the privilege of

parking in soft, grassy... mud! Seems to me it was only ten bucks last year. At least we weren't too far from the main gate, about a ten minute walk. That's the advantage of arriving early. In another hour, people will be walking for twenty minutes or more to get into a crossing area. I know, been there done that.

Inside the gate, we were immediately in the car corral, but which way to go? After getting confusing directions from an elderly chap in a green iridescent vest, we set out onto the car corral roadway that encircles Hershey Giant Center. While eyeballing all the nifty cars for sale, we could see show cars arriving, driven by their owners. Later on, we waved to Gary Ruby driving his 1951 Ford Victoria, followed closely behind by President Paula Ruby driving their 1985 Buick LeSabre. Both cars would finish 'in the money' by securing their 'Senior' designation. After all, that's the whole idea of displaying one's vehicle on the showfield for judging, and seek admiration from spectators.

Continue to 'Hershey', page 6...

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! NOVEMBER 26

AACA Hershey Museum Tour Well Attended

By Tom Kenney, Activity Director

Twenty-seven hearty souls from the Chesapeake Region started the driving tour to the Hershey Museum on Sunday October 25th. Members met at the Shrewsbury Cracker Barrel Restaurant parking lot. Driving instructions were provided that allowed drivers to take the highway or the back roads routes to get to the Hershey Museum. Most drivers chose the back roads! Lucky for all of us, member Jim Turner got an early start only to find the very first direction was incorrect...oops! Jim doubled back to the starting point and the change was made before most drivers left on the tour.

The fall colors were lovely and at their peak. The country roads took us through quaint towns, and vast farmlands. We arrived at Hershey from a different perspective than usual.

The tickets members ordered included the guided tour to 'behind the scenes'. It was a treat to see cars in the holding area to be prepared for display. The docent described the cars in detail. Some members ordered the optional box lunch served upstairs. The exhibit that drew my interest was the Tucker display.

Members attending the Hershey Museum Tour:

Henry Ver Valen, Read Van Zile and Joanne Day, Dan and Terry Materazzi, Tom and Anne Kenney, Gary and Paula Ruby, Tom Dawson, Trip and Linda Franklin, Dave and Thelma Johnson, Buzz Diehl, Matt Diehl, Gary and Vicky Wilmer, Paul and Ginny Habicht, Craig and Mary Whitcraft, Charles and Lois Poole, Jack and Elaine Treadwell.



Tom Kenney photos

Member's cars adorn AACA Museum driveway



One of three complete Tucker cars on display

Continuation Of 'Eastern Fall Meet' From November Bulletin

Editor's Note: In the November edition of The Chesapeake Bulletin, an unknown gremlin caused the beginning text of the Hershey Fall Meet story to 're-flow' into the text that was continued onto page six. This piece is about Chesapeake Region members, Secretary James Turner and Bill Wurzel and their Saturday, October 10th visit to the event.

The text below, picks up where the page one story ended in the November edition.

judging, and seek admiration from spectators.

Jim and I have very similar taste in cars, but we looked at everything, except some obscure European cars that we have no identity with. We viewed cars that we believed to be way overpriced. However, we also found cars that were very reasonably priced. Case in point: an absolutely outstanding 1989 Lincoln Town Car, Signature Series. It had a simulated convertible top, excellent interior and exterior, paint was nearly flawless. The Lincoln had less than 80k miles and was priced at only \$3,995! Buy it, take it to a show and win a trophy. Another example was a 1949 Buick Super four door sedan. This model is near and dear to my heart. My grandparents purchased a green Super sedan brand new in 1949. I rode with them everywhere in that Buick. The one in the corral was black with "wide whites, Dynaflo and Buick's stovebolt 'nailhead' in-line eight cylinder motor. What made this car so desirable was the incredible low mileage of only 28,000 documented miles. The original mohair gray-striped upholstery was pristine...

because it was covered in perfectly clear plastic seat covers, front and rear. There was a small crowd around the car, many of them pondering just what Jim and I were thinking; the asking price was \$11,500 which we thought to be very fair price compared to the prices on some other cars that weren't nearly as nice, i.e., a green 1951 Chevrolet sedanette with over 100k miles for \$24,500! Whoa, hello! We saw many other comparisons too numerous to mention.

After walking for what seemed like eternity, we found a high curb and sat down. Other than seating near the buildings and a few food vendors, there is really no place other than the ground to sit for a few minutes. A long bench placed here and there throughout the venue would be greatly appreciated by many people attending the Eastern Fall meet. A bleacher type bench I see at other events would help a lot. I'm sure parents with young children would be grateful as well, so would the children.

There were plenty of Chesapeake Region members attending, if not for the entire event for a day or two. Will Terrett was there from Wednesday to Friday. Tom Kenney stayed until Sunday. Ron King, had his Buick Riviera, Gary Wilmer had his bronze Corvette and his red Pontiac Trans Am. Jerry Gordon had his 1961 Cadillac 'Park Avenue' four door hardtop in the mix and Ferd Driver had his 1955 DeSoto Sportsman. Tom Young was a spectator, leaving his 1960 'I-Bird' at home this year.

Hershey 2015 was a fun event, made even more so by the mostly pleasant weather.

Nearly 400 Venues At 'Show Before The Snow'

By Tom Kenney, Activity Director

It's become an annual tradition in our household: attending the Mid-Maryland Ford Club's car show at the Mall of Westminster parking lot. Every year it's the last big old car event before the busy holiday season begins. The United States Marine Corps, had a detachment on site collecting 'Toys For Tots.'

The show is the effort of Charlie and Lois Poole. They are active members of CRAACA. This year, the good weather brought out 387 vehicles! Just about every parking space was filled, many of which we haven't seen.

Anne and I volunteered this year to assist Lois in registering entries. We went early only to find sixteen people had arrived ahead of us. Quickly, the line of folks waiting to get their paperwork and dash plaques stretched to about one block.

It was fun greeting each arrival and assigning them to the correct class. By noontime, our job was done and we were free to join our grandkids for the best part... getting their picture taken in the family DeSoto! Our grandkids know all about DeSotos.

After the picture taking, Anne and I went to check out all the vehicles on the lot. The next show at the Westminster Mall is the 'Spring Thaw Show', April 10th, rain date Sunday April 11, 2016.



Grandkids, Sophia, left and Willis, behind steering wheel, discuss which DeSoto model grandma and grandpap will provide them with when they reach driving age.

**Service Pins Awarded To
Members Unable To Attend
Annual Banquet November 15**

: Michael Anstine, 40 years :

: Robert Amos, 40 years :

: Terry & Susan Bond, 40 years :

: E. Wayne & Linda McDaniel, 40 years :

: Robert & Shirley Nelson, 40 years :

CONGRATULATIONS!