

SPACE AGE STAR

DECEMBER 2021



HERSHEY REPORT, 1966 BEL AIR BARN FIND, JERSEY LAKELAND VCCA CAR SHOW PHOTOS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editor's Notes.....	Page 2
1966 Bel Air.....	Page 5
NJ Show Photos.....	Page 8

EDITOR'S NOTES

We held our first in person region meeting in at least three years at our flea market spaces in Hershey on October 7, 2021. The meeting attendees were, Pete Cullen, Paul Dimbath, Russell Heim, John Mahoney, and Bill Pritchett (see photo on the next page). Our main topic was publicizing our decision to include 1949 through 1954 Chevrolets in the region. We'll send a note to Stacy Zimmerman to include in an upcoming issue of the Speedster. Myron and Barb Smith couldn't make the meeting, but visited the region spaces to say hello.

This was my first Hershey since 2018 and it was great to be back. It was wonderful to see region members and many other friends in person. Hanging around the vendor spaces with old friends was a blast.

Foot traffic in the flea market was down, most likely because Canadians and Europeans couldn't attend due to Covid restrictions. I had nothing to sell this year, but other members who share the spaces had decent sales.

I made it to the show field on Saturday for the first time in 10 years. I was on the field as a judge, which I enjoyed immensely. If you've never judged in AACA before, I highly recommend it (even if you have trouble getting around as I do). I judged AMC high performance and GM high performance from 1970-1987. The GM class included a few 1970 Buick Grand Sports and a stunning GTO Judge. Our judging team worked together very well. I enjoyed the camaraderie. The judge's gift, promo model Corvettes, were very nice. They

fed the judges breakfast before sending us out on the field.

After judging, I walked the show field. The Hershey show field probably displays the greatest variety of cars anywhere. There's everything from turn of the 20th century electric cars, right up to mid 1990's station wagons. It was fun seeing cars that I've always admired, as well as a few that I'd never heard of or seen before. I was sore and tired by the late afternoon, but I had fun.

I didn't visit the car corral, but did see what was left of a 1928 LaSalle that was for sale in the Orange flea market field. I posted a picture of it on page 4.

Thanks to Myron Smith for sending the 1966 Bel Air article. It's nice to see a four-door Bel Air being saved. Please keep the member articles coming.

I hope everyone enjoys the pictures from the Jersey Lakeland VCCA show held on October 24, 2021. It was a little chilly that day, but I took pictures of some very nice "Space Age" Chevrolets.

During one of our Zoom meetings last winter, we decided to change the newsletter frequency from bi-monthly to quarterly in 2022. The next newsletter after this one will be published in March 2022.

Please let me know if you're interested in having a region Zoom meeting over the winter. January would probably be a good time to have one if there's enough interest.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and best wishes for a great 2022.

Russell Heim



Region meeting photo. Seated, from left to right, Russell Heim and Bill Pritchett. Standing, from left to right, Paul Dimbath, Pete Cullen, and John Mahoney. I'd like to credit the photographer, but I can't remember who took the picture. If one of our readers took it, please send an email and you'll get credit and an apology in the next newsletter.



For only \$5,900, this 1928 LaSalle pick-up truck conversion could have been yours. The cardboard sign said the owner had the title in hand. Everyone that walked by had a comment about the vehicle. The most common remarks were, “ran when parked” and “easy winter project.” I don’t know if the vehicle was sold, but if it was, I’d be curious about the new owner’s plans for it.

CLASSIFIED AD - VEHICLE WANTED

We, my wife and I, are looking for a Corvair Rampside similar to the one my father owned when he passed in 1995. I took ownership of Dad's 1993 Harley Davidson and my brother took custody of the Rampside. My brother used the Rampside for several years as transportation in the late 1990’s, Eventually he parked it, and later a passer-by talked him into selling the Rampside while I was working in Australia and the Middle East respectively. I found it was sold about five years ago. When I called to see if I could buy it from my brother, it was already gone.

We would like to replace the blue Rampside and put one in my car collection to remember Dad’s love affair with the Corvair, from his first new one in 1960, a dozen more through the years, and the blue Rampside, his last Corvair. Please email any leads to Packards42@yahoo.com. I live near Portland Oregon, but can travel for the right Rampside. It need not be perfect, but not a rust bucket either. HPOF material (Historic preservation of Original Features) would be perfect. Thank you.

Joe and Gillian Block

MY SUMMER BARN FIND - BY MYRON SMITH

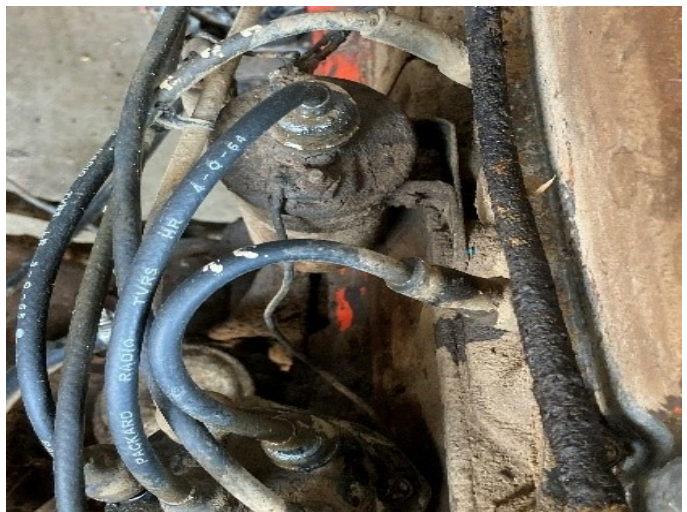


I've often read of barn finds where people have come across some Corvette or other rare or high-performance car tucked away in a building or cargo box for many years. I've never been so lucky. I did see a '67 Corvette once that was in a garage without a roof but was unable to buy it.

My barn finds have always been of the more conventional variety. Earlier this summer, I was at a church friend's acreage looking at his '55 Chevrolet pickup project when he said, "Oh we've got something back in another shed we need to get rid of." In another building I call a loafing shed, sat a '66 full size Chevrolet. It had a look like a lost puppy begging to be taken home. It's not your great find of a convertible, or big block, but the lowly epitome of a Nebraska farm car, a Bel Air four-door sedan with a six-cylinder engine and manual transmission.

The owner's grandfather had purchased the car new on December 18, 1965. The grandson gave me a price and I took it. It was so dirty since was covered with 10 years of dirt. I didn't know what I was getting; was it fixable or was it a parts car? It followed me home the next day. After a couple of pressure washings, I cleaned the spark plugs, took the starter off and got it loosened, hooked up an auxiliary gas tank and the car ran, and ran well. It is supposedly a 62,000 mile car and that appears to be accurate. I find two things particularly interesting about the car, the spark plug wires which I believe to be original are dated fourth quarter of 1964, and the car has an original equipment oil bath air cleaner. For cars the oil bath air cleaner was only optional with the six-cylinder engine. It needs a fair amount of help to be real presentable, but I like it anyway.

I've always had a soft spot for '66's. I still recall the Aztec Bronze Caprice coupe with a black vinyl top which sat in the prime spot on the 1966 introduction day. By February '66 my father and grandfather each took delivery on special ordered Impala four-door sedans. I still have both.





JERSEY LAKELAND VCCA CAR SHOW 10/24/2021

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WHITE

John White, who was part of our crew at Hershey for many years, passed away in August of 2020. Some of our region members knew John well. We certainly missed him at Hershey this year. John owned two old Chevrolets, a 1948 four-door sedan, and a 1954 Bel Air Sport Coupe. Region Vice President, John Mahoney (who spent many a Hershey with Mr. White), bought the Bel Air from the estate, and a local New Jersey friend of John White's bought the 1948 sedan.

John White was a member of the Jersey Lakeland VCCA for 52 years. To honor his memory, the region requested that the new owners display John's cars at their fall 2021 show. Your editor rode along with John Mahoney as he brought the Bel Air to the show. A photo of the Bel Air appears on this month's cover.

While I was there, I photographed some of the other Chevrolets displayed at the show. I hope you enjoy the photos.



1948 and 1954 Chevrolets formerly owned by John White. The show hosts had the cars parked together at the show entrance as a tribute to John. The memory board from his wake stands in front of the Bel Air.



1957 Bel Air two-door sedan



Three Corvairs in a row, with a 1963 Impala behind the 1962 Monza coupe.



1964 Impala Super Sport convertible with a 409.



1966 Chevelle Super Sport Convertible



1965 Nova Sport Coupe.



1969 Camaro Z/28 coupe.

The *Space Age Star* is the official publication of the Space Age Chevrolet region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. This is a non-geographic region dedicated to the enjoyment, restoration and history of 1949 and later AACA eligible Chevrolet cars and trucks. We publish the newsletter six times a year.

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