

RUNNINGBOARD RAMBLINGS



A message from Richard Holmes

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

I don't remember a General Membership meeting *ever* being cancelled due to weather! Now we have had to cancel two meetings in a row. What a winter we had in sunny Oklahoma!

I am writing this on a beautiful Thursday afternoon, and it is the first day of Spring. However, who knows what will happen when the April General Meeting comes around.

We should have nice weather for the March 22 Glen Pray Garage Tour of the Auburn Dusenberg Cord facility. By the time you read this I hope we will have good memories and plenty of photos to share with our editor.

At the April General Meeting we will pass around a sign-up sheet for the Saturday, April 12th, garage tour of John Groendyke's fabulous collection in Enid. Please plan to attend. We will have two hours from 11 am to 1 pm for looking at his really wonderful facility and amazing cars. Following the tour we will adjourn to a local restaurant in Enid for lunch, then head back to Tulsa.

I am hoping that the members will share with our editor photos from the past, stories about your cars and other materials to fill the *Runningboard Ramblings*. We want to hear from you and, of course, always need items for the newsletter. Please e-mail her at linaholmes1@mac.com or mail them to our home at 7915 S. Hudson Place, Tulsa, OK 74136.

Any of our members who may be having car troubles or concerns should also contact me. We should be able to put together a great deal of knowledge about a fix, car repair places that are old-car-friendly or suppliers who may be able to find parts. If need be, we can gather some members for a diagnostic session so we can get you back on the road.

Old cars are more fun when they are driven so do not hesitate to call me so we can find a solution to your problem and get you on the road.

Hoorah for Spring!

Happy Motoring!
Richard





2014 AACA TULSA REGION CALENDAR

DATE	ACTIVITY	PLACE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	TIME
4/1	Board Meeting	Jim Jones'	Jim Jones	7:00 pm
4/6	General Meeting	Joanna Cooper's	Jim Jones	2:00 pm
4/29	Board Meeting	Camille's at 9637 Riverside Pkwy Tulsa, OK 74137	Daniel King	7:00 pm
5/4	General Meeting	Joanna Cooper's	Daniel King	2:00 pm
SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014 SPRING GARAGE TOUR OF JOHN GROENDYKE'S FABULOUS CAR COLLECTION 2510 Rock Island Blvd. In Enid, Ok 73701				
5/27	Board Meeting	Fred Narrin's	Fred Narrin	7:00 pm
6/1	General Meeting	Haikey Creek Car Show	Fred Narrin	11:00 am
TBD Krispy Kreme Fund Raiser				
7/1	Board Meeting	Ron Scott's	Ron Scott	7:00 pm
7/6	General Meeting	Joanne Cooper's	Ron Scott	2:00 pm
7/29	Board Meeting	Ron Hardage's	Ron Hardage	7:00 pm
8/3	Ice Cream	Social Joanna Cooper's	Ron Hardage	2:00 pm
TBD Quarterly (Garage) Tour				
8/26	Board Meeting	Richard Holmes'	Richard Holmes	7:00 pm
9/7	Hamburger Cook Out	Richard Holmes'	Richard Holmes	5:00 pm
TBD Bartlesville Fly-In Frank Phillips Field				
9/30	Board Meeting	Teresa Wilkinson's	Teresa Wilkinson	7:00 pm
10/5	General Meeting	Joanna Cooper's	Teresa Wilkinson	2:00 pm
10/28	Board Meeting	Jim Jones'	Jim Jones	7:00 pm
TBD Fall (Halloween) Party				
11/2	General Meeting	Joanna Cooper's	Jim Jones	2:00 pm
11/11		Veteran's Day Parade – Downtown Tulsa		
12/2	Board Meeting	Fred Narrin's	Fred Narrin	7:00 pm
12/7	General Meeting	Joanna Cooper's	Fred Narrin	2:00 pm
TBD Christmas Party 6:00 pm				



THE CORD AUTOMOBILE

Ask someone where they were when they heard first saw a 1936-1937 CORD in the 1930s or 1940s and they can probably tell you. I had an AMT model of one in the 60s and saw the real thing for the first time in 1982 during the ACD parade in Auburn, IN. I told my wife we needed to get one. Thirteen years later we bought one.

The 1936 CORD 810 and 1937 CORD 812 were the second generation of the CORD produced by the Auburn Automobile Company. They were the only front wheel drive automobiles in the USA market, and we did not see another until the 1966 Oldsmobile Toronado. These CORDs were the first to have uni-body construction, hide-away headlights, concealed door hinges, taillights built into the car instead of being bolted on separately, and no running boards. The hood opened like an alligator mouth instead of a two piece hood that folds over.

These CORDs were powered by a Lycoming flat aluminum head V-8 with 125 horsepower or the 175 horsepower supercharger. Compare this to the FORD flathead V-8 with 60 horsepower during the same period. If you see exposed exhaust coming out of the hood it has the supercharged engine, if not it has the basic engine.

A CORD was priced at about twice that of both the Cadillac and the Lincoln. In 1935 a manufacturer had to produce 100 of a car for it to be shown at the New York auto show at the end of 1935. The first 100 CORDs were hand-made to make this objective. They were rushed to market in order to save the Auburn Automobile Company from the great depression, but they were not ready, and initially owners experienced many problems



with the cars. Local service stations would raise the hood, take one look and say, "We have never seen anything like this; we do not want to work on it."

Cadillac, Lincoln and Packard dealers were flooded with CORDs on their used car lots and CORDs soon became worth close to nothing before World War II. About 2,000 of the cars were produced in those two years, and the ACD club believes that about 1,000 still exist today. I would guess 800 of those 1,000 are in poor condition or not operable.

The CORD was available in a 4-door sedan - Westchester, a longer 4-door sedan - Beverly, a one seat Sportsman convertible and a two seat Phaeton convertible. I have seen Phaetons today bring in excess of \$250,000, and I have seen a Westchester bring \$100,000.

The Auburn Automobile Company produced automobiles from 1900 to 1937, in 1964 and from 1967-1981. The name was changed to Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Company in 1938.

The CORD was produced in 1929-1932, 1936-1937 and 1964. The

Auburn Automobile Company was controlled by E. L. Cord from about 1925 to 1937, thus the CORD named automobile. The CORD was an Auburn Automobile Company car for the market price range between their Auburn brand and Duesenberg brand.

Today the 1929-1932 CORD is referred to as the L-29 by automobile hobbyists. About 5,000 of these were made from 1929 to 1932, and it is believed only 150 of these still exist.

These cars had a very long aluminum hood due to front wheel drive. These aluminum hoods brought a premium for salvage during World War II.

The second generation CORDs were produced in 1936 and 1937. The third generation was produced in 1964, which most refer to as the Glenn Pray CORD, Glenn bought out Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Company in 1960 and moved it from Auburn, Indiana to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. The Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Company is still officially in business today and have plans to produce a 4th generation CORD in the future.

by Joe Smith



Darryl Starbird's 50th Anniversary Car Show in Tulsa

February 14th – 15th – 16th, 2014

As many of you know, Darryl Starbird is a custom car and hot rod designer and builder, known for his innovative and futuristic space-age car designs, especially his bubble tops. In the late 1950s and early 60s, Darryl Starbird was among the top automobile designers and artists including Ed "Big Daddy" Roth, George Barris (designer of the first Batmobile), Norm Grabowski, and Dean Jeffries. Along with Rock & Roll music, drag racing and hot rods were a big part of popular American culture, and these guys routinely had their cars featured in *Hot Rod Magazine*, which, as a teenager I loved to read and dream about some day having my own hot rod. Probably you did, too.

Darryl Starbird's National Rod & Custom Car Hall of Fame Museum is located in Afton, OK and features many of his cars as well as other notable examples from the history of custom car and hot rod culture. There's been some discussion about scheduling a club cruise up there some time this year, and if we go, you can definitely count me in.

This past February 14th – 16th was the 50th anniversary of the Darryl Starbird Tulsa Rod & Custom Show. I've been participating in this show for the last six or seven years. Among the over 1,000 cars on display this year were my '48 Dodge and '58 Edsel and Jerry Aldridge's '58 Chevy. I sincerely hope that I have not left out anyone from our club who may have been there as well. Some of the featured cars were Starbird's latest bubble top creation, the "Moonbird," an extensively customized '57 Cadillac Brougham nicknamed "The Shark." There was



Jerry Aldridge's 1958 Chevy

a large display of Bubble Topped cars. The "Go For the Gold" Fine Nine top prize was \$10,000 in cash.

One of the Fine Nine contestants was a '58 Edsel Roundup station wagon presented by Floyd Dutton, who lives in Harrah, OK. I didn't get a chance to see him at the show, but I happen to know him from the national Edsel club.

I took the 14th off as a vacation day and spent many hours that day with Jerry Aldridge just talking about cars and the incredible celebration of internal combustion that we were enjoying. On Friday evening I saw Dennis Gage of the "My Classic Car" TV show at his autograph table, and I managed to get an autographed photo. It wasn't very busy so I took advantage of that and we talked about the old car hobby and some of the better cars at the show. Also, present were the folks from the TV show "Street Outlaws." Jerry informed me that the show is about them bringing their super high performance farm

truck to various small towns and challenging the local hot rodders and drag racers to a race. They usually get takers because the truck looks like it couldn't win a race against anybody.

On Saturday night I got an autographed photo from Candy Clark, one of the stars of the classic movie, *American Graffiti*. There was a small fee, but I didn't mind paying it and, again, the crowd was thin, so I took a little extra time to speak with her. One of the points I made about the movie was how perfectly the sound track music backed up the characters on the screen. I also mentioned that probably my favorite scene in the movie is when she is sitting on the curb at the drive-in and telling Toad that despite all of the catastrophes that night that she really had a pretty good time.

And a good time is what everyone had at this year's 50th anniversary Rod & Custom Show. I'll be back again next year for sure.
by Daniel King

Darryl Starbird's 50th Anniversary Car Show in Tulsa



Daniel King's 1948 Dodge



The "Shark"



The famous Starbird "Bubble Tops"



Daniel King's 1958 Edsel



Floyd Dutton's Perfect '58 Edsel Roundup Wagon



The "Farm Truck Sleeper"



ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO TODAY

by Randy Beeson

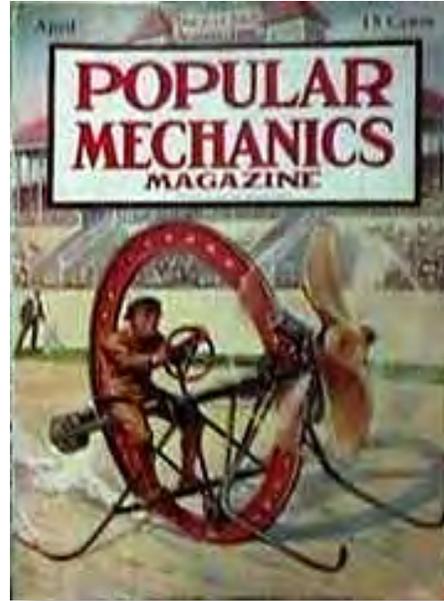
April of 1914 was significant for advancements in the visual arts. The "Perils of Pauline" debuted in Los Angeles on the 4th. On the 11th, the world's first color film, "The World, the Flesh & the Devil" premiered in London. This silent film was produced using the additive Kinemacolor process. Unfortunately, no copy survives.

Centennial births during the month included British actor Sir Alec Guinness, born on April 2nd. Cajun chef and humorist Justin Wilson was born on the 24th in Rosedale, LA, while American novelist Bernard Malamud (The Natural) was born in Brooklyn, NY on the 26th.

On April 20th, some 1,200 striking UMWA miners and their families at John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s Colorado Fuel & Iron Company near Ludlow, CO were fired on by the Colorado National Guard and CF&I company guards using an improvised armored car mounting a machine gun. The Battle of Ludlow resulted in 33 dead, including 2 women and 11 children. The UMWA retaliated with attacks on the Guard and on other mines in southern Colorado during the next 10 days. The final death toll in the strike was nearly 200.

In order to prevent arms from reaching Mexican dictator General Victoriano Huerta, U.S. Marines invaded and occupied Vera Cruz, Mexico on April 20th. The occupation would last six months. Not surprisingly, Mexico severed diplomatic relations with the U.S. on the 22nd.

On April 28th, 181 miners died in a coal mine explosion at the Guggenheim family's Eccles No. 5 Mine in Eccles, WV. Coal bed methane gas was apparently ignited by a miner's carbide lamp. This was West Virginia's worst mine disaster until the 2011 Monongah Mine Disaster. The Eccles disaster helped unionize the West Virginia coal fields.



In the world of technology, W.H. Carrier patented the air conditioner on April 28th. It would take 60 years, but this invention would eventually play a significant role in the migration of industry from the Rust Belt to the Sunbelt, thus resurrecting the South from the devastation of the War Between the States.

In the automotive world, Stacy G. Carkhuff patented his "Non-Skid" tire pattern, also on April 28th.

On April 12th, the Cabrillo Bridge in San Diego was opened to traffic. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt was one of the passengers in the first car driven across the new bridge.

This month's issue of *Popular Mechanics* carried a brief article noting that two flying airboats capable of speeds in excess of 60 MPH would begin offering regular passenger service between Grant Park in Chicago and the northern Chicago suburb of Lake Forest. The advertised fare was \$.50 per mile.



Saturday, April 12.

GROENDYKE TOUR

2510 Rock Island Blvd. Enid, OK

Meet at HWY 412 and Adams Road in Sand Springs, OK at 8:30 am.
That will be our starting point, so plan to be there before then.

If you miss the group, we will be traveling on Highway 412 to Enid and will stop at the McDonald's on the turnpike for about ten minutes.

The tour is from 11 am till 1 pm.

*At 1 pm we will travel to Napolis, which is a few blocks away, for lunch.
225 South Grand in Enid, OK (580.237.8464)*

They have reserved space for us.

If you'd like, you can check out their menu is on their website:
napolisofenid.com

*We'd love for you to drive one of your old cars
if you can.*

If anyone has questions please contact Richard Holmes
918.232.5821 (cell).

From the Editor

RUNNINGBOARD RAMBLINGS

Please send your articles or photos to: LinaHolmes1@mac.com

IMPORTANT

If you submit your article as a Word document,
please make sure it's not a "read only" file.

ALL PHOTOS SHOULD BE ATTACHED SEPARATELY AS JPG FILES.

If you only have hard copies, I can scan them.
BE SURE TO CHECK THE AACA NATIONAL WEB SITE FOR
EVENTS GOING ON ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

WWW.AACA.ORG

BIRTHDAYS

2014

APRIL

- 15 Chuck Mahan
- 19 Russ Wolf
- 27 Sheri Blair

MAY

- 3 Marylyn Baumann
- 5 Becky Wolf
- 7 Richard Holmes
- 10 Walt Knickerbocker
- 16 Roger Baumann
- 30 Elda Wescott
- 31 Clyde Harding

JUNE

- 7 Nina Richardson
- 8 Freda Becjte;
- 10 Tom Berenson
- 12 Linda Beeson
- 22 Ron Scott
- 24 John Fender
- 26 Bud Bechtel



AACA RUNNINGBOARD RAMBLINGS

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IMPORTANT DEADLINE INFORMATION: Deadline for submission for the following month's publication is the 15th of the previous month.

AACA Runningboard Ramblings

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