August 2024 VAE Year 71

Meet Gary and Nancy Olney's 1922 Paige Lakewood Tourer.

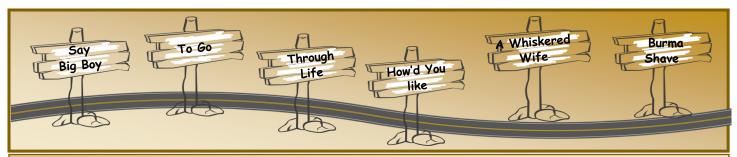
When the car sold new, the buyer paid \$53,000 in today's funds. More on page 11....

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VAE ?

About half an ounce of fuel is needed to start a car. Meanwhile, it takes about 2.7 cups of coffee for a human to get started!

My uncle said he never saw a bald dog, so he had an injection of hormones from a cocker spaniel. Now he has wavy hair,



but his ears flop in his food, and he has fleas, and my mom won't let him sleep on the couch!

I told my 6-year-old niece that I saw a moose on the way to work this morning. She said, "How do you know he had a job?"

My wife says that I am gaining weight. In my defense, I've had a lot on my plate recently.

Make it idiot proof, & someone will make a better idiot.

I don't suffer from insanity..... I enjoy every minute of it.

Waiter, "This lobster has only one claw. I'm sorry Sir, it must have been in a fight!"

Diner, "Well, then bring me the winner!".

How did the Irish Jig get started?

Too much drink, and not enough restrooms!

Are you grumpy? Because you're certainly not happy or bashful.

Gary Fiske, Editor





A gent from Pennsylvania called

the other night to ask me how difficult it is to get an antique car into the US from Canada. He had heard through the old-car network that I had just dragged a

car in from Toronto. He is interested in a car from Ottawa.

When I was putting my Toronto plans together, I was a little worried the border would be a huge mess, but it turned out to be very simple. The folks at the small border crossing just north of our home said they might get one a year, and advised me to cross at a larger facility where they are more familiar with the process.

When Gary Olney and I arrived at the Ogdensburg, NY crossing, we were directed to the huge parking lot that might accommodate 50 tractor-trailer rigs. It was about 5 pm and the lot was empty except for my pickup and flat bed trailer carrying the old car. All I needed to bring into the office was the bill of sale, the Ontario registration for the car I bought and my ID. The official filled out his CBP Form 7501, gave me a copy and followed me to the parking lot to confirm the engine number matched what I had given him on paper. I was on my way in twenty minutes and there was no fee. He told me it would be a totally different story if my car was 21-years-old or less. In fact, he said if it was, that it would most likely be locked in their compound for weeks or even months.

I am not sure what would happen if someone else besides the new owner of the old car walked into their office. I assume it would not make a difference, but it would be wise to call and ask beforehand.



The old car buff in PA makes a living a little different than most. He and his son have a 300 acre farm and for many years grew soybeans and corn that they sold on the world market. He said it got to the point where the profits were crashing because of transportation and broker cost.

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About 20 years ago, the two farmers changed gears and decided to build a flour mill using the grains they grow on the farm. Today, they harvest their 300 acres and buy grains from another 2000 acres to fill their orders from bakers throughout the US.

August 2024

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DAVID SANDER

Hello Enthusiasts,

I am sitting on my front porch with 90 degree heat and high humidity as I type

this. My new hip is doing well. I have to keep reminding myself I can only lift 20 pounds until the new hip grows into the bone. My hip has not been this pain-free and functional in over 20 years. I recently received copies of the invoices. I can't believe I was only in the hospital for a few hours for this procedure, and the cost was over \$35,000. Over \$10,000 for parts, and the rest was labor and materials. Kinda pricey for a new ball joint. We just celebrated the Fourth of July

We just celebrated the Fourth of July here in Richmond. Our grand marshal wanted to ride in my silver Saab convertible. Gary Irish drove his Model A Ford. There were several interesting "antique" cars in our parade, including a late 1990s minivan. Technically an antique car, but not what I think of when I think of antique cars.

I didn't drive an MG in the parade this year, but a friend of mine drove her MG TC. I always get a kick out of seeing British cars in an American Independence Day parade.

As you read this, we will be in need of volunteers for our big show in Waterury. We need help with field set up and tear down, and there are always plenty of jobs that need to be done during the show. We also really need judges for Sunday. If you are interested, please reach out to Duane Leach or Bob Chase. If you are interested in being a judge, please contact me.

I hope to see you at the show!

Be well...David

It's a small world...isn't it?

A few weeks ago Nancy and I took a leisurely drive to Bennington to distribute brochures and posters for this year's Waterbury car show. Of course, we hit the Blue Benn Diner and the Vermont liquor store. Our first stop was NAPA. Folks were more than happy to oblige. Next was Hemmings to visit with Matt, their all around handyman, so he could get said brochures and posters to the powers that be. Next was Advance Auto. They, too, were more than happy to help us advertise. Then it was on to O'Rielly Auto Parts. A young (very young) lady asked if she could help me. I handed her a flier and to my surprise she said, "I know you. You presented the Golden Wrench Award in Mr. Haskins auto tech class."

She's Nikita Potter of Pownal, VT. She's a junior and will be in auto tech again as a senior. Having been through machine trades at Southwest Tech, she's already an accomplished welder. Her whole family is into cars and attend the dirt track races weekly at Lebanon Vallley in NY. She has two older brothers who attended Southwest Tech. Her goal is to be a body and fender and restoration technician. **We wish her the best!**



Long live the VAE... Ken

Membership

Only \$35 \$60 for 2 years

Wheel Tracks Monthly deadline to the editor is the 5th of each month

"How to be a member" *Go to vtauto.org *Click "Join VAE" *Print form, fill it out and mail it with your \$\$ to our secretary

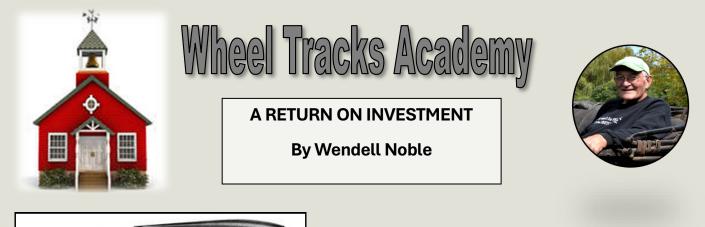
If you want your latest Wheel Tracks earlier.... go to vtauto.org then to our Member Only Page.

The new issue can usually be found there, around the 25th of the month.

Wheel Tracks is a monthly newsletter published in print and electronically for the public, and for the VAE membership. The VAE is a 501c3 a not-for-profit Inc.

Nancy & Ken Gypson, Editors Aug

August 2024

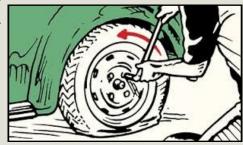




This is not about automotive technology or science. Well, maybe it's about social science. One day a few years ago, I was driving into town on an errand when I realized that I was getting a flat tire. I pulled into the parking lot of the first store I came to and noticed a man watching me pull in. He had noticed my flat tire. He came right over and asked if he could change the tire for me. He had his young son with him and pointed out that this would be a good opportunity for the boy

to learn how to change a

tire. Of course I agreed and thanked them both profusely during and after the tire change operation. Thinking about this experience later, it occurred to me that this had been an opportunity for that boy to learn not only how to change a tire, but more importantly, the sense of satisfaction one gets from committing an act of selfless kindness. I wondered what my takeaway from this should be. For me the answer was to go to the bank, take out a \$100 bill and put it in the back of my wallet. The next time I see such an act of kindness, whether or not I am the beneficiary, I will give it to the person committing it.



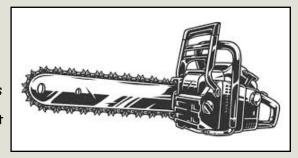
A couple of years went by with that \$100 bill still in my wallet. I'm happy to say I have finally handed it on. I



was in a remote area of Vermont looking for the location of a guy whose business is fixing chain saws and sourcing obscure parts. I'd been there before and knew I was close but just couldn't find it. I'd have to do what a man rarely does, ask for directions. I stopped at the first house I came to and a very nice lady came out. When I told her what I was looking for, she told me that the guy had sold the business and the new owner had moved it over to the other side of the mountain. She said that if I would give her a moment to get some proper shoes on,

she would get in her car and lead me there. All I had to do was follow her several miles to the new location. Along the way, it dawned on me that this was that act of kindness I had been looking for. When we got there,

I thanked her and presented her with the \$100 bill and an explanation of why I was carrying it. As I kind of expected, she said she couldn't accept it. I then proceeded to part two of my plan. I asked if she would be willing to do as I had and keep it until she witnesses a similar act of kindness. To that she agreed. If she hands it on and then the recipient does likewise, eventually people may be committing acts of kindness all over. What kind of world would that be? Wouldn't it be great if that \$100 bill got handed on so many times that it got worn out and had to be replaced by a new one? I'd consider that a pretty good rate of return on an initial \$100 investment. The only problem that remains is that I'm still having a problem with my chain saw.



2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Next up

And always open to all members & guests!

<u>AUGUST 9, 10 & 11:</u> VERMONT ANTIQUE & CLASSIC CAR MEET. Farr Field, Waterbury. Coordinators: Duane Leach and Bob Chase.

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>: GARAGE TOUR OF BOB CHASE'S CAR COLLECTION. Stowe. Date & time TBA. Coordinator: Bob Chase.

OCTOBER 5: ANNE GYPSON TOUR. Saturday. Time & location TBA. Coordinators: Judy & Janet Boardman.

NOVEMBER: ANNUAL VAE MEETING. Date, time & location TBA. Coordinator: Dave Sander.

<u>DECEMBER</u>: VAE ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING. More info to follow. Coordinators: Charlie & Marion Thompson.

ONGOING MONTHLY MEETINGS

EDUCATION & CHARITABLE OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Generally the 3rd Saturday of each month in Williston at 10 AM, 338 Commerce Street. Chairman: Ed Hilbert.

THE VT ANTIQUE & CLASSIC CAR MEET COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at Revitalizing Waterbury, 46 So. Main Street, Waterbury. Co-chairmen: Duane Leach & Bob Chase.

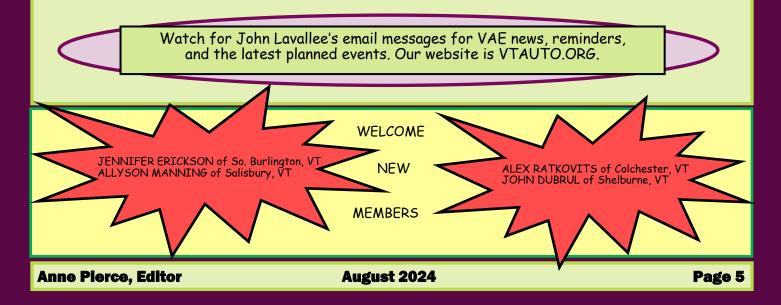
CARS & COFFEE

Please, as a reminder, no burnouts; be respectful of your neighbors; remember, we're in a public parking lot, so clean up after yourselves.

<u>CARS & COFFEE VERMONT</u>: Beginning May 18. Third Saturday of each month at University Mall, Dorset Street, So. Burlington. 7 AM—9 AM. http://carscoffeevermont.com. Please visit IHOP and give them your business. They graciously provide the coffee every month. Coordinator: John Malinowski.

<u>CARS & COFFEE MIDDLEBURY</u>: Beginning May 4. First Saturday of each month at A&W, Route 7, Middlebury, to run through to October. 8 AM-10 AM. Coordinator: Dave Stone. 802-598-2842.

<u>WAITSFIELD CARS & COFFEE:</u> Beginning in May. First Sunday of each month at Vee's Flowers, 4036 Main Street, Waitsfield. 9 AM—12 PM. Coordinator: John Lynch.



"Remember When?".... with Chris Barbieri

"No Car Should Be Without One"

Remember when most people smoked cigarettes or pipes or cigars? Even my high school had a student smoking designated area. People smoked just about everywhere including in their cars, both drivers and passengers alike. Car makers caught on early and provided lighters and ashtrays at no cost on luxury models but an option at a cost on base models.

This ad appeared in 1951 *Popular Science* magazine promoting the *Casco* Vis-O-Lite automobile Illuminated Automatic Cigarette

Lighter. The ad copy asks, "Why be without the convenience of this great new Vis-O-Lite illuminated lighter that makes driving safer day and night? You



can replace your old lighter with a new Vis-O-lite in a matter of minutes with pliers and screwdriver. Ends fumbling in the dark, prevents scratching dashboards." For some reason that need for pliers and a screwdriver made me a little suspicious...

Introduced by the manufacturers of the original pop-out lighter, cigarette lighters are now standard equipment on 4 out of 5 cars. The cost is only \$2.75 complete and now are on sale at car dealers, auto supply stores, and service stations.

Casco Products Corporation, Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Remember When?



"The Pleasures of Reading an Auto Magazine"

Trivia from Don Tenerowicz

My first car at age 16 was a low cost 1952 Ford, in a Chevy family, 2-door V-8, standard shift, no power or A/C, AM radio, etc., as the 3rd owner. Back then, "certified" had not been thought of by the marketing staff. "Used" was the common term rather than pre-owned, and "options" along with 'packages" probably referred to a standard spare tire. The ultimate for the teenage owner was to install a

back shelf speaker with the 3-way switch under the dash for front, back, or both, along with dual exhausts and either steel or fiberglass mufflers -- louder the better. Having a spare key for the magnetic hide-a-key was a quick trip to the local, family-owned town hardware store, no expensive programmed key fobs if one of the two provided got lost. Not sure when I installed an FM converter and the seatbelts. Traveling outside of the low power AM radio station signal to find another desired station was a diversion that today is not experienced, until the satellite signal became available. It wasn't until my third car, 1960 Chevrolet Impala V-8, that the Radson tach was installed on the steering column.



The switch to Chevy from Ford continued the traditional practice of buying the same make as your parents. Having internet access to build sites for the current models is not the same as obtaining the latest brochures at the dealer's showroom and placing them in the bedroom bookcase along with the car models. Still recall when the long-time local Chevy dealer had one of the first 1955 2-door Bel Air hardtops, turquoise and ivory, with a 265 CI V-8 rather than the 6 cyl. The V under the taillights designated the V-8. Back then the 4-door was not referred to as a coupe.

Transitioning to the so-called modern and technology-enhanced features are the mandatory and elective options/packages which have steadily increased. An example is mandatory AEB -- automatic emergency braking -- with both vehicle and pedestrian detection in Sept. 2029 for all new vehicles, as ruled by NHTSA. Could not determine from the ruling if the brakes light will be activated with the car behind following too closely or if the use of the feature is determined by the driver's vehicle settings.

There is still time to enjoy the pleasures of driving as we all recall from our earlier years, such as having a floor-mounted 3-speed with non-synchro first gear without hill holding. Remember perfecting the technique of releasing the brake pedal and engaging the clutch without rolling backwards?



Anne Pierce, Editor

August 2024



.....from Judy

You have probably been asked this question many times; I know I have. If you had a lot of money...... The question next is... What is a lot of money? It probably depends on who you are asking. To some, a lot of money might be \$1,000 or \$10,000 or \$100,000, or more. But it is interesting to hear what people answer. A new car or a new house or a vacation. A lot of people think big.

Me, what I would do if I had a lot of money? I would probably hire someone to wash my windows. I don't need a car or a new house, and my travelling days are pretty much over. But to have someone come to the house to clean my windows would be wonderful. How about spring cleaning too. I think it is called deep cleaning now. It seems I always put off any spring-cleaning chores until the wood stove isn't used in the spring. The problem with that is by the time the stove is cold, there are so many outside chores that need doing that I don't seem to get to any inside cleaning.

I can usually find last year's list with nothing crossed off. This year, it was picking up sticks from our windstorms. That went on for weeks until I was left with the tiny ones that the lawnmower could chop up. Meanwhile, the windows weren't getting washed, the rugs weren't getting shampooed, the winter blankets weren't getting washed. I kept putting everything off, waiting for a long rainy spell. Well, we had the rainy spell and I read books. Just couldn't get motivated to do much cleaning.

Sadly, it has come down to the fact that I really don't care anymore. I think this has to do partly with my age. I would rather go visit someone, go for a ride, or go to the library to get another book. Here it is, the beginning of July, and my winter jackets haven't been put away. I must admit I had one on the other day when it was in the 40s. So why bother putting them away. I'll just be wearing them in a few months. The same with my winter clothes. Why bother putting them away when I might need them next week. I did put my winter boots away though. I thought that was a safe move.

Here it is, July, and as some of you know, I like to mow the lawn as long as the rider mower is working. So, why bother doing any spring cleaning when the lawn needs mowing. It isn't even spring anymore. I might even get to wash a few windows eventually. Here is the other thing: Why hire someone to do something that I can do? Well, if I had to buy something if someone gave me a lot of money, I guess I would buy a VW Thing with no rust that will pass the VT inspection!





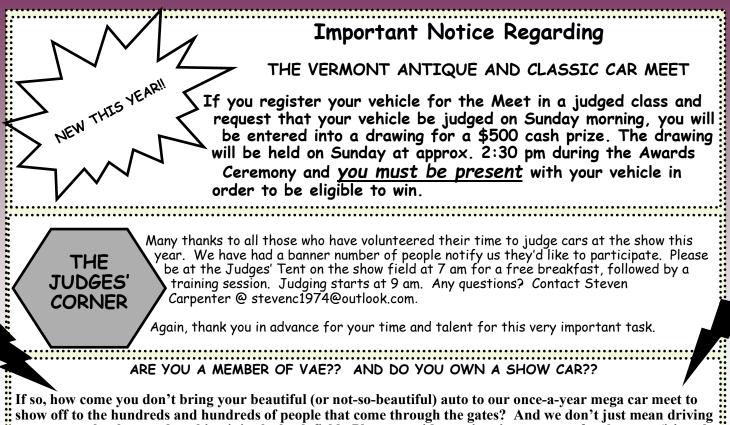
It's impossible to hum while holding your nose.

The most expensive race car ever sold at a public auction was a 1954 Mercedes-Benz W196R Formula 1 race-car. In 2013, it went for a staggering \$30 million.

Stellantis N.V. (Stellantis Corporation) is a multinational automotive manufacturing corporation formed in 2021 on the basis of a 50-50 cross-border merger between the Italian-American conglomerate Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and the French PSA Group. The company is headquartered in Amsterdam. As of December 2021, it had 281,595 employees. Stellantis has 14 subsidiaries, including Alfa Romeo, Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep, Lancia, Maserati, Ram, Peugeot, Opel, Citroën, and more.

Anne Pierce, Editor

August 2024



show off to the hundreds and hundreds of people that come through the gates? And we don't just mean driving your car to the show and parking it in the back field. Please consider registering your car for the meet (it's only \$35 — well, \$40 after July 15!) and show your car to the masses. We have OVER 300 members in our Association, and many own too many antique/classic cars to count, and so few of you bring your cars to the show. Why is that? So why not dust them off and drive them to Waterbury for August 9-11. You'll be glad you did......and so will our spectators! Plus, by having it judged, you could win \$500!!



To paraphrase Tolstoy, "All new cars are well-behaved in the same way, each old car behaves badly in its own way." As owners of creaky old rattletraps, we all doubtless have stories of disastrous breakdowns and embarrassing glitches. On the positive side, we also have stories of on-the-road emergency repairs, miraculous rescues, and the kindness of strangers. I own two classic troublemakers: a '64 Austin-Healey Sprite and a '78 Land Rover Series 3. I have many - too many - stories of being left in the lurch by both of these "difficult" children. On the other hand, I have the Angel of Shelburne Farms.

One fine summer's night we took the Healey to Shelburne Farms for a Mozart Festival concert (Remember those, with a dressage exhibition to kick it off?). Somewhere along the lengthy bumper-bumper crawl into the Farms I started smelling gasoline and the engine faltered. Looking back, I saw that we were leaving a line of all-too-flammable liquid behind. The engine finally died as I steered the car to the side. To be entirely honest, I can't now recall exactly what was wrong - split fuel line or a loose clamp most likely. In those days, I was less wise than I am now and didn't carry a toolbox with me at all times, and I was helpless. As I pondered our predicament, a car pulled up next to us and the woman said, "You look as if you could use a beer." I said, "Absolutely, but what I really need is a pair of pliers." With one hand she gave me a can of beer and with the other, a pair of pliers, and then rolled on down the road.

Quick repair effected, we rejoined the line of cars and found a parking spot. After the concert, we made our way to the now-dark acres and acres of parked cars. Suddenly, out of nowhere this woman appeared and said, "May I have my pliers back?" and just as quickly disappeared into the crowd. I didn't see wings but I am sure that she had them.

Terry Hook lives in Jericho Center, VT.

Anne Pierce, Editor

August 2024





Easy English Muffin Supper

2 English muffins 1/2 pound deli ham, sliced very thin or shaved 1-2 tomatoes 1/2 cup mayonnaise 1 and 1/2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese

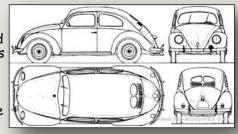


Nancy Gypson

Split and toast English muffins. Top each with ham slices. Slice tomatoes and put on top of ham. Mix mayonnaise and shredded cheddar and put on top of tomatoes. Broil on high for 5-6 minutes until well browned.

KEN'S CORNER: WHAT WENT ON IN 1955?

On August 11, 1955 Volkswagen, even then the largest exporter of foreign cars to the United States, announced from Wolfsburg that it had acquired a proposed assembly plant in New Jersey. The plant, in New Brunswick, was purchased from the Studebaker-Packard Corporation and was formerly used to manufacture jet engines. The 165-acre plant cost Volkswagen \$4,000,000. Even though some countries assembled Volkswagens, up to this point Volkswagen's only other company plant was in Brazil. In 1955 the United States was Volkswagen's largest overseas customer, importing 2,500 cars per month.



Also in 1955 customizers, especially in California, were looking for alternatives to spending big dollars with the professional big names like George Barris, Gene Winfield, and the Alexander Bros. Canada was the answer. The Mercury Monarch and the Ford Meteor were identical to their US brethren. The only difference was the trim and grills. The Canadian trim and grills fit the Ford and Mercury with little or no modifications. With a small amount of basic skills you had a "custom" Ford or Mercury!





Lastly, in 1955 the AUHV (Automobilist of the Upper Hudson Valley) had an overnight trip to Rutland. The entourage stayed at the Berwick Hotel. On the way Eugene Kosche's Locomobile ran out of gas. His only complaint, though, was that filling the 30 gallon gas tank shot the hell out of a \$10 bill! The VAE met up with them the next morning and visited the Bomoseen Auto Museum.

Footnote: Along with the Tiki Lounge, The Mercury Building, and Paul's Cleaners, the Berwick Hotel was tragically lost to fire, also taking 5 lives, on January 7, 1973.



Nancy & Ken Gypson, Editors

August 2024



Nancy & Ken Gypson, Editors

Continued from page one....



From the "Standard Catalog of American Cars (1805-1942).....

Mr. Harry Jewett made his fortune in West Virginia's coal industry and had the idea he could do the same in this new industry that involved automobiles. In 1909, he took a test-ride in a 3-cylinder, 25HP automobile built by Andrew Bachle and promoted by Fred Paige. Mr. Jewett knew very little about automobiles but was impressed with this little roadster. By the fall of 1909 Jewett created the **Paige-Detroit Motor Car Company** with an investment of \$100,000. The investment equals about 2.5 million in 2024 dollars. Mr. Fred Paige was installed as president of the new company.

"It's Rotten. A Piece of Junk

By the spring of 1910, Mr. Jewett had learned a bit more about automobiles, especially his Paige-Detroit vehicle. He was quoted as saying, "It's rotten. A piece of junk." He shut down the assembly line, fired Mr. Paige and most of the engineers and started over. Jewett's 1911 automobiles were simply called Paige and that year introduced the "all new Paige" in four different models; roadsters, coupes, surreys and touring. The rest is history. Between 1908 and when the Graham Brothers purchased the Paige Company in 1927, over 400,000 Paige automobiles were built.

So, how did Gary Olney end up with this beautiful 7-passenger Paige Touring Car? The story begins in the early 1950s when Gary's dad purchased two 1913 Cadillacs from a service station in Hartland, Vermont. One Caddy was used as a wrecker and the other for on-the-road service work. Soon after the purchase, a couple from Denmark (yes, the one just north of



Germany) heard about the two Caddys at the Hershey Show. They visited the Olney home in Springfield, VT and fell in love. They tried desperately to purchase them but were told no. Fast forward seventy years and the two Cadillacs are now parked in the couple's garage across the Atlantic with a promise to preserve them "as is." From Gary's perspective, the couple got their dream cars and he got a Paige Tourer, running, and ready to go, in the trade.

Gary's Lakewood Paige is called the 6-66 because of the 6-cylinder, 70HP Continental engine under the hood. Most big cars from this era are known for their "heavy" clutch, but the Paige, at a gross weight of 3500 pounds, has the reputation of being a very easy driver. The 33X4.5 tires and the car's final drive ratio makes for a fantastic driver on country roads. Congratulations to Gary and Nancy on their new-old vehicle.

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Gary Fiske, Editor

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August 2024

Remember the IF's

IF... You are looking for some great deals, come to the VAE auction at the Waterbury Show at 4 pm on Saturday, August 10th.

IF... You have something neat to donate to the VAE ScholarshipFund, call Bill Erskine (802-878-5303) or Gary Fiske(802-933-7780) to add to our auction list.

Attention..... The date printed after your name is when your VAE Member expires.



The day in Bradford became special when the cooks showed up. Angela and Keith Bean served a mean dog and burger.

You two made the day!



Carroll Bean's old Ford coughed during the recent Bradford tour and immediately a committee gathered to pontificate about the fix. There was a comment about the lack of visible anal clefts and a volunteer instantly did his duty. Unfortunately, this is a family publication.

While Carroll's problem was being conjured, part of the tour group was discussing who brought the most beautiful old car that day.

They seem to have their eye on a green Franklin.

