

Wheel Tracks

Ken and Sandy Green of Cumming, Georgia are new VAE members. They brought their 1933 Cadillac Town Coupe to the August 2025 show in Waterbury and it was judged Best in Show - Prewar as well as 1st place in Class 3. See back cover for more.



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**Vermont Automobile
Enthusiasts Website...**

vtauto.org

**FROM OUR PRESIDENT,
JASON WARREN**

Hello everyone,

It is crazy to think how fast these last few months have flown by. Now Christmas has already come and gone and we're settling in with the cold weather. Though I've been sad to put the cars away, it was nice to spend time with family and friends during the holiday season!



Don't forget about our upcoming Memorabilia Meet in Waterbury in a few weeks! It's a nice chance for all of us to get together with a new year just beginning. I hope to see many of you there!

We had much to celebrate in 2025 and we look forward to lots of activities in 2026.

Jason



THIS & THAT from Gary Fiske

Have you ever had a coffee in a restaurant and had to listen to how awful our "next generation" is from the next table? I remember a joke in our village that a certain building on Main Street would fall over if it were not for the teenagers leaning against it. I must admit, embarrassingly, I was sitting at some of those tables.

I have changed my mind because of the VAE's Golden Wrench Award which is going into its 15th year next spring. I was around when the GWA began in 2012 and have been involved with the GWA at the Cold Hollow Career Center in Enosburg Falls. On average, our career center has about 28 juniors and seniors in their automotive program each year and all 392 of them these past 14 years have proven me wrong. These students are amazing! I am sure all the students our club has met in the 16 career centers these past 14 years can prove the next generation will be OK.

Then, there are the hundreds of teens at each annual Skills USA awards ceremony where the VAE sponsors four skill categories! The picture of them all wearing their red sport coats, cheering their fellow competitors, will never leave my head. Our small Vermont car club should be very proud of these teenagers and the special connection into their world that we have built. The fact is.....what our club has received is much greater than the awards we have given to these teenagers.

(Editor's note: Gary has missed us terribly so we'll be hearing from him every few months. Welcome back, Gary!)

About Us

We at Vermont Automobile Enthusiasts preserve the history and the vehicles of our automotive past. Since our beginning in 1953, our central mission has been to educate, and to enjoy our old vehicles and our wonderful membership.

We are a 501c3 not-for-profit Inc. Membership is \$35 per year or \$60 for 2 years. Become a member by clicking on "Join VAE" on our website, fill out the form and mail it with \$ to our secretary. Or, pay online by clicking on "Renew Membership."

Wheel Track's monthly deadline to the editors is the 5th of each month.

Contact us at....
vaeinfo@gmail.com

Our website
is....vtauto.org



Please scan this QR Code for New
Membership and Membership
Renewal.



Please scan this QR Code to donate to the
Vermont Automobile
Enthusiasts.



Next up.....

2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

And always open to all members & guests!



Our Events Committee has been hard at work lining up the calendar for 2026 and it is still a work in progress. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are not confirmed as of the Wheel Tracks printing deadline.

JANUARY 24: MEMORABILIA GATHERING. Saturday, 11 AM–3 PM. St. Andrew's Church Parish Hall, 109 So. Main St., Waterbury, VT. Do you have something (a collection, hobby or single item) that others would find interesting, amusing, entertaining? There'll be tables set up for you to display such collection(s). Lunch will be potluck, so please bring a dish to share. Coordinator: Judy Boardman

***FEBRUARY: SHOP TOUR @ ROTHSPEDD,** 335 Westford-Milton Rd., Milton, VT.

***MARCH: AMERICAN PRECISION MUSEUM TOUR,** 196 Main St., Windsor, VT.

***APRIL: FORT ETHAN ALLEN DRIVING TOUR,** Colchester, VT. Coordinator: Charlie Thompson

***MAY: GARAGE TOURS** in Williston, VT. Coordinators: Bill Erskine & Steve Hornibrook

MAY – OCTOBER: CAR MEET-UP at Island Ice Cream. 21 Commerce St., Williston, VT. 6 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month. Coordinator: Charlie Thompson

JUNE 27: JEFFERSONVILLE CAR SHOW. Saturday, 9 AM-2 PM. Cambridge Elementary School soccer fields, 1886 School Street, Jeffersonville, VT. Coordinator: Jason Warren—802-477-2430.

JUNE 27: NOT QUITE INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE—WATERBURY, Waterbury, VT. Saturday, 3 PM. Coordinator: Don Pierce - 802-229-8606

***JULY 17-18: BOB BAHRE CAR COLLECTION.** Friday-Saturday. Overnight tour to Paris, Maine. Coordinator: Eric Osgood

AUGUST 7-9: THE 68th VERMONT ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC CAR MEET. August 7, 8 & 9, 2026. Farr Field, 1901 US Route 2, Waterbury, VT. Coordinators: Duane Leach & Bob Chase

***SEPTEMBER: COLCHESTER LIBRARY CAR MEET,** Colchester, VT. Come on out and show your cars! Coordinator: Charlie Thompson

OCTOBER: GYPSON TOUR. Saturday, 10 AM. Coordinator: Ed Hilbert

NOVEMBER: ANNUAL MEETING. Coordinator: Judy Boardman

DECEMBER: HOLIDAY PARTY. Coordinators: Charlie & Marion Thompson

ONGOING MONTHLY MEETINGS

VAE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETINGS: January 15, April 16, July 16, October 15, 2026. 6 PM. Fairfax Town Offices, 12 Buck Hollow Road, Fairfax, VT. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

EDUCATION & CHARITABLE OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Generally the 3rd Saturday of each month in Williston, VT, at 10 AM, 338 Commerce Street. Contact Chairman Ed Hilbert for meeting confirmation at 802-453-3743.

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

Watch for John Lavalée's email messages for VAE news, reminders, and the latest planned events. Our website is VTAUTO.ORG.

VAE ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held in November in Essex Jct., VT. Below are some pictures from the heavily attended meeting.



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



I was searching through a box of miscellaneous tools hoping I'd find that once-in-a-year wrench I needed when I came across a paper bag instead. Before opening, I played the "guessing game" as I often do just for fun. My best guess wasn't even close.

In the bag were two hubcaps as seen above, one with lots of small dings and fading finish. One cover reads "Plymouth" and the other cover reads "Ploumoth." A spelling error? Highly unlikely, especially in an automotive parts catalogue.

My suspicion is that the misspelling is intentional for a couple of reasons. The first is that it gets attention like "Hey, Joe, your hubcaps are all wrong" or "not matched." The other is about money. A small mistake in an advertisement may be overlooked by readers but not by the company who's paying, sometimes substantial amounts, to get their message out.

Back to my bogus "Ploumoth" hubcap: It hangs in the garage next to a similar but authentic Plymouth hubcap.

Remember When??



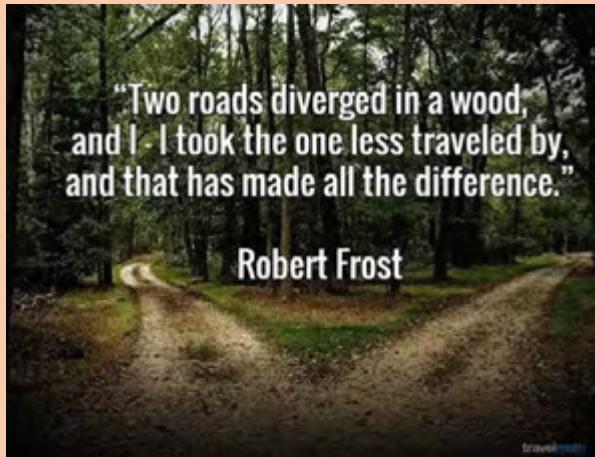
"The Softer Side"

A Column Shared by Nancy Olney (Left), Judy Boardman (Center) & Anne Pierce (Right)

.....from Nancy.....

CROSSROAD

As much as I love to write (and I am sure you love to read) about my fabulous kitty cat Willy and my ongoing old-age sagas, I need to talk to you about a more important subject. I feel we, the membership of the VAE, have come to a crossroad; basically, in a few words, the club needs HELP! I am sure that most of you do not even realize this.



The VAE does a lot with scholarships, Tech Centers, museums, *Wheel Tracks* and, of course, the Waterbury Car Show in August. Most of us have no idea about the time and energy that goes into all that is done by the club. I understand why you wouldn't know if you aren't involved in the day-to-day operation because the ones that have done this work

have done such an unbelievably EXCELLENT job at making everything go off with what looks like without a hitch! Especially with the Waterbury Show! There are many jobs that you wouldn't think of but need to be done to give everyone an enjoyable experience at the show.

We were given a list of such jobs at the Annual meeting in Essex last month. So here's "the rest of the story." The VAE needs YOU! which recalls that poster for WWI and II with Uncle Sam pointing at us and saying, "We want YOU." It was joining the Army, but you get the idea.

All the work the VAE does has become the work of a few members and that number is even dwindling as the membership ages, moves, and other reasons. Just some of the jobs at the show are set-up and take-down. These are big jobs and require some strength and cannot be managed by one person. I am asking you to think about any time you could volunteer in the weeks before and during and after the show to make the car show run as smoothly and nonburdensome as possible for those that sign up for such. "Many hands make light work." So, I would like to ask that you think about what time you could give to help your club to keep going and we all can enjoy all that the club provides for years to come.

I (or someone else) will be contacting you about volunteering. I have the list of jobs, and it was said at the meeting that there were still ones not listed. One job I thought of (if August is a month you cannot volunteer because of prior commitments) it was mentioned that many members didn't have their cars at the Show. Gary and I have three or so cars that need some tinkering with, (our tinkering days are gone, I am afraid) maybe that was something you could help with -- and I'm sure there are others in the VAE in the same predicament. I am not begging for the help for us but just trying to come up with ideas that people who really want to help know that we can find the right job for you.

Thank you for your attention, and I will give you my contact information if you want to let me know what you are willing to sign up for.

Nancy Olney
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125 Beauchesne Street
Derby Line, VT 05830
802 673-9333 cell/TEXT



Wheel Tracks Academy

By "Professor" Wendell Noble



Lexington?

Will all those who have heard of the Lexington automobile please raise their hands. Hmm ... I see but one. That's the hand of VAE member **Hamilton Hayes**. There's one in his family tree.

The Lexington Motor Company was established in 1909 in Lexington, Kentucky. That's Kentucky, not Massachusetts, although the connection was not lost on the company. They remained there for only one year and then relocated a bit north to Connersville, Indiana. They exploited the fact that the company name was reminiscent of the Revolutionary War battle site in naming some models. They introduced a model designated the "Minute Man Six" and later a Concord model. For a while the company emblem featured a minuteman with a musket.



The Lexington Motor Company stayed and grew in Connersville. During its history, it underwent changes in ownership and affiliation. Early on, it was bought by E.W. Ansted, a manufacturer of springs and axles and ultimately the engines that powered the cars. The Lexington was an assembled car with components made by their affiliates, and one of its major features was the performance from the Ansted six-cylinder engine. By 1920, production peaked at a little over 6,000 cars. In that year, they proudly demonstrated their outstanding performance by taking the top two places in the Pikes Peak hill climb.



That's where Hamilton's family connection comes in. His uncle, John Hayes, was a bit of a "wheeler dealer" in used cars in the late '40s and somehow ended up in possession of the very car that took the first place in that famous hill climb. The accompanying photographs show the car immediately following its triumph in 1920 and then later after it had somehow found its way to Vermont.

From that 1920 production peak, Lexington's fortunes diminished. The recession following the end of World War I took its toll on the automobile industry. Lexington's production dropped greatly and steadily over the following years to 183 by 1926. As a consequence of that decline, the company went into receivership in 1923. In spite of that grim circumstance, they won the Pikes Peak trophy again in 1924, but such glory is not business success and the company was purchased by Auburn Automobile Company in 1927. The Lexington was phased out while the facilities remained in use by Auburn.



Could it be that some of the Lexington's automotive DNA found its way into subsequent Auburns and Cords? They are all part of history now.

Wheel Tracks Classifieds



Bumper Sticker of the Month...

Always remember: You are unique...
just like everyone else.



WANTED...My neighbor is trying to get a 1980 Corvette back together again and needs a dash and both door panels. This is a very low budget project. Call Gary Fiske 802-922-7780 or email gafiske@gmail.com if you know where good used items can be found.

FOR SALE...1960 Ford F100. Reliable daily driver. Rebuilt 223-6 engine by RPM Engines in Vermont. Rebuilt starter, generator and a new battery. Rare, wrap around rear window. Solid and nostalgic "three on the tree." And for safety, removable third brake light, safety belts and dual chamber brake master cylinder with disks up front. She's earned a few love taps over the years but the paint is good and she gets smiles and thumbs up all day. \$17,900. Call or text 802-999-1220, Fairfax, VT. Robert Turner



FOR SALE...

1926 Cadillac Custom 314 (7 pass.) Touring in very good condition. Full classic. Sidemount, dual cowl windshield, wind wings, Adobe leather seats. Rear trunk. Fully documented. Fast and dependable. A big eye-catching automobile! More detailed photos available. \$95,000 US. Shipping can be easily arranged. We are in Montreal. gbureau@videotron.ca



FOR SALE...Complete set of Hemmings Classic Car, \$100. Will deliver to VAE event.

Ken Gypson, 518-423-7565, kengypson@yahoo.com



FOR SALE...
1923 Buick Straight Six in very good condition, \$30,000 (Canadian \$)

514 745-6278 (Montreal QC)

FOR SALE...Trane Unit Heater, 80,000 btu natural gas heater, may be hung from ceiling or stationary. Uses either natural gas or propane, \$400.

Ray Tomlinson, 802-881-6257



WANTED...Have you ever had your car featured on the front cover of Wheel Tracks? No? Then send us a few pictures (engine, interior, before and after, etc.) as well as several paragraphs about your car. We'll do our best to make you famous! Please send to: kengypson@yahoo.com, nancygypson@yahoo.com.

The Roadside Diner



SAUSAGE SOUP

1 and 1/2 pounds sweet Italian sausage
1 medium onion, chopped
1-32 ounce carton low sodium beef broth
1-28 ounce can tomato puree
1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
1/4 teaspoon dried basil
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1 cup uncooked small pasta
1/8 cup parmesan cheese



Nancy Gypson

On stovetop, brown and pre-cook sausage over medium heat. Add chopped onion and cook for another 15 minutes. Add broth and spices. Simmer for 1 hour. Add pasta and continue cooking until pasta is done. Add parmesan cheese.

Engine of the Green's 1933 Cadillac



January 2026



A Vermont farmer was fixing the fence on his half acre when a Texan rolls up and stops. He rolls down the window and says "Hey there, how much land you got here?" The farmer says, "Half acre." The Texan says, "Do you know that I can drive my truck all day on my ranch and not even make it halfway across? The farmer says, "Yep, I had a truck just like that."

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

KEN GREEN'S STORY

The original mission was to bring my freshly restored 1940 Roadmaster convertible to Vermont to show Clark Wright what I had accomplished. Clark, along with my dad, was instrumental in my commitment to special interest cars dating back to the 70s when I was a teenager. The 1940 Buick Special was my first car and while in high school I'm sure I pestered Clark and others who were members of the VAE for parts and advice. I had many happy hours hiking around Joe Bettis' junkyard and chatting up Mr. Jones, also of Morrisville, for hard to acquire parts and advice. If I recall, Mr. Jones took some time to warm up to me, but it might have been the grease under my fingernails that softened him up. Both of these men were solid Buick guys. That Buick went on to other pastures as I went to college.

The Roadmaster was not completed in time for the show so I brought an alternate. The alternate was my 1933 Cadillac Town Coupe with the V12. This car was purchased for touring. Entering it in judging at the August show was a last minute "sure why not" decision. With the car loaded in my trailer, my wife, Sandy, and I began the roughly 18-hour drive north. The chosen route was the west side of the Appalachians on I-81. The trip had to be timed so that we could meet another early 30s Cadillac guy in New York to pick up a factory correct metal spare tire cover for the back of the car. That was a great find and according to the copy of the build sheet that I have, was part of the original order. Our second night was in Bennington where we could unload the car to tour the town for several hours. We opted for a motel experience and we were able to park the car directly outside of our room. The remaining trip up to Waterbury was an adventure. While Vermont hadn't seen much rain for a long time, our entire trip through the state on the way to Waterbury was in a heavy downpour with detours due to road closures. Once we got off the beaten path and into areas with no GPS reception, we really got a circuitous tour. Upon arrival at the Old Stagecoach Inn, we were immediately immersed into a crowd of club regulars who stayed at that hotel every year. That was also our first introduction to Ken and Nancy Gypson. A significant part of the show experience for us was the camaraderie at the Old Stagecoach Inn throughout the duration of the show. That really rounded out the experience for us. The Cadillac was dutifully parked for the show and to my amazement drew a crowd. I had wonderful conversations with VAE members and other long time show attendees, a couple of whom shared maintenance tips for the car. To me, that was ample reward for bringing the car to the show. There is a saying that you come for the cars, but stay for the people. I had the pleasure of meeting John McCabe and Roy Martin. Both were very welcoming souls. I ran into an old neighbor, Miles Freme, also a VAE member. Clark attended for a brief moment, but couldn't stay. I had intended to attend my 50 year high school reunion in Essex, so Bob Chase accepted the task of driving my car in the parade. There were so many people that shared time with me that it made for a truly wonderful show.

Wrapping up our story, after the show we stored the car at a friend's house for a couple weeks while returning to Georgia before returning after Labor Day for more time with childhood friends. I drove the car on old familiar roads like Upper and Lower Pleasant Valley Road and the now paved Skunk Hollow road between Williston and Jericho. Vermont is a terrific place to drive old cars as the traffic is sparse and the scenery is nearly as vintage as the old car. The next leg took us over to Rockport, Maine for a Caravan tour with the Classic Car Club of America (CCCA). In all, I logged over 1300 miles in the car during this trip. The car performed well, new acquaintances were made, old friends visited and I renewed my membership after a couple decades lapse since my high school days. I'll also note that it is very encouraging to see young talent within the VAE membership. My wife and I hope to make this an annual trek and look forward to receiving the very well-prepared Wheel Tracks magazine. (Editor's note: We did not pay him to say that.)