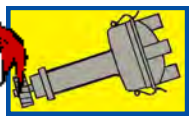


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THE DISTRIBUTOR

NEWS FOR MEMBERS OF THE
BAY COUNTRY REGION
ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA



VOLUMES 24, ISSUES 9, 10, 11

DECEMBER 2024-FEBRUARY 2025

THE CHRISTMAS DINNER & INSTALLATION

All photos by Craig Duerling



Another nice time was had for the Christmas and installation dinner. We had 19 members and guests in attendance at the E. E. Streets VFW Post 5118. Diann Prahl again was responsible for making all of the arrangements, and the staff served us a great dinner.

Andy Wilhelm again oversaw the installation of officers and directors. This year, Carol Grant had a full range of different games, and everyone participated.

At the close of the evening newly [re] elected President Nabb presented both Diann and Carol Grant with a nice gift to recognize their efforts. Craig Duerling received a gift certificate to Boats & Hose for his work on the monthly programs. Ken Briers & Sally were unable to attend, but they received a gift card for Suicide Bridge, and spent almost all of it immediately. Craig reports that he did too!

We were glad to see that Lorin Turnblacer again managed to get some time off from the Naval Academy.

Good food and good service led to good conversation and a joyful evening.

(See *Carol's Contests* on page 2)



MORE FROM THE CHRISTMAS DINNER



CAROL'S CONTESTS

Carol had the entire group of BCR partygoers participating in a variety of game show activities. Each of the four tables received game supplies, including a pile of food from Carol's kitchen cabinet and several prepared game props. The first game was based on the popular show, **The Price is Right**. Players tried to guess each product's price from lowest to highest.

Things were off to a rocky start because Carol had not anticipated so many versions of scoring points. However, as everyone got settled into the game, the points came and went anyway!

Family Feud gave each player the opportunity to share their thoughts on answers to the 1970s version of the game, adding an additional level of difficulty....maybe. Obviously, people might have hidden their house key under the doormat in the 70s, but probably not today. It was pretty easy for most to remember the 1970s. Luckily participants were not asked to share their meals from the day prior!

Since BCR is a car club, Carol followed up next with a car-themed **True or False** game. Carol shared ten statements related to cars. Players held up a T or F sign, for true or false. A fun question referenced the woman who invented windshield

wipers! Obviously, someone decided she was tired of reaching out to wipe the windshield!

A version of the old **Concentration** game followed, with each team trying to solve a different rebus* of a common phrase, flipping one strip at a time, exposing the pictures.

For the finale, members had the opportunity to play **Let's Make a Deal**. Each person could choose between two envelopes. One envelope was a winner, doubling points, the other, a ZONK, losing it all! Unfortunately, Carol forgot to tell people that they could have just kept the points they currently had, while not taking a chance.

Oh well! That is what happens when you hire a low bid amateur emcee!

After the top five winners chose their prizes, all attendees were then able to go to the prize table for door prizes. The sauerkraut rye bread was a failure, but the many chocolates and cobbler were hits! The extra prizes were gathered and saved to be distributed at future club meetings.

It was a fun evening, with lots of laughs and great conversations!

***Rebus**: a puzzle device that combines the use of illustrated pictures with individual letters to depict words or phrases.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

WOW- we are already six weeks into 2025! This year the Bay Country Region will celebrate its 40th anniversary. I'm sure it will be a good year.

The club is off to a good start. Twenty-one members attended the January General Membership Meeting - that equals the number attending the 2024 Christmas Dinner!

The January Lunch Bunch was cancelled due to weather. Danny rescheduled the event to be the February Lunch Bunch that was held February 13. We had 16 show up at the Preston Road House. The Club had been to that location before, but it was under different management with a different vibe. We met at 1:00 PM, had a pleasant meal, then went our separate ways about 2:00 PM.

The February General Membership Meeting has been cancelled. The Bar Manager at the Elks explained that the cook would not be there on the 19th and the Elk's management decided to close the building. I wasn't comfortable locating an alternate place that could accommodate us and issue separate checks for the members and the Board agreed to cancel the meeting. We will be back at the Elk's in March.

Charles Emery has arranged the March Lunch Bunch. He has sent out information regarding the event. We will eat at Doc's Downtown Grille, in Easton, across from the Courthouse, at 11:30. After lunch, we then will go to the Academy Arts Museum to view the Bugatti Exhibit. We will be treated to a "hoods up" tour with David North who will have the cars open for our inspection. Judge North's Bugatti automobiles are not the only items on exhibit - the Bugatti family were into other ventures - not just exotic cars. See pages 4 and 5.

The Board is considering moving the Summer Picnic to early June, with the hope that it may not be as hot as past picnics. I don't know if this year's unusual weather will cooperate with our plans.

Carol Grant volunteered to chair the 40th Anniversary Celebration Committee. She recruited Darlene Newcomb and Charlotte Morris to work on the project. They have met and devised a plan for the event. It will be held at Danny's & Charlotte's home in Preston. It will be a picnic-style event, with an upgraded menu, appropriate for the occasion. The date is September 21st. It will be in the afternoon so we can bring the old cars and not worry about driving after dark.

Following the guidance from the members at the January meeting there will be no trinkets (hats, visors, T-shirts, or key chains). The money will be going to the food and prizes at the event. The sum of \$500 was previously approved, but Committee has asked for a budget of \$1000, and the Board has approved bringing it before the membership.

The year will wrap up once more with the Christmas dinner. Diann is planning it once again, however it will be different this year. For years we have gone to the Easton VFW. The auxiliary there does an excellent job, but we must guarantee 30 guests. We have been short for several years and they let us pay for only the guests present. It has been a small favor they have done for Diann, however for 2024 we had only 21 guests and that is a big favor. Diann is not comfortable doing that again. She has planned for us to go to Olive Garden on December 13 from 2:00 to 4:00 so we won't be out after dark.

(Continued at right)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 13 Lunch Bunch-Easton. See the article
- 19 12-1pm BCR Premeeting, Easton Elks Lodge # 1622
- 19 1-2:30pm BCR Monthly Business Meeting

APRIL

- 1 BCR Board Meeting; 1:00-2:00 pm; via zoom
- 3 AACA SE Spring Nationals, Charlotte, NC
- 12 Classic Motor Museum Cars & Coffee; 9:00-11:00
- 16 12-1pm BCR Premeeting, Easton Elks Lodge # 1622
- 16 1-2:30pm BCR Monthly Business Meeting
- 19 Classic Motor Museum Cars & Coffee; 9:00-11:00

Use the **BAY COUNTRY REGION HOTLINE** to:

- find out about activity changes, club emergencies, etc.
- pass along urgent information to all club members

Contact **Lee Caplan** at 919-636-0955 or lcaplan@icloud.com

BAY COUNTRY REGION

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THE BAY COUNTRY REGION, AACA

The purpose of the club shall be the preservation, use, and enjoyment of self-propelled antique, classic, and special interest vehicles and related parts, materials, and services. The Board of Directors of the Region shall meet on the first Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise specified. Membership meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Meeting announcements will be carried each month in the newsletter. Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and members are encouraged to submit news about personal interest items to the editor by the 20th of each month.

Please note that we are focusing on doing more events earlier in the day. This is to get more member participation. The Board is open to other suggestions to improve attendance and will be trying other ideas to get members out. I hope to see more of you at club events in 2025.

Sincerely,
Ed Nabb, Jr., Pres.

**THE MARCH LUNCH BUNCH
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025**



The Bay Country Region’s Lunch Bunch March outing will be lunch and a trip to the Academy Art Museum, 106 South St, Easton. (Southeast corner of South and Harrison Streets.) We will be touring the Museum’s exhibit “Bugatti: Reaching for Perfection”. From the museum’s website:

“Featuring loans from two important private family collections never before seen together, along with pieces from the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, this bijoux exhibition of cars, sculpture, and furniture will illuminate the multi-generational ambition and creativity of the Bugatti. Among the highlights are eight bronze sculptures from the Arsidi-Scuderi Collection of Lugano, Switzerland, and five rare Bugatti cars from an Eastern Shore collection: two grand prix race cars, two Type 57 touring cars, and a miniature “Baby.””

Our outing will begin with lunch at 11:30 at Doc’s Downtown Grill, 14 N. Washington Street, Easton. They have a “single check policy” so we will be ordering from a fixed price menu with several delicious options developed especially for us. The club will pay the restaurant. Individuals will pay the BCR as noted below.

You may drive individually or make your own car pool plans.

Parking

You will either have to park the car once (easiest at the art museum) and walk the 3 blocks between the museum and Doc’s or move your car between lunch and the museum. Parking for people driving classic cars is available in a lot at the northwest corner of S. Harrison and South Streets diagonally across the street from the museum. If you are driving “modern” please save those spots for the antiques. The museum does not have its own lot, but there is street parking and also in a lot behind the Waterfowl Festival Building (the old armory). Access to this lot is from Harrison Street via Short Lane. **ACCESS TO THE ART MUSEUM ITSELF IS THROUGH THE COURTYARD ON THE BACK SIDE OF THE BUILDING – EASIEST ENTRANCE TO THE COURTYARD IS FROM THE HARRISON STREET SIDEWALK.**

Cost is \$30 per person, payable to the club on the 13th. This includes a donation to the museum and lunch with beverage, tax, and tip. An “on your own” ice cream shop visit will round out the day. Reservations by March 12th are urgently requested. Email charlescemeryms@gmail.com or call or text 443-877-7750.



BUGATTI: REACHING FOR PERFECTION tells the story of three generations of genius, ambition and astounding creativity.

It begins in Milan with patriarch Carlo Bugatti (1856-1940), who trained as an architect but focused on domestic design, producing furniture so intricate and fanciful that it was barely functional. One bench on display flaunts a unique geometric dragonfly motif in copper punchwork that exists solely to edge the backrest. Carlo’s work blends Art Nouveau with Moorish, Islamic and Japanese influences, using an astounding range of materials that come together as a kind of majestic proto-Futurism.

Carlo’s younger son, Rembrandt Bugatti (1884-1916), had a tragically brief yet brilliant career as a sculptor of animals. Studying live subjects for years in zoos, Rembrandt acquired a near-musical sense of movement and form that gives his work the playful virtuosity of Honoré Daumier, fused with the emotional depth of Auguste Rodin. I could have spent hours in reverie with his elephant, his baboon or his cows. (I know how that sounds. I don’t care.) Sadly, he died by suicide in 1916.

While Carlo and Rembrandt earned acclaim in their lifetimes, it was the elder son, Ettore Bugatti (1881-1947), who immortalized the family name with his automobiles — designed as much for artistry as for speed. From an early age, Ettore excelled in engineering, pioneering the idea of placing the driver and engine low in the chassis. He built his first car, the Type 10, in his basement while still under contract at a German automotive firm. Light as a feather (around 800 pounds) yet capable of hitting 50 mph, it was a radical achievement for its day.

By 1909, Ettore founded Automobiles Ettore Bugatti in Molsheim, and his son Jean (1909–1939) soon joined him, while still in his teens. Racing became their proving ground, showing off both beauty and performance. Two of Ettore’s gems on display — a straight-8 supercharged Type 39A Grand Prix car and a 16-cylinder Type 45 — offer a riveting peek at his groundbreaking designs and obsessive precision.

Bugatti also produced luxury touring cars, often designed by Jean. A contract for high-speed trains using unsold engines from the famed Type 41 Royale helped buoy Bugatti finances during the Great Depression. A select few “Autorail Bugatti” posters are on view here — the kind of vintage posters that make you want a Campari spritz. By 1936, Jean took over daily operations and continued dazzling the world, culminating in triumphs at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1937 and 1939.

Two touring models on display from 1936 — a Type 57 Atalante and a 57SC Atlantic — exude such character and allure that I didn’t know whether to approach them as cars, sculptures or giant tropical birds. It took considerable willpower not to touch the 57SC Atlantic. Its undulating contours are intoxicating, from its riveted “mohawk” right down to its door hinges, striking that perfect balance of the exotic and the familiar. (It is the diametrical opposite of a Tesla Cybertruck.)

Thanks to Ari Post, of **The Georgetowner**



1926 Bugatti Type 39A Grand Prix, Chassis no. 4804



1926 Bugatti Type 39A Grand Prix, Chassis no. 4804



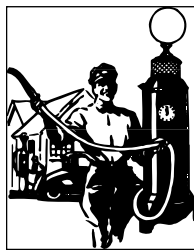
Carlo Bugatti, Hall Bench, c. 1890s



Rembrandt Bugatti, Leaping Kangaroo, 1907. Bronze.

**BAY COUNTRY DISTRIBUTOR
DECEMBER 2024-FEBRUARY 2025**

**KEN BRIERS
736 5TH ST NE APT B
WASHINGTON, DC 20002-3587**



Coming up:

*The March 13th Lunch
Bunch:
Lunch at Doc's and
Bugattis at the Academy*

FIRST CLASS MAIL

INSIDE: THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

BIRTHDAYS

2/2	CHARLES REICHARD	3/15	MARIE SCHMIDT	4/13	LOU DOLL
2/3	WALT TRICE	3/21	KIM HATCHER	4/13	NEIL GRANT
2/8	JEAN BROWN	3/27	MARY STORY	4/19	NAN DUERLING
2/19	CHARLOTTE MORRIS	3/27	AGNES WILHELM	4/25	EVELYNE GARNER
2/19	CLARE ZIMMERMAN	4/4	ELLEN MARIE FOSTER	5/1	ANDY WILHELM
3/7	CRAIG DUERLING	4/5	FRANK BRADLEY	5/3	WALTER PATTON

