



The  
**BRASS LAMP**  
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Rochester, New York

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**Brian & Carolyn Burke's**  
**1949 Packard Super 8 Convertible Victoria**

# THE BRASS LAMP - APRIL 2023

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**A Message From Your Editor Judy Keenan**

**W**e did it again! Four years in a row we have been awarded the Master Editor's Award.

I would like to thank everyone that has a hand in making our newsletter worthy of the Master Editor's Award. Without you contributing articles, pictures and proofing the newsletter, I could not put together this newsletter. Please keep the articles and car photos coming so we can win this award again next year!

I hope this newsletter has been informative and that you are as excited about our upcoming events and activities as I am. If you have any questions or

would like to suggest future topics for the newsletter, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Our monthly meetings are a great opportunity to catch up with other club members and discuss anything from our families, trips, antique cars, and even our aches and pains. Hope to see you all on our run to Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn.

Blessings, Judy



# New Members

W • E • L • C • O • M • E

**Welcome back to GVACS**

**Chris and Lynne Van Zandt.**

Chris grew up around old cars as his father was a long-time member of AACA and had a few vehicles. One such auto was a 1927 Dodge Brothers Station Wagon that, after his father's passing, Chris and his brother donated to Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills, Michigan, a National Historic Landmark and museum where the car can be seen on display. Meadow Brook Hall was the home of Matilda Dodge Wilson, widow of automobile pioneer John Dodge, and her second husband, Alfred Wilson, a lumber broker.

Chris and Lynne own several antique cars with Chris' interest in Hudson vehicles reflected in the assortment: a 1936 Terraplane Deluxe RS Coupe, a 1949 Hudson Club Coupe, and, as a change of pace, a 1946 Willys CJ2A and a 1966 Ford Mustang.

Chris is currently coordinating a full restoration of the 1936 Terraplane. With an interest in Hudson automobiles, it is no surprise that as well as GVACS and AACA, the Van Zandt's are members of the Hudson-Essex-Terraplane Club (HET Club). Chris is also a past member of the Historic Car Club of Pennsylvania (HCCP), the oldest independent car club in the U.S.

The couple lived and raised their two children in Fairport and retired to Lynne's hometown of Penn Yan from where they enjoy the wine country, boating on Keuka Lake and travel. They can be reached at 585-455-5063 or via email at [cvanzandt1959@gmail.com](mailto:cvanzandt1959@gmail.com).



**A Message From Your President Don Dear**

**W**elcome spring! Your special cars are coming out of hibernation. Pat Lloyd drove his Model A to our winter picnic. Cool out, but a classy ride! People love to see our cars. Heads turn, we get a thumbs up, people take pictures, even ask for a ride. Make sure you get out with your special ride soon.

The great GVACS chili cook-off was a big success. Congratulations to the winners: 1st- Nancy Huffman, 2nd- Marlene Kier, 3rd- Brian Moon! Thanks to John O'Connor, the Keenans and the Smiths for planning. Pictures from both north and south picnics are here.

GVACS members had good times in March at Cars and Coffee. Looking forward to the pancake breakfast (organized by the Keenans). Those buckwheat pancakes and pure maple syrup are the best. Look for photos next month.

Yes, next month!! At this writing, we do not have an activity or host for April. In last month's and this month's issues 15+ suggestions were given for an activity. It is easy to host. Call a Board member and we will help. If no one steps up, there will be no April event.

Our 2023 event calendar still has openings for hosts. It is your club. Even if you have hosted before, it's okay to host again. These monthly gatherings are part of what makes GVACS special!

Enjoy the ride!

Don



**Pictures from Cars & Coffee at Browncroft Family Restaurant on Feb. 16th.**





**THE BRASS LAMP - APRIL 2023**



04 Mary Ann Boyce	21 Sedat Ogultekin
05 Joyce Drake	21 George Haynes
14 Barbara Ford	24 Donna Harr
17 Steven Heald	24 Paul Kron
18 John McAlpin	24 JoAnne Stahl
19 Doug Drake	29 Grace Boudway
21 Harry Fisher	30 Betty Steeb



01 Roger & Marty Hawkins	1980	43
02 Martin & Debbie Schutt	1977	46
06 Don & Christine Dear	1974	49
07 Laverne & Joan VanDeWall	1951	72
12 Joe Kozloski & Linda Perkins	1986	37

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**Pictures from The Florida Winter Picnic  
at Marge Thurley's home in Florida.**





**Secretary's Report February 2023**

As we all know, April is to bring showers that create May flowers. Spring offers a fresh start for the flowers, and for us to begin another season with our antique cars.

Be advised that we need ideas for trips that would be of interest to the GVACS chapter and as such if you have an idea please discuss with one of the Board members or Officers.

Again this month, there have been no board meetings and as such again there is very little to report on.

James L. Day, Secretary



**COVER PHOTO**

**Brian & Carolyn Burke's  
1949 Packard Super 8 Convertible Victoria**

I purchased the 1949 Packard super 8 Convertible Victoria in March 1992. It had been stored down in Pike, NY for 30+ years and was in pretty rough shape. Many hours of work by Ed and Bonnie Franko, Ted Pisarak and me brought the "Queen Mary" back to life. And my energetic husband, Brian, has kept her in tip top condition.

The Queen Mary has travelled over 35,000 miles, including about a dozen 1000 Milers, 6 Packard Henry Joy Tours, numerous AACA and VMCCA tours and gazillion GVACS events. - Carolyn Burke

**ULTIMATE LIST**  
**OF SHARING TIME**  
*Ideas*  
**FOR APRIL**

Next month is April and we do not have an activity planned. Here are some ideas for someone to volunteer to take the reigns and run with it. All you need to do is:

1. Pick an activity
2. Give the Editor the information and she will make the flyer for the newsletter. We usually like to put it in at least two months ahead so people can put it on their calendars. If that is not possible, then 1 month would have to suffice.
3. The treasurer will tell you what the budget is for your activity. Save your receipts and submit to treasurer for reimbursements.
4. Ask any board member for any help or guidance.

IDEAS:

- |                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Eating at a restaurant.         | Zoo             |
| Going to a museum.              | Artisan Works   |
| Memorial Art Gallery            | Air Show        |
| Picnic at your home or park.    | Lighthouse      |
| Susan B. Anthony Museum         | Car Show        |
| Rundel Memorial Bldg            | Boat Rides      |
| National Toy Hall of Fame       | Game Night      |
| Mt. Hope Cemetery tours         | Lilac Festival  |
| Rochester Public Market         | Lumberjack Show |
| Arboretum in Highland Park      | Theatre         |
| Strasenburgh Planetarium        | Wine Trail      |
| Strong National Museum of Play  | Summer Concerts |
| George Eastman Museum           | Plays           |
| Rochester Museum & Science Ctr. | High Falls      |

## **AACA National Calendar and Other Events**

### **April 2023**

**13-15, 2023 Southeastern Spring Nationals**  
Charlotte, NC - Hornets Nest Region - 704-847-4215

**April 30-May 3, 2023 Southeastern Division Tour**  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee, E. Tennessee Region  
865-803-6412

### **May 2023**

**18-20 Eastern Spring Nationals**  
Gettysburg, PA  
Gettysburg Region - 717-582-3209

### **June 2023**

**25-28 Eastern Divisional Tour**  
Denver, PA  
AACA Library hosting - 717-534-2082

### **July 2023**

**6-8 Central Spring Nationals**  
Auburn, Indiana  
Crossroads of America Region - 727-415-7679

**16-22 Founders Tour**  
Ontario, Canada  
Ontario Region - 905-305-7747

**26-29 Special Eastern Summer Nationals**  
Norwich, NY  
Rolling Antiquers Region - 607-334-2907

### **August 2023**

**10-12 Grand Nationals**  
Bettendorf, Iowa  
Mississippi Valley Region - 309-373-2169

**16-19 Vintage Tour (1931 and earlier)**  
Aroostook County, Maine  
Maine Region - 207-768-1033

### **September 2023**

**14-16 Special Central Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)**  
Piqua, Ohio  
Southern Ohio Chapter - 937-689-6901

**25-29 Western Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)**  
Santa Barbara, CA - AACACaliforniaTour@mail.com

### **October 2023**

**3-6 Eastern Fall Nationals**  
Hershey, PA  
Hershey Region - 717-566-7720

***Flea market set-up is Monday, show date is Friday***

**22-27 Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)**  
Thomasville, Georgia - VMCCA hosted



## **GVACS TREASURER**

### **POSITION NEEDS TO BE FILLED:**

As of January 1st, 2023 we do not have a Treasurer. Jerry Huffman has graciously volunteered to fill-in for the time being.

Jerry will work beside you and make sure you are comfortable with the position before stepping aside.

The primary duties include budget planning, financial reporting, record-keeping and managing incoming and outgoing funds.

Please contact Jerry Huffman if you are interested at 746-7421.



## Second or Third Place

By Myron Smith, VP - Regions Development & Support Western Division

**S**o, you received a 2nd or 3rd place AACA trophy for your car. Disappointed? Many are. I've always viewed judging as kind of a report card like when I was in school. It's an evaluation of how I'm doing with my restorations.

My view has changed somewhat over the years and I've gravitated more toward showing in HPOF for some time now. However, this year I decided to put a 'car' again in class judging. It got a second. I feel pretty good about it.

As a part of my own evaluation of what I take to events I have always taken into account, what is the award worth. If a carpet has a little stain, is it worth a whole new carpet. Or, if there is a scratch somewhere, is it truly worth the expense and time to repaint a whole panel? Now if it's some high dollar value vehicle, the answer may be yes, but I don't show real high dollar cars. I like to call it common sense restoration. While I rarely sell anything, I don't like to be too upside down on what money I put into a car. And, I don't take judging too seriously. It can lead to ulcers.

Our judging system is if not the best, close to it. It's impossible to be an expert on everything and occasionally a judge may make a mistake, but this is not my subject of interest in this column. I do try to bring vehicles to be judged in what I think is up to their greatest potential per dollar spent.

This year we showed a 1997 Suburban (not exactly a high buck show car). It came out of a salvage yard in 2017. It had 170,000 miles and had a bad intake

manifold gasket. I intended to use it as a winter driver in the snow and salt. After we fixed the engine, I got to looking at it in more detail. There was one small spot of rust that needed to be repaired and a few scratches and door dings. Other than that, it was very clean inside and out especially for something with so many miles and its age. Somebody had cared for it for a lot of its life. It was just too nice to abuse in Nebraska winter weather.

It had come out of Montana by the dealer sticker on the back which explained the lack of rust. We cleaned and detailed it as much as seemed logical (engine compartments on this new of a vehicle is a nightmare with so many components, nooks and crannies). We also drove it to the show. It got a second. Not too bad in my book considering what I knew of its history and where it had come from.

Will it ever get an AACA 1st Junior? Probably not. It might qualify for HOPF. It's nice to drive, comfortable and there are some things more important than a trophy. It is also signed up for the AACA MAP award which I think is very worthwhile for additional enjoyment of our vintage vehicles. We've driven it enough to get our first milestone on it.

My conclusion is to enjoy your vehicle even if it's an imperfect diamond rather than a freshly polished stone.



## My First Sports Car

A Murray Stahl Muse

**I**t was 1976 when the convertible bug bit me; I had three kids and had been married for 17 years. My first order of business was to somehow cajole my wife that I wasn't completely off my rocker. You see there was a past history of inappropriate family cars to overcome. Our first car had been a Hillman Minx barely big enough to carry two people and a bag of groceries. That was followed by a couple of MG 1100s and a Lilliputian Morris Minor. Next to these cars the Chevette was a trailer truck. In my wife's view squeezing my 6'3" frame into one of these little bantam-weight cars was just silly and why couldn't we just get a "normal" car? I'm sure her opinion was colored by all these vehicles being the dreaded "standard shift." The story of her taking her driving test, 8 months pregnant, working the clutch in the Hillman had become her never ending saga of deprivation easily eclipsing her "how tough was the birth" stories. This wouldn't be easy, I needed a plan or as the Brits call it, a bloody scheme.

### A Sprite Rally



**"it's easy, lady...just follow the oil leaks!"**

Our best friends put continual pressure on me by owning station wagons; big lumbering behemoth "Country Squires." I knew my wife coveted one of

these because she told me every chance she had. Maybe my opportunity for a convertible lay in compromise, hey, a new concept!

As these things happened, a coworker, yet another station wagon guy, told me about what he described as a "sporty wagon." Normally I would laugh and tell him that a sporty station wagon was an oxymoron like "honest politician"; But then there was that little convertible in the back of my brain; this could work,

The sporty wagon in question turned out to be a big, year old, two-tone brown Chrysler replete with a Hemi 440 and every option known to man except for a hinge in the middle for turns. My wife swooned; just walking around the thing she could see the kids bouncing around in the back while we glided down the road in serene comfort as the big wagon shifted all by itself.





## My First Sports Car

A Murray Stahl Muse

The wagon came first and that allowed me to remind her that I did this for her, not my kind of car. I owned that wagon for five years and hated every minute of it. It was like piloting a tug boat. The straight line performance was great but getting the shear mass of vehicle around a corner was like trying to dock a boat without slowing down. She wallowed around a bend as you slid around on the slippery leather seat. I had made a great sacrifice for my convertible.

Wifey was so elated with this moving living room that she readily agreed to an inexpensive convertible. Within the week I owned a 64 Austin Healy Sprite resplendent in British racing green with a black interior. I was glad to be somewhat young as you didn't just get in it, you pulled it up onto you, like a pair of socks.

It sported a 46HP engine with twin SU carburetion. The SUs were always out of sync and it took two people and 8 pages of instruction to adjust them. The four speed transmission was mostly a delight except that for some reason third gear required double-clutching.



*Note the wipers don't park  
and the Bonnet badge has fallen off*

Up to now I thought I knew all about the idiosyncrasies of "English Cars." After all, after

owning a couple MGs, I knew that even when new you carried extra generators, fan belts and regulators. What I didn't know was that the term British Sports Car defined an odd collection of cobbled up parts, poorly assembled to resemble a car; it could easily have qualified for a salvage title.

The pluses of the Sprite were that it cornered like it was on rails. The little 4-banger had an operatic sound as you shifted through the gears. Top down motoring was pure bliss on back roads. The unfortunate downside of side road motoring was that you were farther away from a tow truck rescue.

I loved this car but it certainly had an eccentricity about it. The heater controls were under the bonnet (hood), changing the temp required stopping the car and opening the hood. All lights and gauges worked sporadically at best. It gave you a great sensation of speed because you were only about 4 inches off the road in a vehicle so small that being in any kind of traffic was intimidating. It was a tinkerer's delight with the owner's manual listing 25+ maintenance tasks every couple of hundred miles. It was folly to go around the block without a tool box. Oil leaks and hot parts conspired to fill the Sprite with machine shop type odor; any rain and the inside was wet and clammy, Joanne no longer felt that she looked good in this car.

Within the first month the throw-out bearing disintegrated entirely. This was the little green Sprite's first flatbed ride. I thought it odd that our little town had a repair shop that pretty much specialized in Sprite's and Midgets. Many bucks later I knew why. My Sprite had a graphite throw-out bearing with a useful life of about 5,000 miles if you shifted to neutral quickly at every stop. This was bad but the Sprite's underside was mostly encased with a steel belly pan to add a little body stability to a frame not originally

(continued from page 11)

**My First Sports Car**

A Murray Stahl Muse

designed for a convertible. To change the throw-out required pulling the engine and tranny. I became adept at yanking the little 4-banger and snaking my hands through the baffles.

I won't go into the intricacies of "Lucas Electrics" except to explain that the Brits drink warm beer solely because Lucas makes their fridges. I owned the Sprite for 6 years and don't think I ever went 50 miles without a repair of some kind. It became a challenge to make it reliable enough to take through the city to work.

My Austin Healy Sprite was a comic parody of a Sports Car yet I loved it as you would a crippled up, lame, old blind dog. I sold it to get an old four door Hudson so we could attend GVACS tours with the entire family. The Sprite was wildly unreliable but it had character and I was sorry to see it go. It was a Love / Hate relationship.



**Postscript:**

While I had fun with the Sprite it was my fourth and last English car. My next convertible was a Chevelle that I owned over 38 years with pretty close to no repairs at all. Recently when considering another Sports Car I thought back to that little Green Sprite and the reflection made me smile but I decided I was too old to repair a car every time I left the house. Instead, I bought a Corvette roadster but sometimes as I'm falling asleep, I think fondly about that Sprite.

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# THE BRASS LAMP - APRIL 2023

## Pictures of GVACS Chili Cook-off



**Winners of the Chili Cook-off**

(R to L) 1st Place - Nancy Huffman,  
2nd Place - Marlene Kier, 3rd Place - Brian Moon





# THE BRASS LAMP - APRIL 2023

## Pictures of GVACS Chili Cook-off



PLAYING Left, Right, Center



Pat & Evelyn Lloyd  
drove their Model A!





# **Requests for Car Displays and/or Eblast Requests**

It's that time of the year when organizations contact GVACS with requests for car displays or to publicize their event via an Eblast. **Groups should be advised that we publicize, however we do not take reservations, nor do we guarantee participation.** In order to publicize an event, we need the information below (the key "WH"questions !)

President, Don Dear approves requests for Eblasts. Any requests for an Eblast should be directed to President, Don Dear ([ddear99@gmail.com](mailto:ddear99@gmail.com)) with a copy to Secretary, Jim Day, [jameslday21@gmail.com](mailto:jameslday21@gmail.com).

What: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of event i.e. Car Display at \_\_\_\_\_)

Where: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address/location of facility/venue)

When: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of event)

What Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Time frame for cars to be on display.)

Who: Name to contact to make reservations: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for making a reservation: \_\_\_\_\_

Special details: \_\_\_\_\_

(For e.g. what refreshments are being served to car owners, entertainment provided, etc.)



# CARTWRIGHT'S MAPLE TREE INN®



## **Pancakes! Pancakes!**

**March 29th @ 8:45am**

Join us for our 10th Annual Pancake Outing to

**Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn**

4321 County Rd., 15A, Angelica, NY 14709

We will meet at 8:45 am in the Lowe's parking lot on  
Hyland Drive by Marketplace Mall.

**For Reservations Call or Email by March 27th to:**

**Judy Keenan @ (585) 414-5358 or Email: [jmiller1313@hotmail.com](mailto:jmiller1313@hotmail.com)**

# GVACS Activities Calendar Updated March 11, 2022

Dates 2023	Activity/Event/Speaker	Organizer/Hosts
 <p style="text-align: right;"><b>March 29, 2023</b></p>	Pancake Run to Cartwright's (Detail plan of the event is on page 17)	Bob & Judy Keenan
April 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas??	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
 <p>May 2023 Event Date TBD</p>	Mystery Run - Tentative	Ron DeGross
 <p>June 2023 Event Date TBD</p>	Ice Cream Social	Betty Reilly & Judy & Bob Keenan
 <p>July 8, 2023</p>	National Car Collector Appreciation	Pat & Evelyn Lloyd
	Summer Picnic Foreman Park - White House Pavilion, 4507 Lake Rd. Pultneyville, NY	Joe Kozloski & Linda Perkins
September 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas??	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
October 2023 Event Date TBD	??Ideas?? ? Fall Run ?	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
November 10, 2023	Indoor Meeting - 7PM Annual Meeting and Speaker Lutheran Church of the Resurrection 3736 St. Paul Blvd., Rochester, NY	Need Volunteer(s)/Host
 <p>December 10, 2023</p>	Holiday Party Shadow Lake Golf and Racquet Club	Joel and Ann Neal & Linda Hosenfeld



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***Celebrating Our 73rd Year***



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