Rötunda Times



VOLUME 12 NO. 5

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE FORD & MERCURY RESTORER'S CLUB OF AMERICA

MAY 2022



FLASHBACK FEATURE ARTICLE... BOB HASS'S COCA COLA CAR

BY MEAGAN PRISELAC; WORLD OF COKE

There is nothing quite like cursing around in a convertible. With the top down, radio up and hair blowing in the wind, especially on decked out with an ice cream sundae bar, a working gumball machine and a table to enjoy a refreshing coke. Sounds like a dream car right?

That's what we thought, too, when we first heard of this 1955 Ford Fairlane customized to suit a classic taste: Coca Cola.

Owner Bob Hass and his wife Lorraine traveled from their home in South Lyon, Michigan to the World of Coke in Atlanta to show off the vintage beauty. Check it out for yourself in the picture from their recent visit

Adding to the collection: Bob has collected 1954, 1955, and 1956 Fords for the last 25 years. Although he normally seeks them out, he says this particular car found him. Back in 2003, he received a phone call from a buddy of his practically begging him to take the 1955 Ford Fairlane off his hands. Bob, who admits he didn't have a need for the vintage ride at the time, bought it for \$300.

A Labor of Love: Instead of restoring the four-door sedan to its former glory, Hass says he wanted to create something totally unique. He welded up the back doors, cut off the roof and filled it with Coke collectables.

Burning Rubber: The Ford Fairlane stayed in Bob's shed for five years before he began restoring it. After taking a closer look he realized it only had 35,000 miles and thought, "IF I could get this thing running, I'll see what I can make out of it."

Putting the Pedal to the Metal; Working through the heat of the summer, Bob finished the restoration job in three months. The car which was rusted out needed a lot of TLC. Bob is proud to say he did all the body work himself. "To tell you the truth, it's a very good-running car. I wouldn't be scared to drive it anywhere says Bob.

On Display: "People display Coca-Cola things in their basement, they fix up their rec room and everything, but I want it where people can see it," explains Hass when asked what inspired the Coke-themed car.

I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream! Bob loves to surprise local car show on lookers with a sweet treat. Occasionally Bob will buy a gallon of ice cream, fill up the chocolate syrup dispenser and serve ice cream Sundays. For an added bonus the gum ball machine dispenses jelly beans.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 5







The Rotunda Times Published by:

Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123 • www.fmrcoa.org

NEWSLETTER STAFF

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Karen Hough 734.516.9778

karen.hough79@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFIED ADS EDITOR

Jerry Worful 313.271.2017

kercrest@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER SPONSOR ADS

313.820.5247 **Russ Roberts**

rwroberts@gmail.com

STAFF CONTRIBUTORS

Louis Ironside 810.798.8803

louisironside@aol.com

(The Roving Reporter)

Brian Kuta 734.753.3788

mbhouse@charter.net

Mark Sapienz 734.676.5379

masrtr43@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Barb Jockwig 248.459.9019

fmrc2018memsec@gmail.com

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

When you hear of a member/spouse's death, please get all the information such as the funeral home and address. viewing times and dates, and the service time and date.

CONTACT:

Jim Crawford

313.467.7789 or icrawfo2020@wowwav.com

We will ensure that the membership at large knows of the death.



Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America to post your photos and comments. Network fellow club members and invite your friends

to share on Facebook



FMRCOA

FORD AND MERCURY RESTORERS **CLUB of AMERICA**

P.O. Box 2938 • Dearborn, MI 48123

2022 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT The FMRCOA Board

VICE PRESIDENT Stan Miller 734.464.3978

stan3379@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY **Terry Worful** 313.271.2017

kercrest@comcast.net

TREASURER 248.807.2821 Dale Levasseur

fmrc2018treasurer@vahoo.com

DIRECTOR Michael Bauman 313.452.3016

bluesbuilder@comcast.net

DIRECTOR **Russ Roberts** 313.820.5247

rwroberts@gmail.com

313.271.2017 DIRECTOR Jerry Worful

kercrest@comcast.net

The Ford & Mercury Restorers Club is a hobby organization whose purpose is to foster and promote the acquisition, preservation and use of all Ford vehicles.

IN THIS ISSUE

Board of Directors Message	3	I
Secretary Message	3	1
Calendar of Events		
Ford's Soybean Car	4	I
History of the Ford Logo		١
Feature Article Continues		I
Rolling Sculpture Car Show Info	5	1
The Roving Reporter	6	I
70's Muscle Cars		I
50 Car Facts	8-9	1
Steve Rhode Videos		I
Classified Ads		I

SECRETARY BOARD MINUTES

- Meeting called to order @ 7:30.
- Don't forget the mini swap at the June Meeting.
- Gillmore Museum trip was discussed.
- Barn Show going as a club Jerry Worful needs Your name and \$15 cash payment by the June meeting.
- Canton Cave is every Monday @ 5pm, but get there early it fills up.
- Edward Heinze Cruise we will be at the pavilion again. Don still doesn't know where the entrance will be.
- There are 109 Paid memberships. & 42 People attended this Meeting
- Bob Assenmacher recieved his 50 year pin. Had a 1948 Ford at the time, and Bob Donan got him to join the club. Roy Stahl was the President at the time. Bob Assenmacher won the Generator Award in 1976.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- T-shirts have been ordered, Price will be \$20 for M, L and XL, XX, XXX, & 4X will be \$22
- Bakers of Milford meet is July 24th
- Mini Swap meet is at the June meeting at 5:30
- Workers Assignments will be handed out at the meeting to save printing and postage
- We need members Younger members. To try to get them we would like you to hand out Swap flyers and membership blanks at cruises you go to.
- 1st Saturday in August is the Stahls museum.
 Other activities will be discussed at the meetings
- Still trying to come up with a design for the Art Cervi Award.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 1 • FMRCOA Club Meeting

June 12 • Wilson's Barn Show

June 25 • Downriver Cruise

July 6 • FMRCOA Club Meeting

July 16 • FMRCOA Swap Meet

July 30 • Lake Street Cruise-In
All Day Motorfest, South Lyon

CHECK OUT FMRCOA.ORG CLICK ON EVENTS PAGE FOR CLUB EVENTS /OUTINGS

JANUARY 13, 1942 FORD RECEIVES SOYBEAN CAR PATENT



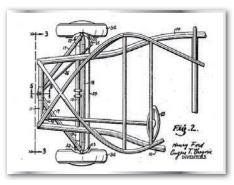
After investing millions of dollars into the development of plastics, the Ford Motor Company publicly debuted its Soybean Car on August 13, 1941 at Dearborn Days. The car earned its name due to its body panels supposedly made of agricultural plastic derived from plants including soybeans, wheat, corn and hemp. Henry Ford and Eugene Gregory originally collaborated on the car, receiving a patent for it on this day in 1942. The patent had originally been filed for in July of 1940.

The car weighed in 30 percent lighter than a normal steel vehicle of the same dimensions, making it highly fuel efficient. Add in the fact its motor ran on hemp fuel, and the vehicle was all but a crop itself. Ford himself claimed he would "grow automobiles from the soil" That said, the car's 14 plastic body panels mounted to a tubular steel frame of unique design.

Why did Henry Ford Build Plastic Cars?

The Henry Ford Museum cites three reasons for Henry wanting to build plastic cars from soybeans. First, Ford wanted to integrate the automotive and agricultural industries; he was a farmer at heart. Second, Ford believed his plastic was safer than common steel. Third, it was his belief that using plastics would circumvent metal shortages caused by WWII.

The war, however, was exactly what ended the experiment. The automaker undertook new duties building war vehicles, leaving little time or resources for experimenting. Now up for debate is what the vehicle's body panels actually consisted of. According to Lowell E. Overly, who took control of the project after Gregory became unsatisfied, it consisted of "... soybean fiber in a phenolic resin with formaldehyde used in the impregnation." One newspaper article claimed Ford's research simply claimed whipped cream as a final product. In any case, Overly later stated Gregory destroyed the vehicle sometime after World War II. With the car no longer in existence, its exact make up is indeterminable, as no records were kept. The war effort stamped out interest in plastic cars, leaving a second prototype unfinished.



Illustrations for soybean car patent, note Henry Ford signature.

HISTORY OF THE FORD LOGO



1903-1909

This script lettering was first used on company correspondence, before being put on the first production car, the Model A. It was designed by C. Harold Will. The art nouveau border that was included on the logo was very fashionable at the time.



1909-1912

The script that was written in this elongated form was known as the "script with wings". It was used up until 1912, when the current font that we can see today on Ford vehicles was born.



This writing appears to be influenced by Henry Ford's own signature.



1912-1927

The oval that was added was first used in 1907 by British agents Perry, Thornton, and Schreiber-predecessors of the original Ford Motor Company Limited of Great Britain. This oval presented Ford as being the "hallmark for reliability and economy".



1927-2003

From 1927 onward, the use of this logo was deemphasized and then dropped all together.
Overtime the oval that had encircled the Ford logo in times past got slimmer and more refined. Other than the standard blue color that had always been used, alternate colors of black and white were also tested out around 1961.



2003-present

Today the Ford logo still has that same iconic blue oval, but has been made to look more modernized with a silver lining around its font and a white hue added to the lettering. It is a very simple, yet elegant design that was created on the 100th Anniversary of Ford Motor Company. The "Centennial Blue Oval" is widely considered as one of the most successful car logos in the world.

FEATURE ARTICLE CONTINUES ... COCA-COLA CAR



Open Door Policy: "Everyone loves the car," Many owners at antique car shows ask you to look not touch, "but Bob has and open-door policy. He welcomes people to climb on in and take pictures with the mannequin in the back.

Lovers Lane: Bob and Lorraine celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary this year. The two love birds turned "Snow Birds" travel from Michigan to their second home in Palmetto, Florida each winter where they have fun showing off their award winning ride. Showing Off; Lorraine enjoys riding along to the car shows but leaves the handy work up to Bob. He says he is happy just to share the experience with his life partner

A New Coke Collector: Bob admits he was never a Coke collector until this project. "But," he concludes with a playful laugh, "I would definitely classify myself as a Coke collector now".

FMRCOA pleased to share Bob's recognition with members. We congratulate Bob on the article and his unique creation.



FRIDAY • JULY 15, 2022 ANN ARBOR, MI

www.mainstreetannarbor.org/rolling-sculpture.com



Taking place on Main, Liberty and Washington streets in the heart of downtown Ann Arbor, the Rolling Sculpture Car Show is a one of kind experience for the car enthusiast. All cars are welcome to exhibit at the Show. Exhibitors pre-register vehicles.

The event itself is free and open to the public. Spectators enjoy the energy of more than 300 exotic, antique, classic, and one of a kind cars. Hot Rod DJ, Surfer Joe, will be "spinning" all of your favorite hot rod songs throughout the show. Stop by and make a request at the corner of Main and Liberty.



THE ROVING REPORTER by Lou Ironside

Two local shows to report on this month and both were excellent. First, the annual swap meet at the Fowlerville Fairgrounds. This meet has been up and down for the past several years, but this year it really came back strong. It has been a long time since I saw that many swappers at this meet, and there were plenty of bargains....especially for my favorite car the Model A Ford's. Both Terry and I came home with some really great, and needed, Model A parts. The next swap was the annual Bearing Burners Car Club swap meet in

Utica, MI. Again, a good turnout of vendors, and plenty of bargains to be found. I got a couple of great Model A items and returned home after what I considered to be a successful shopping trip. On the way to the show we passed the old Packard Proving Ground and the MoPar show and swap was being held the same day. I thought that might have kept the swapper and attendance down, but that wasn't the case. Another good meet for 2022. Let's hope the trend continues.

POSTCARD FROM THE PAST by Lou Ironside

This month an unusual postcard, of an unusual car. In 1940 Pontiac made a car body out of clear plastic for The Golden Gate International Exposition in California. The chassis and inner structure were metal, but the entire outer body was made from clear plastic. At that time plastic was in its infancy, and no one had ever attempted anything this large. Since you couldn't stamp the plastic like sheet metal they had to make molds and heat the plastic over them. It was a very labor intensive and difficult job. Back in the 1970's the Special Interest Auto magazine



actually did a drive test of the car....a very slow and short test I might add. At that time the car had something like 8 miles on it and although it was totally functional, the body was extremely brittle and had several cracks which were stitched together with thin wire. The tires and other rubber parts were made from white rubber and it got nicknamed the "ghost car". I can imagine that in 1940 this created quite a sensation, much like the show cars that the auto industries tease us with at the auto shows today. From what I understand this car now is in a museum, but I couldn't locate which one. It would certainly be one I would love to see, probably as much as a person in 1940 would have.

THESE MUSCLE CARS WERE TURNING HEADS IN THE 70S... NOW THEY'RE WORTH NOTHING

Years have not been kind to these '70s muscle cars, and they're now some of the biggest bargains on the used market.

The 1970s brought us bell-bottom jeans, Star Wars, Roger Moore Bond films...and the gas crisis. Though disco may have killed rock music, the gas crisis killed the muscle car era. Auto manufacturers shifted focus to fuel economy, gaudy paint schemes, and luxury cars. Not all 1970s cars are bad, nor are all the cars on this list. Some of them are truly great and could make for a good project. Some cars just aged like disco or tube socks.

So put in an 8-track and find your hair rollers, here are ten '70s muscle cars that have failed to hold up value five decades later.



1979 Dodge Aspen R/T (Plymouth Volare Road Runner)

The Dodge Aspen and Plymouth Volare were twins, with the only difference being the badge on the

grille. These cars were competitive for the day, with roughly 155 hp and all tacky paint schemes and chrome you could ever wish for. The 318 cubic inch V8 and three-speed automatic are forgettable by modern standards though, and chances are you've never seen one of these until now.



Many of these cars were either crushed, crashed, or left to rust in junkyards, so it's seldom to see them for sale, but they still make an occasional appearance.

The only Volare Roadrunner on Bring a Trailer only picked up \$6,500, and it was in mint condition.



1978 Dodge Magnum

To relive Dodge's glory days in NASCAR, the Magnum was launched. The underpinnings were

similar to the legendary Charger yet lacked the same magic, with the top optioned Magnum only making 190 horsepower... from a 400 cubic inch V8. The Magnum had all the popular features at the time, such as t-tops, chrome wheels, and plush interior pieces.

The Magnum proved to be unpopular in NASCAR and is credited to why many drivers moved on to GM or Ford cars in the 1980s, which eventually caused Dodge's complete withdrawal from NASCAR. No Dodge Magnum's have been sold on Bring A Trailer, but several auction sites show high bids at around \$15,000 for a factory fresh example.



1975 Chevrolet Cosworth Vega

Chevrolet launched the Vega in an attempt to compete with the legendary Plymouth Duster and spunky Ford Maverick but failed

to do anything serious. Many Chevy fans were disappointed at the lack of big engines for the car, with only inline fours and sixes being offered. In an attempt to save the name and Chevy's reputation, GM partnered with English tuner shop Cosworth.

The resulting car had stiffened suspension, custom inline four with fuel injection, and a spruced-up exterior. The car was a hit amongst critics but failed to mount any lasting legacy; being outshone by the legendary Camaro and Corvette. Low mileage 1975 Cosworth Vega was sold on Bring A Trailer for only \$9,400.



1979 Chevrolet Monte Carlo

The Monte Carlo began life as a strong competitor to Ford's Thunderbird. It was offered with a range of V8 engines and

luxury features, and the car sold like hotcakes. After the gas crisis and some questionable fashions of the 1970s, the Monte Carlo became another boring square car with tacky upholstery and an anemic V6. 1979 was also the last year for a manual transmission in the Monte Carlo.

Though the car had some success as a NASCAR chassis, it proved unpopular in showrooms by the 1980s and GM promptly released a new Monte Carlo in 1982. No examples of these could be found on Bring A Trailer either (starting to see a theme here?), but one 1979 Monte Carlo is listed on Smart Motor Guide for a measly \$5,200.



1978 Dodge Challenger

Mopar fans are already cringing at the mention of this one; an ugly scar on the history of their

favorite brand. Dodge imported the Mitsubishi Galant and tried to fool buyers into thinking it was a continuation of the legendary Challenger.

Yellow stripes, bright paint, and chrome wheels should have made it a hit, but it failed to find a market. The Challenger had an anemic straight-four that couldn't even make 100 horsepower. Critics were not fond of the looks, and it lacked



MUSCLE CARS WERE TURNING HEADS IN THE 70S...CONT.

the characteristics of classic American muscle cars. No luck in finding this car on eBay, thankfully most of them have met the junkyard or the crusher by now. One did sell on BarnFinds for \$6,900 in near factory condition.



1979 Mercury Cougar XR-7

Ford launched the Cougar as an upscale Mustang to be sold under the Ford division, and it did well doing that. When the gas crisis hit

and personal luxury cars became a fad, the Cougar was moved to the Thunderbird chassis and gained a lot of weight and lost a lot of horsepower. By 1979 the Cougar lost most of what made it so special in the 1960s.

Sure, it had a big V8 and still had the XR-7 trim, but it wasn't the same. The Cougar never recovered from the 1970s and never experienced the fanfare 1980s Mustangs and Thunderbirds did. A perfectly gaudy example was sold on Bring A Trailer for \$3,200...the same price as some used economy cars.



1975 Dodge Charger Daytona

The 1969 Dodge Daytona destroyed the competition in NASCAR, eventually being banned by NASCAR in 1971.

Many Mopar fans would call this one of the if not the best car made by Dodge during the 60s. Unfortunately, the gas crisis and personal luxury trend of the 1970s got to the Dodge Charger and turned it into a soft, pillowy ride for grandpa to take to church. The sheet metal was so ugly and air-catching that Dodge requested not to use it in NASCAR.

Dodge tried to boost sales and rebuild the Charger's reputation by launching the Daytona trim in 1975 and running it until 1978. The trim gave the Charger chrome wheels, heavy-duty suspension, and wait for it...a 190 horsepower 400 cubic inch V8. Sales were slow because of the gas crisis, Dodge's lack of success in NASCAR, and the shift towards economical cars. Most of these cars rusted out due to Chrysler's poor quality control of the 1970s. The Charger and Daytona names both were used by K-cars in the 1980s, to the disapproval of many Mopar fans. Because of the previously mentioned rust issues, these cars are actually extremely difficult to find, but one is for sale on AutoTrader for just under \$8,000.



1975 AMC Matador X

The Matador was a fairly popular family vehicle at the time, finding use in police and taxi service. AMC was oftentimes left out of the conversation, but the Matador proved to be successful for the small automaker. The Matador X was an attempt to bring a fastback coupe into the lineup, mainly so the Matador could compete in NASCAR. Critics at the time called the car goodlooking and were impressed with AMC's styling abilities.

The car featured a line of straight 6s and V8s, with the top optioned V8 making 235 horsepower. 60 was achieved in a respectable 8 seconds. A Matador X has yet to be sold on Bring A Trailer, but Hagerty appraises a good one at \$9,000.



1978 Ford Mustang II King Cobra

Mustang II is an unpopular car amongst Ford fans, muscle car

fans, and even non-car fans who are old enough to know what they are. The Mustang II was Ford's model to save the Mustang name while building a car that was good on gas, small, and still offered some performance.



The Mustang II was actually one of the best-selling Mustangs, despite the negative connotation it has in today's car culture. Carroll Shelby was in temporary retirement in the

late 70s, so Ford couldn't call on him to modify their models, but they tried their best to emulate what he would've done, thus the King Cobra was born. King Cobra models came only with a 5.0 V8, hood scoops, and with a cobra vinyl on the hood that should have alerted Pontiac's lawyers. A good example on Bring A Trailer sold for an impressive \$12,250, still a stone's throw away from Gen 1 Mustang values though.

50 Fun Car Facts

- There are currently more than a BILLION cars being used around the world.
 That's billion. With a B. Experts project we'll be at 2 Billion by 2040.
- 2. Nearly 70 million cars are manufactured every year. Despite what you may think, that means not everyone drives the same car you do.
- In 1886, German inventor Karl Benz, the co-founder of Mercedes-Benz, built the Benz Patent-Motorwagen, which is widely considered to be the world's first car.
- 4. The first speeding ticket was issued in 1896. The speed? A whopping 8 MPH. For comparison, a horse and carriage trotting along at a good clip average 10 MPH. So much for the "convenience" of automobiles, right?
- Modern cruise control was invented by Ralph Teetor in 1948. Teetor, who was blind, got the idea from his lawyer, who was apparently a terrible driver. These days, there are plenty of folks who use cruise control who are still terrible drivers.
- If you drove an average of 60 MPH, you could make it to the moon in less than six months. Although, we wouldn't recommended attempting that road trip. There are no gas stations in space.

50 FUN CAR FACTS CONT.

- In 1908, the Ford Model T became the first car to be mass-produced. While
 the first cars were pretty pricey, by 1925, you could buy one for as little as
 \$250. The reason for the price drop? The invention of assembly lines, of
 course.
- 8. The average car has 30,000 parts. Can you name every single one? Furthermore, can you find every single one after you've taken it apart and need to put it back together again?
- That new car smell you can't get enough of? It's actually composed of around 50 volatile organic compounds, and manufacturers have been working to eliminate the smell completely.
- The average American motorist spends 42 hours a year stuck in traffic. Talk about a serious drag.
- The most frequently stolen car in the United States is the Honda Accord. Lock your doors, Accord owners.
- With a top-speed of 277.8 MPH, the Koenigsegg Agera RS is currently the fastest production car in the world. With faster cars being churned out virtually every month, who knows how long it'll hold onto this record.
- In Russia, it's illegal to drive around in a dirty car. Car washes must make a KILLING out there.
- Speaking of car washes, 16% of car owners admit to never washing their cars. Hopefully, none of these drivers live in Russia.
- 15. 35% of the world's population drives on the left side of the road. The other 65% is correct.
- The average Bugatti Veyron owner apparently owns 84 Cars, three private jets, and a yacht. Unbelievable.
- 17. The top speed at the first automobile race in the United States was 15 MPH. It's a wonder folks were even able to stay awake during the race.
- 18. Volvo is Latin for "I roll." Do you roll in a Volvo?
- BMW in South Africa offers a flamethrower option, called the Blaster, to prevent carjackings. I guess that's one way to do it.
- 20. The average car spends 95% of its time parked. Which makes sense, when you think of how humans spend 95% of their time.
- In 2014, Toyota produced a little over 13,000 cars a day. In 2021, the car manufacturer reportedly produces 10 million cars each year.
- Ferrari, on the other hand, churns out just 14 cars a day. Not that surprising, considering your average person doesn't exactly have the funds to buy a Ferrari.
- 23. Each year, around 280 million car tires are discarded,
- 24. In 2015, Volkswagen sold more of its currywurst sausages than cars. No, the "VW Sausage" is not the nickname for the electric Vanagon prototype.
- 25. The Toyota Corolla is the best-selling car in the world, with one being sold every 15 seconds. To be fair, the Corolla's market extends to over 150 countries and regions.
- The 2011 Ford Crown Victoria was the last vehicle to offer a cassette player as an option. RIP, nostalgia.
- In Switzerland, it is illegal to slam a car door after 10 p.m. So much for dramatic Swiss car exits.
- 28. The record for removing and replacing a car engine is 42 seconds. The team? The UK Royal Marines. The car? A Ford Escort. Not too shabby at all.
- At only 19 inches high, the Flatmobile is the lowest street-legal car in the world. That is one sleek ride.
- 30. As for the longest car in the world, that title belongs to the 100-foot-long custom-built limousine made by California carmaker Jay Ohrberg. Could you imagine rolling up to a party in this bad boy?

- This one's for all you music fans out there: Most car horns honk in the key of F.
- 32. Electric cars aren't as new as you might think. In 1900, 38% of all cars were electric. Finding a charging station was really stressful then, too.
- Speaking of electric vehicles, over half of the vehicles sold in Norway in 2020 were electric. The top selling brands? Tesla, Nissan, and Hyundai.
- In 1940, the United States military produced its first four-wheel vehicle.
 You've probably heard of it. It's called the Jeep.
- 35. The Ferrari 458 Spider is the most car accident-prone car in the world. As if that was the thing stopping you from buying one.
- 36. You know the classic three-pointed star of Mercedes-Benz? Well, it was initially meant to symbolize the use of Daimler engines in land, air, and sea back in the early 1900s. Today, it's more seen as a symbol of sleekness and luxury.
- 37. Since we're talking about logos, the four overlapping rings of Audi represents the four manufacturers of Auto Union: Audi, Horch, DKW, and Wanderer.
- 38. Perhaps the most iconic of all car logos is the Ferrari logo. The horse emblem that we've all come to know and love is in honor of World War I fighter pilot Count Francesco Barraca, who painted a similar emblem on his plane.
- In 2012, before Super Cruise was even an option, Nevada issued the first license to a self-driving car.
- 40. Have you ever been ticketed for jaywalking? It turns out that the concept was invented by the auto industry in the 1920s to shift the blame of car accidents from cars to pedestrians. At the time, "jay" was a slur synonymous with "redneck" or "hillbilly." Can you believe that?
- 41. The highest vehicle mileage ever was achieved by 77-year-old Irv Gordon in his 1966 Volvo 1800S. By mid-2014, he had driven more than three million miles, averaging as much as 100,000 miles a year. We salute you, Mr. Gordon.
- With 1,263 cars per 1,000 inhabitants, the country of San Marino has the most cars per 1,000 people in the world, followed by Monaco and the United States.
- 43. This one's for the techheads. It takes more than 100 million lines of code to program the computer system in the Bentley Bentayga.
- 44. Around 65% of all Rolls-Royce cars that were ever built are still on the road.
- 45. Now this is just plain bizarre. Back in 2015, an Illinois man had a turn signal lever removed from his arm, after it had been stuck there for 51 YEARS following a car accident. Seriously, OUCH.
- 46. Did you know that NASCAR was created because of prohibition? Moonshine bootleggers needed a way to transport their goods in a hurry and without raising too much suspicion. That's when stock cars were created, which eventually paved the way for the racing that we see today.
- 47. In 1941, Henry Ford made a "Soybean Car." No, it wasn't edible.
- 48. The original time machine in Back to the Future was supposed to be a refrigerator, but director Robert Zemeckis was afraid that children would try imitating the film and trap themselves inside fridges. The eventual choice? A modified 1981 DeLorean DMC-12. Thank god for that.
- Louis Chevrolet, the co-founder of Chevrolet, died a poor man. At least his last name will live on forever.
- 50. If a car's remote button is pressed 256 times in a row without being in range of the car, the remote will become completely dysfunctional. Consider that before you hand your key ring over to your toddler.

- ADS

CLASSIFIED ADS • FOR SALE



Bob Haas is selling his Coka-Cola 55 Galaxie With trailer. 248-437-9915

Please contact Jerry Worful to continue an ad or post a new ad.

STEVE ROHDE SHARED SOME VIDEOS THAT HE WORKED ON!!

Guys, Recently I was involved in the SAE World Congress (WCX) as a member of the Mobility History Committee and created a few videos for & at it:

An overview of our theme at the Congress: https://youtu.be/ERGwPQYWoDo

Leonard Evans talk on safety: https://youtu.be/H dqyGazzNE

Bob Purcell's talk on the EV1: https://youtu.be/XXe4cY5ofWw

(More to follow!)



Classified ads are free to all current FMRCOA members.

\$20 to nonmembers to run an ad.
You can submit e-mail ads to Jerry up to the 14th
of the month to be included in the next newsletter.
Send e-mails kercrest@comcast.net
please include FMRCOA in subject
or risk deletion.

Contact Russ Roberts
313.820.5247 • rwroberts@gmail.com
on matters pertaining to
Corporate Newsletter Advertisements

The Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America, Inc. newsletter, "The Rotunda Times", its contents, Club logo, articles, and artwork are the property of the Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America. No changes, additions, deletions or reproductions are permissible without the written approval of the Ford and Mercury Restorers Club of America, Inc and its duly authorized representatives.

Fun Facts for the Classic Car Enthusiast

- 1. The Ford Mustang was first introduced in 1964.
- 2. The first Chevy Camaro was black in color.
- 3. The origin of the word automobile is based on a blend of the words auto and mobile, indicative of the driver's ability to set a car in motion.
- 4. The grand total of Plymouth Hemi Barracuda convertibles manufactured: 7!
- 5. The Chrysler Company limited its auto production of its 1940 Newport Dual-Cowl Phaeton to six cars.
- 6. 'Horseless Carriages' are those antique cars that were presented by the factory to the public from the years 1896 through 1915. 'Vintage Cars' are those automobiles that were manufactured from 1916 to 1925.
- 7. If you thought NJ cheap auto insurance was the forerunner of indemnity for cars, think again. In 1897, Westfield, Massachusetts set the record as the first location that auto insurance was purchased.
- 8. Mass production began in 1913 with the manufacturing of the affordable Ford Model T car.
- 9. Chevrolet produces its Corvettes solely within in its Bowling Green, Kentucky factory.
- 10. Pictures of Cuban life depict a plethora of classic cars on the streets. This is because of the 1960 US trade embargo that led to cessation of new car purchases on the island.

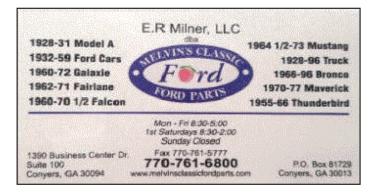




America's Convertible Headquarters

Convertible Tops 1946+ Cylinders, Motor Pumps, Hoses. 1946-50 Pump & Valve rebuilding; 1928-50 Blue Dots And much, much more!

941-639-0437 <u>www.hydroe.com</u> Fax: 941-639-0376









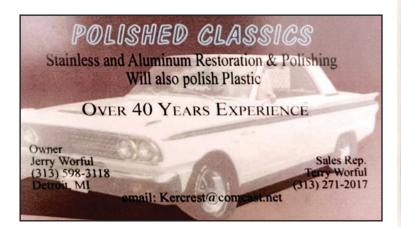


Graphic Design, Vinyl Graphics, Printing, Advertising, Publishing & Custom Products

734.658-5296 Don@DonNicholson.net 35752 Farragut Westland, MI 48186







FMRCOA MONTHLY CLUB MEETING LOCATION

Meeting Location pending during pandemic
Please check with the club to
confirm meeting location

Our monthly club meetings are held at LIVONIA SENIOR CENTER

15218 Farmington Road • Livonia, MI Between I-96 Service Drive & 5 Mile Road

Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month and begins at 6:30pm with a snack.

DO BRING A FRIEND!



WANFED

The Rotunda Times would like to feature your old car or truck in an upcoming issue.

We are interested in how you came about finding your vehicle of choice, and what you have done to enhance its beauty, and/or mechanical condition.

Simply email us your article accompanied with a photo to:

Karen at: karen.hough79@gmail.com