



# North Jersey Street Rod Association

March 2012  
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## NEWSLETTER

### Monthly Meeting: *Scotty*

Due to the impending freezing rain reports Bob decided it would be best to cancel the February meeting. Better safe than sorry.

### Steering Committee Meeting:

The Steering Committee met Monday. We spent most of the evening going over this year's show. Something you all should be aware of is we have lost a couple of our main sponsors. Sportcrafters was one of them. They gave us quite a large amount of items we used for the Tricky Tray and for door prizes. In light of this we all need to get out and try to get items that we can use. You'll get nothing if you don't ask for it. Rob will fill you in at the next meeting.

### F.Y.I.

**If you don't already know every member has always been invited to the Steering Committee meeting. All we ask is you let the President know in advance so we will have room.**

### Food Drive:

We will be holding our annual Spring food drive March 25<sup>th</sup>, At the Mt. Olive A&P on Rt. 46 in Mt. Olive. (The same place as the last few years). Bring your ride and wear your club colors.

### February Saturday Breakfast:

We thought there would be a larger turn out for breakfast in that we had no monthly meeting in Feb. NOT ! The usual group showed up sans one at Adams Bagel in Mt. Olive. Pat & Clarence, Jan, her sister Cathy & Scotty, Joe Guerin, Rob Kinney and Bob. Roland was off to Gettysburg chasing down some elusive Avanti parts. Bet you didn't know he has one of those. After eating we did the usual - sit around and gab. Joe and Rob went to work. Pat and Clarence went and did some errands. Jan, Cathy, & Scott went to help Cathy buy a new car. And as usual Bob went home to take a nap.

### Next Month's breakfast :

Our next breakfast meeting will be April 7<sup>th</sup>. 9:00 am at the Empire Diner, 1315 Rt. 46 E, Parsippany. 973-335-2729

**Grundy Insurance** / Dan

Gentlemen, this is important: As you may know from previous emails you have received and discussions at previous monthly meetings, Grundy Insurance has been sold to Philly Insurance Company. Chuck Wasoski, previously employed by Grundy, has been licensed to write insurance in NJ and has been invited by President Grimal to attend our next monthly meeting March 28.

Chuck will be attending and has requested that you bring your declaration page from your street rod ins. policy. He will explain any changes that may have taken place and also any changes in your insurance coverage costs. He will also take the initiative to make any changes necessary in your policy to give you better coverage. I would suggest that you make every effort to attend this meeting and listen to what Chuck has to say. After much discussion, I was able to "Grimalize" the president and we will also be enjoying a pizza night !!! Please try to attend; it will be to your benefit...

Dan

**Rhinebeck** / Frank Carey

Goodguys Rhinebeck always seemed to be a popular event so I don't know why they moved it to Massachusetts. But there's hope. An area club, the Hudson Valley Street Rods, has announced that they will produce a rod run at Rhinebeck on July 27th and 28th. I picked up this info in an Internet forum and one of the guys said that details of the event will be posted on:

[www.hudsonvalleycruise.com](http://www.hudsonvalleycruise.com)

I haven't seen anything there yet so check this site from time to time and help spread the word if you learn anything. This is a great facility and it's a nice drive up to that area.

**Pre-48 Update** / Frank Carey

Several years ago after NSRA announced their raising of the 1948 cut-off date there was an outcry from the traditionalists and purists who were outraged at such blasphemy. This was immediately followed by several announcements that new "pre-48" organizations were going to be created to keep the faith. I reported some of this to you at the time. Since then I have seen that only one of these new organizations is alive and well. It is *Vintage Street Rodders of America (VSRA)*. I don't know what became of the other organizations that were supposedly being created. Perhaps I've just not run across anything about them or, more likely, they were still-born.

VSRA was created by Jim Bledsoe of Kingsport, Tennessee. Jim is a very active street rodder and a super guy and is the driving force in the organization. They've held several events, mostly in the mid west and have attracted a following of hard core pre-48 dedicated street rodders who are supporting him and doing everything humanly possible to see that VSRA survives and thrives. VSRA is doing two kinds of things – rod runs and tours. Unlike other tours we hear about in which rodders travel together to a major event, VSRA tours are planned to take the rodders through scenic areas. Last year they had a tour through the Blue Ridge Mountains and they are now planning a tour along the Natchez Trace. I Googled Natchez Trace and found the following on a National Park Service website:

*What Is The Natchez Trace Parkway?*

*The Natchez Trace Parkway is a 444-mile drive through exceptional scenery and 10,000 years of North American history. Used by American Indians, "Kaintucks", settlers, and future presidents, the Old Trace played an important role in American history.*

I predict that scenic tours like this will become very popular as were the foliage runs our club has held in the past. VSRA is also planning to expand the area where they will hold their events. They realize they must expand westward and are looking into Branson, Missouri, but also eastward – both northeast and southeast.

Southeast has already happened with an event earlier this month at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, and Grace and I were there. (Grace is doing much better and has graduated from a walker to a cane). We had about 80 to 100 pre-48 cars ranging from a T-bucket to a resto-Packard and we were on a grassy field inside the Disney Speedway which I didn't even know existed and I live in Florida. There were

opportunities to drive on the track and be photographed much like we did at the Goodguys in Pocono a few years ago. It's also possible to drive NASCAR-type cars on the track either as a passenger or driver. And VSRA got us a special Disney room rate that was less than half what I was quoted on one of the Internet travel sites. The relatively small turnout made it more like a club event and I liked that. There were even a few tech seminars – welding, A/C, and brakes. The other attendees and Jim's supporters/helpers/friends were all great people and we all interacted freely and enjoyably. When Jim spotted Grace with a cane he came over quickly and offered to take her in his golf cart to wherever she was going. When I started to set up our canopy several other rodders were right there to man the corner poles. Grace did not do nearly as much reading and crocheting as she had anticipated and as she typically does at a rod run. So for her it was more than just accompanying me to an event I wanted to attend. She had a good time, too. And former North Jersey members Don and Scott Pearson were there. Don's blue 46 Chevy pickup is still his daily driver and he now has over 400k miles on it. He was selected in the Top Twenty Five. Scott and his son, Scotty, came in their 40 LaSalle coupe and Scott told me that the shop that is building his steel '32 5-window/Y-block traditional rod should have it done by summer.

VSRA has a website you should check out:

<http://vsra-usa.com/>

And one of the rodders at the Disney event posted a video on Utube at;

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8QxW\\_p3b5k&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8QxW_p3b5k&feature=youtu.be)

If you watch this video and see Don's blue pickup, I'm in front of it in my big sun hat and my back to the camera with Don to the right and his wife Jean to the left. We never knew we were being filmed.

So watch for the VSRA name. The day will come when they will have an event somewhere in the northeast and you will want to be there. '

#### **Cost to Operate a Chevy Volt** / *Eric Bolling via Frank Carey*

Eric Bolling (Fox Business Channel's Follow the Money) test drove the Chevy Volt at the invitation of General Motors.

For four days in a row, the fully charged battery lasted only 25 miles before the Volt switched to the reserve gasoline engine.

Eric calculated the car got 30 mpg including the 25 miles it ran on the battery. So, the range including the 9 gallon gas tank and the 16 kwh battery is approximately 270 miles. It will take you 4 1/2 hours to drive 270 miles at 60 mph. Then add 10 hours to charge the battery and you have a total trip time of 14.5 hours. In a typical road trip your average speed (including charging time) would be 20 mph.

According to General Motors, the Volt battery hold 16 kwh of electricity. It takes a full 10 hours to charge a drained battery. The cost for the electricity to charge the Volt is never mentioned so I looked up what I pay for electricity. I pay approximately (it varies with amount used and the seasons) \$1.16 per kwh. 16 kwh x \$1.16 per kwh = \$18.56 to charge the battery. \$18.56 per charge divided by 25 miles = \$0.74 per mile to operate the Volt using the battery.

Compare this to a similar size car with a gasoline engine only that gets 32 mpg. \$3.19 per gallon divided by 32 mpg = \$0.10 per mile. The gasoline powered car cost about \$15,000 while the Volt costs \$46,000.

So the government wants us to pay three times more for a car that costs seven times more to run and takes three times longer to drive across country.

REALLY?

#### **Then and Now** / *Frank Carey*

One of the more obvious differences between building hot rods in the 1950s and building street rods in the 2000s is how we come up with solutions to the various obstacles or problems we encounter when building our cars. Once upon a time we would try to figure out how to adapt what might be available so that it will

meet our needs. Today it's more likely for builders to scour the myriad catalogs and web sites looking for something that will work for them.

So it's refreshing to find a contemporary builder asking a question about where to get what he needs and to get an answer from an old school builder describing how to make what he needs from something that is available.

Here's a recent exchange from one of the Internet's street rod forums:

**Question:** *I'm looking for a small "teardrop" body relief. I've seen them used to cover turbos or carbs on body panels. I have done a bunch of Google searches with no luck. Does anybody know a manufacturer?*

**Answer:** *An easy way is to find an old motorcycle gas tank (20-25 dollars) and do some measuring and cut off what you need and weld it to the panel where you want the "blister."*

If you find this refreshing then you are one of us "old timers". Moreover, this is a really cool idea.

**Backyard Barbeque / Frank Carey**



**Horsepower / Frank Carey**



**Events:2012**

**If you know of an event & would like it listed, please contact me.**

**APRIL**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>. Saturday breakfast. Empire Diner, 1315 Rt 46. E. Parsippany.**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>. Classic Car Auction & Car Show. Westfield Armory. 10:00 am. - 6:00 pm.**

**Info [www.wheelsandwishes.com](http://www.wheelsandwishes.com)**

**MAY**

**May 5<sup>th</sup>. Pike County Chamber of Commerce - Community Expo 2012 & Car Show. Delaware Valley School, Rts 6 & 209, Milford, Pa. 11 AM - 4 PM. Info: Chamber Office 570-296-8700.**

**May 19<sup>th</sup>. Lou will be hosting his annual breakfast at the Old StillWater Garage May 19<sup>th</sup>. 8:30am-1:00 pm ? All are invited !**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>. Antique car Show & Flea Market. Pearson Education, 1 Lake Street, Upper Saddle River, N.J. 07458**

**Info [www.restoredrustyrelics.com](http://www.restoredrustyrelics.com)**

I would like to see this flyer in our next news letter, it is always a GOOD car show and a very GOOD swap meet, very easy to find. Thanks Steve Mathews (The show flyer can be accessed on their website - Bryce)

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