



The Criterion

NEWSLETTER of the NORTHEAST CHAPTER of the PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY

www.PCSNortheast.com

Third Quarter 2015

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Editor's Message

by Bill Marcy

As I sit here and type this message, thoughts of what a wonderful year this has been. We have enjoyed some beautiful weather, great for car shows, cruise nights and just enjoying ourselves, in general. As the summer draws to a close, I have to say that for Lucille and I, we will miss all of the activities that we like to participate in. We just recently started getting the '68 Superior out to a couple of shows and it has been fabulous. I hope that all of our members have had an opportunity to enjoy an awesome summer, too!

We have lots to look forward to, both this year and next year. There are still shows and cruise nights to attend, we have an upcoming Northeast Chapter meeting and a Gettysburg Committee meeting. We encourage everyone to come out and be part of both meetings, they are very important meetings and we value everyone's thoughts and ideas.

As members of the Professional Car Society, we have access to many resources. First and foremost is our award-winning club magazine, The Professional Car. Then there is the Message Board, professionalcarsociety.org. The Message Board is a wealth of information, stories, assistance and conversation. I know some of our members use it often, I do. But, I have had people tell me they don't use it for one reason, or another. However, I would really encourage you to check it out, in my opinion, it is full of benefits.

As a chapter, the Northeast Chapter has always been one of the great chapters within the PCS. Traditionally, we usually have many of our members at PCS International Meets, many of our chapter members have driven their professional cars countless miles to attend these meets. We have had many chapter members take Board positions, become officers and run committees, all of these things I have mentioned are what makes the Northeast Chapter a great one. However, in recent years, we have lost some members and we have been short on exciting new ideas. We need to get more people involved with us. We need new members. We even need to try to get some of our former chapter members back. I have been making a small effort to do both, calling former members and encouraging future members. If everybody got a former member back, or a new member, we would all benefit. Will you please join me in this effort? The future depends on it.



Report on the Old Westbury Gardens AACA Show in Westbury, Long Island

By Roy Garretson

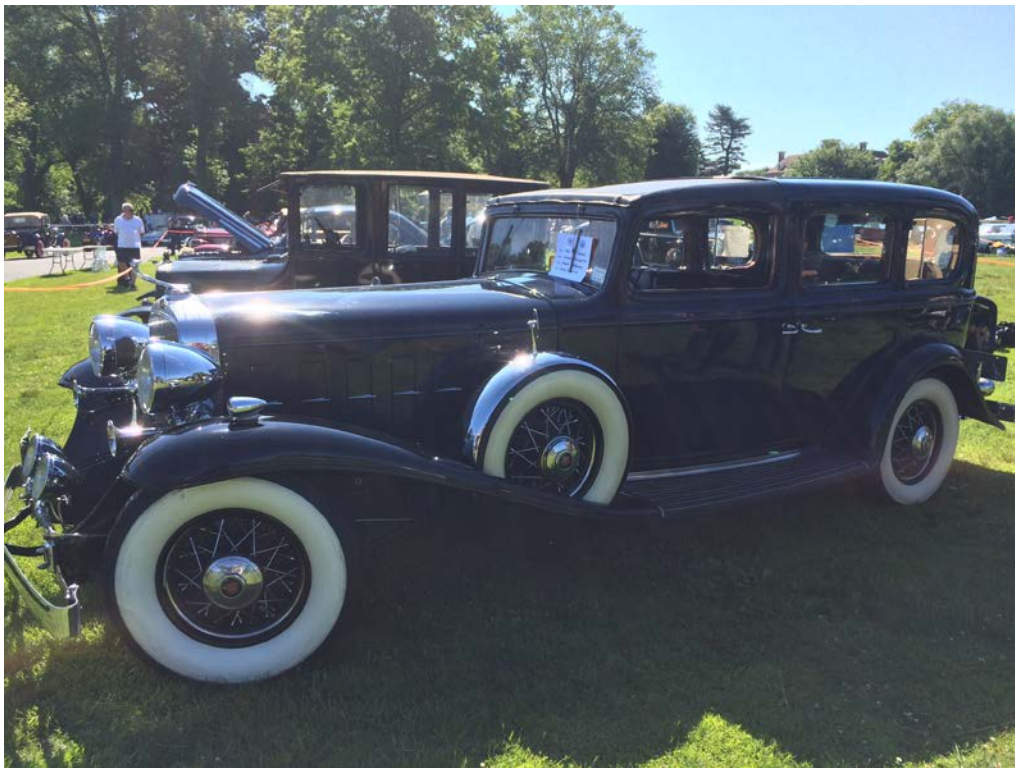
To attend this show, I went through the Lincoln Tunnel and across town to the Queens Midtown Tunnel, to the LIE. It took me one hour and 15 minutes to get there in the morning but over three hours to get home!



Left: This black Chrysler Limo is a 1 of 1, built by Walter P. Chrysler for his wife. It was sold at public auction from the Vanderbilt Museum a few years ago for \$275,000 and then underwent a frame off restoration for another \$250,000. There was one man there with white gloves on, constantly wiping it with Maguire's speed shine. The paint shined so much that it looked wet.



The big blue V-16 Cadillac pictured here is car #3 of 7, and the only one known to survive. The owner (who was about 85-90 years old) told me he just replaced the distributor cap—for a cost of \$1,600.00. OMG! I thought parts for the '42 were expensive! Oh, and he was shining the car with Pledge...yes, Pledge, in a spray bottle.





In this photo, my car is surrounded by people because I parked right in front of the trophy table. I was stuck there until most of the awards were given out!



This grey and rose-colored Cadillac V-16 was GORGEOUS! I think I may have actually been drooling when I saw that car. The interior just oozed money! I'm sorry I didn't get more pictures of that car, but there were over 600 cars there, from million dollar classics to VW's and everything in between. Definitely worth the trip to Long Island. Next year's will be the 50th Anniversary of the show. I'm planning to go...I just won't park by the trophy table!

NORTHEAST CHAPTER AT LEAD EAST CAR SHOW

by Bill Marcy

On September 6, 2015, the Northeast Chapter presented a professional car display at the 33rd Annual Lead East Show in Parsippany, New Jersey. For the benefit of everyone unfamiliar with this event, allow me to elaborate and clarify. Lead East began as a simple car show back in 1982, it was held at William Paterson College in Wayne, New Jersey. It featured a nice selection of mostly customized cars, called lead sleds, hence the name, Lead East.

In about the mid-1980s, the event had grown and required a bigger facility, so it was moved to East Rutherford, New Jersey. The Lead East event was now several days long and featured hundreds of cars 1963 and older. They had lots of oldies music, dancing, games and even a car auction.

Subsequently moving to the current location in Parsippany, New Jersey. The event now encompasses several hotels and their parking lots and the parking lots of several office buildings, all located on the same grounds. This year's event began on September 2ND and ran through the early hours of September 7th. To say this is a big event, would be a huge understatement. There were somewhere between 1600 and 1800 cars of all years 1974 and older, although I saw several that were newer. There were customs, modifieds, lead sleds, original cars and trucks and this year, there were professional cars, as well. Thousands of people were in attendance, some dressed in period clothing, all enjoying the cars, the music, the fun and each other.

This year, the weather was just gorgeous, with temperatures between 70 and 90 degrees, blue skies and bright sunshine. The sounds of oldies music, cars and friendly conversations were everywhere.

The Northeast Chapter displayed four professional cars. We had a tent with chairs, a table full of membership applications, club literature and a stack of The Professional Car magazines to hand out. We had a steady stream of spectators, questions, nice conversations and our fair share of admirers. We had a number of people take advantage of what we were offering and hopefully we may get a new member, or two.

We had a very successful and enjoyable day. If you were unable to attend, you really missed out on a wonderful opportunity. Perhaps, if we get invited back one day, you might consider coming, you won't regret it, I promise you.

The following members were in attendance, with professional cars. Paul Vickery with his sharp 1956 Miller Cadillac ambulance. Roy Garretson with his beautiful 1942 Cadillac Fleetwood foemal limousine. Keith Adams brought his eye-catching 1957 Chevy 150 service car. And Lucille and Bill Marcy brought their 1968 Superior Pontiac ambulance. As an added surprise, PCS member Dawson Blackmore appeared on the scene, without a professional car, because he did not know we would be there. But, Dawson brightened our day with conversation. It was great to be a part of this huge event and to be a member of the Professional Car Society.



Right to Left: Keith Adam's 1957 Chevy 150 service car, Roy Garretson's 1942 Cadillac Fleetwood formal limousine, Paul Vickery's 1956 Miller Cadillac ambulance, and The Marcy's 1968 Superior Pontiac ambulance



Left to Right: The Marcy's 1968 Superior Pontiac ambulance, Paul Vickery's 1956 Miller Cadillac ambulance



Left to Right: Paul Vickery, Roy Garretson, Lucille Marcy, Dawson Blackmore and Bill Marcy standing proudly with our PCS Northeast Chapter banner.

MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY

by Bill Marcy

It occurred to me, as we enter fall, that many of us will soon put our collector cars away for the coming cold weather. It seems a bit ridiculous to some folks, but it is a good time to have your car checked. Then again, it is also a good idea to repeat the process, before you start taking your car out in the spring. Please understand that I do no mechanical repairs or maintenance myself. So, it is a bit costly sometimes to have repairs and maintenance done, I know. But, failing to do these things can leave you on the side of the road. It can even result in a preventable accident, or a fire. My tips may save you some trouble, but there is no guarantee on that. Suffice it to say, they are worth reading and thinking about, the rest is up to you.

Here are the items worth checking;

1. Change your oil. This is an absolute no-brainer. Your oil should be changed twice a year, regardless of how many miles you drive the car. It is inexpensive and it will add miles to your engine. Also worthy of note, most cars 1996 and older, require more Zinc in their oil, 1200 parts per million. Most oils on the market today, do not contain enough Zinc, they contain about 900 parts per million. With this information in mind, I have begun using Rislone with Zinc, but there are other brands too.
2. Check your car for leaks. If you see a puddle of liquid under your car, you should determine the source. If you see brake fluid on the ground, you should fix the problem immediately, for your own safety. A fuel leak can result in a fire. A coolant leak can leave your car overheated. All leaks should be tended to, they will not most likely fix themselves. I will also add that most antique cars leak a little. It really is not generally a problem if you have a bit of oil, trans fluid, or grease on the ground, just as long as you check them and add as needed.
3. Check your belts and hoses. There is always the risk of a breakdown, if a radiator hose, heater hose, or a belt breaks. But, if a fuel line leaks, or breaks, you run the risk of a fire. I saw a car burst into flames, when an old power steering hose burst and fluid spewed on to a hot manifold.
4. Check your brakes and brake fluid. Obviously, good brakes are vital to safe stopping. But, the most overlooked aspect of the brake system is the brake fluid itself. Brake fluid needs to be replaced periodically. I have heard it said that brake fluid absorbs 10% of its weight in moisture each year. So, in theory, if your brake fluid is ten years old, it is mostly moisture. The problem is that your brake fluid loses its effectiveness, so you may not stop as quickly and eventually, you may lose your brakes altogether.
5. Tires, my personal favorite. I am a strong believer in new tires. Not just new tires, but correct new tires, meaning size and load capacity. Professional car owners should pay particular attention to load capacity, especially since most professional cars weigh anywhere between 6,000 and 8,000 pounds and that is not even counting passengers and cargo.

It is recommended that radial tires should be replaced every five years, or so, regardless of how many miles the vehicle has been driven. I recently replaced a set of radials on my 1968 Superior Pontiac ambulance that looked brand new. The tires were meaty, showing no wear and they held air perfectly. But I did not know the age of the tires, except to know they were old. When the tires were removed, two of them were rotten and ready to let go at any time.

There have recently been accounts of two PCS members having blowouts with serious consequences. A member's 1968 Superior Cadillac three-way hearse was destroyed after a blowout resulted in a tire fire that engulfed the car and it was a total loss. Another member had a blowout with his high-top Cadillac ambulance that resulted in a lost wheel cover, damaged beyond repair fender skirt and body damage to the rear quarter panel. Fortunately, neither of these blowouts resulted in physical injuries, but they could have.

CONCLUSION

I believe in the old saying, that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Now, I can see the nay-sayers shaking their heads, or hear some people saying they don't need it, or they have not got the time, or

the money. And I have also stated in this article that there are no guarantees, obviously, you probably can't fix everything, after all, there are many things that can go wrong. But, I do think you can cure the obvious problems. You can save yourself lots of trouble with minimal preventative maintenance, to say nothing of the fact that your car will run, drive and handle better.

Please allow me to say that some of the information in this article has come from my years of experience in the old car hobby and my many years in the used and antique car business. Some of the information has come from years of reading car publications and watching TV shows about cars. There is also a wealth of information at www.professionalcarsociety.org, but a lot of the ideas are just common knowledge.

It is my hope that this article might catch your attention and perhaps encourage you to consider some simple maintenance of your classic car that might save you a breakdown, or a disaster.

SHOOK FUNERAL HOME CHARITY CAR SHOW

by Bill Marcy

On Sunday September 13, 2015, PCS member Roy Garretson, his wife Nancy and their family, owners of Shook Funeral Home, hosted their Third Annual Charity Car Show at their lovely funeral home in Clifton, New Jersey. The car show is held in conjunction with the Van Houten Avenue Street Fair. The day was sunny, warm and gorgeous for just about the entire day, but we had a light rain at awards time.

As seems to be the common theme at many car shows lately, there were not as many show cars at this show, as anybody would like. However, according to Roy Garretson, "the quality of the cars was excellent" with at least one exception.

Interestingly enough, there were four professional cars in attendance. Three of the professional cars were limousines and one ambulance. Roy Garretson had his gorgeous black 1942 Cadillac Fleetwood Formal Limousine, PCS member Lou Filardo brought his sharp looking dark blue 1978 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine, future PCS member Frank Simone brought his lovely dark green 1941 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine and Lucille and Bill Marcy brought their 1968 Superior Pontiac Rescuer Ambulance.

Worthy of note, is that the selection of cars included a Delorean, a gorgeous pink street rod and right up to a 1986 El Camino and a K Car convertible and everything in between. It was an enjoyable day, with literally thousands of spectators. There was nice music, good food and some unique vendors out on the street.

Roy had the typical array of awards, plus a few unique awards. One of the unique awards was entitled "Least Likely To Make It Home" and guess who won it, that's right, your editor. Somehow, I just knew that award was going home with me. By the way, we made it home anyway! We had a fabulous day!





Above: Roy Garretson's gorgeous black 1942 Cadillac Fleetwood Formal Limousine



Above: Frank Simone's lovely dark green 1941 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine



Above: Frank Simone's lovely dark green 1941 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine



Above: Lou Filardo's sharp looking dark blue 1978 Cadillac Fleetwood Limousine



Above: Lucille and Bill Marcy's 1968 Superior Pontiac Rescuer Ambulance, a real kid-magnet!

UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

NJSFAC VINTAGE AMBULANCE DISPLAY

OCTOBER 17, 2015

We have once again been invited to display our vintage ambulances at the NJSFAC EMS Council Meeting at the Parsippany Sheraton, located just off Rte 287, Rte 80 and Rte 46, on Smith Road in Parsippany, New Jersey. The display will run from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM on Saturday October 17, 2015.

The Northeast Chapter provided a number of ambulances for display at last year's event. We are hoping to have a nice display again this year. There is no charge to participate. Once again, this will be an opportunity to show our cars and possibly gain a new member.

GETTYSBURG PLANNING MEETING

OCTOBER 31, 2015

We will be having a planning meeting for our upcoming Gettysburg PCS International Meet on Saturday October 31, 2015 beginning at 10:00 AM sharp at the Wyndham Gettysburg Rte 30 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This will be our host hotel for the Meet and it will be a great opportunity to come see the hotel and surrounding area.

Our dates are set, the hotel contracts are signed, the tours are ready and so on. However, there is much to discuss, such as; artwork, a slogan, sponsorships, and everything else that goes along with hosting such an event. We would welcome your ideas and your participation.

Some of us will be staying at the hotel Friday night, due to the early meeting time on Saturday morning. The Wyndham has graciously offered us an \$89 room rate for Friday October 30 check-in. If you would like to take advantage of this special low rate, please follow these simple instructions. Call Renee Foley directly weekdays between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM at 717 339 0020, mention that you are part of the Professional Car Society Meet Committee and ask for the \$89 rate. PLEASE NOTE, this room rate must be approved by Renee, it is NOT in the computer.

PCS 40TH ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL MEET

AUGUST 16 THROUGH AUGUST 20, 2016

Mark your calendars now, you don't want to miss this one! This is a big event! We will not only be holding our Gettysburg 2016 PCS Int'l Meet, but we will celebrate the 40TH Anniversary of our organization. We will celebrate not only The PCS, but it's rich history, members and of course, our professional cars.

Whether you have come to every previous PCS Int'l Meet, or you have never attended one, you will want to attend this one! There will be lots of great tours, many rare and beautiful professional cars and all of your PCS friends will be there too!

Mark your calendars now! After January, registration forms will be available, along with a full description of available tours.

THE PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY

Northeast Chapter

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of the PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY



This Chrysler Limo is a 1 of 1, built by Walter P. Chrysler for his wife, which recently appeared at the Old Westbury Gardens AACA Show.

Photo Courtesy of Roy Garretson