



# The Criterion

NEWSLETTER of the NORTHEAST CHAPTER of the PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY

Second Quarter 2002 - Ted Collins, Publisher - Gregg D. Merksamer, Editor

## GOTTA LOVE LAHASKA!

### Again, Peddler's Village Proves A Perfect PCS Venue

Helped by weather that warmed markedly as the day progressed, the PCS Northeast Chapter's inaugural charity car show in Lahaska, PA proved a big success, with 64 cars out of 79 pre-registrants convening at Peddler's Village on Sunday, May 19th. Boosted by sales of raffle tickets for perfume, automotive memorabilia and a DVD player donated by Chapter President Bill Marcy's sister-in-law, the event raised \$1,145 to benefit the families of 37 New York Port Authority Police officers who perished in the World Trade Center attack.

Taking advantage of the loudspeaker on Andy Toton's 1970 Miller-Meteor Cadillac ambulance, Bill also thanked such corporate sponsors as JR Cigars and Interstate Batteries for their generosity. Aside from welcoming all makes and types of vehicles, one of the meet's most attractive aspects was that trophies were awarded through a people's choice-by-category vote that didn't pit sedans against coupes or sports cars against ambulances.

Top honors in the 1964-and-older convertible category went to Robert Cherry's slab-sided 1949 Ford which Your Editor was particularly drawn to because my father, Norman J. Merksamer, owned an identical car finished in the very same shade of yellow when he attended Lehigh University; no wonder my mother couldn't resist him when he motored over the mountain to Cedar Crest College in Allentown!

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the beautiful weather we're having. We have lots of summer left, and hopefully it will be chock full of shows, cruise nights and procars.

I am happy to report that our first-ever car show on May 19th, 2002 was a great success, with 79 cars registered and 64 cars on the field at Peddler's Village in Lahaska, PA. Not only did we have a nice variety of cars and trucks on exhibit, it was a nice surprise to see John Ehmer drive all the way from Pittsburgh with his procar.

We raised \$1145 for our designated charity, the Port Authority Police PBA World Trade Center Survivors Fund if we decide to hold this show again next year, I have a lot of ideas on how to make it better. I hope that you do as well, and that you will bring your thoughts and ideas to our Chapter meeting in November. - See you soon, Bill Marcy



Robert Cherry's 1949 Ford Convertible

In the '65-and-up convertible category, the big winner was a white 1972 Eldorado brought from Little Ferry, NJ by Bob & Bobbie Ducharme, while Don Knapp of Lambertville, NJ earned top Muscle Car class honors for a 1968 Firebird droptop finished in a rich Vidoro Green.

Sporting twin side mount spares in an elongated cowl, the #1 choice in the '65-or-newer coupe class was a 1978 Cadillac Seville Opera Coupe that was #22 of only 30 built by the Grandeur Motor Corporation of Pompano Beach, FL. Currently owned by Barbara Roebuck of Oreland, PA, this 23,000-mile car was originally-delivered at a price of more than \$51,000 to the owner of the giant Reedman chain of dealerships along US 1 in Langhorne, PA.

A '63 Impala shown by Doug Tucker of Rockaway, NJ emerged as the top scorer among '64-and-older coupes, while John Le Gath's 1949 Plymouth Special Deluxe received the most votes among 1964-and-older 4-doors and Cassell's yellow 1949 Cadillac convertible earned the coveted Show Committee's Choice award. Donald Morway's immaculately detailed 1957 Thunderbird edged out Jim & Paula D'Amico's 40,000-mile 1966 Austin



1978 Cadillac Seville Opera Coupe with 23,000 miles, owned by Barbara Roebuck.

Healey 3000 Mark III for the class win among 2-seat Sports Cars, after which the Custom Modified award went to Anthony Carmine Santa's 1934 Ford 3-window coupe.

Further-emphasizing the event's eclectic quality, the AACA's Valley Forge delegation ran the gamut from Mitch Furman's 1931 Ford Model A Deluxe Roadster to a factory turbocharged 1962 Chevrolet Corvair Monza owned by Chuck & Lois Mason. The Lincoln & Continental Owners Club, which will stage its own show at Lahaska on October 27th, fielded several fine cars including Jim & Kay Morris' 1962 Continental 4-door convertible from Philadelphia, Harvey Schofield's 1967

Lehmann-Peterson mini stretch limousine and a 1967 Continental hardtop and sedan owned by Leroy Zettlemoyer (he left three more 1967s, all convertibles, at home). Displaying a Diamond Jubilee Edition 1978 Mark V hardtop with an 8-track tape deck and turbine aluminum wheels, Jim Marchione wore a matching silver blue satin jacket embroidered with lettering inspired by Lincoln's period brochures.



The Lincoln and Continental Owners Club was well represented with a 1978 Mark V Diamond Jubilee Edition, a 1977 Town Car, and a 1962 Continental Convertible.



Mike Satterthwaite's 1966 Cotner-Bevington commercial glass limousine and 1953 Henney Packard limousine.

Bayard "Kelly" Sanders' black 1977 Town Car earned the Best 4-door '65-or-newer, and it is believed that this spotless 58,000-mile example originally belonged to a Bethlehem Steel executive. "It was six years old with 16,000 miles when my neighbor bought it," Sanders said, "and for ten years my jaw hung open every time I saw it. It had 36,000 miles on it by the time he had to sell, and I can tell you there was no haggling."

Professional Car Class honors at Lahaska went to Mike Satterthwaite's dark blue 1953 Henney-Packard limousine, which was shown alongside his even-more-unusual 1966 Cotner-Bevington Oldsmobile commercial glass limousine and Worrell Stout's Derham modified 1949 Chrysler Windsor 9-passenger sedan.

While PCS President emeritus Mike Barruzza fielded the most vehicles with his



John Ehmer traveled over five hours to attend the charity event with his recently acquired 1985 Lincoln limousine.

Cadillac-chassied 1963 S&S hearse/ambulance "combination," 1973 S&S Victoria Landau hearse and Superior-built 1974 flower car and 1977 ambulance, John Ehmer earned the unofficial distance award by driving five-and-a-half-hours from Pittsburgh in his elegantly-proportioned 1985 Allen Coachworks Lincoln formal limousine. "I Left 4:30 am, when there was half-an-inch of frost on it," John said, adding that he found the car at Carl Woerner's Cincinnati procar dealership on the way to last year's PCS International in Missouri. "I asked him 'what do you got that's unusual?,' and this was supposed to have been custom-built for a friend of (PCS Treasurer) Carlton Ham's. If you take a close look at it you'll see that it's pretty-crafty, with subtle rain gutters worked into the re-proportioned roofline."

As the vehicle receiving the most people's choice votes, the Best-in-Show was awarded



Best in Show winner, Robert Monetti with his rare 1952 GMC one ton pickup truck.

to a 1952 GMC one-ton pickup that Robert Monetti of Stockton, NJ restored to resemble the truck that his late father Louis used in his building business for 15 years. "This is quite rare," Monetti said, explaining that "the ratio of one-tons to three-quarter and half-ton models is something like a hundred-to-one and it's very hard to find parts." Having discovered this example in Oklahoma in April, 2000, Monetti added "it was rough, but it was

all there and it had only one previous owner. And here's the best part of the story. Since the original owner wanted to turn the bed into a dumper, he took the tailgate off when he bought it and put it in his barn. It was basically new-old-stock, with the chains and everything." Even more amazingly, the restoration was started in April, 2001 and completed that September. "I can't believe it myself sometimes," Monetti added, "but it had to be done because we were moving. My wife Pat did all the packing while I was doing the truck. We've been married for 42 years, and we used to go to the movies in the original."

## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Northeast Chapter members who missed this May's Lahaska meet - or, for that matter, the Cadillac-LaSalle Club Valley Forge Region sponsored show that inspired it last September - will have another chance to see what all the excitement is about. "As far as I know," Andy Toton recently wrote from Philadelphia, "the President and Numerous Regional Board Members of the Cadillac-LaSalle Club would like to invite the PCS Northeast Chapter Again to Lahaska," with this year's Fall Meet taking place at Peddler's Village on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Further information is available from CLC Valley Forge Region President Clyde (Rob) Robinson at (302) 455-1856 or [vfrpres@vfrlcl.org](mailto:vfrpres@vfrlcl.org).

## KANTER'S - HERE WE COME!

New national PCS and Northeast Chapter member Fred Kanter could be the sort of person all car guys would like to be, having parlayed his enthusiasm into an extremely successful vintage auto parts business. It all got started rather-humbly around 1960, when Fred, his brother Dan and their friend Tom

Wnuck went down to Branchville, NJ to look at a 1932 Ford "Deuce" coupe without an engine; heading home on Route 15, they came across a 1937 Packard 120 that they fell in love with and bought for \$50, with each man chipping in \$17 each plus a dollar for gas before towing their find home and hiding it from their father Jules by putting newspapers over the garage windows.

Though the absence of an engine and transmission dictated the purchase of replacements from a junkyard, the parts left over from the restoration netted more than the Kanters paid for car and the engine together, so they started buying up old Packards and parting them out.

In any event, Fred has invited the Northeast Chapter to tour the Boonton, NJ headquarters of Kanter Auto Products/Packard Industries starting at 1:30 pm on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. The building, located at 76 Monroe Street, is likely familiar to those of you who have passed through Boonton on Interstate 287 and caught sight of the yellow Packard on the rooftop. A half-dozen years ago or thereabouts, I was compelled to exit the highway and introduce myself to Fred after noticing the 1948 Henney Packard hearse parked out back. I can personally confirm that there are quite a few other interesting cars on the premises including a Checker Airport Limousine, a 1953 Cadillac limousine and a first-generation Cadillac Eldorado Brougham.

Directions are as follows: If coming from the north, exit I-287 southbound at Myrtle Avenue and turn left at the end of the exit ramp. Proceed straight through a few traffic lights and turn left onto Washington Street. Turn right onto Monroe Street and Kanter's entrance is at the bottom of the hill. If coming from the I-80 corridor to the south, exit I-287 at Main Street/Boonton, follow the ramp to a left turn onto Washington Street. Turn right onto Monroe Street and Kanter's entrance is at the bottom of the hill. If you get lost the building's phone number is (973) 334-2400.

## PCS TAKES PART IN ECHELON MALL EXTRAVAGANZA

In spite of marginal weather, Harvey Schofield recently reported that almost 400 cars attended the Echelon Mall Classic Car Show in Voorhees, NJ on June 15th. The 47 judging categories included a new Professional Car Class to further distinguish our favorite vehicles from the Special Interest category they previously participated in, with top honors going to Mahlon Thompson's 1953 Henney Packard service car/ambulance combination. The other class awards went to Wayne Guy's subtly-modified 1970 Superior Pontiac combination and Harvey's Schofield's 1967 Lehmann-Peterson Lincoln mini-stretch limousine.



Mahlon Thompson's 1953 Henney Packard  
Service Car / Ambulance

*photo by Harvey Schofield*

## 2003 HEMMING'S FIRE TRUCK CALENDAR

Mike McDonald, PCS member and collector of antique fire apparatus, has achieved national recognition by landing three of his restored fire trucks on the first ever 2003 Hemmings Motor News Fire Truck Calendar.

The units owned by Mike that are featured are a 1967 Crown Pumper, on the cover no less, formerly of King County, Washington and Anaheim, California; a 1976 Crown - Maxim 100 foot Tractor Drawn Tilted Aerial, formerly of San Diego, and a 1956 Ford - Crown Hose Wagon, formerly of Vernon, California.

The calendars are available for \$11.95 each plus \$4.00 shipping and handling. Contact Hemmings Motor News at 800-227-4373, extension 550. The images selected for the fire calendar may be viewed by going to [www.Hemmings.com/calendars](http://www.Hemmings.com/calendars), and clicking on the vintage fire trucks icon.

## CRITERION CLASSIFIEDS:

**1962 Cadillac 3-Way Hearse.** Clean, some scratches. **1965 Cadillac Landau Hearse.** Needs paint. **1967 Cadillac nine-passenger sedan.** Nice condition. All three cars have been stored inside and have not been neglected or abused. Call Andy at Nissley Funeral Home, Mt. Joy, PA, (717) 653-1151.

**1967 Cadillac Hearse.** Coachbuilder unknown. Body rough, engine recently rebuilt, runs and drives well. Also selling **1983 Oldsmobile Hearse.** Coachbuilder unknown, looks and runs well. \$2,000 each. Call Rich Singer at (201) 612-1995.

## CRITERION CALENDAR:

**August 10th (Sat.), New Hope, PA:** Professional Car Class at New Hope Auto Show. For further info contact Harvey Schofield at (856) 596-6599.

**August 18th, 2002 (Sun.), Millville, NJ:** Glasstown Antique Fire Brigade's Show & Muster at Wheaton Village. Contact Diana Ford at (856) 299-9434 to register vehicles, or John Burzichelli at (856) 423-6990 for muster information.

**August 18th, 2002 (Sun.), Montgomery, NY:** Catskill Fire Muster. For further information contact Craig Stewart at Caddyamb@aol.com or (201) 438- 1757 from 7-9pm.

**August 24th, 2002 (Sat.), Dupont, PA:** Cadillac/LaSalle/Buick show sponsored by Upper Susquehanna Region Cadillac-LaSalle Club at VFW Post 4909, 400 Main Street. Free admission, \$10 registration. For further information contact Stanley Sipko at sr63cdv@aol.com or (570) 654-0891.

**August 31st, 2002 (Sat.), Boonton, NJ:** Boonton Fire Department's 111th Anniversary Parade, starts 1:30 pm (assembly one hour prior) from Ashland Chemical Plaza, intersection of Morris Avenue & Rockaway Street. Trophies awarded to best privately-owned apparatus. For further information contact James Leonard, 314 Kelly Lane, Boonton, N.J. 07005.

**September 8th, 2002 (Sun.), New Berlinville, PA:** Liberty Fire Co./Gibson Roads Chapter SPAAMFAA's 16th Annual Fire Muster, Public Safety Expo & Flea Market at Liberty Park, North Reading Avenue. For further information phone (610)367-7857 or (610) 369-3777.

**September 22nd, 2002 (Sun.), Lahaska, PA:** Cadillac-LaSalle Club Valley Forge Region hosts its Annual Fall Meet at Peddler's Village, at the intersection of U.S. 202 and Street Road. For further information contact Clyde (Rob) Robinson at (302) 455-1856 or vfrpres@vfrlcl.org.

**October 27th, 2002 (Sun.), Lahaska, PA:** Philadelphia Region Lincoln Continental Owners Club Annual Fall Meet, 9am-3pm at Peddler's Village at the intersection of US 202 and Street Road. Open to all makes of cars through 1982. \$15 day-of-show registration, \$9 pre-registration (October 10th deadline, make checks payable to Philadelphia Region - L.C.O.C.) through Ray Bickert, 46 Iron Rock Court, Holland, PA 18966-2909.

**November 3rd, 2002 (Sun.), Boonton, NJ:** PCS Northeast Chapter tours Kanter Auto Products/Packard Industries, 76 Monroe Street off Washington Street, 1:30 pm. For further information phone Bill Marcy at (201) 342-4871, or 1-800-526-1096 or (973) 334-2400 for directions.

# THE PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY

*"Dedicated to the restoration and preservation of vintage ambulances, funeral cars & livery vehicles"*

## NORTHEAST CHAPTER

[www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Garage/1074](http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Garage/1074)

### CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

Bill Marcy  
349 Lookout Avenue  
Hackensack, NJ 07601

(201) 342-4871

### SECRETARY:

Mary M. Hookway  
201 Glenside Trail  
Sparta, NJ 07871

(973) 729-8083  
[hookmmh@ptd.net](mailto:hookmmh@ptd.net)

### VICE-PRESIDENT & ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR:

Craig Stewart  
273 Hillcrest Avenue  
Wood-Ridge, NJ 07075

(201) 438-1757  
[Caddyamb@aol.com](mailto:Caddyamb@aol.com)

### CHAPTER TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:

Jeff Hookway  
201 Glenside Trail  
Sparta, NJ 07871

(973) 729-8083  
[hookjch@ptd.net](mailto:hookjch@ptd.net)

### CRITERION EDITOR & NATIONAL PCS PUBLICITY:

Gregg D. Merksamer  
29 Old Oak Road  
Warwick, NY 10990

(845) 986-6857  
[merks62@warwick.net](mailto:merks62@warwick.net)

### CRITERION PUBLISHER:

Ted Collins  
159 George Avenue  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705

(570) 829-1455  
[Collinsfh@aol.com](mailto:Collinsfh@aol.com)

Serving Professional Car Society members in NJ, NY and PA, the Northeast Chapter of the PCS operates under a charter granted by the Society's Board of Directors on August 19th, 1986. Subscription to this publication is by membership in the Chapter through the Membership Director listed above. **Membership in the national organization of the PCS is a prerequisite to membership in any of its regional chapters.** Details on joining can be obtained from Natl. Membership Secretary David Petke at (423) 288-3454, writing him at 5405 Heritage Lane, Kingsport, TN 37664 or by accessing the official PCS home page at <http://www.professionalcar.org>.

THE PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY  
Northeast Chapter  
159 George Avenue  
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18705



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Jeff & Mary Hookway  
201 Glenside Trail  
Sparta, NJ 07871

07871+1249 11



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**“Please mister, we wanna hear the siren!”: Andy Toton’s 1970 Cadillac Miller Meteor combination attracts attention from a pair of young enthusiasts at the PCS Northeast Chapter’s May 19<sup>th</sup> charity car show at Peddler’s Village in Lahaska, PA**