

# The Stovebolt

## AND VINTAGE VOICE

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### A Few Words from the Prez

Hello, HVCCDE Car fans! We have made it through the winter weather and I think all of us are ready to get outside and enjoy sunshine and warmer temperatures. Time to take the car covers off, start those engines, and get ready for the 2026 Season. We have planned a full calendar of car shows and cruise-ins, tours, and social events designed to provide you and your family with opportunities for fun with your vehicles and with other car people.

To kick off the 2026 Season, we invite you to join us on March 12 at 7:00 pm at the meeting room of the Milford Bowling Lanes. We will present the 2026 Club Calendar and discuss what's new at HVCCDE. Pizza, salad, and beverages including beer will be offered. Sign-up sheets will be available for upcoming events and for teams to help on car shows, cruise-ins, tours and activities. If you have not yet received your complimentary HVCDE calendar, you can pick one up that evening.

We look forward to seeing you on March 12!

Maggie Legates,  
HVCCDE President



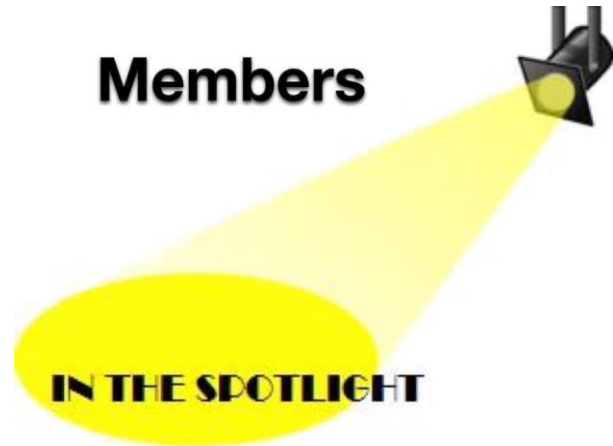
### Club Meeting:

Thursday, March 12, 7pm at the Milford Bowling Lanes  
Pizza & Beer Night!

## Tom & Bonnie Rosinski



## Members

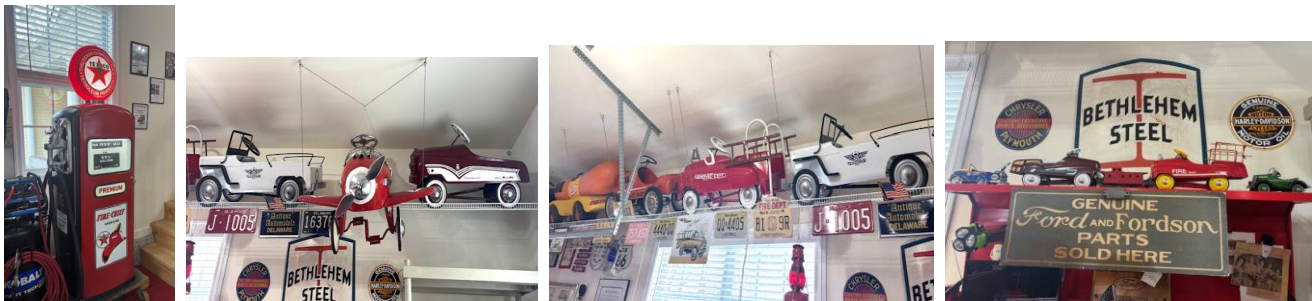


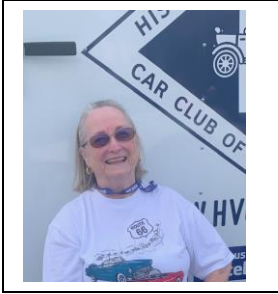
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A visit to the Milton Home of Tom & Bonnie Rosinski finds a couple diamonds that were once rough. A beautifully restored '31 Model-A Huckster Wagon didn't always look like it does now. As Tom describes the Huckster when purchased, "it was a smelly rusty hulk that had been literally buried under a pile of chicken manure." Not so today. Tom went into the restoration with eyes wide open. Retired from AT&T, it took Tom 8 years to complete the work on the Huckster, doing 85% of the restoration himself. Likewise, the gorgeous Dusk Rose '57 T-Bird that we've all seen at shows and cruise-ins took long hours of restoration work. With a rusty frame and body and interior needing much work, Tom stripped it down to bare metal before launching into a full body-off restoration. Those who have seen the Thunderbird up close can attest that Tom's hard work paid off.



While Tom can lay claim to the Huckster and T-Bird, Bonnie also gets into the act. She enjoys driving her red '93 VW Beetle convertible, especially with the top down. The cars may be the biggest toys in the garage, but the Rosinski's are also avid collectors of automobilia, with an impressive collection of pedal cars, porcelain signs and even a beautifully restored vintage gas pump. Tom is a regular at Hershey where you can find him buying and selling his wares. Check out these other items adorning the Rosinski "Toy Box".





## Karen Whitaker says EV's are Old Hat

A recent article in "Outdoor Delaware Magazine" quotes DNREC saying that Electric vehicles are our future. In 2024, 10.5% of all new cars sold in Delaware were EV's and with the rising price of gasoline, we could have well over 100,000 cars on Delaware roads running mostly or solely on electricity. More than the cost savings (the average gas powered vehicle costs about 15 cents per mile, not including maintenance, while an EV averages about 4.5 cents per mile with almost no maintenance), the benefit is to the environment. The average gas powered vehicle emits 12,594 pounds of carbon dioxide per year on average. A plug-in hybrid averages only 4,599 pounds or 63% less. A full EV has no tailpipe, so the only pollutants it generates are from the generation of the electricity it uses, a miniscule amount versus the ICE vehicle. Most power companies have moved from coal and oil, sourcing from solar, wind, hydro and natural gas. Homeowners with solar power can power their cars with virtually a zero emissions footprint.

But is all this new? Not really. From 1900-1910, nearly 35% of cars were electric. They had some notable advantages. They were quieter, didn't smell and were generally easier to operate. Many were marketed towards women drivers. They were cleaner, with no oil or gasoline to pump and started without cranking. By 1920, with the inception of electric starters on gas powered cars and the proliferation of gas stations throughout the country, internal combustion engines replaced EV's on American roads. As we become more aware of Climate change and the dangers of greenhouse emissions, not to mention the ever increasing price of gas, EV's are making a welcome comeback. Check out these early EV's and charging stations.



### The 100 Mile Fritchle Electric

The Only Electric Guaranteed to Go 100 Miles on One Charge.



MODEL "A" VICTORIA PHANTOM.

The Victoria Phantom shown here, is an ideal lady's carriage for city and country use. Its artistic and impressive body design, its expert painting and upholstery make it the most attractive lady's car ever offered to the public.

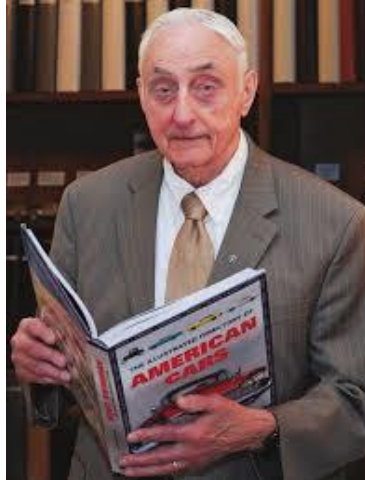
**Harry L. Cort, Sole Agent**  
Moore Theatre, Phone Main 6183.

Can deliver 10 days after order is placed. Guaranteed against defective parts, material and workmanship for one year from date of delivery.



Editor's note: I drive two EV's, a fully electric VW ID.4 and a Ford Escape Plug-in Hybrid. No complaints on either. I get about 250 miles on a charge with the VW and have spent \$78 on maintenance after 3 years (tire rotation and wiper blades). The Ford does use gas, about 10 gallons every 6 weeks and averages 75 mpg. It costs about \$26 a month in electricity to charge both cars.

- Andy R.



**Dr. Arthur R. Gilbert  
1935-2026**

Automotive historian and regular contributor of articles to The Stovebolt, Dr. Art Gilbert passed away on January 8<sup>th</sup> at the age of 90. Often seen at cruise-ins driving his blue Mustang convertible, Dr. Art's knowledge of automotive history was unsurpassed and his informative writings were widely read and quoted. He will be missed by all in the vintage car hobby. His publications are still available at <https://Delaware.contentdm.ocic/digital/collection/p16397coll16>



**HISTORICAL VINTAGE CAR  
CLUB OF DELAWARE  
CAR SHOWS AND CRUISE-INS**

**SHOWS**

**St Bernadette's show**  
June 6, 2026  
(Rain Date June 13, 2026)  
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.



**DE VETS HOME**  
September 5, 2026  
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**WINGS & WHEELS**  
**DELAWARE COASTAL AIRPORT**  
October 3, 2026  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**PRE REGISTRATION IS PREFERRED**  
(Pre Registration Opens August 16 @ 12:00 a.m.  
Closes September 30 @ 11:59 p.m.)  
**PRE REGISTER @ HVCCDE.COM**

**FIRST STATE MEET**  
**INDIAN RIVER MARINA**  
October 17, 2026  
8 A.M. - 1 P.M.

**2026 CRUISE-INS**

**CARS COFFEE COPS**  
**MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL**  
(Milford Police Supplying Coffee)  
**MAY 9**  
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**CRUISE NIGHT AT THE BOAT YARD**  
**JP'S ON THE WHARF**  
3rd Wednesday of the Month  
May to October  
4 p.m. - 7 p.m.  
5/20, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, & 10/21  
201 Hubbard Ave, Bowers Beach, DE

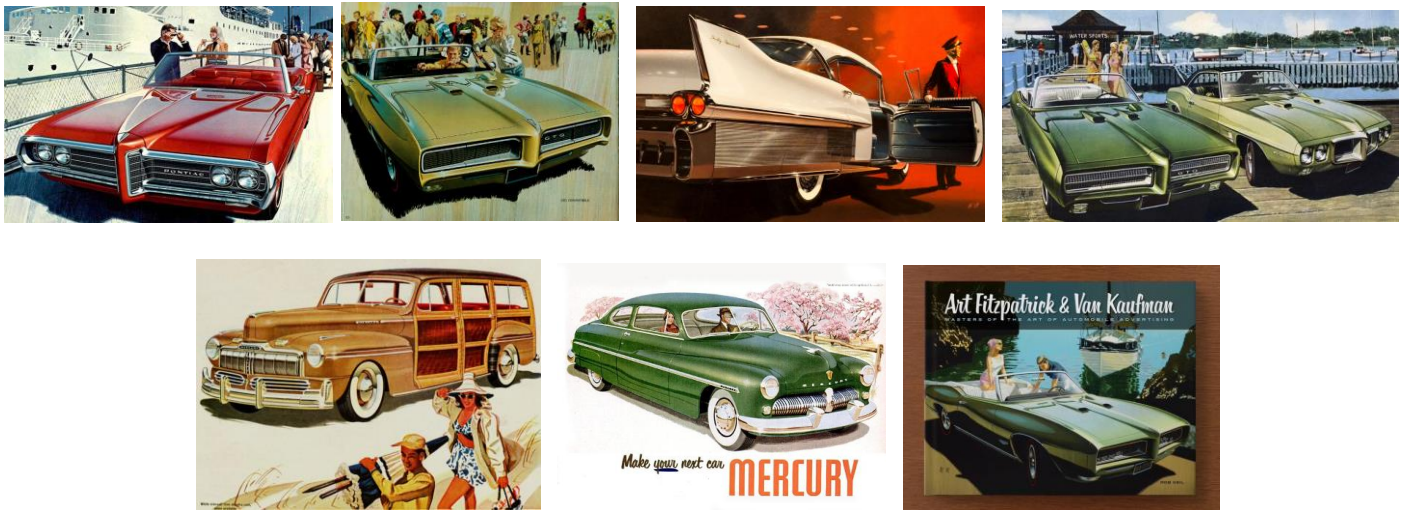
**RUDY'S FAMILY RESTAURANT**  
**LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**  
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
April to October  
4/30, 5/28, 6/25, 7/30, 8/27, 9/24 & 10/29  
17064 S DuPont Hwy, Harrington, DE

Visit us on our website @ <http://www.HVCCDE.com> or Follow us on Facebook

# WHEN CAR ADS WERE ART

Back in the '60's this budding gearhead would look forward to an annual trip to the Philadelphia Auto show with my dad. Certainly, I liked sitting behind the wheel of every new model, but the icing on the cake for me was collecting the colorful car brochures handed out by every manufacturer. I would come home with a big bag of brochures that I could barely carry and read each one cover to cover, studying the specs and drooling over the beautiful pictures of each model.

Today, the Auto Show brochures are digital, obtained by scanning a QR code. It's just not the same. Even a few years ago, when brochures were still being printed, the illustrations were stock photos, better than a digital image, but nothing like the true artwork of automotive illustrators like Art Fitzpatrick and Van Kaufman, true masters of automobile advertising art. Fitz and Van were legends. Working primarily for Pontiac, Cadillac and Buick in the '50's and into the 70's, their illustrations were hand drawn and often signed with a simple AF/VK. Come back with me now to a time when Car Ads were Art.



## Here's a Puzzling Thought...

Hopefully you're aware that we have a library of car books at the meeting room for you to take home, bring back if you like or just keep. Many of you bring in books to share with others. I know there's a lot of Jig Saw puzzlers out there who love a good car themed puzzle. What say we do the same with our puzzles. Bring one in, take one home. Enjoy. I'll make sure there's a few on hand at this week's club meeting.



