



The Criterion

NEWSLETTER of the NORTHEAST CHAPTER of the PROFESSIONAL CAR SOCIETY

www.PCSNortheast.com

Third Quarter 2016

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In Loving Memory of



Daniel P. McCann, III

1965 ~ 2016

Sudden Passing of Daniel P. McCann, III

by Bill Marcy

It is with great sadness that I report the sudden passing of our long time Northeast Chapter President, Daniel P McCann, III. Danny, as we all called him, died on September 15, 2016, at his home in Wall Township, NJ, where he lived with his loving wife Stefanie. The cause of death was a massive heart attack. Somehow, it just doesn't seem possible that a young, healthy EMT and Firefighter like Danny would be taken from us so soon.

Danny was one of the first PCS members I met, when I joined the PCS in 1993. At that time, I remember Danny as a kid and I will tend to remember him in that way. Danny became Northeast Chapter Vice President in 2000, when I was President. Danny became President at the Northeast Chapter Fall Meeting in 2006, when I stepped down from that wonderful position. It was a ten year stint as Northeast Chapter President and as far as anyone knows, he enjoyed every minute of being at the helm of such a wonderful chapter of the PCS.

Danny married the love of his life on April 18, 2016. The short time that Danny and Stefanie had together, only adds to the sadness. They did not have the chance to grow old together, but the time they did have, was a time of true love.

Danny was an EMT since he was eighteen years old. Not only was he a volunteer on the Kearny and North Arlington ambulance squads, he was a paid EMT on the Nutley, NJ Squad. As if that weren't enough, he was also a Chief Engineer at Manasquan, NJ Hose Co.1. With a life dedicated to public service and always helping in all situations, it is no wonder, how many people turned out for his funeral. There were firefighters, EMTs, friends, family and members of the PCS, all came to pay their respects to a man they loved. It was quite a sight to see so many people come out to participate in this somber event. Dan's casket rode atop the firetruck, with a police escort, streets closed, professional cars, modern ambulances, fire engines and police cars, were all part of the motorcade to the church. The Kearny Fire Dept. had a huge American flag draped from one of their tower-ladder trucks, which hung over Kearny Avenue, directly across from St Cecilia's Church. Inside, this beautiful church was packed with mourners. Father O'Connor gave a beautiful and uplifting homily.

We will all miss Danny, for many reasons. He was always smiling, upbeat and calm, attributes some of us could use more of, especially me. No doubt, many of us will fondly remember talking with Dan at a car show, or a PCS International Meet, or at a Board Meeting. As I said before, Danny was always ready and willing to lend a hand, whenever he was needed. Most recently, Dan was part of the Gettysburg Meet Committee, he also worked tirelessly at our Northeast Chapter charity car shows at Peddlers Village in Lahaska, Pa.

Please remember Daniel P McCann III in the best possible way. If you have not already done so, please say a prayer for him. But, let us always remember his wife and fellow PCS member Stefanie in her time of sorrow and sadness. Please join me in letting Stefanie know that we are here for her. Please keep Stefanie in your thoughts and prayers.

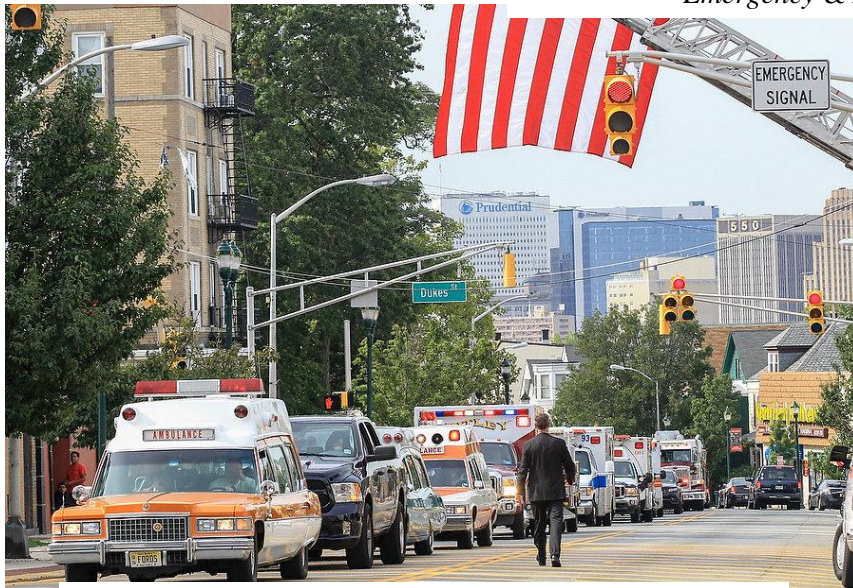
On a personal note, I regret that I never actually had the opportunity to really get to know Danny, because I always liked and respected him. It goes without saying, but I will do it anyway, Danny will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Rest In Peace Brother!



*Photo Credit: Tony Karsnia
Danny at Gettysburg*



*Photo Credit: Paul Steinberg
Danny with the Day Crew of the Nutley Volunteer
Emergency & Rescue Squad*



*Photo Credit: <http://www.NJ.com>
The Procession of Professional Cars for Danny's funeral*



*Photo Credit:
Steve Lichtman*



*Photo Credit:
Steve Lichtman*



*Photo Credit: Gregg Merksamer
Danny at the AACA Museum*

Northeast Chapter Picnic

Photos & Story by Bill Marcy

Sunday July 24th dawned a hot, but beautiful day, by most people's standards. The Northeast Chapter was once again invited to a picnic, at the lovely home of Donna and Paul Vickery in Millington, NJ. Several members brought their professional cars and one member brought a 1962 Cadillac, Lucille and I went modern.

Members in attendance were: Donna and Paul Vickery, Tracy and Fred Goerlitz, Mary and Jeff Hookway, Gregg Merksamer, Jan and Peter Grave, Nancy and Roy Garretson, Nicos Elias and the lovely Genny, Rich Tana, Stefanie and Dan McCann and Lucille and Bill Marcy. I sure hope I did not leave anybody out.

We socialized and ate and had a wonderful time, as we always do. A big Northeast Chapter THANK YOU to Donna and Paul for being such gracious hosts.



A front view of the Vickery home in Millington, NJ.



Professional cars at the picnic were Jan and Pete Grave's 1996 S&S Cadillac six-door limousine, Nancy and Roy Garretson's 1942 Cadillac Fleetwood formal limousine, Paul Vickery's 1940 Flexible Buick ambulance and Rich Tana's 1996 Cadillac hearse



Northeast Chapter members having a great time on the porch



Paul Vickery's 1956 Miller Cadillac ambulance standing by, next to the driveway and ready to roll.

The 2016 PCS International Meet

Photos & Story by Bill Marcy

As many of you know, the Professional Car Society recently hosted its 40th anniversary Meet in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania during the week of August 15 through August 20, 2016. The meet was sponsored jointly by the Henney Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Chapter, Tri-State Chapter and Northeast Chapter. Three years of planning the meet, securing a host hotel, setting up and finalizing all of the tours and activities, all paid off with a successful meet. We should all congratulate each other, on the level of cooperation and support that the Northeast Chapter provided towards the all-important success of this meet. In true Northeast Chapter fashion, so many of our members pitched in to do anything and everything to guarantee the success of this very special event. The Northeast Chapter even voted to sponsor the Tuesday night Meet and Greet at the Battlefield Brewery in Gettysburg. Many of us arrived on Sunday afternoon, just to be there, in case we were needed.

I will not write in depth on each day's events, for the simple reason that they will be covered in depth by our very own Gregg D. Merksamer in an upcoming edition of *The Professional Car*. (Please watch for that late in the year.) I will try to write briefly on some aspects of the meet, for the benefit of those who were unable to attend.

Monday brought several Early Bird activities. Chapter member Nicos Elias and his lady friend Genny arranged a funeral home tour of two Gettysburg area funeral homes. John Ehmer and his fiancée Sue arranged a tour of local antique shops in the area, that I am told included approximately thirty antique stores. A few of us went to Steve Lichtman's garage sale at his home that included ambulance equipment, a number of professional car ambulances and other items.

Tuesday the Mid-Atlantic Chapter hosted a tour to the Firefighters Memorial and related museums. Wednesday, the Tri-State Chapter did a Battlefield Tour, complete with a licensed guide with an incredible amount of knowledge on the Civil War and all of the history. By the end of the tour, my head was spinning from all of the information. On Thursday, the Northeast Chapter hosted a tour of the AACA Museum. The AACA Museum houses a diverse and ever changing inventory of vehicles. On Friday, we had the usual buffet breakfast and Business Meeting. After the meeting, the Henney Chapter hosted a tour of the Eisenhower Farm.

Saturday dawned a beautiful day for our show. There were approximately ninety three professional cars on the show field. What was so unique about the show field, was that there were four horse-drawn hearses, three Superior Consort Pontiacs, two Studebaker ambulances, a 1966 National Ford raised-roof station wagon ambulance, a healthy number of Packard and Pontiac professional cars, a number of 1940s and older professional cars, a beautiful green flower car, too, among the other professional cars on the field. The banquet saw the usual awards presentations and a very inspiring talk by Mike Kellerman of M K Coaches. We then went outside for the light show.

The Northeast Chapter had no less than half of our members, many with their professional cars winning awards! Members in attendance were: Dan and Stefanie McCann, Fred and Tracy Goerlitz, Jeff and Mary Hookway, Wayne Guy, Mike and Vicki Barruzza, Gregg Merksamer, Paul Vickery, Roy Garretson, Rich Tana, Nicos Elias with Genny Perez, Jenn Morin, Ted Collins, Jim Vowell, Rich Litton, Bill and Lucille Marcy and former chapter members Pete and Jan Grave, Robert Behr, Barry Caselli, and William Deegan. It was wonderful to see everybody again!

In the pages to follow, I have included photos from the events I outlined above. All in all, I thought it was a very good and positive Meet. The Wyndham Gettysburg treated us like royalty. The people were great and the events, activities and professional cars were wonderful. If you were unable to attend, you missed a good one, for sure. But, there is always next time and hopefully you will be able to attend, you will be glad you did.

On Tuesday night, some attendees gathered at the Battlefield Brewery, for the Meet and Greet. Pictured are some of the professional cars in attendance.



On Thursday...

A very extensive Tucker display is housed within the AACA Museum, complete with cars, signs, and a sales office.



The AACA Museum houses a very diverse collection of spectacular cars, a Diner and while you may not agree with calling it spectacular, they even have actress Betty White's Pastel green with white top and white leather interior 1977 Cadillac Seville.



Also among the collection is a spectacular bus display, proving to be very difficult to photograph, due to size and the space needed to effectively photograph such large vehicles.



Saturday's Show Field had plenty of diversity, as evidenced by the following photos:





For Sale

1965 Heinel Volvo Hearse. Completely restored and well maintained. This is a very rare, award winning hearse. Asking \$45,000 Please call Aaron Tweedie at (908) 725-0675 for more info and pictures.



Welcome A New Chapter Member!

Please join me in welcoming our newest Northeast Chapter member. His name is Wesley Shelton, he is from Branchville, NJ and he and his wife are the proud owners of a 1971 Zephyr Chevrolet Suburban high-top ambulance. Wes was kind enough to give us a short article on himself and his ambulance and even sent along a photo from 1992. I think I speak for all of us, when I say WELCOME to the Northeast Chapter. We sure hope that Wes and his wife will enjoy the benefits of the PCS and the Northeast Chapter. And I hope we will see that Zephyr around real soon!



“I was a former member of the chapter several years ago. I'm a life member of Blue Ridge Rescue Squad and my rig is our former ambulance turned into a rescue truck that carried our Jaws. I am attaching a photo of her from 1992 just before it was retired and donated to a local Fire Department. The Fire department used it as a utility vehicle for a couple of years until someone put their foot through the floor pan. It was then put up for auction at a charity fundraiser for the department and when there was no bidders the auctioneer took it for \$50 he kept it for several years, using it and its inverter as an emergency generator for his house. He then sold it to a car collector who later sold it to another collector for parts for restoring a Travelall. We spotted it in the guy's back lot of his steel company when biking on a local trail. It took several attempts and offers but I was able to finally get him to sell it to me (intact). It is in pretty rough shape with a lot of rust. But she's mine.

The fact that I rode this rig makes her mean a lot to me. My wife and I really wanted an old military cracker box which is what she started riding on in the Air Force... maybe someday.

-Wes”

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Northeast Chapter

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This beautiful 1941 Lincoln ambulance, coach builder unknown, greeted us as we entered the front lobby of the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA.