

Around the Bend

A Publication of
The Maine Region AACA
November/December 2019



MAINE REGION AACA
8th Annual Chili Fest!!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President Rick Watson



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you in "old car land." I hope 2019 was kind to you and that 2020 is even better.

Arundel to Aroostock Tours 2020 !

As 2019 comes to an end, I'd like to say thank you to the board and to all the members who participated in some way over the last year. We had some nice events, and the support was great. Thank you.

For 2020, your board has already begun working on an ambitious tour schedule. Arundel to Aroostock 2020. We'll kick off the tour season in Southern Maine with a Mud Run tour hosted by our Franklin guys Carl Barker and Dick Pratt. We'll hit a couple of our historically fun events like the Lobster fest and Chili fest. The big deal for 2020 is a weekend getaway to Aroostock county. You'll see them referred to as "tentative" or "pending" elsewhere in the newsletter. We have several members locally that are from "The County," and we want to look to them for advice on which of the two events we should hit. We hope to have more details by the annual meeting in January or the next newsletter. "Stay Tuned". Our weekend trips are always a ball.

You'll see a few New/Old faces on the board in 2020. Bob Koenig and Chuck Wheeler asked me to find replacements for them on the board. I want to thank both for serving and for their support of the club. I also understand these positions shouldn't become "life sentences". I approached Jeff Orwig and George Enman as fill-ins for the remaining 1 year of the 2 year terms. Both guys said "yes", and I appreciate it. Both bring great energy and experience to the board.

Membership remains a focus for us, and this newsletter is going out to ALL AACA members living in Maine whether a member of our region or not. Our region only accounts for about ½ of the members of National AACA. If you are getting this newsletter, and are not a member of The Maine Region, join us! We think having statewide tours in 2020 is a great way to encourage growth in the club. Maine is a big state with lots to see. If we spread our wings (wheels?) a little in event and tour planning, we think we can grow our membership. Let's see if we can double our membership for 2020! New and engaged members is where fresh ideas, tours, events and leadership will come from.

In closing, thanks again for the support this year. I hope to see you all at the annual meeting in January in Augusta. Details elsewhere.

Officers, Maine Region AACA

President: Rick Watson
Tel. 207-474-8988
rwatson@nhbragg.com
18 Jewett St.
Skowhegan, ME 04976

Vice President: Robert Koenig
Tel. 798-5776
rwk40pkrd@aol.com
30 Alphonse Drive
Topsham, ME 04086

Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Hanson
Tel. 622-4256
pvhan@roadrunner.com
21 Norway Drive
Chelsea, ME 04330-1023

Newsletter Editor: Barbara D. Fox,
Tel. 288-3810
stude28@myfairpoint.net
12 Seely Road
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Board of Directors

Ken Clark
kmc@midmaine.com
[907 Main St. Pittsfield](mailto:907>Main.St.Pittsfield)
Pittsfield, ME 04967

Wayne Edmonson
Tel. 487-3100.
wayne@mdiwoodcarvers.com
17 Doherty Road
Burnham, ME 04922

Ray Morrow
brendapmorrow@hotmail.com
912 Smithfield Road
Smithfield, ME 04978

Charles Wheeler
cbwheeler8@icloud.com
P.O. Box 2
New Sharon, ME 04955-0002

Best regards, *Rick Watson.*

The Maine Region AACA
2020 ANNUAL MEETING, ELECTION & DUES
Annual Meeting - Sunday, January 19th, 2020
Augusta Elks Lodge, 397 Civic Center Drive, Augusta, Maine

The Annual Meeting & Banquet of The Maine Region AACA will be held on **Sunday, January 19th, 2020 at 12:00 PM (noon)** at the **Augusta Elks Lodge, 397 Civic Center Drive**, about ½ mile north of the Civic Center, in Augusta.

We will begin with a plated-dinner banquet similar to last year featuring a choice of entrée, either baked lasagna or roast turkey with apple & cranberry stuffing. Both entrées include potato, vegetable, tossed salad, rolls & butter, and choice of dessert. The cost is **\$20** per person which includes tax and gratuity. Please RSVP by indicating meal choice and sending payment no later than **Tuesday, January 13th, 2020** to: **The Maine Region AACA, Peter Hanson, Secretary-Treasurer, 21 Norway Drive, Chelsea, ME 04330-1023.**

The Executive Board will meet one and a half hours prior to the start of the Banquet to elect from the Board new regional officers for the year and to consider and act on such other business as necessary including an update on tours for the upcoming year. The results of all elections will be announced at the Annual Meeting. After the meeting, we will have another of our “anything goes” auctions to benefit the club. So please rummage through your attics, basements, garages, sheds and back 40’s to find some good salable items and interesting goodies to auction off, this is one social event that you don’t want to miss!

2020 Annual Election

Ken Clark, Ray Morrow and **Peter Hanson** are nominated for another two-year term on the Executive Board. An election ballot which will include a provision for write-ins will be mailed to all members.

2020 Dues

The Maine Region AACA’s 2020 annual dues in the amount of **\$15.00** are due **January 1st**. A payment reply form is included herewith for your convenience. Please make checks payable to: **The Maine Region AACA** and send payment to:
The Maine Region AACA, Peter Hanson, Secretary-Treasurer, 21 Norway Drive, Chelsea, ME 04330-1023.



As a reminder, your **2020 National AACA** dues are also due on **January 1st**. Please pay your **2020 National AACA** dues in the amount of **\$40.00** directly to AACA no later than **December 31st**. For your convenience, you may use the renewal form that was included with your November/December issue of “*Antique Automobile*” magazine from National and mail it to:



AACA, P.O. Box 417, Hershey, PA 17033-0417

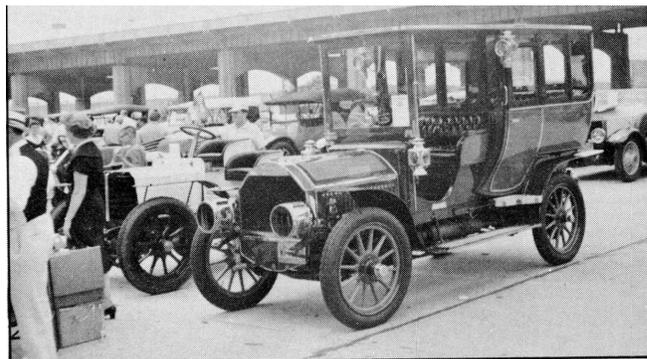
Respectfully,

Peter
Peter Hanson, Secretary-Treasurer
The Maine Region AACA

LUXURY IN AUTOMOBILING

By Harry B. Haines

Country Life in America September 1906



1904-1905 Pierce Great Arrow Limousine, Dr Samuel Scher

town body, with folding top and sides which may cost another \$1,500.

In automobiling as in everything else, there are several classes of users and their demands and needs are naturally radically different and are largely regulated by the size of the individual's income and consequently the size of his bank account.

It is possible, on an investment of \$1,200 to tour the country in a machine that will carry five passengers, and to maintain the same at a cost of \$70 per month, while the same five people may go tour in a \$14,000 machine, with a \$200 a month chauffeur at the steering wheel, and a bill for maintenance of \$300-\$400 a month more. Both will see the same country, both parties enjoy the same exhilaration from the motion, and both find the enjoyment within limits of their income.

There is however, no sport in which it is possible to spend so much for extras, for the luxury and ostentation of faddism, as in automobiling, and it is interesting to figure out just what a man who is inclined to go the whole distance in fitting up his car may expend.

I have in mind as I write a well-known Chicago automobilist who spent over \$800 in putting extras on as \$2,500 steam touring car purchased by him. He had on his car six lamps for various purposes, a clock, a barometer, a thermometer, a grade indicator, an odometer, a speedometer, a huge Dragon horn, an electric bell, a steam whistle and "kid eradicator." This consisted of a steam-pipe running to the rear step, and when an intruder attempted to start a ride the steam was turned on his legs. Warning of the boy's presence is given by the ringing of a small electric bell worked by his weight on the step, completing an electric circuit.

There are all sorts of fads and fancies and fittings that add to the comforts and provide luxuriousness in automobile touring, which cannot be termed necessities, for the car would give as good service without them, as far as carrying the load and speeding are concerned.

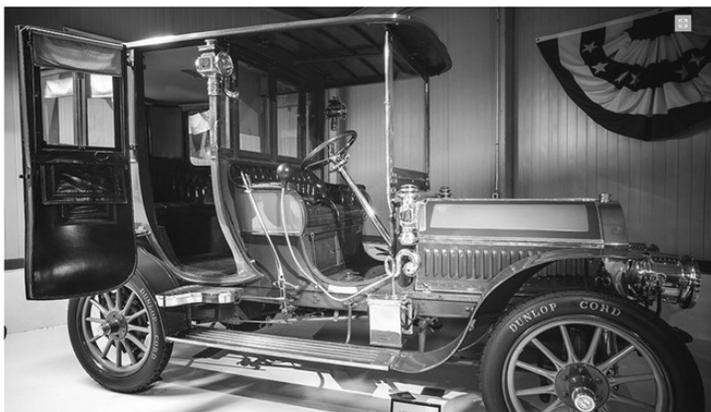
In this connection it will be perhaps surprising to note that some men pay more for the body and interior fittings of their cars than others do for entire machines. In consciousness of the automobile we must first look at the up-to-date body with its equipment. Fashion has decreed at least two types of bodies for every high grade machine--the touring body, which is a part of the original equipment, and the limousine or permanently enclosed body for winter use. This latter body may cost from \$1000 to \$3000 or even more, according to its interior arrangements and fittings. There is also the landaulet for use as a

In nearly all the limousine bodies the manufacturers have provided seats for five persons, there being room for three on the main seat. Two extra seats are cleverly devised and hidden from view until needed for the accommodation of passengers.

These limousine cars are handsomely upholstered and fitted inside, and a small fortune may be spent in equipping them so that "my lady" may ride in elegance and have article of toilet convenience close at hand. In many cases these little conveniences are included in the first cost of the body, the manufacturers furnishing them as equipment.

The inside of a limousine body is indeed a revelation to the person who has conceived the ill-formed idea that an automobile is an uncomfortable little box on wheels with hard, bumpy cushions and nothing to attract the persons who desire ease and luxury while moving about the country.

Starting with the upholstering, which may be of either costly leather or whip cord, or for that matter of any material that the owner desires, we find the cushions made of the best hair and fitted over the finest springs. In the interior finish of these bodies the coach builder has reached the perfection of his art. Cleverly designed pockets are conveniently placed to hold a kerchief, a purse, or some visiting cards. Overhead there is an electric light hidden in the ceiling, while other gleam out at night from the four corners. There is a little foot warmer on the floor, and at times this is replaced with a complete cellarette. A silver-bound card-case in which a costly watch or small clock is set, is placed directly in front of the occupants. On the right side is a brass plate bearing electric buttons connecting with the annunciator, by means of which the occupant of the car may control its speed and direction by flashing orders by electricity to the operator on the front seat. This does away with the old system of having a tube, it is necessary with that to have the driver stop his car when instructions are being given to him.



1905 Pierce Arrow— costly leather “pockets”, “annunciator” headlights, overhead mirror.

(Courtesy of Seal Cove Auto Museum Collection)

In some of the larger cars, the designers have even gone so far as to furnish toilet conveniences Card tables, writing desks, chafing dishes, all specially designed and fitted to the car, are no novelty.

There is practically nothing that a modern Pullman car contains, from the sleeping berth on, that cannot be built in miniature and placed in an automobile for practical use either in the city or while touring. In some cars complete cellarette are designed in compact form and placed on the running-board. They are fitted with bottles and glasses, corkscrews, etc., all silver mounted, and the "*spiritus fermenti*" is kept cool by a cleverly devised ice-chest, which is part of the outfit. Such a convenience may cost any sum from \$75 up according to its elaborateness and completeness.

One hundred dollars may be spent on an electric annunciator placed on the dash in front of the driver and operate with buttons inside the limousine. These buttons, when pressed, light put the dial, showing the word "Faster", "Left", "Right" "Slower," "Start," "Stop," Home, or Club, or anything else that the owner may care to signal if the dial be arranged accordingly.

It is easy to spend \$75 more for a clock. Fifty dollars is not too much for an equipment of sterling silver mirrors, clothes brushes, whisk-brooms, perfume bottles, card-cases and those other small fitting of like nature. A cleverly devised detachable card-table will cost \$24, while \$50 more may be for a miniature ice-box and still another \$50 for a fully equipped lunch-basket containing plates, knives, forks, table linen, etc., for a picnic party of four or more.

If the owner is desirous of knowing just how fast his car is traveling he can spend \$75 and have a speedometer placed in front of him in the car. Five dollars will buy a gradometer telling the steepness of a hill the car is ascending or descending. Five dollars more will buy a footwarmer: \$10 will buy a set of waterproof lamp covers, and \$8 more two enameled-duck tire casings. A padded foot-rest, upholstered in keeping with the inside of the car, may cost \$10. And give a firm support for the feet at a natural, comfortable incline, being a secure

brace against violent motion of the car. Further to eliminate violent jars, the machine may be equipped for \$75 with a set of shock absorbers, preventing breakage of springs on rough roads and also ensuring even and smooth riding without jar to the passengers. Supplementary rear springs may be for \$10 more. If much night riding is done, \$100 may be early spent for gas head-lights, and \$35 more for the lasts gas tank filled with gas under pressure and requiring no attention until empty, when a new tank of gas may be bought for \$3.

If the owner be musically inclined he can fit his car with a chime horn of the calliope type, worked by the exhaust pressure from the engine. The equipment cost \$25 or \$30 to buy and install. The owner may loll back and play circus tunes as he is whirled through the country, by simply manipulating the necessary valve levers.

If he desire to have the feeling of safety that would



1910 Stoddard Dayton- Each horn is keyed to a musical key.

(Courtesy of Seal Cove Auto Museum Collection)

come to him were he able to cut off the spark and gasoline supply from inside the car in case of accident to the driver, he can by spending \$20, arrange things so that the engine switch will be alongside his hand, as will a lever operating upon the carburetor. By means of which he can shut off the gasoline and cause the engine to cease to operate. Thirty dollars more will provide him with a power pump, by the use of which he may start his engine and pump up his tires as the car stands on the road, instead of being obliged to pump by hand.

It is possible to have a small gasoline cook stove, cleverly encased and carried under the seats, which may be used on tour to prepare tasty luncheons to a chafing-dish accompaniment. This will cost from \$15-20 extra. A small mahogany writing-desk fully equipped with properly monogrammed paper and safety ink-well silver-mounted, will mean an expenditure of from \$40-\$50

(Cont. on Pg. 8)

Hershey 2019



Tucker, Dale, and Rick Watson



Dale Watson and Toby Hight



Jim Ryder, Ray Morrow, Dale Watson, Toni Gilbert and Glen Byron



Ken Clark



Mike Vaughn, Charlie Huntington and friend



Jeff Orwig



John and Vikki Worth



Dave Ault



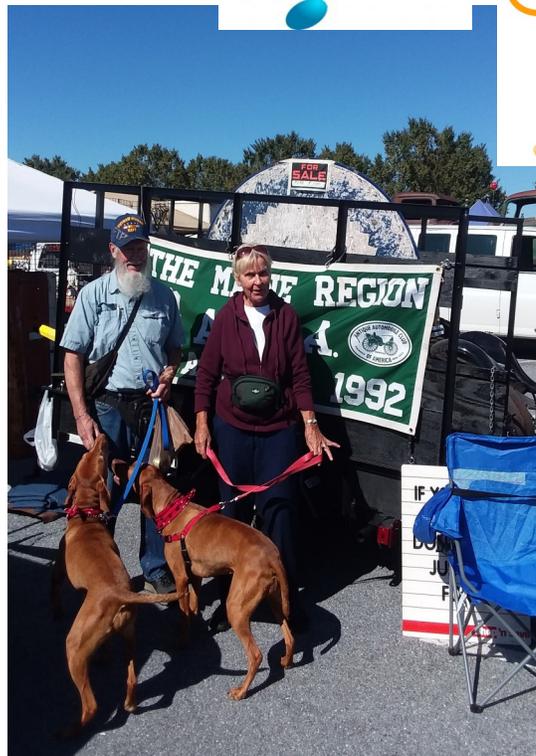
Dale bought this *Cushman Minute Miser* at Hershey because ". . .He didn't have one...". It was used to deliver mail in the Mack Truck factory.



Dale and Eunice Thorpe



Where were you?



Chuck and Barb Wheeler and friends



Ludolf and Ruthann Bierwas



George and Jane Enman

and may, if the table is an elaborate one, handsomely made with pearly inlay, run up to \$150 or \$200 in cost.

There are many men who desire to be original, and if money is no object to them they can spend a lot of it in getting exclusiveness. Mr. Britton, a one-time prominent member of A. C. A. had the lamps on his Panhard car gold-plated, and on each of them had the club emblem brazed. The emblems were solid gold, set with rubies, and were very attractive. He also had the cylinders of the engine copper-plated, and these were kept highly polished at all times. Another man of wealth had the dashboard of his car trimmed with solid silver and spent over \$1,000 in silver fittings and monograms.

Lamp equipment is a matter of great importance when touring is considered and it is essential to have a goodly number of powerful lights if night riding is to be indulged in an enjoyed in safety. It is rather foolish to buy a car capable of fifty mile an hour or more and then creep along after dark at ten miles an hour because of insufficient lamps. Many automobile owners go the limit in this direction. However, and I have known cars to have as many as five acetylene gas head-lights. The road was lighted up for full 300 yard in front of the machine, but the glare was blinding to everything traveling in the opposite direction. The old-fashioned acetylene generator, with its mussy carbide and its uncertainty of operation, is giving way to the new and cleaner gas-tanks. These are made much the same as the tanks on railroad trans, but of course are of highly polished copper. An indicator shows the amount of gas on hand, and in using this type of tank, the gas is turned off and on at the lamps as needed, and there is not waste. A Tank cost \$35, and for \$10 more a car can be piped with copper tubing for the equipment. When one tank of gas is exhausted, another is exchanged for it, the user paying only for the gas contained and not for the tank.

A good lamp equipment for a car, and a sensible one, consists of two oil lamps, one on either side of the front seats, and three gas head-lights. Two of these are stationary and arrange on either side of the front springs, and the this is equipped with a swinging bracket and is placed on the dash where the operator driver of the car can be reach it. A lamp of this sort may be turned to right or left for use in hunting out roads and for finding and reading road signs at night. Oil lamps will be found economical and trustworthy for use in the city where powerful glare of acetylene headlights is not necessary.

In considering this question of luxury of automobiling, it is necessary to ascertain about what it will cost to purchase the absolute necessities to equip a car properly for touring. Take the tire situation first. Two spare shoes are needed which may cost from \$65-\$120 or even \$150 each, according to the tire, make and style. A jack for raising the wheels from the ground will cost \$5-tow rawhide tire bandages for emergency repair of blowouts



will
-\$8.

be
for

puller for the rear wheels. Ten dollars more will buy a set of

chains to give the rear wheels traction in snow or mud, and to prevent skidding. To keep out of the rain the ordinary touring car may be fitted with a cape top, with glass front, at a cost of \$250, or any sum of to \$500 may be spent for a canopy top with glass front. Ten of fifteen collars will buy asset of basket and map waterproof covers. Two waterproof robes should cost \$18 more, or an automobile poncho covering front and rear seat, with holes for the heads of five passengers may be bought for \$30. Rubber driving gloves, an umbrella coat or poncho and rubber boots may cost \$15 more. It is often desirable to have a canvas cover made to protect the leather upholstery of the car This fits tightly over all the seats and may cost \$50 or more according to the material used.

The owner of a car should also provide goggles for every passenger, and these sell at from seventy-five cents to \$5 a pair. It is also customary to have dust-coats for each passenger. These may either be of linen or crash, or cost from \$3.50-\$5. Each or may be of silk gossamer and run up to \$20-25 each.

Under the head of miscellaneous conveniences may come such articles as collapsible gasoline bucket, water
(Cont. on pg. 9)

1913 Kimball with Kimball wind-shield, leather fenders and brass lamps.

(Courtesy of Seal Cove Auto Museum Collection)

cost \$5
Or \$10
more
may
spent
nail

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and gasoline strainer, ammeter for testing batteries, hydrometer for testing gasoline, prism-binoculars, hand-lamp with electric battery, for looking around the car, aneroid barometer, a compass and a complete outfit of tools and spare parts.

The cost of these will vary according to the sort of goods bought and the type of car they are to be used on, but the automobilist may depend upon it that he will pay enough for them.

In the category of automobile luxuries there are some things which, when we consider the strides of modern improvements, almost appear to be necessities when comfort and ease are considered. To the aid of the automobilist who dreads the ever-present bugaboo of a puncture, with its backbreaking and finger-straining work of removing a casing, getting out the inner tube, replacing it and again forcing the casing back in its place, only to follow this with a back-breaking séance at the hand pump, the kind manufacturers have lent their inventive minds. The result is that it is possible today to have one's car fitted with quickly detachable rims, by means of which, after a puncture has occurred and the machine has been jacked up, it is possible to remove the entire rim in about a minute's time. The shoe may then be lifted up and the inner tube replaced without an effort. The man with the up-to-date car then goes to the front of his machine and, lifting up the bonnet, takes out the hose attached to his automatic air-pump fitted to the engine and working from its power. He connects the hose with the tire valve, starts the engine, throws in the clutch and stands by in ease until the tire has had sufficient pressure injected into it. He then throws out the pump clutch, shuts down his engine and, after tightening up his tire-lugs, is ready to continue on his way again. In the early day of automobiling a puncture meant from forty minutes to an hour's delay and all that time the unfortunate driver of a car was busy working as hard as he ever

worked at anything in his life. With modern appliances the terrors of the puncture have disappeared and this greatest draw-back to luxury and reliability in automobiling has been practically eliminated. One hundred dollars will buy a set of side-baskets or hamper and a rear basket.



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Quiz Answers: 1) 1913; 2)-1913; 3) 1924 (they were yellow and changed to red in 1954; 4) St. Louis MO, 1905; 5) Oregon 1919; 6) NY 1910; 7) 1903 Oldsmobile; 8) Washington A. Roebling II (Mercer Runabout); 9) Air-cooled Knox; 10) Stanley Steamer; 11) Flying Teapots; 12) Rooster tail



1414 Tremont Road | PO Box 106
Seal Cove, ME 04674
207 244 9242 | ranej@sealcoveautomuseum.org

Appraisals, Commissioned sales, Estates

Always buying old gas pumps, gas station items, advertising signs, automobilia, sales brochures.

- Coke, Coca-Cola, 7Up, Canada Dry, Moxie, Orange Crush, Pepsi, Dr Pepper
- Schwinn Stingrays, Whizzer bikes, Cushman, Rupp, Vespa scooters
- Gas Company items: Texaco, Mobil, Gulf, Sunoco, Shell, Esso, Phillips 66, Cities Service, Citgo.
- Oil Company items: Oilzum, Tidewater, Kendall, Cities Service, Flying A, Valvoline, Mobiloil, Socony, Veedol.
- Tire Company items: Firestone, Goodyear, BF Goodrich, Michelin, US Royal
- Car Company items: American Motors, Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Chrysler, Crosley, Datsun, Dodge, Edsel, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Jaguar, Jeep, Lincoln, MG, Rambler, Studebaker, Triumph, VW, Willys.

Contact Rick Watson 18 Jewett Street Skowhegan Maine 04976.
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Car Trivia Questions

1. What year was the first car bought on the easy payment plan?
2. What is the first year Ford produced 1000 cars in one day?
3. What years were stop signs first erected
4. When and where was the first car reported stolen?
5. What state first introduced a gasoline tax? What year-?
6. Where were the first drunk driving laws introduced?
7. What was the first American car to cover a mile in under a minute?
8. What car designer went down on the Titanic?
9. What car was referred to as "Old Porcupine" or "The Car that never drinks?"
10. What car was used in 1909 to transport 2,000 passengers to their summer capital on the mountainside in the Philippines?
11. What was the nickname for Stanley Steamers?
12. What was the nickname given to the camel-back on the Indian motorcycle?

(For answers see page 9)

Christmas Trivia Questions

1. How many reindeer does Santa Claus have?
2. What are the names of Santa's reindeers?
3. Which famous mathematician was born on Christmas Day?
4. On Christmas Eve, what do we leave out for Santa?
5. Rudolph is the most popular reindeer. Does he have antlers not?
6. Is Frosty a male or a female?
7. What do two people do when they are **standing** under the mistletoe together?
8. Which are the 2 most common colors that are used during this holiday?
9. What color jacket does Santa wear?
10. The star that shone on the night Jesus Christ was born has another name. What is that name?
11. How many verses are there in the song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?
12. In the song, "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus", what else does Mommy do to Santa Claus?
13. In Mexico, what is the object that holds Christmas gifts and has to be broken to get them?
14. The 3 shepherds (3 wise men) brought gifts on the day Jesus Christ was born. What were those gifts?
15. Who wrote the song "Here Comes Santa Claus"?
16. What does the French word Noël mean in English?
17. What popular Christmas song is this from? - "On a cold winter's night that was so deep"...
18. I'm sure you know Alvin, the chipmunk. Do you know what he wanted for Christmas?
19. What is the famous Christmas ballet that is popular at this time of the year/
20. Three shepherds (wise men) went to see baby Jesus. Name those 3 shepherds?
21. Hermey, the elf, in "Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer" wants to be something? What is it?
22. In Dr. Seuss's story "How the Grinch Stole Christmas", Where does the Grinch live?

(For answers? Ask Santa!——or Wikipedia?)



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AACA

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Mystery Car Challenge

*Don't forget to send in your
answer—*



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Around the Bend for 2018.

Write, call or email your answers to:

George/Jane Enman

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207-592-4126

Can you guess the year, make and model?

(i.e. 1936 Buick, Model 80 Roadster)