



THE RUNNINGBOARD RUNDOWN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE CHAUTAUQUA LAKE REGION AACA
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NOVEMBER 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board Meeting

None

General Meeting

None

CALENDAR

December 31, 2020 -

National AACA memberships due; REQUIRED

Happy November Birthdays



5 - Kathy Hofgren
9 - Mike Stewart
11 - Dave Cochran
30 - Christine Hatfield



November Anniversary

12 - Carl and Nancy Steenburn

October 8th Board minutes

President Frank Tantillo opened the meeting at 7pm. In attendance: Frank Tantillo, Chuck Telford, Nancy Rudny, Jim Sackett, Greg Press and Jeanne Oag. We will publish the Board Minutes in the Running Board Rundown.

Nancy reported since our last board meeting, eight members have passed.

New Business: A motion by Jim Sackett/2nd by Greg Press that no local dues for the new year. Approved. **NOTE:**

National dues still need to be paid by December 31st and also required for participation in club events.

Newsletter discussion: Continue to print or send out in an email? Decided to leave as is for now.

Save the Dates in 2021: Aug. 8th – family picnic; Sept 11th – Steak Fry, Dec 5th – Christmas Party

Frank shared a thank you note from Kurt Nensor (?) for receiving the club scholarship

Donations approved for 2020: Thanksgiving to St. Susan's Center, Christmas donations: the War Vets, Wreaths Across America, St. Susan's Center, the Salvation Army South and Meals on Wheels

Motion by Jim Sackett/2nd Greg Press to approve purchase of a new laptop not to exceed \$1000. Approved.

Board Member nominations/Election: decided to leave everyone as is until a General Meeting can take place.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

There will be no local dues for the new year.

Franklin Hershey, Father of the Thunderbird

Born in 1907 – died in 1997. Best known for the design of the 1932 Peerless V-16 prototype – 1949 Cadillac tailfin design and the 1955 Thunderbird.

Hershey began his career at Murphy Coach Works of Pasadena, California where he was assigned the task of designing the 1932 Peerless V-16 prototype. From there he went to work for GM where he designed the 1933 Pontiac. In 1935 redesign of the Pontiac he introduced the Silver Streak design (chrome stripes on the hood) and lasted until the 1956 Pontiac model year. He also was assigned to GM's Opel design offices in Germany in 1936. After leaving GM he set up his own design firm. Harley Earl, GM head designer, tried to lure him back to GM, but Franklyn chose not to return. After several years with Packard, he went to work for Ford where he designed the 1953-1957 full size Ford. Hershey designed the 1955 Ford Thunderbird after hearing that GM was coming out with the 2 seater Corvette.

After leaving Ford, he became Head of Design for Kaiser Aluminum and later, Rite Autoronics. He died October 20, 1997 - living in California. Chevrolet failed to give the Corvette performance were Ford gave the new Thunderbird a new overhead valve 292 cu. In V8, 4 barrel carburetor with either a manual or automatic transmission.

The 1955 Thunderbird had it all thanks to Frank Hershey: a V8 engine, removeable hardtop, rollup windows – everything the 1953-1955 Corvette lacked. Frank Hershey resigned from Ford after George Walker became Vice President of Design and word came down that the 1958 Thunderbird would be larger and 4 passenger. Frank Hershey gave us the 1955-1957 Ford Thunderbird. The 1955 Thunderbird sold 16,155 models – over 4 times that of the Corvette.

NOTE: The Peerless V16 never entered production as mentioned above. The Peerless Company elected to stay in business during the Great Depression, canceling its car production and V16 project; conserved its capital and converted the car factory to a brewery for the production of a new product called Carling Beer. "Mabel – Black Label – Carling Black Label Beer"





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