



THE RUNNINGBOARD RUNDOWN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
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DECEMBER 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board Meeting

None

General Meeting

None

1936 Chrysler Airflow by Frank Tantillo

The other day I was going through my many boxes of die cast model cars (approx. 400!) and I came across a 1936 Chrysler Airflow so I decided to submit an article on this car:

The Chrysler/DeSoto was first introduced in 1934. The design of this car took some getting used to and sadly the car buying public just didn't get used to it. That deco look and design was the precursor to the unibody type construction. The car was designed by Carl Breer, Owen Skelton and Fred Zeder of Chrysler's engineering team.

This design made the Airflows have more interior room, rode better and was a much safer and stronger car compared to other cars of this time. To prove this, an Airflow was pushed off a Pennsylvania cliff, falling over 110 feet and it drove away! It became apparent that the buying public was not enthused about the Airflow design and by 1937, Chrysler went back to the more traditional design. Sales kept falling, especially for the lower priced DeSoto. 4600 Airflows were produced in 1937 before Chrysler canceled Airflow production. Chrysler's intent was to produce a car that was a more practical – safer and stronger vehicle, setting it apart from other auto manufacturers.

It was rumored that Ferdinand Porsche imported an early Airflow using it as an inspiration for the design of the Volkswagen. A total of 29,478 Chrysler Airflows were produced and 25,737 DeSoto Airflows were produced between 1934 to 1937. Note: Labor Day action at Auburn, Indiana – a 1934 Chrysler Airflow sold for \$209,000.

CALENDAR

December 31, 2020 -

National AACA memberships due; REQUIRED

January 12, 2021

Board Meeting

Happy December Birthdays

4 - Alistair Oag
6 - Ray Hofgren
27 - Ken Shearer



December Anniversary

23 - Ron and Nancy Rudny

Members who want to share information on their car: the car's history, how it was acquired or anything of interest are encouraged to submit an article to Jeanne Oag, jeanneoag@hotmail.com for publication in the newsletter. Pictures are gladly accepted! Next submission deadline is **January 22, 2021**.

A Holiday Message from Your President and Board Members

2020!! What a year! COVID, people shut in, schools closed, businesses shut down, restaurants closed or takeout only, stimulus checks, unemployment at an all time high, wearing masks, social distancing, riots in a lot of major cities, Presidential election, no club meetings, no tours, no Flea Market and the passing of some club members.

We hope 2021 will be a much better year with a lot of club fellowship, meetings and a possible Flea Market. We can't forget that this pandemic has provided some positives. Life slowed down allowing more family time and also realizing how much we need and missed friends.

From all of us, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New Year! Stay safe!

Peace and Joy,
Frank





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