



# BAY AREA HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB



Board Chair: Ed Archer Vice President:

1807 East Avenue, Hayward, CA 94541 510-581-4911 karened4@att.net

President: Fred Byl

12961 Skyline Blvd.,Oakland, CA 94619 510-531-9181 fredmbyl@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Whitney Haist
12 Sunrise Hill Rd, Orinda, CA 94563

925-253-1333 haist2@comcast.net

Secretary: Mark Cerruti

256 La Questa Drive, Danville, CA 94526 925-831-0883 cerrutidesign@comcast.net

Tour Chair: Don Azevedo Publicity:

3802 Briarcliff Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94565-5501 925-301-5315 Imnuts4fords@comcast.net

**Hospitality: Vacant** 

Membership: Eric Lundquist

250 Roblar Ave., Hillsborough, CA 94010 650-888-5097

eric @document reprocessors.com

Web Master: Lynn Kissel

4431 Spring Meadow Rd Cameron Park, CA 95682-9629 925-667-7087 BAHCC@starship.org

Gazette Editor: Muriel Lundquist

250 Roblar Ave, Hillsborough, CA 94010 650-342-7858 muriel@documentreprocessors.com

Sunshine: Susan Durein 510-523-4993

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The **BAY AREA HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB** 

"BAHCC" was founded in 1951 by and for the automobile antiquarians dedicated to the preservation of PRE - 1916 ancient motor vehicles. "BAHCC" is one of the numerous Regional Groups of the Horseless Carriage Club of America "HCCA" which has 4600 members nationwide. "HCCA" membership is required of all active touring Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club Members, but is not required for "Associate" members. New membership into our club is invited. Permission to reproduce articles is granted provided credit

The Gaslight Gazette is published 11 times per year with one issue for the months of JULY and August.

**MEETINGS:** First Wednesday @ 7:30 PM monthly (except July and December - no meeting) at Piedmont Community Hall, Piedmont, CA near Piedmont City Hall. (Public Phone at the hall: 510-547-9311) April and November are potluck dinners starting at 6:30 PM. Guests welcome. Special presentations at meetings.

**BOARD MEETINGS:** Monthly. See calendar for schedule. Members welcome.

ADDRESS: c/o President PHONE: c/o President

WEBSITE: www.BAHCC.org

is given to the original source.

**EDITORS NOTES:** 

The holidays are quickly approaching with cooler weather and leaves turning color. Still no rain in the Bay Area so safe to continue to drive our beautiful old cars. Hope you all had fun on the Pumpkin Tour.

Our Pot Luck in the 6th so remember to bring your menu item and place settings. There will be a short meeting and election of new board members. Let President Fred know if you are interesting in serving on the board this year! Please have articles to the editor by the 22nd of the month. Thank you to all who contributed to this month edition! Happy Thanksgiving to all of you. Muriel



President Fred and Nancy are vacationing in Peru. He hopes to see all of you at our November 6th meeting and Potluck Dinner in Piedmont.









Project Car

**Nuts and Bolts: Mike Lawrence** 

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Nov. 2	Nuts & Bolts: 1914 Ford Model T	Whitney Haist
Nov. 6	Potluck & General Meeting (setup at 6:30 pm, dining at 7:00 pm)	Piedmont Community Center
Nov. 24	Holiday Mystery Tour (Meet at Brommer's at 9:30 a.m.)	Mike Lawrence Don Azevedo
Nov. 20	Joint Board Meeting	San Ramon
Dec. 14	Holiday Party & Dinner/Dance (cocktails at 6:30 pm, dinner at 7:30 pm)	Piedmont Community Center





Yes, you can look as handsome as these Horseless Carriage members. In the next couple of months, we are putting together an order for shirts and jackets for both men and women. Start thinking about purchasing HCCA Club clothing for next year's touring. Don Azevedo is coordinating this effort.

### **November Birthdays**

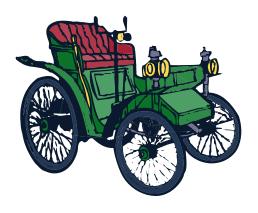
BILLINGSLEY	Ken	11/1	11/1
JOHNSON	Pam	11/7	11/7
BYL	Nancy	11/12	11/12
MORRIS	Mike	11/15	11/15
CALDEIRA	Chet	11/17	11/17/36
HOFFMAN	Steve	11/27	11/27/49
RIGGS	Lloyd	11/28	11/28/32

## **November Anniversaries**

CROWELL	Johnny	Christine	Nov. 18, 1995
STONE	Robert	Kelly	Nov. 19, 1995
LAGORIO	James	Barbara Tognoli	Nov.19, 2011
MORRISON	John	Carolee	Nov. 27, 1982









# POTLUCK DINNER (No Auction)

**November 6, 2013** 

SET-UP @ 6:30 - DINING @ 7:00

It's Potluck time again. Let's all come out for a delicious meal to share with other club members and friends.

### **FOOD INSTRUCTIONS:**

MAIN DISH ---- A-G SALAD------ H-O DESSERT----- P-Z

The Club supplies the coffee/tea, soft drinks and Ham. Secret chefs will prepare the Ham.

Please bring your own dishes, table service, glassware and decorations. Remember to wear you name tags!

# **2013 Holiday Tour**





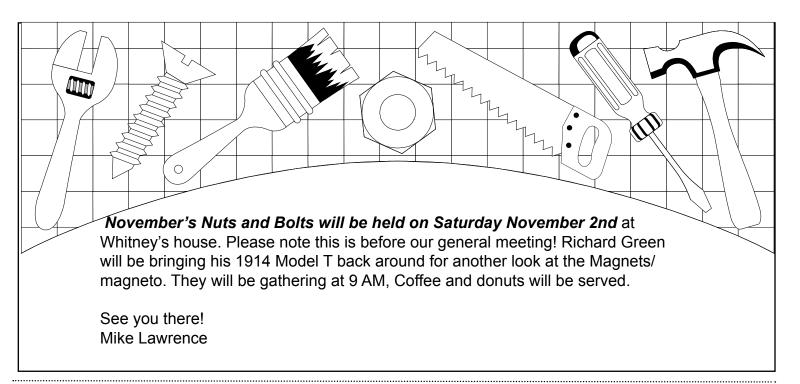
Join us on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> for a great Back Roads Tour. We will begin in Castro Valley at Bill & Kaaren Brommer's home and travel picturesque back roads to Fremont. In route we will drag main in Niles and wake up the little sleepy town. In Fremont we will have lunch at a landmark restaurant where our cars will be admired by the folks from the Fremont Senior Center. We will find our way back to Castro Valley in the afternoon. A fun leisurely adventure is promised for all. All cars welcome.

When: Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> (the Sunday before Thanksgiving)
Where: Start at Brommer's in Castro Valley 19529 Alana Road

What Time: Coffee & Donuts at 9:30, leave at 10:00 Why: Because we love to drive our cars!!!!

Organizers: Mike Lawrence (510)541-7418; Don Azevedo (925)301-5315





#### **BRASS AS SHINY AS GOLD**

The Nuts & Bolts Session, held at Professor Bill Brommer's home on Sunday, October the 6 th, was attended by Mark Cerruti, Norm Schwartz, Bill Cassiday, Bill Austen, Don Johnson, Donna Jones, Ed Harley and Kaaren B., all interested in brass and various restoration techniques and supplies. Coffee, juice and fresh pastries kept everyone energized – with questions about how to assemble, as well as dis-assemble, brass lamps, horns, tail lights & glass framed pieces. Bill demonstrated some torch work, hammering options, stripping choices and general "101" facts about flat brass, stock, cast and formed car parts. Keys to good soldering were discussed: the area to solder should be clean, use the correct solder, heated to the proper temp and cooled appropriately. A good display of tools used in general brass work was on the work table and different polishing wheels and grits were reviewed. The learning curve was high as there were really great questions plus samples and everyone joined in the open discussions with good current information and experiences to benefit the projects at home or in the shop. It's always helpful to know what a product will do (or not do), how to handle it safely and where to go to purchase it.

Everyone passed the Professor's flash quiz with a high grade and departed – having spent an enjoyable morning with Bill and their fellow Club members.







### HISTORY OF THE CAR RADIO

Seems like cars have always had radios, but they didn't. Here's the story:

One evening, in 1929, two
young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering
drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high
above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois,
to watch the sunset.

It was a romantic

night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car.

Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios (Lear had served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I)and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a home radio and trying to get it to work in a car. But it wasn't easy: automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy static interference,making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine

One by one, Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in

was running.

Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation.

He made a product called a "battery eliminator" a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC

current.

But as more homes were wired for electricity more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios.

Galvin needed a new product to manufacture.

When he met Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business.

Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard.

Good idea, but it didn't work -- Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.)

Galvin didn't give up.

He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention.

Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside

the convention hall and cranked up the radio so

passing conventioneers could hear it.

That idea worked -- He got enough orders to put
the radio into production.

WHAT'S IN A NAME? That first production model was called the 5T71.

Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier.

In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio

businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names - Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola were three of the

biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the *Motorola*.

But even with the name change, the radio still had problems:
When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.) In 1930

it took two men several days to put in a car radio

The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna.

These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. WHATEVER HAPPENED TO the two men who The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions.

Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of 1950s he helped change the automobile experience times, let alone during the Great Depression --Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that.

But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorolas pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B.F. Goodrich tire company

to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores. By then the price of the radio, installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running.

(The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.)

In the meantime,

Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced pushbutton tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police world's first mass-produced, affordable business Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset jet. (Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts. In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio -- The Handy-Talkie -- for the U. S. Army.

A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs in the years that followed World War II. In 1947 they came out with the first television for under \$200. In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager; in 1969 came the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon. In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturer in the world --

And it all started with the car radio.

# installed

the first radio in Paul Galvin's car? Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life.

Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators.

The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning.

Lear also continued inventing.

He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the after the eighth grade.

**Contributed by Doug Durein** 

#### **BE KIND TO THAT ANTIQUE CAR**

It has been faithfully run for years, If you were that age, you would guit and be in tears. You park it and put it away for a long time, Then expect when you get ready it will be fine. It may cough and sputter and you choke it in a rage, It's only trying to tell you, have patience at my age. Give me gas, water and oil, as I am so dry, Be patient, sitting so long, my get up has to warm up, that's why. My gas, oil, water is so cold I freeze, I can't grab a warm wrap like you, when I sneeze. Be gentle, my seat is so cold, it will crack, Give me some time and I'll hum and go right back. That old car of mine will sing a new song, And you will be riding together till dawn. Genelle Azevedo 8-20-13



# FALL-O-WEEN PUMPKIN TOUR HIGHLIGHTS (October 20, 2013) Hosted by Adria and Norman Schwartz



Cars parked in front of 406 Ward Street, Martinez
The Party Destination!



Haunted Garage harvest display



About 20 cars toured through the back roads of the Lamorinda area to Martinez



Ghosts from the past!

### **Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club**

# **Minutes of General Meeting**

### Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Officers Present: President, Fred Byl, Board Chair / Vice President, Ed Archer, Treasurer, Whitney Haist and Secretary, Mark Cerruti

President Byl called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

**Guests:** There were no guests present, but recent new members Gerald Robinson, Ed Harley and Jon Alff reintroduced themselves.

Fred Byl asked if there are any additions or corrections to the Minutes of the August General Meeting. Joyce Azevedo proposed a correction. Under "New Business," regarding the recipient of the Honor of Lifetime Membership, the recipient's name should have read "Esther Williams." Don Azevedo made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Norman Schwartz seconded the motion. The Minutes of the August General Meeting were approved, as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Whitney Haist, reported that bills have been paid and that we have "plenty of money in the bank."

**Sunshine:** Doug Durein said he had nothing to report and added "good news."

Fred Byl acknowledged several birthdays, including his own. Fred said he would turn 74 on the following day.

**Tours & Authenticity:** John Morrison reported that Antique Autos at History Park was, once again, a great success. "The weather could not have been better" said John and added that many attendees donned period clothing. Four different horseless carriage clubs participated in the event as well as many other pre-war car clubs. In addition, Ed Archer gave a talk on Rolls Royce automobiles.

Bill Brommer reported that the turnout for the Castro Valley Car Show was terrific! Bill said 5 antiques cars (of which 3 were his own) participated in the event that is traditionally dominated by hot-rods. The event organizers gave the antique cars a "prime location" and the public reception was overwhelming. Bill added that we may have picked up a new member thanks to our participation in the show.

Doug Durein reported on the Clint Darmstead tour in Brentwood. Doug explained that back in the 1960's, Clint needed new wheels for his Model T Ford, but was unable to locate a wheelwright to do the job. Clint made the wheels himself, then another set for a friend, then another set. Eventually, the part-time hobby turned into a full-time business. Doug recounted that the visit to Clint's, which included around a dozen early cars, was a great success. Doug added that Clint and his wife June were very happy to see everyone. Ed Archer, who attended the event driving his Model T sightseeing bus, missed lunch and most of the socializing, as he was busy giving rides to residents of the retirement home. Donna Jones also made it to the gathering, despite having one of the front wheels come off her Model T Ford, while on the way to Brentwood!

Don reported on the upcoming tour to Forest Home Farms in San Ramon, set for October 12<sup>th</sup>. Tourists will gather at the Rudgear Road park-n-ride at 9am, then tour to San Ramon and display their old car from 10 till 2pm at the Farm's "Horse Power to Gasoline" event. Participants should bring a picnic lunch

Adria Schwartz reported on the Halloween Tour, scheduled for October 20th. Adria invited members to join in on a scenic tour, starting at the Haist Carriage House in Orinda, and then traveling through Lamorinda to a 1920's

Haunted Garage in Martinez. Guests will encounter ghosts from the past, and lunch. Adria encouraged drivers, passengers and cars too, to come in costume!

A Holiday Tour has been scheduled for November 24<sup>th</sup> in the Fremont area, but the exact details have yet to be determined.

Tony Wollesen announced the Santa Clara Valley Horseless Carriage Club will be holding their "Spring Tour," in Woodland next year. Tony urged members to save the dates of May 15th, 16th and 17th. Tony added that he negotiated a room rate of only \$65 per night and may extended the tour to four days.

**Nuts & Bolts:** Jon Alff reported that the Nuts & Bolts he hosted at his garage in Richmond had great results. The 1913 Buick that he inherited from his father ran for the first time in over 20 years. Jon added that the group was actually able to "crank-start" the car, a feat which Jon can't recollect ever happening before.

Mike Lawrence informed the group that Bill Brommer will host the gathering on October 6<sup>th</sup>, at his garage in Castro Valley. The subject will be Brass Restoration & Repair 101.

The ignition system in Richard Green's Model T will receive some attention on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Haist Carriage House in Orinda.

Gazette Report: Muriel Lundquist offered printed copies of the Gaslight Gazette's "Second Edition," in case members failed to receive it via email. Muriel gave thanks to all that have contributed to the Gazette. Fred Byl remarked that so far this year, the Gazette has been "dynamite!" (much applause)

**New Business:** President Byl reported to the group that after making many phone calls to members, the Board Slate for 2014 still has two open positions. Fred asked if there is anyone in attendance that might be interested in serving on the Board for 2014? (a long period of silence followed)

Fred announced that the potluck dinner scheduled for October, will not be followed by an auction. The Board determined that one auction per year is plenty.

The Joint Board Meeting Dinner will be held at the Brass Door restaurant in San Ramon on November  $20^{th}$ .

Fred reminded members that the Holiday Party is scheduled for December 14th, in Piedmont. A member suggested the possibility of combining our Holiday Party with the Santa Clara Regional Group's Holiday Party. Tony Wollesen, who is very active in the Santa Clara group, explained that plans for this year's party are set-in-stone, but next year is a possibility. Eric Lundquist thinks we should consider moving the party to "The Candy Store" in Burlingame.

**Show & Tell:** Don Azevedo brought in another "whatsit." The small, spindly, looking device stumped the group. Don revealed that it's a tool for repairing flat tires.

The gathering thanked the Johnsons for providing the evening's dessert.

Don Azevedo motioned to adjourn the meeting. Joyce Azevedo seconded the motion. The meeting closed at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Cerruti, Secretary

# **Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club**

# **Minutes of Board Meeting**

### Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Members Present: Ed Archer, Don Azevedo, Fred Byl, Mark Cerruti, Mike Lawrence, Eric & Muriel Lundquist and Whitney Haist.

President Byl called the meeting to order at 7:57pm, at the Archer Residence in Hayward.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Whitney Haist reported, "bills have been paid and deposits have been made." Whitney mentioned that he received a request for reimbursement from Bill Brommer for entry fees to the Castro Valley Car Show, and wondered if he should require a receipt from the event organizers for tax purposes. A member suggested that stating in the minutes that the "Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club paid entry fees of \$125 to a car show as a donation to benefit the Eden Area Regional Occupational Program" should suffice.

Tours & Authenticity: Don Azevedo reviewed the calendar of upcoming events.

Details for the Clint Darmstead Tour to Brentwood have been settled and will occur on September 22nd.

The club has been invited to display cars at Forest Home Farm for their "Horsepower to Gasoline" event on October 12th. Participants will gather at the Rudgear park-n-ride in Walnut Creek at 9am, then head to the Farm in San Ramon, where cars will be on display from 10am to 2pm. Don thinks the event would be an excellent opportunity to buttress our 501(c)(3) tax status, by displaying our cars as an educational device for the community.

The Halloween Tour is scheduled for October 20th and will commence at the Haist Carriage House in Orinda. The Tour will make a stop at Orchard Nursery in Lafayette before arriving at the Schwartz museum in Martinez where guests will enjoy fun & games. Participants are encouraged to "dress-up."

A member reported that the Danville Rotary is looking for old cars to display during the Danville Street Faire on October 27th.

A Holiday "Mystery" Tour is tentatively scheduled for November 24th and may visit a retirement home in either Fremont or Rossmoor.

New Business: President Byl reminded members that there will be a Pot-Luck dinner during the November meeting.

Fred reported that Mike Zinser will not be able to give a presentation at the next meeting. Muriel Lundquist mentioned that she has some videos to share for the next meeting. Fred thinks that we should consider creating the position of Entertainment Director.

Fred will contact John Morrison to make sure preparations are underway for the Holiday Party, set for December 14th. Eric Lundquist thinks the Holiday Party, in its current form, is too expensive and "stale." Several members somewhat agreed but were concerned that a change would disrupt the club's most popular and traditional event. Eric is confident he can procure a reservation for the Mark Cerruti, Secretary

club's 2014 Holiday Party at "The Candy Store" in Burlingame, . . for free! Don Azevedo suggested that the Blackhawk Museum would also be a good venue. Fred said he'd contact John Morrison to discuss the ramifications of giving up our reservation at the Piedmont Community Center for a year.

**Membership Report:** Eric Lundquist reported no new members, but is still working on getting the recent new members processed. Eric said he would contact former Membership Chairman Bill Brommer and get his connection for nametags. Fred Byl proposed we start a protocol for new members. Fred complained that it is taking too long to get new members processed and integrated into the club. Don Azevedo suggested that we assign a "buddy" to new members, to answer their questions and make sure that all obligations due a new member are being fulfilled. Eric affirmed he would put together a package for new members.

Mike Lawrence attended the Castro Valley Car Show and reported that he met a potential new member. A man, who just relocated from Canada, expressed interest in joining our club. The man has several cars, including a 1914 Ford.

Gazette Report: Muriel Lundquist reported that she has deleted the Swap Meet phone number from the Gazette and will update the Archer's contact info. Muriel added that she received a report on the Castro Valley Car Show from Kaaren Brommer that will appear in the next issue.

**2014 Board Slate:** Fred Byl reported that he made phone calls to members that were nominated to serve on the next Board. All candidates replied NO! Board members discussed, at length, other possible candidates and Fred agreed to make a few more phone calls. There was concern that the Board would be unable to present a full Board of Directors slate at the November General Meeting.

Fred Byl has made reservations for the Joint Board Meeting Dinner. It will be held at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon on November 20th.

**Nuts & Bolts:** Mike Lawrence reported that Professor Brommer will host the event at his garage in Castro Valley on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Bill will give a seminar on brass repair and restoration.

Richard Green's Model T may be the subject for the November edition. Whitney Haist has offered his Carriage House in Orinda to host the gathering.

Mike Lawrence hinted that his Mitchell needs some attention and may host the group in December.

Don Azevedo reported that the Nut's & Bolts at Jon Alff's garage was a great success. The group got Jon's 1913 Buick running after it had sat for some 25 years.

The next Board Meeting was scheduled for October 16th at the Lundquist Residence in Hillsborough.

Fred Byl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Cerruti seconded the motion. The meeting closed at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

