

The KISSELKAR

EVERY INCH A CAR

Official Publication of the Kissel Kar Klub, 530 N. Main Street, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027

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This past year almost a dozen Kissels have come to our attention that we did not know of before, raising the total known survivors to over 160 cars and trucks, out of 145,000 produced. Also the number changing hands has been larger than usual; therefore, we have quite a few new members to greet. A main purpose of our Klub is to assist owners to locate parts and otherwise bring about authentic restorations. Our help is available wherever needed.

A full statement of the aims of the Klub appeared in the March-April 1961 issue of Antique Automobile magazine. Copies are still available at \$1.25 each by writing to AACA, West Derry Road, Hershey, Pa. 17033. (Mistakes in several picture captions will be obvious.) The basic policy of the Klub is to function simply and without fanfare, so as not to nibble away at interest in the big all-hobby clubs: VMCCA; AACA; HCC; and CCCA. Copies of the old October, 1955 Bulb Horn featuring Kissel are still available through the Klub at \$1.25.

To those who have completed restorations this year, our congratulations. And won't you send us a snapshot and, if possible, word of prizes won? One purpose of the Klub is to keep the Kissel name before the public, and we therefore extend thanks to the following whose cars have been pictured attractively during 1967: Gene Balcom, beautiful 1912 6-60 Semi-Touring, in the December Car Classics (in color); Charles Parker and Henry W. Reimers 1921/1922 Speedsters; J. D. Forney and Harry Kissel 1923 Speedsters. Harry's car appeared in a full-page 4-color ad of Cole of California (swimming suits). Cole has supplied us with about 20 copies which are available first come, first served. Northeast Airlines flew Mr. Forney's Gold Bug, owned until 1929 by the famous aviatrix, Amelia Earhart, to Boston, Washington, and elsewhere to publicize its "Yellowbirds" and also drove it to the dedication ceremonies of the Amelia Earhart dam in Medford, Mass. Gene Zimmerman's 1929 White Eagle Speedster, Dick Hovey's one-owner 1925 8-75 Speedster and Benny X. Goldflies' 1912 4-40 Semi-Racer all found their way into print. Benny's car in color graced ads of the Lincoln Highway Tire Co. Color postcards of it are available in some museums. *95-1139*

Everyone nearing Harrisburg on the Pennsylvania Turnpike owes it to himself to visit Gene Zimmerman's extensive museum, still in its first year in expanded form. See his two Kissel Speedsters, fellows! During the 1966 Hershey meet we had our Klub dinner at Gene's Holiday West motel, as his guests in a private dining room. We certainly owe Gene our patronage for this gesture.

It gives us great pleasure to include with the newsletter a copy of a rare Kissel Speed Truck pamphlet of 1926 and on the back cover an ad for the 1926 All Year Coupe-Roadster (Convertible Coupe), all in a recent issue of the Atlantic Advertiser. Do remove and save them. Subscription forms are enclosed, a good buy especially when reproductions like these are to be had.

The old Kissel plant is thriving now as Chrysler Outboard Corp., doubled in size. The Hartford, Wisconsin, Junior Chamber of Commerce, or "Jaycees," among whose membership are a number of the Chrysler people, dedicated a plaque in memory of the Kissel Motor Car Co. recently, with Mr. William L. Kissel on hand at the ceremonies.

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Under consideration is a second project to build a small building on park land already set aside by the City where a Kissel Gold Bug will be on public display behind glass. Further ideas for the project are being solicited by Gilbert Faulls, 520 E. Monroe, Hartford, Wisconsin 53027, who may later need some help for the Jaycees in tax-deductible contributions towards the project. He would welcome your ideas.

What do you suppose a car is like after spending 44 years or more at the bottom of Lake Michigan? We may know one day if plans of James Sawtelle, owner of the Treasure Trove, in Charlevoix, Michigan, materialize. He hopes to raise the freighter "Lakeland" which sank in 250 feet of water five miles off Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, in 1924 with a cargo of 80 Kissel and Nash cars (Charlevoix Courier October 12, 1966 via Al MacKenzie). There is a rumor to the effect that Mr. Sawtelle tried to raise the Lakeland this summer but that the ship broke in two. Another case of sunken treasure: On November 16, 1928 three 1929 White Eagle 4-passenger deluxe Toursters went down with the S. S. Ventrice which sank off the Virginia Capes en route to Buenos Aires, Argentina. Mr. Will Kissel states that these were specially fitted out with beautiful Spanish Leather upholstery and Tonneau windshields, and may otherwise have been expensively trimmed. Considered a real loss at the time.

Our Parts Registrar determined that Model 6-45's used Stromberg L.B.2 carburetors up to Engine No. 45-6094 (1923). Thereafter the O.S.2 on No. 45-6095, continuing on 6-55 models. Manifolds and heads are interchangeable on late 6-45's and early 6-55's.

Rumored that Barney's Scrapyard, in Minneapolis, has an old Kissel Kar Semi Racer. Can anyone check this out for us?

Cars Wanted: 1916-17 Kissel Kar sedan and 1928 Kissel 8-90 Speedster; also literature and early photographs of these cars--E. A. Catlett, Harrah's Automobile Collection, P. O. Box 10, Reno, Nevada 89504.

Cars For Sale: (The Klub has information on these, owners' names available without charge) 1909 Toy Tonneau Touring Car. 1915 Delivery Truck, \$1,000. 1919 or 1920 6-45 7-passenger Gilraltar Touring, 3 doors, \$3,500. 1923 6-55 Brougham, restored. 1926 8-75 Speedster, \$9,250. 1929 8-75 Brougham-Sedan, 131" w.b., good car but radiator shell and few other parts missing, has original upholstery. 1926 8-75 Brougham Sedan, 139-inch wheelbase (incomplete). 1928 8-80S Brougham-Sedan, original and runs well. 1928 6-55 Speedster, r.h. drive, located Australia (engine damaged).

Parts Wanted: Delco Remy Starter for 1926 8-75 Wallace Rank, 4200 N. Green Bay Road, Milw., Wis 53209. Diamond-shaped front and rear bumpers and spring-loaded, cast-iron brackets, original or copies for 1922 6-45 Speedster, "V" shaped stoplight and bracket, gas gauge as used 1919 to 1923, Jackson Barnhart, 1765 NW 4th Street Apt. 2, Miami, Florida, 33125, telephone 305-374-5826. 1911 Touring body or plans, 28" wheels or rims, fenders or patterns, rear spring, clutch pedal, Ben Mozetti, 40, 871 High St., Fremont, California.

Parts For Sale: For 6-45 models, emergency brake rod, floor board iron brace, universal joints front and rear, head gaskets (for 6-45 and 6-55) Barnhart; address above. Old Kissel Kar radiator \$20, Elmer Bessage, Webster, New York. Two new 1926/9 Kissel transmission top plate assemblies, Robert Futterman, 606 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, California 91104 Telephone 213-449-0901. 1927/31 Kissel distributor caps, Duane Steele, 12,442 Topaz Street, Garden Grove, California 92641, Tel. 714-897-7960.

Obituaries: Henry Coe, Cody, Wyoming. Important citizen and collector who purchased Bob Thierolf's '22 Gold Bug and died the day after selling it to H. W. Reimers.