



MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A

Happy New Year

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT THE

Bluewater Region Antique Car Club



Bluewater Region – Running Board News December 2020

To all members of Bluewater Region: I have asked each member of our present Executive to send greetings and I would like to bring you my greeting and wishes in the form of the attached short video which, in my opinion, expresses deep meaning to the year in which we have just participated, and thoughts for the Future. The Video is called Merry Christmas Train Ride and the link is below.

Please take the time to call a Bluewater Member and wish them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Many are going to be celebrating alone.

MERRY CHRISTMAS from Wayne

Contact: 519.376-6787 or whynd@sympatico.ca

Go here for Wayne's video - <https://youtu.be/jJgidl0-KeQ>





www.bluewatercarclub.com – our new website

If you have access to a computer, please check us out.

Updates on the status of events, announcements, pictures, and newsletters, etc. will be here for you.

If you do have an email, please share it with us and we will include you when we are emailing out new information. For those without email, we will continue to mail you our newsletters.

COVID-19

How are you doing? We know that most of us are still feeling the effects of self isolating and that we are now starting to move about more freely while remaining cautiously aware of our surroundings. We are reminded constantly that the best thing for everyone is to remain vigilant. And for the most part we are all doing that. The statistics are showing this. But our job is not done just yet. We still have a little way to go. If you are feeling that you would like to talk to someone, please don't hesitate to contact any one of our executive or directors. Their emails are on the home page of our website. We would love to share with you our feelings too. If you are finding you need some assistance with anything, don't hesitate to communicate that to us also. The Bluewater Region Car Club is a family, and we are here for you.

Let's continue to follow precautions, wear masks and practice our social distancing

Please stay safe, stay healthy and stay connected!

Reports from your Board Members:

It has been a challenging year both personally and for our car hobby. We did manage 3 tours



which were enjoyed by all participants. A personal challenge is being the new National Board of Directors member from Bluewater, I have "attended" the AGM and one BOD meeting, both by teleconference. Future meetings will be by ZOOM which will be a challenge by itself. Of interest to many, the new National Tour Inspector is Jody Sadler. And the winner of the annual President's Challenge was Kawartha Lakes Region with a 17% increase in membership. We are hopeful that the 2021 TTY will go

ahead, and registration forms are in the current Reflector. Wishing all of you a Blessed Christmas and New Year.

John Lockner, Vice-President

To all our members: Hoping you are all doing well in these trying times. Things have changed so much in such a short time and really make you appreciate when we lived in a pre-covid world.



The days of car shows with all our friends, enjoying the true spirit of our well being was part of everyday life. We know it's coming to an end and when it does I hope we and all those around us really appreciate each other and life a lot more.

Perhaps we all will be stronger, wiser, and willing to understand what we have around us at any given time.

The club means a lot to each of us in a different way. I have been blessed with the close friends within it. Hopefully, we will all be able to get back on track.

On behalf of Linda and myself we **WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Be Safe.

Philip Carter, Director

Report from the Secretary, Bluewater A C C C C 2020 started out normally for the Bluewater Executive, with the first meeting held on January 14. But we didn't realize that we would not meet again for 6 months, due to COVID-19 restrictions. Two more Executive meetings were held on July 14 and August 18, observing COVID-19 requirements of masks and social distancing. It quickly became apparent that the normal business of the club would be difficult, if not impossible. Events such as the touring inspection, the corn roast and even an Annual Meeting/General Election were discussed but in the end, everything had to be cancelled. The existing Executive will continue until an AGM/Election can be safely organized. Fortunately, not every club activity was cancelled. Three car tours were organized in July, August, and September (thanks to Larry and Glenna Johnston, John and Lois Lockner, Shirley and Bill Kivell and Wayne Hynd). During the warmer weather, several members met in the parking lot at McDonald's in Owen Sound on the first Saturday of the month. Despite social distancing, members could visit outside. And some members started a book and magazine exchange, to share or recycle favourite titles. Hopefully, the Executive can resume regular meetings sometime in 2021. Respectfully submitted by Susan Hoffman, Secretary Bluewater A C C C C



Christmas Greetings from Susan Hoffman, Secretary and Bob Sheppard, Director

We wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas. Although our celebrations will not be the same, we will all be together in spirit. And hopefully 2021 will mark the return of our regular car club activities. Stay well everyone!

Christmas Day by © John P. Read

Across a white December night,
Each home is filled with candle light.
The moon shines brightly in a golden sky.
Stars are twinkling way up high.

The cool, still air, a glistening frost,
Smoking chimneys on white rooftops.
The Christmas tree, the mistletoe,
Christmas carols, our loved ones at home.

Christmas is a time for merriment and cheer.
It's also a time to thank God we're here.
So when we wake on a bright Christmas morn,
Remember the reason we celebrate.
It's the day our Saviour was born.

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/christmas-day-3>

2020 Christmas Message from Murray Hall

The COVID 19 pandemic has certainly put a damper on most antique car events, but car people are resourceful and, while we are down, we are not out. Take for example the great fall tours Bluewater region had! Mary and I had fun going for evening drives in our yellow T Bird to Harrison Park to get ice cream cones and just driving around our beautiful Grey County area.

While self-isolating, what better place to be than in your man cave? It's a good time to stoke up the fire and do maintenance on your favorite set of wheels. You could also get caught up on reading your back issues of Old Autos or any other car magazines that you didn't have time to read earlier. If you felt ambitious, you could even write up a story (with pictures) about your antique vehicle and submit it to the Reflector or Old Autos as they are always looking for stories to print.



You might even do what we did and buy another antique car to divert your attention from the ongoing pandemic. Those members who were at the November breakfast at McDonalds would have seen our powder blue 1965 Thunderbird convertible. While it is away for the winter, we have been buying parts to upgrade it and even had some re-chroming done.

There are also lots of movies with antique vehicles in them that are fun to watch. Bonnie & Clyde comes to mind. When it was first released, I saw it five times. I kept checking the vehicles looking for things

that weren't period correct. Even though the movie was set in 1934, I remember seeing a truck with sealed beam headlights, which weren't standard equipment until 1940. Bored is not a word we have in our vocabulary and we hope that it's not in yours either. With a little imagination, you can always find something to do.

Merry Christmas from our house to yours! All the best for 2021! Stay healthy and stay safe!

Murray Hall

Editor's Note: This is a picture of a 65 Thunderbird Convertible – not a picture of Murray's car.





A message from Fred Parsons, Past President

A personal thank you to the present executive (and to all those who have volunteered time for tours this past year) for “staying the course” and continuing to be our “leaders” through this difficult season of Covid-19...it has been a challenge!! We join for the cars...we stay for the people!!

Hopefully some of the words of the song “Deck the Halls” will come to pass when we sing..”Fast away the old year passes..”...thinking it can’t happen too soon to allow us to once again enjoy each others’ company as we take part in events associated with the Antique and Classic car Club of Canada, Blue Water Region. Having been a member now for 47 years, we look forward to 2021 and hope and trust that all will be well.



Take care everyone ...stay safe and healthy throughout the holiday season....wishing you all a Merry Christmas and all the best in the NEW YEAR 2021...!!!

Hope to see you “down the road”.....at some pointsoon!!!

Fred and Mary Ellen Parsons

Link to song: Deck the Halls

https://youtu.be/GVr3p_3dnVM





MERRY CHRISTMAS to all
members of Bluewater Region Car
Club.

Christmases are like snowflakes:
Each one is unique.

May this holiday season be

a memorable one

Card Secretary, SHIRLEY KIVELL

Telephone: 519-371-2450

Email: shirleykivell@gmail.com

In the year 2020, I sent out twenty-four cards on behalf of the Car Club: Sympathy - 10; Thinking of You – 7; Anniversary – 1 and Special Birthdays – 6.

If you are aware of an event which you believe our Club should recognize, please reach out to me at the number above. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Membership Report – Russ Manson

Merry Christmas to all of our members. We have a strong membership and Bluewater Region makes up a large portion of the ACCCC, not just with our large numbers, but with our enthusiasm and participation in club events. Without our usual get togethers this past year, a few of us have missed the triggers that remind us that our club dues were due on October 1st. Any dues not paid by January 1st, 2021 takes you off the national mailing list for the Reflector and your membership is considered expired. If you have forgotten to pay your dues, please send them to me as soon as possible, we value your membership. Send to

Russ Manson

130 Cobble Beach Dr

Kemble, ON

N0H 1S0

Cheques payable to ACCCC Bluewater Region

Thank you.....Russ



THE CHRISTMAS GIFT

The True Spirit of Giving

It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past 10 years or so.

It all began because my husband Mike hated Christmas -- oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it--overspending...the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma--the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else. Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I reached for something special just for Mike.

The inspiration came in an unusual way. Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was wrestling at the junior level at the school he attended; and shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church. These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes.

As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford. Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. And as each of their boys got up from the mat, he swaggered around in his tatters with false bravado, a kind of street pride that couldn't acknowledge defeat. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential but losing like this could take the heart right out of them."

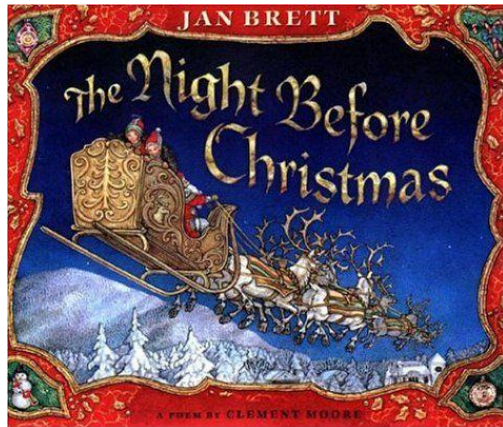
Mike loved kids--all kids--and he knew them, having coached little league football, baseball and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came. That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed the envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done and that this was his gift from me. His smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year and in succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition--one year sending a group of mentally handicapped youngsters to a hockey game, another year a check to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on.

The envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning and our children, ignoring their new toys, would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the envelope never lost its allure. The story doesn't end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree, and in the morning, it was joined by three more.

Each of our children, unbeknownst to the others, had placed an envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing around the tree with wide-eyed anticipation watching as their fathers take down the envelope. Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit, will always be with us."

- Author: Unknown

'Twas the Night Before Christmas



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ij5y9Z0d3Q8&feature=youtu.be>

s the night before Christmas, when all through the
se

a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.
stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
opes that St Nicholas soon would be there.

children were nestled all snug in their beds,
le visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.
mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

an out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
rang from the bed to see what was the matter.
y to the window I flew like a flash,
open the shutters and threw up the sash.

moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow
e the lustre of mid-day to objects below.
an, what to my wondering eyes should appear,
a miniature sleigh, and eight tinny reindeer.

1 a little old driver, so lively and quick,
ew in a moment it must be St Nick.
e rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name!

"Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! On, Cupid! on, on Donner and Blitzen!

To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!
Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky.
So up to the house-top the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of Toys, and St Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.
A bundle of Toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler, just opening his pack.

His eyes-how they twinkled! his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard of his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed, like a bowlful of jelly!

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself!
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk.
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose!

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"



1973 Airstream Safari decorated and waiting for Santa to arrive, owned by Jim & Sharon Norton

FROM THE EDITOR: It is the season to reflect and enjoy memories old and new. Hopefully, you have enjoyed the short stories and poems and articles from your Executive. Our goal was to reach out to you and share all the good reasons to celebrate all that is good at this time of the year; and share the blessings in our everyday lives.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to You and Yours..... Sharon Norton

