



THE PICCADILLY TIMES



Official Newsletter of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club Racing Region

Winter 2016



1928 Rolls-Royce Phantom I
Brewster St. Andrews
S117 RP
French Lick Resorts

Hello Racing Region Members,



Spring has sprung; or hello Mr. Winter? One day it's freezing and the next it's shorts and shirtsleeves at 65°F! A body hardly knows what to do!!!

Old Man Winter sure did play a nasty trick on us. I'm so sorry we had to cancel the Christmas Party. I was looking forward to seeing everyone. But when I turned on the news and heard 1000 cars were stranded on I-465 around Indianapolis, I had to cancel. I do hope everyone had a happy holiday season in spite of Old Man Winter. Maybe we should have our Christmas Party in July?

The RROC Annual Meet Committee had a meeting at French Lick in January. RROC president Al Briseño attended as well as the French Lick department heads. Plans are moving along. If you have any questions call Michael Ozment. Don't forget to send your registration to RROC headquarters and make your reservations at French Lick. Remember, WE are the hosts and hostesses with the MOSTEST!!!

That's all for now. It's 63°F and the yard is calling. Sharon and I cannot attend the French Lick regional meet in March. Hope YOU have a great time! So, until we meet in June have a great spring and take that PMC for a drive.

Happy Motoring,

John B. Rich
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March 17-19, 2017	Sir Henry's Birthday Party West Baden Spings Resort French Lick, IN	Michael Ozment and Marlyn Coomes (See Page 8)
June 18 - 24, 2017	RROC Annual Meet French Lick Springs Resort French Lick, IN	RROC Headquarters Michael Ozment and Marlyn Coomes
August 11- 18, 2018	RROC Annual Meet Lake Tahoe, CA	RROC Headquarters



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story by Dennis Eickhoff

Our Racing Region Fall Fling transpired at West Baden Springs Hotel October 14-16, on a beautiful autumn weekend. The excitement began to build early Friday afternoon at the hotel check-in with the standard room jockeying to pacify all attendees. As usual Michael Ozment was right on top of the situation creating silk from a sow's ear. After the opening activity concluded we drove a short distance to a surprising facility, the Wilstem Ranch, located between French Lick and Paoli. We experience the Elephant Retreat which included a one-hour educational seminar and up close and personal introductions to three middle-aged African lady pachyderms that were vacationing there. What a treat! These are magnificent, amenable animals. One data snippet: the elephant society is managed by the female gender.



After returning to West Baden Springs Resort we all assembled in the magnificent rotunda for shared adult beverages and conversation. Our group swelled to 15 as we prepared for chauffeured delivery to the German Café Restaurant in the town of French Lick where



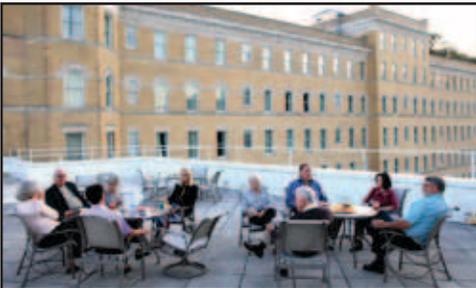
we had a fun evening, beer and good food, lots of it. We concluded the day in the West Baden Springs rotunda as the evening quietly melted into slumber as we individually ran



out of gas.

Saturday ushered in another gorgeous day with a casual breakfast in the hotel as we prepared for our driving tour through southern Indiana. This PMC caravan was led by Alan Beck driving the recently debuted French Lick Resort owned and restored 1928 RR Phantom I. We enjoyed a scenic drive as we headed south toward Leavenworth, IN incorporating a near miss of Corydon the original state capital of Indiana. We arrived at our intended destination, The Overlook Restaurant, which delivers tasty comfort food and great-elevated views of the Ohio River.

The conversation was engaging and the scene was delightful except when our photographer managed to trip a waitress during a group photo-op. The restaurant is not a secret destination since it is quite large with indoor and outdoor seating and many happy patrons.



At our leisure we returned to West Baden Springs to prepare for dinner at **1875: The Steakhouse** in the French Lick Springs Resort. [Ed.: It may appropriate to have a Food Truck included in our future caravans so that we have absolutely no moments of food deprivation on these travel days.] After hors d'oeuvres, courtesy of the John and Sharon Rich, we adjourned to **1875**. The steakhouse lived up to expectations: dark interior, linens, china, fastidious seasoned male waiters, snooty atmosphere, good food

and drink, and exquisite dinner companions. On our return to West Baden Springs we gathered at our leisure in the Presidential Suite for perusal and more sustenance. Some of our group was ensconced in this "room". In the event you are curious, this Suite is magnificent, but more that most of us would expect from a hotel room or, in fact, from our homes. If you missed this whole adventure, join us in the future. You can never be quite sure what you will encounter during a Racing Region meet.



Members participating in this meet were: Rick and Judy Bennett; Michael Ozment and Will Skaggs; Marlyn Coomes; Bob and Jean Brooks; Dennis and Janice Eickhoff; Jack and Linda Clarkson; Alan and Pam Beck; and John and Sharon Rich.

Step Back in Time

66TH ANNUAL MEET



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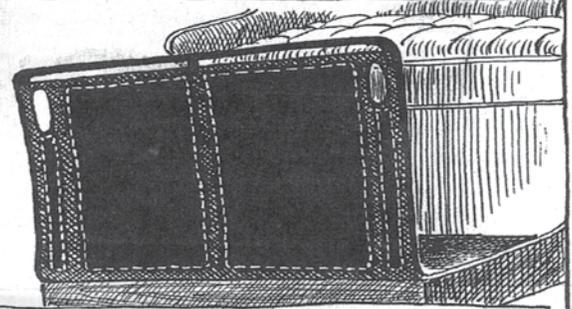
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~ ~ ~ *The Piccadilly Times* ~ ~ ~

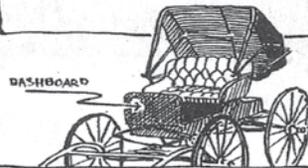
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THE ORIGINAL **DASHBOARD** THE DIRECT ANCESTOR OF THE DASHBOARD OR "DASH" WITH ITS INSTRUMENT PANEL IN OUR MODERN CARS WAS THIS PANEL OF WOOD OR REINFORCED LEATHER (AS SHOWN HERE). IT KEPT THE DRIVER AND PASSENGERS FROM GETTING SPLATTERED FROM THE MUDDY HOVES OF A TROTTING HORSE... IT COULD HAVE BEEN CALLED A **SPLASHBOARD** OR **MUDSHIELD***



*... BUT WOULDN'T THAT HAVE SOUNDED FUNNY AS A PART OF A CAR OR AIRPLANE ?!

So far this 2016-17 season, INDY's winter officially began on December 17, 2016 and ended on December 19, 2016. It was severe enough to cause the cancellation of the Racing Region's scheduled annual Christmas meet. Any impact beyond that has been truly marginal. Thus a joyous and productive 2017 (New Years') wish for all!

We're having a Party! To Celebrate Sir Henry's Birthday

When: March 17 – 19, 2017

Where: West Baden Springs Resort, French Lick, IN

Please join us to celebrate Sir Henry's birthday and help in the final planning of the RROC Annual Meet which the Racing Region is hosting in June!

AGENDA:

Friday Night – Dinner at Sinclair's Restaurant

Saturday Afternoon at 2:00PM – meeting to firm up details for the Annual Meet (will be held in one of the meeting rooms at West Baden Springs)

Saturday Night – Dinner at 1875: The Steakhouse

A block of rooms has been reserved at West Baden resort for Racing Region members.

All rooms at West Baden are balcony-king rooms for \$185.00 a night.

Please call 888-936-9360 to make your reservations, using Code 0317RRO by **March 1st**.

To ensure we have reservations for everyone at the restaurants RSVP by **March 13th** to:

Michael: by e-mail at max2n10@aol.com or call/text (812) 989-2512

Marlyn: by e-mail at marlyncoomes@gmail.com or call/text to (812) 989-8094

If you cannot attend please contact either Michael or Marlyn to let them know what activities you wish to volunteer to help with.....registration, information desk, host or hostess for various activities (collecting tickets) are a few of the areas we will need assistance with.

NOT ALL GASOLINE CREATED EQUAL



Do you think, gasoline is just gasoline despite the plethora of advertising we have endured and survived over the decades? Well, that probably is not as accurate as it may sound. Only about 1/3 of the gasoline sold in the USA is “TOP TIER” licensed. You are encouraged to read the article and the references at the following URL:

<http://newsroom.aaa.com/2016/07/aaa-not-gasoline-created-equal/>

[Gasoline retailers selling the licensed brands listed right must meet the high standards of TOP TIER™ Detergent Gasoline.

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Updated 02/19/2017]A

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PUBLICITY OF GENERAL INTEREST:

The Wall Street Journal - December 21, 2016

Did you see the “MY RIDE” LIFE & ARTS article titled: “One 95-Year-Old Rolls-Royce Deserves Another”? The article with photography introduced Carole and Doug Gates of Poway, CA (San Diego County) and their dual 1921 Silver Ghosts. Doug is photographer for the RROC. Carole and Doug are active members of the San Diego Region, long time acquaintances of the Eickhoffs who lived in San Diego for several decades, and they cover many RROC events.



The Piccadilly Times
Dennis Eickhoff, Editor
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Winter 2016 Newsletter: Rolls-Royce Owners' Club - Racing Region



French Lick Resort's 1928 Rolls-Royce Phantom I Brewster St. Andrews S117 RP

Manufactured in Springfield, MA with coach work done by Brewster & Co. of Long Island City, NY - "Carriage Builder for the American Gentleman". Originally purchased in 1928 by Tom Taggart of French Lick, IN for

\$18,500. The motorcar was driven from New York to French Lick by William "Bill" Bird, Larry Bird's great uncle. Mr. Taggart died one year after acquisition of the Phantom I. Eventually the car came under the control of the American Legion and was used in local events until 1995 when repairs were required. People who are known to have ridden in this motorcar: Franklin Roosevelt, Joe Kennedy, Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Hopalong Cassidy. Under a 2010 arrangement with French Lick Resort and Mr. Carl Cook, owner of the resort, the car was completely restored and reintroduced in 2016 by French Lick Resort.