

The Hyphens

A Newsletter for E-M-F, Flanders
and Everitt Owners Everywhere



Volume 22, Issue 2 September 2024
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Editor's Column

As the days grow shorter and the nights cooler, the summer season is rapidly drawing to a close. It seems like just yesterday we were basking in the warm sunshine, enjoying leisurely drives in our classic cars. Now, as the leaves begin to change and the first hints of winter weather creep in, it's time to start thinking about putting our beloved automobiles away for the season. But keep in mind, with mild temperatures and scenic backroads, fall is an ideal season for cruising and enjoying the open road. So, dust off your vintage ride, top off the tank, and take advantage of the beautiful autumn weather before the snow starts to fall.

I'm still actively seeking individuals who would be interested in contributing some of their precious time to the E-M-F Registry. Perhaps you've given it some thought and have new ideas that you believe might not be accepted? Or maybe you're interested in some of my current responsibilities but hesitate to ask? Please don't hesitate to reach out and share your thoughts. I'm open to new ideas and would love to discuss them with you.

I have received the following donations since the last issue to help to fund this newsletter and the E-M-F Homepage website:

- Bob Hargraves
- Tom Ruggles

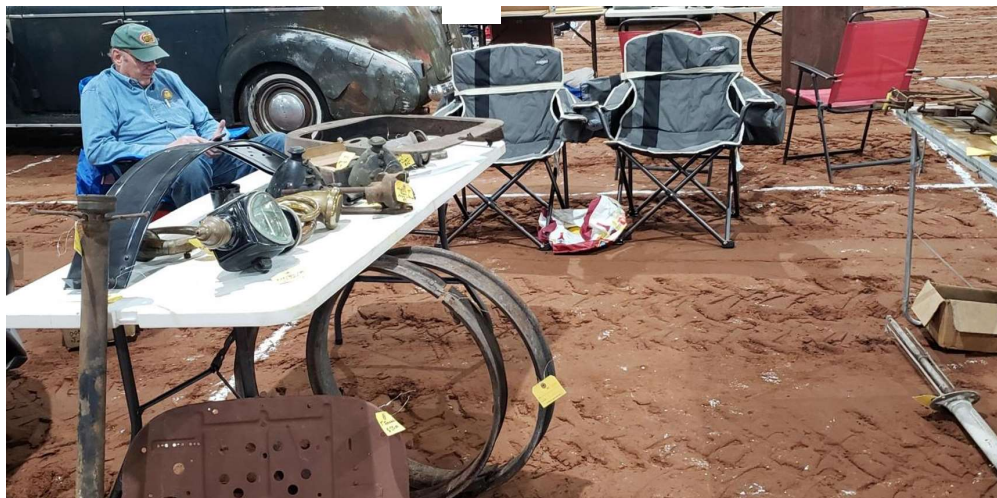
There will be a time for a gathering at Hershey for E-M-F Registry members as we have in past years. This will not be a meeting, more of just a gathering time for fellowship. I wish I could be there. Perhaps next year.

Happy Motoring!!!

John M. Daly

Don't Forget

Hershey E-M-F Registry
Gathering. Wed 10/09 @ 4:00
PM Hershey time. Jim
Gorel's spaces CI 73-75



John Daly's swap spot at the final Chickasha Swap meet, March 2024. Bob Hargraves is shown, probably adding up all the money he made from his spot right next to me.

The Fading Echoes of Swap Meets: A Requiem for the Old Car Parts Era

By John Daly and Gemini AI

The rumble of engines, the haggling of prices, the thrill of the hunt – these were once the defining sounds and sights of the classic car swap meet. A cultural institution for generations of automotive enthusiasts, these gatherings were more than just places to buy and sell parts; they were communal spaces where friendships were forged, knowledge was shared, and a deep-seated love for automobiles was nurtured. However, in recent years, the once-vibrant swap meet scene has been experiencing a gradual decline, leaving many to wonder about the reasons behind its fading appeal.

The Chickasha Swap Meet

As I am sure many of you have heard, the Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet has sadly come to an end. This iconic event, cherished by vintage car enthusiasts worldwide, will no longer be held. The loss of this gathering is a significant blow to the classic car community, as it provided a unique opportunity for collectors and hobbyists to connect, share their passion, and find hard-to-source parts.

I, along with countless others, will deeply miss the camaraderie and excitement that this event brought. The opportunity to meet fellow owners of E-M-F related vehicles, discuss restoration projects, and exchange tips and tricks was invaluable. The thrill of searching through countless vendor booths for that elusive part or rare accessory was an experience that is getting rarer and rarer in this internet age.

As I have thought about the end of this event, I have to wonder about the very future of the swap meet, and especially ones that cater to the brass era automobile enthusiasts.

The Rise of Online Marketplaces

Perhaps the most significant factor contributing to the decline of swap meets is the rise of online marketplaces. Platforms like eBay, Craigslist, and specialized automotive forums have made it easier than ever for buyers and sellers to connect. With just a few clicks, enthusiasts can browse through a vast inventory of parts, compare prices, and even arrange shipping. While online shopping offers convenience and a wider selection, it lacks the personal touch and the unique atmosphere that swap meets provide.

Changing Demographics

The aging of the classic car enthusiast population is another factor influencing the decline of swap meets. As the original owners of classic cars reach retirement age, many are choosing to sell their vehicles rather than restore them. This has led to a decrease in the demand for parts, which has, in turn, made it less profitable for vendors to participate in swap meets. Additionally, younger generations may be less inclined to attend swap meets due to their preference for digital experiences and their familiarity with online shopping.

The Growing Popularity of Restoration Shops

The increasing popularity of professional restoration shops has also contributed to the decline of swap meets. Many enthusiasts who once relied on swap meets to source parts for their projects are now turning to specialized shops that offer a wider range of services, including sourcing parts, restoration, and customization. While these shops can be expensive, they offer a level of convenience and expertise that is difficult to match at a swap meet.

*Swap Meets
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Swap Meets

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The Impact of the Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the swap meet industry. Many events were canceled or postponed, and even those that went ahead were attended by fewer people due to social distancing measures and concerns about health and safety. While the pandemic has gradually eased, its effects on the swap meet scene may be felt for years to come.

To be honest, I was surprised when the Chickasha swap meet resumed after the COVID-19 pandemic. With the decline in both vendors and attendees I had witnessed in the years prior to the pandemic, I did not expect it to return. I was most definitely glad when it did return, even though the decline noticed before the pandemic was even greater afterwards.

The Enduring Appeal of Swap Meets

Despite the challenges it faces, the classic car swap meet continues to hold a special place in the hearts of many enthusiasts. There is something undeniably magical about browsing through rows of vintage parts, haggling with friendly vendors, and connecting with like-minded individuals who share a passion for automotive history. While online marketplaces may offer convenience and efficiency, they cannot replicate the unique experience of attending a swap meet.

As the automotive landscape continues to evolve, it is likely that swap meets will adapt and evolve as well. While their prominence may have diminished in recent years, there is still a place for these gatherings in the hearts and minds of classic car enthusiasts. Whether it is the thrill of the hunt, the camaraderie of the community, or simply the nostalgia of a bygone era, the swap meet experience remains a cherished tradition that is sure to endure for generations to come.

A Community of Enthusiasts

Old car parts swap meets have been a haven for automotive enthusiasts. Here, you could always find people who share the love of classic cars and are eager to share their knowledge and experiences. From seasoned mechanics to passionate collectors, the swap meet has been a place to connect with like-minded individuals. Engaging in conversations with other attendees can lead to valuable insights, tips, and even lifelong friendships.

The Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet has been a highlight of my year for a long time, and I will miss it. There's something truly magical about wandering through the rows of classic cars, parts, and memorabilia. It's a place where time seems to stand still, and the passion for vintage automobiles is palpable. Over the years, I've formed lifelong friendships with fellow enthusiasts, like Tom Ruggles, Bob Hargraves, and Bob Troendly, who are always a joy to catch up with. It's also been a thrill to reconnect with other members

of the E-M-F Registry, sharing stories and experiences about our beloved classic cars.

One of my most memorable moments at Chickasha was when I unexpectedly ran into Forest Green, the former owner of my 1920 Ford Model T "Centerdoor" Sedan. It was like seeing an old friend. We spent time reminiscing about the car's history, the adventures he had with it, and the little quirks and details that only he knew. It was a truly special experience that I'll never forget. The Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet was more than just an event; it was community of passionate people who share a love for automotive history.

In Conclusion

Supporting those swap meets which remain, such as the Fall Hershey AACA Meet and the Mid-Atlantic Pre-War Swap Meet in Luray, VA, is a crucial step in preserving the vibrant culture of swap meets. These events offer unique opportunities to connect with fellow enthusiasts, discover hidden treasures, and contribute to the ongoing preservation of automotive history. By attending and participating in these events, we can ensure that swap meets remain a thriving part of our automotive heritage for generations to come.

NOTE: Swap meet pictures include come from my own camera, some from an article by Willy Vinton of the Fountainhead Museum, and some from PreWar.com's collection of 2021 Hershey pictures.



E-M-F Owners at the 2024 Old Threshers Reunion.

By John Daly

I have attended the Old Threshers Reunion in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, every Labor Day weekend of my life, with 2024 marking my 59th reunion. My father was one of the original exhibitors of antique automobiles at the show and a founding member of the Southeast Iowa Antique Car Club (SIACC), formed by enthusiasts who shared his passion for vintage vehicles. The Old Threshers Reunion is a nostalgic journey back in time, filled with the sights, sounds, and smells of a bygone era.

Though the club members cars make up most of the automobiles on display, you do not have to be a club member to show a car. One of the highlights of the 2024 event was the presence of Joe and Betty Swan's 1912 E-M-F 5-Passenger touring car. This beautiful automobile, meticulously restored to its original glory, was a testament to the Swans' passion for vintage vehicles.

It was Joe and Betty's first time showing a car at Old Threshers. Their excitement was palpable as they showcased their E-M-F, sharing stories about the restoration and their adventures circumnavigating the US in the E-M-F.

Joe had attended Old Threshers in the 1990s and had always dreamed of returning. When 2024 seemed like the perfect year, Joe contacted Old Threshers about the possibility of displaying a car at the show and ended up speaking with a friend of mine in the car club, Bob Gerdes, who oversees the antique car and truck area. When Joe mentioned that he was hoping to bring his E-M-F, Bob informed him that there was an E-M-F in our club. Bob mentioned my name and asked if Joe knew me. Joe responded positively and reached out to me shortly afterward.

It was wonderful to reconnect with the Swans and catch up. I was excited to see an E-M-F on display, though I had always anticipated that mine would be the first. I guess there's still a chance for mine to be the first Demi Tonneau at the show! As we talked, their enthusiasm for their car was contagious, and it inspired me to get back to work on my own 1912 E-M-F Demi Tonneau restoration project. Witnessing the Swans' dedication and the beauty of their vehicle reignited my passion for vintage automobiles.

One of the most unexpected moments of the reunion occurred when I encountered Bob Troendly, another E-M-F owner from Colorado. Bob was attending Old Threshers for the first time and had no idea I would be there. Bob inquired at our club's area about the requirements for displaying a car and mentioned his E-M-F. Once again, my name came up. We were both surprised and delighted to see each other. We had a great time catching up and sharing stories about our

respective E-M-Fs. Perhaps Bob will join us with his E-M-F at a future reunion?

The unexpected meeting with Bob was a testament to the unique and welcoming community of vintage car enthusiasts. It was a reminder that even in the digital age, there is still a place for face-to-face connections and shared passions.

If you're seeking a fun-filled Labor Day weekend activity, consider attending the Old Threshers Reunion in Mount Pleasant, Iowa. The show offers a diverse array of attractions, including vintage vehicles, steam traction engines, gas engines and tractors, a narrow-gauge steam and diesel railroad, and an electric trolley line. If you're passionate about vintage equipment, the Old Threshers Reunion is must-see. And if you do attend, please stop by the basement of the Antique Car building to say hello. I'd love to chat about cars and catch up.

You can learn more about the Old Threshers Reunion at <https://www.oldthreshers.org/reunion>



Joe and Betty Swan's 1912 E-M-F 5-Passenger Touring on display in the cool of the basement of the antique car building at the Old Threshers Reunion in Mr. Pleasant, IA over the Labor Day weekend.

President's Message

By John Daly,
Not the E-M-F Registry President

Position Vacant.

Would you consider working with me to continue the E-M-F Registry into the future? Your thoughts could appear in this column!

There is a need for someone to fill the position of President and Vice-President to help with the guidance of the E-M-F Registry.

In this election season, this is not a presidential race which you will have to debate anyone, be hounded by the media, or even have to put up signs in people's yard.

Please reach out to me if you are interested.

Where Should the E-M-F Registry Go In The Future

By John Daly

As I've been working to finalize this issue, a question has troubled me: what is the path forward for the E-M-F Registry? With Daryl Kemerer and Floyd Jaenhert stepping down from leadership positions, and the difficulty finding replacements, I wonder where to go from here.

This Registry wouldn't exist without Daryl's vision and years of hard work. I want to see it continue, but I also recognize I can't do it alone. So, what's the solution?

Since 2004, we've held tours on even-numbered years. These tours have been a fantastic way to build camaraderie among registry members. However, since COVID stopped the 2020 tour, generating interest in future tours has been difficult. While I've enjoyed them, even I've struggled to participate due to rising costs and time constraints. Perhaps others face similar challenges. Is there still interest in registry tours, or are other tours fulfilling that need?

The meetings we held at the Hershey and Chickasha swap meets are another concern. With Chickasha ending, that gathering opportunity is gone. I will miss seeing these friends, and I value getting together, talking, or even grabbing a post-meeting dinner. Do others find these meetings valuable? If so, should we consider replacing the Chickasha meeting with one at another show? Or perhaps just stick with a yearly Hershey meeting?

Even the usefulness of our bi-yearly newsletter, "The Hyphens," has been on my mind. When I started it over 20 years ago, it was intended to be a unifying force for the registry. I believe it has been successful in that regard. However, I'll be honest – I've struggled to come up with article topics for years. Is there still a need for such a newsletter? I think so, but I could definitely use some ideas or even better, some volunteers to write articles. If you're interested, please let me know! I'd be happy to work with you.

I firmly believe the E-M-F Registry remains an asset to the E-M-F, Flanders, and

Everitt owner community. I'm committed to its future but could sure use some help.

If you'd like to work with me to guide the E-M-F Registry forward, please reach out. You can email me at John_Daly@EMFAuto.org or call me at **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**. You can also text this number, but please identify yourself to avoid spammers. I'd love to hear your opinions and ideas.

This is a fantastic hobby, and the camaraderie is just as important, if not more important, than the cars themselves. I hope the E-M-F Registry can continue to be a tool for bringing people together for years to come.

Perhaps it's time to start planning for the 150th E-M-F birthday!?!



A Thought to Ponder

A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

"The Hyphens" is the official publication of the "E-M-F Registry" – an affiliated registry of the **Horseless Carriage Club of America**. There are no membership dues at this time.

Donations are accepted to help with the cost of the newsletter and Website.

President: **Person Needed for this position!!!**

Vice President: **Person Needed for this position!!!**

Main Contact/Newsletter Editor/Webmaster/Secretary/Treasurer: **John M. Daly** - **CONTACT INFO REMOVED** - Visit us online at <http://EMFAuto.org>

E-M-F Parts Wanted

I would like to find a **restore-able hood appropriate for a 1912 E-M-F**. I am not sure if they are different than other years. I assume the hoods on the Demi-Tonneau are the same as a 5-Passenger touring or Roadster. I do not see a different part listed in the parts manual. Please let me know if you have a spare laying around you would be willing to part with.

John Daly – **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

EMF steering box and pitman arm and EMF cylinder jugs. Will take partial or complete engine or chassis.

Michael Germane - **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

E-M-F Parts For Sale

Two **EMF carburetors** for sale. Less complete one \$175, more complete \$375. Happy to answer any questions. **Layden Butler** **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

Pair of **E&J Model 577 Headlights** with E-M-F Tags. **Bob Hargraves**, **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

E-M-F Services

Metal spinning's one inch to 96 inch's, all metals for early cars. Brass lights and other parts. Call me to discuss your needs! **Larry Gibson** **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

Upcoming E-M-F "30" Events

October 9th, 2024 4:00 PM Hershey Time - E-M-F Registry Owners Gathering at 2024 Hershey AACA Fall Meet – at Jim Gorel's spaces CI 73-75. If you are going to Hershey, please plan on attending. **For more information contact: John Daly** **CONTACT INFO REMOVED**

NOTE: If you have received this issue via US mail, and have an email address, can you please send me an email at John_Daly@EMFAuto.org so I can save some money and start delivering *The Hyphens* by email?