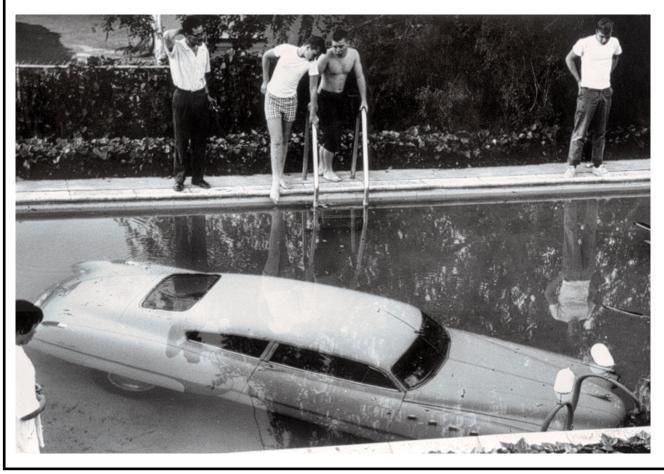


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## **Almost Time to Open the Pool**



# 2020 Davy Crockett Car Show Canceled

### **Next Meeting: Canceled**

We will be canceling our evening meetings till the Kung Flu Virus is under control and meeting restrictions have been lifted

#### **Editor's Comments**

Thanks to Bev for continuing to share Dave's Stories.

This is your newsletter, contribute

Jim Bollman < Jim@Bollman.com> - 315-589-8815 217 Chinquapin Ln, Jonesborough, TN 37659

#### Cars & Coffee - Canceled

We are cancelling Cars & Coffee till restaurants get back to normal. Stay safe.



#### **Birthday & Anniversary**

#### **Happy Birthday To:**

May 5 Rosa Lingo

12 Dave Simmering

27 Dan Richardson

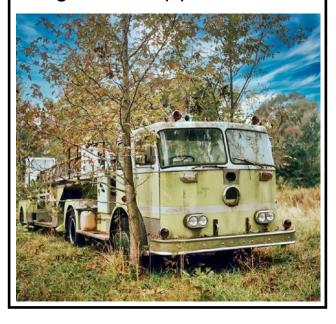
28 Lisa Thielfoldt

#### Happy Anniversary To:

May 8 Bob & Mary Noel

13 Gary & Lisa Thielfoldt

#### **Neglected Car (?) of the Month**



#### Remember When



#### **Great Truths That Little Children Have Learned:**

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats..
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always Catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food...
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair..
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandma's lap.

#### My Life With Cars

by Dave Selmeski

#### Part 11 - Back to School

I went back to school in the 49 Lincoln but was itching to get something else (this has remained a problem all my life). Before I left for school, I saw a very pretty 1955 Lincoln Capri 2 door hardtop, pastel green with a white top and interior, at a local gas station, with a for sale sign on it. The



speedometer read 19,000 miles. The car was immaculate both inside and out and was owned by an elderly woman. The price seemed reasonable, and I asked my Dad to check it out and buy it for me (I had to leave for school) if he thought it was legitimate miles. You should understand that both my dad and I were very knowledgeable about cars. This car was super clean, seemed to

run well and had real class. Of course he would end up buying it on my behalf (with my money, of course, as soon as I sold my '49 Lincoln), and he detailed the car and put a couple of tires on it so that I could drive it back to school after Thanksgiving break.

As usual I came back for Thanksgiving that year with four other paying rides, in my 49 Lincoln. I was very excited to return with my sexy new car and when it was time I picked up my riders in the '55. We headed off to school. The route took us across New Jersey and Pennsylvania on route 78. A few miles before crossing from NJ to PA in Easton, there was a long & steep hill to climb on 78. It was about 9:00 at night when we were halfway up the hill that the engine began to make strange noises. I backed off and slowed



down but that didn't seem to help any. Near the top there was a loud bang, then a second one, and the car began filling with smoke. It stayed running but we had to open the windows to keep from choking to death. The road was downhill all the way to Easton so we coasted most of the way. I decided to drop my passengers at the Trailway bus station and buy tickets for everyone to get them back safely, while I tried to get the still running car back to school. One rider volunteered to stay with me. There was a Pep Boys auto parts store nearby so I stopped to check the oil hoping the car would restart. There was almost no oil left in the engine, which would never allow us to try to return. I bought the cheapest, recycled oil-5gallons worth, to keep dumping in the motor as it kept being blown out of the engine.

While my passengers waited for a bus with their luggage, my volunteer and I started off to school. We had all the windows wide open, the 2 heaters in the car going full blast and trailing plumes of oil smoke.

**Cont Page 4** 

I had to stop very 1/2 hour to add oil to the motor. The oil pressure would start dropping indicating the need for more. By the time we made it to school, we both had bad headaches & were nauseous and had used up almost all of the 5 gal can of recycled oil. I'm sure most of it went out the rear pipes.

I brought the car to a recommended local shop. Upon inspecting the motor, they discovered I had blown holes in the tops of 2 pistons which just sucked up the oil and blew it out the back end.

Oh, just to add to the story, my volunteer & I made it back running on 6 sick cylinders before the



first bus arrived for my riders.

The car was too nice, so I had to fix it. A rebuilding of the motor was out of the question-too expensive. A search was begun of all the local salvage years to find a Lincoln engine. I finally located one about 25 miles away, but they wouldn't deliver. The motor's price was a lot less if I took it out, so that's what I wound up doing. The fraternity's president lent me his Studebaker Lark sedan so I proceeded to remove the motor with the help of the salvage yard's tow truck. After lifting it out they said I could not deliver it with their truck to my

mechanic, so I had to get creative. I removed the trunk lid from Don's car, and placed it in the back seat. Then I went thru lots of scrap cars and got rubber mats to put in the Studebaker's trunk to protect it. I lowered the engine into the trunk and sat it on a dismounted tire, then placed other scrap dismounted tires all around to keep it from falling over and denting the car. The 1957 Lincoln engine I was able to buy was actually a larger displacement engine with a better carburetor. The mechanic shop did the engine swap for me and a week later I was back on the road. With the new engine that car averaged 17 MPG, a jump of 3-4 MPG over the old (and very worn out engine). Apparently my 19,000 mile car that was so clean was actually a 119,000 mile car, That was one of the few times that either my dad or I were fooled.

One of the reasons I was drawn to my fraternity (Phi Mu Delta  $(\Phi M\Delta)$ ) was that they had a fraternity hearse. It was a 1948 Pontiac straight 8 and was used for parades, and more importantly, a make out room parked outside the the fraternity house. We had a sign up sheet every weekend, so that you could reserve a 1/2 hour slot for you & your date to have some privacy. It was the envy of all the other fraternities, I always wondered why the idea wasn't copied.



By my senior year the hearse was getting tired mechanically. It was no longer used for parades, because it overheated and was unreliable. Since I was the most prolific car guy in the house (the



most variety of cars), I was appointed to find us a replacement hearse for the house. I knew just where to look as there was a used hearse/ambulance dealer I'd found outside Williamsport PA. So the next Saturday off I went to Spitler S&S Sales. I perused all the inventory and decided the Best Buy for the fraternity as a black 1950 Cadillac. I made the deal for that and drove it back on a temporary tag. The 48 Pontiac wound up being scrapped. Someone drove me back to pick up my car and I spotted another nice hearse, slightly more expensive. It was a 1949 Cadillac,

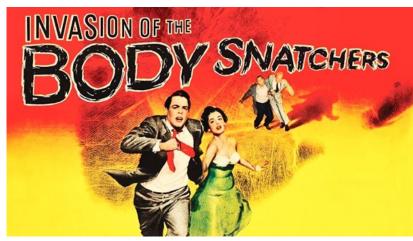
silver, standard shift with a maroon velvet interior and low mileage.

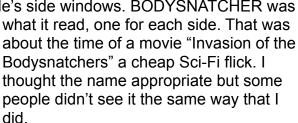
I fell in love with that hearse, put a deposit on it, and put my Lincoln up for sale. A Penn State professor bought the Lincoln, which was in approaching need of a complete new exhaust system, yielded enough money to pay for the hearse which I bought the following weekend. It proved to be a great vehicle.

The hearse soon became fitted out with cushions in the rear and was used for dates and traveling, as well as camping. When I brought it home at the end of the school year and parked it in the driveway, the neighbors all began calling to see if everyone was all right.

Before too long I had made a window sign just

like a professional funeral parlor would have on their vehicle's side windows. BODYSNATCHER was





I travelled all over in that hearse that summer. I even bought a Suzuki motorcycle that I would just fit inside the rear coffin compartment. More on that later. While at the Jersey shore one weekend, a young doctor approached me and offered to buy my hearse. I inquired

why would a doctor want a hearse? He said that he had a strange sense of humor and wanted to make some house calls in the hearse! The offer was too good to refuse and I knew that I could always find another hearse (I had really grown to like them and their practicality). So the hearse went away.

Part 12 - Coming Soon - Misc After School Car Ramblings

#### City Garage Car Museum

210 South Main Street Greeneville, TN 37743 (423) 470-0841 (423) 638-6971/639-3217



info@citygaragecarmuseum.com Open Wednesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Optional Scheduling on Request and Special Events

#### Vehicles & Related Items For Sale

Model A & T Fords & Parts For Sale, Call Mike 423-743-5085

Ads will appear in one issue unless the editor is contacted to run again - <a href="mailto:jim@Bollman.com">jim@Bollman.com</a>

# His Crosley Car sales <u>earned</u> a second, exclusive dealership!

When Wade H. Thornton wrote Powel Crosley, Jr., in 1946, he had been operating his own dealership for another make of car for 10 years. With a total of 20 years of experience in the automobile business, he quickly recognized the sales and profit potentials of the Crosley Car. He received his Crosley franchise in August, 1946. In about a year, his volume on Crosley Car sales and service justified an exclusive Crosley dealership. Meanwhile, he maintained his older dealership and today is one of Nashville's leaders.



WADE H. THORNTON

#### **Tennessee Crosley Dealer**

This was the Crosley Dealership in Nashville on University.

The only local Crosley Dealers I know of were in Jonesborough, Kingsport and Knoxville.

Anyone know of others in East TN?



THORNTON'S UNIVERSITY MOTORS HANDLES CROSLEY CARS EXCLUSIVELY

Date	Upcoming Event	More Info
06/06	Big Bubba's Fun Run - Open Show - Free Registration Mosheim School, 297 West School St, Mosheim TN	More Info Bubba - 423-231-6471 FREE, T-shirts & dash plaques first 200
06/12-13	Spring Charlotte AutoFair and Spring AACA National Meet April 2-4 - http://www.charlotte-autofair.com/	\$11/day flea market - National AACA show on Saturday free spectator admission
Bold Print is Davy Crockett Regional Event		