# The RUNNING BOARD

# August 2023



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2023 OFFICERS

President Casey Cawthon President Elect Bill Barr

Secretary Barbara Arrington Treasurer Yvette Hudson

#### **Note from the President (elect)**

Sunday, the 23rd, turned out to be a great afternoon for us! There was a great turnout for the meeting, and I am told that as many as 18 cars were present at the anniversary party! That is a great showing for us! What would be nice is if we were able to get a new member or two out of that exposure! There are plenty of activities upcoming for the month of August. Make sure you check the list that will be published in this issue of the Running Board. Start thinking about nomination for the board for 2024. Nominations will be upon us soon. We will need two board members and a President Elect. Help us keep the club running. September 14, 15 and 16 is the next Swap Meet & Car Show! Please get involved and help us make it great! This year is our 50th Anniversary, so we will all need to pitch in and make it happen! Barabara Arrington is heading that effort, so if you have ideas, let her know! Have a great month - Casey will be back next month after his long bike ride through Iowa!

#### **Mark Your Calendars!**

Monthly meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at the "**The Landmark**" 2920 Lee Street The next meeting will be on August 27th,2023.

The Board will meet at 2:00 PM followed by the membership at 3:00 PM.

**Upcoming Club Activities** 

August 1st 6PM (?) Club Night Out @ Glen Murphy's

September 11<sup>th</sup> Stake out for swap meet. 10AM @ fairgrounds. (Volunteers needed)

September 14-16 Swap Meet

Volunteers are needed for parking and parts haulers.

#### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**

The next newsletter deadline is the first of the month, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

Any member can be a reporter. If you have a story you would like to submit

Please contact Russell Gray <a href="mailto:rgray@geusnet.com">rgray@geusnet.com</a>



#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

At the July 2023 Meeting,
Nametag Winner Sylvia Walters
The "I drove my Old Car" Winner John Martyn
Birthday Winner Bob Arrington

#### **SUNSHINE REPORT**

Our prayers are with those who are working hard to recover, and a special prayer for those who have obstacles to overcome.

John Martyn has been released from rehab and was at the club meeting Sunday.

Rich Sasek is scheduled to get a knee replacement.

Please contact the Sunshine committee Alice Parsons, 903-450-0432 with information on anyone has something positive to celebrate or who is ill or who a death in the family.

#### Area Car Shows Cruise in's Cars & Coffee

EVENT INFORMATION IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

#### **Monthly Events**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday 8 AM Greenville Cars & Coffee @ The Church at River Oaks 5903 Joe Ramsey Blvd. (Thru November)

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 3PM Cooper Car Meet at Cooper Square

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday (summer hours) 7 PM @ Braum's in Commerce

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Celeste Cruise in 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month @ 5 PM May-October. January -April start time will be 3 PM in Downtown Celeste on both sides of the square.

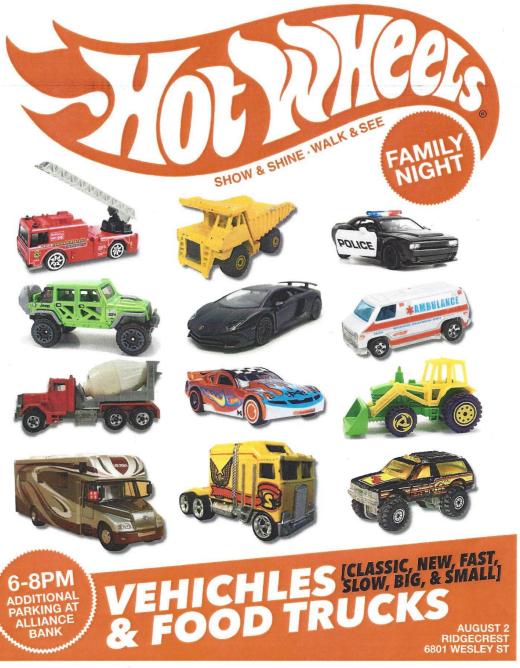
Last Saturday 8 AM Sulphur Springs Cars & Coffee Downtown Sulphur Springs @ 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church parking lot (Thru October)

4th Sunday 5 PM Leonard Cruise in Downtown Leonard

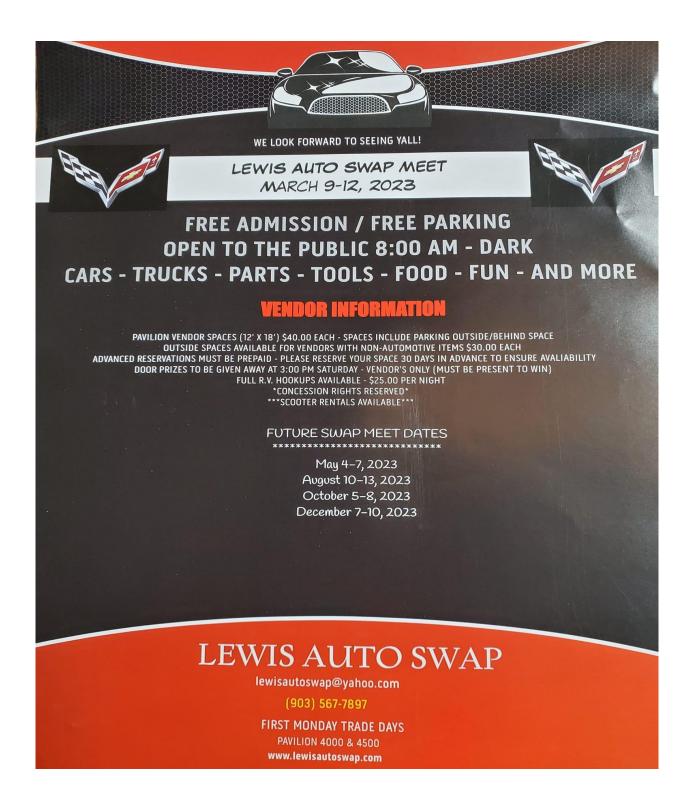
(Thru November)

Other Events

## AUGUST 2 • 6-8P • RIDGECREST



WE WOULD LOVE YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS EVENT HAPPEN! CONTACT JIM VIELE (918)907-0881 BY 7.26 IF YOU CAN PARTICIPATE



Canton auto swap August 10-13

### This is a long drive but is a good show.





# July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

Convertibles staging for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. If anyone has any more pictures from that day, please send them in.



## **Charlotte Turner Memorial Car Show**



Free advice available from this group at any time.







After the July meeting club members were invited to display their cars at Jerry and Sue Manley 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary party.

















Yvette would like to thank everyone that helped make her friend Lacey Coles parents anniversary special.

#### A few facts about Ford that you may not be aware of:

Ford has had a significant impact on the automotive industry since they first started rolling out cars 110 years ago. As one of the oldest car manufacturers, Ford has a rich history, filled with interesting facts that you may not know.

- 1. Ford is the second largest family-owned company in the world. Henry Ford's great grandson, William Clay Ford, Jr. currently resides as the company's executive chairman.
- 2. The Ford Model A is the first car produced by the Ford Motor Company, beginning production in 1903. Ernest Pfennig, a Chicago dentist, became the first owner of a Model A on July 23, 1903, for a grand total of \$850. The "Model A" had a 2-cylinder engine, and could reach a max speed of 30 mph. There were 1,750 cars made from 1903 through 1904 during Ford's occupancy of its first facility: the Ford Mack Avenue Plant, a modest rented wood-frame building on Detroit's East Side. The Model A was replaced by the Ford Model C during 1904 with some sales overlap.
- **3.** Ford's current CEO, William Clay Ford, Jr., or Bill Ford, currently owns the first Ford vehicle ever sold in 1903.
- **4.** Henry Ford and Thomas Edison were lifelong friends. As requested by Ford, Thomas Edison's son captured Edison's last exhale in a test tube and sealed it with a cork. Ford kept the tube as a memorial to Edison's "life and breath."
- **5.** Ford's signature blue, oval logo was not introduced until 4 years after the company had already been in production.
- **6.** In 1914 Ford offered its employees double the current market average, creating Henry Ford's "\$5-a-day." The new salary, accompanied by a shorter working day and company profit sharing, minimized employee turnover, and was significant in growing the middle class and fair wages movement. Henry Ford was quoted saying he wanted to help his workers to a "life" not just a "living."
- **7.** In 1964, after Ford debuted the Mustang, 94,000 pedal-powered toy mustangs were bought for children the following Christmas season.
- **8.** In 1965, a Ford Mustang was transported in 4 separate pieces to the observation deck of the Empire State Building, using resident elevators, where it was reassembled and photographed by helicopter. The car was later reassembled inside the building, until it was eventually taken apart and removed from the building 5 months later.

Hope you enjoyed the glance into the past.

Harold



# Feature Car of the Month Richard Bailey's 1954 Kaiser Darrin



#### **Kaiser Darrin**

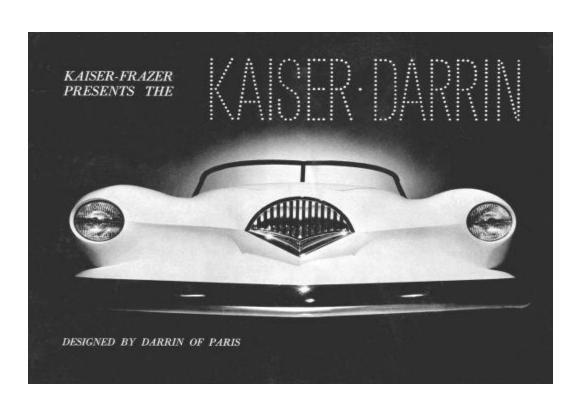
This unusual front end belongs to a rare automobile, a 1954 Kaiser Darrin:



1954 Kaiser Darrin (Classic Car Collection, Kearney, Nebraska)

The brochure for this unique machine boasts that it was designed by "Darrin of Paris," also known as Howard "Dutch" Darrin. Darrin was an interesting character who flew combat missions over France as a member of the U.S. Air Service during World War I. He designed luxury automobiles for movie stars like Clark Gable and Errol Flynn, and his gravestone in Santa Monica simply reads "AUTOMOTIVE ARCHITECT." Although Darrin had some successes designing automobiles, the Kaiser Darrin wasn't one of them and only 435 were produced.

The Darrin was a product of the struggling Kaiser Motors Corporation, and it just beat the Corvette to be the first car with a fiberglass body. It also featured sliding doors that retracted into the front fenders when opened as seen in this picture from the sales brochure:





Design preferences aside, the Darrin was not cheap. It was priced at \$3,668 (compared to \$2,774 for a Corvette) and, although it cost more, its 90-hp engine was completely out-classed by the Vette's 150 horses.

Another problem may have been the sales pitch for the Darrin. This is an excerpt from an article dated February 13, 1954, that featured an interview with a model, Pat Matteson, who had been hired to demonstrate the Darrin at the International Sports Show in New York City:

Cars with plastic bodies are still a mystery to most motorists. They want to know if the plastic will dent if people lean on it, whether snow will melt the plastic, whether hot water will make a hole in it, or whether insects will become permanently embedded in it.

"No. . .No. . .No. . .No," says Pat. "But a motorist can repair a fender dent in the same way he'd patch a tire. And he can fix it, so it doesn't show.

