

Garden State Hudson News

Garden State Chapter Hudson-Essex-Terraplane Club

June - July 2015

14 Forest Avenue, Medford, NJ 08055 Ted Steinmetz, Editor

Our July "Bechtfest" Meet

At the beautiful home of Chuck, (Charles Becht IV), and Mary Becht in the Harding Township section of Morristown, N. J.

Great cookout food, fellowship, and great Hudson cars including our late president's award winning 1935 Terraplane and familiar '51 Hornet.

Sunday, July 12, at 12 Noon

Rain or Shine! (Indoor entertainment if rainy)



This is our first July meet in many years. Bring a covered dish and Chuck and Mary will supply all beverages, burgers, and hot dogs. It's a "summer chapter morale boost". All the meet details are on the next pages. See you all soon at 58 Shalebrook Drive in Morristown. This issue also has details on the March movie, April Tuck, and May Doc's meet.

Chapter Officers: President, Richie Amate
Treasurer and Membership Chairman, Hans Lang
Vice President, Secretary, and Meet Coordinator, Ted Steinmetz

From the Driver's Seat

-by Richie Amate, Chapter President

Hello New Jersey Hudson buddies! **Trumpets please!.....** We've got a great meet scheduled! This will be our first July meet in many years and will be held at the fabulous home of **Chuck and Mary Becht**, our late president **Charlie's** son and his wife. We'll have a mid-summer blast, rain or shine, and also be able to see **Charlie's** '51 Hornet for sale. There will be several other "auto goodies" for inspection, including the award winning '35 Terraplane. Bring a covered dish and **Chuck** will supply beverages and a variety of grilled yummys. Our friend **Evelyn Becht** will be there and hopefully a surprise HET guest from Australia. He's temporarily in New York and would love to attend an "American Hudson Meet" as he told me. We've sent him the newsletter. I've recently spoken by phone with our good friend **Joe Borgia** and he's in good spirits and loves to keep in touch with our group. He's at home and hopefully recovering a bit from recent dementia issues. Thanks to **Ted Steinmetz** for doing the work of publishing our newsletter and scheduling meets. We probably couldn't survive as a functional chapter without **Ted's** talents and devotion.



Recently, **Debra** and I spent a weekend in Cape May for a little whale watching. We also had a blast at a great club there known as "The Rusty Nail". Jersey is loaded with great history and I wouldn't live anywhere else. My '54 Hudson funmobile is still running but now the passenger door won't open. I'm afraid to open it since I'm afraid it might fall off. The fenders are still surviving with roofing tape and two new ones are in the near future. I think **Wayne Tuck** might be a connection. Speaking of the **Tucks**, I'm embarrassed to have missed that fabulous April chapter meet. I was "jerkin' around the yard" that day with sweatin' shorts sliding down and totally forgot that the meet was on. Your "dum dum" president would certainly have been there if the "brain flatulation" hadn't occurred. At that meet, **Dick Cashion** brought **Ted Steinmetz** a large plaster model of a stepdown Hudson in a large tub stuffed with bubble wrap. **Ted** and **Susan** took it to Doc's Meet in Front Royal, Virginia in their '53 Super Wasp. Wow! A Hudson carried a Hudson! **Sue** and **Larry Kennedy** from Indiana took this treasure from there to the National Hudson Museum in Ypsilanti Michigan. This is how we all get along, love, favors, understanding, and service! **Jon Battle** was involved too. Fee Fie Foe Fum! My column is done!

....President Richie

FOR SALE

1951 Hudson Hornet
Good running condition,
new clutch and rebuilt
carb 92,133 miles
\$9500
Chuck Becht (owner)
The car formally
belonged
to his father, Charlie



Mid July Garden State Chapter Meet:

Sunday, July 12, 2015 12 Noon 'till 3:30 PM

At the home of Chuck and Mary Becht,

58 Shalebrook Drive, Harding Township of Morristown, N. J.

This meet will be pure fun! Our good friend, Evelyn Becht, Chuck's mother, will be a special guest. Bring a potluck dish, salad, vegetable platter, desert, or a surprise. Don't forget a lawn chair or two. Chuck and Mary will supply hot dogs, hamburgers, rolls, and beverages. This meet is RAIN or SHINE. Ted Steinmetz will supply indoor entertainment in case of foul weather. We're looking forward to seeing so many members again and ALL New Jersey Hudson fans are welcome, even if you've seldom or never attended our meets. We'd love to meet new people and show you a good time. Chuck's late Dad's '51 Hornet and '35 Terraplane will be added attractions and maybe even a surprise purchase for any interested attendees.

Directions (Set GPS for Morristown, not Harding Township)

From the South:

1. Merge onto New Jersey Turnpike North
 2. Merge onto NJ-18 N via EXIT 9
 3. Take the River Road ramp toward Piscataway/Highland Park.
 4. Turn slight right onto River Road/County Highway-622.
 5. Merge onto I-287 North.
 6. Take EXIT 30B toward US-202/Bernardsville.
 7. Merge onto North Maple Ave.
 8. Turn slight right onto US Highway 202 North
 9. Take the 1st left onto Shalebrook Drive.
- 58 SHALEBROOK is on the right near dead end

From the Northeast:

1. Merge onto I-287 South
 2. Take EXIT 30B toward US-202/Bernardsville.
 3. Merge onto North Maple Ave.
 4. Turn slight right onto US Highway 202 North
 5. Take the 1st left onto Shalebrook Drive.
- 58 SHALEBROOK is on the right near dead end

Fom the Northwest:

1. Merge onto I-80 East
2. Merge onto I-287 South
3. Take EXIT 30B toward US-202/Bernardsville.
4. Merge onto North Maple Ave.
5. Turn slight right onto US Highway 202 North
6. Take the 1st left onto Shalebrook Drive.
7. 58 SHALEBROOK DR is on the right.



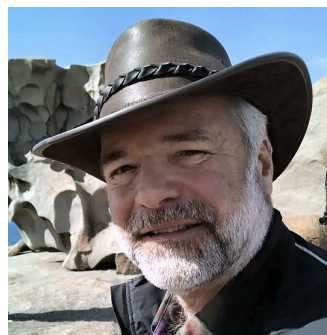
Come see the perfect '35 Terraplane



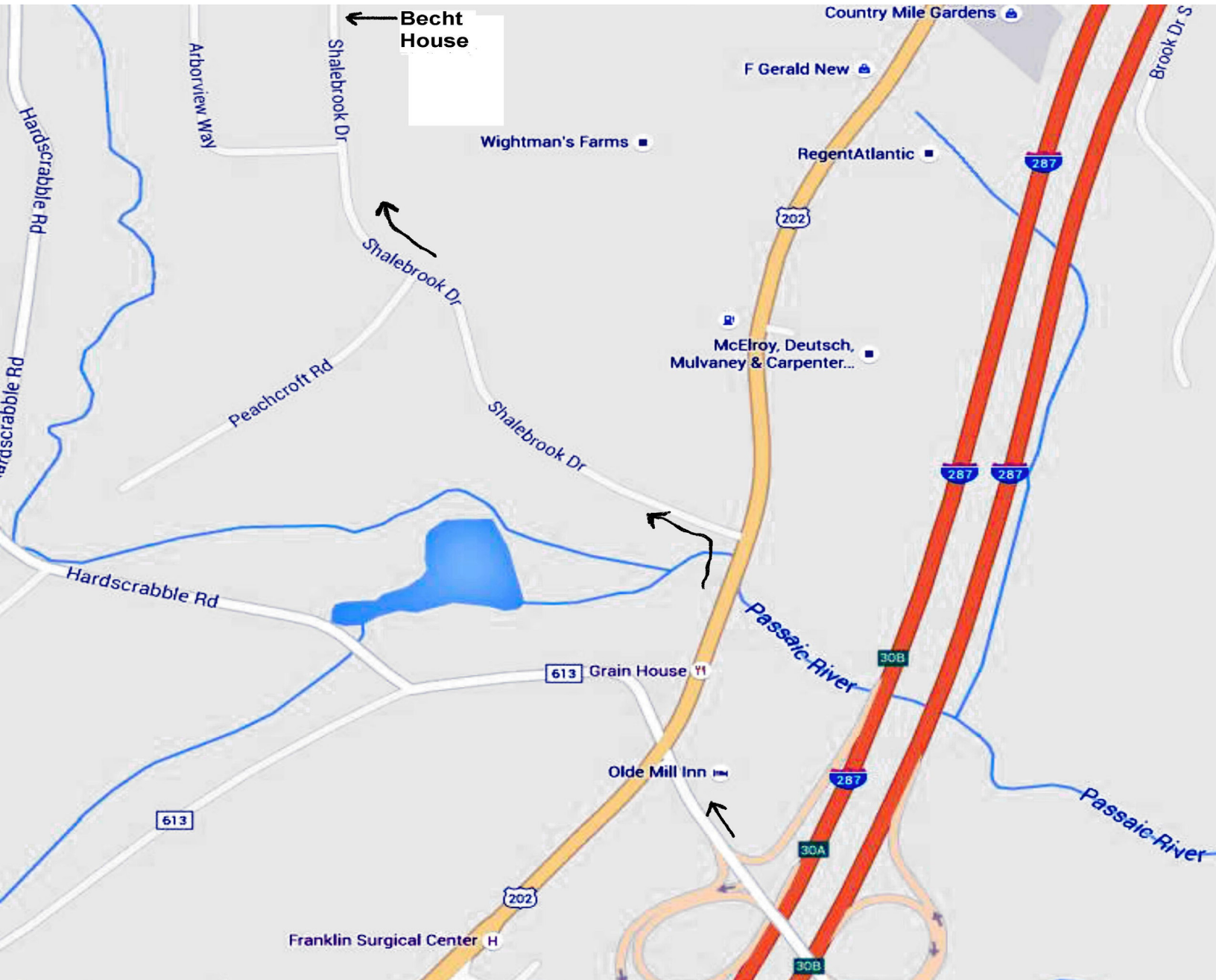
Charlie's Hornet needs a new owner!



Surprise "brand x" cars will be there too!



Welcome to "Bechtland"



58 Shalebrook Drive. Side view.
Hudson garages are on the lower right.

ANNUAL MOVIE MEET March 22, 2015



This was a great meet. 21 members and their guests made the trek to the spacious, second floor digs of Tavern On The Lake in Hightstown. Our genial "audio visual maniac", **Ted Steinmetz** was the unofficial host and entertainer. The food and private room complex made the movie meet all the more cozy. We had nearly two hours of edited video footage of chapter activities of the past year and "short subjects" which included many hilarious grabs from YouTube. The DVD of our past year's meets included video shorts of the May 2014 Doc's Meet and French Lick, Indiana HET National Meet too.

There were 2 Hudsons that made the trip to Mercer County. President **Richie Amate** brought the invincible '54 Hornet (despite some initial ignition problems at home) and his girlfriend, **Debra Traendly**, and **George Maulbeck** drove his impressive '51 Hornet too. We also had **Joe and Judy Holdren**, **Ted and Susan Steinmetz**, and arriving in time for the festivities again was **Joe Buono**. **Charlie and Penny Butz**, **Gary Lucchesi**, and **Bob Rosol** added fun and friendship to the group, and a nice surprise, **Bob Soden** came with his chapter friends, **Jack and Marge Walzer**. **Marvin Parker** and his wife **Wyne Amanda** were enthusiastic and likeable as they attended their fourth meet since joining our chapter two years ago. We enjoyed meeting **Annamae** and **Ron Cicchini** again with **Shirley Miller**. We all dispersed by 3:45 PM and certainly will have this meet again next year.

**PARKING
LOT POW WOW**



SEVEN N.J. REGION MEMBERS ATTEND HUDSON-ESSEX-TERRAPLANE SPRING MEET



On April 26th The Garden State Chapter of the Hudson-Essex-Terraplane club held their annual spring meet hosted at the home of our region Vice President Wayne Tuck and his wife Denise. The weather was perfect for the event with bright sunshine and cool temperature.

New Jersey Region members in attendance in addition to Wayne and Denise Tuck were Ray and Judy Fischer, Larry Solomayer, Brian Pritchett and his guest Sarah.

The display of 1948-1954 Hudson Stepdowns across the front lawn almost caused a traffic jam with curious folks passing by stopping, taking photographs and wandering around the display.

In addition to the Hudsons on display Ray and Judy brought their 50 Mercury Coupe and 63 Lincoln convertible, Brian and Larry brought their Mustang classics and Wayne put his 31 Model A out as well gathering more interested spectators.

Hudson members from all around the state attended the barbecue picnic followed by a short business meeting .It was a great day with all enjoying food, fun ,fellowship and most of all the great cars!

By Wayne Tuck



Chef Tuck smoking up the joint with Brian Pritchett



Wayne Orndorff, Judy & Ray Fischer



Wayne Tuck's '52 Hudson Hornet and '31 Model A Ford Victoria



Members and guests inspecting the Hudsons



Passerby's stopped to look at the cars

Mid Spring Tuck Meet

--continued by Ted Steinmetz. The previous page was from the newsletter of the New Jersey Chapter of the AACA



This couldn't have been a better meet! The location,



weather, Hudsons and vintage cars, and hosts were perfect. The beautiful property lent itself to a perfect auto display area in front of "Tuckland". The seven stepdowns belonged to **Dick and Janet Cashion, Joe and Judy Holdren, Wayne and Denise Tuck, Ted and Susan Steinmetz, George Maulbeck, Wayne Orndorff, and Hans and Sandy Lang.** The Mustangs to the extreme left and Ford Model A to the extreme right (top of previous page) were perfect "bookends". Blossoms and blooming forsythia bushes added to the artistic beauty of the season and vintage iron.



Denise approves of the chef

We had a great time touring Wayne's "toybox garage" and the motorcycles there. His house basement was a treasure trove of well organized Hudson parts galore. (photo above right) There were also lots of vintage toys neatly perched around the whole fun cellar. **Joe Buono** brought his talented girlfriend (pictured below) who was selling her homemade framed large vintage auto ads to raise money for local animal shelter activities. The Tucks' grandson, "CJ" had a great time with us and an enthusiastic visiting dog.

Joe Holdren got the "longest winter beard" (see above photo) award and this made him quite distinguishable from **George Maulbeck.** In short, a wonderful superb time was had by all and thanks to **Wayne** and **Denise** for a perfect Garden State Chapter "swing into spring



Charlie Butz tries the Model A



June 6, 2015

Minutes from Eastern Regional Meet

The meeting was called to order by senior, regional director Gary Lynch, at 2:00 PM. Gary made a proposal to have Nancy Pratt designated as secretary for the meeting and the proposal was approved.

A roll call was then called to establish a quorum and the following chapters were present: Orange Blossom, Dogwood, Tri-State mountain roads, Dixie, Quebec-Nouvelle-France Canada

National and Regional Officers present were: John Upchurch and Gary Lynch. Richard Low, our third director, was not able to attend.

The agenda was read and a motion was made by Dave Hase and seconded by Joe Stinnett to approve the agenda.

The motion passed.

1. Welcome – Gary thanked the Orange Blossom Chapter for hosting the regional meet. He especially thanked Joe Stinnett, Ed and Deanna Lathrop, Dave and Sue Hase, and Lu and Jim Houff for all they did to make the meet a success. Gary introduced himself, explained his position as director, and gave some of his Hudson background, including the addition of the fashion segment at our national meets. He thanked our military, police, firemen, and teachers for their service.

2. Old Business – Gary stated that we now have approximately 2700 members and encouraged members to build the club, especially by bringing their cars to the meets where people can see them. Gary announced that the White Triangle News is now all in color and has won the Golden Quill award, which is the highest award for a publication. He also explained that the national club searched for way to cut costs for the newsletter and has found a new printer, saving the club up to \$8000 per year. He announced that Canada has added a second chapter and is working on increasing this soon. Director John Upchurch was introduced and he gave some background explaining how he became involved with Hudsons and his duties as a director. He explained how the Eastern Regional Directors divide the region into the North, Central, and South areas to better manage the needs of the region. He encouraged the members to maintain their membership by renewing promptly so that their membership does not lapse.

3. New Business – It was announced that there will be no director's election this year as all four regional directors ran unopposed. Gary encouraged members think about running for various available positions.

4. Elections – Alternate Director

Warren Lusk nominated Joe Stinnett as alternate director and David Waddell seconded the nomination. His nomination was approved and Joe accepted the position. Joe commented on the difficulty of maintaining good directors and he encouraged members to be active. Members who have held offices in the club were recognized and three presidents of various chapters were present: Gary Lynch of the Quebec-Nouvelle-France Canada Chapter, Deanna Lathrop of the Orange Blossom Chapter, and Joe Wood of the Tri State Mountain Roads Chapter. Members were present from Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Florida, and Canada. There were 12 cars, 56 members, and 6 flea market vendors.

5. Upcoming Meets – Director John Upchurch announced the coming meets.

2015 – Colorado Springs, Colorado. This year's National Meet is expected to be a wonderful event with members from all over the country attending.

2016 – Chattanooga, Tenn. and will include the Eastern Regional meet to be held a few days before the national meet. There are many exciting events planned.

2017 – Eastern Regional will be held in Quebec, Canada near the town of Sherbrook. This will be the first time a regional meet is held outside the United States. It was stated that either a passport or an enhanced driver's license is needed to enter Canada. The national meet will be held in San Diego, Calif. Compliments were extended to John and Becky Upchurch on their continual willingness to help on any occasion.

6. Comments – Gary encouraged all members to book their rooms early for all meets to ensure their availability. John and Gary thanked everyone for the wonderful time they had at the Eastern Regional Meet.

7. Adjourn – A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Joe Stinnett and seconded by Warren Lusk. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted: Nancy Pratt, Acting Secretary

52nd Annual "Doc's Meet", May 8, 9, and 10, 2015



L to R: Carl Wennberg, Laurie Fromm, Alan Minard

Eighty participants, hailing from 12 states, attended one or more of the events comprising the 52nd "Doc's Apple Blossom Meet" in Front Royal, Virginia on May 8, 9 and 10. The weather was picture-perfect, with temperatures peaking in the low 80's each day.

Things got underway on Friday, May 8, with the traditional potluck dinner, which was held this year for the first time under a covered pavilion at the 4H Educational Center, just south of Front Royal. The long picnic tables overflowed with good food and drink, and a roaring fire in the pavilion's fireplace added a note of cheer. The modern structure has a full kitchen and attached restrooms, and vintage Hudsons were lined up along the Center's drive, just out front.

On Saturday, meet-goers opted either to visit local shops and historic sites, or to journey to Winchester, Va. for the local "Apple Blossom" AACA antique car show, which has been an integral feature of Doc's Meet since Doc's began in 1964. Some Hudsonites entered their cars in the show's "Hudson" non-judged class, while others chose to enter their cars in judged classes. The Winchester show's annual "Outstanding Hudson" award this year went to **Ernest Berry** of Suffolk, Va. for his yellow 1951 Pacemaker convertible. After the car show a number of Hudson enthusiasts motored east to Bluemont, Virginia where members of the Tri-State Mountain Roads chapter had gathered for an afternoon party at the home of H-E-T members **Allen and Wendy Lewis**.



Sunday fun at **Jon Battle's** home in the deep woods



Pacemaker prepares to "take off" from the Skyline Caverns

On Saturday evening the scene shifted once again to Front Royal's 4H Center where 40 H-E-T members gathered for the Motor Tune-Up Hour and then sat down to a delicious buffet dinner put on by 4H Club cooks. During dinner, the crowd was entertained by a video program presenting memories of past Doc's Meets, prepared by **Ted Steinmetz** of New Jersey. After dinner **Minerva Bullock** of North Carolina delivered a tribute to Mother's Day in prose and poetry, a feature which has become a tradition at Doc's Meet dinners over the years.



Ted and Susan's 2 grandsons LOVE meeting Doc!



Sunday morning found the Hudson group assembled on the front lawn of the Skyline Caverns outside Front Royal, for the annual Hudson car show and flea market. Hudsons have graced that lawn since the spring of 1964, except for a handful of years in which rain has forced a change in venue. As usual, the Caverns offered discounted admission tickets to Doc's Meet participants. In the Caverns' upper parking lot the flea market tables held Hudson treasures, and a trailer held a 1941 Hudson Commodore for sale, brought to the Caverns that day by a non-H-E-T member who had heard that the Hudson gathering would be taking place. Doc's Apple Blossom Meet, originated by D.C. "**Doc**" **Daugherty** and his wife **Thelma**, and now sponsored by the Chesapeake Bay Chapter, is a mixture of tradition and innovation. The recent change of venue to the 4H Center has been a popular one, and other changes could always occur as required by circumstance or the wishes of participants. However, some things never change: the joy of

reuniting with old friends, the pleasures of meeting new acquaintances, and the fun of sharing the Hudson hobby with others in the picturesque setting of Front Royal, Virginia.

Note to Garden State Chapter Hudson members:

I have a 1947 HUDSON, BIG BOY. There are quite a few parts that I do not need. If you know of anyone needing a steering system / rolling chassis. Braker / Clutch assv, steering wheel, shifting lever and clamps. I hate to see anything go to waste. The Hudson pickup is now on a chevy suburban frame.

Cordially,

Bill Phillips

Phillips Heat & Fuel Co.
Equipment, Service, Installation
P.O. BOX 2403 Vincentown, NJ 08088-2403
Phone 609-859-8654 Fax 609-859-1616

Checking a carburetor for air leaks

Recently I was reading a popular car magazine and found the following tip. It certainly applies to our HET cars: Connect a vacuum gauge to the intake manifold, pull the coil wire (to keep the engine from starting). Remove the air cleaner. Cover the carburetor with your hand and crank the engine. You should get a vacuum reading of approximately 12-14 inches. If not, take off the carburetor and cover the manifold opening and crank the engine. If this reading is LOW, it could be the manifold gasket. If this reading is higher than the first, check the carburetor for leaks around the throttle shaft or the gasket between the carburetor and manifold.

Flushing Hudson Cork Clutches

Drain out the oil in the clutch put in 1/2 pint of #1 Kerosene. Run engine about a minute or two. Drain out the sludge and let it drain over night. If it was real gummed up, repeat the process and then put in 1 can of Hudsonite or same amount of Dextron#2. The kerosene I learned from my father who got it from a Hudson mechanic. It worked in our Hudsons from 1947 thru 51.

(from the South Texas Chapter February 2015 newsletter)

The Garden State Chapter of the H.E.T. Club

**TO JOIN, FILL OUT THIS FORM
AND SEND WITH \$10 TO:**

**HANS LANG
TREASURER - MEMBERSHIP
CHAIRMAN
221 WEST BROAD AVENUE
BERLIN, N.J. 08009**

**I certify that I am a Member
of the Hudson-Essex-
Terraplane Club, Inc.**

Signature

Name:

Street:

City, State, Zip:

Telephone No:

Email:

I own the following Hudson-built cars:

Year	Make	Body Style	Serial#	Motor#

Compact Car Factoids

by Preston Stevens



Much has been written about Hudson's Jet and its supposed failure. We agree that it would have looked better if it had been a little lower and wider but compared to its competition it had the advantage of more power, it was beautifully crafted and it was 'way more maneuverable than its rival the Rambler. Also pardon us if we opine that it was also darned cute! The Jet's major problem was not its appearance but the fact that it came late to the market and that its competition had already

gobbled up many compact buyers. Rambler already had established a good sales record in 1952 at 80,000 cars and the dowdy Henry J actually exceeded that figure the prior year with 81,952 units. The Willys Aero did well in '52 with 48,845 cars. Hudson's management mis-read the trends and by the time the Jet hit the market in 1953 the other compacts were taking huge nose-dives: Rambler dropped to 30,360-far less than half the previous year's output, the Willys Aero backed down to 35,128-but now outselling Rambler! Henry J managed to move only about 18,000 cars! Obviously the public's thirst for compacts was well slaked by 1953 and it was into this terrible market that the Jet stepped. It was like the final act in a bad play in which the audience is hurrying for the exits! When we speak of "only" 21,143 sales in its debut year of 1953 we should remember that its competitors were writing exit strategies at that same time. Even the long-term survivor, Rambler, probably could not have made it without the new company, AMC, and its Hudson dealers taking on the line in 1954. In perspective the Jet had a really respectable 36,000-plus run for itself in the less than two years they were produced. That amounts to about a third of Hudson's total for each year!

Preston Stevens, Jr is a retired architect, car fan and collector. He has written numerous articles in architectural and design journals as well as being a frequent Contributing Editor to Car Collector Magazine. He also writes short fiction. Preston bought his first Hudson, a C8, in Fairbanks Alaska in 1954. He later bought a near duplicate for his collection. After that the old brand X cars dwindled to zero and he has owned a dozen Hudsons since. His present products are a '52 Hornet Coupe and a '54 Jet Liner owned jointly with Joe Taylor. This article was taken from a recent Southern California Chapter HET newsletter. The article is originally from the HET Historical Society newsletter.