



the Hudson rEflexT or

Newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the H-E-T Club

HMCC – 100 Years

HET Club – 50 Years

SC Chapter - 43 Years

November 2009

A Tribute by Paul O'Neil



Bill Albright was one of those essential people that others looked to for advice, parts and complete restored cars. He was committed to keeping the Hudson name alive. Bill ran **Vintage Coach** in Fontana where he stockpiled parts, restored cars and kept the rest of us up and running.

Bill was a regular attendee at parts swaps and auto jumbles. His keen eye and encyclopedic knowledge allowed him to spot the rare oddball parts that the rest of us missed. Many Hudson fans could not have completed their projects without that special bit that only Bill seemed to be able to find.

Bill felt that he was only a steward of his cars, and that passing them on to future generations to carry on his work of historical preservation was his true mission. To further his commitment to restoration to a more faithful historical standard, Bill established the **Albright Award** for restoration excellence bestowed each National Meet.

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Janet Kale was one of nature's spark plugs. She had vision to imagine great things and the practical ability to make her ideas work. Janet was a motivator, when she was excited about an idea, it was contagious; we all felt excited about it too. She was the drive behind **two Western Regional Meets** and a **National** as well as many other events.

Janet was a past **HET National president**, a **Western Region Director** and **CIC Chapter president** many times. With her husband Press, she founded and ran **K-Gap**, the Hudson parts company and traveled to many Hudson meets nationally and even internationally.



Janet believed in making the Hudson community an extended family. She knew that the cars were not enough, that people needed to feel

that they were part of something larger and more important than their own particular projects. It is largely due to Janet's spirit of élan vital that the CIC is the successful chapter it is now.

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November Means the Economy Run to Laughlin

The River Palms Hotel & Casino will again be our host hotel in Laughlin for the Hudson Economy Run.

See the flyer for the details

Be sure to check and road test your car. Your Survival Kit should include a spare fan belt, and perhaps a spare water pump or other "harder to procure" or "known to be vulnerable" parts. Also include extra fluids: brake and transmission plus whatever oil is right for you, and of course, tools, a first-aid kit, emergency lights and an A-B-C fire extinguisher.

Geoff Clark has an excellent article on Hudson travel problems and recommendations in the M/A 2001 WTN issue.

Mark your calendar for the SCC Christmas Party

Sunday, Dec 6, 5:00 to 9:00 pm – The Old Spaghetti Factory Restaurant – 1431 Buena Vista Street, Duarte; eat at 5:30. **Menu Choices** – Spaghetti with Sicilian Meat Balls, Chicken with Penne, or Vegetarian Ravioli, plus garden salad, fresh sourdough bread, ice cream, coffee, tea or soft drinks. **\$25.00.**

We'll do the gift exchange thing, too: Red wrap for the ladies; green wrap for the guys. \$20 maximum.

This is a **reservation-required** event. Need your responses and checks by **Nov. 27th**. See the enclosed form. Please mail them to: **Ruth Hay, HET SoCal Chapter Treasurer, 508 Ruberta St., Glendale, CA 91201-2792**

Be sure to send in the Party Reservation form by Nov. 27th – Enclosed.

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Upcoming SCC Events

- Nov 6-8 – **Laughlin Economy Run**
starting at Ludlow
- Nov 21 – **Pancakes & Classic Cars** –
See the flyer. *Not a SCC event*
- Dec 6 – **Christmas Party**
- March 14 – **Petersen Museum** with the
Studebaker Club

- Aug 1 – **Western Region Meet,**
Spokane, WA
- Aug 2-6 – **2010 HET National Meet**
Spokane, WA
- July 15-23 – **2011 HET National Meet**
Oklahoma City, OK
- July 24-28, - **2012 HET National Meet**
Gettysburg, PA

Board Meetings are normally scheduled for 2 PM on the third Sunday of each month, and are **open to all members**. Phone 805/987-8187 for directions.

Want an SCC Meet close to your home? Just find a park or other attraction with parking and facilities. Then give Noah a call (626/799-6107)

From the President's Garage

Our club has incurred two great losses last month. **Bill Albright and Janet Kale** both passed away on October 9, Bill to diabetes-related complications and Janet to cancer. Both had been battling their respective health problems for some time, but took a turn for the worse in late September. Bill was the premiere car & parts-supplier here in California; Janet was the face of the club at the chapter, regional and national level.

Besides being members of our chapter, they were just fun to be around and each nourished our club & hobby by their openness and passion for the cars.

You may enjoy "**The Fabulous Hudson Project**" featuring Bill, filmed about a year ago – just search on You-Tube. Also an interesting article "**Bill Albright: A Hudson guy drives on**" by Jim Cherry, Mike Cherry's brother who is an automotive writer:

<http://www.examiner.com/x-6882-Classic-Autos-Examiner~y2009m10d19-Bill-Albright-Hudson-guy?cid=examiner-email>

In recognition of the 5 members we've been saddened to lose in the past 12 months – **Bob Thornton, Gordon Hay, Norman Puls, Bill & Janet** – your Officers Board has voted to donate \$250 to the National Club's **Albright Award Fund** – for the purpose of encouraging restoration of Hudsons that otherwise

would be languishing in a field somewhere.

Jon Cronk

NASCAR Hall of Fame

Commemorative Brick Offer

The newly established NASCAR Hall of Fame is offering individuals and groups the opportunity to be part of their impressive new facility in Charlotte, N. C.

A commemorative wall of custom engraved bricks will be located at the entrance of the Hall. With Hudson's great racing history: being first to factory sponsor a NASCAR racing program that was first to win 3 consecutive national championships; it seems fitting that the Hudson Motor Car Company and the HET Club should have a presence in the wall at the Hall of Fame.

We would like to see several bricks grouped together. All members or chapters wishing to contribute can buy a whole brick in your name to commemorate any of the many records, any of the great drivers; or just contribute whatever you can to help buy a brick in the HET Club's name.

8"x8" bricks with 6 lines of text are \$300 - 4"x8" bricks with 3 lines of text are \$150 with a portion of the cost being tax deductible. Bricks need to be ordered before the end of this year to be grouped together and in place for the Grand Opening, May 11, 2010. Help insure that the Hudson Motor Car Company and the champion drivers of the "Fabulous Hudson Hornet", and our HET Club are forever represented at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Please contact me at:

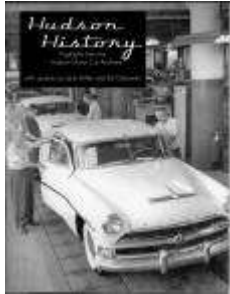
vern@mwci.net or by phone 815-938-3140.

Thank you for your consideration, I look forward to hearing from you,

Vern Ellis, Central Region Director and proud member of the HET Club

The Bookshelf

Another book suggestion that might be of interest to Hudnuts.....



"Hudson History" Highlights from the Hudson Motor Car Archives with updates by Jack Miller and Ed Ostrowski. Thirty-six pages of history and photos.

Essex Parts

Mat Simon of Lancaster, CA wants to sell an Essex front end axle with springs. It is on wheels which are not original. 661/942-3250

On the Net

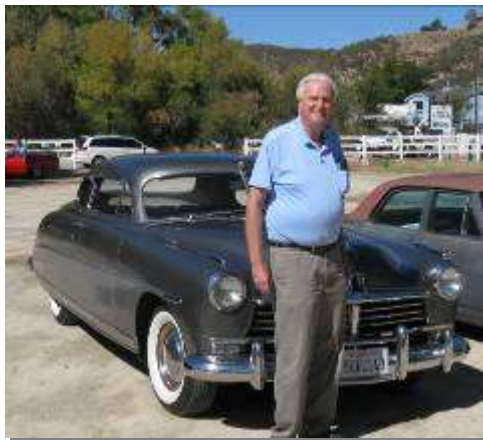
- **2009 Hershey Photos**
<http://beaver.vinu.edu/10-10-2009%20Hershey%20photos/>
- **"Bill Albright: A Hudson Guy Drives On"**
<http://www.examiner.com/x-6882-Classic-Autos-Examiner~y2009m10d19-Bill-Albright-Hudson-guy?cid=examiner-email>
- **Hudson Related Items for Sale**
<http://socalhet.org/salesroom.htm>
- **Restoration Suppliers**
<http://socalhet.org/suppliers.htm>
- **HET Store**
<http://socalhet.org/clubstore/>

SCC Officers

President: Jon Cronk 805/987-8187
Vice President: Stephen Marshall 661-946-9027
Secretary: Brad Forbush 818/840-8979
Treasurer: Ruth Hay 818/247-0753
Tour Chairman: Noah Blough 626/799-6107
Communications: Bob Ross 626/355-8747
Membership: Susan Ross 626/355-8747
Club Store Manager: Jon Cronk 805/987-8187
Region Director: Craig Kistler 714/256-2558
HET President: Mike Cherry 435/657-0443



2009 October Apple Run





34 YEARS OF BUILDING FOR "D" DAY*



* "D" Day—the day of attack, as designated in U. S. Army orders

THEY HAVE TO BE BUILT RIGHT

THOUSANDS of invasion craft, of all kinds and sizes, already have carried the war to enemy shores—and many thousands more will play their part in great offensives to come.

To help power these landing operations, Hudson is turning out large numbers of husky Hudson Invader engines. *These engines have to be built right*—to the highest standards—for young Americans, storming ashore under fire, must stake their lives on them.

We are thankful that we have been able to bring to this task an organization trained

in high-precision manufacture, backed by 34 years of experience in building Hudson motors that could "take it"

We are glad, too, that "D" Day found Hudson ready on the home front with a large and able organization of distributors and dealers, backed by a nation-wide service plan that makes needed parts available everywhere to keep Hudson cars rolling for the duration.



Down Went 32 Jap Flyers! Oerlikon 20-mm. guns from the U. S. Naval Ordnance Plant, operated by Hudson among the U. S. battleship batteries that shot down 33 Jap Zeros in less than 30 minutes, in a recent Pacific action. We promise to keep 'em coming!



Production Division Awarded Army-Navy "E" for High Achievement in War Production

Buy U. S. War Savings Stamps and Bonds



Mr. Power March brings no... create the faith American workers and the men who fly them. Hudson proud to be producing, on a large scale wings for Helldivers, fuselage sections for Army Marauder bombers, and components for Cyclone engines.

HUDSON

MOTOR CAR COMPANY

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

34 Years of Engineering Leadership

PLANTS ARE DEDICATED TO WAR PRODUCTION...OUR DEALERS TO MAINTAINING

SEP 1943

This interesting ad was sent to us by Harry Neiman Sr., 445 King St., Pottstown, Pa. 19464. Excuse its looks as battery acid got to it before Harry. It was originally printed in September 1943.

Southern California HET Chapter Christmas Party Reservation

>>>> **Required by Nov. 27th** <<<<

Names Attending _____

Meal Choices: _____ Spaghetti with Sicilian Meat Balls
_____ Chicken with Penne _____ Vegetarian Ravioli

Number Attending _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

Mail Reservation Form & check payable to "So. Cal. HET. Club" to:
Ruth Hay, HET SoCal Chapter Treasurer, 508 Ruberta St., Glendale, CA 91201-2792

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HET CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ Spouse _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

HET Membership No. _____ (Found on the WTN Label)
(National HET membership is required for local chapter membership)

New Renewal

Hudson-built cars owned:

Year	Make	Model	S/N	Engine No.
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Mail \$15 check payable to "So. Cal. HET. Club" to: Membership Chairman, 150 South Michillinda Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Auto Man Got His Start Here

Howard Coffin, a University of Michigan engineering student, put together the first car built in Ann Arbor. In 1901 Coffin, originally from Sea Island, Georgia, used the garage of another automobile fan, Ed Staebler, to build the car.

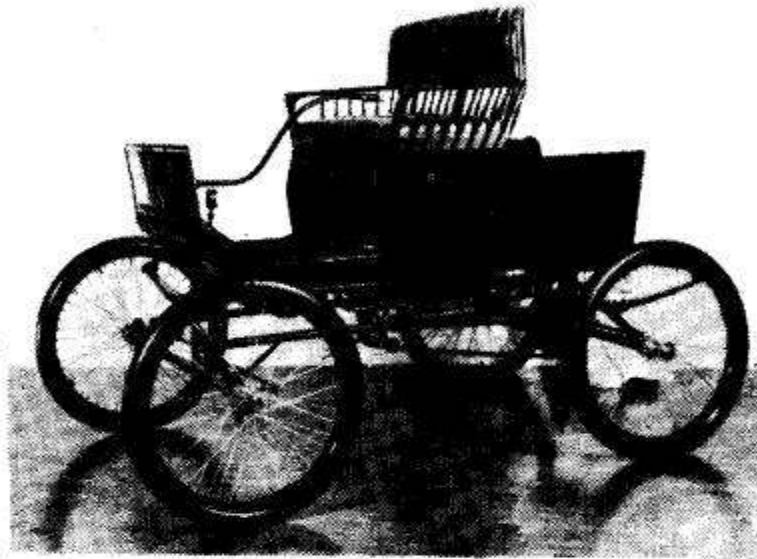
Staebler had operated a bicycle shop before becoming Ann Arbor's first automobile dealer. He started selling Trimotos in April, 1901. However, he gave that car up after he became tired of everyone laughing when he had to push the weak-powered car up Ann Arbor's hills. So he switched to the Toledo Steam Carriage.

In the meantime, Coffin studied at the U-M engineering college, and worked as a mailman to help pay for his schooling. He still found the time to tinker with bicycle parts found over at Staebler's garage. Some of those bicycle parts found their way into the steam car that Coffin was building. He ordered other parts for his car from B.J. Carter of Jackson. By the time he had finished building his car, he had invested a total of \$400.

Coffin's car was ready to drive by July 5, 1901, and he appeared with it in an Ann Arbor parade on Sept. 3.

Unfortunately, Staebler's generosity in lending the garage didn't do his business much good.

In the fall of 1901 he noted in his records, "When we tell people the price of our Toledo (selling for \$900), they mention the cost of the mail carrier's car, and tell us they will wait until our cars become cheaper,



Coffin's Steam Car

or build their own machine. Thus far we have been unable to sell any carriages . . ." But he ended on an optimistic note, "We think we are near to several sales."

Ed was right to be optimistic about the auto business, and his future in it. With his brothers, Herman and Walter, he ran an automobile dealership until 1952, selling Wintons, Reos, Dorts, Franklins, Oaklands, and Pontiacs.

Edward was a mayor of Ann Arbor, and his son, Neil, has also been active in politics, having long served as Democratic national committeeman from Michigan.

Coffin didn't stop building cars, either. When he graduated from the U-M in 1903, he went to work for Oldsmobile. Then, thinking

Oldsmobile didn't have much of a future, he and three other young men formed their own automobile company. The four were Coffin, Lee Counselman, Hugh Chalmers, and Roy Chapin. Because Coffin was the engineer, he wanted the car they manufactured to be named after him. Chalmers disagreed, saying the motoring public wouldn't drive around in a car named the Coffin.

More than a name, the men needed money. When they were able to get money from J.L. Hudson, they named the car after him, the Hudson. The Hudson Motor Co. was bought by American Motors after World War II.

Coffin's first steam car was sold to Edward Waples, an Ann Arbor real estate dealer, in 1903. In 1936, it was given to the Henry Ford Museum where it is today.

THE CALIFORNIA INLAND CHAPTER HOSTS

LAUGHLIN ECONOMY RUN

NOVEMBER 7-8, 2009



**Make your reservations by calling the
River Palms Resort Hotel & Casino
Laughlin, Nevada
1(800)835-7903**

Ask for HUDSON-17 to get the special discounted room rates.
Room rates \$55.99 plus tax, double occupancy (triple and quad. \$7.00 extra).
Reservations must be made by October 23rd.



THE ECONOMY RUN IS AN ANNUAL RUN WITH THE CALIFORNIA INLAND, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, SOUTHWESTERN BORDERS AND GRAND CANYON CHAPTERS. THE PREMISE IS TO FILL GAS TANKS AT AN APPOINTED LOCATION, MAKE A "RUN" TO LAUGHLIN ON A PRE-ARRANGED ROUTE, TO BE HANDED OUT AT THE STARTING POINT, AND THEN HAVE THE TANK TOPPED OFF IN LAUGHLIN BY AN APPOINTED PERSON WHO WILL LIST THE AMOUNT OF GASOLINE ON YOUR CARD. TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED IN VARIOUS CATEGORIES ON SUNDAY MORNING AT THE HOTEL. ALL MEMBERS ARE URGED TO JOIN IN THE FUN WHETHER THEY MAKE THE RUN OR NOT.

DETAILS: This year the run will start in Ludlow, CA

Trophies awarded for best mileage in the following classes:

1909-1939	Jets (all years)	Brand X 1982 or older
1940-1947		Oldest Driver
1948-1954	All Modifieds	Hard Luck

Northridge United Methodist Church
Saturday, November 21, 2009 8 to 11:00 a.m.
A Classic and Antique Car Show
in the Parking Lot

\$5.00 All You can Eat Pancake Breakfast!!
In the Fellowship Hall



Sponsored by The Men's Club

9650 Reseda Blvd
Northridge, CA 91324
818.886.1555





*Hudson Essex Terraplane Club
Gem State Chapter
Gene McKay, President*

Don't Miss the 51ST Annual H.E.T. Club International Meet in
Spokane, Washington, August 2-6, 2010

Fun Facts About Spokane

- The City of Spokane is home to some 201,000 residents; there are around 500,000 residents in the metropolitan area.
- The Spokane region is the gateway to the great outdoors. There are 76 lakes, 33 golf courses, five major National Parks, the spectacular Columbia River Gorge, and Grand Coulee Dam all within an easy drive of the city.
- Spokane is home to an all-original Looff Carousel in Riverfront Park. This extraordinary blend of art and machinery has been located in Spokane since it was manufactured and delivered to its original location at Natatorium Park in 1909. This 1909 antique is comprised of 54 hand-carved horses.
- Spokane gets its name from the Native American tribe that makes its home in this area and means "Children of the Sun."
- The city's nickname is the Lilac City and each year the 10-day Lilac Festival celebrates the coming of spring.
- Spokane is the home of Bloomsday, one of the largest timed foot races in the world with over 50,000 participants per year, and Hoopfest, the largest 3-on-3 basketball tournament in the world.
- Grand Coulee Dam, 90 miles West of Spokane, is one of the largest concrete structures in the world and is just 57 feet short of a mile long.

Famous People From Spokane

Bing Crosby, singer and actor

John Stockton, all-time NBA assists leader, retired Utah Jazz

Mark Rypien, MVP Super Bowl XXVI

Ryne Sandberg, Second Baseman for the Chicago Cubs

Tom Sneva, 1983 Indianapolis 500 champion

For hotel reservations call the Red Lion Inn at the Park – 800-733-5466.

Scheduled excursions include: Spokane City Tour, Tour of Grand Coulee Dam, Dinner Cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene and Northern Quest Casino.

Don't miss out on the Fun!