

NEWSLETTER

Back to the
BRICKS
America's Classic Car Events

Dear Friends!

November 2019

The last of the leaves are clinging to the trees. It's cold and blustery, with temps dipping near, or below freezing, at night. Flurries, and perhaps measurable snow, will soon be in the forecast. To the casual observer, it may appear that there is a lull in the activity, but behind the scenes, your Board of Directors and Executive Committee are hard at work, planning for the future.



Steve Haham, Chairman of the Board



IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR

Congratulations !



Congratulations to our Retired Chairman of the Board Emeritus, Al Hatch, and the entire Back to the Bricks® organization for receiving the 2019 Automotive Heritage Tourism Award of Excellence from the [MotorCities National Heritage Area](#) in a ceremony in the Capital Rotunda in Lansing. Back to the Bricks® was recognized for its positive impact on the local economy,

and for showcasing the region's historic role in the automotive industry. The following day, we proudly shared the award with the Greater Flint Community at a Press Conference covered by [ABC-12](#) at [Factory One](#) on Water Street, the birthplace of General Motors! Thanks to Kevin Kirbitz, Manager of Heritage Operations for [General Motors](#), the award will be on display at [Factory One](#).



DOWN THE ROAD

At the Wheel

On November 6, 2019, the Back To The Bricks® Board of Directors approved the following Executive Committee officers for 2020:

- **Steve Hobson** - Chairman of the Board
 - **Dave Wood** - Vice-Chairman of the Board
 - **Clay Perkins** - Treasurer
 - **Jerry Preston** - Secretary
 - **John Gazall** - Chairman of the Automobile Heritage Committee
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Introducing Our New Chairman

I've had the privilege of meeting or working with many of you in various capacities through the years, but if not, I'd like to introduce myself. My name is Stephen (Steve) Hobson. I'm 74 years old, married to Cheryl, and between the two of us, we have 4 children, 9 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren. I have lived and worked in the Flint area all of my life, and currently live in

Davison, Michigan. I've always been a car enthusiast, and currently own two collector cars. My hobbies, in addition to cars, are biking and hiking.

I have been involved with Back To The Bricks® as a volunteer for 14 years, been on the Board of Directors for 3 years, and served as Vice-Chairman for the past 2 years, prior to being elected as Chairman of the Board. I also serve on the Back to the Bricks® Automotive Heritage Fund Board.

Dennis Keyworth and I started the Rolling Cruise, the Hemphill Road Mega Site, the "Bricks Flicks" Drive-In Movie/Car Show, and the Cruise "N" Concert. Chrome & Ice™, my latest contribution, is now the biggest indoor event in Flint/Genesee County.

Through the years, I have been increasingly involved with every facet of the organization, e.g., securing sponsors, planning, advertising, the "nuts and bolts" of day-to-day operations, and overseeing major events. I have worked closely with Al Hatch during the past year to prepare for this new role, and am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities that Back To The Bricks® will bring.

Thanks to the Board of Directors for the vote of confidence. My goal as Incoming Board Chairman will be to preserve the legacy we have built together, and to continue and grow our positive presence in the community. Your support is greatly appreciated as we move forward together to make Back To The Bricks® the best it can be!

Chrome & Ice™



Looking to the future, all systems are "Go!" for our next major event. Mark your calendars and join us Friday - Sunday, FEBRUARY 7-9, 2020 for the 5th Annual CHROME & ICE™, our family-friendly winter indoor car show at the Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center in Flint. Chrome & Ice™ is sponsored by General Motors and will be brought to you again this year by the [Dort Federal Credit Union](#) with special thanks to ABC-12. Last year, we had 7,000 paid guests, more than 125 vintage, classic, and custom vehicles, sports cars, muscle cars,

hot rods, and trucks in the two arenas and on the mezzanine, and more than 50 sponsor/vender and special interest displays. Each year, we feature a select group of upscale high-end specialty vehicles in the Lobby. The show in February 2020 promises to be bigger and better than ever as the Lobby is transformed into a grand celebration of "Flint, Vehicle City, Home of the Corvette." For more information, or to register your car for the 2020 Chrome & Ice™ Car Show, [CLICK HERE](#), and stay tuned for more details about this

year's spectacular show at our press event on November 21st at the [Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center](#).

Promo Tour 2020

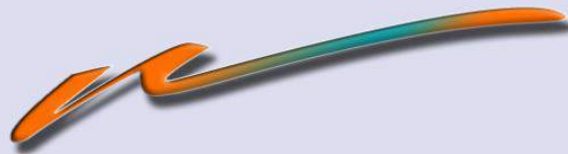
NEW THIS YEAR: Registration for the **PROMO TOUR** in June will OPEN February 7, 2020 with a press conference at Chrome & Ice™. Watch for details about the exciting 2020 Promo Tour kick-off in December's newsletter.

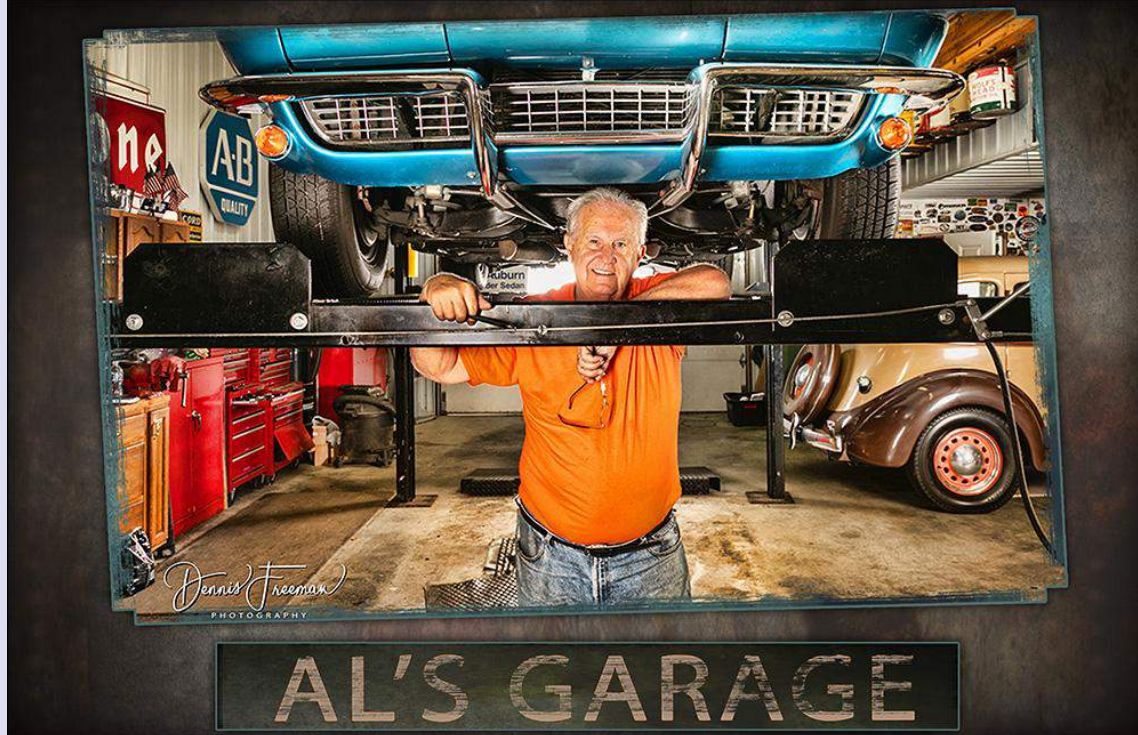


Finally, as we prepare to gather with family and friends in November to reflect on the blessings of the year, I'd like to personally thank the organizers, sponsors, and volunteers who work year round to make Back to the Bricks® a reality!

Steve Hobson,
Chairman of the Board
Back to the Bricks®, Inc.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE





'OLD CARS AND HEARING AIDS'

Over the years two of the most popular words in my vocabulary were 'What' and 'Huh'. My wife would be talking to me and often I find myself asking one of the two words. She would kindly repeat her words or question once, twice or maybe three times, and each time with a voice that was getting louder. Many times, our discussions were followed by 'have you ever given thought to getting hearing aids? My typical reply was, 'I don't need hearing aids; my hearing is fine! Period!' This conversation went on for many years with no break through to be seen or heard (no pun intended). Finally, I concluded my wife was right. I needed hearing aids as I found myself missing out on many conversations and the volume button on the remote for the TV was at maximum volume.

This past May, I finally scheduled myself for a hearing test and to my own surprise, I learned I had lost eighty percent of my hearing in my right ear and sixty percent in my left ear. A week later my new hearing aids arrived, and I was surprised how quickly I adapted to wearing them. To that point, the very second day of wearing them, I found myself jumping in the shower still wearing my new hearing aids! Fortunately, no damage occurred to the new hearing aids. This brings me to the 'old cars.

With my newly purchased hearing aids well in place, it was off to the garage to get our 1936 Auburn out to take to the Monday morning 'ole car guy coffee group, that meets at the 'Big Apple Bagel' in Davison, Michigan. Flip the battery disconnect to the 'on' position, turn the ignition key to the start position, press the starter button and the Auburn came to life. At an idle, I did not hear or recognize any unusual noises from under the hood. Pulled it out of the garage, shut the garage door and off to the coffee shop. Now that I am on the road and the engine RPM increasing, I started hearing a little engine tappet noise that I had not heard before and with the increase in engine RPM, the tappet noise increased slightly. And for the body squeaks, there appeared to be many more. To be sure, the old Auburn is really a great running car and for

the most part, is unrestored so what is to be expected from an eighty-five-year-old car? I got thinking about the increase in noise so I thought to myself, 'what would happen if I removed my new hearing aids'? Guess what? You are right; the noise volume decreased dramatically! No, I did not stop wearing my hearing aids and learn to adjust to the increase volume of my surroundings.

From a safety point of view, wearing my hearing aids has increased the enjoyment of driving a collector car. Now, I can hear the noises from under the hood., which might just save me some expensive repair bills because previously, I could not hear a problem developing under the hood of a car or elsewhere from the vehicle. I do not frequently ask 'what' or say 'huh' as much as I used to, and my wife is much happier.

Keep on Rolling (KOR)

Al Hatch

See what's happening on Facebook & Twitter



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