

# NEWSLETTER



Dear Friends!

December 2019

When I last communicated with you, I was in the hospital for observation and testing. I am pleased to report that I am out of the hospital, and back on track. Your prayers and encouraging messages were greatly appreciated. Thanks to an incredible team for picking up the slack, keeping me apprised of developments, and making sure that preparations for Chrome & Ice™ in February, the Promo Tour in June, and our day-to-day operations continued without interruption.



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## IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR

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## Thanksgiving

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Whether you spent Thanksgiving quietly or with a large gathering, playing games, watching the Lions lose - again, or just napping in a recliner, we hope it was a joyous time with family and friends. After the dishes are washed, and the roast turkey and dressing is but a fragrant memory, our thoughts turn to Christmas shopping and Black Friday Deals. For some of you that



meant getting up before dawn, and braving the crowds to grab a limited number of outstanding bargains. For others, it might be hours at the computer shopping online. Back to the Bricks® is happy to offer you an excellent opportunity to do some shopping in a less hectic manner.

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## DOWN THE ROAD

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## Holiday Sale

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Don't miss the BIG Holiday SALE, ONE DAY ONLY, SATURDAY, December 7, 2019 at the Back to the Bricks® Office, 4400 S. SAGINAW Street (between Hemphill and Atherton) Flint, MI 48507 featuring Regular and Clearance items from \$2.00 to \$35.00. Bob and Linda Moore, Chairpersons for this event, will be there to help you select the perfect GIFT for the Car Lover on your list from a large selection of Back to the Bricks® Polo Shirts, 1/4 Zippers, Hoodies, T-Shirts, and Hats. (Merchandise pictured is only a sample of what is available.) Doors open at 9:30AM and close at 2:30PM. For more information , [click here](#).



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## Christmas Giveaway

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Christmas Giveaway, [CLICK HERE!](#)

Announcing the Back to the Bricks® CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY: Celebrate the season with TWO (2) FREE FAMILY - STYLE CHICKEN dinners (value - \$50+) at Frankenmuth's picturesque BAVARIAN INN RESTAURANT! Contest ends Sunday, December 15, 2019. Drawing on Monday, December 16, 2019. To enter the Back to the Bricks®

## Chrome & Ice™

The PRESS CONFERENCE originally set for Thursday, November 21st has been RESCHEDULED for 10 AM, THURSDAY, December 12, 2019 at the [Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center](#) in Flint. Everyone is invited to hear first-hand the exciting plans for our 5th Annual Indoor Car Show. Chrome & Ice™ 2020 is sponsored again this year by [General Motors](#) and brought to you by the [Dort Federal Credit Union](#). If you can't make the press conference, watch our Media Partner [ABC-12](#) later in the day for a full report.



It's not too late to register your car for [CHROME & ICE™](#), Wednesday, February 7 through Sunday, February 9th, 2020 at the Dort Federal Credit Union Event Center in Flint. An indoor car show offers some distinct advantages, no rain, wind, or bugs to contend with inside. Your car will look awesome under the lights, and you won't need sunscreen. Mark your calendars now, and plan to escape the "mid-winter blahs" with 7,000 fellow members of the car community. Winning car owners will receive a Neon Clock valued at \$150.00. [Click here](#) for more information, or to register your car!

## Promo Tour 2020

Looking ahead to a summer of



cruising and car shows, the **PROMO TOUR** offers hundreds of classic car owners an opportunity for adventure and a unique way to see our state. The six-day tour has a dual purpose: (1) to promote Back to the Bricks®, and generate excitement for the August "Main Event" in Downtown Flint, and (2) to showcase the unique features and boost the economy of each of the Host cities selected for the Tour.



NEW THIS YEAR: Registration for the PROMO TOUR, June 5-10, 2020, will OPEN with a press conference on Friday evening, February 7, 2020 @ Chrome & Ice™. Be there when the Host cities are revealed and hotel information is made public. Online registration will begin immediately following the Press Conference, and members of the committee will be at the Promo Tour booth to answer questions, and assist with registration. We are also proud to announce that the two vehicles featured on this year's 2020 Visionary Promo Tour poster, a "97" Chevy C1500 Short bed and a "69" Buick GS California, will be on display at Chrome & Ice™. See you there!

## Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

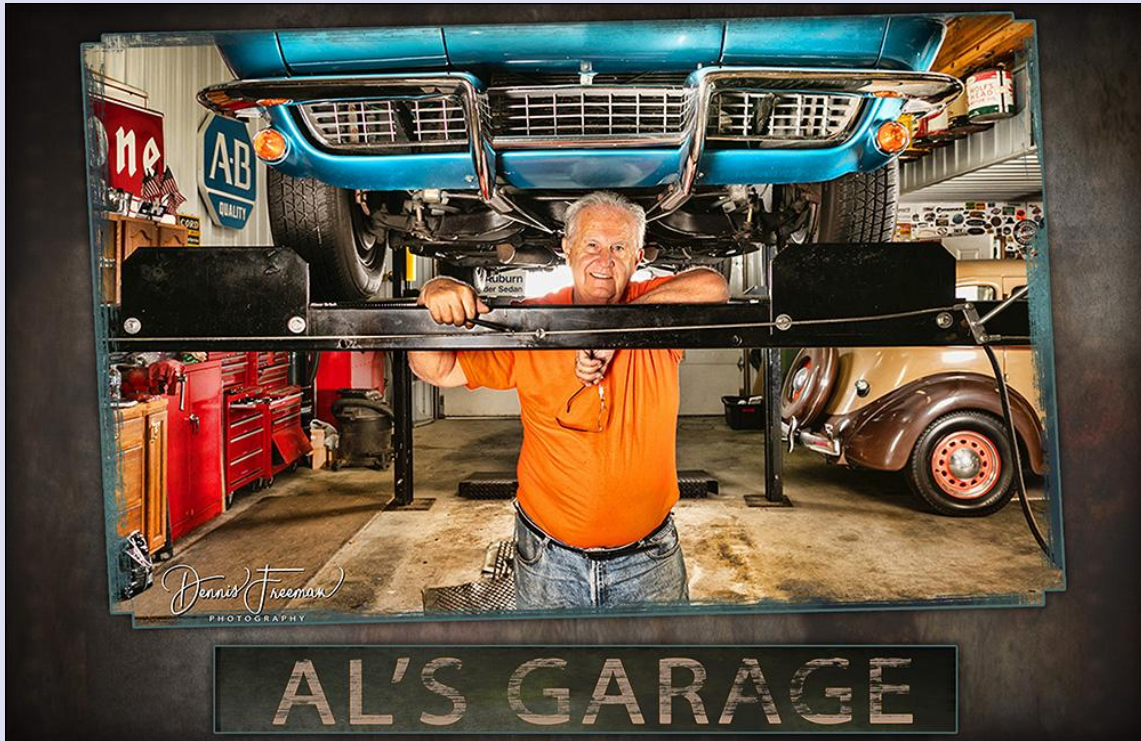
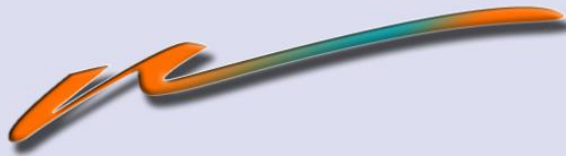


In closing, Cheryl and I wish everyone associated with Back To The Bricks®, the Board of Directors, Committee Members, our Faithful Sponsors, Volunteers, and all of our friends in the Classic Car Community a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

P.S. Back To The Bricks® now has more than 34,000 Facebook LIKES, and counting. For the latest news about future events, giveaways, and more, visit our official Facebook page at Back to the Bricks - Car Cruise, and don't forget to LIKE our [Facebook page](#) if you have not already done so!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE



## Volume #1, Number 3

### 'The ones that got away'.

We have all heard the phrase, 'the fish that got away'. Obviously that phrase can be applied to a number of things such as fishing, hunting and even to the collector car hobby. As you have probably already surmised where I am going with this, I too have a couple of stories about 'the one's that got away'.

Traveling back in time to the early '70's when I was attending college and was newly married, I became aware of a '65 Cobra. It was equipped with a small block, 289 cubic inch Ford motor with four Weber downdraft carburetors, and a four-speed transmission. Asking price: \$6,800.00. At the time, I owned a 1966 Austin Healey 3000 and for all intents and purposes, it was a good car. But the thought of owning a Cobra, would have put me into a totally different league! Not having a full-time job and my wife being a newly hired teacher, we were not overly flushed with money. I tried to talk the owner of the Cobra into taking the 'Big Healey' as part of the sale, but his answer was 'cash works best for me'. Enrolled in college, no full-time job, fresh out of the service and no savings, I had to pass on the Cobra. Fast forward to today. If I were to own the Cobra today, my 401K plan would have looked great as most Cobras are now selling well into the seven-figure range and yes, it got away from me!

Traveling back to the early '70's again the next car that got away from me was

a 1952 300S Mercedes convertible coupe. From 1952 to 1957, Mercedes total production for this model was a mere 760 cars for the entire global market. The owner of this car was in my wedding. He purchased the car in 1962 when he was working in Germany and had it shipped back to the U.S. Deciding he did not want the car any longer, he put it up for sale for \$5,000.00. My wife and I went to see it with the thoughts that we might be able to make a deal. Our efforts proved to be fruitless, and we had to pass on the car for the very same reasons that we had to pass on the Cobra.

Today, the 300S Mercedes are valued in the three hundred-thousand-dollar range and they are highly collectable. The brighter side of this car is that, my friend still owns the car! Unfortunately, the car is no longer for sale and it just sits in storage on a slow journey back to nature. Along with that fact, yours truly is fast approaching the age that a full and complete restoration project is fading faster than a double 'A' top fuel dragster that runs the 1,000 foot drag strip. And as the story goes, 'I thought I might catch it, but it got away'.

Have a 'Merry Christmas and a great 'New Year,' with wishes that your dream car does not 'get away'.

Keep on Rollin'

Al Hatch

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