

Yankee Spirit

publication of the Rolls-Royce Owners Club of New England

Volume 24 No. 1

Harvard University Museum of National History

In this newsletter, we present a sampling of the Yankee Region activities that occurred between December 2021 and November 2022.



Simple tools used by the Blaschkas

The first event during that time period was held at the Harvard University Museum of Natural History, which was followed by dinner in the Harvard Faculty Club. Our visit in the Museum began with a short lecture on the Glass Flowers: The Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models of Plants. The collection of 4,300 glass reproductions (not all of them on display at a time) was created by the father and son team of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka between 1886 and 1936.

Former Harvard Professor George Lincoln Goodale wanted the collection to assist his teaching of botany courses. There are 847 species, and every specimen is life-size. The glass reproductions are always “in bloom” and this allows them to be studied year-round. Elizabeth C. Ware and her daughter Mary Lee Ware funded acquisition of the collection in the name of Dr. Charles Eliot Ware.



Liriodendron
Tulipifera



Yankee Region
Members at the
Museum Lecture

Six years ago, the exhibit underwent its first renovation and included rebuilding the historic display cases, the installation of new lighting and a conservation system, and a careful review of each instrument.

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Museum of National History *continued*

Several members of the Yankee Region asked frequently posed questions—“Are they really composed of glass?” The answer, of course, is yes. While viewing the flowers, one can often hear a visitor state, “They look so real.” Some of the flowers include fine wire to help with shaping.

Due to the age and structural sensitivity of the collection and being subjected to temperature and humidity fluctuations, repairs are occasionally required. The Museum takes great steps to avoid damage by controlling temperature, humidity, and light levels in the display area and storage.



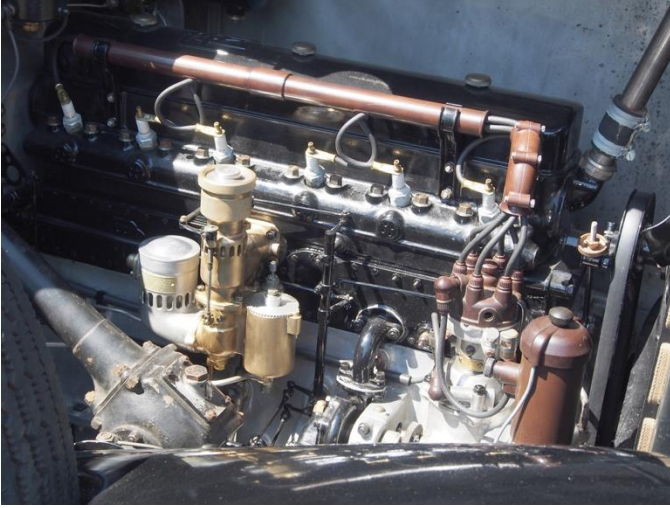
After our Museum visit, the group of more than 30 guests walked to the nearby Harvard Faculty Club for an extraordinary dinner. Due to COVID restrictions in place at the time, the Yankee Region was the only group in the facility that evening.

The Museum is open to the public.

For more information, view their website at <https://hmn.harvard.edu/glass-flowers>.



The Yankee Region at British Car Day

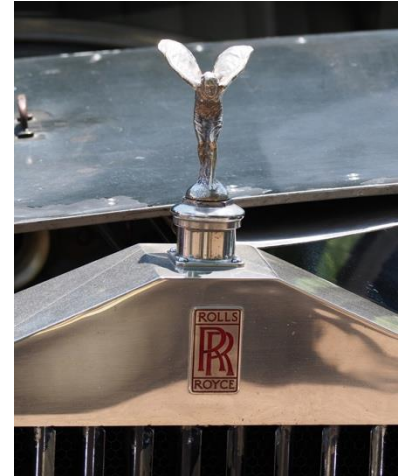


Every summer, the Larz Anderson Auto Museum in Brookline, MA schedules *British Car Day* on the Museum's grounds. They kindly reserve a section for our motorcars near the Museum's entrance. Yankee Region members often arrive early to acquire a spot in the shade.

This year, more than 15 members of the club attended and most drove a Rolls-Royce or

Bentley to the event on the warm and sunny day. Cars ranged in age from 1929 to recent models and included many body styles, such as, dropheads, saloons, and a Touring Limousine.

For more information about the Museum, view their website at <https://larzanderson.org/>. Their 2023 calendar and information about next summer's British Car Day should be available in the early spring.



Former Yankee Region Chair Steve Gordon's one-owner 1989 Bentley Eight.



Ned and Jan Niemiec's 1966 Phantom IV Touring Limousine. A very rare vehicle.

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The Yankee Region at British Car Day... continued



Yankee Region Chair Gus Niewenhous's 1966 Bentley T-Type next to a 2007 Bentley Azure Mark II.

This original and beautiful (plus gorgeous, stunning and more) 1929 Rolls-Royce, displayed by Yankee Region member Nathaniel Pulsifer, has remained in his family since it was a new motorcar. Clearly, and judging by the unending and admiring parade of onlookers, the car was the hit of the show.



Bill Reynolds' 1989 Rolls-Royce Silver Spur heads a line of Yankee Region motorcars that also includes Bruce Male's 1976 Bentley S3 (see Male's Motorology card on the back).

YANKEE REGION AT THE BRITISH INVASION



In celebrating its 31st year, the British Invasion was held in Stowe, Vermont in early September. Former Yankee Region Chair and British Invasion founder, Michael Gaetano, was the ringmaster once again.

Although the event was not held in 2020 due to COVID-19, and attendance in 2021 was lower than pre-COVID levels due to restrictions still in place, the 2022 event showcased about 550 cars and motorcycles. Awards were earned in 67 classes and included 131 vehicles. Jay Miller of Little Compton, RI won the Best of Show Award for his stunning 1939 Bentley 4 ¼ Litre Saloon.

Activities began on Friday with vendor set-ups and show car registrants retrieving their official materials. On Friday evening the annual street party offered live music, food, and many show cars lining Main St.



*1933 Rolls-Royce Shooting Brake
owned by John and Kathryn Harlow of
Enfield, NH.*

Saturday began with a lifting fog that yielded to a sunny and warmer-than-anticipated day. Sunscreen was a needed accessory. Yankee Region members entered numerous vehicles and the Rolls-Royce Owners Club headquarters had representatives present. Field events concluded with the distributions of awards—including a drive-by—to Concours d’Elegance entrants, British Attire competition, and show field cars.

Continued on page 6

British Invasion... continued

Activities continued throughout the weekend. At the end of Saturday's show on the field, John Robison of J. E. Robison and Enfield Restorations generously sponsored a reception for Yankee Region members in Winfields, as he has several times over the years. Following the reception, the Region and their guests enjoyed dinner at the Snowflake. Sunday included a 70-minute morning Notch Run drive through rural Vermont, and the assembly of cars by colors back on the show field.

More information, including next year's dates, is available at www.britishinvasion.com.



1954 Bentley R-Type, owned by Christina and Paul McCaffrey of Burlington, VT.

*BEST OF CONCOURS
1939 Bentley 4 ¼ Litre
Saloon, owned by Jay
Miller, Little Compton, RI.*



2022 Monaco Grand Prix

Four RROC certified concours judges attended this year's Monaco Grand Prix including Yankee Region Chair Gus Niewenhaus, Yankee Region members Steve Gordon and Bob Doyle, and Jaguar Association of New England President and Chief Judge Aldo Cipriano (certified by RROC and JCNA).



The judges stayed in a hotel next to a segment of the 3.337 km long racetrack. During breakfast on race day, their conversation was interrupted by the sound of engines running at high rpms. Outside of the hotel restaurant's windows, the race cars were conducting a practice round. The judges and the vehicles were separated only (see photo of car caught with a high speed camera) by a low barrier and a wire fence.

Cars parked in front of the Hermitage Hotel varied but usually included five McLarens, numerous Rolls-Royces and Bentleys, Maseratis, Ferraris, Lamborghinis, and even the Batmobile.

The event, which enjoyed its first running in 1929, was held over the weekend of May 27-28 with the Formula 2 race on Saturday and the Formula 1 race on Sunday. Many refer to the race as one of the *Triple Crown of Motorsport*, along with the Indianapolis 500 and the 24 Hour of Le Mans.

Although most Formula One races restarted after World War II in September 1945, Monaco did not restart until two years later due to financial constraints. There were several other years when the race was not held. For example, it was canceled in 1949 due to the death of Prince Louis II; in 1953 and 1954 due to modifications to race car regulations; and in 2020 due to COVID-19.



Graham Hill became known as Mr. Monaco after he won five times in the 1960s. Michael Schumacher, a seven-time world champion, later tied Hill's record when he won for the fifth time. Hill's and Schumacher's records, however, were broken when Ayrton Senna won for the sixth time in 1993, including five times in-a-row.

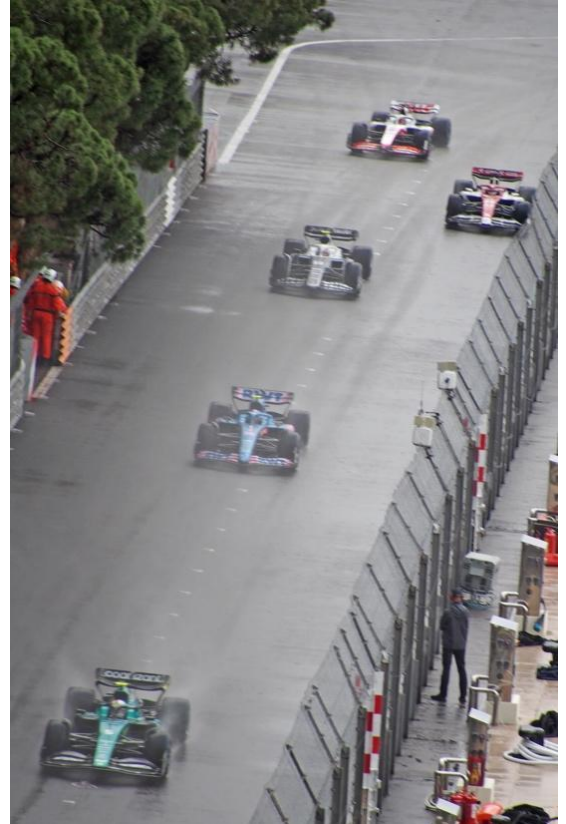
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Monaco Grand Prix... continued

Seventeen of this year's twenty entrants completed 63 to 64 laps, while one dropped out due to an accident and two dropped out due to mechanical problems. The fastest lap was performed by Britain's Lando Norris driving a McLaren-Mercedes with a time of 1:11:376 minutes on lap 55.

Practice laps occurred beginning on Friday and reoccurred several times over the three days. Because the events utilize Monte Carlo's roads, including those lining the harbor with yachts full of spectators, access to certain parts of the city was inaccessible at various times during the weekend. Every balcony in the city with a view of the racecourse was loaded to capacity with those who wished to witness the event. Due to the high decibel roar of the engines, ear plugs were distributed to almost anyone within hearing distance of the cars.

The only British makes in the race were two Aston Martin Aramco-Mercedes cars. There were three British drivers: George Russell finished 5th in a Mercedes; Lando Norris finished 6th driving a McLaren-Mercedes; and Carl Davidson finished 8th in a Mercedes. Other makes included Ferrari, Alpine-Renault, Alfa Romeo-Mercedes, Alfa Romeo-Ferrari, and several additional make combinations.



Each year, the race is scheduled to run for two hours. However, the time period of 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. was interrupted by a rain delay. With the restart, Sergio Perez (Red Bull) took the lead and held it for the remainder of the race. He was closely followed by Carlos Sainz Jr. (Ferrari), Max Verstappen (Red Bull), and Charles Leclerc (Ferrari). Perez finished the 64 laps with a time of 1:56:30 followed by Sainz at 1.154 seconds behind him, Verstappen 1.491 seconds behind, and Leclerc 2.922 seconds behind.

Members of the Yankee Region should consider attending the Monaco Grand Prix.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

The world paused on September 8, 2022 to reflect upon the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. She will be remembered in the words of the Accession Proclamation of H.M. King Charles III as “the late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious memory.”

H.M. Queen Elizabeth II celebrated the 70th anniversary of her accession as Queen of the United Kingdom and seven independent Commonwealth Countries upon the death of her father, H.M. King George VI, on February 6, 1952. She had spent the overnight at Treetops Hotel in the then Kenyan Colony when H.R.H. Prince Phillip told her the sad news about her father. She was proclaimed Queen in the United Kingdom and her realms and the Commonwealth by the time she returned to London.

She was greeted by Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill, who had already served five monarchs after receiving his army commission during the reign of her great, great grandmother, H.M. Queen Victoria. Queen Victoria’s reign was the longest in history until surpassed by Queen Elizabeth in 2015. Churchill best summed up the accession when he said “I, whose youth was passed in the august, unchallenged and tranquil glories of the Victorian Era, may well feel a thrill in invoking, once more, the prayer and the Anthem, ‘God Save the Queen!’”



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill

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Queen Elizabeth II... continued



Since then, H.M. Queen Elizabeth visited countless countries and admirably fulfilled her oath as sovereign, thus beginning a new Elizabethan Age. Her accession also marked the beginning of Roll-Royce replacing Daimler as the State car.

It is also of note that since there is always a sovereign, the Royal Standard is never flown at half-staff for any reason. We, as members of the Rolls Royce Owners Club, should take consolation in her son's fondness as Prince of Wales and now King Charles III of the magnificent 1950 Roll-Royce Phantom IV (4AF2) with H.J. Mulliner Coachwork. The motorcar was first presented to then Princess Elizabeth in a valentine green livery and subsequently re-painted royal claret and black upon her accession in 1952.

God Save the King!



The 1950 Rolls-Royce Phantom IV State Landaulette.



A Leisurely Goodbye to Summer

Yankee Region members and guests gathered in Portsmouth, Rhode Island to mark the last unofficial weekend of summer at the Newport Polo Association match against England. This annual event with our own dedicated space has become a Yankee Region favorite to display our Bentleys and Rolls Royces and catch up with one another. We enjoyed delicious tailgate fare by Andy amidst a fantastic match with England taking the win. The day was leisurely and the weather picture perfect as we took shade under our favorite summer hats and tent. We hope more of you will join us next year once the polo schedule is posted.



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