

Ramblings of the Editor  
by Brian M Yacino

Hi, it's show time again! Participation in our annual Rambler Show is kind of like voting - it's not just about the other guy - you are important, too! I know that not everyone can make it to the show, but it's best for us and the hobby that we do our best to support a show. If you're not attending because you're working, or have family commitments, then I agree -- the show is only a show, and we all have our priorities. But if you're not going because you think that you are not important, or that your car isn't good enough, then you probably should go and see what really goes on at our regional get-together. It may surprise you to find that we're not a bunch of monkeys running around in coveralls and crawling under cars all weekend. On the contrary, we look pretty suave and cool walking around in our clean 4 Seasons golf shirts (suitable to wear to work, church or even family gatherings). We bring the families and kids aged 0 and up. At our show, your kids actually vote for their favorite car and award a trophy. We have a convertible class and a station wagon class, separate from sedan and muscle classes. We have too many raffle prizes.



What if the regional show never happens - so what? Well, if we have no show, we can't tell non-4 Seasons people that we're here. If we can't cultivate an interest outside of our group, we can't attract new members as old members leave. How can we sell our cars (or find better cars) when it's time - the only people interested will already be in the group, and they will already have cars. How can we get parts vendors to New England if it's not worth packing up their trucks and driving 300 miles? How can we tear our local parts vendors away from Ebay, only to spend hours loading a truck, unloading at the show, then loading most of the same parts back on again (after spending their profits on gas, food, and motel room)? How can we sell or trade our extra parts if no one outside of the group knows what a Rambler is? Why in the world would Webb's, or Kennedy, or J.C. Whitney, or Auto Exotica, or Kanter want to continue stocking and developing parts for us if the market for the parts is not going to make it worth their while? One reason we maintain this club is to help our members find parts and service. Another reason is long-term -- keep the Rambler / Nash / Hudson AMC names alive for us, for the parts suppliers, and for future generations!

Do you know why you can build a '57 Chevy "out of a box" (you can buy almost every part brand-new, reproduced)? Is it because it was a better or more stylish car than others? No, not even close. '57 Chevys were not that stylish, and they weren't an especially great car. Ford outsold them and Chrysler outstyled them. Rambler beat them in economy, engine reliability, and even cubic inches by making a 327 V-8 5 years before Chevy. The reason there are so many reproduction parts is that there's an interest! That's it -- it's not politics, it's pure economics. Create a market, and suppliers will recognize the demand.

So, that's it. Enjoy your car, support your local show, and enjoy your car as you enjoy others enjoying your car. See you at the show?