

# The Falcon Times



*The Official Newsletter of the Northeast Chapter Falcon Club of America*



**Volume 13, Issue 1**  
**January, 2020**

1963 Falcon convertible  
Owners: Donna Walker and Jake Testa

# ***President's Message: Winter Work***

## **Chapter Officers**

### **President:**

*Rick Bowes #103  
245 South Main Street  
Coventry, RI 02816  
(401) 529-8840  
[falconsprint@aol.com](mailto:falconsprint@aol.com)*

### **Vice President:**

*Carl Waters  
72 Windy Hill Road  
Westbrook, CT  
(860) 227-9163  
[thefalconkid@att.net](mailto:thefalconkid@att.net)*

### **Secretary:**

*Stan Porter #527  
1884 Flat River Road  
Coventry, RI 02816  
(401) 439-0427  
[sporter@cadenceinc.com](mailto:sporter@cadenceinc.com)*

### **Treasurer:**

*Bill Warburton #448  
740 Tunk Hill Road  
Hope, RI 02831  
(401) 647-9266  
[billwarb@cox.com](mailto:billwarb@cox.com)*

## **Chapter Editors**

### **Newsletter:**

*Mary Ellen Molski  
114 Burnham Street  
Berlin, CT 06037  
(860) 690-2390  
[nefcaeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:nefcaeditor@yahoo.com)*

### **Website:**

*Gary Nenninger #232  
66 Willowbrook Road  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
[gnenninger@comcast.net](mailto:gnenninger@comcast.net)*

Hi Everyone,

My 63 wagon was a 6 cylinder and I have converted it to a 289. Because of this I'm converting the front end to a 5 lug V8 suspension. I purchased the 65 V8 front end kit from Falcon-parts.com. I'm using 65 Mustang spindles, they are the same as 65 Falcon. I figured this would be an easy conversion. For the most part it has been. The biggest problem I have had is installing the coil springs. I've done this several times and have never had this hard of a time. I have the real Ford spring compressor for this job. But it wasn't working. I actually broke down and went to YouTube and found a video to install the coils to see if there was something I was missing. I found the problem.

I ordered new spring perches that bolt to the upper control arm. I wrongly assumed they were for a Falcon. What I found out is they are for a 65 Mustang. They don't make them for the Falcon and they are different. The Falcon's stop for the end of the coil goes to the outside (near the ball joint). The Mustang stop goes to the inside. All you have to do is turn the perch to the inside and problem is solved. Would have been nice if there was a note included with the part! I will finish the rest of the front suspension later this week. Next project is converting to disc brakes. I will have pictures for the next newsletter.

How is your project going? Have you ordered the parts you need? Are you in the take-apart mode or are you starting to put things back together? Let us know how you are doing on your project. Send Mary Ellen pictures of your project and progress.

Keep warm and keep improving your Falcon!

Rick

### ***About our cover picture:***

Donna Walker and Jake Testa's beautifully restored 1963 Falcon convertible is our cover story! Please see pages 5-6 for an in-depth look into their restoration process, and learn more about "Sweetheart"!

## Treasurer's Report:

**Prepared By:**

Bill Warburton, Treasurer

740 Tunk Hill Rd., Hope, RI 02831

(401) 647-9266 billwarb@cox.net

**Statement**

**Date:** 11/30/2019

Northeast Chapter Falcon Club of America  
Treasurer's Report  
122 Members

DATE	DESCRIPTION	DEPOSITS	CHECKS	ACCOUNT BALANCE
<i>Beginning Balance 10/31/2019</i>				<b>\$11,825.32</b>
11/04/19	Add back lost check #1201	\$90.00		\$11,915.32
11/04/19	#1204 - FCA - new nat'l members 8-17-19		<b>\$90.00</b>	\$11,825.32
11/06/19	Deposit - New member dues	\$8.00		\$11,833.32
11/30/19	#1205 - Mary Ellen Molski - Staples for ink, printing and envelopes		<b>\$151.75</b>	\$11,681.57

December's Report: No Activity Current balance: \$11,681.57 -MEM

## Secretary's Report:

Hi, Everybody!

Nothing new to report this month. Just want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! Stan Porter, Secretary, NEFCA

**2020 Annual Regional Meet August 21–22, 2020**  
**Crown Plaza Hotel & Conference Center**  
**801 Greenwich Ave**  
**Warwick, RI 02886**

**Book your stay now for the best rates and rooms!**  
**\$129/night with Group Code FAL**  
**Reserve directly through Crown Plaza:**  
**401-732-6000**

**\*\*See last page for registration form!\*\***

## Updates from our Members:

### **From Doreen and Jack Ward:**

To Our Falcon Club Members,

Jack and I wish to thank all our Falcon friends for remembering us while Jack was in the hospital and rehab. He is home now and slowly making progress to learn to walk again. Hopefully we will be back to Falcon meetings next spring. The photo was taken at Thanksgiving with our son John, daughter Mariann, and the many cards on the bulletin board at the rehab center. Many thanks and much love, Doreen and Jack



### **2020 NORTHEAST REGIONAL MEET**

Happy New Year!!

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Northeast Regional Meet is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, RI again.

The hotel renovations will be complete, including new furniture in the rooms, and it should be a comfortable stay. The room rate did go up by \$10.00, now it is \$129.00/night. Our banquet price stayed the same at \$36.00 per meal, \$20.00 per child meal.

We are working on scheduling an excursion for those able to join us on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Plans haven't been finalized yet but we will let you know in the not too distant future. The registration form is in the newsletter. Please make your reservations as soon as you can. You can always cancel later if you find you won't be able to make it.

Also, please send your registration in to me. I have a new address, which is at the bottom of the registration form. Feel free to contact any of the officers if you have any questions. Thanks and have a safe and healthy winter.

Cris Bowes

## Passages:

Please join us in offering our deepest condolences to Rick Bowes and family on the passing of his mother, Joan F. (Waldron) Bowes on Thanksgiving, and to the family of Nancy Snyder, wife of Ed Snyder (founder of the Keystone Chapter of the Falcon Club of America) who passed away on December 21 after a long illness. May you find peace in their memories.



## Spotlight: Donna Walker and Jake Testa's '63 "Sweetheart"

*The Falcon Times* recently contacted Donna Walker and Jake Testa to share some of the background details on their 1963 Falcon convertible they brought to one of the meetings this past summer. Here's some of the story, courtesy of Donna:

I purchased the car in 2009 so Jake and I could do a project together. In the past I either sat at car shows and read or just didn't go at all.

Needless to say my car sat dormant for many years (6 at least) before Jake started working on it. We stripped the car down, which didn't take much, removed the motor, and started the body work.

It was painted a pearl white by a friend of ours and there it stayed for another 4 years. I always called it my little sweetheart, hence the hearts. All I wanted was to get this finished so I could show and enjoy the car shows.

So at the 9 year point and with influence from Falcon Club friends (Stan, Rick, and Mike) it is to a point of being 80% complete. Not sure if it will be ready by this summer. We'll see!



original purchase, 2009



original floor, seats removed



fender and frame work



Jake supervising while Rick wires (above)



Sweetheart's power plant (left)



## Spotlight: Donna Walker and Jake Testa's '63 "Sweetheart"

More history on the rebuild:

- ♦ car purchased in 2009 from brother-in-law
- ♦ bartered for a junked 1963 Falcon for parts
- ♦ purchased an additional parts Falcon in Massachusetts
- ♦ purchased seats through another of Jake's friends
- ♦ ordered what could not be bartered or traded for
- ♦ body work and paint purchased from local craftsmen



paint and rear trim work



upholstery and bonnet



Would you like to feature your car in our newsletter? Send your project pictures and descriptions to us at [NEFCAEditor@yahoo.com](mailto:NEFCAEditor@yahoo.com)

Looks great, Donna—  
see you at the show!



**Northeast Chapter  
Falcon CLUB OF AMERICA**

**PRESENTS THE 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL  
REGIONAL FALCON MEET**

*August 21 & 22, 2019 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel  
801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, RI 02886*

**Meet and Banquet Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Falcon Registration Information**

Vehicle Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Body Style: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Engine: \_\_\_\_\_ Stock: \_\_\_\_\_ Lt. Mod. \_\_\_\_\_ Modified \_\_\_\_\_

**Falcon Registration Fee: \$20.00**

**1 @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**or Special Daily Driver Class: \$15.00**

**1 @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Banquet: Saturday August 22, 2020 at 6:00 pm \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$36.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast # \_\_\_\_\_ Baked Scrod # \_\_\_\_\_**

**VENDOR SPACE FEE: \$20.00**

**1 @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

T-Shirts: Sm. \_\_\_\_\_ Med. \_\_\_\_\_ Lg. \_\_\_\_\_ X-Lg. \_\_\_\_\_ XX-Lg. \_\_\_\_\_

Sm., Med., Lg., X-Lg., \$15.00 each XX-Lg. \$18.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Falcon Registration, T-shirts & Banquet Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*For Hotel registrations call the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 401-732-6000 Group Code **FAL***

*Room rates are \$129.00 plus tax per night guaranteed until July 20, 2019*

*You must mention Falcon Club Show when making your reservations.*

**Send this form and remittance payable to: Northeast Chapter FCA,**

**c/o Cristine Bowes, 552 Franklin Road, Coventry, RI 02816**

**For more information, contact Cristine Bowes at (401) 529-2622 or falconsprint@aol.com**

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

**I agree not to hold the Northeast Chapter, the Falcon Club of America, or the Crowne Plaza Hotel responsible for losses, damages, or injuries while at this Convention.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sign Name