

1978-1998

20 Years Of *Car Collector* Magazine

Publishing a magazine about collector cars allows you to always look back, but as you go about your day-to-day business, it's difficult to realize just how fast time is passing by. Then one day you stop and take a real look back and realize another 10 years of your life has just passed by in a period of time that seems like only a couple of years. At *Car Collector*, we've stopped to take a look and it's now been 20 years since the very first issue of January 1978. Although we did a special cover for our January 1993 issue commemorating 15 years in publishing, short of a letter by then publisher Fred Lawson, we didn't really have any special features acknowledging the event. Well, now 20 years has come, and before it's gone, we wanted to celebrate with a little fanfare.

I've been involved with *Car Collector* since the December 1980 issue with a story I did on a 1941 Packard. I've actually only been on the staff of *Car Collector* since the fall of 1984, originally as an editorial assistant. I received the reigns as Editor some time in 1991, taking over from my father who had been the original editor and who set the focus that has changed very little.

I've come to meet a lot of great readers throughout the years, but I have to admit, I'm with *Car Collector* magazine probably for the same reason as the subscribers. I love the great stories from Tom Murray; I can't wait to see the second-to-none photography of Dennis Adler; the sometimes frank,

but always factual articles from Mike Mueller, and the "just found a car you'd be interested in" queries from the rest of my regular contributors. If we didn't have the knowledgeable and enthusiastic contributors, we wouldn't have a magazine. Thanks everyone.

On the following pages we've put



together some special features to celebrate 20 years of publishing. We hope you enjoy this special section. We've included some comments made by contributors who have been with *Car Collector* for many years; some of whom I've had the pleasure to work with, all of whom I have the privilege of calling friends.

West Peterson
Editor

Since May 1991, I have had the privilege of writing the "Old Cars in Law" column in *Car Collector*. Don Peterson, a gentleman and a living legend in his field, graciously approved my proposal, and I was on the team.

I have greatly enjoyed being associated with such a quality, professional, and, frankly, beautiful publication. I have had the luxury of working with a skilled and talented editor, West Peterson, and a topnotch publishing operation, originally in Georgia and now at Patch Communications in Florida. No writer could ask for a better and more supportive environment.

Researching and writing this column is a welcome and pleasurable diversion from my daily media and products liability litigation defense practice. I hope that I have helped our valued readers to increase their awareness and understanding of their legal rights, so that they can enjoy their wonderful hobby even more. I look forward to continuing to perform that service to them in the future.

I appreciate the letters we get from readers who take the trouble to express their enjoyment of my column. It means a great deal to me.

Congratulations to *Car Collector* on its 20th anniversary, and best wishes for continued success in the next 20 years and further down the road.

Lawrence Savell
Columnist 1991-Present