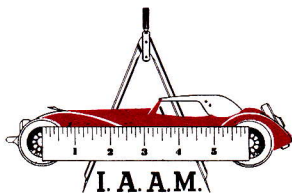


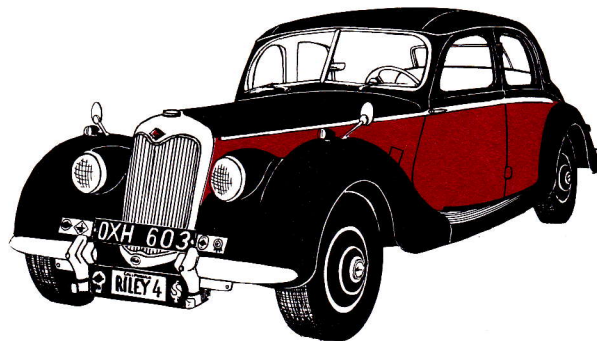
# The Lewis Automotive History Collection

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WILLIAM J. LEWIS  
RESEARCH HISTORIAN AND MODELMAKER



FOUNDER OF  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUTOMOTIVE MODELERS (1951)  
RILEY MOTOR CLUB U.S.A. INC. (1971)



May 18, 1982

Dear Ken & Maureen:

And, greetings to Helen as well. I don't know if any of you are philatelists or not but. I do know that people who appreciate beautiful things, such as Rileys, appreciate ALL kinds of human creative expression.

The enclosed commemorative postage stamp sheet is one which I am proud to share with my overseas friends. It is particularly unique, as its cover folder explains, plus it will provide you with a bit of insight into our States birds and flowers.

I suggest that you protect it and hand it down through family generations as its redeemable value can only increase with the passage of time. I have a single 5 cent Canadian postage stamp which was passed on to me by my Grandfather. If I had only known, at the time, what I know now I would not have removed it from the envelope to place in my stamp album. The stamps value today is between three and five hundred dollars. It would have been twice that on its original envelope of the 1860's.

Anyway, be you stamp collectors or not, this sheet is the very best, instant, study of American State birds and flowers. If you were to memorize them you will have the upper hand in conversation when you visit the U.S.A. You will have knowledge which will, I'm sorry to say, surpass most of our natives.

When you come, and you will, our door is wide open. In fact, we will probably meet you at the street and drag you into the house. Our home will be your Motel while you are in this area. We take particular enjoyment in trying to make our overseas visitors feel at home and relaxed.

You will notice that there are a number of States which use the same kind of bird as their honored emblem. In such cases, looking at a map of the States, these birds are native to a particular wide area. Within that area, they differ in many respects while being the same kind of bird.

So much "for the birds". I have been a stamp "appreciator" for decades. I don't go into it like the stamp addicts but I do have a sizable collection. What is mostly important to ME, about it, is that I have received most of them through correspondence with people over the past 50 years.

Now, I save the whole bloody envelope having learned the folly of my youth with Grandfather's gift. My World wide correspondence is very HEAVY and has been since I was about 12. In adult years, I have accumulated boxes full of the most beautiful commemorative stamps imaginable.