

From the Webmaster

I would like to update the membership of the REO Club of America on the 2020/2021 additions and changes to the website.

First of all, over the past year, the following additions were made to the Members Only section of the website:

1. We have added the following:
 - a. 2 New Parts Manuals
 - b. 14 REO Advertising Brochures
 - c. 16 Maintenance Manuals or short maintenance articles
 - d. 3 Historical Articles
2. I converted all the original REO Echo's from 1973 to 1986 from picture format (as scanned) to Optical Character Recognition (OCR) compliant format which means they can be searched individually on the website by following the directions on the site. The remaining Echo's from 1986 to date were already searchable PDF files.
3. I combined all of the REO Echo's from 1973 to date into one large file that can be searched on the website. This file can be found by using the REO Echo Search Page link on the REO Echo page and searched using the search box at the top of the PDF file. Please be patient as it is a very large file and takes a while to load.
4. A 1927 to 1936 Flying Cloud registry which identifies the model, motor, body, condition and owner as compiled by member Carl Eidsness for reference was added.
5. An index of REO Echo articles has been added and linked to the individual referenced Echo's. This search can be found by clicking on the REO Echo Index link on the REO Echo page. Unfortunately, without purchasing higher priced software, the search only leads to the referenced Echo, but the page number reference is listed so it just a matter of going through the PDF of the Echo to the referenced page.
6. A section named Repair and Maintenance Articles, containing short how-to articles on various repair subjects, was added. These articles are complementary to the Vehicle Owners and Maintenance Manuals.
7. A search function to search the complete Members Only area of the website was added and is located at the top of the Members Only page.
8. Stockton's 1973 Royale letters were added on the Echo page.
9. The Wolverine; Advertising, Instruction Manuals and Speed Wagon Junior was added to both the REO Advertising and Vehicle Owners and Maintenance Manual sections.

I would like to give a big "Thank You" to all of the individual Members who contributed their time and effort to make all these additions possible. And to any of you that may have information that would benefit the membership, please contact the webmaster. Also, when I add an item to the website, I will note the addition at the bottom of the home page with a link to the webmaster blog for the description.

Second, some of the look and feel of the website was updated, most notably in the header area and the menu system.

Third, I would like to take time to address website security. In order to safeguard all personal information residing on the website, we employ Secure Socket Layer technology (https:) and we

change the password regularly. In addition to these methods, we changed the security on the website from GoDaddy Basic to GoDaddy Advanced. Here are the features of Advanced Security:

1. The higher level security automatically scans our website for any malware or other harmful program level threats and automatically corrects any issues that appear.
2. The higher level security blocks known bad actor attacks before these attacks get to our website.
3. Up until this year, we depended on GoDaddy to back up our website to their servers. The higher level security now backs up our website to servers outside of GoDaddy in addition to the internal servers for an extra level of protection.

Based on a request from volunteers that receive requests from the various website contact forms, I added the re-captcha feature to the forms. Re-captcha requires the person to identify miscellaneous items in various pictures in a grid before the form can be submitted. This has greatly reduced the number of automated contacts going to our volunteers.

Fourth, I would like to put out a call to membership for a volunteer that has some knowledge of WordPress, html, php and JavaScript programing to be trained as my backup. Notice, I said some knowledge of WordPress and the programming languages, as I am not in the position to train the volunteer. Please contact me if you feel you have the qualifications through the Webmaster Contact link on the website.

Best Regards,

Jim Zingaro