



SCRIPPS-BOOTH REGISTER

LUXURIOUS LIGHT CARS

SCRIPPS-BOOTH CORPORATION

981 BEAUFAIT AVE.

NUMBER 22
JANUARY 2016

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Overview of Number 22

I got a little behind this past fall due to teaching (I usually only teach in the spring semester), and I had 2 classes to teach and grade before Christmas (in addition to my regular research job). So this issue is coming out a month or so later than planned. This turned out to be a good thing because I can include some correspondence with Tom Booth regarding the Vitesse.

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Correspondences with Bruce Mackey in IL

Bruce sold his father's SB emblem on Ebay earlier in 2015. I contacted him to find out more. Apparently his father owned a Scripps-Booth in the 1920s or 1930s and lived in Chicago and northern Illinois when he owned the car. Hopefully the emblem ended up in good hands.



If anyone knows more of what happened to Bruce's father's car, please email. But, it's likely to not have survived the scrap drive of the 40s. It should be a Chicago area car.

Bruce also sent a few pictures from his father's photo collection, taken in the 1930s, of what he thought was the car. However, upon inspection, the cars were definitely 1930s cars or other brands. His father did apparently have a wide variety of interesting cars in his life.





Mystery Scripps-Booth on Ebay

In 2013 the following Scripps-Booth was seen on Ebay. We believe the auction ended early and the whereabouts of the car are unknown. Any knowledge in what became of it or help in locating it would be very helpful.



Correspondences with Tom Booth in MI

Hello Trevor,

Welcome to the Scripps-Booth Register.
I have a couple of questions about the Vitesse

There is a reference to it in the #10 Register in the last section regarding Tire Sizes and Rim Sizes.

The article states "The spec sheet for the 1916 "Vitesse" NYC showcar ... "

My question is do you have a copy of the Vitesse spec sheet in the Scripps-Booth archives?

There is a reference to the Vitesse in the #12 Register. "...make a reproduction of the 1916 Vitesse Roadster (the New York Automobile Show Car). ... "
Any more info about that project?

In the Number 21 Register there is a note about a reproduction being completed by Alan Travis. "Frank's 1916 Vitesse reproduction V8 speedster was sold by the Kleptz estate to Alan Travis in Florida. It was 90% completed and Alan hopes to finish the speedster in time for the next "Great Race." Several pictures of this fantastic S-B car are found on Alan website." I recently spoke to Alan and he has the car almost 95% complete. He probably

would rather that you contact him to get the information directly rather than from me.

Best regards,
Tom Booth
Birmingham, MI

Dec. 21 2015

Hello Tom,

Good to hear from you.

Last week was finals week at my university and I've just finished that and my teaching. My fall has been a little disjointed (I usually only teach winter-spring...) and that has pushed back the register, and my Xmas shopping, into mid-to-late December. I might get to it this week, but it might be next week when I can look in the archives.

(#10 Register) I don't know for sure, I will look in the archives. This will take a week or so.

(#12 Register.) When I visited Ken in 2014 his 1918 Model D and his Whiting appeared in good shape, but he was still working on his other Scripps-Booth. I don't know if he's trying to make it a Vitesse anymore. He said it was almost back on the road (mine is a similar state, but it might be running around Christmas).

(Number 21) Do you have an email for Alan Travis? It appears there are about 18 people with that name in Florida. I've seen a picture of it before, but I can't find his webpage or email, I don't believe I've ever corresponded with him. Ken's records don't include emails, which is something I'm hoping to change.

<http://www.greatrace.com/news/1915-scripps-booth-update.html/attachment/alan-travis-car>

Best and Merry Christmas,

Trevor

The Vitesse spec sheet follows on the next pages.

*Scripps-Booth Company
Detroit, Mich*

August 11/16

MARKHAM'S AUTOMOTIVE LIBRARY
RENO, NEVADA

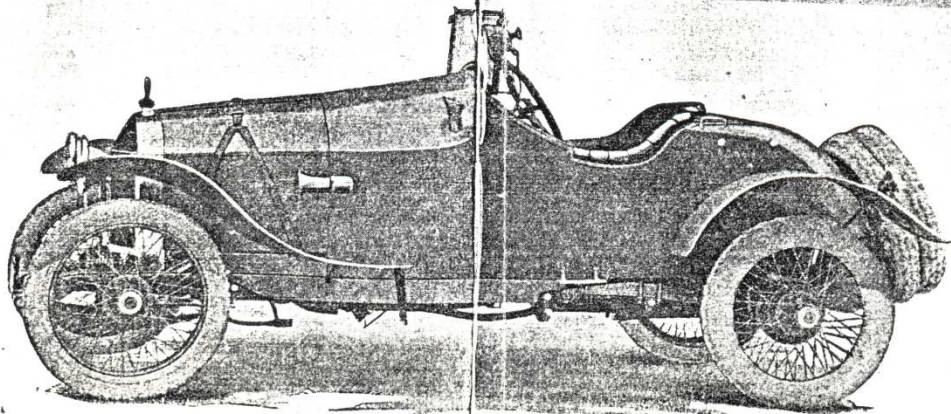
Vitesse

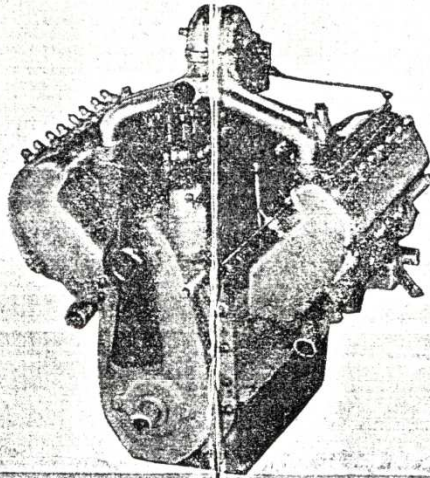
2584, 16, & 2



1916

2584





SCRIPPS-BOOTH "VITESSE" Speedster Model 75 to 80 miles per hour—Sporting Type
Price \$1250

Engine—35 h. p. actual; eight cylinder, high-speed, valve-in-head type, bore 2 3/4", stroke 3 3/4", cast en bloc with gear box in unit.
Lubrication—Pump, pressure gauge on instrument board.
Carburetor—"Zenith," double, hand and foot throttle control.
Ignition—Atwater-Kent, automatic advance.
Self-Starting and Lighting—Electric "Wagner" 6 volt, double unit. Bendix drive for starter motor, belt driven special generator, starting switch on instrument board; two bulb dimmer headlights and tail-light, shrouded instrument board and foot space lights.
Cooling—Thermo-syphon.
Clutch—Multiple disc, dry plate.
Transmission—Three forward and one reverse sliding gears, tubular shaft, spiral bevel drive axle.
Gear Control—Central gate change.
Brakes—Contracting and expanding on rear wheel drums, connected by piano wire cable, preventing all rattle; easily and instantly adjusted.
Axes—Front, I-beam; rear, three-quarter floating, Hyatt roller bearings throughout.
Tires—Six 32"x4" or 31"x4" Goodyear or United States optional.
Wheels—Six detachable, triple-laced, Houk wire wheels, 32"x4", straight side rims or 30"x3 1/2" clincher with 31"x4" tires.
Springs—Front, semi-elliptic with over-slung frame; rear, full floating cantilever.
Gasoline Tank—13 gallons with contents' gauge. Extra oil tank in shroud for long distance work.

Wheelbase—115 inches.
Tread—56 inches.
Weight—2100 pounds.
Painting—Optional.
Body—Luxurious streamline, two passenger, tumble-home stern, low seats, spacious leg room. Motor-boat type dash ventilators (swivel).
Upholstery—Black, Spanish Red or Green.
Radiators—"V" shape polished German silver.
Fenders—Plain floating without moulding.
Foot Pedals—Foot accelerator, brake and clutch pedals.
Horn—2 Buttons. Operated by a 3-inch push in center of steering wheel; second button for passenger.
Windshield—Single section with easy adjustment.
Fittings and Instruments—All instruments mounted on board in sight of driver, including oil pressure gauge, flush dial trip speedometer, electric ammeter, starting, lighting and dimming switches; carburetor strangler, etc.; shrouded instrument and foot space; special brackets for front and rear number plates; dash searchlight; shock absorbers; large motometer; Mercedes triangular hood straps; aluminum steps (no running boards); two exhaust cut-out latches one for each block of motor on floor convenient to driver's right hand; automobile blue book.
Tools—Very complete;— Pump, jack, tool kit, special wheel spanners, emergency starting handle, etc.

Scripps-Booth Vitesse

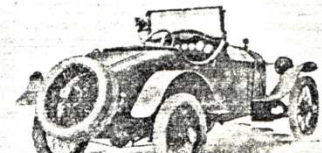
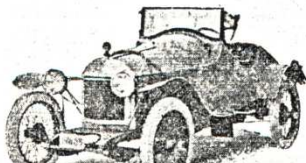
The First Multi-cylinder Speed Car

Speed in combination with foreign body lines is the spirit of the new Scripps-Booth "Vitesse" model. (Pronounced Vee-tess.)

This car is built as a sport type of vehicle for those to whom a guaranteed speed of 75 miles per hour has an appeal, and with this speed shows in combination, an eight-cylinder engine and the most sporty lines and equipment which is possible to furnish.

No speedster model has ever approached the completeness or handiness of the new Scripps-Booth "Vitesse." Its appearance is consistent with Scripps-Booth productions, this statement alone indicating its high appearance standard.

The specifications above are but an indication of how far the luxury idea has been carried out in this speedster type addition to the Scripps-Booth line.



Correspondences with Dag Runar Grinaker in Norway

Dag Runar Grinaker collects antique engines and has various Scripps-Booth parts. These might be available for those interested.

Hallo att! Dette er en komplett motor-utenom forgasser.Den er med gearkasse og ellers komplett! Viser til bildene. Kan dette være ein Sripss Booth Corporation motor? Mvh: Dag Runar Grinaker. 3840 Seljord. NORGE-NORWAY.



Hello Dag. My Norwegian and Google Translate is not that great. I think I understand. This could be a Scripps-Booth motor, but similar motors were also used in Oaklands and other GM cars.

Do you know the history of you engine?

I recently purchased a similar motor too (attached).
Trevor

Hallo again! Thanks for the answer and the Picture! Iam not soo good in English-it can bee some wrong with my writing,but i hope You understand me. No a know not the exact history at the car? But the Place where the motor stud,it was some more div Scripps Booth parts. But this parts a have sold it for about 20 year since.(The parts was Radiator kappe-Hood/Panser-Torpedo unit and some another small parts). But a have the Scripps Booth emblem - the front emblem/Radiator emblem'et. The motor came from the same place as the another Scripps Booth parts, iam have told here. Maybee it is a Scripps Booth motor, aim is owner too? The motor come from a near place/15kilometer from the place where a live/my house. I live in/at a very small place in NORGE-NORWAY. I have

some another old motors,Daniels V8 motor ca.1916-18mod - Buick 6syl motor ca.1914-16mod - Contiental motor parts ca1922-25mod. Hope You understand what a meen/my wrihting. Mvh: Dag Runar Grinaker. 3840 Seljord. NORGE - NORWAY.

That is a nice collection of engines you have. What do you know about the V8 in IMGP0428? That could possibly be a Ferro V8, which was used in some Scripps-Booth cars too. I have not had time to check with my references, but it could be a Ferro or GM V8.

What is your plan for the engines?

Do you have any old cars too? I currently have 6: my Scripps-Booth, 1965 Isuzu Bellel, 1971 Pontiac GTO, 1962 Rover P5, 1951 Jeep,

Hello! That is a very very Nice Collection of cars you have. The V8 engine are -not sure but after someone References it could be to DANIELS 1916-17mod car or to STANDARD in Pensylvania or another car types? I think the engine are built by Herscell- Spillman Co of North Tonawanda.NY after mine Reference,but not sure that is safe? My plan for the engines ? maybe i will sell-for sale!! Have you some price ide/how much can i take for the engine-are they ship or expensiv in USA? I have some old cars too! 1931 OPEL 12B (small car With 6syl engine-4Door.The car are in good -ok condioton/not in mint shape!) + 2.stk.1933 OPEL 18N but this car need a total restouration(that is car with the same engineand chassi but some diffrence body etc!). + 2stk GMC 6x6 from the second world war. + 1965 FORD MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE (Factory GT, A-code,with Bench Seat and all GT option-Rally Pack etc and tinted/farget glass). + 1969 VOLVO Amazon Combi/Station Wagon(the last mod of Combi wagon-need some light restoration!). + 1986 VOLVO 360 GL (orginal in ok-conditon). Some MC 1936 BMW R12-750ccm (ok conditon) + 1955 DKW RT2-250ccm(at in restoration). + 1961 MZ RT3-125ccm (ok conditon). + 1976 YAMAHA RD - 125ccm (good nice conditon). + 1977 SUZUKI GT-125ccm (very nice conditon) ++ some another small light mc-50ccm). Mvh: Dag Runar Grinaker.

Scripps-Booth Speedo Inquiry from Gene Felton

I have a bill of sale for a Scripps Booth no 10309c license no 159,665 originally sold in Brooklyn NY

www.genefeltonrestorations.com

Hello Gene,

Sorry for the late reply, we have been on vacation. Do you know what year (I might normally know from the number, but don't have the files with us)? Can you send a picture of it? When we get back home, I will have to go through my records and see if we've seen one before.

Thanks,

Trevor

Hi Trevor,

Not meaning to be a pest but could you give me some idea of who to contact to discover what I have here

As I mentioned previously I have a bill of sale dated May 14 19 where my Grand Dad purchased A Scripps Booth motor car but this Warner piece probably was from one of his other cars or repair jobs

Thanks for any help

Gene Felton



Gene,

Thanks, seeing this helps. I would be extremely surprised if the Warner was from a Scripps Booth.

I'm back in Ohio and I'm attaching a picture of the dash of my care (1919) and an earlier car (1915-1917).

Your Warner looks like an older piece. I'm not familiar with these, but I'm copying Ken Kauffman, an expert of early Chevrolets. He might know if he's seen one before.

Can you take a picture of the Scripps-Booth receipt?

Thanks,

Trevor

Ken was able to chime in on this as well:

Hi Trevor

My computer is having problems again! I too think the Warner speedo was an earlier one. I would search the web for WARNER, Stewart, and combined.

Regards

Ken

Correspondences with Debbie

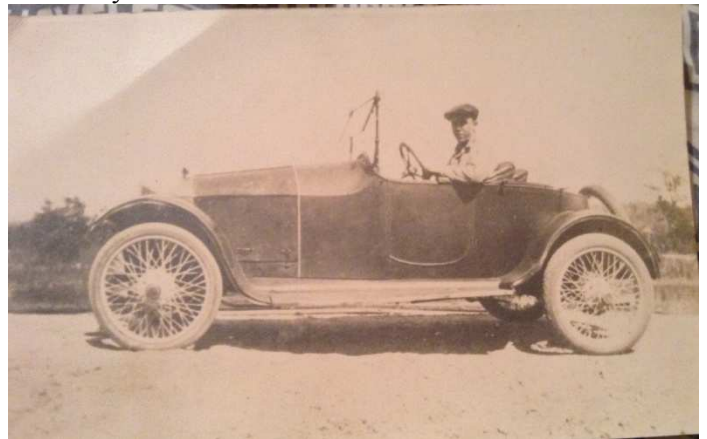
August 9, 2015

This is my grandfather Carl Altrock. All the back of the picture says is "Dad and his Scripps. "

I was wondering if you could tell me what kind of car this is?

Thank you

Debbi haynes



August 9, 2015

Hello Debbie,

This looks very much like a Scripps-Booth. It should be a 1915-1917 model, like the one attached. It would either

have had a V8 or 4 cylinder engine. If you have any other pictures, I might be able to tell you more.

Can you tell me more about your father's car? Do you when he owned it and what state it was in?

Thanks,

Trevor

August 12, 2015

It was my grandfathers first car. He was very proud of it . He bought it around 1920 I believe in Manistee Michigan. His name was Carl Altrock.

Thank you for the fast response. I have more pictures of it but I have not located them yet. So many photo albums too look through. I am in the process of trying to organize them so I will email more to you when I find them if you want to see them. The pictures you sent me , that car was prettier than my grandfathers ! Lol

Thanks

Debbi haynes

Scripps Booths in Film

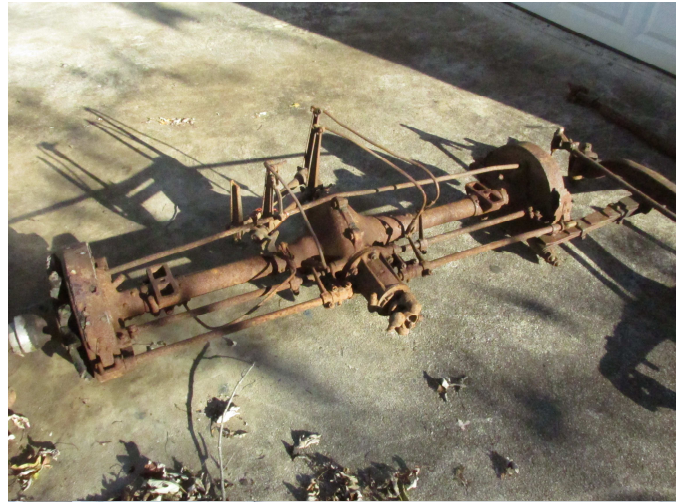
The Internet Movie Car Database (imcdb.com) finally has a Scripps-Booth category. However, it was revised/edited down to all but remove it. I'm not sure what happened, but I will contact the editor I was interacting with again. So far only *Centinnial* is listed, hopefully we'll find other instances Scripps-Booth in film and video as time goes on. I will try to get them to add the Kirby-Pollard 60 minutes piece as well.

Scripps-Booths on Display

If anyone has pictures of the Scripps-Booths on display from The Petersen Museum's special exhibit, "Town cars: Arriving in Style," I would be interested. The Petersen Museum never responded to my request for pictures.

Scripps-Booth Parts in Illinois

I recently found out about and bought a set of Scripps-Booth parts from Paul Jacobs in Libertyville, IL. George Albright emailed me about an ad in AACA about them. George believed it included a Sterling motor, but they're definitely Scripps-Booth parts (including a few hubcaps) and the engine is a Northway I-6, like my other 2. These parts apparently originally came from James Manz in Mundelein. If these are associated with the mystery Scripps-Booth above, that would solve one mystery. Any details on this car's history would be interesting and helpful to me.



Scripps-Booth Bibliography

Scripps-Booths have been written about in various car magazines over the years. Interest in Scripps-Booths might be increasing since they have been featured in at least 3 publications since 2008.

Combing through our past issues and updating for recent publications, we compiled a list of article related to Scripps-Booths. If you know of other articles (there are noticeably large gaps between 1981 and 2008, 1959 and 1975, and

1920-1950), please send details to us at scrippsboothregister@gmail.com.

Our list is as follows (this information will also appear on the new webpage itself):

- Bill Cuthbert, "The Machines of James Scripps-Booth," *HCCA Horseless Carriage Gazette*, Sept-Oct 2014, pp. 26-29
- "1916 Scripps-Booth Model C Roadster," *Collectible Automobile*, June 2008, pp. 20-23
- Jason Weems (Ed.), *James Scripps Booth: Artist, Engineer, Polymath*, 2008
- Tad Burness, *Ultimate Auto Album*, 2001, pp. 58
 - Art and description of the Rocket
- Marian Dinwiddle, "Hobbyist's extensive engine collection to be sold," *Old Cars*, Oct. 5, 2000, pp. 90, 121
 - Details about the late Oren Isham's engine collection, includes a picture of a 1916 S-B 4
- William M. Gardner, "Who built the first overhead valve V-8 engine for production automobiles?" *Bulb Horn*, Oct-Nov, 1994, pp. 19-22
 - Not specifically about S-Bs, but the Ferro V-8s found in model D
- Ken Kaufmann, "AC Titan & Scripps-Booth," *Chevrolet Review*, Oct. 1993, pp. 14-15
- "Photos from readers," *Old Cars Weekly*, July 7, 1988, pg. 4
 - 1916 S-B of HR Olson featured
- Ken Kaufmann, "Scripps-Booth and Chevrolet," *Chevrolet Review*, Dec. 1987, pp. 10-11
- L. Scott Baily (Ed.) et al. *GM The First 75 Years of Transportation Products*, Automobile Quarterly Publications, 1983
 - Very very brief mention on page 16
- Tad Burness, "1914 Scripps-Booth," *Auto Album*, 1983
- Dick Minnick and Norma Minick, "1917 Scripps-Booth," *Antique Automobile*, Mar-Apr 1981, 45(2), pp. 12-17
- "Cemetery of car companies," *New Yorker*, Feb. 4, 1980, pg. 31
 - Drawing/artwork depicting a cemetery with defunct car brands, appears with a Garrison Keillor article.
- Steve Booth, "It's a Car! It's a Motorcycle! It's a Bi-Autogo!," *Special Interest Autos*, April 1981, pp. 24-27
 - The definitive article on the Bi-Autogo, illustrated, and written by a nephew of JSB
- Menno Duerkson, "Scripps-Booth DaVinci Nearly Became a Stutz, Part 2," *Cars & Parts*, Aug. 1979, pp. 40-52
 - Excellent article about the DaVinci
- Menno Duerkson, "Bi-Autogo: White Elephant Painted Red," *Cars and Parts*, July 1979
 - Illustrated history of S-B, from 1912 to G-M
- Tad Burness, "Bi-Autogo," *Auto Album*, July 20, 1977
 - Not sure if this is correct or not
- "Kern Dodge Story," *Antique Automobile*, Nov-Dec 1978, pg. 36
 - Brief mention (and picture) due to ownership of an Scripps-Booth
- Sam Medway, "Artist's Conception, The Novel Cars of James Scripps-Booth," *Automobile Quarterly*, 13(3), 1975
 - Beautifully done article with excellent photos of pre-GM Scripps-Booths
- Peter Edwards, "The Scripps-Booth," *Motor Sport*, Oct. 1974, pg. 1075
 - Article and story on S-B in India (picture in issue 11)
- John Bentley, "James Scripps Booth: Artistry in Automobile," *Car Life*, Sept. 1959, pp. 25, 52, 54
- Hugh Dolnar, "The Scripps-Booth 'Rocket' Cyclecar," *Horseless Carriage Gazette*, 19(2), Mar-Apr 1957, pp. 18-19
 - A whole issue dedicated to cyclecars with an excellent discussion on the Rocket
- "Honorary Member: James Scripps Booth," *Antique Automobile*, Dec. 1952, 16(4), pp. 11-13
 - Excellent biography of JSB
- William B. Stout, *So Away I Went!*, Bobbs-Merrill, 1951
 - Stories about development of S-B vehicles by Stout
- "William G. Cain, 'The Scripps-Booth,'" *Antique Automobile*, Mar. 1950, pp. 14-16
- "Remarkable Trip on New Eight," *The American Chauffeur – An Automobile Digest*, 1916(? or 1917), pp. 566
 - Story about WB Stout's drive from Detroit to Salt Lake City
- "Coupe body for Scripps-Booth Four Chassis," *The Automobile*, Oct. 26, 1916, pp. ???
 - Includes picture of the coupe body
- "The Scripps-Booth Eight," *The Horseless Age*, Sept. 1, 1916, pp. 164
- "New Scripps-Booth Four Passenger Roadster is One of the Prettiest Cars on the Market," *Pasadena Star-News*, July 6, 1916, pp. ???
 - Picture of the model
- "Scripps-Booth Eight is Four Passenger," *The Automobile*, Apr. 6, 1916, pp. 630-632
- "Details of the 1916 Scripps-Booth Four and Eight," *Motor Age*, Apr. 6, 1916, pp. 40-41
- "Eight-Cylinder Scripps-Booth Speedster," *Automobile Trade Journal*, Feb. 1916, pp. 158A
- "The Scripps-Booth Car," *The Autocar*, Nov. 20, 1915, pp. 646-648
- "Ferro Eight Makes 300-Hr. Test," *The Automobile*, Sept. 23, 1915, pp. 566-567
- "The Scripps-Booth Light Car," *The Auto Motor Journal*, Jun. 17, 1915, pp. 425-427
- "The Scripps-Booth Car," *The Car*, June 16, 1915, pp. 131

- “Overhead valves make Ferro Eight Possible,” *The Automobile*, Jan. 7, 1915, pp. ???
- “Scripps-Booth Light Car,” *The Horseless Age*, Nov. 11, 1914, pp. 725
 - Overview of the new (then) Model
- “Scripps-Booth \$775 Roadster Has Electric Door Locks,” *Motor Age*, Nov. 5, 1914, pp. 30-32
 - Overview of the new (then) Model , first production car with door locks, spare tire, and horn button in center of steering wheel.
- “Scripps-Booth Cyclecar,” *The Horseless Age*, Mar. 4, 1914, pp. 371
 - Overview of the new (then) Rocket Cyclecar
- John Bull Abroad, “Cyclecars at the Detroit Show,” *The Light and Cyclecar*, Feb. 9, 1914, pp. 366-367

Former Scripps-Booth Dealers

We are always interested in finding and recording the network of Scripps-Booth dealers.

Don Moore Hyundai, Owensboro, KY claims to have been incorporated as a Scripps Booth and Stevens Saline Six dealer in 1919. This was confirmed by a Jun 05, 2009 report in the Messenger-Inquirer (Owensboro, KY) about the dealership discontinuing Cadillac sales.

<http://www.donmoorehyundai.com/OurHistory>

Marketplace

For Sale

Dag Runar Grinaker (Norway) might have Scripps-Booth parts for sale. His email is d.r.grinaker@gmail.com

Wanted

Jim Broadley - wants V8 parts, like several rocker arms and a Zenith dual carb. Contact us at scrippsboothregister@gmail.com if you can help