



***The Dahlonge Three:
There's More than Gold in Those
Northern Georgia Hills!
Four-Wheel PMC Gold!***



Lleading the Rolls-Royce Foundation can be hard work, but there is always some exciting project or donation news spreading through the organization. Recently, I

heard about Thomas and Louise Newman, who had thought highly enough of the RRF to donate all 3 of their cars to us for the public to enjoy!

Whenever Sarah tells me about potential donations, it always gets my attention, and this generous bequeathment was no exception! I always hold my breath to see what cars we may receive. The Newmans were donating their 1953 Bentley R Type, a 1965 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III, and a 1995 Rolls-Royce Silver Spur.

My constant curiosity made me wonder who these generous donors were and led me on a search for information. As I soon learned, Thomas and Louise were long-time members of the RROC and RRF and exceptional individuals. Rev. Newman enlisted in the Royal Air Force & bravely served from 1940 to 1945. In 1960, he immigrated to the U.S., where he entered the seminary and was eventually appointed Senior Minister of Christ's Church Longwood/Christ Church Unity in Brookline, MA. In 1968, he became Admin. Director of the American Schools of Oriental Research Institute - organizing and participating in various biblical archeological excavations. His wife, Louise, also a Reverend, was a passionate archeologist and longtime lover of Rolls-Royce and Bentley. She belonged to the RROC for over 35 years!

The cars were parked at their home, and it would be four long years before the Newman's wish for their cars to be donated to the RRF would become reality.

On December 12th, Executive Director Mark Lizewskie and I found ourselves headed to Georgia to spearhead the extraction of these three Proper Motor Cars to their new home in Mechanicsburg, PA.

We found the cars in an unfortunate state, but amazingly two of the three cars started after fresh batteries were installed, fluids checked, and a general look over. I stood, ready with a fire extinguisher as Mark hit the starters, and the engines coughed, sputtered, and eventually roared to life! The smoke was heavy at first, but as they warmed up, things settled down, and our smiles grew longer! Mark took care of batteries and attended to paperwork with the state-appointed estate lawyer while I aired up the tires, checked carbs and fuel pumps, and cleaned off the windscreens.

As the steep, hilly terrain of Dahlonega was not conducive to having a 90' long 18-wheeler transporter show up at the front door, a rollback service was hired to haul the cars out of the neighborhood where they had resided for the last several years. They had the cars loaded and on their way to our makeshift substation, four miles away, at the local Walmart parking lot!

Peter and Charlene Black from Charter Auto Service swiftly and efficiently loaded the cars, while yours truly answered many questions by the local community about what was happening. During these exchanges, I learned that Dahlonega, GA is famous as the home of one of the richest gold ore locations in early US history and the beginning of the US Gold Rush!

One gentleman regaled me with a fun story of a would-be shoplifter. The suspect in question, who looted at that very Walmart we were standing at, left

the store on foot at high speed, only to fall into an abandoned gold mine and trap himself! There, he waited until the authorities found him and extracted him from his folly. Talk about Walmart's convenience! You gotta love it!

Once we had the "Dahlonge Three" safely strapped in their enclosed transporter, Mark and I made for Mechanicsburg. All in all, it was a 1500-mile round trip to claim these fine cars for the museum!

I want to thank the Estate of Revs. Thomas and Louise Newman for their generous donation, and Mark and Sarah for their patience and diligence in organizing the delivery of these PMCs to their new home.

The volunteers will diagnose issues and get these cars cleaned up and back on the road! I hope you will also find time to visit us at the RRF and see these three, and the rest of the fine collection housed at 189 Hempt Road. You will find all the good things your membership has helped accomplish so far, as well as the impact your donations have made to help preserve the heritage of Rolls-Royce and Bentley here in North America!

Don't forget, if you are interested in donating to the Rolls-Royce Foundation, we will gladly consider your car, books, memorabilia, literature, and scale models. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit; your qualified donations are tax deductible! The staff and I will always be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding a donation to the Rolls-Royce Foundation!

Yours in Fine Motoring,

*George Wagman III (PA)
Chair,
Rolls-Royce Foundation*

Dahlonega, GA was the site of the first major Gold Rush in the United States beginning in 1829. In 1849, when local gold miners were considering heading west to join the California Gold Rush, Dr. Matthew Stephenson tried to persuade the miners to stay in Dahlonega. Standing on the courthouse balcony and pointing at the distant Findley Ridge, Dr. Stephenson was recalled in his speech as saying: *"Why go to California? In yonder hill lies more riches than anyone ever dreamed of. There's millions in it."*

This phrase was repeated by those miners who did make the journey to California and was shared in the mining camps of the west. Years later, the young Samuel Clemens, better known as the author Mark Twain, also heard of Stephenson's phrase. Twain was so enthralled by the phrase *"There's Millions In It,"* that he used it frequently in his book *"The Gilded Age."* Over time, the phrase has been misquoted to the better-known...

"Thar's gold in them thar hills!"



Building a Better Foundation