

Air Conditioning in Cars (Humor) - September 2009

AIR CONDITIONING IN CARS (Funny)

By BACLV Technical Editor, Ron Couturier

Here's something you car buffs probably didn't know.

The three Sevens brothers, Norman, Hiram, and Maxwell invented and developed the first automobile air conditioner. On July 17th, 1946, the temperature in Detroit was a blistering 97 degrees with equally high humidity.

The three brothers walked into old man Henry Ford's office and sweet-talked his secretary into telling him that three gentlemen were there with the most exciting innovation in the auto industry since the electric starter. Henry was curious and invited them into his office. Once in his office, they asked Henry if he would come out to the parking lot to see their car. They then persuaded him to get into their car which was at about 130 degrees, turned on the air conditioner and it cooled off the car off immediately. The old man got very excited and invited them back to his office where he offered them 3 million dollars for the patent.

The brothers refused by saying they would settle for 2 million but they wanted the recognition by having a label "Steven's Air Conditioner" on each car that it was installed in. Henry told them there was no way he would put the Steven's name on two million Ford Cars. They haggled back and forth for about two hours and finally agreed on 4 million dollars and that just their first names would be shown.

An so, even today, all Ford air conditioners show on the controls, the names of "**Norm, Hi & Max**".

Now, of course, none of the above is true and these events never took place. Hope you enjoyed the humor.

I'm taking the rest of the summer off.

Happy Motoring.....Ron

Ron Couturier