

# Outlook on Lifestyle

**Too much pasta beats too little**

**DEAR POLLY** — I never know how much pasta to prepare for guests. Either we have tons left over or there's not enough. Do you have a suggestion? — C.B.

**DEAR C.B.** — A lot depends on the pasta appetites of your guests. However, you can usually plan on 3 to 4 ounces of uncooked pasta per person for a main course. I usually use 1

**AUTO CARE**

**CLASSIC AUTO CARE**  
A Specialty Inc. 801 E. Beaverline

- Complete Car Cleaning
- Quality Oil Changes
- Auto Accessories
- Auto Care Products
- Free Est. Service

877-9384

**BOOKKEEPING**

**3B BOOKKEEPING**  
"CONFIDENTIAL"  
AFFORDABLE RATES

• COMMERCIAL  
• RETAIL  
• RENTALS

CALL 855-3888

**CHIMNEY SWEEP**

**NATIONAL CHIMNEY SWEEPS**  
INSTALLATIONS, REPAIRS & CAPS  
A PROFESSIONAL JOB TOP TO BOTTOM

WE GUARANTEE NO NESTS  
FULLY INSURED  
Free Estimates  
28 Ladore Drive  
469-8947

**ELECTRICAL**

**HALTON HILLS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING LTD.**  
23 1/2 HRS. SERVICE

- Industrial
- Commercial
- Residential
- Rural

PROP. LYLE PRUETER  
853-2572

**LAUNDRY**

**MOUNTAINVIEW CON LAUNDRY**  
Mountainview & John St.  
(Near Mountainview Plaza)

The only giant capacity washers in town, sleeping bags, carpets, king-size comforters, drapes.  
**SAVE MONEY!**  
873-1625

**PATIOS & DECKS**

• Residential •  
**PATIOS • DECKS • ARBOURS**

**GENERAL LANDSCAPING**  
877-3179

**ROOFING**

"25 YEARS ROOFING EXPERIENCE"  
★ Free Estimates ★ Guarantee  
★ Building Renovation  
★ CUSTOM BUILT REPLACEMENT WINDOWS & PATIO DOORS

**MEL TAYLOR ALUMINUM LTD.**  
877-6772

ALCAN AUTHORIZED DEALER

**WINDOWS**

**R.A. BOUCHER & SON ALUMINUM LTD.**

20 YEAR GUARANTEE ON MATERIAL

Storm windows & doors Replacement & Storm Windows Aluminum Siding & Eaves-trough  
Selection of colours  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
877-8830



## KEEPING YOUR CAR ALIVE

Peter Bohr

### Japanese-car owners tell all

By Peter Bohr  
Contributing Editor, Road & Track

It's no secret to Detroit automakers or to American consumers: The Japanese make impressively good cars.

In Toyota's ads, we're told that buyers of new American or European cars in 1985 had 50 percent more problems with their cars than buyers of 1985 Japanese cars. Several months ago, Fortune magazine quoted a survey that showed on average, the buyer of a 1985 Japanese car found 1.3 flaws in his car, the buyer of a Ford two, the General Motors customer 2.5, and the Chrysler buyer nearly three.

So in general, Japanese cars are well made. But which Japanese automaker builds the best cars?

In its May issue, Road & Track reveals the results of an owner survey that compares three sport coupes from three of Japan's leading automakers: the 1982-1985 Toyota Supra, the 1984-1985 Nissan 300ZX and the 1983-1985 Mitsubishi Starion/Chrysler Conquest. (The Starion and Conquest are essentially the same car. Both are built by Mitsubishi.)

The three models, which sold for between \$13,000 and \$16,000, repre-

sent some of the Japanese auto industry's best efforts in building high-line cars. Each is similar in size, handling and performance. Each came loaded with electronic gizmos and gadgets. And each looks terrific in red.

Road & Track tabulated about 340 questionnaires sent by readers who had purchased one of the three cars brand new, and had driven it 10,000 miles or more. The typical mileage was about 30,000.

Whether they owned the Toyota, Nissan or Mitsubishi, most owners listed handling and performance as their car's best features. As for worst features, the owners of the three marques agreed: the high initial prices of their cars and the high maintenance costs.

A decade or more ago, when simple Toyota Corollas and Datsun 510s first became popular, it may have been true that Japanese cars were cheap to buy and to operate. But as owners in Road & Track's survey discovered, mechanics today don't charge any less to work on expensive, complex Japanese cars than they do to work on expensive, complex American or European machines.

However, these Japanese car dealers must be doing something right.

Seventy-three percent of the Mitsubishi owners, 67 percent of the Toyota owners and 63 percent of the Nissan owners gave their dealers an "excellent" or "good" rating. That compares to an average of 58 percent from past Road & Track owner surveys conducted on other makes of cars since 1975.

To judge by these Toyotas, Nissans and Mitsubishis, Japanese cars are indeed reliable. In past Road & Track surveys, owners of other cars had an average of seven problems. In this survey, the Toyota only had a single problem mentioned by 10 percent or more of the owners — trouble with the car's pop-up headlights. That's not exactly a grave mechanical difficulty.

Although they did better than average, the Nissan and Mitsubishi didn't beat the Toyota. The Nissan had five problems reported by 10 percent or more of the owners, and the Mitsubishi had six.

The most telling question in Road & Track's survey asks owners if they would buy the same make of car again. In past surveys, 73 percent have said yes, 12 percent were undecided and 15 percent said no way. Eighty-eight percent of the Toyota owners said yes and only 5 percent said no, while 75 percent of the Nissan owners said yes and 13 percent said no. The Mitsubishi received only a 54 percent affirmative response, but a huge 32 percent were undecided.

And the winner is the Toyota. The car seems to be nearly unbreakable, and owners appreciate that.

© Road & Track

© 1987, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

## POLLY'S POINTERS



Polly Fisher

pound for four adults, which is fairly generous. Of course, the more ingredients — such as vegetables, meat and other additions to your sauce — the further a pound of pasta will stretch.

If you're serving the pasta as a side dish only, 2 ounces of uncooked pasta per person is probably plenty. But again, it all depends on the amount of food you're serving with it and the appetites of your guests.

I always feel too much is better than too little, since I love leftovers for lunch the next day. I just reheat the pasta in the sauce on top of the stove or in the microwave oven. Plain or lightly sauced pasta can be turned into delicious pasta pancakes. Just mix an egg or two with the leftover pasta and cook as patties in a lightly buttered skillet. It makes a great, nutritious lunchtime treat. — POLLY

**PHOTO REPRINTS**  
appearing in The Herald  
877-2201

## Photo Tips



by Peter Moss

Now that spring has finally sprung (we hope), we are finally afforded our golden opportunity to shake off winter's last trappings and cautiously set foot out of doors in earnest. Not forgetting of course that many of you are winter out of doors enthusiasts and have already stockpiled a large file of first class photos!

This spring we have an extra bonus, daylight savings time has arrived early so you have the added advantage of some extra shooting time late in the day. If sunset or twilight shots are a must for you, and you are fortunate enough to be home early from work, the added shooting time will work well to your advantage. A very useful tip in shooting sunsets is to remember this rule: When metering a sunset scene, take your meter reading approximately 20° away from the "ball" of the sun. Why? Two good reasons:

First, by aiming your lens and thereby your meter (with most equipment) directly at the sun you run the risk of "blinding" the meter cells. By "blinding" the cells I am referring to rendering the CDS cells, that measure the light inside your camera, insensitive to making an accurate reading. The cells will "recover" after a while but not in sufficient time for you to photograph that particular sunset. There are several other technical reasons for not aiming directly at the sun with your lens but we will discuss these at a later date.

Oh yes! As with any other warning in regard to the sun, viewing the sun directly will damage your eyes. Please use caution, especially with your longer lenses.

Secondly, by metering 20° away from the sun, you allow yourself a reading that will help prevent a silhouette effect on your finished photo. If you should wish a darkened effect to your shot, simply make your f stop one or two values smaller (f8.0 is smaller than f5.6, f11.0 is smaller than f8.0). Don't aim at the sun to do this. After you have made your 20° away reading, you must hold this information for your shot, therefore, if you have an automatic camera you will either have to set your reading MANUALLY OR if you have an A. E. Lock, lock your reading by pressing the A. E. Lock switch or button in order to hold your reading. Now - reframe your shot for perfect composition and shoot!

It sounds like a lot of work, but with a little bit of practice, it will take only a few seconds.

The soft, more muted colours of spring, make spectacular colour shots this time of year, particularly when side-lighted. When the opportunity presents itself, take full advantage of those soft blossoms side-lighted against a backdrop of dark rich evergreens or the effervescent greens of willow trees highlighted against some of the greyer holdovers from winter in the background.

If your walking shoes are up to it and your legs are willing, you will find yourself busy all weekend and preferably several more thereafter.

Although larger scale scenes will tend to draw the greater portion of your attention, don't forget that close to the ground, yes right down there by your feet, there is a budding world calling out for your attention. We will come back to ground (so to speak) next week.

**Peter G Moss Photography**  
WEDDINGS • PORTRAITS • TEAMS AND COMMERCIAL  
32 LYNDEN CIRCLE, GEORGETOWN, ONT.  
(416) 877-9976

PETER MOSS DARLENE MOSS

### Library book review

## The Stranger

By Chris Van Allsburg  
(Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1986)

Chris Van Allsburg has twice been awarded the prestigious Caldecott Medal for excellence in the illustration of children's books. The Stranger, his seventh book for children, is infused with the same savour his earlier works suggest, similarity in design and illustration account in part for this acclaim. Van Allsburg uses a large, picture book format, composed of double-edged spreads in which a somewhat bizarre text shares equal space with exquisite illustrations.

This distinctive format poses problems for the librarian, as it is dismissed by older children as being too juvenile. On the other hand, the thoughts and feelings conveyed by Van Allsburg's stories are quite complex — certainly beyond the interest and understanding of the picture book audience.

There is a mystery to be unearthed in this particular tale, Who is The Stranger? A farmer in his truck mysteriously collides with a pedestrian. Confused and shaken, the victim is taken to the farmer's home where it is determined he suffers from amnesia. The stranger, thought to be a hermit by his strange dress and odd ways, stays with the

family several weeks, during what turns out to be an unnaturally prolonged summer. He never regains his memory, but on the night of his departure, summer ends: "the air had turned cold, and the leaves on the trees were no longer green." If you haven't yet guessed the stranger's identity, you'll have to read the book to find out.

The Stranger is a masterpiece of design. Full-coloured pastel illustrations alternate with stark white pages of text, achieving a superb balance and simplicity. Skillfully using light and shadow, the artist evokes a wistful longing for those end-of-summer days, and an apprehension of impending winter. Blending close-ups and distant viewpoints, action and still-life pictures, he draws us into a quiet, rural nostalgic 1940's world. The silent poetry of Van Allsburg's illustrations take over where the simple, unadorned text leaves off. The book could be used as a focal point of discussion in art classes from elementary to high school.

Two of Van Allsburg's books - The Stranger and his recent The Polar Express are available at Halton Hills Public Libraries; his other works may be borrowed from Milton and Oakville Libraries.

—Submitted by Jane McQuarrie  
Halton Hills Public Libraries

**\$800 CASH BACK EXPIRES MAY 4**

**'87 SENTRA SE COUPE**

OVER 17 YEARS OF SALES & SERVICE  
COME ON DOWN TO MILTON  
WE ARE ONLY 15 MINUTES AWAY!

**North End Nissan**  
610 Martin St., Milton  
878-4137

NISSAN  
WARD OF MERIT  
1986