

FALL
2020

“Your Region’s
Newsletter Resource”

THE RUMMAGE BOX

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Matthew C. Hinson, Editor

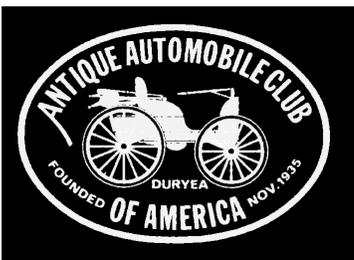
718 Woodlawn Avenue
Wilmington, NC 28401

910-471-0797

matthew.c.hinson@gmail.com

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A Publication of the AACA Publications Committee



How Is This Possible?
By Jim Elliott
AACA President



Surprises Kids find in
Old Cars
By Wayne Tuck
Executive Vice President

I recently received a letter from a member questioning the judges' score for his car which was shown at a recent Grand Nationals.

He had shown his car at the prior year Grand Nationals and earned a Second Place Grand National Award. Following our judging guidelines, he requested and received his scoring sheet and diligently corrected each noted deduction.

Arriving on the show field, he honestly expected to receive his First Place Award and was devastated to take home a Third Place Award. He questioned, "how is this possible?"

A review of our judging system will explain this situation.

As to scoring, you compete not only against the 400 point standard but also against the competition in your class. In order to attain a Grand National First you must score over 380 points and be within 5 points of the highest scoring car in your class.

For example, if the highest scoring car in your class scored 399 points, your car would be required to score 394 or above to obtain a tying first place award. A score of 393 would result in a second place trophy.

If the second place car scored 393, a third place trophy would be awarded to a car scoring 387.

If your car scored 375 at the earlier Grand National while the first place car scored 381, you would have received a second place trophy.

As a result, it is possible to get a third place trophy with the higher score of 387 when you previously received a second place trophy with a score of 375.

Finally, every owner who is able to compete for a Grand National Award should be very proud of his or her vehicle.

Features we find in old cars can be a new discovery for kids. I still laugh to myself every time I think about the time my youngest grandson came out to the garage for a visit with granddad. I was working on my 1952 Hudson at the time and put him in the front seat. The first thing he noticed was the size of the steering wheel. I'm sure he had never seen a car without power steering. This was a new discovery for him. He was even more surprised with the window crank handles. How many kids today have never seen crank down windows? Not only a crank down window, but crank open vent windows. Most of today's youth have never seen a vent window. He spent the next half hour working his way around the interior cranking windows up and down.

We found an entire new world of things he never knew existed. A cigar lighter? That is known as a power outlet today. You mean you need to push down the buttons individually to lock the car? You need a key to unlock it? Ash trays? Turn the knobs to change the radio station? Where are the seat belts? What is that button on the floor? No padding on the dashboard?

Now let's take a look at an even older car. A tassel on the string that pulls the shade down over the back window? You mean you need to put your arm out the window to signal a turn? That lever on the left controls the spark advance? What is a spark advance anyway? Step on a floor pedal to start it?

All you need to do to get their attention is show it to them. Kids are even more thrilled if you take them for a ride. Let's all do something to pique their interest. The future of the old car hobby depends on it!





Editor's Note

Matt Hinson
Rummage Box Editor

Welcome to my 19th issue as Editor of the *Rummage Box*.

I am almost at the end of my 1938 Buick Century project. If you want to see more about this project, please check it out on the AACA Discussion Forum at: <https://forums.aaca.org/topic/297623-1938-buick-century-model-61-four-door-touring-sedan-trunk-back/>. With the 1938 Buick Century this close to being complete, I have been enjoying driving it locally.

A few years ago, a fellow hobbyist moved to my area and joined my local AACA Chapter. He admired my 1937 Buick Century Model 61 four door sedan. He related the story of how he had restored a similar 1937 Buick Century Model 61 decades ago when he lived in New York. He always regretted selling the car. After moving to North Carolina, he bought another 1937 Buick Century Model 61 and restored it. It never had quite the same appeal of the original car that he was trying to replicate, and he sold the second car two years ago. He painted both cars a light shade of green that he fell in love with from a picture in an original 1937 Buick brochure. As is often the case, the artist did not quite accurately depict the car as it was actually produced by Buick. The paint color from the brochure photo did not appear in any 1937 Buick paint chips or other reference material.

Recently, a gentleman from West Virginia joined the AACA Discussion Forum. He posted that he had inherited two Buicks and wanted to learn more about them and needed some help in figuring out their value as he wanted to sell them. One of the cars was a 1937 Buick Century that I immediately recognized as being the same non original shade of green that my friend had painted his second 1937 Buick. I sent a message to the potential seller and helped get him in contact with my friend. Thanks to the AACA Discussion Forum, my friend now owns his original 1937 Buick Century Model 61 again.

While the non-authentic color paint helped me recognize a car that I had never actually seen before, this was just one small example of how the club's investment in the AACA Discussion Forum is helpful to members and other antique car hobbyists. My friend is elated to have his old car back nearly 15 years after he had given up on ever seeing it again. It would not have happened if he had not joined AACA.

Over the years, I have developed friendships with AACA members far and wide. I have friends that I met at AACA meets and tours. The AACA Discussion Forum has also helped me meet people that I would have never met otherwise. The AACA Discussion Forum has helped a lot of people reach out to other hobbyists during the past months when the pandemic interfered with their regular interaction with local AACA club members.



New Building Update

Tom Cox
Vice President - Public Relations

As I am writing this, the AACA National Headquarters and the AACA Library staff are in the middle of a very complicated move to our new building. The entire library collection must be moved to the second floor of our new building and put in the proper places. On top of that, the amazing and newly acquired Philadelphia Library collection, all of your National Awards trophies, and contents of eight storage units and trailers containing everything that keeps your National Headquarters rolling need to find their place in the new building!

These are exciting and busy times for us as everything must be out of the old Headquarters and Library by the end of the month. The good news is our new building is ready for us! We will still have some things to finish in November, including completing our move, so we will not open our doors to the public until everything is in order. We want you to be able to see the finished product.

You will be very pleased and proud of what has been accomplished. The remodel/repurposing of your building has been done by our team in an exceptional manner consistent with being good stewards of the funds required. This is a total game changer, not only for AACA, but for the antique vehicle hobby.

Progress of any nature requires commitment, and our team at the Library and Headquarters is committed as never before. We've been very fortunate to be the recipients of so many wonderful donations of everything from vehicles to stocks from committed members, and are close to having this project fully paid for. So, you can well imagine how pleased we were to have a member pledge \$1,000,000 to help make this project debt free! However, the donor has asked that the donation be matched. We know some are tired of our asking and feel we have pushed too hard. We apologize if anyone feels that way. This is a team campaign, and we need to keep pushing into this final stretch.

We are very pleased with how many members, regions, and chapters have been generous in their support. That support has been continuous for the past two years and is still coming in with dues payments. We are close folks, so we implore you one more time to look personally at your yearly philanthropic donations, think about donating your IRA mandatory payments that come to us tax free, vehicles, stock, or other negotiable instrument. Everything adds up to making a huge difference for the future of the hobby. Please be a part of this final drive down the back stretch.

Now is the time to pay it forward! Please send your checks or call with a credit card to your national headquarters. Send to AACA P.O. Box 417 Hershey, PA 17033 or call 717-534-1910. Thank you all!



Try Something New

By Mark McAlpine
Vice President – National Activities

When you attend an AACA Nationals or participate in one of our many National Tours and see how much everyone is enjoying themselves, you think it's a typical activity for our many members. However, surprisingly, that's not the case. I know it's hard to believe, but the majority of AACA members have never attended an AACA national activity. They've never enjoyed the experience of joining a group of fellow AACA members and driving antique vehicles on meandering roads through scenic and historic areas, enjoying the camaraderie, and making new friends. Or they've never enjoyed attending an AACA Nationals—whether it's to show their car, truck, or motorcycle and receive an award for their efforts, to judge, or to see hundreds (over 1,000 in Hershey!) of beautiful antique vehicles of every vintage. Hard to believe, isn't it?

For those members who've never been to an AACA National Activity, now is the time to dive in. First, you have the opportunity to close out 2020 with a bang—join us in Gettysburg, PA, on Friday-Saturday, November 6-7, for the Special Fall Nationals. No, it's not Hershey, but it's going to be great.

Second, to help make up for the many missed opportunities of 2020, we have a robust national activities calendar planned for 2021. We have 10 shows and 7 tours planned (possibly 8—another is pending approval by the AACA Board of Directors at its meeting on November 12th), so there's probably an activity happening within a reasonable driving distance of you.

So, for those members who haven't participated in an AACA national activity before: try something new—attend an AACA Nationals or participate in an AACA Tour in 2021. You'll enjoy it (and probably wonder why you waited so long).



AACA 2021 National Activities Calendar

By Mark McAlpine
Vice President – National Activities

To help make up for the many missed opportunities of 2020, the AACA has planned a robust national activities calendar for 2021. We have 10 shows and 7 tours planned (possibly 8—another divisional tour is pending approval by the AACA Board of Directors at its meeting on November 12th), so there are plenty of opportunities for our members to have fun, and there's probably an AACA national activity happening within a reasonable driving distance of you.

2021 AACA National Activities Calendar

Feb 11-13	AACA Annual Convention	Philadelphia, PA
Mar 17-20	Special Winter Nationals	San Juan, PR
Mar 19	Special Grand Nationals	San Juan, PR
Apr 8-10	Southeastern Spring Nationals	Concord, NC
Apr 19-22*	Southeastern Divisional Tour	Howey in the Hills, FL
May 6-8	Central Spring Nationals	Auburn, IN
May 20-25	Founders Tour	Davis, WV
Jun 2-5	Eastern Divisional Tour	Eastern Shore of MD
Jun 17-19	Eastern Spring Nationals	Saratoga Springs, NY
Jul 11-16	Vintage Tour	Lock Haven/Wellsboro, PA
Jul 22-24	Grand Nationals	New Ulm, MN
Aug 13-14*	Western Fall Nationals	Loveland, CO
Sep 9-11	Southeastern Fall Nationals	Greenville, SC
Sep 12-17	Revival AAA Glidden Tour	Saratoga Springs, NY
Oct 6-9	Eastern Fall Nationals	Hershey, PA
Oct 18-22	Central Divisional Tour	Broken Arrow, OK
Nov 4-6	Special Western Nationals	Phoenix, AZ
Nov 7-10	Western Divisional Tour	Phoenix, AZ

*** Note the change in dates for this activity**

Thank you very much to the regions/chapters hosting these shows and tours! They've worked very hard to plan & organize fun activities for us to enjoy. Please show your appreciation and support these regions/chapters by participating in the activities.

I look forward to seeing you at one of these national activities next year, especially those members who have never attended one before. Until then, be safe and stay healthy!



Publications during a Pandemic

By Dave Anspach
Vice President - Publications

Well, needless to say, it has been a strange year. I am extremely proud to say that through all of it, AACA Publications have stood tall. While events, meetings, shows and the like have been cancelled everywhere, newsletters continued on their mission of keeping members informed. A wide majority (close to 80 percent) of the publications nationwide continued to put out issues packed full of information about what was going on in their regions.

And while many Regions and Chapters ceased holding live meetings, many of them held on line and virtual meetings and these were reported on by publishing minutes in the newsletters. Some groups held virtual shows and reported on them, while others used the space in newsletters to report on numerous member projects. Still other groups took outstanding articles out of the past and reported on them a second time.

With the extra time available to them, many editors created a number of new and novel ideas to use in their newsletters. Creative original crossword puzzles, hide a word puzzles, and trivia quizzes were used all over the country. Ideas like a column called "Restin and Rustin" where the editor took pictures of cars that he saw while driving around to pass the time, created a lot of interest in his region about possible project cars that he found. Many editors added features on their members and their projects that served to inform everyone about the rich variety of cars and people we have in our club.

Now we are approaching the end of the year, and the time that newsletters are judged for National awards, we find that we again have an increased number of newsletters to judge this year. The 17 people from all around the country have already begun to score newsletters from 92 Regions and chapters that are entered in the judging process. I expect that we will again this year have a record number of Master editors.

Making a long story short, it seems our newsletter editors have done very well in continuing the mission of AACA. When you see your editor, thank him or her. He or she has done a lot to hold your region together through this difficult time. Enjoy your chapter newsletter and PLEASE help that editor by contributing articles and pictures. It will be appreciated!

Do You Know a Military Veteran Who Would Like to be an AACA Member?

The Military Sponsorship Program is available to all of the Military Veterans that have proudly served to protect our homeland and freedoms. With this program, AACA is extending a limited number of complimentary 2021 memberships for first-time AACA applicants. More information on this program and an application can be found on the AACA website under member information and drop down to Military, or simply [click here](#).

These complimentary 2021 memberships are for first-time AACA applicants and are limited by the funds available for this program. These complimentary applications for membership are intended for individuals who have a genuine interest in the antique car hobby.





2020 National Awards

By Bob Parrish
Vice President - National Awards

Despite all that has occurred this year, there will be a National Awards program. All of the awards presented to our members are important and demonstrate the quality and correctness of their vehicles. The Junior and Senior Awards are sought after. Many cars go further receiving a Grand National or Senior Grand National award, that are even more prestigious. There are Preservations and repeats that show durability and continued maintenance. This is the fourth year of the Zenith Award representing the best restoration of the year selected by a team of Senior and Celebrity judges. The selection pool is smaller this year for National Awards since there were no Nationals held in the Central and Western Divisions; but the Grand National held in Gettysburg was treated as a regular National for this purpose and some of the best cars you can imagine were there. This one year change and the two Nationals that were held will provide enough nominations to have a good representation of National Award winners for the Annual Convention in Philadelphia.

Hopefully, the interruption and inconveniences brought on this year will soon be behind us and we can return to a sense of normalcy in 2021.

Good luck to everyone in the future!



It's Not the Cars, It's the Memories

By Fred Trusty
Vice President - Membership

At age 14, I got a copy of the Kentucky Drivers Manual. I read it front to back several times and memorized all the stopping distances and other important facts. If only I had that much enthusiasm for my school work. On Sunday mornings I would get up and be ready for church long before it was time to leave. My mother would let me back her 1967 Oldsmobile Delmont 88 out of the garage about 10 – 15 minutes before it was time to leave. I would drive it the 200 feet or so down the driveway but I wasn't allowed to go into the street (or at least I didn't get caught) so I would go in reverse all the way back to the garage. Everyone told me that parallel parking was the hardest part of the driving test so I put chalk markings on the asphalt in front of the garage to simulate parking spaces so I could practice parallel parking. A couple of days after my 16th birthday I took the written test and easily passed. Then a couple of months later I took the driving test and after 2 years of parallel parking practice, I could parallel park that Olds blindfolded.

I now had a license to drive but no money for insurance, and gas. Having a car meant no more walking to and from school uphill both ways in the snow, or at least that's what my kids say about me. I could be one of the cool kids at school. I could be somebody. Oh, and let's not forget the biggest motivating factor; girls. But getting a part time job after school meant quitting football. Hmm?

I started work at the Beechmont Key Market making \$1.60/hour. With some money I had saved from cutting grass and a loan from my father, I paid \$500 for a 1965 Ford Custom. The Custom was basically a Galaxy without all the options and trim but for some reason this one was equipped with factory air, automatic, power steering, power brakes, 352 CI engine, and a 4-barrel carburetor.

Cars invoke memories of our younger days. Have you ever noticed that when some people talk about their cars they have a gleam in their eyes? "I had one just like this in high school" or "The first date with my wife was in a car like this?" What are your memories?

I might not have a '65 Ford Custom anymore but I still have the memories. Now think of young people today. 20 years from now when they see a car on the show field, are they going to say, "Wow, my first car was a '95 Toyota Corolla. I drove it in high school during the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic." If you see a 90's car on the show field, don't think of it as just a used car. To someone younger, someday it might bring back fond memories.

