

Fall
2023

**"Your Region's
Newsletter Resource"**



A Publication of the AACA Publications Committee



**Be Proud of Your Region
Consider Hosting a National
Show or Tour**
By Wayne Tuck, VP - National Events



Share the World's Best Kept Secret
By Dave Bowman
VP-Finance and Budget

THE RUMMAGE BOX
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What are the local attractions in your area? Do you have historical sites, museums, local private car collections, national parks, scenic highways, unique architecture, or any local attractions of interest? Take pride in your local area and consider sharing some of the great features of your local area with AACA members from all areas of the country.

Regions that host national events and tours usually draw attention to their region resulting in increase of membership. Hosting a National Event can also be profitable for the region.

Local chamber of commerce our tourist agencies can be helpful with suggestions for local points of interest. Hotels can provide attractive rates for groups. Educational opportunities exist for children attending tours.

AACA National can provide the guidance and structure to assure a successful and profitable event. Working together with fellow region members brings club members closer together. Other local regions and chapters sometimes join in to help each other with the event.

Many regions plan years ahead to host a national event. There are many opportunities open for 2024, 2025, 2026 and beyond.

What are you proud of in your area? Thinking about hosting a national event?

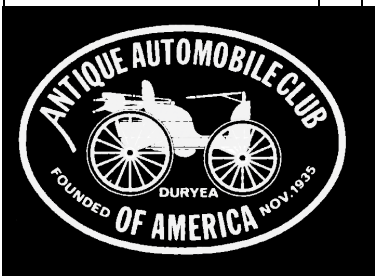
For more information contact Wayne Tuck, VP-National activities either by phone 609-240-1561 or email rwtuck@comcast.net

The best way to get the word out in many communities is to "Not" share a secret. Well I have one, and don't tell anyone... AACA is the best organization for enthusiasts of vehicles 25 years and older. But we seem to want to keep it a secret. Let's get the word out in our communities about what we offer and not keep this secret to ourselves.

Our community's history museum recently held a tour of mid-century homes and asked our AACA Region to provide cars of the period to be displayed at each home. The museum photographed each home with the period car for their marketing purposes. It was noted who the car owners were as well as being part of the local AACA Region. The local TV station did a short news story promoting the event and interviewed our region members about their cars. Region members were present with their cars on the tour day to answer any questions about the cars, just as the docents were there to answer questions about the homes on tour. And of course they were there to promote membership in the local region as well as National.

Many communities hold historic home tours and other historic event commemorations. Contact them and ask if your region can provide historic cars to supplement the event. Many towns hold new car introduction shows. Contact the promoter to see if the region can have a special historical vehicle display area. They may be willing to pay the region as well. If not a special display area, offer car dealers the option to have a historic model of their make of cars on display with the new cars. Just connect your region and AACA with the car display. Have a region member with the car to explain it and have membership applications available with that member.

Let's get the word out about AACA and no longer be the best kept secret.





Editor's Note By Matt Hinson *Rummage Box* Editor

Welcome to my 31st issue as Editor of the *Rummage Box*. The other day, I received a "2023 I Got A Member" pin in the mail from AACA. I am not sure how many new AACA members I signed up this year, but it was certainly more than one. This pin is not the first one of these that I have received, and I don't expect it to be the last. I have never really figured out when or where I should wear these pins, so I tend to put them in a junk drawer or somewhere similar. I inherited my mother's pack rat tendencies, so I still have a bit of a collection of them. With a quick search, I also found my "I Got A Member" pins from 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2016, and 2013. If I did some more searching, I suspect I could find a few more of them but I just don't know where I squirreled them away.

Signing up new AACA members is easy if you are willing to try and are prepared to sign them up. As I have discussed in my Editor's Note in a previous *Rummage Box*, all it takes is driving your antique car to local Cars and Coffee or other area non-AACA car shows and talking with other antique car owners that are also attending those events. If you express an interest in their car, or answer questions about your car, you can easily ask them if they have ever considered joining the Antique Automobile Club of America and your local Chapter and/or Region. If they express an interest, you can easily retrieve a membership packet from your trunk and explain it to them. The packet should have brochures about AACA and your local Chapter and/or Region, along with the required forms. I typically sign up about one new member each month that way.

I also make sure that I am nice to any young children who express an interest in my car. While they are probably not going to be ready to join an antique car club for many years, you can certainly plant or nurture the seed of a future car hobbyist and AACA member at that young age. I always offer a youngster who expresses an interest in my car the chance to sit behind the steering wheel and have their parent take a photo of them. I always give the parent information about what the car is and tell them about the club if I can. At this month's local Cars and Coffee, this young girl told her mother that my car was her favorite car there, so she got a chance for a photo in it.



"America's Automotive Library" Identifies its Oldest Artifacts By Steve Rossi VP - Public Relations & Event Planning

The Chris & Kathleen Koch AACA Library & Research Center has identified its oldest antique automotive artifact. It is a copy of *A Handbook for Steam Users Being Rules for Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants* by M. Powis Bale, from 1890. In addition, a February 14, 1891, issue of *Scientific American* features an analysis of the 3-wheeled Butler Petrol-Cycle from Great Britain.

According to Library Director Jen Wolfe, "Since automotive history is an inexact science, trying to pinpoint the first piece of automotive material ever published is impossible...though Duryea is credited with producing the first American automobile in series by 1896." Some believe that Panhard began producing promotional literature... in color... during 1892 (from Panhard & Levassor: Pioneers in Automobile Excellence, by David Beare), which the AACA artifacts predate.

The Smithsonian's Smith Hempstone Oliver contended that the first automotive catalog appeared in 1888/1889, from Philadelphia's Moto-Cycle Manufacturing Company. It featured Lucius D. Copeland-designed steam cycles and steam carriages. (The Bulb Horn, May-June 1966) Either way, as a function of the publication timeline above, "America's Automotive Library" is at the forefront.

The AACA Library & Research Center was established in 1977 and houses over 3 million individual automotive artifacts at its Hershey, PA headquarters. It is the largest and most comprehensive institution of its kind. In addition, the Library also oversees nine single-marque collections within its climate controlled, secure and professionally managed facility, which includes a state of the art fire suppression system.

The library is open and free to the public during normal hours of operation. On-site research is free to anyone who visits. AACA Members receive 2 hours of free off-site research per calendar year to be used within the calendar year. Additional research, photocopies, scans and reproductions are available for a fee. Donations such as literature, books, artwork, manuals, periodicals, toys/models, etc. are welcomed and encouraged. Upon receipt of materials, the Library will provide the donor with a letter acknowledging the gift.

Visit the library website at <https://aacalibrary.org/> for more information.





Touring Places

By Myron Smith

VP - Region & Chapters Development & Support - Western Division

Several years ago the VMCCA started a progressive tour following Lewis and Clark trail. Each year they hold a 5 day tour which follows the route. Different people 'host' the tour each year making the arrangements for 'their' portion of the route. It has been an interesting combination of driving old cars and learning about the adventures of Lewis & Clark. We were unable to follow it each year until the last 2 years. The 2022 tour went from Bismark ND to Great Falls MT, and in 2023 the tour went from Dillon MT to Lewiston ID.

There are a number of interesting roads that would make good tours. The Lincoln Highway is a prime example and one people have done periodically and of course the Route 66 route seems to be one some group or individuals follows almost every year. Maybe the TV show is what brought so much interest in this road.

When going to and from Hershey this year I started to notice signs for the 'Historic National Road.' It appears to largely follow US 40 and Interstate 70 for a number of miles. Something about the name 'National Road' sounded familiar so, of course, I Googled it and found it was the first major 'improved' highway built by the Federal Government. When I saw that it terminated at Vandalia IL, I knew why the name sounded familiar as we spent an hour or so there looking around on our way home from the National Convention in Williamsburg, VA. It's an interesting place with many old buildings.

Legislation was signed by Thomas Jefferson in 1806, for funding of a road which was promoted by Jefferson's Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin. The road was surveyed from Cumberland Maryland to the Mississippi River (It is also known as the Cumberland Road). The purpose of the road was to spur interest in settlement in the 'west' and was a primary route for settlers and commerce for many years. Construction began in 1811. Funding for the road was intended to come from the federal government selling land in Ohio. Political disagreements regarding funding for the road were constant and, in 1840 with the road unfinished, funding stopped with the end of the road being in Vandalia IL. Vandalia had been the Illinois capitol when the road was being built.

Were someone to take on the project of making a tour of the National Road it could be an interesting one.



Downtown Vandalia Illinois



Tour Guide

By Fred Trusty

2023 AACA National President

This year I've had the opportunity to participate in all but one AACA tour and talked with quite a few "freshman tourists" who said they wish they had discovered the touring side of the hobby long ago. Not knowing the guidelines for each type of tour can create some apprehension to registering for your first tour so let's look at the various tours.

1. Reliability Tour--The Reliability Tour is sponsored during even-numbered years for brass era cars, i.e., those manufactured in 1915 or earlier. This includes all recognized vehicles of that vintage.
2. Revival AAA Glidden Tour®--The AACA sponsors the Revival AAA Glidden Tour® during even-numbered years (2022, 2024, etc.) in cooperation with the Vintage Motor Car Club of America (VMCCA). The VMCCA sponsors the tour during the odd-numbered years. The Revival AAA Glidden Tours® are for the older vehicles and eligibility for AACA sponsored tours is limited to those manufactured in 1942 or earlier. Generally, this tour is held during the 2nd or 3rd week of September.
3. Founders Tour--The Founders Tour is sponsored annually for all vehicles, except race vehicles, manufactured from 1932 through a production year 25 years prior to the year of the tour.
4. Vintage Tour--The Vintage Tour is sponsored during odd-numbered years for vehicles manufactured in 1931 or earlier.
5. Sentimental Tour -- The Sentimental Tour is sponsored during even-numbered years, beginning in 2004, and is for vehicles manufactured from 1928 through 1958, except race vehicles.
6. Divisional Tours --- The AACA sponsors two Divisional Tours annually -- during even-numbered years, one in the Central and one in the Eastern geographical regions, and during odd-numbered years, one in the Southeastern Region and one in the Western Region. These tours are designed to be shorter in duration (minimum three days) than the traditional five-day tours. The host Region or Chapter is free to decide which vehicles are eligible to participate in any Divisional Tour, except race vehicles will not be included. However, all vehicles must be of a production year at least 25 years prior to the year of the tour.

If you would like more information on touring you can go to aaca.org, click on the "Publications" tab and then "Policy & Procedures Manual." Section 4 has everything you ever wanted to know about touring.



Try A Tour

By Dave Anspach

2023 AACA Secretary/Treasurer

I have been showing cars on a local, Concours, and AACA level for over 25 years but I had never tried an AACA National Tour. I have been on numerous local Tours over the years, but not a National Tour. I have been the liaison Director for a couple but I never really tried an AACA National Tour... until now.

Last year when President Wayne Tuck asked me to be the liaison Director for the Special Central Division Tour this year, I accepted and began working with tour chairman Don Sword to help the Southern Ohio Region with the details of a National Tour. I also began planning to find a car that worked for both Deb and I for a Tour vehicle. Unfortunately, in the ensuing 10 months, I looked at several cars but was unable to "pull the trigger". As a result, the deadline for registration for the tour neared without me having a suitable car. I was talking with Don about some last minute plans and he mentioned that I hadn't registered yet. When I told him the tale of looking for a car, he replied that one of his region members, West Peterson, had offered a car to anyone who wanted to enter but didn't have a car. I immediately contacted West to determine if the offer was indeed good and he assured me that I indeed could use his car... a 1940 Packard Touring. Given that my wife is a gigantic Packard fan, it was a match made in heaven.

We arrived in Piqua, Ohio the afternoon before the Tour was to begin and finalized arrangements with West. The following morning we drove to Dayton and met West at his home. After an initial driving lesson that featured some genuine jitters on my part (the prestige of the Packard along with its sheer size was quite unnerving for a Crosley driver) we were off to the first destination. The first day was an on your own trip to 2 destinations; the US Air Force Museum, followed by the Packard Museum. I was even treated to a rare visit to the basement workshop at the Packard museum and every visitor from the AACA received a book as a gift. I followed West the first day because we had no idea where we were going!

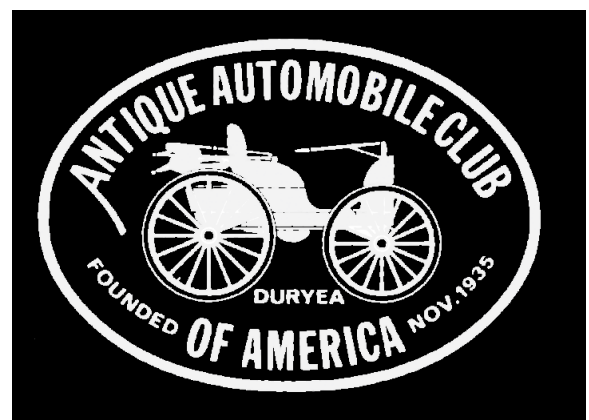
I can honestly say I didn't sleep well the first night. I was so worried that we would not be able to follow the directions and would get hopelessly lost. Add that to continuing nervousness about properly caring for West's Packard and I was awake a lot! I went out to the car in the morning to start it, warm it up, and wipe off the morning dew and found Roger Ireland standing there and he asked if he could ride with us. RIDE WITH US? He immediately became navigator while Deb followed along with the directions as we drove along. The second day's trip including the Airstream Museum and Factory, lunch, shopping in Wapakoneta, and the Neil Armstrong Museum went off without a hitch!

I slept pretty well Thursday night and headed out to again warm up and wipe down the car Friday am.

Roger again came out but told me he was riding with West and Laura Peterson this day (I guess I talked too much). Friday's trip was to the Klepinger collection, The bicycle museum of America, and The Allen County Historical museum. We were to follow Roger and the Petersons but to my utter delight, my bride/navigator found errors they made a few times during the day and we ended up in the lead! I couldn't have been more tickled! The museums were great but successfully navigating the course was far better. I guess I finally relaxed driving the car by Saturday. The trip to the Halderman Museum followed by Bob McConnell's race car collection was fantastic. Deb's navigation was again flawless (she was so good, I honestly can't wait to do it again). I was almost sad when the day ended and we returned the car to West's home. The day ended with a fantastic banquet that featured a game of Singo...a variation of Bingo using songs as spaces instead of numbers.

It was overall an entertaining and educational experience that I hope to repeat again soon. I want to thank Don Sword and the Southern Ohio Region for a great Tour, Roger Ireland for his help and training in navigation, but most of all I want to thank West and Laura Peterson and the Peterson family for the use of one of America's finest cars. It was an experience that Deb and I will remember for the rest of our lives.

The people were warm and welcoming. The cars were beautiful. The locations were interesting and educational and several of them could have been whole day locations on their own. We left Piqua totally exhausted and happy. What more could you ask for from an event. I encourage every one of you to Try A Tour, you will not be disappointed... I guarantee it!





Have you considered being a Judge?

By Vicki Bolton - Director at Large

It takes cars and car owners to put on the AACA Nationals, but it also takes judges and administration staff. AACA has one of the premier judging programs in the country. To be a judge, you first have to take a judging school. Schools are typically offered at all Nationals. After taking the school, your first assignment on the judging field will be to take part in the apprenticeship class. During the apprenticeship class you will be "instructed in judging principles and procedures" as described in the Official Judging Guidelines. You will receive a copy of the Guidelines when you attend the Judging School. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the Guidelines.

Are you thinking about being a judge? You need to be a member of AACA, either have a driver's license or be eligible to get a driver's license and have the ability to be fair and honest when judging a car. Judges must take a school every year to maintain eligibility. Judges are also encouraged to take classes called continuing judges' education (CJE). These classes are offered at all Nationals. CJE's are offered in a variety of subjects. These subjects include Interiors, Exteriors, Model T's, Motorcycles, engines and many more.

Judges receive a credit for each judging experience. They also receive a credit for one school per year and one CJE per year. You can also get an additional credit for a CJE when you reach a milestone. Milestone levels are when you reach certain judging credit levels such as 10,25,50,75,100,125, etc. Judges receive a judging chip for each judging experience.

Judging Schools and Continuing Education Classes are very important to the AACA judging program as they contribute to the education of the judges and the continued level of excellence of the overall judging program. They also contribute to the consistency of the judging and the awards presented to the car owners.

Judges who reach 5 credits are known as a Senior Judge and receive a certificate. Judges who reach 10 credits are known as a Master Judge and Judges with 25 credits or more are known as Senior Master Judges. Pins that signify the specific credit level achieved are awarded to each judge who reaches 10 credits and above.

There are judges that judge the cars on the field and there are judges that are members of the judging administration team that process the judging paperwork. These people follow the same guidelines as field judges. They are also required to take a school every year and take the CJE courses. The team members get judging credits for working in administration.

Even if you are not interested in being a judge on the show field, if you show a car it is very beneficial to the car owner to take the judging school as it will help you better understand the judging process.



What's it Going to Take?

By Dave Anspach
2023 AACA Secretary/Treasurer

What's it going to take to get things to change? The membership of the greatest Antique Automobile Club on the planet has been steadily declining for years and nothing that has been tried has changed it. Now don't get me wrong... we aren't in great danger, but if the declining membership doesn't turn around, before long there will be a big problem. There is an answer... it is YOU!

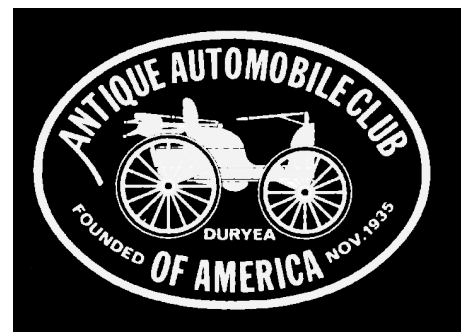
It has probably been stated a thousand times that if every member just got one new member, our membership would double. It's a simple concept. JUST GET ONE NEW MEMBER! Surely every person out there has a family member who isn't an AACA member. Get them a membership for Christmas! Any person with even a little interest in cars will appreciate the fine issues of *Antique Automobile* with its excellent pictures and articles.

How about a friend or neighbor? There is a car person in your life who would love such a gift! If you don't want to give a membership, how about using a free one from your local region? Every region would love an opportunity to sign up a new member. And let's not forget those free military memberships. Here is an opportunity not only to give something to those folks who have protected our freedom, but to add to the club membership at the same time. In both of the above cases, you are giving someone something for free!

I will tell you that in both cases, do yourself a favor and fill out the form with the person present and send it in for them. I have lost a lot of prospective members due to forgetfulness.

Finally, don't forget those people you meet at car shows, cruises and on the road! Always have membership materials, promotional items and spare magazines with you. You meet prospective members everywhere! People will see how much you enjoy the hobby and they just might want to join you!

So what's it going to take to get YOU to get a new member? It's YOUR club, it's up to you to make it grow and prosper! It is the responsibility of every member. Got any other ideas on how to grow the club? Contact me or any board member! We all would love to hear what YOU think!





ACA Events and Midwest Adventures By Jeff Oaks VP – Regions Development & Support Southeastern Division

I have spent most of my life living on the North Carolina coast in Wilmington. It's a good center point on the Atlantic seaboard that makes it easy to travel both north and south. I have made many trips over the years and covered most everything from Miami, Florida to New England. Loving to travel, I find it adventurous. However, most of my travels have been in the coastal states and not much towards the heartland until just recently. Serving as a National Director for AACA, I now find myself heading towards the Midwest quite often. This is an all-new adventure for me! Places like New Ulm, Minnesota and the Grand Nationals. It was a great event and a great place. Cornfields abound with signs saying "Kelloggs, 10,000 acres." It reminds me of National Geographic magazine, but not the Carolinas. Moline, Illinois, or "Tractor City" hosted another great National Meet located on the Mississippi River. Davis, West Virginia, located in the northern hills was a very scenic area for an antique auto tour. Another great time was at the Spring Nationals in Beckley, West Virginia. If you have not been attending these events with your antique auto, you are missing a lot of fun, and I am only highlighting a few events!

The 2023 calendar has sent me to many places during the year including Miami, Florida for the Winter Nationals. It is not a bad place to be in January. In May, the East Tennessee Region hosted the Oak Ridge, TN "Secret Tour." It focused on the Atomic bomb development in Oak Ridge, TVA Hydroelectric Dams built, and other points of interest during the WWII era. It was a great driving experience in the Appalachians! The Central Spring Nationals, were held in Auburn, Indiana and this was my first opportunity to visit the area. This was a fun event that I looked forward to. While there, I went to the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum that I had heard so much about. Loving all things prewar, it was the ultimate in "Art Deco." Being the original sales building, it is complete and full of vintage classics. In other buildings on the site are the National Auto & Truck Museum loaded with vintage vehicles of all types including a GM Futurliner. Another treat while in Auburn was the Early Ford V-8 Foundation Museum just a few miles away. With over 50 Fords, engine displays, accessories, and other Ford memorabilia, it was certainly worth the visit. The 2023 Grand Nationals in Bettendorf, Iowa was another spectacular event located on the banks of the Mississippi River. It had great vehicles and of course the Zenith nominated cars are the best of the best. The Mississippi Riverboat Dinner Cruise was a great addition to the event! In traveling, I stopped at the Model T Museum while passing through Richmond, Indiana. It is another nice museum full of Model T exhibits. It caught me by surprise thinking you would have to be in Dearborn for something like that.

While traveling, I picked up a brochure on the "Midwest Motor Tour" covering ten "amazing museums." I have enjoyed traveling to the Midwest this year and can see myself returning in 2024. For those of you reading this article living in the Midwest, it is probably old hat. But for me, it was Americana at its best. Reading up on the museums, the Gilmore Museum, Studebaker National Museum, and Indianapolis Motor Speedway have also caught my eye. I will be sure to incorporate those in my future travels!

Check out the 2024 AACA calendar and make plans to attend these upcoming events with your antique car. You will have fond memories to look back on and be glad you did!

Make Your Hotel Reservations Now for the 2024 AACA Annual Convention



The 2024 AACA Annual Convention will be held February 8-10 in the Dulles/Washington D.C. area at the Westfields Marriott.

Here is the full hotel and reservation information, so you can book early and start your planning:

Just Named...

Marriott's Premium Hotel of the Year!
Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles
14750 Conference Center Drive
Chantilly, VA 20151

*Less than 10 miles from the Washington
Dulles International Airport*

Room Rate: \$129 per night OR \$169 per night
includes breakfast for two people

Reservation Link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50584547>

Reservation Phone: (800) 266-9432
(mention Antique Automobile Club of America)
Reservation Deadline: January 16, 2024