

*Tour is limited to 75 vehicles
25 years and older*

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN
MARCH 9 TO JUNE 27, 2026**

Arrive Early!

Hospitality opens at noon on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, with **hotel check-in at 3.**

Great Smoky Mountains Region AACA members will be anxious to greet you and help you settle in for the event.

Stay Late!

Or, you may wish to stay on for awhile to visit some of the historic venues we were not able to offer due to parking and size of our group.

They include Saluda, NC, a century-old downtown along the legendary Saluda Grade railroad tracks. Visit old general stores and locally sourced restaurants and bakery, as well as the Saluda Train Depot Museum at the crest of the steepest standard-grade main-line grade in the U.S. Also, Carl Sandburg's Home in Historic Flat

Rock, with its gardens and unique array of farm animals in the petting zoo.



And there's even more in the area's fascinating historic towns laden with history to be discovered and explored by the adventurous!



Accommodations

Host Hotel



MOUNTAIN INN & SUITES

755 Upward Road, Flat Rock, NC 28731

Phone: 828-692-7772

www.mountaininnflatrock.com

AACA Group Rate: \$115.00 per night +tax

Alternate Hotels

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES

107 Upward Crossing Dr., Flat Rock, NC 28731

Phone: 540-431-8182

AACA group rate \$129.00 per night +tax

QUALITY INN & SUITES

111 Commercial Blvd., Flat Rock, NC 28731

Phone: 828-697-1085

AACA group rate \$110.00 per night +tax

Motor Home & Campground

(One quarter mile from host hotel)

828-388-0255 ask for Jamie

Tour Co-Chairmen:

Hulon McCraw, GSMR

hcmccraw@gmail.com - Ph 828-606-2918

Mike Block, LDC

mike@sailparrottales.com - Ph 770-547-7088

Tour Registrar: Kim LaRowe

klarowe68@gmail.com - Ph 828-779-2378

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*The Great Smoky
Mountains Region
and Little Detroit
Chapter of AACA
invite you to tour
our beautiful
apple country
during harvest
season*



Apple Harvest Season

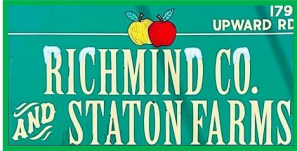
Western North Carolina

AUGUST 5-8, 2026

Thursday Tour Highlights

Welcome to the AACA Southeastern Divisional Tour and our beautiful host hotel, the Mountain Inn & Suites.

The Tour will take you through historical communities, farms and orchards that have shaped Henderson County, NC. with 150 individually owned apple orchards consisting of 5500 acres, producing 85% of the States total apple production.



An industry we are particularly proud of is our Automotive Technology Programs offered to our future mechanical technicians at Blue Ridge Community College. Its proven success has produced several State and National *Skills USA* Champions; last year being the most recent State Champion winner.



Sky Top Orchard offers hands-on experience harvesting apples. We'll have lunch here and you can take a hay ride or shoot the apple cannon for fun! A variety of farm-related products and goods are available for purchase as well.



Ladies, you are not forgotten. You will have the opportunity to walk the flower bed aisles at Brooms Blooms Farm.

Enjoy the beauty and pick your own special bouquet if you choose. Each day of our tour will include a coffee and donut stop mid-morning, lunch and an ice cream break before arriving back at the hotel.

(Note: Evening meals are on your own.)

Friday Tour Highlights

Welcome to day 2 with your host, The Little Detroit Chapter of GSMR. We'll be taking back roads from Hendersonville through the foothills of North and South Carolina. Driving through historic Saluda into Columbus, NC for a stop at the House of Flags



along with the Polk County Historical Museum.

After a break, we'll drive to Greer, SC to visit Carolina Carriage for a look at original horse power driven vehicles and also enjoy some automobile creations. The tour will continue to Benson's Automobile Memory Lane Museum to see an exclusive collection of vehicles and have lunch inside the Alfa Romeo dealer showroom.



To wrap up the day, we will head back into NC for a break at a popular local winery.

As a club, we hope you'll experience history of our area and what the foothills have to offer.

(Note: Evening meals are on your own.)

Saturday Tour Highlights

You'll enjoy our beautiful scenery and two-lane roads taking us to the Historic Hendersonville Airport, home of the WNC Air Museum, where vintage aircraft and memorabilia will grab our attention.



Next stop will be Matt Cook's Drag Racing Facility nestled in the foothills of the Crab Creek area. We'll tour his state-of-the-art speed shop and experience this exciting car-related hobby followed by a specially prepared lunch before heading to Johnson's Historic Farm, where the Johnson brothers (Vernon and Leander—both bachelors) owned nearly all of the valley—most of which has since been donated to the Henderson County School System.



PRESERVING THE PAST • ENRICHING THE FUTURE

We'll tour the historic home, nature trails, and 10 historic structures on 15 acres of forest, fields, and streams. The complex is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has been designated a North Carolina Cultural Treasure.

From the farm, we'll enjoy a scenic drive to return to our hotel for a rewarding conclusion.

