

70th Anniversary



Mudflap



News and Activities from the Tidewater Region— Antique Automobile Club of America

Volume 71, Issue 2

February 2025

New Member Spotlight

Meet recent members Andrew and Tonya Heath - and their 1968 Chevy Malibu Convertible.

They found company at the recent Shriner's show in Chesapeake last fall — Bob Parrish and Harry Park, with their Chevelles, were parked near them. The quick result was them joining Tidewater Region as part of the AACA's Military Membership Program.

They are GM and Dodge fans all the way and have had a number of cars, but the Chevelle is special. Andy bought it from an Illinois dealership and, after doing some research, discovered it was originally sold right here in Virginia Beach at R-K Chevrolet in May 1968. So, essentially he "brought it back home." The car is special because it's really a Malibu, equipped with the 327 cubic inch engine and a power-glide transmission. So many of them have been "converted" to higher performance Super Sports models that originally unmolested Malibus are hard to find. In fact, when it came time to re-do some interior parts, Andy discovered you could easily buy reproduction Super Sports door panels (among other things), but

regular "Malibu" components were simply unavailable. He was fortunate to find original items he needed on the internet.

He does much of his own work and they are in the middle of restoring a 1948 Chevrolet truck for Tonya. That 1948 truck is another vehicle they "brought home." It originally lived in North Carolina but was purchased in Illinois also.



Andy and Tonya have been married for 15 years and have enjoyed working on and collecting cars together. Andy is currently a full-time student pursuing a bachelor's degree in accounting and Tonya currently works in food service.

Andy's background is an aircraft electrician and an aircrewman on the C9B/DC9 airplane for the Navy. He retired from the Navy after 22 years. His other career is over 30 years in the automotive parts and service industry.

Tonya's 1948 Chevy is a three window pickup truck, In addition to that and the 1968 Chevelle Malibu Convertible, they also own a 1971 Chevy C20 Cheyenne fleet side. Previous cars in their family have been three third generation Camaros and Trans Am, 1973 Chevelle, and a 1973 Olds Cutlass. Tonya has previously owned a 1967 Mustang, mid 60s Chevy truck and numerous Dodges, including cars and trucks. To quote Andy - "You could safely say we are Chevy and Dodge people."

They enjoy travelling to car shows and are planning to attend the Spring Charlotte Auto Fair. It'll be great to have them as a part of Tidewater Region. Be sure to welcome them when you get a chance!



Ramblings from the President

Happy 70th anniversary to Tidewater Region! Hope you enjoyed our Awards and Installation dinner on February 1st. Our 70th Anniversary cake cutting was a very special moment. We've got a long and proud history!

That brings me to two questions: Who am I and who are we? I have heard a catch phrase spoken by many AACA leaders, both national and regional, that we "come for the cars, and stay for the people." Tidewater is celebrating 70 years because of the efforts of many like-minded leaders, active volunteers, and members throughout the years.

So who am I? This month I have benefited from the leadership skills I have honed from a Navy career, twenty or more years in civil service as a supervisor, and the experiences I have shared with AACA and Tidewater members. I am honored to be the one chosen a year ago to be your president. So am I half way up, or half done? Each of you will have an opinion on that, but my opinion is the one that counts. As I am installed for a second year, my goals remain the same: to lead Tidewater, hopefully sustaining membership, and improving our status as an active region.

Enough about me? Not quite, as it turns out my actions last month led to \$35.00 of Tidewater funds to be expended and a training session for new board members to occur without board approval. I have learned from this, and I am totally amazed by the response.

So who are we? Tidewater has survived as a region of AACA thanks to the leadership and membership of many dedicated members. Not just the past presidents and executive boards, but all of our members. We should all be proud of this and recruit new members as the future of Tidewater Region depends on it.

For the coming year, our activities committee has come up with a full schedule, including some new ideas. We should all enjoy that calendar as soon as it has board approval. Thanks to Paul Fuqua and his committee.

Of course, our Awards Banquet and new officer Installation was postponed due to a typical winter storm forecast for Tidewater, but we will not let that deter us from having a great year ahead.

Bill Treadwell
TRAACA President



Looking ahead to the Next Issue.

Several of our own members completed the "granddaddy" of all tours a few years ago - the Centennial Lincoln Highway Tour. Fifteen club members and enthusiasts participated, including Jere and Carol Avenson, Tony and Leslie Scarpelli, Dick and Holly Chipchak, John and Vicki Peters, Wes Neal, Bob Scott, Ken Talley, Bill Wilcox, John and Janet Woolfitt and Bob Woolfitt, all leaving on June 20. You'll enjoy reliving every mile with them.



There will be some introductions to new members, and a look at few "old-timers" as well. You'll see everything from the teens and twenties up to the muscle car era! Something for everybody.

Ever been to a car auction? We've got some "inside info" coming from one or our members sharing experiences at a big-time action.

How about a bit of "tech" stuff too! No, not keyboard tech, real wrench twisting on old cars. This will be "grease-under-the-fingernails" stuff from our members who delight in breaking fingernails and ruining their good car-show T-shirts. Sometimes you'll laugh, sometimes you'll wonder "what were they thinking." It's all part of our hobby.

Our calendar is filling up. Sharing the fun is what TRAACA is all about.

TRAACA MEMBER'S PAGE

Members celebrating birthdays in February

Tom Allan
Sue Bond
Mary Cartine
John Gancel
Tim Hund
Karen Kern
Daniel Matthews
Al Mercer



Members celebrating anniversaries in February

Curtis & Sheryl Cook
Jonh & Marie Gancel
Bob & Ann Gurnee
Henry & Myrna Robson
Dennis & Carla Anne Sobota

TRAACA Calendar

Check traaca.com for the latest info on upcoming events!

February

20 Dinner meeting cancelled!

March

8 TRAACA Annual Swap Meet, Nansemond-Suffolk Academy

20 Dinner meeting

29 Tour of Briant Capps Collection, Suffolk, with lunch to follow



Members celebrating anniversaries in March

March Anniversaries
Mike & Darlene Brown
Andrew & Tonya Heath
Richard & Karen Overbaugh
James & Barbara Stansbury

Welcome to our New Member!

Mark Bischoff

Members celebrating birthdays in March

Liz Coburn
David Curl
David Dillahunt
Jan Garner
Sally Hartman
Andrew Heath
Lynn Heimerl
Tony Miller
Jack Pavlidis
Margie Tillett
Linda Treadwell

Dinner Meeting Corner

Chief Contact: Skip Patnode

Members will be contacted via e-mail to obtain their RSVPs for the club's monthly dinner meeting. (Members without e-mail will be contacted by phone.) If you will be attending, please respond to Skip Patnode's e-mail by the re-requested date and let him know how many people will be coming. (There is no need to respond if you are not coming.) Skip will reply to you once he adds you to his attendance list. **It is critical that you respond** so we can let the hotel know how many people will be attending & they can prepare enough food. If you are not receiving Skip's e-mails or want to be taken off the list, please contact him at skippatnode@cox.net or (757) 672-8495. Thank you for your cooperation!

Other Local and National Events

March

22 York High School Annual Show

April

2-5 AACA Southeast Spring Nationals, Charlotte NC

19 Virginia Chevy Lovers Spring Dust -Off Show

From the Editors Terry & Susan Bond

First, congratulations to our past Editor Doug Grosz. Doug was recognized at our recent TRAACA Awards and Installation banquet for his service to the club as the previous Editor.

If any other club members wish to get involved in helping with the Mudflap, all you need to do is ask. Many hands mean light work, so your assistance would certainly be appreciated, especially as the old car season begins to unfold and our schedules get filled with travel.

We're a bit late with this issue because of the rescheduling of our Annual Awards and Installation banquet, quickly followed by the AACA National Convention in Charlotte, NC. More about that later in this issue.

We're pleased to continue with stories about our new members and their vehicles, as well as some reports from long-time members. In keeping with our thoughts on providing variety, we're continuing to look for stories about touring and other adventures you might be taking to enjoy the old car hobby. Sharing the fun with each other is why the Mudflap exists, so you are welcome to share the ride. You don't need to be an "author" or even have a mastery of the English language. I've always said – I'm so good I can type with one finger! It's all about fun anyway so I'm sure that together, we can come up with something spelled correctly that sounds like we know what we are talking about, so send us something and we'll get it in print.

THE MUDFLAP is the newsletter for the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America.

Editors: Terry and Susan Bond
Reporters: Aubrey Austin, Rick Seaman,
Bob & Dot Parrish
Reporter and Photographer: Bob Stein

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National AACA 2025 Event Calendar

APRIL

2-5 Southeast Spring National, Charlotte NC

MAY

1-3 Western Spring National/Grand National, Tucson AZ

JUNE

1-7 Vintage Tour, SE PA
19-21 Eastern Spring National, Beckley WV

JULY

2-5 Central Spring National, Auburn IN
24-26 Grand National/Zenith, Dayton OH

SEPTEMBER

7-12 Revival AAA Glidden Tour®, Owensboro KY



2025 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Bill Treadwell
tbears3@verizon.net

Vice President - Harry Park
harrygpark@yahoo.com

Secretary - Nick Smith

Treasurer - Chris Ciccone

Board - Bill Coburn
Board - Mike Haag
Board - Hilary Pavlidis
Board - Rick Seaman

President Emeritus—Tim Hund

TRAACA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT

Nick Smith, Secretary

February 13, 2025

6:00 PM: Call to order

Board members present: Bill Treadwell, Pres; Harry Park, VP; Chris Ciccone, Treas; Nick Smith, Sec; Hillary Pavlidis, Dir; Bill Coburn, Dir; Michael Haag, Dir; Rick Seaman, Dir. (Tim Hund, President Emeritus)

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

Installation of new board members and dinner meeting went well.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

Welcome to new board members Mike Haag, Rick Seaman, Chris Ciccone, and Bill Coburn.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The official membership roster has been submitted to National along with the required Officers Reporting Form listing TRAACA Officers and Board for the calendar year 2025.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Finances were reviewed by the Board. Chris Ciccone will not accept the Treasurer's Books prior to the completion of the audit. Timeline for completion of the audit is currently March 3, 2025. (May be changed if so requested by the auditor). Motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report and Secretary's Report as stated and written. Motion seconded and approved for both.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

Paul Fuqua, Activities Chair presented the 2025 monthly activities via a spread sheet that has been developed by his committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Scott Davies, Membership Chair gave an update on TRAACA membership. TRAACA currently has 145 active members. Over the previous year, an additional 6 new memberships have joined.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion made to approve the 2025 Chili Cook

off at the Shriner's site on November 1, 2025. Motion seconded and approved.

Motion made to authorize Bob Stein to continue as Webmaster for TRAACA and that the total cost for said service requested for \$667.74 (Total for TWO years) be approved. Further, it is requested that Bob Stein be granted a total budget for this website NOT TO EXCEED \$700. Motion seconded and approved.

Motion made that guest speakers who speak at a TRAACA dinner meeting will continue to receive a meal paid for by TRAACA. However, should the speaker bring a guest, that guest will be responsible for payment of their own meal at the current cost for active members. Further, should a TRAACA member speak at a dinner meeting, that member SHALL NOT receive a free meal, and will be responsible for paying the normal current club fee for the dinner. Motion seconded and approved.

NOTE: On February 1, 2025 an Executive Session was called to order by President Treadwell to discuss the following pertinent issues: (1) Annual donation to National (2) Rescheduling of February Dinner meeting currently scheduled for February 20. Per the above meeting, the following occurred:

Motion made to donate a total of \$500.00 to National for the calendar year of 2025. Motion seconded and approved.

Motion made to reschedule February 20 dinner meeting to May 2025 (Date TBD). Motion seconded and approved.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn.

7:10 PM: Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Smith, TRAACA Secretary



WHICH WAY TO THE CLUB STORE?

Dear Editor - I tried Google, then tried my GPS. I asked a few members where I could buy a T-shirt, thinking someday soon we'll be able to wear them again when the weather turns nice. Tell me more - thanks.



Reply - Me too. I've worn out a couple of them and need replacements. Need to show my pride in being a member. Think of the possibilities - jackets for colder weather (like today); Polo-shirts for those slightly dressier occasions like club meetings; T-shirts (mine are covered with grease stains and rather threadbare); and maybe even a new ball cap without sweat stains.



The question prompts a larger discussion - DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CLUB? Want to meet members and have

some fun? We need someone (or a few) to help reopen THE CLUB STORE.

All you need to do is attend meetings regularly and help members order what they need. Carol Milligan, our recently retired proprietor, has extended her offer to help show someone how things were done previously.

The majority of the purchases were from a catalog, people seemed to prefer to make their own selections.

The vendor had a minimum order amount of 10 items (not necessary that all be the same item). It's not necessary to maintain an inventory as that would be difficult, so other than perhaps a few sample items, there would be no need to carry items around to events.

Of course any new Store Manager would be able to work with the Board of Directors to find additional sources of items, help decide on new items, or to even choose a few samples for display. It's an "open slate" for you to use your creativity and imagination and reopen the doors on a new CLUB STORE. Contact our leadership team if you are interested.

Swap Meet Volunteers Needed

TRAACA Swap Meet
Saturday, March 8, 2025

Volunteers are needed for the TRAACA Swap Meet. You can volunteer in the following areas:

- *Friday afternoon for field layout and in door vendor move-in assistance
- *Saturday morning:
- *Vendor check-in and parking assistance for Jerry Adams
- *Indoor bake sale
- *Donate baked goods, deliciously prepared and individually wrapped or whole for sale on Saturday

Points of Contact:

Swap Meet Chair: Bill Treadwell 757-650-3667
tbears3@verizon.net

Registration: Jerry Adams

See the flyer on our website: www.traaca.com

Sell your junk, shop, or just hobnob with other participants. See you there!

Call or email Bill today to let him know where you will help.



Tidewater Region AACA ANNUAL SWAP MEET



**Saturday, March 8, 2025
8 AM to 1 PM
Nansemond-Suffolk Academy
3373 Pruden Blvd., Suffolk, VA 23434**



Vehicles, parts, accessories, and transportation-related memorabilia

Meet is Rain or Shine - No Rain Date - No Refunds - No Parking on Grass

- Outdoor space 10' x 30' on pavement
- Indoor spaces incl 1 table & 2 chairs
- Car Corral Spaces 10' x 30'
- Free admission and parking for shoppers and spectators
- Easy access off Rt 460 via stop light
- Food Vendor on site
- Car clubs are invited to purchase a space to promote your club
- Pre-registered Indoor vendor set-up is available Friday 1-5 PM
- Day of Meet and Outdoor vendor set-up is available Saturday starting at 7 AM (Must Check in first at Registration Table)

Pre-Registration Deadline: February 26, 2025

*Registrations MUST be postmarked on or before February 26, 2025 for pre-registration prices.
Registrations postmarked after February 26, 2025 will be considered Day of Meet prices.*

**Day of Meet Registration
Open 7 AM to 11 AM**

Enter & exit via stop light on 460 - Site must be vacated by 2 PM



For Meet Information contact:

Swap Meet Chairman

Bill Treadwell @ 757-650-3667

Registration Chairman

Jerry Adams @ 757-673-3240

TRAACAMeet@gmail.com



Special Thanks to Nansemond-Suffolk Academy

Check our website at WWW.TRAACA.COM often for any important updates

This event is for the sale of antique and collector vehicle parts, equipment, supplies, accessories, or related memorabilia only. It is not a general "flea market" and we do not wish to have crafts, household items, unrelated toys, clothing, equipment, supplies or services displayed. If you have any questions, ask before you arrive. Event organizers reserve the right to refuse admittance to any vendor selling, displaying or offering any items not in keeping with the theme or family-oriented nature of this activity.

ANNUAL TRAACA Awards & Installation Banquet February 1, 2025

Contributed by Bob Stein & Rick Seaman

Our Annual Awards and Installation banquet had been postponed from its January date due to impending winter weather. The Holiday Inn was very accommodating and members gathered on February 1st for the occasion. Members came dressed in a bit more than usual casual attire and were treated to a great dinner – including a special cake honoring our 70th Anniversary.



President Bill Treadwell began the meeting by announcing a special ceremony, arranged by Harry Park. Our youngest member,

Audrey Austin (13), and our oldest member, Dewey Milligan (95) shared the honor of cutting the cake and helping to welcome in our 71st year as a proud AACA Region.



Following dinner, Bill and Vice President Harry Park presented Annual Awards. Some of the original trophies were on display, reminding everyone of our traditions.



Jim and Donna Elliott repeated their win of the prestigious Bartlett Bowl. The Bartlett Bowl recognizes the member scoring the most points for awards won by his/her vehicle in car shows during the previous calendar year. The award was



donated by Diane Bartlett and Jeff Locke, in memory and honor of longtime TRAACA member Harry Bartlett, who loved to compete in car shows and was a superb ambassador for our club.

The award encourages the restoration, preservation, and maintenance of antique automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles, and participation in car shows at all levels.

The Beaulieu Cup was awarded again to Harry Park. The Beaulieu Cup recognizes the member who has accumulated the most AACA awards during the previous calendar year with a single vehicle. The award was donated by Bob and Linda Pellerin in 2002 and celebrates the National Motor Museum of England, one of the finest and most historically significant automobile museums in the world. The museum was founded in 1952 by Lord Montague at Beaulieu as a memorial to his father, Scott Montague, one of the first motoring pioneers.



This year the Century Award was presented to Thomas and Connie England for their 1924 Chevrolet, while the Century Participation Award again went to Reggie and Cindy Nash. The Century Award recognizes the owners of

100-year-old vehicles. The award honors both the vehicle and the owner(s), the quality of production and craftsmanship that created the original vehicle, as well as the skill, commitment, and dedication of the owner(s) in preserving and maintaining the vehicle. Each presentation of this award is a visible indicator of our success in preserving our nation's automotive heritage. Owners receive this award the year their antique vehicle is 100 years old (model year). The Century Participation Award recognizes the owner(s) of 100-year-old and older vehicles who attained the highest number of AACA participation points with that vehicle during the previous calendar year. The intent of this award is to encourage the ownership, preservation, and use of older vehicles.

Tony Scarpelli received the Duryea Award. Unfortunately Tony was unable to attend and receive his award in person. The Duryea Award recognizes a member for his/her active contributions to our National Club during the previous calendar year. The Duryea Motor Wagon Company, established in 1895, was the one of the first American firms to build a gasoline automobile. The Duryea automobile is the symbol of the Antique Automobile Club of America, prominently displayed in the logo and adorning many of the trophies presented by the club. TRAACA member contributions to the national club that will be considered for this award can include, but are not limited to, serving in elected, appointed, or volunteer positions, contributing to the success of national club. Tony received this award for his service to AACA's National Continuing Judges Education (CJE) program.

The Ivie Lister Award was given to Mark Strang who, unfortunately, was unable to attend the banquet. The Ivie Lister Award recognizes the member(s) who accumulated the most show participation points during the previous calendar year with a British marque vehicle. The award was donated in 2008 by Dan and Angie Ciccone in memory and honor of TRAACA member Ivie Lister, who had a special affection for British cars. The award encourages the ownership, preservation, and use of the British automobile by using it in both show and driving events in National, Regional, and Local events.



Susan Bond was the recipient of the Lalique Award, which is given to recognize the current member who has consistently contributed to the TRAACA over the years. The award was created in 1998 by Bob Pellerin in memory and honor of deceased TRAACA members. It recognizes members for their untiring service, contributions, and selfless dedication to the Tidewater Region. As current Co-Editor of *The Mudflap* her service continues.

The Merritt Horne Participation Award went to Tony Miller this year for his 1925 Model T Ford, which he drives everywhere! The Merritt Horne Participation Award recognizes member(s), ex-



cluding TRAACA elected officials, for supporting official TRAACA activities through their active participation during the previous calendar year. It was donated by Merritt Horne, one of the TRAACA's earliest and most active members, to promote Club activities and to recognize those members who best support these functions.

The Annual *Mudflap* Award went to Douglas Grosz for his dedication as the former Editor of our newsletter. The *Mudflap* Award recognizes the club member making the greatest contributions of a story, article, or series of articles published in the region's newsletter, *The Mudflap* during the previous calendar year. The award was donated by past *Mudflap* editors Pat and Jeff Locke in 1991 to recognize and encourage members to write articles for the region's newsletter. Without those contributions there would be no newsletter.

The Overland Award was presented to Sam Kern and his 1925 Franklin. The Overland Award recognizes the owner(s) of a 1942 or older vehicle who has been most active in TRAACA and AACA-sponsored activities. The award was donated in 1985 by William B. Holmes in the spirit of the Willys-Overland Company to encourage members to show and drive older vehicles.

The Tidewater Region President's Award was presented this year to Tammy Park. The Tidewater Region President's Award is awarded to a member, selected by the President (with Board input), who contributed considerable time, effort, resources, dedication, and/or leadership in support of the TRAACA in the past calendar year.



Scott Davies received the Spark Plug Award for 2024. For many years Scott has served quietly behind the scenes in a variety of roles. His recent efforts in membership have been outstanding. The Spark Plug Award recognizes the member(s), excluding TRAACA elected officers, making

the greatest contribution to the region during the previous calendar year. The award was donated in 1991 by Terry and Susan Bond to recognize those members who help make the TRAACA one of the best and most active regions in the AACA.



Bob Parrish received the Tidewater Region Restoration Award. The TRAACA Restoration Award recognizes the club member(s) who, principally through their own efforts, have completed a restoration or significant improvement of an antique vehicle in

the past calendar year and have shown it in a local or national AACA event. The award was donated by Ed Lail in 1996 to recognize and encourage members' craftsmanship and efforts in authentically restoring antique vehicles. Bob received this award for his 1968 Chevelle SS 396 Convertible.

The final award of the evening was the Dwight Schaubach Award. It was presented to Dalton and Carroll Wiliford for their 1967 Pontiac GTO. This award was sponsored by Dwight and Jane Schaubach and recognizes excellence in restoration and showing it in AACA events.



With awards completed, Linda Pellerin then took over for the installation of 2025 TRAACA officers. Using special 'props' to illustrate their function and how critical components of an automobile related to duties on our board, Linda went over each position and its importance to the region.

Tim Hund (carburetor) is the President Emeritus providing the fuel to keep going. His knowledge and experience will be a big asset.

The four Board Members Mike Haag, Rick Seaman, Hilary Pavlidis, and Bill Coburn (pistons) converts board decisions to action.

Treasurer Chris Ciccone (distributor) controls and manages the cash flow to keep the club going.

Secretary Nick Smith (intake manifold) directs and records the intake and actions of the club.

Vice-President Harry Park is the crank... the kind that starts engines and helps keep things turning.

President Bill Treadwell held a steering wheel, symbolic as the one who ultimately guides the club's direction during the year.

With the awards and installation of new officers completed, President Treadwell closed the meeting.

Special thanks to Dan and Chris Ciccone for providing full-size Lindt candy bars as part of the 70th Anniversary celebration.

Rick Seaman said it well — it was indeed great to see everyone again, ready for the new-year.



Nick Smith, Chris Ciccone, Mike Haag, Harry Park, Bill Treadwell, Bill Coburn, Rick Seaman, Hilary Pavlidis, Linda Pellerin, Tim Hund

AACA Annual National Convention 2025

Terry Bond & Bob Stein

The Annual Convention is a highlight for AACA and the membership. It celebrates the year just completed and opens the doors on a fresh new season of antique car activity. It is a combination of fun, fellowship, learning, and enjoying all our hobby has to offer.

This year the trip was a fairly close drive to Charlotte, North Carolina. This is very familiar territory if you have attended the Charlotte Auto fair and/or the AACA Nationals held there for many years. The Embassy Suites, very close to Charlotte Motor Speedway, served as our event headquarters. It is a wonderful, convenient, and elegant facility that included great food, tremendous service and plenty of elbow room for smaller get-togethers and socializing.

David Peeler's 1911 Oldsmobile Limited on display at Registration



Many of us traveled in advance of the weekend to take advantage of two great scheduled tours. Some visited the legendary Hendricks collection nearby. This private automobile collection has been assembled by NASCAR legend Rick Hendricks. Club members were in awe of the Hendricks facility, which includes not only classic performance cars but a complete restoration facility as well.

Other club members toured to North Carolina Transportation Museum in nearby Spencer. We could have easily spent an en-



North Carolina Transportation Museum

tire weekend there. A treat was lunch in a real antique dining car where we met a new club member who had traveled all the way from Alberta, Canada and is working to form a new AACA Region there.



TRAACA members enjoying a chance to visit

We returned to the hotel in time for an evening welcome reception where everyone had the chance to meet the AACA officers and directors. It was a great, relaxing evening.

Early Friday morning it was time to decide which seminars you would attend. There was a full schedule of them including my own at 8AM on collecting paper automobilia. Bob Stein



Terry Bond



Bob Stein

presented a fascinating seminar on the Nash automobiles of the 50s. Others included information on the AACA Library and Research Center; Collectible Vehicle insurance; information on the many classic car auctions being held these days; technical seminars on flat-head Fords, carburetors, trucks, and others.



Lyn St. James and First Lady Audrey Harris

Fridays special luncheon, hosted by First Lady Audrey Harris, featured an amazing guest speaker – Indy-500 race driver Lynn St James. She spoke about how she got involved in racing and her many accomplishments following a great career behind

the wheel. The line for autographed books was a track-length! She is one courageous and inspiring lady!

Bill Treadwell and David Dilla-hunt try their hand at the Blackjack table on Casino night



The afternoon was filled with more great history and informational seminars.

That evening, following a dinner recognizing AACA Regions and Chapters, we were treated to a special "Casino Night." The hotel was quickly transformed into a life-like casino where



Bob and Dot Parrish, Harry and Tammy Park, Dan and Chris Ciccone trying hard to win raffle tickets at the blackjack table

Bill Treadwell and Rick Seaman with their raffle prizes



everyone was given enough chips to have fun with at the many tables set up there, staffed by professional dealers. It was all great fun and no money changed hands at all – we played for chips that would later be cashed in for raffle tickets for some great prizes that even included a life-time AACA membership.

The Trade Fair was open all throughout the weekend. There were 23 booths set up representing restoration and parts companies, the AACA Library and Research Center and AACA Headquarters where you could buy AACA branded merchandise. Tables staffed by representatives from Regions and Chapters hosting National Events in the coming year provided detailed information about their plans. It was great (and enticing) to learn about everything from touring in Maine and West Virginia to the giant fall Hershey flea market and car show.

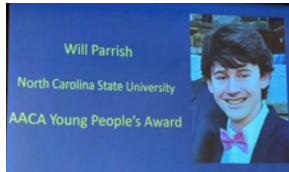
Saturday morning there were several different judging schools available, depending on your level of experience. You could also embark on your journey to becoming a Certified Team Captain or a Continuing Judges Training instructor.

That afternoon, the AACA General Membership Meeting drew a large crowd as newly elected officers were introduced. We learned what's new in AACA, where our membership efforts stand, more about club finances, and about future plans. Members had the chance to ask questions and provide some great ideas for future events, too.



Joe Gentile is presented with the James Melton award by AACA

That evening, the Annual Convention concluded with a great dinner and a spectacular Awards Banquet. The setting was elegant and saw several hundred members dressed in their finest to applaud recipients of special awards for their vehicles, or to receive recognition for service to the club. We were thrilled



to see Joe Gentile receive a National Award for his AMX. Watch for a feature article about Joe's car in the near future.

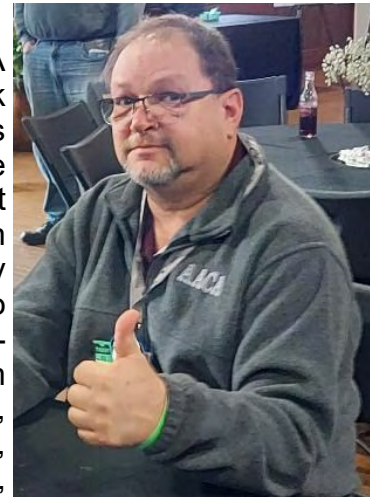


Bob and Dot Parrish accept the scholarship award for their grandson

Equally exciting was seeing Will Parrish being honored with one of the AACA Scholarships. Will is the grandson of Bob and Dot Parrish who received the award on his behalf.

AACA is alive and well, and in good hands. 2025 promises to be a great old car year for us. It certainly got a great kick-off at this year's Annual Convention.

Attending from TRAACA were - Bob Stein, Rick Seaman, Dan and Chris Ciccone, Joe and Gitte Gentile, Bob and Dot Parrish, Terry and Susan Bond, Tom and Tammy Cox, Bill Treadwell (who presented a \$500 donation from TRAACA), Sam Kern and Judy Harding, Harry and Tammy Park, Jim and Donna Elliott, Reggie and Cindy Nash, David Dillahunt, and Bill Colburn.



For next year's Convention, we will return to Chantilly. Make your plans now to be there for a great time with us.

Thanks to Bob Stein, Harry and Tammy Park, and Dot Parrish for the photos.

My first time at an AACA Convention

By Rick Seaman

This is the first time I ever attended the annual convention, I had a great time.

On day one I did a tour of the NC Transportation Museum. I have been here many times before but this time we had an hour lunch car train ride that was fantastic, followed by getting a behind-the-scenes look at many of the personal rail cars that are normally closed to the public, it is amazing to see how people lived on trains 70 years ago.

On Friday, the seminars and the speakers all had a wealth of information to put out. I attended "Collectible Vehicle Insurance" by J.C. Taylor; "Road to Your First Nationals" by the North Alabama Region; "Drivers Participation Class" (DPC) and "AACA Original" (formerly HPOF).

The JC Taylor representative gave a very in-depth easy-to-understand overview of collector car insurance and what you MUST HAVE and what is GOOD TO HAVE. It seems sometimes you may be over insured or under insured with your collector car or car trailer. I did not know I could even put collision on my trailer so I thought that was very beneficial to know.

"Road to your First Nationals" was put on by the North Alabama Region and explained how they set up and executed their first National event in over 30 years. Everyone in their region was new to this except two members. I didn't go to this show last year but it did go off without a hitch, and they spoke about the lessons learned that they had for the show. Key take aways were having a dedicated group to do the show, communication, and only printing enough programs for how many cars you have registered plus 10% (they still have hundreds of programs).

"Drivers Participation Class" was very informative on how this class of cars can have some up-

grades like brakes, and radial tires and how the car gets "certified".

"AACA Original" was a bit more in-depth than class judging. It would seem that with AACA Original you really have to know your car and all facets of any previous repairs. As an example, we learned that a fender that might have been repainted from an earlier accident might have some affect on its being determined "original." Again, cars in this class also have to be evaluated and certified as being "AACA Original".

On day two I attended the Judging school, Dain King did a fantastic job of giving the basics and

really using common sense going over the score sheet. He explained how the score sheet is set up, and emphasized acting unbiased and professional. There was a lot of information as the session really dug into detail on what it takes to be a good judge.

The general membership meeting was just that, a very general over-view of the previous year for AACA. There was information provided on areas such as finance, membership and activities. A thrill for me however - I won a garage roll around seat in a raffle! That was good because my old one just broke!!

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North Carolina Transportation Museum vehicles



Antique Automobile editor West Peterson



Tom Cox, Bob Parrish

Members Helping Members

By Harry Park

One of the great things about belonging to a club is the tremendous support network it provides. There are still a lot of us actively restoring (or at least maintaining) our vehicles. Help is often needed whether it's a special tool, some advice from an expert (or guess-work from an amateur), an extra bit of muscle, or even perhaps just some encouragement (or sympathy). It's all about helping each other. There is something special about getting together to make light work of a difficult task. The fellowship is a big part of it, too. After all we're family. Here is an example of how a couple of our club members pitched in together to help.

In January, Dan Ciccone and Harry Park hitched up the trailer to Harry's Super Duty and picked up TRAACA member Harry Boone and headed out for White Post Virginia to pick up Mr. Boone's 1931 Model A Ford from White Post restoration. Harry had the car up there getting some work completed on it.



We had a great day socializing and of course eating lunch amongst club members and learned a lot about each other. 8 hours later and we were back in Virginia Beach unloading the car. Moral of this story is, you never really know much about each other if you don't reach out to the members of the club and ask if they need help.



STILL COLLECTING

By Terry Bond

It's almost Valentine's day! The traditional gift of course is a valentine. Sometimes, a box of chocolates might be appropriate, but for most years the nearly universal item given is indeed the valentine in the form of a greeting card.

The exact history of Valentine's day is, well, lost in history. Some believe it began in Rome as a raucous pagan festival celebrated in mid February. That festival was banned in the 5th Century, right about the time Pope Gelasius declared February 14th as "St. Valentine's Day." Even the exact identity of St. Valentine is uncertain. It is however believed he was a priest who was arrested for defying a Roman decree that forbade soldiers from marrying. He was executed for the crime of continuing to wed lovers in secret.

Valentine's Day's transformation into a holiday about romantic love can be attributed to the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer. Chaucer is credited for modern ideas about Valentine's Day. William Shakespeare has also been credited with popularizing the holiday's romantic associations.

Regardless, it remains a fun day to show your love and affection by enjoying a nice dinner or giving a small gift. The least expensive way of doing that has always been to send a card.

Before sending cards was even possible, handmade Valentines were often delivered in person. Once the post-card became popular though, it quickly became the preferred gift.

In the early 1900s, continuing in the European tradition of giving elaborately made gifts, large embossed and die-cut valentines quickly emerged. Those produced in Germany were the best. Advances in lithographic printing, and cheap labor used to assemble them, made it possible for large, multi-dimensional valentines to be created. They consisted of multiple layers, held together with thin tabs and tissue paper. They could be folded flat and inserted into an envelope, but when fully displayed, they were three-dimensional objects of amazing beauty. They became display pieces on mantles and in display cabinets and were lasting memories of romance and excitement. Unfortunately, few re-

main today as they were fragile and suffered from handling and the ravages of time and environment.

With the advent of the automobile, it quickly became symbolic of a new age of thrill and adventure. It was a natural theme for a Valentine. Today they command premium prices and, in good condition, are very rare.



Circa 1902 folding die-cut, embossed Valentine. Made in Germany

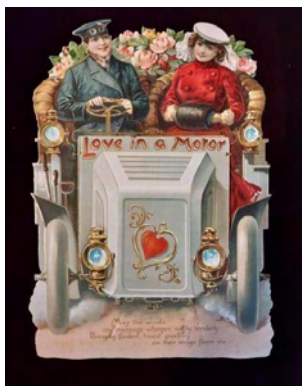


Large German folding die-cut, embossed large limousine Valentine, circa 1904



Large folding die-cut, embossed, Valentine dated 1906, German

As time marched on, Valentines naturally became less complicated and easier to mass produce. Some nicely embossed, die-cut examples were



Valentine postcard, USA, postmarked 1923



Large stand-up embossed die-cut Valentine, published by Raphael Tuck, England, 1905

still produced but, instead of three dimensional layers, they simply had a small easel like-tab on the back so they could stand by themselves on a mantle or in a display case.



Valentine postcard, England, post-



Valentine postcard, USA, postmarked 1910



Embossed Valentine postcard, England, postmarked 1909

Small animated greetings cards began to appear in the 1920s and remain popular to this day. Those with automotive themes can have opening doors or other novel features. Near endless varieties exist.

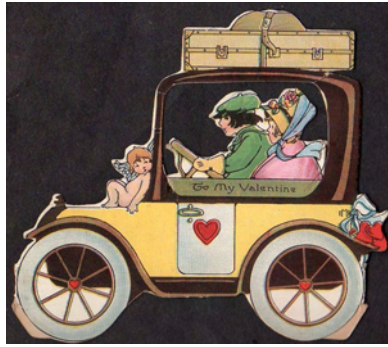


Small folding animated valentine, USA, circa 1912



Small folding animated valentine with opening side door, USA, 1920

Small folding animated valentine with revolving wheels. USA, circa 1920



Small die-cut embossed stand-up valentine, England,



Today, flowers by special delivery is common. Fancy valentines have been replaced by email and text messaging. Although the racks of your local Hallmark store are filled with heart-shaped cards this time of year, those with automobiles as a theme are seldom seen. I guess the automobile is no longer such a novelty that it prominently plays a role in romance these days. But – I remember when...

Happy collecting as always. Terry



Valentine postcard, USA, postmarked 1915

Bulletproof Nash!

By Bob Stein

Bob's 1949 Nash Ambassador (caroholic.com)
Faster than a speeding bullet? Well, maybe the 1950s Superman television intro needs to be changed to 'stronger than a speeding bullet.' In fairness, the slug that bounced off the door of this 1949 Nash Ambassador Custom had already spent some energy breaking through a car dealership's plate glass window. Even so, employees found only a dent in the Nash. That was in the late seventies, and other than repair of the door, the car remains mostly original.

Ida Sordet bought this Nash on March 3, 1949 from Hobbs Auto and Supply in Meridian, Mississippi. The 73-year-old widow owned and operated Sordet's Grocery, and traded in a 1947 Nash 600 sedan on the upscale Ambassador Custom. Equipped with almost every accessory available for that year, this Nash is missing the one that made the brand famous. When asked why she skipped that common option, Mrs. Sordet reportedly said "And just why would I want a car that made up into a bed?"

The Nash was apparently left to her daughters upon her death in 1965, who sold the car in 1975 with only 27,000 miles. It was enough of a novelty even then that the Thad Ryan AMC dealership in Jackson, Mississippi had it on display in their showroom when hooligans shot out the window. As previously noted, the bullet bounced off the door. After it was repaired, the

Nash went on to several other owners who did not contribute to the paper trail, before landing in Bayonet Point, Florida for a few years.



Virginia collector Reggie Nash (no known connection) bought the car in 2011 and added about 500 miles a year taking it on tours and occasional pleasure drives. He sold it to another Virginia collector who decided it didn't mesh with his Packards and passed it on to the current owner, Bob Stein of the Tidewater Region AACA, in October 2023. More than seventy-four years after the car was built, it has just over 44K miles on it. The original black paint is thin, but the interior is still clean and intact and the drivetrain has never been out of the car. The optional overdrive combines with a 112 horsepower 7-main-bearing 6-cylinder engine to cruise easily on the highway, and the manual drum brakes stop the car quickly and smoothly.

Yes, Lois Lane drove a Nash Rambler convertible, but Inspector Henderson, the show's primary law officer, had a Nash Ambassador patrol car. So if you happen to catch the old Superman series on TV, look for the car that was as bulletproof as the series' namesake.

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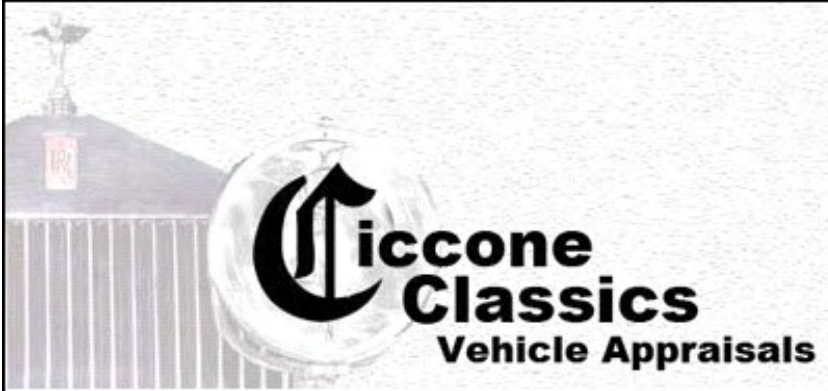
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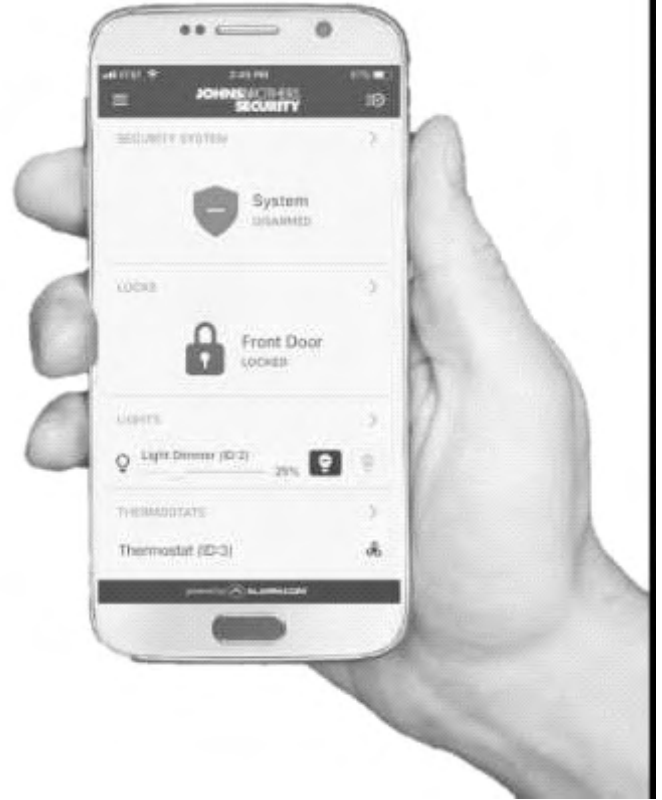
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