

The Mudflap

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

Volume 68, Issue 3 & 4

March and April 2024



TRAACA trip to the Tattoo Festival
April 21, 2024



TRAACA CALENDAR

April 21 Tattoo Festival Tickets

If you have purchased tickets for the International Tattoo and the Scope on April 21st, Tammy Park will bring your tickets to the next dinner meeting on April 18th. If you are not able to pick them up at the dinner meeting, please contact Tammy to arrange a meeting time before the show. Tammy will be collecting money at the dinner meeting if you haven't paid or you can send her a check made out to TRAACA. We have still have tickets available for purchase and you can purchase them at the dinner meeting or by contacting Tammy



MARCH

9 - TRAACA Annual Swap Meet - Nansemond-Suffolk Academy - 3373 Pruden Blvd., Suffolk, VA 23434

21 - TRAACA Monthly Meeting - 6 PM - Holiday Inn Convention Center

APRIL

4 - AACA Zenith Awards (Charlotte NC)

5 - AACA Grand Nationals (Charlotte NC)

6 - AACASoutheast Spring Nationals (Charlotte NC)

24 - Virginia Tattoo Festival (\$ 40 dollars per person and the club has a block of seats) Available on first come first serve.

MAY

18 - Old Dominion Meet (Roanoke VA)

JUNE

8 - Richmond Region 55th



President's Podium

Bill Treadwell
TRAACA President
traacacontact@gmail.com



It was rewarding to see so many members and active volunteers at our annual Swap Meet. Despite being a rainy Saturday in Suffolk, we had over forty vendors actively displaying and selling their wares for a few hours. When the rain came, we got to go home early, but not before we had a profitable day, making about \$1300 for the club. We will return to Nansemond Suffolk Academy next March.

Also in March, we enjoyed another successful dinner meeting at the Holiday Inn. Special thanks to Linda Pellerin for arranging our guest speaker, Ed Moore, from the Mariner's Museum. We learned a lot about submarine activity during World War II. Now, several members, myself included, will be working toward attending the national meet in Charlotte, April 4 – 7, this year a dual meet with Grand Nationals on Friday. When you see Harry Park, be sure to talk with him and congratulate him for his Zenith award nomination for that beautiful 1970 Chevelle.

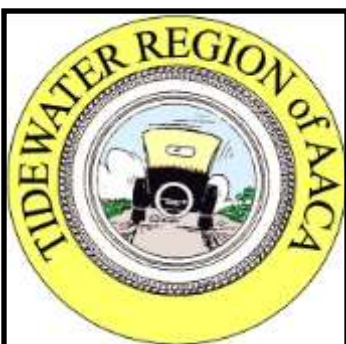
One more note on events: The Old Dominion Meet will be in Roanoke this year, May 17th and 18th. Members are encouraged to watch our website and the national AACA site, aaca.org, for details on upcoming events.

Speaking of events and the need for active volunteers to make them happen, I am currently looking for a new meet chairman for our meet in September. Last year's chair, Barry Basnight, has already done a lot of the planning, but has another commitment on Saturday, September 14. Thank you, Barry, for leading and encouraging the new chair. Any volunteers??

As I wander through my efforts as President toward another successful year, I need to remind myself that membership, attracting new members and encouraging all members to be more active, is everyone's job. If friends or strangers notice your car or interest in the automotive hobby, be ready to encourage them to attend our events and get involved.

At our board meeting in March, we had a discussion about alternatives to our monthly dinner meetings. Would enough members attend a Cars and Coffee type event on Saturday morning, or possibly a technical session? If you have any ideas, I encourage you to talk to your favorite board members or attend a board meeting.

Enough rambling for now, hope to see many, many members of Tidewater at an event soon!



Bill Treadwell
TRACA President

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THE MUDFLAP is the newsletter for the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, and is published monthly.

Editor: Doug Grosz

c/o Charles O'Dea 817 Garden Lane Suffolk VA 23434

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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 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!

2024 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Bill Treadwell:

tbears3@verizon.net

Vice President - Harry Park:

harrygpark@yahoo.com

Secretary - Nick Smith

Treasurer - Charles O'Dea

Board - Doug Grosz

Board - Paul Fuqua

Board - Herbert Mumford

Board - Hilary Pavlidis

President Emeritus - Tim Hund

Visit TRAACA on the Internet at: www.traaca.com

From the Running Board

TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes *(final approved copy can be obtained from Secretary)*

TRAACA Board of Directors Meeting
February 2, 2024

6:06 PM: President called meeting to order.

Board members present: Bill Treadwell, Pres., Harry Park, VP., Charles O'Day, Treas., Nick Smith, Sec., Hilary Pavlidis, Director, Doug Grosz, Director, Herbert Mumford, Director. Paul Fuqua, Director was absent.

Motion made and accepted to approve minutes as written for January 2024 Board meeting.

Motion made and accepted to approve Treasurer's Report.

Committee reports were given.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meet: Need to let Chesapeake City Park know right away to reserve a date in September of 2024. Reservation fund will be due by May 2024. Motion made and accepted to make a reservation at Chesapeake City Park for September 14, 2024 for Annual Meet.

Motion made and accepted to sign a long term contract with Holiday Inn Greenwich Rd, Va Beach for monthly dinner meeting. TRAACA will pay a total of \$14.19/member to offset the meal.

NEW BUSINESS

President Treadwell has proposals for the board to review in the near future regarding the position of Membership Chairman. His comments to current chairman: "Keep on doing what you've been doing". VP Park reiterated the importance of ensuring that no correspondence should be sent to any club member without prior approval of the board.

7:28 PM: Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Smith, Secretary

TRAACA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MARCH 14, 2024

6:00 PM: Call to order

Board members present: Bill Treadwell, President; Harry Park, Vice President; Charles O'Day, Treasurer; Nick Smith, Secretary; Hilary Pavlidis, Director; Paul Fuqua, Director. Herbert Mumford, Director was absent. Tim Hund, Past President, and Skip Patnode, and Tammy Park, club members were also present.

Motion made and accepted to approve minutes as written for February 6, 2024 BOD meeting. Treasurer's report was provided.

President Treadwell requested Treasurer to submit a revised report for February 2024 to include recodation of checks written.

Paul Fuqua suggested establishment of an annual budget. President Treadwell agreed to include this suggestion under new business at the April 2024 meeting. Discussion regarding the possibility of establishing a scholarship for local students will be continued at upcoming board meeting. A "Cars and coffee" event was proposed for the month of May and will be presented to the membership at the March dinner meeting. If approved, place and time to be determined.

President Treadwell is continuing to explore a more central BOD meeting location.

Motion was made and accepted to have the annual chili cook off in October 2024. Date and location to be determined.

Motion made and accepted to adjourn.
7:24 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Smith, Secretary



STILL COLLECTING - POCKET WATCHES

By Terry Bond



I couldn't help it! There was a great watch fob for my collection just laying on a table at an antique show. I had to have it! One slight problem though, it was connected to a pocket watch! What to do? Well of course-start collecting pocket watches too! My only requirement was the pocket watch itself needed to be automobile related.

Thus began the process of learning something about pocket watches. I must confess though, my knowledge of all the intricacies of collecting them is very limited. These little things can be expensive, so obviously there is a lot to learn.

My fascination lies with those watches decorated with motoring scenes.

Pocket watches have always offered up their blank cases as ideal canvasses for engravers. Most are decorated with fancy scrollwork. Others are decorated with hunting scenes. A few though were decorated with early motoring scenes.



Circa 1904 pocket watch with embossed motoring scene. Note the jeweled headlamps.

Those early watches with embossed motoring scenes are the rarest and perhaps most desirable. Sometimes they will have jeweled headlamps on the autos. These watches have cases that were cast in molds and hand-finished. Sometimes they will be stamped like a coin, using dies.

More commonly found are those with engraved cases.

These can be found with simple engraving on them or with colored gold inserts. Some are simple with an automobile image. More elaborate versions will have a full scene and sometimes multiple race cars on them.



Elaborately engraved two-tone gold motoring scene showing an early race car and mechanic at speed.

There is another category of watch that has an automobile logo on the face itself. Often the cases were engraved as many of these kinds of watches were presentation items to retiring industry executives, or awards given to high volume salesmen. There were many other occasions where a nicely engraved pocket watch was a suitable gift. A word of caution is necessary for automobile logo watches though – the market is flooded with fakes.

Plain pocket watches have been “doctored” with the addition of decals, making them advertising pieces for all kinds of popular cars. Ford, Chevrolet, Packard, Buick, and many more popularly collected automobiles will have their logos on the watch face. Since they were corporate related items though, you'd expect to see some sort of engraving on the watch case itself. To me, it adds a degree of authenticity to a watch.



A genuine Packard presentation watch with front logo and back inscription.

When checking such watches as the Packard watch shown here, look carefully at the engraving on it. It should be hand done-not machine engraved. The marks of a hand-held chisel are unmistakable compared to those of a modern rotating engravers tool.



This "Cadillac" script watch is a cheaply made foreign item with a simple clear plastic lens and a tin metal case. It is readily available on eBay for \$63. These are often found in flea markets and antique shops for hundreds of dollars.

Without even looking at the watch movement itself, modern fakes can often be detected by just feeling the weight of the item. A clear plastic lens is also a big red flag. A close look at the logo itself with a small magnifying glass will reveal a silk-screened image, or a decal rather than a solidly printed emblem. Often originals will also have more than just the logo itself. Packard watches for example will most likely have the well-known expression "Ask the Man Who Owns One" on it as well.



Look carefully at the quality of the Buick logo on this pocket watch recently advertised for sale at over \$500. It bears little resemblance to a proper Buick logo as shown below.



You'll find many similar watches available in quantity on the internet. In fact, there are just too many available. That alone should raise suspicion. Known originals are not that commonly found.

In short, automobile branded fakes are the most commonly seen pocket watches related to automobiles. Unless there is some authentic engraving on the watch case itself, I stay away and save my money for more interesting items.



Early 1900s Swiss produced automobile themed watch made for the French market. This example is actually fairly common. But still retails for \$500+

Above is an example of an early French watch from my collection. The face includes a turn-of-the-century automobile in exquisite detail. Note also the additional red lettering. It is a bit larger than American made pocket watches. It's quite heavy and features a thick beveled glass lens. Inside is a delicately engraved, very elaborate jeweled movement indicating it was made in France and calibrated in 1908.

This type of dial is known as "illustrative."

Shown below is an exceptionally rare example of an illustrative watch showing a 1909 Packard.



Rare 1909 Packard illustrative dial watch.



Another great early pocket watch with an engraved motoring scene.

About watches – movements are often difficult to evaluate unless you know a lot of detail about them. Just because they are marked “jeweled” or “17 Jewels” doesn’t mean anything unless you know what you are looking at. Of course watches with Swiss movements are considered good quality, but many cheap knock-off watches are coming into the country

marked with everything from “Switzerland” to “Rolex.” Be careful!

A tutorial on pocket watches would fill several volumes of Mudflaps. Instead, I recommend you use this great reference:

<https://blog.pocketwatchdatabase.com>

You can easily look up everything from company histories to even serial numbers on watch movements themselves. Of course networking with other collectors is a must, and joining a pocket watch collector’s club would be a big help if you get serious about this.

I’m just a casual collector fortunate enough to find the occasional bargain. Some of them even run if I wind them and give them a little shake. No – I don’t take them apart and try to repair them. There are experts out there who can do that.

A good motoring watch can cost you \$500 or more so be cautious when considering a purchase. If you absolutely must have a watch to go with your car be careful and educate yourself before spending the big bucks. Like everything else these days, if the price seems to be too good to be true, run!

I’ll conclude with a look at a common imported pocket watch of dubious quality but with a nice motoring scene on the case. They are readily available on the internet priced as low as \$7.98 with free shipping.



A \$7.98 eBay special.

Happy collecting as always – cautiously of course!

Terry



TRAACA Annual Swap Meet March 9, 2024 Story and photos by Bob Stein



For the first time in many years, the threat of rain turned into a promise and we had very wet weather for the last part of the Annual Swap Meet. Meet Chairperson Bill Treadwell and Registration Chairperson Jerry Adams did an amazing job as always, getting spaces organized inside and out, and dealing with the huge lineup of participants who were waiting to get in at 7 AM. Many vendors stayed away because of the cloudy skies and predictions of showers, however there was still a good turnout. The wet weather was a plus to inside vendors, who were able to take advantage of potential buyers who came in to get dry. And though it was damp, we enjoyed 60 degrees most of the day, which made the March rain a lot more bearable. Other volunteers included Barry Basnight, Jack Pavlidis, Bob Kinker, Bob Stein (Who drove his 1949 Nash to help set up), Tammy Park, Toni McChesney, Sandy Hall, Chris Ciccone, and Barbara Edwards. And a lot of TRAACA folks set up at the swap meet: Tim Hund, Tom Norris, Linda Pellerin, Riley Best, Tony Scarpelli, Mickey McChesney, Terry Bond, Sam Kern, Judy Harding, , Marty Sugermeier and others. Members buying things they didn't need included Dan Ciccone, Charlie Edwards, Reggie Nash (all the way from Richmond!), Jim and Becky Woodall, Richard Hall, Tyler Gimbert, Jim Villers, Rad and Marge Tillet (Driving up from Kitty Hawk!), Ken Talley, Doug and Bill Grosz, Hilary Pavlidis, Wes Neal, Wayne Milligan, Tony Miller, Alfonso and Patrizia Ludovici, Paul Fuqua, David Curl, and Mark Davidoski. Considering this is the first time we have had weather trouble and the group still managed a good show speaks highly of Bill and Jerry's efforts.









71st Annual ODMA Meet - May 17 & 18, 2024
Held at the Holiday Inn – Valley View, Roanoke
Hosted by the Roanoke Valley Region AACA



Join fellow Virginia AACA members for fun, friendship and antique cars! Our host hotel/show site is adjacent to Interstate 581, easily accessible from Interstate 81, U.S. 220 or U.S. 460. You are invited to a Friday evening welcome featuring the Rock-A-Billy Festival (live rock and country bands), food and more at the Virginia Museum of Transportation, one of America's best train and auto displays.

[Online Registration Link](#)
 (must have Google account)

[Printable Registration Link](#)

Schedule:

Friday, May 17th

- Registration in hotel lobby 9am-5pm
- Rock-a-Billy Festival at the Virginia Museum of Transportation. \$10 per person.

Meet in hotel lobby at 5pm or drive on your own. Special parking available.

Saturday, May 18th

- Registration and parking on show-field 7:30am-11am
- Barbecue food truck onsite

- Cars permitted to leave show-field 3pm
- Social Hour with cash bar at host hotel 6-7pm
- Dinner and Awards 7pm-10pm \$40 per person

Host Hotel Reservation Information
 Holiday Inn – Valley View
 3315 Ordway Drive, NW
 Roanoke, VA 24017

Phone: (540) 362-4500 or (888) 480-0427

Online Reservations: Link coming soon
 Email: heatherscaffran@kalyanhospitality.com

Special ODMA Meet Room Rates –
 \$159 per night plus tax. Includes
 breakfast for 2. Room rate applies to
 May 16 through 19.

Cut-off for special rates is May 1, 2024.
 Mention ODMA when making your
 reservation.

Check-in is 3pm. Check-out is 11am.

Have questions?

Contact Joe Sullivan, Meet Chairman:
 Email: fxnft98@yahoo.com
 Phone: (540) 892-6574 [call during
 evenings]

Editor's Note By Debbie Nolen, AACA VP of Publications



I'd like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Matthew Hinson, who recently stepped down from the Publications Committee, and most specifically as editor of the Rummage Box. Over his 31 issue run at the helm of the newsletter, Matthew collected many valuable and informative articles, presented the thoughts of the AACA Board of Directors and made all available to the Regions and Chapters' newsletter editors, webmasters, and AACA membership. Thank you for your years of service as an evaluator in the AACA NAAP newsletter editor program and on the Publication Committee at large. Matthew, we appreciated your shared thoughts and insights over the years and wish you the best in your future endeavors. Rest assured, in the coming months, you'll still receive the same quality insights and abundant Rummage Box resources from your AACA Board of Directors with some interesting developments as we move forward into the Spring and our Touring and Nationals season! Stay tuned on that radio dial!

AACA Calendar of Events

http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca_calendar.html

March 17-23, 2024 –
Lafayette, Louisiana –
Founders Tour 'Touring
Cajun Country',
sponsored by the AACA
Louisiana Region—open to
historically correct vehicles
manufactured between 1932
and 1999.

March 21-24, 2004 –
Guaynabo, Puerto Rico –
Special Winter Nationals,
sponsored by AACA Puerto
Rico Region

April 4-6, 2024 – Charlotte,
NC – Southeastern Spring
Nationals and Grand
National, sponsored by
AACA Hornets Nest Region

June 9-13, 2024 –
Fredericksburg, Virginia –
Eastern Divisional Tour –
sponsored by AACA
Buzzards Breath Region.
Open to vehicles up through
1999.

June 20-22, 2024 – Saratoga,
New York – Eastern Spring
Nationals, sponsored by
AACA Saratoga Region.

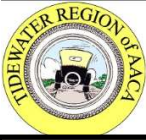
July 10-13, 2024 – Big Horn
Mountain, Wyoming –
Western Divisional



Automotive Genealogy By Myron Smith VP - Region & Chapters Development & Support - Western Division



My wife and a paternal second cousin are interested in genealogy. The cousin has built family trees for our Smith family, my mother's Butler family and Barb's family-the latter 2 being no relation to her at all but she loves doing it. I enjoy looking at other research but don't have time to do it myself. This has no bearing on cars but got me thinking another thought "I wonder what happened to an old car I looked at one time" While sitting at a stop light recently, I remembered a really nice black 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air 4 door that would have made a great HPOF car. It used to be parked at that intersection. I wondered what had ever happened to the car. It probably would have been mine except the dealer was so nasty I refused to deal with him. That got me to thinking also about a very nice 1955 Chevrolet we looked at one time that also disappeared probably never to be seen again. It can be interesting tracing our cars 'roots' and with state motor vehicle agencies being more and more restrictive in the information they let out it has become more and more difficult to research a car's history. Some things are just meant to be however, I have a 1959 Impala 4 door hardtop which from the owner's manual I knew had come from the town where my son Nathan and I had both attended high school. At the local town fall festival I took the car and left a sign on it asking that if anyone knew the original owner, to please contact me, as I would like to know the car's history. No one responded. The next year we took the completely stock 1959 Chevrolet to a Good Guys event. Before I even got parked, a couple of guys walked up and started asking questions about the car, including "Was the a/c in it when you got it? Is it a 348 engine and was it in it when you got it?" After the questions were answered he said, "my Dad had one just like it." I responded "I know the original owner's name" and told him what it was. He then responded "That's my Dad's car. I was really upset when I found out he had sold it. I've tried to trace it and the county sheriff friend told me he couldn't tell me where it was even if he ran the records." I found out there had been very little time between when his dad sold it and when I bought it from another party. Another of my cars a 1942 Ford I bought in 1976 from it's original owner. I offered it on loan to that county's museum for the winter which they readily accepted to put it outside their WWII POW display in the museum. As we were delivering the car to the museum, one of the local museum workers asked. "Did this car come from a little old lady who lived by the tennis court?" I said "yes." He responded "I never thought I'd see this car again." I have owned the car for 41 years, and he remembered the car. It made my day. A friend and his Dad restored a Model T Ford, which the dad then took to California when he retired. My friend got to wondering about the car and was hoping to get it back. He was able to trace the car and when he found it, it was in a used car lot in California. He bought it and brought it back to Nebraska where he now enjoys it. A lot of memories are tied up in it. Another friend wanted a car like he and his wife had had when they got married. A 1964 Ford Galaxie 500 2 door hardtop. He bought a similar car to restore, then was rummaging around a salvage yard about 50 miles from his home and on top of a stack of cars headed for the crusher was a 1964 Galaxie 500. It was HIS car! His bought it and his restoration project suddenly changed. Some look for early cars and have tried to trace them down from old car magazines, including ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE. Some searches do not have happy endings. Another friend has searched and searched for the 1967 Caprice coupe that he bought new—To no avail whatever happened to it will probably be as big a mystery as the two that got away from our family: a 1941 Pontiac, and a 1958 Apache Pickup. All that I have are photos. So, on cold winters nights or too Hot summer days, see if you can research where your car has been or where one of your previous ones is now- it's interesting.



TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE

Members celebrating anniversaries in March & April 2024

- Rick Overbaugh & Karen Kern
- Mike & Darlene Brown
- James & Barbara Stansbury
- Dwight & Jane Schaubach,
- Wes Neal & Nancy Soscia
- Larry & Jane Cutright
- Jody & Lisa Dudley
- Alfonso & Patrizia Lo Betti Ludovici
- Ken & Jessica Packard

Members celebrating birthdays in March & April 2024

- David Curl
- Jack Pavlidis
- Tony Miller
- Lynn Heimerl
- Liz Coburn
- Linda Treadwell
- Melinda Spence
- Margie Tillett
- Jan Garner
- Sally Hartman
- Preston Garner
- Joe Geib
- Mickey McChesney
- George Galyo
- Mike Brown
- Robyn Burnham Wilcox
- Diana Etheridge
- Marti Sugermeier
- Susan Woolfitt
- Jane Schaubach



Other Regional and Local Events

- MARCH 2024**
- 30 6th Annual George E. Smith Memorial Car Show Virginia Beach, VA
- APRIL 2024**
- 4-7 Charlotte AutoFair Concord, NC
 - 6 Daffodil Festival Car Show Gloucester, VA
 - 13 MCT Annual Spring Fling Mustang Birthday Car Show Chesapeake, VA
 - 17-21 Spring Carlisle Carlisle, PA
 - 19-21 GoodGuys NC Nationals Raleigh, NC
 - 20 Virginia Chevy Lovers 19th Annual Spring Dust Off Virginia Beach, VA
- MAY 2024**
- 2-4 50th Annual East Coast Military Vehicle Rally Wheels & Wings Hagerstown, MD
 - 4 24th Annual Williamsburg British & European Car Show Williamsburg, VA
 - 10-11 10th Annual Mid-Atlantic Pre-War Swap Meet Luray, VA
 - 10-11 Carlisle Import & Performance Nationals Carlisle, PA
 - 16-19 Cruisin' Ocean City Ocean City, MD
 - 31 - Carlisle Ford Nationals Jun 2 Carlisle, PA
- JUNE 2024**
- 6 Highlands Motoring Festival Highlands, NC
 - 21-22 Carlisle GM Nationals Carlisle, PA
- JULY 2024**
- 12-14 Carlisle Chrysler Nationals Carlisle, PA
- AUGUST 2024**

Sunshine Report

No member news

Please provide Member Care/ Sunshine Report information on TRAACA members to Bob Stein at posti@aol.com or 588-6200.

Welcome to Our New Members!

- Sigur Whitaker
- Lesley and Mary Ann Chapman
- Brandon Hull
- Rick Seaman



EDITOR'S DESK

Doug Grosz
traaca.mudflap@gmail.com

Well March and April have arrived with spring in the air. Charlotte was this month, and I will include some information about winners in the next issue.

The International Tattoo is this month and looks to be exciting. I am waiting for a nice weekend to get my car waxed and ready for summer. What about you?

We still not have a dinner meeting set up for May, so if you have ideas, please contact one of the board members.

Doug



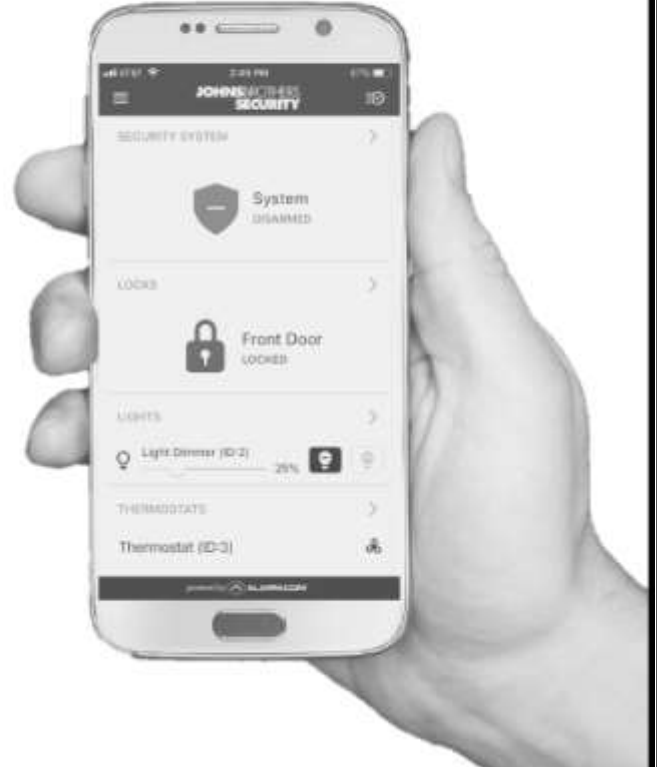
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