

THE ROAD MAP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
NEW JERSEY REGION
ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA
Est. 1951



**AACA Annual National Convention
Chantilly, VA**

March 2026

Volume 71 Issue 03

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Officers

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Board of Directors

Paul Wolfmeyer
 Greg Roser
 Art Briggs
 Craig Kunz
 Jay DeBoey
 Tim Schimmel
 Bill Pritchett
 Sarah Pritchett

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50/50	Greg Roser
Accessories & Clothing	Bobbi Bettle
Annual Banquet	Betty Allen
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Awards	Jerry Peck
By Laws	Art Briggs
Celebrations	Brenda Zimmerman
Chief Judge	Anthony Cecala
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Parliamentarian	Greg Roser
Participation Points	Vince DeLisi
Refreshments	John Pieczynski
Region Picnic	Peter Cullen Jr.
Road Map Editor	Dick Bettle
Sergeant At Arms	John Quattrocchi
Social Media	Abe Platt
Spring Fling	Bill Pritchett
Spring Meet	Peter Cullen Jr.
Sunshine	Sue Schmidt
Tour Fall Foliage	Peter Cullen Jr.
Tour Fall Mystery	Bill Pritchett
Webmaster	Dan Ungar
Welcoming	Rich Reina

NEXT MEETING

The March (799th) meeting of the New Jersey Region AACA will be held at the VFW on Rt. 53 in Morris Plains
7:30 PM March 5th

**Covers by
 Dick Bettle**

NJ Region AACA Mailing Address: PO BOX 890, Morris Plains, NJ 07950

The Road Map

The Official
 Publication of the
 New Jersey Region
 Antique Automobile Club of America
 Since 1951

Editor: Dick Bettle

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Message from the President



The Board of Directors completed a virtual meeting on February 12. Action items were set up, and we are moving forward. I'll be sharing the status of each at the meeting (I expect what I report at the meeting will be significantly different from what I can write today).

Although rain has limited the number of cars at the Spring Meet for the last two years, we've had great volunteer participation, and in particular the, judging staff. Last year the judges broke out into field judges and a great subgroup of administrative judges. This ensured the field judges paperwork was correct and the correct awards went to the winners.

On long term aims for the Spring Meet, two important Region positions which support it are currently vacant, and the Chairman position is overdue for a handoff. The vacant positions are the Equipment/Properties Chairman, and the Chief Judge. We need volunteers to take over these positions. In addition, Pete Cullen has been serving as the Spring Meet Chair since the last millennium. While Pete's institutional knowledge and skills have allowed the Region to continue to hold successful Spring Meets, it's equally important that we involve more members in key positions, and the Spring Meet Chairman is one of those positions. None of this needs to be solved for the 2026 Spring Meet, but I will be ratcheting up the call for volunteers for the future. These are great opportunities to get involved and help the region succeed through its 100th anniversary.

The Region was unsuccessful awarding a scholarship to any student in the Somerset County Vo-Tech Auto Tech Program in 2025. Therefore the BOD approved working with one, or more, alternative schools. Thanks to Jerry Peck's initial contact, we will be following up with the Superintendent of the Hunterdon County Technical High School. The goal will be establishing a \$1,000 scholarship program in their automotive program. The front end coordinating with schools to distribute applications, coordinating a car show for the students, and reviewing the applications are other areas volunteers can get involved in.

The April meeting will be the Region's 800th, so try to attend it.



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



The annual Judging Seminar and food fest was again held at my house/garage. Out of respect for Ray Fischer's funeral services, we started an hour later than usual, and began with lunch. This year Bobbi made meatballs & sausage, cheesy scalloped potatoes with ham, Monte Cristo sandwiches, chicken & pesto pasta, and oh yeah, vegetarian Moussaka with mushrooms and eggplant (Yum?). We bribed the attendees to stay after lunch by not serving any desserts until after the judging session. And thanks to June Roser, Pat Kapral, Yvonne Kunz, and Betty Allen, there were plenty for all. I even made chocolate chip cookies.

Bobbi and I set up the house to serve 30 at a sit-down buffet. We had 20 at the seminar. However, a couple of people who had signed up were unable to make it. Bob Vella was not feeling well and declined to share whatever he had. Brenda Z asked for a "rain check" as Pat Buckley, who was staying with Brenda, wanted to get home early in case the Blizzard started early!

There was plenty of room for all, and it really is a lot of fun. For those of you who have never attended a judging seminar, it's very interesting and educational. Even if you don't plan on judging, you will find out what the judges are looking for when reviewing your own car! Think about it.

The next judging seminar is at Greg & June's house. This will be the first seminar that they are hosting, so come out and support them. The cars to be "judged" will be Greg's Caddys and you get to try June's cooking! That's a win-win in anybody's book.

As always, the final seminar for this season is at Ashley's garage. At this point, I don't know what cars will be available, but it's sure to be a good time.

Spring Meet is right around the corner. Come join us, bring your cars and friends, and have a great time being together.

Safe Travels,
Dick
NJAARoadMapEditor@gmail.com





upcoming EVENTS



NATIONAL AACA EVENTS

www.AACA.ORG

March

- 19-21 **Puerto Rico Special Winter Nationals**, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico hosted by Puerto Rico Region. Jose Davila, guillodavila57@gmail.com
- 26-28 **Winter Nationals**, – Cartersville, GA – hosted by Lake Allatoona Region. Kraig Bolus, kbolus3@gmail.com

April

- 9-11 **Southeastern Spring Nationals**, – Charlotte, NC – hosted by Hornets Nest Region. Phillip Cole, pcole@wnccumc.net
- 23-25 **Annual Grand Nationals/Western Spring Nationals**, – Las Vegas, NV – hosted by Las Vegas Region. Michael Fecchino, chevyfordply@gmail.com

May

- 28-30 **Eastern Spring Nationals** – Indiana, PA – hosted by Shannock Valley Region. Paul Colligan, thefarmrv@windstream.net

June

- 11-13 **Southeastern Fall Nationals**, – Oak Ridge, TN hosted by Volunteer Region. Roger Frazee, rkfrazee@gmail.com
- 15-19 **Sentimental Tour** – Mechanicsburg, PA – hosted by Pontiac-Oakland Worldwide Region. Don Barlup, pullman1914@aol.com

July

- 23-25 **Central Spring Nationals** – Green Bay, WI. Russ Walker, russellswalker@aol.com

August

- 5-8, **Southeastern Divisional Tour** – Flat Rock, NC – hosted by Great Smokey Mountain Region & Little Detroit Chapter
- 19-22 **Annual Grand Nationals / Zenith Awards** – Allentown, PA, Steve Moskowitz, aaca1@aaca.org 717-534-1910

September

- 9-14 **Founders Tour (1932-2001)** – Williamsburg, VA – hosted by Historic VA Peninsula Region. Scott Dayton, smdayton40@gmail.com
- 20-26 **Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)** – Dover, DE. Dave Anspach, acadave1054@yahoo.com

October

- 6-9 **Eastern Fall Nationals** – Hershey, PA – hosted by Hershey Region: Bonnie Kulikowski, bonnieshepp1925@gmail.com
For additional information on the above events: <https://aaca.org/aacanationalshowsandtourschedule/>
To register: go to the login page at aaca.org

NJRAACA EVENTS

March

- 5 **NJ Region 799th Meeting**, Watnong VFW, 45 Tabor Rd, Morris Plains, NJ 7:30 - 9:30 PM.
- 28 **Judging Refresher School**, 83 Paterson Rd. Fanwood, NJ chair: Greg Roser (908-403-6486/ g.roser@verizon.net) and Craig Kunz (609-466-4899 / cakunz@verizon.net) 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

April

- 2 **NJ Region 800th Meeting**, Watnong VFW, 45 Tabor Rd, Morris Plains, NJ, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.
- 25 **Ice Cream Social and Car Display** Dairy Queen 231 State Route 31S, Washington, NJ. Chair: Bill Pritchett (908-581-0411 / wjpritchett@gmail.com)) and Marc Bernstein 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- 26 **Judging Refresher School**, Ashley's Auto Body Shop, 274 Hillside Avenue, Flanders, NJ 07836. Chairs: Craig Kunz and Larry Ashley. 1:00 - 2:30 PM. Snacks provided

May

- 3 **NJ Region Spring Meet**, Location to be provided. Chair: Pete Cullen, registration opens 8:30 AM, Judging begins at 11:00 AM.
- 7 **NJ Region 801st Meeting**, Watnong VFW, 45 Tabor Rd, Morris Plains, NJ, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.
- 13 **Autumn Lake Healthcare**, 35 Cottage Street, Berkley Heights NJ. 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM. Abe Platt, Chair (732-752-6341/Day of show: 732-433-5319) Lunch, Prizes Rain Date: 05/19/26
- 23 **Memorial Day Parade**, Hillsborough, NJ. Chair: Bob Hudak (732-629-1437), assemble between 8:30 - 9:15 AM, parade begins 10:00 AM, car show after parade ends at

NJRAACA EVENTS

12:00 Noon. DONATION TO CLUB PROVIDED.

- 25 **Madison Memorial Day Parade**, 47 Kings Rd (at RR Station East), Madison, NJ. Chair: Bob Smith, 973-267-8833. Assemble 8:30 AM, Parade 9:00 AM. DONATION PROVIDED. The Region has participated for more than 60 years.

June

- 4 **NJ Region 802nd Meeting**, Watnong VFW, 45 Tabor Rd, Morris Plains, NJ, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.
- 6 **Brandywine Living at Middlebrook Crossing**, 2005 Rt. 22 West, Bridgewater, NJ. 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM, Chair: Abe Platt (732-752-6341/Mobile 732-433-5319)
- 13 **250th Anniversary Parade**, Montgomery Twp., NJ. Chair: Bob Hudak (732-629-1437), assemble between 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM, parade begins 10:00 AM, car show after parade ends at 12:00 Noon. DONATION TO CLUB PROVIDED

July

- 2 **NJ Region 803rd Meeting**, Watnong VFW, 45 Tabor Rd, Morris Plains, NJ, 7:30 - 9:30
- 16-20 **Annual Region Summer Tour**, Brattleboro, VT area. Pete Cullen and Bill Pritchett, co-chairs

August

- 16 **NJ Region 804th Meeting and Annual Picnic**, VFW Post # 2540, 20 Fawn Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

September

- 13 **The Bristol at Somerset** 1870 Easton Avenue, Somerset, NJ 12:30 - 4:00 PM Rain date 09/20
- 13 **Wings & Wheels Breakfast & Car Display** at Pegasus Airpark, 222 Hickory Lane, Stroudsburg, PA. Chair: Pete Cullen 973-650-2957. 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Multiple Local Clubs, \$10 B'fast Optional, up to 50 Cars. Free plane rides for youth 8-17, Arrive after 9 AM.
- 19 **Brookdale Sr. Living** 520 Prospect Avenue, West Orange, NJ 11:30 AM - 11:30 PM to 2:30 PM. Abe Platt, Chair (732-752-6341/Day of show: 732-433-5319) Rain Date: 09/26 DONATION EVENT

October

- 5 **The NJ Region Car Show, Cocktail Party** (1:00 PM), Dinner and Play at Hunterdon Hills. Betty Allen, Chair. Play starts at 2:30 (doors open at 2:15)

January 2027

- 10 **Awards Banquet**, NJ Region AACA 809th meeting monthly meeting, Awards Presentation & Installation of Officers. The Chandelier at Flanders Valley, 80 Pleasant Hill Rd, Flanders NJ 12:00 PM; Betty Allen, Chair



LOCAL EVENTS

April

- 19 **All-Ford Car Show**, at Performance Ford, 906 Route 10 West, Randolph, NJ Registration: 9:00 to 11:00 AM Show: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Rain date 5/3

Vince's Program Schedule

Speaker lineup for the first part of 2026 is as follows:

- March 5 **Bill Pritchett & Pete Cullen** – How to plan a tour.
- April 2 **Dick Bettel** – How to build a Road Map.
- May 7 **No program** – Spring Meet review.
- June 4 **Celebrating the last 75 years** of the Region.
- July 2 **Jack Diana** will discuss the V8 Club.
- August 16 **No program** - Region Picnic.

Sarah Pritchett has agreed to be the backup program, “she will regale us with stories of prison life.”

I hope that you find these programs add a level of enjoyment and fun to our monthly gatherings.

Respectfully submitted, Vince DeLisi #1505,
Chair Program Committee
(vincentdelisi@comcast.net, 908-803-1570 cell & text)

Discontinued High Performance Award

in memory of Herbert Singe, Jr.

Established in 2023 by New Jersey Region AACA. it was awarded to James & Rhonda Brown for their 1969 AMC SC/Rambler.



NJ REGION AACA

Minutes January 29th, 2026, #798



The 798th NJ Region AACA meeting was held in-person at Morris Plains VFW and was called to order at approximately 7:34 PM by President Craig Kunz, who led members and guests in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. This meeting counts for the February meeting as there was a conflict with the AACA National Convention. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:54 PM. The next meeting will be held March 5, 7:30 PM at Morris Plains VFW.

Guests & New Members in Attendance: There were no new members or guests in attendance.

Zoom Attendees: Helen Rogers, Bob Kelly, Dan Edwards, & Dan Ungar

Concerns/Sunshine, Sue Schmidt: Dom Speronza passed away last week- a moment of silence was observed in his memory. Betty Allen's sister passed away this week; King Schaedel was recently in the hospital- he is now recovering at home. Ray Fischer has been in the hospital- not doing well.

Meeting Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the January abbreviated meeting, due to the banquet. All were in favor with none opposed, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report, Tim Schimmel: A review of the balances and expenditures was given. A motion was made to accept this report; all in attendance were in favor with none opposed; motion carried.

President's Report, Craig Kunz: Items include proposing the 2026 budget & next Board of Directors meeting.

2026 Proposed Budget Presentation, Craig Kunz: Craig presented the proposed budget for 2026 for membership approval. The club ended up with a surplus from 2025. For 2026, the budget includes the \$3,000 sponsorship from Nielson Dodge for our Spring Meet. 2026 expenses include rent to VFW, required insurance for officers, & honorariums to AACA Library & Research Center, and Spring Meet. Discretionary expenses include banquet awards, banquet subsidy, a scholarship, and money allocated for the 75th Anniversary Committee. Discussion from membership included questioning how much money the Region received in donations from parades & assisted living facilities. A motion for approval was made and seconded, with all in favor and none opposed - the 2026 budget has been adopted.

The next Board meeting will be held on February 12th; expected agenda items include 75th Anniversary Committee updates, planning for the 800th Region Meeting (April), and digitizing club archives.

Activities, Jay DeBoey: Upcoming events were reviewed- Judging Seminar at the Bettles' on 1/21 (RSVP needed), and Memorial Day Parades for Hillsborough & Madison. Bob Hudak mentioned a new event in Montgomery Township on 6/13 to celebrate America's 250th anniversary at Skillman Park - 15 cars at minimum are needed. Upcoming National event is the National Convention in Chantilly, VA.

Spring Meet, Pete Cullen: Sunday, May 3rd, location to be determined as the dealership has not returned Pete's phone calls or texts. Pete is looking for members to assist with judging, registration, parking, etc. There are judging seminars scheduled for 2/21 at the Bettles' and 4/26 at Ashley's Auto Body; a third seminar is a possibility. Jerry is working on the awards.

Summer Tour, Bill Pritchett & Pete Cullen: July 16-20 Brattleboro, Vermont.

Banquet Awards, Jerry Peck: Awards were presented to members who were unable to attend the banquet- the list of award winners was printed in the most recent Road Map.

Membership, Bill Pritchett: Dues are due! \$12 for students, \$25 adults. You can pay in person at the meeting, on our website via PayPal, or mail them to the P.O. Box.

Webmaster, Dan Ungar: The website is now up to date. Social Media, Abe Platt: Everything is all caught up.

RoadMap Editor, Dick Bettle: Dick thanked everyone who contributed to the newsletter in the last year. He requested for anyone going to the National Convention to please write something for the newsletter.

75th Anniversary Committee, Vince DeLisi: A banner and tablecloth are being purchased. He has the license plates for members who were not at the banquet. Anyone can purchase additional plates for \$15 each. There will be buttons for the 800th Region meeting in April. Jay is working on them. We will have a special program in June to celebrate the 75th Anniversary. He asked if anyone has photos and things from the 70s, 80s, & 90s to please share with him. The presentation will feature photos from inception and a panel of longtime members to discuss events.

Government Liaison/Safety, Vince DeLisi: All of the regions in NJ got together and wrote a letter to the governor concerning the ability for NJ to offer ethanol-free gas; SEMA and the NJ Retailers Association is involved in this movement as well. There are three or four counties who meet the mandate at this point.

Participation Points, Vince DeLisi: Notify Vince if you attend National events!

Programs, Vince DeLisi: Bill & Pete will discuss planning a tour at the March meeting. In April, Dick will discuss how to build the Road Map. June’s presentation concerns celebrating the last 75 years of the Region. In July, Jack Diana will discuss the V8 Club. There will not be presentations in May due to finalizing Spring Meet & August due to the Region Picnic.

Refreshments, John Pieczynski: Thank you to the following individuals for bringing treats: Sarah Pritchett, Art Bartholome, Carole Durna, Greg Roser, Ann Platt, Dick Bettle, Helen Rogers, John Pieczynski, Emilie Bacchetta, Rich Reina, Andy Cassela & Paul Wolfmeyer.

Badge Fines, John Quattrocchi: Bob Vella collected badge fines in John’s absence - thanks, Bob!

Old Business: Abe announced that the Lunchtime Cruises will resume beginning in April. They will be held on the second Tuesday of each month. He will announce the list once it is finalized. He requests an RSVP for anyone interested in attending in order to give the restaurants an idea of how many people to expect.

Committees, No Reports: Correspondence, Welcoming, Accessories, Properties, Archives.

New Business: Vince announced that he is the Registrar for the upcoming Glidden Tour in Dover, DE, as there is no club there. He is looking for help to put on this tour. The hotel is “less than \$100 per night, and there is a great lot for trailers.” Please let Vince know if you are interested in assisting with the Glidden Tour.

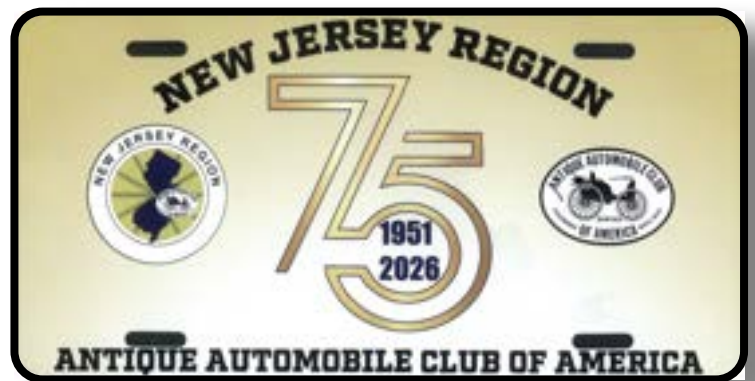
For Sale/Wanted: Bob Hudak has cleaned out his garage and has some items at the meeting tonight for free. He is also looking for front & rear brake drums and a tail pipe for his '39 Ford. Jack Diana brought some free magazines for anyone who wants them.

50/50, Greg Roser: 1st Place: Vince DeLisi; 2nd Place: Brian Pritchett. Congratulations to the winners!

Caution!

A sheet of ice from a car going in the opposite direction slid off and this is the damage it caused. Do not drive behind someone with ice on their roof, and be especially cautious near trucks. They often do not clean the top of the rig.

Thankfully, Abe and Ann are ok, but as an upshot, Greg Roser read this post. He was riding behind another car whose roof was not cleared and Greg left plenty of room. As it happens, the ice slid off and hit someone else's car. Be careful. Abe Platt



The Road Map is the newsletter published monthly by the New Jersey Region AACA Inc. Reprinting articles and other items is permitted providing due credit is given to this publication and the author. **All items for publication must be submitted by the 15th day of the prior month** to the editor, Dick Bettle, by email to:njraacaroadmapeditor@gmail.com or mail to:170 Crescent Road, Florham Park, NJ 07932

In Memoriam



Raymond Albert Fischer

81, passed away peacefully on February 17, 2026, at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

After High School, Ray joined the United States Army, and proudly served until his honorable discharge in 1963. Ray met his loving wife and life partner Judith in 1965 and they married in 1966, beginning a devoted partnership that spanned more than sixty years. Ray began his professional career as a mechanic in North Brunswick, and he went on to own and operate the East Franklin Exxon Gas Station for over a decade. He later continued his career with Somerset County Vehicle Maintenance, where he worked as a skilled mechanic until his retirement in 2015. Deeply committed to his community, Ray was a proud member of the East Franklin Fire Department, where he faithfully served and eventually rose to the rank of Chief. After moving, he joined the Middlebush Fire Department and remained a lifelong and dedicated member.

Ray had a lifelong passion for antique automobiles. Over the years, he proudly owned and restored several classic vehicles, including a 1948 Willys Jeepster, 1963 Lincoln Convertible, 1965 Pontiac GTO, 1923 Model T, and most recently, a 1993 Buick. He was an active member of the Antique Automobile Club of America and also belonged

to the Dawn Patrol Motorcycle Club in Bradley Gardens. Raymond's legacy of service and dedication will live on through all who knew him.

Ray is survived by his devoted and adoring wife, Judith Fischer. He also leaves behind many dear friends and extended family members who will forever cherish his memory. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Remembrances may be made to the East Franklin Fire Department, 121 Pinegrove Avenue, Somerset, NJ, 08873; or Middlebush Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 6687, Somerset, NJ 08875-6687, or Middlebush Reformed Church, 1 South Middlebush Road, Somerset, NJ 08873.



Denise, Sue, Al, Brenda, Wayne, Judy, Art and Ray at Brian and Sarah's wedding

Remembering Ray Fischer

By Chuck Gibson

Ray Fischer was the kind of a man that you instantly liked upon first meeting him. He just had that kind of personality! We first met on some AACA tours about 20 years ago. Ray, his wife Judy, Joyce and I would speak often while attending AACA events, particularly the AACA Annual Meetings which were held in Philadelphia for many years. Judy oversaw the trade show and Ray oversaw cars displayed at the Annual Meeting. I felt honored to be asked by Ray to display a car on two separate occasions!

About 2013, we attended the AACA National Meet in Carlisle, PA. Ray invited Joyce and I to have dinner with him and Judy. During that dinner, Ray asked us if we would consider co-chairing an AACA Founders Tour with them to be held in 2014. Immediately knowing that the four of us would make a good team, we agreed. Ray already had ideas about venues and wanted the tour to be split between Central NJ and Southern NJ. Joyce and I would be responsible for the southern part. With all plans in place and venues locked in, Joyce and I checked the northern tour routes and Ray and Judy checked the southern routes to check each other's work. The tour was a great success and, of course, Ray and

Judy were wonderful to work with! The next thing Ray and Judy had me involved with was chairing the Region Presidents Dinner at the Annual Meeting until the Meeting was moved from Philadelphia.

We always coordinated meeting Ray and Judy at car shows, particularly Macungie and Boyertown where we would just sit behind our cars and talk about, well, you guessed it, cars!

Ray knew a lot of people. At car shows, different people would walk up to say “hello” and Ray would introduce everyone and bingo, we had more friends.

This is what is so wonderful about our hobby and AACA; the people we meet who become life-long friends!

Rest in peace Raymond A. Fischer! We enjoyed our time with you immensely. Until we meet again!

Reprinted from the March 2026 issue of the South Jersey Region AACA’s newsletter Headlights with permission from Linda McFarland



The following article was written by Ray Fischer and reprinted with permission from Cheri Dotterer, Newsletter Editor of the Ontelaunee Region AACA newsletter “TIN ‘N BRASS

The Car Of My Dreams, A 1950 Mercury

by Ray Fischer

I was fifteen years old, and I wanted a 1950 Mercury. Obviously an eight-year-old car was way out of my reach. Since I wasn’t old enough to drive any car was out of my reach, but that didn’t stop me from wanting one. Had I met my wife a few years sooner, I would have had a beautiful 1949 Mercury, but it wasn’t to be. As the years passed, I bought, sold and sometimes repossessed cars, trucks and motorcycles. I’ve probably had more vehicles than most people in a lifetime, but never a 1950 Mercury.

Finally, in 2011 (It took a long time) I found my car, a 1950 Mercury coupe!! It wasn’t in as good of shape as I wished for, but something I could work on. So, after overpaying for my dream car, I started the restoration. Now fixing all the stuff I had foolishly overlooked because I wanted it so bad. I completely overhauled the engine, did extensive body work on the door posts, replaced the radiator, wiring harness and, of course, new tires. I knew I wanted to use the car for touring so I installed an overdrive transmission. Without overdrive, the cruising speed is only about 60mph; overdrive allows you to drive at 70mph constantly.

As everyone knows, the mystique of the “50’s- era” Mercury goes back to the James Dean movies when the cars were associated with the “bad boy” image. My Mercury has a V8 distinguishable from the 1950 Ford. It came with a stroked 255.4 cid and two-barrel downdraft Holley carburetor. New, it was good for 110 bhp and over 100 mph. Later they became the car to have to customize and hot rod. Personally, I like the cars just the way they look from the factory.

One of the things I remember about my Mercury is having the help of my good friend Dave Zimmerman join in the search. We traveled many miles and “kicked” many tires before I settled on this one. Today I think of Dave when I see and drive my car. Dave was master mechanic, a Mustang expert and brought AACA up to speed when the 1964 1/2 models became eligible for judging. He served as a long-time director and as the 2005 AACA President earning the respect of those in and out of our hobby.

After all that, we started enjoying the car. Judy and I love AACA tours and this Mercury has been on many, as well as local tours and events. I must admit I have way more time and money invested in the car than it is worth, but I don’t regret a thing. Was it all worth it? YES! YES!

I hope some of you can relate to my story and maybe you can think of what is special about your favorite car.

Here’s looking up your tail pipe



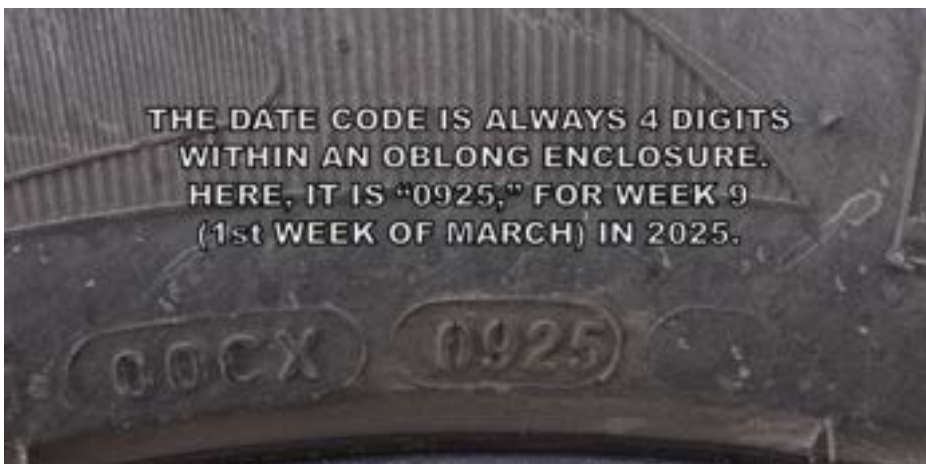
How Old Are Your Tires?

For most of us, our collector cars are driven much less frequently than our daily drivers. My 2013 Mazda accumulates about 10,000 miles a year, while my 1967 Alfa, in a busy year, might add 1,500 miles (this presumption does not apply to Dick Beetle). We can project that a modern car will wear its tires down to the minimum permissible tread depth (2/32") within four to six years. All tire manufacturers, as well as automobile manufacturers, recommend that tires be replaced based on wear OR age. (Oil change intervals are similar: if a car is driven only 5,000 miles/year, the oil should be changed based on the calendar, not the odometer.)

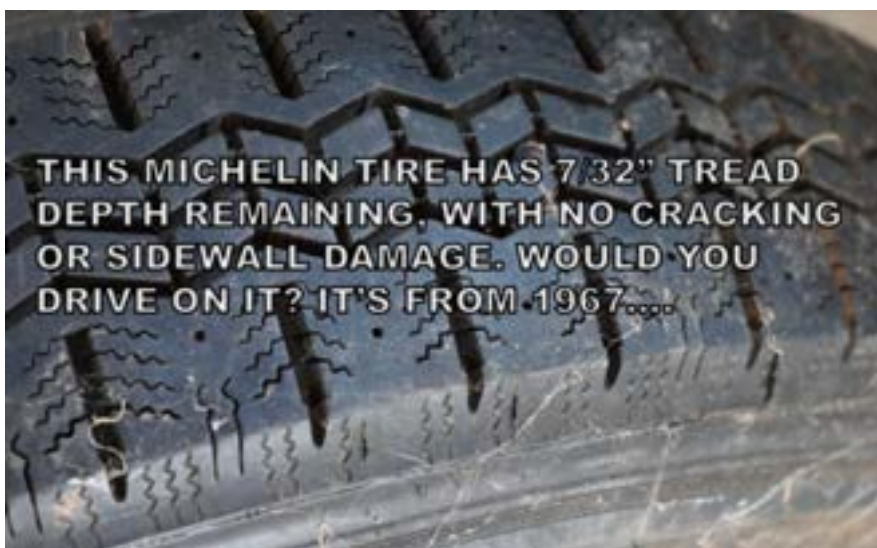
Many tire manufacturers go further, and state that no tire should remain "in service" more than six to ten years, even with acceptable tread depth. The rationale for this is that natural rubber, the primary ingredient in tires, deteriorates over time from exposure to UV rays, ozone, and air molecules. This topic has been debated among classic car enthusiasts, some of whom claim that since their car is garaged / covered / in a temperature-controlled environment/treated with rubber preservatives, etc., this recommendation does not apply to them. I disagree, although as always, there will be

some exceptions.

Let's look at the bigger picture. There are AACA-award-winning vehicles which are "trailer queens": trailered to and from Nationals, and only driven off the trailer, onto the show field, and back. Some owners only take their cars for local drives on sunny Sundays a half-dozen times a year, never exceed 30 MPH, and rack up 50 miles per season. Am I suggesting that these cars need new tires every six years? No. At the other extreme are collector cars participating in weeklong tours or rallies. They are driven long distances in varying temperature and weather conditions, and ride alongside SUVs and trucks on Interstates at 70 MPH. Should these owners pay attention to the age of their tires? Absolutely.



Since 2000, tire manufacturers have been required to mold a four-digit code in every tire's sidewall, indicating the date of manufacture. The first two digits indicate the week number, and the next two digits the year. A date code of 2615 is a tire made on the 26th week (end of June) in 2015. A date code of 5022 indicates a date of mid-December 2022. Presuming that your tires are no more than twenty-five years old, do you know how to check their age? Now you do.



No matter how much you think you're protecting your tires during storage, the air INSIDE the tire is ageing the rubber, and it's not possible to inspect for that. When I got my Alfa in 2013, I naively didn't check the tire date codes, but the car handled terribly, with tires squealing on every curve. I immediately replaced all four tires, and doing so transformed the car's ride and handling. Although those ten-year-old tires looked ok, the rubber had hardened so much that there was no 'flex' in turns. Check the date code on your tires. With new tires, you might be pleasantly surprised at the improvement in the car's comfort, handling, and braking.



Region and Chapters Publications and Website Development and Media

Debbie Nolen, Vice President

The Publications and Region/Chapter Website Development and Media committees both continue to grow and update the NAAP and the WAAP Achievement Awards Programs. Both groups continue to firmly believe that our publications, digital media and websites are the life beat and glue which holds members of AACA together from the chapter/region level all the way up to the national level, connecting us all to one another no matter the distance that separates us. Each serves in different ways to keep all of us inspired and informed to fulfill the mission of AACA. Please take the time to thank your editor and webmaster for all that she or he does!

Publications

This year brought a successful update to the NAAP scoring and evaluation system which recognized improvement in many of the publications offered to our regions, with sixty-one NAAP program applications received. Ultimately there were sixty program participants. Eighteen editors will receive the 2025 Master Editor award; twenty will receive Excellence awards; nineteen editors will receive Distinction awards and one Merit award. To facilitate this program, there were a total of fourteen newsletter evaluators. I would like to thank the committee for their efforts and expertise in

Master Webmaster

The AACA Master Webmaster Award is an honor given by the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) to the webmaster of a region who has demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication in managing and maintaining a website highlighting contributions to the online community and promoting the organization through their web presence. The award is in recognition of a high-quality website design, functionality, and consistent upkeep. **Dan Ungar has won this award every since he started as the Webmaster!**

Master Editor:

This is my 4th Master Editor Award. The Road Map has

service to AACA: Terry Bond, Phillip Cole, Charlotte Dahlenburg, Michael Kissinger, Cindy Robish, Greg Jackson, Juli Aubrey, Brian and Lisa Munsey, Marianna Kopp, Dick Bettel, Jim Revett, Roger Frazee, and Jean Hawa, with a special thank you to Pat Buckley for her indispensable assistance throughout this year in the process!

Region/Chapter Website Development and Media

This year brought a successful update to the WAAP scoring and evaluation system which recognized improvement in many of the websites offered to our regions, with forty-six WAAP program applications received from regions and chapters. Ultimately there were forty-five program participants and fourteen webmasters will receive the 2025 Master Webmaster award; fifteen will receive Excellence awards; twelve webmasters will receive Distinction awards and two will receive Merit awards. I anticipate that the program will continue to grow in 2026. We certainly could not be able to provide this program to recognize the achievements of our webmasters without the willing assistance and expertise of our evaluation team: Terry Bond, Bob Stein, Phillip Cole, Charlotte Dahlenburg and myself. I especially want to thank National staff, particularly Pat Buckley, for all their hard work.

It was a great year for both our NAAP and WAAP programs and great improvements were realized in the overall quality and consistency across our regions and chapters. As you read this report, plan to go back home, welcome and remind all editors and webmasters that your VP of Publications and Region/Chapter Website Development and Media and every BOD member is always available when questions arise or just to assist in any way possible we are all a part of the greatest antique automobile organization and as such we all have a part to share in our continued growth and success in the AACA!

earned the Master Editor Award every year since Art Briggs won in 2015! The newsletters are scored on a point system based on a maximum of 250 points. Nobody is actually expected to make 250, but it gives us editors a point of reference so that we will be able to determine for ourselves how we are doing. Points are earned by: having an interesting cover (9); calendars (National, ours, other car clubs (5 each); Minutes (15), 1st & 2nd Club related stories (20 & 15) 1st & 2nd Automotive story (20 & 10) and Photos (10). (226+ per issue receives Master Editor.) So you can see how much this award goes to all of you who participated in making our newsletter the hit that it is. Keep up the good work.

NJ Region Judging School – 2nd Session

Judging School meets in the winter and early spring have proved to be very popular, especially when meals are provided! They are an excuse to immerse yourself in the car hobby before car show weather. Based on their popularity, the Region has conducted three schools ahead of the Spring Meet for the last several years.

The Rosers have offered to host the second 2026 judging school on Saturday, **March 28**. Everyone is welcome, whether you plan to judge at the Region’s Spring Meet, or if you plan on showing your car at a Region or National meet and want to find out what criteria is used to judge a car by AACA standards. Greg will select one or two of his cars for practice judging in one of his garages, but you are welcome to bring your car if you’d like to volunteer it for judging (off-street parking available). In addition to physically judging cars, anyone interested in helping with judging administration/assisting at the Spring Meet is welcome for a separate/concurrent meeting.

After the tech sessions, Greg and June will provide lunch for all pre-registered attendees. Please email or call Greg to let him know you plan to attend (g.rosier@verizon.net, 908-403-6486).

Location: 83 Paterson Road, Fanwood, NJ. The driveway next door at 87 Paterson Road is also available for antique car parking. Sessions begin at 11:00, lunch 12:30 AM.

If you have any technical questions, you can call or email me (contact information included in President’s column!).

Craig

DQ Ice Cream Social April 25th



As I am writing this, I have a dichotomy that is driving me crazy. Do I want a DQ Blizzard on a warm sunny day or prefer the real thing that we are currently experiencing? While I do enjoy the cold refreshing DQ one, I prefer not having to shovel one. Easy choice, see all of you on a Saturday at the DQ. Also, ensure that your car insurance policy is up to date (ask me how I know this).

Region members Grace and Marc Bernstein have again

invited us to hold a car display at their Dairy Queen, 231 NJ-31 S, Washington, NJ 07882. They have offered free hot dogs and ice cream to Region members. It will be held from 11-2:00 on Saturday, April 25th. If the weather is questionable or for any questions, please call me on my cell phone at 908-581-0411.

Directions:

Intersection of Route 57 and Route 31: Head south on Route 31, the Dairy Queen will be on the right 0.8 mile

Intersection of I-78 and Route 31: Head north on Route 31, the Dairy Queen will be on the left 10.4 miles

Bill Pritchett NJAACA #963 (908-534-9069)

Marc Bernstein NJAACA # 1261

3rd Judging Seminar, Sunday April 26

We will have a judging seminar at Noon on Sunday, April 26. It will be held rain or shine at Ashley’s Auto Body, 274 Hillside Ave, Flanders, NJ. A modified form of the National judging system is used for our Spring Meet. There will be an overview of the judging system and a chance to judge a couple of cars for those attending. Weather dependent, we anticipate judging at least two antique cars that were not at the other judging seminar.

Volunteering to judge does not prevent you from showing your car and having it judged at the Spring Meet, so don’t hesitate to volunteer!

This is a great opportunity to brush up on your judging, or, if you have not done it before, to learn what is looked for in judging a car. Also, if you are new to the Region, it is a way to meet fellow members.

Pete Cullen #1140 973-650-2957 oldcarz57@aol.com

Directions to Ashley’s Auto Body:

- | | Mileage |
|--|---------|
| 1 Take Route 206 North | 5.0 |
| 2 Turn right onto Main St / County 619 at stoplight | 0.2 |
| 3 Turn left to stay on North Rd / County Hwy-619 | 0.8 |
| 4 Arrive at S Hillside Ave / County Hwy-619 on left. | |

From I-80 and Route 206

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1 Take Rte 206 South | 2.8 |
| 2 Turn left onto Main St / County Hwy-619 at stoplight and follow directions above. | |

Autumn Lake Healthcare at Berkeley Heights Wednesday, May 13

The Activities Director, Ms. Lisa Washington, has reached out to us again and requested that we schedule our annual antique car display for the residents and staff of Autumn Lake Healthcare located in Berkeley Heights, NJ. We will be conducting our **Sixth Annual** Antique Automobile Enjoyment Event on Wednesday, May 13. **The car display is from 12:30 until 4:00 PM.** We have filled the display area for the last four years, let's do so again this year. The Autumn Lake Healthcare facility will have music for the event and will provide our members with delicious sandwiches and beverages for lunch. **Please RSVP by Friday, May 8th if you would like to attend** so that we can provide Ms. Washington with an idea of how many people and cars we can expect.

Please come and join your friends, and the residents and staff of this healthcare facility. If you have any questions, please contact me at (732) 752-6341 or via email abeplatt@aol.com. **RAIN? please call my mobile phone (732) 433-5319 to confirm day of event activity. The rain date is Tuesday, May 19.** Thank you for your participation.

DIRECTIONS: Autumn Lake is located at 35 Cottage Street, Berkeley Heights, NJ. Cottage Street is off Plainfield Ave. The facility is on the right at the end of Cottage St.

Submitted by: Abe Platt, Event Chair #1524

Abe's Lunchtime Cruises for 2026

These are **Rain or Shine events** on the second Tuesday of each month.

If the weather is nice, please drive your antique vehicles. We plan on meeting at 12:00 Noon at the following locations.

Schedule: (First Draft)

- April 14 The Tiger's Tale, Skillman, NJ
- May 12 The Smashed Olive, Washington, NJ
- June 9 Water's Edge, Belvidere, NJ (Water View)
- July 14 OMG Burger & Brew, Long Valley, NJ
- August 11 Stonewood Tavern, Byram Township, NJ
- September 8 Long Valley Pub & Brewery, Long Valley, NJ
- October 13 Black River Barn, Randolph, NJ (Water View)
- November 14 Saturday, Warrenside Tavern, Stewartsville, NJ

Additional Options:

- Freddy's Lake House Bar and Grill – Byram Township, NJ (Water View)
- Grand Avenue Tavern, Hackettstown, NJ
- Roasted Breadfruit Smokehouse and Grill, Wharton, NJ
- The Windlass, Lake Hopatcong, NJ (Water View)
- Tavern 73, Pine Brook, NJ
- The Shannon Rose Irish Pub, Ramsey, NJ

If you have a favorite eatery, please let me know. The list above is subject to change depending on your input. Please note that friends of NJRAACA Members are welcome.

Abraham Platt
NJ Region AACA Member #1524
abeplatt@aol.com
(732) 752-6341 (home office) or (732) 433-5319 (mobile)



NJ Region Brattleboro, VT area Summer Tour July 16-20

We have finalized the hotel for the tour. It is the Comfort Inn & Suites Brattleboro I-91, 1186 Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301. Guests can call the hotel directly on 802-579-1344. Ask to make reservations under the "Bill Pritchett Antique Car Club Group". The rates are \$140 for two queen beds with \$155 for a king bed with breakfast included. The cutoff date is June 16. If you are undecided, please make the reservation which may be cancelled with no penalty. Better safe than sorry.

Some of the events being considered are a boat ride, granite museum, Hope cemetery with numerous granite statues (world famous – you have to see it), trolley museum, butterfly conservatory, covered bridges, Vermont country store, flea breeding program, etc. Planning is just underway. All days in VT should be on local roads with no interstates. If you happen to have a site in the area you would like to visit, please let Pete or me know. We will be in the southeastern VT and western MA area.

Pete Cullen - 973-748-4691
Bill Pritchett - 908-581-0411

AACA Sentimental Tour 2026

The OPW Region and Gettysburg Region of AACA will be hosting the 2026 AACA National Sentimental Tour from June 15 thru June 19, 2026 in the Mechanicsburg, PA, and surrounding areas.

The Sentimental Tour is a 5 day tour for 1928 thru 1958 stock (non modified) vehicles and was first hosted in 2001. It is hosted by an AACA Region in even numbered years. An exception can be made for a 1926 , 1927 and any pre 1928 Oakland. No vehicle newer than 1958 will be accepted on the tour, We need to have 50 cars registered for the tour. The tour will be open to all AACA members.

The host hotel is the Fairfield by Marriott, 503 Winding Creek Blvd. Mechanicsburg, PA, 17050. The hotel is 2 years old with a pool and fitness center located just off exit 57 on Interstate 81. Forty rooms have been reserved for the tour at \$119.00, plus taxes, per night. The price includes breakfast.

Trailer and motorhome parking (no hookups) are adjacent to the hotel. You can book your room by calling 717-795-1918 using the code AACA. I would recommend booking your room on June 14 as the opening banquet will be Sunday 6/14 with the closing banquet on Friday evening 6/19.

Each day's tour will start and end at the host hotel and we will have a hospitality room at the hotel for evening socializing. Most touring will be on 2 lane scenic country roads with daily directions provided The price (yet to be determined) will be inclusive with dinner on your own Monday thru Thursday evenings.

Many restaurants from fast food to fine dining are located a mile from the hotel.

As with any undertaking of this scope additional help would be appreciated. If you live within a reasonable distance, I could use your assistance.

If you have any questions or can provide some assistance, please call me at or email me at pullman1914@aol.com. Mark your calendars for June 14 thru 19, 2026 and reserve your room now.

Don Barlup, Tour Chairman

Tentative schedule as follows as follows

- Sunday:** Evening - Opening banquet at Vissagio's. (Address: 6990 Wertzville Rd, Enola, PA 17025). Nestled in the heart of Enola, Pennsylvania, Visaggio's Ristorante & Hotel promises a culinary journey inspired by the traditions of Italian cuisine. Here, in our cozy ambiance, guests indulge in the most refined flavors amidst a casual dining setting.
- Monday:** Don Barlup's 1926 service station in New Bloomfield for coffee stop. Tour Perry County covered bridges with box lunch at Little Buffalo State Park.
- Tuesday:** Army Heritage center in Carlisle with a presentation on The Carlisle Indian School with lunch there. Optional stop at Carlisle antique mall.
- Wednesday:** Fort Hunter mansion and grounds with a box lunch. Travel to Halifax for a tour of the Lake Tobias wild animal park.
- Thursday:** Eastern Museum of Motor Racing and private collection featuring Cadillacs in Dillsburg, PA.
- Friday:** Rolls Royce Museum with a coffee stop in Mechanicsburg and tour a private car and sign collection in Camp Hill. Closing banquet at Vissagio's a mile from the host hotel.

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

By Brenda Zimmerman, #1238

Birthdays

6 Angela DeLorenzo	20 Richard Reina
9 Barbara Pfunke	20 Jerry Peck
9 Rob Schmidt	24 Richard Kline
17 Peter Cullen	27 Larry Ashley Jr.
17 Pat Manganelli	27 Peggy Schaedel
17 Richard Russell	

Anniversaries

23	Bob & Cindy Abbott	1 year
29	Wayne & Denise Tuck	56 years



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AGREED VALUE.**

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f t i

2026 AACA Annual Convention

Westfields Marriott, Chantilly, VA, February 5-7

Another great Annual Convention. There was a good turn out from the New Jersey Region members I saw 13 members: Pete, Bill, Vince, Brian, Sarah, Alex, Barbara, Larry, Brenda, Dick and me. Bobbi & Helen were in and out!

I enjoyed the Washington trip. We had a great guide and a good boxed lunch. On the way back to the hotel we had little excitement. We were flying off the seats of the bus! As it turns out, the driver never engaged the air ride device. My best seminar was on the NB center. Best of all, spending time with the Jersey region.

by John Pieczynski

AACA Annual Meeting – Chantilly, VA

February 5 – 7, 2026

I was very pleased to have another opportunity to attend this important gathering of friends and family!

There were about 15 members of the NJRAACA in attendance, including Craig, Larry Savino, John McCarthy, Sarah, Brian & Bill Pritchett, Pete, Dick & Bobbi, Brenda, Alex & Barbara, Eddie Garfield, John Pieczynski, and Helen Rogers.

Brenda was everywhere helping with the administration of the event.

The 2025 Annual Report shows that AACA National is in sounds financial shape. Declining membership levels have been stabilized and look to be on the upswing. A new program to encourage other clubs to join as affiliates had its first success, as the Pearce-Arrow Society is now the first such affiliate. There will be significant savings to this organization especially in insurance, but also in printing and mailing utilizing the same facilities that print Antique Automobile. In fact, members of this club will receive both publications in a single “bag” every other month.

Vicki Bolten is the new President of our Club. They actually changed the procedure so that officers for 2026 were voted into place in Hershey. This helps guarantee continuity of leadership and gives the incoming President 4 months to plan their Administration. I’m told that this is quite a task!

The annual meeting always features a question and answer period. I asked about progress on the search for the replacement for retiring Steve Moskowitz. It was explained that a committee has been formed including several current board members, as well as several past members of the board, and a couple of members. It is

anticipated that a new CEO will be in place late next year so that there will be some overlap with Steve before the new individual takes command on 1/1/2027.

The festivities started off on Thursday morning with an optional tour of Washington, DC. I did not participate in this activity, but all who did participate reported that it was very well done.

Thursday night featured the “Regions & Chapters Dinner”. There were plenty of speeches and the opportunity to present gifts and donations to the AACA and the AACA Library. I was proud to present our Region’s contribution to the library in a parade of similar donations. The Hershey Region made an amazing donation of \$25,000 to National. The Pierce-Arrow Society also presented a check for more than \$14,000 which among other things covered membership for any of their members that were not already AACA members.

As usual, on Friday, there were 4 concurrent seminars, in one-hour blocks, running from 8:00 AM until 5:00 PM, totaling 20 different topics. There were many topics that were of special interest to me, but I had to spend most of my time at the Glidden Tour booth on the show floor. I did get to attend the Legislative Update from SEMA as well as Registrars training on the new AACA website.

During the Legislative update I was able to talk with Chris Robinson, SEMA’s State Affairs Manager about ethanol free gasoline. We are going to schedule a conference call with the New Jersey Gasoline Retailers Association to try to plan a path forward. I really wanted to attend “A Cheapskate in a Rich Man’s Hobby” but could not break away from my Glidden responsibilities.

There was a two-hour break for the first Lady’s lunch. It featured a presentation by a couple that suffered a very tragic accident going home from their college graduation ceremony. Both of her parents were killed in a collision on a highway near Allentown, PA. She spent the next 4 months in a hospital with many surgeries, and in fact was not expected to survive the first day. The cause of the accident was a young driver on a cell phone. They have been traveling the country for the last few years preaching cell phone safety.

At the end of the program, there was a brief pause, and then she began talking about the person that literally saved her life – President Dave Anspach. Dave was a volunteer emergency responder in the town in which the accident occurred, within running distance of this incident. When he heard the crash, he immediately ran to it, found her with a pulse, but not breathing, and was able to stabilize her until she was whisked away to the local trauma center. They have stayed in touch, as there were several photographs of Dave at the hospital and also at her wedding.



Steve Johnson, Jacy Good and Dave Anspach

Friday night featured a dinner, where Vicki Bolten was formally introduced as the new President, followed by “Casino Night”. The theme of the night was “the 60’s”. Many attendees dressed up as the “ultimate hippies” for which there was a contest. Ron Scott from the South Jersey Region, whom I know very well, was unrecognizable, as were many of the other “flower children” that participated.

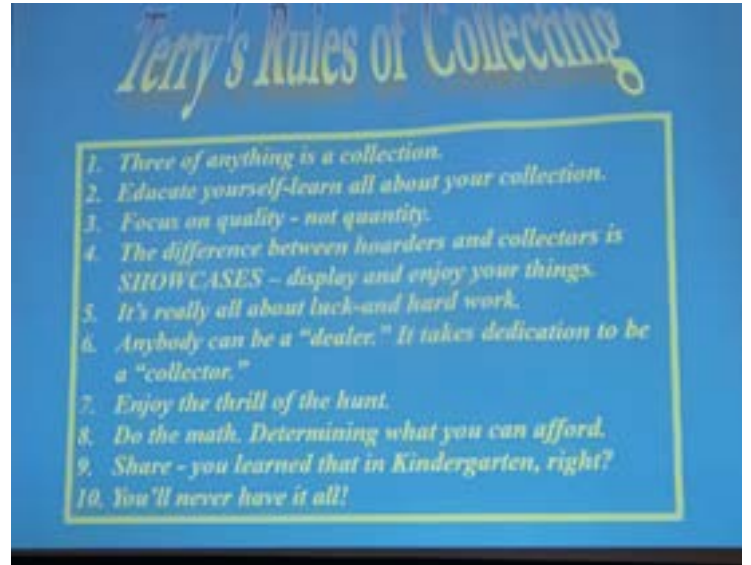
I played blackjack. Thankfully, I started with \$500 in chips and ended out with \$550, which was enough for 3 tickets in the raffle. I won a cutting board with cheeses and other accruements. I believe that the Pritchetts also won something at the raffle. There had to be over 40 prizes.

On Saturday, as usual, the first morning sessions were dedicated to judges training. After these sessions, there were 8 more one hour sessions. I understand that the session on “Route 66: The Mother Road circa 1955” was so well attended that many folks could not get into the room. There was also a session in the afternoon “the Andy Griffith Show and the Mayberry Squad Car”. I was



Dave Anspach handing Dick the Master Editors award for the Road Map

able to attend the last 45 minutes of this gathering. I suspect that Randy Higgins knows more about this topic than Barney Fife!



Terry Bond's Rules of Collecting

The General Membership meeting ran from 2:00 to 3:30 PM. The Club’s current state of affairs was discussed in detail, including the previously mentioned question and answer session.

Then the real festivities began. A “red carpet” was rolled out and we all filed into the banquet room for great fellowship, and excellent meal, and the presentation of National Awards. **It was great to see Dick Bettie accept his 4th editor’s award. I was proud to accept Dan Unger’s award as webmaster and look forward to officially presenting it to him at our March 5th meeting.** This dinner ran well into the night. Unfortunately, I needed to return to NJ on Saturday night and departed at 9:45. I’m sure it was still going strong at least until 11:00 PM as more than 60 trophies needed to be presented. West Peterson does an amazing job introducing each awardee for the “institutional awards” which included the presentation to Dick and Dan. He then goes on to describe the owners and the cars that receive each of the individual automotive awards. You can be assured that there will be plenty of more details, including pictures of all of the winners in the next edition of Antique Automobile.

Any of our members that have not had the opportunity to attend an annual meeting need to add this activity to your “bucket list”. It is well worth the time, treasure and effort.

Vince DeLisi #1505

Pre-Convention Tour



Brian, Sarah, Craig, Barbara, John, Alex, Pete



Pete, Bill, Craig, Ed, John and Jim

**New Jersey Region AACA
Antique Automobile Club of America
Donorship Application**

The New Jersey Region AACA will hold its 73rd Annual Spring Meet Car Show on Sunday, May 3, 2026.

To increase the success of our 2026 Spring Meet by offsetting this event’s inherent costs, we would like to provide the opportunity for business and individual club member donorships.

Typically, the event draws as many as 200 restored and original condition vehicles that range in age from the 1900’s brass era to the present time. The show field is organized into 17 judging classes that include 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place trophies to the top vehicles in each class. We also recognize the best fifty and one hundred year-old antique vehicles. The New Jersey Region’s judging procedure will follow the nationally recognized AACA format. Awards will be determined on the basis of vehicle authenticity, maintenance and the overall quality of vehicle restoration.

Recognizing the evolution of the antique car hobby, the Spring Meet has expanded an eligible class of vehicles that are 25 years and older which have been modified from their original design, customized by their owners, or are hot rods. Another eligible vehicle class will include more modern classic vehicles that were produced from 2001 to the present time.

Your donations to our annual Spring Meet are very important in helping the NJ Region AACA to continue its Spring Meet events in the years ahead.

Donors will be recognized in several ways:

Each donor will have their name/business name and address announced throughout the day of the show.

A poster containing the names and addresses of every donor will be posted in several areas of the show field.

A listing of every donor will be published in the printed and on-line versions of the national award winning NJ Region AACA’s monthly newsletter *The Road Map*.

Finally, you will have earned the sincere appreciation of our club members, non-members and the general public.

YES - I would like to support the New Jersey Region, AACA by donating \$50 to our annual Spring Meet.

Please display my name as follows: _____

Signed _____

Name _____

Make check payable to “NJ Region AACA”

Business Name _____

Business Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Send completed form and remittance to:

Jerry Peck

22 Coventry Circle

Flemington, NJ 08822

jerrypecknavy@gmail.com

For more information call (609) 613-7373

(must be received no later than April 19 in order to be on the sponsor sign)

73rd ANNUAL COLLECTIBLE CAR SHOW

SPONSOR: Nielsen Ford, Morristown

New Location: Morris County School of Technology



408 E. Main Street, Denville, NJ 07834

With a Swap Meet & Food Vendors

(Show open to all cars, trucks, motorcycles)

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026 (Rain or Shine)

Sponsored by:

New Jersey Region of The Antique Automobile Club of America



Gates open at 8:30 AM
Judging Starts at 11:00 AM



Requested Spectator Donation \$3.00

Vehicle Pre-Registration: \$15.00 - Day of Show \$25.00

No charge for pre-1928 vehicles if pre-registered



10' X 20' Vendor Spaces:

Pre-Registration \$20.00 - Day of Show \$30.00

Car Corral 8' X 20' \$20.00 – Day of Show \$30.00

1st, 2nd, & 3rd place trophies in 17 classes



Special display class for original, unrestored cars (AACAA Originals)



All Classes Will Be Judged

AACAA Originals

Will be Evaluated!



Additional awards for the best '1926 & older', and 1976 vehicles plus a special award for the best 1951 vehicle to celebrate our 75th Anniversary!

A UL approved fire extinguisher is required for entrance to show field.

For Registration and Vendor Info:

Vince DeLisi, 326 East Oak Avenue, Moorestown, NJ 08057

908-803-1570 (cell & text); email – vincendelisi@comcast.net

Show Info: Pete Cullen - 973-650-2957; oldcarz57@aol.com

Additional show details, as well as forms may be found: www.NJRegionAACAA.com

NEW LOCATION: Morris County School of Technology, 408 E Main St, Denville, NJ

73rd Annual Spring Meet
 New Jersey Region AACA - Chartered 1951
www.njregionaaca.com Email: njaaca@gmail.com
Sunday, May 3, 2026 (rain or shine)
Morris County School of Technology
408 E. Main Street, Denville, NJ 07834
 Field opens at 8:30 AM
 Chairman Pete Cullen 973-650-2957
 Chief Judge Craig Kunz 732-892-4223
 Registration Vince Delisi 908-803-1570
 email: vincentdelisi@comcast.net

Flea Market:
 Vince Delisi – vincentdelisi@comcast.net
 Special Awards for the nicest, authentic:
100+ years old – 1926 & Earlier Vehicle on the Show Field
50 year old - 1976 Vehicle on the Show Field
NJRAACA - Celebrating 75 years of fun!
Special Award for best 1951 Vehicle
To contact the field in an emergency, please call
 Vince Delisi 908-803-1570
 Spectator Admission - \$3.00 Donation
REFRESHMENTS & REST ROOMS ON SITE

- All vehicles pre-1928 no fee if pre-registered*
Classes 1 thru 9: AACA Recognized
 1. Brass era 1915 and older - all vehicles
 2. 1916 - 1933 Autos
 3. 1934 - 1944 Autos
 4. 1945 - 1954 Autos
 5. 1955 - 1963 Autos
 6. 1964 - 1969 Autos
 7. 1970 - 1979 Autos
 8. 1980 - 1989 Autos
 9. 1990 - 2001 Autos
 10. Classics: CCCA Recognized
 11. Senior Spring Show winners 2021 – 2025
Must display 1st place plaque
 12. Trucks, fire engines, military, professional vehicles to 2001
 13. Two seat sports cars, motorcycles, & racers to 2001
 14. Mustang, Cougar, & Shelby 1964 thru 2001
 15. AACA Original or Unrestored to 2001 Display only!
 16. Classes 16 & 17 will be judged!
 17. Modern classics (2002) to current
We reserve the right to combine or add classes

- Requirements for Judging**
 1) Vehicle must be on the field by 11:00 AM.
 2) Must have safety glass in the windshield and wind wings.
 3) No "For Sale" signs on the judging field!!!!
 4) On questions of authenticity, the burden of proof is on the owner.
 5) Vehicles must be driven through the fire extinguisher check and onto the show field!
First place winners at the 2021 thru 2025 Spring Show Meets MUST register in Class 11 and display 1st place plaque.
- Please check your class assignment as well as the information in your registration packet's judging check list for accuracy!*
Smoking is prohibited on MCVSD property, buildings & grounds!!!
ATTN: NJ Region AACA Members Only
 After registering your vehicle for the show, you may pre-register a second antique vehicle registered to you or your spouse without charge. Vehicle must be displayed in the appropriate class, and the registration form needs to note: "DO NOT JUDGE".
Vehicle for display only!
- A UL approved Fire Extinguisher must be in the vehicle for entrance to the show field and visible in the vehicle for judging.**
Award winners or their representatives must be present to pick up trophies awarded at this show!

Vehicle Registration Application

Name _____ Region or AACA# _____
 Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Make _____ Model _____
 Body Style _____ Year _____ Class # _____
 email: _____
 Will you Judge? YES or NO Do you want your car judged? YES or NO

NJRAACA Members' application to be judged' for Region Annual Spring Show Trophy

Please circle the appropriate category:
 Best restored vehicle (first showing)
 Directors' Trophy - best unrestored to 1929
 Executives' Trophy - best unrestored 1930 - 45
 Membership Trophy 1 - best unrestored 1946 - 59
 Membership Trophy 2 - best unrestored 1960 - 75
 Membership Trophy 3 - best unrestored 1976 - 01

Make _____ Model _____
 Body Style _____ Year _____

Fee Schedule
Pre-registered vehicles - pre1928 - no fee
 No. _____ Fee _____
 Pre-registered \$15.00/each \$ _____
 Day of the Show \$25.00/each \$ _____
 Car Corral 8X20 \$20.00/each \$ _____
 Flea Market spaces 10 X 20 _____
 Pre-registered \$20.00/each \$ _____
 Day of the Show \$30.00/each \$ _____
 Total enclosed \$ _____
 Pre-registrations must be received by May 2nd
 Checks Payable to NJ Region AACA

Mail to:
 Vince Delisi, Registrar
 326 E. Oak Avenue
 Moorestown, NJ 08057
vincentdelisi@comcast.net
 908-803-1570 (cell or text)

NJ Region AACA Judges Seminar February 21, 2026



Our hostess, Bobbi

I think the 3rd time doing a judging seminar at my garage was another success. To give extra time to those who went to Ray Fischer's funeral in the morning, we pushed



Dick, Greg, Brian & Sarah

the starting time back and did the lunch first. Craig was a little concerned about keeping the crowd after the lunch to attend the seminar, but we solved that problem by having the dessert after the seminar.

The heater in the garage worked and, despite the



Just part of today's feast



Bob, Gus, Betty & June

bleeping cold and snow outside, we were toasty warm without coats. As usual, Craig did a great job with his instructions on how to judge a car. We went over chassis, exterior, interior and engine sections of the judging sheet. Then it was time to "judge" the 3 cars in the garage/cellar. After inspecting the engine, paint, floor



The first of today's car to be judged, a Model A Ford

rugs & door panels, and discussing the appropriate point deductions, we all trooped upstairs for dessert. Besides being finished downstairs, there was too much laughter upstairs at the administration session, and we



John, Gus, Brian & Mike



Today we are judging on condition, NOT originality

all wanted to know what was going on. Besides the off killer cookies I baked (I'm glad they didn't get judged), Pat baked cookies, June baked a chocolate cake, Betty and Yvonne also brought goodies.



The interior

We have more people show up each year, and it gets more streamlined. Although a couple of members who normally come could not make it, we had a pretty good showing: Doug W; Bill Pritchett; Pete Cullen; Anthony Cecala; John Pieczynski; Gus Daub; Brian & Sarah Pritchett; Greg & June Roser; Bob & Pat Kapral; Betty Allen; Craig & Yvonne Kunz; and Richard Reina. Most of the members drove modern due to the amount of salt on



Gus, Brian, Mike, Rich, Pete and Craig



The first rule of judging: DONT POINT!

the road, although the 2000 Saturn, the 1965 Lotus and the 1930 Model A were in attendance. Bobbi wants to thank June Roser, Betty Allen, Yvonne Kunz and Pat Kapral for bringing desserts and for all their help cleaning up. We both want to thank everyone for coming and making this event a success.



I think I heard Dessert is being served upstairs

If you haven't done a Judging Seminar, try to make it to Greg & June's on March 28th or Ashley's on April 26th.

Dick Bettle #1614



And finally the dessert

Ann's "B A" Days – Cars, Clothes, and Cruises

As a young woman in my "B A" days, I worked as a hair dresser in Newark and after working for a couple of years depending on others or the bus, I wanted a little independence. When construction of Route 280 was going to take our home in Newark, I started to look to purchase a car as the house we were moving to in West Orange had a garage. A friend of mine suggested I go to a see a friend of his at a local Ford dealership. Once there I sat down with this person and started to pick the car and options I wanted. I ended up purchasing a Sapphire Blue 1966 Thunderbird with a black landau vinyl roof and dark blue leather interior that was at the dealership for \$4,200. My T-Bird had the standard V-8 engine option with an automatic transmission. I didn't know how many horses or mice made this car go; what really sold me on this car were the swing-away steering column and the sequential tail lights. I loved this car and had it hand washed every Friday. I would pick up Mr. Griggs on my way to work; he would take the car home, hand wash it, and return it to me at the shop, parking the car in the parking lot and putting money into the metered all for \$2.50, plus a tip. After a while, I started to have a problem, the driver side window would get stuck in the down position and would not close. I took the car back to the dealer several times and then to an electrical shop as the problem persisted. This issue was never fully fixed and I decided that I wanted a different car. I told my Brother I would sell the T-Bird to him for the same amount as I was to received as a trade-in. He agreed and I looked for a nice new car.

By this time I was working in a beauty salon on Lincoln Street in East Orange, around the corner from the Pontiac dealership on Main Street. So on a warm spring day in 1971 I stopped by the showroom and spoke to an elderly salesperson who started to show me the various models. He went into way too much detail concerning the mechanical components, so I spoke to a younger salesman. This guy was young and very outgoing and listened to what I was saying. After a couple of hours of going over the various options and settling on what I wanted, he wrote up an order form. As he prepared the purchase request, I asked him "what are you doing writing a book?" When he was done he said he had to go to his boss for approval on the options and the price. He came back and told me that his boss stated that not only was this the longest negotiation for the sale of a car on record, but that he gave me the car. Though I was not happy with the color selections available, I ended up ordering a Castillian Bronze 1971 Grand Prix with a beige vinyl roof and sandalwood interior with a bench seat that had a center armrest. My Grand Prix had the standard V-8 engine option with an automatic transmission. Mr. Griggs also washed this car for me every week.

A couple of years later as I was at the dealership getting my car serviced, I saw a red and white Grand Prix that knocked my socks off. So since I really was not happy with the color of my 1971 Grand Prix, I decided to sell it to my Brother-in-law, who was in need of a newer car, for the same amount as I would have received for it as a trade-in. I went back to the same Pontiac salesman and started all over again this time on a Buccaneer Red 1973 Grand Prix with a white vinyl roof and white interior with bucket seats. I would buy this car only if I knew that Mr. Griggs would clean it for me. This Grand Prix also had the standard V-8 engine option with an automatic transmission. Again, as I did with my first Grand Prix, I was constantly calling or dropping by the dealership and asking the salesman "where is my car." One day, as I was looking out the windows of the beauty parlor, I saw a car carrier going down the street ready to turn onto Main Street and saw a red and white Grand Prix on it. So, I immediately called the salesman and said my car is here. He paused, probably checking his paperwork and said "no it isn't." A couple of minutes later he called back and said "you witch, how did you know that it was at the dealership?" So I told him. A couple of days later I picked up my car. I was sort of a fixture at this dealership, sitting in the Service Manager's office, chatting and sipping coffee while my car was being serviced. This continued for years and could only happen when you're single. I was very happy with this car and was still driving it when I met Abraham, but that's a story for another day.

Before I met him, my "B A" (before Abraham) days were filled with new cars, fashionable clothing and ocean cruises. I am happy to say that that has not changed. I drove my 1973 Grand Prix until we sold it in 1982 when we purchased a 1982 Mercury Zephyr Z-7 Sports Coupe, which is also a story for another day.

by Ann Platt #1524



Ann's Grand Prix and Abe's Camaro



Southeastern Divisional Tour

Flat Rock, NC August 5-8, 2026

The Southeastern Divisional Tour in 2026 will take place in Flat Rock, NC, hosted by the Great Smokey Mountain Region & Little Detroit Chapter. Vehicles 25 years and older qualify. Hospitality room opens at noon at Wednesday, August 5, 2026 with hotel check-in at 2:00 PM. Registration is open March 9 to June 27, 2026 Host Hotel: Mountain Inn & Suites, Flat Rock, NC (828-692-7772) Group rate \$115/night + tax.



Founders Tour (1932-2001) – Williamsburg, VA
 hosted by Historic VA Peninsula Region
 September 9-14, 2026

Come celebrate the 250th Anniversary of our country's founding by touring the land where America was born. Host Hotel: Double Tree Resort, Williamsburg VA. Reservations are now open and only 50 rooms blocked, so don't delay. You can call the Hilton central reservation toll free number-1-800-774-1500 and use the group code AACA. The room rate of \$185.00 per night includes a breakfast buffet each morning.

Several historic and scenic tour stops including: Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown Scotland Ferry, Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Battle Field and Victory Center, James River Plantations and Smithfield.



2026 Glidden Tour

September 20 - 25, 2026

Have you heard, for the 80th Glidden Tour we are heading to Dover, Delaware, for the adventure worth an anniversary year! Prepare for 500+ miles of spectacular driving, including an unforgettable crossing on the Cape May Ferry. They've packed the itinerary with incredible stops like the du Pont Hagley Museum, a scenic boat ride with lunch at the Chesapeake Maritime Museum, and a visit to the Air Mobility Command Musuem. But the real showstopper? We're taking the cars for laps on the legendary Dover Motor Speedway! You do not want to miss this! Look for more information coming soon and then register online at AACA.org



Helen, Dick, Alex, Barbara and Bobbi

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FOR SALE

1956 Olds Holiday Restomod. Engine is a late model LS with Automatic Trans. Car presents well with a pearl white over turquoise and matching interior. Options include power brakes, power steering, power windows, power seats, A/C system. Runs, drives, sounds and looks excellent. Asking \$28,500 Contact Gayle at 732-805-9111 or email gbstro10@optimum.net

NEW JERSEY REGION ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB

Classifieds

For Sale Wanted Trade



3 Car Garage in North Plainfield, NJ.

Perfect for Antique Cars. We are renting all 3 bays for \$650 (total) a month for a 1 year lease. Garage is well maintained and dry, with a concrete floor. The space is secure and safe, in a residential neighborhood in North Plainfield, NJ. Electronic Door Opener. Please contact John 908-256-0901.

LEASE TERMS: The fee is \$650 a month for a 1 year lease. First 1/2 of year to be paid (\$3,900) upon signing of contract; 2nd 1/2 of year (\$3,900) to be paid at 6 months. 04/26



FOR SALE

Dom Speronza's 1936 Chevrolet Master 2 Door Town Sedan. Less than 75 miles on complete total restoration. Many NOS parts, Hampton Coach interior, nicely optioned, AACA Best New Restoration. Contact: 973-738-6667 Randolph NJ \$39,000 05/26

FOR SALE:

Nose for a 1957 Plymouth 2 door station wagon. I believe it will fit 1957-1959 years, but not sure. Includes hood, outer fenders, front bumper, grill, front fender chrome, grill emblem, headlight bezels. I also have tail lights for the same vehicle. \$950.00 or best offer for all. Bob at RKAP50@aol.com or 973-886-4550. 07/26



FOR SALE

Al Danner's 1968 Mustang. Included with the sale would be a huge bunch of spare and NOS parts, many of the cars show trophies and awards, and also a loose set of very nice chrome GT wheels with bias-plys mounted. Asking \$52K -OBO contact Scott at 908-230-5617 or Sue at 908-963-6834 06/26

WANTED

for a '39 Ford Fordor Deluxe: Hub and Spoke Cover (aka 'spyder' hub cap) late'38-all '39 accessory. Part# 81A-18140 - Sportlite (aka 'spot light') '39 and earlier? Label reads in part, "The Sportlite, Model J-1, Unity Mfg. Co", Part #68-18552 - Rear Fender Shields (aka 'skirts') '39. Has chrome hex bolt near top center. Part# 81-A-18974 Bob Hudak rjhudak@comcast.net, 732-629-1437 06/26





Washington Monument from the Lincoln Memorial

06/07/24
Eastern Divisional Tour 95°F

02/07/26
National Awards PreTour 0°F