

# FenderTalk

Official Publication of the Central Texas Region-Antique Automobile Club of America

Vol. 39, No. 12 "Road Relics" December 2025

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LEIF ALLRED



WENDELL BELL



WAYNE HEIKKILA



LEIF ALLRED



# *The Steering Column*

First, Happy Holidays to all and I hope you have had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Hard to believe the end of 2025 is approaching.

If I may be so bold, with the beginning of a new year, I thought I might propose some car club resolutions for the New Year. For example:

- ☐ Try to attend the monthly Car Club meetings
- ☐ Volunteer to organize a mini-tour. John Robertson will gladly support your efforts
- ☐ And then try to attend as many mini-tours as possible
- ☐ Save the date for Pate Swap Meet to support our biggest fundraising effort
- ☐ Gather up potential silent auction items for our Texas Tour
- ☐ Volunteer to help with and during the Texas Tour
- ☐ ATTEND the Texas Tour which Wendell Bell, Wayne Heikkila and team have been planning
- ☐ And, most importantly, have a wonderful and healthy New Year

Sincerely,

**Joe Peter, President CTR-AACA**



The Antique Automobile Club of America is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration and maintenance of automobiles and automotive history.

[www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org)



Road Relics is the Central Texas Region of The Antique Automobile Club of America. <https://centraltexas.aaca.com/>

## *FenderTalk*

FenderTalk is the official monthly publication of The Road Relics and is distributed to all members in good standing. Editor: Leif Allred

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@centraltexasrr

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# Secretary's Report

## Minutes of Road Relics Monthly Meeting November 11, 2025 – Catfish Parlour

*By Leif Allred*

**Meeting** President Joe Peter started the meeting at 7:00pm. Conducted on Veteran's Day, those who had served remained seated while others stood to recognize them. Other interesting things were identified during the meeting – mostly provided by DJ.

**Membership** There were 29 members present and 3 guests (potential members). Moton's friend Don Olson – retired physics/astronomy professor, Oldsmobile Dynamic 88, mother could drive a Model A. Peter Mills and friend David – 1936 Lincoln Zephyr. The complimentary AACA memberships were offered.

**Secretary's Report** The meeting minutes as published in the October 2025 FenderTalk newsletter were approved without changes.

**Treasurer's Report** The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved without changes.

**Sunshine Report** No illnesses were reported. The club received a thank you card from Laura for its concern with her health.

**Website** Site traffic continues to increase.

**Newsletter** Wayne Heikkila and DJ and Pat Stamp were recognized for their contributions in the November newsletter.

**Annual Meeting and Christmas Party** 12/7/2025 3:00pm – cash bar, live music, limited but awesome menu, amazing desserts, and art

**Officers and Board of Directors** A motion by Greg Herbert was seconded by Bob Ross to vote all of the uncontested positions to be filled as nominated. The 2026 board from unanimous vote is: President – Joe Peter; Vice President – Bob Ross; Treasurer – Jeremy Cameron; Secretary – Leif Allred. Directors – John Anderson, Rich Bassemir, and Paul Price; Wendell Bell (Appointed), Greg Herbert (Past President); Pate Alternate – Gary Baker (2026-2027)

### Past Activities

- October 25 Mini-tour – rained out (threats of flash floods on planned routes)
- November 1 Belmont Village Sidewalk Party – outstanding success having extended participation to Lone Star Model A Ford Club and other friends. We've already been invited back for 2026.
- November 8 Car Show, Membership Drive, and Garage Tour – Bastrop full with 450 cars, need follow-up on community outreach, thanks to Potters for opening up shop to club and everyone who volunteered to support the club's growth.
- November 8 Kingsbury Fly-in – always a competitor, the Model T club had around 55 cars show up. Being this is twice a year, maybe the Spring event may be more amenable to participation.

### Texas Tour 2026

A planning meeting is scheduled for 11/17/2025 via Zoom. Routes are being validated. Silent Auction call for donations starting January – name, description, estimated value.

### Mini-Tours

None on calendar. Volunteer and communicate to John Robertson. DJ mentioned a potential 2026 tour to Lockhart and Gaslight-Baker Theater for the USO Tribute Show if they're still running it.

### Member's Projects

Gary may be the owner of a 1931 Chevrolet from Speeding Springs . . . another potential tour visit and a shop down south.

**Dessert** Peach and Blackberry cobbler were served as compliments of Catfish Parlour

### Program

Due to technical difficulties, the previously scheduled program was delayed until a future date.

**Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned thus freeing people up to talk together afterwards at 8:11pm.

# Upcoming Events

## Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

*by Lizette, Ceale, Ronnie, and Alice*

**Sunday, December 7, 2025**

**3:00pm – 6:30pm**

**Milano Café**



**4601 Southwest Pkwy**

**Austin, TX 78735**

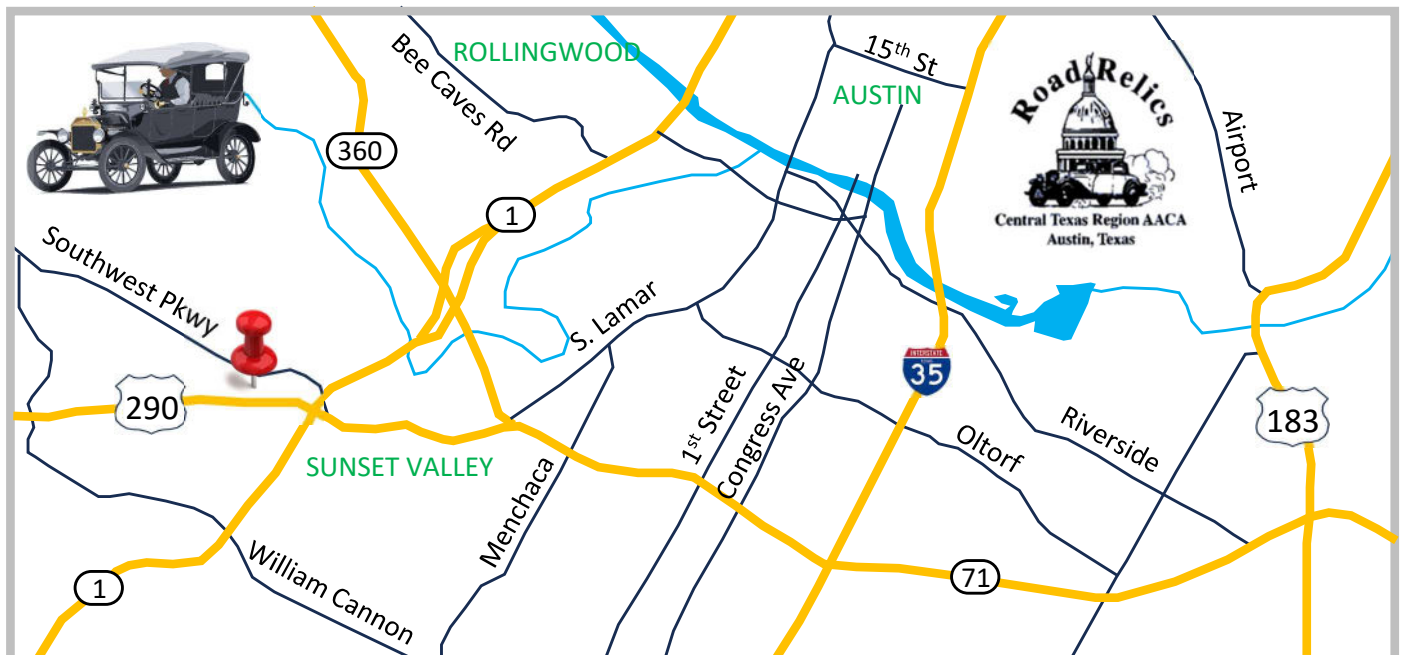
The gathering will begin at 3:00 with a half hour holiday social, cash bar (assorted beers and wines) and an appetizer. A piano bar musician and an acoustic guitarist will be performing a set of easy listening sort of music. Requests are welcome and encouraged!

At 3:30pm, guests will seat themselves (no assigned seats) and will be served an Italian green salad along with a basket of garlic bread. A menu will be placed at each table from which each guest can make their meal selection. Each table orders at once – table by table.

Menu choices:

- ☐ Chicken Parmesan: Breaded chicken breast baked in tomato sauce and parmesan cheese, served with spaghetti in tomato-basil sauce
- ☐ Meat Lasagna: made with beef
- ☐ Alfredo Shrimp Fettuccini (GF)
- ☐ Chicken Piccata: white wine and lemon juice, capers, with seasonal roasted vegetables

Following dinner service, dessert options will be presented. Should attendees desire, the cash bar will remain open during the meal service. Brewed Americano coffee will be available after the dinner service. During the dessert course, end of year awards will be presented by club leaders. We encourage attendees to wear festive Holiday attire. And naturally, our musicians will enjoy tips if so inclined.





# Past Activities

## Belmont Village Sidewalk Party

by Leif Allred

Each year the Belmont Village Sidewalk Party becomes more meaningful as the residence adds more activities with exquisite detail that injects new life into the event as a special treat for its people and their families. It is an honor to be able to participate in this yearly event – one for which we’ve already been invited back for 2026. In addition to the live band, burgers served in little car cut-outs, and lively staff, residents and families, a bouncy house and children’s area was created behind the outdoor kitchen. The weather couldn’t have been more perfect either.

The club was well represented by members: Leif Allred, John Anderson, Alex Armendariz, Wendell Bell, Paul and Ronnie Burt, Karl and Jeanne Frank, Wally and Sue Graner, Ceale Kirkham, Richard Luciano, Lizette Peter, Jim and Lynda Rankin, and Bob Ross. Several guests and their vehicles made the showing complete: Ron and Laurie Taylor with JR Howard from the Lone Star Model A Ford Club; Kurt Edmiston and his friend Craig. The car show had antique vehicles from 1929 to 2000 with trucks to station wagons:

1929 Ford Model A Tudor Sedan  
1930 Ford Model A Tudor Sedan  
1931 Ford Model A Cabriolet  
1937 Chevrolet 2-Door Sedan  
1956 Chevrolet Bel-Air  
1956 Oldsmobile Rocket 88  
1957 Chevrolet Bel-Air  
1957 Ford Thunderbird  
1959 Edsel Villager Wagon  
1963 Cadillac Coupe De Ville  
1967 Volkswagen Bug  
1970 Chevrolet C10 Pick-up  
2000 Cadillac Eldorado ESC Convertible →



**Alex Armendariz, Ronnie and Paul Burt, Lizette Peter, and Ceale Kirkham**



**The Photographer, Families, and Pets**



**Outdoor grilling and Bouncy House**

# Past Activities

→ Thanks to Wally and Sue Graner for hosting this event and opening their office so we could freshen up before the 1.6-mile drive to Belmont. The activities coordinator told me that the anticipation was high as the residents were talking about the car show all morning. They were all waiting at the porte cochere as we paraded through and got parked.

**“My favorites are the cute kids that were in their tiny little cars. They were having a blast!”**

**–Sue Graner**

This little boy named Roman pulled up in his 2023 Land Rover Defender electric kiddie car and so I told him to back into the spot between Bob and the Rankins. He backed it in like a champ and so I attached a window tag on his car and put him in the show. At one point, both on little foot-to-floor ride-ons, Roman and his sister were speeding towards each other and what looked like it was Roman's intention to T-Bone her. She narrowly escaped.

A face painter was there and may have caught a member who was going to a party that evening. Then, the coffee, cupcake, and cookie station was completely awesome! There was a professional photographer that captured many precious moments and also caught us every time we had our heads poking into some engine compartment. Her work is posted here:

<https://lensofathena.pixieset.com/belmontvillagecarshow/>  
PIN=9779

As the afternoon wound down and the band was on its last number, one of the residents was dancing by herself. Alex asked her to dance. It made her day.

**“The Belmont event was over-the-top. So joyful and full of life for all ages. I am so glad to have been a part of the sunshine enveloping all participants. Can't wait for next year!” –Ceale Kirkham**



**Roman sat in about every car**



**Statistics of the Model A Ford**



**Other reasons to take up two spots**



**Craig and Anne Belle (who had an MG)**



# Past Activities



2000 Cadillac Eldorado ESC Convertible

LEIF ALLRED



1956 Oldsmobile Rocket 88

LEIF ALLRED



1963 Cadillac Coupe De Ville

LEIF ALLRED



1937 Chevrolet 2-Door Sedan

LEIF ALLRED



1957 Ford Thunderbird

LEIF ALLRED



1931 Ford Model A Cabriolet

LEIF ALLRED



1957 Chevrolet Bel-Air

LEIF ALLRED



1929 Ford Model A Tudor Sedan

LEIF ALLRED



# Past Activities

## Membership Drive and Garage Tour

*by the Peters and the Potters*

The club gathered early in order to be able to park together at the Heroes and Hot Rods Veteran's Day Car Show hosted by Bastrop Area Cruisers. We were able to score the same spot as last year on the periphery of the show – near the fire truck and Bastrop County Courthouse, where the Veterans are honored. It's a partly shaded spot but not if you're working the booth or if you're a basket of melting chocolate. In the 90s and sunny, the next evening was in the 30s. Only in Texas.

A lot of outreach and engagement with the car community was accomplished. Thanks to our members who brought vehicles to display and even let families experience sitting in an antique car. This boy got the privilege to sit in a supercharged Auburn and was taught how to look "cool" while driving. His mother got it right – one arm on the door and the other on the top of the steering wheel.



LEIF ALLRED

Others were scattered around the show as the Bakers are also part of the host club and have special parking for their Buick. John Tiemann was up the street and Leif Allred and Joe Peter were just outside the show.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

Thanks to James and Eileen Bartlett, James Berkner, Suzan and Ken Crawford, Joe and Lizette Peter, George Pierce, and →



# Past Activities

## Membership Drive and Garage Tour

*by the Peters and the Potters*

→ Sherry and Gary Potter for representing the club and working the booth and being early enough to park together as a club.



LEIF ALLRED

The show includes a Veteran's March – a bagpipe player, color guard, Bastrop High School ROTC class, VFW Cross of Malta, and veterans of all ages were honored with applause as they passed the crowds. It is always an emotional experience.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

After the awards ceremony, people dispersed to trailer their cars, help a guy who fell get medical attention, and navigate back up north to Elgin. There, the Potters opened their garage up for the club to tour some of their latest acquisitions and projects. We were immediately greeted with refreshments and the opportunity to decompress.

Paul and Ronnie Burt, James and Eileen Bartlett, Leif Allred, Joe Peter, a new guy and his son Troy, and Sherry and Gary Potter sat just outside their garage in the quiet shade and enjoyed the peace and stillness after the early and exciting day. We were all in awe – mostly at how orderly the shop is kept. Thanks so much for the calm and friendly wrap up to a fun day.



# Automobilia

## Sign of the Times

By Wendell Bell

I recently had the opportunity to view a remarkable collection of antique signs at an event center in Fort Gates, a small community near Gatesville. Texas Station is an RV Park that includes a facility that can be rented for occasions such as banquets, weddings, receptions, and reunions.

What drew me there was a homecoming weekend party for Gatesville High School classes of 1970 and 1971. It was great to see schoolmates, some going all the way back to first grade, but the bonus was spending a few hours surrounded by hundreds of vintage signs of all sorts including automobile-related memorabilia.

Venue owner Dean Smith acquired this top-notch collection over many years. There are signs for cars, gasoline, tires, chewing tobacco, bread, soft drinks, beer, drugs, and many other products and services. Lighted signs large and small function brilliantly. Many are professionally restored. Others are original and some have rust, chips, or bullet holes to prove it.

A similar collection is about 60 miles east of Gatesville in Axtell at the Speed Cave and will be a featured stop on Texas Tour next May. While most of the Texas Station collection is in one big dance hall sized room along with some outdoor signage, the Speed Cave collection is all in the home of owners Joe and Eileen Armstrong. Every spot on every wall in the house is covered. It's a treat to wind your way from room to room for closeup views. I'm sure it will be a hit. Perhaps we can work the Fort Gates stop into a future tour as well.



WENDELL BELL



WENDELL BELL



WENDELL BELL



# Museums

## Bray's Motor Museum & Playground

by Wayne Heikkila

After finishing up on the brakes and axle replacement, I thought I would take a test drive to the Bray's Motor Museum. It is located on I-45 in Madisonville – about 130 miles from the house. I have driven past it but have never had the time to stop.



I followed a small bus into the parking lot. It blocked the upper lot so I parked the Buick in the lower level. As I was walking to the front door, one of staff ladies greeting the bus asked me why I didn't park in the upper parking lot. I said the bus was in the way. She quickly asked the bus driver to move forward. As I pulled into the upper parking lot, I was directed to the first parking spot next to the door. The Buick was quickly surrounded by museum visitors. They thought it was part of the collection and were surprised when I told them I was not part of the museum and that I had just driven close to 150 miles to visit this museum.

After they inspected the Buick, we all went inside the museum and were treated to a glass of free draft beer. Now, this museum knows how to start a tour! Once inside, it was full of muscle cars, hot rods and

roadsters. Too many vehicles to list. In the back part of the area was a large collection of everything Lego. Just seeing the Lego collection would have been a trip in itself.



As I stepped back into the entry area, the staff stopped me and apologized that their cars would not be available to be driven today. I said, "excuse me?!" She said yes, for a fee, you can take their cars on their track. Wow! That is something to know. I just might have to make another trip.



Once outside, I had a new crowd of visitors admiring the car. The Buick performed excellently. Even though it was in the mid 90's, the Buick ran right at 180. The only hot thing was the driver.

# Around Town

## **Veteran's Day Breakfast and Car Show** **Round Rock, TX – November 11, 2025** *By Leif Allred*

In the Round Rock neighborhood of Vizcaya, veterans were recognized with a breakfast and car show. Alex Armendariz, a veteran himself, organized the car show that ranged from a 1931 Ford to a 2012 Lamborghini Gallardo – mostly a mix of The Junkyard Derelicts and VW clubs and nearby residents. Mercedes of Georgetown also participated.

A chilly morning, it quickly warmed up with breakfast tacos, donuts, and coffee outside and a breakfast buffet in the Heritage Lodge and a short program where veterans from different branches of service were recognized. Little community shows are great for the participants and locals who don't usually walk an entire show field.



## **Pistons on the Square** **Georgetown, TX – November 15, 2025** *By Leif Allred*

It was a bustling morning with parking already limited before 7:00am. Representing the Road Relics were Remy Valdez – taking photos also with a real camera (not a phone), Greg Herbert, and myself. At least the time change made it so the drive in wasn't so dark.



## **Stephanie Nichols' Toy Collecting Cruise-In** **Georgetown, TX – November 22, 2025** *By Leif Allred*

It started out with the usual suspects at Georgetown High School – including East View High School and benefiting Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. Rich Bassemir and Leif Allred attended. All systems normal – then everybody freaked and gathered around a 1908 REO that had driven in from Round Rock!





# DJ's CarSense®

## An Automotive Outlet for Outstanding Observations

by DJ Stamp

**Flying Saucer Fishing Boat** In 1957, Evinrude introduced the innovative Flying Saucer Fishing Boat. The boat's futuristic design was heavily inspired by the era's fascination with space exploration and flying saucers. Its sleek, circular shape set it apart from traditional boat designs, making it a bold statement of modernity and creativity in marine technology. The Flying Saucer Fishing Boat was a perfect blend of form and function, with the aesthetic appeal of a spacecraft and the practical features necessary for a fishing vessel.



DJ'S SPAM FOLDER

**1907 Curtiss V8** Not a production motorcycle but deserves its place in history. Glenn Curtiss designed a 4,410cc V8 engine to power dirigibles and mounted it longitudinally in a motorcycle frame, driving the rear wheel by shaft and bevel gears. At Ormond Beach in Florida, he achieved a one-way speed of 136.36mph – not to be beaten by any vehicle for another four years, or a motorcycle for 23 years!



**1910 Electric bathtub** What could go wrong?



# Membership

## Mini-Tours

One of the most rewarding activities in old cars is parading around town as a group on a mini-tour. Now is the time to sign up and fill the 2026 calendar with excursions. Please let John Robertson know which month you wish to coordinate a tour. Karl and Jeanne Frank have a paper map whereupon they highlight the obscure back roads they've explored. Let's help them fill it up.



## Renewal Time

National AACA dues are \$45 and our local Central Texas Region AACA dues are \$20 (requires national membership). For any questions, please contact membership chair, Wayne Heikkila at (512) 740-4212 or [wayneheikkila@gmail.com](mailto:wayneheikkila@gmail.com).



Pay by Mail:

1) \$45 payable to AACA

2) \$20 payable to CTR-AACA

Wayne Heikkila

220 Jena Lane

Lumberton, TX 77657

## Club Gear

Vests	\$18
Club Shirts	\$15
Rain Ponchos	\$15
Ball Caps	\$15
Texas Flag Badge	\$2
CTR Window Sticker	\$1
2017/2019 FDCS T-Shirts	\$Offer

**Greg Herbert:** [gdherbert@aol.com](mailto:gdherbert@aol.com)



## Leaders

### President

Joe Peter

### Vice President

John Anderson

### Treasurer

Bob Ross

### Secretary

Leif Allred

### Directors

George Brunner

Vic Donnell

JC Carter

Greg Herbert (Past Pres)

DJ Stamp (Pate Rep)

Wendell Bell

### Membership Chair

Wayne Heikkila

### Sunshine Chair

Ronnie Burt

### Programs Chair

DJ Stamp

### Mini-Tour Chair

John Robertson

### Club Gear

Greg Herbert

### Webmaster

Rich Bassemir



# ***National News***



## **AACA Annual Convention and National Awards February 5-7, 2026**

**Pre-Convention Excursion ▪ Welcome Reception  
Trade Show ▪ Seminars ▪ Luncheon Hosted by the First Lady  
Regions & Chapters Dinner ▪ Casino Night ▪ Judging Schools  
General Membership Meeting ▪ National Awards Banquet**

**Book  
your room  
NOW!**

**Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles  
14750 Conference Center Dr, Chantilly, VA 20151**

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

**Room Rates: \$139 per night OR \$159 per night with 1 breakfast  
OR \$179 per night with 2 breakfasts**

**Reservation Link: <https://book.passkey.com/e/51001554>**

**Reservation Phone: (800) 266-9432 (mention Antique Automobile Club of America)**

**Reservation Deadline: January 13, 2026**

# Calendar

## December 7, 2025 3:00pm (see page 4)

CHRISTMAS PARTY AND ANNUAL MEETING  
by LCRA (Lizette, Ceale, Ronnie, and Alice)  
Milano Café  
4601 Southwest Parkway  
Austin TX 78735

\*\*\*\*\* 2026 \*\*\*\*\*

## February 5-7, 2026

ANNUAL CONVENTION / NATIONAL AWARDS  
Chantilly, VA 717-534-1910

## February 28, 2026 8:00am-1:00pm

STEPHANIE NICHOLS' 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
CAR AND PLANE SHOW  
Georgetown Airport  
500 Terminal Dr, Georgetown, TX

## March 19-21, 2026

SPECIAL NATIONALS  
Guaynago, Puerto Rico

## April 17, 2026

NEW BRAUNFELS SWAP MEET  
New Braunfels, TX

## April 23-26, 2026

PATE SWAP MEET  
Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, TX  
<https://www.pateswapmeet.com/>

## May 21-23, 2026

72<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL TEXAS TOUR  
Waco, TX  
Hosted by Central Texas Region AACA (us)  
(See below)

## 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Texas Tour

The Central Texas Region-AACA is pleased to host the 72<sup>nd</sup> Texas Tour, May 21-23, 2026 in Waco, TX – headquartered at Hilton Waco Hotel. Link for Hotel Reservations: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/actwhhf-aaca-7991ccba-9d17-44f2-acbc-fc36bab22f50/>

Use this link to complete your reservation to receive the discounted rates listed below which includes a full hot breakfast buffet in the restaurant each morning and are good until April 19, 2026.

- King Bed with Sofa Deluxe Room (2 guests)  
Rate \$149 plus 3.6% TPID fee = \$154.37
- Two Queen Beds Deluxe Room (2 guests)  
Rate \$149 plus 3.6% TPID fee = \$154.37

If you have any questions or need additional assistance with hotel reservations, please contact:  
Greg Herbert, Registrar      Wendell Bell, Chairman  
[TexasTourAACA@aol.com](mailto:TexasTourAACA@aol.com)      [wbell22@hotmail.com](mailto:wbell22@hotmail.com)  
(512) 923-1505 (Cell)      (512) 694-9803 (Cell)

<https://www.texastour.co/>

## Silent Auction

During Texas Tour 2026, a silent auction will be presented to raise funds for the tour and/or a charitable contribution. Please donate meaningful items to make the silent auction successful and fun with competitive bids. Please use the donation form below to identify your item, donor information, the estimated value, recommended starting bid (typically 35% the value), and what should be done with it in the unlikely case it does not sell.

### Texas Tour Silent Auction – Donation Form

Description of Item being donated: \_\_\_\_\_

Donors Name and Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Value: \_\_\_\_\_

Recommended Initial Bid: \_\_\_\_\_

Should item not sell desired disposition: \_\_\_\_\_



# Classified Ads



WAYNE HEIKKILA

**FREE TIRES** to good home

Size: 6.50 x 16

Wall and shipping not Included!

My new tires came in and I have them installed. Someone in the club asked for my old tires but I don't remember who it was (it was quite a while ago). Anyway, I want to offer them to the club first. They are good tires for rollers.

**Wayne Heikkila**

**(512) 740-4212**

**[wayneheikkila@gmail.com](mailto:wayneheikkila@gmail.com)**



**GM Starter**

Duralast DL36275

block/offset pattern.

Installed once and removed.

**\$50 OBO**

Leif Allred

512-350-3825

[ac-n-a@outlook.com](mailto:ac-n-a@outlook.com)



**1956 Cadillac Keys:**

Blanks and Trunk

Vintage US Flag keychain included.

Free to good home. Shipping and Handling may apply.

[FenderTalk@outlook.com](mailto:FenderTalk@outlook.com)

Phone: 512-350-3825

## Letter From the Editor



**Alex dancing with a resident at Belmont Village**

It was really quite precious when Alex came across this resident slowly swaying to the music from the live band at Belmont Village. They did a twirl and almost got tangled but her smile couldn't be stopped. Old cars seem to resonate with the residents and their families. Let us cherish the time we have with them and also our own families and the members of our club as the love of antique cars brings us together. Thank you for all that you do for the club.

*Leif*