

# FenderTalk

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

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*"Road Relics"*

May 2022

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WENDELL BELL



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# *The Steering Column*

As I write this article, I am sitting in my hotel room following a long day working at the Pate Swap Meet. I am reflecting on the day's activities where I watched a group of men and women from our club pull together to complete our assigned activities of hauling parts throughout the swap meet and the parking lot to assist customers with the loads of heavy and bulky items they purchased. Due to some incorrect information provided by others, many of our members continued hauling parts until almost 7:00pm today, after beginning the day at 8:00am. Each member worked hard to contribute in various ways, and I had a great time – good food, great weather, happy customers, and good friends. I cannot express how much gratitude I have for the club members who made the time and effort to contribute to a very successful swap meet.

Hope to see everyone at Catfish Parlour on, Tuesday, May 10th. Here's to good health and good friends!

Greg Herbert, 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. [www.CentralTexas.aaca.com](http://www.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](https://www.facebook.com/centraltexasrr)

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# Secretary's Report

## Minutes of Road Relics Monthly Meeting

April 12, 2022

Submitted by Sue Graner, Secretary CTR-AACA

**Meeting** The April meeting of the Road Relics was called to order by President Greg H. at 7:00pm.

**Membership** Wayne was not able to attend this evening; we did have a guest named Steven, who came at the invitation of Joe P. He has a red '62 Ford Thunderbird Convertible that he bought with 47,000 miles on it. He said it was partially restored, but not entirely to his liking. He is the proud second owner of the car, after it was sold by the original owner to a dealer.

**Secretary's Report** Joe made the motion to approve the minutes of March's meeting as published by Sue G. and George seconded. The group unanimously voted to accept the minutes as written.

**Treasurer's Report** Duane P. said that the Club is in good shape financially. George B. made a motion to approve the report, and Bob R. seconded. We all voted to accept the Treasurer's Report.

**Sunshine Report** Ronnie B. said that no one was ill to her knowledge; which is always a good thing.

**Website** Rich was not able to attend tonight's meeting so we didn't get an update.

**Newsletter** Leif was not present tonight. We all agreed that the Newsletter keeps looking better every month. Leif is always happy to accept articles, and stories about your cars, or anything else interesting that you are doing or places you are going.

### Upcoming Events

The Round Rock Car Club will be 4-17-2022.

Lonestar Roundup is the next weekend 4-22 and 4-23-2022.

The New Braunfels Swap Meet is being held on 4-22-2022 as well.

Stories from the Road Classic will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church on 5-14-2022.

Chili Cookoff at Greg and Nancy's home on June 18, 2022. He threw down the gauntlet for a real competition.

The Texas Tour next year will be in Schulenberg and shall be put on by the Golden Crescent AACA Club. →



Tornados: Florence, TX – April 12, 2022 at 5:45pm . . . about the time of the meeting

# Secretary's Report

## Past Events

**Bingo Bash Mini-Tour:** Lizette and Joe led a tour to the Commemorative Air Force Museum in San Marcos. One of the planes there was the one that led the D-Day invasion; it is still flying and active. The group then stopped at Whizzerville, an old pizza joint/beer hall in a town of about 100 folks. The group then adjourned to Joe and Lizette's home for dessert. J.C. borrowed Bingo Boards from the Senior Center and he and Lizette pulled numbers. A great time was had by all.

**Texas Tour:** The Texas Tour in Harlingen was one of the best arranged and managed Tours in recent history. The group toured Space-X and the Iwo Jima monument among other places of interest. The club that led the Tour had never put together a Tour before, and they did a great job.

**Pate Swap Meet** D.J. has a house near Granbury now that will be available for members to stay if they don't have reservations anywhere else. The Club hopes to have some help with parts hauling from the officers and

members of the Austin Area Car Club. There will be a joint effort with the cooking. Be sure to sign up if you are available to help with a meal. Five o'clock will definitely be quitting time now and going forward. It's too dangerous to be out in the parking lot in a golf cart when cars are starting to move around.

Greg said that we have already rented out 9,500 spaces and estimates that an additional 500 spaces will go between now and then. This is the most we've ever sold and it's really fitting as this is the 50th anniversary of Pate. Greg will email members the Club's space numbers.


**Meeting** Throughout the meeting, Greg reviewed some of the survey questions he sent out last year. The question asked this evening was "If you could have dinner with someone famous, who would you choose and why?" Vic D. chose Ronald Reagan and Henry Ford. Lynda R. selected Helen Keller, and Sue G. chose Carl Sagan. Vern H. mentioned that "The Pale Blue Dot" was an amazing short video of Carl Sagan's and recommended it to

everyone. It seemed very apropos to this particular time in our history, with the war in Ukraine going on and all the dissention in the world.

Break for cobbler at 7:49pm.

**Program** Greg provided the program for us this evening. It consisted of photos of classics with catchy captions. For instance, a picture of an old touring car about to run off the side of a bridge with "Typing on a typewriter while driving." Did you know that the Mustang was marketed to women? The first Mini in England was the result of soaring gas prices? What was the trunk lid of the '59 Impala called? The Bat Wing. Goodyear tried to make his fortune with waterproof shoes; after his death, his brother came up with rubber tires.

The program was short but cool. Greg said he planned it that way because he knew the meeting would run long. Thanks Greg, for taking the time to put the program together for us.

**Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm. 



# Past Activities

## 68<sup>th</sup> Texas Tour – Harlingen, TX

By Barbara Baker and [Wayne Heikkila](#)

### Wednesday, March 30

BB: Jan and Vic Donnell in their 1962 Lincoln, Duane Pufpaff and Paul Rivera in a 1991 Cadillac, Chester Toothman in a 1957 Chevrolet and Gary and I in my 2019 Toyota (because Gary blew up the 1957 Chevy) left Gary's shop around 8:00am Wednesday. We stopped in La Grange for kolaches and then turned onto Highway 77 for a straight long shot to Harlingen. Lunch time found us in Refugio at a Dairy Queen. We were traveling at 55mph as not to push Vic's Lincoln too hard. Arriving at the hotel, we were met by quite a large group.



LEIF ALLRED

### Thursday, March 31

Thursday, we did the early tour to the beautiful Basilica of Our Lady of San Juan del Valle. For the Thursday night social gathering, we drove to Lon C. Hill / Fair Park Pavilion for a meal of chicken fried steak catered by Golden Corral. →

[WH: Adriana and I planned our Texas Tour intending to head down to Harlingen on Wednesday. As with most plans, adjustments had to be made as Adriana was sent out of town for work and arrived back home Thursday just after 5pm. By the time we loaded up and headed out, it was pushing 10pm. →](#)



LEIF ALLRED



DJ STAMP

# Past Activities

Friday , April 1

Friday after our daily safety briefing, we drove to the huge Iwo Jima Monument. When you get up to it, you realize just how large and impressive it is.

We drove till around 1:30am and pulled into a truck stop to rest for a little while. Around 2:30am, we continued to Harlingen and arrived at the hotel just after 5:00am. We checked in and had just enough time to head out to the first location of the day – The Iwo Jima Monument. Here we took in the park and got a great story of how one of the soldiers that raised the flag was a local boy and how the monument ended up in Harlingen.



**Original Iwo Jima Memorial and Museum – At the base of the statue, Harlon Block is buried. He was one of the original flag raisers on that fateful day.**

We then traveled to the Conjunto Museum and had a concert performed by two very talented musicians who explained the music of their culture. From there off to South Padre Island for seafood and burgers lunch at Louie's Backyard on the bay. →

The next Location was the City of San Benito, Freddy Fender and the Conjunto museum. Inside we were treated to 30 minutes of Conjunto music. The music was very impressive along with a tour of the rest of the museum. We then headed to South Padre Island for lunch at Louie's Backyard. Adriana and I had fish tacos and sat outside with the breeze coming off the bay. It was very pleasant. →



# Past Activities

Friday, April 1



Conjunto Museum – Benito, TX



Louie's Backyard – South Padre Island

Next we drove a short way to Sea Turtle Inc. where we saw sea turtles in rehab. Injured turtles are sent there to mend from different accidents. Our evening meal was at Longhorn Cattle Company in San Benito. Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal of either brisket, ribs, sausage or chicken with all the beans you could eat.

After lunch, the tour headed to the Clayton Beach Resort and the Turtle Inc. Adriana, and I decided to head to a gulf side beach just to sit and enjoy it for a little while before heading to the hotel to take a nap before dinner at the Longhorn Cattle Company. After dinner we said goodbye and headed to the hotel knowing morning was going to come quickly.

Saturday, April 2

Saturday we traveled to Palo Alto Battlefield National Park in Brownsville, TX. Had a cannon fired off and nice lecture of the battle fought there. Then it was off to Space X for a drive through. It was very impressive to see space rockets out in the marshes. →

In the morning, we headed to the Palo Alto Battlefield. There we were treated to a reenactment of the battle and the weapons of the period. Our next location was to Space X for a photo stop. →



Palo Alto Battlefield National Park – Brownsville, TX



Space X – Boca Chica, TX

# Past Activities



After it was back to Brownsville with a police escort to the Brownsville museum where we were served steak and chicken fajitas. Very good. We then departed for the hotel to get ready for the awards banquet which we did not have to drive to since the convention center is adjoining the hotel. Had a nice tasty chicken dinner and were entertained by a high school mariachi band. Very talented kids.

Also representing the Road Relics included: Wayne Heikkila and Adriana Meyer-Alonzo, Joe and Lizette Peter, and George and Todd Brunner. We drove around 279 miles not counting the trip there and back and were very busy. We want to thank Moses and Claudia Mendoza and all their club members of Rio Grande Valley Region for a very enjoyable tour. For their first time to do a tour of this size, it was well planned out. We hope to see more of our club for the 69<sup>th</sup> Texas Tour that will be held in Schulenburg on May 18 through May 21, 2023.



We were then on our way with a police escort to the Brownsville Historical Museum for lunch and a briefing. Lunch was chicken or beef fajitas with good company. On to the museum for a tour and a history lesson. Before we knew it, it was time for the awards dinner. It opened with a ceremony of the HHS JROTC color guard. The next line up was the local HHS mariachi group. The students were very impressive! Then it was time for dinner and the awards. But before the car awards, Moses handed out club coins to all current and retired veterans. As always it was interesting to see what vehicles were chosen for the awards. Before we knew it, the night had come to an end and we were saying goodnight to everyone as we all look forward to the next tour.



**Harlingen High School Mariachi Group**



**Screw Up Award Presentation**



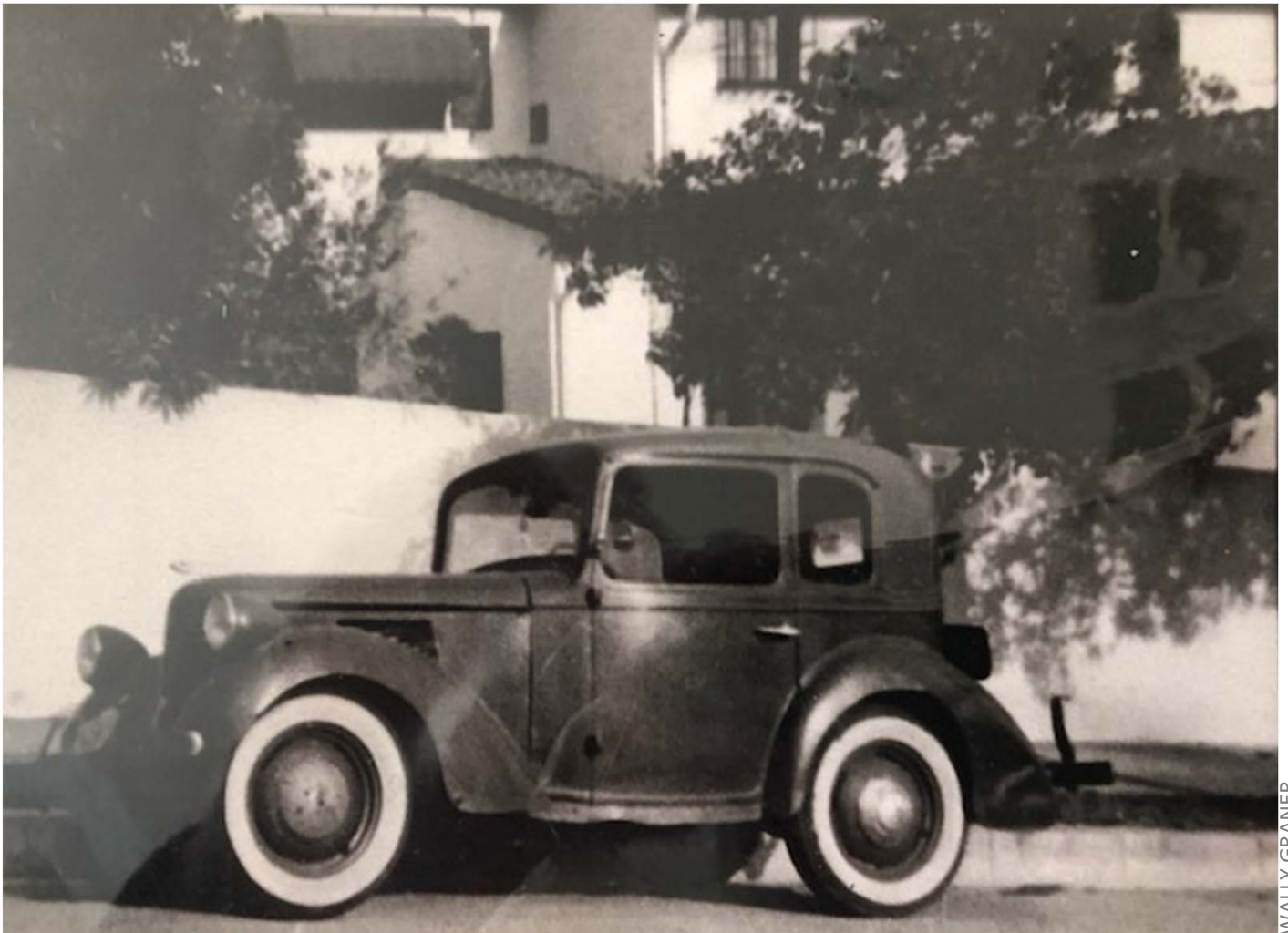
# Once Owned

## A Funny Little Car!

*by Wally Graner*

It was in 1948 – I was 12 – when my Dad had been diagnosed with cancer and I received my hardship driver's license in order to take him to his cobalt treatments. I had been talking with him about a car to work on as Dad was not going to the oil field to work as much and would have some time. He built his 'hotrod' in the 1920's from a Model T calling it 'Leaping Tuna.' I found a strange little car in the alley behind a dealer repair shop and talked Dad into going to look at it. The owner said he'd sell it for \$15 as it didn't run and that he wasn't a mechanic.

Dad towed it home and we started work. We quickly discovered it had an Austin Seven, 4-cylinder engine that needed to be rebuilt, worn brake pads, paint needing help and some of the wiring requiring restoration. Using a chain hoist attached to the garage framing (after a bit of ceiling joist reinforcement) I pulled the engine and transmission, put it on a home-made cradle and started tear down. I quickly learned about head bolts that go through the head to the nuts inside the combination cast aluminum bell housing and oil pan in one →



WALLY GRANER

**Austin Bantam – \$15 in 1949**

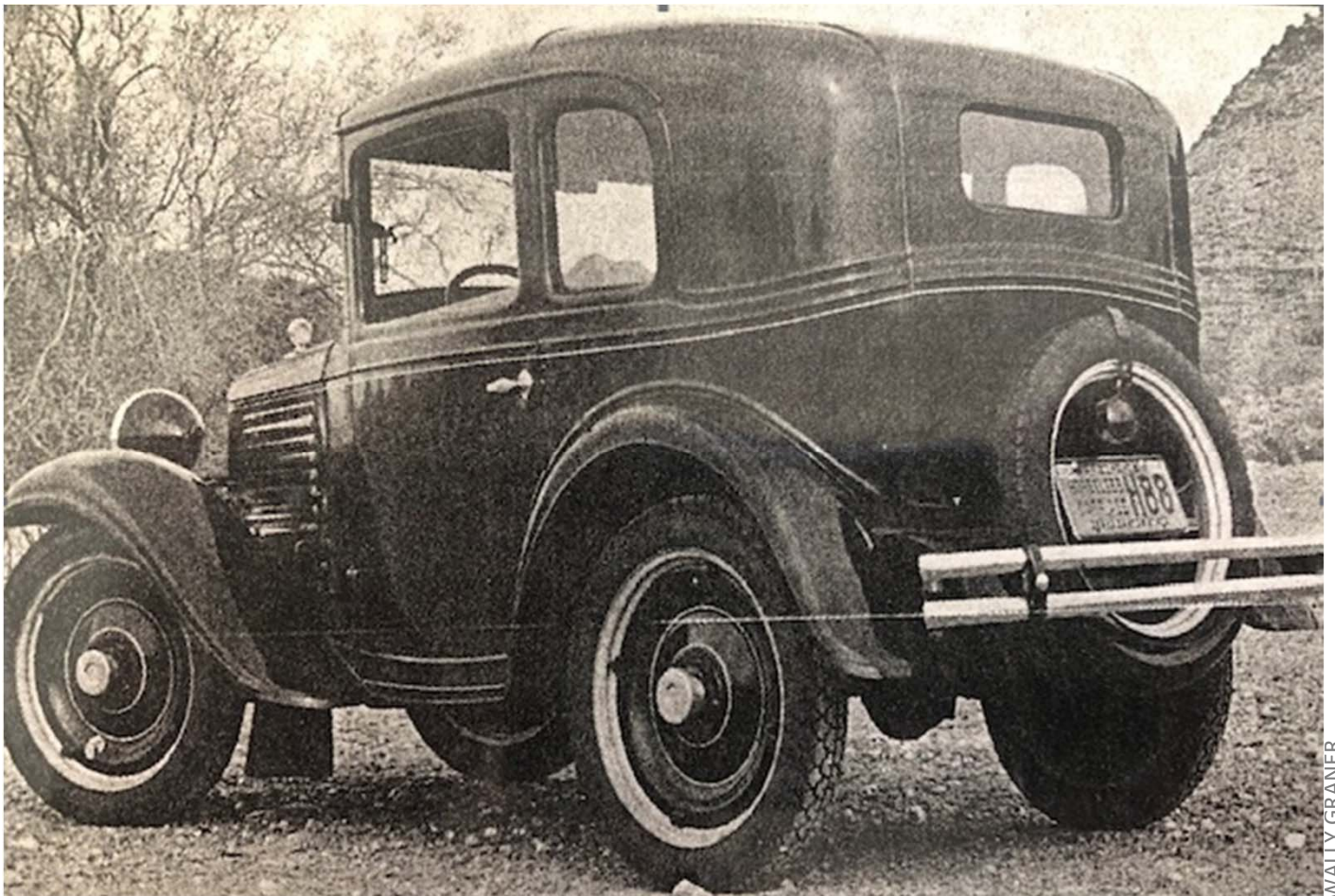
# Once Owned

→ unit. If someone tightens them too tight, you can crack the aluminum webbing at the top of the pan through which the head bolts came and were fastened. This pan was cracked in two places and required very careful placement of large heavy washers to span the cracked areas. This is also where I learned the operation of a torque wrench for reassembly.

We found Babbitt rod bearings at which point Dad told me I was going to learn to build proper molds, melt and pour the replacements. That, all by itself, was an education and, after much spilled hot Babbitt, I finally got the molds made to hold the hot material and the bearings were poured. The

fitting, grinding and rasping was also an education, plus loss of quite a bit of finger skin. The final steps were in reassembling the engine with new rings and gaskets. Next was disassembly of the 3-speed transmission which only needed cleaning and re-attaching to the engine to make ready for reinstallation into the car.

Upon finishing, we went for a test drive where we discovered it was so underpowered that we had to back up the hill to get home. That prompted the necessity to sell it. We Got the cost of the car and parts back plus \$25 and I started talking to Dad about building a 'real hot rod'. We started that project in early 1949.



WALLY GRANER



# Museums

## Palm Trees and Car Museums – Part II

*by Wendell Bell*

On the way to and from a wonderful January vacation in Hawaii, I visited two excellent California car museums: the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles and the San Diego Automotive Museum. Last month we chronicled the Petersen Museum.

A much smaller but very worthwhile stop for car enthusiasts is the San Diego Automotive Museum which opened in 1988. It is one of seventeen museums in Balboa Park which includes the San Diego Zoo, two concert venues and other attractions. Like most

structures in the park, it is housed in a distinctive building originally designed for the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition

The 17,000 square-foot exhibit area is basically one big room with clusters of vintage cars and motorcycles as well as individually displayed vehicles running the gamut from the brass era to customized Chevy lowriders of the 1960s. All have summary information displayed that is informative but not too detailed. →



**1905 REO Two-Cylinder Runabout**

WENDELL BELL



# Museums

→ Among my favorites was a 1952 Allstate, which was a rebadged Kaiser sold by Sears for only two years. Next to it is a 1963 Chevrolet Corvair and a display about the history of Indian Motorcycles. Other noteworthy items include a 1925 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost and a group of Shelby Mustangs. I especially enjoyed the “barn find display” of a 1928 Studebaker showing where many restorations begin. Being partial to REO, I had to ogle the 1905 two-cylinder runabout.

Many cars in the collection rotate in and out of the display area. I visited few years ago when George Pierce and I went to a forgettable swap meet in San Diego, and I recall that no more than half of the cars were the same.

One permanent fixture is Louie Mattar's Fabulous \$750,000 Car, a 1947 Cadillac with trailer that set the world's non-stop drive record from Alaska to Mexico and then across the United States.

Like the Petersen Automotive Museum, the San Diego Automotive Museum offers educational outreach programs and events for various car clubs and other community groups. Both institutions are excellent at presenting the rich history surrounding the technological advances and social and economic impacts of the automobile. I recommend them for general audiences as well as automotive enthusiasts.



WENDELL BELL

**1952 Allstate (rebadged Kaiser)**



WENDELL BELL

**1925 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost**



WENDELL BELL

**San Diego Automotive Museum – San Diego, CA**



# Around Town

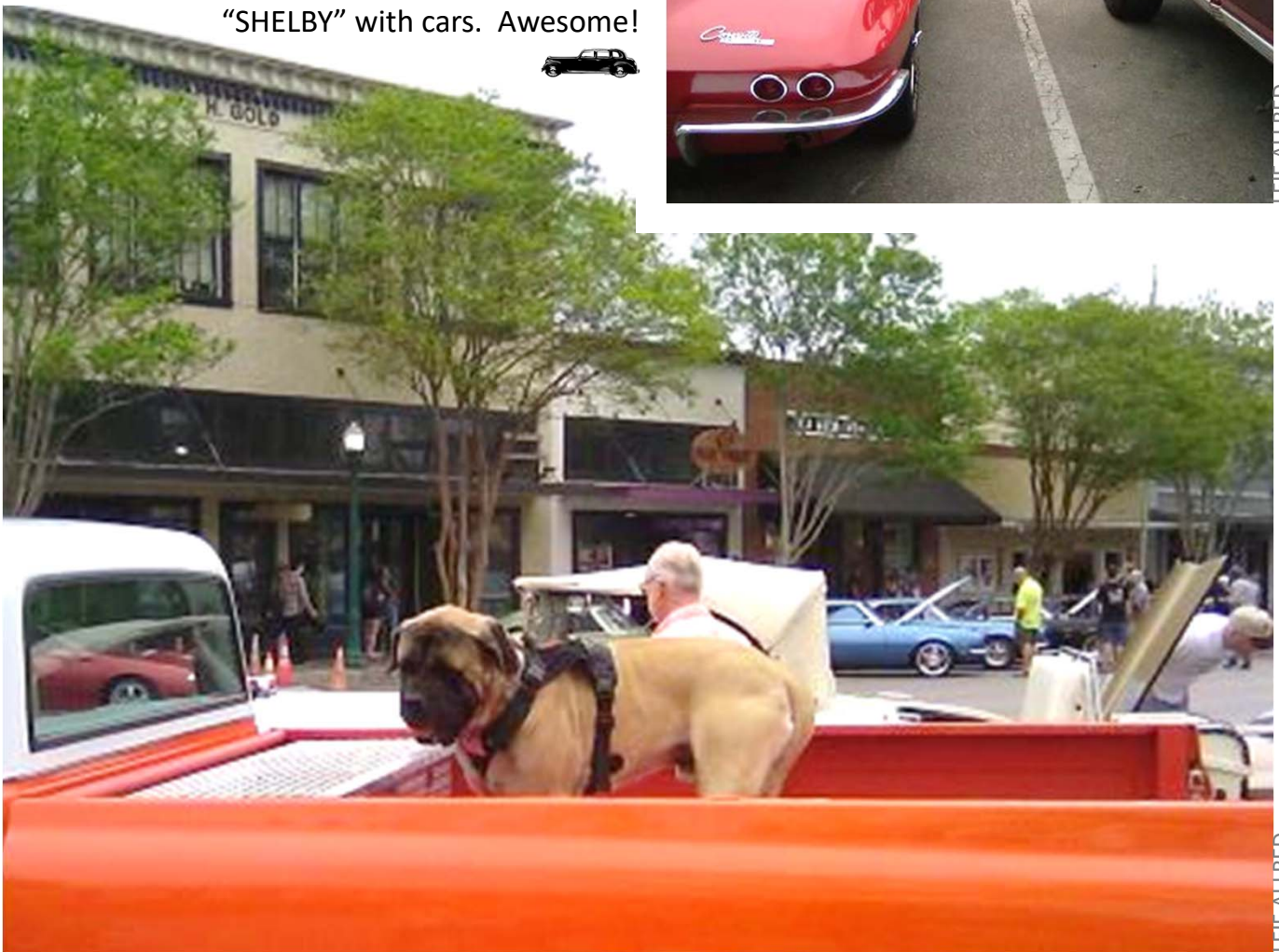
## Pistons on the Square

by Leif Allred

The third Saturday in April was a pleasant time for an early morning cruise-in with many of the regulars attending. Although it was misting in the morning, I hadn't recently washed the truck anyway and had to pick up lumber with it on the way home. By its colors, it could be a Home Depot delivery vehicle . . . or perhaps Whataburger. Parked next to me was Bill polishing a 1929 Model A Hot Rod. The two hours passed quickly as we walked around and talked with friends and met new people – Alex is trying to set up a Father's Day car show in his new neighborhood; Ken Walker coordinated a drone photo at the Cobra meet spelling "SHELBY" with cars. Awesome!



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

Dogs Love Trucks – April 16, 2022 – Georgetown, TX

# Membership

## Renewal

Members of Antique Automobile Club of America may become members of this Region with the annual membership year being the first day of January to the last day of December. Members who have not renewed their membership by the first of January may be granted a grace period up to 60 days but will be dropped from the club roster if dues are not paid by March 1st. The National AACA dues are \$45 and Region dues are \$20. You may pay online or mail two checks. For any questions, please contact Wayne Heikkila at (512) 740-4212.



Pay by Mail:

- 1) \$45 payable to AACA
- 2) \$20 payable to CTR-AACA

Wayne Heikkila  
3543 Pauling Loop  
Round Rock, TX 78665



To pay online, please click [here](#):



## Mini-Tours



## Leaders

### President

Greg Herbert

### Vice President

John Anderson

### Treasurer

Duane Pufpaff

### Secretary

Sue Graner

### Directors

George Brunner

Vic Donnell

Wally Graner

Joe Peter

DJ Stamp (Pate Rep)

Leif Allred (Past Pres)

### Membership Chair

Wayne Heikkila

### Sunshine Chair

Ronnie Burt

### Programs Chair

DJ Stamp

### Mini-Tour Chair

Jim Rankin

### Club Gear

Adriana Meyer-Alonso

### Webmaster

Rich Bassemir



# National News

## National News, Notifications, and Nudges

*As Reported from AACA emails, Antique Automobile Magazine, Website, and Mailings*



### New AACA Website

By Steve Moskowitz  
AACA CEO

AACA has a new website! The club has had a decade plus long website that was powered by an old version of Joomla which was no longer a supported software and did not work well with mobile devices. We have wanted to change it for years but costs and some technical issues held us back. It finally became intolerable and we went ahead with a program to change [www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org).

Our new website debuted the day before our Annual Convention but it is not a finished project. We have lots of features to add and a second phase of a special page for prospective new members only. However, we are now working with a WordPress site that is very

compatible with most mobile devices and computer software. You might have to adjust the resolution to properly see the slide show of cars but we think you will find the site much easier to read.

Our biggest hurdle is to change our “store” which also handles renewals. This feature of our site must integrate with our custom software for membership and therein lies a huge problem for us. Quotes to accomplish this have run into the tens of thousands of dollars and we simply have to find a more economical solution.

We are pleased to have finally upgraded our website presence and promise you that as time goes by we will make many more improvements to make communication with you easier. If you have any thoughts or ideas of features you would like to see please contact us.



## Letter From the Editor



Here's a little preview of upcoming attractions in June's newsletter as we just wrapped up Pate Swap Meet 2022. There were nine of these green dinosaurs sold during the weekend and this one that I hauled went for \$900. There's no better way to see the whole event than buzzing through scooter rentals, wagons, and dazed shoppers in the Free Parts Hauling golf carts. This is second only to the great lunches and homemade cookies and snacks at the hospitality booth. Instead of dragging my travel trailer with my classic truck, I opted for a VRBO Barndominium in Rhome, which was very tranquil and close to the track.

*Leif*

# Calendar

**May 7, 2022 8:00am-3:00pm**

GTACC CAR SHOW AND CHARITY BENEFIT

Sun City Social Center Parking Lot

2 Texas Drive, Georgetown, TX 78633

972-898-8267 [www.GTACC.org](http://www.GTACC.org)

Rain Date: May 14, 2022

**May 10, 2022 7:00pm (earlier for food)**

MONTHLY MEETING (in person)

Catfish Parlour – South

4705 E Ben White Blvd, Austin, TX 78744

**May 19-21, 2022**

ANNUAL GRAND NATIONALS

Virginia Beach, VA 618-363-6730

**June 16-18, 2022**

EASTER SPRING NATIONALS

Beckley, WV 681-220-8186

**June 18, 2022**

CLUB CHILI COOK-OFF

Austin, TX

**June 19, 2022 9:00am-2:00pm**

FATHER'S DAY CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-IN

Sponsored by Stephanie Nichols

The Vineyard at Florence → [LINK](#)

111 Via Francesco, Florence, TX 76527



**July 4, 2022 7:00am – 2:00pm**

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Wimberley, TX

**August 11-13, 2022**

CENTRAL FALL NATIONALS

East Moline, IL

**September 10-16, 2022**

SENTIMENTAL TOUR

Gettysburg, PA

**September 25-30, 2022**

REVIVAL AAA GLIDDEN TOUR

Princeton, NJ

**October 4-7, 2022**

EASTER FALL NATIONALS

Hershey, PA

**October 15, 2022 9:00am-2:00pm**

GEARHEADS 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL OPEN CAR SHOW

[www.budagearheads.com](http://www.budagearheads.com)

**November 5, 2022 Mini-Tour**

BELMONT VILLAGE SIDEWALK PARTY

Austin, TX

**November 12, 2022 Mini-Tour**

WINGS and WHEELS FLY-IN

Kingsbury, TX – Pioneer Flight Museum

## LEGEND

☐ Monthly Meetings

☒ Special Events

☒ Road Relics Mini-Tours

☒ National Meets and Tours

☐ Local (unofficial) Events



# FOR SALE BY OWNER

Club Classified Ads



## 1948-1950 Packard Vacuum Tube AM Radio:

Missing the rear panel . . . because that's what I bought it for – to cannibalize the cover! Socket and swivel not included. **\$30**

Leif Allred 512-350-3825

FenderTalk@outlook.com

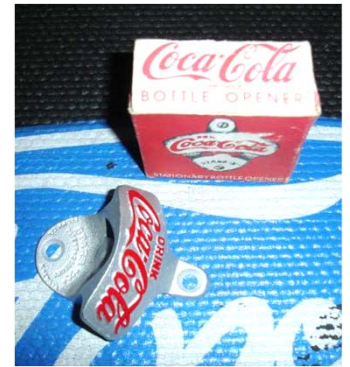


## Reman GM Starter:

Remanufactured Duralast DL3627S block/offset pattern. New November 2020; installed it, ran for a while, replaced it with mini-starter. **\$50**

Leif Allred 512-350-3825

FenderTalk@outlook.com



## Miscellaneous Tools and Stuff:

Tire irons and that thing; brake calipers; Ford script oil can; 6VDC electric fuel pump; Coca-Cola bottle opener (in original box)

**\$ Donation to the Club (Beebe)**

Leif Allred 512-350-3825

FenderTalk@outlook.com

## Last Chance Liquidation Sale:



Gary 512-629-7377 or [txtns@hotmail.com](mailto:txtns@hotmail.com)