

FenderTalk

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

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FEATURES

Past Events

4 Club Christmas Party

By Leif Allred

Member's Projects

6 Buick Coupe

By Wayne Heikkila

Recollections

7 Vintage Motorcycles

By Vern Hancock

Swap Meets

8 Winter Swap Meet Reports

Fredericksburg and Belton Swap Meets

By DJ Stamp

Community

10 Great Sayings from The Old Car Hobby

Regarding Outside Exhaust Pipes

By James Bartlett

DEPARTMENTS

2 Steering Column **13 Membership**

3 Secretary's Report **14 National News**

11 Around Town **15 Calendar**

12 The DJ Page **16 Classifieds**



The Steering Column

As we say goodbye to 2024, I have many memories: Pate warm weather and happy re-acquaintances of car club members and customers; the Maxwell private car collection tour; our wonderful ice cream social; Hot Rods and Heroes car show/membership drive and car showings at various senior facilities. I hope all of you share some of these memories. We had a good year in 2024!

I would be remiss if I overlooked the club members that we said goodbye to in 2024: Bob Kirkham, Karen Ross, and Sylvia Roberts (Sherry Potter's mother). May they rest in peace.

Let us thank retiring club leadership and committee leaders for their contributions: Treasurer, Duane Pufpaff and Secretary, Ronnie Burt. Many, many thanks for your service to our organization. Job well done!! Also, appreciation to the Christmas Party team who planned a festive 2024 Christmas party! Thanks to Ceale Kirkham, Alice Marshall and Lizette Peter.

Now, moving to recognize the folks who have either been elected or offered to serve in the following positions during 2025: Treasurer, Bob Ross and Secretary, Leif Allred; and incoming Directors: George Brunner, JC Carter, and Vic Donnell.

Pivoting to 2025. Tour planning, tour planning, etc. I have several thoughts:

- Considering how to host a car club poker run
 - Wildflower tour (could be lovely, given recent rain!)
- Please contact me if you have tour ideas for consideration!

Happy, happy New Year to All!!

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



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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Secretary's Report

Minutes of Road Relics Annual Meeting December 8, 2024 – Milano Café, Austin, TX

By Leif Allred, future Secretary, Central Texas Region, AACA

Meeting A succinct awards ceremony was conducted by President Joe Peter as appended to the Christmas Party. It was a very sincere and appreciative wrap up of the fun gathering. The annual rotating awards (preservation, technical achievement, screw-up) will go home with the recipients for the year and a personal plaque was also received for keeps.

Preservation Joe asked the members, "How many of you have had Wayne under your hood, under the car, or otherwise offering help or advise?" Nearly every hand went up – really excluding only the piano player.



Technical Achievement This award was presented as a father and son accomplishment for George and Todd Brunner's collaborative restoration of the Model T Ford Depot Hack.



Screw-Up Award Lovingly presented to Wendell Bell for the most unfortunate antique auto related mishap, we would only know about it because of his great restoration initiative that will soon result in technical excellence!



Star Awards Those who participated in the Bastrop car show membership drive will recognize Sherry Potter as having the largest impact of sharing the club with strangers and making them feel welcomed. Most of the members didn't know what to

do until she showed them how. Her enthusiasm and friendliness was contagious.



Leif Allred was recognized for maintaining the newsletter and coordinating mini-tours.



Special thanks was extended to the Christmas Party Committee – Lizette Peter, Ceale Kirkham, and Alice Marshall – for coordinating a very special event with outstanding food and music. The venue had been opened especially for our club, was scheduled to get people home before dark, and was truly a memorable event.

Past Events

Club Christmas Party

by Leif Allred

The Road Relics' Annual Meeting and Christmas Party was well organized and expertly executed. Having been kicked off its normal schedule since pandemic days, this event solidified the yearly summary of activities and gave the members an opportunity to celebrate the season and each other's company.

A special gem was identified in an unassuming strip mall in southwest Austin . . . Milano Café and Art Gallery. Previous communication mentioned nothing of the dramatic and beautiful artwork on display surrounding the dining area – all created by

the restaurant owner and chef. A piano and guitar accompanied the festivities while people mingled inside and outside of the establishment. The food was just as amazing with appetizers, a choice between four entrees, and basically anything on display in the dessert fridge.

The early evening party was organized by Lizette Peter, Ceale Kirkham, and Alice Marshall who raised the bar as far as club parties go. Awards were presented by Joe Peter and were also supplemented by coffee table books from Karl and Jeanne Frank's collection for pertinent categories. As an →

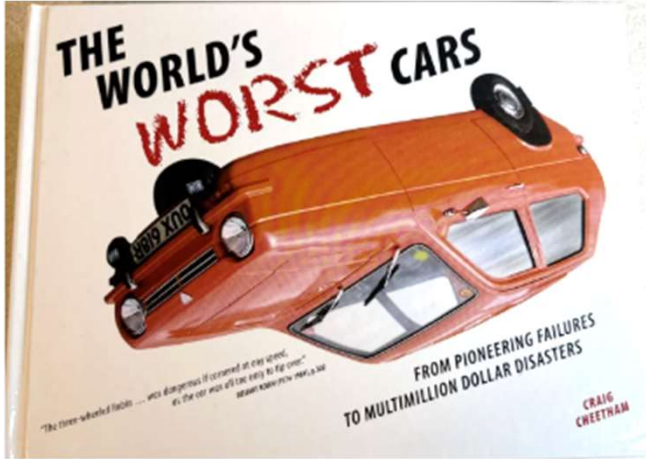


LIZETTE PETER

Road Relics' Annual Meeting and Christmas Party – Milano Café, Austin, TX – December 8, 2024

Past Events

→ example, *The World's Worst Cars – From Pioneering Failures to Multimillion Dollar Disasters* by Craig Cheetham for Wendell's Screw-Up Award. Perfect!



"Thanks to my favorite Relics for a great time at the Christmas party. Such a good idea to do this. I know we all had a nice time and Paul and I now have another restaurant to add to our Austin list. Have a wonderful Christmas and an especially great 2025." --RB



Artwork on display and for sale . . . the artist claims he himself does not dance



When everyone else was distracted by dessert, Ceale was paying attention



Informal "Cutest Couple" award:
Paul and Ronnie Burt

Member's Projects

Buick Coupe

By Wayne Heikkila

Hi, everyone. Going to the Bastrop Car Show would be the farthest I had driven the Buick to date. Sadly, it was not without issues. As Wendell and I drove back, Wendell made a comment about a noise and maybe a vibration in the car. I couldn't hear anything but I thought I could feel something. At the time, I figured it was the old tires. After dropping off Wendell, the voltage gauge went into discharge. I wasn't too worried as I was sure I could make it to Liberty Hill on the battery if I had to. When I got to within about five miles from Tracy's house, I stopped at a traffic light thinking I made it. As I left the light and shifted into second, it jumped back out. My first thought was that I didn't engage it all the way so I stepped on the clutch and put it back in second. I lightly stepped on the gas and, again, it jumped out of second. This time I shifted into third and continued on. As I stopped at the next light, I drove away and had the same problem with it jumping out of second and ended up driving it the rest of the way using first and third.



The Buick also started having an exhaust leak between the intake and exhaust manifolds. I removed the manifolds and

found the gaskets had been replaced before but they didn't replace the gasket between the two manifolds. They also didn't install the rings in the intake ports. I cleaned both manifolds and installed new rings and gaskets and installed the manifolds.



I then pulled the generator and starter and took them to a shop and they both needed work. The generator needed brushes and cleaning while the starter needed a complete overhaul. This is the easy work. The next issue will be tackling the transmission. I have made some inquiries with members of the Buick Club and have made some calls. There are no answers at this time but I will keep you up to date as this move ahead. Hope to see everyone at an upcoming event.

Recollections

Vintage Motorcycles

by Vern Hancock

You never know what you will find attending some events not a part of your routine. I have a vendor connection of approximately 40 years who currently works at one of the two Leander (near US 183 and Whitestone) pawn shops who alerted me of this vintage motorcycle information. The Hill Country Motorheads Motorcycle Museum present their 12th Annual Motorcycle Revival on Saturday November 2, 2024 where one might find the ideal vintage motorcycle or other related artifacts to compliment your vintage autos at this event.



VERN HANCOCK

Those members who have been with the Road Relics for a while will remember these two vehicles that I brought to several of our events through the years. The old school '40s era rod I purchased at Pate in 2006 and the Rokon Ranger with sidecar I found on consignment at a mom-and-pop hardware store in Cedar Park.



VERN HANCOCK

Those vehicles were enjoyed for about 17 years. A John Deere Gator followed the Rokon and I am presently looking for a Kawasaki Mule for property maintenance. The Rokon was proudly donated/sold to a disabled Navy veteran needing it to continue his love to ride cycles (side car assist for stability). The Ford "old school" was sold to a Georgetown teen and his dad. They both drove away with huge smiles and paid the extra asking price for the very rare 1923 TX license plates!



HILLCOUNTRYMOTORHEADS.COM

We are in this vintage hobby to stay mentally and physically active but mostly to benefit others!

Swap Meets

Winter Swap Meet Reports

by DJ Stamp

Fredericksburg Swap Meeting – Rescheduled December 6-8, 2024

At least that was the proposed date since the summer date was moved due to soft ground from heavy rains. As it turns out, Friday was about the only day as rain was predicted and most of the vendors were either packing up or planning to by the end of the day. Even the vendor I bought some toys from inside the hall left on Friday. I'd guess it was about 20% set up with the car corral having a couple of cars. I did manage to pick up some nice toys that might not have been there had it not been a cold day with a threat of rain. I think Pat and I made the complete loop in around an hour. Downtown Fredericksburg was preparing for their night Christmas parade complete with coverage from an Austin TV station. The area where we used to set up by the pool had about two dealers in the entire area.



Swap Meets

Belton Winter Nationals
December 14-15, 2024

The weather was much nicer for the Belton meet. I arrived around 8:15am or so. Inside the building was around 80% full and outside maybe around 50%. This isn't a huge swap meet but, since most of it is inside, it's pretty dependable for vendors and shoppers alike. I picked up a few street signs for barn decoration along with a really rare early 20th century or late 19th century toy steam engine. It's a lot tougher to find sleepers like this in the age of the internet; which is where a lot of my shopping occurs now. I told Pat that next year she could come as there is a Sami Show next door in the dome and there were a lot of dealers set up downtown for their Chisolm Trail Festival which also has a night parade. I did manage 27 baskets of disc golf in Temple before returning to Oak Hill.



DJ STAMP



DJ STAMP



DJ STAMP

Community

Great Sayings from The Old Car Hobby

by James Bartlett

Hang around the old car hobby long enough, and you'll hear your share of whoppers. I keep a running tally of the best ones that I'll share . . . continuing in future issues until I run out.



JAMES BARTLETT

- “Those outside exhaust pipes are fake.” – Said a man to his wife as I parked my Auburn at a show. The guy quickly touched one, and I think I heard a sizzle before a cuss word as he pulled back a burned finger. I’ve heard the same “fake” comment about the external pipes on my ’36 Cord, and earlier my now-sold ’32 Duesenberg. At shows I’ve had to caution dozens of people not to touch the pipes until they cooled off.



**1932 Duesenberg, J Model
Murphy Dual Cowl Phaeton**

- “Returned to the factory at an early date for addition of the desirable external exhaust.” – So said a sign describing a Duesenberg for sale in the Hershey car corral. As two gentlemen beside me read the sign, one said, “That’s funny, I owned this car 10 years ago, and it didn’t have the pipes on it then.” Obviously, you can’t believe everything you hear, especially when someone’s trying to sell you a car.

- “I’ve seen pictures of Adolf Hitler in these German cars.” – Overheard several times when showing my cars, whose only similarity to any of the Mercedes used by Hitler was the shiny external exhaust (those pesky pipes again). Also, despite the German-sounding name, Duesenbergs were purely American, built in Indianapolis, Indiana. Auburns and Cords were also built in Indiana.



HITLER PRESS PHOTO

1936 Mercedes Benz 540K

So that’s an initial offering of a few of my favorites. Many of you have undoubtedly heard your share of tall tales. Let us know – we’ll add them in to future issues.

Around Town

Local Shows, Events, and Cruise-Ins *by Club Members*

Pistons on the Square **Georgetown, TX – December 21, 2024** *By Leif Allred*

Rivaling the Staccato Dragster for the most unusual at this monthly gathering was this 2003 Kenworth with a 16L Caterpillar inline 6. The dashboard has gauges like an airplane cockpit with visibility of the ground about the same.

Although a chilly morning, the day was clear and standing in the sun was comfortably warming. There were many open cars as the day reached over 60F as this is Texas after all. Come join the fun on each third Saturday.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

The DJ Page

An Automotive Outlet for Outstanding Observations

by DJ Stamp

1972 Citroën Truck Tire Tester In 1972, Michelin wanted to test truck tires at high speeds. Worried about the consequences of a high speed blowout in big rigs they built the PLR, a mishmash of Citroën DS parts and two small-block Chevrolet V8s.



DJ'S INTERNETS



BRINGATRILER.COM



BRINGATRILER.COM

Crane, Texas in the 1930s



DJ'S INTERNETS

Ferrari 250 GT Berlinetta SWB This Ferrari 250 GT Berlinetta SWB re-creation was constructed by GTO Engineering between 2018 and 2020 as part of the marque restoration specialists' limited-run "Revival" series. This *replica* sold for \$1,075,000.



BRINGATRILER.COM

Didn't Meet Reserve This modified 1961 Chevrolet Impala Two-Door "Double Bubble" Station Wagon got away even though the bidding made it up to \$160,000. It was a multi-year build by Greening Auto Company of Cullman, Alabama, and was one of the eight finalists for the 2016 Ridler Award.

Membership

Dues

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.



Pay by Mail:

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

Wayne Heikkila
3543 Pauling Loop
Round Rock, TX 78665

Club Handouts

DJ had some of these flyers printed up and put at Jerry Dixon's. Get some flyers to carry with you to hand out to potential members. There's a space for your contact information too.



Mini-Tours

All we do is drive around and eat. Doesn't that sound great? Show us something new around your area . . . and eat. Sign up to lead a mini-tour!



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

Leif Allred

Club Gear

Greg Herbert

Webmaster

Rich Bassemir

National News

National News, Notifications, and Nudges

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

Publications

By Phillip Cole, Vice President

Publications had another good year with our newsletter evaluations program. Fifty-nine Newsletter Achievement Awards Program (NAAP) applications were received, and thirty-five editors will receive the Master Editor award, twelve Excellence awards, and seven Distinction awards. As a part of the NAAP, two new evaluators (sixteen in all) were recruited and oriented to lessen the work of all. The evaluators were divided into five teams, four for online uploads and one for U.S. Mail only. We continue to correspond with our editors and evaluators on ways we can improve our NAAP system.

As a result of discussions with three previous VPs of Publications, a Publications Panel seminar was offered at the 2023 Annual Convention for all editors and officers of our chapters/regions. This event was well attended. The panel consisted of three experienced editors from various sized regions/chapters and the current VP of Publications to address how to have an effective newsletter and successfully navigate the NAAP process. Encouraged by the positive response to the seminar, a list of "Helpful Hints" was sent to all applicants for the 2023 NAAP. As you read this report, plan to go back home and remind any new editors that the Editors Manual is available on the AACA website and pertinent articles from your national directors can be found on the website under the Rummage Box.

The Publications committee continues to believe that our newsletters are the glue which holds members of AACA together from the chapter/region level all the way up to the national level. Our publications serve to keep all of us inspired and informed to fulfill the mission of AACA. Please take the time to thank your editor for all that she or he does!

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Jen Wolfe – jwolfe@aacalibrary.org
Library Director

Calendar

January 14, 2025 7:00pm (earlier for food)
MONTHLY MEETING
Catfish Parlour South 4705 E Ben White Blvd

January 29 to February 2, 2025
HOUSTON AUTO SHOW
RG Center, One NRG Park, Houston, TX
<https://www.houstonautoshow.com/>

February 6-8, 2025
ANNUAL CONVENTION
Charlotte, NC 717-534-1910

February 22, 2025 8:30am – 2:30pm
STEPHANIE NICHOLS' 14th ANNUAL CAR
and VINTAGE PLANE SHOW
Georgetown Municipal Airport

April 3-5, 2025
Southeastern Spring Nationals
Charlotte, NC

April 2025
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Austin, TX – by The Brunner Family

April 24-26, 2025
PATE SWAP MEET
Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, TX

May 1-3, 2025
Western Spring Nationals / Grand Nationals
Tucson, AZ

May 2-3, 2025
LONESTAR ROUNDUP
<https://lonestarroundup.com/>

May 3, 2025
GTACC 18TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW
2 Texas Drive, Georgetown, TX

May 2025 – Watch for Details
TEXAS TOUR
<https://thetexastour.com/>

June 1-7, 2025
Vintage Tour
Southern/Eastern Pennsylvania

June 15, 2025
FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW
Florence Vineyard – Florence, TX

July 2-5, 2025
Central Springs Nationals
Auburn, IN

July 12, 2025
WATERMELON FESTIVAL AND CAR SHOW
McDade, TX

July 24-26, 2025
Grand Nationals / Zenith
Dayton, OH

September 7-12, 2025
Revival AAA Glidden Tour® (Pre-1943)
Owensboro, KY (VMCCA Hosted)

September 18-20, 2025
Southeastern Fall Nationals
Corydon, IN

October 7-10, 2025
Eastern Fall Meet
Hershey, PA

November 1, 2025
BELMONT VILLAGE SIDEWALK PARTY
Austin, TX – by The Graners

LEGEND

Monthly Meetings

Special Events

Road Relics Mini-Tours

National Meets and Tours

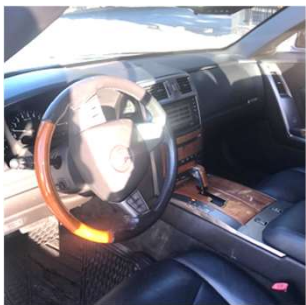
Local (unofficial) Events

www.motortexas.com/events/

https://www.taillightking.com/swap_list.htm

Classifieds

2008 Cadillac XLR V8 Northstar engine, garage kept with 58,886 miles. Light Platinum Exterior with ebony interior. Previous Owner was our dear friend Jay Rester. Offered for Sale by his son. **\$30,000** Matt Rester 512-750-8270 Mrester@asterra.com



Letter From the Editor



I always wondered why they called it a “monkey wrench” and it probably will have the same result as me working on it. Then again, I could use the little guy’s help with some postponed projects.

I did get the Master Editor award this year again and extend by humble thanks to everybody for the support, encouragement, and, mostly, the content.

Think about where you want to go and what you want to see this year around Central Texas as I am going to come around and ask you what month you want to lead the club on a mini-tour. We’ll try to cover each side of town. If the club hasn’t been on your edge of the city, it’s your turn to coordinate a cruise. Let’s have an active 2025!

Leif