

FenderTalk

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

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July 2026

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The Steering Column

The Dog Days of Summer have arrived!

As we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the founding of our great country, I hope you enjoy the festivities. Parades, festivals, fireworks, and all foods of the holiday ---hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on the cob, watermelon and the bounty of our gardens.

And as we swelter in the heat, use your sunscreen and let's be thankful for our air-conditioning!! Both in our homes and some of our antique vehicles!!

I will look forward to seeing all of you at the July meeting!

In the meanwhile, drink plenty of water and top off your radiators!

All the best!

Your "short-on-thoughts this month",
President, Joe Peter



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

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Secretary's Report

Minutes of Road Relics Monthly Meeting

June 9, 2026 – Catfish Parlour

By Leif Allred

Meeting Vice President Bob Ross started the meeting at 6:57pm.

Attendance 22 members; 0 guests present

Secretary's Report The May 2026 Meeting Minutes from the June 2026 newsletter were accepted without changes.

Treasurer's Report Jeremy provided the treasurer's report in advance that was accepted without changes. Texas Tour expenses were reviewed – pending Waco tourism grant. This year returned more than usual.

Sunshine Report

George Brunner had an accident in his Studebaker and cracked a rib
Jan and Vic are dealing with hip and back pain
Thorne Smith is in the hospital (serious)

Newsletter Thanks to Greg, Wendell, and Joe for Texas Tour reporting; DJ for Lawson Motor Wheel Part II, John Robertson discovering the 1905 Daimler in Germany, and James Bartlett's technical tip on battery cut-off switches.

Past Activities

☐ Texas Tour (see below)

Upcoming Activities

- ☐ 6/21 – Father's Day Car Show – The Vineyard at Florence
- ☐ 7/12 3:00pm-9:00pm – Christmas in July featuring live music; Zedler Mill, Luling, TX (Cappleman Cars 512-914-3408)

☐ 7/18 – John Anderson parts, tools, books, starts, generators sale (mostly Model A/T); '24 Model T Sedan, '31 Model A Coupe, '53 Ford Tudor Sedan

Website 14,000 visitors; 20,000 views

Texas Tour Reported by Wendell and Wayne

- ☐ Many compliments from participants
- ☐ Year of returning the largest seed sum
- ☐ Appreciation for volunteers and participants
- ☐ No complaints other than Model Ts are slow
- ☐ Received letter from City of West Museum
- ☐ Trophies had more compliments than anything else . . . "This one I'll keep!" --JB

Member's Projects

- ☐ Gary Baker contender for Screw Up Award for garage electrical taking out the house; but cars out of the weather
- ☐ Wendell's REO is back on the road – sans smoke cloud

Dessert Compliments of Catfish Parlour

Program Visions of Pate Swap Meet by DJ Stamp: weird stuff hauled, porto transpo, porto philosophy and idioisms, creepy clown selfie statue, personal scooter challenge



Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Cruise-Ins

Chrome Nights at Top Notch Hamburgers

by Wendell Bell



CHRIS MCGINNIS

It's All Top Notch!

Now that my REO is finally running—with lots of help from Road Relics friends—I am enjoying the fruits of all the labor. My first outing was the Texas Tour, where I drove the first leg From Hilton Waco Downtown to Heritage Farm and back (spewing way too much smoke along the way). After addressing the smoking issue (more or less), I have had fun taking friends for drives around my neighborhood and a little beyond.

On June 19, Lynn and I drove to Chrome Nights at Top Notch Hamburgers on Burnet Road, just a couple of miles from our house. This nostalgic drive-in has been serving great

burgers, shakes, and other goodies for more than 50 years and gained extra fame as a location featured in the movie *"Dazed and Confused"*.

We joined about 20 other interesting vehicles, mostly from the 1950s and 1960s, including several lowriders. A few families with kids were there showing off bicycles that had been artfully customized in the lowrider style. There were probably more cars arriving later, as the crowd was still building when we left after a couple of hours. The atmosphere was friendly and laid-back, with plenty of interesting people and vehicles to enjoy.

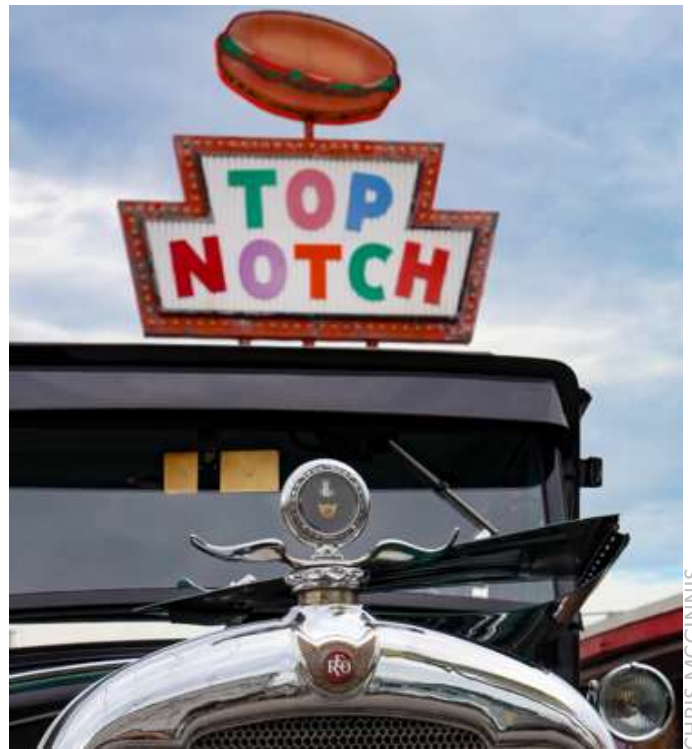
Top Notch hosts several regular car →

Cruise-Ins

→ events. The schedule varies throughout the year, but currently includes Hot Rod Nights on first Saturdays, Chrome Nights on third Fridays, and Vintage VWs on third Saturdays. Events are advertised from 5:30 to 9:00pm. Top Notch also hosts similar gatherings at their Hutto location.

We have trips and other commitments filling the next several weeks, but we hope to make it back to one of these events later this summer.

A bonus from this outing was reconnecting with friends we met through our daughter, and one of them took some great photographs that are included with this article.



Letter From the Editor

Father's Day this year celebrated my Dad's 90th birthday in the same week. It usually happened that way. My sisters created the most memorable and cherished birthday party for him this year – scheduled appointments, small groups, individual time with old friends and family – some he hadn't seen in forever and may not ever again. The event spanned three days – complete with breaks, food, naps, and down time. Some of his guests were older than him and not as mobile but still made it to visit. Thus, the Father's Day Car Show is very special to me and is a way to honor my father whether he's in Texas or not. He was a high school woodshop teacher and cabinetmaker. He taught all of us kids to work hard – honest work with our hands and brain. He took us on long road trips and far away lands. Our hands share this steering wheel – his 1963 Ford F100 that he got 2 months after he got me. My next project for a Father's Day.



Car Shows

St. Katherine's Car Show

by DJ Stamp

Pat and I attended the St. Katherine's Car Show at Buck's Backyard on 1626 near Kyle on Sunday morning May 31. We talked to Joe Peter and Dan Marshall who had cars on display. Joe brought his Lincoln Zephyr and Dan brought the Packard sedan, which is for sale.



DJ STAMP



DJ STAMP



DJ STAMP



DJ STAMP

Joe is a member of Knights of Columbus who were putting on the show. I didn't count but I'd estimate around 60 cars and 1 tractor in the show. There was a band playing outlaw music that sounded good. We ran out of club flyers but passed out a handful and had several folks express interest in AACA membership.



DJ STAMP

Past Events

Texas Tour Revisited – Prelude to 2027

By Wayne Heikkila

My brother and I showed up at the hotel on Wednesday afternoon having driven the Buick from Lumberton. We had a great drive all the way because the Buick run fantastic!

On Thursday we drove the routes one last time before the meet and greet that evening. It seemed all had a good time. Due to a road closure, we had to start our tour a different way than we had planned.

I led our tour with a Model T right behind me. We drove to our first stop – The Homestead Craft Village – where we lined up for the judging. From here we checked out all the different shops while our cars were being judged. After lunch we traveled to our next location – the Roadside America Museum in Hillsboro. The museum has all kinds of amusing items, and just seemed to go on and on. We had a leisurely drive back to the hotel where we finished the night with dinner at the hotel.



On Saturday morning, we headed to the town of West. Here we stopped at a local car show and BBQ cook off. After spending time

there, we moved into West to have lunch and visit the West Museum. Then our next stop was the amazing J E A Speed cave. They have a collection of porcelain signs and race memorabilia. Again, our trip back to the hotel was uneventful. Saturday night was the big awards dinner. My Buick took a first-place trophy. The banquet was a lot of fun as always.



On the way home, my brother and I talked about him buying a vintage car and doing the tour next year. I told him he could take our speedster on the tour. So, we will see what happens next year.

The tours are always an adventure and I look forward to them and cherish sharing the experience. There's a lasting bond that forms from the connection of being part of history and driving a totally unique vehicle that turns heads and brings a sentiment to each observer. They also create an opportunity to bring new members into the club by getting them hooked on the journey in an old car to visit little hidden gems, find restaurants and museums known only to the locals, and to solidify lasting relationships in the hobby. Hope to see everyone soon.

Road Trip

Southwest Meets East by Northeast

by DJ Stamp

Recently Gary Potter and I trekked to the home of Dean Hewitt and Susan Lokker for a tech session involving their 1930 Buick and their MGB. They're in the rural Hutto area and I'm in Oak Hill so I headed to Gary's home in Elgin and then proceeded to Hutto together. Now, I had memories of being at Gary's home before so I knew what his home and property looked like - NOT!! Here's where I need some help from either AACA or Healey club members. The home I remember being at I believe was in Elgin but this was not it. The home had an older main shop area and an out building with several stalls and I believe they had a clock collection in the home. When we were there he (who ever he is) was working on a T series MG and had other old cars. Sooooo . . . SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHOSE HOME I WAS AT!!

Now that that's out of the way . . . When I got to Gary and Sherry's place, Gary (knowing I'm a major toy collector) took me inside to show me his toy collection which was quite impressive and included both the Dopke XK Jag and MG. I'm already confused since this is not the home and garage I remember and they've lived there forever – original contractor was God.

We then proceeded to the garage which from the outside appears to be a pretty unassuming 4 stall structure. We entered and I stopped to take in the view. After standing there for a while, Gary gently picked my jaw up off the floor and replaced it to its proper location under my face. For a British car guy in Texas, I felt like I had just entered Heaven.



The memorabilia collection and pedal cars were also a treat. I've never seen a 3-wheel pedal car before! The early Chevrolet flat rate chart was also very impressive. The AACA has been there but Gary graciously indicated he would welcome a visit from the Austin Healey club if we were so inclined.



65. Overhaul Transmission Assembly. Includes removing, rebuilding, aligning and reinstalling. (4-Speed)	\$ 6.25
66. Repair or Replace Gear Shifting Lever or Emergency Lever. (Shift Lever AA, AB, AC and AD)	\$ 1.00
67. Replace Shifter Fork or Shaft. Includes removing and replacing Transmission Cover.	\$ 1.25
68. Replace Main Drive Gear Only. Includes removing and replacing Transmission Assembly.	\$ 3.75
69. Align Transmission. Includes all disassembling and reassembling operations.	\$ 5.00
70. Replace Main Drive Gear (with clutch overhaul)	\$ 1.25

Road Trip



went to work replacing the clutch master cylinder on the MG. I also looked at the wiper switch on the Buick but I think the vacuum motor needs a rebuild. The Buick has been in Susan's family since new!! It is scheduled to participate in the Texas Tour which will have happened by the time this article appears. The new master is in the MG but there is more to do.

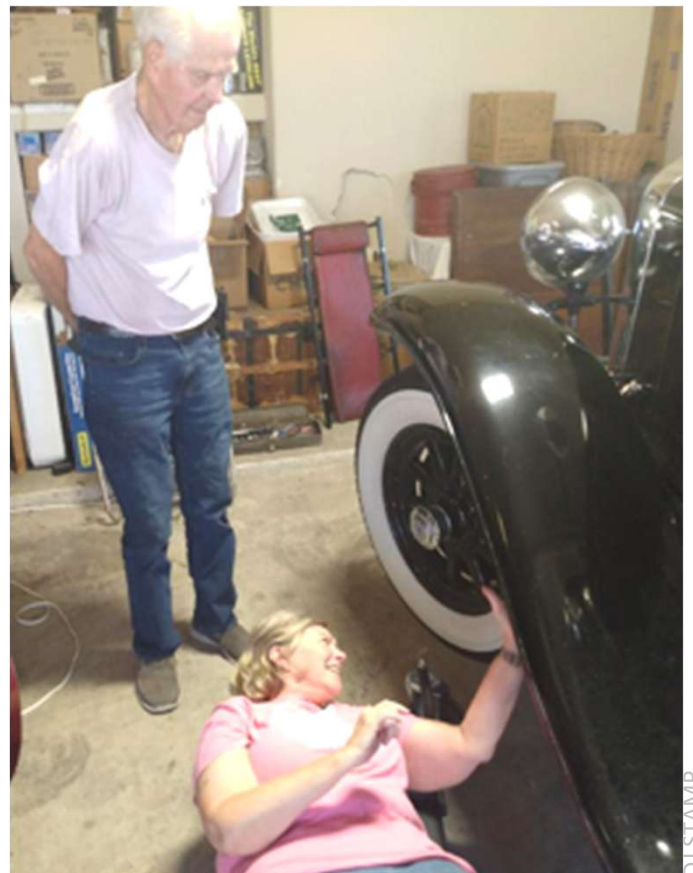
Gary and I took backroads to Dean and Susan's home which is an area where a lot of residents have horses including Dean and Susan. There's also an animal rescue on one of the acreages. Once we arrived, we got to work on both cars.

After we finished, we went inside for a respectably late lunch. When it was time to leave, Dean sent us home with some fresh Hewitt Honey. Since I was running against the traffic flow the trip up and back wasn't terrible. First time I'd been that way since they put in the 290 toll. All in all – a very productive and enjoyable day!!!!



Dean Hewitt on the MG

Gary and Susan worked on adjusting the brakes and clutch on the Buick and Dean and I



Gary Supervising – Susan under the Buick

Technical Tips

Battery Cables

by James Bartlett

If you scan the AACA online forums, you'll see multiple inquiries on problems caused by battery cables that are either dirty and making poor contact, or are too small for the job. This photo shows a cable with a bolt-on clamp securing a bare wire. I've seen many such cables – even on new cars – and on several occasions was able to

diagnose starting problems by spotting a little smoke coming from the cable, or feeling it to detect heat. The quick solution was to unbolt the connection, clean up the clamp, cut off the corroded copper wire, and peel back the rubber insulation to expose fresh copper, clean the battery terminal and clamp, then put everything back

together – if the cable is long enough to allow this. Back in my college days, my buddies thought I was a magician with this quick fix, for free. Of course, the permanent fix was to replace such a cable with a higher-quality cable with a permanently molded-in connection. By the way, I still sometimes see cables like this, even in the 2020s.



JAMES BARTLETT

Around Town

Pistons on the Square

Georgetown, TX – June 20, 2026

By Leif Allred

Threatened by rain and the roads still wet from the night before, the Square was sparsely populated by cars for show and was mostly modern. That was me, actually, as it was sprinkling at home and thundering in the direction I was heading. No need wasting a car wash when it was needed the next day. There's always something interesting, though.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

This little Kei Car is adorable. It's trying to be tough with big little tires under fender flares and a plexiglass engine cover in the bed. The upholstery is amazing, though and cool graphics.

Father's Day Car Show

Florence, TX – June 21, 2026

By Leif Allred

Attended by Alex and Kim Armendariz and Leif Allred and Laura Pressley, Jim Rankin also made it up from Georgetown to check out this most excellent show.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED



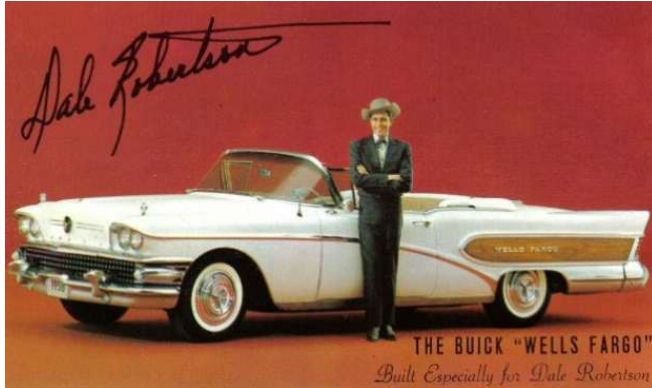
LEIF ALLRED

DJ's CarSense®

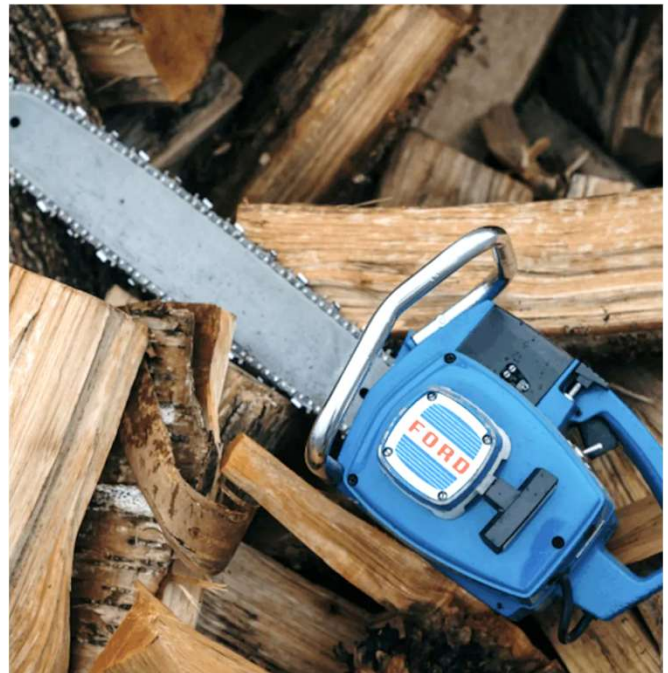
An Automotive Outlet for Outstanding Observations

by DJ Stamp

Dale Robertson 1958 Buick Wells Fargo



Ford Chainsaw Most were made by Ohlsson and Rice. The Ford Chainsaw was an option on 1970s Ford Camper Special Pick-Up and were mounted under the hood.



Membership

Lift Your Voice

Dear Road Relics members, it is time to shift gears! To avoid nighttime driving and create a better atmosphere for mingling and meaningful programs, we are considering changing our meeting venue and day of the week. Please share your availability and venue ideas in our Member Feedback Survey by July 14 so we can find the perfect fit for everyone. Here is why we are exploring a shift:

- ☐ Daylight Driving: Moving to an earlier, weekend daytime slot means safer, easier commutes for all our members and a more relaxed trip to the monthly meeting.
- ☐ Better Mingling: A fresh, quiet, and comfortable venue will give us more room to park our classics side-by-side and chat comfortably. Maybe we'll go back to bringing snacks!
- ☐ Meaningful Programs: Better acoustics, lighting, and temperature will make our guest speakers and programs much more engaging and easier to hear and participate.

We want every member's voice to be heard before we make any changes. Please take five minutes to voice your opinion on the best days of the week and suggest your favorite local spots. How to Share Your Input:

- ☐ Online Survey: Submit your preferences directly via the Member Feedback Survey. Keep an eye out for it.
- ☐ Email: Send your venue recommendations and day preferences directly to me at fendertalk@outlook.com.
- ☐ Phone: Call one of the board and share your ideas.
- ☐ Next Meeting: Bring your ideas to our open forum discussion on July 14 at Catfish Parlour.

Let us keep our club driving smoothly into the future. We look forward to hearing your thoughts and seeing you at the next gathering!

Our classic rides were built to be driven, not just admired in the garage. Let's fire up those engines, hit the open road, and share our passion with the community this year!

Leaders

President

Joe Peter

Vice President

Bob Ross

Treasurer

Jeremy Cameron

Secretary

Leif Allred

Directors

Rich Bassemir

Paul Price

Greg Herbert (Past Pres)

DJ Stamp (Pate Rep)

Wendell Bell

(to be appointed)

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

National News, Notifications, and Nudges

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



Rummage Box Editor's Message

By Debbie Nolen
2026 VP Publications and
Region/Chapter Websites
Development and Support

We are all ambassadors for the hobby and the AACA! Each newsletter editor and webmaster works to keep us all inspired and informed, leading us to easily assist in the overarching mission of AACA. Our Theme is MEMBERSHIP!

Ultimately, it's all about connecting each reader and viewer by sharing our unique experiences, not only with each other locally, but with the National AACA audience as well. We all support the essential purpose and value of a newsletter, large or small, magazine or folded - it is truly the lifeblood of their club, region and the AACA, connecting us all together in the love of the old car hobby and fellowship with one another . . . and other editors from all over the country.

Jeff Oaks, our Board VP for Membership is leading a team that has been highly successful and his message here in is a primer in effective membership recruitment at events!

What's truly important is the fact that we never know when an opportunity to create excitement in fellow automobile enthusiasts and desire to be a part of the AACA — read Neil Lauver's article on how his search for

specific hard to find parts in Korea and beyond for his vehicle's restoration led to an unexpected friendship from overseas with participation in the 2025 Fall National in Hershey, PA.

Just as importantly, is the influence that the AACA extends throughout the car hobby ...Recently during the Greenbrier Concours d'Elegance, a special automotive discussion with Q and A was held with participants. The panel included two-time AACA President, Tom Cox as moderator, our CEO, Steve Moskowitz, our publication Antique Automobile editor in chief, West Peterson and Greg Stanley, the host of the Collector Car Podcast and author of a new book, *The Enthusiasts Guide to Collector Cars*. Discussion was lively with membership in clubs and the future of the hobby was a hot topic from all perspectives. Excellent discussion and again, another opportunity to share AACA and create excitement in both current and future members!



So, as mentioned earlier, we are each AACA Ambassadors and never know when the opportunity will present itself to be a positive influencer in the hobby! Seize it!

Calendar

July 14, 2026 7:00pm (earlier for food)
MONTHLY MEETING
Catfish Parlour South 4705 E Ben White Blvd

August 5-8, 2026
SOUTHEASTERN DIVISIONAL TOUR
Flat Rock, NC 828-606-2918

July 12, 2026 3:00pm-9:00pm
CHRISTMAS IN JULY
Zedler Mill, Luling, TX 512-914-3408

August 19-22, 2026
ANNUAL GRAND NATIONALS
Allentown, PA 717-534-1910

July 23-25, 2026
CENTRAL SPRING NATIONALS
Green Bay, WI – 920-819-1407

September 9-14, 2026
FOUNDERS TOUR (1932-2001)
Williamsburg, VA 757-303-0650

July 24-26, 2026
FREDERICKSBURG SWAP MEET
432 Lady Bird Dr, Fredericksburg, TX

September 23-26
62nd STUDEBAKER DRIVERS CLUB
International Meet – Waxahachie
Host Hotel: Residence Inn 275 Rae Blvd
Waxahachie Civic Center
2000 Civic Center Blvd
<https://ntxsdc.com/international-meet>

July 25, 2026
HILL COUNTRY RALLY CAR AND BIKE SHOW
Dripping Springs, TX

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

Classifieds

Classic Vehicles Needed for upcoming films and commercials
Rob Rutledge 602-882-2705

We are a picture car company, providing Cars on screen for TV Shows, Commercials, Movies, Events and more. We have some upcoming productions in the summer and fall of 2026 and need modern and classic cars of all types, and all years from 1900 to modern day in Texas. We would LOVE to put some of your members' cars in TV Shows, Films, Events and more! Our site USA Movie Cars is 100% free. Car owners can place their cars on the site and when TV shows and films are looking for vehicles like yours, we help make that happen! Cars are ALWAYS insured by the productions, usually parked, and always a memorable experience. ALL gigs are paid, usually \$400/day, sometimes more, never less. Paid same day, usually. In addition, we make a donation to the car club of their choice (you) for your help and connections.

TEXAS CAR OWNERS! GET PAID!
VEHICLES NEEDED NATIONWIDE FROM ALASKA TO FLORIDA, MAINE TO HAWAII AND EVERYWHERE IN BETWEEN.

GET PAID TO HAVE YOUR VEHICLE FEATURED IN TV SHOWS, MOVIES, MAGAZINES, COMMERCIALS AND MORE! 100% FREE!

1900-MODERN DAY VEHICLES NEEDED
ALL MAKES, MODELS AND CONDITIONS
ALWAYS INSURED - USUALLY PARKED
SAME DAY PAY IN MOST CASES

ADD YOUR VEHICLES TO OUR MOVIE CAR
REGISTRY ON USAMOVIECARS.COM
100% FREE TO ADD YOUR CARS TO OUR
SITE.
YOU DECIDE IF GIGS ARE A FIT FOR YOU,
YOUR CAR, YOUR TIME AND YOUR WALLET.

OUR RECENT CLIENTS THIS YEAR INCLUDE
MUSICIANS: BRUNO MARS, KANE BROWN
CLIENTS: US NAVY, BOOT BARN, NASCAR
NETWORKS: APPLE TV, FOX TV, DISCOVERY
AND MORE!

HOW IT WORKS:
visit usamoviecars.com

QUESTIONS?
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