FenderTalk

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

Vol. 10, No. 11 **"Road Relics"** November 2026

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JOHN ROBERTSON



WAYNE HEIKKILA



www.lov2xir8.no/brochures



LEIF ALLRED

The Steering Column

Restoration/Renovation When starting a project, there's several things to keep in mind:

1. What's your objective? Do you want a reliable driver that you can use on weekend tours or is your target that 100-point trophy winner? Both are good goals.
2. How much time do you have to commit? It's a good idea to figure it's going to take at least twice as long as you think it's going to. So, you need to factor this in.
3. There's budget considerations. Again, this is one of those things that's going to be at least twice as much as one might expect.

Anyways, have fun with your next project and be careful or you'll find the same thing happening to you that happened to me this week – which is body off for a touch-up.



Joe Peter – President, Central Texas Region - 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 Monthly Meeting
October 13, 2026 – Catfish Parlour

By Leif Allred

Meeting Vice President Bob Ross started the meeting at 6:30pm. Topics of meeting were antique tow trucks and nominations for board and committee positions. Ballots for voting on national representation were presented in *Antique Automobile* – must place 7 votes.

Nominations Requests from attendees were entertained and the slate was announced:

- ❑ President: Wendell Bell
- ❑ Vice President: Bob Ross
- ❑ Treasurer: Jeremy Cameron
- ❑ Secretary: Dean Hewitt
- ❑ Directors: Rich Bassemir, Leif Allred, Gary Potter, plus one appointed
- ❑ Pate Rep: DJ Stamp (2027-2028)
- ☑ Pate Alternate: Gary Baker (2026-2027)
- ☑ Past President: Joe Peter

Members 32 members in attendance; 2 guests (exchange students from Spain attending Hutto High School – Judith and Mirelle – visiting Susan and Dean).

Secretary's Report The September 2026 Meeting Minutes from the October 2026 newsletter were accepted without changes – motion from Gary Baker, second by Joe Peter.

Treasurer's Report Jeremy Cameron reported no transactions in the month. Report accepted without changes – motion from Wayne Heikkila, second by Ronnie Burt.

Sunshine Report Ronnie Burt reports no issues and a full meeting room.

Website Rich Bassemir explained the new Member's Only page and discussed what will be included and the password to be sent out.

Newsletter Thanks to Wendell Bell, DJ Stamp, Greg Herbert, and James Bartlett.

Past Activities The Marble Falls car show had lots of rain. Lake LBJ had the Austin Wood Boat and Car Show – could be a 2027 tour.

Upcoming Activities

- ❑ 10/24 – Kingsland Mini-Tour (WXNW)
- ❑ 10/31 – Taylor Car Show
- ❑ 11/7 – Belmont Village Sidewalk Party
- ❑ 11/14 – Bastrop Car Show
- ❑ 11/14 – Car show at Heritage Lakes
- ❑ 12/6 – Annual Meeting and Party
- ❑ Asked club about a tool exchange/garage sale – do in January, photos in Newsletter

Member's Projects

- ❑ George and Todd picked up a 1924 Buick Series 90 4-door

Dessert Compliments of Catfish Parlour – served by Peyton.

Program Wendell Bell presented a visit to Heritage Museum and Gardens in Sandwich, MA – the history of gardens, trails, and sculptures and the cars that explain the transformation of the industry with samples from 1899 through 1965.

Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm-ish

Upcoming Activities

Belmont Village Sidewalk Party

by Wally and Sue Graner

Tour into Belmont Village Senior Living West Lake Hills for a short parade through their front drive, park as a car show for the residents, then enjoy music and a sidewalk lunch. This is always a meaningful event for the residents and the club. Trailer parking available.

Saturday, November 7, 2025
Meet **9:30am** at The Palisades Building
3006 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746
RSVP: 512-350-3825 (call before text)



3006 Bee Caves Road, Austin, TX 78746









Past Events

Kingsland Mini-Tour

by Rich Bassemir



Leif Allred, Wendell Bell, Paul Price, Rich Bassemir, and John Robertson (behind the camera)

It took a year to get out to do the Kingsland / Burnet mini-tour. Last year the threat of rain caused a cancellation, but this time around you could not have asked for better weather. Not too hot, not too cold but, most importantly, no chance of rain. That was important because the back roads we took had 10 low water crossings.

After leaving the River City Grill parking lot, we headed to Kingsland on a casual drive along back roads passing some large granite fields. It was like a miniature Round Top Mountain. We got to Alfredo's just before they opened and the owner came out to admire the cars before we headed in for a bite to eat. With a full belly and empty bladder we left for the Highland Lakes Squadron CAF museum.

They had some neat artifacts and an actual gun turret to sit in (if you are under six foot). John captured Wendell behind the guns ready to fire. There was also an old MASH helicopter that Leif wanted to fly but it was no longer air worthy. Good thing too, otherwise we might have needed a MASH copter. We walked around and in some of the planes. I was reminded how brave airmen must have been to fly these machines into and around battles. There were no luxuries in these planes.

Next on the agenda was just a few miles away. It was the Hill Country Motorheads Motorcycle Museum. Just about every make and model of motorcycle was present which took some of us back to the days when we rode two wheelers (and I'm not talking about bicycles). We were also treated to a stroll through the backroom shop where there were dozens of bikes, many in need of some tender loving care before going to the showroom. →

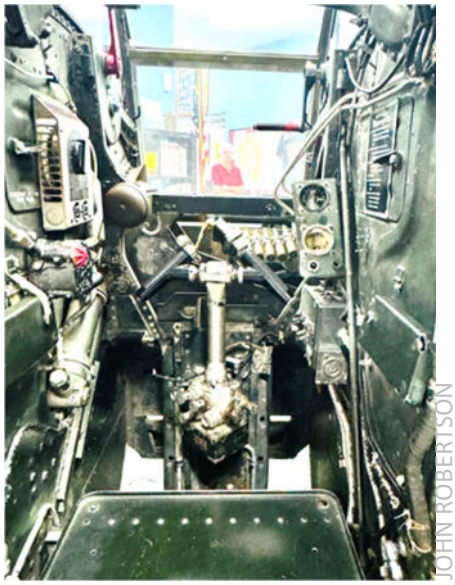
Past Events

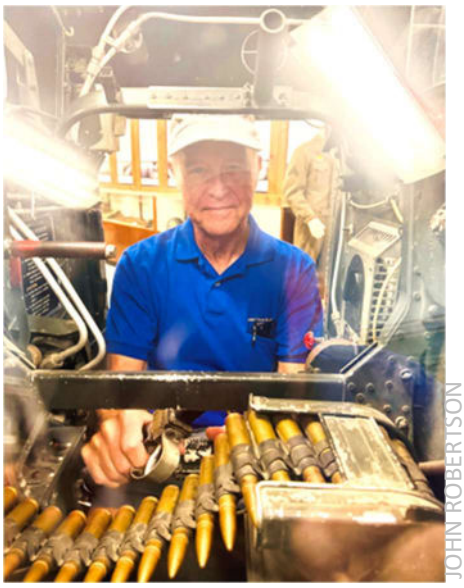
→ One particular device we saw was a rolling IV rack you see in hospitals alongside patients. However, the rack did not hold an IV bag, but instead gas containers with fuel lines. What a great way to supply gas to your carburetor when you don't have a connection to your gas tank.

We concluded our outing with a stop at DQ for a treat and to grade our quizzes – everyone was a winner – before heading our separate ways.









Highland Lakes Squadron - Commemorative Air Force | B-24 Nose Turret | Wendell Bell





Hill Country Motorheads Motorcycle Museum | Meeting Room | Repair Shop

Mystery Motors

New Project – Part I

By Wayne Heikkila

I hope this finds everyone well. I purchased a new project and have to say that this is the first time an owner has put a hard sale on me. It started when Larry asked me to go look at two projects with him: a chevy truck and a car.

I met up with Larry at his house around 8:00am as both vehicles were located here in Lumberton. The truck was six houses down the street with the car a couple of miles away.

We met Terry around 8:30am to look at the car that has 68,000 original miles. Terry's wife purchased the car used when it was a couple of years old with virtually no miles on it. It had been well maintained and garage kept its whole life but, in 2015, the car started having running issues. They took it to shop number one who had it just over a year. The shop called and said to come pick it up. When they did, it ran worse than when they dropped it off. Sadly, there was almost a two-year gap between the first and second shop. The second shop took it in, disassembled much of the fuel system and engine, ordered parts and they waited. After a year, they inquired about the car and were told the mechanic quit and they had no one to work on it. So, the decision was made to load up all the parts and deliver the vehicle back to their home. In all, the vehicle was there just over two years. Two more years went by before they found a shop that would work on the car. On to shop three. Shop three looked like it was going to be the one. Within the first year, the shop put the engine and the fuel system back together. Good news – the car runs. Bad news – they were told there was a problem with the transmission so they agreed to have the transmission overhauled. This is where things took a turn for the worse. After about a year, they decided to stop by and check on the car. To Terry's wife's shock, the car was sitting outside with the windows down while it was raining. Not only were the seats and carpet wet, they were greasy and both front seats were torn. It turns out, the first mechanic quit. His helper took over on all the projects but didn't have the skills to do the work so they fired him. I guess when you get fired, you don't care about how you leave the projects. The shop did step up (kind of) and did send it to a different shop to have the transmission repaired and then to another shop to have new interior installed. Sadly, the car still had the running issue and no longer had any brakes. So, again it was towed home and stored in the garage.

That is where we found it. Larry passed on the vehicle. For me, I thought it was the end of the story until I met Terry at the Cruising Silsbee car show. He looked at my Buick, and we exchanged stories about different problems that had to be solved. One big difference: I didn't pay someone to work on my Buick. I told him I was sorry they had spent so much money trying to repair the car and understood they were trying to recover some of the money. But that money was gone. One thing Terry was correct about: the job was going to take someone like me with the time and skill to put the car back on the road again. More on where this project is headed later. Hope to see everyone soon.

Technical Tips

The Automotive Uses of Syringes

by James Bartlett



When you saw the headline, you probably thought about a medical syringe – not something like this. Well, this one is made for injecting small amounts of paint needed to match colors. But it also has other uses. In the past, it helped me fill a hydraulic fluid reservoir built into the power top mechanism on my Chrysler Crossfire Convertible. The reservoir is tucked behind electronic modules just in front of a taillight assembly. It's tough to reach and I didn't want any spills. Worked perfectly! I've also used it to put brake fluid into the master cylinder beneath a floorboard on my '35 Auburn. Many 1930s cars had hard-to-reach and even hard-to-see master cylinders. This syringe helps. Since it's made to withstand paint and thinner, so far, it's also been immune to other fluids. You can find such syringes on the Internet or at a commercial automative paint store. By the way, for larger volumes I've used Eileen's turkey baster – just don't tell her that's why it disappeared.

Letter From the Editor

Going forward, I perceive the following members' needs to be addressed for the club's monthly meeting to improve the experience and increase attendance and participation:

- ❑ What!? There are already hearing issues and those lead to side conversations that lead to more hearing issues. It's not just the speaker that cannot be heard so a microphone doesn't help. A meeting would be better conducted as classroom or last supper style.
- ❑ Benighted? Night driving is a growing concern for many members and rush hour traffic is not conducive to driving an antique. Weekends have way better traffic and make launching a mini-tour from the meeting a possibility. Plus, the younger generation may still have to work.
- ❑ Hybrid? Many times, someone's partner or ride is unable to attend and so they stay home. Or it's dark. When we did the hybrid experiment, 8 people called in – some being the first time they attended. In-person is always preferred, obviously, but this says there is a need.
- ❑ Hungry? Always, but the obligation to order food costs, as a group at a restaurant, far exceed an hourly rate from a rented room. Remember when we brought snacks or met for dinner before the meeting? It's hard to get my family to agree on where to eat – let alone add celiac, vegetarian, or other limitations to the table. Then there's the added distraction of a wait staff that adds to the noise problem.
- ❑ Tech? Computer, projector, screen, pointer, speakers, cameras, microphone, demonstration table, sign-up sheet, etc. . . . or all we really need is just a soft comfortable seat.

If these are truly the club's needs, it may be time to find a different day, time, and place. *Leif*

On the Internet

American Car Brochures

Forwarded by Paul Burt, Written by A.I.



www.lov2xlr8.no/brochures

As the automotive industry boomed throughout the 20th century, manufacturers faced the monumental task of translating steel, chrome, and horsepower into human desire. The primary weapon in this marketing warfare was the automotive sales brochure. Digital archives like the one hosted at http://www.lov2xlr8.no/broch1.html —which meticulously preserves personal collections of classic American car brochures—do far more than offer a nostalgic trip down memory lane. They serve as invaluable historical artifacts, offering a window into the industrial design, socioeconomic aspirations, and artistic evolution of a changing nation.

Before television commercials dominated the airwaves, the printed brochure was the ultimate medium for automotive storytelling. In the pre-World War II era, brands like Cadillac, Packard, and Duesenberg treated their sales literature as high art. Brochures from the 1920s and 1930s frequently featured hand-painted illustrations instead of photographs.

In the modern automotive landscape, the traditional paper sales brochure is endangered, if not entirely extinct. Today, consumers configure vehicles online using 3D digital renderers and downloadable PDF spec sheets. While efficient, these digital tools lack the tactile romance and curated storytelling of the physical catalogs of the past.

Amateur archivists who scan and categorize these personal collections perform a crucial act of cultural preservation. They ensure that the ephemeral material of the past—items meant to be looked at briefly and thrown away by dealership visitors—survives to educate future generations.

Ultimately, these brochures remind us that the automobile was never merely an appliance. It was an art object, a status symbol, and a canvas upon which Americans projected their hopes for the future. By studying them, we do not just learn about the cars Americans drove; we learn about the America that built them.

Around Town

Kiwanis Club Main Street Car Show
October 2, 2026 – Marble Falls, TX
By Leif Allred

The advertisement said "Rain or Shine". It rained . . . a lot. There are some stalwarts out there with cars that are allowed to get wet. Most interesting, though, were the children who maybe didn't care either way.


LEIF ALLRED

Pistons on the Square
October 17, 2026 – Georgetown, TX
By Leif Allred

It was trucks day on The Square with Alex Armendariz, Leif Allred, and Remy Shelton attending. I had to bail early to follow the Model A truck home . . . and then drag him the rest of the way. That's what trucks are for.


LEIF ALLRED

Westminster - October 16, 2026 - Austin, TX
By Wendell Bell

Antique cars are indeed popular at retirement communities. Last Friday, I ran into Jim and Lynda Rankin at Westminster. They were there with the Chevy club that had a dozen or so cars there along with a few other makes. Their 1957 Chevy was parked right behind Westminster's 1967 Dodge. The event was very similar to those at Belmont Village with music, burgers, etc. The residents really enjoyed it in spite of the chilly wind.


WENDELL BELL

DJ's CarSense®

An Automotive Outlet for Outstanding Observations

by DJ Stamp

No Sale at $370,000 on BringATrailer.com
This 1950 Packard ZIS 110B Phaeton is said to be one of approximately 100 examples of the model's convertible variant built by Zavod imeni Stalina in Moscow between 1946 and 1958 and is reportedly one of three phaetons assigned to Kyiv, Ukraine, in 1955 for ceremonial use by senior military officers and government officials. The car remained in service through 1980 and, in 1986, was sold to the chairman of the Kyiv Avtoveteran Club.


BRINGATRAILER.COM


BRINGATRAILER.COM

The Reliant Robin is one of the most eccentric and iconic vehicles in British automotive history. Produced by the Reliant Motor Company across several decades (starting in 1973), this fiberglass-bodied three-wheeler was engineered to take advantage of a clever legal loophole: because of its weight and wheel count, it could be driven in the UK with a motorcycle license and was taxed at a much lower rate than a standard car. Affectionately nicknamed the "Plastic Pig," the Robin earned a permanent spot in pop culture for its unique look and its reputation—partially exaggerated by famous television sketches—for tipping over when cornered too sharply. Despite the jokes, it was a remarkably practical, fuel-efficient, and beloved working-class vehicle that maintained a loyal following for over thirty years.


YOUTUBE.COM

https://youtu.be/DRGuMKVqNzA?si=MZVAbglvhCq0xn44



Membership

Renewals

National – It's 2027 Membership Renewal Time!

The first renewal notice for 2027 dues will be included in the September/October mailing package of *Antique Automobile*. Starting September 1st, members can also use the online renewal option on our website (link below). Renewing online is quick and easy! Just log in with your membership number and pin, review the information currently listed on your membership record and make changes if necessary. Review your information one more time and click on Credit Card. Payment options include Visa, MasterCard or Discover. Your payment will automatically update your membership record.
https://members.aaca.org/membership/ReNewMembership.php

Local

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. Please mail payments to the treasurer, Jeremy Cameron.

Pay both by Mail instead:
1) $45 payable to AACA
2) $20 payable to Road Relics (or Central Texas Region - Antique Automobile Club of America Inc)

Jeremy Cameron
Treasurer, Road Relics
1015 N 13th St
Temple, TX 76501

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 2027 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.

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*



Grouper, NOT the fish!
By Steve Moskowitz, CEO, Antique Automobile Club of America

AACA is always looking to increase benefits to our members, regions and/or affiliates. As such, you may remember our friends at Grouper, who have supported AACA members in the past and share our commitment to building strong, connected communities. Due to circumstances beyond Grouper or AACA's control, the original programs offered to our members are no longer available. So, over the past few months, we've explored different ways to work together and we believe we've now found a model that truly fits our members and adds lasting value to the AACA experience.

That next step is Hello by Grouper, a national healthy living platform now available to AACA members as a new member benefit. Designed to support healthy habits, meaningful connection, and lifelong learning, Hello offers practical tools and engaging experiences you can access anytime — from fitness and arts classes to puzzles, educational talks, wellness trackers, and interest-based communities. The platform helps members stay active, engaged, and inspired between AACA events.

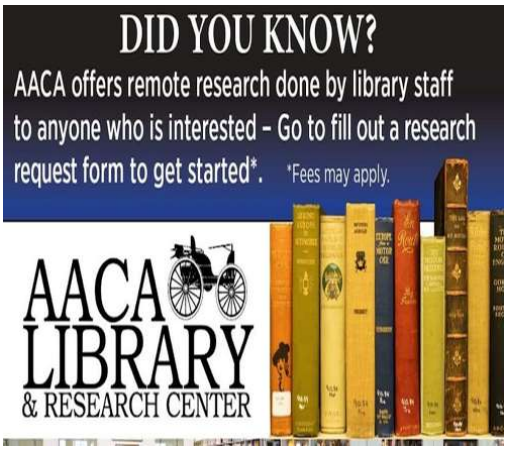
You'll also find our dedicated AACA Community Space — a place to connect with fellow members — along side a broader national community already enjoyed by thousands across many organizations. If you haven't signed up yet, now is a great time to explore. It's already included in your membership — why not make the most of it?

Join Hello by Grouper:
join.hellogrouper.com/aaca

Once you've signed up, download the iOS or Android Hello by Grouper mobile app to access Hello on the go!



It was time to freshen up our cut-out Membership Car. The Mustang has been around for several years so we now have a new card based on a Camaro and in several colors!!! HQ has a supply–just reach out!



Calendar

November 7, 2026 9:30am-2:00pm
BELMONT VILLAGE SIDEWALK PARTY
See page 4

November 10, 2026 6:30pm (New Start Time)
MONTHLY MEETING
Catfish Parlour South 4705 E Ben White Blvd

November 14, 2026 – Bastrop, TX
HEROES AND HOT RODS CAR SHOW
https://www.bastropareacruisers.com/register

11/21/2026 1:30pm-3:30pm – Cruise In
CLASSIC CAR CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE
Bring unwrapped present, free snacks
2275 N Austin Ave, Georgetown, TX



December 12, 2026 – 1:00pm-5:00pm
HERITAGE LAKES CAR SHOW and BBQ
19005 Pleasant Bay Drive, Pflugerville, TX

December 6, 2026 1:00pm-4:00pm
ANNUAL MEETING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY
RSVP to Ronnie Burt by 11/10/2026

A Friendly Holiday Party Reminder
from Ceale Kirkham

Q: What's the difference between a real white elephant and a White Elephant gift exchange?
A: A real white elephant is a rare, expensive burden you can't get rid of whereas a White Elephant gift exchange is a cheap toaster or pair of socks someone else can't get rid of.

No worries! There won't be any real stampeding white elephants at the Road Relics annual meeting on December 6 at Chez Zee. BUT, there will be a rollicking white elephant gift exchange and you as members are bringing the fun gifts! Look in your closet: search your attic; go to the thrift store; or steal something from your kids. Any item wrapped in colorful paper that will bring a big laugh to the recipient is all we are asking. Rules are simple: first person with an assigned number of ONE will get to select a gift from the table followed by number TWO who can steal number ONE's gift or choose a new one from the table. Gifts can only be "stolen" twice before they are no longer eligible. Eventually, everyone who participates in the white elephant gift exchange goes home with something they'll love OR something they can re-gift. Most importantly, Santa and his committee of Ronnie Burt, Lizette Peter and Ceale Kirkham want to put a smile on your face and say, *"A Good Time Was Had By All and To All A Good Night!"*

May 20-23, 2027
TEXAS TOUR 2027 (Gulf Coast Region AACA)
https://www.texastour.co/

The Last Page



JOHN ROBERTSON


JOHN ROBERTSON

CAF Museum – M.A.S.H. Helicopter

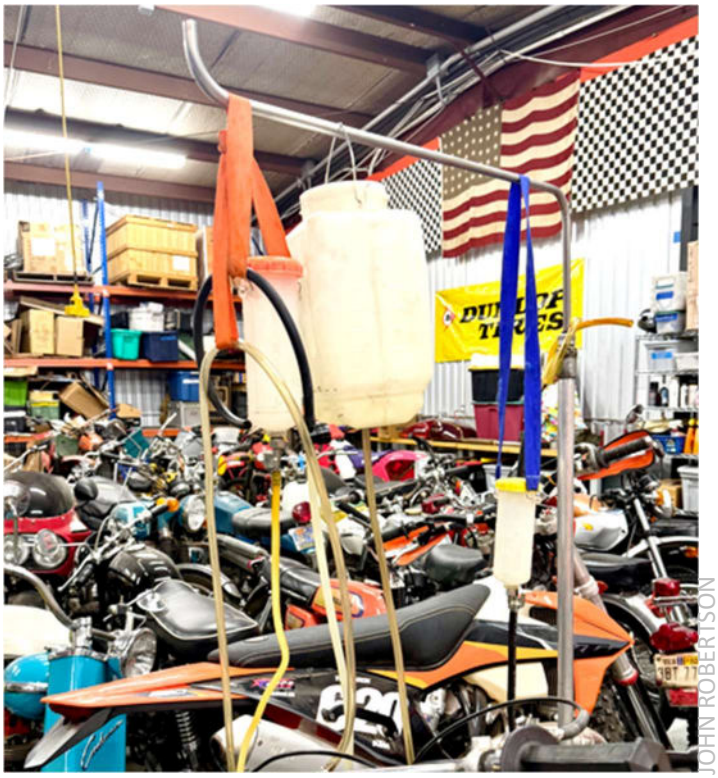

LEIF ALLRED


WENDELL BELL

Kingsland to Burnet, TX – October 24


LEIF ALLRED

Towing Model A Truck – Round Rock, TX


JOHN ROBERTSON

Ice Racing Tire and the IV Bag – Burnet, TX



LEIF ALLRED

Marble Falls, TX – Main Street Car Show