

FenderTalk

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

Vol. 38, No. 02 "Road Relics" February 2024

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LEIF ALLRED



GOOGLE.COM/IMAGES



VERN HANCOCK



LEIF ALLRED

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The Steering Column

Our January monsoon season seems to have concluded. I am thankful for having the much-needed rain. Now we turn our focus to spring outings in our cars with fellow collectors. Car club members are busy considering and developing plans for various car tours in the upcoming year. To that end, all of us should begin to prepare our vehicles for upcoming tours. All of us, and this definitely includes me, should embark on the usual car maintenance and check activities:

- Lights and turn signals
- Water level
- Engine and transmission oil
- Tire air pressure
- Belts
- Battery charge

And most importantly, invite your sweetie, family member, good friend or guest to ride along as we tour our countryside!! The first car tour, planned by Wayne Heikkila, is scheduled for March 16 in Oak Hill. Hope to see all of you on the tour! Happy Motoring!

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 Meeting January 9, 2024 – Catfish Parlour

By Lizette Peter for Ronnie Burt

Membership Wendell introduced a new member. His name is Paul who hails from Illinois and is the proud owner of a 1950 Chevy. Welcome to the club!

Secretary's Report The December meeting minutes were submitted. Bob made a motion to approve, George seconded, and club members voted approval.

Treasurer's Report The club treasurer, Duane, reported the club is in good shape financially.

Webmaster The national AACA website server is at capacity and the national organization is seeking solution(s). Online local dues renewal is still not working. Notify Rich if you encounter any non-operational website links.

Sunshine Committee Joe announced that Bob Kirkham had passed away. It was noted that Edwin had surgery recently. Wishing him a full, speedy recovery.

Past Activities

- Pistons on the Square was attended by several members. It was fun but cold, cold, cold!

Upcoming Events

- Decatur Swap Meet – February 24, 2024. There is a sanctioned hotel and also hotels in nearby towns.
- Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet (pre-1945 vehicles) – March 15-16, 2024. Plan to dress for cold weather if you attend.
- Variety of upcoming club tours are on the drawing board for this year:
 - ✓ March 23 – hosted by Joe and Lizette
 - ✓ Ice Cream Social – hosted by George and family
 - ✓ November – Belmont: walk down “memory lane” tour – grand experience
 - ✓ Many more details to be spelled out shortly

Member Projects A number of our club members provided updates on their various car activities. Best of luck to all of you!

- Vern reported his 1963 Willys is back in action much to the pleasure of his two granddaughters and assistants.
- Gary provided a photo of his 1959 MGA – the undercarriage of this project is complete.
- George reported on his Studebaker – upgrading to a Chevy engine and changing the front end to a Mustang 2 frame. Best of luck, George!
- Bob is in need of a regulator for the passenger door window of his 1952 2-door hardtop Studebaker.
- Joe reported he is coping with many transmission challenges on his 1953 Packard Caribbean.
- Leif reported gas tank/filler neck/vent complications in his 1950 Packard.
- Wendell reported he is in full “wax on/wax off” mode on his REO exterior paint.

Resources Vern provided a couple of resource referrals:

- A good body shop near Liberty Hill High School →

Secretary's Report

Resources (continued)

- E-Z Tops – vendor for car top patterns
- DT Florence – Audrey's Finds – a tool/parts market (open Friday, Saturday and Sunday) with parts sourced from donor cars in the backyard of the vendor. 254-317-4113.

Dessert The club broke for a brief break. Pleased to note the restaurant has changed the cobbler recipe. Even better than before!

Program Leif provided a program entitled "Automotive Innovations that did not Stand

the Test of Time." His pictorial program included such items as:

- Bench seats – replaced by bucket (considered a loss by a number of club members) along with the companion necking knob (See Leif for a definition)
- Ashtrays (even in the back seat), cigarette lighters that are now chargers!
- Record players – albums, 45s, 8-track, cassette, CDs
- Autovision TV – gone by the wayside for Bluetooth, USB, and XM
- Steel dashboards, column shifters
- Trunk racks

- Car phones and CB radios
- Full size spare tire
- REAL bumpers
- Knobs, crank windows, vent windows (pre-AC world)
- Rear windows that roll ALL the WAY down
- Pop up headlights
- Swivel seats
- Points/carburetor
- Hood ornaments
- And lastly, STYLE --- SUCH a loss of panache!!

Adjourn At the conclusion of the program, members thanked Leif. George and Bob moved to conclude the meeting and we adjourned.



Monthly Meeting – Catfish Parlour – January 9, 2023

In Loving Memory

Honoring Bob Kirkham

By Leif Allred

Obituary (Neptune Society)

Robert Kirkham peacefully and gracefully exited this world in the early afternoon hours of January 2, 2024. Surrounded by his family and enveloped in love, Bob closed the final chapter on a life beautifully lived.

He was born December 1, 1930, in Houston, Texas to parents James and Viola Kirkham. Bob spent his child-



December 1, 1930 – January 2, 2024

hood in Houston where he was active in sports, enjoyed hunting, fishing, and working on cars. He attended Rice University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Architecture in 1954. Bob was an accomplished architect, specializing in the construction of schools and other commercial properties both nationally and internationally. His work took him to many interesting places such as the West Indies and Middle East. He enjoyed traveling with his wife, Ceale, whom he loved dearly. Together, they made memories to last a lifetime and he loved telling stories about their travels.

In retirement, he and Ceale relocated to Wimberley, Texas where he was an active volunteer in the community. He supervised the re-modeling of the Wimberley Playhouse, designed the Paradise Hills neighborhood sign, river park gate, and respite bench area. These projects, and many others, will serve as a constant reminder of his love for Paradise Hills and the city of Wimberley. He was also a longtime vintage car enthusiast and active member of the American Car Club of America, Cadillac LaSalle Club and local car club, Road Relics. He and Ceale traveled extensively throughout Texas and beyond in their 1955 Cadillac Coupe Deville affectionately named Scarlet. They made many new friends and even more memories along the highways, byways, and small towns of Texas.

Bob was gifted with a keen sense of humor and loved making people laugh. He was a master joke teller, life of the party, and will always be remembered for bringing family, friends, and neighbors closer together. Bob, your colorful personality still echoes in our hearts, and your spirit will live on in the stories we tell. Your legacy of love and zest for life will never be forgotten. <https://obituaries.neptunesociety.com/obituaries/austin-tx/robert-kirkham-11610014> →

In Loving Memory

Celebration of Life

Family and friends were invited to attend a Celebration of Life event at the Wimberley Community Center on Saturday, January 27, 2024 – a cozy venue tucked back into the oaks and cypress trees. It was a casual gathering where friends and family were encouraged to share stories about Bob and the lasting impact he had on them.

Ceale greeted the over one hundred guests through the homey foyer into the senior lounge arranged with tables and refreshments along the kitchen. After a chance to mingle, the sons spoke about their father – the life of any party. They reminisced of their relationship and memories of sports, hunting, fishing, and cars. Deep appreciation was also given to Ceale who continued to take on more and gave Bob’s family even more years with him.

The sons opened the floor to anyone who had stories to contribute to Bob’s indelible memory. Most recollections teetered between smiles and tears and it was evident that Bob was considered a very special person. Through these stories, repeating themes included adventure, jokes, comradery, going out of his way to help, feeling part of the family – things friends do. Martinis also entered the conversation a lot. It seemed that each person had a remnant of Bob’s love for them whether a memento, art, collectible, . . . or a rock.

Attending from the Road Relics were Joe and Lizette Peter, Jan and Vic Donnell, Kay Rester, John Robertson, Leif Allred, George Brunner, Ceale Kirkham (of course), and LaShanda Epting and father Dwain

Epting – coming in from Midland. Many antique cars graced the building front including Jay Rester’s 1976 Cadillac Eldorado driven by his son Matt. There were many references made to Jay and Bob being “Cadillac Brothers” and Kay and Ceale as “Cadillac Sisters.”

Bob will surely be missed and the Road Relics, with lasting memories, offers its never-ending support to Ceale Kirkham and her family.



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED



LEIF ALLRED

January 27, 2024 – Wimberley, TX

Model Spotlight

Daimler Sports Car

By DJ Stamp

The purpose of this article is to shed light on a car I discovered in a Facebook post on the Daimler SP252. First we will examine its predecessor – the SP250.



Daimler SP250

The Daimler SP250 was produced from 1959-1964 in Coventry, England. This 2.5 liter 140hp V8 powered sports car was also known as the Daimler Dart. BSA (British Small Arms) was the parent company of Daimler during this period until it was sold to Jaguar in 1964. While unique, the SP250 is not considered a particularly handsome design and handling was said to be less than exemplary. This was perhaps due to the doors opening unexpectedly upon hard cornering. Around 25-30 SP250s were used by the London Police department to catch speeders. 2,654 cars were produced from 1959-64. The fiberglass body was labor intensive and took 2 1/2 times as long to build as the E type. During that same period, Jaguar sold over 15,000 E Types so production of the Dart was ceased.

Most examples on Bring a Trailer are currently selling between \$20,000 to \$40,000.

There was an SP250 for sale in the grass area at the last Pate Swap Meet. I believe he was asking around \$6,500 for a car requiring restoration.

Sir William Lyons conceived and designed the SP252 from 1962-63 as a replacement for the Dart. Daimler allocated six chassis for development. The only remaining body was mounted to an SP250 chassis and is the subject of this article. I find this design to be quite attractive but unfortunately was too expensive to produce.

The pictured car is the one and only Daimler SP252. It was originally stored at the Jaguar factory and sold by Sir William Lyons to a friend. It changed hands several times over the years and was eventually restored and now resides in the Collection Centre at Gaydon. Numerous parts are shared with the E-Type and the interior is almost totally E-Type. From a side view, the head lights remind me of MGB. I even see some MGB in the front 3/4 view. Overall, I find it to be a pleasing nicely balanced design. I hope you enjoy the pictures.



Daimler SP252

Member's Projects

1963 Willys CJ-5
by Vern Hancock



VERN HANCOCK

Our work on the old Willys is going smoothly. I did use a vendor in Cedar Park to contribute due to the heat, specials tools and time required. Unfortunately, a lot of the vendor work was not up to par so, as the weather cools, I have been more productive in finishing my list of improvements needed. I am still using temporary brake and taillights until we (myself, a helper and a heavy equipment repairs friend) have a chance to work through the open circuits in the lights. For the most part, I am ready for the Pistons on the Square routine this January and maybe a short tour. This 'ole Willys is more suited for the ranch/farm use (45-50 mph) rather than long drives/tours but is still a load of fun! We will see y'all at some activity soon.



VERN HANCOCK

1963 Willys and Mechanic's Apprentice

On the Internet

Citroen's Clever WWII sabotage

Forwarded by John Robertson

Jalopnik.com (obsessed with the culture of cars) highlighted a story “Citroën Sabotaged Wartime Nazi Truck Production in a Simple and Brilliant Way” that was originally published by Jason Torchinsky in July 2019. The article describes screwing with the Nazis in a clever yet subtle way that resulted in impactful repercussions.

France was occupied by the Germans in 1940 and major French factories like Citroën were forced to produce equipment for the Nazis. At the time, the president of Citroën, Pierre-Jules Boulanger, knew refusing to produce anything would not work but also did not want to just roll over. He devised a plan.

John Reynold’s book *Citroën 2CV* describes Boulanger’s sabotage efforts. Part of the plan was to instruct workers to build trucks (likely Citroën T45 trucks) at a leisurely pace – first slowing down production. Another brilliant

idea was to move the little “proper level” notch on the dipstick just a little bit lower.

By moving the level notch lower on the dipstick, the trucks would not have enough oil, but the German mechanics would have no idea because the dipstick says it’s just fine. Then, after the truck has been used for a while and is out deployed somewhere crucial, the engine seizes up and they’ve stranded the Nazis.

This fantastic act of sabotage is extremely cheap to implement, is subtle, and there’s no way to see something amiss is happening as the trucks are being built. It then delivers its blow away from the site of the sabotage and when it will cause the most inconvenience and trouble.

Although, the tale may be apocryphal, it is one of those cases where people may just choose to believe it.

[Citroën Sabotaged Wartime Nazi Truck Production in a Simple and Brilliant Way \(jalopnik.com\)](#)



Around Town

Local Shows, Events, and Cruise-Ins

by Edgar Frog

Pistons on the Square

Georgetown, TX – January 20, 2024

It was a below freezing morning and I figured there would be no rush for parking around the Georgetown courthouse square. The days leading up to it were also freezing so all of my faucets were bundled up and it didn't make sense to cover the driveway with ice by washing a vehicle. So I loaded the toolbox and winter gear into a reliable vehicle with a heater and the thinnest layer of dust covering it and headed out on clear roads with the sun just coming up on the 26-degree F morning.

Yeah, I was right; only the die-hards were there – including Wayne Heikkila in a completely open car. Pretty soon Vern Hancock showed up with a grandson in tow for his first car show – as seen through the windows of a heated swap meet ready utility truck. The slight breeze was cutting and we pretty quickly decided to walk over to the Sweet Lemon Kitchen for coffee and catch-up. John Hubler joined us there for a second breakfast before we went back to the square. A photographer spent a lot of time on the four remaining vehicles strategically parked in the sun for warmth. Several families came through and admired the cars and we met a couple of new enthusiasts not afraid of cold.

Three Model As (and two other modern vehicles) from the Lone Star Model A Ford Club showed up after their weekly IHOP breakfast. I followed them to the Lucky Duck in Taylor for lunch.



LEIF ALLED



LEIF ALLED



LEIF ALLED

Georgetown, TX – January 20, 2024

Membership

Dues Renewals

It is time to renew your club dues. National AACA dues are \$45 and our local Central Texas Region AACA dues are \$20 (requires national membership). You will not be able to pay local club dues online and we are still currently working on the issue but may pay national dues online with the link below or add that renewal to your club dues – either as one check for \$65.00 made out to AACA-CTR or two checks with one made out to AACA. If you have any questions or need help, please feel free to contact Wayne Heikkila at (512) 740-4212 or wayneheikkila@gmail.com. If you don't know your member number and/or PIN number please call: (717) 534-1910 Monday (Friday 9:00am-4:30 pm EST) or send an email to Membership@aaca.org.



Pay by Mail:

- 1) \$45 payable to AACA (and)
\$20 payable to AACA-CTR
< or >
- 2) \$65 payable to AACA-CTR



Wayne Heikkila
3543 Pauling Loop
Round Rock, TX 78665



Pay National Online:

<https://members.aaca.org/membership/Membership.php>

Mini-Tours

Bring out your inner classic self.
Sign up to lead a mini-tour
for the club. It will make
you feel glamorous!
The club will notice.

Pick an area and place.
Find the route.
Go that speed.
Lead the club.
Write it up.



Leaders

President

Joe Peter

Vice President

John Anderson

Treasurer

Duane Pufpaff

Secretary

Ronnie Burt

Directors

Leif Allred

George Brunner

Wayne Heikkila

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



Generations

By Fred Trusty
2023 AACA President

According to most car clubs, the old car hobby has been on the decline for several years. The reason, they say, is older members are aging out and younger people aren't interested in cars. The silent generation (1925 – 1945) is now between 78 and 98 years old and the baby boomer generation (1946 – 1964) is now between 59 and 77 years old so it makes sense that we are losing a lot of members over the age of 59. Let's take a look at some of the other generations. The years can vary depending on the source.

Generation Z (1997 – 2012) 11 – 26 years old. Gen Z has a completely different view of the world than other generations. They grew up with cell phones, social media, same sex marriage, global terrorism, and tend to have an entrepreneurial spirit. They freely admit that they are digital device addicts, value financial security, but yet they have very little loyalty toward their employers. They look up to their role models based on career and financial success and tend to have the least disposable income.

Millennials (1981 – 1996) 27 – 42 years old. Millennials grew up with computers, the internet, cell phones, the environmental movement, and are tech dependent. A

smartphone is more than an electronic device; it's a part of who they are. Most were starting their careers after the 2008 recession, which reduced their earning potential, and they also have more debt due to increased college tuition costs but more of them are college educated compared to other generations. They are also likely to have less disposable income due to the higher debt. They seem to be more idealistic, too. It's not just working for a paycheck; it's working for a purpose or a cause.

Generation X (1965 – 1980) 43 – 58 years old. Gen Xers have been described as independent and try to balance their work and personal lives. Typical Xers have a do-it-yourself attitude, are tech savvy but not tech dependent, and lean toward casual in their style of dress. Oil leaking around the valve cover your 2004 Honda Civic? Watch a YouTube video, order the part online, and do it yourself. Their kids are in high school, college, or working full time. They're starting to think about grandkids and taking care of their aging parents. Some are starting to have some disposable income due to kids moving out and the passing of their parents. "I remember riding in dad's antique car as a kid and you know, I think I can get it running again. Dad would have loved to see me driving it."

By now you're probably thinking, what do generational differences have to do with car clubs? In order to market a product you have to know your market window. Everyone →

National News

→ talks about getting younger people involved in the hobby and that's great. Plant the old car seed in a youngster and hopefully, when they grow up, they will embrace the hobby. But let's face it, most people under the age of 25 have very little disposable income and very little free time. School, sports, and a part time job take most of their time. So what about the 26 – 45 age group? This demographic is in the middle of their careers and have families so their money and time are also limited. I'm not saying that no one under 45 likes old cars. All I'm saying is that their lives are so busy they don't have the time. I look back to when I was that age. A man that I knew tried to get me to join AACA. I told him I didn't have time for a club. I have a full-time job, a small business, a farm, and three kids playing soccer. I barely have time to sleep.

Fortunately, he was persistent, and I finally joined the KYANA Region a few years later after our son graduated from high school. Our oldest daughter was in high school and driving so we were no longer a taxi service for her. That left our youngest daughter who was still in middle school but being a taxi for one kid takes a lot less time. It wasn't until she graduated that we began to have some free time.

The point that I'm trying to make is to be mindful of younger people's hectic lives when trying to recruit them. Us baby boomers were once as busy as they are so be patient. When they reach the 45 – 65 age group is when they start to have some disposable income, free time, and start thinking about their youth. That is when they are most likely to join a club.

Letter From the Editor



Joe and Lizette Peter
January 27, 2024 – Wimberley, TX

The calendar is beginning to shape up nicely thanks to our members coordinating activities, mini-tours, and car shows. On the schedule already, the club will cover central and east Austin, a few southern areas (Oak Hill, Driftwood, Signal Hill), and up far north (Gatesville). Expect a northwest adventure and also a request to take us to the west of Austin. Not only does this exercise the vehicles but it also fattens the newsletter.

Moton asked me who Edgar Frog is – another bit of undefined Easter Egg content hidden in the newsletter. In the late '80s, I found ordering pizza or making collect calls led to confusion saying my name. Keith? Steve? Pete? Oh, "Edgar"! Why didn't you say that at first? What's your last name? Frog. Edgar Frog was Corey Feldman's character in the 1987 film *The Lost Boys*. Thanks, Moton for your attention to detail.

Leif

Calendar

February 13, 2024 7:00pm (earlier for food)
MONTHLY MEETING
Catfish Parlour South 4705 E Ben White Blvd
Program: *"Tour of Bring-A-Trailer Website"*
by DJ Stamp

February 8-10, 2024
ANNUAL CONVENTION
Chantilly (Washington, D.C.), Virginia
717-534-1910

February 23-24, 2024
DECATUR SWAP MEET
3101 S. FM 51 Decatur, TX 76234
www.wcaac.com

March 2, 2024 9:00am – 1:00pm
ROCKNRIDES CAR SHOW
200 Gupton Way, Cedar Park TX
www.RockNRides.org

March 16, 2024 2:00pm-4:00pm
SODALIS OAK HILL CAR SHOW
Austin, TX by Wayne Heikkila

March 15-16, 2024
CHICKASHA PRE-WAR SWAP MEET
Chickasha, OK www.pwsm.com

March 17-23, 2024
FOUNDERS TOUR
Louisiana 337-581-7776

March 23, 2024
MINI-TOUR
Austin, TX By Joe and Lizette Peter

March 21-24, 2024
SPECIAL WINTER NATIONALS
Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 787-635-8976

April 4-6, 2024
SOUTHEASTERN SPRING NATIONALS
Charlotte, NC 704-847-4215

April 19-20, 2024
LONESTAR ROD AND KUSTOM ROUND UP
7311 Decker Lane, Austin TX 78724
www.lonestarroundup.com

April 25-27, 2024
PATE SWAP MEET
Fort Worth, TX

May 11, 2024
MLF VILLAGE MINI-TOUR
East Austin, TX by Karl and Jeanne Frank

May 16-19, 2024
TEXAS TOUR
Granbury, TX

June 9-13, 2024
EASTERN DIVISIONAL TOUR (<1999)
Fredericksburg, VA

June 20-22, 2024
AACAA EASTERN SPRING NATIONALS
Saratoga Springs, NY 518-863-4987

July, 2024
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Austin, TX by George Brunner

July 10-13, 2024
AACAA WESTERN DIVISIONAL TOUR
Big Horn Mt., WY

September 21, 2024
SPURFEST
Gatesville, TX by Wendell Bell

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

1956 Ford Fairlane Crown Victoria

4 barrel 292 Y Block V-8, Ford-o-matic transmission. Odometer shows 77k miles. Clean Texas Title. Power steering. Generator converted to alternator. Pertronix ignition. Peacock blue and white. Very clean car – gets a lot of attention at car shows. Car starts right up, runs and drives well. This was Grandpa's car. We have a folder of receipts from previous owner who did a lot of work to it in around 2008-2014. Some of the documented work from that era includes: Engine bored .030 over in 2012, hardened valve seats in heads, rebuilt carb, new springs and shocks, new ball joints, new sway bar bushings, new radiator, rebuilt power steering and steering box, outer tie rod ends, etc. Car appears to have been repainted at some point in time with a few minor areas of small rust bubbles at bottom of doors, see photos (link below).

\$32,500 (Temple)

Jim Lantis 512-595-2413

<https://killeen.craigslist.org/cto/d/temple-1956-ford-fairlane-crown-victoria/7703204387.html>

