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Vapor Locks

Allegheny Mountain Region, AACA

Official Publication



Gladys Guyer, Editor 11800 Guyer Rd. Huntingdon, PA 16652



September - October 2022

Vol. 71 Number 5



Mark and Debbie Ritchies Model A Sedan



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Manor

Stay with us and visit the Swigart Museum right next door. Altoona Speedway - Willys Knight Auto



Weekdays after 4:00 p.m. Mike Halloran (814) 944-6634 315 Coleridge Ave. Altoona, PA 16602

Fall Dinner and Annual Meeting October 8, 2022, at the Smithfield Fire Hall

Pat Swigart and Gladys Guyer Socialize at 2:00 and Turkey Meal at 3:00 Annual meeting will follow the meal.

Pat Swigart and Gladys Guyer are organizing the Fall dinner for Saturday, October 8, 2022, at the Smithfield Fire Hall.

Members and guests will enjoy a full course turkey meal with all the trimmings. A 2:00 social hour will begin the event followed by a delicious turkey meal at 3:00.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the dinner.

Due to a delay with Vapor Locks you should have received an email reservation for the dinner but in case you did not get it or read your e-mail there is a reservation form below. We need to give the count to the Firehall on September 28. It would be appreciated if you would please respond quickly. You may call me with your reservation.

Any Questions contact: Gladys at 814-667-3796 – email gladys_guyer@yahoo.com.

Adults: \$13.00 Kids \$6.50

Mail your reservations to: (or call me at 814-667-3796) by September 28. Gladys Guyer 11800 Guyer Rd. Huntingdon, PA 16652

Name: _____

Adults @ \$13.00 _____ Children 4-11@ \$6.50 _____ Children under 3 Free _____

TOTAL ___

Make Checks payable to Allegheny Mountain Region, AACA

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN REGION WEBSITE http://local.aaca.org/allegheny/

AACA NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS HERSHEY, PA www.aaca.org 501 West Governor R. Hershey, PA 17031 – Phone 717-534-1910

1951 Founding Officers

Regional Director – William E. Swigart, Jr. Secretary / Treasurer – William A Huff, Jr. Advisory Committee – George W. Brisbin, David T. Davis, Paul K. Good, Carl E. Henderson, G. Bland Hoke, E.J. Leap, Fred Samuel, E.T. Studebaker

PAST PRESIDENTS OF ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN REGION, AACA am E. Swigart, Jr.* 1974-Robert M. Struble 1998-Stanley B. Smi

1975-Robert M. Struble

1976-Ferd D. Page, Jr.*

1977-Stephen Leoras*

1951-William E. Swigart, Jr.* 1952-William E. Swigart, Jr.* 1953-William E. Swigart, Jr.* 1954-Stanley B. Smith* 1955-Dr. Max Tornatore* 1956-David T. Davis* 1957-Leonard L. LeCrone* 1958-Ernest L. Shank* 1959-Chester E. Geist* 1960-Chester E. Geist* 1961-Paul Swartz* 1962-Dr John C. Gourley, Jr.* 1963-Dr John C. Gourley, Jr.* 1964-William H. Harshbarger* 1965-Leonard L. LeCrone* 1966-Ferd D. Page, Jr.* 1967-Ferd D. Page, Jr.* 1968-Stephen Leoras* 1969-Stephen Leoras* 1970-Robert L. Meckley* 1971-Dr. James K. Gordon* 1972-Dr. James K. Gordon* 1973-Fred P. Lockcuff* *deceased

Classified Ads:

1978-James L. Kingston* 1979-James L. Kingston* 1980-Larrie A. Derman 1981-Larrie A. Derman 1982-James F. Eichelberger* 1983-James F. Eichelberger* 1984-Charles Caracciolo* 1985-Charles Caracciolo* 1986-James Fisher* 1987-James Fisher* 1988-William Eardley* 1989-Wiliam Eardlev* 1990-Ralph B. Grove* 1991-Ralph B. Grove* 1992-Ralph B. Grove* 1993-Ralph Hoover* 1994-Robert M. Struble 1995-Russell Bambarger 1996-Russell Bambarger 1997 Stanley B. Smith, Jr.

1998-Stanley B. Smith, Jr. 1999-John R. O'Brien * 2000-John R. O'Brien * 2001-N. Scott Deno 2002-N. Scott Deno 2003-Patricia B. Swigart 2004-Patricia B. Swigart 2005-John R. Mueller 2006-John R. Mueller 2007-Nicholas Sabatino 2008-Nicholas Sabatino 2009-Francis P. Searer 2010-Francis P. Searer 2011-Bill M. Loy 2012-Bill M. Loy 2013-Ernest Romanini 2014 Ernest Romanini 2015 N. Scott Deno 2016 N. Scott Deno 2017 N. Scott Deno 2018 William Forsht 2019 William Forsht 2020 William Forsht 2021 William Forsht 2022 Scott Deno

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For Sale or Wanted are **Free** of charge to members. Please include Name, Price (if selling), Phone and E-mail Address.

Articles in this newsletter may be reprinted.





President's Message



Hard to believe the touring/show season is winding down. Celebration of Brass, Swigart meet, tour to Bradford, show at Altoona ballpark, and the Sentimental tour have passed and been most enjoyable.

Celebration of Brass in July featured the Thomas Flyer car and was amazing. About 100 early brass cars and over 10 Thomas Flyers attended on the extensive Gilmore Museum grounds. The after-show tour was

enjoyable until my fan went into the radiator one evening as I idled around the parking lot. Who would believe that a single cotter pin, alone, held the fan. Fortunately, it was near the end of the tour and in the parking lot (all fixed and ready for the Hershey Hangover tour in October).

Swigart meet was much as usual: nice cars, good friends, and great weather. Thank you, Pat and all your helpers. I typically come Saturday, but this year I added Friday which was a pleasant increase of a day.

I think, the tour to Bradford will go down as one of our better tours. We hit all our target sites with perfect timing like Zippo, WWII museum, oil museum, Cadillac Museum and everything was great. If you didn't join us, you missed a good one. Remember, if your antique is down for repairs, bring your modern car.

The club turnout at the Altoona ballpark show was not strong but it was a nice day and the Jaffa Shriners folks filled in the field. Great to talk to new folks and potential new members. Thanks again, Bill Loy for setting this up. Hopefully, as the word gets out, we will have more folks attending in the future. I followed Ed Hinkle and his 1930 Desoto home with my 1960 Tbird and I think I got home faster than usual!

Dave Kontor and I did the Sentimental tour (Sept. 11-16) with Ellen's 57 Chevy. Great tour around Gettysburg which avoided the battlefield for once. Several very memorable stops were the state's capital building tour, Frank Buck's NEW WWII museum, Jay Crist's collection. All homeruns for me. I had never seen the capital building and was totally amazed. A must see. Frank's newly opened WWII museum, <u>https://visitww2.org/watch-pa-museum-of-military-vehicles/</u>, has more military vehicles than any other museum I have seen and his son Adam gave a fantastic tour of the huge museum. Jay's collection of cars AND milk trucks is one of a kind.

President's Message

Well, enough rambling. Hope to see you on Glidden tour, at Hershey (My space is CD73 and I am in the directory), Hershey Brass hangover tour, or a cook's nite out!

AND! I just received 3 FREE national memberships for 2023 for anyone who has never been an AACA member. Consider a friend or relative as new member you can sign-up, FOR FREEEEE!

Scott



Allegheny Mountain Region Calendar of events

October 8	Region's Fall Dinner and Annual meeting. Smithfield Fire
	Hall
October 8	Bedford Foliage Festival antique car parade
October 15	One day tour, Mifflinburg
October 19	Cook's Nite – Prime Sirloin Buffett
November 16	Cook's Nite – Spruce Creek Tavern
January	After Christmas Party (date not confirmed)

National Calendar

September 25-30 – Revival AAA Glidden Tour (1942 & earlier) – Central New Jersey – New Jersey Region – AACA Sponsored October 4-7 – Eastern Fall Nationals – Hershey, PA – Hershey Region

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone." – Ronald Reagan



THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hi Everyone,

Summer and Labor Day have come and gone, and the leaves have begun to change colors. Allegheny Mountain Region still has some nice events to attend before the old cars get snuggled in for winter.

Bill and I are back from the 3-day tour to Bradford. It was a GREAT weekend. There is an article in this issue of VL.

There are two more Cook's Nites before the uncertain weather arrives and the Region takes a break until springtime. Cook's Nite is a great way of connecting with other members.

The Fall dinner and Annual meeting is an important day to get new ideas from members, find out who the new board members will be and of course eat!! Also, the Board will elect the 2023 Officers.

Come on out and support Allegheny Mountain by attending the last 2022 events. I will guarantee you fun and laughter.

If you have any articles, car photos or classifieds send them to me for publication.

Stay healthy and safe, and we'll meet you on the road soon.

Gladys

Allegheny Mountain Region Board of Directors Meeting

The Board did not have a meeting on August 6, 2022, at the Swigart Museum. There was not a quorum of Board members present.

GRAND EXPERIENCES OF YESTER YEARS Written by Bert McCombie From Bob Struble's Vapor Locks 1957

In 1914, I had an auto repair shop in Spangler, PA and to supplement my income, I also kept a few cars "for Hire". Automobiles at that time were still a novelty to many, and most people had never even had an auto ride in our area. "Just for the experience", many people hired my extra cars for a trip to Altoona or Johnstown. A trip to either of these cities cost \$10.00 for four passengers and because of the unpaved roads, it was an all-day event.

My "jitney Service" as it was called only required a regular car license –no PUC license, no insurance, no extras. I had two "Jitneys" a 1911 Hupp "20" a 4 passenger, long wheelbase car with low power, and a 1908 Reo 2-cylinder, 5 passenger auto that had a quick detachable rear seat that could be converted over into a light truck. This sturdy but temperamental Reo had a side crank, and the engine was mounted under the front seat.

Early one Sunday morning, I loaded my Reo with four sight-seeing passengers and started for Johnstown. Except for the dusty roads, everything was most pleasant until after we passed Mundays Corner, a small town between Spangler and Johnstown. There on a particularly steep, stony hill, the detachable rear seat detached, and the seat and the 3 passengers hit the dust". The three were shaken and scared, but not hurt so they gathered themselves up, and after re-attaching the rear seat with wire, we were again on our way. With luck, we finally reached Johnstown and toured most of the city uneventfully.

Near the end of our tour, my passengers wanted to go to a part of town where it was necessary for me to put the car onto an incline. I drove the car onto the incline platform and because of the side crank, I had to keep the engine running. About halfway up the incline, my front passenger turned around to chat to the rear seat passengers and, in doing so, he accidently put his foot on the reverse pedal. Luck was in my favor for, as the car began to move backwards, the safety chain stopped the car. My passengers thought I was moving the Reo to a better place on the platform and had no thoughts of danger.

After two bad scares in one day, I felt I had had enough of the Reo and soon I traded it and \$25.00 for a Saxon revolver.

We call then the "good Old Days" but in the world of automobiles, even though we weren't speeders as we are today, proportionally, we had just as many hazards.

BRADFORD WEEKEND TOUR

August 19-21, 2022 By Gladys Guyer

Just as our Tour chairman Scott Deno planned, a group of car enthusiasts met at the "Family Chill and Grill" in Bald Eagle, PA at 8:30AM for breakfast. Our group was on the road at 9:30 for a great weekend. Enjoying the sites on less travelled roads on our way to Bradford with a stop at Benezette.

We enjoyed a nice lunch stop at the Barrel House Restaurant in Kane then we continued our drive with great weather.

Our group arrive in Bradford and had time to visit the Zippo Lighter and Case Knives Museum. This museum is dedicated to telling the story of **Zippo** lighters and Case knives, two iconic products made in Bradford, Pennsylvania.



The1947 Chrysler Saratoga Zippo Car was displayed in front of the museum. On June 16, 1947, Zippo purchased a **1947 Chrysler Saratoga** with a vision of a car that looked like a Zippo lighter. Gardner Display of Pittsburgh was hired to design the vehicle with larger-than-life lighters stretching above the roof line, complete with removable neon flames.



BRADFORD WEEKEND PG. 2

A wall-sized American flag made from 3.300 red, white, and blue Zippo lighters certainly caught our eye inside the museum.



We had Dinner was at a local Bradford restaurant before retiring for the night.

Saturday morning breakfast was at the Kennedy St. Café. A great place to dine. We left the diner and headed to the Bradford Oil Museum for our guided tour.

In 1881, the Bradford Oil Field produced an incredible 83% of the United States total oil output; over 90,000 wells were drilled here. Located in northwestern Pennsylvania.

The Bradford Oil Field



continues to be a productive part of Pennsylvania's petroleum industry today.

BRADFORD WEEKEND PG. 3

We had a relaxing lunch at the Bradford Brew Station then off we went to meet our tour guide at the Eldred WWII Museum a non-profit organization that included a wide array of exhibits and information about World War II. Established in May 1996, the museum has continually expanded from one room to three stories of World War II memorabilia including huge model displays. These compelling exhibits and individual stories were phenomenal.

After our tour we all needed ice cream, so we went to a custard stand and had

ice cream before dinner. Dinner was at Beefeaters in the historic Carnegie Library. The library's history began in 1879 with the formation of the Free Library in Bradford. In 1901, with a gift of \$30,000 by Pittsburgh philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, the Free Library and School Library collections were consolidated and housed in



the new Carnegie Public Library on land donated by the City of Bradford. The library persisted for 90 years until 1991, when the library board was required to meet new building and structural codes. Thus, the board voted to construct the Bradford Area Public Library on West Washington Street. After sitting vacant for nearly two years, the Carnegie building was purchased and renovated into a restaurant and lounge.

Today, Beefeaters at the Historic Carnegie Library continues to honor its heritage.

After dinner and a lot of socializing Saturday festivities concluded.

Sunday morning it was breakfast before driving to the Greenberg Cadillac Museum. "USA's Largest Cadillac collection. It has over 75 Cadillac from every model and decade. The collection started in 1973 when a young eye surgeon Dr. Steven Greenberg and his wife moved from Detroit to Brookville PA in their 1966 Cadillac. Upon retirement Dr. Greenberg began to collect and restore vintage Cadillacs. The collection reflects over 100 years of beautiful automobiles. I must mention that one couple in our group received special

BRADFORD WEEKEND PG. 4

parking, yes, the Deno's were given prime parking with their beautiful Cadillac. This was yet another wonderful stop on our weekend journey.

We had lunch at Denny's in Brookville and then started our trek towards home.

A big THANK YOU to Scott and his co-pilot Ellen for a fabulous weekend.

Just For Thought

A father passing by his son's bedroom was astonished to see that his bed was nicely made, and everything was picked up. Then he saw an envelope, propped up prominently on the pillow that was addressed to 'Dad.' With the worst premonition, he opened the envelope with trembling hands and read the letter.

Dear Dad: It is with great regret and sorrow that I'm writing to you. I had to elope with my new girlfriend because I wanted to avoid a scene with Mum and you. I have been finding real passion with Stacy and she is so nice. But I knew you would not approve of her because of all her piercings, tattoos, tight motorcycle clothes and the fact that she is much older than I am. But it's not only the passion Dad, but she's also pregnant. Stacy says we will be very happy. She has a trailer in the bush and has a stack of firewood for the winter. We share a dream of having many more children. Stacy has opened my eyes to the fact that marijuana doesn't really hurt anyone. We'll be growing it for ourselves and trading it with the other people who live nearby for cocaine and ecstasy. In the meantime, we will pray that science will find a cure for AIDS so Stacy can get better. She deserves it. Don't worry Dad. I'm 15 and I know how to take care of myself. Someday I'm sure we will be back to visit so that you can get to know your grandchildren. Love, your son John

PS. Dad, none of the above is true. I'm over at Tommy's house. I just wanted to remind you that there are worse things in life than the report card that's in my center desk drawer. I love you. Call me when it's safe to come home.



COOK'S NITE OUT



No cooking tonight! Gladys Guyer

Cook's Nite has a couple dates scheduled for 2022 before we pause winter break. We will gather at 6:00 and order soon thereafter. Come and join the fun!

October 19 - Prime Sirloin Buffet, Duncansville, Jim Burke 814-224-2242

November 16 (weather depending) Spruce Creek Tavern, Jeff and Zach Boring 814-942-3373

If you know in advance you will be attending, please contact the person listed on the schedule. If not, no worries you can simply join us for a good evening.

76th AAA Glidden Tour

September 25-30, 2022

The 2022 Glidden Tour will be held in Princeton, New Jersey hosted by the New Jersey Region AACA.

Several members of the Allegheny Mountain Region will be travelling to New Jersey to participate in the Tour.

There will be highlights of the week in the next issue of Vapor Locks.

Have a wonderful time and Safe Travels to everyone!



Not For Sale. I'm gonna fix it up one day!







CAR SHOW

Sunday, August 28, 2022

President Deno reported the Jaffa Car show at the Peoples Natural Gas Field was very nice. Region attendance could have been better but those who were able to attend had a great time.

Thank you, Bill Loy, for coordinating the event with the Jaffa Shriners.

Classifieds

For Sale:

Engine: 1928-1931 Model A, 4 cylinders \$500 OBO Contact Bob Leon 814-883-6203

For Sale: (from Gettysburg Region, AACA) 1978 Chrysler LeBaron 2 dr. White with blue vinyl top. 318 V-8, Auto, PS, PB, Cruise, AC, WW Winter tires 2 yrs. Old. Ziebart rust proof protection. Radio needs work. A true survivor with 18,200 miles. \$12,500 OBO Contact Allan Maybee 717-731-9726

Classifieds postings are free just send them to Gladys.

Behind Closed Doors By Stan Smith

In a recent magazine for which Jay Leno writes a one-page editorial he related his recent find of a near perfect car in his neighborhood. As he stated there's always a garage that one drives by every day and start to wonder why the doors never seem to be opened and what just might be hiding inside.

The large garage he had been going by for years on his way from home to his Burbank Airport collection had a small house next to it in which a gentleman lived by himself. Jay was informed by a local policeman that the man had recently passed away and his family were about to clear out the garage. They knew he had a car he bought new in the early sixties but no idea what it was since he had stopped using it several years ago.

Jay joined the family when they opened the door of the garage all were presented with a pile of rugs and blankets that covered the car. Pulling up one corner of the accumulated mess Jay saw a rear bumper and a taillight. He immediately realized that they belonged to an early 1960's Jaguar XK-E and after further investigation found that it was a convertible with less than 20,000 miles on it. The top, paint and upholstery were all in good condition. It still had the factory tool kit in the trunk. He bought it and said that all will be left as original with exception of rebuilding the brake system and checking the mechanical items.

This find reminds me of how a similar event happened right here in our own backyard during the 1980's. I was asked by Denny Riker to accompany him to look at a car he heard about in State College. It turned out to be a late 1940's Packard "woody" station wagon that was in a garage behind the St. Andrews church and next to an alley I had traveled many a time in the past. I rode my bike to serve as an altar boy or to my Boy Scout troop who met in the Parrish.

Also, there were many a time that either my Dad, who had an Eagle eye for finding unique autos in the most remote places, or myself would drive my mother to practice on the organ at church and we would park in the alley near the garage. It never crossed our mind to take a peek into a window of the garage.....not in the heart of downtown State College! Denny, being a Packard man who had spent a good bit his time restoring a '36 Packard Convertible was most overjoyed to see that this "woody" was in nice original condition. After purchasing it and buffing out the paint he had no problems other than the repairing or replacing the transmission overdrive. His proud moment was to have it in the Linden Hall 4th of July parade with it wearing a banner that stated his own version of Packard's advertisement logo "Ask the Man Who Own's One!"

It's exciting to learn that there are still some nice machines are out there to be discovered, maybe in one's own neighborhood or in a garage that you have passed by many times.



COOK'S CORNER

Apple Snicker Dessert Gladys Guyer

4 apples any kind will do 8 oz cool whip 3 snickers bars chopped

- chop all your apples into bit size pieces and place them in a large bowl.
- Mix in the cool whip and the chopped snickers. (Save about ¹/₄ of the snickers for the topping)
- Once it is all combined top with the left-over snickers.
- Chill until ready to serve and then enjoy!

Easy Apple Crescent Rolls Gladys Guyer

can Pillsbury honey butter crescent rolls
 can Apple pie filling (may opt to use homemade filling)
 tbsp cinnamon

- Unroll the crescent dough on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- Place a spoonful to two of apples into each crescent and roll the dough. Sprinkle with cinnamon.
- Bake for 18 to 20 minutes until crescent is golden on the outside.
- Sprinkle with additional cinnamon or cinnamon sugar when taken out of the oven.

Good Moms let you lick the beaters Great Moms turn them off first.



One Day Tour Saturday, October 15 Scott Deno, Tour Coordinator

The Region will be having a one-day tour to Mifflinburg Area on October 15. The Fall leaves will be at peak color which will make for a beautiful drive.

We will meet at Hills shopping center McDonalds in State College at 10:30 AM.

Stops:

- 1. Rusty Rail for lunch
- 2. Buggy museum
- 3. Shade mountain winery
- 4. Dinner, if desired at possibly the Millheim Hotel

Please contact Scott to let him know you would like to join the group or for additional details or Call 814-571-9790

Scott wishes to have at least 4 cars or probably will cancel the tour.



"Wine and friends make a great blend."

Sentimental Tour 2022

September 10-16, Gettysburg, PA By Scott Deno

Charlie Steffy and the Buzzard's Breath region did a great job making Gettysburg interesting after so many tours have been there. No trips around the battlefield. Ellen was kind enough to give permission to me and Dave Kontor to use her 57 Chevy, as she stayed home.

Sunday was the Civil war museum in downtown Harrisburg, then off to the Eastern Museum of motor racing (EMMR). I had been to EMMR some years ago, but it has expanded, and we had a personal tour by one of the founders. Very cool museum with many historic sprint and drag racing cars.

Monday was to the C & O canal museum; however, since all the staff had the virus our canal boat ride was cancelled. Then to Don Bowman's large collection with cars for every taste in a beautiful big building.

Tuesday was tour of Governor's mansion and the state capital. I had never seen the capital building and it was wow amazing. Well worth the visit, if you have never been. It is said to be one of the grandest capital buildings in the nation.

Wednesday was to the little-known Indian Steps Museum on the shore of the Susquehanna River which highlights native American history. Then to one of the highlights of the week, Jay Crist's car collection. Jay is the milk truck man and gave a great tour of his collection of cars and trucks. AND a stop at the

famous Haines shoe house.

Thursday was to the Frank Buck's just opened WWII museum. A unique museum



with LOTS of military vehicles which all run and are actively displayed. Finally, we stopped at the Cyclorama to get a small taste of Gettysburg battle. A great show with the restored 360-degree mural.

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE AUCTION

Saturday, October 22, 2022, 10AM Tyrone PA Past Lifetime AMR member Chester &Jessica Geist's Estate Collection

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILES INCLUDING:

1937 Cord 812 Beverly
1915 Ford Model T
1942 Ford Military Jeep
1941 Chevy two door Sedan
1946 Chevy four door Sedan
1946 Chevy Tow Truck
1948 Chevy two door Sedan
1950 Hudson Pacemaker
(2) 1956 Ford Station Wagons
1967 Ford Custom 500 w/11,000 original miles
1972 Ford F 250 Pickup w/ 25,000 original miles

PROJECT VEHICLES SUCH AS:

(3) Ford Model T Trucks
1924 Chevy Touring
1934 Chevy two-door Sedan
1941 Packard 110 Sedan
1951 Studebaker Pickup
1957 Ford Skyline Retractable

ALSO, TO BE OFFERED:

15-inch Antique Gas Pump Globe Lenses
Antique Signs Incl. (NIB) Chevrolet steel w/ orig. books, "We use Chevrolet genuine parts", License Plates (1906-1958) and others.
Several cases Penn Drake Oil Bottles, many Auto body & Mechanical parts, emblems & auto related items.
Horse drawn Hearse, Landau Coach, Buggy, 2 wagons, and 2 sleighs, Fordson & Silver King Tractors
Several Hit & Miss Engines

The Second auction of this estate will be Saturday, November 12th. Antiques/collectibles (13 Juke Boxes) / real estate and more.

For photos, updates and more info go to ROAN Inc. Auctioneers & Appraisers

Thanks, Charlie, for a great week.



Everyone Has an Interest

By Phillip Cole Vice President - Publications

Over a decade ago, I made a new friend, James, at one of our region's events. He had driven his Corvette a hundred miles to this, his first AACA event, and was full of questions. My wife and I spent time with him to answer most of his questions. After that first encounter, we continued to email and see each other at various AACA Nationals. James and his wife joined the region where they live and have become active leaders in that chapter. What made James and I friends is the same common interest that binds all of us together as members of AACA: our interest in the old car hobby!

In my life coach training, I have learned there are three elements which will help any common interest group – large or small - grow and advance.

They are:

Encouragement. At our initial encounter I found James to be a likeable fellow with a keen interest in the old car hobby. Over the years both of our families have continued to encourage each other and have become encouragers in our respective regions.

Opportunity. Obviously, that first AACA event gave us an opportunity to share information and become AACA friends. Over the years it has become our common practice to check with each other about signing up for national events.

Rewards. The biggest reward for our two families is our friendship. Over the years, however, both of our families have covered the walls of our garages with trophies, plaques, chips, banners – all trappings of active participation in the old car hobby.

As leaders in your own region/chapter, do you offer encouragement to your members, especially the newer ones? Do your board and committees seek more opportunities to enjoy the hobby for your membership? Beyond the trophies and banners what are the rewards your members can gain as active participants in your region.

Time and good friends are two things that become more valuable the older you get. Author unknown

Disteel Wheels

Disteel brand pressed-steel automobile wheels were manufactured by the Detroit Pressed Steel Company, and were introduced in 1917 as an alternative to wooden artillery wheels with demountable rims. Pressed steel wheels were an alternative to fragile wooden wheels which would crack on impact with very rough roads. Steel wheels were both stronger and cheaper to manufacture and could be painted any color the owner desired.

Disteel wheels were offered as an extra cost option on many vehicles produced at the time, to include Duesenberg,¹ Lincoln, Cole, and Page-Detroit vehicles of the 1920s.

In March 1923, the Detroit Pressed Steel Company was merged with both the Parish and Bingham Company of Cleveland, Ohio, and the Parish Manufacturing Company of Detroit, to form a new company, called the Midland Steel Products Company by Elroy J. "E.J." Kulas, after leaving the Peerless Automobile Company.

