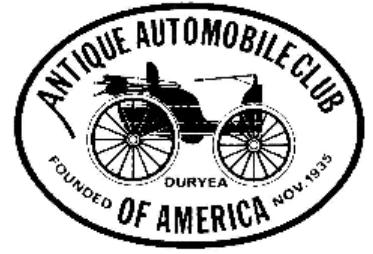




Exhaust Whistle



June 2023 - Official publication of the AACA Dixie Region - Serving Greater Birmingham

Vol. 35 No. 5

June Meeting

**Meeting will be at Farrelly's Southern Bar and Kitchen on June 22 at 6 pm
5532 Grove Blvd., Hoover AL 35226
Reservations are for the room they call the library**



We enjoyed meeting Vicki and Arthur at the Train Shed. We had the greatest time at OUR first cruise-in with our vehicle. We saw some incredible vehicles, won some nice prizes and got to talk "cars and trucks with like minded enthusiasts. Our truck is a 1983 C-10. 40 years old this year! Not nearly as old as some but definitely a Classic! We enjoy cruising around at a leisurely pace due to the original 250 6 cyl engine. While it won't win any races, it purrs like a kitten! Combined with the 3 speed on the column, it is fun to drive and considered a theft deterrent. It has been lowered for the classic hot rod look and it retains the original patina from sitting, partially covered in a barn for several years. While we may one day have her restored to her original glory, we love the patina that has been created by time and nature that makes it truly unlike any other one. - Jeff & Heather Hughes



AACA National Headquarters
P.O. Box 417 Hershey, PA 17033
Founded 1935 717.534.1910
www.aaca.org

**Dedicated to the preservation,
restoration and maintenance of
automobiles and automotive history**

Membership in the AACA is required to be
a member of the Dixie Region
Ownership of an antique car is optional

The Exhaust Whistle

Dixie Region Birmingham, AL
Email stories and photos to Charlotte at
Realracegirl1@yahoo.com

The Exhaust Whistle is a monthly publication of the AACA Dixie Region, view expressed in the Exhaust Whistle are not necessarily those of the Region officers of AACA. Original material may be reprinted if credit is given.

2023 Dixie Region Officers

President: Vicki Bolton
Vice President: Sam Barnett
Treasurer: James Meredith
Secretary: Charlotte Dahlenburg
Editor/Webmaster: Charlotte Dahlenburg

A Note From The

PRESIDENT

I hope everyone has been enjoying their summer. The cruise-in in Montgomery proved that car season is here. It was a great show and a lot of fun. We signed-up 3 new members in Montgomery. Please welcome Jeffrey and Heather Hughes and John Morykwas. I hope this is a sign of good things to come for the club. I think that the more we get the cars out so people can see them, the more people will see what the club is all about-enjoying the old car hobby with good friends!

On a National level, the meet in Gettysburg was incredible! There were more than 500 cars in attendance. You can read more about it in the Gettysburg article in this newsletter. There will 2 Nationals in July: Auburn Indiana and Hamilton NY. I always enjoy going back to Indiana since that is where my family is from, and Auburn offers a lot of interesting car museums. Hamilton will be a new venue which is always nice. Seeing new places and meeting new friends is a big part of what makes the Club so special.

We are trying a new meeting place this Thursday, Arthur and I ate there this past week, and the food was delicious and the atmosphere was enjoyable. Hope to see you there!

Vicki Bolton

Welcome new member
John Morykwas and congratulate
him on his recent purchase of an
award winning
1924 Model T Touring

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Dues are \$20.00 per family.
You must be a member of AACA to be a member of the Dixie Region.
AACA Annual dues are \$45.00.
Currently \$25 for June - End of the year!
All club dues will be collected at the next meeting.





June Outing to Union Train Station

The Regions first event of 2023 was a small but successful foray. We all met at Cracker Barrel in Pelham and drove to Montgomery to attend the Capital City Cruisers event at the old Montgomery train station. Patrick Anderson, in his magnificent Grenada, joined me in my 46 Ford business coupe Great Race Car and we drove down to Montgomery on Hwy 31. The drive, a full two hours, was remarkably nice. Perfect temperature, minimal traffic and long stretches of stoplight free country cruising.

We arrived at Union Train Station just as the station filled up completely. They chose to put the next group of cars right down the middle of the station Patrick and I, and then Vicki and Art just two cars back, were dead in the center of the action, next to the registration and announcers booth. Vicki quickly set up a recruiting booth where two

new member paid dues and everything and several more were very interested to hear the message and the intent of the AACA. We heard a lot of great stories about original cars in the area and met some fabulous folks. Although there was a small bit of drama when a participant chose to leave early, but misjudged the distance between his lovely truck and an even lovelier convertible, the day was simply lovely. Luckily the damage was minimal, but i bet it hurts right in the wallet. I'm going to take this as a warning to just stay and enjoy the event until it's over, or leave my car out in the parking lot, next time, if I have to leave early.

The Capital City Cruisers clearly do a fantastic job working the businesses in Montgomery for donations. The announcer apologized for not having enough door prizes for the turnout that they enjoyed. He only had

about a hundred great door prizes for the show!!! I went home with a small die grinder, and it looked like everyone got something. There were no trophies or awards for the show, so after door prizes and the obligatory 50/50 drawing (for \$1100), the organizers thanked us and told us to have a safe drive home and to come back next year.

As many of y'all know, interstate 65 has a beach traffic problem. During the summer, travelers heading to the beach are known to slow traffic and back up travelers heading south on Sundays in the summer and heading north on Saturdays. Well this being a Saturday, leaving Montgomery about 3:00, I told Patrick that we might experience some beach traffic. I hate being right. There were several patches of bumper to bumper 15 MPH on the way home and it finally caught up with us as one of the cars had slightly less gas than the driver thought and

the car came to stop just past exit 228, in Calera, with the desired gas station sign visible in the distance. Luckily the car behind the stopped car had filled up before leaving, placing him just a bit behind the incident and before we could hang up the phone, the car could be seen on the side of the road. Fifteen minutes later both cars are back on the road for the final stretch back home.

As far as club events go, this was a small one, just three cars taking place. But as far as first events for a fledgling region, I think it was a smashing success. We showed up, in good cars and good spirits, we recruited new members and made several folks aware of the new kid in town. We had a lot of positive feedback about having an AACA style judged car show for original cars, sometime next year. We will be needing a show director for next year and you've ever considered taking on a big job with little thanks, I'd



Patrick Anderson at the cruise-in



Sam Barnett's Great Race Car



Vicki and Art with a table at the cruise-in



New members Jeff & Heather Hughes

sure love to hear from you.

One of our up coming club outing is planned as a driving tour down to Montevallo in August. I'm having the Montevallo Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Steve Gilbert working up a suggestion of places to visit but are sure to include: the University of Montevallo, the historic neighborhoods, the art galleries, tinglewood (Montevallo famous tree carvings in Orr Park), and the Brierfield Iron Works Park. Some of y'all may know Steve as the man who puts on "Cars by the Creek", a twenty year long running show that is now in conjunction with

a Wood Carving Festival during the second weekend in September. I think it will be a great day and we just need to finalize some details. We are looking at doing this on August 19,20,26,or 27. If you have any strong feelings or reasonings for a particular date, please feel free to reach out to me. If you have any suggestions for group activities or would like to share what you are doing with your vintage car, the Dixie Region soon to be the Great Southern Region would love to hear about it! Until next time, keep the rubber side down and the fun meter on overload. - Sam Barnett





Eastern Spring Nationals - Gettysburg, PA

Gettysburg is obviously a very special place and the Eastern Spring Nationals held there was pretty amazing as well. We stayed in a campground called Artillery Range Campground which is on the edge of the Historical Park. So everytime you go anywhere, you see monuments and historical markers. We saw a lot of historical homes which were marked as having been battle ground hospitals. We drove into town to get breakfast at a local place and

drove by one of the cemeteries which had a marker that indicated the site of the Gettysburg Address was nearby. Gettysburg is definitely one of those places where you can almost feel the history all around you. We did not have time on this trip to actually drive through the National Park but have done it before and took the guided tour. If you are ever in the area, I highly recommend it!

- Vicki Bolton



Art in the lobby at the hotel



Entertainment at the Gettysburg Friday night event was a group of singers that were really good . It was one of the best dinner entertainment shows I have ever seen.



There were a lot of winners in Gettysburg



At the Barn with Sam

This month has been all about prepping the '46 Ford business coupe for the great race and the '25 Marmon sedan for the HCCA nickel tour in Sylacauga in July. The Marmon just needs a fuel top off and oil change but the Ford has required a bit more.

Friday, five days before leaving the U joint broke. If you're not familiar with the Ford rear ends during the forties and before, the rear end, torque tube and Drive shaft are all one assembly that has to be removed from below the car to access the joint at the end of the transmission. This is a huge job for a person by themselves, especially one who has never actually done it.

I have dropped the rear end, got the u joint out, absolutely ascertained that it is the problem, and the part gets here tomorrow- Good Lord willing, and the Creek don't rise- and then reassembly. First I have to install the U joint, then get the rear end into position, lining up the splined output shaft from the u joint with the drive shaft splines.

When that's forward enough, I can raise the rear end to the body, connect the suspension bits at the shocks and Springs, then bolt up the torque tube seal at the front of the tube, securing it around the U joint. With this closed up, I can reattach the cross member, that had been previously drilled out for access and bolted in place, reattach the brake lines, bleed the system, reinstall the floor and carpet, and put away the tools and clean up the car.

The major issue is that we leave for the race early Wednesday morning and time is rapidly running out. By the time y'all read this, the die will be thrown and hopefully we start the Great Race in St. Augustine with a fully repaired car and well rested team, and we see you all in Birmingham on the 25th. Wish me luck and please, try to come cheer for the Alabama teams running in this years great race, they will be among the first twenty or so cars to come into Birmingham. - Sam Barnett



Check out the tire brand, I invented the name and found a company making tire stickers.



Car 103 standing by, waiting on a u joint.



The Fabulous Ford rear end on this 120 th anniversary of the Ford company.



Car 103, the '46 business coupe, warming up protective stadium for the June 25th dinner stop.



Great Race Birmingham Stop

Y'all come see us in Birmingham, or one of the many stops across the country, Great Race Great Race Evening Stop - Birmingham, AL

Official press release:

Birmingham, Ala., will host an overnight stop on the 2023 Hemmings Motor News Great Race presented by Coker Tire on Sunday, June 25, race organizers have announced.

The Great Race, the world's premiere old car rally, will bring 120 of the world's finest antique automobiles to town for the \$150,000 event, with the first car rolling in to Uptown at Protective Life Stadium starting at 4:30 p.m. The start of the event will be in St. Augustine, Fla., on June 24, and the finish will be in Colorado Springs, Colo., on July 2.

The 9-day, 2,300-mile adventure will travel to 19 cities in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado.

Teams and cars from Japan, England, Australia, Germany, Canada and every corner of the United States will converge in Florida in mid-June with vintage automobiles dating back as far as 1916. "There are more than 500 people just in our entourage from all around the world," Great Race director Jeff Stumb said.

The Great Race, which began 40 years ago, is not a speed race, but a time/speed/distance rally. The vehicles, each with a driver and navigator, are given precise instructions each day that detail every move down to the second. They are scored at secret check points along the way and are penalized one second for each second either early or late. As in golf, the lowest score wins.

Cars start – and hopefully finish – one minute apart if all goes according to plan. The biggest part of the challenge other than staying on time and following the instructions is getting an old car to the finish line each day, organizers say.

Each stop on the Great Race is free to the public and spectators will be able to visit with the participants and to look at the cars for several hours. It is common for kids to climb in the cars for a first-hand look.

Cars built in 1974 and earlier are eligible, with most entries having been manufactured before World War II. In the 2022 Great Race a 1932 Ford won the event from Rhode Island to North Dakota. The 2023 winners will again receive \$50,000 of the \$150,000 total purse.

A 1916 Hudson Pikes Peak Hillclimber, a 1916 Chevrolet and a 1917 American LaFrance are the oldest cars scheduled to be in the 2023 Great Race.

Over the decades, the Great Race has stopped in

hundreds of cities big and small, from tiny Austin, Nev., to New York City.

"When the Great Race pulls into a city it becomes an instant festival," Stumb said. "Last year we had several overnight stops with more than 10,000 spectators on our way to having 250,000 people see the Great Race during the event."

The event was started in 1983 by Tom McRae and it takes its name from the 1965 movie, The Great Race, which starred Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, Natalie Wood and Peter Falk. The movie is a comedy based on the real life 1908 automobile race from New York to Paris. In 2004, Tony Curtis was the guest of the Great Race and rode in his car from the movie, the Leslie Special.

The Great Race gained a huge following from late night showings on ESPN when the network was just starting out in the early 1980s. The first entrant, Curtis Graf of Irving, Texas, is still a participant today.

The event's main sponsors are Hemmings Motor News, Hagerty Drivers Club and Coker Tire.

2023 THE GREAT RACE COMING

Arrives:
SUNDAY, JUNE 25
BIRMINGHAM, AL

Uptown At
Protective Stadium
4:30 P.M.

Hemmings. HAGERTY Drivers Club COKER TIRE McCollister's Auto Transport Roco

@GREATRACE.COM @GREATRACERALLY #THEGREATRACE



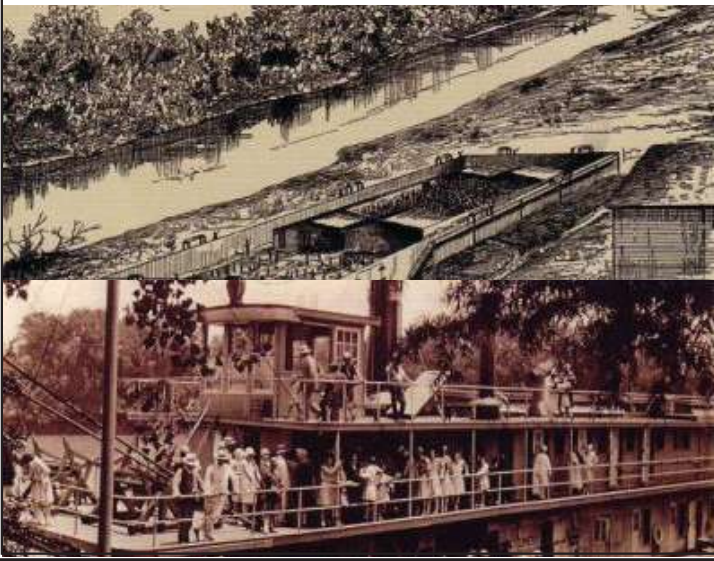
Possible Special Event for July



Let us know if you are interested

in a tour on July 15. We are looking at touring down to the Old Cahawba Archaeological Park located in Orville, AL. Those of us in Birmingham can leave from Birmingham and our members from Montgomery can meet us there. They have a museum and several historical buildings.

Call or Text Vicki at 205-223-3753 or email realracegril1@gmail.com



We would like your input!



August Montevallo Tour

Come join us in Montevallo, we are finalizing plans for a one day run to Montevallo to see the Historic Center of the State of Alabama.

Montevallo has a rich tradition in the arts and that eye for beauty seeps out into so many aspects of the town.

We will see the famous Gardens of Tinglewood, featuring dozens of chainsaw sculptures built by local artist Tim Tingle, the historic University of Montevallo, and several other interesting sights in the area.

We want to do this event during the third or fourth weekend in August and would love to have you there. Details of the event will be in the July newsletter and all car enthusiasts are invited.

If you have any suggestions about the date or the attractions, please reach out to me. Call or text Sam 205-482-0165.

If you have friends in other clubs or folks that would enjoy the day, we would love the company! Tell them about the tour, the club, and even the free memberships for first time members.

Dixie Region Calendar

June 22.....	Membership Meeting
July 27.....	Membership Meeting
August 24	Membership Meeting
September 28	Membership Meeting
October 26	Membership Meeting
November 16 (Third)	Membership Meeting
December 14 (Second)	Membership Meeting

Dixie Region Classifieds

For sale: 1959 Morris Minor 2 door sedan. A solid and complete car that was daily driven in 2015-17, hasn't been touched since 2020. Will need tires and rubber for all glass. Questionable taste two tone beige and chocolate paint job and very incorrect but functional interior. Located near Huntsville, \$3000. Call or text Sam Barnett at 205-482-0165.

For sale : 1966 Jaguar Mark X. 4.2 with factory air. 305 Chevy engine, TH 400. Turns over easily. Hasn't run since 2016. Lots of extra parts. Solid car with decent interior, \$6500. Call James Meredith at 205-492-5546.



The Military Sponsorship Program is available to all of the Military Veterans that have proudly served to protect our homeland and freedoms. With this program, AACA is extending a limited number of complimentary 2023 memberships for first-time AACA applicants. More information on this program and an application can be found on the AACA website under member information and drop down to Military.

These complimentary 2023 memberships are for first-time AACA applicants and are limited by the funds available for this program. These complimentary applications for membership are intended for individuals who have a genuine interest in the antique car hobby.

A Note From The

EDITOR

I was sad to miss out on the first big event of the Dixie Region this month. I hope to be back up and going for the July and August events. The Region is off to a good start!

Please let us know what events you would like to see happen. You can contact any of us with ideas and input.

We will grow to a great region with your help to plan a diverse schedule of events and dinner meetings. No idea is too small or too big, they are all starting points for some fun while enjoying our hobby.

President Vicki Bolton and Vice President Sam Barnett are working hard to grow this club. I personally would love to thank them for all their hard work and their love for this Region and all of you!

Charlotte Dahlenburg

Classics at White Eagle

AACA Special Eastern Spring Nationals 2023 July 26-29 Hamilton, NY

Hosted by the RAOCC Norwich Region

Show Chair: Allan Strong 607-334-2907

Email: stumpmaker99@netscape.net



AACA Calendar

June 24-28

2023 Eastern Divisional Tour

Location: Denver, Pennsylvania. Sponsor: AACA Library

July 6-8

2023 Central Spring Nationals

Location: Auburn, Indiana. Sponsor: Crossroads of America Region

July 14

Collector Car Appreciation Day

July 16 - 22

2023 AACA Founders Tour (1932-1998)

Location: Ontario & Quebec Canada Sponsor: AACA Ontario Region

July 26 - 29

AACA Special Eastern Nationals

Location: Norwich, New York Sponsor: AACA Rolling Antiquers Region

August 10 - 12

2023 AACA Grand Nationals

Location: Bettendorf, Iowa Sponsor: AACA Mississippi Valley Region

August 16 - 19

2023 AACA Vintage Tour (1931 and earlier)

Location: Aroostook County, Maine Sponsor: AACA Maine Region

September 14-16

2023 AACA Special Central Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)

Location: Piqua, Ohio. Sponsor: Southern Ohio Chapter

September 25 - 29

2023 AACA Western Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)

Location: California Central Coast, Santa Ynez Valley Sponsor: AACA Santa Barbara Region

October 3 - 6

2023 Eastern Fall Nationals

Location: Hershey, Pennsylvania Sponsor: AACA Hershey Region

Flee market set-up is Monday (2nd); show date is Friday (6th)

October 22-27

2023 Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)

Location: Thomasville, Georgia. Sponsor: VMCCA

March 17-23

2024 AACA Founders Tour (1932-1998)

Location: Louisiana Sponsor: Louisiana Region

April 4-6

2024 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals

Location: Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, North Carolina.

Sponsor: AACA Hornets Nest Region

June 20-22

2024 Eastern Spring Nationals

Location: Saratoga Springs, NY. Sponsor: Saratoga Region

Local Calendar

Cruise Ins

1st Tuesday - 5-8pm Petro Bucksville 22526 Highway 216 McCalla

Thursday's - 6-9pm VFW Post 6022, 7001 University Blvd E, Cottdale

1st Saturday - 8-11am Hoovers Tactical Firearms Cruise In 1561 Montgomery Hwy. Hoover.

1st Saturday - 3pm Jan - Mar 5pm Apr-Dec 202 South Gilmer Ave, Lanett, AL More info Billy Humphrey at mrmopar622@gmail.com.

2nd Saturday - 5-8pm (Apr-Oct) Bee Line Highway Classics & Cruisers Railroad St, Hartselle

2nd Saturday - 6-9pm (Apr-Oct) Alabama Misfits Jack's Exit 267 off I-65 1195 Walker Chapel Rd, Flutondale

2nd Saturday - 8-11am - Magic City Octane. Saks Fifth Plaza 129 Summit Blvd, Birmingham

3rd Saturday - 6pm Tallahassee Shopping Center 400 Gilmer Ave

3rd Saturday - 2-5pm Hooters Hwy 119 & Oak Mountain Park Rd, Pelham

3rd Saturday - 3:30-8:30pm Home Depot 41310 US Hwy 280 Sylacauga

3rd Saturday - 4:30-7:30pm Home Depot 3784 US 431 Phenix City

4th Saturday - 5-9pm Pizza Bar 141 2nd St NW Carbon Hill

Saturday's 8:30-10:30 Shops of Colonnade 3418 Colonnade Pkwy, Birmingham

3rd Sunday - 1-5pm Casual Pint, 5541 Grove Blvd, Hoover

Shows

July

8 The Salvation Army 3rd Annual Car & Truck Show, Rain or Shine 114 N. 11th Street, Gadsden, AL Reg. \$20. 8am-12pm, judging at noon, awards at 1pm. Info: Steve Culberson 256-295-08129

8 Slugburger Festival and Cruise In. 8am Corinth, MS in conjunction with Vendor Market, Carnival and bands

8 3rd Annual Car Show. Starts at 10 am. Pre Entry \$20 Info: Leah.pierce@walmart.com. Walmart 525 Olive St. Cullman. All makes and models welcome, Fun for the family.

15 American Legion Post 101 Car & Bike Show 8am-1pm. 370 2nd Street SW, Carbon Hill \$20 entry. **Food, 50/50, Raffles, Kids Activities**

22 Maxwell Exchange Car, Truck and Bike Show. 10-2pm. 355 South Kelly Street, Bldg. 1090, Maxwell AFB Classic, Antique, Muscle, Kit All vehicles welcome! Info 334-235-0699

22 Buddie Turner Benefit. 9-2pm Trickum Valley Community Center 14650 Hwy. 46, Heflin, Free to enter but donations accepted. Music, cake auction and more.

August

19 Indoor Vette Spectacular Car Show. 9-2pm. Irondale Civic Center 3521 Ratclife Road. Preregister at midalcorvette.com. Info at 205-368-1869

26 THA Honest Alex City Modern & Retro Car, Truck & Bike Show Info at 304-993-1318

26 Tannehill VolksJam 2023 9am-3pm Tannehill Ironworks



Historical State Park 12632 Confederate Pkwy, McCalla. Held at beautiful and historic Tannehill State Park. Awards given for Best of's, Top 20 cars and some special awards. First 50 entries receive a goody bag. Camping is available on site through the park itself. A dinner cruise will be arranged for the Friday evening before the show.

October

21 Odenville Car Show, 9am-2pm. St. Clair County High School, 16700 US 411, Odenville. 50/50 drawing,

and hundreds of amazing vehicles PLUS more food, and more awards! Registration forms at <https://odenvillechamber.com/car-show/> 21 Cruisin the Square 9am-2pm Downtown Jasper. Live entertainment. No registration fee Drawings and give aways Info Glenn 205-544-0844



Speedster articles courtesy of AACA

Fun Toys Come in Small Packages

By Jen Wolfe, AACA Library Director, jwolfe@aaca.org
Earlier this month, the library received a generous and exciting donation that included 157 toy and model vehicles of all shapes and sizes. It was like Christmas morning for staff as we unwrapped each one, oo'd and ahh'd over style, color, material and rarity, and entertained a revolving door of staff, volunteers and club members who'd heard about the donation and stopped by to see it for themselves. Nostalgia was thick in the air as we traded stories and memories of our own experiences with toy and model cars and discussed how and where to display each of our new acquisitions.

The production of the models we were given goes as far back as the 1930s, and includes diecast, tin, plastic and cast-iron pieces. One notable favorite is a rubber Ford model made at the 1935 America's Exposition in San Diego at the Firestone exhibit. From what we can tell, the entire vehicle is made of rubber, save for the axles. The blue paint is chipped and worn, but it's still quite a beauty.

Dinky Toys, Hess Truck, Corgi Toys, Matchbox, Franklin Mint Precision Models, and Brooklin Models (among others) were all represented, along with several we were unable to identify.

The library will be keeping many of the models donated and will give the public an opportunity to purchase the rest from the gift shop at AACA National Headquarters and our booth at Black Swan Antiques in Palmyra, Pennsylvania.

We want to thank the family who made this incredible donation – we are enjoying the heck out of it! If you have a penchant for toy and model vehicles, remember that the library's collection includes books and literature on automotive toys, and the next time you visit us be sure to check out not only the full-sized vehicles on display in the building, but our newest tiny toy ones, too!

Interested in doing research with the AACA Library?

More information is available on our website.

Visit AACA Library or contact our Reference Librarian, Amoi Goldman, at agoldman@aaca.org or 717-534-2082.





Do You Remember Your First Car Show?

By Stacy Zimmerman, *Speedster Editor*, szimmerman@aacaa.org

Can you remember back to the first time someone took you to a car show? You probably remember who took you and maybe even some of the cars you saw that intrigued you enough to take an interest in this hobby. You may remember where it was and possibly even a few of the people you met. The person who took you remembers something very different though...

They remember the excitement and anticipation you displayed the week before the show. They remember the pep in your step as you started walking down the first row of cars. They remember the twinkle in your eyes when you saw your first (insert favorite car here). They remember the enthusiasm with which you answered the questions people asked you like, "How are you enjoying the show so far?" and "Are you having a good time today?" They remember the pure joy on your face when you thanked them for bringing you.

On May 20th, I had the pleasure of taking our new AACA Library Director Jen Wolfe to her very first AACA car show in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Jen has been with us for 5 months now and has had the opportunity to experience the day-to-day stuff at the library, as well as working the library trade show booth at Annual Convention but had yet to attend a show. Jen was so grateful for the chance to see the cars, meet the people and learn a little more about what makes an AACA car show so great.

I am throwing out a challenge to all of you... This is the perfect time of year to take someone who has never been

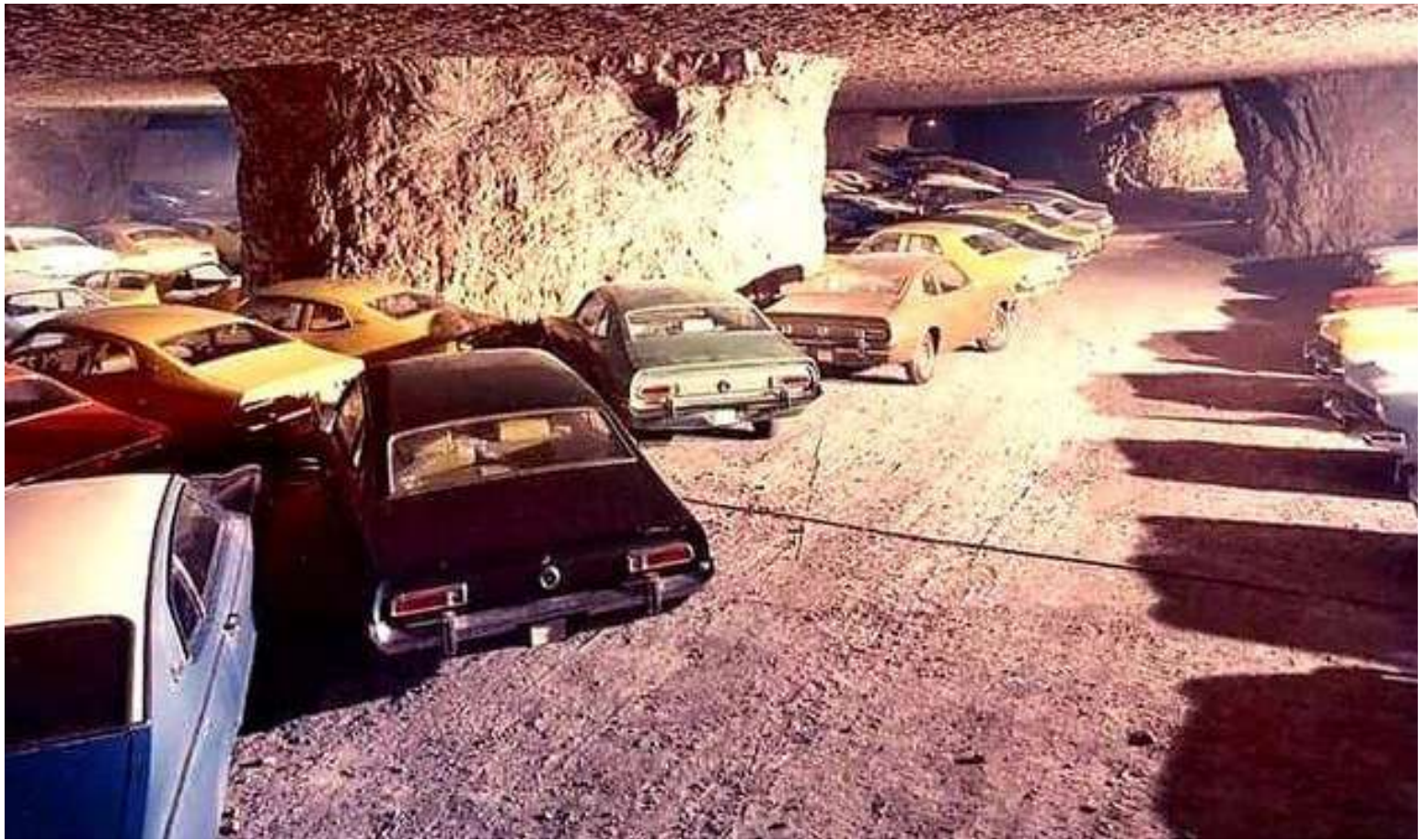
to an AACA event to a car show with you. We are entering into the busy season for car shows – both National and local – which means there are plenty of opportunities. And the best part is that we are starting our half-year memberships this week, so your friends can join AACA for only \$25! They can join onsite at the events or join beforehand and show a car right alongside you. Seeing someone experience their first car show is so rewarding for both you and them. I challenge you to introduce someone new to AACA this summer and help us expand our AACA family.



Jen also got to go for her first ride in a Model T at the Gettysburg show.

Speedster articles courtesy of AACA





Vintage photo cutline: This picture of unsold 1973 Ford Mavericks being stored underground has been making the rounds of the internet recently, so I figured I would share it here. At first, I thought this picture was fake or at least staged, but after doing a little research, it turns out that this photo is very much the real deal.

Forget the Barn Finds, What About the Cave Finds?

Reprinted from cockpitdz.com

In the early 1970s, Ford Motor Company was producing the Maverick, a compact car marketed as an affordable and efficient vehicle. However, the demand for the Maverick was not as high as Ford had anticipated, and they found themselves with a surplus of unsold cars.

To deal with this surplus, Ford decided to store thousands of unsold Mavericks in the Subtropolis caves located in Kansas City, Missouri. Subtropolis is a man-made underground complex of limestone mines, covering over 55 million square feet, and is home to many businesses that use the caves for storage and other purposes.

Ford leased about 25 acres of the cave complex, which was ideal for storing the cars as the caves are naturally climate-controlled with temperatures ranging between 60-70 degrees Fahrenheit year-round. The cars were kept in the caves until they could be sold, which reportedly took several years.

The storage of the Mavericks in the Subtropolis caves became somewhat of a legend in the automotive world, with many car enthusiasts and historians fascinated by

the idea of thousands of unsold cars sitting underground for years. Today, the Subtropolis complex is still in use, and while the Mavericks are no longer stored there, the story of their time underground remains a unique piece of automotive history.



Ford Starts Operation Underground



THIS IS THE first view of the underground storage area from the roadway. The railroad entrance is the projection, fifth opening from the right. Next on the left is the truck opening to the Ford storage area.

A NEW FORD CUSTOM in the entrance of the Ford storage area shows the size. This entrance has been sealed off, an overhead door hung and an unloading wall for trucks dug out. The unloading facility will accommodate two huge vans at a time.

Parts Storage Area Completed After 560,000,000 Years

Take the finest 70 degrees May day of the year, make the humidity a comfortable 40 per cent relative, multiply this day by 365 and you will have the life of several employees and one supervisor who will man the Company's underground storage area.

Truck drivers will find road

Woodhaven Plant Eyes Production

Only a year after ground breaking, the Company's partially completed Woodhaven (Mich.), Stamping Plant already has produced 100,000 major stampings for waiting Mustang assembly lines.

Giant pieces are being installed and placed into operation even while construction workers continue to transform a former lean field into a 2.5 million-square-foot network of steel, concrete and metal siding.

access easy. The only stop light between the cave and the Plant is at the Plant entrance. The only stop signs are at Randolph Road and across the railroad tracks near the cave.

Easy Access

To get to the underground storage area from the Plant drivers turn left at Randolph Road and go as far south as pavement allows. Near the river the road turns east and takes the driver past a rock quarry. Here he will see huge openings in the side of a cliff. These openings are the entrances to the new storage area.

Ford will occupy 82,000 square feet of space. At the present rate of rock mining, about ten acres a year, it took miners about two and one-half months to mine the area Ford will occupy.

Huge Rock Strata

The cave, located in what geologists call the Bethany Falls Lodge, is one-half mile deep.

one and one-half miles long. The strata of rock runs from Bethany, Mo., south and east to Jefferson City. It will take 200 years to take the rock from this rock deposit.

Without a temperature control system, the cave would be a constant 58 degrees. Proof of the temperature and humidity control is indicated by the 300 car loads (3,000,000 pounds) of sugar in storage in one area of the cave. Fresh air coming into the cave is filtered and either heated or cooled according to the season of the year.

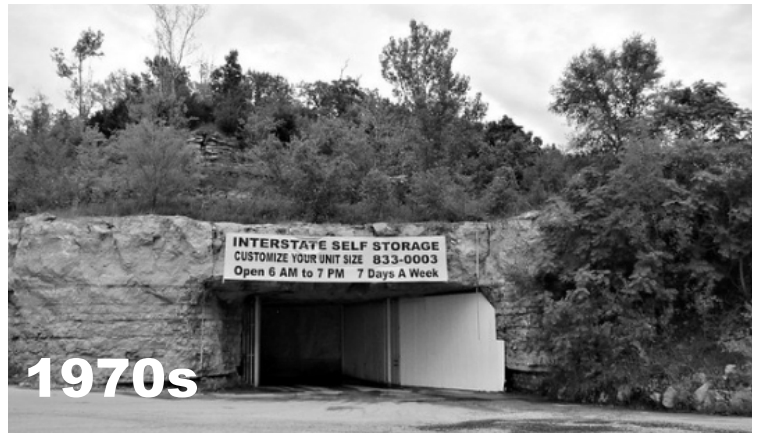
35-Foot In Diameter

Pillars, 35 feet in diameter, support 12-foot ceilings. Rock is now considered the main product with storage a by-product. Within the next few years storage could become the main product and rock slip to a by-product stage.

Geologists claim the rock in the cave is 560,000,000 years old. There is ample evidence on the pillars, ceiling and floor to prove that the area was once



AS FAR AS THE EYE could reach pillars and more cars can be seen. At this point the cave is one and one-half miles in length. Since this photo was taken the ceiling and the pillars have been whitewashed. A concrete floor now covers the area and the lighting has been installed. Now cars are stored in the cave.



1970s



Today

Specifically, the cars were being stored in a former limestone mine near Kansas City, Missouri called SubTropolis. As it turns out, Ford has been using this underground facility for decades to store both parts and completed cars.

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A look back at the history of the future of cars

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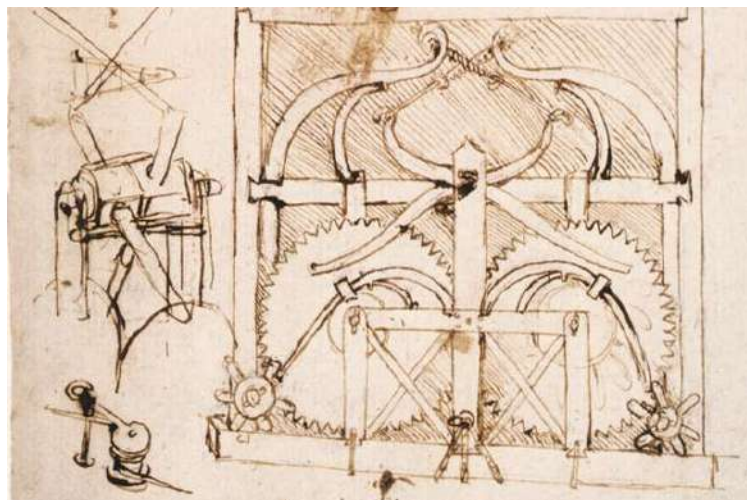
In this short gallery, Ars takes a look back at fifteen of the “future cars” ...

MATTHEW BRAGA - 3/24/2011, 11:33 PM

For those of us who grew up in the '80s, there's one catchphrase that defined our hopes and expectations for what the automobile could be like in that far, far distant future when we became as old as Marty McFly's parents: “where we're going, we don't need roads.” But here we are in 2011, facing our forties, and we still need roads. The steering wheel is another matter. Indeed, if there's any component of the car as we know it that's about to be go unneeded thanks to technological innovation, it's the driver.

It's a shame that the earthbound, driverless reality of the real-world future of the automobile isn't nearly so much fun as the future-car fantasies that moviemakers and scientists have dangled before us over the past century. In this short gallery, Ars takes a look back at what we all thought that driving might one day be like in the future.

Da Vinci's Self-propelled Cart



Public domain via Wikimedia Commons

The self-driving car might appear to be a recent invention, but like flying machines and armored tanks, it had its roots in the 15th and 16th century—specifically, in the workshop of Italian renaissance man Leonardo da Vinci. His primitive, self-propelled cart was one of many designs the inventor drew throughout his lifetime, even though it may have never been built.

In truth, the vehicle was far less a traditional automobile than it was an oversized wind-up toy, and it relied on a series of tightly wound coil springs to propel itself forward.

Unique, however, was the ability to “program” the cart’s direction using a system of specially placed woodblocks—essentially a primitive method of automation. A working model was recently produced by American engineer Mark Rosheim in 2000, and later, one was shown in Florence, Italy.

Da Vinci never actually planned to have the cart transport objects or people; he designed the contraption for the purpose of entertainment at Renaissance-era festivals instead. However, that’s probably for the best; the cart could only be programmed to turn right, a shortcoming we’re glad modern vehicles have long since overcome.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang



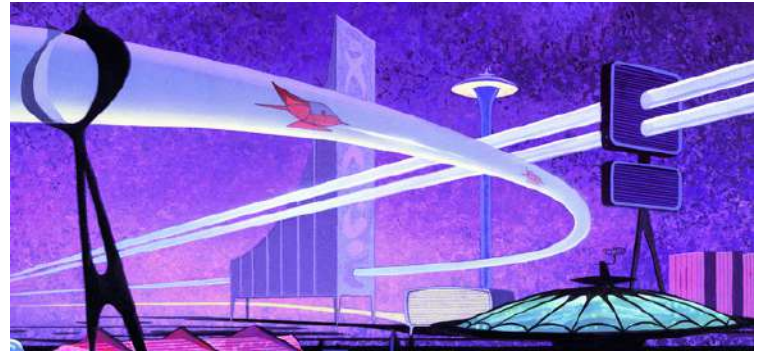
Copyright MGM Studios

Ian Fleming is known mainly for the creation of British super-spy James Bond. However, he also produced one piece of children’s fiction, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Taking cues from old aero-engine racing cars—vehicles with powerful airplane engines attached—Fleming developed his tale of a car that is revealed to have impressive powers hidden within.

For example, when the car’s eccentric owner Caractacus Pott is caught in traffic, the vehicle produces wings and flies overhead instead. Later, the car manages to transform into a hovercraft, traveling on water, and it even exhibits signs of intelligence and external awareness—like an early 20th century version of *Knight Rider*’s KITT.

Fleming’s story was eventually turned into a feature film of the same name in 1968, with a screenplay adapted by popular author Roald Dahl, giving moviegoers the chance to see the outlandish vehicle imagined on the big screen. In both cases, the foresight exhibited by both Fleming and Dahl is impressive—even if the car was intended to be more magical than futuristic.

Disney’s EPCOT and The Magic Highway



Copyright Walt Disney Productions

The late Walt Disney is perhaps best known for producing some of the most popular and beloved animated features of all time. However, in 1958, Disney and his animators envisioned a world in which cars would drive far above the earth on massive, raised highways.

As explained in Disney’s old, animated short, the vehicles on this “Magic Highway” would be fully automated; a driver simply “chooses the route in advance on a push-button selector, [and] electronics take over complete control. Progress can be accurately checked on a synchronized scanning map.” Looking back, Disney got one thing right—those accurate, synchronized maps have been fully realized in the form of GPS navigation devices and smartphones. The promise of automation, however, is still a work in progress.

Years later, Disney pitched another, more comprehensive concept known as EPCOT—the Experimental Community Prototype of Tomorrow. This visionary blueprint imagined a Disney-built city that would be free of cars, long before pollution and environmental concerns dominated the public conscience. The plan was to designate sidewalks and roads as pedestrian areas, diverting any necessary vehicles underneath the idyllic cityscape.

Sadly, EPCOT’s original design was scrapped following Disney’s death in 1966, and it developed into a theme park instead.





How the AACA is becoming “America’s Car Club”

By Jeff Broadus VP - Marketing

We don’t need to be the authority of what we are not, but we do need to be the authority of who and what we are and represent. As VP of Marketing, it’s my responsibility to address all our efforts in how, and where, we position the AACA in the marketplace. The AACA is fully committed to improving our engagement with members and we’re bringing it to the digital platform. Our marketing effort is the direct result of member input. We recognize, listen, and appreciate that some of the best ideas and suggestions comes from sources outside our normal channels. If we do it right, the plans we implement on corporate outreach, will support all our regions and chapters on a local more personalized level. So what steps are we implementing to make this happen?

Most recently, your Board of Directors took on the task of addressing the most important image the AACA has, our web presence. The website is the first introduction to the club, and its main purpose and function is to give visitors, as well as members a reason to be part of the club, engage and participate. The site is the result of months of hard work and collaboration of many.

We encourage you to visit the website if you haven’t done so at www.AACA.org. As of May 2023, we also started the redesign of our Library website and expect the new site to launch early July 2023. We’ll keep you in the loop of our progress and how this supports the car community.

Moving forward the AACA will be launching an aggressive membership growth campaign. This is a specific task with the single focus of building membership. We are currently looking to partner with several influential organizations and build a marketing campaign to include membership engagement, a digital marketing outreach, leverage social media outlets, special promotions, and email campaigns, just to name a few. In consideration of this new marketing effort, we’ve formulated a business model

outlining our vision and marketing strategy to include a plan of execution and budget. Let’s face it, most car guys and gals spent a considerable amount of time pursuing their love and passion of the automobile. We believe the best way to support these car owners and potential new members is to expose them to all the resources that make our club strong, significant and an authority in the automotive community. We’re looking to incorporate the holistic approach to marketing and tie it in to our 90th Anniversary in 2024.

Simply put, the key to growing AACA membership is to establish a membership model that aligns with our organization’s beliefs, strategy, and the values. New and existing members will benefit online by easily accessing our experienced, knowledgeable, and resourceful collector car network. This model will also provide the valuable resources found in our automotive archives

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