



# Exhaust Whistle



January 2025 - Official publication of the AACA Great Southern Region - Serving Central Alabama Vol. 37 No. 1

## See you at our next meeting February 27



This car was specially painted to match a factory poster that illustrated the offered colors. You can see part of the poster at the top of the Picture

### Welborn Muscle Car Museum Alexander City

Several members drove to the museum on Saturday morning. It was a beautiful day for the drive, and we were joined by some members of the Mopar Club for the drive up to Alexander City.

When we arrived at the museum we were met by Alton Freeman, the museum curator, who gave us a personal tour. He was a delightful tour guide with lots of stories about the museum and the cars.

After the tour of the museum, he also took us

Continued on page 3

*A Note From The*  
**PRESIDENT**



If you missed the drive to Wellborn MuscleCar Museum on January 25, you missed a good one. No worries though, we plan to have many more this year. The goal at this time is an average of one every 2 months. Already working on the next one and I'll keep you posted on the details as they become available.

As probably many of you, I am looking forward to some warmer weather to spend more time outside and driving. Show season will start heating up soon for those that enjoy that part of the car hobby. And if you paid attention to the first paragraph, drives. The AACA national calendar has several tours scheduled for this year so check them out when you have the time. They are a lot of fun with great people. Seriously.

The next meeting of the Great Southern Region will be February 27. We have been meeting at Dale's Southern Grill in Hoover but there has been interest in a different location with a little more room. I'll confirm all the details before we get to that time. Look forward to seeing all of you.

Let's Drive in 25

*Ken McClellan*



AACA National Headquarters  
P.O. Box 417 Hershey, PA 17033  
Founded 1935 717.534.1910  
[www.aaca.org](http://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 Great Southern Region  
Ownership of an antique car is optional

### **The Exhaust Whistle**

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

The Exhaust Whistle is a monthly publication of the AACA Great Southern 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.

### **2024 Officers:**

- President: Ken McClellan
- Vice President: Bill Gardner
- Treasurer: Vicki Bolton
- Secretary: Vicki Bolton
- Editor/Webmaster: Charlotte Dahlenburg
- Activities: Bill Gardner



another building to see some of his personal cars that he is working on.

It was a great day and we topped it off with a visit to the local bar-b-q restaurant which was very good.

- Vicki Bolton



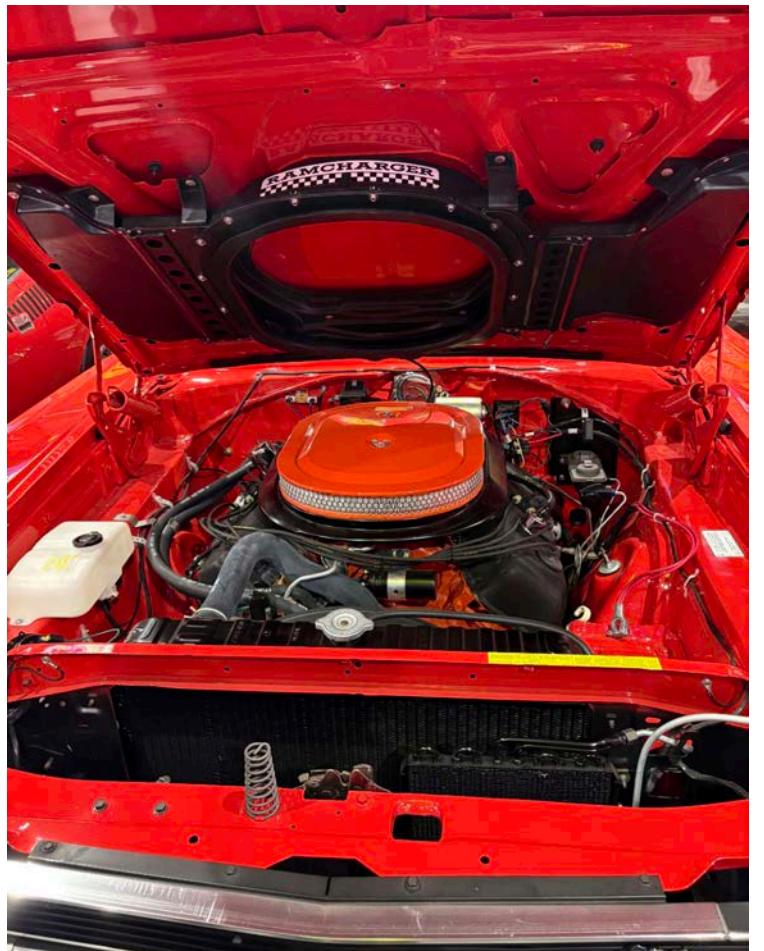
GSR members enjoying lunch after touring the Wellborn Muscle Museum. Others in attendance but not pictured included Arthur and Vicki Bolton and Bo Bogarty



A couple of the logos featured in the museum

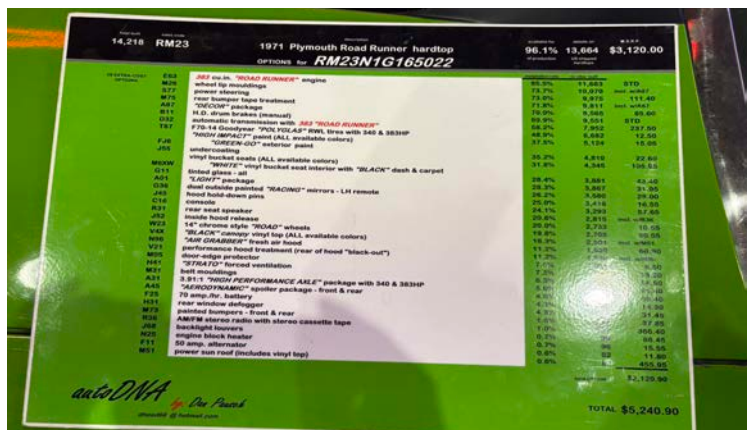


A spectacular 1969 Super B





This car is one of Mrs Wellborn's favorites. The pink is the original authentic color



This 1971 Plymouth road runner was loaded with lots of options including a sun roof



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



January 21, we had historic snow in Mobile area. We received 7.5 inches of snow in about 12 hours. The next day when we were able to drive to where our Model A is stored and we had to get Eleanor out for a photo. Although the snow prevented us from attending the Tour on Saturday we sure had fun in the snow.

*Charlotte*

# January Meeting Minutes

We had a short meeting at the restaurant and discussed future touring opportunities which included a tour to Cheaha State Park but that may have to wait until the restaurant opens up again. There are other state parks with restaurants that could be an option including Lake Guntersville State Park Restaurant and Lakepoint State Park Restaurant overlooking Lake Eufaula. Another suggestion was to visit the Orrville Farmers Market.

Another topic for discussion was to find a new meeting place. Some Suggestions included Bright Star in Bessemer, Golden Rule in Irondale, and Saltgrass Steak House in Hoover,(280 location is closed.)

Meeting place for February meeting will be announced shortly.

Respectfully Submitted Vicki Bolton

**Antique Automobile Club of America  
Southeastern Spring Nationals  
April 5, 2025 at Charlotte AutoFair**  
Hosted by Hornets Nest Region, AACA  
Meet Email: [hornetsnestregionaaca@windstream.net](mailto:hornetsnestregionaaca@windstream.net)



**HORNETS NEST REGION • AACA**  
**CHARLOTTE**  
SPRING MEET  
**AUTOFAIR**  
CHARLOTTE MOTOR SPEEDWAY  
**April 3 - 5, 2025**

**AACA Southeastern  
Spring Nationals  
Information  
Region Office  
704-841-1990  
Mon-Thur 9-3**

**Hornets Nest Region**  
Antique Automobile Club of America  
9307-H Monroe Road  
Charlotte, NC 28270

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

Vehicle Registrations Will Be Handled With the Customary AACA Process.

**WESTERN SPRING NATIONALS - GRAND NATIONALS**



**DUAL IN THE DESERT III**

**TUCSON AZ - MAY 1-3, 2025**  
Hosted by the Tucson Region - Antique Automobile Club of America

**For more info or to register: [tucsonaaca.org](http://tucsonaaca.org)**

**Event Coordinator:**  
Dave Green 520-904-7325 [alpdavegre@msn.com](mailto:alpdavegre@msn.com)  
**Grand National Chair:**  
Tom Mulligan 520-325-7247 [tmulligansr@aol.com](mailto:tmulligansr@aol.com)  
**Western Spring Chair:**  
Andy Neal 520-405-5490 [nihoto560@gmail.com](mailto:nihoto560@gmail.com)  
**Registration Chair:**  
Roy Ireland 520-591-1140 [royireland802@gmail.com](mailto:royireland802@gmail.com)



# Local Calendar

## Cruise Ins

### Cruise Ins

- 1st Tuesday - 5-8pm** Petro Bucksville 22526 Highway 216 McCalla
- Thursday Weekly - 6-9pm** VFW Post 6022, 7001 University Blvd E, Cottondale
- 1st Saturday - 8-11am** Hoovers Tactical Firearms Cruise In 1561 Montgomery Hwy. Hoover. Hosted by Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club
- First Saturday - 9-2pm.** Cruising on the Square. Downtown Jasper (April – Sept)
- 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. 6200 Grand River Blvd E, Leeds, AL
- 3rd Saturday - 6pm** Tallahassee Shopping Center 400 Gilmer Ave
- 3rd Saturday - 2-5pm** Hooters Hwy 119 & Oak Mountain Park Road, 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 Phoenix City
- 3rd Saturday – 6-9pm** Jack's Drive in Blountsville (May-Aug)
- 4th Saturday - 5-9pm** Pizza Bar 141 2nd St NW Carbon Hill
- 4th Saturday – 8-10:30am** 1110 Sparkman St. NW Hartselle American Legion Post 52
- Saturday Weekly 8:30-10:30** Shops of Colonnade 3418 Colonnade Pkwy, Birmingham
- 3rd Sunday - 1-5pm** Casual Pint, 5541 Grove Blvd, Hoover
- 3rd & 5th Sunday 3pm** 1204 Forestdale Square, Forestdale
- Last Saturday – 5pm-?** 7900 Vaughn Rd at Taylor Rd Montgomery

## Shows

### February

**15 The Huffstuter Family Benefit Car Show.** 11am-3pm. Petro, 22526 Hwy 216, McCalla. \$20 entry. info americanpridetrophy@gmail.com

### March

- 1 5th Annual Anna Jent Memorial Scholarship Fund Car Show.** 9-1pm On Main Street in Sumtion, AL. Entry \$20. Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles and Model and Diecast Cars! Info 205-317-6298
- 8 Benefit for the Alabama Swat Association Car Show.** 9am-12pm 5500 Stadium Trace Pkwy, Hoover. \$20 entry. Info www.mobincbhm.com
- 15 Inaugural Show Your Ride Show.** 8am-2pm 200 Parker Dr, Pelham, AL. Cars, trucks, Jeeps, & motorcycles. Food trucks, live DJ, scholarship auction, and random drawing.
- 22 Eulaton Church Car Show.** 3-7pm. 1835 Gate 8 Road, Anniston AL. Car, Bike, or Truck. Info and registration at eulatonfirstbaptist.com

### April

- 5 Cruise in Auto Show.** 11-4pm 20105 Hwy 1, Woodstock, AL. Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, Open Track, Test and Tune, Swap Meet, Old School Reunion. Info 205-938-2123
- 19 Pell City Car Show** Gates open at 10 am. Lakeside Park 2801 Stemley Bridge Rd Pell City, AL
- 26 Raven Spratlin Memorial Car Show.** 10 am Central Alabama Community College, 1675 Cherokee Rd, Alexander City. Entry \$30. Contact Luke Kidwille 256-307-5924

### May

- 3 Riverview Baptist 3rd Annual Car Show,** 9am 4995 Hay 77 South, AL Youth Camp Fundraiser

# AAOA Calendar

## February 6-8

### Annual Convention

Location: Charlotte, North Carolina Sponsor: National Headquarters

## April 3-5

### Southeastern Spring Nationals

Location: Charlotte, North Carolina Sponsor: Hornets Nest Region

## May 1-3

### Western Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals

Location: Tuscon, Arizona Sponsor: Tucson Region

## June 1-7

### Vintage Tour (1931 and earlier)

Location: Pennsylvania Sponsor: Buzzard Breath Touring Region

## June 19-21

### Eastern Spring National

Sponsor: Whitewater Region AACA

## July 2-5

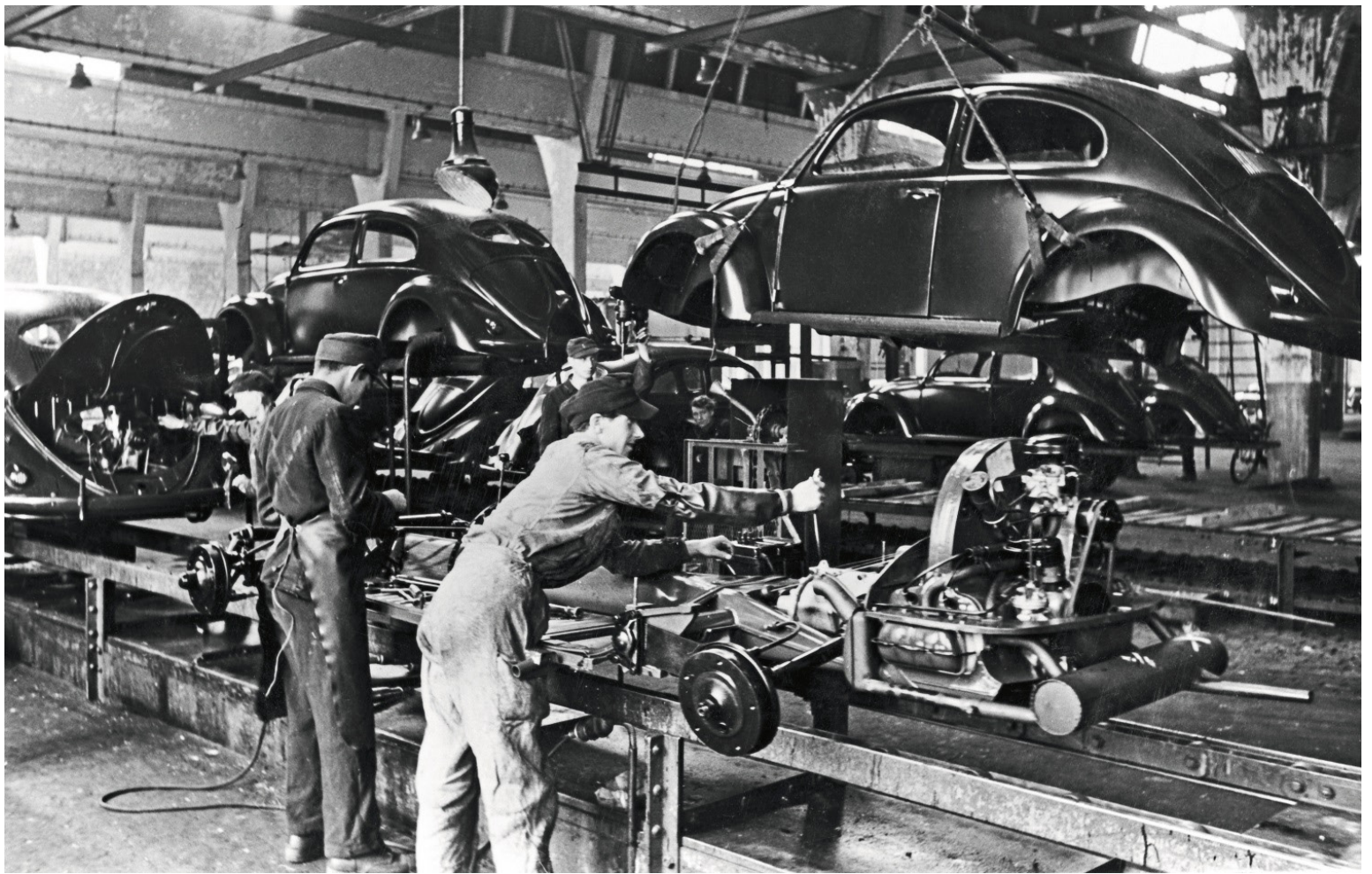
### Central Spring Nationals

Location: Auburn, Indiana Sponsor: Crossroads of America Region

# GSR Calendar

January 25 .....	Let's Drive Tour
<b>February 27 .....</b>	<b>Dinner Meeting</b>
March 27 .....	Dinner Meeting
April 24 .....	Dinner Meeting
May 22.....	Dinner Meeting
June 26 .....	Dinner Meeting
July 24.....	Dinner Meeting
August 28 .....	Dinner Meeting
August 30 .	Labor Day Weekend Car Show at Pepper Place
September 25.....	Dinner Meeting
October 23.....	Dinner Meeting
November 20.....	Dinner Meeting
December 18.....	Dinner Meeting





The “marriage” at Volkswagen’s Wolfsburg plant. You can request this photo with the indication of the intended use and the image signature at [history@volkswagen.de](mailto:history@volkswagen.de).

## **75 years ago in Wolfsburg: Start of series production of the Volkswagen Beetle**

On December 27, 1945 the serial production of the Volkswagen Limousine (Type 1) got started. This was the real beginning of the success story of the Volkswagen. The model had originally been planned as a prestige project of the National Socialists. But from 1939 onwards the Wolfsburg plant had produced armaments instead of vehicles. Up to the end of World War II, only 630 units of the model, which had been renamed “KdF-Wagen” in 1938, left the Volkswagen plant. It was only under British trusteeship that the unique success story of the VW Beetle began at Wolfsburg thanks to the strategic vision of Major Ivan Hirst.

Series production of the civilian Volkswagen, referred to internally as “Type 1”, which later became world-famous as the “Beetle”, only started following the end of World War II on December 27, 1945 under the trusteeship over Volkswagenwerk GmbH which had been assumed by the British Military Government in June 1945. The British intended to use the Volkswagen Type 1 to perform urgently needed transport tasks within their occupation zone. It was this British pragmatism that finally protected the plant against impending demolition. Senior Resident Officer Major Ivan Hirst played a key role in this development.

It was his farsightedness and talent for improvisation that made it possible to start automobile production in the years of rationing under conditions dominated by shortages. With his enthusiasm for technology and cars, his purposefulness and distinct attitude, he succeeded in transforming a former armaments plant into a civilian industrial company in an impressively short space of time.

The British Military Government had already issued an order for 20,000 vehicles in August 1945. The start of production was a visible sign of a new beginning and hope at the factory which had been largely destroyed by the

end of World War II. This solution was in line with later British policy for Germany, which saw financial security and future prospects for the population as key elements in the development of democratic structures. Finally, democracy finds its way into the Volkswagenwerk: on November 27, 1945 the the Works Council elected in a democratic ballot held its constituent meeting.

Nevertheless, there were considerable problems in supplying the workforce with food and living space and production was hampered by raw material and energy supply bottlenecks. Despite these difficult conditions, the first Volkswagen sedan left the production line shortly after Christmas. Wolfsburg and Volkswagenwerk GmbH received a belated Christmas present only eight months after the end of the war. By the end of 1945, 55 vehicles had been produced.

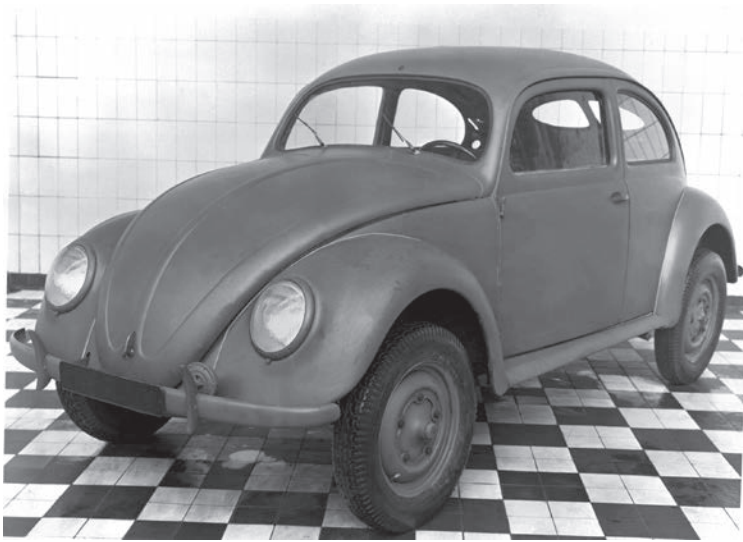
From 1946 up to the currency reform, about 1,000 vehicles were produced per month. It was not possible to produce more vehicles in view of material shortages and rationing as well as a lack of personnel. The trustees responsible laid the foundations for further growth of the company by the fall of 1949. They established a sales and after-sales service system and began to export the Volkswagen sedan in 1947.

The decision to develop a civilian factory and to start series production of the Volkswagen Type 1 was the starting point of a unique success story. Thanks to the early restart, the Volkswagenwerk GmbH got an excellent initial position for the economic upswing after the introduction of the D-Mark. Under the unofficial designation of "VW Beetle", the car became more popular than almost any

other automobile model throughout the world. It was also a record breaker in terms of production duration and volume. Volkswagen only discontinued production of the VW Beetle in Mexico in 2003, after 21,529,464 vehicles had been manufactured, including about 15.8 million in Germany.



This 1944 KDF-Wagen made its first appearance at Hershey 2024. Owned by Alexander Soultanis. He had just completed a 20 year restoration.



Volkswagen Type 1, the "Beetle". You can request this photo with the indication of the intended use and the image signature at [history@volkswagen.de](mailto:history@volkswagen.de).

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Questions? Contact **Jeff Stumb**  
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 Atlanta ~ 6 hours    Indianapolis ~ 3 hours  
 St. Louis ~ 3 hours    Columbus ~ 5 hours

The Touring Club  
[www.VMCCA.org](http://www.VMCCA.org)







## 1961 Buick Special Deluxe

by Mark Maynard - Mark Maynard has written about cars, their people, and products for 30 years. You can email him at [MaynardsGarage@gmail.com](mailto:MaynardsGarage@gmail.com) or visit his website, [MaynardsGarage.com](http://MaynardsGarage.com).

The Buick Special was typically the brand's lowest-priced model. According to its page in Wikipedia, the nameplate started as a full-size car in 1936. After a two-year hiatus, the model returned in 1938 as a midsize.

The Special was built for several decades and was offered as a coupe, sedan, and later as a station wagon.

General Motors modernized its entry-level products in the 1960s, and the Special introduced the modern Buick V-6. The engine would become the core engine for GM for several decades and lives on in current upgraded V6 products.

The entry-level Buick Special can trace its heritage to the Buick Model 10, a companion to Buick's first car, the Model B. (GM photo archives)

"By 1970, Special was no longer offered as a standalone model, but the name would later be used for the entry trim on 1975 to 1979 and 1991 to 1996 Century models.

The entry-level Buick can trace its heritage to the Buick Model 10, a companion to Buick's first car, the Model B. The Model 10 started as one of the independent brands merged into Buick, called the Janney, a Brass-Era carmaker.

In 1961, the model returned after an absence of two years, but this time it was on the new unibody compact GM Y platform.

### Buick Special Powertrains

The Special's engine was the 155-horsepower, aluminum-block 215-cubic-inch V-8. It was paired with the two-speed Dual Path Turbine Drive automatic transmission. The Dual Path was a Buick design and shared no common parts with the better known Chevrolet

Power-Glide transmission.

Buick introduced the performance-oriented Skylark trim level midyear. It featured unique trim elements, optional bucket seats, and a 185 hp, four-barrel version of the 215 V-8.

In 1962, the Special was the first American car to use a V-6 engine in volume production; it earned Motor Trend's Car of the Year for 1962.

The 198-cubic-inch "Fireball" was engineered from the 215 V-8.

The design used many of the same V-8 parameters, but it was cast in iron. Peak horsepower was 135 hp at 4,600 rpm with 205 foot-pounds of torque at 2,400 rpm.

In Road & Track testing that year, the editors were impressed with Buick's "practical" new V6, saying it

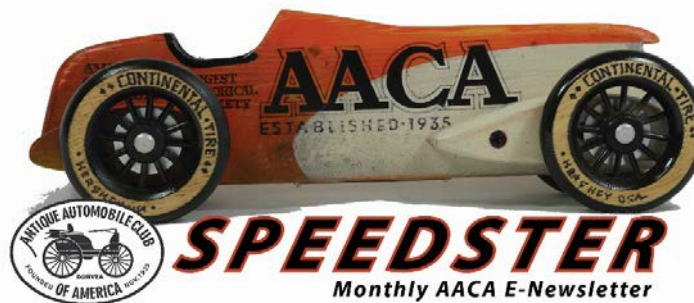
"sounds and performs exactly like the aluminum V8 in most respects."

### 1963 Special Refresh

In 1963, the Special's exterior was restyled. Mechanically, however, the car was identical to the 1962 model. According to the Wikipedia report, there were also some minor interior updates to the dash and instrument cluster.

The 1963 Special was available as a two-door pillared hardtop coupe, four-door sedan, a convertible, and a station wagon.

The 1963 body was only produced for one year and had sales of 148,750, including 42,321 Skylarks. The car was redesigned for 1964.



**SPEEDSTER**  
Monthly AACAA E-Newsletter

Speedster articles courtesy of AACAA

## Thank You to the 2024 AACAA National Awards Committee

Every year in December, the AACAA National Awards Committee makes the trek to Hershey, PA, to meet for a long weekend at your National Headquarters to choose your National Award winners for that year. Once this dedicated group of volunteers has done its work, all of the National Award winners are notified that they have won an award which will be presented to them at the Annual Convention in February. They are not told what award they have won, just that they have won one. This is our way of still keeping some surprise and mystery about the awards.

Many thanks to the 2024 AACAA National Awards Committee! We are looking very forward to honoring our 2024 National Award winners in Charlotte/Concord, North Carolina, at the 2025 Annual Convention.

*L to R moving up the stairs) Hulon McCraw, Wayne Tuck, Kelly Adams, Dain King, Debbie Nolen, Jim Elliott, Tom Howard, Tom Cox, Terry Bond, Mike Petersen, John Harvey, John McCarthy, Mike Jones, Doc Stanley Stratton, Stan Kulikowski, Bob Parrish, Randy Rutherford, Eric Marsh, Rick Lay*





**Rummage Box  
 Editor's Note  
 By Debbie Nolen, AACA  
 VP of Publications**

I'd like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Matthew Hinson, who recently stepped down from the Publications Committee, and most specifically as editor of the Rummage Box. Over his 31 issue run at the helm of the newsletter, Matthew collected many valuable and informative articles, presented the thoughts of the AACA Board of Directors and made all available to the Regions and Chapters' newsletter editors, webmasters, and AACA membership. Thank you for your years of service as an evaluator in the AACA NAAP newsletter editor program and on the Publication Committee at large. Matthew, we appreciated your shared thoughts and insights over the years and wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Rest assured, in the coming months, you'll still receive the same quality insights and abundant Rummage Box resources from your AACA Board of Directors with some interesting developments as we move forward into the Spring and our Touring and Nationals season! Stay tuned on that radio dial!



**JOIN THE FUN!!!**

If you haven't seen or gotten copies of our new high quality AACA National Quad-fold Membership Brochure, WOW! You're missing out! It is an amazing promotional piece, up-to-date and chock full of information guaranteed to excite and entice new members while fully explaining with detail practically all aspects of the AACA – everything you ever wanted to know at your fingertips in ONE location!

Reach out to National AACA to get your copies as it's a MUST have - easily accessible for distribution at cars and coffees, fun runs, your local meets, anywhere you want to support your region or chapter's membership initiatives this year!  
*Rummage Box articles courtesy of AACA*

**Mileage Award Program**

Touring is not a spectator sport, so for those who enjoy driving their vintage vehicle, the AACA Mileage Award Program (MAP) has been set up. So, as the old saying goes, "Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines" and prepare to enjoy AACA touring.

Anytime a vehicle is driven - anywhere for any reason - the mileage counts towards the award level.

The vehicle owner must register

the vehicle in the MAP. Registration included completing the MAP form and returning it with \$25 to AACA Headquarters.

When the vehicle is driven 2,000 miles it is eligible for the MAP award. The badge has places for each award:

1st Award - 2,000 mile; 2nd Award - 5,000 mile; Subsequent Award(s) at each 5,000 mile increment.

Mail your copy 2 at each increment



for National Headquarters to approve and you award will be mailed to you. Direct questions to [general@aaca.org](mailto:general@aaca.org) or 717-534-1910.