

Eddie and Suzanne Bibb host the July 12 Gathering See The Presidents Letter for Details



#### From Model A to Great Race: A Timeless Afternoon with the Jenkins

On June 14th Garrett and Judy Jenkins welcomed our members to their home for lunch and a tour of their home with a garage full of antique autos. A delicious hot dog lunch along with some tasty homemade ice cream was served. Prior to lunch, we viewed their vast array of autos including Model A Fords, 60's Corvette, Pontiac GTO, 65 Mustang and their beautiful motorcycle. A special treat was seeing their 37 Ford which they have driven on multiple Great American Races.

After lunch, Garrett discussed their experiences

participating in the Great Race. Also, fellow member Sam Barnett added to the discussion about his experiences in participating in the Great Race. Great Race T-shirts, hats and programs were available to take home.

It was a great day of fellowship and food offered to our members by the Garretts, including having his 99 year old dad joining us. He shared the memory that he still remembers going as a child with his parents to Long-Lewis Ford to purchase

# A Note From The **PRESIDENT**

The summer is heating up and so are our plans.

We are now 19 days away from our next summer gathering/event. Please take time to mark your calendar now so you will have the opportunity of joining all of us for an enjoyable gathering.

Eddie and Suzanne Bibb have invited everyone to join them at their location in Odenville to peruse the collection of cars they have at that location, then we will convoy to their lake house on Lake Logan Martin in Riverside for lunch and visiting with fellow car lovers. To make it easy, we will meet at Buc-ees in Leeds at 9:30, then travel up to Odenville.

Those of you that were able to join us in June at the Jenkins residence know how much fun we had. Garrett and Judy were incredible hosts! This next event should just build on that. To those of you that haven't had the opportunity to join us lately, please think seriously about coming along. Who knows, you might have fun. ;-)

Please RSVP to me no later than Tuesday, 7/8.

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

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





a new Model A Ford. He remembers that his mom wanted to buy a red car – but the only color of car available that day was BLACK – Henry Ford's Favorite Color!

Thanks to the Garrett and Judy for hosting our club - Bill Gardner.



Judy and Garrett Jenkins host of the day



The ladies enjoy lunch together



Car stories shared with everyone



Friendly conversation with fellow members



Garrett speaks about the GreatRace



Left to Right, Back to front: Eddie Bibb, John McClellan, Carol Keller, Sam Barnett, Ed Keller, Bo Bogaty, Judy Jenkins, Garrett Jenkins, Phyllis McClellan, Linda McClellan, Ken McClellan, Suzanne Bibb, Bill Jenkins, Linda Gardner, Art Bolton, Vicki Bolton and not pictured Bill Gardner attended the event.







60s C1 Corvette



1929 Ford Model A Woody Station Wagon



Pontiac GTO



1965 Ford Mustang Convertible

## What Have Non Been Np To?



## 2025 Marmon Muster

Sam Barnett, Sally Barnett and James Meridith on the Marmon Muster in French Lick, Indiana June 4-8, 2025. Sam was the auctioneer at one of the events.









### Weekend to Remember

The '55 had a busy, memorable weekend splitting time between the 2025 NSRA Mobile Bay Street Rods Nationals and the Back Roads Touring Club's ride to Palestine Gardens.

With the heat in full force, we were thankful to help indoors at the NSRA booth. It was a great chance to meet fellow car lovers, especially people from Mobile.

Sunday's tour took us down the scenic back roads of Mobile County, AL, and George County, MS. Twisting highways, lush landscapes, and good company made the drive a treat. Palestine Gardens was a unique stop walking through Bible history in miniature was both peaceful and fascinating.

And of course, we wrapped it all up with ice cream, a sweet end to a hot, unforgettable weekend. - Charlotte





The AACA returns to DeKalb County in 2025 with the **Central Spring Nationals**, July 2-5. Held in the "Classic Car Capital of the World," Auburn, Indiana, it's a perfect location to showcase your collector car, connect with fellow enthusiasts, and celebrate the rich heritage of classic cars. Go for your senior award to qualify for Grand Nationals!

## **REGISTER NOW!**

Beth Flesher 229-834-0179 | 25CAR.AACA@gmail.com Registration deadline is June 9, 2025 or until maximum spots of 225 cars are filled. All pre-registered trailer parking will be on-site.





### October 7-10 Tuesday-Friday

Largest Antique Car Show & Flea Morket in the World

Registration information can be obtained by submitting the activity request card that came with this magazine to AACA Headquarters.





## A Note From The EDITOR

#### Staying Connected in the Great Southern Region

The Great Southern Region has been around since September 1966—that's 59 years of fun, friendships, and a whole lot of change!

Back in the day, our newsletter was printed on a mimeograph machine and sent out by mail. Now, it goes out by email. We used to make calls from home phones—now we call, text, or email from our cell phones wherever we are.

We're working on making it even easier to stay in touch with everyone.

- 1. Our president will keep emailing about upcoming events.
- 2. I'll keep sending out the newsletter and any important updates.

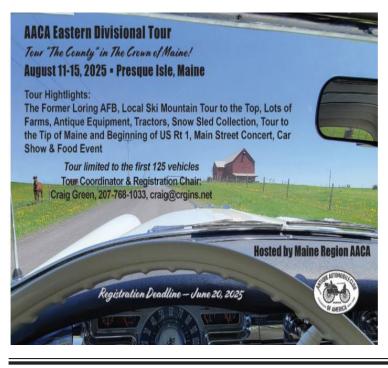
**New!** We've started a **group text** for GSR news and event reminders. If you want to join, just email me at realracegril1@gmail.com or text me at **256-783-2261**.

Group texts will be used for club business only - like reminders about events or when we need a headcount.

We want to keep this club fun and active. Got ideas? Let any of our officers know—we'd love to hear them.

#### We're better together!

Charlotte



## 95R Calendar

January 23	Dinner Meeting
February 27	Dinner Meeting
March 27	Dinner Meeting
April 12	Let's Drive Tour
May 24	Let's Drive Tour
June 14	Jenkins Place
July	Bibb's Place
August	Let's Drive Tour
September 25	Dinner Meeting
October	Let's Drive Tour
November 11 VeteransDay	Car Show at Pepper Place
November 20	Dinner Meeting
December	Christmas Meeting



AACA GRAND NATIONALS DAYTON OHIO | JULY 24-26, 2025

Registration Deadline: June 30, 2025

Welcome Reception at America's Packard Museum Membership Roundtable = Judging School Zenith Display & Award Ceremony at Packard Museum Hawaiian Luau & Live Band = Judges' Breakfast Grand Nationals Car Show & Awards Dinner at the National Museum of the US Air Force

Multiple hotels and lodging information can be found in the brochure on the AACA website.

Chairman: Steve Moskowitz 717-534-1910 office 717-350-5484 cell aaca1@aaca.org Registration Chair: Pat Buckley 717-534-1910 office 717-329-4658 cell pbuckley@aaca.org





## 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 J**ack'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 3pm1204 Forestdale Square, Forestdale
Last Saturday - 5pm-? 7900 Vaugh Rd at Taylor Rd Montgomery

## Att CAt Calendar

#### July 2-5

Central Spring Nationals

Location: Auburn, Indiana Sponsor: Crossroads of America Region July 24-26

#### Grand Nationals/Zenith

Location: Dayton, Ohio Sponsor: National Headquarters

#### August 12-15

Eastern Divisional Tour

Location: Northern Maine Sponsor: Maine Region

#### September 7-12

**Revival AAA Glidden Tour**<sup>®</sup> (Pre-1943) Location: Owensboro, KY Sponsor: VMCCA

#### October 7-10

Eastern Fall Nationals

Location: Hershey, PA Sponsor: Hershey Region

#### October 18-22

Central Divisional Tour

Location: San Antonio To Gonzales, TX Sponsor: Texas DFW Region

#### Shows

#### July

- 5 Bear Creek Friendship Festival Car and Motorcycle Show. 8-2pm. Reg \$20. Info: 205-269-3663
- 5 American Pride Trophies and Awards Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show. 10-1pm. 1011 Brooklande Dr. Suite D, Huetown, AL \$20 Entry
- 12 American Legion Post 101 Car & Bike Show. 8-1pm. 370 SW 3rd Street, Carbon Hill \$20 entry. Info 205-269-9300
- 26 Maxwell Exchange Car, Truck and Bike Show 10-4pm AAFES Parking Lot, 355 South Kelly Street Bldg 1000 Maxwell AFB

#### August

- **16 Samantha Showcase Vendor Fair and Classic Car Show.** 10-2pm. Northside Lions Club 13166 Northside Rd, Berry, AL Ifo 205-765-7320
- **23 Vincent Middle School Softball Car Show** 9-1pm 42505 AL-25, Vincent, AL \$25 entry
- 23 Cars on the Coosa 2350 Coosa River Parkway, Wetumpka

#### **30 Labor Day Weekend Car Show at Pepper Place** September

27 12th Annual Cruising for Christ Car & Motorcycle Show. 8-12pm. 2024 Redemption Way Odenville. Info 205-962-5584

#### October

- **5 The Brian Colburn Memorial Cruise-In.** 2-5pm 734 Hwy 78, Jasper Open to all Vehicles
- **19 Elation Church Fall Fest & Car Show**. 4-7pm 1835 Gate 8 Rd, Anniston. Free entry
- 24-25 6th Annual Wyatt Spann Memorial Car Show. Friday 5-10 Saturday 9-2pm. 3928 Byler Rd., Eldridge Exit 39 of I-22 Info 205-412-5877

## YOU CAN RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP EARLY!

Dues are \$20.00 per family. You must be a member of AACA to be a member of the Great Southern Region. AACA Annual dues are \$45.00.







## A 1950s Road Trip Through America's Motel Memories

Imagine it's the summer of 1956. The tail fins of your two-tone station wagon gleam in the sun. The trunk is packed tight with suitcases, a red-and-white picnic cooler, and a road atlas stuffed with folded maps. The kids are in the backseat, trading licorice and spotting Burma-Shave signs along the highways. Dad adjusts the radio dial to catch a Buddy Holly tune, and Mom



A typical roadside motel, nobody is in or around the pool presumably because of the recent rain shower.

hands out sandwiches from wax-paper wrappers.

Welcome to the golden age of the American road trip. As the new Interstate Highway System stitched its way across the country, families hit the road like never before. Roadways like Chicago to Santa Monica's, Route 66 became more than a route, it was a rite of passage. Natchez Trace Parkway from Natchez, Mississippi to Nashville, Tennessee, a historic trail used for centuries by Native Americans, offered unbeatable history and southern charm. Pacific Coast Highway offered stunning ocean views and rugged



Park Lane Motel in the classic colors of the 50s. The signs were very iconic back in the day







This is the Holiday Inn in Durham, North Carolina. It was built in 1959 and demolished in 2013 to make room for an apartment building. Front and center is a lady loading or unloading a '59 Ford Fairlane 500 Galaxie Skyliner, the retractable hardtop model.

cliffs and is the longest road in California. The Lincoln Highway from New York to San Francisco built in 1913 played a significant role in the development of the US Highway system. You could travel from Hotel to hotel along any one of these highways.

Small towns popped up along these routes and lining the Main Street of America were roadside treasures: neon-lit motels, chrome-clad diners, and tourist stops with their own brand of Americana magic. A review of https://www.roadsideamerica.com/ will help you to find so many of these attractions and oddities that still exist today. Simply pick your state and find the map and you just might find Frank and Stein Muffler Man like the one in Farihope, Alabama or the Metro



Hotel Key

Dinner in Birmingham.

Hotel or Motel, a room for the night produced memories for a lifetime. When night fell and headlights lit up the desert dusk, the glowing signs of roadside motels beckoned like beacons. A "VACANCY" sign buzzing in red meant home for the night. Families pulled into places like the Alamo Plaza Hotel Courts, with their faux-Spanish facades, or Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge, famous for its orange roofs and 28 flavors of ice cream. One of my favorite memories from hotel or motel stays was the fact that my parents would let us jump on the beds. The pool outside the room would call our name before we would go to sleep.

The items we wish we had collected back then included the room keys! Not like the credit card key of today they were thick, teardrop-shaped plastic fobs boldly colored and often advertising the motel's amenities on one side and your room number on the other. Easy to spot, hard to forget.



Typical hotel postcard

Postcards were picked up at every stop. sundrenched pools, smiling bellhops, and neon signs promising "TV in Every Room" and "Cool Air Conditioning." They were mailed to grandparents, neighbors, or just saved as souvenirs of the journey. I still have some of the post cards that were sent to my grandparents back in the day. Matchbooks from hotel lobbies bore flashy logos and catchy slogans, perfect for lighting a campfire or just collecting.

A Paper Trail of the American Dream was part of the road trip experience. Each motel stay came with its own set of collectibles - small, everyday things that told the bigger story of travel in the '50s. Stationery with stylish motel letterheads was used to jot down quick notes home or draw doodles during long waits.







Door hangers politely requested "Please Make Up Room" or warned "Do Not Disturb," often in fancy script or modern fonts that captured the era's midcentury flair.

Menus from roadside diners boasted 99¢ steak dinners, fried chicken, and homemade pie. The Ford Treasury of Favorite Recipes from Famous Eating Places is indeed a treasure printed by the Ford Motor company is series of books featuring the Roadside recipes of restaurants across the nation.

Even the major hotel chains were getting in on the action. Holiday Inn, founded in 1952, revolutionized road travel with clean, predictable lodging and that bright green sign towering above the highway. Sheraton and Hilton offered a more upscale experience, often downtown, while Best Western catered to travelers looking for reliability in small towns across the country.

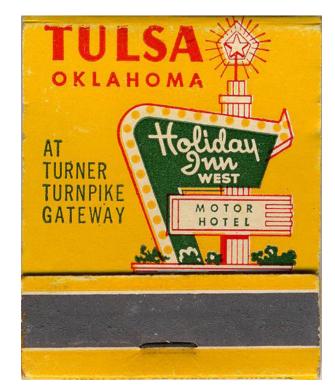
The road trip wasn't just about getting somewhere it was the being there. The scenic stops, the kitschy attractions (like the World's Largest Ball of Twine or the Jackalope Museum), and the overnight stays at motels that felt like miniature paradises to tired kids. It was a family adventure, a journey stitched together with laughter, lost sunglasses, new experiences, and the ever-growing stack of postcards on the dashboard.

So next time you stumble on an old matchbook or motel key in an antique shop, take a moment. That little item once rode shotgun on a great American journey down Route 66, past neon lights and friendly motels, with a station wagon full of stories.

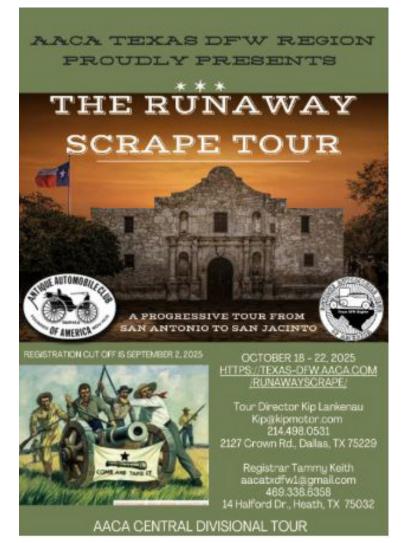
And who knows? Maybe yours is still waiting to be written. - Charlotte



Stationary was in the room in the drawer with the bible

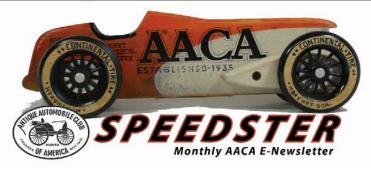


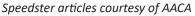
Matches were offered at the front desk













## Hershey Still Ranks as One of 10 Best Car Shows in U.S.

Are you a big fan of the AACA Hershey show & flea market in October? Apparently, so is everyone else! The Hershey event was once again named one of the 10 best car shows!

What an honor – thank you to everyone who voted for us! Thank you to the Hershey Region for always putting on such a great show! And thank you to those of you who continue to attend the show year after year!

Make sure the largest antique car show and flea market in the world is on your calendar – October 7-10, 2025, in Hershey, PA. We can't wait to see you!

The top 10 winners for Best Car Show in 2025 are ranked as follows:

- 1. Cruisin' The Coast (Mississippi Gulf Coast)
- 2. Triple Crown of Rodding (Lebanon, TN)
- 3. MSRA Back to the 50's Weekend (St. Paul, MN)

4. The Amelia Concours d'Elegance (Amelia Island, FL)

- 5. NSRA Street Rod Nationals (Louisville, KY)
- 6. Renaissance Euro Fest (Ridgeland, MS)
- 7. Iola Car Show (Iola, WI)
- 8. Woodward Dream Cruise (Detroit, MI)

## 9. Eastern Division AACA National Fall Meet (Hershey, PA)

10. Hot August Nights (Reno, NV)

## JOIN THE FUN! AACA MEMBERSHIP





### Come for the Cars, Stay for the People.

- Celebrating vehicles 25 years and older
- AACA is one of the largest and most inclusive car clubs in the world with more than 40,000 members
- Ownership of an antique vehicle is not required for membership









### **1949 Willys Jeep Station Wagon**

by Mark Maynard - Mark Maynard has written about cars, their people, and products for 30 years. You can email him at MaynardsGarage@gmail.com or visit his website, MaynardsGarage.com.

The Willys Jeep Station Wagon, Jeep Utility Wagon, and Jeep Panel Delivery were produced by Willys and Kaiser Jeep in the United States from 1946 to 1964, according to Wikipedia. Production in Argentina and Brazil continued until 1970 and 1977 respectively. They were the first mass-market all-steel station wagons designed and built as a passenger vehicle.

"After the 1949 introduction of a four-wheel drive option, the 2WD was sold as "Station Wagon," while the 4WD was marketed as "Utility Wagon." The 4WD Willys Jeep Wagon is often considered the first production sport utility vehicle.

"With over 300,000 wagons and their variants built in the U.S., the Willys Jeep Station Wagon was one of Willys' most successful post-World War II models.

"The Jeep Wagon was designed in the mid-1940s by industrial designer Brooks Stevens. Willys did not make their own bodies; car bodies were in high demand, and Willys was known to have limited finances. Brooks, therefore, designed bodies that could be built by sheetmetal fabricators who normally made parts for household appliances.

"The steel body was efficient to mass-produce, easier to maintain and safer than the real wood-bodied station wagon versions at the time.

"Within the first two years of the Jeep Wagon's





production, the only manufacturer in the United States with a station wagon that was comparable in price was Crosley, which introduced an all-steel wagon in 1947.

"The Jeep Wagon was the first Willys product with independent front suspension. Barney Roos, Willys' chief engineer, developed a system based on a transverse sevenleaf spring. The system, called "Planadyne" by Willys, was similar in concept to the "planar" suspension Roos had developed for Studebaker in the mid-1930s."

60-hp 'Go-Devil' Flathead

KaiserWillys.com reports that the Willys Station was initially fitted with the L-134 "Go-Devil" four-cylinder engine (the same engine first used in the CJ Series). The 134.2 cubic-inch flathead inline engine produced just 60 hp with a one-barrel carburetor.

Because the wagon's seats were removable (except the driver's seat), cargo space was optimized post-war, creating more appeal for the more suburban consumer.

The Buick Special was typically the brand's lowestpriced model. According to its page in Wikipedia, the nameplate started as a full-size car in 1936. After a twoyear 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.



A 1947 print ad for the Jeep Station Wagon. (Stellantis archives)

## **Do You Know About the Mileage Award Program?**

#### Reprinted from the Speedster

If you enjoy driving your antique vehicle, start your engine and get recognized for driving your AACA approved vehicles throughout the calendar year with the Mileage Award Program (MAP). Participation is voluntary and tracking mileage is your responsibility.

Any time a vehicle is driven - anywhere for any reason - the mileage counts towards the award level. Once you sign up, you will receive a badge and awards at 2,000 and 5,000 and each 5,000 mile increment thereafter. The cost to become a MAP member is a one-time fee of \$25.

Go to http://www.aaca.org/images/pdf/AACA\_ Mileage\_ Award\_Program\_Application.pdf for a Mileage Award Program application.











LOOKING AHEAD **By Jeffrey Broadus** 2025 Asst. VP Public Relations, Asst. VP Marketing / 2024 **Membership** 

To paraphrase a famous quote, "Ask not what the AACA is doing for

you. Ask what you can do for the AACA."

Membership is the key reason AACA exists. With all the confusion surrounding social media and a digital marketing effort, please know it's only an aspect of building a solid organization. The real effort is a ground roots effort supported by our regions, chapters, who participate in margue events and continually network across all these channels promoting the benefits of AACA. At headquarters we're investing in our future and have our sights set on the collectors of tomorrow. It takes a small platoon to build an army.

We need YOU, the collectors of tomorrow. It takes a small platoon to build an army. We need YOU.

Your Board of Directors are committed and investing in building awareness and promoting club benefits in an all-out effort to build membership. We've launched a social media campaign; we're building email list and our resources as well as reaching out to other industry partners asking for their support. With all that said, the key to our success truly lies with member input, new ideas and a commitment beyond just AACA events.

Many of us belong to multiple clubs for a variety of reasons and we need to explain why they need to join AACA. Did you know if your car is judged by AACA and received a Junior, Senior or Grand National award, collector car insurance providers are more willing to value your car above online value guides. Just one of the many benefits of membership.

If you haven't visited our newly designed club and Library websites recently, I encourage you to do so.

www.aaca.org www.aacalibrary.org

AACA is America's Car Club. We offer incredible benefits at a very low cost to our members such as:

- America's Automotive Library a.
- b. National Tours
- c. Award-Winning Magazine
- Forums covering thousands of topics d.
- A list of local Regions and Chapters e.
- Calendar Filled with Conventions. Shows & Events f.
- Monthly Newsletter The Speedster g.
- AACA Judging & Guidelines h.

With unparalleled benefits, AACA membership compliments other memberships one may have within our industry. Act today and add America's Car Club to your social media communications, marque club experience and industry contacts. Help us in letting the world know why the AACA is the #1 club in America.

Rummage Box articles courtesy of AACA

