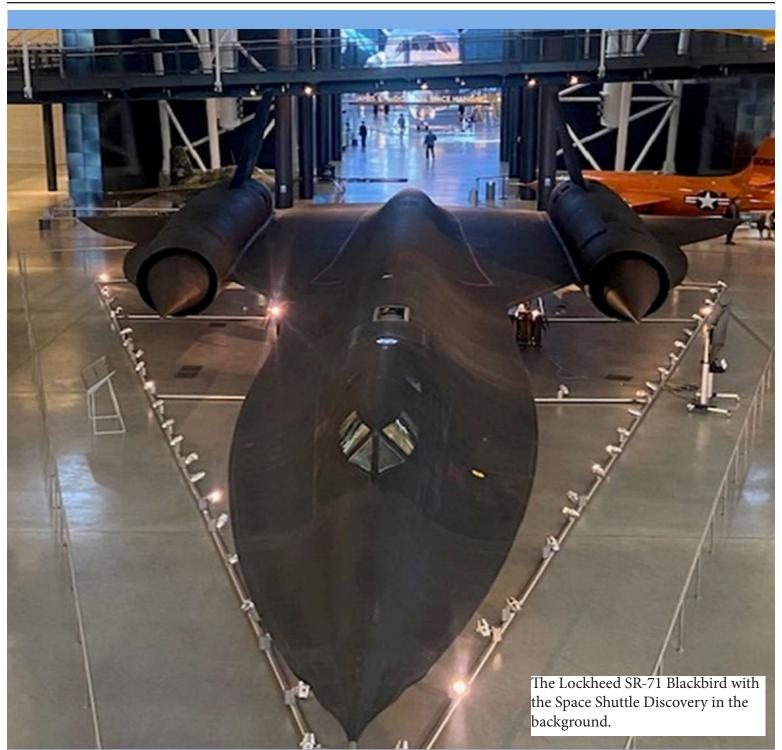


February 2024 - Official publication of the AACA Great Southern Region - Serving Central Alabama Vol. 36 No. 2



2024 AACA Annual Convention

We went to the Convention in Chantilly VA and Air and Space Museum in Chantilly. We spent we had a wonderful time! We toured the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center which is the National

several hours touring the facility. Some of the Continued on page 3



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: James Meredith

Secretary: Vicki Bolton

Editor/Webmaster: Charlotte Dahlenburg

Activities: Bill Gardner

A Note From The

PRESIDENT

As I sit writing this note, I am encouraged by the promise of warmer temperatures on the horizon. I am definitely one of those who like to drive our older cars, not just look at them.

I hope you feel the same because there is no better way to bring attention to our club and hobby than to "see and be seen". It's a great conversation starter.

On that same note, I am also a strong proponent for drives/tours for our club to plan and participate in the coming months. Please plan to attend the upcoming meetings, starting Thursday, 2/22, 6 PM at Ranch House Restaurant (2931 Columbiana Road) to discuss events you are interested in and ways to grow your club so it will be what you enjoy.

Live to drive,

Ken McClellan

TIME TO **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

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.







The Space Shuttle Discovery from the luncheon Balcony



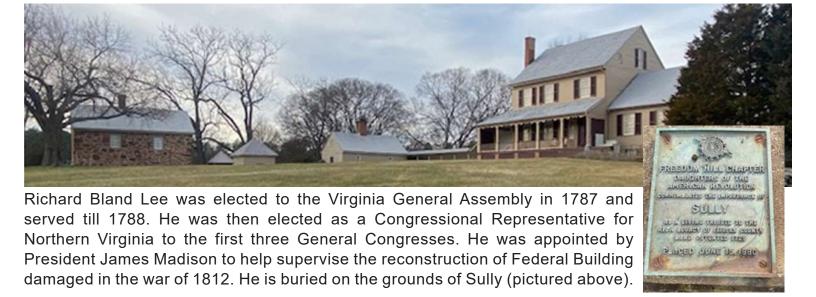
This Concorde was the first Air France Concorde to open service to Rio De Janeiro, Washington and New York City



This amphibious aircraft, a Sikorsky JRS-1, Is the only aircraft in the museum that was at Pearl Harbor on December 7



The Enola Gay completely restored





The head table at the Awards Banquet

highlights include a Lockheed Blackbird (pictured on the cover), a Concord Jet, the Discovery Space shuttle, and The Enola Gay. We had lunch on a balcony overlooking the Space Shuttle. Lunch was absolutely amazing! A buffet offering salmon, chicken, green beans, salad and of course dessert.

After the tour we stopped at the Sully Farm. The home was closed for the winter but the grounds were open. The home was originally owned by Richard Bland Lee, a great uncle to Robert E Lee.

We were treated to the First Lady's lunch where a speaker from Days End Farm talked about the rescue of horses. Other features of the convention included seminars, judging schools, the trade show. One evening featured a night



The beginning of the Awards Presentation

of gambling. But of course, it was with play money. Everyone started out with the same amount and then you played with that money and traded it in at the end of the evening for raffle tickets for prizes that had been donated. It was a lot of fun and enjoyed by all.

The highlight of the Convention is the National Awards Dinner. We had a wonderful meal at the host hotel followed by the presentations of awards.

If you are interested in seeing the National Awards, you can find it on the AACA Website:

aaca.org/national-awards/

Congratulations to Charlotte for winning the Master Editor award for our newsletter!

- Vicki Bolton



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.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2024 AACA Annual Convention Attendance Accelerates By 21 Percent

Host Hotel Sold Out; Attendees Exclaim Best Convention Yet!

Hershey, Pennsylvania, February 20, 2024 – They say that Virginia is for lovers. Lovers of antique automobiles, that is... From February 8 through 10, 2024, some 600 AACA (Antique Automobile Club of America) members visited the award-winning Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles hotel in Chantilly, Virginia (which was sold out!) to partake in what's known as "The Oscars of the Antique Automotive World." Over the course of three days, the heritage and enjoyment of 25-year-old and older, original automobiles was celebrated. AACA is the only enthusiast organization that's dedicated to any and all authentic collector cars.

Compared to 2023, overall participation grew by 21 percent. The AACA Annual Convention... which also serves as the National Awards Banquet... was sponsored by Allentown, Pennsylvania's NB Center for American Automotive Heritage. J.C. Taylor Antique Auto Insurance also graciously contributed to the cause.

The 2024 convention kicked off on Thursday with a visit to the spectacular Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at Washington Dulles International Airport. Attendees who visited the museum also got to enjoy an exquisite luncheon on the Executive Mezzanine, overlooking the Space Shuttle *Discovery*. That evening, the National Board of Directors welcomed convention-goers to a come one-come all pizza party.

A series of 30 seminars followed on Friday and Saturday, including topics from navigating auctions to carburetor basics and recasting steering wheels. In keeping with the visit to the Udvar-Hazy Center, there were also sessions titled *The Invention of the Aerial Age* and *Wheels and Wings: Automobile Pioneers and Aviation*. Meanwhile, a trade show was running simultaneously with 20 AACA vendor-partners displaying their wares.

In between, AACA's First Lady held a special luncheon which transitioned topics from horsepower to horses by alerting the audience to the critical concern of horse rescue via the Days End Farm mission. That evening, the hotel banquet area was reinvented into a speakeasy casino, where participants got to play with Monopoly-type money to win prizes at the end of the festivities. It proved to be a great bet because the room was full all night long!

Saturday was devoted to AACA's incomparable Judging Schools, along with more seminars and trade show. After an afternoon General Membership Meeting, with prizes also distributed for trade show participation, the red carpet was rolled out and velvet ropes were extended. A pair of giant Oscar statues stood at attention for the National Awards Banquet that evening. In addition to scholarship presentations, Editor/Webmaster Awards and Region & Chapter recognition, 58 special National Awards were presented to owners of the best-of-the-best antique automobiles chosen from the past year's National AACA shows and tours.



As AACA continues to accelerate ahead, planning is already underway for next year's Annual Convention & National Awards Banquet. It will be held February 6-8, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord/Golf Resort & Spa, so mark your calendars now!

Click here to view the 2023 AACA National Award Winner's slideshow.

About AACA: Founded in 1935, AACA is dedicated to the authentic antique automobile experience and recognizes any and all vehicles 25-years-old-or-older. It's known as the most inclusive antique car club in the world. It honors cars, trucks and motorcycles produced in America and throughout the world. With more than 45,000 members, it is also one of the largest clubs of its kind. For more details about the AACA, please visit their website: www.aaca.org.

#

The AACA, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, has served as the country's premier resource for the collectible vehicle community since its formation in 1935. Through its national office, publications, online forums, Library and membership, the Club has assisted countless individuals, historians and collectors, along with other libraries, car clubs and museums, in the quest to preserve and enjoy the antique automobile experience.

PHOTO CREDITS: all photos @AntiqueAutomobileClubofAmerica, AACA.org

If you would like higher resolution photos or additional photos, please email Stacy, szimmerman@aaca.org.



















GSR Calendar

March 28	Membership Meeting
April 25	Membership Meeting
May 23	Membership Meeting
June 27	Membership Meeting
July 25	Membership Meeting
August 22	Membership Meeting
September 26	Membership Meeting
October 24	Membership Meeting
November 21	Membership Meeting

GSR 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.

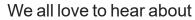
For sale: 1966 Jaguar Mark X. 4.2 with factory air. 305 Chevy engine, TH 400. Turns over easily. Hasn't run since 2016. Lots of extra parts. Solid car with decent interior, \$6500. Call James Meredith at 205-492-5546.

A Note From The

EDITOR

Wow, what an honor to receive the Master Editors Award from AACA! This is a great accomplishment for our club and says a lot about how you value our club.

Without each of you taking the time to contribute stories newsletter would not be interesting.

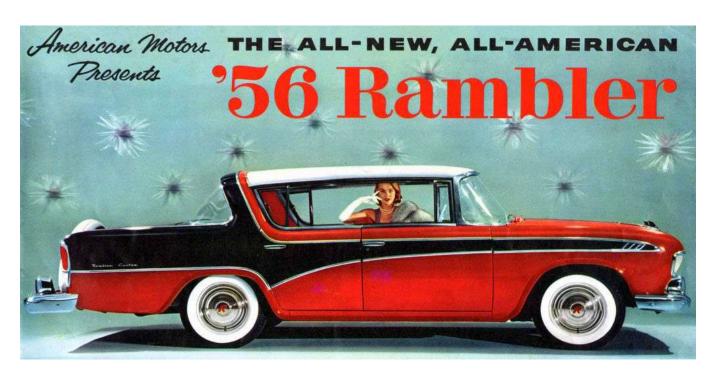


what your are doing and we really love it when you share your teck tips, cleaning tips and ideas for event or about how to grow our club.

Keep up sending in your stories and let's continue the journey to make the Great Southern Region live up to it's name!

See you on the road

Charlotte Dahlenburg



AACA Calendar

March 17-23

Founders Tour (1932-1998)

Location: Lafayette, Louisiana Sponsor: Louisiana Region

March 21-24

Special Winter Nationals

Location: Guaynabo, Puerto Rico Sponsor: Puerto Rico Region

April 4-6

Southeastern Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals

Location: Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, North Carolina.

Sponsor: Hornets Nest Region

June 9-13

Eastern Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)

Location: Gredericksburg, VA Sponsor:

June 20-22

Eastern Spring Nationals

Location: Saratoga Springs, NY. Sponsor: Saratoga Region

July 10 - 14

2024 AACA Western Divisional Tour (Up to 1998)

Location: Big Horn Mt., Wyoming Sponsor: Nebraska Region

September 12-14

AACA Western Fall Nationals

Location: Loveland, Colorado Sponsor: Poudre Valley Region

September 22-27

Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre1943)

Location: Maryland Sponsor: Sugarloaf Mountain Region

October 8-11

Eastern Fall Nationals

Location: Hershey, PA Sponsor: Hershey Region

October 23-26

Southeastern Fall Nationals

Location: Huntsville, AL Sponsor: North Alabama Region

Local Calendar

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
- 1st Saturday 3pm Jan Mar 5pm Apr-Dec 202 South Gilmer Ave, Lanett, AL More info Billy Humphrey at mrmopar622@ gmail.com. Free event
- First Saturday Cruising on the Square. 9-2pm. 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. Saks Fifth Plaza 129 Summit Blvd, Birmingham
- **3rd Saturday** 6pm Tallassee 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
- 3rd Saturday 4:30-7:30pm Home Depot 3784 US 431 Phenix
- 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 Last Saturday – 5pm-? 7900 Vaugh Rd at Taylor Rd Montgomery

Shows

March

- 2 11th Annual Comer Museum Car & Bike Show, 9-2pm, 711 N. Broadway, Sylacuuga, AL
- **2** 4th Annual Anna Jent Scholarship Fund Car Show, 9-2pm. Vendors, Live Music and Door Prizes! Awards for cars, Trucks, Motorcycles and Racecars. Registration is \$20. Info at 205-317-6298.
- 2 Trussville Parks and Recreation Car Show, 10 am-2pm. First Methodist Church 120 Chalkville Road, Trussville, AK Info 205-508-0359
- 9 United for First Responders Mororcycle Show & Shine. Faye Whietemore Farms, Jasper. Raffles, Food Trucks, Vendors, Live Music.
- 16 Motor Fest 2024, 8-3pm, Orr Park Montevallo, AL. Car Entry \$25. Free to general public. Raffle prizes.
- 30 Hope Sharing & Caring Ministry Car and Bike Show, Reg starts at 8am. \$20 entry. Bevell State College in Hamilton. 50/50 Trophies for the top three, door prizes.

April

- 5-6 Wyatt's Rides Smokin the Classics at 1-22 Motorsports Park 3928 Byler Rd, Eldridge, Alabama.
- 6 First Annual Pollen Run Cruise In, 8-2pm. Moddy, AL. Free Event, All makes and models welcome. Rain out date April 13
- 13 4Ever Foundation Car Show, 1555 Federal Dr., Montgomery, AL Info 205-434-5752.
- 20 Pell City Car Show, 9-3pm. Pell City High School benefiting the PC High School Wrestling Team. 1300 Cogswell Ave. Contact: 205-200-0359. www.pellcitycarshow.com.
- 21 Alexandria Fest, Sunday 2-5pm. Alexandria Community Center. Food, Vendors, Car Show.
- 27 Vintage & Classic Car Show, 9-2pm. Veterans Park, 4800 Valleydale Rd, Hoover. Info at www.DVAAC.com.
- 27 Cullman County Relay for Life Car Show 5-10 pm, Depot Park.





Have You Checked Out MemberDeals Yet?



MemberDeals is a member benefit program with exclusive offers to the world's greatest entertainment and travel brands. While working with the top suppliers and partners in the industry nationwide, MemberDeals develops attractive offers that you, as an AACA member, now get to take advantage of.

What kind of offers are we talking about? How about offers for Walt Disney World® Resort, Universal Orlando Resort™, Cirque du Soleil® and SeaWorld® Parks and Entertainment. There are deals on hotels, rental cars, flights, movie tickets, concerts and sports events. Don't forget about Broadway musicals, cell phones, computers, appliances, automotive, flowers, food, subscriptions... the list goes on and on.

Follow this link to check out the most current Epic Deals! https://files.constantcontact. com/8cca7e3a001/165bb54a-dc84-4d10-a373ad11e0bf10cb.pdf

This new benefit program is completely FREE for all current AACA members to utilize. To check out all of the great deals available right now, all you need is your AACA member number and PIN. Go to the members only section of the AACA website, log in with your member number and PIN, and look for the Travel & Entertainment link on the homepage.

(Your member number and PIN can be found on your AACA membership card. If you have lost or misplaced your card, feel free to call AACA National Headquarters at 717-534-1910 and we will be happy to help you.)

Speedster articles courtesy of AACA

Do You Know About the Mileage Award Program?

Reprinted from the Speedster

recognized for driving your AACA approved vehicles throughout the calendar year with the Mileage Award Program (MAP). Participation responsibility.

Any time a vehicle is driven anywhere for any reason - the mileage

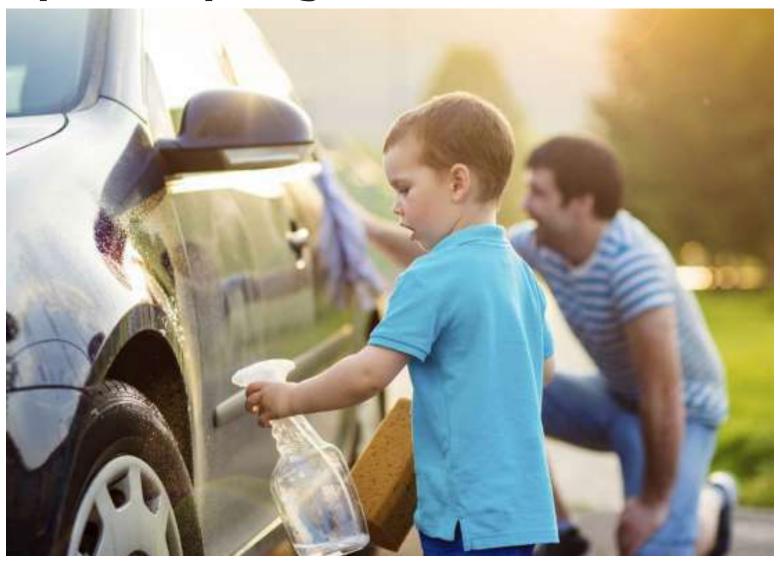
counts towards the award level. Once If you enjoy driving your antique you sign up, you will receive a badge vehicle, start your engine and get and awards at 2,000 and 5,000 and each 5,000 mile increment thereafter. The cost to become a MAP member is a one-time fee of \$25.

Go to http://www.aaca.org/images/ voluntary and tracking mileage is your pdf/AACA Mileage Award Program Application.pdf for a Mileage Award Program application.





Tips for Preparing Your Car for Car Shows



Reprinted with permission from the WPC Club, Inc. www.chryslerclub.org/showtips.html

Here Are Six Tips on Preparing Your **Classic Chrysler Product for Showing:**

1. Detailed Cleaning: Car shows are about the proper presentation. And presentation is all in the details. Don't just take your Chrysler into your local car wash- give it a good detailed wash and wax yourself. Consider starting with the rims and engine compartment to prevent chemicals or residue. As you're cleaning your car, always use products that are specifically intended for cleaning the vehicle (i.e., don't just use kitchen dish washing soap). And don't just clean the exterior- your interior is just as important. Give the vehicle a good cleaning, so that it sparkles, shimmers, and shines, catching the eyes of the judges and competitors at the show.

2. Touch Up: We've already covered the importance of detailing your car. But don't think that you're done here. You're likely to be showing your

Chrysler outdoors. But remember, you're dispatched to occupants of nature that could add smudges and hinder your vehicle presentationvehicle isn't immune from bird droppings. Take touch up tools to the car show so that you can quickly and easily get your vehicle looking fresh.

3. Tires: Part of proper presentation is in the tires- never

underestimate this important aspect of the vehicle. Tires with poor tread aren't going to score well with judges and you'll also be judged by your competitors in



February 2024

this aspect. So if showing your vehicle is something you do or intend to do often, consider buying a separate set of tires that are solely for car shows you enter. The other thing to remember is that for the best overall showing of your car, make sure your tires are clean. Nothing wrecks the look of a nice car like tires with dirty and scuffed sidewalls and whitewalls. They're easy to clean, just use a commercial cleaner in a spray bottle and scrub with a stiff brush or even 3M scouring pad. Then let them dry naturally and if needed, dry off the rims or hubcaps with your chamois.

- 4. Clean the glass: This goes somewhat hand in hand with cleaning. Dirty windows are a no-no. If they haven't been cleaned for a while the inside glass may be dirtier than the outside of the glass. If so spray them down with a typical window clearing product and then polish them dry. Once you do that you will probably notice they are streaked, which is very common if you use a product like Windex. So once you have the dirt off, get rid of the streaks by going over them again with a clean, damp (with water only) synthetic chamois or other clean cloth. Then take a clean dry terry cloth and polish them dry and you'll be amazed how nice they look. This will get rid of the streaks.
- 5. Auto Literature: You just put all that hard work into preparing your vehicle - how about having a small picnic type table set up in front of the car with original advertising brochures, owners manuals, & shop manuals for your specific car. A photo album documenting the restoration is another item to consider for your table so people can browse through it as they admire your car. A well put-together display with a nice car makes for a winner.
- 6. Ship It: You just put all that hard work into preparing your vehicle - that last thing you may want to do is drive it to the show- especially if the show is out of town and hours away. That's where transport companies come in- they'll ship your vehicle for you. That way, you have the peace of mind that you're not going to hit a pothole on the way to the car show and screw up your vehicle- you can rest assured that it will arrive safely.

3 Easy Tips To Get Your Car Ready For The Car Show

By James Detmer on https://www.drbeasleys.com/blog/2011/06/20/car-show-prep/



For car fanatics, the summer months mean long cruises, countless hours in the garage, and frequent car shows. Whether you're entering a car in the show or just checking out the local flavors, there's a certain atmosphere at these events that unites people of all ages around these beautiful machines. You might find a hidden gem, like a 1963 Porsche 356b, or maybe an old favorite that your father used to drive. Whatever your reason for going is, chances are you like cars and the simple experience of sharing that passion with others is truly amazing. If you're entering a car in the show, making sure it's in pristine condition shouldn't be too much of a hassle. A few hours detailing and you should be good to go, but there are 3 easy preparation tips that can help to brighten your finish, increase your shine, and impress the entire show.

Polish, Glaze, & Wax The first thing you should do to get ready for the car show is a simple polishing procedure. Take a smoothing hand polish to the surface to remove any minor imperfections from the paint. Once the car has been polished, follow it up with a finishing glaze to enhance the clarity of the paintwork. Glazes are applied similarly to polishes and help to fill in minor surface scratches to make them less visible. Once this is done, follow with a high-shine carnauba wax to yield a brilliant shine - you can even do this twice for extra depth. With a clear finish and a deep shine, you'll be sure to turn some heads no matter what you're driving.

Condition An often overlooked component of a great looking ride is conditioning. As a second tip, be sure to condition all interior and exterior surfaces before the show; tires, seats, dash, and trim. Conditioners replace vital nutrients to these surfaces and helps them to look younger and fresh. The fact is, no one likes faded plastic and dull looking rubber, so a quick conditioning of these surfaces can brighten the look of your car and impress viewers more than you'd think.

Touch Up Lastly, always have a quick detail touch up spray and a microfiber towel handy before and during the event. Whether you like it or not, the drive to the show almost always means dust and pollen will gather on your freshly waxed paint. These sprays clear this right up and also help with fingerprints and smudges that you may encounter during the show. Just in case your paint happens to have an ugly runin with a bird, don't worry... it will help you then, too.

Whether you drive a Ferrari or a Honda, showing off your passion doesn't have to be impossible. These three quick tips will help your car stun the show and draw some additional attention that's always welcome at car shows.



First Natural Gas Car

Reprinted with permission from automnostory www.automostory.com

As of 2009, there were over 11 million compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles worldwide. Natural gas vehicles









First Natural Gas Car



(NGV) are one of the best kept secrets except in the U.S., Brazil and India which are trying to spread the word about this cleaner burning fossil fuel. Billionaire T. Boone Pickens is also trying to do his part.

The history of the first natural gas car is not as clear cut as many of the other vehicles upon these pages. Scientists, engineers and tinkerers worldwide experimented with many kinds of alternative fuels for centuries.

It is most likely that the first CNG or NGV car was invented by someone also experimenting with hydrogen, gasoline or biofuels. What is known is that in the 1930's in the U.S. there were indeed natural gas vehicles running. Some of these same vehicles also used manufactured gas as well.

After World War II, crude oil expansion drove down the use of NGV's in the U.S., but in Europe there was increased interest and use of the vehicles. The use of the first natural gas vehicles never did totally die out in the U. S., though.

Just as garage tinkerers most likely converted the first gasoline or diesel engines to run on natural gas or other alternative fuels, this movement has continued until today. In fact, there are company who will do this for a fee or even Honda sells a CNG vehicle commercially.

Many buses in California, where emission standards are the strictest in the country also run on CNG.

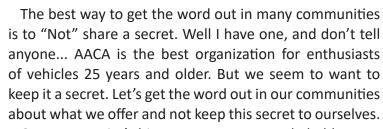


February 2024



Share the World's Best Kept Secret

By Dave Bowman VP-Finance and Budget



Our community's history museum recently held a tour of mid-century homes and asked our AACA Region to provide cars of the period to be displayed at each home. The museum photographed each home with the period car for their marketing purposes. It was noted who the car owners were as well as being part of the local AACA Region. The local TV station did a short news story promoting the event and interviewed our region members about their cars. Region members were present with their cars on the tour day to answer any questions about the cars, just as the docents were there to answer questions about the



homes on tour. And of course, they were there to promote membership in the local region as well as National.

Many communities hold historic home tours and other historic event commemorations. Contact them and ask if your region can provide historic cars to supplement the event. Many towns hold new car introduction shows. Contact the promoter to see if the region can have a special historical vehicle display area. They may be willing to pay the region as well. If not a special display area, offer car dealers the option to have a historic model of their make of cars on display with the new cars. Just connect your region and AACA with the car display. Have a region member with the car to explain it and have membership applications available with that member.

Let's get the word out about AACA and no longer be the best kept secret.

Rummage Box articles courtesy of AACA



How can you support AACA?

Send a gift to the AACA Building Maintenance Fund

For information on how to donate, just call AACA National HQ at 717-534-1910.



