



Exhaust Whistle



 **Great Southern Region AACA**

May 2026 - Official publication of the AACA Great Southern Region - Serving Central Alabama

Vol. 38 No. 5

Next Outing - Dinner Meeting June 16 - 6pm - Jubilee Joe's - Invite a friend!



This is the covered bridge that is adjacent to the mill and allows you to cross the water to get to the walking trails. The museum guide told us that one of the trails was originally a country road that could take you to Georgia.

Pictures provided by Vicki Bolton and Bill Corn

Tour to Kymulga Grist Mill

On Saturday, May 16 we took a tour to the Grist Mill Park in Childersburg. The drive was selected by Ken and it was a spectacular route through beautiful scenery on the back roads.

We left Buckee's at 10 and drove past the Barber museum and then took a left to start the drive. We ended up on Hwy 25 which is a lovely drive through the countryside with lots of curves

and ups and downs that allow for amazing views. We had six cars and 9 people on the tour, which was a good number.

After we completed the tour of the mill, we drove to Childersburg to the Old Town Grille where we enjoyed a delicious lunch. - Vicki Bolton

Continued on Page 3

A Note From The **PRESIDENT**

Whether the official calendar says it or not, summer is upon us. We can count on no more cold mornings and even though it may be hot in the middle of the day, morning and later afternoon drives will still be comfortable enough to get your classic out and show others the joy of our car hobby.

Speaking of drives, if you missed the one in May to Kymulga Grist Mill, you missed an enjoyable day, as the included article describes.

Also speaking of drives, some of you probably wondered when I would finally come to my senses. Well I have. Our club is going back to regular monthly dinner meetings. If a drive or other function is planned, it will be in addition to the meeting. I have missed seeing many of you and it has become apparent to me that those monthly meetings are important to the life of many of our members as well as our club. We will begin a regular rotation between the east and west side of town, all on the third Tuesday of each month. The June 16th meeting will be at Jubilee Joe's in Hoover at our regular time of 6 PM. The July 21st meeting will be at Golden Rule in Irondale, then rinse and repeat the following months. As other functions and events are planned, we will let you know.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you in June. In the meantime, stay safe.

Ken McClellan



Great Southern Region AACA

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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**

Exhaust Whistle

Great Southern Region, Birmingham, AL
Email stories and photos to Charlotte at
Realracegril1@gmail.com
www.greatsouthern.aaca.com
facebook: gsraaca

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.

2026 Officers

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





A picture featuring the cars that were on the tour parked at the mill



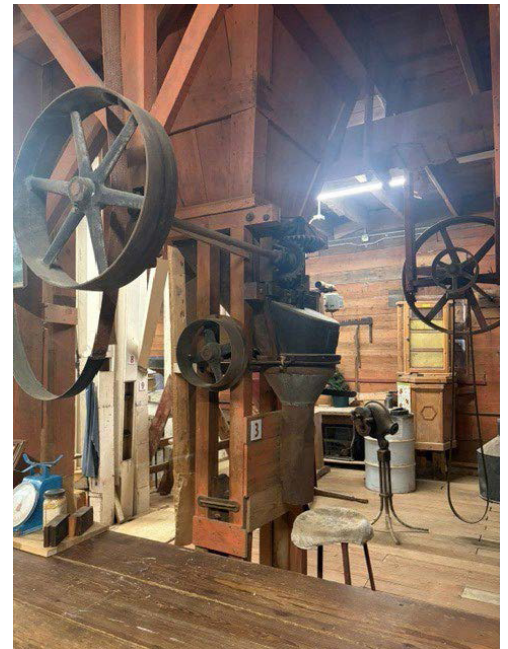
This is a picture of the back of the mill. You will note that there is no water wheel. The mill was powered by water turbines which were underneath the building.



This sign explains the variety of the trees in the area and shows the various trails available for hiking.



The picture to the left is one of the original stones shipped from France to the Mobile port and brought to the mill via wagon and oxen. The picture on the right is one of the original grinding stations in the mill



This picture shows the belt and pulley system that was used to power the mill



Gathering spot for tour



View of Mobile Bay in Coden



The cars parked on the bay for photos



Stopped at the Bayou la Batre History Museum

Bayou Tour May 16

We met at the Speedway gas station on County Road 39 in Irvington. 12 cars lined up and headed out to Bayou la Batre. We took some great back roads throughout the area. We stopped on one of the roads in Coden for photos along the Mobile Bay waterfront. The trip into the town of Bayou la Batre took us along some of the fishing industry ports and processing plants.

We stopped at the Welcome center that houses the town's history museum. It was a "welcome" stop and an unexpected treasure.

We then proceeded over the J.A. Wintzell Memorial Bridge which is a draw bridge still-in-use to the restaurant for lunch and ice cream.

Bayou Grill did not disappoint with the food and the service. The tour was a fun drive with the perfect stops - Charlotte



Bayou la Batre Visitor Center and History Museum



Learning how pearls are made



AACA in Action - Reflections from the President of AACA

2026 is off to a fantastic start! Of course, the year started off with the annual convention in Chantilly VA. We returned to the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly. This hotel knows how to treat us right. If you have never been to the annual convention, I hope you will consider coming to the 2027 convention which will be at the Valley Forge Casino Resort in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. This is a new venue for us and should make for an exciting event.

The next event was the Special Nationals in Puerto Rico. The Puerto Rico Region provided some incredible activities for us to enjoy during our time on the island. We visited the La Marquesa Forest Park where we saw beautiful parrots and other birds. We also enjoyed a dinner at the Capitol in the Old San Juan district.

Our next trip was a short one to Cartersville GA where we toured the Savoy Automobile Museum. Have you ever seen cars stacked three high on car lifts? We saw this incredible sight on a behind-the-scenes tour at the museum.

This year, Charlotte provided an extraordinary experience since the show was inside the racetrack. For the more adventurous, there was even an opportunity to take your car around the racetrack.

Our last trip was to Las Vegas where the region



hosted the Western Annual Grand Nationals and the Western Spring Nationals. Prior to the car show, the region scheduled a tour of the Maloof private car collection where the collection featured an assortment including Cadillacs, Buicks, Duesenberg and even Rolls Royce.

All of these Nationals featured beautifully restored cars, but they also included the activities that I have talked about. AACA Nationals are not just car shows but include carefully planned activities that allow the attendees to experience some of the local culture and attractions. The local regions that host these events share their home with the attendees. These activities and Nationals help bring us together as friends, as fellow car enthusiasts, and as AACA members. These activities can expand our car community, which can help increase our membership.

I hope the next time you attend a Nationals you will consider attending some of the activities the Region has planned. They worked hard to plan these activities for your pleasure.

Do you have local attractions that you like to share with others? I hope that you will think about hosting a Nationals or a tour to share your community with your fellow car enthusiasts.

It is an honor to be the AACA President for 2026 and I hope to see you down the road!



A Note From The EDITOR

How do we get people to join Our Club and actually stay?

Every club wants to grow, stay active, and keep going for years. A lot of clubs spend time trying to figure out how to get new members, but maybe the better question is: Why do good clubs lose good people?

People do not leave because of dues or busy schedules. A lot of times they leave because they just do not feel connected anymore.

Someone may join because they like the hobby, the cars, the events, or whatever the club is about. But they stay because of the people. Friendship, feeling welcome, and enjoying being around others is what keeps people coming back.

Sometimes clubs lose people and do not even realize it. A new person comes to a meeting and nobody really talks to them. Everybody is sitting with the same groups they always do. People are talking about old stories and inside jokes, and the new person just sits there. They may be nice and smile, but they might never come back.

Sometimes longtime members drift away too. Maybe they helped for years and feel like nobody notices. Maybe they are tired of the same thing every month. Maybe they feel left out when decisions are made. Most of the time they do not leave mad, they just slowly quit showing up.

The good news is this can be fixed. Good clubs make people feel welcome right away. Speak to them when they walk in. Introduce them around. Invite them into the conversation. Make them feel like they belong.

A good club also gives people something to be part of, like fun events, drives, projects or cookouts. Give members a chance to help. When people feel useful, they feel connected.

And never forget to thank people. A simple thank you means a lot. The people setting up chairs, planning events, making calls, bringing food, or helping behind the scenes matter more than they know.

Clubs also need to be open to new ideas. Traditions are great, but if nothing ever changes, people lose interest. The best clubs respect the past while still trying new things.

At the end of the day, people stay where they feel wanted.

A club is not successful just because it has been around a long time or has a lot of names on a list. A club is successful when people enjoy being there and want to come back.

People may join for the hobby, but they stay for the people.

Charlotte

Meeting Notes

Lunch meeting at Childersburg

After our tour we had a short meeting at lunch and decided that going forward we would resume monthly meetings. Tours will be an additional activity. We also decided to move the meetings to Tuesday to accommodate holding the meeting at Jubilee Joe's since they have live music on Thursday. The next meeting will be on the third Tuesday of June, the 16th at Jubilee Joe's. We will also hold meetings at the Golden Rule in Irondale. We will try to alternate meetings at these locations to help members from different areas attend the meetings.

Vicki

GSR Calendar

January 22	Dinner Meeting
February 26	Dinner Meeting
March 26	Dinner Meeting
April 23	Drive Tour
May 18	Drive Tour
June 16.....	Dinner Meeting
July 21.....	Dinner Meeting
August 18	Dinner Meeting
September 15.....	Dinner Meeting
October 20	Dinner Meeting
November 17.....	Dinner Meeting
December	Christmas Gathering



Local Calendar

Cruise Ins

- 1st & 3rd Tuesday - 5-8pm** Petro Bucksville 22526 Highway 216 McCalla
Thursday Weekly - 6-9pm VFW Post 6022, 7001 University Blvd E, Cottondale
1st Friday - 6-8 pm Sonic, 1713 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL. (Mar - Oct)
1st Saturday - 8-11am Hoovers Tactical Firearms Cruise In 1561 Montgomery Hwy. Hoover. Hosted by Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club
1st Saturday - 9-12 pm MOB Inc Monthly Car Show 40 Inverness Pkwy, Hoover
1st Saturday - 9-2pm Cruising on the Square. Downtown Jasper (Apr-Sept)
1st Saturday - 8:30-11:30. Warrior Tire 30 Lester Doss Rd, Warrior
2nd Friday - 5:30-9pm Christian Street Rodders 8512 21st Haleycille in the City Hall Lower Parking lot
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 Friday 5-8pm Downtown Leeds (Apr - Oct)
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

June

- 6 24th Annual Alabaster Cityfest Cruise-In Car Show.** 9-2pm. 1921 Warrior Pkwy at the Thompson High School enter from Thompson Rd, Free Event, Register for door prizes
6 14th Annual Train Shed Car Show. 300 Water Street at Union Station Train Shed, Montgomery. Cars, Food, Fellowship
6 BMW Open Haus. 11-4:30. 505 Cobb St. Birmingham Enjoy bratwursts, pretzels, and live music while checking out the latest bikes and connecting with fellow riders.
13 Mopars by the Lake 8-3pm. 1544 Sportsman Lake Rd
13 Blockfest Car & Bike Show 10-9pm. Legion Field.

- 13 Car & Motorcycle Show** 9-2pm. 12379 Eagles' Wings Dr Coker. Food, Music, Raffles, Door Prizes. Entry \$10
20 Clearbranch Methodist Church Car Show 9-2. 8051 Glenn Rd. Trussville. \$10 entry, 50/50.
27 Bear Creek Friendship Festival Car and Motorcycle Show 8:30-2pm Twin Forks Road off Hwy 79 Bear Creek. Info 205-269-3663

July

- 18 Car & Bike Show** 2-8pm Collins Chapel Baptist Church 14366 Co Rd 29 Jemison. Info 205-294-4751 \$15 Entry. Raffle and Door prizes
18 National Mustang Day All Ford Show 8-2pm Mustang Museum of America St Clair Areans 100 Arean Drive Adenville. \$20 pre \$25 Day of.
25 5th Annual Ryans Creek Baptist Church Car Show 8-12pm 24849 Co Rd 222 Bremen. Kids Activities, BBQ Lunch, Door Prizes, Info 205-287-1613
25 2nd Annual National Day of the Cowboy Antique Car, Truck and Tractor Show 8-2pm 269 circl C Rd Alexandria. Info 256-452-8202

August

- 22 Cars for a Cause Car Show** 10-1pm Campus 124 - Back Lot 2408 Pelham Pkwy., Pelham. \$30 Reg. Scavenger Hunt, Family Fun, Food Trucks, Trophies, Music, Vendors, Outdoor Games

AAA Calendar

June 11-13

Southeastern Fall Nationals

Location: Oak Ridge, TN Host: Volunteer Region

June 15-19

Sentimental Tour

Location: Mechanicsburg, PA Host: Pontiac-Oakland Worldwide Region

July 23-25

Central Spring Nationals

Location: Green Bay, WI

August 5-8

Southeastern Divisional Tour

Location: Hendersonville, NC

August 19-22

Annual Grand Nationals / Zenith Awards

Location: Allentown, PA 717-534-1910

September 9-14

Founders Tour (1932-2001)

Location: Williamsburg, VA Host: Historic VA Peninsula Region

September 21-26

Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)

Location: Dover, DE

October 6-9

Eastern Fall Nationals

Location: Hershey, PA Host: Hershey Region





What to Pack for a Classic Car Road Trip

Written By: Patrick Hill. Photography By: Patrick Hill and Cole Quinnell. <https://pavementpounderevents.com/what-to-pack-for-a-classic-car-road-trip/>

Thinking about doing a cross-country road trip in your hot rod or classic car? Unlike a long-distances trip in a new or almost-new vehicle, journeying far from home with an old car or truck requires a little different preparation and packing more gear than just your undies and toothbrush. Based on our 30+ years of driving old cars ranging from junk to pro-touring restomods and Fastest-Street-Car contenders, here are our words of advice.

Know Your Car

Whether you bought or built the classic car you're about to embark in, you should know its weak links. We once drove car across the country with an engine that would make Warren Johnson jealous (Google Warren Johnson if you were born after 1980). We knew the cam profile was torturing the lifters. The ramp angle was so steep that the cam was applying as much side load to the roller as it was upward force. So it was no surprise when a lifter came apart 2,000 miles into the 2,300-mile road trip. We had everything we needed in the trunk to change the lifters including enough oil and an oil filter to flush the bits of shrapnel

out of the engine.

That may seem extreme, but you get the point. And bring the tools you'll need to do the job and to



Things are liable to get dirty one way or another if you have trouble with your classic car on a road trip. It's smart to have some good disposable gloves on hand plus hand cleaner in case the gloves don't keep you protected from all the grease, dirt and grime.

tune or adjust your car along the way. If your car has aftermarket coil overs, bring your spanner wrenches. Pack a fan belt and radiator hoses. Fuel pump been acting funny but not quite motivated enough to change it before the trip? Bring a replacement and the tools and associated parts you'll need to change it in a hotel parking lot.

Keep it Clean

Yeah, most of us have a cleaning kit that permanently resides in the trunk. Daily removal of bug splatter keeps the windshield and headlights clear. And it's nice to remove some road grime and dust for the evening impromptu car show.

But it's also a good idea to bring some supplies to help clean you if end up doing any repairs or helping someone else. A box of disposable gloves, shop-style



Keeping liquids in a plastic tote can reduce the chance of a spill in your trunk. It's a good idea to carry a replacement accessory belt and radiator hoses. Does your car use special brake fluid? Bring a bottle.

paper towels and hand cleaner won't take up much space, but you'll be happy to have them instead of smearing a layer of oil on your steering wheel and shifter after a road-side incident.

Spare Parts

It's a good idea to carry spare parts that might not be in stock at auto parts stores. Some people carry

replacements for aftermarket EFI systems. There may be specialty components that would put you out of the event for days waiting for a replacement.

The Tools

This may be the first thing you think of when planning what to pack for a road trip. But less is often more. A small portable tool kit in a case that keeps everything in its place and avoids rattling is a good place to start. Make sure you have a selection of universal tools: an adjustable wrench, locking pliers, regular pliers, flat-head and Phillips screwdrivers. Now think through tools specific to your car. Need a 7.5mm Allen head for the idler pulley to change the accessory belt (ask us how we know)? Pack it! We're also a fan of having a mini electrical tool bag with us. Good quality electrical pliers, some wire, fuses and solderless connectors.

And for Pete's sake, make sure you have a jack and lug wrench or socket and breaker bar to change a tire if needed.



Instead of trying to pack a Snap-On roll-away box or a bag of mis-matched tools, the easiest starter tool kit for road trips is a portable assortment like this one from Craftsman. Add things you know your car needs that a basic kit doesn't include. An extra 9/16-inch and 10mm wrench and socket maybe, or that specially-modified wrench for snugging the header bolts.



In a pinch having the right tape can help you limp your way to the nearest parts store or shop to get repairs. It's good to have one roll each of three different kinds of tape. First, a roll of good, and we mean good duct tape. Second, a roll of electrical tape. And, finally, a roll of good 'ol "racers tape" to have for issues with hoses or fluid lines. Something like Heatshield Products Racers Tape that is a self-fusing silicone wrap/tape that works great on hoses.

Safety Third

Okay, safety first, but that seemed too boring to lead with. Have a fire extinguisher within the driver's reach. In most European countries, this is required for every passenger vehicle. Make sure your fire extinguisher is rated for gasoline and electrical fires, as that is usually the case with a car fire. Remember that this isn't just for your car, but you may literally be a life-saver to someone else on the trip.

A small first-aid kit is also a great idea. Hopefully no one ever needs more than a blister bandage or sunburn gel, but having a basic first aid kit can make a big difference to whoever needs it.



Let there be light! Not only are the interior lights in most classic car a throw-back to the dark ages, repairs and finding things in the trunk will be much easier with a bright, modern torch. There are lots of options for flashlights these days, but if you go with one that's a rechargeable unit you won't have to worry about batteries going bad and leaking. Recharging is easy and many larger flashlights can also serve as a power bank for charging a phone. This Nebo Davinci 7500L features a max output of 7,500 Lumens, multiple lighting modes and hours of light on a single charge while also being able to serve as a power bank for recharging small items such as a cell phone.

Now Put Half of it Back

We're kidding. Sort of. Putting together a good road trip kit doesn't mean bringing everything and the kitchen sink. Take it from chronic over-preparers, keeping it simple and only bringing the necessities makes things easier on multiple fronts. First, it's easier to keep in your vehicle, taking up a minimal amount of space, and you don't have to take it out all the time. Second, a simpler kit is easier to check



You never know when a dead battery will strike, the same as you never know when you'll need to pump some air into a flat tire. Finding a device that can do both like the JackPak Ultra2500 shown here means you can have a contingency for either situation in a compact, easy to store rechargeable tool. The Jack-Pak and other rescue packs like it also have battery capacity to serve as power banks for recharging devices in emergencies.

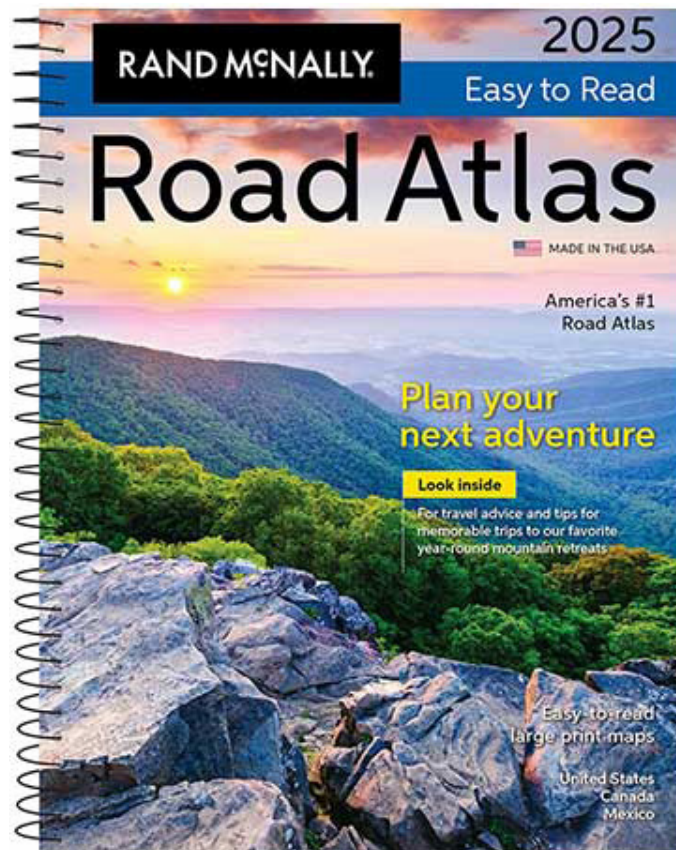


Driving scenic backroads sometimes means fueling up at rural fuel stations that may have a little extra moisture in their fuel due to age. It's a good idea to carry something to add to fuel to address the issue.

the inventory of and make sure nothing is missing or needs replenishment.

Oh, and bring zip ties.

Why would you need an old fashion, some would even say obsolete, thing like a road atlas when you've got GPS navigation on your smart phone? If your road trip goes someplace with lousy or no cell signal where the GPS doesn't (the best road trips usually do) you might need that ancient navigational aid called an Atlas to find your way. An added bonus is an atlas serves as a great tool for planning a road trip so you can look at different routes and figure out which way you want to go.



2026 Southeastern Fall Nationals June 11-13 • Oak Ridge, Tennessee

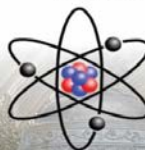
Presented By The Volunteer Region

Time to book your room at the Doubletree by Hilton!

215 S Illinois Ave, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

865-481-2468, special rate \$144 + tax (mention AACA)

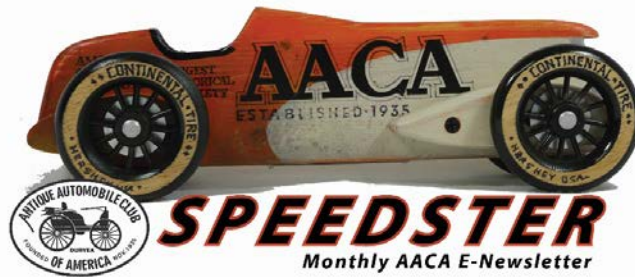
Book Online: tinyurl.com/SEFallNationalsHotel



Chair: Roger Frazee
865-803-3412, rkfrazee@gmail.com

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Speedster articles courtesy of AAACA

Do You Have an Official AAACA Car Sign for Your Next Show?

The only official AAACA recommended car show sign intended for use at AAACA events. Styled similarly to other Concours signs, when properly weighted or staked would limit potential damage to vehicles if bumped or blown. Signs are 16.5" tall and 12" wide and are made of hard plastic to withstand the elements. These signs are only available to AAACA members and are custom created to tell your vehicle's story and history.

Cost: \$45 plus shipping and handling.
Image(s): \$5 each
PA residents pay sales tax.

Please allow 4-5 weeks for the entire process from start to finish.

Email Jon Curtis (jcurtis@aaaca.org) at AAACA Headquarters to order your sign today!



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Only available to AAACA members.

Showcase your car's history, awards, and unique details with a custom Concours-style car sign from AAACA.

Email Jon Curtis, JCurts@AAACA.org, for more details & to get started!

Mileage Award Program

Touring is not a spectator sport, so for those who enjoy driving their vintage vehicle, the AAACA Mileage Award Program (MAP) has been set up. So, as the old saying goes, "Ladies and Gentlemen, start your engines" and prepare to enjoy AAACA 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 AAACA 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@aaaca.org or 717-534-1910.





Production of the Mercedes-Benz SL “Pagoda” (W 113) ran from 1963 to 1967. (Photos courtesy of Mercedes-Benz Classic archive).

1963 Mercedes-Benz 230 SL ‘Pagoda’ Debut

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 Mercedes-Benz 230 SL, also known as the W113,

debuted at the Geneva auto show on March 14, 1963.

With its aerodynamic design and a removable hardtop roof, the two-seat Mercedes-Benz 230 SL two-seater replaced the 190 SL and the 300 SL models. Of the 48,912 W113 SLs produced between 1963 and 1967, 19,440 were sold in the U.S, according to the W113 page in Wikipedia.



All 230 SL models were rear-wheel drive and equipped with an inline-six cylinder engine and a standard four-speed manual transmission or automatic four-speed, mainly for the U.S. market. The hood, trunk lid, door skins,



The 230 SL at its premiere at the Geneva Motor Show, March 14-24, 1963. Standing beside the car are safety developer Béla Barényi (right) and designer Paul Bracq. The hood, trunk lid, door skins, and tonneau cover were made of aluminum to reduce weight.

The front styling of the SL showcases the upright Bosch “fishbowl” headlights. The large three-pointed star centered the simple chrome grille, which paid homage to the 300 SL roadster.

W113 SLs were typically configured as a coupe-roadster with a soft top and an optional removable hardtop. A 2+2 was introduced with the 250 SL “California Coupe,” which



A studio image of the 230 SL interior.

had a fold-down rear bench seat instead of a soft top.

SL Heritage From 1955

The redesigned 230 SL traces its heritage to the first 190 SL model in 1955.

“By 1955, Mercedes-Benz Technical Director Prof. Fritz Nallinger and his team held no illusions regarding the 190 SL’s lack of performance,” according to the Wikipedia report.

The high price of the legendary 300 SL supercar kept it elusive for all but the most affluent buyers. To reach more buyers, Mercedes-Benz started evolving the 190 SL on a new platform, model code W127. It would have a fuel-injected 2.2 liter M127 inline-six engine, internally denoted as 220 SL. Encouraged by positive test results, Nallinger proposed that the 220 SL go into production in July 1957.

230 SL Production Delayed

Technical difficulties kept postponing the production

AACA Central Spring Nationals

July 22-26, 2026 ▪ Green Bay, Wisconsin
Registration & Hotel Deadline: June 20

Show Highlights: Lambeau Field Tours ▪ Welcome Party ▪ Craft Event ▪ Members Roundtable ▪ Judging School ▪ Ice Cream Social ▪ Oneida Dancers ▪ Leisure Time @ Oneida Casino ▪ Judges Breakfast ▪ CJE ▪ Nationals Car Show ▪ Cocktail Hour & Banquet

Host Hotel: Tundra Lodge

865 Lombardi Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54304

877-888-3727, ask for AACA rate

Includes \$10 daily breakfast if you show your AACA badge

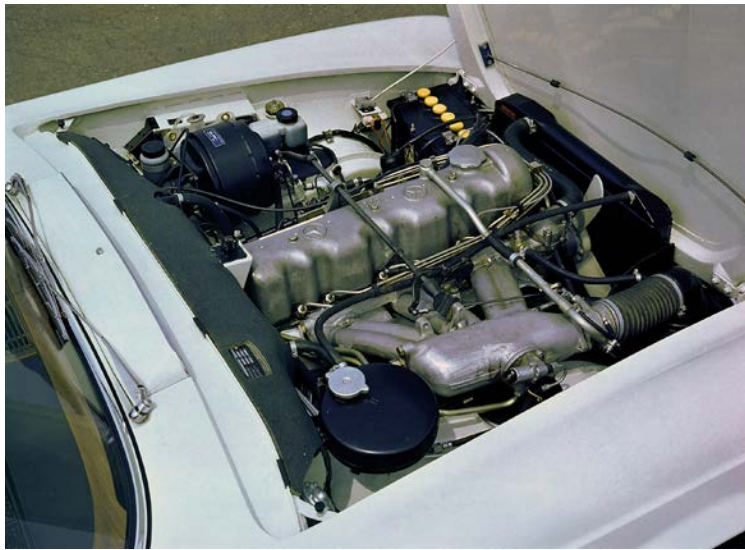
Questions? Contact Chairman:

Russ Walker, 920-819-1407, russellswalker@aol.com



Request registration materials from AACA National





The 148-hp 2.3-liter straight six in the Mercedes-Benz 230 SL.

start of the W127. The emerging new S-Class W 112 platform introduced novel body manufacturing technology. So in 1960, Nallinger proposed to develop an entirely new 230 SL design based on the “fintail” W 111



The 1963 Frankfurt International Motor Show display for the Mercedes-Benz 230 SL.

sedan platform, its wheelbase shortened by nearly a foot (11.8 inches).

The revised W 113 platform debuted an improved and fuel-injected 2.3 liter M127 inline-six engine, rated 148 horsepower with 149 foot-pounds of torque. The newly designated 230 SL also debuted the distinctive “pagoda” hardtop roof.

“It was our aim to create a very safe and fast sports





Apple Harvest Season
Western North Carolina
AUGUST 5-8, 2026

Tour Highlights:

- Sky Top Orchard
- Brooms Blooms Farm
- House of Flags
- Polk County Historical Museum
- Carolina Carriage
- Benson's Automobile Memory Lane Museum
- Parker-Binns Winery
- WNC Air Museum
- Matt Cook's Drag Racing Facility
- Historic Johnson Farm

Tour limited to 75 vehicles 25 years and older
Registration open March 9 to June 27, 2026

Tour Co-Chairs:
Hulon McCraw, GSMR
hcmccraw@gmail.com
828-606-2918

Mike Block, LDC
mike@sailparrottales.com
770-547-7088

Tour Registrar:
Kim LaRowe
klarowe68@gmail.com
828-779-2378

Host Hotel:
Mountain Inn & Suites
755 Upward Road
Flat Rock, NC 28731
828-692-7772
mountaininnflatrock.com
AACA Group Rate:
\$115.00 per night +tax



ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

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car with high performance, which despite its sports characteristics, provides a very high degree of traveling comfort,” Nallinger said at the Geneva debut.

230 SL Performance

Mercedes-Benz Chief Engineer Rudolf Uhlenhaut demonstrated the capabilities of the 230 SL on the tight three-quarter mile Annemasse Vétraz-Monthoux race track in 1963. (The track was active from active 1962-1972).

Uhlenhaut clocked a best lap time of 47.5 seconds versus 47.3 seconds by Grand Prix driver Mike Parkes in his 3-liter V12 Ferrari 250 GT.

SL, or Sehr Leicht, translates as “very light.”

The original list price for a 1963 230 SL was \$7,506. Today, a 1963-1967 Mercedes-Benz SL 230 in “Good” condition has a selling price of around \$50,000, according to Hagerty.com.

Production of the 230 SL commenced in June 1963 and ended on Jan. 5, 1967.



The “Pagoda” SL was a successful rally car. This photo of the rally team is from the 34th Spa-Sofia-Liège Rally Aug. 25-29, 1964. From left to right: Martin Braungart, Dieter Glemser, Alfred Kling, Ewy Rosqvist, Manfred Schiek, Eugen Böhringer, Rolf Kreder and Klaus Kaiser.

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