



Exhaust Whistle



Great Southern Region AACA

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Next Outing - Dinner Meeting

August 18 - 6pm - Jubilee Joe's in Hoover - Invite a friend!



Sentimental Tour

Arthur and I traveled to Mechanicsburg PA after the Nationals in Oak Ridge TN to attend the Sentimental Tour. It was so much fun! It had been a while since we were able to do a tour. We did

not take a car, so we rode with someone else and let them do the driving. We saw several covered

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bridges, and we were able to drive through some of them. We toured the Army Heritage Center in Carlisle and visited the historic Fort Hunter Mansion. We were able to go to the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing and the Rolls Royce Museum. Another very interesting stop was the Lake Tobias Wildlife Park. It was a wonderful week, and we saw some beautiful countryside.



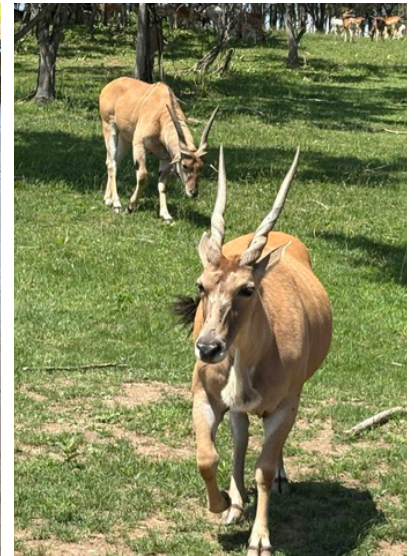
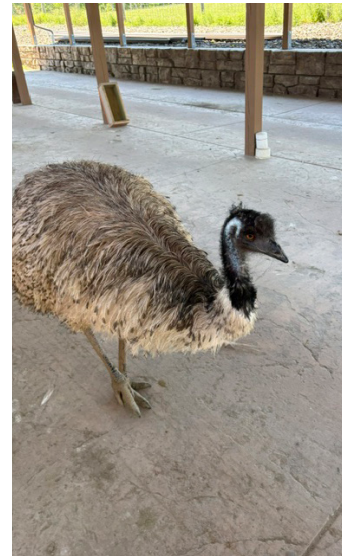
We stopped at the New Bloomfield fire station for coffee and doughnuts



We toured the Fort Hunter Mansion located on the banks of the Susquehanna River



This is one of the bedrooms in the mansion



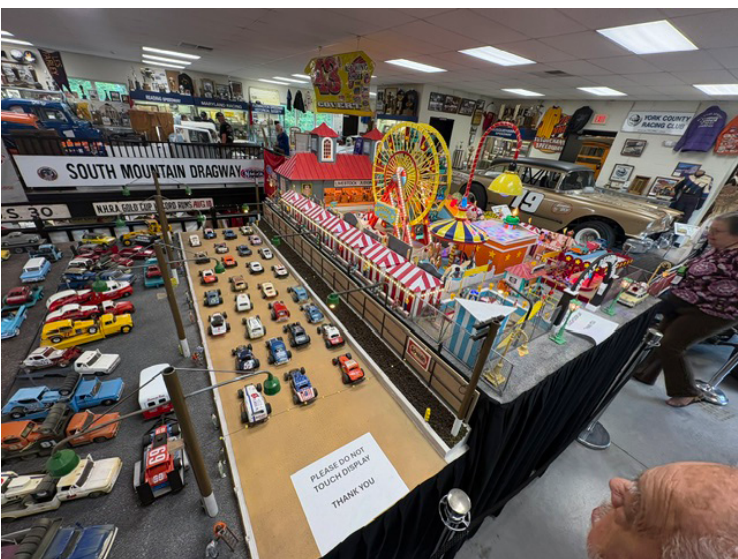
Here are some of the animals that we saw at the wildlife park



Here are just a few of the cars at the racing museum including the one on the cover!



The incredible Spirit of Ecstasy at the Rollis Royce Museum



Hand made model of the fairgrounds. These pictures don't do this justice but all of this is hand made to illustrate how the fairgrounds appeared



Just a few of the incredible cars at the Rolls Royce Museum



Free • Open Car Show • All Makes All Models

GREAT SOUTHERN REGION CAR SHOW



MARTIN BISCUIT - JENI'S PARKING LOT
2930 3rd Ave S, Birmingham

**FREE TO ENTER
& ATTEND**

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 20, 2026
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM**



A monthly publication of the Great Southern Region - AACA

May 2026



A Note From The **PRESIDENT**

I don't know about the rest of you but I find it hard to believe that we are already two thirds through the summer months. That means that all the club plans for the rest of the year are coming very soon.

Our now annual cruise-in/show at Pepper Place is slated for September 5th from 8 till noon. If you haven't already done so, please go ahead and mark this on your calendar. This is a great opportunity for us to get our name out there to the average person and hopefully spark interest in the antique vehicle hobby for both young and, ahem, more mature. It also doesn't take much of your Saturday, especially for the football fan.

Also, we are now only 3 months away from our Helena car show, which will be on Halloween, 10/31. There has been some discussion whether we sponsor a charity like we did last year. If we have a charity, then the entrance fee will probably be around \$20, with net proceeds going to the charity we choose. If we don't, then the entrance fee will probably be lowered to maybe \$10 to cover the cost of awards, with anything left over for some club function.

By the time you read this, you should already have seen an email from me giving you the opportunity to vote/state your preference on charity/no charity. The responses will be anonymous to everyone but me (someone has to tabulate). This is also a call for everyone to approach a business or vendor to donate items for "grab bags" for the show participants.

There are more functions that are planned for the rest of the year, so please participate. Info on these to be announced.

Lastly, our next dinner meeting will be August 18th at Jubilee Joe's. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Ken McClellan



**We are on
Facebook!
Like and follow us
gsraaca**



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
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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 Note From The EDITOR

August has a way of reminding us that we're blessed to live in the South...right up until the thermometer reminds us just how warm that blessing can be! With temperatures hovering in the 90s and humidity that seems determined to outlast us all, it's no surprise that the antique car calendar takes a brief pause. Most of us are choosing the comfort of a shady garage over the heat radiating from blacktop parking lots, waiting patiently for those crisp fall mornings that make every drive a pleasure.

That doesn't mean our hobby comes to a standstill. If you're like me, these slower weeks are perfect for catching up on the projects that somehow get pushed aside during the busy touring and show season. Maintenance gets done, parts get polished, and maybe a long-awaited repair finally reaches the finish line.

Here at our house, we've reached one of those milestones. After spending plenty of time in the spotlight, the Fiat has finally made its way out of the main bay of the garage. That means the Cadillac has officially taken center stage and is ready for its turn under the lights and under the wrenches. Every old car owner knows that finishing one project simply opens the door for the next one, and honestly, that's part of the fun.

Before we know it, September will arrive, bringing cooler temperatures, packed show fields, scenic

tours, and the opportunity to reconnect with friends across the Great Southern Region. Those first few fall events always seem a little sweeter after the long summer break, and I suspect many of our cars are just as eager to stretch their legs as we are.

Until then, stay cool, enjoy a little garage time, and take advantage of these quieter days. Whether you're tuning an engine, polishing chrome, organizing parts, or simply sitting in a lawn chair admiring your favorite antique automobile, you're still enjoying the hobby we all love.

Hopefully we will be on the road soon with cooler weather, open windows, and a parking lot full of beautiful antique cars.

Charlotte

QSR 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

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.



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 21 st Haleyville 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

August

- 1 Vernon Car Show.** 8-1pm. 9071 Hwy 18, Vernon. First Baptist Church. \$20 entry. Cars, Jeeps, Trucks Welcome! Food & Drinks, Music, Family Friendly. All proceeds to the building fund.
- 15 Chelsea Car Show.** 8-2pm. 11011 Chelsea Road, Chelsea City Hall . \$20 Entry
- 22 Cars for a Cause Car Show.** 10-1pm Campus 124 - Back Lot 2408 Pelham Pkwy., Pelham AL \$30 Reg. Scavenger Hunt, Family Fun, Food Trucks, Trophies, Music, Vendors, Outdoor Games
- 22 Cars on the Coosa.** 4pm. 2350 Coosa River Parkway, Wetumpka. Reg. \$10. Vendors, food trucks, kids Hot

Wheels race, giveaways, car limbo.

- 29 Rainbow of Hope Car, Truck, Bike Show.** 9-2pm. 4545 Rainbow Drive, Rainbow City. \$15 REG. Info Mike 256-504-7237

September

- 5 Great Southern Region Car Show at Pepper Place.** 8-12pm. 2930 3rd Ave S. Birmingham. Free Open Car Show
- 5 2nd Annual Red Only Car Show.** 590 Morris Majestic Road, Morris displaying only red vehicles, bounce houses and food trucks.
- 10 Vette Spectacular.** 9-2pm Classic Car Motoring 3900 Grants Mill Rd. Irondale

October

- 17 Ronald Griffith Memorial Car & Truck Show.** 8-1pm. Cross Creek Community Church 4825 US Hwy 278 E, Hokes Bluff. Info at 256-613-0096

AACA Calendar

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

2027

February 4-6

Annual Convention/National Awards

Location: King of Prussia, PA Host: AACA

February 18-20

Winter Nationals

Location: Melbourne, FL

April 8-10

Annual Grand Nationals/Zenith/Southeastern Spring Nationals

Location: Charlotte, NC

June 3-5

Eastern Spring Nationals

Location: Fredericksburg, VA

June 6-11

Founders Tour

Location: Winchester, VA





The 1941 Cadillac Sixty-One five-passenger coupe was touted as 'the mightiest, thriftiest, lowest-priced Cadillac V-8 ever built.' (GM Media Archive)

Cadillac Debuts Hydra-Matic Drive for 1940

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.

Advertising in 1940 proclaimed GM's Hydra-Matic Drive Transmission as "the greatest advancement since the self-starter"

In 1939, General Motors' Cadillac and Oldsmobile divisions introduced breakthrough technology in the fully automatic Hydra-Matic Drive transmission. The transmission debuted for the 1940 model year.

"The Hydramatic was the first mass-produced fully-automatic transmission developed for passenger automobile use," according to its page in Wikipedia.

Shiftless transmissions had been a focus during the 1930s. Then, as now, shifting a manual gearbox required more effort than most drivers cared to exert.

According to the Wiki story, automakers were in the fast lane to develop a transmission that reduces or eliminates the need to shift gears.

"At the time, synchronized gear shifting was

still a novelty (typically only for higher gears). The exception was Cadillac's breakthrough synchromesh fully synchronized manual transmission."

The synchromesh transmission was designed by Cadillac engineer Earl A. Thompson and introduced in the fall of 1928.

Developing a Shiftless Transmission

By the early 1930s, Thompson had begun work on a "shiftless" transmission. His pioneering work led to creating a new department within Cadillac Engineering. Headed by Thompson, the transmission group included engineers Ernest Seaholm, Ed Cole, Owen Nacker, and Oliver Kelley.

"During 1934, the Cadillac transmission group had developed a step-ratio gearbox that would shift automatically under full torque," according to Wikipedia. "This group of engineers was then moved into the General Motors Research Laboratory, building pilot transmission units during 1935-36. The transmission then went to Oldsmobile for testing.



All Cadillac models for 1941 could be optioned with the Hydra-Matic. (GM Media Archive)

The group effort led to the so-called Automatic Safety Transmission. The AST was a semi-automatic transmission using planetary gears and a conventional friction clutch. Drivers were still required to use the clutch to shift into or out of gear, but not between the two forward gears.

Oldsmobile offered the AST from 1937-1939, while Buick offered it only in 1938.

The next step was the Hydra-Matic. It combined the hydraulic operation of a planetary gearbox (for the automation of shifting) with a fluid coupling instead of a friction clutch, eliminating the need for de-clutching. The transmission would have four forward speeds plus reverse.

The transmission was named "Hydra-Matic Drive" and went into production in May 1939 for the 1940 model year.

Start of Hydra-Matic Production

The first Oldsmobiles so equipped were shipped

in October 1939 in the Oldsmobile Series 60 and the Oldsmobile Series 70.

Oldsmobile was chosen to introduce the Hydra-Matic for two reasons:

- Economies of scale — Oldsmobile produced more cars than Cadillac and Buick at the time, thus providing a better test base;
- And to protect the reputation of Cadillac and Buick in case of a market failure of the new transmission. Advertising proclaimed it "the greatest advancement since the self-starter."

In 1940, the Hydra-Matic was a \$57 option (around \$1,102 today). The price almost doubled for 1941, to \$100 (or about \$1,842 today). For the 1941 Cadillacs, the Hydra-Matic cost \$125.

The transmission was a popular upgrade. Almost 200,000 cars had been optioned with the transmission by the time passenger car production was halted for wartime production in February 1942.



How the Fort Lauderdale Region is Inspiring the Next Generation

by Chrissy Arnold, Speedster Editor with contributions from Dirk DeJong, President, Fort Lauderdale Region AACCA

Photos by Gary Curreri/New Pelican

How do we pass the torch of the collector car hobby to the next generation? It's a question every region asks, but the Fort Lauderdale Region recently found a brilliant, hands-on answer: a 1915 Ford Model T Touring car, a local Boy Scout troop, and a passion

for preservation.

The spark for the initiative came right from the 2026 AACCA National Convention. Inspired by a breakout session focused on youth engagement, Fort Lauderdale Region President Dirk DeJong returned home with a mission. After brainstorming with his board, the pieces quickly fell into place—starting with the perfect project car.

Generously donated by Tom and Tim Sheehan, the 1915 Model T carried a rich history. Their father,



Sherwood, had originally rescued the car from a chicken coop right here in Pennsylvania. The family was thrilled to see their father's legacy become a teaching tool for the future.

To turn the donation into a learning experience, DeJong developed a formal, light-restoration curriculum. The region then partnered with local vocational schools and a local Boy Scout troop (connected through the region's youngest board member, an Eagle Scout).

The project officially kicked off on May 16, 2026, with an "unveiling" day. Students rolled up their sleeves and began by cleaning away years of dust, revealing a vehicle in outstanding, solid condition.

Currently housed in a local warehouse, the Model



T is serving as a living classroom. Under the guidance of region members, the students are doing the heavy lifting to make the car safely drivable—learning everything from basic maintenance to installing a completely new wiring harness. The hobby community has already rallied behind them, too, with Coker Tire donating a fresh set of Firestone tires and tubes to the cause.

For these modern students, the vintage Ford is an eye-opener. The absolute simplicity of a Model T stands in stark contrast to the computer-heavy, screen-filled cars they see every day. By working on it, they aren't just learning mechanical skills; they are connecting directly with history.

Blueprint for Your Region

The Fort Lauderdale Region's success didn't happen by accident, but it is a model that any AACA region can replicate. If your region is looking to spark youth interest, consider their roadmap:

- **Look for a teaching tool:** A simple, approachable vehicle (like a Model T or A) is less intimidating for beginners and highly rewarding to work on.
- **Leverage existing youth networks:** Partner with organizations that already value hands-on skills, like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, or local high school automotive programs.
- **Build a structured plan:** Giving students clear, manageable goals—like a "clean-up day" followed by specific mechanical milestones—keeps them engaged and moving forward.

As Dirk DeJong puts it, passing this knowledge forward is imperative to preserving the hobby we love.

What could your region accomplish with an old garage find and a group of eager local students?

Wayne's Self-Measuring Pump

Reprinted with Permission from American Oil & Gas Historical Society, <https://aoghs.org/transportation/waynes-self-measuring-pump/>

From kerosene to gasoline, an 1892 Wayne Oil Tank & Pump Company dispenser preserves petroleum history.

Wayne Lease of White Salmon, Washington, owns a rare 1892 self-measuring pump originally designed to dispense kerosene. His pump is one of only 50 manufactured by the Wayne Oil Tank & Pump Company during its first year of business in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

Lease has researched his petroleum technology artifact, learning it was manufactured for selling kerosene, the popular 19th century lamp fuel sold at mercantile stores. His Wayne Company hand-cranked, measured dispensing pump apparently was later modified to supply gasoline.

"My research indicates the Wayne pump was never manufactured to be used for gasoline, but rather kerosene only," Lease noted in a 2020 email to the American Oil & Gas Historical Society.

He explained that many researchers of gasoline service station pumps have overlooked Wayne and other manufacturers' altered pumps, "best defined as an 'after strike,' which allowed the use in the transfer of the more volatile gasoline."

Self-measuring pump venders made good use of a dispenser that had become less needed because of electric lighting, Lease added.

The original Wayne Oil Tank & Pump Company design was limited to the specific use of kerosene as a lamp fuel, Lease explained. Kerosene was sold in general stores of rural America, where merchandise often could be found at stage coach stops spaced 15 miles to 25 miles apart.

Kerosene lamp fuel would be joined by a new transportation fuel in the early 1900s, gasoline for autos. "Small cities now become the hub of commerce on a larger scale with the introduction of the combustion engine," he added. Kerosene would succumb to the Rural Electrification Act (1936) as gasoline became the U.S. consumer's primary need.

"The Wayne pump, one of fifty made in 1892, was then certified for the use of the transfer of Gasoline, and the vender made good use of what had become obsolete," the amateur pump historian concluded in his 2020 email. He continues to research more information about the pump.



Original 1892 Wayne Oil Tank Company pump, one of just 50 manufactured to dispense kerosene during the company's first year of business in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.



Detailed Wayne pump measurement scale 70 designed for dispensing kerosene and later, gasoline.

"It is in immaculate condition as you can see by the photographs, Lease noted. He is seeking more information about the pump...and a potential petroleum museum interested in adding the Wayne pump to its collection. Insights are welcomed in comment section below.

Wayne Fueling Systems

History from the former Wayne Oil Tank Company, today still operating as Wayne Fueling Systems:

Wayne has been shaping the retail and fleet fueling industry since we designed our first pump in 1891. We were known as the Wayne Oil Tank Company back then,

and from the very beginning we were developing a reputation for quality.



Trade show display for Wayne Oil Tank and Pump Company equipment, showing gasoline and oil pumps. Sign for Wayne Oil Tank & Pump Co. in background. Handwritten note on back: "Service stations, 1910. Gasoline pump." Photo courtesy Detroit Public Library.

In fact, this inaugural product won the distinction "The Best Self Measuring Oil Pump" at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago just two years later. Once the motor vehicle entered the scene, our purpose and mission was solidified – to create a reliable, accurate way for motorists to refuel cars...Learn more at About Wayne Fueling Systems.

Recommended Reading: Pump and Circumstance: Glory Days of the Gas Station (1993). Your Amazon purchase benefits the American Oil & Gas Historical Society. As an Amazon Associate, AOGHS earns a commission from qualifying purchases.

The American Oil & Gas Historical Society preserves U.S. petroleum history. Please become an AOGHS supporter and help maintain this energy education website and expand historical research. For more information, contact bawells@aoghs.org. Copyright © 2024 Bruce A. Wells. All rights reserved.

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GREAT SOUTHERN REGION - ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

Application for Membership

Applicant Name_____

Spouse/Partner Name_____

Street Address_____

Telephone Number_____

EMAIL Address_____

Current or past AACA membership Number_____

Current antique cars owned_____

Applicant's Signature_____

Membership and Dues

Great Southern Region members will receive the monthly newsletter, club news and invitations via email

Please check out the website: GreatSounthern.aaca.com

Note: Region members must also be members of AACA. If new to AACA, please complete separate AACA application.

Send both applications and one check for all dues, payable to Great Southern Region AACA to:
Vicki Bolton, Secretary/Treasurer
2056 Shebia Dr
Hoover AL 35216

Annual Dues for Great Southern Region 20.00 per family

Annual Dues for AACA 45.00

