

# TIRE TRACKS

DECEMBER 2025

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The Official Publication of  
the  
**Waynesboro-  
Staunton Region  
Antique Automobile  
Club of America**



## RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Whose cruel idea was it for the word “lisp”  
to have an “s” in it?*

Sunday evening Karen and I were chitchatting when she blurted out that she needed a nice, quiet, peaceful, restful, calm, soothing, and silent one week vacation. I suggested Bora Bora, Marrakesh or even Patagonia. She just said “not far away, but **AWAY!**” Monday morning at 7AM my packed suitcase was by the kitchen door and I asked where we were going? She replied that if I left in the next 10 minutes I’d be in Syracuse, New York (actually Burlap, 2 hours North of Syracuse) and in time for dinner. I was! My friends in Upstate, Dmitry Shostakovich and his wife Natalya stated that since the local hotel in town (pop 758) was filled up, they’d reluctantly let me stay with them. They charged me \$177 plus taxes and I had to share the bathroom with a cat litter box. Jimmy Crack Corn, what a stink. Tuesday morning when I asked Natalya what she was going to cook for my breakfast, she instantaneously latched onto my right ear and pointed my head in the direction of the “COLOSSUS PANCAKE EMPORIUM” in Buffalo, only a short 1 hour drive away. It must be my magnetic personality.

At 8:30 AM this behemoth of a blueberry filled thing along with a side of hog 2”x12”x1/2 thick and 1/4 pound of butter was placed in front of me, and then my wallet vacuumed for \$27.50. Coffee was optional for “only” \$7.75.



Rest assured that I ate every last bit of food on the plate. (25% N.Y. State sales tax was a killer) Next stop -Buffalo Medical Center (9:00AM Intensive Care unit). I’m not afraid of death, I just don’t want to be there when it happens.



R.I.P.

Jack Drago

PS) Karen thoroughly enjoyed her week of quiet.

In closing, last month Stu related to all of us his marriage to Ellen. She (Ellen) confided to me that she asked Stu to take her to some exotic place and experience the unique sites for their honeymoon. Stu took her to the Motel 6 in Mount Solon and they toured the Route 11 potato chip factory. That’s our boy “No Expense Spared Stu” .

## Lost & Found

Jack found a Black vest on one of the chairs at the Ming Garden. He’ll bring it to the Christmas party if someone would like to claim it.

**W-S November 16 Meeting at Ming Garden**

Our group gathered at the usual side room at Ming Garden.



We brought in an extra table to seat the 31 members present.



Nancy Bradfield assisted Larry Skillman selling 50/50 tickets since Deb was working.



Butch & Peggy Beverly crossed the windy mountain in their Mustang convertible.



Jim Gregory arrived in his 1968 Buick LeSabre.



Robbie Gray brought out the 1994 Chrysler LHS with a VMCCA License plate?



Jack & Karen Drago are chatting with Carol Sarginger regarding future meeting locations.



Duane Perrin has a new Mustang that seems "Fast & Loud!"



President Jack announced the plans for our annual Christmas Party to be held on December 20.

*The family of the late John Alton Brown, founder of the Waynesboro-Staunton Region and an AACA director, gave the Region 86 articles entitled "Down the Road A Piece", written by Brown from the late 1970's until his death in April 1991. Many of these articles were printed in our Region newsletter, "Tire Tracks," as well as the Tri-County Region newsletter, "Clutch Chatter". Enjoy this trip down memory lane.*

### **CHRISTMAS MEMORIES**

When Christmas comes again each year we often think of Charles Dickens and his classic "Christmas Carol". The main theme of this story is Christmas present, past, and future. If we put this story in our memories of Christmas past we might go back in memory to a time forty, fifty, or even sixty years ago. In spite of my gray hairs and frequently aching joints, I remember quite vividly some of those annual celebrations of the Lord's birthday in the years long ago. This holiday was strictly a family day which included aunts, cousins, uncles, and my Grandmother. The things we did each Christmas became what every family calls their traditions. During the weeks before Christmas, my father would bring home mysterious packages in large boxes or brown paper, which were ceremoniously put in the downstairs closet and were referred to as "lay-overs for meddlers." This meant no handling and no shaking of anything thus designated. My sister Adele and I carefully saved our nickels and dimes all year and usually accumulated about fifteen or twenty dollars which were earmarked for holiday spending. We spent our money very carefully and the few gifts we were able to purchase were carefully wrapped and placed under the bed in the spare bedroom. Dad always went by himself to buy the Christmas tree—a balsam fir and as long as he lived the tree was never decorated or seen in the house until Christmas Eve. When my sister and I were young, we had to go to bed early and listened with great excitement to the sounds from downstairs—the crackling of paper, the tinkling of small bells being placed on the tree and soft conversation between our parents. I am sure that our house was not really colder on Christmas Eve, but Adele and I shivered under our blankets all night and kept getting up to check the mantel clock, whose hands seemed to scarcely move at all. When six o'clock finally arrived, we would knock on our parent's door and get permission to rush downstairs and get our stockings, which were hanging from the living room mantelpiece. We tried to look through the French doors of the darkened dining room, but without success.

Rushing back upstairs, we would plop ourselves down on Mothers and Dads beds and reach into our stockings to retrieve such things as a new toothbrush, a small toy, English walnuts, a mesh bag of chocolate coins covered with gold foil, and a dollar's worth of new pennies, nickels, and dimes. And then, of course, there was always an orange in the toe of the stocking. After a breakfast that was never shortened even for Christmas morning, we all burst into the dining room after Dad went first and turned on the tree lights. Our gifts were placed in separate piles in the same place every year so we knew where to look for them. Most of our gifts were books or articles of clothing, but I still remember the excitement I felt when I looked under the tree to find a gleaming oval track and a Lionel electric train with half a dozen cars and a locomotive. On succeeding Christmases, I often received another car or a couple of track switches. After a brief lunch Dad would head for the garage to warm up the old 1923 Marmon touring and with rain curtains in place and a couple of warm lap robes, we would make the trip to my Grandmother's duplex she shared with my aunt, uncle, and three cousins. Gifts were exchanged during the afternoon and then we all went upstairs to Grandmother's dining room to enjoy a turkey dinner with several more aunts and uncles. After the blessing Grandmother proposed a toast for many more Christmases together (the wine my uncle obtained from a bootlegger) but Grandmother never knew that. As the years passed the group around her table became smaller when loved ones passed away, but it was an occasion I will always remember with warmth and fondness. The final ceremony of those Christmases past was the drive home along the streets that were known for their homes displaying outdoor lighting—a practice that began in the mid nineteen-twenties. Then we arrived at home to savor our gifts and our joy of being together. When we jumped into bed, sleep came quickly to a couple of tired but happy children and even more to two exhausted, wonderful parents.

John Brown



Merry  
Christmas  
and a Happy  
New Year!



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**Tire Tracks**

The official monthly publication of the Waynesboro-Staunton Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America

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Alfred Meyer 860-670-6352	Past President
Nelson Driver 540-487-8120	ODMA Rep.

**Minutes of the November 16, 2025 W-S Region Meeting**

The Waynesboro-Staunton Region of the AACA held its November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting at Ming Garden in Waynesboro at 2 pm. With 31 members present. President Jack Drago opened the meeting by welcoming all present. Chester Bradfield gave the blessing before the meal.

The president stated he was receiving money for the Christmas Party in the amount of \$15 per person. Also, he would receive dues at the rate of \$15 for e-mail copy and \$20 for mailed copy.

In the absence of the treasurer Jack Drago gave his report which was accepted.

The secretary reported that Doris Stone was at home after spending time in the hospital with back problems.

The president announced that Duane Perrin would replace Ken Farley on the board.

Jack appointed Richard Obenschain and David Sarginger to the nominating committee for the officers for next year.

Jack proceeded to ask the members where they wanted to have their meeting for next year and proceeded to fill out the schedule for next year. (See the Tire Tracks calendar)

It was then stated the Augusta County Fair dinner would be on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and the fair would be on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

The 50/50 was won by Dave Barr.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Gray, Sec.

**From the Editor's Desk**

Please submit any articles, pictures, or ideas for publication to me at the following:

Stuart Allen  
265 Stayman Lane  
Staunton, VA 24401  
540-290-0329 (Cell)  
email: stuscar@aol.com

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Sharon Embres  
Scott Gregory  
Kay Mader

## Calendar of AACA Events & Community Car Events

- DEC 10** Wednesday, 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 20** Saturday, 1:30 PM— Annual Christmas Party at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church, 30 Tinkling Spring Drive, Fishersville
- 
- JAN 14** Wednesday, 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 2026 18** Monthly Meeting—2:00 PM—Panera Bread—1101 Red Top Orchard Road, Waynesboro
- 
- FEB 5-7** Annual Convention/ National Awards—Chantilly, VA
- 11** Wednesday, 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 15** Monthly Meeting - 2:00 PM Francesco's—101 North Main St. Bridgewater

### Annual Christmas Party—Reservations Required




*After discussions with the caterer, and based on the amount of food supplied last year, we won't require menu selections prior to our party.*

Menu  
Turkey or Pulled Pork  
Apple Pie or Lemon Pie or Banana Pudding  
Salad  
Stuffing or Mac & Cheese

**Gift Exchange**  
 Bring a gift marked "Man" or "Woman" for our gift exchange.  
 Nominal value \$15 to \$20.

Cost will be \$15.00/ person and the club will cover the remaining costs. You may pay and make your reservations by sending a check to Todd Smith (address on Page 4) by Dec. 5.

Does anybody have a large coffee maker? It's been suggested that we have coffee with our Christmas meal. Call Jack Drago if you can furnish the pot!



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## FOR SALE

### **1929 Nash Advanced 6 Deluxe Sedan**

Shows 78,000 carefully driven miles and is in great original shape.

Repainted in 2002 but does have some minimal damages.

Need a tune-up and some tender love and care.

Was \$25,000; now asking \$17,000 OBO!

**Bob Nutt: 540.294.5500**



### For Sale

**1991 Toyota Deluxe pick up** with 110 K original miles.

Every thing works except tape deck as it needs 2 rubber band drive belts.

Price is \$7400 Truck is auto with over drive and has AC and zero rust.

It came from Danville Va. I bought it with 98,000 original miles.

Call Rick Downs 540-836-0507

### For Sale

**1946 Chevy Pickup**

**1979 Harley-Davidson Shovelhead**

Happy to talk to someone about price.

**Walter Wilson**

**703-273-1600**

### Tri-County Region Meetings

Check their website:  
<http://tri-county-aaca.org/>

### Piedmont Region Meetings

Meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at Timberwood Grill near airport road on Worth Ave.

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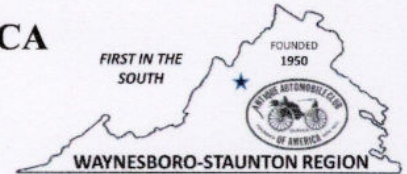
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# WAYNESBORO—STAUNTON REGION AACA

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL\*



*\*Renewing members: Print name and any changes from 2024 Roster and skip to Dues box below.*

Please Print

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Month/Day

Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Month/Day

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make, model and year of your Antique or Classic automobile(s): *Ownership not required to be a member.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests? \_\_\_\_\_

AACA National Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Required to be a member of the Region)*

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Member(s) Recommending: \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues

- ☐ I want to receive Tire Tracks by e-mail: \$15.  
☐ I want to receive Tire Tracks by USPS mail: \$20.

Mail application and dues to: Todd Smith  
 1422 Bloomer Springs Rd.  
 McGaheysville, VA 22840