

TIRE TRACKS

JUNE 2025

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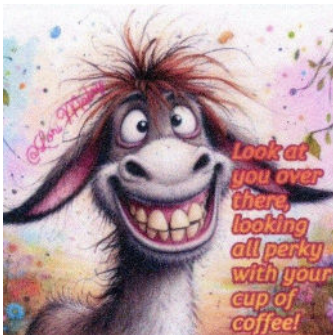
The Official Publication of
the
**Waynesboro-
Staunton Region
Antique Automobile
Club of America**



RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I lost the fingers on my right hand in a freak accident, I asked the doctor if I would still be able to write with it. He said, "Possibly, but I wouldn't count on it."

I can safely say, and Karen will attest to this, that at 10AM this is NOT me! She, the cat, the dog and all of



the horses, donkeys and cows in the pastures will wonder at what time the beast in me will become somewhat human or at the very minimum, somewhat civilized in communication. My morning fix is 2 rounds of .45 caliber into the TV screen, followed by an industrial sized hammer. Big deal. I failed "charm school, (and beauty also).

Karen and I were invited over to Paul Day and Polly Belford's house on Sunday evening for some "tea and crumpets" (aka Bourbon and Caviar). While sitting in their sunroom, Paul filled us in on some background of his life prior to retiring, and due to his highly classified and Top Secret work, I was sworn to absolute secrecy as to names and therefore I'll put in some "fictitious" names in my litany. In the Navy, Paul was a Certified Master Salvage Diver, and after serving overseas, he went to work as a clandestine operative for, I'll be creative and call it the "F.B.I." (Whoops) Besides being a covert spy, Paul was enlisted to locate a missing well known individual, I'll use the name "Jimmy Hoffa".

It seems that some confidential informer had notified the "F.B.I." office in Trenton, New Jersey where a body was located. The spot just happened to be in a lagoon (trust me on this one, there are NO "lagoons" as we know them in New Joisey) and it was Paul's job to try and locate the remains. Let's just say that the "lagoon" had a pumping station and that one of the pumps was plugged. Since the "lagoon" contained a fair amount of "mud" and some distillation water, Paul had to dress in light scuba gear rather than deep sea clothing. This also meant NO GLOVES, that being he would be able feel his way around the pump housing. (imagine what's underneath his fingernails now?) As Paul explained it, after some 45 minutes of feeling around, his hands caught some large item, and as he pulled it close to his face mask, there were two eyeballs looking back at him. In sheer panic, he immediately popped to the surface white as a sheet (presumed, as he was also covered in stink) and mumbling incoherently to his handlers. What did Paul find in his dive? His explanation was rather candid, blunt, gory and more than descriptive. In his line of work, this may be what you consider as "normal", and to him, just another days work, but to the layman, it's a bit much, and I do have a weak stomach. Even though I can be creative in ways that my words will pass the CENSORS, (Stu Allen & company) no amount of imagination, nor the use of my friend Mr. Websters Dictionary, nor terminology, could I come up with a way to describe his words that it would make it even remotely printable to put in this publication, or for the readers to keep from blowing their cookies all over the dining room table.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

One final comment. Paul and Polly also have a cat, and it is named THOR. Somehow or other, this thing just has to be a direct descendant of the terrorist cat owned by Sue Gregory and it too has the same ugly disposition. I'm bringing a shovel on my next visit.

"The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that it has never tried to contact us."..Bill Watterson

THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME:

Part 22: GENETICS:

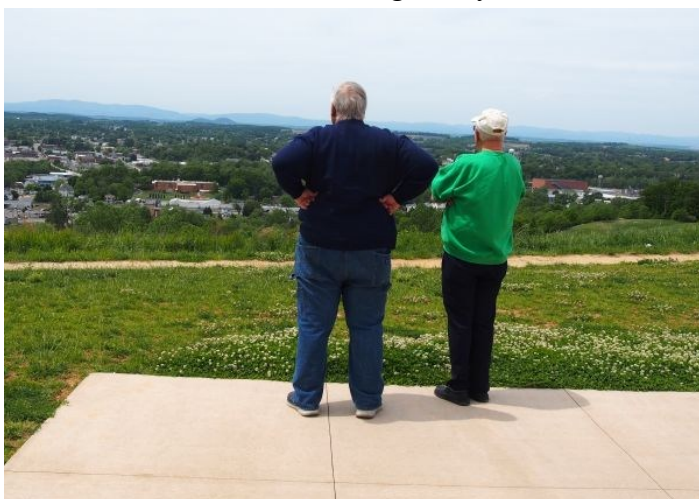
"You're just like your father.

Jack Drago

May W-S Meeting at Sunset Park– Waynesboro

May 11, 2025

Our May meeting & picnic were held at a new location for our group—Sunset Park is a great location that gives a nice view of Waynesboro and the surrounding valley.



24 Members attended on a beautiful Mothers' Day.



The rest room facility is designed similarly to the Basic Union Train Station that, once-upon-a-time, sat right below Sunset Park.



One of the advantages of a picnic is lots of time to talk and catch up on activities.



The Region provided fried chicken and everyone brought a dish to pass. Even though President Jack Drago was home with a bad back, First Lady Karen came through with the chicken.



Steve & Linda Ayers brought their 1928 Model A Ford 4-Dr. Sedan



Fred Hollen's 1956 Dodge Pickup.



Deb & Larry Skillman's 1965 Pontiac GTO. It was great to have Larry back after his heart surgery!



Jim Gregory brought out Scott's 1967 Chevrolet Impala.



Robbie Gray and Bob & Robbie Kuykendall drove their 1929 Ford Model A's.

National Horseless Carriage Club Tour
April 28 – May 2, 2025 – Orange, VA
by Todd Smith

I had the opportunity to attend a Horseless Carriage Club National 5 day Tour held in Orange VA from April 28 thru May 2, 2025. I was the guest of Dwayne Perrin our own W-S AACA member who who is also a 50+ year member of the HCCA. Over 50 pre 1916 vehicles participated and the makes were many and varied, including Ford Model T, Overland, Packard, EMF, Peerless, a 2 cyl. Renault, Franklin, Locomobile, REO, Pullman, Buick, Cadillac and a Bugatti roadster (a real one! – not a reproduction). I was fortunate to ride in 3 cars, a 1915 Model T, a 2011 Franklin and a 1912 Cadillac. What a treat!

The tour routes were rigorous from 60 miles per day to 109 miles per day. They included driving from Orange up the mountain (RT 33) and onto skyline drive, and 2 days later, over the mountain (RT 211) to Luray Caverns and back again -- a tough day for the cars!

Other stops were visits to Monticello, Montpelier, Lake Anna and a beautifully restored plantation farm (Findowrie Farm) ca.1782 owned by HCCA members Tim & Tara Mullins.



Findowrie Farm

Thank You Tim & Tara for your gracious hospitality and sharing the restoration work you have done to bring this plantation farm back to original condition.

The weather was beautiful and the temperatures mild. All in all, a great tour with great people.



1912 Cadillac



1911 Franklin

My EV Experience
By Fred Trusty
2025 VP Touring



This article is my personal experience with one specific electric vehicle and does not address the environmental impact of electric vehicles.

In early 2010 I decided to purchase my first new car as a retirement present to myself. I wanted a vehicle that was fuel efficient, reliable, and able to haul a few tools and materials. Nothing fancy, a utilitarian vehicle to get around town. The Nissan Leaf hit the market in December 2010 so in January 2011 I ordered one. On July 6, 2012, I drove my new car home. I own residential rental houses, so the Leaf was a good fit. The large storage space in the hatchback comes in handy for tools and materials plus I can fold down the back seats and haul long items such as 2x4's, pipe, trim, etc. Since the batteries are located under the floor, the Leaf has a low center of gravity, so it handles well on corners and since an electric motor has a linear torque curve, it will pin you back in your seat if you put your foot into it. The total price before tax was \$38,960. The federal EV tax credit was \$7,500 so my net cost was \$31,460 plus another \$1332 for the home charger for a total out of pocket of \$32,792. On a warm day without using the A/C and avoiding interstates, I could travel about 90 miles on a charge, which is fine since 90% of my driving is within a 30-mile radius of home. On a cold day without using the heater, the range drops to about 80 miles. When the temperature is below 38 degrees, it's even less as is indicated by a warning message on the dash, "Temperature is below 38 degrees." But with heated seats and steering wheel I'm still comfortable.

Operating costs have been minimal. I have 65,000 miles and the only thing that has been replaced are the tires. EV's have regenerative braking which means when you let off the accelerator the motor acts as a generator which produces drag as it's charging the batteries, so the brake pads last many times longer than a gas car. Fuel efficiency is difficult for me to measure since I have a grid connected solar panel system on my garage roof which generates more than enough power for my house and the Leaf. Basically, the only costs associated with the power to charge the batteries is a small percentage of the initial capital investment for the solar system.

Now let's look at my long-term costs. No fuel expense and no maintenance expense but the downside is that my Leaf is down to about a 50-mile range on a warm day and 45 miles or less on a cold day. I still use it for short trips but anything farther than a 20-mile radius, I have no choice but to drive one of my other gas cars. If I decide to replace the 24 KW battery pack, it will cost me about \$16,000. I've called the Nissan dealers here in Louisville and they don't replace batteries, but they offered me a \$1500 trade in on a new Leaf. In fact, they won't even sell me the batteries. They only sell to authorized EV repair shops of which there are none close to Louisville. The last time I checked, the closest shop was in Wisconsin. I can't drive it there so I would have to haul it myself or pay someone which is more expense.

Let's say that instead of buying a new Leaf in 2012, I purchased a similarly priced car such as a Honda Accord. 65,000 miles at 30 mpg is 2166 gallons of gas. Let's say an average of \$3.00 per gallon for a total of \$6,498. Changing my own oil at 5,000-mile intervals at \$40 per change is about \$520. I estimate other fluid changes and brakes to be about \$500. So, total fuel and maintenance costs would be about \$7,518 but I would own a car that still has at least 250,000 miles left on the engine.

Even in my unusual situation of producing my own power, every 12 years/65,000 miles I'll be spending \$8,482 more than a similarly priced gas car. (\$16,000 - \$7,518 = \$8,482. Think of what the costs would be without the \$7,500 tax credit and if I had to pay for the electricity to charge the batteries. The bottom line is that I'm the owner of an EV that is worth almost nothing and needs an additional \$16,000 to be useful again. So, for the time being, I'm going to drive my Leaf until the range drops so low that it's totally useless. With technological advancements, maybe the cost of batteries will come down, like what happened to personal computers in the early 2000s. Don't get me wrong. I am very pleased with my Leaf. It's great for what I use it for, but even with the \$7,500 credit and no cost to charge the batteries, it makes no financial sense. In today's world, EV's have a place but it's not the "one size fits all, save the planet" narrative that is being shoved down our throats by some politicians. Henry Ford didn't need tax credits to produce and sell 15 million Model T's. He put America on wheels by offering a good product at an affordable price. Let consumers make their own decisions and the market will run its course.

From AACA Spring 2025 Rummage Box

Tire Tracks

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

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From the Editor's Desk

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

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540-290-0329 (Cell)
email: stuscar@aol.com

**Notes from your Editor**

I included Fred Trusty's article to generate feedback from our members who may have experience with later model EV's. Major improvements have been made in battery technology but some of the downside issues Fred mentioned still exist. The major problem continues to be availability of reliable charging station networks. Battery replacement is sometimes covered under warranty, but time will tell about EV values once the vehicles are 10+ years old. Most of us view EVs as a good choice for an around-town car but only with a gasoline powered vehicle available for longer trips out of town. It will be interesting to see how EV sales are affected once the \$7500. government subsidy ends.

Stu Allen—Editor

Minutes of the May 11, 2025 W-S Region Meeting

The Waynesboro-Staunton Region of the AACA held its May meeting on the 11th at Sunset Park in Waynesboro at 2 pm. The picnic was in the new pavilion on the top of the mountain. Vice President Rick Downs opened the meeting and welcomed all present in absence of President Jack Drago. After the picnic, secretary Robbie Gray gave a brief treasurer's report for Todd Smith and reminded all present about the ODMA meet on the 16th and 17th. A good time was had by all with a great view on the valley from this location.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Gray, Sec.

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Velva Barr
Josiah Gingerich
Jim Gregory
Dave Sarginger

Calendar of AACA Events & Community Car Events

JUNE 1-7 Vintage Tour (Pre-1932) - Lancaster, Pennsylvania (*Plain & Fancy Tour*)

- 7 Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA's 68th Annual Antique Automobile Show will be held at the Fredericksburg Fairgrounds, 2400 Airport Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA 22401.**
- 11 Wednesday, 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton**
- 14 56th Annual Collector Car and Swap Meet, hosted by the Richmond Region AACA, is being held at St. Joseph's Villa (8000 Brook Rd, Richmond).**
- 14 Saturday 12:30 PM -2:30 PM. The GreenHouse Christian Learning Center is hosting our Touch a Truck event again this year! We are going to have tractors, trucks, buses, cars, motorcycles, food, ice cream and more 2959 Hermitage Rd. Waynesboro VA, 22980
- 19-21 Eastern Spring Nationals –Beckley, West Virginia– sponsored by Whitewater Region**
- 21 Saturday- Cars and Coffee at Terry Court in Staunton 8-10AM
- 22 Sunday, 2:00 PM -Monthly Meeting & Picnic at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church Pavilion**
- 28 Saturday, 11:00 AM “Milling Around and Trivia Tour” Departs from Staunton DMV Parking Lot—*Details below.***

JULY 2-5 Central Spring Nationals—Auburn Indiana

- 19 Saturday- Cars and Coffee at Terry Court in Staunton 8-10AM
- 12 Saturday, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM – Vehicle Display & Monthly Meeting, Lunch provided, Brightview Baldwin Park, 21 Woodlee Road, Staunton.**
- 24-25 Grand Nationals / Zenith—Dayton, Ohio**


AUG 1-3 Das Awkscht Fescht—Macungie PA—Ontelaunee AACA Region

- 13 Wednesday, 7:00 PM Executive Board Meeting at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton**
- 12-15 Eastern Divisional Tour—Northern Maine—Maine Region**
- 16 Saturday- Cars and Coffee at Terry Court in Staunton 8-10AM
- 17 Sunday, 1:30 PM – Monthly Meeting and Picnic with the Tri-County Region, Grand Caverns, 5 Grand Caverns Drive, Grottoes.**

TOUR UPDATE Weather permitting, we are having a “Milling Around and Trivia Tour” on Saturday, June 28th leaving from the Staunton DMV parking lot at 11 AM. Since this is both a driving tour and trivia tour, it is based on a 100% honor system. Therefore, we request that under penalty of running out of gas and the trouble truck bypassing you on the tour, NO cell phones, lap tops, I-Pads, search engines, trivia books or any other electronic devices will be allowed to look up answers.

Future Planning

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| SEPTEMBER | 21 | Tinkling Spring Auction |
| OCTOBER | 19 | Francesco's |
| NOVEMBER | 16 | Ming Garden |
| DECEMBER | 14 | Tinkling Spring Christmas Party |



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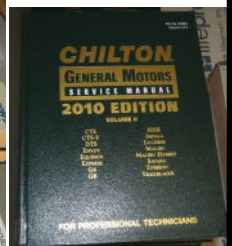
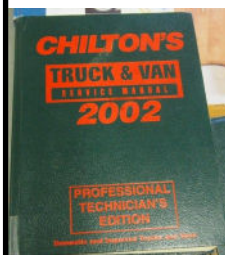
Bob Nutt: 540.294.5500



Chilton Manuals Donated to our Club

Bob Kuykendall recently picked up a donation from the local library of 58 Chiltons Manuals, all in good condition. They are now in Stu Allen's garage and are available to our members and friends for **FREE!**

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Brand</u>	<u>Yrs. Covered</u>
12	Asian	1996-2012
8	Chrysler	2000-2012
4	European	2000-2012
7	Ford	2000-2012
11	GM	2001-2012
4	Import	1991-2002
7	Misc.	1975-2003
5	Truck & Van	1996-2003



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Tri-County Region Meetings

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

Piedmont Region Meetings

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

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