

THE ELECTRONIC VERSION



Greetings, Waynesboro—Staunton Members, we published early this month to give you something to read while we all wait for the rain to stop. October is the month where a lot of us spend a week getting ready for Hershey, a week at Hershey and then another week recuperating from the rigors of Hershey. There is an ongoing discussion about how swap meets are shrinking with so much buying and selling happening over the internet. Hershey has certainly been affected but it is still a huge event. Where else can you find that part you have been searching for for years and it winds up on a table of mixed parts that the seller has no idea what it is or what it fits? The thrill of the hunt is alive and well. If you've never been to Hershey, put it on your bucket list.

Stu Allen

The automotive press is full of articles about the "new" electric cars. Did you know they were around in the 1800's? This car competed in the world's first track race in Providence, Rhode Island in September 1896.

Pedro G. Salom & Henry G. Morris In 1894 "ELECTROBAT"



*This article was
published in the
1949 directory
for the
Philadelphia &
National Antique
Auto Show*

1894 ELECTROBAT

Here in Philadelphia, in 1894, Henry G. Morris, a mechanical engineer and Pedro G. Salom, an electrician, built their first "Electrobat". Their second vehicle, was entered in the Chicago Times Herald Automobile Race, and altho it did not finish the race was awarded

a gold medal for quietness of operation, and design. The race was won by the Duryea which got the cash prize of \$2000.00, and the honor and glory.

The Electrobat No. 2 competed at Providence, R. I., in September 1896, and did over 25 m.p.h.

OCTOBER MEETING— Sunday, Oct. 21, 2 PM, Monthly Meeting at Bella Luna Wood-Fired Pizza, 80 West Water Street, Harrisonburg. Speaker will be Greg Owen, author of a book detailing the history of Camp Lyndhurst, a WW II German prisoner-of-war camp.



TIRE TRACKS

The Official Publication of the
Waynesboro-Staunton Region



Volume 48, Issue 10

Visit our website—<http://waynesboro-stauntonregion.aaca.com/>

October 2018

MUSINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello sir. I'm a reporter from the "*The Daily Vomit*" and I'd like to gather some information from you in regards to this event you're holding at Coyner Springs Park today. I understand that your car club, the W-S Region AACA is the oldest car club in the South. What is today's event all about? "Well, you are correct in the first question". As pertaining to today's event, we are celebrating our Annual Steak Bake and Auction. You'll notice that we have an enormous crowd here, just down from several thousand due to competing events in other locations. "That's quite a feat from such a well known club sir." "Ah yes, we do tend to do things right. Our food is supplied by Emeril Lagasse, the famed chef, and our auction, which is 2nd only to Barrett Jackson, is hosted by Bruce Elder, Auctioneer and Entertainer. Bruce being far, far more entertainment than even Johnny Carson ever thought of. While Bruce may not be quite as well known, or as famous as Dana Mecum Auctioneers, he is known far and wide in the local cul-de-sac. Stick around for the nonsense." (And YES, a humorous time was had by all) "And these items up for auction under the acres of tents? I've noticed quite a few of them that were shown on "*The Antiques Road Show*" on television. "Yes, we're quite proud of the eclectic collection of items brought in by our members. Bruce always manages to jack up the prices—from a few meager dollars to almost grand theft. B-J and Mecum can't hold a candle to what we offer. Even the local Dollars Are We Store can't compete with us." "And I like the nice warm fire in the wood burning fireplace, it adds a nice touch to your picnic." "Thank you".

Perhaps this lady over here could answer a question. "Excuse me ma'am, but I could not help but notice your formal attire. Gavinchy gown and Coach handbag. You seemed to be groomed as if it were Pebble Beach Concourse. Any particular reason?" "Why yes my dear, GET AWAY FROM ME YOU CREEP!"

Jack Drago

I happened to stop by Bruce's Emporium on September 10 and he said that he had a wonderful time at the Steak Bake & Auction. However, he was non apologetic in the fact that he got me to pay a wallet full of cash for a few magazines that were dated to biblical times

HERSHEY TIME AGAIN!

The annual pilgrimage to Hershey is coming soon. Setup is on Tues. Oct. 9 and the flea market is open until Saturday although most vendors close up for the huge judged meet on Saturday, Oct. 13. Come visit some of our W-S Region members at C40 40-50 in the Chocolate Field. See you there!

Some pictures from 2017



Jim Gregory and John Stone provide the cornerstone for the W-S Region guys.



Nelson Driver says "Let's make a deal!"



Your editor and friends' set up. The goal is to sell more than we buy!



Jim & John mind the store while watching the people—a favorite pastime.

Annual Steak Fry and Auction September 9, 2018

Our annual Steak Fry & Auction for our September meeting was held in spite of rainy and cool weather. 24 members and guests braved the weather but most came in modern cars. There was plenty of food, the steaks were great and everyone enjoyed the meal.



Glen & Linda Royer did a great job grilling the steaks.



Jim Gregory cooked hots on the other grill.



Patty Watson-Gregory and Sue Gregory took advantage of the warm fireplace.



There were lots of delicious choices on the buffet tables.



Members used the tables near the fireplace on a cool & damp day.



Bid cards in hand, members await the auction.



Auctioneer Bruce Elder, and his assistant David Jordan efficiently sold all of the donated items and as usual provided the entertainment for the afternoon. David is interested in joining our Region. He has built an outstanding replica of the LeMans winning Riley MPH race car.

Have you changed your brake fluid?

Brake fluid used in most of our collector cars is glycol ether based (DOT 3 or DOT 4). It is hygroscopic which means that it will absorb moisture from the air it contacts. The brake fluid will still allow proper braking but internal corrosion in the master cylinder, brake lines and wheel cylinders may lead to potential problems. The master cylinder fill cap is typically vented so moist air does come in contact with brake fluid in the reservoir. Fluid change intervals recommended vary widely (typically 1 year to three years). I'm probably not alone in neglecting to change fluid in spite of the recommendations.

A recent brake problem with my '49 Buick may cause me to pay more attention to brake fluid changes on my cars in the future. I noticed poor pedal feel and uncertain stopping distances on a car that had always had good brakes. I checked brake fluid level in the master cylinder and it was OK but I noticed that the fluid had a dark color instead of the clear color of new fluid. It was evident that it was time for a complete flush of the system as well as rebuilding the master cylinder.

The early Buicks have a master cylinder mounted to the frame rail under the steering column and it is difficult to reach from underhood.



I used a long wobble socket extension to remove the fill cap and a pneumatic brake bleeder to drain all of the old fluid from the system by accessing each wheel cylinder bleed valve. I then removed the master cylinder by disconnecting the brake line, the brake pedal linkage and the two bolts holding the casting to the frame. I had ordered a rebuild kit but was fortunate to find a rebuilt unit in my spare parts stash. I tore it down and the internal parts were all new so it was used to replace the old unit.

I was concerned that old fluid and residue would still be in the brake lines and wheel cylinders so I used a new bottle of brake fluid to flush the system. I filled the replaced master cylinder and used the bleeder system at each wheel to pull the new fluid through the lines until the fluid was clear. My hoist got a workout as I had to refill the master reservoir after purging each wheel position. Once I had clear fluid at each wheel I refilled the master cylinder reservoir, checked pedal position and did a road test. The brakes were now back to normal.

Examination of the master cylinder that was removed showed that the piston seals had deteriorated and there was sludge built up in the bottom of the reservoir. The probable cause was corrosion caused by water absorbed in the old brake fluid.



Experts warn us to always use a fresh can of brake fluid so that moisture will contaminate a can that has been opened and then stored on the shelf. At around \$6.00 per quart, it is good insurance to buy a fresh can.

I'm embarrassed to admit what I found when I checked my log book for the car. I had rebuilt the master cylinder, replaced wheel cylinders and brake fluid years ago. (22 years to be exact and 15,000 miles travelled since then) I was fortunate that I'd had no problems before. You can be sure I'll check my other cars right away. How about you?

My advice is to check your system and records to assure that your cars are OK.

Stu Allen



Handy Tools

The recent brake job on my '49 Buick gave me an opportunity to use some tools I've had around for a few years. The first thing you need when working underhood is a good light source. We all have used "trouble lights" that had an incandescent bulb that was hot to the touch and often ended up shattering when you dropped them. The best alternative I've found is an underhood LED light that is cordless and rechargeable. With no cord to tangle or untangle, it is relatively easy to position the light to illuminate the area you are working on. It appears to be durable and the battery lasts long enough for most jobs.



One often finds bolts or nuts on a car that are under an obstruction that prevents getting a socket with an extension squarely on the hex. Such was the case of the master cylinder fill cap on my Buick. The cap is under steering column, throttle linkage and down on the frame rail so it is difficult to see and reach. The tool that is handy here is one of a set of wobble socket extensions. I used the longest ½" wobble extension to get the socket squarely on the filler cap while working around the linkage. The wobble feature allows just enough flex at the socket to allow you to miss the obstruction and easily remove the hex fitting. Not something one uses every day but sure works well when you need it.



The other tool I used on this project was the pneumatic brake fluid bleeder. Bleeding brakes is never a fun process but when working alone you need one of these bleeders. The system uses compressed air to create a vacuum in the catch bottle to draw brake fluid and air bubbles from the brake lines at each wheel position until the air is gone from the lines. The pistol grip allows you to adjust the amount of suction applied to draw the fluid at a controlled rate. It is necessary to make sure that the master cylinder is refilled with fresh brake fluid as you go through the process. If you have ever tried to use one of the hand vacuum pumps to bleed brakes, you remember the slow and tiring process. The pneumatic bleeder is the best way to go.



These tools are all available at Harbor Freight at reasonable prices and are often discounted with their special coupons.

Disclaimer—I have no investment in Harbor Freight!

Stu Allen

Do you have a handy tool? Why not share it with our readers. Your wife says you can never have too many tools!



This ad. Is from a Charles Williams Stores catalog circa 1917

Not available from Harbor Freight

Missed Opportunities!



Wayne Tuck
Vice President
Membership

Every local cruise night or car event we attend results in a few leaflets or flyers being tucked under a wiper or dropped on the seat. It would be nearly impossible to attend every event you are invited to. Do we even try to investigate? I have attended a few that were pretty dull. However, I have also been pleasantly surprised by some that turn out to be fantastic. We never know until we try, or someone you know gives you a tip on what you might be missing. These local events are great opportunities to spread the word about how great it is to be a member of AACA. Be one of those folks that takes advantage of the opportunity to be out there in the old car community and drop a few leaflets of your own telling other old car fans about the advantages our club has to offer. Take advantage of the new tri-fold brochure available free from AACA headquarters promoting the advantages of Region and National membership. How many times have you been stopped in a parking lot and asked about the old car you are driving? Are you prepared to hand out a brochure touting the benefits of AACA membership? We need to be prepared when opportunities present themselves. Keep a handful in all of your vehicles to avoid having any missed opportunities

Plan for the 2019 AAA Revival **Glidden Tour**



Mel Carson
AACA Executive
Vice President

The Hornets Nest Region, AACA will host the 2019 AAA Revival Glidden Tour in the Rock Hill, SC – Charlotte NC area. The schedule is Sunday September 22 through Friday September 27, 2019. There will be many attractions of the Old English District of upper South Carolina. More Revolutionary War battles were fought in South Carolina than any other colony and many of them were in the seven counties (Chester, Chesterfield, Fairfield, Kershaw, Lancaster, Union and York) known as the Olde English District. The battles and the similarity to English town names give the north central area of the state its name. A National Park (Kings Mountain National Military Park), living history sites, monuments and markers invite you to explore your past and the beginnings of our country. A bus trip is planned to the NASCAR Museum in downtown Charlotte which will also include a visit to the Carolinas Aviation Museum where you can see the airliner from the 'Miracle on the Hudson.' Registration will be available after the 2019 AACA Annual Meeting.

These articles courtesy of the AACA Rummage Box

Reminder: The September October issue of Antique Automobile has two important items for your attention. First is the ballot to elect members to the AACA Board of Directors and their bios. are in the issue. Check them out and vote.

Second is your National membership renewal form. Why not send it in now before you forget about it?

Calendar of AACA Events and *Community Car Events*

OCT.

- 10** Wednesday, 7 PM, Executive Board Meeting at the Grays, 1430 Red Top Orchard Rd., Waynesboro
- 10-13** AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Hershey, PA hosted by the Hershey Region
- 21** Sunday, 2:00 PM – Monthly Meeting at Bella Luna Wood-Fired Pizza, 80 West Water Street, Harrisonburg. Speaker will be Greg Owen, author of a book detailing the history of Camp Lyndhurst, a WW II German prisoner-of-war camp.
- 21-26** AACA Founder's Tour, Metropolis, IL hosted by the Southern Illinois Region Ohio Valley Chapter

NOV.

- 5-9** 10th AACA Sentimental Tour – A Tale of Two Cities, Natchez, MS hosted by the Louisiana Region.
- 14** Wednesday, 7 PM, Executive Board Meeting at the Grays, 1430 Red Top Orchard Rd., Waynesboro
- 9-10** ODMA Veterans Day Tour– Hosted by Roanoke Valley Region (see Sept. issue for details)
- 18** Sunday, 2:00 PM – Monthly Meeting & Election of Officers at Heritage on Main, 309 West Main Street, Waynesboro

DEC.

- 9** Sunday, 2:00 pm – Monthly Meeting & Christmas Party at Pano's Restaurant, 3190 South Main Street, Harrisonburg



- 12** Wednesday, 7 PM, Executive Board Meeting at the Grays, 1430 Red Top Orchard Rd., Waynesboro

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

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September 9, 2018 Waynesboro-Staunton Region Meeting

Our September 9 meeting was the Annual Steak Fry & Auction at Coyner Springs Park in Waynesboro. Threatening rainy weather adversely affected attendance but 24 hearty members and guests came out to the park.

President Jack Drago welcomed all the members and guests present and Nelson Driver said grace before we all enjoyed the steak and the variety of dishes from the pot luck tables. Our chefs for the day were Glen & Linda Royer and Jim Gregory. We had no rain during the event. Some kind Samaritan had a fire going in the fire-place when we arrived and that helped take the chill off the damp day.

After the meal, Jack conducted a quick meeting where V.P. Walter Wilson told us about the Oct. 21 meeting at Bella Luna Wood-Fired Pizza in Harrisonburg. Our speaker will be Greg Owen, author of a book detailing the history of Camp Lyndhurst, a WW II German prisoner-of-war camp.

After adjourning the meeting, Jack introduced our guest auctioneer, Bruce Elder who was assisted by David Jordan. Bruce in his usual entertaining fashion proceeded to sell the donated items at a lively pace. The funds are all donated to the Region.

We are fortunate to have Bruce Elder who has conducted this auction for 25 years. His knowledge of automotive literature and automobilia adds a lot to the enjoyment of the auction. Thanks, Bruce!

We wrapped up the meeting and headed home before the rain started. It is rumored that Jack has sufficient reading material to last until snow flies.

Respectfully submitted,
Stu Allen for Robbie Gray.

Cars at the Sept. 9 Meeting



Steve Cummins arrived in his 1984 Mazda RX-7



Auctioneer Bruce Elder brought his 1970 Cadillac



Jim Gregory drove his 1965 Chevrolet El Camino.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Nelson Driver

Michael Embres

Vince Ennis

Rose Linke

Carol Ralston

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Tri-County Region Meetings
Dates vary - Check their website

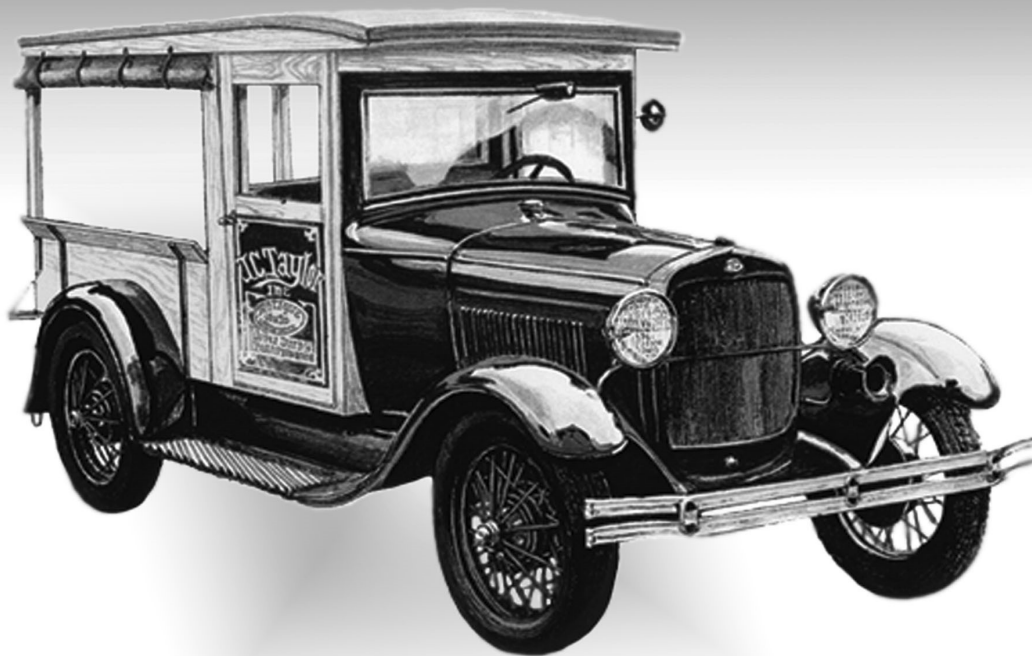
Piedmont Region Meetings are the
4th Monday at the Doubletree Hotel
on Route 29 North in Charlottesville

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