



**WESTERN ROUND-UP**  
**The official publication of the:**  
**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA REGION**  
**ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA**

The WESTERN ROUND-UP is the official publication of the Western Pennsylvania Region, of the Antique Automobile Club of America and is mailed to all members of the Region in good standing the week preceding the regular monthly meeting. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, excluding the months of December and January. The meetings are held at the American Legion Post 982, (Pipetown) Hall, Latrobe, PA 15650, starting at 7:30 p.m.

All copies must be in the hands of the Editor by the THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH to be published the following month. Any items contained herein may be reproduced, if proper credit is given. All articles submitted for publication may be edited for length, grammar, accuracy and composition and will be used solely at the discretion of the Editor.

Region dues are \$10.00 until March 1, 2005 for Individual membership and \$12.00 after that date. Joint membership dues are \$15.00 until March 1, 2005 and \$17.00 after that date. You must include your National card and National number. Dues should be mailed to Tom Milligan, Treasurer, R.D.2, Box 449-S, Greensburg, PA 15601.

**FOR MEMBERSHIP PLEASE CONTACT ANY OFFICER**

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**FOUNDED 1950**

**OUR 55TH YEAR**



## FROM THE EDITOR



BY MARK DeFLORIA

Here it is! The October Issue of the *Western Round-Up*.

The Region continues to seek a “new” Editor for the *Round-Up*. As I have requested to take a leave from the position. If anyone is interested, I would be glad to assist you in getting started.

Your articles and items make these pages interesting. I want to thank everyone that has contributed to this months *Round-up*. Dan & Carol Calabrace sent in results from our 2005 Car Show. Fred Nicholls has sent in information for our October 22<sup>nd</sup> Tour and his “Cars I Remember” article. Warren Sheppick submitted “Cars I’d Like To Forget” and Al Wirick “Just Thinking.” Be sure to check them out and let folks know that you enjoyed their articles. The minutes for the September meeting will be passed out at the meeting, and printed in the November *Round-up*.

Please submit items for the *Round Up* so it reaches me by the **Third Friday of the month by mail or email.** Articles can also be submitted at our monthly meetings. All items must be written down, so that I can accurately include it in the next *Round Up*. ☺

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## THE FROSTBITE RUN



Plan on joining the last TOUR for 2005. On October 22, which is a Saturday, we will leave Legion - Keener Park at 9.00 o'clock SHARP.

Heading North, our first stop will be in the Indiana area for a quick breakfast, and then on the way to Smicksburg. Here we will tour a winery and also the shops in town.

We will head for Indiana, where again we will stop for our evening meal. Then homeward bound. This Tour is by popular request.

Due to the evening arriving early, I suggest if the old girl has a six volt system, bring your modern iron. We want you the members. Smicksburg is Amish country, and is very enjoyable, and as one member told me, the scenery is great. . ☺

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



*BY MARK DeFLORIA*

I want to thank Charlie Schifano for arranging for such an interesting program for our September meeting. If anyone has any ideas for a program, please let me know.

The 2005 Chance Car has been won. The winning number drawn on September 24<sup>th</sup> was 7189. The ticket was among the tickets that were not sold (can be seen on page 13 of this *Round-Up*).

As only happened twice before the winner would be determined by the following Saturday drawing. The October 1<sup>st</sup> number was 8927. That ticket was also among the not sold tickets (can be seen on page 13 of this *Round-Up*).

Finally while some of us were having a “great” but “wet” time in Hershey on October 8<sup>th</sup> the winning number was 9328. This ticket was sold by John & Nancy Wolfe at Twin Lakes Park over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Heritage Festival to Robert Ergler of Pittsburgh. I understand that Robert is a regular buyer of our tickets and purchased 4 this year. Tom Milligan transferred the car to Robert on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

I want to thank Barb Erny and Tom & Dodi Ulishney for Chairing the Chance Car. Barb for handling the tickets, and Tom & Dodi scheduling the car to anyone who wanted to get it out. As always, Barb, Tom & Dodi did a wonderful job keeping everything organized and in order.

This year was not especially good for our chance car ticket sales. I do not know the final count, but we had a large amount of unsold tickets. I believe in the neighborhood of 1500. On September 24<sup>th</sup> after the number was drawn and Barb said that she did not have a winner in the sold stubs, we started opening the unsold tickets to look for the winning ticket. It started out as fun, then we remembered that each ticket opened represented a \$5.00 profit that the Region did not realize. Needless to say the fun went out of our search. We did find the ticket though.

*(continued on page 5)*

I have heard and thought of many reasons for our shortcoming this year, such as “too new of car”, “wrong type of car”, “not enough member participation”, “economy”, “too small engine”, “too big engine”, “wrong color”, “maybe a Trans-Am”, “not a Mustang”, “maybe a GTO.” About the only reason that I have not heard or thought of was “too much rain.”

It could have been any number of reasons. We had about the same amount of member participation that we have had in past “very good” years. I do not think that was it. But we always could use more.

The wrong car? This was an original “red”, V8 (301 cubic inch) car, with a good looking interior and about 50,000 original miles. The car was old enough for classic plates and to show at our car show. A solid car that the Region could be proud to sell chances on. I don’t think it was the car. But maybe an older car would have done better?

I have been involved with “picking” the chance car during the past 10 years. I have understood that the goal has always been to find a “nice” (not perfect) car in good drive-able condition that hopefully will sell a \$5.00 ticket. A car that would permit the Region to have a successful fundraiser. A car that could be driven by members all year and not need many repairs. A car that is in a good starting condition to encourage the winner to join the antique automobile hobby. Each year the GM, Ford and Chrysler members look for their chosen brand. Over the past 10 years we have had Fords, Chevy’s, a Chrysler, and now a Pontiac. We have also been lucky with all of the cars as they did not require any major repairs and many of the tickets sold.

I must admit that it did seam harder to sell tickets this year. I personally thought I sold half-as-many tickets at specific outings as I have done in the past. However, in years past I have also spent evenings selling somewhere around 4 tickets at places like Twin Lakes and the Westmoreland Fair. I did not have outings that bad this year. But maybe if the economy were better?

Bottom line is that while we all may have our theories, know one knows why we did not sell as many tickets this year. We did cover all associated costs, are able to purchase a car for next year, and will be able to fund our club functions. I would have to say the 2005 Chance Car was a successful fundraiser. And while some belt tightening may be in order, our Region remains on solid financial ground.

The search is on for a car to be our 2006 Chance Car. Should it be a Mustang, a Camaro, a Charger? What ever it turns out to be, it’s our Region’s major fund raiser.

One problem that always crops up is where to store the car. Please let one of the Directors know if you have a space available.

Hope to see you at the October 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting. 🍷

## CARS I REMEMBER



*BY FRED NICHOLLS*

About a week after I got the 1938 Ford Coupe, Miss Wilson called and asked me to stop at her home. We had the customary chat in the living room, and finally she said; "I want you to see my new car". Through the kitchen to the garage, turned on the 25 watt light, and there set under the covers and blankets the shape of a beetle. We uncovered it, and revealed a new 1967 Volkswagen sedan, black with a red interior. I looked inside, the seats already covered with a blanket, and the front floor with a piece of rug. We covered it up, and back in the living room she showed me the invoice, \$1,810.10 , and of course Paid In Cash.

As the years rolled by, I would occasionally stop and visit with "Gertie", who by now was getting the three score plus twenty years of life. Finally one day she told me that had to quit driving. Not a word of the VW was mentioned. The first day of April, 1991 she called and asked me to stop. The customary living room chat, and finally she said; "Mr. Nickle, I want you to have the Volkswagen.". I told her I would pay her, but at the time I didn't have any empty garage space. I could leave it in her garage. The speedometer read 5,989 miles. Shortly after I bought the car, she fell in her home and broke her hip. From the hospital she was sent to a nursing home. She resided there for a year before her death.

Before that time I had moved the VW to a friend's garage. I realized that the VW was a very collectible car and could be shown in AACA in 1992, but I had my share of show cars, and didn't want anymore. I drove it only a few times, and in the fall of 1993 decided to sell it. I advertised it in HMN and a VW club publication. I received three calls. It went to Atlanta, GA. Then it was written up in a magazine as the most original VW on the East coast.

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