

THE WESTERN ROUND-UP



March 2022

Promoting the Preservation & Enjoyment
of Antique Automobiles Since 1950.



1957 BMW Cabriolet Isetta at the 2018 AACA Grand National Meet hosted by our Western PA Region

Western PA Region AACA Directors



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for further information see the 2021 Western PA Region Roster, which is available on the Region's website.

Membership Information

Do you like old cars? We at the Western PA Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America are excited to share our fun and exciting activities, events and resources.

You don't have to own an antique automobile to become a member, However, you must first join our national club, The Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) before joining our Region. For national membership information and to join online visit: www.aaca.org AACA is the largest and oldest antique automobile club in the world and offers a wide variety of resources, and activities. All national members also receive the beautiful Antique Automobile Magazine.

For Western PA Region AACA new membership information visit www.westernparegion.org

New members must attend a Western PA Region monthly meeting to be voted in and welcomed. Our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month except December and January. We are a Latrobe-based club.

Upon receipt of your membership application, our Membership Chairman will contact you to schedule a convenient monthly meeting for you to attend. Our monthly meetings take place at several venues in the Latrobe and Greensburg, PA area.

To learn more about our club and activities visit our website: www.westernparegion.org

Please also feel free to contact any of the directors above with questions about memberships.

ON THE COVER

Little cars made big impressions at the AACA 2018 Grand National Meet hosted by our Western PA Region.



The 1957 BMW Isetta featured on the front cover was show by Randy E. McMillen at the AACA 2018 Grand National Meet held at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. It was in good company. The red Isetta and its little car companions well represented the innovative economy models that were designed over the years to



get the most out of a gallon (or liter) of gas, while providing reasonable comfort and durability. Above left is a 1931 American Austin Roadster displayed by Jeff Brock. In the right photo we see a turquoise and white 1958 BMW Isetta shown by Ray Wotkowski and a 1972 Citroen 2CV Roadster shown by Charles Covitz.

New AACA Website



By Steve Moskowitz
AACA Chief Executive Officer



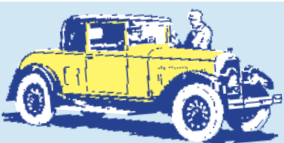
AACA has a new website! The club has had a decade plus long website that was powered by an old version of Joomla which was no longer a supported software and did not work well with mobile devices. We have wanted to change it for years but costs and some technical issues held us back. It finally became intolerable and we went ahead with a program to change www.aaca.org.

Our new website debuted the day before our Annual Convention but it is not a finished project. We have lots of features to add and a second phase of a special page for prospective new members only. However, we are now working with a WordPress site that is very compatible with most mobile devices and computer software. You might have to adjust the resolution to properly see the slide show of cars but we think you will find the site much easier to read.

Our biggest hurdle is to change our “store” which also handles renewals. This feature of our site must integrate with our custom software for membership and therein lies a huge problem for us. Quotes to accomplish this have run into the tens of thousands of dollars and we simply have to find a more economical solution.

We are pleased to have finally upgraded our website presence and promise you that as time goes by we will make many more improvements to make communication with you easier. If you have any thoughts or ideas of features you would like to see please contact us.

-- The Rummage Box



Member News

Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Western PA Region member Alice Clark who passed away on January 4, 2022. She and her husband Jack Clark, Sr. were dedicated members of our Region for many years and set a standard of kindness and service, which is exemplified by the Jack Clark Service Award we present each year. Alice continued to faithfully attend our Annual Meetings and Picnics whenever she could. She was 92.

2022 CALENDAR



Meetings & Events

Watch your email, The Western Round-Up and the WPR Website for updates on Region Meetings, Events and Tours as they develop.

Friday, March 25 - WPR Car Show Planning Meeting
7:00 p.m. at the Westmoreland Conservation District (barn) 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg.

Sunday, April 3 - The Western PA Region Annual Meeting & Buffet Dinner

Doors open at Noon at the Westmoreland Conservation District (barn) 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg. The Annual Meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. A delicious buffet dinner will follow. Registration flyers were emailed and U.S. Mailed to all WPR members. These forms are also available for download on the WPR website. The registration deadline is March 24.

Note: We will be voting to approve changes to our Bylaws in preparation for our Region's 501(c)3 non profit status application. An email with details and attachments was sent out to all members by Secretary Mark DeFloria on March 2, 2022.

Wednesday May 18 - WPR May Monthly Meeting
7:30 p.m. at the Westmoreland Conservation District (barn) 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg

Saturday, September 3 - WPR AACA Paul P. Bell Memorial Antique Auto, Custom and Street Rod Show

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Legion Keener Park, Latrobe
This year we plan to return to our traditional class judging format. There will also be a non-judged drivers participation area as we have done in the past.

Fun Spring Cruises You Won't Want to Miss!

Saturday, April 30 - The Downtown Irwin Cruise
Noon to 5:00 p.m. Downtown Irwin, PA - Main Street, side streets and parking lots fill with nearly 400 fabulous show vehicles. Specials by great Downtown Irwin restaurants and shops along with fun oldies music.

Saturday, June 11 - The Fourth Annual Cruise for Conservation
Benefiting the Sewickley Creek Watershed Association and our natural resources. **10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Donohoe Center, Donohoe Road, Greensburg** Featuring judged awards, door prizes, a basket auction, great food and your favorite oldies played by D.J. Pete Highlands. Donohoe Center is a beautiful, unique setting for a car cruise.

The Road Less Traveled By

By Guy Davis



Photo - Wikimedia Commons - Public Domain

“In My Merry Oldsmobile” songbook circa 1905

The automobile has been a part of the American fabric since that day in late September 1893 when Charles Duryea first drove his horseless carriage down the road less traveled by in the town of Springfield Massachusetts. By the turn of the century, inventors, entrepreneurs, and engineers would refine the automobile and improve its performance and reliability to such a degree that it would forever change the world and how we live our lives. The automobile would provide a means to expand employment opportunities, it would allow visits to friends and relatives in faraway places, it would be used to transport expectant mothers to hospitals where new born life would be celebrated, it would be the means for children to participate in sports, music lessons, scouting and more, it would become the instrument used to get groceries, gifts, and grandchildren, and yes, it would provide for final transportation upon the completion of our earthly presence. It is no wonder that over the past one hundred plus years, the automobile has been featured in books, magazines, advertising, movies, television shows and even songs.

One of the earliest songs featuring an automobile was the catchy 1906 tune, “In My Merry Oldsmobile,” sung by Billy Murray. In 1915, Murray followed up with another car song titled “The Little Ford Rambled Right Along.” By the middle of the twentieth century, songwriters had composed numerous tunes concerning the automobile. Most of us are familiar with the song “Hot Rod Lincoln” first sung by Charlie Ryan in 1955. The song depicts a dizzying race between a Cadillac and Lincoln. Shortly after the driver of the Lincoln overtakes the

Caddy, he is stopped by the police and thrown into jail. After his daddy posted bail, the song ends with the father’s words, “Son, you’re goin’ to drive me to drinkin’ if you don’t stop drivin’ that hot rod Lincoln.” In the same year, Chuck Berry came out with the song “Maybellene,” a story about a man behind the wheel of a V8 Ford chasing his unfaithful girlfriend who is driving a Cadillac Coupe DeVille. In 1958, the Playmates recorded the song “Beep Beep” which depicts the story of a little Nash Rambler and a powerful Cadillac reaching speeds well over one hundred miles an hour. As the driver of the Rambler pulls aside the Cadillac, he asks the driver of the Caddy how to get the Rambler out of second gear!

Perhaps no other musical group in history celebrated the automobile more in song than the Beach Boys. She’s real fine my “409,” “Little Deuce Coupe,” and “Fun, Fun, Fun” till her daddy took the T-bird away are just a sample of car song titles and lyrics which the California surfing band made famous. Also from the sunny west coast was the popular duo, Jan and Dean, who sang several catchy car tunes such as “The Little Old Lady from Pasadena,” “Drag City,” and “Dead Man’s Curve” which featured a street race between a Stingray and



45 rpm singles records were introduced in 1949 and remained popular into the 1980s.





The Beach Boys perform "I Get Around" on the Ed Sullivan Show.

Photo - Wikimedia Commons - Public Domain

Jaguar XKE. In an ironic twist of fate, two years after the release of "Dead Man's Curve" Jan suffered permanent brain damage after he crashed his Corvette just blocks away from the actual Dead Man's curve near Beverly Hills. Wilson Pickett took advantage of the wildly popular Ford Mustang when he released "Mustang Sally" in 1966. "Hey Little Cobra" by the Rip Chords reached number four on the top 100 chart in 1963 and Ronny and the Daytonas sold over one million copies of their hit song "GTO" which included lyrics describing Pontiac's legendary 389 cubic inch engine with three two barrel carburetors sitting atop the intake manifold.

Extolling the virtues of the automobile in song has not been confined to any particular time period or to any single genre of music. Rock and roll hits such as The Beatles' "Drive My Car," Steve Miller's "Mercury Blues," and The Doors' "Queen of the Highway," were all car songs which fueled America's youth in the 1960's. Brad Paisley's "All I Wanted was a Car," Johnny Paycheck's "Drinkin' and Drivin'," Eddie Rabbit's "Drivin' My Life Away," and Rascal Flatts' "Red Camero," added a country twang to automobile tunes. Even heavy metal bands such as Metallica contributed to the inventory of car songs with their rancorous single "Fuel." Hip hop artist Lloyd Banks entertained his followers with the song "Beamer, Benz or Bentley," and rapper Ace Hood wowed his fans with the tune "Bugatti," while fellow rappers Trau, Fat Pat, and Big Hawk combined their voices in the 2015 car song "Swang."

It seems unlikely that Charles and Frank Duryea would have ever dreamed that their simple motorized buggy would one

day be the start of a transportation revolution which would permeate every aspect of society in America. The automobile would eventually become revered, collected, and showcased, and in many ways be looked upon as a status symbol. It would attract thousands of spectators to shows, cruises, and races. It would be memorialized in photos, words and in songs. Perhaps the following lyrics in a song by the British rock group Queen best summarizes how many Americans feel about their own particular mode of transportation, "I'm in love with my car. I got a feel for my automobile."



Various companies developed many innovative turntables through the years to accommodate different record formats.

Average Joe



By Fred Trusty
AACA Executive Vice President



My name is Joe Average and I own a 1982 Camaro. I wish it was a Z28 but it's just a base car with an automatic transmission, a/c, power steering and brakes, and an aftermarket radio. From the factory it had a 305 V8 with a 2bbl carb, but by the time I inherited it from my Uncle Steve, the engine was worn out. I replaced it with a later model 350 V8 with a 4bbl that I got from a guy I work with, Jim Normal. I replaced the original wheels with a set of Rallye wheels and it runs so much better with those shiny wheels. It's dark blue, or at least you can still see blue in a few areas but it's solid with no rust anywhere. It's paid for, and it has sentimental value since my uncle bought it new with help from Grandpa Average.

My son just joined the military, and my daughter will graduate from college soon. I wish I could retire and have more time to work on my car, but retirement is 10 – 15 years away. But, at least with the kids gone, I'm finally going to have some money to work on my car. I suggested to my wife that I could save some money if she would park her car in the driveway instead of the garage so I could have a place to work on my car. I love our dog, Zephyr. He's like one of the family but his doghouse is not nearly large enough for the two of us, so I'll probably have to hire out a lot of the work on my car. I

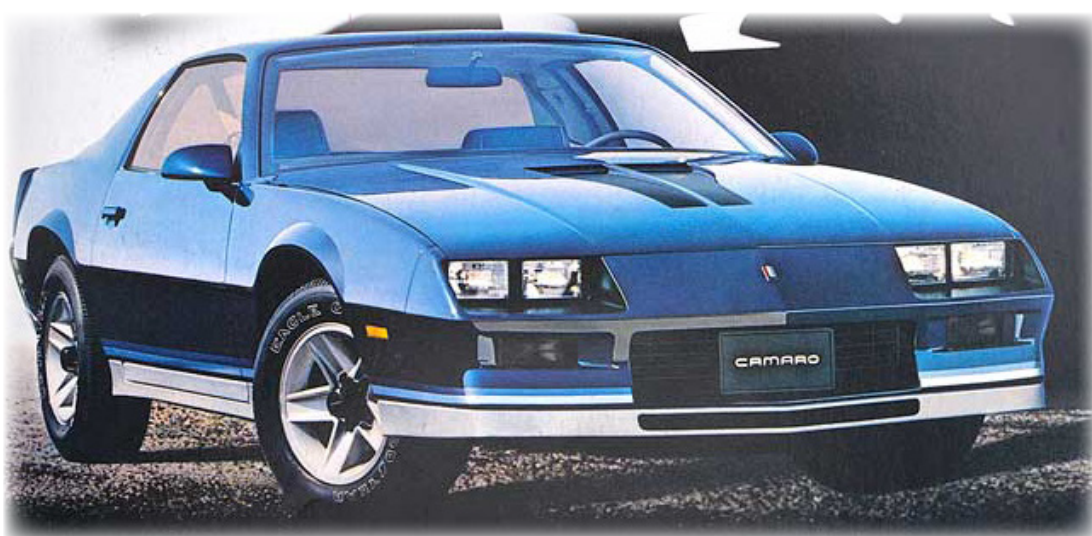
can't afford a full restoration or a custom show car. All I want is a dependable nice-looking old car that I can drive to car cruises and other car events.

At lunch one day, I was talking to a co-worker, Ordinary Wayne. He told me about a car club that he belongs to. I attend as many local cruise nights as I can, but I've never heard of AACA. I can't remember exactly what that stands for, Another American Car Association or something like that. He gave me a shiny magazine with a beautiful old car on the cover. He said they have a local club and he invited me to one of their meetings. I told him I couldn't join a club like that because I don't own a real antique car like a Model T. He said, "You don't have to own a car like that. Look at me, I have a 1997 Ford F-150 pickup." Then he asked me if I like to eat. Strange question but yeah, I like to eat. "The club has regular events, and it usually involves good food." Tongue in cheek, he said, "We're not really a car club, we're a dinner club. It's just coincidence that we drive old cars. We're a family-oriented club so bring your wife, kids, grandkids or friends." I told him I'd have to think about it. I'm not a club kind of guy.

A few days later I started looking through the magazine he gave me, *Antique Automobile*. Nice magazine but how did that one guy get to be a vice president in a big fancy club like that? He just looks like an Average Fred to me. I turned a few pages and wow, there's an unrestored Camaro just like mine but what's a DPC car? Hey, there's a short story about the local chapter Ordinary Wayne was talking about. There he is with a bunch of other cars on a cruise to Average Park, USA. "Honey, come look at this. This looks like it might be a lot of fun."

**AACA is one of the best kept secrets on the planet.
If we want AACA to grow, we have to appeal to Average Joe.**

-- The Rummage Box



1982 Camaro advertising art

Name That Car

By Mark Jackson

January/February's Car



Nancy McKelvey phoned in the first correct answer - a 1961 Chevrolet Bel-Air. Bob Inhoff also correctly identified the Bel-Air and we heard from other members including Debbie Sheetz, Gary Wiegand and Becky Blank. As I was writing this article and finishing the March issue of *The Western Round-Up*, I checked out Maxmotive's website and found that this beauty is still listed for sale at their Cheswick location near Pittsburgh. Carl Erb's Western PA Region tour to this dealership last year was wonderful and gave us auto enthusiasts a chance to take in a wide variety of "eye candy" dream cars, which were all for sale.

I would say that this 1961 Chevy Bel-Air is a "sleeper". It looks very "stock" and not as powerful as it actually is. According to Maxmotive, "Under the hood is the 348 cubic inch "W" big block with 3 two-barrel carburetors teamed with a 4-speed manual transmission and a 3.70 Positraction rear." Turn the key and that baby will get you somewhere fast.

When Nancy called to identify this Chevrolet Bel-Air she also used the term "bubbletop". This is a nickname given over the years to the late 1950's, early 1960's cars which were designed with huge, expansive front and rear windshields curving and extending generously into the roof lines. She and Dick own a beautiful 1961 Oldsmobile Holiday Coupe "bubbletop".

I have childhood memories of riding in a 1959 Pontiac and 1957 Chrysler with those "bubbletop" windshields. They were owned by my Uncles. Although these types of windshields were stylish, there were occasional problems. One hot summer day many years ago, my Aunt Margie took the 1957 Chrysler to downtown Greensburg on a shopping trip. She parked the car in a space on the street. After shopping, she returned to her car and was surprised to find that the rear windshield had burst during the day and fallen into the back seat as a bunch of tiny glass pieces. The day's heat building up inside that Chrysler with all of its windows rolled up was too much for that big expanse of glass. That rear windshield was soon replaced and the '57 Chrysler served her family well for quite a while.

March's Car



I'm looking for a two part answer for March's car. **Part one** - Identify the year and make of this beautiful sedan. **Part two** - where was this photo taken? In consideration of the price of gas these days, the first to get me the **two** correct answers will win a \$20 Sheetz gift card! Call 724-832-9074 and leave a message or email jacksonmark469@gmail.com.

THE WESTERN ROUND-UP

The Western Round-Up is the official publication of the Western Pennsylvania Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. It is published on a monthly basis with January/February being a combined issue.

Each issue is also posted on the Region's website: www.westernparegion.org. Members may choose to receive this newsletter by email or a mailed hard copy at an additional cost.

Submission deadlines are the first day of each month for possible publication in that month's edition.

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Guy Davis, Wikipedia and the AACA Rummage Box
whose talent, resources and efforts helped
produce this issue.



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The second American car equipped with a fiberglass body (behind the 1953 Corvette) the Kaiser Darrin 161 featured doors that slid on tracks into the front fender wells. It was designed by Howard "Dutch" Darrin and produced by Kaiser Motors for the 1954 model year. Only 435 production Darrins and six prototypes were produced. -- *Wikipedia*