

October 2022

Promoting the Preservation & Enjoyment of Antique Automobiles Since 1950.



Jaime Cintron's 1932 Plymouth PB Roadster Convertible in the AACA Senior Class at the 2022 Western PA Region Car Show

Western PA Region AACA Directors



Debbie Sheetz, *President* 724-454-8948

John Kuhns, Sr., Vice President 412-554-3321

Mark Jackson, *Treasurer* 724-961-3563

Mark DeFloria, *Secretary* 412-558-0417

Flo Myers, *Publicity* 724-331-7293

Bob Doppelheuer, *Safety* 724-366-5930

for further information see the 2022 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: <u>www.aaca.org</u> 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 information about our Western PA Region AACA

activities and membership visit our website <u>www.western-</u> paregion.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.

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

CALENDAR

Western PA Region - MONTHLY MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 18 at John Kuhns, Sr.'s Garage

2339 Raymond Avenue, Latrobe, PA 15650 Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 15 at American Legion Post 982, Latrobe, (Pipetown) 158 American Legion Rd, Latrobe, PA 15650 - Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Reminders will be emailed prior to these meetings.

Western PA Region - EVENTS

WPR Christmas Party

Sunday, December 11

DiSalvo's Station 325 McKinley Ave, Latrobe, PA 15650

Registration forms will be sent out by email and U.S. Mail in early November

Member News



Our deepest sympathies to Mark, Sandy, Craig and Casper DeForia and family and friends on the passing of Mark's father Dominic Bartholomew "Bert" DeFloria on September 26, 2022. Bert spent most of his professional career as a mould maker at Overmyer Mould Company. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and later served his community as a volunteer fireman and firechief of Hempfield Volunteer Fire Department No. 2. A beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, "Bert" DeFloria was 95.

Welcome new Western PA Region members Glenn Brewer and Melvin Mitchell who were recommended for membership by Bob and Barbara Shugars.

President's Message



Dave and WPR President Debbie Sheetz enjoying the New England coast.

all is in full swing! What better time to take an antique car out for a ride in the Laurel Highlands. Pumpkins, apples and festivals are everywhere. Stop and find yourself a cool glass of fresh apple cider too.

Dave and I had recently spent the month of September traveling New England and New York. The leaves were just starting to turn, but there were not a lot of crowds. We traveled National and State parks and a lot of roads that we said, "We'll never be on this road again".

We can always find a car musuem or collection along the way. We found the Seal Cove Auto Museum on the very eastern coast of Maine, just outside of Acadia National Park – what a hidden gem of a collection. We enjoyed our tour of the museum as we were the only ones there at the time.

Dave and I enjoyed a lot of hiking, wineries and great food. Oh, and of course Dave can always spot a car for sale along the road that we have to stop and check out.

A week after our trip the dreaded Corona Virus cut our Hershey trip short. We are recovering and look forward to getting the cars out before the snow flies

-- Debbie

Visiting the Seal Cove Auto Museum in Maine near Acadia National Park



An elegant 1904 Cadillac



A 1916 Saxon driven 10,000 miles across America promoting womens' voting rights



A large 1910 White Steamer touring car stands to Dave's left.



Benz's 1886 Patent-Motorwagen (replica)



1913 Thor and other early motorcycles



Car stop - yep, it's for sale.

Sad News on the Passing of Library Director Chris Ritter

By Matthew Hocker AACA Librarian, Cataloger & Volunteer Coordinator





Chris Ritter

Tagedy has hit the AACA Library. This week, Library Director Chris Ritter was tragically killed in an accident while out golfing with his father. We are heartbroken and grieving the sudden loss of Chris and, as much pain as we are in right now, we cannot even begin to imagine what his wife Tam and little boys Pierce and Case are going through right now. They were Chris' life, and he was theirs; please keep them in your thoughts during this difficult time.

We are also incredibly sorry for all of you, as I am sure many of you were helped or touched in some way by Chris over the years. This is hard news to swallow all around, and we know many of you will be grieving with us. The condolences we have received so far have been overwhelming but greatly appreciated. As far as supporting Chris' family right now, we do ask that you please respect the family's privacy during this time until they are ready to hear from you. We promise to keep you updated at the appropriate time.

The library isn't the same without Chris, and he will be greatly missed. It's going to be incredibly difficult without him during Hershey week, both for us and for you. He won't be here to warmly welcome you. He won't be able to banter with you about your latest restoration project. He won't be able to reminisce with you about past events, and he won't be able to share in your exciting discoveries on the fields or in the library's stacks.

Even though Chris will not be here physically, he will be here in spirit. We will do our best to push forward by remaining open next week, offering research services, and running the Tuesday Yard Sale. To say this is the way he would have wanted it is hard to say because it feels like it trivializes the situation. However, given Chris' character and how he tackled challenges over the years, I have no doubt that he would want us to do our best during Hershey week. Please bear with us in the coming weeks and months as we navigate this difficult time, and keep Chris' family, friends, and colleagues in your thoughts.

The November-December issue of *Antique Automobile* magazine will include a wonderful tribute to Chris. Please watch the AACA website and Facebook pages for updates on how you can support the family and details about the memorial service for Chris. -- The Rummage Box

Editor's Note: Chris Ritter passed away on September 26, 2022.

Editor's Note:

I once had the privilege of sitting next to AACA Library Director Chris Ritter at an **AACA Annual Meeting** Banquet. He was easy and fun to talk with. We talked about our families, cars we liked and were working on, the AACA library and other interesting topics. Chris put you at ease. It was like spending time with a friendly relative or neighbor. I remember him proudly talking about a car he was working on at the time, which I'm pretty sure was a 1937 Buick. And so this historic 1937 Buick ad appears in our October Western Round-Up in memory of Chris.





meeting of the Western PA Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America was held on Specialty Cars Limited new dealership building, 4728 Route 982, Latrobe. Vice President John Kuhns called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were twenty-six (26) members in attendance. Three (3) guests were in attendance. Levi Garris, Melvin Mitchell and Glenn Brewer were guests at tonight's meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the August 16, 2022 at Hoss's Steak & Sea House, 1261 South Main St, Greensburg, PA were printed in the September Western Round-Up. Vice President John Kuhns asked if there were any corrections or revisions. Hearing none she asked for a motion to approve the Minutes. A motion for approval was made by Bill Holtzer, seconded by Bob Inhoff and unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report - Mark Jackson

Mark read the Treasurer's Report for August. Vice President John Kuhns asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. A motion for approval was made by Tom King, seconded by John Ross Kuhns and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership – Howard Finney

Howard reported that there are two new membership application to read, Both Glenn Brewer and Melvin Mitchell were recommended for membership by Bob and Barbara Shugars.

Bob Inhoff made a motion to accept Glenn Brewer into the Region, seconded by Tom King and unanimously approved. Welcome to our Region Glenn.

John Ross made a motion to accept Melvin Mitchell into the Region, seconded by Cindy Harvey and unanimously approved. Welcome to our Region Glenn.

Newsletter – Mark Jackson

Mark Jackson thanked those who contributed photos and articles for the September Round-Up.

Website – Mark DeFloria

Mark DeFloria asked that the members let him know if they have an address or an email address change.

NEW BUSINESS

October 18, 2022 Monthly Meeting

The Region's October meeting will be Tuesday, October 18th at John Kuhns, Sr.'s Garage, 2339 Raymond Avenue, Latrobe, PA 15650. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. (This is not the new dealership building). This meeting is our "Red-White-and Blue" Meeting where the Region's will recognize our members who are military veterans. The club would like to compile a list of military veterans within our club, past and present, who severed our United States.

Tours – Carl Erb

Flo Myers is putting together a fall tour on October 15th by Flo Meyers. The tour will travel to the Indian Head area with a lunch break at Creekside Inn. Please let Flo know if you plan to attend. Phone Flo at 724-331-7293, email flojo15601@gmail.com.

2022 Western Pa Region – Paul P. Bell Memorial Car Show – *Bob Doppelheuer / Mark Jackson*

Mark Jackson spoke about this year's Car Show. The show was on Sunday, September 4, 2022. We had some rain go through Latrobe early in the morning. However, the weather cleared and we had approximately 160 cars registered for the car show.

Sunshine Committee – Flo Myers

Flo reported that a WPR Sunshine Committee (Flo Myers, Sheila Kurtz, Molly Detwiler and Becky Blank) has mailed four cards to members on behalf of our region to members this past month (2-sympathy and 1-getwell). Please let a member of the committee know when you become aware of a member that can use some sunshine.

Meeting Snacks – Toni Beatty

Toni Beatty provided cookies and snacks to tonight's meeting.

Adjournment

Vice President John Kuhns asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. Howard Finney made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Denny Blank and unanimously approved.

-- Respectfully submitted by Mark DeFloria, Secretary

The Road Less Traveled By

By Guy Davis



early 40 years ago, I began the restoration of my 1928 Stutz Model BB cabriolet. Even though the car was 100% original and totally intact, it was in dire need of a complete refurbishing. After working on the Stutz for several years, marriage, family and other priorities put the restoration of the Stutz on hold and it was eventually relegated to the back recesses of my garage. In the early 2000s, I advertised the Stutz for sale and a man in California bought the car site unseen. I placed the various pieces of the disassembled car within the body of the Stutz and off to California it went via a car transport company.

Eventually the buyer from California sold the unfinished Stutz project to someone in Florida. While cleaning up around my garage a few years back, I found the original rear window for the Stutz! Somehow I had missed shipping it with the rest of the car to California. Fortunately, I had the phone number of the man in Florida who now owned the Stutz. Leaving a message, I told him that I had the original back window and window frame for his Stutz and that I would be happy to send it to him if he would give me his address. Never receiving a return phone call, I tried contacting him several more times, but to no avail. I felt that it was very important to get that back window to the Stutz owner because of the rarity of the car as well as the rarity of the glass. You see, in the late 1920's, Stutz promoted the car as the "Safety Stutz" and the windows which they placed in their cars from that era had metal wires running through the glass making it a very primitive form of "safety glass" when compared to the plate glass that was common in those times. Over the years most Stutz automobiles had the wire glass replaced, but my Stutz retained all of its original glass and I very much wanted to keep the car original and correct.

About two years ago, I learned that the owner of the Stutz sold it to someone in Texas. So, off to the Lone Star State it



Stutz safety focused advertising illustration



The original rear window for my 1928 Stutz Model BB cabriolet featured an early form of safety glass with metal wires running through the glass.

went. Unfortunately, I could not find the name, phone number, or address of the Texan who bought it. So once again, I missed the opportunity to return the original back window to the latest owner. About two weeks ago, I received a phone call from a man from Wisconsin. He said that he had bought a 1928 Stutz Model BB cabriolet from a gentleman in Texas and heard that I may have at one time been the owner of the car. After discussing a few more details about the car, it was confirmed that the Stutz which he purchased was indeed my old Stutz. I was excited to tell him that I had the original back window for the car and that I would be happy to mail it to him. It turned out that he and a fellow car enthusiast were driving to Hershey and he said that if it was all right with me that he could pick up the window on their way there. On Sunday, October 2, the two men stopped by my home. After some pleasant conversation, I handed him the Stutz's original back window. He wanted to pay for it, but I told him no, that I was simply returning it to the car for which it belonged. I find it rather amusing that my old Stutz which hasn't propelled itself down the road less traveled by in over 70 years has gone from the East Coast to the West Coast to the Southeast U.S. to the Southwest U.S. and now to the far North. What a journey!

Why go to an AACA National Show



By John McCarthy, Vice President - Endowments



he obvious answers are to show a vehicle, see a wonderful field of vintage vehicles, judge, get away for a long weekend, renew friendships, and make new acquaintances.

For many years we have attended several AACA Nationals each year for all the above reasons. Another reason is to see an area of the country that we have not seen and would probably not have gone to other than for the fact that a National show was taking place. But there is more. In addition to the show there is judging school, a large selection of continuing judges' education courses, and trips to historical sites and antique car collections some of which are not generally open to the public.

At the recent Central Fall Nationals held in East Moline, Illinois hosted by the Mississippi Valley Region there was much to do and see. East Moline is part of the Quad Cities and is on the Mississippi River. The host hotel was a new Hyatt which was a few minute walk to the new Bend XPO Convention Center that housed the show vehicles.

Thursday afternoon there was a guided tour of the Quad Cities and the I-80 Truck Museum followed by a free ice cream sundae social in the evening. The I-80 Truck Museum is one of the finest in the world, and if you have not been there in a few years it is time to go back as it was recently expanded.

Friday began with a short drive to the Dahl Auto Museum. The museum consists of mostly 1930's to 1960's cars that were traded-in at one of the Dahl family's many dealerships. There were many nicely preserved vehicles, including many orphan cars, signs and memorabilia. The Dahl family covers five generations including a Ford dealership that goes back to 1911 and is the seventh oldest family-owned Ford dealership. Friday afternoon was the AACA roundtable, judging school and a team captains school. Friday evening consisted of a boat ride on the Celebration Bell Riverboat including dinner.

Saturday was show day at the Bend XPO Center. It is nice to judge when the vehicles are indoors. The BBQ and Awards banquet followed inside the Center. If you were not able to make this Quad Cities Nationals, you will have another opportunity in 2023. The AACA Grand National and Zenith competition will take place in Bettendorf Iowa right across the river from East Moline in August 2023. These shows are not to be missed.

Tour Horizons - Looking Forward... Think Vinoski Winery Car Cruise in 2023

By Carl Erb

Ithough I still have a few yet to be visited "private" car collections up my sleeve for 2023, I am running out of these collections and car museums that I have been able to "ferret out" within reasonable driving distance of the home base of most of our members. I have attended car cruises far and wide talking to people to try to ferret out info about more great places to visit.

With the thought in mind that we would also like to recruit new members, someone suggested that we attend significant local car cruises as a group and set up an informational display and recruiting table to let other car enthusiasts know who we are, and what the benefits of being a member of our AACA Region would be.

With the difficulty of gaining entrance into the fenced part for the bigger than expected, first annual car cruise in 2022 at the LIVE Casino in the Westmoreland Mall on route 30, some of our members got the idea of attending this event next year as a group where we would all arrive early at the same time and park together with WPR signs and try to recruit new members. As Tour Chairman, in addition to a couple of private car collection tours in 2023, I plan to set up several Region tours to significant car events which we can attend together and do such recruiting. One such an event will be the 2nd annual car cruise at the "LIVE Casino" in Westmoreland Mall, which a handful of our members did attend, but were scattered about inside the fenced in area. (I arrived late and could not get in even though there were a fair number of spaces in the fenced in area.)

Vinoski Winery Car Cruise

Another great event that I have just discovered to set this recruiting action into motion is a fantastic car cruise I attended on Sunday Oct 9 at the Vinoski Winery just off Route 51 in Rostraver PA. While at that event I looked all around the 200 to perhaps 300 or more cars and did not find any other members of WPR-AACA. At this event, I met many new people and saw many new cars I have never seen before. Of all the car cruises I have attended this year, I never received a "flyer" in my car for this car cruise. At the top right is a copy of that flyer, which I had never seen until I found one taped to an entrance door to the winery the day I was there. I am wondering if anyone else in our Region ever got one of these flyers. As soon as Vinoski Winery sets their schedule for car cruises is in 2023, it will be listed in our newsletter and on our website. The plan will be to meet at a designated location and drive into the estate together so we can all be in one area. I will also inquire about a preferred parking spot as you can see in photos that the



2020 Promotional flyer



A Volkswagen group near the winery entrance

Volkswagen group was able to lock down.

The Vinoski Winery is a fantastic, 34 room mansion completed in 1994 in Rostraver Township on the top of a knoll overlooking the countryside. It is a beautiful setting for weddings, company meetings, music events, and the drinking of fine wine. It also happens to be a great place for a car cruise. To my knowledge, this is the first year for Car Cruises at The Castle, one in the Spring and one just a few days ago. Rather than try to describe THE CASTLE in my own words, here are some links to websites about it:

History Of The Building Of The Castle

https://www.vinoskiwinery.com/about-us/transforming-castle-into-southwestern-pa-winery/

History of the Vinoski Winery in The Castle

https://observer-reporter.com/publications/monvalleymagazine/a-sneak-peek-inside-the-gates-of-vinoski-winery/article_a5037ee0-f645-11e7-91d3-7bab11df4e60.html



I saw many cars that I've never seen before at this event.



A row of high-power cars on display



Stunning woodwork inside the winery with Halloween decorations



The majestic winery patio





Chris also took photos of our WPR Car Cruise this year. You can see them at <u>https://www.facebook.com/photo/?f-bid=394978966102232&set=pcb.1027106544627322</u>. View the photos using the slider at the top of the page. To view more photos log in with your Facebook account.





Outdoor patio serving area

Everyone Has a Friend (Or a Friend of a Friend)



By Phillip Cole Vice President - Publications



here was an outreach model in the latter days of the 20th century, which was used by many volunteer organizations to promote growth. It was (and still is) called the **FRAN** Model. **FRAN** stands for friends, relatives, acquaintances and neighbors. The basic premise of **FRAN** is virtually everyone can look around and find someone who might be interested in their volunteer organization and its purpose. Obviously, AACA membership brings us into contact with many people who are interested in old cars. Let's use the **FRAN** Model to think about how you and I can promote AACA.

Friends. Car shows, tours, cruise-ins, swap meets, monthly meetings, etc. are all ways we enjoy our hobby. Take a moment to think about your friends who might enjoy all these activities, as well. Consider inviting them to any and all of them. I do realize what some of you are thinking right now, "All my friends are already members of our chapter or region!" Okay, but when I came home from my first AACA Board meeting, I had four free membership applications in my hand. I sat down with my wife and within three minutes we were calling four families that we had known for years. They happily joined AACA.

Relatives. Yes, a decade ago, I would have said no one in my family is interested. In the last several years, however, two of my cousins have bought beautiful classic cars, both of my daughters currently drive AACA eligible cars, and my grand daughter is a student member of AACA. Who knew!?!?

Acquaintances. Think about people at work, people you see at social events or people who are friends of your close friends. Two of those four families that have joined AACA, which I mentioned above, were actually acquaintances at first. I got to know both families because they owned storage facilities, where I have stored our cars. As we became friends, I came to realize that both families owned AACA eligible cars. Next month one of those families is planning on showing their car at our regional event and the other plans to attend. It was only a matter of time and encouragement.

Neighbors. Earlier this year a lady from another region told me about a neighbor's little girl who ran up to look at her pre-war car. This lady took the time to talk with the girl about cars and let her sit in the driver's seat. A few minutes later both of the girl's parents came over to see what was going on. After a brief conversation the whole family was taking a ride around the neighborhood and wanted to know if they could go to her chapter's next cruise-in.

The purpose of the AACA is to promote the old car hobby. According to the **FRAN** Model you just need to look around!

-- The Rummage Box



Classic matchbook cover

Auto Parts & Tools For Sale



WPR member Joe Vrable, Jr. passed away in December, 2018. His wife Tammy is cleaning out their garage and has a nice assortment of reasonably priced car parts and tools for sale. There are parts for vehicles from the 30s, through the 80s along with general parts like Timken Bearings. Tools include auto body tools, ratchets, drill bits, sanders and more. If interested please call Tammy at 724-989-5630.

Name That Car

By Mark Jackson

September's Car



Denny and Becky Blank were the first to correctly identify October's car as a 2005 Ford GT-40. Becky also correctly answered the bonus question as to the name of the recent movie about the Ford GT-40 starring Matt Damon. The movie is "Ford vs. Ferrari." It's an excellent story, beautifully filmed, with top notch performances.

During this year's car show I was tending to things, when I got a cell phone call. A voice asked, "Is your show still going on?" I replied, "Yes, it's cleared up and we have blue skies." The voice then answered, "Good, I have a Ford GT-40 and a Porsche that I would like to bring out. Is that be o.k.?" I answered, "Yes, please do," In about 45 minutes a silver Ford GT-40 and red Porsche rolled into Legion Keener Park. It was a unique treat to have the GT-40 on the show field. Everyone really enjoyed looking it over and asking questions.

This year, Jill and I decided to bring her mother's 1999 Buick Regal LS to the show, since it was a classic. I named the car "Melissa" after Jill's mom, who passed away in 2021. We intended to park "Melissa" on the non-judged Drivers' Participation show field. But when Jill arrived there were no cars in that field. So we decided to put it on the class judged show field – warts and all. "Melissa" is a driver, with her share of scratches and dings. But she's a sweet ride with only 92,000 miles.

The way the classes were arranged "Melissa" ended up parked right beside the Ford GT. Dave Sheetz cautioned Jill as she parked, "Be careful opening your door. You don't want to ding that GT. It's worth more than your house." Jill was very careful and "Melissa" was in legendary company that day.





October's car is another great one from our 2022 car show. Can you name the correct make, model and year of this patriotic car? Be the first to get me the correct answers and win a \$20 Sheetz gift card. We figure these Sheetz cards help to keep gas in those old cars, so you can keep driving them for all to enjoy. Email me at jacksonmark469@gmail.com or call 724-832-9074

and leave a message. Or contact me at the October meeting.

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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Special thanks to: Guy Davis, Mark DeFloria, Carl Erb and Debbie Sheetz for their time and talent, which helped produce this issue.

"Melissa", our 1999 Buick Regal, beside the Ford GT-40



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