# THE WESTERN ROUND-UP WESTERN RIVER AUTOMOBILITY OF AMERICAN REGION

December 2023

Promoting the Preservation & Enjoyment of Antique Automobiles Since 1950.





#### **Directors**

Debbie Sheetz, *President* 724-454-8948

Flo Myers, *Vice President* 724-331-7293

Mark Jackson, *Treasurer* 724-961-3563

Mark DeFloria, *Secretary* 412-558-0417

Bob Doppelheuer, *Publicity* 724-366-5930

John Kuhns, Sr., *Safety* 412-554-3321

For more information see the WPR roster available our website.

#### **How to Become a Member**

**Do you like old cars?** The Western PA Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) invites you join our region. Make new, like-minded friends. Enjoy our fun activities, events, and "know-how networking."

You don't have to own an antique vehicle to become a member, However, you must first join our national club, The Antique Automobile Club of America, before joining our Region. For national membership information and to join on line visit: <a href="www.aaca.org">www.aaca.org</a> 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.

Then visit our Western PA Region website for membership information, forms and examples of our activities <a href="http://westernparegion.org">http://westernparegion.org</a>

Our new members are required to attend a Western PA Region monthly meeting to be introduced, officially voted in and welcomed. Our region's 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, which take place at several venues in the Latrobe and Greensburg areas.

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

#### 2024 Calendar

#### WESTERN PA REGION MEETINGS

2024 Car Show Committee Meeting
Friday, Jaunary 12, 2024
7:00 p.m. Westmoreland Conservation District barn
218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg

#### No Regular Monthly Meeting in January

Dates, times and locations for 2024 Monthly Meetings will be emailed and included in the January/February issue of *The Western Round-Up*.

#### Western PA Region AACA Annual Meeting Sunday, February 4, 2024 Dino's Sports Lounge

3883 Route 30 East, Latrobe, PA

1:00 p.m. Social Hour

2:00 p.m. Annual Meeting, Elections & Awards

4:00 p.m. Dinner

You do not have to attend the dinner to attend the Annual Meeting.

Registration flyers will be emailed and posted on the website. Printed copies will be mailed to those receiving the printed *Western Round-Up* newsletter.

#### WESTERN PA REGION EVENTS

Western PA Region AACA Paul P. Bell Memorial Antique Auto, Custom and Street Rod Show Sunday, September 1, 2024 Legion Keener Park, Latrobe

#### AACA NATIONAL EVENTS

#### February 8 - 10, 2024 - AACA Annual Convention

Chantilly, Virginia Hotel: Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles, 14750 Conference Center Drive, Chantilly, VA 20151 Room Rate: \$129 per night OR \$169 per night includes breakfast for two people.

Reservation Phone: (800) 266-9432 (mention Antique

Automobile Club of America)

Reservation Deadline: January 16, 2024

#### March 17-23, Founders Tour (1932-1999)

Louisiana, Louisiana Region 337-581-7776

#### March 21-24, Special Winter Nationals

Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico Region 787-635-8976

### **April 4-6, Southeastern Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals**

Charlotte, N.C., Hornets Nest Region, 704-847-4215

June 9-13, Eastern Divisional Tour (through 1999) Fredericksburg, Virginia

## President's Message



WPR President Debbie Sheetz

With the holidays quickly approaching, please take a moment to reflect on this past year of 2023. A lot of events in our world have taken center stage on the news. I often say that my world consists of Dave and I. We are blessed with three children, their spouses and five grandchildern.

We are very lucky to belong to a club with so many wonderful and caring people. This holiday season, reach out to someone who may need a call or a card from a fellow car enthusiast.

May you and yours have a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year. Debbie

-- Debbie

#### On The Cover

The cover of the December 2023 Western Round-Up features a 1910 Christmas postcard from Bill Holtzer's collection on the nose of a 1951 Packard 300 Touring Sedan at Specialty Cars, Ltd. in Latrobe. Santa would really be going in style in this beautiful Packard. The unique grill is a chrome lovers delight and maintains Packard's famous top curve design. There's plenty of power, comfort and room for toys. All Santa would have to do is get it to fly and then park safely on rooftops.







#### **Time to Renew Your Memberships!**

We at the Western PA Region AACA had a wonderful 2023 season. Don't miss out on the fun coming up in 2024.

Renew your AACA National Membership first, which you can do online or by sending in the renewal card included in the wrapper of the most recent *Antique Automobile Magazine*. Then renew your membership to our Western PA Region. A WPR renewal form link is posted on the Western PA Region website homepage westernparegion.org

#### **WPR Joint and Single Membership Price Changes**

The WPR directors recently voted to increase the price of a joint WPR annual membership from \$25 to \$30. A joint membership consists of two spouses/partners. The directors also voted to keep a single WPR membership at \$25, although AACA National charges the same fee for joint and single memberships (as WPR did in past years).

#### **Printed Newsletter Option Fee Increase**

Our region's *Western Round-Up* newsletter is emailed to all members. A limited quantity of each issue is also printed and U.S. Mailed to those members who pay to receive them.

Over the last several years an additional \$10 fee was charged to help cover the printing and postage. That \$10 never fully covered the printing and mailing of those newsletters. In reality, it covered about 3 issues out of 11 annually.

These days, many other car clubs are going to emailed, digital newsletters only, with no options to receive a printed copy. The WPR directors recently voted to continue offering printed and mailed newsletters to those who want them. However, considering the increase in costs all around, they voted to increase the print and mail option fee to from \$10 to \$25. (Even at \$25, the region will still be subsidizing a portion of the actual printing and mailing costs.)

Very few WPR members do not have a computer or iphone these days. We ask those few who do not have these devices to please pay the additional \$25 if you would like to receive the printed newsletter.

#### Western Round-Up Newsletter Frequency Change

Starting in 2024, the *Western Round-Up* will go from 11 issues to 9 issues per year. Three of these issues will combine two months each during the slower months. The combined issues will be: January/February, March/April and November/ December. The remaining months will have single issues. We hope to keep these issues at 12 pages, with an occasional 16 pager as needed. WPR will continue to email updates, registrations, bulletins and other information to all members throughout the year.



## February 5, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

The November 21, 2023 Monthly Meeting Minutes will be printed in the January/February, 2024 Western Round-Up

he 2023 Annual Meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America was held on February 5, 2023 at Dino's Sports Lounge, 3883 US-30, Latrobe, PA 15650. There were forty-two (42) members and four (4) guests were in attendance. President Debbie Sheetz called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance, Debbie Sheetz read the names of the nine (9) WPR members who passed away in 2022. Debbie then asked for a moment of silence. Our prayers and condolences are extended to the families of Alice Clark, Richard "Dick" McKelvey, Ronald Barnhart and Norma Barnhart, Marilyn Stoner, Gary Cooper and Edith Cooper, Rupert Martinko and Edward Vrable.

#### Minutes of the 2022 WPR Annual Meeting

The 2022 Annual Meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America was held on April 3, 2022 at the Westmoreland Conservation District (barn) 218 Donohoe Road, Greensburg.

The minutes of the April 3, 2022 Western Pennsylvania Region, AACA Annual Meeting were printed in the December, 2022 Western Round-Up. President Debbie Sheetz asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Hearing none, she then asked for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was made by Becky Blank, seconded by Bob Inhoff and unanimously approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report - 2022 Summary**

Treasurer Mark Jackson presented a summary of 2022 income and expenses. President Debbie Sheetz asked for a motion to approve the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Howard Finney, seconded by Craig DeFloria and unanimously approved.

#### **Audit Committee Report** – Denny and Becky Blank

Denny Blank reported that the committee consisting of he and Becky Blank found that all the Western Pennsylvania Region AACA's finances were in order.

#### State of the Region 2022 - Debbie Sheetz

President Debbie Sheetz thanked everyone for attending our Annual Meeting. Debbie said how wonderful it was to be back to a somewhat normal schedule this year. Debbie welcomed the newest members who have joined us in the past year. Debbie the reported on then "state of the region" in her president's message.

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **2022 Membership** – Howard Finney

Howard Finney reported that we had nine (9) new members in 2022. Welcome to our Region. The new 2022 members are Sam and Christy Kuhns, Louise Marks, Jaime and April Cintron, Glenn Brewer, Kirk Fellabom and Linda Tierney, and Melvin Mitchell. Welcome to the Western PA Region, AACA.

#### **2022 Annual Picnic** – Kuhns Family

The 2022 Annual Picnic was held on July 31, 2022 at the Cooperstown Club Pavilion. John Kuhns reported that 60 members and guests attended the Annual Picnic. Despite the on-&-off rain the attendees had a great time enjoying the food and games that included a bubble gum chewing contest, balloon toss (in the rain), Oreo cookie contest and bingo. The event was catered by Post Avenue Catering.

#### 2022 Western Pa Region Annual Car Show

#### - Bob Doppelheuer and Mark Jackson

This year's show was on Sunday, September 4, 2022. Bob Doppelheuer reported that approximately 160 vehicles and occupants attended the 2022 Western Pa Region's Paul P. Bell Memorial Car Show. Bob stated that there were 45 vehicles Pre-Registered. Early morning rain threatened the show, but the weather cleared in time for the show. Mark Jackson commented of the successful partnering with the food bank where many show attendees brought items.

#### **Christmas Party 2022** – *John Kuhns and Family*

The Region's Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 11, 2022 at DiSalvo's Station, 325 McKinley Avenue, Latrobe. John Kuhns reported that about 60 members attended and enjoyed the event. Wayne Shaffer entertained providing the acoustic music. Mini pizza slices, fresh vegetables, a variety of cheeses, mini crab cakes and asparagus wraps were the hors 'd oeuvres. Dinners then included wedding soup, salad, rolls, an entre of either Chicken Romano or Grilled Salmon with Chive Cream Sauce and potatoes and glazed carrots with cheesecake and fresh berries for dessert. Door prizes were awarded to the lucky members present.

#### Newsletter – Mark Jackson, Editor

Mark Jackson talked about the content in the newsletter. Mark thanked everyone who contributed to the Round-Up this past year including Guy Davis for his "The Road Less Traveled By" articles and Carl Erb for his continued contributions. (Secretary Note: Following our Annual Meeting, Mark Jackson was presented a 2022 "Master Editor Award" by the national AACA.)

#### Website - Mark DeFloria Web Editor

Mark DeFloria thanked all who provided information for the Western Pa Region website (westernparegion.org). Mark reported that we continue to have many visitors to our web site in 2022. Mark asked the members to continue to forward any information they would like included on the web site. Members were asked to keep up-to-date with any changes to their email addresses.

#### **Region Tours** – Carl Erb

Carl spoke about and reminded attendees of the various tours conducted by the Region in 2022. The first being the tour to the Holy Grail Garage in East Pittsburgh. Next was the June 4 driving tour to Al and Mary's Antique Car and Music Box Collection, then the Dan Heit Car Show Room Collection in Pittsburgh on July 9th. Carl thanked Flo Myers for putting together a fall tour on October 15th through the Indian Head and the Laurel Mountains. Carl also spoke of future 2023 tours.

### **Sunshine Committee** – Flo Myers, Sheila Kurtz, Becky Blank and Molly Detwiler

Flo Myers spoke on behalf of the Sunshine Committee. Flo reported the committee sent out a total of 30 sympathy/get well cards in 2022. Flo asked that member let anyone on the committee of any member that may need a little sunshine.

Sheila Kurtz C/724-984-6116, H/724-398-0551 Sheila.Kurtz37@gmail.com Becky Blank C/724-689-2523, H/724-836-3225 dblank@comcast.net Molly Detwiler H/724-925-2321, flasher64@verizon.net Flo Myers C/724-331-7293, H/724-879-8281, flojo15601@gmail.com

#### Western Pennsylvania Region Awards – John Kuhns Sr.

John Kuhns Sr. presented the Region's Annual Awards.

**Jack Clark Service Award** – In recognition of the Region member who contributed greatly to the success of the Region was presented to Mark Jackson.

**Paul P. Bell Award** – for the most unique passenger vehicle displayed by a member at a WPR event was presented to Jaime Cintron for his 1932 Plymouth PB Convertible Roadster.

**Foster Fike Restoration Award** – No award given this year.

Mark Jackson presented Carl Erb with a Chrome Quill Award

recognizing his regular, outstanding contributions to our newsletter

Three outgoing directors were recognized for their service – Mark DeFloria, Mark Jackson and John Kuhns.

#### **Election of Officers**

Each year there are three director openings. Directors serve for a period of two years. President Debbie Sheetz then called for nominations from the floor for the three open director positions. Hearing non, she asked for a motion for the Secretary to cast the ballot for the outgoing directors to be retained as they were all willing to serve again. The motion passed.

#### **Announcement of 2023 Officers**

Following the passing of the motion, the Directors held a brief Director Meeting and following their meeting the followed Director positions were announced.

Debbie Sheetz – President Flo Meyers – Vice President Mark Jackson – Treasurer Mark DeFloria – Secretary John Kuhns Sr. – Safety Bob Doppelheuer – Publicity

#### Adjournment

President Debbie Sheetz asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Tom Ulishney, seconded by Cindy Harvey, and unanimously approved. The meeting concluded at 3:50 PM.

-- Respectfully submitted by Mark DeFloria, Secretary

#### **Drive Your Antique or Classic Car Award**



I-r: Maisy Kuhns accepts the November Drive Your Antique or Classic Car Award from WPR Vice President Flo Myers on behalf of her father John Ross Kuhns, who won the award at the WPR November, 2023 Monthly Meeting hosted at Specialty Cars Ltd., Latrobe. John Ross and Maisy will be able to enjoy the rotating award until the 2024 Annual Meeting on Feb. 4, when it will be awarded to a new winner for driving their antique or classic car to that event.

## **Tour Guide**



By Fred Trusty 2023 AACA National President



his year I've had the opportunity to participate in all but one AACA tour and talked with quite a few "freshman tourists" who said they wish they had discovered the touring side of the hobby long ago. Not knowing the guidelines for each type of tour can create some apprehension to registering for your first tour so let's look at the various tours.

- **1. Reliability Tour** –The Reliability Tour is sponsored during even-numbered years for brass era cars, i.e., those manufactured in 1915 or earlier. This includes all recognized vehicles of that vintage.
- 2. Revival AAA Glidden Tour® The AACA sponsors the Revival AAA Glidden Tour® during even-numbered years (2022, 2024, etc.) in cooperation with the Vintage Motor Car Club of America (VMCCA). The VMCCA sponsors the tour during the odd-numbered years. The Revival AAA Glidden Tours® are for the older vehicles and eligibility for AACA sponsored tours is limited to those manufactured in 1942 or earlier. Generally, this tour is held during the 2nd or 3rd week of September.
- **3. Founders Tour** The Founders Tour is sponsored annually for all vehicles, except race vehicles, manufactured from 1932 through a production year 25 years prior to the year of the tour.

- **4. Vintage Tour** The Vintage Tour is sponsored during odd-numbered years for vehicles manufactured in 1931 or earlier.
- **5. Sentimental Tour** The Sentimental Tour is sponsored during even-numbered years, beginning in 2004, and is for vehicles manufactured from 1928 through 1958, except race vehicles.
- 6. Divisional Tours The AACA sponsors two Divisional Tours annually during even-numbered years, one in the Central and one in the Eastern geographical regions, and during odd-numbered years, one in the Southeastern Region and one in the Western Region. These tours are designed to be shorter in duration (minimum three days) than the traditional five-day tours. The host Region or Chapter is free to decide which vehicles are eligible to participate in any Divisional Tour, except race vehicles will not be included. However, all vehicles must be of a production year at least 25 years prior to the year of the tour.

If you would like more information on touring you can go to aaca.org, click on the "Publications" tab and then "Policy & Procedures Manual." Section 4 has everything you ever wanted to know about touring.

-- The Rummage Box

#### 2024 AACA National Tours

**March 17-23, Founders Tour** (1932-1999) Louisiana • Louisiana Region, 337-581-7776

**June 9-13, Eastern Divisional Tour** (Up through 1999) Fredericksburg, Virginia

**July 10-13, Western Divisional Tour** (Up through 1999)
Big Horn Mt., Wyoming • Nebraska Region

September 22-27, Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)
Fairfield, Pennsylvania • AACA hosting





By Bill Holtzer

A "BIG" thumbs up to W.P.R. A.A.C.A. from The Greater Greensburg Marine Corps. League Detachment #834. The League would like to thank you for your generous donation of "40" toys and "2" monetary donations to our campaign this year. It was greatly appreciated.

Again thanks from the League and the needy kids who will receive the toys.

# A Merry & Bright Christmas Party



Enjoying a Christmas feast at Rizzo's Malibar Inn, Crabtree, PA



Barbara Shugars shares some photos with John Kuhns, Sr.



Wayne Shaffer's holiday-themed music warmed the dining room.



Friendly discussions within a holiday gathering of friends

ll was merry and bright at Rizzo's Malibar Inn in Crabtree, PA on Sunday, December 10 as 57 Western PA Region members gathered for the annual Christmas Party. Rizzo's was all decked out for the holidays with beautiful decorations including large white snow flakes hanging from the dining room ceiling. Acoustic musician Wayne Shaffer was with us again setting the tone with our favorite holiday tunes.

Members dressed in their holiday best, wearing plenty of red and green. John Kuhns, Sr.'s amazing glitter jacket was worthy of an Elvis Christmas Show.

Everyone enjoyed the chance to socialize sharing some car talk and family updates. As our members shared the spirit of giving with local children in need, the Toys For Tots collection box overflowed with wonderful, fun donations – everything from a new basketball to a colorful makeup set.

We are so fortunate to have several restaurants in our region

such as Rizzos that offer extraordinary Italian delicacies. Hors d' oeuvres featured roasted peppers with asagio cheese, sweet sausage, cheese sticks and fresh fruit. Dinner started with a salad served at our tables along with fresh Italian bread. Then a savory buffet followed with Chicken Romano, cheese ravioli, cavatelli and roasted red potatoes. Topping everything off perfectly was a dessert of Italian almond creme cake. Everyone ate their fill and there was even some left over to take home.

Throughout the event John Ross Kuhns and Flo Myers called out various door prizes, which ranged from gift cards to diecast cars and beautiful poinsettias, which decorated the tables.

There was much laughter and holiday cheer in the room giving a warm closure to another great year for the Western PA Region AACA. Warm and sincerest thanks to John Ross Kuhns and the Kuhns family for once again hosting a fabulous celebration in the true spirit of Christmas.

## Louis Chevrolet

#### Race Car Driver, Mechanic & Entrepreneur

Source - Wikipedia



Louis Chevrolet in 1911

ouis-Joseph Chevrolet was an American racing driver, mechanic and entrepreneur who co-founded the Chevrolet Motor Car Company in 1911. He was born on December 25, 1878, in La Chaux-de-Fonds, canton of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, where his father worked as a watchmaker.

In 1887, Chevrolet left Switzerland along with his father to settle in Beaune, France. There, as a young man, he developed his mechanical skills and interest in bicycle racing. During this period, Chevrolet invented a wine pump, which he built from a defective one-cylinder motor mounted on a three-wheeled bicycle.

Chevrolet worked at the Roblin mechanics shop in Beaune from around 1889 to 1899. He then moved to Paris, where he worked at various mechanics shops, between 1899 and 1900, before emigrating to Montreal, Quebec, Canada in 1900 to work as a mechanic. The following year, he moved to New York City, where he worked briefly for a fellow Swiss immigrant's engineering company. Then he moved to the Brooklyn operations of the French car manufacturer de Dion-Bouton.

In 1905, Chevrolet married Suzanne Treyvoux. The couple had two sons and a daughter, Clara. He became a naturalized American citizen in 1915.

Chevrolet won his first race in 1905 racing a FIAT at Morris Park, the first-ever national championship race sanctioned by the American Automobile Association (AAA) Contest Board, then known as the Racing Board. In 1907 he was hired by the Autocar Company in Philadelphia, probably for a secret project to develop a revolutionary front-wheel-drive racing car.

Chevrolet, racing a Buick, won the 1909 Cobe Trophy Race, held in Crown Point, Indiana His racing career continued as he drove for Buick, becoming a friend and associate of Buick owner William C. Durant, founder of General Motors. He raced at the Giants Despair Hillclimb in 1909.

With little in the way of formal education, Chevrolet learned car design while working for Buick and started designing his own engine for a new car in 1909. He built an overhead valve six-cylinder engine in his own machine shop on Grand River Boulevard in Detroit He is credited as one of three co-designers of the 1910 Buick 60 Special, also known as the "Buick Bug".

On November 3, 1911, Chevrolet co-founded the Chevrolet Motor Car Company with his brother Arthur Chevrolet, William C. Durant, and investment partners William Little (maker of the Little automobile) and Dr. Edwin R. Campbell, son-in-law of Durant and friend of Samuel McLaughlin of the McLaughlin Car Company of Canada Ltd. The company was established in Detroit. One story tells the choosing of the company's logo as a modified Swiss cross, to honor Chevrolet's homeland. Another story tells of the Chevrolet logo as a design taken from the wallpaper of a Paris hotel room where Louis once stayed.

Chevrolet had differences with Durant over the car's design, and in 1915 sold Durant his share in the company and started McLaughlin's Company in Canada building Chevrolets. By 1916 the trading of Chevrolet stock for GM Holding stock enabled Durant to repurchase a controlling stake in General Motors, and by 1917 the Chevrolet company that Louis had co-founded was merged as a company into General Motors after the outstanding Chevrolet stocks were purchased from McLaughlin in 1918. The McLaughlin Car Company then merged with his Chevrolet Motor Company of Canada Ltd. to become General Motors of Canada Ltd. in 1918, prior to the incorporation of the General Motors Corporation in the United States when General Motors Company of New Jersey dissolved.

In 1916, Louis Chevrolet and his brothers founded the Frontenac Motor Corporation to make racing parts for Ford Model Ts.



Louis Chevrolet wearing dark clothes sits in a Buick race car he designed in the early 1900s.

Also in 1916, American Motors Corporation (unrelated to the later American Motors created by the 1954 merger of Nash-Kelvinator Corporation and Hudson Motor Car Company) was formed in Newark, New Jersey, with Louis Chevrolet as vice president and chief engineer. By 1918 it was producing cars in a plant at Plainfield, New Jersey. In 1923 it merged with the Bessemer Motor Truck Company of Pennsylvania into Bessemer-American Motors Corporation, which lasted less than a year before merging with the Winther and Northway companies into Amalgamated Motors. The latter company apparently ceased soon after.

By the mid-1910s, Louis Chevrolet had shifted into the car racing industry, partnering with Howard E. Blood of Allegan, Michigan, to create the Cornelian racing car, which he used to place 20th in the 1915 Indianapolis 500 automobile race. In 1916, he and his younger brothers Gaston and Arthur Chevrolet started Frontenac Motor Corporation, designing and producing a line of racing cars. They became well known for, among other things, their Fronty-Ford racers.

Louis drove in the Indianapolis 500 four times, with a best finish of 7th in 1919. Both Louis and Gaston competed successfully with racing Sunbeams achieving a number of third places in 1916. Arthur competed twice, and Gaston won the race in 1920 in one of their Frontenacs, going on to win the 1920 AAA National Championship. He also raced for the Buick racing team.

In 1927, Chevrolet launched the aircraft engine construction company Chevrolair, which failed three years later as a result of the Great Depression. He returned to Chevrolet to work as simple mechanic in the Detroit factories.

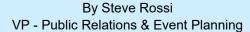
Chevrolet died on June 6, 1941, in Detroit due to a heart attack. He had been plagued with atherosclerosis which had previously led to a leg amputation. He is buried in the Holy Cross and Saint Joseph Cemetery in Indianapolis, Indiana.



American Motors Corporation advertisement in the journal *The Horseless Age*, May 15, 1918 - Louis Chevrolet served as vice president and chief engineer.

### "America's Automotive Library" Identifies its Oldest Artifacts







he Chris & Kathleen Koch AACA Library & Research Center has identified its oldest antique automotive artifact. It is a copy of A Handbook for Steam Users Being Rules for Engine Drivers and Boiler Attendants by M. Powis Bale, from 1890. In addition, a February 14, 1891, issue of Scientific American features an analysis of the 3-wheeled Butler Petrol-Cycle from Great Britain.

According to Library Director Jen Wolfe, "Since automotive history is an inexact science, trying to pinpoint the first piece of automotive material ever published is impossible – though Duryea is credited with producing the first American automobile in series by 1896." Some believe that Panhard began producing promotional literature, in color, during 1892 (from Panhard & Levassor: Pioneers in Automobile Excellence, by David Beare), which the AACA artifacts predate.

The Smithsonian's Smith Hempstone Oliver contended that the first automotive catalog appeared in 1888/1889, from Philadelphia's Moto-Cycle Manufacturing Company. It featured Lucius D. Copeland-designed steam cycles and steam carriages. (The Bulb Horn, May-June 1966) Either way, as a function of the publication timeline above, "America's Automotive Library" is at the forefront.

The AACA Library & Research Center was established in 1977 and houses over 3 million individual automotive artifacts at its Hershey, PA headquarters. It is the largest and most comprehensive institution of its kind. In addition, the Library also oversees nine single-marque collections within its climate controlled, secure and professionally managed facility, which includes a state of the art fire suppression system.

The library is open and free to the public during normal hours of operation. On-site research is free to anyone who visits. AACA Members receive 2 hours of free offsite research per calendar year to be used within the calendar year. Additional research, photocopies, scans and reproductions are available for a fee. Donations such as literature, books, artwork, manuals, periodicals, toys/models, etc. are welcomed and encouraged. Upon receipt of materials, the Library will provide the donor with a letter acknowledging the gift.

Visit the library website at <a href="https://aacalibrary.org/">https://aacalibrary.org/</a> for more information.

-- The Rummage Box



## 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.

Any items contained herein may be reproduced if proper credit is given. All articles are edited for length, grammar, accuracy and composition. They will be used at the discretion of the editor and Region officials. Please advise the editor of any and all needed corrections.

Mark Jackson, Editor
133 Alexander Avenue, Greensburg, PA 15601
724-832-9074
email: jacksonmark469@gmail.com

Special thanks to:

Denny & Becky Blank, Mark DeFloria, Bill Holtzer, John Ross Kuhns and Debbie Sheetz for their time and talent, which helped produce this issue.

## Name That Car

By Mark Jackson

#### **November's Car**

with Bill Holtzer



We asked our members what 1960s American Motors car had almost the same identical shaped grill as the 2024 Buick Encore. Tom King was the first to reply with the answer we were looking for, the 1961 compact Rambler American. The images above show the grill shape similarities. We also heard from Phil Beattie, Gary Wiegand, Denny and Becky Blank, and Nancy McKelvey. Tom was presented with November's prize, a 1:18 scale 1957 Chevy Nomad diecast model at the November monthly meeting. (See photo below).

#### **December's Car**



When Becky Blank retired from Westmoreland County Community College (WCCC), her boss knew that she and Denny were into old cars and had a classic touring car advertisement matted and framed for her with well-wishes from her friends signed on the matt.

Can you identify the make of this beautiful old car? I don't need the year, just the correct make. Hints: The three-syllable, single word name of this old touring car simply describes where it would be driven. Later during WWII, this manufacturer produced a small, rugged four-wheel-drive vehicle for the U.S. Military.

Be the first to correctly identify the make of this old touring car and win a \$20 Sheetz gift card. Email jacksonmark469@ gmail.com or call 724-832-9074 and leave a message.



Tom King (far right) receives the November Name That Car prize of a 1:18 scale diecast model of a 1957 Chevy Nomad from Bill Holtzer at the WPR November monthly meeting. Tom was the first to correctly identify the 1961 Rambler American as having a grill shape almost identical to the 2024 Buick Encore. Also pictured left to right: Guy Davis, Bill Holtzer and

Mark Jackson

Photo - Mark DeFloria



Western Pennsylvania Region Antique Automobile Club of America P.O. Box 882 Latrobe, PA 15650



