

Spoke



Folks

Antique Automobile Club of America  *North Alabama Region*



North Alabama Winter 2025



President's Message

Jeff Slagle *President*

As we move through February and inch closer to spring, it's exciting to think about all the events and opportunities ahead for NAR. But before we shift gears into a busy season, let's take a moment to reflect on a key moment in automotive history.

On February 16, 1852, the H & C Studebaker blacksmith shop opened in South Bend, Indiana. What started as a humble family business eventually grew into the Studebaker Brothers Manufacturing Company, a leader in wagon production and later, a pioneer in early automobiles. Studebaker entered the auto industry in 1902 with the launch of the Studebaker Electric, a battery-powered vehicle that could travel up to 40 miles on a single charge. At a time when gasoline cars were noisy, unreliable, and required hand-cranking to start, Studebaker's electric cars were considered a luxury choice—quiet, clean, and easy to operate. Though Studebaker eventually shifted to gasoline-powered vehicles in 1913, their early venture into electric propulsion was a glimpse into the future of automotive technology.

While winter hasn't been the most cooperative for car-related activities, a few Cars & Coffee gatherings have taken place. Unfortunately, the weather hasn't made it easy to get out and enjoy our vehicles as much as we'd like. But brighter days are ahead! As spring approaches, we'll have plenty of opportunities to dust off the classics, hit the road, and enjoy the community of our club once again.

One of the first big events on our calendar is the 48th Annual Huntsville St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 15, 2025, at 11:00 AM in Downtown Huntsville. This event is always a club favorite and serves as the perfect way to kick off our season. It's a great opportunity to showcase our vehicles, share our passion with the community, and enjoy the fun of a lively parade atmosphere. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for lineup and staging details as we get closer to the date!

Also, please take note of an important schedule change:


Our first dinner meeting of the year has been moved up to February 27, 2025, at Phil Sandoval's in Madison.

A regular business meeting will now be held in March instead.

Lastly, a quick reminder that NAR membership dues for 2025 are now due. If you haven't renewed yet, please submit your payment to Treasurer Dave Robertson at:

6503 Rolphmire Lane, Madison, AL 35757

Thank you for being part of NAR and for your continued support. I look forward to seeing everyone soon—whether at our dinner meeting, out on the road, or at the St. Patrick's Day Parade! Let's make 2025 another great year for our club.

Warm regards,
Jeff 

Spoke Folks Content

President's Message	2
NAR Meeting Minutes	3
NAR Club Information	4-5
NAR Article	6
Cowboy State Daily Article	7
2025 Calendar of Events	8-9
AACA National Calendar	10
Membership Application	11



facebook.com/groups/naraaca

Spoke Folks

Monthly Newsletter of the North Alabama Region
Antique Automobile Club of America

President	Jeff Slagle
Vice-President	Chuck Nickey
Secretary	Angie Henslee
Treasurer	Dave Robertson
Newsletter Editor	Tom Beam
Webmaster	Dave Dunlap
Board of Directors	Ana Clare-Emmi
	Bob Ferenc
	Wayne Scites
	Jim True

Spoke Folks is published monthly and is distributed to Region members and selected others. Non-copyrighted material contained herein may be reprinted if credit is given to Spoke Folks. Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Region Officers or the Board of Directors.



North Alabama Region



Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

- Welcome, Pledge; Visitors introduced themselves & their cars. Jeff Robinson, 55 Chevy Truck
- Secretary minutes voted on and approved.
- Treasurer's report: presented, voted on and approved
- Club gear: nametags, shirts, caps, jackets, etc.
- Website: Dave Dunlap; Host, Siteground, web address: nar-aaca.org
- Facebook report: going smoothly.
- Online rooster: <https://naraaca.ctrn.co/directory/index.php>

New Business

- Dues need to be paid for the new year.
- \$20 NAR dues; \$45 AACA dues. Please pay if you haven't already.
- The Board Members for 2025 were introduced:
 - > President: Jeff Slagle
 - > Vice-President: Chuck Nickey
 - > Secretary: Angie Henslee
 - > Treasurer: Dave Robertson
 - > Newsletter Editor: Tom Beam
- The Board of Directors for 2025 were introduced:
 - > Ana Emmi
 - > Wayne Scites
 - > Bob Ferenc
 - > Jim True
- The Berry Award was presented to Ana Marie Clare-Emmi
- Illnesses: Angie True, Ken Riddle, Martha Dixon, Harold & Rosana Caneer, Terry Owen
- Sympathies: Nell Owen, her brother Sam Dockery passed away on January 17, 2025

Cars Bought and Sold

- A friend of Robert Scites has a '56 Thunderbird for sale

Member Projects

- Chuck Nickey's Mustang has been painted, Harold Caneer is working on a Willy's truck, Greg is working on a '28 Studebaker

Club Activities Discussed for 2025

- National Convention is February 6-8, Dave Robertson will be attending
- Dinner Meetings; February 27, June 26, September 25 and Christmas party December 6
- March 15, St. Patrick's Day, NAR kickoff for 2025
- Proposed NAR Car Show October 25, investigating venues with more details to follow
- NAR directions for 2025 as this will be Jeff's last year as president. Focus on social aspects, incorporate small cruises, selections of certain shows to go and participate as a group and more community engagement.
- Snacks provided by Al & Ana Emmi, Joel & Tina Mason
- Door prizes were awarded
- Presentation provided by Ed Hanish on the 1922 Willy's Knight Model, 20 A Roadster that won the 2024 NAR Totcky Award
- Meeting Adjourned: 8:52 p.m.

NAR Club Information

Member Milestones

February Birthdays

- 2 Jeff Slagle
- 3 Doug Cooper
- 8 Ed Hanish
- 10 Cappy O'Halloran
- 14 David Miller
- 18 Harold Caneer / 85 in 2025
- 20 Dave Robertson
- 21 Hanna Scites
- 22 Michael Darnell
- 28 Kim Letson

February Anniversaries

- 4 Dave and Sandy Dunlap



NAR Merchandise Available to Purchase

For NAR Item purchases, please call Laurie Ferenc at (716) 480-9739. Purchased NAR items will be brought to the next NAR meeting. Please try to bring exact cash amount.

Available NAR Items

NAR/AACA Tote Bags	\$3.00
NAR Tire Gauge/Key Chain	\$1.00
NAR Jackets	\$55.00
NAR Mugs	\$5.00
Embroidered Long Sleeve Tee	\$25.00
Embroidered Short Sleeve Tee	\$20.00
Men's Embroidered Cotton Polo	\$35.00
Men's Embroidered Poly Polo	\$25.00

Available NAR Items

Ladies Embroidered Cotton Polo	\$35.00	
Ladies Embroidered Poly Polo	\$25.00	
Printed T-Shirt (S, M, L, XL)	\$20.00	XXL/XXXL \$22.00
Printed Polo (S, M, L, XL)	\$25.00	XXL/XXXL \$30.00
NAR/AACA Magnetic Signs	\$15.00	Two for \$25.00
NAR Cap	\$13.00	Sold Out
NAR Visor	\$10.00	Sold Out

NAR Club Information

**Phil Sandoval's
Dinner Meeting**
Moved to 27 February 2025
6:00 p.m.

**SIGNALS
Business Meeting**
Moved to 27 March 2025
7:00 p.m.

NAR has Flipped!



NAR Monthly Meeting Refreshments

27th February	<i>Phil Sandoval's / 8217 Hwy 72, Madison, AL</i>
27 th March	<i>Drinks: Natalie Doumar / Snacks: Dave Robertson</i>
24 th April	<i>Drinks: Kelley Entz / Snacks: Frank Tatom</i>
22 nd May	<i>Drinks: Dave Robertson / Snacks: Natalie Doumar</i>
26 th June	<i>City Café / 2003 Drake Ave., Huntsville, AL</i>
24 th July	<i>Drinks: Rob Vaughn / Snacks: Ed Lawrence</i>
28 th August	<i>Drinks: Dave Dunlap / Snacks: Kelly Entz</i>
25 th September	<i>88 Buffet / 6125 University Dr., Huntsville, AL</i>
23 rd October	<i>Drinks: Claire Catanese / Snacks: Ron Dion</i>
20 th November	<i>Drinks: Dave & Natalie Hoha / Snacks: Al & AnaClare Emmi</i>
6 th December	<i>Christmas Party / Holiday Inn / 5903 University Dr, Huntsville, AL</i>

The First North Alabama Region Garage Tour / Jan 1968

The first garage tour was scheduled for Sunday, 14 January at 1:30 p.m., and would you believe the thing actually took place as planned amidst all that snow and cold weather. Those attending would have to fall into one or all of the following categories; 1. Avid antique auto fans, 2. Loyal backers of club activities, 3. Nuts.

At any rate the tour turned out to be great and ran very smoothly at the able hands of our chief guide, Phil Gambrell and his "Push Mobile." Those attending the tour were Phil and Evelyn Gambrell and children, David and Freda Johnson, Bill and Bev Ashby, Jack and Roy Nell Stuart, Gene and Linda George, Tom and Levelle Holly, Eddie and Barbara Gannaway and children, Earnest and Joyce Cross, and Herb Fulmer.

The group met at the A&P food store, corner of Oakwood and North Parkway, and at 1:50 p.m. Phil said, "Lets go" so we left the protective confines of the parking lot and moved out into the hazards of snow driving. We stopped at Tom Holly's place first, and, of all things, he "just knew no one in his right mind would be out in weather like this," but there we were. We finally got him away from his nice warm den long enough to show us his 1946 Chevrolet Sedan, 1935 Packard roadster, and new antique car-type shed. From Tom's place we went on to Gene George's home for wayward Cadillacs. Gene stopped taking pictures long enough to show us his 1955 Chrysler Imperial, 2-1939 Cadillac 60 S's , 1939 Cadillac 75, Limo 1939 Buick Century, and 1939 Cord sedan. Just about the time we arrived at Gene's place Jack and Roy Nell drove up and wanted to know why we left the rendezvous early. Jack said they were not Late, but I think he just didn't want to admit that "Detroit Volkswagen" couldn't handle all that snow.

Incidentally, Jack couldn't understand why Gene had painted all his cars the same color! Snow White.

We left Gene's heading toward Earnest Cross's place - everyone was under way except our guide, and he just couldn't get that "Horse" to move. Yours truly stopped to lend a hand and diagnosed the trouble as a dead Battery. Phil said "Nah! Couldn't be that." The jumper cables were hauled out of the Healey and connected to Ed's big Oldsmobile, and would you believe the dead horse came to life. Eh Phil? We all got to Earnest's place without mishap and looked over Earnest's 1926 Ford sedan, the Totcky mail truck, and Herb Fulmer's 1928 Ford Business Coupe. A special thanks to Joyce for that nice hot coffee, it sure hit the spot.

All-in-all it was a good time for everyone and the future garage tours should prove equally as interesting.



Who Better To Give Safe Winter Driving Advice Than Me!

Despite the good-natured fun that's been poked at me by the editors of Cowboy State Daily, my driving record has been sterling. So, who better than me to write about safe driving habits in a heavy snow Wyoming winter, right?

Here are some tips for driving on Wyoming winter roads, plus some interesting stories.

My first rule is to be a chicken. Slow down! Just pretend you're taking grandma to church. There's a platter of biscuits and two gallons of sweet tea in glass jars in the back seat." That is good advice.

Our family's first trip on Interstate 80 was in the winter of 1971 and we were stopped on a hill behind another car. The highway had been closed behind us. It was an awful blizzard. My wife Nancy started to panic. "We are sliding backwards!" she yelled. I thought so, too. The car ahead of us was gradually disappearing into the fog of the blinding snow. Yet my car was in park. I actually opened the car door and put my foot out to touch the highway to prove that we were standing still. It was just the car ahead of us slowly moving away. What a scary moment.

Dave Simpson of Cheyenne shared a similar story: "I once attended a winter survival course where a Highway Patrol officer talked about winter driving. He related a time when a couple was driving west into high winds, and the snow was hitting the windshield so hard that it looked like they were driving at highway speeds. In reality, they were going slower and slower, finally just creeping along. 'You should have seen the look on the guy's face,' the trooper said.

Automotive writer Aaron Turpen's great winter driving advice: "My most basic and fundamental rule for driving, winter or not, is simple: Assume everyone else driving is a complete idiot. It's worked in my favor so far. Which, by correlation, means that I am obviously not an idiot. So, if you see me, you know I'm the only other driver on the road that isn't an idiot."

Michelle Smith of Lander described a winter driving event she experienced: "On a bright clear day when the road was closed at Muddy Gap! I talked to a snow plow driver asking when it would be open? He casually stated he hoped Monday (this was a Thursday)."

Ric Samulski described a harrowing trip from Jackson to Pinedale: "One winter night in 1979, I was driving back to Pinedale with a truck load of newspapers. Suddenly I was confronted by a wall of snow. An avalanche had blocked the canyon. I stopped my truck and walked across about 50 feet of snow.

"On the other side was an equally frustrated driver who was headed to Jackson. It was Bob Kidd. I explained the situation to him. Bob said, 'I can't get to Jackson anyway so I'll help you.'

"Together Bob and I carried 2,500 copies of The Pinedale Roundup newspaper, in cardboard boxes, across the avalanche and loaded them in his pickup. I left my pickup on the Jackson side of the avalanche and got into Bob's truck and we hauled the newspaper to Pinedale. Our newspaper hit the streets as usual on Thursday morning. Thanks Bob!"

2025 Calendar of Events

For event detail see: <http://www.naraaca.org/calendar.html>

February

27 NAR / AACA Club Dinner / Phil Sandoval's / Madison, AL / 6:00 p.m.

March

1 Cars & Coffee / MidCity / Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

5 1st Wednesday Car Meet / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

8 Priceville Cars & Coffee / Morgan County Veterans Memorial / Decatur, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

8 2nd Saturday Cars & Coffee / Old Towne Café / Ardmore, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

8-9 58th Annual Swap Meet / Kyana Region AACA / Exposition Center, Louisville, KY

11 Charity Classic Cruise-In / Tullahoma, TN / 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

15 HPT Cars & Coffee / Stovehouse / Huntsville, AL / 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

15 3rd Saturday Cruise In Rick's BBQ / Rick's Barbecue / Ardmore, TN / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

15 4th Annual Patriot Car Show / Bob Jones High School / Madison, AL / 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

16 RCMC Sonic Cruise-In / Sonic Drive-In County Line Road / Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

17 48th Annual Huntsville St. Patrick's Day Parade / Lot K / 11:00 a.m. / Huntsville, AL

27 NAR / AACA Meeting / SIGNAL Museum of Information Explosion / Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

29 11th Annual Car Show / Washington Park Baptist Church / Muscle Shoals, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

April

2 1st Wednesday Car Meet / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

3-5 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals / Charlotte, NC

5 Cars & Coffee / MidCity / Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

5 1st Annual Car Show Rev'd Up for Autism Alabama / Meridianville, AL / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

8 Charity Classic Cruise-In / Tullahoma, TN / 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

12 Priceville Cars & Coffee / Morgan County Veterans Memorial / Decatur, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

12 2nd Saturday Cars & Coffee / Old Towne Café / Ardmore, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

12 Spring Fever Cruise-In / Ray Coffey Park / Courtland, AL / 8:00 a.m.

19 HPT Cars & Coffee / Stovehouse / Huntsville, AL / 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

19 3rd Saturday Cruise In Rick's BBQ / Rick's Barbecue / Ardmore, TN / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

19 Cruisin' for a Cure Car Show / Joe Wheeler EMC / Trinity, AL / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.

19 VooDoo Customs Conjure / Lincoln County High School / Fayetteville, TN / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

20 RCMC Sonic Cruise-In / Sonic Drive-In County Line Road / Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

24 NAR / AACA Meeting / SIGNAL Museum of Information Explosion / Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

26 Orphan Car Show / Senior Center / Huntsville, AL / 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

26 18th Annual Car/Bike/Truck Show / Athens, AL / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

26 10th Annual Cruisin' for a Cure (Huntingdon's Disease) / Fayetteville, TN / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

26 4th Annual Arc of the Shoals classic car show / Tuscumbia, AL / 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

2025 Calendar of Events

For event detail see: <http://www.naraaca.org/calendar.html>

May

- 1-3 [AACA Western Spring Nationals / Grand Nationals](#) / Tucson, AZ
- 3 [Cars & Coffee](#) / MidCity / Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 6 [Charity Classic Cruise-In](#) / Tullahoma, TN / 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 7 [1st Wednesday Car Meet](#) / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 10 [Priceville Cars & Coffee](#) / Morgan County Veterans Memorial / Decatur, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 10 [2nd Saturday Cars & Coffee](#) / Old Towne Café / Ardmore, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 17 [HPT Cars & Coffee](#) / Stovehouse / Huntsville, AL / 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 17 [3rd Saturday Cruise In Rick's BBQ](#) / Rick's Barbecue / Ardmore, TN / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 18 [RCMC Sonic Cruise-In](#) / Sonic Drive-In County Line Road / Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 22 [NAR / AACA Meeting](#) / SIGNAL Museum of Information Explosion / Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

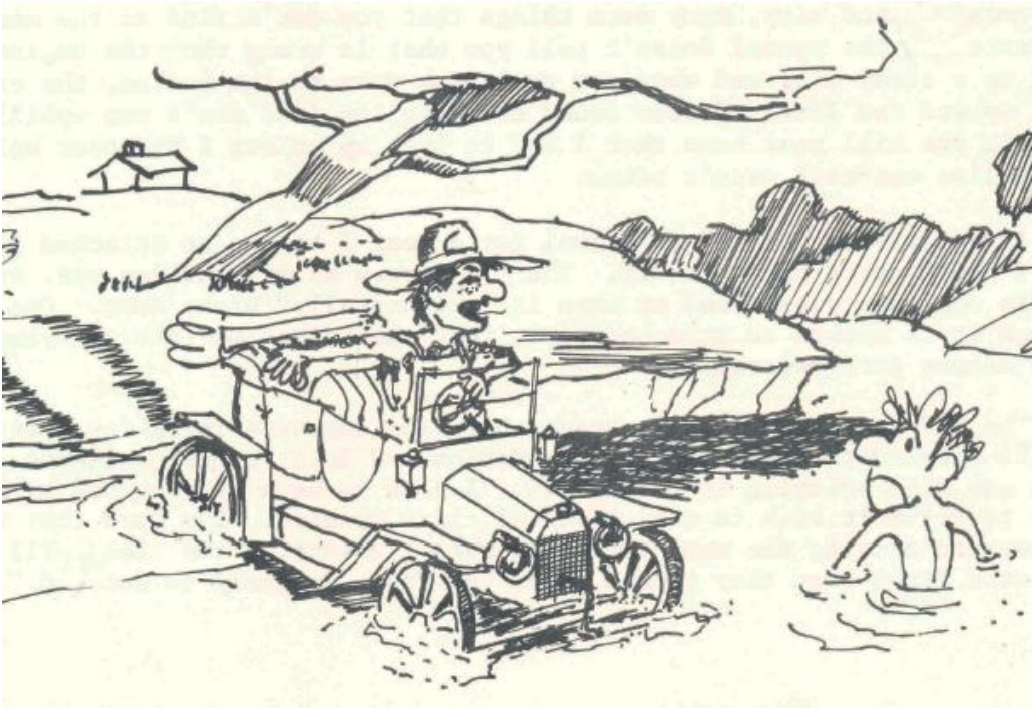
June

- 1-7 [AACA Vintage Tours](#) / Southern/Eastern Pennsylvania
- 4 [1st Wednesday Car Meet](#) / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 7 [Cars & Coffee](#) / MidCity / Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 10 [Charity Classic Cruise-In](#) / Tullahoma, TN / 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 14 [Priceville Cars & Coffee](#) / Morgan County Veterans Memorial / Decatur, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 14 [2nd Saturday Cars & Coffee](#) / Old Towne Café / Ardmore, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 21 [HPT Cars & Coffee](#) / Stovehouse / Huntsville, AL / 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 21 [3rd Saturday Cruise In Rick's BBQ](#) / Rick's Barbecue / Ardmore, TN / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 22 [RCMC Sonic Cruise-In](#) / Sonic Drive-In County Line Road / Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 26 [NAR / AACA Club Dinner](#) / City Café / Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

AACA National Calendar

Upcoming AACA 2025 National Calendar

April 3-5	Southeastern Spring Nationals – Charlotte, NC
May 1-3	Western Spring Nationals / Grand Nationals – Tucson, AZ
June 1-7	Vintage Tour – Southern/Eastern Pennsylvania
July 2-5	Central Springs Nationals – Auburn, IN
July 24-26	Grand Nationals / Zenith – Dayton, OH
September 7-12	Revival AAA Glidden Tour® – Owensboro, KY
September 18-20	Southeastern Fall Nationals – Corydon, IN
October 7-10	Eastern Fall Meet – Hershey, PA
October 22-25	Central Fall Nationals – Galveston, TX



"I comes here every Sunday to soak my spokes!"

NAR Auto Antiquarian News 1968





The North Alabama Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America



Membership Application / Renewal

Local dues are \$20 per year (Including monthly newsletter). Please bring this application to a meeting or mail it and a check made out to NAR to:

North Alabama Region - AACA
c/o Dave Robertson, 3503 Rolphmire Lane, Madison, AL 35757

Name/Spouse's Name _____

Child(ren)'s Name(s) _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip Code _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Email Address _____

Birthday / Anniversary (Optional) _____

Member Sponsor (Optional) _____

AACA Number _____

Membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) is required. If you are not currently an AACA member, please let us know and we will send you a membership application or go to www.aaca.org to apply online. Dues are \$45/year or \$700/life including bi-monthly newsletter. Student membership is \$12/year.

Signature _____

Antique Vehicles Owned (Optional)

Year	Make	Model	Body Style
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

For more information about the club contact the President, Jeff Slagle (256) 679-9775
or visit the club website at <http://naraaca.org>