

Spoke Folks

Antique Automobile Club of America  North Alabama Region



Ed Hanish leads 2023 St. Patrick's Day Parade with Grand Marshall Máirtín Ó Muilleoir



President's Message

Jeff Slagle *President*

Spring is finally upon us and hopefully we can soon ditch our winter coats and say goodbye to winter for another year and welcome the longer days.

As most of you should be aware, the car season is quickly ramping up and there should be something for everybody to get out and have some fun. NAR kicked off the 2023 parade season with the Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. We had a great turnout, and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time. There were also some NAR members who had not been out in a quite a while, and it was great to see them out and enjoying the day. Also, Ed Hanish got the privilege to lead the charge for the parade!

There were also other events that NAR participated in this past month which included Local Cars and Coffee, the Priceville Cars and Coffee, the Bob Jones Patriot Cars and Coffee and a Florence Car Show in which Robbie Henslee took home 1st Place!

Next, NAR has had several members that have been under the weather, with various illnesses and infections. I currently do not have permission to release specifics, but I would request to keep the NAR family in your thought and prayers for a speedy recovery.

Last, March 23 is the NAR quarterly dinner meeting, so bring your spouse/significant other or friend(s) and join us at Las Trojas located at 4920 University Dr, Huntsville at 6:00 p.m. It is where the old Golden Corral was located.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there and as always get out and drive!

Jeff 



Spoke Folks Content

President's Message	2
NAR Meeting Minutes	3
NAR Club Information	4-6
NAR Article	7
AACA Article	8
2023 Calendar of Events	9-12
AACA National Calendar	13
Membership Application	14



facebook.com/groups/naraaca

Spoke Folks

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

President	Jeff Slagle
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North Alabama Region



23 February 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Old Business

- NAR 60th Anniversary
- Secretary minutes voted on and approved.
- Club gear: nametags, shirts, caps, jackets, etc.
- Website: Vacant
- Facebook report: going smoothly.
- Online roster: <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.
- Birthdays: 10 in February.
- Anniversaries: 1 in February
- Member Projects: Several.

Cars Sold

- Doug Cooper sold 2 Hudsons.

Club Activities Discussed for 2023

- Next Month's meeting is a meal, which is still under discussion. Announced later.
 - March 11: St Patrick's Day Parade. 11:00 a.m. Meet at lot K.
 - A message was read from our founding members.
-
- 38 members present tonight.
 - Door prizes awarded.
 - Refreshments provided by Chuck and Lynn Nickey. A delicious 60th anniversary cake.
 - Presentation tonight by Mr. Tom Beam. Tom told us about his trip to the National Convention where he received an award for Master Editor.
 - Nell Owen presented pictures from the 50th anniversary celebration.
 - Meeting adjourned: 8:37 pm

NAR Club Information

March NAR Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: New Las Trojas Cantina, 4920 University Dr NW, Huntsville, AL , 35816

Member Milestones

Birthdays

Mar 1 Martha Dion
Mar 4 Tammy Thompson
Mar 6 Sally Barnett
Mar 13 Wayne Shaw
Mar 17 Sherry King
Mar 21 Russell Lowrey
Mar 29 Greg Stefanovic

Anniversaries

Mar 24 Russell and Sherry King



Member Health Report

- Joe Marchelites has completed his radiation treatments. He now has an infection in his leg.
- Eddie Letson has been battling an infection in his knee and had a port put in for antibiotics to be administered.
- Lisa Vaughan continues to have health issues. The hole in her foot has healed but she is on oxygen and has a port for antibiotics.

NAR Monthly Meeting Refreshment

March *Dinner Out*
April Joe Stegmaier
May Jerry Carignan
June *Dinner Out*
July
August
September *Dinner Out*
October
November
December *Christmas Party*



The morning weather was debatable for a fun parade, but thankfully St. Patrick blessed us with a sunny mid-drive though downtown Huntsville. NAR had 13 vehicles participating. Two children from a sportscar club entry were fascinated by all our cars.



Jeff Slagle with Abby Amis, the Parade Queen



Chuck and Lynn Nickey and Princess Brenna Murphy of the Lienster Province





Frank Tatom / 1949 Pontiac



Dave Robertson / 1979 Pontiac Trans Am



Wayne Shaw / 1988 Ram Charger



Jerry & Annette Carignan / 1955 Chevy Belair



Tom Beam / 1955 GMC



Jeff Slagle's son-in-law with grandchildren / 1966 Ford Galaxie



David & Natalie Hoha / 1932 Ford Model B



Harry & Debi Trumball / 1971 Plymouth Duster



Roger & Konnie Mays / 1955 Buick Special



Al Emmi / 1969 Plymouth Roadrunner

Beware the Ides of March – Or Danger in the Forums

“What sayeth Robert to thou?”

I sayeth, “There is great danger in the forum!”

Caesar may have been the first guy you can think of that suffered in the forum, but that was Ancient Rome and we are more concerned with ancient grease!

Car people are tortured every day in online forums, too! Yes, those forums which many of us go to for advice when confounded by some malady that has laid our 4-wheeled chariot asunder. Unfortunately, those would-be soothsayers that we like to think are sages of the socket sets are, in fact, just ordinary guys with so much extra time that they can sit around typing instead of fixing cars.

I have seen the worst advice you can imagine in those forums and even some things suggested that are certain to destroy more parts than are already destined for the bin! It is not at all unusual nowadays for a client to start his tale of woe with, “I was looking on the forums....” It used to be that I was the guy who had to find the problem after the client had been to several “cheaper shops”. (I never have figured out how it’s cheaper to pay several guys a little then pay me too?)

Whatever – now, people are more likely to have a crack at the problem themselves, if for nothing more than to educate themselves, and I do applaud that! ... but ... let me tell you about a recent job on an XK8.

This smart young fellow had been to the forums and had, on his own, attempted to find the source of an annoying loud squeak which chirped merrily while driving and stopped completely when the car stopped, running or not. He recounted stories of dash vents and delaminated plastics, hot/cold coefficients and so on but with no luck. I suspected this was one of those jobs that “others” had looked at, so that made it all the more important for me to do a fast diagnosis (nothing like a challenge real or perceived)!

Forum Q and ASo, the car not being dropped off yet, I went on the forums for a look and found an unbelievable number of people taking the cars’ dashes to bits and having little or no success changing the noises, and numerous reports of mysterious noises, complete with “pay to diagnose and advise” sites giving bizarre advice. Not far off from “Caesar, run toward the knife!” (Anyone considering one of those cars should not look at the forums lest their buying feet go from cold to frozen!)

On the appointed day I drove the car and, as described, the noise was loud and made an otherwise pleasant car a candidate for trade-in! There was something funny about the noise as it had no apparent point of origin: you couldn’t really say, “it’s from right about here.” It was from everywhere, which, of course, meant it was from somewhere else!

Once I opened the bonnet, my eyes fell directly on the problem, and with a piece of safety wire tied on the shock top bush, the noise was gone. Of course, a new part was ordered for both shocks and the rest is history, but had a more able owner been committed to the advice on the forums, I would have been brought the car on a flatbed tow truck with a disassembled dash ... a very expensive mistake indeed!

So I pray you, leave “Brutus” in the computer or on a bookshelf and “beware the forums”!

Join for the Cars, Stay for the People

We all became involved in the AACA for different reasons, but we stay for a common one: the people.

My wife Marion and I were almost obligated to get involved in the AACA and antique automobile hobby because of birth and circumstances. Marion and I were both born and raised in the Detroit metropolitan area, and we're "Baby Boomers," so we grew up during the highpoint of Detroit's muscle cars (until, arguably, today) and muscle car culture. Unlike some of today's teenagers, when we came of age it was inconceivable to not have a driver's license and not get it as soon as possible. A driver's license, and if you were lucky, a car meant freedom. Freedom to drive to school and not have to ride the bus; freedom to get an after-school job; freedom to socialize with friends; freedom to date; freedom to just go do something whenever you wanted.

As children of Detroit, cars were in our DNA. It was probably an omen of things to come for Marion and I that our first date was to the Detroit Auto Show. Shortly after we married, we purchased and customized a Chevy van, and almost started a customizing shop with my father-in-law (a chief clay modeler for GM), but I joined the Air Force instead. My military career made it difficult for us to own an antique car we moved 18 times in 25 years, but we never lost our love for cars. Everywhere we lived we attended car shows and cruise-ins, and made the pilgrimage home to Detroit as often as we could to attend the Detroit Auto Show. In 2004, after attending another car show, Marion told me, "We need to buy an old car." We purchased a 1970 Chevelle Super Sport and transported it to Tucson, Arizona, my last active duty assignment, where we discovered the AACA. Fifteen years later, I'm fortunate to be a member of the AACA's Board of Directors (something I never aspired to, let alone expected).

I suspect we joined the AACA for reasons shared by many of our fellow members: to enter our car in the local AACA Region's annual show. We renewed our AACA membership and over the years got more involved in both our local region and the national club not just because of the antique vehicles, but more so because of the fun we had, the nice people we met, and the friends we made.

At one of the first AACA Board of Directors meetings I attended, one of the other directors said something I'd never heard before but which rang so true: "Members join the club for the cars, but they stay for the people." We all need to keep this in mind, not just the AACA National Directors, but also every region and chapter officer and every member. In order to survive as a club, let alone continue growing, we need to be welcoming to everyone (regardless of what kind of vehicle they own or like), and our club and regions/chapters need to be fun.



2023 Calendar of Events

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

March 2023

- 23 **AACA NAR Meeting** / Las Trojas Cantina, 4920 University Dr NW, Huntsville, AL , 35816 / 6:00 p.m.
- 25 **9th Annual Car Show** / Washington Park Baptist Church / Muscle Shoals, AL / Benefits Guatemala Missions / \$20 Entry Fee / Rain date April 1, 2023 / Contact: (256) 381-3536 / 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- 25 **DAA Classic Car Auction** / 26125 Hwy 72, Athens, AL /
https://www.dealersauto.com/components/report/presale/event_list/daashuntsville/2023/3/25

April 2023

- 1 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 1 **5th Annual Swearingin Fire Dept Car Show** / Marshall County Park #1 / 19348 US 431, Guntersville, AL 35976 / \$25 Entry Fee / Contact: (256) 572-3037 / 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 1 **2nd Annual Benefit Car Show and Craft Fair** / Meridianville Athletic Association / 127 Caty Humma Lane, Meridianville, AL, 35759 / \$20 Entry Fee / Contact: (256) 426-5172 / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 8 **Priceville Cars & Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / Priceville, AL / Second Saturday every month / \$5.00 buys all the coffee you can drink / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 8 **2nd Annual Cruising at Crews Car and Bike show** / Louis Crews Stadium, A&M Campus / 4900 Meridian Street, Huntsville, AL, 35811 / Supports AAMU Student Athletes / \$25 Entry Fee / Non-Judged / Contact: (256) 426-8017
- 8 **West Limestone High School and Cross Country Team Car Show** / Rain date May 13, 2023
- 15 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 15 **9th Annual Eli's Block Party** / Lindsay Lane Baptist Church / 1300 Lindsay Lane South, Athens, AL 35613 / \$20 Entry Fee / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 15 **7th Annual Rods and Wheels Cruise-In** / Near Kingston Pavilion Ditto Landing, Huntsville, AL / Live music begins 10:00 a.m. / \$20 Entry Fee / Contact: (256) 882-1057 / 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / Awards 1:45 p.m.
- 22 **8th Annual Cruise-In for a Cure (Huntington's Disease)** / The Rock Family Worship Center / 2626 Huntsville Hwy, Fayetteville, TN 37334 / Donations accepted / Rain date April 29, 2023 / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 22 **Orphan Car Show** / Senior Center / 2200 Drake Ave, Huntsville, AL / Hosted by North Alabama Studebaker Drivers Club / Benefiting Meals on Wheels / Contact: 52champregal@gmail.com / 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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- 27 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.
- 29 **St. Ann's Big Fish Car Show** / St. Ann Catholic School / 3910 Spring Ave, Decatur, AL / Featuring music by The Cadillacs / Seafood and Mexican fare / Contact: (256) 612-7667 / Email: denyse1026@yahoo.com / \$20 Entry Fee / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 29 **Cruisein for a Cure Car Show** / Joe Wheeler EMC / 25700 AL Hwy 24, Trinity, AL / Swamp John's meal \$12 / Contact: (256) 303-4945 / \$25 Entry Fee / Register 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. / Show 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 29 **16th Annual Car/Bike/Truck Show** / Athens on the Square / Athens, AL 35611 / \$20 Entry Fee / 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 29 **Hazel Green Wingfest** / Hazel Green High School / 14380 Hwy 231/431, Hazel Green, AL / First 60 get coupon for 10 wings / Contact: (256) 417-5339 / \$30 Entry Fee / Register 1:30 p.m. / Show 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

May 2023

- 6 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 6 **Marching Indians Annual Car Show** / East Limestone High School / 15641 E. Limestone Road, Athens, AL / Money for new instruments, supplies, uniforms / \$20 Entry Fee / Registration 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. / 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 6 **Car & Truck Show** / New Salem Baptist Church / 314 James Road, Owens Cross Roads, AL 35763 / Donations accepted, Free food / Contact: (256) 518-9328 / Entry free / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 13 **8th Annual Sharon Johnston Park Car Show** / Contact: (256) 532-3698 / 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 13 **43rd Annual Mustang and All Ford Show** / Woody Anderson Ford / 2500 Jordan Lane NW, Huntsville, AL, 35816 / hosted by Rocket City Mustang Club / \$20 Entry Fee / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 13 **Priceville Cars n' Coffee** / 2nd Sat every month / New Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / Priceville, AL / \$5 buys all the coffee you can drink / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 13 **5th Annual ReelSteel Garage Car Show & Benefit** / 14591 Court St., Moulton, AL, 35650 / Registration by 11:00 a.m. for Judging / 1st 50 Receive dash plaques / 3 Trophies per class / Contact: (256) 590-2177 / 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 19-21 **Good Guys 17th Nashville Nationals** / Nashville Super Speedway / 4847-F McCrary Road off I-840, Lebanon, TN / General Admission Fri/Sat \$25.00, Sun \$20.00, Kids \$10.00
- 6 **Car & Truck Show** / New Salem Baptist Church / 314 James Road, Owens Cross Roads, AL 35763 / Donations accepted, Free food / Contact: (256) 518-9328 / Entry free / 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 20 **Asbury Car Show** / 980 Hughes Rd, Madison, AL 35758

2023 Calendar of Events

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- 20 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 20 **1st Classic Car Show** / Harmon Scrap Metal / 14881 Hwy 231/431, Hazel Green, AL / 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- 20 **Asbury Car Show** / Asbury Methodist Church / 980 Hughes Road Madison, AL / food and drink / 11 trophies 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 25 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

June 2023

- 3 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 3 **52nd Annual Street Rod Show** / Spring Park, Tuscumbia, AL / Vehicles thru 1993 / \$5000 in prizes / Contact: (256) 412-4573 / 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 3 **18th Annual Charity Car Show** / Hosted by Vets with Vettes / 7090 Cabela Drive, Huntsville, AL / No canopies or generators / \$25 Entry Fee / Rain or shine / Registration 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. / Awards and trophies 12:45 p.m. / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 3 **2nd Annual Tiny Toes Car Show** / Church of the Living God / 22870 Sandlin Road, Elkmont, AL / Benefiting the NICU at Huntsville Hospital / \$20 Entry Fee / Contact: (256) 614-1065 / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- 17 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 22 **AACA NAR Meeting** / Dinner Out / 6:00 p.m.
- ? **Helen Keller Festival Car Show** / (Address) Tuscumbia, AL / (Time)

July 2023

- 1 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 15 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 27 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.
- ? **W. C. Handy Festival Car Show** / Wilson Park Florence, AL / 8:00 a.m. to Noon / Information: Ronnie James (256) 381-3536 or Terry Mashburn (256) 366-0564

2023 Calendar of Events

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August 2023

- 5 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 19 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 24 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.
- 26 **14th Annual Shoals Area Mustang & All Ford Show & Shine** / McFarland Park Florence, AL

September 2023

- 2 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 16 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 28 **AACA NAR Meeting** / Dinner Out / 6:00 p.m.

October 2023

- 7 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 21 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 26 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

November 2023

- 4 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 18 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 16 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

December 2023

- 2 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 16 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- TBD **AACA NAR Meeting** / Christmas Party



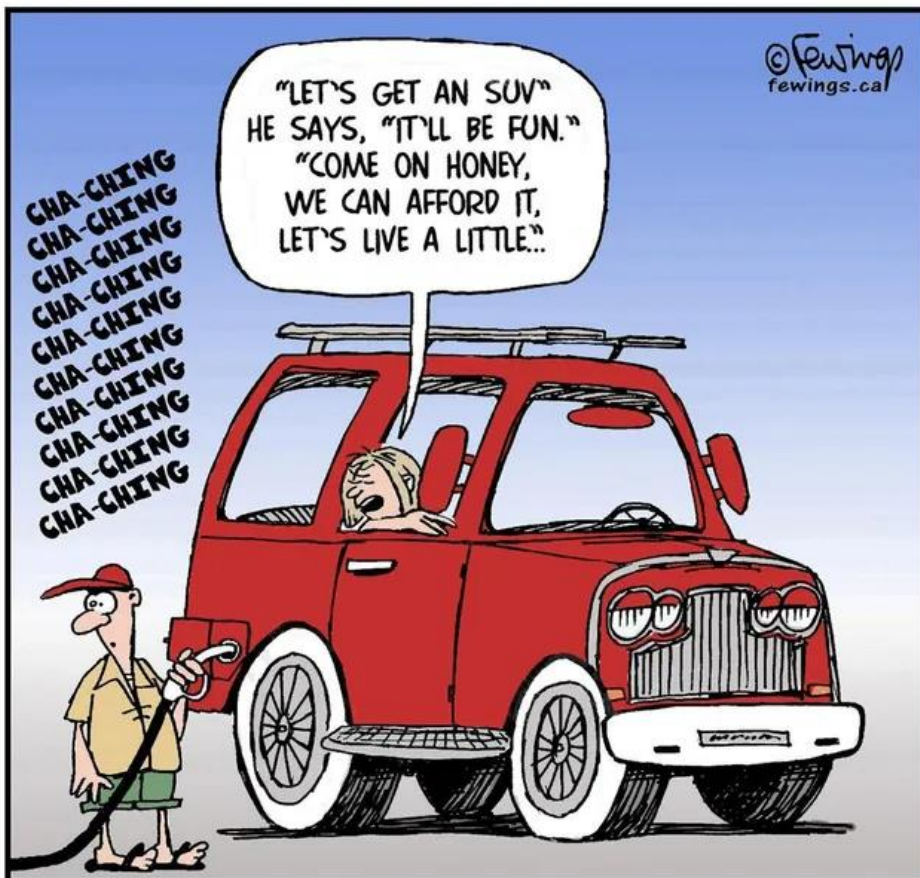
North Alabama Region

AACA 2023 National Calendar

Please verify prior to making plans to attend any event listed.

<https://aaca.org/events/category/aaca-national-calendar/>

April 13-15	Southeastern Spring Nationals / Charlotte, NC
May 1-3	Southeastern Divisional Tour / Oak Ridge, TN
May 18-20	Eastern Spring Nationals / Gettysburg, PA
June 25-28	Eastern Divisional Tour / Denver, PA
July 16-22	Founders Tour / Ontario, Canada
July 26-29	Special Eastern Summer Nationals / Norwich, NY
August 10-12	Grand Nationals / Bettendorf, IA
August 16-19	Vintage Tour / Aroostook County, Maine
September 25-29	Western Divisional Tour / California Central Coast
October 3-6	Eastern Fall Nationals / Hershey, PA
October 22-27	Revival AAA Glidden Tour (VMCCA) / Thomasville, GA





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 Jim True, 16651 E. Limestone Rd., Harvest, AL 35749

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>