

Spoke



Folks

Antique Automobile Club of America  North Alabama Region



Sam Barnett – Hemmings Motor News Great Race 2023 – USS Alabama



President's Message

Jeff Slagle *President*

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and high spirits. Today, I would like to share an interesting historical fact with you. On July 3, 1886, mechanical engineer Karl Benz made history by driving the first automobile in Mannheim, Germany. This horseless carriage, equipped with a water-cooled internal combustion engine, three wheels, tubular framework, tiller steering, and a buggy-like seat for two, reached a top speed of 16 km/h (10 mph). It was a remarkable moment that paved the way for the incredible advancements and innovations we witness in the automotive industry today.

Reflecting on the past months, NAR has enjoyed some incredible events together. Some of the noteworthy occasions included our heartwarming Cruise-In, which raised over \$800.00 benefiting the Children's Miracle Network and demonstrated the power of community in making a positive impact on children's lives. At the Huntsville Cave Rescue Show, we had the opportunity to admire the bravery of our local heroes, further strengthening the spirit of unity within our club. Additionally, we had a fantastic time at the SEMA Collector Car Appreciation Day at Casa Blanca restaurant, celebrating our shared passion for automobiles and cherishing the friendships of fellow enthusiasts, even though it was a hot and unpredictable weather, we participated wholeheartedly and made the most of each day.

Next, I would like to also let everyone know that Peter Catanese is currently in Crestwood Hospital and is expected to stay there for at least a week or so. During this difficult time, Peter and his wife, Claire, would greatly appreciate our thoughts and prayers. If you'd like to send a card to show your support, their address is 118 Pattiwood Drive, Hazel Green, AL 35750.

Furthermore, I wanted to inform you that Bob Bentley has recently moved. He is now at Hazel Green Gardens, located at 376 Jimmy Fisk Road, Hazel Green, AL 35750. Although his location has changed, you can still reach him at the same phone number: 256-828-4226. A call or card from our club members would undoubtedly brighten his day and show him that he is still very much a valued member of our community.

As we move forward, I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you for your active participation and unwavering support. Your commitment to the club and its activities is truly inspiring, and it is through your enthusiasm that we can continue to create memorable experiences and foster a sense of camaraderie within our community. I look forward to the upcoming events and the chance to connect with all of you. I am looking forward to seeing everyone on July 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. for the NAR Monthly Meeting at 1806 University Dr NW, Huntsville, AL 35801.

Wishing you the best and happy motoring with warmest regards!

Jeff



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facebook.com/groups/naraaca

Spoke Folks

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

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North Alabama Region



22 June 2023

President Jeff Slagle opened our meeting at 88 Buffet in June with a greeting to all and introduced two visitors we had that night, Ken Davis and his son, who we hope will join the club.

There were about 40 members/visitors that came to the dinner.

A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes of the May meeting as published in Spoke Folks.

Jim True provided the Treasurer report. A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer Report.

A motion was made and carried to give \$100 to the AACA Library and Research Center in memory of NAR member, Chuck Knapp, who had died in May.

Next Jeff discussed the fantastic club picnic held on Memorial Day at the home of Wayne and Kim Scites and then discussed shows the members had been to as well as upcoming events. Then Jeff helped Nell raffle off two door prizes that had been donated by Al and Ana Emmi with proceeds going into the NAR Treasury. The First was a \$100 gift certificate for Tres Belle Nail and Spa in Hazel Green. After bidding by Konnie Mays and Laurie Ferenc it was won by Tom Beam who said he planned to pass it on to a friend. Next was a gift certificate for a free Oil Change at Firestone in Madison which Jeff Slagle won. Nell then had a coupon for a free appetizer at Texas Roadhouse and offered it to Laurie or Konnie since they had been bidding on the Spa certificate before Tom snatched it up. Konnie took it. Thanks for the donations, Al and Ana.

Everyone seemed to enjoy their meal and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Nell Owen for NAR Secretary Angie Henslee.

NAR Club Information

Member Milestones

Birthdays

July 1	Al Emmi
July 4	Benny Pugh
July 5	Harold Baugh
July 9	Jim Stutts
July 10	John Richard
July 13	Joe Stegmaier
July 15	Sue Pugh
July 19	Nancy Cooper
July 23	Gerald Moore
July 31	Frank Tatom

Anniversaries

July 11	David and Carolyn Miller
July 16	Robert and Hanna Scites
July 28	Doug and Nancy Cooper / 38 years in 2023



NAR Monthly Meeting Refreshment

27 th July	<i>Bob and Linda Weidman</i>
24 th August	<i>Dave and Julia Robertson</i>
28 th September	<i>Dinner Out</i>
26 th October	
16 th November	
TBD December	<i>Christmas Party</i>

NAR encourages members to please signup to bring refreshments to our monthly meeting.

Please email Chuck Nickey, cnickey55@att.net, for refreshment suggestions.



Members Care and Concerns

Please remember Peter Catanese as he is in Crestwood Hospital and will be there at least a week or so. For those who may not know Peter, who is 91, has been battling liver cancer, and it has really been taking its toll on him. The doctors also think he may have a bleeding ulcer. Peter and his wife Claire need our prayers. If you'd like to send a card, their address is 118 Pattiwood Drive Hazel Green, AL 35750.

Our beloved Bob Bentley has moved. He is now at Hazel Green Gardens, 376 Jimmy Fisk Road, Hazel Green, AL 35750. His phone number has remained (256) 828-4226. Bob would enjoy a call or card.

Children's Miracle Network Car Show

Sunday, 9 July 2023

Robbie Henslee must be very pleased at the turnout for the Cruise-In benefitting Birmingham Children's Hospital. They raised \$800. NAR members participating were Michael Darnell and Margaret, Dave Robertson, Jeff Slagle, Roger Mays, Frank Tatom, Al Emmi, Harry Trumbull, Debi Trumbull, Jerry M. Carignan, Jim True, Edward Lawrence and Laurie, Randall Doc Owen and Nell Dockery Owen. Several of our members won door prizes - Jim True, Ed and Laurie Lawrence, and Michael and Margaret Darnell. Jerry Carignan won the People's Choice award with his 1957 Pontiac.



No Clutch Chatter, Just Hissing

Jerry Thach

We started out on a beautiful day, just perfect for plucking a prized trophy from the hands of rust and the grim reaper (junk man). Don Huffine and your writer, Jerry Thach, had heard of a PRIZE in the area of Summertown, Tennessee about 70 miles from Huntsville. May 30 was settled on as the day for immortality for a 1930 Model "A" Ford. Don's Blue Beetle (1949 Ford pickup) was selected as the mode of transportation and would serve as the ambulance for the prize. During the trip to the enshrinement, traveling at 45 mph to best conserve energy, a leisurely two hours was spent exchanging thoughts as to how the prize could best be divided.

A stop was made south of Lawrenceburg to rest the "Blue Beetle" and look at a Model "A" pickup truck and a four-door Chevy. After refreshing, it was back to the road and on to the PRIZE.

Arriving at the trophy area, thirty minutes passed in looking for the PRIZE. After a trudge through a pasture, through vines, blackberry patches, and thickets, we came upon a pond that had a darn at one end. We circled the pond, crossed a barb-wire fence and found the PRIZE parked near the water, under the fence. There it stood covered with spider webs, mud, and leaves.

The sky clouded and the rain fell, but this could not deter our stout hearts. The area was surveyed. and the "Blue Beetle" brought into the area; well, at least close. The pond could not be skirted so the "Beetle" was parked on the dam about a block away from the PRIZE. The points of interest proved to be the front end (with one shredded tire), a radiator and shroud, an engine, bell housing, transmission, and half of a frame. Other parts were beyond repair or non-existent. The PRIZE was to be disassembled and hand carried that eternal block. Stout hearted and keen eyed (for snakes) we went to work. The manifold was removed and out poured acorns, corn, nuts, and twigs. Yep, the squirrels had found a home in the manifold and bell housing. The radiator had no cap, so a loving bird, not wanting to see a Model "A" go unused, had built a nest in the top. After three hours of work dodging rain, and running from a bull, we had the transmission, engine, front end, and frame loaded and ready for the trip home.

A rest stop for the "Blue Beetle" was made in Lawrenceburg where a Gardner, driven by Mr. Keith of San Antonio, Texas, was spotted. Mr. Keith was returning from a vacation and the car show at Gatlinburg. The Gardner was an in-Line eight that ran beautifully (the car was built in St. Louis).

The trip into Huntsville continued; we had began to recover from the hard days work and were now joking and singing as the "Blue Beetle" transported us closer home. The PRIZE was placed in the Model "A" shrine in my back yard with loving hands. Don headed home to correct an air conditioning problem that Fay (Don's wife) was pounding the floor about. I decided to put the head, manifold, and bell housing on the block to keep out rain. Also visitors would enjoy the sight of the assembled engine. I turned the bell house over and found an oil covered snake coiled around the pilot bearing. The snake was 24 to 28 inches long and had a mean disposition; I don't think he cared for me. I located an 8 foot angle iron that would afford a little protection and did away with him. But, now the question; where did he come from? Was the snake in the radiator, the old shredded tire, or had that good-natured, fun-loving Don Huffine placed this creature in the truck for my pleasure?

Results of a days work included calluses on the hands, shook-up stomach from the "Blue Beetle", sun-burned back, soaked clothes, muddy shoes, and a scare that snakes my Model "A" pre-flight checklist look wicked; air, water, oil, gas, and SNAKES. My next parts will be bought across a clean counter with no clutter on the floor and a noisy cash register next to the wall. That is - unless I hear of another PRIZE.

Vintage Camping

While attending another car club meeting recently an idea surfaced from its president that I had not thought about. The idea was to do a tour with a vintage vehicles and tent camping at night. Some of the elders groaned and he confessed that his idea was that this might be a way to get young people/ young families involved with minimal costs.

This brought back memories of camping with my parents and grandparents as a child. We vacationed in the Ozarks one October, driving my Grandfather's surf green '57 Chevrolet 210 4 door sedan. We camped in tents my Grandmother and Mother had made from heavy canvas, used Coleman lanterns and cooked on double and single burner camping stoves of the same brand.

We next camped in the back of a couple of our pickups with a tonneau covers. First was a '58 Apache ½ ton, and next was a '59 El Camino. Since I was small and an only child, there was room for the three of us in the pickup box to sleep. I even recall, pleasantly now, pickup camping in the rain, but it may not have been so much fun at the time.

My first trip to Yellowstone was after I outgrew the pickup box, and we camped with our red '59 El Camino and used the same homemade tent. On this trip to Yellowstone, was where my Dad first mentioned that a good replacement for the El Camino would be a Suburban Carryall as one of our 'camping neighbors' was using one. It was about a '65 GMC. A number of years later we purchased our first of numerous Suburban's. They have fit the bill for many uses, including being used as a camper when needed. My grandparents 'graduated' from their tent camping to about a 15' teardrop shaped trailer; it had a folding couch and dinette, three burner gas stove, ice box (not a refrigerator) and both gas and electric lights, but no bathroom, so it still qualifies as camping to me.

This club president's idea I guess is not new as we did do some "vintage camping" ourselves as I recall. Dad, Mom and I drove our Model A to an old car get together with our luggage and tent in the back of a coupe and camping in a city park. More recently author Curt McConnell has described his camping experiences in series of magazine articles. He drove across the continent on as many gravel roads as he could find in his '39 Plymouth.

For those not willing to rough it in a tent there are KOA cabins in lot of locations that we have found very nice.

I see at least several good things about camping with your antique car. It provides an excuse to get out in your car, you see interesting places, spend time with your children or grandchildren, build some good memories for them of the old cars and doing things, and it need not be cost prohibitive.



You are invited you to the grand opening of Rice Car Museum. The Rice Museum showcases a stunning collection of classic cars, vintage automobiles. This state-of-the-art facility has been meticulously designed to immerse visitors in a captivating journey through time, exploring the evolution of automobiles and their impact on society.

Event Highlights: Ribbon-cutting ceremony / Exclusive access to the museum's inaugural exhibition / Guided tours / Live entertainment and concessions / Drive-In-Movie

The grand opening starts promptly at 3:00 pm. Please respond by June 21, 2023.

RICE GULF MUSEUM
GRAND OPENING

WASHING GULFLEX SERVICE GULF

FREE ADMISSION
BIG
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
FUN
JULY 29

CAR SHOW | 3PM-6PM
GAMES | 3PM-6PM
DRIVE-IN MOVIE | 7PM
DOOR PRIZES

\$15.00
CAR SHOW ENTRY FEE
ONLY RECORDED BY
JULY 21, 2023
PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT
SCHOOL SUPPLIES

CONCESSIONS SOLD

CONTACT PERSON: JACOBY RICE
PHONE CONTACT: 256.655-2692

Jacoby Rice Owner

415 St. Clair Dr.
New Market, AL 35761

Contact: (256) 655-2692

2023 Calendar of Events

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

July 2023

- 22 **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
- 27 **AACA NAR Meeting** / 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

August 2023

- 5 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 12 **Rocket City Octane Auto Show** / Von Braun Center South Hall / 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.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 **NAR Annual Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show** / Location TBD
- 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

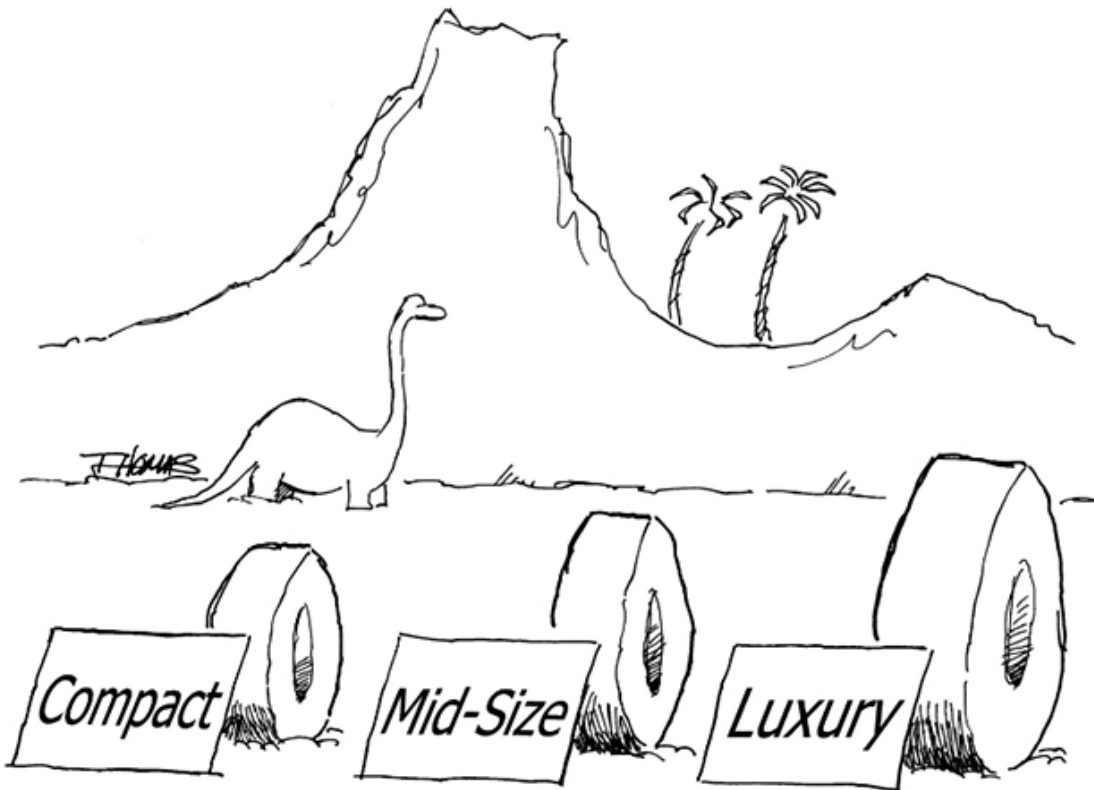
- 2 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 16 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr, Huntsville, AL 35805 /
8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- TBD **AACA NAR Meeting** / Christmas Party

AACA 2023 National Calendar

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

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

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| July 16-22 | Founders Tour / Ontario, Canada |
| July 26-29 | Special Eastern Spring Nationals / Hamilton, 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>