

# Spoke



# Folks

Antique Automobile Club of America  North Alabama Region



1980 Model A Ford Shay / AACA NAR Member Murray Walker



# President's Message

Jeff Slagle *President*

Dear Members,

As we celebrate our passion for antique automobiles, it's fascinating to reflect on pivotal moments in automotive history that shaped the industry we love. On May 2, 1918, General Motors (GM) acquired the Chevrolet Motor Company, marking a significant milestone. Founded in 1911 by Louis Chevrolet and William C. Durant, Chevrolet's success enabled Durant, who had been ousted from GM in 1910, to regain control of the company. Through a strategic reverse merger, Durant used Chevrolet's profits to purchase a significant stake in GM, bringing Chevrolet under the GM umbrella and reinstalling himself as the head of GM. This acquisition not only marked Durant's triumphant return but also solidified Chevrolet's place as a cornerstone brand within the GM portfolio, influencing the trajectory of automotive history. In today's rapidly evolving automotive landscape, where mergers and acquisitions continue to reshape the industry, this historic event reminds us of the enduring impact of strategic vision and resilience.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in our last meeting. We had an impressive turnout with about 30 members in attendance. A special thank you goes to Kyle Owen for his outstanding presentation and engaging story about his '31 Buick Series 80. Kyle's talk was not only informative but also wonderfully humorous and well-executed. His contribution added a delightful touch to our gathering, making it a memorable experience for all.

Our club has been very active recently, participating in several exciting events. We proudly showcased our vehicles at the East Limestone Marching Indians Band Car Show, the Sprint Tune Up Cruise-in The Park, the Celebration City AACA event in Shelbyville, Tennessee, the All-Ford Car Show, the Elite Car Club Show, and the Cruise-In for Cancer at the Wicks Family Field. Despite the abundance of vehicles at most of these shows, many trophies were awarded to NAR vehicles, highlighting the quality and dedication of our members' restorations and presentations.

It's clear that the car community is more vibrant than ever, with a calendar packed with exciting events and opportunities for engagement. There's always something happening that brings us together. Lastly, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all NAR members for your continued support and dedication to our club. Your commitment and enthusiasm are what make our community so special.

We are rapidly moving forward with preparations for the NAR National Car Show. We still have some open positions, including Sponsor-Program Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, and Trophy Coordinator. Please consider volunteering for one of these important roles to help ensure the success of our event. Whether you wish to volunteer willingly or be "voluntold," please don't hesitate to inform Dave, Chuck, or myself. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated.

As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas for future events, please don't hesitate to share them with me.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone on May 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. for the NAR Monthly Meeting at 1806 University Dr NW, Huntsville, AL 35801, or May 27, 2023, at the home of Wayne & Kim Scites, 1277 Ready Section Road, Hazel Green from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. for the annual Memorial Day Picnic.

Keep the pedal to the metal and the classics alive,

Jeff 

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## Spoke Folks

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

<b>President</b>	<b>Jeff Slagle</b>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>Chuck Nickey</b>
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<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Dave Dunlap</b>
<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>Joe Marchelites</b>
	<b>Wayne Scites</b>
	<b>Bob Ferenc</b>
	<b>Harry Trumbull</b>

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North Alabama Region



Meeting called to order on 25 April 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

## Old Business

- Welcome, Pledge
- Treasures report presented by Dave Robertson
- Jeff Slagle presented PowerPoint
  - › Dues reminders
  - › Health update
  - › Bought and sold update - Lots of acquisitions and sells
  - › Member projects update
  - › Website has been updated

## New Business

- National car show report by Ana Clare-Emmi - Social Events
  - › Social activities are coordinated
    - 11/23 Drop in social @ Holiday Inn
    - 11/24 Space and Rocket tour
    - 11/24 Lake Guntersville City Harbor Cruise In
    - 11/24 Self Driving Tour
    - 11/24 Stars and Strike Social
    - 11/25 Orion Amphitheater Social
    - 11/26 Judges breakfast
    - 11/26 Banquet at Space and Rocket Center under Saturn V
- National Car show report by Dave Robertson
  - › Under budget as of now
  - › Only signs for vehicles has to go through AACCA to be made
  - › Judging info - Please get involved
  - › Need sponsors
  - › 10k in major sponsors as of now
    - Looking for local sponsors
    - Challenging all members to sell an ad
- National Car show report by Jim True
  - › Jim has flyers to handout at car shows
  - › Have to be member to participate in show

## Club Activities Discussed for 2024

- Club update – Jeff Slagle
  - › Car show updates this weekend
  - › May 18 Wicks Family Field cruising for cancer car show discussed
  - › Door prizes
- Presentation by Kyle Owen
  - › 1931 Buick Model 86 presentation
- Refreshments provided by Dave and Dena Robertson
- Meeting adjourned

# NAR Club Information

## Member Milestones

### Birthdays

May 7	Jim Charette
May 9	Al Birks / 94 in 2024
May 12	Margaret Darnell
May 13	Jacqui Moore
May 16	Keith Kizer
May 17	Nell Owen
May 18	Claire Catanese
May 18	Lynn Nickey
May 25	Sherry Lowrey
May 27	Ronnie Chesser
May 30	Laurie Lawrence

### Anniversaries

May 24	Benny and Sue Pugh
May 25	Michael and Ellen Coleman / 50 in 2024
May 28	Michael and Margaret Darnell / 36 in 2024
May 28	Randy and Nell Owen / 47 in 2024
May 31	Ed and Laurie Lawrence / 27 in 2024



## NAR Monthly Meeting Refreshments

23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Ana Clare-Emmi
27 <sup>th</sup> June	6:00 p.m. / Greenbrier BBQ / Dinner-Out
25 <sup>th</sup> July	
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	
26 <sup>th</sup> September	6:00 p.m. / Las Trojas / Dinner-Out
24 <sup>th</sup> October	Jerry and Annette Carignan
21 <sup>st</sup> November	
TBD December	Christmas Party



NAR monthly meeting refreshments volunteers, please email Chuck Nickey at [cnickey55@att.net](mailto:cnickey55@att.net).

## NAR Monthly Meeting Programs

NAR would love to have its members share their personal antique car stories of interest at its monthly meetings. Presentation time should be between 20 to 30 minutes. If you have one you to share, please volunteer. If you have an idea for one, but need help to track it down, please contact Chuck Nickey at [cnickey55@att.net](mailto:cnickey55@att.net).

23 <sup>rd</sup> May	NAR members encouraged to share
25 <sup>th</sup> July	NAR members encouraged to share
22 <sup>nd</sup> August	NAR members encouraged to share
24 <sup>th</sup> October	NAR members encouraged to share
21 <sup>st</sup> November	NAR members encouraged to share

# NAR Club Information

## Member Health Report

Joan Birks called to say that Al had fallen two weeks ago and broke his hip. They did surgery the next day and he is in rehab for 7 weeks at the rehab next to the hospital in Corinth (which is where they live). He turned 94 on May 9. She said he is anxious to get back home and continue working on his cars. Their address is: 1 CR230, Corinth, MS 38834.

## Memorial Day Picnic ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Make plans to attend the NAR Memorial Day Picnic that is being held at the home of Wayne & Kim Scites.

**Date:** 27 May 2024

**Address:** 1277 Ready Section Road, Hazel Green

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

## 2024 Rocket City Southeastern Fall Nationals

24-26 Oct 2024

### Did You Know?

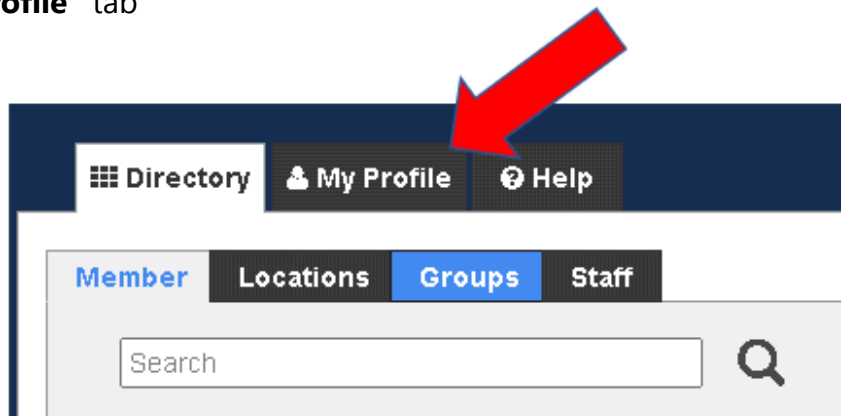


- Registration opens May 28th at [aaca.org](http://aaca.org); AACA Member Login; enter member # & PIN; Meet Pre-registration; click on Southeastern Fall Nationals.
- Any current AACA members can attend a Nationals. You do not have to enter a vehicle to attend, just Register & pay the fees for the events you are attending.
- AACA has three (3) vehicle classifications: Historic Preservation of Features (HPOF), Driver participation Class (DPC) and Competition Judged Classes. Go to [aaca.org](http://aaca.org) home page. Select Publication; Judging Guidelines to find the 2024 Official Judging Guidelines 2024, reference Section 4.
- Nationals will have two (2) sets of judges: Judges Team that judges the vehicles at our show and Nationals Judging Team that judges the current & past winners for selection to Grand Nationals.
- Any vehicle at the show CANNOT have anything in the vehicle or signage surrounding. The only item allowed is the official AACA Custom Car Sign. Email [jcurtis@aaca.org](mailto:jcurtis@aaca.org) for more information.
- The Awards banquet will be held at the space & Rocket Center, Davidson Center, Saturn V Hall. If you wish not to purchase dinner, participants will be allowed to enter the Saturn V Hall following dinner.

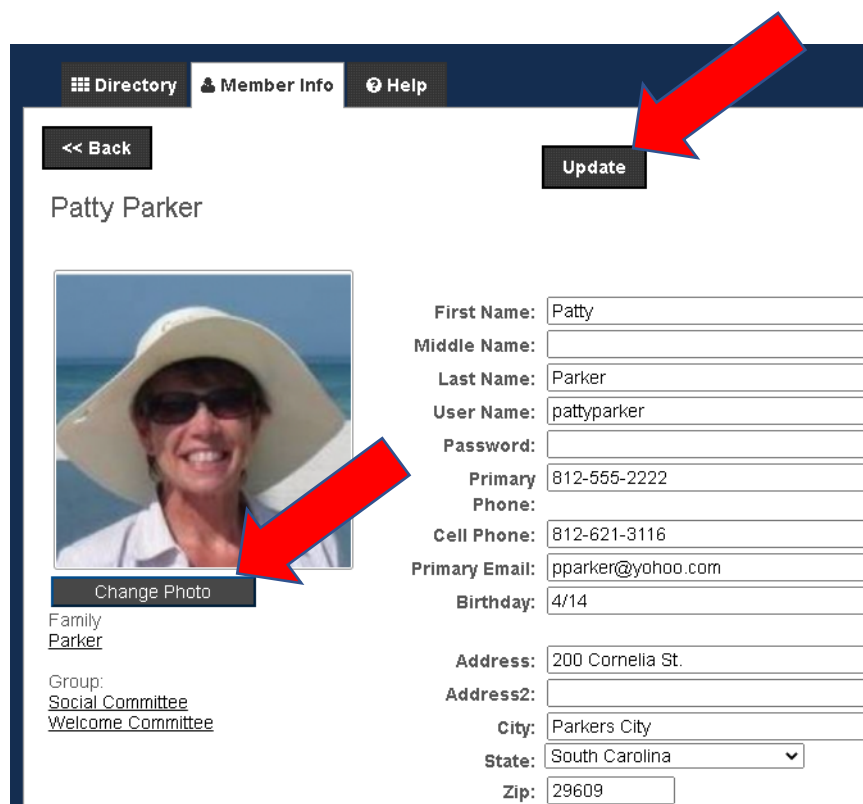
# NAR Club Information

## Instructions to update your **online** NAR directory information

- Open the North Alabama Region online directory at:  
<https://naraaca.ctrn.co/directory/index.php#tabs-Directory>
- Select the **"My Profile"** tab



- You will be directed to your **"Member Info"** page
- Make any desired changes and click **"Update"**
- Select **"Change Photo"** to upload a new photo or edit your existing photo
- Depending on your directory settings, you may also be able to edit your family profile, and profiles for members of your family

A screenshot of the NAR Member Info page for Patty Parker. The top navigation bar is dark blue with 'Directory', 'Member Info', and 'Help' tabs. Below the navigation bar, there is a '<< Back' button on the left and an 'Update' button on the right, both highlighted with red arrows. The main content area shows the member's name 'Patty Parker' and a profile picture of a woman wearing a white hat and sunglasses. Below the photo is a 'Change Photo' button, also highlighted with a red arrow. To the right of the photo is a form with various fields for updating the member's information. The form fields are: First Name: Patty; Middle Name: (empty); Last Name: Parker; User Name: pattyparker; Password: (empty); Primary Phone: 812-555-2222; Cell Phone: 812-621-3116; Primary Email: pparker@yohoo.com; Birthday: 4/14; Address: 200 Cornelia St.; Address2: (empty); City: Parkers City; State: South Carolina (dropdown menu); Zip: 29609.

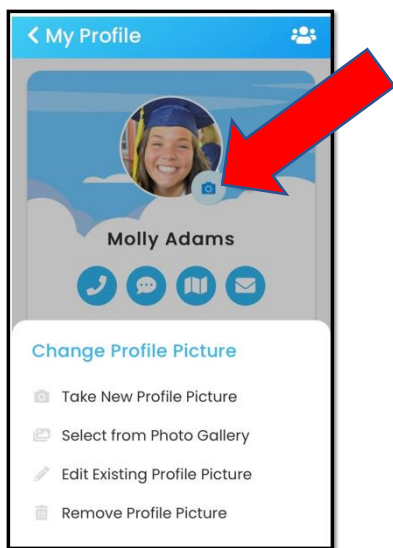
# NAR Club Information

## Instructions to update your *cellphone app* NAR directory information

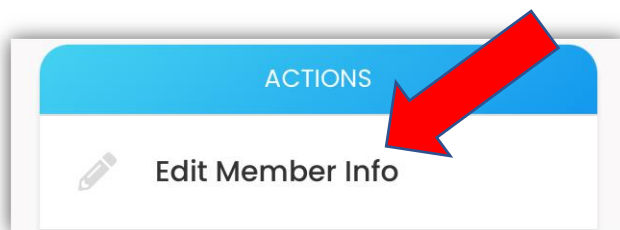
- Open the cellphone North Alabama Region directory app
- Select the **"Profile"** icon in the bottom navigation bar



- Select the **"camera"** icon to change your profile picture



- Select **"Edit Member Info"** to update your:
  - *Name*
  - *Address*
  - *Phone/Mobile Phone*
  - *Email*
  - *Birthday*
  - *Username/Password*
  - *and Additional Information*
- Make your changes and click **"Update"**



Last week was quite a special one for me. My father handed me the keys to his 1956 Chevy Bel Air as an early inheritance. It has been in the family for 28 years and I have many memories great memories of it - especially our wedding. I'm excited, happy and honored to have received it and look forward to keeping it in the family for many years to come.

Thank you, Jerry M. Carignan Love ya!





Randy couldn't make up his mind about going to the Cruise-In for Cancer at the Wicks Family field at Joe Davis Stadium, but Jeff Slagle called and said he had seen Gerald Moore and Teri entering the show so we decided to go for it. We got there and visited with Gerald and Teri and some other friends we had not seen in a while, grabbed some lunch, made our donation, and left before the rain got there. Some of the friends we saw were former NAR members Bob and Kay Hill's daughter Erica Mitchell and her family. She and her husband Evan brought the kids so Aubrey could go to her first car show. Their son, Aiden, had the right idea and slept the whole time. There was a good turnout of about 100 vehicles and we got to get another one of ours driven. So all-in-all a good day.



Randy and I joined NAR members at Sharon Johnston Park for their annual car show. We had not been in several years so we got to visit with a lot of old friends. Roger Mays was there in his 1949 Pontiac, Bob Ferenc was in the 1967 Plymouth, Roger Jones had his newly finished 1940 Mercury, his 1965 Ford Galaxie 500XL, his 1968 Ford F100 Ranger short WB, and his 1928 Nash. I think everyone received a door prize. Roger Mays was parked by a couple with a 1956 Chevy which had been bought by her grandparents new, then passed to her parents, then to her and her husband. Randy and I also met Bobby Hopkins with his 1948 Frazer. He said he wanted to join NAR so we gave him an application. Such beautiful weather. There were 118 cars at the show.



Dave Robertson was the NAR representative in Shelbyville, TN at the Celebration City Region AACA show. While showing off his beautiful 1979 Pontiac Firebird, Dave was also handing out flyers that promote the upcoming 2024 Rocket City Southeastern Fall Nationals that will be held at the Orion Amphitheater in Huntsville, AL on 24-26 October 2024.



Yeehaw! NAR never disappoints! Elite Car Club Car Show was a blast, and Harry Trumbull, James Charette, Al Emmi scored some sweet cash prizes! Ana Maria Clare-Emmi also attended but just as a plus one since her newly acquired 1969 Roadrunner is at the shop! Fried catfish was finger-lickin' good, y'all! Let's keep the good times rolling! NAR rocks!





## History of the Shay Roadster and T-Bird

Harry J. Shay founded the Model A & Model T Motor Car Reproduction Corporation in the spring of 1978 (which name was changed to Shay Motors Corporation in November of 1980).

Harry Shay had a great deal worked out with Ford. The plan was to send at least one car to every Ford dealership across the USA. Ford got publicity and attracted customers to its showrooms and Shay got access to an extraordinary distribution network. One dealer in New-Jersey even said he had people lined up in front of his dealership (shades of December 1927!). Other dealers reported floor traffic of 200 to 600 people in a single day when they first placed a Shay in their showroom. A California dealer said he had not seen such response since the introduction of the Mustang almost 15 years earlier.

The cars were advertised in glossy color brochures (see links at the bottom of this page) starting in late 1978: Golden Anniversary Model A / Last of the Model A's / Limited production / Sold by Ford dealers, factory-built, warranted by Ford Motor Company. This might have been the only time a major auto manufacturer participated in the reproduction of a famous car out of its past. Ford waived design patents for its Model A so that the Shay Roadster could be built. Ford supplied the platform, Shay manufactured the cars and Ford, Mercury and Lincoln dealers sold them. Nationally advertised on CNN, the Today Show, Price Is Right, Hollywood Squares, in the New York Times, Forbes magazine, Old Car News, Motor Trend, Car & Driver and other auto magazines which praised them as highly successful and more reliable than the Model A, with the modern conveniences of today's automobile. Ads were saying there were orders to last twenty years or so.

A 10,000 limit was placed on production since above this level, the car would have had to adhere more strictly to U.S. Federal standards on design and safety. Shay was exempted from the following federal vehicle safety standards: #103 (windshield defrosting & defogging), #104 (wiped area of windshield), #108 (front side markers & reflectors), #109 & 110 (tire and rim width) and, the following more specifically relating to impacts: #201 (interior design), #202 (head restraints), #203 & 204 (steering column & rearward displacement), #207 (seating system), #210 (seat belt attachment points), #212 & 219 (windshield retention & zone intrusion from hood), #214 (side door intrusion and #301 (fuel system integrity).

After the initial 10,000 Roadsters, Shay planned to build these other replicas by batches of 10,000 units: a 1955 Thunderbird, a 1930 Ford, a 1932 Ford Roadster, a 1936 Ford Roadster, a 1937 Ford street rod, a 1940 Lincoln Continental, a 1965 Mustang and a 1924 Model T.

Shay was to manufacture the following body styles and quantities for his Model A: 500 Super Deluxe Roadsters (twin spare mounts), 1,928 Deluxe Roadsters (left spare mount), 6,641 Standard Roadsters (rear spare mount) and a handful of Special Series models such as a pick-up truck, Polar Bear, College Classic and Golden Oldie models and a very rare Model A C-cab/panel truck (between 3 and 10 of the latter were produced, with automatic transmissions, before production was halted due to poor sales). In reality, few Standard models were produced and much more Super Deluxe models were, because that's what the buyers were asking for.

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# NAR Article

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In March 1979, Shay hadn't even definitively chosen where his main assembly plant would be located, even though he had already \$12 million in orders for the Roadsters and even if the first delivery of Ford drivetrains were expected within 2 months!

In early April 1979, he chose Battle Creek, Michigan. At that moment, he had only 12 employees working at a little plant in Wixom near Detroit and only 2 prototypes had been built. But by then, orders for the Roadster exceeded \$20 million! The final assembly plant was located at 200 Elm Street (80,000 square feet - this building was razed by a fire in July 1986 and has since been replaced by a lumber yard) and a chassis assembly plant was located at the Customs Cargo Facility in the Fort Custer Industrial Park (50,000 square feet). The city subsidized part of these installations. A fiberglass body production plant situated in Holland, Michigan, was eventually added (25,000 square feet).

The cars were not to be built according to the rolling assembly line technique. (Click here to see rare pictures of the factory) There were teams of six men working on a single car at a time. Each team would produce two cars each day. Part of this team concept of production was to put the name of team members on a brass plate that would be placed on each car, instilling pride in the workers and providing incentive for them to do a good job. However, it proved too difficult to teach relatively inexperienced employees that many production steps. Although this costly team concept stretched out production time, it wasn't abandoned in favor of an assembly line until the spring of 1980.

Production of the 10,000 Roadsters was to be completed by August 1980. By May of that same year, production of the T-Bird was to gradually replace that of the Roadsters.

As Shay reached his 10,000-order limit in August 1979, his first cars finally rolled out the plant's door. Lots of owners had to wait a year between the original order and the delivery of their car.

Some owners said the doors didn't fit well on earlier models, rattled and just were a bad mold job. Doors and cosmetic parts were worked upon to fit better. Early wheels were also reportedly thin-spoked and sometimes out of round. This problem was also corrected by having better wheels made by a new supplier.

In late October 1979, the company was examining ways to improve production time. A new one-piece body and fender assembly design was expected to save 75% of the time then needed to construct the 23-piece body and fender assembly favored until that time. Each set of molds could produce 2 bodies per day.

In March 1980, the 1,000th Roadster came out of the factory. Letters were also sent to dealers announcing the T-Bird project.

In June 1980, the 2,000th Roadster was produced. By now, Shay Motors was the 6th largest auto manufacturer in the US, trailing by a "few" million units GM, Ford, Chrysler, AMC and VW.

In mid September 1980, Shay announced price hikes effective immediately in order to cover inflation and to maintain government standards. The Standard Model would now cost \$9,995, the Deluxe Model \$10,500 and the Super Deluxe \$11,900. He also added that he had just started to equip his cars with the 1981 Ford Fairmount four-cylinder engine and drivetrains in replacement of Pintos' which were used in

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# NAR Article

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earlier models and which had been discontinued by Ford. Side marker lights were also added to the tail lights. By that time, Shay had produced 3,400 Roadsters and start of production on the T-Bird was delayed until November. A Shay Thunderbird was one of the prizes awarded to 1980 Miss USA & 1980 Miss Universe Shawn Weatherly.

At the end of October 1980, Shay wrote to GM, Chrysler, AMC, VW dealers inviting them to join his 1,000 strong (Ford, Lincoln and Mercury) distribution network. He explained to them how much the car's mere presence in a showroom generated customer traffic and thousands of dollars of free publicity from local as well as national newspapers, magazines and television stations. He concluded his pitch by reporting to be the sixth largest automobile manufacturer in the US.

By mid-March 1982, faced with cash-flow problems and heavy interest payments on loans, Shay had to shut down operations in all locations. 310 workers were laid off. By then, the company was also beset with legal problems, including about 125 lawsuits filed in several states plus 14 counter-lawsuits including a \$50 million one against the Illinois Attorney General for libel. On March 29, 1982, Shay Motors filed for reorganization or sale under Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Act. In the Court papers, it was declared that 5,000 Roadsters and 200 T-Birds had been produced and delivered. Shay Motors reported having \$9.5 million in debts and almost \$8 million in assets. Sales had been highest in Michigan, Illinois, California, Florida, New-Jersey, New-York, Connecticut, Arizona, Oregon and Washington.

On July 6, 1982, Shay Motors filed for liquidation of its assets, negotiations with the Creditors' Committee having reached an impasse.

In April 1983, Camelot Motors Inc., doing business from a former warehouse in Marshall, Michigan, was authorized by a Federal Bankruptcy judge to purchase the tools, patents and other equipment of the defunct Shay Motors Corp. for \$2.4 million and to re-start the production of the Model As and T-Birds. These cars were to be sold from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Camelot planned to build 400 cars in its first year and no more than 2,000 cars per year afterwards. They beefed up the Model A's frame and added windshield defrosters. In June 1983, they sold the Roadster for \$11,765 retail (\$9,975 to dealers), the Pick-Up for \$12,495 retail (\$10,595 to dealers) and the T-Bird around \$19,000 retail (including a V-8, whereas Shay's T-Bird had only a 2.3 liter 4 cylinder). The Roadster's optional equipment list was shorter than in Shay's time, including only a rumble seat heater, automatic transmission, chrome spokes or entirely chrome wheels, radio, whitewalls and the rear trunk & rack. They were produced until 1986 and a phaeton model was eventually added to the line. After a short stay in Marshall, they relocated to the big town of Quincy, Michigan, in a larger building.

Thanks to Ed Pugh, we can show you this ad published on June 13, 1983, on page 18 of Automotive News and which read: "A lot of people thought I'd lost my mind! Maybe some still do. You see, I bought the inventory and assets of Shay Motors Corporation, formerly Model A and Model T Inc., a company that cost a lot of dealers a lot of money and goodwill. I bought it because I happen to believe that there's a large market for a quality replica car made by a reliable company. Because I intend to have both, I have already spent a great deal of time selecting the right team to maintain the highest standards of excellence. We're at work right now in our Marshall, Michigan, plant building Camelot Motors authentic replicas, the 1929 Model A Roadster and Pick-up, and the 1955 and 1957 T-Bird. Our strengths are engineering and production. What we need now are dealers who would like the opportunity to make money selling these

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# NAR Article

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popular cars. We build the cars to order on a no-deposit basis, guarantee the quality, provide a five-year or 50,000 mile warranty, deliver on schedule, provide advertising support and give you a territory without a licensing fee. In return, you display the cars, take the orders and provide service. If you feel as I do that there's a market for quality replicas, pick-up the phone and call us, or write for more information. We'll send you our full color brochures and price list. We'll even tell you about our special introductory price offer. Write or call today. Paul G. Housey, President."

Camelot Motors Inc. had been founded in March 1983 by Paul G. Housey in Indiana. Housey, a native of Detroit, attended Wayne State University until he went into the Air Force. After his discharge in 1965, he went to work at the Ford Motor Co. as a process engineer. Housey had also briefly been employed by Shay in 1979.

From 1982 to 1993, Speedway Motors of Lincoln, Nebraska, a firm specializing in kit cars since the late fifties was selling the Roadster as a kit under the name Modern A. Base price originally started at only \$4,495 (without upholstery, top and wheels), but was very soon raised to \$5,750 + \$1,500 for a set of spoke wheels. Please note that, at those prices, you had to find and provide your own Pinto and disassemble it in your backyard. Speedway furnished a 92 page assembly manual which contains step-by-step instructions on how to completely put together this car from the frame up. It is amply illustrated (see examples below) and lifts the fog of mystery on a lot of questions as to how our cars are built. I have examined everything in detail and, other than an improved box frame, I cannot find a single small difference between the Modern A and the Shay. Furthermore, this manual also contains a copy of the most precious wiring diagram (instrument & chassis harness). Finally, there was a 3 part article on the assembly of the Modern A in the March, May and July 1983 issues of "Kit Car, The Car Builder's Authority". (Information and documents generously contributed by Pat Johnson.)

From 1986 onwards, Regal Roadsters has been producing a T-Bird replica which, although it was designed from the ground up, might very well incorporate some components from the Shay and Camelot T'Birds since that company bought a lot of Camelot's parts after the latter went out of business.

Shays are sometimes confused with Glassics, another Model A replica built around the same time.

For his part, after WWII, Harry J. Shay worked for General Motors as an automotive engineer, where he developed mechanisms for which he held patents. In the early 70's, shoulder belts were in all the cars but were a nuisance since they had to be adjusted with a slide-buckle. Harry Shay had invented a type of seatbelt device that locked on impact, allowing the belts to retract or stretch at all other time, the way they do on today's cars. He died at age 70 on August 4, 1995, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit after suffering a stroke. He entered the hospital a day earlier, said his son Joseph. It was just his second hospitalization ever added the son, noting that his father continued recreational skiing into his 60s. He was proudest of his eight grand-children said the younger Shay. When someone would ask him about his cars, he'd say "Let me show you this article about my grand-son's sports accomplishments."

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

The Chris & Kathleen Koch AACA Library & Research Center has identified its oldest antique automotive artifact. The collection includes 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 which featured Lucius D. Copeland-designed steam cycles and steam carriages. Along with typewriters (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 some 3+ million individual automotive artifacts at its Hershey, PA headquarters, and 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 free and open to the public. Research requests are included with AACA membership (for the first two hours at no charge, per year), while additional photocopies, scans and reproductions are further 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.

See [www.aacalibrary.org](http://www.aacalibrary.org) for more information



# 2024 Calendar of Events

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

## May

- 4 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 4 **Marching Indians Annual Car Show** / East Limestone High School / 15641 East Limestone Road, Athens, AL / Entry Fee \$20 / 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 11 **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 18 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 19 **Rocket City Mustang Club Cruise-In** / Sonic / County Line Road, Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 23 **North Alabama Region of the AACA Monthly Meeting** / Museum of Information Explosion / 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.
- 25 **Point Mallard Auto Expo** / Point Mallard, Decatur, AL / Support Calhoun Athletics / Entry \$20 / 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / Contact (256) 227-4681

## June

- 1 **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Eurobrit Alabama Auto and Bike Expo 2023** / Dublin Park / Madison, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / North Alabama British Motoring Society open to British European cars
- 1 **Car, Motorcycle, and Tractor Show** / Jimmy Harris VFW Post 6837 / Benefits scholarships / 1441 Hwy 431, Boaz, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / Contact (256) 771-5964
- 1 **19th Annual Charity Car Show** / Hosted by Vets with Vettes / 7090 Cabela Drive, Huntsville, AL / Entry \$20 / Rain or Shine / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / Registration 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- 1 **Athens Downtown Square Cruise-In** / 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 2 **Fuel Fest** / Inside the gates of Orion Amphitheater / 701 Amphitheater Drive, Huntsville, AL / Entry \$20 / 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. / (256) 653-8715
- 5 **First Wednesday Car Meet** / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 8 **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 8 **MoPARs by the Lake** / Benefits Secret Meals for Hungry Children / 1544 Sportsman Lake Road, Cullman, AL 35055 / Entry day of Show \$30 / 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. / (256) 734-1064
- 8 **Bee Line Highway Classics and Cruisers 2nd Saturday Cruise-In** / Railroad Street, Hartselle, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 8 **20th Annual Cavalcade of Antique Cars 2023** / Hosted by Lawrence County Classics Car Club / Cars must be 1999 or older / Street Rods welcome / Meet at Tietgen's Superama Summertown, TN 9:30 a.m., then to Etheridge 10:00 a.m., then to Lawrenceburg 10:30 a.m., then to St. Joe First Baptist Church 11:00 a.m.

# 2024 Calendar of Events

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

- 8 **Day for Dads American Muscle Car Show** / Hosted by Huntsville Parks & Recreation / 2610 Clinton Avenue, Huntsville, AL 35805 / 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- 8 **10<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show** / St. Rebecca P.B. Church / 330 Grimwood Road, Hazel Green, AL / Entry \$20 / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 8 **American Legion Post 4 4th Annual Bike/Car Show** / 181 Reid Rd, Cullman AL / Entry \$15 / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / (256) 620-1334
- 8 **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show** / Children's Miracle Network / Walmart / 626 Olive Street, Cullman, AL / Entry \$20 / 9:00 a.m.
- 9 **Summerfest Antique Car Show** / Joint Local AACA Car Show / Stones River and Middle TN / Central Magnet School, Murfreesboro, TN / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / (256) 620-1334
- 10-14 **Hot Rod Power Tour 2024** / Begins Monday in Bowling Green, KY, Tuesday Nashville, TN, Wednesday Louisville, KY, Thursday Hebron, OH, and Friday goes to Indianapolis, IN
- 14 **NAR Display at Monark Grove Assisted Living** / 11260 County Line Rd, Madison, AL / 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- 15 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 15 **249th Army Birthday Celebration Cruise-In Car Show** / Redstone Gateway / Huntsville, AL / Entry \$10 / Register at [www.redstonemwr.com](http://www.redstonemwr.com) / 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 15 **Cruisin' In the Park** / Southern Wheels 'n Motion / South Jackson Civic Center / 100 S. Jackson Street, Tullahoma, TN / 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / (931) 581-4775
- 15 **Annual Marshall County Sheriff's Reserves Car Show** / Marshall County Park #1 / 19438 Hwy 431, Guntersville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / (256) 302-5667
- 16 **Rocket City Mustang Club Cruise-In** / Sonic / County Line Road, Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 22 **17th Annual Car Show/Swap Meet** / Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit / Monte Sano State Park / Huntsville, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. / Contact Brian Bailey / (256) 509-4785
- 23 **Legacy Crew Cars 'n Tacos** / Ay Chichuahua Mexican Restaurant / Priceville, AL / 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- 27 **North Alabama Region** / Quarterly Dinner-Out / Greenbrier BBQ / 6:00 p.m.
- 29 **37th Annual Helen Keller Festival Car & Truck Show** / Shoals Car & Truck Club / Downtown Tuscumbia, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. / Contact [billygriffith100@gmail.com](mailto:billygriffith100@gmail.com)
- 29 **8th Annual Huntsville June Fest** / Milton Frank Stadium / 2801 15th Avenue, Huntsville. AL / Entry \$20 / 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. / (256) 990-2606

# 2024 Calendar of Events

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

## July

- 3** **First Wednesday Car Meet** / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 6** **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 6** **Athens Downtown Square Cruise-In** / 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 13** **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 13** **Bee Line Highway Classics and Cruisers 2nd Saturday Cruise-In** / Railroad Street, Hartselle, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 20** **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 20** **Handy Festival Car & Truck Show** / McFarland Park, Florence, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. / Contact [billygriffith100@gmail.com](mailto:billygriffith100@gmail.com)
- 21** **Rocket City Mustang Club Cruise-In** / Sonic / County Line Road, Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 25** **North Alabama Region of the AACA Monthly Meeting** / Museum of Information Explosion / 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

## August

- 3** **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 3** **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Show Mopars on the Mountain** / TN Valley MOPAR Club / Monte Sano State Park / 5101 Nolen Ave., Huntsville, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. / [www.tvmoparclub.com](http://www.tvmoparclub.com) / (256) 655-3644
- 7** **First Wednesday Car Meet** / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 10** **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 10** **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocket City Octane Auto Show** / VBC South Hall / 700 Monroe St. Huntsville, AL / Pre-reg is \$40 per vehicle or \$45 day of show / 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / <https://www.vonbrauncenter.com/event/rocket-city-octane-auto-show-featuring-dennis-gage/6793/>
- 13** **Bee Line Highway Classics and Cruisers 2nd Saturday Cruise-In** / Railroad Street, Hartselle, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 17** **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 17** **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Shoals Area Mustang & All Ford Show & Shine** / McFarland Park, Florence, AL
- 18** **Rocket City Mustang Club Cruise-In** / Sonic / County Line Road, Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

# 2024 Calendar of Events

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

- 19 **Priceville's Annual Cruise-In** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / Entry \$20 / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. / (256) 355-5476
- 22 **North Alabama Region of the AACA Monthly Meeting** / Museum of Information Explosion / 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.
- 24 **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Autism Awareness Car Show** / Rogersville Park / Hwy 207, Rogersville, AL / 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 24 **Charity Car Show** / River Run Lions/Street Rod Garage / Guntersville, AL / Marshall County Park #1 / Entry \$25 / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. / (256) 677-9763 / [www.RiverRunCarShow.net](http://www.RiverRunCarShow.net)

## September

- 4 **First Wednesday Car Meet** / Village of Providence / Huntsville, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- 6-7 **68<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show** / Middle TN Region AACA / Red Boiling Springs, TN / (615) 308-0586 / <http://www.thethomashouse.com/> <http://midtennaaca.org/>
- 7 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 14 **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 14 **Bee Line Highway Classics and Cruisers 2nd Saturday Cruise-In** / Railroad Street, Hartselle, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 15 **Rocket City Mustang Club Cruise-In** / Sonic / County Line Road, Madison, AL / 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- 21 **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- 21 **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Car Show** / Hosted by Real Steel Garage / Ingalls Harbor Pavilion / 802 Wilson Street, Decatur, AL / Entry \$20 / 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / (256) 590-2177
- 26 **North Alabama Region** / Quarterly Dinner-Out / Las Trojas / 6:00 p.m.
- 28 **Faith and Fellowship 4th Annual Car Show** / 3602 Midland Road, Shelbyville, TN / Entry \$25 / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## October

- 5 **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 5 **24<sup>th</sup> Annual Car and Truck Show** / Ardmore Quarterback Club / John Barnes Ballpark / 30510 Ardmore Ridge Road, Ardmore, TN / 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. / (256) 614-5542 / <https://www.facebook.com/ardmorecarshow>
- 12 **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

# 2024 Calendar of Events

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

- 12** **Bee Line Highway Classics and Cruisers 2nd Saturday Cruise-In** / Railroad Street, Hartselle, AL / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 18-19** **Tennessee Valley Auto Fest Inaugural Car Show** / Hosted by HCFC / Wicks Family Field / Joe Davis Stadium / Huntsville, AL / Entry \$25 / 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 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.
- 23-26** **Southeastern Fall Nationals** / Sponsored by North Alabama Region AACA / (256) 653-4036 / davelrobertson44@gmail.com

## November

- 2** **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 2** **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Rods and Wheels Cruise-In** / Ditto Landing / Huntsville, AL / Entry \$20 / 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. / (256) 882-1057
- 9** **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 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.
- 21** **North Alabama Region of the AACA Monthly Meeting** / Museum of Information Explosion / 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL / 7:00 p.m.

## December

- 7** **Cars & Coffee** / MidCity / 5909 University Dr., Huntsville, AL 35806 / 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- 14** **Priceville Cars N' Coffee** / Morgan County Veteran's Memorial / 600 Hwy 67, Priceville, AL / 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- 21** **Horse Power Therapy Cars and Coffee** / Stovehouse / 3414 Governors Dr., Huntsville, AL 35805 / a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- TBD** **North Alabama Region of the AACA Monthly Meeting** / Quarterly Dinner-Out Meeting / Location TBD / 6:00 p.m.



# AACA 2024 National Shows and Tours Calendar

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

<https://aaca.org/aacanationalshowsandtourscalendar/>

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| June 9-13       | Eastern Divisional Tour / Fredericksburg, Virginia   |
| June 20-22      | Eastern Spring Nationals / Saratoga, New York        |
| July 10-13      | Western Divisional Tour / Big Horn Mountain, Wyoming |
| September 12-14 | Western Fall Nationals / Loveland, Colorado          |
| September 22-27 | Revival AAA Glidden Tour® / Fairfield, Pennsylvania  |
| October 8-11    | Eastern Fall Nationals / Hershey, Pennsylvania       |
| October 23-26   | Southeastern Fall Nationals / Huntsville, Alabama    |





# 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](http://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>