

Spoke



Folks

Antique Automobile Club of America  North Alabama Region



Saint Patrick / 1931 Willys 6 Model 97 Sport Roadster / Ed Hanish



President's Message

Bob Ferenc *President*

Greetings to all.

Well, it's finally here. The sunny and warm weather, the grass is turning green, the birds are out, (my wife is a hummingbird fanatic) and hopefully everyone has their ride ready to show and go.

Car show and cruise-in season has officially started with the number of events growing each week. A few days ago, I spoke with a former car club member in New York (Buffalo area) and he told me they are still 6 weeks away from their car season starting. Hearing that makes me more appreciative of where we live and having the start of early opportunities for car enjoyment in our area.

Last week, I had a chance to reflect on the difference between car clubs in Buffalo NY, here and there are not many differences. The biggest is the weather and the number of weeks to cruise and show. The interest and dedication of car ownership, helping others, and preserving the automobile remains the same, no matter where you go. We do have a great club, with great members, and this is something we should support, be proud of and partake in.

March was a great month for NAR. We had the St Patrick's day parade where NAR played a very big part. The Willis Johnson Car Barn tour was a resounding success. All I can say is "WOW". If you missed this then please check out the pictures and videos posted on the NAR Facebook page. Last, we had our first dinner meeting of the year at Phil Sandoval's where we had a wonderful meal, great conversation, and trivia with prizes to the winners.


We are rapidly moving forward with preparations for our NAR Annual Car Show in October. We still need volunteers for parking (6-8 people). Clean up afterwards, registration, membership table and merchandise help are needed. Vendor ads. We need to sell ads and remember if you sell \$75 of ads or more, your entrance fee to the show is paid. Please consider volunteering for one of these important roles and others to help ensure the success of our show. Whether you wish to volunteer willingly or be "voluntold," please don't hesitate to inform Dave, Bob or Ana. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated.

One of the clubs' highlights is our Memorial Day picnic on May 25, 2026, at the home of Wayne & Kim Scites, 1277 Ready Section Road, Hazel Green from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. This is an absolutely great time. (more details to follow) And on May 28, 2026, at 6:30p.m. for the NAR Monthly Meeting at the Signals Museum in Huntsville, AL

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

Lastly, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support, attendance, and resilience in overcoming challenges to participate in our club events.

Drive safe, the open road awaits

Bob 

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[facebook.com/groups/naraaca](https://www.facebook.com/groups/naraaca)

<https://nar-aaca.org>

Spoke Folks

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

President	Bob Ferenc
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	Chuck Nickey
	Jeff Slagle

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North Alabama Region



NAR Information

Member Milestones

May Birthdays

- 6 Natalie Doumar
- 7 Jim Charette
- 12 Margaret Darnell
- 1 Jacqui Moore
- 16 Keith Kizer
- 17 Nell Owen
- 18 Claire Catanese
- 18 Lynn Nickey
- 25 Sherry Lowrey
- 27 Ronnie Chesser
- 30 Laurie Lawrence

May Anniversaries

- 12 Jonathan and Natalie Doumar / 8 in 2026
- 25 Dave and Dena Robertson / 41 in 2026
- 25 Michael and Ellen Coleman / 52 in 2026
- 28 Michael and Margaret Darnell / 38 in 2026
- 28 Randy and Nell Owen / 49 in 2026
- 31 Ed and Laurie Lawrence / 29 in 2026

June Birthdays

- 6 Mike O'Halloran
- 8 Carolyn Miller
- 10 Bob Vaughan
- 17 Terry Johnson
- 19 Marcia Snellen
- 25 Tom Beam

June Anniversaries

- 4 Dan and Susan Wachtel / 15 in 2026
- 8 M. D. and Judy Smith / 65 in 2026
- 11 Dave and Fran Baswell
- 19 Chuck and Lynn Nickey / 50 in 2026
- 28 Gerald and Teri Moore / 40 in 2026

Members Health and Concerns

Randy Owen recently had several cardio tests and they found part of his left carotid artery 95% blocked. He had surgery on Tuesday, 14 April 2026 at Huntsville Hospital. Randy stayed overnight in ICU and then went home for recovery.

Please keep Randy and Nell in your thought and prayers.

If you desire, a card can be sent to:

Randy Owen
153 Brentwood Lane
Madison, AL 35758

NAR Information

Afternoon Gathering

Date: Tuesday, 5 May 2026
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Harold and Rosanna Caneer Home
1429 Capshaw Road
Madison, AL 35757

This will be a simple afternoon gathering at the Caneer's house. Snacks will be provided. Please bring your own drinks and chairs.

Car Display

Date: Sunday, 17 May 2026
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Location: Merrill Gardens Retirement Home
121 Brookridge Drive
Madison, AL 35758

This will be NAR's first showing at Merrill Gardens. They have reserved a spot for us right in front and snacks and drinks will be provided.

Memorial Day Picnic

Date: Monday, 25 May 2026
Time: 12:00 p.m. (Noon) to 4:00 p.m. / Eating begins at 12:30 p.m.
Location: Wayne and Kim Scites home
1277 Ready Section Road
Hazel Green, AL 35759

Please RSVP. Call or text Wayne at (256) 529-9025, or email at watchwayne@yahoo.com

Food provided courtesy of Ole' Dad's BBQ in Hazel Green:

- BBQ Pork and Chicken
- Baked Beans
- Green Beans
- Potato Salad
- Cole Slaw
- Macaroni and Cheese

Please bring something to share – side dishes, soft drinks, desserts, etc.
Bring a chair in case we run out.
Drive your antique car.

NAR Information

Monthly Meeting Drink and Snack Recognition

NAR wishes to thank all the volunteers who graciously provide our monthly meeting drink and snack refreshments.

Drinks

January	Al & Ana Maria Clare-Emmi
February	Joel Mason
April	Dave Hoha
May	Chuck & Lynn Nickey
July	Bob & Linda Weidman
August	Dave & Dena Robertson
October	Kelly Entz
November	Susan Wachtel

Snacks

January	Bob & Laurie Ferenc
February	Dave & Dena Robertson
April	Kelly Entz
May	Jerry Carrigan
July	Bob & Linda Weidman
August	Dylan & Tori Arnold
October	Al & Ana Maria Clare-Emmi
November	

Huntsville's 2026 Forth of July Parade

As part of the 2026 America 250th anniversary celebrations, Huntsville will host a "Parade of the Eras" on July 4, 2026, as part of a larger, day-long celebration.

James Gossett, Parks and Recreation Director has asked NAR to provide automobiles that relate to each era of Huntsville's existence. More parade details will follow.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Old Business

- Welcome, Pledge; Visitors introduced themselves & their cars
- Secretary report voted on and approved
- Treasurer's report voted on and approved
- Audit Report by Wayne Scites
- NAR Budget
- Car show Budget – Details after the break
- Details provided on new on-line ordering website
- Friendly reminder on dues
- Club gear: Nametags, Shirts, Caps, Jackets, etc.
- NAR-Show your ride (Plymouth Road Runners and Tri-Five Chevy
- 2025 Award of Master Webmaster – Dave Dunlap
- \$20 NAR dues; \$45 AACA dues. Please pay if you haven't already

New Business

- Video Director Needed
- St. Patrick's Parade – March 14th
- Upcoming Local NAR, AACA and Other Car Activities
- City of Huntsville 4th of July Parade – 250th Anniversary of America
- First Dinner Meeting of 2026 – Phil Sandoval's: March 26th

Tonight's Presentation – Dave Robertson: October 24th Car Show at Wicks Family Field

Door prizes awarded

Snacks provided by Dave & Dena Robertson

Drinks provided by Joel Mason

Meeting adjourned

Activities

49th Huntsville St. Patrick's Day Parade

17 March 2026

Links below to parade photos.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/hrrfw5mo7cftp5B96>

<https://jeffwhitephotographer.pixieset.com/stpatricksdayparadehsv2026/>



Activities

Willis Johnson Collection, Franklin, TN

21 March 2026



Activities

Sparkman High School Car Show

18 April 2026



NAR Merchandise

Quantities and sizes are limited so order today! Please bring exact cash amount.

To place an order, please call or text Laurie Ferenc at (716) 380-0795. Laurie will bring your purchased items to the NAR monthly meeting after the date of purchase.

(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(4)



(4)



(5)



(1) Magnetic Signs	\$11.25 / (2) \$19.00	Embroidered Long Sleeve T-Shirt	\$18.75
(2) Cap	\$15.00	Embroidered Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$15.00
(2) Visor	\$14.00	Men's Embroidered Cotton Polo	\$22.50
(3) Jackets / S, M, L, XL	\$50.00	Men's Embroidered Poly Polo	\$18.75
(3) Jackets / 2X, 3X	\$54.00	Ladies Embroidered Cotton Polo	\$16.50
(4) Printed T-Shirt / S, M, L, XL	\$15.00	Ladies Embroidered Poly Polo	\$16.50
(4) Printed T-Shirt / XXL, XXXL	\$16.50	Printed Polo / S,M,L,XL	\$18.75
(5) Gray Rocket Polo	\$18.75	Printed Polo / XXL, XXXL	\$21.00
Tote Bags	\$1.00	Dated Rocket Polos	\$11.25

Show Your Ride

1969 Chevrolet Camaro LS3



Owners: **Mike and Carol Greico**

- BTR stage 1 cam 550 RWHP
- 500 Torque estimated
- Holley mid mount serpentine belt system
- Griffin aluminum radiator
- Redhead quick ratio steering box
- Vintage Air
- Delta-Pag brushless dual fan system
- 6L80E GM Transmission
- Speartech LS3 6L80E wire harness
- Lokar shifter with manual mode
- Viking dual adjustable coil over front
- 5 leaf rear leaf springs with RCR racing shocks
- 12 bolt GM Posi with 3.73 gears
- Subframe connectors
- Dakota digital gauges including custom made clock by Dakota
- Power windows and power top
- Custom auto sound and custom speaker box
- Tilt steering wheel
- Garnet red
- Vision 141 legend C wheels 15x7 with Mickey Thompson tires
- Flow master 40 muffler
- Aluminum drive shaft
- Lots of the work done by Pettie Performance on Nick Davis Road

1971 Plymouth Duster



Owners: **Harry and Debi Trumbull**

- Built on 23 February 1971
- Dodge main factory, Hamtramck, Michigan
- Originally built as a basic model with 318 V8, standard cloth bench seat, and an AM radio
- It was last restored in 2020 when its Rallye Red paint was replaced with 1999 MOPAR Solar Yellow, front bucket seats, and a 360 V8 from a 1978 Dodge Lil Red Express
- Since August 2018 15 inch wheels and tires were added, along with a 8 ¾ inch rear end
- It was given a new wiring harness, new electronic dash instruments, 4 wheel power disk brakes, a vintage air heating and A/C system and multiple other minor upgrades and changes

Vintage Car Quiz

1. What does NASCAR stand for?
2. What type of automobile did the comedian Jack Benny own?
3. Which US city is considered the capital of the auto industry?
4. In the Green Hornet television series, what was the name of the 1966 Chrysler Crown Imperial?
5. Who helped to make cars safer with his 1965 best-seller Unsafe at Any Speed? Ralph Nader
6. Which car company sponsored Dinah Shore's variety show on TV in the 1950s and 1960s?
7. What was the first official White House car?
8. Who opened the first drive-in gas station?
9. Which automobile was the infamous John Dillinger's favorite car to steal?
10. Where was the world's first three-color traffic light installed?
11. What car was reportedly designed on the back of a Northwest Airlines air sickness bag and released on April Fool's Day 1970?
12. What is the Spirit of Ecstasy?
13. What did the Oldsmobile designation 442 stand for?
14. What's the only car to appear simultaneously on the covers of Time and Newsweek?
15. Who wrote to Henry Ford, "I have drove Fords exclusively when I could get away with one. It has got every other car skinned, and even if my business hasn't been strictly legal it don't hurt anything to tell you what a fine car you got in the V-8."?

 [Quiz answers on page 16](#)

The Fulmer's 1928 Ford, Business Coupe / 1969 NAR Antiquarian News

Herb Fulmer became interested in antique automobiles in July 1965 as a result of a business venture. The story is Herb and another well known member of our club located, bought, and sold a 1924 Model "T" once to a friend. Herb said before they loaded the model "T" on the trailer for the trip to back Huntsville from east central Alabama, he had no special interest in antique cars other than to turn a buck, as the expression goes. On the trip to Huntsville as Herb followed the trailer load of business the bug began to bite on him. By the time they had returned to Huntsville, Herb had developed the desire to own and restore a car.

Some 1 ½ years after the model "T" deal, Herb bought an incomplete model "A" for \$80.00 near Sylacauga, Alabama and hauled it back to Huntsville on a 2-ton truck. It was learned from a friend that a ½-ton truck could have carried the car, but to carry the car and attached rust a 2-ton truck was required. Herb learned from his "friends" (after the restoration was progressing upward) that in their opinion this was an impossible restoration, but no one would tell him since Herb was working to such a close restoration schedule. He had plans to complete the task in 6 months at a cost of \$750.00. Now, he admits this estimate was a bit low.

When the car was in Huntsville 24 hours, it was already disassembled and ready for sand-blasting. As the parts were inventoried, those missing just were not there. At this time Herb learned that he didn't quite have all of a car. The top parts were located in a junk yard in South Carolina. In about 6 months the chassis was about completed, and work was progressing on the remainder of the car.

It was learned that one should never stack newly painted wheels with quilts between them for a long period of time. They will stick together and have to be painstakingly redone. During Christmas and New Year's holidays in 1967 the upholstery was completed. Herb has a good story about driving the car in sub-zero weather to Mr. Cross' house where the upholstery job was done. From here on time was devoted to the minute details that help make a prize winner. The restoration was completed in about 2½ years.

In 1967 the newly restored model "A" left Huntsville on its way to Gatlinburg Tennessee. Herb knows now that a 40 year old radiator should be boiled out before it is reliable. It boiled over several times during the trip, creating quite a bit of extra work to prepare for the judging. A companion on the trip said he got 20 to 30 miles to a flush. After all was said and done the model "A" won 1st place in its class. During this trip into the Smokey Mountains, surely some record must have been set. Due to a gas shortage (out of gas) and the inability to drain any from a 1928 Chevy Touring, Herb coasted the car from Clingmans Dome to within ½ mile of a service station in Gatlinburg, a total of 18 miles.

Mr. Fulmer wishes to thank all the people that helped him accomplish this task he now knows was impossible. Without your help he said I couldn't have done it. Sincerely he thanks you.

Congratulations on a beautiful job.

7 Steps to Get Your Classic Car Ready for Spring

Spring has sprung! That means it's time to start thinking about getting your classic cars and trucks ready for the season.

Now don't go running for the garage to fire up those engines just yet. Our cars usually sit for about five months. And that's a lot of time for bad things to happen. After not starting it, there's a list you should check before turning over the engine and another one before heading down the road.

Follow our maintenance checklist to ensure your ride is running right.

Step 1: Fluids and Hoses

- Check the oil. Is it at the proper level? How does the quality of the oil look? It should be a golden honey color. If it's milky looking you have moisture; if it's black, it's due to be changed.
- Check the antifreeze. Make sure the radiator is full.
- Check and adjust belts and hoses. Check the belts for dry rot and wear. Adjust them to the proper tension. Hoses should be checked for dry rot and leaking. Make sure all clamps are tight on the radiator and heater hoses. Also, check the thermostat housing and heater hose fitting into the intake manifold and water pump.

Step 2: Electric

- Check all the wiring in the engine compartment. Old wiring can become brittle and break or corrode.
- Because it's a fire waiting to happen, secure any loose wiring, making sure it stays clear of the exhaust and any sharp edges on the frame or body; zip ties and electrical tape work well for this.
- Check the battery water level and fill to the required level with distilled water if necessary. Check the battery terminals and clean them if they need it. Make sure the battery is fully charged and ready.

Step 3: The Fuel System

- Check all fuel lines and hoses leading from the tank to the carburetor or throttle body. Look for leaks, corrosion, and dry rotting. Any signs of fuel-hose dry rot should be replaced immediately.
- Next, check the throttle linkage to make sure it's moving freely and not binding up. This is a good time to clean the carburetor or throttle body if you feel it's needed. Make sure you have a fresh tank of gas or gas that was treated with stabilizer before it was put away for the winter.

Continued

7 Steps to Get Your Classic Car Ready for Spring

Step 4: Start 'Er Up, but don't go anywhere

- It's time to start your car or truck. You want to get the car up to normal operating temperature, high enough for the thermostat to open and get hot antifreeze flowing through the radiator and heater core.
- Once you've warmed the car up, now would be a good time to check the transmission level if you have an automatic transmission and add fluid if needed.
- Re-check all hoses and lines to make sure there's no leaking.
- Check the differential fluid and add fluid if necessary.

Step 5: Tires and Chassis

- What shape are your tires in? Look for dry rotting, uneven wear, and check for proper air pressure. Do the tires need to be rotated?
- Suspension and steering can be checked somewhat before driving. You will want to lube the chassis, check for play in the steering wheel that goes beyond what's normal.
- Finally, make sure all lug nuts are torqued to spec.

Step 6: Check the Brakes

- For disc brakes, check the thickness of the brake pads.
- Most drum brakes are self-adjusting and adjust when you hit the brakes while going in reverse.
- Check for brake fluid leaks at all four wheels and check each brake line all the way up to the master cylinder.
- Check the brake pedal to make sure it feels normal. You don't want it to be too spongy or so stiff it barely moves. Either extreme indicates you have a brake problem.

Step 7: The Test Drive

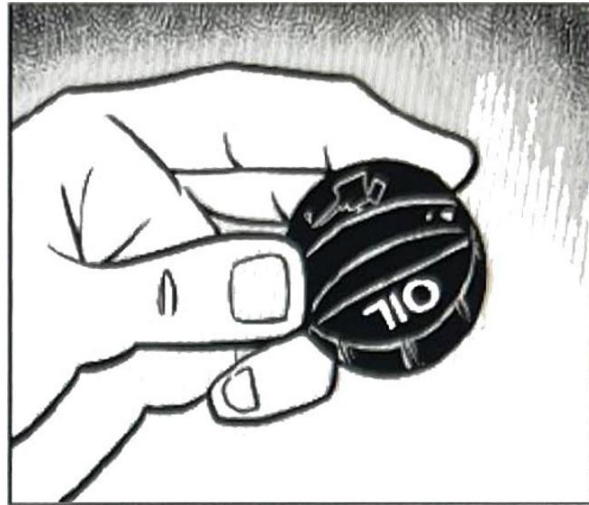
You're ready to hit the road for a test drive. If everything checks out, drive it home, clean it up, and get ready to have a great time all season long.

AACA 2026 National Calendar

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

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

May 28-30	Eastern Spring Nationals – Indiana, PA
Jun 11-13	Southeastern Fall Nationals – Oak Ridge, TN
Jun 15-19	Sentimental Tour – Mechanicsburg, PA
Jul 22-26	Central Spring Nationals – Green Bay, WI
Aug 5-8	Southeastern Divisional Tour – Flat Rock, NC
Aug 19-22	Annual Grand Nationals / Zenith Awards – Allentown, PA
Sept 9-14	Founders Tour (1932-2001) – Williamsburg, VA
Sept 12-26	Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943) – Dover, DE
Oct 6-9	Eastern Fall Nationals – Hershey, PA



Quiz Answers

1. National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing
2. 1923 Maxwell
3. Detroit, MI
4. Black Beauty
5. Ralph Nader
6. Chevrolet
7. 1909 White Steamer (made in Ohio where President Taft was from)
8. Gulf opened it in Pittsburgh, PA in 1913
9. 1933 Hudson Essex Terraplane 8
10. Detroit, MI in 1919
11. 1970 Gremlin
12. The official name of the mascot on the Rolls-Royce.
13. 4-barrel carburetor, 4-speed transmission, and dual exhaust
14. The Ford Mustang
15. Clyde Barrow of Bonnie and Clyde in 1934



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, Bob Ferenc (716) 380-0795
or visit the club website at <https://nar-aaca.org>