

August
2008

Traveling in
the Past
and Present



Next Meeting
Aug 12th, 2008

Old Auto Museum
Dinner 6:00 pm
General Meeting 6:45 pm

Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

New Activities? Some Good Ideas By Terry Bond AACA National Director

Being able to talk with members of AACA's regions and chapters is exciting! There are so many out there having an absolute blast enjoying the old car hobby in many different ways. It is so interesting learning what you do for fun, and it helps greatly when someone seeks ideas for new and different kinds of activities. Here are a few different ways you can enjoy the old car hobby – some of them you can even enjoy in-doors during the winter!

Have a "hobby night" during one of your regular club meetings. Set up some tables and allow members to bring in and display their "other hobbies." It need not be car related of course. You'll be surprised at what turns up! Whether it is collecting something, making something, or doing something, there is unbelievable variety of interest among us and sharing is what it's all about!

On a more "automotive" theme, how about a series of "tech sessions"? These can include visits to member's garages or workshops and can be set up with demonstrations on using various pieces of shop equipment to showing restoration and maintenance techniques. One club we belong to even has an informal session where members can just come and "tinker" with their cars. There are usually some small projects that everyone can enjoy learning from. This year, we got to see carbs tuned, weather stripping replaced, and a troublesome speedometer cable repaired. Along the way, gallons of coffee, dozens of donuts, and a whole bunch of BBQ and soft

drinks were consumed.

People were free to come and go as they pleased, making it a fun and mostly unstructured event. It was a good excuse to clean the garage too!

One club that I am familiar with has a standing date monthly for anyone who wishes to gather at a local restaurant for a brunch. It's a Sunday after church affair and anyone is welcome. On a nice day, there can be from two to a dozen antique cars in the parking lot. People literally come and go all day. It's very informal and a fun chance to get together. A positive spin-off has been the ability to attract new members. It is quickly becoming known as the gathering place for the antique car club, and new members can join on the spot – and, they do!

Does your town have one of those fantastic Christmas light displays? An evening in the old cars touring those lights is a lot of fun. Bundle up if necessary, or put the top down and crank up the heater if you wish. These things have become a fun event for participants and spectators alike. This year, we met early at a local restaurant. The folks who put on the light display really look forward to this event and work hard to keep us all together. Spectators really enjoy seeing all the old cars going through the beautiful lights. Sort of like a special parade, just for us!

There are a lot of possibilities, and if you are looking for ideas for new and different kinds of activities, just ask!

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Richard Alcott
- 4 Peggy O'Rourke
- 5 Phil Palmer
- 13 Ray Davis
- 14 Bob Grimes
- 16 Martha Ward
- 17 Dan Baxter
- 18 Ginny Densmore
- 29 Tom Link

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



TALLAHASSEE REGION, AACA
MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2008
Tallahassee Antique Car Museum (Old Location)

There were approximately 61 members and three guests in attendance. This may be a record!

Opening Prayer - Norm Madsen

Welcome - Norm Madsen greeted everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He welcomed and introduced our guests, Richard and Karen Long and Wally Nesbitt. Both the Longs and Wally and his wife, Beatrice have joined our club. A warm welcome to them.

50/50 Drawing -

Nancy Thompson was the lucky winner!

Committee Reports

Treasurer - Andy Mohney

Andy gave the report. Details are available from Andy or Norm.

Sunshine - Shirley Moore & Sharon Palmer

Continue to remember Jay Mottice and Tom Link. In addition, remember Roy West who also needs our prayers. As always, we need to keep all of our members who have considerations in our prayers and make contact with them.

Long & Short Tours - Norm Madsen

Ed Shuler has resigned as Tour Committee Chair due to other commitments. A new Chair will be sought.

Announcements & Reports - Norm Madsen

1. Neal Davis reported that the 2008 Tallahassee Region Soap Box Derby was held on June 14, 2008 with 43 kids participating. Ten of which will be going to Akron, Ohio in two weeks. There will be 20 local races held next year! He described the "Super Kids" cars constructed for handicapped youngsters. This activity was well received and enjoyed by all.
2. There was a Fathers Day Car Show at Celebration Baptist Church on June 15, 2008. It was well attended with approximately 75-80 cars. Several club members attended as well.
3. On June 21, 2008 our Car Show at the Monticello Watermelon Festival was a success. There were 18 parade participants, 53 show registrations and three trophies awarded. The McCollum's 1965 Austin Healy 3000 was Best Original or Restored. There were 6 raffle prizes and \$332 cash won.

Old Business/New Business

An Executive Board meeting will be held immediately after the meeting to discuss some items of business.

Coming Events

1. Next Cruise-In will be on Saturday, August 02, 2008 at the Sonic on North Monroe by Hardee's. Begins around 5:00 PM.
2. Breakfast at the Cracker Barrel the Friday after each regular meeting date beginning at 8:30 A.M. This month it will be on July 11th.
3. Lunch every Friday around noon at the Quincy Gulf Station. Hot Dogs will be available this Friday.



4. On Saturday, July 12, 2008, the "Ernie Sims Charity Car Show" will be held at the new Tallahassee Antique Auto Museum". It will be judged show with six classes. Registration fee will be charged.

5. See our website calendar for more events. Click on "Club Calendar" www.local.aaca.org/traaca Also, visit the National website for National AACA activities www.aaca.org.

Program - Bill Thompson

Bill showed a DVD of the "Los Angeles Driving Museum". This museum has many cars most of which have a rich history. In addition, the cars are made available to be driven which is very unusual! Very interesting DVD and the museum has a good variety of interesting automobiles.

Next Meeting & Location

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday August 12, 2008 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Old Museum.

Respectively submitted - John Schanbacher, Secretary

TRAACA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Regular Meeting Place

July 08, 2008

Present:

John Schanbacher

Norm Madsen

Bob Love

Bill O'Rourke

Ed Shuler

Richard Duley

J.C. O'Steen

In addition, the following members were asked to attend:

Bobby Hollingsworth

Craig McCollum

Bill Brundydge

Bill Thompson

The following items were discussed and will be presented to the Club as information at the August, 2008 meeting:

At the August 12, 2008 meeting, Mr. Sherman Carey of the National AACA will speak about AACA Programs, National membership, library, museum and other AACA availabilities. Norm suggested the club invite him to arrive earlier on that day for lunch and tour of the Tallahassee Antique Auto Museum (paid for by the club). The Board agreed. Due to Mr. Carey's scheduled attendance at the August meeting, approval after the fact from the club will have to be delayed until the September meeting!

The Tour committee (long & short) has been reformed as follows:

Bill O'Rourke - Chair

Bill Brundydge

Ed Shuler

Bobby Hollingsworth

A nominating committee has been formed for 2009 officers as follows:

John Schanbacher - Chair

Bobby Hollingsworth

Richard Duley

Bob Love

Norm Madsen

To begin the process, an E-Mail will be sent to all members to solicit nominations.

Respectively submitted,

John Schanbacher, secretary

1947 Hudson Commodore Eight Convertible Brougham Coupe



I purchased this car in 1969 from Carl B. Horton of Indianapolis, Indiana. Carl B. Horton was the Founder and President of the T.H.E. (Terraplane Hudson Essex) - Greater Super Six Club of Indianapolis, Indiana. I was 14 when I joined the T.H.E. club. The Horton's sponsored many National Hudson Club meets at the Indianapolis 500 Speedway. In 1968 the family took me to the National meet with our 1946 Hudson pickup. That was when I found the 1947 convertible in Carl's garage. That also was when I started my quest to buy the car. Carl had found the car on a used car lot in a small town in Indiana. He brought it home and stored it for many years. After months of persistent persuasion by me (monthly letters begging), he finally agreed to sell me the car.



Me at age 16

After we agreed on the price (\$650.00), I then had to find a way to pay for it. Being a kid of 16, my folks answer to my dream car purchase was, "If you want if bad enough, you will find a way to pay for it, we just don't have the money - so go get a summer job Jim!". So off I went to work at George's Citgo service station in downtown Miami. I changed flat tires, oil, greased cars, drove the stations wrecker truck on calls, jump starts and emergency tow. I learned a lot that summer about long days of hard work. It was also a lot of fun. I pumped gas for all the customers; no self service like today. There was one customer

I remember, an old Cuban guy in an old 53 Chevy, I would check his oil, water and tire pressure every time he came in and he always gave me a hand made Cuban cigar for my tip (he worked in a little cigar factory on Flagler St). I raised the money for the car, so off to Indiana to get my dream car.. WOW!

I drove the car from Indiana to Miami with the help of my brother Thomas, and we had many adventures on the way (our first trip away from home on our own).

When we went to pick up the convertible Carl and Virginia Horton invited us to stay with them. While Carl was getting the Hudson ready for our trip back home his wife Virginia took us to her families farm about 50 miles away. Her parents were in their late 80's or early 90's. The farm house was were Virginia was born. They had a pot belly stove for heat, no running water but did have pitcher pump out back for water and no bathroom inside but did have a outhouse down the hill. They did have electricity and had just recently gotten a phone. We went fishing in the creek behind the farm and picked fresh vegetables from their beautiful garden. We were so comfortable there that we ended up staying for a week - we didn't want to leave. Meanwhile, our parents in Miami were worried because we forgot to call home, and they were calling all the sheriffs to look for us or asking if they had seen us. After a week's work on the car, Carl gave us the OK to start the trip home.

The trip took us through two lane roads (no interstate's were completed then) and very steep mountains near Lexington, Kentucky. Struggling to climb the mountain roads, the Hudson was running very hot being that it was in July. Unknowingly a exhaust pipe leak next to the master cylinder had boiled all of the brake fluid out and when we started to go down the mountain we suddenly realized we had no brakes to slow down on this two lane winding road with 18 wheelers creeping

along. I think we saw our lives pass in front of our eyes several times as we passed slower vehicles with our out of control down hill run in our Hudson with no brakes. Finally realizing we would soon meet our demise if we did not stop this car we frantically tried everything we could to slow down the car, first the emergency brake which immediately failed, then down shifting to very low gear only to find out when in overdrive Hudsons are in free wheeling mode - so it was like neutral. I tried to disengage the overdrive but that wouldn't work while the car is in motion so as a last ditch effort I shut off the engine and jammed the gear shift lever in reverse at nearly 60mph and slowly let the clutch out as all hell broke loose. The sound from under the hood was unbelievable - that old Hudson engine was spinning backwards and the rear wheels starting skidding on the pavement as a hair pin turn approached. Holding on for dear life (with the top down) our Hudson came to a screeching halt in the middle of the road facing the wrong way in a cloud of smoke. It seems that when the engine spun violently in the wrong direction it somehow threw oil out the breather pipe and was in a cloud of oil vapors from the hot engine, but we were stopped and survived. We managed to take a breather and gather our senses and soon we coasted down the mountain to a service station where we refilled the brakes with fluid, refilled the oil in the engine and changed the spark plugs before continuing our trip home. Eventually we reached Georgia where we saw a roadside stand selling bushel baskets of Georgia peaches. Having not eaten all day they really looked good so we decided to pull over and buy some. Pulling off the road to the peach stand we jumped out of the car to make our purchase leaving the Hudson running as she was extremely hard to start in the hot weather with that old six volt battery. Suddenly I heard horns blasting behind me, turning around to see what the fuss was I realized the Hudson had started to roll back on to the road crossing the traffic. Luckily



I was a sixteen year old kid cause I ran as hard as I could and managed to take a flying leap into that Hudson just before she rolled into the on-coming traffic. Today I would surely have had a heart attack. Continuing on we stopped for gas in a little town near Valdosta, Georgia and the engine stalled out and just wouldn't start. It was one of those country store gas stations with rocking chairs on the front porch and the attendant was eager to help us get going again. So he volunteered to give us a push start since the six volt wouldn't turn over. We got in the Hudson and here comes the guy with an old Ford Falcon with a tire tied to the front bumper. He gently nudged us out of the station and started to push us down the road. I got up to about 20mph and I let the clutch out and the Hudson started spinning but wouldn't fire. I flagged to keep on pushing so he stepped on the gas and was pushing the hell out of my Hudson - it seemed like a half a mile down the road and then the Hudson start to go. As the Hudson took off on its own power there was an unbelievable clanking behind us and a cloud of smoke. I didn't realize where the smoke was coming from until we finally got some distance away from the poor Falcon. Seems the Falcon shot a connecting rod through the side of its block. I guess he is going to think twice before offering to push-start anyone again. We are still beholding to that guy for helping us out. The rest of our trip was uneventful and we made it home in our beautiful Hudson convertible. Our first trip away from home as young kids.

I used the car to go back and forth from school during my senior year. I was in the school orchestra and I used the Hudson to haul string basses and tuba's and trombone's to many concerts around Miami and with the top down we could get a lot of gear in that old car. The car was then stored while I went to college. I lost my brother Thomas Scott Long in 1973, for me it was a very tough time. It was not easy for me to work on the car or even drive it. Our adventures and just ordinary days spent together with the car kept me from doing much with it for a long while. Many years later I was able to spend time on the car again. I first rebuilt the engine, transmission, clutch and brakes, and was slowly restoring as needed and as money allowed.



Under restoration during the 80's.

I have used the car mostly in shows at local AACA, and HET region meets. The car was also part of a

Showtime movie "The Trade Off" starring Adam Baldwin and Theresa Russell. All I can say now is that it truly is a great part of my life having my Hudson.

I wouldn't trade it for anything..



At a Palatka show in the mid 90's.



At the state park in Palatka last year.

James E. H. Long
 Owner since 1969
 132 Lake Street
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jehlong@bellsouth.net

This is what happens when a car nut, train nut, antique radio nut is turned loose in a living room. I hope my marriage is safe after all this. What do you think - is it too tacky? - Ed Shuler



Before and After.....



After I restored my 1947 Farmall A tractor I assembled the remaining parts and parked it near our front gate as "yard art". Together they are the "before and after" views since they share half the parts.

Craig and Belle Mccollum
mccollumb@earthlink.net

Notes from the Editor's Desk

I know it's a bit early, but we have to start thinking of a slate of officers for next year. As stated in the minutes of the last Executive Board Meeting (page 3), a nominating committee has been formed. Let them know your thoughts and don't be shy about volunteering your time and energy. The club needs the talents and abilities that I know is out there.

If you would like to try your hand at publishing, I would like to see someone else take over the Chassee. It's been five years now and I'm ready to hand over the reins to another club member. Think about it, please.

Deadlines. The job of putting out a newsletter incurs a deadline if I am to try to maintain a regular schedule of publication. I have set the first of each month as my publish date which means as a minimum, several evenings of editing, cutting & pasting and research along with the need to prod and push contributors. So, please, get your articles, etc. to me no later than the 25th of each month (without me having to beg!). It would make my job a lot easier.

Bob

TRAACA Editor and Webmaster



Saturday September 27, 2008 9:00am – 2:30pm

North Florida Fairgrounds

Registration: \$20.00

For information call Dan Stallings (229) 377-0777 or

E-mail Marzuqclassics@aol.com

An idea from a new Member!

Are you interested in doing something more with your collector or classic car?

I am a fellow gear head, enthusiast, and collector. And I have a strong longing to organize a local rally event for the car guys in this area.

Long term, my vision is for a TSD, (time speed and distance) event in the vain of the Mille Miglia's that are run in Europe and some parts of the US. Perhaps Tallahassee to Talladega, with multiple stops in between, including track events.

However, to get things going in the short term, I am considering a small rally event this fall. I am thinking of organizing a single day event, maybe a gimmick rally (or other type of rally, I am completely open to suggestion) that would be conducted within 20 or so miles of Tallahassee, and open to all types and years of cars.

Hey, I like cruise ins, and I like car shows. But, if you are like me and are passionate about driving your special car, then this is for you, and I want to hear from you.

So, what is the interest out there? Would you like to participate? Would you like to assist with organizing the event?

Ricky Harper

Email me at tallyrally@gmail.com or call my cell phone at 850.510.5771



From your Reporters in the field: Ramblings and Rovings of Junkyard Dog & Fluffy

Now, back to the day trip to Maryville, Tenn.....

I believe we cut off after the stop at Barret—Jackson's; sorry, I meant to say the roadside where the 57 Chevy, the 61 Chevy and the Mercury were. On along the way back looking behind every house and tree we found a spot. 2 Plymouths, of course one not for sale. Also two 1950-1951 Mercurys, none of which could be restored. But we had to stop and look.

On we go, what was that? Looked like a Henry J. Turn around and go back. A small car lot! It had a few other cars and trucks; just about everything had been street rodded down at the old oak tree.

Here we go again; on the left, on the left! What is all that? Old iron. Everywhere. Even some Hudsons. Yes, we got there too late and it was closed. I believe the place was old car city and i am sure it would be a good place to stop. Now, if you were to guess, what would you think was just inside the front door? Your right. A 1956 2-door hardtop Pontiac. Needed lots of TLC. Nell says that means takes lots of cash.

That about does it for this time.

So, we will just keep on sniffing and see what comes up.

Always and forever,

Fluffy



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Florida - 1941

This is a recent acquisition via eBay. I was going to donate it to the club for use on any club member's 1941 car but it has become the favorite of my collection and I am selfishly going to keep it!. It is by far the oldest Leon County plate I have seen or heard. 1941 was just the fourth year of county numbering. This picture of the plate on eBay was not very encouraging but I wanted it anyway.

After receiving it (and it was FILTHY) I washed the thing with soap and water, used a good automotive cleaner and wax and some elbow grease. The darn thing turned out to be much better than I could have hoped. The picture from my scanner does not do the plate justice plus it cuts off the right side. Except for some slight rust on the bottom left edge it is quite nice with plenty of original gloss to the 1941 paint. The back of the plate is even better.



Florida began issuing license plates with county numbers as a prefix in 1938. The county prefix is based on the number of motor vehicle registrations in each county during 1937. The largest county (Dade) was assigned number "1" and the smallest county (Liberty) was number "67". Leon County had the 13th largest number of registrations in 1937 hence the number "13". Lucky us! By the way, Dade is still the largest and Liberty the smallest (and rarest!). This numbering system lasted through the 1975 issue but because of the large and growing number of vehicles a 6 digit alphanumeric was begun.

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Yesteryears Remember When?



From the archives of the Tallahassee Chassee -
Official Publication of The Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

30 Years Ago:

The August 3rd, 1978 meeting of Tallahassee Region A.A.C.A. was held in the adult lounge of the E.C. Allen Christian Life Center. The Thompsons shared news of their recent trip to Gulfport, Miss. and Mobile, Ala. They recommend cutting off I-10 to go through Gulfport and see the beautiful homes. They went aboard the U.S.S. Alabama and the submarine, at Mobile.

News from National A.A.C.A. defining "antique cars" as those 20 years and equipped with an engine manufactured 20 years ago, or more. "Ancient" cars (we call these "Horseless Carriages") - those 35 years or older. The Model A Restorer's Club (MARC) was looking for regions to host a MARC Judges' Training School. The board of directors decided we do not need to participate in this.

Russ Haines brought a bumper he had finished by Advance Plating, at Old Hickory, Tennessee. If anyone is interested in the address, Russ has it. This was an old, rough bumper he bought from Fred Tyler. He's happy with its finish.

The president reminded us all that the Perry Forest Festival & car show are only 3 months away and said the committees need to start thinking about when they'll meet.

Gladys Bauer, Secretary

20 Years Ago:

The Western Steer on Apalachee Parkway was the scene of our August 16th, 1988 meeting. Our very special "New Retiree" George Campbell opened our meeting with prayer. The president noted that now George can finally get down to the serious business of working on old cars. WOW! This summer has certainly been full for several of our members.

The Smiths visited the Studebaker museum in Indiana, a Corvair show in Kentucky, a National Caddy Show in Chicago, then took in the Auburn/Deussenberg Museum and finished it all off with the Ford Museum in Michigan.

The McCarthys plan a trip much like this and we look forward to hearing about their trip next meeting.

The Thompsons attended the National Meet in Charlotte, and Bill Tyler represented the club at the Ft. Rucker show..

Carol Rainey, Secretary

10 Years Ago:

The Tallahassee Region AACA held the monthly meeting on August 20, 1998. A motion was made to accept the newsletter as written and the motion carried. Larry Benson gave the treasurer's report: the club's balance as of 8/20 is \$2,288.46. Diane announced the possibility of arranging a fun event to go to the American Legion Hall on a Tuesday night to listen to the Tallahassee Swing Band. A date was set for October 20th.

A promotional letter has been received by the club from the Travelers Inn in Daytona Beach. This hotel is advertising themed rooms as follows: Elvis Presley room, Marilyn Monroe room, Nascar room, Harley Davidson room, StarWars room, Beatles room, Corvette room, etc.! Each room features free HBO, coffee & goodies, beach bikes, beach hot-dog BBQ, as well as a kitchenette. The club is interested in knowing if anyone would be interested in having a future tour to Daytona Beach. The rooms are \$36 for a double occupancy.

The tour to White Springs and Dowling Park was read-dressed. We hope you are planning to go on this tour, but please make your reservations at the Advent Village.

Jenny Hart, Editor



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***Traveling in the
Past and Present***

We're on the Web!
<http://local.aaca.org/traaca>

Next Meeting

at
The Former Antique Auto Museum
August 12, 2008
6:00 p.m. for Dinner

Menu:

Salad, spaghetti, green beans, rolls,
chocolate delight

Program:

A visit and talk with
Sherm Carey
VP Regions-Development & Support
Southeastern Region AACA

Monthly Cruise-Ins

Sonic/Hardees on North Monroe
1st Saturday each Month (just north of Capital Circle)

What-A-Burger Drive-In on Thomasville Road
2nd Sat—Ford & Chevy Clubs
Last Sat—Street Rod Club

Helen's Silver Bullet Diner on Apalachee Parkway
3rd Sat each month

National and Regional Events

- Sep 4-7 **Hornets Nest Region's Charlotte Auto Fair** - Charlotte, NC (Lowes Motor Speedway)
- Sep 6 **Emerald Coast Car Show** - Ft Walton Beach High School
- Sep 18-20 **AACA Southeastern Fall Meet** - Cleveland, TN. Hosted by AACA Cherokee Valley Region
- Oct 8-11 **AACA Eastern Fall Meet** - Hershey, PA. Hosted by AACA Hershey Region
- Oct 20-24 **AACA Reliability Tour** - Chattanooga, TN. Hosted by AACA Buzzards Breath Touring Region
- Oct 24-26 **Daytona Beach Dream Cruise** - No entry fee - Cruise the Beach plus gatherings/entertainment.
- Nov 2-6 **AACA Founders Tour** - Easley, SC. Hosted by AACA South Carolina Region