



The Antique Expression

Gulf Coast Region, Houston, Texas

“I LIKE IKE ”



By Rick Lamprecht

Ever since I was a puppy I wanted a 1957 Thunderbird. When I was 9, the lady down the street had a '55 triple black bird. My spoiled cousin in Michigan had a black '56 his daddy gave him at 16. After blowing up the engine on aviation fuel a year later his daddy upgraded him to a '57. A favorite high school teacher had a bronze '57 that I thought was the most beautiful car ever to come from Detroit. I'd gaze at it through the school window, daydreaming.

At some point in my early teens I set three life goals: a college education, owning my own business, and a 1957 Thunderbird.

After rounds with restoring Corvettes, an XKE roadster, a Model A Tudor, a neat little 1923 Reo Speedwagon fire truck, and several other four-wheeled prizes, in 2007 I set about finding a '57 Thunderbird project car. Enjoying mechanical work and pounding on fenders, I was seeking more restoration exercise (sure beats running treadmills at the gym).

Having already bought and sold several cars, engines, and car parts on EBay sight unseen, I was not put off by the risks of a transaction that described a "57,000 mile running older restoration with very nice bronze paint, accident-free, mechanical soundness, with good interior and show chrome" from a self-proclaimed Tbird collector in Green Bay, WI.

I set my budget, and of course exceeded it by a good margin in the excitement of the online auction. After all, it was 2007 at the height of collector car prices of that decade. Weren't prices always going to increase?

I won't go into the exaggerations the seller used when describing the car. But for a car described as never having been in an accident, why did it have Bondo stalactites hanging down from the inside of the front left fender? Why did the hood show evidence of a fold running diagonally across its middle? Why are there differences in panel gaps? Why are the tops of the front fenders rippled like they were used as seats at the drive-in? What is the tar goop around the aftermarket floor pans? Why does the car not stop? Why does it shimmy over 30 mph?

Astonishingly, the car had a lot of paperwork in its rather decrepit excuse for a glove box. I found it was the 124th car built on its January 9 birthday. It was delivered to the distribution point in Washington DC and purchased at Behrend Brothers Ford in Baltimore, MD on February 23, 1957 by Vernon Manger for his 21 year old son, Alvin, to drive. The dealer took in his 1953 Lincoln in trade. The fully-loaded triple bronze Tbird had every conceivable option of the time.

Finally in 1963 title was transferred from daddy to Alvin. This was some time after Alvin married Carol Kelly and produced a daughter in 1958 named Sharon. It was when phoning Sharon that I learned the "true" history of the car.

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Cover Story

By now the car was becoming a very personal item to me (sweat has a way of doing that to a person), so I named it "Ike". Worth noting, the "I Like Ike" stickers on my car are not there to reflect my nostalgic 1950s political leanings, but to express how I feel about the car.

Back to Ike. I learned from Sharon that Ike was kept outside for the first 15 years of his life in Baltimore; it had become a rust bucket. The trunk was rusted out, all four fenders were rusted through at the bottoms, as were the rockers. The floorboards were virtually transparent. On April 22, 1971 Alvin must have had some guilt because he put some bucks into the car: a tune up, new idle arms, battery, brakes, got the tranny overhauled, and replaced the rusty panels. Alvin kept the car garaged way out back at the Manger Meat Packing Company, the family business.

On July 16 of 2003, Alvin got the hots for a Clenet and sold the Tbird to a private party for \$4,500. At that time it had 56,120 miles on the meter. Per paperwork in the glove box, the new buyer was Ron Dipietro in Pittsburgh who did some additional sheet metal repairs, put in a new radiator, rebuilt carb, and new gas tank. He dressed the car in new grey primer before selling it in 2005 to Joe Gordon in Sandy Utah for \$19,000 on EBay, plus \$1300 shipping.

Joe rechromed the bumpers and painted the car in light yellow orange peel. Somewhere along the line the original bronze interior panels were exchanged for white ones, which they still are under painted bronze camouflage. Joe told me he put over \$3,000 into the car over the 18 to 24 months of ownership before selling it for \$21,000 to my Green Bay, Wisconsin seller. At that time it had an inoperative tach, hanging headliner, a baby blue dash pad (later dyed bronze by my seller), stone-chipped windshield, and much more (or less!) than what was disclosed. That's how it was when delivered to me in California.

As I subsequently learned from stealthy research, the Green Bay crud who sold Ike to me in 2007 was in the business of selling auto paint and supplies. He used this car as a mule to train his customers how to do body work, paint, clear coat, and color sand. It is apparent the trainees who did one fender were not the same guys who did another.

By now the Thunderbird is painted its original factory hue of Thunderbird Bronze. The original fiberglass top shows evidence of its original bronze color on the inside, although the outside color has been stripped and painted poorly in white.

Sooooo, the car that was described extensively on EBay was quite different in actuality:

- "Coming from the salt-free south since birth." But it actually came from salty Baltimore.
- Touted as "being rust-free with original rocker panels," but had rust perforations much of its adult life.
- Being "accident-free." However, it experienced a bad front-end collision per the first owner's daughter.
- "New brakes." Ha! Mismatched drums and shoes caused rubbing when stops were unsuccessfully attempted.
- "All mechanical work done with a rebuilt front-end." NOT!!!
- "Both electric window motors work." Only one worked.
- "New dash pad." But it's blue under the peeling bronze paint.
- "Working original town and country radio." NOT!
- "Refinished stainless around windshield." NOT!
- "Great bronze upholstery." Why did seams rip within the first month.

All was not lost! Upon these discoveries, the seller and I came to a reasonable price adjustment and the hatchet was buried under my threat of turning him over to EBay's fraud group. He lost money on his sale of my birdie.

I do not know how it feels to be a parent of a troubled child with challenges, with unconditional love. But because of the challenges Ike and I have overcome and the pride I experience with "thumbs up" from 20 feet, I continue to like this car and would not trade him for anything. The more work I do to him... the more I drive him... the more *I Like Ike!*



★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

Happy Anniversary!

February

Christopher Sokol	2/3
Robert Smits	2/6
Robert McLellan	2/7
Barney Calvert	2/8
Theresa Bartlett	2/10
Steve Wanderman	2/12
Mike Staley	2/14
Mary Lou Boggus	2/16
Caroline Calistrat	2/16
Albert Ramos	2/16
Cheryl McGee	2/17
Irene Kizer	2/22
Dena Doerfler	2/23
Rollin Hargrove*	2/26
Stan Ericksen	2/27

March

Karen Sokol	3/6
Ashley Griffin	3/9
Patti Dressser	3/10++
Carol Kidd	3/13
Jerria Worthen	3/13
Herb Wahlberg	3/15
Lonnie Dresser	3/16++
Terry Williams	3/17
Robert Bullard	3/20
Ollin Willis	3/21
Ben Beerbower	3/23
Leon Ahlers	3/27
Jerry Bellot*	3/29
Verniece Brady	3/30

*=Associate members

++= BRAND NEW MEMBERS

February - March

Bill & Barbara J. Wahlberg	2/10 (68!!!!)
Jim & Cheryl McGee	2/14 (31!!)
Jerry & Earlene Bellot*	2/17 (51!!!!)
Pete & Audi Reinthaler	3/4 (35!!)
Duane & Jenny Medley	3/10

SIGN OUTSIDE A SECOND -HAND SHOP

We exchange anything -
Bicycles, washing
machines, etc. Why not
bring your wife along and
get a wonderful bargain?



Rick with IKE

2019 Officers

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Joe Vogt...281-496-7138

Sunshine Representative

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Sandra Johnston 713-340-0709

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Secretary's Column A.A.C.A. Gulf Coast Region

General Meeting 14 January, 2019

Our new President, **Robert Bullard**, called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

John Doerfler gave thanks for a new year and for those who serve our Club. He also asked us to be mindful of those members who could not join us tonight. **Ferrell Moore** then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. We usually like to have our American flag at the front of the room for the Pledge, but Ferrell left it in the back because the last time he carried it forward, he poked a hole in the ceiling!

Inaugural Meeting Remarks

Since this was Robert's first time to preside over a Gulf Coast Region general meeting as our President, he made a few opening comments. First he thanked **Jim Johnston** for his hard work as Club president for the last 2 years. He also went over list of officers and directors, which can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Robert also told us that new member **Rick Lamprecht** will be our new Events Coordinator.

The most important part of Robert's remarks was to remind us that our goal as a Club is to enjoy our meetings, tours, and other events. Our common interest in antique vehicles should give us a sense of fellowship, shared purpose, and enjoyment.

Sunshine Report

With a slightly befuddled "*What the hey?*", **Rob't Wheelless** noted that we did not have an official *Sunshine Report* tonight. We then learned that our beloved **Barbara Wahlberg** can no

longer lead this important Club activity. So now we're looking for another bright, buoyant, cheery, chirpy, enthusiastic, genial, gladsome, happy, hearty, jaunty, jolly, jovial, joyful, merry, optimistic, perky, sparkling, sprightly, sunny, and/or upbeat soul to belly up to the Sunshine Bar. *It could be you!*

Refreshments

It's a good thing that most of us had already abandoned the usual "must exercise more and lose half a pound this year" New Year's resolution, because **Paula Holzband** and **Barbara Byrd** were in charge of refreshments tonight. They may as well have placed a banner over the refreshment tables proclaiming *ABANDON ALL HOPE, YE WHO ENTER HERE* because there was no way to resist the sumptuous collation. Much of it was homemade, like the superb, rich, and delectable dips of spinach, cheese, and eggplant - you can apply the adjective you like to each of them - as well as a popular cheese ball. There was also an excellent selection of Triscuits, Wheat Thins, and pretzel chips to scoop it all up. Those who needed a little more sweetness in their lives also fared well with the homemade chocolate chip cookies and brownies and a chocolate cake. Thank you, ladies, for helping to make this first meeting of the year such a delicious and fortifying success!

Speaking of success, **Sandra Johnston** passed around the Refreshments Sign-Up sheet for 2019. There were four available slots, and we managed to get volunteers to fill them all in. Some people signed up twice; so if you haven't brought refreshments in more than a year, why don't you offer to help?

Where We've Been

Other than the December Christmas Luncheon, the only other place we've

been is to the woodshed. Well, not exactly, but **Sandra Johnston** met with our meeting place official and was given an updated list of rules and regulations.

The main rules are that we must clean up after ourselves, put away the tables and chairs, and be out of there by 9:00 pm. The *weird* or unexpected rule is that we (and presumably others who meet here) are not allowed to bring in "red or grape drinks". It seems the TGCC powers-that-be are worried about the potential for ineradicable stains on the carpet. All I know is that when it's my turn to feed the minds, bodies, and souls (such as they are) of the GCR, I'm going to test this rule by bringing grape juice. Of course, it will be *white* grape juice.

Where We're Going

February 10, 2019: Celebrate Valentine's Day just a little early by coming to the Club's annual Valentine's luncheon at the popular Café in the Brookwood Community in Brookshire.
4th of July: **Lenny Holzband** is working on getting us space at the *Del Webb Sweetgrass Community Clubhouse* in Richmond, Texas for our annual 4th of July event. It's a lovely (and air-conditioned) venue with plenty of parking for our antique cars.

Business Matters

Robert told us about two proposals to change the Club's bylaws. The first is to change the term of directors from 1-year terms to 2-year terms while still having annual elections. "How will that work?" you ask.

(Continued on page 5)

Minutes *Continued from page 4)*

Well, we'll also stagger the terms so that there is a continuity of information from year to year. Meanwhile, the Club officers will still serve one year terms.

Diana Forbes made a motion to accept the proposal and **Bill Seward** seconded it. The general membership in attendance unanimously agreed.

The second proposal was about Article 4 item 14 of the bylaws. Currently, it says that proxies are prohibited. The proposal is to allow absentee ballots "as stipulated in the Club policies". This will help ensure that we have the required minimum participation in our votes. This also passed unanimously.

Club News

Jim Johnston spoke about the Original Automotive Literature that **Robert and Bea McLellan** donated to the GCR. The boxes of literature are now stored in an enclosed trailer at the house of **Ev Timmins**, but we need volunteers to re-sort them. Jim said that the working space can accommodate about 8 volunteers at a time.

Rob't Wheless spoke about the 2019 Pate Swap Meet sign-up. The Club needs volunteers to help with this annual event that provides more than 80% of our budget.

A group is working on a first draft of our GCR 2019 budget. Since the next Club meeting is in March, a spokesman will report on this to the Club.

Other News To Amuse

Rick Lamprecht presented a slide show of pictures from when he and his father visited the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in late '50s or early '60s. Everyone enjoyed it, but we had to cut it a bit short because it was getting close to closing time for the Tracy Gee.

Robert Bullard also read us a few bits of trivia, fun facts, and amusing thoughts

he gathered from the 2019 Hemmings Classic Car calendar. I didn't have time to document them all, but here are a few that I noted:

- Vulcanized rubber was invented in _____. (I didn't hear the answer, so you'll have to look it up yourself.)
- The first use of a road sign on a major road was in 1901. I didn't hear where it was.
- In the year _____, Henry Ford increased the pay of his workers to \$5 per day, but only with the stipulation that each worker getting the pay increase kept no alcohol in the house. Presumably Ford or his representatives performed spot checks.
- The first Chevrolet truck was a 1918 model. He mentioned something else about Chrysler and Graham Paige with the dates 1924 and 1928, but the facts were flying too fast for me to catch the details.
- On January 12, 1904, **Henry Ford** himself set a new land speed record of 91.37 mph on an ice track on Lake St. Clair in New Baltimore, Michigan. This record was broken in less than two weeks by **William Vanderbilt** piloting his Mercedes to a top speed of 92.30 mph. After that, the record was broken four more times in 1904, and the rest - as "they" say - is history.
- Cadillac premiered in New York's Madison Square Garden in 1903.

Robert also gave us a quiz based on the prior newsletter:

- **Robert McLellan's** 1960 T-Bird was pictured in the newsletter. How many tail lights does it have? Answer: 6
- What size engine does the T-Bird have? Answer: 430 cubic inches
- The RearView Mirror article (*thank you, Joe Vogt*) took a look back at **Tom and Ev Timmins'** 1911 Metz. It also noted that a 1906 Marsh-Metz cycle set an American record of 1 minute 10 seconds for the measured mile.

- What was this equivalent to in mph? Answer: 51 mph

The article about the October 27, 2018 Mini Tour to Lone Star Flight Museum noted that the tour participants saw one of five Anderson-Greenwood AG-14 airplanes that were ever built. Where and when was this rear-engined pusher-type aircraft built? Answer: Houston, 1953

And for a \$5 prize, who were three of the four GCR members pictured at the Lone Star Flight Museum? Answer: I still don't know, but ask **Bill Seward** if you can borrow \$5.

And just for fun, **John Doerfler** threw in a question: Who assembled cars in the 1920s on Harrisburg in Houston? Answer: Ford. They built Model Ts there and quit manufacturing in Houston in 1932 with the Model A.

Luck of the Draw

The first drawing, a \$10 prize for simply being there, was won by **Bea McLellan**. Congratulations, Bea! And if **Benny Guseman** had been there, he would have won \$70 in the second drawing, a cumulative prize that grows by \$10 every evening meeting until someone wins it. Too bad, Benny. In March the drawing will be for \$80. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm, but the fun didn't stop there. **Jim and Sandra Johnston** and I listened to **Tahl's Tales** in the parking lot until we could no longer keep our eyes open.

As it was – Albert L. Ramos





GCR AACA President's Letter: Through the Front Windshield By Robert Bullard

By the time this letter goes to press, the first club meeting of 2019 will be history. Special thanks to everyone that has volunteered for all the various special functions, committees and activities we are planning. A lot of work goes into making all of these a success and without your generosity and help we'd be "stuck on the side of the road" instead of moving forward.

Speaking of moving forward, Colin Powell is credited with saying: "Always focus on the front windshield and not the rear view mirror". As drivers of old cars we all would quickly say that if we didn't keep an eye on the rear view mirror we would get run over! But, we all know that Mr. Powell was speaking metaphorically about focusing on the future. As club president I will respectfully keep our history in perspective while focusing on activities to make our club stronger for the future.

Not telling you anything you don't already know that focusing on the past can hinder the goodwill and optimism needed to move forward. As a relatively new member and as the brand spanking new club president, I choose to focus on where we are going as a club and not where we have been. Sure, history is important. But, we

don't want to limit our future by sticking to the way we've always done it. The club officers and directors are working hard to create an atmosphere conducive to having fun and enjoying our hobby. We already have scheduled four luncheon activities. Theresa Bartlett has arranged a Valentine's Luncheon at Brookwood Community, Lenny and Paula Holzband are working to arrange a 4th of July celebration at the clubhouse of the Del Webb Sweetgrass community in Richmond, Jim and Sandra Johnston are working on the details of a Veterans Day picnic at Bear Creek Park Pavilion 6 in November and Elaine Bullard has agreed to manage all the details for our December Holiday Party.

In addition, Dean and Diana Forbes have agreed to work with members to arrange a minimum of six monthly tours. We have a working list of options, but if you have any suggestions please pass them along to Dean or Diana. We expect our first tour to be held in March. Rick Lamprecht has volunteered to be our Meeting Program Coordinator. In January's meeting he showed a very interesting video on Cord, Duesenberg and Auburn cars including some personal, era photos of the cars. I'm anxious to see what he has in store for our future meetings. The nature and agenda of the monthly meetings are also changing. In January's meeting I introduced an Antique Expressions monthly newsletter trivia game. All I will say is that it is probably in your interest to read the newsletter before the meeting and

congratulations to Bill Seward on winning the "keys to the new Cadillac" and the \$5 gas money. We had a review of historical auto events that happened in the month of January. We will also do this and other trivia games in future months as time allows. Beginning soon we will add a 50/50 drawing to our events for a chance to win a few dollars based on the luck of the draw. Come on out to the club meetings and have some fun and a few laughs. It is a great opportunity to connect or reconnect with old or new friends. Club event participation is the lifeblood of our club and we need your participation to help us "move the club forward." As you can see, we have a lot of people getting involved, so come on out and help them along.

OTHER CAR EVENTS

10th Annual Heritage at Towne Lake Car Show.

Feb 23rd ;Rain date Feb 24
Heritage at Towne Lake Lodge
19201 N. Canyon Lake Spring Dr.,
Cypress, TX 77433

To register, contact -
aallen1945@gmail.com
\$35 prior to Feb 11th,
\$45 after Feb 11th



30th Auto Swap SJR - VCCA

March 16 & 17th, 2019
Traders Village, Houston, TX
Sponsor: San Jacinto Region
Chevrolet Club of America
Contact Carolyn Pierson
P. O. Box 637, Hamshire, 77622

email: tvhouswapmeet@gmail.com
PH: 281-468-9536
for cost and further information.



The Rearview Mirror

From our Club Historian Joe Vogt

From the Feb., 2009 Antique Expression

The Cover Car for February, 2009, was Terry Williams' 1939 Mercury 8.

According to market surveys in the late 30s, the top 6 factors people looked at in a car were appearance, performance, comfort, roominess, safety, and economy. With this in mind, the newly introduced Mercury took the standard Ford car and started modifying and adding the upgrades like boring the engine to increase its horse power from 85 to 95, striped broadcloth or Bedford cord upholstery with rolled edges for comfort, adjustable front seat, armrests front and rear, bronzed door and window handles, foot rest and robe cord in the town sedan, dash clock, glove box lock, and full instrumentation. Interestingly for the day, hardened valve seat inserts were used for durability. *See next column*

Terry did not have a lot of sedans, and this one allowed him to take all six of his grandchildren for a ride at once. He said it was tough leaving a 3-year old sitting on the curb crying as he drove away. At least that's what he told his wife when he bought the car.

The Ericksen's 1967 Checker talked about bygone Suicide Knobs (also called Necker knobs, Spinner knobs, and Brody knobs) for the steering wheel. They were popular in the 40s and 50s when power steering was a luxury option on cars and are still used by some truckers and forklift operators. The term Suicide Knob came from the fact that they can cause accidents such as getting a sleeve caught in the knob and then not being able to turn the steering wheel. Same problem if it breaks while in a turn - complete loss of control. The term Brody knob came from a fellow named Steve Brody who jumped from the Brooklyn Bridge in the 1880s and lived. He became a local hero, and Brody became a "catch phrase" for any kind of a slide, fall, train wreck, etc.

Do You Remember When the Zapps Visited Us???

May 3, 2018

The Zapps Complete Their 18-Year World Tour in a 1928 Graham-Paige

Hello, We have big news to share! We are already on the last leg of our trip, after 18 years on the road we just need to return HOME and to accomplish this wonderful Dream!

There are many experiences that we'd love to tell you but this one is one of the GREATEST ADVENTURES that await us!!

We cannot believe that this started in the year 2000 being only from Argentina to Alaska. It seemed impossible that in a 1928 car and with so few resources we would achieve so much ... such as reaching the Himalayas and touching the Everest ... spend Christmas in Belen, build a boat to go down the Amazon River with the car, see Serengeti's great migration, save turtles in a Pacific island, visit gorillas ... swim in the Nile ... and so many other things that we dreamed as kids that would have stayed in our imagination ... If we had not dared to make them happen.

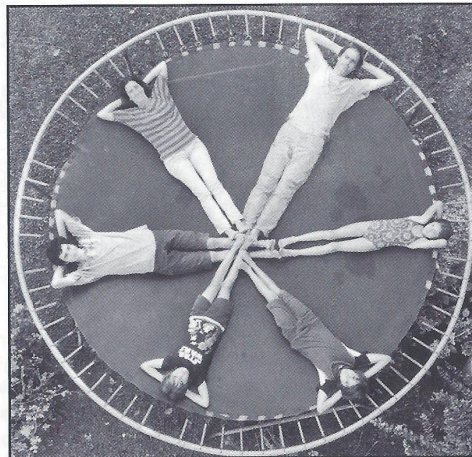
Also two dreams in one! We also fulfilled the one of having a family and our four children grew up and experienced the most wonderful world.

We know that we have a **GREAT CHALLENGE** ahead, to take the car and the family, all together at the rhythm of the wind, but we know that this is an incredible way to end to this Dream!

And as we learned that to achieve what you want in life, you have to try; we went to Holland to find one of the few cargo sailboats in the world. The surprise was ... finding this wonderful NGO who is happy to take the car for free from Europe to the Guyanas in South America. But we must pay the 30-day expenses for the 6 of us, plus harbor fees, and a detour of the boat to go to Guyanas.

To achieve this we would love you to join us. With you and many others we can do this! We need your complicity for this Dream once again, in the final part of the trip.

Please enter our crowdfunding campaign, and you will see how you'll get rewarded as we do have very good rewards!



WITH LOVE, FROM ALL OF US
CANDE, HERMAN, PAMPA, TEHUE, PALOMA AND WALLABY ZAPP
Keep Sparking Dreams
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y Herman Zapp
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Trudging Through New Territory with “Henry the Ford” Or, the saga of going to a GCR lunch in a 1942 Ford with a new carburetor!!

Just a tiny update of life with our 1942 Ford Tudor Super Deluxe, better known as Henry the Ford. As some of you may know, we have been dealing with overheating problems. I'm glad to say we think we have those problems solved via a new radiator, two new water pumps to replace the old ones, and adding two thermostats that Henry hasn't had in a while. I say the problem is solved because I had driven ole Henry 3 times for extended drives around Pearland with the temp gauge **NEVER** taking a departure from the “normal” temp range.

So, we figured we could say with confidence, problem solved. That is until I pulled Ole Henry into the garage for a rest after that 3rd road test around Pearland. As I was exiting Henry, I was met with the strong smell of gasoline. Looking under the hood I could see the carburetor had been sending gasoline to places it never should have gone. In other words, the carb had leaks.

So suddenly that second Friday GCR lunch for 2019 seemed to be disappearing with the wind that wasn't hitting us in our face while traversing to lunch. So, you know what they always say, don't ever say NEVER. But if you do, don't capitalize and underline it in **Bold font!!!**

So, what should I do now? First stop was to look in my trusty Old Ford Parts Books. But as they say, there are sometimes, silver linings to miscues. But the first thing is you should sometimes be thankful when you get side tracked while looking for parts to spend money on. I say that because when I sat back down to the computer the screen was blank. And I think I had just found a carb I think would work for Henry. In other words, I was fixing to spend some money before I got side tracked!

Well, life does get better when you think things are going bad. Now for that silver linings part. While at the 1st Friday lunch of 2019, Bill Wahlberg reminded me of a carburetor he had sold me about 10 years ago for the 40 Ford. And guess what, it was an exact match to the one that would easily pass for a strainer instead of what it was supposed to be, a carburetor. So, onto the 42 Ford, better known as Henry, the 10-year-old, Bill Wahlberg newly rebuilt 2-barrel carburetor went, and finally all of Henry's immediate problems were solved.

NOT!!!

Back to the Second GCR Friday lunch we were looking forward to. On our drive to the aforementioned 2nd 2019 GCR lunch; it seems Henry's bearings in his fan pulley decided to go elsewhere than where they were supposed to be! But with the help of a \$180 tow (thank goodness for a towing clause in our car insurance) from Echo Ln @ I-10 to a repair shop in Pearland, as well as some help from Dean and Diana Forbes, Ole Henry was safely tucked away in a repair shop for the needed repairs. Oh, and did I mention that the fan blade decided to do a number on that brand-new radiator. Isn't this fun, Hey Sandra, where's the check book?

But hey, isn't all this what money is meant to be used for, solving OLD CAR MONEY PIT PROBLEMS!!!!
More on that later.

Jim Johnston

*On The Road Again is a series that welcomes stories from Gulf Coast Region AACA chapter members about how a shared interest in cars and helping others can pave the way to friendship and adventure.

Down the Road

Underlined items are club (GCR AACA) sponsored activities.

- Feb. 7-9 AACA Annual Meeting, Phila.PA*
 - Feb. 10 Annual **GCR AACA** Valentine Lunch at Brookwood Community. Must have RSVP.
 - Feb. 21-23 AACA Winter Meet, Ocala, FL.*
 - Feb. 23 10th Heritage at Towne Lake Car Show: see page 6.
 - Feb. 25 Deadline for contributions for AE Mar mini.
 - Mar. 6-9 Gasparilla Great Endurance Run: Tampa, Jacksonville, Amelia Island*
 - Mar. 11 **GCR AACA** meeting. 7:30 in the Tracy Gee Center
 - Mar. 16-17 30th Auto Swap SJR - VCCA; see page 6.
 - April 25-27 **PATE SWAP MEET**
 - May 4-5 Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance, Lakewood Yacht Club, Seabrook.
 - July 8 SAVE THE DATE: 4th of July celebration coming.
- Go to AACA.org to register and request information.

Other Car Outings.....

Friday Lunch - Car (& food) enthusiasts gather for lunch on Fridays at various restaurants. Contact Bill Cockrell 281-293-0842 for information.

Friday evenings Pearland Antique & Classic Auto Show Cruise Night at Lowe's parking lot at FM 518 & Pearland Parkway, 6 PM

Saturday evenings cruise in at Chick-Fil-A in Home Depot's parking lot, 5 PM, Hwy 146 and FM 2094 in Kemah

Last Sat. morning of the month: Coffee, Cars, and Books from 8 - 10 AM in Barnes & Noble parking lot on Bay Area Blvd.

Last Sat. morning of the month: Coffee and pastries at Gateway Classic Cars, 71 Esplanade Blvd., Houston, 77060

1st Sat. of the month: Coffee and Cars. Free car meet from 8-10 AM at Memorial City Mall , south side parking lot.

The Antique Automobile Club of America

Is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration and maintenance of automobiles and automotive history. It is the country's oldest and largest automotive historical society.

**Gulf Coast Regional Meetings at Tracy Gee Center
3599 West Center Dr.,
Houston, TX 77042**

Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. 2nd Monday of each month, Except for February, July and December, when special activities are scheduled.

The Antique Expression

Is the official bi-monthly Publication of **Gulf Coast Region, A.A.C.A., Inc.**, Houston Area, Texas, And is distributed to all members in good standing.

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Friendswood, TX 77546



REFRESHMENTS

February
Let's eat at Brookwood

March
Theresa Bartlett
Lisa Griffin

★ ★ WANTED ★ ★



NOT DEAD -BUT ALIVE!!

PATE workers for the GULF COAST REGION

Help fund our activities for 2019 NO REWARD**
Except for food, beverages, looking for parts, looking at people
(some weird), and looking for next car of spouse. Plenty to choose
from, some good, some not so good, some rusty, some crusty!**



BE THERE or BE SQUARE!

APRIL 25 - 27, 2019

6 workers need, 7-10 AM and 4-7 PM, Thurs., Fri., and Sat.

Sales workers needed throughout the day, 7 - 5

No experience necessary

Lunch served: Thurs., Fri., and Sat. Informal attire.

Signup sheets will be at club functions until the Swap Meet.

Come one -Come all!

**Pate Director
Wayne Bartlett
281-447-1476**

NOTE: The following pages are taken from the Texas Tour package should you want to send in a registration. You can contact them if you want a complete package.

66th ANNUAL TEXAS TOUR

A Sunday Drive (Theme)

May 16-19, 2019

Kerrville, Texas



Headquarters Hotel: YO Ranch Resort Hotel (Newly remodeled)

The Host Hotel is located at 2033 Sidney Baker St, Kerrville, TX 78028- - just two blocks south off Interstate 10 exit 508.

Make reservations while rooms are still available. Toll free number: **830-257-4440**

You must state that the reservation is for the “2019 AACA TEXAS TOUR” to receive the discounted rates below. Discounted rates are good till noon, April 15, 2019.

Room with Traditional King Bed – single rate \$109.00, double rate \$119

Room with Two Queen Beds single rate \$109.00 add \$10 for each additional person

Room rates include hot breakfast buffet.

(There are no elevators, so individuals who cannot climb a flight of stairs to get to the second floor should state that when making their reservations.)

There will be no formal class judging at this year’s tour. There will be a small team of judges who will view all cars registered for the tour weekend so that the Texas Tour revolving trophies and mementos can be presented on Saturday evening. That has enabled us to plan two full days of driving tours through the Texas Hill Country. We’ll spend a full day at the YO Ranch, and a short visit to the LBJ Ranch, the old town of Comfort, the James Avery factory, and Luckenbach where everybody is somebody. We are also offering a short, early birds tour starting around 1:00 PM Thursday afternoon that would be ideal for the very early cars traveling at very slow speeds. Please bring one of these early cars if you can. There is also an early birds hamburger buffet and social gathering at hotel poolside Thursday evening. This is where we begin new friendships and renew old ones.

We have planned our tours and routes so that there is sufficient time for all activities without being rushed. None of our routes will ever require a speed greater than 45 miles per hour. Try it at this speed and you will be surprised at what you will **SEE** that you never saw before. This is how we arrived at the theme for this year’s tour, a Sunday drive.

We ask that you bring with you or cause a registration to be submitted by one or more people who have never before attended a Texas Tour and who are younger than you are. We encourage you to do this to ensure the survival of the Texas Tour for future generations.



We will be conducting a silent auction during this year's Texas Tour to benefit Fisher House. This facility provides rent free home-like accommodations for military families (primarily the lower enlisted grades) who cannot afford the cost of food and housing while they try to stay in close proximity to their loved one in hospital care. There are multiple home sites in San Antonio. Please visit their web site for more information, look on the internet at <https://fisherhouse.org/>. We like to keep our donation funds near home, so we plan to place our donation directly with the Fisher House facilities in San Antonio. If you have items that would sell to a group like ours and you would like to donate that item or items for our auction, then please bring your item(s) with you. We would be very happy to include your donations in our auction. An auction doesn't work unless it has interested buyers. Please be generous and come prepared to find one or more items in our auction that you can't live without. The Fisher House organization can make good use of our donation.

We have an unusual opportunity to visit an eclectic collection of early vintage cars owned by one of our acquaintances who has been involved in the old car hobby for many years and who has rescued numerous old cars from the scrappers and made them available for future generations. We have an opportunity to pay a visit to see this unusual collection and have planned it for Thursday afternoon. If you are able to arrive here before lunch on Thursday, May 16th, then you should plan to make this "added attraction" tour with us.



An Early Bird get together is scheduled for Thursday evening at the poolside patio of the host hotel. This has historically been a very important time for renewing acquaintances with friends from past tours and for making friends with new people attending. Please try to arrive in time for this event starting around 5:30.

This year, your Friday driving tour is expanded into a full day adventure. The Friday tour includes an interesting drive and visit to Comfort, "The most original 19th Century Business District in Texas," followed by lunch in Luckenbach where "everybody is somebody," then on to the LBJ Ranch and National Park, followed by a comfort stop in Fredericksburg, and then back to the hotel. Friday concludes with dinner and entertainment in the hotel. This would be the ideal time for you to present yourself in vintage attire.

Saturday's tour will take us along a route paralleling the scenic Guadalupe River to Mountain Home, Texas, and the YO Ranch where we will be entertained by cowboy musicians, play cowboy games, take an open air bus ride through this ranch of exotic animals and Texas Longhorn cattle and enjoy a barbeque lunch before continuing our driving tour. The return trip will take us through more Texas hill country and a stop at the James Avery Jewelry Factory (which includes a potty stop) on the way back to the hotel. Saturday concludes with dinner and entertainment in the hotel, followed by awards of the Texas Tour revolving trophies and other special awards.

We wrap-up on Sunday morning with a leisurely breakfast in the hotel and departure for home. The Texas Tour business meeting will follow breakfast and be conducted in a location to be announced. Each club in the

REGISTRATION FORM

66th Texas Tour

hosted by the

Central Texas Region - Antique Automobile Club of America

Please Note the Following:

PLEASE "PRE-REGISTER." WE WILL LIST ALL PRE-REGISTERED TOUR PARTICIPANTS IN THE TOUR BOOK. PUBLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2019. FULL REFUNDS WILL BE MADE FOR ALL REQUESTS RECEIVED PRIOR TO MAY 1, 2019. AFTER THIS DATE, REFUNDS WILL BE LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF THE TEXAS TOUR COMMITTEE.

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE A DEADLINE FOR "PRE-REGISTRATION" AS MAY 1, 2019. Registrations received after May 1 will not be included in the Tour Book list of participants. Late registrations will be accepted as long as space permits, although it would help us tremendously with our reservation head count if you would register by May 1, 2019.

Return the completed registration form and a check (payable to "Central Texas Region - AACAA") to:

Greg Herbert - Registration Chairman
5704 Wilder Ridge
Austin, TX 78759-6259

To register on line, go to texastour2019@aol.com
The first 100 registrations will receive one of these tour bags.



If you have questions, please contact Greg Herbert at (512)795-0974 or at texastour2019@aol.com

Name: _____ Phone Number: (____) _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____
E-Mail Address: _____

REGISTRANTS	COST (Each)	TOTALS
Car and Driver (Name)	\$ 125.00	
Passengers (Names)	\$ 105.00	
Children under 12 years of age (Names)	\$ 65.00	
Number of tour T shirts (insert number from box below)	\$15 each	
TOTAL ENCLOSED		

MAKE OF CAR: _____ BODY STYLE: _____ YEAR: _____

I (WE) RELEASE THE CENTRAL TEXAS REGION - AACAA, THE TEXAS TOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND THE TEXAS TOUR FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITIES ARISING FROM PARTICIPATION IN THIS YEAR'S 66th ANNUAL TEXAS TOUR. I CERTIFY

We are offering T shirts that promote our theme for this year’s Texas Tour. The T shirt art is shown below. Please indicate number of shirts and sizes in the form below.



I (we) are planning to attend the following functions which are covered by our registration fee. Please reserve space for the number of individuals indicated below. (This information will be used to help the Tour Committee ensure appropriate seating is available for all participants.)

FUNCTION	NUMBER of ATTEN-DEES
Thursday Evening Buffet at host hotel patio	
Breakfast Buffet in the hotel – (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)	
Luncheon on Tour - (Friday) Box Lunch sandwiches. Indicate sandwich choice and number. Ham/Cheddar (), Turkey/Swiss (), Chipotle Ranch Chicken wrap()	
Dinner Banquet – (Friday Evening)	
Luncheon on Tour - (Saturday)	
Dinner Banquet – (Saturday Evening)	

Please send me a listing of additional facilities for:

- Accommodations for Recreational Vehicles
- Additional area hotels and motels (other than the Tour Headquarters)

Helpful Information:

“YES” or “NO”

Will you need space for trailer and or tow vehicle parking.

Will this be the first Texas Tour you attend?

Will you be introducing a new, younger member to the Texas Tour?



Around Town with the GCR AACA - Christmas



Lots of toys for tots!



Our friendly Marines



Ev & the Petersons



Somber thoughts of the food to come.



Some people dressed funny!

The McLellans looking at all those Baccaros.



Our Wahlbergs!



Are these guys up to no good?



Here is "Santa" Mary Lou and her friends, the Cockrells and Forbes.

Nice new car for us to see.



President's first outing!

Think they believe him?



Well, it is almost Valentine's Day, Robert!

