



The Antique Expression

Gulf Coast Region, Houston, Texas

NOT YOUR MOTHER'S "BUG"



By Lonnie Dresser

The Volkswagen Beetle underwent significant changes for the 1967 model. While the car appeared similar to earlier models, much of the drive-train was noticeably upgraded. Some of the changes to the Beetle included a bigger engine for the second year in a row. Horsepower had been increased to 37 kilowatts (50 hp) the previous year, and for the 1967 it was increased even more to 40 kilowatts (54 hp).

On U.S. models, the output of the electrical generator was increased from 180 to 360 watts, and upgraded from a 6-volt to a 12 volt system. The clutch disc also increased in size, and changes were made to the flywheel, braking system, and rear axle. New standard equipment included two-speed wipers, reversing lights, a driver's armrest on the door, locking buttons on the doors, sealed-beam headlights, and a driver's side exterior mirror.

The 1967 model weighed 840 kg (1852 lbs), which was a typical weight for a European car at that time. Top speed was 130 km/h (81 mph).

But despite all these factory improvements of previous models, we felt like a few modifications of our own were in order.....

ENGINE

- 2110 Cubic Centimeters
- Genuine VW AS41 Dual Relief Super Case
- 90.5 Stoker Forged Pistons and Cylinders
- .042 VW Heads
- Dual Dellorto DRLA Carburetors
- "Flame Thrower" Billet Distributor and Coil
- Kennedy 1700 lb Pressure Plate
- Chirco Performance A-1 Exhaust (Ceramic Coated)
- Hi-Performance Flanged Heater Boxes (Ceramic Coated)
- 12.5 Chrome Moly Flywheel
- Custom Speed & Parts (CSP) Breather Box
- Gene Berg Achiever Pulley
- Gene Berg Fan Shroud Mounted Carburetor Linkage
- Gene Berg Full Oil Pump and Cover
- Gene Berg Welded and Balanced Fan
- Gene Berg Valve Covers

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Old Car Hobby: Yesterday and Today

By Rob McLellan

It is said that only a fool predicts the future but a historical trend is apparent to all old car collectors and I will leave it the readers to guess the future. Having been born into the hobby, I watched the old car hobby craze develop just after World War II ended. I was mesmerized by what I saw and I had to be part of it and that interest has continued to the present. Our hobby really started in the 1930s when nostalgia developed for the first cars that were created. Car collections and old car clubs were formed mostly in England, France, Germany and America. Then came World War II. Metal scrap drives took a lot of the old cars, rust and junk yards took even more. With no new cars during the war, there was an effort to keep prewar cars on the road until production of new cars could begin. The end of the war ushered in a new era of modern cars that set off the prewar cars as uniquely different. Prewar cars were abandoned or were very cheap used cars providing service men returned home from overseas, with little money, cheap transport and cheap fun. The fun part also caught on with young people. I just happened to live in a rural farming area surrounded by several military bases and shipyards in Virginia on the Chesapeake Bay. The old car activity was prolific. While most everyone was ordering a new car, GIs and young car enthusiasts would make the most of whatever was available, sometimes finding cars in fields or in barns. Across the river in Norfolk, hundreds of new Jeeps sat on the Naval base dock priced at \$25 apiece. They were useful on farms. The service men, many with military mechanical training on airplanes, tanks, ships and trucks had hands-on skills to create hot rods, custom cars, antique restorations or just maintain an old car. Most gas stations had a promotional race car for the Saturday night races on a track at old air fields, where you could see midjets, sportsmen and jalopy classes compete on an oval track. Unlike today's concours, of which there were none at that time, the drivers were paid to show up with the hope of winning cash prizes and publicity for their garage or gas station. Also there were drag races on streets and tracks for daily driver stocks or hopped-up models. All you needed was a loud muffler and some moon caps and you were cool. The point being, is that working on the cars and driving them made the hobby a lot of fun. I took a great deal of interest in this and before I could have my own car, I gathered up my own library of car magazines, brochures, service manuals and books. Finally, the day came when my father bought a new car, a 1958 Plymouth to join my mother's 1952 Chevrolet. Their 1947 gray two door Pontiac straight 8 then became mine. For \$50, I bought some paint and a spray

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gun. Buick had a gold lacquer that I believe was called "pearlescent faun metallic". With various modifications to the engine, interior and body, I had my own poor man's custom car.

By the 1960s, hot rods and custom cars were on their way out and restoring prewar cars of the brass era, 1920s and 1930s became more popular. Then in the 1970s and 1980s the hobby began to really change. Old car concours, auctions, cars clubs for most makes, professions restorations, parts dealers, a multitude of car magazines, swap meets and literature and memorabilia collecting took root. The cars were becoming "investments". As years slip by, old cars were disappearing from the road. They are trailered to car events because of their value and to keep them spotless for judging. Where those in the hobby once prided themselves in a diverse knowledge of all makes and models and auto history, those in the hobby have become single minded only on what they own. Auto history is now of little interest and hobbyists are attracted to cars that they recognize from their youth - nostalgia vs. history. If you own a 1957 Chevrolet most likely that is the only car you care about. At car shows, the majority of people pass by most cars with little interest - cars that would have drawn attention in the past. They do not know what it is and they do not care. It seems strange to me when someone comes up to my 1925 Bentley and asks if it is a Model T or a Model A or they see the "B" on the radiator and ask what year Buick it is. At least they looked at it. I do understand they are younger and are more interested in modern collectable cars. Now we are lead to believe that in the near future all cars will be electric and self-driving (autonomous). Currently, there are sources like Hagerty www.hagerty.com and auction guru Rick Carey www.rickcarey.com commenting on the current and future trends.

I do appreciate those that drive their cars to our local events and I understand them trailering them to events farther away. I just like working on them and I want to drive old cars everywhere and as often as possible. I look for back roads and nice weather and I am off on a 100+ mile drive. It is my effort to turn the clock back for me and I hope my comments will encourage others to do the same. I expect to drive our Bentley to the 2019 Texas Tour in Kerrville. We have plotted out a two day drive on back roads. On the positive side, if the trend is away from prewar cars and prices become more affordable, that means I can find some really old relic to have some fun with.

(Continued on pg. 5)

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!



April

Carol Baccaro	4/1
Evelyn Timmins	4/1
Ruby Wagoner	4/9
Charles Logan	4/14
Michael Calistrat	4/20
Betty Gorrell	4/27

May

Dot McCurry	5/4
Barbara A. Wahlberg	5/4
Chris Baccaro	5/7
Jenny Medley	5/7
J.T. Gorrell	5/8
Esther Duncan	5/15
Marcia Swift	5/15
Lydia Fant	5/20
Craig Adams	5/21
Jamie Baccaro	5/22
Susan Smith	5/24
Sherri Kurtz	5/27
Karen Staley	5/28
Timothy Eysen	5/30

Ever hear of the Brandon? (1911-1912)

The Commercial Motor Car. Co. of Houston planned to manufacture 4-wheel drive Brandon autos. A prototype may have been built, but the company went into receivership before any manufacture was begun!

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Club Hostess

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Newsletter Editor

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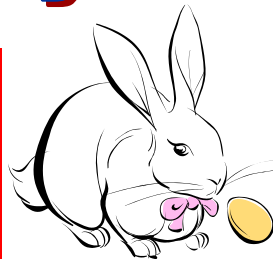
Happy Anniversary!

April-May

Gordon & Patsy Bennett 4/8 (19!)
Leon & Pam Ahlers 4/20 (45!!!)

John & Dena Doerfler 5/1 (43!!!)
Charles & Ellen Howard* 5/1 (41!!!)
Jim & Sandra Johnston 5/24 (32!!!)
Dean & Diana Forbes 5/31 (44!!!)

*=Associate members from the Golden Triangle Texas AACA



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

General Meeting 11 March, 2019

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

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Diana Forbes gave thanks for the fellowship and food. She also asked for a blessing on our fellow GCR members who are ill and for their friends and families. We followed this with a heartfelt Pledge of Allegiance.

Sunshine Report

Diana Forbes has generously volunteered to be our **Sunshine Representative**. Even though she is new to the position, Diana has already learned a few things:

Former member **Donna Romeo** is in the hospital. Since we learned of this on March 11, it is possible that Donna is on the mend and is home by now. Please call her husband, Sam Romeo, to find out where she is and if you can speak or visit with her.

Wish a *Happy March Birthday* to **Ashley Griffith** and **Robert Bullard** who were in the audience.

Diana also mentioned some March wedding anniversaries, but I missed them.

Please keep Diana informed of Sunshine events.

Refreshments

Theresa Bartlett and **Lisa Griffin** were in charge of refreshments for the meeting, and they did an outstanding job. Club members enjoyed a sumptuous repast of delicious homemade sandwiches, plenty of dips and chips, and several dessert items. Thank you, Theresa and Lisa.

Where We've Been

The GCR celebrated Valentine's Day at the *Café at Brookwood* in the Brookwood Community (Brookshire, Texas). It was a fun day with a few old cars, great food, and lots of nice people. **Robert Bullard** thanked the members for attending, but he gave special thanks and recognition to **Theresa Bartlett** for arranging our celebration. *Great job, Theresa!*

Where We're Going

March 16 & 17, 2019: **Jim Johnston** discussed our upcoming sale of original automotive literature at Traders Village. We've got two 2 vendor spaces with room for up to 14 tables. Jim would like for us to have 4 people there to sell the literature.

March 23, 2019: **Robert Bullard** discussed a Saturday driving tour to Brenham. One of the expected highlights is to eat lunch at the *Southern Flyer Diner* followed by dessert at the *Must Be Heaven* sandwich shop in Brenham. The plan is to meet at the Buc-ee's on Highway 290 at Mueschke Rd. Drive your old car and fill it with ethanol-free gasoline available there!

April 25-27, 2019: The Pate Swap Meet is coming up. There's more on Pate later in the newsletter. Since Pate is our Club's biggest fundraiser, your participation is important.

July 7, 2019: We're still planning to celebrate our 2019 4th of July on Sunday July 7 at the *Del Webb Sweetgrass Community Clubhouse* in Richmond, Texas. **Lenny Holzband** is arranging this air-conditioned, indoor venue for us rushes.that has plenty of parking for our antique cars.

Christmas 2019: **Elaine Bullard** has called the Monument Inn about hosting our 2019 Christmas Party there again. She will try to get us a date earlier in December to help us avoid our own personal Christmas rushes.

Business Matters

Treasury: Treasurer **Ev Timmins** says we're starting to benefit from higher interest rates on our savings. The Club remains solvent, and Ev may move some of our money into CDs.

Pate: **Wayne Bartlett** spoke about the 47th annual Pate Swap Meet (April 25-27, 2019) and our Club's Participation. We have to work the gates and need 6-8 more volunteers. Incidentally, Wayne has been to Pate 40 times. And since he generally works twice as hard as anyone else, we'll say he's worked at 80 of them!

Club News

Ferrell Moore took us down memory lane from 1959 to 2009 with a slide show of the Club's 50th Anniversary Party in 2009. It was held at the Briar Club; 130 people attended, including 4 charter members. There were lots of great pictures. We got to see **Stan and Ellen Ericksen's** 1967 Checker Taxi Cab, **Wayne and Theresa Bartlett's** yellow 1940 LaSalle Convertible Coupe, **Julie Wagner-Palmer's** 1949 Plymouth Convertible (lovingly known as "**JuneBug**"), the **Bartlett's** 1929 Packard Super 8 Roadster, **Tahl Rozycki's** 1983 Chrysler Imperial, and lots and lots of photos of our younger selves! Thank you, Ferrell, for that entertaining slide show.

(Continued on pg. 5)

Minutes

Continued from page 4)

Thanks also to **Rick Lamprecht** for setting up the electronic equipment for us lesser technical people!

Other News To Amuse

Robert Bullard enjoys relating fun automotive trivia to us during the meeting. Here are a few he read from the March 2019 Hemmings Classic Car Calendar:

- The lowly Honda Civic was introduced in the USA on March 1, 1974.
- On March 2, 1966 the one-millionth Mustang went on sale.
- On March 4, 1966 the last Studebaker was built.
- The first female to race the Indy 500, Janet Guthrie, was born on March 7, 1938, first female in Iowa City, IA.
- The first collision of two cars with air bags occurred on March 12, 1990.
- Honda Motor Co. was established on March 14, 1948.
- A favorite movie of my childhood, Herbie the Love Bug, premiered on March 13, 1969.

And here are some tidbits Robert extracted and quizzed us about from the prior newsletter:

- The "Rear View Mirror" article spoke about **Terry Williams'** 1939 Mercury 8. According to the article, what were the top six factors that people looked for in a car in that era? (*Answer: Appearance, Performance, Comfort, Roominess, Safety, and Economy*)
- Also from the "Rear View Mirror", **Stan Ericksen's** Checker Taxi Cab had a "suicide knob" on its steering wheel. What other names was this

device known by? (*Answer: necker knob, spinner knob, and Brody knob.*)

- And finally - for a \$5 cash prize (won by **Dean Forbes**, incidentally): What was the make, model, year, and owner of the one car that appeared on a photo in the last page of the prior newsletter? (*Answer: Chevrolet Caprice Station Wagon, 1980, owner **Tahl Rozycki***)

Luck of the Draw

Most of you know that we have two drawings at our "clubhouse" meetings (by which I mean meetings at the Tracy Gee Community Center). The first drawing is for \$10. If you show up, get a numbered ticket, remain at the meeting until we have the drawing, and your number is drawn, you *could* be a winner. Actually, it sounds like a lot of work for a ten-spot. And whose number was drawn from the magic top hat tonight? *Ta-dah! **Bill Palmer's!** It's magic!* [Note to newer members: Bill is a retired magician, musician, and comedian. He's probably laughed kindly at more jokes he's already heard a thousand times before than anyone else you know.]

Our second drawing is a cumulative prize that grows by \$10 at every "clubhouse" meeting. Tonight, the jackpot was \$80. If only Bea Irwin had been here... Incidentally, about 30 years ago Bea's husband, Wayne, was president of the GCR. Someone noted that when he passed away, Wayne was buried in his GCR Club shirt. In April, the prize will grow to \$90.

And to add a little more financial spice to the evening, tonight we had a "50-50 drawing". This is a drawing in which the Club sells numbered tickets to accumulate a pot of money. Tickets sell for \$1 each or \$5 for seven (7). At the end of our meeting, a drawing is

held for a winning ticket. The holder of the winning ticket splits the financial pot 50-50 with the GCR. This is a way to increase the Club's coffers. Incidentally, **Ev Timmins** won the \$35 drawing tonight.

The End

I left a few minutes early and the meeting ended shortly thereafter - but not because I had left. It was just time to go.

As it was – Albert L. Ramos

Continued from pg 2 - Old Car Hobby

For most of us in our club the future of the hobby need not become a concern because we love our cars and will die owning them. As for me, I will not trailer it and just keep driving my cars until I no longer can. My fun comes from working on them, driving them and hearing all enjoying sounds they make and not collecting trophies or concerning myself with their value. That other drivers occasionally give me a "thumbs-up" or take a photo is appreciated even if they do not know what it is. Yes, the hobby has grown, matured and is now aging. Thanks for listening to my "sour grapes".

Rob





President's Letter - Through the Front Windshield

This year is certainly moving along at a fast pace. We just had our Christmas party and here we are one-fourth of the year already behind us.

We had a great Valentine's party at Brookwood Community Center in February. Special thanks to Theresa Bartlett for making the arrangements and the table decorations. We've also had our first tour of the year with thirty members and guests participating in our tour to Brenham. Nine antique/classic cars and seven modern cars made the trip to the Southern Flyer Diner at the Brenham Municipal Airport for a rock and roll themed lunch followed by ice cream and pie at the Must Be Heaven cafe in downtown Brenham. All in all, it was a nice day even though the weather wasn't great until later in the afternoon, and we were a little early in the year for peak wildflower viewing. We managed to dodge any rain and even though we didn't see any massive fields of bluebonnets or Indian paintbrush wildflowers we certainly saw plenty of smaller patches.

I'd like to also welcome Dennis and Jo Ann Husfeld from Anderson to the club. They joined us for the March Tour and joined the club while we were marshalling the cars n Buc-ee's parking lot. Great to have you as members of the club and your '56 Ford is great

looking. I'm looking forward to seeing both of you and it on many future tours.

April and May will see the club focusing on our work at the Pate Swap Meet and participating in the 66th AACA Texas Tour in Kerrville. Make sure you contact or Wayne Bartlett or Robert Wheelless to sign up for work details at Pate. This is our major revenue generator for the club and we can use everyone's help meeting our work commitment to the Pate Swap Meet. The Texas Tour promises to be fun with visits to the YO Ranch, LBJ Ranch and the old towns of Comfort and Luckenbach, were "Everybody is Somebody." Throw in a few meals, a party or two, and a visit to private car collections, and all in all it looks like a great tour. Hope you can make it.

The Gulf Coast Region is scheduled to host the 67th Tour next year. We have several club members working on the tour framework. Please contact Jim Johnston or Wayne Bartlett and volunteer for a committee. It will certainly "take a village" to plan, organize and orchestrate the actual tour. Your help is needed and appreciated.

Hope to see everyone at the April 8th meeting!
Robert Bullard

(Continued from pg. 1) Cover Story

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR

- "California look" (Dechromed exterior)
- Cloth Sun Roof (Grafted from a 1963 Beetle)
- EMPI GT Steering Wheel (Original)
- Billet Aluminum Running Boards

RUNNING GEAR

- Karmann Ghia Disc Brake Conversion
- EMPI "Fat Five" Chrome Wheels
- Adjustable Front Axle Beam
- Chrome Stabilizer Sway Bar

Given the aforementioned modifications, one can clearly see that this is NOT your mother's "Bug"!



Volkswagen



The Rearview Mirror

From our Club Historian Joe Vogt

From the April, 2009
Antique Expression

The cover car for April 2009 was a black 1971 Chevrolet Monte Carlo owned by Jim Palmer and his wife. It had been found in a most roundabout way. The Palmers went to Canton at least three times every year to search through the trash and treasures there. One time, while taking a different route to their destination, Jim saw a rust-laden 1956 Crown Victoria behind a broken-down barn that was crying for help. But they didn't have time to stop and so continued on to Canton.

But Jim could not dismiss this car from his mind and so with his wife's blessing, decided to go back and look for it.

Well, wouldn't you know, despite an hours long search and questioning of local people, they could not re-find the Crown Vic. So they turned their truck around and headed back for Pasadena. But suddenly, Jim couldn't believe his eyes. Sitting on top of a small hill was a black 1971 Monte Carlo. And Jim decided that this one would not get away!

Jim leaped out of his truck and ran his fingers over her like he often did to the race horse that he once owned. He felt certain that this discovery was meant to be. And to his delight, this "Black Beauty" was for sale. So he negotiated a fair price and within three hours was back in Huntsville to haul this car home.

He discovered that his find was a one owner, all original, Houston purchased car with 51,000 miles. The car was fully restored to her showroom look and she enjoyed the love and protection that she rightly deserved.

Donna Romeo thought it would be nice to have a raffle quilt for the 2010 Texas Tour to help defer our club's expenses. So guess what? She was put in charge of this project. That will teach her to come up with good ideas!

The Ericksens' 1967 Checker thanked Evelyn Timmins for the Valentine's brunch at Cavetore's Italian Restaurant, which was even better than last year's outing at the same restaurant. And the Checker Wisdom was: When everything is coming your way, you're going in the wrong direction.

President John Alkire said that when Larry Huber and his wife Carrie, fellow AACAEr from Miami, came to town for Larry's radiation therapy at MD Anderson, they were entertained every weekend by GCR members including John and Nancy, the Bartletts, Romeos, Timmins, and Robby Markman. And Ron Stein gave them a 3 hour tour of the O'Quinn collection. John said that we usually think that our hobby is about cars, but it's really about the fun we have along the way

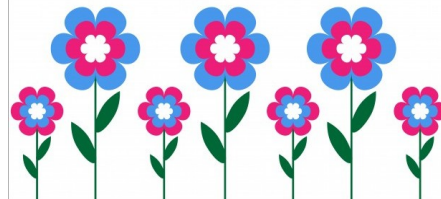
Co-Editor Julia Sharon encouraged us to include the younger generations in our activities. They had their 9 year-old granddaughter for a week and they had a ball.

Finally, James Bartlett talked about the fun he had after finding and browsing a stash of Antique Automobile magazines at his mother's house. His favorite articles were about tightening up loose wood spoke wheels and old varnish-based paints. And James said that his brother Wayne also had a magazine stash that included several magazines with pictures and articles about James' Locomobile, including an Old Car Weekly from the early '70s which showed a picture of the Locomobile on the front cover after it had won an award as the best restored Locomobile on the Glidden Tour. James said that these cars are now so valuable that they wind up in museums and are seldom driven.



1961 photo of Rob McLellan with his 1947 Pontiac

For "the rest of the story," see page 2





Note from the Editor: We all have favorite passages we refer to, or stories we tell, sometimes just to help us remember how to treat people. One club member, Duane Medley, has an Antique Expression article in a special spot in his office. In hearing recently about Ellen Ericksen's passing, he remembered once again, the very touching article printed years ago (2005) in her husband, Stan's, Taxi Tales. For those of you not familiar with Taxi Tales, Stan usually wrote it from the perspective of the cab. The "cab" mentioned that his driver "found" this story. I am glad we could find it again. It brings back good memories of Stan and Ellen at our meetings.

Hi Gang,

My driver has found a wonderful story he wishes to share of life behind the wheel of a Taxi Cab driver.

"Twenty years ago, I drove a cab for a living. When I arrived at 2:30 a.m., the building was dark, except for a single light in a ground floor window. Under these circumstances, many drivers would just honk once or twice, wait a minute, and then drive away. But I had seen too many impoverished people who depended on taxis as their only means of transportation. Unless a situation smelled of danger, I always went to the door. This passenger might be someone who needs my assistance, I reasoned to myself.

So I walked to the door and knocked. "Just a minute," answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor. After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 80's stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940s movie. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment itself looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she asked. I took the suitcase to the cab, and then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness. "It's nothing," I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother treated."

"Oh, you're such a good boy," she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address, and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?"

"It's not the shortest way," I answered quickly.

"Oh, I don't mind," she said. "I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice."

I looked in the rearview mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued. "The doctor says I don't have very long." I quietly reached over and shut off the meter. "What route would you like me to take?" I asked.

For the next 2 hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator. We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now."

(Continued on page 10)

Down the Road

Underlined items are club (GCR AACA) sponsored activities.

- April 8 **GCR AACA** meeting. 7:30 in the Tracy Gee Center.
- April 19-21 New Braunfels Swap Meet
- April 25-27 PATE SWAPMEET: Texas Motor Speedway, Ft. Worth
Contact Wayne Bartlett or Robert Wheelless
- April 29 Deadline for contributions for May mini AE.
- May 13 **GCR AACA** meeting. 7:30 in the Tracy Gee Center.
- May 16-19 66th Annual Texas Tour, Kerrville. Host: Central Texas
Region AACA
- May 27 Deadline for contributions for AE June/July issue.
- June 10 **GCR AACA** meeting. 7:30 in the Tracy Gee Center.
- June 15 Grimes County Courthouse, Centennial Celebration,
Anderson (ask Bill Thomas for info: lestalk7@aol.com)
- July 7 Annual **4th of July Celebration**. Del Webb Sweetgrass
Community Clubhouse in Richmond. More later.
- July 20 Watermelon fest with carshow, parade, and trophies,
Hempstead. More later.
- July 26-28 Fredericksburg Swap Meet

Public 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.

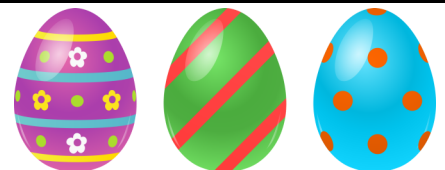
**Gulf Coast Regional Meetings at Tracy Gee Center
3599 West Center Dr.,
Houston, TX 77042**

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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REFRESHMENTS

April
Diana Forbes
Carol Coghill

Spending the Night at Pate? Need a place to stay?? Try these.

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Hampton Inn & Suites N. Fort Worth-Alliance Airport Group. Ask for group rate for Pate Swap Meet. 13600 N. Fwy Serv Rd. E, 817-439-0400



Alliance Airport
2600 Westport Parkway,
Ft. Worth, 855-206-2202



Stan, our own taxi driver!



Or, just ask someone who had been before, Like Robert Wheelless or Wayne Bartlett, or the Byrds, who go every year!!

Check out the website for more Pate Info.

(Taxi Tales, continued from pg. 8)

We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair.

“How much do I owe you?” she asked, reaching into her purse. “Nothing,” I said.

“You have to make a living,” she answered. “There are other passengers,” I responded.

Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held on to me tightly.

“You gave an old woman a little moment of joy,” she said. “Thank you.” I squeezed her hand, then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life. I didn’t pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once and then driven away? On a quick review, I don’t think that I have done anything more important in my life. We’re conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware-beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

People may not remember exactly what you did, or what you said, - But – they will always remember how you made them feel. Author unknown

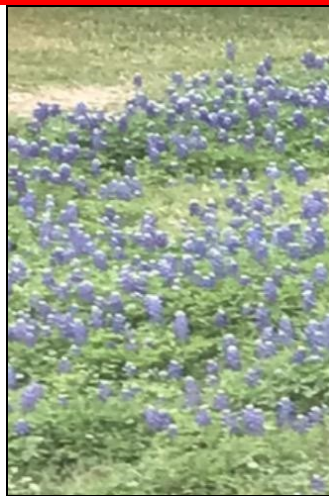
Happy Moment



Can't call 50 years a moment, but Bill and Victoria Seward finally got to enjoy their 50th Anniversary party, 2 years later! It was postponed due to Harvey! They celebrated at the Willow Fork Country Club in Katy on Saturday, March 30. We hope they have many more together!



Funny Moment



If Julie and Bill don't like you, this is what will chase you out of their back yard!!

Changing Moment

Bonnie Peterson has recently moved to Atria Senior Living, near her son's family home.

If you have time, or are in the neighborhood, she might love to see you, or you might want to send her a card.

**Atria Senior Living
11500 Fallbrook Drive
Houston, TX 77065
Attn: Bonnie Peterson
Room 507**

Sad Moment

Ellen L. Ericksen

JULY 24, 1929 – FEBRUARY 18, 2019

Ellen Costello Ericksen passed away unexpectedly on Monday, February 18, 2019. Ellen was born July 24, 1929 in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, the 6th of 10 children. She was married to Stan Ericksen for 66 ½ years and together they raised 5 children. Ellen was active for many years as a volunteer, and Stan's favorite sidekick in numerous car tours with the GCR-AACA. She is survived by her beloved husband, Stan, their 5 children, some of whom you may have met at club functions, and grandchildren and great grandchildren. Club members serving as Pall Bearers were Benny Guseman and Albert Ramos. If any care to, donations may be made to The Salvation Army, in her memory.



Around Town (or out of town) with the GCR

Valentine Lunch at Brookwood



Nothing like good food and friends!



Yes, it was a 50s diner!



Had some new folks: Dennis & Jo Husfeld

Mini Road Trip to Brenham!

We had some nice cars!!



And some "old" ones



Don't forget the meeting Monday night and to pay your dues!!