



The Antique Expression

'Tis the Season for Memories.....

By Mike Staley



Mike and Laurie Staley and the 1926 Paige

It's Christmas Season and we have all heard of chestnuts, and roasted nuts, and sugar coated nuts.. But in the automotive world we also have car nuts! So what exactly is a car nut and how are they made?

First off let's talk about what the phrase means. Urban Dictionary has it listed as someone who is a complete fan of cars. Example: Jay Leno is a car nut. Another phrase you may have heard is a car enthusiast. I have been thinking a lot lately about why some people love cars and others just consider them as a form of transportation. Why do some people love classic cars, muscle cars, antique cars, steam powered cars, electric cars or new cars? The automotive industry has something for everyone and although not everyone is a certified car nut like most of us reading this newsletter.. most everyone uses an automobile in some way or another, which means there is hope to convert more people!

Why do you think there are so many car brands out there.. A quick Google search says approximately 55 brands in the USA alone.

I have considered myself a car nut for just about as long as I can remember and I have always loved antique cars. Why antique cars you ask? Well, mainly because I feel they are so unique and different and classy. But looking deeper into myself and my past, I continue to ask why. Why do I like antique cars better than, for example, our 1967 Olds 442 or our 1970 Olds Cutlass SX? Don't take this wrong.. I absolutely love our family muscle cars, but if all of them were in a row and ready to drive and I was asked to take a spin around the block I would grab the keys to our 1926 Paige 6-72, fire it right up and take off.

When I sit behind the wheel of that 91 year old car and press the starter button with my foot and the engine cranks up after about 3 revolutions, my brain must produce some sort of endorphin release because it just feels good and sounds excellent! Think about this for a second. The car is 91 YEARS old.. and it still drives! If our Paige could talk, OH what stories could it tell!

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The Antique Expression

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We purchased the car in November, 2016, from a gentleman in Pennsylvania who purchased the car from the Dick Paige family car collection (supposedly the grandson of the Paige originator). We take lots of short trips in the Paige whenever we can and the last one was a nice evening drive to Perry's Steakhouse in Friendswood.

It wasn't until recently after my father Douglas passed away, we started looking at the family photos and reminiscing about the good old days when I came across a roll of film from 1982 or 1983. My dad took me to a car show at the Astrodome and there I sat right on the bumper of a Ford Model A. As I flipped through the recently digitized pictures it brought back a flood of memories from the day including a photo taken with Kit the talking Pontiac from the TV series Knight Rider!! HA

I remember us walking down the side of the exhibit and there was a long row of antique cars and my Dad talked with me about them and told me how simple they were with

their mechanical brakes and mechanical timing. I'm not sure if I understood the whole timing thing.. But I could see the adjustment levers on the steering column. Sometime in the early 1980's my Dad bought a Ford Model A that he wanted to restore with me. We actually still have that Ford, and life and work got in the way, and we unfortunately never finished it.

That must be it! It was my dad's fault! He was the one who sparked my interest in cars and fortunately for me it turned from a spark to a nice warm fire that lives inside me and I hope to spread the sparks with my children and one day grandchildren. In the end, all we have are the memories of our passed loved ones, and I am thankful to have some great ones that my dad car nut senior passed to me... car nut junior :)

Merry Christmas.



In Memory of Mike's father: Douglas Keith Staley

Mike's father, club member Douglas Keith Staley (1942-2017), passed away after an 18 month battle with brain cancer. He worked his whole career as a Chemical Process Engineer for Celanese Corp. He and Karen married on Oct. 12, 1968. He is also survived by Mike's wife, Laurie, and Emily and Hannah; his son Greg and wife Michele and children Graham, Ethan and Ian; and his brother Richard and wife Lynn.

Condolences may be sent to 30 El Dorado Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

Breaking News!!!

WINTER MEET tentatively scheduled!!!

Save the date. The Deep South Region will host a winter meet in Mobile, Alabama, from March 23-24! The meet will be held at Cooper Riverside Park. This 3-acre park along the Mobile River has outdoor sculptures, paved walking paths and benches. It will be a great setting. The host hotel will be the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel at 64 S. Water St., Mobile.

Rooms will cost \$119.00 per night and you can call 251-438-4000 to make your reservations.

Official approval will happen soon, but we wanted to get this information out to you so you can begin to make plans. AACA is very grateful for the willingness of this region to jump to the rescue. Let's support the Deep South Region by registering cars and judges as soon as the meet officially opens.

From AACA Speedster for November, 2017



Love Is Eternal

And we want to celebrate this with a Valentine's Day event. Be watching for more information about this soon.



★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

December

Jim McGee	12/1
John D. Alkire	12/4
Tahl Rozycki	12/6
Gene Wall	12/6
Tom D'Ambrosio	12/13
Jose Gonzalez-Jauregui	12/15
Julie Palmer	12/17
Michael Cawley	12/22
Ellery Andrew	12/24
Javis Boudreaux	12/24
Brenda Kaiser	12/29
Larry Huber	12/29
Eileen Bartlett	12/30
Billy Ray Duncan	12/31

January

Sophie Adcock	1/3
Sam Romeo	1/5
John Matejka	1/7
Tina Fernandez	1/10
Nancy Smith	1/12
Raelynn Andrew	1/13
Bill Cockrell	1/16
Patricia Logan	1/16
Ted Hiesser	1/17
Jo Kat D'Ambrosio	1/20
LaNelle Wagner	1/21
Duane Medley	1/23
Dean Forbes	1/23
Lynn Cawley	1/23
Pete Reinthaler	1/26
Paul Byrd	1/28
Micky Bohne	1/29

Happy Anniversary!

ANNIVERSARIES

December

Michael & Lynn Cawley	12/1 (39!!)
Tommy & Carol Baccaro	12/19 (47!!!)
Sam & Donna Romeo	12/24 (36!!)
Christopher & Karen Sokol	12/27
Paul & Barbara Byrd	12/28(60!!!!)
Rollin & Joyce Hargrove	12/28 (52!!!)
David & Brenda Kaiser	12/30 (14!)
Jack & Cheryl Malpass	12/30 (45!!!)

Blue Skyes over Autism 2017 Christmas Party

On Saturday, December 2nd, Blue Skyes over Autism held their 2017 Christmas Party. Evelyn, generous, as always, provided her 1934 Packard. She was out of town so I picked up her car and drove it (with Sandra close behind in her car) to the Autism Christmas party.

We had an uneventful drive to Pasadena and easily avoided the Toll-way and I-45 on our peaceful drive to Crenshaw Park where we were to meet up with Santa Claus at 4:00 PM. The Packard and I were doing fine when we got to the park where 1st. Sargent Earl Ivory was waiting for us. Santa arrived, jumped in the Packard and off we drove to the party at the Verne Cox Center less than a mile away.

As we drove up to the party we were met by about 50 or 60 kids anxiously waiting for someone to arrive. Not sure who they thought they were waiting for, but when I honked the horn and they saw Santa in the "Packard" Christmas Sleigh, I would think that Evelyn could have heard them yelling all the way up in Dallas where she was visiting her son Shaun, daughter- in- law Maria and the grandkids.

The kids, and adults loved the car! Santa and the Packard were a great success. A few pictures on the back page, show the success. Evelyn, and Tom, have always done everything they could to help promote the old car hobby. There were groups of kids, teens and adults that posed with the car. You may recall we donated to this charitable group earlier this year.



Following is the mission of Blue Skyes over Autism:

Blue Skyes over Autism bonds families who are dealing with Autism by:

- Helping families get to know one another
- Giving families a network when they need assistance or just conversation
- Letting our kids get to know each other while visiting different places and events
- Allowing people to bond with others who understand the isolation we experience
- Families sharing information and fellowshiping
- Allowing families to have fun and feel acceptance

Jim Johnston

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

General Meeting 9 October, 2017

President **Jim Johnston** called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance - **John Doerfler** gave thanks for all the kind volunteers who helped those who suffered losses in Hurricane Harvey. He also asked us to remember those who could not be here. Following this heartfelt prayer, we pledged allegiance our U.S. flag.

Sunshine Report

No reports were given tonight, but we remain aware of our members who have chronic illnesses or who otherwise cannot attend our meetings. In addition to **Stan and Ellen Ericksen** and **Bill and Barbara Wahlberg**, we've missed friends like **José Gonzales-Jauregui**, **John Alkire**, **Lee Brown**, **Mike and Caroline Calistrat**, **Nancy Smith**, and **Ted and Evelyn Hiesser**., and the **Willisis**. It would be wonderful to see them all at the December Christmas party.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer **Ev Timmins** did not report about our finances tonight, but I have it on good authority that we're A-OK. For those of you under the age of 25 (or if you just date people that young), "A-OK" is the equivalent of a smiley-face emoji giving a thumbs up signal.

Refreshments

A whole host of *chefs* provided tonight's sumptuous repast: **Carole Coghill**, **Bill Cockrell**, **Ashley and Lisa Griffin**, and their granddaughter, **Hazel Hernandez**. And what was on the table? (It took three tables): Buttered garlic toast, onion dip, bacon

-wrapped sausage on top of Ritz Crackers (thank you, Carole - everything's better with bacon!), mozzarella sticks, peanut butter oatmeal cookies, snickerdoodle cookies, chocolate cream cake, pumpkin muffins, taquitos, and ham sandwiches. Then there's my personal favorite homemade sweet treat... peanut butter Ritz Crackers covered in chocolate, *courtesy of Hazel!* If you've never had one of these special treats, I personally offer you my heartfelt thanks because that means there's one more of these in the world I can eat. They're absolutely delicious - a "love at first bite" kind of dessert! Ironically, they're smooth and round, much like a T-shirt on a fat man, which is what you'd look like if you ate a cookie-tin-full of them in one sitting like I did. Thank you, Hazel!

Where We've Been

Nowhere much. The Friday lunch bunch keeps on eating though.

Where We're Going

Club members were reminded to speak with **Lenny Holzband** about *Temple Emanu El's 5th Annual Classic & Collectible Car Show* to be held October 29.

Guest Speaker

Tonight we were honored to have a very special guest speaker, **Jess Hewitt**, a gasoline chemist from Gulf Oil and Manager of Gulf Racing Fuels. There will likely be more about Jess's fascinating talk to our Club elsewhere in this newsletter, but he mainly discussed the damage that ethanol fuels do to our antique engines and fuel systems and the recent availability of non-ethanol fuels in the Houston area.

Jess showed us a short film to demonstrate that ethanol in our modern fuel is hygroscopic - which means that it absorbs water from the atmosphere. But water is not the only problem with ethanol-"enhanced" fuel. Jess said that ethanol keeps eating away at whatever it's going through (like hoses and gaskets), not unlike like *some* people around food and drink.

One of the fuels that Jess and his team developed and tested is Gulf Marine. It uses non-hygroscopic chemicals to replace ethanol. And in addition to not absorbing water, it doesn't create acids that break down hoses and gaskets. Thankfully, this fuel is now available at fuel retailers in and around Houston.

Jess also answered Club members' questions had about fuel. Someone asked about the importance of octane to an older engine. Jess said that the quality of the fuel was more important than the octane in most cases and reminded us that our antique car engines' valve seats need to be hardened to deal with unleaded fuels.

Tahl Rozycki asked if it is necessary to fill a tank completely to minimize absorption of water when using ethanol fuels. Jess said it does not help. **Julie Wagner** asked if non-ethanol gasoline would lessen the risk of vapor lock. "Yes", was Jess's short answer.

Other News to Amuse

The talk about gasoline reminded **Jim Johnston** about the first time he saw late-member **Don Boggus's** 1976 Pontiac Bonneville Brougham. It was at a Texas Tour, and Jim asked Don how it ran. Don said, "Get in. I need to go get gas. "

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On the way out to fill up, Don spied a wrecked Bonneville at an abandoned farm house. On their way back, Don stopped to look at it. When Jim said it was time to go because the tour was about to start, Don said, "OK", but not before he liberated a part from the wrecked Bonneville's sun visor!

Tahl Rozycki then told us a few **Tahl Tales**, "one sad and one glad". On the "sad" note, Tahl is losing two of his four parking spots at his condominium complex and is looking for new storage space. He wants something convenient to his home since he drives all four cars regularly. On the "glad" side, Tahl told a 1980's joke about a golfer who had just purchased a then-new and reintroduced Chrysler Imperial. Since this is a family-friendly publication, I'll just tell you the punch line: *That Lee Iococca thinks of everything!* If you want the rest of that Tahl Tale, you have to go to the source.

Finally, **Jim Johnston** was contacted by someone producing a TV show being filmed in Dayton and Cleveland, TX. The producer is looking for pre-1970 red convertibles for a Christmas scene "Battle of the Christmas Lights" and pays \$550 per day. Call Jim if you are interested.

Luck of the Draw - **Bill Seward** won the \$10 "being there" prize for tonight's meeting. That won't go very far to helping **Bill** and **Victoria Seward** fix up their flooded home, but it's certainly better than a kick in the pants.

The drawing for our cumulative door prize that grows by \$10 every month (until someone wins it) was up to \$70. If **Dan Becker** had made the nearly 80-mile round trip to attend the meeting, he could have used that \$70 to fill up his gas tank because his name was drawn! We hope you'll come to more meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.
As it was, Albert L. Ramos

General Meeting 13 November, 2017

President **Jim Johnston** called the meeting to order at 7:37 pm.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance - **Diana Forbes** led us in giving thanks. In recognition of Veterans Day, which we celebrated two days earlier on November 11, Diana thoughtfully asked us to remember our veterans. We followed this with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sunshine Report - We learned that **Bill Wahlberg** is doing well enough to attend the Friday lunches. Everyone there is glad to see Bill, but they're just as happy (or *more* happy) to see his lovely bride, **Barbara!** **Julie Wagner-Palmer** reports that husband **Bill Palmer** had a quadruple bypass in late October. Bill is recovering quite nicely - only two days in the ICU after surgery and two more days in the hospital before he got to go home. It's almost like magic! We also got a "sick report" on some of our members' houses that required a bit of "home health" after Hurricane Harvey. The Seward's house already has its new layer of drywall and new floors. Cabinets are next. We also heard that the Doerflers are moving along expeditiously as well.

Treasurer's Report - **Ev Timmins** reports that our bank account has grown with the recent addition of our Pate Swap Meet money. The American poet Carl Sandburg once said that money is "...the root of all evil, the sum of all blessings." I don't know about that, but I heard a rumor that **Javis Boudreaux's** T-shirts are made of \$100 bills sewn together. When next you see Javis, remind him that he owes you a couple of bucks. He'll just peel off a C-note and say, "I don't carry small change, nor do I accept it."

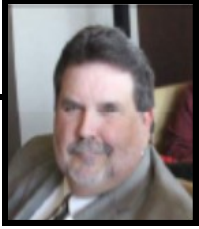
Refreshments - "All you need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt." Those are the words of Charles M. Schultz, creator of the *Peanuts* comic strip with beloved characters like Charlie Brown and Snoopy. Why would I quote Schultz? Because he spoke of chocolate, and **Theresa Bartlett** made chocolate covered peanuts! Like all things Theresa makes, they were wonderful! Theresa and **Victoria Seward** (with a little help from **Bill Seward**), provided tonight's refreshments. Victoria made delicious chicken salad sandwiches. I emphasize healthy things like that when I go home after our meetings to show Karen how virtuous I am about watching what I eat at these meetings. The Seward and Theresa also brought Fritos, tortilla chips, cheese sauce, large green grapes, strawberries, a *really delicious* carrot cake, mandarin oranges, and no-bake peanut butter cookies.

Where We've Been - Members gathered last weekend at the home of **Dean and Diana Forbes** to celebrate Veterans Day. Dean served on three submarines in the Navy from 1969 to 1994. The first sub he served on is at Seawolf Park in Galveston. Our Club is going to have a mini-tour out there soon followed by lunch at *Miller's Seawall Grill*.

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Congratulations to the 2018 New Officers and Directors! And More (And tag you're it)



Well, we got it done. For those of you who were not able to make it to the November meeting, we elected the following 2018 Officers and Directors.

President – Jim Johnston
Vice President – Joe Vogt
Secretary – Albert Ramos
Treasurer – Ev Timmins
Directors (7) – Dean Forbes, Javis Boudreaux, , Robert Bullard, Bill Cockrell, Lenny Holzband, Robert McLellan, and Ron Stein
Pate Director – Sam Romeo (also serves as a Director to the Club)
Pate Alternate Director- Robert Wheelless (also serves as a Director to the Club)

This will give us a total of 13 Officers and Directors of which 7 will be needed for a Quorum at a Board meeting to conduct the business of the club

Items for you to enter on your busy December calendar of events. Next up is our Annual Holliday Luncheon at the Monument Inn. Each of you should have already received the signup information in the mail to send in to the Treasurer to secure your attendance reservations. Once again, we will have a Toys For Tots collection by the Marines to pick up the toys for them to distribute to kids. Members are asked to bring two unwrapped gifts, one girl and one boy for the Marines to pick up for the Toys for Tots program. For all who need to load the address for the Monument Inn into your GPS, here's the address:

Monument Inn
4406 Independence Parkway
LaPorte, TX 77571

As reported at the last meeting we have a member, Thomas Kidd, that has agreed to assume the task of being the web master of our club's web page www.gcraaca.org , The logistics of getting Thomas access to the domain name and necessary passwords are in the works. One thing that we need is to get current pictures of your cars, so they can be posted on the web site in a gallery of our cars section. For now, since some of you have multiple cars we will start by limiting the number of cars to 5 for each member. At some point we may be able to add more.

So, for now if you will begin to start sending me photos of your cars to my email address, pres-gcraaca@att.net and I'll get the pictures to Thomas.

We also have a Facebook page, [Gulf Coast Region AACA](#), and member Julie Palmer is the master of our Facebook page and is doing a great job.

For your 2018 calendar, be sure to mark March 22nd – 24th for the National AACA Winter Meet in Mobile, Alabama to be hosted by the Deep South Region AACA. Our Club has been contacted by Charlotte Dahlenburg, the Winter Meet Chairperson, for our Region to help support the Deep South Region in their efforts to put on a successful Winter Meet. This Winter National Meet is usually hosted each year by the Puerto Rico Region Club. But due to the devastation of the category 4 hurricane Maria, with 150 MPH winds when the storm made landfall in Puerto Rico on September 20th, 2017, it is impossible for the Puerto Rico Region to even think of hosting the annual Winter Meet.

So up stepped the Deep South Region Club. You can be assured they will need our help and support. The Louisiana Region is also going to do whatever they can do to support the Deep South Region for the Winter Meet. The Deep South Region is the same Club that helped us with our Central Fall Meet in Galveston. Some of you will remember we worked on our planning for Galveston for right at two years. The Deep South Region is only going to have a little over 3 or 4 months to put this meet together. For now, the first thing we can think about doing to show our support is to try to get as many of our members, with their cars, to register for their Winter Meet, just as they did for us in Galveston. There will be other areas where we will be able to help as they move forward in their planning process.

So, let's mark our calendars now for our group to travel east and tour as a group to Mobile, Alabama for the 2018 Winter Meet, and maybe we can pick up some hitchhiking Louisiana Region members with their cars on the way!!

That's all for now, "Moving on Down the Road".
Jim Johnston

From President Jim Johnston



**From Club
Historian
Joe Vogt**

From the Dec, 2007
Antique Expression

The December, 2007 **cover car** was a 1956 Buick Riviera Roadmaster Model 72 owned by Daniel and Charlene Matheson.

This car weighed in at 4,355 pounds and had a base price of \$3,692. Standard features included (take a deep breath) windshield washers and wide angle wipers, backup lights, brake warning lights, foam rubber cushioned dash, glare proof rear-view mirror, dual exhaust, electric clock, full wheel covers, automatic trunk compartment light, adjustable rear license plate holder, power brakes, power steering, power windows, perimeter heating, power seats, and Daytona weave carpeting. Options were Frigidaire air conditioning, tissue dispenser, visor mounted vanity mirror, redline speedometer, temperature, gasoline, oil pressure, and amp gauges. The only two options that were missing were power antenna and floor button to activate the station changer for the Selectronic AM high fidelity radio.

In his **Taxi Tales** column, Stan Erickson described his and Mrs. Erickson's participation in the 38th and "Farewell" Cav-Oil-Cade tour put on by the Port Arthur club. Three of the activities were: (1) as the driver drove a 100 foot course, the passenger was to throw a newspaper into each of three large cardboard boxes, (2) the Cracker Whistle, where after driving 50 feet, the driver was to stop and let the passenger out, and then the passenger was given three saltine crackers that he or she was supposed to eat and then whistle, and (3) with a bag over the driver's head and only getting instructions from the passenger, the driver was supposed to navigate around three traffic cones. Regrettably, the Erickson's did not win any of these events. And no, I'm not making these events up!!

And Stan did once again have a profound thought to pass on, this time from Lloyd Post, namely, "The grass may look greener on the other side of the fence, but there are thistles over there too. "

In Lee Brown's **Secretary's Column**, it was mentioned that "Ron Stein commented on Honorary

Member John O'Quinn's ever expanding antique car collection. This magnificent collection has now swelled to over 1000 cars and apparently has so cramped the existing storage facility that even the small private tours of the cars that John used to entertain are no longer possible. But – an all new museum to properly display the cars is in the works, and most likely will be located in the downtown area." What an asset to Houston and the collectable car community it would have been if John O'Quinn had lived to see this project through. And what a shame that another intelligent person, a lawyer at that, didn't make plans to make sure that his wishes would still happen, even in the event of his death.

Lee Brown's column also mentioned a really fun Poker Run organized by Gordon and Patsy Bennett. 11 cars and about 30 members took part, and there was even a slide show with music at the next meeting!

In the **President's Column**, John Alkire thanked Ron Stein for letting the club know about a Hobby Air Terminal event attended by a number of GCR members, and also thanked Sam Romeo for posting the GCR banner and passing out membership forms at the Autorama.

Nancy Smith, John Alkire, Lee Brown, and Terry Williams attended the Auburn, Cord, Duesenberg meet in Auburn, Indiana. During the meet, John found out about "one that got away." It was a 32 or 33 Auburn V-12 phaeton that had been recently purchased by another meet attendee and needed to be restored. In chatting with the new owner, John found out that the previous owner was a WWII vet from Kemah who had had the car sitting in his garage for 40 years but died before its intended restoration. So this beauty had been sitting right under John's and Tom Timmins' noses without their knowledge. But at least it was discovered by someone before a hurricane might have taken it away!

A new radio talk show about classic cars and wooden boats was announced. It was hosted by Keels and Wheels Concours d'Elegance founders Ron Stein, Bob Fuller, and Ken Dougherty and was on Sundays from 8:00 to 9:00 am.

A necessity in collecting old cars, parts and auto literature is to have some place to store it. That problem was solved when my wife and I bought our first house in the Spring of 1973. Swap meets are a good place to find what I wanted and my first venture to the South Central Swap Meet, later called the Pate Swap Meet, was in 1975. It was the third year of the swap meet and as many of you know, it was organized by Barney Calvert of the Gulf Coast Region AACA out of Houston, in 1972. I must admit that I was not impressed with what seemed like a Ford parts meet. Now understand, I love Fords, but at that time I was more interested in 1950s sports cars and prewar luxury cars. It was a real laugh to ask vendors, "What do you have foreign or in sports car parts and literature?" and watch the vendors scowl and shake their heads. I pursued my quest and over the years I have turned up an amazing amount of literature and parts. But at that time, Fords seemed to be the most popular cars in our Gulf Coast AACA region when I joined in 1975. I regret that I dropped out of the club after a few years only to join again recently. Times changed and so did the members and their cars.

After the Pate Swap Meet moved its location, I continued going until about 15 years ago. I did not miss a single year until then. I was first a vender in the 1980s and I got more serious as time went along. I sold primarily old car literature that I considered to not meet my standards for resale through my mail order business. I had created McLellan's Automotive History, a literature business in 1960 and it was a part time business until 1985. From then on to 2014 it was a full time business until I closed it. Pate was fun, profitable and full of surprises. One early morning on the first day, I walked up to a table where a fellow was stacking boxes and I asked him if he had any literature. He pointed at two boxes and said his neighbor died and his wife told him to get rid of those. I opened the first box and had a panic attack, opened the second box and my heart was racing. Stuttering, I said, "What do you want for both boxes?". He said, "What will you give me?". Shaking, I handed him a couple of twenties and he said, "Ok". I quickly lugged off about 100 pounds of literature across the field. I did not know what I had until I put them into my station wagon. Yes, it was just as I anticipated. Duesenberg, Pierce-Arrow, Stutz, Cadillac, Packard, Roll-Royce and all the prewar literature that dreams are made of and in beautiful condition. That was not the first time that I got lucky as Pate always was a treasure hunt. Now let you about my biggest find.

In 1994 the swap meet had moved and the Pate Museum of Transportation was shipping out their car collection and clearing out the area. Do you remember those railroad box cars that used to form a line by the museum?. You probably thought they were empty. They were actually filled with donated collections of auto related items that were too plentiful to put into the museum. As the museum was being emptied, the curator of the museum, prior to having the box cars hauled off, decided to look inside. To his surprise they were filled with memorabilia, parts and, oh yes, auto literature. Coincidentally, he had a letter on his desk that I had written to him inquiring about literature that the museum might have for sale. He contacted me and I came running. Looking inside the cars, I was a little put off at first with all the mouse and rat dropping and squirrel nut shells, but inside the boxes and file cabinets, there was over a ton of literature, most all of it in excellent to new condition and dating back to the beginning of the last century. Since it was otherwise going into the trash, I got it for "a song and a dance". As usual, what was not in excellent condition, I sold at the new swap meet location. Yes, Pate was good to me.

40 Million Fire Extinguishers Recalled

Just recently a recall was announced involving 40 million fire extinguishers manufactured by Kidde. The recall involves 134 models of Kidde fire extinguishers manufactured between January 1, 1973 and August 15, 2017, including models that were previously recalled in March 2009 and February 2015. Be advised that some of the recalled extinguishers were sold under names other than Kidde (i.e. Fuller Brush, Honeywell, Montgomery Ward, Sears and other names).

Given how many AACA members have fire extinguishers for their vehicles, we have no doubt that some AACA members have extinguishers that are being recalled. Please take action on this situation immediately and be sure to share this information with all of your region and chapter members as soon as possible.

Down the Road

Underlined items are club (GCR AACA) sponsored activities.

- Dec. 10 GCR AACA Christmas Lunch at Monument Inn. Reservations only.
- Dec. 26 Deadline for AE Feb. mini edition information.
- Jan. 8, 2018 GCR AACA meeting. 7:30 in the Tracy Gee Center.
- Feb. Valentine celebration TBD
- Feb. 8-10 82nd Annual Meeting AACA, Philadelphia
- Mar. 23-24 National Meet - Deep South Region, Mobile, AL

Public Car Outings.....

Friday Lunch - Group of car 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

Third Sat. of the month, Houston Ride 'N Shine sponsors free car meet from 8-10 AM. at La Centerra Mall in Katy. Facebook.com/houstonridenshine

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

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

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Editor: Evelyn Timmins
281-388-1967
evtimmins@aol.com
2120 Lundy Ln.
Friendswood, TX 77546

Kidde Fire Extinguisher Product Safety Recall Information

Be advised that Kidde.com has the list of recalled extinguishers. It also lets you submit your request for a replacement extinguisher after you provide your name, address, the model extinguisher and serial number. It verifies that your extinguisher is being recalled and submits your request for a replacement.

If you do not want to submit your request online, you can contact Kidde via telephone to find out if a fire extinguisher is included in the recall or to get a replacement.

Contact Kidde at 855-271-0773 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday-Friday (excluding holidays), or between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. during the weekend to determine whether your extinguishers are affected.

Information provided from the AACA Speedster for November, 2017.

The holidays are here.



First GCR AACA Veterans' Day Picnic

Well, we pulled off our first Veterans' Day Picnic on Saturday, November 11, after a few issues had to be addressed. I had reserved the pavilion in George Bush Park in July, assuming that was more than enough time. After the unwanted guest, Harvey, stalled through Houston, I began talking to the County Parks Department about the status of the park. Meanwhile, I started calling for a backup, and every park was either reserved and/or suffering under water also. So, I continued to talk to them every week while hoping everything would work out. About two weeks before the picnic the park was well drained, but they told me they were still addressing plumbing issues in the public restrooms, so the pavilions were still closed. On Monday, October 30th they said they would know for sure by Friday. I called several times that week, then we left to go out of town on Friday, November 3rd, one week prior to the picnic. About 3pm that day when we were traveling on I45 around Huntsville, I received the call that the park would not be available. I called my buddy, Diana, and she immediately offered their home. Leave it to Dean and Diana to come to the rescue!

So, on Saturday, November 11th, twenty-two of us met at their home. Small group but it was a beautiful day with lots of good food: fried chicken from Frenchy's Fried Chicken, and many homemade salads, veggies and desserts.

We had five beautiful antique automobiles. Since the picnic was not one of the events approved for the \$100 drawing, we just enjoyed looking at them. Maybe next year we will have another picnic, and have it authorized for the drawing. Here is a list of the vehicles:

Wayne & Theresa Bartlett – 1940 LaSalle Convertible

Bob & Gail Supina – 1937 Packard Convertible

Joe Vogt & Dixie Thomas – 1932 Pierce Arrow

John & Dena Doerfler – 1933 Plymouth Convertible

Dean & Diana Forbes – 1956 Continental Mark II

Since our 1940 Ford is "under construction" Jim wanted me to add that he drove our classic 2007 Shelby GT 500 with a trunk full of fried chicken!

We had such fun visiting and hope the club will choose to have a Veterans Day Picnic next year!

(Minutes - Continued from pg. 5)

Where We're Going - The annual **Gulf Coast Region Christmas luncheon** will be at the *Monument Inn* on December 10th. **Ev Timmins** reminded everyone to register and pay for their Christmas meals. She also gave us a brief overview of the menu. **Julie Wagner-Palmer** wanted to know what kind of fried fisherman she could get if she orders the Fried Fisherman meal.

Car News - **Jim Johnston** reports that his 1940 Ford Deluxe 4-door sedan is getting closer to being fixed up. He says the car has its original factory undercoating.

Other News to Amuse

Our biannual Officers and Board of Directors election is coming up. They were talking too fast for me to get all the names down as I ran back from the refreshments table, but I do recall a few details. The Board recommends **Sam Romeo** and **Rob't Wheelless** for our Pate and Alternate Pate directors, respectively. The Board also recommended these potential Board Members and/or Officers: **Wayne Bartlett, Jarvis Boudreaux, Robert Bullard, Bill Cockrell, Dean Forbes, Lenny Holzband, Robert McLellan, and Ron Stein.** **Ev Timmins** and **Albert** are Finally, **Jim Johnston** said he'd run for President again if we don't tell his wife, **Sandra.** (*Con't on pg. 11*)

(Minutes - Continued from pg. 5)

Close your eyes, Sandra, so you can't say you heard it from me.

Julie Wagner-Palmer made the motion to accept the Board's recommendations. Ev seconded it, and all approved.

The AACA Winter Meet/Special Grand National that was to have been held in San Juan, Puerto Rico on March 2-3, 2018 has been canceled due to Hurricane Harvey. In its place, the Deep South Region will host a meet in Mobile, Alabama on March 22-24, 2018. It should be fun.

Joe Vogt commented that we need to update our web page. **Jim Johnston** said one of his neighbors will help. **Julie Wagner** is doing a *facebook* page for us. Joe also recommended we participate in some parades to gain visibility.

Norma Moore made a motion to "comp" fees to BOD members and directors. **Julie Wagner-Palmer** seconded it. In the vote, 10 were in favor and 8 opposed. **Bill Cockrell** then made a motion to rescind and table Norma's motion. It was seconded by **Sam Romeo** and a host of others. Consider it tabled.

Ev Timmins generously permitted **Jim Johnston** to keep his trailer at her place. When he pulled it over there recently and needed to unhitch the trailer from his SUV, Jim realized he had left the hitch lock at home. Instead of returning home for the key, he simply cut off the lock and replaced it. The moral of this story is to never tell Jim you've lost the key to a chastity belt or a car door.

We also learned startling news about how Jim - before he retired - used to make sure his boss had enough reading material. While on a business trip, he once signed up his boss at a Mormon church. The long-suffering boss then started getting bibles in the mail. After that, every time Jim traveled, he'd sign up his boss for every catalogue and brochure he could find in the airplane magazines.

Javis Boudreaux volunteered **Tahl Rozycki** to tell us another *Tahl Tale*, and we got two for the price of one. First, we heard about the tie Tahl was wearing. It was a gift from **Julie Wagner Palmer**. The tie depicts a bunch of white sheep and one black one. We presume Julie equates Tahl with the black baa-lamb.

Tahl told us how he became a Next member of the GCR. Tahl used to work with Julie at a veterinary clinic, and Julie had been after him for ages to join the AACA and our local GCR. He finally joined the AACA, but not the GCR because he was unsure of how well he'd fit in. A year or two later - probably after they had just finished fiddling about with the internal organs of some small furry creature - Julie told Tahl he owed her \$10. Tahl said he didn't, but Julie insisted he did... *for our local GCR dues*. It seems that Julie knew all of Tahl's relevant information and filled in an application for him. Glad you finally saw the light, Tahl!

Luck of the Draw

Tonight's \$10 "Being There" drawing was won by **Theresa Bartlett**. Congratulations, Theresa! The cumulative prize that grows by \$10 until someone wins it had grown to \$80. And since **Ron Sanford** was *not* present, the prize will be \$90 during our next regular meeting in January 2018.

2018 Officers

President—Jim Johnston

11506 Freestone Ave.
Pearland, TX 77584
832-693-4008
sandra-jim@att.net

Vice-President... Joe Vogt

1534 S. Kirkwood Rd.
Houston, TX 77077
joe@vestviews

Secretary ... Albert Ramos

2330 Robinhood
Houston, TX 77005
713-248-7687
albert.redbrick@gmail.com

Treasurer ... Evelyn Timmins

2120 Lundy Lane
Friendswood, TX 77546
281-388-1967
evtimmins@aol.com

Directors

Dean Forbes 713-465-3603
Wayne Bartlett - 281-351-2167
Javis Boudreaux 713-953-1620
Bill Cockrell 281-293-0842
Lenny Holzband 713-823-9369
Robert McLellan 713-772-3285
Robert Bullard 918-857-7577
Ron Stein - 713-521-3450

Pate Swap Meet Representatives

Sam Romeo 713-862-4026
Robert Wheelless 281-380-4969

Club Historian

Joe Vogt...281-496-7138

Sunshine Representative

Barbara Wahlberg 713-465-3539

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

As it was – Albert L. Ramos



Out and About with the GCR!

Blue Skyes Over Autism



It is our wish that your Christmas and winter holidays be merry, and that you will have a blessed new year in good health.



See you at Monument Inn on Sunday, Dec. 10.

Autorama was a Hit!

