
THE VOLUNTEER REGION AACA

BEYOND THE LIMIT



vraaca.com



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[volunteerregionaaca](https://www.instagram.com/volunteerregionaaca)



Volunteer Region AACA

2026 OFFICERS & BOARD

OFFICERS

President:

RG Lewallen
lewallenrg@gmail.com

Vice President:

Ken Lund
kjlund71@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Tom Howard
sistom60@gmail.com

Secretary:

Debbie Hixon
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Webmaster:

Roger Frazee
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National Liaison:

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BOARD

Director:

Jordan Lay
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Director:

Ben Curtis
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Director:

Herb Thomas
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Director:

Keith Pierce
clintonbaptistams@gmail.com



UPCOMING REGION EVENTS



June 11-13: Southeastern Fall Nationals - Oak Ridge, TN.



July 18th: Scopes Monkey Trial - Dayton, TN.



July 18th: Autos Through the Ages - Townsend, TN.



See page 5 for full list of events

OTHER LOCAL EVENTS



Stay tuned for emails regarding any upcoming events!

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS



May 28-30 - 2026 Eastern Spring Nationals - Indiana, PA.



June 11-13 - 2026 Southeastern Fall Nationals - Oak Ridge, TN.



June 15-19 - 2026 Sentimental Tour - Mechanicsburg, PA



July 22-26 - 2026 Central Spring Nationals - Green Bay, WI.



Check out full 2026 Calendar on page 14



PRESIDENTIAL PARTINGS

Well, Spring is finally here, and we have had some great opportunities to get our vehicles out with the warmer weather. I don't know where time goes, but it seems to be flying by. Since our last newsletter, we have had a successful March event at Cartersville, GA, where we had 12 members attend this meet. We also had 16 members attend the April event at Granville, TN, where everyone had a great time. (See articles in this edition of Beyond the Limit).

I am grateful for everyone sponsoring our tours each month, and each one of them have been terrific! Everyone is busy and going in several directions it seems, but please take time to plan on attending our monthly events if possible.

As we continue to work on the final planning for our Fall Meet at Oak Ridge, the actual show date is just around the corner. If you still have not registered, you have time as the registration is open until May 15. We are looking forward to this event in June.

Our worker shirts for the upcoming meet in Oak Ridge have been delivered, so make sure you pick up your orange worker shirt. Many thanks to Virgill and Linda DeFord for getting these organized and produced for us. The cost of the shirts is \$11.00 and should be paid to Tom Howard.

I would like to thank everyone who has Volunteered to help in our upcoming meet in Oak Ridge. Your dedication to this event and willingness to help is what is making this meet possible. We are looking forward to this in June and feel fortunate that we have the opportunity to sponsor this meet. There has not been a national meet this close to us since 1998 when the national meet was held at Bissel Park in Oak Ridge!

If you have not signed up and would like to help with our AACA National meet, make sure to let one of the team members know, or you can contact Roger or Jan Frazee.

Sherry & I hope to see you soon.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Looking at the calendar today, it is the first week of May, but when I think of all the National AACA activities already completed this year, it seems that it should be at least August. It has certainly been a busy year so far, with many miles covered to great locations.

We started in February with our National Convention in Chantilly, Virginia. Attendance was up again this year, including several of us from East Tennessee. With a full schedule of seminars and other activities, a good time was provided for all.

Then, in March, the Puerto Rico AACA Region sponsored another great Nationals with ETR members Rick, Dawne, and Jordan Lay in attendance. No sooner than that was over, the next weekend it was on to Cartersville, Georgia, to the Winter Nationals. The vehicles were displayed on grass around a College campus, complete with sidewalks for spectators.

Then, almost before we could unpack and repack our bags, April arrived with our annual trip to Charlotte. This year, we were treated to a new format for the Charlotte Nationals. For the first time, the total activity was held inside the track, which included both the flea market and the display of vehicles on Saturday. With the very compact area for our AACA meetings, show, and food vendors, there was much less walking than before. The weather was perfect, with not a cloud in the blue sky. Already looking forward to a repeat next year. Then, to close April, there was a dual meet in Las Vegas with a Nationals and Grand National back to back on Friday and Saturday.



By Tom Howard, Treasuert

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

And now it is May. After a little time off, in the last week, we will be traveling to Indiana, Pennsylvania, for the Spring Nationals. It will be a big affair with well over two hundred vehicles entered in the show. Then, we will return home on the last day of May with only nine days remaining until members begin to arrive for Eastern Fall Nationals in Oak Ridge.

Now, speaking of the Oak Ridge event, it will be June 11 -13. The vehicle show is on Saturday, but there are other activities planned for Thursday and Friday. For all AACA members in the East Tennessee area, this is a very special activity. We have not sponsored a National meet here since 1998. We are proud to have the chance to do it again. All AACA members are invited to participate by either showing a vehicle, attending the other planned activities, or even joining the team of workers, who will help during the event.

If you would like to do any of the above and are not sure how to register or are not aware of the activities, as registration chairman, please contact me by phone at 865-680-8242. I will be glad to review all you need to know and even get you registered over the phone.

I look forward to seeing you in Oak Ridge in June.



THE VOLUNTEER REGION AACA 2026 SCHEDULED MONTHLY TOURS

FEBRUARY 21ST: Tour of UT sports facilities. Calhoun's for lunch.

Host: Kenny and Terry Widener

MARCH 28th: Cartersville, GA National Meet

Host: Jan & Roger Frazee, Jean & Ken Lund

APRIL 10-11th: Granville TN, Mayberry/Lucy (1 or 2 day event)

Host: Beth and Brad Harris

MAY 2ND: Tour Oak Ridge Museums. K-25 and Oak Ridge History Museum. Lunch at Big Ed's.

Host: Beverly and Robbie Gray

JUNE 11-13TH: Southeaster Fall Nationals, Oak Ridge TN

JULY 18TH: Scopes Monkey Trial, Dayton TN

Host: Beth and Brad Harris

Autos Through the Ages, Townsend TN

Host: Ken & Jen Lund

AUGUST 29TH: Tour of DaisyTown, TN

Host: Debbie and Jimmie Hixson

SEPTEMBER 12TH: Rick Lay Athens garage tour.

Host: Jordan and Rick Lay

OCTOBER 17TH: Cumberland Gap Tour. Rose gas station. National AirStream, Middlesboro Cruise-in.

Hosts: Cindy & Scott Hill, Debbie & Keith Bullen

NOVEMBER: Annual Business Meeting

DECEMBER: Volunteer Region Christmas Party to be held at Museum of Appalachia.

THE VOLUNTEER REGION

TRAVELS TO GRANVILLE, TN

What a fun-filled and nostalgic weekend we had during our tour to Granville, TN. Granville hosts a variety of events and festivals year-round, but Brad and Beth Harris chose the perfect weekend, as it was the Mayberry & I Love Lucy Festival weekend. Just going to Granville is a step back in time, but to have the opportunity to visit during this weekend made the weekend even more enjoyable! This tour was offered as either a two-day tour or a one-day tour. We had 16 club members and 4 visitors participating in this event. We had 5 vehicles that participated in the cruise-in. All our vehicles were featured in the "Here Comes Everybody Parade" with several of our vehicles carrying some of the dignitaries that were present for the weekend!

The weather was fabulous all weekend long. There were several tribute artists in attendance to help us all bring back the memories of simpler times. There was a special tribute honoring what would have been Andy Griffith's 100th birthday this year, so that made this weekend special as well.



Brad & Beth Harris with Karen Knotts

Dixie Griffith (Andy Griffith's Daughter) was present this year, as was Karen Knotts (Don Knott's daughter). Keith Thibodeaux was present and spoke of what it was like playing Johnny Paul Jason on Andy Griffith and Little Ricky on I Love Lucy, as well as his journey after I Love Lucy. Peter Ackerman (Elinor Donahue' son) was present and discussed his book "Mom, Dad, & Me in Classic TV." Elinor portrayed pharmacist Ellie Walker on the first season of The Andy Griffith Show. The tribute artists also included Eddie Koilbourne (Ernest T Bass) and Christie McLendon (Charlene). Carrie & Jeff Ketterman were there keeping everyone laughing, re-creating several of the I Love Lucy skits. The weekend ended on Saturday evening with a 4-group rotation of events that included wrap-up sessions with a variety of the weekend's artists and a great dinner with entertainment by an Elvis tribute artist, Wayne Euliss, singing and passing out his scarves to those special women in attendance. Our very own Debbie Bullen received one such scarf!

Thanks to Brad & Beth Harris for hosting such a great weekend!



Steve & Vickie Lamb in here comes everybody parade

TRIP TO GRANVILLE, TENNESSEE



Robbie Beverly TomiDawn & Donnie in here comes everybody parade



Scott & Cindy Hill with 100th birthday



Debbie Bullen

NATIONALS AT LAS VEGAS

When the Las Vegas Region indicated they wanted to do a Western Spring Nationals, they also inquired if they could host a Western Grand Nationals as well. With so few opportunities to get their vehicles to a Grand Nationals in the East, the AACA Board approved the addition. With that approval, the latest Desert Dual was born. The Lay family made our trek via United Airlines from Chattanooga to Las Vegas with a stop in Houston to change planes. Having never been to Las Vegas, we were all anxious to see if it lived up to all its hype. We arrived before lunch their time (Pacific), checked into the host hotel and then took the rented Nissan Rogue to the Las Vegas strip! We went in Caesar's Palace, the Paris Casino and watched the fountain show at Bellagio. The next morning, we visited Area 15 (Area 51 themed) and then went to the World Famous Gold and Silver Pawn shop (home of the Pawn Stars TV show). We returned to the hotel just in time to board the bus to the Phil Maloof Car Collection. Friday's Grand National featured 21 vehicles and was a busy day for the National Awards Team as we strived to pick a pre-war and post-war Western Grand National Winner. For all the other judges, it was a pretty easy day and awards were presented at 5:00 PM followed by a celebratory ice cream social. Saturday's Western Spring Meet was another story. We had 90 vehicles to be judged by three judging teams of four judges each. Three National Awards judges volunteered to fill in to make 5 person teams and each team had about 30 vehicles to judge.



A rare 1966 Tatra - built in Czechoslovakia.

The last team came in just before the vehicles were to be released at 3:00 PM. Most judges I saw were pretty well drained. Nevertheless, the awards banquet that night at 6:30 PM saw everyone in good humor as we listened intently to our speaker that evening, GM auto designer Peter Brock, hired by GM at just 19 years old in 1956, working under the legendary Bill Mitchell. Integral in the design of the 1963 Corvette, Brock went on later to become associated with Carroll Shelby.



A couple from California bought this 1936 Cord Westchester less than a year ago. A car that had been in storage, they got it running and had it at the Western Spring Nationals in Las Vegas.



1932 Duesenberg Judkins Coupe owned by Chris Clyne of Las Vegas. It is the only Judkins coupe of its kind.

VOLKSWAGEN

I have been around old cars all my life! Dad worked on a modified Volkswagen race car around 1968 to 1970 – my earliest memory at the racetrack in Maynardville.

Dad was a “shade tree” mechanic, which became a second job for him. All I remember is, when he came home from work, he would change clothes and go to the garage to work on someone’s car or truck. He never came home and sat down. My brother, Greg, was usually right beside him, learning all dad did.

Dad restored several “Old Trucks” through the years. My favorite was a 1955 Chevrolet truck. My brother got a 1969 Chevrolet Camaro in 1978 or 1979 to restore, and that was when I began to take notice of restoring an old car. I loved that Camaro and loved when he took me to school in it.

In the early 70’s, Mom and Dad (and my Uncles and Aunts) had Volkswagen Beetles, and my seat was behind the back seat. I remember one winter night, Mom ran out of cigarettes, and it was snowing. Dad called my Uncles and Aunts, and we met in Halls in our Volkswagen’s and headed to Gatlinburg to get Mom a pack of cigarettes.

When Jack found our 1972 Super Beetle sitting on blocks in a front yard in Tater Valley, he sent me a photo and asked me, “If it’s for sale, do you want it?” It was blue, so the answer was YES, please! I went with Greg two days later and picked the Beetle up on a rollback, and our journey began!

We got the interior pulled out fast, and the motor actually ran for a minute. Thankfully, Dad and Greg had “rail buggies” through the years, and from working on the family Volkswagen’s and the rail buggies, with Greg’s help, the motor came around faster than the interior. Ordering parts for the interior was challenging for us. We knew the bigger things we needed, but didn’t know all those small things that should go before the bigger things!

RG Lewellen told us more than once, “I can help you put that car back together”. We didn’t want to bother him with “our little car” when we knew he had much bigger projects in his world. But when we delivered our car to one guy, he let it sit in his driveway for two months and didn’t get anything accomplished on the car. In his defense, he had some health issues. Then we knew we had to have RG’s help.

When RG got our car, he quickly made a list of where we needed to start and what we needed to order. Paul Darling, Roger Frazee, and Kenny Widener all jumped in and began to work on the car. In several weeks, our little car was in her best shape yet!

RG kept saying the car club is not only about cars, it’s the fellowship! No truer statement has been uttered. Kenny and his family are longtime family friends. Dad and Kenny worked together on several car projects throughout the years. Now the Volunteer Region Car Club has lifetime family and friends to us. We cannot imagine our life without you all!



Paul Darling working on Lisa's VW while Jack looks on

VOLUNTEER REGION AACA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SHONEY'S IN LENOIR CITY, TN
MARCH 5, 2026

OFFICERS

President: RG Lewallen, Present
Vice President: Ken Lund, Present
Secretary: Debbie Hixon, Present
Treasurer: Tom Howard, Present
Past President: None

BOARD

Director: Jordan Lay, Present
Director: Ben Curtis, Present
Director: Herb Thomas, Present
Director: Keith Pierce, Excused Absence

GUESTS

Sherry Lewallen
Jimmie Hixon
Jean Lund
Roger Frazee
Jan Frazee
Susan Thomas
Rick Lay, National AACA Liason

CALL TO ORDER

Volunteer Region President, RG Lewallen, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Officers, Board Members, and guests were present as listed above.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous board meeting were previously presented to each officer and board member. No changes or additions were recommended. Tom Howard made a motion to accept these minutes as presented. Ben Curtis seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

MONTHLY TOUR REPORT

Ken Lund gave an update on the monthly tours for 2026. The February tour of UT Sports facilities was a great success. The group went to Calhoun's for lunch after the tour. Thanks to Kenny and Terry Widener for hosting this tour.

The March tour will be to Cartersville, Georgia for the National Meet on March 28. Jan and Roger Frazee along with Jean and Ken Lund will be the hosts for this tour.

The April tour to Granville, Tennessee will be a two day trip for those wishing to spend the night. Most events need to be signed up for in advance. Ken will put out an email prior to the event on April 10-11. The cost for the lodge is \$149 a night. Cabins and Airstreams also available.

The tour for June 11-13 will be the Volunteer Region Southeastern Fall Nationals in Oak Ridge, TN.

The tour for July 18, Scopes Monkey Trial in Dayton, TN will be hosted by Beth and Brad Harris. This is the same date as Autos Through The Ages hosted by East Tennessee Region club. Volunteer Region members will be attending both events. Ken Lund will lead the group attending Autos Through The ages. Beth and Brad Harris will host the Scopes Trial group. Both events will be put on the official calendar. After discussion, a motion to support both the Scopes Trial event hosted by Beth and Brad Harris and Autos Through The Ages lead by Ken Lund was made by Ken Lund. Ben Curtis seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

The Volunteer Region Board has approved \$50.00 a month for each tour host. For July, Ken Lund doesn't need any money for Autos Through The Ages, so the money will go to Beth and Brad Harris who are hosting the Scopes Trial tour in Dayton, TN

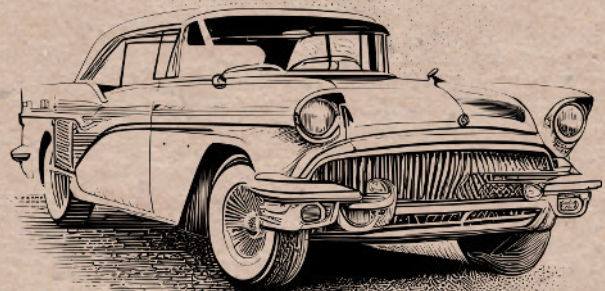
There is a conflict for the December Christmas party. The ETR Christmas party is on the same date. Some of Volunteer Region members also attend this party. After much discussion of when to hold the Volunteer Region Christmas party it was decided to get more information, possibly combining Thanksgiving and Christmas in order to see what will work best for most people. More information forthcoming.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Secretary, Debbie Hixson, gave the latest update on club membership. An application for new members Charlene and John Snead was presented for a vote. A motion was made to accept these new members by Tom Howard. The motion seconded by Herb Thomas. All in favor. The motion carried. Volunteer Region now has 64 families as members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, Tom Howard, presented the current financial report. A copy of the financial report was given to each member present and is also on file. The Southeastern Fall National tour account is in a separate bank account from the Volunteer Region car club. The \$5,000.00 received from National AACA has been deposited into the National tour account. A motion was made to accept the treasurer report as presented by Ben Curtis. Herb Thomas seconded this motion. None opposed. The motion carried.



WEBMASTER REPORT

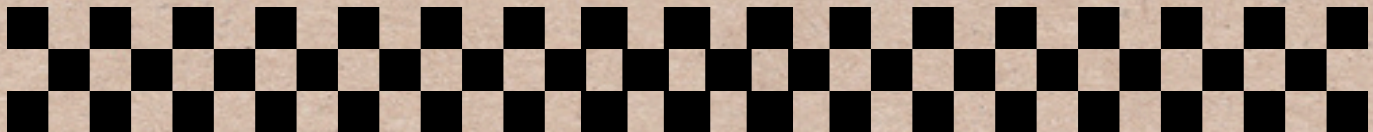
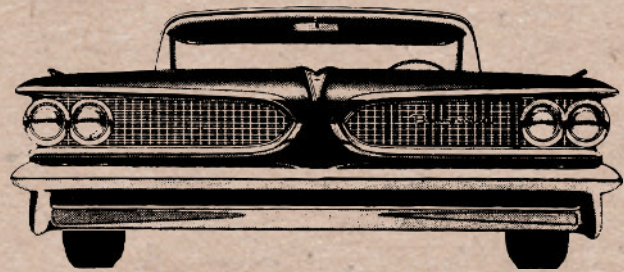
Roger Frazee gave a report on the web page. The web page is getting lots of views with daily inquiries about the Southeastern Fall National Tour. The calendar of events for our club is also available on the web site. The monthly newsletter is also available on the web site. Roger presented a drawing for possible use as our official logo. A motion to accept the logo as presented by Roger Frazee was made by Ken Lund. Jordan Lay seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Jordan Lay states the newsletter, Beyond the Limit, will be available this weekend. Need members to continue to send in articles for publication. Access for Instagram and Facebook can be given to members if needed.

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

Rick Lay gave an update on national events. Several club members attended the National Convention in Chantilly, VA. Roger and Jan Frazee won the award for Factory High Performance for the Eastern Division. Congratulations to them! Roger Frazee and Jordan Lay will fill out an editor form which will give them the opportunity to be eligible for a national award for our newsletter and web page. RG Lewallen and Rick Lay attended the Chief Judge school which was very beneficial. Rick Lay is now officially the Vice-President of National Awards. RG Lewallen also accepted the Certificate of Charter for the Volunteer Region from Phillip Cole, Director of Southeast Regions Development and Support. Dave and Beryl Hermanson, members of East Tennessee Region, also received an award for their ETR newsletter. Rick is writing articles for the National newsletter. Puerto Rico is upcoming. Cartersville, GA, Charlotte, NC and Las Vegas are also upcoming.



SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL FALL MEET UPDATE

Roger and Jan Frazee, Tom Howard and Rick Lay are working on events for the meet. A draft of the trifold has been sent out. This will be sent out to all folks who register for the meet. Registration will be open as soon as possible. The charge for each event has been completed. Rates are comparable with other regional events with \$55.00 registration per car, \$50.00 for banquet, \$20.00 for Friday social and \$35.00 for bus tour of Oak Ridge.

Jan has talked to Doubletree Hotel. At this date, 35 rooms have been booked. The National Board of Directors will hold their summer board meeting during our meet. The hotel has assured Jan that as number of rooms increases, they will allocate more rooms. Will also use surrounding hotels if needed.

A rain location for Bissell Park has been discussed. Katy Watt is working on this also.

Rob DelMoro did research on security for the event. Got a quote of 6:00 pm to 6:00 am every night trailers are present, security guard with a marked car and yellow flashing light for \$1500.00. Roger reached out to Roane State to use our own security on their property but has not heard back.

Also need to secure dumpster and porta-potties for the show field.

OLD BUSINESS

CABIN FEVER: This was a great success for our club this year. We obtained 16 new families to our club. Members did a lot of recruiting during this event. Mike Berry will be given a free ad in our Southeastern National Meet book because there was no charge for our booth at Cabin Fever. Ben Curtis provided a free Veteran membership to Volunteer Region.

NAME TAGS: Roger contacted the printer and told them to go ahead and print name tags. All name tags will be the same color. The name tags will be \$14.00.

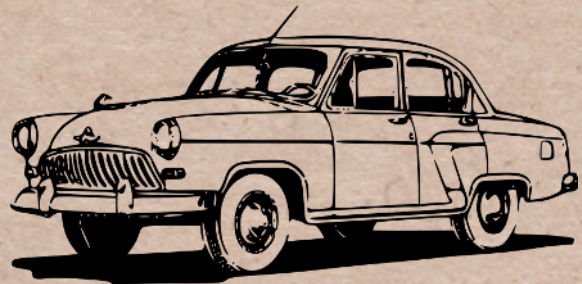
NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at Shoney's in Powell, TN, 6:00 to eat and 6:30 pm for meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:00 pm by Ben Curtis. Tom Howard seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion carried.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DEBBIE HIXSON, SECRETARY



2026 AACA NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

2026 Annual Convention

February 5-7 ▪ Chantilly, VA
Steve Rossi, sldmrossi@aol.com

2026 Eastern Spring Nationals

May 28-30 ▪ Indiana, PA
Paul Colligan, thefarmrv@windstream.net

2026 Special Nationals

March 19-21 ▪ Guaynabo, PR
Jose Davila, guillodavila57@gmail.com

2026 Southeastern Fall Nationals

June 11-13 ▪ Oak Ridge, TN
Roger Frazee, rkfrazee@gmail.com

2026 Winter Nationals

March 26-28 ▪ Cartersville, GA
Kraig Bolus, kbolus3@gmail.com

2026 Sentimental Tour

June 15-19 ▪ Mechanicsburg, PA
Don Barlup, pullman1914@aol.com

2026 Southern Spring Nationals

April 9-11 ▪ Charlotte, NC
Phillip Cole, pcole@wncumc.net

2026 Central Spring Nationals

July 23-25 ▪ Green Bay, WI
Russ Walker, rusellwalker@aol.com

2026 Western Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals

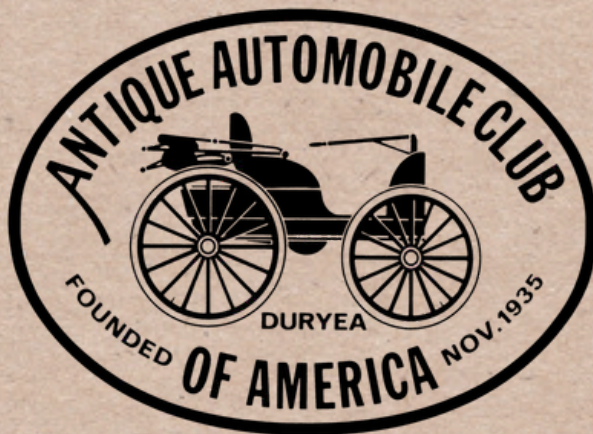
April 23-25 ▪ Las Vegas, NV
Micael Fecchino, chevyfordply@gmail.com

2026 Grand Nationals/Zenith

August 19-22 ▪ Allentown, PA
Steve Moskowitz, aaca1@aaca.org

2026 Founders Tour

September 9-14 ▪ Williamsburg, VA
Scott Dayton, smdayton40@gmail.com

**2026 80th Revival AAA Glidden Tour (AACA)**

September 20-26 ▪ Dover, DE
Dave Anspach, aacadave1054@yahoo.com

2026 Eastern Fall Nationals

October 6-9 ▪ Hershey, PA
Bonnie Kulikowski, bonnieshepp1925@gmail.com