Building the Future—
PRESERVING THE LEGACY

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE
Antique Automobile Club of America
National Headquarters &
America’s Automotive Library
Something sparked a love affair with automobiles for each of us, and if you asked the world’s millions of car aficionados how it started the answers are many but always similar. Vintage vehicles and those who restore, preserve, and collect them, capture our hearts and minds for life. Founded in 1935, AACA is proud to be the cornerstone of the antique car hobby. As the oldest and largest organization of its kind in the world, we’ve not only started the fire and passion for tens of thousands of hobbyists across the globe, but we keep it burning.

From its modest beginnings, AACA now enjoys a worldwide reputation as the pre-eminent organization for automotive enthusiasts. Exceeding 55,000 members in 52 countries, AACA provides unmatched resources extending from all-important personal connections to historical reference, amazing events, and award-winning publications. We created and operate the AACA Library and Research Center. Known as “America’s Automotive Library”, it provides free access to well over two million important historical books and documents. We created the first comprehensive judging program and were the first to implement programs recognizing the importance of preserving original vehicles as well as daily drivers, often the gateway to the hobby. Our recognition of vehicles 25 years and older set state and national standards now accepted worldwide. AACA has many firsts, and in order to maintain its cutting edge and drive the future of the hobby it needs to expand the availability of its resources. Our new building is essential to the task of inspiring and supporting enthusiasts today and beyond. Quite simply, the health and continuation of our hobby depends on it.
As the oldest and largest historical automotive society, AACA is vitally important to the entire future of the car hobby. Actually, calling what we do a hobby is a disservice to what we really do. What AACA and its members stand for is a saving of the important history of motorized transportation. In this seemingly throw-away society today, without careful attention to our automotive history, we could lose the rich fabric of our car culture and what it has meant to the world. Our cars and our history are worth saving!

AACA is uniquely suited to helping sustain and even making the collectible vehicle community thrive in the future. We are the oldest and largest of all car clubs in the United States and we have a dedicated staff to assist this same community. We, in a sense, many times are the clearinghouse for people who need help with their collector car questions, research and other historical information. We also have made it our mission to serve other car clubs who may not have the resources to do all the things that help make their club vibrant. It is the reason we host over 80 forums on our website dedicated to other car clubs and brands. Our library currently houses nine collections from other car clubs. AACA has begun inviting other car clubs to join us in national shows at no cost to them. This new collaboration has been extremely successful for all involved. The club has also been one of the most enthusiastic supporters of Collector Car Appreciation Day and all governmental issues that protect our ability to enjoy the history of the automobile.

(continued)
Antique Automobile Club of America and the Future (continued)

AACA was the first to officially acknowledge original unrestored vehicles with the introduction of the Historic Preservation of Original Features (HPOF) class, which has led most clubs to adopt some form of this idea along with the 25-year rule which we introduced to the hobby. It is now the standard for many clubs and many state governments to use in registering antique cars. This shows we have and will continue to think forward to the next great idea.

AACA believes that the best way to ensure that the mutual mission of the collector car community continues in the future is to make sure we create that environment and that we create the pathway to its success. This means a strong dedication to the hobby and an unwillingness to accept that the challenge we face is too formidable. We believe with effort on our part and collaboration with others that we can lead the way to a healthy car collecting future.
Why Does AACA Need a New Building Now?

The reasons AACA has contemplated a new facility are varied as there are several pressing reasons for the venture. First, and most critical, is that the AACA Library & Research Center (“America’s Automotive Library”) is at near capacity. Now housing more than 2,000,000 historical documents, the library needs more room to house new donations and new collections which continue to come in regularly. We will be the recipients of several major collections in the future and it is paramount that we provide for these new acquisitions.

Second is the lack of space on the headquarters side for our staff. Your national staff is now fairly cramped and taking on more projects and work each year. If the business model for the future is to be sustained then additional staffing may be on the horizon.

The current facility is very charming and has served our club well. It was a great investment and will be sold to help pay for the new facility. However, it was never intended to be an office building and, due to its unique nature as a former living quarters for Milton Hershey students, it leaves a lot to be desired. The facility is approaching 100-years-old and is in need of a lot of upgrading. It makes little sense to pour money into a structure that still will not meet our needs.

Finally, there is virtually no open land for sale in Derry Township (Hershey) and no other suitable real estate for sale. The opportunity to purchase a perfect-size facility with ample parking in probably the single best location we could ever ask for is just too good to pass up. There are an estimated 10-12 million people who will pass by our newly purchased building every year and we believe with the proper marketing we can raise our visibility and membership simply by being in that location.
Our New Building

Brick and mortar will not make AACA successful! What this new building will do, however, is provide the tools and environment to make a difference to the hobby at large and certainly to the efficiency and ability of the AACA staff. At present, our facility in Hershey has a meager 13 parking spaces, no more office space and, as we have already said, no more room for expansion of the library. The building was built before safety codes, insulation and handicapped considerations were taken into account. There is no loading dock and shipments of thousands of pounds are delivered and have to be moved into the building.

Our new building currently has 187 parking spaces, six acres, and is 35,000 sq. ft. with an elevator and loading dock. There is also a six car garage on the property well-suited for our expanded collection of donated vehicles. It is located on the busiest highway in Derry Township on a corner and at a stop light. It has maximum visibility and is conveniently located next to Hersheypark. Oh, and the bonus is that the Hershey Fall National car show is literally in our backyard!
The building has housed a water utility and thus the construction has been built to a standard that makes this facility extremely substantial. While our use calls for extensive remodeling of the interior, it will be easily converted to serve our needs.

What will the new building include? Our first floor will most likely have several displays of vehicles. We have a unique concept that will hopefully delight our visitors. They will also be able to see all of our national award trophies and other historically important artifacts. Within the building, we will also find a way to recognize our regions and chapters. Our office space will be vastly increased allowing for more productivity. We will be able to have better control over merchandise and trophies and much easier handling of shipping and shipments. Technology will play a major role on this floor.

The second floor will house our library with all of the latest proper storage, clean fire suppression and HVAC controls needed to safeguard the materials. There will be space for people to do their research and maybe even a private room for book and magazine writers to spend quiet time with their data. We envision an audio room for viewing films, and again we will use all the latest technology available for a modern library.

We have a lot of unique features we hope to build into the facility now to make our building useful for generations to come.
I am honored to serve on the capital fund committee for AACA’s new headquarters building. Nothing could be more exciting for me than to participate in the perpetuation of AACA’s future and the enjoyment that it brings to its members.

As we move forward with the funding of AACA’s new world-class headquarters, we should pause to remember how far our organization has advanced since its founding in 1935. I am sure that the club’s 14 founders would be proud to know that they succeeded in their original goal to create an association for like-minded enthusiasts to share their interest in and passion for antique automobiles. In this regard, AACA annually hosts the largest event of its kind anywhere: known simply as “Hershey,” the AACA Eastern Fall National conjoined with the world’s largest flea market are two of the antique automobile world’s most anticipated events. AACA’s award-winning magazine, Antique Automobile, is internationally respected, and the AACA Library & Research Center houses one the most comprehensive and continuously growing automotive literature and documents collections.

While the organization’s founders may not have envisioned that AACA would become the largest antique automobile club in the world, that is what it is today, and its impressive résumé continues to expand and enrich the antique automobile hobby for its more than 55,000 members. During its 83-year tenure, the club has continuously evolved to serve the needs of its members, enabling it to thrive as an essential, irreplaceable part of the hobby that is enjoyed so much.

Supporting the forthcoming capital campaign for the club’s new headquarters will guarantee the next chapter of AACA’s success. Please join me by making a generous contribution to the organization that has given so much fulfillment to all of us.
Letter from the AACA National Board

To our Members and Friends:

These are exciting times for AACA. We have a unique opportunity to position our club to be successful for decades to come. Our new building will be far more than a new domicile for the club and library operations. Millions of people travel past the new location each year, and that will afford us an opportunity to present our story to many of them.

Officially, the township considers our new building to be a welcome center, and when you think about it, we really want to be that in many ways. The unique features we are developing for the building will allow us to welcome visitors to AACA and this great hobby. Each new person who walks through the doors of our new building will see our new exhibits and peruse the stacks of our new library. They will be introduced to the antique car culture in the best way possible. The increased foot traffic represents lots of new potential members. This is very exciting as it gives us one more tool to grow AACA.

The other and of course critical issue to us is that we simply needed more room than we could find at our Governor Road location. We have the most enviable position in our library of having no more room to maintain more collections and yet we have more on the way in the near future! We also want to be able to expand our services to you, our members, but there is no more office space to hire additional employees. The new building fixes all of that!

For years, we have tried to avoid asking for money from our members. We have developed other income streams and have tried to keep fundraising from being an everyday occurrence like others seem to do. However, now we are embarking on a project that the sheer size dictates we must have a successful fundraising drive in order to serve you. We recognize that there are a lot of great causes out there that need your charitable dollars, but we believe our cause is very worthy as well. Please partner with us to ensure the future of AACA and the hobby. This is your chance to provide a lasting monument to your love for vintage vehicles, history and your club. We need you now more than ever. Join us in this very special time in our history and be a part of this grand and important venture.

On behalf of the 2018 AACA Board of Directors
**Donation Opportunities**

Building Naming Rights $2,000,000 (sold)
Library Naming Rights $1,000,000
Board Room Naming Rights $250,000 (sold)
Classroom Naming Rights $250,000
  National Awards Area
  Naming Rights $250,000 (sold)
Lobby Area Naming Rights $250,000 (sold)
Gift Store Naming Rights $100,000
Original Painting of New Building & Your Car(s) Fall Meet Poster* $50,000
  Duryea Replica $50,000 (sold)
  Elevator $25,000
  Executive Director’s Office
  Naming Rights $20,000 (sold)
  Library Director’s Office
  Naming Rights $20,000 (sold)
Office Naming Rights (11) $15,000 each
  Front Sign $10,000
  Employee Lunch Room
  Naming Rights $10,000 (sold)
Outdoor Patio Naming Rights $10,000 (sold)
Mailroom Naming Rights $10,000
Computer Work Station
  Naming Rights $10,000 (sold)
Library Offices Naming Rights (3) $10,000
Periodical Room Naming Rights $10,000 (sold)
  Library Collection Sponsorship $7,500
  (Ford, Chevrolet, Packard, etc.)
Kids Library Naming Rights $7,500 (sold)
  Loading dock $5,000
Trophy Workroom Naming Rights $5,000 (sold)

“It is my pleasure to lend support to AACA’s new building campaign. As a life member in the club, I am encouraged at this bold move to invest in the club’s future. AACA is vitally important to the future of the hobby and as such I am glad to be a part of this effort.”

– Wayne Carini

Merchandise Room Naming Rights $5,000 (sold)
Digital Room Naming Rights $5,000 (sold)
Retail Area Naming Rights $5,000 (sold)
Meeting Room Naming Rights (2) $5,000 (sold)
Media Room Naming Rights $5,000 (sold)
AACA History Room $5,000 (sold)
  Book Sales Area $2,500 (sold)
  Storage Area (3) $2,500
  Auxiliary Power Plant $2,500
  Men’s Restroom (2) $2,500
  Women’s Restroom (2) $2,500
  Video & Film Collection $2,500
Blueprint Cabinets Naming Rights $2,500 (sold)
  Garage Naming Rights (6) $2,500 (sold)
  Book Shelves Naming Rights (500) $1,000

Plus many more smaller naming options from $500 to $1,000—please ask us!
All donors to this capital campaign will be recognized formally in this new facility.

*This is an original oil painting by Ken Eberts of our new Building with your cars in it, it will also be the fall meet poster for 2019 and you will get posters, artist’s proofs etc. with the package.

AACA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, tax-exempt and charitable organization.