Keep Hope on the Horizon
By Chuck Crane, VP Judging, flivverway@gmail.com

Remember the old cartoon of the two buzzards sitting on a desert fence watching a poor guy crawling in the sand and saying, “I’m tired of waiting, let’s go kill something?” We started the year off with a great show in Miami, then COVID-19 came calling and months later we are still sitting around and social distancing watching the TV. That’s about to change for our members with (hopefully) the upcoming Grand Nationals in August and a Hershey car show only in October. All of the planning is in the final stages and permits completed, but we must remember that COVID-19 is still with us and major changes or cancellations could still happen.

Reflecting on my own judging experiences since my first serious AACA judging at the 1977 New Orleans National Meet made me realize how many of you I have had the privilege of judging with over the years. Each time I go onto the field or teach a CJE course, I am rewarded with some new knowledge about the vehicles we love. Speaking of CJE, we really need coverage of the later cars, particularly the muscle cars we are now seeing at our shows. Many of you are subject matter experts but wonder if you are good enough to teach. Just talk to CJE Chairman Tony Scarpelli, put an outline together for his approval and get started sharing your knowledge. Though I love the brass era, I now teach Mustang Gen 1 and 2 and have learned a lot more as we see Mustangs at all our shows, but few early cars except at Hershey.

We certainly need your help at both Gettysburg and Hershey. We have modified our procedures to include wearing masks and social distancing and will do everything else we can to keep everyone safe and having fun. I look forward to seeing you at both shows. Stay safe and have fun at these events and let’s hope we can return to normalcy in 2021.

Reminder for Judging Team Captains
By Mark McAlpine, VP National Activities, mmmcalpine13@outlook.com

Because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and resulting cancellation of most AACA Nationals this year, it’s been a while since most of us have led an AACA judging team (at least as far back as February in Miami, FL—even longer for some of us). Here’s a reminder to jog our foggy memories as we come out of our long judging hibernation: Judging Team Captains “will discuss items of mandatory or maximum deduction or safety concerns with the owner of the vehicle.” (This is such an important point that it’s emphasized twice in the AACA Official Judging Guidelines: Section 1, Paragraph 3.D on Pg. 1-2 and again in Section 3, Paragraph 5.D.3.w on Pg. 3-17.) This means we are required to tell the owner any time we take a mandatory deduction (items circled on the Judging Form) or any time we take the maximum allowed points for an item, whether it’s only 2-3 points (e.g., 2 points for an antenna under the Exterior category or 3 points for clock under the Interior category) or 5-10 points (e.g., 5 points for the exhaust system under the Chassis category or 10 points—the max allowed—for clamps under the Engine category). One other associated reminder: the only time we would assess a maximum deduction for an item would be if it’s not authentic, if it’s missing or if it’s no longer fit for use for its intended purpose.

The Importance of the CJE Program
By Anthony Scarpelli, Chairman Continuing Judges Education, scarpp02@aol.com

AACA judging is an uncomplicated and fair system in evaluating multiple makes of cars at the same time. A major key to fair judging is scoring consistency. The factor in insuring consistency is Continuing Judges Education (CJE). According to the AACA Official Judging Guidelines, “the CJE Program was designed to further maintain the consistency level among National Judges.” CJE instruction is available at every National show. CJE instructors should have at least 25 judging credits. Instructor classes are approved by the CJE Chairperson and the Vice President of Judging. These classes cover all four areas of judging: exterior, interior, chassis and engine. Although you can only get one annual CJE credit, everyone is encouraged to attend a CJE class at every show to improve your professional knowledge.

If you feel you have special knowledge in an area and would like to join the 40+ instructors that have voluntarily created classes to contribute to our hobby and keep AACA judging the most professional system around, please contact me.
2019 Judging Award Recognition

The following judges have achieved a 5-credit judging award and were missed in the last issue:

Gerald DeBoey    Larry Ganse
Darrin Dahlenburg    Luther Johnson
Michael Fecchino    Jonathan Smith
Robert Ferone    Wally Waguespack

Correction: Our sincerest apologies to Mike Petersen for misspelling his name in the last issue of The Judge.

ATTENTION JUDGES: If you have previously registered for Allentown and/or Hershey, please DO NOT register again. Your Allentown registration has now been shifted to Gettysburg. You MUST pre-register for Judging School this year — walk-ins will not be allowed.

Grand Nationals – Gettysburg, PA  August 21-22, 2020  DEADLINE: August 14, 2020

Judges MUST have 10 or more field judging credits and have judged in the past 2 years.

Name (Last, First, M.I.): _______________________________ AACA Membership # ______________________

Address: ____________________________________________

City: ___________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________ Phone #: ____________________________

I wish to judge class: ___________ Second Choice: ___________ Third Choice: ___________ Fourth Choice: ___________

Neither I nor anyone in my family will have a vehicle registered in any of the above classes, but I plan to register a vehicle in class ___________

My total AACA judging credits are ___________ Honor Society Accepted (YES) _______ (NO) _______

My NO JUDGES BREAKFAST! Judges MUST be on the show field by 9 a.m. on Saturday, August 22.

I (will) _____ (will not) _____ attend Judging School on the SHOW FIELD – Friday, August 21, 2 p.m.

I (have) ____ (have not) ____ previously served as a Team Captain. Do You wish to serve as a Team Captain? (YES) _____ (NO) _____

Host Hotel: Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle Gettysburg, PA 17325, 717-339-0020 OR for faster service visit www.wyndhamhotels.com/groups/hr/antique-auto-club-of-america (special AACA rate: $139 per night, plus tax)

There is NO Registration Fee this year. Please return this completed form to: Stan Kulikowski – GN, 636 Lincoln Rd, Lititz, PA 17543, 717-715-9744, stan.kulikowski9@gmail.com

Parking passes will be mailed to all registered judges 2 weeks prior to the show. *Reminder: NO CJE at Grand Nationals.

Judges can register online by visiting https://members.aaca.org

Judging Admin Volunteers

Judging Administration is looking for individuals who would like to contribute to AACA National judging. Knowledge of judging is important, therefore anyone wishing to join the Admin Team must complete Judging School, Apprentice Training Certified Judging Education (CJE), Apprentice Field Judging and the Judges Administration CJE. It is important that all judges in Admin be physically mobile, able to add and subtract (basic math) and familiar with basic computer data entry. Interested or want more information? Please send Dollie Flechler, Chairman Judging Administration, an email at Flechlerd@yahoo.com.

Eastern Fall Nationals – Hershey, PA  October 9-10, 2020  DEADLINE: September 22, 2020

Name (Last, First, M.I.): _______________________________ AACA Membership # ______________________

Address: ____________________________________________

City: ___________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________ Phone #: ____________________________

I wish to judge class: ___________ Second Choice: ___________ Third Choice: ___________ Fourth Choice: ___________

Is this your first time judging (YES) _____ (NO) _____ / I plan to take a CJE course (YES) _____ (NO) _____

Neither I nor anyone in my family will have a vehicle registered in any of the above classes, but I plan to register a vehicle in class ___________

My total AACA judging credits are ___________ Honor Society Accepted (YES) _____ (NO) _____

NO JUDGES BREAKFAST! Judges MUST be on the show field by 9 a.m. on Saturday, October 10.

I (will) _____ (will not) _____ attend Judging School on the SHOW FIELD – Friday, October 9, 2 p.m.

I (have) ____ (have not) ____ previously served as a Team Captain. Do You wish to serve as a Team Captain? (YES) _____ (NO) _____

Host Hotel: No host hotel. Hotel options can be found here: www.visithersheyharrisburg.org, 1-800-928-7559

There is NO Registration Fee this year. Please return this completed form to: Stan Kulikowski – Hershey, 636 Lincoln Rd, Lititz, PA 17543, 717-715-9744, stan.kulikowski9@gmail.com

Parking passes will be mailed to all registered judges 2 weeks prior to the show.
Wake up! It’s time to wake up from a longer than normal winter hibernation.

First, our hearts go out to those who have lost friends and relatives to COVID-19, or any other illness that many have experienced the past few months. We have seen Americans come together to solve a problem and that gives us hope. Many of you have helped firsthand – thank you!

Like many of you, I missed going to church so I read up a bit in the Bible and found out that all the disciples were in one accord. I didn’t know they made Hondas back then. It must have been a stretch Accord.

I have also missed out on some much-needed exercise – you know, going down on one knee, genuflecting, to stay in shape as a chassis judge. But I did keep in practice by not touching anything (not just vehicles on the show field).

I desperately missed going to Auburn this year, too. It has gotten to be as comfortable as an old driving glove. I was also looking forward to the Nationals in Show Low, AZ. Having a tour start out from a National show sounded like a great idea. It would have given us “show people” a good picture of what going on a tour might be like. What a missed opportunity. The Hornets Nest Region must be commended for everything they did to reschedule into June. Unfortunately, it too fell through. A lot of hard work from the Kyana Region also went for naught.

The Whitewater Region had planned the Eastern Spring Nationals in Beckley, WV, to perfectly coincide with the Great Race on Friday evening. Many of the race participants are AACA members already, but we might have been able to sign-up one or two more. Remember, their vehicles are not automatically in Class 24. I was really looking forward to that one. But let us not dwell on the past and instead look forward to the future.

This year’s Grand Nationals has been moved to August 21-22 and will now be held in Gettysburg, PA. This event will be worth the trip, even if you are not eligible to judge.

Next year, consider driving more than one day to attend a National show. You will be rewarded, I guarantee, with a dash plaque if you show your vehicle. Try DPC. Don’t forget to vacuum your chassis and polish the chrome. The parking space is worth it. Start planning now for Puerto Rico in March. The causeway from Florida is not yet finished, so most of us will have to fly.

So, dust off your clipboards and sharpen your pencils for the remainder of the year, and don’t forget to bring your Guidelines. See you at breakfast. Oops, that’s been changed, too.

We Need You in Gettysburg & Hershey

Well, 2020 has certainly been an interesting year. This was supposed to be the year that I succeed Dain King as your chairman of judges training. I have been helping Dain teach our judging schools for the past few years, but he has decided to pass the torch. I can only hope that I can continue to improve upon the training program that we have, so that we continue to have the best judging system in the hobby.

I haven’t had the opportunity this year to see many of you at events. Hopefully, that will change as this show season comes to a close. Right now, there are two opportunities for you to judge this year: the Grand Nationals now in Gettysburg and the Eastern Fall Nationals in Hershey. There will be some necessary changes to these events based on the Pennsylvania Governor’s and CDC’s guidelines for hosting these events. To reduce the contact between judges and owners, we will be allowing owners to keep windows down. The interior judges will be able to judge the interiors by looking through the open windows without having to open the doors. Other changes may be necessary, and we will discuss those during the judging school on Friday. I ask for some flexibility and understanding as we work through the planning process. Part of the planning is getting enough judges together. As of this writing, we have more than 530 cars registered for Gettysburg. I would appreciate the support from our judging community to help make this a success.

Planning has also started for the Hershey show. While we won’t have a flea market or car corral, we are working hard to make the show on Saturday a memorable one. Plans are still taking shape, but please register to judge as soon as you can. The information to register is contained in this newsletter and the online registration is also open.
New Procedures & Protocols for Grand Nationals & Hershey

1. We will have a judging school with social distancing and masks outdoors. Gettysburg will be the Advanced School only.
2. No judge’s breakfast at either show. Judges will check in at 9 a.m. & meet their team captain at 9:30 a.m. Previously paid breakfasts will be refunded.
3. No CJEs at a Grand Nationals. Chuck Crane will do a special team captain’s CJE at Gettysburg. We will have CJEs at Hershey, again outside.
4. Judging teams will be 4-person instead of the traditional 5. Masks will be strongly encouraged or mandated, depending on the circumstances at the time. AACA is planning on providing special AACA logo masks for judges.
5. Owners will keep windows DOWN to make it easier and safer for judges.
6. Limits on cars for these two events have been reduced to provide for greater social distancing.
7. Judges’ administration team will also receive masks, social distance, hand sanitizer and follow other procedures to protect themselves.
8. Grand Nationals will now be open to the public. Everyone is asked to wear masks and practice social distancing as much as possible.
9. Hershey, which will be open to the public with some limitations, will have the usual number of restrooms provided and they will be sanitized throughout the day. We will have multiple handwashing stations and sanitizing “trees” throughout the property. We are still working on facilities for Gettysburg.
10. We also anticipate that no-touch temperature taking may be another requirement.
11. No formal awards dinner or BBQ at either event. At 3:30 p.m., we will award trophies on the show field. Trophies will remain in boxes for your convenience. While winners will be congratulated, the usual hand shaking and hugs will be dispensed.