Let’s Talk “Glidden”  
Don Barlup  
Vice President, National Activities

Much has been written over the years about Charles Jasper Glidden (No, he did not make paint.) and his part in establishing the first Glidden Tour in 1905. The tour covered 870 miles with 34 cars starting the tour and only 27 finishing. They toured from New York City to Bretton Woods, NH, returning during the weeks of July 11 to 22. The goal was to prove the reliability of the automobile. The original tours concluded in 1913.

After the war, in 1946, Opera Singer and collector of vintage autos, James Melton reinvigorated the Glidden tours in the Detroit, MI area with 50 cars participating in the 850 mile tour. Seventy-two tours later the AAA Revival Glidden Tour is still the premier vintage car tour, second to none. The tour is sponsored by AAA and is held on even years by VMCCA and odd years by AACA for pre-1942 vehicles. One of our members has been on 51 Glidden Tours.

It is an honor for an AACA Region to host the Glidden Tour. Many Regions have enjoyed hosting the Glidden. It is a tradition almost as old as AACA itself. Now that you have the history and the background, what am I leading up to??? Your Club (AACA) needs a Region to host the 2019 AAA Revival Glidden Tour. Will it be your Region? I hope so! I have been on 13 Glidden’s, chaired one, and will work with you and your Region to facilitate your Region’s success and enjoyment. The history and future of the Glidden Tour is in your hands.

Call me at 717-877-4766 or email me at pullman1914@aol.com. Together, let’s make it happen!

Let’s Make a New Year’s Resolution!  
Wayne Tuck  
Vice President, Membership

How many of you have ever made a New Years Resolution? Lose weight? Go to the Gym three times a week? Get the house trim painted? Get that old car out and drive it at least once a month? I’m sure many of us have made some type of resolution.

Now how many of you have broken that resolution? We usually have some excuse. Sometimes circumstances just make it impossible to accomplish. Sometimes our resolutions are overly ambitious.

Let me suggest we make a resolution that we can all accomplish if we put in a little effort. Sign up a new AACA member. That doesn’t sound too hard does it? The world is full of old car fans. Shouldn’t they all be members?

Stacy Zimmerman’s recent Speedster article regarding AACA being a “Best kept secret” was a real eye opener. We all know what a great organization it is and all the benefits AACA has to offer. Why aren’t we out there spreading the word? Most of us pay a lot more attention to a friend or acquaintance making a referral or recommendation than we do to paid advertising. Why keep it a secret?

I challenge you to each join me in celebrating the new year with the following resolution:

I resolve to sign up at least one new AACA member in 2018!
Welcome to my seventh issue as Editor of the Rummage Box. I have been busy for the past several months with car restoration. I have done a lot of work on various old cars over the years but I had never done a total restoration of a car. I came across a 1938 Buick Model 61 Sedan project at a good price. The car had, unfortunately, been left outside for over 20 years after a previous owner’s death. The time outside would have been bad in about any location, but the fact that the car was in Massachusetts made it quite a bit worse. In the past few months, I have almost completed the chassis restoration. I have avoided doing anything to the rusty body. I am still hoping that I can find a better 1938 Buick Model 61 or 41 body to transfer to the restored chassis.

One of the benefits of being retired is that I have time available to work on the car project. I typically spend a couple of hours each morning working on the car. I try to do something productive each day. I am documenting the restoration on the AACA Discussion Forum. For anyone interested, it can be viewed at: http://forums.aaca.org/topic/297623-1938-buick-century-model-61-four-door-touring-sedan-trunk-back/.

I plan to take a little bit of time off from the project to attend the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. If you have never been, I would encourage you to attend. As I have said in the past, it is the only thing that would get me to travel to Philadelphia from my home in Southeastern North Carolina in February. I hope to see you there.

What constitutes being a good neighbor? A friendly hello to the folks who live next door? Picking up the next door neighbor’s mail while they are gone for a few days? Invite them over for a barbecue? We each have our own idea of what being a good neighbor requires.

What I want to discuss is being a good AACA Region neighbor. We are all part of the old car hobby neighborhood and I have been impressed with the show of neighborly support that I have observed lately. Being located in an area where many regions are within driving distance of each other we have been showing up and inviting each other to attend the same events. A good example is the Ontelaunee Region “Das Awkscht Fest” which is held every summer in Macungie PA. It is attended by members of many neighboring AACA Regions. In fact, the New Jersey Region lists it on their calendar of events. The New Jersey Region’s Spring Meet this year was honored to have some South Jersey Region members attend the event and register their cars. We recently had a local pig roast where three different regions conducted a day tour to attend the event. AACA members dominated the event. Together we were the largest group there. It was not a big effort to set up a membership table and advertise the benefits of region membership. When others see the friendship and fun AACA region members have they want to become members.

At the national level I have attended some of the best meets ever that were put on with the efforts of several neighboring regions. So get out there! Take a look at what your neighboring regions are doing and support them.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR!
Trailering to Shows

Jim Elliott
Vice President,
Finance and Budget

There are many advantages to trailering your precious beauty to a show. You don't need to worry about a breakdown from an exploding hose, broken belt or brake issue. Your pride and joy arrives clean with no paint chips or windshield stars.

However, trailering is not to be undertaken lightly. Many trailer options exist but the bottom line is you want to arrive safely. Your truck and trailer combination is always a bigger concern than simply driving your show car.

My preference is to pull the smallest and lightest trailer possible with the biggest and longest truck available. My crew cab long bed pickup with dual rear wheels has kept me safe for over twenty years with very few unintentional “exciting” moments.

There are some trailer basics that can make your trip uneventful. I have my trailer brakes, breakaway brake, and wheel bearings checked annually. Always check your lug nuts prior to leaving and again at your first gas stop. I carry a spare set in case one is lost.

Having a flat tire on the trailer is never fun. I hate to wait on AAA to change a tire so I carry the correct size lug wrench, (which will invariably be a different size than needed for your vehicle) as well as a battery powered impact gun. Some friends carry an aluminum floor jack but I have found the trailer ramp made by EZ Jack to be my preference.

I usually carry two trailer spare tires and wheels. If you need a second one on the road, Tractor Supply Company carries most sizes premounted on a rim.

Always check your hitch. A receiver hitch and trailer ball with a 6,000 pound rating cannot be used if your loaded trailer exceeds 6,000 pounds. The hitch should have a weight rating equal to or larger than the ball.

Lastly, and probably most importantly, check your tires - the higher load rating the better. A tire with a load capacity of 1,750 pounds on a dual axle trailer results in a maximum weight of 7,000 pounds. That means your show car, trailer and other supplies loaded in your trailer must not exceed a total of 7,000 pounds. Inflate your tires to the recommended pressure. Soft tires increase friction and therefore more heat.

Find the date code on your tires and replace them whenever they reach five years old. Storing your trailer with the tires on the ground can lead to belt separation and flat spots so rotate the tires regularly.

If trailering seems too complicated, take the easy way out. Drive your antique and enjoy the waves and admiring looks you receive along the way.

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How to have more fun with old cars

Marty Roth
Vice President,
Development and Support
Central Division

Is there anything more enjoyable than getting out with our old cars, and with other folks who enjoy them? Other than time with the kids and grandkids - maybe, but not much else. Our old car friends are our second family. AACA activities with them are a great way for local Regions to share with like-minded folks from all over.

Your annual region show was fun, and the one-day, or weekend tours brought out memories which really last, right? When was the last time you attended a national meet or drove on a national tour? Not in a while? Never? They bring together an even wider and more diverse group, bring recognition, and even a modest profit to your region, and can generally even help your club make a significant charitable donation. The smallest of clubs can host excellent national activities, and any advice, planning assistance, and support you might need is available from your National Directors and AACA Headquarters in Hershey.

Having been involved for many years in scheduling, planning, and hosting National Meets, as well as National and Divisional Tours, I can assure you that you'll develop life-long friendships, and you'll retain a feeling of satisfaction that you and your club have had a positive effect for the club and for your community. Additionally, members from all over will remind their friend of what a great time they had because you and your region hosted a national activity.

Email me any time with your questions and ideas. I would really like to share your thoughts and concerns, and want to help you host a meet of tour in the coming years.
I will never forget the first time I drove my show car on to the field at an AACA National Meet. The apprehension and nervousness was nearly unbearably. That was twenty years ago and I still have those same feelings every time I compete.

I learned a lot along the way to make show day more successful. You should start with the AACA Judging Guidelines. You can order one from headquarters for a small fee. You can save your money and receive a free one by attending a National Judging School or by downloading a copy from the AACA website.

Reading the judging guidelines prior to arriving at the meet can reap great rewards. This book gives you specifics about what judging deductions can be taken. After reviewing the guidelines, judge your own car to make sure you have the correct headlights, tires, spark plug wires and hose clamps, just to name a few of the potential problem areas.

Don’t assume the show will be held on a cloudy or rainy day. Back your show car out of the garage in the bright sun. Open the hood, doors and trunk. If you notice something that makes you cringe, I guarantee, the judges will notice it also.

Invite a family member or a friend to inspect the car. The more “eyes” the better. Address any deficiency that is noticed.

If your car has unique or unusual features, make sure you bring along as much factory documentation as possible to share with the judges. I try to bring a dealer’s sales brochure along with the Owner’s Manual.

Finally, clean your car. The judges are judging your car as if it is sitting brand new at the dealer’s showroom. Dirt in the wheel wells, grease on the engine, rust on the exhaust or dirty windows could be the difference between a great day and a big disappointment.

AACA hosts many National Meets each year. Some are found in locations we have not been to, or even heard of before. We really like these locations as we get to enjoy an area of the country we may not have seen otherwise. Another plus is that when traveling to these locations you get to see other attractions along the way as a bonus.

An example of one of these meets is the Bettendorf, Iowa meet held in August 2017. The Isle Casino Hotel in Bettendorf was the host hotel and an ideal location overlooking the Mississippi River. The show field was next to the Convention Center and Casino and the buffet breakfast, which was included in the room price, was one of the best we have had. The Casino has several nice restaurants which added to its ambiance.

About a twenty minute drive north of Bettendorf is Le Claire, Iowa which has been made famous by Mike, Frank and Danielle from “American Pickers”. We had been to their store in Nashville a few years ago when attending the Cleveland, Tennessee National meet and wanted to see the original store in Le Claire where it all started. The Store looks just like it does on the show, but Mike, Frank and Danielle must have been off picking that day. Also in Le Claire were several antique and collectible shops, an excellent Buffalo Bill Museum, a micro-brewery and several nice restaurants, including the Faithful Pilot which was featured on an episode of American Pickers.

About twenty miles west of the Illinois/Iowa border and just off Route 80 is the Route 80 Truck Museum. This Museum is just trucks, big ones and lots of them—it is huge. Most of the trucks are restored and range from the early twentieth century to the 1980’s. We have been to several truck museums and this is one of the best.

The Mississippi Valley Region hosted this National Meet and provided a riverboat dinner cruise one evening. On Saturday there was a special treat as we got to see the American Queen which was tied up all day next to the Casino and in the late afternoon left on one of its river cruises.

As there is so much to do in a short period of time it is best to arrive at a National Meet a few days before show day and get to see these wonderful areas of the United States.
Wow, just WOW!

By Wayne Burgess
Vice President, Public Relations

That is what I often think as I score newsletters for the AACA NAAP newsletter awards. It’s really educational to score our interesting newsletters. I really enjoy reading some of the articles. Here are some points of interest from some of them that I wish to share:

1. A gentleman dreamed of owning an early Corvette after driving his buddy’s back in his high school days. He and his wife finally bought the jewel of their life after the kids had grown up and out on their own.

2. The little church in Florida preparing to celebrate 100 years of its history, but needing an early brass car to duplicate a picture they had of a similar car in front of the church many years ago. 1914 Buick to the rescue. The matching pictures were amazing.

3. The May meeting of another region having an illusionist cut the ring of one of the region’s members out of a lemon. The look on her face was priceless.

4. Another member from a southern state that I call a friend who I see is still editor of their region’s newsletter after all of my years of newsletter involvement. She’s a real trooper, because I know what it takes to be editor for so many years.

5. I paid close attention to a favorite region of mine out west as I closely read how they handled the devastation of their wildfires. Regardless of where my AACA member friends are from, I still call all of them family and worry about them.

6. Finding new ideas you never thought of like…using solid brass pet tags to put on your many antique car keys. You own an antique car, so I know you just have to own more than one. These tags keep the keys separated.

7. I was very distressed to see two New York Regions were having their last local regional car shows this year. We must work harder to promote our hobby.

As my scoring task was winding down, I realized that the sharing of each other’s newsletters is like the sharing of experiences in life. All of the sharing of little personal stories of life are just the same as the sharing of newsletter articles. They give us new ideas to follow, but also help to prevent us from making the same mistakes in the future.

Have a Happy and prosperous 2018 everyone!

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). Be advised that the link above 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. 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.
Military Sponsorship Program

Bob Parrish,
Vice President,
National Awards

The Military Sponsorship Program has been a success in our Tidewater Region, due in part to the many veterans that reside in the Greater Hampton Roads, VA area. The program accepts applicants that are not only retired Military veterans, but all veterans regardless of years of service. They are not required to produce discharge records or any other types of proof of service, but just state the branch of service, years of service and their separation date to qualify.

AACA feels that by providing a one year complimentary membership, it is also a way of expressing our appreciation for their service to our country. They have been the protectors of our freedom for which we are all grateful.

There are many veterans that have an interest in classic cars and this can be the introduction needed to advance their interest and provide new members to AACA and our local Regions.

The AACA program coordinator, Holly Forester, sends a list of the new Military Sponsorship members to the nearest Region for follow-up to invite them to the nearest local club. We have found this to be successful at TRAACA (Tidewater Region) We at Tidewater, as do some other Regions, provide a complimentary one year Region membership as well.

I would encourage other Regions to get involved with this program to help increase AACA membership and Region membership. You will find that Military applicants have many leadership skills and a can-do spirit.

Applications can be found on the AACA web site, or by contacting AACA Headquarters.

You should attend a National AACA Meet in 2018!

Mel Carson,
AACA Secretary/Treasurer

It is a fact that a large number of AACA members have never attended a National AACA Meet. There will be at least seven National AACA Meets in 2018. You can review the list and locations under Calendar of Events in the current issue of Antique Automobile. Depending on the Meet location, you can get an up close look at between 200 and 1,400 AACA eligible vehicles.

Many of these Meets are within a reasonable driving time for a large number of members. You would have the opportunity to view the car of your dreams or satisfy your plan to obtain that certain car. Either way, you gain much needed information and satisfy your desire to have more knowledge about the antique vehicle hobby! Plan now to attend a National AACA Meet in 2018 – you will enjoy the experience.

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Aug 20-24 ● Reliability Tour ● Geneva, NY
Sept 12-15 ● Central Divisional Tour ● Texas Panhandle, TX
Sept 16-22 ● Glidden Tour ● Twin Falls, ID
Oct 10-13 ● Eastern Fall Meet ● Hershey, PA
Oct 21-26 ● Founders Tour ● Metropolis, IL
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