OBSERVATIONS FROM
A CHIEF JUDGE
By Chuck Crane
Executive Vice President

Reflecting on the AACA Central Division Fall Meet held in Galveston, Texas in October 2016, a few thoughts are appropriate for our members who may be first timers entering a national meet.

We had 124 vehicles ranging from a 1904 Curved Dash Oldsmobile to 1991 vehicles. At many meets, your Chief Judge and others review all the cars before judging starts to see if they are in the proper classes and to determine if they should change category, e.g. Do they fit best in HPOF (Historic Preservation of Original Features), or Class Judging, or in DPC (Driver Participation Class) for those cars we love to tour in which have some comfort modifications. At Galveston, we reclassified 30 vehicles.

Most of those owners were rather confused about what each category represented and said we’re not judges so we didn’t know what to put down. Very simply, go into Class Judging if you can look at your car and honestly say “If I was buying this car from a dealership as a new vehicle, I would accept it”. You’re looking at it as a judge would, but you don’t have to worry about authenticity since it just came from the factory. After all, our AACA definition of the 400 point vehicle is that it must be restored to the level when it was delivered from the factory to the dealer and that includes proper tires. Would you take delivery of a vehicle with a run in the back quarter panel? If you look at it like a great used car with a few flaws, it probably belongs in Driver Participation Class (DPC), which is a certification class but not point judged. If it looks like Grandpa’s 1952 Chevy with 12,000 original miles which never sat outside in the rain, it is probably appropriate for HPOF. Please take the time to take a good hard look at your vehicle before you register so you and your pride and joy may receive the right award at the close of the meet. You’ll be glad you did. We had a great 1991 Imperial registered in DPC at Galveston which I felt could compete in class judging, which the owner agreed to. He was overjoyed with his First Junior award at it’s first ever showing.

The 2017 Calendar of National Meets and Tours has been published. For more details on these events visit aaca.org or watch for their advertising in Antique Automobile magazine. In particular watch for details on the Central Spring Meet in Auburn IN. It will be held in conjunction with the spring Auctions America two day auction. The car show, swap meet and auction area all on the same grounds.

2017 National Meets and Tours

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<td>Founders Tour</td>
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<td>Annual Grand National</td>
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<td>Central Fall Meet</td>
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<td>Revival AAA Glidden Tour</td>
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<td>Eastern Fall Meet</td>
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— tentative schedule, check website for updates —
Happy New Year! Welcome to my fifth issue as Editor of the *Rummage Box*. In this issue you will find a bit of information about the decision of the AACA Board of Directors to discontinue funding of the AACA Museum after attempts to complete a merger of AACA and the AACA Museum were unsuccessful. There have been lengthy discussions of this issue on the AACA Discussion Forum. Lots of people feel very strongly about this issue. There is a lot of information available on this issue, but not all of the information that has been written has been accurate. Hopefully through reprinting material from this issue of the *Rummage Box*, our Region and Chapter editors can help members of the club can get a better understanding of the facts about this issue.

I recently returned from another great Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. I had a little less airline trouble getting there this year than I experienced last year. I was able to enjoy a lot of great seminars, great food, and had fun meeting with old friends and making new ones. The only sad thing about the meeting was missing Herb Oakes. Herb died unexpectedly a few days before the meeting and his presence was certainly missed. AACA lost a great man with his passing. I am glad that I did get to visit with him a few weeks before the Philadelphia meeting at the NC Region Annual Meeting in Burlington, NC.

Many of the articles in this issue are taken from the Annual Report that was presented at the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. I hope that their presence here will encourage our newsletter editors to reprint them in local newsletters so we can get this important news out to those members who did not have the chance to attend the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. I realize that for many years I was an active member of my local chapter but never got much exposure to National AACA activities. I wish I had learned more about National AACA activities earlier than I did. Sharing this information with all of our members is important.

2016 was another successful year of activities for AACA members. There were 16 AACA events in 2016, including the Annual Meeting and the VMCCA Glidden Tour. These meets and tours were held in 11 different states. They were not only enjoyed by AACA and VMCCA members, but also the public in the area hosting them. AACA continues to educate the public as to our mission, to preserve and protect the history of the automobile. With an excellent staff at AACA Headquarters and the AACA Library, we continue our mission.

2017 will be another exciting year of events across the U.S. We begin our meet year in February in Ocala, Florida, hosted by the North Central Florida Region. March will find us on the West Coast for the Western Spring Meet in Palm Springs, California. It always feels like Spring or Summer in California. Our third Meet will be hosted by the Hornets Nest Region at the Charlotte Motor Speedway on April 6-9. We will begin our tour season April 25-27 in Sonora, California, for the Western Divisional Tour. On May 11-13, Auburn, Indiana, will again host the Central Spring Meet. This year we will share our show field for the first time with the Classic Car Club of America. This is a wonderful opportunity for both clubs to share our hobby together. The month of May will find us in Huntington, WV, for the Eastern Spring Meet hosted by the Huntington Region on May 26-27. The 2017 Founders Tour will be hosted by the Gettysburg Region June 4-9, traveling around the historic Gettysburg, PA area. The AACA Grand National will be in Independence, MO, this year on June 15-17 hosted by the Kansas City Region. The week of July 17-21 will find us on the Vintage Tour, a progressive tour beginning in Wellsboro, PA, hosted by the Buzzards Breath Touring Region. The Mississippi Valley Region will host the Central Fall Meet in Bettendorf, IA, on August 17-19. The AACA Glidden Tour will be in Hastings, Nebraska, the week of September 17-22, hosted by the Nebraska Region. The 2017 season will end up in Hershey, PA, with our annual Eastern Fall Meet on October 4th through the 7th. The Hershey Region always puts on a great event.

As you can see, 2017 will be an exciting year for our members. These events hosted by our various regions also help strengthen the regions and chapters that host them. Please consider hosting an event yourself in the near future. The AACA Board of Directors are here to help you reach your goal. We have any number of openings in the future that we’d love for you to consider.
The Great Museum Region & Chapter Room Caper
By Steve Moskowitz,
AACA Executive Director

From an email sent to Dennis Beck and Rochelle Robinson of the museum: “Thanks for your help today. Unfortunately my guys took a few items that belong to you. We will get them dropped off but are there items in storage that belong to us? There should be a display board of badges and a mug at the least.”

From the next email to them: “We will get the items our guys mistakenly took. Since I was not there and did not realize that our two former cases were gone they assumed that was all the stuff from the other cases. Rick Gawel will bring the materials back. If you come across our other materials please let us know. Thanks and sorry for the disruption.”

Chris Ritter our Head Librarian and Steve Moskowitz are being blamed for emptying the Regions & Chapters room at the museum. First of all it was remodeled well before we took our items back. What did we take back? Items that had been in our Library display case that were owned by Steve personally; Items owned by the AACA Library & Research Center and finally items from a display case that was devoted to the Club. That display case was “decommissioned” and no longer used to promote AACA. There were some items that have never been returned.

Please be assured that not a single item belonging to any region or chapter made its way to our building permanently. The handful of items that were mistakenly taken went back the next day. Inferences that we removed materials donated to the museum have been designed to confuse and mislead our members from the real truth about what happened in that room. Rightly or wrongly, the decision to modify and change the room was that of the museum board, period. Materials not returned to the regions or individuals was not of AACA’s doing and is an issue to take up with the museum.

Antique Automobile Club of America

Meet & Tour Development
By Marty Roth
2016 Vice President,
Regions - Central Division

2016 was yet another exceptional year with 16 National Events in 11 states for our members to enjoy. We hope you participated, and enjoyed the varied Meets and Tours our Regions and their members planned and hosted. Did you show one of your special vehicles at one of our 9 National Meets? Did you drive on one of our Tours? Those who were did had a great time.

Our committee serves to seek out those of you who have yet to volunteer to host a National Event. Your region or chapter has hosted local shows and tours, but you have been hesitant to jump in, maybe thinking a National Event was too hard, or maybe someone else would do it. Yes, it takes planning, and a dedicated group of volunteers. Yes, it takes locating a host facility - BUT you've done this already. You know the area. Plan it and they will come from all over the country and beyond to show their vehicles. They will come to drive your backroads - the same ones you used for your club's local tours over the past years. Take those weekend drives and local eateries and string them together into a week-long tour. It is not "Too Hard" to host a National Event. Our National Board will work with you to guide you through the well-defined process. Your Vice President of Event Planning and Vice President of National Activities, as well as a liaison will be available to help assure toward the success of your event. These events are very rewarding. They can be quite profitable to your club, and they bring loads of business to your area. Your local motels, restaurants, gas stations, and tourist attractions all benefit.

You CAN do it. We need you go to you club and start talking about National Meets and Tours, and to drum up support for hosting an event. To discuss your thoughts, phone me, Marty Roth, at (504) 452-1955, or email me at MartyDaleRoth@aol.com. I look forward to meeting you, and to help you host an AACA NATIONAL EVENT.
Library Update

By Chris Ritter
AACA Head Librarian

2016 was another great year for YOUR AACA Library & Research Center. Two highlights include receiving the Don O’Reilly collection and the completion of our home-built 16mm film scanner.

The Don O’Reilly racing collection includes thousands of early NASCAR programs, photographs, entrance forms, tally sheets and more. We took receipt of the collection in Eugene, Oregon and needed a 54-foot trailer to get all of it back to Hershey! Work continues on the sorting, cataloging and the eventual digitization of the collection. If anyone is interested in getting their hands dirty with this project, please reach out to library staff.

Our 16mm film scanner is a homebuilt unit and we used a crowdfunding campaign to finance the project. With your help we raised more than $11,000 for the scanner. We are currently in the process of digitizing our collection of over 300 films. Once the films are digitized, we are uploading them to our YouTube page where anyone with an internet connection can watch for free. Of course, if you need still need a film on DVD for a region or chapter meeting or event, we’d be happy to supply you with one.

As we look into 2017, we are extremely excited to announce that the AACA Library Bookmobile will hit the road this year! Our 1955 Chevrolet bookmobile originally served the residents of Anderson County, SC from 1956-1990. It was donated to us in 2012 and underwent a total restoration. After it makes the rounds at AACA events, it will become an amazing ambassador to the old car hobby as it visits schools, parades, retirement communities and (hopefully) a local event near you.

Our general reference collection, the heart of the library, continues to grow with over 1 million pieces of sales literature, manuals, ads, photographs and more. In addition we have close to 6,500 reference books on our shelves. The collection also contains early automotive periodicals such as Cycle & Automobile Trade Journal, MoToR, Motor Age, Autocar and the Commercial Car Journal. You can explore our Online Catalog at www.aacalibrarycatalog.org.

The Library is now open six days a week; Monday – Saturday, from 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. We invite everyone to stop by to do research, view the facility and see our 1906 Mitchell, 1929 Harley-Davidson and 1940 Ford. If you can’t visit the library in person, be sure take advantage of the 1 ½ hours of free research that every AACA member is entitled to.

The Library and Research Center is a wealth of knowledge and we look forward to hearing from you soon!
2016 Judging Recap

By: Herb Oakes
2016 Vice-President, Judging

Recapping 2016, we are continuing to move forward with our judging program. We started 2016 off with 932 active judges. We ended 2016 with 951 active judges. In addition to the active judges, we now have sixteen new Certified Team Captains and 130 active judges have reached a milestone this year. Dollie Flechler, Chairman of Judges Records, mailed a total of 53 certificates to judges who reached their fifth credit in 2016.

Remember to invite a friend to Judging School and introduce him or her to our hobby of judging. The efforts of our judges and team captains continue to improve and I credit that to our continuous effort to bring issues that we need to work on by the way of the Team Captains School and the Team Captains CJE. Another practice that is paying dividends is having a phone number on each Team Captain’s package so that he or she can call for assistance of any issue while judging on the field.

In 2016, there were 10 National meets. The statistics of the meets are as follows:

- Vehicles Registered 3,616
- Awards presented 2,226

2016 was another successful year in our judging program. This could not have been accomplished without the dedication of the judges supporting our great AACA organization. We should thank each and every one of our judges for their dedication to the program, which includes the 56 members of our Administration Team.

Judging awards for 2016:

- 50 received 5th judging credit
- 48 received 10th credit
- 32 received 25th credit
- 25 received 50th credit
- 17 received 75th credit
- 14 received 100th credit
- 9 received 125th credit
- 8 received 150th credit
- 6 received 175th credit
- 5 received 200th credit
- 5 received 225th credit
- 275 credits - Art Bolton, Chuck Carish, Pat Croley, Mike Petersen and J. Stanley Stratton
- 325 credits - Lou Fritz, Bo Croley & Sonny Sain
- 375 credits - Joe Vicini
- 400 credits - Eric Marsh

I would like to remind all Team Captains, certified or working for your certification, that each of you must attend a Team Captains School or a Team Captains CJE each year. Those who have not met this requirement will be placed on a non-eligible list to serve as a Team Captain until they have met the requirement stated above.

It has been a privilege for me to serve as your VP of Judging for this year. I want to thank each and every one of you that have brought me suggestions—good, bad and indifferent. This has helped immensely to strengthen our judging program. After nine years, my tenure as VP of Admin for 3 years and VP Judging for 6 years, has come to a close. In 2017, I hand over the reins to the Assistant VP Judging to Roger Irland. Check out the calendar this year in Antique Automobile magazine and make your plans early to attend as many meets as possible in 2017.

AACA Library & Research Center Update

By: Roger Irland
Vice-President, Judging

Our long-standing goal continues to be to make the AACA Library and Research Center recognized as a world-renowned resource for the collector vehicle community. We have the good fortune to have a head librarian, Chris Ritter, and his two assistants, Matt Hocker and Mike Reilly, who are very knowledgeable, motivated and are having fun with the work of the library. We also have a great Library Committee to back them up with volunteer work at the library and at events, such as Hershey, where we put the library on display.

Our librarians have done a great job getting the Kinograph project up and running. This machine will allow us to digitize films/filmstrips, and make them far more widely available. Online, the library has a presence on all the social media, including Youtube.com and Tumbler.com. You’ll find updates on various subjects, along with a few laughs. AACAlibrary.org will take you to the site that will show you all of what’s available to you and what’s new.

We continue to host a number of collections on behalf of various marque clubs. They are becoming too numerous to mention, but I’d like to highlight the Gerrard Collection and the recently acquired O’Reilly collection. I had the good luck to be able to spend some time last summer helping to sort through and organize some of the forty-foot trailer load of goodies that we received last spring. Again, visit or go online to see what’s there for you.

Coming up, we will see the results of the beautiful restoration of the Bookmobile. I’m excited about the possibilities for promoting the library and the club as it travels around the country. Another challenge for the Library committee will be helping with the logistics and expenses of getting the Bookmobile out and about. Look for it, it’s not going to be a static display in the lobby. We’re always looking for donations of anything auto related. We’d like to bolster our prewar collection, so talk to Chris Ritter and share what you have with the collector community. Remember, as an AACA member, you get 1.5 hours of research included in your membership. And, you don’t need a hall pass to check it out!
The Year in Review

By Bob Parrish
Vice President,
National Awards

2016 was an amazing year for Dot and I, attending all 10 National Meets and 5 National Tours. We have seen so many beautiful cars and sights and met some of the greatest members in our hobby. The hospitality extended to us has been wonderful. We have toured in air conditioned Cadillac luxury to riding in 100-year-old car amazement. It has been said before that the cars bring us together, but it is the people we meet along the way that makes this hobby, and specifically this Club, the greatest of its kind in the world.

AACA has been able to maintain its 60,000 membership base and compliment our membership with a Military Veteran Sponsorship Program and other means to promote membership. We have been fortunate to have an efficient, dedicated Headquarters and Library Research Center staff under the skilful management of Steve Moskowitz. There are many functions assigned to our Board of Directors that are performed by some of the most experienced members of our hobby, and at their own expense. I want to thank them for all they do for AACA. Additionally, the AACA family has some very talented members that take on tasks to produce Region/Chapters newsletters and websites, execute meets and tours flawlessly, all for our member’s enjoyment. There are also many members serving on various committees in our organization to make AACA a better Club. I have witnessed this first-hand this year.

We have some challenges ahead of us and I am confident AACA will succeed under the skilful leadership of our incoming President, Tom Cox. It has been an extreme honor and a humbling experience for me to represent our Club this year. Thank you for your support.

National Awards

By Michael Jones
2016 VP National Awards

During the 2016 meet & tour season, the National Awards judging team evaluated 3,616 vehicles shown at ten national meets and 244 vehicles participating on three national tours. The Gulf Coast Central Fall Meet in Galveston, Texas, will be treated as a 2017 event since it occurred after Hershey. The National Awards Committee, consisting of twenty-five of the most experienced Senior Master AACA judges, meets each year in Hershey on the first Saturday in December to review all of the nominated vehicles for the year. The team votes to determine the National Award winner in each category. This year 289 owners were nominated for one or more of the prestigious National Awards available to all members. There are over 72 awards for which our members may compete. We invite everyone to visit the AACA website to become more familiar with the various awards in our world class judging system. Go to http://www.aaca.org/Publications/national-awards-2.html.

As is the case each year, the competition was extremely keen, making the decisions very difficult. On February 11th, seventy-two award-winning owners, and their vehicles, were recognized for their accomplishments at the National Awards Banquet. National Service Awards were presented to twenty-one recipients for their contribution to the betterment of our hobby and AACA as a whole. Twenty-three Master Webmaster Awards and twenty-four Master Editor Awards will be presented to winners for their contributions to their respective Regions and Chapters.

My tenure as the Vice President of the National Awards Committee will come to an end as I complete my fifteenth year as an elected board member and will step down from the leadership position. During my final year on the board, I was proud to have had 100 percent attendance at all of the national meets. It was a fitting end to my involvement with the national awards activities. I will still be an active judge and enthusiastic member of the National Awards Team and will support my successor with great vim and vigor!
AACA National Headquarters Report

By Steve Moskowitz
AACA Executive Director

2016 has been quite a year. Unfortunately, the last quarter was marred by the very disturbing and sad final ending of our relationship with the museum. Much has been said and written, but those who choose to look at the facts and not the disinformation can easily understand why this has occurred. In fact, the recent actions of the museum should solidify your thinking that they do not have the best interest of AACA in mind and have no problem in causing harm to the club. I have seen first-hand the careful and deliberate manner in which the AACA National Board conducted their deliberations. Those conversations were all taped and the facts are there. Your board has acted with one purpose in mind, to do what is in the best interest of our members.

Otherwise, 2016 was a good year for the club with improvements to our collections in the library, a few generous car donations to both the club and library and a return to stronger performance with our investments. The AACA staff continues to do a stellar job and works incredibly hard to provide you with the best service possible. We are in fact understaffed and hope to rectify that in 2017. Lynn Gawel, has retired effective February 1st of this year.

As always, I would prefer to concentrate on the coming year. This year marks the first ever inclusion of the Zenith Award at our Annual Grand National Meet. We will have 20 of the very finest cars shown in 2016 located indoors at the meet in Independence. Judges will have an extraordinary difficult time in choosing the “restoration of the year.” This is going to be very exciting to watch as the cars follow the breadth of our show offerings and each is certainly worthy of the top honor.

Auburn, Indiana, is going to be a show you will not want to miss. For the first time in history, AACA and the Classic Car Club of America will meet TOGETHER at the Auctions America Spring Sale in Auburn, Indiana, May 11-13. In a very unusual twist, car owners who are members of both clubs will be able to have their cars judged by each organization on the same day. There will be many joint activities including a Friday night concert and a seminar on Friday as well. While AACA sees it share of full classic cars, the opportunity for our members to see a large display of these magnificent cars is going to be a real treat for everyone. As always, there is free admission into the auction and bidder’s passes for our members. If you have not experienced Auburn, you are missing a very special town that is home to no less than four museums designed for car enthusiasts. Put this one on your calendar.

We will be continuing to grow our presence on social media in the coming year. Our group Facebook site is now over 10,000 members and is growing rapidly. It has been hard to keep up with the number of requests to join. We will be working on our club Facebook site and who knows, if the President can tweet we may as well! Speedster continues to be read at an extraordinary rate and we are pleased. West and I have a new feature we want to add to Antique Automobile, so this year you should see another new wrinkle in your magazine. Our goal continues to be to stay engaged with our members and provide the utmost in communication.

In light of recent events, many members have called to discuss changes in their estate planning. Remember the club and library are a 501(c) (3) as well and would be honored if you should choose us in your philanthropy. In this “chair,” I get to talk to many families who are overwhelmed with decisions regarding cars and automobilia as instructions were never left for the family. I have recently made sure my wishes were updated and feel more confident that it will not be an undue hardship for anyone when I pass away. I also feel good that my donations to AACA will be honored. I had a close friend pass away unexpectedly and despite the fact he told me numerous times of his wishes, they were never put in writing and his strong feelings for disposal of his collections might never happen. It is not fun thinking of your mortality, but it is necessary. One way I have proceeded is to videotape a lot of my prized acquisitions, so my heirs will hear in my own words what I think they are worth and how to sell them. It took away the pain of trying to write everything down.

Our annual meeting is always special as we once again get to see old friends and make new ones. The Awards Banquet is our “Oscars” and always an amazing evening where we get to honor vehicles and their owners, plus special people in the club. It truly is a night we all look forward to. So congratulations to all and as we say a further goodbye to 2016, let’s celebrate all that is good with your club, the Antique Automobile Club of America, still and always America’s oldest and greatest car club. As always, please do not forget that your National Headquarters is in fact YOUR office. Our friendly and extremely competent staff will be happy to help you. So call, write or email us and we will be glad to try and meet your requests. Have a great 2017!
Great News for Newsletter Editors

By: Mary Bartemeyer
Vice-President, Publications

Our National Board of Directors, at their Philadelphia, PA Meeting, approved creation of a ftp site for online submission of electronic copies of Newsletters. If Editors sign up for National Awards Achievement Program (NAAP) they will receive a password and be able to log onto the ftp site and upload their newsletters for judging. This will save printing costs, postage, and will also be ecofriendly. On the website, Directors, Officers, and Newsletter Evaluators will be able to log in to one spot and see what Regions are doing. The site will also be a good source of stories which, can be shared after obtaining PERMISSION from the original source. Editors can also read other newsletters to get ideas from other publications.

Use of the ftp site will start with the 2017 NAAP Judging. Letters announcing the changes to the NAAP will be going out the first part of March to all Editors and Region Presidents. Last year, 84 of the 288 Region and Chapter Editors participated in the National Awards Achievement Program. With the new submission process I expect more Editors to participate.

With additional NAAP participation, we will need a larger number of Newsletter Evaluators. There will be instruction sheets and I will be available for questions. If you love to read and would be willing to read and rate 10 or so Newsletters on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, please send an email to me at mbartemeyer@yahoo.com.

Much like the judging process that most are familiar with on the showfield, the NAAP has a judging form for evaluators to use to easily score publications. Just read and rate. Please consider helping our Publications and Editors with this program by volunteering to be a Newsletter Evaluator.

News from the AACA LIBRARY & RESEARCH CENTER

Free: The library is open free to the public during our normal hours of operation. On site research is free to anyone who visits. Members of the AACA receive 1.5 hours of free off-site research per calendar year. Non-Members are subject to Fees.

To access this great attribute of our hobby:

Monday thru Saturday 8AM - 4PM
501 W. Governor Ave, Hershey PA, 17033
Phone: (717) 534 – 2082
E-mail: www.aacalibrary.org

ONLINE CATALOG

Our Online Catalog is separated into 3 categories. The bulk of our collection resides in the Automotive Literature section that holds Manufacturer Specific items such as sales literature, owner’s manuals, photos, and more. We also have separate catalogs for our Books and Media collections. While our online catalog contains a vast array of objects, it does not show everything. Some items are not cataloged online, including: Shop Manuals, Parts Catalogs, Periodicals, as well as our collection of item specific Flat Files. The Flat Files contain a wide variety of automotive subjects such as safety, tools, racing, coach builders, and much more.

Head Librarian: Chris Ritter
Catalog Librarian: Mike Reilly
Assistant Librarian: Matt Hocker