

July-August 2022 Volume 57, Number Four



Debbie and Keith Bullen, and their pup, Sam, enjoy a Sunday drive in their 1955 Chevy Nomad.

#### GSMHERITAGECENTER.ORG







THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS HERITAGE CENTER
865-448-0044 | 123 CROMWELL DR. | TOWNSEND, TN 37882

## 2022 AUTOS THROUGH THE AGES CAR SHOW

Over 125 Antique Cars on Display at
The Great Smoky Mountains Heritage
Center in Townsend, Tennessee
Saturday, July 16 | 10am - 3pm

#### FIRST 100 CARS TO REGISTER WILL RECEIVE:

- Two Free Admissions to the Heritage Center Museum
- Free Morning Coffee & Refreshments
- · Two Free Lunch Tickets.

**Admission to Car Show is FREE!** | Standard Museum Admission Fee is in effect.









Presented by the East
Tennessee Region Antique
Automobile Club of America.

If interested in participating, please contact Tim Seay at **865-604-1586** or email Timaseay@gmail.com









### **Local and National Events**

#### 2022 Officers &

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#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

Vice President:

**RG** Lewallen

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

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#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

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#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

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#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

#### **Board Members:**

**Matt Sartin** 

ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

**Wayne Tudor** 

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

**Tim Seay** 

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

**Keith Bullen** 

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

**Events Coordinator:** 

**Sherry Seay** 

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

**Newsletter Editor** 

Searching

#### ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

Webmaster:

**Roger Frazee** 

September 25-30:

October 4 - 7:

ETRAACA@GMAIL.COM

### **ETR Calendar of Events**

July 16: Heritage Center Car Show, Townsend, TN, Club Event

**August 20:** Cars for Canines Car Show, Oak Ridge

September 24: Copperhill Train trip, Tom Howard & Charlie Simpson

October 29: Fall Color Tour, The Hixons

**November 20:** Annual Business Meeting, the Frazees

**December 16:** Christmas Party, Tom Howard and Slyvia Witt

### **Upcoming Events from Other Organizations**

**Friday Nights:** Foothills Mall Cruise-In 5:00—7:00 PM, through October

**Every Third Saturday:** Lenoir City Cars and Coffee 8:00—11:00 AM

Fridays: Madisonville A&W Cruise-In 3:00—9:00 PM

July 9: Mossy Creek Cruzers 12th Annual Car Show 9:00 - 3:30

American Book Co, 403 E Old Andrew Johnson Hwy

Jefferson City, TN

July 24th: Harper's Auto Square Cars and Coffee 8:00—11:00 AM

September 10: Smoky Mountain Mustang Club open car show, Clinton TN

**September 15—17:** Pigeon Forge Fall Rod Run, LeConte Center at Pigeon Forge,

2986 Teaster Ln, Pigeon Forge, TN

October 1: Wheels of Wonder car show, First Baptist Church Lenoir

City

### **AACA National Events**

August 11 - August 13: <u>Central Fall Nationals – East Moline, IL</u>

Sponsor: Mississippi Valley Region Location: East Moline,

Illinois

September 10-16: <u>Sentimental Tour – Gettysburg, PA</u>

Sponsor: Buzzards Breath Region Location: Gettysburg, PA

Revival AAA Glidden Tour - Princeton, NJ

Central New Jersey New Jersey Region AACA

<u>Eastern Fall Nationals – Hershey, PA</u>: Hershey

Park 100 Hersheypark Dr, Hershey, PA



### **Roger That!**

#### **From President Roger Frazee**



2022 is turning out to be another exciting year for the East Tennessee Region AACA. Members of our region have been very active in national events and, have accumulated a total of twelve awards during the three national meets and the national convention. And the year is far from over.

There are two more national meets on the 2022 calendar. The Central Fall Nationals in East Moline IL are on August 11—13, and the Eastern Fall Nationals in Hershey PA are on October 4—7. In addition, the Sentimental Tour will be held on September 10—16 in Gettysburg PA, and the Revival Glidden Tour will be held on September 25-30.

There are so many ways to get involved in, and enjoy, the AACA national events. Whether you like competing in class judging, or having your car certified in the Drivers Participation or HPOF classes; or touring the countryside of new and different places, There are lots of ways to enjoy your old car in the AACA.

Heck, you can even leave your car at home and still participate. The AACA needs judges for every meet and they will train you to become an expert on vintage automobiles. Two ETR members, Rick Lay and Tom Howard serve as judges at every national meet, and usually do so without bringing their antique cars along.

However, if you can't make it to a national event this year, there are still several activities within the East Tennessee Region that you will enjoy.

Number one among them is the Fourth Annual Autos Through the Ages car show that is being held on July 16th at the Smoky Mountain Heritage Center in Townsend. The planning committee for this show have been working very hard to make this the best Autos Through the Ages show yet. We are expecting to have well over 100 cars on display, from ten different clubs, including the Clinton and Middle Tennessee Regions. We are hoping for a big turnout from members of the East Tennessee Region. Even if you don't bring a car, please come out and enjoy a day of old car fun with your ETR friends.

After that is the Cars for Canines show in Oak Ridge on August 20, a train ride through the foothills of East Tennessee on September 24th and the fall color tour on October 29. After the touring season ends, we will have our November Business Meeting on November 20. And we will conclude the year with the annual Christmas Party on December 16.

So choose your pleasure, and join your AACA friends as often as you can. We miss you when you stay home!

### **News From National**

#### From National Affairs Liaison Tom Howard



With a busy spring behind us now summer is here. What a great time it has been this year so far for the old vehicle hobbyist. It seems every day I learn of another show, cruse-in, cars & coffee or other special event where old cars will be present. It is great to have such a variety of hobby

events to choose from. In addition, of course, our very own East Tennessee Region has had some interesting and enjoyable activities this year. By looking at our ETR events calendar you will learn that many more are planned.

Your AACA national club has also been very busy as we have already had 10 National Activities in 2022. Included are the annual convention, 6 regular nationals, 2 Grand Nationals and 2 tours. These events have occurred in 8 different states including Puerto Rico. The rest of this year's national activities calendar includes 2 more nationals and 3 more tours. In all AACA will have visited 11 states with organized activities in 2022. This hobby really does offer you the opportunity to travel to a lot of wonderful and diverse places.

One of those places being Puerto Rico. Many of you may not know that there is a very active AACA Region there. In April they sponsored two national activities including a regular judging nationals and a special Grand Nationals. Their members have many beautiful antique vehicles as evidenced by noting there were 67 winners in the Grand National and 110 winners in the regular nationals. Some Puerto Rico Region members have traveled to Hershey in October for many years and we are always glad to see them there.

I encourage our ETR members to review the national schedule of events and plan a trip to a meet or tour. There are always interesting activities planned by the region sponsors and many restored vehicles to observe. The tours are especially fun since there are times you will travel to private locations you could not see otherwise. Make your trip a mini vacation with planned stops at interesting venues in route. Especially, look forward to May 2023 when your ETR will sponsor its' own national tour and greet visitors from all parts of the country. It promises to be an exciting time.

While traveling to distant locations to enjoy your hobby is great, ETR members also know that staying home and attending our local activities is wonderful too. One of these activities is our ETR sponsored **Auto Through the Ages** show coming July 16 in Townsend. Many of you have registered to bring a vehicle or volunteered as a worker or both. This will be a fantastic opportunity for all our members and guests to attend what will be in its' fourth year the biggest and best yet.

Until next time, I look forward to seeing you soon at the ETR monthly activities and possibly a national event.



### **Editor's Corner**By Roger Frazee, Acting Editor

During the past twelve months, the Antiquer has been in the expert hands of Melissa Johnston. Melissa did an amazing job with our newsletter and always sought out the human side of every old car story. She is an expert at graphic design and has a great writing style.

Unfortunately, Melissa has found herself, like many of us, with too many irons in the fire. She has stepped down from her editing position in order to focus her attention on her family, her health, and the other things that are going on in her life. Thank you, Melissa, for your hard work and dedication to the Antiquer. You will be missed.

That brings us to our current situation. We need a new editor!

The Antiquer is published six times each year and is widely regarded as the life blood of the Tennessee Region. It is a reflection of recent events, things going on in the lives of our members, things going on with the National Headquarters, and things going on under the hoods of our automobiles.

If you would like to try your had at editing the Smoky Mountain Antiquer, please let me know. Jan and I will guide you through every comma and semi-colon until you feel comfortable doing the job on your own.

Don't be intimidated. It's actually fun to put the Antiquer together, and there's a great deal of satisfaction when you hit that "send" button and push your creation out to all the members of the club. Now taking applications!

#### **Newsletter Editor Wanted**

No experience necessary. We will train! Contact Roger or Jan Frazee for Details



### Sunshine Report By Sandra Quillin, Sunshine Correspondent



Spreading a Little Sunshine

What can each of us do to spread sunshine to our friends or acquaintances? We have a friend who just returned from a 12-week stay in rehab after breaking her ankle in two places.

She is confined to a wheelchair, so we wanted to spread some sunshine her way. I have been cooking a little extra to drop off at her home. The visit and the food bring her happiness!

She loves plants so the second week she was home, I took her a potted plant which she can water from her wheelchair. To get her out of the house, we took her for a spin in one of our antique cars. We have offered to pick up groceries and run any other errands for her. Of course, a call every other day to see how things are going for her and to offer help is a must!

Is there someone nearby that could use some of the sunshine you have to offer?

During the month of March, I sent on behalf of ETR a card of cheer to Bill Little, who resides at Ben Atchley Veterans Home. Some of our members visited recently with Bill who was so pleased to have the company of old friends.

On behalf of ETR, I sent a note of encouragement to Jennifer Payne as she cared for her husband John who was struggling with declining health. Also in March, I sent a note of sympathy to Mike Tullock in the loss of his mother and to Jennifer Payne after John's passing.

In the month of April, a note of sympathy was sent to Linda Royston in the loss of her mother. A get-well card was sent to Myra Tudor after her recent surgery. Myra got a good report from her doctor and is doing well.

During the month of May, a get-well card was sent to Art Fensod after his fall and surgery for a broken hip. Also, on behalf of ETR AACA a note of sympathy was sent to members Jack and Nancy Smith in the passing of Nancy's mother.

For the month of June, a note of cheer was sent on behalf of ETR to Debbie Hixson who had surgery on her foot.

Please send Sandra Quillin the names of ETR AACA members who need a note of cheer or who have lost a loved one.





## **East Tennessee Region AACA Board Meeting Minutes**

May 10, 2022

**OFFICERS:** 

President: Roger Frazee, Present

Vice President: RG Lewallen, Present Treasurer: Charlie Simpson, Present

Sherry Seay, Events Coordinator, Excused Absence

Melissa Johnston, Newsletter Editor, Present

Robert Quillin, Past President, Present

Secretary: Debbie Hixson, Present

**BOARD:** 

Wayne Tudor, Director, Present

Matt Sartin, Director, Present

Tim Seay, Director, Present

Keith Bullen, Director, Present

**GUESTS:** 

Sandra Quillin, Sunshine Representative, Present

Tom Howard, National Affairs Liaison, Present

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by President, Roger Frazee, at 6:45 PM. Roll call was made and members were present as listed. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

**SUNSHINE REPORT:** Sandra Quillin reported the following cards were sent:

**GET WELL** 

Jennifer Payne 3-19-22 Myra Tudor 4-24-22

**SYMPATHY** 

Mike Tullock (mother)

Linda Royston (mother)

Jennifer Payne (John)

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Charlie Simpson gave the financial report for 3-1-22 through 4-29-22. The report was approved.

**DELINQUENT DUES:** Discussion was held about the members who still have not paid their local and/or national dues. A list was passed to each board member present. After discussing each member and reasons they have not renewed their dues, it was decided to list those that have not paid local dues as inactive on the roster.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS LIAISON REPORT: Tom Howard reported this is one of the largest years we have had as far as shows and activities. Attendance at these events has been good. He has written an article for The Antiquer outlining these activities. The by-law controversy will be discussed at the Grand National in Virginia Beach in May. Tom will give a full report after

attending this meeting.

**EVENTS COORDINATOR REPORT:** Tim Seay reported on prior events including the Garage Tour on March 26 which about 50 members attended. Lots of good comments on this tour. Also the Granville Tour on April 23 had 6 members in attendance and a guest. This was a small but great tour. The Brushy Mountain tour is the next event. Sherry Seay will send out a reminder for this tour.

The June 11<sup>th</sup> event will be a car show in Lenoir City. Matt Sartin is hosting this event. It was decided to attend the show as a group possibly meeting at Home Depot and parking together.

The June 25<sup>th</sup> event is hosted by The Frazee's and the Bullen's. This is possibly an aviation theme tour visiting the Cirrus Aircraft center, lunch at Holston's in Sevierville and then visit the Tennessee Museum of Aviation.

AUTOS THROUGH THE AGES EVENT REPORT: Sandra Quillin and board members discussed this extensively. At this point two canopies will be utilized for the event. One for membership and registration under the other one with a canopy at each entrance. Question was raised if the club could purchase a canopy for use at other events with a cost of about \$150. A motion was made to purchase this canopy. The motion was seconded and carried. Buddy's barbeque has been scheduled to provide sack lunches for members/volunteers. Parking for the event was discussed in detail.

Members are asked to wear their club shirts at the event. Discussion was held regarding new members who do not have shirts. Motion was made for the club to purchase up to 12 shirts at a cost of \$27.38 each. Motion seconded and carried.

Walkie talkies and/or cell phones will be used by volunteers to stay in touch during the event. Signs will be placed to designate parking areas. Two golf carts are available at this time to



# Fireball Roberts Buick Recreation To be Among the Cars at Autos Through the Ages



This 1955 Buick Century is identical to the famous car that Fireball Roberts drove in the Daytona 500.

One of the stars of the fourth Annual Autos Through the Ages Car show will be Jerry Hodge's recreation of Fireball Roberts' 1955 Buick race car. The car was recently featured in *Antique Automobile*, the national AACA magazine.

The Autos Through the Ages planning committee, comprised of Sandra Quillin, Robert Quillin, Tom Howard, Sherry Seay, and Tim Seay have been working tirelessly to plan what promises to be the best show yet.

Autos Through the Ages, which will be held at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center on July 16th, is the premier event for the East Tennessee Region and it is a car show unlike any other. The event features, not only a display of some of the finest restored vehicles to be found anywhere, but also a variety of unusual vehicles, ranging from fire trucks, to depot hacks, to exotic sports cars.

The first Autos Through the Ages event was held in 2018 as a way to dedicate the new Transportation Exhibit at the Heritage Center. The event was an instant success and was repeated in 1919. There was no show in 2020, due to the Covid shut-down, but the event resumed in 2021. Since its beginning, the show has been organized and conducted by volunteers of the East Tennessee Region AACA.

Several local clubs are expected to participate in the event this year, including the Knoxville Area Corvair Club, the Classic Ford Association, the English Auto Society of Knoxville, the Smoky Mountain Model A Club, the Smoky Mountain Classic Thunderbird Club, the Walter P. Chrysler Club of Chattanooga, Classic Legends of Tellico Village, and the Knox Volks Motor Club. The Clinton and the Middle Tennessee Regions of the AACA have also been invited to participate.

Autos Through the Ages is totally free to both participants and spectators, thanks to the event sponsors, Twin City Buick, West Chevrolet, and the Blount Partnership. To date more than forty East Tennessee Region members have signed up to volunteer with parking, food service, membership information, and a plethora of tasks that will need to be attended to on the day of the show. If you are available to work an hour or two during the event, please contact Sandra Quillin and let her know.

Due to space limitations, registration for the event is limited so everyone is encouraged to register early.

We are also hoping to have many of our members' cars on display. But even if you decide not to show your car, please come out and join your old-car friends for a day of fellowship, food, and old car fun!



## East Tennessee Region Awards Automotive Technology Scholarship To Austin Lane

The East Tennessee Region is proud to announce the winner of the 2022 Automotive Technology Scholarship. After careful consideration of all the candidates' applications, the scholarship was awarded to Austin Lane, a graduate of Anderson County Career and Technical Center.



Scholarship winner Austin Lane (left) with his father, Scott, at the 1st Baptist Church Car Show.

Austin plans to further his education by attending Tennessee College of Applied Technology and will specialize in diesel mechanics.

In addition to the Automotive Technology Scholarship, Austin also received the 2022 Student of the Year award from the Anderson County Career and Technology Center.

"As a teacher I learned to depend on Austin," wrote ACCTC instructor David Wood. "He was always the first one to work on a task, and invariably, the last one to stop..

Austin's father, Scott, explained that Austin has been interested in cars all his life. "While other kids spent their time playing video games, he said, Austin was working on engines." In fact, Austin wrote, in his application, that he learned to work on cars from his dad.

Austin acquired a 1971 Chevrolet K-10 pickup truck a few years ago and has been working to restore it as time and money allows. He looks forward to the day when he can drive and enjoy the pickup.

In addition to academics, Scott has worked during his school years, at a variety of jobs, from cleaning horse stalls to working



Instructor David Wood (right) presents the 2022 Student of the Year Award to Austin Lane.

at the local Food City. He is currently working in the service shop at Ray Varner Ford.

Along with the scholarship award, Austin has also received a one-year complimentary membership to the East Tennessee Region and to the National AACA. We would like to welcome Austin into the East Tennessee Region AACA, and look forward to getting to knowing him better.



This 1985 Chevrolet K-10 has been a pet project for Austin and his dad since Austin acquired the truck a few years ago.



## John Richard Payne (1942-2022) A Lover of All Cars

By Jennifer Payne

How does one go about telling the story of a loved one? Most especially when he was a "car guy"?

Well it started in Allentown, PA many long years ago...a young boy whose father died shortly after returning from World War II. His maternal grandfather, lovingly called Daddy Dick, became the male influence in his life and Daddy Dick was a car guy. He had worked for the Middleby Auto Company in Reading, PA. Many years later he heard about a car show that was going to be held in Hershey in 1955 and he took young John there. That started the "itch". Every year they went to that show. John bought his first car, a 57 Plymouth Savoy. There were a few more general cars of that type and then he discovered sports cars! He bought his first sports car - a Triumph TR-3B. His Mom was so upset with him because that was NOT an appropriate car for an up and coming young business professional. After a couple of tense weeks Daddy Dick intervened and peace was restored to the family. John's Mom even consented to drive the car and some 60 years later John was still astounded by the fact that his Mom executed an absolutely perfect double clutch downshift. She, too, liked cars and driving fast.



John Payne takes the checkered flag in his H-Pod Austin Healey Sprite at Sumit Point Raceway.

Over the years John owned many different sports cars from Mustangs to AMC Javelins to Austin-Healeys to Porsches to Datsuns to Jaguars to various Triumphs to Lotus'. He would buy a car for a couple grand, drive it for a year, sell it and buy something else. But he developed a passion for Austin-Healeys and the 1959 Austin-Healey Sprite in our garage we have had since 1984. It's been restored a couple of times. He also raced a 59 Bugeye in SCCA Production racing from 1986-2008. During that time he never lost his love of vintage American

cars. We went to Hershey every year. We went to Das Awkscht Fescht in Macungie every year as well as the AACA Museum in Hershey. "Under the Lights" shows were popular in southeast Pennsylvania – close down the main drag in town and have a car show – the Lansdale and Perkasie shows were never miss events for us. Attendance at the Buckingham Concours d'Elegance was an annual "must do" on our calendar. He was invited to show his H-Production Bugeye racer at the Lehigh Valley Concours d'Elegence the year that Austin-Healey was a featured marque.



John's 1959 Austin Healey Sprite has been in the family since 1984.

John was an active member of the Pottstown Region, AACA; the North Penn Model A Club and various sports car groups in Pennsylvania and here in east Tennessee. He was a volunteer at the Boyertown, PA Museum of Historic Vehicles for several years.

It was always "if only, coulda, shoulda, woulda" for John and his love of vintage cars. He had hoped one day to buy a Middleby and then a Ford Model A and maybe another Metropolitan. Yes, he had one of those when he worked for American Motors in Detroit where you could only park in the company lot if you had an AMC brand vehicle — so he bought the Met. Anytime we could afford to buy one of his dreams, we had no space for it. When we had space, we didn't have the money. So he scratched that itch by active membership in AACA and visiting every car museum we could find when we traveled as well as every car show we heard about or stumbled upon.

There is a saying among the Austin-Healey people regarding our annual convention and it applies to ETR-AACA and most other car groups...You come for the cars but you stay for the people. A big thank you to all of you for your support and care during this most difficult time.



# East Tennessee Region Makes a Springtime Visit to Frozen Head and Brushy Mountain

It was a perfect spring day when ETR members and guests gathered at Oak Ridge's Doubletree Inn for a tour to Frozen Head State Park and Brushy Mountain Prison. The tour was hosted by Dave and Beryl Hermanson and Tom Howard.

As our group gathered at the hotel, which will be the host hotel for the 2023 Southeastern Divisional Tour, we discovered an unexpected treat. In the back parking lot, a group of Mustang owners was gathered in preparation for a rally of their own. ETR members and the Mustang owners enjoyed mingling and looking at each other's cars. Two of our club's participants, Herb and Susan Thomas, were at home with both groups, in their restored 1965 Mustang.



Tour hosts Dave and Beryl Hermanson pause for a photo in front of the blooming rhododendrons at Frozen Head State Park.

Before long the tour was under way as the group took a scenic drive to Frozen Head State Park. At the park, members and guests enjoyed coffee and doughnuts provided by our hosts. The rhododendrons were in full bloom at the park, adding an extra touch of beauty to the picturesque state park.

After visiting with friends and enjoying the morning coffee break, the tour was back on the road. We made a loop through the park before heading to our lunch destination, the Brushy Mountain Prison.

In route to the old prison, we passed by the modern Morgan County Correctional Facility. This modern state-of-the-art facility offered a stark contrast to the dungeon-like penitentiary



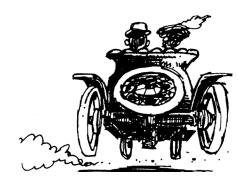
Herb Thomas and David Akerblom examine the trunk space in Herb's beautiful white Mustang.

that preceded it. The new prison is the primary employer for the residents of Morgan County.

The old Brushy Mountain Prison, once a former maximum security penitentiary, was built by prisoners in 1896 and was known as "the end of the line," to some of the worst and most notorious criminals until it closed its doors in 2009. The ominous facility has since become a tourist attraction, complete with a restaurant, on-site distillery, and gift shop. There, guests can tour the cell blocks and other areas where the likes of James Earl Ray and Byron Looper finished their lives doing hard time.

The prison had reserved a private dining room, known as The Warden's Table, for the East Tennessee Region. The group enjoyed an excellent lunch of barbeque, with all "the fixin's." The lunch was followed by a brief business meeting before members and guests were dismissed to tour the prison or return home.

Special thanks goes out to the Hermansons and Tom Howard for organizing and hosting a fantastic May tour.





# East Tennessee Region Members Turn Out to Support Lenoir City Car Show

More than forty members of the East Tennessee Region AACA gathered and displayed cars at the 15th Annual Car Show, hosted by the First Baptist Church of Lenoir City.



ETR members Randy Schwerdt and Dan Paransky stand beside Randy's 1930 Ford Coupe.

Regarded as one of the premier car events in Tennessee, the 2020 show, held on June 11, featured approximately 450 show cars, tractors, and stationary hit-and-miss engines.



J.W. Weeks was spotted at the show, beside his rarely seen 1969 Camaro SS.

This year's event was much-anticipated by ETR members. In fact, several members gathered off-site at 7:00 AM in order to arrive together and get choice parking spaces under the shade trees. As always, ETR member, Matt Sartin, was working the event and made sure that everyone's needs were attended to.



Tim Seay and Art Fensod relax beside Tim's newly acquired 1950 Ford Business Coupe.

One of the appeals of the Baptist Church Show is that it is totally free to exhibitors and spectators alike. Plus everyone in attendance receives a free lunch, complete with ice cream for desert. And, as always, a blugrass band is on hand to provide entertainment during the event.

The East Tennessee Region wishes to express its grateful appreciation to the Lenoir City First Baptist Church for hosting another fantastic car show.



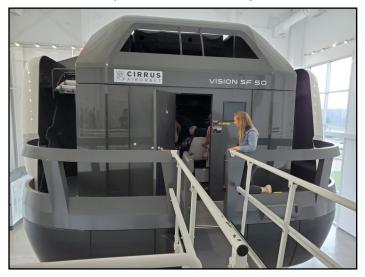
Ken Rausch and Tom Howard with Ken's 1950 Pontiac Chieftain.

**ETR.AACA.COM** 



### East Tennessee Region Visits Cirrus Aircraft and Tennessee Museum of Aviation

Members and guests of the East Tennessee Region AACA explored the world of aviation from days when propeller-driven fighters haunted the skys of Europe and the Pacific, to the sleek carbon fiber planes of the 21st century.



Cirrus Consierge Caroline Taylor escorts ETR members into the flight simulator used to train jet pilots.

The day began with a visit to the Cirrus Vision Center, located at McGhee Tyson Airport in Knoxville. There, the Cirrus jets and propeller-driven planes, manufactured in Duluth Minnesota, are prepared for final delivery to the customers.

The Vision Center also provides extensive classroom, simulator, and in-flight training to the new owners and pilots of the unique aircraft. "Knoxville is the only place that offers FAA certification for our single-engine Jets," said Caroline Taylor, the customer representative concierge for the company.

Unfortunately our tour was limited due to a photo-shoot that was being conducted in the Cirrus hangers, but we were treated to the inside of the multi-million dollar flight simulator. Normally, the simulator stays booked every day from early morning to late at night, but luckily, it was idle during our visit.

After leaving the Cirrus Vision Center, we traveled to Sevierville to the Tennessee Museum of Aviation, where we were greeted at the door by the museums founders and curators, Neal and Rhonda Melton.

The museum provides a chronical of military aviation history during World War II, The Korean War, and the conflict in Viet Nam. Half of the mammoth facility houses more that 100 ex-

hibits and military aviation artifacts. The other half contains a massive hanger which features several air-worthy planes from the World War II era, as well as cut-aways of airplane engines and fighter jets. There is also an exhibit containing various airplanes aviation props that were used in movies.



Tim Seay watches as Tennessee Museum of Aviation founder Neal Melton tries to coax Sherry Seay into taking a seat in an A-4 fighter jet.

As the day concluded, we traveled a short distance to Holstons Kitchen for a delicious lunch and a nice visit with our ETR family.

The East Tennessee Region wishes to thank Cirrus Aircraft and the Tennessee Museum of Aviation for their gracious hospitality and for educating our group about state of the art aviation, past and present.



This Sky Raider flew missions in Viet Nam and is now one of the airworthy exhibits at the Tennessee Museum of Aviation.



## ETR Member Dennis Connolly Experiences the Fun and Excitement of an AACA National in Charlotte



Dennis Connally's 1957 Chevrolet is unloaded and ready to drive to the showfield at the Southeastern Spring Nationals.

#### By RG Lewallen

Most people in our club attend Charlotte every year either to visit the autofest or show a car in the show car judging every spring! This year one of our newest members had a different idea.

Dennis & Lynne Connolly currently have three 1957 Chevy BelAir 2 door hardtops, as well as a 1973 original Corvette. Since all of their 57 hardtops are slightly modified Dennis decided that he was going to enter one of his 57's in the Driver Participation Class (DPC).

Dennis made plans to attend and he spent the time researching his car and the modifications that were allowed. These are both safety and comfort related. Those changes that are allowed include seat belts, turn signals, stop lights, sealed beam / halogen headlights, radial tires, alloy wheels of the same era, radio upgrades, brake upgrades (bolt on), steering upgrades (bolt on), air conditioning.

Dennis cleaned and detailed his red 57 Belair and had it looking great! After he made the trip to Charlotte he enjoyed walking the spaces in the autofest.

Then Saturday morning was the day he had been waiting for and the main reason he came. It was time to take the 57 on the show field. After the judging was over and the cars were allowed to leave the show field at the end of the day, Dennis moved his car back to his camping spot and then awaited the awards presentation that followed!

During the awards banquet that followed the car show, Dennis experienced that feeling that is so familiar to AACA show-car owners — Butterflies! He was soon elated, however, when the

emcee announced, "Driver Participation Class "Dennis Connolly 1957 Chevrolet Belair".

Dennis experienced all of the excitement, fun, anticipation, joy, and satisfaction that goes along with showing a car at a national meet. Congratulations Dennis!

Editors Note: Other ETR members who received awards at the Charlotte meet are Sherry Lewallen, Senior Award for her 1971 Chevrolet pickup; Keith Bullen, First Preservation Award for his 1955 Chevrolet; and Sherry Lewallen, First Junior Award for her 1969 Pontiac GTO Judge.



ETR Member Dennis Connolly is all smiles after receiving his Drivers Participation Plaque at the Southeastern Spring Nationals in Charlotte.



## East Tennessee Region Members Score Big at Grand Nationals Meet in Virginia Beach

It's not easy to qualify for the AACA Grand Nationals. And it's even harder to win an award for your car there. That's why is is special that not one, but two East Tennessee Region members brought trophies home from the 2022 AACA Grand Nationals in Virginia Beach.



The Judging Team swarms over the Bullen's '55 Chevrolet during the Virginia Beach Grand National Meet.

Unlike other national meets, there is only one Grand National meet each year, and the rules for that Grand are very different. The only cars that are judged at Grand National meets are those that have already reached Senior status in previous meets.



Opened up and ready for inspection, the Gray's '57 Chevrolet awaits the judges' arrival.

The Bullens were showing their 1955 Chevrolet for the first time in a Grand National meet, so they were competing for the First Grand National award. In order to receive a First Grand National Award a car must score a minimum of 380 points, our of a possible 400.



Keith Bullen and Beverly Gray proudly display their Grand National trophies.

The Grays had captured their First Grand National award in 2021 at the Gettysburg meet, so they were competing for their Senior Grand National Award. They needed a minimum of 390 points to win the award. That is no easy task.

When the judging was over and the awards were announced, Keith and Debbie had won their First Grand National Award and Beverly and Robbie received their Senior Grand National Award. This is an amazing showing by our East Tennessee Region members!

But the trip was not all business. Far from it. The Grays and the Bullins arrived in Virginia Beach a week before the meet and enjoyed several days of delicious seafood and fun in the sun. Not only that, but Keith and Debbie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary while they were at the beach.

Now that's the real prize!



# East Tennessee Region Members Attend AACA Nationals in Beckley WV

By Beverly Gray

Several East Tennessee Region members attended the 2022 Eastern Spring Nationals in Beckley, West Virginia, on June 16-18. Two ETR members competed with their cars and brought home Senior and Repeat Preservation Awards.

Those in attendance included Tom Howard, Rick Lay, RG, Sherry, and Lilah Lewallen, Mike Tulloch, and Robbie and Beverly Gray.

The Lewallen's competed for the Senior Award with their '69 Pontiac GTO Judge, while the Gray's sought a Repeat Preservation Award with their '57 Chevrolet Sport Sedan.



AACA cars lined the streets of Beckley West Virginia, as the city rolled out the red carpet for the event.

Tom Howard and Rick Lay served as national judges during the event, while RG Lewallen, Mike Tulloch, and Robbie Gray served as judges for the participating vehicles.

The West Virginia Whitewater Region worked tirelessly in hosting the Spring Nationals this year. The event was held in downtown Beckley with vehicles being displayed in Word Park as well as several streets throughout the city. The Beckley mayor literally shut-down the city for the event. This was a very impressive site, and along with the very friendly Beckley folks, a wonderful event resulted. The weather was beautiful with mild temperatures and plenty of sunshine. Many spectators enjoyed their walk down "memory lane" as they remembered the days when they drove these vehicles as part of everyday life. Many shared that this event was one of their favorites.

Special medallions, Whitewater Region logo on one side and Beckley City Logo on the other side, were produced for the event. These, rather than dash plaques, were presented to event participants by the Beckley Mayor and AACA President.

Prior to the event, the Lewallen's and Gray's enjoyed the beautiful New River Gorge. A brief trip to Grandview resulted

in viewing a horseshoe bend in New River with a beautiful tree covered mountain and railroad in the background. Then a trip was made across the New River Bridge to the New River Gorge Visitors Center Gorge Overlook. The view of the gorge from the overlook was breathtaking. Finally, a ride under the bridge to the bottom of the gorge produced sights that were remarkable and will be remembered for years to come.



Among the unique cars at being shown at Beckley was this 1954 Kiser Darren, owned by Edward Koch, Flemington, NJ.

The trip to Beckley was very enjoyable due to the beauty of Southern West Virginia. The mountains covered thickly in trees presented scenery that reminds all the majesty of God. The streams and rivers wound through the mountains and highlighted the mountains beauty. Although very tired from all the activities of the event and sightseeing, the trip home was just as enjoyable.

What a wonderful trip and event. It couldn't have been any better. The show was a tribute to the AACA, West Virginia Whitewater Region, and City of Beckley, West Virginia. How fortunate are the members of the AACA and East Tennessee Region of the AACA, to have attended the Beckley AACA Nationals!





#### **Board Minutes Continued**

#### Continued from page 5

be used. The possibility of having a drone fly over the event to take pictures was discussed.

Tim Seay stated that Logan from The Heritage Center is currently working on a food truck for the guests to enjoy.

Roger Frazee thanked everyone for their hard work on coordinating the Autos Through The Ages event.

**SOUTHEASTERN DIVISIONAL TOUR REPORT:** Roger Frazee reported the official name of the tour is The Secret City Tour after a vote by members. The tour book is well under way. The binders for the tour books have been received. Currently working on speakers for the opening and closing night banquets.

**ANTIQUER REPORT:** Melissa Johnston states the next edition of The Antiquer is ready. She also thanked everyone for their help on the articles in this edition.

**WEBMASTER REPORT:** Roger Frazee states there is nothing new to report at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Roger Frazee made the motion to accept Austin Lane, the Automotive Technology Scholarship winner, as a member of ETR AACA. Austin has filled out a membership application. His membership would be complimentary and also the national membership. The motion was seconded and carried. Tom Howard will speak with Karen White at AACA about the national membership for Austin.

Two new members have joined ETR AACA, John Modesto and Richard Croley.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Tom Howard mentioned updating the ETR brochure. He will check on pricing and the board will vote on this by email at a later date.

The next board meeting will be held on July 12 at Shoney's in Powell.



# East Tennessee Region Continues Planning For the 2023 Southeastern Divisional Tour

The East Tennessee Region will be divulging top secerets to AACA members from all across the country when our club hosts the Secret City Tour on April 30—May 3 of next year.

Based in Oak Ridge, the three-day national divisional tour will focus on the history of East Tennessee during the days of the Manhattan Project, when Oak Ridge was a city of 75,000 that didn't exist on any map.

The tour will explore the museums and historical buildings of Oak Ridge as local experts teach the tour guests about the secret mission to build an atomic bomb.

The tour will also explore the history of the area around Oak Ridge, including The Museum of Appalachia, Brushy Mountain Prison, and the Foothills of the Smoky Mountains.

The planning committee for the tour has been meeting monthly to work through the details of the tour, including the opening night drivers meeting, the closing night banquet, coffee breaks along the way, and an ice cream social at the end of the last day of the tour.

The cooperation we have received from the City of Oak Ridge and its Chamber of Commerce has been amazing. The people of the town are excited to have the tour located in their city and they are providing essential assistance as we plan traffic control, search for trailer parking, and reserve parks for our various events. Oak Ridge is also putting us in touch with local historians who can tell our guests about the rich and unique history of the city behind the fence.

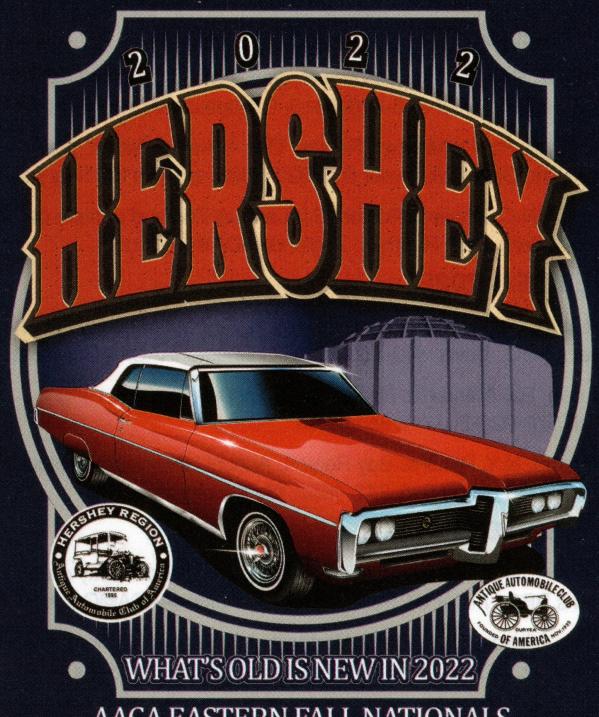
Once all of the tour routes are finalized, with mileages and turn-by-turn directions, we will be seeking club volunteers to drive the routes and provide feedback so any changes that need to be made can be taken care of ahead of time.

We will also be seeking volunteers to assist in providing information and hospitality to our guests. If you would like to help with the tour, before, during or after the event, please contact tour chairman Roger Frazee. We will be assigning duties to



### October 4-7 • Tuesday-Friday

Largest Antique Car Show & Flea Market in the World



AACA EASTERN FALL NATIONALS

Registration information can be obtained by submitting the activity request card that came with this magazine to AACA Headquarters.

#### **Smoky Mountain Antiquer**





Tim Seay directs the show cars to their spots during the 2019 Autos Through the Ages event. The 2022 Autos Through the Ages show will be held at the Smoky Mountain Heritage Center on July 16, 2022.