

Vol. 27, No. 3

# Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Mar 2020



***• A Member Wins a Top AACA Honor***



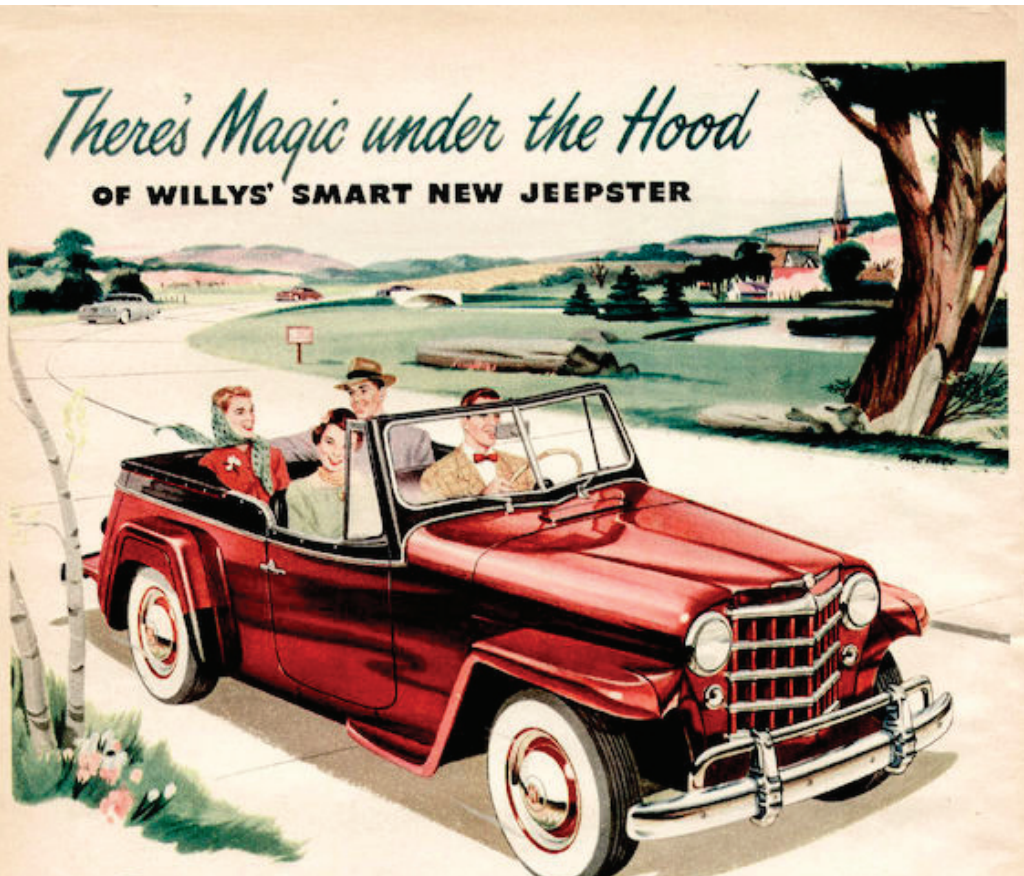
## Vintage Advertising

Following WWII, Willys began making Jeeps for civilians, beginning with the CJ (Civilian Jeep) in 1946. Soon after, Jeep Wagons, Panels and Trucks followed. Willys needed to cross over into the auto market, so they launched the Jeepster in 1948. Here's an ad from 1950, it's final year of production.

The quickest way to identify a 1950 model is by its V-shaped grille with horizontal chrome trim. Earlier ones are flat with a T-shaped chrome waterfall down the center.

The '48 models had Jeep's war-proven straight-4 "Go Devil" engine. By mid-1949, the "Lightning" six was available. The Go Devil four was replaced by the Hurricane seen in the ad. Out of a total of 19,132 Jeepsters built, 5,836 were 1950 models. Some leftovers were sold as 1951's.

*There's Magic under the Hood*  
**OF WILLYS' SMART NEW JEEPSTER**



**HURRICANE POWER!**




The most advanced engine in the low-price field—F-head design, with valve-in-head intake, valve-in block exhaust. Compression 7.4 to 1, but does not require premium fuel. This amazing new engine gives the Jeepster increased power plus record long mileage.

A surge of eager power at your command... a fuel thriftiness almost miserly—that's the magic combination you get in the new Jeepster with the **HURRICANE** Engine. Visit a Willys dealer and drive this low-slung, bold-prowed beauty... feel its quick, light steering response, its road-hugging stability on curves. Then get the great news—the Jeepster's new low price... hundreds under the average open sports car!

**See These Jeepster Features...**

- Sung-fitting top with full-view rear window. Exclusive Planadyne front suspension. Easy-posture seats with washable upholstery, room for five.
- White sidewall tires, overdrive and grille guard optional at extra cost.

*The New*  
**Jeepster**



WILLYS-OVERLAND MOTORS, TOLEDO • MAKERS OF AMERICA'S MOST USEFUL VEHICLES

## In This Issue

National honors bestowed on a member's car

A Senior Judge in our midst

More memorabilia in the SIR-AACA Garage

*Trivia Question: What car company was the first to offer a production station wagon, meaning the wagon body was delivered to the factory and fitted to the chassis there?*

*Answer: Star, in 1923. Other car companies would ship their chassis to a custom builder that added their wooden wagon body.*

**EDITOR -**

**Paul Arena, Jr.**

parena2@verizon.net

**PRESIDENT -**

**Paul Arena, Jr.**

parena2@verizon.net

**VICE PRESIDENT -**

**Mike Signorile**

onehot51@aol.com

**SECRETARY -**

**Tony DiAngelo**

**TREASURER -**

**Phil Boffa** - phil.boffa@gmail.com

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY -**

**Jonathan Schulman**

jns@jonathanschulman.com

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS -**

**Rocco Pompa**

**WEBMASTER** - siraaca@yahoo.com

**Frank Nathanson**

**www.siraaca.aaca.com**



# Minutes of the 537th Meeting

## February 4, 2020

1. The 537th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:30 by President Paul Jr. Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a moment of silence before the minutes of the 536th meeting were read.
2. The club reminisced over the recent passing of long time member Bob Stephens.
3. Phil Boffa recapped his visit to Automania in Allentown and Joe D'Amore and Al Gargiulo recapped their trip to Florida to attend the Mecum auction. They were on site for the sale of the original Bullitt Mustang.
4. Another reminder went out from Jon Schulman for all members to pay their 2020 local dues.
5. The AACA Grand National Meet will be held at the NB Center in Allentown. Paul Jr. broke down the weekend events and reminded members to keep an eye open for when registration begins.
6. Rocky Pompa priced out a possible club picnic at his local Knights of Columbus. When would the club like to hold one?
7. Ahead of a planned meeting with the director of Richmond Town, the club debated the return of a weekly cruise night there.
8. The newsletter is expanding the SIRAACA Garage column to also include how we decorate our garages. Members are encouraged to share pictures and stories about their automobilia and such.
9. Ed Vomero reports that the Durant Club is looking to open a museum at the Gilmore. If any members come across Durant-related memorabilia, let Ed know.
10. Upcoming local shows include New Dorp High School on June 14 and a new Monsignor Farrell show on August 30. The Kiwanis Show is looking at October this year at Midland Beach.
11. Phil Boffa gave a treasury report and all is in order at this time.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50. The 50/50 collected \$39, with Paul Jr. winning \$20.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary

## AACA Top Honors For Andy Barcellona's '57 Chevy

Throughout the year, AACA judges select certain cars that score extremely high at each national meet across the country and nominate them for special national awards. Winners are announced each February at the National Meeting in Philadelphia. Andy Barcellona was told in December to attend the National Meeting, as his 1957 Chevrolet was going to win something. Sure enough, his car was presented with the Senior Chevrolet Award, given to the outstanding Senior-level Chevrolet shown at any AACA National Meet in 2019. Although our club has had other members with nominated cars, we believe this may be the first time we have a winner. Congratulations to Andy, and those who helped him take a casual restoration effort to the highest level.



(photo by Paul Jr.)



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### Upcoming Speaker

The club has invited a guest speaker to attend an upcoming meeting. Mike Gorgia has asked Rudy Samsel, a co-founder of Guys with Rides, to pay us a visit. He's offered up a few topics that he's covered at other club meetings: (1) The RADwood phenomenon. RADwood is to the 1980's-90's as Lead East is to the 1950's. He is a sponsor for the upcoming Philly RADwood on April 5. (2) Trends in the online collector car auction space. (3) Preparing a car for a Concours. (4) Installing a four post lift in your garage.

We think the first two topics are most interesting and appealing to majority of us, but we'll put it up to vote and hope to have him join us in April.

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### Last Call For Dues

If any member has not yet paid their 2020 local SIRAA-CA dues, please do so at the March meeting. Jonathan Schulman will gladly accept \$20 cash or check made out to SIRAAACA so that he can finalize our list of members with national AACA headquarters. In addition, we have a member roster primed and ready to go and need to ensure it's complete.

## From the President

I will be meeting with Jessica Phillips, the director of Richmond Town, on March 25 to discuss several topics. These include the future of cruise nights there, the plans for the Transportation Building, and our monthly meetings. Members have begun to make their thoughts known about each of these topics, and our conversation will continue at the our March meeting. I'm hoping we can find some middle ground to maintain a working relationship that benefits both sides. Most importantly, I want to preserve our involvement with the County Fair.

For those of you intending to show a car at the upcoming AACA Grand Nationals, please note that registration is now open. The fee is \$50. You must either request a registration card by mail or create one online. Either way requires you to then mail it back with payment.

Lastly, raffle tickets are ready and will be given out at the March meeting. Flyers for the raffle car are ready too. - Paul Jr.

## From the Editor

We've gotten a great response from members who are sending in pictures of the garage decor, as we expand the SIRAACA Garage monthly feature to include the way in which we decorate it. Keep sending me pics of the automobilia you have on display. This month, have a look at what Tony Ventrice is putting together at his Pennsylvania home. - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - March 3

Our March meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, March 3 in the school at Historic Richmond Town. Parking is available in the main lot on Clarke Avenue, where you can enter the school from the side basement entrance.

## Senior Judge Status Conferred

Congratulations to member Bob Ferone for being recognized as a Senior Judge by the AACA after judging at five National Meets. Bob joins Jon Schulman as current members with at least five events under their belts.



(photo by Bob Ferone)

**Ford Weekly Purchase Plan**

**\$5<sup>00</sup>** STARTS YOU

Use this new, convenient way to buy a Ford one-ton truck chassis, light delivery chassis, Fordson Tractor or any Ford car, if you do not feel like making the first down payment right away.

For as little as \$5 you can enroll under the terms of this Weekly Purchase Plan. Place your order. Deposit the \$5 with us. We will put it in a local bank for you, at interest. Add a little to your original deposit each week. This money will also draw interest.

Soon the deposits, plus the interest paid by the bank, will make the chassis or the car yours. If you buy on easy terms, the small monthly installments after the chassis or car are delivered, will be about the same as the weekly savings. You will not miss the money. Come in! Get full details.

## Inside the SIRAACA Garage

This month, the SIRAACA Garage continues to be decorated with the growing collection of 1920's artifacts and Model T automobilia of Tony Ventrice.

Tony's passion for his Model T and the early 1920's is so evident each time he shows the car. He's dressed up as a prohibition-era bootlegger, outfitted his car for a 1920's camping trip, and has a new theme to debut this year. All along the way, he's put together a great collection, some of which is shared here today.

With Model T tools, period Ford signs, and original accessories and items from the early 1920s, the SIRAACA Garage is looking great (as is his garage up in Pennsylvania). Tony sent us more pics than these and we'll continue to feature them in future issues.

Help us decorate the SIRAACA Garage by featuring the items you display in yours. Send in pics and details of your signs, tools, toys and more and we'll share them with everyone.





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## Raffle Car Flyers and Tickets

Raffle books are ready for sale and the flyer at right is ready to help Members can pick-up books at the March meeting. Some members like to use this flyer to help with their in-person sales. It's also designed to be shared by email so that recipients can print out and mail in their order directly to us. As such, we will email to all of you this flyer which you can forward along as you see fit. The club also emails this out to other AACA region presidents for sharing among their members.

### Got Durant?

Member Ed Vomero reports that the Durant Motors Automobile Club is working on an opportunity for a Durant Museum on the Gilmore Car Museum campus in Hickory Corners, Michigan. As such, they're on the lookout for anything Durant. Autos from Durant included Star, Rugby, Flint, Frontenac, DeVaux, Dort and Locomobiles from 1922 through 1929. Should you come across anything that seems suitable for a museum display, get in touch with Ed.

# WIN THIS CAR!

## 1992 CAMARO RS CONVERTIBLE



DRAWING AT THE STATEN ISLAND REGION AACA'S  
44TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW - SEPTEMBER 13, 2020  
8 TICKETS FOR \$5.00 - RAIN DATE SEPTEMBER 20  
ENCLOSE STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR TICKET STUBS  
SIRAACA IS A RECOGNIZED 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
WINNER RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL TAXES, DELIVERY AND REGISTRATION FEES  
PARTIAL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT STATEN ISLAND CHARITIES

DONATION \$5.00 PER BOOK OF 8 TICKETS PLEASE PRINT:		MAKE CHECKS, IN US FUNDS ONLY, PAYABLE & MAIL TO: SIRAACA 274 BARCLAY AVE STATEN ISLAND, NY 10312  REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER DRAWING WILL BE RETURNED.
NAME: _____	ADDRESS: _____	
CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____	PHONE: _____	
E-MAIL: _____	NUMBER OF BOOKS: _____ x \$5 PER BOOK (WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN)	



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M - Th 8 AM - 6:30 PM  
Fri 8 AM - 5 PM  
Sat 10 AM - 3 PM

WANTED:  
DONATED VEHICLES.  
Any make, model,  
year and condition.  
Tax deductible.  
Call 917-626-0233

SIRAACA