

Vol. 32, No. 3

# Ragtops & Rumbleseats

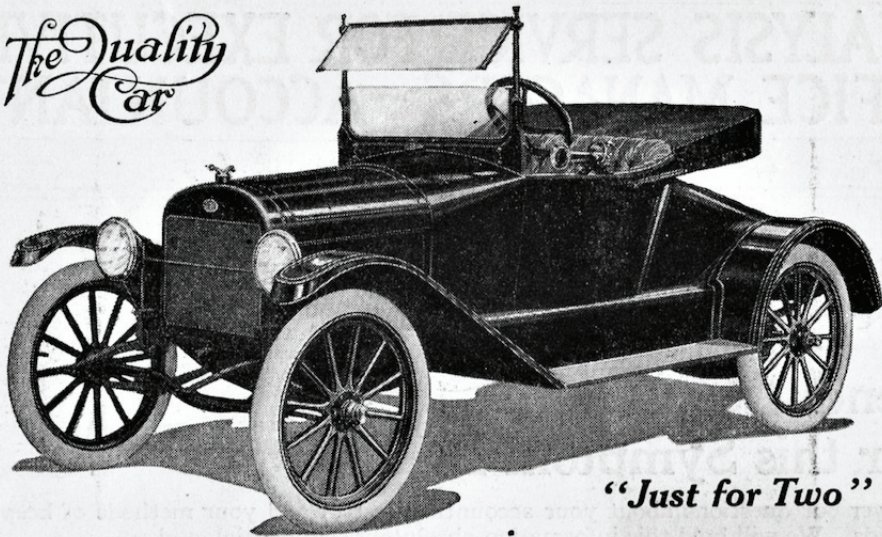
Mar 2025



**• Spring Dust-Off Scheduled for April 27**



*The Quality  
Car*



*"Just for Two"*

# Metz "25" Roadster

1916 MODEL

**\$600, Completely Equipped, Including Electric Starter and Electric Lights**

**T**HIS new 1916 model of the Metz Roadster wins your admiration at a glance. It is delightfully pleasing and graceful in design, elegantly finished inside and out, and embodies all the leading features and up-to-date refinements which contribute so much to the pleasure and comfort of luxurious motoring.

Built on same chassis as the Metz Touring Car, with 108-inch wheelbase, and identical equipment throughout, including electric starter and lights, rain-vision built-in wind-shield, instant one-man top, 25 horse-power motor, large wheels and tires, gasoline gauge, speedometer, signal horn, jack, tools, etc.

As a two-passenger pleasure car, this new 1916 model leaves nothing to be wished for; and there is nothing superior to it for the business or professional man who wants a thoroughly dependable, easily handled, stylish runabout. It is a wonderful hill climber, and for reliable road performance is unsurpassed.

*NOTE - Price of the Metz 1916 Touring Car, similarly equipped, is \$600. For complete information regarding either of these models, write for new illustrated catalog "E"*

**METZ COMPANY**

**WALTHAM, MASS.**

## Vintage Advertising

Major League Baseball's Opening Day soon approaches, with spring training underway. In honor of the upcoming season, we feature this 1916 advertisement for the Metz.

Like many auto pioneers, Charles Metz began in the bicycle business. The Metz Company was formed in 1909. Over the years, increased horsepower led to model names reflecting that output - the Model 22 in 1913, and the Model 25 in 1915.

Metz had to turn over his factory for war production in 1918, but the government never paid him. That and the subsequent post-war depression eventually put the company in bankruptcy in 1922.

## In This Issue

We have a raffle car

Cruising for food this June

Awards and honors

1999's raffle car in The SIRAA-CA Archive

The SIRAAACA Time Machine spots Pouch's Hupmobile sign on the corner of Beach and Van Duzer

Did you know? Metz inherited a large stock of automobile parts and was the first to offer a kit car on an installment plan. He sold 14 parts packages for \$27 each, to be built by the buyer with included plans and tools. That worked out to \$378; an assembled car was \$475. He killed the offering in 1911. The Model T made it impractical.

*Trivia Question: Along with 15 regular paint choices, Cadillac offered six Firemist colors in 1978. Can you name all of them?*

*Answer: Mediterranean Blue, Basil Green, Aztec Gold, Western Saddle, Autumn Haze and Canyon Copper.*

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# Minutes of the 582nd Meeting

## February 4, 2025

1. The 582nd meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:10 pm on February 4 at The Square on Annadale. After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and offering a moment of silence, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read.
2. All were welcomed back and Paul Jr. congratulated Joe D'Amore on his daughter's wedding.
3. Members who made the trip to Automania in Allentown last month shared their stories. It's a well attended event that gets the car hobby doing something in an otherwise empty part of the season.
4. Our car show dates are confirmed. The Dust-Off will be on April 27, with a rain date of May 4. The fall show will be on September 14 with a rain date of September 21.
5. The members held a long discussion about rising costs associated with our shows, including the proposed increase to rent the grounds.
6. Tony DiAngelo presented Paul Jr. with mounted versions of our club's coverage in the Staten Island Advance last fall.
7. The club has proposed adding a car cruise to the Food Truck Festival and is scheduling time to meet with the event organizers to discuss in more detail.
8. The Advance's Model T is being restored by a woodworker on the north shore. Can we organize a club trip to visit him?
9. Keep those raffle car leads coming in.
10. Artie reminded any members who still need to pay their dues for the new year to see him and settle up. Dues are \$20.
11. Hot Rods & Harleys is set for May 10. The New Dorp H.S. show is scheduled for June 1. Each show is a raffle car event as well as a judging effort.
12. Phil gave a treasury report with all in order heading in to the new season.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10. The 50/50 collected \$41. Dennis Dell'Angelo won \$21.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



## Raffle Car for 2025

The club has purchased its raffle car for this year. Following up on his lead, a posse of eight or so members went to check out a 2007 Ford Mustang GT convertible. We made an offer at the high end of our budget only because the car appears complete and raffle-ready. We let the owner sit on it while he supposedly waited to hear from other potential buyers. Later that day, he called us back to make the deal, telling us, "cash only". We gave him a check. The posse will tell the tale at our next meeting, and we'll have more pictures and details on the car as soon as possible. The raffle ticket order has also been submitted and we hope to have those ready as soon as possible to start selling.

## Upcoming Food Cruise

A number of you are familiar with our annual raffle car appearance at the Food Truck Festival at Mount Loretto. With an eye towards our growing relationship with Catholic Charities of Staten Island, Phil Boffa contacted them to ask about adding a car cruise to the event. The same posse of members who checked out the raffle car first met on site at Mt. Loretto to walk through the idea with the event organizer. As a result, this year we are hosting a mini-car show, or a "food cruise" on both Saturday and Sunday, from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. We can fit a maximum of 100 cars each day, and we will present a number of awards via the main stage each day at the end of the cruise. Participants will be asked to pre-register for \$20 online, via the Festival's website. Depending on the number of cars signed up, we might have room to accept entries at the gate, with logistics to be determined. We will split the entry fee with Catholic Charities. The raffle car will be on hand all three days, starting on Friday, June 20. Members cars are welcome on both Saturday and Sunday. More details to follow as the work gets underway. Until then, please mark your calendars for June 20-22 as we'll need additional help parking the cruisers and picking out the winning cars.

The Staten Island Region AACA presents its

## 18th Annual Spring Dust-Off Car Show & Flea Market April 27, 2025



### Commons Cafe 2 Teleport Drive off of South Avenue

- \$25 vehicle entry fee • no cut-off year • rain date May 4 •
- no points judging • red carpet awards in unique categories •
- gates open at 8:00 am • dash plaques to first 200 vehicles •
- spectator entry fee: adults \$5, children \$2 • \$40 vendor fee •
- food & drinks • music • 50/50 drawings • raffle car tix for sale •
- info: call 917-626-0233 or e-mail [siraaca@yahoo.com](mailto:siraaca@yahoo.com) •
- visit us on [www.siraaca.aaca.com](http://www.siraaca.aaca.com) or [facebook.com/siraaca](https://facebook.com/siraaca) •

## Car Show Site Fee Update

Taking into consideration all of our members' feedback regarding the proposed price increases put forth by the folks at the Nicotra Group, we asked them for some relief. In the end, we are going up from \$3,500 to \$4,000 for each show this year. There is no requirement to make an additional donation of \$1,000 to one of their charities. We half-jokingly offered to donate our own toilet paper, or tell visitors to BYOTP. It got a laugh, but we think it also made a point.

## Remember Your Dues Were Due

In case you have yet to do so, please see Artie at the next meeting to square up your annual dues for 2025. We still only ask for \$20 for local membership, and trust that everyone already took care of the national membership renewal for this year. Artie will send an updated roster to the AACA for validation this month, so please take care of this.

## From the President

Can you feel it? The calendar is about to turn to March, and we'll be setting our clocks ahead for spring before you know it. Could the warmer weather be close behind? Let's hope so. Our Dust-Off is set for April 27, and we now have a raffle car, so it seems like we're on our way to another season. I'm excited about our collaboration with Mt. Loretto to bring cars into the mix at the Food Truck Festival weekend. In the meantime, could a weekly cruise night return to Staten Island? I know a lot of people ask me about getting one going, and it would be great if something would organically grow out of seeds we would plant. We're open to any ideas. Speaking of weekly gatherings, has anyone taken a ride into Great Kills Park to look at the condition of the lot? I wonder how much more space has been lost to erosion, or if there are plans underway to stop it. As for other events and things to do, what would you like to add to our calendar? A picnic, a visit to a collection or restoration shop, or something else. Again, we are open to your ideas. - Paul Jr.



## - NEXT MEETING - March 4

Our next monthly meeting is on Tuesday, March 4. Odds are we are returning to The Square on Annadale, and we will confirm that with all before that date.

Start time is typically around 7:00 PM.

The club will provide pizza and soda, and members can purchase additional or alternate items on their own.

## Special Awards for Spring Dust-Off

This spring we will be presenting two special awards on the red carpet at our 18th Annual Dust-Off. One will be a continuation of our "Class of ...." series, where we will select a winner from 1975, honoring a 50 year old vehicle. The other will recognize the 100th Anniversary of Chrysler, and we hope plenty of cars in each category come out to compete. In addition to these special awards, our standard trophies for decades and marques and vehicle types will be up for grabs.

## Special Awards for SIRAACA

While our club is well known for giving out awards, we also receive a few here and there. Congratulations to Frank Nathanson and Paul Arena for being recognized by the AACA for their work on our club website and newsletter.



The club appreciates the amount of time and effort each put in to keep us informed about club happenings and to promote ourselves to the outside world. It's a nice honor to have that also recognized by our national organization, who has teams of judges reviewing hundreds of regional newsletters and websites as part of these award programs. An Award of Excellence means the average score per newsletter is between 132-169 points. Max score is 200, and the top award is Master Editor with an average above 170. There is a similar scoring metric for websites, also topping out with a Master award.



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## From the SIRAACA Archive

This year we will raffle off a 2007 Mustang GT convertible. The club has a long tradition of Mustang raffle cars, including this 1969 model that was given away in 1999.

We are going to defer to a number of long-tenured members for the story of this car. We'd love to know how we found it, the tale of our purchase, and the details of the car. Was it a Standard or Deluxe model? Was it a Inline 6 or a V-8? What size engine? If anyone recalls who won the car and even where it may be today, wow, all the better.

The 1969 Mustang saw a number of new styling cues. The center mounted galloping pony on the grille was changed to feature the off-center "pony and three stripes" emblem. It was the first year with quad headlamps, with two inside the grille opening.

Tried and true Wimbledon White was one of 17 colors offered in 1969. Only 3,439 Deluxe convertibles were built that year.

The SIRAACA Archive is a treasure trove of old photos, articles and artifacts that represent our club's history dating back to our founding in 1974. These are not centrally collected, but in the hands of the many members past and present. If you have something from the past that you'd like to share here, let us know.

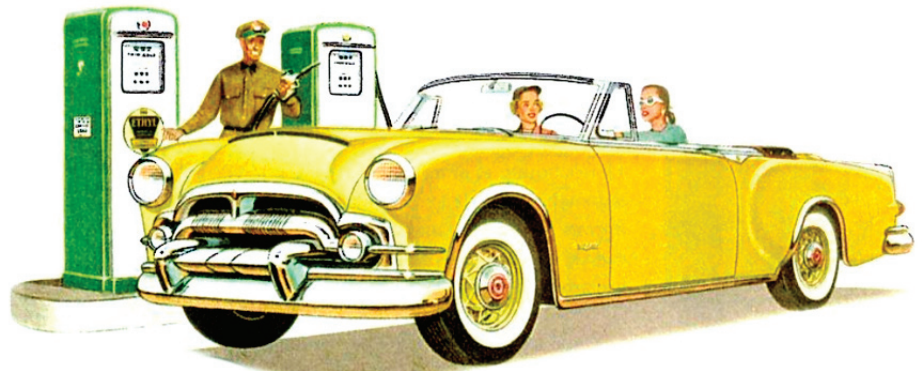


*Fred DiGiovanni., likely the club's president at the time, presents the keys to the winner of our 1969 Mustang raffle car on the grounds of the Petrides School on Ocean Terrace. We believe the wheels are not correct for 1969, but they look good. (photo courtesy of Paul*

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## Upcoming Events

Grab your friends and family, load up your car, and head out to enjoy one of these upcoming events.



- Spring Carlisle Flea Market & Car Corral, Carlisle, PA - April 23-27
- SIRAACA 18th Annual Spring Dust-Off, Commons Cafe - April 27
- 43rd Annual Spring Englishtown, Raceway Park, NJ - May 2-4
- NJRAACA 72nd Annual Car Show, Nielsen Ford, Morristown - May 4
- 22nd Annual Hot Rods & Harleys, Rahway, NJ - May 10
- 10th Annual New Dorp High School Car Show - June 1



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# The SIRAACA Time Machine



The surname Pouch is well represented on Staten Island with Pouch Terminal and Pouch Boy Scout Camp all connected to the same family. Perhaps K.A. Pouch was one family member who took a stab at selling automobiles. The ad above announces the arrival of his Hupmobile showroom on Beach Street near Van Duzer. We stretched our Time Machine as far back as we could into the general location, and landed on the same corner on December 22, 1922. Sure enough, hanging off the side of the building is the Hupmobile sign. We've also located an ad that announced that Pouch was given rights to sell Wills Ste. Claire automobiles in May, 1922, and perhaps that sign is in the showroom window. We didn't find anything else about Pouch's auto business in the subsequent years. Mid-1920's phone books show that the New Brighton Garage at 476 Richmond Terrace was selling Hupmobiles and Jordans, but we can't find a connection between the two so far.

As for Thos. Roulston, this is one of nearly 60 groceries operated by Thomas Roulston on Staten Island in the first half of the 20th century. His empire of nearly 300 stores across Staten Island, Brooklyn and Long Island lasted until his death in 1951. The family sold the business and the last remaining stores on Staten Island stuck around for a few more years. In this photo, "real rye bread" is 8 cents, raisin bread is 10 cents and "big double loaf bread" is 11 cents. They're "closed all day Christmas, so don't forget bread."



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

This monthly feature began in 2020 as temporary filler for missing content due to government lockdowns in response to Covid. It's turned into a regular feature still going strong as we head into 2025 and we hope that you are enjoying these trips back in time. Feel free to send in your comments, requests or additional information.



SIRAACA