

Vol. 32, No. 11

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Nov 2025



• **Fall Events Roll On**

Vintage Advertising

Yes, we like to follow a suitable monthly theme when we choose the ads for this feature. Perhaps it's a holiday, or a car related to one of our events or members. This month, we attempt to tap into two themes. This is a 1928 ad for a Pontiac Six Sport Roadster. It depicts an American Indian in his canoe to illustrate the car's smoothness and stamina. Although Pontiac the man lived near Detroit in the 1700's, we're going to connect this to the Native American's associated with Thanksgiving. In addition, we chose Pontiac because next year will mark the 100 anniversary of the brand's launch. That milestone will likely be honored with a special award at our Dust-Off in 2026.



Greater Smoothness and Stamina in General Motors' lowest priced Six

*A Successful Six
now winning Even
Greater Success*

Surpassing the smoothness of its famous predecessors and revealing greater stamina than ever before, today's Pontiac Six provides a type of performance literally unmatched at \$745.

Its greater smoothness results from numerous engineering features unexpected in a car of such low price—the G-M-R cylinder head, 46-lb. crankshaft, interchangeable bronze-backed bearings, pistons and rod assemblies balanced to precision limits and many others of equal importance.

Its greater stamina results from those principles of rugged construction

which the original Pontiac Six introduced and which have been augmented by such advancements as crankcase ventilation, air cleaner and fuel filter.

Combining greater smoothness and stamina, with notable beauty and style, today's Pontiac Six is winning thousands of new buyers every week... is adding to the public acceptance which has made General Motors' lowest priced six the most popular car of its type ever introduced.

Pontiac Six, \$745 to \$875. All prices at factory

OAKLAND MOTOR CAR COMPANY, PONTIAC, MICH.

PONTIAC SIX

In This Issue

Fall events here and beyond keep us active

A first-hand tale from Hershey 2025

The SIRAACA Archive looks into its dash plaque collection

The SIRAACA Time Machine does some detective work for Bob Ferone

Did you know? Pontiac started production with only a coupe and a two-door sedan. A four door landau sedan was added in August of that year.

Trivia Question: What do the following car makes all have in common - Baker, Milburn, Detroit, Borland and Rauch & Lang?

Answer: They all were early 20th century electric vehicles. Detroit lasted the longest, shipping its last car in 1939.

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Minutes of the 590th Meeting

October 14, 2025

1. The 590th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:10 pm on October 14 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. Paul Jr, recapped the raffle car performance and congratulated the four members who topped \$500 in sales: Mike Gorgia, Tony Ventrice, Anthony Faulisi and Bruce Campbell.
3. The 2026 raffle car made its debut at the New Dorp Lane Car Show and took in \$1,785 in ticket sales. Thanks to those who pitched in to make that a great success.
4. Paul Jr. announced that total donations for trophies, sponsorships and the dash plaques totaled a record high \$12,620. Congratulations to all who helped raise those funds, including top performers Tony DiAngelo, Mike Signorile and Artie Guarnieri. A total of 13 members brought at least one donor in.
5. The fall show had only 357 vehicles this year, and members talked about possible reasons for the drop off. The smaller car gate trickles down to smaller raffle and 50/50 sales. The Cafe donated \$625 back to us, adding extra money to the smaller actual total profit from that day's sales.
6. Members recapped events at New Dorp Lane, Holy Family, Clove Lakes Nursing Home and Radnor Hunt.
7. Upcoming events include Trunk or Treat with Lifestyles for the Disabled on October 25. We also hope to have the raffle car and others on display at Mt. Loretto's Fall Festival on October 25-26. Lastly, there is a show at St. Stan's in Sayreville on October 26.
8. Phil Boffa gave an updated treasury report that included our fall show breakdown
9. Our holiday party is scheduled for December 14 at La Strada, from 2:00 to 6:00. We are not collecting toys for that date. Instead, we are collecting them at our November meeting, which will be on Thursday, Nov. 6 to avoid election day conflicts.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The 50/50 collected \$52 and Eric Weiss won \$26.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary

Fall Events Keep Us Busy Throughout October

While we typically say that our September show closes out our season each year, the truth is that the club remains busy throughout the fall months as long as the weather cooperates. Many members made the annual pilgrimage to the AACA Fall Meet in Hershey to buy and sell in the flea market, check out the car corral and compete and enjoy the show (Phil Boffa sent in a quick recap, found on the next page). We also had members provide some cars for the annual Trunk or Treat event at Lifestyles for the Disabled, coordinated by Artie Guarnieri. Twenty cars in total participated, bedecked in their Halloween finest for all to enjoy. That same week-end, we also made arrangements for the 2026 raffle car to be on site at Mt. Loretto's Fall Festival, although we only had coverage for Sunday. Nonetheless, we drew in the crowds with Kevin Keenan's 1978 Chevrolet Caprice and Anthony Faulisi's 1969 Mustang Mach 1, and a crew of those guys plus Phil, Mike Signorile and Anthony's son reeled in \$800 in sales. Lastly, with apologies to Sonny & Cher, "the beach goes on" each Sunday morning, with decent turnout so long as the temps aren't unbearable. Enjoy your cars out and about for as long as possible.



Artie Guarnieri's Mercury Grand Marquis sports the family luggage on its roof so the kids can ride in rear seating area. (photo by Artie)



ABOVE: The best of GM muscle from the 1980's at a recent "Sunday down the beach". LEFT: An ecstatic woman purchased raffles at the Fall Festival and then asked to have her picture taken so that she could send it back to her homeland. What happens if she wins? (photo by Phil Boffa)



Toy Collection Moved to Nov.

The folks at the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive remain active in collecting new, unwrapped toys for donation to local needs. Once again, the club will purchase and donate toys for their cause, and we ask our members to join in with a new toy of their own. Please note that we are collecting them at our November meeting on Thursday, November 6 instead of our holiday party in December. They will stop by our meeting to receive the donation.

From the Editor

Hard to believe that I've been at this newsletter thing for almost 33 years. I'm considering a change for 2026. We have been running an ad for JC Taylor for an awful long time but I stopped chasing them for a donation to do so a number of years ago. The full page remains primarily to keep the page count on an even number because we still print hard copies. Since that will continue, I have a full free page to use for something other than their ad. That's where the members come in. I'm open to your suggestions for a new feature or extended coverage, but I'll need help from you. I can cut and paste stuff from the AACA, use it for a photo gallery, introduce a "What is it?", etc. I could also rotate several ideas in and out over the year. What would you like to see there? Please drop me a note or fill me in next time we see each other.

I'm also excited to collaborate with Mark DiPilato to expand our presence on social media channels in an effort to engage with new audiences, for the benefit of our club and the hobby. More to come on that soon. - Paul Jr.



- NEXT MEETING - November 6

Our next monthly meeting is on THURSDAY, November 6. 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.

More of the Same (Just as We Like It)

Phil Boffa provides a succinct and familiar tale of his trip to Hershey - ed. "Well, here we are, another year and ready to go. Kevin Keenan, Mike Signorile, Andrew Napoli and I had our flea market spot, so Kevin and I headed out on Tuesday for our annual adventure. Kevin led in his 1978 Caprice, and I followed in my pickup overflowing with stuff. On godforsaken Route 78, surrounded by tractor trailers flying by at high speeds, Kevin was plastered in the middle lane doing 55, with a speed limit of 65. After all of these years, maybe Kevin has dyslexia? With truckers up my butt and leaning on their horns, I attempted to set my sophisticated cruise control to follow Kevin, but my dash replied with a flashing 'too low to engage' warning. Arriving eventually in one piece, we set up our spots, and then met up with Kevin's son for a trip to our regular diner. With reasonable prices and fast, good food, we ate there three nights in a row. As a reward, the waitress gave me a free piece of pie on the last night... just me. It was great weather, great company, and I sold more than I bought. I still had the stamina to walk the grounds in two days. On the way home, we celebrated Kevin's Repeat Preservation Award with a trip to his favorite place to eat (White Castle). "

Helping Those Helping Veterans

Mike Signorile represented SIR-AACA at a recent breakfast at the Old Bermuda Inn held by the Staten Island Giving Circle, where he presented them a check for \$500 for their efforts supporting local veterans in need. The amount was matched three times by a grant they received as part of this new area of focus for them. They have a temporary storefront set up on Hylan Boulevard in Great Kills next to Andrew's Diner to help further their cause.



From the SIRAACA Archive

As best we can tell from the plaques we have in our archive, this one from our 6th Annual Car Show in 1982 is the first one that featured artwork other than our original logo of an antique car under the bridge. This was likely drawn by member Sal DeFrancesco, who was one of our long standing newsletter editors at the time.

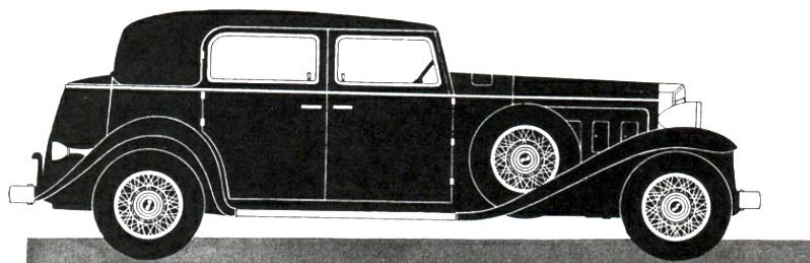
It's also one of a handful that was printed vertically, a layout we last used in 2011. We are trying to capture at the very least all of our dash plaque images for the Archive. Right now, between actual plaques/magnets or the artwork files, we have our first one from 1977 and many others, but are missing the following fall shows: 1978, 1980, 1990, 1996, 1999, 2015, and 2017. We also are looking for the Dust-Off plaques from 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011. We're still digging through a number of drawers here to find them, and we encourage members that have any of these handy to allow us to photograph them if possible. The goal is to have all of them represented in an online gallery on our website and Facebook page.

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.



This 1982 plaque was originally mounted to a display board for Paul Sr's 1928 Model A Ford, as evidenced by the holes in each corner.

Tony DiAngelo has discovered a seller on eBay called Busy Papa that has many of our old plaques for sale at some eye-popping prices, such as \$42.50 for the 1985 version. (photo by Paul Jr.)



1931 Marmon V-16 with body designed by Walter Darwin Teague (from January 1931 Vanity Fair)



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The SIRAACA Time Machine

Some of you may know that Bob Ferone's father operated a service station in the 1950's called P&F (Peterson & Ferone). He knew that it was a large one (four bays) and it was initially located across Targee Street from the fire station parking lot, between what is now Clove Road and the service road. The property was lost when the city built the Staten Island Expressway heading to the Verrazano Bridge. Bob grabbed some snacks for the ride and jumped into the passenger seat of the Time Machine. Using an old map from 1917 and some "block & lot" detective work, we had one shot to land it just right. Unfortunately, we overshot the time period but found the lost property, when it was called "Hanson's Safety Service", circa 1940. This is a lost corner of Clove and Targee, what was then 1825 Clove Road. Check out the Ford Model A coupe, all the Sinclair signs and the two Bears on the brickwork above the arched windows (Bear was a branded wheel alignment and balancing service). P&F relocated to Clove Road and Richmond Terrace, and closed up shop in 1967. Bob says that when Peterson left P&F, his dad told all his customers that the name stood for "Pleasant & Friendly".



Photos courtesy of NYC Municipal Archives



Note: 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 through 2025 and we hope that you are enjoying these trips back in time. Feel free to send in your comments, requests or additional information.

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