

Vol. 33, No. 6

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Jun 2026



- *Visiting SJRAACA*
- *A Special Wedding Gift*

1972 Plymouths

Coming Through with the kind of car America wants



FURY



Gran Coupe (2-door hardtop and formal hardtop—V-8)



Gran Sedan (4-door hardtop—V-8)



Fury III (2-door formal hardtop, 4-door hardtop, 4-door sedan and 2-door hardtop—V-8)



Fury II (2-door hardtop and 4-door sedan—V-8)



Fury I (4-door sedan—V-8)



Fury Wagons (Sport Suburban 2- and 3-seat models—V-8) (Custom Suburban 2- and 3-seat models—V-8) (Suburban 2- and 3-seat models—V-8)

SATELLITE



Satellite Sebring (Sebring-Plus 2-door hardtop—V-8) (Sebring 2-door hardtop—V-8 or Six)



Road Runner (2-door hardtop—V-8)



Satellite Custom (4-door sedan—V-8 or Six; also available Satellite 4-door sedan—V-8 or Six)



Satellite (2-door coupe—V-8 or Six)



Satellite Wagons (Satellite Regent 2- and 3-seat models—V-8) (Satellite Custom 2- and 3-seat models—V-8) (Satellite 2-seat—V-8)

BARRACUDA



Barracuda (2-door hardtop—V-8 or Six)

'CUDA



'Cuda (2-door hardtop—V-8)

VALIANT



Duster 340 (2-door coupe—V-8)



Duster (2-door coupe—V-8 or Six)



Scamp (2-door hardtop—V-8 or Six)



Valiant (4-door sedan—V-8 or Six)

CRICKET



Cricket (4-door sedan—4-cyl.)

All product illustrations and specifications are based on authorized information. Although descriptions are believed correct at publication approval, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Some of the equipment shown on product illustrations is optional, at extra cost. Chrysler Motors Corporation reserves the right to make changes from time to time, without notice or obligation, in prices, specifications, colors and materials, and to change or discontinue models.



Keep your Plymouth coming through in top condition. Service it with men who know it best. See your Plymouth Dealer.

Plymouth



Litho in U.S.A.

Vintage Advertising

Here is the full lineup of 1972 Plymouth models as seen in their corporate brochure. They range from the top of the line Fury models to the sub-compact import Cricket. Some muscle remained on the offer in Satellites, Road Runners and the 'Cuda variant of the Barracuda. The Duster remained part of the Valiant lineup due to shared A-Body architecture.

In all, Plymouth sold over 756,000 vehicles in 1972. Waning muscle sales meant only 7,628 Road Runners and 7,828 'Cudas were sold that year. Together, they outsold 13,882 Crickets, showing that style and cool was still a buying attribute.

In This Issue

A neighborly visit

A well known show finds a new home

Our wedding gift

The SIRAACA Garage showcases a black beauty

The SIRAACA Time Machine does some exploring on Van Duzer Street

Did you know? The Plymouth Cricket was Chrysler's stopgap effort to compete with the Vega, Pinto and Gremlin. It was a rebadged Hillman Avenger built in Coventry, England.

Trivia Question: What were the final years for V-12 engines from Cadillac, Packard and Lincoln?

Answer: Cadillac's final V-12 appeared in 1937. Packard last offered one in 1939. Lincoln carried their forward through 1948 via the Continental.

RAGTOPS & RUMBLESEATS

June 2026

Volume 33, Number 6

SIRAACA Who's Who

EDITOR -

Paul Arena, Jr.

parena2@verizon.net

PRESIDENT -

Paul Arena, Jr.

parena2@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT -

Artie Guarnieri

artie.guarnieri@verizon.net

SECRETARY -

Tony DiAngelo - badbird70@aol

TREASURER -

Phil Boffa - phil.boffa@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - (currently unfilled)

who@where.com

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS -

Bob Ferone - rferone@gmail.com

WEBMASTER - siraaca@yahoo.com

Frank Nathanson

www.siraaca.aaca.com



Minutes of the 596th Meeting May 5, 2026

1. The 596th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order on May 5 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. The rest of the minutes have been misplaced. The editor takes full responsibility.
3. Phil Boffa presented a treasury report showing all is in order.
4. The meeting was adjourned. The 50/50 collected some money and someone won half.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary

The Staten Island Region AACA presents
49th Annual Car Show & Flea Market
Sunday, September 13, 2026
Commons Cafe at The Teleport
2 Teleport Drive off of South Avenue
Gates Open at 8:00 am • Rain Date September 20 •
\$25 Vehicle Entry Fee



judging for all vehicles 15+ years old
peer voting for all vehicles 2012 and newer

WIN a 2005 Mustang Deluxe Coupe

Drawing held onsite before Awards Ceremony
Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00

SIRAACA is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization
www.siraaca.aaca.com • facebook.com/siraaca

flip for more show details for 2026 >



Visiting a New Neighbor

A new AACA Region has been established nearby, known as the Jersey Shore Region. We were recently invited to join them at their second ever club meeting, which was held within the building that houses an incredible collection of Cadillacs, as well as vintage cash registers and Lionel Trains. SIRAACA members on hand were Paul Arena, Artie Guarnieri, Bob Ferone, Mike Gorgia, Bob Columbia and Mike DiPilato. Dual members Kevin Keenan and Andrew Napoli were there too, as well as other familiar faces from our past, including Andy Cannizzo.

All had the opportunity to explore Joe Puleo's collection, which is focused on 1959 Cadillacs. The cars are displayed among the backdrops of a vintage dealership, a Detroit assembly line, and a period Texaco gas station. Members were able to see cars in various stages of restoration, as well as final prepping for important shows like The Greenwich Concours and Pebble Beach. Representatives from nearby Wall Township Raceway spoke and gave away promotional tee-shirts. They also had a local race car parked out front for all to check out. Several other JSRAACA members had their cars out front as well.

We wish the new region all the best for success as they cover New Jersey's coastal area from Sandy Hook to Barnegat. Hopefully we'll collaborate on group outings to nearby destinations and funnel support to each other.



Top: Bob Ferone and Mike Gorgia at the recent Jersey Shore Region meeting. Below: not all Caddy's in the collection are from 1959. Here is a slightly more understated 1960 model. (photos by Paul Jr.)



Right: A 1959 Sedan deVille in Gotham Gold features a special order black painted roof. Top: Two of many vintage cash registers in the same room as the Gotham Gold Caddy. (photos by Paul Jr.)



From the President

As many have heard the tale by now, I've been working on getting my family's 1948 Dodge looking and running well in time for my son's Senior Prom. His ride to the venue will be a continuation of family milestones involving the car, dating back to 1968 when my father bought it from the original owner. I couldn't reach this point without the help of Bruce Campbell and Mike Gorgia, and words of encouragement and advice from plenty of other members. We'll run an update in the near future.

In the meantime, June is a big month for the raffle car with the Food Truck Festival and the All American Ford show on tap. We are suddenly in full swing this season, and efforts for another successful fall show are underway. That means its not too soon to work on trophy donations. Keep in mind we bumped it up this year - \$60 for First Place, \$50 for Second, and \$40 for Third. All three are now \$120. If any potential donors are hesitant, offer a discount (no less than last year's rates of \$50, \$40, \$30 or \$100). Give us a shout if you need help.



- NEXT MEETING - June 2

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, June 2. The meeting is held at The Square on Annadale, and that is confirmed by text in the days leading up to the meeting.

The start time is usually around 7:00PM.

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

SIRAACA Pitches in to Help Cars Care

Car show organizer and community fundraiser Chris Haynes moved his efforts from New Dorp High School to Midland Beach this year to support Northwell Pediatric Oncology. SIRAACA members were on hand to help out, at the gate assisting with entries and picking out award winners among more 220 vehicles. In addition, we had our raffle car on site and took in \$746 in ticket sales.

One interesting vehicle on hand was a 1983 Cadillac Coupe DeVille "Patriot Edition". It featured special emblems on the car and wheels, a false spare wheel cover in the trunklid, white interior with blue piping, and red, white and blue pinstriping.



SIRAACA Donates to a New Cause

Our raffle car was on hand at the All-American Ford car show in Old Bridge, NJ on June 14. Mike Signorile and Bob Columbia manned our table to sell tickets, and their efforts for the day brought in \$590. In return, the club made a donation to the show's beneficiary. A \$250 check was presented from SIRAACA to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation later that week. If members know of any upcoming events where we could bring our raffle car, please contact one of the officers. This is not limited to car shows. In the past, we did very well at block parties or parked outside the old EZ Pass office.

Inside the SIRAACA Garage

Seems like a lot of Cadillacs are on the pages before we reached The SIRAACA Garage, so let's keep the theme going. Here is Lori Campanelli's 1985 Eldorado Biarritz.

Growing up, Lori's parents had a 1981 Eldorado, but she was never allowed to drive it. Years later, still with that itch to scratch, she got her own Eldo. There is no official word as to whether she is the only one allowed to drive it.

She acquired the car in 2011, and it's been repainted since then. Cadillac's name for the color is Sable Black. Lori's name for the car is Black Beauty.

The Biarritz is immediately identified by its brushed stainless steel roof cap and cabriolet vinyl top. This iconic styling cue originated on the 1957 Eldorado Brougham.

1985 marks the final year of the 10th generation Eldorado styling. 74,101 coupes and 2,200 convertibles were built for that year. Downsized by 16 inches for 1986, Cadillac would go on to sell just 21,342 that year.

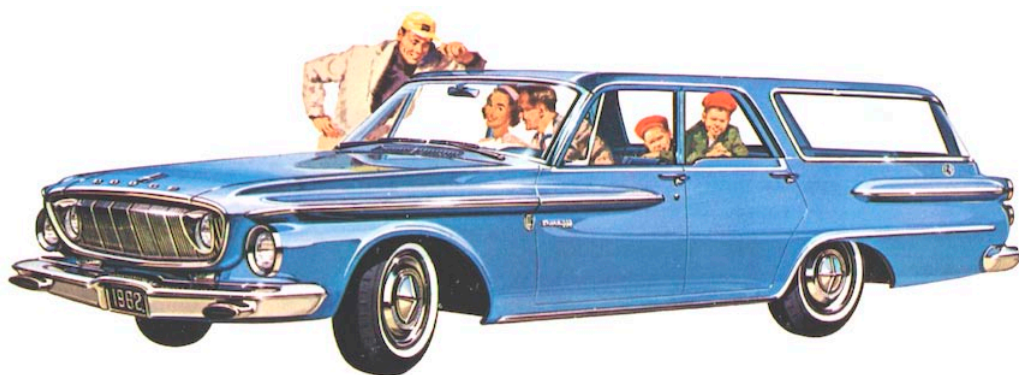
The SIRAACA Garage is home to all of our members' cars, past and present. Has your car been featured yet? Make sure you get the details to Paul Jr. if you want to share your car with us all.



The Eldorado name was chosen in 1952 for a concept vehicle that celebrated Cadillac's 50th anniversary. It was then used on a limited production convertible in 1953. It comes from "El Dorado", the mythical lost city of gold in Spanish lore. (photo by Paul Jr.)

Upcoming Events

Pack your car, grab some friends, and head out to these upcoming events in our area.



- Food Truck Festival, Mount Loretto - June 5, 6, 7
- SIRAACA America 250 Car Show, Mount Loretto - June 6
- Summer Round Up, All American Ford, Old Bridge - June 14
- Texas Roadhouse Holmdel NJ Show, 2105 Hwy 35 - June 18
- Wednesday Cruise Night, Wendy's, 2720 Hylan Boulevard
- Wednesday Cruise Night, Paradise Island, 225 Ellis Street
- Saturday Nights at Home Depot, 1090 US 9 South, Old Bridge



SIRAACA Makes a Bride's Wish Come True

(Editor's note: A special story courtesy of Artie Guarnieri. We'll return to "My First Car" next month - please keep sending in your stories)

In November of last year, my daughter Danielle approached me with a request that I knew I had to make happen. A coworker of hers, knowing that I'm involved with antique cars, told Danielle about a 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air sitting in her family's garage. The car had belonged to her husband, a retired NYPD detective who passed away in 2018 from complications related to 9/11 illness. Their daughter was getting married over Memorial Day Weekend this year, and she dreamed of arriving in the church in her father's beloved Bel Air as a way to honor his memory and have him with her on her special day.

There was one problem. The car had not run since her father's passing. It had been sitting untouched for more than seven years, and the family didn't know where to turn for help. She was hopeful that I could point them in the right direction to make her daughter's wish come true. I was determined to make it happen, and I turned to Mike Gorgia for his help in making that wish a reality.



On our first visit we connected a battery jumper box and primed the carb. The family couldn't find the keys, but we were able to crank over the engine. It would not start. We asked the family to spend the winter to clean out the garage and we would return in the spring. When we returned in April, Mike got the car running, but several issues remained. We towed the Bel Air to Mike's house, where he could make the needed repairs to return it to the road. A couple of weeks later, the car was ready. Seeing the family's faces when their dad's Bel Air arrived home was priceless.

We offered to provide a driver for the big day, and Mike Signorile graciously volunteered. On the day of the wedding, everything went perfectly. The bride looked beautiful and the Bel Air gleamed in the afternoon sun. The entire family could not have been happier. It was a wonderful way for a daughter to honor her father's memory on the most important day of her life. What an incredible example of how an antique car can bring people together and help keep cherished memories alive.

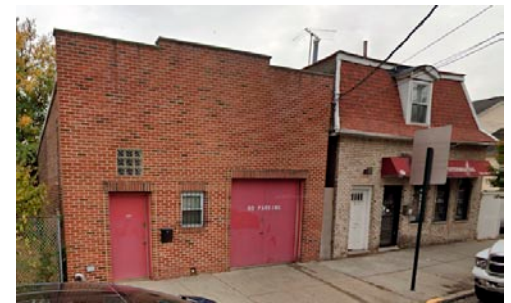
The SIRAACA Time Machine

A local advertisement from January 14, 1920 shows us a business with the straightforward name of Staten Island Motor Car Co. We felt like the SIRAACA Time Machine could use some free service, and if these guys could fix a magneto, perhaps they could tune up our flux capacitor. Unfortunately, we couldn't travel that far back, only arriving at 361 Van Duzer street some 20 years too short.



Our view from around 1940 (above) shows that Staten Island Motor Company is not there. They do not appear in the phone book that year, nor earlier on in a 1933 business directory. In fact, we don't find a listing for them as far back as 1922, so we guess they didn't make any money offering free service and went out of business soon after they ran that ad. We lingered outside long enough to look over the plumber's Ford sedan delivery and wonder what was parked in front of the tailor shop next door. We can't search the 1940 phone book by address, so we aren't sure if the old garage is the plumber's shop at that time.

The photo at right is a recent look at the same two buildings on Van Duzer. The old tailor shop is Post Exterminating in this view. We returned to the present ready for our next cue into Staten Island's automotive past. Future trips will seek out Mariners Harbor Motor and Supply Corp. on the Terrace, Newbury & Colbourne's agency for Chevrolet cars on Castleton Avenue, and Hugo's Garage for 24 Hour Service on the southern end of Amboy Road.



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 into 2026 and we hope that you are enjoying these trips back in time. Feel free to send in your comments, requests or additional information.

 **farbetterprinting**
ON-DEMAND PRINT CENTER

43 Hillel Place
Brooklyn, NY 11210

Tel 718.859.3137
Fax 718.421.4761

sales@farbetterprinting.com
www.printingservicebrooklyn.com

Joseph Portagallo

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



SIRAACA