

Vol. 26, No. 7

Ragtops & Rumbleseats



Jul 2019



- **13th Annual Spring Dust-Off Results**
- **SIRAACA Shines at AACA National Meet**



Vintage Advertising

We try for some relevance in our selections here, so July's issue gets two offerings of The American from 1909. A "Car for the Discriminating Few" came in seven models that year, including the \$3,750 Roadster (top) and the \$4,000 Traveler (bottom). A Speedster and Limousine topped the line at \$5,000.

The American Motor Car Company built its cars in Indianapolis from 1906 to 1913. Chief engineer Fred Tone's design for these two models was called the underslung, with the chassis below the axles. They sported 40 inch wheels to accommodate the low stance. Other models rode on a conventional chassis.

By 1914 the firm was bankrupt, and the final 50 or so cars were available at a steep discount, such as \$900 for a Roadster.

In This Issue

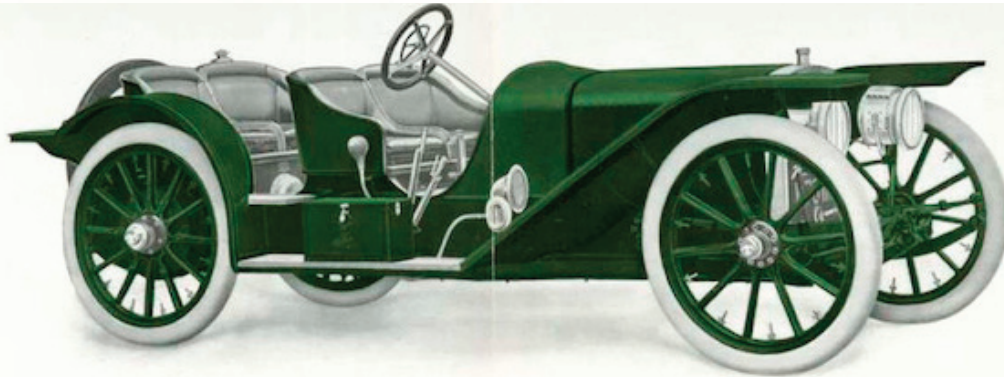
The Spring Dust-Off kicks off summer

SIRAACA shines at AACA Eastern Spring National

A newly minted national winner in the SIRAACA Garage



The American Roadster
Two or Three Passengers. Four Cylinder, 36-48 H. P., \$3,750



The American Traveler
Two or Four Passenger. Forty-inch Wheels. Four Cylinder, 36-48 H. P., \$4,000



Trivia Question: Who designed the conventional chassis for American before leaving for Marion Motor Car Co. and eventually his own self-named venture by 1913?

Answer: Harry C. Stutz

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Minutes of the 529th Meeting

June 4, 2019

1. The 529th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at 7:30 by President Paul Jr. After reciting the pledge of allegiance and observing a moment of silence, the minutes of the 528th meeting were accepted as read.
2. Our final attempt to hold our Spring Dust-Off is set for June 23. Everything's ready from last month. Members should arrive by 6:30 for set up.
3. Three upcoming events in early June include the Kiwanis show at Mt. Loretto on June 8, Uncorked! at Richmond Town on June 8, and the New Dorp HS show on June 9. A few members are needed to join Mike Signorile at the Kiwanis show to help them select award winners, while others are needed to work the raffle car at Uncorked! The raffle car will also be at New Dorp, where members are needed to help with raffle sales and assist with judging.
4. Weather has been lousy on Wednesdays, giving us a slow start to our weekly cruise nights. The Sunday morning beach cruises are doing well.
5. The AACA Eastern National Spring Meet will be on June 29 at the Parsippany Hilton. It is believed that registration is now closed. Our club will have at least eight vehicles competing for a variety of awards.
6. Andy Barcellona recapped the Grand National Meet in Auburn where he won a Grand National Senior Award for his 1957 Chevy 210 wagon. Congratulations to Andy on his win.
7. The club will donate \$250 to Michael's Cause on the back of raffle sales at a recent fund raiser BBQ for the charity.
8. Phil Boffa gave a treasury report with all in order.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50. The 50/50 collected \$21.00, with Artie Guarnieri winning \$11.00.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



Spring Dust-Off is a Summer Kick-Off

The third time was a charm as the Staten Island Region finally held it's 13th Annual Spring Dust-Off right after the beginning of summer on June 23. Despite two previous rain outs, the attendance was decent, with close to 270 vehicles on display, including some new to the local show circuit. As usual, special awards in select categories were presented in our "Parade of Champions" across the red carpet. Two Best in Show Awards were presented, both Pre-War and Post-War. This year, they were given to Joe Marchese and his 1932 Ford, and Joe Coscia for his 1970 Chevelle. Other awards given include Best GM - Angelo Boncoraglio's 1971 Riviera, Best MoPar - Andrew Russo's 1969 Plymouth GTX, Best Ford - Louie Gentile's 1968 Mustang GT, Best Corvette - John Giardina's 1958 Fuelie, Best Foreign - Matt Ligotti's 1963 Fiat Multipla 750 (top photo), Best Cadillac - John Darpa's 1984 Gucci Seville (middle photo), Best Truck - Brian Byrnes 2005 Dodge Ram, Best Survivor - Dennis Alestra's 1966 Checker Marathon (bottom photo), Best Orphan - Gino Lucci's 1969 AMX, Best Motorcycle - Walter Curro's 1926 Harley-Davidson, and Oldest Car - Antonio Izzo's 1929 Ford.

Decade Awards were also presented to Hot Rod Vin's 1931 Ford, Ron Victorio's 1949 Studebaker, John Savoca's 1956 Chevy Bel Air, Felix DiPaolo's 1957 Chevy Bel Air, Mike Simmons' 1964 Pontiac Catalina, Carmine Iafe's 1963 Corvette, Ted Kanellis' 1975 Buick Park Avenue, Pat Vetrano's 1987 Monte Carlo SS, Mike Murphy's 1995 Chevy Caprice NYPD Highway Patrol Car, Dave O'Donnell's 2009 Shelby Mustang GT500, and Dino Martinez' 2008 Ford Focus.

Once again, the Commons Cafe covered all of the food and true to their mission, donated all of the day's profits to SIRAACA as a named charity. The raffle car was on hand and did well, alongside the debut of the club's new, custom branded pop-up tent. All in all, the decision to give it a go one more time after missing out on our April and May dates was a good one. No time to rest however, as the fall show will be here in no time.



(photos by Paul Jr.)



From the President

Typically we take a breather after our Dust-Off before getting ready for the fall show. This year, however, there's less time to do so. Please make every effort to get out and revisit your trophy donors, those who bought raffle tickets from you, and the vendors who hung our show posters in their windows. The summer months will pass quickly and we want to be sure we at least match our efforts from last year. As a reminder, trophy donations are \$50 for first place, \$40 for second and \$30 for third. All three are \$100. The form to donate is at the bottom of our fall show flyer.

I attended the AACA Spring Meet in Parsippany, and one thing that stood out to me was how the show was "all business". Clearly, the cars on hand are all competing to move up the AACA awards ladder, and the show did a great job of handling that aspect. What was missing however, seemed to be the buzz of the spectators. I get a sense that it wasn't heavily promoted for that, perhaps because there is no spectator entry fee and therefore, it doesn't matter. Yet it felt odd, compared to our shows, to see relatively empty aisles despite over 400 cars on display. We as a local region should remain proud of our achievements each year, catering not only to the car owners, but to those who come out to enjoy seeing the cars as well. To be able to continue that for more than four decades is impressive, and I hope to see us celebrate a huge 50th annual show in 2026. - Paul Jr.

- NEXT MEETING - July 2

Our July meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 2 at 7:00 PM at the Courthouse at Richmond Town. We meet upstairs and can enter from the parking lot on Clarke Avenue. As usual, each member is asked to contribute \$3.00 for coffee & donuts.

Back to the Beach - July 13-14

Once again our raffle car will be on hand at the borough's Back to the Beach event on July 13 and 14. The free event features vendors, food and live music from a pair of stages each day, and a fireworks display on Saturday night. The days typically start around 11:00. Volunteers to join us are needed both days, as this event is one of our bigger ones. Our car is expected to be closer to the main stage near the displays for the Bini Foundation and Rolling Thunder.

One of a Kind Lincoln Up for Grabs

With August approaching, our hobby's eyes begin to focus on what's planned across the Pebble Beach area. RM Sotheby's auction is one of those events, loaded with eight-figure Ferraris for sale. This year, they do have something entirely different, although it has some Italian heritage within it. It's the 1955 Lincoln Indianapolis, a design study by Carrozzeria Boano Torino. The restored car began appearing in 2001, and we snapped this photo of it in Greenwich in 2003. It last was sold in 2015. Who's next to own this unique car?



(photo by Paul Jr.)

Inside the SIRAACA Garage

This month's visit to the SIRAACA Garage looks at a newly awarded AACA First Junior winner. This is Andrew Napoli's 1984 Oldsmobile Delta 88 Royale Brougham.

Cars of the 1980's make ideal antiques for both show and go, as they typically have enough modern features for speed, comfort, safety and style. Andrew's Oldsmobile made the drive to the AACA Eastern Spring National in Parsippany an easy, stress-free ride.

Andrew is the second owner of this car, which has about 50,000 miles on its optional 307 cubic inch V-8. Other offerings were Buick's 231 cubic inch V-6, and a 350 Diesel.

The 88 made its debut in 1949, and the '84 was the second-to-last year of the eighth generation. The ninth generation brought front-wheel drive and downsized bodies in 1986. The final 88 was built on January 6th, 1999 to mark the 50th anniversary of the model.

The car will compete for a Senior Award in Hershey this October. Should it win, it's on to the Grand National Meet in Allentown in 2020.

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.



As Dick Van Patten said in a 1984 TV ad, the Olds 88 is "the family car that didn't forget the family". (photo by Paul Jr.)

Upcoming Events

Load up the car with friends and family en route to one of these events.



- Back to the Beach, Midland Beach - July 13-14
- New Hope Auto Show, New Hope PA - August 10-11
- Staten Ireland's 1st Annual Car Show, Mt. Loretto - August 18
- Richmond County Fair, Richmond Town - August 31-September 2
- SIRAACA 43rd Annual Car Show, Commons Cafe - September 15





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SIRAACA Wins Big at AACA Spring Meet

Every member that showed a car at the AACA Eastern Spring Meet received an award in Parsippany on June 29. Congratulations to Mike Signorile, Driver's Participation, 1966 Buick Skylark; Phil Boffa, Second Junior, 1968 Chrysler 300; Michael Signorile, Second Junior, 1978 Cadillac Coupe deVille; Andrew Napoli, First Junior, 1988 Olds Delta 88; Kevin Keenan, First Preservation, 1992 Cadillac Eldorado; Andy Barcelona, Repeat Preservation, 1957 Chevy 210; Paul Arena, Repeat Preservation, 1964 Buick Riviera; and Paul Jr., Repeat Preservation, 1967 Olds Cutlass. The show featured over 400 AACA vehicles and another 40 or so from the HCCA on display. As usual, there was something for everyone's taste. Some that stood out: 1917 Locomobile, 1931 Hudson, 1959 Bonneville and 1973 Buick Century Gran Sport Sun Coupe.



(photos by Paul Jr.)



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