

Vol. 27, No. 1

Ragtops & Rumbleseats

Jan 2020



• **Happy New Year!**





DODGE RAMPAGE

ONLY PICKUP WITH 5 yr./50,000 mi.
POWER TRAIN & RUST PROTECTION.[†]

COMPARE DODGE RAMPAGE TO CHEVY AND FORD

	Dodge Rampage	Chevy S-10	Ford Ranger
Est. hwy./EPA est. mpg	42/28*	39/27*	36/26*
Drive/Transmission	Front-wheel/4-spd. O.D.	Rear-wheel/4-spd. Dir.	Rear-wheel/4 spd. Dir.
Horsepower	99 max.	82 max.	74 max.
Maximum Torque	119 lbs./ft.	101 lbs./ft.	110 lbs./ft.
Galvanized Steel	340 sq. ft.	265 sq. ft.	50 sq. ft.
Standard Payload	1,145 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,200 lbs.
Power Brakes/Load Sensing Sys.	Standard/Yes	Optional/No	Optional/No
Seats	Deluxe Buckets	Bench	Bench
Color-keyed Carpeting	Standard	Optional	Optional

[†]Five years or 50,000 miles—whichever comes first—limited warranty includes power train protection (deductible may be required) and outer-body rust-through protection. See dealer for details.

RAMPAGE: WE'RE BUILDING OUR TRUCKS LIKE WE NEVER DID BEFORE.



*Use EPA est. mpg number for comparison. Your mileage may vary depending on speed, distance and weather. Actual hwy. mileage will probably be less. CA est. lower. Buckle up for safety.

Vintage Advertising

In 1983, Dodge noted that they were building trucks like they never did before. Known for brutes like the Power Wagon, the diminutive Rampage was indeed something new for Dodge.

Modeled after the Dodge Omni, the Rampage debuted in 1982 with 17,636 units sold. The next year, Plymouth added their own version called the Scamp, which dented Rampage production to just 8,033 units. The Scamp did not return for 1984, putting sales back in Dodge's corner as production popped to 11,732 units.

Power came from a 2.2 L in-line four rated at 96 horsepower. 1983 saw the intro of a five-speed manual.

Were they Ram tough? Perhaps not, as so few are seen today.

In This Issue

Holiday Party recap

2020 Grand National info

A 1936 Chevy that once called the SIRAACA Garage home

Car show dates are confirmed

Trivia Question: Can you name the lower-priced compnaion makes to the following autos: Willys, Hudson, Kaiser-Frazer, Nash, and Studebaker?

Answer: Willys: Whippert, Hudson: Essex, Kaiser-Fraser: Henry J., Nash: Lafayette, and Studebaker: Erskine.

RAGTOPS & RUMBLESEATS

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SIRAACA Who's Who

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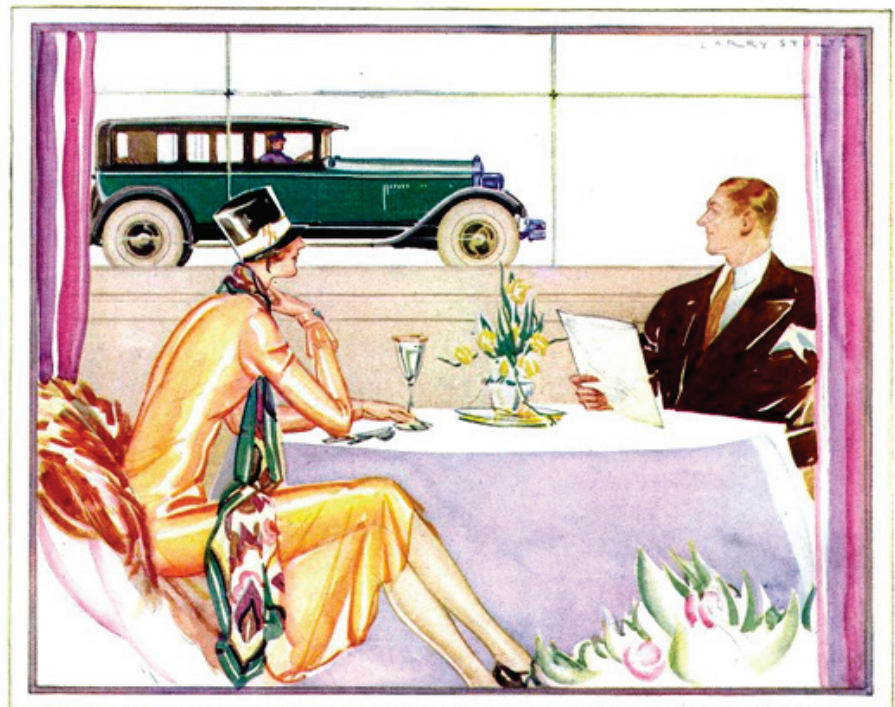


Minutes of the 535th Meeting December 8, 2019

1. The 535th meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order during the club's annual Holiday Party by President Paul Jr.
2. All existing officers are remaining at their posts for 2020.
3. Paul Jr. mentioned a possibility that the Police Department's Community Affairs division would require some antique cars to accompany Santa on a toy run on Saturday, December 21. No members were available that day, yet Frank Provenzano Jr. suggested that the Bini Foundation could consider sending their fire engine.
4. Paul Jr. presented awards to the top three trophy getters for 2019: Tony DiAngelo, Mike Signorile and Paul Arena. He also recognized Mike Gorgia as the top raffle seller.
5. Paul Jr. wrapped up by thanking all who give of their time to keep the club operating so efficiently with so few members. He noted that everyone has many choices as to how to spend their free time, and he's grateful that his fellow members spend it with the club.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**FROM THE STATEN ISLAND REGION
ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA**

Members Celebrate the Holidays

The club celebrated the oncoming holiday season with a party held at The RoadHouse on Sunday, December 8. Members enjoyed the restaurant's well-known bar pies and then a buffet dinner. Toys donated by both members and the club were collected and donated to the Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive. Lisa and Steven Bonici, who run the drive, presented Paul Jr. with a thank you t-shirt that lists all of their supporters, including the club, on the back. Afterwards, Magician Mike Lane entertained the room with feats of magic and illusion, before going from table to table for some up-close slight of hand. Paul Jr. presented awards to the top three trophy donor getters - Tony DiAngelo, Mike Signorile and Paul Arena. Finally, cake and coffee and plenty of socializing wrapped up the evening.



Top: SIRAACA President Paul Arena and Secretary Tony DiAngelo flank Steven and Lisa Bonici before presenting donated toys to their Richard Gardner Memorial Toy Drive.

Bottom: Artie Guarnieri listens closely as magician Mike Lane prepares a card trick with his help. (photos by Sandy Arena)

Important Renewal Notice

Hopefully everyone has renewed their AACA membership for 2020. Note that the AACA received a mountain of renewals in the mail on December 30 and was working feverishly to process all of them. Since this coincides with the deadline to update the mailing list for the national magazine, some January/February magazines will go out with renewal reminders. If you sent yours in, you can simply ignore the notice. Beginning at our January meeting, we will be accepting local renewal dues (\$20). See Jonathan Schulman, who will gladly accept either cash or a check made out to SIRAACA.

Renewing your membership with the AACA is important to both the national club as well as the collectible vehicle community at large. The AACA continues to be a leader in protecting the hobby while doing its best to give its members the most benefits of any car club. These include the national magazine, the upcoming new library and all of its resources, and a large number of National Meets and Tours,



From the President

Happy New Year! I'm still wowed by the fact that it's the Twenties again, and saying, "the cars of the twenties" means two different things. I guess we'll have to start all of the antique car decades with "nineteen" from now on.

While winter settles in and we await the arrival of warmer weather, let's take the time to prepare for what's needed once spring rolls around. We have our show dates confirmed (see the back page) and a flyer is already prepared for the Dust-Off. Raffle tickets are on order as well. Do we need new signs or flags or banners to go with our new tent? Come with ideas for us to consider now before the season is in full swing.

I hope all of you enjoyed your holidays and wish you a happy and prosperous 2020! - Paul Jr.

Video Ideas?

Now that we are able to use a laptop and projector at our meetings, what would you like to see? We have some ideas for upcoming meetings that will sync up with what's on our agenda, and we can surf the web for ad hoc support of discussions (like cars for sale, etc.) Beyond that, if you have something you want to share, such as photos of a restoration, we'll be able to accommodate a USB "thumb drive", but not a DVD or CD. It might be time to digitize those old VHS tapes we recorded at car shows in the 1980's and have a look back at our club's past..

- *NEXT MEETING* - January 7

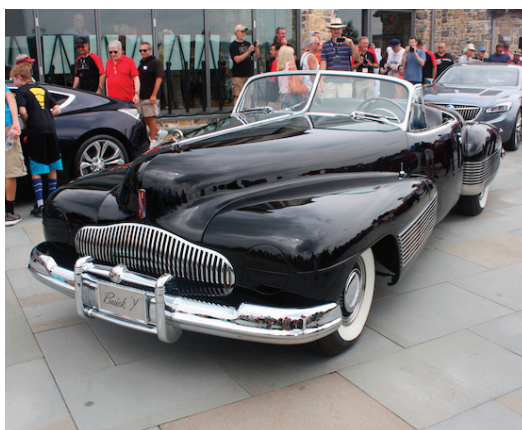
Our January meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, January 7 upstairs in the Courthouse at Historic Richmond Town. Parking is available in the main lot on Clarke Avenue, where you can enter the courthouse from the rear entrance.

2020 AACA Grand National

The Grand National Meet for 2020 will be held in Allentown, PA from July 23-25. The show will be held at the NB Center for American Automotive Heritage, the wonderful campus established by Italian billionaire Nicola Bulgari. The show, open to all AACA Senior Award winners, will be held on Saturday. The Zenith Award judging for the top restored car in the country will be held on Friday. Details are still being ironed out with respect to rest of the weekend's events and the location of the awards dinner. While there is no host hotel, the AACA has established special rates at over 15 local venues to accommodate everyone. Expect updates sometime in January.

Great Job on the Y-Job

Last year, Hallmark launched a new series within its Keepsake Ornaments called Legendary Concept Cars. Appropriately, it made the 1938 Buick Y-Job as its first entry, since it's recognized as the auto industry's first concept car. Here's a photo of the real deal I snapped at the BCA's 50th Annual Show in 2016, and my ornament, which sits on a shelf all year. It's too nice to only come out each December.



The 2019 ornament is GM's 1953 Firebird I, a wild four-wheeled version of a jet-fighter. I recall seeing the original Firebird I at a concours many years ago, and will look for a photo to again compare the real deal with its Hallmark counterpart.

Inside the SIRAACA Garage

This month's look inside the SIRAACA Garage warps us back to 1988 and a look at Phil Boffa's 1936 Chevrolet Master DeLuxe two-door sedan.

These photos of Phil's Chevy were taken ahead of a day trip out to Hershey for that year's AACA Fall Meet. Phil had just finished restoring the car and made arrangements with a neighbor to borrow a trailer for the ride out. Paul Arena and son Paul Jr. did the hauling courtesy of his 1970 Dodge Power Wagon.

Little did anyone realize that pulling the Chevy on an open trailer at 70mph was much faster than it had ever gone before. Too fast, in fact, as the wind under the visor at that speed was too strong, splitting the visor at the central seam. The two halves flapped like bird wings and did a good amount of damage. Judges do not take into account damage incurred en route, but Phil fell short of winning anything. There is a VHS tape of this trip that needs to be digitized and shared with us all.

Eventually, Phil traded the Chevy for a newer one, his award-winning 1978 Monte Carlo.

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.



All 1936 Chevrolets were powered by an OHV inline six good for 79 horsepower. The 1970 Power Wagon most likely put out three times as many horses, giving Phil's Chevy one helluva ride (photos by Paul Jr.)





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Dates for 2020

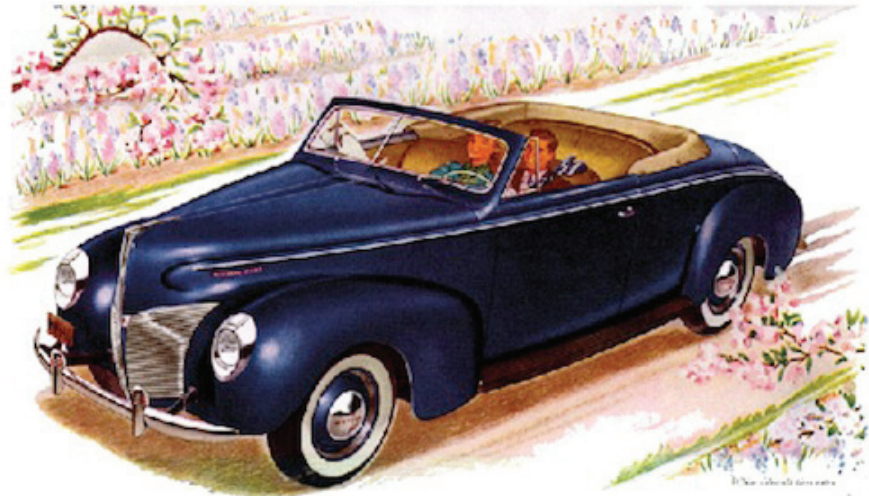
2020 Spring Dust-Off Flyer

Our 2020 show dates are now confirmed. The 14th Annual Spring Dust-Off will be held on April 26, with a rain date of May 3. Our 43rd Annual Fall Show is set for September 13 with a rain date of September 20. As you can see to the right, the spring flyer is already made. Here's to a short winter!

The Staten Island Region AACA presents its

14th Annual Spring Dust-Off Car Show & Flea Market

April 26, 2020



Commons Cafe
2 Teleport Drive off of South Avenue
(flip for directions)

- \$20 vehicle entry fee • no classes • no cut-off year • rain date May 3 •
- no points judging • red carpet awards in select 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 •
- info: call 917-626-0233 or e-mail siraaca@yahoo.com •
- visit us on www.siraaca.aaca.com or [facebook.com/siraaca](https://www.facebook.com/siraaca) •

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