

The Flivver

AACA Museum
Antique Automobile Club of America Museum
In Association with the Smithsonian Institution
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Hershey, PA 17033
www.aacamuseum.org
717-566-7100, Volunteer Office x106

The Volunteer Newsletter of the AACA Museum

February & March 2010

Jewels of the JWR Auto Museum by Holly Bedsole, Executive Director

Since last October we've been very pleased to present a special exhibit featuring seven spectacular and diverse vehicles on loan from the collection of Mr. John "Jack" Rich. A resident of Frackville, PA, Mr. Rich opened his collection after retirement so people of all ages could experience the wonders of automotive history. You will fall in love with these vehicles just as Mr. Rich has. Each one is a fine jewel to be enjoyed slowly, taking in each delicate line and delicious curve. The exhibit will run through January and into February.

One gem that has been getting a lot of attention is the 1939-1947 Rolls-Royce Phantom III "Vutotal" Cabriolet by Labourdette. The original vehicle was used by Rolls-Royce at their display for the 1939 European Motor shows, then the 1939 World's Fair in New York. In 1942 Mr. Louis Ritter of New York purchased the car for the chassis, since no bare chassis were available during wartime. Mr. Ritter enjoyed outrageous, custom-built cars and hired Henri Labourdette to build an extravagant new body that pushed design to the extreme. The car was completed in 1947 and shown at the Paris Concours. For more on the JWR Collection, go to www.jwrautomuseum.com. Mr. Rich is a true friend of the AACA Museum and we appreciate his support.

Thank You for a Great 2009! by Sue Dittmann, HR & Volunteer Manager

In 2009, AACA Museum volunteers logged **18,087** service hours! That's up 4.2% over 2008. **247** volunteers greeted our visitors (Museum attendance of **47,276**), worked behind the scenes and/or helped at off-site events. A dedicated group of 60 people volunteered 96+ hours, and are being rewarded with Individual Volunteer AACA Museum Memberships. We appreciate the generosity of **all volunteers** (and our hard working Board Members) and look forward to a fun and successful 2010.

Special thanks to the volunteers that served over 200 hours!

Denny Schwenk**	Linda Moore	Kevin Boyer	Matt Hocker
Ed Maloy**	Rose Maloy	Dave Maletz	Bob Vanatta
Bob Shultz	Sharon Ogden*	Tom Vonah	Jen Buehler
Dottie Shultz	Walt Weidner	Richard Sorensen	Alan Lindquist
Jim Aberts	Harry Sherwood	Scot Hess	Tom Ehrhart
Oliver Ogden*	Bill Taylor	Michael Mackney	Charlie Will
			Tom Mozer*

** Denny Schwenk contributed a whopping 570 hours, and Ed Maloy gave 517. Bob Shultz contributed 490 hours, and Dottie Shultz logged 469. We send very special thanks to you!!

*Museum of Bus Transportation volunteers put in 1,307 total hours; Oliver & Sharon Ogden led the way, and Tom Mozer was also a top contributor. The MOBT is a good partner to us and we really appreciate the involvement of their volunteers.

Our current exhibition, "Camaros and Firebirds," ends April 4th. We will continue with a fast car theme with "**Muscle Car Mania**," opening later that month. As many of you know, over the last several years we had two muscle car exhibitions. One focused on the birth of the muscle car and ended with the Pontiac GTO. The second began with the GTO and ran through the early 1970s when the muscle car era came to abrupt end in the face of rising fuel prices, government mandated pollution regulations and resistance from the insurance companies. Our visitors really embraced these exhibitions and we are continually asked when these cars will return.

"Muscle Car Mania" will combine a little bit of both muscle car eras, focusing on high performance cars from about 1960 to 1972. All domestic manufacturers (the Big Three and AMC) produced powerful, sporty cars during this period and we will try to capture some of their more unique vehicles. As an example, we have a mid 1960s big block powered Chevy Impala Convertible. Everyone knows that Chevy made lots of powerful Camaros and Chevelles, but they also installed high performance engines in a slew of other vehicles. This holds true for other brands and we will do our best to find some of the more obscure muscle cars to compliment the vehicles everyone already knows and loves. Other highlight vehicles committed at this time include a Boss 429 Mustang, a big block powered (front wheel drive) Toronado and the lowest mileage, all original Super Bird in existence.

Following "Muscle Car Mania" the Museum will host another exhibition that has been on our back burner for a long time and should also prove very popular with our visitors. Museum volunteer, Warren Erb will be joining me as the guest curator for "**Ash and Maple Marvels: Wood Bodied Cars 1910 to 1953.**" This is essentially the "Woody Wagon" exhibition we have talked about having for many years. We are not including the word "wagon" in the title because there will likely be a few non-wagons on display, most notably Chrysler's Town and Country. The display will begin with the earliest wooden-bodied vehicles such as the Ford Model T Huckster Wagons and conclude with a 1953, the last model year to employ an actual wooden frame body. Thanks in advance to Warren for his enthusiasm and dedication to this project.

"LOST AND FOUND"

Donor Information Needed

If you are the Museum volunteer who donated the following four diecast vehicle models to the Museum several months ago, please let me know. Your name wasn't included in the donation box and I can't recall who gave us this nice donation. Please contact me, or Sue, so we may properly thank you. Jeff, 566-7100 x 104

Donations:

- Red 1957 Chevrolet Coca Cola Truck
- Red Ford F-250 Pickup Truck
- Blue and White Ford Howard Johnson's Delivery Truck
- Gold and White, 1957 Ford Fairlane Convertible



Warren Erb's 1947 Pontiac "Woody Wagon"

Volunteer Opportunities: *Please Sign Up Now!*

It's easy to schedule your time, as we offer several options. Please stop by the Volunteer Room to sign up, e-mail Sue (sdittmann@aacamuseum.org), call Sue (717-566-7100 x106) or call the team at the Ticket Counter (x100).

Gallery Guides *Please help several times a month to help fill the schedule. Thanks!*

February & March 2010 sign-up sheets are posted, needing volunteers from 9-1, and/or 1-5. Many days are available, especially **weekday afternoons, Saturdays & Sundays**.

Office Volunteers

Our small staff needs help with projects. PC skills are important for some of them.

Teen Volunteers

We have great opportunities for responsible youth. Call now for training and scheduling.

Detail, Mechanical, Vehicle Movement, and Supporting Exhibition Crews

Contact Jeff (x 104) or Sue, or stop by the Museum and see a Volunteer CAPtain (Curatorial Assistants Program) if you want to join the Monday 9am crew.

Special Events: Please sign up in the Volunteer Room or contact Sue.

- **From Roads to Rails Model Train Holiday Exhibit** Seeking "Engineers" to operate the trains and greet the visitors in shifts from 9-1 and 1-5. *Training* provided. The schedule is integrated into the Gallery Guide signup sheets in the Volunteer Room; the train room is open on the first Saturday of every month, on holidays and other special days.

- **2010 AACA Annual Meeting, Trade Show** in Philadelphia: Need volunteers for Museum Booth setup Thurs. **Feb. 11**, Museum Auction Fri. **Feb. 12** (Preview 5:30, Auction 8:15) and staffing the Museum Booth Fri. **Feb. 12** (shifts: 8-10, 10-12, 12-3, 3-5) & Sat. **Feb. 13** (8-10, 10-12, 12-3 and teardown ~3). As we go to print, our biggest need is for booth help on Saturday.

- **32nd Annual Motorama** races and shows at the Harrisburg Farm Show Complex: the "Greatest Indoor Show in the East!" Seeking volunteers for our Museum retail/promotion booth Saturday **Feb. 20** (9-1, 1-5 and/or 5-9) and Sunday **Feb. 21** (9-1 and/or 1-5). FREE admission and parking to the first volunteers that sign up!

- **Spring Carlisle Apr. 21-25** We'll need booth volunteers each day, 8-4 to sell car raffle tickets and promote the Museum. Please mark your calendars, and the sign up sheet is forthcoming.



Winter Closings and Delays Tune to the following media sites after 7:00 a.m. for Museum closings and delays due to poor weather conditions:

RADIO STATIONS

WITF (FM) 89.5
HOT (FM) 92.1
WTPA (FM) 93.5
WRBT *Bob* (FM) 94.9
WSOX *Oldies* (FM) 96.1
WRVV The River (FM) 97.3
WRKA *KISS* (FM) 99.3
WARM (FM) 103.3
WINK (FM) 104.1
WHP Talk Radio (AM) 580
WSBA (AM) 910
WTCY *The Touch* (AM) 1400

TV STATIONS

WHTM-TV ABC27
WHP-CBS TV Channel 21
WLYH-15
WPMT FOX 43
WITF TV
WGAL-TV News 8

WEBSITES

www.abc27.com
www.whp580.com
www.river973.com
www.bobradio.com
www.whptv.com
www.wlyh.com
www.kiss993.com
www.witf.org
www.wgal.com

Or...simply check for weather related closings/delays by **calling 717-566-7100 after 7:15 a.m.**

A Total Team Effort! by Museum Staff

You, our dedicated volunteers, are very generous with your time and skills. Many of you also contribute in other ways, including monetary and vehicle donations. We thank you!! There is another way you can help the Museum, and that is by encouraging others to do the same. New volunteers hear this during orientation, but we wanted to put the information in print so that everyone can understand the impact they can have.

The Museum has many sources of revenue, and you can encourage others to contribute while you interact with them in the Museum, at car shows... anywhere. Feel free to talk with people about how they can participate, refer them to printed material available in the lobby or info on our website, and refer them to staff members, directly or via staff business cards (available at the ticket counter). Here are some ideas:

1. **Admission sales:** You can increase sales with word of mouth and distributing promotional material. Our Dir. of Museum Marketing and Operations, **Nancy Gates**, guides this effort. Your volunteer efforts have an impact by helping us to deliver a *World Class Automotive Experience* to our visitors.
2. **Monetary Donations:** People can participate and donate in so many ways: Museum Memberships, 161 Club Memberships, Year End Appeals, Special Projects (like our new sign), Car Raffle Tickets, Night at the Museum live & silent auction, and through Planned Giving. **Myra Toomey**, Dir. of Development, is our fundraising expert. Here are some details on a few other programs:

Bricks! Yes – those bricks in the entrance. They are an excellent way to commemorate any and all events. Birthdays, grandchildren's birthdays, any event where someone would send a card, a brick can be purchased. Bricks are only \$125 and \$250 and can be personalized with any logo and name.

Adopt-a-Car Program: Many guests ask about the program, and you can encourage them to adopt one of the vehicles on the floor or in our inventory. They get a photo of the car and an official framed adoption certificate. The cost is only \$500 a year and includes a Museum Membership. There is a brochure at the Ticket Counter explaining the entire program, including all the benefits and who to contact. It is easy and generates funds we need to keep the cars clean and looking their best!

3. **Vehicle and other Donations:** We've built our antique auto and auto-related artifact collection through the contributions of collectors, philanthropic businesses and individuals from the general public. We will accept virtually anything transportation-related provided it is donated as an unrestricted gift. Vehicles and objects that we can display will be used in the Museum or placed in storage for future exhibitions or special projects or events. Items that are not in exhibitable condition may be sold to raise revenue for our operations and programs. The Museum will accept vehicles that are not yet 25 years old. Potential donors are encouraged to contact us to discuss their potential gift.

The AACA Museum is a registered 501 (C) 3 non-profit educational institution. All contributions are fully tax deductible as allowed by law, and there are several additional benefits associated with donating a vehicle to the Museum. Interested individuals may ask for a copy of our *Vehicle Donation Information Brochure* (also available via email as a PDF) which outlines the entire process and answers most of the basic questions. Curator **Jeff Bliemeister** is the go-to person.

4. **Event Rentals:** Wow! This would be a great place to have an event! Did you ever hear that? If so, our Mgr. Sales & Special Events, **Mike Patterson**, would love to talk to them. We have events here all the time; it's a great source of revenue and a great source of fun to the guests! There are promotional flyers located throughout the museum, but feel free to drop Mike's name or card. He and other staff are always willing to show someone around, talk to them about the events that have taken place here, and discuss wonderful and creative ways to enjoy this beautiful facility.
5. **Retail Sales:** Guide our visitors to the Dog House Garage, and capable staff will take it from there! It's a must-see for everyone. Feel free to mention the store to guests and its wide variety of items in all price ranges. You could even give a few examples of your favorite gift ideas. **Rochelle Robinson** is our Retail Operations Manger and she's most willing to assist our shoppers.
6. **Volunteers:** Ah, last but not least. You, our fine volunteers, are a great source of referrals on new volunteers! If you're having fun here, and feeling the reward of volunteering (we hope you are), be sure to spread the word. Volunteer Interest Forms are at the Ticket Counter. We also appreciate employee referrals when we have openings for staff positions. **Sue Dittmann**, HR and Volunteer Mgr., will be happy to answer questions and schedule volunteer orientation. Thank you!

The Bus Stop by Tom Collins

How about a trip across the entire United States, this time of the year, in a 33 year old bus? That is just what one of our members, and volunteers, David Gregg (Yorklyn, Del.) did in early January!

Dave, and several members of his family, flew from Philadelphia to Seattle, Washington then were shuttled to Bellingham, Washington where Dave met Richard Johnson. Johnson owns a bus company known, locally, as Bellair Charters. Bellair operates special, charter, and airport shuttle service to SEATEC airport.

Mr. Johnson contacted us in early November and offered a 1977 MCI model MC-5C coach to us. This particular model was a very low production model, produced mainly for the US Air Force. This bus began its "career" at Vandenberg Air Force Base. When the Air Force replaced this set of buses with newer units, Mr. Johnson purchased it and used it on his shuttle service and an occasional ski charter.

Using 551 gallons of fuel to travel from coast to coast, the bus did itself proud and made the trip with a minimum of trouble; there were some alternator problems in the last 500 miles which made for some pesky travel!

The new acquisition is now at Krapf's Coaches having some mechanical and detailing work, before we bring it up to our Union Deposit storage facility and eventually onto the Museum floor.

To quote Mr. Johnson in an article in his local paper, "This bus has logged over 100,000 miles in its time – We're happy to give it a permanent home at the Museum of Bus Transportation." He goes on to say, "The Museum of Bus Transportation houses the largest collection of buses in the United States. The Museum is located in Hershey, Pa." Great nationwide publicity for us – reflecting well for all of us.

Welcome New Volunteers!!!

We are so glad you have joined our team!

David Witmer
Rick Evans
Stu Foutz

Rodger Davidson
Kyle Miller
Scott Kimmel

dog house garage NEWS

"At some point you'll be here!"

by Rochelle Robinson, Retail Oprs. Mgr.

As always, DHG is conforming to retail change and that said so begins the new store layout. Watch your step! Also, with the introduction of a new AACA Museum logo comes some new product; I say some because there will be a gradual phase out of the old merchandise first. We'll still be called the "AACA Museum," but will be introducing polo shirts, patches, etc. with the new logo design and tag line.

Lastly, the DHG logo contest met with positive results. To see the entries go to the DHG Facebook Fan Page.

<http://www.facebook.com/album.php?page=1&aid=123507&id=57119634196>

In Memory: Charlie Wegemer

Charlie passed away on Jan. 10th. Many of you fondly remember Charlie as a dedicated volunteer who lived life with great enthusiasm. He gave us 500 volunteer hours from 2004-2007. Our prayers and thanks go to his family.

Thank You, Volunteers

We send thanks to the volunteers that helped with the floor painting in the Main Gallery! It looks so much better, and took a lot of effort. We also want to thank the Train Crew for all their volunteer time over the holidays. Visitors of all ages came out to see the layout and it gave a real boost to our attendance!

A Final Word: Wow!

You contributed 18,087 volunteer hours in 2009. That is amazing, and you are an amazing team! We couldn't keep the wheels turning without you! Thank you all.