



TIN 'N BRASS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
ONTELAUNEE AACA
OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF THE AACA



Laser Red Legend

*Photo Credit: Ken Dages
2000 Mustang GT Convertible*

From the Editor's Desk

When it comes to passion projects, few things shine brighter than a car that's been loved, preserved, and celebrated across the decades. This month, I had the joy of sitting down with 52-year national club member Ken Dages, whose 2000 Mustang GT Convertible recently earned him a Junior Award at Hershey—a remarkable milestone for any car enthusiast.

Ken's Mustang is more than a showpiece; it's a time capsule. Dressed in Laser Red with a tan top and leather interior, it carries the largest engine available in its class—a 4.6-liter V8 delivering 265 horsepower through an automatic overdrive transmission. With only 33,000 miles, the convertible has never seen snow and rarely rain.

Ken recalls the moment he found it. He traded his Chrysler LeBaron the same day after spotting that gleaming red convertible

"As soon as I saw the color," he said, "that was it." Now, after earning his first Junior award, he's aiming for a Senior Award next spring at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. It's still a family affair; his wife, Elsa, rides along while his son or grandson caravans behind.

When asked what advice he'd give younger enthusiasts, Ken didn't hesitate: "It's a fun hobby, a good family hobby. Something everybody can enjoy."

That's the heart of our club, cars bringing us together, not just for the chrome and horsepower, but for the stories. Congratulations, Ken. We can't wait to see that Mustang shine again this spring.



~Cheri Dotterer

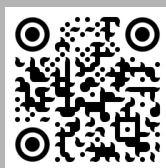
Table of Contents

Next Meeting: January 3, 3 pm

Zion's New Jerusalem UCC,
Lenhartsville

From the Editor's Desk	Page 1
President's Page	Page 2
Shift Gears It's Banquet Season!	
A Message from our Secretary	Page 3
From Membership Chair	Page 4
Ont. Celebrates another Year	Page 6
Officers & Chairpersons	Page 8
Calendar of Events	Page 9
Local and National	
Birthdays & Anniversaries	Page 9
Apple Jack/Cider Recap	Page 10
Tour & Banquet	Page 11
Registration Forms	

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Articles are due on 2nd Thursday of each month.

Cheri Dotterer, editor

202 Donne Road, Hamburg, PA 19526

newsletter@ontelauneeaca.com

for the web - webmaster@ontelauneeaca.com

President's Message Shift Gears It's Banquet Season!

This year, 2025, has gone by in the blink of an eye! It seems like just yesterday we were standing in a bone-chilling wind at Ontelaunee for the Spring Swap Meet.

Despite the rough start, the year blessed us with plenty of good weather, including a perfect Das Awkscht Fescht weekend! Most of our tours went off without a hitch and without any interference from Mother Nature.

As we wrap up the season, we just completed the Apple Jack and Cider Tour at the Seltzer's Lebanon Bologna Factory. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our Annual Christmas Party at NOVA! Bring your children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren. The event is always more special with young ones in attendance. Santa himself will take time out of his busy December schedule to visit, deliver gifts, and even make us "big kids" sit on his knee for photos. And of course, there will be plenty of delicious food!

As good as this year has been, we're already planning for the next. You'll have a new president, Tim Hinkle, who's a soft-spoken guy with a big drive for this club. He'll take over this column next month and bring you fresh inspiration.

Don't worry, you won't get rid of me that easily! I'm planning to contribute a few tech articles now and then, and we're hoping to feature more of our members' cars in upcoming issues.

If you'd like to see your car in the spotlight, talk to our editor, Cheri, about doing a feature article. Have a great month,



~Jeff Dotterer

A Message from our Secretary

Highlights from October

Here are highlights of October's Minutes, which did not appear in November's newsletter. Treasurer, Lester Manwiller, received the check from DAF.

Membership remained the same at 162. 25 and 50-year pins will be awarded at the President's Banquet. Fill out the membership dues renewal form in the newsletter with any changes and return it to Phyllis with payment.

Email any website changes to Michael at michaeljason.com@gmail.com. Cheri will make newsletter changes to fulfill the newsletter requirements for AACAs Master Award level. We need to add a tech article and classifieds. Pictures are needed but require captions, including the date, location, and a brief description of what it is about.

The three-day tour is scheduled for September 11, 12 & 13, 2026. Tour masters are Mike & Donna Wolfe. 10 rooms have been reserved. A \$200 non-refundable deposit is required before the end of February 2026. Deposits are transferable if you need to cancel your booking.

Bob Hobaugh has been meeting with many former race car drivers in hopes of getting a good showing of race cars at DAF.

Pontiac will be the feature car in 2026, hosted by the Keystone Pontiac Club. Bob and Jeff were videotaped for the "Strictly for Seniors" show on BCTV. They talked about our club tours, Christmas party, and DAF. Get the email link from Cheri to view on YouTube.

On the recommendation of the Board of Directors, a motion was made and passed by the members that, starting in 2026, one guest may participate in a tour once and pay the actual tour cost. To go on another tour, they will have to join the club. This does not apply to relatives of members. A second motion was made and passed by the members to increase the member price of going on a tour to \$25.

Neil and Audrey Merkel provided refreshments.

Nomination of Officers was held. A motion was made and seconded to accept all nominations. There was no opposition. The slate of 2026 officers will appear in November's Minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45.

November Minutes

President Jeff Dotterer thanked everyone for attending the business meeting on November 1, 2025, at the New Jerusalem Zion UCC Church in Krumsville, PA. The meeting was called to order, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. There were 23 people present.

Susan Manwiller gave the Secretary's report from the business meeting held on October 11, 2025. A motion to approve the secretary's report was made by Elaine Baer and seconded by Ray Huber. The motion carried.

Lester Manwiller gave the Treasurer's report for October 2025. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Shirley Schaffer and seconded by Cheri Dotterer. The motion carried.

Committee Reports

Membership:

Sick List: Phyllis Peters passed around a get-well card for Goldie Rhode. Goldie is living at Fellowship Manor in Whitehall and is in hospice. See Phyllis for the address. Her late husband, Robert, was a founding member of our club.

Membership Dues: Please complete the form in the newsletter with any changes and return it to Phyllis along with your payment. Phyllis will collect dues at any of our functions or send them in the mail. Please let Cheri or Phyllis know if you want your newsletter emailed.

National Memberships: Phyllis offers four complimentary National memberships to new members who wish to join.

Website: Michael Dotterer was absent. Phyllis would like to know how many hits our website is getting. Also, the 2026 Leesport Swap Meet is not on the website.

Newsletter: Neil Merkel mentioned that the wrong Secretary's minutes appeared in the November newsletter. Cheri Dotterer added a Table of Contents and QR code. Cheri would like tech articles from the members and pictures of cars for the newsletter.

Activities: Suzy McGovern circulated the baker and car tour sign-up list for 2026. Suzy thanked Marilyn Roth and Elaine Baer for refreshments.

- Applejack & Cider Tour – Saturday, November 15, 2025
- A tour suggestion list is available for anyone interested in leading a tour.
- Barbara Koch suggested a tour to Winterthur, which offers a variety of activities, including a garden tour, a house tour, and a restaurant.

Leesport Swap Meet: March 1, 2026 – Lester has spaces available. He has a food vendor inside. Needs help for Saturday and Sunday. White elephant items are needed. Call Lester if you need white elephants picked up. He will try to get cones donated again. Jeff Dotterer oversees parking and will need people to man the gates. For the 2026 swap meet, there will be a separate entrance and exit. Let Jeff know who can help.

Das Awkscht Fescht: Chairman Bob Hobaugh was absent. Jeff reported the following:

1. Race cars will be the feature car at DAF in 2026.
2. Bob & Jeff attended the Dorney Park Association of retired racers to generate interest in bringing their race cars to DAF.
3. Bruce Larson agreed to come to DAF for two days with his funny car. Sponsors will be needed to pay for his hotel and fees.
4. Next year's feature car is a Pontiac.
5. Susan reported that 152 vehicles have been registered so far, 45 more than at the same time last year; 86 flea market spaces have been sold, five fewer than at the same time the previous year.

President's Banquet: November 9, 2025, at Blue Mountain Family Restaurant. Cheri said to arrive at 12:00 and eat at 12:30. Entertainment is an elite string group of 10 kids from Hamburg Area High School. Mike Wolfe will be providing chairs for the musicians.

Scholarships: The following students will receive a \$500 scholarship at the President's Banquet:

Sydney Duke – Granddaughter of Shirley Schaffer, majoring in Fine Arts at Lehigh Carbon Community College.

Krista Dotterer – Daughter of Jeff & Cheri Dotterer, studying for her PhD in Atmospheric Science at the University of Albany.

Joshua Bruce Wagner – Grandson of Bruce Cronrath, majoring in Chemical Engineering at Lafayette College.

Christmas Party: December 7, 2025, at NOVA. Mike Wolfe requests that you submit your reservations; the form is included in the newsletter. Santa will make an appearance. Bring your children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Three-Day Tour: September 11, 12, & 13, 2026. Tour masters Mike and Donna Wolfe are going to Lukan's Farm Resort. They need a \$200 deposit by February 28, 2026. The deposit is non-refundable but can be transferred to another person if necessary. The cost will be \$450 per person for members and \$500 for non-members. See newsletter for details. Call Mike & Donna with questions.

NEW BUSINESS

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS - The Secretary cast the ballot for the Ontelaunee Officers for 2026.

President: Tim Hinkle

1st Vice-President: Mike Wolfe

2nd Vice-President: LeRoy Hinkle

Secretary: Susan Manwiller

Treasurer: Lester Manwiller

Board of Directors: Remaining on the board are Shirley Schaffer, Ray Huber, and Elaine Baer.

New to the board are Marilyn Roth and Jeff Dotterer. Jeff will be Board Chairman.

Cheri recommended printing Ontelaunee membership applications and making them available at the Leesport Swap Meet and DAF. We need new members and more help. Ideas about this will be discussed later.

The club received an invitation to attend the opening celebration of "Old School Rods and Customs" on Friday, November 14, at America's Transportation Experience from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 was made by Lester Manwiller and seconded by Neil Merkel. The motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for

January 3 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



~Susan Manwiller

From your Membership Chair Caring for our members

If someone is hospitalized or on the sick list, I would appreciate it if you could notify me.

If someone from the club has passed away, I would also greatly appreciate a phone call.

2026 Membership Dues Notice

Our club dues will be increasing for 2026. This is our first dues increase since 2000.

The new rates are:

- **\$15.00 – Single Membership**
- **\$25.00 – Joint Membership**
- \$150.00 – Lifetime Membership (available only if you are also a Lifetime Member of the National Club)

All dues are due by **December 31, 2025.**

Please watch for the colored renewal form included in this newsletter. Take a moment to fill it out carefully, updating any changes to your phone number, cell phone, or mailing address.

If your spouse isn't already a member, now is the perfect time to sign them up and enjoy all the benefits of our club.

I will be collecting dues at monthly meetings, tours, the President's Banquet, and the Christmas Party.

Your National Dues Renewal Form was included in the September/October National Magazine. The loose sheet with your address label is your renewal form—please save it and use it to pay your National dues.

Remember, you must be a member of the National AACA to be a member of the Ontelaunee Region.

Thank you for your continued support!

Respectfully submitted,



~Phyllis Peters

Contact: Phyllis Peters

5265 Elgen Drive, Emmaus, PA 18049

610-965-9236 | phyllispeters@hotmail.com



Ontelaunee Region AACA Celebrates Another Great Year

On Sunday, November 9, 2025, forty-two members of the Ontelaunee Region AACA gathered at the Blue Mountain Family Restaurant to celebrate another successful year together. President Jeff Dotterer hosted the evening, which opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a heartfelt prayer to our Heavenly Father.

During dinner, guests enjoyed a special performance by the Ascending Chamber Strings from Hamburg Area High School. Their selections included several holiday favorites and a crowd-pleasing rendition of Eleanor Rigby by The Beatles. The family-style meal

featured roast beef, ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn, and ice cream—enjoyed by all.

Following the meal, Jeff Dotterer and Tim Hinkle expressed appreciation to the many members who organized tours, baked snacks for meetings, and supported the club throughout the year. Phyllis Peters then presented milestone awards, recognizing members who have reached 25 and 50 years of continuous membership.

- 25-Year Pins: Vasilla & Leroy Hinkle and John McCarthy (in attendance); Katherine McCarthy and Glen Anderson (to receive their pins later).
- 50-Year Pin: Warren Fick.
- Congratulations to these members for their dedication and long-standing service!

Photographer Bob Hobaugh was on hand to capture these memorable moments.

Before the induction of new officers, Minnie Breininger took a moment to honor Lester and Susan Manwiller with a creative “thank-you shower” for their years of faithful service—complete with hats! (See photos for details.) Tim Hinkle also presented Jeff and Cheri Dotterer with gifts of appreciation for their service as President and First Lady. Thank you, Tim and Susan, for the thoughtful toolboxes and floral arrangement.

Scholarships were awarded to three family members of Ontelaunee AACA members.

- Sydney Duke – Granddaughter of Shirley Schaffer, majoring in Fine Arts at Lehigh Carbon Community College.
- Krista Dotterer – Daughter of Jeff & Cheri Dotterer, studying for her PhD in Atmospheric Science at the University of Albany.

- Joshua Bruce Wagner – Grandson of Bruce Cronrath, majoring in Chemical Engineering at Lafayette College.

The evening concluded with Wayne Tuck officiating the induction of the 2026 officers:

- President: Tim Hinkle
- Vice Presidents: Mike Wolfe and Leroy Hinkle
- Secretary: Susan Manwiller
- Treasurer: Lester Manwiller

- Directors: Marilyn Roth, Shirley Schaffer, Elaine Baer, and Ray Huber

Thank you to our incoming officers for your willingness to serve and lead the Ontelaunee Region AACA into another great year!



~Cheri Dotterer

25 Year Pin Recipients



Vasilla and Leroy Hinkle & presenter Phyllis Peters



John McCarthy & presenter Phyllis Peters

50 Year Pin Recipient



presenter Phyllis Peters & Warren Fick

Scholarship Recipients



Krista Dotterer, President Jeff Dotterer, Sydney Duke, Johua Bruce Wagner

Recognized for Years of Service



Lester Manwiller, Minnie Breining, Susan Manwiller



2026 President: Tim Hinkle

2025 Officers and Board Members

President	Jeff Dotterer
1st V. President	Tim Hinkle
2nd V. President	Michael Wolfe
Secretary	Susan Manwiller
Treasurer	Lester Manwiller
Chairperson	Barbara Koch
Directors	Elaine Baer Shirley Schaffer Nancy Horning Ray Huber

2025 Committee Chairpersons

Activities	Suzy McGovern
DAF	Bob Hobaugh
DAF Registration	Susan Manwiller
Membership	Phyllis Peters
Newsletter	Cheri Dotterer
Swap Meet	Lester Manwiller
Website	Michael Dotterer

2026 Officers and Board Members

President	Tim Hinkle
1st V. President	Michael Wolfe
2nd V. President	Leroy Hinkle
Secretary	Susan Manwiller
Treasurer	Lester Manwiller
Board Chair	Jeff Dotterer
Directors	Elaine Baer Shirley Schaffer Marilyn Roth Ray Huber

2026 Committee Chairpersons

Activities	Suzy McGovern
DAF	Bob Hobaugh
DAF Registration	Susan Manwiller
Membership	Phyllis Peters
Newsletter	Cheri Dotterer
Swap Meet	Lester Manwiller
Website	Michael Dotterer



seated Marilyn Roth, Jeff Dotterer, Ray Huber, Leroy Hinkle, Tim Hinkle, Mike Wolfe, Lester Manwiller, Susan Manwiller, Elaine Baer, Shirley Schaffer

December Birthdays

- 1 Kathy DeHaven
- 4 Tom McMichael
- 8 Linda Legath
- 13 James Shupp, Sr.
- 13 Jill Naugle
- 15 Robert Shettsline
- 15 Bryan Wagner
- 16 James Peters
- 19 Jessica Yoder
- 21 Elsa Dages
- 24 Carol Kidd
- 24 Ruthann Krause
- 28 Walter Adam
- 29 Dolores Kennedy
- 30 Matthias Staack
- 31 Katherine McCarthy
- 31 Nancy Hutchins



2025 Events

See ontelauneeaca.com for details

Monthly Meetings are held at 3:00 pm.

Zion's New Jerusalem UCC,

1456 Krumsville Rd, Lenhartsville, PA 19534

Meetings are held January-May, September-November

NO Meetings June-August, December

December

December 7 : Christmas Party

December 14: Reorganization Meeting

December Anniversaries

- 7 Thomas & Kathleen Duckett
- 18 Thomas & Ginny Gatley
- 23 Bruce & Nancy Cronrath
- 28 Herb & Lydia Elsner, Sr.



2026 Events

January

January 3: Meeting

2025 National Events

February 5-7, 2026: National Convention, Chantilly, Virginia

March 19-21, 2026: Special Nationals, Guaynago, Puerto Rico

2025 Events in Eastern PA

December 21, 9 am-11 am: Cars & Coffee at

Urban Werks Detailing,

105 Independence Court, Suite 102, Lancaster, PA

January 10-11: Indoor Drag Racing

Showcase and Custom Car Show, 80

Rocherty Rd, Lebanon, PA

January 16-18: Automania, Allentown

Fairgrounds

January 23-24: Motorsports Race Car &

Trade Show, Philadelphia Expo Center,

Oaks, PA



Applejack and Cider Tour

On Saturday, November 15, twenty-two of us gathered at 9:00 a.m. at the Strausstown playground, where donuts, cider, and other refreshments awaited. After signing waivers for the tour ahead and receiving driving instructions, we set off together. The leisurely drive wound through the rolling countryside, taking us through the towns of Bethel, Frystown, and Fredricksburg before reaching our destination, Seltzer's Smokehouse Meats in Palmyra.

Before the guided tour began, we were treated to samples of five varieties of Lebanon bologna—a flavorful preview that sparked conversations about what we might purchase afterward. We were divided into two groups, each led by knowledgeable guides, Rachel and Samantha. Their enthusiasm and expertise brought Seltzer's story to life.

The company's history dates back to 1902, when German immigrant Harvey Seltzer settled in Lebanon County. With his butchering, curing, and sausage-making skills, he established a business that has endured for more than a century. Remarkably, the process has changed very little over four generations. The 100% beef, sourced from local farms, is ground and seasoned before being stuffed into cloth or plastic casings. From there, chubs are hand-thrown and hung in towering wooden smokehouses where they are smoked for three days.



Photo credit: Jeff Dotterer

Lebanon Bologna - Curing in 1902 Smokehouse

Although the wooden smokehouses get replaced every so often, many still rest on original cement foundations, and the fires inside are carefully hand-tended.

We enjoyed lunch and a friendly conversation at Funck's Restaurant in Palmyra before heading home. We hope everyone had a wonderful time on the tour and a safe trip home.

Tour Masters Lester and Susan Manwiller



Photo credits: Bob Hobaugh (close) Jeff Dotterer
Bologna Branding Machine



Photo credit: Jeff Dotterer

Ontelaunee AACA Members in Seltzer's Factory Shop

Reminder

If you haven't already registered your vehicle for Das Awkscht Fescht, register before **December 31, 2025**, and pay only **\$17**.

On January 1st, the registration fee is \$20. Print a form at awkscht.com or call me, and I can mail one to you.

Susan Manwiller
610-823-5033

Cost Members including immediate family: \$20, 6-12 \$10, Under 6 Free

Tour Registration Forms

Checks Payable to Ontelaunee AACA

Non-Members: Actual cost of the event

Three Day Tour Deposit \$200

DEADLINE: February 28, 2026

Transferable - NOT Refundable

Three Day Tour - September 11, 12, 13, 2026

Lukens Farm Resort lukans.com \$320 double occupancy

includes two family style breakfast and two family style dinners

Tour: Hawley Honesdale and Wallenpaupack, PA

TOTAL COST: Members \$450/non-members \$500

Additional meals and activities

You must be a member for 1 year before getting member pricing for three day trips

Members' Names: (\$200 double occupancy) _____

Non-Members' Names: (\$250 double occupancy) _____

Children 6-12: (\$200) _____ Children under 6: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Mail form to: Mike Wolfe 8204 Holbens Valley Road, New Tripoli, PA 18066 | 610-298-8001

2025 Christmas Party: December 7

DEADLINE: November 21, 2025

Members' Names: (\$30) _____

Non-Members' Names: (\$40) _____

Children 6-12: (\$16) _____ Children under 6: _____

Gift Suggestions each Child _____

Phone Number: _____

Mail form to: Mike Wolfe 8204 Holbens Valley Road, New Tripoli, PA 18066 | 610-298-8001

Cheri Dotterer
editor: Tin 'n Brass
P.O. Box 354
Hamburg, PA 19526

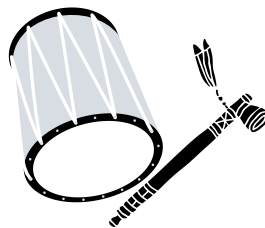
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO :



Ontelannee Region

We are dedicated to the preservation, restoration and maintenance of antique cars, trucks and motorcycles.



January 3: Meeting

January

December 14: Reorganization Meeting

December 7 : Christmas Party

December

Tin 'n Brass

Antique Automobile Club of America