



TIN 'N BRASS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
ONTELAUNEE AACA
OFFICIAL CHAPTER OF THE AACA



The Roaring '20s

Having collected automobiles from each decade, it would be interesting to show how different they have become, both in features and price.

My first antique car was a 1928 Plymouth, found in near-perfect condition in a barn on the street where my warehouse was. Plymouth, of course, no longer exists, as do many of the cars of that era. It was listed new for \$725.00.

The car had a wooden body with metal panels tacked onto it. The wheels were wood spokes, and even the steering wheel was made of wood. The seats were covered in mohair. There wasn't any heater, so in winter you took the wool blanket off the lap robe rack mounted behind the front seat, and wrapped yourself in it. In summer, for extra air, you cranked open the windshield a few inches and opened all of the side windows.

The cars were high off the ground, so you

*Photo Credit: Ken Dages
1928 Plymouth*

stepped onto "running boards" made of wood or metal to enter and exit the vehicle. If the car wouldn't start, there was a hand crank to insert into a hole located under the radiator. This was a way to start the vehicle without using the starter (once the motor started, you had to release the crank rapidly or the spinning crank would break your wrist).

Flat tire? There was a spare attached to the rear of the car. The old tire had to be removed from the rim using a "wheel puller" (not an easy task).

Storage? You removed the rear seat, and there was a small compartment to put tools.

Traveling? You put your luggage in the back seat or tie it onto the running boards.

Continued on page 6

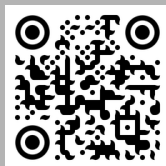


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 Zion's New Jerusalem UCC,
 Lenhartsville

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ontelauneeaca.com



The Tin & Brass is the official publication of the **Ontelaunee Region of Pennsylvania AACA**. We are a chapter of the Antique Automobile Club of America, Hershey, Pennsylvania. This newsletter is published monthly. Members may choose to receive the newsletter via email or postal mail.

Any items contained herein may be reproduced if proper credit is given. *All articles are edited for length, grammar, accuracy, and composition.* They will be used at the discretion of the editor and Region officers. Please advise the editor of all the corrections that are needed.

Articles are due on 2nd Thursday of each month.

Cheri Dotterer, editor
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President's Message

*Time flies like an arrow;
 but fruit flies like a banana.*

Welcome to 2026! Suddenly, we find ourselves at the beginning of another year. For our journey together in the Ontelaunee Car Club, this includes both the comfort of people and events we have come to know, as well as the promise of new adventures that repeating events will bring us. And, we look forward to the possibility that new auto enthusiasts will join us in our service work and fun.

I want to continue the fine tribute that Minnie Breininger began at the President's Banquet last November when she honored the long and varied service of Lester and Susan Manwiller. As we begin a new year, I want to thank all our officers and committee chairs. Each of them has served in a number of capacities over the years. It is a privilege to work with such an experienced and dedicated group of leaders.

We have had many discussions over the last couple of years about increasing membership. And that is a priority we need to continue. It's good for the Club to bring in fresh eyes and ideas. As members age, it also helps to keep the Club more active. But I want to say a few words to the many members who may read these newsletters regularly, and who maintain their membership in the Ontelaunee Club, but whom we do not see at tours, events, or club meetings.

Your membership means a lot to the club and to the antique automobile pastime. And it's a great way to show your interest and fondness for the hobby. But we'd love to see you and to get to know one another better as well. Sometimes getting around isn't easy, or your schedule may be pretty full. Still, consider coming out to join us sometime this new year.



~Tim Hinkle

*Time goes by so quickly.
 use some of yours to enjoy your car club.*

From the Editor's Desk

The Offer Only Works If It's Seen

When we talk about marketing, we often think about promotion—ads, announcements, reminders. But at its core, marketing is simpler than that. It's about making sure people know what the offer is and how to say yes.

Ontelaunee ACA has a firm offer. We preserve history, share knowledge, host meaningful events, and build lasting friendships. That value is real. But even the strongest offer only works when it's visible to someone interested.

Most people who eventually join ACA don't do so because a list of benefits convinced them. They participate because something sparked their curiosity—a conversation, a car they admired, a story they heard—and the next step was clear.

That next step matters. If someone enjoys an event or interaction but doesn't know how to get involved, the offer was incomplete. Not because the value wasn't there, but because the invitation wasn't easy to act on in the moment.

Good marketing isn't about pushing membership. It's about removing friction—making it natural and simple for interested people to take the next step while the interest is still fresh.

When we think this way, we begin to see that every interaction is part of delivery. The offer doesn't live only in meetings or newsletters. It lives wherever interest shows up.

When interest is high, are we making the "yes" obvious and effortless?



~Cheri Dotterer

Help Make the Swap Meet Happen

One of the things that makes our Swap Meet special isn't just the parts, the vendors, or the crowds—it's the members who show up early, lend a hand, and help create a welcoming experience for everyone involved. This is where ACA's offer becomes visible in action.

We will need volunteer help on Saturday, February 28, 2026, starting at 7:00 AM, to assist with setup for the meet and show and to help vendors find their assigned spaces. Coffee will be available in the morning, and we'll share some pizza for lunch as a thank-you.

On Sunday, March 1, we'll need early-morning help beginning at 5:00 AM to guide vendors to their spaces so everything is ready when the public arrives at 7:00 AM. We will also need members to help collect entrance fees as guests arrive. Because we'll be staffing two entry points, extra hands make a real difference.

Volunteering is one of the simplest ways to contribute to the success of the Swap Meet—and to be part of the experience that keeps people coming back year after year. If you're able to help, please call Jeff Dotterer.

And don't forget to bring your White Elephant items—they're always part of the fun.

Thank you for helping make the Swap Meet welcoming, organized, and successful for everyone.



~Lester Manwiller



From your Membership Chair

DUES REMINDER — 2026 ONTELAUNEE REGION

Your 2026 Ontelaunee Region dues are due before January 1, 2026. Please consider paying now so you don't forget. If I do not receive your renewal by **February 1, 2026**, you will be removed from the membership rolls.

Dues are **\$15 (Single), \$25 (Joint), and \$150 (Life Membership)** (Life Membership is available only if you are also a Life Member in National).

Consider adding your spouse as a member so they can enjoy the full benefits of the club.

Please complete the renewal form included with your newsletter and verify that we have your current address, phone number(s), and email so I can keep membership records up to date.

Also, we will no longer be issuing membership cards.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

We have four (4) free National memberships available. To be eligible, you must be a first-time applicant to National, and you must also join the Ontelaunee Region. This free membership is for one year only. For details, please call Phyllis Peters.

KEEP ME INFORMED

If someone is in the hospital or on the sick list, please let me know. If someone has passed away, please give me a call.

Thank you,
Phyllis Peters, Membership



Contact: Phyllis Peters
5265 Elgen Drive, Emmaus, PA 18049
610-965-9236 | phyllispeters@hotmail.com

January Birthdays

- 1 Ron Hutchins
- 19 Wayne Schaffer
- 25 Michael Horning
- 27 Florita Hobaugh
- 27 Carl Yackanicz
- 31 Matthew Manwiller
- 31 Michael Beers



January Anniversaries

- 12 Tom & Barbara McMichael
- 15 Raymond and Judith Fischer
- 17 Thomas and Carol Kidd
- 25 William Smith and Barbara Todd
- 31 Ron and Nancy Hutchins



I would like to sincerely thank the Ontelaunee Region for the generous and thoughtful gifts in appreciation of my year as President. The toolboxes were both practical and greatly appreciated, and the centerpiece for the First Lady was a kind and meaningful gesture that did not go unnoticed. Cheri and I are truly grateful for the support, fellowship, and shared passion for the hobby that made this year such a pleasure to serve.

~Jeff Dotterer



Fall Foliage Tour October 2025

Sunday, October 19th, was a beautiful autumn day. At 9:35 AM, 18 members of Ontelaunee Region AACA left the Greenwich-Lenhartsville Elementary School on Route 737 to begin the Fall Foliage Tour 2025. We traveled north in Berks County. We were not the only car club on a tour. In Lehigh County, on Kistler Valley Road, we passed a group of 10-12 sports cars (Mazdas???) traveling together. They were obviously on their own fall foliage tour.

Our tour traveled farther north in Lehigh County, along the south side of the Blue Mountains, on Mountain Road. This road eventually brought us to the Lehigh River. After crossing the river, we were now in Northampton County. Our first break was only 2 miles away. After a short break, we continued heading north in Carbon County, traveling up into the Blue Mountains. Here, the scenery was much more colorful.

The red, yellow, and gold colors of the autumn leaves were nestled amongst the green of the pine trees in the mountains. As we traveled, the colorful leaves "rained" down from above on our cars and the road. With the sun shining brightly, it was a glorious sight.

Once we were over the mountain, we continued traveling along the north side of the Blue Mountains in Monroe County—the beautiful autumn colors are in great abundance.

We took a hard right turn to go back over the Blue Mountains. As we climbed the mountain, the scenery was spectacular...tall trees, colorful leaves, and the green of the pine trees. While traveling up the hill, the road became gravel in Northampton County. For less than a mile, we traveled down a gravel, switchback road until we came to the base of the Blue Mountains.

It was lunchtime. We stopped at Doughboys Pizza Restaurant on Route 512 for a delicious

lunch. Our group added two more club members, bringing the total to 20. It was now time to travel to our final destination... Columcille Megalith Park.

Staying in Northampton County, we continued traveling north. We passed St. Peter's Lutheran Church and its monumental cemetery. Continuing through East Bangor, we arrived at our final destination, Columcille Megalith Park, after traveling 70 miles.

Columcille Megalith Park (The Stonehenge of Pennsylvania) features more than 90 stone settings strategically placed throughout more than 20 acres. The park with its walking trails was created between 1980-2005. Most of the stones were found in the park or in local slate quarries.

~Vas Hinkle



Columcille Megalith Park:
Ontelaunee Region AACA Members

The Very Things You Have Always Coveted, at an Astonishingly Low Price

New Chrysler "Silver Dome" high-compression engine	Compensating spring leaves	Rubber engine mountings	Bowl-type headlamps
Internal-expanding hydraulic four-wheel brakes	Specially designed manifold	Silchrome steel exhaust valves	Fedco numbering system
New narrow-profile radiator	Aluminum alloy pistons	Vacuum fuel system	Chrome steel transmission gears
"Air wing" fenders	Touch-action clutch	Eleven-gallon gasoline tank	New type spring shackles
Body impulse neutralizer	Forty-five horsepower	Chromium plating instead of nickel	Long, low bodies
Air cleaner	Waterproof distributor	Full-size balloon cord tires	Moulded edge running boards
Pressure lubrication	Powerful crankcase webbing	Automatic windshield wiper	Exceptional roominess
	Integral crankcase ventilation		Luxurious upholstery

Image from Ken Dages' archives about his 1928 Plymouth

The Roaring '20s continued

Continued from page 1

Transmission? 3-speed on the floor, mounted between you and your passenger. If you were too short to reach the pedals, you fastened a wooden block to the pedal because seats did not move.

Directional signals? Put your arm out of the window and point (straight out to turn left or over the roof to turn right). And if it rained, there was one vacuum-operated wiper in front of the driver that would slow or stop every time you accelerated.

Radio? How good could you sing?

And that was the "Roaring 20's!"



~Ken Dages

Christmas Party

On December 7, 2025, members of our car club and their families gathered for a festive Christmas luncheon at the Northern Valley Ambulance Association Social Hall (NOVA). With 47 members and guests in attendance, the hall was filled with laughter, conversation, and the warmth of the holiday season.

The highlight of the luncheon was a delightful performance by Scott Wagstaff, a talented ventriloquist whose humor and engaging characters entertained guests of all ages. His interactive show kept both children and adults laughing and added a special spark to the afternoon.

A much-anticipated moment followed with the arrival of Santa Claus, bringing excitement to the children and smiles to adults as well. Santa took time to visit with families, pose for photos, and spread holiday cheer, making the event especially memorable.

Beyond the entertainment, the luncheon offered a wonderful opportunity for members to reconnect, welcome newer families, and enjoy the fellowship that makes our club unique. While our shared love of automobiles brings us together, it is the friendships and sense of community that truly define our organization.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make this Christmas luncheon such a success. We appreciate the continued support of our members and their families and look forward to another year of enjoyable events, tours, and shared memories. Wishing all our members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Ontelaunee AACA Members gathered for the Annual Christmas Party at NOVA



Ontelaunee AACA Members' grandchildren watch Scott Wagstaff at the Annual Christmas Party at NOVA

Early Bird Tour

Date: *******FRIDAY, March 6, 2026** *****

Destination: *Eastern Museum of Motor Racing*,
100 Baltimore Road, York Spring, PA 17322 -
<https://www.emmr.org>.

We will travel on 4-lane highways where we will see one of the best collections of vintage racecars, motorcycles, and memorabilia, including Lynn Paxton's sprint car, midgets, Offenhauser engines, and bodywork by Hiram Hillegass.

Meet: Dietrich's Meats, 660 Old 22, Krumsville, PA 19534

Time: 8:00 AM

Leave: 8:30 AM for tour

Guided Tour of EMMR: 10 AM - 12:00 noon

Lunch 12:30 PM: Lyndon Diner, 1353 Kenneth Road, York 17404

Deadline: Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Classic Parts, Modern Searches Smarter Ways to Find Parts

Where can I find parts for my 1974 widget?

How many times have I been asked this question about almost every make and model made?

We all know we can't run down to the local mom-and-pop auto parts store and find these items on the shelf anymore. Well, like everything else these days, the store has moved online. There is often no other way to get some of this stuff.

Even annual treks to Hershey or Carlisle will only yield so much. It has become expensive to travel several states away and display a large number of parts, only to sell a little of them and then repack the rest to take home.

The former gold standard, *Hemmings Motor News*, is now too expensive to advertise in, with too little reach within the hobby. The solution, however, is no farther away than your nearest desktop computer.

There are many online sources where you can find classic car parts. This time, I am only showing one, and I plan to write multiple articles, each highlighting a different way to find what you need.

My standard first stop when looking for a particular part is eBay. It has been the number one place to list rare collectible parts for at least 20 years. It allows you, as a seller, to reach a worldwide audience—and as a buyer, you are searching that far as well.

Obviously, most of what you and I look for is U.S.-based, but I have actually bought and sold parts overseas.

The big trick here is learning what to ask the search engine. For example, if I ask the eBay search bar to show me a used distributor, it returns about 21,000 results. If I ask for a used Chevy distributor, the results drop to around 2,300. Asking for a 1970 Chevy 396 cubic inch distributor drops the number to about 50, a much more reasonable number to scan.

If I go one step further and search by the exact factory part number, *1111999*, the results drop to just three originals. Just like that, we have exactly what we're looking for.

I understand that you often won't know the exact part number, but this illustrates how helpful it is to be descriptive in your search. Instead of scrolling through 21,000 items—many of which may be for a truck or not even the brand you own—you can narrow the search dramatically by using the part type, model, and year of the car.

eBay is just one of many places to find parts online. In future articles, I'll tell you about other sources I've found and how to use them effectively.



~Jeff 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

2026 Events



See ontelauneeaca.com for details

Monthly Chapter 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



January

January 3: Chapter Meeting

February

February 7: Chapter Meeting

February 28: Leesport Swap Meet Setup

March

March 1: Leesport Swap Meet

March, FRIDAY 6: Early Bird Tour -
 Bob & Florita Hobaugh

March 7: Chapter Meeting

April

April 4: Chapter Meeting

May

May 2: Chapter Meeting

May 17: Apple Blossom Tour - Cheri Dotterer

June

June 7: Church Tour - Tim Hinkle



July

July 12: Picnic Tour - Neil & Audrey Merkel

July 20: DAF Pin Find, Macungie Memorial Park

July 27: DAF Stake Off, Macungie Memorial Park

July 31: Das Awkscht Fesch

August

August 1-2: Das Awkscht Fesch

August 16: Dog Days Tour

September

September 5: Chapter Meeting

September 11-13: Three-Day Tour - Mike & Donna
 Wolfe

October

October 3: Chapter Meeting

October 18: Fall Foliage Tour

November

November 7: Chapter Meeting

November 8: Applejack & Cider Tour

November 15: President's Banquet

December

December 6: Reorganization Meeting

December 13: Christmas Party

2025 National Events

February 5-7, 2026

Annual Convention / National Awards
Chantilly, Virginia

March 19-21, 2026

Guaynabo,
Suayabo, Puerto Rico S Puerto Rico Region

March 26-28, 2026

Winter Nationals
Cartersville, Georgia • Lake Allatoona Region

April 9-11, 2026

Southeastern Spring Nationals
Charlotte, N.C. • Hornets Nest Region

April 23-25, 2026

Annual Grand Nationals/Western Spring Nats
Las Vegas • Las Vegas Region

May 28-30, 2026

Eastern Spring Nationals
Indiana, Pennsylvania • Shannock Valley
Region

June 11-13, 2026

Southeastern Fall Nationals
Oak Ridge, Tennessee • Volunteer Region

June 15-19, 2026

Sentimental Tour
Mechanicsburg, Pa. • Pontiac/Oakland Region

July 23-25, 2026

Central Spring Nationals
Green Bay, Wisconsin

August 19-22, 2026

Annual Grand Nationals / Zenith Awards
Allentown, Pennsylvania • 717-534-1910

September 9-14, 2026

Founders Tour (1932-2001
Williamsburg, Virginia * Historic VA Peninsula
Region

September 20-26, 2026

Revival AAA Glidden Tour® (Pre-1943)
Dover, Delaware

October 6-9, 2026

Eastern Fall Nationals
Hershey, Pennsylvania • Hershey Region



2025 Events in Eastern PA

January 2-3: New Year's At the Grove,
Maplegrove Raceway

January 9-11: DragFest, Lebanon Expo
Center

January 10-11: Indoor Drag Racing Showcase
and Custom Car Show, 80 Rocherty Rd,
Lebanon, PA

January 16-18: Automania, Allentown
Fairgrounds

January 17: Urban Werks Cars & Coffee



January 23-24: Motorsports Trade Show,
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA

January 24: Daily Driver Races, Maplegrove
Raceway

January 29-Feb 1: PA Auto Show, Farm
Show Complex

January 31-February 8: Philadelphia Auto
Show



ONTELAUNEE REGION A. A. C. A. Membership Application/Renewal



Please complete all requested information and return this form, along with the appropriate payment, to the MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON.

Make checks payable to: **ONTELAUNEE Region AACA**

Name _____ New Member Renewal

Spouse _____ Date _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Plus 4 _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ | Spouse _____

Email _____ | Spouse _____

Check here to receive the newsletter via email | Mail (circle) Check here to receive the newsletter via email | Mail (circle)

Occupation _____ | Spouse _____

Birthday _____ | Spouse _____

Anniversary _____

AACA National # _____ Plus I IJ J JJ L LJ 5 5J
Circle all that apply

AACA National date paid _____

Antique Car Makes and Models _____

Who referred you to Ontealunee AACA _____

Membership Fees

Single \$15.00

Joint \$25.00

Life \$150.00

(Must also hold Life Membership in National AACA.)



Phyllis Peters,
Membership Chairperson
5265 Elgen Drive
Emmaus, PA 18049-2509
(610-965-9236)

Cost Members including immediate family: \$25, 6-12 \$5, Under 6 Free

Tour Registration Forms

Checks Payable to Ontelaunee Region 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

Lukans 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 activites

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: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Check #: _____

Mail form to: Mike & Donna Wolfe

8204 Holbens Valley Road, New Tripoli, PA 18066 | 610-298-8001

Early Bird Tour

FRIDAY, March 6, 2026

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2026

Members' Names: (\$25) _____

Non-Members' Names: (\$25) _____

Children 6-12: (\$5) _____ Children under 6: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Check #: _____

Mail form to: Bob & Florita Hobaugh

| Bob 610-360-6537

710 East Walnut Street, Kutztown, PA 19530

| Florita 610-360-6538

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

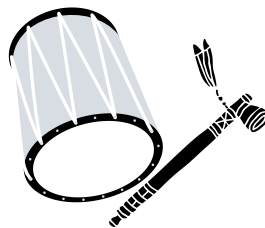
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO :



Ontelannee Region

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



January
January 3: Chapter Meeting

Tin 'n Brass

Antique Automobile Club of America