



# THE MOTO METER



CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA REGION, ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

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**LOVED BY SOME, CUSSED BY OTHERS,  
READ BY EVERYBODY  
December 2021**



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## President's Message

Hi Once Again To All You Great Ole Car People In The CR Area! November has been another Great Month for OUR Club! We started out with trip to the Iowa Antique Car Museum in Iowa City. We had several guides to talk about special cars and displays and answer questions. For me it is always great to see so many nice cars in a neat location where you can walk around them & see them at your own speed. Some of the Model A Club joined us and also enjoyed seeing the cars & displays. I thought it went so well that I hope to make it an annual event if you folks agree? We had another great meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> where we elected officers & for some reason, I don't quite understand, you all decided that you could put up with me for another Year? On the 13<sup>th</sup> we had our fall get together at the McBride Country Club & had one of the best meals you can imagine (the pork chop was one of the best I can remember)! Thanks to you Loren for putting it together for the club! I hope everyone had a Wonderful Thanksgiving & got to spend some quality time with family & friends! For My story this month I would like to introduce you to one of my greatest cars - my '36 Railton. Railtons were custom built cars built in England, utilizing modified Hudson 8 chassis. My 2 pass Boattailed Speedster was the only such car special ordered out of the 1,600 built from early 30s through late 40s. My car was purchased from a London vintage car dealer in the late 60s because the dealer wanted to send that Dam Yankee Contraption out of the country. The car was brought to the US on the Queen E 1 & driven to ILL to become part of a private car collection. She was driven a little, but not enough to maintain it as a dependable user. Next in the 70s, the collection moved to Cedar Rapids & was placed in a new building in the woods (remember woods)! Along come the early 80s and a giant snow storm that because of the wind disturbance of the woods sifted a large amount of snow onto the roof of the building! In the middle of the night the roof collapsed on top of the whole collection of 20 plus cars! I heard of the disaster & offered to help with the salvage of the collection. When I first saw the cars the snow hadn't melted yet & the trusses & roof were covering everything & was shocked to see so many really nice cars in such a disaster. The owner could not deal with it so he donated the collection to North Western who only interested in what money they could realize decided to sell them as is at an auction. I had fallen in love with that beautiful custom sports car & didn't even realize how special it was! Long Story – Short I could not resist the chance so I went to the auction & Purchased the Railton. Just the beginning of the Railton Adventure I'll continue to tell you about later! Thanks For Listening – Your President John L Williams

## JON'S CORNER

- 1. In what year did Willys provide the first Jeeps to the US Government?**
- 2 What was the last year Ford used gas headlights on their Model T?**
- 3. In what year & month were radio telephones put into service in motor vehicles?**

**Answers Page 7**

## November 9, 2021 CEDAR RAPIDS REGION AACA MEETING

The November meeting was held at the Shriners Club in Hiawatha.

Meeting was called to order by president John Williams. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**VISITORS:** Eric Weiler from Kirkwood

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES:** None

Bruce Platteter a former member of our club was moved to a memory ward in Iowa City.

**SPEAKER:** Jon Reynolds told us about his college days at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon. He was impressed by Neil Rohlena's granddaughter Lindsey on our CRRAACA trip to Mt Pleasant. He found out that Renee (Neil's daughter) and both of her daughters Lindsey and Amber are attending and did attend Cornell College. He presented a book written by one of his Professors named 'I Am The Fox' by Winifred Van Etten as well as another book named 'The Lonely Crowd' by David Reisman to Renee for Lindsey.

Eric Weiler from Kirkwood Community College thanked us for our Scholarship donations since 2008 and told us about the new classroom area they now have in an area that was previously owned by Midland Forge. He also invited us to visit and maybe even have a meeting there one day.

**SECRETARIES REPORT:** Motion to approve the October 12th minutes as printed in the Moto Meter was moved by Judy Ortiz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Frank Reynolds.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Report read by Sylvia Cople. Motion to approve was made by Carl Ohrt and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sherry Melvin.

**FALL BANQUET:** Loren Huffaker reported on us going to Lake McBride Golf Course for our banquet. He has 30 members and friends signed up. If anyone still wants to be added tonight he can add them to the list. The banquet is Saturday, November 13.

**TOURS AND ACTIVITIES:** The tour to Coralville was discussed and all who attended were very pleased with the day. It didn't work out to go to Dale Lynch's collection. Neil reported that the Christmas lights tour will be going to a display north of Center Point on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dan Ortiz reported that there are quite a few members that have not paid their membership dues yet. They can pay at the banquet on Saturday but he needs all to pay before December 1. He has to have everything ready and sent to National before December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Don't forget Pete & Pat Bischoff are still planning to have the Christmas Party on December 14<sup>th</sup> (our regular meeting night). Officers were voted on and are President: John Williams, Vice President: Loren Huffaker, Secretary: Sharon Schminke, Treasurer: Sylvia Cople, Board Members: Carl Ohrt & Neil Rohlena. Sherry Melvin & Judy Ortiz volunteered to audit the Treasurer's books.

**OTHER:** There are sign up sheets for 2022 treats & Ladies Luncheon and letters from the Kirkwood Scholarship recipients on the table to read.

**BUY SELL & TRADE:** Was conducted by John Williams.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jack Harville and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb Miller..

Treats were served by Dean and Joan Kiefer.

Please have your articles for the Moto Meter to Jane or Sylvia by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. .

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Schminke Secretary

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

## 2021-2022 CEDAR RAPIDS REGIONAL CALENDAR



Christmas lights tour - Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>

Leave from Walmart on Blairs Ferry Road NE at 4:30 pm.

Going to light display north of Center Point.

Stopping at Culver's after tour for supper.

### Upcoming Events December 2021

**AACA Club meeting** Dec. 14th at 5:30 PM - eat at 6:00 PM. Program: Christmas Party. Bring a vegetable or salad & a dessert along with table service. Meat & drinks furnished.

**Christmas Lights Tour** Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> -leave at 4:30 PM from Walmart on Blairs Ferry Road NE/CR

**Board Meeting** Dec. 21 at 6PM at Perkins-Collins Rd/CR

**Ladies Luncheon** Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 AM at Olive Garden. Bring a gift to exchange.

### Upcoming Events January 2022

**AACA Club meeting** Jan. 11th at 7:00 PM

**Board Meeting** Jan. 18th at 6PM at Leonardo's-2228 16<sup>th</sup> Ave SW/CR

**Ladies Luncheon** Jan. 19th at 11:30 AM at Irish Democrat-3207 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SE/CR

### Treat Schedule

**December 14th** Pete & Pat Bischoff

**January 11th** Virgil & Sharon Schminke, Carl Ohrt

**February 8th** Sherry, Sue, & Clyde Melvin

## Club Member Spotlight on Jim & Ruth Smith

Q: How old were you when you got your first car and what was it?

A: 19 – 1957 Mercury 2 dr hardtop

Q: What cars do you own?

A: 1928 Model A Spt Cpe; 1929 Model A Tudor; 1956 Chev 2 dr hardtop

Q: Which is your favorite car?

A: Jim – 1928 Spt Cpe; Ruth – 1956 Chev

Q: How & where did you get your car-is there an interesting story about how you acquired it?

A: Bought 56 Chev from Bill Barker because I had 56 convertible same color before Ruth & I got married.

Q: What kind of condition was it in-did you have to do much work on it?

A: 56 Chev same as it is today except I replaced the Z65 with a 350 crate engine

Q: What has been the most memorable/interesting thing or trip you've gone on with an antique car?

A: Trip to National MAFCA in Nashville, Tenn. In 1976

Q: Have you entered your car in any shows & if so, did you win any awards/trophies?

A: 1929 Tudor in MARC National show-1977 in Cedar Rapids. 6<sup>th</sup> place trophy

Q: How long have you been an AACA member?

A: 25 years

Q: What do you like best about being a member of the AACA?

A: Tours (like the Twin Rivers) & the antique/classic car people

Q: Other than AACA have you joined any other car clubs & if so, which ones?

A: MARC & MAFCA Nation Clubs since 1971 & Hawk A Model A Ford Club

Q: What other collections/hobbies do you have besides antique cars?

A: Fishing, Deer & Pheasant hunting, Land Conservation & Wildlife Habitat, Farm land improvement projects, Gardening

Spotlight on Jim & Ruth Smith cont'd.



**\*\* Important - Dues Reminder \*\***

**Dues for 2022 are due on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - send to Dan Ortz asap as he needs to send to National by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>. See insert page.**

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## JOKE OF THE MONTH

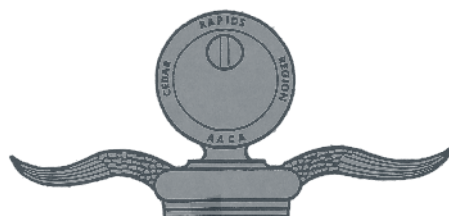
Mom & Dad has just given their teenage daughter family car privileges. The following Saturday she was allowed to take the car to a party and in addition to the usual don't be home too late she was told not to drink & drive. On Saturday night she stayed away from alcohol, but had lots of fun anyway- Lots of fun The next morning her father went out to get the newspaper and came back into the house frowning. At 11:30 AM the girl sleepily walked into the kitchen and her father asked her "Sweetheart, what time did you get in last night?" "Not too late Dad" she replied, perhaps a tad nervously. Her father said "Then my precious one, I shall certainly have a talk with the paperboy about not placing my morning paper under the tire of the car."

## JON'S CORNER ANSWERS

1. The Willys Company provided Jeeps for the first time in 1941.
2. The last year Ford used gas lights for the Model T was 1914.
3. Vehicle radio telephones were put into service in September of 1946.



The Moto Meter  
Cedar Rapids Region AACA  
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**December Moto Meter**