



THE MOTO METER



CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA REGION, ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

WEBSITE: CEDARRAPIDSREGIONAACA.COM

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**LOVED BY SOME, CUSSED BY OTHERS,
READ BY EVERYBODY
March 2026**



2026 Regional Board Members

President:

Jack Harville 319-270-6042
Jtharville@gmail.com

Vice President:

Loren Huffaker 641-750-7868
loren99@q.com

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Sharon Schminke 319-472-4372

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Directors:

Joan Auterman 319-846-8048
Neil Rohlena 319-350-7457
Larry Yoder 319-350-4339
Jon Reynolds 319-389-4573
John Williams 319-573-8629

Editor:

Sylvia Copler 319-377-3772
sicopler68@gmail.com

Membership:

Dan Ortz 319-366-3142
14dannyo@gmail.com

Presidents Message March 2026

March is the beginning of an exciting and engaging year for our region, as the weather becomes warmer, we can look forward to opportunities for Tours, our Teddy Bear Auction with proceeds going to Charitable Organizations, and our Spring Banquet. Then to top that off, we are preparing for our second year of returning to Hawkeye Downs with our 48th Annual Swap Meet. I look forward to seeing many of you supporting these great events.

This year's Swap Meet will give us the feedback we need to determine if it's financially an event we can sustain. We are on Hawkeye Downs 2027 Calendar for our 49th Swap Meet in May '27. Being on their 2027 Calendar only means we are penciled in for May and not committed until we see how things go for this year.

I just wanted to thank John Williams for locking up for me after the February, 9th meeting. I had to leave right after the meeting because I was scheduled to have Cataract surgery the next morning, so it was nothing to eat after 8:00 PM and started with eye drops in my left eye. On Tuesday the 24th, I will have the Cataract done in my right eye. I'm sure many of you have had this done and I just hope, "I Can See Clearly Now."

Look forward to seeing you all in March.

2026 Will be a Great Year

Jack Harville

President

JON'S CORNER

- 1. What was the first official White House car?**
- 2. What was the first engine oil filter?**
- 3. What was the first car equipped with a replaceable oil filter cartridge?**

Answers on page 7

February 9th 2026 CEDAR RAPIDS REGION AACA MEETING

The February meeting was held at the Hiawatha Community Center Meeting called to order by President Jack Harville. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VISITORS: None

BIRTHDAYS: Clyde Melvin

ANNIVERSARIES: None reported

ILLNESSES: Jon Reynolds had infected Gall Bladder surgery, Martha Travis had a Pacemaker implanted and Linda Yoder will have shoulder surgery.

DEATHS: Dick Semelroths' sister

NEW MEMBERS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

SECRETARIES REPORT: Motion to approve the January 12th minutes as printed in the Moto Meter was moved by Sue Melvin and 2nd by Judy Ortz

TREASURERS REPORT: Report read by Sylvia Copley. Motion to approve by Clyde Melvin and 2nd by Larry Yoder.

TOURS AND ACTIVITIES: Jack read a list from Neil of places that we will visit on the Twin Rivers Tour which will be June 1-5. We will be touring in the Winterset area. We will be staying at the Covered Bridge Inn. There will be a sign up sheet in future newsletters.

SPRING BANQUET: Loren reported that the Spring Banquet will be May 30th at 12:00 PM. This is at the Amish farm near Kalona and will include Salisbury Steak, Chicken, drinks and all the dinner items. The price is \$25.00 and includes the tip.

SWAP MEET: We had a meeting before our regular AACA meeting. We went over the different areas and discussed any needs we might have, like signs and banners bringing attention to the day. Sharon had a picture of a worker's vest that the club could purchase and have our name put on them, so we are recognizable to everyone in case anyone has questions. We decided to have our name on them only so they can be used at any event we are attending or hosting. The Swap meet invitations to four local clubs have been sent out. These will be free for them and include 2 tables and 2 chairs per booth. The sign up letters were also mailed out.

OTHER: Jack is asking all of the Board members and anyone else that might have an idea for a speaker to let us know. It adds interest to a meeting. He hopes each Board member will come up with a speaker.

Jack would like a Photographer to take pictures of the Swap Meet and other events. Their film and processing will be reimbursed. Rich Mishler volunteered. Thank you.

BUY SELL & TRADE: Was conducted by Clyde Melvin

Motion to adjourn made by Sherry Melvin and 2nd by Sue Melvin

Treats were provided by John & Agnes Williams

Please have your articles to Sylvia by the 10th for the Moto Meter

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Schminke Secretary

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

2026 CEDAR RAPIDS REGIONAL CALENDAR

Upcoming Events March 2026

Mar. 9th AACA Swap Meet Meeting at 6:00 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha.

Mar. 9th AACA Club Meeting at 7:00 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha.

Mar. 16th AACA Board Meeting at 6:00 pm at Perkins on Collins Rd/CR

Mar. 18th AACA Friendship Luncheon at 11:30 at Mercury Diner-1201 3rd St SE/CR (formerly Chrome Horse)

Upcoming Events April 2026

**Apr. 11th AACA Spring Banquet at 12:00 pm at Miller Farm-5708 Sharon Center Rd SW/Kalona
See insert for registration**

Apr. 13th AACA Swap Meet Meeting at 6:00 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha.

Apr. 13th AACA Club Meeting plus Teddy Bear Auction at 7:00 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha

Apr. 20th AACA Board Meeting at 6:00 pm at Perkins on Collins Rd/CR

Apr. 22nd AACA Friendship Luncheon at 11:30 at Golden Apple-2811 Wiley Blvd SW/CR

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Got pulled over today for speeding. I turned the car off & put my hands on the wheel. Officer came up and asked if he had anything to worry about.

“Yes, I have a pistol between my seats, a hatchet in the back seat, and a dead body in the trunk.” He backed off and called for backup. Soon I was out of the car & had cuffs put on me and shoved in the back of a patrol car. As the officers went through my car the head honcho came over & started talking to me.

“Son, I thought you said you had a gun between your front seats, a hatchet in the back, & a dead body in the trunk. We didn’t find any such thing in your car.

“Yes officer and I’ll bet the SOB told you I was speeding too

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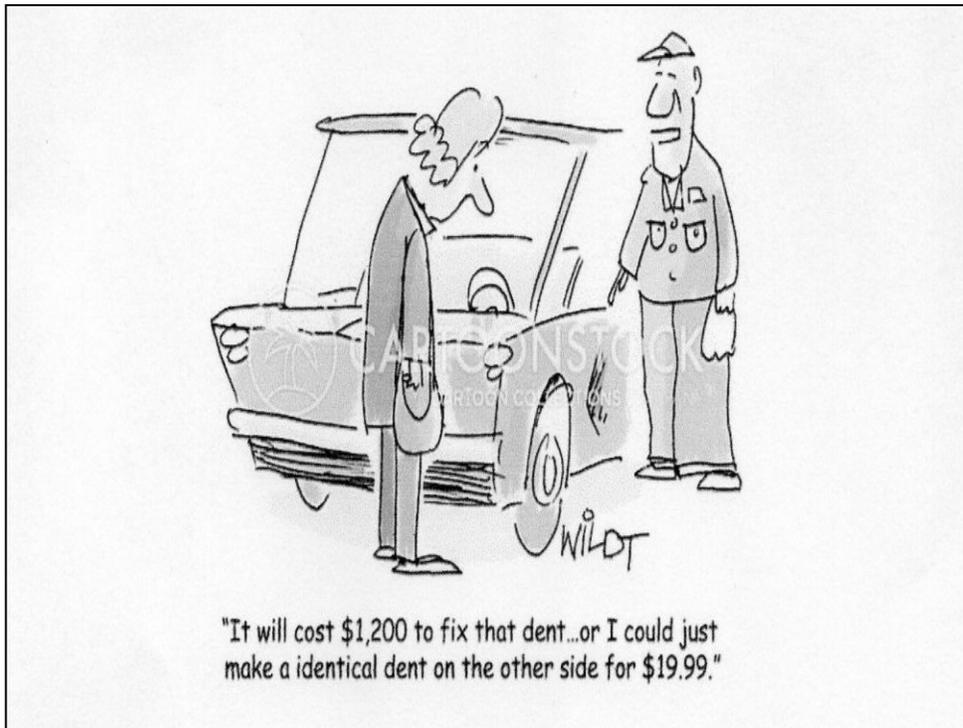
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Motor Car Man Adventures Mar 2026

Hi Again To All You Ole Car & Vehicle Lovers In The Area! Time Flys & I guess it is time for another Tale? This is a story about one of Agnes's cars she wanted me to tell you about! When She got back from Norway she needed to replace the Baby Austin she sold to her cousin so she went shopping for a used car as she was the only driver at home. Her favorite used car guy said he had just the car she needed? It turned out to be a late 50s Renault 8 that ran like a top! It was a rear engine 4 door so she could haul the gang on Pub nights in the area! Lets jump ahead to 73 when I decided to visit her in Galashiels, but She was getting used to Adventure & wasn't sure I was going to visit so she & some of her girlfriends had booked a holiday to Spain for some beach & wine time! When I arrived they were just getting ready to leave for a week & she did not know what to do with Me? Since no one else used her car she said I could borrow Maurice as She had named her French baby! I had my small tent & sleeping bag so I could stay about anyplace I could set up. I drove down to visit my friends in Dumprise to look at any nice cars they might have stumbled into. One of the guys had a neat 3 liter early 20s Bentley that had an ugly replacement body that needed replacement with a repro VanDenPla touring body like could have used originally. I should have purchased it but sadly I passed! He had been a WW2 pilot & also had some nice airplanes. He had a couple of the only mono wing trainers left in the UK that could have been made airworthy. Oh well I was only interested in open cockpit biplane trainers! One of the other guys always had cars to look at. Over a couple of years I had bought My 49 Daimler, a Morris 8 sliding roof saloon and a nice little Austi 10-that looks like a '32 Ford roadster - all neat projects! Maurice (Agnes named after Maurice Chavalier her favorite French actor!) is also the car that Ted L & had borrowed after Agnes & I were married in '74 to go antiquing to Wales. Ted couldn't make it to the wedding in July but joined us after my family had gone back home to the US. Agnes was busy packing to go back to Iowa with me so she was glad to have us out of her hair. Agnes & I were buying antiques to fill a 20' container to ship to Iowa to sell in our spare time to fund our trips back to Scotland! I knew there were plenty of Antique shops in Schrewsbury and I had a cousin to stay with there so off we went! After a nice days drive we arrived in time to go to our favorite Pub The Beacon right down the road from my cousins. The next day we went shopping for shipping goods that the dealers sold cheap because they were not doing well at home. One dealer was especially helpful because I bought lots things she was having problems moving! One of the things I fell in love with was grandfather clocks. I had fitted a roof rack to Maurice's roof, but I don't think Agnes was prepared for us to tie 2 grandfather clock cases to that rack. We did manage to get the clock tops & movements into the back seat, but we were a real spectacle going down the motorway with that tiny car loaded to the gills?? We were lucky there was no rain on the way back to Galashiels or we would have been in REAL TROUBLE! Needless to say Agnes was not real pleased with us! Adventures like these always make a vacation more interesting!!!

Thanks For Listening Again! John L Williams



In updating the club website we are needing photos of members cars. If you would be willing to have your car shown on the website please email your photo in jpeg format to Sylvia at sicopler68@gmail.com or mail your photo to her at 1789 County Home Road, Marion, Ia 52302.

Jon's Corner Answers

1. The White Steamer was the first White House car.
2. The first car engine oil filter was a Purolator.
3. A Chrysler was the first car to use an engine oil filter.

TREAT SCHEDULE

Mar. - Dick & Pat Semelroth

Apr. - Jack & Kathi Harville

The Moto Meter
Cedar Rapids Region AACA
Sylvia Copler
1789 County Home Road
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March 2026 Moto Meter

2026 Twin Rivers Tour

June 1 to June 5, 2026

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You are responsible for making your own reservations. Our block of rooms are released Mon. May 5 to the public.

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