



# 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  
April 2026



## 2026 Regional Board Members

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Jtharville@gmail.com

### Vice President:

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loren99@q.com

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### Editor:

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

### Membership:

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

## President's Message April 2026

### Swap Meet Meeting ----- New time

The Swap Meet Meeting for **April** will be held on the same night as the club meeting, **April 13, starting at 6:30 pm** before the regular club meeting at 7 pm. Please plan to attend.

As we get closer to the Swap Meet there are several items to check and recheck, in all areas.

Board meeting was pushed back one week due to the snow storm; we met the following week to blue skies. We cleaned up some loose ends and discussed where the proceeds from the Teddy Bear Action might go. This item will further discussed after we find out how much money is raised.

**Swap Meet help**, if you have volunteered to help, I personally THANK YOU. This is a huge undertaking and if you have not signed up to help there is still time and please do so. Just saying I'll try to or I'll see makes planning on volunteers a huge problem. This is an event that happens only once a year, so please let the lead people that have dedicated hours know if you can help.

### Teddy Bear Auction

The **Teddy Bear Auction** is one of the best events of the year for our club and please bring something fun, different or silly to be auctioned, automotive, household, old repair manuals to cars you don't own anymore. It has not been confirmed to me as I write this but, there is a chance there may be some bake goods up for auction. Ready for sweet rolls or Kolaches any one??? Yummy, Yummy!!

This year we have a new Auctioneer: **John Williams** has offered his talent.

Last year's money was divided between Critter Crusaders and Miracles in Motion. We will be looking to spread the wealth to new charities. Please plan to attend.

*This Will Be a GREAT YEAR!*

President  
Jack Harville

## JON'S CORNER

- 1. What did drivers use to steer vehicles before the steering wheel?**
- 2. What year was the earliest use of the steering wheel?**
- 3. When was the first pickup truck invented?**

**Answers on page 7**

March 9th 2026 CEDAR RAPIDS REGION AACA MEETING

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

**BIRTHDAYS:** None

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Lavern & Martha Travis

**ILLNESSES:** Sue Melvin had Gall Bladder surgery

**DEATHS:** None reported

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Thank you from Dick Semelroth for his sister's memorial

**SECRETARIES REPORT:** Motion to approve the February 10<sup>th</sup> minutes as printed in the Moto Meter was moved by Dan Ortz and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judy Ortz

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Report read by Sylvia Copler. Motion to approve by Sherry Melvin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Staab.

**TOURS AND ACTIVITIES:** Neil reported 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. Neil had sign up sheets for us. Neil also told us that we can meet at Perkins on 33<sup>rd</sup> to tour before the Spring Banquet April 11<sup>th</sup> in Kalona. He will have some places to see before the Banquet and lead us to the Amish farm. Meet at Perkins at 10:00 AM

**SPRING BANQUET:** Loren reported that the Spring Banquet will be April 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM. This is at the Amish farm near Kalona and will include Salsbury Steak, Chicken, drinks and all the dinner items. The price is \$25.00 and includes the tip. The date of the banquet needed to be changed because they had a conflict for the May date that was announced last month. Your reservations need to be in before April 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is a sign up sheet in your March newsletter.

**SWAP MEET:** We had a meeting before our regular meeting to make sure things are coming along with the preparations. Judy Ortz said she still needs more help at the Vendor booth. Please let her know if you can help. She needs help for Friday and very early Saturday because the Vendors can check in Friday between 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM Friday and before 7:00 on Saturday morning. Jack reminded the members that he would like us to bring our AACA magazines to the Club Booth to hand out at the Swap Meet. Last year the pile of AACA magazines we had were gone quickly and it is a way to let the people know about our National and Local Club. Jack reminded us that it is 68 days until the Swap Meet.

**OTHER:** Sharon reported that it was brought to her attention that it would be nice for us to have name tags that we wear to help the new members with names for the current members. We will look into this but any of the current members that have their past name tags are encouraged to wear them.

Dan Ortz brought it to our attention that on page 81 of the January/February AACA magazine that we can sign up for the Mileage Award Program recognizing that we drive our vintage vehicles during the year. He was encouraging us to check into it.

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

Motion to adjourn made by Sherry Melvin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue Melvin

Treats were provided by Josh Severt

Please have your articles to Sylvia by the 10<sup>th</sup> for the Moto Meter

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Schminke Secretary

# **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

## **2026 CEDAR RAPIDS REGIONAL CALENDAR**

### **Upcoming Events April 2026**

**Apr. 11<sup>th</sup> AACA Banquet at 12:00 pm at Miller Farm-5708 Sharon Center Rd SW/Kalona  
Reg. Deadline Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup>-Reg. Form was in Mar. Moto Meter. For those that want to caravan Neil will lead us leaving Perkins on 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW at 10 AM & making some stops on the way.**

**Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> AACA Swap Meet Meeting at 6:30 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha.**

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

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

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

### **Upcoming Events May2026**

**May 11<sup>th</sup> AACA Club Meeting at 7:00 pm at Hiawatha Community Center-101 Emmons St in Hiawatha**

**May 16<sup>th</sup> AACA Swap Meet 7am - 2pm at Hawkeye Downs**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> AACA Board Meeting at 6:00 pm at Perkins on Collins Rd/CR**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> AACA Friendship Luncheon at 11:30 at Starlite-3300 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NE/CR**

### **JOKE OF THE MONTH**

A wealthy land owner stopped at the gas station to fill up his truck. While waiting for the attendant to fill the tank he wanted to impress on him how much land he owned, so he said, I have a ranch just west of here and it takes me 3 days to drive from one end to the other. The attendant looked at him and said "I used to own a truck like that"!

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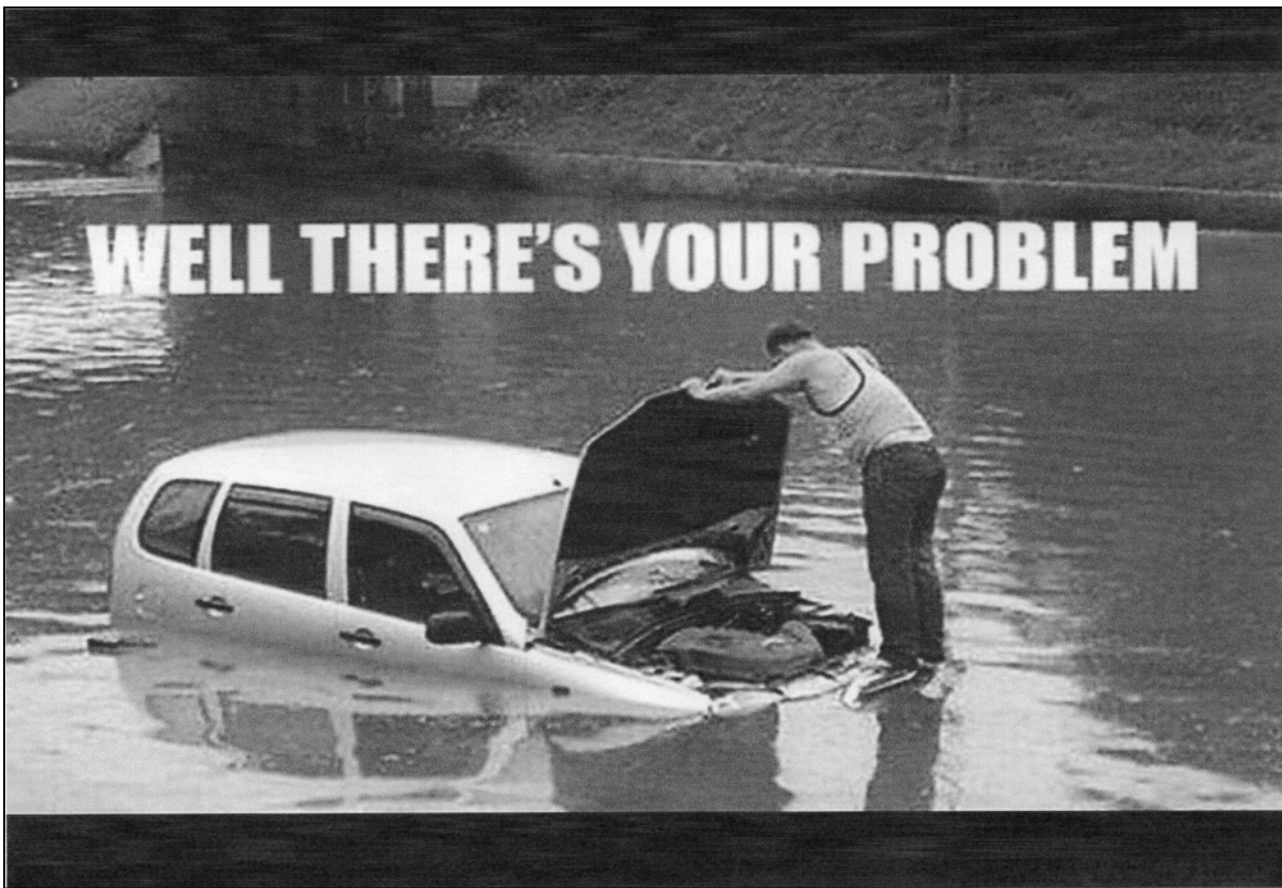
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## Motor Car Man Adventures #14 April 2026

Hi Again to some Of My Ole Car Friends in the Area! I've been trying to think of some tale I have not covered and I think I will relate some of My Africa adventures with British Land Rovers! I think you know that my friend Ted & I were living in a VW Camper traveling around Europe. As winter hit us in Jan '72 we got tired of freezing in our unheated camper and even London was not that comfortable even under the reindeer skin I had purchased in Lapland N Sweden! One night out for a pint we heard about a meeting to find out about joining a safari to Africa. We went to the meeting and listened to stories about overlanding across Africa from north to west & than all across central Africa to east Africa & Mount Kilimanjaro! Let me just say that it did not take TOO much convincing as there was a trip leaving in 2 weeks and they had room for us! We had lots to do, but they gave us a list & promised to help us be ready! It took many days to get all the visas that were required to enter every country (no open borders anyplace) and all the camping equipment that was required for us! We were each given 1 army duffel bag & told that we could bring anything that would fit in that 1 bag! When we met in London to load is the first time we saw the Land Rovers We would call home for the next couple of months. There were 29 of us to fit into 4 long wheel base 5 door LRovers. We tossed our duffels on to one of the large luggage racks & climbed aboard to start our great adventure. There was room for 2 in front 3 in the middle & 2 on each side on the back bench seats by the sides! The 29 of us fit with plenty of room to spare if you didn't mind being cozy? Down the road we went bouncing along on our way to cross channel ferry headed to France!

That first cold night camping in France was a real education for those who had never camped out in the real outdoors! We drove across France and caught another Ferry in Italy to take us over the Mediterranean to Tunisia where our true African Adventure would start! The beach was where I started to learn about what those wonderful Land Rovers could & could not do! Of course some of the drivers of which I was not on the list yet decided that they should play around in the soft sand & try some drag racing! All good fun until one of the idiots not only tore a gear out of a transmission but also broke a rear axle! We had a very competent LR mechanic with us but I was the main gear head that was used to actually work on heavy mechanical repairs!! We did manage to get the tranny out and the rear end apart there on the beach! Lucky for us there was a local junk yard that had many LR parts because they break so often I'm told? What a major pain that was tearing apart that heavy old tranny than rebuilding it not to mention getting it back in to that rotten ole L Rover! The rear end was just as bad because we did not have any of the proper tools to set it up accurately as it should have been done! What ever we did must have been damn close because we did not have any more trouble with either repair on the whole rest of the trip! Well that's a start & there is more to follow!

Thanks For Listening Again John L Williams



We all have that one friend who has a flare for the obvious!

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](mailto:sicopler68@gmail.com) or mail your photo to her at 1789 County Home Road, Marion, Ia 52302.

### **Jon's Corner Answers**

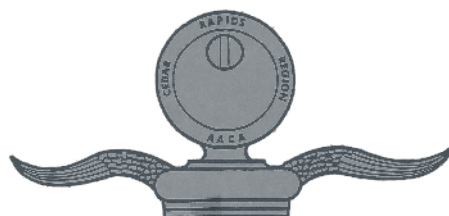
1. A tiller
2. 1894
3. 1896

### **TREAT SCHEDULE**

Apr. - Jack & Kathi Harville

May -

The Moto Meter  
Cedar Rapids Region AACA  
Sylvia Copley  
1789 County Home Road  
Marion, Iowa 52302



**April 2026 Moto Meter Meter**

# 2026 Twin Rivers Tour

June 1 to June 5, 2026

All rooms are reserved under AACA and Neil Rohlena

You are responsible for making your own reservations. Our block of rooms are released Mon. May 4 to the public.

June 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 Covered Bridge Inn IA. \$100.00 + Tax (515) 462-4888

Hickory Park Barbeque

Iowa Arboretum

Woodward Hardware Museum

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Winterset Park Covered Bridge & Maze

John Wayne Birthplace Museum

Pepper Harrow Flower Farm

R S Welding

Much More!!

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## 2026 Twin Rivers Tour Registration

**Registration Deadline is Monday May 4**

Names of those touring \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Make of car \_\_\_\_\_

Mon. June 1 – Mathew Edel Blacksmith Shop \$5.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Tue. June 1 – Woodward Hardware Museum. \$5.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Tue. June 2 – Rusty Star Alpaca Farm \$5.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Tue. June 3 – Quilt Museum \$10.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Tue. June 4 – John Wayne Museum & Birthplace \$15.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

This registration and check made out to CRRAACA **MUST be to** Neil Rohlena, 7309 Selzer Rd., Fairfax, Iowa, 52228 by deadline of **Monday May 4.**

Insert