

The Gauge

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN OHIO CHAPTER
OF THE ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA
southernohiochapteraaca.com



APRIL 2026 EDITION

APRIL IS BRING A FRIEND MONTH

SATURDAY
APRIL 25
2026



- ✓ Meet at McDonald's in Waynesville, Ohio, located at 355 S. Main Street at 9:00 AM and Depart Promptly at 9:30 AM
- ✓ Private Tour of the USS Cincinnati Memorial Pavilion Before it Opens to the Public
- ✓ Marion's Piazza for Lunch
- ✓ Historic Lebanon, Ohio, for Shopping and Ice Cream Stop



HOSTED BY KEN AND DEBBY KOONTZ
AND LINDA MUTH

RSVP to Linda Muth at
lindamuth1@outlook.com or
513.708.1143 By April 15, 2026

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RSVP DEADLINE FOR OHIO REGION SPRING TOUR IS APRIL 10TH **ONLY 12 RESERVATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED**

The Southern Ohio Chapter is hosting the Ohio Region Spring Tour on May 8-10, 2026. Jeff and Ann Smith and Bill and Marita Montgomery are the chairs of the weekend. **The hotel room deadline is April 10, 2026, and the tour reservation deadline is April 24, 2026, for our club members.** See the next two pages for the hotel information the registration form. If you are willing to volunteer to help out with the tour, contact Jeff smith at 513.907.4755 or 2creeksjeff@gmail.com.



Photos submitted by Jeff Smith and Tim Fink

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Fellow Car Enthusiasts,

Spring has sprung and we are all anxious to get our cars back on the road. Many members brought their cars out to our first driving day this past Saturday to visit the WACO Air museum in Troy, Ohio. Hope to see even more cars out next month for our April event for our private tour of the USS Cincinnati Peace Memorial. The best thing is we have every month filled with an event for 2026 and I am working on a bonus tour for June along with our Dayton Dragons baseball outing later in the month of June.

I really need your help and participation with the upcoming Ohio Region Tour that the Southern Ohio Chapter is hosting out of Fairborn, Ohio. The registration is in the newsletter, but we will need help with baskets or donations for the hospitality room. We will also need help with parking at some of our stops and hope you can assist if someone comes up and asks for a hand. The date is May 8-10, and **we are emphasizing that the hotel block is closing on April 10, 2026, and that is a HARD deadline so get your hotel booked today at the DoubleTree in Fairborn, Ohio.** All the details and registration forms are on the next two pages. If you are not planning on staying at the hotel, but want to join us on Friday or Saturday, just get your registration filled out and sent to Jackie Amick, SOC VP. The official deadline is April 10, 2026, but we are extending it to April 24th for Southern Ohio Members who do not need the hotel.

Lastly, don't forget this is Swap meet season too, I have been to swap meets 4 out of the last 5 weeks. There is a Ford Spring meet this Saturday, April 4th in Columbus at the Expo Center. A Swap meet car show April 18th at the Clermont County Fairgrounds. A Buick GS swap meet April 29-May 2nd in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Lastly in May we have the Springfield Spring Swap meet held on May 22-23rd held at the Clark County Fairgrounds, and on May 22nd, Jeff Wyler is doing all GM Car Show and Swap meet at his location in Milford, Ohio.

See you on the road, Jeff

Miami Valley Innovations Ohio Region Spring Tour May 8-10, 2026



Westcott Frank Lloyd Wright Home Tour

A private tour of Frank Lloyd Wright's only Prairie School home in Ohio. It was commissioned by Burton and Orpha Westcott in 1906 and completed in 1908. John Westcott, together with his sons, Burton and Harry, originated the Westcott Carriage Company in Richmond, Indiana, in 1896. It was reorganized there as the Westcott Motor Car Company in 1909. In 1915, Burton moved the Westcott Car Company to Springfield. Learn more: [Westcott House](#).



Mershon's World of Cars

From Model Ts to Ferraris and everything in between, you never know what Mershon's might have in inventory. Founded in 1981 Mershon's has over 40 years of experience in the business. They have paired Over 10,000 dream cars with new loving owners. If you are a car guy, you will love just walking through their showrooms! Learn more: [Mershon's](#)



Carillon Historical Park

In 1950, Carillon Historical Park's museum complex opened with the purpose of showcasing the region's industrial innovations and transportation achievements. Since construction first began in 1940, the park has evolved into a beautiful 65-acre campus—designed by the Olmsted Brothers (the famed landscape architects responsible for Central Park)—containing dozens of museum buildings and countless artifacts. Learn more: [Carillon Historical Park](#).



America's Packard Museum

The Museum is in an original Packard dealership which was operational from 1917 until 1940. Rogers Pontiac and Davis Buick used the facility as a dealership from 1940 until the 1970's. From 1899-1956, the Packard Motor Company built 1.6 million cars, and collectors estimate only about 10,000 still exist. The museum manages the largest public collection of Packard automobiles and memorabilia. Learn more: [America's Packard Museum](#).

Host Hotel Information

DoubleTree by Hilton
2800 Presidential Drive
Fairborn, Ohio 45324

MUST CALL FOR RESERVATION
937-426-7800
MENTION SOUTHERN OHIO CHAPTER
Deadline for special rate is
April 10, 2026

FREE COOKIES



Rate: \$159.00 plus tax
Includes:
Buffet Style Breakfast
Newly Renovated Rooms
Full Service Restaurant and Bar
Fitness Room and Pool

Learn more: [DoubleTree Hotel](#)



HOSTED BY
JEFF AND ANN SMITH
BILL AND MARITA MONTGOMERY
SOUTHERN OHIO CHAPTER

Phone: 937.907.4755
Email: 2creeksjeff@gmail.com

Miami Valley Innovations - Reservation Form

Ohio Region Spring Tour May 8-10, 2026 - Deadline April 10, 2026

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Car Year, Make, and Model: _____

Activity	# Attending		Per Person		Total Amount Due
Registration Fee		x	Family/Car	=	\$20.00
FRIDAY EARLY BIRD ACTIVITIES					
Frank Lloyd Wright - Wescott Home Tour 1 PM		x	\$20.00/pp	=	
Frank Lloyd Wright - Wescott Home Tour 3 PM		x	\$20.00/pp	=	
Mershon's World of Cars			No Charge		
Heart of Ohio Antique Center			No Charge		
SATURDAY ACTIVITIES					
America's Packard Museum		x	\$8.00/pp	=	
Matt Miller's Sign Collection			No Charge		
Lunch - Choose One - All Come with a Bottle of Water					
Turkey Boxed Lunch - Pasta Salad, Chips, Cookie		x	\$15.00/pp	=	
Roast Beef Boxed Lunch - Pasta Salad, Chips, Cookie		x	\$15.00/pp	=	
Spinach Salad with Strawberries and Chicken, Cookie		x	\$17.00/pp	=	
Carillon Historical Park		x	\$13.00/pp	=	
Dine Around Fairborn - We will order off the menu and everyone will pay their own bill. We will need a headcount by restaurant.					
The Wright Place - Hotel Onsite Restaurant			# of Diners		
Cherry House Café - Home Style			# of Diners		
BJ's Resturant - Chain Upscale			# of Diners		
El Ranco Grande Mexican			# of Diners		
Ice Cream Social at Hotel		x	\$5.00/pp	=	
GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT DUE					\$

Checks should be made payable to the Southern Ohio Chapter AACA and sent to Jackie Amick at 196 Cambria Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45440. Questions? Contact Jeff Smith at 513.907.4755 or 2creeksjeff@gmail.com.

DoubleTree by Hilton
2800 Presidential Drive
Fairborn, Ohio 45324
937-426-7800 - **MUST CALL FOR RESERVATIONS**
DEADLINE FOR GREAT RATE: April 10, 2026
Mention: Southern Ohio Chapter

Includes:

Rate: \$ 159.00 Plus Tax
Buffet Style Breakfast
Newly Renovated Rooms
Full Service Restaurant & Bar
Fitness Room and Pool

Kick-off of the Touring Season at the WACO Air Museum



The March tour of the Southern Ohio Chapter of AACA kicked off with a lovely brunch at the Lincoln Square Family Restaurant in Troy. They had a great selection of foods and we were able to choose either Breakfast or Lunch -- all comments were positive on the quality of the food. They were able to seat us all in one little area so we were able to enjoy each other's company, get reacquainted, and catch up while enjoying the meal. It

was followed by a short business meeting led by our president Jeff Smith. He was sure to point out that we have some awesome upcoming tours, so watch for the brochures and be sure to join in - and invite new members!!



Upon completing our business meeting, we loaded into our cars and headed two miles down the road to the WACO Air Museum. We were treated to a very informative and fun tour of the museum by our tour guide, John, who is wise beyond his years. He was able to provide a lot of information regarding the history of the WACO company, including how it began, the way it got it's name, how it evolved and how it was eventually closed. One fun fact from the day is that our own EB Lunken's grandfather used to own a WACO plane. What a wonderful connection from a very interesting time in history.



The museum is filled with many excellent interactive exhibits as well as a flight simulator that Ben enjoyed as much as anyone and we enjoyed watching different members try their hand at flying the simulator. There truly seemed to be something for everyone to enjoy along the way.



As the weather turned beautiful, we turned our attention to a short drive north to Jubie's Creamery, where we enjoyed some fantastic flavors as we talked about things we learned at the Museum, as well as stories about ... (wait for it...) CARS! All in all, a GREAT time with friends and lots of laughter, and I can't think of a better way to start the touring season. We look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events.



A Special **THANK YOU** to Karl Amick for suggesting this location and making the connection with the Museum. **Thank you all for coming along for the ride!**



2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 25, 2026 – USS Cincinnati Peace Pavilion – Preview of Park and Car Tour – Linda Muth and Ken & Debby Koontz
May 8-10, 2026 – Ohio Region Spring Tour – Southern Ohio Chapter to Host – See Pages 2-4 for the Details
June – Driving Tour – Jeff and Ann Smith
June 28, 2026 – Dayton Dragons Game and Car Show – Bill and Marita Montgomery
July 18, 2026 – Greenville, Ohio – Tim Fink
July 24-26, 2026 – Ohio Region Summer Tour
Western Reserve Chapter to Host – See below for details
August 2026 – Matt Reither and Perry Yasher
September 19, 2026 – Car Games and Covered Bridges – Nora Schreel and Jane Baker
October 6-9, 2026 – AACA Eastern Fall Meet – Hershey, PA
October 2026 – Date TBD – EB Lunken
October 16-18, 2026 – Ohio Region Fall Tour
Commodore Perry Chapter to Host – See below for details
November 2026 – Date TBD – Marcia and Gary Jones and Bernie and Sue McGuire
December 2026 – Date TBD – Christmas Gathering



COME JOIN US FOR SUMMER FUN WESTERN RESERVE CHAPTER

JULY 24-26, 2026



Christ Church Episcopal
Restored 1800's Church



3 Car Collections



Pass Through Covered Bridge



Our Lady Of Guadalupe
Largest Statue In The World Of It's Kind



Wayne Antique Engine
Club Grounds

Friday, Early Bird tour, to be announced.

Friday night, ice cream social at Holiday Inn.

Saturday lunch at St. Mary's Church in Orwell, and Saturday banquet Barbeque meal. Plus speaker Robert Shimits, on Vintage Fire Equipment (tentatively).

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Madison, Ohio.

2026 FALL TOUR

COMMODORE PERRY HOSTS

TOUR OF FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT HOME

KENWORTH TRUCK DEALERSHIP

ANTIQUE AUTO UPHOLSTERY SHOP

MORE TO COME

OCTOBER
16-18 2026