



# AACA TRIANGLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



February 2026



Bet you haven't seen  
one of these!

## NEWS SUMMARY

- ◆ **Events Calendar – Next Triangle Meeting March 22nd, 2026**
- ◆ **President's Message - See Glenn Ott's message.**
- ◆ **Editor's Observations and Notes – Randy's Rant's.**
- ◆ **2026 Triangle Chapter Event Schedule**
- ◆ **Acknowledgements & Announcements**
- ◆ **NC Regional Meeting**
- ◆ **Courney's Wild Adventure Rides!**
- ◆ **Meeting Notes – February 2026**
- ◆ **Triangle Chapter Officers**
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- ◆ **NC Region 2026 Event Schedule**
- ◆ **Tip or Question of the Month**
- ◆ **The Parting Shot**

# EVENTS CALENDAR

Triangle 2026 Events Calendar:

**Event: CHILI COOKOFF & General Meeting of the Triangle Chapter of the AACA**

Meeting Date: **March 22nd , 2026**

Meeting Location: **South Hills Mall in the Former Tuesday Morning**

1297 Buck Jones Rd, Cary, NC

**Future Meeting Dates:** Future 2026 dates to be announced

Most General Meetings of the Triangle Chapter are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month at The Local. However, meeting dates may, on rare occasions, be moved to an alternate Sunday due to scheduling conflicts at The Local.

**Please check your most current Triangle Chapter Newsletter, Website or Facebook for last minute changes.**

**Event Schedule:**

**Arrive 1:30**

**Chili, Fixin's and dessert 2:00-4:00**

**Meeting and Presentation 3:45 to 5:00**

**Presentation: Winners on of annual Chili Cookoff**

**Nothing formal for presentation just announcements and good fellowship!**

**Welcoming Guests and New Members.**

**If it is nice Please drive your classic cars!**

**Tune up your cooking skills and submit something tasty!**

**How you doing on my challenge of attending all the meetings in 2026?**

**Let us know if you can set up and or clean up!**

NC Region 2025 Calendar Events Planned –

**See details below**

**AACA National Events Calendar – UPDATED LINK FOR 2026!**

The AACA National Shows are scheduled for 2026. The 2026 events are listed on the AACA Website at:

<https://aaca.org/events/category/aaca-national-calendar/>

# President's Message

**By Glenn Ott**

President's Message February 2026

Wow, did it get cold! Hopefully the weather will warm up soon, and garages will thaw out, so we can get our cars back on the road.

After last month's storm, we will kick off our first meeting of the year February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Local. There is a lot to talk about, including what happened at the National Convention, a unique living history program at Fort Macon and other Triangle Chapter tour opportunities, upcoming chapter shows, our March Chili Cook-off, and our Chapter show October 24<sup>th</sup> in Garner at Mojo's.

I hope to see you at The Local on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Glenn this in on time, I'm the one that's late.....:(

## EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS AND RANTS RANDY'S RANTS

**By Randy N Robertson**

- Well it's March 2nd and I am trying to finish the February Newsletter....
- Linda and I are back from New Zealand working hard to get caught up. Thought we missed winter but not quite...
- Stay tuned for a presentation of the cars I found in New Zealand
- Looking forward to your contributions. Thanks to all for their continuing support!
- Challenge of the month – Think Spring and volunteer for the Chili Cookoff. I did. Did You?

Please contact me with anything you want published. [rnewr2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnewr2017@gmail.com)

# Triangle Chapter Event Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
January	
16-17	NC Region Annual Meeting - Raleigh, NC
24	Triangle Chapter Board Meeting
25	Triangle Chapter monthly meeting - canceled due to bad weather
February	
5-7	AACA National Convention - Chantilly, VA
22	Triangle Chapter monthly meeting
March	
7	Cape Fear Chapter Show - Wilmington, NC
7-8	Living History at Fort Macon Road Tour
22	Triangle Chapter Chili-Cookoff - South Hills Mall, 1297 Buck Jones Rd, Raleigh, NC
26-28	AACA Winter Nationals - Lake Allatoona Region - Cartersville, GA
April	
9-11	AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals - Hornets Nest Region - Charlotte, NC
11	Fun In The Sun - Northern Wake Tech Campus
18	Glenaire Retirement Community display, Cary, NC
26	Triangle Chapter monthly meeting
May	
2	NC Region Spring Meet - Coastal Plains Chapter - Washington, NC
9	First Capital Chapter Show - New Bern, NC
16	Alamance Region Annual Meet - Burlington, NC
16	Wheels on Academy - Cary, NC
23	Piedmont Chevy show
28-30	AACA Eastern Spring Nationals - Shannock Valley Region - Indiana, PA
31	Triangle Chapter monthly meeting
June	
6	San-Lee Chapter Show - Sanford, NC
11-13	AACA Southeastern Fall Nationals - Volunteer Region - Oak Ridge, TN
13	Tom Pruett Charity Cruise-in
25	Polk House - History on Wheels
28	Triangle Chapter monthly meeting

# Triangle Chapter Event Schedule

## July

- TBD Tour to TBD
- 26 Triangle Chapter monthly meeting

## August

- 5-8 Southeastern Divisional Tour - NC Region Little Detroit Chapter - Flat Rock, NC
- 8 General Greene Chapter Show - Greensboro, NC
- TBD Primrose Schools Drive through, West Cary
- 16 Triangle Chapter Ice Cream Social
- 19-22 AACA Grand Nationals / Zenith - Allentown, PA
- 27-29 Corvettes at Carlisle - Carlisle, PA

## September

- 9-14 Founders Tour - Historic VA Peninsula Region - Williamsburg, VA
- 12 NC Region Fall Meet - Furnitureland Chapter - Spencer, NC
- TBD Falls River Retirement Community Car Display
- TBD Wake Forest Community Partners @ Market of Wake Forest 12217 Capital Blvd.
- 20-26 Revival Glidden Tour - Dover, DE
- 27 Triangle Chapter monthly meeting

## October

- 3 New River Chapter Show - Jacksonville, NC
- 6-9 AACA Eastern Fall Nationals - Hershey Region - Hershey, PA
- 10 CCCC Car Show - Lee Main Campus, 1105 Kelly Drive, Sanford, NC
- 16-17 Show, Shine, Shag and Dine - Henderson, NC
- 17 Morehead City Chapter Show - Morehead City, NC
- 24 Triangle Chapter Show - Garner, NC
- 25 Triangle Chapter monthly meeting

## November

- TBD Carolina Overlook Friends and Family Day Car Display - Clayton, NC
- TBD Capital Oaks
- 29 Triangle Chapter monthly meeting - elections

## December

- 6 Triangle Chapter Holiday Party

## January 2027

- NC Region Annual Meeting - Raleigh, NC
- 23 Triangle Chapter Board Meeting
- 24 Triangle Chapter monthly meeting

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Fuccella reports

Hello All,

For the young attendees, the highlight of the Youth Judging course is receiving a Plaque or Trophy at end of the session (see attachment). The trophies are typically repurposed trophies donated by our NC Region members.

If you are finding that it is about time to clear your shelves of some of these dust collectors, please consider donating them to the cause.

Jim Gill has generously offered to take on the task of relabeling donated trophies for use in the Youth Judging program. If you would kindly contact Jim or me, we will arrange to acquire your plaques or trophies. Triangle Chapter members, it would be helpful if you could bring your old plaques or trophies to our next membership meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026.

## Calling all volunteers!

The next meeting is this year's chili cook-off! It is **Sunday March 22nd** from 2 to 5 pm at South Hills Mall, 1297 Buck Jones Road, Raleigh. (The same location as last year.)

We still need more volunteers to bring food. 1 or 2 more chili cooks would provide a variety of chili flavors. 5 or 6 more corn bread bakers and 3 or 4 desert pastry chefs would round out the menu.

**Please reply to this email by March 11th** so I can include you with those who have already volunteered.

If you don't have the cooking skills necessary to boil water, you can still be an integral part of this event.

The 1-2 pm set-up crew needs 5 or 6 more volunteers, and the 5 pm clean-up team needs 5 or 6 more helpers.

**Please reply to this email by March 11th** so I can include you with those who have already volunteered.

Finally, thank you to those who have already signed up to bring food or set-up/clean-up.

Glenn

Respond to: [triangleaacapres@gmail.com](mailto:triangleaacapres@gmail.com) (Glenn Ott)



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Glenn Ott reports that:**

**A special election** will be held at the Chili Cook-off on March 22, 2026 to fill the 2026-2027 Board of Directors position being vacated by Helen DiPietro.

Ray Bader has volunteered to complete this remaining term. This is a result of the nominating committee search request for member volunteers, and will be formally completed by the election.

## **Dean Tryon shared**

Jeannette Gage, age 90, passed away February 17, 2026. Jeannette was born in Breskens, the Netherlands on November 3, 1935. Her family came to the United States in 1951. She attended Rochester Business Institute and was employed as an Executive Secretary at the Eastman Kodak Company. She met her husband, Marv Gage, while in school and they were married April 12, 1958 and they enjoyed 67 years of marriage. She is survived by her husband, 2 sons in Buford, Georgia, a daughter in Florida and 8 grandchildren.

In addition to raising 3 children, Jeannette enjoyed singing with her twin sister and was involved with several church groups including teaching a Sunday School for young children for many years.

During their retirement years Jeannette and Marv traveled frequently on Ocean Cruises and tours with their antique cars.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Crowell Brothers Funeral Home in Buford, Georgia on February 28, 2026. The family will be receiving friends at 2:00 with a funeral service at 2:30.

**Editors note.** I briefly knew Marv, prior to his move to Georgia, I never had the pleasure of meeting his wife.

Marv was my first contact with the Triangle Chapter, having invited me to a meeting and instrumental in me joining the chapter. My thoughts go out to Marv and his family.

## **Shared by George Senich**

Suddenly and unexpectedly, Triangle Chapter member Shayne O'Neill passed away on February 6<sup>th</sup> at home.

Shane's obituary and further details can be found at: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/newsobserver/name/shayne-o-neill-obituary?id=60747639>

# NC Regional Meeting

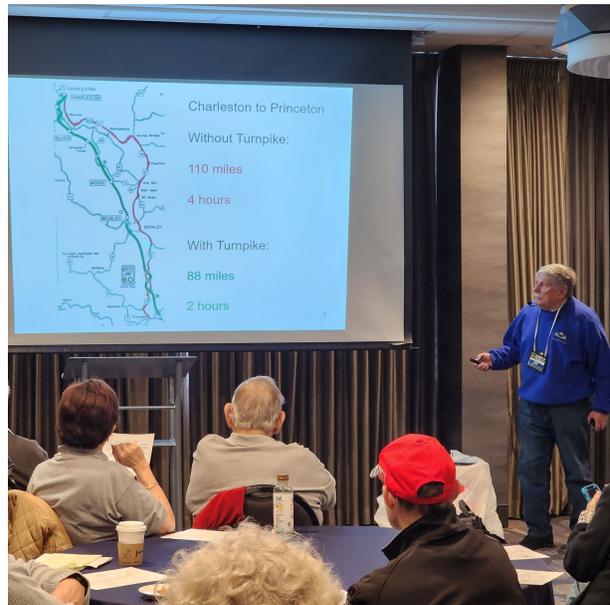
## Glenn Ott reports on the NC Region Meeting

The attached pictures are from January's NC Region Meeting.

Dean provided commentary for the video Miracle At Beaver Dam, including his involvement with restoring the carburetor on Futurliner #10.

Mike gave a presentation about the West Virginia Turnpike.

Finally, our Chapter was well represented both days at the meeting, not only enthralled by Saturday's program, but also enlightened and informed by Friday's AACA judging seminars.



# Courtney's Wild Adventure Rides!

**Courtney Johnston, our Event Coordinator, sure has some adventures suggested for the year. These all seem exciting. I plan to attend as many as I can.**

**Review the schedule and let Courtney know your interest level. 919-941-4337**

## AACA TRIANGLE CHAPTER SUGGESTED TOURS for 2026

### Suggested Tours

Aversboro Battlefield : precursor to Bentonville, less developed site, no museum, about 50 miles via I-40 E

Confederate Ironclad CSS Neuse, Kinston 90 miles via US 70E

Duke Gardens, Durham, about 35 miles via I-40

Duke Homestead, Durham, about 35 miles via I-40 & I-885

Yates Mill Tour and possible car show Lake Wheeler Rd, Raleigh,

Ederville Tractor Show, Carthage, 55 miles via US 1-S

Picnic at Lake Jordan, 20 miles via US 64 W

WWII US Army presentation of vehicle, uniforms, equipment & weapons,

Fire Department tour of antique engines

Garage Crawl of member's garages

Non-AACA shows

### AACA EVENTS and Car Shows

April: AACA Nationals Charlotte, 130 miles via US 64E & I-85 S

May: CCCC Auto Restoration Car Show, Sanford, 50 miles via US-1S

June: AACA San/Lee Show : Sanford 40 miles vis US-1S

August: AACA Zooland show & possible trip to NC Zoo , 75 miles via US-64

### Events Without our Classic cars:

NC Museum of Natural Science and Old Capitol, downtown Raleigh

NC Museum of Art, Raleigh

Durham Bulls Game, Durham

NC State Arboretum, off Hillsboro St, Raleigh

NC State Baseball Game and tour of the Bell Tower, Raleigh

Reenactment at Ft Branch, Oak City, 110 mi. US-64E, actual Confederate fort

Living History at Fort Macon, March 7-8, 2026

**See attached information of the of Fort Macon**

# Courtney's Wild Adventure Rides!

Courtney is always proud to play the part



Randy N Robertson and Courtney Johnston Bentonville 2025

# TRIANGLE CHAPTER MEETING NOTES

## AACA Meeting Notes – Feb. 22, 2026 Meeting

### Action Items

1. 3/22 – Chili Cookoff. See below.
2. Our full 2026 calendar has been set up by Glenn Ott and a copy has been emailed to all members today.
3. 10/24 – Our annual car show, same location as last year (Mojo's in Garner)

### Meeting Agenda Items:

1. New members Dave and Ann Marie Conklin attended their first meeting. Welcome.
2. We had 32 members attend for dinner and 7 more for the meeting.
3. Chili-Cookoff – Sunday 3/22 at the same location as last year, South Hills Mall, 1201 Buck Jones Rd in Cary, NC (near I-440 and Walnut) Meet at 2 PM, bring your favorite chili, cornbread or a dessert. Let Glenn (919-658-8322) know your plans though. We need help with volunteers to tabulate the voting, set up and take down tables and chairs.
4. Courtney Johnston is heading up the chapter tours planning this year. Your ideas are appreciated. The initial list is attached to this email along with 2 sheets on Fort Macon Living History March 7-8..
5. Discussion started to see if we could do a show at Dix Park in Raleigh. Stay tuned.
6. Discussion in process to have car displays at retirement homes in the area.
7. Ray Bader offered to fill a vacancy on our Board.
8. Tom Pruett talked briefly about the AACA annual meeting in Chantilly.
9. The NC Region meeting in Jan. in Raleigh had presentations by Mike Petersen and Dean Tryon. Randy Robertson and Denny Oestreich received awards for their newsletters and websites.
10. Denny also reported on several items in the NC Region Board meeting:
  - a. \$500 donated to the AACA library
  - b. \$100 to the Blue Ridge Community College (see page 23 of the Nov/Dec AACA magazine)
  - c. 622 region newsletters sent out
  - d. 1072 region members currently
  - e. Nominations requested for the NC Region Circle of Honor award. Each region nominates a person who has done an outstanding job supporting the chapter or region over many years. Our Board makes the selection for our chapter. Send nominations to Glenn Ott by 8/1.
11. Placards are available from Glenn for your dash ID.
12. The discussion of what day of the week to meet and/or tour indicated some interest in activities during the week but most prefer the weekends.
13. Brian Wingler is doing the NC Region input from our chapter. Give him ideas.
14. Dan Fuccella thanked the chapter for their support after Jean passed away last month.
15. Tom Pruett is doing our meeting programs. Give him ideas also.

Mike Petersen gave us a unique tour around the US using 1950s postcards with background music of the time and a narration. He has a large collection of cards from that era and all have a 1950s Dodge in them.

Thanks Mike.

# 2025 TRIANGLE CHAPTER OFFICERS

## Officers

President – **Glenn Ott** (609-658-8322)  
Vice President - **Tom Pruett** (919-422-4761)  
Secretary/Treasurer – **Ken Powell** (919-638-0756)  
Region News Correspondent – **Brian Wingler** (919-362-9303)  
Ex-Officio – **Jim Gill** (916-363-2616)



## Board of Directors

### 2025-2026

**Ted Brooks** 919-605-5825  
**Les Tryon** 919-215-7588  
**Bob Gahr** 440-867-4722

### 2026-2027

**Jim Aldrich** 919-676-3131  
**Keith Townsend** 919-481-9072

**(Position Open)**

## Triangle Chapter Administrators

Awards: **Glenn Ott** 609-658-8322  
Chapter Car Show Committee Chair: **Helen DiPietro** 919-649-1719  
Newsletter Editor: **Randy N Robertson** 919-422-9487  
Youth Coordinator: **Dan Fuccella** 919-349-5911  
Triangle Chapter Webmaster: **Denny Oestreich** 919-846-8163  
Facebook Administrator: **Helen DiPietro** 919-649-1719 & **Andrea Irby** 919-815-1355 **(Position Open)**  
Social: Marilee Sanderson 919-467-9999, **Brenda Gerken** 919-362-4814 **(Position Open)**  
Triangle Chapter Members Guide Editor : **Caryl Ott** 919-528-1528  
Holiday Party Trivia Contest Creator: **Glenn Ott** 609-658-8322  
Notice Email Distribution: **Dean Tryon** 919-562-4660  
Membership Meeting Minutes Recorder: **Dean Tryon** 919-562-4660  
NC Region BOD: **Denny Oestreich** 919-846-8163  
Chapter Events Coordinator: **Courtney Johnston** 919-931-4337

# WEBSITE, FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

## Web Sites

You can see ongoing updates or recent cancellations and reschedules of Triangle and NC Region Activities on our Website or Facebook sites. Both have many more pictures and updates of Triangle activities.

Triangle Website <https://triangleaaca.org/>

**Be sure to check out Denny's history of Triangle Chapter events**

NC Region Website: <http://www.ncregionaaca.com/region/>

## Facebook Pages

Helen DiPietro is updating our Triangle Facebook page with Andrea Irby filling in as requested

**For the latest updates please check out our Facebook page**

Triangle Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TriangleChapterAACA>

## Instagram Accounts

<https://www.instagram.com/triangleaaca/>

NC Region Instagram Account <https://www.instagram.com/nc.regionaaca/>



# NC REGIONAL 2026 CALENDAR

## NC Region AACA 2026 Event Calendar

Dates Received from Chapters as of 01-18-2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type Meet</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>City/State</u>		<u>Notes</u>
January 16 - 17	<b>NC Region Annual Membership Mtg</b>	<b>NC Region</b>	<b>Raleigh, NC</b>	REG	Judges School
February 5 - 7	AACA Annual Convention	AACA National	Chantilly, VA	NAT	
March 7	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>Cape Fear</b>	<b>Wilmington, NC</b>	U&T	
March 19 - 21	AACA Special Nationals	AACA National	Puerto Rico	NAT	
March 26 - 28	AACA Winter Nationals	Lake Allatoona Region	Cartersville, GA	NAT	
April 9 - 11	AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals	Hornets Nest Region	Charlotte, NC	NAT	
April 23 - 25	AACA Western Spring Nationals	Las Vegas Region	Las Vegas, NV	NAT	
April 23 - 25	AACA Grand Nationals	Las Vegas Region	Las Vegas, NV	NAT	
May 2	<b>Region Meet</b>	<b>Coastal Plains</b>	<b>Washington, NC</b>	REG	
May 9	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>First Capital</b>	<b>New Bern, NC</b>	U&T	
May 16	Region Meet	Alamance Region	Burlington, NC	IPO	
May 28 - 30	AACA Eastern Spring Nationals	Shannock Valley Region	Indiana, PA	NAT	
June 6	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>San-Lee</b>	<b>Sanford, NC</b>	U&T	
June 11 - 13	AACA Southeastern Fall Nationals	Volunteer Region	Oak Ridge, TN	NAT	
June 13	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>Three Rivers</b>	<b>Eden, NC</b>	U&T	
June 15 - 19	AACA Sentimental Tour	Pontiac/Oakland Region	Mechanicsburg, PA	NAT	
July 23 - 25	AACA Central Spring Nationals		Green Bay, WI	NAT	
August 8	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>General Greene</b>	<b>Greensboro, NC</b>	U&T	
August 19 - 22	AACA Grand Nationals / Zenith	AACA National	Allentown, PA	NAT	
September 9 - 14	AACA Founders Tour (1932 - 2001)	Historic VA Peninsula Region	Williamsburg, VA	NAT	
September 12	<b>Region Meet</b>	<b>Furnitureland</b>	<b>Spencer, NC</b>	REG	
September 20 - 26	AACA Revival AAA Glidden Tour	AACA National	Dover, DE	NAT	
September 26	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>Southeastern NC</b>	<b>Mount Olive, NC</b>	U&T	
October 3	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>New River</b>	<b>Jacksonville, NC</b>	U&T	
October 6 - 9	AACA Eastern Fall Nationals	Hershey Region	Hershey, PA	NAT	
October 17	<b>Chapter Meet</b>	<b>Morehead City</b>	<b>Morehead City, NC</b>	U&T	
For Cancellations / Changes Contact: David Lineback delineback@gmail.com		(336) 414-8529			



# TIP or Question of THE MONTH

We can all use a little help around the garage or shop!

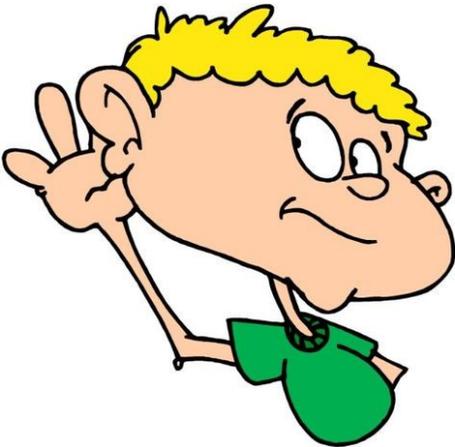
## Send me those tips or questions

By Mike Petersen

I have been driving for 60 years and never had a dead battery away from home. The batteries have always died while the vehicle was parked in my driveway or garage. I got to thinking about this while watching a AAA truck replace a battery in a car that was stranded in a parking lot. The car owner likely had a limited choice of batteries from AAA.

In each vehicle I now carry the wrenches needed for a battery replacement as well as a battery terminal brush and the red and green felt washers for the posts. The "DieHard" felt washers that I buy come in a package that includes a packet of grease to coat the cable terminals. Even if I am away from home I can remove the battery and see to an installation of the new battery with the proper tools. Pictured is the T-handle wrench that I need to reach the battery hold down bracket bolt in my 2000 Dodge Neon ES as well as the small wrench that I need for the cable terminals. My other cars only require one or two small wrenches for the cable terminals and the hold down. All of this gear takes up little space and can be stored with the spare tire or the jack.

***Now that works!***



### Pro Tip:

**Set regular intervals to check your battery**

Continued next page

# TIP or Question of THE MONTH

By Mike Petersen



Some batteries have a plastic handle that snaps into holders on the side of the battery. This is great for battery removal and installation and can usually be left on the battery. However, my 2001 Dodge Durango SLT+ has a sleeve that fits over the battery sides and top so the handle must be removed. The handle is easily removed with a small flat blade screw driver and stored with the jack. My latest battery for this vehicle did not have the handle but it did have the side attachment points so the old handle worked great.



In the old days vehicles had ammeters. One can detect unusual charging activity from the ammeter reading when the battery is dying. A voltmeter will not tell you this. I also try to buy batteries that have removable caps and I check the electrolyte level at each oil change. A cell with an electrolyte level that differs significantly from the other cells could be on its last legs which indicates it is time to test the cells with a hydrometer. I always replenish the electrolyte with distilled water. My record service time for one of these types of batteries is 11 years.

Sealed batteries cannot be tested with a hydrometer. I have a battery tester that puts a load on the battery just like the downtown parts stores use. My wife has a car with a sealed battery. The vehicle electronics is supposed to give a warning on the dash when the battery is ready to fail. This did not happen when the factory battery suddenly died at four years of age. There was also no “slow cranking” warning prior to the battery demise.

# THE PARTING SHOT



**Glancing View Chevrolet HQ**

**Photo by Randy N Robertson**

ZOOM ZOOM

Till next month Randy N Robertson

02/10/2026

## Living History at Ft Macon, March 7 & 8, 2026

The 26<sup>th</sup> NC Troops will be working with Ft. Macon Staff to provide a Living History representing the period when the Fort was occupied by Federal troops during the War for Southern Independence.

Our program will demonstrate the guarding, drilling and musket firing performed by the fort's garrison during the occupation of the fort. Our program starts at 10:00 each day.

The highlight of the program will be the firing of the 8-inch Columbiads of the seaward battery. These guns could hurl a 65 lb. shot over 2.5 miles, commanding the sea approach to Morehead City.

This is an event you will not want to miss. When fired, these cannons shoot flames 7-8 feet past the muzzle. The ground shakes and the sound is like a massive thunderstorm breaking overhead.

The cannon will be fired on Saturday (7<sup>th</sup>) at 16:00 hours and on Sunday (8<sup>th</sup>) at 14:00 hours. The road to the fort, which runs right under the cannon, will be closed 15 minutes before the firing of the guns. The parking lot fills quickly so get there early.

Fort Macon is about 150 miles east of Raleigh and takes about 3 hrs. via US 70E.

To enjoy your visit, you will need to bring:

- Warm, wind-proof clothing
- A folding chair
- Good hearing protection!
- Food & beverage (Nothing available on site)

This is an awesome experience that I look forward to sharing with my friends.

So no one goes into shock, please note that I will be wearing the Blue Suit.

Hope to see you there!

*J. Courtney Johnston* - Private, Company D, 26<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Troops

# Battle of Ft Macon

The Battle of Fort Macon, fought from March 23 to April 26, 1862, was an important battle in the War for Southern Independence. The Federal victory gave the Union access to Beaufort and Morehead City and closed these ports to the Confederacy for the rest of the War.

## **Background**

Fort Macon was constructed by the federal government from 1826 to 1834 to guard Beaufort Harbor and was seized by North Carolina militia only two days after shots were fired on Fort Sumter.

## **The Battle**

On March 23, 1862, U.S. forces under Brig. General John G. Parke began the siege of Confederate-held Fort Macon by landing and mounting rifled cannon and mortars east of the fort. At the time of the siege, the fort was commanded by Col. Moses J. White and was defended by 54 pieces of artillery and a garrison of five companies.

In mid-April, Major General Ambrose Burnside arrived with reinforcements to take direct command of the siege. On April 25 the fort was bombarded by both land and sea. Initially, smoke obscured the fort, rendering the early bombardment ineffective. Union troops in Morehead City used signal flags to adjust the barrage, the first-time adjusted artillery fire was used in combat. Although cannon blasts from Union ships did little damage because of the fort's strong seaward defenses, the land bombardment did major damage. White surrendered the next day, when Union shot began slamming into the masonry steps protecting a powder magazine.

The fall of Fort Macon gave the Federals access to Beaufort and Morehead City, strengthening their control over much of eastern North Carolina.