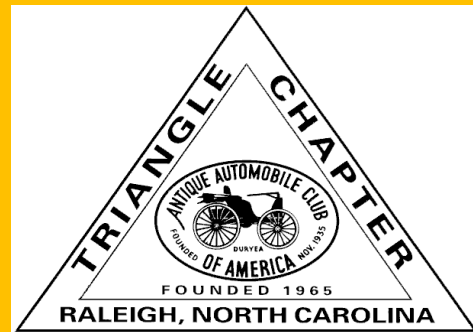




AACA TRIANGLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



September 2026



Beth Eakes'

1966 Ford Mustang

At Charlotte National
Meet

NEWS SUMMARY

- ◆ Events Calendar – Next Triangle Meeting September 27, 2026—CAR SHOW PLANNING– BE THERE NOW!
- ◆ President's Message - See Glenn Ott's message.
- ◆ Editor's Observations and Notes – Randy's Rant's.
- ◆ 2026 Triangle Chapter Event Schedule
- ◆ Acknowledgements & Announcements
- ◆ Grand Nationals I by Brian Wingler
- ◆ Grand Nationals II by Mike Petersen
- ◆ **Our Annual Car Show October 24th**
- ◆ Meeting Notes – July 2026
- ◆ Triangle Chapter Officers
- ◆ Website, Facebook & Instagram Pages
- ◆ NC Region 2026 Event Schedule
- ◆ Tip or Question of the Month
- ◆ The Parting Shot

EVENTS CALENDAR

Triangle 2026 Events Calendar:

Event: **General Meeting of the Triangle Chapter of the AACA**

Meeting Date: **September 27th, 2026**

Meeting Location: **The Local**

1235 Hurricane Alley Way, Raleigh, NC 27607

Future Meeting Dates: Future 2026 dates to be announced

Most General Meetings of the Triangle Chapter are held on the 4th 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 2:00 to 2:30

Lunch/Dinner 2:30-3:45

Meeting and Presentation 3:45 to 5:00

Presentation: PRE SHOW PLANNING FOR OUR OCTOBER 24TH CAR SHOW

Welcoming Guests and New Members.

If it is nice Please drive your classic cars!

How are you doing on my challenge to attend all meetings in 2026?

See you THIS Sunday September 27th– We need you for the show!

NC Region 2026 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

It is autumn, and we're not done yet.

Our September meeting is Sunday the 27th. Hershey is October 6th to 9th. There are two chapter shows before our show at Garner Towne Square on October 24th. There are plans in the works for a trip to the Ederville Steam Tractor Show November 7th. Then there are elections and our Holiday Party.

We need additional volunteers for show day - Set-up, Parking, Judging, Hospitality, Raffle, Take-Apart-T, Awards and Clean-up. Nothing difficult, but more hands will make the task easier for everybody. Come to the September meeting and sign-up.

Finally, elections are coming in November. Three Board Member will be needed. I have tendered my resignation to the Board, so there is an opportunity for new chapter leadership. Other positions may open-up too. If you are asked by the nominating team to assume a role, please consider volunteering.

Glenn

EDITOR'S OBSERVATIONS AND RANTS RANDY'S RANTS

By Randy N Robertson

- Well fall is beginning to blow in, literally! This means our Car Show is upon us.
- **Have you volunteered?**
- Can't mention this too many times! It time to get serious about our car show.

Put your name on the line!

- Thanks to all for their continuing support!
- Challenge of the month – **Sign up for 2 jobs at the Car Show!**

Please contact me with anything you want published. rnewr2017@gmail.com

Triangle Chapter Event Schedule

September

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

06-12-2027 Tom Pruett's Charity Cruise for 2027 - Plan ahead



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Forwarded Message from NC Region by Glenn Ott

NC Region is looking for a Secretary. Please see the message below, and contact Ashby if you are able to volunteer.

Hey, it was nice to see everyone that was able to attend Spencer last weekend.

Judy Matthews has done a great job as our Secretary. Unfortunately, her term is up in January per the Bylaws. I would appreciate each of you talking to your respective Secretary's to see if they would like to be considered to move up to the Region's Secretary position. The primary duties include recording and creating the minutes of our meetings, working with the other Officers to update the P&P after our January meeting, and gathering and submitting the Officer reporting forms to National.

If they aren't interested, please mention the vacancy at your next Chapter meeting. There has to be someone that's previously been a secretary for their Church or local civic organization that would like to help us out. The term is 2 years, with a limit of 2 consecutive terms.

Please have any interested parties contact me, or I can call them.

Thanks for your help,

Ashby Armistead

NC Region Nominating Committee

[910-612-0470](tel:910-612-0470)

Be sure to check the **TWO** articles on the recently held **Grand Nationals**.

Brian Wingler each and **Mike Petersen** each offer a different perspective on the event.

As reported by Brian Wingler

On Saturday, September 12, 2026. Triangle Chapter members **Dan Fuccella** (1950 Willys Station Wagon), **Denny Oestreich** (1957 Chevy Bel Air), **Tom Pruett** (1994 Chevy Corvette Pace Car), and **Brian Wingler** (2000 BMW Z3) showed their cars at the **Furnitureland Chapter NC Region Fall Meet** in **Spencer NC**.

Make sure you check out Brian and Denny's in-depth article on the Triangle Chapters website



Grand Nationals I

Reported by Brian Wingler with Photos by Brian Wingler

2026 AACA Grand Nationals- Allentown, PA

The 2026 AACA Grand Nationals and Zenith Competition were held in Allentown, PA Thursday- Saturday August 20-22, 2026 graciously hosted by Nicola Bulgari's NB Center for American Automotive Heritage.

On Thursday evening there was a welcome reception at the America on Wheels Museum.

Friday featured an open house and the Zenith competition at the NB Center followed by a dessert and ice cream social at The Mack Experience truck museum. The Grand National show was held Saturday on the beautiful grounds of the NB Center followed by an awards banquet at The Palace Center.

Triangle Chapter members:

Fernando & Josefina Lugo (1956 Chevy Bel Air) and **Tom Pruett** (1994 Chevy Corvette Pace Car)

were awarded **Grand National First Place awards**. **Mike Petersen** worked with the AACA National Awards committee. **Brian Wingler** participated in class judging.



Grand Nationals I

Photos by Brian Wingler



Grand Nationals II

Story by Mike Petersen

I thought the AACA Triangle Chapter members would be interested in these maps and brief story about the AACA Grand Nationals in Allentown, PA August 20-22, 2026.

The AACA Grand Nationals was held in Allentown, PA August 20-22, 2026.

The site for the show was the “Nicola Bulgari Center for American Automotive Heritage”.

See <https://www.thenbcenter.com/our-story> for details about this amazing facility.

The first map is of the site which is located on an old drive-in movie property. The screen is still in place. I did not see a projection booth. The grounds are landscaped grass with paved drives. On the map is a large mansion in the middle of the property where I was told Nicola Bulgari has his model car collection. The buildings for the facility that we were able to see are in orange on the map. The NB Center had an open house for the AACA on Friday August 21. The facility suspended operations for the day and some of the uniformed workers were in each building to explain the equipment, projects, and vehicles.

The Friday tour started at the “Welcome Center”. The Zenith cars were displayed on the lower level. From the “Welcome Center” we went through “Open House Check In” to be sure everyone had their ticket (free, but you had to register in advance). There was a morning session and an afternoon session. From “Check In” we walked to the facility buildings (there were shuttles available – a nice touch).

1. The first stop was the “NB Collection” of the vehicles.
2. Next was the machine shop where we saw engines being rebuilt, equipment to machine engine blocks and parts, and a wall of spare engines on racks.
3. The third stop was the “Fabrication Shop”. Some items, such as door handles, had been reproduced using a 3-D printer. Instead of a “girly-man” English wheel there was a 5 ton machine from France with three “wheels” – each a cylinder and each with varying diameters to make elaborate sheet metal panels. The machine is from the 1920s and is one of 14 in existence. I understand it was repurposed from a machine that was used to package shrimp.
4. The fourth stop was the mechanical shop in which engines and other components are installed and vehicle maintenance is performed.
5. The fifth stop was the upholstery shop with huge sewing machines. There were reproduction carpets and the various materials used in pre-war vehicle seats.

The sixth stop was more of the “NB Collection”. All of the vehicles were beautiful.

Grand Nationals II

Story by Mike Petersen

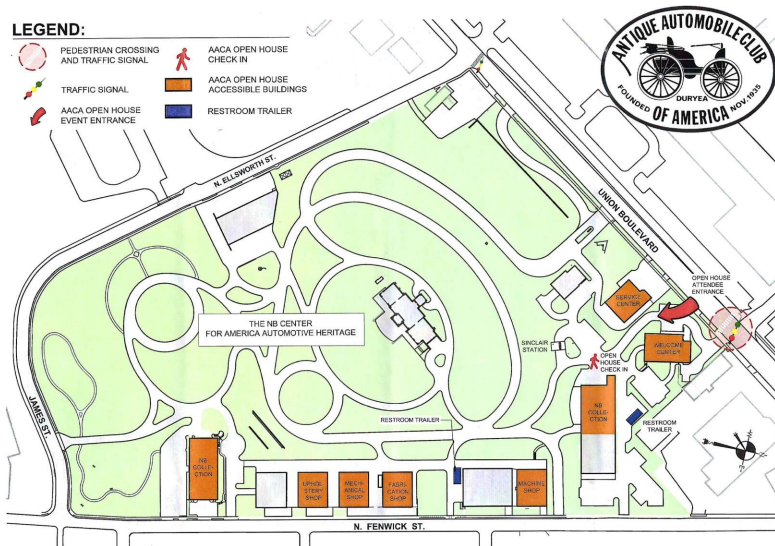
Behind the buildings in the back were vehicles awaiting restoration and part donors. So – the next time an old drive-in movie property comes up for sale I will know what to do.

The second map is of the show field. All of the 500+ cars were on grass and arranged like a gigantic concourse of elegance. There were also food trucks. It did not rain and it was not hot.

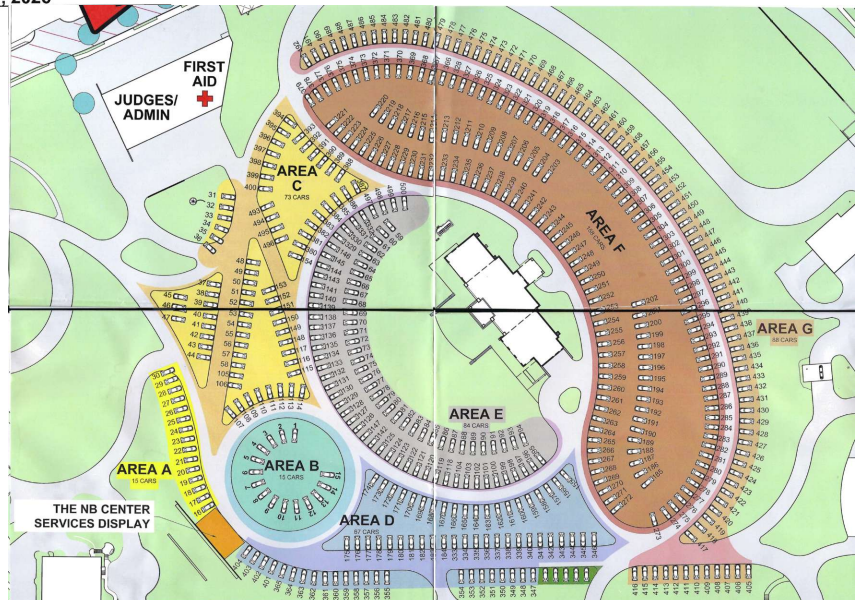
The AACA eventually had 150 judges which worked out to an average of 20 cars per judging team and 30 cars for each National Awards judge (like me 😞).

More judges are needed for all AACA Nationals. From my experience 12 cars per team is a large number. Many moons ago I was on a team that judged 18 cars and that was physically draining.

Please judge when you are able and if you are not yet a judge please give it a try – it is the hobby within the hobby.



AACA GRAND NATIONALS OPEN HOUSE MAP - FRIDAY AUGUST 21, 2026
BROWN DESIGN CORP. LAND ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS WWW.BROWNDISIGNCORP.COM



Our Annual Car Show October 24th

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CLUB AND DO FOR YOU ASK WHAT YOU CAN FOR YOUR CLUB

Now is time for all good men and women to come to the aid their car club.

It's time to step up. Have you volunteered? Last years show was a success because of you!

Please attend this Sundays' meeting. We need your help.

Thanks to our early volunteers

Ted Brooks	Ray Bader	Ken Powell	Denny Oestreich
Cherl Brooks	Beth Eakes	Courtney Johnston	Greg Palazzo
Dan Fuccella	Glenn Ott	Brian Wingler	Brenda Gerkin
Randy N Robertson	Jim Gill		

It's gonna be fun!

[Click](#) on link to see list of opportunities attached to this Newsletter



TRIANGLE CHAPTER MEETING NOTES

Meeting minutes to resume with September Meeting

Here is a repeat of our last general meeting

AACA Meeting Notes – July 26, 2026

Action Items

1. Aug 2 – Chapter picnic – see below
2. Aug 8 – General Green Chapter show in Greensboro.
3. Aug 16 – Tom Pruett's Ice Cream Social, 3520 Carpenter Pond Rd - Please RSVP to Tom
4. Sept 12 – NC Region show at Spencer.
5. Oct. 24 – Our annual car show, same location as last year (Mojo's in Garner)

Meeting Agenda Items:

1. We had 20 members in attendance. It was good to see new members Greg and Gina Palazzo as well as long time members Floyd and Peggy Barnes. We also had special guest Bill Cox who came to tell us about a tour he is organizing. More on that below.
 - 1a. Peggy Barnes mentioned they had moved and asked to make a note of their new address in your directory. They now reside at **211 Windsor Wynd Pl.** The rest of the address and contact information remain the same.
2. Glen reported on his visit to the Polk House in Raleigh to let the 18 young girls in the program experience an antique car up close. All were delighted. Riley Reiner has done this in previous years.
3. A new, possible show venue was tried in July – Dix Park. There were 27 cars displayed including that of an antique owner who came to check it out. He then registered for the Chapter show with two cars. It was a pretty hot day, but it looks like a good venue for the future and feedback was that Dix Park was happy with the show too.
4. Courtney Johnston has set up a chapter picnic on **8/2. This coming weekend!!** The location is Crowder Park (Cary-Apex area – Ten-Ten & Holly Springs Rds.), and bring your own food/ beverages. We have the Heron Pavilion from 8am-8pm so come when you like, but the plan is to meet from 2-5pm. The Heron is plenty large enough for us, rain or shine. If the weather is good, consider driving your antique.

TRIANGLE CHAPTER MEETING NOTES

AACA Meeting Notes – July 26, 2026

6. Our Oct 24 show at MoJo's needs volunteers to both chair and support various activities. Contact Glenn. We need more sponsors (in Garner area especially) if you know of businesses who might be interested. No judging, but will have a People's Choice awards for various classes as well as door prizes.

6a. We need your support for the Chapter show to spread the workload. Some needs are day of show and some are mostly ahead of time-

Sponsors!!!	Setup	Registration	Parking	Judging
Hospitality	Raffle	Take-A-Part-T	Awards	Cleanup

Much to do. Every little bit helps. Thanks. Glenn Ott 609-658-8322 gott976@gmail.com

7. It was a good night out with the Durham Bulls on 7/18. They got off to a good lead in the first, but ended up losing. The post game fireworks were very impressive from our very comfortable front row seats. Thanks to Courtney for organizing.

8. Bill Cox came to tell us about a new tour he is planning for June 5-7, 2028. It is a Special Tour of muscle cars originating in Winston Salem. It includes cars from 1959-79. He has a tentative plan for stops including Old Salem and Petty Enterprises. A Cruise-In is planned for the day before and open to all.

9. Tom Pruett is looking for program ideas. All of us must have something of interest in your past to share.

10. The Ice Cream social is August 16th hosted by Tom and Debbie Pruett. Please RSVP and indicate whether you are bringing toppings or dessert.

Tom Pruett 919-422-4761 tomjpruett@gmail.com

11. Looking for volunteers to do a "drive by" on August 3rd at Primrose pre-school. We have done this in the past and it is VERY well received by the kids.

12. Tom Pruett provided a great summary of the Savoy Automobile Museum in Cartersville Ga. This was one of the excursion trips he was on at the Winter Nationals meet. Exhibits change monthly and their collection and access to cars of private owners was impressive. Approximately 90 cars were on display.

Ken Powell taking notes for Dean this month.

2026 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
Ray Bader 919-418-0977
Keith Townsend 919-481-9072

Triangle Chapter Administrators

Awards: **Glenn Ott** 609-658-8322
Chapter Car Show Committee Chair: **Position Open Please volunteer**
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: **Position Open Please volunteer**
Social: **Position Open Please volunteer**
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 Oestreich & Brian Wingler's article on the NC Region Meet in Spencer

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

Facebook Pages

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 05-22-2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type Meet</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>City/State</u>
September 20 - 26	AACA Revival AAA Glidden Tour	AACA National Head- quarters	Dover, DE
September 26	Chapter Meet	Southeastern NC	Mount Olive, NC
October 3	Chapter Meet AACA Eastern Fall Na- tionals	New River	Jacksonville, NC
October 6 - 9		Hershey Region	Hershey, PA
October 17	Chapter Meet	Morehead City	Morehead City, NC
October 24	Chapter Meet	Triangle Chapter	Garner, NC

For Cancellations / Contact: Zach Simons

(252) 626-0286



TIP or Question of THE MONTH

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

Send me those tips or questions



Now that works!



So I recently ran into a issue while changing the tire on my boat trailer (OK, OK I know this is newsletter about cars...)

When using my impact wrench one of the lug studs broke loose and stripped the splines.

Luckly I was in my warehouse and not on the side of the road, so I had tools handy to wedge the stud enough to finish removing the tire.

The tire in question was leaking just enough to warrant removal. Of course the puncture was in the no repair zone so in addition to getting a new spare & rim, I ended up with two new tires and a rim. (boat owner's "whoa is me" are the same as car owner's "whoa is me")

My friend, leader of the Friday breakfast group I attend and fellow car enthusiast, John Wieland, provided sage advise.

Obtain a new stud with enlarged splines in the next two sizes, with the intention of **returning the one** I don't use. Wait wasn't that the subject of a previous article...

Hopefully today I will install that stud and reinstall my new tire.

This will prevent or should I say forestall the purchase of new hubs. Then only thing I need to do is return the spare one. Wait where did I put that thing....

Pro Tip:

Find one location to place all your "I need to return stuff."

When I try that I let you know if it works....

THE PARTING SHOT



Blast from the past. New Years Day 2026

ZOOM ZOOM

Till next month Randy N Robertson