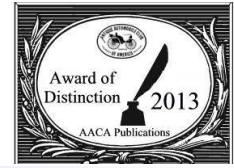
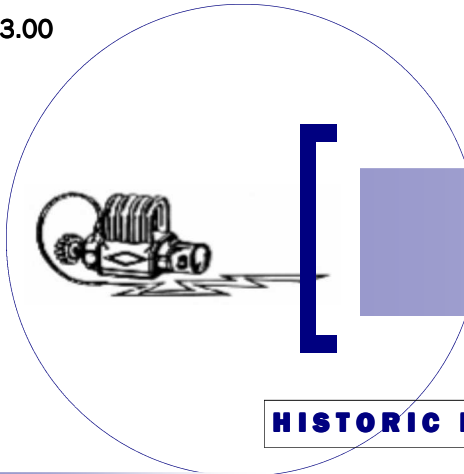


\$3.00



FEBRUARY 2015

# THE MAGNETO

VOLUME 59 #2

**HISTORIC FREDERICKSBURG REGION, AACA**

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## FEBRUARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The January meeting was a treat. We had a couple of guests come and visit and decided to join us. We also welcomed back some past members who decided to rejoin us. I really missed those guys. The meeting turn out was the best I have seen in a long time.

We decided to try a short program at the end of each meeting, so far we are booked through May. This month, Don Mohr is running a car magazine exchange. Bring your previously enjoyed magazines to the meeting and see what happens. The program could be of anything of interest to the club. Tell about your car, or your other hobbies. I am sure someone could give us a nice overview of the radio control airplane hobby.

We also need to get on with planning at least one old car outing/tour a month. We need volunteers to run them. It is not a full time job, I would expect a different person to plan an outing each month.

It is also encouraged to plan an outing to a cruise in or with one of our neighboring AACA regions. If you are a member of a marque club and they are planning to do something interesting in the area, see if we can tag along.

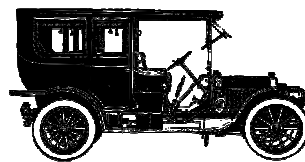
An issue of business, our 2015 roster is due to ODMA on 21 February and AACA by 1 March. If you have not turned in your 2015 dues yet, please pay at the February meeting.

By the time this gets published, our entourage to the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia will have returned. I will go out on a limb and assume that we had a good time and learned a lot from the two days of seminars. We will be charged up with some new ideas to try.

In the words of Standard Oil Co. "Happy Motoring"  
Wally Hunt, HFR AACA President

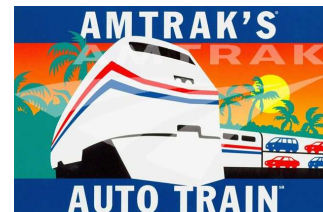
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For more club news and photos Visit Our Web Site

[www.HFRAACA.ORG](http://www.HFRAACA.ORG)  
Nora Aftel, Webmaster

**CLUB INFORMATION**

**2015 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

EXECUTIVE BOARD		COMMITTEES	
Wally Hunt	President	J Gordon Brown	Meet Chairman
Doug Makin	Vice President	Robert Aftel	Chief Judge
Neil Lauver	Treasurer	Andy Gotchel	Magneto Editor
Liz Hunt	Secretary	Nora Aftel	Webmaster
Ken Loucks	Past President	Lauman Schooler	Membership Chairman
John Garnett	At-Large Member (through 2015)	Don Mohr	Legislative Chairman
Ryland Tedeton	At-Large Member (through 2016)	Rena Rees	Sunshine Chairman
		Ben Schooler	Club Chaplain
		Doug Makin	Club Historian

**MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Monthly meetings of the Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA are held at 7:30 PM on the third Tuesday of each month except December at the Dorothy Hart Community Center, 408 Canal Street in Fredericksburg. All members will be notified of any changes.

February meeting—Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>  
 March meeting—Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

**MEMBERSHIP**

We are always looking for new members. So if you, or someone else you know is interested in joining our club, please come to one of our membership meetings. For more information on membership, please contact our Membership Chairman, Lauman Schooler (540) 373-1955.

**REFRESHMENTS SIGN-UP**

If you would like to contribute drinks or dessert for an upcoming club general membership meeting, please sign up for one of the open spots at the meeting.

	Snacks	Drinks
March	Don Mohr	Fred Becker
April		Sam Enfield
May	Champ	Champ
June		
July		Powell Sale
August	Frances Schooler	Jane Shelton
September	Hunt	
October	Mausolf	
November		

**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

It's time to renew your annual HFR AACA dues. Dues for the local club are once again \$15. Remember to renew your national AACA membership as well.



**CLUB INFORMATION**

**ACTIVITY POC SIGN UP 2015**

	Meeting Program POC	Activity	POC
January			
February	Don Mohr	AACA National Meeting, Philadelphia, PA 12 - 15 ODMA Planning Meeting, Varona, VA 21	
March	Emily Schricker		
April	Frank DuVal	SE National Meet, Charlotte, NC 9 - 11 Piedmont Region Meet Charlottesville, VA 26	
May	Robert Aftel Jay Brown	Eastern National Meet, Virginia Beach, VA 30 Apr - 2 Apple Blossom Meet, Winchester, VA. 16 Old Dominion Meet, Varona, VA 22 - 23	
June		HFR Annual Meet 6 Richmond Region Meet, Richmond VA 13	J Brown
July			
August			
September		Taste of Madison, Madison. VA 5 US I Event, Fredericksburg 12 Bull Run Region Meet, Manasas, VA 19 Tidewater Region Meet Virginia Beach, VA 26	
October		Eastern National Meet, Hershey PA 6 - 10 Eagle Village Display, Fredericksburg 24	J Brown
November			
December		Christmas Banquet 6	Frances Schooler

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Mar 27-28, 2015 Sugarloaf Mountain Region 45th Annual Antique Auto Swap Meet, Carroll County AG Center, Westminster, MD
- Apr 26, 2015 Piedmont Region AACA Car Show, Sam's Club Lot, Charlottesville, VA
- Apr 9-12, 2015 AACA Southeastern Spring Meet, Charlotte, NC
- May 22-23, 2015 62nd Annual ODMA Meet, Staunton, VA
- Jun 6, 2015 Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA 58th Annual Meet, Downtown Fredericksburg, VA

**CLUB INFORMATION****Historic Fredericksburg Region, AACA – General Membership Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2015**

President Wally Hunt called the meeting to order at 7:30pm, 33 members were present and we had the following visitors; Mark Irvin, Darryl Hayden and Bill Bell.

November minutes were read by Liz Hunt and approved by members. Copies will be shared in our Magneto newsletter at next publishing.

**Treasurer's report** – Linda Gotchel apologized for not transitioning Neil Lauver into his new treasurer's position by today's meeting. Linda was approved by the members to present the report tonight. The balance was read and several members paid their club dues tonight. There were no bills to pay.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Membership** – Laumen Schooler reported on 2 membership applications, Gilbert and Margaret Champ. Members welcomed them both to our club tonight!

**Sunshine Club** – Rena Rees reported there was no news from the Sunshine Club.

**Legislative** – Don Mohr did not have any updates.

**Magneto newsletter** – Linda Gotchel explained that Andy apologizes for lateness of this newsletter as not all items were ready in time for the publication. The newsletter will be mailed or emailed soon.

**Web site** – Robert Aftel reported that the annual \$32 fee is due soon; please send any update for our website to Nora Aftel; Wally asked to inquire from Nora if she can attend the next ODMA meeting on 2/21/15. Nora is designing the ODMA webpage and this meeting will assist in collecting details for site.

**Social** – Frances Schooler provided a nice report on our recent Christmas Banquet which was held at the Fredericksburg Country Club. There were lots of great prizes, music, singing and just a great time with friends and family. Our club collected about 395 pounds of food for donation to The Food Bank.

**Meet Committee** - J. Brown updated member on the committee's progress: the meet plaque picture has been designed and was passed around, goal is to have show flyers completed soon so copies can be shared at the AACA Annual Meeting on 2/12/15, J. reviewed new ideas for this year's show such as adjusting the City blocks downtown for show parking and having another fashion show & swing dancing.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ODMA Meet update**- Ben and Suzanne Schooler are our ODMA representatives. Ben presented a nice history of the ODMA to members tonight and is summarized below. He discussed the upcoming meet which will be held in Verona, VA on May 22, 2015. The location is at the spacious Augusta County Government Center. There is a different format this year - awards presented that afternoon instead of an evening banquet. The next meeting is on the February 21<sup>st</sup> and our club roster is due at this time as well as those interested in judging. The Holiday Inn is the host hotel. Wally Hunt proposed that our club reimburse our two ODMA reps for their travel cost (federal mileage rate) each time they attend these meetings. This was approved by members.

The ODMA is the only non-governing association of its kind in all AACA. The judging criteria and awards follow those of AACA with some exceptions. There are 14 member regions throughout the state of Virginia and it was first established in 1958. The "Old Dominion Trophy" is presented to the region with the most member participation points earned as selected from a large number of categories (most judges participating, most non-winning vehicles on the show field, longest distance driven, and points for each individual vehicle award, etc). The "Walsler & Edgar Rohr Trophy" is awarded to the region with the largest percentage of members participating in the meet, regardless of region size. The "Best in Show" trophy is awarded to the very best vehicle on the show field, as selected by the vehicle judging class Team Captains, the meet's Chief Judge, and the Chief Judge's assistants.

**Spark Plug Award** – Lauman and Frances Schooler were awarded the 2014 Spark Plug Award. Wally Hunt reminded all this program will continue for 2015 and needs a volunteer(s) to assist in the monitor.

**New Club Flyers** – Emily Schricker reported on her progress in the designing of the club flyer. She reviewed photo styles and content options with members tonight.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Member of the Year Award** – Wally Hunt presented this new award to Lloyd Scott as it's first recipient. Lloyd has been a very valued & active member of our club over the years and quite surprised to receive this award tonight.

**AACA National Meeting** – The next meeting will be held on 2/12/15 in Philadelphia, PA. Members approved President Wally Hunt a stipend

## CLUB INFORMATION

of \$500 for attending and representing our club. Linda Gotchel reminded the members of our annual donations. Members discussed donations and it was approved our club would donate \$1000 to the AACA museum and \$500 to their library.

**Club Car Magnets/Name Tags** – Members discussed re-ordering club car magnets & name tags as these are great for advertising. J. Brown will contact Wayne DuBois who may have original ordered details.

**Thanks to Ken Loucks** - Wally Hunt presented Ken Loucks with a plaque to thank him for a job well done as our club's past President during last term.

**Month's Great Suggestion** – Don Mohr suggested members bring any unwanted club/car magazines to our February meeting to be exchanged or shared with others to read instead of throwing them away.

**New President's Message** – Wally Hunt reported his first President's Message will be printed in the next Magneto Newsletter. He reviewed his goals: 1) increase membership, 2) increase club activities and activities with other clubs, and 3) offer special programs in conjunction with shorter monthly business meetings. Wally stressed the need to improve membership numbers by getting out in the community with our cars by attending local clubs shows and/or cruise ins. He suggested we could meet somewhere and then show up in mass with car signs on cars. Our business cards would also be helpful in getting the word out about our club. Wally discussed having our members think of short programs (10-20 minutes max) which we could present during our monthly meeting times. He reports some programs have been suggested already and we have then starting at our next meetings. All ideas are welcome.

**Upcoming Events** – Ken Loucks informed members of some upcoming events and opportunities: 1) River of Life Worship Center in Massaponax is having a social event on March 7<sup>th</sup> to include a car show (desire 50-60 cars) and 2) An AACA member is looking for a garage space to rent where he can work on his Lincoln during the week. If interested, please contact Ken for more details.

**The 50/50** – conducted by Hank Mausolf and won by Ken Loucks.

Closing prayer by Ben Schooler and meeting was adjourned by 8:30pm.

**Reminded: Please sign the monthly attendance sheet, update any info on our club roster and sign up for 2015 refreshments in the back of room when you first arrive for the meeting .**

## CLUB NEWS

### Something Special in Our Backyards ... and Florida's

- Neil Lauver, Treasurer HFR AACA

#### Background - The Story within the Story

Recently, I had the pleasure of getting my son a new car. It was a promise made over two decades ago and every year since: if he did well in school, transitioned immediately to college, stayed the course in college, graduated on time, and earned a GPA above 3.0, I would reward those efforts with a new car. He did his part, including an engineering degree from VT! And, in the months leading up to graduation, VT helped him secure an engineering job with a large-scale, industrial logistics and software company – in Florida. Even better. So, now it was time for me to do my part.

I asked him to think about what he might like, and, after a few months, he said he was ready and that he had his car choices determined. So, with his preferences in-hand, I began what turned out to be extensive research and study. After a few weeks, I then set out to find his first choice and buy it. I found it rather quickly – that was the easy part. Unfortunately, the local dealer opted not to sell stating they could sell the same car to someone else for more money ... and various other questionable statements and practices. And, that's being generous.

I then found my son's same first choice at three other area dealerships – multiple examples each. I also began the process of finding his second choice locally, but that local dealer did not have any inventory without add-on packages. Were it not for that, I would have bought the car there. So, while preparing to contact the other area

dealerships on my son's first choice, I began giving thought to altering my approach and just buying the car in Florida, where my son could pick it up.

So, I contacted several dealers in Florida. I went straight to the top of the dealerships so they would know the seriousness of the offer, coming from this far away. Rapidly, one dealer began working with me, had the car in inventory, without add-on packages, and it met my other requirements. I coordinated with my son to go see it, test drive it, check it out, and then pay. In the end, this all came together.

But, my son had his *original* car that he had purchased himself still with him down in Florida. So, I decided to fly south and then bring home his original car - to begin restoring it, being his first car, and so he would have transportation when he comes home.

#### From one Backyard to another

To get his original car home, I learned about a gem in our own collective backyards: Amtrak's east coast Auto Train. This is something special. It runs out of Lorton, VA, and Sanford, FL. Daily. With convenient departure and arrival times – on each end. For about the same cost of the fuel one would use in one's car for the same trip, Amtrak will transport your car overnight to either destination. The train also offers multiple sleeping options, coach travel, dinner, and breakfast. And, scenery by the landscape.

In fact, my son had taken his original car *to Florida* on the Lorton Auto Train. Now it was my turn to bring home the same car from

## CLUB NEWS

Sanford to Lorton.



Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. in Sanford. The Auto Train depot is easily accessed from FL 46 west of Mims and north of Orlando. Upon arrival at the train station, while you are still in your car, a small team of professionals performs a choreography. They (a) confirm your reservation – no paperwork required; (b) affix a magnetic tracking number onto the side of each car; (c) write down your car's tracking number on a small pamphlet that you must retain until the end of the trip; (d) direct you forward about 100' to a second staging area and provide simple written instructions; and, then, (e) chauffeur your car onto one of many train *car carriers* – each carrier accommodating double-stacking, 5 cars per row, 2 rows per carrier, 10



total cars per carrier. All this is done within minutes - less than 10.

From the second staging area, each passenger is permitted 2 carry-on bags to take into the train station and onto the sleeper trains and coach trains themselves. Many coach travelers carry on pillows as one of their bags. This is advisable. The seats appear new and are more than comfortable, spacious, and recline. But, for those in coach (without one of the bedrooms), a pillow can make or break the overnight sleeping portion of the trip. (I had a rolled-up over-the-shoulder-sling-bag that served *pillow purpose* well – and I slept all night. I also had a coat, which I would recommend, as it did get cold on the train overnight, especially when all the lights finished dimming and it got dark inside.)

As the cars are then chauffeured away from the second staging area and loaded onto the carriers, each traveler is directed to the depot inside to confirm their specific train number. Again, no paperwork is required other than your driver's license. Easy. At this time, you receive your seat location; dinner schedule – 4:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., or 8:00 P.M.; and the breakfast schedule. Boarding then begins at 2:30 PM - by sleeper trains first, followed by coach travelers. Boarding is easy. Attendants outside each train check the paperwork provided from within the depot and guide you to your train and indicate where your bedroom or seat is located on that train.

Shortly after boarding, the lights and power dim inside the trains while the car carriers are hitched to the sleeper and coach trains. Then, when all trains are connected, the entire train slowly comes up to speed, and will reach 70 MPH at times.

During the 17-hour trip, the scenery is rewarding if you have an upper deck accommodation. Vistas include numerous lakes, bridges, towns, neighborhoods, marinas, and airports. The staff is pleasant and experienced. The facilities – bathrooms, dinner train, lounge train, and breakfast train – are easily reached walking and are well maintained. The trip is comfortable and enjoyable. The afternoon quickly passes and the announcements are made for dinner. Seating is controlled by the attendants, at tables of 4. I had the wonderful pleasure of meeting 3 other fellow-solo travelers, and we had an enjoyable dinner, dessert, and conversation. (Dinner and breakfast are included with the train fare.)

After dinner, night comes quickly, and, before long, everyone is stretched out finding their best sleeping positions. The train is quiet, the travelers are quiet, and there is little to no activity on the train. Nice. Pleasant.

At 6:00 AM the next morning, the announcement is made for breakfast. Seating is again by attendant, so one has the chance to meet new folks again. In my case, I ended up with one of my dinner companions and another couple, and it was most enjoyable.

The train pulls in at the destination ahead of schedule, usually before or around 9:00 AM. The sleeper trains and coach trains are disembarked first. Then, the car carriers are unloaded to a *departure staging area*. In Lorton, one can observe how the cars actually travel *backwards* on the carriers throughout the trip. This facilitates the cars then being started up and driven forward directly to the travelers. Once the chauffeur delivers your car to the departure staging area, you simply provide your car tracking number (provided in the pamphlet in Sanford) to prove your ownership, and the chauffeur removes the magnetic tracking number from the side of the car and you are free to leave the station.

### Summary

At the HFR AACA, we are all fortunate to have Amtrak's east coast Auto Train in our backyard. And, in my case, our family was fortunate to have the Auto Train in my son's backyard in Florida. The Auto Train is efficient and accommodating, and provides comfortable and relaxing transportation for you and your car. Amtrak states on their web site it is non-stop, but the Sanford northbound train did stop in Savannah for crew changeover, and the Lorton southbound train also makes one stop for the same purpose. In the Sanford case, the stop was quick, and probably not even noticed by most travelers, as it was late in the evening.

If you are looking for a fun trip to Florida or vice versa or have need to transport that one-of-a-kind antique car-find from Florida to Virginia or know someone in Florida who needs to travel here, the Auto Train is a bargain. It also is fun and an enjoyable way to see our country, and a great way to meet new people.

Oh, and since I've had my son's original car back, with the help of two friends who graciously provided a warm garage bay in these frigid temperatures as well as helping hands, both front axles and CV joints have been worked on, and the car already has been in for inspection – where it sailed through ... with Amtrak Auto Train efficiency.

**MAGNETO BACKPAGES**

**ADVERTISE IN THE MAGNETO.** Nearly 100 Magneto newsletter copies are circulated each month. It is a great way to reach Fredericksburg's most active antique automotive enthusiasts. Yearly advertising rates are \$2.00 per square inch: a typical business card is \$16.00, \$40.00 for a quarter page, \$80.00 for a half page, and a full page is \$160.00 per year. This is a fraction of the price charged by other AACA newsletters. All types of ads are accepted. Contact the Magneto editor to inquire about advertising. HFR AACA members are entitled to four months free.

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