

THE FOOT WARMER

Official publication of the San Diego Region

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB
OF AMERICA



MARCH 2025

Club Website: <https://sandiegoregion.aaca.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/SanDiegoRegionAACA

President's Greeting

Dear San Diego Region AACA Members,

Monday night looks like it will be a lot of fun at the BINGO night. I can't wait to see some of the "Gifts" this year. The following Saturday, come join us for another Silent Movie, hosted by Al Smithson, with Krispy Kreme's and Starbucks coffee. Last month we got rained out, so there were no antique cars on display, but our members still came and enjoyed the show.

In April, I'm going to change up the 4th Saturday breakfast. The participation has been dismal, so let's try the Brothers Restaurant again in Allied Gardens. If this event has played out, this will be the end of the Saturday breakfasts. Many members have enjoyed this, but for the past 4 or 5 months there has been very little participation.

April 5th, we have also added an event. On the Saturday before our April general meeting, Jack Heacock is hosting a drive to Deer Park Winery and Auto Museum, featuring a large collection of convertibles. This is located off Interstate 15 – take the Gopher Canyon exit. Jack says he has a route from Mission Valley to Deer Park, staying off the freeways. This is an event where you can bring your own picnic lunch. We are looking into providing fried chicken, like at other recent events.

And let's not forget the March 22nd tour to Gillespie Field. This has been in the works for several years and is now happening. Hosted by Mark and Diane Richards.

Until we see each other again,

Happy motoring.

Tom McIlravy

President AACA San Diego Region



See page 8

The Foot Warmer is the approximately monthly newsletter for the San Diego Region, AACA. Member submissions are solicited, welcomed, encouraged – all of that! Please email articles and photos of your antique automobiles and related activities to the editor at drjohn96@mac.com.

CLUB INFO

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: TOM MCILRAVY (25-26)

VP: MARK REBELLO (25-26)

SECRETARY: SUSAN WOODS (25-26)

TREASURER: JOHN BOYD (25-26)

DIRECTORS AT LARGE:

NANNETTE CLARK (24-25)

BARBARA FOLEY (24-25)

BOB GUNTHORP (24-25)

JACK HEACOCK (24-25)

KEY PLAYERS

MEMBERSHIP: MARK RICHARDS

TOURS: TOM MCILRAVY

REFRESHMENTS: DIANE RICHARDS

ANNUAL BANQUET: BOB GUNTHORP

ANNUAL AWARDS: ART COTTEE (Chair),
MARK REBELLO, JACK HEACOCK, MARK
RICHARDS

CORONADO PARADE: AL SMITHSON

SILENT MOVIES: ART COTTEE, AL
SMITHSON

ACC REP/LEGIS: SHELDON JURIST

CLUB PHOTOGRAPHERS:

TOM MCILRAVY AND THE MEMBERS
VOLUNTEER SQUAD

EDITOR: JOHN BOYD

PROGRAMS: Vacant

(SEE CLUB ROSTER FOR ALL CONTACT
INFO.)

2025 San Diego Region Event Schedule

Month	Day	Event
March	3	GM White Elephant Bingo (McIlravy)
	8	Silent Movies Trinity Church, 5:00 pm (Smithson)
	22	Gillespie Aerospace Museum Tour (Richards)
	22	Club Breakfast (likely to be cancelled)
April	7	GM: The Louwman Museum Pt. 1 (Zemcik)
	TBD	Cajon Classic Cruise (Richards)
	TBD	Summers Past Picnic (Cottee & Richards)
	26	Club Breakfast
May	1-3	ACA Spring Nationals, Tucson AZ
	5	GM: Old Car Ads (David Willoughby)
	TBD	Ladies Luncheon (Susan Woods)
	24	Beth Kind Open House Valley Center (Foley)
June	2	GM Louwman Museum Pt.2 (Zemcik)
	14	Silvergate Car Show 11:30-1:30 (Richards and?)
	29	All American BBQ with SDA & HCCA (Gunthorp)
July		No GM
	4	Coronado Independence Day Parade (Smithson)
	19	Miniature Museum Tour (Jurist)
	26	Club Breakfast
August	3	Cars & Coffee, Police Museum, Pancake Brunch (Newell Booth)
	4	Hobby Night (?)
	23	Club Breakfast
September	1	Labor Day Pizza Party (Richards)
	27	Mission Bay Picnic (Rebello)
October	6	GM Trials, Tribulations and Transmissions (Wahl and Rebello)
	7-10	ACA Hershey Car Show and Swap Meet
	TBD	CLMM Car Show (Boyd)
	25	Club Breakfast
November	3	GM Member Car Talks (Rebello) Club Award Banquet (Gunthorp)
	TBD	Silent Movie, Trinity Church (Smithson)
December	1	Planning Meeting for 2026 (Members)

Board News

The Region Board members met at Elijah's Restaurant for dinner and their monthly meeting on the evening of February 27th. Financial reports and minutes were reviewed, and 4th Saturday breakfasts were discussed. Breakfast attendance has been light, and it was agreed a change of venue might be in order. Watch for an announcement for the April 26 breakfast social. C'mon out and see who drives their antique car! No March breakfast as we have the Gillespie Air & Space Museum tour that day.

March General Meeting Program

Monday March 3, DO NOT miss out on club White Elephant Bingo! This was such a great event last year, that we had to repeat it for 2025. AND, it's not a fundraiser! This is your chance to donate your collectable items you no longer need for someone else to take home when they shout BINGO! Be at the Joyce Beers Center in Hillcrest, 3900 Vermont Street, before 7:00 pm to stage the awards table, where YOUR contribution will be displayed.

WELCOME to our Newest Member

We welcome Ricky Logier, Studebaker Drivers Club representative to the San Diego Association of Car Clubs, who has joined the AACA and our region. Ricky contributed this report from the February meeting of the SDACC.

The San Diego Association of Car Clubs meeting on 02/04/25 held at the Automobile Museum Balboa Park. The following topics & car shows were presented at the meeting.

1. The El Cajon Classic Cruise on Wednesday Nites may be canceled. The El Cajon City Council has not approved this event at this time because of complaints from local residents & businesses. The issues are the car people who show up very early (11:00am) take up multiple parking spaces, block sidewalks with chairs & tents and are rude to business owners & local residents. VP Charger Steve & others are working with El Cajon City Council to work out a plan. If the El Cajon Cruise Nites is approved, he is asking all car clubs to inform their members & the public not to show and set up until after 3:00pm since the car show doesn't start until 5:00pm.
2. VP Charger Steve is working on SDACC Greatest Show on Turf car show. At the present time there is no date for the car show, held at the South Clairemont Community Park, normally on the 2nd Saturday in September. The organizers of the Families Day that is held at the park with car show may not happen because of the lack of volunteers needed to run the Family's Day event. Currently VP Charger is trying to locate a new site to hold the car show if the Family's Day event is cancelled.
3. The next Auto Swap & Car Show will be 05/26/25 6:00am-1:00pm, Pechanga Sports Arena SD 92110.
4. A new CA law AB2807 takes effect 07/01/25, Vehicles sideshows & street takeovers both on public & private property. This new law affects the car operators & spectators with a ticket, fines & jail.
5. At the next meeting 02/15/25 I will have flyers available for upcoming car shows.

Ricky

February General Meeting

Mark and Diane Richards provided delicious refreshments for our February 2 General Meeting at the Beers Center, this in addition to Diane's extremely valuable recruiting and planning of volunteers providers and servers. THANK YOU, DIANE! Seen here are several attendees enjoying the break and socializing. Treasurer John Boyd awards the badge drawing prize to Sheila Jurist, the lucky winner this week! Keith Wahl told the story of importing and restoring his Studebaker Hawk from Canada. There were some challenges, but all is now well. Thank you, Keith.



Keith Wahl and Ricky Logier at the Los Angeles 75th Grand Roadster Show

New member Ricky and Keith Wahl attended the Roadster Show in Pomona, January 31-February 2. There were 1500 cars displayed in 6 buildings at the Fairplex over the three days, and more than 20,000 people attended. They entered a 1963 Supercharged Avanti and took second place in 1960-1963 Hardtops! Congratulations, guys!



Coming Events

Gillespie Field Annex of the San Diego Air & Space Museum Tour

Join us March 22 for a fantastic outing to this East County gem. Featuring on-going restorations plus static display of many interesting aircraft, civilian and military, **new exhibits** are the S-3 Viking, the P2 Neptune, and Baron Hilton's Staggerwing. Admission is \$10 per person (or \$7 if there are more than 15 of us). The San Diego Region is picking up the tab for docent-guided tours for all. After the visit, join the group for a club lunch at nearby Texas Roadhouse. The Region will provide \$15 toward lunch for *all members wearing their AACA nametag!* 335 Kenny St, El Cajon. Plan now to attend. Old cars are encouraged!



Region Get-Together at Deer Park Winery and Car Museum -- April 5, 2025

by Jack Heacock

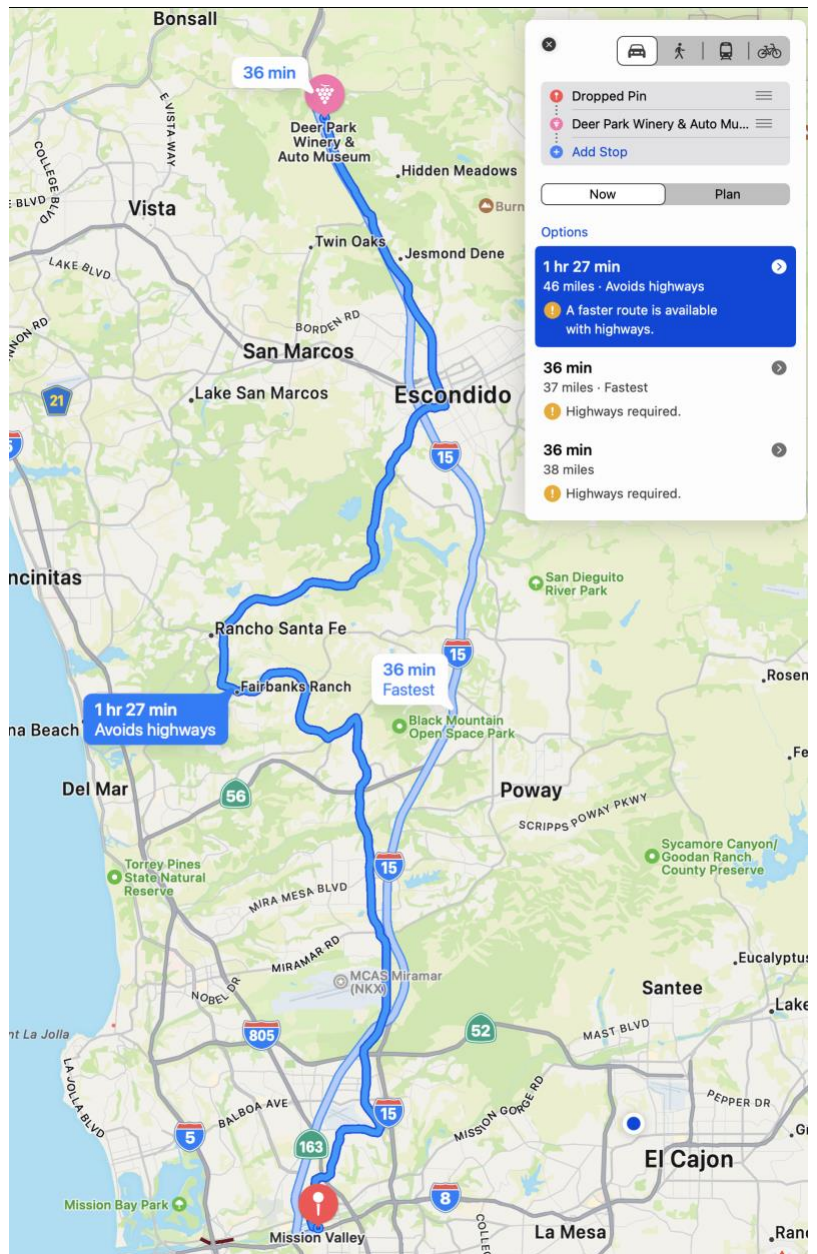
This Region tour will be an interesting drive to the Deer Park Winery to see several dozen older cars (nearly all convertibles from the 1940s, 50s, and 60s), taste some wine, and enjoy conversations with fellow car enthusiasts. The entry fee is \$12 (seniors). There is on-site parking for about 40 vehicles and a large covered patio with some seating. Bring your own folding chairs (just to be sure) and lunch or sandwiches. We can buy snacks & beverages on site. I suggest arriving at about 11:00 am. The car collection includes around 100 rare cars, including a 1929 Pierce Arrow Roadster, a 1928 Franklin sedan, a 53 Cadillac Eldorado, a 53 Oldsmobile Fiesta, a 1903 Curved-dash Oldsmobile, and a 59 Cadillac Eldorado.



If you would like to participate in a club caravan to the winery, please be at the Target parking lot in Mission Valley (11288 Camino del Rio N, San Diego 92108) by 9:30 for a 10:00 am departure. It's a 50-minute drive up 15, about 37 miles. Deer Park is located on Old Hwy 395 just north of Lawrence Welk Village. The Deer Park address is 29013 Champagne Blvd., Escondido 92026. Allow at least 90 minutes if you use the route that avoids freeways – leave Mission Valley by 9:30.

Since Lynne and I live in the north county, we will meet you at Deer Park. Years ago, I led a similar tour that stayed mostly off the freeway parallel to I-15. Apple Maps, and no doubt Google Maps, can draw such a route. Apple's is 46 miles instead of 37, and it takes an estimated hour and a half.

Please let me know if you plan to come so I can provide a head count to the Park. I need to know one week ahead, that is, by March 29. Email me at jackheacock@yahoo.com. You can also text or call at 760.390.4220.





J.M. FORD DESIGNS

Motors for Minds 3rd Annual Event – May 17th

El Monte Park, Lakeside

Come support your Fire Family at the Motors For Minds Firefighter Car Show Fundraiser, presented by Dude Wipes. 100% of proceeds go to FirefighterAid to support mental health programs for San Diego County firefighters.

Enjoy food and drinks from our vendors and live music at this family-friendly event. Kids can enjoy the playground and prizes! Raffle tickets and merchandise can be purchased at the event.

Day-of registration is welcome, first-come, first-serve, starting at 9am. Register early to guarantee your spot!

Schedule: Saturday, May 17

- 8:30am: early roll-in for registered vehicles
- 9:30am: event opens to the public
- 1:00pm: raffle ends
- 1:30pm: awards presented
- 2:00pm: event ends

March Silent Movie

The Theater Organ Society of San Diego presents their March Silent Movie with Donnie Rankin on the giant Wurlitzer organ, preceded by an AACA Car Show. This month: The Cameraman, IMDB rating of 8.0/10. It rates slapstick, comedy, drama, and romance tags!



Trinity Church Facility
3902 Kenwood
 Spring Valley, CA 91977

MAR 8
 Saturday
6:00p*
 Accompanied by
DONNIE RANKIN



The CAMERAMAN
 Buster Keaton

***5:00p**
 Antique Automobile Club of America

Please be parked before 5:00 pm. Come expecting a good time!

From the Editor's Email

From *Hemmings Newsletter*.

This Ten-Ton 10-Wheeled Citroen Was The '70s Solution for Testing Michelin Tires

[Tara Hurlin](#) February 15, 2025

How's this for digging up strange vehicle builds from the history books? Michelin built this 10-wheeled machine back in 1972 to use as a test vehicle for the company's commercial tires. The custom Citroen's official name is "Poids Lourd Rapide," which loosely translates to "fast truck" or "heavy weight fast" in English. The Citroen PLR, as unique as it is, carries many other nicknames such as the Citroen Centipede, the Mille Pattes, or simply "the Michelin test car."

The truck tire tester weighs in at over ten tons and is capable of 500 horsepower with 11 tires touching the ground. It was able to test commercial truck tires at 110 miles-per-hour. Inside the nearly 23-foot-long elongated body is a contraption that accommodates the larger 11th tire, the main test subject and the hidden secret of the Citroen PLR.

Using a front-engine, front-wheel-drive Citroen DS platform as the starting point, Michelin took bodywork from the DS Safari as inspiration for the intensive custom build. The 10 wheels visible from the outside were sourced from a



commercial Citroen H van and are used for the vehicle's core operation, the front four being used for steering and the rear six being drive wheels.

Dual GM Power Propels the Citroen Forward

According to Michelin, the whole thing is powered by two rear-mounted GM 5.7-liter small-block V8 engines, each capable of hitting around 250 horsepower from the factory, so the combined horsepower reaches to approximately 500 ponies, enough to push this 21,000-pound machine forward to a top speed of 111 miles-per-hour. It took five vertically stacked radiators to cool the engines, plus bodywork designed to direct airflow accordingly. The beast was also fuel hungry and drank from dual 23-gallon fuel tanks.

One of the two engines sent power to the three rear Peugeot 504-sourced drive axles, while the other put all its power to the single hidden 11th wheel. The idea behind the hidden wheel was to allow Michelin to mount a large commercial tire in the center and bring it up to top speed without worrying about a blowout ruining the rest of their ride.

The 11th wheel was fit on a swing arm and could be hydraulically lowered and adjusted to different angles during the test drive. Engineers were able to adjust the speed and braking of the single wheel, and also the load and drift to test the tires in every condition. A hydraulic cylinder was used to apply loads of up to 7,716-pounds and strategically placed sensors recorded data, which was then analyzed in the laboratory.

Its total time in service is unknown, but as technology improved, the Citroen PLR was set aside for more efficient ways of testing tires. According to a press release from [Michelin](#) dated from 2022, the Citroen PLR resides in the Michelin Museum in Clermont-Ferrand.

Ed. Note: Interestingly, the concept was also tried by a German car dealership called Willscheidt in 1975 using a Cadillac as a starting point. More photos and a comparison are available in the Hemmings article on their website at



<https://www.hemmings.com/stories/which-wore-the-10-wheel-big-engine-tire-testing-configuration-better-citroen-or-cadillac/>

ANTIQUÉ AUTOMOBILE CLUB of AMERICA



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Bestowed upon

The Footwarmer - San Diego Region

And in recognition of the efforts of

Tom McIlravy

Region President

John Boyd

Editor



For superior achievement in publicizing and informing regional members of Local and National Antique Automobile Club of America activities and generating interest, enthusiasm, and support for the hobby.

Debbie Nolan

Vice-President of Publications