

THE FOOT WARMER

Official publication of the San Diego Region



ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB
OF AMERICA



OCTOBER 2025

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/SanDiegoRegionAACA

President's Greeting

Dear San Diego Region AACA Members,

Our annual banquet is approaching soon. I have been working on the presentations and the program. As always, it should be an entertaining afternoon. Please send in your RSVP registrations as soon as possible to John Boyd. The form was in last month's newsletter.

As I am writing this the evening after the Cajon Classic Cruise night, it was a nice turn out with nine cars, 13 members, and a few guests. Our November meeting will be a celebration of life service for Nick Fintzelberg. He belonged to many other car clubs, and we have invited them to join us in the celebration.

Membership renewals are due, so please send in your renewal to Mark Richards, or bring it to the meeting.

Lastly and importantly, John Boyd is hosting a **car show at Covenant Living at Mt Miguel**. Saturday, October 25 from 10:30 until around 1. Show off our cars and have a light lunch provided by the facility management. We would like to have a showing of six to 10 cars, so RSVP to John or let me know if you are planning on attending.

Happy motoring!

Tom McIlravy -- President AACA San Diego Region.



1966 Chrysler 300 Convertible sold at RM Sotheby's at Hershey for \$63,200 (report page 5)

The Foot Warmer is the approximately monthly newsletter for the San Diego Region, AACA. Member submissions are solicited, welcomed, and encouraged. 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: MARK REBELLO,
JACK HEACOCK, MARK RICHARDS

CORONADO PARADE: AL SMITHSON

SILENT MOVIES: AL SMITHSON

ACCC 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
October	15	El Cajon Cruise Night
	25	CLMM Car Show (page 7)
November	3	Nick Fintzelberg Remembrance
	16	Club Awards Banquet (Gunthorp)
December	1	Planning Meeting for 2026 (All Members)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We need 6 to 10 cars for the Covenant Living car show in Spring Valley October 25. Please let John Boyd know if you plan to come to this bash at the Boyd's new residence. Snacks and light lunch are planned for participants. More details on page 7.

From Mark Richards, Membership Chairman

Hello San Diego Region Members!

It's Time to Renew Your Membership

Don't miss out—renew your chapter membership now to keep getting our awesome newsletter and join in all the fun club activities! 2025 was a fantastic year for the San Diego Region, and 2026 is shaping up to be even better. We'd like you to be part of it.

How to Renew

Check out the membership renewal form (enclosed with this issue). Please fill in any updates to your contact details or antique car status. When you're done, just pop it in an envelope with a \$25.00 check made out San Diego Region AACA and mail to:

Mark Richards -- AACA Membership
1474 Merritt Dr.
El Cajon, CA 92020

Change of Address

John and Barbara Boyd have moved.
Our new address is
325 Kempton St #252
Spring Valley, CA 91977
Emails and phone numbers are
unchanged.

Foot Warmer Printing

The print shop we have used for the past several years has closed due to illness of the owner. The August issue was delayed into September as we searched for a shop that could do the work. Please bear with us as we continue to search for a printer near the editor's residence with reliable service and reasonable prices. Meanwhile, check your email newsletter for faster delivery.

RECENT TOURS AND EVENTS

July 4: Independence Day Coronado Parade



September Board Meeting

(And a Friendly Reminder: Don't Be So Darned Thrifty!)

The regional board gathered at Elijah's Restaurant on September 25 for our monthly meeting—minus one familiar face. Treasurer and *Foot Warmer* editor John Boyd was notably absent, and this time, he had a pretty dramatic excuse: an unexpected trip to the emergency room!

Apparently, John's lifelong commitment to thriftiness caught up with him. After he experienced chills, shakes, and a digestive system that decided to hit the eject button, the nurse at his retirement community insisted he head to UCSD East (Alvarado) ER. After a brisk five-hour wait (practically express service by ER standards), John was seen by medical staff who ran tests and concluded it was likely food poisoning.

The culprit? A batch of pork ribs that had been aging in the fridge for "a few weeks." Barbara wisely passed on the offer, reportedly saying, "Those are way too old! Throw them away." John, ever the frugal gourmet, disagreed—and paid the price. Thankfully, after a few days of nothing but applesauce and bananas, he's back on his feet and hopefully reconsidering his leftovers policy.

Meanwhile, the board carried on with business. A proposed slate of officers for the 2026 term includes Jack Heacock, Barbara Foley, Bob Gunthorp, Nannette Clark, and Ricky Logier. While elections are typically held at the November meeting, next month we'll be honoring the memory of our dear friend Nick Fintzelberg in place of our regular gathering. A ballot has been circulated to the membership so voting can proceed as planned. Here's to good health, good food (fresh, please!), and good company.

Al's Birthday Dinner

Some of Al Smithson's car club friends and Lee Bowman, from Al's church, gathered at the Kearny Mesa Phillippi's Pizza Grotto September 27th to celebrate Al's birthday. Happy birthday, Al!



October 6 - Region General Meeting

"Trials, Tribulations and Transmissions" — A Gearhead's Delight!

Our October 6 General Meeting shifted into high gear with a fascinating presentation by Mark Rebello and Keith Wahl. Their talk, titled "Trials, Tribulations and Transmissions," took us deep into the world of automatic transmissions—how they work, how they break, and how (with enough patience and elbow grease) they can be brought back to life.

The centerpiece of the presentation was the tale of Keith's Studebaker transmission, which had seen better days. Mark walked us through the ups and downs of its overhaul, complete with hands-on demonstrations and eye-catching exhibits. It was a masterclass in perseverance, mechanical know-how, and the occasional colorful language that comes with stubborn bolts and mystery leaks.

Adding to the evening's charm, Sheldon and Sheila Jurist outdid themselves with a Halloween-themed refreshment table that was as festive as it was delicious. Highlights included an iced chocolate cake that disappeared faster than a ghost in a graveyard.

And congratulations to Mark Richards, who walked away with the name badge drawing prize—proof that showing up and wearing your badge pays off! Photos courtesy of Tom McIlravy



captured the spirit of the evening beautifully. If you missed it, you missed a treat (and a few transmission tricks).



2025 AACA Dual Meet and Swap Meet – Hershey Park Pennsylvania

By John Boyd

For many years now, the Airflow Club of America—where I serve as newsletter editor and VP—has set up a membership booth at the Hershey Swap Meet, held during the first week of October in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The meet takes place in the parking lot of Giant Stadium and the Hersheypark amusement area, drawing thousands of visitors and offering just as many vendor spaces. This was my fifth (or maybe sixth?) time attending. I spent most of the week at our ACA booth, but also made time to explore the sprawling car corral and catch up with friends from both the AACA and ACA.

One of our traditions is the Pennsylvania Dutch banquet hosted by the Airflow Club at The Gathering Place in nearby Mount Joy. It's always a warm, relaxed evening. Also, most years, the ACA booth crew—"staff" might be a bit generous for the three of us who keep showing up—grab dinner in Hershey and then stroll through the RM Auctions prep and display field at the Hershey Lodge. This time, we opted for a Greek restaurant, where we bumped into Jack Heacock from our San Diego Region, along with several other AACA friends from across the country. The photos capture our booth, a soggy Tuesday, and a few of the more eye-catching cars. All in all, another memorable Hershey week.



I bought one of these in 1969. Still my favorite Mustang.

2nd Annual Mission Bay Picnic

The editor was unable to attend the picnic owing to the Hershey commitment, but Tom has provided a great set of photos of the event!





Mustangs by the Bay

Ten Thunderbirds from the Classic Thunderbirds of San Diego joined the San Diego Mustang Club on October 5 for their annual Mustangs by the Bay show and meet at Embarcadero Marina Park North. San Diego Region AACA President Tom McIlravy joined the party and contributed a couple of photos of his gleaming hoss.

Photo credit San Diego Classic Thunderbirds via their website



COMING EVENTS

October 25 -- CLMM Car Show

We are invited to hold a car show with up to 10 antique cars at Covenant Living at Mount Miguel (where John and Barbara Boyd now live), at 325 Kempton St. Spring Valley. Snacks, hot dogs, and sodas will be served.

Details:

- **Email John Boyd at drjohn96@mac.com** by Oct 23 to **register your car.**
- Please **arrive by 10:30** to allow time to arrange cars and park. Follow your GPS to the address. CLMM is a block or two east of the Spring Valley Swap Meet field, just off 125 at the Jamacha Blvd – Paradise Valley Road exit. Take the exit and go east about a half mile to the Kempton St stoplight. Turn right and proceed south to the entrance.
- Guests will be primed to ask you about your car with suggested questions, like: What is this car? Did you fix it up yourself? Can you drive it on the freeway? Why did you choose this particular car?
Be prepared to talk cars!

SAN DIEGO REGION ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

Car Show



**COVENANT LIVING
AT MOUNT MIGUEL**
325 KEMPTON, SPRING VALLEY, CA

- Old timey diner-style music
- Hot dogs and drinks
- Photo ops • Talk with the owners!

Questions? Contact Yesenia Marquez at (619) 931-1132
or John Boyd at (858) 997-7002

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 25
11 AM – 1:30 PM**

**FREE
ADMISSION**

November 3 -- Nick Fintzelberg Remembrance

San Diego Region AACA are inviting Classic Car Club of America and other San Diego region car clubs to this special first Monday meeting at the Joyce Beers Center in Hillcrest. Come remember and celebrate the life achievements and contribution to the old car hobby of our friend and former member Nick Fintzelberg.

November 16 -- Annual Awards Banquet

Please get your reservations in for the Banquet! This will be another great time for all at the Bay Club.

Reservations are only \$20 per person as the club is paying the rest for this great meal. Awards will be presented and the highlights of 2025 will be shared by President Tom. He is already collecting photos and reports for the celebration. DO NOT miss it!

Registration deadline is November 6, with a price increase after November 9.

El Cajon Cruise Night

Sorry, out of room! Photos next issue.

All San Diego Car Club Event

On Monday night November 3rd, 2025, the San Diego Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America is hosting an evening Remembrance/Memorial for Nick Fintzelberg. Nick was an active member of several local and national car clubs and held leadership positions in many clubs throughout the years.



The evening will be held at our meeting location in the Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont St. San Diego, CA 92103 from 7:00-8:30 PM. The event is casual, as Nick would have wanted, and is an opportunity to share memories, photos, anecdotes, etc., about Nick. It is widely felt that this will quite probably be the only event of this type for Nick.

This initial email is sent to main contacts at the following clubs for dispersion to members of your respective club: AACA, San Diego Region - Rolls-Royce Owners' Club - Classic Car Club of America, San Diego Region - Great Autos, San Diego. We hope they in turn will pass along to other clubs of which Nick was a member. It will be a casual event with refreshments served. Any club wishing to help with refreshments would be appreciated as well your participation.

For further information or clarification please contact Brad Zemcik zman92107@yahoo.com

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Brad Zemcik



SAN DIEGO REGION AACA ANNUAL BANQUET - NOVEMBER 16, 2025 - RESERVATION FORM

GUEST

MEAL CHOICE

Member Name _____	Chicken <input type="radio"/>	Salmon <input type="radio"/>	Steak <input type="radio"/>	Veg <input type="radio"/>
Spouse/Guest _____	Chicken <input type="radio"/>	Salmon <input type="radio"/>	Steak <input type="radio"/>	Veg <input type="radio"/>
Guest Name _____	Chicken <input type="radio"/>	Salmon <input type="radio"/>	Steak <input type="radio"/>	Veg <input type="radio"/>
Guest Name _____	Chicken <input type="radio"/>	Salmon <input type="radio"/>	Steak <input type="radio"/>	Veg <input type="radio"/>

List additional guests and meal choices on back.

Total number of meals ____ x \$20 = _____ Check if past president, honorary, or charter ☐

Make checks payable to AACA San Diego and mail to **John Boyd, 325 Kempton Unit 252, Spring Valley, CA 91977** by November 6. Increase price by \$10 per meal if postmarked after November 9.

Your check number: _____