

# THE FOOT WARMER

Official publication of the San Diego Region

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB  
OF AMERICA



JANUARY 2025

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/SanDiegoRegionAACA](http://www.facebook.com/groups/SanDiegoRegionAACA)

## President's Greeting

Happy New Year! The year has started off with a great presentation from Brad Zemcik from his trip to Brussels, Belgium, Auto World Museum. (Brussels Auto World). Europe has some of the earliest cars and most beautiful carriages from the late 1800s and early 1900s. He has two more scheduled for the general meeting, one in April and one in June, from the Louwman Museum. Next month is Keith Wahl and his presentation about his car purchase out of Canada.

Do you have a Christmas gift that really needs to be re-gifted?? March is our White-Elephant Bingo night. A great place to offload those special, "Bless Your Heart", gifts.

Looking forward to the San Diego Excursion. This coming Sunday Jan 12, starting out at the auto Museum, Old Town, to Shelter Island, then on to the first parade route: down Rosecrans, up Chatsworth to Catalina, and then back to Rosecrans via Canon. Doing this twice. I hope you all can attend.

Tom McIlravy, President, San Diego Region AACA



*A lovely 1949 Buick Roadmaster just listed for sale in St. Louis, Asking \$149,500. Classiccars.com.*

**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](mailto: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

**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
January	6	General Meeting (GM): Brussels Auto World (Zemcik)
	12	1915 Exposition Road Race (Newell Booth)
	25	Club Breakfast
	25	Silent Movie: 5:00 pm (Smithson)
February	3	GM Canadian Car Conundrum (Wahl)
	15	SDA Chili Contest (Wahl)
March	3	GM White Elephant Bingo (McIlravy)
	8	Silent Movies Trinity Church, 5:00 pm (Smithson)
	TBD	Gillespie Aerospace Museum Tour (Richards)
April	22	Club Breakfast
	7	GM: The Louwman Museum Pt. 1 (Zemcik)
	TBD	Cajon Classic Cruise (Richards)
	TBD	Summers Past Picnic (Cottee & Richards)
May	26	Club Breakfast
	1-3	AACA Spring Nationals, Tucson AZ
	5	GM: Old Car Ads (David Willoughby)
	TBD	Ladies Luncheon (Susan Woods)
June	24	Beth Kind Open House Valley Center (Foley)
	2	GM Louwman Museum Pt.2 (Zemcik)
	14	Silvergate Car Show 11:30-1:30 (Richards and?)
July	29	All American BBQ with SDA & HCCA (Gunthorp)
		No GM
	4	Coronado Independence Day Parade (Smithson)
	19	Miniature Museum Tour (Jurist)
August	26	Club Breakfast
	3	Cars & Coffee, Police Museum, Pancake Brunch (Newell Booth)
	4	Hobby Night (?)
September	23	Club Breakfast
	1	Labor Day Pizza Party (Richards)
October	27	Mission Bay Picnic (Rebello)
	6	GM Trials, Tribulations and Transmissions (Wahl and Rebello)
November	7-10	AACA Hershey Car Show and Swap Meet
	TBD	CLMM Car Show (Boyd)
	25	Club Breakfast
	3	GM Member Car Talks (Rebello) Club Award Banquet (Gunthorp)



2025  
Happy New Year!

## January Members General Meeting

The SD Region General Meeting was held at the Joyce Beers Center in Hillcrest on Monday, January 6. Attendees enjoyed a fascinating slide show presentation by Brad Zemcik of his tour of Brussels Auto World, a large, indoor collection of mostly European cars from as far back as the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

During the business session, President Tom gave a summary of the December Board meeting discussion on club finances. Details are summarized below.

Diane Richards, Refreshments Coordinator, set the pace with a beautiful New Year's layout of charcuterie rolls, crackers, pastries, and even an orange cake! Diane notes there are still a couple of months available to volunteer for. Email her at [mark\\_diane@yahoo.com](mailto:mark_diane@yahoo.com) to discuss. Host and hostess expenses are cheerfully reimbursed – give or mail your receipts to Treasurer John Boyd.



Barbara Foley won the name badge drawing and was awarded the \$20 cash prize.

## San Diego Region Financial Outlook

Over several decades, as one of the Big Three car clubs who organized the annual San Diego stadium swap meet, our club accumulated some of the profits. These profits were generated by hard work by many of our members; for example, in marking thousands of exhibitor spaces in the stadium parking lots. In reviewing our current income, expenses, and bank balance, the Board reaffirmed our intention to use these profits for attracting new members, increasing participation in our events and outings, and building enthusiasm for the antique car hobby. While maintaining a “skin in the game” practice for regular events like our summer picnics and awards banquets, the Board decided to increase subsidies of other events on a case-by-case basis. For example, the club will pay the docent fee for the upcoming Gillespie Field Aerospace Museum visit. Another example: for the contemplated group luncheon after the museum visit, a cash subsidy may be provided to each member or person attending to offset the cost of whatever lunch he/she orders. The 2025 Region Budget, to be presented for approval at our February meeting, will provide for our revised spending plan. It is the Board’s hope that the changes will indeed lead to increased participation and enthusiasm in our activities and for the hobby.

## Coming Events – Kicking off 2025

### Centennial Celebration of the 1915 San Diego Exposition Road Race

The long anticipated commemorative tour of the 1915 Road Race takes place January 12. Preregistration is required, and more than 100 cars have already signed up. Contact Newell Booth; details in the flyer pictured.

### Club Social 4th-Saturday Breakfast

The San Diego Regions monthly (mostly) social breakfasts resume on January 25 at Elijah's, 7061 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, at 9:00 am. Totally informal, we try to sit together and visit while we enjoy breakfast specialties. The editor's personal favorites are Latke's with applesauce and sour cream and lox side, or Lox & Bagel sandwich. Some others prefer the Steak & Eggs. Come join us – a nice, central location in Kearney Mesa just off I-805.

### January 25, 5 pm car show, performance begins at 6.

There are Silent Movies coming up on January 25 and March 8. For these wintertime showings with live theater organ performance, our Region is supporting with an antique car show in the parking lot before the show begins. Publicity announcements are on page 8 of this issue. AACA participants are requested to be parked by 5 pm. Al Smithson ([alsmithson@cox.net](mailto:alsmithson@cox.net), 619.992.8729) coordinates this show – let's support him by showing up with a nice contingent of cars.

*The Freshman* is a 1925 American silent comedy film that tells the story of a college freshman trying to become popular by joining the school football team. It remains one of Lloyd's most successful and enduring films. Train station scenes were filmed at the Southern Pacific Railroad depot at Ontario, California, with a four-car train set and locomotive provided by the railroad and standing on a siding adjacent to the station. Some shots were also made in the park across the street from the depot. Some 80 cast and crew were involved at this location. Exteriors were filmed near the USC campus in Los Angeles. The game sequence was shot on the field at the Rose Bowl, and the crowd scenes were shot at halftime at California Memorial Stadium during the November 1924 Big Game between UC Berkeley and Stanford University. [Adapted from *Wikipedia*.]

### February General Meeting

Keith Wahl will present the "Canadian Car Conundrum", a story of difficulties and setbacks experienced in purchasing a car in Canada (pretty easy) and getting it across the border into Southern California (not so much). Expect an interesting, informative update on what our border looks like today, before the promised (threatened?) tariffs.

SAN DIEGO EXCURSION  
CELEBRATION OF THE 1915 EXPOSITION ROAD RACE  
SUNDAY JANUARY 12, 2025  
DRIVE TO POINT LOMA AND AROUND THE 1915 ROAD RACE ROUTE.

OPEN TO ALL UNMODIFIED 1942 OR EARLIER CARS.

7:00 CHECK-IN AT SAN DIEGO AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM – DONUTS AND COFFEE  
8:00 MUSEUM OPENS AT REDUCED RATE  
9:00 EXCURSION DEPARTS SDAM  
11:00 PARADE OF RACE ROUTE STARTS  
12:00 LUNCH ON YOUR OWN AT LIBERTY STATION

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED [bit.ly/4fWEh6n](https://bit.ly/4fWEh6n)  
CONTACT: NEWELL BOOTH  
619-320-8422  
SDEXCURSION@hcfi.org

PERIOD CLOTHING ENCOURAGED  
TRAILER PARKING BY OLD BALBOA HOSPITAL IN LARGE LOT AT 2115 PARK BLVD.

@SDEXCURSION  
hcfi.org/SDEXCURSION  
 @SDEXCURSION  
ORGANIZED BY HCCA CLUBS OF SAN DIEGO

11-20

## **Chili Cook-off**

Time to start planning and gathering ingredients for the second annual joint Studebaker Club and AACA Chili Cook-off, to be held at the Joyce Beers Center in Hillcrest on February 15. Poblano? Ancho? Guajillo? Serrano? Chipotle? Jalapeño? Habanero maybe? McCormick Chili Powder? Beans? No beans? You have decisions to make, and these things take time. Plan now to participate, whether you are bringing chili or not, and go invite some friends. If 25 people contribute 25 chili pots, how much will each person eat? We need guests!

## *Reader Correspondence*

### **From Bob Gunthorp:**

Hi John -- This is for the Foot Warmer. Many of you might not have heard about the new ruling from California DMV. As of October 1 this year, DMV is no longer requiring drivers over 70 to take the written exam. It turns out this was never a law rather a decision made by some DMV employee.

For several people I know, this was a blessing. One of them had failed the written test and was sweating out the retest when this went into effect. He waited until October, 2 and went back to DMV and they only required the eye test. Two others I know in their 80's were very worried. They also got their licenses with only the eye test.

### **From Al Smithson:**

## ***An Ode to Antique Automobiles***

Author Unknown

Oh, vintage chariots of days gone by,  
With gleaming curves that touch the sky.  
Your engines hum with a timeless song,  
As down old roads, you gracefully prolong.

In polished chrome and leather seats,  
You carry stories of bygone feats.  
Each squeak, each rumble, a whispered tale,  
Of journeys taken, of dreams set sail.

From Model Ts to classic Cadillacs,  
Your elegance persists, no shortcuts or hacks.  
Through eras passed, you've proudly stood,  
Icons of craftsmanship, understood.

So here's to antique automobiles,  
With wheels that spin like spinning wheels.  
In museums or on streets you roam,  
Symbols of an era, forever gone.



### *In other news*

Listed right now on Bring-a-Trailer: 4500 Hotwheels, new, still on blister packs!

<https://bringatrailer.com/listing/scale-models-6/> Bidding as of this writing is at \$7000. Move fast if you want a shot – bidding ends soon. Listed at no reserve.

### *Some Internet Gems*

#### **YouTube**

I enjoy watching Adam Wade's YouTube channel, Rare Classic Cars & Automotive History. Click or type this link. <http://www.youtube.com/@RareClassicCars>. He posts a new video about every week, sometimes more often. Many of them give a thoughtful review of styling and design features of cars of the past, primarily those built in Detroit. Here are some recommended samples. (If you are reading this on your phone or computer, just click the image.)



### 1967 Mercury Cougar: The Luxurious Pony Car That...

*Comparing the Cougar to the Mustang. He likes the Cougar better.*

### Worst Engines of All Time



Top 10 Worst Car Engines of All Time: See The List of Clunkers from GM, Ford & Chrysler!

*See if you've ever owned one and you agree.*



### Top 10 Facts about the 1955-57 Ford Thunderbird: Ford's...

*Great summary of the motivation and design of the Thunderbird.*

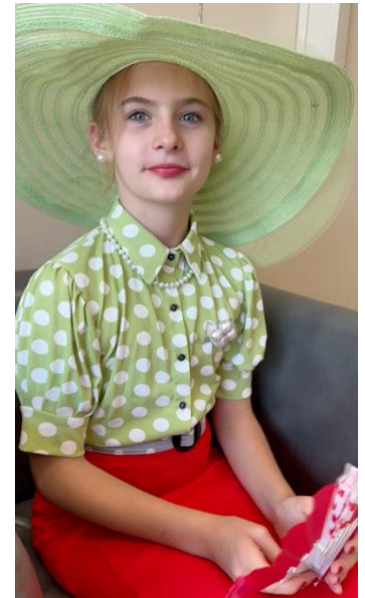


Cadillac Cimarron (1982-1988): Top 10 Facts About Cadillac's Most Unloved Car

*Respect for the Cimarron*

## Young Persons and Old Cars

At the 2024 National Airflow Club Meet in London, Ontario, eleven-year-old Iris sat for a videotaped interview with Club member Connie Librenjak. The video has since been posted on YouTube and on Facebook. The knowledge and interest this young lady displays is surprising. How can we interest *more* such young people in the old car hobby? Watch the video by clicking the image or typing this address into your web browser: <https://youtu.be/abT9GsHpT3k>.



## 100 Years on the Lincoln Highway

“Before the Interstate Highway System, before famed Route 66, before highways were even numbered, there was one road that started it all, one road that changed America forever: The Lincoln Highway. “100 Years on the Lincoln Highway” is the story of the first coast to coast automobile road in the United States and its impact on Wyoming.”

This Public Television Documentary provides an interesting, well-researched record of the selling, funding, and construction of the [Lincoln highway](#), the first single road to cross the US. Route planning, lobbying, compromises, funding are all discussed. Interesting story! Click the link, or search YouTube for “100 years on the Lincoln Highway.” It’s about an hour long.





# Theatre Organ Society of San Diego

**JAN – MAR 2025 LOOK AHEAD**

**JAN 25**  
Saturday  
**4:30**  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**RENEW MEMBERSHIP**  
or JOIN  
HERE

Light Snacks

**JAN 25**  
Saturday  
**6:00p\***



"The Freshman"  
Harold Lloyd

Accompanied by  
**RUSS PECK**

\*5:00p  
Antique Automobile Club of America

## **TOSSD SURVEY** "WE HEARD YOU"

Your *impressive response* to our recent survey helped us confidently plan programs for the coming year.

**SILENT FILMS** continue to be our *programming favorite* and they will show at 6:00pm on announced Saturday evenings.

**THANK YOU** for your continuing support as we feature our 1927 Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ in quality performances.



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