

BATTERY POST



POSITIVELY GROUNDED IN THE OLD CAR HOBBY

March/April 2021

A Note from the President



Spring has arrived! And much like nature, the club is starting to awaken. I want to thank everyone who joined in our “flash” tour earlier this month.

The weather was perfect, and the cars looked great going down the road! The ice cream

at Van Dee’s was especially satisfying. Check out the pictures.

The Board and I are continuing to monitor the COVID situation and are planning club activities based the latest information. The events calendar reflects near-term decisions, although ideas for future events are actively being developed. The May event will be a tour to Pella to look at the tulips. We’ll be in our cars, outside for the tulips, and in Pella before the Tulip Time crowd.

The hope is that by July the comments made by our politicians come true and the club can have events similar to what we’ve had pre-COVID. So hang in there, keeping working on those cars, and look forward to fun times with the club!

Scott

Mission Statement

The Des Moines Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America is an organization whose members have an interest in antique vehicles 25 years or older that are devoted to the preservation and restoration of original condition of all makes of their antique vehicles.

***Don’t forget to renew your membership!
Please use the form and instructions at the
end of this Battery Post issue.***

Ice Cream Driving Tour – April 3





License Plate Trivia

At a Board meeting a few months ago, I showed a new addition to my license plate collection. It was a steel Iowa license plate with no year, just a dash where the year belonged. I quizzed everyone to why it might not have a year. Understandably, most were not as excited as Tonya and I, but it turns out after a little research that the plate was for the years 1916 through 1918. With World War I raging, metal was in short supply, so Iowa made a single plate for these years in an effort to save steel.

License plates have a long history, and one could write a Harry Potter length book on this topic. I'll forego doing that in favor of a few bullet points that may be of interest. Here I'll focus on factoids from around the US. In the future, I'll focus on Iowa license plates. Enjoy!

- New York was the first state to require vehicles bear a license plate (1901), but Massachusetts was the first state to have state-issued plates (1903).
- Iowa was the first state west of the Mississippi River to begin registering autos on a statewide basis in 1904.
- Pennsylvania was the first to issue a personalized plate in 1931.
- Idaho license plates appeared with the words "Idaho Potatoes" in 1928 and is considered the first license plate with a slogan in the US.
- The iconic "bucking bronco" first appeared on the Wyoming license plate in 1936.
- A standardized plate size was established in 1957.
- Twenty states require only a rear tag. They include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico. Ohio is the most recent state to allow drivers to go without a front plate (July 2020). www.autolist.com/guides/front-license-plate

2021 Event Calendar

The board is working hard on filling the 2021 Calendar with fun and engaging events. The pandemic created many challenges for the club. But we know that once it's safe, we'll be able to make up for lost time. The next planned events:

Saturday, May 1st: Driving Tour to Pella (a week before the Tulip festival). Meet at SE Polk High School parking lot at 10:30 am and then we will caravan to Pella. Bring a packed cooler or choose takeout for a picnic lunch. We plan to park on the town square and eat in the park there - be sure to bring a lawn chair. The tulips should be beautiful! Please let us know if you plan to attend.

Sunday, September 12th: 2021 Des Moines Concours d'Elegance. Plans are underway to bring back the Concours from the pandemic delay from last year. The club needs to discuss whether to have a booth this year and if so, who will be able to run it.

Much more to come!

March Birthday

3/1 - Dixie Christiansen

April Birthdays

4/3 - Julie West

4/11 - Bill German

4/16 - Don Newby

4/23 - Karen Pittman

May Birthdays

5/3 - Koyla Baker

5/18 - Tonya Diehn

5/19 - Wayne Brill

5/28 - Lesa Brill

5/28 - Rick Hickman

5/30 - Bonnie Libby

May Anniversaries

5/19 - Bill & Judy Mally

5/24 - Jim & Karen Pittman

5/30 - Harvey & Koyla Baker

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary in the Battery Post, be sure to email Julie and let her know.

Club Shirts For Sale

Jack McWilliams has 3 AACA Des Moines Region shirts left to sell. Two are from the most recent order; one is from a previous order. All are Mediums. They are \$20/each. Contact Jack if you are interested!



2021-2022 Board



PRESIDENT - Scott Diehn - 802-1142
stdiehn@msn.com

SECRETARY - Julie West 360-9176
julie@4westworks.com

TREASURER - Wayne Brill 971-2546
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Bill German - 277-7397

David Libby - 225-6261
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Jack McWilliams - 240-3670
jackandbess7@gmail.com

Nora Schlenker - 229-4749

 **Financials**

As of 4/15/2020 - \$2,649.56

Are you on Facebook?
Be sure to "like" our page
at [DesMoinesAACA](#)

Website: aaca-dsm.org

Email: aacadmregion@gmail.com

NOTE THE NEW ADDRESS!

AACA DES MOINES REGION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please send form & payment to AACA Des Moines Region, P.O. Box 153, Altoona, IA 50009.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Collectible vehicles _____

National AACA Membership Number: _____

AACA Des Moines Region Dues \$20 per member/couple = _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____