



The Headliner

Phil LoGiudice—Editor



John Stefanacci

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Labor Day



President's Message

Hopefully this note finds you well. We really didn't have a lot going on this month so this will be kind of short.

Thanks to everything we do as club, we were able to support a lot of local charities that help our community.

We have made all the donations and look forward to helping again next year after our show. Have a great month and we will see you around.

Respectfully

John Stefanacci



visit AACA.org

- New Membership & Renewals
- Meet Registration / Meet results
- Club Merchandise

Our Next Meeting: September 8th at the Italian American Civic Association located at 1600 25th Street, Vero Beach.

Dinner is at 5:30 pm—menu details are sent the week before.

Remember, RSVP for dinner is mandatory. If you plan to attend for dinner, send an **Email message to Fred Kiesel with your dinner choice:**

ofcrfred@bellsouth.net

Email Fred in order to be served. No texts or phone calls please!

We look forward to seeing all of you at the **7pm meeting**.

Welcome New Members

Tony & Debi Andreoli

Significant September Auto Dates

September 23, 1897

In Great Britain, nine-year-old Stephen Kempton died under the wheels of a taxi in the world's first recorded automobile fatality. Two years later, 68-year-old real estate broker Henry Bliss was struck by a car on the streets of New York in the United States' first traffic fatality.

September 7, 1899

America's first automobile parade was held in Newport, Rhode Island, with over a dozen motorcars. Numerous spectators arrived to view the automobiles, which up until that point had been shrouded in mystery.

Piper Car and Truck Show August 8, 2026



You can't see legendary aircraft being built just anywhere. But at Piper Aircraft's Vero Beach campus, you can experience the culmination of over 85 years of aircraft manufacturing and engineering expertise, innovation, technological advancement, and vision.

These complimentary tours are available every Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.

Prior reservations are required. To book your tour, contact tours@piper.com or call 772-299-2600. Please be advised that space is limited during the peak season.

More from the Piper Car and Truck Show



Millions of Lightning Strikes Daily

Are We Safe in our Vehicles?



The short answer is that we are probably safe even when lightning strikes our vehicles. The reasons why are not about our rubber tires. I read an estimate that there are 8.9 million strikes a day and 1.5 billion vehicles on the roads daily. There's bound to be a connection at times.

According to *Science by Darren Orf*, Conventional wisdom is that if you happen to be inside a car when it's struck by lightning, you're inherently safe thanks to the vehicle's rubber tires. That's not entirely the case, though, as rubber only acts as an electrical insulator for low voltages, and lightning is anything but. A typical lightning strike delivers roughly 300 million volts (a standard electrical outlet, by comparison, delivers 120 volts).

With such high voltages, tires alone won't protect you in a lightning strike — they likely won't even survive themselves. Lightning can raise the temperature of surrounding air by as much as 50,000 degrees Fahrenheit — more than five times as hot as the surface of the sun — sometimes causing car tires to *explode*.

But even if that happens, you may be just fine sitting inside your vehicle. Here's why:

Because lightning is attracted to the tallest metal objects in the vicinity, cars are basically big fat lightning rods, so it wouldn't be a total shock if a vehicle was struck. (Well, it would in one sense.) But cars are also sort of like a Faraday cage on wheels — and this offers some protection.

Named after English physicist Michael Faraday in the early 1800s, a Faraday cage is a fully enclosed box made from an electrically conductive material. This material allows a Faraday cage to isolate what's inside from electromagnetic radiation outside of it. You may carry a small Faraday cage in your pocket — it's how anti-theft sleeves block thieves from remotely scanning your credit cards or cloning your key fob. Free electrons in the outer shell of a Faraday cage create an electromagnetic field that essentially cancels out other fields.

So when lightning strikes a vehicle, it's the metal chassis of the car — not its rubber tires — that funnels the energy away from the cabin to the ground, protecting the passengers inside. (Technically, a car is only similar to a Faraday cage because it still has openings in the metal chassis, such as the windows, which allow other forms of electromagnetic radiation inside. That's why your phone still gets a signal even when you're driving inside a metal box.)

This effect provides some protection, but it certainly doesn't mean you should go barreling into severe lightning storms on a whim. While the people inside the car may not get electrocuted, a lightning strike can still fry onboard electronics. The antenna may melt, the windows may shatter, and fires can break out. And there's also the whole exploding tires problem.

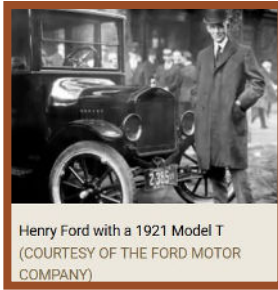
And of course, this chassis-based shield only applies to fully enclosed vehicles — meaning motorcycles, bikes, or convertibles do not share the same level of safety. That's why it's really important to remember that having rubber tires does not make your vehicle immune to lightning.



Photos courtesy of National Geographic

Henry Ford Myth

Submitted by Clark Ballard



Myth #1: Henry Ford's Specifications for Parts Crates Allowed Him to Recycle the

Wood as Floorboards.

This tall tale has to do with Henry Ford, the subject of many such yarns. Allegedly, Ford

Motor Company specified the size of crates used by component suppliers so the boxes could

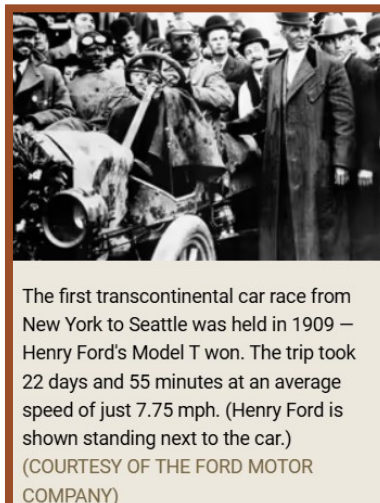
be carefully broken down and the wood panels repurposed as floorboards for Model Ts.

In reality, not much of that story is true, although Ford did use a lot of wood in making the Model T. It's estimated that each Model T used about 100 board feet of lumber—for the floorboard, toe board, dashboard, spokes for the “artillery” style wheels, and a wooden frame for the body's steel panels.

Also, after the Dodge brothers (who were his primary supplier) parted with Ford, Ford Motor Company developed into one of the most vertically integrated manufacturing firms in history. Eventually, FoMoCo made its own steel from ore mined from its own mines, its own glass, and Henry even tried growing his own rubber trees in the Amazon. There was a period when Ford didn't have that many outside suppliers. Because of his need for wood, Ford owned about a half-million acres of forest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, along with three lumber mills as well as a large industrial facility in Iron Mountain for milling that wood into usable parts.

If anyone was making wood crates for Ford parts, it was Ford. Those wood crates, however, were not recycled into floorboards. There was a special department at the Rouge facility for recycling that wood into other crates.

Henry Ford was very much into recycling. The Iron Mountain facility didn't just make wood parts (and bodies for “woodie” station wagons and eventually military gliders during WWII as well). It processed sawdust, wood scraps, and other waste materials into usable materials like methanol, creosote, and charcoal briquettes.



Presentations and Donations To our Charities

On Monday, August 17th, a donation to the Vero Beach Veterans Club in the amount of \$2500 was presented by John Steffanaci, Al DiDomizio, and Fred Kiesel at their monthly member meeting. They were very appreciative. Prior to the meeting we met for a delicious hamburger meal, \$10 for a variety of burger styles and fries. Available from 11 am to 7pm on Mondays.

Story and photo submitted by Al DiDomizio.



Story and photos submitted by Paul Grey who stopped by Little Birthday Angels August 18th and presented them with the check for \$1,500. They were extremely appreciative of our donation to their wonderful cause.

WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP!






Volunteer

scan to join us!



Birthday Hero

- Sponsor a Birthday Bag of Hope filled with gifts and essential items bringing birthday joy to a homeless child for **\$20/month or \$240**

Birthday Superhero

- Sponsor four Birthday Bags of Hope filled with gifts and essential items for **\$85/month or \$1000**.
- Includes a marketing package of six social media posts, check presentation and wall logo placement at the birthday workshop.

OUR MISSION

To provide a birthday celebration for every homeless child living on the Treasure Coast of Florida.

WHO WE ARE

Little Birthday Angels is a 501c3 nonprofit organization providing birthday gifts and essential items for homeless children on the Treasure Coast.

OUR STORY

Little Birthday Angels is a 501c3 nonprofit organization currently serving on the Treasure Coast of Florida. In August 2014, Brian and Angel Pietsch, and their two sons, Hunter and Seth, were inspired to begin an organization when it was brought to their attention that a local shelter did not have the extra funds needed to celebrate a young girl named Deserei's birthday. Thanks to the helping hands and hearts of many volunteers and supporters, Little Birthday Angels was given its wings and is now celebrating one birthday at a time for many homeless children living in our community.

DONATE





Upcoming Events

Oct 18 – Jumpstart Antique Car Show – Ft Pierce Elks Lodge and Purple Cane Project. 11am to 3 pm at 608 S. 5th Street, Fort Pierce.

AACA NATIONALS AND TOURS

Always verify information. Notices contained in event registration materials take precedence. This information is for official use only and is not for public dissemination without the express permission of the AACA Vice President of National Activities (see page 4).

2026

May 28-30, 2026

Eastern Spring Nationals

Indiana, Pennsylvania • Shannock Valley Region • 724-783-7140

June 11-13, 2026

Southeastern Fall Nationals

Oak Ridge, Tennessee • Volunteer Region • 865-803-3412

June 14-19, 2026

Sentimental Tour (1928-1958)

Mechanicsburg, Pa. • Oakland/Pontiac Worldwide Region • 717 877-4766

July 23-25, 2026

Central Spring Nationals

Green Bay, Wisconsin • 920-819-1407

August 5-8, 2026

Southeastern Divisional Tour (Up to 2001)

Flat Rock, N.C. • Great Smoky Mtn Region and LDC • 828-606-2918

August 19-22, 2026

Annual Grand Nationals / Zenith Awards

Allentown, Pennsylvania • 717-534-1910

September 9-14, 2026

Founders Tour (1932-2001)

Williamsburg, Virginia • Historic VA Peninsula Region • 757-303-0650

September 21-26, 2026

Revival AAA Glidden Tour® (Pre-1943)

Dover, Delaware • AACA Hosted • 484-769-7856

October 6-9, 2026

Eastern Fall Nationals

Hershey, Pennsylvania • Hershey Region • 717-566-7720

2027

February 4-6, 2027

Annual Convention

King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. • AACA National • 717-534-1910

February 18-20, 2027

Winter Nationals

Melbourne, Florida. • AACA National • 717-534-1910

April 8-10, 2027

Southeastern Spring Nationals

Charlotte, N.C. • Hornets Nest Region • 704-847-4215

June 3-6, 2027

Eastern Spring Nationals

Fredericksburg, Va. • Fredericksburg Region • 540-834-8120

July 22-24, 2027

Central Spring Nationals

New Ulm, Minnesota • Minnesota Region • 320-290-4285

August 26-28, 2027

Central Fall Nationals

Crystal Lake, Illinois. • Northern Illinois Region • 815-758-3085

September 8-11, 2027

Special Fall Nationals

Vernon, N.Y. • Rolling Antiquers Region • 607-316-0648

October 5-8, 2027

Eastern Fall Nationals

Hershey, Pennsylvania • Hershey Region • 717-566-7720

October 5-8, 2027

Eastern Divisional Tour

Swedesboro, N.J. • South Jersey Region • 856-535-1299

REGION / CHAPTER EVENTS

May 2026

16 Lutherville, Md. Chesapeake Region. Annual four-alarm collector car show.

Tom Rosso 240-375-5325; 1965barracuda@comcast.net; chesapeake.aaca.com

16 Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Cedar Rapids Region. 48th annual swap meet

Sharon Schmink 319-472-4372; cedarapidsregionaaca.com

23 Galax, Virginia. Twin County Region. Memories on Main car show.

Thomas Little luv2fly53p@gmail.com

24 Fallbrook, Calif. Fallbrook Vintage CC Region. 59th annual vintage car show.

FallbrookVintageCarClub.org

23-24 Luray, Virginia. Greenhorn Region. 2026 Next Generation Tour.

Kyle Blake GreenhornRegion@gmail.com

25 Boalsburg, Pa. Ellegheeny Mt. Region. Memorial Day show. Baalsburg Military

Museum. Scott Deno nsdeds@hotmail.com

June 2026

7 Lancaster, N.Y. Lake Erie Region. 72nd Annual car show. Como Lake Park.

AACA.org/lakeerie

7 Liverpool, N.Y. Oneida Lake Region. 73rd annual car show/swap meet

Jim Smith 315-468-2331; jdsmtth68@yahoo.com; olraaca.net

13 Union Gap, Wash. Central Washington Region. 42nd Yakima Valley swap

meet/car show. Mike Kelley 253-630-2629; termika@comcast.net

13 York Springs, Pa. Gettysburg Region. Annual car show at Latimore Valley

Fairground. Annette Yost 717-680-8000

14 Waterford, Pa. Presque Isle Region. 50th antique automobile show

Howard Krack 814-881-1015; piraaca45@yahoo.com

20 Louisville, Ky. KYANA Region. National DeSoto Club 40th convention/car

show. Mark Kubanok mark.kubanok@gmail.com; desoto.org/events

20 Princeton, N.J. Mid-Jersey Region. Car show at Terhune Orchards.

MidJerseyRegionAACA@gmail.com

27 Charlestown, R.I. Westerly-Pawcatuck Region. 3rd annual South County

car show. General Stanton Inn. Text/call 203/913-5562 or 305-731-3852

July 2026

31-Aug. 2 Macungie, Pa. Ontelaunee Region. Das Awkscht Fescht.

Susan Manwiler 610-823-5033; smanw1321@aol.com

August 2026

2 Clearfield, Pa. Central Mountains Region. 49th antique / custom auto show.

Ed Milligan 814-553-7493; edlindamilligan@currently.com

September 2026

6 Latrobe, Pa. Western Pa. Region. 62nd antique/custom/street rod show.

Flow Myers 724-221-7293; WesternPaRegion.org

10-11 Dearborn, Mich. Snappers Brass & Gas Region. 43rd Lansing to

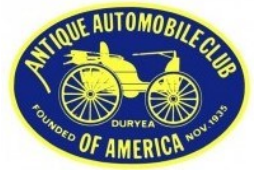
Dearborn Run for pre-1915 vehicles. JFGraco@peoplepc.com

19 Manassas, Va. Bull Run Region. 50th Edgar Rohr Memorial car meet at

historic railroad depot. Randy Higgins 703-853-2235

20 McAdoo, Pa. Anthracite Region. 40th annual car show/flea market

Dave Bielen 717-471-9313; dbielen51@gmail.com



Local Cruises:

3rd Monday – T/A Truck Stop. Done until October.

1st Tuesday - Vero Vintage Volkswagens monthly meeting 5 pm to 8pm. Walking Tree Brewery – A food truck will be available.

2nd Wednesday Evening at 5:15 pm to Five Guys in Sebastian. Please do not come early due to parking availability.

3rd Wednesday – Rotating Lunch cruise Vero Beach or Sebastian. Contact Bob Kaufman if interested, at 772-664-7091.

4th Wednesday – Breakfast at Country Ham & Egg—Call Bob Kaufman RSVP please..

Friday nights—Willy's Bar & Grill in Fellsmere. Music and car cruise.

2nd & 4th Saturday Breakfast at CJ Cannon's at 8 am. Hosted by The Indian River Region AACA.

Every Saturday - Cruise to McDonalds in Vero Beach on US1 and Oslo Road. Gather at 5:30pm. See Billy D'Arton for details.

Every Saturday Morning – Coffee and Cars at Beeb's Beans Coffee Roastery. At 1101 U.S. 1, Sebastian, FL. Just drop by.



MEMBER ADVERTISEMENTS



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 1143 18TH PLACE

jaystorch@aol.com
 VERO BEACH, FL 32960

Antiques for Sale

Billy D'Arton is selling four Shelby Mustang Wheels 15 inches by 7 inches wide. Contact Billy at 772-461-6907.

Asking \$1,200.



1955 Chevy Bel Air asking \$71,500 OBO, possible trade for 47-59 Chevy or 53-56 Ford truck of equal value. 383 Stroker Roller Motor, RHS Aluminum Heads, Billit Specialty's U Drive, 700 R4 Transmission, Power Steering & Disc/Drum Brakes, Hughes-2900 Stall Torque Converter, 10 Bolt Rear End, 3:55 Gear, Us Mags—Billet Standard Wheels, 20x10 & 20x8.5 Falkin Tires, Classic Instrument Gauges, Vintage Air, Hatchkis 1 3/8 5way Bar, Tubular Front Suspension, Streetheat Custom Dual Exhaust With X Pipe & Flow Master Mufflers. Sebastian Fl



2013 John Cooper Works Mini Coupe. Factory BMW, Turbo Charged engine—208 HP. 70,000 original miles. A/C, PB, PS, Up-graded bucket seats.

Contact Holly LoGiudice 203-506-4970.



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Paul Gray

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