

the SPOTLIGHT

Texas DFW Region

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

VOLUME 69

September 2026

ISSUE NO. 9



Next Meeting September 20



The President's Report

Brady's Briefing



Summer is still with us! The heat did not seem to bother those who drove their classics to the meeting at Norma's. Most of the classics I saw were air conditioned, including mine. Vickie insists on a newer car with cold air when it's this hot. Our 1979 Trans Am we drove has 9400 miles on it and everything still works the way it should. I have not done a tune up or an AC recharge and it still blows out air cold enough to fog.

Attendance was well beyond expectations. I believe we had about double the attendees that we normally have at these venues and I want to thank members who brought guests. For future events please check the website for the RSVP form. If you're coming, please let the host know. Even if you don't RSVP and decide last minute to attend you are still welcome. RSVP information lets us plan a little better.

Plan to attend the Bug Tussle Tour this year. It's going to be cooler and hopefully dry. This is always a fun tour, and I look forward to seeing you there. Registration is live now on our website.

The fall tour has been planned and looks great. It's also listed under events on our webpage.

Financially the club is doing well. Vickie has rearranged finances as directed by the Board and discussed at the last meeting. As the weather cools off, there will be more opportunities for pop up events.

I want to thank our Spotlight editors. Month after month they create a well-organized, informative and interesting publication. Keep up the good work!

As always, see you down the road.

Brady

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Cover Photo – Duffy Oyster's Rolls-Royce Phantom Coupe

September 20th Meeting

Duffy and Tina Oyster' Garage

Address is:

10750 Strait Lane, Dallas, TX 75229

1:00 PM for Board Meeting

2:00 PM for General Meeting

Pizza with drinks provided

A-P please bring a side/salad

Q-Z Desserts please

We have tables, but perhaps bring an extra chair !!



You
don't
want
to
miss
this!



Be Sure and Read the August Meeting Minutes.....Page 16 !!

August Meeting Report

By Jerry Smith

On a hot and sunny day, our club met at Norma's Café in Plano just off hwy 75. The hot day did not deter the 12 members who drove their classic cars and trucks to the meeting. But surprise, surprise, we had the largest meeting turnout that we've had in quite a while at 57, at last count. Even Robbie Markman and his crew came all the way from Meridian!! Well done and thanks for being part of the record crowd folks!!



We had some of our "regular" classic cars show up that seem to attend everything, but then we had this beautiful 36 Ford Pickup that brought **John and Lisa Wallace**, show up this month. The Green and Gold 49 Ford pickup, the "BU Truck", was driven by the **Smiths** from Wylie. Also, **Cope and Pamela Crisson** brought their newest edition, an 80's built Ford "Shay" which looks like a Model A but has all new and updated running gear for the 1980's. Can't wait to see it out on some of the exciting tours coming up!



August Meeting Report cont'd

We generally see **Chris and Linda Stathopulo's** 68 Ford Ranchero but we've never seen **David Walsh's** 1953 Dodge pickup. Interesting thing is that the only thing that's "Dodge" is the body. The rest is totally Ford Explorer—frame, engine, interior, etc. He had to extend the body 3" to make it fit ! And customized the engine compartment to fit under the hood ! WOW !



We really appreciate **Frank Sobyak** of "**Wheels for Wellness**" attending our meeting and telling us in person what the "**Wheels for Wellness**" does and how our club's attendance impacts people. Please see later in the Spotlight and online, much more detailed information about the coming fantastic event in downtown Ft. Worth around Sundance Square. And all the beautiful cars that usually attend would be complimented by yours if you choose to attend!!



Jeff has been attending Wheels for Wellness a long time and brought **Frank** to tell us more!



Robbie, brother **Jeffry**, **John** and **Lisa Wallace** and their guests waiting for lunch.

August Meeting Report

According to **Denise Velde**, the participation list lady, we had a bunch of guests as well. Our apologies if we missed someone due to not signing in.

Our guests included **Robert Canal**, who signed up for membership, **Les and Lisa Kelton**, **Jeff and Ann Comly**, **Kevin and Jamie Nicholson**, also signed up for membership, and of course **Frank Sobyak** with **Wheels for Wellness**.



Can't wait to see all yall next time! Please come and be a part of the FUN!!



Do you still work on your classic car or truck? If so, send us some pictures and a short write up so we can publish in the Spotlight. Most members are interested to read about somebody doing their own work on one of their prized classics. For example, **Chris Stathopulo** recently had to change some stuff on his **68 Ranchero**. Your club members would like to know and maybe have some questions for you. Let us hear from you and see what projects you're involved in. Just send to **Spotlight editor** and thanks a bunch!!

August Meeting Report



Ummm, Did You Perhaps Forget ?

The meal at Norma's was not on the club's ticket, it was OYO. There were some bills unpaid at the end, so if you forgot to settle your bill, or thought the club was taking care of it, please contact John Richardson at 214-914-6742 or johnhrich@tx.rr.com. Thanks,
It happens....

Sunshine Report

By Nuris Hester

I love the sunshine but the heat is brutal and it gave Doug Siminoe a heat stroke. As much as we enjoy our antique vehicles, August in Texas might not be a great time to drive these around more than a quick trip to the ice cream shoppe and back! Which brings to memory the many years our club was graciously hosted to ice cream at the Murphys . Chuck has had some health issues and stepped down from car club activities.

We sent notes to Clydette and Al Mahanna (as they both recently loss their spouses) to let them know the club members would love to see them and greet them with a warm hug.

Also sent notes to Ann Reznicek, Joel Roper, Roger Dennison and Martha Smith since we've not seen them in such a long period and would enjoy seeing them again. Get well cards sent to Lynda as she recovers from hernia surgery and Doug Siminoe who had heat stroke. Can't wait for the Texas Fall; best time of year for fun car tours. Let your sunshine chair know where a note of encouragement , get well card or other card should be sent from our DFW AACA.

Keep on the sunny side (but not directly in it for another two months).

Nuris Hester, Sunshine ☀️



Be Sure and Read the August Meeting Minutes.....Page 16 !!



New Member Spotlight!

by Tammy Keith

Please welcome to our Club...

Joined at the meeting Sunday August 16th, heard about the club at the British Car Show

Robert Canal

8598 Calimar Drive

Frisco, TX 75036

972-712-4022

madhatr17@hotmail.com

Cars

1967 Volkswagen MicroBUS

1978 FIAT Spider

Joined Online - No Car Info Yet

Jay Weidner

6530 Viginia Pkwy

Apt 714

McKinney, TX 75071

972-523-3511

JRWEIDNER23@OUTLOOK.COM

Christian Boyd

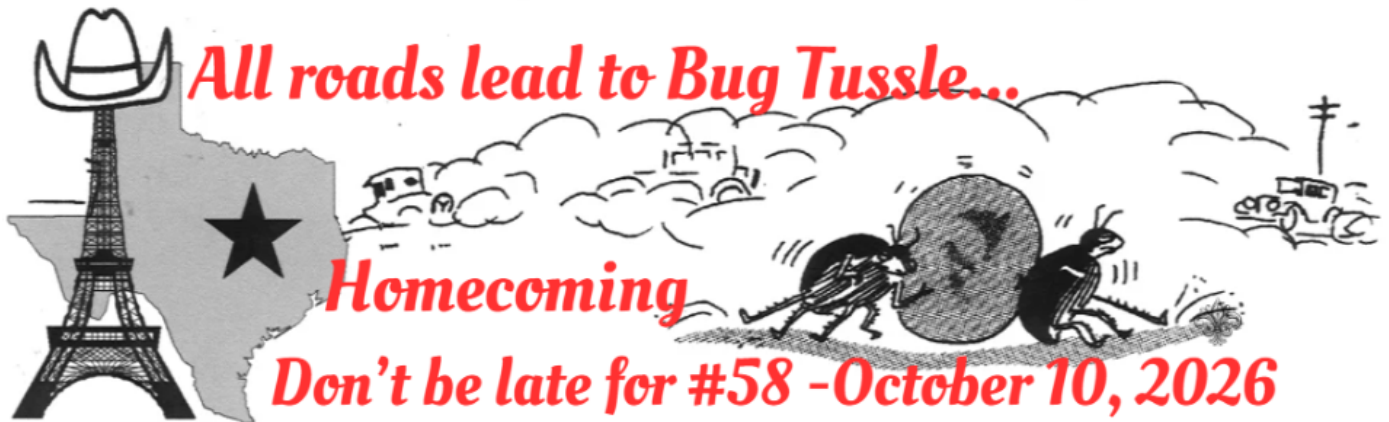
2706 Navajo Rd

Corinth, TX 76210

Cboyd@gmx.com

Welcome ! And thanks for joining us !

Bug Tussle Trek Registration is LIVE !!



- ♦ Sign-up **NOW** and make a hotel reservation ! See Registration Form for hotel
- ♦ Arrive at Farmersville downtown square NLT 8 am, with departure “about 8:30”
- ♦ Links provided below depending on your preferred social media
- ♦ T-Shirt order guaranteed only before September 26th
- ♦ Swag Bag with Tour Book, T-shirts and other swag at check-in in Farmersville

google link <https://forms.gle/u7YFXE3awn5UU9ibA>

website link <https://bugtussletrek.com>

facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/BugTussleTrek/>

One Day ONLY !!
Pop-Up Day Tour to Waxahachie
Saturday, September 26th

LEAVE at 9 am at the Walmart Supercenter, 1521 Cockrell Hill Rd., just off I-30

Lesser roads drive to Waxahachie Civic Center for the Studebaker International Club and Classic Car Show

Club meal downtown Waxahachie

Tour the Ellis County Museum across from the famous County Courthouse

Return OYO or with a group

Enroute pickup point for southeast DFWers — Walgreens at Loop 12 and S. Lancaster Rd (Just let John know if you are going to be there vs starting point...)

No advance registration needed !



There's a new Tri-Fold (PDF file) about the CLUB with updated information, ready online for your use—share or print to share !!

Hopefully up on the website as of publishing (didn't I say new..) and here's the link to it on the "About Us" webpage.

<https://texas-dfw.aaca.com/about-us-nws/>

Get it, Print it, Share it !!!

If you and your car(s) participate in other activities, and you want to share, please send pictures and info to the Spotlight, aacatrspotlight@gmail.com.

“Seen around Town”

By Linda Cruz

Hello All ,

Fellow AACA member **Fred Cruz** was at ABC auto parts store early June preparing our ‘56 **Thunderbird** for the upcoming “**Spring Tour**” to Ardmore Oklahoma.

While there, a local newspaper reporter spotted the parked **Thunderbird**.

He kindly waited for **Fred** to exit the store and came up to him to ask if he could take a picture of his Thunderbird to publish in the local paper. **The Wood County Monitor**.

With delight **Fred** said absolutely!!

We live in **Mineola , Texas**.

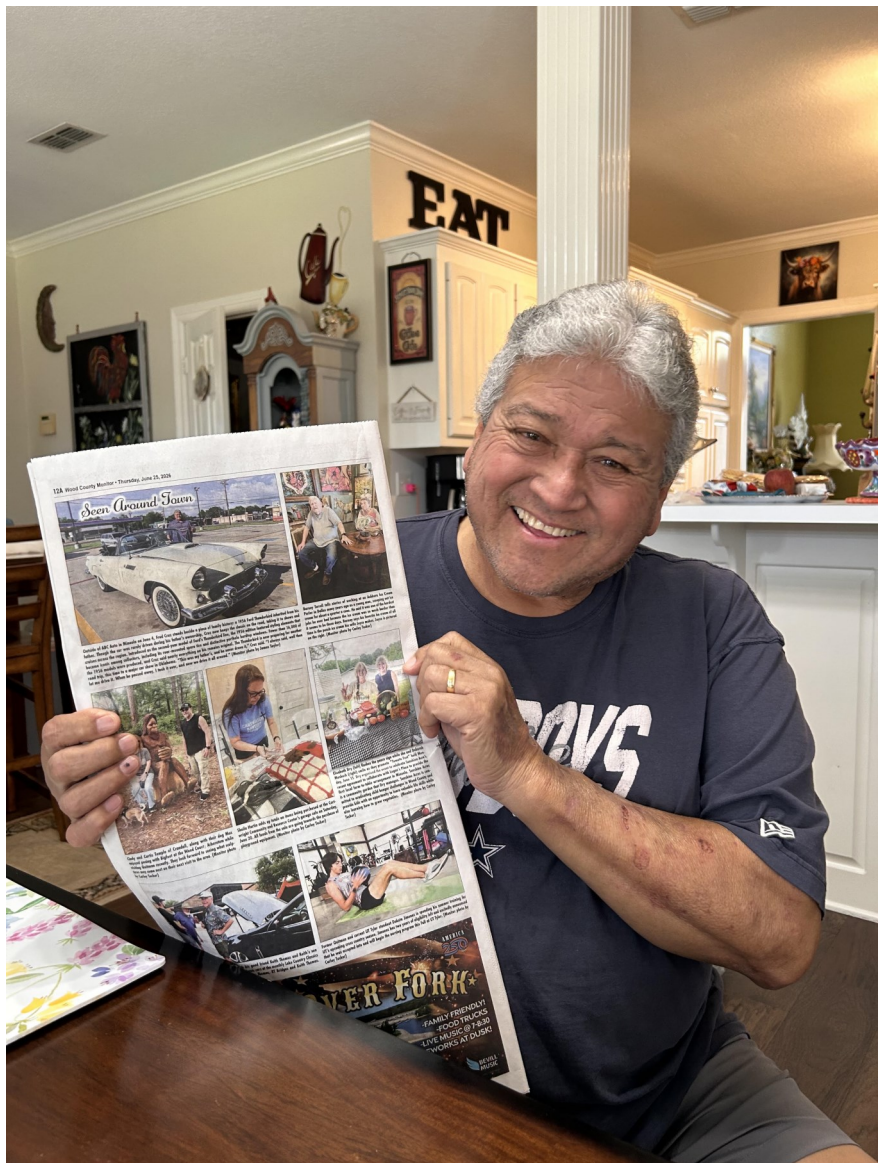
This was seen in the “**Seen around town**” section of this newspaper, **The Wood County Monitor**.

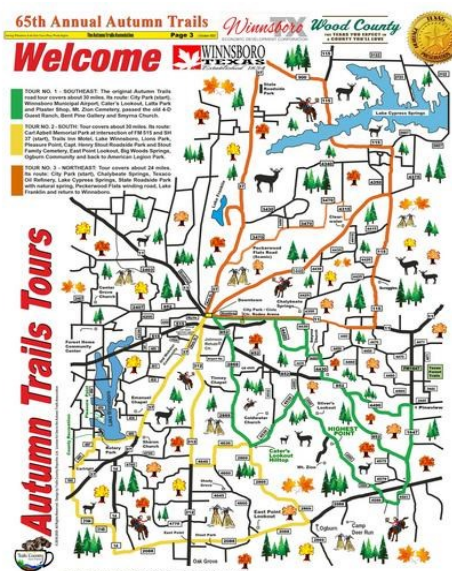
The article was published on Thursday, June 25th, 2026 for Wood County.

Fred and his



T Bird





- ◆ Join us for the 2026 Fall Tour to the Autumn Trails Festival and Classic Car weekend in Winnsboro
- ◆ Friday Breakfast Brunch from 9:45—10:45AM at John and Lynda's house (4111 Pecan Orchard Dr., Parker) because no lunch stop . Leave about 11am from J&L's
- ◆ Surprise stop as we take back roads east
- ◆ Ice Cream Social Snack Stop at Linda and Fred Cruz's home in Mineola
- ◆ Hotel based meal, games and overnight in Sulphur Springs
- ◆ Join the Autumn Trails Model A Ford Club parade into Winnsboro Saturday morning and park our Classics downtown
- ◆ Enjoy the festival then take an afternoon club trail ride through the Texas East Piney Woods—Fall leaf peeping and enjoying the countryside
- ◆ Back to Sulphur Springs for downtown restaurant dinner
- ◆ Camaraderie and fun back at the Sulphur Springs hotel
- ◆ Optional Sunday morning trail ride lead by the Winnsboro Model A Club



Hotel Information:

Clarion Pointe
411 Industrial Dr E, Sulphur Springs,
TX 75482
Call 903-885-6851 for Reservations
"AACA Texas DFW Car Tour"
\$104 + Tax
Problems: ask for Lenny

Tour Registration Information:

Click [**HERE**](#) to link to "Events" on the Texas—DFW website to provide your intent on participating. Questions and comments to John and Lynda.

Brady's car of the Month

1936 Cord Westchester

Those of you that don't know much about Cords are in for several surprises. Cords were always front wheel drive. The L29 had a straight 8 engine placed backwards to get the transmission/differential to the front of the car. The 810/812 series did the same configuration with a V8 engine and a preselect transmission.

The design of the car was the work of Gordon M. Buehrig. He had worked for GM for several years and had this design that GM was not interested in. When he went to work for E. L. Cord, the owner of Auburn, Cord and Duesenberg his design was transformed into the 810. It's a very art deco flowing design that took the market by surprise. Imagine pulling into a parking lot full of model A style cars with this radical design.

The engine is a V8 Lycoming (also owned by E.L. Cord) that is 289 cubic inches and puts out 125 hp. The transmission is the weak link that cooled initial enthusiasm. It's a vacuum / electric shifter called a preselect. The shifter is a small, gated stalk mounted device on the right side of the steering wheel. You place the shifter into the gear position desired and when the clutch is depressed the gear is engaged. It's easy to drive but takes some getting used to. The problem with the early cars was that the transmission will not stay in gear under moderate loads. The engine has a lot of torque, and you want to use it. If you're in second or third and you accelerate hard into the torque curve the transmission will pop out of gear. It goes back in when the clutch is depressed but it kills momentum. The fix came out in about 3 months but by then the reputation was damaged and the Great Depression was looming.

Our car is a very early S/N with none of the modifications. It has rain rails above the doors, vent windows, and the early transmission. It also has the panel in front of the passenger's windshield that allows the gas station attendant to add oil and coolant without opening the hood. After several instances of wrong fluid in the wrong place that feature was removed.

The last surprise is speed. These cars were certified to 110mph. At 80mph the engine is turning 2000rpm. It has Lockheed hydraulic brakes, so it also stops. This is one of the few cars from the 30's I have that we take on the freeways in Dallas.

Unfortunately, the Depression combined with financial woes for E.L.Cord brought an end to the Cord in 1937. Who knows if the cars would have recovered from the early reliability problems, but they certainly were at the forefront of what we have today.



Brady's car of the Month

1936 Cord Westchester



2026 Fall Tour Background.....

History of Autumn Trails in Winnsboro, Texas

Autumn Trails in Winnsboro is a **66-year tradition** that began in **1958** when a group of East Texas friends, inspired by the area's stunning fall foliage, decided to enjoy it together on horseback. The first organized event was held in 1958, and by the following year it was already a recurring weekend activity. The group formed the **Autumn Trails Association** to promote and expand the event, and it quickly grew into one of the most popular festivals in the region.

The idea was sparked by **Howard Rosser**, a Winnsboro native, who and his wife Kathy had seen spectacular fall colors outside the state and realized the area's beauty was comparable. They wanted to "show off" their hometown and surrounding areas. The first gatherings took place in the fall of 1957, and by 1958, the event was officially named Autumn Trails.

Initially, the focus was on **horseback trail rides** and scenic drives through the Piney Woods. The first official driving tour, **Tour #1**, was laid out in 1958 to allow locals and visitors to enjoy the scenery by car or horseback. The popularity of the rides led to the addition of more tours and a variety of activities.

Today, Autumn Trails remains a **family-centered celebration** that showcases Winnsboro's natural beauty, cultural heritage, and community spirit. It continues to be held every weekend in October, with the trail ride and parade as its signature events. The festival's longevity—over six decades—reflects its deep roots in local tradition and its enduring appeal to both residents and visitors.

AACA Texas DFW Region

Bigger in Texas, Better in a Classic Car!

DATE: 8/16/2026

TIME: 2:00 pm

PLACE: Norma's



Present: Brady Richard, Vickie Richard, John Richardson, Debra Lankenau, Randall Pfluger, Terry Hrehocik, Michael Hrehocik, Currin Harris, Chris Stathopulo, Charlie Gambulos, Nichole Gambulos, Jeff Podmers.

Call to Order

Brady Richard, President, opened the meeting

Welcome New Members & Guests

Robert T. Caual : 67' VW Bus, 78' Fiat Spider

Les & Lisa Ketton: 1936 Deluxe 5 Window Coupe

Jeff & Ann Comley: 56' Ford Sunliner, 55 Ford F-100, 51' Ford Customline Tudor, 31' Model A Coupe

Sunshine Report: Nuris Hester

Lynda Richardson has had hernia surgery.

Doug Siminoe is recovering from heatstroke.

Ira Hester will be having another heart procedure.

Nuris thanked everyone for all the cards and well-wishes.

Presidents' Report:

Brady R. reported that Vickie R. and Debra L. reviewed options for reinvesting the CD that matured on July 24th. Frost Bank offered competitive rates, and they recommended a 90-day CD yielding 3.02%, with automatic rollover at the end of the term. The board discussed staying with the current bank because moving to another bank would require opening a business account, which could be a lengthy process.

Vickie R. noted that the club has excess funds in savings and recommended moving some into the 90-day CD. After brief discussion the board voted to move \$20,000

Brady proposed setting aside \$7,500 as seed money for the 2030 Texas Tour, which the club will sponsor. This was approved by the BOD.

1st Vice President's Report – Charlie Gambulos

Sept. 20 Meeting – Tina and Duffy's Garage.

Oct. 18 Meeting – Ira, Nuris & Adrian at Adrian's workplace.

November Meeting – Gambulos' Event, Thanksgiving meeting.

December 13 Meeting – 12:30 – 3:30 Christmas Party – Brookhaven Country Club

Charlie reported that he will attend the Pate meeting on September 26, where he will receive the club's paycheck. He will provide a full report afterward.

2nd Vice Presidents'/ Communications Report: – Debra Lankenau

Debra stated that the Communications Committee continues to support members, tour directors, emails, and printed materials.

Treasurer's Report: – Vickie Richard

Vickie presented the July/JAugust Treasurer's Report.

We are also caught up on Christmas Party deposits, the last payment will be paid

Secretary's Report: Terry Hrehocik

The July Spotlight minutes were approved as published.

Tour Director's Report: John Richardson

A pop-up event is planned for Saturday, September 26. The route begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Mid-Cities at the Walmart near Hwy. 30 and Loop 12. Participants will travel back roads to the Waxahachie Civic Center, where the Studebaker Club is hosting a Classic Car Show for the International Studebaker Meet. After viewing the cars, the group will have lunch, visit the Dallas County Museum, and end the day at the Ellis County Courthouse. Although the courthouse will be closed, participants can still enjoy the grounds.

The AACA Texas DFW Region Fall Tour is scheduled for October 23–25. The group will depart for the 68th Winnsboro Autumn Trails Festival. On the way, Fred and Linda Cruz invited participants to stop by their home for ice cream. The group will stay in Sulphur Springs at a hotel TBD. We will meet with the Model A Club on Saturday morning in Winnsboro for a parade and car show. Lunch will be on our own, followed by a tour of the Piney Woods area. Around 5:30 p.m., the group will attend a BBQ dinner sponsored by the Model A Club before returning to the hotel for an evening of fun and games planned by Randall P.

John R. reminded members that the Christmas Party will be held on December 13th.

Membership: Kim & Tammy Keith

We had 104 members at the time of the meeting and 1 person joined after the meeting for a total of 105.

Bug Tussle Report: Nichole Gambulos

The Bug Tussle Google link, BT website link, and BT Facebook link are all live on our AACA Texas DFW website.

The hotel link, Holiday Inn Express, is also live. The Tour hotel room price is \$109.00. Members are encouraged to book their hotel room soon.

Nichole stated that they have contracted with a new caterer, Scholls BBQ, for the banquet Saturday night.

Nichole also shared that they are going with the "old-school" t-shirt design, with the small logo on the front and the Bug Tussle Store image on the back.

Charlie and Nichole will send an email blast to former participants encouraging them to register for this year's tour.

The theme is: "Homecoming – Don't be Late for 58"

Old Business:

No old business

New Business:

Frank Sobyak, at Jeff P.'s invitation, spoke to members about the Wheels for Wellness event to be held in Ft. Worth on September 19th 10 am – 3pm.

The Foundation has raised over \$275,000 to support the fight against prostate cancer. ALL proceeds go to their beneficiaries.

They also provide PSA testing at the event; early detection is the key. They have provided over 2000 tests to date, 1 out of every 10 tests comes back positive.

Frank encouraged members to enter the car show as there are 45 awards for different categories, for example; Best Paint; Best Engine; Best Interior; Best of Show etc.

Traditionally 500 classic cars & trucks are shown and over 7500 people attend the event.

Frank closed by handing out flyers and business cards to all that were interested.

Potential members Jeff and Ann Comly won the \$50 gift card and the \$25 card was won by Cope and Pamela Crisson.

57 people signed in for the General Meeting. Please remember to always sign in with Denise or John Velde to ensure that you receive your participation points.

Adjournment:

Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting; Mike seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectively submitted by

Terry Hrehocik, Secretary

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS FOR 2026

PRESIDENT	Brady Richard	brady@etldallas.com	214-460-4058
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2ND V. P.	Debra Lankenau	debra@kipmotor.com	214-477-3224
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	Doyle Morse	Morse.doyle@gmail.com	409-656-9195
	Jeff Podmers	jeff.bev50@gmail.com	817-625-2061
TOUR DIR	John Richardson	johnhrich@tx.rr.com	214-914-6742
BUG TUSSLE DIRECTOR	Nichole Gambulos	nmwaggoner@gmail.com	713-402-8418

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MEMBERSHIP	Tammy Keith	214-803-0352
PATE SWAP	Charlie Gambulos II	214-924-3086
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SUNSHINE	Nuris Hester	817-846-8995
WEBMASTER	Chris Stathopulo	927-931-3767

2026 CALENDAR

Every 3rd Sunday
at 2 pm

September 20th
Meeting

Duffy and Tina Oyster
Garage

Bug Tussle Trek

Oct. 10-11

Farmersville—Paris

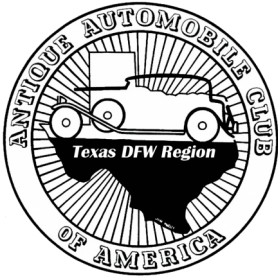
October 18th Meeting

Ira, Nuris & Adrian
Bordlemay Hosting

Fall Tour

Oct. 23-25

Winnsboro



AACA Texas DFW Region

Bigger in Texas, Better in a Classic Car!

Spotlight Classifieds

Nothing This Month...