

THE SIDELIGHT

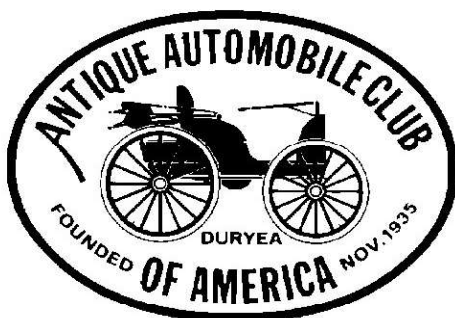
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LAKE ERIE REGION, AACA



LER Members, Don & Fred Warnick were part of the Honor Flight this past October. Fred is on the left, holding the corner of the banner and Don is standing right behind him.

DECEMBER 2024

VOL. 72 No. 12



FEATURES:

- President's Message
- Activities Report
- Christmas Party
- Auto Legislative update
- Annual Banquet signup



LER BOARD MEMBERS & CHAIRMEN FOR 2024

24-26	President	Valerie Wilson	
23-25	Vice President	Chuck Weimer	
24-26	Treasurer	John Haid (Office)	
23-25	Recording Secretary.....	Ruth Camann	
22-24	Activities Co-Chairmen.....	Lynelle Schloerb	
23-25	Activities Co-Chairmen	Chuck Weimer	
24-26	Membership Chairman.....	Lon Wilson	
22-24	Sunshine Chairman	Sue Yearke	
23-25	Policies & Procedures	Barb Noonan	
22-24	Publicity Chairman	Mike Mesi	
22-24	Legislative Co Chairman	Ken Kaczka	
24-26	Legislative Co Chairman	Chuck Wolski	
2024	2024 Show Co Chairman	Charles Facklam	
2024	2024 Show Co Chairman	Mike Mesi	
24-25	Webmaster	Jerry Ptak	
2024	Sidelight Editor.....	Valerie Wilson	
2024	Chief Judge	Barb & Ray Noonan	
2024	Activities Awards Chairman	Peggy Ptak	
2024	Split Club	Candace Reed	
2024	Property Chairman	Charles Facklam	

Bold type indicates board members

Events for 2024

- Dec. 8 – LER Christmas Party – Barb Noonan & Lynelle Schloerb – hosts
- Jan. 25 – Annual Installation Banquet – Karen Schwartz & Sue Yearke – hosts
- Feb. 16 – Matinee Movie – hosted by Barb Noonan and Lon Wilson

*This is a tentative schedule. The dates & locations are subject to change, so check this list monthly for more information and possible changes.

All material and want ads must be submitted to the editor by the 20th of the previous month that material is to appear.

Permission is hereby granted to other club publications to reprint material from “The Sidelight” provided that credit is given. All phone numbers listed in the Sidelight are area code 716 unless otherwise stated.

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Come and enjoy a free afternoon of listening to the

“Mighty Wurlitzer Christmas Concert”

featuring LER’s own Joe Momot,
Saturday, December 14th, at
the West-Herr Riviera Theater at 2 P.M.
67 Webster St. North Tonawanda, NY



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DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last month's meeting was really very informative. There are a lot of things I would not have thought about, that need to be addressed in the unfortunate event. Now is the time to start adding pen to paper and make those wishes known.

Also, at our last indoor meeting, final nominations for the board were entertained. Since there were no nominations from the floor, Karen Schwartz and Mark Palmer will be joining the board. Their seats will be "official" at the Installation Banquet. Thank you to both of them for stepping up and helping shape this club for the next few years. We also need to thank Lynelle Schloerb, Sue Yearke and Ken Kaczka for their years of service. It was greatly appreciated.

As you can see by Chuck Weimer's activities report, we are starting to fill in 2025. It is shaping up to be another good year. As always, if you have a suggestion for a monthly event, please let any board member know. Any one of us will be more than happy to help you plan and get credit for hosting an event.

Our annual car show is always a topic of discussion at our monthly board meetings and a new location has been on the table for the last few months. Despite his best efforts, Chuck Weimer's suggested location will not work out. There were a number of factors that could not be agreed upon. So now we are in the process of inking a

deal for the same location as last year. Hopefully Chuck Facklam will again be our show chairman. His arm must be a little sore from some twisting, but the board is trying to lighten his load a tad so he can enjoy the day a little bit more. Since we were there last year, we know where we can make some changes to improve a few things. One of the changes is to add a Class 1D, and clarification as to what cars can be entered into this class will be spelled out at a later date.

Did you renew your dues? Don't forget you need to be a member of National AACA as well. The National club does check rosters because they carry the insurance on our club. Failure to pay the National dues could result in LER dropping such members. Also, if you have paid your local dues, check the bottom left corner of your mailing label to make sure it is correct. Once we receive your dues, the year on the label will be updated. This indicates that you are paid up until December of that year. We thank you for renewing on time.

Since the holiday season is upon us, I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a safe, happy New Year! Valerie Wilson

Members & guests who learned what our survivors need to know were: Don Butlak (*); George & Ruth Camann (*); Kenneth Edwards (10); Jack & Linda Foster (75) & guest Carol; John & Elaine Haid (*); Ken Knoll (*); Dave Lechner (40); Joe & Linda McCaffery (130); Mike Mesi (*); Bob Nash (125); Barb Noonan (*) & guest Barb Able; Marilyn Obermeyer (10); Daniel O'Connor & Candace Reed (*); Richard Pearl (50); Mary-Teresa Platt (55); Jerry & Peggy Ptak (*); Leonard & Sally Sayward (60); Lynelle Schloerb (95); Cliff Schulz (*); Karl & Eileen Wode Schurkus (95); Jeffery & Karen Schwartz (145); Terry Tredo (70) & guest Nan; Chuck Weimer (*); Lon & Valerie Wilson (*); Charles & Gertrude Wolski (135); Sam & Jean Yanik (*)

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ACTIVITIES REPORT

LET'S GO LER Members: The club needs members to be more involved with future activities, come up with new ideas, host or help with an event. Board members are ready, willing and able to assist. A list of all board members can be found in the Sidelight on page 1.

Please remember to sign up early for these events and treat your club mates with respect and consideration.

Sunday November 10th Was hosted by Peggy and Jerry Ptak. They had arranged guest speaker Jim Bardot, a former college professor and dean. Mr. Bardot gave a presentation titled "What Your Survivors Need to Know", he discussed what documents and details to gather, how to organize and store this information. Refreshments were served by Lynelle Schloerb and Karen Schwartz. Thanks to Peggy and Jerry for hosting and Lynelle and Karen for the refreshments.

Sunday December 8th Will be our annual Christmas Party at the Polish Falcons from 1 to 5pm. Hosted by Lynelle Schloerb and Barb Noonan. We will be collecting donations for the Cornerstone Manor. See the Sidelight for the dinner menu, a list of acceptable donations and the signup sheet. Reservation deadline is Friday November 29th.

Saturday January 25th Will be our annual Installation Banquet. Hosted by Sue Yearke and Karen Schwartz. This will be at the Classic V on Niagara Falls Blvd in Amherst. This year the theme will be "A Starlit Evening". Please note doors open at 5pm. See the Sidelight for the family style dinner menu and the signup sheet. Reservation deadline is January 21st.

Sunday February 16th Will be a Matinee Movie! Hosted by Lon Wilson and Barb Noonan. They will be showing movie The Natural. Several of our member's classic cars appear in the film. Refreshments will be provided by Karen Schwartz.

Sunday March 9th Hosted by Chuck Facklam and Dave Kaplan. This will be at the Polish Falcons from 1 to 5pm. They will be giving a presentation on the Playboy Automobile. Refreshments will be provided by Karen Schwartz.

Sunday April 6th We have a pending event.

We always need volunteers, helpers and ideas for club-sponsored events. If you are interested in sponsoring, co-sponsoring or helping out at an event, please contact any board member.

Chuck Weimer Activities Co-Chairmen



Chuck Wolski won 1st in Class at the Buick Show in Strongsville, Ohio this summer. Congrats!

New York State Toughened the law against license plate covers? It bans the sale of any covering over a license plate and increased the penalties for using them. The fine has increased from \$100 to a maximum of \$500. Drivers with three or more convictions within a five-year period can face a 90-day suspension of their registration. NYS as also included the condition of the license plates on your yearly inspection certificate. You can replace peeling plates at no cost at your local DMV. Do so now before NYS starts rejecting inspections due to unreadable plates.



SIDELIGHT TREASURES

These ads can also be viewed at www.lakeerie.aaca.com. Ads are free for members. Ads from non-members must be submitted by a current member. Ads run for at least 3 months. Phone numbers are area code 716 unless otherwise noted.

AUTOS FOR SALE

'66 GTO Conv, red, white top, 55,000 miles, Hurst 4 speed, perfect, \$67,900 Dennis 716-444-0898 Lead from Valerie Wilson (1)

AUTO MISC FOR SALE

Pre 1959 Metropolitan convertible rear body including trunk deck and left rear quarter panel (attached) and right rear quarter panel (detached at seam). Unit has been primed with epoxy

primer. Asking \$1,000 or BO. Located 20 miles southeast of Buffalo, NY. Call Jack or Linda at 716-867-0100. (3)

Franklin Mint 1911 Stanley Steamer, still in original box, \$85 or B/O call Lon 716-873-6280 (3)

4 -670 x 15 Firestone WW tires, 1993, for display only, make offer, Doug Hershberger, 716-692-7836. Lead from Lon Wilson (12)

Winter storage for vehicles, boats and RVs. Very large barn in Elma, wood floor storage available for vehicles. Drop off and pick up at your convenience, Power for battery tender provided. Contact Chuck at: 716-254-3926 (leave message and I will get back to you.) cfacklam@roadrunner.com (2).





Sunday, December 8, 2024
**AACA Lake Erie Region
 Christmas Party**



Join us at the Polish Falcons
 445 Columbia Avenue, Depew, NY 14043
 Cash Bar: 1:00 pm & Dinner: 2:00 pm
 Entertainment to Follow Dinner

The dinner menu will include
 Turkey with stuffing, breaded pork chops, mashed potatoes & gravy,
 Vegetable, salad & rolls, and dessert
 Members: \$35 / Guests: \$45

We will be collecting donations for the Cornerstone Manor.

Donation suggestions include fleece blankets, art supplies especially
 paint brushes, colored pencils, highlighters, pens (please no crayons), coloring
 books for kids & women, fidget toys, bath & body works sprays & lotions,
 and clear plastic totes with lids (for belongings).



If you have a favorite Christmas cookie, please bring some along to share.

You should have already signed up for this event



Reservations must be received by **November 29, 2024**
 and mailed to Barb Noonan, 1374 Vanderbilt Avenue, North Tonawanda, NY 14120.

Checks should be made payable to **AACA Lake Erie Region**.

For questions, contact Barb Noonan at 716 957-3076 or Lynelle Schloerb at 716 949-2489.

Member or Guest Name	Phone Number	Cost
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Enclosed		\$

Legislative Affairs Info

ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) / Vehicle Choice
An update from last month: U.S. House Passed Resolution to Overturn EPA EV Mandates; Heads to U.S. Senate for Action. However, Action has been tabled on 9/23 for reconsideration, at a time to be determined by both the House and Senate. Further updates will be reported when available.

ZEV: SEMA and NTEA (The Work Truck Association) filed federal Lawsuit to Stop advanced Clean Fleets EV Truck mandates against the CARB (California Air Resources Board). They are seeking immediate declaration and injunctive relief to stop electric vehicle mandates CARB intends to implement through its Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulations. ACF regulations include requirements that only ZEV may cross within California's borders. This action goes in the face of a state law passed by their legislature over 20 years ago that states CARB "shall not require ... a ban on the sale of any vehicle category in the state." among other legal standings. They further take the position that:

"Ultimately, work trucks must be available, capable and affordable. It is important to reach this desired outcome using a sensible and cost-effective approach so our member businesses can continue to build and supply the vehicles that are essential for commerce." Said NTEA President and CEO Steve Carey. "Left unchecked, the current suite of California regulations will severely curtail the ability of work truck users to obtain the vehicles they need to successfully and efficiently carry out their vital missions and support ongoing business operations."

Neither SEMA or NTEA are anti EV, but steadfast in their shared belief that a technology-neutral approach is the best way to achieve lower vehicle emissions.

Federal Government Expands Copyright Exemptions. Vehicle owners and businesses acting on their behalf have received a three-year exemption from federal copyright infringement laws when accessing, storing and sharing vehicle operational data, including diagnostic and telematics data, the Librarian of Congress (LOC) recently declared. This exemption preserves the vehicle owners right to

choose who he/she wants to work on their vehicle and parts used to repair said vehicle

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security is proposing a rule that would prohibit the sale or import of connected vehicles that include specific pieces of hardware and software, along with the sale of those components, with a sufficient nexus to the Peoples Republic of China or Russia. The specific are ones integrated into Vehicle Connectivity Systems (VCS) and software integrated into levels 3, 4 and 5 Automated Driving Systems (ADS), defining a "connected vehicle" as an on-road vehicle that "integrates onboard networked hardware with automotive software systems to communicate via dedicated short-range communication, cellular telecommunications connectivity with any other network or device."

The proposed policy would include the following Prohibited Activities and Penalties:

- Knowingly importing into the United States VCS hardware that is designed, developed, manufactured or supplied by persons linked to China or Russia
- Knowingly importing into or selling within the United States completed connected vehicles that incorporate covered software designed, developed, manufactured by persons linked to China or Russia.
- Knowingly selling in the United States connected vehicles that incorporate VCS hardware or covered software if the seller is linked to China or Russia, regardless of whether the vehicles are manufactured or assembled in USA.
- The rule prescribes civil penalties of up to \$286,136 per violation and criminal penalties, including fines of up to \$1 million and / or imprisonment for up to 20 years.

Classic / Antique Car Beat:

Nothing to report this month.

The above information is from SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association) Law and Order News and Hot Rod Magazine

Chuck Wolski, Legislative Affairs Co-Chair (11/05/24)



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AACA LAKE ERIE REGION

2025 INSTALLATION BANQUET

Starlit Evening

Saturday, January 25, 2025



Please join us for an evening of fun, food, and friends.

Classics V
2425 Niagara Falls Blvd
Amherst, NY 14228

Doors Open at 5:00pm
Cash Bar w/Hors D'Oeuvres
6:00pm Dinner

*Family Style Dinner will include:
Sliced Roast Beef, Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Penne & Broccoli,
Smashed Potatoes, Chef Salad, Roasted Vegetable Blend, Ice Cream
Red & White Wine, Coffee, and Tea*

PRICE: \$40 per member/\$50 per non-member

Please detach and send with check payable to **AACA Lake Erie Region**

Name(s): _____ # of members _____ x \$40 = _____
Email/phone # _____ # non-members _____ x \$50 = _____
TOTAL: _____

**Please include email address or phone number for reservation confirmation within 5 days. Should you not hear from us please call Karen 716-860-7480 or Sue 716-796-1942*

Send Reservation to Karen Schwartz; 483 Schwartz Road; Lancaster, NY 14086

~~~~~Reservation Deadline January 21, 2025~~~~~





February 16th
1:00pm
Polish Falcons Hall
43 Columbia Ave, Depew, NY

Come and relive when Western New York because the backdrop for a major movie. directed by Barry Levinson, and starring Robert Redford, Robert Duvall, Glenn Close, Kim Basinger, Wilford Brimley, Barbara Hershey, Robert Prosky and Richard Farnsworth.

Many Buffalo antique cars were featured, including some from LER members



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The following article was originally published in the German Citizen, a newspaper serving the German-Americans of Upstate New York. Reprinted with permission. Submitted by George Camann.

Fred and August Duesenberg

by *Martin Ederer*

The Duesenberg name has become synonymous with some of the finest automobiles ever produced. Thanks to Gary Cooper and Clark Gable, who both owned Duesenberg Model SSJs, the Duesenberg name came to be associated with Hollywood A-listers. While the Duesenberg brothers excelled at innovations and quality, the business side lagged. The onset of the Great Depression didn't help either.

Friedrich Duesenberg was born in 1876; August was born in 1879. They were two of seven children born to Konrad and Luise Düsenberg in Lippe, currently in Nordrhein-Westfalen. After the father Konrad died in 1881, older brother Henry emigrated to Iowa in 1884. In 1885 their mother Luise sold the farm in Germany and brought the rest of the family to America. The oldest son Konrad bought a farm for the family in Iowa. Fred Duesenberg displayed mechanical aptitude already as a boy. He quit school after eighth grade; he gained most of the rest of his engineering and design abilities by experience. Fred and August started tinkering with bicycles and bicycle racing.

Eventually the two brothers started designing internal combustion engines for building motorcycles. They opened two bicycle repair shops in succession after 1900 that failed rather quickly, the second venture because August had taken a job elsewhere in 1903. Their separation did not last long, thanks to Edward Mason's offer to Fred for them to design and build automobiles in 1906. The Mason Motor Car Company reorganized after Fred Maytag had bought a controlling interest in the company in 1909 and renamed it the Maytag Mason Motor Company, Maytag, who also had German family roots, already enjoyed commercial success with his washing machine and appliance business.

The Duesenberg brothers started designing reliable and powerful two-cylinder and four-cylinder engine. They also understood that entering their Maytag Mason cars in races was a way to advertise them. The plan seemed not to work for long. Fred drove one of his cars into a fence.

By 1910, the Duesenberg partnership with Maytag-Mason was all but over. The Duesenberg brothers concentrated on engine design in their own shop. The partnership formally dissolved in 1912. The following year they moved to St. Paul, MN. The same year they established the Duesenberg Motor Company. That company merged with Loew Victor Manufacturing to create Duesenberg Motor Corporation in 1917. They also moved to New York as U.S. involvement in World War I was becoming

inevitable. Their East Coast operations began producing marine engines and aircraft engines. During the war they learned a lot from Italian Ettore Bugatti's aircraft engine designs. That relationship inspired the brothers to design a powerful and reliable straight-eight-cylinder engine that eventually became their specialty.

In 1919 Duesenberg Motor Corporation sold out to John Willys, and the brothers moved to Indianapolis. There they formed yet another company, Duesenberg Automobile and Motors Corporation to concentrate on passenger cars. Fred now served as president and August served as assistant engineer. The Duesenberg Model A resulted in 1920. It boasted of significant firsts and cutting-edge technology: an inline eight-cylinder engine and four-wheel hydraulic brakes. It did not sell well. It was too expensive, and the public found the body design ugly. Duesenberg's finances went on a bumpy ride for the next several years and the company ended up in receivership.

E. L. Cord bought Duesenberg out in 1926 with big plans to produce world-class luxury cars. By this time, it was quite obvious that the Duesenberg brothers were far better at the technical aspects of the automobile business than the business aspects. Cord kept them on. Still, the brothers did launch a side hustle – Duesenberg Brothers – designing and building race cars. This eventually became August's main occupation. In 1927 a very limited run (only 13) of Model X, a sporty upgrade of the Model A, rolled out. In 1928 Duesenberg, now a subsidiary of Cord, rolled out its Model J, which remained in production until 1937. This was always to be a limited-run luxury model, but it was impressive: top speed well over 100 mph, and with an engine second to none. Body appointments were to be custom manufactured for each order, usually by other companies specializing in auto bodies.

A supercharged version of the Model J introduced in 1932, the Model SJ, was capable of 140 mph, but new orders for Duesenberg dried up as the Depression bore down – except for a few orders from Hollywood stars. Production ended in 1937. By that time Fred was gone, having died in 1932. August and his nephew mainly concentrated on racing and tried to keep the Duesenberg legacy alive until August's death in 1955.



Fred developed the two-cylinder "walking beam" engine for the Mason 20 HP, Model A touring car.



Duesenberg Family (Fred, second row, left; August, second row, right)

Additional information obtained from Reflections, an AACA publication and the accompanying YouTube video. Fred Duesenberg was driving from Ligonier, Pa to Bedford, Pa. July 2, 1932 in a maroon Duesenberg Model SJ

He picked up two hitchhikers, one was in the passenger seat and the other one was in the rumble seat.

He left Jennerstown, driving down the hill. The road was very curvy (some of the nine turns have since been straightened). Two cars were coming up the mountain and one was passing the other.

Fred encountered the passing car coming straight at him and he swerved sending the car into a clockwise spin, but it never left the road. Fred fell out of the car when the suicide door opened up; his two passengers were also injured. The rumble seat passenger was thrown from the car and just received road rash; the inside passenger was knocked unconscious. Fred was taken to the area hospital with a broken clavicle, broken ribs and possibly a bruised lung. He was discharged 3-4 days later. He developed Pneumonia from his injuries and on July 26, 1932, he died.

The car was not that badly damaged (flat tire & bent tie rod) and was towed by a Pierce Arrow tow truck to a nearby garage. The garage owner fixed the car, then he and his sons drove it around for several days.

The car was then purchased after the accident by Duesenberg. Duesenberg had trouble reselling the car as it was now known as the death car. Unknown where the car was until in 1972 when it was purchased by Bob Frigens and now sported a yellow paint job.

The road marker indicating where the accident happened was knocked over by a snow plow and then stolen. It was not totally accurate and a new one is being planned.

You can view the entire video of a zoom meeting about the car and the accident on www.youtube.com/c/AACAMuseum. There is also a book about Fred Duesenberg's Final Journey by Ray Wotkowski.

Camaro Nationals

In July we attended the 25th Camaro Nationals in Morganown, PA. The event lasted two days and was held at the Classic Auto Mall. There were over 700 Camaros in attendance, all years from stock to modified. The Legend, Vintage & Bow-tie judging was held indoors. The cars were from all around the country and Canada with at least 30 states and provinces represented.

The Classic Auto Mall itself was spectacular with over 650 vehicles for sale, we even saw a large Wurlitzler Organ for sale. The Classic Auto Mall is a 336,000 sq ft. shopping mall converted to a climate controlled, secure, indoor showroom. Every "store" was filled with cars for sale. The cars range from "barn" finds to fully restored. To view their inventory visit www.ClassicAutoMall.com

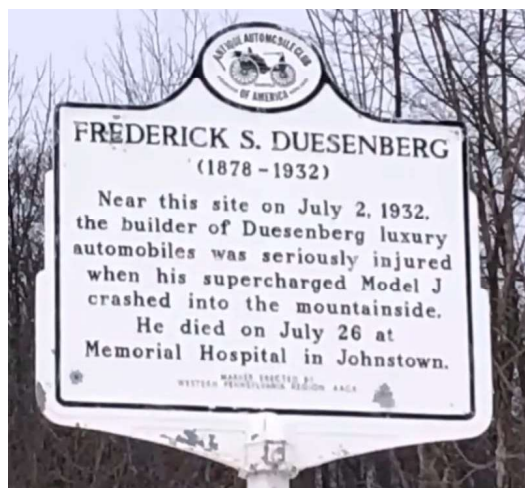
From Jeff & Karen Schwartz.



THANK YOU from AACA

Back in July, at our summer picnic, a box of car owner's manuals was donated to the auction but not sold. The board decided the best thing to do with them would be to donate them to the AACA Library & Research Center. Chuck Weimer planned to go to Hershey, so he was given the task of delivering them.

Late in October, Chuck received a letter of thanks from Jan Wolfe, Library Director. She stated that they were happy for the donation, which will be added to their collection. She praised the generosity to help grow and better serve the hobby. So, a Thank You goes to the person who brought them to the auction. Know that they will be a valuable source of info for years to come.



Scenes from Hershey from Jeff Cryan



1936 Chrysler Airflow Coupe



1928 Cord



1962 Corvette



1939 Ford Deluxe Station Wagon



Dan Gernatt maroon Duesenburg



Paul Fix new 1966 Mustang GT



1935 Cord 810 Phaeton



Dave Kaplan - 1949 Playboy



1928 Ford Model A - repeat HPOF



Duesenburg racer



A Jaguar



1940 Ford Deluxe



Dan Gernatt white Rolls Royce



1948 Tucker #13



A row of Corvettes



FIRST CLASS

The Sidelight

DECEMBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
		9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	22	23	24		26	27	28
	29	30			2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

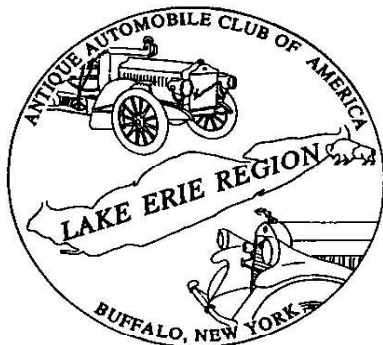
Calendar of Events

- Dec. 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec. 8 – LER Christmas Party – Barb Noonan & Lynelle Schloerb – hosts
- Dec. 21 – Start of Winter (Winter Solstice)
- Dec. 25 – Christmas
- Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve
- Jan. 1 – New Year's Day
- Jan. 25 – Annual Installation Banquet – Karen Schwartz & Sue Yearke – hosts



Valerie Wilson – Editor
 235 Villa Ave.
 Buffalo, New York 14216-1308

FIRST CLASS



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