

THE SIDELIGHT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE LAKE ERIE REGION, AACA



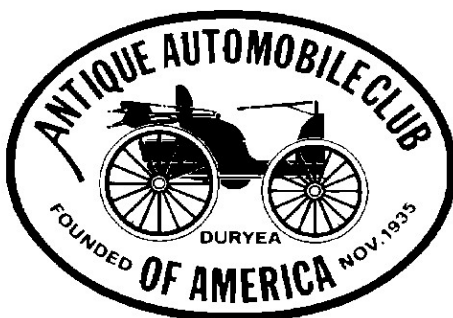
Melissa & Gavin with a Red-Tailed Hawk

OCTOBER 2026

VOL. 74 No. 10

FEATURES:

- President's Message
- Activities Report
- October, November & December info
- Hawk Creek Tour photos



LER BOARD MEMBERS & CHAIRMEN FOR 2026

All phone numbers are area code 716 unless otherwise noted

26-28	President	Chuck Weimer	
24-26	Vice President	Valerie Wilson	
24-26	Treasurer		
26-28	Recording Secretary.....	Ruth Camann	
25-27	Activities Co-Chairmen.....	Karen Schwartz	
26-27	Activities Co-Chairmen	Peggy Ptak	
24-26	Membership Chairman.....	Lon Wilson	
25-27	Sunshine Chairman	Mark Palmer	
26-28	Policies & Procedures & Assistant Treasurer	Barb Noonan	
25-27	Publicity Chairman	Mike Mesi	
24-26	Legislative Chairman	Chuck Wolski	
26-28	Webmaster	Jerry Ptak	
2026	Sidelight Editor.....	Valerie Wilson	
2026	2026 Show Co Chairman	Charles Facklam	
2026	2026 Show Co Chairman	Mike Mesi	
2026	Chief Judge	Barb Noonan	
2026	Activities Awards Chairman	Peggy Ptak	
2026	Split Club	Candace Reed	
2026	Property Chairman		

Bold type indicates board members/positions

Events for 2026

**Oct. 17 – Poker Road Rally hosted by
George Camann and Jerry Ptak**

**Nov. 8 – Desserts in the Afternoon. Hosted
by Sam & Jean Yanik**

**Dec 13 – Annual Christmas Party hosted by
Barb Noonan & Lynelle Schloerb**

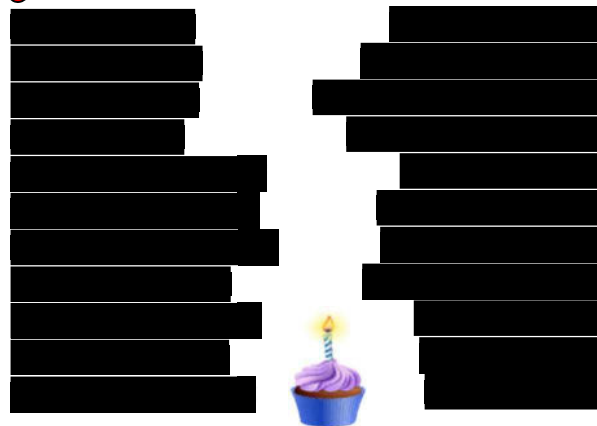
**Jan 23, 2027 – Annual Installation Banquet
hosted by Karen Schwartz & Sue Yearke**

*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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



Members and Guests who enjoyed Hawk Creek were: Ron Billo & Granddaughter Sarah Billo – Crossfire (60); George & Ruth Camann – ‘89 Probe (*); David Kaplan – ‘48 Playboy (90); Robert Mandziak – ‘72 Buick Skylark (90); Mike Mesi – ‘82 Toyota Supra (*); Bob & Peggy Nash - ‘58 Corvette (105); David Nash - ‘64 Chevy Impala (80); Daniel O'Connor & Candace Reed - ‘49 F1 Pick Up (120); Cliff Schulz - ‘70 Chevrolet SS (*); Lon & Valerie Wilson - ‘66 Ford Mustang (*); Mark Brylinski & Guest Zack – (30); Kenneth Kaczka & Sue Reville (130); Ken Knoll & Guest JoAnn Gullet (145); Ross & Gail Martin (95); Barb Noonan & Guest Barb Abel (145); Mark & Ann Palmer (125); Jerry & Peggy Ptak & Guest Kate Ptak (*); Jeffery & Karen Schwartz (*); Lee Singer (50); Jim & Christine Smyczynski (50); Chuck Weimer (*); Charles & Gertrude Wolski (90); Sam & Jean Yanik (*); Mark & Sue Yearke (*).



Paul Riester was playing around with AI and got his Model A to “Fly”. It also added a woman driver who is not his wife!! We better watch out before AI replaces us all!

Hello LER members. Well, it looks like summer has come to an end, did that ever go by fast. The summer cruise nights are winding down, but there are still a few weeks left. There is only one more outdoor event left for this year, it's the October LER Poker Run and Road Rally. See the Sidelight for details and the signup sheet.



Cliff looks great, good spot

had left yet. I responded yes, I'm almost there. Cliff explained that he had accidentally locked his keys in the Chevelle and it was parked in front of the entrance to the banquet facility where he had stopped to take some photos. I said, we can figure it out when I get there. We decided to have breakfast, leave early, go pick up the spare keys and then meet up with the group at Hawk Creek. It all worked out just fine. The breakfast banquet at The Columns was excellent, now on to Hawk Creek. The guided tour of the Wildlife Center was very informative; our guide was very knowledgeable and ready to answer questions from the members. How about that spectacular flying demonstration from The Harris's hawk, which is known as the "wolf of the



KEYS locked inside car - not good

sky". The wildlife here are not able to survive in the wild, this is the next best thing for them. The Wildlife Center provides a safe and caring home to live out their lives. Big thanks to Karen and Jeff Schawartz for putting together this fantastic event.

FREE BEER!!!

Now that I have your attention, the board is still looking to fill the open position for treasurer, this is a great opportunity to get involved, if you have any interest or know of a candidate please contact any board member. Special thanks go out to Barb Noonan; she has been temporarily filling in handling the treasury duties. The main topic at the last several board meetings has been the all-important car show, each board member has agreed to handle portions of what needs to be handled, so far so good. Thanks go out to all the board members for stepping up to handle the car show duties. As car show decisions are made, they will be announced.

Congrats LER members receiving awards at the AACA Grand Nationals Allentown, PA. Clifford J. Schulz 1st Grand National 1965 Jaguar; Gerald D. Aquilina 1st Grand National 1993 Cadillac; Kenneth C. Kaczka 1st Grand National 1962 Corvette and Timothy M. Cryan Repeat Senior Grand National 1987 Buick. Upcoming National event October 6th thru 9th Eastern Fall Nationals Hershey, PA.

Thanks for being a member!

Chuck Weimer, LER President

Also, in attendance at Allentown were: Jeff & Linda Cryan, Ross & Gail Martin, Todd Schupbach, Jeff & Karen Schwartz, Sam & Jean Yanik and Mark & Sue Yearke. John Cady attended Indianapolis Region AACA meet in June and won Historic Preservation on his Buick.

Legislative Affairs Info

ZEV (Zero Emission Vehicle) / ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) / Vehicle Choice

California Legislature Passes SEMA-Backed Bill (SB 1069) to Speed Aftermarket Products to Market Update: Passage of this landmark bill creates a new conditional sales pathway for aftermarket emissions related products to reach the market while under consideration for the state's full approval for sales. SB1069 authored by Sen. Tim Grayson (D-Concord) now heads to Governor Gavin Newsom for consideration. If approved by Gov. Newsom, SB1069 would take effect on January 1, 2027 with the program in place by July 1, 2028. Additional details of 1069 can be found in the August 2026 Sidelight, Legislative Affairs Info.

California Moves Forward with Replacement Tire Mandate:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) approved its Replacement Tire Efficiency Program, moving forward with new efficiency standards for replacement tires sold for passenger cars and light-duty trucks in California. SEMA opposed adoption of the regulation citing unresolved concerns about tire affordability and impact on small businesses. SEMA, although opposes this program recognizes the final proposal is significantly improved since the rulemaking began. Following extensive engagement by SEMA and a coalition of industry stakeholders, CEC staff made several changes that addressed many of the

industry's technical and specialty-product concerns. Among the changes, the Commission delayed the first phase of implementation to 2029, and the second phase to 2033 and created new exemptions for competition tires, certain winter tires, small diameter tires and certain large off-road tires. Despite those improvements, opposition remains with the central concern remained unresolved: the potential for higher replacement-tire costs for Californians and other state residents that adopt this program. A bipartisan group of 14 California state lawmakers led by Assemblymember Lori Wilson (D -Suisun City) also raised concerns and called for the CEC to delay implementation and re-evaluate the proposal citing concerns about cost -effectiveness, consumer affordability, product availability, tire life and other statutory requirements. The lawmakers also cited public polling commissioned by SEMA showing significant concerns about the mandates cost. The survey found 79.5% of respondents were concerned about government requirements that could increase tire-replacement costs, while 68.9% preferred allowing consumers to choose among tires at different price points and performance levels rather than imposing uniform government standards. The lawmakers pointed to those findings as evidence that affordability and consumer choice remain significant concerns for families already facing rising costs. Will New York follow California?

Continued on Page 5

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Well the weather has started to turn but it will warm up again – if only for a while! The last outdoor event this year is coming up in October. We hope you can join us as it will be entertaining and fun! We then go back inside at The Polish Falcons for more events and more camaraderie.

Saturday, October 17th – Here comes the Road Rally! George Camann and Jerry Ptak are hosting this event which will take us into the South towns. We will start by meeting in front of Panara at the McKinley Mall and travel south before returning to Chestnut Ridge Park. There the Rally will begin.....Interested???? More information is in the Sidelight. Sign up now!

Sunday, November 8th – Sam and Jean Yanik will host Desserts R Us. Please plan ahead and bring one of your favorite desserts **and** the recipe, if you wish to share. More information will be in the Sidelight. The 2025 Year in Review

57th Annual Wyoming Valley Antique Car & Truck Show

Village Park, Warsaw, NY • Sunday, August 9, 2026

The Wyoming Valley Antique Car & Truck Club marked its 57th year with another strong turnout at Village Park in Warsaw. Under clear summer skies, hundreds of antique vehicles filled the show field, representing eras from the brass age through early 2000s classics. Gates opened at 8:00 AM, and by mid-morning the park was alive with

presentations will be playing on a loop for those who missed it in April. Other fun things are scheduled. We hope to see you there.

Sunday, December 13th, - We end our year of events with our Christmas Party. Hosted by Barb Noonan and Lynelle Schloerb we have a fun time planned, playing games and celebrating the season with friends. More information for this event will be in this Sidelight.

2027

Saturday, January 23rd – Our annual Installation Banquet will be held at Classics V. This is a banquet to not only install our 2027 officers but also to celebrate all the members that have hosted events, who have earned the most points in the club, and to celebrate the New Year. This is a luncheon so watch the Sidelight and sign up early.

Peggy Ptak – Activities Co-Chair

spectators, exhibitors, and swap-meet vendors. Several show field awards were won by LER Members. Eligible vehicles (2001 and older) were parked by class, creating neat rows of restored originals, period customs, and well-preserved survivors. Judges awarded 74 trophies, including 1st–3rd place in each class, Best of Show, and Oldest Vehicle. The first wave of arrivals received dash plaques, with the early-bird crowd filling the field quickly.



Peter Haid won 2nd place in Class 1 with his 1926 Ford Model T Touring. John Haid won 3rd place in Class 28 with his 1967 Buick Skylark, Candace Reed and Dan O'Connor won 1st place in Class 2 with their 1930 Ford Model A Coupe. Jim Galvin won Oldest Car in Class 1 with his 1913 Buick Touring – submitted by Dan O'Connor



If we had a "Hard Luck" award, there would have been some tough competition this month. Between Cliff Schulz locking his keys in the car and Dave Nash's car dying as he got to the restaurant. Let's hope Dave's car is on the road to recovery.





***Are you ready for
the 2nd Annual LER
Poker Run and
Road Rally?***



Meet us at **10 AM Saturday, October 17th, 2026**, in front of the Panera at McKinley Mall.

We will head south for some seasonal 'leaf peeping' before starting our rally from the Chestnut Ridge Park Casino where restrooms will be available.

We will keep things simple, so don't fret if you have never taken part in a road rally. We do recommend bringing a navigator along. The rally will mostly take place on residential streets in the vicinity of Orchard Park. The total distance will be less than 40 miles. Time and speed are not a factor.

Our focus is on having a good time!

Afterwards, we have a three-meat buffet meal planned for 12:30 at Danny's South, 4300 Abbott Road, Orchard Park 14127

Prizes will be awarded! Don't miss out on this fun event!

Deadline for reservations is October 7th

**For any questions, please contact George Camann at (716)727-9559
or Jerry Ptak at (716)449-0062**

Your Name: _____ # of members _____ x \$30 = _____

Email/phone # _____ # non-members _____ x \$35 = _____

TOTAL: _____

****YOUR EMAIL/PHONE # WILL BE USED TO CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION****

Send this form with your check payable to AACA Lake Erie Region to:

Peggy Ptak, 195 Crosby Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14217



Continued from Page 2

Plan for Spent Lithium-Ion Batteries: Lithium-ion batteries now power everything from electric toothbrushes to e-bikes used on roads and byways, both legally and illegally. As their use grows, we must address how to safely dispose of spent batteries. E-bike sales increased from 50,000 in 2017 to 527,000 in 2022, and the market is projected to grow from \$4.4 billion in 2026 to more than \$6.2 billion by 2031. "You can imagine in five to ten years when all these e-bikes end their lifecycle," said Joe La Mariana, executive director of South Bayside Waste Management "We are going to get a tsunami of these things," he said. "They are like little incendiary bombs."

Who has the best plan for handling Spent Lithium Batteries you may ask?

The answer currently is California. They are recognized for having the most comprehensive regulations for spent lithium-ion batteries. The state has implemented strict recycling laws and initiatives aimed at promoting the safe disposal and recycling of these batteries. California's regulations include requirements for battery manufacturers to establish take-back programs and ensure proper recycling processes, which helps mitigate environmental hazards associated with battery waste.

Key Features of California's Regulations:

- **Manufacturer Responsibility:** Producers must manage the end-of-life of their products, including lithium-ion batteries.

- **Consumer Access:** The state provides accessible recycling options for consumers, including drop-off locations and collection events.
- **Environmental Protection Regulations** aim to minimize environmental impact and promote the recovery of valuable materials from spent batteries.

However, even though California has the best plan, CalRecycle (California Recycle) estimates 7,294 tons of batteries are disposed of improperly in California landfills every year, and that these batteries are the top cause of fires in their states waste facilities. There will be more to follow next month.

Leno's Law, Update: California's SEMA-backed SB 1392, has passed the California Assembly Appropriation Committee unanimously: The bill, which is authored by Sens. Dave Cortese and Shannon Grove, and sponsored by SEMA Hall of Famer Jay Leno, now goes to the full Assembly for a vote. If approved, it moves that much closer to the governor's desk. Leno's Law creates a narrow collector-vehicle smog-check exemption for certain older vehicles, phased in from pre-'81 models to pre-'86 models by 2032. To qualify, owners must either provide proof of collector car insurance or show, through a future DMV process, that the vehicle is driven fewer than 1,000 miles per year. The bill does not change California's existing pre-'76 exemption.

The above information is from SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association), The Mercury News.

Chuck Wolski, Legislative Affairs Chair (09/01/26)

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

- '48 **Frazer**, great running and driving car, engine and brakes are rebuilt, new radial wide white tires, interior good. \$8500. Call David 716-617-1334 (10)
- '89 **Cadillac Sedan DeVille**, 50,850 miles, 2 tone silver & charcoal gray, maroon interior, all original & in beautiful condition. This car has never seen a snowflake or been

driven in rain, garage kept, stored & covered from Oct to May. Serious inquiries only. No tirekickers, pics available to serious buyers. Call Tim 716-435-5073. Lead from Lon Wilson (11)

- '09 **Volkswagen** convertible, 94k miles, powder blue, black interior, automatic, A/C, CD player, power windows, Asking \$7,000 Call Carol 716-628-2231. Lead from the Wilsons (12)



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Desserts in the Afternoon

Do you have a favorite Dessert?
or maybe it's a recipe from your
mom or grandma or was
this a dessert made on a Holiday?

Here is your chance to show off
your baking skills at the
November meeting.
Sample size appreciated.

Host Sam & Jean Yanik

Date: Sunday, November 8

Time: 1:00 pm

Place: Polish Falcons

445 Columbia Ave, Depew

Call: (716) 759-1072

leave a message with member count,
(to indicate how many tables to set)





Sunday, December 13, 2026

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: \$36 / Guests: \$46



We will be collecting donations for the Cornerstone Manor.

Donation suggestions include fleece blankets, school supplies, gloves, socks, books,
clothing (6 months to size 16), adult personal care items (shampoo, deodorant,
etc.), Walmart & Target gift cards and clear plastic totes with lids (for belongings).

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

Reservations must be received by **December 5, 2026**

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 / Email	Cost
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total Enclosed		\$



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AWK



CREEK TOUR – SEPTEMBER 19, 2026



Cliff Schulz – '70 Chevrolet; Dave Nash – '64 Chevrolet; Lon & Valerie Wilson – '66 Mustang; Robert Mandziak – '72 Buick; Bob & Peggy Nash – '58 Corvette; Dan O'Connor – '49 F1 Pickup; Mike Mesi – '82 Toyota; Dave Kaplan – '48 Playboy; George & Ruth – '89 Probe



Below Karen Schwartz
talks with Ann Palmer



Left above: Ruth
& George
Camann chat with
Valerie Wilson.
Above: Christine
& Jim Smyczynski
stand behind Gert
& Chuck Wolski
Left: Barb Noonan
& Jerry Ptak
converse



The gang is led by tour guide Gavin



Above: our first encounter was with a crow who liked to yell "WOW". Next, we met the resident camel, The African Grey Parrot loved to say "Hello" and wolf whistle at us. One of the New Guinea Singing Dogs was more interested in watching the crowd, while Zack, Dave Kaplan, & Mark Brylinski look back. Below: A Eurasian Lynx, an African Serval, a Grey Fox and a Skunk



All these animals
can no longer
live in the wild,
but have a safe
place to live out
their lives.





A pair of American Porcupines.



The live demonstration had two birds fly just over our heads. A Harris Hawk was first to fly.



A Red-Tailed Hawk was next to buzz the crowd.

Photos by Lon & Valerie Wilson



Chuck gets close for a photos of the hawk



Above: An Egyptian Vulture

Below: A Trumpeter Hornbill and a pair of Golden Eagles



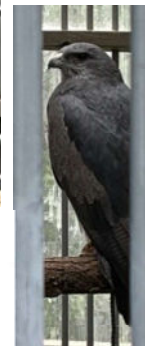
Left: European Eagle Owl, right: Our hosts – Jeff & Karen Schwartz



Above: Cliff is one cool cat!



Above: A Turkey Vulture and A Bateleur Eagle. Right: a Black Chested Buzzard Eagle, an American Bald Eagle and A Great Horned Owl



Below: A Spectacled Owl came out with Melissa to see the cars and Bob & Peggy Nash; Lon & Valerie Wilson and Candace Reed & Dan O'Connor. The owl took a liking to Dan's truck!



FIRST CLASS

The Sidelight



Calendar of Events

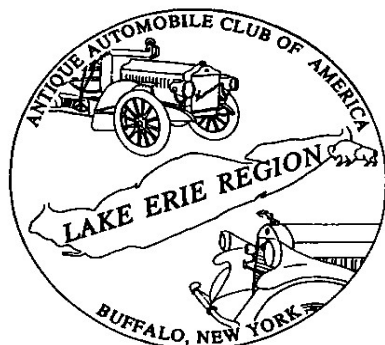
Oct 12 – Columbus Day
 Oct. 17 – Poker Road Rally hosted by George Camann and Jerry Ptak
 Oct 31 - Halloween
 Nov. 8 – Desserts in the Afternoon. Hosted by Sam & Jean Yanik
 Dec 13 – Annual Christmas Party hosted by Barb Noonan & Lynelle Schloerb
 Jan 23, 2027 – Annual Installation Banquet hosted by Karen Schwartz & Sue Yearke

OCTOBER	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Valerie Wilson – Editor
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FIRST CLASS



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