

2025 HCCA Newsletter and Website Awards



By the HCCA Awards Committee

Newsletters Highest Honors:

Chris Gorman, *Coilbox Courier*,
Southern California Regional Group

Candace Parry, *The Spark Plug*,
Wichita Regional Group

Rosebud, *The Gearbox Chatter*,
West Michigan Regional Group

Diana Squire, *The Brass Nuts*,
Northern California Regional Group

Jeff Kelly, *The Early Ford Registry Newsletter*,
The Early Ford Registry

Diane MacPherson, *The Brass Facts*,
San Diego Regional Group

Mark Cerruti, *Gaslight Gazette*,
Bay Area Regional Group

Cinda Dorholt, *The Horseless Page*,
Twin Cities Regional Group

Boyd T. Goddard, *Cap Sheet*,
La Jolla Regional Group



George Cole, *The Cracker Trail II*,
Florida Regional Group

Phil Jamison, *Sassy Brass*,
Susquehanna Valley Regional Group

Mark Schneider, *The Commutator*,
Southern Ontario Regional Group

Linda Schmidt, *Brass Ramblings*,
Skagit-Snohomish Regional Group

Mark Cerruti, *Western Gaslight*,
Western Gaslight 1 & 2 Touring Registry

Mickey Roberts, *Drip Pan*,
North Texas Regional Group

George Cole, *Unnamed*,
Dixie Slo-Riders Registry

Cinda Craven, *Sidelights*,
Santa Rosa Regional Group

George Cole, *The Cracker Trail II*,
Florida Regional Group

Information on how to submit newsletter and web page samples for award consideration will be in an upcoming issue.



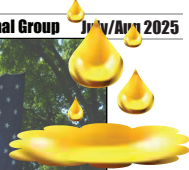
The Gearbox

Chatter

HCCA
Horseless Carriage Club of America
1st Place Newsletter



Vol. 70 Issue 4 WMRG-West Michigan Regional Group July/Aug 2025



Rosebud, *The Gearbox Chatter*,
West Michigan Regional Group

...THE... Horseless Page

THE TWIN CITIES REGIONAL GROUP OF THE HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB OF AMERICA since 1989

Join us on
the 3rd Saturday at
8:00 AM

Next we'll see you there
On April 18, 2026
for breakfast

at
Route 47
7820 University Ave NE
Fridley, MN



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Cinda Dorholt, *The Horseless Page*,
Twin Cities Regional Group

GASLIGHT GAZETTE

JANUARY 2025



BAY AREA HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB

Phil Jamison, *Sassy Brass*,
Susquehanna Valley Regional Group

Linda Schmidt, *Brass Ramblings*,
Skagit-Snohomish Regional Group

Susquehanna Valley Region, HCCA

Vol. 15, Issue 1 Fall

Sassy Brass



2025 Tours Announced

Numerous tours are planned for 2025, so be sure to print out our new 2025 Schedule!

2025 OFFICERS

Our slate of officers remains the same for 2025:

- President: Jeff Leshner
- V.P.: Ceylon Leitzel
- Treasurer: Don Barlup
- Secretary: Tracy Leshner
- Membership Chair: Keith Billet
- Sassy Brass Editor: Phil Jamison

Mark Cerruti, *Gaslight Gazette*,
Bay Area Regional Group

BRASS



RAMBLINGS

Official Publication of the
Skagit-Snohomish Regional Group
Horseless Carriage Club of America

DECEMBER 2025

Website Honors:

Thomas Roush, www.ncrghcca.com
Northern California Regional Group

Rob Caldeira, www.bahcc.org
Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club

Steve Schmidt, www.skagit.hcca.org
Skagit-Snohomish Region

The Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club

The Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club (BAHCC) is a nonprofit organization founded in the early 1950s by and for automotive antiquarians who are dedicated to the preservation and touring of ancient motor vehicles built before 1916.

The BAHCC is the San Francisco Bay Area regional group of the Horseless Carriage Club of America.

Rob Caldeira, www.bahcc.org
Bay Area Horseless Carriage Club

*Welcome to the
Skagit - Snohomish Region
Horseless Carriage Club of America Webpage*



Steve Schmidt, www.skagit.hcca.org
Skagit-Snohomish Region

Thomas Roush, www.ncrghcca.com
Northern California Regional Group

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL GROUP
HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB OF AMERICA**

Home Membership Events And Tours Contact Officers And Board Members More...

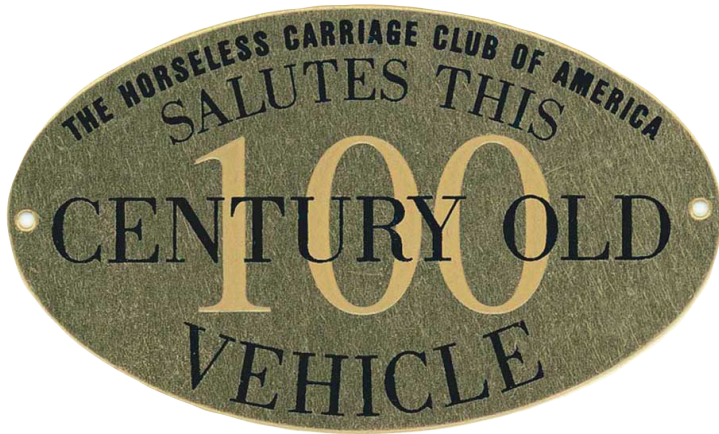
A club for those that enjoy driving antique, classic and vintage cars.

The Northern California Regional Group (NCRG) of the Horseless Carriage Club of America is an active car club of local members who meet once a month to share restoration tips, local leads on cars and parts, technical information and expertise. In addition, we are a touring group who travel in the old cars on monthly outings such as picnics, tours to local points of interest and sometimes just for the fun of it. Our primary purpose is to enjoy and drive our old cars. Although antique cars are the primary focus of our club, we enjoy all classic and vintage cars, motorcycles, and boats. You don't have to own an antique or old car to be involved in the club; we accept all people that are interested in the hobby.

(Images courtesy of Tracy Lesher)

2025 Century Plaque Recipients

By Jeff Leshner



*Andrew Schlacter, 1910 Overland Model 38 Toy-tonneau.
(Photo by Andrew Schlacter)*

During 2025, I awarded plaques for autos up through 1925. Vehicles ranged from 1909 to 1925. Not all were 1925. There were as many Brass Era cars. Marques included Abbott-Detroit, Chase (air-cooled truck), Dodge Brothers, Ford, Hudson, Overland, Roll-Royce, and Stanley! Century Plaque recipients who were not already HCCA members received a membership application along with their plaques.

Craig Cyr 1909 Chase Truck ¾-Truck	Donald Hargreaves 1916 Ford Model T Touring
Arek Gordon 1910 Abbott-Detroit Demi-tonneau	David S. Morrison 1919 Rolls-Royce SG Race Car
Andrew Schlacter 1910 Overland Model 38 Toy-tonneau	David Veir 1919 Stanley Model 735B Touring
David Veir 1910 Ford Model T Speedster	David Veir 1919 Stanley Model 735B Touring (Yes, he has two.)
David Veir 1910 Ford Model T Pick-up Truck	Richard Carlson 1922 Ford Model T Center Door
Kenneth Wright 1911 Ford Model T Tourabout	Richard Carlson 1923 Ford Model T Touring
David S. Morrison 1912 Rolls-Royce SG Open Drive Limo	David S. Morrison 1923 Rolls-Royce SG Fabric Sedan
David Veir 1913 Ford Model T Touring	David Veir 1923 Ford Model TT Truck
Joseph and Jadon Giordano 1914 Ford Model T Touring	Joseph and Jadon Giordano 1924 Ford Model T Canadian Touring
Kenneth Wright 1914 Ford Model T Firetruck	Joseph and Jadon Giordano 1924 Hudson Super-Six 7-Passenger
Kenneth Wright 1915 Ford Model T Touring	Henry Hensly 1925 Rolls-Royce SG Merrimac Roadster
Kenneth Wright 1915 Ford Model T Touring Wide Track	Jim Overstreet 1925 Ford Model T Roadster Pickup
Kenneth Wright 1915 Ford Model T Roadster Pickup	David Paulson 1925 Dodge Brothers Touring
Joseph and Jadon Giordano 1916 Ford Model T Tourabout	David Veir 1925 Ford Model T

2025 Marian Welch Service Award



By Christine Brewer

Jim and Garie Zordich are the recipients of the 2025 Marian Welch Award. Jim and Garie are long-time deeply involved members of HCCA. In fact, Garie's connection to antique automobiles began early. At just three weeks old, she took her first Brass Era car ride with her father, Ken Manley.

Jim joined HCCA at the age of 13, beginning a lifetime of service and dedication to our organization. His involvement spans many areas and decades. At the national level, Jim served on the HCCA National Board from 1975 to 1983 and was elected HCCA National President in 1980. He served as HCCA Club Historian from 1981 to 1991 and was editor of the *HCCA Gazette* from 1983 to 1986.

In the November-December 1976 issue of the *Gazette*, Jim authored a highly informative 30-page article on the founding of the Maxwell-Briscoe Motor Company, including historical photographs documenting the progression of the Maxwell automobile.

Professionally, Jim was employed for thirty years by the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History as Curator of Transportation Collections, bringing his historical expertise to a wider audience.

Alongside Jim, Garie has been instrumental in creating and supporting many HCCA activities. She is the founder of the Southern California Regional Group Ladies Auxiliary. Garie has been actively involved in Portland's Ladies Auxiliary and



Jim and Garie Zordich proudly hold their Marian Welch Service Award Plaque.

organized numerous social events. Garie worked at the Mt. Hood Community College as an instructional administrative assistant in the Humanities department.

Together, Jim and Garie have served as officers in the Portland HCCA, organized many car tours, and volunteered at the Portland Swap Meet. Garie is the current president of the Portland Regional Group. They have organized four national tours and are working on a 2027 tour. Details are on the calendar.

- 1975 Chico National One- and Two-Cylinder Tour
- 1977 Ventura National One- and Two- Cylinder Tour
- 2006 Pendleton National Tour
- 2011 Third Time Is a Charm, Co-chairs
- 2027 HCCA National Tour in Silverton, Oregon

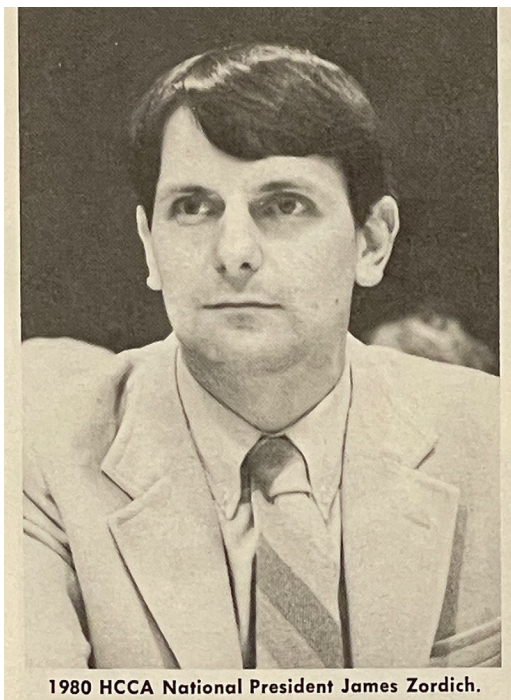
Jim and Garie are always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need—especially Garie, who is well-known for her knowledge of antique apparel. Jim and Garie are always dressed in period clothing, from hats to shoes, exemplifying the spirit of the era they so lovingly preserve.

Jim and Garie are truly deserving of the Marian Welch Service Award not only for their past achievements and long-standing involvement, but also for their ongoing commitment to preserving the ideals of HCCA through continued service, leadership, and enthusiasm.

(Photos courtesy of Garie Zordich and Tracy Leshner)



Clockwise from upper left—2025 HCCA President Doug Tomb chats with Jim and Garie. The Zordichs with their 1907 Stevens-Duryea during the 2026 HCCA National Convention and Tour. Jim and Garie on tour in 2012. Garie is the current Portland Regional Group President and newly hired HCCA Office Administrator. Jim served as our national president in 1980.



1980 HCCA National President James Zordich.

President's Message March 2026

Well, the sun is shining finally, so there is hope that winter will shed its coat and let us enjoy one of those wonderful Pacific Northwest springs. I have flower seeds I very much want to get into the ground. The instructions say, "plant in early spring", I guess I'd better get started.

Thinking of getting started, I have to say, the PRG event schedule is moving right along. Many thanks to VP Bob Strieter and the event/tour chairs. It is our members and touring that keep our club going. Don't forget your Swap Meet duty coming up April 9-12. If you have not received your duty materials, contact Keith Townsend.

This month did bring good news, and very sad news. Laura Hurley suffered a heart episode, but is now on the mend. Vicki Morgan is due for a heart valve replacement. Sadly, the PRG lost three members, Kris Friermuth and Mark Shaw, along with the mother of Rocky Younger. Our sympathies to their families. They will all be missed.

The General Meeting programs have been a suc-

cess. The feedback is very positive. *But*, and of course there is always "but." The program sign-up sheet is empty after March. Come on folks, sign up! Programs don't have to be overly involved or complicated. If you haven't signed up, please consider doing so.

I am sure that most of you have read the current edition of the Nation HCCA News. Yes, yours truly will be assuming the role of "Office Administrator of the HCCA" (the National Board updated the title). This is an honor for me and a way for me to give back to the organization that has given so much to me. The National Board asked that I keep my PRG presidency, as it shows a strong link between the National and the regional groups. With approval from the PRG Board, I will continue in my position as PRG President.

Please enjoy the Easter Holiday, see you next week.
Garie



The 2025 Art Twohy Award



By Gil Fitzhugh the Elder and Tracy Leshner

Karen and Michael Tomko with their 1910 Premier during the 2025 New England Brass and Gas Tour in Rockland, Maine.

Gil and I wholeheartedly nominated Karen Tomko for the Art Twohy Award. Karen and her husband Michael have been HCCA members since 2003 and belong to the Autoneers Regional Group. They have involved their children in the Brass Era automobile hobby from the start. Karen and her family were on the cover of the 2007 September-October *Gazette*. The entire family dressed in period clothing, and John Myers III photographed them with their Brass Era auto. Karen also wrote an article about her family's 1910 Rambler for a feature in a 2019 *Gazette*. She is on social media (Facebook and Instagram), and her posts reflect a love of early car motoring and her family's participation in the hobby.

Even though Karen is relatively new to organizing HCCA touring events, she has taken on the massive responsibility of chairing the New England Brass and Gas Tours the last few years. In 2023, Karen, with help from Bob Blanck, co-hosted the New England Brass and Gas Tour based out of Ludlow, Vermont. Her daughter Rachel was the route master for one of the tour days, too. Karen drove their 1911 Cadillac throughout the tour week.

Not long after the 2023 event, she started to float around the idea of chairing the 2025 tour. Karen and her committee organized the 2025 New England Brass and Gas Tour based out of Rockland, Maine. Twice she has pulled together cohesive touring committees that enjoy working with her and share her visions. Karen and her team of volunteers are

organizing the 2027 New England Brass and Gas in Mystic, Connecticut.

Karen actively promotes involvement in the HCCA with younger adults and lady drivers. I (Tracy) had a blast riding with Karen during the 2023 New England Brass and Gas Tour. She is not afraid to drive any of the family's cars, some of which include a 1912 Locomobile Model 30 Baby-tonneau, a 1910 Rambler, and a 1914 Cadillac Model 30 Demi-tonneau. In fact, she has opted to drive her Cadillac from Connecticut to Vermont instead of trailering it—even in rainy weather. In addition, all of the Tomkos' children drive the family's Brass Era automobiles. Karen and Michael's son-in-law Chas has also caught the early car bug. He and the Tomkos' oldest daughter, Elizabeth, own a 1910 Oakland that they drive regularly. They tour together frequently as a family with the Autoneers Regional Group.

We wholeheartedly feel that Karen is deserving of the Art Twohy Award. She actively promotes HCCA's values by frequently driving on tours, involving her family in club activities, working with dedicated volunteers and committees to promote Brass Era automobile touring on a national level, and sharing her love of early motoring through her conversations and within her social media posts.

(Photos courtesy of Tracy Leshner and Karen Tomko)



Clockwise from above—Karen at a 2012 car show with a 1909 Buick Model 10. Rachel Tomko, Chas Frick, and Elizabeth Tomko-Frick visited the Owl's Head Lighthouse in Maine during the 2025 New England Brass and Gas Tour. Rachel, Karen, Michael, and Mitchell Tomko with their 1910 Rambler during the 2023 New England Brass and Gas Tour in Ludlow, Vermont. Karen is in the midst of organizing her third Brass and Gas Tour in 2027.



The 2025 Joyce Chase Award

By Kim Simoni



Marcia Rising sits in the passenger seat next to son Matt. Left to right in the rear seat are Derek Warren and Jonathan Rising. The photo was taken during the 2025 HCCA National Convention and Tour in Orange, Virginia. James and Dolley Madison's Montpelier is in the background.

I proudly nominated Marcia Rising to receive the 2026 Joyce Chase Award.

Marcia met Don, her then future husband, on a blind date while in college. Don picked her up in his 1923 Ford Model T Tudor Sedan, which he had bought while in high school for \$50. In 1975, he bought a basket case 1931 Ford Model A Pickup. He restored it by 1977. And in 1978 he drove with sons Matt and Jon to Dearborn for the 50th anniversary of the Model A.

It wasn't until 1980 that Marcia and Don bought their first Brass Era automobile, a 1905 Cadillac. That was from an auction at the Lars Anderson Museum near Boston, where the car was pushed onto the stage. It hadn't been running in who knew how long, but Don and Marcia had gone there to buy a brass car. When the auctioneer was counting down "going once, going twice," Marcia blurted out, "\$8,000!!" They won the auction with Marcia's bid.

Don got the early Cadillac running and that's when they started their brass touring together. When asked whether, in the beginning, Marcia went along just because it's something Don

wanted to do, she replied, "I enjoyed it just as much. I really liked going on the tours."

Marcia is a staunch lover of Brass Era touring and it shows! She is always dressed in period clothing with a bonnet and she wasn't shy about getting behind the wheel. One of Marcia's best qualities was her patience with the quirks of 100+ year-old automobiles!

Marcia learned early on that these old cars break, and frequently! And the 1905 Cadillac (her favorite) was slow, being a one-cylinder. She really loved touring in the little Cadillac because it really lent itself to being understood, and she learned to monitor its health by sound. There were times when something happened to the car and she said, "I thought I heard something." Don would question, "Why didn't you say something?" And she responded, "Because you'd look at me funny!"

My first memory of Marcia was her huge smile and a big bear hug welcoming me to our first New England Brass & Gas tour many years ago. She exuded warmth and inclusion. Her quirky sense of humor erupts in a distinctive laugh. Marcia just



Don and Marcia with son Chris, his wife Cindy, and their two daughters Rachel and Rebecca in the summer of 1998.

naturally made me feel comfortable. And, Marcia was responsible for many of the unique stops on tours that she planned; she really enjoyed finding those places that people would never usually see. Marcia is the heart and soul of many New England Brass and Gas tours. She even wrote a book on how to layout tours.

The other thing I learned from Marcia was to always bring a book (now my smart phone) on every touring day. While Marcia was always a voracious reader, she learned to bring a book on each day's tour because "Don could talk cars 48 hours a day," so she'd read until he was ready to catch up to the rest of the cars. Patience should be her middle name.

Marcia continues to tour on occasion with sons Matt and Jon, and her love for this hobby remains strong. She is a true "first lady" of Brass Era touring. Don drove the little Cadillac between 40,000 and 50,000 miles, and Marcia was with him for almost all of them.

(Photos by Tracy Leshner and Matt Rising)

Marcia sits in the Rising family's 1911 Cadillac. She is ready for the next adventure!

