

HCCA BOARD NOMINATIONS



Don Poffenroth

Hello, my name is Don Poffenroth and I am a brass car guy. At 14 years old, I drove on my first tour in a 1917 Ford Model T. I have had a horseless carriage most of my life. I work on my own cars and join other HCCA friends in helping to keep our cars on the road. I have dynamic relationships with many former and current HCCA Board members and officers and have a strong desire to follow their examples of giving back.

I have owned, restored, and made drivable a 1915 Dort, a 1906 Buick, and a 1911 Ford Model T. My wife Cheryl and I recently sold our small business where we live in Spokane, Washington, and spent part of our proceeds buying a 1911 Pope Hartford Model W. It was my dream and goal to have a big brass car since 1976 (at 13.)

More recently I have tagged along with Mike Yeakel, past HCCA National President, to Hershey and several BBC and Hershey Hangover tours. In 2025, I brought the Pope out for its return to Hershey and stayed for the Hangover tour. This year I will have participated in West Coast events

including Bakersfield, Yosemite, the HCCA National Tour and Convention, Portland Swap Meet, and our regional tour in Walla Walla, Washington. I'll attend a few East coast events including Hershey and the Hangover Tour.

In April 2026 I was asked to fill a short term HCCA Board vacancy and agreed to do whatever would benefit our club. I took on committee responsibilities including the Regional Outreach and Membership Committees and other committee assignments and attended board meetings in person as required. I am committed to be a board member representing the membership.

As a recently retired guy and a small business entrepreneur, I can add some business background, a strong financial approach, marketing acumen, and statistical analysis to the club. Transparency is important. Operating efficient directed meetings is necessary as well.

I would be honored to allocate the time and effort to embrace the club I love. I'd appreciate your support and more importantly, I'd enjoy the chance to meet you all on tour.



Jamie Holmes

Thank you for the opportunity to run again for the board of the HCCA. I believe that while other segments of the old car hobby may struggle to hold the interest of the younger generations, the pre-1916 segment is unique in its appeal. It's up to us, the present custodians of these vehicles, to continue to drive and share them with the public. The HCCA's mantra of driving and touring, as opposed to static shows, is what sets us apart from other clubs. I believe sharing our vehicles and our passion for early motoring will allow us to survive and hopefully thrive into the future.

My wife and I joined HCCA in 2012 and I have served on the board for the past year and a bit. Presently, I am our HCCA Treasurer (as of May 2026). I have served in this position with multiple previous boards that I've sat on. My wife Linda is the tour director for the Southern Ontario chapter of the HCCA. We both love touring and enjoy the company of the many like-minded enthusiasts. Most recently we drove almost 7,000 miles round trip and hauled two cars to attend the 2026 National Convention in California. We loved every minute of it.

I'm a Certified Automotive Service Technician from Ontario, Canada, with 47 years experience. Linda and I opened our first shop in 1986 and turned it into a franchise with 39 locations located across the province. The business was sold in 2019, and after being retired a short time, I started a mobile automotive driveability/electrical diagnostic business with a specialty in vehicle computer and module programming service. I also provide machine shop services, mostly to the Brass Era car market. Of the over 200 cars that I've owned since I was 16 years of age, nothing has captured and held my interest like the brass era has. As I constantly tell anyone who is considering purchasing a modern muscle or sports car, "You're headed in the wrong direction, life begins at 22 mph." We own and regularly drive our 1909 Brush, 1911 Buick, 1911 EMF, and 1911 T Model Ford. Presently, I'm restoring a 1911 Cadillac Demi-tonneau and a 1903 CDO.

Thank you for reading and I look forward to continuing to serve the HCCA in our efforts to preserve our little part of the old car hobby.



Jeff Leshner

I am honored to be able to run again for our HCCA Board of Directors. Having been a HCCA member since 2002 and a board member since 2021, I see the potential for growth of the club. I am proud of what the board has done to enhance member benefits and attract new members. All of this while maintaining the core value that this club is a touring club for pre-1916 vehicles while also educating the public about the vehicles of this era.

I am married to a wonderful woman and the mother of our two motor-head sons. Many of you have met and toured with all three of them. Tracy, also known as the *Gazette* Editor, and our boys Augie (20), our Navy Midshipman, and Jack (16), budding Model T mechanic, and I love the social and educational experiences. I met Tracy at an AACA Winter Meet in Melbourne, Florida, while I was on the Board of the AACA Library, and our common love of old cars has been a focal point of our marriage.

I am a business development manager for a global supplier of packaging and labels, and I have been involved in printing for over 30 years. Many of you have experienced some of my work when trying to remove your Hershey flea market stickers. I currently serve as Susquehanna Valley Regional Group President and oversee the Hershey Hangover Tour each year. I do enjoy touring whether in our two-cylinder REO, Model 31 Buick, or our pair of Overlands. We are looking forward to driving our newest vehicle, a 1904 Ford Model C.

Our club needs to be fiscally responsible, while exploring ways to attract and engage a younger membership. We need to focus on a long-term strategic plan to protect and guarantee that there will be an organization that supports Brass Era vehicles through events such as tours and education. I believe our *Gazette* as well as the website, discussion forums, and Facebook are important tools in our toolbox.



Jim Nicholson

I have been in the car hobby for 40 years, having bought my uncle's 1915 Ford Model T back then. I am just entering retirement and now have more time to devote to my hobbies. I love the HCCA because of the interesting people you meet. I especially like restoring cars and engaging with bright fellow hobbyists who enjoy helping with the unique engineering challenges necessary to keep our early cars on the road. Of the many car clubs I have been a member of, the HCCA has the friendliest people.

If elected to the board, I have two goals. One is to strengthen regional groups. Participation at the local level makes our national club stronger. Given the range of many of our cars, it is important that we have accessible events in all regions. I am involved in our Southern Wisconsin Regional Group, and know it takes dedication to keep our local groups going. There are areas where our members feel isolated and uninvolved.

The second area that I hope to develop is promoting HCCA at the national level through our affiliation with the Museum of the Horseless Carriage at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan. The Gilmore Car Museum is a fantastic facility and is a natural gathering place in the Midwest for Brass Era automobile enthusiasts, much like Hershey is in the East.

We have great leadership on the East and West Coasts, but I would like to see more representation in the Midwest and South. I really love this club and hope you will let me give back to it.

**Kim Simoni**

My name is Kimberly Simoni and I am a long standing member of the HCCA. My husband Wayne (Trees) and I own five Brass Era automobiles and we love this touring club!

Although I retired from hi-tech engineering in 2019, I bring lots of experience (business processes, financial acumen, computer skills, etc.) and a passion to this HCCA Board of Directors. I am secretary of our Santa Rosa Regional HCCA group, and I have served on the HCCA National Board for many years including these past two years as your treasurer. I reconciled and reported our monthly financials to the board, identified trends (i.e., increasing costs, decreasing revenue, decreasing memberships) to help ensure the board is taking actions to address. You'll see more detail in this *Gazette's* Club Comments on page eight.

I was also successful in changing the HCCA fiscal year to align with the calendar year, providing us with simpler reporting and more flexibility for the timing of our annual convention. This past April, I took on the role of HCCA Vice President. My focus as vice president, working hand-in-hand with your HCCA Board, is to take a two-pronged approach to return us to financial health and stability: 1) continue to monitor costs closely, and 2) identify ways to increase revenue on a repeatable and reliable schedule. You'll be hearing more about our efforts over the next few months.

I'm asking for your vote to remain on the HCCA Board of Directors so that I may continue "driving" this organization forward!

**Rob Caldeira**

My connection to the HCCA began long before I became a member—I was born into the hobby. My father joined the Bay Area Region and National HCCA in 1953, and some of my earliest memories involve antique automobiles, tours, and the people who make this hobby unique. Those experiences instilled in me a lifelong appreciation for the HCCA's history and people.

While my career as a high-tech executive often limited my time in the hobby, I remained involved whenever possible, restoring, maintaining, and touring in horseless carriages. Since retiring in 2021, I have been able to fully immerse myself in the hobby again. Today I own several horseless carriages, am restoring others, and assist fellow HCCA members with maintenance and restoration. For me, preserving these vehicles is about more than ownership; it is preserving their ingenuity, craftsmanship, and stories.

I currently serve as Bay Area Region president, Salinas Valley secretary and treasurer, and serve on two National HCCA committees. These roles have provided opportunities to work alongside volunteers committed to preserving our vehicles, strengthening our organization, and ensuring the future of the hobby.

My educational background includes mechanical engineering, program management, intellectual property law, and organizational management and leadership. Professionally, I built a career in high-technology product development and program management, strategic planning, organizational development, communications, financial oversight, and team leadership. These experiences reinforced the importance of communicating value, engaging audiences, building strong organizations, and managing change—skills I believe will help the HCCA navigate future opportunities and challenges.

One of the greatest challenges facing the HCCA is declining membership as enthusiasts age out. To ensure a vibrant future, we must attract and retain younger members through education, mentorship, outreach, and opportunities to experience our vehicles firsthand. This includes working on cars together, sharing technical knowledge, and connecting members with enthusiasts who can support their projects. It is critical that we share our passion and provide opportunities to experience the uniqueness and excitement of driving a horseless carriage.

I am committed to preserving our horseless carriages, along with the history, traditions, friendships, and sense of community that make the HCCA special. I believe we can ensure the HCCA remains strong, relevant, and thriving for generations to come.