

# THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN

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## 75th AACA Annual Meeting Launches the Hobby for 2011

By Ted Schneider

The Antique Automobile Club of America held its 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Philadelphia on February 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton Hotel. Attendance was excellent and there were record crowds at the Friday Presidents' Dinner and the Auction for the benefit of the AACA Museum. More big crowds packed the Sheraton's Independence Ballroom Saturday for the early morning Judging Seminar and the mid-afternoon General Membership Meeting. The wrap-up Awards Banquet had an announced crowd of slightly more than 450, the most in the last decade. This continued interest and support for the National Club indicates that another excellent year is in store for the antique and collector vehicle hobby.

The seminars included *American Automotive History in Advertising* presented by Chesapeake Region's own Elvon Lloyd. In all, there were forty-four seminars plus the judging schools. Subjects ranged from club related training sessions, to technical presentations loaded with restoration tips, to hobby advice like appraisal techniques, to automotive history.

The trade show had thirty-two vendors selling restoration services, national meet and tour information, and a variety of merchandise. One of the new and interesting vendors was *Blast From the Past* featuring an extensive selection of period clothing, especially brass era and 1920's styles. The aisles were full of members taking advantage of a lull in their planned seminar activity to look at the Trade Show.



*Shown above are front and rear views of Sandi & Ralph Stroud's 1927 Chrysler Roadster, which won the Southeast Division George M. Holley Award for 2010. This trophy is given to an outstanding restoration of a 1921 to 1942 antique vehicle in a National Meet for each division, and is for Senior award vehicles only. The award was established by the Holley Foundation.*

*The Stroud's Chrysler also received a Senior Grand National award at New Bern, NC in 2010.*

At the Presidents' Dinner, Gary Wilmer presented the Chesapeake Region's \$500 donation to the AACA Museum. Besides attending several seminars, Gary and Vicky attended the Ladies' Breakfast, which was open to all members this year. Susan Bond gave an interesting presentation about Terry and her 180 days of travel to every AACA National event during 2010.

Saturday evening, the final event Awards Banquet had a special flair that made for an interesting visual effect. To add something different, many National Board members attended the Banquet in formal attire representative of the early years of the automobile – 1900 to the 1920s. There's a picture on page 4. The evening's program included the announcement of the 2011 AACA National Officers and Board. The 2011 AACA President is Joe Gagliano.

Two Chesapeake Region members received National Awards. Sandi and Ralph Stroud's 1927 Chrysler received the Southeast Division George Holley award. Ted Schneider received a Master Editor Award for *The Chesapeake Bulletin*, which also won an Excellence

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## AACA Annual Meeting - continued

Award. The *Bulletin* has received the AACA Excellence Award for the past sixteen years covering John Packard's tenure as Editor also.

Ted Schneider made a presentation at the Publications seminar about Chesapeake

Region's use of its newsletter, website and other communications modes to give members information and to build awareness about the Club.

Club members noted attending the meeting included Mildred & Al

Lawson, Franklin Gage, Vicky & Gary Wilmer, Susan & Terry Bond (Terry was honored for his excellent leadership as the National President during 2010), Al Storrs, Jim Lucas, Elvon Lloyd, and Sandi & Ralph Stroud.

## AACA Annual Meeting Photos



*Shown from the left: Ralph & Sandi Stroud after receiving the George Holley national award for their 1927 Chrysler; June Peterson-Crane selling vintage clothing at Blast From The Past; Brenda & Steve Rinaldo at the Banquet in their vintage formal wear; Ted Schneider with the Master Editor Award; and Vicky & Gary Wilmer.*



*The automotive theme for this Annual Meeting was woodies – those fabulous mid-twentieth century station wagons and convertibles with beautiful ash, oak and maple wood paneled bodies. The cars were displayed in the Trade Show and were also parked in the Banquet room as decorations. Shown from the left: A 1947 Nash; a 1949 MG TC; and a 1948 Oldsmobile.*



*Shown from left: 1948 Ford Sportsman woody; an Isetta restoration; and a 1947 Plymouth woody.*