

## Oscars of the Antique Automotive World

From February 8 through 10, 2024, some 600 AACA (Antique Automobile Club of America) members visited the award-winning Westfields Marriott Washington Dulles hotel in Chantilly, Virginia (which was sold out!) to participate in what's known as "The Oscars of the Antique Automotive World." Over the course of three days, the heritage and enjoyment of 25-year-old and older, original automobiles was celebrated. Compared to 2023, overall participation grew by 21 percent.



The 2024 convention kicked off on Thursday with a visit to the spectacular Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at Washington Dulles International Airport. Attendees who visited the museum also got to enjoy a luncheon on the Executive Mezzanine, overlooking the Space Shuttle *Discovery*.



Later that evening, the Board of Directors welcomed convention-goers to pizza party.

A series of 30 seminars followed on Friday and Saturday, including topics from navigating auctions to carburetor basics and recasting steering wheels. In keeping with the visit to the Udvar-Hazy Center, there were also sessions titled *The Invention of the Aerial Age* and *Wheels and Wings: Automobile Pioneers and Aviation*. Meanwhile, a trade show was running simultaneously with 20 AACA vendor-partners displaying their wares.

Saturday was devoted to AACA's Judging Schools, along with more seminars and trade show. After an afternoon General Membership Meeting, with prizes also distributed for trade show participation, the red carpet was rolled out and velvet ropes were extended. A pair of giant Oscar statues stood at attention for the National Awards Banquet that evening.





In addition to scholarship presentations, Editor/Webmaster Awards, Region & Chapter recognition, and 58 special National Awards were presented to owners of the best-of-the-best antique automobiles chosen from the past year's National AACA shows and tours.

Plan on joining us for next year's Annual Convention & National Awards Banquet. It will be held February 6-8, 2025, at the Embassy Suites Charlotte-Concord/Golf Resort & Spa, so mark your calendars now!