

AACA—Palm Springs Region



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July Dinner Meet

AACA—Palm Springs Region Newsletter

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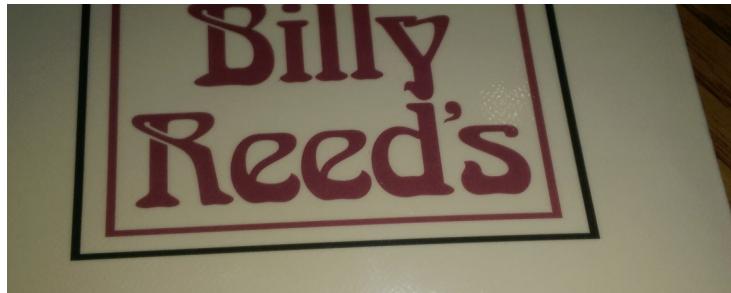
Future Events

August 20th—Billy Reed's

Sept 17th—Billy Reed's

Oct 15th—Billy Reed's

Our July dinner event at Billy Reed's was sparse due to vacations. Let's try again for a better turnout on August 20th.



Dear Members

Car Clubs all over the country are experiencing membership problems as it pertains to attendance. Many clubs have reported a drop in membership as people lose interest or are not well enough to attend events. Younger people just entering the hobby have no idea what a Model T is or a Ghia bodied Chrysler and therein lies one of the problems. Newer hobbyists are more into sports cars, customs and hot rods and none of those conform to AACA requirements.

In order for our region to succeed, we need to have membership participation. To keep members interested, we must have activities that they wish to participate in. It is, therefore, important for all of us to suggest things to do, places to see and events to have that will pique interest and keep things going.

I invite you to offer suggestions to President Frank Wenzel. Please tell us what you want to do and see and what activities will bring you closer to participation. ***It is your participation that will make the Palm Springs Region an outstanding part of the AACA.***

Jay D'Angelo, Vice President

A BIT OF HISTORY I BETCHA DIDN'T KNOW.....

Hours after Pearl Harbor was bombed on December 7, 1941, the Secret Service found themselves in a bind. President Franklin D. Roosevelt was to give his Day of Infamy speech to Congress on Tuesday, and although the trip from the White House to Capitol Hill was short, agents weren't sure how to transport him safely.

At the time, Federal Law prohibited buying any cars that cost more than \$750, so they would have to get clearance from Congress to do that, and nobody had time for that. One of the Secret Service members, however, discovered that the US Treasury had seized the bulletproof car that mobster Al Capone owned when he was sent to jail in 1931. They cleaned it, made sure it was running perfectly and had it ready for the President the next day. Al Capone's 1928 Cadillac V-8 "Al Capone" Town Sedan became the President's Limo December 1941.

Mechanics are said to have cleaned and checked each feature of the Caddy well into the night of December 7th, to make sure that it would run properly the next day for the Commander in Chief. And run properly it did. It had been painted black and green to look identical to Chicago's police cars at the time. To top it off, the gangster's 1928 Cadillac Town Sedan had 3,000 pounds of armor and inch-thick bulletproof windows.

It also had a specially installed siren and flashing lights hidden behind the grille, along with a police scanner radio.

Photos page two..



Al Capone's Presidential Car!!

