AUBURN • CORD • DUESENBERG CLUB, INC.

An Organization for the Restoration and Preservation of Original

Auburn - Cord and Duesenberg Automobiles

Minutes

ACD Club Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday November 8, 2025; 9:00 a.m. Eastern

Board Members Present (in person): Thompson Smith, Dave Helge Jim O'Brien, and Chris Summers.

Board Members Present (via Zoom): Gretchen Frownfelter-Grimpe, Vivian LaVine, Alex Waken-LeGrant, Cam Petersen, and Bob Becker.

Board Members Not Present: None.

***Guests*:** Lindsey Greene-Barrett, Allan McCrary, and Shannon Olson via written report.

Agenda:

Regular Board meeting

1.	Call To Order:	Cam Petersen presiding
2.	Approval of Agenda:	All
3.	Secretary's Report/Minutes:	Keith Olszewski (by written report)/Thompson Smith
4.	Treasurer's Report:	Vivian LaVine
5.	Regional Meet Report:	Gretchen Frownfelter-Grimpe
6.	Membership Report:	Gretchen Frownfelter-Grimpe
7.	Reunion Report:	Gretchen Frownfelter-Grimpe
8.	Chief Judge's Report:	Allan McCrary
9.	Newsletter Report:	Shannon Olson (written report only)
10.	Advertising Report:	Lindsey Greene-Barrett
11.	Certification Report:	Jim O'Brien
12.	Awards Chair Report:	Dave Helge

13. Old Business
    a. Photo Display Car Update
    b. CPA
    c. Director at Large Articles
    d. President's allowance for meets.
    e. Posters - mini and regular
14. New Business
    a. Directory
    b. BOD Nominating Committee
    c. Online voting
    d. Login credentials as a backup
    e. Newsletter templates
    f. 2025 Festival Poster (Bob and Dave)
    g. 'Year of' discussion for future years.

h. Non-Competitive Award Nominating updates
i. Newsletter templates
15. Adjournment

#	Action Items from this meeting & carried over	Resp	Due Date
1	Create a new ACD Club video to replace the current video running in the ACDA Museum Awards Hall.	Lindsey, Jordan Orlando	TBD
2	Propose updated by-laws for electronic voting	Thom and Cam	Jan-2026
3	Develop a policy for monitoring, controlling access to Certification and car registry data.	Jim	TBD
4	Replace ACDA Museum Dodge photo op car with an Auburn.	Dave, Bob	Aug-2026
5	Engage a new CPA	Cam	Dec-2025
6	Nominating Committee-Nominate	Chris, Jim, VIvian	Feb-2026
7	Cybersecurity Policy and Best Practices	Alex	Feb-2026
8	Non-competitive awards-submit suggestions to Jim	All	March-2026

***Call To Order and Approval of Agenda*:** Cam, presiding, called the regular Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. *Bob moved to approve the agenda Cam sent to the Board; Alex seconded; the motion carried*.

- ***Secretary's Report / Minutes***: Keith emailed the August 28,2025 Board meeting minutes to all Board members before this meeting and no changes were requested. *Bob moved to accept the* August 28, 2025 *Board meeting minutes; Alex seconded; the motion carried*. Per policy, after this Board meeting Thom emailed a copy of the approved Board meeting minutes to: Shannon Olson to be published in the Newsletter; and Tom Lee for the ACD Club website.

- ***Treasurer's Report*:** Vivian sent out updated Profit & Loss Reports, Balance Sheet, Check Detail, Deposit Detail, and Trial Balance (through Nov-8) to the Board. Vivian has resigned from her Treasurer's position, but will remain on the Board through the end of her term. *Jim nominated Alex for the open position of Treasurer; Chris seconded; the motion carried*. Everyone is very appreciative of Vivian's work as Treasurer for the last several years.

- ***Regional Meet Report***: See the Newsletter for the most up to date ACD Club regional meet info. Steve Waken is writing up a report on the West Coast Meet for issue number 6. The new Texas meet from April 23-26, 2026 is starting strong and producing a lot of interest. It will be held in League City, Texas, and will include a first-class lineup of sites to see. Attendees will be visiting NASA and have the opportunity to attend the Keels and Wheels Concours Event. Gretchen will make sure it and all other regional meets get added to the Calendar of Events.

- ***Membership Report***: Gretchen indicated that we are holding steady and the consensus is that holding steady is a "win" given the average age of Club members. It was suggested that we add a QR Code on the membership renewal form to make it as easy as possible to renew. There was discussion of adding a link making it easy to join on both Facebook Groups. Cam indicated that he will pursue adding a sign-up box or "join here" link on Facebook with all of the various active Facebook accounts. Foreign membership has come up a little which is encouraging and Chris indicated that there has been an uptick in European interest in pre-war American cars recently.

Gretchen is working to determine if Charter Member Ernest Bennett still wants to receive mailings from the Club. Thom and Chris will investigate and pass on information to Gretchen. Many membership brochures were passed out at Hersey and Gretchen will print additional membership brochures as needed. *Bob moved to accept the Membership report; Alex seconded; the motion carried*.

- ***Reunion Report.*** The 2025 Annual Reunion went well. There are always some curveballs and this year was no different. All challenges were met and resolved. Some of the bills came in higher than budgeted, but we are in an inflationary period and vendors must pass on cost increases to the end payer. It is standard with catering contracts to have cost adjustments. The museum is raising their fees for next year and we will have difficulty maintaining the current ticket prices. Costs are going up, but the percentage amount component is also going up from a 15% catering fee to a 25% catering fee. The museum does give the club discounts and does comp. board meeting space, the judge's seminar, and the tech seminar space. Options to help with increased costs include sponsorship and the investigation of other possible event spaces. The new vinyl cling signs looked great and are much more professional. Everyone congratulated Gretchen for another successful reunion as the entire board knows how much time she puts into it on a year-round basis.

- ***Chief Judge's Report***: Allan McCrary provided a report. The West Coast Meet attracted four cars for judging, which was made up of a Duesenberg, a Cord, and two Auburns. The Cord Westchester earned a primary first and a new Auburn owner increased his score from last year to this year which moved him from a second to a first. The other Auburn earned a primary second. Curt Warner did his usual great job of running the meet, but is stepping down and the West Coast Meet will be chaired by Thomas Craig next year. Dave Helge coordinated the awards and everything went smoothly with respect to awards. The new rules were applied resulting in a Best Auburn because we had two in that category that met the minimum point value of 940 points. The meet is in a good location near the water and everyone should try to attend.

- ***Newsletter Report***: Cam summarized (Newsletter editor) Shannon Olson's written report. We continue the dilemma of not getting as much content from members as we need to produce a consistently interesting, high-quality Newsletter, and our classified ads are shrinking. In spite of these challenges, we continue to produce a high-quality and professional magazine that members enjoy. The Board encourages Club members to submit articles (especially with pictures) to Shannon (editor@acdclub.org). The Board of Directors Article Schedule for 2026 is:

  1. Thompson, December 20th deadline.
  2. Alex, February 20th deadline.
  3. Chris, April 20th deadline.
  4. Bob, June 20th deadline.
  5. None
  6. Vivian, October 20th deadline.

- ***Advertising Report***: Lindsey Greene-Barrett, Advertising Chair, reported that she honored all 26 past Woman of the Year recipients and 2 Man of the Year recipients with blue badges. This effort was well received and appreciated by all. All accounts have been invoiced after the reunion and about half are paid. Worldwide paid their invoice of $3,000 for sponsorship of awards, but also have some other open invoices. Lindsey will discuss open items with Worldwide. Gretchen will assist Lindsey with open invoices as needed.

- ***Certification Report***: Jim presented a report with seven cars (5 Cords and 2 Duesenbergs) eligible for certification and re-certification. All cars were reviewed by the certification team. The team has 17 or 18 cars still in process. The Certification Report was approved and Thom signed as Secretary on behalf of the entire Board. Jim will notify owners of the certification or recertification. The Certification Report will be recorded with the minutes.

- ***Awards Chair Report***: Awards are right on track and running smoothly. Dave moved best in class and best of show to a new local supplier at a cost savings of $600 per year. Dave bought an engraving machine with the cost savings that allows for the awards to be produced and distributed timely, which also saves a great deal of time on follow-up after events. Jordan at Awards Makers does a great job for us. The only change Dave will be making is to have a separate plaque for the senior emeritus award as they have been getting the same dash plaque that everyone gets for attending. Dave provided Ken Merusi with a thank-you badge which was well received and meant a lot to Ken.

- ***Old / New Business***:
  - <u>ACDAM photo op car</u>: Dave reported that the photo car project continues to be on track. They recently received a donation of brand new dash panels. Paul has the doors on the car. Dave is leaning toward a two-tone red color scheme with straw colored wheels. As a photo car, we want it to really “pop” with dynamic colors for photography. We still need to either source or make the upper and lower bars for the windshield. The Auburn photo-op car is still planned to be finished for the 2026 Reunion, barring any unforeseen events. Donations have been fantastic with many club members stepping up to donate parts, time, labor, and money. During the reunion Don Ghrareeb provided $10,000 in matching funds which were quickly matched from Lindsey Greene-Barrett and the family of Dick Greene. Steve Moore has also donated generously to the project.
  - <u>Directory</u>*:* Gretchen is working on the new directory. It seems too early to do a new directory, but that is only because the last directory was delayed.
  - <u>CPA</u>*:* Cam contacted Carla Butler who previously provided a proposal to be our new CPA. Cam is also checking with a Club Member who also expressed interest. Cam will get proposals.
  - <u>Possible President’s Allowance:</u> It was discussed if we should provide a stipend to the president to offset a small portion of the costs of attending meets. After discussion, the Board took no action on providing a stipend to offset costs so all existing policies with respect to reimbursement remain unchanged.
  - <u>Mini Posters:</u> In 2014, a collaboration between ACD Festival, ACD Club, and the Museum resulted in reprinting the ACD Festival Posters from inception through 2014. Cam asked if we should do this again and bring them up to date. Tom Lee provided a summary of the income and expenses from 2014. It did not make much money in 2014, but did not lose money. The consensus was not to proceed at this time because it is a lot of work for a little money. As stated by Cam after discussion: The juice is not worth the squeeze.

- ACD Festival Poster: The Board discussed the 2026 ACD Festival Poster theme and ways to clearly articulate the theme for 2026 and beyond. The Board will continue discussions with ACD Festival about the poster and how to have the best possible poster every year.
- Future Themes: 2026 is the Year of the Cord 810/812. It is also the 90th anniversary of the 810/812 Cord. 2027 is the 75th anniversary of ACD Club.
- Possible Electronic Voting: The consensus of the Board is to move toward electronic voting for several reasons. First, it would likely save costs. Second, it would likely increase participation. Third, it would solve timing challenges associated with mail, both domestic and international. Thom will draft a proposed by-law change to allow for mail voting as has always been done, but also allow for electronic voting. Cam will set up a zoom meeting with the eballot vendor and perhaps other vendors so the board can review moving to an electronic voting platform. Any electronic voting platform will be secure and provide one vote for each member. We would also like it to allow for write-in candidates.
- Nominating Committee: A nominating committee was formed consisting of Chris Summers, Jim O'Brien, and Vivian Lavine. The three of them will decide on a chairperson for the committee and make nominations for open board positions for 2026.
- Cybersecurity: Alex recommended that we all be conscious of security and also make arrangements to get passwords and backups to the Club secretary for safekeeping in the event of death or incapacity. This access will be for emergency use only. Alex will draft a policy on digital document retention and passwords for the Board's consideration.
- Non-Competitive Awards: Board Members and Members should submit names to Jim O'Brien who will compile an updated list to review at the next board meeting.

- ***Executive Session***: *No executive session was held*.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board meeting will be **Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. EASTERN TIME,** via Zoom only. *Bob moved to adjourn the Board meeting; Jim seconded; the motion carried*, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 2:45pm.