

# Under the HOOD

*The Newsletter of RPM Foundation • Above & Beyond the Call of Duty*

## Message from the President

We've had great successes from coast-to-coast in the last few years. Our strategy includes hosting impactful Summit Meetings, offering complimentary Shop Hops and Off To The Races with RPM, and inviting hundreds of students-teachers-parents to Concours and auctions. Not to mention awarding hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants funding restoration programs, scholarships, gap-funding, internships and apprenticeships. In addition, we have been building communities of schools-students-shops-clubs-collectors in automotive hot spots, while stimulating the educational pipeline to include restoration and preservation at the high school level, where education is still free!

Our formula is simple – find the above-and-beyond the call of duty teachers like Garrick Green from McPherson College, Mike Ronan from Alfred State College and Roy Klinger from Pennsylvania College of Technology and reach out to them with opportunities for their students. This formula includes connecting the dots, like we did with East Syracuse Minoa High School which we read about in Hemmings. That story motivated us to call the instructor which lead to student outreach with a complimentary program, a site visit, and suggested funding opportunities through the instructor's network!

RPM has kept busy and active with weekly, if not daily, social media postings and expanded website pages to include other scholarship sources we've discovered along-the-way. A new OPPORTUNITIES page lists paid and volunteer jobs around the United States, which RPM also pushes to our network. Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheRPMFoundation>, follow us on Twitter [https://twitter.com/rpm\\_foundation](https://twitter.com/rpm_foundation) and visit our website [www.rpm.foundation](http://www.rpm.foundation).

What's next? Our recently formalized Career Services program supports students as they take their experiences to the next level getting jobs. That, after all, is our ultimate mission.

See you along the way,



Diane Fitzgerald, President



## INSPIRED TEACHERS GO ABOVE-AND-BEYOND

*"In the current education climate, where students are directed toward 4-year universities, students interested in trades are often overlooked. The solution to this always begins with an inspired teacher who will go that extra mile to motivate and mentor students. With this teacher, alliances can be made with programs both within and outside schools to help such students who want to pursue a trade in restoration and preservation."*

— RPM Ambassador Ronn Seiber, Retired Teacher and Principal, Hillsborough, NC



Pennsylvania College of Technology automotive restoration instructor Roy Klinger introducing future students to the custom-build projects of second year students. While there are many students across the United States who are passionate about collector cars, they don't know about careers in restoration. RPM spreads the word and helps recruit students for post-secondary educational programs.



The Great Race 2017 made a lunch stop at The Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI, with the Alfred State College Team among the "racers." Here is RPM Ambassador Bud McIntire with automotive instructor Mike Ronan and his students, all AACA members, with their 1953 Dodge Power Wagon Wrecker.



## PIT STOP – Above and Beyond at Bonneville

With the myriad of car events I attend on behalf of RPM Foundation, as well as my personal passion, you'd think that I've done it all. Not so! I've wanted to run on the Bonneville Salt Flats for decades. I was invited to race at the Utah Salt Flats Racing Association's (USFRA) 31st Annual World Speed Event in September. I joined the USFRA, got the rule book, learned about the car – a Lakester, and what I needed to do as a driver.

Combining creativity, design, and the engineering ingenuity to “build something to a diverse set of rules that will go fast on an unknown surface” is the whole point of Bonneville. Who wouldn't want to experience that? Vastly diverse types of vehicles run on the salt and the unknown surface (no one knows what condition the salt surface will be in until the day of the meet) contributes to the challenge. Three days after arriving on the incredible salt it was my chance to drive, but it proved to be dangerously windy so the course was shut down.

The highlight of the event for me was the arrival of 14 school buses full of high school students. Several colleges were also there testing their speed machines, including the instructors and students of Utah Valley University, a school RPM has been tracking because of their above-and-beyond the call of duty teachers and their interest in restoration programing. How cool to see so many kids excited to be around these vehicles, asking questions, and taking photos. What a great experience!



Lyn has waited decades to run on the Bonneville Salt Flats. She did it!

As I checked out of the hotel on the last day, my phone rang and someone from the team said, “Get suited up – we're getting ready to run the course with you in it.” And I did! When asked “is it what you expected?” my reply is “I had no idea what to expect, and kept an open mind.” The patience required, the problem solving, the ability to brave the elements, and the determination are beyond anything else I've done in racing. The experience was truly beyond my wildest dreams.



Lyn and her pit crew with the Lakester, her car at USFRA's 31st Annual World Speed Event.



## CHECK IT OUT!



RPM Foundation is dedicated to ensuring that the critical skills necessary to preserve and restore collector vehicles are not lost, by providing scholarships and educational grants to students and organizations committed to hands-on training of future craftsmen. RPM promotes the skilled trades within the industry, creates opportunities for young people to learn from industry leaders, and develops partnerships within the collector car industry. The goal is skills development that opens doors to future employment in the vintage automobile, motorcycle and boat industries.



In the showroom of Donovan Motorcar Service, Lenox, MA, owner Brian Donovan (right), discusses his prized Jaguar with Ryan Levesque (center), RPM's first apprentice and current Ambassador, and Donovan's marketing expert, Dean Forsman.

Below are job and scholarship opportunities offered by the RPM Network. Additional information on employment, grant and scholarships can be found at [www.rpm.foundation](http://www.rpm.foundation).

### OPPORTUNITIES

**Experienced Restoration Technician at Donovan Motor Car, Lenox, MA**

Well-known and trusted source for service and restoration of British European and domestic automobiles on the East Coast is seeking a full-time restoration technician to work in all aspects of auto repair and restoration. Proven auto craftsmanship skills are essential. [info@donovanmotorcar.com](mailto:info@donovanmotorcar.com)

### OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**SEMA Memorial Scholarship Program – Deadline: March 1, 2018**

Offers financial of up to \$5,000 to help foster the next generation of automotive aftermarket industry leaders and innovators. [www.sema.org/scholarships](http://www.sema.org/scholarships)



## Under the HOOD: Scholar Spotlight

Andrew Graham isn't leaving anything to chance. With graduation from Pennsylvania College of Technology only six months away, Andrew is hot on the trail with RPM to access all resources to put him in the driver's seat. His above-and-beyond approach to securing full-time employment has led him to take advantage of every program and service RPM has to offer, including contacting RPM's Career Services experts to review his cover letters and resume, and keeping on top of job opportunities posted on RPM's website. This is Andrew's "Car Guy" story.

### In the First Person: Andrew Graham

Very early in my life, either 2001 or 2002, I received a red Power Wheels Jeep Wrangler for my birthday. My mother tells me she fought my father over it and won, I would say. It's quite possible that was the start of my car addiction. If it wasn't then, it was a year or so later on my first ride on the Ford 5000 tractor we ran around on my grandparent's farm where I live.

It was my mother along with my grandfather and namesake, Andrew, who nurtured my interest in automobiles all through elementary school. It finally blossomed to a full-blown addiction when I got a phone call one autumn afternoon – it was my grandfather needing help on the 5000. I got down to the barn to help out and climbed into the driver's seat. I worked the hand throttle as he measured the voltage output and the battery voltage. The generator output was zero, and the battery was slowly dropping off until the tractor finally died. Working together, we brought her back to life.

Things came full circle last summer when that old 5000 started having the same issue again. Using what I've learned as an automotive restoration technology major at school, I found the generator to be faulty. A single wire Chevrolet alternator swapped on easily and got rid of the Lucas generator and voltage regulator. The old 5000 is running good as new again.

I can't help but wonder what cars as a livelihood can mean for me. Converting something I love to do into a job and then a career. But I'd like to find out.

Automobiles are the pen and paper of life, how we write our memories and how we read them back. These stories need caretakers, someone to freshen up the ink and keep the paper crisp and white. I will be one of those caretakers and keep people's memories and wonders alive.



RPM scholar, Andrew Graham, with his pride and joy – a 1974 1/2 MGB GT, one of less than 1300 in the US with rubber bumpers. In the garage at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

**TELL ME ABOUT IT!** Car guy and RPM supporter, Lou Costabile, is host and producer of YouTube's "My Car Story With Lou."

He has over 1000 fantastic collector cars on the channel! View the videos – pretty short at about five minutes each, and hear some fascinating car stories. It's a great place to learn about the collector cars you're seeing at car shows, Concours and driving around town. [www.youtube.com/user/loucostabile](http://www.youtube.com/user/loucostabile)

**COUNTDOWN WITH RPM!** NASA astronaut, Drew Feustel, is quite literally going "ABOVE AND BEYOND!" The RPM volunteer Ambassador and automotive restoration fanatic is preparing to spend six months on the International Space Station when he takes off in March. As part of RPM's Shop Hop series in May, SHOP HOP HOUSTON will feature a stop at NASA where participants will "meet" with Drew via video feed from the Space Station to the NASA control room. This Shop Hop coordinates with Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance, Seabrook, TX, when we will be offering RPM's Concours Experience. Students attending Shop Hop Houston will be a mix of local and national RPM students. It should be a 'blast!'

Keep track of Drew and his crew by visiting [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov).

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Car Guy, Lou Costabile, on the job, talking cars with his YouTube audience.



NASA astronaut and RPM Ambassador, Drew Feustel, center, and crewmates American astronaut/educator Ricky Arnold (l) and Russian cosmonaut Oleg Artemyev (r) will blast off to the International Space Station in March 2018.

## What is America's Automotive Trust?

The RPM Foundation is an entity of America's Automotive Trust (AAT) whose vision is to secure America's automotive heritage, to promote the continued enjoyment of the automobile, to ensure that America's automotive legacy is celebrated, and that vintage and modern collectible vehicles will be driven by generations to come.



RPMers welcoming America's Automotive Trust's new CEO, Adam Langsbard, to his new role, while attending The SEMA Show in Las Vegas, NV. Pictured here are RPM students, instructors, shop owners, ambassadors, donors and sponsors.

*"Thank you for providing financial assistance for my internship. I would not be able to afford living away during school without it. It is vital that students in the automotive industry be able to step into the real-world environment through internships."*

— Aaron Israel, Student, McPherson College, McPherson, KS

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

- Dan Beutler, VP of Accounting & Controller, Hagerty (Traverse City, MI)
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- Patrick Barnes, Community College Instructor, retired; ACM Volunteer (Portland, OR and Indio, CA)
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### STAFF

- Diane Fitzgerald, President, RPM Foundation (Chicago, IL)
- Stacy Puckett Taylor, RPM Ambassador & Interim Grants Administrator (Detroit, MI)
- Cathy Tierney, Administrative Coordinator, RPM Foundation (Chicago, IL)

## PRESERVE THE PAST. BUILD THE FUTURE.

### Who We Are + What We Do

The RPM Foundation supports Restoration and Preservation training programs and Mentoring for the next generation of automotive, motorcycle and marine craftsmen. As the educational arm of America's Automotive Trust, the services, resources and grants provided by RPM safeguard the future of the collector vehicle industry by sustaining hands-on training for young adults.

**Supporting RPM Foundation – Thank You!** Help us achieve our goal of raising \$1,000,000! With funding requests more than triple what we are able to giveaway, we need your support. Donations of any size are deeply appreciated.

For more information, contact Diane Fitzgerald, President ([diane@rpm.foundation](mailto:diane@rpm.foundation), C: 312-543-5732 Direct: 855.537.4579 [www.rpm.foundation](http://www.rpm.foundation)).

### Yes! I would like to make a donation of:

- \$50 INDIVIDUAL DRIVER     \$80 DUAL DRIVER     \$95 FAMILY DRIVER     \$120 BRONZE DRIVER     \$300 SILVER DRIVER  
 \$600 GOLD DRIVER     \$1,200 CLUB AUTO     Please accept my donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to RPM Foundation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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My check is enclosed.     Bill my VISA / MC / AMEX (circle)

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Donations of \$50 or more receive a complimentary membership to LeMay – America's Car Museum, an entity of America's Automotive Trust.

**Please send your donation to:** RPM Foundation, 2702 East D Street, Tacoma, WA 98421  
**Or you may make a donation online at:** [www.rpm.foundation](http://www.rpm.foundation)

As a U.S. Treasury approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization, the RPM Foundation is qualified to accept tax deductible gifts and enables a donor to arrange charitable contributions in ways that maximize personal objectives in a tax effective manner.

AMERICA'S AUTOMOTIVE *Trust*

RPM Foundation is an entity of America's Automotive Trust.

