



2014 ROA International Meet

Colorado Springs, CO • June 24-27, 2014

Celebrating
our **30th** *Riviera*
OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Anniversary



BY RAY KNOTT #1

Where better to celebrate ROA's 30th Anniversary than where it all began in Colorado. Our host hotel sat on a rise in the foothills north of the city with a clear view of Pikes Peak. The location was just south of the Air Force Academy and north of the inspiring rock formations at Garden of the Gods Park. We realized that Colorado is not located within a day's drive from most members, and attendance would not be as large as east coast meets, but it is certainly a magnificent location with so much to see and do.

We had 67 cars on our show field Friday morning, including seven returning Winner's Circle and four Toronados brought by the invited members of the Toronado Owners Association. There were 220 members and guests at our buffet-style awards banquet that evening. That was fewer than last year's meet in Kentucky, but a significant number of members drove well over 1,000 miles from both coasts to share the event.

The meet started on Tuesday with many taking a shuttle from the hotel to the historic mining town of Cripple Creek for a night of gambling. Others chose to stay behind and enjoy the hospitality that was held in a large banquet room. Unlike other clubs, we

host a hospitality room all week, where we start out each morning with coffee, followed in the afternoon and evening with iced tea, cold beer and snacks. On Wednesday and Thursday evening hot hors d'oeuvres are served. Keep in mind that our meets are not designed to show a profit, but to provide as much as possible and make the week memorable. Our vendors are also set up in the air conditioned comfort of the hospitality room, where all indoor activities are held.

During the day, we encouraged members to either join a guided tour of the Garden of the Gods Park, a self-guided tour of the Air Force Academy, or the many other local attractions. Some adventurous members drove to the summit of Pikes Peak, 14,110 feet above sea level.

On Wednesday afternoon, a team of Technical Advisors addressed the members in our popular and always well-attended annual Q&A session. Wednesday evening, after the dinner break, members were sent off with a set of driving instructions to tour the nearby foothills, after which prizes were awarded to those who correctly answered the questions about the route taken. On both evenings, after the food was served, we held trivia contests and awarded door prizes.

A notice that appeared on all outside doors one morning reminded us that we were in Colorado. The notice stated that a bear had been observed on hotel grounds. Fortunately, the Department of Wildlife considered the bear non-threatening.

On Thursday evening, we held our annual ROA membership meeting where we discussed the status of the ROA and our plans for the future. We took a moment to introduce our Board of Trustees and recognized the many members who contribute during the year as Technical Advisors and Regional Coordinators. We also thanked all who have worked so unselfishly to make the meet a success.



Every registered member received a registration bag, which included a commemorative program, notepad, full color dash plaque, an ROA mug, 2014 calendar and a Silver Arrow booklet, along with many other gifts from sponsors. Everyone received their identifying name tag, ribbon and ballot

This being our 30th anniversary, we recognized 11 members in attendance that have been active since 1985, when we first collected dues and assigned membership numbers. The evening ended with parking instructions for the Friday show.

Show day began early with our parking team assisting owners, so that their cars were parked in the correct class and were lined up like cadets at the Air Force Academy. Classes were determined based on preregistration, which closed on May 25th. The number of awards in each class was based on the number of cars on display in each class and the percentage of votes. The setting among the trees with a backdrop of Pikes Peak was perfect, as was the weather for show day.

That evening we enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner. After the dinner, Darwin Falk, outgoing ROA Board member and President of the Tornado Owners Association, introduced David North, a retired Chief Designer

continued



Vendors

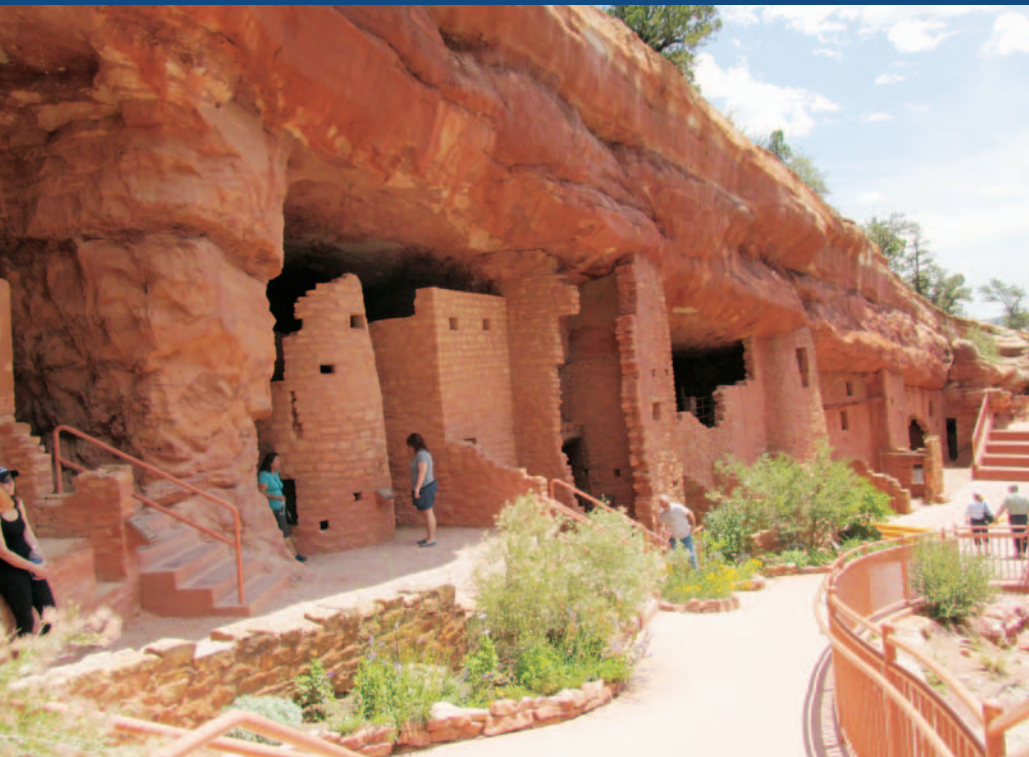
We only had four vendors, but each with a large selection of used, new and reproduction parts. Pictured left to right are:

- **E.J. Howe** and his associate from Johnson City, TX (936-203-0591) at a table full of Riviera parts.
- **Bill Grove** from Palatine, IL (847-359-3961) with an assortment of early Riviera parts.
- **Jeff Machusak** representing CARS Inc, in NJ (908-369-3666) with samples of their many reproductions.
- **Duane Hayes**, (not pictured) a TOA member, displayed photos of the many Toronados he has at his local salvage yard.



Tours & Attractions

Meet attendees enjoyed a number of local attractions, as shown here, clockwise from above: Air Force Academy with their chapel in the background; magnificent rock formations in Garden of the Gods Park; balancing rock formation at Garden of the Gods Park; signage at the summit of Pikes Peak, elevation 14,110 ft; the view from Pikes Peak is great, but the temperature is a bit chilly; Historic Manitou Cliff Dwellings—sorry “No Vacancy.” Meet photos throughout this issue were submitted by John Hellmuth, Rhonda Zerbini, Gabriel Maroney, Mark Bristol, Marty Hillman, Randall Crain, Ed Pentico, Len Goldschmidt and Dick Sweeney.





Technical Advisors' Q&A panel – left to right; Kevin Kinney, Dick Sweeney, Darwin Falk, Phil Cooley, Jason Zerbini, Ed Raner and Carl Blackard.

with GM. Mr. North was involved in many projects over his career, including the parking lights for the 1963-65 Riviera, the first GTO, the 1971 Toronado and the '67 Eldorado. He was also head of design when the 1979 E-Bodies were released. We were also honored to have retired Air Force General and ROA member Don Kutyna, who supported the ROA in so many ways while in charge of Space Command in Colorado Springs, join us for the dinner.



Before the awards were presented, I was surprised and honored by the Board of Trustees, when outgoing Board member Darwin Falk presented me with an award thanking me for 30 years of dedication and service. I am deeply moved but I know that ROA is about all of us

“Sharing the Pride” as we have done for the past 30 years. It’s the people who have made ROA successful.

I hope to see many of you next year in St. Charles, IL at the Pheasant Run Resort for our 2015 Annual Meet. 🍷

1st Year Charter Members in Attendance

These members joined the ROA prior to May 1986, which was within the first year that we started to collect membership dues and have been active members since.

- Bryce Nelson #29, Canon City, CO**
- Steve Ledger #51, Island Lake, IL**
- John Pierce #96, West Bloomfield, MI**
- Marty Hillman #141, Grants Pass, OR**
- Dick Sweeney #146, Alpine, CA**
- Bob Norton #257, Shorewood, IL**
- Ed Raner #279, Shawnee, KS**
- Richard Merlis #414, Staten Island, NY**
- Floyd Hillman #423, Seattle, WA**
- Lee Carroll #433, San Diego, CA**
- Colin Grubb #444, Lakewood, CO**

Thanks for your continued support.

Long-Distance Awards



40 Years or Older

Floyd Hillman from Seattle WA, traveled 1,516 miles one way in his 1963, which he bought new and has driven a total of 357,000 miles.



Long Distance

Fred Trasport from Conway, SC drove 2,080 miles one way in his 1984. This car won First place in the 1979-85 Class in Lexington last year.



Honorable Mention

Long Distance/hardship award belongs to Dave Shipman, who drove his 1992 Riviera 2,060 miles from Weymouth, MA, only to have his transmission burn out 180 miles from Colorado Springs. Dave's '92 had won First Place in the 1986-93 Class in Lexington and was to be displayed in the Winner's Circle. Unfortunately, the car had to be shipped home.

International Long Distance

Klaus Severin #7745, from Berlin, Germany

Richard & Lea Miglianico #1641,
from Chartres de Bretagne, France

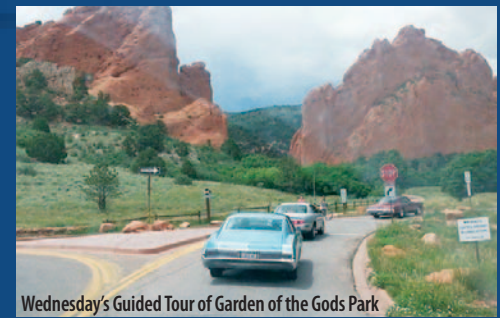


Show Day 2014

30th Anniversary Shirts



A limited supply of 2014 Meet T-shirts featuring a 1984 with Pikes Peak in the background to celebrate our 30th Anniversary are still available. This colorful art appears on the front of a natural colored 100% cotton shirt and is available in sizes M-XXL at \$14 each, S&H included.



Wednesday's Guided Tour of Garden of the Gods Park

