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The New England Motor Press Association was founded in 1987 to coordinate professional media coverage of the auto industry in the six Northeastern states Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. The New England press fleet is maintained by Automotion, Inc., based in Middleborough, Massachusetts.

Membership is by invitation only and is open to vehicle manufacturers and their public relations and communications staff, suppliers to the automotive industry, and auto-show producers as well as the automotive media.

NEMPA's media influence consumers via network and cable TV, on social media and the Web, on radio and in newspapers and magazines. NEMPA members reach New England's 14.5 million citizens and they understand their audience's demographics, buying habits and automotive preferences that are unique to the region. In addition, many NEMPA members also have national and international audiences.

New England is one of the most densely populated and demographically distinct regions in America. Car buyers here boast higher-than-average levels of education and income and have their own automotive preferences, shaped partly by New England's notorious weather. NEMPA directly influences these multi-vehicle owners, who shop a wide range of cars and light trucks. From all-wheel-drives of all types to electric vehicles and sporty convertibles, New Englanders demand the best—and in 2016 they spent \$46.1 billion on new cars and trucks (NADA).

NEMPA invites industry figures to address its monthly meetings, and car-makers use NEMPA events to introduce the members to new products and technologies and to tell their story.

NEMPA hosts annual events like its technology conference at MIT each spring and, every summer, the famous Ragtop Ramble specialty-car run and lobster lunch. NEMPA also bestows annual awards that include the Official Winter Vehicle of New England, the Yankee Technology Cup, Yankee Supplier Award and the Ritvo Design & Elegance Award.

NEMPA Media Outlets

Print/Online

AAA Horizons
AAA Journeys
Autoblog
Autobytel
Autoinsane
Bangshift.com
The Belfast Village Times
Bestride.com
Boston.com
The Boston Globe
The Boston Herald
CarGurus
Car and Driver
Castine Patriot
The Christian Science Monitor
Connecticut Magazine
The Dover Community News
The Downeast Coastal Press
The Eagle Tribune
The Ellsworth American
The Engineering News-Record
Esquire
The Exeter News-Letter
Fox News
GateHouse News Service
Hagerty
The Hampton Union
The Hartford Courant
Hooniverse
Kelley Blue Book
King Features
Lawrence Eagle Tribune
Hartford Magazine
Men's Journal

Print/Online Continued

Jezebel
Modern Luxury Media
Motor Age
Motoring News Service
MSN Autos
Mt. Desert Islander
The New Hampshire Sunday News
The New York Times
North Central News
Payments.com
PickupTrucks.com
Popular Mechanics
The Providence Journal
The Recorder
Reviewed.com
Road & Track
Robb Report
The Rockingham News
San Francisco Chronicle
Slate
Sports Car Market
Star View
Stonebridge Press Newspapers
USA Today
US News & World Report
Vehix
VillageSoup Media
The Washington Post
The Worcester Telegram
Yahoo!
The York County Coast Star
The York Weekly

NEMPA Media Outlets

Radio

NPR – Car Talk
Business Radio
Talk Network
WBZS
WDRC
WHA1
WHMP
WMMW
WPRO
WROL - The Car Doctor
WSNG
WTIC
WTTK
WWCO

Television

WBZ-TV
Comcast Nationwide
Discovery Channel
Global TV Chronicle
NECN
PBS
WCVB-TV
WheelsTV



ACTIVITIES, EVENTS & CALENDAR

NEMPA's regular events include the MIT Technology Conference each spring, the famous summer Ragtop Ramble & Crustacean Crawl, and a holiday party at the end of the year. Vehicle manufacturers also schedule special events and monthly meetings with NEMPA.

The MIT Technology Conference

Since 2011, NEMPA and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have jointly presented an industry panel discussion of leading-edge automotive issues.



For information on participation or sponsorships, contact Lisa Fleming Brock at lisabrock@nempa.org or 215-378-5644.

Ragtop Ramble & Crustacean Crawl

The legendary Ragtop Ramble is a top-down (weather permitting) ride & drive cruise that starts at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum, in Brookline, Massachusetts, and wends its way north to Kennebunkport, Maine, where members and guests enjoy the Colony Hotel's famous lobster luncheon. The event begins the evening prior with a Boston Harbor dinner cruise. The Ramble is open to convertibles and other specialty vehicles. To enter vehicles in the Ragtop Ramble, contact John Lawlor at automotion@comcast.net or 508-378-3023.

Holiday Party

Each December NEMPA hosts a holiday party for members of the auto industry. For information, contact John Lawlor at automotion@comcast.net or 508-378-3023.

Monthly Meetings

Regular meetings are usually on the second Tuesday of each month and held over dinner, at the Automotion garage in Middleborough, Massachusetts. Companies are often invited to make presentations.

Special Events

Special media-member gatherings, usually to introduce new vehicles, technologies or personnel, take place throughout the year at the Automotion Garage or at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum. (See Special Event Venues.)

To schedule an event or presentation, contact John Lawlor at automotion@comcast.net or 508-378-3023.

NEMPA'S YEAR AT A GLANCE

January	Winter Vehicle evaluations continue Regular Meeting
February	Winter Vehicle Test Day
March	Regular Meeting
April	Regular Meeting
May	MIT Tech Conference & Annual Awards Dinner
June	Regular Meeting
July	Ragtop Ramble & Crustacean Crawl
August	Regular Meeting
September	Regular Meeting
October	Regular Meeting
November	Winter Vehicle evaluations begin Regular Meeting
December	Holiday Party Winter Vehicle evaluations continue

AUTOMOTIVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Each year the New England Motor Press Association gives a few select manufacturers and industry professionals bragging rights by recognizing excellence with awards that are tailored to New England's automotive needs and tastes. Three of New England's most respected entities—the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Larz Anderson Auto Museum—provide input for several of these honors. Awards are presented at NEMPA's annual meeting and awards dinner, held in May on the MIT campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. NEMPA awards may be used freely in advertising and other promotions.



Auto Executive of the Year

Presented to an automotive industry leader for outstanding personal and professional performance.

The Camel's Back Award

Presented to a member of the automotive public relations corps who has consistently and with good humor and genuine helpfulness risen to NEMPA's requests, rather than allowing them to be the proverbial "straw that broke the camel's back."

The Charles E. Dole High Road Award

Presented to an automotive professional who typifies the enterprise, collegiality, helpfulness, integrity and good will that marked the career of Charlie Dole, for many years the automotive columnist for the *Christian Science Monitor* and dean of the New England automotive press corps.

The Ritvo Memorial Design & Elegance Award

Selected with the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Larz Anderson Auto Museum, this award honors the best in automotive design. It is named for the late Gene Ritvo, a veteran concours photographer and NEMPA member who had a keen eye for elegant design.

The Yankee Cup Technology Award

Selected with input from the engineering faculty at MIT, the Yankee Cup goes to an automotive feature or system that significantly enhances the motoring experience, whether by making driving safer, more cost-efficient or simply more enjoyable.

The Yankee Supplier Award

Selected by NEMPA members, this honor goes to the automotive supplier that has made significant contributions to the industry. Often suppliers are the unsung heroes behind the major advancements in the business. Suppliers can be nominated for a component, system or technology that significantly enhances the motoring experience, whether by making driving safer, more cost-efficient or simply more enjoyable.

The Yankee Value Award

Presented to the vehicle that best exemplifies the hardy New England spirit of understated perseverance.

Favorite Fun Entry-Level Convertible

Favorite Convertible

Favorite Luxury Convertible

Best Green/Alternative Fuel Vehicle

These winners are selected from the fleet of specialty vehicles that participate in each year's Ragtop Ramble & Crustacean Crawl (see Activities & Calendar).

Winter Vehicle Awards

Vehicles selected by NEMPA as "best for winter driving" are those that offer a combination of winter-specific features and options plus the dynamic qualities that make for safe, enjoyable and competent all-weather driving.

The overall winner is selected as the Official Winter Vehicle of New England.

NOTE: All award-winners—people, vehicles and technologies—are selected by vote.

- For vehicles to be eligible for awards, they must be in the NEMPA press fleet and available for media members to drive and evaluate.

NEMPA SPECIAL EVENT VENUES

Vehicle manufacturers use the Automotion garage or the Larz Anderson Auto Museum for highly cost-effective “customized” vehicle introductions, or simply to meet and interact with NEMPA.

The Automotion Garage

- Easy access—just off Rte. 495 at Exit 4, in Middleborough, Massachusetts
- Within easy reach of most NEMPA media members
- 14,000 square feet, heated, with Wi-Fi
- Three distinct display areas, one movable car lift
- Catering options
- Seating for groups as small as a dozen and as large as 150 people
- Ample space for loading and unloading transporters
- Contact John Lawlor at 508-378-3023 or automotion@comcast.net.



Large groups can be accommodated in the service bay, even for sit-down dinners and multi-vehicle presentations.



Automotion's Malt Shoppe, with its marble soda fountain, penny-candy counter and juke box, is ideal for smaller gatherings.



Infiniti introduced the Q50 to the New England Motor Press Association behind closed doors at Automotion.

The Larz Anderson Auto Museum

For a more formal setting, NEMPA utilizes the Larz Anderson Auto Museum, home to America's oldest car collection, in Brookline, Massachusetts. Contact Sheldon Steele at 617-522-6547.



The three-acre lawn at Larz Anderson is the staging area for NEMPA's annual Ragtop Ramble & Crustacean Crawl. Since the turn of the 20th Century, LAAM has hosted picnics, concerts, parties and many other special events.



The galleries in LAAM's Carriage House, built in 1888, make a fine display area for cars and can seat as many as 150 people for dinner.

NEMPA MEMBERSHIP

There are two classes of membership in NEMPA: Media (voting) and Associate (non-voting). Membership dues are \$75 per year. Members are listed in a password-protected directory on nempa.org.

Media membership is by invitation only and is open to paid writers, editors, broadcasters, photographers and videographers in the automotive field. New media members may not vote for their first year. All media members are required to attend at least four NEMPA events per year.

Associate membership is open to qualified members of the auto industry, including automotive public relations and communications professionals, suppliers to the auto industry and auto-show producers and staff.

Please direct membership [inquiries](#) to John Paul at jpaul@aaasne.com.



NEMPA STEERING COMMITTEE 2018



John Paul, President

With nearly 40 years experience in the automotive business, John F. Paul knows cars. As AAA's Car Doctor and the Senior Manager of Traffic Safety and Public Affairs for AAA Northeast for more than 30 years, he writes new car reviews, feature articles and a Q&A column in the AAA monthly publication Your AAA. John also has been hosting a automotive radio program for more than 20 years and currently he hosts the "Car Doctor" radio program Saturday mornings from 8:30-10 a.m. on WROL AM 950 and WBIX AM 1260.

401-868-2000 x 2121 • jpaul@aaasne.com

Lisa Fleming Brock, Executive Director

Lisa Brock manages NEMPA's operations and leads growth and development. Prior to NEMPA, she was based in New York as Ford's Northeast event and product news manager, and she sat on the board of the International Motor Press Association. Before Ford, Brock was the communications manager for Subaru North America, where she also developed a media training program and was an executive speech writer. Rounding out her OEM experience, Brock was a PR specialist for Mazda North America. Brock also has agency experience with automotive boutique firm Hedge & Company and the Detroit office of Hill+Knowlton. Brock holds a Master's in integrated marketing communications from Northwestern and a Bachelor's in PR from Eastern Michigan University. She now lives in New Hampshire with her family.



215-378-5644 • lisabrock@nempa.org



Clifford Atiyeh, Vice-President

Clifford Atiyeh has spent his entire life driving cars he doesn't own, until buying his grandfather's Volvo for \$1 a couple years ago. A former Boston Globe staff writer, Atiyeh is a contributing editor and photographer at Car and Driver, CarGurus, and various titles within Hearst Magazines. His work has appeared in Popular Science, The Wall Street Journal, Fox News, MSN, and more throughout his decade-plus career in journalism. He lives in Connecticut.

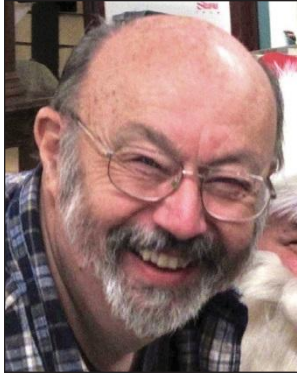
203-415-7723 • clifford.atiyeh@live.com

Bill Griffith, Secretary

Bill Griffith was educated at Northeastern University and landed a job at the only place he ever wanted to work—the *Boston Globe* Sports Department, where he spent 40 years treating sports as serious business. He has been writing about cars since the *Globe's* auto editor threw him the keys to a Mustang convertible and asked for a review in the midst of the 1999 ice storm. He has been contributing to the *Boston Globe's* auto pages for more than a decade, as well as Boston.com.

978-255-1635 • wgriff@gmail.com





Roger Parent, Treasurer

Roger began his media career at WHMX in Lincoln, Maine. From there he moved on to WPEP in Taunton, Massachusetts; WARA in Attleboro, where he was an on-air personality and the general manager; and finally to WBET in Brockton, Massachusetts. He currently writes an automobile review column for the *Middleboro Gazette*, a newspaper owned by the Dow Jones Local Media Company. He is owner of Roger H. Parent, Jr., Inc., a Massachusetts accounting practice with clients all over the United States and in the UK.

508-947-2455 • roger@parentbernier.com

John Lawlor, Events & Logistics Coordinator

The renowned spiritual, technical and menu advisor to Click & Clack (the Tappet Brothers) on NPR's "Car Talk," John "Bugsy" Lawlor was one of the founders of NEMPA. Three years earlier, in 1984, he established what is now Automotion, the New England service provider for automotive press fleets and events. John grew up in Boston and for 10 years hosted a radio show called "AutoWorks" on WBZ and, for two years, a TV show called "Motor Chronicles" on Boston Access. John is also the auto correspondent on "The Money Show" on 96.9FM.

508-378-3023 • automotion@comcast.net



Zane Merva, Website Director

Creating and publishing auto-centric websites since 2001, New Hampshire-based Zane Merva is the co-founder of Silikhan Publishing Group and the executive editor of AutoInsane.com. His Websites and writing reach more than three-quarters of a million unique readers each month.

603-566-6064 • zaneM@Silikhan.com