



Welcome to NEMPA!

The New England Motor Press Association's core mission is to provide our readers, listeners and viewers with fair, consumer-focused automotive reporting specific to the six states that comprise New England. However, our reach goes well beyond the 14.5 million people who live in our region; NEMPA members communicate with consumers and enthusiasts around the globe.

Since the organization was founded, in 1987, one of the unique characteristics of NEMPA has been our ability to work together to support each others' endeavors and to make positive contributions to the automotive world. We also partner with prominent institutions such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the Larz Anderson Auto Museum.

The result of these collaborations has been unique events and honors that are meaningful not only to our audiences, but also to our OEM partners.

As a forward-thinking professional group, we are committed to excellence and to building relationships with our audiences and with auto manufacturers.

This package is your guide to NEMPA. It contains detailed information on who we are, what we do, how to reach us, and how you can take part in—and benefit from—our activities. Please also visit the NEMPA Web site ([nempa.org](http://nempa.org)) for news of our daily activities.

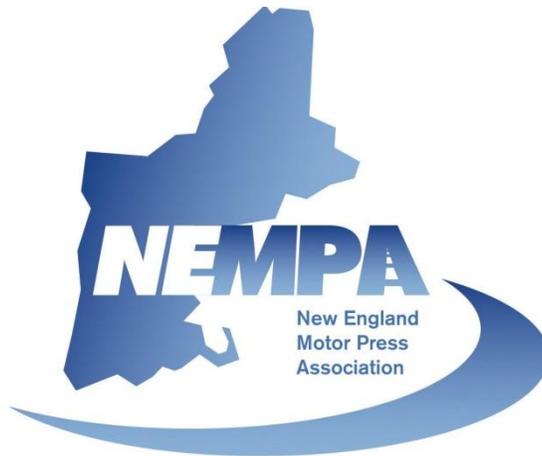
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Craig Fitzgerald'.

Craig Fitzgerald  
President

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Summary	page 2
About NEMPA and New England	page 3
Activities, Events & Calendar	page 5
Automotive Excellence Awards	page 7
NEMPA Special Event Venues	page 10
NEMPA Membership	page 13
NEMPA Committee and Contact Information	Page 14



## THE SUMMARY

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

Membership is by invitation only and is open to carmakers 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 members appear on network and cable TV, on the Internet and radio and in newspapers and magazines. NEMPA members reach virtually all of New England's 14.5 million citizens—in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont—and they understand their audience's demographics, buying habits and automotive preferences. In addition, many NEMPA members also have national and international audiences.

NEMPA invites industry figures to address its monthly meetings, and carmakers use NEMPA events to introduce the members to new products and technologies.

NEMPA organizes a technology conference 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.

# ABOUT NEMPA AND NEW ENGLAND

The New England Motor Press Association, a professional organization of journalists, opinion leaders, influencers and content creators, is the trusted supplier of automotive information to the 14.5 million citizens of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. NEMPA has more than 130 dues-paying media and associate members who provide automotive content to national, regional and local print, radio, television and Internet media.

NEMPA was founded in 1987 and is the most cohesive automotive media organization in the USA. NEMPA members cover events across New England, the nation and the world. With its unique facilities, NEMPA also makes it easy for manufacturers and other industry newsmakers to reach its audience with unprecedented event coordination, reliable attendance and credible coverage.

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 2013 they spent \$38 billion on new cars and trucks. (NADA)

## NEMPA MEMBER MEDIA

### Print/Online

AAA Horizons

AAA Journeys

Autoblog

Autobytel

Autoinsane

*Automobile Magazine*

Bangshift.com

*The Belfast Village Times*

BoldRide.com

Boston.com

*The Boston Globe*

*The Boston Herald*

CarGurus.com

*Car and Driver*

*Castine Patriot*

*The Christian Science Monitor*

Clunker Nation

*The Dover Community News*

*The Downeast Coastal Press*

*The Eagle Tribune*

*The Ellsworth American*

*The Engineering News-Record*

*Esquire*

*The Exeter News-Letter*  
*Forbes*  
GateHouse News Service  
*The Hampton Union* *The*  
*Hartford Courant* *Hemmings*  
*Classic Car* *Hemmings Motor*  
*News* *Hemmings Muscle*  
*Machines* *Hemmings Sports &*  
*Exotic Car* *Hooniverse*  
*Kelley Blue Book*  
King Features  
*Lawrence Eagle Tribune*  
*Hartford Magazine*  
*Men's Journal*  
*Men's Book*  
*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*  
PickupTrucks.com  
*The Providence Journal*  
*The Recorder*  
*Road & Track*  
*Robb Report*  
*The Rockingham News*  
Slate  
Sports Car Market Star View  
Stonebridge Press Newspapers

*US News & World Report*  
Vehix  
VillageSoup Media  
Wired  
*The Washington Post*  
*The Worcester Telegram*  
Yahoo!Autos  
*The York County Coast Star*  
*The York Weekly*

#### Radio

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

#### Television

WBZ-TV  
Comcast Nationwide  
CN8  
Discovery Channel  
Global TV Chronicle  
WCVB-TV  
Rhode Island Public Broadcasting  
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 often schedule special events with NEMPA as well.

## 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. The 2015 conference, scheduled for May 21 at MIT, will focus on "Green Vehicle Technology."



For information on participation or sponsorships, contact Lisa Fleming Brock at [lisabrock@nempa.org](mailto: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](mailto:automotion@comcast.net) or 508-378-3023.

## Holiday Party

Each December NEMPA hosts a holiday party for members of the auto industry at the *Boston Globe* offices. Attendees bring gifts, and NEMPA donates the proceeds from the event to the *Globe's* Santa Fund. For information, contact John Lawlor at [automotion@comcast.net](mailto:automotion@comcast.net) or 508-378-3023.

## Monthly Meetings

Regular meetings are usually on the second Tuesday of each month and held over dinner, either at the Automotion garage in Middleborough, Massachusetts, or at the *Boston Globe* offices in Boston. Carmakers 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](mailto: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 often untimely and burdensome 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:jpaul@aaasne.com).

# NEMPA STEERING COMMITTEE 2015-16



**Craig Fitzgerald, President**  
Contributor to the *Boston Globe* Auto section and Senior Writer with BoldRide.com, Craig Fitzgerald writes auto reviews and features and is a regular guest and guest host on several New England radio shows. His byline has appeared in *Forbes*, *Esquire* and *Slate* and he was the editor of *Hemmings Sports & Exotic Car*. Today he is the editorial director of marketing and newsletter specialist IMN, Inc. This is his second term as President.  
802-342-3999 • vespafitz@gmail.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



**Kamil Kaluski, Vice-President**  
Kamil Kaluski is the East Coast Editor for Hooniverse.com. His writing encompasses car reviews (new, used, weird, obscure and classic) and coverage of automotive shows and events. When not writing, he is campaigning his \$500 racecar, autocrossing his hot hatch, or spending time with his wife and two kids. A degree in electrical engineering and a career in public transport management give him a distinctive perspective on the automotive industry.  
617-959-6699 • thekamil@gmail.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:zaneM@Silikhan.com)