

The Mudflap



News and Activities from the Tidewater Region—Antique Automobile Club of America

Volume 60, Issue 1

January 2016



TRAACA *Winter Blast* Virginia Living Museum Saturday, January 30, 2016

The TRAACA is kicking off its 2016 activities year by visiting the Virginia Living Museum in Newport News (524 J. Clyde Morris Blvd, Newport News, VA 23601) on Saturday, January 30th. View endangered red wolves. Get up close to a loggerhead sea turtle. See fish with no eyes and frogs that change colors. Touch live horseshoe crabs. It's all at the Virginia Living Museum where living exhibits depict Virginia's natural heritage from the mountains to the sea. 2016 is the 50th anniversary of the Virginia Living Museum, so there are special exhibits.

Members interested in caravanning to the museum should meet in the parking lot of the Norfolk Academy (1585 Wesleyan Dr, Norfolk, VA

23502) at 9:00 AM. We will depart for the museum at 9:15 AM. (Alternately, members can meet us at the museum at 10:00 AM). Tickets to the museum are at the group rate of \$16.00 per person. After touring the museum, we will have lunch in the museum's *Wild Side Café*, which offers relaxed indoor seating for about 45. Please e-mail Linda Pellerin (LPellerin2@Cox.net) or call her at (757) 621-1221 with your name and the number of people in your party so that we can provide the Museum an accurate number ahead of time. Please join us for the club's first activity of the year and travel with us to the Virginia Living Museum in Newport News—we're going to have a *Blast!*



Drive down Memory Lane! At the TRAACA Holiday Party, Terry Bond read a "TRAACA Christmas Letter" reviewing the club's past 60 years of history. Read the story on Pages 10-14.



TRAACA CALENDAR

Check local.aaca.org/tidewater for the latest info on upcoming events!

JANUARY 2016

- 5 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Tuesday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 16 TRAACA Annual Awards
Banquet & Board Induction
Founders Inn
Virginia Beach, VA
- 30 TRAACA *Winter Blast*
Virginia Living Museum
Newport News, VA

FEBRUARY 2016

- 3 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Wednesday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 18 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 27 TRAACA *Warm Up Run*
to Capt Bob's Restaurant
Hertford, NC

MARCH 2016

- 1 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Tuesday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 12 TRAACA Swap Meet
Military Aviation Museum
Virginia Beach, VA
— Note the new location this year —
- 17 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 26 Tour of Craig Talley's Shop

APRIL 2016

- 6 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Wednesday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 16-17 TRAACA *Spring Fling Tour*

From the Driver's Seat

Jim Villers
TRAACA President
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I feel proud being President as I watch and enjoy this wonderful club. The Holiday Brunch and the celebration of sixty years of club activity was a special time. Richard Hall assembled a display table of historic memorabilia of the club's early years, including scrap books with pictures of long passed members and many truly antique cars. Terry Bond's "TRAACA Christmas Letter" (printed on Pages 10-14), covering the highlights & emotions of the past sixty years, was a joy to hear. Add to this the car show in the parking lot and the enticing buffet with omelets & roast beef, and this was a memorable event.

I am also excitedly looking forward to the New Year with our Annual Awards Banquet at the Founders Inn in January and a host of other exciting events that are being discussed for the rest of the year. While the new Activities Committee has not yet released its full plan for next year, the tidbits and hints have raised my expectations for an enjoyable new year. [Editor's Note: The 2016 Activities Calendar will be in the February issue of The Mudflap.]

I have talked before about the pride in ownership of an antique car and the restoration decisions that accompany it. Acquiring another classic vehicle is a serious decision for most of us who do not routinely buy and sell cars. We all have our "passion cars" that have been our primary love for many years. It may be our first car, that car that

we lusted for in high school, or a car that we have owned for many years. For me, it is a Mercedes-Benz 190 SL; I bought mine 43 years ago as a "classic rationalization" when my fellow department heads were buying Datsun 240Zs. I drove the car to work for ten years, and Betty & I have driven it thousands of miles to the four corners of the country.

Since joining the TRAACA, I have purchased several restoration projects in pieces, boxes, and with bodies of questionable shape. Recently, I responded to a Craig's List post for a "190 SL project car." The car was in pieces, but the body was beautiful and the boxes of parts overflowed with duplicates. I just couldn't resist purchasing it on the spot. I was very lucky to find this perfect project.



Jim's newest project: a 1958 M-B 190 SL

On the other hand, luck is not so much "luck" but is where "opportunity meets preparation" (an old Roman quotation). I had planned a 190 SL restoration in my mind for many years, but my car was "too good to restore." So my years of planning came together with a Craig's List post.

Don't give up on your dreams and your dream car. *The Mud Speck* lists many interesting cars each week and Craig's List and "Bring-A-Trailer" lists many more. Keep working on your dreams and you also might get "lucky."

So much to do, so little time. Let's have fun: it's an old car kind of day!

Jim

2015 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Jim Villers: 190sljim@cox.net
Vice President - Mark McAlpine:
mmmcalpine05@msn.com
Secretary - Melanie Kordis
Treasurer - Marion McAlpine
Board - Matt Doscher
Board - Tyler Gimbert
Board - Skip Patnode
Board - Tim Russell
President Emeritus - Wes Neal

Visit us on the Internet at:
<http://local.aaca.org/tidewater/>

THE MUDFLAP is the newsletter for the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, and is published monthly.

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Call Captain's Corner

Calling Tree Chief Captain: Margie Ives
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<u>Last Name Begins With:</u>	<u>Designated Call Captain:</u>	
Ad—Boh	Dick Chipchak	495-0115
Bol—Cic	Dan Ciccone	339-3494
Cob—Ea	Barbara Talley	421-7534
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From the Running Board

Dec 2, 2015 TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes

The board meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport on Military Hwy. Directors present were Jim Villers (President), Mark McAlpine (Vice President), Melanie Kordis (Secretary) and Marion McAlpine (Treasurer). Board member present was Skip Patnode. Members present were Bob & Dot Parrish, Bill Treadwell, Bill Wilcox, and past president Wes Neal.

Secretary's Report: The November Board Meeting Minutes were approved and published in the December issue of *The Mudflap*.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Marion. The annual Silent Auction receivables and club's investment CD were discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Marketing/PR: Nothing significant to report (NSTR).

Communications:

- *The Mudflap* newsletter: As of 1 December, 10 of 16 advertisers have renewed their ads for 2016.
- *The Mud Speck* weekly e-mail: NSTR.

Activities:

- Sunday, 20 December: TRAACA Holiday Brunch at the Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach, VA. Board voted to subsidize the cost of the meal so it is only \$15 per member.
- Mark requested an outline of the activities for 2016 be sent to him so it can be included in the January *Mudflap*.

Restaurants/Dinner Meetings:

- Saturday, January 16: Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach.
 - Board approved subsidizing meal to \$25 per member.
 - Looking for award nominations for the Spark Plug Award and the Restoration Award.
- 2016 Dinner Meetings and Board Meetings at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport: contract pending.
- Discussed possibly changing the date of monthly Board Meetings. Board will discuss more at January meeting.

Society:

- Current membership status (as of 30 November): 170 (singles/couples). 68 renewals received to date for next year. Members encouraged to renew early in order to be included (with any revisions) in the club's 2016 Membership Roster.
- Sunshine Report: No updates.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Club is still looking for a Call Tree Chair to take over for Margie Ives. Send nominations to Jim Villers.
- Club received "Thank You" notes from family members for memorial donations made to AACA Library.
- Jim will look into appointments to memorialize deceased TRAACA members on the "Final Tour" section of the club's website.

C O N T E N T S

Article	Page
From the Driver's Seat - Jim Villers	2
From the Running Board - Melanie Kordis	3
TRAACA Holiday Brunch - Bob Stein	4-5
Toys for Tots Car Show - Mark McAlpine	6-7
Still Collecting—More Toys - Terry Bond	8-9
TRAACA Christmas Letter - Terry Bond	10-14
Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance - John Heimerl	15
AACA Rummage Box	16
AACA Calendar	16
TRAACA Members' Page	17
Down the Road—Other Regional/Local Car Events ...	18
The Complete Toolbox—Tools You Should Have	18
Editor's Desk - Mark McAlpine	19

- The "*Wings & Wheels*" Meet Improvements Committee will meet at the McAlpines' house on either Saturday or Sunday, January 9 or 10, 2016. Exact date/time TBD.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jim will look into the cost of a large "perpetual plaque" to recognize the Military Aviation Museum and for it to display yearly dash plaques from TRAACA annual meets held there. Board approved up to \$200 for plaque.
- Bob Parrish extended congratulations to Tom Cox and Jim Elliot, both just elected to the 2016 AACA Board.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Virginia Beach Schools Automotive Vo-Tech Program invited the club to bring cars to its Open House on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Members interested in showing their cars and talking with students & parents should contact Melanie for more information.
- Jim will submit a resolution from the TRAACA Board to the ODMA Board requesting it to change the date of the 2016 ODMA Meet so as not to compete with AACA national meets.

The next TRAACA Board Meeting is Tuesday, 5 January 2016, 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Kordis, Secretary

AACA & TRAACA Membership Renewals Due

If you have not yet renewed your AACA and TRAACA memberships for 2016 by the time you're reading this, you're overdue. **Please renew your TRAACA membership no later than 15 January in order for your updated information to be included in the club's 2016 Membership Roster.**

You can renew your AACA membership by going to the AACA website (www.aaca.org) and renewing online or printing off and mailing in the completed form to the AACA. You can renew your TRAACA membership by printing off the form from the TRAACA website (www.traaca.com) or using the form printed in October-December issues of *The Mudflap* and mailing the completed form to Jim Villers at 3133 Inlet Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23454. Please don't delay!



TRAACA Holiday Brunch

Sunday, December 20, 2015

Story and photos by Bob Stein.

This year's annual TRAACA Holiday Party took the form of a Sunday brunch at the elegant Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach on December 20th. Nearly 80 members and over 15 antique vehicles showed up for the great food and entertainment.

Club Historian Richard Hall put together a great display for members to browse photo albums, plaques, and other memorabilia commemorating the club's 60th anniversary. After a social hour and a few brief words of introduction by TRAACA President Jim Villers, the group started in on the brunch buffet, which included two omelet bars, a waffle station, standing prime rib, shrimp, salads, fruit, desserts, and more. A very brief business meeting got announcements out of the way, then Terry Bond provided a terrific recap of the Tidewater Region's 60-year history in the form of a "TRAACA Christmas Newsletter."

Terry's history recap began with the first gatherings of about a half-dozen local antique car enthusiasts in Tommy Moody's Mobile gas station and continued through the receipt of our official regional charter (10 official members!) from the AACA in February 1955, our first local meet (June 1963), and the five AACA National Meets that TRAACA has hosted over the years (1976, 1984, 1996, 2006, and 2015). Terry's presentation highlighted many of the key members who contributed to both our club and the national club over the years and included images of past events, members, and other snippets of our history displayed on screen for all to enjoy and reminisce. It was fun to see the club's veteran members in their younger days and a bit melancholy to see long-gone, but well-remembered, old friends. Every photograph brought back good memories.

Our Holiday Brunch was an excellent end to 2015. Thanks to all those who made it possible! Here's to 2016 and the beginning of another sixty years of TRAACA history and the making of many more great memories. [Editor's Note: Look for the TRAACA's 2016 Activities Calendar in the February issue of *The Mudflap*.]



TRAACA members going through the food line



TRAACA members waiting patiently at the omelet station



Terry Bond presenting the "TRAACA Christmas Letter"



(L-R) Kathy Kellam, Debbie & Dana Meadows, Jimmy Flanders



Dana & Debbie Meadows in their 1949 Packard Station Sedan



Jimmy Flanders in his 1953 Buick Special



Dewey & Maxine Milligan and Wayne & Carol Milligan arrive in Dewey's 1953 Ford Customline V-8



Leslie Scarpelli in her & Tony's 1956 Chrysler New Yorker



Hilary Pavlidis in her "new" 1967 Mercury Cougar



Jim Villers in his 1967 Porsche 911



Scott Davies & Holly Forester in their 1972 Chevrolet Corvette



Bob Stein's 1985 Ford Crown Victoria



Wes Neal in his 1991 Jeep Grand Wagoneer



Toys for Tots Car Show

Smithfield, VA

Saturday, December 5, 2015

Story and photos by Mark McAlpine



There's nothing like a small town car show. For fifteen years Elizabeth Moose has organized a charity car show in Smithfield, VA, to benefit Toys for Tots, and for the last eight years TRAACA member Charlie Daniels has hosted the show at his Daniels Performance Group (DPG) facility in Smithfield. This year's show was on Saturday, December 5th. Participants who contributed \$100 to sponsor the car show were invited to a pre-show party on Friday night and displayed their vehicles under a large tent. TRAACA participants included Mark & Marion McAlpine, Tony & Leslie Scarpelli, Bill & Linda Treadwell, and, of course, Charlie Daniels and Chris Hunt. John & Lynn Heimerl were sponsors, but unable to attend because of illness. The party was catered by Rodman's Bar-B-Que, a local favorite, and featured fried chicken and Brunswick stew.

Although participation was down this year for a variety of reasons, over 70 vehicles participated on Saturday and hundreds of spectators came to see the cars and support the charity. Entertainment was provided by the Smithfield High School (SHS) Band, local DJ Angela Brown (who supports the cruise-ins at DPG throughout the year), and "Blind Wind"—Frankie Moran and his son Cole, who was born blind and has some cognitive delays, but plays a mean harmonica. The SHS Band warmed up the crowd in the morning by playing Christmas carols, and DJ Angela rocked the crowd with a variety of music and her usual infectious attitude. The SHS Junior ROTC Honor Guard brought in the colors to officially start the event. Santa Clause's reindeer were resting up for the big night, so he arrived at noon by Sentara Health Care's Nightingale Air Ambulance helicopter, and was transported across the street to DPG in a sleigh pulled by Dan Kreisler's well-known (at least locally) motorized picnic table, led in by local U.S. Marines. After Santa's grand arrival, Blind Wind inspired the crowd with its performance. It's hard to believe Cole is only 13-years old—he plays the harmonica like a seasoned pro. And his father is a great guitarist and vocalist. (Check out their music at www.colemoran.com.)

This year's Toys for Tots Car Show was another resounding success. The leadership and dedicated efforts of Elizabeth Moose, supported by the generosity of the car show participants & spectators at DPG cruise-ins throughout the year, local residents, and businesses like Hall Chrysler Dodge Jeep and George's Realty, ensured that local needy children would find presents under their Christmas trees. Two buses and two RVs arrived loaded with toys, and hundreds more were donated that day. Santa may deliver the toys, but he's supported by a lot of people, including local car enthusiasts like members of the TRAACA.



TRAACA members at the pre-show holiday party on Friday night



Santa arrives Saturday morning via Nightingale helicopter



The Smithfield High School Band entertaining the crowd



Local U.S. Marines lead Santa into Daniels Performance Group



Tony Scarpelli & his 1956 Chrysler New Yorker



Bill Treadwell & his 1969 Chevrolet Camaro convertible



Marion & Mark McAlpine & their 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle SS-396



Ron Pack & his 1947 Chevrolet Woodie



Santa & helpers unloading some of the many donated toys



Some of the other cars at the show



"Blind Wind"—Cole & Frankie Moran—entertaining the crowd



Most of the TRAACA contingent with Santa



Still Collecting Stuff — *More Toys* By Terry Bond

Last issue we began looking at the earliest automotive toys. Those wonderful, detailed, key-wound beauties with beveled glass windows, fancy accessories, and even pin-striping on them were intended for wealthier families. However, the market for toy cars was strong among kids whose parents were in all income brackets, so there had to be some less expensive toys available, too.

Many of those early German and French manufacturers also stamped out hundreds of different small, more simply constructed toys intended for sale in the street markets of the day. They often sold for a penny, particularly in London's markets. That's where the name "penny toy" was actually born. While there were countless toys of all kinds that fell into this category, we'll focus just on the automobile toys.

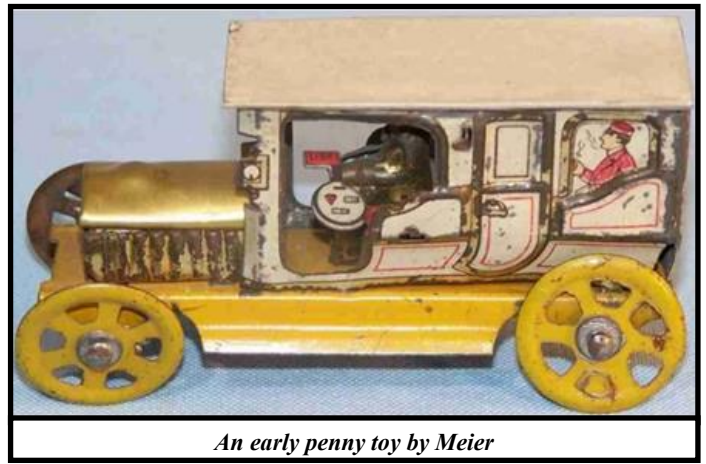


An early penny toy—circa 1907-1910—by an unknown maker

One of the most prolific manufacturers was the German firm, Meier. However, it is very difficult to attribute penny toys to specific manufacturers as they were sometimes unmarked. Expert collectors and researchers have come close, though, by studying types of wheels, special lithographing, and other design features on the toys. It was common, though, to replace broken wheels with pieces from other broken toys, so what we see today is often something assembled many years ago. Some unscrupulous antique dealers are inclined to make totally unauthentic repairs as well, either to deceive or to improve the value of their offerings. As always, be cautious when contemplating a purchase. Fortunately, we don't know of any of these early toys that have been reproduced.

Over the years, the penny toy became simpler and less appealing due to the continuous need to keep prices low. Still available up into the 1920s, the quality of these toys began to decline.

Age and condition will have major impact on value.



An early penny toy by Meier

The very earliest toys will look like the very earliest automobiles. They will have lots of detailed lithographic printing on them and may even have some hand-painted detail. They are all quite simply assembled, though, using the typical tab and slot method. However, unlike their larger relatives they do not usually have clockwork mechanisms. Penny toys were small—most were around 2½-3 inches in length.

Later editions of penny toys will be painted in only one or two colors and will not have things like separate lamps or drivers in them. Their appearance is quite crude when compared to much earlier examples.

Prices can range from \$100-\$2,000 for some of them, so they are no longer true "penny toys." In fact, even when new, they sold for "pennies"—all that you had in a young pocket of the day, perhaps 10 or 15 cents worth.

If you need a reference work, David Pressland has published the best known of all: "The Book of Penny Toys." Although out of print, copies are still available on eBay and through Amazon.

The earliest known collection of penny toys was assembled by a Mr. Ernest King, in London. He actually bought the toys when they were new, starting in 1904. He cataloged everything and that year he reported acquiring 219 different examples, including animals, boats, etc.

An old friend and fellow Chesapeake Region AACA



Early penny toy touring car by Distler

member, Bill Gottschalk, who unfortunately passed away years ago, provided the foundation for my education in collecting automobilia and fueling my interest in antique toys. While Bill's focus was cast iron toys, which we'll talk about in a future article, his wife Lillian held a fascination with early penny toys. Although she collected a variety of them, automobiles were a strong focus of her collecting. At one time, Bill & Lillian's toy collections were commonly recognized as the best in the country.

Today you can collect quite a variety. They can be most easily found on the Internet, of course. Antique shows, flea markets, auctions, even garage sales have turned up fine examples. The London antique markets are still full of them, but prices are quite strong today, especially in those London shops. If you want to collect a few examples, my recommendation is to concentrate on quality. Spending your hard-earned money on good clean examples of the earliest toys would be good investment advice. Most of all, though, enjoy what you collect.

I hope you enjoy the pictures and perhaps discover something new to collect in the process. And, as always, happy collecting!

Terry Bond



Penny toy gas station with sedan by Distler—circa 1925



Delivery truck penny toy by Fischer



Early penny toy motorcycle by Meier



Another detailed early penny toy car—maker unknown



A larger and more detailed early penny toy car—maker unknown.



Early penny toy limousine by Distler



TRAACA *Christmas Letter*

(Originally read at the TRAACA Holiday Brunch on 20 December 2015)

Letter by Terry Bond. Photos provided by Club Historian Richard Hall

First, a disclaimer is in order. The photos you see here today are real. I did not take them. You'll note that as camera and operator technology and technique improved, and as we moved from a mimeograph machine to the digital world, things changed. Along the way, during our history, someone invented color photography and glue sticks that don't damage old newspaper clippings. These pictures all came from Tidewater Region History albums, carefully maintained by our own walking encyclopedia of region history, Richard Hall. Without him we would not have all of this.

I selected from a variety of photos and decided rather than show pictures and talk about them, I'd let you enjoy the rolling display as time has passed by. I have not attempted to edit them, so those girls in short skirts were real—back then. Those guys with stomachs unaffected yet by gravity were real—back then. Hair color, or the absence of it completely, has not been changed from what these old pictures document. It was there and probably darker. Blame it on poor photography or shadows if necessary.

I've not attempted (to any great degree) to move people around or to crop out what might be unpleasant memories. We're not politically correct here. History is what it is, and we have a lot of it. Live with it. Learn from it.

So you'll occasionally see an ex-spouse, an unsavory character, or someone who perhaps never returned the tools they borrowed. But, that's the way it is with history—and memories. Eventually, the less important fades to the background and, looking at us in whole, it makes me, for one, glad to be a part.

This isn't a tribute to a few, not every name is mentioned, and it's certainly not a chronology of what we've done for the past 60 years. It's just sort of a gentle look at who we are and where we began.

The Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America—where does one begin? And Jim [Villers—current President], I appreciate knowing I have as long as

necessary to review the last 60 years—so let me start with my own story. A wise old car friend once told me: "Don't forget to make some memories and hold onto them dearly. At the end, the only excuse for not making them has to be simply that you weren't there."

I think there is no more appropriate way to do this than to place it in the context of the season. It's that time of year when you get Christmas cards from old friends and family, and many of them contain the annual Christmas letter. It's often fun to catch up on what people are doing (or not), who was last operated on, who got a new job or a new car, or who just retired. My, how the kids have grown! People go on cruises and vacations all over the world. People share their troubles and losses in those letters, too, but they all end with wishes for a happy new year and a bright future. The TRAACA's Christmas letter is no different.

Allow me to read:

Dear family and friends: Christmas Greetings! It's been a wonderful season and at this time of year I pause to reflect.

It was a really special event that I need to report to you first. My old friends—Tom Moody, Frank Brill, Winks Von Schilling, Kenny Wallace, and a few others—were enjoying a cold one at Tommy's garage the other day and someone suggested we start a club. You see there are a number of us who are afflicted with the old car disease. To say "they don't make them like they used to" is an understatement. Some of us have quite a lot of fun rescuing derelict old autos & getting them back on the road again.

Anyway, as of February 1955 we were officially a club called The Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America (ACA). We decided to become a part of a larger club that was actually founded back in the 1930s. The ACA seems like a decent gang to affiliate with, so we applied and got an official charter signed by the president up in Pennsylvania. Their headquarters is in Hershey, where all that good chocolate comes from. Maybe some



Hank Herrick's 1914 Saxon roadster being recovered from a farm



Hank Herrick's 1914 Saxon roadster post-restoration

day they will have a car show there. It sure would smell great.

There are now 34 AACA Regions across the country, and a bunch right here in Virginia. We've been to the Apple Blossom Meet in Winchester, and the Bull Run Region up in Manassas has a great event, so why not get the same kind of thing going here. It's a chance to enjoy our interests, drive out to a nice restaurant someplace, or run some back roads to nowhere in particular. It kinda' takes you back to a gentler age.

Between us we've got some neat cars. The 1902 De Dion Bouton is the oldest so far. It's French, and Frank bought it from another collector who brought it over from England.

Tommy has found a couple of neat cars, too. He picked up a 1931 Chevrolet coupe. He now has a Ford Model T that's pretty rough, but the other day he hauled home a 1909 Packard roadster. It was at the Hermitage in Norfolk. He had to buy another car with it just to get that one. He's not sure what he will do with the 1924 Flint sedan—maybe send it back to Flint, Michigan! I don't know if he will ever get around to rebuilding some of these as his garage is filling up and there is no room to work on them. At least he has preserved them for the future.

We signed up a new member the other day. Merritt Horne has an old Buick and really loves old cars. He has an amazing sense of humor and knows a million jokes—most of them start out "picture this . . ." He will be a fine addition to our club.

We really enjoy traveling as a group and have been all over the state. All of the AACA clubs in Virginia have formed a loose-knit group called the Old Dominion Meet Association (ODMA). Plans are to have one really great statewide show in different parts of the state, hosted by the different regions. It sounds like a lot of work. A nice idea, but I'm not convinced it will last. I'm sure we'll take our turn when it comes around. We may need to recruit some younger members though.

There are a lot of old car activities in the area, and we seem to be in big demand. The local newspaper treats us well with some nice publicity. It recently did a story about how we love to dress up in old time costumes. Harrell Forest and his wife Diane made the front page. It seems like everywhere we go there is food involved. Are we an eating club that likes old cars?

Jack Van Buskirk acquired the remains of a Columbia Electric car, which was built in 1897. It may have been the first horseless carriage in Norfolk.

Our little newsletter, called "The Mud Flat," named in honor of the terrain here in this area, has been well received and it helps keep us in touch. It may not be as fancy as some other club's rags, but we bought our own mimeograph machine recently so we can crank 'em out quickly and at less expense. We can also print out flyers and car show notices. Shopping centers love us, and the parades are really missing something without the old cars.

Our annual banquets are pretty well attended and we seem to draw a lot of folks from both the Norfolk and Newport News areas; in fact, some of our earliest members are from that side and a lot of our activities have



Former club President (1976) Kurt Schleicher cranks a Model T

been centered over there. The toll is ridiculous—\$1.20 plus 20 cents per passenger! I wonder if someday we'll need to have another region to cover both sides of the water. The old car hobby seems to be growing nicely.

It's hard to believe that we eventually turned ten years old. It marked a big turning point in our history. There are a lot of newer members who are helping to organize tours and shows, and it is great to see such enthusiasm.

In 1966, one of our members—Frank Stevens—won a big award with his 1931 Ford Model A coupe at the AACA Hershey Meet. Yes, they finally began holding shows there and—wow—are they big: 150 cars or more on the show field! They have a great flea market there, too, and it is growing—up to 36 vendors were there this year.

There has been some interesting controversy of late. As I mentioned earlier, when this club was formed back in 1955 most of the members lived in Hampton and Newport News. Gradually, newer members from Norfolk began to join and attend, but a lot of them would be happier seeing the center of activity actually gravitate southward. We began holding meetings in both locations, alternating them as best we could, but it soon became obvious that to keep things together we needed to make the shift to Norfolk, so all meetings lately have been held there.



Shirley & Frank Lagana being presented an award by then TRAACA President Al Mercer



(L-R) Ivie Lister, Neil Sugermeier, Merritt Horne, John Thompson, and Linda Pellerin—circa mid-1990s

Now, a group on the Peninsula wants to form a separate AACA Region just for the folks there, which seems like a great idea. Winks Von-Schilling has been working with the AACA National Directors to help sort all of it out. While they would prefer to see the Peninsula group be a “Chapter,” which is a branch of us, we all think they should be a separate Region. We plan to always have just as much fun, and there isn’t any reason why they can’t stand on their own. Nobody should have to pay dues to three different clubs just to enjoy their old cars! Winks has written a nice letter explaining all this. I think he also mentioned those tolls. In no time at all, a thumbs-up was received from Hershey and a new group was formed on the Peninsula, known as the Historic Virginia Peninsula Region. I guess you can say we’re closely related.

At our 1969 banquet, we had everyone there sign a copy of the program. I’m not sure where it’ll end up, but maybe in 25 years or so, if the club is still around, those folks might enjoy seeing it. [That program was displayed at the Holiday Brunch in one of our club history albums. There are some names in there that I know many of you have heard before.]

Some of our members have traveled to big AACA car shows that are called National Meets. They draw cars from all over the country. They would like to try and have one of those here, but I think it will be a lot of work and might cost us a pretty penny to put one on. So . . . we were approved to host a national meet in 1976. There is a lot of concern about the finances, the location, and all the hard work, but we’ve got some really enthusiastic people in charge, so hopefully it’ll turn out.



Joe & Betty Wills

Well, I’m pleased to report our National Meet was a big success—it took the whole club, but we pulled it off. It was held at the Barry Robinson Center in Norfolk and drew over 150 cars from all over the country. We had a swap meet, too, and vendors came from as far away as Pennsylvania to sell antique car parts. You could even buy vintage clothing there for your costume. The AACA President came and presented the awards, and there were a lot of smiling faces around. We didn’t even go broke!

One of the guys wandering around the field there joined the club—Jeff Locke. He seems to be quite enthusiastic and thinks he can help organize things. We’ll see how it works out. He and Harry Bartlett travel together to about every car show existing—sometimes two or three in a weekend. Harry’s black Ford T-Bird wins awards every time it goes out—it’s a tremendous car, even if it is a bit modern.

Another one of our members is Al Mercer. Guess what kind of car he has! Ha—what a basket case. I don’t really think he will ever restore it. His good friend Richard Hall has a modern car—a 1940 Ford—but we’ll let him in anyway. This really seems to be a ‘40 Ford car club lately as there are a lot of them around.

Over the years we’ve been in about every parade, parked in every shopping center, and have had some really fun tours. When we roll onto the show field for the Old Dominion Meet, everybody knows we’re there. It seems we really enjoy traveling as a group. I think this club is going to be around a while.

Just recently, though, the Halls had an unfortunate incident with their 1940 Ford. It got smashed up pretty good when someone hit it in the back end. They replaced it with a little 1951 MGTD painted red and black. I don’t know how much safer such a small car will be, but they are enjoying it. Richard said he is going to repaint it properly someday.

Our newsletter got a new look in 1975, with a new club logo that features Tommy Moody’s 1917 Dodge Touring car motoring off towards Hershey. Yes, he actually used to drive that car from here to Hershey for the big show there, along with Merritt Horne and several other club members.

This new guy Jeff Locke really thinks we should have another national meet. Gosh, it’s hard to believe that it’s been so long since our first one, but it was a lot of fun, so planning has started. It will be held in 1984 at Virginia Wesleyan College. Time will go by quickly and there is a lot of work to do.

And of course, this Meet was another great success for the Tidewater Region. Hundreds of fabulous cars came in from all over the country. The National President—Bob Garrison—came from Georgia to pass out awards. There was actually a little money left over to put back into the club treasury, so everyone is pleased that all the hard work paid off. Shall we do it again in a few years?

We’re seeing a lot of members coming from the Navy. Neil Sugermeier, Ivan Joslin, and Sam Kern, in particular, are very enthusiastic. Neil and Sam are trying to turn the club into a Franklin group! I believe that someday they each will take a turn at the president’s job for this



Marjorie & Ivan Joslin at the 2006 AACA National Meet Awards Banquet

region. Ivan, in particular, is an interesting guy. Did you know that when he retired from the Navy he was the longest-serving diesel-powered submarine commander still on active duty? No, Ivan wasn't diesel-powered—his submarines were.

You do know there are really only two kinds of ships serving in wartime—submarines and targets?

In 1987 the Tidewater Region elected its first lady president. It's about time! Zelda Lang always had a smile and led the club well. She and husband Red participated in every activity for years, and it was a natural thing for her to take the lead. We had an annual pig-pickin' at their home every year for a long time. I can still smell that pig baking away in their backyard!

The Great Race came to Norfolk. Our very own Dewey Milligan drove his Model A, navigated by Jeff Locke, and made the trip cross-country. Their adventure will be talked about for years to come.

One of our newer members, Ivie Lister, is quite a character. He restored every piece of a 1953 Bentley Countryman himself. Taught himself upholstery work, body and paint work, and the result was amazing. He has joined the club and is very enthusiastic. He loves to travel with us on tour and has been taking a lot of pictures to help with *The Mudflap* newsletter production.

In 1996 we held another fantastic national meet. It was centered in Chesapeake and will be known forever as "the hurricane meet." The week of our show, Hurricane Fran was bearing down on us and lined up for a direct hit. The phones were ringing off the hook, and I was determined for our national meet not to be the first one ever cancelled due to weather. Reports from the camping area by Bob Green, our field marshal, said things were rockin'-and rollin' and he had given up trying to keep the porta-potties standing upright. But at midnight the weather responded to our prayers & my requests for sunshine and the storm made landfall well south of us. It moved inland, skirted up the mountains, and left the Tidewater areas high and dry. Although attendance for the Meet was down from the expected 600 cars registered, the water for our Friday evening riverboat cruise was smooth as glass. It was an amazing weekend that we'll never forget. Like the other meets before it, the entire club was involved.

Our newsletter, *The Mudflap*, receives awards every year at the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. It's an event that we try not to miss. The seminars are great and many of our own members help put them on. A lot of members have won some of the big annual awards presented there. Frank Stevens has won the Chocolate

Town trophy for his Ford Model A touring car, and Don Whitlow has won awards for his Ford Thunderbolt. I don't think anyone has won more awards than Bob Woolfitt for his beautiful 1934 Packard, except for perhaps Pat & Jeff Locke, Neil & Marty Sugermeier, and Bob Stein who have received so many awards for their work on our newsletter and website that they could cover a wall. There are many other members who've received awards there, and we're really proud of all of them.

One of the things that has really been special for us is to see how we've moved beyond the old mimeograph machine to the modern age. This thing called the "Internet" looks like it'll be around a while. The club now has a website—thanks to Bob Stein. No, the "web" has nothing to do with spiders, it's a technical thing and we don't know much about it, but thanks to Bob you can now read and see all about us while you're looking at a computer screen. It's sorta' like watching TV and being able to control everything you watch. The entire world of old cars is now "on-line."

In 2000 it was time to tour big-scale. Thanks to the hard work of Jeff Locke and the region's members, we hosted the AACA National Founders Tour. Turnout was fantastic, and every day of the week we enjoyed beautiful weather, great country roads, and historic sites. Our tours of the Navy base, in particular, were very special. The patriotic theme carried through from the ball caps we wore to the closing banquet, which was quite an occasion. It started normally with the usual welcome speeches, then a band started up and the dance floor filled. Quietly, our members who were veterans or still on active duty slipped out and, in another room, changed into their uniforms. The music paused, and Jeff introduced each one of them as they came out and stood at attention in their designated place on the dance floor. It was a tribute to our Service members that will never be forgotten.

A couple of our Packard guys got really enthusiastic and decided to travel the Lincoln Highway. "Mr. 1934 Packard" himself—Bob Woolfitt—accompanied by Bill Wilcox, Ken Talley, Bob Stein, Rad & Marg Tillett in their big Merc, and John & Vickie Peters driving a Cadillac, covered the distance from one coast to the other following the historic trail. It was an adventure we all followed enthusiastically as they saw sights we could only imagine. The adventure will repeat itself again and, no doubt, the Tidewater Region will be well represented.



Ed & Ginny Lail—always ready to tour!



Pat & Jeff Locke

In 2006 Bob Parrish helped organize yet another National Meet for the region. This time we were headquartered at Camp Pendleton, where there was plenty of room for cars, trailers, and a good swap meet. The Cavalier Hotel was the host hotel and it was a

wonderfully historic setting for all our activities. The Friday Night Social was fantastic and Linda Pellerin organized an unforgettable evening. The mayor of Virginia Beach attended the banquet together with the AACA National President, Bo Croley. Dwight Schaubach had his Duesenbergs displayed in front of the hotel. It was absolutely a first class event.

In 2008, our annual fall meet moved to the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach and became known as the "Wings & Wheels" show. It's the highlight of the year and has grown tremendously. It's a fun time for everyone and has become one of the biggest events of the year for both the museum and us.

A repeat performance National Meet was held in 2015—our fifth—this time chaired by Linda Pellerin. The meet site was the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach. Mixing the antique planes and old cars was a perfect combination. Our host hotels on the beach were popular, and despite a cold heavy rain on Friday evening the show field was in wonderful condition. It was a perfect sunny spring day for hundreds of cars coming from all over the country. Another Tidewater Region success was entered into the record books thanks to the hard work of so many of our members.

Who knows what lies ahead for the club? We enjoy our annual "Wings & Wheels" show, which continues to draw



Ann & Bev Fulk at the 1996 National Meet

big crowds and wonderful cars; our annual swap meet is growing in size & popularity; our dinner meetings are always well attended; and we have so many terrific activities, that it's hard to choose. Tours, picnics, parades, displays, dinner meetings, and just socializing are all a part of who we are and what we

do. Every event makes wonderful memories.

Well, we've come a long way. It's hard to believe that it's now been sixty years, but I hope it won't be so long until our next Christmas letter to catch up. Like a lot of families, we've had our share of struggles. Sometimes we have differences of opinion. Being in a Navy town, a lot of our members move away, but some of them return again. I think that experience makes them special. Along the way, we've had some sadness. A lot of those old timers are now gone, but, you know, they have passed their old cars and memories along to all of us. Looking at their pictures here today brings them back.

The club has had great times, too, and has done great things. We've held five great national meets, a national tour, and we've won the Old Dominion Trophy so many times they should give it to us permanently. I don't know of any other region in the country that has had three of their members elected as national president, and right now we have three of our members serving on the AACA National Board of Directors. It's something we can be proud of. The Tidewater Region has trained them well.

I hope you enjoyed our Christmas update, but I do need to add a little item that was included in our annual banquet program back in 1962. It's titled *Down Memory Lane*:

*Come walk with me, and walk away,
Down the lanes of yesterday.
Flowers beside the path are springing,
With their perfume, memories bringing
Thoughts of all those years gone by
When we loitered, you and I,
In the garden fair and sweet
Of life's springtime, full, complete
Days in the long-ago, 'tis true,
But memory guides our steps anew.
So, come with me and walk away,
Down the lanes of yesterday.*

As I close, I look forward to the coming year. May the joys of the Christmas season and the promise of the year to come give you reason to keep your old cars on the road and share your fun. May the memories you make last forever. Remember, the only memories you won't keep are the ones you missed—because you weren't there. See you on the road!



Ed Stillwell and his 1970 Chrysler 300

Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance 2015

Friday-Sunday, October 30—November 1, 2015

Story by John Heimerl. Photos by John Heimerl and Ron Pack.

On October 30 – November 1, 2015, members of the TRAACA attended the Hilton Head Motoring Festival and Concours d'Elegance in Hilton Head, SC. Ron & Tina Pack attended in their 1947 Chrysler New Yorker; Tony & Leslie Scarpelli drove their 1964 Imperial; Jim & Donna Elliot drove one of their prized 1966 Chevrolet Corvairs; and Lynn & I brought our 1935 Chrysler Airflow Imperial coupe for its second visit to Hilton Head because Chrysler was the Honored Marque of the event this year.

Friday, October 30th, was the Motoring Tour to the Paris Island Marine Training Center and Sam's Plantation Complex Tabby Ruins, a 140-mile roundtrip drive through the South Carolina Low Country back roads. Here's a photo of part of the TRAACA crew lining up at the host hotel, the Westin Hilton Head Island Resort and Spa, with Ron Pack and Lee Durham getting ready to do the final flight check on Ron's 1947 Chrysler drop-top.

We stopped at the Paris Island Marine Training Center for a full tour, which included a close look at the training program (we even got to see teams completing their final field exercises) as well as being treated to a two-team drill practice and a stop at the base museum. Then it was on to Spring Island Park for a box lunch followed by a tour of the Tabby Ruins. The ruins' walls are made of oyster shell and are 2-3 feet thick!

This year there was an added twist: an Aero Expo on Saturday of some fabulous vintage aircraft. We took a great photo of our Airflow among restored Stearman biplanes on the tarmac at the Hilton Head Island Airport.

Sunday was the Concours day. Lynn and I were really pleased to come away with a Palmetto Award, especially considering that our Airflow Imperial is now a full classic and we were in the same class with several beautiful Chrysler Imperial CQs and Della Chrysler's (Walter P. Chrysler's wife) personal 1937 Imperial limousine. Two of the cars came with white-glove handlers! I was really worried then, but, thankfully, the judges didn't need to see white gloves, although they did submit the cars to a full "Pebble Beach" technical inspection. We received a yellow ribbon for completing the driving tour and later were shocked to find a second ribbon for the Palmetto Award. Considering that Airflows have long been discounted due to their radical design departure and sales failure, we couldn't imagine a better outcome.

We highly recommend the Hilton Head experience—it's relatively close; the area dining and golfing is superb; Saturday is club day and the golf fairways are filled with a huge variety of cars; and, for restoration enthusiasts, the Concours d'Elegance on Sunday now brings out some of the finest cars in the country.



The TRAACA Chrysler contingent preparing for the driving tour



John's 1935 Chrysler Airflow at Tabby Ruins. Tony's Imperial is just behind it—don't let Mark Hyman's Duesenberg distract you.



Ron & Tina Pack with a vintage Chris-Craft wood powerboat



Tony & Leslie Scarpelli and their 1964 Imperial



We are the Gateway to the Future—What are You Doing?

By Tabetha Hammer, AACA VP Youth Development

(Excerpted from the Fall 2015 AACA *Rummage Box* newsletter)



One of the most common topics when it comes to discussing the future of the collector community is youth involvement. We've all said or heard numerous statements like "kids today are only interested in their iPhones and video games" and "what's going to happen to our cars if there's no one who cares about them in the future?"

We certainly are up against a lot of distractions considering the amount of technology readily at their disposal. However, in my day-to-day work leading youth initiatives, I see strong potential—not "doom and gloom"—so long as we continue to put forth the effort to get younger people involved. We all have it in our power to make a difference and influence what the landscape of the classic car community will be in the future. There is no doubt that the "playing field" will somewhat change from what we all know it to be today—but each of us holds the steering wheel for helping guide what the future scene will be.

Efforts need not to be complicated, but the effort must be there—from all of us. It can be as simple as inviting a young person to sit in your car or even taking them and their parent(s) for a quick ride (if comfortable doing so), teaching them the proper way to get in and out of a classic car instead of just assuming they will know, pointing out unique characteristics that they may not have any idea about otherwise, and connecting aspects of old cars to something that they can relate to today.

I would love to hear from you about what you and/or your region are doing to get youth involved! Do your members take their cars to a local school? Is there a "sparkplug" in your club who always invites kids to sit in their car? What fun and unique ideas are you doing that another Region/Chapter might be able to implement? Send me a quick note at thammer@hagerty.com to let me know what you're up to!



The Mystery of HPOF

By Roger Irland, AACA Chairman of HPOF

(Reprinted from the Fall 2015 AACA *Rummage Box* newsletter)



The HPOF (Historic Preservation of Original Features) class has been around for a number of years now. Long enough that we have used our experience and feedback to bring out our third major revision several years ago. It's popular enough that I count over 180 cars registered for HPOF at Hershey this [past October]. Our team really [had] our work cut out for us!

So, what's the mystery? Over these last few years, I've had a number of members ask me about HPOF—how are the cars judged? What are the criteria? First off, we evaluate the cars on a score sheet that's very different from the class judging sheet. Anyone can look at an example of the sheet that's printed in the AACA Judging Guidelines. You can buy one at the AACA merchandise table, pick one up as you enter your next Judging School or view it online at www.aaca.org. Look it over and you can score your own car. Keep in mind that we don't count off for normal wear items that are replaced with period correct items, such as belts, hoses, clamps, batteries and tires. That's the same as the guidelines for class judging.

Also, I encourage any owner to come by my HPOF CJE (Continuing Judges Education) presentation that I give at any meet following the Judges Breakfast. I'm always happy to clear up the mystery . . .

If you're not sure if your car will "make it," I encourage you to bring it to a meet and let us have a look at it. If we're unable to certify your car, we'll point you toward DPC (Drivers Participation Class) or class judging.

See you out on the road.



AACA Calendar of Events

http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca_calendar.html

FEBRUARY 2016

11-13 AACA Annual Meeting
Philadelphia, PA

MARCH 2016

17-19 Winter Meet
Naples, FL

APRIL 2016

7-10 Southeastern Spring Meet
Charlotte, NC

MAY 2016

5-7 Special Spring Meet
Auburn, IN

19-21 Eastern Spring Meet
Vineland, NJ

JUNE 2016

3-4 Annual Grand National Meet
Williamsport, PA

10-12 The Elegance at Hershey
Hershey, PA

12-17 The Sentimental Tour
Salisbury, NC

JULY 2016

14-16 Central Spring Meet
North Mankato, MN

17-21 Founders Tour
Huntington, PA

31- Eastern Division Tour
3 Aug Richmond, VA

AUGUST 2016

11-13 Southeastern Fall Meet
New Bern, NC

SEPTEMBER 2016

1-3 Western Fall Meet
Cheyenne, WY

11-16 AAA Revival Glidden Tour
North Conway, NH

OCTOBER 2016

5-8 Eastern Fall Meet
Hershey, PA

20-22 Central Fall Meet
Galveston, TX

NOVEMBER 2016

5-11 Reliability Tour (Pre-1916)
Savannah, GA



TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE



Members celebrating birthdays in January



Jerry Adams	Pam Hamilton-Bond
Thomas Bottoni	Phyllis Hund
Holly Chipchak	Dana Meadows
Jane Cutright	Hilary Pavlidis
Charlie Dawson	Sue Strang
Tyler Gimbert	Boyd Swartz
Jo Ann Green	Gary Terwilliger
Diane Gresalfi	Tom Wedeking
Richard Hall	



Members celebrating anniversaries in January



Jerry & Ellen Adams
 Jimmy & Sarah Flanders
 Dean & Claudia Giacopassi
 Sandy & Richard Hall
 Jon & Mollie Hunger
 Bob & Josie Kinker
 Theodore & Lanette Knight
 Gerard & Mary Lou Olson
 Linda & Bob Pellerin
 Gordon & Melinda Spence

Recent Award Winners

Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance

John & Lynn Heimerl	1935 Chrysler Imperial Airflow Palmetto Award
Jim & Donna Elliott	1966 Chevrolet Corvair Invited Participant
Ron & Tina Pack	1947 Chrysler New Yorker Invited Participant
Tony & Leslie Scarpelli	1964 Imperial Invited Participant

ACA National Awards

Terry Bond	1912 Triumph motorcycle
Bob Pellerin	1937 Volvo PV51
Sal & Jo Ann Saiya	1936 Packard 12 Victoria conv.
Bill Thumel	1968 Ford Shelby Mustang GT500

ACA Master Webmaster Award 2015

Bob Stein	<i>This is the 16th year in a row!</i>
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Congratulations to Tom Cox, who was reelected to the ACA Board of Directors and to Jim Elliott, who was elected for the first time! Both join Bob Parrish, the incoming ACA President, on the ACA Board.

Sunshine Report

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following members:

- **Mike Brown** had knee replacement surgery on Monday, November 30. He's home, doing well, and undergoing physical therapy.
- **Bob Hanbury** was hospitalized briefly with pancreatitis. He's out now, doing well, and back on the road.

Please provide updates on the health of TRAACA members to Vickie Doscher at 672-3755 or vlv78@hotmail.com.

TRAACA Swap Meet Saturday, March 12, 2016

Spring is just around the corner (we hope), and it's time to begin thinking about our annual Swap Meet. This year we're moving to a new location--the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach—for more space, better public access and parking, a larger indoor area, more restrooms, and the added attraction of all those wonderful antique planes. The Swap Meet is on Saturday, March 12th, a week later than usual. (We will return to the first Saturday in March next year). We need help with the set-up, running and clean-up of the event. If you are willing to help in anyway, please contact Terry Bond at (757) 482-5222 or terryaaca@cox.net.

TRAACA Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction Ceremony Saturday, January 16, 2016

Our January Dinner Meeting is our Annual Awards Banquet and Board of Directors Induction Ceremony. It is on Saturday, January 16th, at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach. Dinner is buffet-style and includes herb-roasted grilled chicken breast, Beef Stroganoff, sliced pork with apple compote, and lemon pepper grilled cod. The cost is being subsidized by the club and is only \$25 per member.

The banquet will begin with a social hour from 5:00-6:00 PM, followed by a brief business meeting, presentation of the annual awards, and induction of the 2016

Board: Jim Viller—President; Mark McAlpine—Vice President; Julie Hobbs—Secretary; Marion McAlpine—Treasurer; and Board Members Matt Doscher, Wayne Milligan, Skip Patnode, and Bill Treadwell.

Please remember that if you sign up for a club dinner, you are committed to paying for it whether or not you attend. Unless someone who hadn't signed up for the dinner comes and offsets your absence, the club must pay for your meal and loses money if you don't pay. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



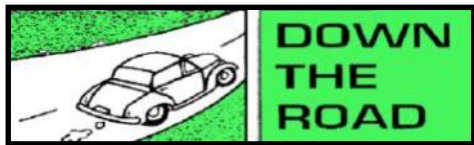
2016 Hampton Roads International Auto Show

Friday-Sunday, January 8-10, 2016
Virginia Beach Convention Center

Admission: \$10 adults
(\$3-off coupons available online)
Children 12 & younger: Free
Senior Citizens (65 & older) & Military: \$7

Remember to vote for your favorite "Nifty Fifties" car in the lobby. The TRAACA's very own Tony Scarpelli and Bob Stein have two of the five classic 1950's cars on display.





- Other Regional/ Local Events**
- JANUARY 2016**
- 8-10 Hampton Roads International Auto Show Virginia Beach, VA
 - 9-10 Virginia Hot Rod & Custom Car Show Hampton, VA
 - 15-17 Auto Mania Indoor Swap Meet Allentown, PA
- MARCH 2016**
- 25-26 Sugarloaf Mtn Region AACA 46th Annual Antique Car Show and Swap Meet Westminster, MD
- APRIL 2016**
- 7-10 Southeastern Spring Meet Charlotte Auto Fair Charlotte, NC
 - 15-17 Good Guys 2nd North Carolina Nationals Raleigh, NC
 - 16 Williamsburg British and European Car Show
 - 20-24 Spring Carlisle Carlisle, PA
 - 24 Piedmont Region AACA 42nd Annual Carfest Charlottesville, VA
 - 29-30 ODMA Meet hosted by Martinsville Region AACA Martinsville, VA
- MAY 2016**
- 28 Twin-County Region AACA 23rd Memories on Main St. Galax, VA
- JUNE 2016**
- 3-5 Carlisle Ford Nationals Carlisle, PA
 - 4 Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA Annual Show Fredericksburg, VA
 - 17-24 Lincoln Highway Tour Cumberland, MD to Joliet, IL
 - 17-19 Carlisle GM Nationals Carlisle, PA
- JULY 2016**
- 15-17 Carlisle Chrysler Nationals Carlisle, PA



TRAACA Annual Swap Meet

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Military Aviation Museum
1341 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23457

— Note the new location and date this year —

*Free Swap Meet admission & parking for spectators.
(Admission to museum not included.)*




The Complete Toolbox

Tools every mechanic should have in his/her toolbox.

Remember those pink and blue alkaline test strips you used to test for alkaline or acid levels in high school chemistry class? You can do basically the same thing to quickly test your vehicle's brake fluid for copper. (The copper content increases in brake fluid because of corrosion from the steel brakelines.) These easy to use test strips allow you to test your brake fluid in about 60 seconds and determine if you need to change it. A package of two Phoenix test strips costs about \$9 on Amazon.com.

(Suggested by Mark McAlpine)





EDITOR'S DESK

Mark McAlpine

mmmcalpine05@msn.com / (757) 967-0074

Happy New Year! I always find the beginning of the year an exciting time. The New Year promises so much—a fresh start, new experiences ahead, an opportunity to plan out the year, and plenty of opportunities to spend time and have fun with family and friends.

For car lovers, we still have a few months to finish our projects and get our vehicles ready for the coming car season—which is approaching fast. Until then we have other car-related activities to enjoy. The Hampton Roads International Car Show at the Virginia Beach Convention Center is on 8-10 January. (I realize a showcase of new cars doesn't appeal to all our members, but having grown up in Detroit attending the Detroit Auto Show every year as a child and young man, I still enjoy seeing new car models and features. Marion & I went to the Detroit Auto Show for our first date. We still try to attend the show at least every few years. The Hampton Roads Auto Show doesn't compare to Detroit's, but it's the closest thing we have to it in the area.) Tony Scarpelli and Bob Stein each have a car selected to be displayed in the lobby for the Hampton Roads Auto Show's "Nifty Fifties" competition.

The TRAACA Activities Committee has fun things planned for every month in 2016 beginning with our

annual *Winter Blast*, this year to the Virginia Living Museum in Newport News on Saturday, 30 January. On Saturday, 27 February, we're going on a *Winter Warm-Up Run* to Captain Bob's Restaurant in Hertford, NC. And in March we have our annual Swap Meet on Saturday, 12 March, at the Military Aviation Museum (a new location that offers more room, better access, and more—and better—parking), and a tour of Craig Talley's shop on Saturday, March 26th. (The full 2016 Activities Calendar will be in the February issue of *The Mudflap*.)

The official AACA events for 2016 kick off with the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia on 11-13 February. If you haven't attended one of the Annual Meetings before, I highly encourage you to do so—Marion & I have gone the last two years, and both were a lot of fun. And this year is a perfect year to go: our own Bob Parrish will be inducted as the AACA President; Tom Cox and Jim Elliott were both elected to the AACA Board of Directors; a number of members are receiving National Awards recognizing their spectacular vehicles; and Bob Stein will receive his 16th Master Webmaster Award in a row! If you want to go, a number of us will be caravanning there together. (Don't forget to register and to make hotel reservations—you can't beat the AACA special rate of \$116/night at the *pet-friendly* Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel.)

Marion and I wish all of you a very happy, safe, and healthy New Year! We look forward to seeing you at the Awards Banquet.

Mark Mc

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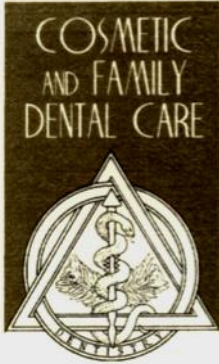
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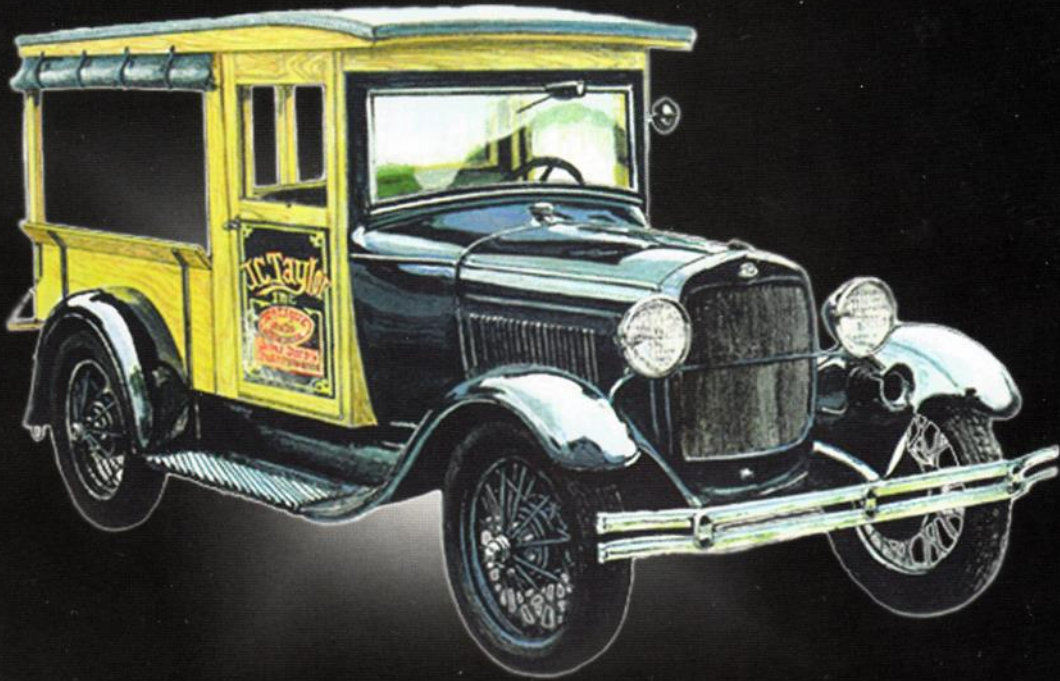
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