

# The Mudflap

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

Volume 60, Issue 6

June 2016

## Chippokes Plantation State Park Saturday, June 25, 2016

Want to visit one of the oldest and continuously operated plantations in the nation? Chippokes Plantation State Park is one of the Commonwealth's most beautiful parks. Established in 1619 by English Captain William Powell, a Lieutenant Governor of Jamestown, this 1,400-acre farm, located opposite Jamestown, has been the site of an active agricultural operation for nearly four centuries. Powell named the plantation after Choapeake, an Algonquian Indian Chief who was friendly to the English settlers in Jamestown. Join your TRAACA friends on Saturday, June 25th, as we take a leisurely drive up to Surry County and tour the antebellum era mansion and outbuildings, stroll through formal gardens, and view antique equipment at the Chippokes Farm and Forestry Museum. The

mansion is open from 1-5 on Saturday's for guided group tours, and entry into the State Park is \$5 per car.

We will meet at 10 AM in the parking lot of the Cracker Barrel restaurant located at 4700 Portsmouth Blvd, Chesapeake, VA 23321, and plan for a 10:30 AM departure. The drive to Chippokes should take about an hour and a half. Everyone will be given driving directions at the Cracker Barrel. Those electing not to caravan with the group may meet us at the park. (The address is 695 Chippokes Park Rd, Surry, VA 23883.) We plan on arriving at Chippokes Plantation around noon, which will give us some time to explore on our own prior to the mansion tours starting at 1 PM. After our visit to Chippokes, we will all meet for a late lunch/early dinner at Anna's Pizza & Italian Restaurant in Surry.



*TRAACA pit crew working on Susan Bond's 1974 MGB GT on the way back from the AACA Vineland, NJ, Meet. Read the story on Pgs 10-11.*



### TRAACA CALENDAR

Check [local.aaca.org/tidewater](http://local.aaca.org/tidewater) for the latest info on upcoming events!

#### JUNE 2016

- 1** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Wednesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 16** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 18** TRAACA Ice Cream Run  
Doumar's BBQ, Norfolk, VA  
— NOTE CHANGE IN DATE—
- 25** Chippokes Plantation State  
Park Tour  
Surrey, VA

#### JULY 2016

- 12** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Tuesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport  
—NOTE CHANGE IN DATE—
- 15** Chesapeake Bay Bridge-  
Tunnel Tour and Lunch
- 21** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 23** Tour of Moss Motors  
Petersburg, VA

#### AUGUST 2016

- 3** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Wednesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 18** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 20** Tour of Member's Garage  
Suffolk, VA

#### SEPTEMBER 2016

- 6** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Tuesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 10** TRAACA Ice Cream Run and  
visit to Bill Thumel's car

# From the Driver's Seat

**Jim Villers**  
**TRAACA President**  
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Last month, Margie Ives consolidated her last dinner meeting reservation list after many years of leading the Call Tree organization. She could always be relied upon to provide an accurate and timely count. Her imitation of Ernestine, Lily Tomlin's *Laugh In* telephone operator, at the region's awards banquet was an annual source of humor as she recognized her Call Committee. We all thank you Margie. Skip Patnode will be the new reservation coordinator and will be modernizing the procedures. Let's all help Skip by responding promptly to his emails.

The May/June issue of the *Antique Automobile* magazine had a very interesting article on the AACA Driver Participation Class (DPC) that is worth reading. Written by Ken Farley, the Chairman of DPC, it discusses the details and benefits of this relatively new AACA class. I believe that Tidewater can do a better job of educating and publicizing DPC within our region. We had a handful of DPC cars at our annual meet, but I had the feeling that they were viewed as second cousins to our points-judged show cars.

DPC vehicles are meant to be driven and enjoyed. They need to have the correct appearance for their year of

manufacture, but modifications can be made to improve their reliability, comfort, and driving pleasure.

But more importantly for the club, DPC has attracted a new category of members to our National Meets. Members who focus on driving and enjoying cars can now participate on the show field alongside the show cars, many of which have never seen a rainy day. Most new club members have an attractive antique car that they have owned and driven for many years. The DPC class provides them the opportunity to show their car and fully enjoy the fun of our National Meets.

I own a couple of DPC-type cars that merit certification. My 1961 Mercedes-Benz 190SL that Betty and I have driven thousands of miles over the past 40 years is a perfect DPC candidate. While appearing original, its condition shows some of its age and many miles. It also has numerous "improvements" for comfort and reliability, making long distance driving enjoyable. Let's get started driving our "other" cars to a National Meet and getting them certified.

My congratulations to past President Wes Neal on receiving a First Junior award for his 1991 Jeep Grand Wagoneer. Newer cars are another category of vehicles that rarely receives recognition within our club, but can also become a source of new, younger members. There are many antique vehicles (25-30 years old) in excellent condition that are interesting, fun to drive, and reasonably priced.

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

*Jim*

## 2016 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Jim Villers: 190sljim@cox.net

Vice President - Mark McAlpine:  
 mmmcalpine05@msn.com

Secretary - Julie Hobbs

Treasurer - Marion McAlpine

Board - Matt Doscher

Board - Wayne Milligan

Board - Skip Patnode

Board - Bill Treadwell

President Emeritus - Wes Neal

Visit us on the Internet at:

[www.traaca.com](http://www.traaca.com)

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## TRAACA June Dinner Meeting Thursday, June 16, 2016

This month's dinner meeting is at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport, 1570 N. Military Hwy, Norfolk, VA 23502. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM and dinner is at 7:00 PM. Dinner will be baked chicken breast, glazed sliced ham, macaroni & cheese, chef's choice of vegetables, house salad, and chef's choice of dessert. Our guest speaker is John Warren, who will talk about the construction of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, which opened in 1964 and is dubbed "One of the Five Wonders of the Modern World."

*Please remember that if you sign up for a club dinner, you are committed to paying for it whether or not you attend. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.*

## Call Captain's Corner

Chief Contact Captain: Skip Patnode  
[skippatnode@cox.net](mailto:skippatnode@cox.net) / (757) 672-8495

## From the Running Board

May 3, 2016 TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes  
(final approved copy can be obtained from Secretary)

**Officers present:** Jim Villers (President), Marion McAlpine (Treasurer), Mark McAlpine (Vice President), delayed by prior commitment, and Julie Hobbs (Secretary). Board members present: Skip Patnode, Matt Doscher, Wayne Milligan, and Bill Treadwell. Members present: none.

**Quorum:** A quorum was determined present and the meeting called to order by Jim at 6:32 PM.

**President's Comments:** Jim apologized for not getting the March minutes to board members until April 5th. He thought he had e-mailed the minutes and agenda a few days earlier.

**April Minutes:** Were reviewed by the entire Board and approved.

**Vice President Comments:** Mark stated that his work status is still undecided and for now will remain an officer of the board.

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented in writing by Marion; entry made of 2017 ODMA Meet deposit made.

### Activity Committee:

- Matt reported final plans for Square Car Tour on May 14.
- Matt reported on the Navy Landing Signal Officer (LSO) School tour—RSVP to Matt if attending; the May 21 Ice Cream Social at Doumar's BBQ; and May 30 Westminster-Canterbury car show and lunch; no questions submitted.

### Restaurants:

- May 19th dinner meeting will be at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport. Presentation by the Norfolk County Historian; as reported by Matt Doscher.

**Boy Scout Automotive Maintenance Merit Badge Session at the Military Aviation Museum:** Bill Treadwell will check on the status.

**Membership Status:** Jim Villers stated 162 members as of April 30—1 Student member & 1 free member signed up.

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### 2016 ODMA Meet in Martinsville—29-30 April:

77 vehicles registered--66 showed up; suspect inclement weather was the problem. Marion reported that a normal showing is around 100 and Martinsville Region won the ODMA trophy.

**Annual Meet:** No report submitted.

### Unfinished Business:

- President Villers reported that Margie Ives (Call Tree Chairperson) is due to have surgery and will not be able to continue. Skip Patnode volunteered to take on the position and to possibly modernize the procedures being used by using e-mail rather than phone calls. Discussion about mass e-mailings versus individual e-mails.
- Marion reported that the laptop for the Treasurer has been purchased and John Gancel will load the software on the laptop.
- Skip Patnode requested final information about any other annual awards not tabulated. Villers stated that Skip's count will be law.
- By-Laws still being worked on.
- Judging for annual meet will continue as it has been done for prior years.

Jim Villers reported there being no further business he would accept a motion to dismiss. Mark motioned and Matt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Julia Hobbs, Secretary

**Beginning with the June dinner meeting, we are changing the process for how we will contact members and receive their RSVPs for dinner. To cut down on the work load, you will now be contacted via e-mail.** Please respond to the e-mail by the requested date and let your Contact Captain know whether or not you will be attending (yes or no) and how many will be attending. **It is critical that you respond to these monthly e-mails** so we can let the hotel know how many people will be attending & they can prepare enough food. Thank you for your cooperation!

**We will be using the e-mail addresses that you provided with your 2016 membership forms. Please check the roster to ensure we have your correct e-mail address. Notify Skip Patnode and Jim Villers of any needed corrections.** (Here's another easy way to check: if you're receiving the weekly *Mud Speck* update and monthly *Mudflap* newsletter via e-mail, we have your correct e-mail address. If you're not receiving them, we don't have your address.)

**Skip Patnode is our new Contact Captain.** If you have any questions, contact him at [skippatnode@cox.net](mailto:skippatnode@cox.net) or (757) 672-8495.

**The club thanks Margie Ives for her many years of service as our Calling Tree Chief Captain and also the members who have served as Call Captains, most recently Carol Avenson, Dick Chipchak, Scott Davies, Melanie Kordis, Toni McChesney, Wayne & Carol Milligan, Cindy Overton, Leslie Scarpelli, Barbara Talley, Viator Trudeau, and Becky Woodall.**



# TRAACA *Square Car Tour*

**Saturday, May 14, 2016**

**Story by Sandy Hall. Photos by Bob Stein and Marty Sugermeier.**

Picture this! Fourteen years ago Ken Talley was sitting in his favorite chair thinking that the TRAACA is an antique car club and yet many members don't drive their early antique cars. Wait a minute! Wonder what would happen if we have a driving tour of country roads where there is little traffic, and we call it "the square car tour." At that moment our Square Car Tour was born.

Since that time, several things have changed. With subdivisions continuing to develop in Chesapeake, it is taking longer to get to the back roads and the back roads are getting more populated. However, this did not stop participation in this year's tour.

Earlier in the week, the weather was looking ominous, but Terry Bond did his little "rain, rain, go away" dance and we had a great day. Of course, Richard [Hall] and Terry came through once again. The route they laid out was one full of twists, turns, and lots of blue sky. Horses came to greet us and, in one yard, llamas gave us a second look. As usual, food is always a part of our outing and the tour ended at Angie's Family Eatery restaurant in Chesapeake. Thanks to the Model A Club for joining us again this year, as always.

We had many square cars and many not so square cars, but it seemed the tour was enjoyed by everyone who participated. So Ken Talley: this one was for you. (We're sad that you had to miss it!!) TRAACA members who participated included Susan Bond (1948 MG TC); Terry Bond (1914 Ford Model T); Dale Craig (1933 Chrysler); Larry & Jane Cutright (1933 Ford 3-window coupe); Scott Davies (1935 Chevrolet Master Deluxe coupe); Matt & Vickie Doscher (1965 Ford Mustang); C. E. & Annette Gardner (1970 Dodge Coronet 500); Tyler Gimbert (1929 Willys-Knight); Richard & Sandy Hall (in their 1988 GMC truck); Frank Lagana (1980 Oldsmobile 98); Mickey & Toni McChesney (in their "new to them" 1940 Oldsmobile); Dana & Debbie Meadows (1929 Packard 626 sedan); Bob & Dot Parrish (1931 Chevrolet Sport Coupe); Jack Pavlidis & Dennis Honesay (1960 MGA); Bob Stein & Chip Woolford (1949 MG TC); Neil & Marty Sugermeier (1932 Franklin Olympic convertible); Jim Villers (1961 Mercedes-Benz 190SL); Bob & Jane Ward (1930 Ford Model A); Bob & Ginger Watson (1965 Ford Mustang); and James & Becky Woodall (1967 Mercury Cyclone). Sam Kern drove a modern vehicle, as did Jeff Locke, and Julie Hobbs accompanied by Barbara Talley. Bill Coburn joined us at Angie's for lunch.

We look forward to seeing where next year's Square Car Tour takes us (and to Ken Talley joining us on it again). If you haven't gone on a TRAACA Square Car Tour, plan on joining us next year—you'll enjoy it.



*Terry Bond & his 1914 Ford Model T*



*The TRAACA Square Car Tour motoring down country roads*



*The TRAACA Square Car Tour taking a pit stop*



*Julie Hobbs next to Neil & Marty Sugermeyer's 1932 Franklin*



*The TRAACA Square Car Tour progressing down the road*



*Matt & Vickie Doscher inspecting the McChesney's 1940 Olds*



*James & Becky Woodall in their 1967 Mercury Cyclone*



*(L-R) James Woodall & Bob Watson waiting for the tour to start*



*Mickey & Toni McChesney in their "new" 1940 Oldsmobile*



*(L-R) Bob Stein's 1949 MG TC & Jack Pavlidis' 1960 MG MGA*



*The TRAACA group recovering at Angie's Family Eatery*



# 2016 Old Dominion Meet Association Meet Martinsville, VA

## Friday-Saturday, April 29-30, 2016

Story by Mark & Marion McAlpine. Photos by Mark McAlpine & Marty Sugermeier

The Old Dominion Meet Association (ODMA) is an official Non-Geographic Region of the AACA, comprised of most of the AACA regions in Virginia, and whose main purpose is to hold an annual meet. Every spring, members from AACA regions across Virginia (and some from North Carolina) gather for the annual ODMA Meet. This year's meet—the 63rd Annual—was held on April 29-30 and hosted by the Martinsville-Danville Region, which did an outstanding job planning and running the meet.

The meet was held at the Patrick Henry Community College in Martinsville. Trailer parking was on-site and the show field was in one of the college's main parking lots. The awards banquet was held in the college's Firth Hall. The host hotel was the Dutch Inn/Quality Inn in nearby Collinsville, VA.

This year's ODMA meet was a little earlier than usual to deconflict with the AACA Special Spring Meet in Auburn, IN, and the AACA Eastern Spring Meet in Vineland, NJ, both in May. As with any weekend during car season, several other events on the same weekend (including an AACA Board of Directors meeting in Charlotte, NC, and the Tidewater MG Club's Wine Tour) limited the TRAACA's participation—only 16 TRAACA members with 12 antique vehicles journeyed to Martinsville—and our region's streak of winning the ODMA Trophy for participation ended. The Martinsville-Danville Region deservedly won the trophy this year. (One M-D member alone brought seven vehicles!)

Most of the TRAACA members arrived on Friday and after getting checked into the hotel stopped in to socialize in the Hospitality Room. The M-D region did a great job with healthy and not so healthy goodies for us to enjoy. We then proceeded across the street to a recommended Italian restaurant for dinner. It was a simple place, set up like a fast food restaurant, ordering at a counter and then picking up your food on a tray. No fancy decorations, but the food was very reasonably priced and very good.

Sam Kern experienced some bad luck when his 1988 Chevrolet pick-up truck died upon arrival at trailer parking (towing his Franklin) on Friday. Installation of an electric fuel pump seemed to fix the problem, but ultimately didn't and Sam nursed the truck home to Tidewater on Sunday escorted by Bill Treadwell in his 1969 Chevrolet Camaro.

The day of the show started out cloudy & unfortunately a steady drizzle began before lunch time. Of course all the vehicles on the field got wet. Most people opted to wait until the rain stopped before trying to get off the field.

There was a good turnout for the awards banquet. The list of TRAACA members' awards is found on the

Members' Page later in this newsletter. TRAACA members who attended the meet were Allan Becker, Sam Kern, Jeff & Pat Locke, Mark & Marion McAlpine, Dick McIninch, Reggie & Cindi Nash, Wes Neal, Mark Strang, Neil & Marty Sugermeier, Ken Talley, and Bill & Linda Treadwell.



*A judging team, undeterred by the weather, at the ODMA Meet*



*Allan Becker and his 1929 Packard 640 Phaeton 8*



*Two generations of antique Ramblers: (L-R) Neil Sugermeier & his 1965 Classic 770 and Reggie Nash & his 1904 Model L*



*(L-R) Sam Kern's 1925 Franklin & a 1928 Studebaker Dictator*



*(L-R) A 1928 Studebaker Dictator and Ken & Barbara Talley's 1929 Buick Master Model 47*



*Jeff & Pat Locke's 1991 Cadillac Allante*



*Bill Treadwell's 1969 Camaro & Wes Neal's 1966 Mustang*



*Some of "the boys" discussing details of antique automobiles*



*Dick McIninch's 1986 Mercedes-Benz 300E in good company*



*Cindi Nash & Marty Sugermeyer*



*Marty Sugermeyer (and Johnny) & Marion McAlpine*



# AACA Special Spring Meet Auburn, IN May 5-7, 2016



**Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Mark McAlpine.**

Once again, April and May were busy months in the AACA world. A few days after unpacking from the annual Old Dominion Meet Association (ODMA) Meet in Martinsburg, VA, on April 29-30th, it was time to repack and head to Auburn, IN, for the 2016 AACA Special Spring Meet.

As in previous years, the Auburn Meet was tied in with Auctions America's Auburn Spring Auction. For the past four years Auctions America has generously supplied the AACA space for show cars, members' trailers, judges' parking, Judges School and breakfast, and the awards banquet and ceremony. The auction house also gives AACA members free spectator admission to the auction and free bidder registration.

There were several food vendors, vendor displays, a car corral and swap meet on the auction grounds. The swap meet continues to grow each year.

This year Auctions America offered even more great free opportunities to people attending the AACA Auburn Meet. If you arrived on Thursday (and had signed up to bid), Auctions America hosted an evening with a free BBQ dinner and open bar.

Mark and I left home early Thursday to try to arrive in Auburn before 6:00 PM, thinking there was going to be a silent auction with the BBQ. There was no silent auction, only the final cars crossing the auction block, but the auction house did pull three bidders' numbers to each receive one of three large neon automobile company signs. To our delight, our number was the first number pulled. (We didn't hear our name being called and thought Jim Elliott was pulling our leg.) We brought home a 4ft x 6ft Chevrolet neon sign. (You should have seen how we had to pack it in the truck to get it home.)

Wayne Carini, from the TV show "Chasing Classic Cars," was at the auction selling some cars and filming an episode for his show. Auctions America auctioned off two cars in support of autism research & education—causes close to Mr. Carini's heart since his daughter has autism.

We were introduced to a local Auburn restaurant—Mimi's Retreat—for lunch on Friday by a local friend, Mike Buchs, a docent at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg (ACD) Museum. The food was inexpensive and delicious. After lunch we visited the ACD Museum, our fourth trip there. Every year we see and learn new things. We never tire of viewing the spectacular collection of automobiles.

Friday night offered another fun and free evening. Auctions America sponsored a two-hour concert by the Bluz Brothers—a Blues Brothers tribute band and the former house band from the House of Blues in Chicago—along with an open bar.

Saturday's weather started out cloudy and humid. Unfortunately, during the judging the skies opened up and it rained. The rain only lasted about half an hour, but as we all know, the damage was done, the cars (and judges) were wet. After judging was complete, participants had time to get their cars off the field before the BBQ Banquet and Awards Ceremony. We were happy for our friend Mike who received a Senior Award for his 1989 Chevrolet I-ROC Camaro. Mike is the original owner of the car.

Keeping with their new tradition, Tom and Tammy Cox purchased a car at the auction again this year. In fact, they purchased two: a 1984 Dodge CART/PPG Indy Car Series Pace Car & a 1948 Nash Ambassador Custom. We helped them load the Dodge onto a trailer Saturday evening. I think the four of us were the last ones to leave the lot.

We were grateful that our drive home Sunday was pleasant and uneventful. The small entourage from TRAACA included Tammy & Tom Cox, Donna & Jim Elliott, Jeff Locke, Marion & Mark McAlpine, Sharon & Al Mercer, and Dot & Bob Parrish. (It was great to see the Mercers at the meet after Al's recent health issue.)



*Al & Sharon Mercer journeyed to the AACA Auburn Meet*



*Wayne Carini filming by cars waiting to be auctioned*





*Jim & Donna Elliott (center) enjoy the Bluz Brothers concert*



*The Bluz Brothers rocking the house*



*Wendell the Elephant—built in 1951 and restored in 2013-2014. Powered by 4-cylinder engine & has 2 forward & 1 reverse speeds.*



*Marion McAlpine and Dot & Bob Parrish at the concert*



*2011 Planters Peanuts "NUTmobile"*



*Jim & Donna Elliott's 1928 Auburn Convertible Sedan*



*1931 Chrysler CM6 roadster on the show field*



*Tom Cox climbing out of Tammy's latest acquisition*



# AACA Eastern Spring Meet Vineland, NJ



## Thursday-Saturday, May 19-21, 2016

Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Mark McAlpine, Marty Sugermeyer, Bill Treadwell.

Here we go again! We just returned from the AACA Special Spring Meet in Auburn, IN, on May 5-8th and found ourselves preparing to leave for the Eastern Division National Spring Meet being held on May 19-21st in Vineland, NJ.

We caravanned up the eastern shore of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey on Thursday with eight other fellow TRAACA members. Before boarding the Cape May-Lewes Ferry from Delaware to New Jersey, we stopped for lunch at Doyle's Restaurant (a historic diner) in Shelbyville, DE. It was a nice restaurant with good food and reasonable prices, suggested by the Treadwells, who have stopped there many times on their way to & from Maine.

The Cape May-Lewes Ferry was an exciting adventure. All of the ferry employees—from the gate attendants, gift shop cashiers, and ferry parking attendants, to the ferry captain—were all courteous and helpful. The captain made an announcement when several dolphins and a humpback whale were spotted alongside the ship. Mark and I enjoyed the eighty-five minute ferry ride, finding it a nice break from driving.

After checking into our respective hotels, 12 of us met at the Chestnut Diner and Bistro, a local restaurant that Donna Elliott located online. It had great reviews and we found them to be accurate. The food was delicious, with large portions and reasonable prices. In fact we liked it so well, that we and the Sugermeyers had lunch there on Friday.

The South Jersey Region AACA suggested several self-guided tours in the local area for meet attendees. One of the suggested tours was the Matchbox Museum in Newfield, NJ. Per the owner, the museum houses over forty thousand Matchbox miniature die-cast model cars, trucks, planes, and other toys. The first Matchbox toy designed in 1952 can be found there. Look for a future museum article about the Matchbox collection.

Another event meet attendees could partake in was "Drive the Track." Drivers in both antique and modern automobiles followed a pace car for two laps around the New Jersey Motorsports Park's (NJMP) 2.25 mile Thunderbolt Track. The track was named Thunderbolt in recognition of the Gunnery School for fighter pilots that was located on the NJMP site in WWII. Student pilots trained in P-47 Thunderbolt aircraft at the school.

Fellow TRAACA members Susan & Terry Bond participated in the track event in their 1974 MGB GT. Mark & I, Neil & Marty Sugermeyer, and Bill Treadwell climbed up the four-story observation tower next to the track to take photos of the Bonds. The view of the NJMP from the tower was awesome.

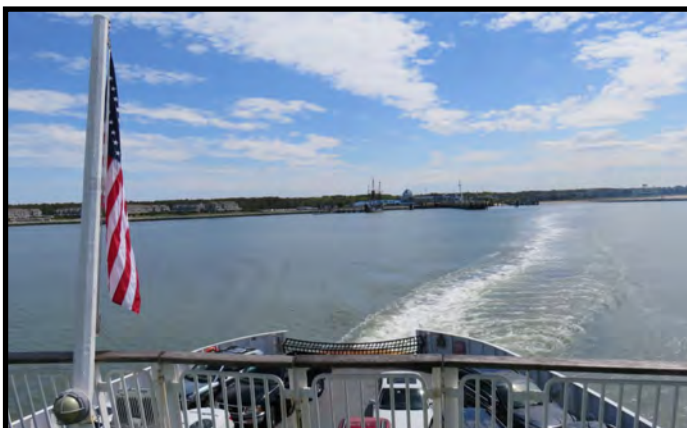
The group of us at the track joined the rest of the TRAACA bunch for dinner at Milly's Restaurant, a local Mexican restaurant that Donna also found online. It was another good pick with great food and prices. The staff at Milly's was very gracious, allowing us to stay past closing time. Milly's did not have a license to sell alcohol, but New Jersey has an interesting law that allows beer and wine purchased elsewhere to be consumed in restaurants. Coincidentally, there was a liquor store across the street, and beer arrived magically on our tables.

Up to this point in our trip the weather had been rather pleasant. Unfortunately, the weather changed on Saturday. It started out as a dark and cloudy morning, and the rain began shortly after the judges' breakfast. Sadly, thirty judges had already canceled and over 180 cars were "no shows." We were all a little soggy, but we managed to get through the day.

The day ended with a wonderful banquet at the NJMP complex. Tables were beautifully decorated with chocolates shaped like automobiles and wine bottles with the meet logo on the labels. The chocolates were consumed and the wine bottles were given away as prizes to banquet attendees. The food that night was very good and arrived at the table warm. Kudos to the chef and wait staff!

Sunday morning the caravan set off for home. We were pleasantly surprised when we arrived at the Cape May-Lewes Ferry dock in time to take the earlier ferry. This gained us about an hour's time in getting home. Once again the ferry employees were very nice. The gate attendant even gave Heidi (our German Shepherd) a bone.

We all had a terrific time in Vineland, NJ. The weather couldn't overcome the planning and efforts of the host South Jersey Region. The TRAACA entourage included Susan & Terry Bond, Tom Cox, Donna & Jim Elliott, Marion & Mark McAlpine, Dick McIninch, Wes Neal, Dot & Bob Parrish, Marty & Neil Sugermeyer, and Linda & Bill Treadwell.



*Departing from Lewes, DE, for the AACA Meet in New Jersey*



*Susan & Terry Bond (red MG at far left) running the track*



*Neil Sugermeyer & Marion McAlpine at the Matchbox Museum*



*The overcast show field at the NJMP before the rain started falling*



*Wes Neal standing proudly by his 1991 Jeep Grand Wagoneer*



*Jim & Donna Elliott's 1973 Cadillac Fleetwood limousine*



*Peter Kunz & his rare 1960 Henney Kilowatt electric car*



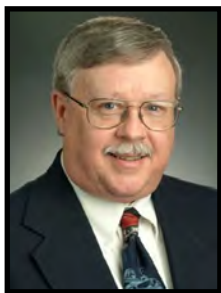
*(L-R) The McAlpines, Sugermeyers, and Treadwells*



*(L-R) Marty Sugermeyer, Dot Parrish, and Tom Cox*



*AACA President Bob Parrish presenting Dick McIninch his award*



# Still Collecting Stuff — Mascots—Pt. 2

By Terry Bond

We continue—and, believe me, I’m struggling to keep this article short so you can enjoy some photos!

Perhaps my most favorite area of collecting would have to be early accessory mascots. I don’t have a big collection, but there are a few quality items I’ve acquired over the years that I’ll share with you.

But first, let’s backtrack a bit . . . ever since the first mascots were fastened to a car, personal favorite themes were the most commonly displayed objects. A mascot clearly displayed your feelings about a lot of things. Objects representing political leanings, organizational relationships, feelings about the joys (and troubles) of early motoring, heroes, villains, favorite animals, representations of speed, daring and danger, naked ladies, golfers, horses and riders, as well as occupations and even pets were added to the hoods of early automobiles. Everything from swift birds in flight, to policemen halting traffic, to airplanes, Indian warriors, even witches and devils were popular. Today, these many varied items present unbelievable collecting opportunities.

The very best of them were the early European items. Bronze birds and other animals were produced in fine detail with clear definition in feathers and expressions. Fine quality castings that were finished in nickel, silver, or even gold made for fine automobile décor and great collector pieces today. The more significant piece were signed by the sculptor or identified with the logo of the company that produced or sold them. Sometimes

a serial or model number will appear on them.

Again, a sort of disclaimer—I’m going to continue to focus on the earlier items as that is my era of interest. There are wonderful and less expensive collecting opportunities among some of the later die-cast chrome-plated examples, and there are some very high quality pieces in that area, too.

Some of the early automobile mascots were produced with porcelain components. Of particular note were those produced by Hassall that featured

a spring loaded body of a policeman that could be adjusted into multiple poses. They are very sought after and collectors normally pay well for fine examples. Several hundred dollars would be necessary to acquire one of the more common of them. There are a couple of harder to find companion pieces from Hassall; one is a cartoonish “aviator.”

Easily one of my favorites is “Old Bill.” He was created by the British cartoonist Bruce Bainsfather and was a well-known character representing the “home guard” during the First World War. Too old to go to the front lines, these dedicated old soldiers provided security and protection at home—every bit as important for Britain during those difficult war years. Beware: these pieces have been reproduced! Originals will be “crisp” with well-defined markings & original patent information and serial numbers under Old Bill’s scarf. They were available in bronze or plated finish. A smaller version was also produced for use on motorcycles, and they are quite scarce.

Another great item from my collection was found in a Michigan antique shop a couple of years ago and sold as a “paperweight.” It is a mascot produced by AEL Lejeune in France. It was the design competition winner at the 1922 Paris Automobile Show. There are a few similar versions of this around, but I’m not aware of any reproductions.

Another of my favorite pieces is a wonderful gilded “Victory” mascot. It was produced about 1919 and commemorates the Allied victory in World War I. I was fortunate enough to have found two of them. The first was found in a Norfolk antique shop and purchased for \$75. It was a great addition to my collection and a prized possession until a couple of years ago when I found another one in even better condition in a Pennsylvania flea market. This time it was a bit more expensive, but I readily forked over the \$100 needed to acquire it. In both cases, they were sold to me as



“Old Bill” - English-made, circa 1914



Policeman mascot by Hassell—English-made, circa 1916



Bulldog car mascot by AEL Lejeune—1922



American-made "Victory Eagle" mascot—1919



Nicely detailed policeman mascot — English-made, circa 1920



"Motor Boy" mascot, circa 1910

"Flag Top Finials." It pays to know your stuff. I have ads for this mascot in some of my early auto accessory catalogs. Yes, I sold the duplicate piece to another collector at Hershey. A simple phone call before the meet that year was all it took. It gave me a nice hunk of change to spend on more stuff that year.

Mascots of policemen are another favorite of mine. They stand tall, usually with their hands held up as if halting traffic. Many varieties exist.

One of my favorite recent finds is this wonderful "Motor Boy" mascot. It's French, circa 1910, and is a wonderfully detailed cast bronze piece showing a young man in full motor-ing attire, holding a bulb horn. It is reproduced and readily available on eBay. The reproductions lack the crispness and detail on the originals. Sometimes, the "patina" is a bit heavy and a lot of oxidation will be found in the nooks and crannies.

A word of caution: there are a number of accessory mascots being reproduced today in bronze. They are artificially aged. One seller in particular normally lists dozens of varieties on eBay. The ads are carefully worded and they are listed generally as a "style of mascot."

Aside from the quality, most early mascots were marked in some way by the maker's name or logo,

model or part number, or a script signature of the sculptor. There are a lot of them to be found in the \$100-\$300 range, but be cautious. I recommend some reference books to help you:

- "The Automotive Mascot: A Design in Motion - Volume I - The Early Years" by James R. Colwill
- "Automotive Mascots: A Collector's Guide to British Marque, Corporate & Accessory Mascots" by David Kay and Lynda Sprigate
- "Brightwork: Classic American Car Ornamentation" by Ken Steacy
- "Hood Ornaments" by Rob Leicester Wagner
- "U.S. Hood Ornaments and More" by Lynn Huntsburger
- "Accessory Mascots: The Automotive Accents of Yesteryear" by Dan Smith

Of course Internet research can be a valuable tool as well. Tony Wraight's terrific website—*Finesse Fine Art*—focuses on high quality items, especially those by René Lalique.

<http://www.finesse-fine-art.com/main.htm>

Yes, I have missed a few pieces—particularly those wonderful glass mascots by Lalique of France. I'm saving them for a separate article at a future date. I will also devote an entire future article to Motometers—those wonderful old temperature gauges made by Boyce and many other companies in the 1920s—so stay tuned.

I hope you enjoy collecting and looking at these photos. A few nice mascots displayed in a glass cabinet are all it takes to have a nice collection. Enjoy!

*Terry Bond*



American-made Ford airplane mascot, circa 1915



Accessory leaping lion mascot—possibly American, circa 1920



Shell Motor Spirit—English-made, circa 1908—on display at Revs Museum in Naples, FL



Indian head hood ornament—American-made, circa 1914



## Judges' Corner



### “Whatever is rightly done, however humble, is noble.”

By Dain King, Chairman AACA Judges Training



noble.”

If you are reading this, you are probably being conscientious and improving your judging skills. You are probably the one who would spot the missing tire valve cover or notice the generic cigar lighter by the wrong knob on the dashboard, and take the appropriate deduction. If these are overlooked, the vehicle might garner an award above its horsepower. If a vehicle receives a Second Junior Award the first time out of the box and later earns a Third Junior, or no award, the opportunity to reclassify the vehicle to HPOF [Historic Preservation of Original Features] or DPC [Driver Participation Class] still exists.

But once a vehicle is awarded its First Junior, by the skin of its tires, because a judge was lax in the honesty phase, the owner must wait ten years to be able to reclassify the vehicle into HPOF or DPC, where it should have been in the first place. In the *AACA Official Judging Guidelines*, on page 4-31, paragraph G-4 states:

*“A vehicle that has won a First Junior Award cannot then enter the HPOF or DPC class. The only exception would be if it is after 10 years since it won the First Junior Award and elects to return any award badges to AACA and implement the Recycle option. A vehicle that has won a 2nd Junior or 3rd Junior award or no award competing in the Junior class can enter the HPOF or DPC class.”*

The above quote is at the top of the final page of text in the *Guidelines*, so those of you who are in the process of reading the *Guidelines* from cover to cover might have not yet gotten that far. The following paragraphs (5 & 6) are just as interesting. Judges who do not enter a vehicle for National Meets may not look at Section 4 of the *Guidelines*, except to check what vehicles are in the classes to be judged that day. The first paragraph of Section 4 is titled “Vehicle Registration Information and Forms,” and seeing that the title does not pertain to the activities of the day, reading it becomes a second or third priority in the scheme of things. Don’t be lulled into complacency. Know the contents of Section 4, so you, as a Team

Captain, can assist the owner (after judging) to make a better decision regarding vehicle classification at the subsequent meets. Many owners are not aware of Section 4, and some have never read the *Guidelines*.

Judge each vehicle as if it was a Grand National Meet. “The Family Tree of National Prizes” in the Appendix of Section 4 shows the breakout of awards by the minimum points required for each award, which are different in every case. This spreadsheet is worth a thousand words because it shows the relative levels of awards and shows the point distribution used to determine winners. Each individual vehicle should come away with the same point deductions on any show field no matter which National Meet and no matter who comprises the judging team that day, regardless of the award being sought.

Earning a First Junior does not guarantee the same vehicle will earn a Senior award next time out, nor does every vehicle earn a First Grand National just because it was registered. Registration and showing a vehicle earns a dash plaque, not necessarily an award. The award rate last year was about 80%. This is not a goal in any way; it is just a statistic. Reasons for not receiving an award were varied last year. One reason was that the proper award, previously earned, was not affixed to the vehicle. Other reason included using the wrong engine and at least one vehicle was obviously a hot rod. This analysis includes vehicles entered in HPOF and DPC, besides Competition point judged vehicles. HPOF and DPC vehicles are evaluated, and not all meet the qualifications for an award. If a vehicle is removed from the show field before the appointed time, it can be disqualified from receiving an award. The owner has control over that situation.

Being an AACA judge brings with it certain responsibilities, particularly the virtue of honesty. That means giving an honest evaluation of the vehicle presented on the show field, regardless of the other vehicles surrounding it. It is not up to the judge to give an award, nor to compare it with other vehicles in the same class or those in other classes. An honest evaluation is mandatory in order to continue the heritage of the past and to preserve the standards for the future.

“Whatever is rightly done, however humble, is noble,” as attributed to Sir Henry Royce so many years ago is still applicable today. There are fewer Rolls-Royces on the field today, just as there are fewer Model T Fords, but there are still just as many First Junior Awards to be earned as ever. See you on the field!



# Identify the Car Quiz

Can you identify the cars below? (The answers are at the bottom of the page.)



## AACA Calendar of Events

[http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca\\_calendar.html](http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca_calendar.html)

### JUNE 2016

- 2-4 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

### FEBRUARY 2017

- 9-11 AACA Annual Meeting  
Philadelphia, PA

### APRIL 2017

- 6-9 Southeastern Spring Meet  
Charlotte, NC
- 25-28 Western Division Tour  
Sonora, CA

### MAY 2017

- 11-13 Special Spring Meet  
Auburn, IN
- 20 AACA Eastern Spring Meet  
Huntington, WV  
(location & dates pending)

### JUNE 2017

- 4-9 Founders Tour  
Gettysburg, PA
- 15-17 Annual Grand National Meet  
Independence, MO

ANSWERS: 1) 1938 Buick "Y-Job" concept car (photographed at the GM Heritage Collection in Sterling Heights, MI); 2) 1939 Graham Model 97 (photographed at the Stahl's Auto Museum in Chesterfield, MI); 3) 1948 TASCOCO (The American Sports Car Company—photographed at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, IN).

# Upcoming TRAACA Activities in June and July 2016

## TRAACA Doumar's Ice Cream Run Saturday, June 18, 2016

Come join your fellow TRAACA members at Doumar's Barbecue—home of the original waffle cone—in Norfolk on Saturday, June 11th, for some delicious ice cream! Enjoy a creamy milkshake, an ice cream sundae, an ice cream float, or an ice cream cone (we may be able to convince them to show us how they make and hand-roll the waffle cones), and enjoy a pleasant spring afternoon socializing with your TRAACA friends. We will meet in the Doumar's parking lot at 7:00 PM. Drive your classic vehicle—there will be plenty of parking spots, although we may not all get to park next to each other depending on how crowded it is at Doumar's that day (and with our classic vehicles we're sure to attract a crowd). The ice cream will be delicious, and there will be plenty of wait staff to serve us. Doumar's address is 1919 Monticello Ave, Norfolk, VA 23517. You don't have to sign up, but if possible please contact Matt Doscher at [VLW78@hotmail.com](mailto:VLW78@hotmail.com) or (757) 448-7048 by Friday, June 10th, and let him know if you'll be joining us.

## TRAACA Tour of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel Friday, July 15, 2016

We have all driven through the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel (CBBT), but we never think of its operation or the incredible vision it must have taken to build a tunnel and road system that connects Virginia's Eastern Shore and south Hampton Roads, Virginia. The total project cost was \$200 million. That may not sound like much, but the equivalent cost today would be over \$1.5 billion! The best part is no tax dollars were used!

I remember seeing the CBBT Seagull sign on our way home from Key West, FL, with my family in the 1960s. This logo has survived over time with very few changes. It is amazing that the 50th anniversary of the tunnel was celebrated on April 15, 2014.

The TRAACA has a rare opportunity for a private tour of the internal workings of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel on Friday, July 15th. We plan to have lunch at the Chesapeake Grille on the first island. Good news: we will not have to pay the toll! There will be a limit of 30 people, so sign up with Linda Pellerin as soon as possible by contacting her at [lpellerin2@cox.net](mailto:lpellerin2@cox.net).

## ACA Judging Awards

**Tom Cox**

Senior Master Judge - 100 Judging Credits  
(Awarded at ACA Eastern Spring Meet in Vineland, NJ)



## Recent Award Winners



### 2016 ODMA Meet—Martinsville, VA

Sam Kern	1925 Franklin 4-dr sedan Repeat Preservation Award
Jeff & Pat Locke	1991 Cadillac Allante First Junior Award
Mark & Marion McAlpine	1970 Chevrolet Chevelle Senior Award
Dick McIninch	1986 Mercedes-Benz 300E Repeat Original HPOF
Reggie & Cindi Nash	1904 Rambler Model L Repeat Preservation Award
Wes Neal	1966 Ford Mustang First Junior Award
Mark Strang	1970 Morgan 4 Plus 4 First Junior Award
Neil & Marty Sugermeyer	1965 Rambler Classic 770 Repeat Preservation
Ken Talley	1929 Buick Master 4-door Repeat Preservation
Bill Treadwell	1969 Chevrolet Camaro Repeat Preservation

### ACA Special Spring Meet—Auburn, IN

Jim & Donna Elliott	1928 Auburn Repeat Preservation
Jeff Locke	1964 Solex moped Repeat Original HPOF

### ACA Eastern Spring Meet—Vineland, NJ

Susan Bond	1974 MGB GT Repeat Preservation
Jim & Donna Elliott	1973 Cadillac Fleetwood First Junior Award
Dick McIninch	1986 Mercedes-Benz 300E Repeat Original HPOF
Wes Neal	1991 Jeep Grand Wagoneer First Junior
Neil & Marty Sugermeyer	1965 Rambler Classic 770 Repeat DPC

### ACA Grand National Meet—Williamsport, PA

Mike & Darlene Brown	1972 Ford LTD Brougham First Grand National Award
Jim & Donna Elliott	1903 Cadillac First Grand National Award
John & Lynn Heimerl	1935 Chrysler Imperial C2 Senior Grand National Award
Dick McIninch	1936 Rolls-Royce 2nd Grand National Award
Mark & Marion McAlpine	1970 Chevrolet Chevelle First Grand National Award
Mark Strang	1970 Morgan 4 Plus First Grand National Award
Bill & Linda Treadwell	1969 Chevrolet Camaro First Grand National Award





# TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE

## Welcome to our New Members!

**Christian Durkin**  
Virginia Beach, VA

**John & Sandra Singletary**  
Norfolk, VA  
- 1961 Morgan Plus 4 roadster

**Jimmy Stork**  
Norfolk, VA  
- 1965 Ford Mustang

## Sunshine Report

Condolences are extended to the following members who recently lost loved ones:

- **Charlie Daniels' mother**, Shirley Melton Daniels, passed away in Oriental, NC, on 12 May. She was 83.
- **Pamela Hamilton-Bond's father**, Louis W. Hamilton, of Cherry Hill, NJ, passed away on May 11. He was 82.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following members:

- **Betty Banbury** was hospitalized recently for severe pneumonia, but is recovering at home.
- **Margie Ives** surgery on 19 May went well and she's recovering at home.
- **Margie Tillett** was hospitalized recently for an allergic reaction to medicine, but is home now & resting.

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



(L-R) The Doschers, the Adams family, Frank Lagana, and Jimmy Flanders enjoying ice cream at Doumar's BBQ in Norfolk, VA, on Saturday, May 21st. Bob Stein was also present (but took the photo).



## Members celebrating anniversaries in June



**Barry & Mary Ellen Basnight**  
**Bob & Pamela Bond**  
**Dick & Holly Chipchack**  
**C.E. & Annette Gardner**  
**Albert & Georgiann McVicker**  
**Al & Sharon Mercer**  
**Ed & Diane Monroe**  
**Ken & Sarah Saiya**  
**Sal & Jo Ann Saiya**  
**Mark & Sue Strang**  
**Neil & Marty Sugermeyer**  
**Radford & Margie Tillett**



## Members celebrating birthdays in June



<b>Travis Berry</b>	<b>Sam Kern</b>
<b>Briant Capps</b>	<b>Bette Lawrence</b>
<b>Tracy Carr</b>	<b>Mark McAlpine</b>
<b>Dick Chipchak</b>	<b>Toni McChesney</b>
<b>John Clark</b>	<b>Dick McIninch</b>
<b>Mary Beth Clark</b>	<b>Debbie Meadows</b>
<b>Bill Coburn</b>	<b>Reggie Nash</b>
<b>Sandy Dawson</b>	<b>Bob Roughton</b>
<b>Roland Downing</b>	<b>Barbara Sieck</b>
<b>Harold Eacker</b>	<b>Bob Stein</b>
<b>Chris Horton</b>	<b>Ken Talley</b>
<b>Marjorie Joslin</b>	



ODMA President Budd Lacy presents award to Pat & Jeff Locke

## **WANTED: Newsletter Editor(s)**

Would you like to get more involved in the TRAACA? Would you like to help keep your fellow members informed about regional and national club activities? Would you like a position that allows you to exercise your creativity? And do it all from the comfort of your home? Then we have the job for you: editor of the club's Mudflap newsletter. Mark must hand off the newsletter (for now) by June, so we need someone to take over as editor/co-editor as soon as possible. Training can be provided. If you're interested in taking over or helping Marion, please contact President Jim Villers.



# Historic Fredericksburg Region AACA



59th Annual

## Antique Automobile Show Fredericksburg, VA

Saturday, June 4, 2016

8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Preregistration: \$20 (must be postmarked NLT May 31)

Registration after May 31: \$25

First 175 vehicles registered and on the show field receive a dash plaque

For more info see HFRAACA website: <http://hfraaca.org/>  
or contact Meet Chairman J. Gordon Brown at (703) 725-7948



# Richmond Region AACA



47th Annual

## Car Show & Swap Meet Richmond Int'l Raceway

Saturday, June 18, 2016

8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Preregister by June 4: \$20 (entered into \$50 drawing)

Day of Show: \$25

Swap Meet Preregistration (by June 4): \$25

Day of Show: \$30

Spectator Entry Fee: \$5 (children under 12 free)

To register or for more info go to RRAACA website: <http://richmondaaca.com/>  
or contact Meet Chairman Joe Guckert at (804) 516-0440 or e-mail [ndjoe79@hotmail.com](mailto:ndjoe79@hotmail.com)



# Smithfield Olden Days Festival



Friday-Saturday, June 24-25, 2016

Cruz-In: Friday, 24 June—6:00-9:00 PM

On Main Street, downtown Smithfield

Free concert by *Ocean Breeze* (beach/oldies music band)

Car Show: Saturday, 25 June—8:00 AM—2:30PM

Registration: 8:00-10:00 AM / \$20 donation to Toys for Tots

For more info go to *Genuine Smithfield Olden Days* website: <http://www.genuinesmithfieldva.com>  
or contact Car Show Chairman Elizabeth Moose at (757) 880-7191 or Terry Reinier at (757) 357-2214



**DOWN  
THE  
ROAD**

### Other Regional/Local Events

#### JUNE 2016

- 3-5 Carlisle Ford Nationals  
Carlisle, PA
- 4 Historic Fredericksburg  
Region AACA Annual Show  
Fredericksburg, VA
- 4 Custom Classic Corvette  
Club 6th Annual Car Show  
Norfolk, VA
- 10-12 The Elegance at Hershey  
Hershey, PA
- 12 8th Annual Williamsburg  
Invitational Car Show  
Williamsburg, VA
- 17-19 Carlisle GM Nationals  
Carlisle, PA
- 17-24 Lincoln Highway Tour  
Cumberland, MD to Joliet, IL
- 18 Richmond Region AACA  
Car Show and Swap Meet  
Richmond Int'l Raceway  
Richmond, VA
- 24 Hot Rods Cruz-In Car Show  
Smithfield Olden Days  
Festival, Smithfield, VA
- 25 Toys for Tots Car Show  
Smithfield Olden Days  
Festival, Smithfield, VA

#### JULY 2016

- 9 National Collector Car  
Appreciation Day Cruise-In  
Daniels Performance Group  
Smithfield, VA
- 9 National Collector Car  
Appreciation Day Car Show  
Gloucester, VA

- 15-17 Carlisle Chrysler Nationals  
Carlisle, PA

#### AUGUST 2016

- 25-28 Corvettes at Carlisle  
Carlisle, PA

#### SEPTEMBER 2016

- 17 41st Annual Edgar Rohr  
Memorial Antique Car Meet  
Bull Run Region AACA  
Fredericksburg, VA
- 17 SE Virginia Street Rods  
24th Annual Charity Show at  
Daniels Performance Group



## EDITOR'S DESK

**Mark McAlpine**

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

You might have noticed that we didn't have a "Caught in the Headlights" article this month. That's because no one submitted one. With over 165 single & joint memberships in our club, many with more than one antique vehicle, you would think that we would have no difficulty getting articles about members and their cars. However, for whatever reason—we think we're too busy with other things; we don't think we can write an article; we don't think that anyone else would be interested in reading about us or our vehicles; etc.—people don't submit articles. I'm writing to argue that none of those reasons are valid and to plead with you to write an article for *The Mudflap*.

First, it doesn't take that long to write an article. The article only has to be about 400-500 words—basically one page long. Tell us why and how you obtained your car. Tell us what you've done to it. Tell us the fun things you've done or seen with it. Tell us about good trips or bad trips you've had in it. Tell us why it's special to you.

Second, you don't have to have a college degree in English to write an article. Just put some words down on paper. We'll help you edit and polish it (and anything you write will be better than my average article). And we only need four photographs: most importantly, we want one of

you with your vehicle. We'd also like a photo just of the car from a different angle, one of the interior and one of the engine. If your vehicle has some unique feature you want to highlight, send us a photo of that, too. If you can't take the photos, let us know and we'll come do it for you.

Third, yes, we are interested in learning more about you and your vehicle. With over 300 people in the TRAACA, none of us can know every detail about the rest, especially with new members joining every month. A brief article is a quick way to introduce ourselves to the rest of the club and help start the conversation (and friendship) the next time we see each other. Similarly, we can't possibly know everything about every vehicle ever produced. Your article is a good way to educate the rest of us about your neat car.

So please, Please, PLEASE take the time to write an article for *The Mudflap*. We need your articles for our region's newsletter to be interesting. If you want to tell your story but break out in a cold sweat over the idea of trying to write it, let us know. We have several intrepid reporters that are willing to come interview you and draft the article.

Break-break. (That's military lingo for "now for a completely different topic.") Don't forget that our annual meet is rapidly approaching. Start getting your vehicles ready—Saturday, September 24th, will be here before you know it.

*Mark Mc*

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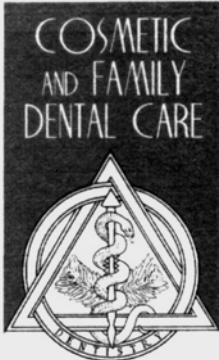
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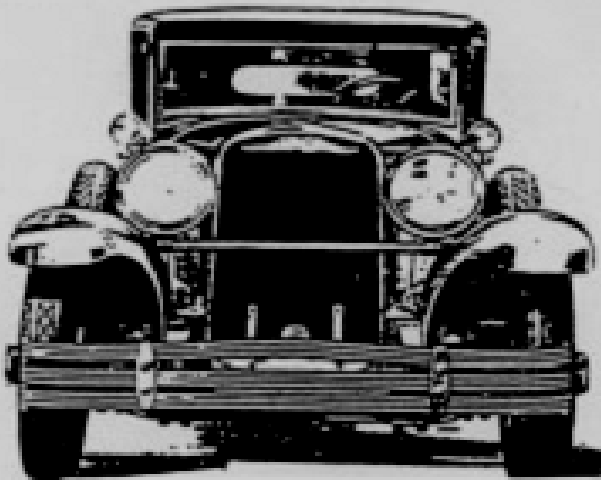
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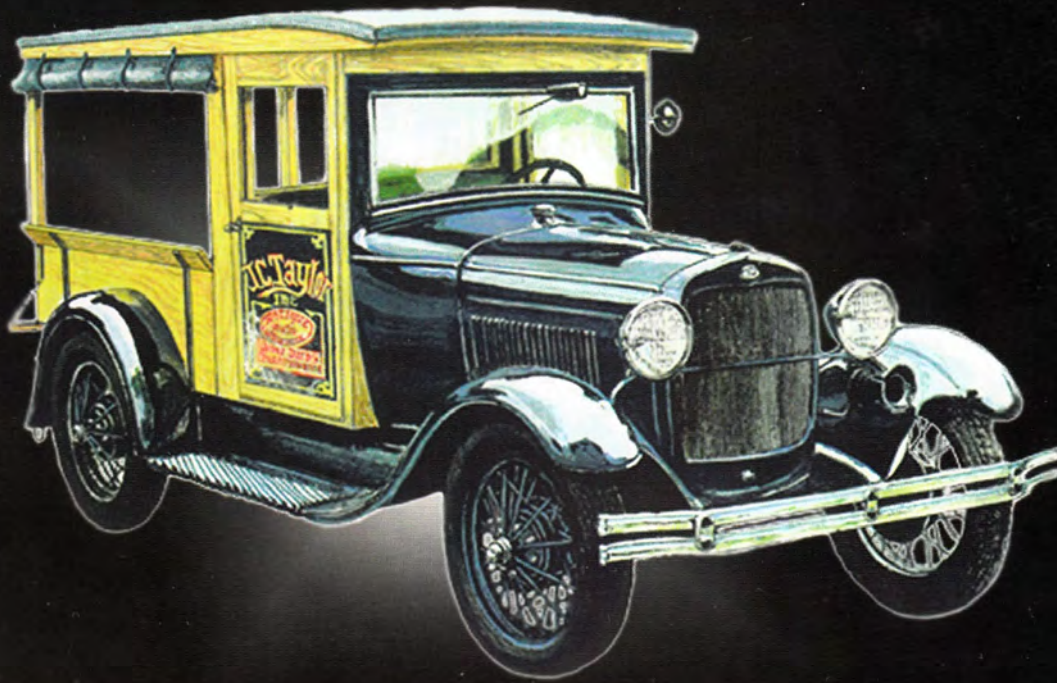
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## FIRST CLASS



*The TRAACA caravan to the 2016 AACA Eastern Spring Meet in Vineland, NJ, waiting to catch the Cape May-Lewes Ferry to New Jersey*