

# TIDEWATER Antique Automobile Club of America REGION



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*A Master Editor Award Winning Publication*



## Jere and Carol Avenson's 1941 Packard





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*Dick Pensyl received a President's Award from Linda Pellerin.*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We just returned from the Tidewater Region's First Spring Tour. It was a fabulous weekend! Getting lost with Bill and Ken was a lot of fun, and there were a few wrong turns! I hope this becomes a yearly event. There are many stories to be told and you know how much I love stories. On Saturday night at the ESO Wine and Art Show, I was volunteered by fellow club members to get up and participate in a game. Thank you very much to those who I thought were my friends! Let's just say that my partner and I won the contest in giving the correct definition of the word Kawamalingua. I can now fix 350 different cocktails. Details will be in the story later. For those who missed the fun, I am giving hints to future stories. Bob Pellerin is now nicknamed the Deer Slayer! Who won the Hard Luck Trophy? It was great to have some of our new members join in on the weekend and the fun. I look forward to more tours in the future.

We have several things coming up on our calendar. I hope to see many of you at the Old Dominion Meet. It is close enough you can come for the day and help judge or just enjoy the show. I am hoping for a large turnout at Hermitage Elementary's "Celebrate America Day". It is youth that will carry the antique car interest into the future. It is not too late to sign up for the "Saltwater to Firewater" tour but the deadline is closing in fast. Please mark your calendar for our Holiday Party on Saturday Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. It will be held at the Cavalier Country Club thanks to members Bud and Betsy Keen. We plan more great fun like last year. You won't want to miss it!

**Words of wisdom –“ If people never did silly things, nothing intelligent would ever get done.” Ludwig Wittgenstein**



# Announcements

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FOR THE AACA 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENT IN LOUISVILLE IS MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>.**

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE SALTWATER TO FIREWATER TOUR TO LOUISVILLE (75<sup>TH</sup>) IS MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**Directions for registration are included in the editorial and Ken Talley's article on the tour.**

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## Jere & Carol Avenson's 1941 Packard Deluxe

*Article by Jere Avenson, Photos by Jere and Carol Avenson*

As we all know, it's hard to define the chemistry that results in some of us acquiring additional old cars. Sometimes it's the result of just the opportunity. A car that we've admired for some time comes on the market. We feel the necessity to strike while the car is available! Other times we have some available funds that are burning a hole in our pocket. We start searching the Hemmings Motor News Classified ads, Craig's List, and the Internet in general; we drive to local swap meets, and, of course, there's a seasonal Hershey and Carlisle event to visit. Some of these fevers take a few months to cure, while others may take years to get over.

I've been entrusted with a beautiful 1954 Packard Patrician, but have secretly admired the stately styling of the pre-war Packard automobiles. This past year I came down with "car buying fever". It hit me when a local car collector's stable of old cars went up for sale. A 1937 Packard Formal sedan was part of the stable, but for reasons beyond my control that purchase was not to be. However, while I was contemplating the purchase, I researched the marketplace to determine the going price for a pre-war Packard. It was during this research that I noticed a particular 1941 Packard Deluxe One-Ten Sedan for sale in the Hemmings listing, but the price was way above what one would expect to pay, even for a category one condition car. Ear-marking the Hemmings listing ensured that whenever I wanted to see if anything new had been placed on the internet I'd see the '41 Packard and over the course of the summer and early fall the '41's price dropped a little, but not to the point anyone was willing to buy it. It was the little six-cylinder entry level Packard specifically developed to keep the Packard Motor Company alive during the Great Depression of the 1930's. In the collector's market, the Packard One-Ten just didn't go for that high a price.

I kept coming back to the little six-cylinder Packard and researched past sales and what "Deluxe" meant compared to "Special". I discovered that the Deluxe model had upgraded trim and some interior options which really gave it somewhat the appearance of the more expensive senior Packard models. It just had the six-cylinder engine. During the month before Hershey, I emailed the owner and asked him for some better pictures and what about this car made him think it was worth that much money? He sent the pictures and said that the car had been completely restored some time ago and was in excellent condition. He believed that it was easily worth the price he was asking. Well, a lot of us think our cars are worth what we've invested in them, but that doesn't mean someone is going to pay that price. I asked Carol what she thought. Admittedly, that was a poorly worded question! Carol thinks I'm having hormonal problems.

By the time I went to the Hershey meet, I was intent on seeing what prices the 1941 Packard cars were going for—in addition to maybe finding something attractive for sale. There were a

couple of '41 Packard cars in the coral in various conditions up to and including a freshly restored one. The restored one was a convertible, and convertibles are way out of my price range. But it did show me what a well restored '41 Packard One-Tens look like, and I spent some time each day going over that convertible taking in the details of what "restored" features were. All that I accomplished while at Hershey was to convince myself that I really wanted that '41 Packard sedan I'd been looking at in Hemmings Motor News. This is not necessarily a good frame of mind to be objectively car shopping!



When I returned home I called the owner in Washington state and told him that I wanted to come out and look at his car and that I definitely wanted to drive it. His response was that he and his wife were leaving for warmer weather in a couple of weeks and he'd taken the car off the Hemmings Motor News because he would be gone most of the winter. Also, he said that November was the beginning of the rainy season and he couldn't promise that I could drive the car when I got there. I asked him why? He told me that he never took the car out in the rain and this was the rainy season. I asked why, does it leak? He didn't know if it leaked or not, but it was in perfect condition and had never been out in the rain. The only time it was out of the garage was to go to meets.



He certainly had my curiosity going. I had enough frequent flyer miles for a round trip ticket, and there's a Navy Base close by that I, as a retired Navy person, could spend a couple of nights. I knew that before I was going to buy a car advertised in mint condition I had to see it first and not accept pictures as the car's actual condition. Most cars look good at twenty paces. So I confirmed Carol's suspicions that I am crazy by going to Washington state to "just look".

Throughout my stay in Washington, the weather was beautiful. I took that as a good sign! The wife of the owner was away so he and I had plenty of time to talk; first confirming the condition of the car and then arranging enclosed transportation to take the car home to Virginia. During our three days together I learned amongst other things that prior to retirement the previous owner had been a producer for *Desilu* Productions. During his working career he had been close to many old cars that were used in producing movies and television programs. Eventually he became a minor automobile collector himself and had owned several old Packard automobiles during his collecting years. This car was the last one left of the collection.

It was indeed a show car. It had received a frame-off restoration during 1991-1992. Since then (eighteen years) it had been driven just a little over 1,200 miles, which explained to me why the engine ran a little rough--no metallic noises, just sluggish and not really responsive to the throttle. It needed a good tune-up and, even more, it wanted to be driven. The '41 Packard Deluxe safely traveled by carrier to Virginia, along with several cars belonging to Nicholas Cage. I bet they had interesting conversations.

The '41 Packard Deluxe has been and is a show car. However I drive my cars and believe if you can't drive a car it's just another big piece of furniture. There are aspects of a car that are important to me if it's going to be a driver that are not necessarily important to be a good show car. I need to feel confident that any time I want to, I can get into any one of my old cars and drive it anywhere I want without being worried that it will fail me.

So, currently I am fixing the steering gear. The right front steering arm (Packard calls these "knuckle leavers") was bent and the king pin needed to be replaced. A previous owner had hit something, maybe a curb, really hard and bent the steering arm. The electrical system had been restored, so I thought it would be only appropriate to have the generator and regulator working. I guess you don't need that for a show car, and by just charging the battery you can drive it for show and selling purposes. I also have repaired the inoperative fuel and ammeter gauges. While under the dash fixing gauges, I thought I might as well have operational electric windshield wipers. I've discovered that old Packard cars need an electric fuel pump in series with the mechanical fuel pump for assistance (not always) in starting and in case of vapor lock. I like an electric turning signal and Carol refuses to ride in the car without seat belts. For highway driving I've bought another set of wheels and put radial tires on for driving purposes. The original wheels with bias ply tires are fine and stored for meets. I've installed a thermostat for maintaining the optimum engine temperature. Other than a complete tune-up, replacing all hoses, belts, fluids, some drive train seals and bearings, that has been all I've needed to get this car ready to be a driver. She is scheduled to receive an overdrive system this summer.

Carol, bless her heart, has accepted one more lady in my life and she has christened her with the name "Bella". We



plan to take her to the Packard Club National Meet in Gettysburg, PA this coming July so she can renew friendships with other Packard automobiles from the past.



From  
Under  
My  
Hat



By Marty Sugermeyer

The 2010 Car Season is in full swing. If you don't already have reservations to participate in several events it is time to get out your calendar and make some plans. This is a banner year for Tidewater Region with our own Terry and Sue Bond as the President and First Lady of AACA. The big event of the year of course is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Kentucky. So far there are 18 cars from TRAACA signed up for our 'Saltwater to Firewater Tour.' We will be leaving Sunday morning, June 27<sup>th</sup>. If you want to be included in our tour, give Ken Talley a call ASAP. He can get the form for our tour to Louisville, hotel info, etc. to you.

**THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FOR THE TRAACA 'SALTWATER TO FIREWATER TOUR' IS MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>.**

The information about the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events can be found by clicking on the red letters on the AACA home page or by going to [www.aaca75.org/](http://www.aaca75.org/). There are drop down menus that give you details about the special events planned for the celebration. You can get a copy of the brochure that includes the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events online, but you have to go into the registration site for that. The brochure is linked on the 75<sup>th</sup> registration page through the words **Meet Info\*** in the upper right corner after you get onto the official online 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary registration page.

Getting registered for the AACA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event can be done online. **THE DEADLINE IS MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>.** To register online, go to the AACA home page. Up in the left corner find **Meets** and click on it to drop down a menu. Click on **Meet Registration**. That will take you to the **AACA Member Login Page**. Follow the instructions to enter your member number and pin. After you login, a list of meets will appear. Choose the **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event**. The list will allow you to register for the events you want to participate in while in Louisville. I'm assuming that you will need a credit card after you have selected the registration fee and special events that interest you. Next you have to **"PRINT CARDS"** before paying. We've already registered, so I couldn't complete that last step. If you have trouble, contact the meet chairman, Joe Gagliano.

Here is some info from the FAQs list.

**Is showing ones vehicle at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by invitation only? Or is it open to anyone?**

It is open to anyone. In fact we are encouraging people to drive and show their cars in Driver Participation Class even if they are not "show" cars. YOU MUST BE PREREGISTERED.

Registration is required to show your vehicle and makes your vehicle eligible for AACA awards and certifications.

Registration for the car show does include a special Car Show medallion that can be attached to the 75<sup>th</sup> Commemorative License plate.

There will be some vehicles invited for their historical significance to the hobby but everyone is invited to bring a vehicle.

**Is there registration required to attend the event?**

Yes, there will be a registration charge to attend the event. The registration will include admission to all of the general activities and events for the AACA member and a spouse or guest. Participants age 16 years and under are free. The registration will also include a commemorative 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary license plate and parking permit to the Expo center for the show on Saturday.

**Does the event registration include registration for my car for the show?**

No, it does not. A separate AACA registration is required for the show on Saturday.

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Wednesday Through Saturday**

Registration\*, Hospitality Room\* and Flea Market Open

**Wednesday Through Friday**

Five optional daytime self guided tours:

Lexington, KY area and Horse Park ..... (80 miles one way)

Bardstown, KY..... "My Old Kentucky Home" & Railroad Museum- (50 miles one way)

French Lick, IN.. West Baden Springs & Casino..(60 m. one way)

Elizabethtown, KY.....Swope Auto Museum & General Patton Museum- (50 miles one way)

Louisville, KY.....Churchill Downs Museum & Horse Racing

**Wednesday Evening**

Old Car Parade & Ice Cream Social

**Thursday Evening**

Dinner & Riverboat Cruise (Belle of Louisville)

**Friday Evening- Anniversary Banquet\*\***

"Bandits, Guns and Automobiles"- Jeff Mahl Presentation

**Saturday Morning**

Judges Breakfast\*

**Saturday**

Car Show/Awards\*\*

Closing Celebration Reception\*\*

Unless your life expectancy if good for another 25 years, this really is a once-in-a-lifetime event. **DON'T MISS IT!**





### March 9, 2010 – TRAACA Board Meeting

By Scott Davies, Secretary

The board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at Priority Chevrolet. Members present were Linda Pellerin, President; Bob Stein, Vice-President; Scott Davies, Secretary; John Gancel, Treasurer; Board members Riley Best, Don Hobbs, Toni McChesney, Tony Scarpelli and Bill Wilcox. Also present were Frank Lagana, Marie Gancel, Bob and Dot Parrish, Mickey McChesney, Sam Kern, Richard and Sandy Hall.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The January minutes were read and approved.
- New member Boyd Swartz was welcomed and introduced.
- John Gancel gave the Treasurer's report and it was submitted for audit.
- Linda Pellerin announced that the Swap Meet was very successful and that the Winter Blast broke even.
- Toni McChesney gave the "Sunshine" report.
- Richard Hall briefed the itinerary for the Square Car Tour.
- Preliminary plans for the Annual Meet were briefed by Sam Kern, including an increase in registration fee. Car photos will be available for sale, field changes and interest in club tee-shirts.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Neil Sugemeyer will schedule a meeting to review the results of the Swap Meet.
- Tony Scarpelli gave an update on delinquent payments from advertisers. It was suggested that advertisers review their ads online instead of a mailed copy of the Mud Flap.
- There was discussion on possible ways to reduce the Mud Flap costs but no decisions were made.
- A "Thank You" was received from National for the TRAACA Donation to the Museum presented in Philadelphia.
- We are still in need of a larger trailer; no update from Bob Hampton at this time.

The club Membership Roster has been distributed. We are aware that there are mistakes, some due to the information received (or not received) on the membership renewal forms. It was suggested that in the future, the Roster be available online (in a secure location) to reduce costs. It was also suggested that the "vehicle listing" be eliminated but discussion indicated that would not be a good idea.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- A motion on behalf of Merritt Horne's family that the proceeds from the sale of Merritt's books at the last dinner meeting and at the swap meet be presented in the form of a Driver's Education Scholarship to Tyler Gimbert was unanimously approved.
- Riley Best suggested providing gravel at Ken Talley's home

for the area where the trailer is parked. Ken will be contacted to see if that would be desired.

- Bill Wilcox announced that the Spring Tour agenda has changed. The updated venue will be announced at the Square Car Tour and also posted on the website.
- Bob Stein is creating an area on the website for Terry Bond, the AACA President.
- Richard Hall, Club Historian, requested funds to upgrade and preserve club documents. A motion to authorize \$200.00 for binders, etc. for this purpose was unanimously approved. Bob Parrish announced a new member that resides out of the area, Kathleen Kellam. She is very active in AACA and wants to join us for the "Saltwater to Firewater" Tour.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm.



### Charlotte Auto Fair and AACA Southeastern National Meet

Article and photos by Bob Stein

After a slightly damp start on Thursday, the Charlotte Auto Fair got into full swing with clear skies and pleasant temperatures for the rest of the weekend. Tidewater Region had it's usual strong showing, not the least of which was new AACA National President Terry Bond and First Lady Susan. Some of the more unusual show entries this year included a late 'teens Mack State Prison Truck and a one-off factory built 1950 Vauxhall convertible sports car.

Laurel Swensen with the 1974 MG Midget



Pres. Terry Bond presents 1st Jr. to Laurel and Alan Swenson and (photo by Sue Bond)



10th Judging Credits to William Williams and Mickey McChesney.



## APRIL DINNER MEETING

The April Dinner Meeting was held at the Aberdeen Barn on North Hampton Blvd on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Locke presented an interesting program of slides of some of the unique vehicles he and his partners have appraised over the years.

*The 1903 Oldsmobile was just one of many unusual vehicles shown by Jeff and Pat Locke.*



## TRAACA First Annual "Spring Tour"

Article by Ken Talley, Photos by Tyler Gimbert

Saturday morning thirty-four region members in seventeen cars met at Bayside Baptist Church and headed to Eastern shore for our "Spring Tour". Our first stop was for a little breakfast at Sting – Ray's restaurant, when we found the line was too long some of us went on "up the shore" (as the natives would say) and stopped at Hardees.

Next we were off to our first stop on the garden tour, Eyre Hall, an early 18<sup>th</sup> century plantation house on Cherrystone Creek. After we toured the house, we wandered through the gardens that cover about two acres. Next we went back "Down the Shore" to a mid 18<sup>th</sup> century home, "Bonderosa" which is located on Old Plantation Creek, another of the many creeks and tributaries on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.



*John Gancel and Dan Ciccone may not be discussing flowers.*

Next we were off to lunch. We drove to the Bay Creek Golf Club and enjoyed a nice lunch at the Coach House Tavern. After lunch we preceded to the newly constructed Light House that is an exact replica of the lighthouse that once stood in the bay. If you are ever in Cape Charles you should visit Bay Creek, It is a gated community but they seem willing to let people visit. I am sure they would like to sell you a nice building lot.

Next we headed for the hotel, we checked in about 4:00, then off we went to the Holly Grove Vineyard that was celebrating the Eastern Shore's art center's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We sampled some of their wine, listened to two different bands and stuffed ourselves with hors d'oeuvres. During the break between the bands, we volunteered our President Linda Pellerin to assist in some weird name game! You will have to ask her to explain what she came up with.

We returned to the hotel about 8:00 and sat around in the lobby and talked until a group of "Bikers" moved in.

Even though hunting season is not in, Bob "dear slayer" Pellerin decided to go hunting with his 1964 Volvo and bagged a deer on the way back to the hotel. The Volvo survived with minor damage, we are not sure how the deer made out. Linda said the deer rolled off the hood and took off!

Sunday morning we had a nice breakfast and left the hotel at 9:30 taking some back roads to the Barrier Island Museum. This is a "Must See" if you have never been. It covers life on the barrier islands and how they are "moving" and eroding. The hurricane of 1933 convinced the residents to move to the mainland, and many put their houses on barges and literally moved them to several towns on the mainland.



*Wine always tastes better from the source.*

After the Barrier Island Museum, we headed for Chatham Winery for a wine tasting and lunch. We were served samples of the wine produced at Chatham along with an overview about the difference in how each wine is made. After the tasting we enjoyed a catered lunch. After lunch we drove a short distance to the Chatham house for a tour. We were greeted by a Model "T" huckster wagon, a Model A pickup and a 1950 Ford flat bed. Even though we were there to see the mansion, we all headed for the old Fords, a small group even got a ride in the Model "T". The house was built in 1818 and restored in the 70s. What a beautiful setting and such gracious hosts.





*Like moths to a flame, Dan Ciccone and Bob and Sylvia Roughton headed for the antique vehicles.*



*Vito Serrone and Tony Scarpelli getting a ride.*



*Bette and Kit Lawrence were really enjoyed the tour.*

Around 4:00 we headed home. What a nice tour; a few drops of rain on Saturday but a perfect day on Sunday. Tony Scarpelli was the FIRST recipient of the new "Hard Luck" trophy. His 1964 Chrysler Imperial refused to start and had to be towed home. That did not stop Tony and Leslie; they broke out a modern car and joined us at the hotel.



*Bill Wilcox awards Tony Scarpelli the first Hard Luck Tour Trophy.*

We had new members touring with us for the first time; Paul Chu, Kit and Bette Lawrence and Vito and Nina Serrone. Great having some of our new members touring with us, hope you enjoyed the weekend.

I hope everyone enjoyed the tour and I hope someone will "Step up to the plate" and plan another Spring Tour next year

Special thanks to Bill Wilcox for all his hard work planning such a fun filled weekend! Also a SPECIAL thanks to Dot Parrish for putting together the tour book.



*Partial group shot of very happy Spring Tourists.*

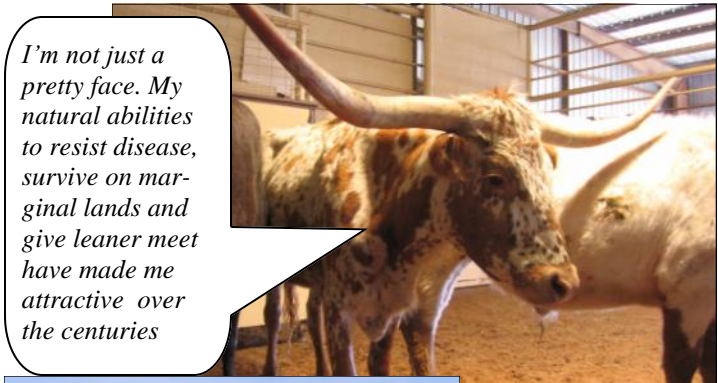
# SPOTLIGHTS

## Miles with Meggie 2010 Sentimental Tour Hosted by Road Relics, Central Texas Region March 21-26

Flying into San Antonio was a real experience for me, but not for Terry who had landed on aircraft carriers. The cross winds threw the plane around, but we were lucky. Those who drove to the tour came thru wind, rain, sleet and snow!

Our first stop was the Alamo, but the line was about 2 blocks long (spring break in Texas), so we toured the grounds and then found the River Walk, a delightful shopping area below the main street level. Maddogs English Pub had great fish 'n chips. Wish we could have taken the boat ride, but it was too cold and windy.

The YO Ranch Hotel and Resort in Kerrville, host hotel for the tour, has a cowboy theme, with lots of antlers and branding iron chandeliers in the lobby. We had arrived a day early and planned to see the sights in Kerrville but found everything was closed on Sunday, so we headed for the antique shops in Comfort, just down the road. That evening was the western-garb opening banquet with BBQ Texas style, and the band, "Part of the Problem", which serenaded Brenda Shore-Kaiser with "Yellow Rose of Texas" kept us laughing.



*I'm not just a pretty face. My natural abilities to resist disease, survive on marginal lands and give leaner meet have made me attractive over the centuries*



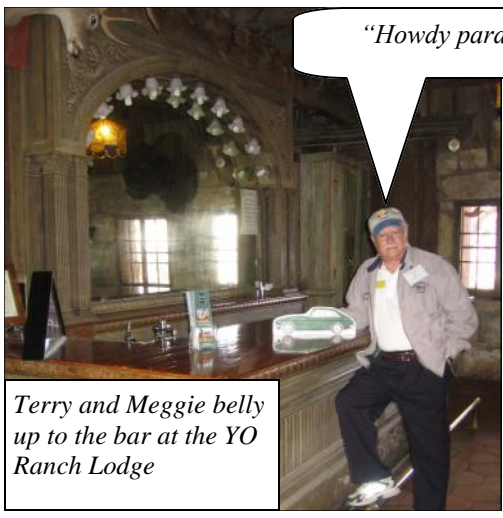
*Did you know that I have the same number of vertebra in my neck as a human?*



*George and Buddy Brunner*

Sue and I rode with Buddy, the border collie, and George Brunner on the way back. Just outside the ranch, the '56 Packard we were following billowed smoke and we screeched to a halt to fight the fire. The "vulture wagon" loaded it on a trailer and headed back to the hotel. On the way a passing fire truck flagged them down and said the car was on fire – again! (A notice later appeared, "For sale, '56 Packard, slightly charred") After a stop at a half-sized Stonehenge, which wasn't as tumbled down as the original, we visited the Atwell Car Collection, a private museum that isn't open to the public. Every car was a one-off classic – Marmon 16, Duesenbergs, Rolls Royces, Delage, Hispano Suiza – complete with mannequins of famous people of the era. Dinner that night was Mexican with the Petersons, all 3 generations, Don, West and Robert.

*Don, West, and Robert Peterson with 1941 Cadillac*



*Terry and Meggie belly up to the bar at the YO Ranch Lodge*

*"Howdy pardner!"*

Monday, the Longhorns and Cow Chips Tour: Every touring day started with a breakfast buffet where we heard the news of the day, collected copies of "The Sentimental Star" newsletter put together by June

Peterson Crane, and were given instructions, mainly, "This isn't a race, you can leave whenever you want to, just don't get to the first stop too early." The largest longhorn cattle herd in the US is at YO Ranch. We rode there in style in the '31 Auburn Phaeton Convertible of tour chairman, Vic Donnell. Ever been mudding in a giraffe-painted ex-school bus? We have. Our Zimbabwe-born tour guide took us off the beaten path to see giraffe, emu, rhea, wildebeest, and a bunch of others I can't remember the names of. The 40,000 acre ranch is now a big-game hunting preserve. Hulon McGraw won the cow chip toss, and we had BBQ for lunch.

Tuesday, The Enchanted Texas Tour: We rode in the '57 Chevy 4-door sedan of Barbara and Gary Baker to Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, where Barbara, Sue and I climbed to the top of the rock, a 425 foot high, 640 acre knob of pink granite. I didn't get my picture taken because it was so windy I would've blown away! Beautiful scenery thru the west Texas hill country, and the rescue of the wayward hub cap that just missed ending up in the Pedernales River, brought us to the Full Moon Inn and lunch at Willie's BBQ (do you see a theme here?).

On to the "town" of Luckenbach, pop. 3, that hasn't changed since horsepower was really horse power. We stepped back in time when we entered the old general store, built around 1886. People kept mentioning Willy Nelson, and we finally read the tour book and found out he recorded the song, "Luckenbach, TX" in 1977. "Everybody is Somebody in Luckenbach." The Wildflower Seed Farm had great ice cream and a butterfly walk, in addition to plants of all kinds. The cacti were interesting, not the little things you see at home. The Torre di Pietra Vineyard had some good wines and we took a bottle with us.

Wednesday, The Shopping and History Tour: If it's Wednesday we must be in Fredericksburg, Texas that is. Settled by Germans, it is now the home of Street Dreams (a collection of for-sale cars), a brewery, the Admiral Nimitz National Museum of the Pacific War, antique stores and lots of restaurants. We had been issued Texas passports at registration and trekked around to shops to get them stamped, sampling chocolate and eating a German lunch along the way. We rode with Petersons in their '41 Cadillac convertible sedan. The banquet that evening took us back to the 40's with the Sentimental Journey Orchestra playing dance music and participants dressing for the era.

Thursday, The Yellow Rose Tour: Ever heard of a Velie? It was made by a member of the John Deere family of tractor fame, but don't laugh. It handled the steepest hills of the tour with revs to spare and is good looking to boot. We rode with John and Jan Nikodym in their '28 Royal Sedan and learned the history of the company and where all the existing cars are located. We crossed lots of low one-lane concrete bridges with flood markers beside them. The hill country is all rock so when it rains the rivers rise fast and the water goes right over the bridges, so it helps to know how deep it is. The scenery was beautiful. This area is known as "The Swiss Alps of Texas". Up hill and down, live oak trees, a few early wild flowers, river valleys, it was great.



*John and Jan Nikodym and their 1928 Velie Royal Sedan*

The Lone Star Motorcycle museum didn't have an old Triumph like ours, but there was a '19 Levi and lots of neat bikes. Lunch was sandwiches at the Frio Canyon Restaurant, then we toured the Leakey (it's pronounced Lay-key) antique shops and the Real County Historical Museum to see tractors and farm equipment. A huge, old live oak tree (*Quercus virginiana*) is the point from which the whole town of Rio Frio is platted. The Apple Store in Medina is known for its apple ice cream with apple butter sauce. Dinner was on our own so we went back to Fredericksburg to sample the brews. Pretty good!

Friday, The Cowboy Capital and Camels Tour: We rode with James and Beatrice Kallman in Pete, the '38 Plymouth 4-door Touring Sedan, and with Skippy, their teddy bear mascot – I wasn't the only mascot on the tour.

*Beatrice & James Kallman with Skippy*



After a coffee break at a church in Bandera, Cowboy Capital of the World, we were supposed to tour the Frontier Times Museum but we only got as far as the Antique Mall in an old mill. Wayne Burgess kept saying he would haul anything home for us so we took him up on it and bought a small table. Ran out of time so, we headed to Boerne (pronounced Bernie) for an Italian buffet lunch at Spinelli's Bistro Restaurant, one corner of which was built around a live oak tree. Terry got to drive Steve Rinaldo's red TD to the restaurant and loved it! I see a new garage mate in my future.

The Agricultural and Heritage Center & Museum was our next stop, and we saw lots of tractors, threshing machines, a covered wagon (Studebaker), and crop handling equipment. The route along the Guadalupe featured huge cypress trees, and the Waring General Store had a dance hall in the back. Nearby was a former J.I. Case Tractor dealership. Next was Comfort where we checked out the antique shops that were closed on Sunday, and sampled wine. Last stop was Camp Verde, where the US Army experimented with camels for transportation, a venture that didn't survive the Civil War.

The closing banquet was wonderful, with 88-year-old Dr. Bill Thorn presenting "A Humorous Look at Life", which had us in stitches. Saying goodbye to everyone was hard, we didn't want to leave that fun-loving group, but we flew out the next day so we could rest up and repack for the next adventure.

3294 miles  
536 tour miles

## ALL OUR OLD CARS ARE COMING HOME

By Bob Parrish

How many times have we said I am sorry I sold a particular car and I would love to own one of them again? Another term we sometimes use "Buzzards come home to roost." Well, in this case a Ford "Thunder Buzzard."

In 1978 I was promoted into management with Vepco and I rewarded myself going to Don Comer Ford in Portsmouth and ordering a 1978 Ford Thunderbird, blue with a blue vinyl top and equipped exactly like my latest addition with one exception, our Thunderbird had an 8-track tape player. We drove this car about 7 years. Dot and I enjoyed the car and often wondered if the lady we sold it to still had it or what may have happened to it.

Dot and I were walking in the flea market at the September Charlotte Auto Fair when Dot saw this T-Bird for sale and commenting it looked just like the one we had owned. Upon closer examination, we realized this was not our car. It was a very nice car, with only 25,000 miles on it. It was like brand new inside. The car belonged to Charles Hill, the former mayor of Vinton, Virginia, who purchased the car from Vinton Motors on June 27, 1978, ironically about the same time we bought our car. The seller had a copy of the original title and every state inspection receipt from day one. On Saturday, we returned to the flea market to find the car still there and the seller reduced the price. We really liked the car because of the likeness to our car and its excellent condition, but I didn't really have room in the garage for it. I told the seller I would call him on Monday and if he still had the car I would buy it, thinking I probably wouldn't get this opportunity again. The rest is history. I did call Rocky Sink to see if he knew the car or seller. Not only did he know the car, but he used to ride to school with the fellow we bought it from. We bought it right on the next street from Rocky. He verified the car had always been a local car and remembered seeing Mr. Hill drive the car until passing away several years ago. Rocky said the car probably never went out of Vinton. The seller had purchased the car from the estate.

We plan to use this T-Bird for our tour car and plan to drive it to Louisville for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary meet in June. I would like to add one more thing, Bowtie Bob has really received unfavorable comments from the Chevy Club members, but it's all about nostalgia.

On March 31, 1964, I bought a new 1964 Chevrolet Impala SS, Ember Red with black interior from Kline Chevrolet in Norfolk, Virginia. The car was equipped with a 283 C.I. engine and power glide transmission, because Dot couldn't drive a stick shift (and she still can't).

We didn't get air-condition on the car because air conditioning was just starting to become popular and we really weren't used to it and it also added \$12.00 to the \$75.00 car payment and it would be over budget. This was the first new car I had purchased. A strange thing happened the day after picking the car up, April 1<sup>st</sup> the union at Vepco went on strike for the first

time in history, and it snowed 6" in Norfolk that day. In theory, a new car, no job, walking the picket line in the snow, great memories. We brought both of our boys home from the hospital in this car and even had a black rolled and pleated matching car seat for them that matched the interior. It always gave good economical service and after 8 years we realized how hot that red car with the black interior was and we traded for a car with air-conditioning.

Bruce Sedel called me one day to tell me of a man that was thinking about selling his 1964 Impala SS. He gave me the phone number and would try to get a picture – no luck with photo. Not having room for another car, I didn't follow up on the lead until coming home from the National Meet in Gettysburg, PA. several months later. I called the seller from a gas station to see if he still had the car and if I could drop by and see it since we would be passing through Warrenton, VA where the car was located. He agreed and we drove to his rural location, thank goodness for GPS.

When he opened the garage, there stood a 1964 Chevrolet Impala SS, Ember Red with black interior, the same as we had bought new. There was one subtle difference – just like the Beach Boys sang, a 4 speed, dual quad, posi-traction 409. This was the highest horse power combination from Chevrolet in 1964 at 425 HP.

I am still trying to get acquainted with the car and its performance potential. I finally got the 4 speed version and Dot got the T-Bird to drive, kind of a his and hers purchase of antique vehicles last year.



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## Car Show Results

By Bob Parrish

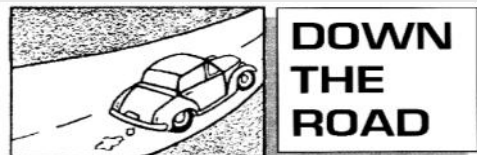
Folks,

It is Car Show season once again and some of you have already sent us some car show results. if you want to get credit for your points for car shows you will need to call them into me at 547-5034, or e-mail me at [bowtiebobp@aol.com](mailto:bowtiebobp@aol.com) , so I can give you credit for it. Then look for your win in our Celebrity Spotlight section of the Mud Flap.

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## THANKS

I would like to thank everyone for their support during my recent surgery and continuing recovery. I am truly moved by the number of cards, telephone calls, well wishes, offers to fix dinner, etc. that I have received. I look forward to seeing everyone again at the next dinner meeting. Thanks again for your support during this crisis in my life – I truly appreciate it from the bottom of my heart. Linda Pavlidis



## LOCAL

- May 7&8.....TRAACA travels to the Old Dominion Meet
- May 20.....May Dinner Meeting
- May 29.....Pungo Strawberry Festival and Parade
- May 31.....126th Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade
- June 11.....Hermitage Elementary School Field Day
- June 19.....TRAACA Poker Run to Moonrise Winery
- June 27-30.....TRAACA Saltwater to Firewater Tour  
(Norfolk VA to Louisville KY) contact Ken Talley (757) 679-6314  
to join the 75th Year Celebration for AACA on June 30 – July 3  
(see AACA National website for details)
- July 10.....TRAACA Kart Racing and Lunch
- July 24.....TRAACA Tech Session
- August 28.....TRAACA Annual Show

## REGIONAL

- June 19.....41st Annual Car Show, Swap Meet & Car Corral,  
Richmond Region, International Raceway
- Aug.7.....9th Annual Classics at Lee Hall 10 – 3PM, Open to all  
Makes and Models, proceeds benefit restoration of Lee Hall  
Mansion. Contact Clay Drnec, 804-824-9198, email:  
clay.drnec@cox.net

## NATIONAL

- May 13-15.....AACA Grand National, New Bern, NC
- June 3-5.....AACA Eastern Spring Meet, Canandaigua, NY
- June 7-11.....AACA Founders Tour, Greensburg, PA
- June 30-July3.....75th Anniversary Meet, Louisville, KY
- July 21-24.....AACA Eastern Tour, Buffalo Area, NY
- Aug.12-14.....AACA Southeastern Fall Meet (Blacksburg, VA)
- Aug.19-21.....AACA Central Fall Meet, Moline, IL
- Aug.25-28.....AACA Special Divisional Tour, Western PA &  
Eastern OH



## Your Role in the Future of AACA

By Brenda Shore Kaiser  
AACA VP Judges Admin.

It's now 2010 and we will celebrate our 75th anniversary this year. There will be a special meet to recognize this event as well as activities and memorabilia to commemorate this phenomenal achievement. Since the

beginning in 1935 when 14 gentlemen, and one woman, met to share the common love of antique cars we have grown to be an internationally recognized organization with over 60,000 members representing 50 countries. There is nothing that says that bigger is better, but our growth has been remarkable and would certainly surprise our original founders.

If you could do it all again would you join the AACA? What makes you continue to participate with local and national events? What would it take to share your thoughts with a potential member? This past year I have served as your Vice President of Membership. This position is responsible for facilitating the Membership Roundtables that are held at each meet, working with you the member to identify ways to increase our membership and coordinate the staffing of the Membership Booths at Hershey. All of this is important and a lot of fun but it is not my job alone; attracting and retaining members is the responsibility of all of us. There is no one person that can build our membership or who alone represents the organization; it takes all of us working together to get ready for the next 75 years of the AACA.

Every time you welcome a person to your local meeting, say hello to someone at a car show or talk about your favorite car, you are representing the AACA. Do you realize how important you are to our future? You have direct access to people who might like to join our club. You can let someone know what we do, how much fun belonging to the AACA can be, and how he or she can join. Show someone our phenomenal magazine. Invite a guest to go to a meeting with you and introduce them to your friends.

Remember that the more you know about the club the better you can be at generating enthusiasm and getting new members. Attend our meets, visit the Library and the Museum (at least online) and participate on our tours. Better yet, volunteer to help with some part of the club ~ locally or nationally. Come to a Membership Roundtable or make a suggestion to a Board Member of something we can do to improve or do differently to get new members.

I need you and the future of AACA needs you. Just like our founders when they started the club we also want to believe that the AACA will be around to celebrate its 100th anniversary and more. This isn't just the responsibility of the Vice President of Membership. It is your job too! Hope to see you soon at a Membership Roundtable, a meet, a tour or in Kentucky this year for our Diamond Jubilee! Go get a new member and get ready for our future.

(From the Rummage Box)



*Don Hobbs wins the People's Choice Award at the Ford and Mustang Show to Benefit Cancer Care.*



**THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD**

**>>>>PARADES <<<<<**

By Jere Avenson

**PUNGO STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL PARADE**

Two parades are coming up for the end of May. I don't get the packet from the Pungo committee until 1 May but here's what I have verbally. For the Strawberry Festival at Pungo, on Saturday 29 May, TRAACA has been assigned as unit 34A. Participants need to be there by 8:30 so we can form up on the US Coast Guard Air Field, entrance off of Princess Ann Road. I'll not be at this parade so form up on Viator Trudeau's beautiful 1968 Cadillac Eldorado.

**PORTSMOUTH MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

The 126th Portsmouth Memorial Day Parade will be Monday May 31, 2010, "rain or shine". Units form at IC Norcom High School on High Street. The parade route is along High Street ending at the corner of High St and Crawford Pkwy. Participants are to be there at 9:30 to form up. I do not have our unit number yet, but form up on Viator's beautiful 1968 Cadillac Eldorado.

**MAY DINNER MEETING**

By Viator Trudeau

The TRAACA Dinner Meeting will be held at the Aberdeen Barn on North Hampton Blvd on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The program will be by Clay Drnec on the Mirror Lake Auto Festival he attended in Lakeland Florida in Oct. 2009. The Hospitality Hour begins at 6:00PM. Hope we'll see you there.

**Updates from your Activities Committee**

By Dot Parrish

Activities Information and Reminders

Well, April was a busy month for the car hobby. Besides the beginning of the car show season, we had the Charlotte Auto Fair and the AACA National Spring Eastern Meet. A few of our members took cars there and won awards.

We had our first Spring Tour to the Eastern Shore for National Garden Week to see the beautiful gardens at Eyre Hall, Bonderosa and to see the Barrier Islands Museum and tour Chatham Hall and winery. We also got to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Eastern Shore Art Museum and they asked us to display our cars from 4-8 PM for their event. There was entertainment, food and a great time. (I hope this turns out like I am writing it, because this is two days before we go on the tour and it is predicted to rain. Oh no, not another downpour like our Fall Tour.)

May brings another busy time as we have the Old Dominion Meet in Petersburg May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Hope everyone plans to attend so we can bring home the ODMA trophy. The next weekend we have the Grand National Meet in New Bern, NC. (May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>) Even if you don't have a car that is eligible to go, it is a wonderful place for a meet. They close off the downtown streets and we have the car show there. It is so much fun. It is only about a 3 1/2 hour drive to New Bern.

June will be a very busy month. June 11<sup>th</sup> they have requested some old cars at the Hermitage Elementary School for an Antique Car Display so the kids can see and learn about them. There will be more information to come for this event.

June 19<sup>th</sup> Bob Stein is planning a Poker Run and we will wind up at the Moonrise Winery and will have a picnic.

Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, many of our members will start out on their tour to Louisville., KY., to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AACA. Ken, Becky and Bill have put a lot of time into planning this trip and we are really looking forward to it. The show in Louisville will be on Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and it will be held indoors at the Kentucky Expo Center. Air Conditioned Car Show???? Wow!!

July 10<sup>th</sup> there will be Kart Racing followed by lunch.

July 24<sup>th</sup> we will have a Tech Session to be held at Dan Ciccone's shop.

August 12 – 14 – AACA Southeastern Fall Meet to be held on the campus of Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

August 27<sup>th</sup> will be our Friday Night Social at the Oaklette Methodist Church where we had it last year and Reginella's will be catering it.

August 28<sup>th</sup> – Our annual show at the Virginia Beach (Pungo) airport.

Please call Sam Kern to volunteer your services.

## Hermitage Elementary School America Field Day

By Dot Parrish

Help Celebrate America Field Day at Hermitage Elementary School on June 11, 2010 at 1701 Pleasure House Rd. in Virginia Beach, VA. They have asked us to provide some cars for a display at 8:00 AM. This is a big celebration for them and there will be a Navy Band, Birdie's Rentals - inflatables, First Landing State Park, a Civil War Soldier, a 1940's singing group, Virginia Beach Steppers, Norfolk Zoo, Virginia beach Fire Department, Virginia beach Mounted Patrol, Young Audience-Rainbow Puppets, Chick-Fil-A - Haygood, Cdr. Mark Checchio Retired F-14 Pilot USN and of course, our antique cars. Linda would like as many older cars as possible for the display, but any car is welcome. If anyone would like to dress up in their vintage clothing, that would be wonderful (depending on the weather).

Sounds like a fun, filled day. If you are interested in showing your car, call Dot Parrish to sign up. (547-5034)

## LAST CALL FOR OUR "SALT WATER TO FIREWATER TOUR"



By Ken Talley

### REMINDER\*\*

THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FOR THE NATIONAL EVENTS IS MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>.

THE DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FOR OUR 'SALTWATER TO FIREWATER TOUR' (to Louisville) IS MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>.

Here we are, the first part of May less than two months before our "Once In A Lifetime" tour to Louisville. If you have not signed up do so as soon as possible! Also don't forget you MUST preregister with National for any of the events in Louisville.

Dot Parrish needs a photo of the car you are going to drive, and also your cell phone number. If you have not made your hotel reservations in Warm Springs VA. and Barboursville WV, call me and I will give you the information. I plan to distribute the tour books, banners, shirts and "goody bags" prior the start of the tour so everyone will have time to read the driving instructions.

Remember cut off is May 15<sup>th</sup>.

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## Celebrity Spotlight

Winner Award	Vehicle	Class
<b>49<sup>th</sup> Easter Concours d'Elegance, St.Louis, MO, April 4, 2010</b>		
Al & Sharon Mercer	1922 Mercer Roadster	Pre-War Best in Show
<b>ACA SE Spring Meet, Charlotte, NC, April 10</b>		
William Williams	1976 Cadillac	
27L	1st Jr	
Alan & Laurel Swenson	1975 MGB	25E
	1st Jr	
Mickey McChesney	1965 Chevrolet Convert.	27F
Senior Bob & Sylvia Roughton	1909 IHC High-wheeler	HPOF

### Ford & Mustang Show to benefit Cancer Care, April 24

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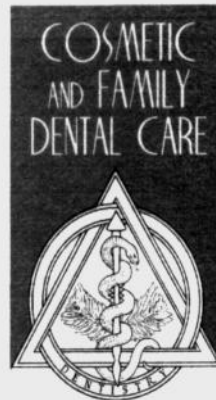
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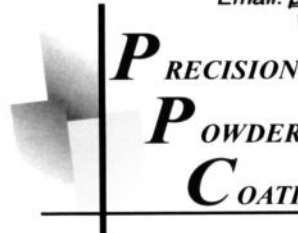
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