

TIDEWATER Antique Automobile Club of America REGION



VOLUME 56 NO.1 JAN / FEB 2012

*A Master Editor Award Winning Publication
A Golden Quill Award Winning Publication*



2012 TRAACA OFFICERS AND BOARD

**Jim Villers Treasurer, Tony Scarpelli, Secretary, Wes Neal Vice President, Dick Chipchak Board
Linda Pellerin , Pres. Emeritus, Bob Stein President, Barbara Talley Board
Board members not pictured: Bob Roughton and John Heimerl**



*A Master Editor &
Golden Quill Award
Winning Publication*

TIDEWATER REGION AACA



2012 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Bob Stein - 7500 Pennington Road, Norfolk VA 23505 (588-6200)
VICE PRESIDENT: Wes Neal - 1308 Smith Cove Circle, Virginia Beach VA 23455 (321-6325)
SECRETARY: Tony Scarpelli - 6 Yarmouth Circle, Newport News, VA 23602 (810-1600)
TREASURER: Jim Villers - 3133 Inlet Road, Virginia Beach VA 23454 (481-6398)

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Dick Chipchak - 1536 Still Harbor Lane, Virginia Beach VA 23464 (495-0115)
John Heimerl - 1456 Bridge Point Trail, Suffolk, VA (255-2727)
Barbara Talley - 1535 Newland Road, Chesapeake VA 23322 (421-7534)
Bob Roughton - 4158 Hermitage Road, Virginia Beach VA 23455 (464-6484)

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Activities: Skip Patnode, James and Dawn Tait, **Old Dominion**Barbara Talley, Richard Hall
Richard and Holly Chipchak, Tim and Rhonda **Parades**James Tait (769-8981)
Russell, Bill Wilcox, Sam Kern,, Wes Neal, **Parliamentarian**.....Dick Pensyl
Parliamentarian.....Dick Pensyl **Club Property**Ken Talley—757-421-7534
AuditorDick Pensyl **President's Advisory**..Terry Bond, Bob Parrish,
By-LawsDick Pensyl, Becky Woodall Sam Kern, Dewey Milligan, Neil Sugermeyer, &
CateringWes Neal Ken Talley
Chairman Fall Meet.....Sam Kern **Program** Wes Neal
Chief judge..... Bob Parrish **Raffle**Tyler Gimbert
CCCHR Rep.....Viator Trudeau **Roster**Tom Wedeking & Neil Sugermeyer
Club StoreMickey McChesney **Safety**Bob Stein
Fall Tour Dick Chipchak **Sunshine**Toni McChesney(456-2806)
GreetersGeorge and Sheila Gurnee **Telephone**Marie Gancel
Legislative Terry Bond **Ombudsman**.....Peter Catanese
HistorianRichard Hall **Youth Program Coordinator**.....Jeff Locke
MembershipBob Parrish **Web Master**Bob Stein. email;posti@aol.com

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Bon - Cata	- Frank Waldner (430-2770)	O - P	- Carol Avenson (549-1008)
Catt - D	- Barbara Talley (421-7534)	R - Si	- Becky Woodall (482-3386)
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Gr - Hor	- Rhonda Russell (471-4031)	V - W	- Jane Cutright (479-4302)
How - Ki	- Alan Ives (547-2234)	Out of Town	- Marie Gancel (420-1844)
Kn - Ma	- Viator Trudeau (547-3940)	Chairman	- Marie Gancel (420-1844)

MUDFLAP STAFF

Co-editors - - - - - Marty and Neil Sugermeyer
Photography - - - Marty and Neil, Terry Bond, Bob Stein, and others
Advertising - - - - - Tony Scarpelli (810-1600)
Distribution - - - - - Neil Sugermeyer, Tom Wedeking
Technical assistant - - - - - John Gancel

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Bob Stein presents the Ivie Lister Award to Susan Bond.

President Bob's Jan./Feb. Message

We start 2012 with a lot to be proud of. The Mud Flap newsletter, edited by Marty and Neil Sugermeier, has earned its 14th Master Editor's award in a row, and our region website has earned its 11th Master Webmaster award in a row. Bob Parrish will be joining the AACA National Board, and Terry Bond is retiring from the Board after an amazing 15-year tour of volunteer duty and serving at AACA president during 2010 (AACA's 75th Anniversary year). At our Awards and Installation Banquet held earlier this month, Terry noted that the Tidewater Region is probably the most active and involved region in all of AACA, and he is in a position to know.

This looks to be a fun and exciting year for us. The Activities Committee has come up with a great calendar of events, and we are working towards the dual goals of more fun and less work. As part of this, we'll be trying electronic publication of the Mud Flap and having more subsidized events and activities. There is more on that in a separate article.

Please welcome Tony Scarpelli as our new Club Secretary, and John Heimerl and Dick Chipchak as new Board Members. And I wish to extend my personal thanks to our outgoing Secretary Scott Davies and Board Member Toni McChesney for the tremendous support and dedication they have given TRAACA.



Announcements

Welcome New Members

Kevin Gallup

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850-384-6508 Kevingallup@msn.com

Mark and Marion McAlpine

3117 Summerhouse Dr. Suffolk, VA, 23435
757-967-0074 mmcalpine05@msn.com

Kevin and Tracy Mayhew

P.O.Box 55066 Norfolk, VA 23505
757-609-1345 hbgrpond@yahoo.com

Robert and Gale Hyatt

2831 Castling Crossing, Williamsburg, VA
757-259-9642 zoegrhl@aol.com

John and Judy Maragon

1114 York Lane, Virginia Beach, VA 23451
757-422-0999

Bob and Pam Bond

699 Highpointe Cir., Langhorne, PA 10947

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EDITORIAL

By Neil Sugermeyer

Congratulations to our 2012 officers and board members. Our installation banquet Saturday night was a grand affair, and if you missed it, stay tuned for what will be another great year with TRAACA.

A number of things need to be brought forward in this editorial, foremost being Virginia House Bill 878 introduced by Delegate Mark D Sickles (D. 43rd district, Fairfax County) to give localities the authority to levy a tax of from 100 to 500 dollars annually on certain vehicles not currently licensed which are on private property. A detailed explanation of the proposed legislation is elsewhere in this edition of the Mud Flap, and warrants immediate attention and action by all of us in the old car hobby. Our own delegates and the rest of the delegates throughout the state need to be aware of our opposition to this legislation. Call and/or write or email them with your concerns.

As you have also read in recent Mud Flaps, TRAACA board of directors has authorized a trial dissemination of this newsletter by email to all who have email capability. This is projected to save considerable printing costs that now consume nearly all of the club's income from dues and event proceeds. For the entire membership, this will be the last complete post office mailing of the Mud Flap, to be replaced next month by email distribution to all those with an email address. Those folks with no computer capability or no email address will continue to receive a hard copy of the Mud Flap, as will anyone else who wants a hard copy mailed to them. To get on the list for a hard copy, be sure to contact treasurer Jim Villers to let him know your wishes. Jim has also volunteered to assume responsibility for printing and distribution to all who need an in hand edition of the Mud Flap.

Rapidly approaching is the date for the TRAACA Annual Swap Meet, this year to be held on 3 March, once again at the Hickory Ruritan building on Rt. 168 in Chesapeake. A registration form is on the club website, and one will be mailed to all members. Last year, the event was very successful, particularly since the weather cooperated to the fullest. Clean out the unwanted car stuff from you garage and come on out as a vendor, or come see what vendors have for sale – you never know when that item you can't live without will show up. Once again, Linda Pellerin will head up the bake sale inside the Ruritan building during the swap meet, so for all the cooks in our group, let her know what you can contribute to tempt our palates. Food will also be available for sale as in years past. This is our first major event of the season, so come on out to sell or find a bargain.

In this issue, Jeff Locke has written the first of what we hope will be an ongoing series of articles by club members briefly relating the story of their first car. Every one of us has a tale the rest of us would enjoy, so include a picture or two of your first car, jot down your memories, and send it to the editors. It promises to be a lot of fun for all of us.

Last but by no means least, are 2012 annual dues to TRAACA. If your Mud Flap is stamped with a large red "IF YOU DIDN'T PAY DUES, THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE", it means just what it says. As of this writing, 25 of our members are still not up to date, and won't receive the next issue of the Mud Flap either by mail or email. Remember too, that AACA national dues must be current for 2012 to belong to a region. Please send your \$20 TRAACA dues to the treasurer ASAP so that you can continue to enjoy the fun and fellowship we always have in TRAACA.

LOOK FOR YOUR SWAPMEET FLYER IN YOUR MAIL.



November 8, 2011 - TRAACA Board Meeting

By Scott Davies, Secretary

The board meeting was called to order at 6:38 pm at Priority Chevrolet. Members present were Bob Stein, President; Wes Neal, Vice-President; Jim Villers, Treasurer; Scott Davies, Secretary and Linda Pellerin, Past President, Board members Tony Scarpelli, Barbara Talley, Toni McChesney and Bob Roughton. Also present were Bob & Dot Parrish, Frank Lagana and Bill Wilcox, Dick Chipchak and Mickey McChesney.

Jim Villers gave the Treasurer's report and it was submitted for audit. Jim also gave a financial review of the Wings & Wheels meet and the annual balance of the club's accounts. The October minutes were approved as read. Toni McChesney gave the "Sunshine" report. There were no new members reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities:

- November 11 – Veterans Day Parade
- November 12 – Bonfire/Wienie Roast
- November 17 – Silent Auction Dinner Meeting
- December 3 - TRAACA Holiday Party

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Report was presented on the very successful Fall Tour. Financials still being worked.
 - The President will be sending invitation letters to prospective committee members.
- TRAACA Budget/Financial review was conducted with particular interest on recurring costs and income sources.

NEW BUSINESS

- A motion was made to continue the TRAACA donation to the AACA in the amount of \$500. Motion seconded and carried.
 - The date of January 14, 2012 was set for the Awards/Installation Banquet.
- The date for the 2012 Annual Meet is being negotiated. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

December 13, 2011 – TRAACA Board Meeting

The board meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm at Priority Chevrolet. Members present were Bob Stein, President; Wes Neal, Vice-President; Jim Villers, Treasurer; Scott Davies, Secretary; Linda Pellerin, Past President; Board members Tony Scarpelli, Bob Roughton, Barbara Talley and Toni McChesney. Also present were Bill Wilcox, Bob and Dot Parrish, Ken Talley, Micky McChesney, John Heimerl, Dick Chipchak and Skip Patnode.

Jim Villers gave the Treasurer's report and it was submitted for audit. The November minutes were approved as read. Toni McChesney gave the "Sunshine" report. New member Kevin Carr was welcomed and introduced to the Board members. New members Bob and Pam Bond from Langhorm, Pennsylvania were announced but not in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities:

January 14, Annual Awards and Installation Banquet
Activities committee is working on the calendar for 2012.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- The Christmas Party financial report was included in the treasurer's report.
- The Activities Committee will be meeting after the Board Meeting. The committee members are: Skip Patnode, James and Dawn Tait, Dick and Holly Chipchak, Tim and Rhonda Russell, Sam Kern and Wes Neal.
- Call Tree Chairperson is still needed, there has been no response to requests, Mud Flap and email.
- Mud Flap electronic distribution – There was much discussion on the implementation of the changes. The main issue is the increased cost of printing (not the mailing).
- January/February issue – Print and electronic distribution.
- March issue – Electronic distribution of Mud Flap with limited printed copy.
- 2012 Awards/Installation Banquet – Cypress Point C. Club
- Menu discussion (cost \$35.00)
- Motion made to continue subsidy of \$10 to keep the cost to the membership down. Seconded and carried.
- Discussion about the Permanent Awards – Retire/replace? Decision will be made after further evaluation for implementation in 2013.
- Award nominations were discussed and voted upon.

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly Dinner Meeting location and date/day were discussed. The Cypress Point Country Club has been considered as a location for the Monthly Dinner Meeting but is not available on the third Thursday of the month. Would Tuesday or Wednesday be an acceptable alternative? A cost effective buffet and ample meeting room would be advantages. No final decision was made at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 pm.



IN MEMORY OF

Our thoughts and prayers are with Debbie and Dana Meadows. Debbie's father, Eugene Humenic of Chesapeake, passed away unexpectedly on January 19th. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.



Hershey 2011

By Marty Sugermeyer

The weather for Hershey 2011 will be remembered as the best ever. Ask Neil about the two twenty dollar bills that blew into his booth a few years ago. Ask Terry Bond about the jar of Hershey mud that he displayed for several years in his booth and finally sold. Hurricanes, sleet, snow, heat, you name it, it happened during Hershey.

This year's highlights included Ken Talley getting his senior for his 1929 Buick. Sue Bond ('74 MG) and Bob Stein ('64 Centaur scooter) got preservation awards for their vehicles. TRAACA members had booths scattered around the flea market and at least twelve members served as judges on show day.

Great way to start following an early car into the flea market field.



Larry Printz give Hershey 2011 a big thumbs up while visiting Neil Sugermeyer's booth in the Red Field.

Steam whistles sounded frequently as early steam cars rolled by.



Weenie Roast

November 12, 2011

By Bob Stein, TRAACA President

We old car folks are all kids at heart. Want proof? All you have to do is pull out hot dogs and marshmallows for an old-fashioned weenie roast and you'll get the biggest turnout of any event all year! And that's exactly what happened when Terry and Susan Bond hosted an old fashioned Bonfire and Weenie Roast at their home in Chesapeake. Typical attendance for a weekend event is about 40 - however, the promise of beautiful weather helped swell attendance to over 90! Thanks to a request for RSVPs, Susan had enough warning to arrange parking in the large lot of a generous neighbor across the street. A good thing, because cars started showing up before the start time of 11 AM, and the lot filled up pretty quick!



Photo by Bob Stein

A few new cars and lots of old ones showed up.

The club provided hot dogs and buns, drinks, ice, and the makings for s'mores. That was just the start - Attendees brought enough side dishes, desserts, and condiments to cover four six-foot tables! It was a very low-key day. You could sit and socialize with friends, look at some of the great old cars parked out front, or better yet, take a tour of Terry's amazing recreation of a 1920's Auto Parts store. The planned bonfire was set up, but windy conditions made it a bit too risky to light, so those wanting s'mores cooked marshmallows over a gas grille instead. That made a very satisfactory substitute, with kids and adults alike warming, browning, or burning their marshmallows. All-in-all it was a terrific way to enjoy old cars, great friends and good food.



Bob and Jane Ward had to park in overflow in the Bond's driveway.

Vito and Nina Serone and Bryan McGarvey and Riley Best climbed the stairs to see Terry's recreation of a 1920's auto parts store.



Dana and Paul Cho enjoyed the display.



The cars and signs in the garage were enjoyed by lots of folks too.

Below: Skip Patnode, Missy Hespenshide, and Tom Norris (right) get a personal tour by Terry Bond of some of his impressive collection of automobilia.



John Heimerl and Ed Lail enjoyed Terry's spark plug collection.



With over 90 folks there, his was not the day to forget your lawn chairs.



Photo by Bob Stein

John Gancel was the chief hotdog chef.



Tom Wedeking and Linda Pavlidis were ready to enjoy their hotdogs.



Linda Pellerin and one of the Parrish grandkids were in charge of toasting s'mores.



There were plenty of sides to go with the weenies and the desert table in the garage was just as long.



Sue Bond with their new rescue pup Ian Ian was quite shy at the beginning of the party.



By the end of the party, Ian had become friends with Layla and Johnny(not pictured) and was happy to accept a bit of leftover hotdog from Marty Sugermeyer.

TRAACA HOLIDAY PARTY

December 3, 2011

By Marty Sugermeier

Our Holiday Party is a chance for us to relax and enjoy reflecting on the fun we had during the year and talk about our plans for next year. The party was held at Cypress Point Country Club on December 3rd. The lovely decorations, elegant location, great food, and great service combined for a wonderful evening. The buffet included prime rib and lots of other delicious dishes. We came in our holiday attire and red was a favorite color among the ladies. It was a festive way to end our club events for 2011 and a great start to the holiday season.



Ginny Lail, Jo Ann Green, and the other folks at their table enjoyed the lovely table decorations.



Photo by Bob Stein

Dewey Milligan, Richard & Sandy Hall, Laura Jordan and Mike Langowski near the lovely Christmas tree



Debbie Meadows, Leslie McGinn (in navy blue), Marie Gancel, Claire Catanese, and Linda Pellerin - Ladies in Red (mostly)



Photo by Bob Stein

Above: Peter Catanese waiting for his prime rib

Below: Holiday decorations were everywhere.



Photo by Bob Stein

Car of the Century Display

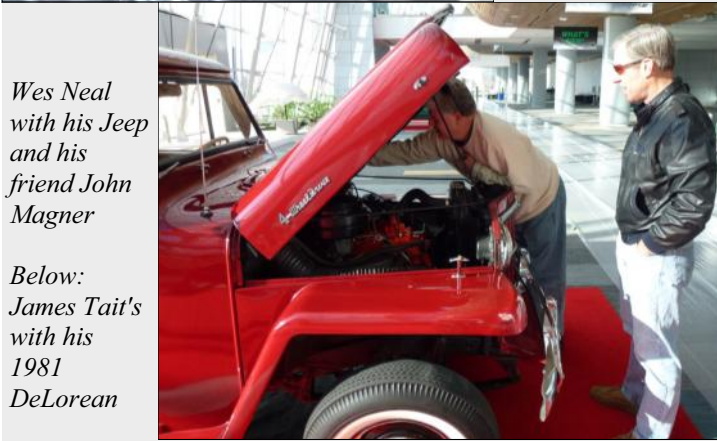
January 5, 2012

By Bob Stein, TRAACA President

Seven of the 11 vehicles chosen for the 'Car of the Century' display at the 100th Annual Hampton Roads International Car Show, held January 6th-8th at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, belonged to TRAACA members! Vehicles for the display, which was featured in the lobby of the Convention Center, were selected from hundreds of photos and descriptions submitted to the Dealer's Association. Photos by Bob Stein and Marty Sugermeier.



This is not exactly a red carpet but very practical. Terry drives the Model T to it's position at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.



Wes Neal with his Jeep and his friend John Magner

Below: James Tait's with his 1981 DeLorean



TRAACA participants included Riley Best's 1903 Cadillac (right)



Terry and Susan Bond's 1914 Model T Ford (below)



Terry came equipped with the proper outfit.

Below: Dot and Bob Parrish with their Vet.



Wes and Nancy Neal's 1962 Jeep, Bob and Dot Parrish's 1957 Corvette, Bob Stein's 1949 MG TC, Marty Weber's 1933 Packard, (left)

The Car of the Year was decided by popular vote, and though the count was close, Marty Weber's Packard won the grand prize of \$1500!

The Dealer's Association was very pleased with the response from showgoers, and has vowed to repeat the antique display at future shows.

Marty Weber parks his Packard. There was a red carpet for each car during the show.



TRAACA AWARDS AND INSTALLATION BANQUET

By Bob Stein, TRAACA President
 Cypress Point Country Club played host to TRAACA again, this time for our Annual Awards and Installation banquet. Seventy-six people showed up to honor individuals who have excelled either in the hobby or in service to the club itself, and also to witness the installation of a new club officer and two new board members. The Installation Ceremony was presided over by Terry Bond, who retires from the AACA National Board next month.



Above: Trophy display
CENTURY PARTICIPATION AWARD
 Bob Roughton for showing his 1909 IHC High-wheel Auto Wagon

Presented by
 TRAACA
 Pres.
 Bob Stein

DINNER MEETING AWARD
 Dick and Holly Chipchak



MUD FLAP AWARD

Tom Wedeking for his many years of anonymous and direct contribution to Mud Flap distribution.

Members whose cars were on the cover of the Mud Flap were recognized with a framed copy of their cover.



BARTLETT BOWL and BEAULIEU CUP
 1977 Demm Smiley
 Jeff Locke



RESTORATION AWARD

Ken Talley 1929 Buick, Bob Green 1961 Metropolitan, Jim Villers 1965 Porsche, (not pictured) Mark Strang 1953 MG TD

LALIQUE AWARD
 Sandy Hall





HOLMES OVER-LAND AWARD and SPARK PLUG AWARD
Sam Kern

Presented by TRAACA VP Wes Neal



MERRITT HORNE PARTICIPATION AWARD

*Richard Hall, Sue Bond, Laura Jordon, and Terry Bond
Laura, Merritt's daughter, presents the award to the Bonds.*

Marie Gancel, Call Tree Chairperson announced the members of the call tree and recognized them for their years of service.



TRAACA Call Tree

By Marie Gancel

The internet is great but, we still need voice communications to keep our club on track. Please consider volunteering to join the TRAACA Call Tree team. It only takes about an hour of your time once a month. E-mail is the only requirement. Call Marie Gancel at 420-1844.

TRAACA Call Tree recognition of years served:

- Sylvia & Bob Roughton - 14 years
- Frank Waldner - 11 years
- Viator Trudeau - 9 years
- Linda Pavlides - 9 years
- Scott Davies - 8 years
- Marie Gancel - 7 years
- Carol Avenson - 4 years
- Becky Woodall - 4 years
- Jane Cutright - 2 ½ years
- Barbara Talley - 2 years
- Debbie Meadows - 1 ½ years
- Alan Ives - 1 ½ years
- Rhonda Russell - 1 year

25-YEAR NAMETAGS (1986)

Each year the "year class" of members who have belonged to TRAACA receive their 25 year silver name tags. The members who joined in 1986 were:

- o Jimmy Flanders
- o Sam & Karyl Kern
- o John & Vicky Peters
- o Robert & Lori Powell

Call Tree Manager – Desperate Need

All of you are familiar with the Call Tree – these dedicated volunteers are the critical link that allows us to have dinner meetings and other special events where we have to have a head count ahead of time. Marie Gancel has been the Call Tree Manager for more than 7 years, and she has decided to retire. She wanted to retire last year but no one would step up. She has given yeoman's service, and thanks to her continued dedication, she will remain in the position until March. Tidewater Region DESPERATELY needs a member willing to take on this critical function. Marie and John have automated much of the organization, and Marie is more than willing to explain what is involved and help train her replacement. Please contact her for details on what the job entails. You can make a real difference by stepping up to the plate for this one.





MY FIRST CAR



My 1955 Cadillac Convertible

By Jeff Locke

Probably as much as any car I've ever owned I wish I still had my very first car: a black 1955 Cadillac Convertible.

When I went off to Lafayette College in September 1962 I went without a car. Students at Lafayette were not allowed to have a car until their Junior year. Being at an all male college and without a car was supposed to help you learn good study habits. However, I didn't go to college to learn good study habits. I went to play Basketball and party.

At the beginning of Basketball Season A 1962 Pontiac Bonneville Convertible was delivered to me. It was part of my under-the-table Basketball Scholarship. My status on campus rose tremendously because I could now drive to the all female colleges close to Lafayette. However, at the end of Basketball Season they took the car back! The nerve!

About once a week I would date a certain young lady in town (her family owned an Italian restaurant). When I told her I couldn't see her anymore because I had no wheels, she told me about a car that belonged to the brother of her sister's husband and it was for sale. So I went to look at this 1931 Chevrolet 2-door sedan that you barely start with either and a 12-volt battery. I looked at the car and the words "small block" sprung into my brain; small block 283 Chevy V-8, 3-speed with a Hurst floor shifter, stock Chevy rear end, rolled & pleated interior, chrome reversed 15" wheels. It would be slick!

A couple of days later my Mother came up to pick me up and take me home for Easter weekend. So on Thursday night at dinner I told my Mother & Father about my plans for the Chevy. I would work on it in the back yard until my Junior year and then take it up to Lafayette. For some reason they appeared to be in shock.

When I came down to breakfast the next day, Good Friday, my Father was at the table. I knew I was in trouble because the sun was up and he should have been on the 3rd hole by now at the local golf course. Mom & Dad then told me that I could do what I wanted ... BUT ... if I didn't do the Chevy thing then, when my Junior year came I could have the CADILLAC! It took less that a New York second to decide and I have never owned a 1931 Chevrolet. God Bless Mom & Dad!

My Cadillac was a brilliant black car with a red leather interior and a white top. It was a model 62 with a 129" wheelbase, a 331cu in V-8 with a 4-bbl carb for 250hp, and a 3-speed/4-speed automatic transmission. It had so much torque (345@2800rpm) that you could get a little rubber out of all 4 gears if you stomped on it at a stoplight!

One other statistic: there are probably still a few Fathers sitting on their front porches in Eastern PA with shotguns waiting for that car to come back.

I miss that car and I sure do wish I had it back!



Jeff's story was inspired by the book "My First Car" given to him by Larry Printz. Jeff liked it so much he gave one to Terry, and then the idea hit him. Everyone has a story about their first car so why not share it with TRAACA Club Members through the Mud Flap. Make it a series. Articles should not exceed one page and statistics and pictures are desired. Get started now and your story could be in the next Mud Flap. We will print all the stories we receive (eventually). On your mark, get ready, start typing!



MUD FLAP DISTRIBUTION TRANSITION

By Bob Stein

Membership dues bring in about \$3000 a year. Publishing the Mud Flap costs us \$6500 last year. While our treasury is still strong, we have been going in the red about \$2500 a year even with our highly successful Annual Meet and Swap Meet. This year's losses were offset by the sale of the club's old trailer, but the trend continues thanks to ever-increasing postage and printing costs, and a reduction in advertisement income. Following the lead of Regions throughout AACA and most other local Car Clubs, Tidewater Region is beginning a trial transition from all hard copy printing and mailing of the Mud Flap to a mix of digital distribution via email and hard copy mailing. The January-February issue will be printed/mailed AND emailed in electronic form to all members who have valid email addresses. The March 2012 issue will be printed and mailed ONLY to those members who have either indicated that they require a printed copy OR who do not have a valid email address. The benefits of electronic mailing include all pages in color, no restrictions due to size, and the ability to deliver unlimited numbers of copies anywhere. Our alternatives are drastic increases in membership dues or enforcing restrictions on the size and use of color for the Mud Flap. Neil and Marty Sugermeyer do a fantastic job and deserve the freedom to continue producing a newsletter that is respected and admired throughout AACA. Please give this electronic version a chance – it's an important step towards changing the focus of our fundraising to subsidizing events and activities.

LEGISLATION ALERT

Virginia Bill Threatens Increased Taxes on Vehicle Restoration Projects

By Tom Cox

As you are hopefully now aware, car hobbyists of all types need to work quickly to defeat Bill HB878 introduced to the Virginia General Assembly. This Bill is precedent setting in that it allows for an ongoing tax fee with no basis in the actual value of your vehicle. Importantly, this Bill if passed would set the precedent for sidestepping the personal property tax which our antique vehicles are now exempt from. It would give localities the ability to tax our vehicles at a flat rate in the future, nullifying our current exempt status. At the very least, this Bill uses Taxation to effect de facto zoning restrictions...this would be only the beginning of our problems.

This Bill must be stopped quickly through calls and emails to your Delegates and Senators. Each and every one of us can afford the few minute it takes to make a call and send an email...BOTH are recommended to ensure that our representatives know we mean business. I have listed several talking points below as well as a sample letter for you to use as a model. Please be polite and write your objections in your own words. Form letters are simply not effective. You will note that I have stayed away from any mention of our tax exempt status for antique vehicles. States are currently desperate for revenue and we don't want to give them any ideas.

If you need contact information for your representative, you can find it here at the Virginia General Assembly web site <http://lis.virginia.gov/121/mbr/MBR.HTM> If you have difficulty determining who to call, please contact me at tntold-carz@aol.com.

PLEASE pass this along to all interested parties. Remember all members of your family can send emails and make phone calls independently.

Thanks as always for your interest and support of our hobby. We can win this as we have before, but not without immediate participation.

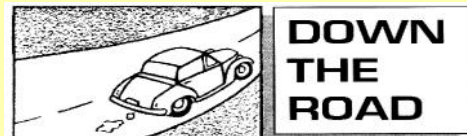
Sincerely,
Tom Cox
President Southwestern Virginia Car Council
AACCA National Director



Barb Talley Surprised Us

By John Gancel

This photo was taken at dinner one night on the cruise we took last October. No one knew she was going to this so we all were shocked when we saw her, as were the waiters.



LOCAL

- Jan. 28 TRAACA run to Keystone Tractor Works (Colonial Heights VA)
- Feb. 16 TRAACA Dinner Meeting, Speaker: Larry Printz of the Virginia Pilot at Aberdeen Barn, Va Beach
- Feb. 25 TRAACA Gloucester Antique Shop Run
- Mar. 3 TRAACA Swap Meet (Hickory)
- Mar. 15 TRAACA Dinner Meeting. Speaker: Betty Villers Master Gardening at Aberdeen Barn, Va Beach
- Mar. 17 TRAACA St. Patrick's Day Party - Portsmouth
- Apr. 26..... TRAACA Dinner Meeting (shifted a week due to Charlotte Meet) - Speaker: Bill Inge— Auto Dealerships of Old Norfolk
- Apr. 27-29 TRAACA Spring Tour (Annapolis)
- May 12 TRAACA Square Car Tour
- June 3 TRAACA Car Display (Retirement home)
- June 7 TRAACA OpSail Tall Ships Excursion
- June 23..... TRAACA Picnic in the Park - Chesapeake

REGIONAL

- May 3-5 ODMA Meet (Roanoke, VA)
- May 13-20 CCCA Meet (Williamsburg, VA)
- June 16 Richmond Region AACCA Show

NATIONAL

- Feb. 9-11..... AACCA National Meeting (Philadelphia)
- Mar. 15-17 ... AACCA Winter Meet (Melbourne, FL)
- Apr. 19-21 ... AACCA SE Spring Meet (Charlotte, NC)
- May 17-19 ... AACCA Eastern Spring Meet (Wyomissing, PA)
- June 14-16... AACCA Grand National /National Dual Meet (Shelbyville, TN)





Keystone Tractor Museum Run January 28th

By Bob Stein

Our first activity for 2012 will be a tour to Keystone Tractor Museum, located in Colonial Heights, VA, on January 28th. The museum is a new 70,000 square foot facility with more than 100 antique tractors, items of farm equipment, and other displays, as well as a gift shop. We'll be taking Route 460 almost all the way up, allowing use of the vintage or modern iron of your choice. The group will leave the Sears front parking lot at Greenbrier Mall at 9:30 AM and take I-64 East just far enough to reach Route 460. We'll have an easy roll up, with the speed dictated by the oldest vehicle. The normal drive is about an hour and a half, so we'll plan on two hours and arrival about 11:30 am. There are a number of restaurants in the immediate vicinity of the museum, including a local steak house, an Olive Garden, and a Five Guys Hamburgers. We'll stop for lunch before continuing to the Museum, located at 880 W Roslyn Rd, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Group Admission for parties over 15 is only \$5 per person. The Museum is open from 10am until 6 pm, allowing you plenty of time to look around. Departure will be on your own, though we will work to coordinate a return group for those who want company. Please let Bob Stein (posti@aol.com or 757-588-6200) or Tim Russell (tim42@cox.net or 757-471-4031) know if you plan on coming so we can have a rough head count.

February Dinner Meeting



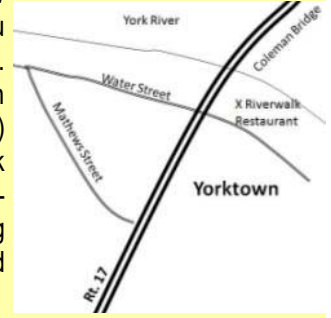
The next TRAACA Dinner Meeting will be held February 16 - Program Speaker: Larry Printz of the Virginia Pilot will give us a surprise program at Aberdeen Barn in Virginia Beach. The social hour will begin at 6:00 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM.

Gloucester Point Antique Mall Trip February 25th

By Bob Stein

Our second activity for 2012 will be a tour to the acclaimed Marketplace Antique Mall in York, VA. Featuring more than fifty antique dealers, Marketplace Antiques is right on US-17 just over the Gloucester Bridge. We'll leave the parking lot of the Super-K across from Southern Shopping Center (Tidewater Drive and Little Creek Rds) at 10:30 AM and follow I-64 to the Ft. Eustis Exit 250. Turn Left off the ramp and then an immediate right onto Rt 105. Drive to and turn left onto US-17. Just before the Coleman Bridge, turn left onto Mathews St. then right onto Water St. Drive to the Riverwalk Seafood Restaurant at 323

Water St. in Yorktown for lunch about 11:30. Peninsula members can rendezvous with us there. From the restaurant, it's only a ten-minute drive over the Gloucester Bridge to Marketplace Antiques. The mall is open until 6 p.m. We'll plan to have a group leave about 4:00 to allow getting home before dark, but you are free to stay as long as you like. Please let Bob Stein (posti@aol.com or 757-588-6200) or Dick Chipchak (dchipchak@aol.com or 757-495-0115) know if you plan on coming so we can have a rough head count.



STRATEGIC PLANNING YOUR KEY TO SUCCESS

By Terry Bond
VP- Strategic Planning

Years ago, past AACA President Ron Barnett cornered me at Philadelphia during the annual meeting, and thrust a pile of papers into my hand. It was the start of something big for AACA. Ron had crafted a draft of AACA's Strategic Plan. Over the next few years, we worked the plan into some measurable goals with action steps, assigned some responsibilities, and began to look at the future of AACA and our hobby.

It's certainly true that without a plan, any road will take you there. Today, we are taking it seriously. Some great ideas have surfaced over the years, and we've seen them become reality thanks to this important road-map.

You're seeing things begin to unfold such as our renewed emphasis on Historic Preservation vehicles; Training and development; portable seminars; greater emphasis on hosting joint ventures with other clubs; and increasing use of technology. These are among the ideas that will keep us alive and well.

This way of doing business is important for our regions and chapters as well. I've often been contacted by groups who are struggling, and the usual reasons are an aging club, lack of new members, lack of new ideas, lack of leadership, ...and the list goes on. All of these things are not just excuses – they are simply the result of not doing the right things along the way. Take leadership for example. AACA has taken renewed interest in developing future leaders. Everything from selection of potential candidates, to making important committee assignments at the national level will help keep our board strong. Are you concerned with "succession planning" within your regions and chapters? Are you carefully selecting volunteers, nurturing them along the way, and developing them into future leaders, or are you just keeping the same people around waiting for them to burn out?

When was the last time you tried some different kinds of events, and exposed the club to a larger audience of potential members? Have you worked with other clubs on joint activities? Have you partnered with nearby AACA regions and chapters? Have you looked at the impact your website and newsletter has on your organization and potential members?

There are a lot of things you can do now that will help ensure your future is solid.

This year at the upcoming Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, we will again offer the revised Officers Training program that will focus on how to keep your club vibrant and strong. We hope to introduce a new "part II" which will be a round table discussion among club leaders to share problems and solutions. If you cannot make it to Philadelphia, we will be working to host this seminar on the road during a future national meet, and we plan to make it available on-line on the AACA Website in the future.

I must quote a great hobby friend, leader and businessman who gave me some wise advice regarding planning for our future – "Hope is not a strategy."

In essence – doing nothing will certainly get you a result. Need I say more?

TRAACA SWAP MEET

MARCH 3rd by Neil Sugermeyer

If you need an inside space, better get crackin', as the inside fills up fairly quickly. Outside spaces are available right up 'til show time. This year, the club will man the kitchen, and assistance is needed to help make this a success. Please call our chef extraordinaire Scott Davies to volunteer to help.

Linda Pellerin will also need volunteers to bake and to man the bake sale, and we need club members to help park vendors outside, and buyers in the visitors parking area. Call Neil or Terry to assist in this area. We need everyone's participation to make this event the success it has been in years past..

Spring Tour

By Dick Chipchak

An exciting Spring Tour to Annapolis is being planned by Dick Chipchak and Tyler Brown. The trip is scheduled for April 27, 28 and 29.

Tentative events:

Private tour of the Academy (USNA)

Historic Tour of Downtown Annapolis

Private Tour of Second oldest home in Annapolis

More details, and more stuff to follow.

Save the weekend and join the fun!

FUNNY BUT NOT SO!!!

A Hacker Got Into Wayne Burgess Emails

Have you ever gotten an email like this?

How's everything on your end? This has had to come in a hurry and it has left me in a devastating state. I traveled to London, England for a

Voluntary Training Program (VTP), and unfortunately for me all my money and cell phone was stolen at the hotel where i was staying by four armed robbers. The Embassy only cleared me of my traveling documents since I came in on unofficial purposes. The hotel telephone lines were disconnected during the robbery incident, so I have access to only emails. My return flight back home is scheduled to leave in few hours from now but I've got to settle my bills before I'm allowed to leave....Now am freaked out....Please I need your help...Hope to read from you soon.

Thanks and regards. Wayne

Now, anybody who knows Wayne Burgess knows that "freaked out" is not his style. He got an email from "Yahoo" telling him to update his records or he would be cut off - he said he dumbly did that, and was hacked into immediately. Problem is, they more than likely also have his email list, so that's how we got the email from "England".

WARNING: If you get an email that asks you to update your records, **DON'T DO IT.** It's probably a scam.

Neil's reply follows.

I emailed Wayne at his other address and told him I was *about to send him 6,000,000 euros from my secret French account, but since I knew that he was back home, I am going to spend the money on a Duesenberg and a yacht, with enough left over for a McMuffin and a Senior coffee at McDonalds.*

Neil Sugermeyer

THE HUMOR SECTION



One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me,

'What setting do I use on the washing machine?'

'It depends,' I replied. 'What does it say on your shirt?'

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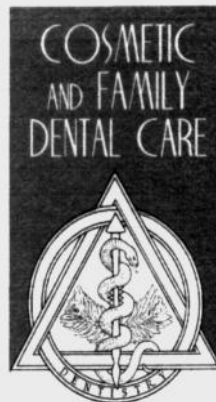
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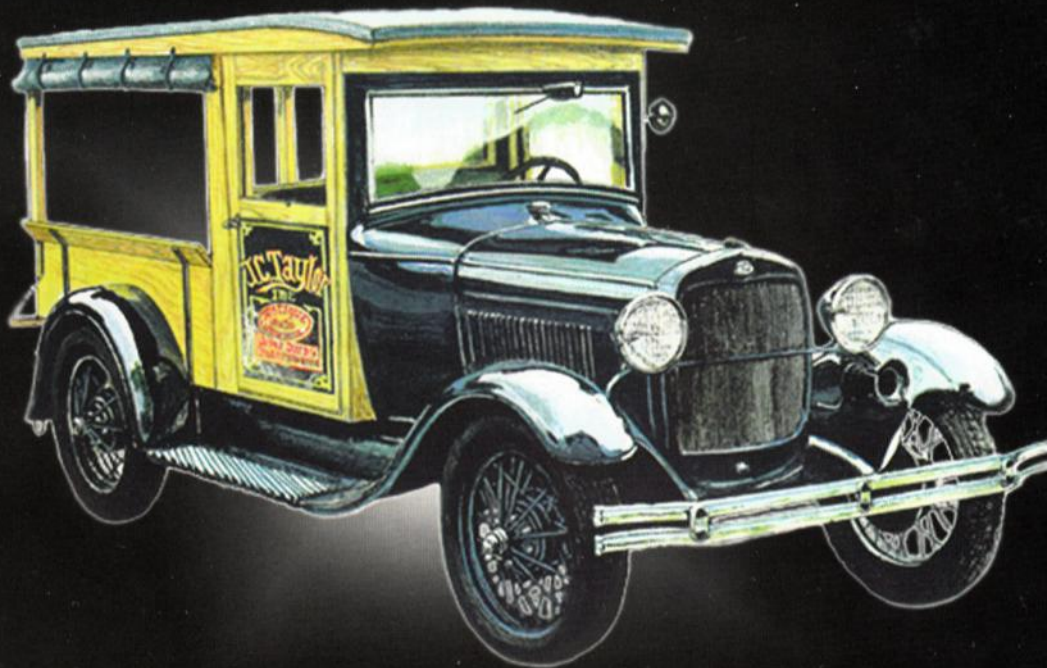
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