



Tinkering Times

<http://groups.msn.com/AntiqueAutoMusersofAlaska>



Who Invented the Automobile?

Actually no one invented the automobile. Rather, many people had a hand in it. A Frenchman named Cugnot was the first to develop a self propelled road vehicle. It was a three wheeler powered by steam. This was in the 1760's.

Following this, many attempts were made to develop a self propelled auto, but they were all cumbersome and impractical. Steam worked well in boats and trains, but not on autos.

A successful Auto could not be built without several inventions, discoveries, and techniques. Some of the most important were:

1. The ability to bore a truly (well almost) round hole and turn a round (almost) shaft.
2. Metals with predictable and uniform properties.
3. Discovery of fossil fuels and lubricants.
4. The vulcanizing of rubber.
5. The application of electricity (the battery and induction coil.)
6. A steering system, where each wheel turns on its own pivot rather than pivoting the whole front axle, as on a horse drawn carriage.
7. The differential gear.
8. The internal combustion engine.

And who invented the internal combustion engine?

There were many who tried and made advances (and mistakes) which contributed to the development of a practical engine.

Many different fuels were tried including hydrogen, household gas, even gunpowder!

In 1860 a Frenchman named Lenoir build what was considered the first practical gas

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Message from President Jim,

Hello Fellow Tinkerers,
 Yahoo, Spring is finally here. Hope your cars and preps. are going well. Scott Hulse's Rolls should ride like a dream after the rear suspension treatment it got at Fred Scharper's 'not-a-garage'. Thanks , Scott for letting us have a club project with you and, Thanks Fred, for providing a place to do it.

Planning for Summer is in full swing. Hope to see you all at the next meeting to get your input and some volunteers for coming events.

Thanks, see you then -
 Jim and Victoria

Officers

- President:** Jim Fredenhagen 243-5214
- Vice President:** Diane Allen 345- 6355
- Secretary:** Gwyn Wiedmer 243-7005
- Treasurer:** Howard Hansen 345-1268

Members at Large

- Peg Stout –2006
- LeRoi Heaven –2006
- Kurt Rein–2006
- Ralph Centoni–2005

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- Diane Allen (2004)
- Fred Schurman (2001, 2002, 2003)
- Peg Stout (2000)
- Ken Stout (1999)
- Dennis Allen (1998, 1997)
- Mike Weidmer (1996)
- George Chase (1995)

Editor's

Howard and Barbara Hansen

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The Tinkering Times is published monthly by Alaska's premier antique and classic automobile club—The Antique Auto Musers of Alaska, P.O. Box 232086, Anchorage, AK 99523-2086. The opinions expressed by the authors who contribute to the Tinkering Times are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or official policy of the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska.

Con't. from front page!

engine using illuminating gas for fuel. However, it was huge and not practical for an automobile.

In 1878 a German named Otto constructed a four cycle engine that is the granddaddy of the engines we use today.

In 1874 an Austrian Named Marcus built three cars, one of which still exists in a museum in Vienna. It has a single cylinder 4 cycle engine which is 1570 cc and develops 3/4 hp and is capable 4 mph.

So, while all the automobile pioneers were more familiar with — Ford, Benz, Olds, Kettering, Durant, Dodge, etc — contributed much to the development of the modern auto, none of them 'invented' it.

- Howard

Remember These?

For those who never saw any of the Burma Shave signs. Here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930's and 1940's.

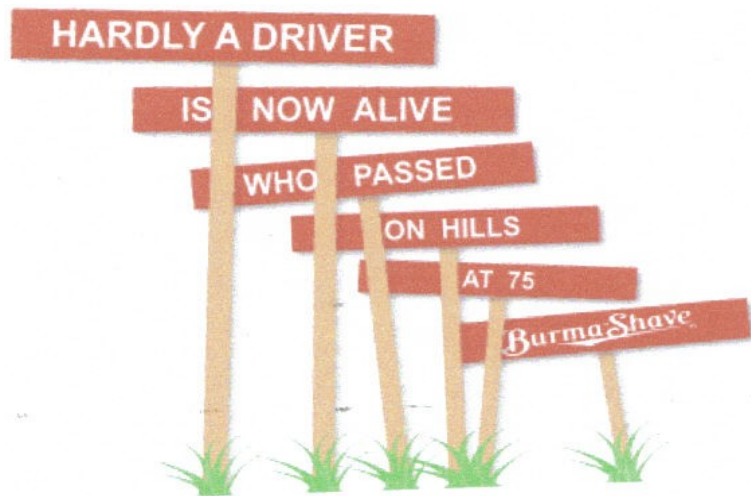
Before there were interstates , when everyone drove the old two lane roads, Burma Shave signs would be posted all over the country side in farmers' fields.

They were small They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs, about 100 feet apart, each containing ! line of a 4 line cuplet.....

and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, A popular shaving cream.

Here are more of the actual signs:

She Kissed The Hairbrush	Cars In Ditch	The Midnight Ride
By Mistake	Driver in Tree	of Paul for Beer
She thought it was	The Moon Was Full	Led to a Warmer
Her Husband Jake.	And So Was He.	Hemisphere.
Burma Shave	Burma Shave	Burma Shave



Do these bring back any old memories?

If not, you're merely a child.

April Birthdays

🍦	Marcy Cresap	Apr 7
🍦	Phanrong Mackey	7
🍦	LeRoi Heaven	10
🍦	Kathy Centoni	12
🍦	Diane Allen	14
🍦	Mrs Fredrick Overly	20
🍦	Nathan Dennis	22
🍦	Richard Combs	25
🍦	Marion Benham	27

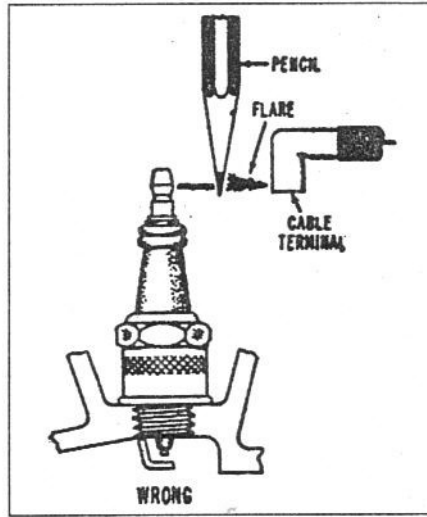
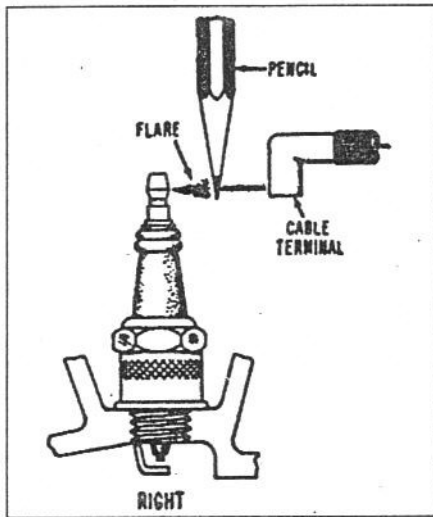
Anniversaries

🍦	Ken & Rhea Evans	6
🍦	Bob & Alpha Brown	15
🍦	Ken & Peg Stout	18
🍦	Kenneth & Doris Holland	22

Match the Model with the make of Car.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1 - Plymouth _____ | a. Cranbrook |
| 2 - Ford _____ | b. Meadowbrook |
| 3 - Dodge _____ | c. Century |
| 4 - Hudson _____ | d. Terraplane |
| 5 - Packard _____ | e. Patrician |
| 6 - Chevrolet _____ | f. Fairlane |
| 7 - Buick _____ | g. Chieftain |
| 8 - Pontiac _____ | h. Nomad |
| 9 - Lincoln _____ | i. Continental |
| 10 - Nash _____ | j. Rambler |
| 11 - Oldsmobile _____ | k. Manhattan |
| 12 - Kaiser _____ | l. Ninety eight |

Look for the answers next month.



To perform a spark plug polarity test, remove a spark plug wire terminal from any plug and start the engine with the terminal held about 1/4" from the plug. Then interpose the tip of a graphite pencil between the terminal and the plug. You will see an orange flare on one side of the pencil "lead." If it is between the pencil and the plug, the system polarity is correct. If it is on the wire terminal side of the pencil, the polarity is reversed. The polarity can be corrected by reversing the coil or battery connections, depending on which is wrong. Please be aware that this test involves working with high-tension electricity and can produce lethal shock hazards. Be sure to use insulated pliers to position the wire terminal and not to touch any metal band that may be affixed to the pencil that you use.

Tech Tips

I have a Bear Service Manual of axle and wheel alignment, dated April 1931. I would be willing to loan it to anyone who could use it.
-Howard

For sale:

'78 Ford LTD Station Wagon
one owner - 118000 miles
excellent Mechanically.
Price is negotiable.
- David 337-2434

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2006

- April 12 - Regular Meeting @ Robbie's 7:30 pm
- April 29 - Cleanup at MATI (Museum of Alaska Transportation Industry) Lunch is provided!
- May 10 - Regular Meeting at Robbie's 6:30 pm.- 1st Drive around meeting.
- May 13 - The first Adopt-a-Road Cleanup is this month,(Marcy & Tom Cresap) 694-7510.
- May ? - Alaska Sales 500 Show - date TBA - Need chairman
- May 20 - UAA Auto Show,11am to 2 pm. Parking Lot behind UAA Auto Center.
- May 20- Display at Air Museum Hangar
- May 21 - Shakedown cruise. (Jim Fredenhagan Chair)
- May 19 - UAA Auto Tech Show. 11am to 2pm. Parking lot behind the UAA Auto Tech center.
- June 8 - Serendipity Adult Day Center 1:30 -3 PM. (Contact Marilyn 279-0501.) AAMA Event.
- June 13 to 26 - Long Distance Tour (Bruce Campbell, 345- 3129)
- June 14 - Reg. meeting 6:30pm. We will cruise somewhere and eat something decadent.
- June 15 - Daybreak Adult Day Center 1 - 2:30 PM. (Contact Nancy Haley 346-2234.) AAMA Event
- June 17 Colony Days Parade, Palmer. LeRoi Heaven
- July 1- 5 Trip to McCarthy
- July 1 - Adopt-a-Road Cleanup (Marcy & Tom) 694-7510 (The date on this may change!)
- July 4 - Anchorage and Chugiak Parades. Need chairman
- July 4 - Wasilla Parade, Need Chairman
- July 4 - Seward Parade.
- July 7 - Bear Paw Car Show, Eagle River, 6-9 pm.
- July 12 Regular Meeting at Robbie's - 6:30 pm. Followed by a cruise.
- July 15 Bear Paw Parade
- July 14-16 - Hope Weekend Need Chairman
- August 6 - Jay Ofsthun Memorial Show & Shine, Delaney Park Strip - 9:00am - 5:00pm.
- August 9 - Regular Meeting 6:30 pm
- August 11-13 Possible Joint meet weekend with VLNAACF From Fairbanks (Howard H, chair)

Motor Vehicle Inventory, Estate of John William Foster Sr. -to be sold- \$50:00 ea

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Chevy '51Pickup | Olds '81 Toronado |
| Olds '67 Toronado | Chevy '64 Pickup |
| Ford '62 '4-door Sedan | Olds '67 Toronado |
| Cadillac '81 '4 door Sedan | Austin '64 2-Door |
| Ford '46 MH Vanette | Cadillac '64 Sedan |
| Olds '67 | |

None of the cars are operable but Olds' run.
 All cars except one have titles.
 Mini needs total rebuild.
 Make an offer.

Call Roy Foster 376-5768

New Members

Tinkering Times Welcomes the following new members and looks forward to seeing them and their cars at future events:

Frank and Theresa Neary -
'74 Plymouth Scamp

Brian and Victoria Leinon -
'38 Buick Sports Opera Coupe

April 12, 2006 Meeting
7:30 p.m. 3318 Jerde Circle

*Refreshments:
Karl Lauterbach*

Tinkering Times Article Deadline

Please submit articles for the Tinkering Times by the 25th of March for the April newsletter. Fax information to Barb Hansen (907) 345-1268 or e-mail: Howbarb@alaska.net. Please put "Tinkering Times" in the subject line.



Robbie Robinson - Editor



Tom Cresap, Master Editor



Scott Hulise - Editor

AAMA
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