



Tinkering Times



Volume 49, Number 7

July 1, 2009

Planets Aligned?

Joint Meet Has Winning Elements

When the moon is in the Seventh House
And Jupiter aligns with Mars
Then peace will guide the planets
And love will steer the stars

This is the dawning of the Age of Aquarius . . .

Remember that one? For some reason, it came to mind after attending the AAMA/VLNAAC joint meet in Fairbanks, June 12, 13 and 14; and it certainly was *not* because of a prodigious display of HAIR. It is just that many elements came together to produce one of the most spectacular joint meets in memory.

Of these elements, first was the location of the meet at the beautiful Wedgewood Resort. This may not have been due to an alignment of Jupiter and Mars, but it was due to a beautiful working relationship between our Fairbanks sister club and Tim Cerney, owner of the Wedgewood. Tim has installed a very well appointed antique auto museum at the Wedgewood, and the VLNAAC members volunteer as docents, mechanics and drivers to keep the old cars exercised and in running order. This, of course, is a win-win arrangement, both for Cerney and for the VLNAAC members.

Second, the Fairbanks members were gracious hosts, providing picnics Friday evening and Saturday at noon in the Resort pavilion and Saturday night's banquet in the dining room.

Third, the car games Saturday morning were well organized and lots of good, clean fun.

Third, the bluegrass music provided by the Pioneer Park Pickers



Tom Cresap

VLNAAC member, Gary Nash, looks on as Willie Vinton gives a 1912 Premier Series M Model 4-40 7-passenger touring car some exercise by running it through the car games outside the Fountainhead Museum on the Wedgewood Resort grounds in Fairbanks. Willie, current president of the VLNAAC, and other club members give the museum's autos regular exercise and keep them in running shape.

helped give the Friday night picnic an especially entertaining atmosphere.

Cap those elements off with an entertaining tour of the Fountainhead Auto Museum and great weather, and you have a fun and congenial joint meet. Maybe it wasn't the dawning of the Age of Aquarius, but it was, without a doubt, a great meet.

Thanks to Tim Cerney, the Wedgewood staff and the members of the VLNAAC for their thoughtfulness and preparation that made this a great meet.

Incidentally, Ron and Nancy Allen, editors of the VLNAAC Newsletter, reported that, "There were 100 people who attended the barbeque on Friday night, 90 people who helped and participated in the car games on

Saturday and 85 people who attended the banquet on Saturday night." Of the banquet crowd, 38 were from the Anchorage club.

July Meeting

The July 1, 2009 business meeting is planned as a rolling meeting and will start at 6:30 p.m. Meet, as usual, at the home of Robbie and Marianne Robinson, 3318 Jerde Circle, Anchorage. For Directions, call Robbie, 333-0693 or Tom, 694-7510.

Mike and Gwynn Wiedmer have planned this month's drive-about.

Running Board Reflections



Tom Cresap

President Donn enjoys the Fountainhead Museum at Wedgewood Inn in Fairbanks during the recent AAMA/VLNAAC meet.

Howdy Musers,

It's difficult to believe that it is yet again time for Tom to be urging me to write something for the president's column or he'll replace it with an advertisement for bubble gum or something.

It's been a busy and hectic month juggling all the activities along with the normal Alaskan summer things we all must do (fix this, weed that, mow the other). There has been some great turnout at recent club events and some

new old cars have been making appearances. Congrats to Mike and Gwyn on getting their Ford convertible on the road, making its debut at the Statehood Celebration - beautiful job.

During the recent Joint Meet in Fairbanks the group was able to view the newly opened Fountainhead Auto Museum. It's a first class facility with an impressive collection of interesting vehicles. It alone is worth a trip north. There are pictures posted on the club's website for a preview of the museum.

On another note concerning computers - if you have email you should be getting periodic emails from me with reminders and late-coming information about events that can't make it into the Tinkering Times in time. If you're not receiving emails and would like to, please let me know. I'm trying to fill in a few gaps I've discovered in my mailing list.

I hope everyone is having a great summer and enjoying touring around in their old cars.

Donn Reese



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Gerry Pye: October 20, 1936–May 24, 2009

Born in St. John's, Newfoundland, Gerry grew up traveling around Newfoundland with parents and siblings. Later, he traveled throughout the country as a musician. In 1984, Gerry moved his family to Yellowknife, which he called home for the last 25 years.

Gerry is predeceased by his mother and father, Lily and Clarence Pye, brother, Burt Pye, and sister, Betty Pye.

He is survived by sisters Fronie (Gary Harpley) Shirley (Cece Har-

wood) Marion (Benson Blake) brother Woodrow Pye, children: Karen (Ron Walsh) Wayne and Daryl Pye, Wanda (Andre Beaupardant) Deanne Pye (Mark Gale) Jodi (Brian Smith) Waylon (Chantelle McDonald) Jaimie (Melissa Ferrier) grandchildren: Chad, Jamison, Jessica, Lindsay, Ryan, Jeremy, Brandon, Jennifer, Alanna, Darlene, Jacob, Shaqira, Dylan, Kianna, Kaden, Nathan and Great grandson Gavin.

Gerry will be greatly missed by family and friends.

One Man's Treasures



For sale: 1929 Ford Model AA truck; flat bed, tan with black accents; good running condition; \$14,000. Debra Long, 344-9627 (work) or 337-7418 (home.)

For sale: 1927 Nash. Vehicle is in good condition. Have receipts for upgrades and restoration work done by Dan Unsicker of Classic Auto Rebuilding of Anchorage. Over \$22,000.00 invested, \$12,000.00 Negotiable. For a firm \$22,000.00 package deal, I will sell my 1960 Nash Metropolitan. I will not sell the Metro separately. Pictures available. James David Mackey, 907-272-2370 or doodlebug1@gci.net

For sale: 1975 U-Haul Van; big 20' box with grandma's attic; ramps for car loading, extra man door and "D-Track" tie-downs. Ford 600 V-8 engine—runs great. Good for transporting cars, storage, mobil garage. Carried my '26 Packard to Warren, Ohio in '99. \$6,000 OBO Kurt, 344-5554

For Sale: 1936 Cadillac, \$10,000. Sara, 345-5992.

Schedule of Events

- July 4—Anchorage Parade (Donn Reese, 245-7203)
- July 4—Chugiak Parade; report to Latimer Fire Hall in Chugiak at 1:00 (Tom or Marcy Cresap, 694-7510)
- July 8—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer)
- July 10—Bear Paw Car Show, Eagle River (Just show up.)
- July ?—Adopt-A-Road (Chair?)
- July 13–16—Model T Trip (Bruce Campbell, 345-3129)
- July 17, 18, 19—Hope Weekend (Dennis and Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- July 19—First Christian Church Car Show (Jeremy Engebart, 339-7278)
- July 25—Trinity Church Car Show (Dick Henningsen, 333-4205)
- August 2—Jay Ofsthun Car Show, Park Strip (MSSRA event)
- August 12—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Chair?)
- August 29—Palmer State Fair Parade (Chair?)
- September ?—Adopt-A-Road (Chair?)
- September 9—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (Refreshments?)
- October 14—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting, nominations for officers (Refreshments)
- November 11—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting, vote for 2010 officers
- December?—Christmas Party (TBA)

For Sale: 1955 Pontiac Star Chief, 4-dr, complete frame-off restoration, 1000 miles since restoration, cruise control, burglar system, seat belts; car show winner at Bear Paw and Jay Ofsthun. Rebuilt in 1992, stored indoors on jack stands. Lots of parts, \$25,000 negotiable. Alan Beckett, 771-9910 or abeckett@gci.net

Wanted: Four 1935 Ford 16" Wheels or any leads; high compression head for Model A engine. Ron Watts, 622-1931 or ronwattsalaska@aol.com

Wanted: 16" wheel rim for 1947 Plymouth. Tom, 694-7510, 862-7511 or tmcresap@mtaonline.net

Auto Body: "Tin Lizzie, specializing in Antique Autos, custom paint and body work; free quotes; 50 years experience. Lee Truesdell, 907-745-4404 or ibbusy2@yahoo.com

Zinc Replacement: After 70+ years of trouble-free, metal-to-metal engine protection, the E.P.A. is forcing

ZDDP (Zinc Dialkyl Dithio Phosphate, containing both Zinc and Phosphorus) from domestic motor oil. If your engine was designed prior to the 1990's, your non-roller lifters require ZDDP in your motor oil to avoid premature deterioration. Don't let your lifters run metal-to-metal. Keep ZDDP, via ZDDPlus, in your motor oil. Add 4 oz. of ZDDPlus a every 4- to 5-quart oil change.

One bottle of ZDDPlus contains more ZDDP than two bottles of GM's EOS, which is designed for break-in use only.

As a service to the various car clubs in town, I received a new shipment of ZDDP. I was able to get a better deal on the freight this time. Price is \$10.00 per bottle. Buy 2 or more for \$9.00 each.

Check out zddplus.com for complete information.

Call Scott Hulse (240-4028, cel, or 349-8106, home)

Statehood Anniversary:

Celebration Brings Out Crowds



Tom Cresap

Historic 4th Avenue Theater, once the pride of downtown Anchorage, is now boarded up and in the hands of a new owner who may demolish it to make way for progress. Seen in front of the building are Kurt Rein's '26 Packard, Mike & Gwynn Wiedmer's '49 Ford convertible, Hans & Pat Jensen's '38 Chevy and Scott Hulse's '54 Rolse Royce.

Daybreak and Serendipity visits

The AAMA Daybreak and Serendipity visits took place June 17th and 24th, respectively this year.

These two events, coordinated annually by Dennis and Diane Allen, are done with the intention of providing a day of varied activity for the senior clients of the two adult day care facilities. Activities include the visual display of our cars (usually from four to six cars participate) and for those who are physically able and want to, short rides around the neighborhood.

The folks at the centers, both the clients and the staff, seem to enjoy the cars and the visiting; and many stories are shared.

Historic 4th Avenue Theater and beautiful, sunny weather provided the backdrop for an Alaska statehood celebration Saturday, June 27 from noon till 5:00. The festival occupied three blocks of 4th Avenue and four blocks of adjoining side streets in downtown Anchorage.

Besides our cars, which were lo-

cated in the center of all the activities, revelers got to see jugglers, acrobats, stilt walkers, live music and dancing.

The large crowd was captivated by our cars, which ranged from a 1926 Packard limousine to a 1959 Lincoln town car. A total of 15 of our cars participated.

June Drive-about Makes Pleasant Evening



Barb Hansen

Howard and Barb Hansen coordinated the June meeting cruise. Our itinerary included a stop at the largest floatplane base in the world, Lake Hood, and a brief stop at the Point Waronzo parking lot. We then proceeded to Boston's for desserts and other delights. Thanks, Howard and Barb for the thoughtful planning. We had a great time.

Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer will coordinate our drive-about after the July business meeting.



Tom Cresap

Hannah Cresap, four-year-old granddaughter of Tom and Marcy Cresap struck up a quick friendship with Dorothy, one of the clients at Daybreak Senior Day Care Center. Hannah was part of the AAMA group that visited the center on June 17th.

Vintage Bentleys Visit Anchorage

by Robbie Robinson

Thirty-three vintage Bentleys drove into Anchorage on Sunday evening, June 14th from Tok as part of their 5000 mile, 25 day tour of Canada and Alaska.

Starting from Vancouver, B.C. on June 1st, the tour drove by way of Lake Louise near Banff, then up to Jasper. From there, they drove west to Prince George, north to Fort St. John and then on up the Alcan with stops along the way.

On Monday, June 15th, they drove down to Whittier for a boat trip to see the glaciers. On Tuesday, June 16th, the tour started back to Tok via Glennallen.

Their return route took them to Whitehorse, Watson Lake, down the BC Highway 37 to Stewart, B.C., Prince Rupert and a ferry to Port Hardy on Vancouver Island. After a tour of the island, the trip ended in Victoria, B.C. at the Empress Hotel on June 25th.

Thirty-seven Bentleys, more than half of them pre-1931 vin-

tage, started but four suffered various maladies along the way to Alaska. The oldest Bentley was a 1923 4.5 liter tourer. There were two 8-liter and many 3-, 4.5-, and 6-liter vehicles. Participants came from New Zealand, Australia, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, England, Scotland and the USA. The tour was tightly organized and supported by a tool parts van and car trailer. Colin and Laurel Gurnsey of Vancouver, B.C., (Lagonda friends of Robbie and Marianne Robinson) were responsible for organizing the tour.



Hope Weekend Coming Soon

Hope Weekend is a traditional AAMA event planned to coincide with the annual Wagon Trail Days Run and Festival in the historic Gold Rush town of Hope. This year, it will be July 17th, 18th and 19th.

We have reservations at the Methodist Retreat House and can begin to show up at 6:00 Friday evening. This gives us time to set up camp and do some visiting that evening. The retreat house provides RV parking and indoor camping (with facilities.) Bring your own bedding or a sleeping bag.

We all try to bring one antique car, although it is not mandatory. The schedule is relaxed.

Please bring a covered dish for the Saturday evening picnic and the

Sunday morning breakfast.

Activities will include exploring the area in our antique cars, a parade at 2:00 (approximately) Saturday and watching and rooting the runners on Sunday morning. We have the facility through Monday morning, so if we want to stay over and avoid the Sunday going home traffic, we may.

Jay Ofsthun Show-n-Shine

The annual MSSRA Jay Ofsthun Car Show on the Park Strip will occur August 2nd. This is an easy one. Just show up between 8:30 and 9:00 in the morning and drive in.

This is probably the largest and best-attended car show in the state. There are usually over 300 cars of all sorts, from restored antiques and classics to custom rods and even low riders.

Everybody who is anybody in the car hobby is there. It provides a wonderful opportunity to show off your pride and joy and to see what others are doing in the hobby as well.

Non-Profit Promo Show

Jeremy Engeberg has contacted us about a car show at First Christian Church (across from the BP Building on La Touche St.) on Sunday, July 19th. The goal is to bring recognition to the different non-profit organizations in Anchorage (i.e. Beans Café, Alaska Children Services, F.I.S.H., etc.)

They will have live bands, a chili cook-off and tables set up for the different non-profits to get information out to the community.

They would like to have the car clubs get staged between 10:30 and 11:30 in order to begin the show around noon.

Questions should be directed to Jeremy Engeberg, 339-7278.

Bear Paw

We will not be participating in the Bear Paw Parade this year due to time constraints that made us miss the entry deadline. Those who wish to participate in the car show need only to show up 5:30 Friday, July 10 on Business Boulevard in Eagle River.

AAMA Does Multiple 4th Parades

AAMA will participate in two separate 4th of July events: Anchorage and Chugiak. Members planning to be in the Anchorage parade should be in place at 9:00 for the judging. The parade will start at 11:00.

Those who would like to be in the Chugiak parade should report at Latimer Fire Hall in Chugiak at 1:00 for registration. The parade will start at 2:00.

All are invited to Cresaps' for a

Model T's Go For Jaunt

A group of Model T's will participate in a trip July 13th through 16th. Veteran trip planner Bruce Campbell has coordinated the trip, which will travel up the Glenn Highway to the Richardson, across the Denali highway and back the Parks highway for a total of about 740 miles.

picnic at 4:00 p.m. To attend the picnic, please R.S.V.P. by phone to Tom or Marcy, 694-7510.

This just in: Willow is also having a parade on the 4th. Line up at the Willow Trading Post at 11:00 a.m. A barbeque will follow. The more the merrier.

Too bad these events can't be spread out more. It would be fun to take part in all of them.

Adopt-A-Road Needs Chair

AAMA Adopt-a-Road needs a chairperson. This is the season's second cleanup, and it should be scheduled about July 25th.

This is not a difficult event to chair. It is fun and worthwhile. We can do it and still make it to the Trinity Church Car Show on the 25th.

July

Birthdays

Shelbie Fredenhagen-6th

Kaylene Brown-14th

Dick Henningsen-14th

Clare Batchelor-19th

Lee Plummer-20th

Jim Dennis-22nd

Anniversaries

Dennis and Diane Allen-6th

Jim and Christine Dennis-7th

Dave and Margaret Beck-21st

Greg and Jean Lear-21st



AAMA
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