



# Tinkering Times



Volume 50, Number 12

[www.antiqueautomusersak.org](http://www.antiqueautomusersak.org)

December 1, 2010

Bruce Campbell's Auto Shop:

## Ford Mechanic Always on Duty

If you belong to the AAMA and you do not know Bruce Campbell . . . well, that would be impossible. He joined the club on January 11, 1991, so he will soon celebrate his 20<sup>th</sup> year as a member; and those years have been full of memorable events Bruce has planned.

The only time we didn't see (or hear) him was 1993 and 1994, when he went to Juneau to serve during the Hickle administration as Commissioner of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities. This was Bruce's second and final time to serve as commissioner. His first stint was in the Egan administration as Commissioner of the Department of Highways from 1970 to 1974.

Beginning in 1952, when Bruce came to Alaska, and throughout his time here, he just seemed to have a knack for getting things done, as an engineer for the Alaska Road Commission and, later, the Bureau of Public Roads. He worked on many projects, including a road to Nenana, the Sterling Highway and the Denali Highway (the first road allowing access to Denali National Park.)

After the 1964 Alaska Earthquake, he helped to quickly repair the damage done to Anchorage and various Alaska highways. In 1974, he engaged fully in the building of the Haul Road and worked round the clock approving plans for various sections and coordinated with officials from the oil companies involved in the pipeline.

The story goes on and could fill a book, much more than we have space for here.

We in the AAMA are familiar with Bruce's work ethic. When he plans a car show or a tour, look out! He leaves no detail undone, and his steamroller approach almost inevitably leads to a perfect event.

He has said that he learned how to get things done while growing up in the 1930's and 40's on Julian and Vi-



Photo: Tom Cresap

*Bruce Campbell stops for a breather to pose with his current project, a 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner. This is the eleventh car to be restored in the shop, which is our featured garage for December. This is our first in a new series, which will highlight members' garages.*

ola Campbell's farm in the small farming community of Kirkwood, New York. From shoveling cow manure to picking chickens and milking cows, he reports that he "did everything by hand."

He recalls, "my parents demanded that we do well in school," so when he graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York, he was second in his class in civil engineering. Shortly after graduation in 1952, he took off for Alaska, the land of opportunity and adventure; and he hasn't stopped working since.

These days, we can find Bruce spending time at his hobby: restoring antique cars. This pastime began in 1990, when he bought a 1926 Ford Model T coupe and built a shop to house it. Why a Model T? In addition

to farming, Bruce's dad, Julian, had owned a Model T repair shop and was a foreman in several Ford agencies

(Please see p. 2, **Campbell**)

**Christmas Party:  
December 12  
4-8 p.m.**

Tam Isham reports that we have turkey. Members should bring a covered dish, appetizer, salad or desert.

Be sure to remember your canned goods for our food drive.

We will have a basket for donations for charity.

Don't forget your gift for the "Chinese Auction" gift exchange.

Questions? Call Tam, 688-3671.

# Running Board Reflections



*Can't remember for sure, but it could be, "I've got my name badge, where's yours?" Seargent at Arms, Fred Scharper, and President Donn are having some sort of exchange at the November 10 meeting.*

Here we are at the final edition of the Tinkering Times for 2010. It's been a heck of a year both in the wider world and within our little group.

High points of the year include the trip to Kodiak, graced with beautiful weather, the Joint Meet in the Petersburg area, and the Denali Park weekend where clear skies ranged from the Kenai to Fairbanks the entire time making for the best Denali views possible. As so often happened this summer rain dampened our cars but not our spirits at the State Fair Parade and car show.

There were also a few low points for the club. The loss of Jim Swanson and LeRoi Heaven will be felt for some time. May we all take to heart the lessons and examples of their lives.

2011 marks the 49<sup>th</sup> year the Antique Auto Musers has been officially organized and I hope you will all join the board members and me in continuing the adventure towards our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary...and beyond.

Hope to see you at the Christmas Party on December 12.

-Donn Reese

## Campbell: Ford Man *Par Excellence*

Continued from p. 1

until about 1941. Go figure.

One thing led to another, and after the little green 1926 coupe was completed, Bruce restored two 1915 runabouts (one red, one black) a 1914 narrow-gage from Fairbanks (now bright red with a working calliope) two TT trucks, a 1915 touring and a 1926 touring. The interest didn't,

however, stop at Model T's. His stable has also contained a 1948 2-door sedan, a 1957 Ford Custom 300 2-door and a 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner. That makes eleven cars: quite an achievement for one man.

The saga continues. That 1957 Skyliner currently inhabits his shop.

(Please see p. 4 **December**)



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### 2010 Officers

President: Donn Reese 245-7203  
 Vice President: Ron Watts 622-1931  
 Secretary: Laura Reese 563-2914  
 Treasurer: Howard Hansen 345-1268  
 Sergeant at Arms: Fred Scharper

### Members at Large

Tam Isham  
 Bruce Campbell  
 Ted Kimzey

### Past Presidents (10 years)

Donn Reese (2009)  
 Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)  
 Jim Fredenhagen (2006-2007)  
 Fred Schurman (2005)  
 Diane Allen (2004)  
 Fred Schurman (2001-2003)  
 Peg Stout (2000)

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# One Man's Treasures



**For Sale:** 1963 or so Ford Thunderbird on our property at Kenny Lake; no engine; will take offers. Linda Lohse Email: [kopperkupboard@gmail.com](mailto:kopperkupboard@gmail.com)



**For Sale:** 1966 Thunderbird; 51,650 miles; one owner; always garaged. Must sell due to health. Jeanne Edwards, 272-0060

**Free:** Jaguar engine; 6-cyl, 3.5 liter; serial No. 28/1390/338; twin overhead cams; no carbs. Includes transmission with Laycock de Normanville over-drive unit. All garage stored. Kathleen Kritchen, 907-424-3517 (Cordova)

**For Sale:** 1949 Packard 8 cylinder, 4 door sedan, dark green, new tires, standard transmission; good condition; has been stored inside for several years. Price: negotiable, Jon Lillevik, 37325 Cetacea Lane; Kenai, AK., 907-398-4611

**For Sale:** Miscellaneous Model T and Model A parts and a few other things. Call Dave, 230-6346

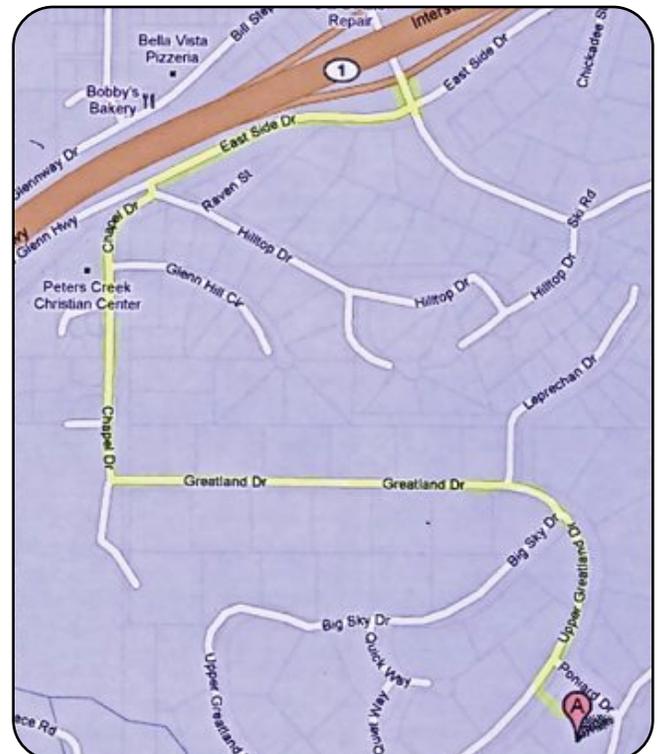
## Schedule of Events

- December 12—4-8 p.m. Christmas Party at Ishams' place in Peters Creek
- January 12—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (Installation of officers)(Refreshments: Cresaps)
- February 9—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (Refreshments: Sara Stoops and Gwyn Wiedmer)
- March 9—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (Refreshments: Scott Hulse and Laura Reese)
- April 13—7:30 p.m Regular Meeting (Refreshments: Fredenhagens and Kimzeys)
- May 11—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting
- June 8—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting
- June 17, 18—AAMA/VLNAAC Joint Meet
- July 6-10—Long Distance Tour (McCarthy-Kennicott)
- July 13—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting
- July 16, 17—Hope Weekend
- August 10—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting
- September 14—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting
- October 12—7:30 Regular Meeting (Nominations)
- November 9—7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (Elections)
- December—Christmas Party

## Christmas Party at Ishams'

**Directions to  
AAMA Party  
December 12,  
4-8 p.m.**

1. Take Peters Creek Exit.
2. Turn onto Ski Road, and immediately turn right onto East Side Dr.
3. Turn left onto Chapel Dr.
4. Turn left onto Greatland Dr.
5. Stay on Greatland past Poniard Dr.
6. 19944 Greatland (Ishams') is the 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on the left.



## December Featured Garage



Photo: Tom Cresap

Continued from p. 2

Bruce complains that it is “a millstone around my neck,” but it is shaping up very nicely. Why did he add it to his collection? “Always wanted one,” he says.

## December

### Birthdays

Howard Hansen—1<sup>st</sup>  
 Brian Anderson—2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Theresa Neary—4<sup>th</sup>  
 Kay Graham—6<sup>th</sup>  
 Linda Golding—7<sup>th</sup>  
 Jim Ede—8<sup>th</sup>  
 Dorris Holland—12<sup>th</sup>  
 Hank Raymond—12<sup>th</sup>  
 Dennis Allen—17<sup>th</sup>  
 Art Isham—18<sup>th</sup>  
 Colleen Kimzey—20<sup>th</sup>  
 Barbra Tullis—20<sup>th</sup>

Tom Cresap—21<sup>st</sup>  
 Peg Stout—24<sup>th</sup>  
 Robbie Robinson—26<sup>th</sup>  
 Marl Campbell—28<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversaries  
 Marianne and Robbie  
 Robinson—8<sup>th</sup>  
 Barb and Dick  
 Henningsen—15<sup>th</sup>  
 Rick and Liz  
 Mingo—15<sup>th</sup>  
 Art and Tamea  
 Isham—18<sup>th</sup>



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