



## Party a Chocolate Lovers' Valhalla



Photo: Tom Cresap

Margaret Heaven, left, opens a Chinese auction gift as Barb Hansen and Colleen Kimzey look on at the 2010 AAMA Christmas party hosted by Art and Tamea Isham at their home in Peters Creek.

Over 35 AAMA members gathered at the beautiful home of Art and Tamea Isham in Peters Creek the evening of December 12, 2010 for the annual Christmas party.

The evening marched right along with a full slate of activities: visiting, eating, visiting, singing carols, visiting, yearly achievement awards, the ubiquitous Chinese auction gift exchange and finally, more visiting.

The food was plentiful and delicious. The potluck featured ham (Ishams) and Turkey (Hansens and Combs.) Thanks to everyone for the repast.

The singing of Christmas carols has become a part of the AAMA tradition. Tom Cresap provided the guitar accompaniment and everyone joined in with gusto.

After we exercised our vocal cords, everyone was pretty well set-

tled in, and president, Donn Reese presented the annual achievement awards.

Last, but certainly not least, we had the ever-anticipated Chinese auction gift exchange, which was spirited and entertaining. Each year, some gift gets a lot of attention, and many will vie to walk away with it.

This year, many gifts were coveted and exchanged, but the ones that stood out were assorted chocolates. The main competitor in the game was Robbie Robinson, who repeatedly got hold of the desired sweets only to lose them to a chocolaholic who had gained the advantage. Finally, when all options looked lost for him, Esther Combs jumped up, grabbed her husband, Al's, chocolates, and presented them to Robbie, saying, "This is Christmas, after all, so here is a gift."

Esther's gesture, of course, made

Robbie happy, and it warmed many hearts. Al, on the other hand, somewhat bewildered by his wife's generosity—with his gift—was forced to go scavenging for another gift from the pile.

Our customary canned food drive and collection basket for the less fortunate were successful.

We would like to thank the Ishams for their impeccable hospitality and for offering up their home for this event. It just gets better every year!

### January Meeting Site of 2011 Installation

2011 officers elected at our November meeting are President, Donn Reese; Vice-President, Scott Hulse; Treasurer, Howard Hansen; Secretary, Laura Reese and Sergeant-at-Arms, Fred Scharper.

Members at Large are Tom Cresap, Tam Isham and Diane Allen.

### January Meeting

Our regular business meeting will follow the installation of the 2011 officers. The Meeting will be at Robbie and Marianne Robinson's clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. January 12.

**Refreshments:** Many thanks to Lee Truesdell and Dave Mackey for the November refreshments.

January fair will be provided by the Cresaps.

# Running Board Reflections



Photo: Tom Cresap

*President, Donn Reese, presents an award to Marcy Cresap while Carol Watts and Kylie Green listen in amusement at the 2010 AAMA Christmas party.*

A new year has begun: fresh hopes, updated goals, new opportunities and a few continuing challenges.

One of my challenges this year is to increase our volunteer base. We have many events large and small throughout the year that require individuals to plan and organize. Sometimes it takes a few hours and sometimes few days, but it's never what

one would call arduous. The past couple of years have seen some of our long-standing volunteer organizers step back from events they traditionally handled. Most feel it's time for "someone else to have the fun."

The first of our events for 2011 falls into this category. Kurt wants to relax this Fur Rondy season and has asked that someone else head up the organization of the Parade and Car Show. We need someone right away as Rondy is just a little over a month and a half away and events like this (where we must coordinate with the Municipality and/or others) need to be planned more in advance.

If you would like to help the Auto Musers get involved with Fur Rondy this year, please email or call me.

See you at the January meeting where the 2011 Club Officers will be sworn in.

-Donn Reese

## 2010 Awards presented at Christmas Party

Clubhouse Donation and Resident Toastmaster: Robbie Robinson

Tinkering Times editor: Tom Cresap

Fur Rondy Parade and Show: Kurt Rein

Refreshments:

- Jan - Howard & Barb Hansen
- Feb - Frank Neary and Sara Stoops
- March - Art & Tam Isham
- April - Dennis & Diane Allen
- Oct - Howard & Barb Hansen
- Nov - Lee Truesdell & Dave Mackey

Summer Driving tours

- May - Donn Reese
- June - Jeff Hassler
- Aug - Gwyn Weidmer
- Sept - Howard and Barb Hansen

Adopt-A-Road

- May - Robbie Robinson
- July - Cresaps
- Sept - Robbie Robinson & Sara Stoops

Shakedown Cruise

- Jim Ede
- LeRoi Heaven

4th of July Parades:

- Anchorage: Robbie Robinson
- Chugiak: Cresaps
- Wasilla: LeRoi

Split the pot and badgeless members: Fred Sharper

Mother's Day Run: Scott Hulse

MATI Cleanup: Dennis & Diane Allen

Joint Meet: Howard Hansen

Trinity Car Show: Dick Henningsen

Daybreak and Serendipity: Dennis & Diane Allen

Hope Weekend: Dennis & Diane Allen

Long Distance Tour Operator and Denali Park Weekend: Bruce Campbell

Colony Days Car Show: Jim Ede

(Please see p. 3, Awards)



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

### 2011 Officers

President: Donn Reese 245-7203  
 Vice President: Scott Hulse 349-8106  
 Secretary: Laura Reese 563-2914  
 Treasurer: Howard Hansen 345-1268  
 Sergeant at Arms: Fred Scharper

### Members at Large

Diane Allen 345-6355  
 Tom Cresap 694-7510  
 Tam Isham 688-3671

### Past Presidents (10 years)

Donn Reese (2009, 2010)  
 Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)  
 Jim Fredenhagen (2006-2007)  
 Fred Schurman (2005)  
 Diane Allen (2004)  
 Fred Schurman (2001-2003)  
 Peg Stout (2000)

### Tinkering Times Staff

Editor: Tom Cresap  
 Proofing: Marcy Cresap  
 Please send correspondence, articles or ads to:

**Tinkering Times**  
**Tom Cresap, Editor**  
**P.O. Box 770703**  
**Eagle River AK 99577**  
 or e-mail:

[tmcresap@mtaonline.net](mailto:tmcresap@mtaonline.net)

The Tinkering Times is published monthly by Alaska's premier classic and antique automobile club, Antique Auto Musers of Alaska, P.O. Box 232086, Anchorage AK 99523-2086.

Opinions expressed by authors who contribute to Tinkering Times are their own and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska.

# 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 overdrive 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

- 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 7-11–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

## First Plans Announced for 2011 Long Distance Tour

This year's AAMA long distance tour will be to McCarthy and Kennicott to participate in the Centennial Celebration commemorating completion of the 196-mile Copper River and Northwestern Railway that ran from Cordova to McCarthy and Kennicott from 1911 to 1938. Our tour will take place July 7-July 11.

Preliminary plans are to leave Anchorage July 7 and overnight in Glennallen/Copper Center area and head into the park on July 8. We will return July 11. You can make it a one day trip back home that day or spend the night again in Glennallen. It's up to you.

Sixteen AAMA members have already indicated an interest in this tour. If you would like to join us, please call Tamea Isham at 688-3671 ASAP. Interested parties will receive

information in January as to lodging availability, access across the river, planned activities, as well as other details.

## Awards

continued from p. 2

Colony Days Parade: LeRoi Heaven

Alaska State Fair Car Show: Jim Ede

Alaska State Fair Parade: LeRoi Heaven

Christmas Party venue: Art & Tam Isham

Most Improved Vehicle Award committee

- Ron Watts
- Scott Hulse
- Howard Hansen
- Dennis Allen

Logo Redesign Committee

- Tom Cresap
- Tam Isham
- Ron Watts
- Donn Reese
- Dick Henningsen
- Robbie Robinson

Rock Stars? Almost. . .

## Keller/Fosters Head For The Spring Tour Circuit



Photo: Kellers

When Fred Keller and Judy Foster arrived in Las Vegas for the SEMA convention to show their red wagon, they found a stretch limo waiting to take them to their hotel. Judy exclaimed, "We were so impressed with it. It seemed like a city block long, and just for us!!!"

Fred Keller and Judy Foster have garnered lots of attention with the 3.63 scale model Radio Flyer wagon Fred fashioned from a 1976 Mazda pickup.

By now, their escapades with the little wagon are not "news," but they merit retelling here. We may even be able to add a little of the *latest*.

To begin with, the Mazda had just been sitting around—Judy had inherited it from her dad—and Fred wasn't sure what to do with it. The creative juices started to flow—and voilá, the concept was born. What followed was 11 months of fun doing the design and then the construction.

Fred says he had no idea that such a frenzy would ensue. The Radio Flyer fever has gone from local newspapers and TV to national media and beyond. Television stations and print media as far away as Ireland, China and Canada have picked up on it and turned it into a true international phe-

nomenon.

Specialty Equipment Marketing Association invited Judy and Fred to accompany their creation to Las Vegas for the annual SEMA convention. They went and had a blast—all expenses paid—including limo transportation, hotel stay and all in addition to being featured at a show that hosted more than 100,000 people. Fred reports, "it was mind boggling."

They had barely returned home when they received another invitation, this time to Charlotte, North Carolina. Again, all expenses will be paid, but this time they will pull the little treasure down behind their motor home in a covered trailer that Fred is currently building.

Here's what Judy had to say in our Tinkering Times interview:

**TT:** When were you contacted about the Charlotte trip?

**Judy:** We got a call Nov 30, about three weeks after we returned

from Las Vegas SEMA. I don't know how they heard of us or saw pictures of the wagon. We do know that the KTUU video has had 7.5 million hits as of a couple of weeks ago—the most they have ever had, and it crashed two servers. There have also been articles in most of the Lower 48 states, Canada, Australia, China, Ireland & Saudi Arabia from an Associated Press interview. There was a segment on the Daily Planet (Canadian Discovery Channel TV program) about high tech toys in early December.

**TT:** What organization contacted you?

**Judy:** Events Supervisor at Charlotte Motor Speedway. It is in conjunction with the National AACA meet. The wagon will be a featured exhibit in the Showcase Garage. According to the website, the April show attracts over 10,000 flea market vendors and more than 100,000 visitors. The highlight for me is a promise that I can drive the wagon around the race-track! I can pretend to be the pace car even though I won't have any cars following me.

**TT:** When do you figure you will take off for North Carolina?

**Judy:** About March 4 to travel w/ friends as far as Dawson Creek. Want to allow plenty of time for weather and roads. Plan to go through Kansas & Kentucky to visit friends (our home towns). The wagon (previously 1976 Mazda pickup) was my dad's in Kansas.

**TT:** When do you have to be there?

**Judy:** They want us at the Speedway Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> for publicity.

**TT:** How long does the show last?

**Judy:** April 7-10, 2011

**TT:** How many miles do you expect to travel?  
(Please see p. 5, **Radio Stars.**)

# Radio Flyer Stars

Continued from p. 4

*pect to travel?*

**Judy:** Direct route is about 8,800 miles roundtrip plus personal detours.

**TT:** *When do you expect to be back?*

**Judy:** Mid June

**TT:** *Is there anything else of interest you may do along the way?*

**Judy:** I plan to use the opportunity to do some on-site genealogy research in Pennsylvania, New York & maybe Wisconsin on the return trip. We have been invited to take the wagon to the Carlisle, Pennsylvania car show at the end of April, so we might stop there, too.

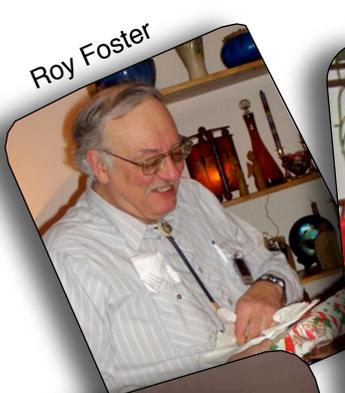
**TT:** *The Antique Auto Musers (and, apparently, a good part of the rest of the world) will look forward to news of the rest of the trip when the Keller/Fosters return from this latest adventure. Where will this lead? Bon voyage, Fred and Judy!*



Photo: Kellers

*This is a picture of the big red wagon at the SEMA convention show. It was taken after set up but before the show was open. The Thursday night awards banquet, Fred drove the wagon to carry the evening's entertainment—a comedian—about 75 or 80 feet to the Stage.*

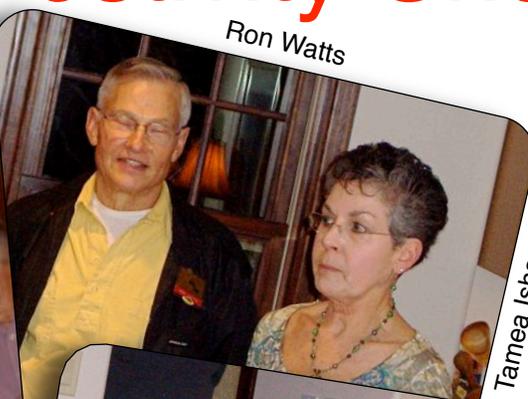
# 2010 Christmas Festivity Shots



Roy Foster



Madeline Dennis



Ron Watts

Tamea Isham



Scott Hulse



Ken and Peg Stout

## Christmas Party Fun

During the Christmas party, President, Donn Reese gives Sara Stoops her certificate for chairing one of this summer's Adopt-A-Road events. Clockwise are Madeline Dennis, Donn, Lisa Combs, Robbie Robinson, Josh Combs/Franklin, Esther Combs, Allan Combs, Bruce and Marl Campbell, Ted Kimzey, Howard Hansen, Roy Foster, Gwyn Wiedmer, Sara Stoops, receiving her award. More photos inside this issue!



## January

### Birthdays

Ralph Centoni—7<sup>th</sup>

Dave Syren—7<sup>th</sup>

Randall Moss—17<sup>th</sup>

Michael

McNamara—20<sup>th</sup>

Bruce Campbell—23<sup>rd</sup>

Donald Morefield—29<sup>th</sup>

Joyce Swanson—30<sup>th</sup>

AAMA  
P.O. Box 232086  
Anchorage AK 99523-2086

