



Robbie's Franklin Visited, Doing Well

Robbie Robinson reports that the family's 1928 Franklin Oxford sedan is finally operative. He visited upstate New York last week and had the pleasure of starting it up and running it for a few minutes in Lee Schopmeier's restoration shop in Gloversville, New York.

There are still a few details—such as the odometer restoration at a shop in Florida, and the sorting out of the wiring harness to the lights to meet modern day requirements—that are outstanding. But he reports that the engine and clock work!

Robbie says he is hoping to get the car back here to Alaska by mid-June. He cautioned, "I may have to wait until the custom car shipper that I used to ship it to New York can route his rig to pick it up from the east

coast."

We are all waiting in anxious anticipation to see this wonderful old

car on the road again.

Cheers to you and your Franklin, Robbie!



Robbie Robinson sits in his 1928 Franklin in the restoration shop of Lee Schopmeier in Gloversville, New York. Lower right insert is a close-up of the famous Franklin air-cooled engine, which is now in running shape.

April Meeting

Our April 9 business meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the AAMA clubhouse at the home of Marianne and Robbie Robinson, 3318 Jerde Circle in Anchorage.

Refreshments will be provided by the Wiedmers.

Thanks go to Henningsens, who provided the goodies for after the March meeting.

Mother's Day Dinner

Tamea Isham has announced that plans for our Mother's Day Dinner have come together. The buffet, which will take place at the Boat House on the shores of Big Lake on May 11, includes Prime Rib, Chicken Oscar, Halibut, Mashed Potatoes or Rice Medley, Tossed Green Salad, Fresh Vegetable in season, Fresh French Bread, Coffee, Tea and Lemonade. You will have a choice of

Dessert: Raspberry Crumble Bar, Cinnamon Chocolate Cake or Strawberry Shortcake.

The cost is \$40 per person, including tip and tax. Any beverages ordered beyond the menu will be charged separately. Please be prepared to pay Tamea on that day by check or cash for your dinner(s).

(See page 4, Mother's Day)

Running Board Reflections



President Mike's 1949 Ford convertible as it looked in the AAMA car show at Northway Mall in Anchorage in 1990. (We think that is the correct date.) At right, Mike and first lady, Gwyn tool around Kennicott during the AAMA/VLNAAC long distance tour in 2011. Kennicott Glacier and Mount Blackburn are in the background.



I think I should be ready. Our first organized outing is April 19 so scant time remains to get our vintage iron in road shape. Here at home I am looking forward to a transformed 1949 Ford. This winter, led by Ken Evans and with the help of many others, we have rebuilt the engine, installed a new (to me) overdrive transmission, repaired and tested the radiator, rebuilt the water pumps, replaced the master cylinder and flex lines, tightened and refreshed the steering linkage, packed bearings, replaced the rear axle, and Scott Hulse upgraded my starter cables. All (I hope) that remains is to reinstall a refurbished gage cluster and that should arrive by the end of this week. Working under the dash for at least an hour is not my favorite way to spend part of my

weekend, but knowing that this will be my last task before enjoying a summer of touring will make the time pass easier.

Your Executive Board met recently and crafted several new ideas to put before you at the April meeting. The Board looks forward to getting your thoughts on these ideas, and any new ones you have. The Board exists to serve you, so tell us what you want.

Our official touring season is now only days away and perhaps you've already taken a cruise during this sunny stretch we've enjoyed. Take a few breaths, because our full slate of summer events is about to launch!

See you on the road.

-Mike



www.antiqueautomusersak.org

2014 Officers

President: Mike Wiedmer 243-7005

Vice President: Brian Anderson
345-9244

Secretary: Pam Tanora 868-1575

Treasurer: Donn Reese 245-7203

Sergeant at Arms: Sara Stoops

Members at Large

Ralph Centoni 345-0869

Tam Isham 688-3671

Kurt Rein 344-5554

Past Presidents (10 years)

Mike Wiedmer (2013)

Howard Hansen (2012)

Donn Reese (2009-2011)

Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)

Jim Fredenhagen (2006-2007)

Fred Schurman (2005)

Diane Allen (2004)

Tinkering Times Staff

Editor: Tom Cresap

Proofing, scheduling and keeping the

old man in line: Marcy Cresap

Send correspondence to:

Tinkering Times

Tom Cresap, Editor

P.O. Box 770703

Eagle River AK 99577

or email:

tmcresap@mtonline.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

Our ads are intended for members and others who wish to sell cars and related items. There is no charge, and the ad will run for three consecutive issues before being removed. To pull an ad, extend it or to place a new ad, contact Tom, 694-7510.

For Sale: Model T parts, wheels, rims, radiator, etc. Kurt, 344-5554 (6)

Wanted: I need a 1932-34 Ford Model B oil pan. Will buy or swap. Ken Holland, 907-317-9580. or doris.holland@gci.net (5)



For Sale: Model A touring/camping trunk/ice box; to be carried on rear-mounted trunk rack; antique. \$200. Tom, 694-7510. (5)



For Sale: 1957 Ford Retractable Hardtop. \$15,000. Contact Art Isham, 907-688-3671 or 907-227-2307 cell. (4)

Secured Enclosed Storage

West Downtown Anchorage location
9'x18'x7-1/2' high space
\$125/month
2 or more spaces-\$100 each Hurry!
Dave Syren,
274-9046 or 440-2982

Schedule of Events

- * April 9-7:30 p.m. Regular Meeting (refreshments: Wiedmers)
- * April 19-12:00, lunch at Eagle River Garcia's followed by light shakedown and pics through Birchwood and potluck dessert at Ishams' (Jim Fredenhagen, 351-3115)
- * May 10-Adopt-A-Road (Cresaps, 694-7510)
- * May 11-Mother's Day (Tamea Isham, 688-3571)
- * May 14-6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Wiedmers)
- * May 17-20-Shake Down Cruise to Homer (Jim Fredenhagen 243-5214)
- * June 6, 8-Joint Meet with VLNAACF (Sara Stoops, 345-5992)
- * June 11-6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (leader?)
- * June 21-Mirror Lake Solstice Car show (MSSRA-Kurt Rein, 344-5554)
- * June 20-26-Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum 3rd Midnight Sun Summer Solstice Cruise-In, Fairbanks and Long Distance Tour to Wiseman (Tam Isham, 688-3671)
- * June 26-Daybreak Cruise (Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- * July 4-Chugiak Parade (Dennis and Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- * July 9-6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Donn Reese, 245-7203)
- * July 12-Adopt-A-Road (Cresaps, 694-7510)
- * July 17-20-Hope Weekend (Allens, 345-6355)
- * August 3-Jay Ofsthun Show and Shine
- * August 13-6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Brian Anderson, 345-9244)
- * August 23-State Fair Parade and Show (Mark Graber 907-745-8570)
- * September ?-Kendall Car Show (Tanoras, 868-1575)
- * September 6 - Adopt-A-Road (Cresaps, 694-7510)
- * September 10-6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (leader?)
- * September 12-14-Denali Tour (Tam Isham, 688-3671)
- * October 8-7:30 Regular Meeting: Nominations (refreshments?)
- * November 12-7:30 Regular Meeting: Elections (refreshments?)
- * December 14-Christmas Party at Ishams' (Tam, 688-3671)

2014 Joint Meet With VLNAAC

Majestic Valley Lodge

Make room reservations at 907-746-2930

or

info@majesticvalleylodge.com

*Friday-Meet at lodge for cook-out and visiting

*Saturday-Car games in morning, barbecue left-overs for lunch, banquet at lodge in evening

*Sunday-breakfast and head home

The End of Your Shipping Woes?

The following was taken from the Carlile Website. Art Isham pointed out this service, and thought it would be of some value to our members who are ordering parts, tires, etc.

Ever had trouble shipping to Alaska or been surprised by expensive shipping costs? Package Express is a "members-only" shipping service that provides Alaska customers a low-cost way to move shipments from Tacoma, WA to Alaska.

Description

Many shippers offer free shipping for online purchases, but it

usually only applies if you ship your freight somewhere in the Lower 48; costs to ship to Alaska are unreasonable. Package Express service gives small businesses and residential Alaska customers a

solution for their shipping needs by providing our members with access to our Tacoma terminal for use as their shipping address.

Upon arrival at our Tacoma,
(See p. 5 Shipping Woes)

March Meeting Minutes

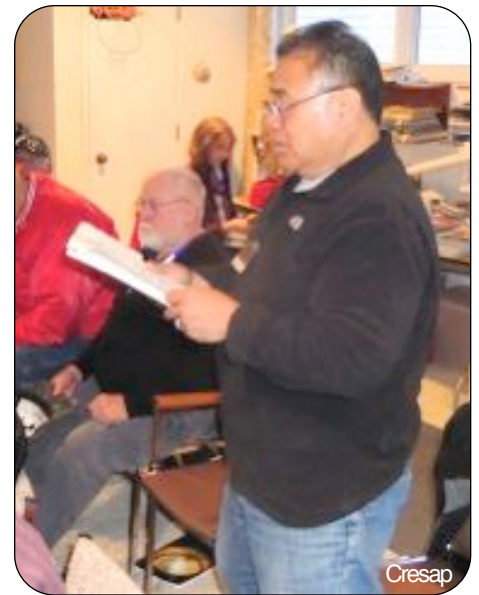
The following information was excerpted from the minutes of the February meeting. Club Secretary Pam Tanora was out of state, so Milt Tanora stood in for her.

Treasurer's Report: Don Reese stated that the club has \$7,237.72 in its checking account. To date, 82 members have paid their dues for 2014, 10 fewer than 2013.

Guests, Bill Thompson and Linda Neslund, were in attendance. They had found the club online, and had been invited by Robbie Robinson to attend our meeting. Bill moved to Alaska last year after receiving an invitation from Linda-whom he met online while looking for cars. Donn provided them with applications to join the club.

Split-the-pot: Sara collected \$42.00. The winner of half that amount was Gwyn Wiedmer.

Other information appeared in this or last-month's *Tinkering Times*.



Milt Tanora was filling in for our secretary, Pam, at the March meeting.

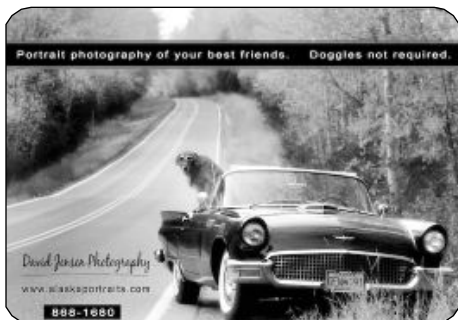
Mother's Day

(Continued from p.1)

So far, 30 persons have signed up. If you would like to join us, please call Tamea at 688-3671 or email her at isham@gci.net by the end of April at the very latest.

FYI: We will be served in the balcony of the Restaurant and will have to climb stairs to get to the dining area. There is a restroom upstairs. We will park the cars a short walk away from the building.

If you want to drive out with the group, we will meet at the Eagle River Fred Meyer at noon on May 11 and leave at 12:30 p.m. for a springtime drive to Big Lake and the Alaska Boathouse Restaurant. The restaurant is in a quiet neighborhood on the lake and there will be a parking area nearby for your car.



Long Distance trip to Coldfoot/Wiseman

Reservations are time sensitive!!

Fairbanks (June 20, 21)

*Bear Lodge 1-800-528-4916 (discount code: CRUISE14)

Coldfoot (June 23 and 24)

*Coldfoot Camp 1-907 474-3500 www.coldfootcamp.com

Restaurant and fuel available.

Wiseman (June 23 and 24)

*Arctic Getaway Cabin and Breakfast 1-907 678-4456

www.arcticgetaway.com

*Wiseman Gold Rush Camp B&B 1-907 479-3213

*Boreal Lodge 1-907-678-4566 www.boreallodge.com

Editorial:

A Tale of Sunglasses and Rusty Gas Tanks

What is that bright thing in the sky? Having experienced Alaska springtime 48 times I should not be surprised by the sudden brightness, but here I am, squinting and resorting to wearing sunglasses. It's such a hard life.

The really uncomfortable thing about spring is the reminder that repairs that have nagged for the entire winter are now shouting to be completed. My 1938 Chrysler Royal has been waiting patiently since last driving season with a squirrely speedometer, a spastic fuel gauge sender, a dirty carburetor and a rusty gas tank.

Excuses that abounded throughout the winter no longer made sense, so I jumped in about two weeks ago and removed the offending parts for needed repair and replacement. The carb made a short trip to Dave Schofield at the Carb Shop in Anchorage, the speedometer went to Reynolds Speedometer in Naples, Florida and the gas tank popped right out without much argument.

That last item, the gas tank, presented a problem. Being an old Ford guy, I was accustomed to picking

up the phone and instantly getting whatever parts I want. Surprise—you don't do that with a Chrysler—especially a 1938.

Google it, you say? I did, and long story short, I ended up with a poly tank instead of the original metal one. This is acceptable for me, because I want to drive the car, not put it in competitive shows. Besides the plastic caveat, however, the new tank was of different dimensions than the original,

and certain installment compensations were necessary.

Well, the installation is complete now, and as soon as I get this newsletter put together and in the mail, I plan to see if it holds gas and supplies it to the engine as required. Then, all that remains is the speedo, and Lucile will be ready to rock and roll in our April 19 cruise with the Model A's.

Wish me luck!

– Tom



Your Tinkering Times editor pulled his 1938 Chrysler Royal into his shop to perform maintenance, repairs and part replacement that had been waiting to be done throughout the winter months. He joins other AAMA members who are surely doing the same.

Shipping Woes

(Continued from p. 4)

Washington terminal we will:

- Accept your shipment
- Create a record of it in our system
- Contact you for payment
- Ship it to the destination terminal, where it will be available for will call pickup

General Information

Visit our website to enroll and calculate your shipping costs. Google:

“Carlile Package Express”

This will take you to their Face Book page, which contains the above message.

AAMA's 2014

Mother's Day Dinner

Join the group 12:00 noon at Fred Meyer's in Eagle River for a leisurely drive to the Valley and a quiet dinner at the Boat House restaurant on the shores of beautiful Big Lake.

May 11, 2014

Contact Tamea Isham, 688-3671 or isham@gci.net

Ah, Spring

Humor by Rich Golding

Ah, it is Spring. The sun is out. The birds are chirping; the days grow longer. According to Alfred Lord Tennyson, "In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love."

Tennyson nailed it. He was, after all, the poet laureate of all England. And a Lord, to boot. You don't come with much better credentials than that.

But had Al ever the chance to own an antique or classic automobile, then certainly the next line of his poem, "Locksley Hall," would have been: "And an old man's thoughts towards getting his automobile ready for the road."

Such was the case on a sunny Sunday for this old man. After a trip to several auto stores for all the necessary soaps, waxes, towels, etc., I readied Irving, my 1971 VW Squareback on the driveway. Carefully, as a doctor lays out his instruments before he attempts heart surgery, so I meticulously arranged everything, from sponges to lotions and polishes, all in proper order atop the asphalt in front of my garage door. Stepping back, my eyes scanned the tools of my passion's trade as I pondered their arrangement of order, making several corrections, and then corrections to corrections, until they were, at last, in the absolute correct order of sequence.

Cleaning one's car is serious business to us old men. The old lady that lives with me watches me from behind our front window, grimacing and occasionally shaking her head. What do women know of such things? They expect that the chariot awaiting them on the morning of the big parade, or a Spring tour, or a weekend car show will be clean and shiny inside and out before they consent to planting their perfectly petite posteriors onto the passenger seat.



God knows, if there is even a single speck of schmutz on said vehicle, she will personally point it out to you, and anybody else within earshot.

Back to the task at hand, I gently, with loving caresses, proceed to wash my precious. There is something very personal in this task. It must be done tenderly, so as not to scratch or mar the delicate surface of my motorized work of art. I find that lugging my stereo system outside onto the driveway and accompanying my work whilst playing Chopin's piano etudes helps greatly in establishing and

maintaining the correct mood and proper ambiance that are so essential to the precise cleansing of my baby's precious skin.

The painted surface, the glass and chrome, are all shampooed, lathered, rinsed, and repeated several times, then anointed with only the finest oils, polishes and waxes, provided from automotive apothecaries in ancient lands far, far away.

The gleam of Spring sunshine was blinding as it shone off the glasslike surface of my glistening Irving. I had

(See p. 7, "Ah, Spring")

2014 Shake Down Cruise to Homer

For lodging: Ocean Shores Hotel provides a convenient location as well as a beautiful sweeping view of Katchemak Bay. They currently show plenty of vacancy for our stay, May 17-20. All rooms are \$94 senior rate, \$99 regular.

1-800-770-7775 oceanshores@acsalaska.net.

Other Homer places that are \$99 are Lands End, 866-599-6674, and Pioneer Inn next to Pratt Museum, 855-201-7819.

Questions: Jim Fredenhagen, 351-3115

Activities include:

- * Saturday, May 17—Drive to Homer: start from Huffman Carr's at 8:00 a.m.
- * Sunday, May 18—Carshow at Wells Fargo from 10 a.m.—4 p.m. then tour to Russian village, Nikolaevsk. Dinner at Homestead restaurant.
- * Monday, May 19—Charter boat (Mako) to Seldovia 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. (walking tour of area) or Homer exploring as desired; picnic dinner and fire at beach park near Ocean Shores motel.



Cresap

We wanted to include this photo in our last issue, but we have just so much space. It is Howard and Barb Hansen's 1953 Kaiser Dragon. Very pleasing on the eyes!

SAVE the DATE
June 20-21
2014

Wedgewood Resort
— and —
Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum

Present Alaska's 3rd Biennial

Midnight Sun Cruise-In
June 20-21, 2014
Wedgewood Resort, Fairbanks, Alaska

Plan to be there!

Alaska's Hottest Classics on the Road!
CAR SHOW June 21st

Car Show Registration & Further Information at
FountainheadMuseum.com | 907.438.4100 | info@fountainheadresort.com

Host Resort Cruise-In Weekend Discount
Three nights at Wedgewood Resort - Double Occupancy only \$99/night
Discount code - CR0034 - Based on availability - June 19 - 21, 2014
* 18-24 before tax and other taxes apply. © Wedgewood Resort 2014

Cruise-In Hotel

Ah, Spring

(Continued from p. 6)

to don sunglasses just to admire him. People from all over the neighborhood, and beyond, were drawn, as if by some magic gravitational force, towards my driveway, to see and experience the magnificence of his glow . . . well, maybe that's a bit of an exaggeration. But my next-door neighbor did comment from his front door how "awesome" Irving was looking. Good enough.

And as I was admiring this paragon of nature, the birth of a new star in a solar system of dirty Dodges, soiled Subarus and muddy Minis, then . . . and only then, does the garage door open and my wife, hellbent on shopping, decide to back her car out and splash my jewel as she passes by him and through the only muck filled pothole to be found along the entire expanse of our driveway.

Such is life, dear reader. Let it be

known that I spent another hour finding every drop of detritus inflicted by my spouse's accursed vehicle onto my glowing pulsar, and cautiously removed them, to reveal the ultimate perfection that is . . . my car.

DISCLAIMER:

I doubt you will see this vehicle anytime in the coming car season, as I have it under lock and key and a waterproof tarp in my garage. It is too beautiful for exhibition, too grand a sight for this grotty, filthy, grungy world.

Cars Needed For Special Events

We have some special-occasion car requests: Wedding, June 14, 4-8pm at Settler's Bay outside Wasilla: this is a 1920's-themed wedding, and the party would like a car 1929 or older to be used as a backdrop for wedding photos. No chauffeuring is required. They would prefer something "open" or a convertible if possible.

Birthday: July 23rd, 5:30-6:00 p.m. is pick up time; the honoree, an 80-year-old lady needs a one-way chauffeur service to her celebration, which will be held at the chalet at Tanglewood Golf Course on the New Seward Highway. This will involve giving her a ride from her house on Hillside to Tanglewood. The family is hoping for something from the 1940's to the 1950's and on the elegant side. It is a themed party with many costumed in the 1940s-early 50s era.

If you are interested in providing a car for either of these families, please contact Donn, 748-0036.



Robinson

So, ever wonder what a Franklin air-cooled engine looks like? Take a look at this one now, because it will soon be covered up with fenders, hood, etc.

April

BIRTHDAYS

Brian Leinon –4th

Linda Neslund–6th

Marcy Cresap–7th

Darrell Krolick–7th

Kathy Centoni–12th

Diane Allen–14th

Joanne Overly – 20th

Lee Truesdell–22nd

Richard Combs–25th

ANIVERSARIES

Carolyn & Jack Rathert–3rd

Doris & Ken Holland–22nd

Anchorage AK 99523-2086

P.O. Box 232086

AAMA

