

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska



Tinkering Times



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June 4, 2014

AAMA Shake Down Cruise Serves Up Some Surprises

2014 Shake Down Cruise

Besides being entertaining, the Shake Down Cruise exists for the purpose of checking the antique systems (both mechanical and human) after a long winter season cooped up inside. AAMA's 2014 event turned out to be true to purpose.

As planned by our leader, Jim Fredenhagen, we left Anchorage at 9:00 May 17th, had lunch at Sunrise Café at Quartz Creek, gassed up in Soldotna and had ice cream at the Caribou café in Soldotna, checked in at our hotel in Homer and had dinner at AJ's Steakhouse.

Sunday, May 18th went according to plan with a car show at Wells Fargo. The day was sunny and beautiful, with a chilly westerly wind, the harbinger of plan-changing things for Monday. After the show, we visited the Old Believer Russian community of Nikolaevsk, then returned to Homer's East End Road for dinner at Homestead Restaurant. Afterwards, we toured Al and Linda Englebretsen's very impressive boat-manufacturing facility.

Along the way that evening, we got the weather forecast for Monday. We had planned to take a water taxi across Kachemak Bay to Seldovia, but learned that high winds and seas would prevent it from happening.

Cancelled Seldovia Trip

The following is a email from Walt and Sachiko Sonen, who live in Seldovia. The little town was all primed for our visit, so we are sure that they shared our disappointment

(See p. 4, "Shake Down Trip")



Three of the eight AAMA cars participating in the Shake Down Cruise to Homer sit in front of the Wells Fargo bank. Left to right, Cresaps' 1938 Chrysler Royal, Campbells' 1957 Ford Skyliner and Ishams' 1980 Mercedes 450 SL.

Mother's Day Run a Family Affair

AAMA's 2014 Mother's Day Run on May 11th saw lots of family participation as the group drove out to The Boat House Restaurant on Big Lake in the valley for dinner.

We enjoyed beautiful, sunny and



If the Run had a competition for the most moms, Tael Christopher Carbaugh would win with great-grandma, Marcy Cresap, mom, Victoria Bennett, "mimi," Christina Cresap-Diaz and "nana," Julie Reid.

warm weather—unseasonable for May—and we had a good time relaxing and watching as the last of the ice melted from the lake.

The restaurant owner was very accommodating and allowed us to park our cars on his lawn, which was

(See p. 2, "Mother's Day")

June Meeting

Our June 11th rolling meeting at Robinson's AAMA clubhouse will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by a cruise with a destination to be announced at the meeting.

Brian Anderson deserves thanks for taking last-month's meeting and arranging the cruise in president Mike's absence.

Running Board Reflections



AAMA president, Mike, and first lady, Gwyn, pose with daughter, Kelly, and grandson, Kayden, while participating in our Mother's Day Run May 11.

I hope you are well rested. We have entered the height of our season and car activities are coming at us fast and furiously. The Majestic Valley Joint Meet with the Fairbanks gang, the Palmer Colony Days show and parade, Serendipity and Daybreak senior center rides, the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Military Appreciation Day car show, the monthly meeting drive-around, three

other Wednesday night drive-arounds, the Fountainhead Solstice Cruise-In, the Wiseman Long Distance Tour, and the Mirror Lake Solstice Car show all offer opportunities to get out with your vintage iron—and that is just the month of June. July will be just as busy.

I look forward to seeing you at some of these events. Until then, I wish you happy cruising. —Mike



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345-9244

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Donn Reese (2009–2011)

Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)

Jim Fredenhagen (2006-2007)

Fred Schurman (2005)

Diane Allen (2004)

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Mother's Day Run Well Attended



(continued from p. 1)

already greening up.

Many thanks go to Tamea Isham, who went to great lengths to arrange details for the day honoring the mothers, grandmothers and even a great-grandmother present. Great job, Tam!

Gwyn Wiedmer beams after receiving a bouquet of flowers from her grandson, Kayden at the Mother's Day Run.

Cresap

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: 1977 VW Beetle Convertible, \$15,000. Call 440-1002 or 345-1268, ask for Howard. (9)



For sale: 1984 MERCEDES BENZ 300 Turbo Diesel; 81000+ miles; very good condition. \$9,000—call Ted Kimzey 344-3349. (9)

For Sale: Model T parts, wheels, rims, radiator, etc. Kurt, 344-5554 (7)

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

- * June 4—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * June 5—1:00-2:30 Serendipity Senior Rides (Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- * June 6—5:00-9:00 Colony Days Car Show
- * June 7—9:00 Colony Days Parade (Line up Borough parking lot; starts at 10:00)
- * June 6, 8—Joint Meet with VLNAACF (Sara Stoops, 345-5992)
- * June 11—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (leader?)
- * June 12—Day Break Senior Rides (Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- * June 14—JBER car show (Mike Wiedmer, 243-7005)
- * June 18—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * 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)
- * July 2—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * July 4—Show up at 9:30 Anchorage parade (Kurt Rein, 344-5554)
- * July 4—Show at 1:00 for 2:00 parade Chugiak Parade (Dennis and Diane Allen, 345-6355)
- * July 8-10—Model T tour to Valdez
- * July 9—6:30 p.m. Rolling Meeting (Donn Reese, 245-7203)
- * July 11—6:00-9:00 Bear Paw Car Show (Just show up, 4:30, Eagle River)
- * July 12—Adopt-A-Road (Cresaps, 694-7510)
- * July 16—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * July 17-20—Hope Weekend (Allens, 345-6355)
- * July 23—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * July 30—Wednesday Cruise (Brian Anderson, 345-9244, 748-1698)
- * August 2—Jay Ofsthun Pre Show (Jewel Lake McDonalds)
- * August 3—Jay Ofsthun Show and Shine
- * August 9—6:00-10:00 Hot August Nights, Palmer
- * 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?)

Colony Days Car Show and Parade

This next weekend is Colony Days in Palmer. On Friday night there's a car show from 5-9p. Like always, park on main street if you want, pay the fee to be judged or display across the street in the parking lot. On Saturday is the parade, lining up at the Borough office parking lot at 9:30 am. After the parade is the Burke's car show in Wasilla from 12-6 p.m. at 490 E Railroad Avenue, behind train depot. See you there...Jim

Shake Down Partly Cancelled, Adventure Added

(Continued from p.1)

when the trip fell through.

"Thanks for your note. Yes, Jim, Buzz, Sachiko and I had made something of a stir. But, you know, it's often that folks make plans to come here and for one reason or another can't make it. Often it works the other way when we can't make it out, so... c'est la vie!

One of the larger fishing boats went to Homer on Monday. It was not a pleasant trip. I spoke with Ted and Colleen and Buzz, as well. It sounds as if everyone had a good time in Homer, and you met some new folks."

Improvised Plans

by Jim Fredenhagen

Four A's (Fena, Yates/Fredenhagen, Golding, and Godsoe) stayed for Monday and had breakfast at the Caribou Family Restaurant, then caravanned all day and started by going to the end of the East End Road pavement, which is quite a twisty, turny, up and down adventure.

On the way back we stopped for an hour at the Home Gear Shed, an outstanding hardware/marine supply store. Not nearly long enough. A must see next year.

Update on Senior Rides

Diane Allen has firmed up the dates for Serendipity and Day Break.

Serendipity will be 1:00 to 2:30 on Thursday, June 5.

Day Break will be 1:00 to 2:30 Thursday, June 12.

Please call Diane (345-6355) if you want to help out. They have restricted space, so we can't have too many cars.



A's at USA Credit Union, Homer



Staesh Kalugin leads tour of the new St. Nicolas church in Nikolaevsk.



Colleen Kimzey, Rich Golding and Ted Kimzey visit with Al Englebretsen in the office of Bay Welding Boat Works in Homer

Headed up the East Hill Road, a second-gear hill climb that connects with the Diamond Ridge Rd. There, we had great views across the Inlet.

Lunched at Don Jose's and had more people ogling the A's. Our one-hour lunch turned into a car show. Great fun.

After a farewell to Rich Golding and a nice nap, we ventured to the Salty Dog and lined up for dinner at Capt. Patties for great local seafood. Even with only three A's left, people came out to ogle.

Finally, for dessert, we lined up at the ice cream shop. The owner was so excited to see us she gave us senior discounts on top of our already discounted milkshakes. Another must do next year.

Tuesday's drive back was leisurely with the Funny River fire to the East and lots of state trucks by the roadside in case the fire changed direction.

We had lunch in Soldotna with three local A'ers there: Carroll Eby, Barb Dille, and Paul Reger.

Jim and Shirley Fena turned off at their home in Sterling, and Yates/Fredenhagen and Godsoe got back to

(See p. 5, "Adventure Added")

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

Fourth of July Parades

Chairpersons for the Anchorage and Chugiak 4th or July parades, Kurt Rein and Diane Allen respectively, have reported on Independence Day activities.

Kurt tells that the Anchorage event is again poorly organized, but that we should show up between 9:00 and 9:30 in order to find each other.

Just go to the regular location and ask one of the officials where to go. The theme is very creative: "We love our country."

Diane Allen says that the Chugiak Forth of July Parade starts at 2:00 pm. We should arrive about 12:30 pm to give us time to take advantage of the free hot dogs and burgers provided by

Moose Horn.

We expect to park in the same place as usual, across the street from the Fire House on the old Glenn.

After the parade, we will adjourn to the Cresaps' for our traditional picnic. For this, please remember to bring your own chair and a potluck dish.

If you have questions or need directions, call Diane, 345-6355.

Adventure Added to Shake Down

(Continued from p.4)

Anchorage about 5:30 in very light traffic.

It was a great shakedown tour. We'll try again next year for Seldovia and send our sincere thanks to Walt and Sachiko Sonen for their help in making the preparations.

Added Adventure

by Marcy Cresap

My sister Joann was visiting and went along on the Shake Down Tour to Homer with us. After Homer, we detoured to Seward, where we had a wonderful time at the Sea Life Center before doing the Kenai Fjords tour. We saw seals, otters, dolphins, sea lions, mountain goats along the shore, a gray whale, a humpback, eagles and lots of other birds at the rookeries. We got back to Seward at 5:10, and after gassing up we were on our way back to Anchorage. Or so we thought.

About 10 miles out of Seward Lucile (our 1938 Chrysler) stalled, and we coasted into a pullout. Tom checked everything and decided it was the fuel pump.

An elderly Texas couple on their way to Fairbanks stopped and offered to take Tom back to Seward.

Since we were in a dead zone and could not use our cell phone to call, Tom accepted the offer and was able to arrange for road-side-assistance through our insurance.

At 11:00, Ken Hamilton of Hamilton's Towing in Cooper Landing arrived with a rollback, and

our little misadventure ended at 2:00 the next morning, when we rolled into our driveway and were able to tuck Lucile away in her stall.

All's well that ends well. We got to spend a restful night at home, and less than a week later Tom received a new pump from Roberts Auto Parts in Massachusetts and installed it. Lucile is spry as ever, and we are ready for our next adventure.

We want to extend a very special thank-you to our planners: Jim Fredenhagen, Buzz Wallace, Walt and Sachiko Sonen and Tamea Isham. We would be remiss if we neglected to mention some of many wonderful folks that welcomed us to Homer and made our stay there outstanding. These include Al and Linda Englebretsen at Bay Welding, the staff at Ocean Shores (who allowed some of us to cancel a night due to weather) AJ's Steak House and Homestead Restaurant for excellently prepared and served meals. This was an unforgettable trip and a wonderful way to start the 2014 summer touring

Long Distance Trip

The LD tour is from June 20 through June 26. It includes time in the Fairbanks area for a Salmon Bake, car show at the Fountainhead and Cruise-in, a banquet and a tour of a mine in Ester. Then it's on to Wiseman north of the Arctic Circle to visit the mining area and return.

The following have indicated that they are either going all the way or at least to Fairbanks: Truesdell, Cresap, Dryden, Godsoe, Kimzey, Byrd, Isham, Fredenhagen, Bartlett, Holland, Watson, Campbell and Yates.

If anyone else is planning on going, please let Tam Isham or Jim Fredenhagen know so that you can be included in the updates. Details as to departure times, etc. will be forthcoming and sent to participants via email. Tam: 688-3671; Jim: 351-3115

Car Needed For Special Event

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, please contact Donn, 748-0036.

Of Bovines and Wine

Humor by Rich Golding

A more pleasant Memorial Day weekend one could not possibly imagine. My wife and I, having flown all night, arrive in San Francisco, hop into our rental car and head north to the Napa valley for three days of golden sunshine, relaxation in the mineral baths of Calistoga, and a true test of exactly how much self-induced oenophilic pleasure our kidneys can endure.

The drive through the Northern California countryside is idyllic. There are limitless vineyards and farmlands as far in every direction as our bloodshot eyes can see. Traversing hill and dale from one winery to another our powerful modern chariot climbs and glides effortlessly over and through forest and glade. Windows rolled down, the wind is in our hair. The sun is captured in a glint upon the rims of our sunglasses. Bacchus beckons us along winding highways, in search of the perfect blend of

cabernet sauvignon, merlot, laughter and paradise.

The farm animals are ever present in field after field. Cows, sheep, horses. All take for granted their good life in the California sun. They don't comprehend anything of the hardships of existence in the 49th state. They've never known bitter cold or snow, nor massive swarms of ravenous gigantic mosquitoes. They just enjoy their day-to-day existence, soaking up the rays and lurching on the golden grass.

The sedentary cows ignore the cars as they whiz by. Vehicle after vehicle full of happy tourists on their quest for the ultimate winery – compelled by the seduction of a sauvignon blanc or perhaps a cask of cabernet. Their personal quest is to attain the zeitgeist of zinfandel and arrive at the Valhalla of voignier. Life is good.

Most passengers traversing these highways in search of that perfect grape seem blissfully ignorant of the

animals too. Their minds focus only on the next tasting room, snug and suitable for the entertainment of idiosyncrasies.

Not I, dear reader. This Alaskan, having just endured a Denali-sized winter, requires more. I want to smell the grass and feel the warm breezes. I want to be one with these creatures. I want to tell the animals just how lucky they are.

Gliding by an open pasture of grazing cows, I stick my head out the window and bellow out an enormous "Moooooo . . . Moooooo . . . Moooooo." The cows seem completely unaffected and continue their quiet ritual of sun worship. I try again, this time with more passion "Moooooo . . . Moooooo!" My impeccable impersonations seem unappreciated by its intended audience along the highway. My wife's laughter, and a sign quickly approaching at the side of the highway directing us towards still another treasure of vineculture capture my eye, and my attention is refocused on our destination, never realizing that a particular cow had indeed heard me, and reared his head in amazement. He glances over to his companions and excitedly bellows out:

"Elmer, Daisy, Ethel . . . look at that . . . there's a cow driving that car!"

This sudden bovine revelation stuns the entire community of cows, and it shall surely remain the topic of excited conversation for days, perhaps weeks or possibly generations to come. The word is sure to spread, from farm to farm, county to county, from sea to shining sea. Cows are on the road to enlightenment. Your morning glass of milk, your cottage cheese or lunchtime yogurt may never be the same.

Once more an Alaskan has changed the world!



Cresap

Rich Golding poses with his wife, Linda Maddes-Golding and their daughter, Connie at the Fred Mayer parking lot in Eagle River while participating in the Mother's Day Run on May 11. Along with the rest of the AAMA'ers, they were enjoying sunshine appropriate for Napa Valley—though without the abundant wineries.



Sunshine Corner

Update on Boyd Watson

Thought I'd give an update on Boyd Watson's stroke condition.

He's been improving dramatically over the last few weeks, to the point where he'll probably go home within the next week.

Most of the functions on his left side have returned. Redeveloping strength and coordination will take time and he'll use a walker.

He is in room 220 at the Providence Rehab facility on Boniface north of DeBarr. Therapy sessions are in the morning, so afternoon or evening would be best for visits.

—Jim Fredenhagen



Just havin' some fun... Ken Karcz, Jenna Fredenhagen, Kelly and Kayden Karcz and Gwyn Wiedmer at the Mother's Day Run. Colleen Kimzey, Joann Villa visit at the car show in Homer. Ken Holland and Bob Bartlett at the Memorial Day Car Show.



Tamea and Art Isham flank their granddaughter, Madeline and daughter, Jennifer in front of their 1930 Model A Ford Town Sedan on the grounds of The Boat House Restaurant on Big Lake during AAMA's 2014 Mother's Day Run.

DENALI TRIP 2014

The 2014 Denali trip is scheduled to travel to Healy on Friday, September 12, go through the Park on Saturday, September 13 and return home on Sunday, September 14.

We will have a group dinner the evening of the 12th.

The following have already indicated that they plan to go: Cresap, Allen, Syren, Dryden, Isham and Hulse. There will be a sign-up sheet at the June meeting for those interested.

I suggest that if you have any intention to go that you make your reservations *now* at either Denali Park Hotel at 1 907 683-1800 or Nord Haven at 1 800 683-4501.

You can always cancel.

If you have questions, contact Tam Isham at 688-3671 or isham@gci.net.

Notice

At the March 2014 AAMA Board Meeting we discussed event coordination and the possibility of creating an event chair; someone who would coordinate with the individual event chair volunteers as to their planning, especially as regards dates and times. This person would also maintain the event calendar, a job currently managed by two or three board members. The intent of this official position is to ensure our many events have a volunteer chair, limit event date overlap or clustering, and help locate resources an event may require.

After discussion about existing board member's duties it has been suggested we add this duty to the Vice President's official job description in the club's bylaws. The suggested change is shown below in red and will be presented to the club at the June 2014 business meeting for ratification by the members.

ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS: Section 2, Vice President:

- a. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence or upon the vacancy of the Presidency.
- b. **The Vice President shall be responsible for coordinating club events and activities and for maintaining the club's event calendar. This shall be a supervisory duty, working with the individual event chairs to coordinate event details.**



Cresap

Dennis Allen displayed his 1951 M38 Jeep at the Memorial Day Car Show at the Northway Mall on May 26th. About a dozen Antique Auto Musers showed their cars that day, which turned out to be a little hazy due to fires in the Funny River area.

June

Birthdays

Rick Mingo-1st

David Nolta-8th

Shirley Cordle-12th

Marilyn Chiotti-18th

Madeline Belleau-19th

Kurt Rein-19th

Frank Neary-21st

Barbara Hansen-23rd

Anniversaries

Mary & Lawrence Taylor-10th

Kathy & Ralph Centoni-15th

Joyce & Bill Chace-18th

Marl & Bruce Campbell-21st

Betty Westcott & Lee

Plummer-22nd

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AAMA

