

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska



# Tinkering Times



Volume 54, Number 12

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

December 9, 2014

## AAMA's 2014 Christmas Party!

The 2014 AAMA Christmas party will take place at Day Break Center–9210 Juniper Drive–on Saturday, December 13. It will go from 4–8 p.m. We have had some scheduling, venue and activity changes, so take note!

We are including a map below with directions to Day Break just in case you may have mislaid last-month's Tinkering Times.

In addition, this year *we will not have the Chinese Auction*, so you do not have to bring an exchange gift. We will have gifts—a one-time event that we hope will be an entertaining and surprising departure from the old routine.

The meal will consist of turkeys (Kimzeys and Tanoras) ham (Ishams) mashed potatoes (Wiedmers) gravy (Tanoras) and punch (Allens) augmented by potluck items. Members are asked to bring the usual fare of vegetables, salads, desserts and hors d' oeuvres. Each family has a specialty that traditionally balances out well. We do not have use of the kitchen, so if you think you need a warmer or hot plate for your offering, bring it. Also, bring an extension cord if it is required. Please take your left-overs, pots, pans, spoons with you when you leave.

We want to leave the facility cleaner than it was when we arrived.

Since we do not have the expense of a gift, we are hoping that everyone will take our suggestion and make a monetary donation to Day Break.

As usual, we will collect canned goods for the shelters or pantries.



# Running Board Reflections



*Looking back on the year, we see Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer and their 1959 Ford, enjoying the Denali Tour in September.*

This is the season of reflection, remembrances, and thanks and I've been recalling our events of 2014 and the people who made them happen. My memories will certainly be different from yours, and I apologize to those I unintentionally leave out, but here is my list of some of the major AAMA events of 2014:

The Ishams and the Cresaps started us out in song and oath as Masters of Ceremony for the January club induction of officers. Kurt Rein and Donn Reese stepped up again to chair the February Fur Rendezvous parade and car show, and Bill Brown, his family, and his staff graciously, for the third year, hosted the car show in the Bob's Services shops

As in past years, we toured extensively this year. In May we celebrated Mothers, with a wonderful meal at the Boat House Restaurant on the shores of Big Lake, an event organized by Tam Isham. Later in May Jim Fredenhagen and Buzz Wallace piloted the second annual Shake Down Cruise to Homer. Jim continued stoking our driving enthusiasm by leading many Model A plus tours from late winter to late fall along south-central Alaska's byways. These tours included a mid-April trip from Eagle River to the Isham's in Peters Creek, a late July trip to a picnic at the Isham's, the Fall Colors tour to Seward, and October's Trouthouse run. Jim Fredenhagen and Tam Isham joined forces to organize the combined Summer Solstice Cruise-In and Long Distance tour to Fairbanks, and then on to the Arctic Circle and Wiseman. The Ishams followed by once again herding in mid-September a stalwart group of adventurers in five vintage automobiles (including Barry and

Doris Fowler's 99-year-old Model T), and two not-so-vintage vehicles through the wilds of Denali National Park.

Sara Stoops and Team Isham guided us through the Joint Meet at Majestic Valley Lodge near Eureka Summit. Our meet leaders crafted wonderful camaraderie, food, entertainment, and events. Once again, AAMA hospitality shone bright as we allowed our Vernon Nash club guests to win a disproportionate number of prizes. Upon our return from Eureka, Kurt Rein coordinated our participation in Anchorage's July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, the Allen's ran our entry in the Chugiak July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, and the Cresap's again hosted a delightful Independence Day picnic at their home.

Diane Allen extended her decades-long tradition of bringing vintage cars to both the Daybreak and Serendipity Adult Care centers where we give rides to those who were young when our cars were young. Dennis and Diane Allen also maintained their tradition of coordinating our mid-July fun during Hope's Wagon Trail Festival. New this year was AAMA's first musical theater production: "Bessie's Boil" written (not for the stage) by Robert Service.

Brian Anderson invented a new summer activity for AAMA—the Wednesday evening drive-around—and we grabbed this opportunity to tour new roads on the way to both new and old dining establishments. Tom and Marcy Cresap hosted our three summer Adopt-a-Road cleanups of East Northern Lights Boulevard; ensuring that the roadsides were tidy and the crew well fed. Donn Reese coordinated an impromptu trip up the Knik River to meet Australian travelers, and fellow vintage car enthusiasts, Peter and Carol Jones. Mark Graber followed in August when he organized our participation in the Palmer State Fair parade and show.

At August's Show & Shine car show, Alaska's largest; Donn Reese led our coordination with the Midnight Sun Street Rod Association, Dennis Allen fed us under his awning, and we were joined by a large contingent from Fairbanks's Vernon Nash club. Tina and Schon Torrey won the coveted Jay Ofsthun trophy

(See p. 3, "Running Board")



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## 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

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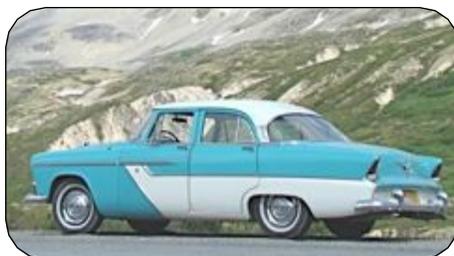
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## One Man's Treasures

*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:** Four Coker 600 R16 tires; BW, radial tube type with tubes; very good condition—8,000 miles, like new, and at a great price. Ken Holland, 907-357-3889. (3)

**For Sale:** 1930 Model A Ford Pickup, with short bloc; runs really well, and is in very good shape. \$17000.00—Lloyd E Weeks, 562-7082 or 229-2369 (2)



**For Sale:** Our dependable driver has had lots of TLC. Great chrome, deluxe trim package, replaced interior, newer tires, V8 with dual exhaust, AT; very good value at \$9,400. Price goes up next spring. Scott Grundy, 907-457-3526. (1)

## Schedule of Events

- \* December 13—4:00-8:00: Christmas Party at Day Break Center (Tam, 688-3671)
- \* January 14—7:00 Regular Meeting at Day Break: Installation of Officers (Christmas leftovers, Diane Allen and Donn Reese)
- \* February 11—7:00 Regular Meeting at Day Break Center
- \* February 28—Fur Rendezvous Parade (Kurt Rein, 335-5554)
- \* February 28, March 1—Fur Rendezvous Show at Bob's services (Art Isham, 688-3671 and Donn Reese, 245-7203)
- \* March 11—7:00 Regular Meeting at Day Break Center
- \* April 8—Regular Meeting at Day Break Center
- \* May 13—Regular Meeting at Day Break Center

## Running Board Reflections

(continued from p. 2)

with their wonderful 1930 Model A rumble seat coupe. Milt Tanora did a fantastic job arranging, and provisioning, our last show of the season; the second annual Ken Stout car show at Kendall Porsche/Audi/Volkswagen on a warm and sunny September 20th. I yearn still for some of Milt's pulled-pork sandwiches.

I thank my fellow executive board members: Vice President Brian Anderson who stepped in during my absences, Treasurer Donn Reese who kept us solvent, Secretary Pam Tonora who miraculously tracked our meeting chaos, and our members at large: Tam Isham, Ralph Centoni, and Kurt Rein. Each month Sergeant-at-Arms Sara Stoops was our enforcer (mostly of name tags) and added to our coffers by running our Split-the-Pot fundraiser. Art Isham and Ted Kimzey stepped to the plate this autumn as members of the Nominating Committee—charged with collaring a slate of 2015 club officers.

Special thanks must be given to Donn Reese for building, updating, and maintaining our fine AAMA website—I find this website an

invaluable resource. Tom and Marcy Cresap are highly-deserving of the series of national awards their monthly newsletter the *Tinkering Times* has garnered. I am in awe of the effort and talent they put in each and every month. The *Tinkering Times* kept us informed and entertained through the contributions of many and I thank every author who contributed to our entertainment and education.

This fall we said goodbye to our club haven of 18 years provided so generously by the Robinson family. Words cannot begin to express my appreciation to the Robinson clan for their phenomenal support through all these years. Our Club Meeting Location committee of Donn Reese (chair), Brian Anderson, Tam Isham, Tom Cresap, and Pam Tanora thoughtfully and meticulously worked through many suggestions to generate a short list of recommended meeting venues, and the club selected Day Break as our new home. Additional thanks go to Diane Allen for her input and negotiation skills in securing the venue.

Not all was fun and adventure this year as we lost dear members of our

AAMA family. We mourn the passing in 2014 of long-term club members and friends Bert LaValley, Robbie Robinson and Laura Reese. Their departure leaves a sorrowful void, but we also reflect in pleasure at the good times we shared.

Finally I would like to thank all of you who came out in 2014 to our car shows, our tours, our community outreach programs, our Adopt-a-Roads, our parties, and all other AAMA events—you make this club worthwhile. Until we next meet, I wish you all a very happy and healthy 2015!

—Mike

Merry  
Christmas!

Think Rondy

# Naughty or Nice: Have You Paid Your Dues?

This is the month everyone is worried whether they have made Santa's 'good' or 'bad' list. Well, the Antique Auto Musers Treasurer keeps a list too, but it's more basic: are you even on the list? By that I, of course, mean the 'paid members' list.

As of December 1st we stand at

56 members paid for 2015 dues, which means we are shy roughly 30 members as compared to the 2014 roster.

If you haven't paid you have until December 31 before going into arrears. Take a moment now, while you are thinking about it and write

that check for \$30, and send it to AAMA's P.O. Box.

Oh, and since you already have the checkbook out, remember to also make a dues payment to our national club - \$35 to AACA.

-Thanks,

Donn Reese, Treasurer

## November Minutes

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska  
November 12, 2014

The meeting was held at Day Break adult day care facility on Juniper Drive. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Mike Wiedmer. Thirty people were in attendance.

Our new meeting place will be the back room with tables, restrooms, coffee and a direct exit door at the Day Break facility. The president thanked the committee, chaired by Donn Reese for finding a new meeting home for the club.

Donn Reese shared information about his mother, Laura's, service to be held on November 22, at the Day Break facility. The service time is set for 1:00 - 5:00.

The October meeting minutes were read and approved with the addition of a "Model A Hupmobile" attending the Model A fall tour.

Donn Reese, the treasurer, reported that we have \$7370.00 in the checking account. To date there are 51 paid members for 2015.

John Russell attended the meeting and announced he would become a member for 2015. Also Laura Therriault from Valdez, a longtime member of the club was in attendance.

Split the pot was \$48.00 and won by Will Anderson.

Nametag payment resulted in \$0.75 collected by Sara Stoops, Sgt. at Arms.

### Old Business:

Ted Kimsey gave a summary of the Trouthouse Tour. There were somewhere between 11 and 15 Model A's, and everyone had a good time.

Peg Stout shared information about the October 15, Cook Inlet Car Show,

eight people attended with antique vehicles. The facility was great and the folks were very cordial.

### New Business:

A 1948 Lincoln is available for sale. It belonged to the Sullivan's and was part of Antique Auto Musers during the 1970's. It has been stored on a garage. Brian reported there was a 1965 Rover, four door sedan available on Craig's List.

Fur Rendezvous for 2015: Saturday, February 28 is the parade. Kurt Rein will chair the parade. The car show will be February 28 and March 1, Art and Tam Isham will chair the show. We hope Bob's Service will be hosting us once again. We are also hoping they will sponsor the club for the Fur Rondy booklet with a substantial ad.

We have been contacted by Pioneers, for an event for September 24 and 25, 2015, at Raven Hall at the Palmer fairgrounds. Mike Wiedmer has been in contact with them and will chair the event.

Donn reported that per Article 11 of the bylaws of AAMA, the board set the dues at \$30 for 2015. There was a motion to pay dues of \$30 for 2015, it was seconded and voted approval.

Christmas Party; there was discussion of using the Day Break facilities. It was voted to be held on Saturday the 13th of December, at Day Break. The time is set for 4:00 - 8:00, with workers starting at 2:30 and all others will show up at 4:00. Milt Tanora and Colleen Kimsey will provide turkey. Kurt Rein, Tam and Art Isham, Diane Allen, and Donn Reese will work on the party details.

According to Article 6, section 1, of

our bylaws, the nomination committee announced the slate of officers for 2015 at the October meeting. The November newsletter contained the slate of officers and provided ballots for the members to use. Candidates were:

Brian Anderson - President

Gwyn Wiedmer - Vice President

Pam Tanora - Secretary

Sargent at arms - Sara Stoops

Since all the candidates were unopposed, a motion was made from the floor to accept the slate. The motion was seconded and approved.

After the election, the names of volunteers for 2015 Members at Large were placed in a hat. These were: Kurt Rein, Tam Isham, Dennis Allen and Tom Cresap.

John Russell pulled Tam's, Dennis' and Kurt's names from the hat.

Marcy and Tom Cresap, and Tam and Art Isham will be the installation of officers committee for the January meeting.

AAMA has been meeting at Robbie's Clubhouse from January, 1997 to October, 2014-almost 17 years. On the evening of December 3<sup>rd</sup>, The Relocation Committee will pack up items to be removed from that facility.

Refreshments for January 14, 2015 meeting (installation of officers) are Diane Allen and Donn Reese.

The president reviewed November birthdays and anniversaries.

Tonight is the birthday of Rich Golding and Scott Hulse.

A motion to adjourn at 8:15 was accepted, followed by fun, visiting and good refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Tanora

# Sticking Through Christmas

Humor by Rich Golding

Finding the perfect Christmas gift for my mother was never very difficult. When you are a small child, mothers seem to appreciate anything handmade. Blinded by an all-consuming love, they will gladly accept just about anything you could possibly give them.

I remember one holiday season when I presented my mother with a stick. It was a nice one, as sticks go. I found it outside, brought it into my room, and cleaned and polished it. I added some holiday glitter and tied a bow around it.

My mother began to cry when I gave it to her. I remember she grabbed me, and held me very tightly and kissed me several times.

Between tears of joy she whispered phrases like "It's so beautiful! How did you know I wanted one of these? I'll treasure it always!"

High praise for a stick. But Moms are easy to please.

It worked out so well that I decided to go show my father the stick I had made for him. I ran into the living room, where he was in his chair, asleep, watching the game on TV.

"Hey Dad," I yelled out, "look what I made for you for Christmas." I was holding the stick behind my back, ready to surprise him with it.

"Huh . . . what . . ." he snorted as he awoke. "Move over, you're blocking the game!"

The stick and I took a step to the left.

"Wanna see the cool gift I made you for Christmas? Teacher showed us how. I made it wit my own widdle hans just for you, Daddy!" If I recall correctly, I was about seventeen years old at the time.

"Yah, sure, move over a little more, you're blocking my beer." I took another step to the left, but there was no beer on the table beside him. "What the Hell happened to that damned beer?" he grumbled loudly. He yelled off to my mother in the kitchen, "Phyllis, where the Hell is my

beer?"

"You drank it, so I threw out the can," said Mom, entering the living room with another of what seemed like an endless procession of beers. Placing it on the table, the excitement in her voice was hard to miss. "Art, did you see what Ricky made for you for Christmas?"

"Huh, yah . . . WHAAAT THE HELL!" he wailed, jumping up from his chair and shaking his fist at the TV as he cursed out a player on the screen. Plopping back into his chair, he grabbed his beer.

"ART," howled my mother.

"Whaaa?"

"Have you seen the present Ricky made for you? He made it just for you Art, all by himself. Isn't it wonderful? Don't you just love it?"

I then revealed from behind my back that masterpiece of old world craftsmanship I had meticulously labored over for so many hours, expressly for my dearest father. In his own inimitable style, Dad's response was immediate and, as always, directly to the point.

"What the Hell is that?" he barked. "Looks like a stick! What am I supposed to do with a stick? Why would he make me a stick? What do I need with a stick?" Taking his eyes off the screen and the game for a moment, and glancing at my mother, he uttered his soon-to-be famous catchphrase for his only son "What the Hell is wrong with that boy?"

I edged up closer to Mom. I could feel her body tensing up. I knew from experience and the indisputable vibrations pulsating about the room that she was about to start crying any minute now. Not a full-fledged waterworks, mind you. Rather, a wistful, lightly controlled sob. It was an incredibly persuasive tool in commanding the attention of her family.

She waived her own gifted stick at my father. "He spent his whole day making these beautiful gifts just for us. With his own hands!" Precision tears accompanied each word in

perfect unison.

"Yes, but it's a stick, Phyllis - it's a stick! What the Hell am I supposed to do with a stick? What do I need with a stick? Who gives their father and mother a stick? What the Hell is wrong with that boy?"

My mother stared intently at my father. She clearing her throat of all sobs and tears, and played her trump card, trumpeting out a deafening "ARRRT" like a disgruntled Master Sergeant at inspection.

There was no use, Dad was smart enough to know when he was out-gunned. Snapping to attention, he grabbed the stick and coerced a smile across his face.

"Well . . . thanks . . . you know, I've always wanted one of these," he whispered, and patted me on the head with the hand that wasn't holding the beer.

Holidays back home were usually filled with such life and drama.

Christmases were never the same after I left home, got married and had kids of my own. My wife comes from a huge family, and she expects, nay, *demands* elaborate and extravagant gala family gatherings with food and music and candles and gifts under the tree and lots of hugging and such. It's as if you're expecting Charles Dickens to show up at any minute.

Gone are the days of my small family's simple holiday conflagrations. Gone too are my parents. My father passed some 25 years ago. Mom left us about five years after Dad.

Being the dutiful son, I remember flying back home after my mother's passing and sorting through her things. Dad hadn't left much when he died. Nor, it seems did my mother. They were simple folks, unconcerned with possessions. Both from a simpler time.

In Mom's hope chest I found some old photos of the family, her wedding dress folded up neatly, and much to my delight and surprise, an old stick with glitter and a bow on it.

# December Birthdays and Anniversaries

## December Birthdays

Howard Hansen-1

Brian Anderson-2

Kay Graham-6

Linda Mattes Golding-7

Jim Ede-8

Doris Holland-12

Hank Raymond-12

Liz Mingo-15

Dennis Allen-17

Art Isham-18

Colleen Kimzey-20

Barbara Tullis-20

Tom Cresap-21

Peg Stout-24

Marl Campbell-28

...and a Merry Christmas to you!



## Anniversary

Marilyn & Dave Chiotti-2

Doris & Barry Fowler-14

Barbara & Dick

Henningsen-15

Tamia and Art Isham-18

Joanne & Dutch Overly-29

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AAMA

