

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska



# Tinkering Times



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October 5, 2016

## Stormy 2016 Denali Tour Still Unique Experience

A trip into Denali National Park in your own car is a unique experience. For the entire season, May to September, that the park is open—park rules prohibit driving the road. Why is that—you might ask—I can drive into Yosemite, Yellowstone or any National Park. Yes, but Denali is different.

The answer has to do with the inherent problems that would come from unrestricted traffic, necessitating that the dirt road be brought up to standards by widening, paving and installing guard rails on dangerous sections. It would cause safety problems, lead to pollution, frighten and endanger wildlife and damage the environment.

In order to both allow visits to and preserve the original wilderness habitat of the animals and the natural beauty of the mountains, rivers and streams, park administrators made the decision many years ago to allow only park busses to be the only vehicles on the over 90 miles of road. Judging from the behavior of drivers on public roads nowadays, that was an extremely wise decision, indeed.

Only two conditions supersede this rule: (1) Inholders, people who have grandfather rights in Kantishna, the mining town at the end of the park road, can obtain a right-of-way pass to access their property any time of the year when the road is open and maintained. (2) At the very end of the tourist season in September, 400 cars enter and can drive

October: the month for annual AAMA nominations. Come on in to the meeting and volunteer for a position on the board.



Cresap

*Standing next to his 1934 Ford Fordor, Dennis Allen reacts appropriately to the jaw-dropping sight of Doris and Barry Fowler preparing to depart into Denali Park in their 1914 Ford Touring. The weather was cloudy, cold and very windy, so the open car did not appear to be the best choice for the day.*

the entire 93 miles on a lottery system.

These two conditions have led to AAMA's annual trek into the park. Each year, we all apply for lottery tickets in order to pool them and get enough for about a dozen cars to drive in. If we come up short, we obtain right-of-way passes from a friendly mine owner, Greg Kreig, whose mine is located a short distance from the park road about 90 miles back.

This year, we went in on September 20<sup>th</sup>, the very last day of the lottery opening. The snow was creeping down the hills, but it hadn't yet reached the road.

(See p. 4, Denali Tour)

## October Meeting

Come to the October meeting and add your 2 cents. This is a regular business meeting, so we will convene at 7:00 PM, so if you fail to read this notice, you will just be getting there a half-hour early.

It's time for nominations. Come and join the nominating committee or volunteer to run for office.

We would like to thank Mike Wiedmer for arranging last week's driveabout, which ended at Kay's Restaurant. Very enjoyable.

This week, we will be "dining in." David Jensen and Scott Hulse will be providing the goodies.

# Running Board Reflections



Lord

Brian poses with his 1948 Ford while participating in the 2016 AAMA Shake Down Cruise to the Knik River Lodge in May.

Now that our 2016 driving season is complete, it's time to begin the process of electing members to the AAMA Executive Board. The Board consists of four corporation officers: president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary; and three members-at-large. According to our by-laws, the Board has "the power to proceed in any manner as may, in their judgment, serve the interests of the (AAMA) Corporation." The Board reviews the budget, plans for club activities, and handles details that would be unwieldy to manage at a membership business meeting. With the exception of some limited purchasing authority, all decisions of the Board are subject to approval by the general membership.

The election process begins with appointment of a nomination committee that will assemble a recommended slate of officer candidates for presentation to the membership for an election to be held at the November business

meeting. At that time, three volunteering members-at-large will be selected at random (names drawn from a "hat"), and confirmed by a voice vote.

Please consider running for one of the elected officer positions, or volunteering to serve as a member-at-large. We have a great club because members step up to take on these important administrative duties. Personally, I've really enjoyed serving on the Board, working with enthusiastic people and getting a better understanding of how an organization like ours functions. All of the current officers have served for at least two years, and some considerably longer. Of course, there's always a benefit to having fresh ideas to consider, and this is your opportunity to help guide the club into the future. When the nominating committee calls, I hope you'll be able to respond in the affirmative.

—Brian



## 2016 Officers

President: Brian Anderson 345-9244

Vice President: Gwyn Wiedmer  
243-7005

Secretary: Pam Tanora 868-1575

Treasurer: Donn Reese 245-7203

Sergeant at Arms: Milt Tanora

## Members at Large

Dennis Allen 345-6355

Howard Hansen 345-1268

Scott Hulse 240-4028

## Past Presidents (10 years)

Brian Anderson (2015)

Mike Wiedmer (2013-14)

Howard Hansen (2012)

Donn Reese (2009-2011)

Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)

Jim Fredenhagen (2006-2007)

Fred Schurman (2005)

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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.*

### Secured Enclosed Storage

West Downtown Anchorage location  
9'x18'x7-1/2' high space  
\$150/month for single  
2 spaces—\$225  
Dave Syren,  
440-2982

## Schedule of Events

- \* October 8— Trouthouse Run (A Model A event, Jim Fredenhagen, 351-3115)
- \* October 12—7:00 Regular Meeting at Day Break Center (Refreshments: David Jensen and Scott Hulse)
- \* November 9—7:00 Regular Meeting at Day Break Center (Tanoras)
- \* December 10—Christmas Party at Day Break (Ishams and Allens)



**For Sale:** 1972, Chevrolet C-10, 34,668 miles, 350 small block, dual exhaust, custom sound system, prismatic paint, owners moving south, \$15,000. Matt Dean 907-441-5427, Marty Dean 907-441-5477



**FOR SALE:** 1964 Ford Falcon Futura Convertible; 6 cyl., auto trans., \$10,000 OBO, call Drew Morris, 365-9379.

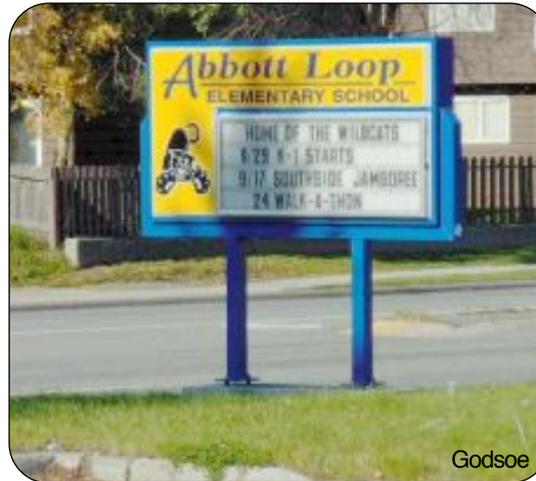
## Model A's Become Learning Tool at Abbott Loop School

Three Model A's made their way to Abbott Loop Elementary School on Thursday, September 23. An enthusiastic group of 6th graders there were studying about the Industrial Revolution, and the cars were "case in point."

Boyd Watson and Jim Fredenhagen in Boyd's 1931 coupe, Carl Godsoe in his 1931 pickup and Chad Ringler in his 1929 Tudor were there as educational ambassadors to answer the many questions and throw light on the early iteration of the wheeled, motorized chariot.

These 75- and 77-year-old automobiles continue to make an impact on youngsters, as technology advances to take transportation to new and different forms. We, who grew up with cars of the 20's and up, accept them with familiarity; but new generations see them as exotic, like the old corded telephone, the typewriter or rabbit-ears TV. If you just told the kids of their existence, they would probably look at you with a blank stare. It helps to show them, give them solid verification.

Carl reported that the kids were all over the cars and that they loved to honk the horns.



*Abbott Loop Elementary School hosted three Model A's on Thursday, September 23 to serve as a hands-on demonstration of products of the Industrial Revolution. Below: Boyd Watson's 1931 Coupe, Carl Godsoe's 1931 Pickup and Chad Ringler's 1929 Tudor wait for the enthusiastic students.*



## Denali Tour: for Intrepid Only



Cresap

All but two of the 2016 Denali Tourers gathered at the Wilderness Access Center's parking lot at 8:30 AM for pictures: Dennis and Diane Allen (1934 Ford) Barry and Doris Fowler (1914 Ford) Joyce and Bill Chace (1952 Plymouth) Ray, Sue and Victoria Fredenhagen, Marcy Cresap (Modern Car) and Clarice and Dave Syren (Modern Car). Jim Fredenhagen (1954 Ford) and Mike, Gwyn and Elizabeth Wiedmer (1941 Cadillac) did not make it for the photo, because they were doing repairs on vehicles. (Tom Cresap was behind camera.)



Cresap

Tom and Marcy Cresap and Sue and Victoria Fredenhagen pose with the sign at the end of the Denali National Park road just past the mining and resort settlement in the park. Below: Jim Fredenhagen leans back into the wind while stopped at Stoney Dome Overlook. This is normally a prime viewing point of Denali.



Cresap

(Continued from p.1)

The weather was cloudy and cold, and a fierce wind buffeted our cars. Denali hid the entire day, but we did see some beautiful wildlife.

At 8:30 in the morning, we met at the Wilderness Access Center just inside the park to take some pictures. Then, after gabbing a bit, we took off.

At that point, we had Dennis and Diane Allen (1934 Ford) Barry and Doris Fowler (1914 Ford Touring) Bill and Joyce Chace (1952 Plymouth) Gary, Sue and Victoria Fredenhagen with Tom and Marcy Cresap (Modern car) and Dave Syren and his mom, Clarice (Modern Car).

Two cars that didn't make it at this point were Mike, Gwyn and Elisabeth Wiedmer (1941 Cadillac) and Jim Fredenhagen (1954 Ford). Mike was off getting a flat fixed and Jim was at the local Car Quest buying a back up battery after his generator failed.

Although Barry and Doris Fowler were brave beyond belief venturing out in their open 1914 Model T Touring, they finally had to turn back at the Teklanika River, mile 29. They maintained smiles, mingled with looks of terror as their car almost sashayed off the road a couple of time on some washboard. The transverse springs are great, but no shocks, not so good.

Even though the weather was not friendly, we did not get to see Denali and we had some minor problems, it was a great trip.

Thanks go to Tam Isham, who did all the preliminary planning for the trip. She and Art were unable to attend because of activities with guests from outside.

# AAMA Joins In Celebration of Model A Day



Godsoe

This group celebrated Model A Day on Saturday, September 10. Here they were gathered at Sears parking lot before taking off for a small parade, then lunch at Turnagain Armpit Barbeque. Pictured are: Cheryl and John Martin (1930 Coupe) Ted and Colleen Kimzey (1931 Tudor) Dave Burkhardt (1930 Tudor) Dale Dryden (1931 Taxi) Jim Fredenhagen and Boyd Watson (in Boyd's 1931 Coupe) and Carl Godsoe (1931 Pickup) (Kathleen Godsoe behind camera).



Godsoe



Godsoe

Left and above, the Model A's did a Fall Colors Tour to the Kenai Peninsula on September 24.

by Jim Fredenhagen

On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, six Model A's gathered at Sears Mall for a car show to celebrate the annual International Model A Day, a day that encourages all A owners to get out and show off their cars.

There was even a jacket patch available to commemorate the day, and as usual, there were plenty of visitors and questions.

Later, the group took a brief parade through downtown Anchorage and ended up at the Turnagain Armpit Barbecue for lunch.

The participants were Carl and Kathleen Godsoe (1931 Pickup), Boyd Watson and Jim Fredenhagen (1931 Coupe), Dale Dryden (1931 Taxi), Dave Burkhardt (1930 Tudor), Ted and Colleen Kimzey (1931 Tudor), John and Cheryl Martin (1930 Coupe).

## Last Event For the Model A's (and AAMA) For 2016

Last run of the Model A driving season!

by Jim Fredenhagen

This will be the last "official" Model A run of the season.

Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM, everybody should meet at the Trouthouse Inn at 2201 E. Parks Hwy, Wasilla. Turn right at Alpine St going into Wasilla to enter the access road.

We can meet at 10:00 AM at Northway Mall to caravan to Wasilla. I won't be coming but I'm sure you all know the way.

After lunch and photos, we will tour over to Palmer via Fishhook Road and have dessert at the Valley Hotel on Alaska Way . . . the main street. Palmer Hotel is also on Alaska way so don't get confused.

It's been a great touring season. Thanks one and all for participating. Next year we'll do it again. In addition, we are anticipating a long distance tour to Kodiak in July.

*Editor's note: This is a Model A event, but Jim always extends an invitation to all the AAMA'ers, as well.*

## Fords and Plymouths and Cadillacs and Bears, Oh My!



Cresap

*A beautiful Toklat Grizzly Bear browses on berries, seemingly oblivious to antique cars and about 15 other vehicles that had stopped to watch. The occasion was AAMA's annual Denali Tour September 20.*

### October

#### Birthdays

Bill Waldron—5<sup>th</sup>

Sara Stoops—6<sup>th</sup>

Donna Waldron—9<sup>th</sup>

Fred Scharper—12<sup>th</sup>

Cindy Hulse—13<sup>th</sup>

Dave Chiotti—16<sup>th</sup>

Milt Tanora—26<sup>th</sup>

Donn Reese—31<sup>st</sup>

#### Anniversary

Diane & Fritz

Wohlwend—13<sup>th</sup>

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