



The Story of the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska

Elisha Remington "Remy" Baker (an AACA lifetime member) and a group of five or six other people in Anchorage with old cars started the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska in 1960, formalizing it in 1961. Remy and fellow founder Larry Barrett chose the club name and began scheduling events for members to show and appreciate their vintage cars. Remy owned 1921 and 1923 Rolls Royces and Larry had a 1927 Model T with complete sets of wood- and wire-spoke wheels; he would run with wood on one side of the car and wire on the other.

Additionally there were 3 Model A's and a 1936 Ford Fordor in the founding group which formally joined AACA in the mid 1960's.

Around then a hotrod club called the Midnight Sun Street Rod Association formed in Anchorage. A man named Jay Ofshun was a member of both clubs, and he was dedicated to each group. His untimely passing prompted the largest annual car show in Alaska, the Show N Shine held every August; and a trophy (created by the Auto Musers) given in his honor.

The Auto Musers remains a separate club even though many AAMA members belong to both groups and we share many events.

Some of our other annual events include a parade through downtown Anchorage followed by an indoor car show in conjunction with the Anchorage Fur Rendezvous celebration in February; a joint meet with our sister AACA club in Fairbanks; and a long distance tour that has included destinations such as Whitehorse, Dawson City, and Yellowknife in Canada, and Prudhoe Bay in Alaska.

With 85 current members, the AAMA car roster is quite varied and most all are driven in club events. Examples include a Chrysler Airflow, Rolls Royce Silver Cloud, Kaiser Dragon, Packard Club Sedan, as well as a host of Ford T's and A's, not to mention several cars from the 1940's through the 1970's.

In 2008 Alaska celebrated 50 years since the passage of the Congressional act granting statehood. For several months there were community sponsored events and celebrations to mark the occasion culminating in the 50th Anniversary Celebration of President Eisenhower signing the Alaska Statehood Bill in January of 1959. The AAMA has been a part of many of these celebrations and looks forward to its own 50th Anniversary very shortly.

Happy 75th Anniversary and Best Wishes from the Far North.