

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska



Tinkering Times



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www.antiqueautomusersak.org

September 1, 2021

2021 Alaska State Fair Returns with changes

by Mark Graber

The Musers made their appearance at the Fair on Saturday, 21st and things were a bit different this year. We were unable to participate in the Palmer parade, so we met at the Graber/Garrett house in Palmer for refreshments and a short visit before heading over to the fairgrounds.

This year, the show field was just inside the yellow entrance and interest in our vehicles was high. LOTS of people viewed our cars as they entered the Fair. The setting was just about perfect and so was the weather.

We displayed an interesting mix of cars and there seemed to be a vehicle type for just about every interest. For the working vehicle crowd, Brian Anderson brought his 1983 Jeep pickup and Scott Hulse showed his 1939 International truck.



Alaska Pioneers King and Queen Regent, Frank and Carol Lombardo, enjoyed the parade from the back seat of Barry Fowler's 1940 Ford convertible.



Five of the eight AAMA cars at the fairgrounds: Hulses' 1939 International pickup, Andersons' 1983 Jeep pickup, Ishams' 1936 Airflow, Cresaps' 1938 Chrysler and Grabers' 1947 Packard.

The classics were well represented: Tom and Marcy Cresap displayed their 1938 Chrysler while Art and Tam Isham showed their gorgeous 1936 Airflow. Barry Fowler displayed his delightful 1940 Ford convertible. Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer sported their 1949 Ford convertible and Karen Avila-Lederhos brought her 1966 Mustang. Mark Graber drove his 1947 Packard Clipper.

Seems like most of our events bring out some kind of good story. Only days before the Fair parade, the Palmer Igloo of the Alaska Pioneers requested a car for their King and Queen Regent Frank and Carol Lombardo. Barry Fowler generously

came forward with his beautiful, recently arrived 1940 Ford Convertible. Turns out, Frank's first car was, you guessed it—a 1940 Ford. 🤔

September Meeting

The September 8th meeting will start at 6:30 PM at the Hope Community Resources auditorium off International Airport Road in Anchorage.

We will supply masks and sanitizer for anyone who isn't so equipped.

Nominations for 2022 officers, updates on plans for our 60th Anniversary celebration, and plans for other winter fun will undoubtedly be on the agenda.

We hope to see you there!

2021's Last Car Show, p. 3
Our French Connection, p. 4

Running Board Reflections



Is it any wonder our president, David, likes old convertibles? Here, he poses in front of his dad's 1962 Renault Caravelle with a large stack of September firewood yet to be split.



4th Avenue near E. Street. By 1940's Alaska photographer Robert Hall.

Fall at the Jensen cabin always includes a fair amount of tidying up inside and out. It's easier to haul stuff to the dump when it's warm outside.

While organizing and shuffling things around during my annual purge, I once again came across a dozen or so Kodak slide projector carousels representing decades of family memories in Alaska. Browsing through some of the images, I kept my eyes peeled for photographs of antique cars such as the one shown above. It reflects Anchorage's 4th Avenue, captured in the early 1950's by photographer Robert Hall. The photograph reveals a lovely collection of Alaskan antiques including an early city bus that would be a true gem to drive around today.

I'm sharing this as a reminder of the extraordinary gifts you share as a member of our club. Your participation in drive-about, business meetings, car

shows and long-distance tours helps preserve Alaska's rich history. You bring the past to present with distinction. Next to old slides and photographs, antique cars are perhaps the most visible, resilient representation of Alaska's heritage.

You still have opportunities to get out and share your love of Alaska and cars. September is the most beautiful time of year for driving around and mingling at car shows. I hope you'll join your fellow auto mushers at any of the upcoming events before the snow flies. You can find plenty of updated information through our club's calendar thanks to club VP Linda Golding's work: www.antiqueautomushersak.org.

Thank you for being a part of the club. Your membership and participation helps preserve the true character of Alaska. Plus, it's just nice to gather as friends.



2021 Officers

President: David Jensen
868-1680
Vice President: Linda Golding
351-3251
Secretary: Greg Carpenter
Treasurer: Scott Hulse
240-4028

Members at Large

Brian Anderson-748-1698
Al Combs-242-6491
Tamea Isham-688-3671

Past Presidents (10 years)

Gwyn Wiedmer (2017-18)
Brian Anderson (2015-16)
Mike Wiedmer (2013-14)
Howard Hansen (2012)
Donn Reese (2009-2011)
Jeff Hassler/Donn Reese (2008)

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Opinions expressed by authors of Tinkering Times-including references about how wonderful we are-are their own and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Antique Auto Mushers of Alaska or any facsimile of reality, for that matter.

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 In West Downtown Anchorage

9'x18'x 7-1/2' high space
\$150/month for single
2 spaces-\$125/each
Dave Syren



For Sale: Scott has ZDDP again. You can call, email or order at our meeting; \$9.00 per bottle, (add to 5 quarts of oil). This is my cost plus \$1 to cover shipping and handling. Scott Hulse, PO Box 111296, Anchorage AK 99511 (907)240-4028, hulse@alaska.net

Help Wanted: I am looking for someone to adjust the valves on my 48 Willys Wagon. It has the original 4 cylinder flathead. Darrell Krolick, 229-9456, or Krolick907@gmail.com (10)

For Sale: 1939 Ford coupe; interesting AK history; photos on request; \$12,000; Lauren Fatuch, 907-306 9766

Free: 1960 Austin Princess; restoration begun. Jerry Bankston; 907-727-3000 or jerrybankston0@gmail.com (11)

Schedule of Events

Our driveabouts will continue each Wednesday, depending on weather.

- * September 4—9:00 AM Adopt-A-Road (Marcy, 694-7510)
- * September 8—Meeting
- * September 11—9:00-3:00 Dimond Center Car Show (Valve Cover Races)
- * September 11—Freedom Flag Run, 9:00 AM—4:00 PM, Meet at Wasilla High School, parade to Palmer Raceway, carshow there. (See 49th State Street Rodders site for more information.)
- * September 25—9:00AM Huffman Carr's Seward Fall Colors (Jim Fredenhagen, 351-3115)
- * October 9—Trout House Run, 12:00 in Wasilla, Dessert at hotel in Palmer
- * October 13—Meeting
- * November 10—Meeting
- * Christmas Party—At Ishams', date and time TBA

Announcing!!

Last car show of the season
The 2021 Dimond Center Car Show
Saturday, September 11,
10:00 AM—3:00 PM

Gift bags for first 20 cars
Prize drawings
Valve cover races.
Set up starts 9:00 AM



For Sale: 1931 Model A tudor; good shape, starts well; new 6-V battery May of this year; photos available; \$20,000; Steve, 907-255-4933 or at Steves@cvinternet.net (11)



For Sale: 1947 Standard 8A Tourer; very rare; manufactured by Standard Motor Company in Coventry, England; 1009 cc 8 HP side-valve engine (recently rebuilt); 4-speed transmission; \$20,000. Call 907-479-5118 or email benco@alaska.net (12)

Impossible N'est Pas FRANÇAIS!

by Rich Golding

One of our recent Wednesday night drive-arounds featured some special guests. Those in attendance were fortunate enough to meet and greet the team of visiting French adventurers attempting to drive a vintage 1956 Citroën Traction Avant 11B Normale from Prudhoe Bay to the southern tip of South America, along the Pan American Highway.

After suffering a year's delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the TerraAmerica team of Fanny Adam, Gildas Valais and Gérard d'Aboville finally arrived at the Anchorage International Airport late on August 5th.

As a fellow Citroën connoisseur and owner, I had been in contact via email with Fanny for many months, and was there waiting at the airport to pick them up. The French adventurers arrived after a grueling 40+ hours of multiple connecting flights in from Guadeloupe in the French West Indies, where they had spent their mandatory 14 day quarantine before arriving on American soil.

Mme. Adams, the diminutive blond leader of the French expedition, holds a PhD in chemistry from the European University of Western Brittany, in Brest, France. She explained to me that it was part of a collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture / ARS at the University of Florida. Previously she had worked for the Malarde Institute in French Polynesia where she pursued her studies of natural substances used for medicinal purposes by the indigenous peoples of the world.

She was joined by the young Monsieur Gildas (pronounced Jill-das) Valais, an accomplished French television cameraman. Toting cases



Fanny Adams is the principal driver of this 1956 Citroën Traction Avant, which will ply the Pan American Highway all the way from Deadhorse, Alaska to Ushuaia, Argentina on the Tierra del Fuego archipelago on the southern tip of South America.

full of video equipment, M. Valais was tasked with documenting the journey. Monsieur Gérard d'Aboville, the noted French adventurer, author, and former French politician, rounded out the threesome. M. d'Aboville is perhaps best known for being the first person to row solo across the Atlantic, and later, the Pacific Oceans. His long time association with the Citroën Traction Avant and considerable mechanical prowess figured into his position on the team.

This French automobile (its like seldom seen in America) has been driven over the course of some fifteen years in many demanding automotive rallies, all over the globe. These rallies have traversed Australia; Morocco to Russia; Argentina and Chile, crossing the mountain ranges of the Andes; Malaysia and Thailand; Sardinia, Switzerland, Germany and Austria; Corsica; Greece as well as Portugal and Sicily.

Linda and I were honored to host these intrepid adventurers. The

morning after their arrival the three travelers and I climbed (or rather squeezed) into my Citroën 2cv and ventured down to the Anchorage docks to fetch Suzanne (the Traction Avant's moniker). The car had arrived a day earlier, after its long ocean journey from France via a freighter through the Panama Canal, and up the Pacific Coast to Tacoma. Whilst in Washington State it was transferred to a Lynden Alaska barge for final transport to Anchorage.

Although a bit weathered and soiled from its long voyage, after a little tinkering the engine fired right up. Suzanne, piloted by Ms. Adams with her passenger Mr. d'Aboville, followed Jacques (my 2cv) driven by yours truly, with cameraman Gildas Valais standing in the back seat of the open convertible top, carefully balancing himself and his large shoulder-mounted television camera, all the while filming the Traction and (See p. 5, "IMPOSSIBLE N'EST PAS FRANÇAIS!")

Impossible N'est Pas FRANÇAIS!

(Continued from p. 4)

its occupants as the two French cars took a quick sightseeing trip to Earthquake park and Point Woronzof, then down the New Seward Highway (at speeds in excess of 105 kph - that's 65mph) to Beluga Point. I carefully avoided all bumps, as I was quite sure that chancing the slightest frost heave along our Alaskan roads could very well result in the launching of the young cameraman out the back of my open-top *deux chevaux*.

Fanny's gorgeous French vehicle drew much attention wherever it went. The Traction Avant, which was produced by Citroën from 1934 to 1957, is considered by many automotive historians to be the world's first 'modern car.' The name "Traction Avant" literally means 'front wheel drive' in french. Citroën, consistently recognized for their advanced and revolutionary engineering, pioneered the science and implementation of front wheel drive in their vehicles very early in the twentieth century.

Suzanne had been specially equipped with several mechanical enhancements to withstand her many demanding excursions. These modifications included: an extra large gasoline tank, enhanced brakes and cooling system, as well as beefing up the vehicle's external lighting. Passenger comfort was taken into account by adding more comfortable seats for longer drives and increasing interior heating capabilities. Safety was addressed by the addition of seat belts, disc brakes and power steering, as well as adding emergency warning lights. A laminated safety windshield replaced the regular glass, and a removable plexiglass windscreen protector was carried onboard for deployment on gravel roads.

The Traction Avant, a vehicle usually seen bedecked in glossy black paint, was in Suzanne's case, adorned in a striking off-white ivory. A color this reporter likened to 'French Vanilla.'

Their second evening in Anchorage was celebrated with a fresh Alaskan salmon dinner and French wine at our house. Art and Tam Isham drove in from Peter's Creek to attend. Truthfully, the only salmon I've ever eaten that tasted as good as Alaskan was when Linda and I were in Brittany, France, many years ago. Honest!

After a few days spent fine tuning and fully equipping the vehicle for its long trip northward, the fearless team of three left Anchorage and drove north, traveling the Parks Highway to Fairbanks, and then further northward up the Dalton to Prudhoe Bay and the shores of the Arctic Ocean. There the long journey was officially started. The drive southward went off without a hitch except for a slight mishap in Coldfoot, where the gas tank was erroneously filled with diesel fuel. Said mistake was quickly remedied with the help of a kind local Coldfoot mechanic. Suzanne, then sporting a

full tank of gasoline purred her way back down the Dalton Highway, eventually alighting in Fairbanks. There Fanny, Gildas and Gérard visited the Fountainhead museum, whilst director Willy Vinton and his crew checked out the Traction Avant and made sure all its systems were mechanically fit. Later that evening the team were invited to and attended the Vernon Nash club's monthly meeting and drive around.

In the meantime, although the French visitors were fully vaccinated, COVID reared its ugly head, attempting to toss still another monkey wrench into their path. Although the Canadians had just begun to allow Americans to travel within their country's borders, they had yet to allow the same for international visitors, thus inserting a definite crimp into Fanny and her team's plans. They decided instead to head south for Anchorage to reconnoiter. Before departing Fairbanks M. d'Aboville, having served his purpose as onboard mechanic along the perilous graveled haul road, departed the group and flew (See p. 6, "Impossible N'est Pas FRANÇAIS!")



Fanny Adams, Linda Golding, adventurer/mechanic, Gérard d'Aboville and videographer, Gildas Valais stop for refreshments in Goldings' dining room in Anchorage.

Impossible N'est Pas FRANÇAIS!

(Continued from p. 5)

back to his family in France. Fanny and Gildas drove back to Anchorage, whereupon they stayed with us again, at our home.

Their next few days were filled meeting with the Anchorage French Consul, Mme. Sonia Lalarge, as well as a visit to the Alaska Native Heritage Center and interviews with native leaders.

During this stay, another dinner was held in their honor, this one at the Isham's home. Guests included Linda and myself, as well as Tom and Marcy Cresap and Alex Roesch (a professional pilot, fellow 2cv owner, and friend from Eagle River). The next day Alex graciously flew Fanny and Gildas around the clear blue Anchorage and Mat-Su skies in his beautiful Harvard Mk IV, the Canadian counterpart to the American T-6 Texan, used during and after World War II.

A few days later they drove back to Fairbanks. Whilst there, a replacement GPS unit, meant to replace the faulty one installed in Suzanne, arrived from France for them in Anchorage. This unit sends back a continuous tracking location signal that immediately updates their location on their website's map, allowing those in cyberspace to follow along on their journey. The only viable way for it to be installed into Suzanne so that they may leave the next day (a Sunday), was for this reporter to hop into his car on Saturday afternoon and drive it up to them that night. Almost seven hours later, under a drizzly Fairbanks sky, I helped them install it into the Citroën. After breakfast, my little 2cv and I drove the return trip to Anchorage. Altogether, I had covered almost 740 miles in some 28 hours.

Unfortunately, as was feared, their attempt to gain ingress into Canada was refused by that government due to their COVID restrictions on international travelers. That, coupled with an unfortunate front suspension mechanical mishap due to the poor road conditions along the

border, the Traction Avant and its crew limped back to Fairbanks. Once there, Suzanne received mechanical assistance once more from the gracious technicians at the Fountainhead museum, and a broken front shock absorber was successfully repaired.

Fanny deliberated on her situation and how to solve the puzzle of traveling through Canada. She finally reached a solution after meeting a local from Fairbanks, Mr. Anthony D. Kruen. It was decided and agreed upon by all involved that Mr. Kruen, being an American, would drive the Traction Avant though Canada to Seattle. Fanny and Gildas would then rendezvous with him there after flying down from Fairbanks. Their driver would fly back to Fairbanks, and the French duo could continue their drive down to Los Angeles. Their long term plan is to locate a safe place to store the vehicle in southern California while they return to France and regroup. They anticipate returning to Los Angeles sometime in January 2022, Hoping that the pandemic will have greatly alleviated, or ended altogether, there they intend to initiate the second leg of their journey, driving the Traction Avant south through Mexico, Central America, and eventually the South American continent.

Fanny has promised to keep me informed as to her plans and progress, and I shall endeavor to relay all the highlights to you, my readers, via this forum.

In the meantime, their story, intentions and progress can be followed via their incredible website at: <https://terramerica.fr>

Those of you interested in Mr. d'Aboville's colorful career can find more about him at this Wikipedia listing: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G%C3%A9rard_d%27Aboville

God speed and *bon voyage, mes amis!* 🌀



Fanny Adams samples antique American cars in Art Isham's garage in Peters Creek, where the French crew enjoyed a meal and an evening of visiting.

Kenai: Mexican Food With the Kaknu Kruzers

by Jim Fredenhagen

With the promise of an excellent Mexican lunch in Kenai, four Ford Model A's—Fredenhagen's 1929 sedan, Robinson's 1930 sedan, Godsoe's 1931PU, Dryden's 1931 Taxi— and Goldings' 1986 Citroën 2CV left the Carrs Huffman at 8:00 AM.

Cloudy skies turned to light rain by Girdwood and steady rain then until coming out of the mountains westbound before Soldotna.

The traffic was light, and the trip felt comfortable at 50 mph.

Dick and Kaye Cruse joined us from Seward at the Wildman Lodge in their '51 Chevy. Then, John and Linda Piper and Jim and Shirley Fena joined us at Sterling in their 1930 Model A sedans.

We arrived at Los Compadres restaurant in Kenai just as they opened at noon. What good fortune to

AAMA Business Meeting

August 11, 2021

Location: Hope Community
Resources Learning Center
570 W. 53rd Ave. Anchorage,
Alaska

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm
by President David Jensen.

There were 32 members present.

Visitors included: Tom and Marcy's granddaughter Hannah Christiansen, Shirley Alexander Gwyn Wiedmer's mother, Suzy Carter, and Marianne Elson.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Hulse provided the financial report. A total of \$39 was added to the club's bank account from split the pot.

Old Business

***Scott Hulse gave an overview of the Show and Shine car show and thanked everyone who helped setup.*

(See p. 8, "Minutes")



Cars at Kenai Shopping Center: 1929 Model A (Fredenhagen) 1930 Model A (Robinson) 1931 Model A Taxi (Dryden/Woodard) 1951 Chevrolet (Cruze) 1931 Model A pickup (Godsoe) 1930 Model A (Piper) 1930 Model A (Fena) 1986 Citroën (Golding).

be the first customers! The food was excellent, especially the seafood tacos.

Also joining us was the Kaknu Kruzers car club with 10 of their cars . . . an instant carshow.

After lunch we all gathered for a quick trip around the nearby Kenai

Senior Center, then fueled up before heading home.

On the way we pulled into John Piper's super shop in Sterling to tighten a fanbelt on one of the A's.

All cars returned home without issue under sunny skies . . . all in all another grand day trip. 🌈

Nominations For 2022 Officers

Nominations for AAMA's 2022 club officers will begin with our September membership meeting at HOPE Community Resources. All officer positions are open. Art Isham and Donn Reese are our returning nominating committee chairs. Please get in touch with either of them if you're interested in becoming an officer as the club approaches its 60th Anniversary next year. Nominations will be accepted up until our general business meeting Wednesday, October 13. Membership will vote on the slate of nominees at the November 10, 2021 membership meeting. New officers will be sworn into office during our January meeting.



Each officer position has varying levels of activity. At the very least you'd be welcome as an "At Large" officer, which includes participating in three or four ZOOM meetings throughout the year. At the most, the positions of president, VP, secretary and treasurer include delusions of immense power and pay. 🌈



August Minutes

(Continued from p.7)

He also mentioned that the rental cost of the sound system was \$95, and that the expenditure was approved by the board.

****Jim Fredenhagen gave a summary of the Fairbanks trip that included 25 members and 11 cars. Activities included a visit to the Fountain Head Museum with a personal tour by Willie Vinton along with a riverboat discovery trip and Vernon Nash Teddy Bear charity car show.**

****The 60th anniversary committee continues to meet and is working on a budget along with ideas for food and entertainment.**

New Business

****David Jensen said the board has approved the renewal our club Zoom membership.**

****Donn Reese [not present] is the caretaker of the club history, pictures, and data. He would like the backup computer drive to be at someone else's house instead of having everything in case of a fire or other disaster. Art Isham volunteered to store the backup drive at his house.**

****David Jensen mentioned that real estate agent Emily Bean of Keller Williams Realty would like to have some classic cars staged at a customer appreciation event. The event is Friday August 20th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the Kincaid Chalet.**

****David Jensen suggested the club get a new banner for events but will wait for the new logo design to be printed on the banner.**

****September is the month for nominations of new elected positions and board members.**

****Hope Community Resources is**

having a fundraising charity auction at the Marriott Hotel and would like a 1920's car for display. Mike Wiedmer volunteered to provide a car for the event. One of the ideas for the silent auction was a car trip to Girdwood next summer in a classic vehicle.

****Linda Golding went over the calendar and provided updates of events for the remainder of the season. All the events are posted on the calendar at the AAMA website.**

****Marcy Cresap reminded everyone that the final Adopt a Road cleanup happens on Saturday September 4th at the Carr's on Muldoon at 9:00 am.**

****Tam Isham said the Christmas party is planned to be at their house the first week of December.**

****Jim Fredenhagen talked about the day trip to Kenai on Saturday August 14. Meet at the Carr's store on Huffman Road at 8:00 am. Lunch will be at the Kenai Mall restaurant Los Compadres with the Kaknu Kruzers Car Club. He also mention the Diamond Center car show on Saturday September 11 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Gift bags for the first 20 participants and if the weather is favorable valve cover car races.**

****David Jensen had four Ford hubcaps and a dash mounted compass that were left behind at the show and shine car show. If anyone knows who these items belong to, contact David.**

****Mark Graber gave an update on the upcoming State Fair car show on August 21 from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. We will not be in the State Fair parade this year. Anyone participating in the car show can meet at Mark's house after 10:00 AM then everyone can leave together for the show at the yellow gate behind the grandstand. Passes to the State Fair will be given to those participating in the show.**

****Linda Golding gave an update on the CRV Citron French connection trip from Prudhoe Bay down to the tip of South America.**

****Scott Hulse talked about a project car that was available. The car is a 1960 VDP Austin Princess.**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

President David Jensen announced birthdays and anniversaries for the month.

Split the Pot

Split the pot winner was Roy Foster.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm followed by a drive to Lucky Wishbone restaurant for dinner.

Respectfully submitted.
Greg Carpenter, Secretary

Email Reactions

Our humorist, Rich Golding, seems to have accumulated a fan base. These are just some recent reactions to his work.

Hi Marcy:

Re—Help on the Darnell Model A's: Based on the experience Rich Golding shared in the recent *Tinkering Times*, perhaps he would be interested in using his new tire irons to help with any tire replacement work. Loved his story!

—Donald Morefield

Tom and Marcy—

I enjoyed so much reading the newsletter. Linda Golding is as witty as her hubby. Liked her little witty comments .

On your new tires, Tom:
FINALLY ,

—Joann

Río Rancho, New Mexico

Hi—

Once again, another great issue of *Tinkering Times*!

Loved the *Naked and the Dead* story [in the June *Tinkering Times*] but I am surprised that the tire irons did not smite those bare feet when they popped off the tire!

Thanks,
Roy Foster

James "Jim" Colin Ede, Dec. 8,
1932–Dec. 9, 2020

And

Julia "Julie" Alice Ede, Aug. 1,
1931–June 15, 2021.

James "Jim" Colin Ede passed away peacefully of natural causes at his homestead property, 'The Ede Den,' surrounded by his family on Dec. 9, 2020, one day past his 88th birthday.

Just six months later, Julia "Julie" Alice Ede passed away peacefully of natural causes at her daughter Ella's home, surrounded by her family on June 15, 2021.

Julia was born to Carter Harrison Wallace and Verna Lee Brock Wallace in Frankfurt, Indiana.

Jim was born to Colin James Ede and Ethel Caroline Ede in Knox, Indiana. He was an only child and attended Purdue University for a year following high school. From 1952-1955, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was stationed at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska. He then returned to Indiana to complete college on the GI bill and met his high-spirited wife, Julie, at Indiana University. They married on Aug. 23, 1958.

In 1959, Jim and Julie set out for an adventure driving up the Alcan in a VW bus with their 9-year-old son, Stephen, to become educators in the new state of Alaska. They arrived at the Anchorage Park Strip on July 4th to see the flag raised for Alaska as the 49th and newest State.

From there, they settled into their first teaching job in Koyukuk, Alaska. Jim and Julie taught school in five rural Alaska villages - Koyukuk, Naknek, Nikolai, Kongiganak and Selawik - as well as in Wasilla and Anchorage for many years.

Jim was very involved in promoting rural education and was president of the National Education Association-Alaska. Julie went on to teach many more years at Chugiak Elementary School until she retired in 1993.

In 1961, Jim and Julie bought their 50-acre homestead property, later called 'The Ede Den,' in Wasilla. Originally, it had a two-room



Julia and Jim with daughter, Dianna, and granddaughter, Julia, at Mother's Day Celebration at Settler's Bay May 8, 2011

homesteader cabin, which over the years, Jim turned into their dream home furnished in Alaskan-inspired art.

Here they raised their three children, Stephen, Diana and Ella, and ran a B&B and an antique business. In their younger years, they often traveled internationally to Canada, Europe, and Asia and enjoyed many adventures.

They enjoyed their collectible cars and were involved with the Antique Auto Musers and the British Sports Car Club. They were active members of the Alaska Democratic Party, Palmer Elks Club, Alaska Pioneer Fruitgrowers Association, the Alaska Hemlock Society, Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and the Freedom from Religion Foundation.

Jim had a passion for reading, antiques, woodworking, beekeeping, gardening, wine making, Dixieland jazz and vintage cars. He was a master tinkerer and could fix almost anything. He restored old clocks and horse carriages, and built canes and coat trees from Alaska burl wood. Jim and Julie frequently toured the U.S. attending classic car and antique shows, jazz festivals and political

events.

Julie was very active on the board of the Wasilla Library until 2010. As a longtime teacher, she was passionate about teaching kids to read and promoting literacy. Julie was instrumental in the successful campaign to build a new public library in Wasilla. She was thrilled to see it opened in 2016. It was one of her proudest accomplishments.

Jim was survived by his wife of 62 years until she passed away on June 15, 2021. They are both survived by Julie's sister, Norma Wallace of Sedona, Ariz.; their three children, Stephen (Peggy), Diana (Mark) and Ella (Tom); Selawik daughter, Lydia Foxglove; caregiver, Marcie Miller; eight grandchildren, Alex, Candace, Julia (Nathan), Taylor (Brian), Carter, Tatum, Colin and Sabrina; and one great-grandchild, Maverick James, all of Alaska.

A memorial for Jim and Julie will be held at 'The Ede Den' on Sunday, September 12, 2021, at 2:00 PM. All family and friends are welcome to attend. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations be made to the Wasilla Public Library. ☺



This photo shows Mark Graber's dad, Roy, in the spring of 1941 in Mitchell, South Dakota. Note the slogan, "Service that Satisfies." Mark relays that not long after the photo was taken, Roy 'rode the rails' to Pasadena, California, soon to be followed by almost all of his relatives.

September

Louis Finch—3rd

David Benesch—10th

Ron Keller—25th

Donald Lederhos—25th

Gretchen Stoddard—24th

Anniversaries

Judy and Eli Powell—7th

Linda and Richard

Golding—11th

Esther and Allen Combs—21st

