

Homer Trip Includes Car Show



About 53 cars, trucks and motorcycles displayed at the Homer Chamber of Commerce parking lot on Sunday, May 22nd. In the foreground sit Goldings' 1986 Citroën 2-CV, Carpenter's 1964 Plymouth Fury, Ishams' 1973 Volvo 1800 ES and Henningsens' 1960 Buick LeSabre.

by Jim Fredenhagen

Wasting no time after the Shakedown tour the previous weekend, thirteen cars from AAMA and the Model A group made the



Homer Resident, Ed Todd, showed his excellently restored 1966 SAAB Sonett that he converted to electric. This was a show favorite for many, including your editor.

annual 200+ mile trip to Homer. We met at Carr's Huffman at 8:00 am, some with sleepy eyes, and set out.

Ideal weather conditions and no road closures made for smooth sailing through Soldotna and a leisurely, sunny ride down the coast.

Arriving in Homer around 4:00 pm, we easily made our 5:00 pm dinner reservation date at AJ's Steakhouse.

The next day, Sunday, our carshow took place at the Homer Chamber of Commerce. We are especially grateful to Marie Walker and Jan Knutson for their coordination efforts and for circulating carshow ads.

The Kaknu Kruzers car club of Soldotna/Kenai joined us with over

ten cars and trucks. It was gratifying that we were joined by at least 20 very nice local car entries, as well, including a 1932 Pierce Arrow and an all-electric classic sports car. Adding our vehicles, we were able to show a total of 53 cars, trucks and motorcycles. It was the largest car show we've had in Homer since we started doing the annual event over ten years ago.

After the show, the Mushers gathered at the Aspen Suites for a pizza party, which featured huge pizzas from Fat Olives—enough to easily feed the entire group with leftovers. Entertainment was provided by Rich Golding, who showed several Laurel and Hardy movies that kept us in stitches.

The following day we all returned to Anchorage, again under sunny skies, feeling like we'd just formally ushered in summer.

June Meeting

Join us for our June 8th meeting at the Hope Comunity Resources Center at 6:30 pm.

We will rehash some of the fun we've already had and then plan for even more to come.

A drive-about will follow the meeting. As usual, we will end up where there is food.

We hope to see you there!

Running Board Reflections



President Linda discusses pizza plans with JR & Barb Russell, as her car Jacques wows spectators at the Homer car show.

Our annual AAMA May drive and Homer Car show usually follows a set pattern. Most of us meet at Carr's Huffman parking lot early on Saturday, stop at Girdwood for gas, find a place for lunch or brunch, make a gas stop in Soldotna, and wend our way to Homer.

This year was different in an unexpected way. In the Carr's parking lot sat not only our members' cars, but a gorgeous red Corvette! Not a 50's, 60's, or even an 80's Corvette, but a sleek 2017 Stingray. This car is owned by Kim Kaufman, who lives in Wasilla, is a member of the Corvette Club, and who heard about our Homer show through both our website and from the Kaknu Kruzers. He is now retired, and wanted to take the drive.

Kim's car followed in last position and "watched our six" to Girdwood. He then joined us for brunch at Gwin's Lodge in Cooper Landing, where the home fries were crispy, the pancakes ginormous, and the locals and Sterling Highway travelers marveled at all the cars.

Kim left us in Soldotna where he spent the night, then drove to Homer with the Kaknu Kruzers on Sunday afternoon. Those of us (meaning ME) who forgot to take the sunscreen out of our purses and slather it on our faces, turned as red as his car!

Kim enjoyed our company, and we invited him to our pizza/movie night. As he so succinctly put it, "We are all car peeps." Which is, of course, the overarching value of our club. The old car hobby has a wonderful way of bringing people together, and helping us to make new friends, even at the least expected time.

So a big thanks to Kim for enriching our weekend. Hope to see you on the road soon, perhaps driving your 80's Vette?

Linda



2022 Officers President: Linda Mattes Golding 351-3251 Vice President: David Jensen 868-1680 Secretary: Greg Carpenter Treasurer: Scott Hulse 240-4028 Sergeant-at-Arms: Dutch Overly Members at Large Brian Anderson-748-1698 Tamea Isham-688-3671 Donn Reese-245-7203 Past Presidents (10 years) David Jensen (2019-21) Gwyn Wiedmer (2017-18) Brian Anderson (2015-16) Mike Wiedmer (2013-14) Howard Hansen (2012) Donn Reese (2009-2011) Tinkering Times Staff Editor: Tom Cresap Proofing, scheduling and keeping the old man in line: Marcy Cresap Send correspondence to: Tinkering Times Tom Cresap, Editor P.O. Box 770703 Eagle River AK 99577 or email: tmcresap@mtaonline.net

The Tinkering Times is published monthly by Alaska's really neat classic and antique automobile club, Antique Auto Mushers of Alaska, P.O. Box 232086, Anchorage AK 99523-2086.

Opinions expressed by authors of Tinkering Timesincluding 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: Brand new mechanical advance (25 deg) electronic distributor for four cylinder, six volt, pos ground; includes coil, extra module, plug wires. \$400 value for \$300. Call Jim 907-351-3115. (7)



Schedule of Events

Summer Wednesday drive-abouts began on May 11 and continue throughout the summer as weather permits.

- June 1–(4:30pm) Wednesday drive-about, meet early at Prestige Care Center, 9100 Centenial Drive, Anchorage.
- June 8-6:30 Meeting
- June 8-13-McCarthy Tour (Tamea Isham, 907-688-3671)
- June 10-Colony Days car show Palmer 5-9 pm
- June 11-Colony Days Parade-Starts at 11 am, meet at Borough parking lot on Dahlia at 10 am to join 49th State group
- June 17-Visit Turnagain Social Club 1-3 pm,
- June 18-Thomas Center, Chester Park, Baxter senior Living (Times TBA) (D. Jensen, 907-244-4197)
- June 21-Solstice Rumble Car Show Mirror Lake, 4-9 pm
- July 2-9 am Adopt-a-Road (Marcy Cresap, 907-694-7510)
- July 4-Parades and barbecue (Kurt Rein, 907-344-5554)

For Sale: Another rebuild from Jim's engine shop! Only \$2000.

Specs:

- 1. New stainless valves, exhaust valve seats, one piece guides, adjustable tappets,
- 2. Model B touring grind cam from Delta Cams, 3. Crank polished, .030" under,
- 4. Main Bearings, new babbitt by Bill Barlow, Bend OR,
- 5. Pistons, .080" over, Hastings rings, 6. Rods, new babbitt from Snyders, . 030" under.
- 7. New timing gears, 8. Has A head but \$100 credit if you don't use it...no gasket installed yet.
- 9. Rebuilt oil pump, new cam drive gear.



For Sale:1957 Thunderbird; health issues and lack of space; Torch Red; hard and soft top; 312 ci V8; 4 bbl carburetor; automatic transmission; new updated brake system; new radial white wall tires (less than 500 miles); recently tuned; rebuilt radiator; no rust or dents; new fuel tank; shop, repair and restoration manuals from the National Thunderbird club. Runs great.

Over \$50,000 invested, and I'm asking \$35,000 obo. Contact Ron Martindale at (907)748-4385



For Sale: 1947 Plymouth; milled head (9:1 compression ratio); dual 4-barrel carbs; split cast-iron headers; excellent condition. \$21,000 obo. Sean Mesloh, 907-328-9979, text or call.

Join us as we present early Father's Day car shows at

*Turnagain Social Club *Thomas Center *Chester Park *Baxter Senior Living Times and locations will be announced at the June Meeting

Shake Down to Dutch's Place: Where the Heck is Chickaloon?

by Tom Cresap

I'm not even sure we noticed Chickaloon as we drove by on the Glenn Highway in 1965. We were close to the end of a 4500-mile journey from New Mexico, driving a red and black 1958 Rambler station wagon. We were young and somewhat insecure in our new surroundings and my wife and I probably missed the little roadside detail, if it was even there.

In the 57 years since, we have driven by and often wondered about this place Chickaloon. Where is it? What is it? Is it a town? There are no city limit signs or anything else to tell where it begins or ends, only Chickaloon roads, Chickaloon River. It's all very mysterious.

Then our beloved club Sergeant-At-Arms, Dutch Overly and his lovely wife, Joanne, moved there to take up residency a few years ago. Dutch boldly offered that if we wanted, we could come visit. It's not far, and it is a lovely drive.

It's 2022, we have our Covid shots and we know better how to navigate social togetherness; so when it came time to plan our annual shake down cruise, Dutch's



Gwyn Wiedmer holds a bunny, one of the residents of the Overly estate, while touring the property.

place became a sensible and favored destination. Mike Wiedmer "volunteered" to be our leader, since he had visited the Overlys and knew the way.

It was an easy drive. We arrived without a hitch, we had a very pleasant potluck feast and Dutch cooked up some burgers and hot dogs. We saw some of the animals that inhabit the 40 acres and we enjoyed the beautiful, sunny weather.

AAMA Business Meeting May 11, 2022

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

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by President Linda Mattes Golding

There were 25 members present and no guests

Treasurer's Report

Scott Hulse provided the financial report.

April Minutes

The minutes were approved from

the April business meeting a published in the Tinkering Times.

Old Business

But when we took photos, the GPS locator said "Jonestown." So, where the heck is Chickaloon? •

**Linda Mattes Golding talked about switching the AAMA checking account from First National Bank to Northrim Bank. First National began charging a monthly fee for the checking account. Northrim Bank has a no fee checking account. A motion was made to switch banks. The motion passed.

**Art Isham said the club received a bill for \$300.00 from Fur Rondy for advertising the car show in the Rondy events booklet. In previous years no fee was charged since the club is a nonprofit and BP was

sponsoring nonprofits. Art made a motion for the bill to be paid by the club. The motion passed.

**Mike Wiedmer will lead a shakedown cruise to Dutch Overly's house in Chickaloon on Saturday May 14. Meet behind the Northway Mall at 10:00 am.

**The trip to Homer is May 21-23. A car show will be held on Sunday, May 22 at the Chamber of Commerce from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**Weekly drive arounds will begin on Wednesday May 18 at 6:00 pm. Meet at the REI parking lot. **The drive around on June 1 will be (See p. 5, "May Minutes")

May Minutes

(Continued from p. 4)

at Prestige Senior living at 4:30 pm.

**The summer trip to McCarthy is planned for June 9 -13. Currently there are two groups of people going via different routes. One group is driving up through Glennallen and a second group is driving to Whittier to take the ferry across to Valdez then drive up from there. KTUU news will be traveling along on the trip for a road tripping series.

**On Friday June 17 there will be a car show at Turnagain Social Club from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**David Jensen gave an update on the Father's Day cruise scheduled for Saturday June 18.

**The Hope retreat scheduled for July 14-17 is looking for a chairperson.

**Linda Mattes Golding updated everyone about the 60th anniversary celebration progress. All the invitations have been mailed out and need to be returned by July 1 for a head count. On the day of the event volunteers are needed to help setup starting at 3:00 pm.

New Business

**Kurt Rein is the contact person and organizer for the 4th of July parade.

**Linda Mattes Golding said the club's Facebook account was dropped on April 30th, 2022. David Jensen said he will start a new account for the club.

**The Vernon Nash Club in



Fairbanks would like to have the joint meet at this year's Show and Shine car show. Tam Isham offered to have a picnic at her house for the event.

**Jim Fredenhagen said the Dimond Center car show will be on Saturday September 17th.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

President Linda Mattes Golding announced birthdays and anniversaries for the month.

Split the Pot

Split the pot winner Marcy Cresap

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Drive-About

After the meeting several members went on a cruise lead by David Jensen to Sami's restaurant for dinner.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Carpenter, Secretary



With a little help from his friends: Howard and the usual butts-up crew took care of a flat on Howard's 1966 Barracuda before he and Colleen could Join the group on the drive-about and dinner after the meeting.

A Model A Odyssey (Part One)

Editor's note: In this first installment, written in his preferred E.E. Cummings style, Walt narrates the adventure he and partner, Sachiko, had beginning in Seldovia, Alaska and ending in Minden, Nevada the summer of 2019.

by walt sonen

early june of 2019 we boarded the 'trusty tusty' [the Alaska ferry, Tustumena] from our home port of seldovia to join the north america road system. sachiko, my partner of long standing, and i had our model A pickup judiciously packed up with spare parts, tools, clothing, camping gear, a cooler and what not and a whole passel of enthusiasm. we were

off for nevada and points south! we had taken a similar trip four years prior to newfoundland (and back!), some 15K miles. so were pretty excited to get out of dodge (the tourists, you know) and begin another adventure.

the second night found us in eagle. seldovia was the magic word as our neighbor, cindy, had spent the

(See p. 6, "A Model A Odyssey")

A Model A Odyssey

(Continued from p. 5)

previous summer there working for the park service. she was well liked. we got the grand tour by john borg which included his '35 ford and several other vehicles which he gets going for their 4th of july celebration. we preceded an AAMA long distance run to eagle led by jim fredenhagen by a week or so. gas was \$4.80 cheaper than home! we continued on the 'top of the world' highway through dawson city and on down to instead of continuing carmacks. south to whitehorse, we headed east on route 4, all dirt/gravel 350 miles for watson lake. there's a reliable gas stop about a third of the way at ross river, from which we departed with 17 gallons. the road was good for the most part. a few trucks, but we had the road to ourselves, YESSS!, 4 gallons to spare. a stop at the auto parts store and an oil change (a manifold gasket and a loose spark plug?) at watson lake. after getting stung for \$60+ at an oil change outfit on a previous trip, i found that if a fella looks around he can find a mom'n'pop garage in 'most any town who will be happy provide you with a receptacle and you can change your own. i go off to the side of the compound with fresh oil in hand and give the folks my dirty oil and \$10~15; everybody's happy. i always

find interesting folks.

so, off to the cassiar highway. but for the 12 miles tok~tetlin junction and the 14 miles backtracking from watson lake to the cassiar, we essentially circumvented the alaska highway (al-can in america-speak). we had taken the northern route, well. because we had never been there! no regrets. our 8th day out we camped at boya lake and stopped just down the road at jade city, at which few travelers don't stop. free coffee! there we fell into conversation with two bikers astride BMWs headed they were in wait for a japanese guy they had met while encamped together the night before. we were curious. along comes mr suzuki aboard a 1983 yamaha 250 headed to NYC via prudhoe bay! except for two large plastic boxes stacked on the passenger seat, he looked like he was out for a ride around the neighborhood. he had picked up the bike for cheap and had it shipped to vancouver whereupon he began his odyssey. a perfectly sane 50-ish teacher on a sabbatical. he pointed out that if somebody ripped off the bike, he wasn't out much. our knowledge of the japanese language comes in handy from time-to time.

it must be said here that traveling like we do in an antiquated piece of machinery, bikers and truckers are drawn to us disproportionately. we withstand unsolicited mug shots and an occasional wave from passing cars as a constant, but it seems like we share an unspoken camaraderie among the bikers and truckers. and the RVs? their isolation increases proportionately with their size.

so far we have come through some spectacular scenery and now enjoyed a continuance down the

(See p. 7, "A Model A Odyssey")

Our Drive-Abouts Have Begun

Our Wednesday evening driveabouts have officially begun, the inaugural one after the May meeting.

We had surprises begining, on May 18th, when guests, Laura and Mike Smith, wowed us with their beautiful 1929 Hudson 4-door sedan, powered by a Chevy V-8 and resting on fancy spoke wheels, but otherwise pretty much stock. After the usual

half-hour of kibitzing that evening, we adjourned to Sushi Gardens for dinner. The second surprise happened May 25th, when new members (old friends) Alex Roesch and his wife, Niki DeSanto brought their newly-acquired Land Rover (Alex) and long-time Cirtoen 2-CV (Niki.) After a quick tour that evening, we ate at the Peanut Farm. \bullet



Our guests for the evening of May 18th were Laura and Mike Smith, who regaled us with their 1929 Hudson. We couldn't resist displaying it here with Brian Anderson's 1950



New members, old friends, Alex Roesch and Niki DeSanto brought their newly-acquired Land Rover and their long-standing Citroën 2-CV on May 25th.

A Model A Odyssey

(Continued from p.6)

cassiar highway—and the bears! golly what was it? 11 or 13, we lost count — all blackies. the pavement is good, fairly straight with not-sogenerous shoulders. through-bound truckers seem to gravitate to the alcan as the cassiar has more ups and downs. then east on the yellowhead hiway for a day with a night's rest at beaumont provincial park, our third stay there and consequentially my third morning swim in nearby fraser lake, ch-chilly! there are frequent train sounds from across the lake and glimpses of containerized east bound freight coming out of the port of prince rupert.

we turned south at prince george on route 97. my, but how that place has grown, (groan)! not too far along we came to the town of clinton with a wonderful antique/junk emporium. a bit further we turned west on route 99, a beautiful winding road into north vancouver over the coastal range through whistler, the ski resort. this is one of the prettiest roads we've seen in our travels, and fun to drive as well. absolutely gorgeous!

we came into downtown vancouver and parked our little truck in the bilges of the hyatt regency hotel, several notches up-scale from our more recent digs. we attended the 'clean pacific' conference, a yearly west coast symposium focusing on oil spill prevention and response. i sit on the cook inlet regional citizens's advisory council (CIRCAC) as the representative from seldovia. boy howdy, 5 stars! it was an interesting gathering.

just north of vancouver, we boarded a ferry to cross horseshoe bay for BC's "sunshine coast" for a visit with my cousin for a few days. then we recrossed the bay and from the same terminal we boarded another ferry for nanaimo on vancouver island. we enjoined a busy hiway south to victoria and discovered an alternate route involving small open day-ferry. we were surprised to find an adjacent quiet campground for the night and were first in line for the early crossing the next morning. upon boarding, the ferryman opined that because of our alaskan plates, he considered us residents and gave us the local's fare, about 2/3rds off of what we might normally pay. the exit was almost next to the entrance to the renowned buchart gardens. our early start put us almost at the head of the line, and for the first hour we seemingly had the whole huge paradise to ourselves. wonderful! i had taken sachiko to the gardens years before, during a winter of boat repair in puget sound. drizzly, cold.



Buchart Gardens



Sunny Buchart Camp happy Sachiko

our second visit more than made up for it. i got a few points!

we then breezed through victoria traffic to line up at the black ball ferry terminal for a crossing of the straight of iuan de fuca, destination port WA, on the olympic angeles, peninsula. we were back in america, heavy, fast moving traffic included. our plotted refuge was with an old shipwright friend for several days in port townsend. back on the road again, US 101 west across the top of the olympic peninsula then down the coast through astoria and beyond. along the way we stopped at la push on the outside coast to satisfy my curiosity, a port that we had never

(See p. 8, "A Model A Odyssey")



The May 18th drive-about group enjoyed dinner at Sushi Gardens: Gwyn and Mike Wiedmer, Rich Golding holding up Tom's hat, Howard and Colleen Hansen, Marcy Cresap, Linda Golding and our guests, Mile and Laura Smith. Tom Cresap behind camera.

The Joys of Training an Affectionate Dog

by David Jensen

Many months ago, Maggie, Too had uncontrollable separation anxiety. I didn't realize the extent until returning to my 1995 Chevy van after spending just five minutes in the store.

Maggie managed to shred the seat belts on both the driver and passenger sides; the driver's side sun visor, steering wheel, and radio volume switch. I've heard of black labradors eating motorcycles before but who else can say their dog ate their van?

We've come a long way with her confidence since then but I still don't trust her alone in any car. In retrospect, it could have been much worse when thinking "What if she had been left alone in the '57?"

Replacing parts for the Astro van wasn't easy. After a lengthy search, I found a similar model and year at the Knik Salvage yard. That was an experience by itself (finding the van among 1,000s of other vehicles), finding a way to get to the van (soft quicksand-like mud) and living to tell about it. I thanked the two-tone blue organ-donor van as I walked back to the main shop where they collected my money.

Next was the removal of old parts and subsequent installation of used seatbelt assemblies purchased at the junk yard.

YouTube, thank you for teaching me your wisdom about seatbelt pendulums, pulleys and such. I'm wiser because of you. For a moment, I felt like Cliffy from 'Cheers' who knows just a little about everything one never wants to have to know.

The seat belts used to be red to match the seats. The replacement stained gray straps have stories to tell but I refuse to listen. My imagination runs wild.

I deserve a badge of courage for surviving this episode, as does, Maggie, Too. So, as Jensen tradition goes, I'll pat myself on the back in lieu of anyone else doing it.



Maggie Too has a wonderful appearance of innocence or maybe detached aloofness and nonchalance as if to say, "who, moi?" as she sits protected by new seat belts.

A Model A Odyssey

(Continued from p. 7)

visited by boat — more tourists. not too far to the south along parklands that narrowly border the washington coast, we spotted a cougar crossing the coast ahead of us.

after crossing the columbia river at astoria, we diverted inland and visited the "spruce goose", howard hughes monster seaplane of renown. we progressed to the southwest across oregon over the next several days. an interesting stop was at newberry nat'l volcanic park forest, a celebration of lava. the road climbs to two large lakes in volcanic cones, well used by fishermen encamped there with their boats. leading from the main road we noticed a road leading up the mountain over the lakes. gravel. first gear. we ascended another 1600 ft. to paulina peak. it seemed like we were the only people in the world. it was backing off in granny gear (the one below 1st in my AA transmission) all the way down to save the brakes.

we crossed the very NE corner of california into nevada and out onto the prairie. very little traffic. as we approached carson city, now traveling on US 50, i swerved off at a sign indicating virginia city, the extremely rich silver mining area of old (nevada calls itself "the silver state"). 6000', a hot sunday afternoon, clogged with folks of all descriptions. we had become part of the throng. we returned to the A to find a very sleek (and expensive) lamborghini parallel parked right in front of us. like entities attract!

then it was south an hour to minden on US 395 to visit my namesake uncle walt, nearing the end of his life, for a long relaxing visit. while there we soared (in a glider with a pilot)! minden in the carson valley is the soaring capital of north america. we put the model A in storage there to return home for the summer. this was a decision made beforehand largely to avoid the heat as our intention was to continue south to arizona. we would find out about the heat on our return in the summer of 2021. we had been away from seldovia for 42 days. 4360 miles on the meter. ••

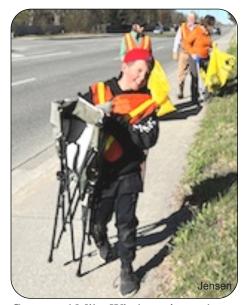
(To be continued in our July issue)

2022 Adopt-A-Road

Our first 2022 cleanup of three scheduled for this summer is done. This is a commitment we took on in 1995, and we are still going strong.

We clean up the east end of Northern Lights, between Muldoon and Boniface, and as the pandemic eases a bit, we are a bit more relaxed. We even had some snacks and fruit juice this time—something that we stopped during the past two years.

We fielded a force of 15 pickers, and got the job done before lunch. •



Gwyn and Mike Wiedmers' grandson, Kaden, showed great enthusiasm as he joined our group of street-cleaners on west Northern Light Blvd. He ended up with the find of the day, a folding camping chair.



Marcy Cresap displays the beggar's sign Tom picked up.



The pickers: Tom Cresap, Dave Syren, Michael Campbell, Darrell Krolick, Ken Evans, Barb Henningsen, Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer with grandson, Kaden, Marcy Cresap, Greg and Garrett Carpenter, Dick Henningsen, Sara Stoops and David Jensen (behind camera.)



Dave Syren flew down to Homer to join us for part of the weekend.



Mike Wiedmer took a dive into his trunk to retrieve his grandson's phone, which had hidden itself somewhere under the back seat of the 1949 Ford.

June

Birthdays

David Nolta–8th
Ken Morton–9th
Shirley Cordle–12th
Marilyn Chiotti–18th
Carolyn Rathert–18th
Kurt Rein–19th
John Martin –26th
Thomas Schrader–30th

Anniversaries

Mary & Lawrence Taylor–10th
Susan & Mark Graber–11th
Linda & Scott Grundy–11th
Kathy & Ralph Centoni–15th
Ingrid Woodard & Dale
Dryden–15th
Joyce & Bill Chace–18th
Marl & Bruce Campbell–21st



