



Tinkering Times



Model A's Have a Windy Trouthouse Tour



Model A aficionados, enjoy the Blue Room at Trouthouse in Wasilla: Tom Cresap, Rich Golding, Marcy Cresap, Don and Val Bell, John Tichenor, Jim Fredenhagen, Season and Ken Baker.

by Jim Fredenhagen

I always like our Trouthouse lunch event because it is so unpretentious. It's just lunch and dessert . . . that's it. The relaxation is evident, and it's a nice chance to recollect the season's car shows and tours and take stock of each other before the big hibernation. It's a gathering to do what we do best . . . enjoy a good meal and talk about new

places to go.

Although rain threatened the event, it was more the high winds that made the drive to Wasilla rather sporting—especially in the Model A's.

Rich Golding and Ken and Season Baker brought their A's while the rest of us drove our moderns. All were welcome. The group also included Val and Don Bell, John Tichenor, Jim Fredenhagen and Tom

and Marcy Cresap.

Now, to start those winter car repairs and projects to be ready for next year. 🌀

2023 Recommended Slate of Officers

The Nominating Committee has finished their work and nominates the following individuals to serve as AAMA club officers for the 2023 term of office:

- President – Linda Mattes-Golding
- Vice President – Brian Anderson
- Secretary – Greg Carpenter
- Treasurer – Louis Mestier

The Committee also recommends that Dutch Overly be re-appointed as Sergeant-at-Arms at the January meeting upon the installation of new

(See p. 4, "2023 Officers")

November Meeting

Our November 9th meeting will begin at 6:30 in the Hope Community Resources Learning Center in Anchorage.

We will be voting for the 2023 officers, and we will be finalizing plans and announcements for the club Christmas party.

We will also discuss our dues collection, which has become somewhat convoluted. Join us for clarification. See p.4.

Running Board Reflections



This photo tells at least part of what president Linda did this summer: a 44th wedding anniversary trip to Disney World and a 50th anniversary class reunion.

Snow is on the ground. The last of the geese are flying south. Pumpkin spice is all the rage. Our antique and vintage cars are garaged for the winter; we have changed the summer tires for studs on our daily drivers. November is upon us.

We celebrate Thanksgiving later this month. To me, it is always been a time for reflection. I find myself being thankful for many good things in my own life. Chief amongst them is that my family and close friends have remained healthy even as Covid is still among us. In our September trip to Disneyworld (for its 50th anniversary) and my 50th high school reunion in Chicago, Richard and I were fortunate to be able to make new memories, and to visit family and friends we rarely see. That is a gift not to be understated.

I am also thankful for the support of our AAMA family. What a year we have had! From the numerous car shows, to the weekly drive-arounds, to the trips to Homer, Seward, and especially to

McCarthy/Kennecott (not to mention AAMA's 60th Anniversary party), our members have made events happen!

We are about to reinstate another tradition. After a two-year Covid hiatus, our annual Christmas party will take place on December 4th, generously hosted at their home by Tamea and Art Isham. If you are a new member, I hope you will be able to attend. Our long-standing members will attest to the good food, fun, and camaraderie we enjoy there. And don't forget the gift exchange! It is always a hoot!

We are thankful as well to Hope Community Resources for allowing us meeting space in their facility. During the upcoming holiday party, we will be asking for donations to benefit their organization. You may wish to donate cash, or you may make a tax-deductible donation by writing them a check.

I look forward to seeing you at the Party!

– 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 Musers of Alaska, P.O. Box 232086, Anchorage AK 99523-2086.

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 Musers 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

Help Wanted: I do Estates Sales and I am working on one now with many vintage Chevy parts. This man was also a drag racer. I am looking for someone who can help me price the parts. We are willing to pay them for their service. Karen Goentzel, Klgoentzel@gmail.com



For Sale: 4 each Michelin Harmony radial tires P205/60 R15 90S; less than 500 miles on them; \$50/each. Art Isham, (907) 227-2307.



For Sale: 1940 Dodge coupe; dual carbs and dual exhaust; radial tires. \$9,000. Call Howard, 907-440-1002.

For Sale: 1972 Jaguar v-12; second owner; located at Culmination Motorsports off King Street at 91st Ave. Owner says he imported it from England 15 years ago. Contact Dave Catchpole, 907-868-3911.



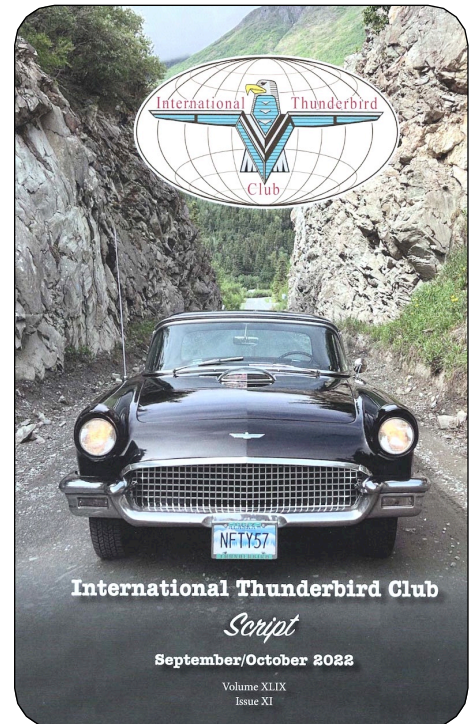
For Sale: 4 each new steel rims; 15x6.75 BC; For GM products in the 60's through 80's; \$50/each Art Isham, 907-227-2307.

Schedule of Events

- * November 9–6:30 Meeting
- * December–4:00 pm Christmas Party at Ishams

2023

- * January 11–6:30 Meeting (Installation of Officers)
- * February 8–6:30 Meeting
- * February TBA–Fur Rondy
- * July 4–Anchorage and Chugiak Parades; Picnic at Cresap's
- * July 14-17–Hope Weekend (Howard Hansen, 907-440-1002)



by David Jensen

I just received my copy of *International Thunderbird Club Script*. My '57 was featured on the October/November cover with an accompanying feature story I wrote about my experiences with the club as we toured back and forth to Kennecott mine. This national publication has featured my little bird twice before with stories about Portage and Denali. 🐦

Resurrecting Lillian

Humor by Rich Golding

One Christmas, many years ago, our family received a holiday card in the mail from Lill. It was addressed to "Linda, Randy (our eldest), Luke (our middle child), Connie (our youngest), Burt (the Macaw) and Pewter (the smaller bird)." Lill, short for Lillian, was Linda's grandmother. A gravel-voiced (think Marge Simpson's sisters) highly-opinionated octogenarian that smoked cigars and wore hot pants (honest to God). Normally, it would seem that one would not help but notice the rather conspicuous absence of my name in the card's address. Lillian hated me. Everyone, save her adoring granddaughter, seemed to recognize that fact. And although Lill lived to the ripe old age of 95, Linda has yet to catch on to this simple fact.

Lillian would call every once in a while to 'catch up' with her 'favorite granddaughter.' Nothing seemed to piss the old lady off more than when it was I who answered the phone.

Of course, this was in the days before 'caller I.D.' Nonetheless, I immediately recognized the 'hot pants grandma's' gravelly voice whilst puffing onto her 5¢ White Owl.

"Hi Lill, how are you?" I would ask with a saccharin sweet innocence, conjuring up an image in my mind of her agitated teeth grinding, and eventually biting off the tip of her Tiparillo when forced to communicate with me on the other end of the line.

My query as to her health was always met with several seconds of total silence on the other end of the line, followed by the command "... let me talk to my granddaughter!"

Rubbing my aching back with one hand, whilst utilizing my other on the keyboard, navigating Internet car sights, I have become acutely aware of those physical limitations

surreptitiously advancing into my body, lo these past few years. Wrenching on or crawling under old cars becomes more and more challenging for these old bones. I spend many an evening these days eyeing all kinds of old cars online, longingly yearning for domination and possession. Perhaps you know of that which I am relating to. It's a kind of 'porn' for many of us older fellows who would rather lear at Locomobiles, stare at Stanley Steamers or ogle over Oldsmobiles, than lasciviously linger, looking at GIFs and JPEGs of the ladies.

Several months ago I sat down, one quiet afternoon, and had a long talk with myself. After much verbal volleying, back and forth, we came

to the undeniable conclusion that if I were ever again to make good on any more of these automotive ownership fantasies, I should only consider vehicles that were fully restored and in good running

(See p. 6, "Resurrecting Lillian")

AAMA 2022 Christmas Party

By Tamea Isham

The Isham's are hosting this year's gathering at their Peters Creek home on Sunday, December 4 from 4pm to ?? The address is 19944 Upper Greatland Dr., Chugiak. For those who would like to tour the Carriage House to view their car collection and kick tires, please plan to arrive by 3:00 at the latest.

As a tradition, there will be a raffle gift exchange after dinner. A \$25 limit is suggested for the gift.

A potluck signup was circulated at the October meeting and will be available again in November. The essentials still needed are: 1 stuffing, 1 sweet potatoes, 2 mashed potatoes, 1 salad, 1 vegetable casserole, 2 fruit dishes, rolls and butter, 2 appetizers and 3 desserts. Please feel free to bring whatever you prefer as an extra. Questions, contact Tamea at 907-688-3671. 🍷

2023 Officers

(Continued from p.1)

officers. In addition, three Members-at-Large will be selected from volunteers at the meeting.

The slate remains open until the November meeting (November 9, 2022), at which time the Committee will ask for additional nominations, then close the nominating process and conduct the election.

Respectfully submitted,

Donn Reese
Kurt Rein
Art Isham

Dues Notice from the President

The 2023 dues for the AAMA will remain at \$20/year for a standard membership.

The Treasurer has asked that the AACA dues be sent separately to them either by mail or online. This is a turn around from the report in the October Tinkering Times. If there are questions regarding this reversal, they will be addressed at the November meeting.

Meanwhile, if you have already remitted a combined payment, do not worry. We will make sure that your 2023 dues get to AACA.

Please watch your email (or your mailbox) for your 2023 renewal form.

AAMA Business Meeting
October 12, 2022
Location: Hope Community
Resources Learning Center
at 570 W. 53rd Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by President Linda Mattes Golding.

There were 16 members present. Our guest was Rick Gustin.

September Minutes

The minutes were approved from the September business meeting as published in the Tinkering Times.

Treasurer's Report

Scott Hulse provided the treasurer report. He also passed out a handout listing the club's expenses for the current year along with a projection of expenses for 2023.

2023 Cost Estimate:

Zoom \$165.00

Website \$170.00

Post Office box fee \$300.00

Misc. Admin supplies \$150.00

Hope Weekend Retreat Reservation \$375.00

Event fees \$775.00

Total projected costs for 2023 is \$1900.00

A motion was made to approve the cost estimate for next year's 2023 budget. Since the items in the budget were over the \$150.00 limit the expenditures need approval by the members. The motion passed.

Scott Hulse made a motion to certify the 2023 AAMA dues at \$20.00 for the year, \$10.00 for half year and an additional \$30.00 for a printed copy of

the *Tinkering Times*. The motion passed

Renewal notices for AAMA and AACA dues will be coming up soon. To make things easier accounting-wise Scott Hulse will send one check in to AACA for everyone's paid membership dues.

Old Business

**Linda Mattes Golding made a motion that the club approve spending \$375.00 for the 2023 Hope weekend reservation. The motion passed.

**The Hope weekend retreat is scheduled for July 14-16, 2023. Howard Hansen is the contact person for this event. He is looking for volunteers to cook. Tom Cresap and Donn Reese volunteered but if anyone else would like to help contact Howard.

**Art Isham provided a nomination committee update. The nominating committee of Art Isham, Donn Reese and Kurt Rein are still looking for someone to fill the treasurer position. Scott Hulse said he is willing to train the person filling this position. The election of officers will take place at the November business meeting. The nominations for the positions are:

President: Linda Mattes Golding

Vice President: Brian Anderson

Secretary: Greg Carpenter

Sergeant at Arms: Dutch Overly

**The holiday party is scheduled for Sunday December 4, 2022, at 4:00 pm. The party will be hosted at Art and Tam Isham's house. Art passed around a sign-up sheet for food to bring to the party. The sign-up sheet will also be available at the November business meeting.

New Business

**Linda Mattes Golding asked everyone to think about ideas for a long-distance event for 2023.

**If the club would like to advertise the Fur Rondy car show at Bob's Service's, there is a charge of \$300 to have the ad placed in the Fur Rendezvous Activity Guide. A motion was made for the club to spend \$300.00 to be advertised in the Fur Rondy booklet. The motion passed unanimously.

**Hope Community Resources provides the club with a place to conduct our monthly meetings. As a Thank You to them, monetary donations will be collected at the Christmas party for Hope to support their many special projects.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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

Split the Pot

Split the pot winner was Gwyn Wiedmer

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Carpenter, Secretary



16 members present



Benjamin Franklin wore his appropriate costume and displayed his personalized name tag.

Resurrecting Lillian

(Continued from p. 4)

condition. Cars that I could drive and enjoy, rather than spending long months bent over the hood, hours at a time, ratcheting away at some old basket case.

* * *

It was about two months ago, when I received a call from a total stranger.

"Hello, is this Richard Golding?"

"Who would like to know?" I responded, fully expecting a sales pitch, or perhaps someone requesting my vote.

"Are you the fella that drives all-round town in that old red Volkswagen Squareback?"

"Yep, that's me," I responded, relieved to find not a solicitor, but rather a fellow old car lover. "I believe it's the only one in town that's still running."

"Well actually, that's kinda why I'm calling you. I happen to have a 1969 VW Fastback (sister to the Squareback model) that has been sitting in my backyard for over twenty years . . ."

Please understand, my dear reader, I have received several calls of a similar nature from people with ancient Volkswagens over the years. Cars that have lingered for years in garages, barns and fields. Usually these are calls for assistance with mechanical problems, or cries for help locating hard-to-find parts.

Together, we must have gabbed an hour about Squarebacks and Fastbacks. I peppered my conversation off-and-on with pointers on the proper care and feeding of VW "type 3's." Eventually, the caller asked if I would like to drive out to his place and see the car. Always one for helping out a fellow VW brother, I hopped into Irving (my aforementioned 1971 Squareback) and navigated up the lower hillside to his place. There he led me behind

his house, where the Fastback was located in a muddy field. The car was a train wreck. It had obviously lain wallowing, there in the mud, for decades. All four of its flat tires had sunk deep into the wet soil. The body was covered in peeling paint, exposing coarse rust beneath it. There was rust everywhere. Much of the rust had rust of its own on top of it. Managing for minutes to

finally get its door pried open, one was immediately met with the unmistakable stench of old car mold and mildew. Within the vehicle there were many parts missing, including the front passenger seat. The rear seat had been reduced to a mass of shredded foam rubber, apparently having hosted a family of squirrels
(See p.7, "Resurrecting Lillian")



Diane Christine Wohlwend
May 30, 1947-January 16, 2022

And

Ferdie Louis "Fritz" Wohlwend
August 4, 1945-June 22, 2022

Many AAMA members will remember Fritz and Diane Wohlwend from brief encounters we had with them when they were members and attended meetings over 10 years ago. They shared our interest in antique vehicles and were a quiet and friendly couple. After moving to Missouri in about 2015, they maintained their membership in our club and continued to receive the *Tinkering Times*.

Fritz, who passed away at 76, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was the youngest of 6 children and grew up on a farm in West Bend, Wisconsin. After high school, he joined the US Army, trained as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam with the 1st Air Cavalry and returned with grief, PTSD and further, suffered from exposure to Agent Orange. Complications of the later resulted in his death after a nearly 20-year battle

with Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.

Fritz spent most of his post-military career as a commercial helicopter pilot in Denali Notional Park, where he met Diane Haack. They married and shared many interests, including antique vehicles.

Diane Christine Wohlwend passed away peacefully in her sleep on January 16, 2022. She was born in Chicago, Illinois on May 30, 1947. She grew up in Brookfield, Illinois, attended Northern Illinois University and earned her Bachelor's, Master's and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. She wrote her Dissertation on Seventeenth Century English sermons. She worked for the Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service in Wyoming, Nevada and Alaska.

While working in Denali National Park, Diane met Fritz Wohlwend, and they married. They enjoyed traveling, collecting antique tractors and adopting a menagerie of rabbits, cats and dogs. About 10 years ago, they retired to the "Tick and Chigger Ranch" in Missouri, where they were free to enjoy their many animals.

Fritz and Diane continued to enjoy their antique tractors, but Diane was particularly proud of her dream car, a Jaguar with its supercharged V-8. She was also fascinated with pink depression glass, reading and her needlepoint work.

A memorial was held for the couple on October 21st, at the VFW Post # 1393 in West Bend, Wisconsin. 🍷

Resurrecting Lillian

(Continued from p.6)

sometime in the past.

The owner grimaced when I explained all the work the vehicle would need. I was being polite, as what I really wanted to tell him was that one would have to be stir-crazy to attempt the restoration of such a vehicle – when he asked if I would like the car.

“Really, I haven't got any room left in my garage, and I couldn't comprehend the purchase of any more vehicles.”

“Well, I am so happy to finally find someone who really understands and appreciates these cars!” His demeanor was earnest. “I don't want to sell it to some kid that will hot-rod it, and end up chopping it up. Richard, if you would like the car, it is yours . . . no charge.”

I nervously polished the muddy ground beneath my right foot with the back and forth motion of my swinging shoe. I snickered a less-than-convincing laugh and explained that I would have to talk to Linda about it. I took a few pictures of the car, and after shaking hands, I drove back down the hillside towards home. ‘Thank god for wives,’ I thought to myself, as they can always provide a proper sounding excuse when trying to wriggle out of some crazy deal with another guy.

When I got home, Linda was sitting at the kitchen table. She asked where I had been. I began relating the story of the day's events to her. When I got to the part about the car I had driven up the hillside to see, she loudly and rather abruptly interrupted me, “Oh my God, we don't need *another* car! Where are you going to put *another* car? I tell you what . . . if you get *another* car, you could put it up in the bedroom, in bed next to you, since I will have left you!”

I snickered a rather convincing laugh, and presented my parallel point of view.

Having calmed down, Linda seemed quite relieved, seeing that we were both on the same page regarding this situation. Explaining in detail the despicable condition of the vehicle, I pulled out my phone, and brought up the pictures I had taken of the car.

“A real rust-bucket, huh? Well I'm so glad that you understand how I feel about this,” she touted, then reached for my phone. “Here, let me see the picture of this pile of . . .” Her voice stopped short, and her eyes opened wide. Then her jaw dropped, almost hitting the floor. “It's . . . it's a Fastback! Richard . . . it's a Fastback! Tears came to her eyes, as she cried out “It looks just like Lucille! Oh my God, it looks just like my Lucille!”

Honestly, I don't know how, but I had forgotten about Lucille. That was a long time ago. Way back in the years BC (before children). Lucille was Linda's yellow Fastback in the late seventies. The first car she had ever called her own, I had bought and rebuilt it for her. She loved that car. After the aforementioned children were

foisted upon our otherwise happy lives, the car was unfortunately smashed-up in a couple of accidents, and reluctantly sold for scrap. Linda has apparently been pining for her Fastback, ever since.

“We *have* to get this car. I *want* this car,” she screamed. I just stood there with my mouth opened, and jaw to the ground.

“Honey, look at the pictures carefully. Can't you see what kind of condition it's in. Only a idiot would attempt to restore a vehicle like that! And besides which, you won't be the one slaving over and under it. That would be me that would get stuck doing all the work on it. My back hurts just thinking about it,” I appealed directly to her intelligence and sense of reality. “It's an impossible job, take my word for it!”

The very next day the car had been extracted from its muddy shallow-grave by a wrecker, and was towed by same to our home, and there left sitting on our driveway. It was such an eyesore that I feared the neighbors would

(See p.8, “Resurrecting Lillian”)



Hemmings ad

In our October issue, we included one of Brian Anderson's dad's 1930's photos, which showed a high wheeler. For a possible identification of the car, Brian contacted Fairbanks club member, Willy Vinton, who speculated that it might be an International Harvester product. This ad in Hemmings appeared recently for a 1908 IH Auto-Buggy, which, other than the headlights, looks like a possible match.

Resurrecting Lillian

(Continued from p. 7)

surely complain about it, sooner-or-later. So, after a few days of making arrangements to transfer our sparkling, show winning, concours quality Buick (aka 'Broderick') into storage, thus freeing-up a spot in our garage. The rusty, muddy, paint peeling old VW is now residing in what had always been the Roadmaster's old spot.

Late the following night, alone in the garage, I surveyed the Volkswagen as it sat sagging on four sturdy jack stands. Just lightly knocking on the fenders with my fist released cascades of rust and dirt onto the garage floor beneath it. I reminded myself of the conversation I had with myself only a few short weeks earlier. I

remembered how I would never get another car unless it was in really good, driving condition. I was scratching my head when I heard the door from the house open behind me. It was my loving spouse.

"Oh, by the way," she said with a very compelling grin, "I have just the name for the car! We're gonna call her Lillian, after my grandmother! You remember Lillian – 'the hot pants grandma' – don't you dear?"

"Yes dear," I said, snickering a less-than-convincing laugh. Smiling and appeased, Linda turned and re-entered the house. I stood alongside the decrepit VW with a concerned look upon my face, seriously pondering whether those jack stands could possibly be sufficient to keep 'ol Lill from collapsing down onto me the very first chance she got. 🤔

November

Birthdays

Al Combs–4th

Bill Brown–5th

Nat Gardner–7th

Dolly Larkin–10th

Jim Jacobson–11th

Richard Golding–12th

Scott Hulse–12th

Greg Carpenter–14th

Carl Godsoe–14th

Beccy Monsma–^o15th

Sean Meslow–22nd

Tam Isham–28th

Anniversaries

Carol and David Jensen–8th

Sheryl and Scott Hulse–13th

Daniele and Sean Meslow–20th

Barbara and J.R. Russell–20th

Karen and Don Lederhos–23rd

A recipient of AACA Award of Excellence, Master Editor and the Ann S. Eady Memorial Award

AAMA
P.O. Box 770703
Eagle River AK 99577-0703

