

# Baxter Car Show was for old friends



Many friends gather with Bruce and Marl, (center): Tom and Marcy Cresap, Brian Anderson, Terry Young, Laura Walter, Art Isham, Louis Mestier, Tamea Isham, Marianne Robinson, Ken Evans, Marl &Bruce, Mark Graber, Rich Golding, Bill Brown, Linda Golding, Michael Campbell, Scott Hulse, Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer, Michael Packard, Louie Finch and Donn Reese. Bruce restored the two 1957 Fords.

by Tom Cresap

Saturday, September 23, a convoy of 17 vehicles and their Antique Auto Musher drivers and passengers showed up at Baxter Senior Living Center in Anchorage to entertain the residents there. The cars are accustomed to visits at senior and healthcare centers, but this one is close to our heart because one of our members and his wife, Bruce and Marl Campbell, moved there a little less than a year ago.

The Campbells became AAMA members almost 30 years ago, and Bruce was always a high-energy planner of events of incredible scope and detail. Events he designed are too many to be listed here, but we remember shows at Alaska Sales and Service and at Northway Mall where he either charmed, twisted arms or threatened to tease out more vehicles than at any event on record since.

He also designed trips, sometimes of more than 3,000 miles, such as the Juneau/Cassiar Highway trip and Canada journeys: Inuvik and Yellow Knife. This is not to mention our adventure up the Dalton Highway to Deadhorse on the North Slope. Bruce notably presented each tour participant with a brochure with photos and a narrative of the history of the area and the road on which we were traveling. (He was instrumental in constructing many of the roads and bridges.) While doing all this organizing, he completed restoration of 11 vehicles, two of which were included in the show.

Bruce sent a note thanking us after our visit, he said our 17 antiques were "a high for us and the residents of Baxter Living." They hope we will be able to do a repeat visit next year.

(See p. 4, "Old Friends")

### October Meeting

The 6:30 pm meeting will take place October 11 at the Hope Community Resource Building at 570 W. 53rd Avenue in Anchorage.

Our vice president, Brian Anderson, will be in charge while President Linda is having her Hip replaced.

Be there as we hash over our adventures of the summer and get ready for nominations for the upcoming election.

# Running Board Reflections



President Linda presented the Jay Ofsthun award to June and Bob Pickard on Thirsty Thursday, September 21st, at Piper's in Anchorage.

Even though the summer weather was wetter and cooler than most of us would have liked, our club had a successful, fun-filled season. We put a lot of miles on our vehicles, shared lots of conversations, and, most importantly, ate a lot of meals together.

Our short visit to Baxter Senior Living on September 23rd was a huge success. Bruce and Marl Campbell, long-time AAMA members, enjoyed seeing all the cars. Bruce was glowing, and the smiles of the other residents reminded us that even a short visit with classic cars can bring immeasurable joy. I hope we can follow up next year with additional community service opportunities.

I had hoped to attend the September

Fall Colors Tour, but took sick the night before, leaving the slow, muddy, rainy drive to the hardy folks who braved the construction zones on the road to Seward. A big thanks to Kaye and Dick Cruse for supplying charcoal and enough food for the proverbial army.

Our website renewal process is currently under development. We hope to have it up and running very soon. Special thanks to David Jensen and Louis Mestier for their work on this project.

This month, Donn Reese and Art Isham will be proposing our slate of Officers for next year. Please remember that our Club functions best when each of us takes some active part.

-Linda



President: Linda Mattes-Golding 907-351-3251 Vice President: Brian Anderson 907-748-1698 Secretary: Greg Carpenter 907-891-4988 Treasurer: Louis Mestier 512-507-8028 Sergeant-at-Arms: Dutch Overly 907-338-1789 Members at Large Tamea Isham 907-688-3671 Donn Reese 907-245-7203 Darrell Krolick 907-229-9456 Past Presidents (10 years) David Jensen (2019-21) Gwyn Wiedmer (2017-18) Brian Anderson (2015-16) Mike Wiedmer (2013-14) Howard Hansen (2012) 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

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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 at 907-694-7510.

#### 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 (907) 440-2982



For Sale: 1989 Acura Legend; Original owner, original mileage; five-speed manual transmission; new battery, two new summer tires and two gently used summer tires. It doesn't burn oil, but leaks some. Body has 23 years of Alaska wear. A section was cut out behind the rear seat armrest for skis and poles. The car is really fun to drive. \$1,500. Also, brand new snow tires on rims available for \$1000. No "tire kickers," please. Dana Anderson, (907)519-2651, or dga@softwarenorth.com

For Sale: 1967 Oldsmobile; 442 convertible; new top, new leather. 3500 miles on rebuilt engine. Excellent condition. \$55,000 negotiable. 907-440-9017. kpullen@mtaonline.net



# Schedule of events

- o October 11-6:30 Meeting
- o November 8-6:30 Meeting
- o December 17-2:00-8:00 Christmas these at Isham's in Peters Creek
- o January 10–6:30 pm Meeting (Installation of officers)
- o February14-6:30 pm Meeting

For Sale: 1938, 1600 Convertible Packard Coupe; removable fender skirts, road lights, spot light, and some spare parts. It has a structural frame issue that will require some welding to fix. Stored in a conex trailer, dry and ventilated. Not yet sure of asking price. We will need to do research with any interested parties to land on a fair price. Chalon Rein, (907) 317-6974 or chalonrein@gmail.com



**For Sale:** Stanley Steamer Engine; location: Big Lake; Price to be determined; open to offers.Doug VanWingerden 907-315-4055



For Sale: 1930 Model A Ford pickup; high-performance Model B engine; Winfield head; performance cam; inserted rods; special water pump; rebuilt transmission and differential; 12v; new battery; new gas gauge. All work done by Ken Holland; \$25,000. Call Sharon, 907-727-8381.



For Sale: 1934 Fordor Sedan; owned 7 years. Rebuilt '37 221cu in flathead V-8; rebuilt transmission; new carburetor; completely rewired; 12 V w/ alternator; driving lights; new horns, heater, solid sound-deadened floor; new windshield, 5 low milage radials on 17" wheels; rebuilt distributor and speedometer. The car is a solid driver. It will be in Soldotna until mid-September \$21,500. walt sonen ijit31@gmail.com <mailto:ijit31@gmail.com > 907-399-9292



For Sale: 1929 Ford Model A; beautifully restored in the 1980's; runs and drives; extra fender and radiator cowl; \$19,000. Eric, (505) 604-4376, or <a href="mailto:Serballenger@gci.net">Serballenger@gci.net</a>

(More on p. 4)

### **Dimond Car Show**

by Jim Fredenhagen

Once again, the weather gods were with us for the annual Dimond Center car show on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The show ended at 3 pm and the rain started exactly then. How lucky can you get!

Anticipating foul weather, however, several tent shelters and coffee were volunteered by members. We were ready.

There were 22 vehicles that took the rain risk and were rewarded with the generosity of the Dimond Center management, represented by Musher member John Martin. He and Dimond events manager, Logan, made sure each participant had a welcome bag of treats and a Mall coupon book. In addition, the Dimond Center provided door prizes of \$50 gift cards for our ticket drawings.

AAMA is very grateful for the ongoing support the Dimond Center has provided and especially John and Logan's coordination. That support has allowed us to continue this show annually.

### Halloween Party!

Kris May, Events Director of the Anchorage Downtown Partnership, says:

Hello Antique Auto Mushers!!

Would you all be interested in attending Trick or Treat Street this year? AAMA has partnered with ADP in the past, but not in recent years, and I'd love to bring that partnership back!

Thanks, Kris.

Trick or Treat Street—Saturday October 28th 12-4pm, Town Square Park on E Street between 4th and 6th avenues.

All you need is a trunk full of candy and a healthy love for this ghoulish holiday.



Among the 22 vehicles on display at the Dimond Center were Scott Hulse's 1939 International Pickup, Marianne Robinson's 1930 Model A ford and Dale Dryden's 1931 Model A Taxi.

There was quite a diverse blend of vehicles, as always, from the very rare early 60's Corvette to custom made hotrod to an unusual Unimog all-terrain vehicle.

Coincidentally, the car show coincided with the annual, national "show off your Model A Ford" day. Six A's came and represented the "antique" part of AAMA.

### Old Friends

(Continued from p. 1)

Seventeen cars and twenty-two members who showed up:

Louis Finch-1956 Mercury Montclair Marianne Robinson-1930 Model A Fordor

Louis Mestier-1966 T-Bird

Tam and Art Isham-2006 Chrysler Crossfire

Brian Anderson-1962 Willys Overland Scott Hulse-1939 International Harvester

Tom and Marcy Cresap- 1931 Model A Fordor

Michael Campbell and Terry Young-1986 Alfa Romeo Spider

Mike and Gwyn Wiedmer-1927

Huppmobile

Donn Reese-1976 Chrysler New Yorker

Ken Evans-1955 Cadillac Eldorado Mark Graber-1947 Packard Clipper Richard Golding-1928 Model A Fordor

Linda Mattes-Golding-1986 Citroen 2cv

Michael Packard and Laura Walter-1942 Plymouth

And finally, two cars formerly owned by Bruce and Marl:

Bill Brown-1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner

Kate Forster (friend of Bill Brown)-1957 Ford Fairlane Custom 300

### One Man's Treasures





Parts available: Various 1950 Ford trim, door handles, Garnish moldings, etc. Call Tom, 694-7510 or David, 244-4197



**For Sale:** 1931 Chevy 5-window coupe; all wood replaced; Hampton interior; \$16,000 negotiable; Ken, 907-240-3746

## Watercolor Tour



Participants of the Fall Colors Tour-before their Moose Pass mud bath: 1984 Bronco II (Michael Packard & Laura Walter) 1986 Citröen 2CV (Richard Golding) 1931 Model A pickup (Carl and Kathleen Godsoe) 1938 Chrysler Royal (Tom & Marcy Cresap) 1993 Chevy pickup (Blackly and Martie Black) 2003 Ford Motorhome (Michael Campbell & Terry Young) 1930 Model A Fordor (Art & Tamea Isham, Janet Hahn).

by Tom Cresap

With warmer summer days waning quickly, a group of a half-dozen AAMA cars, their owners and guests gathered at Carr's Huffman parking lot at about 10:00 am. The tour destination was a 125-mile drive to Seward, where we knew full-well the forecast was for rain. Undaunted, we set out for this, likely, last driving adventure of the year.

The already murky day appeared even

more perilous as we wended our way to the head of Turnagain Arm and saw the various valleys completely socked in. Unhampered by such daunting meteorological signposts, we forged on into beautiful Turnagain Pass and beyond to the Canyon Creek pullout, where our fearless and determined leader, Rich Golding pulled in for a predetermined photo op. This site, usually festooned with fall colors, was muted by rain and mist.

Our inveterate photographer, Kathleen Godsoe–as well as a few others–persisted in clicking away, regardless.

We then splashed our way to the sleepy village of Moose Pass and beyond, where-less than 25 miles short of Seward-we began a gauntlet of road construction, which would leave us little more than rolling mudballs.

We were quite ready to arrive at the pavilion on the shore of Resurrection Bay, where our gracious hosts, Dick and Kaye Cruise, had the charcoal grill fired up and ready for us. We proceeded to have a very nice meal, with accompanying entertainment by local sea gulls and sea lions that played in the nearby, uncharacteristically placid water.

Our small group included: Richard Golding-without his lovely wife, who called in sick-drove the family1986 Citröen 2CV; Tom & Marcy Cresap were in their 1938 Chrysler Royal; Carl & Kathleen Godsoe peopled their beautiful 1930 Model A pickup; Art & Tam Ishamwith guest Janet Hahn-styled in their 1930 Model A Town Sedan; Michael Packard & Laura Walter rode in comfort in their 1984 Bronco II; Blackie & Martie Black were in their 1993 Chevy pickup; Michael Campbell & Terry Young were ready for an emergency stay-over in their comodious 2003 Ford motorhome and locsals, Dick & Kave Cruze drove over in their contemporary car.



Dick And Kaye Cruise take care of the grill at the Seward park pavilion as the Mushers set up for lunch.

### AAMA Business Meeting September 13, 2023 Location: Hope Community Resources Learning Center 570 W. 53rd Avenue Anchorage, Alaska

Meeting called to order at 6:29 pm by President Linda Mattes Golding

There were 27 members present.

Guests: Aiden Bond August Minutes

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

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Louis Mestier provided the treasurers report.

\*\*Linda Mattes Golding read correspondence from Providence Extended Care thanking the club for the car show at their facility on August 23. She also read a thank-you note we sent to Doug Ogden for the packet of pictures he sent to the club when he was a member years ago.

#### **Old Business**

\*\*Mark Graber reported that The Alaska State Fair parade and car show on Saturday, August 19 was a wonderful day with nineteen cars participating in the event. Those participating in the car show received tickets to the State Fair.

\*\*Linda Golding said that dues renewal notices for AAMA have been emailed to members. The AACA membership is \$45.00 and can be paid online through their website. Please pay your AAMA membership after October 1st, when the board determines the dues amount for next year. Also, after October 1, you should be able to pay your membership dues with your credit card online through the AAMA website. Members can still pay their dues with cash or check.

\*\*Linda Mattes Golding presented a motion to authorize an additional \$50.00 to the annual website renewal fee of \$84.00 to update to commercial status. This allows the club to process online payments. The motion passed unanimously.

\*\*Jim Fredenhagen gave an update on the Dimond Center car show Saturday, September 16 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be goody bags for participants along with door prizes at the event.

\*\*Jim also reported that the fall colors tour is Saturday September 30. The group



will be leaving from Carr's on Huffman at10:00 am. The pavilion in Seward is reserved for a picnic lunch and the Kaknu Kruisers from Kenai have been invited to join.

\*\*Linda Mattes Golding presented a motion to purchase up to \$75.00 worth of business cards for the club so people can pass them along at events, potential new members and others interested in the Antique Auto Mushers. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **New Business**

\*\*Former club member Bruce Campbell received recognition from the Rasmussen Museum at the University of Alaska Fairbanks for his writings titled "Backwards Glance" about the car clubs travels up to the North slope. Both he and his wife Marl are residents of the Baxter Senior Living Center. On September 23 at 3:00 pm a pop-up car show will take place at the facility.

\*\*Linda Golding reported that the Hope Community Resource Center's annual fund raiser will take place on Saturday October 7th. They would like a couple of cars from the club to participate. This will be Hope Community Resources 55th anniversary.

\*\*Linda Reported that The Downtown partnership Trunk and Treat event is Saturday October 28 from 12 to 4 pm.

\*\*The Christmas party is tentatively scheduled for Sunday December 10 starting at 2:00 pm at Art and Tam Isham's house.

\*\*Vice president Brian Anderson will be presiding over the October business meeting since President Linda Mattes Golding will be recovering from hip surgery.

\*\*Mike Wiedmer said he received a Thank You from the Audubon Society for helping with the 10,000 white spruce seeding giveaway events.

#### **BD's & Anniversaries**

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

#### Split the Pot

Split the pot winner JR Russell.

#### **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. Drive to Los Arcos restaurant for dinner.

Respectfully submitted, Greg Carpenter, Secretary

# Christmas Party Change!

For your planning purposes, the AAMA Christmas party has been changed to December 17. Tamea Isham

# A Long Wait

by Brian Anderson

Many of us old car enthusiasts have a story of a long vehicle search or delayed restoration. This one begins with my early interest in Jeep vehicles while growing up in Denver, Colorado. My first Jeep was a '65 CJ-5 that I purchased while I was attending college, followed by a '60 Willys pickup after graduating in 1979. But I had always admired the Willys 2-door 4WD utility wagons and hoped to acquire one someday.

That day came 30 years ago when I spotted an ad for a '62 Willys 6-230 utility wagon in the Anchorage Daily News in September 1993. Still in its original twotone amber metallic and plantation white paint, and showing approximately 72,000 miles, the wagon had recently been driven down from Fairbanks where it had spent most of its prior existence. In the glove box was an expired registration for a previous long-time owner, whom I soon contacted.

The Willys had been purchased new in Madison, Wisconsin by a newly hired teacher at Lathrop High School in Fairbanks. The former owner who I spoke with said that he bought it from the teacher after it had been flooded "up to the dashboard" in the 1967 Chena River flood. It then sat for a year drying out before he began driving it between his Fairbanks home and his gold mine at Manley Hot Springs. After the mine was shut down around 1980, the Willys remained in Fairbanks until 1992, when it was sold to the person who brought it to Anchorage.

I drove the Willys only a few times



1962 Willys 6-230 utility wagon

before realizing that it really needed a total restoration. I wasn't in a position to do that at the time, but I hung on to it as I pursued my career and moved several times, while using other Jeeps as my daily drivers. And the classified ads in the newspaper provided further distraction, prompting me to acquire another of my dream Willys Jeep vehicles, an FC-170 pickup that I quickly began to restore. Still other vehicles came and went while the Willys wagon sat waiting.

Recognizing that vehicle restoration resources in Alaska were somewhat limited, in 2015 I made the decision to ship the Jeep wagon to Willys America, a parts and restoration shop located in Sonoma County, California. As the name indicates, they specialize in restoring Willys Jeep vehicles, and had been operating for over 30 years. In order to get in the que, they require the vehicle to be on their premises, and mine sat there until the active restoration began late in 2018. Three 1962 vehicles were to be done simultaneously.

It would not be a quick process. By mid-2020, the COVID pandemic was in full swing, and some of the senior technicians at Willys America decided it was time to retire. Like other similar businesses, the owner had trouble finding replacement workers skilled in old car restoration. Adding to that, Sonoma County experienced several years of alternating wildfires and floods, further hampering their work schedule. It became a

true exercise in patience. Eventually, my project approached completion early this year, six plus years after leaving Anchorage, and in March I travelled there for an inspection and test drive. After some follow-up work, the Willys was shipped to Anchorage via Bats Motorsports trucking, arriving in Anchorage on May 19.

For me, submitting a vehicle for an out-of-state professional restoration is a once-in-a-lifetime event. Given that the restoration cost certainly exceeded the vehicle's market value, I had to rely on non-economic reasons for doing it. So true is the adage: "the best deal in a restored car is one that somebody else restored." I also knew going in that a freshly restored antique vehicle will usually require subsequent adjustments, and using a restorer several thousand miles away means those details are now left to me. But all things considered, I'm happy with the result and, after 30 years waiting, looking forward to enjoying the Willys wagon in the years ahead.





IT ALL BEGAN A FEW MONTHS AGO WHEN I GOT A CALL FROM FAIRBANKS. IT WAS MY FRIEND AND FELLOW DEUX CHEVAUX - THE "2CV" - OWNER, ED MCLAUGHLIN . . . An AAMA Comic Book

Hey Rich, how's about you and I drive our 2cvs to Dawson City. Then we could drive them in the Canada Day parade this year!

> GEE, I DUNNO ED. THE MUSHERS HAVE AN AWFULLY FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS GOING ON THIS SUMMER.

Well, I guess we could put it off until next year.

REMIND ME, HOW OLD ARE YOU? IN ANCHORAGE

I'm 97.

HMMM... MAYBE WE BETTER DO IT THIS YEAR!

. . . IN FAIRBANKS

THEN RICK LARRICK CALLED.
AND SO DID SCOTT GRUNDY.

Hey, count me in!

Yeah ... me 2

SURE ...
HEY, THE MORE
THE MERRIER!

SO I DROVE OUT TO TOK, WHERE
I MET UP WITH THE "FAIRBANKS 3."
THEY STAYED THE NIGHT IN A MOTEL
- I WAS UNABLE TO PASS UP AN
OPPORTUNITY - AS I'VE ALWAYS HAD
A BURNING DESIRE TO SLEEP
IN A GIANT WOOD STOVE . . .







AFTER THE
PARADE, THE
CARS LINED
UP IN THE
PARK AND
DAWSON
CITY'S
MAYOR GAVE
A SPEECH . . .

... MEANWHILE — THE GUYS GOT TOGETHER WITH ONE OF THE LOCAL MOUNTIES TO PLAY A TRICK ON ED ...

I'll need to see your insurance papers, Sir!

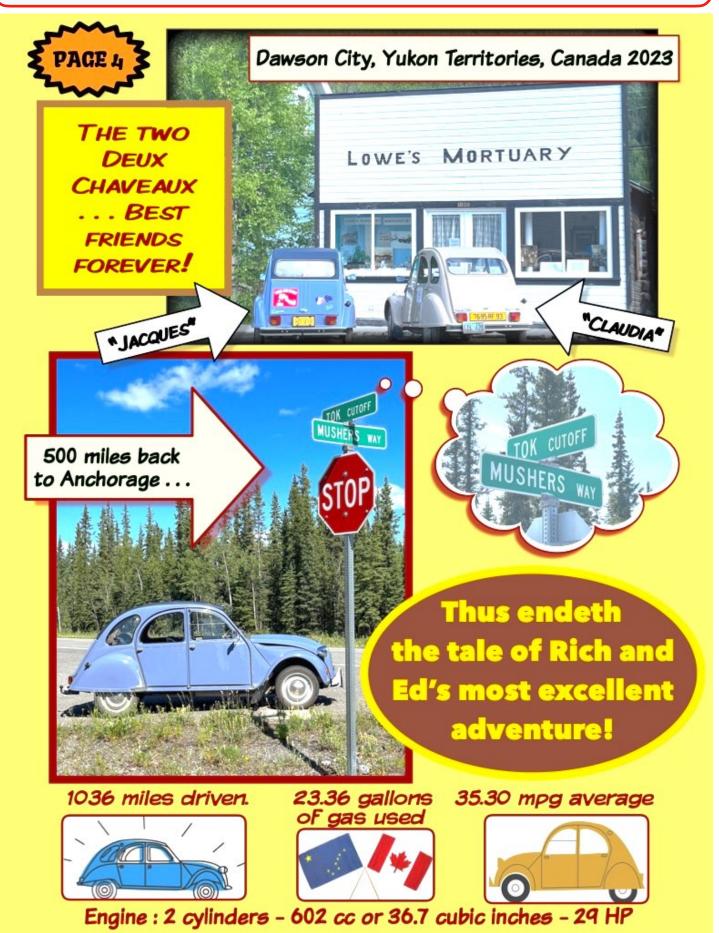
- I'm afraid these papers aren't in order. I'm going to have to arrest you, Sir!

Blah blah blah!

Uhh-ohh!

WE ALL HAD A GREAT LAUGH AFTER SCARING POOR OL' ED HALF TO DEATH! IT WAS THE PERFECT END TO A PERFECT DAY, AND A PERFECT TRIP!

ED MCLAUGHLIN'S IMMORTAL WORDS TO LIVE BY ...
"I HOPE WHEN I GET TO BE MY AGE, I CAN STILL DO THIS!"





Pumpkin pie anyone? How about pumpkin spice? Kathleen Godsoe took this photo not very far up Strawberry Street from her home. Who could resist a photo op with these two Alaska State Fair celebrities? Can you believe 1,240 lbs.!?

### October

### **Birthdays**

Sara Stoops–6<sup>th</sup> Fred Scharper–12<sup>th</sup>

Cindy Hulse–13th

Dave Chiotti-16th

Milt Tanora–26th

Donn Reese-31st

#### **Anniversaries**

Jenny & Morgan Blanchard– 11<sup>th</sup>

Martie & Blacky Black–14<sup>th</sup> Cheryl & John Martin–18<sup>th</sup> Karen Avila & Donald Lederhos–23<sup>rd</sup>

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