



Christmas Party celebrates The Little Red Truck



The Little Red Truck was very popular in the gift exchange presents. Jennifer Isham ended up with a nice entryway rug, and when she got home, her cats instantly adopted it. They hope everyone got what they wanted, too.

By Art and Tamea Isham

The party was held on December 10th at the Isham home in Chugiak with over 40 AAMA members and guests attending. A new route to the location was published to allay fears about the dreaded “downhill” that occurs shortly before a hard left is required to get in the driveway, which was marked by a well-lit sign and a 1973 Volvo 1800ES, surrounded by five-foot snowdrifts. No complaints about the “downhill” this year, so a new trail has been blazed for future trips.

We had a parking-lot attendant (Brian) this year that did an outstanding

job of cramming just about everyone into the lower parking lot area facing outward so that it was easy to leave. Backing up and jockeying around was limited to the early afternoon (2-3 PM) when you could still see without headlights.

As usual there was no lack of food, especially desserts, even though we were one turkey short because our sergeant at arms was taken ill at the last moment and could not attend. He (Dutch) is mending and will be back with us.

The gift exchange was fairly quiet this year, with no violent disagreements breaking out when gifts were taken away

from the original or secondary selector. The hot items this year were little red pickup trucks, either as scale models, pictures, or rugs. Notice that cats even like little red pickup truck rugs.

We had some problems with the tickets used to determine the order of gift selection. People were losing them or they were just disappearing. The master of ceremonies (Art) had to give out at least three new tickets after the gift selections commenced. One of the disappeared tickets showed up the next day in Art’s slipper, which apparently got there when Marcy dropped it in close

(See p.4, “Christmas Party”)

January Meeting

Installation

Or maybe we should say “re-installation,” since all the 2023 officers except one are returning for 2024.

The one new officer will be Michael Packard, who graciously offered to replace last year’s vice president, Brian Anderson.

This is bound to be entertaining. Our fellow member, and—we think—erstwhile thespian, Mike Wiedmer, (aka) “The Professor,” will do the honors. Come help us usher in the folks who will guide us in our coming adventures.

Dues

It is truly hard to believe, but it’s time to pay dues for the coming year. By the time you receive this Tinkering Times, we will have entered 2024, and if you haven’t paid yet, you’re in arrears. So, get on the stick and make it easier on the treasurer and the membership chairman. It’s only 20 bucks. Thanks!

Happy New Year to All!!!

“

Running Board Reflections



Linda gazes out her new home's kitchen window at the new shop building, and wonders if she will ever see Richard again.

Christmas 2023 is in the rear-view mirror. It was a much quieter December than normal. We are not fully moved in to the new house; we spend about half our time in Peter's Creek and half in Anchorage. But I admit, moving into a new house after hip surgery (as well as during a particularly snowy winter) has been a bit stressful.

The only holiday decorations in sight are a Santa windsock outside the new house, a fabric wreath on the inside of the door, and a Poinsettia plant from the Cresaps. Our usual Friendsmas Eve dinner on the 24th fizzled out. Many of the past attendees have left the state; a few have simply left (and are now singing in the choir invisible). We did manage to take a drive to the Palmer Fairgrounds in the sleety snow and on icy roads to see the Light Show. A short, but satisfyingly fun event.

Therefore, the AAMA holiday party hosted by the Ishams was the highlight of the season. It is always a pleasure to mosey through the curated artworks (both man-made and nature-made)

collected by Art and Tam over the years. Every time I visit, I find another nook or cranny that I have not seen before.

The food is always good, and the company wonderful. This year was no exception. Our gift exchange provided lots of humor and silliness. And we raised \$540 for Hope Community Resources. We thank those attending for opening their pocketbooks and billfolds to support Hope, who generously allow our group to use their facilities for our meetings.

The New Year is already promising to be a busy one for the AAMA. The Fur Rondy Parade and Car Show is already in the works. Some members of the Vernon Nash Club in Fairbanks are planning an "Adventure before Dementia" cruise in July to attend the Sutton Car Show. There are also plans to meet up with the Horseless Carriage Tour from the lower 48, while they spend time at the Fountainhead Museum in Fairbanks.

—Linda



2023 Officers

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Linda Mattes-Golding
907-351-3251

Vice President:
Michael Packard-
907-382-1221

Secretary:

Greg Carpenter 907-891-4988

Treasurer:

Louis Mestier 512-507-8028

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Dutch Overly 907-338-1789

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907-688-3671

Donn Reese
907-245-7203

Scott Hulse
907-240-4028

Past Presidents (10 years)

David Jensen (2019-21)

Gwyn Wiedmer (2017-18)

Brian Anderson (2015-16)

Mike Wiedmer (2013-14)

Howard Hansen (2012)

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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: 1985 Oldsmobile, 1970 International, 1979 Chrysler Newport, 1967 Buick Station Wagon; not running. Contact Laura Fitzgerald at lfitzak@yahoo.com



Available to a good home: four AMC Eagles, three station wagons, one sedan. Very complete, bodies in fine shape; mechanical conditions unknown. Contact Mike Wiedmer if interested-(907)-632-1687

Schedule of events

- o January 10–6:30 pm Meeting (Installation of officers)
- o February 14–6:30 pm Meeting
- o February 24–Rondy parade and show (Art Isham & Donn Reese)
- o February 25–Rondy Show
- o March 13–6:30 Meeting



AAMA Magnetic Door/ Parade Decals

We have the large AAMA Decals. These are \$15 each. If you would like Magnetic signs for use in parades and AAMA activities; I have heavy magnetic material for about 10 sets (of 2 decals each). I will cut and assemble two decals for \$15.

The Magnetic backing is .030" thick and holds great on a steel door or panel.

TOTAL COST FOR TWO MAGNETIC SIGNS IS \$45.00 (\$30 to AAMA for the decals and \$15 to Scott Hulse for materials).

Contact Scott Hulse at (907) 240-4028, or E-mail hulse@alaska.net, if you would like a set made.

The Five Minute Rule

by Tom Pollak

Moss Motoring, issue 2-2022

Adapted by Carl Godsoe

Every day, if you are serious about completing the project, you have to work on it for at least five-minutes – every day! You can clean or repair some part, tidy up the workbench, sort tools, flip through the catalog or shop manual, walk around the project, make notes, take pictures or plan for the next thing you are going to work on – but you have to do it every day. Some days you will work for longer than that, but every day – five minutes!

Letting the project lie idle causes a loss of mental momentum, this is the enemy of completion!

A related suggestion is to end a work session with a place to start work for the next session. This may mean not finishing up something that is going along well, just to have something to look forward to the next day. Counterintuitive but makes sense when you think about it!

There is a lot of enjoyment in seeing the project getting closer to the day when it is, "Done!"

Join us at the
January
meeting as
"The Professor"
installs the
2024 officers.

2024 Fur Rondy Planning

By Tamea and Art Isham and Donn Reese

Fur Rondy for AAMA will be February 23-25, 2024. We will have access to Bob's Services, 2009 Spar Avenue, starting at 5PM on Friday 2/23 to start setting up or bringing in cars.

On Saturday 2/24 the shop will open at 9AM for members to pick up their cars and line up for the parade. The show will

start at 12 Noon when people get back from the parade and close at 5PM.

On Sunday 2/25 the show will open at 10AM and close at 5PM.

We will have sign-up sheets at the January and February meetings for the following:

1. Displaying vehicles or things in show
2. Participating in the Grand Parade on 2/24
3. Operating the Welcome Table and selling popcorn
4. Bringing food/drinks/etc. for the Potluck on both Saturday and Sunday

We will have the normal assortment of free car magazines available at the Welcome Table along with free car parts/

equipment that we will try and convince people to take off our hands so our garages are less cluttered. No FOR SALE items allowed.

Start thinking about what you want to sign up for or get rid of and make that commitment early.

See you at the January meeting.

Say Hello to Kurt

Kurt Rein has moved to Colorado, and although he will probably make lots of friends there, he will undoubtedly enjoy hearing from his long-time friends here in Alaska.

His son, Chalon, has thoughtfully left Kurt's new address and phone number for us to use.

Kurt Rein c/o C.V.C.L.C
851 E. 5th Street
Rifle CO 81650

Cell: (907)306-9099
(907)625-0842 (Ask for Kurt)
Chalon's Cell: (907)317-6974

Give him a shout!



Christmas Party

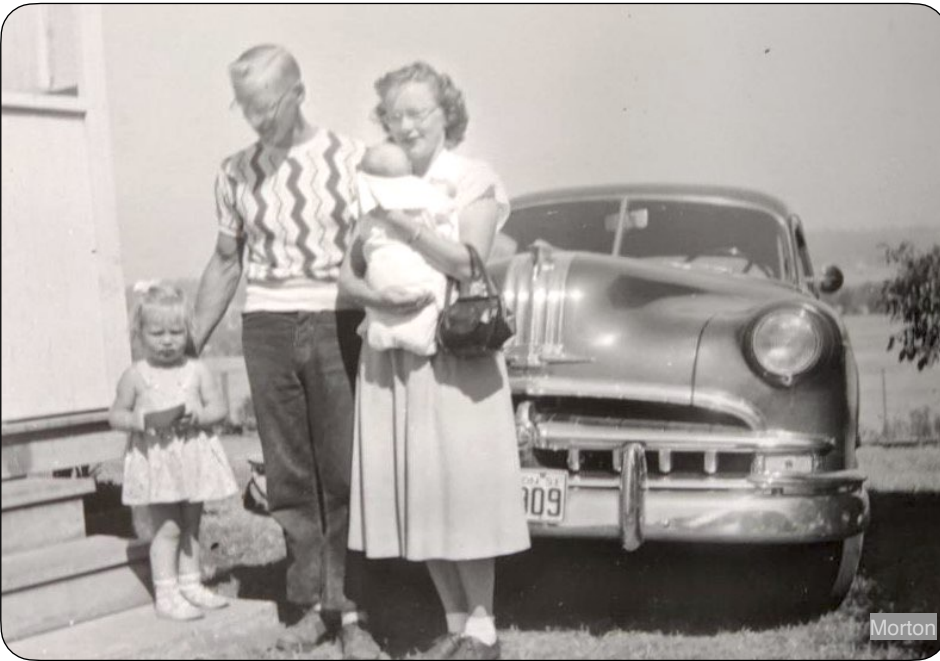
(Continued from p.1)

proximity to his foot. Anyway, the number of gifts eventually matched the number of tickets and everyone went home with their selected or exchanged gifts, plus about five door prizes.

We took up a collection to support Hope Community Resources Inc. who provide us with a meeting place throughout the year. Total donated this year was \$540.

Party broke up about 8PM and everyone headed home as it started snowing again, and again, and again.

Recalling a Special 1949 Pontiac



Ken Morton's sister, Karen, his dad and mom—holding baby Ken—pose in front of their 1949 Pontiac.

By Ken Morton

About a year before I was born, my parents bought a new 1949 Straight 8 Pontiac 2-door fastback. While going through my mother's letters and records earlier this month, I found the original sales documents for that Streamliner Sedan-Coupe, as the factory called it. The price was \$2422.24; my folks put \$560.00

down and got \$574.40 in trade for their 1941 International pickup. Their monthly payment was \$53.66. (One of the other documents showed that Art Jones Pontiac was also a GE appliance dealer!) Seven years later, the folks traded that Pontiac in on a year-old 1955 Chevrolet Bel Air V8.

(See sales slip on p. 5)

AAMA 2024 Long-Distance Tour

by Tamea Isham

We are due for a long-distance Tour! I have made a tentative plan that coincides somewhat with the Horseless Carriage Tour's visit to the Fountainhead Museum in Fairbanks. The following is a preliminary schedule:

8/4-The Anchorage Jay Ofsthun Show and Shine

8/5-Prepare for trip.

8/6-Depart Anchorage for Healy via Parks.

8/7-Drive into Denali National Park to Savage River, then on to Fairbanks. Meet with Vernon Nash Club and Horseless Carriage group (?)

8/8-Fairbanks...tour, whatever

8/9-Fairbanks to Gakona Lodge via Richardson

8/10-Gakona Lodge to Chitina

8/11-Depart Chitina to Anchorage via Glenn

At the January meeting I will ask how many would be excited about this adventure. Keep in mind that this plan is in its beginning stages, so I will have more details soon. You can always go your own way at any time and not be on the schedule. If you have any questions or suggestions before the meeting, call Tamea Isham at 907 688-3671.



Beauty and The Beast

Humor by Rich Golding

My wife is a pretty smart lady. Let me tell you Brother, you have to get up pretty early in the morning to put one over on that woman. And as with most intelligent females, she can be highly opinionated. And

(See p. 6, "Beauty and the Beast")

Recalling a Special Pontiac: The Sales Slip

FORM D S A 501

ART JONES PONTIAC
5th and Birch - Telephone 98
CAMAS, WASHINGTON

Nº 96

SOLD TO: V A Morton & Ruth Morton DATE 1/16/68
ADDRESS 19605 SE Stark, Portland Oregon 16

SALESMAN: Jones

MAKE	MODEL	NEW OR USED	SERIAL No.	MOTOR No.	KEY No.			
Pontiac	Starliner	New	C8R54147	C8R54147	8005	PRICE OF CAR	1758.00	
						TRANSPORTATION CHARGE	264.00	
						SALES TAX	None Oregon Sale	
INSURANCE COVERAGE INCLUDES							DELIVERED PRICE	2022.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRE AND THEFT		- AMOUNT DEDUCTIBLE		50.00	EXTRAS:		
<input type="checkbox"/>	COLLISION		- AMOUNT			OPTIONAL EQUIP. & ACCESS.	112.40	
<input type="checkbox"/>	PUBLIC LIABILITY		- AMOUNT					
<input type="checkbox"/>	PROPERTY DAMAGE		- AMOUNT					
OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES							SALES TAX ON EXTRAS	None
GROUP	DESCRIPTION				PRICE	TOTAL CASH PRICE	2134.40	
A.	Trble Lites Mirrors, Back up lights, Vanity Mirrors Etc				31.60	COST OF FINANCING (INCL. INSURANCE)	150.00	
K.	Heater				68.25	Insurance 2 yrs	150.00	
F.	Flex Deluxe Wheel				12.55	TOTAL TIME PRICE	2422.24	
							SETTLEMENT:	
							DEPOSIT	
							CASH ON DELIVERY	560.00
							USED CAR-1941 Int. TYPE Pickup	576.40
							Motor Vehicle No. GRD21427595	
							Serial No. K112706	1287.84
							PAYMENTS: GMAC, Payments 24 months 53.66	
							TOTAL	2422.24

ALWAYS SHOW SERIAL, MOTOR AND KEY NUMBER.

SEND CONTRACT AND THIS FORM TO GMAC

DEALER'S WORK SHEET
DEALER FILLS IN BEFORE COMPLETING CONTRACT

DATE 7-19 1949

Description of Car Being Sold - Make PONTIAC Model Starliner Year 1949 New Used

CASH DELIVERED PRICE (including Sales Tax, if any) Oregon Sale No TAX \$ 2134.40 (1)

TERRITORY CHARGE - Chart No. 150.00 (2)

BASIC TIME PRICE (Add Items 1 and 2) 2284.40 (3)

DOWN PAYMENT, \$ 560.00 (Cash) 574.40 (Trade-In) 1134.40 (4)*

DESCRIPTION OF TRADE-IN MAKE International MODEL K-1 YEAR 1941

UNPAID BALANCE (Subtract Item 4 from 3) 1150.00 (5)

TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL 137.84 (6)

DEFERRED BALANCE (Add Items 5 and 6) 1287.84 (7)*

PAYABLE IN 74 INSTALMENTS OF \$ 53.66 (7-A)*

TOTAL TIME PRICE (Add Items 4 and 7) 2422.24 (8)*

COLLISION DEDUCTIBLE \$ 50.00

Extra Equipment Included in Cash Delivered Price: _____ * Copy These Figures on Contract

Will Car be used for Livery and Renting Yes No

Contract Covers:—

COMMERCIAL CARS AND TRUCKS

CHASSIS CAPACITY: _____ TONS

CHASSIS AND CAB WHEELS—SINGLE DUAL

CHASSIS, CAB & BODY WHEELBASE _____ INCHES

DESCRIPTION OF BODY: _____

Miles Operated from Headquarters:—
UP TO 50 MILES
UP TO 150 MILES
OVER 150 MILES

DEALER SIGNS ART JONES PONTIAC
BY AW Jones (If Corp. or Part.) (Title)

DEALER COMMENTS _____

Beauty and the Beast

(Continued from p. 5)

stubborn. –Whoa Nellie, can that woman be stubborn! Once she has her mind made up, heaven help the poor schlump who attempts to change it. That goes for me, too. I've probably got a better chance of becoming the next queen of England than altering my wife's mind, once it has been set. Believe me, over the past half century I've tried umpteen times.

About 45 years ago, when we were pregnant with our first child, it was discovered by Linda's obstetrician that she was anemic. Now normally the OB-GYN can just order up some pills and the problem's fixed. But not with Linda. Not only does her extraordinary intellect defy description, but her 'wild and crazy body' often doesn't respond to medications. Her stubbornness runs deep, deep down, past her epidermis and into her internal organs.

So, the pills didn't work. Her blood tests kept coming back as highly anemic. The MD prescribed different pills. They didn't work either. He even prescribed pills that were supposed to help the other pills work better. –Sorry Charlene . . . bupkis!

I can distinctly remember the meeting we had with the doctor after trying every medicine he could think of. He suggested that Linda should try to defeat her anemia with diet. But Linda's diet, at least while she was preppers, consisted mainly of ice cream and pickles.

"A proper correction of your daily dietary regimen will be very important when it comes to the health of your baby," he lectured her in a thoroughly authoritarian voice, as he sat behind his big, important looking oak doctor's desk, with lots of equally important and highly intimidating stock certificates hanging on the walls behind him. "Now Linda, it's quite essential," he proceeded explaining, "that you eat liver everyday! It will elevate your blood-iron level, and thus eliminating your anemia. It's as simple as that!"

I sat there without saying a word, just shaking my head from side to side. I knew what was coming. Linda hates liver. Linda refuses to have anything to do with liver. And what's more, she made me promise that we would never, ever, ever, EVER have liver in our home – "ever, ever, ever!" I think she actually insisted I add that passage directly into my wedding vows.

Linda is so adamant regarding liver she actually has a song she sings whenever it is even mentioned around her.

(Sung to the first four bars of Rachmaninoff's third piano concerto, in the key of E flat):

"I hate liver,
liver makes me quiver
liver makes me throw right up
and die.
That's no lie!"

However, this doc wasn't having any of her guff. He explained precisely, and in succinct medical detail, exactly how important and essential it was that Linda modify her diet immediately and for the rest of her pregnancy.

My wife responded by crooning a reprise of her liver song, with her arms crossed over her chest like Rosie the Riveter. She wasn't having any of it. No

way. The woman is stubborn, I tell you. Obstinate, pig-headed, intractable, defiant and supremely recalcitrant.

"I don't think she's gonna do it, Doc," I pointed out to the flabbergasted and flummoxed medico. "She's always hated liver with a passion."

The obstetrician was speechless. Obviously, he was not used to patients contradicting his orders, especially those he dictated over his oaken doctor's desk!

"Well, Mr Golding," he instructed me with a laser-like doctor stare directly into my eyes, "the health of your child may very well depend upon it. It's up to you to get her to eat liver! -I shall leave the matter solely in your hands. Good day, Sir!"

And with that we were summarily ushered out of his fancy doctor's office, past all his fancy stock certificates, many of them in Latin.

(See p. 7, "Beauty and the Beast")



Barb Russell shares the humor as her husband, J.R. shows off his gift, a Christmas apron, that Tom Cresap later traded him out of.

Beauty and the Beast

(Continued from p.6)

The ride home began as a quiet one. I knew what I was up against. I'd known the woman for ten years by then. I reflected on how I might look in robes of red silk, gold brocade and ermine, sporting a jeweled crown atop my head, all the while carrying a matching purse draped over my arm.

Linda's voice broke the silence. "I'm not eating liver!"

"Sugah, be reasonable! You gotta do what the doc says!"

"Uh-uh!"

"Please, listen to reason. After all, it's my child, too! Don't I get a say-so in any of this?"

"Nope. And by the way, I'm almost out of ice cream. Stop at that market up ahead."

"Yes Dear," was all I responded with.

After finding a parking spot, I told her "You stay in the car, no need to get out. I'll run in and get the ice cream for you, Sweetums."

"Well, that's more like it!" she bellowed. "—And be sure it's Double Chunk Chocolate!"

A few minutes later I emerged from the store with a bag of Double Chunk Chocolate ice cream containers, as well as several packages of raw liver stuffed under my belt, hidden by my coat.

I guess by now you have probably figured out what came next.

While Linda slept, I ground the liver up in a blender with the Double Chunk Chocolate, then put it all back into the ice cream carton and into the freezer. Yeah, that's right! —And she ate it! —She ate it all! —And cried out for more!

And somehow, quite mysteriously, her iron levels rose to an 'acceptable' level when she had her blood tested again. And again, and again.

Linda always thought she had done it herself. You know, some kinda 'mind over matter.'

— + —

After we had the kids, we got a parrot.

. . . And by the way, if I knew what I know now about having kids back then, I probably would have skipped the kids entirely and just stuck with having a parrot. —But I digress . . .

Pewter, our 26 year old ever-singing,

ever-talking African Grey parrot, has of late become rather obstinate, as well as highly opinionated and stubborn. I think it must have something to do with the fact that she's Linda's bird. She loves Linda beyond anything in existence. She puts up with me, so long as I make her favorite meal for her. —That would be my world famous low-carb pancakes.

No joke! The bird won't touch the buttermilk flapjacks that Linda insists on making for herself (apparently my wife hates low-carb pancakes almost as much as she does liver). But still, Pewter adores them. And unfortunately she has become quite stubborn about eating any of her bird food. Instead, she chants a loud "Uh-Oh" and then throws her birdie pellets and nutriberries from her food cup, out her cage and onto the floor.

"Hey," I scream at the bird, "stop that!"

Pewter responds by tossing more of her food out onto the floor. I swear when I confront her about this, she stands her ground, her wings folded across her chest, just like Rosie the Riveter.

"I want pancakes!" her demeanor suggests. "Low carb pancakes! —And make 'em now, Buster!"

Naturally, I capitulate. I mean, the poor creature needs something to eat, right?

"You've spoiled her with all those pancakes over the years. She's got you wrapped around her little claw," pipes up my Ever-Loving from her seat across the kitchen table.

The situation got to the point that eventually the parrot refused to eat anything but my pancakes.

"This is very bad for her. Not enough

of the nutrients that birds need," explained her veterinarian authoritatively from behind his immense oaken doctor's desk. "See to it that she gets her birdie pellets as well as the pancakes," he directed us during the bird's last yearly check-up.

Hmmm, I couldn't help but notice he had several of those stock certificates on his walls, too.

"What are we going to do?" asked my worried wife as we drove home from the vet's office. Pewter was in her traveling cage, strapped into the back seat, looking out her window, whistling and singing. If a car pulled up next to us at a red light, she would query the driver in a loud, clear voice: "Hey, I can talk! — Can you fly?"

"I've got an idea, something I just remembered from long ago." I responded.

Later that afternoon I ground up Pewter's bird pellets in the blender and ever since, without her knowledge, I have been adding them to my pancake mix. She has never suspected a thing! She gobbles up her permutated pancakes everyday and gets all the nutrients she needs.

"Pretty smart of me, don't you think?" I queried my missus. "She eats well, and still gets all the stuff she needs to remain healthy. And she's none the wiser!"

"Don't get a big head," my soul mate coos back at me. "After all is said and done, no matter how smart she appears, she's just a dumb animal, you know." 🐦

[Editor's note: Memorial services for the author will take place as soon as the coroner is able to find all the pieces and reconstruct them.]



President Linda, who will again lead us in 2024, shows off her exchange gift at the party.



Blackie and Martie Black and Mike Wiedmer visit and compare gifts after the Christmas party at Art and Tamea Isham's house on December 10th.

January

BIRTHDAYS

Dutch Overly—2nd

Ralph Centoni—7th

Dave Syren—7th

Ed Dillon—8th

Mike Smith—19th

Bruce Campbell—23rd

Cheryl Martin—24th

Terry Young—24th

Donald Morfield—29th

ANNIVERSARIES

Colleen & Howard Hansen—11th

Pam & Milt Tanora—11th

Kathleen & Carl Godsoe—26th

David Nolta & Donn Reese—29th

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

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