



Adventures of the Not-So-Intrepid



Jensen

Three Model A's that tried to push their weather luck with an early March 29th run for lunch at Brown Bear Tavern on the Turnagain Arm sit in a pull-out near Beluga Point before aborting their effort and heading back to Anchorage. Cresap's 1931 Slant Window, Godsoe's 1931 pickup and David Jensen's 1930 pickup.

by Tom Cresap

Almost every spring, our Model A drivers are the first out the chute with a drive down to Turnagain Arm to Brown Bear Saloon for brats and beer.

On Friday, March 29th, three Model A's showed up at Carr's Huffman, as customary, and set out on time. Carl Godsoe drove his 1931 pickup with Jim

Fredenhagen, David Jensen and Iris were in his 1930 Pickup and Tom Cresap was in his 1931 Slant Window with passenger, Tom Schrader. There are usually more participants, but the weather reports were not favorable.

Typical of Alaskans, the Model A's were not going to be deterred by a silly weather report. "If you let the weather

A Little Help From His Friends

by Tom Cressp

Monday, March 25th, Rich Golding took delivery of two car lifts for his new garage in Peters Creek.

The total weight was over 5,000 pounds, they had already come 2,000-or-so miles by boat and truck, and they

needed to be moved the last 30 miles from Fast Freight in Anchorage to the Golding castle in Peters Creek. Unless they sprouted wings, they were not going to make that final leap by themselves.

Rich and Linda were scheduled to be in Seattle for the opening Mariners game on Tuesday, the 26th, so whatever happened had to be orchestrated carefully.

So, Rich called Tom Cresap, and the two worked out the details. Phil Morrow

(See p. 4, "A Little Help . . .")

stop you, nothing will get done," right?

So, the three intrepid Model A's headed down Seward Highway, but when they rounded the corner into the Arm, the wind began to churn about a 3-foot chop; rain, then snow hit the windshield. The 93 and 94-year-old cars fared well and almost reached Brown Bear but decided to turn around. The not-so-intrepid trio retreated to Firetap in Anchorage for lunch. Better luck next time.



Jensen

Iris, who is ever becoming our tour mascot, sniffs at the snow as if deciding whether she would like to go out and play or turn around and go home.

April Meeting

Our April 10th meeting will begin at 6:30 pm at Hoper Community Center Resources Building at 570 W. 53rd Avenue in Anchorage.

Some of us may venture to bring out an old car, but that depends on the ever-fickle spring weather. We'll be planning for what we are gonna do, so for the latest details on upcoming events, join us.

Running Board Reflections



President Linda before (inset) and after the delivery of the new lifts in the Golding's spacious shop. Anyone who wants to view them—probably assembled by then—can visit during the Adventure Before Dementia tour garage hop in July.



Cresap

Tennyson wrote, “In spring a young man’s fancy turns to thoughts of love.” For AAMA members, thoughts of love are intertwined with the anticipation of finding our vehicles under piles of snow, or digging out the sheds and garages which stored them. Then listening to the cough, sputter, or purr as the motor starts for the first time in months. The pleasure of actually driving on “relatively” clear roads. I would say the joy of feeling the wind in one’s hair, but April in Alaska is far too chilly for the removal of the convertible top.

In our Peter’s Creek home, Richard has begun the laborious process of chopping ice from in front of the shop. We are anticipating a new arrival of our own. Not a new vehicle, but a set of lifts to store cars. After months of internet search reviews, countless hours of eye-bleeding YouTube videos, numerous phone calls, as well as in-depth interviews with Club members for advice, he has purchased the “lifts of his dreams.”

They are en route from Portland Oregon, and will soon be available to pick up in Anchorage. But not soon enough! Richard is tracking them every day. When will they arrive in Fife Washington? When will they be loaded onto the boat? When will they be available to actually load onto a trailer? Tomorrow is too late!

His enthusiasm has engendered a thrill in other Club members. He has the offer of a trailer or two, or three, or four; as well as an engine hoist to help lift the components off said trailer. Instead of a barn-raising, the guys are looking forward to a “lift-raising!”

One could, at this point, make numerous jokes. The first one would start out, “How many AAMA members does it take to build a lift?” There could be some slightly off-color remarks about “erections.”

My personal favorite is a “shop-lifting” party!

I suppose that I will have to provide food for the masses! I have one hard rule: No beer, wine, or spirits until after the shoplifting is finished!

Linda

May Tour to Homer

Save the Date! We are indeed taking our annual Tour to Homer/Homer Car Show. The Homer Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to seeing us on May 18th and 19th, 2024. The Visitor’s Center will again open their parking lot to our vehicles on Sunday May 19. (More on p. 4)



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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.

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For Sale: 1928 Model A Roadster; in Homer; good condition. Nice older museum restoration; used for parades/shows; garage stored; all stock; \$14,000, Linda Lempe, 907-299-1719.

Schedule of events

- o April 10–6:30 PM, regular meeting
- o May 4–First Adopt-A-Road cleanup (Marcy Cresap, 947-7509)
- o May 8–6:30 PM, regular meeting
- o May 18-19–Homer Trip and Car Show (Fredenhagen (907)351-3115, Goldings, (907)227-2595)
- o June 12–6:30 PM, regular meeting
- o June 16–Father's Day at the Zoo Car Show
- o July 4–Anchorage and Chugiak parades
- o July 4–Barbecue at Cresaps (Tom and Marcy Cresap, 907-694-7510)
- o July 6–Adopt-A-Road cleanup (Marcy Cresap, 947-7509)
- o July 10–6:30 PM, regular meeting
- o July 19-21–Hope Weekend (Howard and Colleen Hansen, 344-3349)
- o July 26–Adventure Before Dementia garage tour (VLNACC/AAMA)
- o August 3–Jay Ofsthun Pre-Show
- o August 4–Jay Ofsthun Car Show at the Park Strip
- o August 6-11–Long Distance Tour (Tamea Isham, (907)688-3671)
- o August 14–6:30 PM, regular meeting

Info Wanted: I have a 1936, 3-window ford I'm getting ready to start. I need to replace the frame. Does anyone know of one that is available? I want to keep the car as original as I can. Info would be greatly appreciated. Martin Barton, martini1015@yahoo.com



For Sale: 1929 Model A Tudor sedan, in Anchorage; new Snyder engine, radiator, 6-volt alternator, Halogen headlights, turn signals, LED taillights, new interior, 17" wheels/tires, extra parts, more pics on request. \$12,000 OBO, 907-351-3115.



For Sale: 15" hubcaps for 1970's & 80's Ford; \$25; Jim, 907-351-3115.

Jim Fredenhagen provided a list of Model A's and parts for sale in Alaska.

1. '29 Pickup, Sterling, Excellent, Show condition, \$31,000, Bill Eckhardt, 907-227-2755.
2. '29 Pickup, Anchorage, good condition, '80s restoration, \$19,000, Eric Serballenger, 505-604-4376, extra rear fender, radiator shell.
3. '29 Tudor, Sterling, 100 miles on frame off, Mod B engine, O/D, 12-volt, alternator, LED, trailer hitch, \$24,000, Bill Eckhardt, 907-227-2755.
4. '29 Briggs Town Sedan, Anchorage, Excellent, frame off, total authentic, show condition, \$26,000, Terry Teilborg, 907-229-9696.
5. '31 Tudor, Sterling, good condition, 12-volt, alt, Weber carb, new rad, \$22,000, Jim Fena, 907-252-3404.
6. '30 Coupe, Anchorage, Project w/2 chassis, 2 sets fenders/aprons, Chev 327 engine, \$6,000, Monte Handy, 907-230-8557.
7. Parts - Sterling, A & B engine parts, accessories, carbs, distribs, ignition sw pop out, fuel sys parts, '30/31 front fibr fenders, left w well, turn sigs, wiring harnesses, trans/bell housing, 5 tires/6-19" wheels, '31 inst panels, \$2500, Linda Piper, 907-229-2766.
8. Parts - Peters Creek, numerous new A parts, lists available, catalog pricing without shipping, Art Isham, 907-688-3671.

AAMA Business Meeting
March 13, 2024
Location: Hope Community
Resources Learning Center
570 W. 53rd Ave.
Anchorage, Alaska

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Linda Mattes Golding

There were 29 members present. New member Ivan Jaklenec brought two of his co-workers as guests after driving his 1934 Ford from Fairbanks.

February Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report

Louis Mestier provided the treasurers report.

Old Business

**Online membership renewals through the payment system on the AAMA website is up and running. Linda Mattas Golding gave a big thanks to David Jensen, Louis Mestier and Donn Reese for all their work in making this happen.

(See p. 5, "March Minutes")

A Little Help
From
His Friends

(Continued from p. 1)

offered his low-boy car hauler, and Phil's good friend, Jim, and Jim's son, Damon, came with a pickup to pull the load.

A little after noon on Monday, the geriatric crew sprang into action. (Rich is 70, Tom is 83, Jim is 85, and Phil is 93.) The plan execution was impressively smooth. They pulled up at the warehouse at about three minutes after the appointed rendezvous of 1:30, Rich took care of the necessary paperwork, and the expert forklift driver had the lifts loaded in no time.

The lifts are now safely ensconced in Richard's shop, where they await final assembly. Next month's story will relate the erection of these wonderfully convenient devices, which will happen after Rich and Linda's return. The happy couple will undoubtedly be full of the wonders of that opening ball game.



Willy Vinton, Fountainhead Museum manager, gave Ivan Jaklenec his wife Ivana, and their two daughters Klara and Petra a tour. They all had a lot of questions that Willy was happy to answer. The family enjoyed the entire experience, including the display of era hats and dresses. We will have a chance to revisit the museum during our long-distance tour, July 6th-11th.

Homer Car Show

by Rich Golding

This spring's annual Homer Car Show will be held at the Chamber of Commerce parking lot (same venue as last year) on Sunday May 19th.

We will be driving our cars together as a group from Anchorage to Homer on Saturday morning (May 18). We will stage in the Carr's Huffman parking lot in Anchorage at approximately 8:45am and leave at 9:00 am on Saturday morning, May 18.

We have arranged a special rate of \$109.00 per night, per room (plus Homer bed tax) at the Aspen Suites Hotel in Homer. The hotel is located at 91 Sterling Highway in Homer, and has lovely, modern accommodations and facilities. Although most of you will probably be coming down to Homer for just the Saturday and Sunday (leaving for Anchorage on Monday), the special room rate is available Saturday through Monday, the evenings of May 18 - May 20, should any of you wish to stay an extra day.

You must reserve your room by calling the Aspen Suites in Homer directly at: 907-235-2351. Be sure to mention you are with the AAMA old car group. Give them the code: AAM524 to receive your special room rate of \$109.00 per night (plus Homer bed tax). There is a 24-hour

cancellation policy on this rate, so if you cannot make it to Homer after you have made a reservation, don't forget to cancel with them at least a day before your reservation arrival date to receive a complete refund. There are 20 double queens available at this special rate. Any rooms not reserved two weeks before the check in date (May 5th) will get released from the group block.

This is one of the Antique Auto Musher's premiere yearly events and is highly anticipated by the locals in Homer. Last year saw over 50 vehicles exhibiting, with large crowds of happy spectators.

We have a lunch along the drive scheduled for noon on Saturday at The St. Elias Brewing Company restaurant in Soldotna, as well as a dinner banquet that same night at 6:30pm in Homer.

Following its success these last several years, on Sunday night there will be a large pizza, salad, and desserts party along with our customary screening of silent movies, all held in the conference room of the Aspen Suites Hotel in Homer.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the event, please contact Jim Fredenhagen at 907-351-3115 or Richard Golding at 907-227-2595. (Alaskan A's Events Coordinators)

We look forward to seeing you in Homer!

Henry (Hank) Raymond December 12, 1940 – January 19 or 20, 2024

Henry “Hank” Raymond, Jr., a 62-year resident of Alaska, was born on December 12, 1940 in Washington, D.C. the eldest of four sons of Henry, Sr. and Ann Warren Raymond.

Growing up in Silver Spring, Maryland, Hank loved the outdoors. Once-inspired by the tales of Huckleberry Finn, no doubt—he and his friends built a log raft and tried to ride it down the Potomac River. Longing to escape the heat and humidity of Maryland, he succumbed to the lure of the wilderness of the then territory of Alaska, and after graduating from high school in 1958, he headed north with plans to become a forest ranger.

Once in Alaska, Hank met the Long family, homesteaders in the Matsu Valley. The Longs took him under their wing for a time and became a second set of parents, remaining close friends until their passing.

Hank always had a keen interest in electrical engineering and was mostly self-taught. He entered the military at Fort Richardson in late 1963, and in February 1964, the Army sent him to Georgia to receive training in electrical engineering. He thus missed the excitement of the March 27, 1964, Earthquake by about one month. That same year, the Army sent Hank for overseas duty in Taiwan, where he met his future wife, Mei.

In 1967, after his discharge, Hank returned to Alaska with his wife and two children, Andy and Marie.

His love of being active in the outdoors led to a short stint as a firefighter. However, with his electrical engineering background, he later joined Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) and was instrumental in setting up the infrastructure that brought electricity to Alaska’s villages. Some of his fondest work memories were when he was out in the bush, which combined his love of being outdoors, doing something useful and helping people. Spending time with Native Alaskans and sharing in their community activities was something he greatly enjoyed.

As a member of AAMA for over five decades, it was probably no secret that

(See p. 6, “Hank Raymond”)



Hank Raymond stands in his shop, Babbit and Bearing, in Palmer in 1993 in this photo by Art Isham.

March Minutes

(Continued from p. 4)

**Linda Mattes Golding mentioned that Tom Cresap received an Award of excellence from AACA for the Tinkering Times publication. David Jensen and Donn Reese received an award of merit from AACA for the AAMA website.

**As a Thank You for hosting the Fur Rondy car show over the years a metal photo plaque is being made for Bill Brown at Bob’s Services.

**Art Isham gave an update from the Fur Rondy car show. Art also talked about having a second volunteer to help with the Fur Rondy parade. He will also talk with the head of Fur Rondy about getting our advertisement in the Rondy booklet for free since the club provides cars to carry the Rondy pin designers, royalty, and pioneers in the parade.

**A big thank you to Laura Walter for her persuasive skill in getting people at the Fur Rondy car show to take all the magazines, shocks, wheels, and other free items.

**Linda Mattes Golding said she dropped off all the canned food collected during the Fur Rondy car show to the Food Bank. Also, there will be a board meeting on May 4th.

**Michael Packard gave a review of the upcoming events on the AAMA calendar. He passed out a list of the club events and then a motion to accept the 2024 calendar as printed. The motion passed.

New Business

**Adopt a road event on Saturday May 4th at 9:00 am at the Carrs on Muldoon Road.

**Tam Isham gave an update on the long-distance tour in August. If there are



New members, Ivan Jaklenec his wife Ivana Senjak, and their two daughters Klara and Petra, at the Fountainhead. Ivan has purchased Walt Sonen’s 1934 Ford.

any others interested in going on the trip, please contact her so she can add you to the tour email list.

**Linda Mattes Golding talked about the club purchasing new club banners for events. She showed an old-style banner and how we could modify it.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Split the Pot

Split the pot winner Michael Packard

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.
Dinner at Fire Tap restaurant

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Carpenter, Secretary

Hank Raymond

(Continued from p. 5)

Hank loved to give old vehicles a new lease on life. After retiring, Hank moved to Palmer and built a dedicated workshop, made from two forty-foot vans placed twenty feet apart with a roof covering the space between. There, he could restore antique autos to working condition. He named his restoration business Babbitt & Bearing Co. His specialty was babbitt bearings. Always meticulous in his work, he was mainly concerned with restoring cars mechanically, so they could be driven, leaving the exterior paint jobs for others to complete.

In November 2009, the Anchorage Opera used Hank's 1931 Model A Ford pickup, with its "working car" patina on stage to bring authenticity to a production of Leoncavallo's opera, *Pagliacci*, set in the 1930's.

The Model A pickup had belonged to the Territory of Alaska. Hank bought it (in pieces) at a government auction. He put it back together, it became his "daily driver," and he drove it to many AAMA activities, including the club trip to Dawson City in the 1993.

In his teens, Hank had a dream of rebuilding a 1910 White Steam car, and over the years, he enjoyed the challenge of finding the steam car parts necessary for this project, which he never was able to complete.

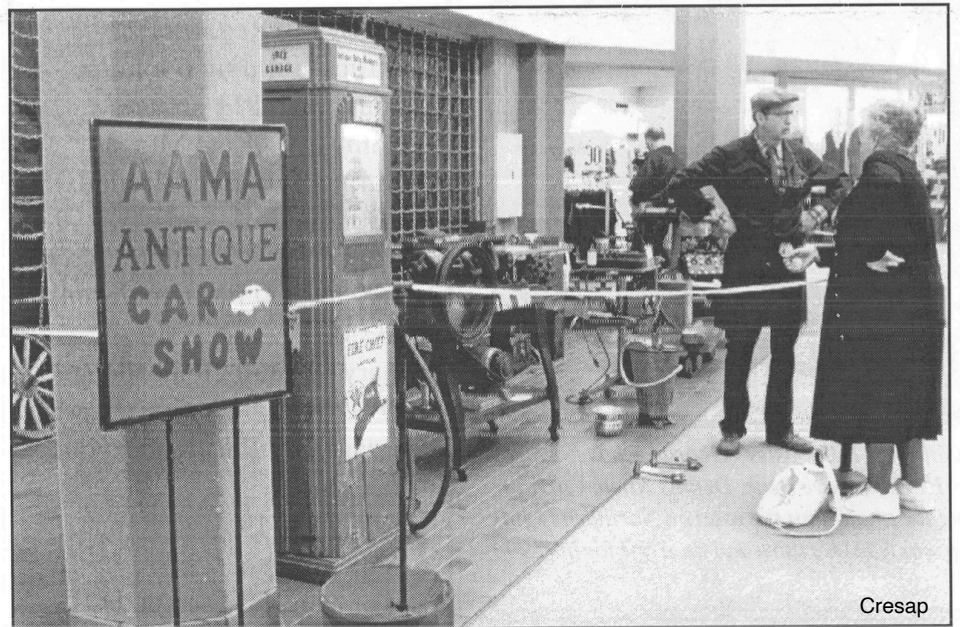
Hank served as vice president of AAMA in 1989. One of his many contributions was "Joe's Garage," a display at car shows that included antique machinery and engine restoration projects in progress. Once, he and fellow member, Art Isham, did a valve job on Art's 1930 Model A during a show. It was a priceless display of some of the effort required to keep the antiques maintained.

Hank is survived by his son, Andrew Raymond (Tennessee) daughter, Marie Raymond (Colchester, England) his former wife, Mei (Tennessee), whom he kept in touch with through the years after their divorce, and his brothers, James "Pat" and John (Maryland).

A memorial will take place later this summer.



Hank poses by Tom Cresap's 1931 Model A with old-time friend, Bob Dreeszen while attending a memorial service for Len Grau in Wasilla in October, 2022.



Hank Raymond visits with an antique auto enthusiast at Joe's Garage, a popular display, which has added to AAMA shows for many years. Hank and co-exhibitor, Eugene Heath, presented a potpourri of items, from an antique gas pump to a completely overhauled Ford truck engine. This is a valued display at our shows, because it allows people to see some of what goes inside the shiny old cars they see elsewhere in the show.

Bob's Model A

by Tom Cresap

I don't remember if I had any thoughts about Model A's when I started teaching high school in Chugiak, Alaska in 1965. That's the same year that J.C. Womac brought up a Model A from Kansas to Chugiak with the intention of restoring it.

Womac had five children, and I taught two, maybe three of them. My profession kept me busy, and though I had somewhat of an affinity for cars, there wasn't time or money in my life for that pursuit. I didn't know J.C.'s Model A existed.

In 1984, I was able to purchase my first antique auto, a 1925 Model T. Three years later, I joined the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska, served as vice president, president and then took over editing the newsletter.

I still didn't know about J.C.'s Model A.

At one point, I had acquired a 1931 Model A deluxe roadster, and we had driven it in to have dinner in Eagle River. As we sat there, we could see the usual parade of folks who stopped to inspect it. When I returned to the car, I found a card that read, "I have a Model A I would like to sell." It had a phone number.

I had a friend—Bob Kuersten, recently retired—who had told me that in his new freedom he was going stir crazy and driving his wife up the wall because he had nothing to do. He wanted an old car, preferably a Model A, as a restoration project to get him out of the house. I gave him the number, and it was a perfect fit.

After the restoration was complete, Bob and his wife, Kathleen, enjoyed driving around the Birchwood community, where they lived. We all know how that is: lots of smiles, waving and the occasions when Bob had a chance to chat about the old cars, the old days, how good it was when he had a garage and did auto body work.

Then Bob contracted Scroderma. It progressed to the point that he was unable to pick up and manipulate the tools he had spent a lifetime using.

We would visit, and he would



Kuersten



Kuersten

reminisce about his years of work and the things he had enjoyed doing on the Model A. He performed a total frame-off, did the necessary body work, rebuilt the engine and worked on various components, such as the steering. All these were things he had done professionally at different times in his career, and I never hesitated to let him know that I considered him a genius in his own right. I had spent my career teaching English, and I knew very little about fixing a car.

As his condition advanced, he was becoming incapacitated, and to make things easier on Kathleen, Bob started to unload his tools, cars and other projects, including the Model A.

I subsequently became the new caretaker of this piece of history and have continued where Bob left off. It has been a journey that will continue. I have made some changes and improvements that I would like to tell about in a later story.



Brian Anderson is a constant source of interesting old photos of old cars. That's because his dad left a treasure trove of such that Brian has been uncovering and preserving. The provenance of this image of a '48 Frazer towing a classic boat somewhere in Michigan or Wisconsin is unknown, but it inspires thoughts of heading to the lake for some fishing. Brian noticed that, "the fellow at the back of the boat appears in a cloud of his cigarette smoke, a sign of the times I suppose but likely contrary to safe practices when working around fuel tanks."

April

Birthdays

Marcy Cresap—7th
 Darrell Krolick—7th
 Kathy Centoni—12th
 Diane Allen—14th
 Leonard Kelley—14th
 Mike Stoddard—16th
 Bill Dam—18th
 Joanne Overly—20th

Anniversaries

Niki DeSanto & Alex
 Roesch—1st
 Valerie & Donnie Bell—
 26th

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

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