

News and Activities from the Tidewater Region—Antique Automobile Club of America

Volume 63, Issue 1



TRAACA Whale-Watching Boat Cruise Saturday, January 26, 2019

Ahoy, TRAACA members on Saturday, January heated cabin. The Atlantic Explorer also 26th, for a seafaring adventure! We'll start includes a snack bar, ship store, indoor the new year with a whale-watching cruise educational activity space, flat screen aboard the Virginia Aquarium's Atlantic monitors, and modern restroom facilities. Explorer, followed by dinner at Chix Seaside Grille & Bar. We will meet at the hours long. Our excursion will be led by a Virginia Aquarium dock, located adjacent knowledgeable educator who has been to the Bay & Ocean Pavilion parking lot, at specially trained by Aquarium experts to 717 General Booth Blvd in Virginia Beach conduct this cruise. at 1:30 PM and set sail at 2 PM.

website, the "Whales & Wildlife" boat trip sleet, or snow is forecast for that Saturday. will take us as close as possible to Remember to dress in layers and bring your commonly observed species like humpback hats & gloves. Blankets are permitted for whales, fin whales, minke whales, and those who want sit on the outer deck. critically endangered right whales. There also will be a chance to see bottlenose at Chix Seaside Grille & Bar located at 701 dolphins, harbor porpoises, and harbor Atlantic Ave in Virginia Beach. seals, as well as seabirds and waterfowl.

Atlantic Explorer, a spacious and stable catamaran that boasts one of the most senior), \$24.95 per child. Due to January which has been outfitted especially for need to have your RSVP by January 7th. whale-watching boat trips. We'll experience To RSVP, please contact Travis Berry at

Mateys! Join your fellow decks or from the cushioned seats inside a

The Whales & Wildlife trip is about 2.5

Please note that precipitation alone does According to the Virginia Aquarium's not cancel the trip, so come prepared if rain,

Once we're back on shore we'll be dining Chix features casual beachfront dining on local The trip will take place aboard the seafood & American eats with a full bar.

Tickets are \$29.95 per person (adult & comfortable rides in Virginia Beach, and being prime whale-watching season, we the spectacular views from outdoor covered 536-1214 or travis.berry.mail@gmail.com



Terry Bond toasts the club before reading his annual Christmas Letter at the TRÅACA Holiday Brunch on December 9th. Read the letter on Pages 12-14.

January 2019





Check traaca.com/calendar.htm for the latest info on upcoming events!

JANUARY 2019

- 11 TRAACA Board Meeting 6:30 PM (Friday) **Dawson's Accounting** Virginia Beach, VA
- **TRAACA** Annual Awards 19 **Banquet & Board Induction** 5:00 PM (Saturday) Founders Inn Virginia Beach, VA
- 26 TRAACA Whale Watching Boat Trip Virginia Beach, VA

FEBRUARY 2019

- ?? **TRAACA Board Meeting** Date & Location of meeting to be determined
- 16 TRAACA Tour of U.S. Army **Transportation Museum** Ft. Eustis, VA
- 21 **TRAACA** Dinner Meeting Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, **V**A

MARCH 2019

- ?? TRAACA Board Meeting Date & Location of meeting to be determined
- 3 **TRAACA** Theater & Dinner "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" Peninsula Comm. Theater **Newport News, VA**
- 9 **TRAACA Annual Swap Meet** Nansemond-Suffolk Academy Suffolk, VA
- **TRAACA Dinner Meeting** 21 Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, VA

APRIL 2019

?? TRAACA Board Meeting Date & Location of meeting to be determined

From the Driver's Seat

Mark McAlpine TRAACA President mmmcalpine05@msn.com



So, this is Christmas . . . and what have you done? Another year over, and a new one just begun.

From Happy Christmas (War is Over) by John Lennon

I know; I used these song lyrics in my President's Message last January, but they're still appropriate. It's the end of another year and this is my final monthly message before the end of my term as President of the TRAACA. As the final days of the year slip away, it's time of reflection for both me and our club.

First and foremost, it has been an honor to serve as the president of the Tidewater Region. Our region is well known and well respected in the AACA (and in our local area). It is one of the oldest regions in the AACA and has been in the forefront of many historic events in the AACA such as the founding of the AACA Museum, the founding of the AACA Library & Research Center, and most recently in the purchase of the new AACA Headquarters & Library building in Hershey. Three TRAACA members have served as national AACA presidents (and, if you're a betting person, we'll have another in the coming years). We've hosted six AACA national meets (er, sorry—beginning this year they're just called "nationals"—old habits are hard to break), and we're scheduled to host the Annual Grand National in 2022.

The TRAACA has a reputation of leadership in the national club—many of our members have served on AACA committees, as AACA judges, and as AACA judging administration staff, and many have won AACA awards. The TRAACA also has a reputation for being a very active club. To be able to serve as president of our region—to represent our members and our region's heritage—is truly an honor. I thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve and represent our region. Each of you will have your

2018 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Mark McAlpine: TRAACA_President@gmail.com Vice President - Matt Doscher: TRAACA_VP@gmail.com Secretary - Vickie Doscher Treasurer - Charlie Dawson Board - Jerry Adams Board - Jerry Adams Board - Travis Berry Board - Scott Davies Board - Tim Hund President Emeritus - Jim Villers

Visit the TRAACA on the Internet at: www.traaca.com

THE MUDFLAP is the newsletter for the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, and is published monthly. Editors: Marion & Mark McAlpine

3117 Summerhouse Dr, Suffolk, VA 23435 E-mail: TRAACA_Editor@gmail.com own opinion as to how well I did, but I assure you that I always had the region's best interests behind every decision I made, and I always tried to do my best for our club.

I want to thank my fellow TRAACA Board members for their service and support over the last two years. Each contributed a lot to our club, and I believe our collective efforts contributed significantly to the health and future of our club. It was a team effort—everything we accomplished we achieved because we worked together as a group.

I also want to thank our Activities Committee (Matt, Travis, Marion, and Wayne, plus Vickie, Kim, and Carol) and Restaurant Coordinator (Marion). It was because of these members' planning and organizing efforts that we had a variety of fun activities to participate in and enjoy throughout the year. From looking at the 2019 Activities Calendar (see Pg. 16), our new Activities Committee has some great things lined up for us this year, too.

Congratulations to our incoming president and board of directors. I hand off the presidency knowing our club is in good hands. Matt Doscher is a great guy who has been very active in the region, and always stepped forward to take on new responsibilities and help wherever he could (as did Vickie). He's the perfect person to lead the club and keep us active and moving forward. Similarly, the rest of the incoming Board are dedicated members who have been involved and contributed to our club in so many ways. There are some challenges ahead for the region (there always are), but our incoming Board is very capable of handling them.

Finally, I encourage everyone in the club to get involved. If you haven't been to a club activity in a while, come out to something this year—your TRAACA friends want to see you, and you'll have fun. If you haven't volunteered to help with either the region's Annual Swap Meet or Annual Meet, please do so—even a few hours would help immensely. To everyone who has helped out—thank you very much! We couldn't have done any of it without you.

That's it—Marion & I wish everyone a very happy, safe, healthy, and prosperous new year. God bless you, God bless the TRAACA and AACA, and God bless the United States.

Sir/Ma'am: I relinquish the presidency.

Mark Mc

Dinner Meeting Corner Chief Contact: Skip Patnode

Members will be contacted via e-mail to obtain their RSVPs for the club's monthly dinner meeting. (Members without e-mail will be contacted by phone.) If you will be attending, please respond to Skip Patnode's e-mail by the requested date and let him know how many people will be coming. (There is no need to respond if you are not coming.) Skip will reply to you once he adds you to his attendance list. It is critical that you respond to these e-mails so we can let the hotel know how many people will be attending & they can prepare enough food. If you are not receiving Skip's e-mails or want to be taken off the list, please contact him at <u>skippatnode@cox.net</u> or (757) 672-8495. Thank you for your cooperation!

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From the Running Board Dec 14, 2018, TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes

(final approved copy can be obtained from Secretary)

Officers Present: Mark McAlpine (President), Matt Doscher (Vice President), Charlie Dawson (Treasurer), and Vickie Doscher (Secretary). Board Members Present: Jerry Adams, Travis Berry, Scott Davies, and Tim Hund. Members present: Marion McAlpine, Wayne Milligan, and Bill Treadwell.

Quorum: Board Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM.

President: Welcomed the attendees and thanked everyone for coming.

Vice President: Thanked Charlie for hosting us.

Secretary's Report:

• The November Board Meeting minutes sent & approved via email and published in the December *Mudflap*.

Treasurer's Report:

- November monthly reports reviewed. Charlie to investigate a questionable \$150 setup charge from the hotel for the November Dinner Meeting and report back.
- Status of AACA Donation Fund reported.
- Status of 2019 *Mudflap* advertising renewals reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

2019 Activities Committee:

- Proposed 2019 Activities Calendar and Subsidies. The following subsidies were discussed and approved:
 - February: U.S. Army Transportation Museum Tour at Ft. Eustis—\$100 donation.
 - May: BBQ at the Milligans'—Cost will be \$10/head with the club covering the difference above that.
 - June: Mount Pleasant Plantation—Possible \$100 donation.
 - September: Doumar's Barbecue—Club to pay for dessert for all members.
- Saturday, January 26: TRAACA Whale-Watching Trip. Tickets are \$29.95/person. Meet at 2 PM at the Virginia Aquarium. Activity will be followed by dinner at Chix Seaside Grille & Bar in Virginia Beach.
- Saturday, February 16: TRAACA Tour of U.S. Army Transportation Museum at Ft. Eustis, VA. Joint Activity with the Historic Virginia Peninsula Region (HVPR).

Restaurants (Marion McAlpine):

- Saturday, January 19: 2018 Annual Awards Banquet and Board Induction at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach. Social hour starts at 5 PM, dinner at 6 PM.
- Thursday, February 21: February Dinner Meeting at the Lake Wright Quality Suites in Norfolk, VA. Social hour starts at 6 PM, dinner at 6:45 PM.

Membership (Jerry Adams):

• Status as of December 8: 196 memberships / 340 members. Our renewal rate for 2019 is well ahead of where we were this time last year, with only 49 memberships left to renew. Accolades to Jerry for his continued effort with the membership database.

Unfinished Business:

• 2022 AACA Annual Grand National (contract & deposit): Contract between TRAACA and Founders Inn has been created and is due to hotel by December 21. Marion will

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share this contract with National so they can review it for accuracy prior to us signing. Marion recommended a second person sign the contract along with her. Matt volunteered to sign as the second person. Mark & Marion to look into possible event insurance for the event.

• Charlie Dawson's Offer to Donate His 1956 IH Pickup to the region: The purpose behind this initiative is to secure insurance coverage on the club's new trailer. The truck would be titled & insured in the club's name for approximately \$56/year with Hagerty Insurance. By doing this we are able to secure separate coverage for the new club trailer. Motion made by Matt that the region accept this offer. Motion seconded by Travis. Contingent on liability coverage questions on the truck. Charlie will confirm with Hagerty and report back.

New Business:

- July-December 2019 Dinner Meeting Location: Motion made by Matt to hold the July, August, September, and November Dinner Meetings at Cypress Point Country Club in Virginia Beach. Motion seconded by Scott. Motion passed. (The 2019 December Holiday Brunch will be held at Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach.)
- Posting TRAACA Contact Info on Club Website and in Region Newsletter: Due to cyber security concerns, the Board of Directors' personal mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and phone numbers have been removed from the TRAACA website. Bob Stein took care of this earlier this week and created a generic TRAACA contact gmail address. Mark will talk to Bob about establishing a separate TRAACA President gmail address, and ask Skip Patnode, if he wants a generic e-mail address for dinner meeting reservations.
- 2018 Annual Awards: Reviewed & approved by Board.

Other Business:

- VPCCC Monthly Meeting Report: Nothing significant to report (NSTR). No VPCCC meeting in December.
- CCCHR Monthly Meeting Report: NSTR. After repeated requests to add TRAACA to their website, we remain unlisted. Entertaining the thought of not renewing our membership for 2019.
- 2019 ODMA Meet. At the request of the ODMA, the HVPR moved up the dates of the 2019 Old Dominion Meet to Friday-Saturday, June 7-8, 2018. The meet will be held at the Holiday Inn in Newport News.

Adjourned: Having no other business, motion to adjourn made by Vickie; seconded by Tim. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM. The next Board Meeting is rescheduled for 6:30 PM on Friday, January 11, 2019, at Dawson's Accounting in Virginia Beach.



TRAACA Holiday Lights Friday, December 7, 2018 Story by Travis Berry. Photos by Marion McAlpine and Marty Sugermeyer.



On Friday, December 7th, TRAACA members traveled to Newport News, VA, for a festive night out. We started the evening with dinner at the automotive-themed restaurant Quaker Steak and Lube. Quaker Steak and Lube features a variety of tasty American style cuisine. Having won the title of winner of "Best Wings USA," they feature chicken wings with over 25 different wing sauces. With steak, sandwiches, and numerous other food choices, there was something for everyone to enjoy. We dined in the aptly named Corvette Room, with walls covered in Corvette memorabilia. The food was appetizing & reasonably priced, and our waiter was courteous & friendly. After enjoying our delicious meals and some great conversation, we headed to our vehicles for a trip to the Newport News Park a short distance away.

A surprising lack of holiday traffic at the park allowed us to drive right up to the entrance. After paying a reasonable \$12 per car load, we drove into the park. What awaited us was an amazing display of lights. Per the park's website, Newport News Park's Celebration in Lights opened in 1993 and is Virginia's oldest drivethrough holiday light event. Celebrating its twenty-sixth season, Newport News Park was transformed into a magical winter wonderland by over a million individual lights. We drove through fanciful scenes featuring many animated holiday displays. Over three hundred individual display pieces, fifty-plus arches, and over three miles of rope lighting enhanced the natural beauty of the two-mile drive along Newport News Park's main road. For its 26th year, the event added special effects snow that fell on our cars as we drove into the Winter Wonderland area. The park also features a new Gingerbread House display and new scenes on its two giant 25' X 16' screens of colorchanging LED lights at the Animation Station. The Forest of Lights display area was upgraded to color-changing bulbs to create more complex colors and patterns on the trees. It was a dazzling display of colors for sure.

TRAACA members and family who attended the club's December activity included Ellen & Jerry Adams and Abigail Vaughan, Kim & Travis Berry, Bob Hanbury, Marion McAlpine, Skip Patnode and his daughter Susan Cervantes, Ashley & Billy Stutz, Marty & Neil Sugermeyer, and Linda & Bill Treadwell. A merry and bright holiday experience was had by all!

If you have not been to the Newport News Park's Celebration in Lights holiday lights display, I highly recommend you check it out next year. It's dazzling array of lights will put joy in your holidays.





Santa crossing the James River to deliver presents to good little boys and girls on the south side



TRAACA Holiday Brunch Sunday, December 9, 2018 Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Marion McAlpine and Bob Stein.

There was another great turnout this year for the TRAACA Holiday Brunch, held on Sunday, December 9th, at the lovely Princess Anne Country Club (PACC) in Virginia Beach, VA! This year was the fourth time the TRAACA Holiday Brunch was held at the PACC. The weather that Sunday was chilly, windy, and rainy, but did not deter TRAACA members from coming to the PACC. This year almost 100 TRAACA members and guests signed up to attend the brunch.

The PACC was founded in 1916 by a group of Norfolk businessmen and began as a social club. At that time the area was a coastal blackwater. According to the website, the country club now has third and fourth generation members. It has become one of the finest retreats in Virginia and PACC members can enjoy both social and recreational activities there. The PACC has a beautiful golf course, a tennis facility with indoor and outdoor courts, a lovely clubhouse (where we hold our holiday brunch), and a swimming pool complex.

After a social hour and brief introductory remarks from club President Mark McAlpine, the group proceeded to the buffet line which included two omelet stations, two beef carving stations, steamed shrimp, French toast, Eggs Benedict, sausage, bacon, salads, fruit, cheeses, pastries, desserts, and more. There was a brief club business meeting while members finished their meal.

After the business meeting, Terry Bond toasted the club members and read his fourth annual "TRAACA Christmas Letter." (Was that Sue's ice tea in the bottle, Terry?) The letter is a recap of events both local and national that TRAACA members had the opportunity to participate in. Unlike last year, the show went on without a hitch (last year the electricity went out in the PACC) and what a wonderful show it was. Thank you for another great job, Terry! [You can read a copy of Terry's "TRAACA Christmas Letter" on Pages 12-14.]

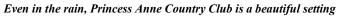
The TRAACA Holiday Brunch was the club's final activity of the year and a great way for the club to finish 2018! Thank you to all the club members who worked so hard throughout the year and contributed so much to make the TRAACA the great club that it is. In 2018 we managed the 2018 TRAACA Swap Meet, the 2018 TRAACA Annual Meet, and numerous fun activities. Great work everyone! Here's looking forward to our 2019 TRAACA dinner meetings and great speakers, the fun activities our Activities Committee has planned for us, the delicious food we will share and—of course—sharing all of the above with good friends. The TRAACA Holiday Brunch was once again subsidized \$10.00/club member by the club.

Don't forget there will be some changes for the TRAACA next year. We're moving our dinner meetings to new locations to keep the costs down. The location(s) will be listed in the *Mud Speck*, the *Mudflap*, and the monthly dinner RSVP emails. There will be new activities each month to check out as well. [See the TRAACA 2019 Activities Calendar on Page 16 of this *Mudflap* and watch for information in upcoming weekly *Mud Speck* e-mails.]



TRAACA members wait for President Mark McAlpine to finish his remarks so they can hear Terry Bond read his annual Christmas Letter







(L-R) Linda Pellerin and Sandy Hall



Billy Stutz was in the holiday spirit



Jim & Betty Villers' 1967 Mercedes-Benz 230SL



(L-R) Robyn Burnham, Bill Wilcox, and Wayne Milligan



Richard & Sandy Hall trying to decide what to have for dessert

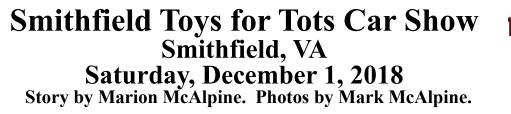


Ken Packard and his son Jack



Riley Best's 1953 Pontiac station wagon





Every year, the first Saturday of December is the day for the annual "Toys for Tots" charity car show and toy drive in Smithfield, VA. This year, the event took place on December 1, 2018. It was the 18th time that Elizabeth Moose organized the Toys for Tots show in Smithfield and the third time the show was located at the Smithfield Auto and Truck Center (the old Pomoco Ford dealership) on Church Street in Smithfield. The dealership has a large showroom which is perfect for the numerous dolls, stuffed animals, games, bicycles, and other toys that companies and people generously donate to the cause. Also, the location on Church Street, which is one of the main streets into Smithfield, gives the charity show good exposure to the drive-by traffic.

The weather on December 1st was crisp and started out with a drizzle. The attendance was down a little from last year, but managed to attract about 100 registered vehicles. There were hundreds of people who came to see the car show, Santa Claus, and to support the charity. To give Santa's reindeer a chance to rest up in preparation for Christmas Eve, Santa arrived across the street from the car show via Sentara Health Care's Nightingale Air Ambulance helicopter. The Smithfield Police blocked the road so Santa could be transported safely by a motorized picnic table (due to the lack of snow) to the Toys for Tots show area. Spectators lined the street to get a glimpse of Santa and welcome him.

Entertainment for the show was supplied by the Smithfield High School (SHS) Band. To get the crowd

into the holiday spirit, the SHS Band played numerous Christmas carols and encouraged audience participation to sing along. The SHS Band greeted Santa as he landed by helicopter and led the motorized picnic table and sleigh with Santa to his official chair for greeting the children and listening to their wishes.

Lunch was available for the car show participants and spectators. (Lunch was free to the show participants and volunteers.) Tables and chairs were provided in the showroom for people to enjoy their lunch and watch as toys were brought in and stacked up around the Christmas tree. TRAACA members present at the show included new TRAACA member Dave Brown (with his 1951 Chevrolet 3100 pickup truck and 1956 Chevrolet Nomad), Fred Cole (with his 1989 Buick Reatta), Charlie Daniels, Chris Hunt (with her 1973 Plymouth Scamp), Marion & Mark McAlpine, Ron Pack (with his 1956 Chrysler New Yorker, new members Candice & Gregg Shelton (with their 1929 Ford Model A Phaeton hot rod), and Bill Treadwell (with his 1973 Oldsmobile Cutlass).

It is amazing to see the number of toys in the Smithfield Auto and Truck Center at the end of the Toys for Tots show. The leadership and dedication of Elizabeth Moose & her team, the generosity of the show participants & spectators, local residents, and businesses like Daniels Performance Group and Monty Hill Racing helped ensure that local needy children would have presents on Christmas morning.



The Smithfield Auto & Truck Center showroom was filled with donations of toys for the U.S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program



Local children made sure Santa knew their wishes for Christmas



New member David Brown with his 1951 Chevrolet 3100 pickup



Tony Scarpelli's 1956 Chrysler New Yorker



Bill Treadwell with his 1973 Oldsmobile Cutlass



New members Gregg & Candice Shelton's 1928 Ford Model A rod



Ron Pack's 1947 Chevrolet "Woodie" station wagon



Chris Hunt with her 1973 Plymouth Scamp



Fred Cole with his 1989 Buick Reatta



So, do you still have a sweet-tooth after the Christmas break? Not enough candy in your stocking? Then how about some of those cookies you left for Santa?

I'm not getting into the history of the cookie—the kind you eat, not those on your computer! I do know that in Britain, a "cookie" is affectionately known as a "biscuit."

The first bakery to produce them in large quantities was a small bakery in London—Huntley & Palmers. Right next door was a tinsmith (maker of containers, pots, pans, etc.). With the advent of feasible lithography on tin, first developed in the 1860s, that little tinsmith began producing special little tin boxes for Huntley & Palmers to sell biscuits in. Over the ensuing century, literally thousands of different shapes, sizes, and configurations have been made. Some of them are works of art. One tin box they sold biscuits in actually looks like a set of books!

But the theme is automobiles, so I'll stick to the subject! Indeed, as the automobile came into common use, biscuit tins were produced in the shape of automobiles. Naturally, a car was a bit small to put a "lot" of biscuits into, so they also made larger trucks and even double-decker buses. Even race cars were offered with biscuits in them.

Even the usual rectangular "box" was sometimes decorated with early motoring images. This, of course, created an instant collectable. You were buying not only great cookies, but you had a decorative, usable container or



Huntley & Palmers book-shaped biscuit tin, circa 1915



iop & stae view of biscutt tin—circa 1908—by unknown maker, with different motoring scenes. Value approximately \$250-\$300.

even a child's toy left over when all that remained were the crumbs.

Because biscuit tins saw continued use over the years, few remain in pristine condition, and those that do are going to command high prices. Automotive-related biscuit containers are a popular item, not only for collectors of biscuit tins, but collectors of automobilia and advertising. There is a lot of competition in the market and prices have ranged from a few hundred dollars to over \$25,000 at auctions. It all depends on rarity.

Although biscuit tins were never produced as limitededition collectibles, some were produced in limited quantities for special occasions. One showing Santa in an early automobile is extremely rare and valuable.

There were a lot of other companies that jumped on the bandwagon in the early 1900s. Many of them were already selling their cookies in fancy tins, and the automobile



Rare Huntley & Palmers Santa tin—value approximately \$4,000.



Very rare Gray & Dunn Co. biscuit tin—circa 1910—value \$1,500

represented a new, popular form that could be utilized.

A few thoughts on rarity—what is rare here in the United States may be very common in England. One trick of mine I'll gladly reveal is to check the UK edition of eBay for possibilities. You will be surprised at the number of antique dealers who cater to a global audience. (Isn't everybody on eBay an "antique dealer" these days?)

Still, however, many nice tins made their way across the ocean as people immigrated and brought their prized possessions with them. What better way to remember the homeland than with a special tin box of freshly made biscuits (cookies)?

As with everything, condition is vital. As I mentioned previously, it is hard to find lithographed tins in flawless condition. Some minor but genuine indications of usage are acceptable and, to me, represent honest wear and aging. We call it "patina" today. Serious damage to the images on a tin greatly devalue it, and dents, rusted areas, broken hinges or latches also decrease the value tremendously. Some tins had removable lids, and if it's missing the tin is perhaps just a "filler" in a collection and should be priced accordingly.

Age is a great factor for these items. Obviously, cars from the early 1900s and teens would be more difficult to find today.



Royal Coach by Hudson & Scott—circa 1913—value \$1,000+



I know of no reproductions of the earlier tins; however, current editions are available. Even Hershey Chocolate produces a series of little tin trucks for sale—but they are not biscuit tins!

Not all biscuit tins were marked by the maker or the baker of their contents. That does not devalue them. It may, however, call their real purpose into question. Was it a candy tin or perhaps a tea container?

My own collection is small. While I had the best opportunity to collect them while living in Scotland years ago, biscuit tins were difficult to find even then and were priced a little beyond my reach. I viewed them merely as imitation toys. Only later, as my interests broadened, did I recognize their legitimacy as automobilia and begin to appreciate them.

But biscuit tins are out there and with a surge in interest, the market now offers greater choices. They are a collectible worth acquiring if you are looking for something interesting and perhaps unique.

So, did you find that Santa left a few cookie crumbs behind? Did he take the container you left them in? Smart Santa—in this case the container turned out to be worth more than the contents. Enjoy your holidays, enjoy the photos, and, as always, enjoy collecting. Yes—there is more ahead in the coming year!

Terry Bond



A pair of wonderful early bus tins by Huntley & Palmerscirca 1915—value approximately \$500 each



TRAACA Christmas Letter (Originally read at the TRAACA Holiday Brunch on Sunday, December 9, 2018.) Letter by Terry Bond. Photos by Mark McAlpine and Bob Stein



It's interesting that the latest issue of Smithsonian Magazine contains an article on the origins of the annual Christmas Letter. Did you know it originated because people began writing less during the year and thought it would be a perfect way to make amends for forgetting to stay in touch the previous 11 months?

I've observed that the times, they are a changing. At last year's TRAACA Holiday Brunch I attempted to go modern and log into Santa's Christmas website, but we were befuddled with a sudden power outage, followed by computer issues linking to Santa's website. I even tried to call their "customer service hot line" and got a lengthy recording asking me to repeatedly press numbers on my phone to reach someone who could help. So, being failed totally by technology, I simply set pen to paper and delivered my Christmas letter the old-fashioned way.

As I did so, I recalled how much has changed about Christmas itself. I'm a history buff, but I didn't need to go back too far to remember when there was no "Black Friday." I can also remember when it was common practice to NOT put up Christmas decorations until after Thanksgiving. Please—one season at a time is entirely sufficient!

I went into a local big-box hardware store shortly after all its Halloween junk was stashed away to buy some screws for a weekend project. Pre-lit, pre-decorated fake Christmas trees were already on display and even the screws I wanted were pre-wrapped with Christmas packaging! Good grief—I felt like it would be inappropriate to open that stupid package until December 25th and I needed those screws NOW.

In the check-out line I observed that everybody was standing there merrily clicking away on their cell phones. Nobody was talking or wishing each other a Merry Christmas. They weren't even paying attention as the line advanced towards the cash register. The cashier was the only person not talking on a cell phone or checking e-mail, but it was right there close at hand. Imagine if you are undergoing some kind of operation and your doctor stops to take a call—or, worse yet, loses his cell phone in the process. Neil [Sugermeyer]—I think I hear your hip ringing.

As I left the store there was nothing but a parking lot filled with people in a hurry. I paused. Where the heck was the Christmas music? Probably drowned out by the scream of an over-performing diesel truck trying to imitate a semi.

I shut the car door, and closed my eyes, trying to remember some of the most beautiful Christmas scenes filed away in my mind. I turned up a station playing real Christmas music—not the kind that thumps, screeches, pounds, and carries some unintelligible lyric with it. Do you really think we'll be singing Christmas carol rap music in another 50 years?

I closed my eyes and strained to remember church services late on Christmas Eve, and, as the doors opened, freshly fallen snow blanketed the ground and beautiful snowflakes filtered and softened the glow of streetlights out front while Silent Night still played through my mind. I also remember Christmas shopping—walking on a real downtown sidewalk, past stores with partly fogged up windows, nicely decorated with Christmas things in them. Thanksgiving was past and even the thought of a hot turkey sandwich at a drugstore lunch counter was pleasant.

There was soft Christmas music wafting through the air. Wreaths hanging from street lamps, and people walking by carrying packages instead of cell phones. They were talking, and, as they passed, wishing each other season's greetings. Yes, in my mind, it was even snowing lightly.

Did I tell you about Christmas caroling in my home town back in the 1960s? Our church group was wandering through an older neighborhood enjoying a cold evening and the occasional hot chocolate payment when we arrived at a home filled with people visiting for the holidays. They all came out to hear our music and when we were finished, one nice lady said they had some guests visiting who would love to sing with us. Little did we know that Diana Ross and the Supremes were there visiting some family. It was a magical evening. (Geez—does anybody even remember the Supremes?)

It was almost like a movie scene. The movie "A Christmas Story" quickly came to mind, and I could almost visualize young Ralphie, his nose pressed against a store window, looking at that Red Ryder BB Gun. (Heck, I'm not even sure kids today are allowed to play with bb guns!)

And, I remember not that long ago trying to buy a model of an antique car for our grandson. There weren't any! Perhaps that's the problem with youth in our hobby. Santa: please bring more model antique cars—real ones—to some of those kids instead of video games!

So, things have changed. What used to be the season of wonder has become cyber something. We go through the motions, following the links on the Internet to pre-packaged gifts on Amazon. Even the bows for your packages are pre-made and are bought by the bag-full.

Christmas today seems like it is not much more than a fleeting moment, sandwiched between rapidly changing store displays and sales. Has it become another "Glad it's over" holiday instead of something we look forward to?



Ken Talley cruising the Swap Meet on his classic three-wheeler

January 2019

Maybe we're just stuck in the 1960s, or 50s, or 70s, or whatever decade you call home. But I think deep down inside we all yearn for the quiet, reflective time of year that should be Christmas, the season of giving, rather than getting—more precisely, getting out of my way. I'm sorry we just don't seem to have time for the things that once made this season great when we were younger. Maybe that's a problem too—I'm not as young as I used to be.

Well, enough. It's time to get some cards out, and time to stuff them with another Christmas letter. I, too, admit to taking the short cut. I realize, of course, that next year spending the majority of my time doing something called *WORK* will no longer be an excuse.

So, here is my annual Christmas recap for friends and family, whom I've not caught up with since last Christmas.

It can't really be Christmas. Just a few days ago there I was in my short pants, outside, clearing leaves from the deck, yard, and driveway. I looked up, and my gosh, there were still a million of them hanging on, waiting for their chance to cover the green grass I'd exposed. All I could think of was "another unfinished project." Such is the life of a retiree.

We've gone a lot of places and done a lot of fantastic things. We've eaten way too much along the way and I guess that's not so good, but we've tipped generously in all the restaurants and that makes up for it, I hope.

I remember that in January 2018, our Tidewater Region family ventured out to the Chrysler Museum in Norfolk. I always thought they should have at least one Chrysler displayed in that massive marble entrance. This trip was at least partially automotive in theme as we visited a special exhibition of those beautiful Rene Lalique automobile mascots, among other great Lalique glass items. So fragile. I took lots of photos for another article on them and had a couple of security guards nervous as I got perilously close to a few of the pieces.

The AACA Annual meeting in Philadelphia is always great. I'm glad the Eagles won the Super Bowl, but their big victory parade the day we arrived had city streets so clogged it took us two hours to go two blocks. We could see the hotel but just couldn't get to it. At least the sidewalk drunks put on a good side-show.

It sure was a proud moment when the AACA Board of Directors was introduced. Tom Cox, Bob Parrish, Jim Elliott, Mark McAlpine represent our Region as National Officers. I remember being the first local member to do that, and felt their pride as they stood looking out at the hundreds attending. Many of us presented seminars and some came to receive awards. It was a fabulous weekend that ended too soon, but left us with excitement for a season about to unfold.

February came to a close with a visit to the Smithfield Little



Billy Stutz & his son Owen in their 1929 Ford Model A on the TRAACA Square Car Tour in May 2018



Theater to see a delightful rendition of my favorite production— *Harvey*. It was well done, and the guy who played Jimmy Stewart did a great job.

We always look forward to March for our annual swap meet. We've been doing it now for a long time, and it's always a good way to shake cabin fever and winter doldrums. It's a great chance to buy something you don't need that you never thought you'd want, couldn't find if you had to, and probably couldn't afford anyway. Nobody came away empty handed, whether it was a treasure or money in their pocket. Who cares how cold it was anyway—Bob Hanbury's hot chocolate solved that problem.

At the end of March, we got a brief sample of spring as Susan and I went to Mobile, Alabama. It was a great chance to visit our son Ken and help him move into his new 55-acre paradise in the country. They have a nice house and a big barn there, with a nice swimming pool in between. After helping tote some stuff, we took a break & attended the AACA Winter Meet in Mobile, visiting old members Peter & Claire Cantonese in the process.

Some of us ventured off to Charlotte, NC for the AACA Southeastern Spring Meet. Again, a cold, damp day greeted show cars and made judging not a lot of fun, but, as always, treasures surfaced in the swap meet and our annual dinner in the Speedway Club was a highlight.

We're always up for something a bit different, and the Norfolk Botanical Gardens "Lantern Asia" display in April literally took our breath away. It was an amazing exhibit of wonderful and gigantic Asian sculptures beautifully arranged throughout the gardens. When the lights came on after dark, they glowed like they had fire inside. Up close you were amazed at how they were constructed. One gigantic temple was actually made of plates, bowls, cups and saucers. I would have loved to see it all erected. It probably would have made reassembling a car seem like an easy job.

The Old Dominion Meet seemed early this year, but it was a great event in Harrisonburg, hosted successfully by the Tri-County Region. A good contingent of TRAACA folks made the journey and represented us well. The Waynesboro-Staunton Region took home the honors though with the largest participation. It's always great to visit other AACA regions statewide to get an appreciation for how much enjoyment old cars provide.

I love old "square" cars. That's why our Square Car Tour was created, so we can get those really old fashioned, squareshaped cars out on the road. I again had the pleasure of leading the pack with our 1914 Model T. The rest of the pack fell into line behind us and tried to keep up as we covered back roads through Chesapeake. Who knew there were roads there so deserted? We finished the tour with our traditional late lunch at Angie's Family Restaurant (and probably ate too much, again).

As the lusty month of May began to unfold on the show circuit, those who love to travel ventured to Auburn, Indiana, for the AACA's Central Spring Meet. The only problem was, once again, someone forgot about the "spring" part of it and another wet, cold event reminded us that summer was probably still a few weeks away. A couple of weeks later though, the AACA Annual Grand National meet in Greensburg, PA, proved to be warm and large. I, Bob Parrish, and Tom Cox again had the honor to serve on the special Zenith Judging Team and had the difficult task of selecting just one vehicle as the best of the year that was shown during the previous season.

Did I mention we love to eat? A spring BBQ in May at Dewey & Maxine Milligan's gave us an excuse to devour great BBQ, fried chicken, baked beans, salad, and amazing desserts.

In June, we had the chance for some exercise, though at a great event that unfortunately I had to miss—an Antique Crawl! Billed as a 100-mile-long antique hunting expedition, a good Tidewater contingent explored at least a part of the trail and came away with some neat treasures, although not all of them were automotive related. Susan & I were off with our MGB to Gettysburg, PA, for a week-long national event. We had a blast and made reservations there for a return a couple of weeks later for the AACA Eastern Spring Meet at the same location.

In early July we had the pleasure of displaying our 1914 Ford Model T at Hilton Village in Newport News as the neighborhood celebrated its 100th anniversary. Since our daughter lived in the historic area, we were able to combine a visit and had a nice place to keep the car overnight before the festivities began.

In late July, Tidewater members ventured into the cool of the mountains on a hot summer day and enjoyed a weekend touring Charlottesville and all the history (and great food) the area is known for. A lot of you drove modern and enjoyed air conditioning. Some blame global warming, but I think we're getting softer in our old age!

In August, Susan & I ventured north to Geneva, New York, to participate in the AACA Reliability tour. No, we did not trailer the Model T due to time constraints, but we did enjoy every mile of touring in pre-1916 automobiles by volunteering to help navigate, make repairs, and push when needed. During the week we rode in a 1911 REO, a 1914 Buick, a 1912 EMF, and Model T Fords from 1910, 1913, and 1915. If you are contemplating venturing into brass car nirvana, this could be a great introduction—just attend an AACA Reliability tour as a passenger and enjoy the ride. We made great new friends in the process and got to see and do everything on some fantastic back roads at a comfortable leisurely pace.

Continuing to soak up local history was a continuing theme when in September the club toured the Hermitage estate in Norfolk, home of the Sloan family and their fabulous fine arts collection. The finest piece of art, though, was removed years ago by one of our Region's founding members—Tom Moody. He managed to purchase the 1909 Packard Gentlemen's Roadster that had resided in the carriage house. The car passed



Hagerty Youth Judging at the TRAACA's 2018 Annual Meet

to noted Baltimore, MD, collector Gordon Kirwan, who restored it and toured it extensively. The car later became the property of well-known collector Bill Alley who re-restored it to perfection and proudly brought it home and displayed it at our National Meet a few years ago [2015].

Speaking of our meet—once again, at our annual event at the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach we managed to part the clouds, hold back the rain, and host a tremendously successful event. We're blessed with talent and willing volunteers to take on all the jobs that need to be done. From registration to judging, and even helping to park cars, everyone who had a hand in making this show so great needs to get a big hand of applause, especially Co-Chairpersons Marion McAlpine and Barry Basnight.

What can we say about Hershey that hasn't been said before? It all comes together in October. Aside from Christmas, New Year's Eve, and the 4th of July, the rest of the year just comes and goes for many of us. Birthdays, anniversaries, and other important occasions are not anticipated with nearly the same anticipation as Hershey. For what other event on your calendar do you start checking the weather forecast a month in advance? For what other event on your calendar do you begin saving money for almost a year before it happens? When do you start taking your vitamin C or begin praying you won't break a leg?

This year, as it always seems to be, was the best ever. (Have you made your hotel reservations yet for next year?) The remainder of the year is simply called "After Hershey," but we still managed to find time for some fun and ways to satisfy our appetites for great fun with friends, and good food too.

We always look forward to the Chili Cookoff at the home of Dewey & Maxine Milligan, and, of course, what has become a popular annual event—Movie Night at Bob Hanbury's. This year, "horse racing" was added to the mix, and everyone had a great time horsing around.

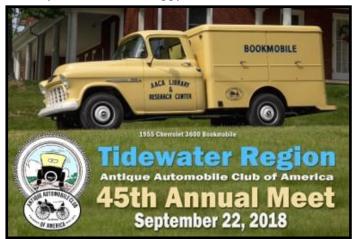
Sure, there are some club activities I left out, but only because I probably wasn't there.

I do so badly miss those old friends who sadly left us this year: Bob Green; Frank Stevens; Viator Trudeau; Buddy Meier; Jeff Locke; Gerry Olson; and Jimmy Flanders.

But time marches on, and, as the new year approaches, may I offer one special request—do something to make Christmas special again. And may this old Irish saying serve as my Christmas wish for you:

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face; the rains fall soft upon your fields and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



AACA



They're Only Original Once By Fred Trusty AACA VP Regions—Western Division

(Reprinted from the Fall 2018 AACA *Rummage Box* newsletter)



I have heard some misconceptions lately about the HPOF class, so let's take a closer look at the Historical Preservation of Original Features (HPOF) Class or, as a lot of people call it, the Original Class.

HPOF was created in 1988 to reward and provide incentives to keep vehicles in their original unaltered state and provide a living history of how factories manufactured these vehicles. They also serve as a record of how these vehicles should be restored.

There are two major areas evaluated in HPOF: **maintenance and preservation**. An HPOF vehicle is one that retains its original components and features not restored or altered. It must be an authentic vehicle as the dealer could have prepared for delivery to the customer with any feature, option, or accessory in factory literature or company directives for the model year of the vehicle. These are the same standards as class judging.

With HPOF, if a component serves the purpose for which it was intended, it's acceptable in most cases. For example, a bumper with some scratches and dings would be fine but one where all the chrome has flaked off and has holes rusted through would not be acceptable. There must be enough of the original vehicle left to be an example to a restorer.

Maintenance—Maintenance items are parts that will eventually have to be replaced if the vehicle is driven. Examples are batteries, belts, brakes, compressors, fuel pumps, hoses, alternators, tires, water pumps, and many other parts. Maintaining a vehicle is vital to its longevity, so replacing maintenance items is not only accepted but it is encouraged and will not have a negative effect on the certification of the vehicle. Note that period correct replacements should be used and installed correctly.

Preservation—Many damaged exterior items can be replaced with NOS [new old stock or new original stock] parts or better examples from salvage with no effect on the certification of the vehicle. Examples include bumpers, hoods, fenders, running boards, trunk lids, and most trim pieces. The same thing goes for many interior items as well. Searching the local salvage yards, swap meets, eBay, *Hemmings*, or other sources to find a correct replacement might take a while, but part of the fun of the old car hobby is the hunt.

This is the first in a series about HPOF. Next time we'll look at some specific areas of vehicles. Remember, they're only original once.

2019 AACA Membership Dues

If you haven't paid your 2019 AACA membership dues yet, they're overdue. You have a 30-day grace period before you will become an inactive member (and stop receiving your copy of the *Antique Automobile*). That means you have until January 31st to pay your national dues. (For the handful of members who haven't paid their TRAACA 2019 membership dues, if you don't pay by January 31st, you will not be included in the 2019 Membership Roster.)

Remember: you must be a national member in order to be a TRAACA member. Also, for the first time, you can pay your national dues to the region at the same time you pay your region dues and we will forward your national dues to AACA headquarters for you—that means you only need to write one check! How much easier can it be?

You can mail your national & regional dues to the TRAACA Treasurer— Charlie Dawson—at Dawson's Accounting (138 S. Rosemont Road, Suite 200, Virginia Beach, VA 23452) or you can pay them at the TRAACA Annual Awards Banquet on Sunday, January 19th, at the Founders Inn. If you prefer, you can pay your national dues by mail, by calling AACA headquarters, or online (by credit card) by logging into the AACA website—<u>www.aaca.org</u>. Whichever way you choose, please don't forget to pay your dues!



THE MUDFLAP

January 2019			02	DFLAP			
AUTOMOBILICATION OF AMERICA		TRAA	AND STOLEN				
		Activitie	FOA				
MONTH	DATE(S)	ACTIVITY & LOCATION		MONTH	DATE(S)	ACTIVITY & LOCATION	
JANUARY	11	TRAACA Board Meeting Dawson's Accounting		JULY	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD	
	19	Virginia Beach, VA TRAACA Annual Awards			13	TRAACA Tour of Fort Wool Hampton, VA	
		Banquet & Board Installation Founders Inn, Virginia Beach, VA			18	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Cypress Point Country Club	
	26	TRAACA Whale-Watching Trip Virginia Beach, VA		AUCUST	TDD	Virginia Beach, VA	
FEBRUARY	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location to be determined (TBD)		AUGUST	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting <i>Location TBD</i> TRAACA Tour of Cavalier Hotel	
	16	TRAACA Tour of U.S. Army Transportation Museum				Tarnished Truth Distillery Virginia Beach, VA	
	21	Ft. Eustis, VA (Joint TRAACA & HVPRAACA Activity) TRAACA Dinner Meeting			15	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Cypress Point Country Club Virginia Beach, VA	
		Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, VA			17	TRAACA Spirit of Norfolk Cruise Norfolk, VA	
MARCH	3	TRAACA Theater Night & Dinner "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" at the		SEPTEMBEI	R TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD	
		Peninsula Community Theater Newport News, VA			14	TRAACA Ice Cream Social Doumar's Barbecue Norfolk, VA	
	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD			19	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Cypress Point Country Club	
	9	TRAACA 24th Annual Swap Meet Nansemond-Suffolk Academy Suffolk, VA			28	Virginia Beach, VA TRAACA 46th Annual Meet	
	21	TRAACA <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Dinner Meeting				Military Aviation Museum Virginia Beach, VA	
		Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, VA		OCTOBER	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD	
APRIL	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD			19	TRAACA Chili Cook-Off (instead of October dinner mtg) Dewey & Maxine Milligan's	
	18	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, VA		NOVEMBER	R TBD	Chesapeake, VA TRAACA Board Meeting	
	28	Virginia International Tattoo Norfolk, VA			9-10	<i>Location TBD</i> TRAACA Fall Tour	
MAY	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting			21	Petersburg, VA TRAACA Dinner Meeting and	
	11	<i>Location TBD</i> TRAACA <i>Square Car Tour</i> Pungo, VA			21	Annual Silent Auction Cypress Point Country Club Virginia Beach, VA	
	18	TRAACA Barbecue (instead of May dinner meeting) Dewey & Maxine Milligan's home		DECEMBER	TBD	TRAACA Board Meeting Location TBD	
JUNE	TBD	Chesapeake, VA TRAACA Board Meeting			8	TRAACA Holiday Brunch Princess Anne Country Club Virginia Baagh, VA	
		Location TBD			14	Virginia Beach, VA CBN Christmas Village	
	TBD	Mount Pleasant Planation & Audrain Museum Tour Surrey, VA			14	Virginia Beach, VA Wreaths Across America	
	<i>(Joint TRAACA & HVPRAACA Activity)</i> 20 TRAACA Dinner Meeting Lake Wright Quality Suites Norfolk, VA			A round of applause to our Activities Committee for coming up with such fun and interesting activities for us to enjoy this year! Check the monthly Mudflap newsletter and weekly Mud Speck e-mails for more information on each activity.			



TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE

Welcome to our New Members!

James & Lynda Briggs Virginia Beach, VA - 1940 Chevrolet truck

David & Victoria Brown Smithfield, VA - 1951 Chevrolet 3100 pickup truck - 1956 Chevrolet Nomad

> Jeff & Joanne McKain Virginia Beach, VA - 1957 Chevrolet Corvette - 1966 Chevrolet Corvette - 1968 Dodge Charger

Thomas & Penny Raddatz Chesapeake, VA - 1966 Pontiac GTO convertible

Bill & Felicia Saddler Chesapeake, VA - 1966 Ford Mustang - 1969 Ford Mustang Mach 1



<u>Sunshine Report</u>



Our deepest sympathies & prayers go out to the following members who recently lost loved ones:

• Former AACA First Lady, **Carol Barlup**, passed away on November 20th at the Hershey (PA) Medical Center. Carol served as First Lady in 2015 when her husband Don was the AACA President.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following members:

- Alfonso Ludovici has returned to Italy to care for his mother who is ill.
- Sylvia Roughton fell & broke a hip several weeks ago. She had hip replacement surgery and is recovering well.

Please provide Member Care/Sunshine Report information on TRAACA members to Bob Stein at posti@aol.com or 588-6200.

Members celebrating <u>birthdays in January</u>

Jerry Adams Tom Bottoni Holly Chipchak Jane Cutright Charlie Dawson Alan Edwards Tyler Gimbert Richard Hall Pamela Hamilton-Bond Phyllis Hund Scott Miller Hilary Pavlidis Susan "Sue" Strang Boyd Swartz

Members celebrating <u>anniversaries in January</u>

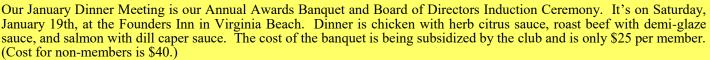
Jerry & Ellen Adams Richard & Sandy Hall Dennis & Paula Hennessey Jon & Mollie Hunger Bob & Linda Pellerin Leslie & Linda Sorey Gordon & Melinda Spence

<u>TRAACA</u> 2019 Membership Renewals

If you haven't paid your 2019 TRAACA membership dues yet, you're late—but there's still time to be included in the 2019 Membership Roster.

You can pay your dues (\$25) by mailing your membership renewal form and check to Club Treasurer Charlie Dawson or you can pay at the club's Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 19th. (You must pay your dues before the end of January to be included in the 2019 roster.) Please remember to update your information on the personalized renewal form that Jerry e-mailed to all members and recently mailed to the 30+ members who haven't renewed yet. Don't forget that you also can pay your national 2019 AACA dues (\$40) at the same time!

K TRAACA Annual Awards Banquet Saturday, January 19, 2019



The banquet will begin with a social hour from 5:00-6:00 PM. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM, followed by a brief business meeting, presentation of the 2018 annual awards, and induction of the 2019 Board of Directors: Matt Doscher—President; Wayne Milligan—Vice President, Bill Treadwell—Secretary, Ellen Adams—Treasurer; and Board Members Travis Berry, Charlie Dawson, Tim Hund, and Dot Parrish.

Please RSVP to Skip Patnode—and RSVP on time—if you are going to attend. Having members show up without RSVPing risks us not having enough seats or food. Also, remember that if you sign up for a club dinner, you are committed to paying for it whether or not you attend. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

THE MUDFLAP





EDITOR'S DESK Marion McAlpine mmmcalpine05@msn.com / (757) 967-0074

As 2018 draws to a close, looking back it was a rather busy year for Mark and I. Between TRAACA events, AACA national shows (we actually made all the national shows this year), opportunities with two other local car clubs, and activities with family & friends, there wasn't much time left over. I hope you were able to participate in some fun activities in 2018. If not, check out the TRAACA Activities Calendar on Page 16, and the Down the Road calendar on Page 18 of this January 2019 issue of *The Mudflap*, and mark the dates on your calendar so you can participate in some or all of the activities in 2019.

The TRAACA held two large events in 2018: the TRAACA Swap Meet in March and the TRAACA Annual Meet in September. To all those that volunteered to help in these endeavors, THANK YOU SO MUCH! It takes a number of people to make the events happen and I believe we not only made them happen, but the club volunteers made them happen with style!

Time to look onto 2019. This year there will be many AACA Nationals (note the change in terminology beginning this year) within a reasonable distance from the Tidewater area. The AACA Southeastern Spring National in Charlotte, NC, is in April. Pennsylvania will be the host to two AACA National events: the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in February, and the AACA Eastern Fall National in Hershey in October. The AACA Eastern Spring National will be in Parsippany, NJ. These are all good opportunities to take a trip to a national show, without the need to spend a great deal of time on the road. If you are planning to go to any national shows, please let Mark & I know, maybe we can hook up and do some sightseeing or antiquing together in the different areas.

At the regional level, the TRAACA will again be gearing up for the Swap Meet in March. Please try to find some time to help with this. Whether it is helping with preparations prior to the Swap Meet or just a few hours the day of the Swap Meet, any and all help will be greatly appreciated. Look for Bill Treadwell, our TRAACA Swap Meet Chairman, to be contacting people after the holidays.

The Annual Meet in September will be here before you know it. Once again, the club needs help both prior to the show and of course the day of the show. Like last year, Barry Basnight and I will be the Meet Co-Chairpersons for the 2019 TRAACA Annual Show. I know we can count on lots of help from club members—that's good because we'll need it.

There will be numerous local car shows, cruise-ins, and, of course, other non-car related opportunities that will be happening in the Tidewater area in 2019. (It may be hard to believe, but yes, there is a world outside of car events.)

Try to enjoy this next year, and check some things off your bucket list. Spend time with friends and family, and maybe make some new friends. So much to do and so little time, so make the best of it. Happy New Year! See you soon!

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Maríon McAlpíne



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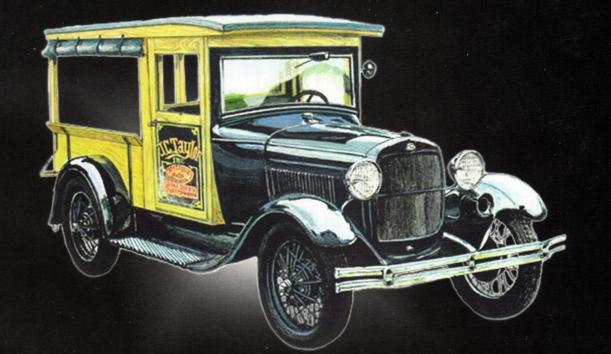
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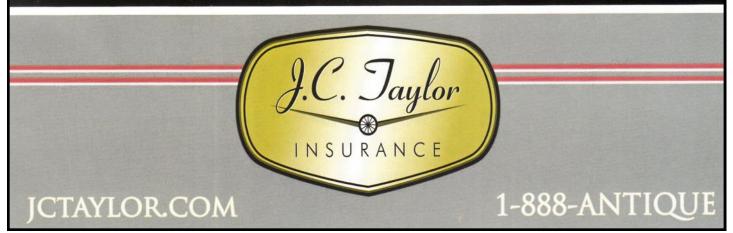
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TRAACA *The Mudflap* Mark & Marion McAlpine—Editors 3117 Summerhouse Dr. Suffolk, VA 23435

