

# The Mudflap



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

Volume 60, Issue 2

February 2016



## TRAACA *Winter Warm-Up* BBQ Run & Treasure Hunt Capt Bob's Restaurant, Hertford, NC Saturday, February 27, 2016

The TRAACA's *Winter Warm-Up* BBQ Run and Treasure Hunt is on Saturday, 27 February. Participants will meet in the parking lot of the Mt. Pleasant Marketplace, at the intersection of Centerville Turnpike and Mt. Pleasant Road in Chesapeake, at 10:00 AM by the Farm Fresh gas pumps. After a brief 15-minute drivers' meeting, we will depart around 10:30 AM. Our driving route will be approximately 60 miles on paved roads, ending at Captain Bob's Restaurant (310 Ocean Highway South—Highway 17) in Hertford, NC, for lunch around 11:30-12:00 PM. We also plan on having a treasure hunt along the way, so bring your best

sleuthing skills as you could win some neat prizes for your efforts! Specific route directions and treasure hunt rules will be provided and briefed at the drivers' meeting on Saturday morning.

If you plan on participating, please contact Matt Doscher at (757) 448-7048 or VLW78@hotmail.com by Monday, 22 February, so we know who to expect and can provide the restaurant an accurate count for lunch. (If you don't sign up, but your plans change, show up—there's always room for a few more.) Clean and gas up your classic vehicle, and join us on our *Winter Warm-Up Run* to Captain Bob's in Hertford, NC, for some delicious North Carolina bar-b-que.



**CAUGHT IN THE HEADLIGHTS**—Andrew Sitar and his 1955 Ford F-100 pick-up truck. Read the story on Pages 10-11.



### TRAACA CALENDAR

Check [local.aaca.org/tidewater](http://local.aaca.org/tidewater) for the latest info on upcoming events!

#### **FEBRUARY 2016**

- 3** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Wednesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 18** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 27** TRAACA *Warm Up Run*  
to Capt Bob's Restaurant  
Hertford, NC

#### **MARCH 2016**

- 1** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Tuesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 5** TRAACA & HVPR Joint Acty  
Bruton Parish Church Organ  
Concert (followed by dinner)  
Williamsburg, VA
- 12** TRAACA Swap Meet  
Military Aviation Museum  
Virginia Beach, VA  
— *Note the new location this year* —
- 17** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 26** Tour of Blackwater Engines  
Virginia Beach, VA

#### **APRIL 2016**

- 6** TRAACA Board Meeting  
6:30 PM (Wednesday)  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 16-** TRAACA *Spring Fling Tour*  
**17** Hatteras, NC
- 21** TRAACA Dinner Meeting  
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 29-** ODMA 63rd Annual Meet  
**30** Martinsville, VA

# From the Driver's Seat

**Jim Villers**  
**TRAACA President**  
**190sljim@cox.net**  
**(757) 481-6398**



As I think back on the content of the club's Annual Awards Banquet, I feel the energy and enthusiasm of our club. I cannot imagine any other region in the AACA that can match our participation and success on the national stage. We have three National Board members, four vehicles recognized with National Awards, a large number of senior and active judges, and, finally, a Master Webmaster and a Master Editor. Congratulations to all.

In addition to our success on the national stage, our local award winners displayed consistent excellence. It is always enjoyable to recognize members who contribute to our club.

The highlight of the evening for me was the presentation by our new Activities Committee. They have been busy coordinating and planning this year's events and they presented a full calendar for the coming year. They have us touring to the Outer Banks and visiting the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum, showing our cars on the Westminster-Canterbury lawn, and touring a local automobile collection. We will be visiting garages, automotive shops, and museums. While I am appreciative of the variety and interest of the events, I was very impressed by the manner in which it has been organized and presented. This will be a very enjoyable and active year for the TRAACA.

Talking of a variety of interesting activities, the "bugs" at the Virginia Living Museum fit that description. I never realized that I had an interest in "bugs" or that I would enjoy a museum displaying this unique part of our environment. We can always learn something new.

Hertford, NC, is a location that most of us can recall as a town we by pass by heading south on US-17 in North Carolina. Join us on Saturday, February 27th, as we visit this quaint town with a very long history. We will visit our neighbors to the south for a treasure hunt and BBQ lunch.

Melanie Kordis has been working on various youth-related activities, introducing the next generation of young students to vintage automobiles. She is looking for a few club members to support her at the Virginia Beach VOTEC open house on Wednesday, February 10th. If you have interest in joining her with your car, please contact Melanie.

One last reminder: if you have not renewed your membership for 2016 by now, you will probably not be included in our annual roster. However, missing out on inclusion in the roster is not as serious as missing out on our fun club activities this year. So please renew now!

So much to do, so little time. Let's have fun: it's an old car kind of day!

*Jim*



## 2016 TRAACA Officers & Board

**President - Jim Villers: 190sljim@cox.net**

**Vice President - Mark McAlpine:**  
**mmcalpine05@msn.com**

**Secretary - Julie Hobbs**

**Treasurer - Marion McAlpine**

**Board - Matt Doscher**

**Board - Wayne Milligan**

**Board - Skip Patnode**

**Board - Bill Treadwell**

**President Emeritus - Wes Neal**

**Visit us on the Internet at:**

[www.traaca.com](http://www.traaca.com)

**THE MUDFLAP** is the newsletter for the Tidewater Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, and is published monthly.

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## Call Captain's Corner

**Calling Tree Chief Captain: Margie Ives**  
**(757) 547-2234**

<u>Last Name Begins With:</u>	<u>Designated Call Captain:</u>	
Ad—Boh	Dick Chipchak	495-0115
Bol—Cic	Dan Ciccone	339-3494
Cob—Ea	Barbara Talley	421-7534
Eb—Gra	Scott Davies	312-8032
Gre—Howa	Rhonda Russell	471-4031
Howi—Kni	Wayne & Carol Milligan	548-1242
Koc—Mca	Viator Trudeau	547-3940
Mcc—Nor	Melanie Kordis	301-9959
Oko—Pen	Carol Avenson	549-1008
Pin—Sta	Becky Woodall	482-3386
Ste—Til	Leslie Scarpelli	249-8617
Tre—Wor	Toni McChesney	456-2806

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## From the Running Board

### Jan 5, 2016 TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes

The board meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport on Military Hwy. Directors present were Jim Villers (President), Mark McAlpine (Vice President), Melanie Kordis (Secretary) and Marion McAlpine (Treasurer). Board members present were Tyler Gimbert and Matt Doscher. Members present were Frank Lagana, Wayne Milligan, Bob & Dot Parrish, Bob Stein, Bill Treadwell, and Bill Wilcox.

**Secretary's Report:** The December 2015 Board Meeting Minutes were approved and published in the January issue of *The Mudflap*.

**Treasurer's Report:** Read by Marion. The club's CD at Town Bank matured and was reinvested in a 16-month CD. John & Marie Gancel will conduct annual audit of club's financial records this quarter & report to the Board.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Marketing/PR:** Nothing significant to report (NSTR).

#### Communications:

- *The Mudflap* newsletter:
  - Kudos to Marion & Mark McAlpine, who won the AACA Master Editor Award for 2015.
  - As of 1 January, 14 of 16 advertisers have renewed their ads for 2016. The other two said they are renewing.
  - Mark thanked Matt Doscher, reporter at large for *The Mudflap*, for his articles on members and their vehicles.
- The *Mud Speck* weekly e-mail: Kudos to Bob Stein, who won the AACA Master Webmaster Award for 2015—the 16th consecutive time he has won the award!

#### Activities:

- Saturday, 30 January: Virginia Living Museum. This is a joint activity with the Historic Virginia Peninsula Region (HVPR) AACA. Members who wish to caravan should meet at 9:00 AM at the Norfolk Academy.
- 2016 activity calendar will be printed in February issue of *The Mudflap*.

#### Restaurants/Dinner Meetings:

- Saturday, January 16: Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach.
  - Club is subsidizing the meal. Cost is \$25 per member.
- Club Board Meetings will remain at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport and on the same current schedule.
- Thurs, 18 February: Dinner Meeting at the Holiday Inn.
- Thurs, 17 March: Dinner Meeting at the Holiday Inn.

#### Society:

- Current membership status (as of 30 December): 170 (singles/couples). 121 renewals received for 2016 as of 5 January. Cutoff for inclusion in roster is 15 January.
- Sunshine Report: Read by Matt Doscher.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Club is still looking for a Call Tree Chair to take over for Margie Ives. Send nominations to Jim Villers.

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- Jim will appoint committee to review the club by-laws.
- Bob Parrish will write a tribute for Dick Pensyl for the club's *Final Tour* webpage. Still need someone close to Tyler Brown to write one for him.
- Virginia Beach Public Schools Vo-Tech Center open house is Wednesday, 10 February, from 7:00-9:00 PM. They invited club members & have space for six antique vehicles in their bays. TRAACA POC: Melanie Kordis.
- The “*Wings & Wheels*” Meet Improvements Committee will meet at the McAlpines' house at 11:00 AM on Saturday, 9 January.
- Wes Neal reported that the ODMA responded to our request & changed the date of the 2016 ODMA Meet in Martinsville to 29-30 April (versus original 20-21 May) so it won't conflict with AACA National Meet in NJ.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Bob Stein reported changes being made by the AACA to the regions' website host. TRAACA has own webpage ([www.traaca.com](http://www.traaca.com)), which is paid for through 2017.
- Motion approved to donate \$500 to the AACA Library and \$500 to AACA Museum. Checks will be presented by Jim at the AACA National Meeting in Philadelphia.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

- Board thanked Terry Bond for his *TRAACA Christmas Letter* club history presentation at the club Holiday Brunch (and printed in the January *Mudflap*).
- Bob Hanbury has graciously offered use of a full-service food truck for club's future events.
- TRAACA recognition plaque will be presented to the Military Aviation Museum at the club Awards Banquet.
- TRAACA Swap Meet: Discussed City of Virginia Beach assessment of \$10 per vendor. Jim is looking into how this will impact future vendor costs and swap meet location. Additional set up concerns are being negotiated with the Military Aviation Museum.

The next TRAACA Board Meeting is Wednesday, 3 February 2016, 6:30 PM at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Kordis, Secretary





# TRAACA Annual Awards Banquet

## Saturday, January 16, 2016

Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Bob Stein & Mark McAlpine.

January 16, 2016, marked the TRAACA 61st Awards Banquet and Board Installation Ceremony. This year the event was held at the Founders Inn and Spa located in Chesapeake, VA. The yearly event tends to be one of the more popular club events, and this year continued the tradition with more than 70 members participating in the festivities. As members socialized before dinner, a slide show played in the background highlighting the region's many fun activities and events in 2015.

After dinner, TRAACA President Jim Villers began the presentation of the annual awards. Jim presented some of the awards, including the President's Award to Terry Bond for his contributions to the club, and most of the other awards were presented by the trophy sponsors. A loud round of applause signaled approval when Terry Bond presented Dewey & Maxine Milligan the Spark Plug Award for making the greatest contribution to the club during the year. Terry also presented TRAACA Silver Name Tags to John & Marie Gancel for reaching the 25-yr member milestone. Pete & Jean Koch also marked 25 years, but were unable to attend the banquet. Margie Ives, Chief of our Calling Tree, also was recognized for her service and thanked all her Calling Tree Captains for their service to the club. (A complete list of awards recipients is on the *Members Page*—Pg. 17—of this issue.)

During this yearly event a "Changing of the Guard" occurs when the newly elected TRAACA Board of Directors take its oath of office. (Board members and officers generally serve in their positions for two years, with some of the board members changing out each year to maintain good continuity.) This year three members finished their terms: Melanie Kordis—Secretary; Tyler Gimbert—Board Member; and Tim Russell—Board Member. Club President Jim Villers presented each of the outgoing board members with a plaque and thanked them for their dedicated service to the club.

Bob Parrish, soon-to-be AACA President, installed the 2016 TRAACA Officers and Board. Bob had determined the top eight automobile marques owned by TRAACA members and presented a card with the names of these vehicles in descending order to the new board members. Most club members were surprised to find out that MGs are the third most numerous cars in the club, Chevrolets are second, and Ford first. (GM owners wondered how the numbers would've turned out if GM divisions and Ford divisions had been added together. Just wondering.) With that, Bob administered the oath of office to the new board: Jim Villers—President; Mark McAlpine—Vice President; Julie Hobbs—Secretary; Marion McAlpine—Treasurer; and Board Members Matt Doscher, Wayne Milligan, Skip Patnode, and Bill Treadwell.



2016 TRAACA Board of Directors: front row—Marion McAlpine and Julie Hobbs. Back row—Jim Villers, Matt Doscher, Skip Patnode, Mark McAlpine, Bill Treadwell, and Wayne Milligan.



TRAACA members going through the food line



Members enjoying dinner and a slide show of our 2015 activities



*President Jim Villers presenting Terry Bond the President's Award*



*(L-R) Bob & Dot Parrish receiving the Merritt Horne Award for Club Participation from Richard Hall*



*Matt Doscher receiving his Mudflap Award from Mark McAlpine*



*Terry Bond presenting the Spark Plug Award to Maxine & Dewey Milligan for the greatest contribution to the club during the year*



*Linda Pellerin presenting the Beaulieu Cup to Jim Elliott*



*Bob Pellerin presenting the Lalique Award to Tony Scarpelli*



*Margie Ives recognizing dedicated members of her Calling Tree*



*Marie & John Gancel receiving their TRAACA 25-yr member Silver Name Tags from Terry Bond*





# TRAACA *Winter Blast*

## The Virginia Living Museum

### Saturday, January 30, 2016

Story by Matt Doscher. Photos by Bob Stein.

To kick off the 2016 TRAACA activities calendar year, 20 Tidewater members met at the Norfolk Academy on a clear and chilly morning on Saturday, January 30th, and caravanned to the Virginia Living Museum (VLM) in Newport News, VA, for a tour and lunch. Bob Pellerin led the caravan in his 1973 Volvo 1800SW, followed by Jim Villers in his 1967 Mercedes-Benz 230SL, Bob Stein in his 1937 Pontiac Deluxe 6, Dana & Debbie Meadows in their 1937 Chrysler Imperial with Travis & Kim Berry joining them as passengers, and Matt & Vickie Doscher rounding out the vintage iron in their 1965 Ford Mustang. TRAACA members traveling in modern vehicles included Richard & Sandy Hall, Wayne & Carol Milligan, Jack Pavlidis and his daughter Hilary, Linda Pellerin, Vito & Nina Serrone, and Neil & Marty Sugermeier.

Our route to the VLM was all on Interstate highway via the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, and everyone arrived at the VLM without any issues. After we arrived at the museum and parked, we met up with the rest of the gang, including Terry Bond with daughter Lindsay, Jim & Donna Elliott in their 1975 Chevrolet Caprice, Tony Scarpelli in his 1956 DeSoto Firedome, Keith Colonna in his 1956 Lincoln Continental Mark II, Gordon Garnett, Al Becker, and several members from our sister AACA region, the Historic Virginia Peninsula Region (HVPRAACA).

The VLM's Education Director, Dan Summers, gave a very informative "behind-the-scenes" presentation, just for

our group, on a select number of animals on exhibit at the VLM. He talked about the non-venomous Northern Pine Snake, which makes its home in the northern part of Virginia and can grow in excess of 6 feet long by feeding primarily on small rodents; a Goliath Bird-Eating Tarantula, which is native to South America & is the largest spider on the planet; an Eastern Screech Owl, which comes in two colors—mostly gray and mostly red—we were treated to the mostly red one; an opossum, which will eat just about anything including bubble gum; and the American Alligator, which can live to be more than 50 years old! After Dan's special presentation we were free to explore inside and outside the VLM at our leisure and enjoyed lunch at the museum's Wild Side Café. All of the animals at the VLM, except for the aforementioned tarantula, are natives of Virginia and call the VLM home because they were either orphaned as youngsters, are non-releasable into the wild because they became human dependent while being rehabilitated, or were injured and would not survive in the wild on their own.

Our first TRAACA activity of the year was a *blast*. Everyone enjoyed our visit to the VLM as well as learning a little bit about these animals and how important it is to protect their environment and ours. Our next club outing will be the *TRAACA Winter Warm-Up Run* on Saturday, 27 February, when we take a driving tour to Capt Bob's Restaurant in Hertford, NC, for some delicious BBQ.



TRAACA & HVPRAACA members receiving a special behind-the-scenes presentation at the Virginia Living Museum





*The Meadows & Berrys arrive in style in a 1937 Chrysler Imperial*



*The museum's outdoor boardwalk crossing Deer Park Lake*



*VLM's Dan Summers showing members an Eastern Screech Owl*



*A few of the VLM's feathered friends sunning on Deer Park Lake*



*One of the VLM's three Red Wolves—the most endangered mammal in North America (per the museum's website)*



*The symbol of our country—an American Bald Eagle*



*One of the VLM's deer, happy it isn't sharing its area with the wolf*



*The museum's orphaned Red Fox*





## Still Collecting Stuff — *Things Never Made to Last* — *Ephemeral Objects* By Terry Bond

The dictionary (remember what that is?) defines “ephemera” as things that are important or useful for only a short time; items that were never intended to have lasting value.

Many such items were used and thrown away during their life span. Much of it was automobile related. I guess logic dictates that such items with low survival, and in demand today because of the theme, are collectible. But they were never intended to be. Many such items are very rare because of their limited life span of usefulness, so value today naturally increases. This month, I’ll take a quick look at some items that fall into this category—automotive ephemera.

I love things that are rare! When I find an item that is perhaps one of a kind and something never intended to last more than a brief span of time, it’s like holding history.

The fact that someone decided to save the item is amazing. Many things of course were “repurposed.” For example, an old cigar box would be used many times over as a container for small items in a workshop or a dresser drawer. Old tins were always useful for holding nails and screws in the garage.

We’ve already touched on some items that could easily fall into this area of collecting. Postcards might come to mind initially, but they were purpose-made souvenirs and were intended to be saved from the moment they were created—memories preserved!

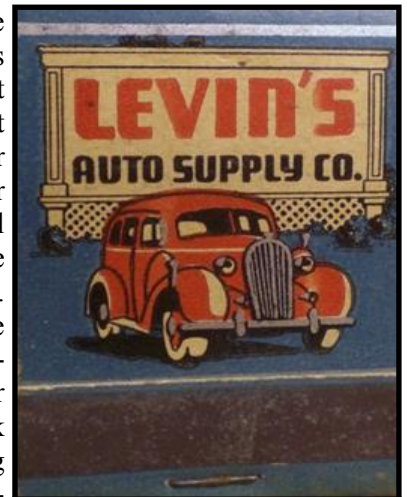
One truly ephemeral item that comes to mind is the lowly matchbook, those little paper folder-like booklets



1930's Champion Spark Plugs  
matchbook cover

that contained tear-away paper matches. Once you were done and there were no more matches in them, out they went—regardless of the information or advertising on them. They instantly became collector’s items of sorts, with early examples, illustrated with animals, flowers, historic scenes, or even automobiles, frequently being pasted into scrapbooks, but generally they were truly ephemeral

objects in their day. The paper match itself goes back to the 1890s, but the matchbook itself first became a popular advertising item after 1896 when the original patents were sold to the Diamond Match Co. Since then they’ve advertised cars, dealerships, gas stations, motor oil, gasoline, tires, spark plugs, and everything else related to the automobile. They make great collectibles, are not heavy, don’t take up much room, and, best of all, they are really inexpensive. Did you know that the collecting of match-related items is called *phillumeny*?



1930's auto supply company  
matchbook cover

The Rathkamp Matchcover Society has over 600 active members and their website (<http://www.matchcover.org/>) has a lot of great information. You can have fun with this one and not break the bank!

In a previous column we’ve looked at safety match matchbox labels so we won’t cover them here, but I’ve always especially loved my “Motor Girl” matchbox label. I continue to pick them up on the Internet and at paper collectible shows for a few dollars.

I’ve always been fascinated with all kinds of labels. There are some unused labels around that were surplus printers’ stock and never ended up pasted on cans or boxes. Such things as fruit crate labels, cigar box labels, and product labels for auto-related polish, oil or other items are all ephemeral objects. In later



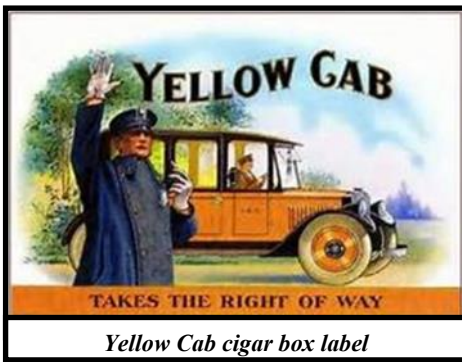
Motor Girl matchbox label

years, however, they’ve crossed over into other categories of collecting such as “petromobilia.” Every time I find an item that falls into this category of collecting, I pause a moment to reflect on how the



Rare cigar box label—circa 1900





*Yellow Cab cigar box label*

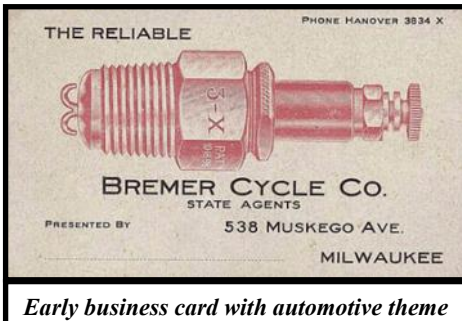
heck it managed to survive all those years.

I have labels of all kinds displayed in albums. Cigar box labels are especially fascinating, but can be quite expensive.

Rare examples are worth hundreds. They are crossover collectibles and you will be competing with more serious collectors of tobacco-related items. How in the world did these labels survive?

I recently came across a couple of nice early menu blanks. These were intended for use in a fancy Parisian restaurant, but somehow were never used.

Although certainly meant to “save,” I still believe that



*Early business card with automotive theme*

the useful life span for some early business or calling cards was extremely limited.

Advertising trade cards are another quite ephemeral item, although a lot of them did end up getting glued into children’s scrapbooks. Finding trading cards in good condition can be difficult.

Product tags, blotters, even bookmarks represent ephemeral objects with very limited usefulness during their original life span. I find them in all kinds of places, especially at old book fairs and advertising shows. If you’ve never been to a large antique advertising show, I recommend it. It will be a real education and you’ll find material in price ranges from thousands of dollars to only a few. It always amazes me at how much great early ephemera turns up at such events.



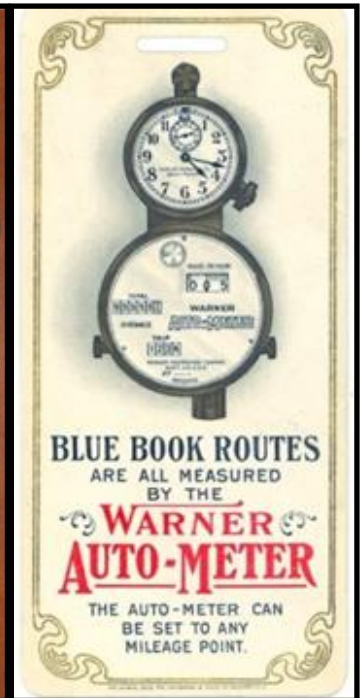
*Chocolate box lid with early automotive scene—circa early 1900s*

One of my absolute favorite pieces is an extremely rare celluloid advertising bookmark for the Scottish-built Argyle Automobile. I believe it is the only one known to exist & have discussed it many times with serious collectors of bookmarks.

Perhaps my most prized object



*Rare celluloid advertising bookmark—circa 1908*



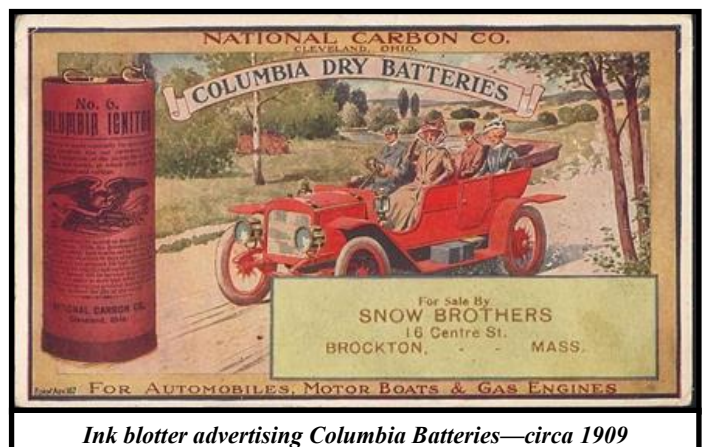
*Celluloid advertising bookmark—circa 1910*

is a wonderful early 1900’s cardboard and paper chocolate box. It is in fantastic condition with a most beautiful auto-themed illustration on its lid. I marvel at how it managed to survive for over 100 years in near perfect shape!

I won’t attempt to establish a value guide for such items as often it depends on how you categorize them. Unfortunately, there are not many bargains on the Internet these days, especially when the rarity factor comes into play and the item also belongs in another popular collecting category like gas and oil collector items! The best bet, as always, is to focus on quality items. The earliest items will not only be the most difficult to find, but will also likely cost a bit more. Paying well for quality items never hurts—for too long.

The hunt is half the fun, and, best of all, this kind of stuff can easily be displayed in albums. Enjoy the search, enjoy collecting, and enjoy the photographs.

*Terry Bond*



*Ink blotter advertising Columbia Batteries—circa 1909*



# Caught in the Headlights—TRAACA Members & Their Cars

## *Andrew Sitar & his 1955 Ford F-100 truck*

Story and photos by Andrew Sitar



*Andrew Sitar's 1955 Ford F-100 truck*

Several years ago—more like 19—in November 1996 I found myself to be the proud owner of a 1953 Ford F-100. My brother, Bob, found the '53 truck for me in Davidsonville, MD. He graciously made the 4-hour trip down to Virginia with the truck. My dad paid him for it since most 14-year-old kids don't have \$500 lying around.

The truck was fairly plain with the 2159-ci straight-6 and the standard 3-on-the-tree manual transmission; there were NO bells and whistles on this truck. There was rust everywhere on the truck, lots and lots of rust. The market for original mid-1950s Ford trucks was very slow at the time and those old trucks didn't have many creature comforts that made them "driver friendly." So, there was only one logical thing to do: this was going to be the nicest custom 1953 F-100 ever built. (That's what every 14 year old thinks about their new car!)

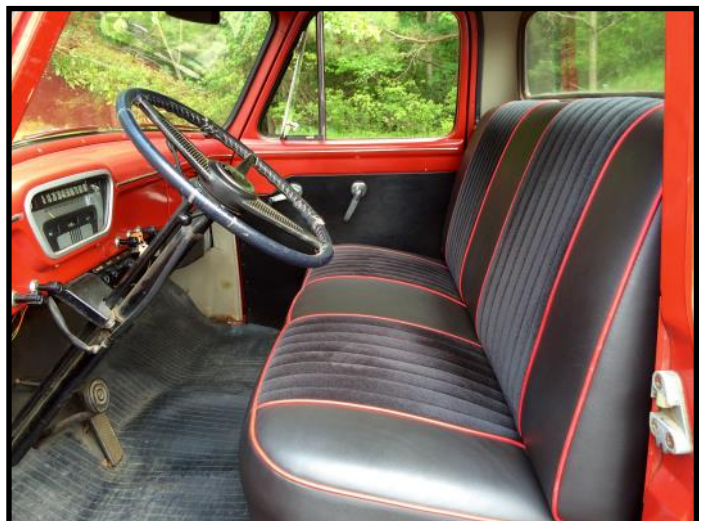
My wallet didn't provide much horsepower in the decision-making process and my dad had more of an idea to build an original truck, which was obviously much cheaper than a street rod. The first few years brought lots of progress: rebuilt frame, cab sheet metal work finished and the engine painted and running well. Twelve years passed and priorities changed, with little to no additional progress on the truck. In 2008 I made the decision to sell the unfinished truck to help finance my first house. The nicest custom 1953 F-100 ever built never was, at least not during my ownership.

Over the next several years I often thought about looking for another Ford truck; in fact, I looked for one several times. Fast forward to early summer 2013. The desire for *THE* nicest custom 1953 F-100 was burning again. Everything I could find was typical for 1953-1956 Fords . . . rusted out cab corners, floor pans, bed, front and rear fenders, etc. I decided to look at the other end of the spectrum and find an already completed street rod. I looked around, but couldn't find anything that really

suit me or my budget. I admitted defeat and realized that a nice original truck would be impossible to find or a Ford street rod truck built to my standards was either too difficult to find or too expensive. The only thing that could be easily found & financed turned out to be somebody else's unfinished project. Sounds familiar right?

September 2013 approached with a profound decision that should I be able to locate a nice original truck or an affordable street rod, I would own it. Basically, I talked myself into spending more money than I had intended. I narrowed my search to my favorites: a 1953 or a 1955 (with the only real differences being the grille and the flat-head V8 in the '53 and the Y-block in the '55). After several more months I remembered that I had written down the address and phone number of the guy who bought my 1953 truck back in 2008. I didn't know if he ever finished it or even still owned it, but I should call him to see if I could possibly buy it back! Wouldn't you know it, I couldn't find his contact information, so my search continued.

After a year of serious searching, on September 21, 2014, I found a 1955 Ford F-100 Custom Cab on Craigslist about 300 miles away in Oldtown, MD! There was no phone number, so I e-mailed the owner asking if the truck was still for sale. A day went by without a response, so I sent another e-mail. Another 24 hours went by and I finally received a response: "Yes, it is; call me at ###-###-####." Having second thoughts, it took me a few hours to call, only to find out that the owner was in Alaska on vacation. I asked about the condition of the truck. The owner seemed knowledgeable & straight forward. I liked what I heard, so I set up an appointment to see the truck the following Sunday. To make a long story short, I didn't get to see the truck until the first weekend in October.



*The interior of Andrew's 1955 Ford F-100 pick-up truck*



Two weeks passed since I first saw the truck on Craigslist, and I was beyond the point of anxious. On October 5, 2014, my girlfriend Brittany and I set out for Oldtown, MD, to look at an old farm truck. After a 5-hour drive into the Appalachian Mountains and through the collaboration of good old fashioned maps and a decent GPS, we easily identified the owner's residence by the rear end of a red Ford truck tucked in an old hay barn in the back yard. The owner was waiting for us in the front yard and walked us out to the barn. I walked around the truck and it appeared to be as he described it. I asked if we could back it out to get a better look; he connected the battery, pulled out the choke cable and the original 239-ci Y-block V8 roared to life. I couldn't believe my eyes or my ears. The truck was nearly 100% original except for the 20+ year-old paint job, the blue paint on the engine, the fairly new upholstery on the bench seat, and a few other small things. The very faded original owner's manual rested in the glove box and the data plate on the glove box door reflected that the Fordomatic transmission was original, as was the 239 Y-block. The only rust was the few places the owner had told me about—no big surprises. What about those Custom Cab badges on the doors? Yep, the driver's side armrest, stainless steel door glass and vent window frames, passenger side view mirror, passenger sun visor, stainless steel roof drip rail & dash trim, chrome gull wings on the grille, keyed-alike locks on both doors, and the headliner and dome light that are all parts of the Custom Cab package were there, too.

After driving the truck and negotiating a price we were



*The F-100's original 239-ci Y-block V-8 engine*



*The bed of the 1955 F-100—ready for work like a truck should be*

## TRAACA February Dinner Meeting Thursday, February 18, 2016

This month's dinner meeting is at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport, 1570 N. Military Hwy, Norfolk, VA 23502. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM and dinner is at 7:00 PM. Dinner will be Chicken Marsala, thin-sliced roast beef with gravy, house salad, roasted baby red potatoes, vegetable medley, and chef's choice of dessert.

*Please remember that if you sign up for a club dinner, you are committed to paying for it whether or not you attend. Unless someone who hadn't signed up for the dinner comes and offsets your absence, the club must pay for your meal and loses money if you don't pay. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.*

# The Ford Piquette Avenue Plant Detroit, Michigan

Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Mark McAlpine.



*The Ford Piquette Ave Plant—built in 1904*

Most people have heard of Detroit, MI, being referred to as the “Motor City.” There is good reason for the nickname: Detroit has a long history of automotive technology and has been the home of many of the largest automotive companies in the world, including the Ford Motor Company.

A visit to the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit is a great way to learn about some of the history of Henry Ford, the founding of the Ford Motor Company, and the birth of his very successful Ford Model T. Ford aficionados know that the Ford Motor Company, incorporated in 1903, was Henry Ford’s third attempt at establishing an automobile company.

The Piquette Avenue Plant was built in 1904 and contained several important innovations: 1) There were 355 windows installed in the building to provide good lighting and ventilation. (Remember there was no air conditioning in 1904.) 2) The building was divided into four sections by three fire doors. The fire doors would close automatically if fire burned through the counterweighted ropes holding the doors open, protecting the remaining sections. 3) Each section had fire escapes. 4) There was an automatic fire sprinkler system fed by a 25,000 gallon water tank.

Many early Ford models were built at the plant prior to the Model T, including the Models B, C, F, K, N, R, and S. Henry Ford considered the Model K too big and expensive. The Model N was very successful, but Henry wanted more improvements. In 1907 Henry set up an “experimentation room” in the back corner of the building’s third floor. One side was a drafting room, the other side had some machine tools, a chalk board, and Henry’s mother’s rocking chair. Henry’s handpicked team used the area to develop new ideas, and the Model T was born. The first Model T for sale was completed on September 27, 1908, as a 1909 model.

All three floors of the building were utilized for the assembly of the Model T. Engines and axles were assembled on the ground floor. Machinery and sub-assembly were located on the second floor. The third floor was used for chassis assembly.

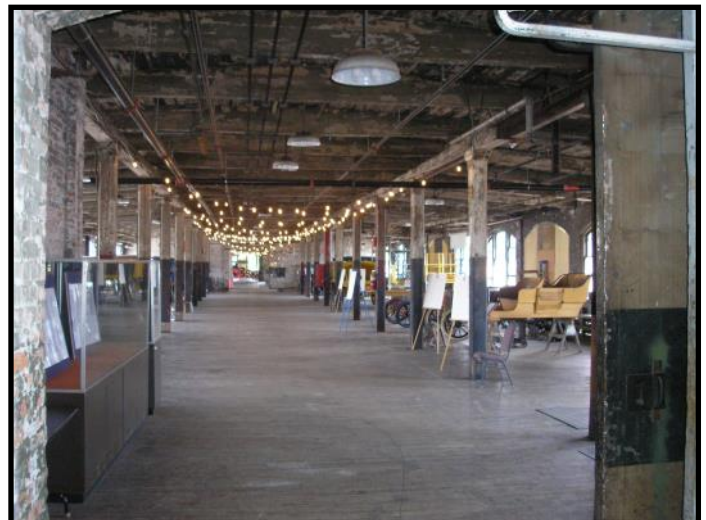
This method of assembly was known as “stationary assembly”—workers brought parts to the car on carts (using freight elevators between the floors), and the vehicle was assembled where it sat. Strangely, the chassis was pushed down a ramp from the third floor to the ground-level courtyard outside where the body was married up to the chassis.

By the end of 1909, the Model T production outgrew the Piquette Avenue Plant and in 1910 production was moved to the new and larger Highland Park Plant. (Of note, in 1913 the Highland Park Plant introduced the moving assembly line, which revolutionized car manufacturing.) The first 12,000 Model Ts were built at the Piquette Avenue Plant.

The Piquette Avenue Plant building was sold to Studebaker in 1911. Studebaker used it for automobile production until 1933. The building was occupied by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing and the Cadillac Overall Company until it was purchased by Heritage Investment Co. in 1989. The building was bought by the Model T Automotive Heritage Complex in 2000 and is now a museum open to the public. The building was registered as a U.S. National Register of Historic Places in 2002, as a Michigan State Historic Site in 2003, as a U.S. Historic District Contributing Property in 2004, and in 2006 it was designated as a U.S. National Historic Landmark.

The collection of vehicles at the plant includes examples of the “versatility” of the Model T. With a few modifications the Model T was transformed to a snowmobile, a tractor, a bus, a cab, and even a manure spreader. There also is a red Model T on display to show that colors other than black, were available until 1914. Pin-striping stopped about 1914 when the gentleman doing the pin-striping asked Henry Ford for a raise. Other early automobiles are on display at the museum including a 1911 Brush Runabout, 1911 Cadillac 30 Touring Car, 1912 Flanders 20 roadster, and 1912 Overland Model 59 Touring Car.

The Piquette Avenue Plant holds a significant place in U.S. automotive history and is a great place to visit. So if you get a chance, check it out—it’s worth the trip.



*The plant’s 3rd floor, where chassis assembly took place. Note the auto-closing fire door and original & modern fire sprinkler systems*





*Unrestored 1903 Ford Model A Tonneau*



*1909 Ford Model T—"Elizabeth"*



*1904 Ford Model C (Cs were produced from 1903-1905)*



*Ford Model Ts built at the Piquette Avenue Plant can be identified by the flourished "wings" on the Ford script on the radiator*



*Ford Model N runabout*



*1925 Ford Model T with White Snowmobile kit (made 1923-1928)*



*1907 Ford Model S runabout*



*1915 Ford Model T touring car with a built-in-Canada version to its left—note the left front door not present on American cars*



## Thank You for a Great 2015!

By Herb Oakes, AACA VP of Judging

(Excerpted from the January 2016 AACA *The Judge Newsletter* newsletter)



The 2016 judging season is just around the corner. As we speak, we are receiving registrations for our Winger Meet in Naples, FL. This year, we are going to see a lot of our country. Besides Florida, we will be in Charlotte, NC; Auburn, IN; Vineland, NJ; Williamsport, PA; North Mankato, MN; New Bern, NC; Cheyenne, WY; Hershey, PA; and Galveston, TX.

Recapping 2015, our Judging Program is steadily moving forward. The efforts of our judges and team captains continue to improve. This year, we will again have a Team Captains School in Philadelphia and a Team Captains School in each Division. We will continue to have a Team Captains CJE at every meet, including Hershey.

The success of this year was accomplished by you, the team captains and judges who supported us. I would like to remind all Team Captains, certified or working toward your certification, that each of you must attend a Team Captains School or a Team Captains CJE each year to remain active.

I want to thank each and every judge for the support that you have given our program. Without your dedication, our program could not be the success that it is. I have once again been assigned the responsibility as your VP of Judging for 2016. I am looking forward to making 2016 another great year. Let's keep it rolling forward.

New for 2016, we now have a Camaro Class. It is set up by generations, such as the Mustang Class, Thunderbird Class and the Corvette Class. In the January 2016 issue of *The Judge* newsletter, you will find an article explaining how the class is set up and additional information that was sent to each Camaro owner in the form of a letter. Many of you may not have been aware of this new class, so please take time to read the article. Without a doubt, this addition will definitely bring in more Camaro Club members to our organization.

It is the end of an enjoyable era as Read Majors, our Chairman of Judges Training, is moving on. He put lots of life and joy into our Judging Program. We have heard comments by many of our members stating that they go to every Judging School because Read's presentation motivates them as judges. Those are some very big shoes to fill.

Micky Bohne will surely be missed. As VP of Judges Administration, she built that team into a professional part of our Judging Program. Everyone on the Judges Admin team is second to none. Micky's leadership made that happen.

As I send a very sincere thank you to both Read and Micky, I must introduce you to those who will be taking over their duties in 2016. Welcome into our Judging Program Myron Smith as VP of Judges Admin and Jim Elliott as Assistant VP of Judges Admin. Welcome to Dain King as Chairman of Judges Training. Also, Roger Irland as Assistant VP of Judging. I am looking forward to working with each of you!



## 3 New Camaro Classes

By Herb Oakes, AACA VP of Judging

(Reprinted from the January 2016 AACA *The Judge* newsletter)



Beginning in 2016, we are adding three new Chevrolet Camaro classes. All Camaros will be placed in classes by "Generations."

The new classes are:

- 34G: First Generation Camaros 1967 through 1969;
- 34H: Second Generation Camaros 1970 through 1981;
- 34I: Third Generation Camaros 1982 to present.

This change will not affect any Camaros currently in DPC, HPOF or the cars considered "Factory High Performance." Please note that we have expanded the "Factory High Performance" class to include more of the 1967-1981 Camaros.

All necessary changes in the AACA database have already been made to ensure all Camaro owners are listed in their correct class. This change will not affect a car's current or future awards.

**ATTENTION ALL AACA JUDGES AND OWNERS:** The new 2016 AACA Judging Guidelines have been posted on the AACA website: [http://www.aaca.org/images/meet\\_brochures/AACA\\_2016\\_Judging\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.aaca.org/images/meet_brochures/AACA_2016_Judging_Guidelines.pdf). Besides the new classes added above, probably the most significant change is on Pg. 2-22 noting that P-Metric radial tires are now authorized for domestic cars as early as 1979. (Previously it was 1976.) AACA judges and vehicle owners should get ready for this year's meets by reading and understanding the new judging guidelines.



## Name that Car!

We have two challenges for you this month. Both entail identifying the cars in the photographs below, but the first one is a mystery that the TRAACA has been requested to help solve and the second is just a quiz to test your knowledge of antique vehicles.

Bill Wilcox forwarded a newspaper clipping from his hometown newspaper, the *Custer County Chief* (from Broken Bow, Nebraska), of Car #1. The Custer County Historical Society ran the photograph in the newspaper and asked readers to help them identify the vehicle. We spoke with the Society's curator, Ms. Tammy Hendrickson, and told her we'd run the photo in *The Mudflap* and was confident that one of our members would be able to identify the car. (The photo is also posted on the club website so you can enlarge it.) If you can identify it, please forward the info to us & we'll forward it to Ms. Hendrickson.



Car #2 was photographed in the Ford Piquette Ave Plant, but is not a Ford. Do you know what it is? (Hint: the vehicle's namesakes have a connection to Ford. See the answer at the bottom of the page.)



**ANSWER:** This is a 1915 Dodge Brothers Touring Car. (John & Horace Dodge were the first stockholders of the new Ford Motor Company in 1903 & fabricated most of the mechanical components of early Fords until starting their own car company in 1914.)



## AACA Calendar of Events

[http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca\\_calendar.html](http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca_calendar.html)

### **FEBRUARY 2016**

**11-13 AACA Annual Meeting  
Philadelphia, PA**

### **MARCH 2016**

**17-19 Winter Meet  
Naples, FL**

### **APRIL 2016**

**7-10 Southeastern Spring Meet  
Charlotte, NC**

### **MAY 2016**

**5-7 Special Spring Meet  
Auburn, IN**

**19-21 Eastern Spring Meet  
Vineland, NJ**

### **JUNE 2016**

**3-4 Annual Grand National Meet  
Williamsport, PA**

**10-12 The Elegance at Hershey  
Hershey, PA**

**12-17 The Sentimental Tour  
Salisbury, NC**

### **JULY 2016**

**14-16 Central Spring Meet  
North Mankato, MN**

**17-21 Founders Tour  
Huntington, PA**

**31- Eastern Division Tour  
3 Aug Richmond, VA**

### **AUGUST 2016**

**11-13 Southeastern Fall Meet  
New Bern, NC**

### **SEPTEMBER 2016**

**1-3 Western Fall Meet  
Cheyenne, WY**

**11-16 AAA Revival Glidden Tour  
North Conway, NH**

### **OCTOBER 2016**

**5-8 Eastern Fall Meet  
Hershey, PA**

**20-22 Central Fall Meet  
Galveston, TX**

### **NOVEMBER 2016**

**5-11 Reliability Tour (Pre-1916)  
Savannah, GA**



# TRAACA 2016 Activities Calendar



MONTH	DATE(S)	ACTIVITY & LOCATION
JANUARY	5	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	16	TRAACA Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction Founders Inn Virginia Beach, VA
	30	TRAACA <i>Winter Blast</i> (Joint TRAACA & HVPRAACA Activity) Virginia Living Museum Newport News
FEBRUARY	3	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	18	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	27	TRAACA <i>Winter Warm Up Run</i> to Capt Bob's Restaurant Hertford, NC
MARCH	1	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	5	Bruton Parish Church Organ Recital & Dinner (Joint TRAACA & HVPRAACA Activity) Williamsburg, VA
	12	TRAACA <i>Annual Swap Meet</i> Military Aviation Museum Virginia Beach, VA
	17	TRAACA <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	26	Tour of Blackwater Engines Virginia Beach, VA
APRIL	6	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	16-17	TRAACA <i>Spring Fling Tour</i> Hatteras, NC
	21	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	29-30	ODMA 63rd Annual Meet Martinsville, VA
MAY	3	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	14	TRAACA <i>Square Car Tour</i> (route to be determined—TBD)
	19	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	21	TRAACA <i>Special Tour</i> (location & route TBD)
	29	TRAACA <i>Memorial Day Picnic</i> and Car Show Westminster-Canterbury Virginia Beach, VA

MONTH	DATE(S)	ACTIVITY & LOCATION
JUNE	1	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	16	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	25	TRAACA <i>Special Tour (T)</i> (location & route TBD)
JULY	5	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	21	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	23	Tour of Moss Motors Petersburg, VA
AUGUST	3	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk, VA
	18	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	20	TRAACA Tour of Mbr Garage Suffolk, VA
SEPTMEBER	6	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk, VA
	10	TRAACA <i>Ice Cream Run</i> and visit to Bill Thumel's collection
	15 23	TRAACA Dinner Meeting <i>or</i> TRAACA Friday Night Social (activity still in planning & TBD)
	24	TRAACA 43rd Annual Meet Military Aviation Museum Virginia Beach, VA
OCTOBER	5	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	14	TRAACA <i>Special Event</i> (activity still in planning & TBD)
	19	TRAACA Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	21-22	TRAACA <i>Fall Tour</i> Solomons Island, MD (T)
NOVEMBER	1	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	5	TRAACA <i>Chili Cook-Off</i> at Dewey & Maxine Milligan's
	12	TRAACA <i>Drive-In Movie</i> Portsmouth, VA
	17	TRAACA <i>Annual Silent Auction</i> and Dinner Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
DECEMBER	7	TRAACA Board Meeting Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
	11	TRAACA <i>Holiday Party Brunch</i> Princess Anne Country Club Virginia Beach, VA





# TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE

## Welcome to our New Members!

**Barry & Mary Ellen Basnight**  
Chesapeake, VA  
- 1942 Lincoln Zephyr  
- 1964 Chevrolet Impala SS  
- 1968 Ford Mustang  
-1969 Chevrolet Camaro SS

**Justyn Bower**  
Chesapeake, VA

## Members celebrating anniversaries in February

**Curtis & Sheryl Cook**  
**John & Marie Gancel**  
**Alan & Margie Ives**  
**Dennis & Carla Anne Sobota**  
**Bob & Ginger Watson**

## Sunshine Report

Condolences are extended to the family of:

- **Linda Treadwell's mother, Louise H. Ison**, passed away on Wednesday, January 20. She was 91 years old.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following members:

- **Lynn Heimerl** slipped on ice, fell, and broke her wrist. She had surgery to repair the damage and is doing well.
- **Toni McChesney** had foot surgery on January 5. She's home recovering, doing well, and hopes to begin therapy soon.

*Please provide updates on the health of TRAACA members to Vickie Doscher at 672-3755 or vlv78@hotmail.com.*

## Members celebrating birthdays in February

<b>Thomas Allen</b>	<b>Joyce Howard</b>
<b>Sue Bond</b>	<b>Tim Hund</b>
<b>Roy Cunningham</b>	<b>Theodore Knight</b>
<b>John Gancel</b>	<b>Al Mercer</b>
<b>Elizabeth Godwin</b>	<b>Alexander Nazaruk</b>
<b>Iven Godwin</b>	<b>Linda Pellerin</b>
<b>Janet Green</b>	<b>Frank Stevens, Jr.</b>

## TRAACA Annual Award Winners

- Barlett Bowl: Jim Elliott
- Beaulieu Cup: Jim Elliott (1903 Cadillac)
- Century Award: Terry Bond (1915 Ford Model T)  
Dick McNinch (1915 Buick C25)
- Century Participation: Jim Elliott (1903 Cadillac)
- Ed Lail Restoration Award:
  - John Heimerl (1964 Ford Falcon Sprint)
  - Sal & Jo Ann Saiya (1936 Packard 12 Victoria conv)
- Holmes-Overland Award: Jim Elliott
- Ivie-Lister Award: Mark Strang
- Lalique Award: Tony Scarpelli
- Merritt Horne Participation Award: Bob & Dot Parrish
- *The Mudflap* Newsletter Award: Matt Doscher
- President's Award: Terry Bond
- Spark Plug Award: Dewey & Maxine Milligan
- 25-yr TRAACA Members: John & Marie Gancel and  
Pete & Jean Koch

Special plaques were presented to the following departing TRAACA Board members for their service to the club

- Tyler Gimbert for his term as Board member
- Melanie Kordis for her term as Board Secretary
- Tim Russell for his term as Board member

The club also presented a special plaque to the Military Aviation Museum in Virginia Beach in appreciation for the great support the Museum has provided the TRAACA by hosting our annual meet there for the last nine years. The plaque has dash plaques from each of the meets and room for future ones. The Museum has mounted the plaque in its lunch room under a framed copy of the poster from our AACA National Meet held there in 2015.

## Recent Award Winners

### AACA Master Webmaster Award 2015

Bob Stein *This is the 16th year in a row!*

### AACA Master Editor Award 2015

Mark & Marion McAlpine



**CORRECTION:** The caption for this photo in Terry Bond's "TRAACA Christmas Letter" in last month's issue of *The Mudflap* misidentified Ivie Lister and Merritt Horne. The correct caption should read: "(L-R) Merritt Horne, Neil Sugermeyer, Ivie Lister, John Thompson, and Linda Pellerin—circa mid-1990s."



# TRAACA Annual Swap Meet Saturday, March 12, 2016



Military Aviation Museum  
1341 Princess Anne Road  
Virginia Beach, VA 23457

— Note the new location and date this year —

**Free Swap Meet admission & parking for spectators.**  
(Admission to museum not included.)



# TRAACA Tour of Blackwater Engines



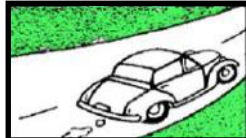
Virginia Beach, VA

## Saturday, March 26, 2016

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 26! The TRAACA's activity for March is a tour of Blackwater Engines, located at 949 Seahawk Circle on the corner of International Blvd and Lynnhaven Parkway in Virginia Beach. Craig Talley (Ken Talley's son) has invited the TRAACA to tour Blackwater Engines, which remanufactures a wide range of diesel engines for truck, marine, industrial, and agricultural applications.

Plan to arrive at Blackwater by 10:00 AM when we will have coffee and donuts, along with some time for socializing, before our tour of the facility. After our tour concludes at approximately 12:00 PM, we will depart Blackwater Engines and drive a short distance down Lynnhaven Parkway to *Cheeseburger in Paradise Bar & Grill* for lunch.

So join us on Saturday, March 26. This will be a cool time to get your classic vehicle out of winter storage and exercise it before the upcoming spring events! Please e-mail Ken Talley at [kenntalley@aol.com](mailto:kenntalley@aol.com) or call him at (757) 421-7534 to let him know if you are coming on the tour.



**DOWN  
THE  
ROAD**

### Other Regional/ Local Events

#### MARCH 2016

- 20 South Jersey Region AACA  
45th Annual Swap Meet  
Woodstown, NJ
- 25-26 Sugarloaf Mtn Region AACA  
46th Annual Antique Car  
Show and Swap Meet  
Westminster, MD

#### APRIL 2016

- 2 12th Annual Virginia Chevy  
Lovers Spring Dust Off  
Virginia Beach, VA
- 7-10 Southeastern Spring Meet  
Charlotte Auto Fair  
Charlotte, NC
- 15-17 Good Guys 2nd North  
Carolina Nationals  
Raleigh, NC
- 16 Williamsburg British and  
European Car Show
- 20-24 Spring Carlisle  
Carlisle, PA
- 24 Piedmont Region AACA  
42nd Annual Carfest  
Charlottesville, VA
- 29-30 ODMA Meet hosted by  
Martinsville Region AACA  
Martinsville, VA

#### MAY 2016

- 28 Twin-County Region AACA  
23rd Memories on Main St.  
Galax, VA

#### JUNE 2016

- 3-5 Carlisle Ford Nationals  
Carlisle, PA
- 4 Historic Fredericksburg  
Region AACA Annual Show  
Fredericksburg, VA
- 10-12 Elegance at Hershey  
Hershey, PA
- 17-24 Lincoln Highway Tour  
Cumberland, MD to Joliet, IL
- 17-19 Carlisle GM Nationals  
Carlisle, PA

#### JULY 2016

- 15-17 Carlisle Chrysler Nationals  
Carlisle, PA



Betty Villers & Mark McAlpine working registration at the Annual Awards Banquet



Jim Villers & Sam Kern with recognition plaque for the Military Aviation Museum





# EDITOR'S DESK

**Mark McAlpine**

mmmcalpine05@msn.com / (757) 967-0074

In the Fall 2015 issue of the *AACA Rummage Box*, AACA Secretary-Treasurer Mel Carson wrote an appeal for more members to participate in an AACA national meet or tour. I want to echo that appeal to all TRAACA members. I know many TRAACA members routinely participate in national meets or tours (and other national marque club events) every year, with a core group of Tidewater members making the pilgrimage to Hershey every October. A number of members participate in AACA driving tours or travel to AACA national meets around the country to show their vehicles, judge or work admin, hunt for treasures at the associated swap meet, or to sell parts, tools, or memorabilia at the swap meet (to help finance their antique car addiction?), with some members doing all of these things.

Yet it's surprising to find out how many members have never been to an AACA national meet outside Virginia or even outside our region. Similarly, it's surprising how many TRAACA members don't participate in the many fun activities organized by our Activities Committee or attend our monthly dinner meetings.

I know there are many reasons for this. We all lead busy lives, have work-related & personal responsibilities,

and have many competing demands on our limited free time. (For some reason, Marion expects me to use some of my limited vacation time to go home to Michigan a couple times a year to visit relatives.) Some of us have temporary or permanent health issues that limit our ability to travel or participate. Financial concerns may limit opportunities for some, especially retired members living on limited fixed incomes. (As everyone knows, attending a national meet out of town is not cheap.)

I can't fix your health woes, give you extra paid vacation time, or pay off your mortgage. However, I have some suggestions that might help you participate in more of these fun national and regional activities. First, consider carpooling with other members. This will save on gas, especially for out-of-town AACA or ODMA events. Additionally, some members have been known to share motel rooms or camping trailers. Second, consider that several times each year the TRAACA subsidizes our monthly dinner meeting. (Our Holiday Brunch in December was only \$15 each.) If a couple attends only one of these meals, they've more than recouped their annual membership dues. Third, some of our regional driving tours only incur the cost of gas & lunch (which you could skip, but you'd be missing out on some great food). Fourth, consider inviting members we haven't seen in a while as your guests. Finally, talk to a Board member if finances are limiting your participation. We may be able to figure out a way to make it happen.

**Mark Mc**

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**1040** U.S. Individual Income Tax Return

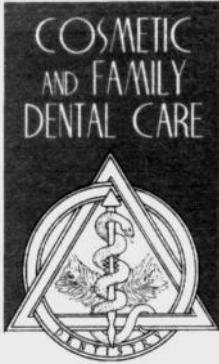
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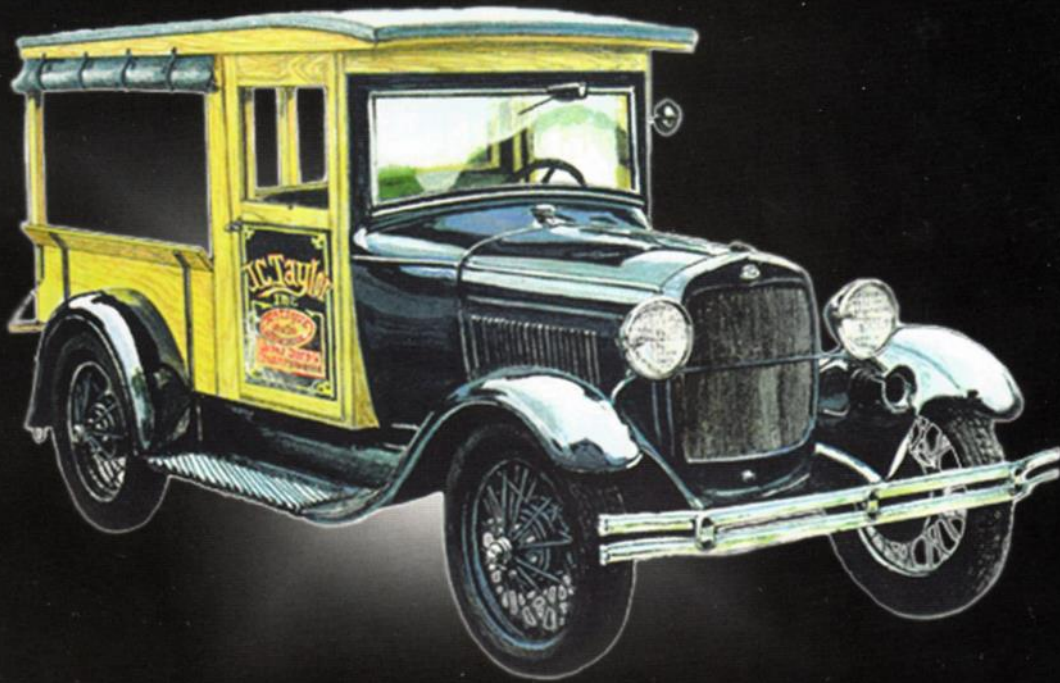


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