

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

Volume 57, Issue 10

October 2013

TIME TO RENEW YOUR TRAACA AND AACA MEMBERSHIPS!

Please fill out and send in your 2014 Membership Renewal Form provided on page 11

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Concours and Chili Cookoff!

activity.

main road. Please let Wes Neal know if to put things away. plan to participate wes.neal@cox.net.

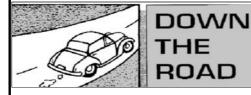
Then, on November 2nd, we'll be A map is provided on page 2.

Two big events are coming up. On gathering at the home of Dewey and October 19th, join us at Westminster Maxine Millligan for our ever-popular Canterbury by the Bay for a Concours Chili Cookoff! It's all about the FOOD D'Elegance. Lunch is included for this and SOCIALIZING! The Cookoff starts at 1 PM - and we'll need some folks to We will stage like we have in the come early Saturday to help set up tapast in the front of the facility on their bles and chairs and stay a bit afterwards

> Contact Bob Stein (posti@aol.com) if you can help with set-up or clean-up.

SPORTS CARS TO FIRETRUCKS – A huge turnout of antique, modified, and special interest vehicles was matched by the best spectator turnout ever at our 40th Annual Meet. (Story on page 6)

Check local.aaca.org/tidewater for the latest info on upcoming events!



October

- 9-12 Hershey/AACA Eastern Fall Meet (PA)
- 17 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
- 19 Car Display/Show at Westminster-Canterbury

25-26 AACA Western Fall Meet (CA)

November

- 2 TRAACA Chili Cookoff (Dewey and Maxine Milligan's)
- TRAACA Dinner Meeting/Silent Auction

December

Holiday Event

AACA NATIONAL EVENTS

OCTOBER 9-12—Hershey AACA Eastern Fall Meet (PA)

From the Driver's Seat

Wes Neal
TRAACA President



"Love the trees until their leaves fall off, then <u>encourage</u> them to try again next year." — Chad Sugg

I like to start each of my monthly messages with a quote. This is a fun focus, and sets the tone of my message. I thought this simple quote was fitting as it relates to fall, and the completion of the season. We too, with the completion of our biggest event of the year - our Annual Show – we now begin the encouragement for our grand event for next year for the display and showing of our vehicles. This year with Club Secretary Tony Scarpelli leading the charge and the massive efforts from the army of TRAACA volunteers - a grateful thanks and encouragement to all to do this again next year. At this time of the year, and with only several months remaining in my first of two years as your club president; I too will begin to "forward focus" on next year's events with a reemphasis and encouragement on C.A.R.S.

Communications: Congratulations to Bob Stein for his Mud Flap effort's so far this year, and on the 2013 Golden Quill Award from Old Car Weekly magazine. This is perhaps one of our biggest behind the scenes efforts of the club – developing, editing, publishing, and sending out a monthly club newsletter - and an area where ALL of us can participate. Awards like this just set us apart, and encourage us to stay on top going forward. One of my renewed efforts will be to work with Bob on additional club communication inputs, segments, and articles for our woulderful monthly newsletter. TRAACA with over 180 members and about 50-70 members attending the monthly dinners, our Mud Flap, Mud Speck, and http:// local.aaca.org/tidewater/ web site are our club's key communications tools. I encourage you to participate in this club effort with your stories, pictures, and items of interest.

Activities: Board Member Dick Chipchak and the club's Activity Committee lead by Tim Russell deserve may thanks for our Friday Night Social in September. But their work and efforts continue as they work out the details of the Club's Fall Tour and other Activities planned for TRAACA. TRAACA is a region known for its activities, and I encourage you to participate when you can for great fellowship, and showing of your vehicles. Coming up on Oct.19 is the Westminster-Canterbury Car Show, and Nov. 2 our annual Chill Cook-Off - a fall favorite.

Restaurants: Board Member Marion McAlpine who has been focused on our monthly dinners will finish October with our last dinner speaker of the year. November being our silent auction and December with our Christmas Party will finish this year monthly Dinners.

Then we are <u>encouraged</u> to begin again next year with dinner location(s) that can accommodate our needs, with quality we expect, and at a value to bring out the most members. I <u>encourage</u> you to give Marion your support to accomplish this effort for our Club. We are always looking for new speakers, and those within the Club are always an added highlight.

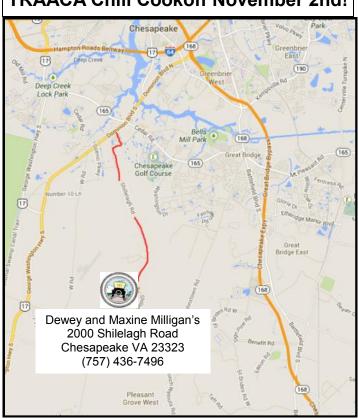
Society: As our cars give us a shared focus, it is the fellowship that is the heart of our Club that brings us together in this "special society". This month we begin our Club's Membership Renewal Campaign for 2014. See the sign-up sheet in this *Mud Flap* issue. I <u>encourage</u> you to give yourself an early Christmas Gift, and renew early. This effort led by Vice President Jim Villers, sets the efforts together for not only our membership in 2014, but required information to AACA, our published Annul Region Roster, distribution for the *Mud Flap*, Telephone Tree assignments, Club insurance, and a host of other administrative and society efforts.

One of my main focuses for next year will be to expand our society, and to look at ways of bringing in younger adults and youth that enjoy the car hobby like you do. I encourage you to help me here with your ideas and participation. Our current club members have so much to offer those that will follow us in this hobby. Attend a Board meeting when you can, each meeting date is posted in our club calendar.

Drive safe,

Wes Neal

Map of the Month TRAACA Chili Cookoff November 2nd!





Supporting the Boy Scouts

Car Display has Merit (Badge)

Andy Furhman of the Richmond Region AACA came down to the Virginia Beach Airport with Boy Scout Troop 736 for a camping trip that combined work on merit badges. And since one of the badges they were working on was Automobile Maintenance, he called on TRAACA members for a little help.

Answering that call were Al Swenson with his 1967 Mustang, Sam Kern and his 1925 Franklin, Susan and Terry Bond in Eleanor (1948 MG TC), Neil Sugermeyer in his 1928 Willys-Knight, and Bob Stein in Mildred (1937 Pontiac). The vehicles provided a wide range of years and styles, as well as some variations of mechanical layouts - aircooled, sleeve-valve, flathead, and overhead.

Each owner talked about their car and showed the Scouts basic components. Afterwards, Terry took them into a hangar to look at a Ford Model TT flight line starter truck which members Tyler Gimbert and Sam Kern are repairing for the airport It was a fun day for all involved. Thanks to the TRAACA folks for their support!



BEING PREPARED - MG STYLE - Sue Bond displays the tool kit that was required for motoring on British roads 60 years ago.

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Bay Lake Retirement Community Car Show - TRAACA members provided ac ar display September 7, 2013 - Attending were: Nancy Soscia & Wes Neal ('49 Jeepster), Dick Chipchak ('72 Cutlass), Sam Kern ('25 Franklin), Neil and Marty Sugermeyer ('65 Rambler Classic), Jane and Larry Cutright ('33 Ford 3 Window Coupe), Bill Sykes ('48 Jeepster), Marie and John Gancel ('68 Caprice), Dana Meows ('37 Imperial, '47 Town & Country Sedan, '49 Packard Station Wagon, and '57 Thunderbird – YES all 4!), Sheila and George Gurnee ('58 Old Super 88 Holiday), and BEST IN SHOW: '52 Nash American Classic owned by Joe Hatch (guest). (by Wes Neal),

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Visit us on the Internet at: local.aaca.org/tidewater!

THE MUDFLAP October 2013



Still Collecting Stuff It's all in the Cards!

By Terry Bond

We'll let the kids play with their things for a while, before we talk about toys, but in the meantime, it's time for some friends to come over for a quiet relaxing card game.

Everyone is familiar with Bicycle playing cards and the interesting illustration of someone riding an early bicycle (gee, that must hurt!) But - did you know there are Bicycle playing cards with an amazing variety of automobiles depicted on them?



An early Bicycle playing card showing an automobile. This deck was also printed in Red. Be careful as it was also reprinted in modern times as part of the "Heritage Series.

Bicycle cards were produced long before the automobile, since 1885 in fact. But, beginning in 1901 a variety of automobile related images began to appear. Most saw only limited runs, but several endured for a number of vears, and were even reprinted recently part of the company "heritage" series.

Other types of playing cards were printed with automobile images. Some were used to promote specific cars including one deck as early as the Curved Dash Oldsmobile. Others had images of pretty ladies driving cars on them. Most were printed in a

variety of colors and some were even done in full color.

Of course we all know the automobile was more common in Europe than in this country at the turn of the century, and many examples exist of automotive design playing card backs including humorous scenes as well as advertising.

If the automobile isn't your main interest, there are cards sold as souvenirs for gas stations, tourist rest stops, and dealerships. You could fill an album with them.

It's become quite popular to split decks and Another early American playing







On the left, an early 1900s card from unknown printer. On the right, an English playing card. This set was printed in several different colors.

trade cards among collectors. Well, there are at least (hopefully) 52 of them in each deck, and while I don't advocate splitting decks, if you end up with an incomplete deck (or poker hand) why not?

The Bicycle cards are very hotly collected and command high dollars for complete boxed decks in pristine condition. There is guite a variety of vehicles depicted includ-





On the left - a card from an unknown printer. On the right, another early Bicycle playing card depicting an early automo-

ing race cars, a hansom cab, an early one looking so much like an early Locomobile steamer it's actually referred to as "The Locomobile card" and some even have parts of cars like spoke wheels and early engines.

Whether you collect gas station memorabilia, automobile images, or specific vehicle advertising, playing cards make an interesting collection. Now just to avoid confusion here - you know one of my "Rules of Collecting" is that "Three is a Collection!" Don't think just because you've got one deck with 52 cards, you've got a big collection. I'm still counting that as ONE. You're just getting started!

Enjoy the pictures and enjoy your collection (and your card game!)

Terry Bond

THE MUDFLAP October 2013



Repairing the MAM's 1919 Hucks Starter

Story by Sam Kern. (Photos by Sam Kern and Bob Stein)

About three weeks before our 40th Anniversary Meet, to be held at the Military Aviation Museum (MAM), the museum's director, David Hunt, asked if Tidewater could repair its 1919 Model TT Hucks Starter in time for the show. The restored vehicle had neither been started nor driven in over two years.

When museum staff discovered the cylinder head to be leaking badly, Mr. Hunt turned to Tidewater for help getting it running again, in time to be prominently displayed along with the Museum's other cars and some planes on meet-day. Several Tidewater volunteers jumped-in and took-on the task.

The Hucks Starter was conceived by Mr. B.C. Hucks, chief test pilot for the Aircraft Manufacturing Company which later became the DeHaviland Aircraft Company of England. The first one was built on a 1916 Model T truck chassis and its purpose was to eliminate the need for a person to pull on a propeller to start a plane's engine.

For some years Hucks Starters were used in both military and civilian applications. The history and lineage of the Museum's 1919 is very sketchy, other than, when acquired about 3 or so years ago, its condition was very seriously degraded.

The Museum thoroughly restored it to its present cosmetic and operational condition and keeps it on display in the WWI Hangar where it draws lots of interest. - the most common question being "What is this thing?"

The job proved to be a lot more extensive than just replacing the head gasket: we had to remove and replace a threaded insert in one of the cylinder head bolt holes.

Our repair team consisted of Tyler Gimbert and Sam Kern, assisted by Terry Bond (donated parts and provided technical advice), Mickey McChesney (abrasive blasting) and Ken Talley, who completed assembling the cooling system on the day before our meet. he engine fired right -up when Tyler cranked the engine's starter on meet-day.

During the repair process-the Saturday before our meet-Terry briefed members of a Richmond-area Boy Scout troop of the history of the vehicle and what we were doing to bring it back to operational condition. The Boy Scouts were camped at the WWI Hangar and were studying for their Automobile Merit Badge.

At about 1:00 p.m., and following judging on meetday, Tyler took us and some museum staff members on a tour of the AACA show field on the Hucks Starter Heads turned, faces smiled and many watched in amazement and wonderment. The moment epitomized the joy, satisfaction of accomplishment, and sheer fun that are integral parts of our hobby.



T-TIME - Tyler Gimbert, youngest full member of the Tidewater Region, also happens to be one of the most qualified Model T Ford mechanics in the Region!

October 2013 THE MUDFLAP

TRAACA 40th Annual Meet is Best Ever!

(Photos by Sue Bond, Bob Stein, and Donald Ladd)

After a swapped date two years ago and a near rainout last year, we finally rebounded with the biggest and best Wings and Wheels show ever! More than 300 antique, modified, and special interest vehicles showed up for an amazing event that also boasted the most flea market vendors and car corral entries since we started having meets.



Four vehicles that were part of our 1973 Annual Meet that kicked off our 40-year run were on display around the airport flagpole: Frank Lagana's 1950 Chevrolet, Merritt Horne's 1924 Model T Ford (driven by new owner Tyler Gimbert), Joe Burroughs' 1938 Buick, and a 1931 Chevrolet formerly owned by Tommy Moody and now owned by Bob and Dot Parrish.



Although they didn't make the show, Jeff Locke's 1935 Lincoln (formerly owned by Basie White) and John Blair's 1965 Morgan are also 40-year club members. We also had a display of antique tractors, plus antique and special interest vehicles shown by a number of sponsors.

The oldest car on the field was Terry Bond's 1914



Model T Ford, and display vehicles spanned a full century all the way up to a 2014 Jeep! There was something for every automotive taste, from classics like Bob Woolfitt's 1934 Packard V-12 to a 'recreated' Bugatti Royale, a larger collection of sports cars than you might find at a national show, custom trucks, military vehicles, and most anything else you can imagine. And out of all that, the Best in Show went to Debbie Nolan of the Richmond Region AACA for her humble, but magnificently restored 1969 Vokswagen Beetle!



Meet Chairman Tony Scarpelli pulled off a great event with the able assistance of many TRAACA and other volunteers, including Registrars Richard and Sandy Hall and John and Marie Gancel, Chief Judge Terry and Susan Bond, and Awards Coordinator Dick Chipchak, plus Ken Talley, Sam Kern, Neil Sugermeyer, Angie Ciccone, Mark and Marion McAlpine, Mickey and Toni McChesney, Laura Jordan, Dot Parrish, Skip Patnode, Kit Lawrence, Jim Villers, Reed Matson, and many, many others.



October 2013 THE MUDFLAP



More 40th Anniversary Meet Photos (Photos by Sue Bond, Bob Stein, and Donald Ladd)



The Walter P. Chrysler Museum

By Mark McAlpine

Have you ever wanted to visit the Walter P. Chrysler Museum at the Chrysler headquarters complex in Auburn Hills, Michigan, to explore the history of Chrysler, Dodge, and Jeep, and the earlier but now extinct marquees of American Motors, DeSoto, Hudson, Nash, Plymouth, Rambler, and Willys-Overland? Well, you're too late—after losing money in 2010 and 2011 (and presumably 2012), the non-profit museum closed its doors to the public on 31 December 2012. (Actually, the last day it was open to the public was 30 December—we found out the hard way when we tried to visit the Museum again on New Year's Eve.)



(Photo courtesy of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum.)

The museum first opened to the public on 5 October 1999 and featured 65-70 notable original, restored custom cars concept vehicles on display at any given time in a 55,000square foot, 3-level showcase facility highlighted by a revolving, 2-storey pedestal holding five cars in the museum's atrium. Vehicles on display at the end included a 1902 Ramble Runabout Roadster, 1909 Hudson Model 20 Roadster, 1917 Willys-Knight 88-8 Touring,

Chrysler Airflow Sedan, 1953 Hudson Hornet Coupe, 1955 Chrysler 300 Sport Coupe, 1964 Dodge "Color Me Gone" Drag Race Car, 1968 AMC AMX, and a special Dodge Viper exhibit.

Previous cars on exhibit included a 1948 Chrysler Town and Country, 1953 custom Ghia Chrysler Thomas Special, Chrysler Thunderbolt and Newport show cars, and 1963 Chrysler Turbine Car (one of which Chrysler sold to Jay Leno about ten years ago), and a 2003 Dodge Tomahawk concept motorcycle powered by a Viper V-10 engine. (Nine reproductions of this motorcycle were sold through Nieman-Marcus department store for \$555,000 each, including one to—you guessed it—Jay Leno. They were not street legal.) Special exhibits included a 30-cylinder World War II tank engine, introduction and evolution of the famous Hemi engine, and other engineering and design highlights.

With Chrysler facing bankruptcy, Cerebus Capital Management—the private equity company that purchased 80% of Chrysler from DaimlerChrysler in 2007 (and voluntarily



(Photo courtesy of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum.)

turned the automobile company over to the US Government on 30 March 2009 as a condition of the Federal bailout of Chrysler) —turned the museum's assets over to the non-profit Walter P. Chrysler Museum Foundation in early 2008. (Chrysler retained ownership of the building.)

With the closing of the museum, the 67 vehicles currently on display were purchased by the Chrysler Group LLC, with the proceeds of the sale and remaining Museum Foundation funds transferred to the Chrysler Foundation. News reports state the Museum facility will no longer be open to the public, but will host some private Chrysler events. Chrysler also said it "will continue to share its automobile heritage housed at the Museum with the public at special events."

A note for all Chrysler owners: the closing of the museum did not impact the services provided by the Chrysler Historical Services, which maintains records dating back to 1915. You can still order build cards, owner's manuals (for model years 1926-2000), photographs, photocopies of sales literature, date books, specifications, and other miscellaneous materials by contacting the CHS by e-mail, fax, or mail.



(Photo courtesy of the Walter P. Chrysler Museum.)

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

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September 15, 2013

Classics on the Green Imported Car Show

Tidewater Region had a big showing at the annual Classics on the Green import auto show, held at the New Kent Winery. Participants included Alan and Laurel Swenson (1974 MG Midget), Dean and Claudia Giacopassi (1958 Lotus Seven), Bill Thumel (1967 Lola T-70), Bob and Linda Pellerin (1974 Jensen-Healey), Boyd Swartz (1964 Volvo 122S), Bob Stein (1949 MG TC), Sue Bond (1948 MG TC), Terry Bond (1974

MGB-GT), Jim and Betty Villers (1967 Mercedes 230 SLR), Skip Patnode (1967 Alfa Romeo Spyder), and Robert and Gale Hyatt (1970 Mercedes 280 SLR).

Best of Class trophies went to the Swensons, the Giacopassis, Bob Stein, and the Nashes. Sue Bond's 'Eleanor' topped them all by being selected as Best of Britain out of nearly 100 other UK vehicles!



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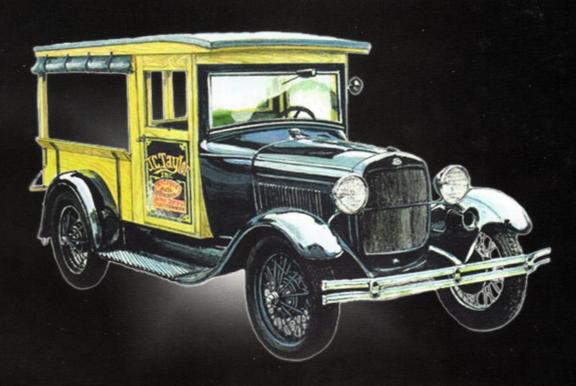
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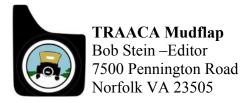


Please complete this form and mail it with your check for \$25 to:

TRAACA Treasurer – Kit Lawrence, 3101 Yeates Lane, Virginia Beach VA 23452

Dues cover both Member and Spouse. Remember that you must be a 2014 AACA National Member to belong to the Region. Your renewal must be received by Jan. 15, 2014 to be included in the 2014 Roster. Please fill out completely:

Name:	Spouse:		
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Home Phone #:	Cell Phone:		
His work phone:	His email:		(Primary)
Her work phone:	Her email:		(Primary)
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Vehicle (change) 2: () Year/Make	e/Model:		
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