

# TIDEWATER Antique Automobile Club of America REGION



VOLUME 56 NO. 2 MARCH 2012

*A Master Editor Award Winning Publication  
A Golden Quill Award Winning Publication*



**Jim & Donna Elliott's  
1980 Pontiac Trans Am Pace Car  
Winner of the AACA National 2012  
James Melton Memorial Cup**



*A Master Editor &  
Golden Quill Award  
Winning Publication*

# TIDEWATER REGION AACA



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# Announcements

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

**Alfonso & Patrizia Ludivico**  
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 They are posted here on NATO assignment  
 for the next few years.

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**TRAACA SWAP MEET**

**March 3rd**

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**SHAMROCK SUPPER**

**March 18th - Cypress Point Country Club**  
**(Monthly Meeting)**

### *President Bob's March Message*

And here I thought winter was a SLOW period for the old car hobby! Lots of activities and events have already popped up on the calendar, including two well-attended runs and the AACA National Meeting – and our Annual Swap Meet is days away. The big news for this month is a major change for our March dinner meeting. We will be gathering at the Cypress Point Country Club on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 2:30 PM for a St. Patrick's Day party complete with live Celtic band. Look for details elsewhere in the Mud Flap.

This is also the first issue of the Mud Flap to focus on electronic distribution. We hope that you will find receiving your newsletter via the Internet will prove to be a plus on all counts – you get full color throughout, access from any Internet-capable device, and instant delivery.

I want to take a moment to thank Margie Ives for volunteering as the new Call Tree Chairperson. She will be taking over for Marie Gancel, who has done an amazing job for many years but is ready to pass the torch.

Finally, we're shaking things up two months in a row – the April Dinner Meeting will be the FOURTH Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at Aberdeen Barn Steak House. This change is needed to accommodate the Charlotte Auto Fair and Regional Meet, which many of us will be attending.

See you all on the 18<sup>th</sup>!



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*Terrific  
Touring  
Tidewater*



# 1980 TRANS AM PACE CAR

By Jim Elliott (Photos by Jim Elliott)

I attended the 1980 Indianapolis 500 watching from the roof of my 1976 Chevy Van in Turn 3 of the infield. The pre-race parade featured 100 gleaming white Trans Am pace car replicas. I remember thinking that it sure would be neat to eventually own one of those Trans Ams.

Eventually came a year and a half later when I happened upon one at Ward Pontiac in Newport News. The Trans Am wasn't in great shape having been driven over 50,000 miles and now surrendered on repossession. To me, it didn't matter as it was my chance to acquire a pace car. After some creative financing, the Trans Am was mine.

After driving it a few years, the luster had worn off and I began to seriously consider selling it to acquire the 1978 Corvette Pace Car. In 1999, Hurricane Floyd made my decision for me as the Trans Am was submerged in the hurricane flooding and declared a total loss. I eventually sold it to another pace car admirer in Indianapolis.

I never quite got the Trans Am totally out of my mind and regretted its loss. While browsing the internet, I located another 1980 pace car at a dealership in New York. I have found that the internet has a goal of keeping my savings account depleted. After exchanging pictures and phone calls, the dealer and I agreed on a price and my new 1980 Trans Am pace car was on its way. This new pace car was in much better shape than the first. It even had the power antenna option which the first lacked. I quickly began to make the car "perfect" and knew one day it could be an acceptable "Show car".

Its debut was the AACA National meet in Roanoke in 2005. By winning its First Junior Award, it became the first car built in the 1980's to receive an AACA award. I've shown it many times since achieving its Senior in Hershey, a First Grand National in Dover; a Senior Grand National in Kalamazoo, and a repeat Senior Grand National in Topeka.



When the Bristol meet was announced, I had planned on taking a different car until I learned that track laps would be offered. The choice to take the Trans Am became easy. Ten laps at 70 miles per hour at 39 degree banking was quite a thrill.

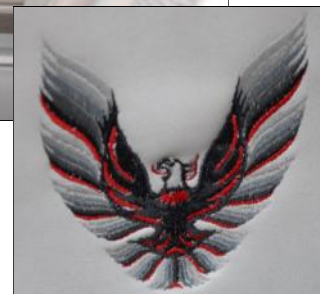
The Trans Am features the only American made production turbocharged V-8 engine. The engine produces 210 horsepower from a 301 cubic inch engine, and all of the 5,600 Pace cars were equipped with automatic transmission, four wheel disc brakes and aluminum air flow wheels.



*The Trans Am features a turbo light turbo boost indicator set in the shaker-style hood.*



*The interior has embroidered Trans Am logos on the door panels and rear seat.*





Top speed is 116 MPH with acceleration of zero to 60 in 8.2 seconds. The only modification made to the Trans Am that paced the Indy 500 was the removal of the air conditioning system. This was the only Pontiac chosen to pace the Indy 500 and Daytona 500 in the same year and the only pace car ever featured on the cover of the Indy 500 Program (If you look closely, you will see that my copy is autographed by the 1980 winner, Johnny Rutherford).



1980 Indy 500 Program signed by Johnny Rutherford

I was surprised to receive a National Award nomination for the Trans Am and was humbled to be named the winner. For obvious reasons, the Bristol show will always be my favorite. While I was judging, my wife Donna and daughter Kristin sat with the Trans Am at Bristol. I wonder if the judges would have noticed it if I had attended the show alone.



AACA Past President Joe Gagliano presents the James Melton Memorial Cup to Jim Elliott.

## From Under My Hat

Photo by Bob Stein



AACA Past President presents the Master Editor Award to Marty and Neil Sugermeyer.

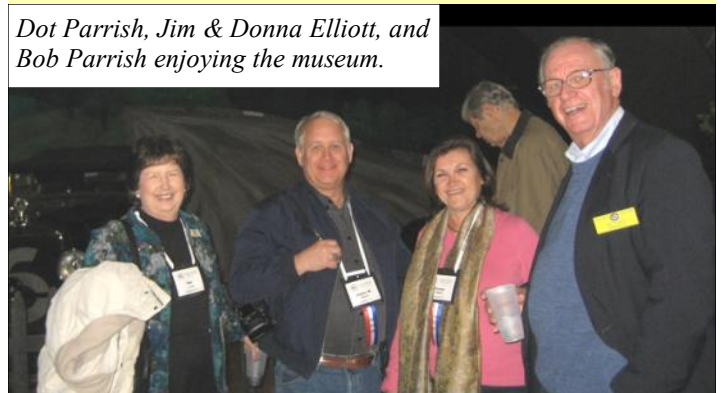
## Winning An Award At Philly

By Marty Sugermeyer, Coeditor of the Mud Flap

While winning an award at Philly has always been special, this year was extra special. So many TRAACA folks were on hand to honor our retiring fifteen year AACA board member and 2010 AACA President Terry Bond (the new limit is 12 years) and to celebrate the election of Bob Parrish to the board. In addition, one of our distant members (Blue Ridge, VA), Tom Cox, has been selected to be Executive VP for 2012. That means that if all goes well, he will be President of AACA in 2013. It was great to see Tom and Tammy at Philly.

On top of that, Jim and Donna Elliot won the very prestigious James Melton Memorial Cup for their 1980 Trans Am pace car. The JMMC is awarded to an outstanding senior car in a Spring Meet. The award was established in memory of James Melton, an AACA Past President and famous international singer. The cup itself is the racing trophy won by the famous Wilton Bullet in 1905, and was a prized possession of James Melton. How appropriate that the award went to Jim's beautifully restored Trans Am Pace Car.

Dot Parrish, Jim & Donna Elliott, and Bob Parrish enjoying the museum.



We rode up with Bob Stein and Dan Ciccone and arrived in time to jump on a bus to attend a reception at the Simeone Foundation Museum, one of the finest racing and sports car collections in the world. We enjoyed the beautiful cars on display while enjoying wine or sodas and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Our anglophiles were especially happy to see a special display of British cars.



Photo by Bob Stein

*Richard Hall with new TRAACA members Bob and Pam Bond who live in Langhorne, PA.*

On Friday, most of the TRAACA ladies and a couple of the guys attended the First Ladies Breakfast. One year when we went to Philly before Neil was TRAACA President I thought the breakfast was for the wives of region club presidents and didn't attend. Somebody straightened me out that year and I haven't missed since. You get to enjoy a wonderful breakfast with lots of lovely gals and the outgoing AACA President's wife provides a special program. The themes have covered almost everything you can think of. Particularly memorable (terrifying) for me were a few years when the president's wife asked me to act as photographer. This year Mary Gagliano did a great program on safety. As a pediatric nurse, she has a lot of experience in this area.

*TRAACA group at the First Ladies Breakfast*



*We were lucky to have former First Lady Sue Bond and the wife of our new AACA board member Dot Parrish at our table.*



*Terry Bond was asked to step in and do the seminar on Art and the Automobile usually done by Dave Bousch. Terry and Sue put together a great seminar.*

Bob Stein did a seminar this year on eBay to Grand National, a step by step progress of getting his yellow 1949 MG TC (Wildflower) ready and showing it through a Grand National First. Jeff and Pat Locke did two seminars, one on antique automobile appraisal and one on Classic Cars.

Add to that the fun and inspiring seminar, Women – The Driving Force, done by Linda Pellerin, Sue Bond, and Sandy Hall with assistance by Dot Parrish, Toni McChesney, Susan Bond, Pam Bond, and others. The seminar was announced throughout the hotel by a floating shark balloon that was heralded by Richard Hall and Bob Pellerin and steered by Terry Bond. Fortunately they gave the gals a ballroom for the seminar that was attended by over 100 people.



*Left: The shark reaches the Liberty Ballroom guided by Richard Hall and powered by Terry Bond.*

*Below: Sue Bond, Linda Pellerin, Sandy Hall, Dot Parrish, and Toni McChesney headed for the ballroom*





On Friday evening, part of the TRAACA crowd went out for dinner at a tavern style restaurant and the rest attended the AACA Regions & Chapters Presidents' Dinner. Bob Stein represented our region well in presenting a contribution to the museum and taking a turn at the microphone to promote our Wings and Wheels show. Later we all met back up at the AACA Library Auction. Several of our members brought items to be auctioned, and the shark wound up as an attention getter and an auction item. Our group usually goes home with a number of great finds from that event.



Photos by Bob Stein

*Left: Dan Ciccone and Bob Pellerin looking at the auto art at the Library Auction*

*Right: Terry Bond looks tempted by the collection of tiny cars at the auction.*



Saturday starts off with several levels of judging seminars. They were followed by more seminars until mid afternoon when the AACA Annual meeting was held. That's when Terry officially retired and presented Sue with a special bouquet to show how much he appreciated her being his chief navigator for the past 15 years.



*Left: Terry surprised Sue with some beautiful roses at the annual meeting.*

*Below: The "Strawberry Patch" was on hand for the celebration.*



*Bob Parrish was officially installed as a board member by 2012 AACA President Herb Oakes.*

After the annual meeting there is just enough time to get ready for the awards banquet. After dinner, just a couple of ceremonies precede the Master Editor Awards. Neil and I received our 14<sup>th</sup> this year. Even though Neil was not listed as an editor for the ten years that Ivie Lister and I did the Mud Flap together, he was really the editor-in-chief. He would edit a printout before I went to Ivie's house and look it over again before it went to the printer. He corrected all our grammar, punctuation, and - more importantly - errors in year, make, and model of vehicles plus other automotive related corrections.



*2011 AACA President Joe Gagliano presented TRAACA President Bob Stein with his 12th Master Webmaster Award.*

All that was something we knew was coming. What we didn't know about is what national award would be given to Jim and Donna Elliott. Fortunately we didn't have long to wait. Of the 58 national awards presented, the JMMC is 7<sup>th</sup>. It was an amazing evening.



*Tom and Tammy Cox, Sue and Terry Bond, Herb and Fran Oakes and Neil and Marty Sugermeyer dressed up and ready for the Awards Banquet*

The next morning we had a quick breakfast at the hotel before heading for home with a lunch stop at the home of the Rendimonte's, long time friends from the H.H. Franklin Club. The large and lively group from Tidewater, the special seminars and awards, and particularly the lack of snow (tiny dusting on Saturday night) made the 2012 Philly a great one.



### January 10, 2012 – TRAACA Board Meeting

Note: These minutes have not been approved by the TRAACA Board and are subject to change.

The board meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm at Priority Chevrolet. Members present were Bob Stein, President; Wes Neal, Vice-President; Jim Villers, Treasurer; Scott Davies, Secretary; Linda Pelerin, Past President; Board members Tony Scarpelli, Barbara Talley and Toni McChesney. Also present were Bill Wilcox, Bob and Dot Parrish, Sam Kern, Frank Lagana, Dick Chipchak, Marty and Neil Sugermeyer, and Skip Patnode.

Jim Villers gave the Treasurer's report and it was submitted for audit. The December minutes were approved as amended. Toni McChesney gave the "Sunshine" report. New members John and Judy Maragon were announced but not in attendance.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities:

- January 14, Annual Awards and Installation banquet. Wes Neal is handling the Awards/Trophies.

Activities Committee will be meeting after the Board Meeting. A Draft Activities Calendar was presented to the Board. Final Calendar is expected to be ready for distribution at the Awards Banquet.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mud Flap distribution – Discussions were held with Marty and Neil Sugermeyer on the intended electronic distribution of the the Mud Flap to ensure a smooth transition and to ensure that all members receive the Mud Flap in the format desired.

- New Dinner Meeting location – A change of location is being considered to keep the cost reasonable, to provide a more suitable space for presentations and increase the variety of menu items. The Cypress Point Country Club is being considered, but would require a change of date as the traditional 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday is not available.

URGENT need for a new Call Tree Chairperson.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- The Flea Market/Swap Meet is scheduled for March 3, 2012.
    - o TRACCA would prefer to conduct the concession – looking for volunteers.
    - o Bob Stein volunteered to work the layout plan.
- A Parking Coordinator is needed as well as parking volunteers. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott D. Davies, Secretary



### Copacabana Fund Raiser Display

By Bob Stein

On January 28, 2012, Ken and Barbara Talley's 1955 Buick and Bob Stein's 1951 Studebaker made an appearance in 'Old Havana' - also known as the Chesapeake Conference Center. The cars were part of the decor for Chesapeake Regional Health Foundation's black-tie fund-raising event for Chesapeake General Hospital.



Ken Talley's 1955 Buick greeted the guests.



Bob Stein's 1951 Studebaker served as part of the decorations.

## IN MEMORY OF



*Our thoughts and prayers are with Bonita and Don Whitlow at the loss of Bonita's mother Roberta Betterton. Her memory will be cherished by her family and friends.*



## Keystone Tractor Works Run

By Bob Stein (Photo by Neil Sugermeyer)

Our first car-related event (on Jan. 28th) for the year provided a lot of surprises, all good ones. The first came in the form of weather - nobody expected 60 degrees and sunny at the end of January! At least three of the participants took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather by dropping tops on their convertibles. (Literally for Jim Villers - he left his Mercedes' hard top at his son's house on the way!). The good weather also encouraged strong participation for a January event - 23 people and 13 cars, and not a single example of modern iron to be seen! We gathered at Greenbrier Mall and actually rolled out right on time (another surprise), following I-64 to US 460. We made a pit stop at the Hardee's in Waverly, and then continued on to our lunch stop - the Sagebrush Steak House and Saloon in Petersburg. Veteran Jeff Locke took the lead after the provided directions turned out to be confusing, getting MOST of the party to the restaurant in short order. A few folks got turned about on the way, but everyone ended up at Sagebrush eventually.

After an excellent lunch, we made a very short and simple 1-mile journey to the [Keystone Tractor Works](#) museum, where we got yet another pleasant surprise. Both museum owner Keith Jones and curator Alan 'Bones' Stone were on hand to greet the group and provide personal tours of the collections.

Note the plural - collections. In addition to an amazing display of more than 100 antique tractors that was worth the drive on its own, there was another huge room full of antique fire engines, tractor trailer rigs, and other commercial vehicles, as well as a small display of antique vehicles just off the main lobby. There was something for just about every taste: an Indian Motorcycle Company tractor, a 1923 Model T Ford fire truck, an AACA Grand National MG TD, working juke boxes, steam tractors, gas pumps, and more.



1930's Marmon Herrington tractor

Afterwards, some folks headed straight home while others took advantage of a good antique shop just outside of Petersburg. Tour participants included Kenny and Charlene Roach in their 1937 Pontiac, Ken and Barbara Tally in their 1940 Buick, Bob Stein in his 1948 MG TC, Bruce Sedel in his 1949 Packard, Jere Avenson and guest Leon Lane in the Avenson's 1954 Packard, Rad and Marge Tillett in their 1958 Oldsmobile, Christian Aicher and guest Claus Herz in Christian's 1958 Cadillac,

Jeff Locke in his 1963 Corvair, Neil Sugermeyer borrowing wife Marty's 1965 Rambler, Jim Villers and Sam Kern in Jim's 1967 Mercedes 230SL, Skip Patnode in his 1967 Alfa Romeo, Viator Trudeau in his 1968 Eldorado, Terry and Susan Bond in their 1974 MGB-GT, and Tony and Leslie Scarpelli in their 1983 Mercedes 230 SL. Lucy Sedel joined the group for lunch.

## FEBRUARY DINNER MEETING

By Marty Sugermeyer

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, we met at Aberdeen Barn. The Philly Spirit was in full force. Most of the folks who went to Philly for the 76<sup>th</sup> AACA National Meeting wore the TRAACA red sweat shirts that they wore on Saturday in Philly to show support for our newly elected AACA Board member Bob Parrish and to honor our outgoing board member and former AACA President Terry Bond. At Philly, we were known as the "strawberry patch".

Our guest speaker took an unexpected and very thought provoking modern tact. Larry Printz, Automotive Editor of the Virginian Pilot, put us into the trends in modern cars. Fascinating when you consider that in just twenty-five years these cars will show up on the "show fields".

Larry also brought a donation for the 50/50 raffle. A copy of "**Built for Adventure: The Classic Automobiles of Clive Cussler and Dirk Pitt**" a new book that covers their classic car collection, a copy of the next issue of Distinction magazine, which arrives Sunday in some issues of The Virginian-Pilot, and The first two issues of The Times of Tidewater, our new newspaper that covers old news and ads from our archives

Right: Guest speaker Larry Prinz with one of the prizes.

Below: Neil and Marty Sugermeyer present Tom Weddeking the Mud Flap Award.



## TRAACA RUN TO YORKTOWN AND HAYES, VA

February 25th, another amazing 'winter' day, inspired a huge turnout for our run to the Marketplace Antique Mall in Gloucester, VA. Close to 50 members and guests participated, with an excellent mix of antique vehicles that ranged from a Model A Ford all the way up to a 'just barely' antique Corvette. Those attending included Dick Chipchak, Dan Ciccone, Keith Colona (1956 Lincoln Mark II), Dave and Faye Curl (1931 Model A), John and Lynne Heimerl plus 2 guests (1987 Corvette), Don and Julie Hobbs plus 1 guest, Alfonso and Patrizia Ludovici (1979 Lincoln Town Car), Dana Meadows and guest (1937 Imperial), Mickey and Toni McChesney (1968 Oldsmobile), Dewey and Maxine Milligan and guests Wade and Peggy Ewell, Bob and Dot Parrish (1978 Thunderbird), Jack and Linda Pavlidis (1967 Cougar XR7), Bob and Linda Pellerin, Ken and Charlene Roach (1937 Pontiac), Bob and Sylvia Roughton (1948 Pontiac), Tony Scarpelli and Leslie McGinn plus 1 guest (1956 Chrysler), Bruce and Lucy Sedel (1953 Packard P/U), Bob Stein (1951 Studebaker), Neil and Marty Sugermeyer (1965 Rambler), Boyd and Debbie Swartz (1980 Volvo), James and Dawn Tait (1981 DeLorean), Bill Wilcox/ and guest Ed Cartledge (1941 Lincoln Continental), and James and Becky Woodall (1966 Mercury Cyclone).

The group met at the K-Mart on Tidewater Drive and rolled out at the planned 10:30 am. We followed I-64 for a smooth and steady roll all the way to Fort Eustis, where we took RT 105 to RT 17 and the first stop of the day - Riverwalk Restaurant in Yorktown. More than a half-dozen folks met us at Riverwalk, most from that side of the Bridge-Tunnel. Despite the large (and unruly) crowd, Riverwalk was ready for us thanks to a call ahead, and some of the participants elected to have lunch at a buffet further down 17.



*They fed us well at the Riverwalk Restaurant*

The groups met up at Marketplace Antiques in Hayes, VA, just outside of Gloucester Point. This antique mall has more than 50 dealers, and quite a number of participants ended up making purchases. Although pretty windy, the weather cooperated with sunny skies and temperatures in the 50s - pretty nice for the end of February!



*Boyd Swartz and Bob Stein met David Curl in his Model A.*



*Dan Ciccone, Neil Sugermeyer, and Julie Hobbs ready to pay for the treasures they found at Marketplace Antiques*

*Barbara Talley was happy to find a copy of Death by Chocolate*

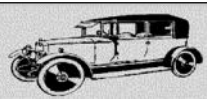
*Bob Roughton, Neil Sugermeyer, Ken Roach, & Mickey McChesney were ready to roll for home.*



*Drivers meeting in progress*







## My First Chevy

By Paul Fuqua

After high school graduation in 1963, I chafed at the restrictions my Dad placed on my use of the family's second car, a '59 Pontiac Catalina convertible, especially since I had stuffed it into a telephone pole not far from our house on 34<sup>th</sup> Street in Washington, D.C.

I still had a small stock portfolio which he had helped me build and I was entering Georgetown University as a freshman in the Fall. Alas, I had stocks, a scholarship, football practice on the horizon but no car. So, being a bright young man, I sold all but a few of the stocks and went on a hunt for my own very first car. There was no internet, only the classifieds, and I knew that I couldn't go to the Delaware and Maryland beaches that summer before entering college in anything other than a convertible, a Chevy convertible.

On a drizzly Tuesday afternoon, after weeks of looking at a series of uninspiring Bel Airs, most of which were 52's, 3's and 4's I spotted an ad for a '56, with a phone number not far from our home. With pockets bulging with \$400 in cash, I made my way to see the '56. It was beautiful; all white with black top, black and white interior plus, to make my Mom and Dad feel better, a padded dash. The power pack 265 and Powerglide trans called out to be replaced, but that would come later. Nervously I took the keys from the older gentleman selling it. As he took my money, I thought of all the things I had to do to get it ready for its maiden trip - from the nation's capitol to Leavenworth, Kansas, my mother's hometown. She and my grandmother were flying out Friday to prepare my grandmother's house in Leavenworth for its sale. They needed me to be their muscle and their transportation and they wanted me there when they arrived.

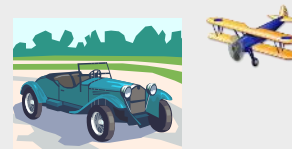


Paul's dream car, a 1956 Chevy convertible

**Thanks Paul.**

**Who will be next to write about their first car?**

An oil and filter change, four new tires plus the obligatory wheel cover removal and disposal, brake and front-end inspection, a set of exhaust dumps welded into the head pipes later, I set off for Kansas at o'dark thirty Thursday morning. I was stopped once in Indiana for making too much noise as I gassed it hard coming out of a gas station. The trooper told me brusquely that open pipes are for the race track, not the highway, and he'd watch while I replaced the caps. Once out of Indiana, those caps were once again back in the trunk and I was in 7<sup>th</sup> heaven. Took me twenty-three hours of reveling in the sound of open pipes to roll into the town where my mother had grown up, and 24 hours of sleep to recover. That car eventually ended up an NHRA G/Stock, 3 speed, 2-4 barrel blueprinted .030 over engine. I sold it to a fellow student at the university to buy a '57 convertible, but that's another whole story.



## TRAACA ANNUAL MEET ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON NEEDED!!!!

We are in search of someone to take on the Assistant Chairperson position for our 2012 Annual Meet at the Virginia Beach Airport. The assistant provides critical support to the Chairperson, and has traditionally become Chairperson for the following year's meet. While this is not a trifling position, we have a tremendous support group already in place plus 4 years' experience. The show is our single biggest event and certainly our biggest source of income for the year. Please contact Bob Stein at [posti@aol.com](mailto:posti@aol.com) for more information.



By Mickey McChesney

I have had a few requests for the Red " Tidewater Spirit " sweatshirts. If you desire one of these please get with me to place an order.

I will have the Club Store items at the Flea Market, stock denim, golf and sweatshirts will be available in limited sizes; also hats and various items will be for sale.





## GREAT NEWS about vintage YOM license plates

By Eugene Adams

Hello, members of TRAACA,

I spent a couple of hours at DMV (you know the drill) processing the title transfer and registering of my recently purchased 1925 Model T Depot Hack. I had been lucky to find a nice set of 'YOM' (year of manufacture) license plates on eBay. When the clerk at DMV searched the DMV system about the plates, it was revealed that they were still owned by someone (she said in Charlottesville). While this could be possible, it is not probable. In no way do I believe that the eBay seller knew this.

### NOTE FROM BOB STEIN

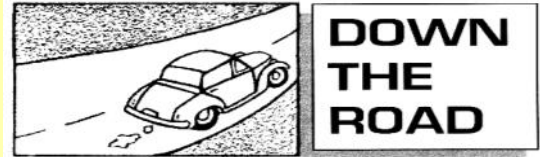
*There are a couple of issues here - it is most likely that the plates were used in recent years for the same purpose as Mr. Adams had - registration of an antique vehicle. While DMV does not HAVE records going back before the 1970s, they do maintain recent records and antique plates are permanent. The likely scenario is that the person who used them before sold the car, kept the plates, and never told DMV he had sold the car. Since there are no taxes involved, DMV might never check. I had an antique plate from a car I had owned ten years prior get a parking ticket in Alexandria, VA. I had even notified DMV of the sale, but I was still the last registered owner on file so I was sent the ticket. Easy to get out of, but that's how things work.*

*There is nothing for Legislature to do here - it's the responsibility of the person using the Antique Plate to notify DMV when they are no longer using them. I had Eleanor (the blue TC's) 1948 plate transferred with a letter from the owner.*

I just got a call (and in fact a second backup call) from DMV. They said that they had received the letter that I had sent to our Virginia Beach State Senator Wagner. The lady said there was no reason why I couldn't put the YOM plates on my 1925 Depot Hack and that DMV was sending me a note about it and will send me a registration card to cover it.

I didn't mean to be a squeaky wheel, but it never hurts to speak up. Thanks to those who contacted me with their discussions and thoughts and experiences. If you have had the problem, print this email and head out to your DMV again. Ask them to be sure to issue you a registration card. You may have to ask for the supervisor. I don't know where the call came from (local or Richmond). If you anticipate trying again, for ammunition, I will reveal the persons name if you will email me, Gene Adams in Virginia Beach (see roster)

PS. There may be legitimate reasons why you can't use a plate. You can't win them all!



## LOCAL

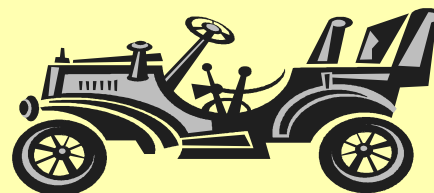
- Mar. 3 ..... TRAACA Swap Meet (Hickory)
- Mar.13.....TRAACA Board Meeting
- Mar.18 .....TRAACA SHAMROCK SUPPER, at Cypress Point Country Club
- Apr.10.....TRAACA Board Meeting
- Apr. 26..... TRAACA Dinner Meeting (shifted a week due to Charlotte Meet) - Speaker: Bill Inge— Auto Dealerships of Old Norfolk
- Apr. 27-29 .... TRAACA Spring Tour (Annapolis)
- May 8.....TRAACA Board Meeting
- May 12 ..... TRAACA Square Car Tour
- June 3 ..... TRAACA Car Display (Retirement home)
- June 7 ..... TRAACA OpSail Tall Ships Excursion
- June 23..... TRAACA Picnic in the Park - Chesapeake
- July 14.....Ice Cream Social at the Talley's
- Aug.4.....TRAACA Run to Chrysler Museum and Doumar's
- Sept.28-29.....TRAACA Social and Annual Meet

## REGIONAL

- May 3-5 .....ODMA Meet (Roanoke, VA)
- May 13-20 .....CCCA Meet (Williamsburg, VA)
- June 16 ..... Richmond Region AACA Show
- Sept.1.....HVPR Meet, Newport News, VA

## NATIONAL

- Mar. 15-17 .....AACA Winter Meet (Melbourne, FL)
- Apr. 19-21 .....AACA SE Spring Meet (Charlotte, NC)
- May 17-19 .....AACA Eastern Spring Meet (Wyomissing, PA)
- June 14-16.....AACA Grand National /National Dual Meet (Shelbyville, TN)
- Aug.27-31.....AACA Reliability Run (Richmond, VA)



Time to get cranking and go!





## TRAACA SWAP MEET

Inside spaces are all but gone. By the time you receive this they may be gone. Over 35 outside spaces have been sold too. We are looking forward to a great swap meet on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you haven't already volunteered to help call Scott Davies to help out in the kitchen or Neil Sugermeyer to help with parking.

## SWAP MEET BAKE SALE

By Linda Pellerin

We are having a bake sale again this year at the Annual Swap Meet on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The last two years we have managed to pay for the rent of the facility with our homemade goodies. The best sellers were the cookies, brownies, cupcakes and bars. Please wrap them in \$1.00 packages. They can be dropped off at the Ruritan Club anytime after 8:00am. I am also looking for some volunteers to help with the sales. Please contact me to sign up, and thanks in advance for your support of the Tidewater Region.



## SHAMROCK SUPPER



By Bill Wilcox

St. Patrick's Weekend, are you going to run the Shamrock Half Marathon? No? Then how about a Shamrock Supper at the Cypress Point Country Club in Virginia Beach on Sunday March 18th at 2:30PM. Bring your old car, significant other, and some good friends and prospective members, wear something GREEN, and enjoy Tire Kickin in the parking lot (weather permitting), and our Social Hour with live Celtic Music by CELTASTROPHE, then a short monthly business meeting and supper about 4-4:30PM with more Celtic Music to follow. And, you'll still get home well before dark! SEE YOU THERE!

PLEASE NOTE, this gathering REPLACES our usual Thursday evening 3/15/12 dinner meeting at the Aberdeen Barn.



## APRIL DINNER MEETING



### Tidewater Auto Dealerships

The April Dinner Meeting will take place on the 26th at Aberdeen Barn. After the social hour that begins at 6:00 and dinner that begins at 7:00, we have a great program planned. William Inge of the Norfolk Public Library will be presenting a history on old automobile dealerships in the Tidewater area, with photos and details on where they were and what has happened since. Please note that our regular third Thursday monthly meeting shifts a week later in order to avoid conflict with the Charlotte Auto Fair and Eastern Division National Meet.



## SPRING TOUR TO ANNAPOLIS

April 27, 28, & 29

By Dick Chipchak

Our trip to Annapolis will be a walk back in time to our Early American History. Annapolis is the capital of Maryland and was chartered in 1708 by Queen Anne. The building and streets reflect that time when transportation was via horseback, and the view of the northern part of Chesapeake Bay will take your breath away. Our Friday night stroll will reveal a lot of the history behind terms we use today and how they originated, such as "My Dogs are Killing Me". Take the tour and discover where the saying came from!

The U.S. Naval Academy was started in 1845, a mere 112 years before Tyler Brown graduated. The Chapel was always my favorite, the blue tinted windows and the tomb of John Paul Jones gives a peaceful feeling.

Remind me to share the story of when I was walking out of Bancroft Hall as a 13 year old ahead of my brother Bob's company of Midshipmen. Come to dinner prepared to ask Tyler about his memorable time at the USNA.

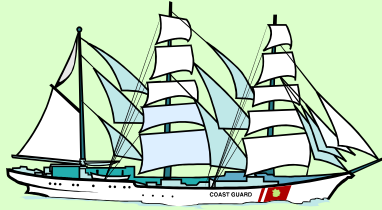
We will not caravan as a "group" from Hampton Roads to Annapolis. The suggested route is via Eastern Shore. I will publish a list of attendees so small groups can caravan. We will gather at the Hotel Lobby at 3PM on Friday to start our tour. See the form at the end of the March Mud Flap for more details on the tour. Both Tyler and I expect you will have a delightful trip and we plan on having you back again.

See you in Annapolis

## THE REGISTRATION FOR IS ON PAGE 17.



# OPSAIL 2012



By Linda Pellerin

Opsail is returning to Hampton Roads! I know some of you remember the great time we had on the water at Opsail 2000. The International fleet of tall ships will be arriving on Thursday, June 7, 2012. They will anchor in the Chesapeake Bay just north of the John A. Lesner Bridge, waiting to parade into Norfolk the following morning. We have chartered a boat to cruise in and around these magnificent ships on Thursday evening. The boat will leave from behind Dockside restaurant at 6:30pm. We may get lucky and also see some dolphins as they frolic in the water and of course we will view a beautiful sunset as we come back to the dock. The boat holds 100 people. We will assure that all members are accommodated but I think there will be room for guests. The cost of the boat trip will be \$21.00. I will work on a box lunch option as many of you will be coming from work. Mark your calendar for this spectacular event! This is one you don't want to miss!

## THE HUMOR SECTION



### TECH SUPPORT

This ought to make you feel better about your computer skills.

Customer: can't get on the Internet.

Tech support: Are you sure you used the right password?

Customer: Yes, I'm sure. I saw my colleague do it.

Tech support: Can you tell me what the password was?

Customer: Five stars..

Tech support: What anti-virus program do you use?

Customer: Netscape.

Tech support: That's not an anti-virus program.

Customer: Oh, sorry...Internet Explorer.

Tech support: How may I help you?

Customer: I'm writing my first e-mail.

Tech support: OK, and what seems to be the problem?

Customer: Well, I have the letter 'a' in the address, but how do I get the circle around it?

### For those who love the Philosophy of Ambiguity...

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, 'Where's the self-help section?' She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all"?

Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

**NEW JOKES NEEDED FOR THE MUD FLAP**  
**GOT SOME - SEND THEM IN!**

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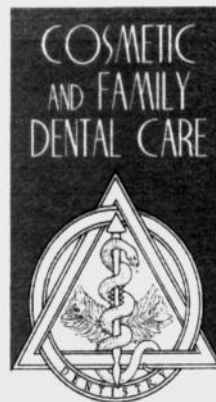
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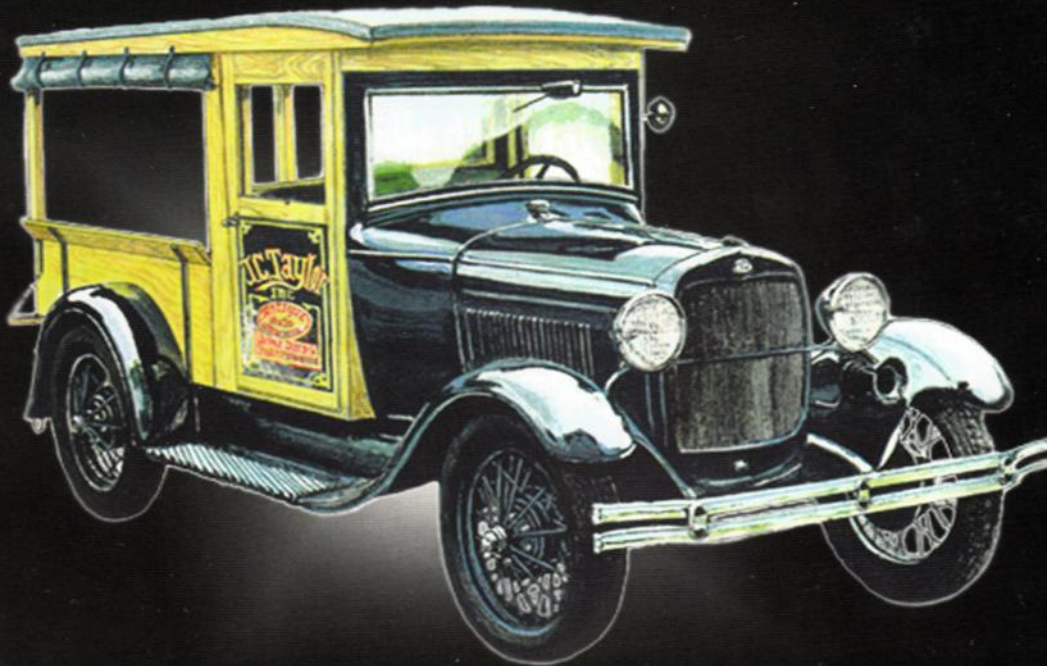
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# Annapolis Spring Tour April 27,28 & 29 Registration Form

**Hotel Reservations** - Best Western 2520 Riva Road Annapolis 1-888-333-7959 Reference "TRAACA Spring Trip"  
Rate \$89.00 per night (Rate good until 3/27/12). Secure Parking, Free Breakfast

We will not caravan as a "group" from Hampton Roads to Annapolis.  
Suggested route via Eastern Shore. We will gather at the Hotel Lobby at 3PM on Friday to start our tour.  
I will publish a list of attendees so small groups can caravan.

## **AGENDA:**

### **Friday 4/27/12**

Historical and Hysterical 1.5 Hour Slow Walking Tour of Downtown Annapolis. Starting at 4PM.  
\$13.00 per person X Quantity ( ) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner a downtown restaurant as a group "Pay at Rest." Quantity ( )

### **Saturday 4/28/12**

Breakfast at Hotel. Meet in Lobby at 9:30 AM for Tours

Tour to locations, via Bus, for the following:

Private tour of the U.S. Naval Academy by previous graduate, 2.0 hour walking tour.

Shop at USNA Store

Back to Hotel for Lunch on your own at nearby restaurants.

Private tour of 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest home in Annapolis 1.5 hour tour

Dinner at Mike's South River Rest. at 6PM "Each pay at rest."

Return to Hotel approx. 8:00 PM

Above tours and bus transportation \$25.00 per person X Quantity ( ) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **Sunday 4/29/12**

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Breakfast at Hotel

Tour / Shop Downtown Annapolis and Depart for Home

Name(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Car \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check payable to TRAACA and send to:** Dick Chipchak

1536 Still Harbor Lane

Virginia Beach, VA 23464

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Tour Guides

Dick Chipchak Cell 716-472-4811 Tyler Brown Cell 757-718-9585

Hotel—Best Western 2520 Riva Road Annapolis 1-888-333-7959 Reservation number \_\_\_\_\_

### **Tour events included in our package:**

Friday—Historical and Hysterical 1.5 Hour Slow Walking Tour of Downtown Annapolis. Starting at 4PM.  
\$13.00 per person X Quantity ( ) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner a downtown restaurant as a group "Pay at Rest." Quantity ( )

Saturday—Meet in Lobby at 9:30 AM for Tours

Morning—Naval Academy (2 hours), shopping USNA store, back to hotel for lunch

Afternoon—Private tour of 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest home in Annapolis 1.5 hour tour

Dinner at Mike's South River Rest. at 6PM "Each pay at rest." Return to Hotel approx. 8:00 PM

Above tours and bus transportation \$25.00 per person X Quantity ( ) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_