

The Mudflap



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

Volume 61, Issue 12

December 2017



TRAACA Dinner Out and Holiday Lights Display Tuesday, December 5, 2017

Remember how excited you were as a child to pile into the family car and drive around the neighborhood viewing the holiday lights? Maybe you've taken your children or grandchildren—or just gone on your own—to enjoy decorated houses nearby. Many of us have fond memories as a child or an adult (or both) of looking for that best/favorite holiday light display.

Yes, the weather is getting cooler and the days are getting shorter, but don't let that keep you from coming out and spending some time with your TRAACA friends for our December activity. Let your inner child come out on Tuesday, December 5th, as TRAACA club members enjoy a nice dinner at the Azalea Inn Restaurant near the Norfolk Botanical Gardens, followed by a leisurely drive through the Botanical Gardens' "24th Annual Garden of Lights" holiday lights display. This will be early in the holiday season, and a great way to get in the holiday mood.

The Azalea Inn (2344 E. Little Creek Rd. in the Roosevelt Gardens Shopping Center) is a few minutes' drive from the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. The restaurant

serves Italian and Greek dishes (view the vast menu on their website) at reasonable prices in a casual atmosphere. The TRAACA has reservations for dinner at 6:00 PM. After dinner (approx. 7:30 PM), we will drive over to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens. We will have a chance to enjoy 2 miles of beautiful lights from the comfort of our own vehicles. (The Norfolk Botanical Gardens website reports there are 1 million sparkling lights on display.)

Whether you drive antique or modern, come prepared to start the holiday season off right by joining your fellow TRAACA members for some good food and good fun with good friends.

WHEN: 6:00 PM, Tuesday, December 5

WHERE: Azalea Inn restaurant
2344 E. Little Creek Rd.
Norfolk, VA 23518

FOLLOWED BY: ~7:30 PM, depart restaurant for holiday lights display.

WHERE: Norfolk Botanical Gardens
6700 Azalea Garden Rd.
Norfolk, VA 23518

SIGN UP: By Saturday, December 2, by contacting Marion McAlpine at 967-0074 or mmmcalpine05@msn.com.



A rare Santa Claus toy automobile—circa 1918. Read the story about Santa's long association with cars in Terry Bond's article on Pgs. 10-11.



TRAACA CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER 2017

- 5 TRAACA Holiday Lights
Norfolk Botanical Gardens
Norfolk, VA
- 15 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 10 TRAACA Holiday Brunch
Princess Anne Country Club
Virginia Beach, VA

JANUARY 2018

- 12 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 20 TRAACA Annual Awards
Banquet & Board Induction
5:00 PM (Saturday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport

FEBRUARY 2018

- 9 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 15 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport

MARCH 2018

- 9 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 15 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport

APRIL 2018

- 13 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 19 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport

MAY 2018

- 11 TRAACA Board Meeting
6:30 PM (Friday)
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport
- 17 TRAACA Dinner Meeting
Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport

From the Driver's Seat

Mark McAlpine
TRAACA President
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Wow, it's already December. Time flies. It seems like it was only last month that I and the rest of the Board of Directors were inducted. Most of you know what my personal situation has been this past year—I was transferred to Washington, DC, last January and have been a “geographic bachelor” commuting home every weekend. That has limited the time Marion & I have had together, and our lives have been hectic. Fortunately, that's coming to an end when I retire later this month. Also, fortunately, I still have a few more weeks to finish my Christmas shopping. Wisely, I've already started it—I bought Marion a 3-ton aluminum floor jack at the Coastal Virginia Car Show. Wait, that was for me—I need to think of another gift for Marion.

Although the year is winding down, the club still has two activities remaining. First, we have the Holiday Lights Display this coming Tuesday, 5 December. It starts with us meeting for dinner at 6:00 PM at the Azalea Gardens restaurant in Norfolk, then heading to the Norfolk Botanical Gardens at approximately 7:30 PM to drive through its 24th Annual “Garden of Lights” holiday light display. What a great way to kick-off the holidays!

Next, on Sunday, 10 December, we return to the Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach for our Holiday Brunch. (This replaces our normal monthly dinner meeting.) Besides enjoying a great facility and a delicious and bountiful buffet (I'm already beginning to salivate), we get to hear Terry Bond read us his TRAACA Christmas Letter and reminisce about the fun times we've shared together as a club over the past year. I strongly encourage you to enjoy this special activity with your fellow TRAACA members. If you need more encouragement beyond spending some time with friends and enjoying a good meal, let me remind you that the club is subsidizing part of the cost and the buffet will only cost your \$15 each—probably the best fine-dining bargain in

Hampton Roads this month.

Car season is basically over in our area—time to put our antique vehicles into hibernation for the winter and complete whatever projects we want to do on them before the spring—but there are still a few cruise-ins and small car shows this month. One that is always fun, but more importantly is for a good cause, is the Toys for Tots Car Show in Smithfield. This year it's on Saturday, 2 December. All proceeds go to the local Toys for Tots campaign to ensure all the needy children in our area receive a visit from Santa this year. Even if you can't bring your car to the show, come check it out and bring a new toy to donate. Trust me—you'll have fun and leave feeling good with the knowledge that you contributed to making a child smile on Christmas morning. Time it right and you'll see Santa arrive by Nightingale helicopter. And for you NASCAR fans, Rusty Wallace's race car will be on display.

I know it's not the end of the year yet, but I want to thank my fellow Board Members for all their hard work this past year, flexing their schedules to accommodate my availability and meeting on Friday evenings (yeah, having a Board Meeting is a fun way to start the weekend and an exciting “date night”), for their sage advice, and for their leadership in looking out for our club and fellow members. I also want to thank the Activities Committee—Matt Doscher, Marion McAlpine, and Wayne Milligan, and surrogate members Vickie Doscher and Carol Milligan—for all the fun activities they planned and organized for the club this past year. And I want to thank everyone who volunteered this past year—whether it was for the Swap Meet last March, the ODMA Meet in April, the Annual Meet in September, or for one of our many activities like the Chili Cook-Off or Silent Auction—thank you all very much! We couldn't have pulled off any of these activities without your efforts.

Marion & I wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Enjoy this special time of year with your family & friends. While doing so, please remember and try to help those less fortunate than us, and call or send a card to fellow members whom you haven't seen in a while and let them know you're thinking about them.

Mark Mc

2017 TRAACA Officers & Board

President - Mark McAlpine:
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Vice President - Matt Doscher:
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Secretary - Vickie Doscher
Treasurer - Charlie Dawson
Board - Jerry Adams
Board - Wayne Milligan
Board - Hilary Pavlidis
Board - Bill Treadwell
President Emeritus - Jim Villers

Visit the TRAACA on the Internet at:

www.traaca.com

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We have changed how we contact members to obtain their RSVPs for the monthly dinner meeting. To cut down on the work load, you will now be contacted via e-mail. (Members without e-mail will continue to be contacted by phone.) Please respond to Skip Patnode's monthly e-mail by the requested date and let him know whether or not you will be attending (yes or no) and how many will be attending. **It is critical that you respond to these e-mails** so we can let the hotel know how many people will be attending & they can prepare enough food. Thank you for your cooperation!

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From the Running Board
Nov 3, 2017 TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes
 (final approved copy can be obtained from Secretary)

Officers Present: Mark McAlpine (President), Matt Doscher (Vice President), Vickie Doscher (Secretary), and Charlie Dawson (Treasurer). Board Members present: Jerry Adams, Wayne Milligan, and Bill Treadwell. Members present: Ellen Adams, Marion McAlpine, and Linda Treadwell.

Quorum: Board Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM.

President: Not applicable. (Mark arrived late.)

Vice President: Began and chaired the meeting until Mark arrived.

Secretary's Report: The October Board Meeting minutes were sent out by e-mail and approved by the Board, and printed in the November *Mudflap*.

Treasurer's Report:

- October Monthly Reports reviewed.
- 2017 "Wings & Wheels" Show: 5 sponsors still need to pay. Ellen will contact them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Activities Committee:

- Saturday, 4 November: TRAACA Movie Night at Bob Hanbury's Special Events warehouse. Starts at 6 PM, then movie (*American Graffiti*) at 7:30 PM. Must RSVP for event. 111 have RSVPed so far.
- Tuesday, 5 December: TRAAA Holiday Lights Display, Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Dinner at Azalea Inn to precede the drive through the light display. Please RSVP for event. Can drive modern or vintage for the event.

Membership: Status as of 31 October: 180 memberships (increase of 5) and 319 members. 15 memberships renewed for 2018 so far.

Restaurants (Marion McAlpine):

- Thursday, 16 November: monthly Dinner Meeting and Annual Silent Auction at Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport.
- Sunday, 10 December: TRAACA Holiday Brunch at the Princess Anne Country Club in Virginia Beach.
- Saturday, 20 January: Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport Motion made by Vickie to have Induction Ceremony at Holiday Inn on January 20th. Seconded by Wayne. Motion passed.
- Proposed Dinner Meeting on a Saturday afternoon at

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Dewey & Maxine Milligan's home in Chesapeake in April or May 2018. Wayne to confirm date with his parents. Southland Catering to cater the event.

Unfinished Business:

- Tidewater Winds Concert on Monday, December 4th, at 7:30 PM.
- Mark has appointed Scott Davies to replace Hilary on the Board in 2018. (Hilary resigned because she's moving.) Scott will assume the position once Hilary provides the date she will step down.
- Ordering Participation Chips for 2017 Annual Meet: Still waiting on info from Virginia Art Metal & Plastic. Jerry will contact them to see if they can order the chips soon.
- Procuring more bases for class marker signs for Annual Meet: Jerry obtained quotes and total cost would be \$560 for everything. Two-week turnaround time on them. Bill made motion to order 60 aluminum bases for class marker signs for up to \$600. Motion seconded by Charlie. Motion passed.
- Preparations for Silent Auction: Motion made by Charlie to purchase 50 clipboards. Amended by Wayne for Jerry to spend up to \$100 to obtain 50 clipboards. Seconded by Bill. Motion passed.

New Business:

- Location for 2018 Dinner Meetings: Motion made by Charlie to continue dinner meetings at the Holiday Inn. Specific dinner meeting dates to be determined. Seconded by Wayne. Motion passed.

[Continued on Page 15.]

December Holiday Brunch
Sunday, December 10, 2017

This month's dinner meeting is actually a brunch and it's on a different day than usual. It's time for the TRAACA's annual Holiday Brunch, which is being held again at the Princess Anne Country Club (3800 Pacific Ave) in Virginia Beach, VA. Social hour begins at 10:00 AM and brunch begins at 11:00 AM. Brunch will include breakfast fare, an omelet station, fruit, shrimp, a beef-carving station, and various lunch and dessert selections.

The club is subsidizing this annual event, so we hope all members will take advantage of the reduced price—**the cost is only \$15.00 per person**—and join us for brunch. There is ample parking, enjoy a Sunday drive in your vintage vehicle.

So circle Sunday, December 10th, on your calendar, and say "yes" when you receive Skip Patnode's e-mail asking if you'll be attending. Please RSVP by Tuesday, December 5, and remember to tell us how many people will be coming.

Please remember that if you sign up for a club dinner (or brunch), you are committed to paying for it whether or not you attend. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation!



TRAACA Movie Night Saturday, November 4, 2017

Story by Matt Doscher. Photos by Marion McAlpine and Bob Stein.

More than one hundred TRAACA members, their families, and friends from other local car clubs enjoyed an evening of dinner, entertainment, and a movie hosted by TRAACA member Bob Hanbury at his Special Events Virginia Operations Center in Portsmouth, Virginia, on Saturday evening, November 4th. Bob owns and operates Special Events Virginia, and his Operations Center makes for an ideal venue for movie nights. It has plenty of climate-controlled indoor space to host a large crowd with tables and chairs, room for a large buffet line of food, and a separate area that serves well as a mini-theater complete with projector and big screen.

This year was the TRAACA's second annual movie night hosted by Bob, and we hope this new initiative is something we can look forward to in coming years. As a gesture of support and appreciation, the TRAACA paid for the magician and contributed some funds toward the event. However, besides providing the venue, planning and coordinating the event, Bob covered the bulk of the expense and generously provided the food, which was catered by Nixon's Barbeque and served by Bob's capable staff. Dinner featured a buffet line full of traditional barbeque sandwiches, fried chicken, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, and a variety of decorated cupcakes and soft drinks.

Bob brought in an expert magician and a talented steel drum player for entertainment before and during dinner. The magician visited several of the tables during dinner and wowed the crowd with his expert sleight-of-hand tricks. The delightful sounds of the steel drum contributed to the festivities. For those who had not been to the Special Events Virginia Operations Center before, Bob provided guided tours of the center.

Once everyone had eaten their fill of delicious barbequed pulled pork, chicken, and cupcakes, Mark and Marion McAlpine handed out a trivia challenge game about the movie *American Graffiti* where participants had to test their memories of the movie. The trivia challenge was a nice segue into the movie. Four participants answered all twelve questions correctly, and three of them answered all three extra credit questions correctly, so three tie-breaker questions were used to settle the tie. After the prizes were awarded, everyone had an opportunity to get a bag of fresh popcorn and a cold beverage, then sat down to enjoy the movie as the lights were dimmed. After the movie, Bob sent everyone home with leftover barbeque.

The evening was very enjoyable and the most well-attended TRAACA event of the year, all generously provided by Bob Hanbury and his dedicated staff. Thank you very much, Bob, for a great evening!



Some of the early bird arrivals from the TRAACA and MG clubs



(L-R front) Skip Patnode's 1967 Alfa Romeo Duetto and Mickey & Toni McChesney's 1984 Oldsmobile Delta 88



(L-R) Ken Talley, Sam Kern, and Kay Delaney



David the magician entertains a table. Where's the ball?



Some of the crowd fascinated by the magician's sleight-of-hand



Bob Hanbury (front left) providing a personal tour of his facility



Participants making their way through the food line



(L-R) Mark McAlpine, Matt & Vickie Doscher, and Terry Bond



Bob Hanbury's 1948 Ford street rod & 1950 Willys "Jeepster"



(L-R) Cornell Jones, Paul Ernest, and Liz & Bill Coburn



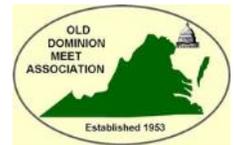
Bob Hanbury welcoming everyone before helping to serve dinner



(L-R) Marie Gancel and Toni McChesney



ODMA Fall Tour Ashland, VA November 10-11, 2017



Story by Marion McAlpine. Photos by Mark McAlpine.

On Friday & Saturday, November 10-11, 2017, the Richmond Region of the AACA hosted the inaugural Old Dominion Meet Association (ODMA) Veterans Day Tour. The weather was sunny, but extremely cold. In fact, that weekend was the coldest weather southern Virginia had seen up to that point this fall. Many TRAACA members attended all or part of the tour.

The tour kicked off on Friday at the Country Inn & Suites located in Ashland, VA. We were greeted with snacks, soft drinks, and desserts when we picked up our tour packets in the hotel that afternoon. The group gathered in the hotel's large breakfast area on Friday evening to enjoy pizza and soft drinks.

We started the tour early on Saturday, leaving the hotel parking lot at 8:00 AM sharp. John & Marie Gancel graciously let Mark & I ride with them in the comfort of their 1968 Chevrolet Caprice Classic. The tour took us through quaint back roads arriving at our first destination—the Appomattox Plantation at City Point, in Hopewell, VA—at 9:30 AM. The Appomattox Plantation was the site where General Ulysses S. Grant ran the 10-month siege of Petersburg from June 1864 to April 1865. During this time, City Point served as a supply center for Union soldiers and was one of the busiest seaports in the world. Our group received a presentation from the Park Ranger, watched a video describing the plantation's historic significance, and toured the plantation grounds.

The group jumped back into our vehicles (“jumped” may be a little over zealous term), and proceeded leisurely to our next destination—Weston Plantation, also located in Hopewell, VA.

Weston Plantation was built in 1789, is the only surviving 18th-century plantation house on the Appomattox River, and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. The main house is an example of Virginia Georgian architecture. Much of its original interior has been preserved including the wall moldings, wainscoting, and chair rails. The tour guide told us a story about a female ghost that supposedly frequents the house. We enjoyed viewing all three floors of the home & having lunch in the basement kitchen. The grounds were beautiful & well maintained.

Our group took to the back roads again to return to the hotel. After having some time to relax on our own, we drove to a Richmond Region member's (Bruce Woodson) automobile warehouse for a delicious BBQ dinner and some awesome desserts made by a Richmond Region member. The ODMA Veterans Day Tour was complete after the dinner.

The Richmond Region did a great job organizing the Veterans Day Tour. 27 TRAACA members attended the tour, including: Carol & Jere Avenson, Susan Bond, Keith Colonna, Vickie & Matt Doscher, Marie & John Gancel, Sandy & Richard Hall, Chris Hunt, Pat & Jeff Locke, Marion & Mark McAlpine, Joyce & Dick McIninch (who are also RRAACA members), Toni & Mickey McChesney, Cindi & Reggie Nash (also RRAACA members), Dot & Bob Parrish, Skip Patnode, Tony Scarpelli, and Bill Wilcox. Considering there were over 60 people registered, TRAACA was well represented.

A big *THANK YOU* to the Richmond Region for organizing the ODMA Veterans Day Tour. A good time was had by all!



Some TRAACA members socializing in the lobby of the host hotel



Chris Hunt, Marion McAlpine, Sandy Hall, and Franklin Gage



Reggie Nash with his 1940 Nash Special Cabriolet



Chris Hunt and Skip Patnode with Skip's 1967 Alfa Romeo Duetto



Appomattox Plantation—built circa 1751 at the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers—was the headquarters of the Union Army during its siege of Petersburg, VA, from 1864-1865 and was the largest logistics base during the Civil War



TRACA members examining a map of City Point during the war



Weston Plantation main house—built in 1789—in Hopewell, VA



(L-R) Dick & Joyce McIninch, Skip Patnode, Tony Scarpelli, Bob & Dot Parrish enjoying lunch at the Weston Plantation house



Toni & Mickey McChesney and their 1984 Oldsmobile Delta 88



John & Marie Gancel behind their 1968 Chevrolet Caprice Classic



1931 Chrysler roadster



Bruce Woodson's 1921 Ford Model T won Second Place at the first ODMA Meet in 1953, and is now owned by his son Bruce

Coastal Virginia Car Show Virginia Beach, VA November 18-19, 2017

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

The Coastal Virginia Auto Show (CVAS) was held at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on Saturday-Sunday, November 18-19, 2017. The CVAS is a commercially-backed show consisting of two shows: an indoor show and an outdoor show. Per their website, there were “elite, classic, customs, antiques, trucks, motorcycles, after-market, and even bicycles” on display.

For the indoor show, the participants had to register in advance and bring their vehicles on Friday to enter and park in the convention center. Participants were allowed to get their cars set up and “stage them” with props, mirrors, signs, etc., around the vehicle to try to show off its assets. The indoor show was open for the public to view on Saturday and Sunday. The awards for the indoor show were presented on Sunday afternoon.

The outdoor show was held on Saturday in the parking lot of the convention center, and the awards were presented that afternoon. People could preregister for the show or, in the finest tradition of local car shows, they could wait until the day of the show to see what the weather would be and register at the show that morning.

There were several celebrity guests giving presentations at the show including our own National AACA President,

and fellow TRAACA member, Tom Cox. Tom displayed his original 1947 Nash which he trailered all the way from Roanoke. Fellow TRAACA member Charlie Daniels was a sponsor of and vendor at the CVAS.

The show was well attended by TRAACA members. Harry Boone, Joe & Jack Burroughs, Fred Cole, Tom Cox, Charlie Daniels, Charlie & Sandy Dawson, Jim Elliott, Joe & Charlene Geib, Joe Gentile, John & Lynn Heimerl, Mickey McChesney, Skip Patnode, Andrew & Brittany Sitar, Bob Stein, Bill Thumel, and Bill Treadwell were among those who displayed vehicles. Spectators included TRAACA members Travis & Kim Berry, Dick & Linda Cooper, Scott Davies, Mark & Marion McAlpine, Bob Parrish, and Ken Talley. TRAACA award winners included Joe & Charlene Geib's 1966 Avanti, Bob Stein's 1949 MG TC, and Bill Thumel's 1959 Austin-Healey.

Jim Elliott, Mark & Marion McAlpine, and Bob Parrish helped Tom Cox man the AACA/TRAACA Membership table. The show was a great opportunity to highlight the national club and our region, and we signed up a number of new AACA & TRAACA members under the Military Sponsorship Program's free 1-year memberships. We hope to see these new members soon at club activities.



(L-R) TRAACA members Charlie Daniels, Jim Elliott, Tom Cox, Kim & Travis Berry, Bill Treadwell, and Marion McAlpine



(L-R) Bill Thumel's 1959 Austin-Healey 100S, 1960 Austin-Healey 3000 rally car, and 1969 Jaguar XKE



AACA Pres. Tom Cox with his 1947 Nash Ambassador Custom



(L-R) AACA Past Pres. Bob Parrish talking cars with Ken Talley



Jim Elliott with his 1966 Chevrolet Corvair Monza convertible



Bill Treadwell with his 1969 Chevrolet Camaro convertible



Charlie Dawson's 1957 Chevrolet Nomad



Charlene & Joe Geib with their 1966 Avanti II coupe



John Heimerl's 1933 custom hot rod roadster



(L-R) TRAACA members Fred Cole, Marion McAlpine, Skip Patnode, Tom Cox and Mickey McChesney



Harry Boone with his 1940 Ford Deluxe coupe



Bob Stein's classic 1949 MG TC contrasted with a chopped hot rod. (They're about the same height.)



Still Collecting Stuff — Christmas Time

By Terry Bond

Yes, Christmas is just around the corner. Santa and the automobile have longstanding connections, and even in the early 1900s Santa was sometimes seen driving to make his deliveries in the most modern way.

First, a brief history on the whole thing. Saint Nicholas is believed to have originated the tradition of gift giving, and his image—a bearded, elderly gent—was widely used throughout Europe to represent “Father Christmas.” The name itself is derived from the Dutch “Sinterklass.” This image and name later evolved into the Santa Claus we know today; however, there were several twists along the way. In the early 1900s he appeared in colored robes—often brown or blue, in addition to the more well-known red. Santa was generally depicted as a portly, joyous, white-bearded man—sometimes with spectacles—wearing a colored coat with white fur collar and cuffs, white fur-cuffed trousers, and black leather belt and boots, and carrying a bag full of gifts for children. This image became popular in the United States and Canada in the nineteenth century due to the significant influence of the 1823 poem “A Visit from St. Nicholas” and of caricaturist and political cartoonist Thomas Nast. This image has been maintained and reinforced through song, radio, television, children’s books, films, and advertising, particularly Coca-Cola advertisements of the 1930s.



One of many different postcards depicting Santa driving an automobile—this one circa 1904



A rare hold-to-light card showing Santa in a car—it’s postmarked 1907. When held up to a light source, a hidden image is revealed. On this card, the snowman shows where the card is backlit.



An early German cardboard Christmas decoration with added gold foil—circa 1903

While most commonly seen driving his sleigh, as the automobile began to gain acceptance, Santa got modern, using this new form of transportation to speed his deliveries.

Nice postcards can be found in the \$2-\$10 range with the exception of a few early, hold-to-light cards that can command prices near \$100. These cards, when held up to a light source, reveal a hidden image and are collected for that reason alone.

Susan and I have used some of these old images to produce our own homemade decorations and personal Christmas cards.



Another great early image of Santa driving an automobile. This card is postmarked 1908.

There are many images of Santa with an automobile including on ceramics. Much of the best quality material came from Europe, and, for ceramics and figurines, items from Germany top the list.

There are a number of ceramic items that fit this category also. My favorite is a small, child-sized tea set depicting Santa in an early automobile. A full set, including the teapot, creamer, sugar bowl, cups and saucers, recently sold at auction for over \$1,000. I've been collecting the odd pieces to this set for a long time and find that \$25-\$50 buys most of the individual pieces except for the teapot itself, which is almost unobtainable and would be priced accordingly.



Child's Christmas tea set with Santa & auto—German, circa 1910

Of course, Christmas ornaments are also commonly found, and the better early, handblown glass ornaments are great items when they can be found in good condition. Other figurines and ornaments were made from fragile celluloid. Like their glass counterparts, there are few that survive without some damage. Be aware that there are modern versions of these that are produced using molds made from old ornaments. An easy way to tell the difference is the level of detail in the finished product. The earlier versions will have greater detail while later versions will have "fuzzy" detail and lack the definition found in true



Plate from a child's tea set—a teapot, creamer, sugar bowl, 6 cups, 6 saucers, and 6 small plates complete the set.



An early celluloid Christmas ornament—circa 1920

antiques. Be cautious as those little "made in China" stickers can easily be removed. Original handblown glass ornaments can command prices into the hundreds while the later reproductions can be purchased for \$24 or less. Original celluloid ornaments can be equally expensive, with newer plastic reproductions selling for just a few dollars.

The earliest Santa/automobile objects were European-made gift baskets. Produced using wicker and papier-mâché, they are fragile and hard to find in good condition. The Santa himself was often made from compacted straw or even dried moss. Examples of these items have sold at auction in excess of \$800.

There are a lot of less expensive items that can be found depicting Santa in an early automobile. There are a number of celluloid pins and buttons celebrating the season, sometimes produced as advertising pieces for department stores or gift shops. You will also find these images on small advertising pocket mirrors that could be carried in a ladies' handbag. The pins can be found for anywhere between \$25-\$100 depending on rarity and condition. The pocket mirrors will be much more expensive. With these items, condition is important, and the maker's paper label in the back of the button should still be present. Most were produced by Whitehead and Hoag.

There are a number of tin toy cars with Santa driving, but chances of finding one are slim to none. The few in existence were virtually one-off pieces produced for store display. The last one I know of that appeared at auction sold for \$18,000.

I hope you enjoy the pictures, and that you are able to decorate your tree this year with a few appropriate ornaments of Santa driving to his next stop. And, hopefully Santa will deliver your some nice automobilia!

Until next time, Merry Christmas and happy collecting!

Terry Bond



Santa in an automobile by German toy maker Fischer—the only example known to still exist—circa 1912

Caught in the Headlights

Jerry Adams and His 1929 Chevrolet—Part II

Story and Photos by Jerry Adams



Jerry Adams with his 1929 Chevrolet 4-door sedan

After getting my 1929 Chevrolet in June of 2013, the first task was to go through it and officially check it over. The original owner had stated that the car ran, but did not stop as he could not figure out how to set the brakes. With a little effort, I got the car to fire up and idle with no issues, but it would sputter and cut out if you accelerated. I spent some time getting the engine to run, as well as getting the car to stop, then took it for a simple test drive. I was able to run it around the block a few times, get it up to 25 mph and enjoy the car. Granted there was no roof, no interior (well, it had seats with old worn fabric), and only partial windows. Now came the fun part: tearing down the car and correcting the issues at hand. My original plan was to do the interior, roof, brakes, and electrical, but I found out a lot more work was involved than I had planned.

Starting on the mechanical side, the engine and transmission ran okay. I was told the drivetrain was completely rebuilt, but that was hard to believe considering it tapped, knocked, and rattled. I ended up pulling out the drivetrain and tearing into the engine. I learned the engine had been rebuilt with new pistons, rings, and babbitt. The knocking and rattling was from the connecting rods and crankshaft being loose. The shimming had to be corrected, oil pan and oil passageways cleaned out, troughs adjusted, and many other little things. I had to strip and clean all the covers on the engine, fill them in, then prime and paint.

While I had the engine out, I stripped down the block, head, and intake and exhaust manifolds, repainted them, and also repainted all the accessories and components. I had the rocker arm assemblies completely rebuilt and bushed, and installed all new push rods & tappets. I installed an NOS oil screen and a new set of AC Delco C87 spark plugs. I rebuilt the fuel pump,

and even installed an ethanol-compliant diaphragm just in case. I did a cylinder compression test on all the cylinders and got even readings across the board, so I know the rings are sealing. I learned that the Carter carburetor on the car was incorrect and needed a complete rebuild. Luckily, I ended up finding a correct NOS Carter carb with factory tags on eBay, and snatched it up. I sold the other carb to a local Carter rebuilder to recoup some cost. In looking at the gaskets in the engine, it seems the previous owner used RTV to try to seal all the covers & prevent leaks. I remove the RTV and installed generation-correct cork and/or paper gaskets as required. I bought a new water pump from The Filling Station—they use the original castings, but instead of packing and such they use seals and bearings. It looks just like the original, but should never leak and runs super smooth. I also picked up a distributor off eBay and used it and the one on the car to build a complete functioning distributor. I also found a period-correct fan belt as the one on the car was a coggled style and way too long.

Since the transmission was already out of the car, I decide to tear it down and do a once-over on it. I found out that there was literally *no* oil in the transmission. After I tore it down, I prepped, primed, and painted all the parts. I replaced the clutch and checked the throw-out bearing, which was practically new. I tore down the pressure plate assembly & flywheel, and rebuilt them using all new hardware. I ended up making a new spring bolt for the clutch as the existing one was bent and the threads were gone. I repainted the bell housing and covers, and made new gaskets for the cover plate. I had to buy a new shifter knob as the one on the car was broken, but glued together.

Once the engine and transmission were done, I put them back together and got them ready to reinstall in the car. Before installing them, I cleaned up and repainted the front frame rails, which were missing paint because of a previous coolant leak. Once the paint dried, I reinstalled the driveline, securing it with all new hardware. I also replaced the seal and washers in the universal ball housing to ensure it seals on the torque tube. I had custom washers made for this application, and replaced the old cork with a newer Viton O-ring. This will ensure a good seal, and no one will ever see it unless they take it apart.

Next came the splash pans, then all the engine accessories. These included the generator, starter, and fan blade. All of these were cleaned and top coated so they did not look old against the newly painted driveline. I also rebuilt, adjusted, and tuned the Klaxon 8C horn. Now it looks good and is seriously louder compared to before.



The Chevrolet's engine before Jerry refreshed and repainted it



The Chevrolet's engine after Jerry finished and reinstalled it

While I had the driveline out, I sent the car to Massachusetts to have the interior and roof done. A good friend of mine from the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America was looking to start a restoration business. We talked and came to an agreement on getting my car interior and roof done, a really good deal for both of us! While the car was with him up north, he replaced all the glass with modern safety glass. He had to replace a few pieces of rotten wood both in the floor and in the roof, and had to replace the complete driver's side A-pillar as it was rotted out from the cowl up. He also installed a complete new roof—burlap, padding, and vinyl. In lieu of using the classic hidem welt, he makes custom aluminum frame rails and paints them black. Man, does it look great! I know it is not period correct, but it has a great seal, looks clean, and I am happy with it.

Before installing the new vinyl, he had to do some metal work around the roof due to rust from moisture in the wood. He also reinstalled the drip rims that run down each side as they were not installed correctly, nor were they secured. Once the metal was fixed, a friend of his top-coated the top half of the car and also painted the wheels to match as they were starting to rust through the previous paint job.

My friend then installed the Hampton Coach interior. I went with the tan kit, which is period correct color and fabric (corduroy). He installed the carpet, panels, new head liner, seat covers, etc. He repainted all the black pieces, which included the seat pans and end pieces. I custom ordered all new handles for the doors and windows, new escutcheon plates, and accessories. The pieces that we could reuse were chrome-plated and reinstalled. The interior looks immaculate.

After my friend was done, he had a local friend come over and pinstripe the car. That really defined and completed the true look of the exterior. Yes, the pinstripe was done by hand. When I got the car back I treated all the interior with

ScotchGard to make sure that it would not get stained or destroyed—at least I hope not.

It does not matter if a car runs or how fast it can go if you cannot stop it. I did a complete once-over of the brake system, including stripping, priming, and painting all the parts back to original colors. I purchased a brake-setting tool, which allows you to set the proportioner rods in the neutral position and correctly adjust the brakes on all four corners. I found out that when the car was painted, they painted the inside and outside of the drums, so I had to strip the paint off the brake shoe surfaces as the paint would gum up the woven brake material. I replaced the springs and hardware, made sure all the moving parts moved freely, and applied brake grease to ensure they would not corrode or jam up. I had to adjust the brackets on the rear brakes because they were bent out of shape. The rear has both internal and external shoes. I set all the rods and adjusted the clearance on the shoes per the manual, did a test on all four corners, and they seemed to work fine. I took out the parking brake lever, rebuilt it from the ground up, then installed the rebuilt handle and adjusted the parking brake accordingly.

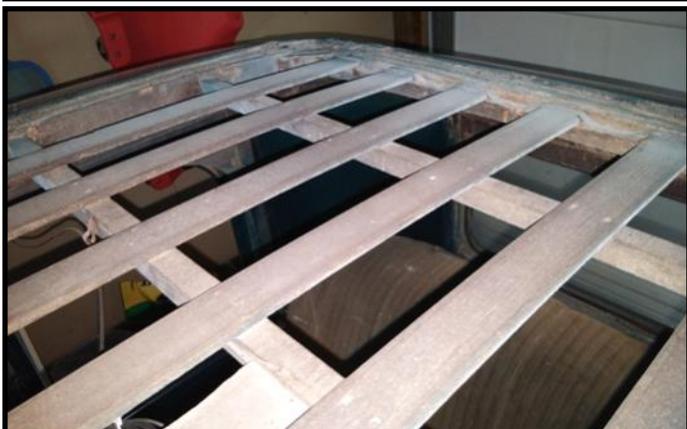
I decided to take time and clean the fuel tank to ensure that there was no debris or gunk in the tank to get into the cleaned-up engine. I dropped the tank, cleaned it up, then top coated it. I took out the gauge, cleaned up and repainted it, and installed new gaskets. I opted to use Viton gaskets since they would be ethanol safe versus the original cork gaskets. I also replaced the old saturated cork floats with new Viton floats, which are readily available for the Model As. I blew out the fuel line in both directions to make sure it was clear of any debris. I cleaned the tank straps and painted them, then reinstalled the fuel tank and fuel line using new hardware. I finished the fuel system by cleaning up the fuel cap and installing a new gasket on it before putting it back on the tank.



The Chevrolet's interior when Jerry received the car



The interior looks immaculate now



The roof before the burlap, padding and vinyl were installed



The Chevrolet's roof post-restoration—it looks better than new



40 Million Fire Extinguishers Recalled

(Reprinted from the November 2017 AACA *Speedster* e-newsletter)

Just recently a recall was announced involving 40 million fire extinguishers manufactured by Kidde. The recall involves 134 models of Kidde fire extinguishers manufactured between January 1, 1973 and August 15, 2017, including models that were previously recalled in March 2009 and February 2015. Be advised that some of the recalled extinguishers were sold under names other than Kidde (i.e., Fuller Brush, Honeywell, Montgomery Ward, Sears, and other names).

Here is the link with a list of the recalled extinguishers: <https://inmarmarketaction.com/kidde/>. It also lets you submit your request for a replacement extinguisher after you provide your name, address, the model extinguisher and serial number. It verifies that your extinguisher is being recalled and submits your request for a replacement.

If you do not want to submit your request online, you can contact Kidde via telephone to find out if a fire extinguisher is included in the recall or to get a replacement.

Contact Kidde at (855) 271-0773 between 8:30 AM and 5 PM EST, Monday-Friday (excluding holidays), or between 9 AM and 3 PM during the weekend, to determine whether your extinguishers are affected.

Given how many AACA members have fire extinguishers for their vehicles, we have no doubt that some AACA members have extinguishers that are being recalled. Please take action on this situation immediately and be sure to share this information with all of your region & chapter members as soon as possible.

EDITORS' NOTE: Not every Kidde fire extinguisher has its production date listed as described on the Kidde website. Even if the Kidde website says your fire extinguisher is not affected by the recall, we recommend you call their Hotline anyway. Their website said only two of our three fire extinguishers were being recalled, but when we called Kidde because of a question about the production date on the third one, they confirmed it was also being recalled and said they would send us a replacement.

AACA 2018 Membership Renewal Reminder

AACA membership runs for a calendar year—January 1 through December 31. Your first opportunity to renew your membership for 2018 was in your September/October issue of the AACA's *Antique Automobile* magazine when a renewal form was included in the magazine. A renewal form should also be in the November/December issue. Simply fill out the form and mail it back to the AACA Headquarters with a check or your credit card information. 2018 dues are \$40—the first increase in 10 years (but still less than most other national car clubs).

Alternately, you can renew online or download, print, and mail the renewal form by going to the AACA website: www.aaca.org. [Remember—you must renew your 2018 AACA membership in order to be a member of the TRAACA.]

TRAACA Membership Renewals

It's time to renew your TRAACA membership for 2018. You can find the form on Page 16 of this issue of *The Mudflap* or on the club's website (www.traaca.com). Membership dues remain \$25 for the year, and must be paid no later than 15 January to be included in the 2018 Membership Roster. (You can pay after that date, but will not be in the roster because of our publication deadline.)



AACA Calendar of Events

http://www.aaca.org/Calendar/aaca_calendar.html

FEBRUARY 2018

8-10 AACA Annual Meeting
Philadelphia, PA

MARCH 2018

23-24 AACA Winter Meet
Mobile, AL

The replaces the Meet in Puerto Rico originally scheduled for 2-3 March

APRIL 2018

5-7 AACA SE Spring Meet
Charlotte, NC

20-21 AACA Western Spring Meet
Tucson, AZ

MAY 2018

11-12 AACA Central Spring Meet
Auburn, IN

31-2 Jun AACA Grand National Meet
Greensburg, PA

JULY 2018

11-14 AACA Eastern Spring Meet
Gettysburg, PA

AUGUST 2018

20-24 AACA Reliability Tour
Canandaigua, NY

SEPTEMBER 2018

12-15 AACA Central Division Tour
Texas Panhandle, TX

16-22 AAA Glidden Tour
Twin Falls, ID

OCTOBER 2018

10-13 AACA Eastern Fall Meet
Hershey, PA

21-26 Founders Tour
Metropolis, IL

NOVEMBER 2018

5-9 Sentimental Tour
Natchez, MS

FEBRUARY 2019

7-9 AACA Annual Meeting
Philadelphia, PA

22-24 AACA Winter Meet
Ocala, FL

APRIL 2019

4-7 AACA SE Spring Meet
Charlotte, NC

MAY 2019

25 AACA Grand National Meet
Auburn, IN

JUNE 2019

2-7 AACA Founders Tour
Seward, NE

2018 TRAACA Officers and Board of Directors

PRESIDENT: MARK McALPINE
VICE PRESIDENT: MATT DOSCHER
SECRETARY: VICKIE DOSCHER
TREASURER: CHARLIE DAWSON
BOARD MEMBERS: JERRY ADAMS
 TRAVIS BERRY *
 SCOTT DAVIES *
 TIM HUND *
PRESIDENT EMERITUS: JIM VILLERS

** Travis Berry and Tim Hund are replacing outgoing Board Members Wayne Milligan and Bill Treadwell, who have completed their 2-year terms. Scott Davies was appointed to replace Hilary Pavlidis (who is moving and is unable to serve her second year). The Board and all club members thank each of them for their dedicated & selfless service to our club.*

Nomination and Election Process:

Per our bylaws, TRAACA President Mark McAlpine appointed a nominating committee of three past TRAACA presidents—Terry Bond, Mickey McChesney, and Bob Parrish—and two members in good standing—Sandy Hall and Dana Meadows—who developed a recommended slate of Officers and Board Members for the 2018 Board of Directors, and presented their list of candidates to the club's membership at the October 19, 2017, Dinner Meeting. The list was presented again at the Thursday, November 16, dinner meeting and members were given the opportunity to nominate other candidates. Because no other nominations were made from the floor, the candidates were approved by verbal acclamation and are considered elected. The 2018 Board of Directors will be inducted at the club's Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 20, 2018.

Also, per our bylaws, region President Mark McAlpine appointed Scott Davies to replace Hilary Pavlidis (who is moving), and he will serve the remainder of her term.

TRAACA Annual Awards

It's time to nominate members for our annual awards (which will be presented at our Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, January 20, 2018). Most of the awards are determined by participation points, but some are selected by the Board of Directors or past winners. Please contact Club President if you want to nominate someone for the Duryea Award, Lalique Award (which is selected by the previous winners), Merritt Horne Participation Award, Spark Plug Award, TRAACA President's Award, or TRAACA Restoration Award. (See the *TRAACA Awards Manual* on the club's website—www.traaca.com—for information on all the awards and selection processes.)

Swap Meet Chairman Needed!

Every March, the TRAACA's annual Swap Meet kicks off the beginning of car season in Hampton Roads. It's time for the club to start planning this activity and making some decisions. One of the first things we need to do is designate a chairperson. As important as this position is, it's not as daunting as it may seem. You'll have lots of help and experience to draw upon in the club. The main responsibility is organizing the team of volunteers who'll help you. If you'd like to volunteer to be the 2018 Swap Meet Chairman, or have questions, please contact Club President Mark McAlpine (mmmcalpine05@msn.com) or Vice President Matt Doscher (vlw78@hotmail.com).

TRAACA Board Meeting Minutes **November 3, 2017**

(continued from Page 3)

- Location for 2018 Swap Meet: Location choices were passed around for review.
 - Khedive Shrine Center was \$3,150 to rent. Oscar Smith High School was unable to accommodate us at this time. Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School (BSCHS) requested 10% of our proceeds and can accommodate us on Saturday, March 24th. Motion made by Wayne to hold 2018 Swap Meet at BSCHS. Seconded by Matt. Motion passed. Meet Chairman needed. Bill Treadwell to consider.
- Annual Awards Banquet & Board Induction Ceremony: Members requested to submit nominations. Nomination ballots to be given out at November Dinner Meeting and December Holiday Brunch to allow fellow members to offer recommendations/nominations. Ellen to create ballot.

- Several Board Members unable to attend Friday, December 8, Board Meeting. Marion will check if Holiday Inn is available on Friday, December 15, for Board Meeting.
- Mark will prepare and Charlie will send out 2018 renewal invoices for *Mudflap* advertisers.

Other Business:

- VPCCC Monthly Meeting report. Update provided on Virginia Fall Classic car show. Friday night social was successful. Saturday show had over 295 cars. Donations raised to be given to CHKD.
- CCCHR Monthly Meeting report: Coastal Virginia Car Show is Saturday-Sunday, 18-19 November, at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

Adjourned: Having no other business, motion made to adjourn by Bill; seconded by Wayne. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM. Next Board Meeting is Friday, 8 December 2017 (possibly changing to 15 December), at the Holiday Inn—Norfolk Airport.

Respectfully submitted, Vickie Doscher, Secretary.



Tidewater Region AACA Membership Form

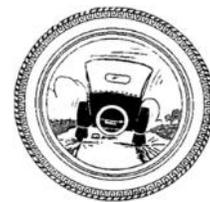


Please complete this form and mail it with your payment of \$25 to

20

TRAACA Membership
c/o Dawson's Accounting, Inc.
138 S. Rosemont Rd. Suite 200
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

18



Yearly dues of \$25 covers both Member and listed Spouse. Remember that you **MUST be a 2018 AACA National Member** in order to belong to the Tidewater Region. Your Tidewater Region Membership Form/Renewal must be received by Jan. 15, 2018, in order to be included in the 2018 Tidewater Region Roster.

Membership Type: Please Check One

- NEW** Member(s): **Please FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY** including **ALL** vehicles owned & their condition.
- EXISTING** Member(s): **Please fill out Member & Spouse Name & ANY INFORMATION THAT HAS CHANGED in the past year**, including vehicles (ANY change in their status or if no longer owned/sold). **If NO CHANGES to your info PLEASE leave BLANK.**

Membership Info & Contact:

Member: _____ Spouse: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: (____) _____
 Member Cell Phone: (____) _____ Spouse Cell Phone: (____) _____
 Member Work Phone: (____) _____ Spouse Work Phone: (____) _____
 Member e-mail: _____ Spouse e-mail: _____

Optional: List birthday for each member & anniversary (if applicable) in month & day format (Jan 01).

Member Birthday: _____ Spouse Birthday: _____ Wedding Anniversary: _____
Month Day Month Day Month Day

National AACA Info:

National AACA Number: _____ 2018 AACA Membership PAID: ____ (Y/N)

Vehicle(s): List/Update all AACA-eligible vehicles that you own.

Please Note Condition/Status using the following: Original (**O**), Restored (**R**), Partly Restored (**PR**), or Under Restoration (**UR**). List the YEAR, MAKE, & MODEL of each vehicle in the Description Section. If you sold a vehicle in the last year or no longer own it please mark Description as Sold (**S**). Own more than Three Vehicles? Please list them on the back of this form using the same format as below.

Vehicle 1: (____) Description: _____
 Vehicle 2: (____) Description: _____
 Vehicle 3: (____) Description: _____

Volunteer: Want to get involved with the Club? What club event, activity, or function would you like to help with? _____

Suggestions & Comments: Got an idea or concept to help make us a better club? List them below.



TRAACA MEMBERS' PAGE

Welcome to our New Members!

Alan & Diane Edwards
Suffolk, VA
- 1969 Buick Rivera

Mathieu Huovinen
Norfolk, VA
- 1968 VW Bus
- 1971 MG Midget
- 1978 Chevrolet Corvette

Eric Mickelson
Suffolk, VA
- 1921 Mercer Raceabout
- 1969 Ford Bronco
- 1937 Plymouth coupe

Lawrence Richway & Meredith Word
Chesapeake, VA

Erwin "Dick" Schlenkermann
Virginia Beach, VA

Andrew Taylor
Norfolk, VA
- 1983 Jeep J10

Michael Ware
Moyock, NC



Members celebrating anniversaries in December



Ben & Beth Buchanan
Roland & Jeanie Downing
James & Pamela Gregg
John & Lynn Heimerl
George & Betsy Keen
Jeff & Pat Locke
Ron & Tina Pack
Robert & Mary Stanley



Members celebrating birthdays in December



Mary Ellen Basnight	Missy Hespenhide
Kim Berry	Zelda Lang
John Blair	Brian McGarvey
Darlene Brown	Tom Norris
Fred Cole	Mary Lou Olson
Faye Curl	Georgia Skuro
Matt Doscher	Nancy Soscia
Evelyn Eacker	Mary Stanley
Micheal East	Neil Sugermeyer
Sarah Flanders	Frances Sykes
Pamela Gregg	Ken Talley
Sandy Hall	Jim Villers
Ron Hartman	Bob Watson

Sunshine Report

Condolences are extended to the following members who recently lost loved ones:

- **Marty Sugermeyer's father**, James "Coach" Reese, passed away in Pensacola, FL. He recently celebrated his 100th birthday.
- **Jane Ward** passed away on Saturday, November 25th. She was 88 years old.

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the following members:

- **Holly Chipchak** is scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on November 30th.
- **Ivan Joslin** is scheduled to have his right hip replaced on December 5th.
- **Carol Norton** is recovering from shoulder surgery.
- **Barbara Talley** had back surgery on November 15th and is recovering at home.

Please provide updates on the health of TRAACA members to our new Sunshine Reporter, Carol Milligan, at (757) 548-1242 or carowaynmilligan@cox.net.



Recent Award Winners



Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance:

Jim Elliott 1973 Cadillac Fleetwood Limo
Best in Class *and*
Historic Vehicle Association
Most Well-Preserved Award

Coastal Virginia Car Show, Virginia Beach

Joe & Charlene Geib 1966 Avanti
Top 40 Award

Bill Thumel 1959 Austin-Healey 3000
Best Foreign Car

Bob Stein 1949 MG TC
Veterans Award



As we enter this holiday season, remember to take time to reflect on its true meaning, to be thankful for the blessings we have, to remember those less fortunate than us, to say a prayer for those defending our country, and to slow down and enjoy some time with your family and friends.



Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!!



17th Annual Toys for Tots Car Show



Saturday, December 2, 2017
9:00 AM—3:00 PM (rain or shine)

SMITHFIELD TRUCK & AUTO CENTER
928 South Church Street, Smithfield, VA 23430

Day-of-Show Registration: \$25
(Registration includes meal ticket—\$10 value!)

Free admission for spectators.

Registration: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Auction at 2:00 PM / Awards at 2:30 PM

Door prizes for participants
Live Entertainment

Spectators are encouraged to bring new toys to donate.



For more information contact
Elizabeth Moose at (757) 880-7191 or
CallTheMooseTeam@gmail.com



Here are some more photographs of vintage images of Santa Claus in automobiles as discussed by Terry Bond in his "Still Collecting" article on Pages 10-11. It's hard to believe these items are 100 years old, but if you had received these gift baskets, you'd have treasured and taken care of them, too.



Rare, German-made, Santa driving a wicker car, gift basket—circa 1906



An early Santa in a car gift basket—probably German-made, circa 1906



A pinback Christmas button—circa 1910—advertising a dry-goods store



A more common button with Santa in a car—commonly found for \$35-\$75—circa 1919



Other Regional and Local Events

DECEMBER 2017

2 Toys for Tots Car Show
Smithfield, VA

JANUARY 2018

6-7 Virginia Hot Rod & Custom Car Show
Hampton, VA

13-15 Hampton Roads International Auto Show
Virginia Beach, VA

19-21 Auto Mania Indoor Swap Meet
Allentown, PA

20-28 North American International Auto Show
Detroit, MI

MARCH 2018

3 46th Annual Cape Fear Chp. Antique Automobile Show
Wilmington, NC

10 Chesapeake Region AACA 45th Annual Swap Meet
West Friendship, MD

24-25 Sugarloaf Mtn Region AACA Indoor/Outdoor Swap Meet
Westminster, MD

APRIL 2018

5-8 Charlotte Auto Fair
Charlotte, NC

18-22 Spring Carlisle
Carlisle, PA

27-29 Goodguys Rod & Custom 4th North Carolina Nationals
Raleigh, NV

28 ODMA Meet hosted by Tri-County Region AACA
Harrisburg, VA

29 Piedmont Region AACA 44th Annual Carfest
Charlottesville, VA

MAY 2018

26 Twin County Region AACA 25th Annual "Memories on Main Street" Car Show
Galax, VA

JUNE 2018

1-3 Carlisle Ford Nationals
Carlisle, PA

22-24 Carlisle Chevrolet Nationals
Carlisle, PA

There are slim pickings for car shows over the next three months. Use the time to work on your vehicles and get them ready for the 2018 AACA and ODMA meets!



EDITOR'S DESK

Marion & Mark McAlpine

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

It is hard to believe that 2017 is almost over. It seems as we get older the years go by faster. Why is that? Maybe it is because when we are kids we don't have many things on our minds other than getting our homework done and keeping our room clean. When I look back on what I accomplished this year, it is not nearly as much as I wanted. Oh well, I can't go back to change it now. I guess there is always next year.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Mark & I joined one of my sisters, her spouse and granddaughter in New York City. We took the train, and my family drove in from Michigan. Seeing the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in person was on my bucket list. It was cold, but we enjoyed it. What was more fun was seeing the balloons being blown up on Wednesday. They fill the balloons, then cover them with weighted-down mesh. You are able to get about 10-15 feet from them. I was told by several people that live in New York City that they go to the balloon show and watch the parade on TV at home. We also went to the Empire State Building, took a boat tour by the Statue of Liberty, and visited the 9/11 Memorial Museum. All very impressive. I am so glad we were able to see all of them.

Of course, it would not be a trip to New York City without visits to Rockefeller Plaza, Macy's Herald Square, Time's Square and seeing the Rockettes' Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall. These were all on my bucket list, and each was wonderful. We did not have turkey on Thanksgiving, but had some great Italian food. We were impressed with the security and organization of all the holiday activities. We felt very safe and did not mind the extra time to get somewhere because of the security check points. I highly recommend the

trip to anyone who has not been there.

Many of us have had challenges this year, some more than others. Many people we know have had serious illnesses or lost loved ones this year. Our part of the country was fortunate not to be affected much by the many hurricanes that caused so much damage in other areas including Texas, Puerto Rico, Louisiana and Florida. Islands in the Atlantic were completely wiped out by hurricanes. There have been numerous wildfires in the western part of our country destroying homes, businesses and lives. The terrorist and other senseless attacks on various places, both in our country & around the world, have affected so many. Unfortunately, many of the areas hit are still recovering both physically & emotionally and will be for a long time.

When looking back on the year, and putting things into perspective, I realize how fortunate I am. We live in the greatest country in the world, hands down. I have a wonderful, loving, intelligent and handsome husband who has managed to put up with my craziness over the years and still stays with me. Mark and I are in good health, enjoy a nice home, a loving family, and good friends. Yes, I have a lot to thank God for.

I hope you are planning to come to the TRAACA Holiday Brunch on December 10th at the Princess Anne Country Club. Terry Bond will be reading his 2017 TRAACA Christmas Letter. Members always look forward to Terry's annual presentation, and I know we will not be disappointed.

If you know of members in the club that we have not seen recently, try to reach out to them and be sure they are okay, send a card or just chat with them for a while. They will appreciate being in your thoughts.

If Mark & I don't see you before, please have a blessed and safe holiday season. Hopefully next year will bring us a new furry friend, new home, and new car. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Marion McAlpine

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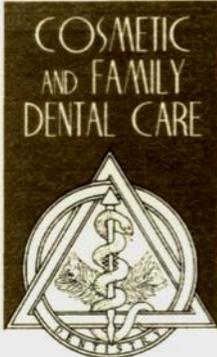
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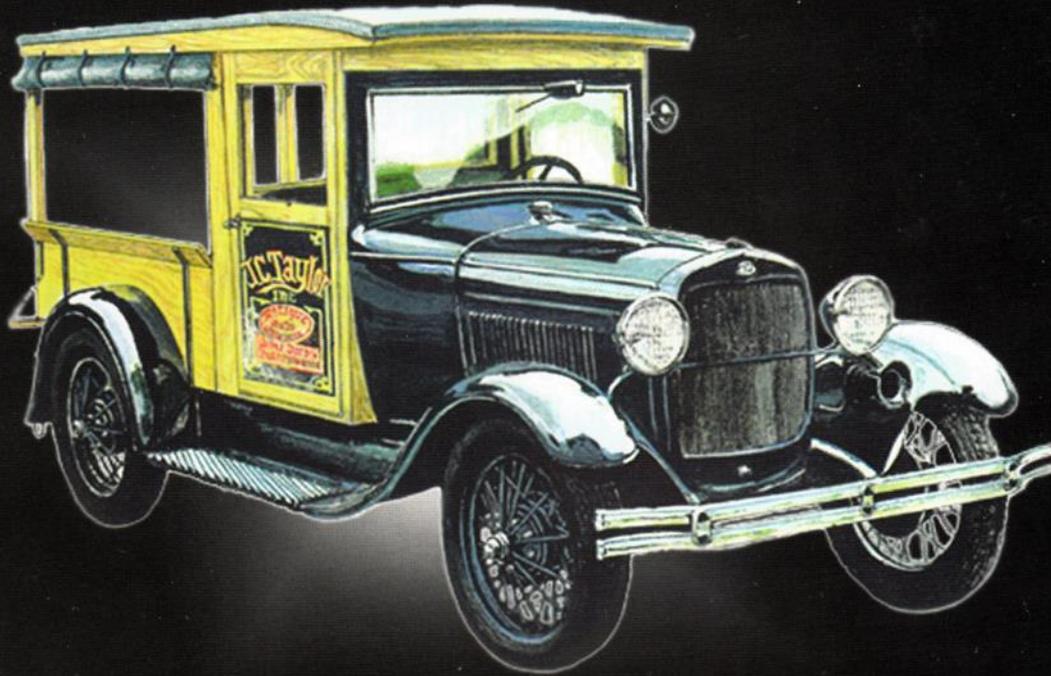
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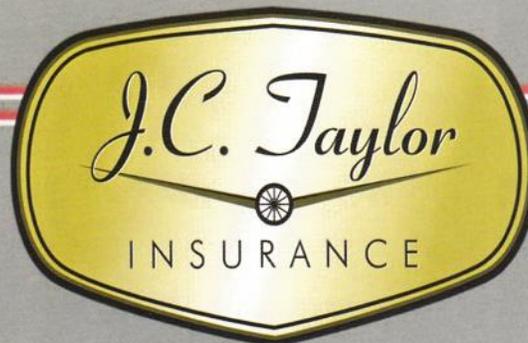
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