

FAIRBANKS

Vernon L. Nash

ALASKA



Antique Automobile Club of America

## *In Memory of Ruth Hill 9/12/1919 - 2/19/2011*



Ruth Hill, one of our original members of VLNAACF passed away at the Maui Medical Center after she collapsed in her Condo in Maui. Ruth and her husband, Clain, joined the Fairbanks Alaska Regional Group "Horsless Carriage Club of America" in 1979. The Club was making changes Nationally that didn't fit the local club so they decided to operate under AACA. Ruth was one of the members that was instrumental in that transition from HCCA to AACA. While still operating under the name of HCCA, one of their members, Vernon Nash, passed away in 1986 and the Club voted to rename the Club Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club of Fairbanks, in his honor. Ruth was elected Treasurer shortly after that and remained in that position for 16 years. She was a friend to all and kept the club together all those years. She also took care of the Membership for most of those years until the Club got so big. She will be greatly missed by many, especially the older membership who knew her back then. This photo, taken by Bill Chace, is of Ruth & Clain Hill with their 1928 Hupmobile. That 1928 Hupmobile was brought to Fairbanks by Howard Mackey. He later sold it to Ruth & Clain. They drove it until 1999 when Clain became ill and he sold it. This car is now on display at the Fountainhead Museum.

By Marion Benham

## **PRESIDENT'S HEADLIGHTS.....**

### **"SPRING IS COMING"**

It's just the beginning of March but like a garden, it is time to get our serious planning of events "planted" for the Car Club. Let's get it started! Hats off to Rochelle and her committee who did a great job filling out the calendar of events and getting commitments from event hosts. While some of the dates are mentioned in the newsletter, you can check out the complete Google calendar through the club website. The direct link is: <http://local.aaca.org/fairbanks/events.htm>.

A big thanks to Rod Benson who is chairing this year's Carlson Center Show. The show is scheduled Memorial Day Weekend, May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. As to date, Rod's committee consists of Terry Whitlege, Willy Vinton, and Ron Allen. Give Rod a call or talk to him at the meeting to ask how you can help!

The next big event, after the car show, is the Joint Meet with the Anchorage Auto Musers. We are the host club this year with

the event at the River's Edge Resort on Father's Day Weekend, June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Scott and Donna Culbertson are chairing this and are looking for folks to work with them on the planning committee.

John McCarthy's Raffle Car Committee is in full swing. The club has had good early returns on raffle car ticket sales. If you don't have blank books to sell, please stop over to Larson's Locksmith and pick some up from Rochelle. The committee has a work day coming up soon to spiff up the bug, do a full safety check, and get it ready to show. They will soon be looking to sign folks up to sell tickets at Carlson Center events to supporting our raffle ticket sales effort. We appreciate the Carlson's Center and all their help in this effort.

Don't forget the Paint Seminar coming up this month. You can sign up at Larson's – but the spaces are limited to 25. That magic number (25) is also

the dollar amount you need to pay for your reservation.

I will be presenting two checks from the club before the next meeting. One goes to the Interior Alaska Cancer Association and the other to Morning Star Ranch. They will each receive \$500 as approved from our 50/50 fund at the February membership meeting. Much thanks to the members for your support to our community.

As always, your feedback and suggestions are welcome. It is critical to receive feedback (positive or negative) to help our Board and club leadership produce better events and programs each year for all to enjoy. Please contact me directly or through the club email at

[vlnaacf@gmail.com](mailto:vlnaacf@gmail.com)



FYI—Things of Interest

**MARTIN-SENOUR PAINT SEMINAR RESCHEDULED**

Due to a scheduling problem at Hutchison High School, the Martin-Senour paint seminar scheduled for March 23, 2011 has been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2011, 6pm-10pm.

Several car club members signed up for this class during the February membership meeting, but there are a few slots still available if you wish to participate. My apology to anyone that has a conflict with the schedule chance.

If you wish to sign up, cancel, or need more information, call John McCarthy at 347-5056 or see Rochelle Larson at Larson's Lock Shop. Fee for class is \$25.00. Deadline to sign up and pre-pay is March 10, 2011. After March 10th, any additional slot will be offered to Hutchinson High School auto body class students.



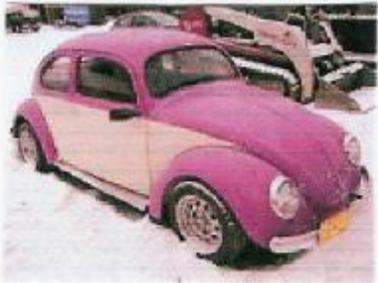
SUNSHINE CLUB NEWS  
By  
Linda Grundy

Hopefully most of our Club members know that we try to bring a little "sunshine" into the life of any member who may be having some "cloudy days." Because our membership has grown so large, we occasionally do not hear of another's problems in a timely manner to respond. For this reason the Sunshine Contact was established.

We never want to intrude or invade anyone's privacy. However, we do want to share our caring and concern. Some of the reasons for remembering a Club member with a card might be an extended illness,

Win this Custom  
1969 Volkswagen Bug  
Drawing July 23  
\$5/Ticket or 5 for \$20  
Contact Larson's Lock Shop

July 23rd Golden Days Parade  
Raffle Car Drawing and  
Picnic at Pioneer Park



surgery, hospital stay, broken bone, or the death of a family member. It is never necessary to give specific information about a health or personal issue --- only that an individual might appreciate a card to cheer them up or let them know we are aware they are facing a difficult time.

We usually do this with a card signed by all members present at our monthly meeting. Occasionally it is not appropriate to wait that long, and a card is sent with a brief note on behalf of the Club and members are notified at the following meeting.

Whenever there is a request to communicate specific information to the Club about a member's situation prior to a meeting, an e-mail will be sent to all members. If you believe an individual would benefit from calls or visits, I will pass that on to Club members as well.

We cannot send a card or share information if we do not know there is a need. So, if you know of a Club member who would appreciate being remembered, please call or e-mail the information to: Linda Grundy 4573526 [grundy@mosquitonet.com](mailto:grundy@mosquitonet.com).

**Mark Your Calendar With These Date**

- March 30th Martin-Senour Paint Seminar @ Hutch
- May 28th—29th Carlson Center Member Car Show
- June 1st—mid Sept Wednesday Night Run-Arounds
- June 17th—18th Alaska Joint Meet with ANC Auto Musher's Eagle River Resort
- July 6th—10th Joint Tour with ANC AAMA Club to McCarthy-Kennicott

This is a continuation from our February News Letter:

## *Dawson City Part II — We Discover Gold*

(if you missed Part I, it is worthy of reviewing the February newsletter)



Part II Continued...

We had an open invitation to tour an active gold mine operation and no trip to the gold fields of the Klondike would be complete without a touch of gold fever. In earlier days, Bill Wright had prospected in Thailand and Yukon Territory with his friend Lee Olynyk. Today, Lee and his wife Wanlee maintain their claim in the Gold Bottom Creek Mining District and were willing to show us around their operation. We drove East of Dawson City about 7 miles and turned off on a side road and headed up through old tailings and remnants of past mining claims. In our driving directions to the claim, we were told that we were to turn off this road and cross the bridge at Hunker Creek and follow the road to the end. Arriving at Hunker Creek, we found the bridge to be in a state of disrepair with part of the bridge deck missing. After a couple minutes of pondering our dilemma, we decided to ford the creek with the Model A's. After all, the creek was only about 60 feet wide! No little creek was going to dampen our gold seeking adventure! As I was waiting my turn to cross the creek, I was wondering why Bill had stopped mid-creek and stepped out on to his car's running board. Surely, this is a strange way to look for gold in the creek bottom! Upon further investigation, I learned that Bill was teaching us that it's hard to suck water into your carburetor and expect a spark to ignite your fuel. Lesson learned, a few minutes later, the car restarted. on to the mine.

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## *Dawson City Part II — We Discover Gold*

Continued from Page 4

We were greeted upon our arrival by Lee and Wanlee and made to feel at home. After our introductions, we traveled to the working area of the claim. This operation turned out to be no small-time venture as there was a bulldozer and an excavator steadily supplying gravel into a sluice box. We were told that the feeding of gravel through this sluice washes about 80 yards of pay dirt per hour for ten hours every day and pumps and recycles about 2800 gallons of water per minute. The sluice is designed to separate gold from rock and other materials depositing the gold in the bottom of the sluice for collection at a latter time. The rock and other material is removed to the tailing pile. Part of the gravel that exits the sluice at this operation is recycled through the sluice and continues to be valuable pay dirt. Operating and maintaining this property keeps Lee and his small crew busy for the 100 days of the mining season each year. Three 25 yard and six 35 yard rock trucks are planned to be added to the operation in 2011 and will haul pay dirt from the additional two miles of upstream claim to the sluicing plant for processing and haul off overburden.

Our gold mining adventure added to the success of our trip and I feel that we were very lucky to see this operation first hand. We thanked our hosts and said good bye and it was back to the cars for the return trip to Dawson City. We learned that there was a new bridge across Hunker Creek a couple hundred yards downstream from our original crossing and this greatly aided our return trip from the mine and eliminated the need to ford the creek a second time. We had one more overnight stay at our hotel and then the return drive to Tok, reload the vehicles and the return drive home.

Everyone on this trip noted one specific part of our adventure. If we had a dollar for every time our picture was taken on the Taylor and Top of the World Highways, we could have paid all our expenses on this trip. As we would watch on-coming cars, people would be snapping pictures out of their windshields or stopping their vehicles, jumping out, setting up tripods and

snapping pictures as we drove by. America does have a love affair with the automobile and this is further proof that these cars, and other great cars will live on in our hearts forever.



*A Special Thank You to John McCarthy for submitting this article of a true "road experience".*

## A Winter Trip Across America As Experienced by Two Couples in Our Club Vinton/Allen "Take I" By Ron and Nancy Allen

Pictured  
Ron and Nancy  
Allen on the  
left and  
Willy and Wilma  
Vinton on the  
Right.

These two  
couples have  
given multiple  
hours to our  
club in several  
capacities.

*THANK YOU*



Put four independent people with 77 years of combined marriages into one 30 foot RV, drive 3,200 miles across the southern United States in January over a two-week period, and what do you get – in this case a fun, interesting and enjoyable vacation. Willy and Wilma Vinton and Ron and Nancy Allen left Fairbanks on December 28 on the red eye flight to Seattle and places beyond ending up in our favorite tinsel town, Las Vegas. We spent 24 hours in Vegas casinos where the more serious gamblers, Nancy and Willy, reached their undisclosed allotted gambling loss limits, while the two bean counters, Ron and Wilma, lost about two bucks each. We also visited the Imperial Palace car museum, a nice collection.

The next day, December 29, we picked up the RV and left Tinsel Town on the open highway. We drove all of an hour and stayed overnight in the parking lot of another casino next to the Hoover Dam, a distance of less than 50 miles from Vegas. The lure of one-armed bandits was too much to pass up. The next day we headed to Escondido, CA where we welcomed in the New Year with Allan and Beth Schmitt. Allan and Beth own and run a world class antique car restoration company, so Ron and Willy were in their own little heaven inspecting cars and talking parts and restoration with Allan. Allan also took the guys to visit a friend of his who has an interesting assortment of antique engines, cars and unusual projects including building an exact replica of an early tractor using blueprint designs of an antique tractor and one of his antique gas engines. The Schmidts also grow tangerines and avocados and provided us with produce to sustain us during our whole trip. While in California we named our RV "The Love Shack," for no particular reason I must add other than the name sounded cute.

Part II Continued in our April Edition

**March Birthdays**

Culbertson	Donna	6-Mar
Shoemaker	Karmen	6-Mar
Ness	Michael	8-Mar
Stevenson	Ron	9-Mar
Nash	Gary	10-Mar
Newman	Johnie	10-Mar
Murphy	JoAnn	11-Mar
Larrick	Rick	15-Mar
Chase	Will	18-Mar
Page	Merle	16-Mar
Yamamoto	Leslie	19-Mar
Weber	Judy	20-Mar
McHone	Roby	21-Mar
Ness	Linda	21-Mar
Kimzey	Ted	23-Mar
Kirschner	Chuck	25-Mar
Chace	Joyce	28-Mar
Benham	Loran	28-Mar
Brabham	Jan	30-Mar
Middleton	John	30-Mar
Krier	Donna	31-Mar



Charlie & Carrie  
Jurgens  
Match 14th

Marshall & Kathryn  
Ninmer  
March 22

**Club Member In Need**

Garry Farnham and Melanie have recently learned they must move by May 1. They have purchased a home across the street from where they are currently renting near Delta. It does not have a bedroom on the main floor which is necessary for Melanie who is coping with a serious medical problem. Garry is hoping to build an addition onto the new house prior to their move.

Since this is an unexpected and untimely move for them, Garry is asking for any help friends can give. He has already acquired some donated building materials and possible offers of construction help. Any assistance Club members are able to send their way will be greatly appreciated. Garry can be reached either by phone: 907-750-1468 or e-mail: [garryfarnham@rocketmail.com](mailto:garryfarnham@rocketmail.com)



For Sale                    1980 Turbo Monte Carlo

Second Owner, have title & registration

2 toned blue, vinyl roof, wire wheel covers

[ethan@acsalaska.net](mailto:ethan@acsalaska.net) or 378-1987

**Wanted**

**Power bulge hood for '71-'74 Charger**

**456-2349**



**1957 FORD RANCHERO**  
**"A CLASSIC RESTORATION"**

**Model 66 B w/25K Miles on Driveline**  
**302 V-8 Engine w/C-4 Automatic Transmission**  
**Power Brakes (front disc) & Cruise Control**  
**Turquoise Exterior w/White Roll & Tuck Interior**  
**Electric Wipers--Tinted Glass--Padded Dash**  
**Ground Effects Lighting---Tonneau Cover**  
**A Great Cruiser and a Multiple Trophy Winner**

**\$27,500 (OBO)**

The owner of this beauty is one of our newest members to the club.  
Tom Jensen  
You can reach him at 907 694-7717 or email [mot.nesnej@gmail.com](mailto:mot.nesnej@gmail.com)

## CONTACTS

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VLNAAC Website: <http://local.aaca.org/fairbanks/>

### NEXT MEETINGS

The General Membership meeting is on March 10th at the Bakery in Fairbanks. Dinner at 6pm and meeting at 7pm.

The Board meeting is at 6pm at Sam's Sourdough Café on March 8th. Everyone is welcome to attend Board Meetings.

### Newsletter Deadline

All materials for the newsletter should be in by the 20th of the month to be considered for the next newsletter. Email [chelms@ptialaska.net](mailto:chelms@ptialaska.net) or mail your items to her home address; 770 Bennett Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99712.

Have a story about how you got your car? A favorite trip? A real repair hassle? Send it in!



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