



**Fall 2011 Chatanika Run**  
by  
Scott Grundy

Sunny dispositions overcame soggy and chilly weather on the club’s traditional second Saturday of September run to members Ron & Shirley Franklins’ wonderful Chatanika Lodge! In fact, the hearty Alaskans gathered in the Pioneer Park parking lot appeared oblivious to the drizzle and 40 degree temperatures. “Cornerstone” Larson (Rochelle) organized the event and was assisted by the ever smiling Ruth Ann Domke. The duo were busily collecting \$5 pot money from those individuals who wanted to participate in the poker event and recording the first card drawn. But Rochelle’s stroke of genius this year was to also acquire the food preference from the participants and preorder by phone to speed up food service upon arrival – it worked beautifully!

Eleven cars departed Pioneer Park around 10:15 a.m. with heaters, wipers & headlights on. As we pulled into the pipeline viewing wayside near Fox to draw our second card, I was pleased and surprised to see Becky Monsma meeting us there and taking individual photos of our vehicles as we entered.



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

**“Time for *You* to *Slide Into the Driver's Seat?*”**

For the past two years we have been talking and writing about “sharing the driving” (driving = club leadership and committee work). Now it is time for some new folks to slide into the driver’s seat. Nominations will be the main agenda item at the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7 pm at The Bakery on College Road (dinner is before, at 6). Brenda Wilbur (456-4284) is chairing the Nominating Committee, working with committee members Paul Tekin (488-2992), Rick Larrick (457-4344) and Laurel McLaughlin (452-5234). The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers at the October meeting and nominations will be open from the floor. Nominations will close at the meeting and if any position is contested, then elections will be held in November with ballots counted at the November meeting. Personally, I hope that *every* position is “contested” with more than one person standing in hopes of being elected to that position.

Most of the work of the Elected Officers, Board of Directors, and the Committees is done in the winter months (Those folks like to have fun during the summer, too – so the more that is planned out in the winter, the less work there is to do in the summer!). Board meetings are the Tuesday before each regular membership meeting and the board members try to fully discuss, debate, and decide the important decisions for the club with their results reported at the membership meeting on Thursday. They take care of all the details such as venue contracts, insurance, policy, etc. Decisions that are outside the scope of the bylaws or not in the budget must be presented to the membership. This is important work. Most members just want to be the passengers and just share the fun (instead of the driving) so their decision on who we nominate and elect to the “to do the driving” on the board is important.

The new President names all the committee chairs. Usually he (or she) has board input and help but the President we elect needs to put together his or her team. This is where “sharing the driving” really gets important. Committees like the Program / Events Committee really do most of their work in January and February planning the events for the coming summer. The Carlson Show Committee starts their work in November signing a contract for the show and then has to plan advertising, sponsors, etc. The Raffle Car Committee should have a car before the snow, and then has to have all their plans made – hopefully by our Christmas Party. All of these committee teams need members!

An email was sent out in September asking for your input to the Nominating Committee on 2012 Officers and also asking what you and your spouse would be interested in doing to “share the driving” on one of the Committees. Every duty in the club needs help – while individuals head up the Newsletter, Webpage, Historian, or Sunshine Committee, each of them needs and appreciates a team of folks willing to help.

Please return your email from September – or send an email to [vlnaacf@gmail.com](mailto:vlnaacf@gmail.com) with information on what you are willing to do the “share the driving” – or call one of the Nominating Committee members to talk about what you can do to help.

See you at the October Meeting!

- Rick Larrick



### **Mark Your Calendar With These Dates**

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Oct 11 | Board Mtg @ 6pm at Sam’s Sourdough Cafe  |
| Oct 13 | General Membership Meeting<br>6:00pm Dinner at the Bakery<br>7:00pm Membership Meeting |
| Oct 20 | Newsletter Deadline  |

You can purchase a club picture at our membership meeting or contact our membership chair - Rochelle Larson

## Fall 2011 Chatanika Run Continued from page 1

The Karpik family joined us en-route. Then I was relieved to see John McDonald arrive with his dog, Chester. I say “relieved” because he was doing some maintenance on his nifty truck and refused my facetious offer to tow him from Pioneer Park with our old Plymouth. But the highlight was seeing “Squeaky” & Marion arrive late in their Thunderbird. I found their tardiness commendable because they read the newsletter notice which indicated we would depart at 10:30; they were unaware the time had been revised at the membership meeting and later by email. It’s truly comforting to know some folks do read the newsletter!

True to tradition, our third card would be drawn at the Pedro Monument wayside. Later, we dummies were all standing around in the mist and cold wind when retired teacher Laurel McLaughlin saved us from hypothermia by suggesting and herding us into the protection of the pavilion onsite. Thank you Laurel!

The next stop was at Cleary Summit where we found the weather to be even more severe and foggy to boot! “Bear” (aka Dennis Shmidt) had previously announced he was going to skip the traditional group picture at the summit and head to the comfort in Chatanika. (Well, I know he’s a big tough guy so I suspect his mindset was affected by his imminent departure to shorts & sandal weather in AZ.) The group mostly stayed in their cars at the summit after the decision was made to draw the next two cards inside at Chatanika. I ventured forth into the subarctic with a large golf umbrella carefully held upwind so I wouldn’t earn the nickname “Scotty Poppins,” snapped a quick photo of our cars and fled back to my warm car! (Okay, it wasn’t quite that bad, but some editorial liberty does make for a better story.)

The fall colors were at their peak of beauty as usual. It’s always enjoyable to see old rigs cruising down the road, but the sight is so enhanced by colorful foliage! The flowers at the Chatanika Lodge are always beautiful too and add much to the photo of our vehicles lined up in front. Plus the food is always great as is the camaraderie within our crew. The meals were quickly delivered and I was highly amused to see “Bear” a bit perturbed to be the first to arrive but one of the last to be served. Actually, I believe he was entertained by the irony too!

Following lunch Rochelle announced the poker winners: Ed McLaughlin with a FULL HOUSE (believed to be a first) won \$60!, I won \$30 with three fives, John McDonald won \$20 for two pairs & Robbie Casey received \$15 for a pair of aces. As added recognition, Rochelle awarded nice non-cash prizes to “Bub” Larson for the lowest hand, and Linda Grundy, Jill Larrick & Marily Naquin (Merced) for hands of note. (I’m certain they would have preferred bank notes, though.)

The oldest car was a ’30 model A driven at impressive speed by Bub Larson and the newest was the Monsma’s beautiful 2011 Dodge Charger! The final tally of cars was 13 vintage & two modern for a total of \_\_ (you do the math). Participants included the Larricks, Benhams, Karpiks, Monsmas, Caseys, Grundys, Larsons, McLaughlins, Tekins, Merced/Naquin, “Bear”, Don Oines, John McCarthy & John McDonald for a total of 24 “adults”, two beautiful Karpik children & three dogs.

Mark your calendars now for a great time again next year. It’s always a fun event!

### **FYI..**

Any pictures for the walls at Sam's Sourdough should be submitted to [vlnaacf@gmail.com](mailto:vlnaacf@gmail.com) in October. This is the last time we will print, frame, and hang car member's auto photos on the wall at Sam's Sourdough until the fall of 2012. Cost to members is \$20 per picture.

Also, Tom Cresap has completed a wonderful picture book of the Joint Tour to Kennecott taken by a number of our members and a number of folks from their Anchorage Auto Musers Club. You can contact Tom or Marcie at [tmcresap@mtaonline.net](mailto:tmcresap@mtaonline.net) if you are interested in a book and haven't received ordering information.





A Redo on your Upholstery Doesn't Have To Be that Complicated. Whether it is an auto interior or a household upholstery job!

By Cindy Helms

**A & A Upholstery**  
**457-4075**  
*Randy Renfro—Club Member*

I bought a '55 Caddy that is so close to perfect but it needs some interior upholstery work. Because I have an expectation for my car, I thought I should do some investigating. We were introduced to Mr. Renfro at our car club meeting in March. He stood up and talked about his experience in Fairbanks and the variety of interior/household/outdoor things he had done.

Here's what I found out:

Club members are very pleased.. Several have won awards from "People's Choice Award" to "Classic Choice" in different shows.

I also found out that he had reupholstered the chairs in our library (way before my time) and had reupholstered the nurse's office.

My experience with him has been very positive. He is more than willing to spend the time to measure for your needs and to do the research to assist you in your project.

If any of you need references or pictures from our members, I received to many to print! Please email me.

**The Anchorage club was us contacted looking for MOVIE CARS for an upcoming movie shoot in Anchorage.**

A current movie production is looking for a local example of each of the following cars to use in the movie:

1971- 73 Buick Riviera

1970 - 78 Chevrolet Sedan

If you own one, or know of anyone who does, contact Art Isham at 688-3671 and he will get your name and vehicle description to the right person.

### **Check This Out**

Rick & Jill Larrick took up the invitation from the Anchorage Auto Musers to join in their drive into Denali Park on the last day of the season (Monday, September 19th). The drive was especially fun because Anchorage members Fred Keller and Judy Foster of Wasilla drove in their Red Wagon.



**SUNSHINE CLUB**



If you know of a club member or members who would appreciate being remembered due to health issues or a family loss, please let us know. Ruth Ann Domke will be the club contact with the assistance of Sherry Camarata for the next few months.

Contact : Ruth Ann by phone at: 373-6973 or e-mail: [domkera54@gmail.com](mailto:domkera54@gmail.com). or Sherry may be reached by phone at: 373-0253 or e-mail: [pscamarata@gci.net](mailto:pscamarata@gci.net).

Most of us would appreciate a little sunshine now and then; however we can't send it if you don't help to keep us informed.

**October Birthdays**

Thomas	Smith	1-Oct
Karen	Ellison	3-Oct
Denise	Lundquist	4-Oct
Sue	Whitney	4-Oct
David	Karpik	5-Oct
Tracy	Brand	6-Oct
John	Borg	8-Oct
Martin	Herzog	8-Oct
Lori	Hinchsliff	14-Oct
Nancy	Gile	15-Oct
Robbie	Casey	17-Oct
Kenny	Maxwell	18-Oct
Deborah	Rockney	19-Oct
Garry	Farnham	21-Oct
LaVonne	Gullickson	21-Oct

We want to thank the Vern Nash Car Club and specifically, Ron Allen, Bill and Joyce Chace, Clint Chace, Scott and Lynn Grundy, Bub Larson and Don Oines for driving the Rick and Rebecca Wilbur wedding party from Fairbanks Native Bible Church off Dale Road to the reception at the Elks on the day of the wedding. It was a glorious day!

Thank-you very much. Roy-Brenda-Rick and Rebecca Wilbur

**Anniversaries**

George	Patricia	Jr.	1-Oct
Ron	Nancy	Allen	5-Oct
Wayne	Linda	Long	7-Oct
Don	Connie	Ronken	8-Oct
Jerry	Donna	Krier	11-Oct
Samuel	Melody	Simmons	17-Oct
David	Laura	Graham	23-Oct
Eugene	Terry	Reed	31-Oct

**CARS FOR SALE**



1948 Ford F 1 pickup with 279 cubic inch V-8 engine and 6 volt electrical system. Engine has been overhauled and burns no oil and has great oil pressure. Oak planking in bed has been recently replaced. Metallic green in color. Asking \$12,000 OBO. All gauges working. A great truck!! Reason for selling: storage in winter has become too difficult.



Dark Blue 1948 Ford with a real 1948 license plate #5863. A steal for \$14,750. Rebuilt flathead V-8 engine with less than 5,000 miles.No rust or bondo--even the floor pans and the rockers are original. Nicely restored with La-Baron-Boney interior. Many spare parts. Drives and shows nice. Bruce Campbell 345-3129 or [mcmarl@alaska.net](mailto:mcmarl@alaska.net)

'74 Opel Manta complete but doesn't run \$500 OBO

Rick Larrick 457-4344

197? Jeep 3/4 ton 4WD PU - complete & decent; 1984-5? American Eagle 4dr AWD, 157,000 miles very nice body, interior (runs well- just needs boots & TLC); **1949 Dodge dump truck with a spare motor as the original engine block is cracked;** or an operating 1953 GMC dump truck. Just make a reasonable offer on any or all! Call Nila Lyle 488-4136 for an appointment. Scott Grundy & Rick Larrick have photos.

## ***Runnin' The Ridge To The Mondo***

*By Scott Grundy*

*This article was featured in last months newsletter, however the last half of the story was omitted.*

*Please enjoy this fun and well written article by Scott!*

As I prepared for the run it was cold, rainy and nasty. My bride didn't want to abandon her planning for a future vacation & my dog didn't want to get his feet wet. All very depressing but the thought of running for food and supporting Don Oines who planned the Mondo Run motivated me. Convinced that only Don & I would be at the rendezvous site, my mind searched for an alternative to suggest. However, as I pulled into Pioneer Park I was delighted to see at least five cars and folks standing in the drizzle. In retrospect, I admit I was foolish to believe our membership would be deterred by a little drizzle – especially this summer! I approached the group & stated that I was certain nobody would be there and was going to suggest to Don that we run to the Hilltop Restaurant for lunch. Well you would think I had committed a huge sin as two assertive women (who shall go unnamed but are emphasized later) accosted me for daring to venture such a thought. No amount of explanation including my emphasis on the past tense of my statement would satisfy their good natured tirade. The girls even continued their ridicule at the conclusion of our lunch at the Mondo by announcing that Grundy would surely be eager to extend our run to the Hilltop Restaurant for dessert.

At our assembly in Pioneer Park, Terry Whitledge experienced a fuel leak in his Model A - so he headed home with his guest Dean to switch cars. Other attendees in addition to Don & Angie Oines were THERESA & Will Chase, Ron & NANCY Allen, Ed & Laurel McLaughlin, Rick & Jill Larrick, Julio & Marily Merced, Bub & Rochelle Larson & lonesome me in eleven vehicles. (Note my intentional emphasis!) Don agreed to wait at the Parks Highway Monument Viewpoint for Terry and to delay drawing cards for the poker event dependent upon the weather. We were encouraged by the "Dutchmen's britches" appearing in the distant skies (blue spots) and sure enough our optimism was rewarded with sun all the way to the Monderosa. At the monument, Don held the tray full of cards, Rochelle recorded & THERESA collected the cards. We drew two cards at the monument from separate decks, and another card at Skinny Dick's, the Minto Flats viewpoint & the final card at the Monderosa.

This was our second fun run to the Monderosa this summer. The only change I noticed was the flowers had greatly improved. Believe we all ordered a version of the fantastic Mondo-burger and, of course, were not disappointed. After lunch our stomachs were smiling (an observation by Ron Allen) and Don Oines announced the poker winners: THERESA, Rick, Ed, Terry & Marily in fifth position with a pair of nines. I proudly mentioned to Will who was sitting next to me that I was sixth with a pair of eights; he shook his head negatively & informed me he also had a pair of eights. Just not my day....

Several of us didn't caravan on the return and made a 55-60 mph run to Ester in moderate rain. The Allens, McLaughlins, Terry, Dean & I stopped for the grand opening of the Gold Hill Express café that is housed in a beautifully refurbished RR caboose. We all salivated for the free root beer floats & food samples as advertised. However, we cheapskates were informed we were an hour late for the freebies. But in the spirit of having a great time & feeling pretty rowdy, we did lots of boisterous whining. Apparently our presence was appreciated by the staff & paying customers so we "children" were rewarded with six free floats! We graciously accepted and later provided a generous tip! Laurel & Terry scoped the joint out for our future use. The café is a nifty place that features in-your-car or outdoor eating of ice cream, coffee & gourmet sandwiches. Since food & drink are always a good enticement, we promised to return!



*The Group taking a pit stop at  
The Gold Hill Express*

*The Poker Run Winner's!*

# CONTACTS

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

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Membership Chair	Rochelle	Larson	<a href="mailto:rochelle1987@hotmail.com">rochelle1987@hotmail.com</a>	907 590-8593

## NEXT MEETINGS

The General Membership meeting is on October 13th at the Bakery Restaurant at 6pm and meeting at 7pm.

The Board meeting is at 6pm at Sam's Sourdough Café on October 11th. 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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