

# Antique Automobile Club of America

## Notes from the President

Larry Bennett

It was great to have such a good turnout for our February 12 meeting. We counted at least 37 members and guests crowded into the booths at the Mambo Grill, eating Mexican food, and enjoying each others' company. It was a special privilege for me to recognize Loran "Squeaky" Benham's three years of outstanding service as our club president. From my review of the club archives, I think Squeaky is the only president to have served three continuous years. Some have served multiple terms, but I think Squeaky is the only president to have had that job for three years in a row. Good on ya, Squeaky! We presented him with a pink carnation and an Eagle medallion, noting his close association with the word eagle: he flies with the eagles, he often visits Eagle and he recently restored a Jeffery Quad truck that now resides in Eagle, and he even looks like an eagle—a BALD eagle!

Your board of directors met for their first meeting of the year on February 18. We discussed ideas for meeting locations and programs and began planning for what is surely to be a busy summer of car club activities. The board is going to try to meet every month, on the Wednesday evening just prior to the newsletter deadline on the 25th of the month.

I hope you will make a special effort to attend the club's March meeting. It will be held at 6 PM on Thursday, March 11, at the Thai House, 526 5th Street, in Fairbanks. Charlie and his beautiful wife La On of the Thai House have reserved the back room of their restaurant for our exclusive use. Five authentic Thai dishes, plus rice and beverages, will be served. We're grateful to Jim Eddy for suggesting the Thai House as a possible meeting location. Come join us for this, our first excursion to the Thai House! Our program will

MARCH ~~February~~ 2004

be presented by Robin Hasty, Projects Director of the Fairbanks Historic Preservation Foundation. She will talk to us about "The Fairbanks Historic Preservation Foundation: Its Current Activities and Its Vision for the Future."

If you are like us, the longer days are an incentive to think about unwrapping the old cars and getting them ready for summer. For us, that means figuring out what's wrong with the fuel line on the Standard 8A Tourer! Once we do that, we'll be on the road!

Happy motoring, or at least happy dreams of summertime motoring! I look forward to seeing you on the 11th.

—Larry

## Meeting Notes

### From the VLNAAC February meeting:

The summer meeting with the Anchorage car club will be at Trapper Creek, June 11-13, 2004.

A day trip to Delta is possible during the summer.

Antique Automobile Club of America inquired as to whether VLNAAC is interested in hosting a regional/national event.

The Benhams were celebrating their anniversary.

During discussion of the missing gavel some claimed it was hidden on the premises. (it was)

Ron Dane won the door prize; Bill Chace won the 50/50.

### From the Executive Committee meeting 2/18/04.

April meeting to be 4/8/04.

### Summer activities in no particular order:

Delta trip, perhaps May 15, visit Bennetts' Lost Lake cabin for a meal, tour pellet plant or meat packing plant, tour Rika's Roadhouse, Trapper Creek as mentioned above

Dawson City, Yukon Territory, June 28-July 6

A rally-sometime in August

Mondorosa Run in September

Midnight Sun/Solstice Festival, June 19

Tanana Valley Fair—no car show

Carlson Center auto show, May, date not yet known

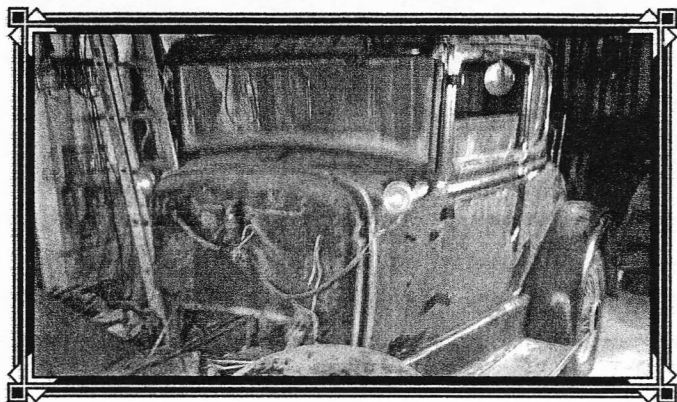
GoldenDays Parade, July 24

North Pole Parade, July 4



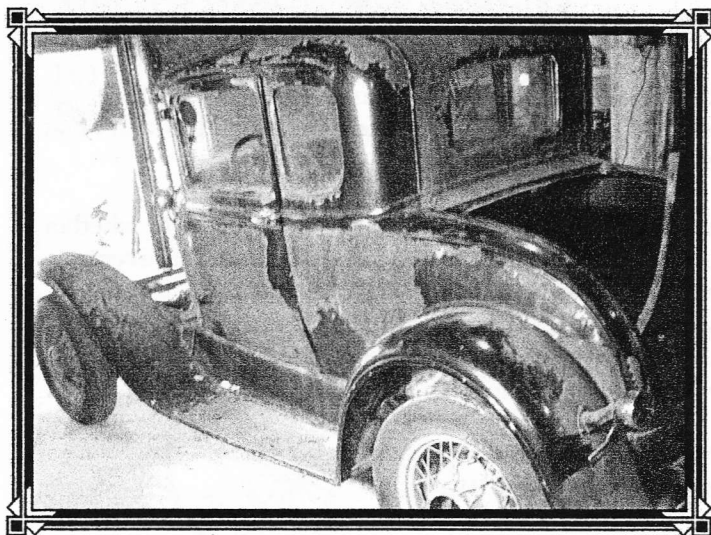
## 1931 Model A: In Progress

by Don Oines

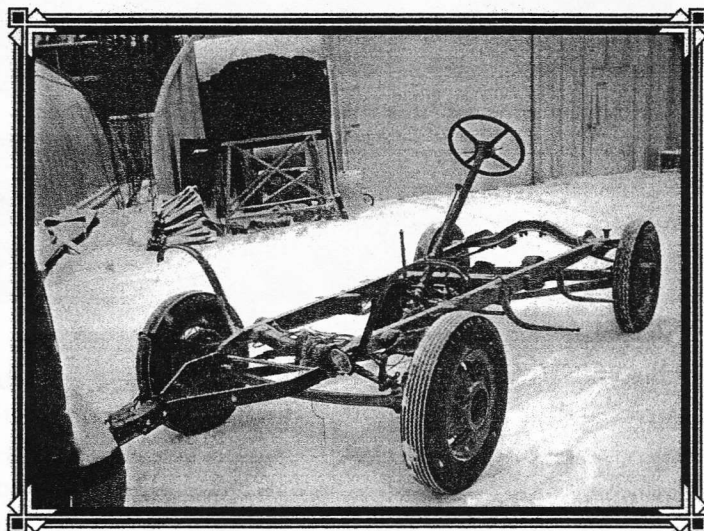


The above Model A coupe was purchased from George Clayton in Oct. of 03. When asked if he knew any history on the car he said he had purchased it in Colorado and brought it up a couple years ago. His "couple years ago" reminds me of when I purchased the Model A town car I now have. The seller said he had driven it down from Central either 14 or 24 years earlier, but he couldn't remember which. So much for the "couple years".

Since the weather was still warm, my son and I began to disassemble the car for restoration. It started out looking to be simple, involving a new paint



job, new interior, and installing the rebuilt engine still in the crate from "Egge." However the situation deteriorated rapidly as the disassembly progressed and we found numerous rust-throughs on the body requiring patch panels. They had been patched with body filler previously. In fact we found the entire car

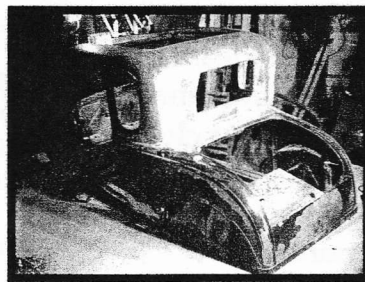


had been buttered with bondo.

After removal of the body the chassis was pulled into "José's" for steam cleaning and sandblasting. Meanwhile I had sent off for all the patch panels for the body. I continued to disassemble the body, removing everything that was removable including the top and top wood, as it was rotted out.

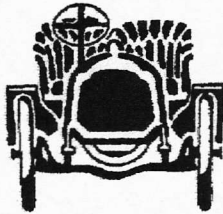
After retrieving the chassis from José we lifted what was left of the body into my pickup and hauled it in for sandblasting also. The day that we got the body back from sandblasting was the day the weather turned sub-zero. This put a halt to my work in the shop as it's hard to heat at those temperatures.

I found another warm place to continue stripping the paint from the other components. At the time of this writing, I have finished that chore but the weather still hasn't warmed. For the next stage I plan to assemble and install the engine



and then go to work on the brakes. Someone started a conversion to hydraulics but never finished it. I'm not sure what I'll find once I open up the wheel drums. After completing the chassis I will return to the body, install new wood in the roof, install patch panels, remove minor dents and then paint and put in a new interior. ▲





## CLASSIFIED ADS

**Legendary Car Collector George Clayton of Fairbanks is selling all of his vehicles.**

Most of the vehicles listed here are all located indoors at present, but there are many, many vehicles and parts available for sale for those willing to work to get them out of the snow. This includes lots of Model A and Model T parts. All of his cars are project cars. All will require transportation. No prices are listed as George will negotiate all prices. **For all inquires: 456-4550. Let it ring, it takes George a while to get to the phone.**

**1962 Gran Turismo**

**1931 Ford Victoria**

**1930 Ford Phaeton**

**1978 Cadillac Sedan deVille, maroon, velour upholstery.**

**1920 Fordson Tractor:** in pieces, nearly all the required parts are there. The engine is free and has good compression. The drive wheels have never been worn down, and were always driven on tundra.

**1955 Chrysler New Yorker Deluxe 2-Door,** with parts car.

**1941 Chrysler 4-Door Sedan.** Includes factory-new 6-cylinder engine.

**1917 Model T Ford Touring.** This was the Valdez Trail car last driven by Ben Eielson.

**1917 Dodge Touring Car.** Includes parts car and many new parts. This was formerly the Thomas Gibson Valdez Trail car.

**1926 Ford Model T Pickup**

**1930 Ford Model A Dump truck** with most of the parts.

**Several 69 Cadillacs**

**1978 Cadillac sedan deVille, maroon**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Two Vehicles for restoration:** 66 Toyota Stout Pickup. Needs motor crank. \$800.00. 77 Mustang II Coupe. Needs motor crank. \$1200.00. 457-4883, 456-2518, 388-5832, Ask for Gary.

**1964 Dodge Dart GT convertible.** Runs and drives ok. New seats, top, and paint. 6cyl with juke box trans. Comes with parts car with v8 4sp. Call 474-0939 or 456-2261.

**1965 Olds Vista Cruiser** \$700.00. 1976 GMC Pickup, \$1500.00. Both need batteries. Toby Talbot, 456-1860.

**1963 Thunderbird.** Nice car needs some work but drives great. 452-1472 or 378-7550




## VLNAAC Members Attend Fur Rondy

Three sets of doughty VLNAAC members attended the Fur Rondy last weekend in February down in Anchorage. Squeaky and Marion Benham, Ron and Karine Dane, and Don and Angie Oines had a great time at the annual Antique Car Show.

## April Meeting Set

Joyce and Bill Chace have arranged the meeting for April 8. It will be at the Hot Tamale Grande on Noble Street at 6 PM. We'll eat Mexican food, buffet style. Bill will show and narrate a selection of videos taken from recent car club events at Dawson, Eagle and Trapper Creek.

We are in need of a large screen TV and VCR. Can you help? Please call Bill (488-3805) or Larry (479-5118) if you can provide these for the April 8 meeting. 

OFFICERS**President**

Larry Bennett 479-5118

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**Vice President:** Ray McLeod 347-4070

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**Secretary:** Laurel McLaughlin 452-5234

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**Treasurer:** Ruth Hill 452-4510**Newsletter/Web Site:** Jean McDermott 458-0257

jeano@celticandmore.com

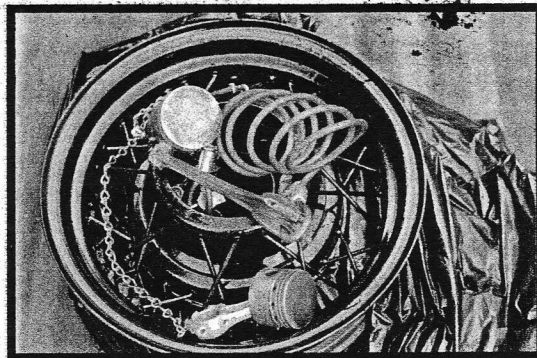
**Roster & Labels:** Bill & Joyce Chace 488-3805

chace@acsalaska.net

**Events Coordinator:** Beccy Monsma 458-0024

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**Next Meeting: March 11, 6pm,****Thai House****526 5th Street, Fairbanks**

"This is the only original gavel and no other phony replacements should be accepted. The gavel can be disconnected from the wheel if the President wants it that way. He has the only keys but he tells me both the gavel and wheel was stolen at the last meeting before he could even hold it and he does not have it now."—Bill Chace (How did Bill get a picture of it then? Inquiring minds want to know!—Editor)

**Newsletter Deadline**

**All materials for the newsletter must be in by the 25th of the month for the following month.**

**Email to jeano@celticandmore.com**

**OR**

**Mail to the return address on the newsletter.**

**Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club**

Jean McDermott &amp; Mark Cosson

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LARRY &amp; MARGARET BENNETT

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