



A Beautiful Day on Cleary Summit

Chatanika Poker Run
by Wilma Vinton

The September Chatanika Poker Run occurred on a beautiful fall day and was a great turnout for the final run of the year. The run was dedicated to Paul Camarata because we all know how much Paul loved a warm sunny day with the top down. There were 16 cars lined up and rearing to go with over 30 participants. The route included our start at Pioneer Park for the first draw and then on to Fox Texaco, Pedro Monument, Cleary Summit and finally Chatanika Lodge. The only vehicle trouble on the route was a bit of truck trouble. Scott Grundy's "new" 36 Dodge couldn't quite make the hill prior to Summit. Bill Chace came to the rescue with a tow rope and the trusty Plymouth. The Dodge was towed to the top. Then, of

course, all the guys had to gather and confer as to what

the problem could be. It turned out to be "operator error" and an easy fix, although there was some pain in the process. Scott Grundy describes his suffering in the article below.

As always, a very nice meal was prepared for us at Chatanika Lodge. Following lunch the awards were given out. Winners of the Poker game were Willy Vinton, First Place, Brian Vinton, Second Place, and Carman Shoemaker in third place. Martin Herzog had the first Ace and Sherry Camarata had the lowest hand. We want to thank the lodge owners and fellow VLNAACF members, Ron and Shirley Franklin, for their hospitality, and we hope that Ron Franklin is feeling better. Shirley was there to greet the group, but Ron was in the hospital.



Stop at Pedro's Monument – Chatanika Run



Poker Winners and Their Loot

Trouble on Cleary Summit by Scott Grundy



The shutters were snapping as we were being towed by Bill & Joyce Chace's dependable 1952 Plymouth into the pullout at the top of Cleary Summit in our newly acquired 1936 Dodge pickup named "Cutie." Our rescue was also documented by a German crew that was filming the event for their public television! This was far more attention than I anticipated our new rig would attract, and far more attention than my ego could easily sustain too! As you can see in the photos we had lots of assistance diagnosing the problem. "Dr. W. Vinton" located an electric booster fuel pump and a control switch secreted away under the dash that solved the problem. Well, I consider myself to be a pretty handy fella, but this was TMI for my ego to handle. I awkwardly tried to explain to the good "Doctor" that the chap who I purchased the truck from had owned it for less than a month and had explained that "the hidden switch was for the heater that works great." The "good Doctor" then totally destroyed all remaining self-esteem by stating in a commanding voice for all club members gathered about to hear, "You don't have a heater!"

Fortunately the remainder of the trip was trouble free. Ironically, I had the bed loaded with water, gas, tow strap, fire extinguisher & tools to assist fellow members who might encounter some difficulty with their vintage vehicles. At dinner in Chatanika, Bill Chase explained to this newby that they never leave a club member behind. I responded, "Just like the military?" Bill said, "Exactly." I found this comforting and also admit that we had a great time!



The Dr. says "You don't have a heater! Har har har!"

More on Plymouths: I recently purchased Dick Sleep's wrecked 1955 Plymouth four door as a parts car. It has a V8 engine and an automatic transmission as does our other 1955 Plymouth convertible, "Sleeper." (We name all our vehicles) Dick's Plymouth has only 27,737 original miles, and her interior, chrome and stainless parts are beautiful! The more I look at this car, the more I hesitate to reduce her to a heap of spare parts and eBay sales. However, the damage is extensive. I had a body shop owner look at the car, and he kept shaking his head and saying "amazing." Finally I got him to state that it "may" be practical to rebuild. BUT



he declined my offer to sell it to him for only \$150 more than I paid (after I swaped a few parts, of course). So now I think it best to seek a second opinion, but I hesitate to call the infamous "Dr. W. Vinton!" Also note that the Chace's again came to my rescue by hauling this disabled vehicle to our home. My advice is to never travel without them; they're great folks in a great club!

Club Activities and Other Things Considered by Ron Allen

We are having our annual officer elections at the November 9 meeting. Voting will be by sealed ballot which will be sent to each member by mail. We have members competing for most of the positions this year, so this election is an interesting one. There are differing opinions about club leadership and direction that has likely contributed to the increased competition. I urge everyone to vote their choices, and no matter what the outcome is, please continue to support our newly elected officers in continuing the activities of our great club.

Laurel McLaughlin said that the election ballots and the Christmas dinner and dues forms are in the mail. If for some reason you get this newsletter and have not received the ballots and dinner and dues forms, please call Laurel at 452-5234.

Because our club finances are doing so well with the raffle income, the members voted at the October

meeting to have the club pay the full costs of our Christmas dinners at the Westmark on December 10. They also decided to pay for any member's children up to sixteen years old. This should ensure a good turn-out.

The committee appointed to locate and purchase a \$2,500 raffle vehicle for next year has not found a suitable candidate yet. If any member has or knows of a classic or antique vehicle in reasonable condition that could be purchased for around \$2,500, please call Charlie Jurgens, Richard Gresham or Ron Allen.

The Anchorage Auto Musers have raised \$8,000 for a memorial to honor one of their deceased club members, Stu Hall. We haven't consistently honored our club members who have passed in recent years. Perhaps we should consider creating a memorial policy, establishing an associated annual budget and appointing a committee chair to be responsible for memorial activities.



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

05 Jeff Stanley
 12 Saulo Angulo
 14 George Lyle
 15 Beccy Monsma
 16 Chris Gardner
 17 Michael Lam
 21 Ruth Ann Domke
 27 James Eddy
 27 Mrion Larson
 29 Penny Hauck

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

04 Bill & Samornrat Wright
 06 John & Mary Blankenship
 12 Eric & Elizabeth Molloy
 20 Rudy & Ruth Ann Domke



CLASSIFIED ADS

Four Studded Snow Tires, 215/65/R15 in good condition. \$25 each obo. Sherry Camarata. 488-4293

Heated and Safe Winter Storage \$10 per linear foot per month in the Jurgens hangar at North Pole. Available Sept-May. Call Charlie or Carrie Jurgens (VLNAACF members) C & C Enterprises 590-2716

1951 Buick, 2-door hard-top, deep maroon w/white top. 88,000 miles. New interior, good tires, fender skirts and more. Cruises at 80 easily. Original body in good solid shape, needs minor cosmetics.



Located in Anchorage. Contact Bernie in Fbks. 457-3302, Dick in Anch. 272-5696, or Dell in Anch. 562-4088.

Model "A" Repairs. Bill Wright, an active VLNAACF club member, does re-babbitt work on A's, B's, and T's. Call him at 479-8506 or his cell phone 388-2118.

1931 Model A Phaeton. Here is an opportunity to own a piece of Dawson history. Bob Cartwright of Dawson City is selling this prize possession. The car has been in the Dawson area since new and was owned by some prominent miners in the area during its past life. Contact Loren Benham at 474-4966.

1953 Jeep CJ3 with insulated cab. Frame-off restoration. Call Alva Ditch at 457-4788.

Fairbanks Self Storage: New unheated storage units in various sizes near Hamilton Acres large enough for autos. Special rates may be available for club members, i.e. \$90/mo lease for 10x20. Call Don Woodke at 590-9624

OFFICERS

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NEXT MEETING

Thursday November 9: 6:00 PM dinner and 7:00 PM meeting at the MayFlower Restaurant. (The MayFlower is the former China One Int'l Buffet located at 414 3rd Street.) Don't forget this is the annual election of officers.

Newsletter Deadline

All materials for the newsletter should be in by the 20th of the month to be considered for the next newsletter. Email ronandnancy@gci.net or call 907-488-3965. Items can be mailed to Ron at his home address; 1288 Rangeview Dr, North Pole, AK 99705.

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

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