



**MCDONALD'S ANTIQUE AUTO FARM**  
by Ron Allen

I had the opportunity of spending an afternoon with Club member John McDonald and his dog and best friend, Chester touring his eclectic collection of antique cars and assorted memorabilia. John and Chester are often seen together touring the local highways and attending car club events in one of John's open roadsters. Chester usually serves as copilot and gets a lot of attention, especially from the women. John, a self professed bachelor, seems to tolerate Chester's popularity with the women.



John's homestead cabin dates from the 40's. It is adorned with classic hub caps.

Upon my arrival at John's place I was warmly invited into his cabin to visit a bit. I immediately noticed that Chester had just recently received a fresh trim to help him



One of the garages is reminiscent of an old-time filling station complete with old vehicles.

prepare for the summer heat. John promptly invited me to sit down in his antique barber chair complete with foot rest as if it were my turn for a trim. I politely rejected the haircut offer, but took my place on the chair. It was quite comfortable. We talked about John's history with Alaska and his collectables.

John's cabin is filled with interesting nostalgic items and displays. The house is a homestead log cabin built by Henry Brockman in the 40's and is heated by a barrel stove. The cook stove is a beautiful 1920's Edison Electric "Hotpoint," similar to modern stoves with regard to functionality but having a unique antique style



that catches the eye. The ceiling is adorned with classic and antique hood ornaments and fur hats. An almost complete collection of



Hood Ornament Collection

“The Alaska Sportsman” dating from 1935 is kept in a box. In another large box is a sequential series of unissued matching pairs



of 1967 Alaska Centennial Thunderbird license plates and a similar box of Alaska Bear plates, all in their original envelopes. These can be legally registered for classic cars of the same vintage. One modern convenience John has indulged in recently is a computer. John is quickly catching on to using EBay having just purchased a 1948 Schwinn Whizzer motor bike and a 1933 Schwinn bicycle to match his red 1933 Ford Pick-up. He is waiting for these items to arrive, hopefully before our June car show.

John’s grandfather, Dan McDonald, was a dredge master on



Recently acquired Studebaker pick-up awaiting restoration work



John has almost finished restoring this 34 Ford 5-window Coupe hot rod with suicide doors.

a huge dredge located on Bear Creek outside Dawson during the early gold rush and was the owner of a successful mine as well. John has his grandfather’s large gold scale on display. John’s father was trained for WWI in a JN4D Jenny like the one hanging at Fairbanks International Airport terminal. A photo of his dad and the Jenny is displayed on a wall. John has the family photo albums showing early Dawson lifestyles.

John has a 5,000 year old bison skull from Fairbanks Sand and Gravel hanging on the wall. He said that he accidentally brushed against it while stoking the stove this past winter. It fell on his head and caused him to see stars. John believes



5,000 year old bison that head butted John

he is the only person who has been head butted by a 5,000 year old buffalo.

We eventually ventured outside to inspect his classic and antique autos. One of his completed projects is a 1953 Cadillac pick up. That is a particularly rare vehicle and possibly one of a kind since John built it using a 53 Cadillac, a Chevy P/U cab rear and an IHC bed and tailgate. Cleverly welded into the

tailgate is the stamped Cadillac logo. The pick up looks like it came from the factory that way. It reminds



Cadillac Pick Up

me of the Johnny Cash song "One Piece at a Time."

John says many of his collectibles are for sale. He loves restoring and modifying old classics and antiques and trading them to continue his hobby. John jokingly quotes George Clayton saying that "his affliction for



It took John weeks to screw on the hundreds of Alaskan license plates to cover his truly unique garage walls.

collecting antiques is not necessarily done for pleasure. It is more of a disease." John says he doesn't make much money from it, but he enjoys doing it. He welcomes visitors and will happily give tours of his place if one calls first. Call 488-1843. You won't be sorry.

### CLASSIFIED ADS

**1975 Chevrolet Malibu Classic:** One owner (Ruth Anne Domke), two-door sport coupe, two-tone blue, in covered storage since 83-84, running when parked. \$3,500 obo. 488-6970

**1964 Chevrolet Bel Air:** One owner (Rudy Domke), 4-door, blue, in covered storage many years, running when parked. \$3,500 obo. 488-6970

**Looking for a 1936 Ford Flatback Sedan:** Call Dave Syren of Anchorage Auto Musers, 907-274-9046

**98 Mustang GT:** V-8, 5-speed, disc/cassette player, A/C. \$78,000 miles. \$8,500 or trade for Model A Coupe. John McDonald 488-1843

**Looking for winter storage and place to work on car:** Don "Dusty" Johnson 457-6071

**Model "A" Repairs:** Bill Wright, an active VLNAACF club member, does re-babbitt work on A's, B's, and T's, complete engine rebuilds, and carburetor, oil pump and water pump rebuilds. Call him at 479-8506 or his cell phone 388-2118.

**Welding, Repair and Fabrication!** Need it done? I can do it! Tom (Blue) Hinchliff 479-0478.

**Automotive and Diesel Machining:** Serving Fairbanks since 1974. R&S Machine, Ric Smoyer, Proprietor, 515 Noyes Street in Fairbanks. 456-6496

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### Birthdays

John Blankenship	6/22
Gary Fuller	6/8
Kirk Larson	6/10
Willy Vinton	6/8
Betty Carlson	6/25
Barbara Hanson	6/23
Nila Lyle	6/27
Jill Nash	6/9
Victoria Rotroff	6/17
Tena Yurkovich	6/11

#### Anniversaries

John & Betty Borg	6/9
Robbie & Doris Casey	6/7
Bill & Joyce Chace	6/18
Scott & Donna Culbertson	6/22
Ron & Karine Dane	6/13
James & Karen Eddy	6/28
Ron & Shirley Franklin	6/5
Scott & Linda Grundy	6/11
Dan & LaVonne Gullickson	6/18
Kenny & Tammy Maxwell	6/22
Gary & Jill Nash	6/30
Greg & Lois Oslund	6/15
Loren & Victoria Rotroff	6/8
Bernie & Judy Saupe	6/2

### Annual Sourdough Fuel Father's Day Car Show

Received from Nicole at Sourdough Fuel  
Got a nice set of wheels? Want to show them off? Bring them on down to Sourdough Fuel on Van Horn road for the 7th annual Father's Day Car Show Sunday, June 15th. The show will run from 11am-3pm, is free to the public, and will feature unique and custom cars from across the interior.

This is not a judged contest, but an opportunity to see some of Alaska's hottest and most unique vehicles. All makes and models invited! Registration will be accepted through show time. To register your vehicle, please call Nicole at 490-0616, or e-mail nmstewart@petrostar.com. Or arrive by 11:00am Sunday at Sourdough Fuel Van Horn, corner of Van Horn and Lathrop.

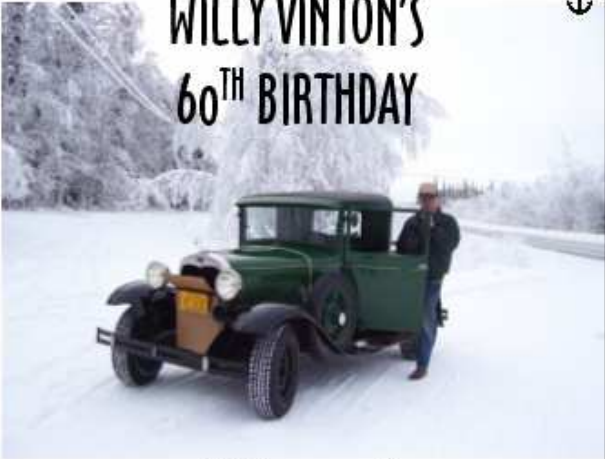
### Joint Meet with Anchorage Auto Musers

by Sherry Camarata

This years joint meet will be Friday, Aug 8 to Sunday morning Aug 10 at Majestic Valley Lodge at mile 114.9 on the Glen Highway (Sheep Mountain area). I hear the meet was grand when they had it there in Aug 2006. I'm sure the Anchorage Auto Muser's will have a few grand surprises for us this year too! Howard Hansen is the contact person for the Anchorage Auto Muser's at 907-345-1268. I'm the contact person for the VLNAACA (Rochelle will be in Reno at the Hot August Nights, but we'll have our own Hot August Nights right at Sheep Mountain!) We bring the desserts for the Friday night bar-b-que.



Please let me know if you plan on going. Call 590-0236 or 374-0253. I'll also have a sign up sheet at the meeting Thursday night at the Mayflower restaurant. We'll make arrangements to mosey on down together on

PLEASE JOIN US IN  
CELEBRATING  
**WILLY VINTON'S  
60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**



**JUNE 7, 2008  
11:30-2:30PM  
PIONEER PARK**

It's a  
potluck celebration  
bring your favorite  
side or salad side or salad to Pavilion by Square Dance Hall  
(meat & cake provided)



rsvp:

Wilma 456-2261  
or [wwinton@acsalaska.net](mailto:wwinton@acsalaska.net)  
Old Cars are invited too!

Friday day or you can meet us there. We'll work out those arrangements later. Below is the contact information of places to stay so you can start making your reservations now/early to make sure you have a place to camp when we're not busy having fun. Rooms are limited so it is a good idea to make reservations early.

Majestic Valley's number is 1-877-345-5121. The website is [www.MajesticValleyLodge.com](http://www.MajesticValleyLodge.com) -- ummmmm looks great.

Also in the area are:

Sheep Mountain Lodge, mile 113.5  
contact at 907-745-5120

Eureka Lodge, mile 128, 907-822-3808  
and Tundra Rose B&B, mile 109, 907-745-5865.

For RV'ers there is the Grandview RV Park at mile 109.5. It is a very nice park in a scenic area and has a restaurant. For more information call Howard Hansen at 907-345-1268.

Hope to see you there!

## June Car Club Events:

- June 4: Fairbanks day at Pioneer Park and start of run-arounds. We will stay longer than normal at the park.
- June 7: Ft. Wainwright Car Show.
- June 7: Willy's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party at Pioneer Park 11:30 – 2:30.
- June 14: Poker Run to Chena Hot Springs. Gary Nash is coordinating.
- June 15: Sourdough Father's Day Car Show. See article.
- June 21: Solstice downtown.
- June 26: Evening: British visitors in town at the Best Western from the Panama-Alaska trip in vintage cars, the majority of which is British.
- June 28: Oasis Restaurant Car Show
- June 29: Car Rally. Gary Nash is coordinating.

Come to the June 12 meeting or check with Rochelle for up-to-date detail information on June events.



## What's going on

**here?** Note the smile on Ron's face and the concerned look on Clutch Lounsbury's face. Situation - Saturday, May 24 at Pioneer Park: Clutch's car is blocking the back entry gate. There is a gas can on the ground. Willy is doing something under the hood. Rick Larrick takes a picture. Clutch says, "I can't believe this is happening to me. Just five years ago I ran out of gas during the Golden Days Parade. I was embarrassed. I sure hope I don't see this one in the newsletter."

## OFFICERS:

VLNAAC Website: [oldcarsfairbanks.org](http://oldcarsfairbanks.org)

President	Willy Vinton	<a href="mailto:wvinton@acsalaska.net">wvinton@acsalaska.net</a>	907-456-2261
Vice President	Bill Wright	<a href="mailto:tong@mosquitonet.com">tong@mosquitonet.com</a>	907-479-8505
Acting Secretary	Nancy Allen	<a href="mailto:ronandnancy@gci.net">ronandnancy@gci.net</a>	907-488-3965
Treasurer	Don Oines	<a href="mailto:doines1@gci.net">doines1@gci.net</a>	907-452-4601
Director	Gary Nash		907-456-2103
Director	Ray Mcleod	<a href="mailto:rmcleod@gci.net">rmcleod@gci.net</a>	907-456-7877
Director	Scott Grundy	<a href="mailto:grundy@mosquitonet.com">grundy@mosquitonet.com</a>	907-457-3526
Newsletter	Ron Allen	<a href="mailto:ronandnancy@gci.net">ronandnancy@gci.net</a>	907-488-3965
Webmaster	Wilma Vinton	<a href="mailto:wvinton@acsalaska.net">wvinton@acsalaska.net</a>	907-456-2261
Events Coordinator	Rochelle Larson	<a href="mailto:Rochelle1987@hotmail.com">Rochelle1987@hotmail.com</a>	907-456-6736
Acting Membership Chair	Rick Larrick	<a href="mailto:crlarrick@alaska.net">crlarrick@alaska.net</a>	907-457-4344

### NEXT MEETINGS

The next general club meeting is **Thursday, June 12** at the **Mayflower**. Dinner starts at 6:00 PM and the meeting is at 7:00.

The Board Meeting is at 6:30 PM at the **Food Factory** on **Tuesday June 10**. Everyone is also welcome to attend Board Meetings.

### Newsletter Deadline

All materials for the newsletter should be in by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to be considered for the next newsletter. Email [ronandnancy@gci.net](mailto: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!*

