

FAIRBANKS

Vernon L. Nash

ALASKA



Antique Automobile Club of America



## THE MCLAUGHLINS' YELLOW MCBUG

By Ed McLaughlin

A couple who lived in Hawaii had a small cabin in Ester where they would spend their summers. In 1988 when they decided to sell their cabin to a friend of mine, I asked my friend about the 62 VW they left in the woods on the property. He gave me their phone number in Hawaii. I called

them and bought the car for \$100 dollars. That was in December, the tires were flat and frozen to the ground, and the battery had frozen and split allowing the acid to eat a big hole in the floor. I used a Master Heater on the tires and was able to jack them out of the snow and frozen ground. I took them to my garage and was able to thaw and air them up. I returned to the car with the tires, a new battery and a can of gas.

After heating the engine with the Master Heater, I shoveled a path out of the woods to the drive way, fired up the engine and drove home to Fairbanks. The first time I needed to slow down I took my foot off the accelerator, but the car did not slow down. It was then that I



noticed a string from the ashtray to the accelerator. I pulled on the string and the car slowed down. It seems the car had a sticky accelerator! Laurel followed me home in our van with a tow rope just in case.



Over a period of the next 20 years I completely stripped the car interior including the wiring. All new panels were welded in by Lee Langworthy to replace the rusted parts, and all parts were sprayed with rust proofing. New carpet, seat covering and wiring were installed. I installed a new headliner that was a total disaster. John McFaul came to my rescue and



did a beautiful job of hanging a replacement headliner. The car was painted Dodge Viper Yellow by Jason Petersen. When the new 1600 engine was installed, the voltage was upped from 6 to 12 volts.

To think that this only took me 20 years to finish! Oh, one thing more, I've got to install this rebuilt transmission that just arrived. Restorations never end!!

**Editor Note:** Ed and Laurel McLaughlin were presented the VLNAAC 2008 Most Improved Vehicle Award at our last Christmas party for their restoration work on their 62 Volkswagen Bug.

## Raffle Car Update by Ron Allen

The seats are in, the upholstery is almost complete, and the wheels are on. With warmer weather coming we hope to test run it outside to check the engine and drive train. She is "LOOKING GOOD!" Lets sell some tickets!





New Seats are installed along with new carpeting and door panels.

### SOME ITEMS FROM THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Willy introduced guests Frank and Brenda Salmon. Frank was presented with complimentary VLNAAC and AACA membership in recognition for his support for our raffle car projects (and with the hope that Brenda will now buy him an old car).

Members were encouraged to pick up car raffle tickets from Rochelle Larson.

Nancy DeWitt gave a brief update on the Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum. The opening day is set for June 1. Two new vehicles have been added to the collection: a 1917 Model T Snow Flyer and a 1907 White Steamer Model G. Museum volunteer announcements and applications were handed out. Even if you have already told Willy you'd like to be a docent, Nancy needs a completed application from you. Willy added that folks will be amazed by the cars in the museum, which include the very unique and sole-remaining Compound car. He also noted that we are still looking for a late teens or 20s "flower car" for outside the museum.

Rick Larrick reported that we now have 38 single and 60 joint memberships. About nine

### Tentative schedule of Events by Rochelle Larson



#### VLNAAC sponsored events

Now thru July 25 at 6pm	Raffle Sales
June 3 to August 26	Wednesday Night Runarounds
June 12-14	Joint Meet w/Anchorage club
June 7 or 20	Poker Run Chena Hot Springs (Nash Cabin)
June ?	Car Rally (Gary Nash)
June 21	Solstice Show and Shine
June 28 to July 8	"Adventure Before Dementia" run to Canada
July 12	VLNAAC Show and Shine Airport equip
July 22	Golden days Kick off pioneer park
July 25	Golden Days Parade
July 25	Raffle car drawing 6 p.m. pioneer park
September 5 or 12	Poker Run to Chatanika Lodge

#### Other Possible Events (Not sponsored by VLNAAC)

June 6	Car Show at FTWW
June 21	Sourdough Fuel Father's Day Car Show
July 1	Canada Day at Dawson
July 4	Eagle 4th of July
July 4	North Pole Parade 4th of July
July 4	Plow days North pole (antique engine and tractor club)
May 16,17	Fbks Racing Lions Drags FTWW
June 13,14	Fbks Racing Lions Drags FTWW
July 18,19	Fbks Racing Lions Drags FTWW
August 2	30th annual car show Anchorage park strip -- Valley Cruisers Anchorage
August 8	Hot summer nights Palmer-- Valley Cruisers Anchorage

members still need to renew. Rick passed around an updated membership list and asked everyone to check it for accuracy. He then asked if anyone would object to him adding e-mail addresses to the list. There were no objections.

No one was present to report on the joint meet planned with the Anchorage car club. The troll was relinquished by Dan Gulickson and forced onto Katy Rice for safekeeping.

Ruth Ann Domke said hello on behalf of Rudy, who is under the weather.

Rochelle Larson announced that she has put together a tentative list of summer events (see left column) and asked members to review it.

The first car show is June 6 at Fort Wainwright. The Sourdough car show may add a drive-around after the show.

It is hoped that Gary Nash will plan to host

another poker run to his cabin on the upper Chena River.

The Golden Days Parade is July 28. Let Rochelle know if you would like to receive event announcements by e-mail.

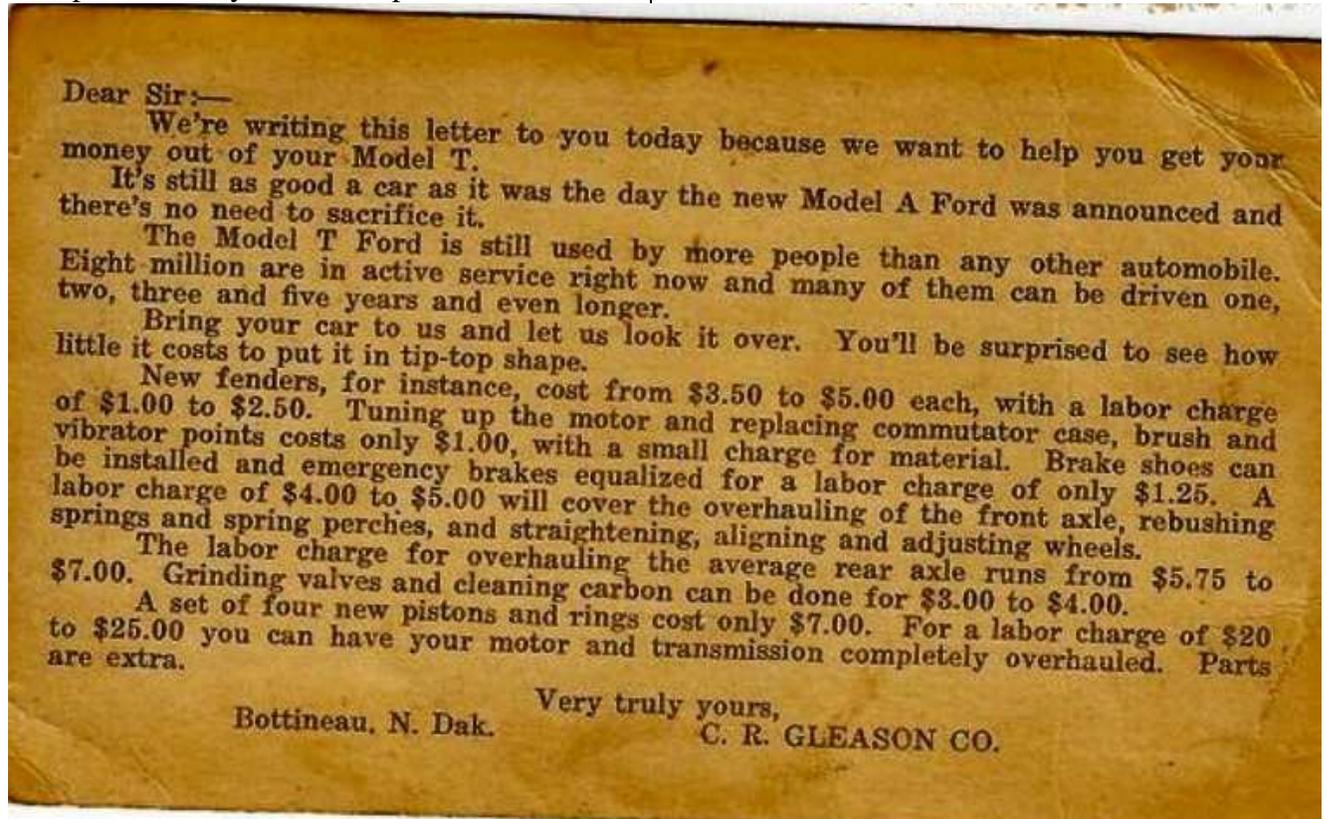
Willy reported that a man from Texas is driving up here with a 40' trailer in July and wants to sell the trailer after he arrives. Let Willy know if you are interested.

Brenda Wilbur announced that Roy's annual 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 3 and folks are invited to stop by the shop after work to celebrate.

Greg Oslund said that he and Robbie are driving out on March 23 to go to swap meets in Vancouver and Portland and to let him know if you'd like him to look for something specific.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**Model "A" Repairs:** Bill Wright, an active



The above 1928 penny post card is reprinted with the permission of owner Ken Thompson whose dad found it in a North Dakota ghost town in the 70's.

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) Hinchsliff 479-0478.

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

**Black vinyl covered racing bucket seats for sale:** They are new and never installed in a car. They came with the donated raffle car, but were too large for the small car and appeared incorrect for the car's vintage as well. Make offer. Contact Willy or Ron.

**1957 ¾ ton Stepside Chevy Pickup:** Low milage, 6 cylinders, 4 speed transmission, good body, runs great. For more information contact Jim at 907-547-2315 in Eagle, AK.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

Wilbur	Roy	3-Apr
Bennett	Larry	4-Apr
Brabham	Mel	7-Apr
Domke	Rudy	7-Apr
Cosson	Mark	10-Apr
Merced	Julio	12-Apr
Shoemaker	Greg	13-Apr
Frey	Ron	14-Apr
Peterson	Doug	14-Apr
Boschert	Ken	17-Apr
Uzzell	Ken	20-Apr
Dussman	Dennis	23-Apr
Oines	Don	24-Apr
Rotroff	Loren	26-Apr
Ellsworth	Joni	1-Apr
Chase	Theresa	4-Apr
Angulo	Bryana	13-Apr
Vinton	Wilma	15-Apr
Middleton	Jean	25-Apr
Borg	Betty	26-Apr
Casey	Doris	26-Apr

Benham	Marion	27-Apr
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### Anniversaries

Wagner	Beau	4-Apr
	Benjamin and	
Carpenter	Stella	6-Apr
	Herman and	
Hauck	Penny	11-Apr

## JOINT MEET

The Anchorage Auto Musers and VLNAAC are scheduling a joint meet for June 12, 13 and 14. We will meet Friday at 6:00 PM for a BBQ. Saturday morning we will tour the Fountainhead Car Museum. Afterwards we will have a BBQ and car games in the afternoon. Saturday evening we will have a banquet at which winners of the car games will receive their awards. The meet will be at Wedgewood Manor, which is where the museum is.

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

President	Willy Vinton	<a href="mailto:wvinton@acsalaska.net">wvinton@acsalaska.net</a>	907-456-2261
Vice President	Scott Culbertson	<a href="mailto:sdculbertson@gci.net">sdculbertson@gci.net</a>	907-451-7911
Secretary	(Not filled)		
Treasurer	Ron Allen	<a href="mailto:ronandnancy@gci.net">ronandnancy@gci.net</a>	907-488-3965
Director	Gary Nash		907-456-2103
Director	Scott Grundy	<a href="mailto:grundy@mosquitonet.com">grundy@mosquitonet.com</a>	907-457-3526
Director	Ray Mcleod	<a href="mailto:rmcleod@gci.net">rmcleod@gci.net</a>	907-456-7877
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
Membership Chair	Rick Larrick	<a href="mailto:rlarrick@alaska.net">rlarrick@alaska.net</a>	907-457-4344

**NEXT MEETINGS**

The general membership meeting is **Thursday April 9 at the Mayflower Restaurant**. Dinner is at 6:00 PM and the meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

The Board Meeting is at 6:30 PM at the **Food Factory** on **Tuesday April 7**. 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!*



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