



Pictured above is Dan Fowler, President of the Interior Alaska Cancer Assoc and Rick Larrick, car club President. The Club presented a \$500.00 check to this local association to provide needs to local people who are dealing with cancer and do not have any other assistance.

Pictured above is Karma Brown, the Director of the Morning Star Ranch and Rick. The club presented a \$500.00 check to the Ranch to be put towards their program in assisting nonverbal children who struggle to communicate.



PRESIDENT'S HEADLIGHTS.....

Time to Get Ready!!!

It's just the beginning of April but car shows and summer activities are just around the corner. It is time to start making your lists of what needs checked and done to make your antique vehicle(s) ready for the summer season.

If they are in accessible storage, now might be a good time to make sure the battery is full and if not, then top it off with distilled water. It would be a great idea to hook up a trickle charger now to make sure it is fully charged when you want to get it out – something like a “Battery Tender – Junior” works great. They make them for both 6V and 12V batteries.

Check the tires while you are still in the garage. If they check low, now is the time to air them up via a compressor or portable air tank before they have a chance to go all the way flat. Next on the list – “make a list”: What were the issues you had last year with each car and if not addressed last fall, needs to be done in the Spring. Did the car have a tendency to over-heat (think parades...)? Is there a bit of trim or interior work to be done before the Carlson Show, one that you need to search parts for? Does it need a tune-up; new points, plugs, timing adjusted, etc? You know what

needs go on the list. This issue is to get the list made NOW so you can address the issues and get the car washed, polished, and waxed before this first show!

Rod Benson and his crew are working hard to get ready for the Carlson Show – which is May 28th and 29th. Posters are being printed and vendor contacts are being made. We will hear more at the April 14th meeting at The Bakery, I'm sure.

The May meeting is dinner at The Bakery at 6pm, and then over to The Fountainhead Auto Museum at 7pm for a special “under the hood” tour, courtesy of Tim Cerny and Willy Vinton.

June is the Alaska Joint Meet. Scott Culbertson is organizing a really fun Friday evening and a full Saturday for this joint meet with the AAMA Anchorage AACA Club. It will be held at Rivers' Edge on Friday evening June 17th and all day Saturday the 18th. Scott will have a flyer and sign-up information out soon. You can check out the status of all the summer's events on the Google calendar at: <http://local.aaca.org/fairbanks/events.htm>.

Make sure you have a supply of raffle car tickets to sell. As you know, this is how we finance our club activities and keep our membership dues down to practically nothing. If not for the revenue of the tickets, our dues would be over \$100 and we would have to charge for many events that are now free. Please help out with staffing car sales events this spring. Make sure all your friends and everyone at work has bought a book of tickets (or at least been persuasively asked to buy a book from you...). Additional books are available from Rochelle at Larson's Locksmith on Noble St.

As always, your feedback and suggestions are welcome. It is critical feedback (positive or negative) that helps our Board and club leadership keep producing better events and program each year for all of us to enjoy. Please contact me directly or through the club email at vlnaacf@gmail.com.



Carlson Center Car Show

As most of you already know, the Carlson Center Car Show will be the 28th -29th of May. As of right now, we have room for approximately 90 vehicles. Let's fill it up!

If you would like to show a vehicle(s) here are some things to remember:

1. Sign up to show your vehicles will be at the April and May club meetings or you can contact me (Rod Benson) at (907)687-1543 or email:monsignor2@hotmail.com
2. Lineup to get the cars inside will be at 5:30 p.m. on Fri. the 27th of May.
3. Entry fee is \$5.00 per vehicle. (This covers the cost for security)
4. You will need current insurance coverage for all vehicles you show.
5. Operable fire extinguisher for each vehicle
6. 1/8 tank or less of fuel.
7. Battery will need to be disconnected

As always volunteers will be needed. Sign up for various duties will also be at the April and May meetings or contact me directly at the above phone number or email.

Mark Your Calendar With These Dates

May 12 th	Club Mtg @ Car Muesem
May 21st	Crusin with Santa—Lion's Club
May 28th—29th	Carlson Center Member Car Show
June 1st	Wednesday Night Run-Arounds thru mid Sept
June 4th	FTWW Car Show
June 11th	Gary Nash C.H.S. Cabin Poker Run
June 17th—18th	Alaska Joint Meet with ANC Auto Musher's River's Edge Resort in Fairbanks
June 19th	Father's Day Car Show
June 21st	Midnight Sun Rally for Desert
June 25th	Denali Park Drive
July 4th	North Pole & Ester Parades
July 6th—10th	Joint Tour with ANC AAMA Club to Kennicott
July 16th	American Tire Show and Shine
July 23rd	Golden Days Parade Raffle Car Drawing and Picnic at Pioneer Park

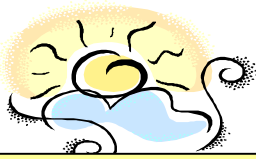


RAFFLE CAR TICKET SALES EVENT

The Carlson Center has arranged for the VLNAACF to sell raffle car tickets at the Outdoor Show scheduled for April 15- 17, 2011 at the Carlson Center. This is a grand opportunity to get tickets sold to a large audience of people at one location. For this to be successful, the Club needs your participation. I am looking for a few volunteers to help by spending a couple hours selling tickets at our Raffle Car table. If you can help, please contact me and set up a time that you will be available to help. I can be reached at my home phone 452-8805 or by email at gt500@acsalaska.net, or you can give the information to any board member and they can relay the information to me.

Thanks, in advance, for your participation. The sale of these tickets is essential in keeping our Club dues low. It also allows us to provide the extras that we enjoy at our outing and events.

John McCarthy



SUNSHINE CLUB

In recent weeks we have lost both past and current members. We remember the following:

- Furman Dotson passed away February 23*
- Joseph Fuller passed away March 5*
- William Yingst passed away March 10*

Remembering Furman Dotson by Don Oines

Furman joined the antique car club in 1990 after his son gave him a 1924 *Ford* model T.

While helping him work on his car I found him to be a very meticulous mechanic, perhaps as a result of his World War II experience as an aircraft mechanic. It was apparent that Furman enjoyed working on his car more than driving it. On its first public showing at the Fairbanks Solstice Celebration, it was judged the best of show.

When helping or visiting Furman he was always eager to head for the North Pole Subway to get a 12 inch tuna sandwich. I seldom was able to out maneuver him to the cash register for payment.

Remembering Alan Oines

Alan Otto Oines, 23, died in an automobile accident March 21. His family is very involved in the VLNAACF. His parents Dale and Kelly Oines, grandparents Don and Angie Oines, and Aunt and Uncle Tammy and Kenny Maxwell are all members. We extend our heartfelt condolences for their tragic loss.

Remembering Bill Yingst by Bill Chace

Bill Yingst passed away on in March 10, 2011, at the age of 80. Bill was a well-known welder in Alaska who had the motto "Have Welding Truck Will Travel." He worked on the Oil Pipeline, and everywhere else he was needed. He was an active member of the Fairbanks VLNAACF for many years.

Bill was extremely proud of his Command Car which brought the family to Alaska in the 1950's. I assisted Bill in restoring the 1941 Dodge Command Car in 1992.

A Military Convoy was formed under the Military Vehicle Preservation Association and traveled from Grand Prairie, Alberta, Canada to Fairbanks for the purpose of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the ALCAN construction. Forty-one WW 2 vehicles participated. We were the Alaska representative and the only car that traveled down to meet the convoy and return to Fairbanks. We traveled under Marshal Law for 10 days escorted by Canadian Mounties and Canadian Military forces. A US postage stamp was also issued to commemorate the event.



Remembering Joe Fuller by Rochelle Larson

On March 5, 2011, Joe Fuller died at home after a brief illness. Joe remained a member of the Car Club even when he was no longer able to drive. Friends often offered to drive him to events. He was a regular on the Wednesday Night Runarounds. He loved his 1965 Studebaker and drove it all over with frequent trips to Chatanika Lodge, Central, and Ivory Jacks.

Even at 81 years he loved to drive and drive. One night Joe decided to drag race with Ron Franklin when Ron tried to pass him on the way to the Chatanika Lodge. First they got up to 60 mph, then Joe gunned it again and they were up to 70, then 80, and the old Studebaker was just a shaking. Joe flipped off Ronnie going about 90, so Ronnie backed off and let him go. They had a good laugh when they got to the Lodge.

Joe frequently enjoyed playing jokes on friends and was always laughing. I know many Club members have known Joe for years. Bub Larson met him when he was delivering newspapers, and Joe worked at Quality Meats. Becky Monsma met Joe at Lindy's Grocery when she was a little girl. Joe would tell her to stay away from the bad kids and stay out of trouble. Will and Theresa Chace met him at Chatanika. Ron and Shirley Franklin treated Joe like a member of their family, often letting him sleep on their couch. Gary Nash has known Joe for years and has been a frequent driver for him. Gary drove Joe's tractor in the Golden Day's Parade so Joe could drive his old Lindy's van or the Studebaker. Joe will be missed by many.

It's Spring and Time For a Safety Check

By Terry Whitledge

I want to share my “Lesson Learned” with everyone in the club as spring is upon us and we are planning to get our cars out of the garage and on the road. But first, let's look at the accident that I had with my 1930 Model A coupe this past June.

In preparation for the Fountainhead Car Show, club president, Rick Larrick and I made plans to drive my car over the run around route to check out the course and to get the overall time for the event. I departed from home, stopped at the first intersection and turned to go down the hill on Chena Ridge road. As I shifted into high gear the steering wheel suddenly turned freely. **MY GOD, I LOST STEERING COMPLETELY!** The next minute or two passed very quickly but I as applied the brakes the car immediately started to veer off the road to the grassy shoulder. The brakes locked the wheels but to little effect in the grass and weeds. The car went over the shoulder into the brushy regrowth of small trees and ultimately hit a birch tree which stopped the car. The impact with the bumper broke the tree which then fell on top of the car. I was shook up but fortunately was not hurt by the sudden stop. I immediately got out of the car and inspected the damage. I was devastated because my beautiful car which I have owned for more than 50 years was seriously damaged. I called Willy and Rick at the Antique Auto Museum to tell them that I had a problem and would not be able to do the practice run around. They immediately came to give support to my “weak legs” since I was in a bit of shock yet. They helped me extricate the car and get it back to my garage for which I will be eternally grateful.

Upon inspection it was apparent that a faulty Pitman arm was the cause of the accident. As the photo shows, the ball separated from the arm because it was not properly welded in place. Instead of welding, the ball was essentially glued into place with metal fillet and made to look solid and authentic. This faulty part was purchased more than 20 years ago so I can't recall its origin. When I shopped for a new Pitman arm I called my favorite company and interrogated them about whether they sold one piece casted replacements parts.

It was also evident that the tree hit the bumper at a perfect location to allow the spring steel to absorb a major part of the impact of the collision. The fender was completely totaled and the radiator was twisted but many of the other parts were restorable. The total parts to bring back the car totaled more than \$2000.



Continued on Next



Continued from page 4 Spring Safety Check

Pictured is the steering linkage separated from Pitman arm.

Going back to lessons learned, I keep asking myself why I did not inspect the running gear in the spring before I started the cruising season. It is a policy of many car tours to offer a complimentary safety check of steering, brakes and spoked wheels. Our club does not have a compulsory safety check but I am now determined that I will inspect my running gear. I just recently completed that inspection for my 57 Corvette and the Model A is next in line.

Another lesson learned— Since I have owned my Model A since I was 15 years old during some lean years I only maintained the required liability insurance. I also did not increase the coverage to include collision insurance after the completed restoration of the car in the early 90's. During recent years the cost of collision insurance for antique autos through special insurance companies is quite reasonable so I no longer view the price of collision insurance as too costly. A cost analysis of replacement parts from the wreck of \$2000 plus a guess for the labor of about \$2000 for a total of \$4000 over 50 years is about \$80/year. This is very close to the annual cost of antique auto insurance hence it is a “no brainer” to add this coverage to protect my investment. I purchased full insurance coverage on my two Corvettes but it is a new realization to me that the remainder of my antiques autos (1917 Model T, 1926 Model T, 1930 Model A and 1972 Fiat Model 124 Spider) should really be fully covered also. So as spring approaches let's get our cars ready for the run arounds by inspecting our cars to make them safe as possible as well as the washing and cleaning to make them shine.

April Birthdays

Joni	Ellsworth	1-Apr
Theresa	Chase	4-Apr
Roy	Wilbur	3-Apr
Larry	Bennett	4-Apr
Mel	Brabham	7-Apr
Hank	Grant	8-Apr
Mark	Cosson	10-Apr
Julio	Merced/Naq	12-Apr
Bryana	Angulo	13-Apr
Greg	Shoemaker	13-Apr
Ron	Frey	14-Apr
Nathan	Peterson	14-Apr
Wilma	Vinton	15-Apr
Ken	Boschert	17-Apr
Jim	Cornell	18-Apr
Ken	Uzzell	20-Apr
Dennis	Dussman	23-Apr
Don	Oines	24-Apr
Jean	Middleton	25-Apr
Ross	Beal	26-Apr
Betty	Borg	26-Apr
Doris	Casey	26-Apr
Loren	Rotroff	26-Apr
Marion	Benham	27-Apr

SEND DAN SOME SUNSHINE
 Dan and LaVonne Gullickson are traveling to Portland, Oregon where Dan will have a rare tumor called a GIST (Gastro Intestinal Stroma Tumor) removed. Updates on his progress will be posted on the Caring Bridge website where you can also leave Dan and LaVonne messages: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/dangullickson>. The Gullicksons hope to return home April 15.



Bengamin & Stella
 Carpenter
 Apr 6th

Herman & Penny
 Hauck
 April 11th

THANK YOU
 TO ROD BENSON FOR HELPING WITH THE BUILDING SUPPLIES FOR MELANIE FARNHAM'S ROOM ADDITION

Items 4 Sale
 1957 Ford Ranchero
 Model 66B 302 V-8 Engine
 \$27,500 OBO Call Tom
 907 694-7717

Gary Farnham has several items to sell. Contact him @ 750-1468
 '66 Toyota Stout P/K \$1,000
 '86 Jeep Wagonier—Part Car \$600
 '72 Chevy P/K style side short bed 305 c.i. 30 over \$3,500
 1915 Ford 1 1/2 ton frames \$\$
 '46 Travel Trailer \$800

Do you recognize this little Miss below?
 She is our traveling troll that was passed to a group during a past meeting. She hasn't returned with her traveling story and new outfit. Does any one know the story????



There's a Birthday Party in the Works!
 Roy Wilbur is turning 39 again
 Join the party by bringing a dish to pass
 April 1st, 5pm, at his shop, 1241 Noble St.

A Winter Trip Across America Vinton/Allen "Part II"

By Ron and Nancy Allen

We featured Part I in our March newsletter. If you missed it, you can catch up on this article and more at VLNAAC Website: <http://local.aaca.org/fairbanks>



We loved Southern California so much that we were almost reluctant to leave, but on we went to Arizona and New Mexico. This part of the journey included the most beautiful scenery of mountains and canyons. One adventurous event was waking up in Springerville, Arizona (7,000 foot elevation) with frost on the inside walls of the RV and an outdoor temperature of 3 degrees F. We wasted no time that morning moving on to lower elevations. The next stop was Roswell, New Mexico where Wilma convinced us to stop at the Alien Museum. We found the museum very interesting considering the possibilities of our not being alone in the universe and all the associated conspiracy theories. The next day we enjoyed a wonderful tour of Carlsbad Caverns.

The next part of the trip included a quick waltz across Texas to visit Max and Angie Oglesby in Bush, Louisiana, which is about 50 miles from New Orleans. After arriving at the Oglesbys we enjoyed an evening of conversation, food and card games. The next day we toured New Orleans with Max and Angie taking in sights and sounds of the French Quarter and surrounding areas. The girls were lured to the legendary Bourbon Street and fortunately found their way back. Afterward we took a driving tour of local mansions and beautiful plantation houses. The French Quarter is definitely on the "visit again" list.

From New Orleans we traveled the shores of Biloxi, Gulf Port and then Pensacola where we toured the Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum, a very interesting place and definitely worth our time. We then traveled on to central Florida, stayed over at Ron's cousin's home, and then traveled on to Miami for a long flight home. During a 7 hour layover in Seattle Ron and Willy enjoyed a tour of the Boeing Museum of Flight, another place definitely worth a visit.

A component to making the tour trip a success is planning. One of our agreements was that we would take as few freeways as necessary, so we drove the lesser travel roads to enjoy the scenery and get a feel for the countryside and culture of the different areas. Another component was that everyone had a job to do; Nancy and Wilma planned meals, Wilma cooked, Nancy did dishes, Ron cleaned the bathroom and Willie was in charge of sweeping the floors. As far as the monetary part we put the receipts for expenses in a bag, Wilma developed a spreadsheet and at the end of the trip we settled the bill so that the expenses were split in a fair and equitable manner. We had destinations and a timetable, but these were kept flexible. Some nights we stayed at campgrounds, and some nights we stayed in Walmart parking lots. Surprisingly enough, Walmart parking lots are more expensive than most RV parks when one considers the numerous treks inside the store for various essentials. For nightly entertainment we played pinochle and hand and foot.

We all agree that we did too many miles in too short of a time, but now we have a list developed of "have to visit" places. These are areas of the country we want to go back to see again and spend more time investigating and exploring the countryside. There was only one downside; We paid \$27 to rent four folding chairs, which due to January weather never left the RV storage compartment. That money could have been put to good use in a Las Vegas casino. Would we do an RV trip together again? Definitely!

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

NEXT MEETINGS

The General Membership meeting is on April 14th at the Bakery in Fairbanks. Dinner at 6pm and meeting at 7pm.

The Board meeting is at 6pm at Sam's Sourdough Café on April 12th. 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 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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