

January 2023

Volume 52, Issue 1

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This newsletter is a publication of the Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club of Fairbanks, which is the most northern region of the Antique Automobile Club of America.

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If you have material you would like to contribute, please contact our editor, Bruce McIntosh, at:

[nashnewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nashnewseditor@gmail.com)



# Nash's News

**Antique auto news from  
Alaska's largest car club and most  
northern region of AACA**



The club held it's Annual Membership meeting on Dec. 11 inside the Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum. Along with the usual club business, we enjoyed a great dinner, annual awards, and a fun gift exchange afterwards. More pictures are on pages 3-9.

## From The Editor

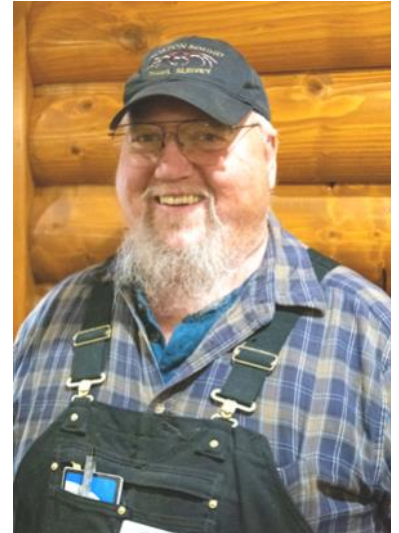
- Bruce McIntosh

Happy 2023! While this issue is filled with pictures from our annual meeting on Dec. 12, with the holidays mostly behind us, it's time to start thinking about the coming summer season. Club President Doug Cline reflects on why member involvement is important on page 11. The town lost long-time eatery Sourdough Sam's this winter, but fortunately the club member's car photos that were a popular attraction were saved. See pages 14 and 15. Two club stalwarts re-introduce themselves on pages 16 and 17 as they take their seats on the Board of Directors.

The next issue of this newsletter is scheduled to come out in March, and hopefully it will have the results of our upcoming planning meeting on Feb 21. This is an important meeting, laying out the summer event schedule, and members are highly encouraged to attend and provide input.

Aside from club news and events, one of the more important features are stories that come from our members. If you have a story to tell, whether it's something you are working on now, or something you did in the distant past, I strongly encourage you to share it with your fellow club members. It's the member's contributions that really carry this newsletter, especially during this time of year when (for most of us?) our cars are put away until spring.

Finally, it's also past time to renew our memberships for 2023. Information on dues and how to pay is on page 12. Don't be a procrastinator and put off 'til tomorrow what should have been done yesterday!



You can reach your editor at  
[nashnewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:nashnewseditor@gmail.com) with questions, suggestions,  
news, stories, and for sale/wanted ads

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For the most current club calendar, visit the VLNAACF website at: <https://fairbanksaaca.org/>



# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @THE FOUNTAINHEAD MUSEUM DEC 11, 2022















John McCarthy receives the "Studebaker Salesman Of The Year" for his efforts in redistributing Studebakers around the North Star Borough.







Alec Arima presents Richard Bellows with the Most Improved Vehicle Award for his 1972 Volkswagen Super Beetle. Alec won the award last year for his 1958 Willys Pickup.



*Photo: Donna Wojciechowski*







*Photos: Wilma Vinton*

**Top:** Krystel Marino accepts the club's charitable donation on behalf of Fairbanks Youth Advocacy - The Door.

**Bottom:** Angie Fitch, Krystal Lapp, and Lynley Pair accept the club's charitable donation on behalf of Alaska Native Rural Vet, Inc.







## January Birthdays

Bruce McIntosh	1-Jan
Ralph Glasgow	4-Jan
Dave Rockney	6-Jan
Patricia Cromer	8-Jan
Patty Meritt	8-Jan
Terry Fogleson	13-Jan
Marnie Hazelaar	16-Jan
Dan Gullickson	19-Jan

## January Anniversaries

Mike & Diana Lecorchick	8-Jan
Blue & Lori Hinchsliff	12-Jan
David & Tammy Sivigliano	26-Jan

## February Anniversaries

Dick & Joni Ellsworth	2-Feb
Dan & Ellie Tempel	12-Feb
Eric & Patti Pyles	29-Feb

## February Birthdays

Laura Therriault	6-Feb
Vonna Husby	8-Feb
Melinda Harris	11-Feb
Michael Farrell	12-Feb
Mebble Hansen	12-Feb
Richard Gresham	14-Feb
Eric Pyles	20-Feb
Patti Pyles	21-Feb
James Clough	23-Feb





## President's Headlights

- Doug Cline, President



Happy New Year,

For the longest time I had been one of those people that didn't come to membership meetings on a regular basis. I think I might have attended only a couple over a couple of years. However, after having been contacted about running for club office I have had an opportunity to take another look at why it is so important to attend these meetings. For the club to conduct business we need enough members present to form a quorum. For the club, that is only 25 people out of almost 200 members. Not a lot when you look at it.

I work full time on Eielson AFB at the clinic as a Government Civilian. I still have kids at home. I have two darling little puppies (not so small) that demand attention every time I step into the house. One of my favorite activities is cooking for my family and friends which means I also must clean the kitchen after I'm done. Luckily this time of year the amount of work on the antiques is minimal. My garage isn't big enough to do any serious work with both vehicles parked inside. Of course, there is also the ever present "honey do" list. I don't say this for sympathy nor to brow beat anyone. I'm just acknowledging that we all have projects, family and other obligations that might interfere with our attending the meetings.

Now, why is attending helpful? We have many fun activities being planned for this year but some of them need the membership to vote one way or the other. The Board of Directors can make suggestions, but we cannot dictate actions without a thumbs up or down vote from the membership.

The Chamber of Commerce has changed the date for the Golden Days parade to July 15. We still must have our picnic and raffle drawing on the 22nd but part of the discussion was club participation in the parade on the 15th. A good activity we can do, rather than the Fairbanks parade is on July 15th is the Alaska Railroad 100th anniversary and they will be reenacting the golden spike ceremony in Nenana. That might be a better opportunity for us but that is something we need individual members to vote on. Another event that sounds fun is on the 4th of July, Nenana is having a parade and the Roadhouse has offered to serve BBQ (for purchase of course). The club has participated in 4th of July parades in North Pole, Fairbanks and Ester. This would be new and different. We need members present to vote.

Some of the more mundane monthly duties are the approval of the meeting minutes, Treasurer's report and, this time of month, the approval of the new 2023 budget. I know, exciting stuff but necessary and required none the less.

I know there are many of you that have great ideas for activities, runarounds or even different events to support, but we need to hear from you. There are options if you cannot physically be present at the meeting. Let us know ahead of time and you can attend telephonically. Your voice matters in what happens in the club. Your voice is important. In this month's meeting a total of 15 people showed up. We were able to discuss and present different issues and options but unable to vote on them. Bob and Patti brought some really fun videos for us to watch. It was a fun meeting, but we could really use your help.

Again, not looking to brow beat anyone into coming to the meetings but just a reminder that we need your ideas and input to help make decisions and increase the types of fun activities we can do as a group. I really hope I see more of you at the February 9th membership meeting. Thank you.





*Sam's Sourdough Cafe on University Avenue, host of many club meetings and decorated with pictures of member's cars, has finally been sold. See John McCarthy's article on page 14 for more details.*

## **DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE!**

Membership dues are now PAST DUE for the 2023 calendar year.

They are payable by returning payment to the club post office box (preferred), dropping it off at Larson's Locksmith, or bringing payment to the October or the November club meeting.

⇒ Individual dues are \$60.00 (\$45.00 for National AACA and \$15.00 for local club dues).

⇒ Joint Membership dues are \$75.00 (\$45.00 for National AACA and \$30.00 for local club dues) for you and your associate or spouse.

**NEW** this year: you can PAY BY CREDIT CARD if you stop by Larson's Locksmith to see Rochelle or call her.

Dues are to be paid by **December 31, 2022** for the 2023 calendar year.

**Please pay promptly-**



## SUNSHINE REPORT:

*Nothing to report this month*

*Tracy McLeod is the Sunshine Contact. Please send her an e-mail if you know of a club member who could use a little "sunshine".*

*e-mail: [tksplits@yahoo.com](mailto:tksplits@yahoo.com)*

*Phone or Text: 907-378-0718.*

*For a postal mail address contact Tracy or a Board member.*



## CALENDAR

### Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club

- **Note:** Cars-N-Coffee time is 8:00 to 10:00 am each Saturday at Great Harvest Bread at the Bentley Mall.
- **Feb. 7: Board Meeting** @ Fountainhead Museum Garage 6:30 pm Members are welcome.
- **Feb. 9: Membership Meeting** @ Taiga Center (behind museum) 6:30 pm.
- **Feb 21: Planning Meeting** @ Taiga Center (behind museum) 6:30 pm. Members are highly encouraged to attend as we make plans and flesh out the event calendar for the coming summer season. Think sunshine and dry roads!
- **Mar 7: Board Meeting** @ Fountainhead Museum Garage 6:30 pm Members are welcome.
- **Mar 9: Membership Meeting** @ Taiga Center (behind museum) 6:30 pm.

Find us on 

Bruce McIntosh manages the public Facebook page of the [Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club of Fairbanks](#) page, and moderates the [Members Only: Antique Auto Club of Fairbanks](#) page.

## WEBSITE NEWS

Wilma Vinton is the webmaster for our club website. You can see the current newsletter, download any past newsletters, check out the officers listing, or view the full roster of our members with their cars listed along with emails and phone numbers.

**VLNAAC Website:**  
<http://fairbanksaaca.org>

## CLUB PICTURE PROJECT and SAM'S SOURDOUGH CAFE

- JOHN McCARTHY

Opening in 1987, Sam's Sourdough Cafe became a Fairbanks dining landmark for locals and visitors. The restaurant was awarded "...one of the top breakfast spots in the United States..." and was famous for its sourdough starter.

On March 14, 2009, the restaurant had a fire that completely destroyed the building and its contents with the exception of some rescued sourdough starter. The eclectic collection of auto related pictures and magazine articles were lost forever.

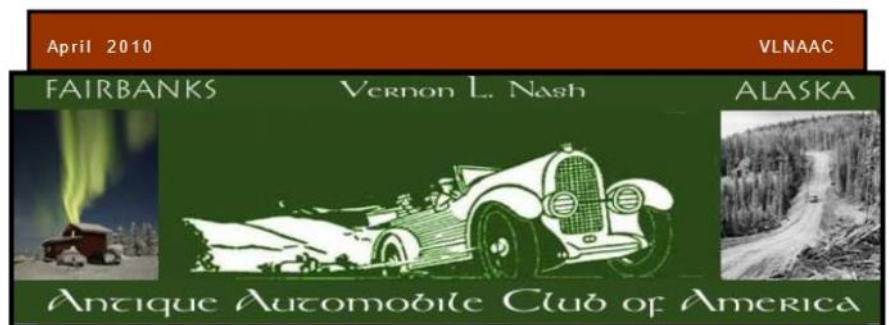
A decision was made by the owners to rebuild the building and on February 7, 2010 the restaurant was reopened minus the unique collection of memorabilia that once decorated the old building.

In early 2010 the Vernon Nash Car Club approached Sharon Nault, owner of Sam's Sourdough and Kathryn Franklin, the cafe manager, with a proposal to help decorate the new restaurant. It was agreed that the club would use pictures of club members cars and that the club could decorate the back dining room at the club's discretion.

Club members were asked to submit pictures of their cars and \$20.00 per picture would be charged for frames, picture printing and mounting. The project was led by Gary Nash. Club president Rick Larrick was in charge of printing pictures with car identification information and the club's name on the face of the picture. John McCarthy was in charge of the frames. The parts and pieces were then prepared and assembled in Gary Nash's garage by Gary and John.

The first batch of pictures were presented to the membership for review and approval at the membership meeting in March 2010. A week later, Rick, Gary and John did the layout and picture hanging at the restaurant. Phase one of the project was complete. Two rows of club vehicle pictures wrapped the walls of the back dining room.

The project met with such an abundance of positive comments that more pictures were solicited from the club membership adding a third row of pictures to the dining room's walls. This completed Phase 2, the final phase, of the project.



**FIRST PICTURES PRESENTED TO SAM'S SOURDOUGH**

The first batch of car club pictures for the Sam's Sourdough Cafe project were displayed for membership viewing, in part, in the March VLNAACF newsletter and at the March 11th general membership meeting. The pictures came out excellent and show the diversification of our club vehicles that we own and like to drive. The 25 pictures in  
(Continued Page 2)



The Vernon Nash Car Club held several board meetings in the room and some membership meeting between 2010 and 2014. Our membership meeting attendance outgrew the room and forced the club to find a larger meeting space. The restaurant continued to receive positive comments about the clubs car pictures.

In 2021, pandemic concerns and a combination of family issues forced the permanent closing of the restaurant. The building was put up for sale.

On December 28, 2022, Caroline Mustard received a phone call while working at the Fountainhead Auto Museum. The caller, Kim Sanders, accounting manager for Doyon Foundation stated that the Sam's Sourdough Cafe building had been sold and the club's car pictures were available, if the club wanted them. Caroline, familiar with the pictures and project, called John McCarthy. On December 29, 2022, John went to Sam's Sourdough and removed the pictures.

The building is now owned by Doyon Foundation, a non-profit entity of Doyon Limited and will be remodeled into office and study space for Alaska indigenous language revitalization and scholarship for Doyon shareholders. There will be one corner of the building reserved with a booth and table in remembrance of the famous Sam's sourdough starter that made the cafe a Fairbanks icon for over three decades.

The pictures have been secured at the club's storage facility. The board would like your help in determining the disposition of these pictures. If you have any ideas, please contact John McCarthy at 907-347-5056, (gt500ak@gmail.com) or any club officer or board member. Contact information is located on the last page of the newsletter or the VLNAACF website <https://fairbanksaaca.org/>

. There will be a discussion at the membership meeting on February 9, 2023. Please plan on attending.



*Gary Nash and John McCarthy hanging the first batch of pictures.*

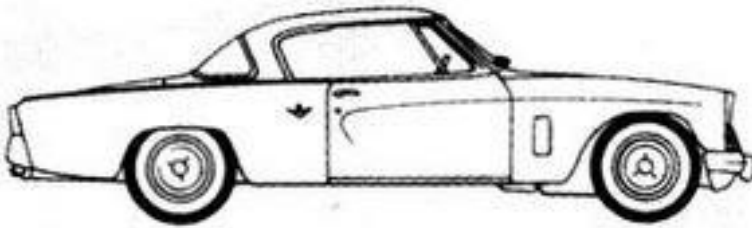


## John McCarthy

I have the distinct pleasure of knowing most of the members of the Vernon Nash Car Club (VLNAACF). My name is John McCarthy and I am a 2023-2024 Board of Directors member, replacing Wally Olsen whose term expired in December 2022. I have been a club member for 18 years and have enjoyed participating in many club activities to include long distance tours, weekly Wednesday runarounds, car shows, and weekend events. I have also held officer and board positions with the Vernon Nash Car Club in past years.

My goal in being a Board of Directors member is to help the club manage it's business and to inspire all members to be active participants in club activities. Please share your ideas and thoughts about the club's direction and goals with me and the other officers and board members.

Exploring new ideas and participating in events keeps our club vibrant and rewarding. I look forward to spending time with you and your vehicles as we enjoy the next adventures of the car club season.





## Jeff Creamer

Greetings fellow members!

I would like to introduce myself, I am Jeff Creamer, your current Vice President of VLNAACF. I have been a member for about a decade, give or take and have previously served as a board member and as president of the club.

I retired from my last employment in March of 2021, resigned my position as an officer of the club in August that year, and my wife Christol and I spent the winter touring the US in an RV until we tired of that and returned to Fairbanks in May of '22.

Since re-establishing ourselves here, I have acquired another project, a 1948 Buick Roadmaster in dire need of rescuing from a slow demise. I brought it home and will be attempting restoration for the foreseeable future! In the meantime, I will still be bringing out the 1910 Chalmers Detroit (that has been passed down in my family for over one hundred years!) to enjoy our club outings throughout the summer.

I look forward to meeting new friend's and renewing old friendships as we gather for events, and encourage all fellow members to contribute to the mission of this club!

Best regards,

*Jeffrey J (Jeff) Creamer*

Vice President VLNAACF



## CONTACTS:

VLNAAC Website: <https://fairbanksaaca.org>



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Facebook Moderator	Bruce McIntosh	322-4685	<a href="mailto:bcmcintosh@gmail.com">bcmcintosh@gmail.com</a>
Sunshine Club	Tracy McLeod	378-0718	<a href="mailto:tksplits@yahoo.com">tksplits@yahoo.com</a>

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next **Board Meeting** is **Tuesday, Feb. 7** at the **FOUNTAINHEAD MUSEUM GARAGE**. Meeting starts at **6:30 pm**; no food. Board Meetings are open to members.

The next **Membership Meeting** is **Thursday, Feb. 9** in the **Taiga Center**, behind the **Fountainhead Museum**. Meeting starts at **6:30 pm** and is open to everyone.



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