

NASH'S NEWS 2026

ANTIQUUE AUTO NEWS FROM
ALASKA'S LARGEST CAR CLUB AND
MOST NORTHERN REGION OF AACA



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UPCOMING EVENTS

The summer schedule has been sent out already in the email announcements.

For current updates go to the website
calendar <https://fairbanksaaca.org/calendar/vlnaacf-calendar/>

Summary for May:

Wednesday Night Run Arounds begin
May 6

Board meeting May 12

Membership Meeting Thursday May 14
Mayan Palace; 6 for dinner 7 for
meeting

Cruisin' with Santa Saturday May 30

Mondo Run Sunday May 31

PRESIDENT'S HEADLIGHTS

By Bruce McIntosh

The calendar just keeps rolling along. I'm down to gravel at my place, the snow berms are below eye-level, and all the outside cars have melted off. Which is a good reminder that it's almost time to get some of them on the road. The Galaxie is still in storage, I'm finishing up installing a disc brake kit on the '55 Vic that has been sitting on a shelf for far too long and, when that's off the lift, the '48 Hudson is next in the queue for attention. In other words, I'm somewhere around the February point in my winter to-do list.

We had a good membership meeting a few weeks ago at the Mayan Plaza. They do a good job serving our crowd, and we will be meeting there again next month on Thursday, May 14th. That will be the last indoor meeting and starting in June we'll once again be holding our outdoor potlucks. If you didn't make it to the last meeting, we'd love to see you at the next one. It's a nice chance to get reacquainted with folks you may not have seen in awhile and catch-up.

How are your raffle ticket sales going? The money we generate from the raffle helps pay for most of the Holiday Party we enjoy in December. Last weekend we had a booth at the Outdoor Show with the car on display and, thanks to those folks that volunteered their time, we did fairly well selling raffle tickets. If you haven't had a chance to pitch in yet, we'll still need folks to help out at upcoming car shows. If you think you can help out, contact either our VP Doug Davis or myself.

Patty Merrit scheduled one last Virtual Runaround for us on Wednesday, April 29th. By the time you read this it may be in the rear-view mirror, but consider joining in next year. A big thanks to Patty for organizing these for us. In two weeks our first in-person Wednesday Night Runaround (WNRA) is scheduled for May 6th at Pioneer Park (née Alaskaland). In case you haven't been following local politics, in the tradition of long winters spurring some local controversy, this winter it was whether or not to revert the name of Pioneer Park. The Borough Assembly has decided to rename the park Alaskaland, but not before next fall. In either case, it's going to be the same parking lot.

And speaking of WNRA's, if you know of a spot that would make for a nice Wednesday drive, we're always looking for folks to step up and guide us to a destination. Our first destination on the books is the soft opening of the Malemute Saloon in Ester on May 13th. We usually start gathering at 6 pm and try to hit the road by 7 pm. Once again contact Doug Davis if you'd like to volunteer.

Until next time, keep cheering on Mr. Sol. Summer will be here sooner than you think.



FEATURE ARTICLE: *LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL: Her 66 Mustang*

Information & photos from Rochelle Larson, edited by Patty Meritt, with assistance of ChatGPT

“After 22 years... it wasn't just a drive—it was a homecoming.”



I bought my Mustang in 2003 from a classified ad, thanks to a little inspiration from my cousin Ray McLeod, who had been building Mustangs since his high school shop days. When we picked it up, they said it didn't run—but within about 20 minutes, Ray had it going like it never missed a beat.

That's when I knew this car had something special. That summer, we tore it down and quickly realized it had quite a history—layers of old repairs and a lot of work ahead.



Over the years, the Mustang made its way through different garages, shops, and life changes. There were setbacks, moves, and long pauses—especially after losing Ray, and later my dad. But I never let go of the dream of finishing what we started. It was originally Palomino White, but I had a different vision. I knew from the start it would be blue—so I chose a 1966 Shelby Sapphire Blue and slowly started collecting parts to match.

Restoration Timeline

- **2003:** Bought the Mustang (non-running... for about 20 minutes)
- **Early Years:** Full teardown and big plans begin
- **2018:** Paint and body completed in Sapphire Blue
- **2020:** Project paused after family loss
- **2025:** Finally finished and back on the road

With the help of so many amazing friends along the way—and the incredible final work of Greg and Karmen Shoemaker—that dream finally became reality.



Photo by Patty Meritt



In April 2025, I got the call: “Are you ready to come get your car?”

I don’t think I’ve ever smiled so big. Driving it home for the first time after 22 years was something I’ll never forget. A couple weeks later, we even took it on its first real road trip to Homer—and it did great.

This car means more to me than I can put into words. It’s not just a Mustang—it’s a piece of my family, my memories, and a whole lot of love



Deepest thanks to Robbie & Jeff Casey, Carl Westphal, Jim and Tracy Brand, John McCarthy, Charlie Bourque, Bret & Cindy Helms, Greg Oslund, my sister Rhonda & John Morgan, and dad (Bub). And now... it’s finally time to let the good times roll.



SUNSHINE REPORT 123 OPEN ME!



Most cards have now moved to an electronic format. So if you see a “123 card” arrive in your email inbox, **it is not a scam.**

It is your car club friends wishing you well!

In 2026 we are making an effort to send birthday and anniversary greetings to all members, provided we have a current email address on file.

When possible, hard-copy, “snail mail” cards will be available at member and board meetings.

If you would like a thank you card, get-well wishes, or sympathy sent to someone in the club, please email Patty Meritt with the necessary information at: pameritt@alaska.edu

Recent deliveries:

February: 12 cards sent

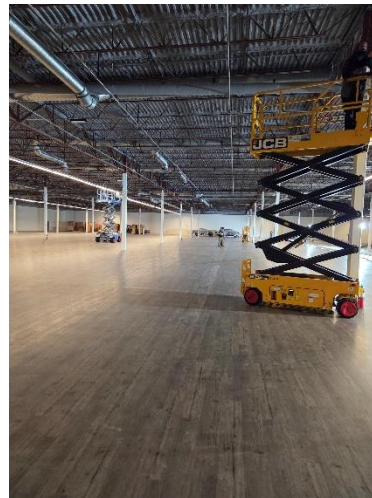
March: 3 sent;

April: 12 sent

UPDATE FOR THE NEW MUSEUM

News and photos by Willy Vinton

Just a little teaser as to the new facility, we are growing from 30K feet to 90K. More cars, clothing, history, and airplanes. The 34 Chrysler airflow just happened to be the first car we moved into the museum. The next shows 4 cars on the south end next to Amazon wall, then the same 4 cars taken from the northern end of the interior. Our plan is to move in by first part of June, but this is Fairbanks, and sometimes it takes a while to get certain items shipped up here. We are still at this time waiting for 2300 light fixtures, and a little over a mile of light track. This is going to be a great museum when we get it finished. And a big thanks to all the volunteer help we have



2026 ADVENTURES BEFORE DEMENTIA TOUR

By Scott Grundy

Calling All Procrastinators To Join!

There's still time for you to join the 23 fun souls who are currently signed up for this camaraderie building club event! Drive your vintage vehicle or anything you wish. Some reserved housing is available for a short time. Contact sgrundy55ply@gmail.com for housing details. Drive. Please join us! We're going to have some fun!

Sat., 6/13: Drive 275 miles to Talkeetna.
Sun., 6/14: Drive ~170 miles to Sheep Mtn. (Glenn Hwy.)
Mon., 6/15: Drive ~180 miles to Valdez.
Tue., 6/16: Enjoy Valdez, take a tidewater glacier boat tour or "go fishin".
Wed., 6/17: Drive ~270 miles to Delta Jct
Thurs., 6/18: Drive 100 miles to Fairbanks



LAST 2026 VIRTUAL RUNAROUND

For the third winter, club members gather for a monthly pot luck and movie during the long spring, as we await the dry roads. The final one for 2026 is planned as follows:

It's a birthday celebration! We will celebrate everyone who had a birthday in our "off season" from September 15 to May 15! One member turned 95! One turned 90! At least one celebrated 75 years! Come and reveal your wisdom and age!



Location: CTC, 604 Barnette Street, room 211. Potluck dinner. Patty will provide Birthday cake & Party favors for 30 people. Main course, side dish and vegetables would be appreciated.

Bob Meritt is bringing the **Lucille Ball & Desi Arnaz comedy movie, *The Long, Long Trailer*.**

It is 96 minutes long so we will begin **gathering a bit earlier, at 5:30 for social time and party favors.**

Dinner to begin by 6. Movie from 6:30-8:15. Clean up and exit by 8:30. Looking forward to this last Virtual Runaround for 2026 and soon the beginning of our real wheels on display Wednesday nights!



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

• Cars and Coffee

Continues through the winter on Saturdays from 8:00–10:00 a.m. at Great Harvest Bakery on Airport Road. Share memories, stories, car problems, or recent fixes while enjoying your favorite beverage and/or breakfast.

• Help Wanted

1. Coordinators for the Wednesday Night Run Arounuds – Contact Doug Davis
2. Help with finding a site for the Car Show on Airport Road – Contact Bruce McIntosh
3. Newsletter editor with formatting expertise – Contact Patty Meritt
4. Primary Person in Charge of carious summer events – Contact Doug Davis

• For Sale

1926 Model T Ford;
Very good condition; \$10K
Contact Bob Meritt 907 474-0841



Stella and Ben Carpenter Cars are being sold. The following are unconfirmed possibilities. Some may be sold. Contact Ben Jr. for information 714 408-5492

- 1915 Model T
- 1977 Mercury Cougar
- Reflections Limo
- Lincoln Town Car?

FAREWELL

Ronald Ron Charles Dane

December 5, 1934 – March 16, 2026

<https://www.bureshfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Ronald-C-Dane?obId=47745544>

Donna M (Pease) Krier

March 3, 1930-November 24, 2025

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/krier/donna?coBrand=newsminer>

Alden Roy Wilbur, Roy (Shorty)

April 3, 1947 - November 21, 2025

<https://www.legacyalaska.com/obituaries/Alden-Roy-Wilbur?obId=48116120>

BOARD MEMBERS and Committee Contacts*

President, FB Moderator	Bruce McIntosh	907-322-4685
Vice President	Doug Davis	907 371-8400
Secretary	Donna Wojciechowski	907-490-6740
Treasurer	Wilma Vinton	907-388-7766
Director (Past President)	Mike Lecorchick	907-322-7525
Director	George Dalton	907 750-6426
Director	John McCarthy	907-347-5056
Director	Terry Fogleson	907-590-4713
Director	Preston Smith	907-488-8824
*Newsletter Ed.& Sunshine	Patty Meritt	907-978-6626
*Web Masters	Michael Farrell / Wilma Vinton	907-388-7766
*Membership Chair	Rochelle Larson	907-590-8593