

NASH'S NEWS OCTOBER 2026

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



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Upcoming Events

See the calendar for updates

<https://fairbanksaaca.org/calendar/vlnaacf-calendar/>

Cars and Coffee every Saturday 8-10 AM
Great Harvest Bread Co, 1990 Airport Rd

11/10 Board Meeting - all welcome!
Location TBA

11/12 Member Mtg Taco Azteca; No
host dinner 6-7 ; Mtg begins at 7 PM

12/6 Annual Mtg and Holiday Party

12/8 Board Meeting all - welcome!
Location TBA

1/12/27 Board Meeting all - welcome!
Location TBA

1/14 Member meeting Location TBA

Good Bye Snowbirds!!



President's Headlights

10/06/26

Bruce McIntosh



Looks like we've pretty much come to the end of our driving season now. I'm sure there's still a few hardcore members wanting to wring a few more miles from their vehicles, but most of us have put away our cars for the year. Back when I was still mushing dogs, summer was mostly an inconvenience that got in the way of winter. Now that I've swapped my dog team for old cars, I'm gonna miss it.

Overall, I think we had a pretty good summer, with a variety of events every week. Our June car show moved to a new venue at the Regal-Goldstream Theater and proved very popular. We learned a few things and hopefully we'll be back there again next year.

The next weekend Scott Grundy led us on another memorable Adventure Before Dementia Tour down to Valdez, and we couldn't have asked for better weather. Blue skies and calm winds greeted us on the day we took the Stan Stephens glacier cruise. If you know Valdez, you know how rare that is. Between the poker runs, the Golden Days parade and picnic, the Solstice and Seekins car shows, our 5-year

picture, and Wednesday Night Runarounds, there was something of interest most every week for members to get out and enjoy.

People seemed to appreciate the weekly updates that were emailed out this summer, so I'll pick that up again next year. In the meantime, reminders and updates will still be sent as needed. Planning is under way for the next big event – the annual membership meeting/holiday dinner. Mark your calendars for December 6th. More details to come as we get closer to that date.

A club can't be active without the volunteers that make things happen, and I'd like to give a big shout out to all of those members who donated their time and efforts to the club this past year. If you enjoy our club activities, please consider getting more involved and joining in with us next year. Maybe you have a destination for a Wednesday Night Runaround, or you bring your car to one of the shows and can spare a couple of hours helping us sell raffle tickets? The help is always welcome and it's a great way to get to know a good group of folks better. I know when I first joined the club and attended some events, it wasn't until I started chipping in that I got so much more out of my membership. I think you will, too.

The New Location for Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum is OPEN!

Winter Hours: Wed. & Sunday 12-4 PM;

Location: 3225 Airport Road, Fairbanks

Admission Price: \$20 for adults (age 13 +) and \$10 for children (6-12) Under 5 is free.

Web Address:

<http://www.fountainheadmuseum.com>

There are some terrific links to YouTube videos featuring exhibits there.



July - What a busy month!

5th Willy's Rally wandered around town, with clues sometimes crossing over each other and cars seeing other participants going opposite directions! The happy conclusion was at East Ramp Pizza.

13th Chena Hot Spring poker run coordinated by Nee and John McCarthy. Delicious pot luck and beautiful weather.

16th-20th Anchorage Auto Musers visited, enjoying the opening of the new location for the Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum, hosted at the Meritt's garage on evening of the 17th



They also joined the picnic at Pioneer Park on the 18th, where our own members, Greg and Lois Oslund, won the 2026 raffle car – a convertible 2008 Chrysler Sebring!



Rochelle Larson was awarded the most improved trophy for her 66 Mustang



21st Ed McLaughlin's 100th birthday at the Pioneer Park Square Dance Pavillion, was a joyful celebration, complete with dozens of pizzas and Red Hackle Bagpipe Band



25th Golden Days parade had a huge response



26th We headed out for a poker run to the Shriners Lodge at Harding Lake

Regula Activities

Throughout the summer there were monthly board and membership meetings, Saturday “Cars and Coffee”, and Wednesday night “Run Arouns”. This photo shows one Wednesday night out Goldstream Road to the Peony Farm



August

8th President Bruce wrote, “We had a great turnout for the Seekins car show last Saturday, with around 70+ cars showing up.”

22nd Progressive Dinner with appetizers at Bruce McIntosh’s garage, main course at Steve, Betty and Diane Marshall’s indoor dog arena and banquet room, including entertainment of playful agility between Diane and her award winning Zing, and a tour of the site for the new arena.



Betty graciously allowed us to tour her charming and unique home and garden.



Dessert hosted by the Meritts.

30th John McCarthy, Rick Larrick, Cole, Bruce and others, managed to corral a representative sample of the club for the 5 year photo at the Carlson



Center back field. Posters can be ordered now. Contact John McCarthy for details.

September

2nd Slow Poke Run ended at Hot Licks.



5th Poker Run to Delta for the Buffalo Center Drive In lunch

12th Fall color run to Clear Sky Lodge



Farewell Paul Tekin 1941– 2026

Saturday, August 15th, many club members gathered to remember and celebrate Paul’s life

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/newsmineer/name/paul-tekini-obituary?id=62109404>

Featured Articles: What Goes Around, Comes Around

1929 Model A Ford - Headed Home

by Nancy Allen

Earlier this summer Ron decided it was time to sell his 1929 Model A Ford. He contacted Brent LaValley from whom he purchased the car about 10 years ago and Brent contacted the owners before him who live in Michigan. Needless to say there was one more contact made by the people Michigan to the granddaughter of the original owner.

The granddaughter emailed Ron and a transaction started to happen. The young woman is Michigan needed time to gather the money and the last week in August she contacted Ron and said the money would be wired the next day along with shipping instructions. Ron drove the car to the shipping company not with a heavy heart but with a great deal of contentment because the car was going home where it belonged. The

car now resides in Caro, Michigan, and all parties are very happy

If you know Ron's story about recovering his TR in 2000 it is especially satisfying for him to return the Model A to its proper owner. The picture is of Ron and I in the 2026 Golden Days Parade, the last time the car appeared on the streets of Fairbanks.

Ron is staying in touch with the new owner. We know the car has been in a show already and other events; expect and update in the spring!



Another Classic Finds It's Way Home



In the 1970s, Bob Meritt was researching to find a car like Grandpa Meritt owned. From

writing to his Grandma, he got a copy of the bill of sale, showing it was a **1930 Willys**

Knight (WK). Through correspondence with Willys Overland Club members, and a partial photo showing the back bumper, it was determined to be a **Model 66**.

In his quest, he located a 1930 WK, model 87, and purchased it, to arrive in December 1970. Then his inquiries reaped another WK, this time it was the right Model, a 66D, with the Great 6 Engine, like Grandpa's, but the

wrong year, a 1931. He bought it too, with arrival in Feb 1971. Over the next year, Bob enjoyed re-furbishing both cars. The 1931 was almost like Grandpa's. He added Lester wide white wall tires and installed a custom interior with the genius of Clem (of backpacking fame) for the seat upholstery.

Then, a year later, in 1972, the right model and the right year became available, a 1930 66B, which Bob also eagerly purchased. That car, is now owned by Janeen and Scott Culbertson and won the Best in Show trophy at the Seekins Show in August.



Meanwhile, back to the 1970s. Three Wks were too many for Bob's family so he sold the Model 87 to Ed Christiansen, which eventually made it's way to a museum outside Alaska. Then, in 1973, the Model 66D was sold at a discount to his good friend, and incoming club president, Ben Carpenter.



Ben, and his wife Stella, enjoyed the car for many years. A friend and past club president, mechanic Ralph Moore, helped them maintain it. When Ben died in 2013, Ralph continue to do maintenance, even driving it in the 2018 Golden Days parade.

This April, serendipitously on Bob's 90th birthday, a message came from Ben Jr. Stella had moved to California to be closer to family and Ben and his wife Joan were in town to settle Stella's property, including several antique cars. At the Saturday Cars and Coffee, he learned Bob was active in the club again and might be looking for another WK. So, with Stella's blessing, Ben Jr made Bob "An offer you can't refuse". They would re-sell the 1931 WK 66D back to Bob for the original price Bob sold it for, plus \$1, because, "My Dad always liked to make a profit". What a wonderful birthday surprise!



Although the Lester tires are good as new, after 50+ years there are a few areas for maintenance and repairs; Ralph & Bob have enjoyed refreshing her this summer and fall. Ben Sr. would likely get a laugh out of Bob's comment, "You know, when I sold it to him, I guaranteed that car. Now, 50 years later, he wants his money back!"

History of the Adventure Before Dementia Tours

By Scott Grundy, Cat Herder Jr.

The story begins in 2008. Lynn & I are also members of the Antique Auto Musers of Alaska (AAMA) in Anchorage. The AAMA is composed of many who are eager to drive their vehicles almost anywhere. They had just completed a tour to Yellowknife, Canada and announced their next trip was up the Dempster Highway to Inuvik, NWT, Canada via Whitehorse and return over the Top of the World & Taylor Highways to Tok, AK. I was really intrigued. So “we” purchased a 1955 Plymouth 4-door and had it shipped from WI. I spent a couple of months changing fluids, tuning and fussing with her (Edith) in hopes she would make the nearly

2,300-mile round trip without difficulty. Other than a flat tire she did well and we had a blast!! So much so, I was determined to get our club involved in such fun, so I asked many questions of the AAMA leader (aka Cat Herder), Bruce Campbell. He’s a real character and became my mentor – hence my “Junior” handle.

In 2009 I assembled a group and proposed our first tour. But, we struggled to find a unique name for our group. One evening our club’s unofficial “Poet Laureate,” Ed McLaughlin called and said he was talking with a chap from Australia on his ham radio who informed him there was an Aussie tour group called “The Adventure Before Dementia Tours.” We all loved it, so our group was named! But I caution you – It’s properly pronounced with an Aussie accent!

VLNAACF Adventure Before Dementia Tours

2009	Whitehorse – Skagway – Haines	1360 miles
2010	Valdez - Cordova – Whittier – Hatcher Pass	804 miles
2012	Cantwell – Seward – Majestic Valley	1053 miles
2013	Dawson City – Eagle	904 miles
2014	Homer – Seldovia	1200 miles
2016	Beaver Creek – Haines – Skagway – Whitehorse	1287 miles
2017	Wiseman – Galbraith Lake – Manley Hot Springs	592 miles
2018	Kodiak	1300 miles
2019	Whitehorse - Dawson City - Tok	1470 miles
2023	Dawson City - Eagle	904 miles
2024	Talkeetna - Wasilla - Chugiak - Glennallen	725 miles
2025	Homer - Seldovia - Wasilla	1200 miles
2026	Talkeetna - Majestic Valley - Delta Junction	
	“Centenarian Ed McLaughlin 1000 Mile Tour”	1,000 miles

Total: 12,611 miles

Gee, what happened during the missing years you ask? Well, in 2011 I interfaced with the AAMA on a joint tour to Kennicott – McCarthy to participate in the National Park Service’s celebration of the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Copper River & NW Railway that is no longer there. The AAMA arranged road access over a private bridge to the communities. It was a very special trip.

I cancelled the 2015 tour to Hope and Soldotna as it attracted little interest. But in retrospect I shouldn’t have because Lynn and I made the trip anyway and Will & Theresa Chase joined us. We spent a really fun weekend together with the AAMA celebrating the annual Wagon Trail Festival in Hope. Had I not cancelled, I suspect a few more “cats” would have joined this festive weekend event.

Covid, of course, interfered in 2020. Other times we joined the AAMA

on terrific sorties through the Denali Park all the way to Kantishna, if one wished. We were granted special access one year following the NPS road lottery, other years my mentor who was a former Commissioner of Highways negotiated our access. Yes, on our last park trip some of us drove over the actively subsiding swale in the Pretty Rocks near-vertical landslide area in Polychrome Pass. One only had to have faith, ignore the screams of passengers, pucker your anal sphincter and gun it! Lotsa fun and fortunately good memories!

This is my last year to organize a tour. I don’t want to see these fun and camaraderie building tours come to an end. I plan to update the ABDT section of our Policy and Procedures Manual and hopefully work with a new cat herder to the extent desired. These overnight sorties really build lasting friendships. Let’s not lose them.

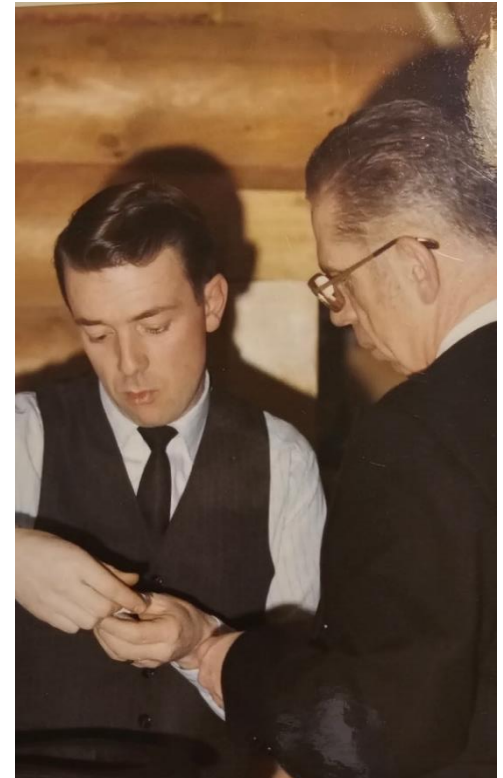


History of Club Presidents

Can you fill in any of the twelve gaps?

Passing the Presidency 1971 to 1972

1971	Howard Mackey	1996	
1972	Bob Meritt	1997	Jerry Roehm
1973	Ben Carpenter Sr.	1998	Bill Chace
1974	Vern Nash	1999	Jerry Krier
1975	Nick Bosnaki	2000	Paul Camarata
1976		2001 & 02 & 03	Squeaky (Loren) Benham
1977		2004	Larry Bennet
1978		05 & 06	Willy Vinton
1979		2007	Ray McLoed
1980		08 & 09	Willy Vinton
81 & 82	Ed Christiansen	10 & 11	Rick Larrick
83 & 84	Clain Hill	12 & 13	Scott Culbertson
1985	Bill Chace	2014	John McCarthy
86 & 87	Carl Jegium	15 & 16	Wilma Vinton
88 & 89	Roger Smith	17 & 18	Mike Lecorchick
1990		19-20	Jeff Creamer
1991		2021	Jeff Creamer/ Willy Vinton
1992		22 & 23	Doug Cline
1993		2024	Mike Lecorchick
1994		2025	Melinda Naris
1995		2026	Bruce McIntosh



Upcoming Elections

By Bruce McIntosh

It's time once again for the annual election of club officers and directors. In past years, in looking for candidates, we have phone-banked, trying to contact everyone on the membership list. With the number of political and spam phone calls we're all getting these days, that wasn't very productive. Many folks (including myself) simply don't pick up anymore if we don't recognize the number. So for that reason we're going to try recruiting candidate nominations via email this year.

Our club bylaws call for a slate of candidates to be presented at the October membership meeting, • with elections at the November • membership meeting. If you hav• an interest in helping direct the • club during the 2027 calendar year, or know of someone you'd like to nominate, please consider stepping up and replying to this email. I'm happy to answer any and all questions.

We're looking for folks interested in the following positions:

Officers (1-year term starting January 1st)

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Directors

The Executive Board has five director positions. One Director is the past-President, and the other four Directors serve 2-year terms starting January 1st. Each year, two Director positions come up for election so that the two open positions are filled in rotation.

Vice President RE:Officer Elections

In light of the upcoming nominations for the next years officers, I would like to encourage anyone interested in running for the position of vice-president to do so.

Whilewilling to serve another term if needed, I feel there are others that might serve the club better than I. I attend very few functions other than meetings and shows and there are many members who do a better job of attending the club's various functions (WNRA's, road trips, Poker runs etc.).

Regardless of election results, I will continue to support our club, including helping a replacement with next season's scheduling.

Our president and officers are a fun group and a joy to work with. I would encourage anyone considering to be a part of our team to give it a try. We had several new Directors last year and each brought new ideas and conversations that enhanced the club. Happy motoring, Doug Davis

Opportunity Knocks x 2

1.Be an Editor for a month!

Last year I agreed to try to produce the club newsletter for 1 year on the conditions it would be quarterly and emphasizing I would not be able to make it the award-winning quality from the past.

We published in January, April, July, and now in October, but with all the summer activities we really could use more editions in 2027. Please share your talent by agreeing to create an edition for just one month! Contact Patty Meritt

2. Get your 5 year club poster. Contact John McCarthy to order one. They are all the same size, but price varies if you want one mounted with a backing or not.

Got items for sale? Send them in for the January Newsletter!

NO Free Lunch Dinner!

An Analysis of Raffle

Car Returns by Patty Meritt

The Board is discussing the Raffle Car activity. For 2027 the car will be a 1999 Mercedes. Proceeds from the raffle are used to subsidize the holiday dinner, cover the costs of club activities, and give

donations to charities when there are excess funds.

Reviewing the 10 year comparison of costs, sales, and profit, some facts become apparent, including:

1. The cost of the cars has not varied significantly from year to year. There is less than a \$500 difference.

2. Far fewer tickets are being listed as purchased by members of the club.

The average proceeds from tickets purchased by members for the 7 years 2017-2023 was \$8280. For the past three years 2024-2026 the average proceeds from members ticket purchases has been \$2377, an average difference of \$5903.

3. Expenses for the car raffle have gone up significantly. From 2017-2023 the average cost was \$1298. For the past three years, the average cost has been \$2350, for an average *increase* of \$1052. Only \$1000 is budgeted for this.

4. Profits are significantly down. For the first 7 years of the study period the profits averaged \$7011. For the past three years the profit has averaged \$3604

In observation, it appears a few members are very involved in displaying and repairing the car, distributing and managing the tickets, staffing the ticket sale booths, and general ticket sales. One might conclude those few members are taking the rest of us out for an excellent dinner!

Please share your ideas with the board. Some suggested changes could include:

- Everyone pay 100% of our holiday dinners
- Reduce the quality/selection and cost of the meal
- People who work to sell tickets get a reduced meal, others pay full price
- Each member buys 4-5 books of tickets (\$80-\$100), and sells them, or not
- Establish a second or different fund raiser

BOARD MEMBERS and Committee Contacts*

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