

December
2008

Traveling in
the Past
and Present



Next Meeting
Dec 9th, 2008

Old Auto Museum
Dinner 6:00 pm
General Meeting 6:45 pm

TALLAHASSEE REGION ANTIQUÉ AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

TRAACA Caribbean Cruise 2008

Fellows and gals, would you like to fall in love with your spouse all over again? How would you like to run into friends while walking down a street on St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands or in Dutch St. Maarten? If that's not enough, how about eating almost anything almost any time you want and not paying for it at the door? How about going to a stage show every night of the week? But just being treated like a millionaire for a week with someone beckoning to your every need should be enough to make you happy! Well, you could do all of these exciting things when you're on a Caribbean cruise on a luxury liner with other TRAACA friends. There were ten of us: Bill & Nancy Thompson, Bill & Judy Brundydge, Bobbie & Nell Hollingsworth, Bill & Peggy O'Rourke and E'Lane & me. And did we have a good time! Our cruise was from Sunday afternoon, September 14th to the following Sunday morning on Royal Caribbean's 1,020-foot-long Mariner of the Seas. And what a perfect week for it too - we went between hurricane Ike and that wannabe K-storm that dumped over 20-inches of rain on Puerto Rico; nothing but smooth sailing! Our ports-of-call were in the Bahamas, the U.S. Virgin Islands (that American flag flying sure looked good there), and St. Maarten.

However, we did not pull off this fun-filled week without a few hitches along the way. Late Friday afternoon before we were to leave for Port Canaveral Saturday morning, I noticed long lines at the gas stations around town. By the time E'Lane got off work, there was no gas left for her to fill up the car for our trip. Well, out came the siphon tube and the 65 Rambler and 53 Chevy became

donor vehicles. I managed to get enough gas out of them to get us to the east coast the next day. There didn't seem to be any problem with the availability of gas once we got a few miles out of Tallahassee, but we couldn't count on that Friday night.

After we checked into the Quality Suites on Cocoa Beach Saturday afternoon, all of us TRAACA people got together to go out to dinner at a BBQ restaurant recommended by the desk clerk. Well, there were mixed reviews over the food and service from our crew, but I think E'Lane had the worst experience there. We had eaten a late lunch at a Cracker Barrel on I-95 so she only ordered an appetizer of potato skins. What did they bring her? Onion rings. That's close, but not close enough for E'Lane, so they took them back and finally brought her the 'tater skins, but they seem to have forgotten to cook them. When she pointed this out, they took them away and finally brought them back out about the time everyone else was finishing up their meal. At least they were cooked this time and they didn't charge her for them! So, even bad experiences sometimes have a silver lining.

We all checked out of our motel Sunday morning and proceeded to the cruise parking lot at the nearby Radisson and when I pulled in, Bill O'Rourke waved me directions on where to park. When a guy waves you, do you read signs? I don't. And a red Pontiac with a fellow named Ted Thompson from North Carolina driving it followed me into the same parking lot. He apparently doesn't read signs very well either. When I found out that I was parked in a tow-away lot I moved my car to the correct lot, but that red

(Continued on page 5)

Club Officers

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DECember Birthdays

- 9 — Jim Ward
- 12 — Shirley Benson
- 14 — Bob Love
- 19 — Larry Benson
- 20 — Lynne Taylor
- 22 — Janie Brock
- 27 — Bill Brundydge
- 29 — Ann Stallings
- 30 — Kathy Hanbury

Happy Birthday

**TALLAHASSEE REGION, AACA****MEETING MINUTES****November 15, 2008****The home of Bill & Peggy O'Rourke's, Havana, Florida**

There were approximately 50 members and guests in attendance for this, the Annual Chili Dinner & Auction. The business meeting portion was shortened due to the need for time to do the auction.

Opening Prayer - Norm Madsen

Welcome - Norm Madsen greeted everyone and thanked them for their attendance. He welcomed and introduced several guests and new members, Ray & Cheryl Bartell.

50/50 Drawing -

No drawing for this meeting.

Committee Reports

Treasurer - Andy Mohny

Andy gave the report. Details are available from Andy or Norm.

Sunshine - Norm

Continue to remember Jay Mottice, Roy West and Tom Link. We understand the Mottices' have moved to Westminster Oaks. As always, we need to keep all of our members who have considerations in our prayers and make contact with them.

Long & Short Tours - Bill O'Rourke/ Bobby Hollingsworth

No report this meeting.

Announcements & Reports - Norm Madsen

1. There will be an open house at the Moore's on December 7th between 2:30 and 5:00 PM. All are invited. They live at 2543 Thornton Road off of highway 90 east.
2. Norm thanked everyone for attending and an especially big thanks to the O'Rourke's for providing their home for this event and for the work they put into the set up. And thanks to all that helped them!
3. The short tour to Crawfordville to view the train layout and later, the trip to St. Marks was great success. It was on October 25, 2008.
4. The slate of officers for 2009 will be presented at the December meeting for vote.
5. Selection of the 2008 "Member of the Year" ballots will be distributed at the December meeting and results disclosed at the January meeting.
6. Neal Davis reminded everyone that advertisements placed in the "Chassee" will run January through December and cost \$25.00. Submit them to Bob Love. This will help offset mailing and printing costs for the newsletter.

Old Business/New Business

1. The Christmas Dinner and meeting will be held on December 09, 2008 at the Old Museum beginning at 6:00 PM. Glenda Schanbacher will coordinate bringing of "pot luck" dinner items and will notify members how they may participate. The meat, bread and drinks will be provided by the club. Carol Love will take care of this. Nell Hollingsworth will be in charge of decorations.

Coming Events

1. Next Cruise-In will be on Saturday, December 06, 2008 at the Sonic on North Monroe by Hardee's. Begins around 5:00 PM



2. Breakfast at the Cracker Barrel the Friday after each regular meeting date beginning at 8:30 A.M. This month it will be on December 12, 2008. We have been having good turn-outs and everyone is invited.
3. Lunch every Friday around noon at the Quincy Gulf Station.
4. Moultrie Swap Meet will be held on November 22-23, 2008.
5. See our website calendar for more events. Click on "Club Calendar" www.local.aaca.org/traaca Also, visit the National website for National AACA activities www.aaca.org.

Program - Everyone

Program was, of course, the Annual Chili Dinner & Auction. Good turnout of about 45 members and several guests. Bob Love was our capable and expert auctioneer and got rid of almost everything!

Next Meeting & Location

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday December 09, 2008 beginning at 6:00 PM at the Old Museum.

Respectively submitted - John Schanbacher, Secretary

Notes from the Editor's Desk

It's hard to imagine that I've been editor of the Chassee for 5 years, but I guess that's long enough for me. Let someone else have some fun. Bill Thompson has volunteered to resume the duties as editor and I hope everyone provides a lot of support with articles, pictures, and tales of fantastic finds. Well, 2 out of 3 ain't bad!

I will still maintain the web site and will need stuff for that endeavor. Primary though is the newsletter. It has been said by many officers and directors at the national level that the club newsletter is the lifeblood of the local club and I agree. It provides that glue that holds the club together.

Looking forward to 2009 and all the joys our hobby can bring. Happy Holidays, all.

Bob

Havana's 5th Annual Holiday And LAWN MOWER PARADE
SAT., DEC. 13, 2008 • 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
 PARADE AND CONTEST START AT 1 P.M.

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Decorate your lawnmowers and golf carts like a parade float with a theme of your choice!

GET CREATIVE!

Lawnmowers Div.
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 3rd - \$75 gift certificate

Golf Cart Div.
 \$100 prize

Fun!

Fun!

• Food & Craft Vendors will line the streets

Street vendor and parade participant applications available at www.havanaflorida.com, or call Sandi Beare-Schenker (539-7422) or Rita Love (539-6900).

Sponsored by the Havana Merchants Association, the Town of Havana, and the Gadsden County Tourist Development Council.



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**Happy Holidays,
TRAACA friends!**

RECAPS. Thanks to overwhelming participation, our annual Auction and Chili Supper was a great success. The agenda began with the big meal, and it was big, indeed. With dozens of dishes, including homemade chilies, salads and deserts, everybody had plenty of good food and drink --- I'm certain no one went hungry. After a brief club meeting, the auction began. Auctioneer Bob Love and his able assistants hawked hundreds of member-donated items over the next couple of hours. Some were car-related, including books, new and used parts, pictures and plaques. Also, there were gift certificates, clothes, appliances and an endless stream of knick-knacks. Bargains were bought by many, and a great time was had by all. In the end, the club netted over \$600. This will be more than enough to fund the club's Christmas Party (TRAACA will supply the meats, bread, drinks and decorations for the party.)

The supper and auction were housed in the O'Rourke's newly built garage, so we were all protected from the chilly wind and the brief rain.

Many thanks to all of you who participated by bringing food, drinks and auction items. Special thanks to Bill and Peggy O'Rourke for making everything perfect for the event. Peggy and

Bill were wonderful hosts, and their planning and setup made everything go smoothly.

TRAACA HOLIDAY PARTY.

Our annual **Christmas Party** will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 9th at 6:00 p.m. at the old Antique Car Museum hall (our regular meeting place). Dinner will be "pot-luck," so bring a food item to share. If your last name begins with A-G, bring a dessert; H-N brings a salad; and O-Z brings a vegetable. The club will provide the meats, breads and drinks.

Bring a wrapped gift for the gift exchange. The exchange is always lots of fun, and goes as follows:

All gifts should be wrapped and labeled "HIS", "HERS", or "EITHER".

We all choose paper numbers 1 thru 50 (or so).

The person who drew #1 picks a wrapped gift, unwraps it in front of the group (at an unwrapping table), then returns to his/her seat with the gift.

Person #2 picks a wrapped gift, then decides whether to unwrap and keep it or exchange it (still wrapped) for the gift drawn by person #1. If he/she gives person #1 the wrapped gift, then person #1 must unwrap it and hold it up for the whole club to see, then keep it.

Persons #3, #4, etc. will do what #2 did, choosing whether to keep and unwrap their gift choice or exchange it for ANY gift that has previously been unwrapped. ANY unwrapped gift can be taken away from its holder in this process, with NO LIMIT to the number of times any gift can be taken away from its latest owner.

When all gifts have been chosen, person #1 may keep his/her gift or exchange it for ANY GIFT AT ALL.

Also at the December meeting, ballots will be handed out for you to choose the 2008 Member of the Year. The results will be announced at the January meeting. Additionally, the Board's recommendations for the new 2009 Officers will be announced and voted on.

Remember that the monthly Cruise In will happen at Sonic on US27 North on Sat., Dec. 6th. See you there!

ON A PERSONAL NOTE. My two-year stint as your club President is about to come to an end. Leading the club has truly been an honor and a privilege, and hope I have done the position justice. Now it's time to pass the baton to a new President. Your Board of Directors has carefully chosen officers for the upcoming year, and will announce its recommendations at the December meeting. The Board has selected a fine new team to lead the club, and your present officers will be available to help in any way we can during the transition.

2009 will mark thirty-nine years for our club --- thirty-nine years of good times, great friends and wonderful memories. I'm proud to be a part of such a fine group, and I look forward to many more years of making memories with TRAACA.

Thanks! See you at the Christmas Party, and down the road.

Norm

normpackard@comcast.net
850-893-7251



Pontiac was still sitting there. I proceeded to find Ted in the gathering crowd to board the busses (I didn't know his name at the time), but I found him and he moved his car in time. That was the first new friend I made on this trip, but not the last.

Once on board – and there's quite an extensive security and ID check before they'll let you go on – we were amazed at the beauty and luxury all around us. There was a shopping mall down the middle of the ship called the Royal Promenade that defies description. The café on The Promenade had all the sandwiches you could eat and a girl circulating amongst the patrons handing out cookies. My favorite was the oatmeal raisin; I fortunately lost count of how many I ate during the week. Let me list some of the amenities available to us on the ship: A 50's diner (Bobby raved about their hamburgers), a gourmet three-level restaurant (of which the servers represented 69 different countries), a huge dining/buffet area with an 11th deck panoramic view out the fantail of the ship, a large casino, a huge game room, three smallish swimming pools and at least two Jacuzzis, a library, a computer room, a full-sized theater with a stage and balcony, an ice rink (and they put on an amazing ice skating show for us), a rock-climbing wall, multiple in-door and out-door lounges, a miniature golf course, a romper room with activities for little kids, and a club house for teens. Of all these great things, probably the most outstanding was the food followed closely by the ocean and island scenery (E'Lane and I had never been out of the sight of land before).

Our ship's cruise director, Abe Hughes from Johnny Carson's hometown of Norfolk, Nebraska, was dedicated to entertaining us. He told us that about 250 separate events were on the agenda during the week, but the outstanding ones by far, were the stage shows. The first night, we were entertained by comedian, Jeff Burghart and juggling comedian, Rick Novel. That was a good start. Then Monday night, Greg Bonham from Australia took the stage and he was not only funny, he could sing and play the trumpet too! He sang a song he wrote that gives you a patriotic Aussie's perspective of freedom entitled "Who Will Stand" that brought goose bumps to the crowd and resulted in a standing ovation. Afterward, we bought his autographed CD and shook his hand. The next evening, we were entertained by a comedic South American cowboy who called himself El Gaucho. He did songs accompanied by spinning, weighted ropes – it's one of those kinds of things that you had to be there to know how hard it is to describe, but very entertaining. Probably my favorite of them all though was the circus-themed ice skating show on Day 4. It was the most colorful, artistic and flawless ice skating spectacular I have ever seen – and all on a 1/8th-sized rink. It was magnitudes better than anything I've seen in the Olympics – it was that good! Then on Day 5 came Ron Lucas, a ventriloquist who has entertained Presidents and Royalty, and he was very good. My least favorite show was the "Royal Caribbean Singers & Dancers", but they did have the prettiest girls with the excep-

tion of maybe the ice show. Then the last night's entertainment was a very funny comedian named Jimmy Carol (he even made E'Lane laugh out loud) and juggler Rick Novel came on to provide his brand of entertainment. On one of the evenings before the show, they staged a shipboard version of the dating game by selecting participants from the audience – a newlywed couple, a seasoned couple, and the longest-married couple in attendance. It was hilarious! One of the questions was to name the person they last dated before marrying their spouse. Neither of the longest-married couple could remember! They couldn't remember the last time they made love either! The newly-weds said "just before supper" to that one. Overall, I've never been so entertained in a one week period in my entire life – I'd rate the onboard entertainment a 10!

During one of the shows early in the week, a white-haired lady named Darlene was picked from the audience to participate in the show. She was a really a good sport and the audience took an immediate liking to her. Then we kept seeing her all week, in the elevator, the dining hall, on shore, etc. and every time I saw her I would greet her by name as though I really knew her. Well, I ran into her again on the last night going into the auditorium and I as usual greeted her, "Hi Darlene". She replied, "This is my last night of fame – after this no one will recognize me." It was a cruise that she won't soon forget either, I'm sure.

We celebrated my 67th birthday on September 19th aboard the ship and our waiter sang me a birthday song that I had never heard before that included the line "Thank you Jesus for giving me another year". When I asked him where he learned that song, he replied "from my church". He was from the Philippines and he bubbled over with personality and made our dining experience very special every night. I'll try to quote Bill Thompson's statement that went something like, "He has a love of life that you rarely see in a person". His assistant was a beautiful, young girl from Brazil and she was a sweetheart too. In fact, everyone we encountered on the ship's crew and staff were as friendly as could be. No complaints there!

This cruise made a memorable week in my life and I don't care to go on another one any time soon so it won't cloud those memories. We talked to people that have been on 30 to 40 cruises and they would all be a blur it seems like to me. I want to cherish this cruise for a while. Maybe we'll go on an Alaskan cruise next time.

By the way, we have a week's supply of Dramamine that we didn't need.

Paul Edward Shuler





1935 Florida License Plate

Florida, along with the rest of the country, was in the depths of the great depression in the mid thirties. Even buying a new yearly license plate was a major expense and many were stolen. To help curtail this an "Anti-theft" type was devised.

Complicated and expensive to manufacture, difficult to properly attach, and nearly impossible to remove without tearing up the plate and possibly damaging the vehicle this type was, needless to say, very unpopular! They were used in 1934 and 1935 only.

Please note the two pictures showing the date strip before and after insertion. The plate was bolted to the car (without the date strip in place) through holes in the little squares where the date would show through. Then the date strip was inserted into a slot in the back until the "19" and "35" would show in the windows. Both the plate and date strip had little metal fingers sticking up which would interlock with each other. Once inserted the strip could not be removed.

If you were lucky enough to be able to buy a new car during '34 or '35 I have no idea how you would move the plate from one vehicle to another!

A second problem with this plate is the depiction of an orange and grapefruit in the upper corners. (I do not know which is supposed to be which!) Instead of fruit they look like bombs with short fuses! Not very good advertisement for the state. But then who could afford a long automobile trip? This plate was purchased on eBay several years ago for about \$30. It was never mounted on a vehicle (obviously) and the paint wear and rust is from long and poor storage.



For information on collecting plates visit the Automobile License Plate Collectors Association - www.alpca.org or email Gene Densmore - aa4us@arrl.net.

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1954 Ford 4dr V8 located in our back yard in Havana.

From your Reporters in the field: Ramblings and Rovings of Junkyard Dog & Fluffy

Junkyard Dog & Fluffy have been on a short leash for the past few weeks. So, this is what we have come up with.

We strayed through the woods over to see Mr. Collice Hatcher.

There we checked on a 1954 ford. The car is four-door and in need of some restoration. This is the first year of fords y-block 239 ci. This is the same ci as the old flathead, but with the overhead valves it had more horsepower. If anyone is interested in this kind of car you may contact Mr. Hatcher at 539-8451.

Hope we can get back on the trail after the first of the year.

See ya!!

Fluffy



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**Tool Truths**

DRILL PRESS: A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your soda across the room, splattering it against that freshly-stained heirloom piece you were drying.

WIRE WHEEL: Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned guitar calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, 'Yeouw....'

ELECTRIC HAND DRILL: Normally used for spinning pop rivets in their holes until you die of old age, or for perforating something behind and beyond the original intended target object.

PLIERS: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

BELT SANDER: An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs. Caution: Avoid using for manicures.

HACKSAW: One of a family of cutting tools built for frustration enhancement. It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

WISE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK: Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

EIGHT-FOOT LONG YELLOW PINE 4X4: Used for levering an automobile upward off of a trapped hydraulic jack handle.

TWEEZERS: A tool for removing wood splinters and wire wheel wires.

E-Z OUT BOLT AND STUD EXTRACTOR: A tool ten times harder than any known drill bit that snaps neatly off in bolt holes thereby ending any possible future use.

TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST: A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.

1/2 x 24-INCH SCREWDRIVER: A very large pry bar that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end opposite the handle.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER: Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids, opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER: A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws.

HOSE CUTTER: A tool used to make hoses too short.

DAMMIT TOOL: (I have lot's of these) Any handy tool that you grab and throw across the garage while yelling 'DAMMIT' at the top of your lungs. It is also, most often, the next tool that you will need after a really big hammer.

Written by **Shirley McEwan Moore**As told by **DeVoe Moore**Edited by **John Wells**

February 19, 1977 on a trip to Indianapolis, Indiana, DeVoe and John Wells picked up a 1956 T-Bird, black and white hard top convertible. It was in excellent condition with 21,000 original miles.

Going up through Kentucky we experienced inclement weather. Upon reaching Indiana, the guys decided to load up the '56 and head back toward home—no time for rest and fueling the body, just the truck rig and a fast food snack! With John driving very cautiously southward as the roads were iced over, a car slid off the bridge, headed towards their rig and John wakes DeVoe to tell him he wants him to drive. DeVoe told him, "Keep going, don't pull off or we will be stuck; and stay behind the semi's to have traction." When they came to a bridge, their rig began fishtailing, but fortunately John made it safely across the bridge.

John and DeVoe drove all night and reached home as I was leaving for early church service. The T-Bird, which had never been wet, had about an inch thickness of ice covering the whole car. Our daughters, Katherine and Tiffany, and I were gazing at two tired, worn-out looking men who we knew were glad to reach home. With traces of snow still in tact on truck, trailer, and car we left for church, once again, thankful for our husband, dad, and friend's safe return.

DeVoe for years admired this particular '56 car due to memories of drooling over one like it in Tampa Ford Dealership showroom when he was a teenager traveling to and from work on Hillsborough Avenue.



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TRAACA MEMBERS AND GUESTS ENJOY A CHILI PICNIC AND BARGAIN AUCTION



Plenty of parking (almost a car show!).



Lining up for homemade chili and fixings.



Can't beat that atmosphere for fine cuisine!



Dining garage. Bill's still looking to fill that 3rd stall!



Our congenial host working the crowd.



Bobby & Nell discuss their auction bidding plans.



Tallahassee Region
Antique Automobile Club of America

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Crawfordville, FL
32327-2278

Phone: 850-284-0635
Email: boblove@comcast.net

***Traveling in the
Past and Present***

We're on the Web!

<http://local.aaca.org/traaca>

Next Meeting

at
Old Tallahassee Museum
Dinner at 6:00 pm
Business meeting 6:45 pm

Menu
Special Holiday Meal
Program
Christmas gift Exchange

Monthly Cruise-Ins

Sonic/Hardees on North Monroe
1st Saturday each Month (just north of Capital Circle)

What-A-Burger Drive-In on Thomasville Road
2nd Sat—Ford & Chevy Clubs
Last Sat—Street Rod Club

Helen's Silver Bullet Diner on Apalachee Parkway
3rd Sat each month

National and Regional Events

January 2009

16-18 - South Beach, FL - AACA South Florida Region - Art Deco Weekend - Classic Car. Mel Mann -
softaaca@aol.com

17 - Cape Coral, FL - Edison Region - Annual AACA Car Show

February 2009

1 - Nashville, TN - Stones River Region 21st annual automotive swap meet. State Fair Grounds. Bruce Henderson -
615-890-1144

12-14 - Philadelphia, PA - AACA Annual Meeting

26-28 - Lakeland, FL - Southeastern Winter National Meet

April 2009

2-5— Southeastern Spring Meet , Charlotte, NC

15-19—Southeastern Divisional Tour, Birmingham, AL