

February
2007

Tallahassee Chassee



Traveling in
the Past
and Present



Next Meeting
February 13th, 2006
Tallahassee Auto Museum
Dinner 6:00 pm
General Meeting 6:45 pm

The Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

A Boat with Tailfins

By Jack Gaskins Jr. and Thomas Wiatt

The last thing we need is another project. But when a relative told us about an unusual aluminum boat with '50's car style tailfins abandoned on her family's property, we were intrigued. It was hard to imagine what such a boat would look like. The deal was tempting: we could have the boat as long as we took the old rusty trailer with it. Like most collectors, sight unseen, we knew we probably wanted it.

So, on a cold Saturday morning last November we drove to Marianna to have a look. After winding down an overgrown road, we came across the old boat. Immediately, we knew we had found something remarkable. The boat looks like part rocket, part 50's car, and part boat. The steering wheel is on the left side – like a car – which is rare for a boat. At one point in its life, somebody painted it black and yellow. But those colors were peeling to reveal the original two-toned blue and gold colors separated by aluminum molding like the paint schemes on cars from the '50s. The most fantastic feature is the tail fins painted red to look like taillights in a 1950's car. But what a mess that boat was after sitting in the woods for 20 years! Leaves, an old gas tank, '70's style shag carpeting, and a child's plastic swimming pool that

had deteriorated into a thousand pieces filled the hull. A small tree grew up from the floorboard behind the front seat and vines wrapped around everything. Otherwise, the aluminum hull was solid and undamaged with the exception of a small bullet hole. Under a thick layer of pine straw and leaves we found a "Feather Craft" emblem. We took a number of pictures and drove back to Tallahassee to do our internet research.

It didn't take long to find out that the boat is a 1958 Feather Craft Clipper, which was one of the top-end models that year. These aluminum boats were manufactured in Atlanta, Georgia between 1945 and 1969. They were not painted but rather anodized, which provides an aluminum oxide layer that is harder than paint and not subject to peeling. Several websites contained many pictures of beautifully restored Feather Craft boats. When shined, they have a finish similar to a polished Airstream trailer.

We saw the potential and knew we couldn't let such an opportunity slip away. A couple of weeks later, we gathered several friends and a car trailer with a winch and freed the boat from the vines of that Marianna forest.

Continued on page 3

Club Officers

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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5** *Wayne Hadden*
- 9** *Russ Haines*
- 13** *Tommy Sykes*
- 19** *Mary Smith*
- 20** *Arlene Finley*
- 20** *Susan Miller*
- 23** *Carolyn Grimes*
- 27** *Betty Edwards*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



TALLAHASSEE REGION, AACA

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

January 9, 2007

Tallahassee Automobile Museum

There were approximately 58 members attending and two guests.

Opening Prayer - Ed Shuler

Welcome Guests & New Members - Norm Madsen

Norm welcomed Fred & Carol Armstrong who also picked up applications to join our club. They have a 1964 ½ Rambler Classic 770 Typhoon.

Opening Remarks - Norm Madsen

Norm welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2007 and reiterated our great past year of touring, cruising, visiting and eating!

50/50 Drawing -

Jerry Wise was the lucky winner.

Committee Reports

Treasurer - Andy Mohny

Details are available from Andy.

Sunshine - Shirley Moore & Sharon Palmer

We were asked to remember those members of the club who have concerns such as Tom Link, the Grahams, and Jay Motice. We need to keep all of our members in our prayers and make contact with them.

Short Tours - Norm needs a volunteer to head up this operation.

Long Tours - No report this meeting.

2007 National Tour - Bill Thompson gave a lengthy report outlining the three tour destinations and the committee structure. The tour will begin on Sunday, November 11, 2007; a Tallahassee Points of Interest tour will be made available on that day. Official tour days will be the 12th, 13th, and 14th. The Tour Headquarters and Banquet will be at the Ramada Inn, North. There will be many committees working on the Tour and some have chairpersons who have volunteered and some have not. We need many members to serve on those committees. There is enough work for ALL members of the club to participate. Bill asked that members contact him with their choices for helping.

Announcements & Reports - Norm Madsen

1. Norm announced the Bob Love has again been awarded the "Master Web Master" designation from the National AACA. Carol & Bob will be going to Philadelphia to receive the award. I cannot imagine a better website anywhere!
2. Norm thanked Devoe and Shirley for the use of this fine facility and asked about the status of the new Museum building. They said they hoped for completion in April!
3. Bob Love made a plea for member input for the "Chassee" newsletter. He has had to bear the load for producing articles. With the diversity of members and their experiences, he cannot imagine the wealth of interesting articles that are available. Help him out!
4. Neal Davis reported on Soap Box Derby activities. There are two "Rally Races" scheduled for February and March, 2007, both on the 17th. in Cairo, Georgia Neal needs volunteers for all of the activities. Contact Neal (850 576 5148 or 850 385 8302).

Old Business

1. In case you missed it, the Club Officers for 2007 are:

President - Norm Madsen

Vice President - Gene Densmore

Treasurer - Andy Mohny

Secretary - John Schanbacher

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster - Bob Love



Executive Board (also includes officers listed above)

- Bobby Hollingsworth
- Tom Link
- Bill Thompson
- Bill O'Rourke

2. Possible relocation of the monthly TRAACA Cruise-In was again discussed and was left that we will continue to use the Whataburger on North Monroe for the time being. It is held on the third Saturday of the month at around 6PM.

New Business

None this meeting.

Coming Events

1. Cruise-In on Saturday, January 20, 2007 at the Whataburger on North Monroe.
2. 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 - Gene Densmore

The program was given by Gene and covered the history of Florida "Registration Plates" known to us as License Tags. He covered the history beginning with the first State plates in 1918 and extended to the present. He displayed part of his extensive collection of plates and stated he has an almost complete set of 1930 plates from all states.

Next Meeting & Location

The meeting will be held on February 13, 2007 at the Antique Auto Museum.

Respectively submitted - John Schanbacher, Secretary

Reminder -

If you haven't already, you need to send in your 2007 membership applications (available on our website). Dues are \$20.00 and will be \$25.00 after March 1st.

I need to send a 2007 roster to National prior to March 1, 2007 so, please bring your applications and \$20.00 to the meeting on February 13th. or mail it to: TRAACA, P.O. Box 3903, Tallahassee, FL 32315

Thanks for your help.

John

Back in Tallahassee, we removed the debris and began dreaming about how some day that boat will be one of the most extraordinary boats on Lake Talquin. Stay tuned. Perhaps one day you'll see Tom towing it behind his 1972 Chevy truck (which is another project and another story for some other time).





VIEW FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

Norm Madsen, TRAACA President

Hello, fellow old car enthusiasts and welcome to February! Hard to believe the first month of 2007 has already passed. (And a reminder: there's less than eleven shopping months 'til Christmas.)

As a car person, I am so grateful to be in sunny Florida! I have an email buddy in the Netherlands who can only drive his collector car six months of the year. The rest of the time it is up on blocks, garage-bound and awaiting warmer times. Another friend in Colorado has been trying to send me pictures of his Packard since early December. The snow has seldom cleared enough for him to drive it out of the barn. Classic cars driven on the salted winter roads of the north will quickly become rust buckets. Isn't it wonderful to be in Tallahassee, where the driving season lasts all year long?

Although the best months have yet to arrive, the car hobby is already in full swing. The Moultrie show and swap meet is right around the corner and Zephyrhills is not far behind. And local Cruise-Ins can be enjoyed every weekend.

On Sunday, January 28th I attended the annual Devereaux-Kaiser Car Show in Sarasota (named for the two men who started the event 38 years ago.) The show is sponsored by the Sunshine Region AACA. Despite cold weather and the threat of rain, 675 cars were on display, plus another 50 or so in the car corral. The cars included high-point high-dollar vehicles, but mostly they were wonderful old "driver" cars (more like mine), and also some great original vehicles. It was a no-pressure show---no entry fee and no judging. Just the way I like it---lots of great cars and lots of friendly people.

After the show, I went to the Sarasota Classic Car Museum. I visited this museum as a young boy while on a family vacation, and it helped spark my interest in antique cars. Originally opened in 1953 as "Horn's Cars of Yesterday," the museum has about 100 original and well-restored vehicles, many of which are very rare or have interesting histories. Included were three original conveyances from the Ringling estate, several Beatles' autos, two early '50s Muntz Jet cars (produced by entrepreneur "Madman" Muntz), several racy Iso Rivolta sports cars and a handful of unique prototype vehicles. See this museum while you can---FSU has purchased the property (which is across from FSU's Ringling Museum and theater), and the attendant said that it may be closing in a few years.

Congratulations and thank you to Bob Love! The club website is among the best AACA sites in the nation and Bob has earned the coveted AACA Master Webmaster Award for the fourth consecutive year. He and Carol will be attending the 71st AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia on February 8-10, where he will be presented the Award. Please help make Bob's load lighter by submitting material for the newsletter. Write a paragraph or two about your car. How did you find it? How long have you had it, etc.? Send a favorite picture. Tell us one of your fix-it tips or tricks. Talk about your first car or your dream car. Send a recipe or write about an event you've attended. It doesn't matter how well you write it. Your submission will enrich other club members and help others in the Club get to know you better.

I need your help! At the February 13th meeting, we will be discussing ideas for future meeting programs, tours and club events. Bring your ideas. Your input will be most appreciated and will help make the Club better for all of us. See you there.

In the meantime, enjoy your car and feed your passion! And feel free to email or call me anytime.

Norm

Phone: 850-893-72581

Email: normpackard@comcast.net



From The Rummage Box
A publication of the AACA Regions Committee

DEVELOPMENT & SUPPORT

Herb Oakes, VP- Development & Support,
Eastern and Southeastern Divisions

As your Vice President of Development and Support of the Eastern and South Eastern Division of Regions and Chapters, along with a team of 8 chairman, I would like to introduce to you our on-going program of interaction with and between Regions, Chapters and individual members to promote good will and understanding ("esprit de corps") between members, Regions Chapters and the National organization. Consider me that of a goodwill ambassador representing the National club.


Our task is informational and should help to address the main question of what the AACA can do for our local Regions and Chapters. If your members would like to have one or our chairmen make a visit, they would be more than happy to accept an invitation to your club meeting or event, as well as accept or answer questions from individual members. Our objective is to make a presentation, have a short video and then answer questions.

The presentation would cover a basic background conformation: History of the AACA, membership, national meets and tours, policy and procedures manual general information, attending national meets, activity request cards- where to find them and how to use them, etc. These topics can vary based on your membership requests. The total amount of time from beginning to end should be approximately one hour including 5-10 minutes for questions.


This effort is designated to establish more direct face-to-face contact between individual members and the National organization to foster a more direct feeling of belonging rather than any feeling of being "forced to belong". It is my goal as Vice President of Development & Support to make individual members that are encountered feel they are important to the National organization and that their feelings and concerns are heard and considered.

If your membership would be interested for us to visit them and enjoy the club meeting or event as well as accept or answer questions, we need nothing more than an invitation. If any region or chapter is interested in this program, please contact me by letter, e-mail or phone and I am at your service. I will contact the chairman that is responsible for your state and make arrangements for him to contact your region or chapter. Thank you in advance for your response.

I can be reached at 102 Converse Dr., Jacksonville, NC 28546, or by telephone at 910 346-3834 or by email at herbfran@gibraltar.net.



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“Getting To Know You”

AACA Member Profile: Bill & Nancy Thompson

What is your occupation?

Bill is semi-retired from a career as an engineering technician but works part time as a draftsman for Main Street Design studio in Quincy.

Nancy is in her 34th year of teaching elementary school, currently at Crawfordville Elementary.

What was one of your favorite cars when you were growing up?

My favorite car growing up was my Dad's 1930 Model A Ford 2 door sedan. In 1954 when I was 8 years old, he was still driving it and it was our only transportation. I can remember the smells and sounds of that car, sliding down the front fenders, and laughing at the Ooo-Uu-Ga horn. Our family of 5 went on a trip from Louisville, Kentucky to Battle Creek, Michigan one summer on two lane roads and at a top speed of 45 mph. I don't remember spending the night, so we must of driven straight through with never a problem. Mother always packed a picnic lunch for our food.

Nancy's favorite memory is her Dad's black 1953 Chevrolet 2 door sedan that he bought from a traveling salesman in Blountstown, Florida. It had no back seat where he hauled his goods, so her Dad put three stools back there for her and the two siblings to sit on. When they turned a corner they usually fell off the stools. (How did we survive without seat belts back then?)



Share a story about one of your cars that is a special memory?

When Bill was in the Air Force, stationed in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida he had saved enough money to purchase a white 1961 Chevy Impala convertible with turquoise interior from a lady in his office whose son was in Viet Nam. It had been sitting for over a year and she wanted to get rid of it. The grand total was \$300 back in 1966. It was Bill's first car. He drove it home to Louisville back when there was no Interstate 75 and it took 12 hours through all the towns and stops. He was so tired when he finally pulled in the driveway at 1 am, he just fell over in the front seat and slept until his Dad tapped on the window the next morning to wake him up. Those were the days.

Nancy's favorite car memory was her first car, a 1970 Chevrolet Chevelle she affectionately called "Goldie". She bought it with money saved from her first teaching job at Eglin Air Force Base elementary school and drove it while dating Bill. They later drove it on their honeymoon and wish they still had it today.



What is your favorite antique car (vehicle)?

Bill's favorite antique car is his 1960 Corvette he has owned for 26 years and has had many fun adventures in. During the first drive home from the car lot the wiring harness caught fire but did not damage the car - just lots of yellow smoke! Even after many fixes and parts, it still is a blast to drive and own.

Nancy's favorite car was our 1935 Plymouth 2 door sedan. She loved the bigness of it and how it seemed to float down the highway.





Is there a dream car you would like to own (that you don't have now)?

For Bill it would have to be one of those new Saturn sports cars that looks so futuristic and fast.

Nancy's dream would be to have Bill's 1960 Corvette be featured on "Over-Haulin" the TV show from California. (Never happen).

What do you like most about the antique car hobby?

For Bill it would be the many friends in the hobby we have known over three decades of membership and good times touring together.

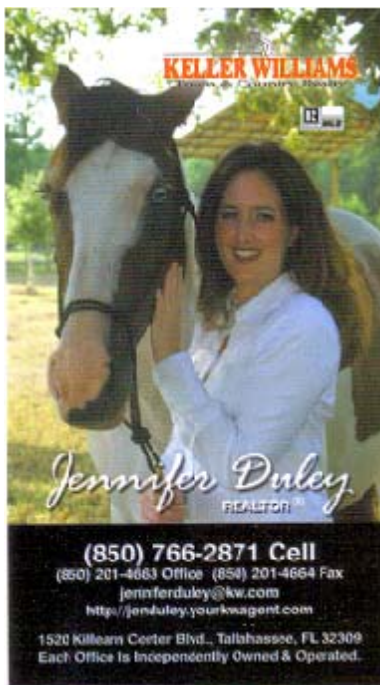
For Nancy it has been the friends she has made and traveling on AACA tours such as the Founder's Tours to Ohio and California.

What AACA events (tours and shows) have you participated in?

Bill has enjoyed showing the 1935 Plymouth in two national shows in Charlotte, NC and Tallahassee, along with participating in the Founders tours. Nancy enjoys the friends in AACA and participating in AACA breakfasts, picnics, tours and banquets.

What other hobbies or interests do you participate in?

Bill enjoys "tinkering" with his British sports cars, HO scale model railroading and teaching water color painting at the Senior Center. Nancy likes walking for exercise, working in her yard and reading novels.



Note from the Editor's Desk

Carol and I are getting ready to head north for a two week vacation this weekend. In the middle of this sojourn to the Pocono Region of northeast Pennsylvania, we plan to attend the AACA National Meeting in Philadelphia. This will be our second trip to this event and are really looking forward to it. The highlight, of course, will be going up on stage and accepting the awards for our web site and newsletter. Even though the plaque has my name on it, it also says Tallahassee Region, which means I'm only representing you, the membership of this fine club. I couldn't have done as well if I didn't have the support of the officers and members that support my endeavor with contributions and encouragement. All I do is put it together for you. Again, thank you and keep those stories and pictures coming in.

If you have never been to the National Meeting, it is a rare treat. It is all about the people of AACA, their accomplishments and the sharing of ideas and thoughts. No cars are present (except maybe a display from the museum) and no judges with clip boards. This is also a chance to meet and mingle with the national and regional officers and directors that keep AACA humming. The newly elected officers are presented to the membership at this meeting as well as any new changes in by-laws and rules. So if you get the chance to attend this great event, by all means, go! You'll be glad you did.

Bob

TRAACA Editor and Webmaster

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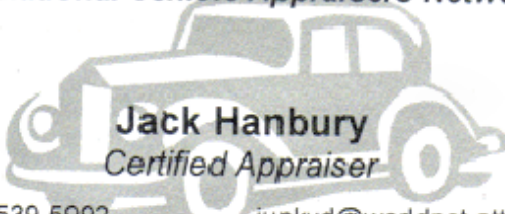
NOW, THERE IT WAS AS IT HAS BEEN LATELY. RIGHT IN OUR OWN BACK YARD. INSIDE THE CITY LIMITS. HWY 27 NORTH. BEEN SITTING THERE FOR SOMETIME NOW. A VERY NICE 1962 LINCOLN CONTINAL, FOUR DOOR CONVERTIBLE. NEEDS A LITTLE TLC. I THINK THIS CAR IS FOR SALE. SHOULD SOMEONE BE INTERESTED. JUNKYARD DOG AND FLUFFY CHECKED IT OUT. THIS IS NOT VERY MUCH TO GO ON BUT, ASK FLUFFY. THERE SHOULD BE SOME PICTURES WITH THIS INFORMATION. SEE YA,... FLUFFY



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Yesteryears Remember When?

Synopsis of Monthly newsletters from the Archives of
THE TALLAHASSEE CHASSEE
Official Publication of The Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

30 Years Ago:

Roger and Margie Collar and Lee and Arvella Simmons hosted the February meeting at the Tallahassee Federal Savings & Loan Association. Twenty-five members and a guest of Mike Sheidy's, Bill Archibald, visiting from Albany, Ga., were present. Neille Wilson accepted checks and due bills for Foy Thompson. The treasury contains \$836.37. Dues have been received from two Valdosta, Ga. Couples, Ray and Mary Margaret Cook and Bill & Ann Daughdrill. Arnold Ellis is our Flea Market Committee Chairperson. Janice Thompson resigned as Chairperson of the Registration Committee and Carolyn Pope has replaced her. Richard Boutin resigned his position on the Board; Charlie Smith has assumed that responsibility. George Moody has approval of the Board of Deacons of the First Baptist Church to use the E.C. Allen Christian Life Center area lot, and under the building, for the car show. Tom Moody says Springtime Tallahassee has promised \$450 for trophies. The Capitol Inn has been reserved for our "Get Acquainted" Party, April 1. The club name was discussed. The Board recommended "TALLAHASSEE REGION A.A.C.A." John Brooke made a motion that we use that name. It was seconded by Arnold Ellis and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Gladys Bauer, Secretary

20 Years Ago:

On February 17, 1987, 59 members and guests attended the monthly meeting at the Western Sizzlin' Steak House on North Monroe. It was a full agenda for the meeting, so we got down to business right away. Springtime Tallahassee Car Show details will be in the next newsletter. The Mall has given us some guidelines for showing our cars: 1) No full tanks of gas allowed in the Mall. 2) You must put tape over your gas filler cap (or secure it in some way that won't damage the finish on your car) 3) Fire extinguishers are required. 4) Please bring visqueen for under your car and carpet squares or cardboard to put under your tires. The Mall is furnishing some security overnight. Our Springtime Show Banquet will be at the Brothers Three Restaurant. The club now has a permanent address, a post office box. The new address is P.O. Box 3903, Tall., FL. 32315. This should save the future secretaries a lot of trouble! John Allen has donated to the club some postage stamps that depict various antique cars. There are album pages that go along with this collection. Hopefully, the stamps will get mounted on their album pages and an album can be obtained to hold the pages. It was a very generous effort for John to donate this collection and the club is very thankful!!

Goodbye until next month,
Diane McCarthy

10 Years Ago:

They came from across south Georgia and north Florida. Some even drove their own classic cars. Who were these people? They were the 250 plus old car enthusiasts who attended the January 25 Grand Opening of the Cairo (Georgia) Antique Auto Museum. What they saw made their eyes light up and their hearts beat faster. Attractively displayed were 21 antique automobiles owned by Larry and Ruth Barker and Rosa Ann and Wayne Hadden. In the center aisles and along the walls was an outstanding collection of Diane McCarthy's miniature cars along with other automobile memorabilia owned by the Haddens and Barkers. Visitors enjoyed delicious Mr. Chick fried chicken, lemonade, hot apple cider and cookies baked appropriately in the shape of a classic automobile. Thirty one members attended the February 18 Club meeting held at Moby Dick Restaurant. Ken Hart called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed members. Diane McCarthy held her annual drawing for "car calendars" to the winners' delight. She also had City of Tallahassee miniature police cars for sale to members.

Larry Benson, Editor



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Antique Automobile Club of America

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

We're on the Web!

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Next Meeting

February 13th 6:00p.m.

Regular monthly meeting at Tallahassee Antique Car Museum

Dinner Menu: beef roast, potatoes, veg.(2), salad, biscuits, dessert.

Program: Norm will briefly demonstrate a very helpful Model A tool, then Program Chairman Gene Densmore will solicit ideas for future meeting programs. Please think about subjects you would like to see covered in this years programs.



Local / Area

Monthly Antique Cruise-In at the [North Monroe What-A-Burger](#) Drive-In
3rd Sat (Sponsored by TRAACA)

Monthly Cruise-Ins at the [Thomasville Road What-A-Burger](#) Drive-In
1st Sat—Mustang Club 2nd Sat—Ford & Chevy Clubs 3rd Sat—Corvette Club
Last Sat—Street Rod Club

National - Southeast

Feb 9-10 — Philadelphia, PA. AACA Annual Meeting.

Feb 22-24 — Punta Gorda, FL. AACA Winter Meet. Hosted by AACA Peace River Region

Mar 23- 29 — **Historic Savannah, GA. 2007 Spring Tour** in Historic Savannah, GA, cars pre-1943 but geared to the earliest of cars.