

May
2008

Traveling in
the Past
and Present



Next Meeting
May 13th, 2008

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

Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

Milltown Murals Motorcade

Shirley Moore

My friend, Linda White and I thoroughly enjoyed the tour to Lakeland, GA. So sorry we did not catch up with the caravan because we missed the group that stopped at Jake's in Monticello for breakfast (the service was a bit slow there, but the food was great)!

When we arrived in Lakeland, we immediately parked downtown, but had only time to figure out how to put down the top on the '53 Corvette we were driving. It took Kathy Lewis, Linda, Glenda Schanbacher and me, plus some coaching from Bobby Hollingsworth, Bob Love, John Schanbacher, Norm Madsen, and possibly, in the race, I may have missed a few more important persons.

All too soon it was time for the parade. We enjoyed watching the people as they seemed to enjoy the good array of cars that participated in the parade; it was nice to see the enjoyment of the people in the cars as well as on the sidelines as the variety of cars eased through this "sleepy", yet apparently energetic town. Well, not having seen the murals, we felt we needed to go back downtown, where we not only saw the nostalgic paintings, but also contributed to the boom in their economy in a small way at some of the shops!

Due to the circumstances stated above, we unfortunately were not able to sit and visit with the TRAACA folks under the trees at the park, but we did however get a bite to eat at the Huddle House with Norm, Kathy, Peggy and Bill. We had a few drops of rain on the trip home, but otherwise a very smooth trip. It was a very memorable day with some great people.

(See Pictures on page 6)

Pelham Transportation Show

Jim Tyson

The second annual Pelham Transportation Show that was scheduled for April 5, 2008, was rescheduled for April 12, 2008 due to violent weather conditions on the 5th. Unfortunately, rain was forecast for the 12th also, but a few of us die-hards showed up. It did rain for about 5 minutes with hard winds, but it blew over quickly and remained cloudy. This year they had the show in an open field on highway US19. It seemed like a good idea, but most of us recommended they move it back to downtown and block off the main street like Thomasville does at the Rose Show. There were 125 cars, trucks, and tractors registered for the 5th. However, only a small portion of that showed up on the 12th. And only one vendor showed up. It is a fund raiser event for the senior citizen center and the county food bank, so it is for a good cause. The Artesian City Car club out of Albany was there as a group of Model A's and gave me a flier about their coming cruise to Thomasville on the 19th of April.

Though the event was small, I really enjoyed meeting some nice people and learning a little about my south Georgia locals. There is an antique lamp shop in Ocklocknee that I had heard had some old cars in the back. I was told the cars are mostly of the vintages that did not become part of top three in America. I understand that the owner loves to show them off if he is there. He ships them to car shows and events as far as California. I think that if they keep trying, in a year or two this will be a large event in Pelham and be quite a show. I had the pleasure of coming in first in the pre-1940 category. My car got a good soaking, but did not leak, so I was smiling all the way back to Thomasville! I hope next year our group can participate in the show.

(See Pictures on page 7)

Club Officers

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MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Gene Densmore
- 6 Sue Aigotti
- 9 Carol Love
- 9 Sue McLendon
- 10 Kedra Baumgardner
- 14 Norm Madsen
- 14 Marilyn Hamrick
- 15 Bob Brown
- 16 John Schanbacher
- 17 John Shaner
- 19 Bill O'Rourke
- 23 Jerry Wise
- 27 Jack Herzog
- 28 Kathy Mottice

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**



TALLAHASSEE REGION, AACA
MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
April 8, 2008
Former Tallahassee Automobile museum

There were 53 members and 4 guests attending.

Opening Prayer – Ed Shuler

Welcome Guests & New Members – Some new members were (re)introduced and guests were recognized.

Announcements & Reports - Norm Madsen

Kedra Baumgardner and Kathy Lewis introduced their new member packets and explained a bit about the new member program.

Bob Brown announced the formation of a Plymouth Owners Club in North Florida and said that he was the de facto representative for the panhandle area since he was the only one from this area attending the inaugural meeting.

The following events were reported on by various members:

Blountstown (Pioneer Village)

Havana Sock Hop (only 5 cars were present, not all TRAACA)

Upcoming events were briefed:

Apr 11 – The Gulf Station Meeting of the “Hot Doggers”

Apr 11 – The Friday breakfast at the Cracker Barrel

Apr 12 – Gathering at Neal’s shop (10:00 am) for the detailing of the Tallahassee Museum Model T.

Apr 12 – Girl Scouts’ “Cruising the Night Away” 6:30-10:00 pm

Apr 19 – Cruise and open car show in Monticello in conjunction with the Music Festival.

Apr 26 – Cruise to Lakeland, GA for the Milltown Murals event. Plan to gather at the new Auto Museum (leaving at 8:00) to Jake’s in Monticello for breakfast.

May 2-3 – Autism Awareness Research Yard Sale – Freedom Church 1st Assembly of God, 2801 Thomasville Rd.

May 3 – Quincy Fest BBQ & Blues Festival, Quincy, FL

May 9-10 – Great Southern Antique Car Rally, Cairo, GA

May 17 – Gulf Station in Quincy – Model A Daze (but all vehicles invited).

Bill Thompson introduced Will Mitchell of Cruise Holidays who gave a short briefing on the possibility of a club cruise on Sep 14th out of Port Canaveral to the Caribbean Islands.

Committee Reports

Treasurer - Andy Mohny

Details are available from Andy.

Sunshine - Shirley Moore & Sharon Palmer

Jay Mottice reported as doing well and Tommy Sykes was at the meeting, a bit subdued but looking well.



Old Business/New Business

A report and discussion on the Board Meeting conducted on Mar. 28 was shelved for more open discussion and voting at the next meeting.

50/50 Drawing -

Drawing was held and the winner – Kathy Lewis

Program - Gene Densmore

Gene presented a program on hydrostatic gasoline gauges used in the early years and how they work, even demonstrating the parts and pieces including a gas tank. He also gave a very vivid and entertaining explanation of the trials and tribulations of converting the '30 Studebaker from electric gauge back to the original hydrostatic type.

Next Meeting & Location

The next meeting will be held on May 13, 2008 at the Old Auto Museum.

Respectively submitted – Bob Love, for John Schanbacher, Secretary

Simple Fuel Pump Replacement

Reuben Plachy

How can an, at most, two hour job of replacing the fuel pump on a front wheel drive '86 Chevrolet Celebrity turn in to a three day job? It seems that most of my fifteen minute jobs take at least four hours. I have changed fuel pumps on several cars and have never had this kind of trouble.

The car had been taken to a mechanic for some other repairs and he pointed out that the fuel pump was leaking.

I looked it over and found the fuel pump was located right up front with extremely easy access.

A rebuilt fuel pump was purchased and preparations were made for the easy replacement of the offending part. The car was brought part way into the garage to provide some shade, summer, and so that if a shower blew up, it would not hamper the project. The front of the car was jacked up and blocked up for easier access from below.

The leaking fuel pump was easily removed, no hard to remove bolts or connections. This was going to be a breeze.

The replacement was going to be completed in record time. There were no extremely hard to reach bolts or connections. The replacement pump was put in place and the mounting bolts started in the block. Not tightened because I knew that I would have to wiggle the pump to get some of the fuel line connections to thread. Two of the connections were started, but not tightened. Then the main steel line to the pump was left to start. No matter how I twisted, turned, pushed, pulled or any other possible contortion; the connection just would not start.

After much effort, I decided to take the pump back out

and start the connection before I put the pump back in. This started out with promise, but the connection just would not start. During this time, I changed position under the car so many times I don't want to try to count. All of this to no avail. I finally pulled the pump all the way out of the block, turned it 180° and tried to start the connection. Hooray! That worked, now all I had to do was spin it around, put it in the block, start the other two lines and replace the two bolts. Success, the pump was reversed, the other two lines connected. Now all that was left was to replace the two bolts holding the pump in place. One was found right away. The other could not be found. I looked everywhere to find that bolt. How could a bolt just disappear in a garage on a concrete floor with a concrete driveway just outside. That bolt was never found even when the house was cleaned out when it was sold.

The next day, I took the one bolt I had and went to the mechanic to see if he might have one I could use. I looked through his bucket of assorted bolts until I found two that looked like they would work. I took them home and the next day, I successfully replaced the bolts, tightened all the lines and started the car and checked for leaks.

Like I said earlier, my fifteen minute jobs always seem to take at least four hours. This was an exceptionally long project for such a simple thing as disconnecting three lines and taking out two bolts. I don't think I was ever as dirty or frustrated any time before. But, I had it apart and couldn't get the car anywhere else without a tow, so I was determined to get it back together. I was glad when it was over and would probably do it again, but this time, I know how to attack it. However, the next time, some other challenge will rear its head and again turn my quick hour or two job into multiple days.

Reuben



Hello, TRAACA Friends,

Most of you have seen the Model T at the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science (formerly the Junior Museum). What you may not know, is that our club has a long history of helping the Museum with the restoration and care of the car.

Like the Museum itself, the Model T is rich with Tallahassee history. "John Henry," as the car is called, was purchased in 1919 by the Eppes family, who had a hardware store in Tallahassee. It was purchased "up North," then disassembled for shipment to Tallahassee, where it was reassembled. It is reported to be the very first Ford in our area to be equipped with an electric starter (1919 was the first year Ford offered a starter on its vehicles). The car spent its entire life in our city, where it was used by the Eppes family for personal and business purposes until it was retired and donated to the Museum.

Our club restored John Henry for the Museum in the 1970s, then it was used on the Museum grounds and in parades and events. In the early '90s it was moved to John Schanbacher's shop, where TRAACA members refurbished its mechanics and put it back in tip-top condition. When it was returned to the Museum, it became the centerpiece of the new general offices. Since its return, it has been stored on jack stands and not started.

Several months ago Russell Daws, the Tallahassee Museum's CEO, asked me if the club might refresh the car's mechanics, so it could be driven on the museum property once again. I brought the matter up at a TRAACA meeting, where it was met with great enthusiasm.

On April 11th, John Henry was pulled onto Neal Davis's trailer and transported to his shop in Quincy to be refurbished mechanically once again. On April 12th about a dozen TRAACA members, myself included, swarmed over the car at Neal's shop. A bad tire tube valve was replaced and the tires were properly inflated. Bolts holding the car's wooden-spoke wheels were tightened, and one stripped

bolt was replaced. The wheels needed to be removed to grease the wheel bearings, so a special wheel puller was ordered.

The radiator water and the crankcase oil were drained and refilled and the battery was charged. While one club member cleaned up the spark plugs in the glass bead blaster, several others disassembled, cleaned and reassembled the carburetor. Under the front seat sat the fuel tank, still partially filled with ancient gasoline. This gas had solidified in the tank bottom and the sediment bowl, so the tank had to be removed for restoration.

Although we could not finish our work in a single day, we decided to try to start the Model T. The battery was connected, and a temporary gas supply was fitted to the carburetor. We had to pick the lock to turn on the ignition, since the key was still at the Museum. After repeated attempts at starting, the car's long-dormant engine rattled to life! Our day's work was done.

Neal sent the gas tank to Henry's Radiator Shop to be boiled out and repainted. A few parts were ordered for our next Model T workshop session.

Our next "T-party" took place on May 3rd. Eight TRAACA members continued the repair work, hoping to finish the job and test drive the car. The gas tank sediment bowl was reassembled and attached to the tank, and the tank was bolted back under the front seat and connected to the fuel line. Wheels were removed, repaired, re-greased and replaced. Fluids were once again checked and fuel and fuel stabilizer were poured into the gas tank.

This time, we had John Henry's ignition key and starting the engine was easier than before. I had the honor of starting the engine and taking the car around the block, with several club members riding as passengers. Upon returning, we discovered that the carburetor was leaking fuel profusely. The gas supply was shut off, and we disassembled the carb to see what the problem was. We discovered that the float valve was sticking---sometimes starving the carburetor of fuel and other times allowing it to overfill and dump gas on the ground. We would need to order a rebuild kit for the carburetor and resume our work another day.

Working on the Tallahassee Museum's historic Model T has been a learning experience and a fun time for all involved. Soon the 89-year-old vehicle will be returned to the Museum, where it will be enjoyed by many people and driven sparingly. It is great that our club can help

preserve and maintain this wonderful part of Tallahassee's motoring history.

Many thanks to Neal Davis for his help including safely transporting the "T-Model" and for the use of his shop. Thanks also to Dave, Neal's assistant, and, of course, to all club members who volunteered their time and effort for this project: Richard Alcott, Ed Davis, Gene Densmore, Bob Finley, Jack Hanbury, Jack Herzog & son, Bobby Hollingsworth, Phil Palmer, Reuben Plachy, Bill O'Rourke, John Schanbacher, David Taylor, Bill Thompson and anyone I might have missed.

LOTS MORE FUN TO COME! Come to the next TRAACA meeting at the OLD Tallahassee Antique Car Museum on Tuesday, May 13th and stay tuned to the web site for information on upcoming club events.

See you down the road!

Norm Madsen
322-6788 cell

packardnorm@comcast.net



Norm and the boys fire up John Henry and prepare to take her for a spin.



Neal and crew work on John Henry with much enthusiasm but lots of care.



John Henry gets a much needed fix-up.



John Henry gets loaded up for the trip to the shop.



It still "motor-vates" after all these years.



The boys get a lesson in Model T restoration.

Opportunity for Service

The Tallahassee VA Clinic on Mahan Drive is in bad need of volunteer drivers. They transport veterans to the VA hospitals in Lake City and Gainesville Monday through Thursday each week for their appointments. The veterans are mobile and need little or no help in getting around.

Drivers sign up for whichever day and however frequent they want to do it. The van leaves Tallahassee at 8:00 AM and you get back around 5:00 PM (my experience). Sometimes it's earlier or later depending on the patient's appointment times.

I have been doing this for a couple of years and find it very rewarding to help those who have served their country. It is especially good to talk to WW II veterans like I did today. He was a combat medic in the Battle of the Bulge!

If you are interested, contact Janice or Amanda at the VA Clinic 878 0191 ext. 2154/55.

Call me if you want additional information at 878 3036 or 294 4699.

Russ Haines and Neal Davis have been volunteers and can give you some insights.

John Schanbacher

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Milltown Murals Motorcade



Above photos courtesy of Ed Shuler

Above photos courtesy of Jim Tyson



Pelham Transportation Show



Photos by Jim Tyson



Short Tour to Blountstown

March 15th

Most of us like old things, especially old cars, or why else would we be in an antique car club? Well, "old things" was the name of the game in Blountstown at the Pioneer Settlement on Saturday, March 15th.

It's pretty unusual for our antique automobiles to be some of the newest hardware on the scene, but that was pretty much the case at the Settlement. Most of the fully-furnished homes on display there date back to the pre-Civil War days and instead of a automotive repair shop there was a fully operational black smith's shop.

The closest thing to an antique car at the Settlement is the "locomotive style" steam engine, mounted on large steel wheels, that was originally used to run a rock crusher at a central Florida quarry. At a later point in time, it was relocated to Bainbridge where a fellow Tallahasseean saw it, bought it for \$500 and donated it to the Settlement. This is the first time since 1884 that it's been protected from the weather.

We had 14 cars from our club there and a few others showed up from surrounding communities. The food was excellent, the entertainment was outstanding, the fellowship was great and the weather was phenomenal. If you missed this one, you may want to make this trek to Blountstown again next time we're invited; just the tour of the Pioneer Settlement makes it a worthwhile trip.

Ed Shuler



Some of TRAACA's finest on display in front of the restored farmstead.



Club members gather around for some great food and even better fellowship.



A work in progress...the steam engine ready for the start of its restoration.



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Only one minor problem for a Model A driver! A failed starter, but who needs such a new-fangled device for fine old car as this! He made it home!





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

Fluffy and Ol' Stray went down to Gainesville the other day. Ole stray had to have his car worked on. So, we left Havana verrrry early in the morning. Had to be there when they opened up. After about three hours they had the new part in the car. Now what? Fluffy had been talking with a lady off and on for about three years. Jack Herzog had talked to her and she said she had some cars. Ten or twelve. And really did not know what they were. So, Fluffy called and she was at the old garage. The cars were to be in this garage. Not. They were in the back. Yep, you got it. Junk yard. Bubble burst, Dreams shattered. Anyway, after seeing five or six cars and trucks we went inside. Jukeboxes everywhere. Must have been seventy or more. The place was full. Inside the garage there was a paint booth. Joe Ann's dad had died some four years ago. Inside this paint booth is a Mustang, primed and taped up, ready to paint. She doesn't know what year or what model. Bet you can't get that tape off. Anyway now we know.

Maybe the next find will be better.
See ya!!!! Fluffy



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1928 Massachusetts

In 1928 Massachusetts decided to dress up vehicle license plates by adding a little graphic of a codfish, a very important product to the economy of the state. The Massachusetts Motor Vehicle Bureau had no idea what a terrible decision they had made! It just so happened that when the new plate was issued, the codfish catch was disastrously low - one of the worst in memory. The fishermen noticed the codfish depicted in the license plate was swimming away from the word Mass. This, of course, was the reason for the poor fishing!

The angry fishermen demanded the state correct this terrible injustice and in 1929 Massachusetts actually gave in and had the fish swimming toward the word Mass. The fishing improved dramatically that year! This all goes to show the belief in superstition and the supernatural can have a powerful effect on people. Thank goodness the oranges shown on Florida's current plates are superimposed on a graphic of the state! All references to the 1928 Massachusetts plate swear this story is true!

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

Also from Gene.... Studebaker magazine cover. "The car is the exact same model as my 1930 Studebaker Commander. Now everyone will know why I like roadsters so much!"



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Yesteryears Remember When?



From the archives of the Tallahassee Chassee -
Official Publication of The Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

30 Years Ago:

On May 6th, 1978 thirty-six persons gathered at the home of Jack & Laurianne Graham in Thomasville where they were co-hosted by Arnold & Agnes Ellis, Randolph & Janie Brock, Steve & Joan Gordon, and Bill & Fran Stucky. Congratulations were extended to the club members for the terrific job done at Springtime Tallahassee. Future fund raising projects were mentioned: Junk Sale or Fish Fry. If you have "garage sale" items, keep them on hand, in case.

The March Get-Together "Mystery Tour" was fun and a big success. Some good laughs were shared by members who got temporarily lost. The trip ended happily at Tom Brown Park. All won something, and the quarts of oil which were received as awards were prized by each winner.

PICNIC - May 21 - SUNDAY: Don't miss this one, at INDIAN MOUND STATE PARK. Picnic lunch will be bid upon by the men, so if you wives want to raise some money, make good lunches and pass the word to your husband to bid. MEET at 1:00 and EAT at 3:00. The Club will furnish drinks and cups. Several events mentioned were: Deep South Craft Show, in Thomasville, May 28th and 29th, invitation to White Springs July 2-4, Pioneer Days at the Junior Museum, Sunday, May 7. Bill Tyler will send his two "A's" out to the museum.

Respectfully submitted,
Gladys Bauer, Secretary

20 Years Ago:

Short and sweet was our May 19th, 1988 meeting at the Western Steer on Apalachee Parkway. Our attendance was low as was expected, 24 members in all. Fred Tyler opened the meeting with prayer and the minutes from the last meeting was accepted. A lively and enlightening discussion was held on the Apalach. Tour. The final conclusion agreed upon by the entire club and well stated by the president, "When an event stops being fun and becomes competitive, its time to walk away from it. Enjoyment of our hobby and the people involved in it is simply the bottom line". Many fund raisers were discussed. We are now making some profit on the car tags. Do you have yours? The consensus of the group was that as much as we love to eat why not have a fish fry and charge a bit! So, on June 18th, we will be having a meeting/fish fry at the new farm belonging to the Haddens. Time, 3:00 pm. Price \$2.50 a plate with the profit going to the club treasure. Bring a chair, a big appetite and plan on relaxing. What a joyful experience - the Barker Tour. The Barkers are still walking on air. From their family celebration at Callaway Gardens come these words, "Thanks to all who helped in any way with our 50th wedding celebration with their attendance, cars, cards, flowers, gifts, etc., We love you all." Milford and Ruth.

Your Secretary,
Carol Rainey

10 Years Ago:

The May 21st Tallahassee Region AACA club meeting came to order promptly at 7:30 at our established club meeting place, Forest Heights Baptist Church. Fond memories were shared over the grand time experienced by club members who attended the Great Southern Antique Car Rally in Cairo, GA. The 10th annual event was very enjoyable, with a few unexpected changes proving to be beneficial to those participating. The Tallahassee Region has received a thank you note from Easter Seals for our participation in displaying vehicles at their recent 60's theme event. The Tour Committee provided information on possible areas to develop our next tour: White Springs; Lake City area. Events around the corner were announced: Home Depot's car display on May 23rd with door prizes and best of show award, and Monticello's Watermelon Festival and Car Show on June 27th. Ideas are still needed for FUN events that can be done during hot summer months, but still be COOL! Please give suggestions to Diane.

Secretary, Jenny Hart





Tallahassee Region
Antique Automobile Club of America

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

We're on the Web!
<http://local.aaca.org/traca>

Next Meeting

at
The Former Antique Auto Museum
April 8, 2008
6:00 p.m. for Dinner

Menu:
Breakfast fixins'

Program:
Pebble Hill DVD created by
Robert Porter of the
November National Tour.

Monthly Cruise-Ins

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

Thomasville Road What-A-Burger Drive-In
2nd Sat—Ford & Chevy Clubs - 3rd Sat—Corvette Club - Last Sat—Street Rod Club

Havana Main Street Cruise In
Havana Smokehouse (formerly Main St. Buffet)
3rd Saturday

National and Regional Events

- May 9-10** Great Southern Antique Car Rally - Cairo, GA. Eatin' and Ridin' with all our friends.
- May 17** Bobby & Nell will host "Model A Daze" at the Gulf Station in Quincy (other cars also invited).
- Jun 1-6** AACA Sentimental Tour - Burlington, NC. Hosted by AACA Alamance and North Carolina Regions
- Sep 18-20** AACA Southeastern Fall Meet - Cleveland, TN. Hosted by AACA Cherokee Valley Region
- Oct 8-11** AACA Eastern Fall Meet - Hershey, PA. Hosted by AACA Hershey Region
- Oct 20-24** AACA Reliability Tour - Chattanooga, TN. Hosted by AACA Buzzards Breath Touring Region
- Nov 2-6** AACA Founders Tour - Easley, SC. Hosted by AACA South Carolina Region

SPECIAL NOTE: September Cruise Holiday registration deadline. The deadline for the cruise deposit to hold a room will be Friday May 16th. Only about 4 couples have signed up so far, so if you can spread the word/invitation to other members or another AACA club, we might be able to pick up a dozen couples to go.
Contact Bill Thompson 850-385-6581