



FEBRUARY 2013



## **TIRE TRACKS** **THE ELECTRONIC VERSION**

Greetings Members and friends. Take a break from the crazy weather and spend some time making plans for your old car activities for 2013. If you like car shows, watch for details on the ODMA show in Fredericksburg on May 3-4, Waynesboro Motorsports on May 11 and the WWRFCF show in Fishersville on May 18. We plan on doing our Car Display at Baldwin Park again in July and there are National Meets in Charlotte, NC on April 4-7, in Gettysburg on May 30-June 1, and of course Hershey October 8-11, that are all within a day's drive from here. If touring is your thing, our Region will have our normal local tours, and you might consider a National Tour such as the Founders Tour (North Alabama Region) May 5-10, the Vintage Tour (Frederick County Maryland) July 14-19, and the Glidden in Chattanooga, Tennessee September 8-13. These are just a few of the opportunities for 2013. Check out the details of these and many more in the latest issue of Antique Automobile.

Stu Allen—Editor

### The AACA Forum

I continue to be amazed by the Forums available online at <http://forums.aaca.org/forum.php>. Under *Our Cars & Restoration Projects*, I've been following the restoration of a 1934 Chevrolet Master coupe where the owner started with a real basket case back in February 2011 and has carefully documented and photographed all of the steps he has taken to restore the car. He's not finished yet, but the things he has learned the hard way have sure helped me in my project. "Landman", as he is called on the Forum, made almost daily updates until a recent mishap involving fingers and a router, slowed the project significantly. Check out his story as well as many others some cold rainy night when there is nothing on the tube.

Looking for a car or part? Check out Buy/Sell on the Forum. The other night I spotted an ad. for a carburetor that I knew would be of interest to a friend in North Carolina. I emailed the seller in Phoenix, AZ, got him in touch with my friend and as a result, it's on its way to a new home.

The AACA Forum also hosts forums for individual makes such as Buick and Oldsmobile where more in-depth discussions take place. I think you'll find it well worth to take a look.

Stu Allen

### NEWS FLASH !

Newsletter editor has his '34 Chevy running after 34 years. (It's not quite done yet!)



**In Grandpa's Barn—1978**



**In Stu's driveway after maiden voyage—Dec. 2012**  
*Watch this space for future progress!*

**NEXT MEETING:** : Sunday, February 17, 2:00 PM, W-S Region Meeting, Red Lobster Restaurant, Staunton Mall, Program TBA



# **TIRE TRACKS**

**The Official Publication of the  
Waynesboro-Staunton Region**



Volume 43, Issue 2

February 2013

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I am honored to be the new president of this Region. Thank you for your vote of confidence. As I often say, "I'll do the best that I can." I would like to thank immediate Past President Bob Ridle for an excellent job in leading us the past two years and thank Ken Farley for serving on our Board. I am so fortunate to have experienced officers who will be assisting me this year—Jack Drago, Robbie Gray, and Mary Helen Ayers—and dedicated members on our board including Past President Bob, Jim Gregory, and Nelson Driver. Many thanks to Stu Allen, editor of *Tire Tracks*, and Bob Ridle, webmaster, for continuing in their positions. I want to especially welcome Charlotte Kuykendall as a new member of our Board. I have an outstanding team working with me!

As a teacher for many years, I began our January meeting by doing what some teachers do at the beginning of a new class. I gave a quiz asking questions about AACA and the Waynesboro-Staunton Region. Congratulations to Ken Farley for having the most correct answers, Shirley Farley for having the second most correct answers, and Nelson Driver for being third. (Raymond S, I'll have your booby prize at the next meeting.) Also at the January meeting, Vice President Jack shared with us some of his experiences working as customer relations manager for Chrysler Corporation, his employer for about 25 years. Based on some of the letters he read and some of the stories he told, Jack must have had an interesting and challenging job.

Please make a special effort to attend our February meeting on **Sunday, February 17, 2 p.m.**, at the Red Lobster Restaurant near Staunton Mall. John and I have been members of the Region since 1971, but I do not know some members so come on out and introduce yourselves. Mary Helen will be distributing the 2013 Rosters and membership cards. Also VP Jack will be taking suggestions for activities, tours, meeting places, programs, etc. Let's make 2013 a year to remember!

*Doris Stone*



**Doris Stone, our new President, gives the first quiz of the 2013 term.**



### W/S Region Meeting January 20, 2013



**Outgoing President Bob Ridle hands the gavel to our 2013 President Doris Stone as V.P. Jack Drago, Treasurer Mary Helen Ayers and Secretary Robbie Gray look on.**



**Shirley Farley and Ken Farley were 2 of the "Quiz" winners given prizes by Doris Stone. Nelson Driver came in third (and missed being in the picture)**



**Jack Drago entertained the audience with some letters and experiences he had while working for Chrysler Corporation**

*Editors Note: Hemmings Classic Car magazine has been running a series of articles entitled "I Was There" and I thought I might share some memories of some automotive testing I was involved in back in the 1970's*

### Cold Weather Testing

Rochester Products Division, GM was the major carburetor supplier for General Motors and as part of my responsibility with the Carburetor Test & Development Group I had the opportunity to travel to some interesting testing sites. Carburetors were designed to perform perfectly under all kinds of temperature extremes, altitudes and weather conditions. During the development process, we tested the prototype samples on test vehicles that were typically new production cars and trucks that had been modified with future powertrains supplied by our customer car divisions. At our Engineering Center, we equipped the test vehicles with instrumentation monitoring manifold vacuum, fuel pressure and a variety of thermocouples measuring several temperatures underhood. Most of our data in this era was taken manually and typically required both a driver and observer to record test data as we performed cold starts, hot starts, and many other maneuvers that vehicles are subjected to during vehicle operation. Testing in Rochester, New York was usually done on public roads since the test track at the Milford, Michigan GM Proving Ground was 360 miles away. Testing on public roads provided some interesting challenges (but that's another story).

Rochester, with its reputation for some extreme temperatures, gave us a good cross-section of test conditions but when we wanted to do repetitive testing at extremely cold temperatures, we travelled to the GM Cold Weather Test Facility in Kapuskasing Ontario. "Kap" as it was nicknamed, is 525 miles north of Toronto (300 miles north of North Bay) so to say it is a remote area is an understatement.



**Typical snow/gravel highway in Northern Ontario**

*Continued on Page 3*



### **Cold Weather Testing** *Continued from Page 2*

It was a 2-day trip from Rochester and we typically would take 6 or 7 test vehicles on the trip and spend a week at Kap. running cold starts, cold performance, restarts, and other tests simulating typical customer usage.



**The General Motors of Canada Cold Weather Development Centre**

When standing in your motel room your head was at 85° and your feet were at 30° so on average the room was very comfortable. Actually, Kap was a nice place to visit (but I wouldn't want to live there)!



**Test cars being prepped at the motel**

The test cars typically performed very well, starting and driving easily at temperatures between -20° and -30° F. Occasionally we would have a battery that just wouldn't crank the engine over and we would swap it for a freshly charged unit from the Test Center. Making carburetor changes outdoors at those temperatures was a challenge but there were heated bays available if complications arose. Once we had obtained sufficient test data over several days, we packed up the cars and headed south to warmer climes.

On one such trip home, we were stopped for lunch at a small restaurant when we were joined by a contingent of Canadian Mounted Police. It seems that the "Mounties" were looking for a group of new cars that had been stolen from a dealership and when they spotted our test cars that ran dealer plates, they thought they had solved the case. After checking our I.D.s and registration information they let us continue on the trek home.

Today, much of the vehicle testing is done in environmental vehicle test cells that can simulate extreme temperature and wind conditions. Vehicle dynamometers allow comprehensive load variations with full instrumentation and computerized data acquisition without venturing into the frigid North. Test facilities such as the one at Kap. are pretty much relegated to final verification after vehicle development has been completed.

Stu Allen

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### 2013 Calendar of Events

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b><u>FEB.</u></b> | <b>7-9 AACAA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA</b><br><b>13 Weds. W/S Board Meeting 7:00 pm</b><br><b>17 Sunday, 2:00 PM, W-S Region Meeting, Red Lobster Restaurant, Staunton Mall, Program TBA</b> |
| <b><u>MAR.</u></b> | <b>13 Weds. W/S Board Meeting 7:00 pm</b><br><b>17 Sunday, 1:30 PM, W-S Region Meeting , Wood Grill, 1711 Reservoir St., Harrisonburg, Activity TBA</b>   |
| <b><u>APR.</u></b> | <b>4-7 AACAA Southeastern Spring Meet, Charlotte NC</b><br><b>10 Weds. W/S Board Meeting 7:00 pm</b><br><b>21 Sunday, 1:30 PM, W-S Region Meeting . Location/Program TBA</b>                        |

**Tri-County Region Meetings - Dates**  
 vary— Check their website.  
<http://tri-county-aaca.org/>

**Piedmont Region Meetings** are the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at the  
 Doubletree Hotel on Route 29 North in  
 Charlottesville at 7pm.

*Note: Your Editor is looking for your input and  
 articles to be included in Tire Tracks during 2013.  
 Give me a draft and I'll do the rest!*

*Stu Allen*

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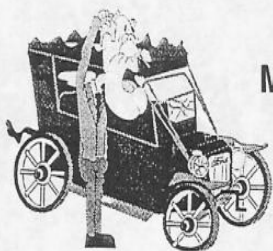


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***Tire Tracks***

The official monthly publication of  
the Waynesboro-Staunton Region of  
the Antique Automobile Club of  
America

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Please submit any articles,  
pictures, or ideas for publication  
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### **Minutes of the January 20, 2013 W/S Region Meeting**

The January 2013 meeting of the Waynesboro/Staunton Region was held at the Ming Garden in Waynesboro at 1:30 pm. The meeting was opened by President Bob Ridle, who welcomed the members present. Nelson Driver asked the blessing and the members eat lunch. After lunch, Bob Ridle performed the last official act as president as he installed the new officers of the Waynesboro/Staunton Region for 2013. They are President Doris Stone, Vice President Jack Drago, Treasurer Mary Helen Ayers, and Secretary Robbie Gray.

President Doris Stone gave an interesting acceptance speech in which she stated that she was the 32th president of W/S Region and the second woman to held this office. President Doris proceeded with a quiz on the W/S Region and the AACA. The 15 question quiz was won by Ken and Shirley Farley and third by Nelson Driver.

The Sunshine Report was given by Mary Helen, who stated that the two members she was aware of needing sunshine were both at today's meeting. She then gave the Treasurer's Report.

The Secretary's Report was approved as printed in the newsletter.

VP Jack Drago gave the upcoming meeting dates and locations which are as follows: Sunday, Feb. 17, 2pm Red Lobster Restaurant, Staunton, Sunday, March 17, 1:30pm, Wood Grill, Harrisonburg, and Sunday, April 21, Founder's Day.

Nelson Driver reported that the next planning meeting of the ODMA would be Feb. 16th in Fredericksburg with the meet being held on May 3rd and 4th.

Mel Redmond reported that the Waynesboro Motorsports Show would be May 11.

Susan Gray reported the WWRCF Car Show would be May 18, 9am-2pm at WWRC with the entry forms still to come.

VP Jack Drago requested input from the membership on what they wanted for activities for year. He made a few suggestions.

President Doris, then appointed an audit committee of Shirley Wampler and Shirley Farley to audit the books of Treasurer. She then announced the appointment of Charlotte Kuykendall as a Director. She stated the following members would attend the annual meeting in Philly: John and Doris Stone, Ken and Shirley Farley, and Stu and Clarice Allen. Once again, she reminded the members that both regional and national dues are to be paid as soon as possible, so Mary Helen can get the roster prepared by the next meeting. Doris then asked for volunteers for a telephone call committee.

The 50/50 was won by Mary Helen Ayers.

Jack Drago gave an interesting program on the letters he received while working for Chrysler.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robbie Gray, Secretary



### **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

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**Ron Capps**

**Shirley Farley**

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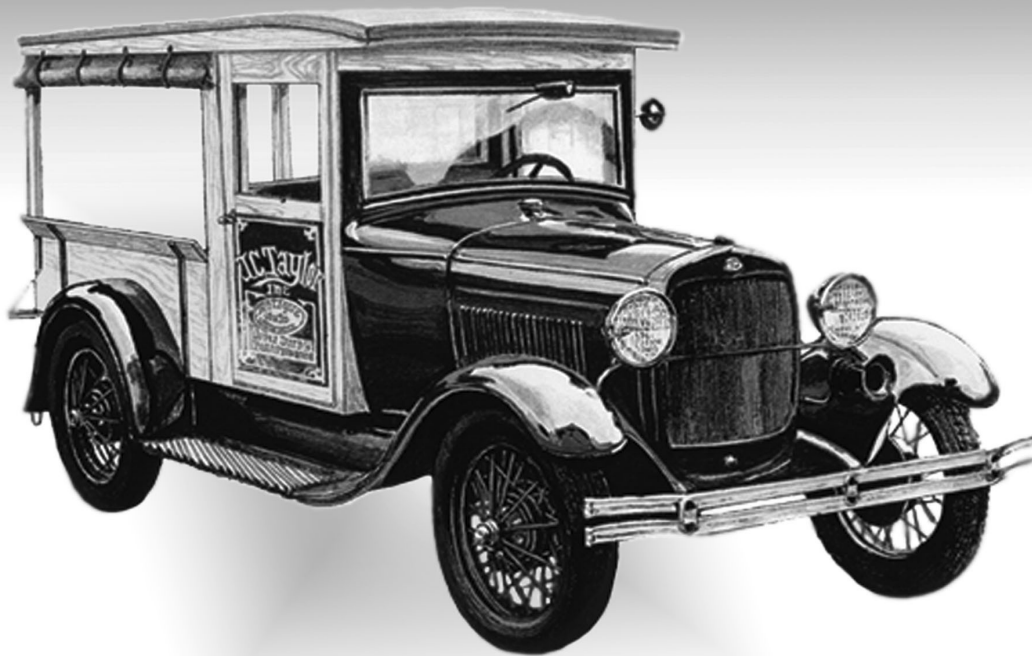


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