



TIRE TRACKS

March 2021



Greetings, W-S Members, The past week has given us a glimpse of what Spring weather might bring. Just then, we get another blast of cold and snow. At least, it shouldn't last too long and we'll get a chance to get those old cars out of their winter slumber. We got a note from ODMA President Debbie Nolan that two ODMA activities are "GO" for 2021. The ODMA Meet is on for June 11-12 at Natural Bridge and the Fall Tour is planned for Oct. 21-23 in Winchester. Mark your calendars as both of these events are close by and we should get a good turnout from our Region.

Stu Allen

Editorial

The attached is based on the author's opinion and is not intended to reflect the position of AACA.

An article in the Saturday, Feb. 20, 2021 Daily News Record (Harrisonburg) caught my attention. It stated that the "Clean Cars Bill" clears major hurdle in Virginia Senate. According to this article, the following measures are included in the bill:

- Starting in 2024 a certain percentage of new vehicles sold in Virginia would be required to be electric or hybrid electric. They estimate the starting percentage would be 8% and then increase each year.
- Virginia would adopt California's vehicle emission standards since some auto manufacturers allegedly send their EV's to states that use California's standards and as a result that "supply isn't meeting demand, especially outside Northern Virginia".

- Other related pieces of legislation would invest public money (*I think that means our tax dollars*) in rebates for the purchase of electric cars.

We are bombarded with media coverage of "climate change" formerly called "global warming" (before the winter of 2020-2021 made the term obsolete). There are still a significant number of scientists who believe that CO₂ is a beneficial gas and efforts to minimize it are wrong since more CO₂ in the atmosphere produces more plant growth and more food for mankind. They point out that many of the studies and theoretical models projecting global warming are based on faulty data and that all the efforts to battle CO₂ and temperature change are a waste of our resources.

I'll leave it up to our readers to draw your own conclusions regarding the use of our tax dollars to influence what vehicles a person should buy.

Let me know what you think.

Stu Allen

Future Meetings—Check our website and watch for emails announcing future activities.



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March 2021

RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

“Show me a good loser and I’ll show you an idiot.”

“If you enlist in the U.S.Navy right now, being the 10th person to do so, we will send you on a fabulous, all-expense paid vacation to a spectacular palm tree studded island, inhabited by the worlds most beautiful women. Your trip will commence on a luxury liner, in a private, first class stateroom with ocean views and chef inspired meals. Sign here!” Six days out of high school, how could I not believe and enlist. How could I believe that this is what a “first class” stateroom really was.



Whoever thought that cactus looked like palm trees was imbibing in too much Cerveza. Scorpions? We had the world’s supply. Shake your boots before putting them on in the AM. That island in the Caribbean was/is called Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A wonderful spot if you’re not human. How is this related to the automotive theme that attracts us to each other? It doesn’t. Your editor was clamoring for my editorial and threatened me with great bodily harm If I didn’t get something together NOW! Can’t wait till next month to see what emits from this mind.

Jack Drago

Good news regarding this year’s Charlotte Nationals. See forwarded message from AACA President, Jim Elliott

From: Jim Elliott <aacajim@cox.net>
Subject: Charlotte Nationals

Friends; Our on staff magician, Mel Carson, has successfully arranged to hold the Southeastern Spring Nationals as scheduled on Friday, April 9 and Saturday, April 10, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The show site will be the Embassy Suites Hotel parking lot, with trailer parking across the street near the former show location at the Speedway. Judging school will be held on Friday at the hotel. Awards will be presented on the show field at the conclusion of the show on Saturday. There will not be a judges' breakfast or an awards banquet. (As you probably know, the Auto Fair will not be held which means no flea market or car corral.)

This is a major accomplishment for which Mel deserves a ton of credit. You are encouraged to publicize this. Please plan to attend. Jim

Editor’s Note: An update on Feb. Tire Tracks “Ramblings”. Jack came up with a PG rated picture of Jack and Joey Heatherton.

Quite a Special Assignment from Chrysler!



Virtual Car Show—Car Quiz

Can you match these cars with our member owners?

Owners are listed on Page 6.

1



2



3



4



Remembering Bruce Elder

Honorary Member Bruce Elder passed away on Feb. 2, 2021. His obituary is online at: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/bruce-elder-obituary?pid=197655388>.

Bruce was a true friend of our Region who faithfully served as our auctioneer at our annual Steak Fry & Auction. Our condolences go out to Cathy and the family.



Bruce was famous for entertaining us at our auctions.



Sometimes you just had to be there!



In 2013 President Doris Stone presented a plaque to Bruce recognizing 20 years of Auction Service.

I Was There—Rochester Products Division GM—1975

Hemmings Classic Car runs a monthly article called “I Was There” and it got me thinking of some of my past experiences in the automotive industry.

Altitude Testing at Pikes Peak

One of my assignments at Rochester Products during the mid-70’s was as a carburetor test engineer. Our task was to assure that the carburetors we manufactured would function properly under all extreme conditions that the customer might experience. One such condition we tested for was performance at high altitudes. Carburetors mix air and fuel to provide the proper mixture to the engine for good performance and fuel economy. When the vehicle is operating at altitude, the air flowing through the carburetor contains less oxygen than at low altitudes and as a result the engine sees richer mixtures than is required. This can lead to decreased performance and higher exhaust emissions. One of the improvements we were developing at that time was altitude compensated carburetors that used an aneroid bellows to sense atmospheric pressure and lean the carburetor fuel mixture as the vehicle travelled to higher altitudes.

In order to evaluate these systems, we tested in Colorado at Pikes Peak. General Motors had a Mountain Test Facility at Manitou Springs (near Colorado Springs) that served as base camp for testing on the Peak. The Pikes Peak roadway climbs from 7400 ft. to 14,115 ft. in 19.5 miles. This is the highest roadway in the U.S. and provides the ultimate test for vehicles operating at high altitudes. Park rangers regularly patrol the roadway to assist tourists with overheating issues (going up) and brake problems (coming down). Our test procedure was to load our test vehicles with weight simulating what the typical customer might have on board and then drive up the Peak stopping at several roadside vantage points where tourists often stopped for photo opportunities. The goal was to reach the roadway’s end at the Summit House, a souvenir and rest stop that served good doughnuts. One of the usual tricks played on rookie engineers was to ask them to run over to the shop from the parked cars and get some doughnuts. One learns quickly that the thin air at this altitude quickly affects your oxygen levels and ability to move normally and can result in a big headache in a hurry. (Don’t ask me how I know). I won’t bore you with details, but our vehicles performed very well and we got to enjoy some great scenery along the test route. Some folks were reluctant to look over the edge of the road (no guard rails).

Stu Allen



Test cars at a typical scenic tourist stop.



A view at the roadway below. 19 1/2 miles with 162 turns.



Photo op. looking over the edge of the road.

Top of the Peak—Summit House.



More pictures—next page.

Calendar of AACA Events & Community Car Events

Editors Note: Due to the present restrictions on gatherings, the Board will work on planning events and notify members on the website and by email as soon as possible.

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- MARCH** **10** **Wednesday, 7:00 PM** **Executive Board Meeting** at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 21** **Sunday, 2:00 PM** **Monthly meeting TBD**
- 27** **Saturday, 5:00 – 9:00 PM – Dinner & Auction to Benefit the Augusta County Fair**
Weyers Cave Community Center, 682 Weyers Cave Road, Weyers Cave. Tickets are \$10.00.
-
- APR.** **8-10** **Southeastern Spring National Meet at Charlotte Embassy Suites Hotel parking lot, with trailer parking across the street near the former show location at the Speedway. Hosted by the Hornets Nest Region.**
- 14** **Wednesday, 7:00 PM** **Executive Board Meeting** at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 15-17** **AACA National Convention, Sheraton Downtown Hotel, 201 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA.**
CANCELLED
- 18** **Sunday, 2:00 PM** **Monthly meeting TBD**
- 19-22** **Southeastern Divisional Tour, Howey In the Hills, FL. Hosted by the King of the**
-
- MAY** **6-8** **Central Spring National Meet, Auburn, IN. Hosted by AACA National.**
- 12** **Wednesday, 7:00 PM** **Executive Board Meeting** at Stu Allen's 265 Stayman Ln. Staunton
- 15** **Saturday, 14th Annual "60 Years of Cars and Stars" Show, Eastside Speedway, 134 Al Gore Lane, Waynesboro.**
- 16** **Sunday, 2:00 PM** **Monthly meeting TBD**
- 20-25** **Founders Tour (1932-1996), Davis, WV. Hosted by the Mountain State Classics Region.**
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Testing on Pikes Peak was always subject to weather. These photos were taken in July when the Rangers stopped our tests due to bad roads. The temperature at the summit is often 30 degrees colder than at the base of the mountain.

Tire Tracks

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2021 Executive Board

President: Jack Drago
 412 University Farm Road
 Stuarts Draft, VA 24477
 (540) 337-2120
 Magnumrt5@verizon.net

Vice President: Patty Watson-Gregory
 99 Longfield Lane
 Crimora, VA 22980
 540-908-0525.
 patty@vt.edu

Secretary: Robbie Gray
 1430 Red Top Orchard Road
 Waynesboro, VA 22980
 (540)-943-3171
 rwgray3@ntelos.net

Treasurer Todd Smith
 1422 Bloomer Springs Road
 McGaheysville, VA 22840
 (540) 289-9917
 tmjmsmith@gmail.com

Director/Corporate Agent: Stuart Allen
 265 Stayman Ln.
 Staunton, VA 24401
 (540) 886-8056
 stuscar@aol.com

Directors:
 Scott Gregory (727) 542-9723 Web Master
 Barry Linke (540) 943-7514 Class of 2021
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 Ken Farley (540) 248-0635 Class of 2023
 Alfred Meyer (540)290-1356 Past President

From the Editor's Desk

Please submit any articles, pictures, or ideas for publication to me at the following:

Stuart Allen
 265 Stayman Lane
 Staunton, VA 24401
 Phone: 540-886-8056 (Home)
 540-290-0329 (Cell)
 email: stuscar@aol.com



CAR QUIZ

**Owners in
Alphabetic Order**

**Cars from
Page 3**

- A. Chester & Nancy Bradfield —
- B. Susan Gray —
- C. James & Mary Owen —
- D. Duane & Rebecca Perrin —

*Answers at
bottom of
page*



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- Kenneth Coiner**
- Allison Graves**
- Dolly Harner**
- Carol Sarginger**

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

Piedmont Region Meetings
 Check their website:
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/piedmontregionaaca/?club=piedmontregionaaca>

Answers to Car Quiz
 4 B
 3 A
 2 C
 1 D



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This list of cars for sale from Dick McIninch

- 1915 Buick C25 Touring Car,
- 1936 Rolls Royce Phantom III Drophead Coupe,
- 1936 Ford Deluxe Touring Sedan,
- 1966 Ford Mustang Convertible,
- 1986 Mercedes Benz 300E.

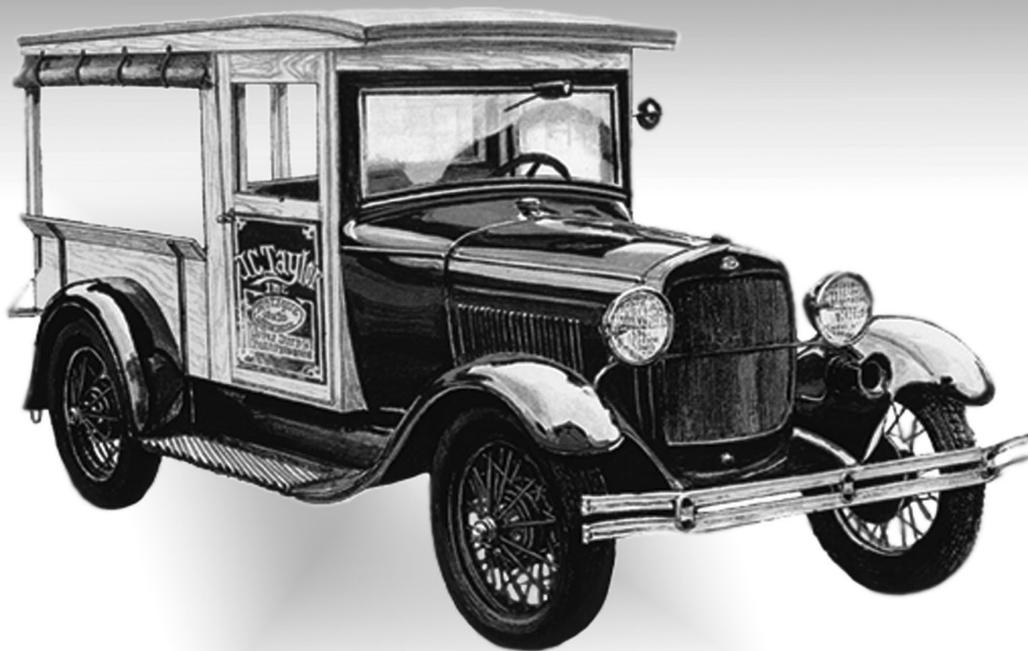
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