

Antique Auto Mushers of Alaska



# Tinkering Times



Volume 65, Number 12

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December 3, 2025



Greg Soloman

## Old Tail Lights in the Sky Ode to a Model A Christmas

Tw'as the night before Christmas, Model A  
in its stall,  
not a sparkplug igniting, since late this  
past fall,  
I'd covered 'Ol Nick with the utmost of  
care  
with the hope that no dust will land here  
or lie there.  
His cold battery asleep, and Nick snug in  
his bed  
a trickle deep charger fuels dreams in his  
head.

With me in my jammies, I sip some  
nightcaps.  
A stack of repair bills, rest tall on my lap.  
When out in the garage there arose such a  
clatter  
I sprang from my armchair almost losing  
my bladder.  
I ran to the truck, through the door, down  
the stairs;  
I tore my left hamstring without any care.  
Then I turned on the lights, saw Nick's  
cover was tossed.  
I squinted a little and saw Santa Claus.  
I then rubbed my eyes briskly, looked  
again as I blinked

And recalled for a moment, my last two or  
three drinks.

No, it couldn't be true, did he pick my  
ride's lock?  
did I hear in the distance "Jingle Bell  
Rock?"  
I shouted, "Who's that?" to his red and  
white fleece  
And I yelled to my wife "Hurry, call the  
police!"  
That's when it all happened, he fired up  
the horses,

(See p. 3, "Taillights in the Sky")

# Running Board Reflections



*1901 Panhard et Levassor at the St. James Motor Spectacular, a distant progenitor of Rich's new Panhard Emprisonné in South Carolina?*

A few weeks ago, Linda and I returned from a two week vacation to England. We got a chance to visit with my cousin Kim and her family in Malvern, a small English town some 40 miles from the Welsh border. Malvern (Pronounced 'Mull-vern') is home to the famed British composer Edward Elgar, as well as the Morgan sports car factory. We travelled with Kim and her husband Chris to nearby Worcester and Hereford, where hurricanes hardly ever happen (think . . . My Fair Lady).

Back in London, Linda and I rented a car, and drove to the quaint country hamlet of Chawton, in Hampshire. This is where one of Linda's greatest literary heroes, Jane Austin, had lived. We toured her 18th century home and gardens, now a museum. Afterwards we made our way, on the left side of the road, to beautiful Winchester, where we visited their famed cathedral (I still haven't been able to get that song out of my head).

Upon our return to London, we arrived in time for the St. James Motor Spectacular. It is a magnificent car show on Pall Mall in the Westminster area of the English capital. The event showcased over a hundred incredible ancient cars, all built before 1905 (some dating as early as the late 1890's). Along with their proud owners, they are displayed for the public to admire the day before they are to drive the streets of London as well as the British public roads and highways south, some 60 miles to Brighton on the shores of the English Channel.

The famed London to Brighton Run is the world's longest running motoring event as well as the world's largest gathering of these veteran cars. Originally

called "the Emancipation Run," when it first started in 1896, it commemorated the recently passed "Locomotives on Highways Act," which had replaced the restrictive "Locomotive Acts" of 1861, 1865 and 1878. Before said act, vehicles were limited to a speed limit of 4 mph in the country and 2 mph in the cities, following behind a flagman walking ahead of the vehicle to warn the public of their approach. The new 1896 law allowed for a brisk, modern, some Victorians might even say "reckless" 14 mph speed limit!

The vehicles come from all over the world to attempt the 60 mile trudge from Hyde Park to the beaches of Brighton. 349 cars made it across the starting line just after dawn, that rainy November morning, with 330 of them finishing on the shores of the Channel. The United States was richly represented by several vehicles and their proud owners, having shipped their cars across the Atlantic for a chance to participate and forever enjoy the associated bragging rights.

There were five breakdowns just past the starting line, to my count. All but one recovered and sped off to glory. One fellow and his wife, both decked-out in 1890's fare (her hat with purple ostrich plume was divine) had to be towed off, having journeyed halfway around the globe just to participate. I approached him after the festivities had broken up. With most spectators having left, they were left to await the tow truck. Both he and his wife were all smiles. Genuine smiles.

"We made it over the starting line," he bragged loudly, and happy as a clam.

—Richard



2025 Officers

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Vice President:

Michael Packard (907)382-1221

Secretary:

Greg Carpenter (907)891-4988

Treasurer:

Louis Mestier (512)507-8028

Sergeant-at-Arms:

Dutch Overly (907)338-1789

Members at Large

Tamea Isham-907-688-3671

Donn Reese-907-245-7203

Scott Hulse (907)240-4028

Past Presidents (10 years)

Linda Mattes Golding

(2022-2024)

David Jensen (2019-21)

Gwyn Wiedmer (2017-18)

Brian Anderson (2015-16)

Mike Wiedmer (2013-14)

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facsimile of reality, for that  
matter.



## One Man's Treasures

Our ads are intended for members and others who wish to sell cars and related items. There is no charge, and the ad will run for three consecutive issues before being removed. To pull an ad, extend it or to place a new ad, contact Tom at 907-694-7510.

### Secured, Enclosed Storage In West Downtown Anchorage

9'x18'x 7-1/2' high space  
\$150/month for single  
2 spaces-\$125 each  
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(907) 440-2982

### AAMA Magnetic Decals

Large AAMA decals mounted on heavy, .030" magnetic backing \$45.00 (\$30 to AAMA for the decals and \$15 to Scott Hulse for materials and labor).

Scott Hulse at (907) 240-4028, or email [hulse@alaska.net](mailto:hulse@alaska.net)



**For Sale:** 1953 MG TD, current owner (2nd) since 1962. Frame off restoration 1993. Extra top(new). Always garaged. \$21,000, FrankNosek, [frank@noseklaw.com](mailto:frank@noseklaw.com),



**For Sale:** 1965 Ford Mustang convertible; Poppy Red with white vinyl manual top; 6-cylinder engine (rebuilt in 1996. 20,000 miles since); new 5-speed manual transmission (June, 2011); stored in a garage and not driven for the past 8 years. \$20,500. Betty Dickenson, (907) 230-9800. Email: [bstring@aol.com](mailto:bstring@aol.com)

## Schedule of events

- o **December 7**—2:00-8:00 Christmas party at Isham's in Peters Creek
- o **January 14**—6:30 pm Meeting (Installation of officers)
- o **February 11**—6:30 pm Meeting
- o **February 28**—Rondy parade and show (Art Isham & Donn Reese)
- o **February 28, March 1**—Rondy Show

**For Sale:** Model A; need gone before snow hits. Belonged to Ron Dane from Denali AK. Runs, drives, and stops as it should. \$8500.00 obo. Call me on my cell for more info. Willy Vinton Museum Manager, 212 Wedgewood drive, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
907-388-8252 cell, 907-450-2100 office



**For Sale:** 1941 Chevrolet Special Deluxe sedan. 64,000 miles, original interior, repainted in original black. 216 cubic inch inline 6-cylinder, manual synchromesh 3-speed transmission with vacuum-assisted shift. All accessories, including radio, work. Car runs, drives, and stops fine. \$16,000.  
Ken Evans 907-240-3746



**For Sale:** 1941 Lincoln Continental. David Hutchings, (907) 262-5891.

## Taillights in the sky

(Continued from p. 1)

he'd cranked up my flathead and showed  
no remorse.

He touched his red nose, and the door  
opened wide,  
Then he backed up my wide bed to the  
frozen outside.

That's the last time I've seen my ol' '31  
truck.  
I'm left with the bills, feeling down on my  
luck.

With a bed full of gifts, an old tire and  
new toys,  
my ride's now a sleigh for the good girls  
and boys.

Then I yelled to Ol' Nick, "Fly high,  
Model A.  
Double clutch into third and then show  
him the way!"  
When I looked to the floor I saw a small  
note—  
Something written by Santa, and here's  
what he wrote.

"All my thanks for the ride, it's a beaut if  
you please,  
let this lesson be learned to hide your  
truck keys."

Then I smiled as I watched Nick's  
taillights disappear,  
Thinking maybe I'll see them at  
Christmas next year.

And if that happens, and the gifts late  
arrive,  
Then ol' Santa will know Nick's top  
speed's 45.

—dj—

See You at the  
Christmas Party  
Ishams' House  
2-8 PM  
December 7th

# Paying Your AACA Dues

Your AACA yearly dues are currently \$45 per year for 2026. These can be paid directly to AACA on their website at:

<https://members.aaca.org/membership/ReNewMembership.php>

Once you are there, hover your mouse over "Membership" and choose "Join/Renew Online" from the resulting pop-down menu. Then click on the button "Renew AACA Membership." You will need your AACA member number, which can be found above your name on the mailing label of your Antique Automobile magazine.

If you prefer, you can call AACA

directly and give them your credit card payment over the phone. Their telephone number is: 717-534-1910

Or you can mail them a check or money order. Their mailing address is: The Antique Automobile Club of America  
800 West Hersheypark Drive  
Hershey, PA 17033

Please consider doing this today. NOW would be even better. Don't wait until you get up to get your glasses and forget why you walked into that room . . .

If you have questions, or need any more information, call our Membership Coordinator, Linda Mattes-Golding at

907-351-3251.

Every year most Musers pay on time, making the administrative staff's job easier and much less stressful. For those of you that decide to procrastinate, Linda (aka "the Enforcer") and her baseball bat, may have to pay you a visit. Take my word for it, after 56 years together with the woman, you DON'T want to piss her off—she can get really mean!

Don't say you haven't been warned!

. . . And if you repeat any of this to her, I will deny it all.

In any event, I hope to see you at our annual Christmas party on December 7th at the Isham's home in Peters Creek. The festivities are scheduled to begin at 2 pm.

I'm looking forward to seeing you there,

Sincerely,  
Richard Golding  
President  
AAMA



Our Waitress



Cresap

## AAMA Business Meeting November 12, 2025 at Hope Community Resources Learning Center 570 W. 53rd Ave. Anchorage, Alaska

Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by President Richard Golding  
There were 34 members present and no guests.

### October Minutes

The minutes were approved from the October business meeting as published in the Tinkering Times.

### Treasurer's Report

Richard Golding provided the treasurer's report.

### Old Business

\*\*The Trunk or Treat event by the Downtown Partnership on Saturday, October 25 had a good turnout of kids and lots of candy.

### New Business

\*\*Three new cars have been added to the club. Scott Hulse' 1963 Vanden Plas, Dutch Overly's 1925 Stutz Roadster and Richard Golding 1964 Panhard 17 BT.

\*\*President Richard Golding talked about attending the London to Brighton Run with vehicles from 1904 or earlier.

\*\*Art Isham of the nominating committee presented the 2026 list for club officers. A motion to accept the candidates was made and the motion passed. The AAMA officers for 2026:

President: Richard Golding  
Vice President: Michael Packard  
Treasurer: Gwyn Wiedmer  
Secretary: Greg Carpenter

### Sergeant at Arms: Dutch Overly

Members at large are Scott Hulse, Tam Isham and Darrel Krolick.

\*\*Art Isham provided an update on the 2026 Fur Rondy car show and parade scheduled for February 28 and March 1.

\*\*The Christmas party is scheduled for Sunday December 7, starting at 2:00 pm at Art and Tam Isham's house. The club will also be accepting donations for Hope Community Resources as a Thank You for letting AAMA use their building for meetings. Tam Isham passed around signup sheets for the potluck. There will also be a gift exchange.

\*\*Blackie made three wooden letter/napkin holders in the shape of an old truck to be auctioned off with the proceeds going to the club. A total of \$82.00 was raised from the auction. The lucky winners were Michael Packard, Scott Hulse and Dan Billman.

\*\*Linda Mattes Golding reminded everyone the 2026 AAMA club membership dues are \$20.00. To receive a printed version of the Tinkering Times is \$40.00. Also, the AACA membership can be paid on their website.

\*\*Art Isham read a story from the book "Got Gas?" A pictorial Look at Central Pennsylvania Service Stations From the 20th Century" by Jimmy Rosen.

### BD's and Anniversaries

President Richard Golding announced birthdays and anniversaries for the month.

### Split the Pot

Split the pot winner Jim Fredenhagen

### Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm. Dinner at Seward's Folly restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,  
Greg Carpenter, Secretary

*After the meeting, we adjourned to Seward's Folly for dinner. We had too big a crowd for the main table, so Colleen and Howard Hansen joined Dutch Overly and Scott Hulse for a more intimate soiree.*



# 'Over the Hills And Through the Woods' (Look Out for the Hill)

by Art Isham

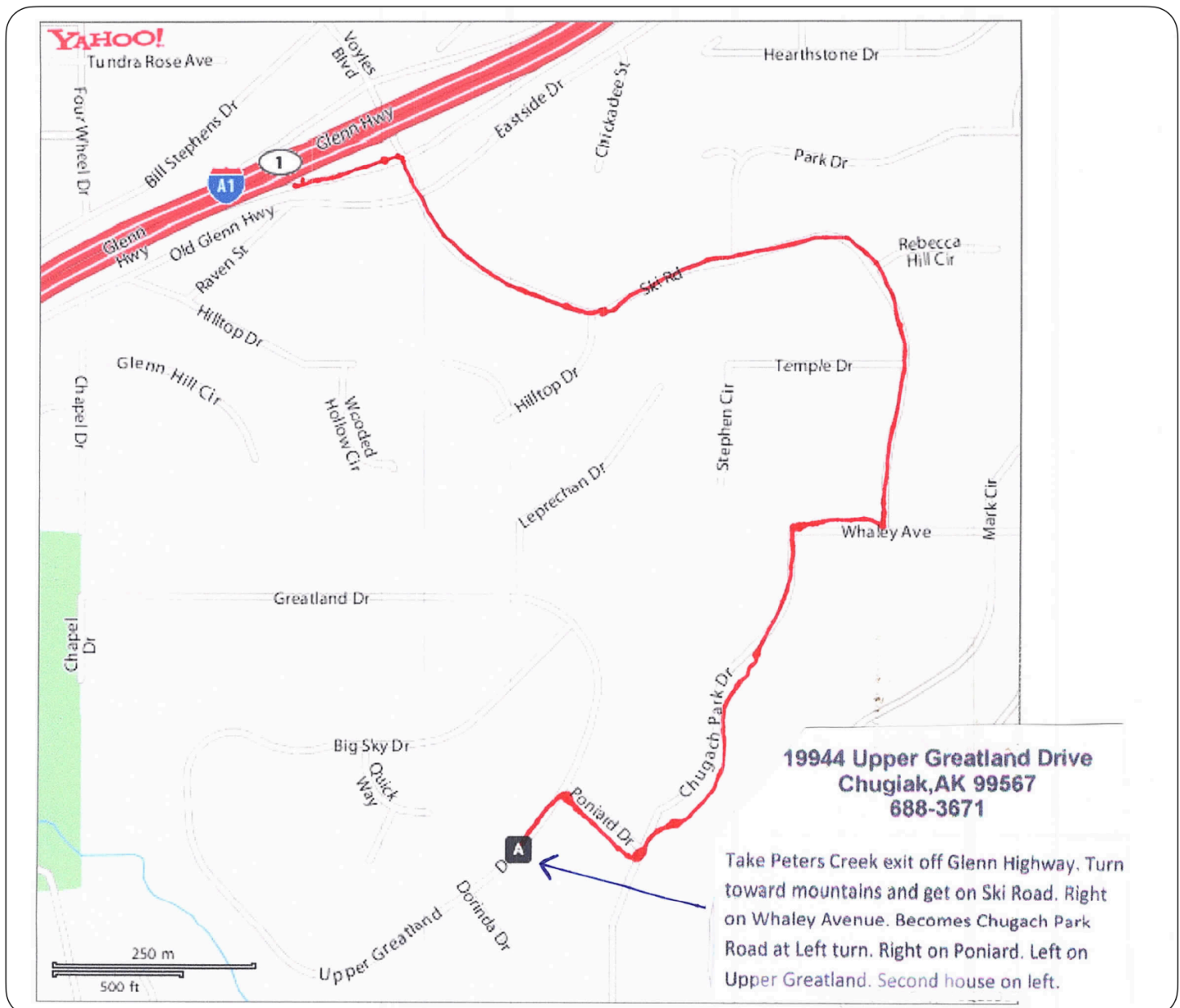
AAMA Christmas Party is scheduled for December 7, 2025, starting at 2 PM at the Isham's home at 19944 Upper Greatland Drive in Chugiak (907-688-3671). A map with the recommended winter route is attached. You can also use the summer route, but it may get exciting when you try to slow down at the bottom of the hill.

Following points are important:

1. There will be two Isham grandkids to help you get into a parking spot, so take advantage of their expertise.
2. Don't forget, we are taking donations to give to Hope Community Resources, who provides our monthly meeting place.
3. Don't forget to bring a gift if you want to participate in the Gift Exchange

(Chinese Auction).

4. There will be an email blast coming out that will list what food you have signed up to bring for the Potluck. If you didn't sign up, just bring what you want. Club members are always hungry!!!
5. Tamea, Tiny the Cat, and Art are looking forward to seeing you.



# 100-Year-Old Stutz Discovers Chickaloon, (Wherever the Heck That Is)



*A 1925 Stutz 693 roadster, once a part-time resident of LeMay Museum in Tacoma, finds a comfortable resting spot in Dutch Overly's garage in Chickaloon, Alaska, where it will receive a lot of attention and loving care.*

by Tom Cresap

Dutch Overly recently visited LeMay Car Museum in Tacoma, Washington, where he placed the winning bid on a 1925 Stutz 693 roadster.

The background story is that his wife, Joanne, found the car on a TV show featuring Lucky Collector Car Auctions in Tacoma. Knowing Dutch's affinity for the Stutz marque, she suggested that he should bid on the car. Now, everyone knows that if your wife tells you to buy a car, you should waste no time in doing so.

Buying an antique car in the Lower 48 and having it shipped to Alaska can be an epic experience; just ask our president, Richard Golding. (Subject of an upcoming story in these pages about his new Panhard.) As for Dutch, the shipping was a breeze: Lucky Collector Cars handled

that with panache. The pretty little car now rests in the protective surroundings of Dutch's garage in Chickaloon (wherever the heck that is.) and we may get to see it at our Rony show in

February.

For now, we have some photos. The rest of the story will come later, as Dutch becomes accustomed to caring for the centenarian.



*The Stutz rode the last 80 miles of the trip from the docks in Anchorage in Tom Cresap's trailer.*



*Unloading was downhill into the garage. Now, the fun begins!*





Brian Anderson has again shared a photo resurrected from his dad's photo archives. This one shows Brian's grandparents, during a 1949 trip to Boston, loading their 1947 Hudson Super 8 in front of the "Ladies' Entrance" at a Cameo dining room, probably associated with some hotel.

Anderson

ahoy tom,

a bit of fodder from the tropical south. it's now raining on our 4" collection of precious snow:

i was surprised and then very pleased upon reading not one, but two entries in my recent copy of the MAFCA (model A ford club of america) bi-monthly publication, "the restorer". both were authored by fellow member, david jensen, known photographer and (for me) just revealed wordsmith and storyteller. i found a very clever rendition of "the night before christmas" with his Wide Bed pickup as the theme, and a wonderful, heartwarming article of member phil morrow's model A adventures from almost 75 years ago. kudos to david and to phil as well!

merry christmas,

—walt sonen



1903 Gladiator: Richard took this photo at the St. James Motor Spectacular. This is proof positive that they had real headlights back in those days—of the May West variety. Yikes!

Golding

## World Traveler Visits AAMA Group



Cresap

A small group at Ishams' home, Richard Golding, Alfred Kyrer, Alex Roesch, Art and Tamea Isham, Linda Golding, Marcy Cresap (and Tom behind the camera) visit after dinner.

By Tom Cresap

Alfred Kyrer, visiting with short notice from Austria, was guest of honor at dinner at Ishams' house.

His interest in antique cars led him to contact us, and we subsequently got to learn a little about his cars, his business and life in Austria. Since none of us speaks German, and he speaks broken English, it was helpful to have our fellow-member, Alex Roesch on hand to translate.

We wish Alfred a bon voyage as he continues his adventures to see more of the world.

We hope to  
see you at our  
Christmas  
party  
December  
7th.

## Yes, They Used to do That



*This 1950 photo shows Tony Villa, Marcy Cresap's dad, leaning on a 1947 Mercury he is about to repair. He succeeded in straightening out the crumpled mess, believe it or not!*

## December

### Birthdays

Howard Hansen—1<sup>st</sup>  
 Brian Anderson—2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Ross Woodman—6<sup>th</sup>  
 Linda Mattes Golding—7<sup>th</sup>  
 Joe Jemison—7<sup>th</sup>  
 Gary Fitch—8<sup>th</sup>  
 Dale Dryden—12<sup>th</sup>  
 Laura Smith—12<sup>th</sup>  
 Jennifer Weinfurter—15<sup>th</sup>  
 Dennis Allen—17<sup>th</sup>  
 Lynn Hansen—17<sup>th</sup>  
 Art Isham—18<sup>th</sup>  
 Colleen Hansen—20<sup>th</sup>  
 Michael Campbell—21<sup>st</sup>  
 Tom Cresap—21<sup>st</sup>  
 Marl Campbell—28<sup>th</sup>  
 Keith Michener—31<sup>st</sup>

### Anniversaries

Marilyn & Dave Chiotti—2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Doris & Barry Fowler—14<sup>th</sup>  
 Laura & Mike Smith—14<sup>th</sup>  
 Barbara & Dick Henningsen—15<sup>th</sup>  
 Tamea & Art Isham—18<sup>th</sup>  
 Joanne & Dutch Overly—29<sup>th</sup>

*A recipient of AACA Awards of Excellence, Master Editor and the Ann S. Eady Memorial Award*

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