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The

# Clutch Chatter

Volume 32 Issue 4

April 2013

**The President's Page** by Luke Stakenborg

Hello Everyone!

I hope that this letter finds you well. Happy Easter and Passover for members who observe. Great barbeque dinner last month. Thank You Joe and Molly Drago for coordinating this! Also, special thanks to Nicki, Joann, Bill and whomever else brought desserts and beverages. For those who could not make it, you missed a wonderful meal.

I would like to thank Bill Sessler and Jon Battle for their participation in the Fauquier Springs Event in which their "gangster era" cars were displayed. They both had a fantastic experience with the country club and its members. I hope that this arrangement will continue in the future. This was an excellent PR move for the club!

The upcoming months will be quite eventful for the club. Three local meets will be running every weekend in May, starting with the 60th Annual ODMA meet in Fredericksburg on May 3-4. Make sure to register soon for this event since it is limited to 150 cars. The deadline is April the 4th; the point of contact is Pat Paquette. Follow the attachment for last month's newsletter. The next event is the Apple Blossom meet in Winchester on May 10-11th, hosted by the Shenandoah Region. The deadline is April 30th; the point of contact is Jeff Feltner (540) 664-3822. The Strawberry festival is scheduled for May 25th, with a rain date for the 26th.

There are several AACA out of state meets such as the Southeastern Spring meet in Charlotte, NC. Dates are April 4-7; The Founders Tour in Huntsville, AL. on May 5-10; The Central Spring meet in Auburn, IN. May 9-11; and the Eastern Spring meet in Gettysburg, PA. May 30-June 1. These are just some of the events scheduled for April and May. I may have left some out, but these are the major ones. If you were to select one, please attend the ODMA event. The ODMA event is advantageous for our club!

I would like to share this information with the club of an e-mail I received from a Tom McMahon. He is the owner of "Hubcap Empire"; a business which sells hubcaps from the 1900's to the 1970's. Tom's inventory is estimated to be 30,000! He is having a "going out of

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## **Events & Activities Calendar:**

- Apr 4-7 AACA Southeastern Spring Meet in Charlotte NC hosted by Hornets Nest Region; email [aacaclt@windstream.net](mailto:aacaclt@windstream.net), (704) 841-1396
- Apr 14 Monthly meeting at the VFW Hall in Manassas at 4:00 pm.**
- Apr 20 Classic Car Center Swap Meet & Show in Fredericksburg VA; more info at <http://www.classiccarcenter.net/calendar.html>
- May 3-4 60<sup>th</sup> Annual ODMA Meet, Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center sponsored by the Fredericksburg Historic Region. Registration form included.**
- May 5-10 AACA 25<sup>th</sup> Founders Tour 2013 in Madison AL hosted by the North Alabama Region. More info at <http://www.naraaca.org/FoundersTour2013>; limited to 100 vehicles 1932-1988
- May 9-11 AACA Central Spring Meet in Auburn IN; more info at <http://www.aaca.org/meetinfo>
- May 30-Jun 1 AACA Eastern Spring Meet in Gettysburg PA hosted by the Gettysburg Region; email [pullman1914@aol.com](mailto:pullman1914@aol.com), (717) 582-3209
- Jun 1 Annual Historic Fredericksburg Region Meet; more info to follow!**
- Jun 8 24th annual Orphan Car Tour, "The Williamsport Wanderlust", 35-40 mile tour. For "orphan" (discontinued-make) cars and trucks. Meet at Byron Park, E. Potomac St. (Rte. 11), Williamsport MD, 12:00 PM. Cars released onto tour starting at 12:30 PM. Rain or Shine. \$8 per car fee. Optional buffet dinner follows tour (reserve by May 27). Info: [www.orphancartour.org](http://www.orphancartour.org), (540) 364-1770, or [tourdirector@orphancartour.org](mailto:tourdirector@orphancartour.org)

## **March 10 Meeting Minutes** by Scott Patton

Bull Run Region AACA held its March meeting on Sunday March 10 2013 at the VFW in Manassas. President Luke Stakenborg called the meeting to order at 4pm sharp. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Nicki Hudson gave the treasurers report and it was accepted. I handed her back the audited books and everything is in outstanding order.

Sunshine Committee: Thomas and Mary Loren will be coming home next week. Their daughter has finished chemo. Ralph Lankford has had some surgery and is at home recuperating. Joe Drago will be getting results on bone biopsy and bone marrow test on March 13. He's looking great!

New Business Bill Sessler reports that HMI (Historic Manassas Inc.) is already putting things in place for our Rohr show. During the past couple of meetings we have talked about some problems we have been having with judging. We have decided now and motioned to go with peer judging. This should help to make judging quicker and less confusing. We also decided not to take on any additional food vendors for now. Pete Pandolfi suggested that we have the option to apply to the City of Manassas for a grant that would cover show expenses but we decided that due to the torturous application process that would have to be done every year just for the possibility of getting approved would not be worth the trouble. Bill Holmes is once again asking for members' car photos. This would make our web site more interesting and would allow members who can't attend our monthly meets to get to know members cars. You can upload photos to [wholmes2@cox.net](mailto:wholmes2@cox.net).

Membership: Bill Sessler motioned to keep on our books and not charge dues for honorary or emeritus members. Motion was accepted.

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## **Presidents Page (continued from Page 1):**

business sale" and offering club members "first dibs" before selling to the general public. Tom's contact information is as follows: [hubcapempire@gmail.com](mailto:hubcapempire@gmail.com). Phone number: 208-734-0459.

The Family Drive In Theatre in Stephens City, VA. is opening for the season on March 22nd. This theatre has been in business since 1956 and has all of the original nostalgia! I highly recommend this drive-in since it is one of our last few remaining in the U.S. I would like to know if there is interest attending with our cars. It would make a great backdrop for photo apps! I would like to attend on Saturday evening, the night before our meeting on the 13th. Admission is \$8.00 per person. We will meet at the Francis Cannon VFW at 3:00 p.m. So we can have a nice, leisurely convoy to Stephen's City. Please contact me!

In other news, I would like to know the status of the registration of the AACA newsletter awards. I concur with the consensus that this be done. I would also like to know the status of the club's roster and the developments of the Rohr show. At the close of the next meeting which is scheduled for April 14th, I would like to meet with the board of directors and the club officers for a brief meeting.

Till next month, *Luke*

## **Editor's Notes** *by Ralph Lankford:*

Please let me know if you have any pictures while participating in Bull Run or other AACA events. Please submit any articles, pictures or ideas to me at email: [Ralph\\_Lankford@hotmail.com](mailto:Ralph_Lankford@hotmail.com) . I'm especially looking for any articles or suggestions for Tech Tips.

**As a reminder, our meetings are always the second Tuesday of the month at the VFW Hall in Manassas** – unless notice is made to something different. Looking forward to seeing you!

Thanks to all for the Get Well card I received after my surgery earlier this month. I'm very appreciative and it's comforting to know when you're in some many thoughts and prayers. Thanks again!

## **Bull Run Region Website**

The "Member's Car" area of the website is looking fantastic! However, we'd still like more pictures of our club members' cars. This is a prominent portion of most other AACA regions sites and really lends a welcoming feeling to the club. Check it out and picture your pride and joy showcased there:

<http://www.bullrunaaca.org/index.php/photo-gallery/user-gallery?limitstart=0>

Please send Bill Holmes photos of your cars. You can email him at ([wholmes2@cox.net](mailto:wholmes2@cox.net)). If you send a couple of different views, he'll choose the best for posting to the web. He'll even add several lines of description if you want to say something about your vehicle. Names are optional but he would like to have at least first name or initials.

Thanks for making the club all it can be!

## TECH PAGE – 390 c.i. Ford Motor

*By Luke Stakenborg*

Hello everyone! I recently replaced the cylinder heads, intake, and exhaust manifolds on my 390 Ford Motor in the '63 Galaxie that I own. What I am imparting to everyone is the utmost care one must have when reinstalling any part and that is to take the time and seal everything properly! The Ford FE series motors 332-428 C.I. have a nasty tendency to leak oil at the intake manifold especially. This is due in part to the intake manifold incorporating a percentage of the cylinder heads. This leaves a slight gap between the heads and intake.

The intake itself is quite heavy, weighing in at nearly 100 pounds. It is difficult to maneuver the manifold when the engine is still in the car, especially when working alone. The struggle between alignment, your physical balance, and the weight of the part can make proper sealing difficult! Some individuals opt for an aluminum intake which weighs less than 30 pounds. The ease of operation dramatically changes, but the problem of the part mating to the block and seating properly is another concern. I personally tried to install the aluminum part, but it did not align with the water pump. I contacted the manufacturer and they informed me that I needed their water pump and their gasket set. It can get quite expensive! I opted to reinstall the heavy, cumbersome cast iron intake.

When reinstalling the intake, make sure that you have the correct intake gaskets; they have slight variations, especially when you are dealing with FE Fords. The 427 for instance had a low riser, a medium riser, and a high rise cylinder head. The Intake Manifolds fit in accordance with the heads. The low and medium riser intake gaskets look similar, but the mediums have a slightly longer port size when viewing top to bottom. The high risers are a completely different animal, the ports will not match.

I had the correct set for my 390, however the end seals had to be trimmed in order to seat the block perfectly. I took the advice of fellow car club member, Bill Sessler, to seal the intake gaskets and end seals and let them cure overnight before installing the manifold. This would insure that the part would seal properly. In addition, placing a weight on the end seals will assure proper sealing. I used a five pound weight plate with a wooden block on each end.



*(Continued on next page)*

## Tech Page – 390 c.i. Ford Motor (continued)

The end seals on a FE have a tendency to leak, partly due to improper installation such as not letting the gaskets cure, not using the end seals, and just not being able to handle the heavy part. Due to the weight, some individuals just drop the intake into place and bolt it up. This practice can cause the end seals to get misaligned or torn, thus creating the leak. I speculate that this last statement is the primary reason!

When the gaskets have had a sufficient time to cure (at least 24 hours) then place the intake into position. Before placement, seal the corners of where the intake meets the cylinder heads with a generous amount of RTV sealer. Make sure to give the topside of the end seals a good bead of sealer. When this is accomplished, place the intake back on and torque up the bolts. I recommend allowing this to cure an additional 24 hours. Please use an engine hoist or have someone else help you guide the intake into place. This will prevent any mishaps as previously mentioned with the crushing of the end seals.

For adhesives, I like to use the clear RTV sealer instead of the black RTV, the reason being that the clear sets up faster and hardens more than the black. Plus, I have had better experiences with sealing leaks with the clear. I hope that this was informative; this was from my experiences with working on my motor. A road test will be scheduled for this weekend!

Happy Motoring!



# 24th annual Orphan Car Tour "The Williamsport Wanderlust" June 8, 2013

*by Jon Battle*

Dozens of antique cars will hit the road in Williamsport, Maryland on June 8, 2013 as the 24th annual Orphan Car Tour gets underway. Dubbed the "Williamsport Wanderlust", this year's tour will cover roughly 40 miles of scenic and lightly-traveled roads in the Williamsport area, with stops at several historic sites along the way.

The event gets underway at 12:00 PM at Byron Memorial Park, on East Potomac St. (Route 11), where drivers of antique "orphan" (discontinued-make) vehicles will gather to register their cars. Shortly afterwards, cars will be released, one-by-one, onto the tour route, with each driver following printed directions and traveling at his or her own pace. Fort Frederick, the private automobile collection of D. M. Bowman, and the Williamsport Visitor Center of the C& O Canal National Park will be among several points of interest which participants will visit during the course of the day.

At the end of the afternoon, cars will find their way back to the park where a buffet dinner will be served at the Community Center there. (Reservations are required by May 27, for the dinner, which is optional; the cost is \$18 for those 12 and over.)

The Tour will be held "rain or shine". An entry fee of \$8 per car may be pre-paid, or can be paid at the tour. Drivers are strongly urged to bring a navigator along for reasons of safety. Further information is available at the website [www.orphancartour.org](http://www.orphancartour.org), by calling (540) 364-1770, or by e-mailing [tourdirector@orphancartour.org](mailto:tourdirector@orphancartour.org). Cellphone contact for Tour officials on the day of the tour only, is 703-986-8785.

The Orphan Tour is held in a different part of the greater Washington-Baltimore area each year for the purpose of encouraging the driving enjoyment of antique "orphan" vehicles: cars or trucks at least 25 years old which were produced either by now-defunct manufacturers, or by the discontinued divisions of surviving companies. For the past two years the event has attracted a turnout of 64 vehicles. It is sponsored by Mid-Atlantic Packards (a region of the Packard Club), the Potomac Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club, the Potomac Ramblers chapter of the AMC Rambler Club, the DeSoto Owners Club of Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the Hudson-Essex-Terraplane Club, and the Keystone Region Chapter of the Studebaker Drivers Club.

**60<sup>th</sup> Annual ODMA Meet**  
**May 3-4, 2013**  
**Fredericksburg VA**

**Important points about the upcoming Old Dominion Meet Association annual show:**

- All participating AACA regional clubs are expected to provide six (6) judges. We need to provide the names of ours along with their last AACA Judging School attendance date and number of AACA Judging Credits. Please volunteer to either me [Ralph\\_Lankford@hotmail.com](mailto:Ralph_Lankford@hotmail.com) or Franklin Gage at [f.gage@hotmail.com](mailto:f.gage@hotmail.com) with the information requested.
- Added Value – **AACA National Judging School** will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3-5pm. No cost!
- Special pricing for hotel rooms at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House & Conference Center will go up after April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please make your reservations now if you need them. More information is in the attached registration package.
- **Registration for the meet ends on April 4<sup>th</sup>**. Don't wait until the last minute (like I usually do!) because registration is limited to the first 150 cars.
- Check out the ODMA website at <http://local.aaca.org/odma>. Although the website still lists the Richardsons as the Bull Run Region representatives, Franklin and I are the reps. The website explains what ODMA is and has pictures of last year's annual meet.
- No trailer parking will be available at the hotel or along the nearby streets.
- Trailer Parking Lot 1 is paved and behind the Lowes store near the hotel. Space is limited and intended for brass cars and other vehicles not deemed road worthy – probably room for about 15 trailers.
- Trailer Parking Lot 2 is in a grassy area in front of the Wegmans grocery store less than two miles from the hotel and show area. There is probably room for about 30 to 40 trailers.

Feel free to give me a call at 703-470-5332 or send me an email at [Ralph\\_Lankford@hotmail.com](mailto:Ralph_Lankford@hotmail.com) for any questions or issues. See you there!

**Meeting Minutes (continued from Page 2):**

Activities: Joe Drago reports that the Summer Thunder Cruise In located at Franklin Park, Purcellville, VA is quite a show with a large turnout. Their show date is July 27, 2013. Check them out on the internet at [www.summerthundercruisein.com](http://www.summerthundercruisein.com). Our 50-50 is back. Our newest members Dorothy and John Germain won this time.

ODMA: Don't forget the ODMA show in Fredericksburg next month application is in our last clutch chatter. (Editor's Note: More info is in this newsletter).

After our business meeting we all sat down to our annual barbeque dinner. There was more than enough to go around as attendance was low.

## Bull Run Region Member's Antique In the Spotlight

### New Regular Feature:

*by The Editor*

I want to start a new regular feature in The Clutch Chatter where a member's automobile is showcased with a picture and perhaps some history. If folks like it, I can either pull your vehicle's photo from the website or you can email it to me at [Ralph\\_Lankford@hotmail.com](mailto:Ralph_Lankford@hotmail.com). I think the membership would enjoy reading about each other's prized possessions and a bit of history about the vehicle and perhaps about you. Don't worry about format and things like that because I can make it pretty, so to say.

So, here is our first Spotlight!



### Lori's 1952 Chevrolet:

In 1977 Lori responded to an ad in Hemmings Motor News showing a picture of a 1952 Chevy truck which he had been looking for, for years and years. On traveling from his home in Vienna to see it, there were two 1952's, both a truck and a Deluxe Chevy 2-door. Suddenly the idea of a pickup went out the door, and Lori bought the Sedan. Paul Rose redid the engine, and some 'unknown' person from Manassas painted it maroon red. Antique cars are meant to be shown, and at the Manassas Parade with at least 5000 'locals' lining the streets, Lori felt he was in 'hog heaven' showing off the results of his 30 year journey from nearly-junk to a beauty which got responses of 'oohs and ahhs'. Lori waved to all and even had a conversation with all the kids who waved at him and his 52 Chevy.



## Bull Run Region – Club History

### Awards:

The Bull Run Region was founded by Howard Hamm and was chartered by the Antique Automobile Club of America in April of 1967. The purpose of the Bull Run Region is the collection and preservation of antique automobiles and related items. The first meeting of the Bull Run Region was held at the Manassas town hall on April 11, 1967.

### **ARTHUR AULT AWARD**

The **ARTHUR AULT AWARD** is presented annually to a member or members of the Bull Run Region for outstanding service to the region throughout the year. The winner is selected by committee; the chairperson of this committee is appointed by the President. The recipient of this award chooses the vehicle which will appear on the dash plaque for the upcoming car show.

1972 Warren Hynson	1973 Walser Rohr
1974 Lu Hopkins	1975 Ron & Julie Stinger
1976 Dorothy Clem	1977 Duane Perrin
1978 Herman Wilson	1979 John & Edith Hottle
1980 Paul & Ginger Combs	1981 Samuel Aylesworth
1982 Arthur & Ann McLaughlin	1983 Bob & Virginia Burke
1984 Bob & Carmen Smith	1985 James & Brace Hibbard
1986 Paul Ebert	1987 Bill & Louise Vincent
1988 Gene Welch	1989 William Sessler
1990 Bob & Kathryn Parks	1991 John & Rosemary Gunsett
1992 Bud & Erma Lewis	1993 Bill Peugh
1994 Tom & Juli Aubrey	1995 Roy McClanahan & Nancy Windingland
1996 Jim, Sally & Kelly Batchelder	1997 John & Sue Carlton
1998 Nicki Hudson & in memory of Kent Hudson	1999 Harry Gibson
2000 Leonard & Pat Paquette	2001 Norris & Betty Waterfield
2002 Eck & Ruth Blankenship	2003 Franklin Gage
2004 Ken & Shirley Farley	2005 Joe & Molly Drago
2006 Richard & Patricia Porter	2007 Mike, Ruth, Danielle & Christopher Jones
2008 Mike, Dawn & Jessica Curry	2009 Jon Battle
2010 Pete & Pam Pandolfi	2011 George & Joann Richardson
2012 Scott Patton	

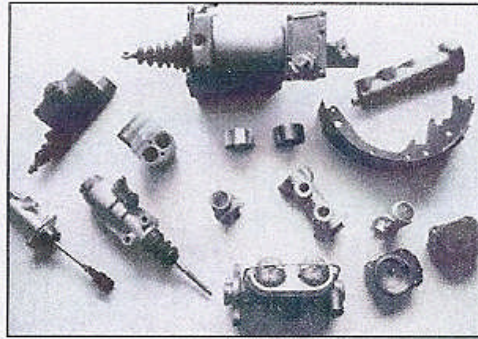
Editor's Note: Bull Run Region history will be a regular feature of the newsletter in the coming months. Next month will continue with a list of recipients of other awards over the years.

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