



# Spinning Wheels

September 2010, Volume 12, Issue 8



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National Packard Museum  
(Warren, Ohio)

## On the Web:

### National:

<http://AACA.org>

### NC Region:

<http://www.ncregionaaca.com/region/>

### Old Salem Chapter:

<http://www.ncregionaaca.com/oldsalem/index.html>

## Sept. Meeting – Olympic Restaurant – Kernersville

AACA's Old Salem Chapter monthly meeting will be **Tuesday, September 21st<sup>th</sup>** at the Olympic Family Restaurant, 1541 W. Mountain St. (Hwy 66) between Linville Rd. and Main St., in Kernersville. Dinner starts at **6:00 PM** and the business part of the meeting will start at **7:00 PM**. There's lots to discuss and I'm sure you'll want to come and see what what's been happening and find out about our upcoming events so you won't get left out. Don't forget to invite/bring some of your "old vehicle" friend(s) with you too to enjoy some good food, fun, and fellowship, and share an evening with all your "old car family"!

## Message from the President

Where did the summer go? Fall is just around the corner and the cruise-ins and shows will soon be winding down for the year. I guess we'll all be going into withdrawal as we have attended so many this year. But there are still a few more in the near future.

One of the events coming up is the last regular Mocksville Cruise-In on September 20. They also plan to have one on December 5, weather permitting. This will be just a cruise-in, no prizes or 50/50. It will be a chance to see and talk to old and new friends on a Sunday afternoon.

Another event coming up soon is the Open House at Steele Rubber in Denver on September 25. Some of us were there a couple of years ago and enjoyed their tour. This time they are having a car show and tours of the facility. If you weren't at the last one, or even if you were, this is a very interesting place to see. The manufacturing process was even interesting to the women on the last tour. I was really impressed and now I know why it costs a little more for Steele products.

Our Chapter has participated in many cruise-ins and shows, as well as hosting the ALS Poker Run and Cruise-In. We should all be proud of the effort put forth. Our support of the downtown Kernersville Cruise-In has made it a success as well. Although the September event was not well attended because of the weather, we still had about 50 cars. A big thank-you goes to Danny Crouse for being so understanding. He put on a great show in spite of the weather. I also want to thank Joe Huygens for his effort into getting the "stage" for Danny. Hopefully the October event will have great weather and we will have a large crowd.

On Saturday, September 11, several of our members turned out for the Calvary Chapel of the Triad food drive at Kerners Folly. It seems that whenever the call goes out to support an event we always come through. Thanks to all that were there.

The AACA Special Divisional Tour held in Western Pennsylvania was very good. We got to see some neat collections and new areas. (Ruth Ann will go into more detail in her report.) We also got a great tour book that we will be able to use as a guide for our tour next fall. Please submit your ideas for places that you want considered for the tour. We are looking for places that would be of interest to a broad group. So, put your thinking caps on.

Remember, our monthly eatin' meetin' will be held on Tuesday, September 21, at 6 PM at the Olympic Restaurant in Kernersville. The eatin' starts at 6 and the meetin' starts at 7. Hope to see you there.

John

## *Car Events Schedule – Mark your Calendar!*

- ❖ Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>: Bethania Moravian Church Cruise-in, 6 - 8 PM (last one of the season), Bethania, NC.
- ❖ Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>: Yadkin Valley Cruisers Cruise-in, 4:00 PM until, (last one of the season), Yadkinville.
- ❖ **Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>: AACA NC Region Fall Meet, 8 AM – 3 PM, downtown Mt. Olive, NC.**
- ❖ Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>: Corvette Show, Parks Chevrolet, 9 AM- 3 PM, Hwy. 66, Kernersville, NC.
- ❖ Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>: *Yadkin Valley Cruisers Cruise-in, 2:00 PM until, (last one of the season), Yadkinville*
- ❖ Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>: Mocksville Cruise-in, (last one of the season), 5 PM until, downtown Mocksville, NC.
- ❖ **Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>: Old Salem Chapter meeting – 6 PM, Olympic Family Restaurant, Kernersville.**
- ❖ Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>: Triad Classic Cars Cruise-in, 6 – 9 PM, behind Hardees, S. Main St, Kernersville.
- ❖ Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>: Old Town Cruise-in, 6:00 PM until, Old Town Shopping Ctr., Reynolda Rd., Winston Salem.
- ❖ **Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>: Steele Rubber Open House & Show, 10 AM – 2 PM, (Old Salem Chapter event/tour).**
- ❖ **Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>: AACA Sandhills Chpt Annual Fall Car Show hosted by the AACA Sandhills Chpt & the Pinehurst Dept of Parks & Rec, Registration 9 AM-12 Noon, judging starts at Noon; awards presented at 3 PM, dash plaques for 1st 100 vehicles, pre-registration \$15 and day of show \$20, door prizes from Noon- 3 PM. Pinehurst Harness Track, Pinehurst, NC.**
- ❖ **Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>: AACA Deep River Region Show, 8 AM – 3 PM, Shady Grove Wesleyan Church, 119 N. Bunker Hill Rd., Colfax, NC.**
- ❖ Sept 25<sup>th</sup>: Richard Childress Racing Show, Sponsored by Classic Muscle - Modern Chevrolet, 9 AM-2 PM, RCR Racing Museum, Welcome, NC
- ❖ Sept 25<sup>th</sup>: Cruise-in & Movie, 5 PM until, food & drinks available, \$5 per vehicle w/proceeds to King Moravian Church organ fund, (movie starts around 7:30 PM), Old 52 beside King FD, King, NC.
- ❖ Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>: Classic Ride Night (every Tues. evening 5 PM–9 PM) Lewisville Soda Shoppe, Lewisville, NC.
- ❖ Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>-Oct. 3<sup>th</sup>: Fall Carlisle, 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd, Carlisle, PA.
- ❖ Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>: Rural Hall Cruise-in, 6:00 PM until, Village Square Shopping Ctr. (Hwy 52 & 65), Rural Hall.
- ❖ Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>: *Hot Nights Hot Cars Cruise-in, 4:00-9:30 PM, (last one of the season), downtown Pilot Mountain, NC*
- ❖ Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>: AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Hershey, PA
- ❖ **Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>: Old Salem Chapter meeting – 6 PM, Olympic Family Restaurant, Kernersville.**
- ❖ **Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>: AACA Furnitureland Chapter 25<sup>th</sup> Antique Automobile Show, 8 AM-3 PM, NC Transportation Museum, Spencer, NC.**
- ❖ **Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>: AACA Reliability Tour (1915 & earlier), hosted by Pecan Region, S. Georgia, N. FL.**

## **Faith Missionary Alliance VBS Display**

*By David Hawks*

The Old Salem Chapter was invited to bring some antique and classic vehicles to Faith Missionary Alliance Church on **August 8<sup>th</sup>** as a grand finale to their Vacation Bible School. Their theme this year was “Route 254” based on Psalm 25:4 “*Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.*” There were approximately 160 young folks in attendance that evening plus many parents and they all seemed excited to see some real automobiles. The Old Salem Chapter plus some guests had a total of 27 vehicles



for their enjoyment. This is a great way to introduce the younger generation to the antique automobile hobby and hopefully make a lasting impression that will help secure the future of this great hobby. The church had “finger food” for everyone and we all had a great time. Thanks to all who brought their vehicles out to share with the people at Faith Missionary Alliance!



### THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

*"We the People are the rightful masters of both Congress and the Courts - not to overthrow the Constitution but to overthrow men who pervert the Constitution". - Abraham Lincoln*

**Now the questions:** (1) What constitutes an “enemy” of the Constitution of the U.S.A.? And (2) How can the Constitution of the U.S.A. be defended? (3) Why aren’t charges of treason enforced?

# *Bill Blair's Race Shop Tour*

*Ruth Ann Ronchetti, Reporter*

Our member **Jimmy Hailey**, a retired race car driver himself, and good friend of Bill Blair, a Flathead Ford race car driver, was able to set up a wonderful Outing for our club on **Wednesday, August 11**. After eating breakfast, we all met at the Wallburg Shopping Center and then Jimmy led us to **Bill Blair's Race Shop in Thomasville** ... quite a few of our members attended and for those that did, it was a very interesting visit.



Bill Blair Sr. was a well-known stock car driver in the 1940s and 1950s. He was one of the pioneers of NASCAR and passed away in 1995. His son, Bill Blair Jr. resides in Thomasville and has also been racing the best part of his life and still does to this day.



His dad, Bill Blair Sr., Jimmie Lewallen, and Fred Harb, racing legends, were the subjects of the just released independent movie "Red Dirt Rising," telling stories of the race drivers and the community they lived in during the moonshine era and the beginning of what



is known as NASCAR today. Bill Blair Jr. played his father in the movie driving his father's car, the #2 Flathead Ford. For more info on that, check out the website: [www.reddirtising.com](http://www.reddirtising.com).



His garage is nestled back in the woods and not visible from the road, but there's a whole lotta stuff goin' on there! He has numerous race cars in there with "tons" of memorabilia ... much of his Dad's, information on old race tracks, trophies, pictures, showcases, photo albums, etc. and even an old wood post that he pulled out of the ground from the old High Point Race Track.



Bill and his wife Sheila (far right in picture) were very warm and welcoming and really seemed to enjoy our visit and Bill was just full of old stories to share. It was a fun visit, even for "us girls." Perhaps in the future we will see them at one of our meetings or outings.

**Thank you Bill and Sheila for allowing us to visit your race shop ...  
*we all really enjoyed it!***

# *“Date Night” 2010*

*Ruth Ann Ronchetti, Reporter*

Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup> was our “Date Night” 2010 and that meant going to the Drive-In Car Hop Restaurant, Sonic and to the Eden Drive-In Movie ... what a fun night ... we love doing this! It just seems like the right thing to do with these old cars!



Mike & Phyllis Oehman, David & Jo Ann Hawks, Richie Powers with his daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren visiting from New York, and John and I met at the Walkertown Shopping Center at 5 o'clock and then headed north on Hwy. 158 to begin our evening. We “picked up” Marcy Aho and her friend, Becky, “on the run” in Stokesdale and continued on our way.

Our first stop was the Sonic Drive-In Restaurant in Eden for our evening meal. We chose to eat at the tables on their patio instead of eating separately in our cars so we could all eat together. During our meal, the manager came out and was chatting with us, admiring our old cars, and was very pleased that we had stopped there, and to show his gratitude he treated us all to free ice cream ... how nice was that! We will definitely stop back there again!



OK ... after our bellies were full we loaded up and continued on our way, only being a few miles from the Eden Drive-In. After we got parked, the fun started! Out came the chairs and people started coming by asking

us about our cars ... conversations with total strangers who all seemed like friends ... these old cars have a way of doing that, don't they? Then I wanted to get some group pictures before it got dark so we hurried to do that and by that time the first movie was ready to start, “Dinner for Schmucks” with Steve Carell ... very funny! Of course, during the movie we needed to have some “refreshments” which is always nice sitting there on a warm summer's night ... and there was a full moon, too, which made it extra special.

The second movie was “The Expendables” with Sylvester Stallone, Bruce Willis, and Arnold Schwarzenegger ... lots of action plus a lot of “shoot ‘em up” scenes ... most of our group left during intermission, but we stayed on along with David and Jo Ann ... and got our “money's worth.”

Little did I know, but later found out that Richie's family had never experienced a Sonic Drive-In or a Drive-In movie so that was a really special night for them during their visit to NC ... we all had a really fun time!



# *AACA Special Divisional Tour*

*Ruth Ann Ronchetti, Reporter*

On **Tuesday, August 24**, four of our OSC members met and drove north to Pennsylvania for this year's **AACA Special Divisional Tour, A Big Tour for Little Budgets, Ohio and Pennsylvania, hosted by the Shenango Valley Region AACA.**

**Janice & Ron Casey, Brenda & Roger Hockaday** ... our "newbies" on the tour having never attended one before ... **Jo Ann & David Hawks, and John and I** met in Rural Hall for breakfast and then headed north on Hwy. 52 ... our destination: W. Middlesex, PA. The structured part of the tour was scheduled for Thursday, August 26 – Saturday, August 28, but we wanted to get there a day earlier since they also had an optional Early Birds Tour on Wednesday.



It was a beautiful day for a drive and our four "oldies" looked

really nice driving up the road: our '55 Chevy Bel Air, Roger & Brenda's white '72 Corvette, Ron & Janice's red '69 Corvette, and David & Jo Ann's gold '67 Pontiac LeMans. With our lunch and pit stops it took us about 9 hours on the road ... driving as a group makes it so much fun!

Anyway, we arrived safely and checked into the Radisson Hotel, unloaded and went to the lobby to see if anything was going on there, tour related. We introduced ourselves to Fred Ross, the tour director, and he was able to give us some good info about our OSC's upcoming tour next year ... and a little insight into what we were to be expecting the next few days.

While there we were asked if we could carry another passenger on our Early Bird Tour tomorrow ... Joanna Cooper from Oklahoma. We said it was rather hard getting in and out of our back seat but "volunteered" Jo Ann & David's ... they were thrilled since they already knew her. We didn't realize at the time, but Joanna is one of AACA's National Directors ... and what a hoot she was!

By then it was time to eat dinner. Not too far from us was the "Quaker Steak & Lube" Restaurant, which most of us had never been to, so we thought it would be a cool place to try, especially driving the cars we had ... so off we went. It is a very interesting place to look at ... the inside décor is all racing/car memorabilia hanging from everywhere ... we were even sitting at the table that had a picture of "King Richard Petty" on the wall.

The next morning started our optional **Early Birds Tour**. We loaded up with Joanna ready and waiting for



us and off we went to the **quaint little village of Volant**, housing 30 shops and restaurants and an old Grist Mill. Our visit took us to the Historic Grist Mill first where restoration work



continues. It was on three floors with lots of Amish goodies and Lodge style furniture inside ... neat place. Continuing on we visited some other shops and then we certainly had to check out the Volant Mill Winery at the end of the street ... mmm ... some good stuff! By now, it was time for lunch.

Continuing on, we stopped at an Amish furniture store ... wow ... what beautiful craftsmanship! After ahhing there, our next stop was the largest restoration facility in the tri-state area, **Multi Media Stripping** ... quite an operation ... lots of hard work goes into that business!

Wednesday evening we and about 50 other Tour Registrants attended the **“Welcome Pizza Party” in the Radisson** where everyone met and ate lots of pizza ... and later ... Tour Director Fred Ross welcomed everyone, made announcements, and even did some door prize drawings ... and ... one of the winners was our David Hawks ... a \$25 gift certificate for dinner! Yooahoo! The next evening we all went there for dinner and David shared it with all of us ... how ‘bout that!

**Thursday, Day One Itinerary:**

**Rocky Grove Fire Dept / Drake Well Museum / Cross Creek Resort / Downtown Franklin**

Our first stop was **Rocky Grove Fire Dept. in Franklin, PA** where we were served coffee, water & donuts and also had a restroom break. After leaving there we drove north to **Titusville, PA to visit Drake’s Well & Park.**

An Orientation Trailer was set up to show an informative video for the visitors that we were encouraged to view. There we saw how the commercial oil industry got started. Then, walking the grounds, we saw the Drake Well Replica, which encloses the famous well that Edwin Drake used to strike oil in August 1859, launching the modern petroleum industry. Also on site were other old buildings and drilling rigs that peaked our interest.



Also on site were other old buildings and drilling rigs that peaked our interest. After eating, we returned to Franklin for the afternoon.

In **Franklin**, we had several choices, our first one being the **DeBence Antique Music World**. We walked into a large open room with music in the air. The Museum houses a collection of more than 100 antique mechanical musical instruments dating from the mid 1800’s to the 1940’s. Many of the instruments in the collection are very rare. We not only got to see these



mechanical marvels, but we also heard them playing as demonstrated by our tour guide ... OH, MY ... HOW BEAUTIFUL!



Our next stop was lunch at the beautiful **Cross Creek Resort**, and driving in, we were stopped for individual car photos. Going inside, we were greeted with a wonderful buffet ... time to chow down! Mmm ... food is never a shortage on these tours! After

eating, we returned to Franklin for the afternoon.



After we left there we walked to **St. John’s Episcopal Church to see the Tiffany Glass Window Tour**. What a sight to see ... absolutely magnificent!

**Friday, Day Two Itinerary:**

**New Galilee Fire Dept / Hummel Gift Shop / Dick Best Collection / Dutch House Restaurant / Don Snyder Collection / Buhl Park**

Our Friday morning breakfast was at our first stop, the **New Galilee Fire Dept. in New Galilee, PA** ... and what a breakfast it was! The Auxiliary prepared a breakfast “fit for a king” ... bacon, sausage, eggs, pancakes, juice, coffee, donuts, and toast with homemade strawberry preserves ... mmm good! When we waddled out of there, our next stop was the **Hummel Gift Shop in New Springfield, OH**. (By the way, the directions we were given for all of this were excellent ... and for this particular section they noted, “Watch, this is a rough road” ... this was an understatement, it was like a washboard ... you couldn’t go over 15 mpg ... we laughed!)

Next, we couldn’t have even imagined what we would be seeing at our next stop ... it was amazing ... the **private collection of Dick Best in New Waterford, OH**! He had two huge buildings with 5 garage doors in each, containing not only Classic cars but semi’s, a streetcar, tow vehicle, armored car, fire truck, old gas pumps, memorabilia all over the place, and much too much more to mention ... unbelievable! Then in another area were several smaller garages with mostly old cars and pickups in there and he also had an old 1957 Mack Greyhound Bus (one of a kind) ... wow!

Well, this was only half our day! We stopped for lunch at the **Dutch House Restaurant** ... we weren’t even hungry yet since we had such a huge, wonderful breakfast ... so we had some pie. After that, we were on our way to see **another private collection, Don Snyder’s in New Springfield, OH**.



This was another “jaw dropper!” We went to these huge garages at his house in the middle of cornfields and what a surprise! His collection was all cars, starting from the early 1900’s which included a 1902 Holsman, early 1900’s Model T Fords, 1960 Ford drag cars and many others.



Well, what a fantastic day this was! And it wasn’t over yet. This evening we went to **Buhl Park in Sharon, PA** where we



**ate in good ole picnic style** ... hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, etc. The shelter we were in was fantastic ... and huge ... and the grounds were just beautiful! This was one of the spots that all the old cars could be parked together as a group



and it really, really looked good ... and I took advantage of that,

too. I got some great shots of all those beauties and one especially attracted my attention: a 1954 pale yellow Kaiser Darrin ... talk about something beautiful ... I had never seen one before and here is “proof of the pudding.”

**Saturday, Day Three Itinerary:**

**National Packard Museum / Charlanne Farms / Downtown Sharon / Daffin’s Candies / Brentford House**

Day Three was another wonderful day! Our first stop was the **National Packard Museum in Warren, OH**, where they also offered coffee and donuts to us. Upon arrival, we entered a large reception room all set up for a wedding with Packards outlining the perimeter of the room ...



what a neat display ... and oh, what beautiful cars! For those of you that are familiar with Packards, you may already know this ... I didn’t, of course. They had a V-12 engine in some of their cars ... and that thing was huge!



Also in another room, there was a very nice display of a 1903 Packard that was driven across country from New York to California ... showing the route and pictures of what they went through ... that was really interesting!

Our next adventure was truly that! We drove to **Charlanne Farms in Southington, OH**. Charles Plott had a collection of farm tractors, farm implements, tools, and “various other items from the past” ... the key words being “various items” ... we had no idea what we were going to be seeing. I just thought, OK, farm stuff ... but was I in for a big surprise and so was everyone else!

When we pulled into the Farm, it was just that, it looked like a farm with a small retail grocery/store on site ... we parked ... and then walked to this huge metal type building ... and entered ... My, Oh, My ... a mannequin of Ronald McDonald greeted us ... whatever are we seeing?!



His collection consisted of anything and everything you could think of ... on shelves, on walls, on the ceiling, on doors, everywhere you looked, there was something. He had old magazines, we were told “10,000 keys” hanging from the ceiling, tools, glass, mugs, pistons on the ceiling, car stuff, farm stuff, home stuff, an old sleigh, an old ice box, old ice skates, sleds, yard sticks, and on and on and on! There was no way we could possibly see it all. And then, to add to all that ... he wanted to feed us lunch! There were tables set up in the middle of all this and we had a wonderful BBQ

lunch with fresh corn on the cob ... they cooked it outside in big black cast iron pots! Mmm ... good ... again!



After we ate, Mr. Plott went outside and fired up some of his tractors ... there were some big boys out there, too ... he seemed just like a big kid playin’ with his toys! We ALL really enjoyed that ... it wasn’t just for the guys, believe me! We all just kinda went away shaking our heads in disbelief about everything we just saw ... amazing!

From there, we went into the **Town of Sharon, PA**. There were a few choices there and we decided to go to the **Reyers Shoe Outlet** (World's Largest Shoe Store). It wasn't what I was expecting ... for an outlet the prices were really pretty high. After we left the Outlet, we went up the street to **Daffin's Candy Store** (World's Largest Candy Store). Yeah, there was a lot there, but the things most impressive were the huge solid chocolate figurines in a little room in the back.



Well, "thaaat's all folks" ... the end of our Tour. We would now be ending the festivities with a **Farewell Banquet at the Brentford House in Hubbard, OH**. They had a wonderful buffet for us to choose from and we all were able to sit together. After eating, Tour Director Fred Ross got up and

spoke and he also gave our David Hawks a chance to speak as well to let everyone know about our **upcoming Fall Tour in 2011**. Next, a local high school group came in and sang for a little entertainment.

Fred got up again and introduced our AACA President Terry Bond. While he was speaking, THE POWER WENT OUT ... and there we were sitting in the dark with just the candles on our tables



giving light ... and Terry kept on talking trying to "go on with the show" and after about 10 minutes, the power finally came back. By that time, it was getting pretty warm and stuffy ... but it was an interesting moment.



Fred got back up there and handed out some awards of which we were in the running with our group from NC but some others beat us out ... darn! (See, had more of you come with us, we would have won!) Then the silent auction items were given out and Janice Casey really racked 'em up and John also got one of them, too ... and a few of us got mugs for door prizes. All in all

... IT WAS A GREAT TIME! Sorry more of you couldn't have come with us, but keep it in mind when the next one comes up.

*(Hint: There is a Founders tour mid April in Florida and a SE Divisional tour hosted by the NC Regions Cape Fear Chapter in May.)*

***By the way, ask Brenda & Roger and Janice & Ron what they thought of the tour.***

***Don't forget ...***



**Bring your aluminum cans to our meeting!**

**When you come to the meeting, just throw them in the back of John Ronchetti's "Petty blue" El Camino before you come in and we will take care of the rest!**

# *Downtown Kernersville Cruise-In*

*Ruth Ann Ronchetti, Reporter*

Our **Downtown Kernersville Cruise-In on August 14** was a great success ... best one so far! Thanks to some of our dedicated members and hard work from our volunteers, it is all finally starting to pay off ... we had about 175 cars and collected over \$300 for our 50/50 benefiting the Shepherd's Center, a local Senior Assistance organization.



There were a few new additions that were implemented in August: Joe Huygens had purchased a Pink International Scout and a mobile PA system that he used to "cruise" the street and make announcements ... with a little humor, I might add ... and it was very well accepted and enjoyed by all (especially, by Joe, I think!) ... also making this a very memorable experience for those that attended, and they will surely

tell their friends about it! He was also able to obtain door prizes for this Cruise-In and also the remaining Cruise-Ins for this year ... way to go, Joe!

Another new feature was a Registration table manned by Marcy Aho, with helpers Darlene Crutchfield and Helen Nason ... we figured this would be the best way to give out the tickets for the door prizes and sell 50/50 tickets. As our visitors would register with their name, email/address, and car, we would then give them their door prize ticket ...this also being a good way for us to obtain an email database to promote future events.



One downside to this Cruise-In though was the lack of food ... Fitz on Main ran out of food and The Bistro had a very limited menu so we have one issue that we are trying to improve on.

Our **September 11 Cruise-In**, sadly, did not work out as planned ... Mother Nature did us in ... it rained early on and scared everyone away except our loyal locals and wonderful car club members. And we also had a special guest show up, US Congresswoman Virginia Foxx. We didn't have anyone to register, nor did we do the 50/50 ... there just wasn't enough people.



Also, we had our friend and wonderful entertainer Danny Crouse and his band, to include our own OSC member Robert Crummett playing drums, and Danny's sound man, Eddie Reid, scheduled and ready to rock 'n roll ... and the rains came. Joe Huygens and his friend Larry worked very hard on a "stage" for Danny and his group to use, too ... and we all just had to wait it out till the rain stopped. By that time, it was too late and too wet for any more cars to show up but there were some local spectators that ventured into town.

After the rain stopped, Danny and his band started playing and never stopped ... and then midway through their performance Danny gave a memorial tribute to our “victims of 9/11” and sang our National Anthem ... really beautiful! And of course, a little later “Elvis” showed up for the grand finale and as always, a great performance!



**Thank you, Danny, and your band for hanging in there and giving it your all ... We really appreciated it!**

**So sorry the weather didn't work with us.**

## *Personal Notes and Rumors*

- ❖ Please keep **Alma Alley** (and **James**) on your prayer list. Alma is feeling better but not as well as she'd like. We hope you'll be good as new and back with us again soon.
- ❖ Please keep **Gerri Dee Crummet** (and **Bob**) on your prayer list. Gerri Dee is still recovering from a major surgery and is having a lot of pain. We hope you'll be over that real soon. Please let us know if there's anything we can help you with while you're recovering.
- ❖ Please keep **Ann Gregory** (and **Dennis**) on your prayer list. Ann's knee is getting better and she is continuing with therapy. We hope you and Dennis will be back with us again real soon.
- ❖ Please keep **Bill Hutchins** (and **Lee**) on your prayer list. Bill still has some good days and some that could be better. We're always glad to see you and hope you get to feeling good all the time. Please keep **Brenda Holloway** (and **Dickie Speas**) on your prayer list. Brenda is still in therapy for her arm and we hope you have a full recovery soon.
- ❖ Please keep **Fran Powers** (and **Richie**) on your prayer list. Fran is doing very well and has recently been given a clean bill of health,... congratulations! We hope to see you again soon too!
- ❖ Please keep **Mary Taylor** (and **Jim**) on your prayer list. Mary had some eye surgery and that is taking longer to recover than was planned. We hope the results are successful and soon.

❖ *Happy Birthday From the Old Salem Chapter to:*



- Inez Day ~~~~~ September 19<sup>th</sup>
- Elizabeth Mabe ~~~~~ September 25<sup>th</sup>
- Janice Casey ~~~~~ September 26<sup>th</sup>
- Pat Hailey ~~~~~ September 27<sup>th</sup>
- Pat Daniels ~~~~~ September 29<sup>th</sup>
- Clarence Lambe Sr. ~~~~~ October 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Keith Tuttle ~~~~~ October 9<sup>th</sup>
- Fran Powers ~~~~~ October 10<sup>th</sup>
- Dale Moody ~~~~~ October 20<sup>th</sup>



*We wish this birthday will be your best one yet and that All your Birthday Dreams come true!*



❖ *Happy Anniversary from the Old Salem Chapter To:*



- Ron & Janice Casey ~~~~~ September 21<sup>st</sup>
- Roger & Brenda Hockaday ~~~~~ September 28<sup>th</sup>
- Leo & Pat Baker ~~~~~ October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Clarence & Imogene Lambe ~~~~~ October 5<sup>th</sup>
- Josh & Lauren Holder ~~~~~ October 9<sup>th</sup>
- Steve & Helen Nason ~~~~~ October 12<sup>th</sup>
- David & Jo Ann Hawks ~~~~~ October 16<sup>th</sup>



*Congratulations on reaching another milestone together and may you celebrate many more!*

## **CROSS-COUNTRY/PROSTATE CANCER FOUNDATION EXCURSION**

*By Dick Bear (Honorary Member of Old Salem Chapter) and the "McBearn"*

[**Editors Note:** Dick's whole story is 42 pages so this is the condensed version to fit Spinning Wheels]

It all began on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 when I left Winston on a planned cross-country trip that would eventually cover 7,750-miles from Winston to Seattle, San Diego and back home in the McBearn, a hand built, custom vehicle I finished building three years ago.

**Monday Day one:** I drove to Lafayette, IN without incident except for what would soon become the usual state trooper's stop to confirm that the McB was correctly tagged and registered.



**Wednesday Day three:** I spent the morning meeting with my friend Dean Lee, business manager for C Tech in Wausau, WI who had kindly arranged for Amy Ryan a local newspaper reporter to join us for lunch and report for the paper about the car, the trip and our Prostate Cancer Foundation's involvement.



**Friday Day five:** Although I was a bit behind schedule at this point I decided to take the opportunity to visit some places that I had never seen or that I hadn't seen for many years. First, I swung through the Bad Lands and joined up with I-90 again at Wall, SD where I couldn't resist stopping to take a few pics of the McBearn in front of Wall Drug. This, a place from the past and made famous during the Viet Nam War era.

**Saturday Day six:** Getting up early, I headed for Yellowstone, a place I hadn't been to for over 50-years. It has changed a lot during that time. It is still a magical place within what I consider to be the jewel state of the lower 48. I needed to make up time in order to get caught-up. So I set my sights on Missoula, MT for the day. The drive along I-90 was spectacular and although the sky was mostly cloudy and rain could be seen all around, it never bothered me until later when we climbed the final mountain ridge before ascending into Missoula.

First came the rain. This was not a gentle rain but a cloudburst followed by hail that I thought would never end. It came from nowhere and with no warning, catching me totally unprepared. I was able to put my helmet on to protect my head and face but my forearms were bare and I was wearing only a t-shirt. The hail pounded my arms and shoulders leaving large red welts and bruises on my hands and arms. It hurt so bad I wanted to cry but with the highway filled with water I was required to keep both hands on the steering wheel to negotiate the frequent hydroplaning of the tires on the rain soaked roadway. It lasted for miles until the sky turned suddenly and completely clear. I was soaked from head to toe and my arms were killing me.

I thought about stopping but there was nowhere to hide. No trees. No overpasses. Nothing at all and I knew I couldn't crawl under the car, so I kept on going. I did see a motorcycle rider who had stopped but he was getting pelted nearly as bad as I was because the tree he held on to was so small the tree was probably thanking him for the protection he provided rather than the other way around.

Adding to the misery of that period of time, at one point during the storm I found myself between a tractor-trailer and a concrete lane divider on a down hill, sweeping right hand curve. In the rain and blinding road spray sent from beneath the truck, I realized that the driver of the truck was slowly drifting into my lane. It was dark because of the storm and the picture was not a pretty sight. Frankly, it looked like I was about to witness a bad accident! The truck driver apparently looked again and this time he saw my headlights squinting through the wet spray. Seeing me, he quickly corrected his path of travel but I was already preparing for the inevitable crunch believing that my best chance was to take-on the wall first and let whatever happens after that take it's course.

**Wednesday Day ten:** On this tenth day out, I was to experience something I had previously only read about or seen photographs of since being a small kid in flatland Iowa. Giant trees! Giant Redwoods so large that, in the past, holes had been cut through some creating paved highways wide enough for cars to pass through. I had never doubted their existence, but on this day I was going to see examples of these giants first hand and that promised to be exciting. Now after seeing them I can only say, "they are magnificent!"

From the time I left Grant's Pass, OR and headed S. W. through the mountains on highway 198 toward Crescent City, the temperatures continually dropped. On the one hand I wasn't surprised by this fact being told that Northern California is sometimes cold and damp, but I wasn't fully prepared for it either. I had to gather every piece of outerwear I had packed for the trip to keep warm in the damp cloudy air



and the wind caused by the lack of a windshield on the car.



**Thursday Day eleven:** was spent driving down the coast of California via the Pacific Coast Highway 1 and 101 to my son's home in San Gabriel (LA).

**Friday Day twelve:** This was almost exactly halfway on the journey both in miles traveled and in days spent, so I just relaxed at Rhet's catching up with things I had been unable to do while on the road.

At this point my face has peeled three times. I'd been battered by freezing rain and ping-pong sized hail, had the weld on the backpack break drop it to the highway, been stopped by five or six pleasant and curious state troopers, nearly crushed between a guard rail and an eighteen wheeler, been pelted by a million grasshoppers, renewed several friendships, seen incredibly beautiful scenery, met hundreds of interesting people, had (who knows how many) pictures taken of the car from passers along the way and answered untold numbers of questions from so many at rest stops, gas stations and restaurants that I felt the trip had already surpassed expectation. It was been great fun so far and the McBearen has performed without a single complaint. All this and the fact that PCF contributions were beginning to find their way to my address in Winston-Salem combine to make this everything I'd hoped for and more.

**Wednesday Day seventeen:** Getting an early start, I was in Boulder City, NV on my way to see the Hoover Dam by 8:00. I guess you'll have to take my word for it when I say, "it's BIG!" An alternative would be to go to Google earth and see it from a satellite's height and perspective. Any relative familiarization of the SW I may have didn't diminish my excitement for seeing the wonders of Utah and Colorado that I would be witnessing during the next couple of days. If you believe, as I do, that Wyoming is the most beautiful state in the lower 48, then you'll probably agree with me when I say that Utah's wind, rain and river eroded red rock sculptures are some of the nation's most unique and curious pieces of work created by nature.

Up to this point on my trip, I had seen some of the most incredible sights provided by nature and by man. I'd seen higher mountains than elsewhere in N America, bigger trees than I could have ever imagined, the World's largest ocean and thousands of miles of highways carved through solid rock and effortlessly spanning the major rivers of our land. All of these were beautiful and fascinating to behold but, with few exceptions, none these sights caused me to imagine how the landscapes themselves were used when the inhabitants of these areas had nothing but the land itself to help or hinder their existence. This personalized visual imagination of life before, occurred within me only while driving through the SW.



The next photo was taken at a road construction site in Zion National Park. I was fortunate to be the lead car in a pack of cars stopped several times during my drive through the park and being first in line offering many photo ops. At this particular stop, I had the opportunity to carry on a conversation with a young Park Ranger who was so excited about the McBearen that he asked me if he could sit in it while we waited for our chance to proceed up the pass.



**Sunday Day twenty-one:** In years past, I had traveled through Colorado's eastern range and Kansas in August and most of the time these areas are pretty dry with the vegetation mostly brown, but this year the general flavor of the range, as well as Kansas, had a much greener look to it. I don't know if it is because they are installing more of those giant circular irrigation lines that slowly pass in a circular path or if they have just gotten more rain than in the past. I didn't make it to Topeka as planned but ran out of steam and sunlight near Salina, KS, so I shutdown for the night there instead.

**Monday Day twenty-two:** While planning the tour, I tried to identify at least one unique facet that I could anticipate and look forward to each day. This could be as simple a resting for a day from the, some thought, grueling schedule I'd set for myself or it might be a particular sight, highway or personal meeting. I knew that

surprises would occur but I knew also that having something or someone in mind each morning would make it easier for me to get out of bed early, shower and strap myself in for another day in the sun and wind.

On this particular day the carrot was the fact that I was going to meet the guys (and gals) of KRC Racing Components in Lockwood, MO who, over the last several years, have provided Market Point Productions with a crucial retained lugnut hat (as we call it) seamlessly incorporated into the Pit-Stop Tire Change Game I designed and patented about 8-years ago.

During the last couple of days my desire to be home had slowly been growing from a subtle thought from time to time to a full-blown roar. I was ready to be back in Winston. I was ready to sleep in my own bed, talk with my wife face to face and pet our dog that answers (most of the time) to the name of Tess. I sensed that the McBearen felt the same way so neither of us stop that night until we were well past Nashville and then only because, like the old mares, we were worn out.

I was fully aware that I had, for the past 20-days, lived a dream shared by men everywhere and for that I was then, and am now, grateful to all whom have taken part in making it possible and contributed in any way to its success.



### Tuesday Day twenty-three: Home in Winston-Salem.



**Thanks to all...** *In addition to those individuals and groups I've already mentioned who arranged for publicity, provided a bed, gave me directions or filled my stomach with meals beyond my need; I want to thank the guys and gals at Metalmeet.com, LocostUSA.com, Old Salem Chapter of AACA, Corsa Rossa ISCC and JKS MotorSports for helping me get the word out about **The McBearen's Coast-to-Coast-to-Coast Drive for the Prostate Cancer Foundation**. And... a special thank-you to all those who made financial contributions to PCF in association with this experience of a lifetime.*

**Note:** *It's not too late to make a contribution in honor of Dick's tour. Please make your checks payable to the Prostate Cancer Foundation and get it to the OSC Treasurer - Jo Ann Hawks.*

# Old Salem Chapter Members of the Month

## September 2010



### "Dennis & Ann Gregory"

Dennis and Ann Gregory met in February 1957, while high school sophomores, and started dating soon thereafter. Later that year Dennis started driving, and they dated in Dennis' mother's 1955 Oldsmobile, 98 Holiday coupe. This is noteworthy for a reason to be cited later.

Upon graduation in 1959, Ann started work as a secretary for Piedmont Airlines. Dennis left for Georgia Tech where he remained for a couple of years until he realized he didn't really care for engineering—too much math and science. He transferred to Guilford College and graduated from there with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting.

Dennis became employed by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and remained there for thirty-three years in various financial positions, including financial director for the Tobaccoville construction project, and later, Comptroller of the Whitaker Park facility. Ann also worked at Reynolds for twenty-three years, most of that time as an executive secretary in Sales. They are the proud parents of two daughters, Denise and Lisa. They were also blessed with two grandchildren, Anna and Will. Both are college students.

Dennis' first car, while in college, was a 1957 Chevrolet, Belair Sport Coupe. It was straight drive (shift on the column) with overdrive and a power pack 283 CI engine. Dennis got into trouble several times with this car.

In 1985, while returning from a getaway week-end in Charlotte, Dennis and Ann stopped at a car show at the fairgrounds. While there, admiring several cars, Dennis spotted a 1955 Oldsmobile identical to the one Ann and he started dating in. After some price haggling a check was written and Dennis drove the car home with Ann following. They owned and enjoyed this car for several years, "dating" in it most week-ends.

In 1988 they purchased one of Dennis' dream cars, a 1957 Thunderbird, and the following year purchased a second one because the first one was in a state of frame off restoration.

After several years of owning the 'Birds, Dennis started hankering for a Corvette, and purchased a new one. However, a couple of years later an old, classic Corvette became Dennis' quest and that led to Dennis and Ann becoming proud owners of their 1960, first generation 'Vette.

In November of this year Dennis and Ann will celebrate fifty-one years of marriage.



**Dennis & Ann's  
1960 Chevrolet  
Corvette**

