

Another Successful Crab Feast

By Jerry Gordon



Chesapeake Region’s annual Crab Feast is one of the highlights of our active car season, and it’s the event voted by members as “The Most Popular”. Well, I guess that this year’s Crab Feast was a success because 101 members and guests enjoyed themselves on July 22nd. We were again lucky to have decent weather, although it was a bit humid.

As usual, we started arriving just before 10 AM at Avalon 105 Pavilion, Patapsco State Park to prepare the food. We had one crew shucking the fresh picked corn, another crew wrapping the crabs in newspaper packets, and a third crew seasoning and packaging the shrimp. Other members were preparing the wood fire for hot dog grilling, getting the beverages iced, and setting up the condiment and side dish table. All this activity was preceded by a couple of weeks of coordination to make sure that members were assigned to pick up food, supplies, and implements.

At 1 PM, after the delicious feast, Art Rutledge began the auction, assisted by Larry Butcher, Tom Young,

and Jim Synodinos. Apparently, there were several desirable items because the bidding was spirited. The net to the Club from the auction was more than any in recent memory.

Whatever the reason, we only had seven antique cars show up. Everyone else came in modern, air conditioned cars. Maybe it was the threat of afternoon storms. Bringing cars were: Tom Black, 1969 Buick Electra; Glen Hartong, 1952 Hudson; Lou Mielke, 1965 Ford Econoline; Jimmy, Norman, and Gary Schlee, 1930 Chevrolet sedan + 1931 Chevrolet coupe; Tommy Thompson, 1969 Chevrolet; and Bob Wilhelm, 1972 Buick.

A big THANK YOU to the following members who helped make this Crab Feast successful: Bonnie Mielke & Mary Allen, reservations; Lou Mielke, tending the grill and corn cooker; Bonnie Mielke & Helen Gordon, shrimp preparation; Mary Allen, Ed Allen, Jerry Gordon, & Tom Kenney, wrapping crabs; Bruce Knott, Vicky + Todd + Andrew Wilmer, & Harry Wilhelm, shucking corn; Al Lawson, Ed Allen, Bonnie Mielke, & Virginia and Paul Habicht, buying food, beverages and supplies; and last, but absolutely not least, was the excellent effort of Jane Wilhelm, who cleaned up and bagged most of the trash.



Glen Hartong, 1952 Hudson



Kim Bathon and Tom Black in 1969 Buick Electra Convertible



Schlee’s blue 1930 Chevrolet sedan



Shown above are Jimmy, Norman, and Gary Schlee



Schlee’s maroon 1931 Chevrolet coupe