

# THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN



The Official Monthly Newsletter of Chesapeake Region  
Antique Automobile Club of America

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## HOWARD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

### Annual Antique Parts Flea Market A Bit Soggy; Membership Responds!

By Bill Wurzell, Editor

Even though Saturday, March 14 could best be described as 'dismal' it was probably better in many ways than the previous weekend with several inches of snow falling. A week earlier and it might have been cancelled. Well, the weather didn't cooperate with our club for the Chesapeake Region 42nd Annual Antique Parts Flea Market for 2015. However, the membership did, and in a big way!

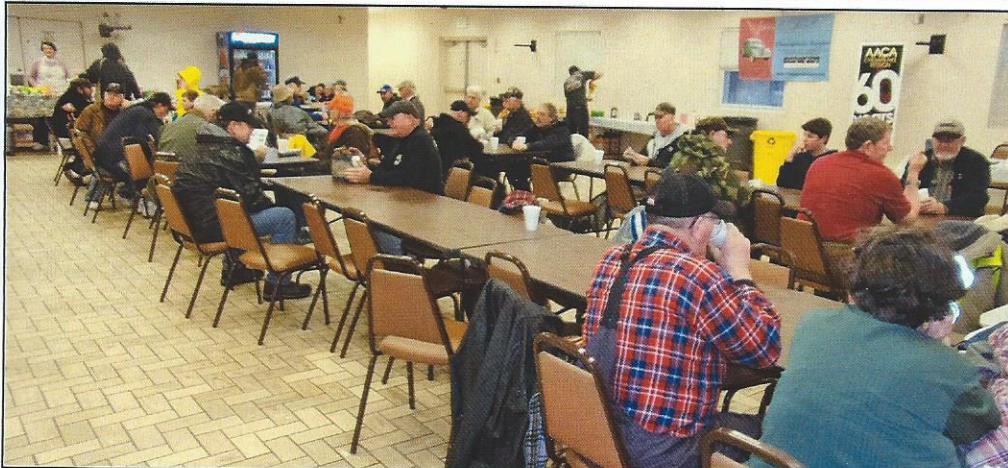
For the past two months, officers and the Bulletin have been reminding members of the financial importance of the flea market, not to mention the club's reputation. In spite of the weather and all things considered, the 2015 flea market didn't fall that far short of the last two flea markets. For a complete accounting come to the meeting on April 13.

The vendors I spoke with seemed pleased with the number of sales they made and felt the show was worthwhile. Good to know because the amount of spectators (buyers) was significantly impacted this year by the rainy weather. Estimates ranged from down as much as 50 per cent from last year. As a result, food sales took a hit. Additionally, this was the first year we shared the Howard County Fairgrounds with another big event.

The Kids' Consignment Show was in the big metal building at the bottom (west end) of the midway, and was a much bigger event than we thought it would be. This event probably drew nearly as many spectators as our flea market. The extra volume of traffic was difficult to deal with and it was a day long struggle to keep order. Many of the visitors to the consignment show didn't park where they were supposed to and subsequently made parking very tight for everybody.

A big plus this year was our ability to utilize the heated dining room building instead of the unheated portion of a barn we had last year. The dining room provided vendors, buyers and members the opportunity to casually choose what they wanted to eat from a large menu and then sit down at a table with friends and discuss events of the day. It was a lot of work setting up this room on Friday and then breaking it down and mopping the floor after all the equipment was loaded on Saturday. Thanks to everybody that helped out in any way. You helped turn lemons into lemonade!

(More photos page 6 & 12)



The large, bright dining room was crowded most of the day with diners.

## 2015 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Robert Meekins' Green Cadillac Convertible Transports Parade Grand Marshal, Stacie Guerin

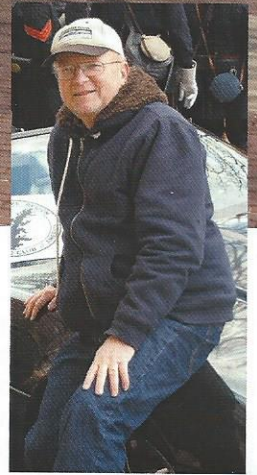
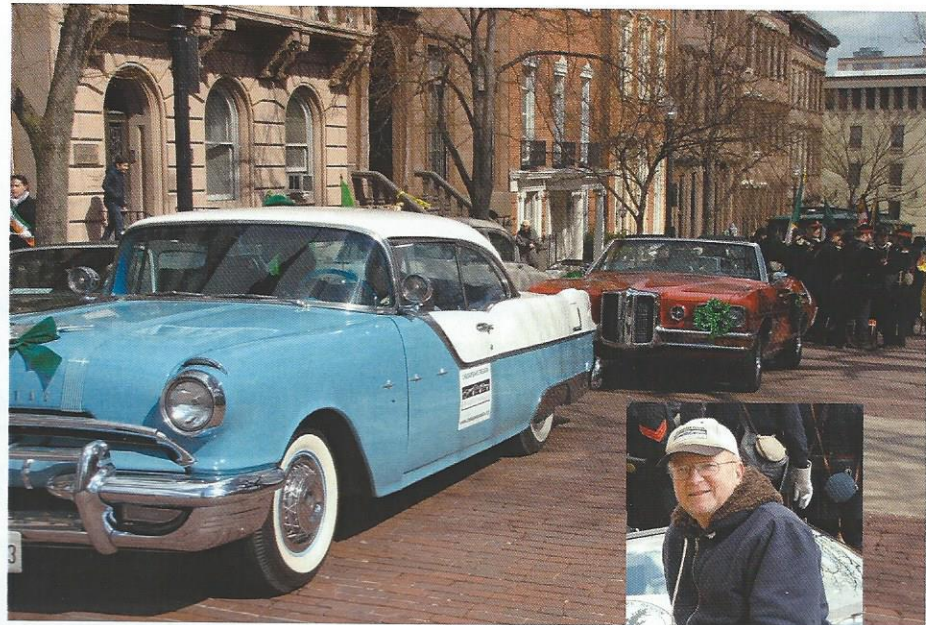


Grand Marshal, Stacie Guerin

Chesapeake Region member Robert Meekins' 1970 Cadillac Coupe DeVille convertible was selected by parade organizers to chauffeur this year's Grand Marshal in the 2015 Baltimore St. Patrick's Day Parade. Rolling out from Baltimore's Washington Monument, Grand Marshal Stacie Guerin rode high atop the bright green convertible as the parade progressed along Charles and Pratt Streets in downtown Baltimore, Sunday, March 15. Thousands of onlookers braved a chilly and blustery, bright sunny day as marching bands, floats, and many other parade participants including several vehicles owned by other Chesapeake Region members appeared in the parade.

Member Meekins has nicknamed his Cadillac 'Greenfinz' because of its sparkling 'Nottingham Green Firemist' paint. People appreciate the color as much as the car. The Cadillac is so appropriate for St. Patrick's Day Parades. Robert is a veteran of this parade. He drove Mayor Stephanie

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Clockwise from left: Rick McCauley in leprechaun outfit. Many kids posed for pictures with Rick. Gary Ruby, Vice President and Parade Coordinator Nick Prevas with granddaughter, Maddie. Rare picture of Buzz Diehl (inset) posing for a photo; he's usually on the other side of the lens. Most all photos were taken around Mt. Vernon Place. The first three cars in our lineup were Pontiacs!



Robert Meekins' excellent 1970 Cadillac DeVille Convertible in 'Nottingham Green Firemist.' The Caddy is a natural for area St. Patrick's day parades

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Rawlings-Blake in the 2011 St. Patrick's Day parade.

Other members driving in the parade were, President Paula Ruby with husband Gary behind the wheel and their granddaughter, Elizabeth Seeds. Henry Chaudron and Barb Muldowey, Rick and Anna McCauley driving a Pontiac Firebird, Rick was decked out in a green leprechaun suit. Buzz Diehl drove his green 1990 Corvette convertible, Bill Wurzell along with Chesapeake Region Vice President and Parade Coordinator, Nick Prevas rode in Wurzell's 1954 DeSoto Firedome sedan.

There were dozens of drum and bugle corps from Baltimore and elsewhere. The group above rests on the steps of the ornate Baltimore United Methodist Church at Mt. Vernon Place. Many bagpipers and string bands from as far as Philadelphia appeared in the parade. We noticed more female bagpipers of all ages than ever before. They still look better in a kilt than the men, just a thought...