

## Chesapeake Region Has Its Own Youth Movement

Increasingly, the AACA National organization is talking about ways our hobby can reach out to, inform, and involve younger people. Given the age of digital technology we live in, the younger generation (those under 25) are totally immersed in instant messaging, texting, Facebook, MySpace, webcams, and Wii games at the very minimum. We send kids to school with cell phones nowadays. Remember when you had to ask your parents for permission to use the rotary dial phone (the only one in the house)? Overcoming the allure of technology to get kids interested in old cars won't be easy.

In the last issue of the *Bulletin* we learned about **Vicky and Gary Wilmer's** approach to the hobby. They work on their cars and attend events mostly as a family. **Andrew and**

**Todd** are now ten and they have been in the hobby for ten years. What many members don't realize is that we have other families in the Club with youngsters under ten. **Nicholas Canova**, son of **Pam and Tim Canova**, is about five; and **Henry Reus III**, son of **Mary and Hank Reus, Jr.**, is four. The pictures below show that they are being involved in the hobby at a young age.

Now we have **Anna Banks**, born February 11<sup>th</sup>, to **Andrea and Dan Banks** (see the picture below). Dan is a true automotive history buff specializing in Nissan and Datsun vehicles. His 1971 Datsun 240Z, which received its Senior Award at Hershey in 2008, has been selected for consideration in the coming AACA Museum sports car exhibit. The Bank's 1933 Datsun fire truck is one of the

most unique vehicles in our Club. It's likely that little Anna will become an antique car hobbyist at a young age.

Involving our youngsters in the hobby is not a new concept in Chesapeake Region. **Beth Muscedere** grew up in the hobby with her dad Howard Snyder, going to shows and events. Today, years later Beth still has the 1916 Ford Model T roadster and the 1913 T speedster, which are out to several events each year with Beth driving.

AACA has enhanced the Youth and Student membership programs recently by redefining Youth as 12 and under, with a separate magazine, *Wheels*, targeted for the age group. Student memberships are 13 to 25 and include all the adult membership privileges and the *Antique Automobile* magazine. Both are only \$12 for the annual membership, quite a bargain.



*Dan Banks' 1971 Datsun 240 Z*



*Anna Banks, the newest member of the Club*



*Andrea & Dan Banks*



*Hank Rues III in Dad's 1929 Nash*



*Nicholas Canova at the wheel of Dad's '66 Ford*



*Hank III busy in his pedal car*