

LOU & MARY JANE FRITZ, FRANKLIN GAGE ALSO PARTICIPATE

## Mary Whitcraft Continues With Part II Of The 2014 'Founders Tour'

By Mary Whitcraft

Craig and I motored on to a very pleasant Fire Hall where the friendly volunteers had prepared a lunch of hot chili and corn bread for our chilly bones. Following lunch, we walked across the street to 'Space Farms' and a collection of everything under the sun, though the sun was missing on that day. At least a gazillion collectibles were on display, including dolls, taxidermic animals, weapons, tractors, cars and wagons, including one owned by Teddy Roosevelt, and that's not the half of it! This place has taken the concept of 'stuff' to a whole new level. If you, gentle reader ever fret about the stuff you have collected over the years, go to Space Farms it will make you feel much better.

### Time flies...

Time is flying, Thursday has arrived in a New York minute. Having perused the itinerary for the day, I borrowed a rule out of Helen Gordon's 'Field Guide to Antique Car Club Activities', *never leave home without a book!* The event of the day was a visit to Gary Mahan's museum of restored antique Mac trucks. No thanks! This was stepping WAY over my threshold of tolerance. Secure in the knowledge that I had a good book in my tote bag, I looked forward to nestling in the car and transporting my mind to far away places with strange sounding names. But what to my wandering eyes should appear, the most unbelievable lineup of lovingly restored antique long haul heavy duty trucks in the universe. I was slack-jawed. Here we were, a bunch of old folks, as awestruck as children on Christmas morning. All I can say, even to you girls out there, is to put this place on your bucket list. Mr. Mahan also collects oodles of other interesting items, all fascinating, fun and even X-rated. The latter got an abundance of attention and oh yes, the book never left my tote bag.

On Friday, our final day, we drove to the iconic and ever all American Atlantic City. The Convention Center, now called Boardwalk Hall, where many a

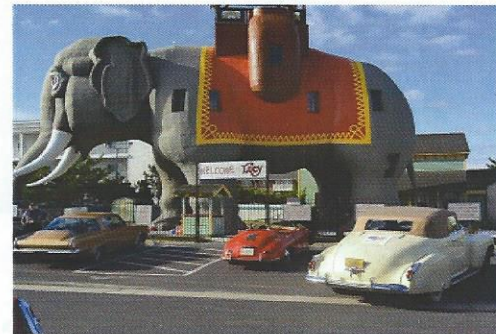


The Whitcraft's exquisite '53 Mercury Monterey two-door hardtop at the Cape May Lighthouse, NJ.



Buckboard owned and used by President Teddy Roosevelt, Space Farms Museum & Zoo, Sussex, NJ.

Miss America has wrestled with a tottering tiara atop her expression of disbelief, was a highlight of the day. The Hall houses the largest and loudest pipe organ ever constructed. It is also the largest musical instrument ever created. It has thirty-three thousand pipes, however, due to the devastation of a hurricane many decades ago, it now functions at only twenty percent capacity. Still, it is thunderous. The cavernous auditorium was empty that day, except for the one hundred fifty or so Founders Tourists who appeared almost lost in one tiny segment of seats. We were treated to a sampling of lovely music played on that mighty organ by the resident organist. His final selection was "The Star Spangled Banner." Believe me when I tell you that my heart leapt up when I saw that all of our group had risen to their feet, and with hats removed and hands on



'Lucy the Elephant' attraction in Margate City, NJ. Lou & Mary Jane Fritz's red Porsche next '41 Cadillac.

their hearts, they were facing a giant American flag suspended over the rear of the hall. There she is, our 'Miss America', our ideal.

### Together time...

Craig and I spent the next several hours on the boardwalk, the weather was sunny and warm as a day in June. We missed the afternoon venue, a fire-fighter Museum in Galloway, New Jersey. Surely it was our loss.

The closing banquet, held in the elegant dining room at The Bonaventure Country Club, was an affair to remember. We had a chance to bid farewell to friends old and new. I noticed that The Buzzards don't say, 'good-bye.' They say, 'See you down the road' I plan to adopt this charming expression myself, I love it. The whole flock of Buzzy's gave us the gift of wonderful memories, already dear to our hearts and tied with satin ribbons. During that week, Mother Nature gave us a gift as well. We saw The Garden State not as the nerve-racking Jersey Turnpike surrounded by gasoline holding tanks but as a show-girl, beautifully turned out in her golden autumn attire. She was simply enchanting. Brilliant leaves in every fiery hue provided a continual feast for our eyes. The homes and porches along the way, artistically decorated with pumpkins, corn shocks and chrysanthemums, spoke to the passersby. The message they sent from the people within was, 'Hello autumn, we love you!' As we rode through the sprawling New Jersey farmlands, we saw acres of cornstalks, still standing,

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wear, their work having been done; carefully placed on top of hundreds of fence posts, mile after mile, were single tiny pumpkins, no bigger than softballs. I was amazed at how a small 'design', conceived by some beautiful human mind, had brought such joy to me! Traveling on those remote byways, through fields of gold made me think of the eternal words of Robert Frost. I shall be telling this with a sigh:

*"Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood  
and I took the one less traveled by,  
and that has made all the difference."*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: As if her writing skills weren't enough, Mrs. Whitcraft is an accomplished artist, photographer, chef, baker, homemaker, traveler, scrapbooker and Chairperson of Chesapeake Region's 60th Anniversary Yearbook Committee. Mary's extensive research made her a natural selection to compose the page one piece on the early formation of Chesapeake Region.*

## *Motor Trend 2015 Auto Show At The Baltimore Convention Center, Runs From January 1st To January 4th*

Hopefully, you will receive this Chesapeake Bulletin notice in time to attend the show. Chesapeake Region is scheduled to have about ten spaces occupied by club member's vehicles. However, this is always a 'fluid' situation, we never know until the last minute exactly how many spaces we will have. The weather is another factor. Nobody wants to drive or trailer their vehicle in poor weather the day before the show opens; this year it happens to be New Years Eve!

What will the weather be when the show closes on the evening of January 4th? If Tom Kenney could guarantee perfect weather he would have plenty of members sign on to bring their cars, including me!--Bill Wurzell, Editor

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## **Due To Many Requests, The Chesapeake Bulletin Is Going Digital, February 2015**

Chesapeake Region members have made it known for some-time now that many would like to have the option of receiving the monthly Chesapeake Bulletin electronically.

Beginning with the February edition, those joining or renewing their Chesapeake Region membership for 2015, can opt to receive the monthly Chesapeake Bulletin by email rather than the printed copy.

In order to receive your copy by email, simply email your FULL NAME and the EMAIL ADDRESS to which you want The Chesapeake Bulletin sent to Nick Prevas at:

**highlandmd@yahoo.com**

The emailed version will come as a standard Adobe PDF attachment. You can download, save, and print all or part of the bulletin at your discretion. Just like the printed copy, the email version is for members only **ONE PER MEMBER HOUSEHOLD**, email or printed but not both.

Please email Nick to sign up, or if you have questions. No action is necessary if you want to continue receiving the printed copy.

A couple advantages of opting for the email version is you will most likely receive the newsletter in a more timely fashion because it doesn't have to go through 'snail mail.' The club will realize a postage savings of 70 cents per copy! All of the pictures in the Bulletin will be in *COLOR*, except the photos that are actually black & white. If you're a 'snow bird' and winter out of the area, you'll never miss an edition, it'll be right in your inbox.

### *'When In Doubt, Check It Out'...On The Website*

Not sure of the timing for an event? Visit the club website at [www.chesapeakeaaca.org/](http://www.chesapeakeaaca.org/) for all kinds of information about the club and events. Buzz Diehl works diligently to keep our website the very best around.

## *Tech Talk From The Tech Chairman, Gary Ruby*

*Hello Club Members!*

I wish to thank Chesapeake Region members and friends that voted for me as Technical Advisor. I will try to do my best to help region members with any problems they may encounter or at least try to point them to someone that can be of help. I plan on including helpful hints or suggestions in the newsletter each month that members should check on to keep their vehicles in safe, good running condition.

Contact me if you have a good idea on maintenance to keep our vehicles going or items we should be aware of for safety. Remember, old cars need work as well as a little *LOVE FROM TIME TO TIME*.

My helpful hint for this month will be an easy one. Question: are your wipers streaking and not doing a good job, making it hard to see, especially at night? An easy fix is to get a couple of alcohol wipes or douse some rubbing alcohol on a rag, then just clean your wiper blades, you'll see a lot of oil and road grime on the wipe. Try it, hope it helps!

*Thanks again, 'Ruby.'*