

# THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN



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



Volume 60 Number 2 February 2020

## The Resurrection Of The Chesapeake Region 'Poker Run'

By Tom Dawson

Chesapeake Region Secretary

After nine straight years of masterful poker run planning and execution by Tom and Anne Kenney and their co-conspirators, no one stepped up for five years to take on the daunting task of following in their footsteps. Maybe it was the unforgettable memory of the questions that brought tears to the eyes of strong men and sturdy women. Or, maybe it was the hundreds of miles, the untold hours invested in finding the most scenic routes possible for the enjoyment of the hardy participants, or maybe the bladder busting travel time necessary to check, verify and recheck clues, questions, and addresses, not to mention gathering photographic evidence.

Nevertheless, at the infamous February 2019 Board Meeting, our illustrious Activities Director, Phil Hack, proposed just such a resurrection. It was his challenge to search out the most qualified of the 400 plus membership to tackle this mountain of a task. From the forests of Eagles Nest strode Al Zimmermann! Having enjoyed all the pre-

*Continue to page 3, 'Poker Run...'*



*There were two different ways that people won at the Poker Run. First there were three different teams that won for the Best Poker Hand. The folks picture above had the best Poker Hands: Mark and Mary Stershic, Phil and Shelly Hack, John and Lois Krupinsky. All of the above received gift cards to Friendly Farm for a future visit. See photo and caption on page three for other winners.--Buzz Diehl photo*

## 84th Annual AACA Meeting In Philadelphia Set To Begin February 6th Through The 8th

The annual Antique Automobile Club of America, meeting and convention is once again slated to begin on February 6, 2020 and conclude with the banquet and awards program on Saturday, February 8, 2020. The host hotel is once again the Philadelphia 201 Hotel, formerly known as the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel at 17th and Race Streets., Philadelphia 19103.

I have already made reservations for the event and inquired about any construction surrounding the hotel as in years past. I was assured by hotel personnel that outside construction has been completed. They did add that there are much needed renovations to the interior of the Philadelphia 201 Hotel, but they should not hamper anyone's stay at the hotel.

The convention/meeting committee expects about 800 members to make their way to Philadelphia to join in for the 84rd Annual AACA Meeting.

Attendees have lots to keep them busy! From numerous educational seminars, twenty six trade show exhibitors, the First Lady's breakfast and the annual membership meeting to the hands-on youth program, region and chapter Presidents' Dinner. These activities are crammed into two full days and will end with the Oscar-like AACA National Awards Banquet, where National Awards will be presented to many people from all over the country and elsewhere. Chesapeake Region President, Paula Ruby and her husband Gary will be attending. Paula is also a National Director of AACA and will have many functions to perform at the meeting.

I will be receiving my fourth 'Master Editor' award at the banquet on Saturday evening. This makes for a dramatic and thrilling experience that I share with all members, because without them, there wouldn't be a Chesapeake Bulletin.--Bill Wurzell, Editor

## Support Your Fellow Members At The Motor Trend 2020 Auto Show

This year's Baltimore Auto Show display promises to be one of our best. Ten Chesapeake Region members are offering to show their treasured automobiles this year. Our allotted spaces was dialed back from thirteen to 9 or 10...again.

Highlighting the show will be two Classics, a 1930 Packard and a 1931 Cadillac. Other cars not seen much anymore will be a 1967 Volkswagen and a 1962 Studebaker. The show will be held February 6-9, 2020 at the Baltimore Convention Center.

Free show passes are available for members. So, c'mon down and check out your club's display. Check out the new cars and make your choices of which ones might be on the floor as classics one day! We can always use members in the display area to interface with spectators!

# 'Jerry' Gordon, Past President, And Long Time Member Passes Away

By Bill Wurzell, Editor

I really thought he was on the road to recovery when he and Helen came to the 2019 Chesapeake Region Annual Banquet last November. He looked better than he had for awhile, he obviously lost weight and looked fit. I thought for sure we would have him around for a few more years. Sadly, it wasn't to be, Gerald 'Jerry' Gordon passed away on Friday, January 10th. He was 87 years old, and enjoyed a life well-lived!

It was so nice to see him sitting with many dear friends, Paul and Ginny Habicht, and Harry and Robert Wilhelm. The Gordons and the Habichts traveled many miles because both couples owned Cadillacs until Paul sold his 1959 four-door hardtop a few years ago. Jerry downsized his collection to just his beloved 1961 Cadillac 'Park Avenue, short deck' four door hardtop and a '64 Town Car. Jerry was very proud of his white Cadillac for being a rare model and having every option that was available in 1961; right down to the power operated 'wing vents.'

On a couple occasions, while we were sitting at car shows, Jerry told me his doctor said his heart is weak. That, however, did not hold him back much. When he attended the last few club meetings, he seemed like his old self. Taking everything in and asking questions just as he did for years.

Jerry was President of Chesapeake Region two years in a row; 1985 and 1986. In addition to President he filled many other positions in the club. He was the long time Activities Director. He also coordinated the Baltimore Mayor's Christmas and the Towson 4th of July Day parades. Jerry excelled at both because he was the epitome of 'organization.'

Jerry was a patriot and served his country with a tour in the United States Coast Guard. At that time he was dating a young lady who was a student at the prestigious Skidmore College, in



Gerald 'Jerry' Gordon

Saratoga Springs, New York. Skidmore was an all female school until it became coed many years later. Jerry told me as soon as he was released from duty, especially on a weekend, he would jump into his 1953 Buick Super convertible and drive up to Saratoga Springs, spend quality time with Helen and then drive back to Baltimore. It made me tired thinking about it!

Left to cherish Jerry's memory are his beloved wife, Helen M. (Miller) Gordon; children, Alan Gordon and his wife Julie; Emily Kishter and her husband Neil; sister, Marilyn Buxton and her husband Dudley; grandchildren; Lindsay Bezalel and her husband Jonathan; Sarah Grubin and her husband Ross; Shelly and Carly Bressler; great-grandchildren; Noah and Ezra Bezalel and Eli and Mila Grubin. Services were held January 12 at Sol Levinson & Bros. Funeral Home, Inc., Pikesville. Interment was in Shaarei Zion Cemetery, Rosedale, Maryland.



Jerry is using the hood of his Lincoln Town Car as layout board for organization of the vehicles in the Baltimore Mayor's Christmas parade. He provided a description of each vehicle to be read as they passed by the reviewing stand.



Jerry was 'Master of Ceremonies' at numerous annual Chesapeake Region banquets.



Helen and Jerry at Friendly Farm Restaurant for an annual banquet.



Helen and Jerry at the 2018 AACA spring meet in Gettysburg, Pa., sponsored by Chesapeake Region. The couple's elegant 1961 Cadillac is in the background. It was a hot day, but they were in shade all day under a very large maple tree.

# 'POKER RUN' RESURRECTED!



The above group of winners had the correct answers for the questions for the poker run: First Place went to: Gary Ruby, Jr. and his daughter Shannon Ruby. Second Place went to: Jody and Janet Aberts. Third Place went to: Gary and Vicky Wilmer and Owen and Wanda Garland. All of the winners received gift cards to Friendly Farms for a future visit.--[More Poker Run with pictures on page 6.](#)

## Continued from page 1, 'Poker Run'...

vious poker runs and ignoring the complexity of the task, he decided to volunteer. Not knowing what he was getting into, his trusty sidekick said "Sure, I'll give you a hand"! A few days later, off they went to a hearty breakfast. Once their man-sized appetites were satisfied, and the gems named Ruby, Dorsey, and Coate of Heath had buoyed their spirits, and off they ventured in search of the scenic routes to rival those of rustic America. Once the routes were perfected, it was time to enlist the aid of the devoted better (much better) halves in developing a series of questions for hardy participants to answer and maybe even win something of value. (After all, Al and his trusty sidekick can't take all the blame!) A vast list of queries was established and now it was time for the devoted foursome to retrace their steps in attempts to ensure accuracy and degree of difficulty. A wise decision it was, for the team found a few of their original discoveries were a real challenge to find, as hard as they tried. Back and forth they went, binoculars in hand (was that five bears or three bears; are you sure there are nine birds?) Ultimately the list of questions was finalized. After months of research, planning, and documentation, October

27th finally arrived and along with it came the apparent displeasure of the Poker Run Gods, for it rained buckets! Those buckets caused a 45-minute delay at President Paula's abode, (the beginning point of the whole extravaganza).

And then the clouds parted, the sun came out along with blue skies, and the leaves along the routes were as vibrant as anyone has ever seen. One by one, the staunch participants wound their way, politely discussing each question among themselves as they proceeded to and arrived at each host destination where they drew a playing card of the driver's choice and were refreshed with quantities of snack and drink, (nonalcoholic, of course). Well, all but a certain party who claimed his navigator had some difficulty seeing over the dashboard!

Finally, they all arrived at the Friendliest of Farms where a feast fit for a king was served to one and all. Once bellies were filled, the man from the forests of Eagles Nest began the task of determining which of the hardy participants had the winning poker hands. This was followed by the dangerous task of presenting the correct and proper answers to each and every question with photographic proof of the answers to quell the rebellious crowd.

Our President Paula Ruby, presented the

three poker hand winners, the three Q&A winners, and the Hard Luck winner with their awards, and thanked the hosts and all those involved in this event. And so, it came to pass that the Chesapeake Region Poker Run was declared to be closed and it was decreed that, 'a good time was had by all' and indeed, 'this event should happen again next year!'



## Hard Luck Award? Not Hardly!

Henry Chaudron, Sr.'s 1955 Pontiac Star Chief, did not break down. 'Carol' the navigator couldn't see over the dashboard and subsequently missed a couple turns...they got lost!

## *The President's Message*

From Paula Ruby

### *Hello Chesapeake Members!*

**T**he first Membership meeting of the 2020 year was very well attended. It was great to see everyone and to get back in the groove of planning the new Chesapeake Region year for you and all the members. We discussed the calendar for many planned activities, but there are still more to come. If there is an activity that you would like the Club to consider, please let either myself or Phil Hack our Activities Chairman know. I would also like to get some input from the members regarding potential speakers for the monthly meetings. Reach out to businesses or people that you know that might be willing to come to a meeting and speak to our members.



Membership renewals for both the Chesapeake Region and National AACA are now past due. Everyone has received by mail a membership renewal form to be completed and returned with your check for \$25.00 to Chesapeake Region. The form was sent out for a reason, so that any changes to your membership information can be updated in our database system. Because members change their phone numbers, buy and sell cars, we need to know to keep our information up to date. Your National dues can be paid by phone, by mail or online. AACA will accept a credit card payment over the phone. If you have not paid your 2020 membership dues, please do it immediately, to save our Membership Chairman a lot of follow-up phone calls. If you have decided to not renew your membership, please let Vicky know that also.

The biggest event that has been planned so far this year is the 65th Anniversary Crab Feast and Boat Trip scheduled for Wednesday, July 15th. The reservation form has been placed on our website for you to complete and return with your check. Just a reminder: the club will be providing free bus transportation to Hurlock, MD and the Suicide Bridge Restaurant. We will also be subsidizing the cost of the crab feast. The amount for each member is only \$25.00 for the entire day. Quite a bargain! As soon as possible we need confirmed reservations for 58 persons, to fill one bus. I would like to have your confirmed reservations by May 1, in case we need to order an additional bus. Don't miss out on this great event to celebrate Chesapeake Region's 65th Anniversary.

Our annual Collector Car Swap Meet is coming up on Saturday, March 14th. Set up day is Friday, March 13th. Tom Young is the Chairman of the Swap Meet, Vicky Wilmer manages the food service, Al Zimmermann oversees the parking and Gary Wilmer manages the Friday task of lining the field, designating individual vendor spots. Help in all these areas is needed to assure the Swap Meet is a success. The Swap Meet is our biggest fundraising event of the year and helps to finance the many things that we provide to our membership throughout the year. Please reach out to those in charge of the various functions and volunteer. Save them a phone call to you requesting your help. Remember this is to benefit you and all your fellow members of our Chesapeake Region.

On a sad note, I must report that Jerry Gordon, one of our long-time members, passed away on Friday, January 10th at the age of 87. Jerry had been a member of Chesapeake Region for over 43 years, serving in many positions including two years as President. Jerry is survived by his lovely wife Helen, a son and daughter, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A funeral service was held on Sunday, January 12th at the Sol Levinson Funeral Home in Pikesville. During the service we heard many stories about Jerry and his love of his wife Helen and his family. In addition to his love of family, and his many close friends, his interest in antique cars was discussed and his association with our Chesapeake Region. We will truly miss Jerry and the time that he spent with us as a valued Chesapeake Region member. See page 2 for a tribute to Jerry Gordon.

Remember that both our February and March membership meetings will start at 7:00 p.m. If the weather is questionable, be aware that we always follow the Baltimore County School System closing schedule. Call me at home 410-239-3492 if you are ever in doubt.

*Fondly,*

*Paula*

NOTICE: Advertisements by members are free, subject to available space, if in the interest of the club and its members, i.e., antique (AACA defined) vehicles, parts, literature, memorabilia and automotive tools and equipment. Free ads run for one month and must contain the name of a member. Business ads cost \$35 annually for a nominal business card size space in TWELVE monthly issues. For ad submission or renewal, contact the Advertising Manager: GARY RUBY, 410.239.3492, rubys55chevy@comcast.net



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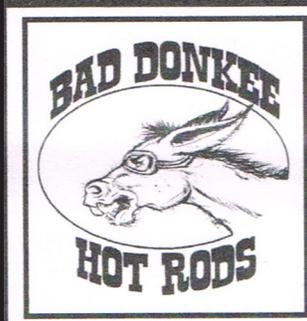
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# More Poker Run Photos At Friendly Farm Restaurant



Poker Run participants gather for dinner at Friendly Farm.



President Paula Ruby welcomed all the folks involved in the poker run to Friendly Farm.

**VITAL STATISTICS:**  
*There were 36 cars registered for the poker run, and 81 people for the dinner. All participated either as hosts or actual run participants.--Al Zimmermann*



**ABOVE:** The 2019 Poker Run board for participants to check the hand they were dealt on the road.

**LEFT:** Vice-President and Poker Run Czar, Al Zimmermann, double checks his figures to make sure nobody gets cheated and everything is on the up and up. Everyone knows, Al is a perfectionist!



*John and Marie Revill*

## ***Australian Couple At Autumn Harvest Show Sends Chesapeake Region President Paula Ruby A Letter About All The Devastating Wildfires In Their Country***

The following is a letter sent to Paula from the Australian couple, Marie and John Revill, who blessed us with their presence at the Autumn Harvest Show. It's wonderful to hear that they are okay surrounded by the tragic fires occurring in their country.

Good Day Paula and 'Thank you' very much for thinking about us. The current wild-fire situation here is being declared a National Disaster as there is no State nor Territory (with the exception of Canberra ACT) where there is currently not one, but many catastrophic fires. The entire length and breadth of Australian (with the exception of the central desert outback region) is on High Alert.

The Eastern States National Parks plus neighboring communities being the worst affected with both human and animal lives lost and multi-million dollars of property damage. Our Prime Minister and the Governor General mandated that the Army Reserves shall assist the Volunteer Fire-Fighters who are attempting to contain the wild-fires and the Australian Royal Navy are now evacuating the residents of the coastal towns in Victoria and New South Wales where the fire is at their backs with no means of escape overland.

Fortunately, we are currently without any major fires in the near vicinity to our home in this part of Western Australia but, because we live in a heavily forested area, during the Summer (bush-fire season) we are ready to move into our Motor-home and leave the property should the need arise. We are neither brave nor fool-hardy enough to stay and fight ... we value our lives more than our property.

Meanwhile we are busily planning our next Road Trip. This winter, May to September, we intend to undertake another circumnavigation of Oz but will be exploring parts we missed on our previous OZ LAP in 2017. We are going to explore those parts of the Outback that are accessible via sealed roads and will avoid those areas along the coast that will still bear the scars from these wild-fires.

Best wishes to you and your family and may 2020 be a good year for you all!

Kind regards  
Marie and John

# The Feast Of The Four Fishes

*By Judy Dawson, CRAACA*

After a slight misunderstanding with my trusty GPS last December 18th, a scenic, yet frustrating tour of southern Pennsylvania, and a kind turn-by-turn navigational assist by Paula, I slid into my seat at Bud's at Silver Run and gratefully accepted a glass of rather tasty wine. Bud, the owner and Chef for the Day, began by asking if any of us disliked seafood. Thinking crab, shrimp, lobster, and maybe a course of my favorite, John Dory, I responded with an affirmative, along with the rest of the assembled group, as we took off on our own little culinary adventure of his rendition of the Italian 'Feast of Seven Fishes.' Now, I am the first to admit, that I am no vetted food critic, but, as it was recently summarized, "the lunch was fishy, but the wine was good!"

We were served a cold muscle appetizer, a cold salmon salad, Rockfish soup and Monkfish Stew, all demonstrated right there in the Dining Room by Bud, or his chef. Despite some mention of Crème Brulee, dessert was cheesecake balls, rolled in powdered sugar. The wines, especially the first one (Wanda can give you more specifics on the vintage) as she loaded her car up with a supply for the ride home, were delicious!

The very best part of the afternoon, including the unintentional tour of southern Pennsylvania, was the company. Club members attending were: Paula Ruby, Vicky Wilmer, Wanda Garland, Nancy Schaffer, Cindy George, Anne Marie Ramsburg, Lois Poole, and myself, along with numerous guests of members. Sally Stevenson opted for the "stay home with repairman" option! The general consensus was that a good time was had by all, and that the women of the Club should get together for a little 'Girl Time' more often. We hope that more of you will join us next time round. Let me know if you want to ride with me. I know the scenic route!

### **SIDEBAR**

**Twenty Six Highly Trained And Fire-Hardened Firefighters From All Over USA Arrived At Sydney Airport To A Standing Ovation!**

The American firefighters want to help relieve their Australian counterparts so they can get much needed rest away from the smoky fire-zones. At full strength, there will be over 100 American fire-fighters battling the flames.

The Americans arrived with full equipment ready to do battle with the horrendous wide-fires sweeping much of Australia. There has already been a loss of forests equal to size of the state of Indiana, and the complete destruction of over 2,000 homes and at press time, 27 deaths. Several other countries will be sending fire-fighters to help put out the wildfires.

# Chesapeake Region Activities For 2019

DATE	DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
FEBRUARY 2020				
6-8	Thur-Sat	Daily	AACA Annual Meeting	Philadelphia, PA
6-9	Thur-Sun	Daily	MT 2020 Auto Show CRAACA Display	Baltimore Convention Center
7-9	Fri-Sun	Daily	Atlantic City Classic Car Show & Auction	Atlantic City, NJ
10	Mon	7:00 PM	General Membership Meeting	Divinity Lutheran Church
15-16	Sat-Sun	Daily	Motorarama: Car, Truck, Bike Show	Pa. Farm Complex at Harrisburg, PA
22	Sat	8-11 AM	Car Show & Cruise All Club Breakfast	Jarrettsville, MD
MARCH				
1	Sun	7-2	Hamburg Swap Meet	Hamburg, PA
7	Sat	Morning	Kent Island Cruisers All Club Breakfast	Chester, MD
9	Mon	7:00 PM	General Membership Meeting	Divinity Lutheran Church, Towson, MD
14	Sat	7-3	CRAACA Collector Car Swap Meet	Howard County Fairgrounds
15	Sun	12:30 PM	St. Patrick's Day Parade	Mt. Vernon Place, Baltimore, MD
22	Sun	8-3	AACA South Jersey Region Swap Meet	Woodston, NJ
27-28	Fri-Sat	8 AM-3 PM	AACA Sugarloaf Region Swap Meet	Ag Center, Westminster, MD
APRIL				
2-4	Thur-Sat	Daily	AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals	Charlotte, NC
10-19	Fri-Sun	Daily	New York Auto Show	New York City, NY
13	Mon	7:30 PM	General Membership Meeting	Divinity Lutheran Church
18	Sat	8:30 AM	Romancing The Chrome	Jarrettsville, MD
19	Sun	8-2 PM	AACA Brandywine Region Swap Meet	Landenburg, PA
22-26	Wed-Sun	Daily	Spring Carlisle	Carlisle, PA

ITEMS IN **RED** DENOTE CHESAPEAKE REGION OR PROMOTED EVENT

Saturday Mornings      8:30-10:30 AM      Hunt Valley Cars and Coffee      Towne Center, Hunt Valley, MD

**NOTE: MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ON THE SECOND MONDAY OF EACH MONTH WILL NOW BEGIN AT 7:00 PM**

## A Nifty Gadget And A Suggestion For Those That Still Have Six-Volt Electric

*By Jim Turner, Chesapeake Region AACA*

Many of us who drive cars with 6 volt power systems would like to have the ability to connect 12 volt devices such as GPS, telephone chargers and radios to the car's power source. We can charge up our devices before we go for a drive, but, and I have experienced this, they can use up their charge before you reach your destination. It is possible to carry a 12 volt battery of some kind with you but that can be inconvenient and such supplies sometimes have capacity limitations of their own. It would be better to have a power source that runs off of your car's 6 volt system. For this there is a solution.

The key to the system is a device, called a power converter, that steps up 6 volt of direct current to 12 volt, 10 or so amps of direct current (120 watts). That is enough capacity to simultaneously run a GPS system, cell phone charger, and even a 12 volt radio.

Pictured at right, the DIGITEN converter is about the size of a cigarette pack and costs less than \$30. I found it on Amazon. On the converter there are two wires leading in for the 6 volt source and two wires leading out for the 12 volt output. It is very important to get the POSITIVE and MINUS polarity right from the 6 volt source, otherwise the power supply will be ruined instantly. It is also very important to have a fuse in the supply wire to the converter.



Because my 1950 Ford has a positive ground, I attached a wire to the negative pole on the accessory switch through a fuse to the negative input wire on the converter. The positive input wire on the converter is grounded. These connections would be reversed if the car had a negative ground system. I used

Continue to page 9, '6-12 volt converter'

Our Collector Car Swap Meet Is, Saturday March 14th, There Is A Lot Of Work To Do. Many Hands Make The Work Lighter!

We need help with food for our food concessions. We need people to make soups (ham & bean, vegetable, chicken noodle and chili), BBQ, and homemade sweet treats (brownies, donuts, pies, cookies, cake, rice crispie treats).

We need help on Friday, March 13th laying out the field at Howard County Fairgrounds beginning at 9 am until 2 pm. On Saturday, March 14th we need help from 5 am until 3 pm. Come out and give us an hour or two, parking cars, getting vendors in their spots, helping at the food concession, selling raffle tickets, or helping to clean up. Please contact Vicky Wilmer (wilmervicky@gmail.com or 443-340-7703) or Paula Ruby (410-239-3492.)

## Chesapeake Region Antique Automobile Club of America, Monthly Membership meeting minutes, January 13, 2020

The monthly membership meeting of the Chesapeake Region of the AACA, (Club or CRAACA), was held on January 13, 2020 at the Divinity Lutheran Church in Towson, Md. There were 33 members in attendance.

**Welcome:** President Paula Ruby - President Ruby called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. and wished everyone a Happy New Year! She then announced the passing of longtime member, Jerry Gordon last Friday. Jerry will be missed. President Paula thanked the Members of the Board for staying on another year. Norm Heathcote was welcomed as the new Chief Judge replacing long serving outgoing Judge, Gene Sauter. She then reminded us that the Flea Market raffle tickets are available if you haven't yet received them.



**Secretary's Report:** Tom Dawson - There was neither a membership nor a Board meeting in December, therefore, there were no minutes to be read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jack Treadwell - Jack gave his normally comprehensive monthly, as well as his year end wrap up of the Club's finances. Mark Stershic made a motion to approve Jack's report, seconded by Ruth Synodinos. The motion passed and the report will be held for audit.

**Vice President's Report:** Al Zimmermann - No report.

**Membership/Facebook Report:** Vicky Wilmer - Vicky reports that it is that time of year when membership renewals are due but haven't been received yet. This puts our membership numbers way down at 333 adults. Emails will be sent out to those who need to get their dues in.

**Activities Report: Phil Hack:** Phil states that our next event will be the annual Motor Trend Auto Show, February 6th through the 9th, We have an impressive 13 cars signed up. The annual Fire Museum event will become an actual show rather than just a display. Just like our Manchester Show, awards will be presented and a registration fee of \$10.00 per car will be charged. Bill Wurzell and Norm Heathcote will be working on plaques for the Manchester Show. It was decided that a driving tour to the Shanksville 911 Memorial will take place on Saturday, September 12th. This year the Sunshine Grill Show will take place on Sunday, May 31st. President Paula encouraged everyone to get their registrations in for the Club's 65th anniversary celebration boat trip and crab feast at the Suicide Bridge Restaurant on Wednesday, July 15th. Phil states that this is just a small sampling of things to come. It should be an exciting and fun year! Check the Bulletin or the Club's web page for a complete listing of our coming events and those of other local organizations.

**Technical Report:** Gary Ruby - No report.

**Chief Judge's Report:** Norm Heathcote No report.

**Bulletin Report:** Bill Wurzell - Bill reports that he has good copy for the February Bulletin. Most importantly, Bill has bitten the bullet and signed on with Kaiser Permanente for a *NEW SET OF HEARING AIDS!* The announcement of which drew a huge round of applause!

**Publicity/Web Site Report:** Buzz Diehl - Buzz will make sure that the passing of Jerry Gordon will be honored on our web page. As usual, Buzz will also be busy with Flea Market publicity, producing the flyers for various upcoming events and updating membership data with Vicky.

**Director's Report:** Gary Wilmer, Tom Young - See these reports under New Business.

**Sunshine Report:** Margaret Werneth, President Paula reports that Margaret has sent a sympathy card to Helen Gordon on Jerry's passing and a get-well card to Ginny Habicht.

**Old Business:** A motion was made by Jack Anderson and seconded by Tom Young to make the Club's donation this year of \$2,000.00 to National AACA's Building Fund at the annual convention in February. The motion passed. A motion was also made by Tom Young and seconded by Don Ramsburg to make an assessment after April 1st as to whether to make an additional donation of similar amount. President Paula informed us that the current contractor doing the renovations of the new National headquarters building has been replaced due to cost escalations and lack of progress. She also announced that our current by-laws will be reviewed by the Board in February. President Paula went on to give a review of the ladies' luncheon held in December and is looking forward to the Club holding some type of ladies' event once each quarter.

**New Business:** A discussion was held regarding the annual Swap Meet and Flea Market coming up in March. Chairman, Tom Young reports that vendor registrations are coming in slowly. Sub-committee chairmen, Al Zimmermann, Gary Wilmer and chairlady Vicky Wilmer discussed their respective manpower needs as well as material and food donations. Sign up sheets will be available at each of the ensuing meetings. Three pick-up trucks were volunteered to haul supplies to Howard County and back to the Ruby's at the end of the day.

**Refreshment Coordinator:** Nancy Mattheu - Tonight's refreshments were provided by Al Zimmermann, Nancy Mattheu and JoAnne Day. Thanks to all!

**50/50 Raffle: JoAnne Day:** Tonight's winner was Hank Chaudron. *Congratulations Hank!*

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was *Respectfully submitted,*

*Tom Dawson, Secretary*

*Continued from page 8, '6 volt to 12 volt converter'*

10 gauge wire, a little heavier than necessary, but it is important to prevent overheating with a 6 volt source. To support a 120 watt output, the fuse in the 6 volt supply line should be 20 amp (although I am using a 7.5 amp fuse because that's what I had on hand and it is adequate for my purposes).

It is relatively simple to connect the converter's output wires to your GPS using, as I did, a cigarette type outlet with lead wires that I ran into the back of the glove box. The power cords to my devices can be run from the inside of the glovebox underneath the glove box door. It would also be possible to connect the converter to the cigarette lighter in the dashboard, but I prefer to preserve the original features of the car.

I mounted the converter on an aluminum plate that rests behind the dashboard and is not visible from the passenger seats. A note of caution, the receptacle that I used for plugging in my devices has an exposed metal surface at its top edge. In a car with a negative ground system this would not be a problem, but with a positive ground system the exposed edge will cause a short and blown fuse if it contacts any metal in the car such as the dashboard. Therefore, I carefully covered this with electrical tape.

The installation of this system should be done by somebody who has the knowledge and skill to do it safely. A good product could be developed that could simply be plugged into the existing 6 volt cigarette lighter to run GPS and a phone charger.

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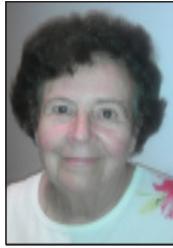
Gary Ruby needed a six volt, two prong flasher for his 1953 Ford. All he could find were three prong. He found and used a six-volt two prong flasher from a Kawasaki motorcycle that had a six-volt battery and electrical system. Many older model motorcycles had six volt electric systems.

**SUNSHINE REPORT:**

By: Margaret Werneth

*I sent a sympathy card to Helen Gordon on Jerry's passing and a get-well card to Ginny Habicht.*

--Margaret



*The Chesapeake Bulletin* is published monthly and is the official newsletter of the Chesapeake Region AACA. Articles and comments are welcome and should be sent to the editor, Bill Wurzell at: 54desotosedan@gmail.com, telephone: 410.750.0056 by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the current month's edition. All ads must be submitted to Advertising Manager, Gary Ruby at: rubys55chevy@comcast.net, telephone: 410.239.3492. If you have not received your copy of the Bulletin, contact the editor or any club officer.

Event photos courtesy of Harold and Barb Diehl, Paula and Gary Ruby; Philip Hack, and Bill Wurzell; proofreaders: Harold Diehl and Lynn Horn.

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Elected positions make up the Executive Board of the Club with full voting rights:

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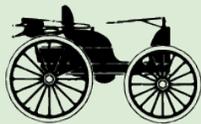
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**CARL AND KATE**

# The Long Storied Life Of A 1956 Oldsmobile Super 88 Two-Door Coupe

By Frank O'Donnell

King Of The Road Chapter, AACA

He wasn't even supposed to work that day. Another salesman had the flu and management had called him in.

Business was good; the new ('56) models were in the showroom and foot traffic was heavy. It was just before lunch when he looked up from his desk and saw her walk through the front doors. She had her arm in a sling and a blackened eye from the impact. He immediately felt compassion for her. Such a beautiful young girl. She was circling around the new Super 88 when he approached and introduced himself. The girl replied, "My name is Kate and I'm looking for a car. Nothing too fancy, I have a check from my insurance company. I'm a school teacher and the pay's not really that good."

Carl showed her two or three less expensive models that day but she kept coming back to the Super. "You owe it to yourself to a least drive one while you're here." He heard his salesman's voice saying, "My dealer demonstrator is a red and white Super 88; let's take it for a test drive. If you like it, maybe my sales manager could offer to sell it to you at a discount." While they were out on the test drive, he suggested they stop at the new "quick service" hamburger place with the twin yellow rings. It would be their first date. Fifty years later they would share almost the same meal together while he sat beside her hospital bed.

He had to sneak the bag in under his coat and claimed the vanilla milkshake was for him. Carl still remembers the smile he got from the hospice nurse when she saw the small paper napkin lying underneath the bed.

"How's the Olds running today?" he remembers Kate asking that day. They had decided months ago to stop talking about her condition. Time was getting short and they preferred reminiscing about the good times and the life they had shared together. Years earlier she had jokingly asked, "I wonder how my life would have turned out if I had liked the Chevrolet styling better." "You would have a very valuable early-model Corvette in the garage and I would probably be living alone selling used cars in an old gas station," he joked. The fact that somehow, they had managed to keep that same 1956 Oldsmobile Super 88 in the family all these years was a mutual achievement they were both proud of.

They almost traded in the old red and white back in 1963 when the twins were born and the purchase of a station wagon became necessary. You just couldn't squeeze four kids into the back seat of a two-door coupe. Even though it was only valued at a couple hundred dollars and Carl was ready to trade, it was Kate that convinced him the car was more valuable to keep than to just 'give' away.



*The picture above is a 1956 Oldsmobile '98' two-door hardtop. It is not exactly like the 1956 Super 88 that Kate and Carl had. However, there are many similiarities. The front grille is the same as are the taillights, mostly. Even the side treatment and color division are the same. This car is black and white as opposed to red over white as Kate and Carl's car.--Bill Wurzell photo*

The Super 88 was almost sold in 2004 when Carl lost his job as the dealership closed its doors. But a Sunday afternoon spent driving with the Grand kids changed their minds for good about ever selling the car, besides, young Griffin has always been enamored with the car and how the red and white paint scheme on the outside matches the red and white on the vinyl seats inside.

During their retirement, keeping the Super 88 had become a symbol of shared accomplishment. Two of the mechanics from the dealership helped Carl restore the car to almost brand new and they started sharing the car and their story with others. The couple started attending local car shows together and discovered how much fun it was to spend an afternoon sharing memories about the past in a folding chair behind their shiny Oldsmobile.

They joined their regional Olds club and with Kate's teaching background she made a wonderful club secretary. Along with Carl's

many stories about selling cars, they kept everyone entertained. Many folks had the pleasure of meeting this lively couple while attending the Nationals over the years. They attended a total of seven of the events before Kate's diagnosis.

Carl began taking Kate to her radiation treatments in the Olds. It just seemed to brighten the whole dreadful experience and lift her spirits. Kate lost her long battle and passed away Christmas Day last year. Carl says in her darkest moments she never felt sorry for herself or complained about the pain.

In his darkest of moments, he walks out to the garage, opens the door to the red and white '56 and gets in. He doesn't sit behind the big red steering wheel. Instead, he sits in the passenger seat and thinks back to that first day when he handed a young girl his car keys and she drove right into his heart.

*Frank O'Donnell OCA Member #40702  
foxlovescars@comcast.net+*

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Does your business call for direct exposure to AACA members? Do you like selling your services face-to-face to hobby enthusiasts? Are you hosting an event in 2020 or 2021 that you want our members to know about? Then why not secure some booth space at one of the best AACA events of the year?

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If you have questions, please feel free to email Judy Fischer:  
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