

Celebrating America's Birthday – Towson's July 4th Parade

By Jerry Gordon & Tom Kenney

The 2007 Towson area July 4th Parade was a celebration of America's Birthday and it also was an opportunity to give thanks for all our blessings. This year the spotlight was on the history and preservation of East Towson, which had its origins back in 1833.

As usual, the two and a half hour parade kicked off with a flyover of A-10 jets and the National Anthem. There was a good mix of marching bands, community oriented floats, military marching units, fire engines, and, of course, 24 antique cars provided by local car clubs including nine from Chesapeake Region. The antique cars were scattered throughout the parade's four divisions. And there were other groups who had antique vehicles and

fire engines. The list of politicians in the parade was impressive including Governor Martin O'Malley, both US Senators, two Congressmen, and several state legislators.

Helen and I arrived at 8:20 AM and found that three cars were already lined up at the assembly area. Chuck Talbert and I registered cars and Tom Kenney took photos of both the cars and the parade. A slide show presentation of the parade is available on the Club's website at www.aaca.org/chesapeake.

Participating in the parade were: **Tom Black, 1969 Chevrolet police car**; Richard Butamis, 1971 Chevrolet; Kim & Mike Doyle, 1930 Ford; Martha & Brent Francis, 1966 Ford; Andy Gerstmeyer, 1930 Ford; Chip Gnay &

Family, 1931 Ford; **Helen & Jerry Gordon, 1964 Lincoln**; Carol & Michael Green, 1976 MGB; Miriam & Bill Hyde, 1958 Chevrolet; Jeff Malsin, 1930 Ford; **Joan & Walt Meyers, 1953 Pontiac**; **Bud Miller & Family, 1909 Stevens Duryea**; **Chip Miller & Family, 1914 Ford**; Kevin Mueller & Family, 1959 Chevrolet; **Beth Muscedere, 1916 Ford**; Rob Penfield, 1930 Ford; Mary & Henry Preston, 1961 Metropolitan; **Jerry Ross, 1954 Kaiser**; Tim Schneid, 1953 Chevrolet; Glenn Stachinski, 1972 Pontiac; **Ruth & Jim Synodinos, 1941 Packard**; **Chuck Talbert, 1939 Ford**; Diane & Pat Vanicchei 1963 Ford; and Don Wiseman, 1934 Ford.



Bud Miller & Family on parade in 1909 Stevens Duryea followed by Chip Miller & Family in their 1914 Ford



An interested spectator looks over Chuck Talbert's 1939 Ford, which is decked out for the parade



Mary & Henry Preston in their 1961 Metropolitan



Tuba section from one of the many parade marching bands