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Another Large Crowd Had A Great Time At The Annual Banquet

By Jerry Gordon

Chesapeake Region's final get-together of 2008 was another example of the excellent participation that the Club has experienced during the year. At the Annual Banquet on November 16th, there were 122 members and their families in attendance, plus there were seventeen antique and collector cars parked in the lower lot at Friendly Farm. This was the largest number of members and cars in many years. The weather was very overcast, brisk, and windy, but it didn't rain.

Despite the show of cars, the real show was inside in the lower level banquet room, which was laid out with round tables and decorated nicely by our hosts Lois Krupinsky and Vicky Wilmer. This year there were three side-tables loaded with door prizes, plus a table with all the excellent dessert cakes baked by members.

People started arriving around noon and by 1:30 the banquet room was crowded with members walking around and visiting with people they hadn't seen in awhile. The big screen backdrop near the podium had a slide presentation running that was a review of the Club's twenty-four events for 2008, plus some of the AACA National Meets. If you wanted, you could sit and watch all the antique cars – about 95 total.

We got underway with the invocation delivered by Art Rutledge. Then we

went through the buffet line by table number, 1 through 17, and were served separately with the featured crab cakes, a specialty at Friendly Farm. Everyone seemed to enjoy an excellent meal and many delicious homemade desserts.

Next, there was a standing recognition of new members present, past Club presidents, the current Board, and the newly elected 2009 Board. Also, it was announced that the Rutledges just celebrated their 67th anniversary.



Parked at Friendly Farm, from the left: Ron Fleming's 1957 Chevrolet, Bud Currey's 1965 Pontiac, & Doris Phelps' 1950 Cadillac.

The program part of the Banquet began with a charity 50/50 run by Paula and Gary Ruby, who went around the room selling tickets. The proceeds supported Food for the Needy, a food collection that will be distributed to local families for the holidays. The 50/50 winner was Nancy O'Dell, but the real winners were the families that benefited. A special thanks to Paula and Gary, who also managed the food collection, and to all the members who participated – and it seemed like almost everyone did contribute to this worthy cause.

A special award, a mounted gavel, was presented to outgoing President Tom Young. Other annual awards went to: Bud Currey, Spirit Award (member selected by the Board who has helped the Club); Paula & Gary Ruby, President's Award (for promoting the Club and its activities); Todd & Andrew Wilmer, President's Award (for always pitching in

to help); and Jerry Gordon, Chick Smith Award (chosen by popular vote as the member who has done the most for the Club). Margaret Werneth was given a Special Award (for Sunshine & Publicity); and Ted Schneider received a Special Award (for the *Bulletin* & Website).

The 2009 Board will be: Dave Benson, President; Bud Currey, Vice President; Anne Kenney and Tom Kenney, Co-Secretaries; Gary Wilmer, Treasurer; Tom Young, Director; Jim Synodinos, Director; Jerry Gordon, Activities Director; Dan Materazzi, Membership Chair; Ed Allen, Technical Chair; and Dave Johnson, Chief Judge.

Also a part of the Club's election was

Continued on the next page >>

Annual Banquet - continued

a vote on the three favorite Club events, which were the Crab Feast, Annual Banquet, and the Flea Market.

The Banquet was organized by Vicky Wilmer and Lois Krupinsky. Cakes were provided by Ginny Habicht, Florann Sordillo, Paula Ruby, and Terry Mazaretti. Tom Kenney and Ted

Schneider provided the backdrop pictorial review of the Club's 2008 events. Also helping were Todd, Andrew, and Gary Wilmer; Bruce Knott, and John Krupinsky.

At the end of the program, the table centerpieces were awarded by lottery, and everyone had a chance to go to the door prize tables and pick a gift.

2008 was an outstanding year for Chesapeake Region; a year that had a record twenty-four events and very good member participation. For 2009, we will have some new events, which are in the planning stage, and many of the old favorites will be back. And remember that the Club still has the Mayor's Christmas Parade on December 7th.



From the left: Jerry Gordon receiving the Chick Smith award from Tom Young; Andrew & Todd Wilmer receiving the President's Award; and Lois Krupinsky & Vicky Wilmer, the Banquet's hosts



Tom Young receiving Outgoing President award; Bud Currey, Spirit award; Paula & Gary Ruby, President's Award



John Raffensparger's 1963 Studebaker GT; Margaret Werneth receiving a Special award; John Krupinsky's 1940 Ford