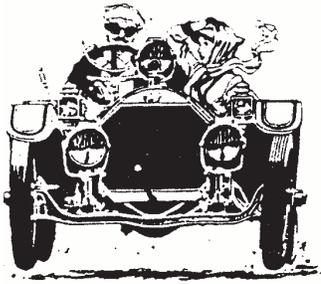


KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE



Arc and Spark



1903 Kalamazoo
by Michigan Buggy
Logo Designed by Norm Knight

AUTO RESTORERS CLUB

VOLUME LII; NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 20, 2018



DOUG MCFARLEN'S 1984 BUICK ELECTRA ESTATE WAGON

Visit us at www.kaarc.org

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THE KAARC MEETS AT 7:00 PM THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 2122 BRONSON BLVD., KALAMAZOO, MI except for the JUNE meeting/club picnic which is held at the Gilmore Car Museum, Hickory Corners, MI.

CLUB NOTES

AUTORAMA BUS TRIP, SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018

We are leaving from the Meijer parking lot just north of I-94 by the Meijer gas station. We are loading at 6:45 am and departing at 7:00 am. There will be a 1/2 hour breakfast stop in Jackson, MI and a 1 hour dinner stop in Ann Arbor, MI. Lunch can be purchased at the Food Court in Cobo Hall. All meals are at the attendees expense. We will be returning around 8:00 PM.

Cost is \$60 per person which, includes admission and transportation. If you are interested email me at bierleins@sbcglobal.net or call 269-806-1430 and I will hold your spot. Then simply mail your check made out to KAARC to Fred Bierlein, 5189 Fountain Square Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Thank you.

MARCH WINDS TOUR – SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2018

The bus will be loading at 6:50 AM and leaving at 7:00 AM from the Target parking lot near the intersection of West Main and 131. Please do not park in the Dunham's parking lot, as they will ask you move. **Eat a hearty breakfast at home** as we will not be stopping for breakfast. Lunch will be at around 12:00 PM.

First Stop –The GM Heritage Center, Sterling Heights, MI. Your admission will be paid for by the club.

Second Stop – Louis' Chop House, Chesterfield, MI. The club will cover a portion of the cost of your lunch. Beer, wine and mixed drinks are available at members expense.

Third Stop – Stahls Automotive Museum & Collection, Chesterfield, MI. Your admission will be paid for by the club.

Return to Kalamazoo around 7:30 PM.

ON THE COVER: The latest addition to the McFarlen collection is a 1984 Buick Electra Estate Wagon, with the 307 c.i. V8. The car was a one family summer car that spent its life in the Crystal Lake/Frankfort area since it was purchased new from the John Hayes Chevy, Olds, Buick and Pontiac dealership in Frankfort. (John was in the Class of '61 with me at Seaholm H.S. in Birmingham. The original owner's son can no longer drive due to Parkinson's Disease. He wanted the car well taken care of, and not ending up as yard art. My neighbor, Tom, suggested to him that since I am a Buick guy, and my family's association with Buick goes back to the 1910's, I would be good to the car and its history. Tom called me to see if I was interested. I knew the car, and asked, "How much?" Tom replied, "He wants you to have the car, and it's free to you." Well, I said, "OK!"

I got it over to my work shop in late July. With a little work, and two new tires, we drove it back to Kalamazoo in a 6" rain storm. With help from Keith Maxam and Larry Sherman at Sherman's Auto, we rebuilt the rear shock mounts, etc. We were ready for its debut at the KAARC Fall Color Tour. (continue on next page)

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2018 KAARC MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jim Holland with 37 members attending. John Lacko volunteered for coffee pot honors because he wanted a particular book that was available to the winner.

GUEST: Jeff Wheeler was introduced by Doug McFarlan. Jeff's daughter is a student in the Gilmore Garage Works program.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes were not reviewed because the short week and holidays delayed the mailing of the Arc & Spark, and many members had not read the minutes. A correction to the minutes was offered. The club purchased a "Car Lift" and not an "Engine Hoist" for the Gilmore Garage Works.

NEW BUSINESS The membership expressed a hearty thank you to Gary & Donna Willoughby for organizing the December dish-to-pass dinner meeting. Gary thanked the club and announced that he and Donna are retiring from the job. -The "Arc & Spark" received "Old Car Weekly's" Golden Quill Award for 2016. The delay results from the accumulation and review of all 2016 publications during the 2017 year. The newsletters are reviewed, judgements made, letters written and the awards are printed and mailed in late 2017.

FUTURE EVENTS: The Winter Speaker series at 3:00 pm on Sundays, during the winter months, January 21 through April 29, excluding March 18 and the Corvette show on July 22 at Gilmore Car Museum were cited as noteworthy. A large auction, the Tom Brown Chevrolet auction, is scheduled in Vicksburg for August 25, 2018. The auction house works nationwide and has scheduled a number of these large collection auctions for 2018. If interested, Google: "vanderbrink auctions." Dan Kamerman apologized for being late, but announced that he will try to arrange a future KAARC meeting in the restoration area at the Air Zoo.

-Other events on the calendar include, Autorama, March 3; March Winds, March 24, KAARC Garage Hop, April 21, Mendon Dust Off, May 6, and an April day with Dr. LaPenta (TBD). Finally, a joint board meeting of the old and the new members is in the offing for March.

WINTER SWAP Stan Rakowski announced that all was set for the Winter Swap Meet. Some discussion about service dogs ensued. Steve Inman noted that you can ask if the dog is a service dog, but you cannot ask what service the dog provides, e.g. guide, therapy or companion. The experience with dogs at the previous shows has not been good.

RED BARN SPECTACULAR Jim Holland announced that the planning for the Red Barns is moving smoothly. The Dodge Brothers car was selected as the theme vehicle for the show. Dodge Brothers was founded in 1914, but both died in 1920 and the company control was assumed by their widows. They sold the company to a New York banking house of Dillon Read & Co. for \$146 million. The bank in turn sold the company for \$170 million as a stock transaction to W. P. Chrysler. Dodge carried the Dodge Brothers name and badge through 1938, so this year is 80 years of Dodge.

- **Ted McFarlen** announced that the automotive program at Kalamazoo Valley Community College has changed and is no longer appropriate for scholarship support from the KAARC. Ted plans to visit the college and find out the nature of the change and whether we can continue to support the program in the future.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 8:17

(Cover, continued) So far, we have invested about \$500.00 in the car for tires and tire repairs, rear shocks, belts and motor and transmission mounts. There are other things to be done, but nothing that will keep from going on tours, etc. Our 1940 Chevy that we have had for 46 years, will be going to Benzie County to be used for shows and tours up north. All the local speed limits are 45 mph and under, and there are very few distracted drivers, and no one is in a BIG HURRY!

One funn thing is that this car gets much more attention than my 1986 Regal Coupe 390 point car ever got. It is a BOAT. I could have sold it many times in the last fre months.

THE BANQUET - A WINTER GATHERING

BY DAVID LYON

The traditional WINTER BANQUET was held on January 20, 2018 at the Fetzer Center on the campus of Western Michigan University.

The social hour began at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar and appetizers as photos by John Lacko were beamed onto the screen. Dinner was served at 6:30. A three course meal was served, roasted red pepper soup, an entrée of filet steak and Salmon, and a variety of desserts to complete the feast. The event attracted 114 members and all seemed to enjoy the evening of games, awards and door prizes. Gary Willoughby opened the evening by offering a blessing and a moment of silence for Mert Frost and David MacLeod who passed away during the past year.

Membership Awards: Special KAARC coffee cups were on the tables and were presented to celebrate the 55th Anniversary of the Winter Swap Meet. The various awards and other activities followed the dinner.

The Hard Luck Award: Gary Willoughby opened the awards with the Hard Luck Award to Merle Harney. Merle got lost on the Color Tour in spite of the caravan, the directions and the road signs. Gary noted that Merle had talked to someone along the way who claimed "I can see Russia from my back porch," and he wondered how far Merle had wandered off.

John Bright Award: This award is named after the ultimate volunteer at the Gilmore Car Museum. The late John Bright organized the restoration of the London Bus, taught volunteers to drive it and then made sure that the bus was operated at each of the museum's events during the show season. On behalf of Chris Shires and the Gilmore Car Museum, Fred Colgren presented this volunteer award to Jerry Inman for his work on the Model T Driving School.

Norm Knight Award: Norm Knight was one of the founding members of the club, and created the Arc & Spark during those early years. This award was presented by Doug McFarlen, on behalf of Editor John McLellan. The award recognized Larry Urban for his article "Call it Urban Renewal If You Will," which appeared in the May 16, 2017 issue of the Arc & Spark.

Bailey Award: This award is named after John Bailey, the founder of the KAARC and is intended to honor a member who joined within the last three years and made a notable contribution to the club's activities. That award was given to Larry & Karen Tutt (10-20-2014) for their service as membership chairs.

Murray Award: The Murray Award, the major service award of the club, is given to members who have made a substantial contribution to the club during several membership years. It is named after a member who was active for a brief period in the 1960s, (See related story on Murray on page 6.) The award was presented by Gary Willoughby who cited the recipients' activities, including, three years of service as Secretary, organizing three winter banquets, serving two years as Red Barns swap field organizers, liaison to the KVCC automobile program, cooks at the June picnic for two years and finally the "Traffic Jam Horn Blowing" at the Red Barns. As silly as that may sound, Red Barns participants are known to install special horns on their cars for that event. The award was presented to Ted & Lynn McFarlen.

The Winter Swap Meet: Stan Rakowski has been organizing the swap meet for some 30 years. He spoke briefly about its history and growth with the byline "This Ain't No Flea Market." Stan has held fast to this rule making sure that at least 90% of the goods offered are automotive related. This rule has determined the long standing reputation for quality of product and expectation of experience. Stan made an emotional announcement of retirement. He thanked those who helped him along the way, especially his wife Del, and then volunteered to assist the person who take over. The meet funds both our activities and our important social service.

Steve Turner conducted a humorous game based on automotive history, e.g. "Joan Cuneo was a very successful race car driver in the first decade of the 20th Century. So the Automobile club took what action in 1910?" And so it went from one table to the next for eight tables and the award of dinner cards to those who knew the answers.

Hawkins distributed a large lot of door prizes by lottery. The final prize was a 49" TV set and the story of this lottery item is special. Dave Long and Scott Wolf arrived together, and approached the sign-in table for the banquet at the same time. Dave was first, but as he stopped to pick up his raffle tickets, he dropped his coat and was distracted, which in turn disrupted the progress of the line. Scott stepped forward and picked up those tickets, just to keep things moving along as Dave was getting his coat. "What would it matter, anyway? It certainly did not change the probability of winning." If you believe in destiny, however, it did matter. Finally, Scott not only won the TV set, he asked Dave to help him carry the TV to the car.

One wonders if these circumstances are grounds for the 2018 Hard Luck award?

And so it went, good food, enjoyable entertainment, many prizes, camaraderie, friendly conversation and a few hearty laughs. What more could one ask for on a cold January night?

The evening was organized by Gary & Susan Hawkins, Ryan Hawkins and Steve Turner, and we owe them our thanks and praise for a job well done.

THE 2018 WINTER SWAP MEET

BY DAVID LYON (Text and Photos)

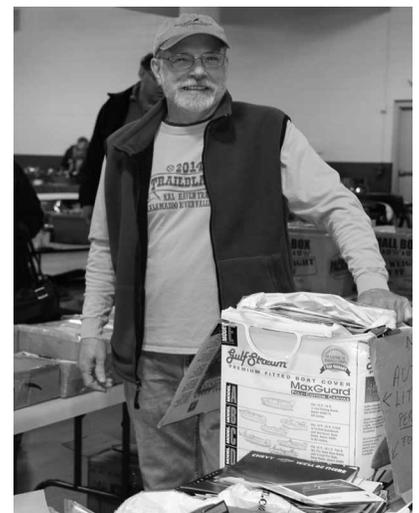
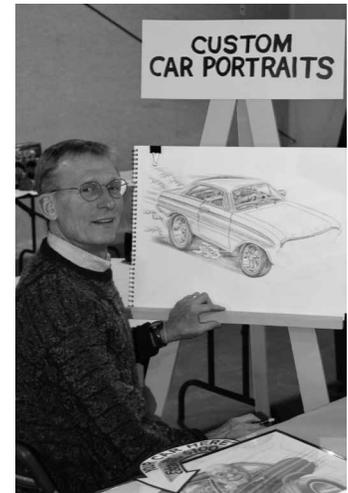
The winter swap meet was held at the Kalamazoo Expo Center, which was previously the Kalamazoo Fair Grounds and before that Recreation Park. In spite of the threatening winter weather, the event attracted some 4,500 vintage car enthusiasts. Various and sundry automobile related goods were provided by 211 vendors inside the Expo building and another 10 outside in the weather. The vendor legacy is held by Dan Kirchner and it extends back 43 years, while a number of other vendors have been attending for more than 30 years.

The swap meet dates back to 1963 when Lew Clark suggested that club members might sell car parts from the trunks of their cars after the monthly meeting in the old bank building in downtown Kalamazoo. Stan Rakowski has been organizing the event for thirty-one years, and has maintained the quality with a simple credo - "This ain't no flea market" - meaning that only car related items are allowed.

Two booths, one for Model T and another for Model A parts survive, as do the sales of vintage photographs and vintage license plates, all of which are staples of the hobby. Various and sundry tools, automotive signs, artifacts, and owner's manuals were available, but the sale of vintage advertising was not represented by a single dealer. Yes, the hobby is changing.

Stanley announced his retirement as the Swap Meet chairman at the winter banquet, and discussions with a potential successor have already begun. Should these discussions come to fruition, the club will be well served and the transition should be seamless.

PHOTOS FROM WINTER SWAP MEET



1967 TO 2017 THE REST OF THE STORY!

BY Doug McFarlen

The Murray Award was named for past member Lee Murray. Well what did Lee do to have this award named for him? He just stepped up and went out of his way to make the new KAARC special. A perusal of the first "Arc & Sparks", and corporate record book, revealed the following.

Vol. I #1. (February 1967) Report on the annual banquet at Stafford's Sahara Room 13 January 57 people attended. "Lee Murray attended with new wife Jan". Banquet was chaired by Dick and Janet Saddler. Meeting, we had \$239.85 in the Treasury.

Vol. I #2. Swap meet profit \$367.89. Note the swap meet was held in a snow storm, we got about 8 to 12 inches that day. This was two weeks after "The Big Snow Of 1967" event.

Vol. I #4. Lee Murray reported that our silk screen was located at Modern Neon Signs. He will make an attempt to create new pennants.

Vol. I #5 "Lee Murray was given a round of applause and \$25.00 for his efforts in preparing new pennants for the club." Note, the check was given back, with a note saying payment was not necessary; "We did it for the fun of it".

Vol. I #7. "Ken Maxam, Doug McFarlen, and Gary Gearheart were appointed to a committee to propose a suitable trophy for inter club events. This will be known as the Murray Trophy."

Vol. I #9. Gary Gearheart reported on progress of the ideas for the Murray Trophy. More at the next meeting.

Vol. I #11 "Discussion on Murray put off to December meeting". Of interest; nominations for officers: Prez. Don Freet, Basil Lewis; VP. Bill Weinburg, Dick Hord, Max Hogmire. Sec. Norm Knight; Treas, Vern Heath, Dick Sager; Board. Ed Waldron, Joan Potter, Harold Loedeman, Mike Gremer.

Vol. II #1 Resume of December (1967) Meeting.

"Doug McFarlen presented the final report of the Murray Trophy. It was concluded that a perpetual trophy be presented on an annual basis at the Annual Banquet.. By vote of the board members, and two members chosen at large, it shall be awarded to a member who has made an outstanding service contribution to the club."

Note: About 1980, the selection of the recipient of the Murray Award was turned over to the past members who were awarded The Murray in the preceding years. This made board members available for consideration.

Vol. II #2. February 1968. Report on annual Banquet.

"Don Freet (President) presented Max Hogmire with the Murray Trophy for his outstanding effort in the club." Note: Max was the Activity Chairman, worked on swap meets from the start in 1984.

I have read all of Vol. II, and Vol. III, of the "Arc & Spark" and there are no references about Lee and Jan Murray. There is a reference to a poster display to go with the trophy. It was done by Gary Gearheart. Where it is today, no one knows. I think that Lee was an "over the road trucker", and they lived somewhere in the Westnedge Hill neighborhood. It appears they moved from the area soon after returning the \$25.00. Never to be seen again, but obviously never forgotten.

Respectively submitted;

Doug McFarlen, Awards Chairman.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 3, 2018 - ANNUAL BUS TRIP TO THE DETROIT AUTORAMA

MARCH 24, 2018 - MARCH WINDS BUS TOUR TO GM HERITAGE CENTER AND STAHL AUTO MUSEUM.

MAY 2, 2018 - MCFADDEN FRIENDLY MOTORS ANNUAL CAR SHOW, SOUTH HAVEN, 4-8

MAY 6, 2018 - MENDON DUST-OFF, MENDON H.S., MENDON, MI

MISCELLANEOUS INFO: APOLOGIES TO DAN KAMERMAN FOR MIS-IDENTIFYING HIS PERT LITTLE STUDEBAKER LARK CONVERTIBLE IN THE LAST ISSUE.

DUES ARE DUE. LARRY AND KAREN TUTT REMIND US THAT DUES ARE DUE BY THE MARCH MEETING. THESE FOLKS DO AN EXCELLENT JOB OF KEEPING OUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION STRAIGHT. MAKE THEIR JOB EASIER BY GETTING DUES TO THEM IN A TIMELY MANNER. KAREN TUTT 39463 CR 653 PAW PAW, MI 49079 269-283-4071

SELL AND SWAP

FOR SALE: 2000 Jaguar S-Type 4-Door, Approximately 119,000 miles, Very good condition, \$2,200.00 OBO. Larry Sweein 517 881-5240

FOR SALE: Generac generator for sale. 10 HP Briggs & Stratton engine. Used about 20 hours since purchased. Starts right up and uses no oil. \$200.00 OBO. Steve T. 269-965-4247 or studefan41@gmail.com

FOR SALE: Surrey Deluxe 4-wheel bike, two people pedal, small removable 2-child carrier on front, 7-speeds, lights, used very little, asking \$2,500.00 OBO Mel Taylor 269 673-2578

FOR SALE: 1968 MB 280S engine and trans. John Malmstrom 269 303-5523

FOR SALE: 2004 GTO (HOLDEN) Less than 5000 miles, 385 horsepower dyno sheet, Located in Moatthoursville, PA \$15,200 Tom Inman 570, 323-7633

FOR SALE: 1986 Chevy Short bed pickup, new crate engine, current under restoration, not on road yet. Greg Wells, 269 375-4844

FOR SALE 1960 Austin Healy 3000, 1952 Chrysler New Yorker Conv., 1930 Chevy 2 dr. sedan,

1982 Avanti, 350 V8 T.W. Lane 344-5555

FOR SALE: 1927 Model T Sedan, 269 377-7756

WANTED: Chevy powerglide transmission set up, to hook up to Chevy 235 six cylinder engine '55 to '62. Doug McFarlen 1-269-345-5667.

FOR SALE: 1978 Corvette Mike Duggan, 269 207-5587

FOR SALE: 1926-7 Model T chassis, complete with engine and wire wheels. \$1500.00 Al Rohrstaff, 269 207-7239

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