

KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE



Arc and Spark



1903 Kalamazoo
by Michigan Buggy
Logo Designed by Norm Knight

AUTO RESTORERS CLUB

VOLUME XLIX; NO. 11

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ON THE ROAD WITH KAARC by John Lacko

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:

A NOTE FROM FRED BIERLEIN: Detroit Auto Show Bus Trip, Thursday, January 21, 2016. 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 member's expense. We will be returning one hour earlier than last year, around 8:00 PM. Cost is \$55 for members and \$60 for non-members which, includes admission and transportation. Payment is due December 15, 2015, please mail your check made out to KAARC to Fred Bierlein, 5189 Fountain Square Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. If you have any questions call me at 269-806-1430.

A NOTE FROM SIBELLA RICHARDSON: I will no longer be chairperson of the following club functions and I need members to volunteer to take them over. 1.) Membership Booth at Winter Swap and Red Barns; 2.) Door Prizes at Winter Swap and Red Barns; 3.) Pop and Ice at Red Barns. Contact me at (269) 569-4391.

A NOTE FROM BOB WILLIAMS RE: 2015 CHICAGO BUS TRIP DECEMBER 5 The Christmas Bus Trip will take place on Saturday December 5. We will meet at the Target parking lot on West Main and begin boarding the bus at 6:45 a.m. with Departure scheduled for 7:00 a.m. The cost is \$20 each for members and, if the bus is not full, non-members can join us for \$25.00 per person. The stops will be made at the museums and at Water Tower Place downtown.

ATTENTION: SNOWBIRDS OR EARLY BIRDS From Peggy Toothman, Membership Registrar: Please send in your 2016 KAARC membership dues BEFORE you leave for the winter. Dues for members who joined in or before 1991 are \$10.00. Those who joined after 1991, the amount due is \$20.00. Please mail the payment to Peggy Toothman, 611 2nd Street, Plainwell, MI 49080

A NOTE FROM JIM HOLLAND: It's time to start planning the 2016 Red Barns Spectacular. Meeting set for THURS NOV 12th at TIG FRIDAYS 6:00 PM. The Gilmore Car Museum turns 50 this coming year. They have asked us to feature cars of 1966. Please bring your ideas and suggestion!! If you know of a club member that doesn't have an email address. Please let them know of the meeting. Hope to see you there!!

A NOTE FROM GARY WILLOUGHBY: The Christmas pot luck will be at the December meeting. . We will be providing all the silverware and cups. Also, as before, I would certainly appreciate any of my "Christmas Angels" who can meet us at the church at 4pm and help to set everything up. It is a quick process if I can get 4-5 couples. We'll gather at 6pm and start the lines at 6:30. Santa will be visiting us early, so I hope we have a great turnout. Thanks for your help with this!

WESTEDGE RIDGE & KRAMER (ONLY) OFFERS A 10% DISCOUNT TO KAARC MEMBERS.

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2015 KAARC MEETING

The October meeting was called to order by President Jim Holland at 7:05 pm

Guests: Larry Urban who owns a 37 Ford and Michael Saunders, Bill's grandson.

Secretary Report: the minutes of the September meeting were approved.

Treasury Report: Gary Hawkins outlined general expenses, including those for the overnigher, color tour and the *Arc and Spark*. A motion to approve was made and supported. Motion carried.

Old Business: WMU and KVCC Scholarships are in review. The committee will be meeting in November and will have answers at the next general meeting.

Many members went to several shows during the month of October.

Ken Maxam and Coleen hosted the overnigher. 35 People went to Grand Rapids, many venues, had a great time

The Page-Wood family hosted the color tour. Mix up at the Museum, had a great lunch, and awesome tour of Charlton Park.

New Business: Sibella Richardson was thanked and given a round of applause for her many volunteer hours. She reminded the members that she is resigning most of her positions. (See club notes on page 2)

Church payment due next month.

Website Payment: due next week, working on getting it updated for another year.

Mailings: please remember to get info in the *Arc and Spark*, separate mailing are extra cost to the club.

Nominations for club officer positions will be opened at the November meeting. Election of officers will take place at the December meeting/ Christmas potluck.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 and the club was treated to a colorful presentation on the Van Buren Tech Center by director Scott Starkweather.

Reminder: November meeting will be at the Zion Lutheran Church on Bronson Boulevard.

Cover Car(s): John Lacko's long shot of cars participating in this year's color tour says it all.

UP COMING EVENTS

December: Willoughby family will be hosting the pot luck at the church

Chicago bus trip Dec 5th contact Bob Williams for details

January 2016: Banquet Jan 30th at Olde Mill in Plainwell, no theme, just a plain Jane Banquet.

Detriot Auto Show: Fred Bierlein, Jan 21st \$55.00 Members; \$60.00 Non members; leaving at 6:45 am at the Westnedge Meijer.

February 2016: The Winter Swap Meet. Rich is sending out the invites soon.

April 2016: March Winds Tour. Heading over the Detriot area.



LOST & FOUND ON THE FALL COLOR TOUR

After a satisfying lunch at Hastings County Seat restaurant during the Fall Color Tour on October 17, Al Alexander discovered that he had lost the recently restored rear license plate from his immaculate 1940 Chevrolet Special Deluxe four door. Fellow travelers stood around and wondered with Al and his wife, Judy what happened to it and why didn't anyone see it depart.

Later that evening, John Lacko, who was shooting photos from the shotgun seat of wife Nancy's CRV while she piloted their second choice entry into the KAARC Fall Color Tour, looked through his images and noticed when the plate was there and when it wasn't. Since the little Honda was a couple of cars behind the maroon Chevy, the Lackos had a pretty good view. From this visual evidence, the plate was lost later in the trip. About three minutes after the last photo with the plate, the Alexanders turned left onto Assyria Road and the plate was gone. The camera also recorded the time of each photo to the second. The photos and time span were emailed to Al and happily a day or so later, he found the plate on the shoulder on the opposite side of the road.



A MOST INTERESTING VEHICLE VISITS GILMORE MUSEUM

By Steve Turner, Photos by Jerry Morrisey

The other evening near the end of a Garage Works session, one of the students looked outside and announced that an old car had just parked outside. We dropped what we were doing to rush outside to check it out. There we encountered Ed Baldwin and his recent purchase an all original 1915 Ford Model T auto complete with a wooden Rawleighs cabinet box where the back seat would have been. While we chatted the Model T sat there chugging along without missing a beat. It seems Mr. Baldwin had won the car at an auction and was on his way back to Oklahoma after traveling to Temperence, MI to retrieve it. Having visited Gilmore Museum several times in the past he had decided not to leave Michigan without another stop.

At the museum he had been told of the Garage Works program and so decided to share his gem with the students and mentors. He described that upon driving up to the garage where the car was parked he was met by the 9 year old grandson of the former owner. This young man then offered to drive Mr. Baldwin around the grounds, saying that this vehicle was his favorite as it was the only one of his grandfather's old vehicles that he could drive. Someone mentioned that sounded like the Abernathy story to which Mr. Baldwin responded that everyone in Oklahoma knew well the Bud and Temple story.

By this time it was getting dark and the Garage Works students were ready to head back home so we bid farewell to Mr. Baldwin and his 'T' after thanking him for sharing his great ride with the museum.



CLUB LOSES TWO MEMBERS

Ron Larson, club member #664, Joined in the club in May 2014, (Stan Rakowski's Brother in Law) passed away last week. Ron lived in Star Idaho.

Fred Sitkins, club member #654, Joined the club in Feb 2014, Fred did lot of coordination with WMU scholarships, solar and automotive teams and was instrumental in the 2015 March Winds Tour to Roush.

Memorial bricks will be placed at the Gilmore Car Museum, Gas Station in their honor.

OBITUARIES- RON LARSON AND FRED SITKINS

Ronald B. Larson, 79, of Star, passed away Friday, October 30, 2015 at his home. A funeral service will be held on Friday, November 6, 2015, 11:00 a.m. at Holy Apostles Catholic Church, Meridian, ID.

Sitkins, Frederick Z. Kalamazoo Fred Sitkins, 78, Passed away Saturday, November 7, 2015 at Bronson Hospital, surrounded by his loving family and friends. Fred was born in Hamtramck, MI on August 18, 1937 to Zike and Olga Sitkins, who both preceded him in death. He also was preceded in death by his younger brother Jack. Fred grew up in Wyandotte, MI and Kelleys Island, Ohio. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte in 1955 and enrolled at Western Michigan University (then Western Normal). He graduated in 1959. and taught school in Southgate, Dearborn and Lincoln Park, and at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. He then owned and operated a business in Wyandotte and Detroit. In 1978 he married Chris Niemcek, the love of his life. In 1979 he and Chris and family again headed back to WMU to take a temporary teaching position in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. He was so honored to be a part of this great institution He went on to become a full Professor in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Director of Co-operative Education, Sunseeker advisor, friend to faculty and staff and mentor to his beloved students. He was also deeply involved with Western Athletics, serving as Chair of the Athletic Board and Faculty Representative to all of Western Athletic conferences, nationwide. He cheered his Broncos on at as many events as he could possibly attend. He retired at the end of August 2015, but continued teaching one of his favorite classes this semester. Fred is survived by his loving wife of over 37 years, Chris and by seven children: Jodi, Juli (Bob), Sean (Melony), Amy, Fred Jr. (Lisa), Lee (Molli) and Dan. He also leaves behind his wonderful and loved grandchildren: Josh, Abby, Zachary, Nathan, Kyle, Elliott, John, Emma, Bryce, Wyatt, Hayden, Sawyer, Sylas, Tori and Reece. And three great children, Adelyn, Daniel and Willow.

KAARC MEETS AT VAN BUREN TECHNOLOGY CENTER

By John McLellan, Photos by John Lacko

The KAARC October meeting took place at the Van Buren Technology Center in Lawrence, Michigan. A light meal, prepared by students in the Food Service program at the center, was enjoyed by all. Following the meal, the regular club meeting was conducted. At the conclusion of the meeting, VBTC Director, Scott Starkweather gave a short power point presentation on the history of the center and a brief overview of all the programs available to high school students in Van Buren County and a limited number of students outside the county. Following Scott's presentation, instructors Jason Fohrler and Rick Boze took members on a tour of the automotive technology facilities. Highlights included a virtual drag race and a brief dyno session using the centers recently built supercharged small block Chevrolet V8.



SELL AND SWAP

For Sale: WINTER STORAGE AVAILABLE. Mert Frost has storage space available for those needing a spot for their car for the winter. Call him at 269 375-5918

For Sale: 1979 Lincoln Town Car, Collector Series, navy, vinyl roof gone, rusty, 66,000, lush blue velour interior, upgraded radio. See at Hometown Auto., \$1,200.00

For Sale: 1981 Lincoln Continental Mark VI, 108,248 miles, 302 V8, TBI, \$1,800 or best offer. Fran VanderRoest 269 382-4573 or Steve VanderRoest 269 569-5714

For Sale: 1964 Int'l Harvester, Scout. All wheel drive--needs to be finished, must be sold. Text or call--803-586-6049. \$1650.00

Wanted: Driver's side door for 1940 Ford 2 door sedan. Contact Ron Smith at 269-818-7780

For Sale 1933 Chevy, stock Master 4 dr. sedan, 69,000 miles, repaint in 1955, \$10,000. Jack Bowen 269 521-4920

For Sale: 1998 Ford Ranger Extended Cab, V6, 2WD. 269 375-3669

For Sale: 1955 Ford T-Bird--contact Mert Frost 269-375-5918 Car was originally bought from Bernie Deaton.

For Sale: 2003 Trailblazer, 160,000 miles, needs fuel pump. \$3,000 or best offer. Dale Wells 269 375-4844

Wanted: 1926-27 Ford Model T drive train, what have you got? Doug McFarlen, 269 873-4509

For Sale: Model-T parts---prices reduced, call-382-5696, ask for Wes

For Sale: 1960 Cushman Eagle, restored, turquoise paint, rebuilt engine, electric start.\$5800.00 Call Jack Myers, 269 344-2624

For Sale: 1971 Monte Carlo, good daily driver, 350 cu. in., 2-barrel, mileage unknown. Asking \$5800.00. Looks and drives nice. Call 269 214-8271

For Sale: 2001 Porsche Boxter, new tires & more. Call 269 207-3090

For Sale: I still have my 1931 Chevrolet 2 Dr. Sedan, Many new and used parts - new upholstery, two (2) bodies, two (2) sets of bumpers. Ken Maxam, 269 330-5362

For Sale: Pickup load of 1929 Model A Parts, front fenders, pair of splash aprons, pair of bumpers, more. Doug McFarlen 269 345-5667

For Sale: 1965 Imperial 4 Dr. Hardtop, one of only 2,100 made. 413 engine. \$4,000. Call Joe McDaniel 269 355-1937

For Sale: 1928 Ford Model A Roadster, restored; 1953 Ford Convertible, restored. Three Rivers. Call 269 279-7845

For Sale: 1953 Studebaker-- Contact Bob Spears at 313-846-6615.

For Sale: 1992 Jaguar, 65,000 miles, Sovereign 4 dr., \$5,500.00; 1948 Buick Roadmaster 4 Dr., 55,000 miles, \$12,000; 1956 Ford T-Bird, 3 spd, manual trans, \$32,000; 1986 Pontiac Trans Am, 9,255 miles, \$12,000; 1994 Mustang Conv., 6 cylinder auto, 21,000 miles, \$9,900.00; 1994 Mustang GT Conv., V8, 40,000 miles, \$11,000; 1995 Lincoln Town Car, 150,000 miles, needs work; \$450.001976Cadillac Conv., 50,000 miles, gold exterior. Call T.W. Lane 269 344-5555

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