

# KALAMAZOO ANTIQUE



*Arc and Spark*



1903 Kalamazoo  
by Michigan Buggy  
Logo Designed by Norm Knight

## AUTO RESTORERS CLUB

---

---

*VOLUME XLIX; NO. 4*

*April 21, 2015*

---

---



***Steve and Carol Turner Debut Their 1948 Studebaker***

---

---

*Visit us at [www.kaarc.org](http://www.kaarc.org)*

**PRESIDENT**

Jim Holland Jr. 269 377-7756  
jholland@alta-tech.com

**TREASURER**

Gary Hawkins • 269-496-9596 •  
ghawk8066@aol.com

**WINTER SWAP MEET**

Stan Rakowski 269 375-3669  
sdrakow2@aol.com

Sibella Richardson

Gary Willoughby 269-323-9532

**MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR**

Peggy Toothman  
611 2nd Street  
Plainwell, MI 49080  
269-685-8434  
peggy@toothmanprinting.com



**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

- 2014 -

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Stan Rakowski 269 375-3669  
sdrakow2@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: John McLellan

jmclellan75@comcast.net

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Don Gladstone  
hwkid4445@yahoo.com

**SECRETARY**

Ted McFarlen

**RED BARN SPECTACULAR**

Stan Rakowski 269 375-3669  
Jim Holland, Jr. 269 377-7756

John Lacko 269-344-4764

jalacko@aol.com

Ryan Hawkins

**INSIGNIA & APPAREL**

Steve & Kalli Inman  
8980 East EF Ave.  
Richland, MI 49083  
269-629-5383

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.

**Cover Car: Steve and Carol Turner Debut Their 1948 Studebaker**

Frequent A&S contributor, Steve Turner (for whom the editor is unendingly grateful), and his wife Carol recently undertook a road adventure to Freeland, Michigan to check out, and eventually purchase, a pristine 1948 Studebaker Land Cruiser. Included here are two photos the Turners sent along, in addition to the shot used on this month's cover. If you love "road adventures" involved in bringing old vehicles home, you will love Steve's account of the trek from metropolitan Freeland to their home at the wheel of the trusty Studebaker.



**THE WESTNEDGE RIDGE & KRAMER (ONLY) OFFERS A 10% DISCOUNT TO KAARC MEMBERS.**

# MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2015 KAARC MEETING

The March 17, 2015 KAARC meeting: was called to order by Stan Rakowski at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 43

**GUESTS:** Donald Gard, friend of Gary Willoughby, from Portage Michigan. Don was given a membership application.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE** for deceased members Roger Borden, Michael Lisak and Ron Overloop.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** A motion to approve minutes of the February meeting was made and supported. All were in favor. Approved.

**TREASURERS REPORT:** Included were: general expenses, plaques for banquet, Arc and Spark from Toothman Printing, mail past due expenses, postage for membership plaques mailed to members who were not at the banquet. Motion to approve. Second. Approved

## OLD BUSINESS:

-Fred Bierlein reported that the March Winds Tour was all ready to go. Two spots available due to cancellations. Bus will be there @ 7:15am and leaving @ 7:30 am.

-Expo Center: The center requires that we have paper on the tables at the swap meet. They are purchasing new tables and don't want to have grease and such on them.

-Western Michigan University Scholarship: We currently do not have an updated balance on the funds for the scholarship. We are looking into not replenishing the fund after it is @ \$0.00.-Van Buren Technology Center: Ted McFarlen will be contacting the center to talk to the executive director about the process for getting a scholarship up and running.

-Comstock High School: Ted McFarlen will be contacting Matt Paski at Comstock High School to get a feel for what they need.

**PAST EVENTS:** Detroit AutoRama Many members went to the event to look at all the custom rides. The winner was a '65 Chevy Impala done by Chip Foose which cost hundred of thousands of dollars to build. Members were talking about how the rat rod area is getting bigger and bigger every year.

Gary and Donna Willoughby were in Florida for a few weeks during the month of February. They attended

Zephyrhills meet, the Fort Myers Muscle Car Center (Corvettes, GTO, and 442) and the Talahasee Museum, a privately owned collection with over \$25 million worth of cars including prototypes, hot rods, and outboard motors.

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

-Winter Swap Meet - The deposit has been made. Rich Salvaggio will be the chairman of the event.  
-March Winds - Fred Bierlein and Don Gladstone are ready for the event. -

-Dr. LaPenna's Garage Hop - Saturday April 25, 12pm to 3pm

-May Dust-Off. Chairman needed for the tour to Mendon

-April 21 KAARC Meeting: John Lacko will present a program on the 1965 Martin US-131 Dragway season

-May 19 KAARC Meeting: Scott Starkweather, Director of the Van Buren Tech Center will speak.

-Club Picnic, June 16, 2015

-July: 4th Picnic at Bob Packer's place, Lawton

-August 1, 2015: Red Barns Spectacular

**NEW BUSINESS:** Jim Holland is looking for sponsorships. It is time to step up and help our the club with sponsorships. The McFarlens are doing the swap meet area. Jim Holland is looking for a Judged Area chairman, and Driver's Choice chairman. We thank Larry and Kay Salo for their many years of service in these capacities. There will be Red Barns meeting soon.

-KAARC Website: Ted McFarlen inquired about the mobile side of the website. A lot of the younger people want a mobile friendly site. Jim and the webmaster have been working on the site.

**TIPS AND PLUGS:** Dan Kamerman reported on the Stahl Foundation Auto Museum in Chesterfield, MI. Free admission on certain days. Tw lane. Lets not forget our vets received many grants. Chris welborn southern wheel. Coolant testing with multimeter.

**CLEAN UP HONORS:** Jim Sielucki

**SPEAKER PROGRAM** - Gilmore Car Museum Director, Michael Spezia gave a presentation on the museum.

# ON THE COVER: SEARCHING FOR A COOL RIDE

*by Steve Turner*

Back in February, at the KAARC swap meet, I picked up several issues of Wheel Dealer. Inside I spied several old cars that seemed interesting enough to at least learn a bit more about. Once back home, I phoned a gentleman who had a 1957 Studebaker President for sale in Manitowoc, WI. We chatted about his car and then he told me where I could find more pictures of the car: Carsforsale.com. On that site I found not only his car, with a few pictures, but a whole bunch of other interesting ones as well. I called on a 1961 Rambler Ambassador located in Aberdeen, SD and a 1959 Rambler in Columbus, OH. While each of them had positive points and reasonable prices none of them pushed me to go beyond the phone calls and emails.

About a week later along came the March, 2015 issue of Turning Wheels, the monthly publication of the Studebaker Drivers Club. After reading the articles I turned to the cars for sale section to check out the inventory. An ad from a gentleman in Freeland, MI featured a 1948 Studebaker Land Cruiser along with an email address. I shot him an email asking about the car and requesting some pictures. When Jeff, the owner, sent the information and some pictures I felt this car was worth checking into further. I phoned him and we talked about the condition of the car as well as its history. He revealed that his father had purchased the car along with a parts car back in the early 90's with the idea of building a car he could drive and enjoy. As an engineer he approached this project with a game plan. That is, he assessed the car, determined what needed to be accomplished, and then set about gathering the necessary materials to complete it. He also kept detailed lists of what had been done and what needed yet to be done as well as most of the directions and literature he had obtained for parts he ordered such as the wiring harness. Finally he made lists of all the various components he installed and checked them off as he got them functioning properly.

He completed the project in 1996, but shortly thereafter his health began to deteriorate. In spite of this setback he attended a number of Studebaker events and other car shows before turning the car over to his son and entering a nursing home where he still resides. The son, Jeff, stated right off that he was not an old car person and yet was reluctant to part with the car for several years.

Finally, just this year, Jeff decided the time had come to part with the car, as long as it went to a person who would treat the car with the same care as his dad had done. He had received a number of calls, but we were the first ones to drive up to Freeland to view it. After talking and checking it over we took it for a test drive, finding that the bias ply tires coupled with the nasty roads in the area made for some interesting steering moments. That, and the failure of the overdrive to kick in, were the only issues found so we made him an offer, which he accepted.

Back home in Battle Creek we set out determining how we would get the car from Freeland to our house, a distance of about 130 miles. A quote from a transporting company, to the tune of \$325, caused us to scrap that idea in favor of trying to drive it home, using back roads, but also going through some towns in case we needed either repair, or a place to store the car should it simply quit running down the road.

Our trip back to Freeland went well and we arrived on a crisp, mid-teens morning, me dressed for the weather as Jeff had told us that the heater did not work! We also came armed with a tool box, extra fan belt, water, oil, a fire extinguisher and our cell phones. After settling up, we headed back west, then south toward home. All went well until the car climbed about half way up a long hill on M-46 beyond Alma where it simply quit. After a brief panic moment I headed back to Alma to purchase a gas can and gas. We poured a bit into the carb and most of the rest into the tank. The car came to life and we were off. We did stop at the next gas station to fill the tank just in case the gas gauge wasn't working (it works) and all that was wrong was that the car was out of gas (it wasn't). However, the car did the same thing several more times, mostly while going up hills. But each time a bit of gas down the throat of the carb and we were on the road again. On an asphalt section of M-66 that was well-grooved, the bias ply tires again asserted themselves making for a few trips almost off the road. However, other than that and the stumbling problem, the car ran well and we reached home safe and sound. The plan at this point is to mount some radial tires on the wheels, diagnose the starving for gas issue and then enjoy the car. In short the search has been successfully completed!

## THE KAARC SWAP MEET

by John Pizzo

(Reprinted with permission from Cruis'news Magazine)  
Hello once again, readers. And, welcome to another great issue of Cruis'news. In February, Scooter (Scott Strenzel) and I went to the Kalamazoo Fairgrounds for the annual KAARC Auto Parts and Memorabilia Swap Meet. While the crowd was plenty on Saturday, so was the "stuff." I had my own booth set up to sell things. There was lots to look at and to buy. Unfortunately, I forgot my camera, so I didn't take any pictures. These photos are of the gas and oil items I managed to find.

This show is one of the first swap meets I attend to kick off the the swap meet season. This is a good one to go to in order to see what the general automotive and transportation parts and collectibles are selling for. The group that has this meet every year is the Kalamazoo Antique Auto Restorers Club (KAARC) and they have been doing this show for 52 years. The meet only allows transportation related items. Their motto is: "This ain't no flea market!" True to this motto, anyone selling items not related to transportation are told to leave and not return.

One vendor said this when asked about his sales: "I have had many people stop and look, as well as buy. Most of the things I sold were extra parts I have had for my projects over the years. Like with any two-day swap meet, the first day is always the best for sales."

I also asked an attendee what they thought. they replied, "It's a great swap meet to go to because you never know what you might find. And, most of the vendors are friendly and willing to deal."

The things I found at the show are some very good items that I've been searching for. If anyone that is in need of original parts and great collectibles, this is a good one to attend.



## REPORT ON THE KAARC WEBSITE UPDATES

by Jim Holland

Over the last month or so I have been working with Art (our web master) on getting the KAARC website a bit more active. The latest update: The header titles have been changed to better promote the KAARC's two major events, the Winter Swap Meet and the Red Barns Spectacular.

The single rotating groups of pictures have been changed to three rotating groups (more pictures need to be loaded... who has some older 60's, 70's 80's, 90's pictures?) Also there is a Facebook link at the bottom that connects our KAARC website to our Facebook page. We are trying to get the search engine keywords to be effective. Example if you search "car show on google" It would be great if the kaarc.org site popped up. There is now a calendar. I'm trying set it up so that certain KAARC members can add to the calendar. Finally I detailed some pages to help better describe the the club with our long history and very active members. Please feel free to input into this process with ideas and issues. Best Regards, Jim Holland

## UPCOMING SPEAKER PROGRAM PROMISES TO BE INFORMATIVE AND ENTERTAINING

Members attending the April 17 KAARC meeting will be entertained by John Lacko. John's description of the program says he will "...take us back with his photographs to 1965 at Martin US-131 Dragway." John and a friend were the track photographers for that legendary summer, when almost every weekend, mythical A/FX racers like "Farmer" Arnie Beswick, Dick Brannen, Dyno Don Nicholson, The Ramchargers and more paired up for exciting match races for the fans. 1965 was a pivotal year in drag racing as the F/X (factory experimental) cars began their metamorphoses to all out funny cars, with altered wheelbases, and superchargers and nitromethane replacing carbs and gasoline. John's photo below captured a classic showdown between the Ramchargers' '65 Dodge and Arnie "The Farmer" Beswick's '64 GTO.

# JOHN LACKO'S PHOTO REPORT ON THE MARCH 2015 "MARCH WINDS TOUR"

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Fred Bierlein and Don Gladstone a busload of lucky KAARC members had the opportunity to tour two Jack Roush facilities in Livonia, Michigan on March 28. The first stop was at the Roush Manufacturing Facility where the group was taken on a guided tour of the home of the Roush-modified Mustangs. After a great lunch stop, the group moved on to tour the Roush car collection. In addition to a historical perspective display of Roush NASCAR Cup race cars, members on the tour viewed a superb display of antique Fords, some early Gapp & Roush drag racers and several Ford-based muscle cars. Fred, Don and several club officers presented an appreciation plaque to museum personnel before we all boarded the bus for the trip home.



*Roush 34 Phaeton*



*Roush Gapp 69 Convertible*



*Roush Black Cougar*



*Roush Museum Boss 429*



*Roush Undercover Vette*



*Roush Cup Collection*



*Roush Plaque Presentation*



*Roush Group Photo*

# SELL AND SWAP

**1963 Buick Riviera.** 445 / 401 engine. Gold with white, mostly original interior. Good driver or could be restored to show condition. 75,000 miles showing on the odometer. Owned, garage kept and not driven in snow the past 10 years. Asking \$9,000. Contact Stan Bowers, 269-760-6292 email cbsb1963@gmail.com

**1989 Chrysler TC by Maserati** 2.2 L Automatic. Royal Cabernet & Ginger. Approx. less than 50,000 miles, odometer stopped working 4 years ago at 42,000 miles, car is driven just over 1,000 miles a season. Very good driver. Cold a/c has been converted. Hard top, excellent black soft top, tool kit, umbrella and hard top stand ( when off the car). Car was in a large private collection for 12 years prior to our purchase 5 years ago. Loss of garage space reason for selling. Asking \$3,000 E-mail pictures up on request. Contact Stan Bowers at 269-760-6292 / Email cbsb1963@gmail.com Located in Kalamazoo.

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

**For Sale:** 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:** 1985 MG TD Roadster, project, good body, 95% complete, clear title. \$4,500. Dan 269 330-9407

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

**For Sale:** 3 Ton Companion Hydraulic Floor Jack with 4 Six-Ton Jack Stands 16" – 24" \$90. Two 3-Ton Steel Jack Stands 12" – 20" \$15. Two Steel Car Ramps 10" \$15. Tom Kayser 344-0470

**For Sale:** 1965 Imperial 4 Dr. Hardtop, one of only 2,100 made. 413 engine. \$5,000. 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:** 1980 Pontiac Trans Am, T-Tops, Turbocharged. Call Stan Rakowski 269 375-3669

**For Sale:** 2007 Honda Element, 80,000 miles, red, \$11,000. T.W. Lane 269 344-5555

**For Sale:** 2005 Mercury Grand Marquis 4 Dr., 80,000 miles, Florida car, well maintained, fantastic shape. \$8,688. Trades welcome. T.W. Lane 269 344-5555

**For Sale:** 2006 Mercury Milan Premier, Florida car, top of the line, low, low 36,000 miles, one owner, you can't find them like this! \$10,950. T.W. Lane 269 344-5555

**For Sale:** 1992 Jaguar XJ Sovereign 4Dr., 6 cylinder, Brooklands Green, Barley leather interior, 67,000 original miles, original paint, interior, engine, trans., Gold Key Lease from new, not driven in winter or bad weather. \$8,100. Trades welcome. T.W. Lane 269 344-5555

## MCFADDEN FRIENDLY MOTORS ANNUAL SPRING CAR SHOW

WEDNESDAY MAY 6, 2015  
11628 M-140 HWY.  
SOUTH HAVEN, MICHIGAN  
4:00 p.m.

FREE FOOD

CARS WILL BE JUDGED

**HOMETOWN AUTOMOTIVE, LLC**  
**5317 E. MICHIGAN AVENUE**  
**KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49048**  
**269 343-7533**

**Members  
of the  
KAARC**

**Servicing All Makes & Models**  
**Specializing in Classic Cars**

**Carl Meisel - Phil Weinreich**  
**Owners/Operators**

*[www.Hometownautomotivellc.com](http://www.Hometownautomotivellc.com)*

**Kalamazoo Antique Auto Restorers Club**  
Since 1962  
*[www.kaarc.org](http://www.kaarc.org)*  
*Keep America Beautiful, Restore an Old Car*  
**P.O. BOX 532**  
**OSHTEMO, MICHIGAN 49077**

