

# Wheels "A" Rolling



Mid-Atlantic Region  
Veteran Motor Car Club of America



2011 Spring Tour  
Rock Ford Plantation  
Lancaster, PA

Volume 12, No. 2  
April-May-June 2011

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2001-2002	Roy Lambden
2003-2004	Steve Smith
2005-2006	Jim Scheidel
2007-2008	Chester Bradfield
2009-2010	Roger de Socarras

### VMCCA/AACA Revival Glidden Tours

2011 Sept. 18-23 Cumberland, Maryland  
Host: Queen City Region AACA

2012 October 21-26 Brenham, Texas  
Tour Directors: Jamie and Pat Crandall

### VMCCA Membership Meetings

2012 Feb. Punta Gorda, Florida  
2013 Jan. (Car Auction Week) Phoenix, Arizona

### Chrome Glidden Tour

2012 June 8-13 Billings, Montana

### Heritage Tour

2012 July 15-20 Eastern Iowa

### Western National Tour

2011 August 21-26 Laramie, Wyoming  
Hosts: Mountain & Plains Region

Photos contributed by Ann Fagan and David Young/Dianne Taylor.

## Director Howard's Message

We had a nice turnout for the Spring Tour. I was happy to see a few new faces on this tour. I missed some of you but I know this is a very busy time of year. Lots of trips and events overlap; hard decisions have to be made. I have to say you missed a great tour.

Visiting Amish Country was a great experience. I just wanted to say "Great tour, people"! Thanks goes out to Tom and Nancy Pfahler, Jim and Mae Laird, Charles and Evelyn Blevins and anyone else that pitched in. I know all the members thank you too.

*Howard King, Director*



## Mid-Atlantic Region Picnic

**Date: Saturday, July 30**

**Hosts:** David Young/Dianne Taylor

**Location:** 407 E Nicodemus Rd  
Westminster MD 21157

**Phone Number:** 410 876 0702

*See page 7 for more information.*

## Mid-Atlantic Region Fall Tour 2011

Rickie and Bill Beardsmore are arranging for the tour to follow *John Wilkes Booth's Escape Route*. It will be held **Thursday through Saturday, October 13-15, 2011**. There will be a tour bus in the Washington, DC, area due to parking issues. The tour will coincide with the National Oyster Festival and Shucking Contest in St. Mary's County. Arrangements are being made for attendees to stay at a hotel in Prince Frederick, MD.

## Winter Blahs Get-Together

*By Chris King*

Saturday, March 12, 2011, was the date of our first outing for the 2011 season thanks to Steve and Nancy Smith. I think the Smiths just wanted to say to our members "Happy Spring." This was a great way of getting rid of our winter blahs. It was a great idea.

We had about 38 members and guests. We were happy that the McLeans brought Margaret's sister, Dorothy. We would also like to say it was great to have Duane and Rebecca Perrin and Sonnie Weaver's grandson (a handsome guy). Who knows, maybe a future car enthusiast.

We were able to socialize for a couple of hours. I want to say it felt so good to see all of you. We missed the snow-birds. David Taylor and Diane Young told us all they were ready for the Summer Picnic. Rickie and Bill Beardsmore said they are on a roll for the Fall Tour. They have some great ideas as always. And some of our members are ready to pitch in.

Some of our group were on their way home from other places. It was great they stayed the night at the hotel in Culpeper just so they could be with us. James and Becky Woodall were one of those couples.

Steve and Nancy chose Peppers Bar & Grill for lunch. It was a super private room, delicious food and lots of time to share stories and thoughts for the upcoming year. A super thank you to Steve and Nancy for this great idea and planning. Hope to see more of you soon. Happy Motoring.

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## Congratulations



*Chester and Nancy Bradfield's 1938 Studebaker Coupe Express received the VMCCA Best Restored Orphan Make Award at the Annual Meeting in Texas in February.*

## Minutes of VMCCA Business Meeting May 13, 2011

Director Howard King called the attendees to order at 6:00 PM at the Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace, MD. The meeting was held on the last evening of the Spring Tour to the Lancaster area of Pennsylvania, and to Harford & Cecil Counties in Maryland. Chester Bradfield led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, and then offered an invocation prior to dinner. A buffet dinner was served.

The formal meeting began at 7:00 PM. Director Howard thanked Tom & Nancy Pfahler, Jim & Mae Laird, and Charles & Evelyn Blevins for hosting this successful tour. Howard reported that Vice Director John Stone was ill, and that Nancy Bradfield had a card for members to sign.

**MINUTES:** A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the October 20, 2010 business meeting. The minutes had been published in the Newsletter; the minutes were accepted as published. The motion was passed by a voice vote of the members present.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** In the absence of Treasurer Alice Oberender, the Secretary reported the treasury balance which included income from the sale of hats and from dues but did not include any monies from the Spring Tour. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read. This motion was passed by a voice vote of the members present.

**NEWSLETTER:** There was no Newsletter report. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photographs about their interest in antique vehicles.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Picnic: Dianne Taylor reported that the picnic will be held at their home in Westminster, MD, on July 30, 2011. A caterer has been chosen, and a deposit made. In response to questions, Dianne requested that local members volunteer to bring a dessert and that attendees might want to bring a lawn chair. The details will be published in an upcoming Newsletter.

Car & Truck Event: Chester Bradfield reported that on Sunday, October 9, 2011, he and Nancy will be hosting this event at their home. All are wel-

come to attend. There will be approximately 200 people and approximately 80 vehicles.

Heritage Tour, 2013: Chester reported that Don Knight has requested that the Bradfields host this event in the Shenandoah Valley. There will be four historical tours in different parts of the country, open to cars 1980 and older. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Fall Tour 2011: Rickie Beardmore reported that the tour is being arranged to follow *John Wilkes Booth's Escape Route*. It will be held Thursday through Saturday, October 13-15, 2011. There will be a tour bus in the Washington, DC area due to parking issues – both because normal parking is so scarce, and because of the logistics of parking antique vehicles. The tour will coincide with the National Oyster Festival and Shucking Contest in St. Mary's County. Arrangements are being made for attendees to stay at a hotel in Prince Frederick, MD.

Annual Meeting & Holiday Dinner: As previously reported, this will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011 at the Inn at Brookville Farms. We will gather at 11:30 AM, with a buffet lunch to follow.

Nancy Pfahler then spoke mentioning that she and Tom enjoyed planning the tour. She thanked the Blevins and Lairds for their part in coordinating the Maryland portion of the tour. Ruth Ann Ronchetti will be writing up the summary of the tour for the Newsletter. Additionally, Nancy recognized Chester and Nancy Bradfield and Jim and Mae Laird – both couples will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries this summer.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Membership: Secretary Ann Fagan reported that 25 members from 2010 have not yet paid dues for this year. The Roster needs to go out, so all dues not paid by the end of May will only include members who have currently signed up. Rosters will be sent by e-mail in .pdf (Adobe) format to all members with e-addresses.

Rock Ford pictures: Pictures of each car on this tour were taken in front of Rock Ford, and the museum has requested that these pictures be made available to Rock Ford for use on their web site and/or in their printed brochure. Other than credit being given to the Mid-Atlantic Region of VMCCA, there will be no individual identification of either the cars or their owners. If any members **don't** want an image of their

car made available, they should contact Ann Fagan immediately.

Article: Jim Scheidel mentioned that the Elliotts had approached him about writing an article for a Model A Restoration magazine.

Auction: Jim Scheidel mentioned that a large museum featuring farm implements in St. Mary's County is being disbanded. There will be an auction of these implements Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28, 2011.

Director Howard King expressed thanks to all members who have stepped up and helped with all aspects of activities for the club.

The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the Picnic on July 30, 2011. It was moved and seconded to adjourn the business meeting; this was carried by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Evelyn Blevins distributed door prizes at the conclusion of the formal meeting.

Ann Fagan, Secretary

## Mid-Atlantic Region VMCCA Spring Tour 2011

*Ruth Ann Ronchetti, Reporter*

On Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, we all left our homes in our "21 Veteran Motor Cars," driving from Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina, for another new adventure in the Mid-Atlantic Region. We were bound for the Clarion Inn Historic Strasburg Inn in Strasburg, PA, where we would spend two nights.



After getting settled in, we all congregated in the Sun Room of the Inn and "checked in" with our hosts, Nancy and

Tom Pfahler (in photo above), and picked up our itinerary and "goodie bags." As new members to the Region, my husband John and I were greeted warmly by our newfound friends. We did know Ann and Yale Fagan from a previous tour so shortly after their arrival, the four of us went next

door for a very hearty dinner ... whew, it was a little too much for me, but very good.

**Day One, Wednesday, May 11:** Our first order of the day after our breakfast was to board a lovely motor coach by 8:00 am for our narrated tour of the Amish country in Lancaster County, PA. The countryside is so beautiful in that area. Everything is so well manicured and clean, such a pleasure to look at!

During our drive, we passed numerous Amish farms and since it was such a beautiful day we were seeing a lot of activity outside, even that early. The men were out in the fields plowing in their primitive way with wooden plows hooked to a team of 4-5 horses and many of the houses had laundry hanging out on their lines, many of them on the front porch. We also passed several very small Amish schools ... they almost look like one-room schools, which maybe some are ... with the children outside playing. Such



a simple life to see ... it is so refreshing to see how the Amish care about and treasure their families and land.

Our first stop was at the Lil Country Store that was part of a private residence. We got off the bus and we were greeted by the owner and his young son and were escorted to his small woodshop. He talked to us about what he makes and sells at his business, ever changing to fit the demand ... a few years back he was even making professional baseball bats ... very interesting. Then Daniel, the son, showed us their miniature horses ... oh, how cute! There were about 8 of them in an adjoining small stable and the barn was sooo clean, it was amazing!

After that we went to the their Lil Country Store that had just about anything Amish that a person might want to buy ... all hand-made ... baby items, aprons, bonnets, table linens, children's toys, framed pictures of Amish scenes, birdhouses, etc., and the prices were sooo reasonable! A number of us came out of there with something.

Our next stop was to an Amish organic farm: Sunset View Aquaponics Farm. Here they use aeroponic technology ...

air and water ... to grow clean and green produce in a vertical growing system. When we walked in we saw a lot of slowly rotating vertical “tubes” with lettuce growing on the sides of them ... nothing like I’ve never seen. Any kind of vegetable, herb, or flower can grow on them at a much faster rate ... amazing! They also had what looked like an ordinary above ground round swimming pool where they were also producing tilapia fish. This was a most unusual tour and quite interesting.

Loading back up in our motor coach, we were now headed for a lunchtime treat ... some real Amish cooking at a private residence! We were greeted by the “man of the house” and ushered into the basement where there were long tables ready and waiting for us ... we were a group of 43 and we all fit comfortably. Then the food started ... chicken, ham loaf, mashed potatoes that were so creamy they almost looked like pudding, noodles with gravy, chow-chow, corn, applesauce, and their homemade bread ... mmm, mmm, good! For dessert we were served a chocolate cake, ice cream, and shoo-fly pie, my personal favorite! If you have never had it, it’s a pie with molasses on the bottom and a flour, sugar, mix crumb topping ... sooo good!

As we slowly waddled back to the bus ... that food was just wonderful ... we had a quick stop at Glick’s Foods & Crafts. Hickory and oak furniture were their specialty and their Amish craftsmanship is like no other ... sooo beautiful and comfortable! There was a little craft shop, too, that we breezed in and out of before loading back up on the bus.

Our next stop was back to our hotel where we would get into our individual cars and then head out to our next destination ... Wheatland, the home of James Buchanan, our 15<sup>th</sup> U.S. President, in Lancaster, PA. Here, we were broken up into smaller groups and given a guided tour by a gentleman in period costume. President Buchanan lived in this stately home from 1848-1868, till his death. What lovely grounds and a beautiful old home with magnificent interior decorating for that period of time.

After our tour of Wheatland, we were told that we had a surprise stop and followed our driving instructions. We entered a gravel driveway that wrapped around the back of a barn, got out of our cars, and were greeted by a gentleman named Art ... he began talking to us in front of his barn that had this magnificent mural of horses pulling a Conestoga wagon that covered the entire front of his barn ... wow! As it turns out, he had a fabulous collection of all types of old wagons and stories to go with most of them. His dad was there, also, and he invited us to see his collection of wagons and “stuff” in his barn, too, next door. It was a really cool find!

**Day Two, Thursday, May 12:** Our first stop of the day was the North Museum of Natural History & Science at the F & M College campus in Lancaster, PA. We went into their Planetarium upon entering and we were given a very nice narrated nighttime sky exhibit. After that we wandered around individually looking at all the exhibits, spending about an hour and a half there.

It was lunchtime again ... yeah! (These tours and good food go so well together!) There was a room reserved for our group at the Park City Diner and Coffee Shop in Lancaster. After filling our bellies, our next order of business was to visit the Rock Ford Plantation, also in Lancaster. It is the historic 18<sup>th</sup> century home of Edward Hand, Revolutionary War Adjutant General to George Washington in 1781. Built circa 1794, the plantation remains an authentic example of refined country living as it existed during the



early years of the American Republic. Before entering our self-guided tour, we all gathered on the front porch for a group picture and then as we were leaving, each car was photographed with the house in the background.

The next leg of our journey took us to Aberdeen, MD, where we checked into the LaQuinta Inns & Suites. Our hosts for this part of our tour were Jim and Mae Laird and Charles and Evelyn Blevins. Dinner was on our own so we ventured out to a suggested restaurant and met up with some long-time friends that live in Aberdeen.

**Day Three, Friday, May 13:** Our morning stop was to the minor league Ripken Baseball Stadium, named after the famous ball player, Cal Ripken, and home to the Aberdeen



Ironbirds. Here, we all were given Ironbirds baseball caps and then started our tour of the stadium, starting at the top in the Concourse area where they rent out the space for special events, such as weddings, proms, reunions, etc. Next, we went into the Press and Media Room and then after that we went outside and started the walk into the stadium ... wow, it is really big! We walked to the Dugout where a group picture was taken and then we continued to walk the grounds where we were shown some smaller ball diamonds, each being modeled after famous ballparks.

Our next and last stop for the day, and the end of the tour, was at Ladew Topiary Gardens in Monkton, MD. "The extraordinary topiary gardens were designed and developed by Harvey S. Ladew (1887-1976) and are known throughout the world. 22 acres of delightful gardens include more than 100 larger-than-life topiary forms. The life sized Hunt Scene of topiary horses, riders, hounds and a fox is one of the most famous of Ladew's creations."



(L to R) Pat Shoemaker, Chester and Nancy Bradfield, and Ruth Ann and John Ronchetti at Ladew Gardens.

We all met at the Visitor's Center and were given our instructions for the self-guided walking tour and off we all went. What gorgeous grounds, so beautifully planned and manicured ... the topiaries are certainly one-of-a-kind! After some photo opps and about an hour later we headed back to the main area where we were going to have our lunch. What a surprise ... we were going to have our lunch in an old converted stable ... how cool was that ... white stables with black hardware and round tables with red and white checked cloths ... very quaint!

After our lunch was over, it was time for the guided tour of the Manor House. Originally built circa 1747, Harvey S. Ladew purchased the 230-acre property in 1929 and over the next ten years, he focused on restoring and expanding it, reflecting his love for fox hunting, the English countryside and entertaining. As time went on, he continued to refine his home by adding several additions. It truly is a magnificent home with many architectural details and English flavor and made for a very interesting tour.

Well, folks, our tour had come to an end and back to the hotel we went. After a short rest, we departed for our clos-

ing banquet buffet dinner at The Bayou Restaurant in Havre de Grace, MD. After having had a wonderful meal there, a few key people spoke, door prizes were given out, and a few departing words were said.

A BIG THANK YOU goes to Nancy and Tom Pfahler, Mae and Jim Laird, and Evelyn and Charles Blevins for a wonderful Mid-Atlantic Region Tour! We had a great time!



(L to R) Fred Brandon, Howard King, Betty Jean Guy & William Guy wearing their new baseball caps at Ripken Stadium.

## THANK YOU ALL

Tom and Nancy Pfahler want to thank the Jim Laird's and the Charles Blevins' for their help with this spring tour. They had great places to visit. We want to thank Ruth Ann Ronchetti for writing up the article about the spring tour. I have always enjoyed reading articles she has written. And we want to thank Ann Fagen for her contribution to the success of the tour. She was the treasurer in the absence of Alice Oberender and was the photographer for the tour.

Thanks to everyone who was able to make the trip. We missed those who were unable to be here. Tom and I had a great time!



(L to R) Jack Pavlidis, Jim Laird, Herb Wessell, Charlie Smith, and Yale Fagan at Ladew Topiary Gardens. Where did all the ladies go?

# VMCCA MID-ATLANTIC REGION PICNIC

**Date: Saturday, July 30**

**Hosts:** David Young/Dianne Taylor

**Location:** 407 E Nicodemus Rd  
Westminster MD 21157

**Phone Number:** 410 876 0702



We'll plan to eat around 12:30 - 1:00. Please let us know via email ([detaylor@towson.edu](mailto:detaylor@towson.edu)) or phone by July 25 if you plan to attend – don't want any hungry VMCCAers. We'll have the picnic outdoors under the trees if weather permits or indoors and on covered porch areas if not. Folks are welcome to come early and browse through our "Southwest" home, some antique tools, etc, Dianne's collection of antique purses, and cars and tractors in the barn.

**Directions:** 407 E. Nicodemus is mid-way between MD 32 (3/4 mi east) and MD 97 (1 mi west) approximately 6 miles south of Westminster, MD, and 11.5 mi from I 70 via MD 97. Our directions will be from MD 97 - our preferred route.

Coming south on MD 97 from MD 140 in Westminster it is a left turn (east) and coming north from MD 26 or I 70 it will be a right turn (east) onto Nicodemus Rd. After the turn one comes through a small development, past Jones Auto Salvage and then down a relatively steep and curvy hill to the Environmental Area Sign on left and Jim Bowers Rd on the right at the bottom. Continue on 100 yards to our unpaved driveway on the right – it is approx 1 mile from MD 97. The number 407 is on the short split rail, a mailbox encased in steel is on the guard rail opposite. Our driveway continues **up** into the woods and splits – straight to the front of house and left to the side of the house/garage/barn. We'll park in front of the house first and then by the barn. Those needing minimal steps into our house should proceed directly to the garage drive and side entrance.

Travel Notes: **Coming from VA, NC** to avoid DC Beltway Congestion and Interstates, we either travel MD 32, 301 across the Potomac Bridge and US 17 **OR** US 29, US15, US340 to US 15 around Frederick to MD 26 to MD 97 (north)

Coming from **PA or Northeastern MD** – to avoid beltways, we generally travel across northern Harford and Baltimore counties on MD 23, MD 138, MD 137, to Hampstead and then 482 to south on MD 27 and MD 140 to MD 97 - One can also connect to this routing if taking PA 472 to Holtwood and PA 74 south into MD (becomes MD 165) and onto MD 23. Other routing questions give us a call 410 876 0702 or send email [dbyoung@umbc.edu](mailto:dbyoung@umbc.edu)

**Westminster Area Lodging** - Best Western, Days Inn, Boston Inn, and several B&Bs See [http://www.westminstermd.gov/explore/explore\\_lodging.html](http://www.westminstermd.gov/explore/explore_lodging.html)

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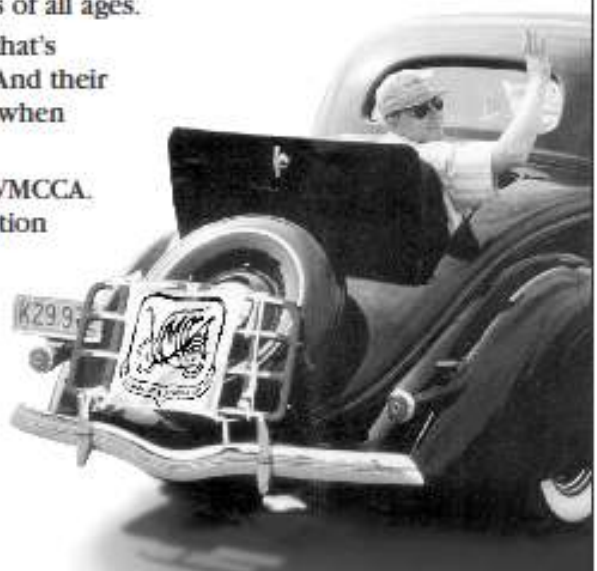
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- ❖ **Touring** in antique cars is the focus of VMCCA. We like to get out and drive our old cars. There are tours for cars of all ages.
- ❖ **People** who love old cars and enjoy each other - that's what's fun about VMCCA. You meet new friends. And their knowledge and experience is a valuable resource when you're working on a restoration project.
- ❖ **The Bulb Horn** is the award-winning magazine of VMCCA. Your friend's gift membership includes a subscription through 2011.
- ❖ **Insurance** coverage provides protection by the VMCCA national club liability policy which covers scheduled national, region, and chapter events. (This insurance is not a replacement for your insurance on individual antique vehicles.)

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## **Did You Know?**

VMCCA has an Ambassador program. Bring in three or more new members and you will receive an Ambassador pin. Just keep track of your new members and notify either Doris Stone or VMCCA Secretary Mike Welsh so that a pin can be sent to you.

Doris Stone, Editor  
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**Summer Picnic—July 30**