

THE RUNNINGBOARD RUNDOWN

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE CHAUTAUQUA LAKE REGION AACA
P.O. BOX 821

JAMESTOWN, NY 14702-0821

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MAY 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 10 at 7:00 PM at the War Vets
Flea Market meeting at 6:30 PM

General Meeting

No meeting this month due to Flea Market

Club website: www.clraaca-dunkirk-flea-market.org
Newsletters and flea market info all in one place!

2018 EVENTS

- May 18-20** 50th Annual Dunkirk Automotive Swap Meet & Flea Market
- May 26** Cabin Fever Cruise, contact Mike Wallen at 499-1829 or mrchevelle@windstream.net
- May 27** Cruise to the Casino - Bemus Point, NY - 11 am-3 pm
Mike - (716) 499-1829
- June 9** Club tour to Sprague's Restaurant, Pioneer Oil Museum. Information to the right.
- June 9** Celoron Rib Fest Classic Car Show
Contact Tom (716) 763-9306 for more information
- June 10** Waterford Park Car Show
- June 10** Lake Erie Region AACA, 66th Annual Car Show, Flea Market & Car Corral, Elma, NY
- June 17** War Vets Car Show
- June 23** The Great Race starts at Pierce Arrow Museum
- June 30** Fredonia PLace 15th Anniversary - See info below
- July 4** Annual 4th of July parade in Mayville
- August 12** Family Picnic
- Sept 8** Steak Fry at the War Vets
- Sept 30** Appreciation Dinner at Olive's
- Oct 14** Peak N Peek, "My Classic Car" - details to come!
- Dec 9** Annual Christmas Party

Club Tours!

June 9th - Ron Rudny has put together our first club tour of the year! We will meet/leave at the N. Main St. Ext. Kwik Fill at 9:30 sharp! Traveling to Sprague's Restaurant in Portville for an 11 am brunch (on your own). Afterwards, we'll head on to Bolivar to the Pioneer Oil Museum (club donation), then onto Salamanca. Your choice of either the Iroquois National Museum (\$4 seniors) on 814 Broad St., or the Salamanca Mall on 100 Main St.

Club Tour - Sprague's Restaurant, Pioneer Oil Museum

Member's names: _____

Number of people attending: _____

RESERVATIONS DUE JUNE 1ST.
Ronald Rudny - (716) 664-5626
13 Utica St., Jamestown, NY 14701

June 30th – Greg Press will organize an event at Fredonia Place. Club members and their cars will meet at 11:00am at the rest area before Cassadaga on the left hand side. We will travel to Demetri's in Dunkirk for lunch (on your own). Afterwards, we wil proceed to Fredonia Place – bounce house, vendors and music! Please contact Greg about a week in advance so they can arrange parking. Contact info: Greg Press at 716-287-3754 or cell: 716-969-0444; gregpress42@yahoo.com

The 50th Annual Dunkirk Flea Market is here May 18-20! If you do not receive a work assignment from John Watkins, be sure to contact him at 716-664-1501! Be sure to wear your new shirts! Stop by on Saturday to join in the fun – root beer floats, music from Happy Days, trivia contests and more! ***Chuck Telford** wants club members to know Saturday May 12th, tune in to WJTN 1240 on your dial, to hear Nancy Rudny and other members talk about the 50th Dunkirk Flea Market. She will be on the "Times of Your Life" with Andrew Hill and Russ Diethrick, 10-11 am.

Happy May Birthdays to the following club members:

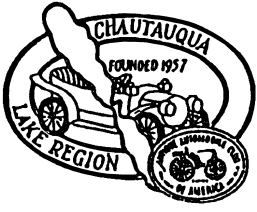


Jack Lawrence on the 14th
Lori Joy on the 22nd

Thank you to Carl Steenburn for organizing the digitalization of almost 50 years of Flea Market & Club memories!! Now all those slides & videos have been preserved and are available in the club library. They will premiere at the 50th Annual Flea Market in our food concession stand area. Stop by and enjoy the stroll down memory lane!

Thank you to Kathy Hofgren for the wonderful dessert at April's meeting. There's no meeting in May, but Connie Shearer will be the baker for our June General Meeting!

Club Touring or Outing Form - the club is always interested in having tours and outings once the nice weather arrives! There is now a form available on our website (under the RBR link) or from any board member, to help you plan an outing or tour.



The Chautauqua Lake Region A.A.C.A.
P.O. Box 821
Jamestown, N.Y. 14702-0821

The early days of the Flea Market **By Rod Hudson**

I have been asked to put down what I can remember of the beginnings of the flea market. I have forgotten more than I remember, but I will relate what I can. There are probably others who can add to this and I hope they will step forward. Those of you whose first introduction to old car flea markets was Dunkirk may find it difficult to imagine the beginning. I believe Bill Creighton came up with the idea. Bill was a professional commercial salesman and he was an excellent promoter. When he had an idea he could really sell it. Apparently the club approved of the idea and things began. Bill enlisted the services of Wally Snow and myself to work with him figuring things out. Unfortunately, Bill and Wally are no longer with us. First, some questions have to be answered. When will this take place? Where will it take place? How many days should it last? How can we get enough income from it to at least break even or possibly show a little profit? How can we get the word out so people will come? A lot of thought went into all of this. We decide to have it early in the season, before any of the other flea markets (which were very few). Finding a place was difficult. Finally a deal was made with the operators of the Pic 17 drive-in theatre on Fluvanna Avenue. I do not recall how the fees for entrance were arranged. Bill contacted every old car club for several hundred miles around and got them to send him their rosters with the names and addresses of all their members. I seem to recall that Bill “arranged” to have flyers printed at his employer’s office. Then the three of us sat around my dining room table for many hours stuffing envelopes and hand addressing envelopes to every one of those other clubs individual members. The day of the event finally came. You may try to imagine how uptight we were wondering what would happen. It is unfortunate that the old records have been lost. I do not recall how many vendors showed up or how many potential buyers showed up, but it was enough to call the event a success. This of course was a flea market in the original sense of the word. There were no professional vendors. The vendors were just guys who had stuff they didn’t need, and they came hoping to either sell some things or swap them for something they did need. They just spread the stuff out on the ground and waited to see what would happen. Holding the flea market in a drive-in soon proved to be impractical. The poor vendors had to pick everything up at the end of each day and move out of the theatre so the theatre could operate normally. This meant renewing the search for practical places for a flea market. A lot of room is needed and a lot of our ideas proved to be impossible. A good example of a disaster was a place we found along the main highway in the Lakewood area. It was a large grassy field which worked out very nicely until it rained and the whole place turned into a mud hole. At the end, almost everybody had to be towed out. Eventually, the idea of using the Dunkirk fairgrounds came along. Even this was a little controversial at first because it meant a lot of driving back and forth, but it did happen and you all know the results. I have been away for thirty years now, but I understand the flea market is still going strong. Time keeps slipping away. I only know of two of the founding members still surviving, Milt Lawson in Orlando, Florida, and myself, also in Florida. I do hope you have found this interesting.

Dunkirk Automotive Flea Market

