



Chesapeake Communiqué

The official newsletter of the ALPCA Chesapeake Region
Serving ALPCA members in Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, and beyond

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March 2011

Help needed for April 2 Va. meet

We need to **set up and tear down the tables** at the Chesterfield meet. We will set up the tables on Friday evening, April 1, and tear them down right after the meet. If you're available on Friday evening, or can arrive early or stay late on Saturday, your help would be most appreciated.

We need someone to **bring an electric coffee maker**, preferably a commercial-sized unit.

Volunteers are also sought to take a shift manning the registration table, take photographs, sort donated plates for the auction, judge displays, clean up afterwards, etc. etc.

If you can lend a hand in any way, please contact Rick Kretschmer via the *For more information* box on page 2. ■

Regional Officers Elected

At our first plate meet at Mount Airy, Md. on August 14, 2010, members of the ALPCA Chesapeake Region elected our first slate of regional officers. The officers are:

- President – Rick Kretschmer #9652 of Clayton, N.C.
- Vice President – Xavier Hadjadj #7838 of Princeton, N.J.
- Treasurer – Tom Smith #1328 of Goochland, Va.
- Secretary – Christopher Jackson #10844 of Olney, Md.

We don't yet have regional bylaws, so these offices are for an indefinite term. We hope to have draft bylaws available for review at the Mount Airy, Md. meet in August.

There are still plenty of other ways that you can volunteer, from committee chairs and other positions of ongoing responsibility, all the way down to lending a hand at a plate meet. Consider stepping up and contributing your time and talent to help make the region better for everyone!

We need volunteers to perform, coordinate, or assist with any or all the following:

- Plate meet site selection
- Plate meet operations: act as meet host, set up, man registration table, judge displays, sort donation plates, auctioneer, auction "plate runners", refreshments, photography, clean up, etc.
- Publicity / member communications / newsletter
- Awards
- Region history
- Web site administration
- Liaison with Maryland MVA for state-issued ALPCA organizational license plates.

To volunteer, or for more information, see the *For more information* box, on page 2. ■

Southern Virginia plate meet to be held April 2

The ALPCA Chesapeake Region's second regional plate meet since its 2010 reactivation is scheduled for April 2, 2011 in Chesterfield, Va. Chesterfield is located just south of Richmond. This will be the first to be held in the Richmond vicinity in many years. We hope to attract the many collectors in central and southeastern Virginia who don't regularly attend more distant plate meets.

The meet will be held in the exhibit hall at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds, 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, Va. 23832, from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm.

This meet's theme will be *Yes, Virginia, there are license plates*. Awards will be presented for the best Virginia plate display, best general or non-Virginia plate display, and longest distance traveled.

At least 80 6-foot tables (15 square feet) will be available; they're priced at only \$6 each due to their smaller size. Two of these are slightly larger than a usual 8-foot table (24 square feet), so plan accordingly. Admission for collectors not renting tables is \$5. Non-collector guests of ALPCA members will be admitted at no charge.

A donation auction will be held. Net proceeds after meet expenses are covered will be used to build up the Chesapeake Region's treasury. Therefore, please be generous with your donations of plates for the auction, as well as your bids on these plates. Of course, we'll also gladly accept cash donations, if anyone is so inclined.

Refreshments and **lunch will be provided**, so plan to stay for the whole meet. A \$5 donation for lunch is suggested.

For more details, see the *For more information* box on page 2.

Directions to Chesterfield meet

Chesterfield is between Richmond and Petersburg, Va., just west of Interstate 95. Detailed directions and maps are available online at www.alpca-chesapeake.org.

From the north or south via I-95: From Washington, D.C. or Fredericksburg, take I-95 south through Richmond, or from Rocky Mount, N.C., take I-95 north through Petersburg. In either case, take I-95 exit 62, Virginia Route 288 north. On Route 288, at the third interchange, take Virginia Route 10 (Iron Bridge Road) east toward Chesterfield. On Route 10, turn left at the first traffic light onto Courthouse Road. Go one mile to the corner of Krause Road. The entrance to the fairgrounds is immediately on your right just after this intersection. After going through the fairgrounds gates, bear to your left to the exhibit hall. The hall entrance is on the far side of the building.

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Inaugural Chesapeake meet was a hit

On Saturday, August 14, 2010, 54 plate collectors and their guests descended on the gymnasium at St. Michael's Catholic Church of Poplar Springs, in Mount Airy, Md. for the first ALPCA Chesapeake Region plate meet of the 21st century.

This meet was the first to be held by the Chesapeake Region since our reactivation as an ALPCA region in March 2010.

The enthusiasm and energy in the room was evident as plate trading continued unabated throughout the morning. Many collectors brought impressive displays and generously donated quality plates to be auctioned.

Anyone who wasn't already full from complimentary doughnuts and bagels certainly was after the pizza lunch.

Following lunch were the awards presentation, business meeting, and donation auction. Taking home hardware were Ray Frank with the Best Maryland Display award (early Maryland motorcycle plates), Rick Kretschmer with the Best General Display award (church bus plates), and Craig Hardesty with the Long Distance award (traveling roughly 1,000 miles from Bradenton, Fla.). The election results may be found on page 1 of this newsletter.

With Kenny O'Dell performing auctioneer duties, the donation auction brought in \$423. The proceeds from the meet exceeded expenses and enabled us to open a checking account. ■

Chesapeake Region 2010 financial summary

The region ended up slightly in the black in 2010, but still does not have sufficient reserves to cover up-front meet expenses. Your generous donations contribute towards our region's financial health. (Figures below are "unofficial".) ■

2010 starting balance \$0.00

Income

Cash donations outside of plate meets	\$105.00
Meet admission & table fees	\$510.00
Cash donations for meet refreshments	\$237.50
Proceeds from donation plate auction	\$423.00
Rebate from office supplies	\$5.00
Total income	\$1,280.50

Expenses

Newsletter & office expenses: printing, postage	\$139.47
Meet hall rental	\$425.00
Meet awards	\$88.65
Meet refreshments	\$287.81
Meet liability insurance	\$50.00
Meet signs (reusable)	\$29.52
Total expenses	\$1,020.45

2010 ending balance \$260.05

Two Chesapeake Region meets planned for 2011

- **Chesterfield, Va. – Saturday, April 2**
- **Mount Airy, Md. – Saturday, August 13**

We've made the necessary arrangements to hold two great plate meets in 2011, our second year of operation.

Please see the separate article starting on page 1 for detailed information about the upcoming Chesterfield meet on April 2.

On August 13, we will return to the site of our very successful 2010 meet at St. Michael's Catholic Church of Poplar Springs, 1125 St. Michael's Road, Mount Airy, Md. 21771, from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. Details about this meet are available online, and will also be published in upcoming issues of ALPCA's *Plates* magazine and the *Chesapeake Communiqué* newsletter.

Be sure to read about the 2010 Mount Airy meet in the article to the immediate left. ■

Southern Virginia plate meet *(from page 1)*

From the east via I-64: From Norfolk and Newport News, take I-64 west towards Richmond. At exit 190, take I-95 south towards Petersburg. Then follow directions from I-95, above.

From the south via I-85: From Greensboro, N.C. and Durham, N.C., take I-85 north towards Petersburg, Va. When I-85 ends at I-95 in Petersburg, continue north on I-95 towards Richmond. Then follow directions from I-95, above.

From the west via I-64: From Charlottesville and Staunton, take I-64 east towards Richmond. At exit 175, take Virginia Route 288 south. Stay on Route 288 approximately 26 miles to the Virginia Route 10 (Iron Bridge Road) interchange. Exit onto Route 10 east toward Chesterfield. On Route 10, turn left at the first traffic light onto Courthouse Road. Go one mile to the corner of Krause Road. The entrance to the fairgrounds is immediately on your right just after this intersection. After going through the fairgrounds gates, bear to your left to the exhibit hall. The hall entrance is on the far side of the building. ■



For more information

Our web site at www.alpca-chesapeake.org always has the most up-to-date information. It also provides the means to submit questions and comments via e-mail. We're also on Facebook; find us by searching for "alpca chesapeake".

Or, contact Rick Kretschmer, region president, via e-mail at rickkret@gmail.com, or by phone at 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell).