



# 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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## Bylaws vote, elections to be held during Mount Airy meet on August 9

The reactivated ALPCA Chesapeake Region held its first meet in August 2010, at which officers were elected from among the membership. In the four years since, we've been operating without bylaws and have not held subsequent elections.

Draft bylaws were submitted to the region's officers in June 2012. The officers determined that the procedures outlined in the proposed bylaws should be followed to consider and potentially approve and ratify the proposed bylaws. The officers voted on and approved the proposed bylaws, as submitted, at their meeting in August 2013.

For these proposed bylaws to become effective, they must be ratified by a vote of the Chesapeake Region membership. That vote will take place at the business meeting during the Mount Airy, Md. meet on August 9, 2014.

Members eligible to vote, as specified in the proposed bylaws, have each been sent a copy of the proposed bylaws and a proxy ballot, which can be used to authorize another member to vote on their behalf if they're unable to attend the August 9 meet. The proposed bylaws are also available for download on the region's web site at [www.alpca-chesapeake.org](http://www.alpca-chesapeake.org).

Since we have not held elections in four years, we'll also do that on August 9. If bylaws are approved, we will conduct elections in accordance with the bylaws.

**The proposed bylaws call for the election of a president and up to four additional directors**, who together shall comprise the region's board of directors. The board will elect its own chairman and vice chairman. All other positions, including vice president(s) and treasurer, will be appointed by the board.

**Please give serious consideration to stepping up and running for president or director and/or submitting your name for consideration for vice president, treasurer, or some other position.** The region cannot function without dedicated volunteers. The duties for each of these positions are described in the proposed bylaws.

To be eligible to run for elected office, you must be an ALPCA member in good standing, have attended at least one of the three most recent Chesapeake Region meets (August 2011, August 2012, and/or August 2013), and not hold an elected office in another ALPCA region.

To be eligible to vote, you must be an ALPCA member in good standing, and either have an address of record within our territory (Va., Md., Del., D.C.) or have attended at least one of the three most recent Chesapeake Region meets.

If bylaws are not approved, we will instead hold elections for the four existing parliamentary offices, or as determined by the voting members in attendance. ■

## Chesapeake Region gathers in Mount Airy, Md. August 9 for more plate collecting fun

### Changes made in table allocation in response to last year's sellout



The fifth annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region Summer Plate Meet will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2014 at its usual location in the gymnasium at the rear of 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.

This meet's theme is *License Plates of the Rest of the World*. Awards will be presented for the best non-U.S. plate display, best general display (which in this case means displays that include U.S. plates), and furthest distance traveled. We're defining non-U.S. plates as those issued by jurisdictions outside of the fifty United States and Washington, D.C., so displays of plates from Canada, outlying U.S. territories, and U.S Forces in other countries, for example, are all eligible to compete.

We will hold a business meeting this year to vote on proposed Chesapeake Region bylaws, and to elect regional officers and/or directors. (See article at left for more info on this.)

About fifty 8-foot tables will be available for \$10 each. Admission is \$5 for collectors not renting tables, with free admission for non-collector guests of ALPCA members.

Refreshments and lunch will be available (at no charge this year!), so plan to stay for the whole meet. We'll hold a donation auction once again, of course, with proceeds going toward meet expenses and any amount beyond that going into the region treasury.

Last year we had a record number of collectors in attendance and we ran out of tables. We plan to have a few more tables available this year, but we only have so much room, so there's a chance it could happen again. Therefore, **we're making some changes in how tables are allocated this year, so please read this section for important information.**

- We strongly encourage reserving the table(s) you need by paying for them in advance (see instructions below).
- Members not reserving and paying for tables in advance will be limited to a maximum of one table and run the risk of not getting a table at all.

(continued on page 3)

## 2013 Mount Airy meet report

It's apparently no longer a secret that the Chesapeake Region puts on a great plate meet!

On Saturday, August 10, 2013, 68 plate collectors and their 35 guests descended on the gymnasium at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Mount Airy, Md. for the fourth annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region summer plate meet. The old attendance record of 54 collectors was easily shattered. Unfortunately, due to the increased attendance and the church only setting up 40 tables for us rather than the requested 50, a few people who arrived late were unable to get tables.

Despite that, 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.

The meet's theme was *License Plates of the First State*, and John Willard's 1909-1916 passenger mini-run earned him the best Delaware display award. Ed Burr took home the best general display award with his palindrome plates from all 50 states, and the long distance award went to John Contreras of San Diego, Calif., with an honorable mention going to Steve "16 Lizards" Benson of Mesa, Ariz.

With Kenny O'Dell again serving as auctioneer, the donation auction brought in an impressive \$988.

Anyone who wasn't already full from complimentary doughnuts and bagels certainly was after the pizza lunch. A total of 20 large pizzas were devoured in short order.

After lunch, the plate fun continued for a few more hours, with a few die-hard collectors continuing to trade plates until the clean-up was finished and it was time to lock the doors. ■

(See photos from the 2013 meet on page 4)

## 2013 Region Financial Summary

2012 ending / 2013 starting balance **\$1,171.92**

### 2013 Income

Meet admission and table fees	\$605.00
Cash donations for meet refreshments & lunch	\$272.40
Donation plate auction proceeds	\$988.00
ALPCA dues received	\$72.00
Total income	<b>\$1,937.40</b>

### 2013 Expenses

Web site domain name and hosting	\$23.57
Newsletter & office expenses: printing, postage	\$35.61
Meet hall rental	\$500.00
Meet awards	\$92.05
Meet refreshments and lunch	\$350.12
Meet liability insurance	\$68.00
ALPCA dues submitted to ALPCA	\$72.00
Total expenses	<b>\$1,141.35</b>

2013 ending / 2014 starting balance **\$1,967.97**

(Figures above are unofficial but believed to be correct.) ■

## Future Chesapeake Region meets

We haven't yet made any specific arrangements for plate meets beyond August 2014, but we do plan to continue to hold a meet in Maryland each August. We would also very much like to hold additional meets at other times of the year and in other locations within our territory. To do this, we need to find suitable, affordable venues and people willing to help plan and host meets in these locations.

**We're currently working on bringing a Chesapeake Region meet back to southern Virginia.** We've identified a venue near Petersburg that we think will be a really great place for a plate meet. We just need to work out who will host this meet and on what date it will be held. Stay tuned. ■

## Mailing newsletters is so 20<sup>th</sup> century

**If you received this newsletter via snail mail, we probably don't have a good e-mail address for you**

The *Chesapeake Communiqué* newsletter is sent to all current and recently inactive ALPCA members living in our territory or living within about 100 miles of an upcoming meet, and to any plate collector who has recently attended one of our meets. Our primary distribution method is now via e-mail, using e-mail addresses shown in the ALPCA membership roster. Newsletters are sent via regular postal mail only to those members who do not have an e-mail address listed in the ALPCA roster, or whose e-mail address is found to be non-functional, or who have requested hard copies to be physically mailed to them. (The newsletter is also available on the region's web site at [www.alpca-chesapeake.org](http://www.alpca-chesapeake.org).)

We realize that not everyone uses e-mail. However, if you're an ALPCA member with a working e-mail account, but you received this via postal mail without having specifically requested that it be sent that way, please contact the ALPCA membership secretary at [secretary@alpca.org](mailto:secretary@alpca.org) to request that your current e-mail address be listed in the ALPCA membership roster. ■

## Got an extra PLATES magazine?

The June 2014 PLATES magazine was originally sent out with the pages out of order, so the printer sent each ALPCA member a second, corrected copy. Don't throw that first copy away! Donate it to the Chesapeake Region. We'll reassemble the pages and give the magazine to a prospective member. ■

## New members, July 2013 – May 2014

We welcome these new ALPCA members who live in the Chesapeake Region:

- #11792 – Bronwen Castelli, Westminster, Md.
- #11810 – Ed Levine, Pikesville, Md.
- #11811 – Craig Carroll, Ashland, Va.
- #11828 – R. Delaine Hobbs, Mount Airy, Md.
- #11874 – Eric S. Cochran, Phoenix, Md.
- #11918 – James E. Grubb, Reisterstown, Md. ■

## 2014 Mount Airy plate meet *(from page 1)*

- Only those individuals with pre-paid tables or involved with set-up will be admitted to the gym prior to 8:00 am.
- **We will institute a lottery system** for allocating any unreserved tables at the start of the meet. Lottery registration will take place between 7:30 am and 8:00 am.
- If at 8:00 am there are enough tables for everyone registered, there will be no need to hold the lottery. Otherwise, member numbers of those registered will be drawn randomly until all tables are assigned.
- Everyone who has registered by 8:00 am will have an equal chance of obtaining a table, so there's no advantage to arriving significantly early.
- Any tables remaining will be available to members arriving late on a first-come, first-served basis.

**To reserve one or more tables...** Table reservations will only be accepted when accompanied by payment of \$10 per table. Make checks or money orders payable to *ALPCA Chesapeake Region*, and mail to meet host Rick Kretschmer, at 148 Oak Alley Trail, Clayton NC 27527. Or, pay Rick in person at the ALPCA Convention in July. Please mail table payment early enough to ensure its arrival no later than August 6, 2014.

**We will need additional volunteers** to help with set-up, control access to the hall, man the registration desk, conduct the lottery, etc. If you can arrive early and are willing to help, please contact meet host Rick Kretschmer. (We can always use volunteers during and after the meet as well.) See the *For more information* box at bottom right for contact info.

### **Directions to meet**

Mount Airy is between Baltimore and Frederick, along I-70. The church address is 1125 St. Michael's Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771. Get directions from additional places and maps online at [www.alpca-chesapeake.org](http://www.alpca-chesapeake.org).

**From Baltimore:** From I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) take exit 16, I-70 west toward Frederick. Take I-70 exit 73, Md. Route 94, and turn left at the end of the ramp onto Md. Route 94 south toward Lisbon. Go 0.4 miles to the traffic circle, and turn right onto Md. Route 144 west. On Route 144, go 1.7 miles, then turn left onto St. Michael's Road. St. Michael's Catholic Church is 0.4 miles on your left. Gym is in the back.

**From Frederick, Md.:** Get on I-70 east toward Baltimore. Take I-70 exit 68, Md. Route 27, and turn right at the bottom of the ramp onto Md. Route 27 south toward Damascus. Then make an immediate left onto Md. Route 144 east. On Route 144, go 3.9 miles, then turn right onto St. Michael's Road. St. Michael's Catholic Church is 0.4 miles on your left. Gym is in the back.

**From Washington, D.C.:** From I-495 (Capital Beltway), take either exit 35 or 38 onto I-270 north toward Frederick. At I-270 exit 16, take Md. Route 27 north toward Damascus. Follow Route 27 north roughly five miles beyond Damascus. Just before the I-70 interchange and Mount Airy, turn right onto Md. Route 144 east. On Route 144, go 3.9 miles, then turn right onto St. Michael's Road. St. Michael's Catholic Church is 0.4 miles on your left. Gym is in the back. ■

## Volunteers needed for August 9 meet and ongoing

We could really use volunteers at the upcoming meet for the following tasks. Members and/or their guests can help!

- Arrive early (7:00 am) and help with any remaining set up
- Arrive early (7:00 am) and control access to the hall
- Arrive early (7:15 am) and run the table allocation lottery
- Man the registration desk, even for just a little while
- Take photos of the meet action with a quality camera
- Judge displays (but not if you brought a display yourself)
- Organize plates donated for the auction into lots
- Help count ballots for bylaws vote & election
- Be the auctioneer
- Be an auction "plate runner" (a great job for kids!)
- Stay late and help clean up after the meet

Here are just a few other ways you can make a difference:

- Write the meet report for ALPCA Plates magazine
- Identify possible venues for future plate meets
- Host a Chesapeake Region plate meet!
- Write for, edit, print, and/or distribute region newsletter
- Web site design, administration, and content
- Organize region activities other than plate meets (for example, a "boys night out" at a restaurant)
- Be the region historian and interview old-timers
- Liaison with Maryland MVA for the production of state-issued ALPCA organizational license plates
- Run for an elected office such as director

To volunteer, or for more info about how you can help, see the *For more information* box below for contact info. ■

### **Your Chesapeake Region elected officers** *(through August 31, 2014)*

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

### **Other Chesapeake Region volunteers**

- Newsletter editor – Rick Kretschmer (help wanted!)
- Webmaster – Rick Kretschmer (help wanted!)
- Facebook admins – Rick Kretschmer and Timothy Guy

### **For more information**

Our web site at [www.alpca-chesapeake.org](http://www.alpca-chesapeake.org) and our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/alpca.chesapeake](http://www.facebook.com/alpca.chesapeake) always have the most up-to-date information. If you're an active Facebook user, be sure to "like" our page to automatically get our status updates in your news feed.

The web site provides the means to submit questions and comments via e-mail. Or, contact region president Rick Kretschmer (#9652) directly via e-mail at [rickkret@gmail.com](mailto:rickkret@gmail.com), or by phone at 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell).



## Seen on the road

Below are two new plate designs introduced in 2014.



## Photos from Mount Airy 2013

If you haven't yet been to a Chesapeake Region plate meet, this is a small sampling of what you're missing! ■

