



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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April 2015

Two Chesapeake Region Plate Meets Set for 2015 ALPCA members will gather in Chesterfield, Va. June 6 and in Mount Airy, Md. August 15

Chesapeake Region Spring Plate Meet Saturday, June 6 in Chesterfield, Virginia

The ALPCA Chesapeake Region is pleased to announce our second Spring Plate Meet, to be held on Saturday, June 6, 2015 in the exhibit hall at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds, 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832, from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. This is the same location as our April 2011 meet. Chesterfield is just south of Richmond.

(No, this meet does not conflict with the annual ALPCA Region #1 meet held in Trexlertown, Pa. The Trexlertown meet is a week earlier this year, on May 30. If their new date doesn't work for you, come to Chesterfield instead! Or come to both!)

This is a very large hall with a level, drive-up unloading area and eighty (80) or more tables available, but be advised that they're the smaller 6-foot variety, rather than the typical 8-foot size, so you may want more tables than usual. Since tables will be plentiful but small, we're pricing them accordingly. Each member may rent one table for \$10, which includes admission, but any additional tables are just \$5 each. Admission is \$5 for collectors not renting tables. Non-collector guests of ALPCA members will be admitted at no charge, of course. We will not be accepting table reservations for this meet.

Also, please note that the exhibit hall is not air-conditioned, so you will want to dress accordingly. However, it does have several large garage doors on two sides, which we will open to get a cross-breeze if conditions warrant.

This meet's theme is *No Riders* (non-passenger plates). Awards will be presented for the best non-passenger plate display, best general plate display, and furthest distance traveled. We're defining non-passenger plates as plates other than regular passenger car, regular motorcycle, specialty, or vanity plates. Displays that include these types will be considered general plate displays.

Refreshments and lunch will be available at no charge, 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.

Of course, as always, ALPCA Chesapeake Region meets are private events for ALPCA members in good standing and their non-collector guests. License plate collectors who have never been ALPCA members and have not previously attended one of our meets may be admitted as prospective members. Non-



Get your non-passenger plate displays ready for Chesterfield!

member plate collectors who have previously attended one of our meets will be expected to join in order to attend.

Directions to meet

Chesterfield is between Richmond and Petersburg, Va., just west of Interstate 95. The fairgrounds street address is 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

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 four-way stop at Krause Road. The entrance to the fairgrounds is on your right immediately 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. *(continued on page 2)*

6th Annual Summer Plate Meet is August 15 in Mount Airy, Maryland

The sixth annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region Summer Plate Meet will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2015 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. Mount Airy is just off of I-70 between Baltimore and Frederick.

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.

The table allocation process we implemented in 2014 will again be used. In 2013 we ran out of tables, and there's a chance it could happen again. Due to this, last year we made changes to how we assign tables at the Mount Airy meet. Those changes seemed to work well, and so we'll do it the same way this year. *(continued on page 2)*

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

June 2015 Chesterfield meet *(from page 1)*

From the southeast via I-64: From Norfolk or 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 southeast via US 460: From Chesapeake or Suffolk, take US 460 west to Petersburg. In Petersburg at I-95, take I-95 north toward Richmond. Then follow directions from I-95, above.

From the southwest via I-85: From Greensboro, N.C. or Durham, N.C., take I-85 north to 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, 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 four-way stop at Krause Road. The entrance to the fairgrounds is on your right immediately 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

Get additional details, additional directions, and maps for upcoming meets on the web at www.alpca-chesapeake.org, or contact Chesterfield meet host Reid Williamson at geopathman@gmail.com or 703-629-3762. ■

Aug. 2015 Mount Airy meet *(from page 1)*

In a nutshell, **we strongly encourage reserving the table(s) you need by paying for them in advance** (see instructions below). If necessary, we will use a lottery system for allocating any unreserved tables at the start of the meet.

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 Greensboro, N.C. meet on May 2, the Chesterfield, Va. meet on June 6, or the ALPCA Convention in July. If mailing payment, please ensure its arrival no later than Aug. 12, 2015.

More info about the Mount Airy meet will be included in an upcoming issue of this newsletter, to be sent out in late June or early July. In the meantime, get additional details, additional directions, and maps for upcoming meets on the web at www.alpca-chesapeake.org, or contact meet host Rick Kretschmer at rckkret@gmail.com or 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell). ■

Recent PLATES magazines wanted

Don't throw away your ALPCA PLATES magazines after you're done with them! Donate them to the Chesapeake Region. We'll give them to prospective members as a recruiting tool. ■

Volunteers needed for upcoming meets and ongoing

We could really use volunteers at the upcoming meets 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 (Mount Airy only)
- 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
- Be the auctioneer
- Be an auction "plate runner" (a great job for kids!)
- Stay and take down tables after the meet (Chesterfield)
- Stay and help clean up after the meet

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

- Write a meet report for ALPCA Plates magazine
- Identify possible venues for future plate meets
- Host or co-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
- Submit your name to be considered for Vice President

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

Future Chesapeake Region meets

We haven't yet made any specific arrangements for plate meets beyond August 2015, but we do plan to continue to hold a meet in Maryland each August. We're hoping we can make a southeastern Virginia meet an annual event as well. We are also very much open to holding additional meets and other events at other times of the year and in other locations within our territory. The only things stopping us are finding suitable, affordable venues and identifying members who are willing to help plan and host meets in these locations. Let us know if you know of such a venue or can be that person. ■

For more information

Our web site at www.alpca-chesapeake.org and our Facebook page at 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 rckkret@gmail.com, or by phone at 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell).

2014 Mount Airy meet report

On Saturday, August 9, 2014, 51 plate collectors and their 18 guests gathered in the gymnasium at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Mount Airy, Md. for the fifth annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region summer plate meet. Attendance was down from 2013's record of 68 collectors and 35 guests, likely due to the ALPCA convention held three weeks prior and only 350 miles away. Most of the decrease was due to fewer attendees traveling hundreds or even thousands of miles to attend. However, 51 collectors is still quite a decent number for a regional meet. 2013's table shortage was resolved, and there were plenty of tables to go around.

We were pleased to welcome these plate collectors attending their first Chesapeake Region meet:

- Edgar "Al" Bacon, member #7337, Elk Mills, Md.
- James Klotz, member #9467, Lehighton, Pa.
- Cloyd Harlow, member #10007, Midlothian, Va.
- J.C. "Sarge" Bohleman, member #11826, Phila., Pa.
- John Welk, member #11836, Mount Joy, Pa.
- James Grubb, member #11918, Reisterstown, Md.
- Fred Cooper, member #11940, New Market, Md.
- David Brown, prospect, Havre de Grace, Md.

As usual, many collectors brought impressive displays and generously donated quality plates to be auctioned. With Kenny O'Dell again serving as auctioneer, the donation auction brought in a respectable \$809.

The meet's theme was *License Plates of the Rest of the World*, and Tim O'Connor clinched the best theme display award with his collection of French and Austrian plates (shown on page 4). Clayton Moore took home the best general display award with his display of Pennsylvania types, and, with no one from another time zone present this year, the long distance award went to regular attendee Kenny O'Dell of Greensboro, N.C.

During the business meeting, the proposed bylaws (sent July 2014 to all Chesapeake Region members eligible to vote) were unanimously ratified by the membership without changes. (These bylaws may be viewed, printed, or downloaded from our web site.) In accordance with these bylaws, elections were then held for a director/president and four additional directors. Incumbent president Rick Kretschmer ran unopposed for the director/president position. A total of 35 ballots were cast for the four director positions, with the number of votes received by each candidate as follows:

- Reid Williamson, Manakin Sabot, Va. 28 votes *
 - Ed Burr, Kensington, Md. 26 votes *
 - Tom Smith, Goochland, Va. 25 votes *
 - Christopher Jackson, Olney, Md. 20 votes *
 - Tim Guy, Mechanicsburg, Md. 14 votes
 - Jack Hollingsworth, Wilmington, Del. 13 votes
- * elected directors

With everyone's bellies full from a complimentary pizza lunch, the plate fun continued well into the afternoon, 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 2014 meet on page 4)

New members, June 2014 – April 2015

We welcome these new ALPCA members with addresses in the Chesapeake Region's territory. Marcus and Fred attended Mount Airy in August 2014. We hope to also greet the others in person at an upcoming plate meet.

- #11928 – Marcus Windsor, Mechanicsville, Md.
- #11940 – Fred Cooper, New Market, Md.
- #11957 – Jeff T. Newsome, Jr., Lottsburg, Va.
- #11964 – Joseph E. Kreft, Jr., Westminster, Md.
- #11979 – Brian Mullen, Manassas, Va.
- #11983 – Karl H. Steinbiss, Seaford, Del.
- #12025 – Darrell Davis, Walkersville, Md.
- #12054 – Louis O'Neal, Laurel, Del.
- #12055 – Skip Stewart, Valley Lee, Md.
- #12065 – Nicholas Pautler, Newark, Del. ■

2014 Region Financial Summary

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

<u>2014 Income</u>	
Meet admission and table fees	\$590.00
Cash donations	\$8.00
Donation plate auction proceeds	\$809.00
Total income	<u>\$1,407.00</u>

<u>2014 Expenses</u>	
Web site domain name and hosting	\$24.57
Newsletter & office expenses: printing, postage	\$99.66
Meet hall rental	\$500.00
Meet awards	\$94.90
Meet refreshments and lunch	\$398.78
Meet liability insurance	\$50.00
Total expenses	<u>\$1,167.91</u>

2014 ending / 2015 starting balance **\$2,207.06**

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

Your Chesapeake Region volunteers

Elected Board of Directors (terms through August 31, 2016)

- Director, President, and acting Board Chairman: Rick Kretschmer, #9652, Clayton, N.C.
- Director: Ed Burr, #8359, Kensington, Md.
- Director: Christopher Jackson, #10844, Olney, Md.
- Director: Tom Smith, #1328, Goochland, Va.
- Director: Reid Williamson, #5198, Manakin Sabot, Va.

Appointed officers

- Vice President of Events: **(position vacant)**
- Vice President of Communications: **(position vacant)**
- Treasurer: Tom Smith, #1328, Goochland, Va.

Other Chesapeake Region volunteers

- Mount Airy meet host: Rick Kretschmer
- Chesterfield meet host: Reid Williamson
- Newsletter editor: Rick Kretschmer **(help wanted)**
- Webmaster: Rick Kretschmer **(help wanted)**
- Facebook admins: Rick Kretschmer and Tim Guy ■

Photos from Mount Airy 2014

If you haven't yet been to a Chesapeake Region plate meet, this is a small sampling of what you're missing! (Photos submitted by Tim O'Connor.) ■

