



Chesapeake Communiqué

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

Volume 7, Issue 2

July 2016

Chesterfield, Va. Spring 2016 Meet Report

The ALPCA Chesapeake Region returned to Virginia for its first plate meet of 2016 on Saturday, April 23. For the third time, we gathered at the Chesterfield County Fairgrounds exhibit hall in Chesterfield, just south of Richmond. In attendance were 26 collectors and five guests.

We were pleased to welcome these plate collectors attending their first Chesapeake Region meet (at least in this century):

- Tom Norris, member #2961, Smithfield, Va.
- Jay Corman, member #12074, Atlanta, Ga.
- Jim Perdue, member #12276, Powhatan, Va.
- Purdy Laferriere, member #12284, Newport News, Va.
- Rick Higgins, prospect, Harrisburg, Va.
- Jonathan Walker, prospect, Burr Hill, Va.

As required by our region bylaws, we held elections for president and four director positions. All incumbents ran unopposed and were re-elected to their positions. ■

New members April-June 2016:

Welcome to these new ALPCA members with addresses in the Chesapeake Region's territory. Jim and Purdy attended Chesterfield in April 2016. We hope to also greet the others in person at an upcoming plate meet.

- #12276 – Jim Perdue, Powhatan, Va.
- #12284 – Purdy Laferriere, Newport News, Va.
- #12292 – Marc Auger, Newark, Del.
- #12307 – Stanley Rich, New Market, Md. ■

Mount Airy meet details at-a-glance

- **Date and time:** Saturday, August 13, 2016, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- **Location:** St. Michael Catholic Church of Poplar Springs, 1125 St. Michael's Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771.
- **Persons admitted:** ALPCA members in good standing, their guests, and prospective members who haven't attended before.
- **Cost:** Tables \$10 each, walk-ins \$5. No charge for guests of members.
- **Table reservations:** Strongly encouraged; payment required.
- **Food and drink:** Refreshments and lunch provided at no charge.
- **Meet theme:** Political plates.
- **Awards:** Best display of meet theme plates; best display of other plates; furthest distance traveled.
- **Scheduled activities:** Donation auction.

If you received this newsletter via snail mail, we probably don't have a good e-mail address for you. Send any mailing address, phone, or e-mail updates to Scott Mitchell, ALPCA Membership Secretary, at either secretary@alpca.org or 118 Quaker Road, Hampton VA 23669-2024. ■

Chesapeake Region Summer Plate Meet in Mount Airy, Md. Saturday, August 13, 2016

Pre-paid table reservations recommended

The seventh annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region Summer Plate Meet will be held on Saturday, August 13, 2016 at its usual location in the gymnasium at the rear of St. Michael 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.

Our Mount Airy meet draws 50 to 70 plate collectors every year, and there's no reason to think 2016 will be any different.

This meet's theme is *Political Plates*. Awards will be presented for the best political plate display, best general plate display, and furthest distance traveled. We're defining political plates as state-issued license plates intended to be issued specifically to politicians, political appointees, and other similar government officials, as well as political-themed booster plates. Displays including other types of plates will be considered general plate displays.

About 50 to 55 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 again 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.

In 2013 we ran out of tables, and there's a chance it could happen again. Ever since, we've assigned tables at Mount Airy a bit differently than at most plate meets.

Please read this section for important table information!

- We strongly encourage reserving the table(s) you need by paying for them in advance (see instructions below).
- Reservations will be guaranteed only for the first 50 tables paid for. (At this writing, 15 tables have been paid for.)
- Members not reserving and paying for tables in advance may be limited to a maximum of one table and run the risk of not getting a table at all.
- 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 use 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 not enough tables for everyone registered, member numbers of those registered will be

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2016 Mount Airy plate meet *(from page 1)*

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, limit one table.

To reserve one or more tables... Table reservations will only be accepted when accompanied by payment of \$10 per table. Only the first 50 paid table reservations will be guaranteed. 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 10, 2016.

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.

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. ■

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.

Or, contact region president and Mount Airy meet host Rick Kretschmer directly via e-mail at rickkret@gmail.com, or by phone at 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell). (Cell phone only on August 12 and 13.)

President's message

You've probably already noticed that this newsletter is skimpier than normal. If you've been a Chesapeake Region member for any length of time, I'm sure you've also noticed that the newsletters have much of the same old content from one issue to the next.

I'm neither proud of nor satisfied with the newsletter, but it's the best I can do. You see, I wear a lot of hats for the region. For the past six years, I've not only been the region president and host of the region's flagship plate meet, I've also been the sole person responsible for all aspects of the newsletter, including writing, formatting, printing, and distribution. Also, the sole person responsible for all aspects of the region's website. Also, the person to choose meet themes and have award plaques made. Usually the person to write and submit meet reports for inclusion in *Plates* magazine. Usually the person organizing plates donated for auction at meets. Always the person staying and cleaning up after everyone has left. And so on and so on; you get the idea.

Even without all the regional responsibilities and tasks I take on, I'm a pretty busy guy. I have a demanding full-time job, family commitments, and the like, just like many of you. Sometimes I just don't have enough time to do everything that needs to be done, or to do everything well.

While I'm happy to continue to serve as regional president and Mount Airy meet host, I would love to offload some of the other things I do for the region to other willing and capable volunteers. I have never wanted this region to be a one-man effort.

So, if you see or know of something that needs to be done, or could stand to be done better, and there's any way you could lend a hand either on a one-time or ongoing basis, please track me down and let me know. I will be most grateful, and our region will be better for it. Thanks in advance.

Rick Kretschmer, ALPCA #9652
President, ALPCA Chesapeake Region

Your Chesapeake Region volunteers

Elected Board of Directors *(terms through August 31, 2018)*

- 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

- 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 ■