



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 1

March 2016

Two Chesapeake Region Plate Meets Again in 2016

ALPCA members will gather in Chesterfield, Va. April 23 and in Mount Airy, Md. August 13

Chesapeake Region Spring Plate Meet Saturday, April 23 in Chesterfield, Virginia

The ALPCA Chesapeake Region is pleased to announce our third Spring Plate Meet, to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 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 and June 2015 meets. Chesterfield is just south of Richmond.

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.

We don't expect this to be a problem in April, but be aware that the exhibit hall is not air-conditioned, and dress accordingly. However, the hall does have large garage doors on three sides, which we will open to get a cross-breeze if necessary.

Since Virginia has more of these per capita than any other state, this meet's theme is *Vanity Plates*. We're defining "vanity plates" as plates where the motorist has chosen the plate number, which includes reserved number or low number plates as well as the more typical mostly-alphabetic personalized plates. Awards will be presented for the best vanity plate display, best general plate display, and furthest distance traveled.

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.

We will hold a business meeting to elect a regional president and up to four directors for a two-year term. (See article at right for more info on this.) *(continued on page 2)*



Get your vanity and low number plate displays ready for Chesterfield!

See August 2016 Mount Airy meet info on page 2.

Elections for President, Directors to be held at Chesterfield on April 23

Our Chesapeake Region bylaws call for elections for the region president and the four other members of the board of directors to be held during the first meet in every even-numbered year. That means Chesterfield this year. Terms run for two years from September 2016 to August 2018.

The board elects its own chairman and vice chairman. All other positions, including vice president(s) and treasurer, are appointed by the board. Please note that we have two vice president positions that have been vacant for nearly two years.

Please give serious consideration to stepping up and running for president or director, and/or submitting your name for consideration for vice president or some other position. The region cannot function without dedicated volunteers. The duties for each of these positions are described in the region's bylaws, which are available on our website and at our meets, or will be mailed on request.

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 (Mount Airy 2014, Chesterfield 2015, and/or Mount Airy 2015), 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. ■

Chesterfield meet details at-a-glance

- **Date and time:** Saturday, April 23, 2016, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- **Location:** Chesterfield County Fairgrounds exhibit hall, 10300 Courthouse Road, Chesterfield, Va. 23832.
- **Persons admitted:** ALPCA members in good standing, their guests, and prospective members who haven't attended before.
- **Cost:** First table \$10, additional tables \$5 each, walk-ins \$5. No charge for guests of members.
- **Food and drink:** Refreshments and lunch provided at no charge.
- **Meet theme:** Vanity and reserved-number plates
- **Awards:** Best display of meet theme plates; best display of other plates; furthest distance traveled.
- **Scheduled activities:** Donation auction; business meeting to elect 2016-2018 president and directors.

April 2016 Chesterfield meet *(from page 1)*

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-member plate collectors who have previously attended one of our meets or have previously been ALPCA members will be expected to join or re-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. There are two entrances to the fairgrounds on your right, one at the Krause Road intersection, and a second one about 200 yards further on Courthouse Road. Probably only one will be open. The exhibit hall is a large building just inside the second fairgrounds entrance. The hall doors face east, away from Krause Road.

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. Approaching Petersburg, take I-295 south, then 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. There are two entrances to the fairgrounds on your right, one at the Krause Road intersection, and a second one about 200 yards further on Courthouse Road. Probably only one will be open. The exhibit hall is a large building just inside the second fairgrounds entrance. The hall doors face east, away from Krause Road.

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. ■

7th Annual Summer Plate Meet on for August 13 in Mount Airy, Maryland

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.

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.

In 2013 we ran out of tables, and there's a chance it could happen again. Due to this, the table allocation process we implemented in 2014 will again be used for this meet. 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... Mount Airy 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 Chesterfield, Va. meet on April 23, possibly at the Trexlertown, Pa. meet on June 11, or at the ALPCA Convention in July. If mailing payment, please ensure its arrival no later than Aug. 10, 2016.

More info about the 2016 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). ■

Future Chesapeake Region meets

We haven't yet made any arrangements for meets beyond August 2016, but we do expect to continue to hold a meet in the Richmond area each spring and in Maryland each August. 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. ■

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. ■

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!

- Set up tables the day/night before the meet (Chesterfield)
- Arrive early (7:00 am) and help with any remaining set up
- Arrive early (7:00 am) and control access to the hall or run the table allocation lottery if needed (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
- Run for elected office (president or director)

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

Current 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 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 ■

2015 Mount Airy meet report

On Saturday, August 15, 2015, 50 plate collectors (48 ALPCA members and 2 prospective members) and their 23 guests gathered in the gymnasium at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Mount Airy, Md. for the sixth annual ALPCA Chesapeake Region summer plate meet. We managed (just barely) to keep alive our boast that we always have at least 50 collectors attend this meet, which is quite a decent number for any regional meet. This year there were plenty of tables for all.

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

- Gary Brent Kincade, #810, Bridgeport, W. Va.
- Bruce Sakson, #4150, Coraopolis, Pa.
- Jeff Ellis, #4726, Baltimore, Md.
- George Barnes, #6508, Mastic Beach, N.Y.
- Thomas Taylor, #6633, Waynesboro, Va.
- Chuck Bahor, #7324, Indianapolis, Ind.
- David Livingston, #10779, Bloomsburg, Pa.
- Justin Eadie, #11646, Fredericksburg, Va.
- John Plag, #11877, San Diego, Calif.
- Voorhis (Andy) Cantrell, #11982, Palmyra, Pa.
- Karl Steinbiss, #11983, Seaford, Del.
- Jazmyne Dorsey, #12106, Linden, Va.
- Mike Carlin, prospect, New Windsor, Md.
- Richard Wotthlie, prospect, Mount Airy, 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 \$648.

The meet's theme was *Special Interest License Plates*, and Tim O'Connor again clinched the best theme display award with his large collection of Ontario specialty plates. Harold Harbold took home the general display award with his display of government and military plates, and for a second time the long distance award went to a San Diego, Calif. resident, this year won by John Plag.

With everyone's bellies full from a complimentary pizza lunch, and more plate trading and socializing yet to be done, the fun continued well into the afternoon. ■

(See photos from the 2015 Mount Airy meet on page 4)

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 region's 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, or by phone at 919-553-7975 (home) or 919-673-7719 (cell).

2015 Chesapeake Region Financial Summary

| | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 2014 ending / 2015 starting balance | \$2,207.06 | | |
| | | <u>Chesterfield</u> | <u>Mount Airy</u> |
| 2015 Income | | | |
| Meet admission and table fees | | \$335.00 | \$605.00 |
| Cash donations | | \$24.00 | |
| Donation auction proceeds | | \$436.00 | \$648.00 |
| Total meet proceeds | \$2,048.00 | \$795.00 | \$1,253.00 |
| Total 2015 income | \$2,048.00 | | |
| 2015 Expenses | | | |
| Web site domain name and hosting | \$24.57 | | |
| Newsletter & office expenses: printing, postage, envelopes, etc. | \$119.89 | | |
| Meet hall rental | | \$300.00 | \$650.00 |
| Meet awards | | \$104.91 | \$120.91 |
| Meet refreshments, lunch, etc. | | \$173.27 | \$290.44 |
| Meet liability insurance | | \$32.00 | \$48.00 |
| Business License | | \$40.00 | |
| Table fee refund | | | \$30.00 |
| Total meet expenses | \$1,789.53 | \$650.18 | \$1,139.35 |
| Total 2015 expenses | \$1,933.99 | | |
| 2015 ending / 2016 starting balance | \$2,321.07 | | |

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

New members, June 2015 – March 2016

We welcome these new ALPCA members with addresses in the Chesapeake Region's territory. Jazmyne attended Mount Airy in August 2015. We hope to also greet the others in person at an upcoming plate meet.

- #12106 – Jazmyne Dorsey, Linden, Va.
- #12119 – Alex Silvia, Washington, D.C.
- #12123 – Ryan Williams, Washington, D.C.
- #12164 – Pete Brown, Leonardtown, Md.
- #12187 – Eli N. Burns, Port Republic, Va.
- #12211 – Jonquil S. Traum, Annandale, Va.
- #12231 – Deb Chalk, Glen Burnie, Md. ■



Photos from Mount Airy 2015

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.) ■

