

THE CHESAPEAKE BULLETIN

Volume 50 - Number 3

May & June 2010

Visit our website: www.aaca.org/chesapeake

Published bi-monthly by the
Chesapeake Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America



Garage Tour 2010 - Wonderful Journey To Places Seldom Seen

By Tom Kenney & Anne Kenney
Photos By Bruce Knott

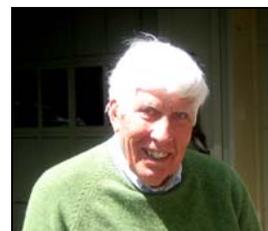
Chesapeake Region held its second Garage Tour on Saturday, April 17th in the rural area between Mt. Airy and West Friendship. During the four hours of the Tour, we were able to visit six locations that offered a range of facilities, collections, and types of vehicles. Most of these garages are off the beaten path and the combination of places offered a different experience for us old car hobbyists.

The 2010 Tour covered a much smaller area than last year and was laid out to offer more time at each stop, but also to keep the number of visitors at a manageable level. Many of the garages were big enough to store finished antique vehicles, projects being worked on, and some excellent collections of automotive and oil company signs, scale model cars, and automotive advertising.

We gathered at the Lisbon Performance Center on Old Frederick Rd. (Route 144) starting before 9 AM to enjoy coffee and pastries, plus talk about everything automotive. Our hosts at the Performance Center were Connie and Jay Huff, Jr. Everybody on the Tour was

Continued on the next page >>

Shown clockwise from the top: Josie & Bill O'Donnell's garage filled with flat head V-8 Fords; Evaline & Clayton Miller's collection of Ford, GM, & Mopar cars; in front of Frank's Garage were these two Buicks - 1925 & 1911; and at Lisbon Performance we saw this 1950 Chevrolet Fleetline, a potential project.



From the left: Anne Kenney & Evaline Miller; Bill O'Donnell; '50s fins in Miller's garage; Gordon Kirwan; Tom Kenney at Tour's start.

Garage Tour 2010 – continued

invited to look inside their garages, which are a working commercial repair and accessory installation facility serving antique, custom, and modern vehicles.

Groups of vehicles began leaving the Performance Center about 9:15. The first stop for some was Frank’s Garage where Ed Frank, his sister Mable Frank, plus Virginia and John Frank hosted tours around the grounds and buildings. We saw an amazing automotive and farm equipment collection – most of it in original condition. Frank’s Garage was founded in 1942 and is still in operation. They specialize in pre-1995 equipment and have a machine shop to fabricate almost any part.

The next stop featured garages at two neighboring houses. Josie and Bill O’Donnell’s Amoco garages had three

flat head V-8 Fords – 1936 roadster, 1937 pickup, and 1940 coupe, along with equipment and parts. Next door, down the hill, was Ava and John Bonebrake’s garage with a Chevelle and Corvette in a setting that looked like a recreation room with wood paneling, etc.

An interesting change-of-pace was a visit to Char-Lane Farm owned by Duck Savage. This working horse farm specializes in breeding and raising Clydesdale horses – a different kind of horsepower compared to our cars.

At Mary and Gordon Kirwan’s garage, we were treated to 1910 and 1911 Ford Model Ts that are nice restorations; plus all the tools and parts needed to keep them on the road. Gordon is a past president of Chesapeake Region and a 50+ year AACA member.

The most extensive collection of restored cars, signs, and advertising was at Evaline and Clayton Miller’s facility. They have Fords from the teens through the ’50s; a nice selection of mid-century GM and Mopar cars; and even a Mercedes coupe. The collection is like an automotive museum, except it’s an outbuilding at their home.

Members who helped make the Garage Tour happen were: Thelma & Dave Johnson, Terri & Dan Materazzi, Anne Marie & Don Ramsburg, Bud Currey, Larry Butcher, Franklin Gage, and Norm Heathcote.

Everyone on the Garage Tour greatly appreciated these hosts allowing us to come onto their property and look inside their garages. It was a great experience and we owe them sincere thanks for their hospitality.



Top left: Gordon Kirwan’s 1910 Ford Model T; a Clydesdale coming to the fence; some of the used farm equipment at Frank’s Garage. On the left are some of the Tour vehicles parked at the Lisbon Fire Hall. Below from left: inside Bonebrake’s garage; and at Frank’s, the 1929 Ford Model A roadster. Several people tried the rumble seat.

