

Maryland MVA Centennial Car Show

By Jerry Gordon
Photos by Buzz Diehl

One of the more unusual 2010 car shows was hosted by Maryland's Motor Vehicle Administration on June 12th at their Glen Burnie headquarters in celebration of their 100th Anniversary. The concept of this car show was to have one vehicle for each of the years 1910 to 2010. This made for a mix of vehicles that you don't often see at car shows. Of course, twenty-five percent of the vehicles were actually daily-drivers, but some of them will be future collectible cars, including some later Mustangs and retro designs like the Ford Thunderbird and Dodge Challenger.

The MVA show was by invitation only. They started searching for participants last November and wanted vehicle owners to commit to a specific year and once that spot was filled no other car from that year was accepted.

Among the antique and collectible portion of the show, we saw a 1910 International high wheeler, several great looking Ford Model Ts, a good mix of 1930s and 1940s vehicles, and some nice 60s muscle cars. Not every vintage vehicle was a National Prize winner, but that didn't make them less interesting in the mix.

The hospitality and excellent organization by the MVA staff, all of whom were volunteers for the show, was outstanding. Most show cars were quickly identified and shown their parking space by a personal spotter. Participating cars received a goody bag with vouchers for coffee and donuts, plus a light lunch. In addition, there was free bottled water available given the hot weather. The forecasted late afternoon thunderstorm didn't materialize and for most of the day it was just a nice June day.

There wasn't any class judging or trophies, but MVA gave participation plaques to each car. The plaque was one of the best any of us have seen – a replica of the new Maryland license plate featuring the War of 1812 scene at Fort McHenry. The license plate was personalized with the year of each car and mounted on an 11 x 14 board

that also served at the identification for each vehicle's parking spot (see the photo of one of the plaques on page 9).

While it was a hot day, there was quite a bit of shade under trees along the side of the MVA building and at the edge of the parking lot. Most of us spent the day looking at the variety of vehicles, talking to other car collectors, and hanging out in the shade. We stayed until close to 4 PM, which is evidence of the event's popularity.

Club members who exhibited vehicles in the MVA show were: **Dave Benson**, 1964 Lincoln; **Ken Briers**: 1950 Ford pickup, 1952 Ford & 1997 Thunderbird; **Larry Butcher**, 1938

Lincoln; **Buzz Diehl**, 2005 Mustang; **Lou Fritz**: 1915 Paige Detroit, 1941 Ford, 1948 Willys Jeepster, & 1954 Corvette; **John Frank**, 1911 Buick; **Jerry Gordon**: 1984 Lincoln & 1993 Mercury; **Eric Hanson**: 1944 KDF 82E & 1948 Francis Barnett Merlin motorcycle; **Martin Herman**: 1946 Chevrolet truck & 1994 Landrover; **Pat & Roy Kidwell**, 1995 Chrysler; **Frank Lindberg**, 1940 LaSalle; and **Barbara Muldowney**, 2002 Corvette.

Also in the MVA Show were: **Laura & Eric O'Dell**: 1972 Pontiac Trans Am & 1977 Pontiac Trans Am; **John O'Hara**, 1947 Ford; **Dave Phillips**: 1927 Franklin, 1933 Franklin, & 1949 Studebaker; **Walt Meyers**: 1930 DeSoto & 1953 Pontiac; **Ted Schneider**, 1983 Oldsmobile; **Ron Siegrist**, 1976 Cadillac Eldorado; **Mark Straitz**, 1990 Mustang; **James Turner**, 1998 Ford pickup; **John Watkins**, 1932 Buick; **Pat Wenderoth**, 1928 Studebaker; **Gary Wilmer**: 1937 Ford & 1973 Pontiac Trans Am; **John Young**, 1986 Cadillac; and **Tom Young**: 1960 Thunderbird & 1980 Plymouth.



Shown from the top left: The opening ceremony with a War of 1812 color guard; the 1910 International high wheeler (oldest vehicle in the show) owned by the Griners; Linda & Tom Young with their 1960 Thunderbird; and Martin Herman with his 1946 Chevrolet truck.

Maryland MVA Centennial Car Show – Chesapeake Region Vehicles



Members' cars from the left by rows – 1st Row: Frank Lindberg, 1940 LaSalle; Ken Briers, 1952 Ford; Laura & Eric O'Dell, 1972 Pontiac Trans Am; 2nd Row: John Watkins, 1932 Buick; Gary Wilmer, 1937 Ford; Dave Phillips, 1933 Franklin; 3rd Row: John Frank, 1911 Buick; an example of the plaque given each participating car; Lou Fritz, 1915 Paige Detroit, 4th Row: Pat Wenderoth, 1928 Studebaker; John O'Hara, 1947 Ford; Eric Hanson with his 1944 KDF 82E; 5th Row: Larry Butcher, 1938 Lincoln; Dave Phillips, 1949 Studebaker; Eric Hanson, 1948 Francis Barnett Merlin motorcycle.