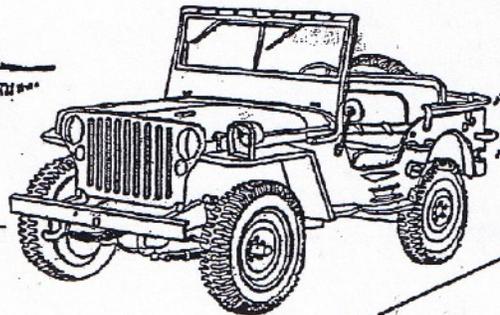


ALASKA TERRITORIAL CAVALRY (MOTORIZED)



TRUCK TRACKS

5910 DeBarr Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99504

An Affiliated Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 11

November 2012

Minutes of the Meeting

The October 17th, 2012 meeting of the Alaska Territorial Cavalry (Motorized) took place at Peggy's Café on 5th Avenue. The meeting was attended by Mark, Sue, & Philip Strumsky, Betty Larson, Doc Porter, Dennis & Diane Allen, John C. Goodman, John Ruthe, David Hewko, Jerry & Nan Peters, Don Kitchen, Tim Benintendi, John and Delia Fisher, Fred Scharper, Loren Martin, Richard Napoleon, B.C. Ingalls, and James M. Garrigues. Club president, Richard Napoleon, called the meeting to order at 7:01, and noted that we did have a quorum. He then asked for any new correspondence and passed around the newsletters he had received from other MVPA affiliates. Fred Scharper passed in some dues that he had collected from three other members. Richard then asked for any new bills. There was one from Dave Proehl for \$300. It covered one year of space rent for the connex in which we store the club WC51 on Fort Richardson. John Goodman handed in a check for \$550 from Richard Stevenson, who purchased the club's one-ton Ben Hur trailer. (Please note that John Goodman did not suggest the price we sold

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Editor's Spot

We still need volunteers to help with the Christmas Party. Since we don't have anyone to coordinate the Christmas Party at this time, I will be the contact person for now. We have no club events coming up until the Fur Rondy Truck show in February, which also needs a coordinator. **I also need email addresses from people willing to receive the newsletter electronically.** You can send it to me at my email address below. **Also, please pay your membership dues now if you are behind, so you don't miss out on any newsletters.**

Mark Strumsky
ATC (M) Newsletter editor
(907) 333-0562
m.strumsky@mooseak.com



**I WANT YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS,
AND I WANT IT NOW!**

the trailer for, he simply passed on the offer that was made. The club voted to accept the offer.) John also noted that we needed to come up with the title and registration for the trailer and asked everyone to look for it. (Those documents have since been located and passed on to John Goodman to give to Richard Stevenson.) Betty Larson then passed out the club treasurer's report. There were no questions and it was accepted. Richard then asked to hear from the other committees and reported that we were at 199 members. John Goodman reported for the half track committee and said that he was still trying to get a transfer case from Patson's. Dave Hewko reported for the gaming committee and said that he was working on the 2013 gaming permit. He also said he still had nobody willing to play our games and that Fred Scharper could approach some other vendors about playing our permit if he wanted to. Fred also said that he had reserved, but not paid yet, to have our club Christmas Party at American Legion Jack Henry Post #1. We will be having the same menu as last year and the cost will be \$20 each for those who wish to attend. Fred also agreed to pick up the meat, but nobody has so far volunteered to coordinate the event. Fred said he would see if someone at the post would do the cooking for us. (Fred has arranged for that since the last meeting.) Then we discussed new business. Mark Strumsky mentioned the Alaska Veteran's Museum dinner on November 9th. See the schedule of events for more details if you would like to attend. The Fur Rondy military truck show is coming up in February, although the dates and times have not been confirmed. We still need someone to contact Anchorage/Chrysler/Dodge and coordinate that with them. Mark Strumsky mentioned that the North Pole Chapter of the (NDTA) National Defense Transportation Association will be having their club BBQ in May, and we hope to attend that, but have not had an official invitation yet. See the schedule for more details. There was some discussion about the upcoming change from a paper to an electronic version of the newsletter. Several people expressed concern about that. I tried to reassure everyone that the change will be taking place over a period of several months. The printed edition will still be sent to other organizations and also be made available to members who do not have computer access or have requested a printed version. Richard then called the meeting to a close. The split the pot total this month was \$80, and Fred Scharper won \$40.

The Pre-War U.S. Army: Part one.

In the years between World War One and World War Two, the state of the US military was allowed to deteriorate to extremely dangerous levels. Some of this was due to the isolationist feelings that came from the losses and destruction in World War One. Some of it was also the result of the lack of funds available because of the Depression of the 1930's. All of the services suffered, but in particular the air component and ground forces seemed to have been the most neglected. In 1939 the US Army was ranked just 19th in the world, with fewer soldiers than Poland or Romania. The horse cavalry was still active and the top four field commanders were all veterans of the 1898 Spanish/American War. The primary army rifle was the 1903 Springfield, the main field gun was the 1895 75mm which had been declared obsolete in 1918, and the main battle tank in 1935 was still the M1916 six ton, designed in WWI. The military had received no pay raises since 1920 and $\frac{3}{4}$ of our soldiers had not completed high school. In fact many had no high school education at all. I recently came across a group of photos that were taken before December 7th 1941.



The most numerous US tank in 1940 was still the six ton.



Heavy tank on maneuvers, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. 9 July 1928.

A US Army heavy tank at Fort Leonard Wood in 1928.



Anti-tank Bn., 30th Div., battle with tanks of the 2nd armored div. Tank in background was put out of action. South of Feressee River, Cheraw, S.C. 19 Nov 1941.

Dodge 1/2 ton and 37mm Anti-tank gun of the 30th Anti-tank Bn. 2nd Armored Div. Cheraw, SC in Nov. of 1941.

Many people don't know that in 1940 a peace time draft was instituted by President Roosevelt. Many of those who joined the Army did so for economic reasons and many were unfit for duty. The Army taught over one million men how to read and write, issued two million pairs of glasses, and dentists pulled over 15 million decaying teeth. For many soldiers it was the first time they had ever left home. The Army was so short of gear that many soldiers were issued blue uniforms from the 1920's, and the problem was not resolved until 1942. There were never enough rifles for everyone, and many men trained with fake rifles.

Schedule of upcoming events:

The ATC (M) meets at Peggy's Restaurant on 5th Avenue on the third Wednesday of every month. Dining starts at 6pm and the meeting starts at 7pm.

Alaska Veteran's Museum:

Their Annual dinner/meeting/fundraiser will be held on Friday, Nov. 9th, at the Hilton Anchorage Hotel from 6-10 PM. The price is \$65 pp or \$120 per couple. Dress is Alaskan casual.

ATCM Club Christmas party: It will be held on Wednesday, December 19th, at the American Legion Jack Henry Post #1, at 840 West Fireweed Lane. It will be in the upstairs conference hall, accessible by the door to the left of the main entrance. We still need a contact person/coordinator and some helpful volunteers for the set up and preparation. A post member is going to do the cooking for us.

Drinks at 6pm, Dinner 6:30pm-?

The party will take the place of our regular monthly meeting for December only. The cost of dinner will be \$20 for adults and \$15 for children. You can pay at the door if you don't pay in advance.

MENU

Green Salad
Prime rib
Baked Ham
Green beans
Baked Potato
Rolls
Cake

Club members are also being asked to bring an appetizer or side dish.

Drinks will be available by purchasing a ticket at the party and then picking up your drink from the main bar down stairs.

Fur Rondy Parade and Military Truck Show:

Probably February 22-23, but the dates and times are still to be determined. We do need a contact person for this event.

National Defense Transportation Association

(North Pole Chapter) Annual BBQ: The details and our participation are still not confirmed. It is scheduled for Saturday, May 18th at Russian Jack Park. Contact: Mark Strumsky 333-0562.

Advertising

Now available: Secured/Covered vehicle storage spaces in West downtown Anchorage location. One space is (9'x18'x7 1/2) for \$125 per month. Several smaller spaces are available for \$100 per month each. Contact Dave Syren.
Home: 274-9046
Cell: 440-2982.

Just a reminder! ATC (M) members can place ads in the newsletter at no charge. They will run for three months. They can be resubmitted later if you don't have any luck the first time around.

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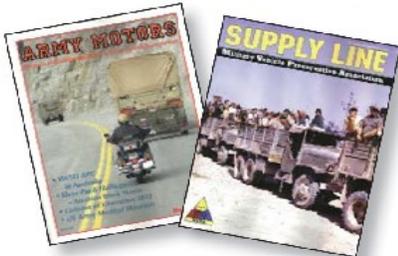
IF YOU OWN A MILITARY VEHICLE OR
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MILITARY VEHICLES
OR IF YOU ARE SIMPLY INTERESTED
IN THE MILITARY HISTORY OF ALASKA
YOU BELONG IN THE
ALASKA TERRITORIAL CAVALRY (MOTORIZED)

The Alaska Territorial Cavalry (Motorized) is a group of Alaskans organized "to support activities and legislation helpful to the acquisition, collection, possession, display, exhibition, preservation, and use of military vehicles and accessories by responsible collectors, owners, mechanics, and other interested persons". The ATC(M) meets regularly and has a newsletter in which members can exchange information relative to the collection and use of military vehicles. Vehicle shows, and other events are scheduled from time to time. Members are willing to share their experiences with others in restoring military vehicles and sharing common interest in military vehicles and Military Memorabilia.

Come join us!

- { } Count me in. Here is my first year dues of \$20.00.
- { } Count me in. Here is my life membership dues of \$200.00

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____
Military Vehicles: _____
Email (for newsletters): _____



Military Vehicle Preservation Association History In Motion

Since 1976 the Military Vehicle Preservation Association's mission is to provide an international organization for military vehicle enthusiasts, historians, preservationists and collectors interested in the acquisition, restoration, preservation, safe operation, public education and display of historic military transport.

All membership types include Six issues of *Supply Line* and Four issues of *Army Motors* annually.

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Complete this application and mail with a check or money order (on a U.S. bank in U.S. funds) to the address below.

MVPA ☉ PO Box 520378 ☉ Independence, MO 64052

Phone: (800) 365-5798 ☉ E-mail: hq@mvpa.org ☉ Fax: (816) 833-5115



Alaska Territorial Cavalry (Motorized)
5910 DeBarr Rd
Anchorage, AK 99504

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

