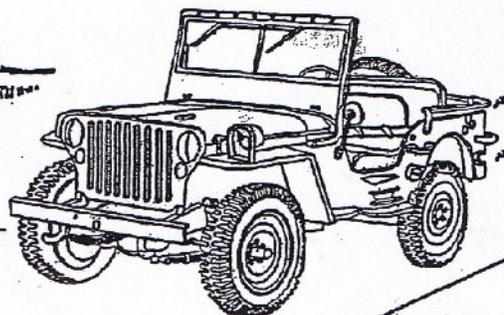


ALASKA TERRITORIAL CAVALRY (MOTORIZED)



TRUCK TRACKS

5910 DeBarr Rd.
Anchorage, AK 99504

An Affiliated Chapter of the Military Vehicle Preservation Association

Monthly Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue 12

December 2012

Minutes of the Meeting

The November 21st, 2012 meeting of the Alaska Territorial Cavalry (Motorized) took place at Peggy's Café on 5th Avenue. The meeting was attended by Mark & Sue Strumsky, John C. Goodman, Betty Larson, Doc' Porter, Jerry Peters, Peter Hewko, David Hewko, Don Kitchen, Richard Napoleon, BC Ingalls, Jeanne Ostnes, Tim Benintendi, Fred Scharper, Ralph Centoni, Dave Syren, John Kerns, and Dawn Sperry. The club president, Richard Napoleon, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. He noted that we had a quorum. He also noted that the club newsletter had been received, and that it was very good. He then introduced John Kerns and Dawn Sperry, who are new members. Richard then asked for any new correspondence. Some items were handed in by Fred Scharper. Richard then asked for any new bills. There were none, but Betty Larson had paid \$195.74 for printing the November newsletter and \$45 for the MVPA dues. Betty Larson, the club treasurer, then passed out the Treasurer's report for review. There were no questions and it was accepted. We then heard from Dave Hewko of the

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Editor's Spot

We have no upcoming events for the next few months, but our club Christmas party is on December 19th at the American Legion Hall on Fireweed Lane. If you plan to attend, please contact Jeanne Ostnes at 276-2923 or JEANNE050@ALASKA.NET. Our next event is the Fur Rondy Military Truck Show during Fur Rondy, at Anchorage/Chrysler/Dodge on 5th Avenue. In order to save money, we are planning to switch over to an email newsletter starting in March. If you still want a mailed newsletter then you need to let me know soon. If I do not have your email address I will need it. I will send the newsletter by both ways for the December through February editions. If you are behind in your ATCM dues, this is a good time to catch up. You might even consider just buying a life membership to avoid missing any of the newsletters.

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



gaming committee. Dave mentioned that the 2013 gaming permit was ready for submission, and that all he needed were some signatures from Bingo South for them to play our permit, but we have had some problems getting a signature from them. Fred Scharper was working on that. Richard Napoleon then spoke for the membership committee and said that we were currently at 200 members. Richard then asked about upcoming events. Barry Ingalls is going to speak with Anchorage/Chrysler/Dodge about the upcoming Military Truck Show during Fur Rondy. Fred Scharper said that everything is a go for the ATCM club Christmas party in December. He has someone line up to cook for us and help with cleanup after the party. If you plan to come, please contact Jeanne Ostnes and let her know at 276-2923 on by email at JEANNE050@ALSASKA.net. See the schedule of events for more details. We then had a presentation by Patrick Durand from the Engine 557 Restoration Company. They are in the process of restoring a steam engine that was built during WW2 and was one of twelve of the type shipped to Alaska in 1944. It worked in Alaska for many years before being decommissioned and shipped down to Washington State in 1965, where it remained for many years. It was recently returned to Alaska and is now in Wasilla in the process of being restored to running condition. Plans are to eventually operate it as a tourist attraction. The organization gave us the presentation in order to request a donation. That will be decided by the board of directors at a future time. They hope to have it operating by 2015. There is a lot of work involved and it will take a lot of funding.

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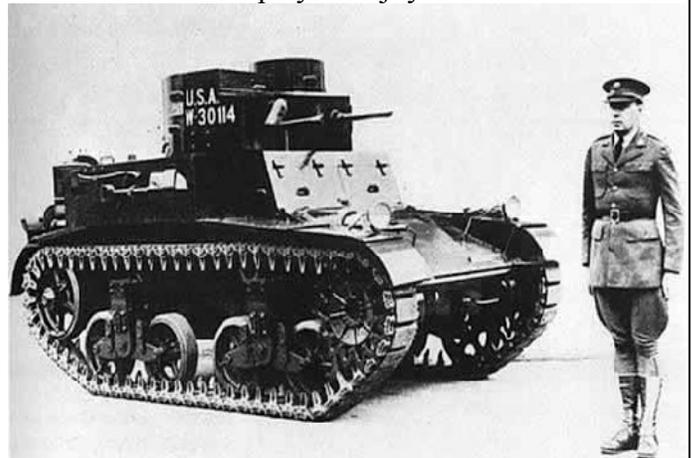


This is a photo of engine 557 in Whittier in 1944 or 1945. This is the same type of engine that is on display on the Park Strip in downtown Anchorage.

You can see more info about the engine or make a donation at <http://www.alaskarails.org> or you can contact Pat Durand, the club president, at P.O. Box 875369, Wasilla, Alaska 99501. His number is 907-341-9232 or email sewtrain@mtaonline.net. Mark Strumsky then mentioned that LPD 23, The USS Anchorage, would be coming to Anchorage in May of 2013 for commissioning. The Anchorage is an Amphibious Transport Dock that carries up to 800 marines, V22 Osprey tilt rotor aircraft, and the LCAC, which is a type of assault hover craft. It is a new state of the art ship and will be open to the public. The City of Anchorage will be hosting the visit and there will be a number of events being held which will cost over \$10,000. We discussed the possibility of the ATCM participating in some way. We'll know more as the visit gets closer. Sue Strumsky volunteered to do the club Christmas cards again this year. Richard then adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm. There was no split the pot at this month's meeting. The next meeting will be the club Christmas party on December 19th. The party will once again be held at the Jack Henry American Legion Post 1 on Fireweed Lane.

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

In the second part of my article about the pre-war US Army in WW2 I'll show you some of the tanks and other vehicles that were being used at the time. We are trying to limit the newsletter to six pages when there are no events that we've attended, so I am limited by space and will stick to mostly photos in this edition. I hope you enjoy them.



This is a photo of an M2A2 light tank. In 1941 they were the most numerous modern light tanks in the US Army inventory. There were a variety of versions, some having single turrets and some with twin turrets. Most had only machine guns as their main armament. They were the predecessor of the M3 Stuart which had a 37mm gun.



Troop "B", 1st Cavalry in the Oct. 1938 Cav. Maneuvers at Fort Riley, Kan. A squadron of horse Cavalry (2nd Cav. Sect.) may just be seen in the upper center.

A column of M2A2 light tanks belonging to Troop B, First Cavalry Division, in October of 1938 on maneuvers at Fort Riley, Kansas. They were armed with a .50 caliber and several .30 caliber machine guns and had a crew of four.



"The march to Ft. Riley." View of Armored Cars, Troop "A", 1st Cavalry Regt. lined up for inspection. 8Jun34.

A lineup of armored cars belonging to Troop A of the First Cavalry Division ready for inspection at Fort Riley, KS in 1941. These are Cunningham model T4's and were built in limited numbers and not standardized. They do resemble armored cars built by Britain and the USSR during WW2.



123423
3rd Army Maneuvers, Lake Charles, La. 30 ton tanks attacking the town. 11Sept41.

An early version of what would become the M3 Grant medium tank. This early variation did not have the 75mm main gun on the right side. It is on maneuvers with the Third Army in Lake Charles, Louisiana and is attacking opposing forces in the town of Castor.



ARMY DEPARTMENT, A. P. O.
ORDERS - 2/8/32.
Medium Tank, T5. Combat
Car. T2. (Christie).

The Christie tank was built during the 1930's and was a very promising design. Its developer, Walter Christie, was somewhat temperamental and his tank was never accepted by the US military. It was built in very small numbers and most of them were sent to smelters where they were melted down during WW2.



7mm Anti-tank Gun crew ready for action. 2nd Army Maneuvers, Cumberland, Ky. 11 Sept 1941.

A 37mm gun crew ready for action with an M2 half track in the background. It belongs to the second Army and is on Maneuvers in Cumberland, Kentucky in September of 1941. Note the old style WW1 helmets.



Army Maneuvers in the Danville. See 3/4-ton Cargo Truck, 77mm Tank Destroyer Gun, with explosive crew. August 1942.

The main US anti-tank gun at the beginning of WW2 was the M2 37mm. Here it is shown mounted on a Dodge 3/4 ton truck and was known as the WC55. It was not effective and quickly replaced by the 57mm.

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.

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. A post member is going to do the cooking for us.

If you plan to attend, please contact Jeanne Ostnes at 276-2923 or JEANNE050@ALASKA.NET.

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. Contacts will be Barry Ingalls and Larry Wilkinson.

National Defense Transportation Association (North Pole Chapter) Annual BBQ: 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. Two or more spaces available for \$100 per month each.

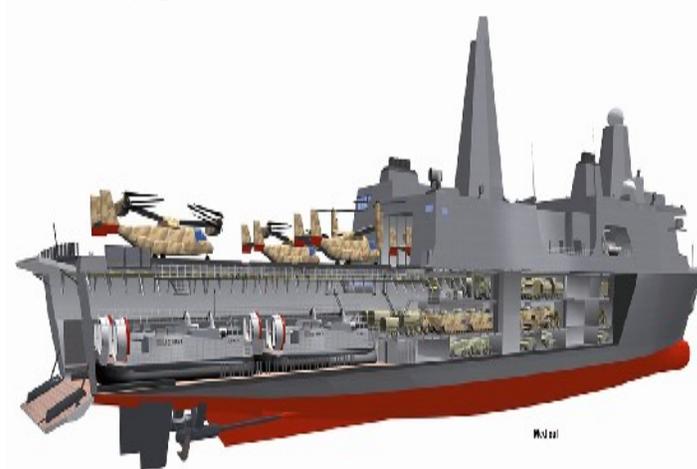
Contact Dave Syren
Home: 274-9046
Cell: 440-2982

For Sale: Four (4) 1100X18 Duck tires on 12 hole rims. \$400.00
Call Don Bloom at 355-1651

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.



This photo was taken on November 9, 2012 as LPD USS Anchorage transits through the Panama Canal on her Maiden Voyage.



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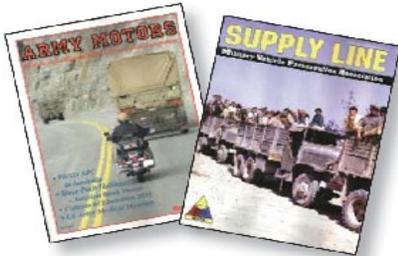
**IF YOU OWN A MILITARY VEHICLE OR
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MILITARY VEHICLES
OR IF YOU ARE SIMPLY INTERESTED
IN THE MILITARY HISTORY OF ALASKA
YOU BELONG IN THE
ALASKA TERRITORIAL CAVALRY (MOTORIZED)**

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: _____



Military Vehicle Preservation Association History In Motion

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

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