

Fabulous Fountainhead Fun in Fairbanks!

Antique Auto Musers of Alaska, July 7, 2010

The fabulous Fountainhead Antique Auto Museum in Fairbanks hosted the Midnight Sun Solstice Celebration on June 18th through the 20th.

This inaugural event, co-hosted with the Vernon L. Nash Antique Auto Club, included a dinner cruise on Friday, a car show (with people's choice awards in six classes) on Saturday, a "Tour de Fairbanks" cruise, Museum activities, Steam car and antique engine demonstrations, and an awards dinner Saturday evening.

A leisurely Saturday morning museum tour presented by docent, Nancy Allen, led to a demonstration of a 1910 Stanley Steamer by Alan Kelso, from Pennsylvania. Alan lighted the boiler, got the steam up and drove the 100-year-old car around the museum campus.

After the Stanley Steamer demon-stration, Alan James showed the group a rather large 1906 Fairbanks-Morse 20 H.P. gasoline engine.

Meanwhile, about 130 cars were on display in the Wedgewood Hotel Parking area. The show was judged by popular vote in six categories. Congratulations go to one of our members, Bob Bartlett, who won People's Choice Award in his division for his 1931 Model A pickup.

The celebration ended Saturday night with an awards banquet emceed by Dennis Gage, star of Speed Channel's "My Classic Car," entertainment by Mr. Whitekeys of Fly by Night fame and a surprise appearance by Alaska Governor, Sean Parnell.

On Sunday, part of the Antique Auto Musers contingent drove north to Chatanika for a look at some of the historic mining locations. Then, on Monday, the same group went for a sightseeing trip down the Richardson Highway to the Copper Center Lodge before returning to Anchorage on Tuesday.