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CHESAPEAKE COMMUNIQUÉ

Official newsletter of the ALPCA Chesapeake Region



Photo courtesy of Jack Hollingsworth

Recap: Hampstead Meet - August 28th

Another one in the books - the ALPCA Chesapeake Region meet in Hampstead, MD was a rousing success! The official attendance count was 63 with several first-time attendees, one person who re-joined the club after 20 years, and many familiar faces in attendance. Collectors came out from Arizona, Maine, and Israel, as well as many places closer to Maryland. Thanks to all who came out to make it a great meet, and especially to those who were willing to lend a hand to make setup and teardown quick and efficient. See you at the next Chesapeake Region meet in 2022!

- Jack Hollingsworth

SAVE THE DATE

Mechanicsville Meet

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022
Hanover Ruritan Park
8145 Walnut Grove Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23111



We're returning to Mechanicsville for our Spring '22 meet. More info in the coming months.

ALPCA International Convention '22



The ALPCA international convention will be at the Hampton Roads Convention Center July 20-23, 2022. The host hotel is the Embassy Suites located at 1700 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, VA 23666.



Photos courtesy of Mike Glaubach



Be sure to check out our website: alpc-chesapeake.org



New Plate options coming soon in the region...



Delaware will soon see a new license plate option. The Autism Acceptance & Inclusion plate will be available as soon as 50 paid applications are received.

Virginia has a few new optionals on the horizon. The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation is encouraging folks to pre order their new Virginia optional plate.

Currently they have 125 of the 450 required to begin production.

The Richmond Planet license plate will soon be available once approved by the VA General Assembly. The 450 pre orders have been secured for the new plate.



The District of Columbia Council recently approved a new speciality license plate to support wildlife within the district. Design for the plate is ongoing and no draft image has been published to date.

Chesapeake Region

Elected Board of Directors:

- President and Board Chairman – Rick Kretschmer, ALPCA #9652
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 - 919-553-7975 (landline)
 - 919-673-7719 (cell)
- Director – Tom Smith, ALPCA #1328
- Director – Christopher Jackson, ALPCA #10844
- Director – Jack Hollingsworth, ALPCA #11331
- Director – Ed Burr, ALPCA #8359

The Chesapeake Communiqué is currently being published quarterly: January, April, July, & October. If you have information you'd like featured in the newsletter, please contact Larry Haake #12770 by email at heykey4@gmail.com or phone (804) 651-6843.

Why you should go to the ALPCA International Convention

by Rick Kretschmer

Next year's ALPCA convention will be held Wed.-Sat., July 20-23 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Va. ALPCA conventions rotate around to different parts of the country each year, but the last time one was held in Virginia or anywhere in Chesapeake Region territory was over 30 years ago. This is a rare opportunity to experience the "mother of all plate meets" without having to spend a lot of money and time to get there.

Attending an ALPCA convention should be on every plate collector's bucket list. It's the largest gathering of plate collectors anywhere in the world. ALPCA conventions are four days long, are usually attended by 300 to 500 club members (closer to 500 at east coast locations), will have many hundreds of tables filled with literally millions of plates for sale or trade, and feature amazing displays of rare and unique plates you'll never see anywhere else.

I've been to ten conventions now, with my first being in 2007 in Huntsville, Ala. When I walked into the Huntsville convention hall, I thought I had died and gone to plate collectors' heaven. I had never seen so many plates in one place, and the sound of clanging plates filling the hall was music to my ears! I've since made it a priority to attend the convention every chance I get.

You will not be able to see everything in one day. I recommend planning to attend the entire four days. Even if you can't, try to get off work and come some time during the week if at all possible. After the ALPCA business meeting and awards ceremony on Saturday morning, many sellers will be busy packing up and leaving, so if you only attend on Saturday you'll feel like you really missed out.

You must be an ALPCA member, or a non-collector guest of a member (such as a family member), to attend the ALPCA convention. If you're not already a member, perhaps this will be the motivation you need to join. While you can join ALPCA at the convention door, memberships run for a calendar year, so you'll get more for your money if you join at the beginning of 2022. I hope to see you in Hampton next July!