



AH-000-GAH

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What Happened to the Spring Weather?

by Linda Kubik

Members came out in good number to take a spring drive on the country roads between Lexington and Richmond, only to be shocked by the icy cold wind that prevailed that morning. We met at the McDonald's at Tates Creek Center with a plan to leave at 9 am. Bob & Karla Kirk had planned the drive, with a stop at White Hall for a tour of that beautiful historic homestead before lunch at the Akers of Land Winery. Mary Fettig met us at the gathering spot to wish us well on the day's adventure, and Herb Eldridge drove part of the tour with the group. Bud & Bobbie Crowe were our visitors for the day, traveling with Joe & Joan Vice.

Members Mike & Barbara Tierney joined us for their first tour in their newly acquired 1940 Packard. Many members took the opportunity to inspect the new addition to the group before we headed out on the journey. We were twenty-six strong for the trip, a mixture of vintage beauties and modern vehicles for this early spring tour. The roadways provided typical spring foliage, including daffodils, magnolias, Bradford pear and forsythia in bloom. Even though the temperature didn't feel spring-like, the blooms showed promise of what is just around the corner!

Traveling the roads to Richmond, I think it's hard to find a more beautiful stretch of highway than Delong Road. The fields, the homes and the scenery are just so pretty to take in. The horse farms provide the perfect backdrop to a weekend drive no matter what the weather, and Saturday was no exception. Pulling up the driveway to White Hall we were able to see the property from a distance and felt the excitement of it's history waiting to be told.

Our guide for the tour was Lashé Mullins who started by sharing that she and her family have been involved with the restoration and tours of White Hall for 17 years. With that wealth of knowledge, she took us on a wonderful walk through the history of the building and the colorful characters who made up the Clay family that resided there. Starting the lineage was General Green Clay, who was at one time the wealthiest man in KY, acquiring thousands of acres of land in his work as a surveyor. Green Clay died on the property on Oct 31, 1810.



Linda K, Lashé Mullins, Charlie S.



The group after lunch & wine

BLUEGRASS REGION – ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA
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The **AH-000-GAH** is the official document of the **Bluegrass Region Antique Automobile Club of America, Lexington, Kentucky.**

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Son Cassius had made a name for himself as a student of law at both Transylvania University and Yale. He and his wife Mary Jane Warfield Clay took up residence at White Hall and raised a family of 10 children there. Although Cassius was gone for years at a time in service to the US government as Minister to Russia, the property was expanded and maintained through the hard work of his wife Mary Jane. His return to the property after almost 10 years away did not bring an easy reconciliation with his wife & family. Separation and divorce followed leaving Cassius to live alone in the enormous home. Cassius was a fiery speaker and author regarding the issue of slavery. He was an emancipationist, alienating many of his peers because of his views. His newspaper, *True American*, existed strictly to further those beliefs and to provide legal changes to end slavery.

So much was shared on the history of White Hall and it's residents that it is impossible to

mention all the details, but if you had to miss the tour I would strongly recommend you take the time to visit it on your own, read about it on the web or visit your local library to learn more. You know...they say its haunted and with good reason!

We're on to lunch at Akers of Land Winery, just a short 10 miles from White Hall. It's a winery where they say they're not a big corporate entity like some. They take pride in how this allows them to do things the "Kentucky way", with patience, craftsmanship and pride, creating some of Kentucky's finest wines. The owner, Lowell Land, happens to be a cousin to club member Karla Kirk, and was kind enough to come talk to all of us as we waited for our food orders to arrive. Glancing around the table it was clear that a wide variety of menu items were appealing to those about to dine, because there was a good mix of selections to be consumed. Cheers to Bob & Karla for setting up a great trip, close to home, and enjoyed by all.



President's Corner

Charlie Simpson

The March outing to White Hall Mansion and Acres of Land Winery was a great run thanks to mother nature and no major car problems. However, when we got home in Georgetown, it started snowing. That is March weather; good timing Bob and Karla.

Our next outing is an overnight to French Lick, Indiana. We will have a lot of choices of things to do and see at French Lick. We need to make our hotel reservations at Comfort Suites (812)936-5300 (\$99 plus tax). Let's not forget our members that are having health problems. We just found out that Bob Jackson is having some health issues. Please keep all of our members that are ailing in your prayers.

Hope to see you on our next tour. *Invite a friend.*

Charlie

Saturday April 16 & 17 Overnight Tour to French Lick Indiana

**Meet at McDonalds at Palomar Centre in time to leave at
8:00am sharp to arrive at the Overlook in time for lunch.
(You have to try the coconut cream pie!)**

**Stay overnight at French Lick with a tour to Madison on
Sunday. (Accommodation information is on pg 3)**

Hope to see you for this great trip!!

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