



November 22

OPERATION FRANK NEWS

NO: 5

Well, here it is almost Christmas again and some of us are already shivering in the Birmabrite and wishing we had installed that Kodiak heater last summer when we had the chance. Sigh.... Oh well, on to other things.

The fall tune-up was a great success on October 15 with nine Land Rovers and 25 people turning up. It was a cold, windy day but Al Pilgrim's flapjacks and hot coffee -- made with the aid of ladyfriend Sharon and a little something extra to "shoo" away the chill -- kept everyone warm.

Mike McDermott cleaned out the attic of his garage and several other club oldtimers searched through the forgotten corners of their basements and the first "parts swap" got off to a good start. After various owners had picked up their own bits, the pile was spread out for any takers. The word was: anything left over was headed for the dump so that, plus a generous sales policy of "pay what you think it's worth" saw the disappearance of 10 and 11 inch brake drums, backing plates, Lucas regulators, control linkages, carbs, steering rods, gauges, switches, dash panels and starters.

Much of the remainder was saved from the trash pile by ALROC VP Walt Saveland and his father -- visiting from Milwaukee -- who loaded down the family Volvo with two bonnets and several boxes of bits. If you need something, call Walt. He's in the ALROC directory.

We put faces on "telephone" voices Charles Feaver and Rob Johnstone. Charles displayed his beautiful Series III-88 with the news it was looking for a new home because he was headed for Winnipeg. He was asking \$2,500 and, at last word, his phone had been disconnected so we don't know if he sold it or it now lives in the midwest. Shirley Des Biens oft seen with Bob Wood for reasons unknown, visited with news that Bob was off in the bush hunting little furry things.

John Pritchard and lady Kitty dropped by in their "open air" 88. ALROC Pres. and professional mechanic Andrew Finlayson was on hand to watch over things mechanical -- but he had a pretty easy day of it.

And .... taaaaa daaaaa .... we raised \$100.94 in donations .... and the sale of two T-shirts of the Calabogie Rally variety. The bucks put us back into the black .... slightly .... but it's a much nicer place to be.

In other news....

We're planning a winter camping trip ... probably to the wilds of Calabogie or on the Quebec side near Perkins. It'll likely be sometime in January and involve one night under canvas. A couple of weeks before the big weekend we'll meet in a cosy place for an evening of courage-gathering and instruction from an expert in winter camping ... someone from a professional outfitter. More details to come in the next newsletter.

Gossip, Rumour, Fact and Fiction....

ALROC President Andrew Finlayson is deep in the planning stages for his newly-acquired Series I. He picked it up from Bruce Ricker. Bob Wood bought Andrew's military 109 nicknamed the "bread wagon" because of its windowless sides. It was formerly owned by Mark Pankhurst who probably misplaced it among his collection. Boy, that's confusing. Jason Dowell's 88 is back on the road after a frame rebuild. The body's next, he says. Brother Jerry is frantically looking for a steering box or the parts therein before he crashes his 109 station wagon. Mike McDermott is in the seventh month of his "from the wheels up" rebuild of his Series I-86. Frame, bulkhead, running gear and transmission are done. This month the body goes on. Waiting in the wings, or the snow as the case may be, is Al Pilgrim's Series I-107 pickup. It's another complete rebuild but, thanks to Simon Skuse and Mark Pankhurst and their work some time ago, the frame's already done. It's looking for mid-summer. Bob Hussey is fixing a burned valve on his 109. Fred Cayer rolled his Series III-88 with lotsa body damage. He's OK. Doctor John Bennett is recovering from back problems but his 86 is still healthy. David Smithers has Lucas electric problems and brother Mike "Blinders" Smithers still insists his 88 is the best LR on the road. Getting back to Bruce Ricker ... he's now the proud owner of a 109 3-door "regular".

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Well, it looks like it's gonna be the biggest darn get-together ever seen in these parts, pardner. You got a phone call last week to get you ready. Well -- the menu's been set and it looks yummy. Choice of lasagna or cannelloni, buns, pickles and the like and a half litre of imported wine each ... slide show of Operation Frank activities throughout the year ... the Land Rover Movie ... and some prizes. All for \$11 each. It's at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 6 at LA TOSCA restaurant, 412 Preston Street. Twenty-five LR lovers are coming. Any questions call Mike McDermott at 224-8300 or Al Pilgrim at 731-2840. "BE THERE OR BE SQUARE"