

Suwannee River Region AACA 2023 Officers

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Two year:

Sunshine & phone: Webmaster: Newsletter Editor: Website address: All SRRAACA Email: Shirley McManus Kelly Jordan Alex Fardales Roy Spurling & Barbara Richards



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NEED A PERFECT GIFT IDEA ?

I can't think of a better gift to give someone who loves this hobby than an AACA membership. Do you have friends and family who aren't current members and enjoy antique cars as much as you do? With the benefits of *Antique Automobile* magazine and the Library & Research Center alone, how can you go wrong?!

> An AACA membership is a unique gift that gives all year long! Call us today at 717-534-1910!

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THOUGHT

Life is a gift... Don't leave it unopened.

Ken Barton



NEW MEMBER ARRIVALS

None This Month

Please remember to play up and promote our GREAT CLUB to your friends that may share our interests and enjoy what we do!



The Oil Can is the official publication of the Suwannee River Region Antique Automobile Club of America. The purpose of this journal is to keep our members and friends informed of local, regional and national activi-

ties and functions as well as our meetings and other important dates.

The content, views and opinions of the articles in <u>The Oil Can</u> are those of the named author and may not necessarily conform with those of the Editor, the Board of Directors of both the AACA National and the Suwannee River Region or our members. All clip art comes from sources that grant permission for their use.

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<u>Unless otherwise noted, photos are submitted</u> by the Editor.

Suwannee River Region AACA P O Box 7095 Lake City, FL 32055



The Preservation of Old Cars

The Suwannee River Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America, is a family friendly organization, located in North Florida. We love old cars, good food and enjoy above average comradery with each other. Our members are involved in local, state and national events.

Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month currently at The Lake City Moose Lodge and starts at 7:00PM. Door opens at 6:30PM. We cover necessary business, but the meetings are always light, interesting and involve all members and guests.

If you have an interest in old cars, please consider joining us. You do not have to own an antique car to join our region or AACA.

For more information, contact: Shirley McManus, President at 386.365.9643, or Kat Gibson, Editor at 386.339.5322



A Message from Our President

Shirley McManus

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR MARCH 2023 Edited by Kat Gibson

As busy as February was it looks like March should be too. The Moose Lodge had to postpone their Valentine's Day Car show due to bad weather and it has been scheduled for March 4^{th.} March 11th SRRAACA will be holding a Blueberry Pancake Breakfast at Cannon Creek Airpark with a car display and music and 50/50's. As always it seems like there is always several things going on at once, and so it is for the 18th. The Gainesville Street Rodders will hold their annual huge show at the Santa Fe College grounds and as many of you know the Shamrock Fly-In will be at Cannon Creek Airpark and you are all invited to bring your cars for a display the same day. Both events are always a great time. On March 25th we are headed to the VA Domiciliary to display our cars and also to visit and have lunch with the Veterans. Please come out to this it means so much to them. All of these events in March are Saturdays.



As far as February events, both Moose the Lodge and the Wellborn breakfast were well attended. As earlier stated Valentine the car show at the Moose was postponed due to bad weather coming in. The

Olustee Festival on the 18th please read my story on page 12. Sal's had a good turn out, however I could not do the music for lack of power. Guess I need a generator to carry with me. They power washed the building and it knocked out all the outside power. Of course, I didn't know that until my equipment was all set up. The 25th was the American Legion Chili Cook-off, and as usual it's always a good time, with lots of great cars. As for the weather this month it was strange,



Well folks... this is it for me. It took a whole lot of thought to make the decision to turn the responsibility of the Oil Can over to a new editor. I have had a bunch of fun and have enjoyed the process, but the time it has taken has become too much.

I am so glad that after what seemed like an impossible task, we have Kat Gibson that thought about it and jumped in. Thank you Kat! And folks... she is a lot prettier than I am too!

I have offered my help in the transition. Kat was involved with this issue with editing articles. Next month it will be mostly on her, but I am going to remain ready to answer questions and get her started with understanding Publisher. I feel confident that the Oil Can is going to be just fine and possibly even better!





I want to thank all of you for helping me with pictures, stories, and support. Please (and I know you will) do the same for Kat.

See you around!

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he Moose Lodge in Lake City, Florida hosted our monthly Dye won an award for her 1965 Mustang at Live Oak Church board meeting on Thursday February 2, 2023. President of God. Congratulations Norman and Jamee! Shirley McManus called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

This was the first meeting our club has had at the Moose Lodge with an attendance of 44 members coming together to enjoy a dinner of chicken wings and fries. The Moose Lodge cook team did an outstanding job with everyone having full Kelly Jordan, Ralph Towner and I attended AACA Winter Natummies.

Chuck and Dianne Partington approved new member's application. Shirley advised the club that our editor, Don Downs is stepping down as the "Oil Can" editor and a new editor would need to be chosen.

Downs will be attending The National Convention taking place next week. The club discussed donating a nondesignated gift of \$500.00 to the AACA at the convention.

The board members approved a bill to pay for our post office box.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22PM.

FEBRUARY 2023 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Edited by Kat Gibson

location, The Moose Lodge in Lake City, Florida. On Thursday, February 2nd at 7:00pm, many of our members arrived early to have a delicious chicken wing and fries' dinner at a very reasonable price. Our editor, Don Downs distributed a current copy of our "Oil Can" newsletter, and "Cruise News" magazine. After a brief board meeting, pledge of allegiance and prayer session, our President, Shirley McManus called the meeting to order at 7:08pm. A total of 44 members were in attendance.

Shirley brought up the question, on where to hold our meeting next month. It was later decided we would hold future meetings at the Moose Lodge. A copy of our new roster was passed around for verification to our members present to assure accuracy (addresses, phone numbers, car information, etc.). We welcomed Lee and Sheila Douglas close friends to Ken Barton, who were celebrating their 44th wedding anniversary congratulations! The board approved two new members Chuck and Dianne Partington. They were unable to attend tonight's meeting, but we welcome our new members.

Roy Spurling presented the treasurer's report, which was received and accepted by the general membership.

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to our members, here's a bouquet of happiness for you.

For our members with health issues and ailments, you are in all our thoughts and prayers as you continue to heal.

Our club took a trip to the Tallahassee Auto Museum in Tallahassee, Florida. Everyone had a great time. To read more on this event, the story is covered in our current newsletter. On the same day of the Tallahassee Museum, Live Oak, Florida held a car show where Norman Silver won an award. Jamee

Great turnout at Sal's on January 17th. We were at full capacity. The camaraderie at Hardees shows how strong this club is. Keep it up members, we thank you all!

tional held in Miami, Florida on January 26th to January 28th. I was asked to stand up to the mic to speak about the event. Be sure to read about this event in the "Oil Can" in next month's issue.

Don Downs gave his "Oil Can" report, and expressed his lack of time he is able to put into the newsletter. Don offered to Ralph Towner, Kelly Jordan, along with Don and Marybeth continue as editor, but he would need to reduce the content resulting into a smaller "Oil Can". Don and Marybeth Downs, Ralph Towner and Kelly Jordan will be attending the National AACA Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia next week. We are expecting Don will receive another Master Editor's award. We're all proud you Don, you have done an incredible job.

> The 2nd Annual Moose Lodge Car Show, held on Saturday, February 11th, kicked off at 9AM. Jim Davis of the Moose spoke of the purpose of the lodge and how they assist with the community. During his speech, he announced a raffle is being held for a Phillips T.V. Ticket costs were \$1.00 a piece or 6 for \$5.00.

The Olustee Festival starts on Friday February 17th and ends

Our February monthly general meeting was held at a new

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Story & Pics by Ralph Towner

A few months ago, Kelly Jordan and I were admiring Alex Fardales' 1955 Chevy Belaire at a local show.



Alex mentioned the AACA Winter Nationals coming up in January in South Miami, and that he would like to enter the Chevy in that event. Kelly asked him if he was going to drive it there. Alex's reply was, "I really don't want to drive it there, but I have no other way of getting it there."

Kelly began rubbing his chin and thinking, then offered, "Well, I have a trailer in good condition, that I think would hold your car, but I'm not sure if my truck will be ready by then."

"My truck is capable of pulling the trailer; we've already hauled my LeMans to Melbourne and Charlotte in it. I think the Chevy has the same wheelbase as my car," Ralph replied. "But I don't relish the thought of pulling a trailer through the Miami traffic on I-95".

"You don't have to!" Alex countered. "Take the turnpike and get off at exit 19, that takes you straight to the show-field. I'll gladly pay the tolls."

So, our trip plans evolved from that moment. Alex

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began replacing necessary show quality parts and otherwise detailing the car. Kelly got the trailer ready and before we made our reservations, we made a test run to be sure the car would fit and be secured properly. It was also apparent that because of the limited space, I was the only one who could get in and out of the loaded car. Believe me, it took all I could do to squeeze in. Kelly and Alex advised me to not gain even an ounce of weight before the show.

The morning of January 26 came quickly. We had loaded the Belaire in the truck two days earlier, so we were ready to roll at 7am. The trip was uneventful with good weather. Alex drove his daily driver while Kelly and I took turns driving the 410 miles to the Kendal area of South Miami. We met up with Alex at the last rest plaza on the turnpike. Alex is very familiar with the Miami area as he lived many years there before moving to North Florida. He led us to the lot

Ralph and Don saw this beautiful 49 Olds at the Koch Museum in Flagler last year!

where we unloaded the car and unhooked the trailer. Alex's plans were to enjoy some time with his daughter and friends. Kelly and I found the hotel, thanks to

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my phone GPS in plenty of time to enjoy a Caribbean night of food, entertainment, and the opportunity to tour some antique railroad trains at the Gold Coast railroad Museum.

Saturday morning, we boarded a bus, which took us North, to Plantation Estates, to visit a four building, private collection, called "Our Backyard Museum". The museum had examples of two centuries of authentic memorabilia including cars, service station, history of the bicycle, school room, grocery store, military items, some of the most complex, craftsman organ from the 1920's. This museum, to me, was well built musical instruments and music machines, to worth the entire cost of the Miami event. We got back name a few. The tour was concluded with about a 30minute concert from a master organist on an antique



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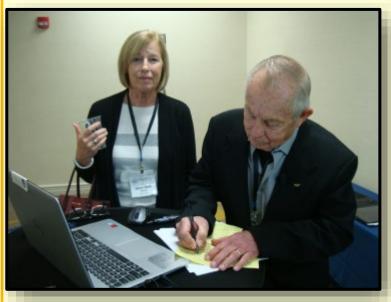
AACA NATIONAL CONVENTION

Story by Don Downs—Pics by Don and Ralph

This year the Annual AACA Convention was held in Williamsburg, Virginia. Last year it was up in Pennsylvania. For years and years, it had been held in Philadelphia at the Center City Sheraton, but COVID changed all that. In fact, it was actually in the Bylaws to have it there. 2 years ago, the COVID restrictions made that impossible and the event was put off until nearly Summer. It has always been early in February. AACA made attempts to go to Philly, but COVID made it impossible. So, 2 years ago Williamsburg presented itself as a place to have the event. It went well there at the Doubletree Hotel. Last year, AACA again tried to, and actually had it scheduled to be in Philly at the Sheraton. They were imposing all kinds of mask mandates and such that made it seem a bit less like a fun thing, so in a last-minute change we went to Gettysburg instead. That hotel was nice enough, but there was limited food beyond the banquets and it was a bit awkward. So... this year they opted to go back to the Doubletree in Williamsburg again. It was GREAT!

Mar and I flew up in our plane, and Ralph and Kelly drove up in Ralph's SUV. It was nice having them there too. We all had a great time.

One of my favorite seminars was with the actual gentleman responsible for engineering the LEM moon landing vehicle. His name was Charles M. "Bud" Southall. Mar and I actually had him autograph our schedule. That was awesome for sure.



"Bud" autographing our schedule

There was a seminar on fire safety, and how timely was that with respect to Ralph's recent adventure with his Pontiac. I actually ordered fire equipment myself after that



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presentation. I ordered it elsewhere, as he was not selling anything... just educating us on the things we should consider. What another GREAT bit of information.

We have gone over this type of convention before. Most of it was great, but not so unfamiliar with the previous 2

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AACA NATIONAL CONVENTION

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that we have attended. I reviewed them in detail before so no real need to at this time.

As we knew, I received another award for Master Editor at the banquet which they call the "AACA Academy Awards". It was a very nice event and many folks won awards like mine for their newsletters, as did many for their cars.

I will say that I hope Kat gets the bug to win Master Editor. It is a lot of work to put out a great newsletter, but the recognition is rewarding. The best reward is the comments from our own members. Many things about being editor, I will miss. I will say that I am committed to giving Kat the jump start to get her going.

It goes without saying that any and all of you may enjoy the AACA National Convention. I suggest that you consider going if you can. I have to talk to Michelle about it, but after putting down the Oil Can, I thought that I might look at seeing what I could do to help jumpstart our SRRAACA website. Oh... and yes... there are awards to be had for certain things in that arena too.

Most of all, thank you for allowing me to be your editor over the past 3 plus years. Please welcome Kat and support her as you did for me.



Donna Elliot (past 1st Lady) doing a little singing





Ralph & Kelly smiling about something... scary...





Left: Arriving at the award ceremony Above: Receiving the Master Editor Award



Banquet Room



Banquet Room



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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80's one day and in the 30's the next. Some of the Hardee's nights were great and others cold and rainy. Oh yea, we are in Florida, just wait 5 minutes and the weather will change.

On another note, we are so proud of Don Downs for winning the "Master Editor Award" again and he was presented the award at the National Convention in Williamsburg Virginia last month. With Don's busy schedule he has decided to step down as Newsletter Editor and we want to thank him for all his hard work for the past few years. That being said Katrina "Kat" Gibson has agreed to step up and be our new Editor. So encourage her and I know she will do a great job. Also, Jamee Dye has agreed to help me with the Facebook, so encourage her as well.

Spring is around the corner which means better weather, we have so much to look forward to. Everyone has joined this club for a reason, come on out, bring your cars and assist where you can. Each of us has a story to tell so, get those rides ready, it's our time to shine.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!





THE GENERAL MINUTES

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on Saturday February 18th. We have been asked to display our cars from 9-6pm. Shirley will be emailing a map and information on where the festival will be, and where we will be parking. Since it starts getting dark at 6pm, no one is required to stay. Southern Knights will be showing their cars with us.

The club will be meeting at Sal's on the February 21st. The American Legion Chili Cook Off will be held on the February 25th. As previously mentioned, Don and Marybeth Downs, Kelly Jordan and Ralph Towner will be attending the AACA National Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia next week. Prior to this general meeting, the Board approved donating \$500 to the AACA. All members present agreed with the Board, and a donation on behalf of our club of \$500 will be donated.

Our next meeting is Thursday, March 2nd, and it was decided by members present to have the March meeting again at the Moose Lodge in Lake City, Florida. On Saturday, March 18th the Gainesville Street Rod Car Show will be held in Gainesville. Many of our members attended last year and had a good time. There is a \$25.00 registration fee. Shirley is going to reach out to Zach from CBI Interiors to do a presentation next month. Shirley mentioned Chet Gray's son, Waylan, who is only 13 years old working on a Corvette project. We hope Waylan can do a presentation for us in the near future.

The monthly 50/50 drawing was then pulled from the pot with a

total of \$95.00. Congratulations to Dave Staples for winning \$48.00 went to the winner. As the meeting was adjourning Shirley discussed of a future display of our cars at the VA Domiciliary in March and if the membership would like to attend during the week or on a Saturday. It was agreed by all members Saturday would be best.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37PM.













How valuable is your collector car to you? Most of you have heard that I had an engine fire in my 57 Pontiac. It happened while starting it while inside my garage/shop building. Once I realized there was a fire, I grabbed my fire extinguisher from the back seat area and extinguished the blaze – temporarily. The fire suddenly reignited and there was no more chemical left in the extinguisher. I then entered a panic mode! Even though I



FIRE DAMAGE TO RALPH'S 57



loved my old Pontiac, I had to door, put transmission neutral. Then, job. with all the muster. was able to push the burning car out of the garage. There is an immediate hill outside the garage door, and the car began to roll and that moment, I thought," I've lost the car, but I saved the building".

Meanwhile, Marie came outside to

see what was going on and I yelled at her to get the house fire extinguisher. In the meantime, the wheels turned away from the driveway and the car backed around into a diversion ditch and stopped. I grabbed the extinguisher from Marie's hands, pulled the plug and was relieved it was working. I raced to the car and began spraying. It worked well and the engine fire was quickly contained, but then I noticed fire underneath and the grass was on fire! There was still chemical left in the extinguisher to fight that fire. I stayed with the car several minutes to be certain there was no other fire in the car.

The fire was contained to the engine compartment, front fenders, and the hood. They will all need re-painting. I have had some hassles with the insurance company, but as of this writing, it appears that I will be able to salvage the car.

Would you consider investing a few bucks and maybe a bit of education on learning about and having available a proper fire extinguisher in each of your cars? Well, **read on**.

There are five classes of fires and different classifications of extinguishers for each. They are, Class A: solid materials. Class B: liquids or gas including gasoline. Class C: electrical failure from equipment and wiring. Class D: metallic substances such as magnesium. Class K: grease or oil fires specifically from cooking.

Most car owners chose an ABC fire extinguisher, which contains a dry chemical. They work by the powder forming a crust, which smothers the fire. There are some disadvantages with this type, as the powder does not have a cooling effect. This may result in the fire re-igniting. I think this is why my engine fire re-ignited. Also, the powder coats whatever it contacts, which is usually most of the car, and can cause damage to the finish. If you have salvaged the car, the powder residue should be cleaned off as soon as possible.

save my building The types of extinguishers available, are **Foam**, for A & B fires, as it is a major **Dry Powder**, for A, B & C fires, **Water Mist or Spray**, for A, B, bad to quickly C fires and **Wet Chemical**, which is for class A & K fires. Please realize that CO2, which is "dry ice", may cause your hand to freeze to the nozzle control. Please do some research transmission in to be certain the extinguisher you choose will do the required neutral. Then, job.

strength I could All cars that are on an AACA show field must have an approved muster, I was fire extinguisher on display, for good reason. A car will be disable to push the qualified for judging without one. I cannot emphasize enough, burning car out of the garage. There is an immediate hill outside the garage qualified, for judging without one. I cannot emphasize enough, the **importance of having an approved fire extinguisher in your car and <u>knowing how to use it</u>! Important! Keep the extinguisher inside the vehicle... not in the trunk!** In case of a gas tank fire, or the trunk is inoperable due to collision damage, modern electronics, or misplaced key, you may not be able to retrieve it from the trunk.

pick up speed. At So now, ask yourself again; How valuable is your collector that moment, I car to you? Or the building it is parked in?



D**lustee Festiva**l

Story & Pics by Shirley McManus - Edited by Don Downs

For as long as I can remember the Olustee Festival has been vendors, food vendors, along with kid's attractions. Wonderful held in Lake City. This year was no exception and it's always on or around the 18th of February. Scheduled for the 17th, 18th, and 19th this year the festival brought out thousands of people to Lake City. Many of them in period costumes, many Civil War Re Rodders to display our rides. Even though it was a cold day, the -enactors, and many just coming out to see the "Battle of Olus- sun was shining, and it eventually warmed up. We spent from

tee" at Olustee State Park on Sunday the 19th. It was the largest Battle fought during the Civil War in Florida. In essence the History of the "Battle of Olustee" is taught to everyone for the asking, by wonderful volunteers in our community. As you listen to the stories, it's hard to believe that this all happened right here.

The Downtown area of Lake City was filled with arts and craft music filled the air with all the school children participating. This year the Antique and Classic cars were invited to join in with a display. SRRAACA teamed up with Southern Knights Street 8:30-4PM showing off our cars on Saturday. We had a good variety of vehicles that came out and everyone was eager to talk about their prize processions. It was really great getting to know

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the Southern Knights group better since this is the first time we have done anything as a team.

The crowds were incredible and so many came over to look and talk about our cars. I wish I had a dollar for every person that said "I had one of those once." It makes you feel so good that people could reminisce about those days and how much their cars meant to them.

I do want to thank everyone who came out and took part in this display. The City and the Olustee Committee were very grateful and couldn't thank us enough. Everyone had a great time.

MOPAR ROW







Above is one serious Street Rod...

And to our left is Roy's Ride

HISTORY OF SRRAACA

Story by Ralph Towner- Edited by Don Downs

In 1982, a Lake City man approached George Richards, who had a collection of old cars, to ask him to contact other auto enthusiasts in the area to start an antique car club. Eventually, a few of them met and formed a club, originally named Lake City Car Club. One of the members suggested they join a national club, The Antique Automobile Club of America. (AACA). He explained their many benefits, which included providing insurance for the club's events. They made an application to AACA and had to wait for a minimum of 16 members to be approved. By 1984, the club had grown to include 16 members, so after approving the club's bylaws, the Suwannee River Region AACA Car Club became official.

AACA required the new region to print the name of their newsletter in the by-laws, which was suggested to be a name related to an antique car or car related tool or gadget. The members chose the name, "The Oil Can". Fortunately, there were members among the upstart club who had the desire to produce a newsletter all through the 90's and past the year 2000.

As area people got into the car hobby, they were recruited. This kept the club intact as an AACA Region through the years. Many of the members were young and enthusiastic, attending events in the area and sometimes over 100 miles away. The club hosted at least one car show each year, usually held downtown near the courthouse. After covering our club expenses, much of the revenue was distributed to local charities. My wife, Marie, and I attended one of these downtown shows in November 1994, with our 1941 Chevrolet Town Sedan and were quickly recruited into the club. I was elected President of the club for the years 1997 – 98.

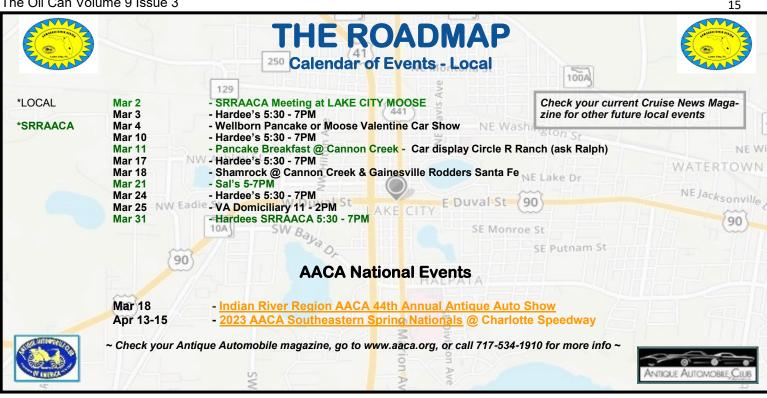
Our club continued to stay active through 2010. At that time our members began to show age and we found fewer younger people with time to be involved. The newsletter had been discontinued, as nobody would take on the editor responsibility. We were able to at least maintain the minimum 16 members to keep our Suwannee River AACA Region active. In 2013, our Board met and discussed ways to improve our club and get back on track.

I became president again for the years 2013 -14. Our

members devised ways to revive our treasury and encouraged members to actively recruit new members. In 2015, Bob Kopp agreed to become our president for 2015 - 16. I had always helped with the newsletter but was never the editor. However, I was starting to become semi-retired, and had more time. I suggested to the club we restart "The Oil Can". I started slowly at first but began to learn the procedure and was producing a newsletter good enough to win the "Award of Excellence" my first year. I continued as Editor four more years and received four consecutive "Master Editor Awards" from AACA National. Don Downs accepted as our Editor of "The Oil Can" in 2020, and immediately produced an excellent newsletter which has won three consecutive Master Editor Awards. Don surpassed that in 2021, by winning the Ann S. Eady, "Best of the Best" National award from AACA from all the submitted newsletters.

In 2017, Shirley McManus took the presidential reins and ran with it. She showed great interest and enthusiasm, devising all kinds of special events. Under Shirley's direction, much of our income from events and newsletter ads has been donated to needy charities in our area. Shirley has remained our president for six years and is now in her 7th year. Our members help at local charitable events as well. We have held our meetings at the Wellborn Community Center since 2020. We now have a total membership close to 100 people. Ours club's future looks bright. If you have an interest in the old car hobby, consider joining us. Go to <u>www.srr.aaca.com</u> for information or come to Hardee's near Walmart Friday evenings from 5 - 7pm and ask for Ralph.







A few of our members have endured colds, sinus issues and other ailments during February. To the best of my knowledge, all have recovered or are feeling much better.

As reported last month, Brenda Degler had shoulder surgery in early January. I was in Walmart recently and heard my name called out. It was Brenda, back at work. The recovery is going well. She still requires a shoulder support and is taking therapy. We all wish her a full and speedy recovery.

I talked with Hutch this week and am happy to report that he is well on the way to recovery after suffering a broken arm earlier this year.

Most of you have heard that I had an engine fire in my 57 Pontiac. It happened totally by surprise while starting it. It was very scary because it was inside my workshop garage! Please see more detail in the TECH/SAFETY section of this issue.

Our next meeting will be this Thursday evening, March 2nd, starting around 7:00PM at the Lake City Moose Lodge (same location as last month's

meeting), located on the east side of Lake City. The address is: 624 NE Williams Street in Lake City. Please make plans to attend. The best way to get a printed Oil Can newsletter is to attend the meeting.

Remember to inform me of anything you would like published in the Sunshine Report.





Generations By Fred Trusty 2023 AACA President

According to most car clubs, the old car hobby has been on the decline for several years. The reason, they say, is older members are aging out and younger people aren't interested in cars. The silent generation (1925 – 1945) is now between 78 and 98 years old and the baby boomer generation (1946 – 1964) is now between 59 and 77 years old so it makes sense that we are losing a lot of members over the age of 59. Let's take a look at some of the other generations. The years can vary depending on the source.

Generation Z (1997 – 2012) 11 – 26 years old. Gen Z has a completely different view of the world than other generations. They grew up with cell phones, social media, same sex marriage, global terrorism, and tend to have an entrepreneurial spirit. They freely admit that they are digital device addicts, value financial security, but yet they have very little loyalty toward their employers. They look up to their role models based on career and financial success and tend to have the least disposable income.

Millennials (1981 – 1996) 27 – 42 years old. Millennials grew up with computers, the internet, cell phones, the environmental movement, and are tech dependent. A smartphone is more than an electronic device, it's a part of who they are. Most were starting their careers after the 2008 recession which reduced their earning potential, and they also have more debt due to increased college tuition costs but more of them are college educated compared to other generations. They are also likely to have less disposable income due to the higher debt. They seem to be more idealistic, too. It's not just working for a paycheck; it's working for a purpose or a cause.

Generation X (1965 – 1980) 43 – 58 years old. Gen Xers have been described as independent and try to balance their work and personal lives. Typical Xers have a do-it-yourself attitude, are tech savvy but not tech dependent, and lean toward casual in their style of dress. Oil leaking around the valve cover your 2004 Honda Civic? Watch a YouTube video, order the part online, and do it yourself. Their kids are in high school, college, or working full time. They're starting to think about grandkids and taking care of their aging parents. Some are starting to have some disposable income due to kids moving out and the passing of their parents. "I remember riding in dad's antique car as a kid and you know, I think I can get it running again. Dad would have loved to see me driving it."

By now you're probably thinking, what do generational differences have to do with car clubs? In order to market a product you have to know your market window. Everyone talks about getting younger people involved in the hobby and that's great. Plant the old car seed in a youngster and hopefully when they grow up, they will embrace the hobby. But let's face it, most people under the age of 25 have very little disposable income and very little free time. School, sports, and a part time job take most of their time. So what about the 26 - 45 age group? This demographic is in the middle of their careers and have families, so their money and time are also limited. I'm not saving that no one under 45 likes old cars. All I'm saving is that their lives are so busy they don't have the time. I look back to when I was that age. A man that I knew tried to get me to join AACA. I told him I didn't have time for a club. I have a full-time job, a small business, a farm, and three kids playing soccer. I barely have time to sleep. Fortunately, he was persistent, and I finally joined the KYANA Region a few years later after our son graduated from high school. Our oldest daughter was in high school and driving so we were no longer a taxi service for her. That left our youngest daughter who was still in middle school but being a taxi for one kid takes a lot less time. It wasn't until she graduated that we began to have some free time.

The point that I'm trying to make is to be mindful of younger people's hectic lives when trying to recruit them. Us baby boomers were once as busy as they are so be patient. When they reach the 45 – 65 age group is when they start to have some disposable income, free time, and start thinking about their youth. That is when they are most likely to join a club.



The Last Ride? By Don Barlup Retired Board Member

Fifty-three years ago my life changed! Was it marriage? Nope, did that three years earlier. Birth of a child? Nope, oldest child was a year old.

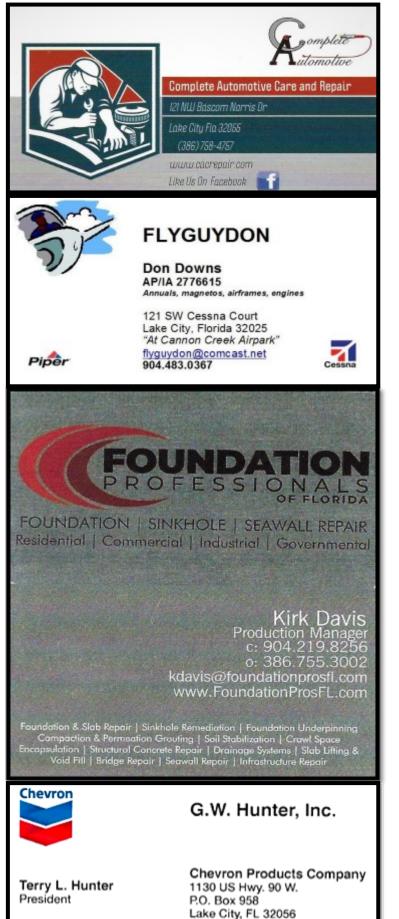
I joined AACA and my local regions in 1971 and the ride of a lifetime started. In 1973, I attended my first Annual Meeting (Convention) at the Bellvue Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia and have not missed one since. Meets (Nationals) and Tours all over the country. The collections I have seen and the people I have met, and the places I have visited. Priceless!

Working with our dedicated staff and fellow board members for the past fifteen years has been very rewarding. Serving as your National President in 2015 was a great honor, but the greatest honor was to work with and for you, our valued members.

As I retire from the AACA Board of Directors, I am not fading into the sunset, but will continue to serve as needed for the betterment of AACA.

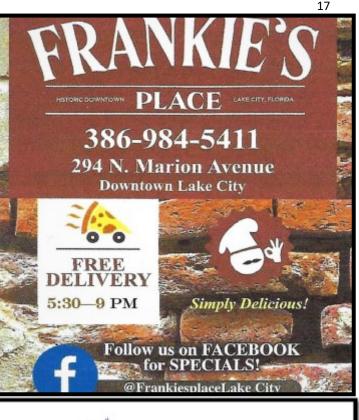
The last ride! Nope! Just a different mode of transportation!





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The Oil Can Volume 9 Issue 3





SENOUR

PAINTS

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to the hotel in time to attend The AACA Roundtable discussion and attend judging school. In the evening, we had a tour of "The Wings Over Miami" Air Museum, before heading to the railroad museum, where we enjoyed a buffet and entertainment.

Saturday morning Kelly and I were up early and headed to the show-field, where we attended Judges



Alex & His 55 That Ultimately Got Him a 2nd Junior

breakfast and received our team assignments. After Judges breakfast, we were able to go out to the field, where we met up with Alex, busily polishing every dust speck from his fine looking Belaire. Our judging duties began at 11 am sharp. After judging, we had time to look at most of the cars on the field and take some photos. We also met some of Alex's friends

from Miami while we were around his car.

In the evening, we attended the awards banquet, where we had a fine meal with entertainment as well as witnessed those who won awards for their show vehicles. Alex won a second place Junior award. I am convinced he would have won a first Junior if not for the radial tires. Please note that the first time a car is on the show-field, no matter how perfect it may be, competes for a first junior award must receive that award before it can compete at another National for first Senior.

Sunday morning, we loaded the Belaire and headed north, directly to Alex's home, where we unloaded. Seeing it safely in his garage, without a scratch, was a relief. I then drove to Kelly's home, where we parked and unhooked the trailer. It was a great weekend and I was thrilled we were able to complete a wonderful AACA event in Miami.



Wonderful Bike Museum !

