

**MARCH/APRIL
2024
SUWANNEE RIVER
REGION AACA
LAKE CITY,
FLORIDA**



**CRUISING IN THE
SPRING!**



**VOLUME 10
ISSUE 2
March/April, 2024**

**Next Meeting
Wellborn Community Center
March 7, 2024**



Showroom Condition

Tech/Safety
Insurance Info and Tips
Page 12



Story On Page 8

Suwannee River Region AACA 2024 Officers

President: Shirley McManus
Vice President: Kelly Jordan
Secretary: Marybeth Downs
Treasurers: Roy Spurling and Barbara Richards

Board of Directors

One year: Norm Silver
Sherman Stanley

Two year: Harry McGinnis
Gerald Howd

Sunshine and phone: Marie Towner
Webmaster: Don Downs
Newsletter Editor: Ralph Towner
Website address: www.srraaca.com
All SRRACA Email: srraaca@comcast.net



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

The content, views and opinions of the articles in The Oil Can 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.

Other AACA newsletter editors may use articles from The Oil Can by giving credit for the article to the Editor of The Oil Can and the Suwannee River Region AACA.

Unless otherwise noted, photos are submitted by the Editor.

Suwannee River Region AACA
 190 SW Lockheed Lane
 Lake City, FL 32025

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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

We all have possibilities we didn't know about. We can do things we don't even dream we can do.
Dale Carnegie



NEW MEMBER ARRIVALS

Dennis Daudelin
Welcome!

Cover: Gerald and Nina Howd's beautiful 1988 Chrysler LeBaron on the showroom floor.

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 Wellborn, Florida Community Center 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 Ralph Towner, Editor at 386.397.4571

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 and Research Center alone, how can you go wrong?!

An AACA membership is a unique gift that gives all year long!

Web: aaca.org Call : 717-534-1910

A Message from Our President



Shirley McManus

Wow, here we are almost Spring and we have had a few warm days to prove it too. March 10th we set the clocks ahead. Of course with that warmer weather we can get those cars out and really dust them off.

January was not really a busy month but February was somewhat better. We started off with several shows Waldo and Glen St. Mary but because of the distance I don't think many went. Next was the Olustee Festival on the 16th and 17th of Feb. Friday, the weather was clear enough that about 13 of us went. Saturday was a washout for the cars with heavy rain. Sal's was a small crowd but we still had a good time. The end of the month was the American Legion Chili Cook-off. You talk about picture perfect day, it sure was. We had 19 cars there Roy, Ralph, Ted, Richard, Alex, Chet, Wayland, Dave, Ronda, Jan, Bill and I all brought our cars.

There were so many beautiful cars there. Also a live band was there to entertain us. Of course about 12 different vendors who competed for the Chili contest. I can tell you the smell of Chili just filled the air. For a \$5.00 donation you got a wristband and could go and sample all the different kinds of Chili. The American Legion won for the best Chili there. They had 4 trophies for the car show this year. 1st, 2nd, 3rd places and a new one this year best owned Veterans Car.

Our very own Alex Fardales won 3rd place and also the Veterans Award with his beautiful '55 Chevy. Congratulations Alex! That car sure is a beauty. My dad had the exact same car. When I was about nine, he had me sit on the front fender and took my picture; back then a black and white photo.



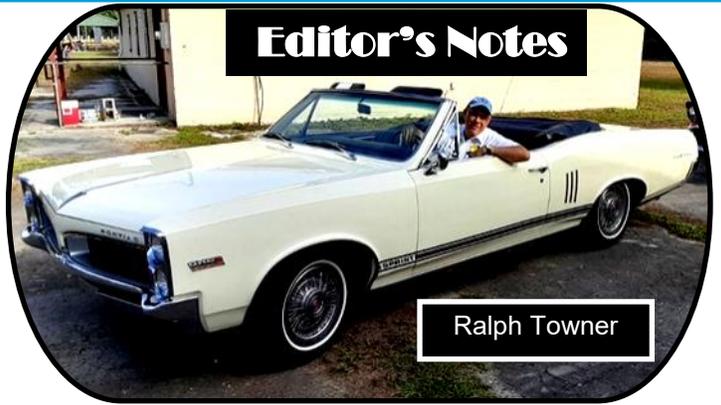
Photo by Alex Fardales

Well, Alex wouldn't let me sit on his fender but he did take my picture in the front seat. I love that car. The day was surely enjoyable to everyone there. So thank you to all that came out and took part. We also had the Strawberry Festival on the 24th and 25th in Live Oak to enjoy with car shows both days and again great weather both days.

We have just renewed our ads for the Oil Can and I want to thank all our advertisers for renewing for 2024. Folks, these are people we know and trust, so when you are in need of a service make the Oil Can the first place you look. Thank you also to Doreen Hoffman and Michelle Huntsman who stepped up to go out and get the renewals. You did a great job.

Continued on page 14

Editor's Notes



Ralph Towner

Hello Gang,

Spring is happening all around us with the early dogwoods, azalais, jasmines and others in bloom. It's a great time of year to attend and enjoy the Spring events.

Kelly Jordan and I were able to attend the AACA Convention and Awards Banquet in Chantilly, Virginia, near Dulles Airport from February 8 -10. It was a fabulous experience starting with a tour of the Smithsonian Flight and Space museum located at the Dulles airport. We also had an outstanding lunch at the museum.

On Thursday evening, we had a "Meet the Board of Directors" pizza and salad party. While there we got to meet the re-elected and also two newly elected Board members. I also got to know our 2024 National President, Jack Harris, as well as learning that my friend, David Anspach, is the 2024 Executive President, which means he will be National President in 2025.



Jack Harris

Please read his article on page 16 of this issue.

The General Membership meeting was held Saturday afternoon. The awards banquet was Saturday evening. All this is a pleasure to experience, but the best part is being able to greet friends from all across America as well as meet new friends. Read all about the AACA Convention on pages 8, 9 and 10.

I want to thank Doreen Hoffman, Michelle Huntsman, Don Downs and Shirley McManus for helping to re-up our newsletter advertisers. Members, please remember to use these advertisers whenever possible, for the goods and services you need. Please remember to tell them you saw their ad in "The Oil Can" and thank them for advertising with us.

Contact me if you need more information or want to discuss any of this further. Happy Motoring, *Ralph*



Marybeth Downs,
Secretary

January, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

The first Board meeting of the year was called to order Thursday January 4th, 2024, at Wellborn Community Center in Wellborn, FL at 7:05 pm. Shirley presented to the board a new member application for Gary and Vicki Porter. They have a 1938 Dodge he has also attended Hardees. The Board approved. She also asked the board about a donation to AACA of 500.00. The board approved. Also approved were some bills for ink and paper for 123.56 and Christmas Party for 156.58. The board approved both.

Shirley also welcomed Jerry Howd to the Board. The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Submitted by Marybeth Downs, Secretary

January, 2024 General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at Wellborn Community Center in Wellborn, FL at 7:30 pm by our Club President Shirley McManus.

Shirley started by thanking the members for bringing food to our potluck dinner for our meeting. She mentioned she has been president of our club for 8 years. In all that time she said she had never seen the club so divided on where to hold our meetings. Shirley talked about our coin toss to decide where to have meeting (Wellborn Community Center won). She added the Community Center works well with us and needs our support.

Shirley announced that we had a visitor, Jeremy, from Texas. She talked about how our membership has grown with several new members. Jan Kiesel, Joseph and Darla Carroll, Douglas and Mary Smith, David and Teresa Ochsensbauer, Michael and Crystal McNamer, as well as Steve and Mandy Brown.

Roy Spurling gave the treasurers report by announcing the balance in our checking account. He also reported there were 2 checks one for 90.00 for dues, and a 110.00 insurance payment and a credit for 100.00.

Shirley recognized Alex Fardales for serving as the secretary for 6 years. Thank you, Alex. Shirley then announced Marybeth Downs as the new club secretary.

Shirley told us about the memorial for Butch Franks. She was very proud of how Sherm Stanley spoke about Butch at the memorial. He talked about the boots that Butch wore, an arrangement of sunflowers, his Thunderbird, and the Cobra. Don Downs then mentioned that Butch's shop was an institution in Lake City. In his barber shop, his chair was memorialized with a flag and his hat. Butch Franks was 78 years old. He will be missed.

Shirley mentioned that Ronda Stanley was feeling better after being sick with respiratory issues. She also told us Dave Staples was recovering from hip surgery after slipping in his garage. Shirley reminded us the newsletter was now bi-monthly.

Shirley reviewed December's events: Christmas on the Square in Live Oak, Christmas Party at Michelle and Jimmy's house complete with a photo with the Grinch. Pilots with Presents we had 27 cars, planes, of course, and Santa and Mrs. Clause flew in. She said it was hosted by Chapter 977 Cannon Creek EAA. Also, there was an anonymous member that donated generously to Toys for tots the money was given 3 ways Suwannee County Toy for Tots, Columbia County Toys for Tots, and Wellborn Childrens Christmas Party.

Shirley extended her appreciation to Don Downs for being our club webmaster. Also, to Ralph for being the newsletter editor. Both are very talented.

During the Oil Can report, Ralph stated his intentions for stepping down as editor and would hope some member would be willing to take over. He talked about the fact that the newsletter could be less pages and as long as certain criteria was met, could still be eligible to win awards. He also asked for members to step up to help with soliciting newsletter advertisements.

Don gave his Webmasters report. He said he needs to put articles on the website to have a shot at the Webmaster award. He also mentions members should step up and get involved. Basically, whatever you do you can learn as you go. He said Ralph and he started by not having any previous experience with AACA newsletters and learned as they did the job.

Shirley said that the first car show of the year at the Colosseum in Live Oak was postponed until January 20th. Other Events for the year: For January, 2nd – 14th Auction in Kissimmee, 16th Sal's Cruise in, the 27th Mystery Breakfast, 26th Hardee's. For February: 16th City of Olustee Festival, 10th Waldo Car and Bike Show. For March: 16th Santa Fe College also Pancake Breakfast at Cannon Creek date to be determine. For May: 21st Suwannee Hardware car show; also 21st Soapbox Derby.

Kelly announced the total 50/50 pot was \$70 with Ralph Towner holding the winning ticket. Congratulations!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Marybeth Downs, Secretary

February, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

The February, 2024 Board Meeting was brought to order on Thursday February 1st at the Wellborn Community Center in Wellborn, FL. at 6:25 pm.

Shirley asked the Board to approve reimbursement to Don for the meat purchased for the Christmas Party. The Board approved. Shirley talked about our guest speaker Jan Smithy. Jan was going to talk about the Olustee Festival and our participation in the festival.

She welcomed Harry McGinnis to the board. Shirley also mentioned some upcoming events. The American Legion Chili Cookoff and The Blueberry Festival. She also mentioned that Kelly was not there because he had Covid.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM

Submitted by Marybeth Downs, Secretary

February, 2024 General Meeting Minutes

President Shirley McManus called the February, 2024 meeting to order at Wellborn Community Center in Wellborn, FL. at 7:00 PM. Shirley talked about our membership and how we have 9 new members. We are now up to 96 people in our club.

Shirley gave an account of James Richardson's passing. He was in Clermont at a conference to be ordained into the Global Methodist Church. The first day he was at the conference he collapsed and was sent to the Clermont Hospital where he passed away the next day. Shirley said his son Matt will run the paint store.

Shirley welcomed Guest Virgil Wilson. Shirley then welcomed Jan Smithy the speaker for the meeting. Jan spoke about the updates on the Olustee Festival. She said that the festival starts at 9:00 am. She informed us where we were to park our cars. The parking area is on Lake Desoto Drive. The area beginning at the Elks Lodge (NE Veterans St.) extending to outside amphitheater. Shirley informed us which roads will be closed: NE Hamilton St., NE Davis St., NE Methodist Terrace, NW Franklin St. The best route for the car club may be to enter Lake Desoto Drive from Duval Street and drive around the Lake Desoto to the designated area. Another option, enter on NE Methodist Terrace, turn right on to Lake Desoto, follow to designated area.

She also let us know that there will be a 5-K Run that day at 7:30 the race will begin and end on NE Veterans St. The estimated time the race will end is 9:00am. She said that we can park our cars early on Saturday if we want. Jan will be on location early on Friday and Saturday morning so we can call her if we need assistance. (Jan Smithy 386-961-3217).

Don asked if there was going to be an Olustee Parade. Jan said there would not be a parade. A roster sheet was passed around for the Olustee Festival attendance.

In the Oil Can report, Ralph reminded us the Oil Can was bimonthly and being downsized. He talked about how we should promote membership. He spoke about ad renewal. He said the ads helped pay the bills for the club. Doreen and Michelle volunteered to help Shirley with the ad renewal.

Roy gave us the treasurers report by announcing the balance in our checking account. He also reported checks for \$445.34 total were issued to cover expenses for Cruise News, to Ralph for printing charges, Shirley for club expenses, the Post Office, and a service charge for the account that totaled 445.34.

Shirley announced the birthdays and anniversaries of the club members. Shirley then gave a Sunshine Report. Ralph Owens wife Mary was going to have hip surgery on the 12th of February. Also, Kelly Jordan had just had a positive Covid test. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Shirley talked about the recent AACA book, entitled, "In My Words" (In My Words). Ken Barton's and Nancy Marquis's stories are in there. Ken had brought his copy to the meeting for members to view.

Don did the 50/50 and Jan Smithy picked the winning ticket. Harry McGinnis was our winner. Congratulations Harry.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Submitted by Marybeth Downs, Secretary



Art Deco Festival

January 13 and 14, 2024

Miami Beach, Fla.

Text and photos by Alex Fardales

It has been ten years since I attended the Art Deco Festival, and from the invitation of many of my friends, I decided to go this year. Since I do travel to South Florida frequently to visit my daughter, Christy, I always check out the car show scenes, and participate if I can.

As you all know, AACA, considers antique cars 25 years and older, and being my 1995 Mercury Cougar XR7 had won numerous AACA National Awards, the Art Deco festival, which was being sponsored by the AACA of South Florida, was a perfect venue.

You're probably wondering, what is Art Deco? This has been a traditional South Florida event held every mid January weekend on Ocean Drive in Miami Beach, consisting of arts, crafts, music and food. It is visited by thousands of people from all around the world. You can say, it is a yearly tourist attraction of South Beach, as well as for local residents.

The event is held on Ocean Drive in Miami Beach, where Ocean Drive is literally closed off from 5th-12th street to all traffic, except, a display of our Classic and Antique Cars... and the quality of the cars is outstanding. While the rest of the country is digging itself from under snow, here we were in Miami Beach in 85 degree weather.

The event is held by AACA rules, so a fire extinguisher on display is required. What makes this AACA car show unique is on Saturday, day 1 of Art Deco, all cars, 25 years and older (yes, now a 1999 vehicle qualifies) is displayed, with exception, no rat rods or low riders. Sunday, day two and the last day of Art Deco, is strictly AACA rulings. Only original and restored original vehicles are displayed. Therefore, I displayed my 1995 Cougar XR7 on both days.

On day one, we had 45 cars on display and many of our cars, my Cougar included, was a crowd pleaser. As you can see

from the pictures, some of the most unique classic and antique cars were displayed. On Sunday, day two, 65 cars were displayed, and this time, only original and authentically restored cars.

There were so many cars, but one of my favorites was a 1959 Chevy Impala that only showed 47,000 miles and was totally unrestored... never been painted,



or upholstered. The car had an interesting story of being garaged kept since new and family owned until 2021 when the original owner's wife passed away. The current owner bought the car in 2021.

Throughout both days, the weather, the people and many old familiar faces made this two day event unforgettable. But the icing on the cake came from winning a "Best 90's" award for my Cougar.



Will I go back again next year? I sure hope so!

See more show photos on page 7



Art Deco Festival

January 13 and 14, 2024
Miami Beach, Fla.
Continued from page 7

Below: L to R: Alex with his Miami buddies, former club president, Manny Garcia, VP, Thomas Hernandez, former Ann Eady award winner, Jean Hawa, Guy Lewis and another former president, Ira Shapiro.



Above right: A rare 1925 Alvis, owned by John Layzell, and a 1955 Cadillac CV, owned by George Estopi.

Below, L to R: Did Shirley enter her Camaro? No. This is a 1987 Camaro owned by Robert Brice. A 1953 Ford CV, owned by Nivardo Mora and a 1958 Ford Hardtop Retractable, owned by retired NBC newscaster, Bob Mayer.



Far left: 1966 Mustang convertible owned by my good friend, Stanley Jacobs.

The Mustang was once used in a Robert Redford movie. The photo on the **left** is positive proof.

Showroom Condition

Text by Ralph Towner
 Photos by Jerry Howd and Ralph Towner

“I recently purchased a vehicle that I had bought brand new 35 years ago and foolishly traded it away. I found a pristine one recently and quickly jumped on it.”



Jerry took a selfie of Nina and himself, cruising in the LeBaron on Lake Jeffry Road with the top down, about 3 miles from downtown Lake City.

Jerry and Nina lived in the San Diego, California area from 1979 to 1992. Jerry started his career as a car mechanic and became the shop manager in 1984. Later he worked as an insurance company warranty/claims adjuster until they moved back to Ohio in 1992 to help care for Nina’s mother after Nina’s father passed away.

How many times have we heard other car enthusiasts make a similar statement? In this case, Gerald Howd, one of our 2024 Board of Directors members, wrote that statement about his 1988 Chrysler LeBaron convertible on his application when he and his wife Nina joined our region two years ago. The **showroom photo on the cover**, which is how the dealer displayed the car, proves Jerry was correct by using the word, “pristine”.

Gerald and Nina Howd were raised in Ohio; Jerry in Akron while Nina was born in Evansville, Indiana. They started dating in High School and moved to California in 1979, where they were married in San Diego. They have two children, a son, Jerimie, who lives in Houston and a daughter, Natalie, who lives near them in the Lake City area. They have a grandson, Daniel, who loves the Chrysler and goes with Jerry and Nina to many car events. Daniel loves to look at the other vehicles on display at a show and asks sensible questions from the owners about their cars.

Jerry has had a general love of antique and classic cars all his life. In past years, he has owned several collector cars including a 1961 Ford Galaxie, a 1964 Chevrolet Impala, a 1971 Chevelle, and a 1968 Buick.

In 2002, Jerry and Nina moved to the Lake City, Florida area. Jerry has worked for Champion Homes, (formerly Homes of Merit) which manufactures quality modular and manufactured homes sold all over the USA. Jerry has been the Service manager for The Lake City location for 19 years.



Daniel loves to ride in the LeBaron.

Nina has worked in secretarial work and accounts payable, as well as a house wife raising their children.

Continued on page 20



Day One - Tour Day

Text and photos by Ralph Towner

The annual AACA Convention and Awards Banquet is an event I have loved attending, ever since the first one I went to in 2012. In the past, they were always in Philadelphia, Pa, per the AACA by-laws. However, the Board of directors were able to change that to allow different venues. In the last three years, there have been two at Williamsburg, VA and one at Gettysburg. This year, AACA was able to contract with the Westfields Marriot Washington Dulles Hotel.

Our VP, Kelly Jordan and I flew from Jacksonville to Dulles airport on Wednesday afternoon, February 7th and arrived at our hotel before 6PM. We had an evening meal in the hotel restaurant with some AACA friends from Pennsylvania and afterwards, talked with several friends in the large hotel lobby from all over the USA.

Normally a two day event, there are usually no activities outside of the host hotel at the annual convention. However, this year, arrangements were made for our attendees to take a pre-convention excursion to the **Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center** on Thursday, February 8th,



Top: This McDonnell Douglas F/A-18C Hornet served in Operation Desert Storm in 1991.
Above: A view of just some of the variety in the museum.



Curtis P-40E Kittyhawk used in the first half of WWII



to tour the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum which is located at Dulles airport. Buses provided transportation and for \$25 each, the first 200 guests to register for lunch, were treated to a gourmet meal.



Above: The Enola Gay, named after the pilot's mother ...the actual plane that dropped the A bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in WW II.

We were free to walk on our own to any area of the museum and could take photos of anything there. The lunch area was upstairs, above most of the displayed planes which allowed for great views and photos of most everything in the museum. I could see back into the space area and the space shuttle Discovery, was on full display. So as soon as we came back downstairs, both Kelly and I headed to the Space section of the museum. Continued on page 10.



Day One - Tour Day

Continued from page 9

The Shuttle was straight ahead as we entered the area; its sheer size dominating the view.

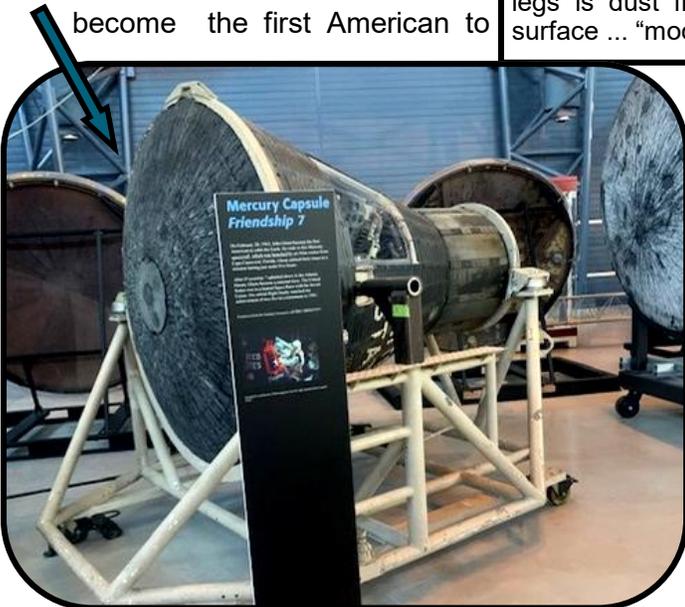
There were many other artifacts of the USA as well as other nation's ventures in space throughout the museum. Among them were a Spacelab transfer Tunnel, the Mercury Space Capsule, that John Glenn was in to become the first American to



Above is the actual space suit that an astronaut wore on the moon. The dirt on the legs is dust from the lunar surface ... "moon dust".



Even Kelly looks small compared with the giant Space Shuttle Discovery.



orbit the Earth. Also there was training equipment, space suits, examples of launch rockets and so much more. What an exciting and memorable tour. This is just one example of many things I would never have seen had I not attended National AACA events.

That evening, we attended a pizza and salad night, where we could meet and talk with our 2024 National Directors as well as other AACA members from across the nation.

Day Two - Seminars, Food and More Food

The Westfields Marriott Hotel, about eight miles from the Dulles airport was a great location for our convention. The rooms were more than adequate for the semi-

inars and banquets that were scheduled for the event. There were 30 interesting and informative seminars scheduled for both Friday and Saturday. Also a Trade Show (**Below**) with several organizations dis-



playing their wares and services was located inside a large room in the hotel.

At 12:15, we attended a special luncheon, hosted by 2023 First Lady, Marcia Trusty, describing a different kind of horsepower. Ms. Dana Scanlin, from Days End Farm Horse Rescue, gave an interesting talk and power point presentation of how mishandled and neglected horses have been rescued by their organization.

There were more seminars in the afternoon and in the evening, another fine meal, the AACA Regions and Chapters Dinner. Several speeches were given by Board members about the importance of AACA to our old car hobby. Donations from Regions and Chapters, including our SRRAACA donation, were then accepted by AACA National and the AACA Library.

Continued on page 11



**Day Three -
AACA
Annual Meeting
and Awards
Banquet**

National Judging Schools were all conducted Saturday morning from 8 –10 AM. Both Kelly and I attended Judging School and visited the Trade Show from 10:30 to 11:30 AM.

After our lunch break, We attended our final seminar, entitled, “The Wright Brothers and the Invention of the Aerial Age... very interesting and informative. At 2:30, we attended the AACA General membership meeting. During the meeting we were introduced to our 2024 National Board members. Fred Trusty, 2023 AACA National President, handed over the presidential duties to 2024 President, Jack Harris. I talked with Jack quite a bit and I believe he will do a fine job of leading our AACA National group in 2024.

Thanks, Fred Trusty, for a great 2023 season. I met and became friends with Fred in 2015, a few years before he was elected to the Board. It was interesting to watch him do a superb job on the Board. In late 2021, Fred was elected by his fellow Board members as the Executive Vice President for 2022. At the 2023 Convention, Fred became our 2023 National President. His 2024 Board assignment will be Vice President of Legislation.

At 6:00 PM, AACA’s “Grandest Night of the Year”, our National Awards Banquet, began. It is a “Red Carpet Affair”, referred to by our AACA members as “The AACA Os-

cars”. After listening to some opening speeches, we enjoyed an excellent dinner. Awards for outstanding



Above: Kelly Jordan, with a 1912 Buick Model 36, previously owned by Edgar Rohr. It was on display in the hotel atrium during the entire event. **Left:** Ralph Townner walking the Red carpet

vehicles in several categories as well as specialty awards were the first ones to be announced. The awards ceremony started with the awarding of scholarships to five deserving recipients. Next, were the Master Editor Award. This is where I come in.

A master Editor Award is earned by including information in the newsletter that our region members need. Newsletters are evaluated from April through October. At least four issues must be submitted to National to be eligible to win the award.

As winners were announced, each walks up on stage, where they are congratulated and receive the award from the 2023 President, Fred Trusty. While the winner is walking up to the stage, a photo of one of their newsletter covers with the publication name, the Editor’s name and Region is projected on a screen.



After a while, I noticed the winners list was into the “S” area so I asked Kelly to get ready to take my picture as I accepted the award. **Below** are Kelly’s photos. Great job, Kelly!



When my name was called, I glanced at the screen and noticed our September issue, featuring Joe Calvet’s cars, had been selected. This is the 5th time I have received the Master Editor Award... it never gets old. It is a true honor and I am glad I can bring it home to us.

In February, 2025, the Convention will be in Charlotte, NC, just a seven hour drive from Lake City. If possible, put it on your schedule and learn what AACA is all about. You will see things and meet people you would otherwise never meet.

You will be glad you did.

Tech/Safety

By Ralph Towner

Insurance Info and Tips



Insurance is one of those things we sometimes refer to as “a necessary evil”. This article is about coverages of various types of insurance as well as ways to obtain the best insurance value for your premium paid.

First, a quick review of the insurance benefit provided by AACA. The provider for AACA insurance is JC Taylor. They offer general liability coverage for our club, its members, including officers and directors. The coverage is for any club related occurrence on owned or rented property which the club may use for activities. I have a handout available from AACA which better explains each type of liability. Part of your annual National dues helps pay for this coverage.

The officers and Directors are also covered under a special policy to cover alleged wrongful acts that could be claimed against one of our officers or directors, including attorney fees. Our Suwannee River Region pays an annual fee for this protection. The remaining section of this article pertains to personal insurance on your possessions.

Most of us have seen the premiums on our home and auto insurance skyrocket recently. The reasons stated for these increases were hurricane claims, increased cost of building materials and repairs on virtually everything. Another reason for auto premium in-

creases is the increased amount of claims for devastating vehicle crashes. The cost of medical care as well as labor, parts and paint for auto repair has risen substantially in the last few years.

These serious accidents are caused by excessive speed, poor driving abilities, distractions and bad habits of an ever increasing percentage of Florida's drivers. Sharp lawyers persuade juries to award huge sums. I have heard the State Legislature is working on tort reform. However, I remember them trying this in the past with little results.

I suggest you talk with your insurance agent to find out if there are discounts you may not be getting. Also, check your policy for individual coverages that could be eliminated or accept reduced coverage or take on higher deductibles. Ask yourself, “How much self insurance am I willing to risk?” Bundling with other types of insurance may help. Remember, according to Florida law, if you own a motor vehicle with four or more wheels you must carry **\$10,000 of personal injury protection (PIP) insurance and a minimum of \$10,000 of property damage liability insurance**. In today's litigious society, that would not go very far.

Here's a tip some of you may not be aware of: **An insurance company has the right to drop you if you have had three or more claims within three years time. It doesn't matter who is at fault. Any claim, no matter how small, such as a tow charge or chipped glass repair counts as a claim.**

I hope this information causes you to think more about your personal insurance situation.



Website Corner



Webmaster: Don Downs
Our Website address is:
<https://srraaca.com/>



Get in the habit of checking our quality website often!

MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Hardee's	2 Wellborn Breakfast
3	4	5	6	7	8 Hardee's DJ Ken Diane Partington Happy Birthday	9 Circle R Show Nancy Marquis & Sal Quintana Happy Birthdays
10 Spring Ahead change your clock	11	12	13 Michelle Richards & Marybeth Downs Happy Birthdays	14	15 Hardee's	16 Shamrock Fly-In / Gainesville St Rods Show
17 St Patty's Day	18	19 Sal's Cruise In	20	21	22 Hardee's	23 Mystery Breakfast 8am Daytona Turkey Run
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27 Wayland Gray Happy Birthday	28 Stephen Glenn Happy Birthday	29 Hardee's SRRAACA host Good Friday	30
31----- Easter Sunday						



The Roadmap

Calendar of Events - Local (In blue)

- March 7 — SRRAACA meeting in Wellborn 7PM. Bring a salad to share
- March 8 — Hardee's 4 - 7 PM DJ Ken Barton hosting
- March 9 — Circle R Ranch for a car display for their tractor show (See flyer on page 14)
- March 15 — Hardees 4-7 PM
- March 16 — Gainesville Street Rodders car show, Santa Fe college
- March 16 — Cannon Creek Shamrock fly-in and car display 11AM—3 PM
- March 19 — Sal's Italian Deli Cruise-in 5-7:30 PM
- March 22-24 — Spring Turkey Run, Daytona international Speedway
- March 22 — Hardee's 4-7 PM
- March 23 — Mystery breakfast. Meet at 8 AM across from Parkview Baptist Church
- March 29 — Hardee's 4-7 PM
- April 4 — SRRAACA meeting, Wellborn Community Center 7 PM
- April 4-6 — Moultrie, GA spring Automotive swap meet & car corral. 229-896-2150
- April 5, 12, 19 26 — Hardee's 4-7 PM
- April 16 — Sal's Italian Deli Cruise-In 5-7:30 PM
- April 20 — Osteen Barn and Museum Car Show, Alachua Car Show 8 AM-2PM

Check your current Cruise News Magazine for other future local events

AACA National Events

- March 17-23, 2024 - Founders Tour Louisiana Region (1932 - 1999) 337-581-7776
- March 21 -24, 2024 Special Winter Nationals Guaynabo, Puerto Rico 787-635-8976
- April 4 - 6, 2024 Southeastern Spring Nationals/Grand Nationals Charlotte, NC 704-847-4215
- June 9-13 2024 Eastern Divisional Tour (Vehicles up through 1999) Fredericksburg, VA
- June 20-22 AACA Eastern Spring Nationals Saratoga Springs, NY 518-863-4987
- July 10-13 - Western Divisional Tour, Big Horn Mountain, Wyoming

~ Check your Antique Automobile magazine, go to www.aaca.org,
or call 717-534-1910 for more info ~




THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 3



Looking ahead to future events for March we have the Wellborn Blueberry Pancake Breakfast on March 2nd. Bring your car out and have a great breakfast for \$5.00 you can't beat it. Our next meeting is March 7 at the Wellborn Center. Its salad night, so bring a salad or bread, crackers etc. to share. March 9th is Circle R Ranch for the Antique Tractor and Engine and Car display. Circle R is down South on 441 (8655 US 441) on the left before you get to I75.

March 16th, two great events falling on the same day. First we have the Gainesville Street Rodders big show at the Santa Fe College. This is always a large car show over 100 cars. We also have the car display at the Shamrock Fly-In at Cannon Creek Airpark. Always a great lunch and a decadent desert bar for \$15.00 a head. There will also be many airplanes flying in for lunch.

March 23rd is our Mystery Breakfast. Please meet at 8am across the street from Parkview Baptist Church in the lot. I **absolutely must know if you are going to this for the reservations.**

At our last meeting I asked you all to come up with new ideas for the club. Well, Sherm Stanley had a great one. It would be on his property for a drive in movie and picnic night. We will try and do that in April some time. Keep the idea's coming and we will try and do as many as we can.

There is not much scheduled for April that is close enough, but I will keep you updated when I hear of something. Spring is right around the corner, so let's look forward to that warmer weather and enjoying it. Happy St. Patty's Day!

Shirley

Ken's Korner

A collection of trivia, anecdotes, quotes and jokes to brighten your day



A couple of car club friends were discussing the key to a happy, long term marriage. One said, "I've been married for 50 years and I know it's good communication between spouses." He continued, "On our honeymoon, we went to the Grand Canyon and joined a group mounted on mules for a trip to the bottom. As we started down, My wife's mule slipped. Slapping it's head, she said, "that's once, mule". A few minutes later, the mule slipped again. Slapping its head again, she said, "That's twice, mule." Shortly, the mule slipped for a third time. My wife reached in her purse, pulled out a pistol and shot the mule dead. I cried out, "What have you done?!" She slapped me once and said, "That's once, Ralph." To this day, we have never had another argument.

A doctor was conferring with a patient and advised him, "You only have six months to live". "Six months?" the man exclaimed. "I can't even pay your bill in six months." "OK" The doctor replied. "OK, I'll give you a year".

Until next time...

Ken

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AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHILI COOKOFF

By Ralph Towner

Several of our SRRAACA members attended this event on February 24. there were about 12 chili competitors offering their special chili recipe. The weather was spring like; pleasant without being too warm to enjoy tasting the chili.

There were 19 cars there for a display. There were 4 awards for the cars. Our member, Alex Fardales, won two of them, placing third in the judging. They had a special "Best Veteran's Car" award, which Alex won with his beautiful 1955 Chevrolet Belair. The photo on page 3 of this issue in the President's message was taken at the event as well. Congrats Alex!

Read more about this event in the President's message on page 3.





Sunshine Report

By Ralph Towner



Shirley McManus will be having Cataract surgery on both eyes, one week apart, in mid April. We all wish her the very best results from the surgery.

Dave Staples slipped on an oily spot on his garage floor in December that resulted in a broken hip. I am happy to report he is doing well. In fact, he came to our Hardee's Cruise-In on March 2nd and I talked with him for a while. He had a hip replacement which takes time to heal, but he is walking well now and well on the way to recovery. He will likely be re-joining us.

Kelly Jordan, our Vice President, got covid just eight days before our scheduled trip to the AACA Convention in Chantilly, Virginia. His systems were light and he never had a fever. His quarantine time ending just before our trip and he was able to go to the convention with me. Check out the story on pages 9-11 of this issue.

Rhonda Stanley is recovering from a torn Meniscus cartilage in her knee. She is able to walk using a cane.

Bill McManus is undergoing some tests during March for health issues. Shirley will keep us informed of his condition.

Mary Owens had hip surgery on February 12th. I talked with Ralph on March 2nd and I am happy to report she is doing very well now. Ralph says she is doing better than he had expected. They as of now, plan on attending our March 7th meeting.

The Safety/tech article on page 12 is about insurance. There is likely some info in the article that many of you may not have known or have not thought about lately. **Please take time to read it**, and pass it on to other family members to read.

Our next meeting will be this Thursday evening, March 7th, starting around 7:15PM at the Wellborn Community Center. There will be a Board meeting at 6:30 PM.

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.

Ralph



CELEBRATIONS



March Birthdays

Diana Partington – 03/08; Nancy Marquis – 03/09; Salvador Quintana – 03/09; Michelle Richards - 03/13; Mary Beth Downs - 03/13; Wayland Gray – 03/27; Stephen Glenn – 03/28

March Anniversaries

None

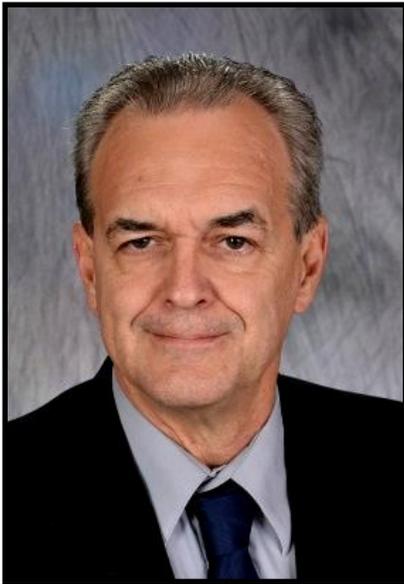
April Birthdays

Paul Fortner - 04/01; Joseph Calvert – 04/02; Leo Hart – 4/07; Ilona Burton – 04/08; James Block – 04/11; Darla Carroll – 04/11; Cindy Breslin – 04/14; Jeremy Stinson – 04/15; Jimmy Huntsman – 04/19; Arden Kopp - 04/24; Chuck Partington – 04/26

April Anniversaries

Gail and Dorsie (Ben) Stivers – 04/03; Beverly (Terri) and Salvador Quintana – 04/11; Diana and Chuck Partington – 04/27





Try A Tour

By Dave Anspach
2024 AACA Executive
Vice President

I have been showing cars on a local, Concours, and AACA level for over 25 years but I had never tried an AACA National Tour. I have been on numerous local Tours over the years, but not a National Tour. I have been the liaison Director for a couple but I never really tried an

AACA National Tour... until now.

Last year when President Wayne Tuck asked me to be the liaison Director for the Special Central Division Tour this year, I accepted and began working with tour chairman Don Sword to help the Southern Ohio Region with the details of a National Tour. I also began planning to find a car that worked for both Deb and I for a Tour vehicle. Unfortunately, in the ensuing 10 months, I looked at several cars but was unable to "pull the trigger". As a result, the deadline for registration for the tour neared without me having a suitable car.

I was talking with Don about some last minute plans and he mentioned that I hadn't registered yet. When I told him the tale of looking for a car, he replied that one of his region members, West Peterson, had offered a car to anyone who wanted to enter but didn't have a car. I immediately contacted West to determine if the offer was indeed good and he assured me that I indeed could use his car... a 1940 Packard Touring. Given that my wife is a gigantic Packard fan, it was a match made in heaven.

We arrived in Piqua, Ohio the afternoon before the Tour was to begin and finalized arrangements with West. The following morning we drove to Dayton and met West at his home. After an initial driving lesson that featured some genuine jitters on my part (the prestige of the Packard along with its sheer size was quite unnerving for a Crosley driver) we were off to the first destination.

The first day was an on your own trip to 2 destinations; the US Air Force Museum, followed by the Packard Museum. I was even treated to a rare visit to the basement workshop at the Packard museum and every visitor from the AACA received a book as a gift. I followed West the first day because we had no idea where we were going! I can honestly say I didn't sleep well the

first night. I was so worried that we would not be able to follow the directions and would get hopelessly lost. Add that to continuing nervousness about properly caring for West's Packard and I was awake a lot!

I went out to the car in the morning to start it, warm it up, and wipe off the morning dew and found Roger Ireland standing there and he asked if he could ride with us. RIDE WITH US? He immediately became navigator while Deb followed along with the directions as we drove along. The second day's trip including the Airstream Museum and Factory, lunch, shopping in Wapakoneta, and the Neil Armstrong Museum went off without a hitch! I slept pretty well Thursday night and headed out to again warm up and wipe down the car Friday am.

Roger again came out but told me he was riding with West and Laura Peterson this day (I guess I talked too much). Fridays trip was to the Klepinger collection, The bicycle museum of America, and The Allen County Historical museum. We were to follow Roger and the Petersons but to my utter delight, my bride/navigator found errors they made a few times during the day and we ended up in the lead! I couldn't have been more tickled!

The museums were great but successfully navigating the course was far better. I guess I finally relaxed driving the car by Saturday. The trip to the Halderman Museum followed by Bob McConnell's race car collection was fantastic. Deb's navigation was again flawless (she was so good, I honestly can't wait to do it again). I was almost sad when the day ended and we returned the car to West's home.

The day ended with a fantastic banquet that featured a game of Singo...a variation of Bingo using songs as spaces instead of numbers. It was overall an entertaining and educational experience that I hope to repeat again soon. I want to thank Don Sword and the Southern Ohio Region for a great Tour, Roger Irland for his help and training in navigation, but most of all I want to thank West and Laura Peterson and the Peterson family for the use of one of America's finest cars. It was an experience that Deb and I will remember for the rest of our lives.

The people were warm and welcoming. The cars were beautiful. The locations were interesting and educational and several of them could have been whole day locations on their own. We left Piqua totally exhausted and happy. What more could you ask for from an event. I encourage every one of you to Try A Tour, you will not be disappointed... I guarantee it!



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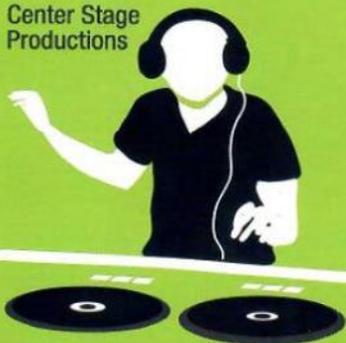
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Showroom Condition

Continued from page 8

The Howd's have both worked together for the last 15 years fostering dogs. They also transport dogs from one location to another to be adopted. They have cared for and helped stray, abandoned, or dogs whose owners can no longer care for them. They are currently fostering a dog as of this writing.

The Howd's have four dogs of their own, one purebred Dachshund and three mixed breeds. Their names are Brittany Speckles, age 15, Lilli, age 15 in May, Coco, age 12 and Sunny, the baby, is age 3.

Jerry, we are glad you found the pristine LeBaron. Jerry and Nina have been regular attendees at our meetings and have helped with our events. Jerry was elected by our members as a SRRAACA Board member for 2024/2025. Thank you Jerry and Nina for your contributions to our club, the foster program and the community.



Above: Nina is holding Sunny and Gerald is holding Coco in front of their home on a pleasant Florida winter day. They love their four dogs and have helped save the lives of many others through the fostering program.

Below: The 2.5 liter 4 cylinder engine in the LeBaron.



Left and Below: Three views of the beautiful Chrysler LeBaron.

Right: Driver's eye view of the 1988 Chrysler LeBaron CV.

