

# STUTTER 'n SPUTTER

Sunshine Region AACA Newsletter

We honor Jimmy Mayne by issuing a special edition of our Sunshine Club Newsletter. Jimmy created, edited and developed a wonderful newsletter that won several awards recognized by AACA





On the cover

Top Right: Connie & Jimmy at  
Evie's at Spanish Point

Middle Left: Jimmy with Bob  
ZuHone with newsletter award  
from AACA

Bottom Left: Very early picture  
with a caption "XOXO Love  
Dad"

Bottom Right: Jimmy and  
Connie (costume appropriate  
in front of their 1928

Jimmy sandblasting a part  
with OSHA approved outfit



Jimmy with Joe Malaney interviewing  
Joe on his unique and one of a kind  
collection for the newsletter



Above & Below: Jimmy and Connie enjoying  
another track event with Grandson Alex  
plus Ginger & Rob

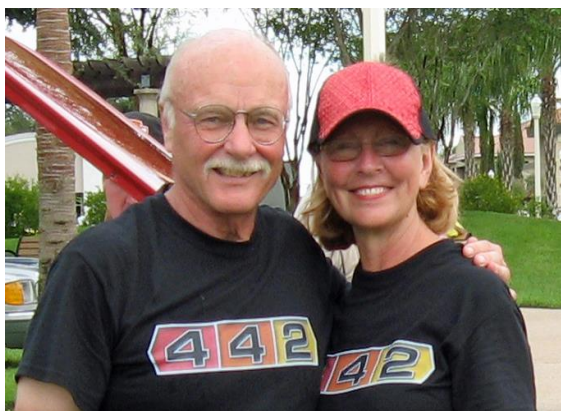


Jimmy & Connie's wedding



Ginger, Connie, Jimmy and Kelly  
at home in Sarasota





Jimmy & Connie sporting their 442 T-Shirts



Jimmy with his Grandkids his 442 in the background

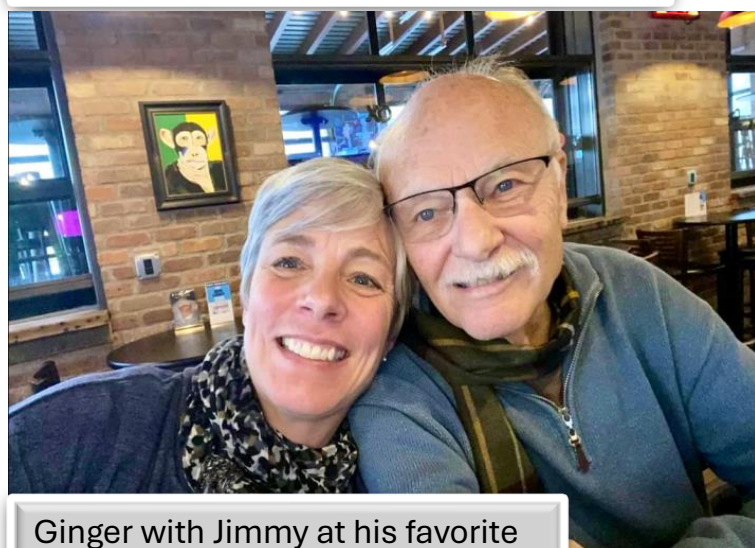


Connie, Kelly, Jimmie & Ginger in DC for Kelly's daughter Maggie's wedding

Jimmy enjoying Yuengling with his favorite neighbor Missy



Santa Jimmy



Ginger with Jimmy at his favorite Sarasota restaurant



Fathers Day with Kelly at Culvers Car Show

**Friends**

For those of you who know Jimmy well, you know that he is very particular about his garage floor. So particular that his floor is cleaner than some people's kitchen. Now for those of you who know me, you may know that I have a 1930 Franklin sedan.

Franklins are known for being a bit oily, consequently they do drip oil on the floor.

I complained one day to Jimmy that when I applied the brakes, I never knew what direction it might go and he said, "why don't you bring it over to my garage and we will adjust them". I reiterated to him that he wouldn't like all that oil on his garage floor, and he said, "not to worry about it we could clean it up".

That's how I knew that Jimmy kinda liked me and we are really good friends! Bob ZuHone

- **Our time at the General Motors Proving Ground Milford, Michigan**

Both Jimmy and I spent time doing development work at GM Proving Grounds. He doing Brake Development and I doing Carburetor Development. I was getting Camaro's and Police cars go faster and Jimmy making them stop faster! In both situations we tested beyond what a typical customer would do. We never met one another at the Proving Ground. I met Jimmy at our AACA club in Sarasota.

In my case, to ensure the carburetor would not stall, I would do several severe stops from 75 or 80 mph. After 10 or 20 of these I would wander over to the brake lab and ask them why my rotors were warped?

As Jimmy tells the story, as a student he was doing some development work on an item called a proportioning valve. As you know, under severe braking conditions the front brakes do the majority of the braking. The momentum of braking tends to lift the weight off the rear wheels. Then the correctly set proportion valve reduces the pressure on the rear brakes for a split second to prevent the rear wheels from locking up.

On one of his first days, by himself, he was out testing the setting he had made on one of his valves. Upon applying the brakes on the panic stop the rear wheels locked up and the rear of the car was now in front. He did a complete 180 degree turn at 60 mph !

As they say "back to the drawing board"!

I happened to be out at the track one day and did see a brake guy do a 180 degree turn. It must have been Jimmy! Those tires really put out a lot of black smoke all locked up! Al Ruckey



## My 1958 Chevy Impala

(Continued from Cover Page)

In the summer of 1963, I was working on a tool & die apprenticeship in Dayton, OH, and had saved enough money to make the down payment on a 1958 Chevy Impala. It had a 348 cubic inch motor, four barrel carburetor, and PowerGlide (2-speed) transmission. The price was \$1300.



My "Old" '58 Impala in 1963



I later decided to drop the apprenticeship and pursue an Engineering degree. I began my studies at General Motors Institute (GMI) in Flint, MI, in the fall of 1964. Connie & I were dating at the time, and we planned to get married at the end of my Freshman year. That took place on July 31, 1965. The next two photos show our Chevy loaded with gifts from our wedding reception. GMI, now Kettering University, was a co-op program, consisting of alternating six-week sessions of work and school. Connie & I both worked in Dayton, so she

maintained our apartment there even when I was away at school. The Chevy was our family car and made many trips between Flint and Dayton. I sold the car in 1967 for \$500, a decision I regretted years later.

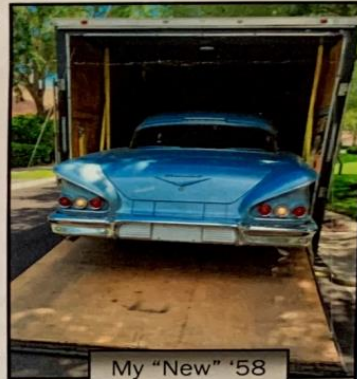


Wedding Gifts

After retirement in 2001, Connie & I bought a motor home and decided to travel for a while. We maintained our house in Ohio while looking for a place in Florida with a garage large enough to make a decent "Man Cave". It took over five years, but in 2010 Connie found the perfect house. I then began to acquire vehicles that had special meaning to my past. The only one I was missing was a 1958 Impala. It was a one year model and had become very popular (i.e., pricey) with collectors.

It finally happened in June. I found this beauty near Charlotte, SC. It has a 348 cubic inch motor, four barrel carburetor, and TurboGlide (single speed) transmission. And as an added bonus, it has factory air conditioning! I won't say what I had to pay, but it was substantially more than \$500.

~~~Jimmy Mayne



My "New" '58 Impala in 2022



1973 Honda CL450  
~Jimmy Mayne~

I spent over a week cleaning out the fuel tank of my '73 Honda CL450. The "Red-Kote" that I applied six years ago had lifted, and the rust had returned. Following the time consuming repair, Bill Swanton came over to help get it running. We quickly found that the battery would first have to be replaced. We needed another project, so we decided to realign '53 Chevy front bumper.



It took us over three hours to do the job! I suggested that we celebrate by having "Happy Hour". Bill's response, "I've reached the age where "Happy Hour" is a nap".

Considering my state of exhaustion, I realized that Bill had the better idea. So we agreed to call it a day.

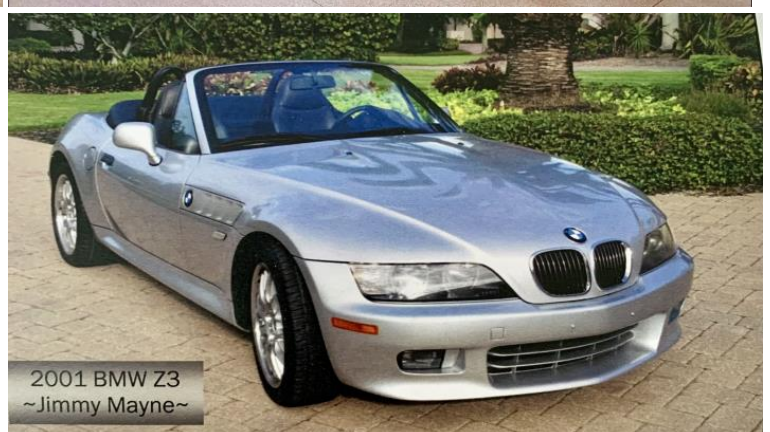
~~~Jimmy Mayne

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Someone once said: What goes around comes around, work like you don't need the money, love like you've never been hurt, dance like nobody's watching, sing like nobody's listening and live like its Heaven on Earth. Jimmy's love for Connie, Kelly, Ginger, Grandkids and of course his garage truly gave him Heaven on Earth!







Jimmy, Belle, Bill & Connie for the Swanton's going away party

Jimmy with Ed Smith at Lakeland Auto Auction



## Cadillac Jimmy & Joanie: 20-Sep-2020

After a week's delay due to weather, local DJ's, Cadillac Jimmy & Joanie, were able to kick off their 2020-21 Cruise-In season with an event at Culver's on South Tamiami Trail. Our Sunshine Region AACA was represented by Bill Swanton & myself. A total of 27 cruisers participated.

~~~Jimmy Mayne



▲ Jimmy Mayne & Bill Swanton with the '53 Bel-Air ▲

◀ Cadillac Jimmy & Joanie



### Editor Comments

Well, here it is my final publication of the Stutter 'n Sputter, issue number 60 of 60. It's hard to believe that I've been doing this now for five years. I have no regrets.

I've said many times before that the quality of the Newsletter is dependent on the contributions from the membership. I'm not going to try to name them all, but you know who the consistent contributors have been. The one specific person that I do want to mention is Joe Malaney whose work behind the scenes as our Proof Reader probably went unnoticed by most folks except for me. I believe there was only one issue in five years that Joe didn't find something that needed to be corrected.

Bruce Skaggs will be replacing me as Newsletter Editor. I believe he has something a bit different in mind regarding the communication process. I wish him well, and I trust that you will give him the level of support that I have received.

I'm now looking forward to spending more time working in the Man Cave and less time in front of the computer. So with that let me end by wishing everyone a wonderful Holiday Season and a Healthy & Prosperous New Year. Good luck to us all!

~~~Jimmy Mayne

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PS: A big "Thank You" goes out to the entire Membership for your very thoughtful gift.





**“May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain”**

**We want to recognize those who have gone before us, dedicated supporters in so many ways of the Sarasota Sunshine Club. Sharing their memories and stories of their car collections, they will be missed but always remembered!**

**Jimmy Mayne**

**Bob Tone**

**John Cavanaugh**

**Sharon Cohen**

**John Anderson**

**Elaine Smith**

**Jim Goese**

**Verna Gockley-Hertzler**

**Isabel Rauch**

**Richard Brown**

**Pat Kondrat**

**Gary Dykeman**

**Fred Cook**

**Lois Greer**

**Don Hughes**

**Cadillac Jimmy**

