

# STUTTER 'n SPUTTER

Sunshine Region AACA Newsletter



A Car Guy's Working Garage  
~ Heather & Phil DiCarlo ~





## DiCarlos' Working Garage

Phil retired from his life as a Professional Mechanic and sold his business in 2004 B.H. (i.e., Before Heather). He built a home and working garage in a rural area northeast of downtown Sarasota where he could continue work on his personal classics. At one point he owned 17 cars. He has an obvious affinity for Camaros. There are currently five of them in various stages of assembly in his 3400 square foot garage. However, he only counts four since one of them is being built for his nephew. The facility contains four 4-post lifts and several professional pieces of equipment (scoped engine analyzer, tire/wheel machine, dynamic wheel balancer, A/C service bench, etc.) Phil now likes to spend his time focusing on cars he has owned since his early years. These include the following:

- 1968 Camaro he bought at the age of 17 from a service station in Clearwater and drove while in High School. He said he "had a need for speed" back then and did some crazy things with cars which he seldom talks about now. He has a ZL1 427 motor built and ready to install.
- 1971 Chevelle SS 454 that he first spotted behind Payne Park while commuting to mechanics' school in Tampa. A friend bought the car, later sold it to another friend, who then sold it to Phil in 1983. Phil wanted it because it had factory A/C.
- 1967 Camaro convertible in drivable condition
- A pair of SS 396 Camaros (1968 & 1971) which he also drives occasionally.

Phil & Heather have decided to downsize and are now

*(more photos on facing page)*



The House



The Garage

building a home close to Sarasota Memorial Hospital. Eventually, they plan to spend summers in North Carolina where they also have property.

~~~Jimmy & Connie Mayne

Cover Photo: Phil with his 1971 Chevelle SS 454 and 1967 Camaro convertible.



▼ '68 SS 396

▲ '68 from HS



Aluminum Motors

▲ ZL1 & LS3 ►





'71 SS 396



Nephew's '67



Dynamic Wheel Balancer



Bench Work Area

## Calendar of Events

Jun 17-20: Spring Carlisle Expo & Auction, Carlisle, PA

**\*\*Wed, Jun 24 (maybe): Membership Meeting**

Location & Time To Be Determined, see President's Message, and watch your Email.

**Fri, 10 Jul: 11th Annual Collector Car Appreciation Day**

**\*\*Wed, Jul 22, 7PM: Membership Meeting**

Firehouse #2, 2070 Waldemere St, Sarasota, 34239

**\*\*Every Monday, 11:30AM: Lunch at Papa Nick's**

4940 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL 34232 (in Shopping Plaza) Questions? Call Gene Cohen (941) 587-4311

**\*\*AACA Sunshine Region Events**

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## AACA National Meets & Tours

Jun 12-14 • SE Spring Nationals • Charlotte, NC

Jun 24-27 • Eastern Spring Nationals • Beckley, WV

Jul 19-24 • Reliability Tour • LockHaven/Wellsboro, PA

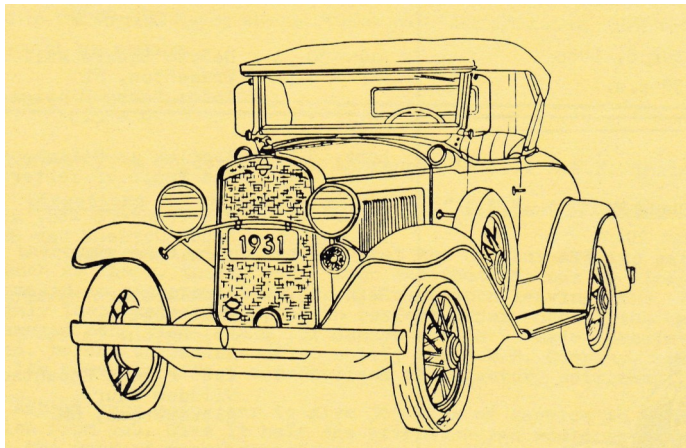
Jul 23-25 • Annual Grand Nationals • Allentown, PA

Aug 12-14 • Eastern Division Tour • East Shore of MD

Aug 20-22 • SE Fall Nationals • Elizabeth, IN



## Gordon & Linda Langeneger's 1931 Chevrolet Roadster



The old sea captain wept as he bid his beloved Eloise farewell; he knew he would never see her again, and after 26 years, he was going to miss her. Three months later the Long Island, NY resident passed away, and it was said by those who knew him that the old captain died of a broken heart! There was a new man in her life now, 17 years old and a junior in high school. Gordon Langeneger was thrilled about his new Eloise; she was just what he wanted and he had great plans for her: after dropping in a '57 Corvette engine, he'd use her as his transportation to school. Eloise, as she is still affectionately called by those who know her, is a 1931 Chevrolet AE Roadster, which sold new for \$495. Her colors are Coffee Cream, Cellini Green, and Sunset Yellow, with a brown naugahyde interior and beige soft top. The car has a six cylinder 50 HP engine pumping 3 3/16" diameter pistons on a 3 3/4" stroke. Tire size is 4.75x19. Weight is 2400 lb; The fuel system fills at 10 gallons and feeds at 18 m.p.g. Brakes are four wheel mechanical. Original accessories (and original prices) include an Eagle radiator cap, \$3.50; windwings, \$9.00 dealer installed; and deluxe wheel covers of canvas, \$2.50. Special standard features included: sidemounts, trunk rack, side curtains, and stoneguard.

When Gordon first brought Eloise home (she still had the big "E" on the radiator's stoneguard, lovingly placed there by the old captain), his father hit the roof! He didn't want another piece of junk cluttering up the yard. However, being the first car he ever bought (he paid \$75.00), Gordon finally convinced his dad he'd made a wise investment. Following his graduation from high

school, Gordon stored the car in his sister's basement garage. Then he went off to college, married, and started to raise a family, all the time planning for the day he could restore Eloise to her original condition. As the years passed, he collected parts he would need, once following a '31 Chevy all the way home before he could catch the owner to ask if he happened to have an extra trunk handle for the rumble seat (He did!). Gordon never did find inside door handles and had to make them; he melted down his wife Linda's brass candlesticks and poured the liquid into molds which he had made using the lost wax process. Two years ago, after searching for 13 years for a trunk, Gordon finally found 2 within a month of each other.

The day finally came when Gordon was able to retrieve his car from its interment, haul it up to his home in New Hampshire, and begin a painstaking restoration from the ground up. It took him about 2 1/2 years, working nights and weekends, and he did all the work except the top and upholstery, and his father rebuilt the engine. Finally, in 1978, the car was completed and it was off to Hershey for Eloise's first show. There were 950 cars that year, and 37 in her class, but she received her First Junior. On to Hagerstown, MD, for her Senior, and then began the preservation awards - to date the car has 8 - plus 2 Firsts at National Chevrolet Meets and many local and regional wins. Eloise has also been in parades, mall shows, and on tours, 3 of which were over 500 miles each. It was during a Glidden Tour that Eloise climbed Clingman's Dome in the Smokey Mountains National Park, a height of over 6000 ft., and she did it all the way in third gear! Finally, 8 years after having restored Eloise, Gordon and Linda decided it was time to enter her in a Grand National Meet. It was to be one of her last competitions, and she went out in style; she became a First Prize Grand National Winner at the 1986 Meet in Ashville, NC. Gordon and Linda also own a 1957 Corvette and a 1911 E.M.F.

~~~ Gordon Langeneger

*Editor's Note: Originally published in the Sunshine Region Newsletter of August 1986. Reprinted with permission of his widow, Linda.*



## June President's Message

Greetings fellow Sunshine Region members,  
I hope everyone is well and that cabin fever is not too severe. I am ready to see those shining faces again. The fire department is not ready to open the meeting room yet, so I was thinking we should get together, perhaps outside in a park or someone's yard. We could bring our own eats & chairs. Proper social spacing would be observed. What do you think?  
I have been working in the garage, in the yard, and on the cars. Do you think two months is enough time to clean the garage? In my case, perhaps not. 😊  
It was suggested that we do a drive through of a nursing home. I would call ahead to get permission and let them organize the residents to a viewing spot.  
We need to do something and maybe we could stop somewhere and have a picnic by the cars afterward. Best wishes & good health.

~~~Bob

*Automobiles have always been part of my life, and I'm sure they always will be. What is it about them that moves me? The sound of a great engine, the unity and uniqueness of an automobile's engineering and coachwork, the history of the company and the car, and, of course, the sheer beauty of the thing.*

~~~Edward Herrmann

## June Mystery Photo

Can you identify the Club Member & Vehicle in this photo taken about 1966? Answer will be published in next month's Stutter 'n Sputter.



### STUTTER 'n SPUTTER THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SUNSHINE REGION

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serving Florida's Sarasota & Manatee  
counties, and surrounding areas

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### May Photo

John Anderson & his brother  
Don with their custom built  
flathead Mercury dirt track  
roadster which they campaigned  
in OH & IN during the early 50's.

## Editor Comments

The Sunshine Region AACA is beginning to emerge from self quarantine! We certainly aren't completely there yet, but at least it's a start. As Bob noted in his monthly message, our normal meeting room at the Fire Station will still NOT be open in June. However, he and the Board will be exploring other options. Gene Cohen informed me that the Monday lunch group has resumed their get together at Papa Nick's. George, the owner, has moved us to the front room close to the windows where tables are better arranged & spaced for "Social Distancing".

"Cadillac Jimmy Signore" & "Lance's Cruzin to the Hop" both held cruise-ins late in May.

This past Saturday, I was able to do two things for the first time in two months that I really enjoy. In the morning, I went to the Tuttle Flea Market where there were only about 10 venders. Later in the day I made it to the Taco Bell Cruise-In. Only 13 cars showed up, and we got caught in a major rain & wind storm. But it was still fun.

Even though turnout was small at both events, it was

nice to see folks returning to some form of normality. Granted these were baby steps, but at least we were stepping out.

~~~Jimmy Mayne  
maynejc@gmail.com



## We Break Them in Young

Calvin High (AACA Life Member since 1955) has his Great-Grandson, Hayden, 2 ½ years old, behind the wheel of his 1930 American Austin. It looks to be the perfect size for him!

Note: Photo submitted by Calvin's grandson, Dave.



## Birthdays



|                    |        |                   |        |
|--------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Jacki KAISER       | 02-Jun | Ed SMITH          | 05-Jul |
| Tootie KENNEDY     | 03-Jun | Mary WILSON       | 06-Jul |
| Joe MALANEY        | 06-Jun | Jeryl SCHRIEVER   | 07-Jul |
| John ANDERSON      | 08-Jun | Georgia NICHOLSON | 07-Jul |
| Jimmy MAYNE        | 08-Jun | Jackie RUCKEY     | 09-Jul |
| Al RUCKEY          | 11-Jun | John CAVANAUGH    | 09-Jul |
| Elaine SMITH       | 12-Jun | Calvin HIGH       | 10-Jul |
| Alex HUPPE         | 18-Jun | Tony PIAZZA       | 10-Jul |
| Cliff WILSON       | 22-Jun | William MARTIN    | 10-Jul |
| Carolyn SKAGGS     | 23-Jun | Gerry SHAPIRO     | 25-Jul |
| Gordon* LANGENEGER | 23-Jun |                   |        |
| Nita ZUHONE        | 01-Jul |                   |        |

\*Deceased

Visit our Website

[sunshineregionaaca.org](http://sunshineregionaaca.org)

## Anniversaries



|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Tootie & Dan KENNEDY | 03-Jun-1968 |
| Linda & Tony PIAZZA  | 03-Jun-1969 |
| Janet & Calvin HIGH  | 17-Jun-1954 |
| Peggy & Henry PUGH   | 06-Jul-1973 |
| Connie & Jimmy MAYNE | 31-Jul-1965 |



# JULY 10, 2020

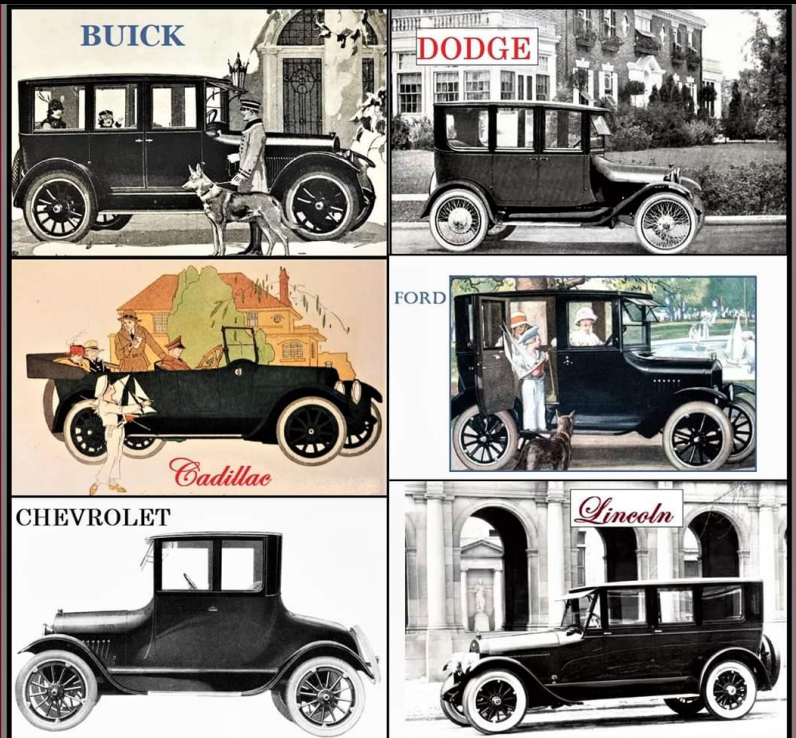
## COLLECTOR CAR APPRECIATION DAY

I will be hosting the Collector Car Appreciation Day Tour again this year on Friday, July 10, 2020. We will be touring Siesta Key, passing by our beautiful public beach, & driving through Siesta Key Village. However, due to the Pandemic, I do not know if we will be meeting at a restaurant. I am waiting until mid-June before I check local restaurants for a meeting place. Hopefully, by then, all restaurants will be open!

I will send out details, - meeting time & place, etc. - by the end of June. You may RSVP to me anytime (941) 960-3477 or emf30gl@verizon.net. Thank you, and I look forward to touring with you!

~~~Linda Langeneger

### American Car Survivors 1920 to 2020



## AACA LIBRARY & RESEARCH CENTER

"America's Automotive Library"

When one has a '69 Caddy fender skirt but no '69 Caddy, I hung it on my fence and call it "Yard Art".

~~~Barb Shapiro



### Swap Corner

Do you have "Auto Related" items to sell, or is there something that you are looking for? Let people know by listing it in SnS. ~~~Editor





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1999 Jaguar XK8  
~Joe Malaney~

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