

STUTTER 'n SPUTTER

Sunshine Region AACA Newsletter

"Unconditional Surrender"
Collector Car Appreciation Day
(See Page 2)



Volume 42

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Issue 08

Collector Car Appreciation Day - Sarasota, FL: 08-Jul-2022 *(See Cover Page)*



Breakfast at the "Serving Spoon"

In spite of weather forecasts showing precipitation during the weeks before and after the Collector Car Appreciation Day (CCAD) tour, the scheduled day, Friday, July 8, was clear, sunny, and warm as everyone gathered at the Serving Spoon for breakfast. Service at this restaurant is always outstanding and fast!



Linda reviews Tour Route

Tour Host Linda Langenegger announced that the day's CCAD tour, always on the second Friday in July, was sponsored by SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association). This was their 13th consecutive year for the annual event, and it was the tenth year for the Sunshine Region AACA. Each year the US Senate passes a resolution recognizing the collector car hobby as a strong American tradition & pastime, one that

promotes the collection & restoration of historic and classic vehicles.

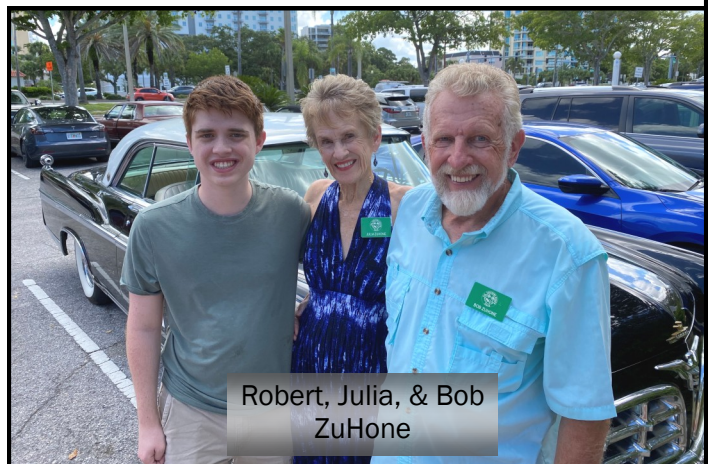
The car tour meandered through the Sarasota downtown area, with much to view & admire, including the buildings, landscaping, and round-a-bouts! A stop was made at the "Unconditional Surrender" statue, (also known as the "Kissing Statue") which had been relocated due to construction, to a site further south on the Bayfront. This statue commemorates the surrender of Japan and the end of WW III! The tour proceeded north on Ringling Blvd, and our directions led to the final stop at Detwiler's for complimentary ice cream! Yummy and delish!

The tour passed many spectators along the way as the drivers "showed off" their vehicles so the public could admire them! After all, this was Collector Car Appreciation Day, and our cars were appreciated, especially by pedestrians dining at numerous restaurants' outside tables along Main Street! The vehicles on tour were Jim & Debbie Wilson's 1973 TR6 Triumph; Bruce & Carolyn Skaggs' 2007 Mini Cooper; Joe Malaney, with his nephew Dan, in his 1999 Jaguar; Bob & Julia ZuHone, and grandson Robert, in their 1956 Imperial; Jimmy & Connie Mayne in their 1958 Chevy Impala; Steve & Linda Hall's 1962 Humber Super Snipe; John Cavanaugh's 1979 Buick Electra Park Avenue; Ray & Sinda Daugherty's 2016 Jaguar F type; and Stu Keen, in his 1951 MGTD MKII. Thanks to all of you for participating! I hope you all experienced a "Happy Drive Your Collector Car Day!"

~~~Linda Langenegger  
*Photos by Malaney & Skaggs*



Connie & Jimmy Mayne



Robert, Julia, & Bob ZuHone

## Which Would It Be?

You may have owned four or five vintage cars or over 100. My question is could you pick a favorite, just one special car you would like to have back. This is not an easy question for many of us to answer. Bear in mind that it is only one. Is it the one that you thought was the best looking, the one that treated you best, the one that people admired the most, or perhaps the most valuable. Whatever it is there must be at least one. I have owned over 100 cars, so picking one is difficult. I have put a great deal of thought into it, and still a lot of questions. Final decision, a 1942 Chrysler Town & Country, this car never finished its restoration.



What I Found

I used to travel a certain back road in upstate New York and missed seeing a 1942 Chrysler poking out of a dilapidated garage. Finally, one day I noticed it. I almost didn't stop, assuming it was a sedan. I stopped to inquire about the car and up until then I didn't realize it was a Town & Country. Wow, because of World War II production stoppage, there were only 849 built. The car was Regal Maroon with red leather interior.

I spoke with the owner at length. He finally told me that someone had given him a deposit on it. After further conversation, he admitted that the deposit was left with him over a year ago. After more conversation and finding how much he wanted for the car, another "Wow"! I told him I would give him what he wanted for the Chrysler and cover the deposit should the guy ever come back for it. A deal was struck. The car required a full restoration, but the wood was extremely nice. The interior could be used as is and the only rust was on the top of the two front fenders where it stuck its nose

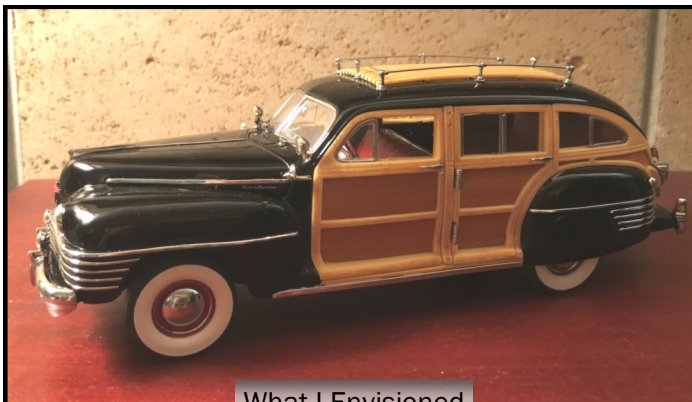
out of the garage.

Side note, the fall before when I was at Hershey, I was wandering the flea market at the end of the show and spotted two front fenders for a 42 Chrysler and as I was examining them the vendor asked me if I could use them. I said I didn't have a car to apply them to, and he said I should buy them anyway. He said I could have them for \$5., sooooo... they came home with me. Serendipitous wouldn't you agree. Why, you ask, would anyone buy fenders for a very rare car with the unlikelihood of ever having a car to put them on? That is a Bob zuHone thing, no further explanation necessary.

To satisfy your curiosity, I paid the princely sum of \$200 for the car. The last one I saw get sold was at an auction in California and it brought \$475,000. The photos are of the day it was pulled out of the garage and of a model that it would have looked like when restored.

Now it is your turn.

~~~Bob zuHone



What I Envisioned



An Alzheimer Review of Automobiles

One of the pleasures of aging is, of course, the quiet reflection on the days of our youth; or what we remember of it anyway. Just like Archie and Edith Bunker sang about how their "LaSalle ran great" so we remember the cars of our yesteryear. And those cars we remember were trash. They were brand new four wheel garbage rolling off the assembly line compared to the cars of today.

Before I explain that remark let me say this; the cars of today continually amaze me just how good they are. They are phenomenal in just about every way you can think of. Never forget to thank the good Lord for modern cars in your prayers. He has truly blessed us. What makes the cars of today so great? The number one reason is... computers! And following computers we have the integrated electronics to go with them. Without computers we could never achieve the power, gas mileage, and clean exhaust we have now. Cars are also safer today by a light year. I hear people complain all the time about how they got into a small accident and the insurance company totaled the car. Yeah? So? They go on to say that back in the day they could have repaired the car and put it back on the road no problem. Of course, the occupants of the old car were either dead or seriously injured. Now cars are designed to destroy themselves to protect the driver and passengers, not to make it easier to repair. Which way do you want it? My vote is for surviving the accident, to heck with the car.

Anybody want to go back to single reservoir brake master cylinders where if you had a brake line failure you lost all your brakes? No, I want modern two reservoir master cylinders so I have at least one set of brakes if I get a failure. How about power brakes? They were a pricey option back then but standard today. Speaking of brakes, do you want drum brakes again? Do you want them after going through a deep puddle? Of course you wouldn't want them because when they got wet you didn't have brakes anymore! Well, I sure don't want them. I'll keep my disk brakes and replace the pads every 80,000 to 100,000 miles or so.

Anyone want to go back to points, condensers and distributors? Remember the tune up every 10 to 15 thousand miles? No, I'll take the tune up every 100,000 miles (maybe more!) that I do now, thank you. Anyone want to go back to carburetors and pulling choke knobs hoping the car will start before the battery goes dead from cranking it on a cold day? Nope, I'll keep my multi-point computer controlled fuel injection. How about bias belted tires? They were good for maybe 15,000 miles if you were really gentle with them and rotated them like you were supposed to. Forget it; I'll keep my radial tires

that can go 80,000 miles or more if I take care of them. Here is one that I'm sure you all don't remember but will when you read this... Vacuum operated windshield wipers! Oh my Lord how positively horrible they were! Remember how in the rain they would cut out when you were quickly accelerating. Remember how when you were climbing up a steep grade like a mountain or something like that in the rain and you had to let up on the gas periodically to wipe away the water so you could see where you were going? Remember how scary that was? Well forget that, I'll keep my electrically operated wipers with the variable intermittent wiper selector thank you very much.

Remember how expensive the air conditioning option was when you bought a new car? I'm so happy that every car comes standard with it today. Remember how an AM radio with one speaker in the top of the dash was an option you had to pay for, or even a heater in some models? No, I'll take the six speaker stereo with CD and Blue tooth as standard. Thanks, I appreciate it. How about the automatic transmission option? Now there were some big bucks. Today you have to pay extra for a stick shift in some models, if they offer one at all. And if you do get a stick shift it gets worse mileage than the computer controlled automatic!

Power steering is another one. How much did you pay for that back in the day? It's gratis now. Drive and enjoy.

I could go on and on. Cooled and heated seats, power windows and door locks, heated and power side mirrors, rear window defrosters and wipers, multiple air bags, side impact and rollover protection etc.

Oh, one final thing. How about RUST PROOFING! If you lived through northern winters you could count on one hand the number of years it would take for large holes to appear in your fenders or around the windows and doors. Remember Z-Bart rust proofing your new car? I do and I'm happy to forget it.

Now don't get me wrong. I enjoy a car show as much as the next guy and it warms my heart to see those cars of old proudly displayed in all their glory. Yet I don't fool myself. I wouldn't want any of them to be my daily driver anymore. I know what it takes to keep them reliable and there is no way to make them safe. A nice Sunday afternoon drive in one of them is fine.

Were they stylish and elegant? Yes, more so than the jelly bean shaped very well designed eyesores we drive today, but that is what we get for insisting on using the most efficient shape to give us the best gas mileage and roominess. Yet still, with all that said I look at those old beauties and remember things so fondly.

~~~Stan Shenko

## Membership Meeting: 20-Jul-2022

The monthly meeting of the Sunshine Region AACA was called to order by John Cavanaugh, President. He led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Seventeen members were in attendance at Hot Sands Bar & Grill.

John announced that he had a call from Roger Thomas regarding the location of our monthly meetings.

### Reports

- Treasury report was given by Joe Malaney.
- Secretary, Carolyn Skaggs read the June minutes, and they were accepted as read.
- Membership, Jacki Kaiser sent a report, presented by Carolyn Skaggs. Would the membership be interested in learning about the Legacy Trail? Jacki is proposing a drive to the Trail head in Venice, with an informative presentation about the Trail, followed by lunch. A date for this event has not been set, but probably would be some time in September. A signup sheet was passed around for those interested.

- Newsletter, Bob ZuHone gave his idea of asking members to write down their very favorite car and send it to Jimmy Mayne and probably say why it is your favorite car. It does not need to be a car that you have owned. A picture of the car would be desirable.

### Old Business

- Bob ZuHone reported on the June 18th and 23rd Brookdale Senior Living Tours, and he expressed appreciation for member attendance especially from the Suncoast British Car Club.
- Linda Langeneger thanked members for a successful breakfast and tour of Sarasota celebrating National Collector Car Appreciation Day.

### New Business

- Carolyn Skaggs passed a signup sheet for her upcoming Breakfast Drive to Silver Star East on August 18th meeting at Stottlemeyer's, at 8:45am.
- John Cavanaugh passed a signup sheet for his upcoming Ringling Museum Tour on August 29th. Meet at 10am at Art Museum (old SRQ High School).
- Linda Langeneger announced the following:

-The passing of Beverly Wilson. She & Max owned a Hudson and were members of the HCCA, Horseless Carriage Car Club of America.

-Linda showed a picture of the commemorative brick for Arnie Berns, that is in place in the East Brick Garden at the AACA Museum.

-Thirdly, she showed picture of a horseless carriage belonging to Marge & Randy Hall as it looks now. Several years ago it caught on fire.

### Program

John Cavanaugh presented pictures and stories about cars he has owned through the years.

Name badge drawing was won by Sharon Cohen. Bruce Skaggs made motion to adjourn. Our next meeting will be August 17th at the Hot Sands Bar & Grill, lunch at 11am, meeting at noon. Respectively submitted,

~~~Carolyn Skaggs, Secretary

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counties, and surrounding areas

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Gilmore Car Museum - Hickory Corners, MI

(Submitted by Al Ruckey)

"Mom's Favorite Car" 1940 Pontiac Sculpture



(Paraphrased from Display Plaque) When Aileene & George Blincoe married in 1945, the Pontiac they bought soon after in Fort Scott, KS - for \$200, so the story goes - was the first car Aileene ever owned. Immediately after their marriage, George's Navy and teaching career took him, Aileene, & the car to Corpus Christi, TX. When he built up enough leave time, the Pontiac took them to Mexico on their deferred honeymoon. Nine months later, their daughter, Paula

took her first ride in the Pontiac, and a couple years after, brother George came along and took his first ride, too.

Aileene always claimed it was the best car they ever owned, and if she could have any car in the whole world, she'd choose that Pontiac.

So her daughter brought it back as a sculpture - all 12,000 pounds of it. It is currently on display on the grounds of the Gilmore Car Museum.

Calendar of Events

**** Wed, Aug 17, 12 Noon: Membership Meeting.**
Shriners Hot Sands Bar & Grill, 600 N Beneva Rd,
Kitchen opens at 11AM for lunch orders

****Thr, Aug 18: Breakfast Drive to Silver Star East.**
Event Planner - Carolyn Skaggs

**Sat, Oct 15, 10AM-3PM: Lake Mirror Concours
d'Elegance & Car Show.** 121 S Lake Ave, Lakeland, FL
33801, <https://lakemirrorcarshow.com>

Fri-Sun, Dec 2-4: Gasparilla Concours d'Elegance.
TPC Golf Course, 5300 W Lutz Lake Fern Rd, Lutz, FL
33558, <https://gasparillaconcours.com>

****Every Monday, 11:30AM: Lunch at Papa Nick's.**
4940 Fruitville Rd, Sarasota, FL 34232 (in Shopping
Plazza) Questions? Guys call Bob ZuHone (941) 371-
9339, ladies call Carolyn Skaggs (239) 281-6288.

**AACA Sunshine Region Events

AACA National Meets & Tours

Aug 11-13 • Central Fall Nationals • East Moline, IL •
Mississippi Valley Region

Sep 10-16 • Sentimental Tour • Gettysburg, PA •
1928-1958 Vehicles only • Buzzards Breath Region

Sep 23-24 • Cadillac Fall Festival • Gilmore Car
Museum, 6865 W. Hickory Rd, Hickory Corners, MI
49060 • <https://www.cadillacfestival.com/> • West
Michigan Region

Sep 25-30 • Revival; AAA Glidden Tour • Princeton, NJ
• 1942 & Earlier • New Jersey Region

Oct 4-7 • Eastern Fall Nationals • 100 Hersheypark
Dr, Hershey, PA

<https://aaca.org/events/category/aaca-national-calendar/>

Editor Comments

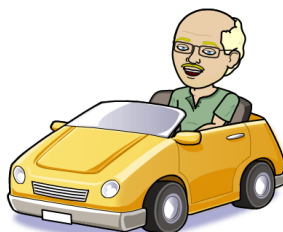
We are in the July & August slow season for classic car activities here on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Thanks to Linda for arranging the downtown Sarasota Collector Car Appreciation Day tour. Also thanks to Al Ruckey and Bob zuHone for their contributions to this month's Newsletter. For our Snowbird friends, this would be a great time to send in information about activities happening in your neck of the woods. Also, technical articles and "How To" tips are always appreciated.

I received the "Alzheimer's Review" article a few months ago from a gentleman that I met at a car show. It is not meant to demean the Classics in any way, but rather to point out how far the industry has come over the years. The modern automobile and the Classics are truly two different breeds, and both should be appreciated for what they are.

The July "Mystery Photo" was your beloved S'nS Editor taken in Detroit when I was three years old. I haven't seen one of those tricycle wagons in years! As previously stated, this feature is being discontinued because I don't have any more of your old pictures. I will still publish them periodically if received. I hope you've enjoy them as much as I have.

That's all for now. Stay cool, and enjoy your summer wherever you may be!

~~~Jimmy Mayne  
maynejc@gmail.com



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## Birthdays



|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Janet HIGH         | 03-Aug |
| Michael BOHARDT    | 05-Aug |
| Monika LINDEMANN   | 08-Aug |
| Pauline MARTIN     | 10-Aug |
| Jack KNUESE        | 13-Aug |
| Brad HINDALL       | 24-Aug |
| Barbara BROWN      | 27-Aug |
| Doris GOESE        | 03-Sep |
| Bill LESSIG        | 14-Sep |
| Karen KNUESE       | 17-Sep |
| Jane HINDALL       | 24-Sep |
| Gene COHEN         | 27-Sep |
| Maurice* DEVEREAUX | 28-Sep |
| Matthew ZUHONE     | 29-Sep |
| Steve ESTOK        | 29-Sep |

\*Deceased

## Anniversaries



|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Carolyn & Bruce SKAGGS  | 02-Aug-1958 |
| Doris & James GOESE     | 02-Aug-1952 |
| Gracie & Steve ESTOK    | 16-Aug      |
| Mary & Cliff WILSON     | 20-Aug-1966 |
| Betsy & Joe ANDREWS     | 22-Aug-1964 |
| Arlene & Al EVANGELISTA | 23-Aug-1969 |
| Joan & Frank BOWLES     | 22-Sep-1962 |

Hard knocks have a place  
& value, but hard thinking  
goes farther in less time.

~~~Henry Ford

Birthday Parade & Celebration for June Wilson: 25-Jun-2022

Some events in life are so rewarding that you feel warm all over, and no, it's not the Florida heat, it's the look on the face of a 99 year young birthday lady surrounded by her loving family, as she is being honored by a parade of cars, tooting their horns, waving colorful birthday card posters and cheering her. June was glowing with happiness and youthful glee. She was loving the parade and visibly so proud that her son, Jim, and daughter-in-law, Debbie, had so many

friends that showed up to surprise her on this very special day in her life.

Both the British Car Club and the AACA joined together parading thirteen collector cars in her honor. Best of all, the cars stopped and all of June's admirers got out and personally wished her a very happy birthday. What a beautiful event to celebrate such a beautiful lady.

~~~Carolyn Skaggs

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