



# Olde News

SAINT AUGUSTINE FL  
FOUNDED 1565



## In The News

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- RIP John G
- Calendar
- Meeting Minutes
- Harry's Diner
- Ethanol FREE Gas
- Our Show: 11-3

## Red, White, and Blue at Glenmoor

By Tuni Weiss

ACAC was invited to participate in the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. We all met at the Winn Dixie just north of the gates and traveled together to World Golf Village. Attending were Jim & Tuni Weiss, Charlie Williams, Glen Klein, Ron Leone, Cliff Williams, Cam & Sue Baker and Doug Nietzel. Ron Leone won an award for the best decorated vehicle. We did a short parade around the community escorted by Military Colorguard, and a Firetruck. After the parade we parked our cars and were treated to refreshments.



# REMEMBERING JOHN GUARNIERI

By Dan Guarnieri

On the evening of Wednesday, June 13, 2012, John Guarnieri, of St. Augustine, FL, lost his life in a tragic car accident. He was 65. The accident occurred on I-75 just outside Cartersville, GA while he and his wife Lynda were traveling to Shelbyville TN for the AACA Grand National Meet. Lynda survived the accident, with severe injuries, but is currently recovering very well.

John Guarnieri was born June 11, 1947, in Pittston, PA to Emilio and Regina Guarnieri. When he was three, his family moved to Valley Stream, NY, where John would live through his high school graduation. He met his future wife, Lynda, while they were students at the local high school. They both graduated in 1965, and married in 1968. They lived in Selden, NY until 1993 when they moved to St. Augustine and began enjoying their retirement. They started as high school sweethearts and were together, in love, right up until John's untimely death.

John enlisted in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam military conflict and served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1966 to 1970. Taking advantage of the G.I. Bill, John almost completed his bachelor's degree while working diligently in his career as a police officer, a profession he took great pride in doing with compassion, integrity, and strength. Ultimately he became a Suffolk County Highway Patrolman in New York on Long Island. In December of 1985 John was helping a disabled motorist on a snowy night. He suffered a career-ending back injury when he was struck by a drunk driver. Ironically, he had made a distinguished career out of making his community safer by taking drunk drivers off the streets.

Working and supporting his family were always central to John's goals, but when he found time for his hobbies, he went all out. His love of cars was a lifelong obsession, but it wasn't until he retired and moved to Florida that he started to fully indulge. He was also an avid sports fan, with a lifelong love of the New York Yankees and a fervent dedication to his Chicago Bears. Prior to his retirement, he took great satisfaction in having the most beautiful lawn on the block back in New York. As a young man, he took care of lawns around the neighborhood for pocket money, and he developed a passion for soft, green grass. John also loved fish tanks for a time, having as many as a half-dozen in the house at once. But nothing would compare to his eventual classic car hobby.

Always a Mopar man at heart, John owned so many cars in his lifetime that he himself had lost count. His 1978 Lil Red Express truck was one of his favorite projects, but his shining accomplishment came toward the end, when he won a Grand National in Bern, NC in 2009 with the 1955 Custom Royal Lancer he'd reconstructed from the frame up. The car was a veritable shoo-in to win the Senior Grand National in Shelbyville, TN this year ... the event to which he was traveling at the time of his death.

John is survived by his wife of 44 years, Lynda Guarnieri, of St. Augustine, FL. He also left two sons, Douglas Guarnieri of New Haven, CT, and Daniel Guarnieri of Birmingham, AL., his mother Regina Guarnieri of Sarita, TX, and his brothers Joseph Guarnieri of Willimantic, CT and Rev. Leo Guarnieri of Sarita, TX. He was predeceased by his father Emilio Guarnieri and his infant sister Mary Jo.

At the outset, the planning of a formal Memorial Service wasn't possible given Lynda's hospitalization. However, since her rehabilitation is going so well, a plan will be made in the future to honor John and celebrate his life at a time when Lynda can be present. Details of that event will be forthcoming.

John's family requests that those wishing to commemorate his life with gifts do so with a specific charitable contribution rather than with flowers or the like. Boys Town is a non-profit that was always close to John's heart. The organization is a national leader in the care of children and families through its research-proven treatment of behavioral, emotional, and physical problems. Gifts in honor of the deceased can be made by check, with his name (John Guarnieri) on the memo line, and sent to:

Boys Town

P.O. 145—Memorial

Boys Town, NE 68010

John Guarnieri was a man happy among his family, his friends, and his cars. So remember to think of him with happiness in your heart, and the sound of a rumbling engine in your ears.

## *The Prez Says:*

As you all know, we lost a very valuable club member, John Guarnieri, to a fatal crash when he and Lynda were on the way to the Grand National AACA Meet June 14th. Lynda survived, with multiple injuries, and is expected to return to St. Augustine soon. John was a MOPAR enthusiast and had served our Club in every Board position. He was the founder of the Old Guys Breakfast and in his honor, the morning meeting will now be called John's Breakfast.

John worked many of the committees having to do with the car Show, and I hope that our members will come forward to help Mark fill these jobs for our upcoming show.

We will all miss John, and wish Lynda a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are with her and her family.

Jim Weiss, President, ACAC

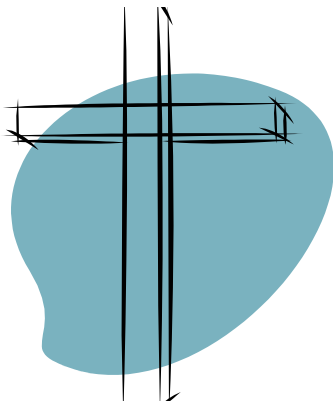
## **"John"**

By Jinny Quackenbush  
Just sixty-five, along the drive up 75,  
He trailered for the prize  
His '55 Dodge, Custom Royal Lancer  
Perfected by his hand.  
And seated by his side,  
His wife of many years, and a loyal dancer.

For Tennessee they aimed  
Where first prize would be claimed  
For this unique '55 Dodge, Custom Royal Lancer  
Carefully stowed in its berth.  
The Rumble Bee, like new,  
It towed them toward Atlanta.  
He trailered for the prize  
His '55 Dodge, Custom Royal Lancer.

The world then stopped.  
We were not there;  
We did not see, but now we know  
This man has gone.  
His caring smile,  
The joy is helping others,  
His plans and hopes for sons, nieces, nephews,  
Brothers, uncles, mother  
Are gone, except for memories.

Which we share in laughter,  
Edged with tears,  
Glad that Lynda will be again a dancer.  
And glad to know the man  
With the '55 Dodge, Custom Royal Lancer,  
Who, to our hearts, holds the keys.  
John Guarnieri. June 11, 1947—June 13, 2012





## July Meeting at Papa Harry's Diner

Robert W. Quackenbush, Secretary

President Jim Weiss called the meeting to order, gave a eulogy for John Guarneri, and announced that John's wife Lynda would be home from rehab on July 13. He also reported on the July 4th Glenmoor celebration. The November cruise still has room for interested people. See Jim for details.

Vice President Cliff Williams encouraged members to attend the monthly Cruise-Ins at Steak & Shake, where appealing new door prizes will appear.

Minutes for the last meeting were approved as printed in *Olde News*.

Show Chairman Mark Young reported mailing flyers to all show attendees from the past 2 years. Six pre-registrations are in. Volunteers are needed to co-ordinate show sponsors and to arrange for Goody Bags. Bill Soman suggested that trophy sponsors be considered for next year's show.

Membership Chairman Bill Soman introduced new members Charlie and Susan Barker and Joe and Pheona Kaiser. Charlie Williams read out coming activities. See the Calendar. Eat-Outs: Ron Leone thanked members for the turnout at Amici's, and announced the CaddyShack as July's Eat-Out venue. In August, the club will Eat Out at La Cocina and then move on to the Quackenbush's for ice cream.

The September regular ACAC meeting will be at the Weiss's and will feature Jim at the hot dog and burger grill.

New member Philip Chenevert won the 50/50

Note: August's regular meeting place will be announced later. Papa Harry's is closed in August.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

## June Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Weiss at 7:07p.m. In attendance were Dewey Porter, Mark Young, Charlie Williams, Dick Sherrod, and Bob Quackenbush.

Discussion focused on honoring ACAC long-time member John Guarneri. As John initiated the Old Guys Breakfast, it was decided to rename the gathering John's Breakfast.

The board voted to pay for the food at the September regular meeting at the home of the Weiss's.

ACAC has joined the First Coast Car Council. Its web site address is: [www.carcouncil.org](http://www.carcouncil.org).

Charlie Williams reminded the board of the upcoming annual Rollin' On the River Car & Truck Show at JAX Landing on August 25th.

Cummer Museum has called with an invitation to participate in an exhibit featuring old cars next year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert W. Quackenbush, Secretary

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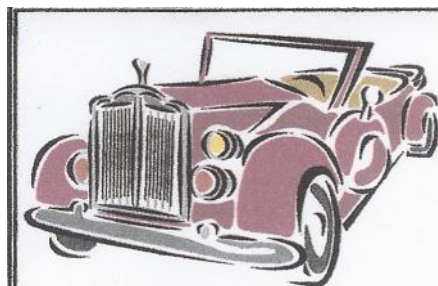
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## ETHANOL FREE GASOLINE

By Mark Young

Old car guys, boat drivers, and those who just want better mpg numbers would all like to be able to use gasoline without ethanol.

Ethanol mandated additions to gasoline were, unfortunately, a bipartisan effort of our ever efficient congress in their continuing efforts to provide legislative trade-offs that would enable them to reap further campaign contributions from as many special interest groups as possible. In this case, a perfect storm of conservative Midwestern agricultural interests and liberal eco-nazis.

Fortunately, a loophole was provided. A gasoline retailer may offer a limited number of pumps (usually one, in my observation) with ethanol free gasoline. I have never seen any on-site advertising of the availability, and you have to ask "which pump?"

According to the website [www.pure-gas.org](http://www.pure-gas.org), there are 340 such stations in Florida. There are five listed for St. Augustine.

GATE	Buddy Boy's Country Store	8430 County Rd. 13N;
GATE	Gate Gas	2350 State Rd. 16
GATE	Gate Food Post	10970 US1.
VALVTECT	Inlet Marine	Vilano Rd., next to Publix
UNBRANDED	St. Augustine Municipal Marina	111 E. Avenida Menendez.

Traveling? Doesn't matter. The website lists the stations by state, then city.

## CALENDAR

- July 26 — Eat-Out at CaddyShack, WGV, 6 p.m. Contact Ron for Reservations. [rjleone111@yahoo.com](mailto:rjleone111@yahoo.com) or 471-0511
- Aug. 2 — 6 p.m. Monthly meeting: TBA
- Aug. 10 — 9 a.m. John's Breakfast at Steak & Shake
- Aug. 11 — 6 p.m. ACAC Cruise-In at Steak & Shake
- Aug. 16 — 7 p.m. Board Meeting TBA
- Aug. 23 — 6 p.m. Eat-Out, at LaCocina, U.S. 1, followed by ice cream Social at the Quackenbush home
- Aug. 25 — Rollin'On the River Car & Truck Show, JAX Landing  
Details at [www.carcouncil.org](http://www.carcouncil.org)

***Our Show is Nov. 3rd. Be There !!***

## *Views of the Steak & Shake Cruise—In June 2012*

Bob Barton has steadfastly encouraged ACAC members to participate in the Cruise-Ins, on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Those who gather there routinely enjoy a relaxing, happy atmosphere stimulated by the mutual enjoyment of special cars and the various personalities of the people who have come for a shake, a hamburger, and cool tunes. Here are photos of people having fun with their cars.







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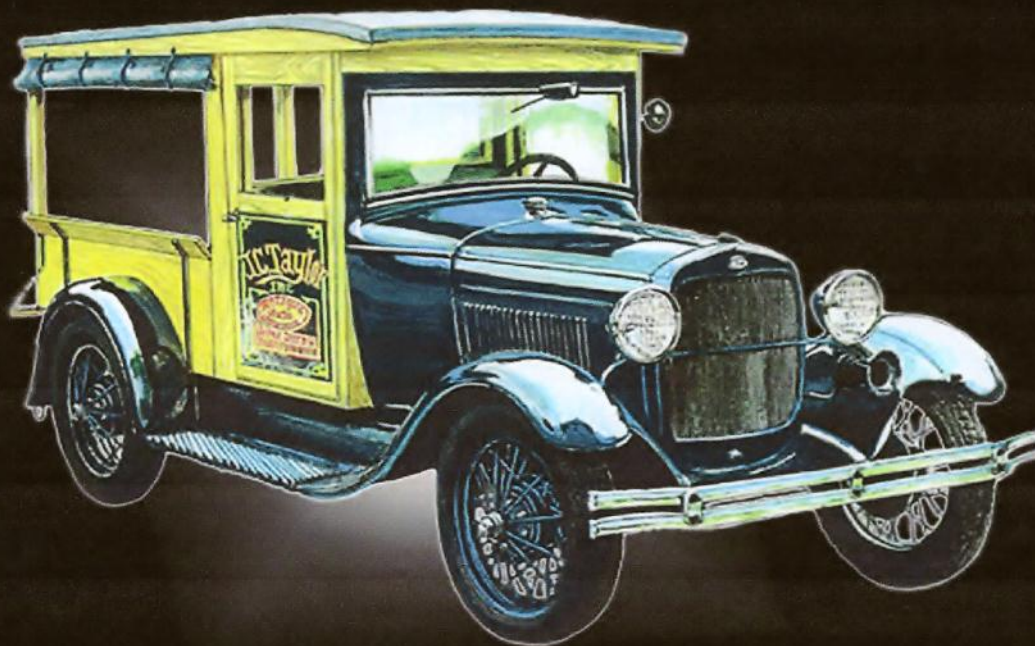


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