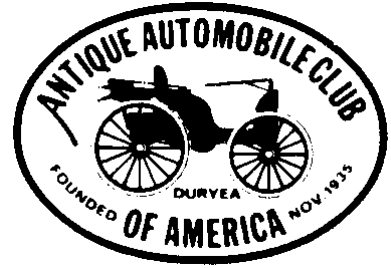




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Ancient City Auto Club

Antique Automobile Club of America

February, 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February 2024

Mid-February saw one of our better attended events with the tour of Justin Felker's Art 'n Motion collection. In addition to the rare cars and Justin's detailed information, we enjoyed meeting several old friends that we hadn't seen in a while. We especially enjoyed meeting our three newest members who filled out applications at the event. Their email addresses have been added to the weekly Activities List and we hope to see more of them at our upcoming functions.

Another highlight of the month was the lunchtime meeting of the board members where we discussed event planning for the next few months. I will be publishing the ones that made the cut as soon as we finalize the details. Remember, the board serves one primary function and that is to provide automotive entertainment to the club members. If you have something you think would be an appropriate addition to the list, please contact me. Our next exciting event is our annual Frostbite Picnic. If you've attended in the past, you know what fun it is, especially with the cool car games and the sumptuous club-sponsored lunch that

our amazing chef, Ron Leone is preparing. It's a guarantee that you won't leave hungry and the price is right (\$0)!

Hope to see you there. Joe

Joe Greeves, President

Calendar Cars

We realize everyone does not have a car calendar and that very few have both calendars. Since there are two car calendars and two cars featured each month, we are highlighting the upcoming cars that you will see as you flip the calendar each month. In this issue we see the Cars for March, beginning with the 1961 Corvette owned by Bill and Deena Soman and the 2016 Corvette owned by Mary and Joe Lando.



BIOGRAPHIES, THE EIGHTH IN A SERIES, Chris and Kathleen Koch

If you are an avid reader of our bimonthly Antique Automobile magazine, you are probably already familiar with our friends, Chris and Kathleen Koch. Best described as the ultimate pair of automotive archaeologists, their passion for research may have begun in earnest many years ago at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, MI. That's where Kathleen found correspondence and interior fabric swatches



that conclusively confirmed that their 1934 Ford Luxus Cabriolet was indeed owned and designed by Edsel Ford. It's one of the stars of their current collection.

Spurred on by this unique accomplishment, their passion for research continued, culminating in the 2021 establishment of the Chris and Kathleen Koch AACA Library and Research Center in Hershey, PA, currently ranked as a world-renowned resource for the collectible vehicle community. Chris and Kathleen have been married for 28 years and Chris notes that while she was not an enthusiast when they met, "She caught the bug from me!" They have been an automotive power couple ever since.



Chris was born and grew up in Floral Park, New York attending Long Island University and majoring in business. He notes however, that gasoline has been in his blood from a very early age. The young fifteen-year-old bought a 1949 Ford, disassembling it in the driveway just to see what made it tick. His prime career move began with a job with the Ford Motor Company as a field manager, supplying automotive inventory to a network of 18 car dealers. It wasn't long before he recognized the benefits of moving from the wholesale end to the retail side, buying a Ford dealership of his own in southern New Jersey in 1976. Over time he added Subaru, Hyundai, and Toyota. Their children are still active in managing the businesses today.

In 1997, Chris and Kathleen sold their dealerships and purchased five acres of land in Palm Coast. Since his eight-car collection needed a home, he began to



create what is now the Museum that the club has visited in the past. Currently, they have 25 unique cars on display.

Two very happy moments occurred recently in the Koch family when they received the Ransom E. Olds Memorial Trophy for their beautiful 1957 Oldsmobile convertible, honoring this year's most outstanding restoration at a Nationals meet. Then, to their surprise, they received a second award, the Charles E. Duryea Cup! It's the highest award presented by AACA and it's given to an AACA member for outstanding efforts on behalf of the Club. It recognizes the value of the member's contribution to the general welfare of the AACA. Chris notes that "We were shocked and almost speechless at receiving the top award from our beloved Club! We are truly honored to have been considered."



Chris and Kathleen enjoy traveling between their homes in Trenton, Maine and here in Palm Coast, Florida. In addition to being active members of the Maine Region of AACA, they are also founding members of the Seal Cove Auto Museum in Seal Cove, ME. It's obvious that this dynamic duo is an automotive force to reckon with! We will schedule a visit to their Florida collection sometime this Fall and we are very happy to say that they are part of our group.

Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Check Presentation

The Ancient City Auto Club's annual car show takes place on the picturesque, tree-lined campus of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind. As a gesture of gratitude, the ACAC Board members recently met with a representative from FSDB to present our donation in support of the school's invaluable work with

students who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, and deafblind. Pictured from left to right are Newsletter Editor John Bagg, Club Secretary Jinny Quackenbush, FSDB Executive Director of Advancement Traci Anderson, Club President Joe Greeves, and Club Vice President Jeff Dougherty. If you wish to make a donation or arrange a tour of FSDB's campus, please contact Traci at 904-827-2235.



Pharaoh's Car Show

Several club members participated in this car show with a strong community benefit. More than 100 vehicles arrived at the Ademec Harley dealership at the St. Augustine Outlet Mall. The Pharaohs were gratified with the turnout since all proceeds go to K9s for Warriors charity, a very worthy cause!



Jim Athas – '30 Model A



Dean Stires – '21 Shelby GT 500



Ron Carmichael – '63 Galaxie



John Kaiser – '67 Ford Ranchero



The field



Joe Greeves - Lexus

Art In Motion Museum Tour

Our longtime friend and member Justin Felker invited us to tour his collection here in St. Augustine. His beautiful building, designed from the ground up to be multipurpose, currently houses the unique cars of Justin's collection, is home to the LaGasse Professional Racing and Motorsports Marketing Team, and functions as a wedding venue for Justin's sister. We enjoyed seeing more than a dozen unique vehicles on both the first and second floor of his building. Club members had lots of questions and were impressed with many of the ultra rare vehicles on hand. Looking through the huge picture windows, we could also see the work underway by the LaGasse crew members on their high-performance, race vehicles. Special thanks to Justin for opening his doors to us and sharing information about his beautiful vehicles. We are also happy to report that three potential members from the Hastings show were invited to join the tour and all three filled out membership applications to the club during the event. We will add them to our roster and introduce them to the group at the next general membership meeting. Welcome aboard to: Bill Thomas, (1937 Pontiac four-door sedan), George MacGown ('56 Chevrolet Corvette), and John Atkinson ('74 Porsche 914 Targa). You will be receiving our activities list, and we hope to see more of you soon.







At the conclusion of the tour, the DOS Coffee and Wine restaurant was within walking distance and two dozen folks enjoyed lunch, adding to the camaraderie of the event.







Bill McCaw - Bugatti replica



Cliff Williams – '67 Camaro convertible



Chris and Kathleen Koch – '57 Chevy



Peter Starr – '61 Pontiac



Bill Thomas, - 1937 Pontiac four-door sedan



Jim Athos – '30 Model A

Ancient City Auto Club Monthly Meeting

Official minutes of the member meeting are distributed separately.

This month's conversation centered around the club's satisfaction with the monthly newsletter as well as a request to the membership for articles and input. Several upcoming car shows were discussed, and a tentative date established for our show in November, Saturday, November 9. We also established a tentative date for our annual Frostbite Picnic, Saturday, March 9.



Our newsletter editor, John Bagg won both the trivia competition and the 50-50 raffle last month so he was handling both. This month, President Joe Greeves took high honors in the trivia contest and Vice President Jeff Dougherty went home with the cash. Both board members will deal with their newly acquired responsibilities in March.

Put March 7 on your calendars for the General Membership Meeting, March 8 for the Old Guys Breakfast and March 9 for the Frostbite Picnic.





Old Guy's Breakfast

February



About a dozen of the OGB regulars showed up for the February breakfast get-together. Even with our prime parking coordinator out of town, (We miss you Paul!) we were still successful in taking over the front parking lot of the Beachside Diner, even though it took a few tries. The collection of classic rides attracted lots of attention, especially from the diners on Beachside's front porch.

Once everyone was inside, club members enjoyed conversations over breakfast, followed by a round where everyone was asked to discuss his favorite car. We learned that several members had seller's remorse and that more than one decided that his next car would be the favorite!

Following our time-honored tradition, tickets were passed out for the free breakfast drawing. For the third time, your President was the free breakfast winner. There was some talk of collusion but I didn't listen. The event ended with several of the cars heading home topless thanks to the warm Florida sunshine.

Put March 8 on your calendar and join the usual suspects for the most important meal of the day. It's always a fun get-together.



Skip Ferguson – '55 Nomad



John Batastini – '24 Corvette



John Kaiser – '32 Ford Hot Rod



Joe Greeves - Lexus



Chet Sveistrup – '32 Ford Hot Rod



Ken Bryan – '65 Buick Wildcat



Peter Star – '61 Pontiac

Monthly Dine Out

February Dine Out. Our monthly get together is always fun with an opportunity to enjoy each other's company along with fine food. You learn so much more about the people you have known for years when you are sitting across the table and chatting during dinner. (Ask Skip Ferguson to tell you about his snake farm!) This month, the group met at Piesanos Stone Fired Pizza in the Cobblestone Mall, one of the town's best restaurants and a favorite



of the club. Almost two dozen members arrived, with several members unfortunately having to decline at the last minute due to coughs and colds.

We had an opportunity to welcome our newest members, George and Nancy MacGown. The MacGowns winter here in Florida and return to their home in New Hampshire where George gets an opportunity to reconnect with his '56 Corvette and Nancy gets to pilot her vintage VW. We hope to see more of them soon. Put the next club Dine Out on your schedule, (28 March) when we plan to enjoy the brand-new facilities of the Black Molly, just over the 312 bridge.





Skip Ferguson – '55 Nomad



John Bagg – '68 Mustang



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus

Cars and Coffee at the Car Museum

February

The fourth Saturday of the month is always a special time for the automotive community in St. Augustine and surrounding areas. That's when our friend Sidney Hobbs invites us to Cars and Coffee at his museum. Not only will you find everything from Model A's to McClarens, but you will also be treated to hot coffee and the now famous Parlor doughnuts. In just two hours, you can see a huge collection of cars, chat with friends, get free snacks, and by 10 AM, head out to enjoy the rest of your Saturday. It's a combination that's tough to beat.

This month's winner of the Dewey Porter Memorial award went to Jerry Campbell for his beautiful 1969 Dodge GT Sport, a documented one-of-one car. Put March 23 on your calendar and join your friends for this marvelous automotive get-together.



Jerry Campbell in front of his 1969 Dodge GT Sport



The selection committee for the award is Ron Leone along with Brenda and Sidney Hobbs.



Sidney Hobbs presenting the Dewey Porter Memorial trophy to Jerry Campbell



Jim Athas and the February calendar car, his 1930 Model A Tudor.



Our old friend Bob Kessler recently filled his trunk with matching Allante golf clubs!



The latest addition to Peter Starr's collection is this Lexus SC 400



This classic Ford Galaxie is owned by Ron Carmichael



John Battistini drove his new Corvette to the show.



The 2004 Lexus of Joe Greeves



Tony Evangelista brought his silver '92 Corvette



Project car anyone? Needs a little work.



Bill Soman's classic Corvette.



Bill McCaw was enjoying the day with his Ford Model A Tudor.



Cliff Williams taking a kid to a car show!



Paul McCarthy cruising the grounds in his four-wheel-drive Wrangler.

The list of Up Coming Events is distributed separately every Monday.

Ancient City Auto Club Officers

President: Joe Greeves
jgreeves@comcast.net
904-347-4602

Editor: John Bagg
jcmabagg@yahoo.com
727-415-0904

Vice-president: Jeff Dougherty
jeffd2015@aol.com
631-484-3061

Web Master: Robert Daly
robontheweb@bellsouth.net
904-446-7389

Secretary: Virginia Quackenbush
magaquack@aol.com
904-377-9000

Membership: Joe Greeves
jgreeves@comcast.net
904-347-4602

Treasurer: Fred Cooper
fredbcooper@outlook.com
912-318-8999

Note from the editor:

Member articles are welcome. Tell us the story of your car or an outing. Just send the story and pictures to John Bagg, jcmabagg@yahoo.com