



Olde News



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St. Augustine Since 1565

Ancient City Auto Club

Antique Automobile Club of America

May, 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2023

May was an interesting month with some unique events like new cruise in locations at the Hyundai dealership and the Kings Head pub, followed by the colorful gathering of PT Cruisers at the Museum, and finally, our Dine Out luncheon at the wonderful Brazilian Asado Life restaurant. Each was a way for us to enjoy each other's company and experience the subtle connections that our specialty vehicles provide. Under discussion for the month of June is a modified poker run through the town, ending up with lunch at a local restaurant. Details to follow.

Since variety and exploring new options are always a big portion of our automotive agenda, the additional news this month is a change in venue for our November car show. While we love everything about the Classic Car Museum, changing perspectives gives both members and car show participants something new to experience. Our current plan is to return to the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind campus for our November car show. Our last event there was in 2019 with the 2020 show canceled over COVID concerns. The school has approved our request and the initial discussions of the event requirements will begin at our June general membership meeting. There will be opportunities for everyone to participate.

The sad news this month was the loss of our treasured friend, Pat Meyer to cancer. Pat and her late husband Bill were avid automotive enthusiasts, active participants in our club for decades, and an absolute joy to be with. Living genuinely full lives, not only was Bill a decorated World War II veteran but Bill and Pat also enjoyed times as a NASCAR pit crew! We are devastated by their loss. Our heartfelt condolences go to the family. In accordance with Pat's wishes, there will be a private family memorial held back in Ohio. Family members will be at the residence in St. Augustine for some time however, if anyone wishes to send a sympathy card. The address is the Meyer Family, 3580 Lone Wolf Trail, St. Augustine, FL 32086. A card on behalf of the club has already been sent.



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 the June issue we see the 1960 Chevrolet Impala hardtop, owned by Barbara and Bob Hubbard, and the 1960 Corvette Fuelie, owned by Helen and Jim Salanitri



BIOGRAPHIES, THE SECOND IN A SERIES, Fred Cooper

As part of a continuing series where we get to know a little bit more about our membership, this month is all about our club treasurer, Fred Cooper. Fred took over the job of treasurer with the departure of Donna Sherrod when the health issues of her husband (former ACAC President Dick Sherrod) required that she prioritize her efforts. Fred became available to us at just the right time, thanks to an unusual connection. As it turns out, our founding member Jinny Quackenbush and Fred's wife Vicki were in the same dance class together. When Jinny mentioned the club needed a treasurer, Vicki told Fred and thanks to line dancing, we got a much-needed treasurer! While Donna's excellent work was primarily paper and pencil, Fred's accounting background came into play and using a program that he already had, everything was quickly computerized, allowing board members to benefit from his projections as well as to make accurate decisions when it comes to future expenses.



Fred was born in Phenix City, Alabama, in 1942. He graduated from Auburn University with a major in aeronautical administration and worked at Lockheed as a manufacturing engineer. At the same time, he was also pursuing a Masters degree in accounting. From there he moved to Macon, Georgia to take over as a comptroller at a medium-size junior-college. It was there he designed a computerized fund accounting system that was so well received that it was adopted by 29 other schools in Georgia. He recalls with a smile that in those days, there was no system inter connectivity. When there was a problem, it was not unusual for him to drive four hours, correct the error in ten minutes, and then drive home. As you can imagine, he loved it the first time he got a modem! He announced his retirement from the school system in 1999 and was immediately hired back as a consultant. The new arrangement gave him the flexibility to earn a living while enjoying travel with Vicki.

Fred is an Air Force veteran, achieving the rank of Captain and although he was not a military pilot, he always enjoyed flying. After earning his private pilot's license in a Cessna 150, he bought a Cessna 172 and later a Comanche 180 with retractable landing gear. He's also owned a houseboat and later a motor home, using it to travel out West while writing technical manuals in his spare time.

Fred's automotive interests included a vintage Crosley station wagon that was a daily driver for a while with Fred noting that the primitive solid front axle would do sharp right and left turns whenever he hit a bump. He also had a 1948 De Soto complete with suicide doors that he repainted himself. The biggest surprise on the De Soto was removing the plastic seat covers that the previous owner installed, only to find pristine factory velour underneath.

Will there be a specialty vehicle in his future? Currently he and Vicki enjoy their Honda Odyssey van, Hyundai Sante Fe SUV, and his 19-foot Polar fishing boat. For now, all the toys fill the bill perfectly.

Thanks Fred for your amazing expertise. We appreciate your talents, and you are a vital addition to the car club.

Minutes of the Ancient City Auto Club Monthly Meeting

Official minutes of the member meeting are distributed separately.

Seventeen members enjoyed each other's company at the May Membership Meeting, discussing multiple topics to include upcoming automotive events, club scholarship details, new club business cards, our latest Dine Out, and a discussion on a possible change in venue for our November car show. John and Jinny's trivia contest is always a test of your automotive knowledge as well as a fun way to wrap up the meeting. This month's trivia winner was our resident automotive expert, David Cameron. Although he received an extra \$10 worth of 50-50 tickets it didn't help since Pat Norbert went



home with the loot. Check out the weekly activities list for all the latest happenings.



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus



John Bagg – '68 Mustang



Paul McCarthy – Jeep Wrangler

ACAC Scholarship Awards

Every year, the club selects two deserving students in order to assist them in their educational goals. Bill Soman is our Scholarship Chairman and works with the First Coast Technical College. This year, he chose Jake Stanborough of the Auto Shop Program and Brayan Zunigar of the Diesel Shop Program. Bill said both students were highly motivated, had high grades, and made the decision process easy. The College will receive \$750 for each man to assist in their educational expenses.



Terry Smith (instructor), Brayan Zunigar of the diesel shop program and Bill Soman



Blake Ingram (instructor), Jake Stanborough of the auto shop program and Bill Soman

Old Guy's Breakfast



Chamber of commerce weather brought out 14 drivers to our monthly Old Guys Breakfast gathering at the Oasis, telling stories, enjoying good food, and checking out the classic rides in the parking lot.

We were happy to meet our newest member, Chet Sveistrup and admire his shiny black, 1932 Ford Hot Rod. Chet is an automotive tour guide, organizing scenic US tours primarily for drivers in Europe. He signed up at the breakfast, and we look forward to seeing more of him soon.



Always a fun way to end the event, our breakfast raffle was won by Jeff Dougherty.

Put June 9 on your calendar for next month's Old Guys get together. NOTE: A couple at the restaurant, admiring our cars, had a suggestion about a name change for our event. She suggested ROMEO! It stands for Retired Old Men Eating Out. Hmmm. We will take it under advisement.





Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus SC430



Dan Norbert – '70 GTO



Peter Starr – '61 Pontiac Catalina



John Bagg – '68 Mustang



John Kaiser – '32 Ford Hot Rod



Dick Hewitt – '07 Mustang GT



John Bacon – '51 MG TD



Paul McCarthy – Jeep Wrangler



Chris Zima – '69 Mustang

Monthly Dine Out

The Dine Out this month was a great success with 20 club members enjoying both the great food and service at Asado Life Brazilian restaurant. It's located on the river so boats passing by just 100 or so feet away from our outdoor tables added to the experience. (In fact, two of our guests actually arrived by boat!) We chose a luncheon this month instead of dinner and although the restaurant was the first time for several, many of us will be returning. During the meal, we were happy to chat with Kelly Fitzsimmons, the man taking our orders. As it turns out, he is a fan of specialty vehicles and was interested in joining our club. We provided him with the last of the free AACA memberships and hope to see more of him soon. There was a comparatively light turnout of only five specialty vehicles even though the weather was beautiful. It's more fun when you show up in your unique ride and of course, there is the Blue Ticket benefit as well.





Bob Hubbard - Corvette



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus



Rich Boyle – Alfa Romeo GTE 2000



Ron Leone – '04 BMW



Bill Soman - Corvette

Cars and Coffee at the Car Museum

Cars and Coffee, May. This regular monthly C&C get-together is always the perfect start to the last Saturday of the month. Arrive early, get a spot, enjoy some coffee and donuts, then chat with the hundred or so enthusiasts at the event about the latest happenings in the automotive world. It's a great way to meet old friends and make new ones.

Besides free food and drink, Museum owner Sidney Hobbs adds to the fun with his monthly Dewey Porter Memorial award. This month, the trophy went to Mike Archer with his beautiful '61 Austin-Healy 3000.



Big News! THE GREAT RACE PRACTICE RALLY kicks off at the Classic Car Museum, from noon to 3 PM on June 23. The cars will participate in a practice rally, with the first car slated to arrive at the Classic Car Museum at 11:55 AM with 119 more to follow in one-minute intervals ending at 3PM. The cars will park at the Museum and visitors are invited to walk around and view them. Food trucks will be on hand so you can make a day of it! Sponsored by Classic Eventage.



Check out the weekly Activities List for more details



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus



Tony Evangelista – '92 Corvette



Ron Carmichael – '63 Ford Galaxie



Reggie Wakefield – '82 Corvette



Ron Leone – '04 BMW



Paul McCarthy – '57 Chevrolet
Stationwagon



John Kaiser – '67 Ranchero



David Cameron – '64 Corvette



John Bacon – '51 MG TD



Dean Stires – '21 Shelby Mustang



We all like to show what's under the hood!

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

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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