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Ancient City Auto Club

Antique Automobile Club of America

June, 2023

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

June 2023

June was a quiet month for the most part with the action picking up mid month with the summer Volks-Fest at the Museum. We saw some beautiful German-made cars, Volkswagens, Audis, Porsches, and even a few dune buggies added to the mix. We used the opportunity to distribute our new car show flyers in the hopes that this large, well-organized group would join us in November. Hopefully, our new location will provide an incentive.

Those of you who attended the dine out at Brisky's commented on the good food and fun atmosphere. Thanks again to our master organizer, Ron Leone for his untiring efforts.

The big news at the end of June was all the activities associated with the Great Race. The threat of wet weather did not dampen the enthusiasm of the hundreds of spectators arriving at the museum, eager to see the moment when the racers arrived. Cars in all shapes and sizes pulled in. All were greeted with enthusiasm by the appreciative crowd of spectators. Being on hand to see the cars depart the following day from Francis Field was equally exciting.

This issue of our newsletter contains the third in my series of member profiles; this time Club Secretary, Jinny Quackenbush. From a personal standpoint, it's wonderful to learn so much more about the people we have known for so long. Like me, I'm sure you will appreciate seeing the background and amazing accomplishments of the people in our club.

Finally, put July 6 on your calendar and join the club for the general membership meeting at our traditional location, the Village Inn.

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 July cars, the 1948 Buick owned by Bob and Jinny Quackenbush, and the '68 Mustang owned by John Bagg.



## BIOGRAPHIES, THE THIRD IN A SERIES, Jinny Quackenbush

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 Secretary, Jinny Quackenbush.

Jinny grew up in Bergen County, New Jersey, attending George G. White grammar school in Hillsdale, NJ, and Pascack Valley Regional High School, but graduating from Ridgewood High School, having moved there for her senior year. In her sophomore year of high school she started dating Bob Quackenbush, and that would change the course of her life. He was the only man she ever dated. To say that the connection was immediate is an understatement. Early on, at the tender age of 13 while attending a church youth group activity, she thought, "He's going to ask me to marry him!" After high school and graduating from Katharine Gibbs Secretarial School, in July of 1961, Bob and Jinny got married. Bob was teaching industrial arts and Jinny worked for Kearfott Division of General Precision, Inc., in the aerospace industry, specifically manufacturing guidance systems for ballistic missiles. She had a secret clearance and managed classified documents.



Bob spent most weekends working on his 1926 Chrysler, finishing the restoration with his father's help. Jeff, the couple's first son, still has this car on his farm in Montana.

The children started to come along; eventually there were five; but with two boys and a daughter on the way, Bob and Jinny moved from the NYC area to the rural

area of upper New York State and bought a farm with 120 acres, and, most importantly, a three-story barn that Bob figured would hold 50 cars.

During the day, Bob was a teacher at Cocksackie Athens high school, specializing in industrial art and auto mechanics. When the students needed a project car, Bob was happy to provide one of his own. After hours, Bob's Special Interest Autos business took shape with his buying and selling multiple cars over the years,

earning a profit while building his own collection. Jinny recalls that life on the farm was beautiful, growing just enough hay in the meadow to pay the property tax, selling Christmas trees around the holidays, ice-skating on the pond in winter, and watching the boys attempting to master the farm's steep 'Challenge Hill' where every car in the collection had its metal tested. They also started a print shop with friends, and Jinny did layout and composition for several years. After 13 years on the farm, Bob was tired of shoveling snow. Jinny's parents had bought a home in St. Augustine, and after one visit, Bob fell in love with the place and the family (now 7) moved south. Of course, being avid auto enthusiasts, the relocation meant a caravan of multiple collector cars traveling to the new location. Their home needed work since it did not have heat or air-conditioning but they made the upgrades. Finding a place for the cars was also a challenge and many of you have visited 'The Cave', the storage facility that Bob built to house his 30-plus car collection.

Amazingly, one of their early acquaintances in town was Dewey Porter, who had lived just around the block from Jinny's family in Ridgewood, NJ. Jinny met Dewey first, when he came to see a Buick that Bob had advertised. Naturally, the shared love of cool classic automobiles soon led to the establishment of the car club that we all know and love. The three primary couples, Bob and Jinny, Dewey and Annette, and Frank and Jackie Phillips came together for their first car show. Shortly after that, they applied for recognition with the Antique Automobile Club of America in 1982. Hundreds of members have joined the group over the years, enjoying the automotive lifestyle as well as each other's company.

Sadly, after 60 years of marriage, Jinny lost Bob in 2022 after a long, protracted illness. Many of the cars that Bob had collected ended up at The Classic Car Museum of St. Augustine; some have found other car lovers as owners, and eight of the collection are in Montana, still in the family. After a short hiatus she continues her involvement with the group now as Club Secretary.

Then there's the rest of the story, occurring at last year's Frostbite Picnic. Jinny was still active in the club after Bob's passing, and our Newsletter Editor, John Bagg, was in a similar situation, having lost his wife Margie the year before. At the picnic, the connection began with John driving his Mustang and Jinny stabbing potatoes. One thing led to another, and they have since become the closest of friends. The car community clearly has a never ending list of benefits!

## Great Race Practice Rally

Thanks to the Classic Car Museum, there is always something fascinating for enthusiasts in St. Augustine. Our good friend Sidney Hobbs hosted the Great Race racers at the Museum on Friday, giving the whole town an opportunity to see a huge collection of amazing vehicles. Although all were pre-1975, there were a few approaching the century mark. There was everything from a '60's Cadillac to Brass-era racers to a Nash Metropolitan to something that looked ready for the "24 hours of Lemons". All were actively driven however, and judging by the smiles, everyone was having a ball behind the wheel.



On Saturday, the group headed out on their nine day, nine-state adventure, ending up in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Is this something on your bucket list?







## Minutes of the Ancient City Auto Club Monthly Meeting

Official minutes of the member meeting are distributed separately.

Eighteen club members gathered for the monthly meeting. Board members on hand were President Joe Greeves and Newsletter Editor John Bagg. Treasurer Fred Cooper had a prior commitment but provided a detailed treasurers report. The club has a healthy balance. The Club Secretary Jinny Quackenbush was traveling, and the President took the minutes. Vice President Laura Hunsworth was not in attendance.



Joe's Trivia Contests are always a challenge, but Bill Scott not only had the most correct answers, the extra 50-50 tickets he received for winning must have helped as he pocketed half the \$71 pot. That means next month, he's in charge of the 50-50 as well as the trivia competition. Good luck Bill. Your work starts now.



**Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus**



**Paul McCarthy – Jeep Wrangler**

### **Old Guy's Breakfast**



Most club members must've had previous commitments because there were only eight of us at this monthly get-together.

We were happy to see our newest member, Chet Sveistrup in attendance and also were happy to learn the details of Dick Hewitt's 1949 Oldsmobile convertible. It's been in the family since the late 90s, thanks to

Carol saying that they really needed that car! The restoration was a detailed process, but the finished car is a jewel.

In addition to car talk, one of the traditions of the event is the drawing for a free breakfast. Your president drew the winning ticket for the third time in four months! (Fix?) The first two we drew a second ticket, but the group said that I should benefit from the free breakfast this time myself. Somehow, the eggs tasted even better knowing that they were free! Come hang out with the group, learn more about the details of the cool collector cars in the club, and hope for a shot at a free breakfast. Next month's date is July 14, once again at the World Famous Oasis.



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus



Chris Zima – '69 Mustang



John Bagg – '68 Mustang



As usual, a bunch of guys with their heads under the hood

## Monthly Dine Out

Once again, our traveling gourmet Ron Leone outdid himself with this month's Dine Out selection. Brisky's Bar BQ is on route 1, just north of State Road 16. When we arrived, the staff was expecting us and had tables reserved. Eighteen club members were present, and most were there for the first time.



As a result of the delightful waitresses and fabulous food, we will be going back again soon. If you haven't been, try the brisket. Everyone who had it raved about it.

Brisky's food truck will be high on the list for our car show in November. We can't wait to find out where Ron is taking us next month!



Because of weather concerns, only one collector car was on hand.



Ron Leone - BMW



## Cars and Coffee at the Car Museum

If you have been to the monthly Cars and Coffee event at the museum, you already know that it is a wonderful Saturday morning car gathering. Drivers come from miles around to enjoy this monthly event. Somehow, however, our good friend Sidney Hobbs makes it better every time.



In addition to a great collection of cars, all your old friends, and free coffee, now there are “Parlor” doughnuts! Although each was a meal in itself, the last we heard, the record was one daring individual who had consumed five! Clearly, he would not need lunch or dinner afterwards. We don’t know if “Parlors” are going to be a regular addition but put the fourth Saturday morning on your calendar and come for the fun.

Nancy Porter was on hand this month to present the Dewey Porter Memorial Award to Jack Berg for his stunning metallic bronze '57 Corvette, just recently restored. Jack is a former member of the club in years past and we hope to see more of him in the future.





Ron Carmichael – '63 Galaxie



Jim Athas – '30 Model A



Ron Leone - BMW



Paul McCarthy – Jeep Wrangler



Bill Soman - Corvette



Dean Stires – '21 Shelby Mustang



Joe Greeves – '04 Lexus



Bob Kessler – Cadillac Allante



John Bagg – '68 Mustang



Cliff Williams – '67 Camero



Reggie Wakefield – '82 Corvette



Tony Evangelista – '92 Corvette

Not pictured but present,  
John Bacon – '51 MG TD

**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](mailto:jcmabagg@yahoo.com)