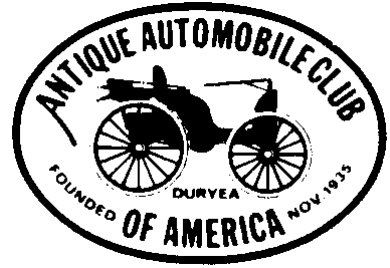




Since 1983

Old News



Since 1935

St. Augustine Since 1565

Ancient City Auto Club

Antique Automobile Club of America

May, 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May

When I sit down to write this column every month, my plan is to blend timely information with some type of automotive connection. With that in mind, I wanted to share a study I read from the American Psychiatric Association. They found that nearly half of people in this country feel isolated from others, have experienced profound loneliness, and generally suffer from a lack of companionship. Those are startling numbers but stay with me. The underlying causes are simple beginning with the opportunity to work from home, the ease of online shopping, and the many other conveniences that limit face-to-face interaction and community connection. Although these modern changes can be amazing improvements over the old ways, the study concluded that we have to replace some of that isolation with activities that reconnect us with friends and family.



Here's my point. Fortunately, our wonderful 40-plus years old club is the perfect solution. If you've been a member for a while but haven't attended an event in a

while, take advantage of the concentrated camaraderie that is the hallmark of this group. Even our bylaws encourage this connection since you don't even have to own a car to be part of the club. You just have to love automobiles and enjoy the people who drive them. If we haven't seen you in a while, come hang out. Isolation isn't nearly the fun it's cracked up to be.

Thanks, Joe

Culver's Cruise In

The weather and the turnout was good for the first cruise in of the month at Culver's restaurant. There's always a good selection of cars at the event and many folks enjoy not only the cars, but also renewing old acquaintances with friends and the good food inside.



If you're smart and get the trivia answers correct, Culver tokens mean that you can enjoy free ice cream for dessert.

This event is always the first Tuesday of the month, so meet your buddies next month on June 2.



Bill McCaw and his Bugatti replica



Dueling Corvettes?



Paul McCarthy and his 61 Corvette.



Ed Downing's 72 Duster



Bill and Deenya arriving in their 61 Corvette



Joe Greeves Lexus SC 430



The lineup



Registration

Ancient City Auto Club Monthly Meeting

Attendance was light for the May meeting with all our snowbirds heading north and many of our local members traveling.

The biggest topic under discussion was the future of our car show, typically held in November. As most of you know, the Florida School For The Deaf And The Blind is undergoing renovation, an ongoing process scheduled for the next two years. Their campus is the perfect car show venue and the one that our members and our car show participants are most familiar with. After much discussion about possible alternatives, none quite measured up.



The consensus of opinion was that maybe we should step away this year and hope for an early completion of the school's renovation in 2027. We'll discuss this further throughout the year.

Special thanks to our guest speaker Ed Downing who not only told us about his 147 mile an hour speeding ticket but also became the winner of our trivia

competition. VP Jeff Dougherty went home with the 50-50 cash and, keeping it in the family, his father-in-law, Jim Ragone won the free dinner.

This month's dine out on May 25 is scheduled for an old favorite location, Schooner's Restaurant at the north end of town. June 4 is the next General Membership Meeting at the Village Inn. Hope to see you there.



John Bagg 68 Mustang convertible



Guest speaker, Ed Downing



Joe Greeves 04 Lexus SC 430



Ron handling the 50-50

Old Guy's Breakfast

No doubt the threat of rain kept many of our regulars at home, but it looked good that morning. When John Bagg showed up with the top down on his white Mustang and Chris Zima showed up, putting the top down on his red Mustang,

your president was shamed into hitting the button on his retractable hardtop. With three cool convertibles in a row, we went in to breakfast, only to find the rain coming down 10 minutes later. All three convertible drivers enjoyed breakfast wearing soaked shorts! Never try to outwit Mother Nature. She always wins.



Various topics were discussed ranging from late deliveries of sod, probably due to the drought, to discussions on the future of the club's car show. Our favorite long-distance traveler, Rob Daly drives from Jacksonville to St. Augustine every month like clockwork. Happily, he was the winner of this month's free breakfast.

Put the OGB on your calendar, June 12 at 9 AM. Hope to see you there.



It was a rainy day in St. Augustine!



The Crew

St. Augustine Cruisers monthly cruise in

This third Saturday of the month get together is always well attended and the variety of cars ensures there is always something new. Where else would you find a hearse rocking a high-performance hood scoop or a 1934 Cadillac with modern alligator upholstery?

Along with the dozens of cars on display, there are prize giveaways if you answered trivia questions correctly and of course free hot dogs for dinner (but don't forget the tip!) The combination makes for a wonderful two hour adventure on a Saturday afternoon. It's also a wonderful opportunity to say hi to old friends.

Put June 20 on your schedule and join next month's fun.



Joe Greeves Lexus SC 430



The Jaguar of Greg and Kara Welby



Bill McCaw, Bugatti replica



High-performance hearse with a hood scoop



1934 Cadillac



The Cadillac upholstery



Brett with his Dogtown skateboard in front of the Dogtown hot dog vendor.



Brett Sutton's Pirate Van



Paul McCarthy's beautiful 1961 Corvette



John Kaiser's high-performance '67 Falcon 427 V-8.



The 427 engine

Cars and Coffee at the Car Museum

This Saturday morning event always turns out to be special on so many levels. It's a two-hour get together that starts at eight and ends at ten, although some drivers apparently arrive at 6:30 to get their favorite spot! Folks from around the area uncover their special rides and inevitably, there are a dozen or so that you've never seen before. There are dozens more that are familiar, giving you a chance to re-acquaint with their owners.



Everybody loves doughnuts



and coffee!



Besides cool cars and cool people, there is also free coffee, free donuts, good music, and even a trophy presentation. Our host, Sidney Hobbs squeezes a lot into a short, two-hour get together!

Memorial Day Weekend dawned perfect for convertibles to parade over to Cars and Coffee at the Museum. Happy drivers convened to celebrate our country, the men and women who have made our country the best in the world and to hear again the sound of engines roaring their salute. Nancy Porter and I scoured the

assembled iron seeking the perfect representative car for Dewey and Quackenbush; Nancy pointed out the 1968 GTO owned by Lloyd and Sharol Hoffman. After that there was no contest. Fitting for Memorial Day, Lloyd was 20 years in the Navy and aboard the USS Forrestal CV59. Lloyd had originally purchased his first GTO new in December 1967. He sold it when he shipped overseas in the US Navy in 1970. He purchased this one on eBay in 2010 near Denver, CO, with 53,799 miles; it now has 117,000 miles. He updated the car to match his original car, plus front disc brakes, tilt steering wheel and 15" wheels and tires. The paint job took 7 weeks and the rebuild was a labor of love that lasted 10 years. He says, "It was built to be driven and we drive it!" Bob "DRIVE-YOUR-OLD-CAR", and Dewey would certainly heartily approve.



God Bless America and Everyone! Jinny Quackenbush



The DQ winner, Lloyd Hoffman's 1968 Pontiac GTO complete with Tiger on top



Sidney, Lloyd, Jinny, and Nancy



Lloyd, telling his car's story

The next opportunity for Saturday morning fun is June 27. Add it to your calendar and experience this concentrated dose of automotive excitement.



Joe Greeves's '04 Lexus



Ron Leone's BMW convertible



Bill Soman's '61 Corvette convertible



Russell Pucci's 2022 Mustang Mach 1



John Bagg's '68 Mustang convertible



Chris Zima's '69 Mustang convertible



Jimmy Pucci's 2018 Corvette Stingray



Ed Downing's 2023 Dodge Challenger



Bill McCaw's Bugatti replica



A rare, polished aluminum Kirkham
Cobra replica



Former DQ winner, Mike House's
Nova X



A stylish Cadillac two-door hardtop

Monthly Dine Out

Unlike pasta and fine wine, specialty vehicles and thunderstorms do not pair well. Mother Nature temporarily changed the name of Sunny St. Augustine, dropping several inches of much-needed rain around town and convincing all but one driver to choose the family sedan.



Schooners is celebrating more than 30 years in the Nation's Oldest City.

Although the cool classics and customs remained protected in their hermetically sealed garages, a stalwart group of umbrella-equipped enthusiasts did brave the

weather and enjoyed great food at St. Augustine's famous Schooners restaurant. Filling one of the restaurant's long family tables, the group talked about weather first, and then virtually everything else. Seated across from one another is a great way to get to know more about folks you already know. Dinner was great and as far as we can tell, no one had a bad meal.

When it was time to leave, the late evening sunshine meant no one got wet on the way to their cars. Sign up for club events like this when your schedule permits, even if there is a Mother Nature soft water car wash predicted. After all, it's just a little rain.



Everyone enjoyed the restaurant's



famously good food.



And one brave driver!

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

Our regular monthly events:

First Thursday; ACAC General Membership Meeting, Village Inn, 6:30 PM dinner, 7 PM meeting.

Second Friday; The Old Guys Breakfast at the Beachside Diner on A1A. It starts at 9 AM and goes until the stories run out. The cars always draw an admiring crowd.

Third Thursday; Monthly dineout. Check the weekly activities list for more information.

Fourth Saturday; Cars and Coffee at the museum. You know the drill! Cool cars, free food, great people!

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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