

RUSTY NUTS

October 2019 Issue No. 63 Ellen Zacko - Editor

Eva Jean and Bob Pratt Share their collectibles with ARC by Ellen Zacko



Dean Lewellen and I spent one delightful afternoon with Sun City West residents and ARC members Eva Jean and Bob Pratt. The couple, who want to donate their model-car collection to ARC, shared with us their adventure of collecting model cars for the past twenty-five years. In their beautiful home they have more than 1000 small cars on display as well as trains, trucks and airplanes. The collection represents a car history beginning in 1892 and continuing to 2014. It includes several complete editions of specialty designs like Mustangs and Corvettes. Bob first purchased a copy of his own car, a 1950 yellow Olds 98 with red leather seats which remains his favorite. He purchased this car the same year he married Eva Jean. He claims his collection was influenced by Eva Jean's perfume bottle collection. They have shared a wonderful life together.

Minnesota resident Eva Jean came from a family of artists. An accomplished vocalist and pianist she raised two talented children and has several of her brother's paintings in her lovely home on the Echo Mesa Golf course. Bob is also from Minnesota, he served in the Marines and later received a business degree. He had a thriving career in sales which he passed to his son. This couple focuses on hobbies and fun having dinner parties with music for as many as 29 people in their comfortable home.

Rusty Nuts is the Monthly Newsletter of the Automotive/Restoration Club of Sun City West, AZ

There are so many collections in the Pratt home, far too many to include them all in this edition. As Bob related to Herb Clark several years ago, he would like his collection to be housed in cabinets provided in his will which will be placed in the new showroom scheduled to be built by ARC very soon.

A history of model cars from 1892 to 2014



As we walked through the Pratt home it was like being in the land of little cars, trucks, airplanes, motorcycles and trains. Wherever you looked there was something to see. The photos don't really do the collection justice. It is impossible to capture everything contained in the display. It will be a pleasure to house this special collection in the soon to be built showroom, the much needed final addition to ARC.



A history of cars told through models. Cars dating from 1892 until 2014. Bob says he has completed his collection but you never know.



Santa's Car designated for his grandchildren - sorry!

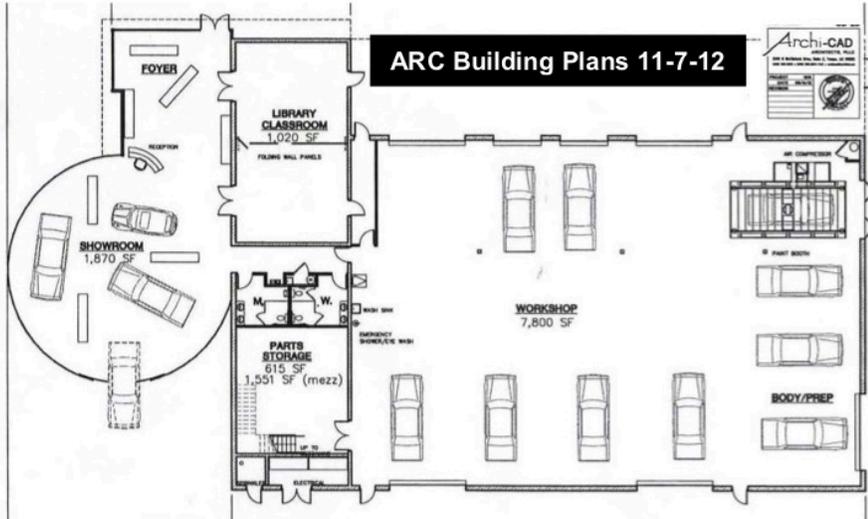


Bob's favorite Buick



Deuce Coupe Corner

by Tom Jones, President



Seven years ago, the picture on the left shows the original ARC building plans the building committee along with the architect created.

Unfortunately, this dream building was going to cost \$1.4 million. With this number being larger than expected, the building committee and the ARC Board decided to scale back the dream and build what we could afford. Therefore, in October 2014 ARC members

voted to move ahead with construction, but it was to be based on a building that would fit ARC's current funds of \$458K. We had 141 members who had pledged and donated that amount to the project. It was felt that the entire building could be built in the future in Phases.

Phase I was to build the shop (Note: this included a paint booth and prep station). Phase II would be the show room and classrooms. Phase III would be Anna's Courtyard. Then, some of the original features of the building, including the paint booth, prep station and parts storage were eliminated in order to be within budget. The current shop was to cost no more than \$500K. However, it ended up costing over \$900K. Monies had already been donated/pledged for the paint booth and classrooms were redirected to the shop building with the donors' permissions. Phase II then became constructing a Paint and Body Shop for \$400K. All of the construction loans from the Rec Center are interest free and we have been given from five to 10 years to pay them back.

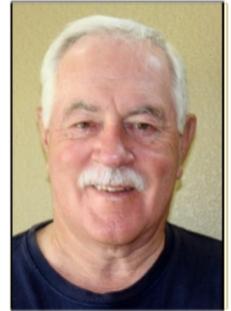
Since we have not had any sizable pledges or donations to the building fund since 2015, the profits from the Annual Car Show/Swap Meet and Dream Car Raffle are being used to repay the debt and purchase shop equipment. If ARC plans to pay off our building loans and move forward to construct a showroom, members need to realize that pledges/donations are needed. Consider that fewer than 150 members funded the original start of the building and we have over 600 members to date. That would suggest that there are over 450 members who have the opportunity to pledge/donate for debt reduction and future construction.

There are many ways to donate to ARC and since ARC is a 501 (c)(3) charity, donations can be tax deductible. If you need to move investments to qualify for end of year deductions, consider a donation to ARC. You can also purchase Bricks or Tiles for the outside of the building as a lasting memento.

Lastly, as we pay off our debts, we can contribute to other worthy causes to keep our charity status. We can also expand our building and purchase additional equipment. This is your club and you can contribute to its future.

Founder's Focus A Column by Herb Clark

Herb Clark is ARC's founding member number ONE! ARC was Herb's idea and John Chaney supported him from the very start. Herb went to the Rec Center to find out just how to start a club and went at it. He pitched his idea to anyone he could find and drove us crazy at the Metal Club. When he started talking about the club having their very own building several people laughed in his face, told him he was crazy and walked away. But Herb persisted and as you can all see, here we are! Herb's positive "never give up" attitude seemed to have set the tone that has become ARC's main characteristic, Get it done! Herb Clark is truly "Numero UNO!"



Corvettes are Cool!

Many of ARC's members are now driving Corvettes. You see them all around town. The shocking thing to many is that most of the drivers have snow white hair or no hair at all! The popularity of the Corvette is not new. When the first Corvettes came off the assembly line in 1953 they failed to become an instant sensation. They were different, under powered, and all white in color.

Chevrolet's marketing strategy was simple. The 1st 100 Corvettes they produced were given to high profile people. James Dean didn't like it at all. He complained about the weak 6 cylinder engine. Senator John Kennedy thought it was impractical and slow! Marilyn Monroe thought it was too small! The other well known recipients felt generally the same. The public was able to buy a Corvette in 1954 although little or no noticeable changes had been made. General Motors became concerned about the rumors of the new Ford V8 sports car called the "Thunderbird," so by 1956 you could special order a V8 engine. In 1957 Chevrolet introduced one of its all time winning motors, the V8 283 CU IN. Now they had it.

Although the Thunderbirds today ('especially 55, '56, and '57), are cherished collector cars, they were not competitive to the Corvettes. Ford decided to make their two seater into a 4 seater "Sports Car." The '58,'59, and '60 (4 seaters) were called the "Square Birds" and were very popular with the women drivers. Guys were in love with the evolution of the Corvette! Still are!

In my life, I have owned a '61, '63, '65, '68, and now a 2015 Corvette. I have seen the changes. Today's Corvette is a masterpiece! It has all the creature comforts of most executive/luxury cars. It gets great highway mileage! I still get the same looks as I do when driving one of my older cars like the 1930 Model A Ford. The difference is comfort and dependability! In last month's article, I talked about buying a classic, if a classic is not for you...take a look at a newer Corvette. Drive one! Now try to wipe the smile off your face!

The newest Corvette the "C8" model was introduced on July 18. This is a machine that will rival any Ferrari or Lotus...and you will save yourself \$200K too. This mid engine beauty can be ordered now, but don't expect delivery until after the first of the year!

Downshifting
Cal and Jodie Busenitz
Member Number 961



A discussion between Cal and Ed Zacko

Cal Busenitz grew up on a farm outside Wichita KS. His interest in cars began when he was seven years old reading Hot Rod Magazine and dreaming. His first car was a 52 Chevy that he eventually traded in for a 55. Upon his discharge from the USAF he purchased his dream car, a 69 Triumph Spitfire and as he says,

“I joined SCCA, entered that car in autocross events and in general just drove it all over the place!”



Cal and Jodie have three grown children, “one in Goodyear and the rest spread out all over the place” as well as eight grand children and one great grand child. When they arrived in Sun City West three years ago Cal immediately joined ARC as member 961 and went at it. On eBay he found a 77 Spitfire that was in dire need of a restoration.

“I was looking for a project and since I had one of these back in 1969 I thought this would be the one. I looked at the pictures, talked to the owner by phone and decided I believed both him and the pictures. I purchased the car sight unseen and arranged to have it shipped from Oregon to SCW. That was two and a half years ago. At times I did have second thoughts but over all, it has been fun.”



I have been watching Cal work on his project car for some time now and at times the going appeared slow and bleak with no end in sight. None of us ever thought it would ever be completed but.....here we are!



The results are truly spectacular. When I asked Cal “if you could have any car regardless of price, what would it be?”

He went silent for a bit and said,

“Gee, I never thought about it before. I’m thrilled with what I have!”



What about ARC and Sun City West?

“Sun City West is the finest community in the entire country and ARC is second to none!”

Current Projects Around the Shop

ARC is busy with many long term projects continuing! The paint booth puts the icing on the cake.



Jim Galagher and Karl Weber salvage Jim's fire damaged 67 Corvette.



Darriel Fisher's 1937 Jaguar SS100 assisted by assisted by Bruce Hagemeyer.



Shop Manager Craig Landers always willing and ready to help

Jack Sigler restores the '64 Chevelle Malibu SS that he purchased new all those years ago!



ARC's first BLOOD DRIVE was a success!!

The Red Cross Blood Bus arrived in the parking lot of ARC to receive donors on Tuesday, September 17th between 8 and 1 PM. There was a steady stream of happy donors. Photos below includes a happy donor and the exterior and interior of the bus which accommodates up to four people. Many lessons were learned during the drive. For future donations, a good idea is to go on line and fill out the lengthy form before coming to give blood. This saves time for everyone. Certain medications prohibit the giving of blood. Go to the Red Cross website for further information on donating blood. Thank you to all who donated.



ARC Angels

The ARC Angels are a group of ARC members, led by Randy Robinson, who quietly go around helping SCW residents who are in need. They don't ask or look for recognition or praise. Occasionally, someone who has been helped, lets us know. Thank you Randy and all of the ARC Angels for your continued service to the SCW community.

“In For Repairs!”



Welcome to “In For Repairs”! If you know anyone who needs a little cheering up or who is going through a difficult time, ARC wants to know. We are one big family, and we care about one another. Please contact me at stvelinda2004@earthlink.net or call 623-214-1090 with the information. I will be in contact with the individual by e-mail and also follow up with a card and special note from ARC. Please keep the following individuals in your thoughts and prayers. If you know them personally, I'm sure they would love to hear from you.

Jane Rasch (#827) - Dealing with health issues which included a hospital stay. Hope you are getting better, Jane. We keep you in our prayers.

Gary Alwes (#549) - Having some health issues but doing much better now. Happy that things are getting better for you, Gary.

Gloria Tasseaux - (Wife of Paul Cowley-#474) - Currently under Hospice care. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Gloria and Paul, as you go through this difficult time.

Al Van Antwerp (#839) - Recovering from brain surgery and getting better every day. So glad to hear the news, Al.

Ron (#494) & Jan (#495) Carson - Both dealing with health issues. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Continue to get better, Ron & Jan.

Lauren Matley (#16) Still battling health issues. We are here for you, Lauren. Hope you are having a feel good day.

John Rank (#308) - Going through some serious health issues. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers, John. Hope you are having a feel good day.

Mike Cairy (#812) - Just got home from an extended stay in the hospital. Hope you are getting stronger and healthier every day, Mike. We are sure you are glad to be home.

We are also thinking of **John (#182)** and **Reita (#607) Dorssom**, whose daughter, Tara, is currently in Hospice care in Joplin, Missouri. Keeping you in our prayers at this difficult time.

Linda Victor

8th Annual Car Show

On September 16th, we kicked off the first meeting for what we anticipate will again be the best ARC Car Show yet. The committee team members will meet on intermittent Mondays for the next three months to iron out the details for another great show. All meetings will be held in the Shuffle Board Room @ 8:00 A.M. as follows:

Oct 7th, 21st, Nov 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, Dec 2nd, 9th, 16th Jan 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, Feb 3rd, 17th In the new year, we invite all the general ARC members who are interested in being part of our final planning to join us. We will post sign up sheets at the shop for everyone to volunteer for the many different teams.

Thanks to all in advance,

Gary Masak



LARC Breakfast

Thursday, October 17th 9:00 A.M.

Memo's in the Bowling Alley

No need to reply, just come and enjoy fellowship
with other ladies of ARC

Remember no fragrances please



The inventory is lower than usual and the prices have been going up! This is a great time to sell your home or to buy a new one!

Please check us out on our website: www.ArvidKay.com. We can give you an estimate of what your home is worth today.

Arvid and Kay Peterson
623-308-2316 or 623-760-7367
arvidpeterson@awardrealty.com

ARC Members



Dream Car Raffle
2019
Ranger
Drawing on or Before 2-8-20

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grand Prize: Vehicle or \$20K Cash• 2nd Place: \$500. Cash• 3rd Place: \$300. Cash		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lariat Series• FX4 Off-Road Package• 10 Speed Auto.• Supercrew Cab• Color: Magnetic• MSRP: \$43,860
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1,000 Tickets to be Sold
\$100/1 ticket
All proceeds go to ARC
ARC is a 501 (C)(3) Charity



Automotive/Restoration Club Of SCW

Remember Raffle Tickets
Make Great Holiday Gifts
To purchase contact Gordon Carlson at
408 892 2538 or drop in at the ARC
building. Support our club and its
growing efforts.

**October 20th
at Beardsley Park
Motors and Meals**

Local non-profit Northwest Valley Connect will hold its annual community fundraising event, Motors and Meals, on Sunday, Oct. 20 from noon to 4 p.m. at Beardsley Park, 20011 N. 128th Ave. in Sun City West. The free event will include a collector's car show, beer and wine garden, food trucks, farmers market, local vendors, contests, music and local entertainment.

For more information about sponsor and vendor opportunities, to sign up to perform at the event or display a collector vehicle at the car show, visit northwestvalleyconnect.org/motorsandmeals or call (623)498-8046.

All proceeds support Northwest Valley Connect (NVC), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that provides transportation services to homebound seniors and people with disabilities. Donations to NVC qualify for a federal tax deduction and Arizona tax credit. To learn more, visit NorthwestValleyConnect.org or call 623-282-9300.

Coming Events and Projects

Christmas Breakfast
Pancakes on December 11

Bob Janis needs someone to oversee the Thunderbird Project
Please Volunteer at ARC

ARC CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Shop Phone Number: 623-518-3226

ARCOFSCW@gmail.com

ARC Club

P.O Box 5034

Sun City West, AZ 85376-5034

ARC OFFICERS

Tom Jones, President

Bob Janis, 1st VP

Dean Lewellen, 2nd VP

Kathy Swanson, Secretary

Pete Mahnke, 1st Treasurer

Gary Kakert, 2nd Treasurer

David Eicke, Safety Officer



Welcome to Gary Kakert
our new 2nd treasurer

A Message from Mike the Moose



Always remember that a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks!

Rusty Nuts is *your* newsletter. Member contributions are welcome and encouraged. Everyone has a story and yours could be important to the membership.
send your contribution to: mikezackaroonie@gmail.com
Remember every story is a good one for our members!!

Special thank you to Deborah Ray, my friend and proofreader.
I couldn't do this job without her special help.