

# RUSTY NUTS

December 2022 Issue No. 92 Ellen Zacko - Editor

AUTOMOTIVE/RESTORATION CLUB OF SCW

**ARC 2022 Cactus Derby**  
ARC members make the Derby happen  
story and photos start on page 6  
Everyone pictured here  
made it happen!!!



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

## **BEHIND THE WHEEL**

**DEAN LEWELLEN, PRESIDENT**



This "Behind The Wheel" will be the "End of the Road" article from me. My time and service as President of ARC ends on December 31<sup>st</sup>. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve on the ARC Board for the last seven years. I served as Treasurer for 3 years, Vice President for 2 years and the last 2 years as President. I have come to know many ARC members, several folks from the Rec Center Staff, and people from the community—some who will remain forever friends. Thanks for the ride!

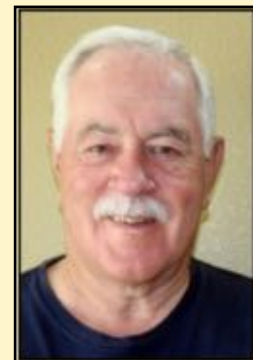
I will always remember the Grand Opening of our Shop building in January of 2016, the dedication of the Paint & Body Shop addition in December of 2018 and the great 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party in November of 2021. I have seen ARC grow from the initial formation meeting at Palm Ridge in the Fall of 2011 to almost 700 members strong today. We are truly the best Charter Club in Sun City West.

I will close out my time with you with this old, anonymous Irish Prayer that I first heard in 1978 at the closing banquet of a week-long Porsche Club of America Parade gathering in Aspen, Colorado. It was most meaningful to me then and it remains so today:

May the road rise up to meet you,  
May the wind be always at your back,  
May the sun shine warmly on your face,  
And the rains fall softly on your fields.  
And, until we meet again,  
May GOD hold you in the palm of his hand.  
Peace, it is done!

**Dean Lewellen, President, ARC of SCW, 2021-2022**

## Founder's Focus A Column by Herb Clark



### **2022 Is Winding Down..or is it?**

Not in SCW, or at ARC! With most of the snowbirds returning for the season, the activity will be picking up. I would sincerely request that some of our newer members make the decision to jump in and be an active member of ARC. We need new blood, new ideas, and people to step up to take major roles in the running of the club in the years to come. Think about it! How can you help? Couples are very welcome. Your ideas and leadership are important for the long term benefits of our club. I believe the more active you become, the more enjoyment you will have.

It is also time to think about making a donation to ARC. ARC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, so your contribution is tax deductible. When we started ARC in 2011, the RCSCW donated the land and ARC agreed to build and pay for the building. The building was completed in 2016. We have paid off a good share of the building, but we added the paint room and need more donations. If you can, please consider an end of the year contribution. ALL donations are greatly appreciated.

My wife Patty and I spent a couple weeks back in SCW in November. We got a chance to see and spend some time with old friends and meet some new friends. We thank you for your kindness and hospitality. Our current plans are to spend the month of February back in Arizona. We are looking forward to helping out with the Car Show and other activities. We sincerely miss our friends and hope to make more friends while in SCW.

I would also like to thank all of the participants who competed in the Cactus Derby, and the many volunteers. A special THANK YOU to Tom and Suzanne Jones for all they did to help. I would also like to THANK Gary Masak for teaching others how to navigate a Time & Distance Rally. One more THANK YOU goes to Rich Masak for allowing us to stay at his house.

Hope to see you soon!

Herb

**Get Tickets Today**  
**ARC General Breakfast Meeting**  
**Tuesday December 13**  
**8:30 A.M. RH Johnson Social**

## Synchronizers\*

### Suzanne Jones #6 AKA Sparky



Suzanne Jones, AKA Sparky, (so named by ARC in 2012 for her ability to spark everyone into action during the construction phase of the ARC building) was born in Lake Tapawingo, Missouri. With her husband Tom, Suzanne lives in Sun City West year round. She is not a snowbird but a sweatbird.

You will see Suzanne at many club events helping in any way she can. Her big contributions are the powerpoint presentations at our monthly ARC meetings and her slide show presentation changed monthly shown in the ARC building behind the monitor desk.

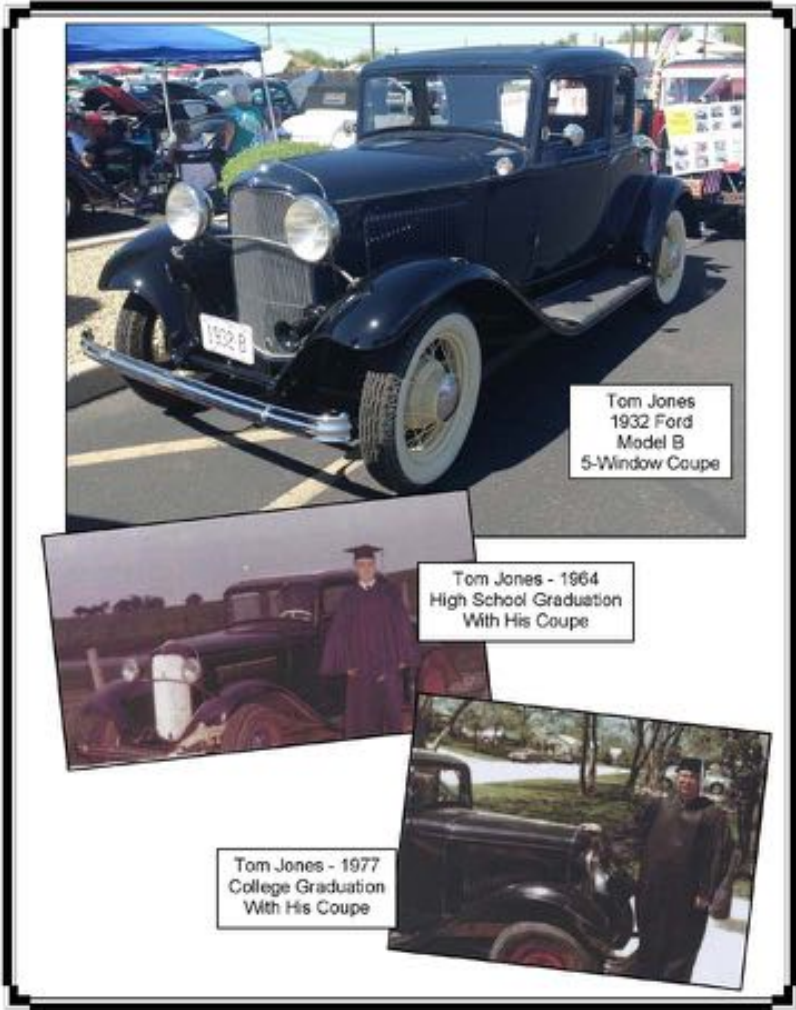
John Chaney, after whom the building is named, was ARC member number 2, and Suzanne's father. With her father she became a consultant with upholstery. Suzanne was active in the organization of the ARC creating and submitting the IRS application for the ARC 501(c)(3) charity status. Her favorite car and/or type of car (dream car) is her 1919 Model T and Tom's 1932 Ford Model B.

**\*People who keep the gears meshing allowing ARC to move forward.**



**Dad and I Taking  
Best of Show Trophy  
With My  
1919 Model T**

**Tom & Suzanne  
Jones**



**Tom Jones  
1932 Ford  
Model B  
5-Window Coupe**

**Tom Jones  
1932 Ford Model B**

**Tom Jones - 1964  
High School Graduation  
With His Coupe**

**Tom Jones - 1977  
College Graduation  
With His Coupe**

## The Original Cactus Derby

Long before the current endurance races like the Indy 500, 24 hr Daytona and Le Mans, a small group of daredevils raced across the desert between Los Angeles, CA and Phoenix, AZ.

Today, that trip is routine and we drive it without a thought but in those early days of the automobile, this was quite an accomplishment. The first Cactus Derby was held in 1908 and had only four competitors. Colonel F.C. Fenner won this race by completing the 500 mile course at an average speed of 17.6 mph.

The Derby grew in popularity and was billed as “the hardest race ever staged.” The final race, in 1914, had lengthened into a three day, 132 mile event. Barney Oldfield was catapulted to international fame when he raced over the hill into Prescott, AZ, to win the race with an astonishing average speed of 29 mph, becoming “Master driver of the World!”

Since then, we automobile enthusiasts have developed many different ways to race and enjoy our cars, such as, hill climb, autocross, gymkhana, drag racing, endurance racing and speed racing to name only a few. All of these races require a specialized car, equipment, and a good amount of money. They also require some serious experience and entail an element of danger and are thus limited to only a select few but for us mere mortals, there is hope indeed!

The Cactus Derby has also given rise to one type of auto racing that is approachable by anyone: The “Road Rally!” This is not a speed race. It is, instead, a time/distance event. To participate requires only a car and driver (any type of car will do), and a navigator with pencil and paper and a stop watch (and you don’t really even need that). That’s all!

**The Rusty Nuts Team thanks you,  
Dean, for all of your  
hard work for ARC over the past many years.  
You were a great President, Vice President, and Treasurer!**



### **Good instruction is essential to run a good rally!**

The course is laid in several legs over a given distance. Directions are given to each team. The actual course and directions are held in secret until the start of the rally. The navigator’s job is to read the directions and tell the driver precisely what to do. “Turn right onto Rte 206 and drive at 50 mph until you come to the “Mail Pouch Tobacco” sign. At the sign, turn right onto Saguaro Rd. Drive at 40 mph until you arrive at “The Green Barn.” It goes on like this for the entire course. The speed in the directions is always 5 mph below the posted speed limit. Distances between points are then timed according to the posted speed limits.

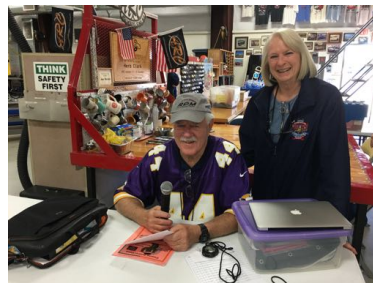
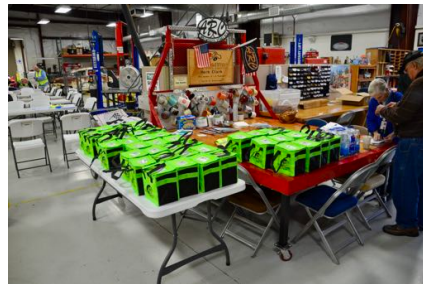
The driver’s only job is to drive and maintain precisely, the speed required for whatever distance is required. That’s it! No speeding, no gymnastics, no danger. Just precise driving. There are manned check points spaced along the way. They know precisely, to the second, what time each car is due to pass their check point. As an entrant’s car passes each check point, their arrival time is noted as they continue on to the next leg. Only the check point knows the predicted time of arrival. Arrive early, you lose points. Arrive late, you lose points. The car that arrives closest to predicted time wins.

That’s all there is to it! There is nothing to fear, no fast driving, no danger, an awful lot of fun and having the satisfaction of knowing you have completed the course without getting hopelessly lost while supporting your club by participating in one of the best club activities out there!

### **Gary Masek gave a highly successful class teaching the strategies of the rally.**



It is Saturday morning and racers start to line up their cars to have a smooth exit from ARC. They get their route information in one minute intervals from Herb Clark while ARC members prepare lunch bags filled with Jersey Mike Subs and chips for the lunch stop.





Running the rally and having a lunch break makes a good day.



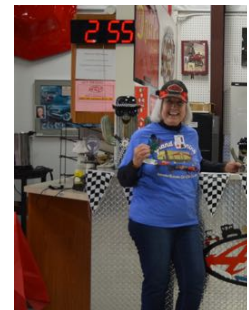
After driving one hundred and twenty miles the first day and about fifty miles the second day, it was time for a much welcomed celebration. The ralliers met back at ARC for a fiesta made by club members. We had pulled pork sandwiches, barbecued baked beans, potato salad and cookies. The club tables were set and decorated. It was a festive atmosphere and the ARC building didn't seem like a place to fix cars. Everyone who helped the event or ran the race joined in the fun and food. The winners were announced and trophies distributed. We all wished more ARC members would have joined us in this fun event. It isn't about winning or losing, most of the fun was talking about how badly you did and stupid you were along the way only to find out you won a trophy. The next rally will be in the spring 2024. Think about signing up as you just might enjoy yourselves. Covid has made us necessarily unsociable but that is behind us - get out and drive.



# Cactus Derby November 5th and 6th, 2022



**Herb and Pat Clark - chief organizers**  
**Diana Hudson and Pam McClafin - trophy makers**  
**The Winners and their trophies**  
**Sonoran Division**  
**Crabtree and Jones - first place**  
**Shaw and Collins - second place**  
**Zacko and Zacko - third place**  
**Saguaro Division**  
**King and Yao - first place**  
**Courtney and Jellnek - second place**  
**Wojtyna and Heinen - third place**



## Downshifting Mike Liberatore #007

Yes Virginia, there really is a 007. Mike Liberatore is member number 7 of ARC's "Magnificent 75," the seventy-five founding members that were required by our Rec Center to initiate an official club. From the very beginning, Mike was there.

If you have followed ARC's raffle cars over the years you have encountered Mike. Mike has been directly involved with the search and acquisition of our cars but most importantly, he spearheads the sale of the raffle tickets. Finding cars to raffle is rather easy. Selling the tickets takes the work and Mike and his team have been tireless in their endeavors to make our raffle program so successful.

Mike and Michelle came to us from Chicago. They were married shortly after high school graduation. He enlisted in the Army becoming an MSGR, Missile Systems Guidance Repairman. His working career was as Electro-Mechanical Systems Engineer, Realtor and landlord. Fifty-one years later, Michelle and Mike celebrate four children, eight grandchildren and far too many cars to count.

Mike's love affair with cars began when he was 14 years old. "I think everyone back in the day had a passion for cars. Mine started when I was 12 when I used to wash neighbors' cars for \$1. Even though the hose would reach all around the car, I always had to get the keys to turn the car around to wash the other side. His first car was a 60 Chevy, purchased for \$50.00.

"It burned more oil than gas but it ran. I drove it for a year then sold it to a junk yard for \$75.00." Mike has owned more cars than he can recall.

"I have always loved the classic styling of the C1's and C2's. I've had about a dozen of them, but my favorite was a 64 white coupe with silver interior. I would love to find that 64 again and buy it back. I loved that car. Some other interesting cars along the way included a Sunbeam, Barracuda, Alpha Romeo, SEMA Chevelle, a couple of Porsches and a real cool 67 Camaro!

"In 1995, Michelle and I flew out to California to visit our daughter. While driving around San Francisco, a blue 67 Camaro caught my eye. I caught up with it at the next stop light and we talked. The next thing I knew, we were on a three week road trip back to Wisconsin in that blue 67 Camaro. We went to the Grand Canyon, stopped in Phoenix to visit our son, drove up to Yellowstone, and eventually, after working on the car every other night, we got back to Wisconsin."

Mike's favorite car was and evidently still is that 64 Corvette. "I'd like to find my 64 Corvette and buy it back, but I recently purchased a beautiful 55 T-bird that I'm already enjoying. "

Michelle and Mike's working careers have taken them to Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. When their son came to Phoenix to attend ASU they moved to Sun City West and have been full time ever since. In the summer months they retreat to their lake home in Wisconsin where Mike pursues his passion of slalom water skiing and classic boats.

Mike's thoughts on our club are right to the point. "I've been involved with ARC since its inception, from sitting around picnic tables in Beardsley Park until now. I've been on several committees, taught the Safety class for a few years and have been in charge of running the Dream Car Raffle for the club for the last eight years.

"I personally feel ARC is one of the best clubs within SCW. I don't think there's another club that gives back to the community as much as ARC does. You couldn't ask for a better group of guys. There is so much talent and knowledge in this club, no matter what your question might be, someone knows the answer. "

# Mike - the man with many talents



## Sun City West Assisted Living Grand Reopening

On October 28th, ARC displayed twelve cars at the Sun City West Assisted Living Grand Reopening event. The Raffle car was present and tickets were sold. Good food, good music, good fun for the residents and ARC members. Always read Group Works for current events!!



### Cars and Coffee Saturday Oct 29th

The last Saturday of each month many ARC members go to the club with their cars to visit and drink coffee. It is a fun way to spend a Saturday morning - drop by.



### Shepherd of the Hills Methodist Church on November 5, 2022

ARC had ten cars for “Eye Candy” to support a special event at the Church that evening. The event was a talk by a young man, blind from age 12, about how he overcame his disability and became the center on his high school football team. A good time was had by all who helped out our neighbors from across Meeker Blvd.



## Club Member News

Patrick Giles Won 1st Place in the C4 Class  
in the Midway Chevrolet All Corvette Car Show - November 12, 2022



Suzanne and Tom Jones had the distinct pleasure of attending Phil Corbell's award ceremony for the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award for 50 years of safe flying presented by the FAA on Saturday, November 12, 2022. This is a VERY prestigious award and it has only been presented 156 times! His name will now appear in the Honor Roll on their website. Not only has he had 50 years of flying without an accident (although he spoke of some harrowing near disasters), he has flown almost everything from the B52 Bomber, Helicopters, Gliders, Sea Planes, American Airlines Pilot, etc. Anyone who receives the award must have a large documented file on their experience and awards along the way. Phil's accomplishments as a pilot and trainer/teacher are truly amazing!





## ARC'S Social Page and Car Shows

December 10th, 2022 - 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.  
Sunrise Mountain High School Car Show  
Sunrise Mountain High School front parking lot

Tuesday, December 13th 8:30 A.M.  
ARC general meeting and breakfast  
RH Johnson Social Hall

December 13, 7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.  
AAHC Public Meeting  
Gateway Classic Cars of Scottsdale

Saturday, December 26th 8:00 A.M.  
Coffee and Cars

Friday, December 30th from 10:00 AM until 1:00 P.M.  
Western State Bank Car Show





## Win the 2023 Dream Car Raffle



Get your raffle tickets in the ARC building

Only 5000 tickets will be sold

\$20.00 each 6 for \$100.00

**Attention ARC Members!!!**

**Help needed to sell raffle tickets before the car show in Feb**

**Step up and help make this year's car raffle a success**

**Call Mike Liberatore 815 263 8686**

December 10th Guadalupe Toy Drive

Dec 17th Bronco Nation @ Sanderson Ford

January 27 and 28th Mag Auction at We-Ko-Pa

## 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](mailto: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.

We know that many of our members are facing some challenges right now but wish to remain private. We are thinking of all you and wishing you brighter days ahead.

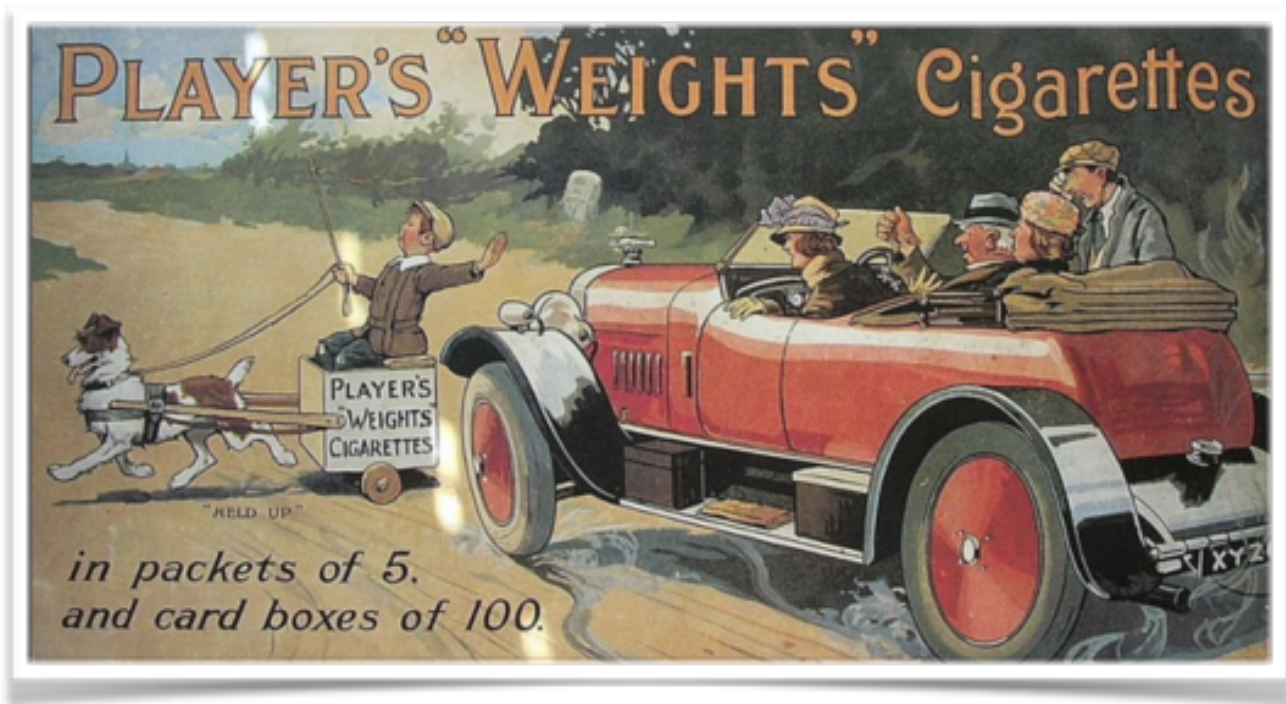
**Eve Picquette (John Berthusen-#517)** We are thinking of Eve as she is dealing with some serious health issues. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers, Eve.

**Gloria Jones-#194** - Gloria is recovering from a broken arm. Will be having a second surgery in a couple of months. Hope you heal quickly, Gloria. Keeping you in our prayers.



### ARC Angels

The ARC Angels are a group of ARC members, led by Randy Robinson and Dan Kuhl, 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 to all of the ARC Angels for your continued service to the SCW community.



**THE CIGARETTE (CIGAR)  
LIGHTER IN AUTOMOBILES,  
A SHORT HISTORY**

**BY  
Dan Kuhl**

Earlier this year on April 28, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced a new product standard that would prohibit menthol in cigarettes, like KOOL, and all flavoring in cigars. With smoking back in the limelight it is fitting to broach the cigarette (cigar) lighter in automobiles.

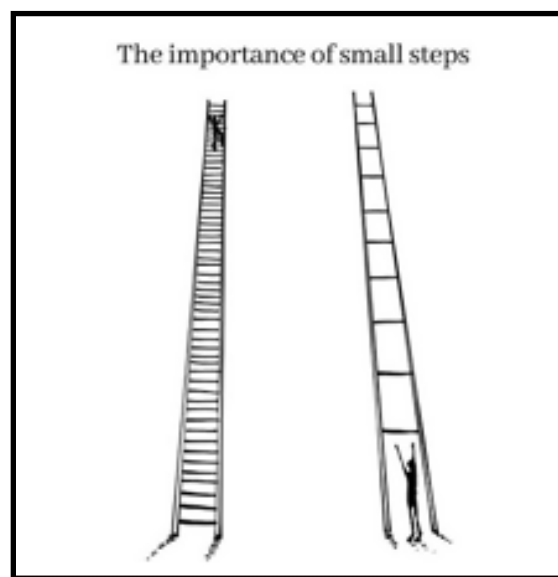
Back in the day when I was a youth I traveled with my parents who were both smokers. On occasion I would hunt fox with my father during the cold and snowy winter months. Sitting in the car waiting for the hounds to pick up the fox scent, I sat in the car and suffered through the secondhand smoke. On the frequent trips to the grocery store, I would tag along to the Super Value and sometimes Red Owl Store and wait for my mother to finish her shopping while I inhaled my father's cigarette smoke. He was really into smoking. He even rolled his own with papers and a can of Prince Albert tobacco. This stuff was everywhere! Oh, how I hated cleaning the ash out of the car after several days of smoking that stuff. Ashes coated the seats and carpeting while the smoke residue coated the glass and headliner with a film. It was a dirty, unhealthy habit for everyone involved.

In 1921 the Connecticut Automotive Specialties Company (CASCO) was founded in Bridgeport, CN. By 1926 the company was producing a pocket lighter and in 1928 came out with an automobile cigar lighter with a cord and reel. By the late 1920's most car manufacturers were offering cigar lighters as an accessory.

The ashtray and cigarette lighters were popular in cars of the 50's and 60's, and became a staple, even in the back seat, for years after that. It wasn't until the '90s that automakers started phasing them out amazingly, 30 years after the federal government announced that smoking caused lung cancer. Of course with this change the price of a pack of cigarettes went up until today you will pay between \$6 and \$12, depending on which state you reside in. Additionally, the cell phone and computer were here to stay and it was apparent the cars needed a receptacle to charge the batteries associated with our new-found electronic toys. Today, a car is not cool if it does not have at least a couple of USB ports. Next week my Studebaker will get a set along with Sirius radio and Bluetooth.

Reference: The Web

Come into the shop and watch the ARC slideshow -  
photos changed monthly by Suzanne Jones  
This wonderful TV display was donated to ARC by John Underhill.  
Thank you John for your gift, it is appreciated.





**LARC Breakfast**  
**Thursday, December 22**  
**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](http://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](mailto:arvidpeterson@awardrealty.com)

ARC Members



## Goodguys Visit ARC

ARC and the RCSCW collaborated to host the Goodguys "Garage Tour & Lunch" event on November 17<sup>th</sup> at the ARC Shop. ARC would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to RCSCW and Staff for their support in creating and executing this undertaking. Thanks, as well, to the ARC members who worked the planning, parking, touring, serving and the set-up/tear-down tasks for the event. It was an amazing success made possible by everyone's dedicated effort.

From the start, we knew this event would be more than ARC alone could put on successfully. Staff from RCSCW Events and Administrative departments came to lend a hand with the cost, equipment and logistics help needed. In addition, items such as tables, chairs, portable grill, trash cans and even napkin holders were provided at no cost to ARC. Also, sleeves of burgers, potato chips and sodas were provided by RCSCW for the event.

Over 200 Goodguys had a tour of the shop, enjoyed a light lunch, and heard about ARC, RCSCW and the community of Sun City West. We sold about 100 Raffle tickets at the event which more than offset any cost exposure ARC may have had, plus, the Raffle car was at the big Goodguys Show at West World all weekend. The Vendor entry fee for ARC at their show in Scottsdale was waived by Goodguys in exchange for providing the tour and lunch on Thursday. It was a big "win-win" for ARC for sure.

The Goodguys visit to ARC was a great example of how well ARC and our members work together with the RCSCW and their staff. Well done, everyone.

Dean Lewellen



Santa in the 1931 Model AA Ford service stake truck. Purchased and donated to ARC by Ron & Joyce Rada who drove to Minnesota and trailered it back. Darrell Langer headed up the restoration in late 2020 which was funded by Ellen and Ed Zacko and Mike the Moose. The truck was painted and reassembled at ARC.

## Order Your Car Dash Display Plaque

New Display Plaques for your car, golf cart, or bike? It is good for you and fund raising for the club. Get rid of your old, torn, dog eared displays, the new ones are made with champagne-beige color paper and laminated with thicker, UV protection pouches.

Price: \$15 each... or \$20 for two if it has exactly the same content.

Obtain the order form(s) at the Monitor's Desk and pay ARC desk monitor

Every car needs a Car Dash Display - get yours today!  
Especially if you are in any car shows



Car Dash Example



### The team keeps growing.

Join us - write [mikezackaroonie@gmail.com](mailto:mikezackaroonie@gmail.com) with your contribution or ideas

The Rusty Nuts Team and Mike the Moose

Thank you for all the contributions!



Deborah Ray - proofreader, Ellen Zacko - editor, Ed Zacko-Downshifting and special articles



Dan Kuhl

regular contributor / sends Mike fun ideas from the past / new feature-Synchronization



Paul Burrier



Jim Hensch



Always helping in the background



Steve Victor ARC official photographer

President Dean Lewellen fact checker

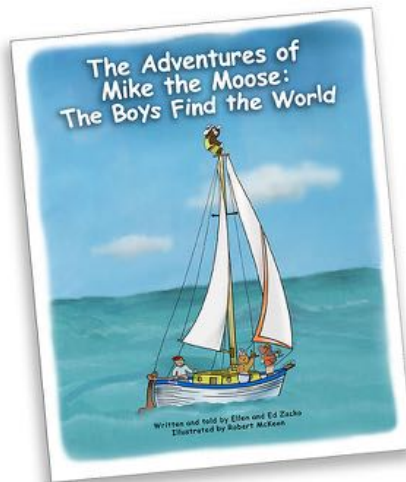


**ARC CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION****Shop Phone Number: 623-518-3226****ARCOFSCW@gmail.com****ARC Club****P.O Box 5034****Sun City West, AZ 85376-5034****Dean Lewellen, President****Dave Meyer, 1st VP****Ray Peterson, 2nd VP****Nan Janis, Secretary****Ron Rada, 1st Treasurer****Suzanne Jones, 2nd Treasurer****Craig Landers, Shop Manager****Lee Schwartz, Paint Shop Manager****Craig Landers, Safety Committee Chair****Paul Nordmeyer, Membership Director****Ellen Zacko. Editor of Rusty Nuts****ARC meets monthly the 3rd Tuesday, at 2:00 at RH Johnson Social Hall****(no meetings in June, July and August)****ARC WEBSITE <https://arcofscw.com>****ARC FACEBOOK Automotive/Restoration Club facebook****ARC EMAIL ARCOFSCW@gmail.com****ARC Newsletter contact - [mikezackaroonie@gmail.com](mailto:mikezackaroonie@gmail.com)****or Ellen Zacko 623 374 3056, to leave a message**

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

## A Message from Mike the Moose

I would prefer even to fail with honor than win by cheating.-  
Sophocles, Greek poet and Mike the Moose



**The holidays are around the corner!!  
Mike's story is for sale at the new PORA store.  
Grandchildren love this adventure book!!  
Also available at [Mikethemoose.com](http://Mikethemoose.com)**

Rusty Nuts is *your* newsletter. Thank you to all the member contributions. Keep them coming. Everyone has a story and yours is important to the membership. Send your contribution to: [mikezackaroonie@gmail.com](mailto:mikezackaroonie@gmail.com)  
Your stories make this newsletter!

Special thank you to Deborah Ray, my friend and proofreader.  
I couldn't do this job without her special help.  
Ellen Zacko - editor  
Ed Zacko - assistant editor