

RUSTY NUTS

April 2024 Issue No. 105 Ellen Zacko - Editor

AUTOMOTIVE/RESTORATION CLUB OF SCW

SUSIE (#1759) AND PAUL (#1646) HEMLER BRING THEIR JAG TO SCW



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

The Hot Rod Deuce Monthly

by Craig Landers, President



I don't know where to start for this month. I'll start with the C.A.S.T. for Kids fishing outing at Lake Pleasant a few weeks ago. It was quite an eye opening event for me. Meeting the special needs children was an experience that I have never seen before. They were so happy just to be in a fishing boat. As soon as that boat hit the water they were so happy, they were jumping up and down in the boat. When they pulled out the fish that they had caught, the smiles on their faces were priceless.

This week we had our first week of Happy Camp. It went well with only two kids signing up for our club. Next week we have fifteen or more signed up. Thank you to all who have helped with these events.

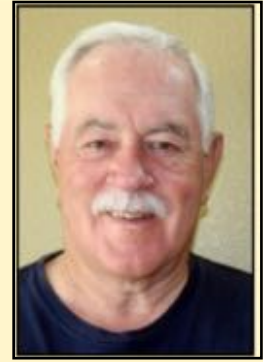
This time of year there is a lot going on in the Phoenix area. Car shows are every other day. I guess we should enjoy it while the weather is good. Many ARC members went to the Trilogy Car Show last week in Vistancia. It was well organized and friendly. They have a nice setting at their golf course.

I don't want to seem like a broken record but we do need more volunteers to monitor and be foremen so we can keep the shop open during our working hours. I ask for one shift a month. The shop and the club on whole are doing really good. Please keep up with the news on GroupWorks and feel free to post your own information there. This is OUR club...ENJOY!!

**ARC General Meeting
Tuesday, April 16
RH Johnson Social Hall**

Founder's Focus A Column by Herb Clark

"Car Season"



For much of the United States April starts "Car Season." Many cars have been stored, waiting for the first signs of spring to make their annual debut. My cars are no different. The first thing I do is change the oil and make sure the batteries are well charged. After a thorough examination, I wipe off the winter's dust and prepare to fire them up.

Actually this year I had the opportunity to get them out of the garage a few times and buzz through the neighborhood. What I like most about the classic cars is that everyone smiles and waves as I go by. When I honk the oogaahh horn from the 1931 Model A Woody, everyone stops what they are doing and waves vigorously. Even the kids get excited!

During the year, I run or get involved in a lot of activities designed to bring our younger generations to appreciating the classic cars of the past. I belong to several car clubs and I believe the average age of the members is over 65. If we don't involve our youth, who is going to buy, drive, or even care about these beauties in the future? I have some ideas I can share with you of things I've done to promote my love of cars to the next generations.

First of all, you need to invite new people to **take a ride with you in your classic**. If possible, take the whole family. Most people today have no idea how to drive a manual transmission. Explain it to them. Better yet - let them drive! If they can drive it, they will want one! When you are out...Car Show...Cars & Coffee...Cruising, as people walk up to your car INVITE THEM TO SIT IN IT! Get their phone and TAKE THEIR PICTURE! They will proudly show their friends the picture!

Other ideas that work, ARC has some great car people with an incredible amount of knowledge. INVITE your friends, neighbors, and students to come in and see how they do it! Put together training sessions on carburetors, brakes, wiring, etc. OPEN THE DOOR for others to learn.

As our generation fades, the hobby will too unless we do these things. I grew up where my dad worked on our cars. I learned a little. My first car was a 1940 Chevy Coupe, "three on the tree." Eight years ago my friend Jerome Knudson had me drive his Model A home from ARC. It was a THRILL! Since then I have owned three Model A's. Thank you, Jerome! Think about it! We can make a difference. It can just be for the older generation, or it will soon be gone! Herb



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Downshifting
Susie (#1759) and Paul (#1646) Hemler
by Ed Zacko

Paul Hemler, a native of Pennsylvania, has been interested in cars since elementary school. He and “the guys” worked on their respective cars on weekends all through high school, until college got in the way. His first car was a 1969 MG Midget. “The logo on the car had lost the “M” and the “t” so it was really an “ldge,” at least that’s what I called it.”

His fondest memory of IDGE is, “popping the cork off a champagne bottle while driving the IDGE with the top down on an empty mountain road. Ahh, the good old days along with youth and stupidity.” “I stalled the IDGE in heavy traffic on the Betsy Ross bridge in Philadelphia one Sunday afternoon while returning from the Jersey shore. The alternator bracket had broken on the trip and the battery had drained, preventing me from restarting the car. A police car quickly was on the scene and pushed me so I could kick start the car. That happened in 1979, I can only imagine how horrible it would be if something like that happened today.

Paul kept that car all through college but living in an apartment made owning a British car a challenge. He eventually sold “IDGE” and replaced it with a more reliable Japanese car.

Upon graduation, Paul accepted a job at Bell Labs in Allentown, PA and while there, met his future bride, Susie, who came by way of Massachusetts, New York, Arizona, and Virginia. Susie was not interested in hot cars but was interested in “the guys who had the hot cars.” At that time, she was driving a new 1980 SAAB Turbo. “That SAAB was a blast to drive and really lessened the pain of parting with IDGE.”

Susie and Paul married in 1984. He eventually left Bell Labs and they moved to Raleigh, NC. Paul went to work as a college professor teaching Engineering and Computer Science, while Susie pursued a career in Integrated Circuit Design, eventually moving on to high tech sales. Their respective jobs had them “on the move” from Boston to California, and back to North Carolina.

In 2008, Susie retired from high tech, obtained her paralegal certificate, and worked for a year and a half as a development manager for the SPCA. In 2010 she attained her teaching certificate and went to work teaching high school math. Their family had now grown to include daughters, Rachel and MB, and a 1993 Mazda Miata, which they kept until the two girls could no longer “double buckle” in the passenger seat. This gave rise to a 2002 BMW 330 CIC with a removable hard top, and a Triumph TR6.

In 2012, the Hemlers found themselves in Colorado Springs when Paul accepted a teaching position at the US Air Force Academy. When Paul said goodbye to the Air Force in 2021, they all, cars included, relocated to Virginia where big changes were in the works. The garage was simply too small! Susie now insisted that her car needed its own space in the garage. The BMW went first and the TR6 followed close behind, because Paul had finally found his dream car: a burgundy, 1970 Jaguar E-Type (XKE to we Americans) and “owning two British sports cars was more than enough!”

Susie discovered Sun City West on the web and when they discovered ARC, they were sold. They came first as renters in 2021, becoming homeowners and snowbirds in 2022.

What could be better, spending the summer days sailing on Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia and eventing with your best gal tooling the around the same lake under the stars with your Jaguar XKE? The summers in Virginia were grand but the winters in AZ lacked something— —the Jaguar, of course!

Paul is a regular monitor at ARC, and helps out selling tickets for our raffle cars and the golf tournament. Susie has resurrected her computer tech skills and now serves as the official ARC bookkeeper. In February, Susie and Paul took the plunge and had their beloved E-Type Jaguar shipped to Sun City West. Now, they have it all!



EDGE



RELIABLE CAR



FAMILY CHRISTMAS



THE BELOVED JAG COMES TO SCW 2023

**Drive By for Don Holman
Tuesday, March 5 - cars left ARC parade style
heading for Don's house for some car medicine!!**



My Mecum Auction Experience by Danny Gayhart

My Mecum experience began back in August 2018 when I attended the Mecum auction in Monterey, CA. I took one of our ARC hats to give to Dana Mecum. I told Dana about our club and he was very interested. He invited me backstage to meet his General Manager, Harold Gerdis. They told me about plans to hold an event in Phoenix and asked if our club would be interested in driving auction cars. I said I would be interested and would ask the President of the club to propose it to the members. I suggested they hold the event in the west valley since most other events are around Scottsdale.

Harold called me back over the Thanksgiving week of 2018 and asked me if I could recruit 120 drivers. Tom Jones, who was President at that time, helped me get 90 drivers from ARC and 30 from Vintage Vehicles of Sun City.

Fast forward to the 2024 car show in Sun City West. One of Mecum's consignment agents, Brett Baugh, was at our show and approached me in the "Car Corral". Brett wanted to know more details about the 1965 GTO I was selling. After we had talked for a while, he asked if I had ever considered listing my car in the Glendale auction coming up in March.

Brett offered to waive the listing fee of \$1000 for my car, gave me his business card, and said to call. Brett signed me up for Thursday, March 7 at 4 p.m. I set my reserve at \$80,000 and my GTO went on the block. The bid went to \$65,000 quickly and stopped! It then went to "The Bid Goes On". I had no knowledge of how "TBGO" worked so I figured the sale was over for me. It rained hard several times on the 7th so the next day I went down and brought my car home to dry it out.

I returned to the show on Saturday the 9th to hang out with friends. I got a call from Dave Purvis, Consignment Director at Mecum at about 2 p.m. He told me they had a bid of \$79,200, and asked if I would take it. I told him yes. Dave knew I took my car home, so he said he would call me back in two minutes to clarify a firm bid. He called me and said "Bring it back, it's sold!" The Bid Goes On works!

I was one of at least five ARC members who listed their cars, and several of them sold. The entire experience was great. I felt no pressure to sell and every Mecum employee had a smile on their face.



Danny on the block

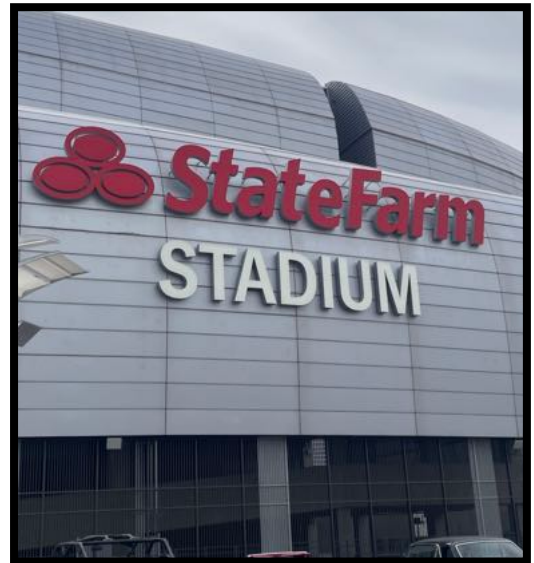


The buyer

Danny and Dana

More on the Mecum Auction 2024 Tony Giralamo

Mecum Auctions had their annual event at the StateFarm Stadium in Glendale from March 5 to March 9. Approximately twelve ARC members worked as drivers and shuttle for the event. Mecum offered ARC members a deal to waive the entrance fee to sell a car at the auction. Four members were successful in selling their vehicles. A fun and busy week was had by all who worked at the event. Another year in the books for Mecum and the ARC members.



Mileage Tax

The following was sent to ARC members from Al Tracy of the Hobbyist Council.

The Arizona Automobile Hobbyist Council asks for the help of all car enthusiasts in getting passed AZ Senate bill SB 1010, which would ban any mileage tax. Currently, many states like CA are considering a per mile tax. In AZ we already pay both State and Federal gas taxes, and we currently pay the third highest car registration fees in the country. (A board member grew up in Ohio, and currently their registration fees are a maximum of \$30 per year).

SB 1010 is stuck in Committee. We need help getting it out of Committee and brought to a vote in the Senate and then the House of Representatives.

The AAHC was successful in getting our "No Toll Roads" law into effect on January 1 of this year. It took us ten years to actually get the bill before the Legislature. We cannot wait that long to keep a per mile tax out of here.

We are asking that all concerned citizens e-mail or call their legislators in the Senate and the House of Representatives. Let them know that we are concerned about the "Tax and Spend" effort that is sweeping the country.

Please contact your elected officials. If you are not sure who your officials are, look them up at these sites:

<https://az.gov/search/google/legislative%20districts#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=legislative%20districts>

Senate: <https://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster/?body=S>

House: <https://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster/?body=H>

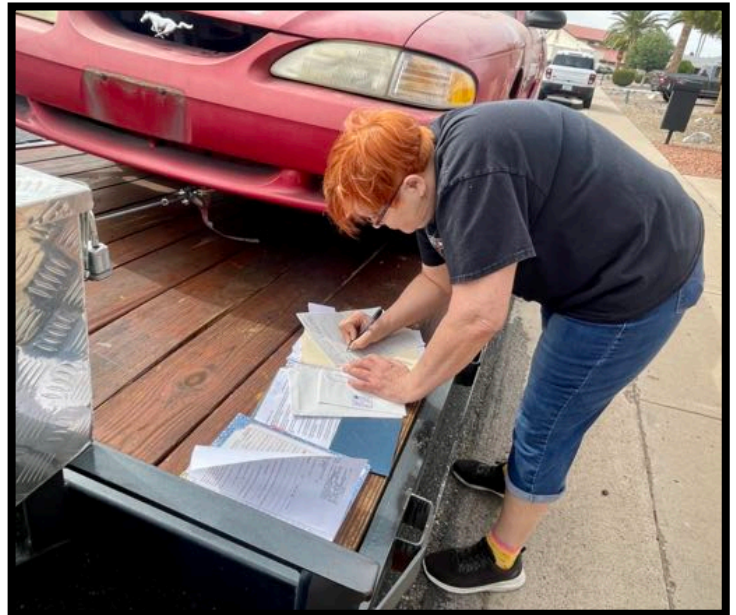
Please forward this to all concerned friends.

Thank you for your time,

The AAHC Board

Donated Cars from Mary Ellen Modrzewski by Tony Giralamo

Here are pictures of the two vehicles that were donated to ARC earlier this month from the estate of member Mary Ellen Modrzewski. Mary Ellen donated a 1972 AMC Gremlin and a 1998 Ford Mustang through her estate, which is being managed by friend Beth Morgan. Both vehicles were towed from Mary Ellen's home in SCW by ARC members Wayne Brand, Craig Landers and Tony Giralamo. The vehicles were later auctioned off to ARC members, netting a total of \$5600. We want to thank the Modrzewski estate for her generous donation to help fund our club.



2025 ARC Raffle Car by Mike Liberatore

The 2025 ARC raffle car has arrived - be sure to stop in and check it out. The board inquired about the car and asked me to bring it in. This was actually my wife's car for the last ten years. It is an Arizona car in fantastic shape. After careful consideration, the board selected it for the next raffle car. (I abstained from voting.)

A little history on the car. I purchased the car for my wife about ten years ago. She wanted this color combination and no other. I searched for several months before finding it in Monterey, California. I flew to Monterey, the owners picked me up at the airport, and I drove back to Sun City West.

It is a 2004 Ford Thunderbird in Ice Blue Metallic with tan interior and 60,000 miles on the odometer. The color, Ice Blue Metallic, was only offered in 2004 and only around 100 were ordered with the Sand Interior Package, so the color combination is rather rare. It comes with all the normal options along with a power soft top and the optional hard top with the factory storage rack. My wife is having a bit of seller's remorse so I am sure she will be buying several tickets, but whoever wins, they will be very happy.

Stop by the shop and check it out, I think you'll be impressed. Tickets are available for purchase in the shop.

Just to stop any rumors, I have been asked several times if I donated the car. While I did not outright donate the car, I did sell it to the club at a substantial discount. Now that we have a car, it would be a good time to step up and volunteer to help run the raffle. John Kunch said he is willing to help out on his days off. If another member can join John we should have another successful raffle. You lady members are more than welcome also. Every time my wife helped me, she always sold more tickets than me.

We are still considering my idea of giving every member a minimum of five tickets to sell. It just makes common sense - we have 700 members and only about five members are actually selling. I have sold them to the lady who cuts my hair, my landscaper, guys in my car club back in Wisconsin, friends, family... it should be rather easy for everyone to buy or sell five tickets over the next 10 months. Heck, the Girl Scouts have it figured out! This would allow us to eliminate driving the car all over the valley and concentrate on the events within SCW. This also will reduce the liability we undertake every time we jump behind the wheel.

Support your club and do your part to make ARC one of the best clubs in SCW.

Thank you.

2004 Ford Thunderbird Raffle Car



Welcome to "In For Repairs"!

Linda Victor

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 stewelinda2004@earthlink.net or call 623-214-1090 with the information. I will be in contact with the individual by e-mail, and will follow up with a card and special note from ARC.

We know that many of our members are facing some challenges right now but wish to remain private. We are thinking of all of you and wishing you brighter days ahead. Don't forget to let me know if you hear of someone I should be in contact with.

Digger Curtis (#648) We are saddened to hear about the loss of your son at such a young age. Please know that we are thinking about you at this difficult time.

Mike McGuire (#414) Mike, we are saddened to hear that you are facing difficult health issues. Please know that we are thinking of you and continue sending prayers your way.

In Memoriam:

Don Holman (#330) We are saddened at the loss of our dear friend, Don. He brought smiles to so many faces. Our thoughts and prayers are with Caryn, his son, and his family at this difficult time. He will be missed by many.



Western State Bank car show

Just to let everyone know, Western State Bank has changed their Friday car show to the third Friday of the month. It is not a super big show but comes with free pizza and drinks.

Safety and Monitor Instructors Needed

from Craig Landers

We need more safety and monitor instructors for our every other week training. It takes from forty-five minutes to an hour to instruct the new members. If you are interested in becoming an instructor contact me at the club or message me on GroupWorks.

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.

Students on Great Race

Herb Clark (former ARC member and President) is working with students that will participate in this year's Great Race. See the following:

The Great Race team needs your help! This year we are sending 11 students across the country in two race cars, this 1941 Ford Super Deluxe and 1972 Mercury Cougar! We are looking for potential sponsors and donations for the 2024 season!

If you would like to donate, click here:

<https://commerce.cashnet.com/fnd>

Or, you can mail a check to the following address:

St. Louis Community Foundation (make check out to this name)

3321 McKelvey Road

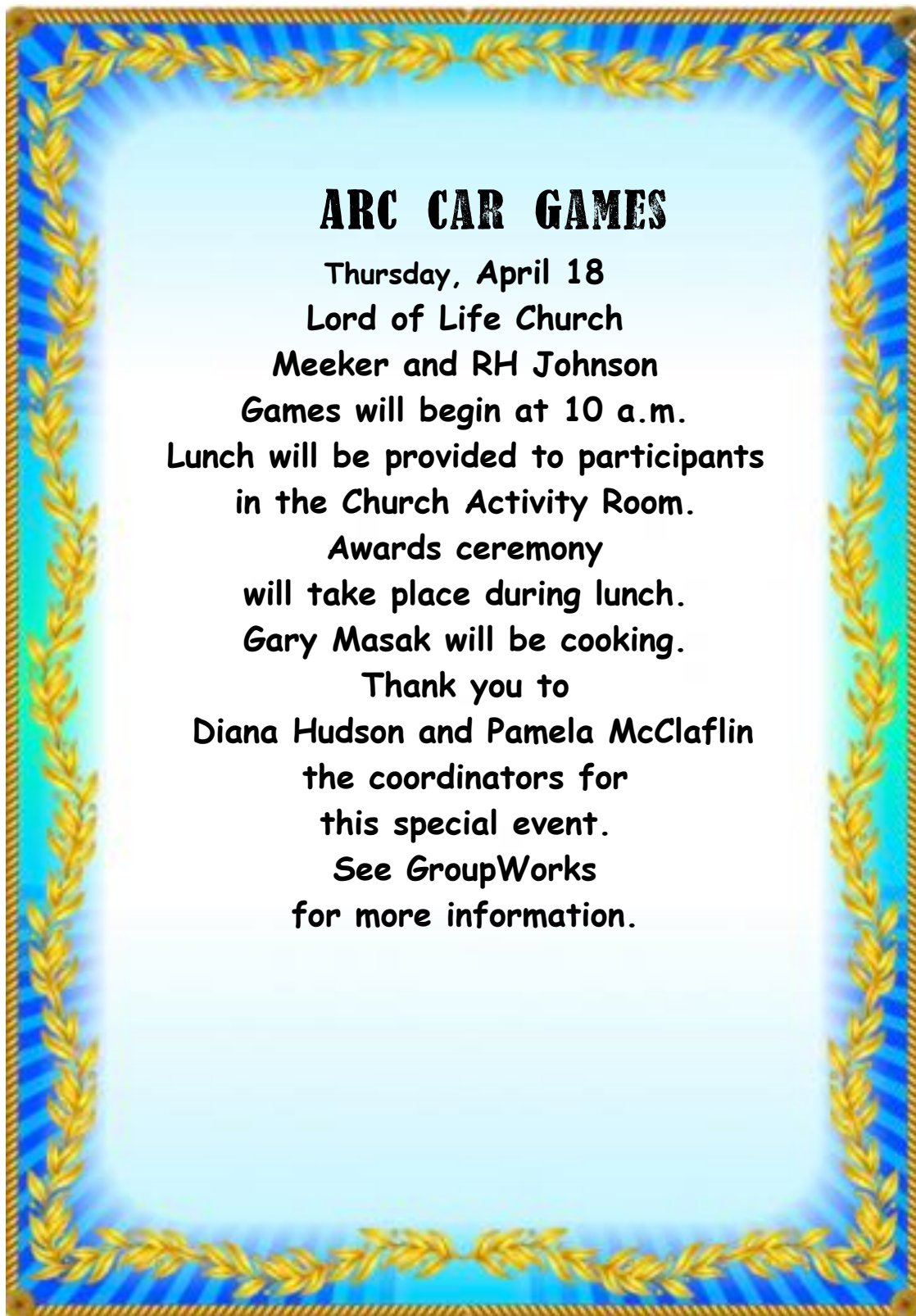
Bridgeton, MO 63044

If you would like to become a sponsor in exchange for advertising space, we have space available! Contact Josh Walker at jwalker@stlcc.edu for more info.

Thank you for your support!

The Rusty Nuts Team thanks everyone for their continuing submissions to our monthly letter. In our newsletters we try to include information about our club members , club activities, goings on around the town, historic articles about cars and general car information. Please feel free to contact us with an article of something fun to read. We are always open to suggestions.

Ellen and the team



ARC CAR GAMES

Thursday, April 18

Lord of Life Church

Meeker and RH Johnson

Games will begin at 10 a.m.

**Lunch will be provided to participants
in the Church Activity Room.**

**Awards ceremony
will take place during lunch.**

Gary Masak will be cooking.

Thank you to

**Diana Hudson and Pamela McClafin
the coordinators for
this special event.**

**See GroupWorks
for more information.**

Old Cars in Cuba, March 2024

by James McLinn ARC

Old cars somehow always bring out the joy and fond memories in many of us. We might call ourselves car fans or motor heads, yet old cars often represent the “good old days” we experienced as youths. Perhaps these cars evoke a memory of good family life, our good times or even memories of an adventure in our youth. That may be why many flock to the ARC as it represents our youth with adventures in cars. The Cubans have similar fond memories of these old cars and have actually preserved many old vehicles. Some are in better condition than when new. Cubans added to old cars as they preserved these classic vehicles.

In Havana and throughout Cuba they have preserved a large number of vehicles from the 1930s through 1959. Stop in Havana next to their central park and look at the row of classic cars. They have the old forms, but carry new interiors, classic and flashy paint jobs and new lights and modern engines. Gone are the flathead motors of the 1950s. These are replaced by overhead valve straight sixes and V8 motors. They still have the same sounds from the past and most still are powered by leaded gasoline. Cruise along the Malecon, an eight-mile strip along the ocean that runs from central Havana west to Hemingway Harbor. Walk along the Prado or through the Parque Central and you are surrounded by the 1950s. Big-bodied vehicles drive the narrow streets with tourists in the back seats of many convertibles. It is always sunny in Havana, with the whiff of gasoline in the air. Colors on the cars exist that never were imagined by Ford or Chevy. Glowing bright coral, bright canary yellow, eye popping purple and day glow orange can all be seen.

Watch as the vehicles go by. There is a 1952 Chevy convertible with white leather interior. Next comes a bright red and white 1957 Ford Fairlane followed by a 1958 Chrysler Imperial with gigantic tail fins and huge tail lights. Drivers and passengers wear Panama hats and some sport fine Cuban cigars. Such a show will surely shake out the lethargy in any retired person. A parade of twelve or more vehicles may be often seen in downtown Havana. A 1949 Olds may be followed by a 1956 T-bird convertible; next comes a 1954 Buick Roadmaster sporting the classic chrome exhaust holes just behind the tires. These might be followed by a 1949 Plymouth sedan and then a 1952 Mercury convertible in bright orange. Next might be a 1955 Cadillac trailed by a 1957 Studebaker Golden Hawk and a 1957 Oldsmobile Super 88. After that comes a 1953 Willys Wagon accompanied by a 1958 Edsel convertible in bright red and white.

Step up to the lineup of classics on the Prado in front of the National Ballet. Negotiate a little with the driver and hop in for a ride you haven't experienced since your youth. The drivers know their cars. The engine purrs while the wind ruffles your hair as you go by classic stone buildings. Young men and women dressed in bright clothes walk along the boulevard with a swing in their step. If it is Sunday you will see families stroll by while horse-drawn carriages ferry tourists in front of the gold-domed Cuban Capitol building, resplendent since it is a copy of the US Capitol. Hudsons with plenty of chrome cruise next to a silver 1960 Corvair and a bright green 1963 Jaguar sedan. This mix now includes many foreign cars of newer times. An old 1970s VW bug may sit next to a 1980s Lada, while a 1990s Hyundai and a 2010 Toyota Land Cruiser park next to a 2018 Mercedes.

Pop the hood on any 1950s car and you may see a new V6 engine combined with an old alternator. Occasional generators still exist and operate in the 1950 bodies. A few may be tricked out with LED headlights, modern side mirrors with LED, or ground effects lights. All tourists are greeted warmly, especially US tourists since they have been scarce during the last four years. While the classic cars remain, the times are changing in Cuba.

Americans are now welcome again and people on the street will express warm feelings towards the US. I heard such sentiments every day I was there. Many Cubans have relatives in Florida, Chicago, Tampa and other cities in California, New York, and Kentucky as these were all mentioned to me. New life is in the air. Cubans are determined to move forward and talk with envy of the US. The travel door is now open for US citizens as it has been for many years prior for Canadians, Italians, Germans and French, all of whom I met on my travels in Cuba. Problems exist there as the legacy of the prior 70 years. Old buildings in decay sit next to modern construction. Electrical power can be a problem outside of Havana, because it is generated with oil.

I have prepared a slide show of cars I saw in Cuba. It will be installed on the computer near the monitors' desk. Have a look at it. Meanwhile, look at the two photos below showing a few cars.



For Sale
ARC Logo Items
Caps
ARC flags and license plates
Breakaway lanyards
Come to the shop and have a look!

TAKE THE...

"Older than Dirt" QUIZ

Do you remember?

1. Drive in Movie Theaters
2. Candy Cigarettes
3. 45 RPM Records
4. Party Telephone Lines
5. Soda Pop Machines with Glass Bottles
6. Butch Wax
7. Studebakers
8. Blackjack Gum
9. Home Economics Class in School
10. 5 and Dime
11. Metal Lunchboxes
12. Books with records
13. Boone's Farm
14. Metal Ice Cube Trays
15. Roller Skate Keys
16. Home Milk Delivery in Glass Bottles
17. Wax Coke Bottle Candy

**Submitted
by Dan Kuhl**



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



Order Your Car Dash Display Plaque

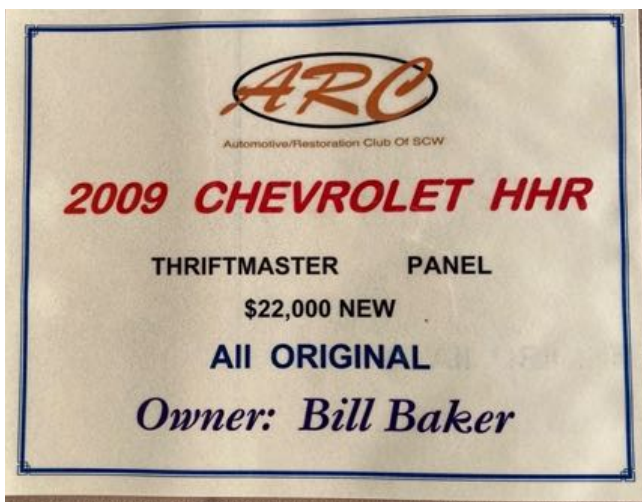
New Display Plaques for your car, golf cart, or bike? It is good for you and fund raising for the club. Get rid of your old, torn, dog-eared displays! The new ones are made with champagne-beige color paper and are laminated with thicker, UV protection pouches.

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

Get yours today!

Especially if you are in any of the many car shows!!



Car Dash Example



Every car needs a Car Dash Display

The team keeps growing.

Join us - write 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 - assistant editor



Dan Kuhl
regular contributor /

Paul Burrier
sends Mike fun ideas from the past /

Jim Hensch
extra photos of events



Always helping in the background



Steve Victor - ARC official photographer

Dean Lewellen - entertaining articles

ARC CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

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Craig Landers, President

Ray Peterson, 1st VP

Gene Wojtyna 2nd VP

Lynnette Saylor, Secretary

Ron Rada, 1st Treasurer

Ray Helt, 2nd Treasurer



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

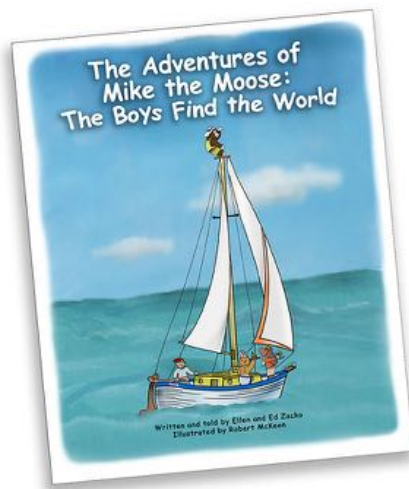
ARC Newsletter contact - mikezackaroonie@gmail.com

or Ellen Zacko 623-374-3056, to leave a message

A Message from Mike the Moose

You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, the encountering may be the very experience which creates the vitality and the power to endure.

Maya Angelou, poet and Mike the Moose



Mike's book is available at the PORA store on Camino Del Sol - stop in and shop for gifts made in Sun City West!!

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
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