



# Sidelights



MARCH 2025

Volume 68 Issue 2 <https://southfloridaregion.aaca.com>



THE 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**ART DECO**  
WEEKEND  
PRESENTED BY THE MIAMI DESIGN PRESERVATION LEAGUE

SAVE THE PLANET  
BUY A CAR THAT LASTS  
100 YEARS

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\*deceased

***SIDELIGHTS*****March 2025****Volume 68 Issue 2****Jean Hawa, Editor**[aacasouthfloridaregion@gmail.com](mailto:aacasouthfloridaregion@gmail.com)

*Sidelights* is the official publication of the South Florida Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America. It has been published continuously since June 1958. The paper informs members of local and state activities, club functions, meeting dates and has articles of general interest for the car enthusiast. All articles and stories may be reproduced if proper credit is given.

The views and opinions expressed in the articles in *Sidelights* are those of the named author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, the Board of Directors of the A.A.C.A. South Florida Region or members of the club.

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**IT'S PAST TIME FOR YOUR 2025 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Membership for the A.A.C.A. South Florida Region is from January 1 to December 31. AACA South Florida annual dues are \$45.00. If you haven't already responded to the club's email to renew, it is easy to do. Simply go online to <https://southfloridaregion.aaca.com>, click on MEMBERSHIP, click on CLICK TO RENEW NOW and fill in the appropriate information. **Important items to complete are addresses, phone numbers, email address, and, most importantly, your car(s). PLEASE TYPE ACCURATELY.** Payment can be done online, too. **Just follow the instructions on the screen.**

To be a member of the A.A.C.A. South Florida Region, you must be a member of AACA National. The application is available at [www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org). You should have received the information in the latest issue of *Antique Automobile*. **DO NOT SEND** the National application to the local office.

**IF YOU ARE NOT RENEWING** kindly let Membership Chair Ed Medina know. For those of you who have renewed on time, thank you.

Hi members of the AACA South Florida Region,

I want start by saying that we really appreciate all the members (226 families) currently in our club. Our first show was Art Deco weekend for two days on January 18 and 19, where we had an awesome turnout on both days. Thank you all for coming out, enjoying the beautiful cars and weather and congratulations to all the members that got a award. Thanks to show chairman Ira Shapiro, Ed Medina- registration, and day of show helpers- Millie and Manny Garcia, Maurice and Jean Hawa, Al Padilla, Angel Aulet and the Miami Beach Police Department. They all did a great job. Thank you everyone.

On February 1<sup>st</sup> we were invited to tour two sites in Broward County, the Dauer Museum of Classic Cars and Breathless Racing. We had a great turn out. I know we all had a good time. Paula Perez and Benjamin Cardonne made arrangements to serve breakfast and lunch for us. Thanks for the great food. I want to thank Millie and Manny Garcia and Yovanna Hernández for their help on serving breakfast. Then, on February 9<sup>th</sup>, we just did a wonderful cruise-in at Cauley Square Historic Village with 89 beautiful cars showing up that day. Thanks to Ed Medina for making this event happen and Jorge Salazar and Angel Aulet for helping park the cars. Our usual 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday evening General Membership Meeting has been changed to Saturday morning, February 22<sup>nd</sup> so Manny Garcia and other certified AACA judges will be doing a session on judging AACA style. The Vizcaya Village Auto Fest will be on the last Sunday in February. Thanks to Ira Shapiro for making this show happen. Due to space constraints, we are maxed out with 50 cars pre-registered. A waiting list has been started.

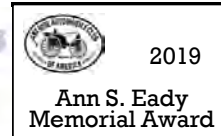
March will also be a busy month for our club. The Biltmore Way Classic Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show is set for March 2, 2025. This is for original or restored to original autos, trucks and motorcycles, judged by AACA rules. Vehicles have to be year 2000 or earlier to qualify. Judges are needed. On March 8th, we join up with the South Florida Mustangs Club to have the Winston Park Classic Car Show. Our club has been invited back to East Ridge Village for a vintage car show on March 15th for the senior residents to reminiscence.

Remember, you could always look up on our club website on the calendar for all upcoming events. There are some good shows coming up. Since the AACA South Florida Region was founded in May of 1955 by Charlie Sebastian, our club will be turning 70 years old. In lieu of the annual picnic we are planning a special event for our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Again, thank to all our members for bringing all your beautiful cars to our events and to all the board members for your help putting on these events. Remember, if you have any ideas, let us know.

See you in our next event.

Your President,  
Tomás Hernández



Here we are, March the third month of 2025, in the middle of a very busy car club season of our 70<sup>th</sup> year of existence. For the past several weeks the South Florida Region and other local car clubs have been holding our own shows or are participating in community or church events to raise money for their organizations, sometimes three events on Saturdays or Sundays. We are extremely fortunate that all of us can pick and choose to participate in the many local activities. Several of our members are active members of other car clubs.

We are continually adding new members because the South Florida Region is a very active club. Each of our car shows has a different personality, a different locale, some judged, most non-judged, most closed and some open. When one looks at the large size of our club, over 200 families, one wonders why we have less than 40% participation. It is not possible to attend every event, but even when we have non-car show events, such as picnics, holiday parties, visits to local museums or private collections, general membership meetings, we have many members we never see. Understandably, there is a very small percentage of those without an antique car, those with health issues/caretaking responsibilities and night driving can be an issue for some. We would prefer to see more participation.

In his monthly message, our club president, Tomás Hernández, writes "Remember, if you have any ideas, let us know". He is serious about this. We have a hobby that provides us with networking, educational opportunities, fun activities, etc. for you. We want to fulfill what our bylaws state: "The purpose of this corporation shall be the appreciation of all motor vehicles of historical interest and to provide an accurate and technical source of information for those interested in such vehicles, their lore, and their information".

Happy Motoring,

*Jean*



**The A.A.C.A. South Florida Region Board Meeting of Tuesday, January 7, 2025, was called to Order by President Tomás Hernández at 7:31 p.m., at Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33173.**

**In Attendance:** President Tomás Hernández, Secretary Yovanna Hernández, Treasurer Manny Garcia, Immediate Past President Millie Garcia and Board Members Benjamin Cardonne, George Harvey, Jean Hawa, Thomas Kosky, Ed Medina, Mike Penn, Paula Valentina Perez, Jorge Salazar, Ira Shapiro, and Bob Squier.

**Establish a Quorum:** President Tomás Hernández was able to establish a quorum with 14 members of the board present.

**First Order of Business - Acceptance of Board Meeting Minutes from Previous Meeting:** President Tomás Hernández asked if everyone present had read the minutes of the November board meeting (there was no meeting in December); if so, and if there were no questions, comments, or corrections, would someone move to accept the minutes as posted. Paula Valentina Perez made a motion to accept the minutes, Jean Hawa seconded it. Having no other discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

**Second Order of Business – Treasurer's Report:** Manny Garcia presented a reconciliation statement for December from the club's bank account. Manny added that with membership renewals, new memberships, monthly expenses such as coffee and dessert at the board and general meetings, storage rental fee and the printing and mailing of *Sidelights*, our treasury is sound.

**Third Order of Business – Membership Report:** Ed Medina reported that as of now we have 221 active families. He informed us that more than 81 percent of members have renewed already, and approximately 36 people need to finalize their renewal.

**General Membership Meeting (January 16, 2025):** Ed Medina informed us that this month the guest speaker will be Mario Morejon from Florida Hot Rods. He will be speaking about his business of full house fabrication, welding, restoration, frame-off and custom work. Ed Medina proposed having our next month's general meeting instead of on a Thursday night, to have it on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at his warehouse. In this meeting we will be talking about all judging rules and regulations. Ed encouraged members to bring their antiques out. All board members were in favor of Ed's proposal.

**Holiday Party Report:** Yovanna Hernández reported that the party turned out great. She said that everyone seemed to have had a wonderful time and enjoyed the venue and the food. She also mentioned that DJ Elvis did a great job with the slide show presentation and the music had some people dancing the night away. Tomás Hernández added that Al Padilla's Buick and the beautiful backdrop was the crowd's favorite for picture taking

and he thanked Al and his wife Miriam and Jorge and Maria Feria for all their help.

Ed Medina said that he was sorry for missing out due to his wife and him being sick, and that he's looking forward to next year to which he added that we should start preparing for our 2025 Holiday party by looking for a venue. He suggested creating a committee as soon as possible.

**Art Deco Weekend Classic Auto Show (January 18-19, 2025):** Ira Shapiro reported that we have 60 cars pre-registered for Saturday and 97 cars pre-registered for Sunday. He reminded us that we need the table, table cover and chairs and that he will be bringing doughnuts and coffee for Saturday and bagels and coffee for Sunday. He thanked Mike Penn for the Williamson Cadillac sponsorship. He added that trophies have been ordered. He stated that on each day there will be twelve winners with one Best of Show and needs members to help park the cars.

**Biltmore Way Classic Auto Show (March 2, 2025):** Manny Garcia reported that everything has been finalized with the City of Coral Gables and since we have credit with them, we will not be charged for parking. He added that all portable toilets are required to be ADA compliant. He also mentioned that we need judges for that day.

#### **Other Club Business:**

- **General meeting guest speakers-** Ed Medina suggested we reach out in person or email to look for a monthly speaker.
- **St. Andrews Car Show (January 25, 2025)-** Ed Medina reminded us to support this show.
- **Eddie Dauer Tour & Breathless Racing (February 1, 2025)-** Ed Medina reported we have 85 people registered. He mentioned that the museum is located in Southwest Ranches. We will be having breakfast and lunch. A committee has been created for this event: Paula Valentina Perez will oversee ordering breakfast and Benjamin Cardonne will be in charge of ordering lunch. Ed will email Paula and Benjamin all information.
- **Classics at Cauley Square (February 9, 2025)-** Ed Medina informed us that this is an open cruise-in show. He said that he and Al Padilla will do a walk-through prior to the show. He added that even if this is not a monetary show, we should have a DJ present. Since DJ Elvis will be out of town, Ed made a motion to hire a DJ for the show. All board members present were in favor.
- **Columbus High School Car Show (February 22, 2025)-** Al Padilla mentioned that this show is presented by Columbus students, and the trophies are car related parts, originals and created by them.
- **Good Shepherd Car Show (February 22, 2025)-**Third Annual Car Show
- **Vizcaya Village (February 23, 2025)-** Ira Shapiro reported that there are 50 cars registered with a 50 cars capacity. He mentioned that we could use the Superintendent's house as a welcoming center. *(continued on page 5)*



Ira said we still need to pullout the liability insurance.

- **Winston Park Car Show (March 8, 2025)**-Ed Medina reported that there are 15 members, and 25 non-members registered. The HOA will provide food trucks, the Mustang club will provide the trophies and DJ. This is the third year that the AACA South Florida Region has been invited to participate.
- **Peterson Harley Davidson (April 5, 2025)**- No registration required.
- **River Cities (April 12-13, 2025)**-Ed Medina mentioned that this is the 2nd Annual Festival for River Cities and they will provide a DJ. The liability certificate has been pulled already.
- **Lucas Alvarez LA6 Classic Car/Truck/ SuperCar / Muscle Car/Motorcycle Show (February 8– 9)** 9 am to 2:30 pm
- **Vintage British English Show (February 15)**- at Broward Mall
- **The Palace Car Show (T.B.D.)** -Mike Penn said that they want cars for their party lunch.
- **Pinecrest Auto Show (March 1)**
- **Memory Lane (September 25 - October 5)**

**Sunshine Report:** Jean Hawa reported that Nancy Bahn passed away on January 6th.

**Adjournment:** With no further club business to discuss, President Tomás Hernández made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. It was unanimously seconded and approved.

Submitted by Yovanna Hernández, Secretary

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**The A.A.C.A. South Florida Region Board Meeting of Tuesday, February 4, 2025, was called to Order by President Tomás Hernández at 7:35 p.m., at Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Miami, FL 33173.**

**In Attendance:** President Tomás Hernández, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Al Padilla, Secretary Yovanna Hernández, Treasurer Manny Garcia, Immediate Past President Millie Garcia and Board Members Chico Goldsmith, George Harvey, Jean Hawa, Thomas Kosky, Ed Medina, Mike Penn, Jorge Salazar, Ira Shapiro, and Bob Squier.

**Establish a Quorum:** President Tomás Hernández was able to establish a quorum with 14 members of the board present.

**First Order of Business - Acceptance of Board Meeting Minutes from Previous Meeting:** President Tomás Hernández asked if everyone present had read the minutes of the January's board meeting; if so, and if there were no questions, comments, or corrections, would someone move to accept the minutes as posted. Jean

Hawa made a motion to accept the minutes, Ira Shapiro seconded it. Having no other discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

**Second Order of Business – Treasurer's Report:** Manny Garcia presented a reconciliation statement for January from the club's bank account. Manny added that with membership renewals, new memberships, monthly expenses such as coffee and dessert at the board and general meetings, storage rental fee and the printing and mailing of *Sidelights*, our treasury is sound.

**Third Order of Business – Membership Report:** Ed Medina reported that as of now we have 226 active families. He informed us that there are still 30 members having to renew and he is waiting until the end of February for the final report.

**General Membership Meeting (February 22, 2025):** This SPECIAL MEETING will take place at 9 a.m. on Saturday at 13500 SW 134 Ave in a warehouse location – We will be discussing how to prepare your vehicle for an AACA judged show. Manny Garcia and other certified AACA Judges will be on hand to cover important factors, detailed tips and tricks.

**Art Deco Weekend Classic Auto Show Report:** Ira Shapiro reported that we had 60 cars on Saturday and 91 cars on Sunday. Ira mentioned that everyone was enjoying the beautiful weather and having fun, and it turned out to be a successful show. He also added that the Miami Design Preservation League has invited us back for next year's Art Deco Show.

Manny Garcia suggested that next year we will try placing the exhibited cars on the opposite side of the street because vendors were complaining that because spectators were walking around the cars, they were missing their tents, and negatively affecting their sales.

**Eddie Dauer Tour & Breathless Racing Report-** Tomás Hernández said it was an awesome event with plenty of food for breakfast at the museum and lunch at the Southwest Ranches (Monica Zima and Ernie Francis Sr. residence). All members present at the meeting thanked Benjamin Cardonne for a well-done job taking care of ordering and setting up everything. Bob Squier thought that we could have done fine with less food for which Ira Shapiro suggested having a budget set prior to any activity. Manny Garcia's opinion is that we should not hesitate about expenses as long as they are used for our own members, once or twice a year. *(continued on page 6)*



(continued from page 5)

Ira Shapiro added that this was a friendly event.

**Classic at Cauley (February 9, 2025)**- Ed Medina said that we have 55 cars pre-registered. He mentioned that Manny Garcia, Jorge Salazar and he have done a walkthrough through the area to decide how to accommodate all the vehicles. A DJ has already been acquired. The show will be from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Vizcaya Village (February 23, 2025)**- Ira Shapiro informed us that everything is in order, including insurance. There are 50 cars already registered. Ira added that he will be doing a tour of the village around 11:00 a.m.

**Biltmore Way Classic Auto Show (March 2, 2025):** Manny Garcia reported we are all set up for the show, that we have 55 cars pre-registered already and trophies and awards have been ordered. He added that Mike Penn will be taking care of all details for the portable toilets. He also mentioned that we still need judges for that day. Ed Medina added that he already received the certificate of insurance.

**Holiday Party (T.B.D.)**- Ed Medina asked the holiday party committee to reserve December 13 as an alternative date for the party until further notice.

Ed Medina reminded us that on May 15, 1955, our club was founded. He proposed that this year, instead of having a yearly club picnic, to have a special 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Since the first club meeting was held at the Miami Outboard Club, it will be nice to use this venue for this commemoration. Ed said he will get all the information necessary and will let us know as soon as possible if this is feasible or not.

#### Other Club Business:

**Columbus High School Car Show (February 22, 2025)**

**Good Shepherd Car Show (February 22, 2025)**

**Corvette Club (February 23, 2025)**

**Winston Park Car Show (March 8, 2025)**-Ed Medina reported that there are 26 cars registered.

**East Ridge Retirement Village (March 15, 2025)**- Jean Hawa mentioned we have 18 pre-registered cars already. She reminded us that there will be food trucks.

**Peterson Harley Davidson (April 5, 2025)**

**River Cities (April 12, 2025)**-Ed Medina informed us that we will be displaying our antique cars only on Saturday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Sunshine Report:** Jean Hawa reported that Phyllis Roscoe

has moved into an assistance facility, Duff Matson severely hurt his leg and Hector Chinae and his wife had a car accident.

**Adjournment:** With no further club business to discuss, President Tomás Hernández made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. It was unanimously seconded and approved.

Submitted by Yovanna Hernández, Secretary

### JANUARY 16, 2025 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Reported by Jean Hawa

For our first general meeting of the year, guest speaker Mario Morejon gave us a wonderful presentation about how his business, Florida Hot Rods, offers a full in-house fabrication, welding, restoration, frame off, and custom work. His passion for quality workmanship started when he bought his first car and wanted to make it perfect. His crew does many other things such as full Restomods and Custom drivetrain swaps. They also can do amazing restoration work with floorboards, panels, patches etc.. Rather than using reproduction parts, they can save and repair original doors, fenders and panels.

President Hernández presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mario Morejon.





**ART DECO WEEKEND CLASSIC CAR FEST 2025  
JANUARY 18-19, 2025 BY ED MEDINA**

Our club had another amazing weekend for the annual Art Deco Weekend Classic Car Show on South Beach. Saturday was a slightly overcast day, but still a beautiful day with temperatures in the high 70's to low 80's. Many cars turned out for the open car show on Saturday, but we could have used a little more; some people might have shied away because of being unsure if it would rain or not. As it turned out to be a great day for a car show, Sunday was even better. We had around 90 classics lined up from 5<sup>th</sup> street to the end of 10<sup>th</sup> street, adorning Ocean Drive as thousands of spectators enjoyed and marveled at the collection of automobiles. The Miami Beach city mayor even stopped by and spent a good time enjoying the classic cars.

Show Chair Ira Shapiro adds: "Remember the cars are the stars. But, without the help of several of our members this show wouldn't happen. I can't do this alone. Ed Medina, Tomás Hernández, Jorge Salazar, Paula Perez, Angel Aulet, Hector China, Millie Garcia, Jean & Maurice Hawa, your help is invaluable and a big part of the show success. Next time you see or talk to any of those folks be sure to say thank you. It's also very important to thank both Williamson Automotive Group and

the Miami Dade Design Preservation League for their continued support and sponsorship of our club".



L: 1969 Mercedes-Benz

Board members Millie, Manny, Ed, Tomás, Ira and Ben taking a break.



Show Chair Ira Shapiro presents Mike Penn of Williamson Cadillac with an appreciation plaque.



1931 Chrysler Airflow

PHOTO CREDITS:  
Jean Hawa  
Al Padilla



Jorge guides a driver who is backing up to park



(continued on page 8)





**Best of Show:**  
1959 Cadillac Eldorado- Pedro Sanchez



**11 Winners:**



1948 Buick Super-Octavio Mendizabel



L: 1955 Pontiac Star Chief- Ricardo Montero



1957 Chevrolet Bel Air- Anthony Jimenez



1962 Chevrolet Corvair-Richard Ortiz



1966 Mustang Shelby Cobra GT350H-Tony Simon



1967 Plymouth Belvedere- Urshula Udic



L: 1972 Oldsmobile 442 convertible- Lee Elmslie



R: 1972 Mercedes Benz Z80 SEL- Irwin Adler



1974 Triumph-George Radelat



1974 Pantera- Mike Arias



1975 Corvette- Artie Fernandez

(continued on page 9)







**BEST OF SHOW:** 1925 Alvis - John and Celia Layzell  
Celebrating its 100th year of existence, the Alvis has been in John's family since it was brand new.  
(see cover page for full view)

11 WINNERS



L: 1955 Buick Century convertible- Al and Miriam Padilla



R: 1955 Chrysler Deluxe Town & Country - Irwin Adler



1959 Ford Fairlane 500- Bob Mayer



1960 Austin Healey- Juan Penedo



R: 1964 Alfa Romeo Giulietta 3000- George Nuñez



1966 Chevrolet Corvette- Barry Delphus



1968 Porsche 912- Jorge Andrade



1969 VW Beetle- Hector China



1974 BMW 2002 - Jose Pacheco



R: 1985 Porsche 911- Danilo Espinal

L: 1974 Chevrolet Corvette- Jeffrey Roth





**St. Andrew's Car Show 2025**

By Ed Medina

Today at the St. Andrews Car Show over 160 vehicles showed up for an amazing event for a great cause and charities.

Awards were handed out to many different car owners in many different categories, some special hand made awards were also passed out for special categories and Best of Show awards. One special award passed out was for the **BEST CLUB TURNOUT**. While there were many individual car clubs represented, many of those members also belong to what we believe to be the PREMIER Car Club in South Florida and that is your club! The trophy was awarded to the **AACA South Florida Region** for having the most club participants at today's show!

Pat yourself on the back because without every single one of you this club would not be what it is!

**Congratulations to each and every single member, and thank you for showing up today!**

Photos by Jean Hawa



Sam Huttig's 1931 Ford

L-R:  
Robert Hernandez,  
Tania Santiago-Mirabel,  
Conrado Vazquez,  
and Tony Hernandez



Volkswagens were plentiful



On display at the entrance of the car show was Ed Williamson's personal 1960 Cadillac Eldorado. As one of several sponsors, his dealership showcased three modern Cadillac vehicles in another area.



Jorge Salazar's 1964 VW Type II Deluxe

Anthony Noboa's 1969 VW Beetle

Hector Chinae's 1964 VW Beetle

R: 1965 VW Karmann Ghia



Having a fire station across the street from the church's car show field was very convenient for Metro-Dade Firefighters Local 1403 that provided community outreach.

Besides displaying their merchandise, members showcased an antique fire truck that was meticulously restored by the firefighters over many years.



Tony Hernandez's 1952 Chevrolet 3100 pick-up



Array of sports cars



Philip Williams' 1998 Pontiac 6000 Station wagon



L-R: Ford Mustangs: Robert Hernandez's 1970 & Ed Medina's 1965



NASCAR from Homestead Miami Speedway



Array of Cobras



Array of Corvettes



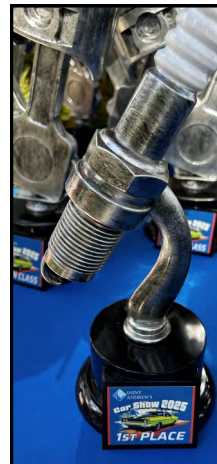
Jay Mullinix's 1963 Chevrolet Corvette



Cliff Gibson's 1992 Chevrolet Corvette



The awards were very car oriented. Of all the car clubs in the area, the AACA South Florida Region had the most cars at the show and received the award on the left.





## GOOD BYE OLD FRIEND

By Ira Shapiro

After thirty years of ownership and loving care, my 1968 MGB/GT went off to a new home and caretaker. Despite the fond memories, it was a bit sad watching it drive off to its new home.

My first car was a 1965 MGB roadster that my brother sold me for the cost of a title transfer back in 1972. It was my daily driver for the next eleven years, but by 1983 I wanted a car with air conditioning that didn't leak every time it rained. The MG ended up under a tarp in my parents' back yard. After years of it languishing under a tarp, I decided it was time to find another MG and move the roadster on to someone else. I found the 1968 MGB/GT in Orlando. To this day I still have tinges of remorse for selling the '65 B; it was my first car with lots of fun memories.

Before I really started to enjoy the B/GT, I wanted it to be inspected by a mechanic. An article in the North American MG Register magazine listed recommended MG mechanics in the country. The only shop recommended in Florida was in South Miami about a ten-minute drive from the house, J's Automotive. I took the car in and met Jay Mullinix, a fellow member of our car club. He went through the car and made sure it ran and stopped properly. That was the beginning of a 30-year relationship with my mechanic and friend. Jay has been the only person to do mechanical work on my MGB/GT.

Having enjoyed the car for quite some time, it was now time to repaint the car. The previous owners had covered the car with a sheet of plastic which had glued itself to the horizontal surfaces. When the sheet came off it took a bunch of paint with it. I made a deal with the body shop adjacent to my business to paint the car. I would strip and prepare the car for painting; they would do what little body work the car needed. I chose not to remove the engine or paint the engine compartment. In my thirty years of stewardship, the engine never needed to come out of the car. Once the car was painted, I spent a week cleaning the inside of the car and installing all the trim and glass. I was afraid of scratching my new paint job.

Painted, clean and ready to drive, it was now time to truly enjoy the car and get involved in the car community. I joined the British Car Club Miami Center and soon became its president. We participated in car shows but mostly got together on Sunday morning to drive somewhere for coffee and breakfast. Through the car club, I got notification of a statewide MG show in Titusville, Florida and registered the car. My six-year-old



daughter joined me at the MG weekend. Along with a fabulous car display we took a driving tour of the Kennedy Space Center. While on our driving tour we stopped for a closer look at the crawler that had just delivered a shuttle to the launch pad. Until you stand next to it or better under it, its immense size doesn't really come into focus. When we finally got back into the car, Rebecca gave me a stone she found. I put the stone in the ashtray where it stayed for the next 28 years. It now sits on a shelf next to my diecast model of the GT.

Coming home one day with the family, we passed a house with several classic cars parked in front. I stopped to see who these folks were and how I could join in with my MG. It was a gathering of the Vintage Motor Car Club of America. While I was looking at the cars I met Maurice Hawa, a fellow AACA member. I told him about my car, he suggested I join the South Florida Region of the AACA since my car didn't qualify for the local VMCCA club. I signed up and as the saying goes, "the rest is history". In the intervening years, my MG and I would do regular Sunday drives from our neighborhood to Key Biscayne for breakfast. In the beginning, it was with other AACA members and British Car Club members but eventually that group dwindled to Bob Squier ('67 Austin Healey 3000) and Philip Williams ('88 Pontiac 6000 Safari station wagon). On a couple of occasions, the MG and I would join several other Brit car guys down at the Homestead Racetrack to run parade laps around the road course during lunch break on a sports car race that weekend. On another visit, I had an opportunity to drive the banked oval track. Another time I joined the Lotus Club at the track to drive the banked track. Starting out slowly, building up speed, we started doing laps of the track.

Eventually the MG was running at an indicated 100 mph on the back stretch barreling toward turn 3. The approaching turn loomed in the windshield like a giant wall of asphalt, I let off the gas, what a mistake that was, the car lost momentum and fell to the bottom of the corner. The laws of physics are real; *(continued on page 13)*



(continued from page 12) it took another lap to build up enough momentum to stay at the top of the track through turn 3. What an absolute blast that was. The MG and I visited the track a couple of times more. As a member of the South Florida Region, I went to many cars shows as well as a couple of AACA Winter National Meets. The car was always shown in the HPOF (Historic Preservation of Original Features). Although well taken care of, I never intended it to be a concours level car. I prefer to drive it and not worry about it getting dirty. That philosophy eventually led to the floor on the driver's side rusting and developing several holes. However, I continued to soldier on and enjoy the car.



Seen at Art Deco



L: Seen at the Vizcaya Farm Villa. The 1968 MGB/GT Mark II is positioned in front of the historic building that will serve as the Vizcaya's Staff Residence hosting archival exhibits and a reference library for research.





**Mopar for the Win "The People's Choice"  
Elegance of the Palm Beaches  
By Ricardo Kramer**

What a fantastic way to kick off the year at the Elegance of the Palm Beaches concours event, held on January 12<sup>th</sup> at the West Palm Beach Waterfront. This prestigious event marked the grand finale of the 8-day Supercar Week. The weather was perfect, and the excitement was palpable, especially with Grand Marshal and charity spokesperson Mr. Wayne Carini from *Chasing Classic Cars* in attendance.

The concours featured an impressive array of cars across multiple classes, including the highly anticipated "People's Choice" award. I had the privilege of entering my 1968 Plymouth GTX, equipped with the rare optional 426 Hemi and 4-speed transmission, in the original stock condition class. Voters cast their ballots via a QR code voting system, and it was thrilling to see such an enthusiastic turnout of car enthusiasts appreciating the iconic Muscle Car era.

When the votes were tallied, my GTX claimed over 30% of the total votes, earning the coveted People's Choice award. During the ceremony, Mr. Carini reminded the crowd that the people had spoken, and the Muscle Car era truly represented the golden age of the automobile industry. It was an unforgettable experience to be part of such a distinguished event and to have my car recognized among the best of the best!



**Cadillac & LaSalle Car Show at  
Ed Morse Bayview Cadillac  
Ft. Lauderdale  
November 10, 2024  
Submitted by Mike Penn**

Lenny Constance and his team put on the fifth annual amazing car show at Bayview Cadillac. The Cadillac LaSalle Club of Ft. Lauderdale presented GM's finest Cadillacs. It was a sunny day where 40 beautiful Cadillacs were on display.

Those vehicles included:

- 1958 Eldorado Biarritz Convertible owned by Lisa Kelly
- 1961 Convertible owned by Dr. Eddie Dauer
- 1954 Convertible owned by Denis Manieri (This was a National Zenith Award Winner!)
- 1939 Fleetwood owned by Bob McKenney

My 1976 Eldorado Convertible with 38,045 original miles won first place in the class of 1970's Cadillac's. (see photo below this article)

The event included barbequed hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks for everyone! There were raffle tickets for giveaway's of Cadillac memorabilia. The DJ added pleasant music to round out the day.

A beautiful time was had by all.





# Welcome New Members

## Zave and Celia Aberman

1986 Mercedes190 16v

## Ander and Angelina Acevedo

1979 Ford F-250

## Claudio Marcelo and Rosario Beruvides

1969 Pontiac GTO Ram Air IV

## Tyler Cicirello

1973Toyota FJ43

## Alejandro Rossana Mendez-Clay

1953 Buick Special Series 40 Coupe

## Enrique M. Cortinas and Vivian L. More

1971 Volkswagen Super Beetle

## Richard Dalkranian

1991 Oldsmobile

## Raul del Portillo

1936 Jensen-Ford Cabriolet

1972 Jensen Interceptor 3

1974 Jensen Interceptor 3

## Johnny C Fernandez

2000 Dodge Viper GTS

## Ernie and Monica Zima Francis

1931 Ford Model A

1931 Chevrolet Independence

## Norman Gerstein

1955 Ford Thunderbird

## Michael and Nancy Horowitz

## Bernard G. and Joan Koether

1931 Cadillac 37A Fleetwood 7 Passenger

## Ricardo and Dalia Ortiz

1962 Chevrolet Corvair

## Ricardo and Noris Rivera

1965 Ford Mustang

## Alfred J. Robbins

1969 Chevrolet Camaro

## Antonio J. And Maria E. Sanchez

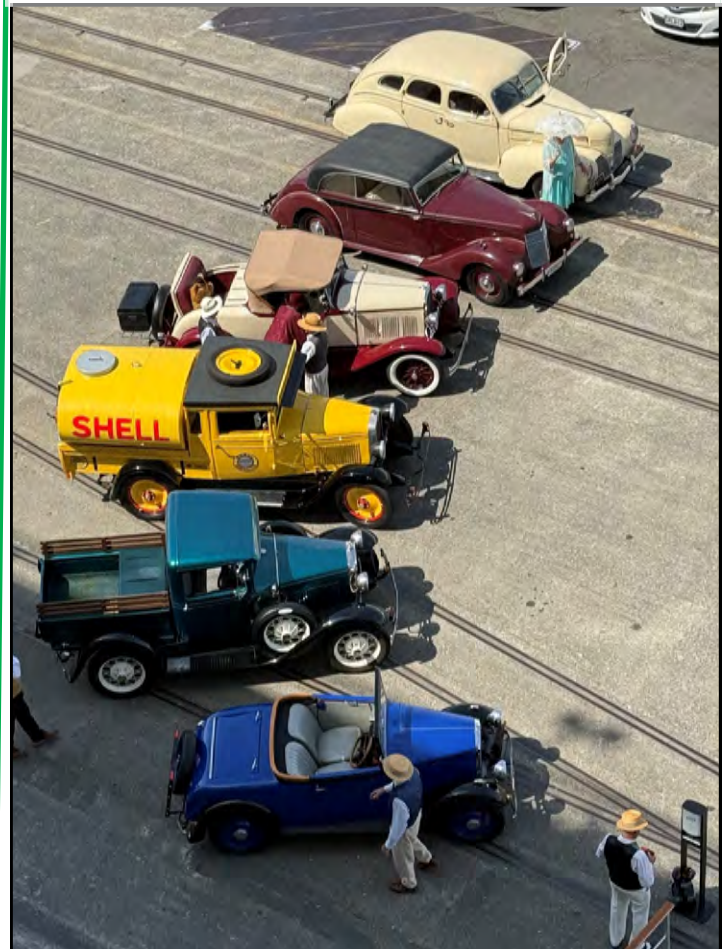
2003 Porsche 911S

2000 Porsche Boxster S

## Urshula Udics

1967 Plymouth Belvedere

Classic Cars at Napier Port in New Zealand



On February 5<sup>th</sup> David Hicks sent the above photo with the following comment: "I especially liked the blue Austin. I took the photo from our Azamara's cabin balcony after returning from two visits to wineries. Salud! "



[NOTE: (1) The article below was published in the March 2022 issue Volume 67 NO. 03 of "The Road Map", pp.14-15, the newsletter of the New Jersey Region of AACA, edited by Jay DeBoey. The article is written by Rich Reina, who is published here, with Rich's, Jay's and new editor Dick Bettles permission.] (2) If anyone has a comment or questions about Rich's technical articles, please let Editor Hawa know [jmhawa@comcast.net], so it can be forwarded to Rich.

Last month's introduction to nuts and bolts was an overview of bolt specs, including diameter, length, hardness, and thread pitch. This month's subject is removing stubborn fasteners. To prepare, I researched the topic online by reading articles and watching videos. Much of what I saw was not new to me. However, at no time during these searches did anyone address a critically important question for us in the antique automobile hobby, which is, "how valuable or irreplaceable is the component with the stuck fastener?" The answer is vital because some attempts at fastener removal run the risk of damage to the fastener and/or the component. Be able to answer that question as you proceed. Never rush this process. Move slowly and methodically. Walk away and return later rather than angrily try something which could cause damage.

First: is the fastener really stuck, or do you not have good access to it? Can components be moved to gain better access? For example, engine manifold bolts may be partially blocked by a valve cover, and you think you can reach them without removing the cover, but the socket keeps slipping. Although it takes time, removal of the valve cover gives you unimpeded access to those manifold bolts, so do it!

Sockets or wrenches which sit on a bolt head at an angle

won't provide maximum grip and won't break a tight fastener loose. Use 6-point, not 12-point wrenches and sockets for a firmer grip. Find the ideal combination of extensions, sockets, universals, and ratchet handles to ensure that the tool sits squarely on the fastener. Once I was unable to remove the final bolt holding a starter motor in my Mustang until I drove to the hardware store and bought a ¼" drive u-joint adapter. With that \$5 tool, that bolt came right out, but I wasted 2 hours trying it with the wrong tools.



*U-joint extensions are available as ¼", 3/8" and ½" drive as well as sockets*

Now that you have the best tools on it, do you need more leverage? BEFORE GOING FURTHER, accept the possibility that additional force may break the fastener. If that happens, will you be able to drill out the broken stud, or is the component ruined? Before you get out the breaker bar, try breaking that bond using chemicals or extreme temperature changes. Well-known solvents like Liquid Wrench or PB Blaster are readily available, and at least one should be a stock item in your workshop. When I've restored cars, I've used non-aerosol cans of Liquid Wrench in liquid form which allowed me to completely immerse components for an overnight soak (an advantage to removing the part from the car). Patience is key: liberally spray the fastener and give it a chance to do its job; this could be several hours and could involve multiple applications. *(continued on page 17)*



*PB Blaster spray operates with can upside-down; 'liquid' Liquid Wrench allows lengthy soaking*



If that didn't do it, a temperature change might. Let's understand the principle at work: when heated, metal expands. If it's possible to heat the component into which the bolt is threaded, the metal will expand AWAY from the fastener, breaking the bond. Try to avoid heating the fastener itself. Of course, be certain that the component can tolerate heat (must I say not try this on stuck fuel pump bolts?) and make sure that the heat isn't excessive. Small propane tanks can be bought in any hardware store. Keep the flame focused on as small an area as possible, and without burning yourself, try the tool on the fastener as soon as you remove the heat source.



*To break these bolts loose, heat is aimed at flywheel,*

A recent addition to our arsenal which is the opposite of the torch (aka The Blue Wrench), is cold temperature spray in a can. One well-known brand advertises that a spray application "instantly freezes surfaces to minus 60 degrees F". Aim to blast the cold onto the fastener itself, to shrink it away from the component. I have personally not tried this, but friends have told me that they have put components in a freezer overnight (without telling the spouse?) with some success.

After you've tried the chemical and temperature approaches, you're ready to apply more force. Use a longer wrench/ratchet/breaker bar, but first, "index" the parts by marking the bolt head and the component as a visual gauge. Try turning the bolt 1/8 of a turn counter-clockwise. If it moves, try turning it clockwise again. This accomplishes two things: one, it helps break the bond, and two, you should get a feel whether you're spinning the entire bolt (good) or twisting the bolt (bad). It may take some experience to tell the feel of one from the other. If it's suddenly too easy to turn, you may be twisting it, not turning it. Expect some resistance throughout the removal if it was truly corroded in place.

I asked at the start, "how valuable or irreplaceable is the component with the stuck fastener?" If you've gotten the

stubborn fastener removed, congrats! But if the bolt has snapped and you still need to remove it, we must resort to other options, which we will cover in our next Ramblings.



**The Macungie Truck Show**  
**By John McCarthy**  
**VP—Endowments**

The town Macungie in Pennsylvania and surrounding states is synonymous with car shows. From June to September there are several shows each month at Macungie Memorial Park--to name a few the General Motors Show, Antique Truck Show (three days in their 44th year), Das Awkscht Fescht sponsored by the Ontelaunee Region AACA (three days in their 61st year), Corvette Show, Wheels of Time (three days featuring hot rods and customs), plus many cruise nights with a large number of food truck vendors.

Then in mid-June there is the Antique Truck Show sponsored by the Antique Truck Club of America headquartered in Boyertown, PA. Not only is this a large show with close to a thousand trucks, but the trucks are also really BIG. While there may be a couple of handfuls of F-150's, Dakota's, and Silverado's, the vast majority of the trucks are Kenworth's, Brock way's, International's, Peterbilt's, Sterling's, and of course, Mack, whose factory is a few miles away. Many of these trucks are trailered by even bigger trucks for states in the South, Mid-west and Canada. There is also a large selection of orphaned trucks going back to the early 1900's like Autocar, Diamond T, Hahn, Detroit Diesel powered Studebakers, DIVCO, Moreland, REO and even Crosley. Crosley owners should never complain about detailing their trucks-- just think about what the Peterbilt owners have to go through.

Since I don't have a truck, what is nice about this show is that I don't have anything to do other than roam around and enjoy the trucks. There is also a large selection of vendors selling truck parts and truck models and toys. To get a good feel of this show there is an excellent video on YouTube "the trucks arriving at the Macungie Truck Show in 2023".



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### Membership

**Paula Ruby, Vice-President**

Membership of AACA is like what gas and oil are to an automobile. Without the gas and oil there would not be a running motor and the motor is the heart of soul of Membership building. I would like to welcome you to YOUR National Convention in Chantilly, Virginia. Increasing our membership is the responsibility of each and every current member.

As Vice President of Membership, I am here to help each and every one of our members to offer the gift of membership to your friends and family. Some of the many tools that are at your fingertips are tri-fold brochures, the Mustang cut-out and the Military Program. This program can be offered to anyone who is presently serving or has retired from the Military. It will give them their first-year membership dues "FREE". All of the material can be obtained by just calling Headquarters and they will be happy to send them out to you.

Membership building is something that we need to do on a daily basis. Think of the many people that you talk to at your local gas station, car parts stores and food markets. Let us remember that males are not the only people that have cars, there are a lot of females that love and show their cars as well. Let's not forget the girl and boy students in our trade schools as well.

Let's keep the motor running and make 2024 the year of the Challenge. The challenge being that each present member finds at least one new friend and give them the gift that never stops giving of Membership to AACA.



Proud to be among America's first planned communities, the City of Coral Gables was incorporated on April 29, 1925 and will be celebrating its centennial anniversary throughout 2025 with programs and events commemorating this historic milestone.

For the first event, Guy Lewis, Larry Epstein and Henry Kohn, representing the South Florida Region - AACA, displayed their cars at the Coral Gables Centennial Gala on Saturday, January 25, 2025. Attendees stepped into the dazzling spirit of the Roaring Twenties at Coral Gables Museum's Centennial Gala. It was an unforgettable evening inspired by the glamour and excitement of the Great Gatsby era.



1925 Rolls Royce



1931 Cadillac V-12



1928 Rolls Royce



1931 Ford Model A

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**WANTED:**

*Sidelights* needs your car stories, car pictures, accident and/or repair experiences, restoration project, childhood memories of you and a car/truck, etc. Do you have a story about a friend or relative regarding an antique? Do you have a "should've, would've, could've" story?

Contact Editor Hawa at  
[jmhawa@comcast.net](mailto:jmhawa@comcast.net)

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB  
OF AMERICA

**2024 Award of Master Editor**  
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For superior achievement in publicizing and informing regional members of Local and National Antique Automobile Club of America activities and generating interest, enthusiasm, and support for the hobby.

Vice-President of Publications

FROM:  
A.A.C.A. South Florida Region  
c/o Jean Hawa  
9999 SW 71 Avenue  
Pinecrest, FL 33156-3063



TO:

**2025 SOUTH FLORIDA REGION EVENTS**  
Website: <https://southfloridaregion.aaca.com>

**MARCH 2025**

- 02– Biltmore Way Car Show;** check club website  
**04- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,  
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173  
**08– Winston Park Classic Car Show by South Florida Classic  
Mustangs and AACA South Florida Region–** 10 a.m.-  
2:00 p.m. (open show 2000 or earlier) Winston Park  
Clubhouse- 8100 SW 132 Ave., Miami; pre-register on  
club website; food trucks; Awards per class, Best of  
Show  
**13- General Membership Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito  
Latino Café, 9606 SW 72 Street, Miami; if you are  
planning to dine-in, be there by 6:30 p.m.  
**15– Antique Car Show at East Ridge Village** at Cutler Bay  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.; pre-register on club website; food trucks

**APRIL 2025**

- 01- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,  
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173  
**05– Peterson Harley Davidson Car Show**  
**12– River Cities–** Miami Springs 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
**17– General Membership Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at  
Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72 Street, Miami; if  
you are planning to dine-in, be there by 6:30 p.m.

**MAY 2025**

- 06- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,  
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173  
**15– General Membership Meeting– 7:30 pm** at  
Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72 Street, Miami; if you  
are planning to dine-in, be there by 6:30 pm.  
**TBA– 70th Anniversary Event**

**SUNSHINE REPORT**

Get well wishes have been sent to Hector  
China and his wife, Duff Matson, Cheryl  
Mullinix, and Ralph Thiele.  
Congratulations are extended to first time  
grandparents, Ira and Susan Shapiro!



**2025 AACA NATIONAL/ REGION EVENTS**



(check *Antique Automobile* or  
[www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org) for more information)

**March 15, 2025– Ft. Lauderdale Region- John Knox  
Village;** 651 SW 6th St Pompano Beach, FL

**March 15, 2025– Naples-Marco Region– Naples  
“Depot Show”;** 10:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.; New  
location: North Naples Church, 6000 Goodlette–  
Frank Road, 34109; Original Rare & Classic  
Vehicles 1900-1999.  
[www.naplesmarcoaaca.org](http://www.naplesmarcoaaca.org)

**April 3-5, 2025 – Southeastern Spring Nationals –  
Charlotte, NC –** hosted by Hornets Nest Region  
AACA

**May 1, 2025 Western Spring Nationals/Grand  
National-Tucson, AZ**

**June 1-7, 2025 – Vintage Tour (Pre-1932) – Southern/  
Eastern Pennsylvania –** hosted by Buzzard’s  
Breath Touring Region

**June 19-21, 2025 – Eastern Spring National –** hosted  
by Whitewater Region AACA



**OTHER EVENTS**

**Every Other Friday- Cruise in Generation Old School-  
Olive Garden Kendall;** 8925 SW 162 Ave, Miami,  
FL 33196 (by Baptist Hospital);

**March 22, 2025– Good Shepherd Church 10th Annual  
Classic Car Show & Carnival—**14187 SW 72 St.,  
Miami 33183 (GSCARSHOW.COM)- 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Best in Class Trophies, Bazaar, games & prizes,  
50/50 raffle, food, music