



Sidelights

MAY 2025



Volume 68 Issue 4 <https://southfloridaregion.aaca.com>



WINSTON PARK (pp 6–8)



VIZCAYA VILLAGE (pp 9-11)



EAST RIDGE (pp 12-13)

RIVER CITIES (page 15)



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SIDELIGHTS**MAY 2025****Volume 68 Issue 4****Jean Hawa, Editor**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.

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Hi,

I hope you are all doing well. Our club has been busy in the past couple of months with several car events. In April we had over 100 cars at the River City Festival in Miami Springs on April 12th and a membership meeting at a local detailing shop on April 26th. Thanks to all of our members for supporting these events. I want to say thanks to Eddie Medina for all the work he does for the club getting these events done.

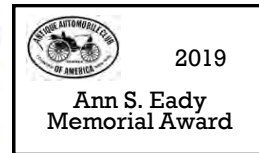
Around the corner is our club's 70th anniversary which is going to be a great event on May 17, 2025. It's going to be at the Miami Outboard Club where we believe the earlier meetings were held in May of 1955. We have lots of pictures from the members of that time. We hope you all will join us.

Memory Lane registration is open. This year's dates are September 26 through October 5, 2025. Since this is your club we want you to experience the best of our hobby and therefore we are trying to do membership meetings at different locations to encourage more participation. So look out for emails or updates on time and dates.

I do believe that our club is growing weekly. I've been in the club for a long time, see new members at all the events, and it's my pleasure to meet new members and see their cars at the shows.

So, see you guys at our next event. Be safe out there and enjoy your cars.

Your President,
Tomas Hernandez



Happy Spring,

With all the back to back car events since January, this editor is finally catching up with most of our car shows and varied activities. With this and next month's issues, all of our activities will be published. This digital twenty-page newsletter can only accommodate 25 megabytes to email. With the summer heat and humidity approaching, most of our local car shows will decrease and other activities and resources will replace them. A couple of bi-monthly editions will be issued this summer followed by a return of our monthly publication.

Just recently this editor learned that some of our members are leaving Miami in the next few weeks for their summer homes. As you have read in prior issues of *Sidelights*, photos and articles of members' travels and other experiences are always encouraged. In preparation for his departure, member David Hicks sent an advertisement for a car show on June 28th in Charlestown, Rhode Island (see page 19). Besides being an active member of the South Florida Region, David is very active in the AACA Pawcatuck Region in Rhode Island. So, if you are in the northeast this summer, visit the 2nd Annual South Country Car Show and Craft Market at the General Stanton Inn Fairgrounds in Charlestown, Rhode Island. Not to slight two other members who sent in articles and patiently waited for their publication, this editor thanks Ed Nieves for his very practical car show prepping tips and Philip Williams' history of his antique car. This editor uses *Sidelights* as a conduit to our club's Bylaws, Article Two: "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".

If you want to contribute a car related story and aren't sure what to write, just remember what one of your many English teachers taught you: "any good report/story contains the "who, what, why, and when." The four W's and a few identified pictures (pdf preferred) will get your message across. Of course, additional comments reflecting your reasons for the article will validate it. If you're worried that your spelling or grammar isn't perfect, have no fear, that's the responsibility of the editor. By the way, this editor uses several others to proofread *Sidelights*.

Happy motoring!

Jean



The A.A.C.A. South Florida Region Board Meeting of Tuesday, April 1, 2025, was called to Order by President Tomás Hernández at 7:41 p.m., at Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72nd Street, Miami, FL 33173.

In Attendance: President Tomás Hernández, 1st Vice President Al Padilla, 2nd Vice President Ed Medina, Secretary Yovanna Hernández, and Board Members Benjamin Cardonne, Chico Goldsmith, George Harvey, Jean Hawa, Thomas Kosky, Mike Penn, Jorge Salazar, Ira Shapiro and Bob Squier.

Establish a Quorum: President Tomás Hernández was able to establish a quorum with 13 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 March 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, Ed Medina seconded it. Having no other discussion, the motion was voted on and passed.

Second Order of Business – Treasurer's Report:

President Tomás Hernández acting on Manny Garcia's behalf presented a reconciliation statement for March from the club's bank account. Tomás 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 are back to 211 active families.

General Membership Meeting (April 26, 2025): Ed Medina informed us that this meeting will be held at Detail Superstore at 3901 NW 7th Ave, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.. We will be having coffee and donuts. Ed added that at the last general meeting Benjamin Cardonne donated a coffee caddy that became very useful right away.

Winston Park Car Report (March 8, 2025): Ed Medina reported that it was a great little show. He also reported a detailed budget and added that Spider Man was granted a trophy in the 1990's category for his car and that Ross Battaglia was given a trophy for the longest distance driven.

River Cities (April 12, 2025): Ed Medina informed us that all preparations are coming. He added that there are 56 pre-registered cars and reminded us the time for the show was changed from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m..

70th Club Anniversary Celebration (May 17, 2025):

Ed Medina spoke about the celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the AACA South Florida Region, taking place at the Miami Outboard Club from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Ed offered to scan some pictures and memorabilia that George Harvey brought to have them posted on the walls as well as having his 1934 Plymouth 4dr PE sedan displayed in the venue. President Tomás Hernández suggested having all living past-presidents attend, Jean Hawa agreed and offered to call to invite Marianne Sebastian as our special guest. Tomás added that we should have a dash plaque or pin as an anniversary's souvenir to which Mike Penn added that he will be contacting Williamson Cadillac and maybe we could have a goodie bag for all guests as well. Ira Shapiro mentioned that we should be responsible and present a budget ahead of time. Ed Medina said that he was going to add all costs and have a budget ready in an email to present to the board in the next couple of days.

Memory Lane (September 26 – October 5, 2025):

Registration is open.

Holiday Party (December 13, 2025): Ed Medina reminded us that the holiday party will be December 13 at the Miami Outboard Club from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This will be a sit-down dinner, with music and a cash bar.

Other Club Business:

- **East Ridge Retirement Village Report-** Jean Hawa reported that it was a successful show and that we have been invited to come back.
- **Club Activities-** Ira Shapiro suggested that we should have a drive to the Everglades as part of the club's activities, but it should be left for next year during the fall or winter season.
- **The Palace Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (June 21, 2025)-** A 20-30 car event, food will be provided.
- **Biltmore Way Classic Car and Truck Show-** A report of the total budget for the show was presented. The Best of Show Award that arrived broken, was replaced and presented to Domingo at a later day.
- Bob Mayer asked Brian Binker of A Auto Tech to become a club supporter again. Jean Hawa stated that she would place their ad in the next issue of *Sidelights*. (continued on page 5)



(continued from page 4)

- Ira Shapiro suggested doing a car show during the kickball tournament and donating to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Sunshine Report: Jean Hawa reported that Norman Kassoff passed away on March 21st.

Adjournment: With no further club business to discuss, President Tomás Hernández made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m. It was unanimously seconded and approved.

Submitted by Yovanna Hernández, Secretary

Welcome New Members

Steven and Ivette Castell

1969 Chevrolet Corvette

Jim Moore and Heidi Wigand

1931 Ford Model A

Martin Frallicciardi

2009 Mercedes Benz

Jose Arturo Peaguda & Rosa Maria Gomez

1969 Mercedes 280SL

Seth Hart

2004 Jaguar XKR

Stanley and Phyllis Jacobs

1966 Mustang convertible

Francisco and Clara Matallana

1946 MG TG EXU

1952 MG TD

1966 Austin Healey Mark III, BJ8

Junior F and Judith Valdes

1950 Chevrolet 3100

1956 Chevrolet BelAir

1959 Cadillac Coupe DeVille

KUMC Vintage Car & Truck Show Pinecrest, Florida April 5, 2025

By David Hicks

This year's open car show at the Kendall United Methodist Church in Pinecrest was very similar to prior shows with the pastor's welcome and blessing, the very loud revving of engines, Pinecrest police officers, goody bags, huge indoor flea market, live music by Freddy Perez and the KUMC Band, and of course, the presence of Host Dennis Gage of *My Classic Car* fame. Chief Judge was our own Irwin Adler. This year's proceeds went to helping Veterans in need. Besides the homemade baked goods, the latest star eatery Apocalypse was there with other food vendors. Extra entertainment included people being able to sit in John Criswell's 1986 NASCAR Wrangler and watching the Urias Family Motorcycle Daredevils' Show. Having wonderful weather certainly helped make it a perfect day.

Car groups included Tony Noboa's VW Garden in the corner, the Sunshine Corvette Club section, and Jose Lugo's Rat Rod Collection. The cars were divided into 15 vehicle classes where the top three in the class won an award. I judged Class 6 (Corvettes) and won one of the 1st place trophies in Class 4. I do not know if any other AACA South Florida members won a trophy. The 50/50 Raffle reached over \$11,400! The very crowded car show was a "sold out event". Our \$35.00 registration fee was well worth it. Headed by Bruce Arthur, it was a fun event which seemed to bring in a lot of spectators. I heard that the neighboring streets were packed with parked cars meaning that the public had to walk several blocks to reach the car show.





WINSTON PARK CLASSIC CAR SHOW 2025

MARCH 9, 2025 BY ED MEDINA

The 5th Annual Winston Park Classic Auto Show was a great hit this year. The show began five years ago between the South Florida Classic Mustang group and the Winston Park HOA. The show also featured food trucks and a live DJ. It was a great community event for the residents of Winston Park. For the past three years, the AACA South Florida Region has been involved and helped grow the show.

The show featured automobiles that are 25 years or older. It was open to all cars, original stock and modified versions. There were Best of Class awards in every category and a Best of Show; the cars are voted by the participants as it is a people's choice show. Contributions and sponsor support came from Infinity Sound who provided the DJ and music, Williamson Cadillac, and the great Winston Park Community that hosted the location.

This year we had an unexpected but yet great visit from your Friendly Neighborhood Spider Man, gracing the entrance to the show field. He and his car were a huge hit with the children of the community attending the show.

You need to go to our club website: southfloridaregion.aaca.com to see a YouTube video produced by Robert Hernandez which show the cars entering the show field.

AWARDS:

BEST OF SHOW:
1992 Mustang LX
Manny Mendez

**HONORARY
AWARD:**
Friendly
Neighborhood
Spider Man



(continued on page 7)



LONGEST DRIVE TO GET TO THE SHOW:

1959 Chevrolet Impala –
Ross Battaglia
500 miles roundtrip



Gina, Myriam Rodriguez, Ed



1955 Ford 900 Tractor



AWARDS

Picture #

Category A Pre 1960

RUNNER UP: 1955 Cadillac Eldorado – (A-1)

Jorge Estopinales

BEST IN CLASS: 1955 Buick Century Convertible –
Al Padilla (A-2)

Category B 1960-1969

RUNNER UP: 1964 Ford Thunderbird – Jose Trujillo (B-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1969 Chevrolet Camaro – Javier Martin (B-2)

Category C 1970-1979

RUNNER UP: 1974 Detomaso Pantera – Michael Arias (C-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1970 Plymouth Cuda – Robert Lopez (C-2)

Category D 1980-1989

RUNNER UP: 1986 Oldsmobile 442 – Bruce S. (D-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1988 Pontiac Formula – Greg Stuver (D-2)

Category F MUSTANGS 1965-1973

RUNNER UP: 1969 Shelby GT350 – David Rankin (F-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1968 Mustang Fastback –Ricardo Montero (F-2)

Category G MUSTANGS 1974-2000

BEST IN CLASS: 1989 Ford Mustang 5.0 Convertible
Robbie Greene (G-1)



(continued on page 8)





AWARDS

Category H IMPORTS PRE-1980

RUNNER UP: 1973 Triumph TR6 – Javier Negrin(H-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1974 Alfa Romeo GTV – Dennis Nunez (H-2)



Category I IMPORTS 1980-2000

RUNNER UP: 1991 BMW 325 is – Diego Palacios (I-1)

BEST IN CLASS: 1991 Nissan Figaro – Benjamin Cardonne (I-2)



Category J TRUCKS / VANS ALL YEARS

RUNNER UP: 1956 Ford F100 – Terry Cullen

BEST IN CLASS: 1950 Chevrolet 3100 – Miriam Rodriguez (J-2)



PROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS CAR OF THE YEAR: 1970 Mustang – Zeke Farias



Thanks to Gina and Eddie who handled all the details!



Adrian Cicero's 1966 Ford Mustang



Myriam and Ernie Bernal danced beside their 1982 Austin Morris



George Harvey's 1934 Plymouth 4dr sedan



Jeffrey Roth's 1974 Chevrolet Corvette



Phil Reed's 1936 Ford 2 door sedan

VIZCAYA VILLAGE AUTO FEST

By Jean Hawa

We had the space for the fifty pre-registered cars, but several cars sadly were unable to make it to the Vizcaya Village for a beautiful showcase of vintage vehicles in the historic area of Coconut Grove on Sunday, February 23, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. It was open for all years 2000 or older ORIGINAL or RESTORED TO ORIGINAL cars, trucks, motorcycles and ALL years International Harvesters. Show Chair Ira Shapiro gave his customary docent tour of the grounds to many of the participants. As in prior years, this event shared the property with a very popular farmer's market. Even though a few gray clouds flew by, it was a beautiful day.



Al Padilla's 1955 Buick Century



Philip Williams' 1988 Pontiac 6000 Safari station wagon



Ira



Michael Arias' 1974 Detomaso Pantera



L: Nivardo Mora's 1957 Ford Thunderbird



Jose Pacheco's 1983 Alfa Romeo



Horatio Sanchez's 1972 Alfa Romeo



Bob Squier's 1967 Austin Healey



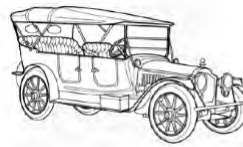
Everado Padron's 1946 Chevrolet PU



Bernie Abello's 1995 Nissan Skyline GRR R33

R: Fabian Zevallos'

(continued on pg 10) 1989 Toyota



3250 S Miami Ave, Miami, FL 33129
Vehicle Entrance is off South Miami Avenue



Robbie Green's 1989
Ford Mustang 5.0 GT



L: Stephen
Greenblatt's
1967 Chevrolet
Corvette



Richard Whittington's
1938 Willys Americar



L: Larry
Epstein's 1931
Ford Model A
Deluxe Phaeton



R: Paula Perez's 1985
BMW 528E



Ben Cardonne's
1991 Nissan Figaro



Henry Gonzalez's 1986
Porsche 911 Carrera



Tom Kosky's
1974 Triumph TR6



L: Larry Wechsler's 1964.5
Ford Mustang convertible



Robert Hernandez's 1970 Ford Mustang



1970 Toyota 2000 GT



Edgar Belaval's
1978 Fiat Spyder



Fabio Nodarse's 1973 Volkswagen
Super Beetle



Francisco Matallana's 1952 MG TD

(continued on page 11)



L: Guy Lewis'
1958 Mercedes
-Benz 300d



Hank Tester's
1957 Volvo
PV 444



L: Bob Caplan's
1985 Rolls Royce
Corniche



Mini
Cooper



L: Richard
Heisenbottle's 1963
Chevrolet Corvette
Stingray convertible



R: Juan Penedo's
1973 Citroen Mehari



Pedro Pena's 1969 Camaro Pace Car



Robert Zinn's 1970 Toyota 2000 GT



EAST RIDGE VINTAGE AUTO SHOW

By Jean Hawa

The 2nd Annual East Ridge Vintage Auto Show took place on Saturday, March 15, 2025. It was an open car show with food trucks and judging done by three residents of the senior retirement community. Besides the residents, their families and staff members, the communities of Palmetto Bay and Cutler Bay were invited to view the cars. Unfortunately we had to turn away some cars because they lacked their fire extinguisher, insurance information or were too "young. We allowed vehicles 2000 and under.



Sadly, Bonnie Hinck Shannock's car was too young for a vintage car show.



1964 Ford Thunderbird

1971 Austin Mini Cooper



Richard Whittington by his 1942 Willys Americar



1982 Austin Morris Mini Cooper



1971 Datsun 510

(continued on page 13)



Both food trucks
were kept busy



1956 Ford Thunderbird



Javier Hernandez's unrestored 1967 Ford Country sedan



L-R: Show chair Jean
Hawa, East Ridge
Community Outreach
Liasion Michelle
Larotta, 1st, 2nd, 3rd
place winners



1st Place- 1988 Mercedes-Benz
Marcos Quintero



2nd Place- 1956 Buick Century
Benny Pena



3rd Place- 1957 Chevrolet BelAir
Ivan Morro



HALF A LIFETIME

By Philip Williams



A stock photo of a 1953 Chieftain, our family's first Pontiac.

January 5, 1989, was a Thursday. Early that morning I got on a plane in Denver and flew to Traverse City, Michigan. There I was met by my dad who drove me to Hertz Auto Sales on US 31 to meet with Ernie Pobuda, the sales manager. He and Dad were friends since Ernie supplied Dad's window and door business with cars for his sales fleet, and it was through Dad and Ernie that I had learned of a 1988 Pontiac 6000 Safari station wagon for sale. The asking price was \$12,700, but when Ernie heard that my one-way airfare from Denver was \$200, he knocked the price down to \$12,500.

I remember vividly my first look at the seven-passenger wagon in the garage. It was Dark Sapphire Blue, and the wood-grain applique marked it as the LE edition with the rear-facing seat in the wayback. It was built in February 1988 at the GM of Canada plant in Oshawa, Ontario. It came with a 2.8 liter multiport fuel-injected V6 with a four-speed automatic and overdrive, AM/FM radio with cassette, air conditioning, power windows, and, as Dad pointed out, a cupholder in the center armrest. The odometer read a little over 5,000 miles. I signed the papers, turned over my check, and got behind the wheel. On the way to my parents' home in Northport, I stopped at a record store and picked out the cassette of the Dave Brubeck Quartet album "Time Out" from 1959, thus maintaining the tradition that began with my mom in her 1967 Ford Country Squire with an 8-track. A few years later I had the cassette autographed by Mr. Brubeck himself.

I drove my parents to dinner that evening in the Pontiac, and Saturday I left for the return trip to Colorado. And thus began a journey that lasts to this day. In 1990 I moved to Petoskey, Michigan, to go to work for my dad's company and acquired a Uniden bag phone that still rests

on the hump between the front seats.



The first known photo of the Pontiac taken in August 1989 in Le Mars, Iowa, with Allen putting stuff in the car.

In 1995, I moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to take a job with another window company, and in 2001 I moved back to Miami, where I'd gone to college. The Pontiac motored on, passing 200,000 miles sometime in New Mexico, and it was my daily driver until August 2003 when my mom sold me her 1995 Mustang GT convertible as my daily driver. But I still drove the Pontiac at least once a week, knowing that patience and the calendar would allow me the chance to enter the car in the antique shows sponsored by the AACA South Florida, which I had joined almost from the day I arrived in Miami.



Tenth anniversary photo taken in 1999 in Albuquerque

Patience prevailed, and on January 1, 2013, the Pontiac became officially an antique, and since then it has graced the field at many local meets, and seven nationals in the Driver Participation Class. The odometer stopped working just short of 250,000 miles, but thanks to the care and maintenance of J's Automotive Services, the talents at A Auto Tech in Coral Gables, and International Sport Cars of Pembroke Park, it looks as good as it did that day in January 1989 when I first picked it up.

(continued on page 15)



(continued from page 14)



Here's a new picture of the Pontiac taken on 12/30/2024 for the 36th anniversary collection

January 5, 2025, marked the 36th anniversary of my trip to Traverse City, and last September marked my 72nd birthday. So, I have owned the 1988 Pontiac 6000 Safari for half of my life. I don't think it occurred to me at the time that our relationship would last that long: through countless miles, all kinds of weather and places from Michigan to New Mexico and beyond, with friends and loved ones, good times and sad times, and the occasional ride to J's on a flatbed. But Pontiacs and wagons have been in my family for generations. Our family's first was a 1953 Chieftain, and I've owned more wagons than any other car: even Mustangs.

I don't know if my tenure with the Pontiac sets a record compared to my fellow members of AACA. But I am reminded of the advice of my grandfather, Clyde Williams, who told my father and my uncle that Pontiacs are good cars, and when you find something that you like and works well, you stick with it. So far, so good.



In collaboration with the River Cities Festival Committee, the AACA South Florida Region, and spearheaded by Eddie Medina who registered 100 cars to Westward Drive in Miami Springs on the evening of April 12, 2025. The vehicles needed to be 2000 or earlier. There were food vendors, crafts, a kids section and live music. No wind shield cards were printed and there was no judging, just a nice evening to walk around the classic cars. Enjoy the photos taken by Al Padilla. Note the change of lighting from day to night for the 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. show.





Prepping Your Classic For a Show

By Ed Nieves

Many people ask me what products and process do I use to detail my 1995 Corvette. Because of that, I figured I share some basic tips on how to prep your car for a judged show. I've been competing in judged shows for almost 20 years. I've experienced it from both the competitor and being a judge. I'm currently an National Corvette Restorer Society (NCRS) Master Judge, Bloomington Gold Judge, AACA Judge and have also served as a Concours Judge. I take personal pride when presenting a car to be judged. When presenting your car, it's imperative that you make a strong first impression. Yes, there's truth behind the saying that a first impression makes a difference. Along with a good first impression, you'll need to ensure that your presentation is also technically correct. What do I mean by that? Well, ensure that your car is period correct with the correct tires, hoses, clamps, wheels, interior, exterior color etc..

For example, if you are having your Corvette judged at an NCRS event, I would strongly recommend that you purchase that NCRS judging manual for your specific year car. Go over each section of the manual with your car and correct any areas that may need it. Same applied with the AACA. Read their guidelines.

As far as cleaning and detailing your car, my first rule is that you always clean and detail using a flashlight. Yep, this make a huge difference in ensuring you don't miss anything. For the engine area, I would avoid taking a hose to that compartment. Clean off any built up grease with some diluted Spray Nine. Full strength can be used for really tough areas. Spray it onto your slightly moist microfiber rag and wipe down areas that need cleaning. After you clean each quadrant of the engine compartment, continue to inspect it with a good flashlight. Now that it's all cleaned up, I like to use Meguiar's 40 on all rubber hoses. I spray it onto a blue

shop towel and apply to all hoses. A little bit goes a long way, so don't over apply the product. You want the hose to pop, but not to look overly done or greasy.

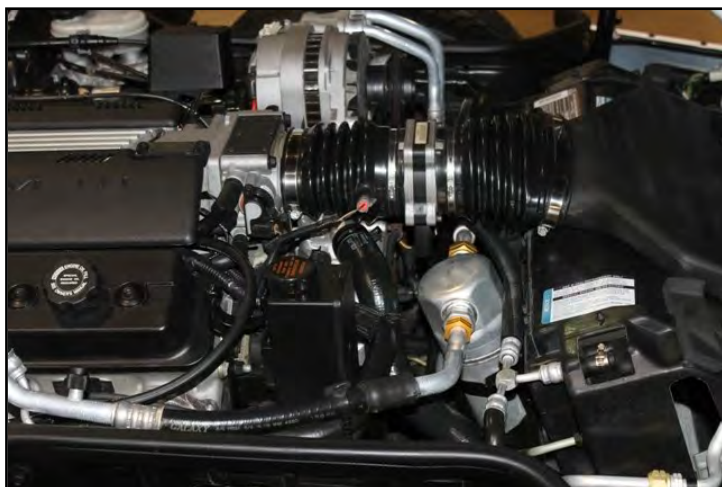
When it come to plastic parts in the engine area, I use 303. Again, I use either a microfiber rag, or blue shop towel. With 303, I also use long brushes to get to hard to reach areas. I find that 303 comes out best when slightly buffed after applied. Use a thin brush to apply it to plastic wire looms. Remember to use your light throughout this process. Take your time and do one section at a time. Yes, this is a time consuming process that calls for patience and detail. Use mirrors to check well under areas that you can't see from on top. All nuts and screws get a light coat of sewing oil.



Interior Prepping:

This is an area that most people tend to cut corners on. When prepping your interior, keep using your light. Start by wiping everything down with the dry microfiber rag. The goal here is to allow that rag to collect and capture dust and any other particles that will stick to the microfiber material. When cleaning and detailing your interior, start from on top and work your way down. I use 303 in the interior plastic items. It leaves a nice clean matted finish. Again, avoid spraying the product, spray onto a rag and apply it in a consistent manner. When completed, check your work with your light.

All carpet areas should be vacuumed and ensure you get under your seats very well. This is an area where a judge will look. All floor mats need to be vacuumed and cleaned well. I would remove the mats when your car is being judged, so the judge can inspect your entire carpet area well. Leather seats should be detailed with a good leather cleaner/conditioner. Below are two products that I have used successfully. Of course, you can use your favorite product. Just don't over apply. A natural detailed look is what you are after.



L: This is an example how hoses and other rubber parts look like when dressed with Meguiars 40.



(continued on page 17)



When judges arrive to inspect your car, ensure that your hood, doors, and trunk are open, so they have full access and they get a quick overall impression how well your car is prepped.

These are a few general practices to consider:

continued from page 16) Now, remember your weatherstripping. GM makes a Weatherstripping silicone. I rub a little bit of this into the weatherstripping and then wipe off the excess with a blue shop towel. It give them a rich dark look.

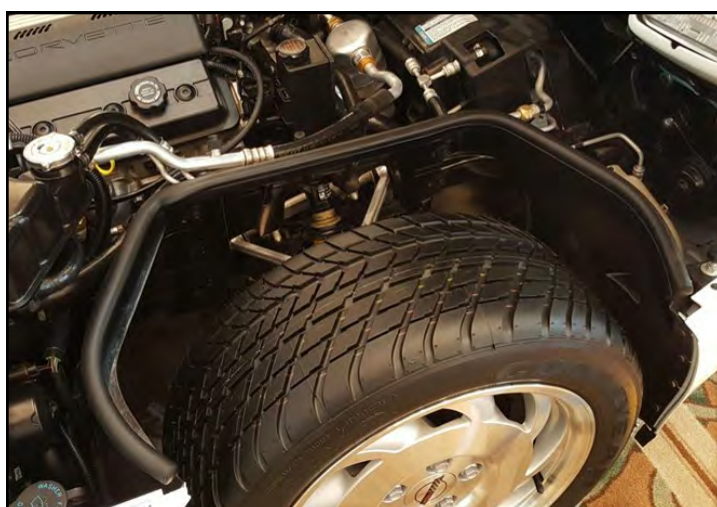
Exterior Prepping:

Paint correcting and prepping is critical for your show prep. Inspect your entire exterior with a good light. Address any scratches, rock chips, or scuff marks. If you choose to have the exterior buffed, ensure that your pad is clean and free of debris. If your paint is in excellent condition, a light wax application will help with luster and give it that extra pop. Day of show, I keep it simple, by wiping down the car with a detail spray. I prefer to do this early in the morning, if it's an outdoor event. I use a fine rag that is edgeless for this. Don't forget to do your windows. For this I use a cheap microfiber rag, because I want the rag to have some grip/pull to it when I'm wiping the glass (this makes a big difference). If you are able to remove your wheels, do so. clean and polish both sides and the inside of the wheel. I do use a light coat of tire dressing. I apply it with a paint brush. I use Meguiar's 40 on the tires. Since my entire front tires are exposed when my C4 hood is open, I dress the entire tire.

- Never argue with a judge. If you disagree with a deduction, advise the judge of your concern, if he/she disagrees with you, address your concern(s) with the team leader, or chief judge (this can be done if it's built into the judge process).
- If your judging process requires you to provide documents, such as owner's manual, literature, etc.. Have this ready and organized for review.
- Some judging systems will review your judging sheet with you after your car is judged. Take notes on your deductions. Don't rush to change any part that comes under question. Do your own research and verify the information the judge shares with you. Keep in mind that judges don't know it all. They mean well, but sometimes they make mistakes.
- Thank the judges when they finish judging your car. If they ask you about your car history/information, keep your explanation brief.
- Remember this is a hobby. You can be competitive without being abrasive. Don't worry about other cars in your category. Place all your focus on prepping your car the very best you can and leave the rest up to the judges.
- Don't hover over the judges. Stay out of their way and allow them to do their job.

I hope these suggestions will help someone in the future. My techniques have allowed me to win Best of Show on several occasions. In closing, the key behind maintaining a nice show car is to continually detail, detail and detail.

Enjoy the journey.



As you can see, the entire tire is dressed with a light dressing. It gives the presentation a complete finish.





YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!!

By Dave Anspach

2025 AACA President

First of all, I want to say that it is an honor to serve as the 2025 President of our Club. It is an honor, however, that bears a great responsibility. A responsibility that I take extremely seriously and I, in turn, am asking every one of you to share. To paraphrase John F. Kennedy from his 1961 inaugural address "ask not what your club can do for you. Ask what you can do for your club". Now many of you will ask "what can I do". Lets talk about that.

Since we have been talking about membership for the past few years, lets deal with that first. Getting a new member is absolutely the easiest thing we all can do. We all have friends, neighbors, relatives and so on that are not presently members. With all the reduced rate and free memberships we offer, it really is as simple as ASKING someone to join. Who can say no to a gift? With a smile and a little conversation on the fun you have, you will soon be signing up a new member.

You can't have fun if you don't participate, so get involved! If you aren't part of a region, join one! If there isn't one close by.....start one.

Regional meetings and activities with local friends are among the finest social events around. Some Regions do as many as 7 tours and a show locally every year. These busy folks are having a lot of fun.

Don't want to join a region...participate in National activities. What better way to get to visit areas all over the country and participate in a car activity than to do a National show or tour. From Maine to Florida, Carolina to California, and don't forget Puerto Rico, AACA events traverse the continent and more. No event near you? Look for a few like

minded people and set one up yourself! Between Hershey headquarters and your directors and committees, there is plenty of help to get you going on a successful event. And don't forget judging. Our judging program offers you the opportunity to get up close and personal to every kind of vehicle you can imagine from Abarth to Zagato. It is fun and easy to learn and packed full of opportunities to travel.

There are literally hundreds of opportunities to get involved on various committees and groups throughout your club. All you have to do is stand up and say "I can help". There is something for everyone, just let us know you are available, we'll find a place for you!

So the bottom line is we have a fantastic club. What is missing is U!! Get new members, participate, have fun! I guarantee that you will peg the fun meter and have a great time!!

ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

DID YOU KNOW?

AACA offers remote research done by library staff to anyone who is interested – Go to fill out a research request form to get started*. *Fees may apply.

AACA LIBRARY & RESEARCH CENTER

Visit AACALibrary.org to learn more!

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2nd Annual South County Car Show & Craft Market

SATURDAY, JUNE 28th 9am-2pm
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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

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>

MAY 2025

- 06- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 17– General Membership Meeting and 70th Anniversary Celebration–** 5:00 pm.-9:00 p.m. at The Miami Outboard Club; RSVP required on club website

JUNE 2025

- 03- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 21– General Membership Meeting and Car Display at The Palace Suites Senior Living Center (In Celebration of Father's Day)** 11 a.m.– 2 p.m. You must pre-register. check emails and club website)

July 2025

- 01- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 17– General Membership Meeting—TBD**

August 2025

- 05- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 21– General Membership Meeting—TBD**

SEPTEMBER 2025

- 02- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café, 9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 21– General Membership Meeting—TBD**
- 26– 30, October 1-5– Memory Lane; Miami International Auto Show at Miami Beach Convention Center;**
Registration on club website

OCTOBER 2025

- 01-05– Memory Lane; Miami International Auto Show at Miami Beach Convention Center;** Registration on club website
- 07- Board Meeting– 7:30 p.m.** at Rinconcito Latino Café,
9606 SW 72 Street, Miami 33173
- 16– General Membership Meeting- TBD**



2025 AACA NATIONAL/ REGION EVENTS

(check *Antique Automobile* or
www.aaca.org for more information)



- 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 1- Mystery Tour– Ft. Lauderdale Region, TBA**
- June 19-21, 2025 – Eastern Spring National –** hosted by Whitewater Region AACA
- July 2-5, 2025 Central Springs Nationals– Auburn , IN**
- July 12– Car Appreciation Day– Ft. Lauderdale Region-at Galuppi's, 1103 N. Federal Hwy, Pompano, FL– 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**
- September 7-12, 2025– Revival AAA Glidden Tour (Pre-1943)-Owensboro, KY (VMCCA Hosted)**
- September 18-20 Southeastern Fall Nationals– Corydon, IN**

OTHER EVENTS

- Every Other Friday- Cruise in Generation Old School-Olive Garden Kendall;** 8925 SW 162 Ave, Miami, FL 33196 (by Baptist Hospital)
- October 17-19, 2025– 26th Annual Lake Mirror Classic Lakeland, FL;** Registration is now open.



SUNSHINE REPORT

Jean Hawa is recovering from surgery.