

FLORIDA REGION – ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

# *The Running Board*

Published Monthly in the Interest of the Preservation of Antique Motor Vehicles

**March 2017**



## **1933 Chrysler CL Imperial**

Photo by [www.rmsothebys.com](http://www.rmsothebys.com)

### ***Coming Events:***

- |                 |   |                |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| <b>March 5</b>  | First Sunday Breakfast, Denny's Restaurant, 351 East Main Street, Apopka, FL  | <b>8:00 AM</b> |
| <b>March 13</b> | Florida Region Board Meeting, Kress Memorial Church, 746 Formosa Ave., Winter Park, FL                              | <b>5:30 PM</b> |
| <b>March 13</b> | Florida Region <b>Pot Luck Dinner</b> and General Meeting, Kress Memorial Church, 746 Formosa Ave., Winter Park, FL | <b>6:30 PM</b> |



For the latest Florida Region club news visit our web site

**[www.aacaFloridaRegion.com](http://www.aacaFloridaRegion.com)**



# The Running Board

March 2017

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**CLUB WEB SITE:**

[www.aacaFloridaRegion.com](http://www.aacaFloridaRegion.com)

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**Send your article submissions to:**

**EditorTRB@gmail.com**

**Deadline is the 20th of the month**

# President's Letter

Hi everyone! Looks like the car show season is in full swing here in Florida. There are always multiple things to do every week so get those cars out and try to attend something. The cars need exercise anyway.

Our trip to the Living Legends of Auto Racing's (LLOAR) Beach Cruise and car show on February 20th was a success. Our trip to and from Daytona Beach Shores, led by Vice President Nelson Lawhorn came off flawlessly. Thanks to Nelson, I now think I know the way there. We had about 12 Florida Region folks there with 6 cars. We had some ride along members with us as well and we all had a nice time on a great weather day. For me, I love seeing the old race cars along with ours and the cruise up and down A1A is really neat. We plan to do this again next year and also are working on other activities like this for the club.

I'd like to thank Todd Larkin of Old Town for his presentation at last months' meeting. Hopefully, it was informative to everyone regarding the positive changes happening at Old Town (in Kissimmee, FL). We plan to have a club activity there for those that would like to attend later this year.

For our March 13, 2017 meeting we will have a Pot Luck Supper in our meeting room. Members are encouraged to bring a dish of their choosing or desert. These are usually well attended so I hope to see you there. The dinner begins at 6:30 PM. Our Board will meet prior to the dinner at 5:30 PM. We will hold an abbreviated General Meeting after the dinner.

Well, that's it for now. I have to go in the garage and track down some leaks from my **1961 Ford Thunderbird**. Nothing major, but it is antifreeze, power steering fluid and a slight drip of oil. These old cars are a pain but we still love them.

Maybe in 2017 we'll hear more 'old car experience' stories and get to know each other a little better. I never got to tell any of mine and I have a slew of them !!

Thanks to the Club for supporting me as your President.

**Steve Tunney**

## ***Minutes of the Florida Region AACA Board Meeting – February 13, 2017***

The Board of the Florida Region AACA met at the Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park on February 13th, 2017. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Tunney at 6:06 PM.

Officers and Board Members present were Nelson Lawhorn, Matt Cannizzaro, Wayne Bostak, Don Allen, Darrel Cole, Howard Gilkes, Dick Gauchat and Jerry Eakins.

Treasurer Don Allen presented the Treasurer's Report and it was filed.

The minutes of the January 2017 Meeting were approved as printed in "*The Running Board*".

President Tunney told the Board that Vice-President Michael Zimmerman had stepped down because of work schedule conflicts. After some discussion, Don Allen made a motion that Nelson Lawhorn be appointed Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Darrel Cole and carried unanimously by the Board. Since that action left the Board with an open seat, President Tunney will solicit nominees from the membership at the following meeting.

President Tunney told the Board that the Program at tonight's Membership meeting would be Todd Larkin, the Marketing Manager for Old Town in Kissimmee. He also discussed several upcoming events and club activities:

1. The Living Legends of Auto Racing Parade is February 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM in Daytona Beach Shores. Interested members may convoy by meeting at 7:30 AM in the parking lot at 1442 SR 436 Casselberry, FL 32707.

2. The National AACA Winter Meet in Ocala is February 23rd through the 25th.

3. The 30th Annual Mustang and Ford Show is February 25th in Longwood. The Region will not have a booth but Matt Cannizzaro will hand out AACA applications to participants.

4. The Mt. Dora Car Show formerly held at the Lakeside Inn has been cancelled (to be re-scheduled for late October/early November).

5. Kendra Gilkes will host a Potluck Dinner at the March 13th Meeting.

6. Dick Gauchat has scheduled a Picnic at Secret Lake Park for April 23rd from 11AM until 4 PM. A sign-up sheet will be circulated.

President Tunney discussed the Florida Region's web page. He presented several options and has contacted Pat Buckley, the National AACA Webmaster. Darrel Cole made a motion, seconded by Jerry Eakins that the Region pledge a maximum of \$500 for a professional redesign of the website. Darrel knows contacts who may help.

Don Allen told us that member John Parsons has died. Don will distribute a sympathy card for members to sign. Don also said that Barbara Parsons has two antique cars she wishes to sell. Don Allen updated the Board on membership renewals. He read names of tardy members and several Board members volunteered to contact them.

Past-President Gilkes told the Board he had received a bill from the Toll Authority for unpaid tolls accrued by the license tag previously assigned to the Region trailer sold more than a year before. Treasurer Allen will pay the tolls. Wayne Bostak will contact the buyer for clarification. The matter was tabled until more information is collected.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

*Jerry Eakins  
Florida Region AACA Secretary*

## ***Minutes of the Florida Region AACA General Meeting – February 13, 2017***

The General Meeting of the Florida Region AACA met at the Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park on February 13th, 2017. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Tunney at 7:02 PM.

Thirty-nine members were present.

Dick Gauchat led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Steve Tunney introduced the evening's speaker, Mr. Todd Larken, Marketing manager for Old Town in Kissimmee, FL. Mr. Larken told us that Old Town's owners have spent \$20 million on new infrastructure at the attraction including new entrances, exits and Ferris wheel. Todd told us the continuing participation of car enthusiasts was key to the operation and that upgraded facilities and security would be offered.

President Tunney introduced a new member, John Strike, owner of a **1961 Lincoln**.

Treasurer Don Allen presented the Treasurer's Report and it was filed.

Don also told us of the death of member John Parsons. John's wife Barbara has two antique autos for sale now.

President Tunney told us that Dena Holt has given up the 50/50 drawing and Mary Rose will take over. He also explained that Vice-President Michael Zimmerman has stepped down due to work conflicts and that the Board had appointed Nelson Lawhorn to the position. President Tunney asked for a volunteer to fill the vacant Board seat. No one volunteered.

President Tunney discussed upcoming club functions and activities:

1. The Living Legends of Auto Racing Parade is February 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM in Daytona Beach Shores. Interested members may convoy by meeting at 7:30 AM in the parking lot at 1442 State Road 436, Casselberry, FL 32707.

2. The National AACA Winter Meet in Ocala, FL is February 23rd through the 25th.

3. The 30th Annual Mustang and Ford Show is February 25th in Longwood, FL.

4. Kendra Gilkes will host a Potluck Dinner at the March 13th Meeting.

Larry Cole told us the Mt. Dora Car Show formerly held at the Lakeside Inn has been cancelled.

Dick Gauchat has scheduled a Picnic at Secret Lake Park for April 23rd from 11AM until 4 PM. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

President Tunney discussed updating the Region web page. He presented several options and has contacted Pat Buckley, the National AACA Webmaster. He said the Board had pledged a maximum of \$500 for a professional redesign of the website. Charley Steffy suggested contacting the Webmaster for the Naples-Marco Island Chapter for help.

The minutes of the January 2017 Meeting were approved as printed in "*The Running Board*".

Tom Holt told us that Charlie Steffy won the 2016 AACA National Touring Award in his **1941 Studebaker Commander Sedan**.

A discussion ensued concerning the current situation between AACA National and the AACA Museum. Several members spoke and some expressed their position on the matter.

Bob Coolidge won the 50/50 drawing, while Dollar winners were Jerry Eakins, Wayne Bostak and Russ Dawson.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

*Jerry Eakins*  
*Florida Region AACA Secretary*

## Member News

Annette Morrison, Florida Region member, writes....

*“ Ray Morrison’s brother, Carl, passed away on January 26, 2017 after a year of battling cancer. We would like to thank Nelson and Jan Lawhorn for answering our call for help getting us to and from the airport. ”*

## Tech Tips

A veteran mechanic shared these tech tips...

“When cleaning any carburetor jet, avoid using steel wire to open up or clean out the jet orifice. Instead, use some copper strands from a 14 gauge copper wire to dislodge any “gunk” in the jet.

The copper wire will not scratch the steel jet which can mess up the airflow of the jet.

Also, when cleaning heavy grease from a car part,

such as the bearing from a disc brake rotor, use diesel fuel instead of gasoline or mineral spirits. The diesel can be cheaper per gallon and the oil in the diesel acts as a lubricant and rust inhibitor.

## Local Car Show

Seen at the 30th Annual Mustang and Ford Roundup held on February 25, 2017 in Longwood Historic District, FL

**1941 Lincoln Zephyr 4 Door** owned by Don Reinhardt, Orlando, FL. It is powered by a flathead V-12 engine with 120 horsepower. Total production for 1941 cars totaled 21,994 cars.

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# COVER VEHICLE FEATURE ARTICLE

## 1933 Chrysler CL Imperial

Sotheby's RM Car Auction, Arizona, January 19, 2017  
Lot 132, Sold for \$1,300,000

### 1933 Chrysler CL Imperial Dual-Windshield Phaeton 'Ralph Roberts' by LeBaron

"135 bhp, 384.8 cu. in. L-head inline eight-cylinder engine, four-speed manual transmission, solid front axle and live rear axle with semi-elliptical leaf springs, and four-wheel hydraulic drum brakes. Wheelbase: 146 in

Shortly after the formation of coachbuilder LeBaron by Raymond Dietrich and Thomas Hibbard in 1920, the pair took in recent Dartmouth graduate Ralph Roberts as a partner. LeBaron was soon supplying bodies for all of the great Classic Era chassis, supplied by New York dealers. Roberts and LeBaron prospered, and in 1927, Walter Briggs, of Detroit's vast Briggs Body Company, approached Roberts with a generous buyout offer. Roberts wisely accepted, and LeBaron and its chief moved, lock, stock, and barrel, to Detroit.

LeBaron became Briggs' in-house design studio and its most prestigious nameplate, as Briggs was a major body supplier to the fledgling Chrysler Corporation, also Chrysler's de facto "Art and Color Studio." In an era when Ford had Bob Gregorie, drawing Edsel Ford special speedsters and the original Continental, and General Motors had Harley Earl, breaking the styling mold with the advanced Cadillac V-16 Aero-Dynamic Coupe and Buick Y-Job, Chrysler had Ralph Roberts.

Roberts' definitive design statement—his Continental, his Y-Job—was the car offered here. Based upon the last of 36 CL Imperial Dual-Windshield Phaetons built by LeBaron for Chrysler in 1933, it was drawn to Roberts' own special design, with the intention of being a gift to his wife. As Chrysler's design considerations were, frankly, not considered on this "one off," Roberts was able to make his personal Imperial look as he wanted it to, as he told author Dennis Adler in a 1985 interview.

There were a number of unusual or experimental ideas tried on this car. One was the extended fender skirt and fender skirts on the rear. The radiator was painted, instead of chromed, the headlights were also different from those on the standard CL series bodies, and instead of having the spare wheels in the fender well, I had them moved to the back of the car.

It is worth expounding upon Roberts' comments. The headlights were relocated much lower, between the crowns of the fenders and the radiator shell—a very modern position. The reworked fenders with the full "skirts" over the rear wheels clearly look toward the future Chrysler Airflow and Chrysler Airstream. A mounted bracket from an old Locomobile was used to mount the dual spares on the rear, clearing the fenders and increasing the clean visual length of the car.

The result was a long, sleek greyhound of a car, accentuated by its unique Moon Glow Blue polychromatic finish. More than beautiful, it looked a decade ahead of its time and foretold future Chryslers, created both with and without Roberts' influence."

**Text and Photos** from [www.rmsothebys.com](http://www.rmsothebys.com)



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**1970 Ford Mustang Boss 302** in Calypso Coral, owned by David Samuel, DeLand, FL. This was a gorgeous concours level vehicle.



## Seen at a Car Auction

This **1961 Chrysler Newport Convertible** was seen on February 23, 2017 in Lakeland, FL at the Winter Autofest (Carlisle Auctions). The car did not sell at the auction. Placard states...

*"... 22,000 original miles... push button automatic... Mardi Gras Red with white interior and top... 413 cubic inch Cross Ram - 375 HP"*



# Living Legends of Auto Racing's Beach Cruise

Text by **Nelson Lawhorn**, Florida Region member

Several Florida Region club members met at Highway 436 and Howell Branch Road in Casselberry, FL on Monday morning, February 20, 2017 to cruise the back roads to Daytona Shores, FL to attend the Living Legends of Auto Racing event.

It was a beautiful day for a 51 mile cruise together.

At the event we took part in their sponsored cruise on Highway US 1. Club members that attended the event were: Larry Mills, Larry Cole, Bob McMullen, Darrel Cole, Jerry Eakins, Nelson Lawhorn, Matt Cannizzaro, Bob Coolidge, Wayne Bostak, Tom Holt, Tom Rose and Steve Tunney.

