

FLORIDA REGION – ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA

The Running Board

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February 2017



1933 Duesenberg Model J Convertible Coupe

Photo by Mark Regnier

Coming Events:

- February 5** First Sunday Breakfast, Denny's Restaurant, 351 East Main Street, Apopka, FL 8:00 AM
- February 13** Florida Region Board Meeting, Kress Memorial Church, 746 Formosa Ave., Winter Park, FL 6:00 PM
- February 13** Florida Region General Meeting, Kress Memorial Church, 746 Formosa Ave., Winter Park, FL 7:00 PM



For the latest Florida Region club news visit our web site

www.aacaFloridaRegion.com



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President's Letter

Hello and thanks for attending our January 2017 meeting. I thought our speaker, Charlie McWhorter, did a great job and provided us with many first hand insights into many of the things he has encountered in his 97 years and counting. He has certainly seen a lot. Thanks to Charlie and to Wayne Bostak for bringing Charlie to us.

In the coming months, I hope to bring in more speakers to our meetings. In February, our guest speaker will be Mr. Todd Larkin, Marketing Manager of Old Town. He will speak on the many improvements that have already been made and the future plans that Old Town expects to implement in the near future. I think you will be surprised at the plans and how Old Town wishes to include the cars as a theme within their park.

In early January, I attended the Mecum Auction in Kissimmee. They offered 3,000 cars at auction and additionally road art. Three of our club members were drivers for the event and I am pleased to report that they were not involved in any accidents. I did not buy a car but was very tempted on a **1963 Pontiac Grand Prix**. As I have a two car garage and two cars now, I decided that I'd pass on that chaos. I thought that the quality of the cars offered this year at Mecum was a bit better. Nevertheless, it's a good time for a car enthusiast.

We have some great activities planned for the year and I am hopeful that you can all make an effort to attend some of them. Our February 20, 2017 event is the Living Legends of Auto Racing's car show in Daytona Beach Shores. This event feature about 60 circle track cars from the 40's - 60's and about 60 cars like ours. It is free but you must sign a waiver of liability. You can do it there or download a form online on their website. The best part of the event is the police escorted cruise up and down A1A.

Additionally, I hope to encourage those not bringing a car to 'ride along' with someone who is. The company is nice for the driver and it gets more folks involved in club events.

Finally, I also hope to arrange some local outings with our cars and other types of things like dinners. We are all spread out so perhaps smaller gatherings North, South, East and West may make sense, based on convenience for members. Ok, see you at our General Meeting on Monday, February 13th.

Steve Tunney

Send your article submissions to:

EditorTRB@gmail.com

Deadline is the 20th of the month

Minutes of the Florida Region AACA Board Meeting – January 9, 2017

The Board of the Florida Region AACA met at the Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park on January 9th, 2017. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Tunney at 6:10 PM. Officers and Board Members present were Nelson Lawhorn, Matt Cannizzaro, Wayne Bostak, Howard Gilkes, Dick Gauchat, Don Allen and Jerry Eakins.

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

The minutes of the December 2016 Meeting Minutes were approved as printed in *"The Running Board"*.

President Tunney presented two motions that were approved unanimously by the Board:

1. Darrel Cole to replace Al Atkins on the Board. Al passed away.
2. \$200 to Darrel Cole for two extra cars from his business he took to the International Car Show in November. The Region was tasked to have 17 cars in the show and we only had 14 volunteered from members. One non-member brought a car.
3. President Tunney reported on his meeting with the Region's Website Webmaster, Heather Trinh. Ms. Trinh has obligations that prevent her continuing. President Tunney feels he can take over but the Region needs to either purchase the software, Dreamweaver, for \$364 or lease it for \$20 per month. He will bring this to the membership at the General Meeting.

President Tunney suggested the following for the monthly 2017 Florida Region activities:

1. January–Awards

2. February–Living Legends of Auto racing, Feb. 20th at Daytona Beach Shores
3. March–Pot Luck Dinner and Mt. Dora Classic Car Show in Mount Dora, FL.
4. April–Picnic at Secret Lake Park. Dick Gauchat will coordinate.
5. May–Dinner at a restaurant followed by the Longwood Cruise-In. Matt Cannizzaro will coordinate.
6. June–Old Town Cruise-In, Kissimmee
7. July–Brookdale Nursing Home
8. August–No activity
9. September–Pot Luck Dinner
10. October–Picnic at K.C. Camp's home. This is contingent on KC's approval.
11. November–College Park Parade of Homes, International Automobile Show
12. December–Christmas party

President Tunney suggested that members who drive to upcoming activities offer to take other member who do not want to drive.

Don Allen reminded the Board of the AACA National Meet in Ocala on February 23-25. He also told us that 2017 dues were slow in coming in and that he would bring this up at the General Meeting. He plans to write letters to tardy members.

Matt Cannizzaro wished the Board a Happy New Year and gave out 2017 calendars displaying Classic Cars. Matt also invited the Region to have a booth at the Mustang Club's Annual Show in Longwood on February 25. One space will be \$35 and a double space \$52. The Region did this in 2016 to attract new members. Matt suggested we put Membership Applications and new AACA handouts from National in the goodie bags. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Jerry Eakins
Florida Region AACA Secretary

Minutes of the Florida Region AACA General Meeting – January 9, 2017

The General Meeting of the Florida Region AACA met at the Kress Memorial Church in Winter Park on January 9th, 2017. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Tunney at 7:02 PM. Twenty-eight members and guests were present.

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

The minutes of the December 2016 Meeting Minutes were approved as printed in the January 2017 "*The Running Board*".

Don Allen reminded members to pay 2017 membership dues. Don will send notices to members who have not paid.

Lee Dunkin told President Tunney that the engine size reported in the "Running Board" for Tunney's Chevrolet car was incorrect.

President Tunney reminded the membership that the Ocala National AACA Meet will be February 23rd–25th. He also said the annual Mustang Show in Longwood was on February 25th.

President Tunney reported on the Region's website. He also told of two motions approved by the Board concerning Darrel Cole. Details are given in the Business Meeting minutes.

President Tunney gave members the suggested 2017 Region Activities. Details are given in the Business Meeting minutes.

Mary Rose told us she and Tom had visited Gene Roy. He is progressing in his recovery and plans to attend the Ocala National AACA Show in Ocala.

President Tunney and Howard Gilkes presented awards to Officers, Board Members, and Members. Dick Gauchat was presented with a plaque thanking him for his service as Vice-President,

Nelson Lawhorn received the 2016 President's Award for all the hard work he does for the Region and Darrel Cole won the Hard Luck Trophy.

Restaurant gift cards were awarded to Don and Carole Allen, Jerry Eakins, Steve Tunney, Wayne Bostak, Darrel Cole, Matt Cannizzaro, Kendra Gilkes, Dena Holt, Jan Lawhorn, K.C. Camp and Mark Regnier.

Howard Gilkes presented the 2017 Officers and Board members to the membership.

Wayne Bostak introduced the evening's guest speaker Charles McWhorter. Mr. McWhorter was an Army Master Sergeant from 1941 until 1946. He served as an engineer and instructor and was involved in the D-Day Landing at Normandy, France. In his teens, he received training at the Henry Ford School located at Ford's Rouge River Plant near Detroit. He worked as a tool and die maker and a draftsman. After the war, he worked as a tool and die maker. He bought a **1910 Pratt Elkhart** automobile that he restored and maintained for many years, participating in a Glidden Tour and winning the Firestone trophy. He owned an antique auto restoration facility in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida and worked mainly on **Packards, Cadillacs and Buicks**. Many of the cars he restored won AACA awards.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Jerry Eakins
Florida Region AACA Secretary

February Birthdays

James A. Centrella, III	February 11
Darrel Cole	February 21
Jerry Eakins	February 7
Ray Eckhart	February 12

Peter Foley	February 15
Nancy Gilbreath	February 20
Howard Gilkes	February 3
Larry Golub	February 5
Henry Hopkins	February 24
Larry Limmel	February 24
Ann Verner	February 25

February 20, 2017 Club Activity

President Steve Tunney is finalizing our club's participation in the Living Legends of Auto Racing's car show in Daytona Beach Shores, FL on Monday, February 20th. We plan on driving our classic cars in a caravan, from a location to be announced, driving the back roads to the FREE car show and arriving as a group around 9 am. Plans are for those without a car to drive can ride with a club member to the event. More details at the February 13, 2017 General club meeting and in an email later in the month.

Club Member Car in the Movies



Wayne Bostak, Florida Region member, writes "My **1950 Oldsmobile Rocket 88** (the solid green, center car above) appeared briefly in the 2016 movie "Fences" starring Denzel Washington. The previous owner in Pennsylvania entered three of his 1950 cars in the movie last June. I purchased the car in October 2016."

Auction Results

Mecum Auctions. Kissimmee, FL
January 6–15, 2017

1927 DeSoto K Roadster Lot L84.1, Sold for \$26,000



" 175 CI inline 6-cylinder engine, Stromberg carburetor, 3-speed manual transmission
Semi-floating rear axle, I-beam front axle
Spiral bevel differential, Semi-elliptic leaf springs
Two-tone Red and Burgundy paint with accent striping, Wood 12-spoke wheels "

1948 Jaguar Mark IV Drophead Coupe Lot F216, Sold for \$125,000



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COVER VEHICLE FEATURE ARTICLE

1933 Duesenberg Model J Convertible Coupe

Lot # BG02, Seen January 7, 2017 at the Mecum Auction, Kissimmee, FL (Not Sold)

“To own a **Duesenberg** such as this means that forever one’s name will be linked with some of society’s elites; magnates, barons, stars and starlets. A car of such import demands to be enjoyed, protected and preserved for the national treasure she is. J-386 has lived that cloistered existence most of her life, having been carefully tended to by three of the foremost **Duesenberg** collections: the Harrah Auto Collection in Reno, Nevada, the Blackhawk Collection in Danville, California, and Las Vegas’ Imperial Palace.

Of the 32 or so coachbuilders **Duesenberg** consigned to build custom bodies for the Model J, the most productive was the Walter M. Murphy Company, who was responsible for an estimated 140 of the 488 production total. Murphy’s most-favored status with its exclusive clientele was certainly a reflection of not just the superior quality of its designers and craftsmen, but also the good fortune of residing on the outskirts of Los Angeles, the playground of Hollywood’s elite.

Indeed, Murphy was one of the very few coachbuilders west of the Mississippi. So, with an all-star team of design talent that included Herb Newport, Phil Wright and Franklin Hershey, it is difficult to conceive that Murphy Co. would fail in 1932. Yet, it did, an early casualty of the Great Depression. Up from the ashes, Murphy veterans Chris Bohman and Maurice Schwartz created a leaner boutique firm of their own name. Though still located in Pasadena, this time much of their business was focused on modernizing coachwork on existing motorcars. Some of these Bohman & Schwartz redesigns involved little more than adding a few embellishments. However, with others the designer started with a completely fresh canvas. Many in Hollywood sought their

restyling magic, including Mae West (Bohman & Schwartz J-370) and Clark Gable (Bohman & Schwartz J-560). Indeed, of the 14 total Bohman & Schwartz-bodied **Duesenbergs**, 10 began as creations of other coachbuilders, later improved by Bohman & Schwartz.

At the time of their demise, Murphy was the most prolific creator of the **Duesenberg convertible coupe**, creating 60 of the 76 examples. Indeed, many Murphy design cues could be found on the more stylish Bohman & Schwartz interpretations. Only six convertible coupes were placed atop the supremely commanding 153.5-inch long wheelbase. Ultimately, only one of these, J-386/2421, would wear the prestigious Bohman & Schwartz name tag.”

Text and Photos from www.mecum.com



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“... the **Mark IV** was a solid performer with classic coachwork and appointments that enjoyed remarkably broad appeal. Of the 4,420 **3.5L Mark IVs** produced, only 560 were drophead coupes. Just 376 **3.5-liter Mark IVs** were built for export, including this meticulously restored left-hand-drive version delivered new to Max Hoffman’s International Motors of Los Angeles on June 25, 1948. Its mechanical specification was simple but effective: a 3.5L/125 HP inline-4 engine mated to a floor-shifted Moss 4-speed gearbox, a 120-inch wheelbase chassis employing solid front and live rear axles with semi-electric front and rear leaf springs, and Girling 4-wheel mechanical drum brakes. During a concours-grade restoration completed in 2000, the car was finished in

stunning burgundy and black lacquer complemented with a black 3-position landau top with red piping, beautifully refinished interior wood work and red leather upholstery. Other desirable features include “trafficator” turn signals, rare Lucas P100 road lamps, wide whitewall tires on chromed wire wheels and a full tool kit correctly mounted inside the trunk lid. Impressively, the car scored 99.91 of 100 at a regional Jaguar Club of North America Concours in Austin, Texas. Driven just 1,050 miles since the restoration...”

1970 Mercury Cougar XR-7 Convertible
Lot S36, Sold for \$150,000

- Date correct 428 CI Cobra Jet engine
- 4-speed transmission
- 1 of 2 in Competition Blue
- Driven less than 200 miles since comprehensive nut and bolt restoration by known Cougar specialty restoration shop
- Been in same family since 1979
- Believed to be 36,000 miles



Text and Photos from www.mecum.com

Charlie McWhorter talks at our General Meeting

Text and Photos by
Wayne Bostak, Florida Region member

Charlie McWhorter, a 97 year old WW II veteran and former Ford Trade school student presented an entertaining and informative talk at our January 2017 General Meeting.



As a young boy, Charlie had a natural ability with mechanics and was encouraged by a friend to apply to the Henry Ford Trade school in Michigan.

At the age of just 13 (in 1933) and in the 9th grade, he was accepted to the school. There he excelled in all classes and during one of his projects he had the honor to meet Henry Ford in person. Mr. Ford talked to him briefly about his studies and moved on. It was rare for Mr. Ford to talk to the students in those times.



Upon graduation Charlie was placed in charge of the design and improvement of all the machinery within the Ford plant. After 8 years at Ford he then was drafted into the army during WWII. He rose to the rank of Army Master Sergeant. He was a Field Engineer responsible for building roads for the convoys off the coast of Normandy, France. After the war he opened a business restoring classic automobiles. He particularly liked working on and restoring **Packard** automobiles.

In his retirement years, he has continued to work on various hands-on projects. The example below is a wooden model sailing ship Charlie built from a kit, within the past year.



One of his prized projects was the restoration of a military **1942 Jeep** which he had restored to combat-ready condition. His talk was enjoyed by all.

