



# Vintage Times



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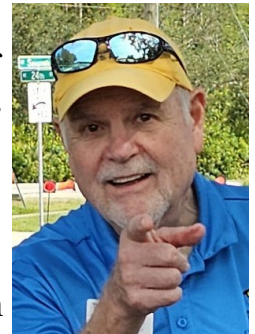
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## Upcoming Meetings

The March General Meeting will be on **Saturday, March 23rd**. Please see the announcement on page 4 for details.

*Life's like a road you travel on, when there's one day here and the next day gone...Life is a highway, I want to drive it all night long, (all night long, yeah!)" – Rascal Flatts*

Road trip! No matter where the AACA holds its annual convention, if you're going, a road trip will definitely be involved. And one leg of that trip just might be "all night long". But I'm getting ahead of myself.



On February 6th Ann and I headed north to the 2024 AACA National Convention in Chantilly, VA. We had been alerted to the fact that our Treasure Coast Region was going to receive an award for our website at this year's convention. We were pleasantly surprised with three awards at the Saturday night Awards Banquet! There was a 2023 Award of Distinction for Editor Sally Franklin and the *Vintage Times* newsletter, a 2023 Master Webmaster Award for our website, and the 2023 Spark Plug Award for the most outstanding AACA Region or Chapter website. Woo Hoo! You can view the awards at <https://treasurecoast.aaca.com/members-on-the-move/>.

By the way, like the Rascal Flatts' song, Ann and I drove straight through coming back from the DC area. We were up at 3:30 Sunday morning and on the road. It seemed like "all night long", as we rolled into our Port Saint Lucie driveway Sunday night. Started the trip in the dark and ended it in the dark, arriving in time to catch the second half of the Super Bowl.



Sally Franklin and I know these awards were made possible by the tremendous support we get from membership throughout the year. As if to make the point, just as Ann and I were preparing to leave our hotel room for the awards banquet, my cell phone suddenly sprang to life with a text message and photos from the Islamorada Car Show from Barbara McCalister. After the banquet, I found a bunch of photos in my e-mail from Denny Dahle waiting for me. As Webmaster, I may have a hold of the steering wheel, but it's membership activity that's the engine under the hood!

## President's Message, continued...

Speaking of membership activity, we had a strong turnout for the February 25<sup>th</sup> General Meeting at the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. Forty-six members were on hand Sunday for a wonderful tour of the Jupiter facility, and forty-four enjoyed the food afterwards at the Park Avenue BBG Grill. Even the weather was ideal. Many thanks to Curt & Terri Francisco for putting our February event together. Pictures can be found on the club's website at <https://treasurecoast.aaca.com/>.

Jo Ann and Jay Smith have our March General Meeting activity all planned out. Remember our March meeting will be on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Saturday date was chosen to avoid conflicting with Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday. Details can be found elsewhere in this issue of *Vintage Times* and on our website at <https://treasurecoast.aaca.com/activities/>.

Well, that's it for now. I hope to see everyone at our March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting...and let's keep 'em on the road!

*Bob Riddle*

The Sailfish statue in downtown Stuart is one of the most photographed subjects in all of Martin County. The statue stands 18 feet tall and is the creation of Geoffrey Smith, whose galleries we will be visiting this month.



# Secretary's Report

## Treasure Coast Vintage Car Club General Membership Meeting, February 25, 2024

The February general meeting was hosted by Curt Francisco with 42 members in attendance.

After a wonderful tour of the new Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Jupiter, the group met at the Park Avenue Bar B Q Grill for lunch and our meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 PM by President Bob Ridle.

Guests joining us were Doug and Sue Hoffine, friends of Sally and Larry.

The secretary's Report was in the newsletter. A motion was made by Andre Rayman to accept the minutes, seconded by Curt Francisco and passed as printed in the newsletter.

Barb Joyce informed the members we do have money in the bank.

Ann Ridle reported we have 109 members. A few stragglers have not renewed but she hopes to get them soon. She will be working on the 2024 Roster this month and may have them ready for the March meeting.

Sally will have the newsletter out shortly.

Pres. Bob had returned from Virginia where he received the Webmasters award and also was the recipient of the annual Sparkplug award for the best Website in the AACA. The Website is in good hands with Bob. Sally received an Award of Distinction for the Vintage Times newsletter.

Denny Dahle will have the special events in the newsletter.

No report on Club Stores.

Jay had no Legislative report concerning our club.

Marie Flaherty sent a Sympathy card to Boo Lowery on the death of his wife Sue. They were club members for many years.

John Delisa had nothing to report for Sgt. At Arms.

If you plan to go on Cracker Tour in April, you need to call Dave Brown NOW to get the Hotel information. Phone number is in Roster.

Sally informed the members that the date for our COOL CAR SHOW has been set for November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Keep that date on your calendar.

There was no old business or new business before the members.

Under upcoming Business The Smiths let everyone know the following information for the March meeting they will be hosting. We will be going to the GEOFFREY SMITH GALLERIES in Pt. Salerno for a talk and tour. You will recognize his work if you have seen the Sailfish in the circle in downtown Stuart. Information will be in this newsletter and we will really need a RSVP for this event.

The Francisco's were thanked for arranging the days activities and a motion was made to adjourn. It passed and we did.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo Ann Smith, Secretary



# General Meeting Notice

**SATURDAY, March 23, 2024 11-12:30**

We will meet behind the Chevron Service Station on East Ocean Blvd at East Ocean Mall where Fresh Market is located to caravan down to the Geoffrey Smith Galleries, 4545 SE Dixie Hwy, in Port Salerno, via St. Lucie Blvd for a scenic ride. Meet at 10:15 to depart at 10:30.

The March TCVCC General Meeting will be a tour of the Geoffrey Smith Galleries, with a talk by Mr. Smith detailing his work and how these sculptures are created. Many of his creations, as well as paintings, are on display in the Gallery.



Some of his work displayed locally are the Sailfish sculpture in the round-about in downtown Stuart and the birds along Colorado Ave entering downtown.



Seating will be provided. Do not bring your folding chairs into the Gallery.

There will be a guest list, so it's important that you RSVP to Jo Ann & Jay by 3/20 so we have sufficient seating and also, if you would like the monthly "Patina Journal" from Mr. Smith, we will need your email address. This is an interesting newsletter.

We also need the RSVP for the restaurant which will be just down the road at 2 Georges Dockside Grille (Formerly Finns and Twisted Tuna). We will leave the gallery at 12:30 to arrive for our 1:00 PM seating. An area for our older cars will be reserved. We will be seated in the upstairs dining area. Items from their Lunch Buffet will be offered – you pay.



RSVP: Jay & Jo Ann, [jays@gate.net](mailto:jays@gate.net) or [jay2094@att.net](mailto:jay2094@att.net) or phone 772-287-1903 by Weds 3/20.



## Upcoming National Events

### AACA National & Regional Events

March 17-23, 2024 2024 AACA Founders Tour (vehicles 1932-1999) Host: Louisiana Region AACA. Location: Acadiana Area, Louisiana, Chariman: Ronald Sonnier, [rsonnier@cox.net](mailto:rsonnier@cox.net).

March 21-24, 2024, 2024 Special Winter Nationals. Host: Puerto Rico Region AACA Location: Coliseo Mario Quiote Morales, Guayanbo, Puerto Rico. Chairman: Mario Guzman. [Brochure](#)

April 4-6, 2024 Charlotte, NC – Southeastern Spring Nationals and Grand National, sponsored by AACA Hornets Nest Region – Mel Carson, Chairman – 704-847-4215; [melcarson@charlotte-autofair.com](mailto:melcarson@charlotte-autofair.com). [Grand National Brochure](#), [SE Spring Nationals Brochure](#)

June 9-13, 2024 – Fredericksburg, Virginia – Eastern Divisional Tour – sponsored by AACA Buzzards Breath Region. Open to vehicles up through 1999.

June 20-22, 2024 – Saratoga, New York – Eastern Spring Nationals, sponsored by AACA Saratoga Region – Thomas Walsh, Chairman – 518-863-4987. [Online Registration](#) [Brochure](#)



For more listings and information, click [HERE](#) to visit the AACA website.

# Sunshine & Happenings

## SUNSHINE REPORT

A sympathy card was sent to Boo Lowery on the death of his wife Sue. They were club members for many years.. Please pass on information to Marie Flaherty: email: mariec21@earthlinknet, phone 772-631-9065. Let me know so we can shine some Sunshine for our club members.

### From the Membership Desk:

Thanks to our new and renewing 2024 TCVCC/AACA members. This year is kicking off to be a fun year. 2024 TCVCC Rosters will be ready (fingers crossed) to pass out at March's General Meeting. We'll send current information to the printers next week; sorry, pictures will be printed in black & white again. If you are not keeping old Rosters, please don't throw them into the trash. They should be shredded or burned in a fireplace. If you don't have a shredder, bring unwanted Rosters to the General Meeting and I will be glad to shred them for you.

Thank you for your cooperation.  
Ann Ridle

### COOL SHOW UPDATE!

The COOL Show will be on November 3rd this year. Same time and place as last year. 301 SE Stypmann Blvd, Stuart.

We will start having our planning meetings in May, after the show season has slowed down a little. In the meantime, if you have suggestions or ideas on how to make it better, please contact Show Chair-people Denny Dahle and Sally Franklin.

We are looking forward to another fantastic show and hope to see everyone there.

### 2024 TCVCC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**  
Bob Ridle

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**  
Denny Dahle  
**SECOND VP / MEMBERSHIP**  
Ann Ridle

**SECRETARY**  
Jo Ann Smith

**TREASURER**  
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**DIRECTORS**  
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Frank Lo Verso (2 yrs.)  
Dick Hoffman (2 yrs.)  
Scott Bean (1 yr.)  
Lou Lambert (1 yr.)  
Santee Searle (1 yr.)

### VINTAGE TIMES

A publication of  
The Treasure Coast Region  
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### Like Old Club Pictures?

Here is the link that has pictures going back to 2003 (so far), and will be expanding in the future.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/135383894@N05/albums/with/72157661067140746>

Save this link on your computer and you can pull up pictures from years gone by, anytime you want.



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### NEW CARS OR PROJECTS

Do you have a new (antique) car you have recently purchased? Or would you like to share with the club the progress on a restoration project? Please email pictures and a short story to [sfranklin\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sfranklin_2000@yahoo.com) to have it included in a future issue of the Vintage Times.



# Upcoming Events

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## LOCAL EVENTS (Courtesy of Jim Serra and No Name Car Club)

### EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH ONLY

Saturday March 2nd, Annual car show at South Fork High School 10000 SW Bulldog Way Stuart, starts at 9 am, \$10 entry fee with proceeds going to the school's automotive program. I spoke with organizers and they will accommodate cars arriving later after the McKees37 Cars & Coffee. Sean 772-260-3107

Saturday March 2nd, Molly's House annual car show 11 am Port Mayaca Polo Club 12499 sw Corners Hway Port Mayaca, register here: 772-223-6659

Saturday March 2nd, First Congregational Church of PSL Strawberry Festival and car show, noon to 4 pm, free event, hosted by the no name car club, 2401 SE Sidonia St, Carlos 772-528-4247

Sunday March 3rd, B&A Flea Market Car Show 11 am to 1 pm, 2885 US-1, Stuart, Complimentary Hot Dog lunch for car owners. Reserve your spot by calling 772-288-4915. Enter via US 1 and Luckhardt St. Hosted by Lew and His Crew, Free event, oldies music, 50/50, raffles

Sunday March 10th, Car Show/Fundraiser at VFW #8058, 3475 Douglas St. Fort Pierce, Pre 1979 Cars only, 11 am to 5 pm, limited to the first 40 pre-registered cars due to space constraints (suggested donation \$10 to \$20 per car). 772-834-1371

Sunday March 10th, Elks Lodge #2658 Elks Car/Motorcycle Show to benefit Elks Therapy Childrens Services, 11 am to 1 pm, MUST PRE-REGISTER by calling Pete at 772-285-0123, \$15 entry fee includes lunch. Lennard Rd Port St Lucie. 50/50, raffles and more. 2290 se Lennard Rd PSL

Friday March 15th, Morningside Church Car Show 4:30 PM (please do not arrive before 4 pm so we don't interfere with school dismissal) to 7:30 PM 2180 se Morningside Blvd Port St Lucie. Pastor Jim 772-528-2707 - Free Event, music by Lew and His Crew, food available for purchase.

Saturday, March 16th, Indian River AACA Club Annual Show. Indian Riverside Park, Vero Beach. 10 am—4 pm. Registration 8 am—11 am.

Saturday March 23rd, Annual Ocean Breeze Resort Car Show 10 am to 2 pm 3000 NE Indian River Dr Jensen Beach. Free event. Carlos 772-527-4247

Saturday March 23rd, Vettes at Keiser University Car Show. 8 am to 1 pm. \$35 - MUST PRE-REGISTER by March 15th Lfitzpatrick@keiseruniversity.edu or call 772-398-9990, 9400 SW Discovery Way Port St. Lucie, FL 34987

Sunday March 24th, Mopars at the Summer Crush Vineyard 4100 Johnston Rd Fort Pierce 34951, \$20 entry fee, noon to 4 pm, gates open at 1030 am. Best in Show and 10 Peoples Choice awards, live entertainment, hosted by the no name car club, sponsored by McKees37, Carlos 772-528-4247

# Upcoming Events, continued...

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## Local Events continued

### SHOWS THAT REPEAT MONTHLY

Friday March 1st 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Brass Monkey Cruise-in. 7781 Lake Wort Road, Lake Worth, FL 33467. Free admission. Hosted by Donnie, Betty and Carlos. Music by DJs Donnie & Carlos. Food discount inside the restaurant for cruisers every day. Info: 561-968-9559 or Carlos 772-528-4247 (1st Friday of the month)

Saturday March 2nd, McKees 37 monthly Cars & Coffee 8 am 7744 Jack James Dr Stuart. FREE event and \$3 buys coffee/donuts. Tech session by Nick Rutter as well as product discounts. (Repeats 1st Saturday of the month). I plan to caravan over to the South Fork High School show after this event.

Sunday March 3rd, Googan Coffee Shop Cruise In 8 am to 1030 am 1917 NE Federal Hwy Stuart (just north of LA Fitness). Free event put on by a local family owned business - FREE Coffee (Repeats on the first Sunday of the month). You can caravan over to the B&A Flea Market show after this one.

Sunday March 3rd, Recovery Sports Grill Cruise In. Repeats on the first Sunday of the month 4 to 8 pm, 10350 sw Don R Led Duke Dr Port St Lucie. 772-345-8490

Sunday March 10th and March 24th Valencia Cay Cars & Coffee 662 se Becker Rd, 8 am. Free event - Dunkin Donuts and Publix are nearby (2nd and 4th Sunday of the month).

Thursday March 14th, Street Dreams Monthly show by Shift Culture Downtown Fort Pierce 130 N 2nd St, Fort Pierce, FL 34950 6pm - 9 pm \$10 entry fee. Repeats on the 2nd Thursday of the month. More info: [shiftculture.ticketleap.com](http://shiftculture.ticketleap.com)

Monday March 18th, 3rd Monday of the month car show at T/A Truck Stop, 8909 20th Street, Vero Beach, FL 32996. Hosted by the No Name Car Club. Free entry, oldies music, 50/50. Dining Discounts Carlos, 772-528-4248.

Saturday March 23rd, South East Classics Harborside Show 4th Saturday of the month car show 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, 129 Soundings Ave, Jupiter, FL 33477. \$10 entry fee. Roll in at 1:00 PM. Trophies, including Participants & Spectators Choice. Open to all years, makes and models. Contact is Pete Needre [Pete2350@comcast.net](mailto:Pete2350@comcast.net) or call 772.216.9488.

Sunday, March 31st, Last Sunday of the month Shift Culture Cars & Coffee at the Indian River State College Pruitt Campus 500 NW California Blvd, Port St Lucie 34986. 8 am to noon. \$10 entry fee. Also includes a swap meet.

# Upcoming Events, continued...

## EVENTS THAT REPEAT WEEKLY

Tuesdays Weekly Tuesday Night Car Show at Lowes, 4 pm - 7 pm, 3620 SE Federal Hwy, Stuart, FL 34997. Please have exact change (\$3) to expedite entry to the show. Free for spectators - repeats weekly Lew 772-708-3790 (Lew has also set up a Facebook page called Lew's Crew Car Show - check it out).

Wednesdays Weekly Car Show at the Elliott Museum 825 NE Ocean Blvd at 4 pm \$5 to show a car (fee waived Museum members), spectators FREE - 10% dining discount for cruisers

Wednesdays, Weekly cruise in at Dairy Queen 9019 US Hwy 1 Port St Lucie at 4:30 pm FREE event and a dining discount for cruisers. Ira Fluss 772-485-7145.

Fridays Weekly cruise in at Sonic 3177 NW Federal Hwy Jensen Beach at 4:30 pm - Free Sundae with your purchase. Mike Gelter 772-485-0162

Saturdays, Weekly Cars & Coffee every Saturday 10 am to 2 pm at Saint Lucie Lanes 6759 US-1, Port St Lucie, FL 34952 \$5 includes coffee/donuts and a trophy).  
[www.carsandcoffeesll.com](http://www.carsandcoffeesll.com).

Saturdays, Weekly Cruise in at Aunt G's Rotisserie Restaurant 3053 SW Martin Down Blvd, Palm City 4 to 7 pm. 15% discount for cruisers. (Every Saturday weather permitting)



**45<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Automobile Show**



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**ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB**

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**  
**Auto Show starts at 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.**  
Auto Registration 8:00 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Registration closes promptly at 11 a.m.  
(cars in line at that time will be registered)  
*Rain or Shine Show*



Register your vehicle for the 16th Annual Wheels Across The Pond. Taking place at the beautiful Carlin park in Jupiter Florida.

Join us Saturday March 30th, 2024 as car enthusiasts come together to show their passion for British and European vehicle/motorcycle.

Remember registration will close 2 weeks before the event! We will take "day of" registration but you WILL NOT be in an assigned class. Your vehicle will be in one section of the field for DISPLAY ONLY!



# ANNOUNCEMENT!

## CRACKER TOUR 2024 UPDATE

Finally, the tour dates are confirmed and in stone...we hope. We will leave Thursday morning April 25 and be on the road through Sunday, April 28. We ran into a **RIDICULOUS** amount of difficulty arranging hotels for the tour. Seems there was a Bike Fest that same weekend and there were no rooms available. After reorganizing the tour we did manage to get a block for our dates, so we are all set. Additional information as well as hotel information will be forwarded to those who sign up. You **MUST** register with the Brown's if you plan to tour. Send email to [brown7373@bellsouth.net](mailto:brown7373@bellsouth.net) or call at 772-464-2966 to sign up for the tour.

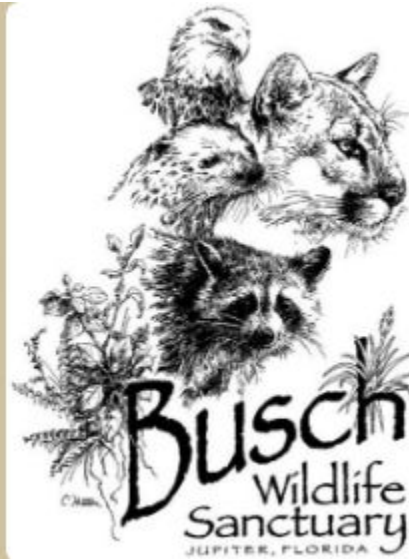




## MEMBER STORIES

# February General Meeting

On the morning of February 25th, a large group of club members left Cracker Barrel for the scenic drive on the backroads to the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. 46 people turned out for the guided tour of the new facility in Jupiter.



The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization with over 40 years of dedication to the protection and conservation of Florida's wildlife and natural resources. To accomplish this goal the Sanctuary has a two fold mission of wildlife rehabilitation and environmental education.

The new facility consists of almost 20 acres dedicated to their mission to rescue, rehabilitate and release injured animals, while educating children and adults about native plant and animal species, and allowing them to participate in conservation efforts to protect and preserve Florida's wildlife, natural resources, and endangered species.





## MEMBER STORIES

# A Tale of Two Trucks. *Mike Mucci*

Some of our long-time TCVCC members may remember the 1986 Ford F-150 long-bed pick-up truck I bought in North Carolina nearly 20 years ago. It carried us on several Cracker tours and others. (Photo at right)

When I bought the F-150---in 2004--it was supposed to be a kick-around "service truck" up in Brevard, NC, for when we came up from Stuart to tend to rental properties. It was just an old used truck. But it was solid, original with no rust and low mileage for 17 years. However, one thing led to another with new paint and various upgrades, and eventually it became pretty respectable as a vintage vehicle.



In the meantime what I really lusted for was a Dodge Ram short bed single cab in the early '90s the first year of the "big rig" style.

I could never find one that was to my liking and in my price range. So—just a few months ago--I decided to keep the F-150, bite the bullet and do all the stuff the old Ford needed to bring it up to snuff cosmetically and mechanically as a 37-year-old survivor. \$5000 worth, to be exact, including new premium tires, all kinds of maintenance (pan gasket, intake gasket, valve cover gaskets, main bearing seal, motor mounts, harmonic balancer, oil pump, new seat upholstery, etc. etc.). When all was finally said and done it was better than ever. I was ready to keep it. But, of course, I remained ever vigilant for that elusive Ram.

Ironically, just weeks after the work was completed on the F-150, a mirage showed up on-line: the image of none other than a 1994 Dodge Ram Sport with a Magnum 360 engine in pristine condition with 49,000 documented miles for sale at a do-able price. I already figured it had to be in Spokane...or Columbus,,,or even Los Angeles. No. Further reading revealed it was in nearby Mills River, NC, just half an hour away!



I had to go look. It was Sunday and no one was around. But there it was on the back line of a used car lot Carol and I had passed by a hundred times. So I visited the next day and drove it. It was truly a time capsule. I had to buy the Ram.

Reluctantly I put the Ford up for sale. It sold immediately to a local club member up here who had expressed an interest in it a year or two ago. A little twinge of nostalgia overcame Carol and me, but now I have the truck I was lusting for. Big Red found a new local home; Lil Red is ours. A local club member is already enjoying the Ford as both trucks were admired in our local Brevard hometown Christmas parade. Happy ending.