



GAS BUGGY GOSSIP



NORTH FLORIDA REGION AACA, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

WEB SITE : NEFLAACA.ORG

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VICE PRESIDENT:

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SECRETARY:

RICHARD BENDETTI 724-8769

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ALAN SNOW 403-4265

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EDITOR:

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ACTIVITY/SUNSHINE

KRIS GEDDINGS

50/50

WOODY WITCZAK

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ROB DALY
WOODY WITCZAK
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ELINOR SNOW
NANCY ULRICH
ELLIS ULRICH

**MARCH 12 LUNCH MEETING
MEDITERRANEA RESTAURANT
CORNER OF BAYMEADOWS RD. AND SAN JOSE BLVD
11:30A.M.**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS..SPRING AHEAD ON MARCH 8 TH.

FEB 13 LUNCH MEETING AT G'S BBQ RESTAURANT

ATTENDEES: THE WITCZAKS; THE ONSAGERS; THE LAWSONS; THE DANIELS; THE ULRICHs; THE SNOWS; THE BRELSINS; THE BENDETTIS; DEE SCOTT; GERY GEDDINGS, ROB DALY; AND BILL GILLESPIE.

ROB DALY \$25 ATTENDANCE

BILL GILLESPIE \$21 50/50

MINUTES

KEN LAWSON CALLED MEETING TO ORDER. WOODY GAVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT. WOODY THEN INFORMED MEMBERS THAT HE AND MARY ANN WERE MOVING "NORTH TO ALASKA" TO BE NEAR HIS FAMILY FROM MAY TO OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR. ALAN SNOW STEPPED UP TO BE CO-TREASURER DURING HIS ABSENCE.

KEN RECAPPED THE UPCOMING CARS AND COFFEE AND COUNCOURS AT AMELIA ISLAND AS WELL AS THE CAR SHOW IN PALATKA ON MARCH 7. SEVERAL MEMBERS INDICATED THEY WOULD ATTEND THE PALATKA SHOW. BILL GILLESPIE WAS TRAVELING TO AACA SHOW IN SOUTH FLORIDA TO TRY FOR A SENIOR TROPHY WITH HIS 1937 BUICK. (EDITOR NOTE: BILL DID WIN THE TROPHY..CONGRATS)

ELINOR SNOW MENTIONED THAT A FRIEND OF HERS WAS TRYING TO SELL A 1999 SAAB CONVERTIBLE. ASKING PRICE \$2,000.

CLUB VOTED TO RETURN TO MEDITERRANEA FOR THE MARCH MEETING.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

JOEL DANIEL MARCH 17

SHAROL HOFFMAN MARCH 25

ANNIVERSARIES

THERE WERE NOT ANY HAPPY EVENTS IN MARCH !!!

WOODYISMS

February is in the rear view mirror. It is the shortest month of the year and every four years (Leap Year) we add a day because the earth does not circle the sun in precisely 365 days. We're now looking at March through the windshield and there is Daylight savings time beginning on March 8th when we lose an hour of sleep. For the sports enthusiasts, we have the NCAA playoffs (March Madness), The Players Championship, and the beginning of Major League Baseball Spring training. Also the First Day of Spring on March 19th. And of course we have March 17th (the feast day of St Patrick) which is the day for "Wearing' of the Green" when everyone is Irish. The modern St. Patrick's Day celebrations taking place this month, at least in the United States, will likely be characterized by shamrocks and green beer—all of which has very little to do with the historical figure of the saint. The March 17 celebration started in 1631 when the Church established a Feast Day honoring St. Patrick. Since the feast day falls during Lent, I remember a young Irish priest telling us in religion class, that the feast day was selected to provide the Irish a day off from the Lenten prescriptions of abstinence leading up to Easter. At least one of many stories about the feast day and St Patrick, although very little is known about St Patrick. He was a roman citizen who became a priest and was sent to Ireland as a missionary to convert the Druids to Christianity some time during the late sixth century.



CONGRATULATIONS TO BILL GILLESPIE. HIS BUICK WON SENIOR AWARD
AT THE SOUTH FLORIDA AACA MEET LAST MONTH.....

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

The first Monthly News Bulletin of the Northeast Florida Region Antique Auto Club was published on January 27, 1975. The club first became a "Region" on February 7, 1974. The officers at the time were Raymond Huppee, President, Eli Henderson, V.P., O. Clyde Davis, Secretary, Sam Swearingen, Treasurer, Carl Bowles, Board of Dirs., and Director of Meets: John White. The following is an excerpt from the News Bulletin.

On Sunday, 9 February, the Club will go to St. Marys, Georgia, for it's First Anniversary outing since becoming a Region. The tour will be known as the "Dust Off" tour. We will depart in our Antique, Classic or Special Interest Cars at 9:30 AM, with Mr. O. Clyde Davis, our Club Secretary, in the lead vehicle with his 1929 Graham Paige "Locomotive." Drivers of other vehicles will position themselves at random with sufficient space between cars so that we will not hold up traffic. Departure point will be Sam Swearingen's Gulf Station, 7307 Main St. Jax. Route will be US 17 etc. Arrival time St. Marys, approx. 11:30 AM. We will be met by all kinds of dignitaries. Press and TV coverage has been arranged. Members of the Kiwanis Club will conduct a guided tour of Historic St. Marys, and the Toonerville Trolley will be available for sight-seeing tours. Bring your camera. Also, bring your own lunch and beverage for a family type picnic in St. Marys. Departure time St. Marys, approx. 3:30 PM, to arrive home prior to darkness. A breakdown trailer will be provided by Don Boas, and will be towed to and from St. Marys by Buddy Osborne. The tour will depart rain or shine. It will be a lot of fun for the entire family. Let us all participate in the tour for our First Anniversary, and enjoy ourselves, and the fellowship of our entire Club. After all, this is what our Club is all about.

Message from Club President Huppee: Dear Fellow Member and Prospective Member: At the beginning of 1975, no doubt we have all made New Years resolutions, and broke them just as quickly as we made them. One, I hope you haven't broken, and that is to pay our dues, both Region and National. In spite of the inflation the Region dues is still five dollars per year, per family. As you know, in order to be a member in good standing of the Region, it is a prerequisite to be a member in good standing of the National Club. Active membership is \$8.50. A new category, joint (husband & wife) is only \$11.50.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE YOU DOWN MEMORY LANE FROM THE CLUB IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER. HOPE YOU ENJOY!

DON'T FORGET
THE HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 9, 2000
RAMADA INN, MANDARIN
6:00 P.M.

THE BLAST FROM THE PAST ARTICLE HAS MANY NAMES OF FOLKS THAT ARE NO LONGER IN THE CLUB OR ARE NO LONGER WITH US. I MET JOHN WHITE IN 1958 WHEN WE MOVED TO JAX. I LIVED TWO BLOCKS FROM HIS HOUSE. I WAS HIS "APPRENTICE". HE HELPED ME FIND MY MODEL A AS WELL AS MY DAILY DRIVER, A 1953 FORD TUDOR. I WAS LOOKING AT THE YEAR 2000 CLUB ROSTER. WE HAD 33 FAMILY MEMBERS FOR A TOTAL OF 65 PEOPLE. OF THOSE ONLY 3 FAMILY MEMBERS ARE CURRENTLY IN OUR CLUB. ELINOR SNOW HAD COMPLETED HER FIRST YEAR AS THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR!! BILL AND JANE WARNER WERE ACTIVE MEMBERS!! 2020 CLUB ROSTER HAS 28 FAMILY MEMBERS FOR A TOTAL OF 54 PEOPLE.

John S. White Jr. of Plantation FL, departed Earth on Tuesday February 18th, 2020 at 86 years of age. A native of Jacksonville FL, John graduated from Landon High School and then from Ga Military College in Millidgeville, Ga then followed by an enlistment with the U.S.Army and received an Honorable Discharge. John migrated to South Florida in 1976. John is predeceased by his parents John Sr. and Gladys White. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Patricia White, sons John III, Douglas and David, Grandchildren Kaylie, Eilise, Caleb. JJ, Sam, Avi. Sara & Sara. John was an avid gas station memorabilia collector, and a pioneer of the Antique Automobile restorers hobby. John was a member of the Antique Automobile Club of America, Model A Restorers Club and Model T Ford Club of America and International, John was a founding organizer of the Birthplace of Speed Car Show, Beach Sprints and Gaslight Parade in Ormond Beach, FL where he attended every meet from 1959 thru 2018. John was a loving Father, Grandfather, a good neighbor, and friend to everyone. The most notable part of John's legacy was his selfless giving to Family and Friends who needed help and for that the World was a better place for those blessed to have known him. Funeral Services and Military Honors to be held at TM Ralph Funeral Home (Plantation) on March 3rd, 2020. Friends will be received at the T.M. Ralph Plantation Funeral Home from 10:00AM - 1:00PM. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 AM, with Military Honors will being rendered. Committal service is being planned, time to be announced.

NOTE FROM JOHN'S SON, DOUG.

Dear all,

I regret to bring you the sad news that my Father, John White of Plantation. FL has passed at the age of 86. My Father was one of the pioneers of the Antique Automobile collector and restorers hobby and helped organize many clubs and early events in the Jacksonville region. Our family moved to South Florida in 1976 when my father was transferred by his employer Sherwin Williams, but for many years he traveled back to Jacksonville to attend local shows and events because Jacksonville and all the people there were always "home". Though I left Jax at ten years old, I have so many memories embedded from those good times that I can still hear and see them; the root-beer floats O.C. Davis would make, the Oyster Roast at Carl Bowles', getting to ride on Noel Dana's Auto Redbug in his back yard (every kids dream car), Buddy Osborne showing me how he used to "spit nails" at the upholstery when he worked at the Ford assembly plant, and so many more people like Don Boas, Ray Huppee, Richard Bendetti, the Cowarts, if you wanted to erect an old Gas Station or Drive In Restaurant Bill Dees had enough at his flea market spots, and so many more things and people I will always remember.

REMINISCE BY RANDY WHITE.(NO RELATION TO JOHN) RANDY LIVED A BLOCK FROM JOHN...

Here's an old car story, involving your dad Up until about 1954, my mom owned and drove a '37 Ford convertible, that was nicknamed "Jezebel", and that your dad, who then was likely in his early 20's, adored. It was a sharp car, painted forest green with white pinstripes. Several times he told my mom that if she ever wanted to sell it to please let him know. Well, she didn't listen and after the passenger side door of that car came open one day, as she rounded a corner in the neighborhood and I flew out, getting some 'asphalt rash' and landing on my butt. She went down to Burwell Chevrolet in Jax. the very next day and traded Jezebel in on a brand new '54 Chevy Belair. When your dad learned she'd traded Jezebel, he ran down to the dealership, but Jezebel was long-gone.

But, I still hold many fond memories of him taking us kids on rides in his Model T touring car, his Model A's and scaring hell out of us when we rode with him on that old Cushman. He could lean that thing over so far that the floorboard would scrape on the pavement, sending a shower of sparks flying everywhere.