

May 2014

Volume 32 Number 5

President's Letter



Well, that was a bummer, huh. On Thursday, April 24th, I washed and waxed two cars in preparation for the following Saturday's car display arranged by Steve Blank. I'll bet many other members were preparing their cars also. And then, can you believe it, a storm rolled in and the display was cancelled. Rain, snow, hail, the whole works. The restaurant still offered to host our members and give a food discount. That was nice of them. Many of our members partook of that. By the following day, the weather was nice again, and soon we'll be having summer weather. Hopefully, Steve can reschedule the display...before monsoon season starts.

Real soon we'll be having our Mother's Day Brunch. It seems like a lot of us are looking forward to that. Steve says he has many sign-ups. Rachel and I will be there and look forward to seeing everyone.

Next month we will have our picnic at Chavez Crossing. Lots more good food. Maybe we should change our name from Sedona Car Club to Sedona Eating Club. Reminds me of the men I heard talking about all of the new restaurants in Cottonwood. He and his friends call themselves ROMEO's.....Retired Old Men Eating Out.

Thanks again to Sally Peck for agreeing to be the Chairperson of our car show. Plans for the show are coming along well now. Here comes the lecture - every member who is able to should be sure to help with the show. Nuff said.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meetings and future events.



P.S. Here's a picture of our new motor home.

David Lombardi
President



Reminders:

NEXT MEETING

May 13
Guest Speaker
Neil Proctor
Former Manager,
Ford Motor Company

Neil started as a co-op student with the Transmission Division of Ford Motor Company in Cincinnati, Ohio, and finished with the Automotive Assembly Division in Dearborn, Michigan. Neil's final position was manager of both Capacity Planning and Strategic Business Planning for the Assembly Division until he retired in 1997. At that time, it involved 17 assembly plants and 9 stamping plants. Neil plans to describe his experiences during his 34-year career with Ford and what goes into planning new products 5-6 years before they are ready for sale to the public.



Be sure to check the SCC website for future events and photos from past events.

May Refreshments:
Sally Peck and Vince and Betty Monaci
Coffee:
Phil and Sharrie Wadsack

If your car is being serviced at Red Rock Precision Motors, be sure to ask for the car club 10% discount.

To the ladies of the car club—if I haven't interviewed you yet, and you'd like to be featured in an upcoming issue, please email me at: chathamjet@yahoo.com

Sedona Car Club is now on Facebook!



Regional Car Events

- 5/10** MTSR 17th Annual Car Show, Prescott
- 5/10** 3rd Annual All Corvette Show, Payson
- 5/17** All Chevy Show, Larry Green Chevrolet, Cottonwood
- 5/17** Sally B's Café Classic Car Show, Prescott Valley
- 5/17** Home Depot 1st Annual Car Show, Prescott Valley
- 5/31** Orchard Ranch 3rd Annual Classic Car and Craft Show, Dewey

(For a complete list of 2014 events, click [here](#).)

CLUB CLIPS



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**
TO:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Cheryl Ossenfort | 15 |
| Lynda McEvoy | 20 |
| Victoria Clark | 21 |
| Marylu Miller | 25 |
| Phil Wadsack | 25 |
| Katharina Roth | 26 |
| Amy Duncan | 26 |
| Bob Duncan | 27 |



Club Calendar

- 5/11** **Mother's Day Brunch,
Junipine Café, 10:00 a.m.**
- 5/13** **Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Sedona Library**



When: June 3
Where: Chavez Crossing
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Food and water will be provided. Free for club members, \$10.00 per guest. Bring your own adult beverage and chairs, if possible. Make checks payable to Sedona Car Club and mail to Steve Blank, 35 Beaver Lane, Sedona 86351. Call Steve or email him to sign up.

Thanks to John Hauptman for his presentation and discussion about his years at Cadillac Motor Division.

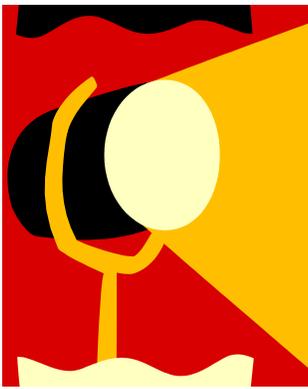
Thanks to Sam and Rose Pietrofitta and Cyndy Mortensen for April refreshments and to David and Rachel Lombardi for coffee.

Welcome new members:

**Arny Messersmith
Grace Preval**

Congratulations On Your Anniversary!

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Joe and Mary Tully | May 5 |
| Bob and Jane Tusso | May 23 |
| Gary and Patty Lamb | May 26 |
| David and Rachel Lombardi | May 27 |



Spotlight on the ladies of the SCC...

Marylu Miller



Marylu (and husband, Robert) are new members of the car club. Marylu was born and raised in Warren, Ohio, steel valley as she called it. Marylu is a registered nurse, having attended Sandusky (Ohio) Nursing School. She was employed in pediatrics at St. Joseph's Hospital in Ohio.

If you were at the April meeting, Marylu explained that they are working on purchasing a classic car (Robert used to drive a Porsche) but told us that her father used to own several junk yards in Ohio. On Saturdays, she recalled playing on buses and ice cream trucks. On Sundays, they got to feed the junk yard dogs. She also recalled that awful smell from rubber fires in the yard. She owned some neat cars that were recouped there like a yellow Chrysler and a light blue one with large fins and a 1964 Chevy. She had special cars and she was everyone's friend in high school.

Living in Ohio for 21 years was enough for Marylu and she headed for New York City. She worked for several dermatology groups in Manhattan before marrying in 1978 and moving to Glen Rock, New Jersey, with Robert. Marylu and Robert have two children, Lindsay and Brad. Numerous vacations to Arizona brought them to Sedona, first purchasing property in Mystic Hills 12 years ago and eventually purchasing a

home sight unseen (though they did view it online through a virtual tour). They moved to Sedona on October 1, 2013.

Marylu enjoys hiking with Robert and six-year old, Milly, a chocolate lab, and is an avid reader. She has recently discovered tennis and volunteers for the Humane Society at its Paws Thrift Shop in West Sedona, and the Sedona Community Food Bank. Marylu and Robert have been great additions to the Mystic Hills community.

Marylu loves being retired and is glad to be a resident and not a tourist. Her philosophy is simply stated—"if an event or uptown is too crowded, we live here now, we can wait until tomorrow!"

Be sure to welcome our new car club members.



Mongo's Car Display

The inclement weather may have caused the cancellation of the car display at Mongo's Grill in the VOC on April 26, but that didn't deter members of the car club from enjoying lunch at the restaurant.



**We have an author in our midst.
Ed Pittman just had his novel,
Dive for the Devil, published.
Congratulations, Ed!**

Run Pony, Run

Ford Mustang lovers celebrate the iconic automobiles' 50th anniversary

On April 17, 1964, the day Ford Mustang made its official sales debut, future funnyman and car collector, Jay Leno, was 13 years old and living in Andover, MA. "In those days, dealerships would cover the windows with curtains," Leno says. "To see the new cars, we had to stand in line. You'd get a hot dog, a doughnut and lemonade, and wait."

Once inside, young Leno, not old enough to drive and certainly lacking the money to buy, was impressed. "The Mustang was sporty and European looking," he remembers. "And it was affordable."

A reasonable price—just over \$2,000 for a bare-bones model, and not much more to add options such as a radio, power steering or air conditioning—combined with the sleek style of the "Pony Car" for a winning combination. That spring day, Ford dealers nationwide took 22,000 orders for cars in colors from Twilight Turquoise to the super-popular Rangoon Red.

After one year, Mustang sales reach 417,000, more than quadrupling Ford's projection. Within two years, sales topped 1 million.

"When the Mustang was first introduced, people ate it up," says Matt Anderson, 38, curator of transportation at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, MI, home to Serial Number One (#0001), the first Mustang ever made. "The idea was to produce something like the Falcon (Ford's then-best-selling workaday sedan), only with a sporty body—a grocery getter that looked cool."

Fifty years later, more than 9 million Mustangs have been sold. But more significantly, the Pony Car has maintained a firm grip on car lovers' hearts.

"Mustang connects to people," says Ford car marketing manager Steven Ling, 49, in Detroit. "That's why people gravitate to it. It's what the Mustang represents: Doing fun things, creating great memories. It's about a sense of freedom and optimism."

Today, Mustang has more than 5.5 million Facebook fans and has long affirmed its place in pop culture in hundreds of songs, such as Wilson Pickett's 1966 hit "Mustang Sally," and appearances in some 3,000 TV shows and movies, from the original white convertible in the 1964 James Bond movie *Goldfinger* to the blue and white striped 2015 model in the new film *Need for Speed*.

Through its many incarnations—among them the Shelby, Cobra, Mustang II, GT Coupe and now the 2015 anniversary model, currently being mass-manufactured at Ford's assembly plant in Flat Rock, MI—the Mustang remains one of America's most beloved automobiles.

It's like a member of the family," says Ron Bramlett, 60, of the Mustang Club of America, the executive director of the Mustang 50th Birthday Celebration. "Everyone over 30 has a Mustang story."

Mustang fans had the chance to swap stories, show off their rides, and see virtually every model of Mustang ever made, when Ford, along with the Mustang Club of America, hosted simultaneous 50th birthday celebrations at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, NC, and Las Vegas, NV, on April 16-20.

From '60s convertibles with long, sweeping hoods and sharp, sculpted flanks, to current models with 400 or more horsepower, the Mustang is a car that Ling believes inspires something in everyone.



"There's no better symbol of America than the Mustang," he says. "That's how it started out, and 50 years later, it's still that way."

Pictured is Mustang serial number one. It was sold to Stanley Tucker of St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada on April 14, 1964, and is actually a 1965 model. Original price: \$3,334.

MY FIRST CAR(S)

by Jane Tusso

I learned to drive on this 1960 Mercury Comet. (My brothers and I affectionately referred to it as the "vomit.") At least it had an automatic transmission and the price was right—free.



My next car was a 1962 Ford Galaxie 500 Sunliner Convertible, black with a black top, red interior, and a manual transmission. The car belonged to my brother and sister-in-law, and my mother taught me how to shift the three on the tree. It took a lot of practice and patience to learn how to drive that car. Once when I was still learning, I backed into and destroyed the air stand at my father's service station. My uncle, who worked for my father, was delighted because one of his jobs was filling air in customers' tires. Good old Uncle Benny!



My first *new* car was a 1969 Dodge Charger, green with a black vinyl top, green interior, center console, and bucket seats. I purchased the car from my uncle who owned a Dodge dealership in New Jersey. I paid about \$3200 for that beauty.



Club Meetings

The General Meetings of the Sedona Car Club are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sedona Library except in June when our meeting is the Annual Picnic and in December when it is the Annual Christmas Party. We do not meet in July. Please attend and bring a car-loving friend.

Board Meetings

The Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the Cousins' clubroom. All members are invited to attend.

Tire Tracks

Tire Tracks is published eleven times a year by the Sedona Car Club and contains information on events and activities of interest to members. It is compiled and edited by Jane Tusso and posted on the website by Steve Blank before the monthly meeting. All submissions are due by the 1st of each month. Email them to: chathamjet@yahoo.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED—Contractor or recommendation for one to build a garage/shop in Cottonwood; will be 2000+ sq. ft. with a high ceiling and pull through for 5th wheel. Plans and permit application have been submitted to county. Property is not in the town. Contact Jim at 908-878-7324.

WANTED—2005-2007 Mercedes Benz SLK350, preferably white. Contact Jane at 928-282-0894. Now that's what I'm talking about.



FOR SALE—Contact 928-821-3577 for showing

1985 Corvette Hardtop, black exterior with black interior, automatic transmission, 23,982 miles, asking \$8,500 OBO.

1993 Mercedes Benz 600SL, black exterior with tan interior, custom wheels, hardtop/convertible, 68,655 miles, asking \$17,000.

2002 Fleetwood Motor Home, 37 ft., 2 slides, living room, bedroom, 2 TVs living room, bedroom, pusher Diesel, 330 cat engine, asking \$35,000 OBO.

Stop Yield Go!

Traffic signals and signs fascinate Iowa man

By Marti Attoun, contributing editor • PHOTOS BY DAVID MUDD

JOHN RIETVELD, 50, enjoys waiting for the lights to change—on more than 100 vintage stoplights in his home-based Museum of Traffic Control in Pella, Iowa (pop. 10,352).

“Since I was a little kid, I’ve been fascinated with traffic signals,” says Rietveld, who at age 6 drew chalk roadways and made stoplights and signs from shoeboxes for the sidewalks where he pedaled his Big Wheel.

When he was 20, Rietveld bought his first traffic signal—an early 1950s stoplight made by General Electric—from an antique shop in Sacramento, Calif., and he’s been collecting them ever since.

Today, when he steps into his 1,700-square-foot basement museum, signals flash red, green and amber and direct pedestrians to “Walk” or “Don’t Walk.” From floor to ceiling,

more than 100 vehicle and pedestrian lights blink amid some 500 street and highway signs, including original markers for Route 66 and Sunset Boulevard.

Rietveld’s signs and signals date from 1915 to the 1990s. His oldest stoplights have glass lenses, many with patterns and embossed commands—Stop, Go, Caution.

“I really like the ornate ones,” says Rietveld, admiring his rarest stoplight, a 1915 cast-iron model that resembles a birdcage. Its eight-sided revolving cylinder displays “Stop” and “Go” above the red and green lights, and a bell sounds when the message rotates. Invented by electrical engineer Ralph W. Wiley, the light once stood at a San Francisco intersection and is one of about 20 known to survive.

Although many cities scrap their retired traffic signals, Rietveld discovers discarded markers at antique stores, highway departments and signal maintenance yards. He also gets leads from www.signalfan.com, the website that he created in 1997 for like-minded enthusiasts.

Rietveld worked as a stage-light technician in Fullerton, Calif., before he and his wife, Jackie, and their son, Jacob, moved to his father’s hometown of Pella in 2005.



Railroad signals, signs and lanterns are among the items in Rietveld’s collection.

John Rietveld admires a 1915 stoplight that once directed traffic in San Francisco, Calif.

The couple credits the collection with helping them see the light about their future. During a long road trip in California to buy a traffic signal, they had a heart-to-heart talk about where and how they wanted to raise their son. Jackie longed to be a stay-at-home mother, but they couldn’t afford that arrangement where they lived. So they loaded up their signals and signs and relocated to Iowa.

One of Rietveld’s favorite signals is Pella’s first traffic light, which was installed at the intersection of Main and Franklin streets in 1950, about the time his father learned to drive. The light hangs beside the newspaper article and photo that heralded its arrival.

Rietveld, a technical writer for Vermeer Corp., opens his museum by appointment and enjoys seeing visitors’ reactions to road signs that bear head-scratching warnings such as “No Parking or Driving on Sidewalk” and “No Skiing Under Bridge.”

Nearly every evening, he tinkers on his traffic controls. “They’re kind of mesmerizing,” Rietveld says. “Everyone who comes down here says, ‘Wow!’ They leave with a new appreciation of signals.” ★



2014 EXECUTIVE BOARD

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
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Good Deal for Freya

Freya was driving her Chevrolet Vega home in New Mexico when she saw an elderly Apache woman walking along the side of the road. She stopped the car and asked the woman if she would like a lift.

With a silent nod, the woman climbed into the car. Freya tried in vain to make conversation with the Apache woman.

The old Apache looked closely at everything she saw, studying every little detail, until she noticed a red gift bag on the seat next to Freya.

"What's in the bag?" asked the old woman.

"It's a bottle of whisky that I got for my husband."

The Apache woman was silent for another minute or two. Then speaking with the quiet wisdom of an elder, she said, "Good trade."



Sedona Car Club
PO Box 748
Sedona, AZ 86339

Stop Yield Go! Courtesy of American Profiles, March 9-15, 2014

True or False?

The International Towing and Recovery Museum resides in the hometown of Ernest Holmes Sr., the man who is credited with the first tow truck.

Answer:

True. The museum, located in Chattanooga, TN, showcases tow trucks and towing equipment dating back to 1916.

Courtesy of Highroads Magazine, May/June 2014

This year, we celebrate Memorial Day on May 26. We remember all the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.



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