

January 2005

Sedona Region of the Antique  
Automobile Club of America



# Tire

# Tracks

NEWS AND VIEWS FOR MEMBERS OF THE SEDONA CAR CLUB

## President's Vehicle

Welcome to 2005! I trust you all survived the holidays and are all ready for the New Year.

Our Christmas Party was a smashing success, thanks to Larry Currie's excellent organization,

Michael Mares' magical entertainment and, of course, that fabulous singing group, Ellie and Dave (Haga and Maxwell)

*"Be sure to check out the Club Calendar on page 2 and the details of our Tours & Events on page 7."*



Next to come is our annual trek to the Barrett-Jackson auction this month.

Again, please re-

view the 2005 tours and events schedule and sign up for the tours you wish to attend as requested.

*Al Mess*

## From the Editor's Desk

It's been a lot of fun putting together my first issue of **Tire Tracks**, but it has not been without frustrations and hard work. Most important is the appreciation I have for Dave and Rachel Lombardi who have been doing the newsletter for years. Without all who serve in various capacities, the Club would not be the great organization that it is. My goal is to continue the same high standards and always keep in mind that I am editing this for the readers. If it is not useful to you, it is not useful for me to do it. So I will be looking for ways to enhance your experience with **Tire Tracks** and to add value. Any help, anyone can provide in the form of photos, articles, contributions, etc will be greatly welcomed. I can't promise inclusion of everything submitted, but I'll do my best. So I hope you will enjoy this issue and on behalf of the Club let me thank Dave and Rachel for their contribution. Here's wishing you a happy and joyous New Year.

*Greg Zucco*

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## January Program

### BLUE RIBBON

Bill Wheat, owner, will present a brief program on the fine art of auto detailing.

VOLUME 23

NUMBER 1

# CLUB CLIPS



## January

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**Tire Tracks**

Tire Tracks is published 12 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 Greg Zucco. Distribution by Gene Mai. All submissions are due by the 22nd of each month. Send to:  
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[sedonakid@commspeed.net](mailto:sedonakid@commspeed.net)



## Club Calendar

### January

- 27 Barrett-Jackson Tour Thursday. Meet at Bell Rock Plaza-VOC at 8:30 Breakfast at Rock Springs at 9:30. Coverage on TV Speed channel , cable 143, dish 150. Contact Al Moss.

### February

- 19 Garage Sale "Rally." Rain date-Feb. 26th.

### March

- 19 Saint Patrick's Day Parade.

### April

- 12-13 Briskman Car Collection in Scottsdale & Kartchner Caverns. See details on page 7.

### May

- 8 Mother's Day Brunch (tentative)
- 9-12 Utah Tour. Details on page 7.

### June

- 14 Annual Picnic
- 25 Moonlight on Verde Canyon Railroad or Moonlight Auto Tour. (tentative)

### August

- ? 2nd Annual Member's Garage visit.
- 16-22 Monterey Historic Races, Concours etc.

### September

- 16 NAU Dinner
- 17 Annual SCC Car Show. (Tentative)

### October

- 18-20 Petrified Forest & Canyon de Chelly. See details on page 7.

## Congratulations ! On Your Anniversary!

- 1 Herb & Dorothy Levinson
- 15 Harry & Kimi Weber
- 28 Chuck & Laila Armstrong



## Cottonwood Christmas Parade

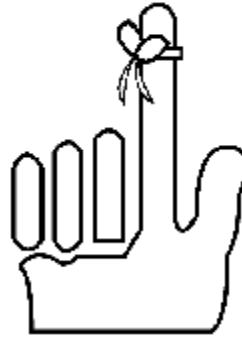
It seems that when you are IN the parade, it's a little tough to take pictures OF the parade. So we took what we could.



Santa's helpers...both furry and non-furry...I think?



Characters, Comedy & a "Cool One" ...or...two!



# DON'T FORGET!!



Don't forget when you shop at Bashas' to register your card to the Sedona Car Club. As of 12/04 we only have 9 participants, but have earned \$36 dollars for the club. We have much greater potential. There are still three months to go.

Remember fellow club member George Brush is recuperating from hip surgery. Let's remember him in our prayers. Did you know that George's father is the oldest man in California, the 2nd oldest man in the United States and the 4th oldest man in the world!!

The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans is suffering from some sort of mental illness. Think of your three best friends, if they're okay, then it's you.



Anyone for a **stretch** Vette?

# Meet the Members



## Tom Wachs

A synoptic history of one of Sedona's acknowledged curmudgeons, Tom Wachs. I was born in Milwaukee, and spent my youth just staying out of major trouble. Deb, the love of my life, and I got married in 1978, and had our daughter, Kendra, in 1981. We lived in the Northwest area of Chicago, in the snotty little town of Barrington Hills. The midwest winters, in a word, sucked. We both love sunshine, and when visiting friends in Phoenix, were told by another friend to go see Sedona. We did, and fell in love. We came up with our "Ten-Year-Plan" in which we envisioned a move to Sedona "the day that Kendra graduates from High School". We missed it by ten days. We love it here...the weather is great... and Deb loves the diversity of people in the area. Kendra now lives with us in Sedona with our grandson Cooper, who will be two in January. A little noisy and chaotic, but fun!

I spent my working life as a Consumer Packaging Designer, which meant that I designed the graphics for items displayed on retail shelves. I had some terrific clients over the years, and developed many lasting relationships. The best time of my career was when the Mac computer came out. After learning the system, I was able to do four or five times the amount of work that I was able to do before, in less time. I loved it!

I have been a member of the Car Club for about four years, but my love of things mechanical began a long time ago. An friend's wife once asked me how long I've been in love with cars. I responded with "Not long...only since I was about fourteen!" She still tells that story when referring to me. Her husband and I had been friends since High School. He had transferred to the school for his Junior year, and knew no one. He and I were both very "artsy", but he has always referred to me as a "Car Guy", which became

his entry into the school's social life. He died in 2002, but left a tribute to me as such in a book of his paintings that he had published.

The car that I had in Junior year, was a 1950 Mercury Club Coupe, which I had spent the summer stripping to bare metal, filling in all of the seams, installing Lincoln tail lights and a Dodge grill, and "Frenching" everything, including the door handles, headlights, gas cap and grill shell. I had it painted 1956 Lincoln

*"I....spent my youth just staying out of major trouble."*

"Huntsman Red"., a really kickass color! Being a perfectionist, even at seventeen, the car turned out rather well, and became one of really bid highlights of the school's parking lot. Until, that is, an icy day in January, when one of my classmates drove his father's 1952 Olds 98 into the space next to mine, slid on the ice, and wiped out my "pride

and joy" from the rear fender clear to the front bumper. The entire side was caved in! His insurance company really did a number on me, and gave me fifty bucks...with no recourse.

I have had many toys since, from a 1937 Buick to a "sleeper" 1953 Plymouth four-door with a Corvette engine stuffed into it. The Buick was also painted Huntsman Red, with white boat-deck rubber running boards and wide whitewalls, and a '41 Buick engine with dual carbs. A barge, but fun! After I got out of my stint in the Army, I bought my first Triumph, a bright red, small-mouth 1957 TR3...then a bunch more since.

While our daughter Kendra was in High School, she and I restored a 1972 Super Beetle, which turned out rather cute. Bright yellow paint, a white interior, reproduction luggage rack on the top, and of course, wide whitewalls.

(see photo opposite page)

# Meet the Members (con't)

## **Al Moss**

### *In... The Making of An "Auto"—Biography*

**I** was born in Cleveland, Ohio, at a very early age and migrated to Los Angeles at age 5, where I resided for 30 years. After graduating from L.A. High and taking mechanical engineering at Los Angeles City College, I followed my calling as a mechanic and apprenticed in wheel alignment, ultimately managing a branch shop for a while.

In September, 1948, being unemployed and broke, I purchased a new MG TC and in December organized the first rally held in Southern California. This evolved into my forming a foreign car club and opening a shop doing wheel alignment as well as MG service and repair. In 1950 I became the west coast distributor for the Allard motorcar and became the first L.A. dealer for Hillman Minx, Sunbeam Talbot, and Humber cars. I had the first Cadillac Allard on the west coast and while racing survived cart-wheeling it 2-1/2 times. With no roll bar! That was when I discovered that racing was against my religion---I am an orthodox coward!

***"...I discovered that racing was against my religion—I 'm an orthodox coward!"***

I gave up trying to sell cars but continued repairing and restoring foreign cars for several years while remaining active in sport car racing, as pit marshal, chief technical inspector and finally as chief race judge. I also managed several pit crews and did timing and scoring for the famous Ken Miles. I later became a factory authorized MG Service Dealer as well as the first for Jaguar. When the MG factory ceased supplying parts for the T-Series MGs, I began having obsolete parts manufactured, first in England and later in my own machine shop. In 1963 I quit repairing cars and moved the parts operation, family, cats & dog, to Goleta, a

suburb of Santa Barbara, opening three, all-foreign parts houses, plus Moss Motors, Ltd., where I concentrated on catalog sales of parts for MG, Jaguar and Healey cars. Finally, in 1977, I sold the whole shebang and retired to restore cars in my home workshop.

So much for the past car portion of my life. I have been married twice and have shared my life with Lynda McEvoy for nineteen years. I have two daughters, Cindy and Juli, four grand kids and one great grandson, all of whom live in California. I moved to Sedona in November 1997 and stay busy with club activities, shooting pool twice each week and playing with cars. I recently completed a major "frame up" restoration of a 1948 Morgan 4/4 (4 wheels, 4 cylinders). I still have and dearly love my original MG TC and "race" my 1934 Morgan three-wheeler, which I completely restored about 15 years ago, in two historic events each year (Buttonwillow and the Monterey Historic)

I have thoroughly enjoyed my seven years with the Sedona Car Club and consider it an honor to serve as your president.



Tom's '57 TR3 and the Bug



Dale?...er...ah... Al in his Trike



Did you say this was an all you can eat deal?

Dave,  
The audience is on to the fact that you're just lip-synching!!



Mount Rushmore doesn't have anything on the Past Presidents of the Sedona Car Club!

The second Tuesday of December, our regular meeting night, was the annual Christmas dinner/party at the Radisson Poco Diablo Resort. New Officers were installed. Al Moss continues as president with a modified supporting staff from last year. Al thanked the outgoing Board members for their hard work and dedication.

Mike Mares, a magician, entertained before and during dinner as he made the circuit of all the tables. Even though you know his tricks are through slight of hand, it is difficult to see through the deception.

After the prime rib dinner, Dave Maxwell performed in style as always. Ellie Haga joined him for some old-fashioned cowgirl yodeling. Later the Lombardis joined in the singing. A good time was had by all. *Respectfully, Ed Pittman*



Some have eyes in the back of their heads, others, well... you decide for yourself



## 2005 Tours & Events On Tap

**And now the details...**

- April 12-13 — Another visit to the Briskman's car collection and home in Scottsdale. then on to Sierra Vista for the night. Wednesday morning we will tour the newly-opened "Big Room" at Kartchner Caverns. It will have been five years since we toured the then-recently-opened Rotunda, the first cavern to be opened to the public. Due to the popularity of Kartchner Caverns, it will be necessary to sign up and pay (\$22.95 per person) at the January meeting.
- May 9-12 — I have put together what promises to be a fantastic four day tour for next May. Monday, May 9th we will travel to the Grand Canyon North Rim and have a picnic lunch. We will spend the night in Kanab, Utah. On Tuesday we will go over the Smithsonian Butte Byway, a spectacular road where we will see the towering slick rock pinnacles and balancing rocks of the Canaan Mountain as well as panoramic views of Zion National Park. We will have a brief stop at the picturesque ghost town of Grafton, where the "Raindrops Are Falling" scene from Butch Cassidy was shot, plus the cemetery with some interesting headstone inscriptions. We will then tour Zion and/or Bryce National parks and proceed to the Boulder Mountain Lodge for the night and dinner at Hell's Backbone Grill. Both are truly outstanding. Wednesday we will visit Capitol Reef National Park and travel over scenic roads to spend the last night at Goulding's Lodge at Monument Valley. While there we will take a 2-1/2 hour Jeep tour of Monument Valley with Navajo guides.

Doesn't this sound like a grand experience!! The total cost for the three nights lodging and the Jeep tour is just \$385 per couple. This tour is limited to 15 couples so don't delay in signing up. The deadline for registering, with payment, is February 15th, 2005.

You can access all of the above places and get detailed information and pictures on the internet by using Google.

- October 18-20 — Petrified Forest and first night at La Posada in Winslow. Then two nights at Chinle with a great 5-hour ride up the bottom of Canyon de Chelly with Indian Guides. (Don't miss this!)

*Al Moss*

**2005 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

PRESIDENT	Al Moss	282-6974
1st VP	Ed Pittman	204-1326
2nd VP	Bill Harrison	282-5705
TREAS./MEM.	Larry Currie	204-9540
SECRETARY	Sharon Blankenship	282-2890
TOURS	Al Moss	282-6974
NEWSLETTER	Greg Zucco	204-5854
PRODUCTION	Gene Mai	203-0071
PUBLICITY	Greg Zucco	204-5854
HISTORIAN	John Gain	284-1798
PROGRAMS	Ed Horvat	284-7440

## Classifieds

Don't forget this space is reserved for you!  
If you have a car to sell... or anything to sell  
for that matter, we'll run it in this space, no  
charge of course! Email us at:  
[Sedonakid@commspeed.net](mailto:Sedonakid@commspeed.net)



**Hear Ye!  
Hear Ye!**

The next meeting of the Sedona Car Club will be held on Tuesday, January 11th 2005, at 7:00 PM, at the Adult Community Center of Sedona, 2645 Melody Lane.



## ***TireTracks***

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«MailingAddress»  
«City» «State» «Zip»