

December 2006

Sedona Region of the Antique
Automobile Club of America



Tire



Tracks

THE VOICE OF THE SEDONA CAR CLUB—PUTTING DEAD TREES TO GOOD USE

MERRY CHRISTMAS

President's Vehicle

Well, I'm car shopping, again. Earlier this year Rachel and I purchased a new sedan. Prior to that, as many of you know, we had a Durango and a Jeep Wrangler. We decided to trade in the Jeep because the Durango was the more practical car to keep... lots of room, plenty of power, and it was red and very shiny.

But after a few months I got the Jeep bug again. There's a decal I see on a lot of Jeep windows. It says "It's a Jeep thing, you wouldn't understand". So maybe that explains it for me. I advertised the Durango and the first person who saw it bought it. She was a woman who drove up from Cordes Lakes. She was concerned about the distance to drive to see a car. I told her that if she wanted a red Durango at all, she'd like mine. She did like it and bought it.

So, I'm looking for a Jeep. I want a used one. It will be our second daily-driver car and payments on one new car are all I can justify to myself. I have been on the internet for hours. Autotrader.com, Cars.com, KBB.com, Edmunds.com, etc. Wrong color, too many miles,

wrong equipment, too expensive, too old, too new, and so on. But it's fun. You might see me in a black one. It's the best one I've seen.... but black is not a good color for a Jeep. I like my cars to look clean for more than an hour.

*"You might
see me
in a
black one."*

Our club is enjoying lots of activities. Al Moss' fun rally last month, the Cottonwood Christmas Parade, a very interesting guest speaker last month, and our upcoming annual Christmas/Officer installation Party. Next year will be just as much fun, with more rallies, trips, dinners and parades already in the planning stages.

I hope everyone can make it to our Christmas Party. The camaraderie is great, the food will be delicious and we will have some wonderful entertainment. See you there.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that the New Year will have many blessings for everyone.

David Lombardi,
President

**Make reservations for the
Christmas dinner w/Larry
Currie by December 7th**

CLUB CLIPS



Club Calendar

December

12 - Christmas Dinner
Radisson

DECEMBER

Clyde Bangiola	8
Bill Harrison	9
Les Peck	14
John Ossenfort	15
Dan Harrington	28
Deb Wachs	6
Sally Peck	8

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.

Christmas is the time for looking ahead courageously through the gates of the swiftly approaching new year ... of resolving that the coming months will reflect a kinder, more forgiving and less heedless person than mirrored in the past.--

Somehow not only for Christmas But all the long year through, The joy that you give to others Is the joy that comes back to you.

Congratulations ! On Your Anniversary!

Joe & Susan Howe 24

Tire Tracks Correction

Corrections are extremely rare here at Tracks headquarters, but when necessary we want to makes things right for any member who has a beef. Joe Tulley has been concerned lately at his last name incorrectly spelled in Tracks without an "e". So this should take care of Joe for awhile.

Joe Tulleeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee !!!!

Tire Tracks

Tire Tracks is published 11 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:
50 Ranch Rd.
Sedona, AZ 86336
OR email to:
sedonakid@commspeed.net



November Meeting Minutes

President Lombardi led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Joe Tulley motioned, with a second by John Gain that we accept the October Minutes. Guests were Kathy and Jim White ('63 Mercury Comet). Treasurer Currie reported 62 families and 112 members (with an application passed to the Whites).

Al took the podium to report the results of the Great Pumpkin Rally. Greg Zucco wanted to know if the papers were "graded." AND THE WINNERS ARE:

- 5th Place Larry Currie and Gary Carson
- 4th Place Kay and Richard LaTorre
- 3rd (tie) Alva and Ed Pittman, Sharon & Ralph Blankenship
- 2nd Place President David Lombardi & Rachel
- 1st Place Cheryl and John Ossenfort

Al reported on the Palm Springs Tour (full details in November's Tire Tracks. Bev Niederkorn gave information on the Palm Springs Follies (\$50 per person, decreases if a large group books; a riot). It would require an extra night stay (approx. \$100 with tax) but worth it for the laughs!)

1st Vice President Pittman reported on the future board nominations, motioned, seconded by Sally Peck to accept the nominations as published. Unanimous pass. If you have suggestions for 2007 speakers or tours PLEASE HELP US OUT!

Larry Currie gave information on the Poco Diablo Christmas Party and reminded us to bring toys (no stuffed, war or junk toys). Rachel Lombardi's Trio performs, and we'll do a sing along that will be melodious...

Get well, Terry Medulla.

The Cottonwood Christmas Parade is Saturday, Dec. 2, and we'd like to have 10 cars

Congrats to Diane Carson for winning the 50/50.

Ellie Haga introduced her friend, our speaker Suzanna Holt. Ms. Holt, a professional sculptress, has done bronzes, life-size plus, for numerous Middle Eastern officials and the Holland American Cruise Line. She kept us awestruck with facts and photos of her grandmother and father who drove in major races in England and Europe. She spoke of the family's participation in the 1914 Alpine Trials, a race that started in Vienna and covered 800 miles, just one month before World War I began. Fascinating lives!

It has been my honor to be your secretary the past two years. I pass the pen to Rachel and Stephanie. Respectfully submitted, Sharon Blankenship



From the Editor's Desk



Don't forget to link your Basha's card to the Sedona Car Club. The club receives 1% of your expenditures as a donation.



Sedona Car Club Book Review Corner

Rachel Lombardi has contributed to a book project at her church and wants members to know of its availability. Her summary follows.

The Gardens of St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Church, rated as one of the most beautiful public spaces in Sedona by Keep Sedona Beautiful, have now been immortalized by Rev. J.C. Ortiz in his stunning new book, THE SEDONA GARDENS OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY: Planted in Love – Rooted in Faith. 192 pages of memoir and meditation, mixed with full color photographs of the church's lush gardens, provide a botanical journey of this Catholic priest's compulsion to create a space to converse with God. The author, native Arizonan Father J.C. Ortiz, he has combined his liturgical, literary, artistic, and gardening talents into the creation of this new book.

The book is available at The Chapel of the Holy Cross, St. John Vianney Catholic Church, Basha's and Mexidona. The purchase price is \$34.95."

PITTMAN PHENOM AT PUEBLO SEDONA

A Iva Pittman of Sedona Car Club fame (also famous for having married Ed) poses with one of her favorite Santa gourd creations. They are one of her artistic specialties during the Christmas season. Club members and other Sedona residents were in abundance at a recent open house at Pueblo Sedona Gallery at the Hoz Ho Gallery Complex. Visitors consumed appetizers and adult beverages whilst admiring Alva's talents at transforming canvas, pottery and gourds into objects of affection for connoisseurs and common folk alike.

The Photos on these pages cannot capture the full essence of her work, so if you'd like the full Monty, stop by the gallery and enjoy her work.



At left—This particular party was working hard at pretending to know about art. What is evident though, is that they knew their stuff when it came to white wine. (Lombardi's center & Niederkorn's on either side)



Left — Da Boys in the ally outside of Pueblo Sedona Gallery, Rich LaTorre (far right) challenges anyone in the group to Rock, Paper, Scissors for five dollars a throw. Larry Currie said he couldn't afford to since he bought his new Jag, ditto Al Moss with his Miata. Niederkorn and Lombardi said they would just rather rap, pop and hip hop. (Just try to picture it!)



Above — One of Alva's canvas renderings.

Left — Ed Pittman serves up an adult beverage to a patron who brought some ginger ale to mix with the wine (something we used to do in college with either Mogen David or Thunderbird). She also keeps a watchful eye out for any strange additives that might be slipped into the glass.



MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Lon Walters — 2006 Philanthropist of the Year

The Northern Arizona Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals selected Lon Walters as Philanthropist of the Year. Walters was honored Nov. 15 at an awards luncheon at the Inn of Sedona. This award is presented to an individual with a proven record of exceptional generosity who, through direct financial support, has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility and whose generosity encourages others to take philanthropic leadership roles on a community or regional level.

Vince Monaci Wants You

Or make that....He wants your garden!

Vince, Executive Director of the Sedona Community Food Bank, is looking for local garden growers to partner with the Food Bank to donate a portion of their harvest next year. Are you a candidate? If so, call 204-2808 for info.



The Heyday of the American Service Station

By Victoria Clark, free lance writer and the author of *How Arizona Sold Its Sunshine, Historical Hotels of Arizona*. (and SCC member)

Do you remember the ding of the service station bell which signaled a uniformed attendant to appear and offer to “fill-er-up” which was followed by washing your windshield, checking your oil, tires and battery fluids? Do you remember pulling a cold bottle of soda from icy water and using the bottle opener on the side to open the bottle? Or using the restroom without asking for the key? Or being given a free map, a litter bag, and trading stamps? If so, then you remember the heyday of the American Service Station.

By the end of 1899, horseless carriages or early automobiles were considered as little more than a fad for the wealthy. Traveling over the limited number of dirt roads required motorists to carefully plan ahead to obtain fuel. At first, various types of animal and vegetable fuels were tried, but kerosene soon became the preferred fuel. Fuel had to be poured by hand, strained through a chamois cloth, and funneled into the small opening in the machine. The process was further complicated by the fact that the tanks did not have gauges, and the fueling process was not only tricky but dangerous. Kerosene frequently splashed out and fires ensued.

By 1904, the number of automobiles had increased, and gasoline, (which had been a byproduct of kerosene), and kerosene were sold in one gallon tins. Harry Grenner and Clem Laessig of St. Louis, Missouri developed a gravity fed tank system and used a garden hose to fuel automobiles at their Automobile Gasoline mounted tanks on wagons, and placed the wagons along the roadside. John McLean, a salesman in Seattle, who worked for Standard Oil of California, was successful by

for fuel and other automotive services. Often these buildings were built of shoddy materials that were unattractive. Shell Oil Company was one of the first companies to recognize the need to create uniform stations that the public could easily identify. Shell built over 200 stations on the west coast with stylized designs and uniform colors. Steel companies were quick to design and manufacture prefabricated stations that could be shipped and quickly assembled. During the 1920s, many towns called upon the refiners to develop more attractive stations and many companies hired architects to design roadside stations to appear like small houses that would be both functional and esthetic.

Increased competition in the 1930 and 40s led companies to try a variety of marketing strategies. Service

attendants in snappy uniforms that offered full service became commonplace. Service stations began giving away prizes which ranged from glassware to toasters. During the 1930s different grades of gasoline were formulated and marketed, and lighted globes bearing a brand name or specific grade were placed atop the pumps to help the public identify specific products. The concept of the independent dealer was born. By the 1950s, stations were constantly thinking of new ways to attract customers. Curb signs touted having the cleanest restrooms, or trading stamps which could be redeemed for merchandise, and the latest maps. (Continued on p. 7)



convincing the public to refuel at roadside wagons which he had named “filling stations.” John Tokheim was one of first successful inventors in America to develop the hand operated gasoline pump which accurately measured fuel.

When Henry Ford’s assembly line built Model T Fords which were affordable to many people in 1908, America became a nation of motorists. The demand for fuels, tires, parts and services created a thriving industry of which all the refining companies wanted their share. The refining companies chose colors as brand identifiers, and began hastily constructing buildings specifically

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November Meeting Hijinks

Below—Larry Currie, latest Bent Hub Cap recipient.
Right —Meeting guest Susanna Holt. *Below Right* —John & Cheryl Ossenfort, Pumpkin Rally winners.



Service Station (Con't)

During the late 1960s, the trend toward self service stations eliminated the need for attendants, and price of gas drove sales. Roadways were abandoned as new freeways were built. The gas shortage of 1972 signaled the demise of an estimated 218,000 American service stations, followed by a decrease for the next several years. During the late 1970s, tire companies opened service centers and lube specialists offered “quick” lube services. Refining companies underwent major merges or closed operations that could not meet the new EPA requirements. The classic definition of the American service station was changed forever.

Today, collectors of gas and oil and service station memorabilia enjoy attending swap meets called Gas Bashes and buy, sell and trade over the internet and through advertising in several national magazines such as *Check Your Oil* and *Petroleum Collectibles*.

* Authors note For more information on service stations, read Michael Witzel’s book, *The American Gas Station, the History and Folklore of the Gas Station in American Car Culture*, Motorbooks International, 1995.

Author Victoria Clark freelance writer and postcard collector can be reached for questions and comments at jinxclark@aol.com.

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**Hear Ye!
Hear Ye!**

Join fellow members for the Club's Christmas Dinner at the Radisson on December 12th, at 6:00 PM. Make reservations w/ Larry Currie by December 7th.



Tire Tracks

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