


Tire Tracks


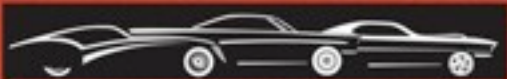

Support your Annual Car Club Show!

**Sedona Car Club
Annual Car Show**

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAGUAR E-TYPE



the 17th of september, 2011
from 10:00 to 2:00; awards presented at 2:00
atop the airport mesa, in sedona, arizona



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Dave Dirlam's XJ6
(available)



President's Letter

Oh Boy! Life rough. Rachel and I just returned, Monday, from a two week vacation in which we went to Monterey to see the Historic Car Races. Thursday we will head off to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon for 4 days with a group of friends. Yes, we are very fortunate and we realize it and are always grateful.

At the Historic Races we watched and cheered-on Lon Walters as he raced his Elva sports-race car. He did a good job and it was fun cheering for him.

Next week, on returning from the Grand Canyon, I will be working on the final details of our car show. The committee members, Rachel, and I have been preparing for the show since last spring. The show, as you know, will be on September 17th. I hope everyone with an eligible car has entered it in our show. It doesn't have to be a potential winner. Just bring it. It's fun. My car will be there. It probably won't win anything, it has ragged upholstery. It's still fun showing it off. Enter yours.

Earlier in the summer I sent an email to all members asking for help on the day of the show. Many members replied and I want to thank them. We can always use more help. Hopefully, we will have as many as 110 entrants. They all have to be registered. Help needed. Then they have to be parked according to their class...14 classes. Help needed. We will have some awnings to shade our helpers. They need to be erected. Help needed. You get the point. We can always use more hands. If you can help (and I realize not everyone will be able to) please give me a call and let me know that you will help us on show day. Thank you.

It's going to be a great show. Tell all of your friends to go up to see the cars. The bigger the public turn-out the better. And... they won't have to pay a \$100 admission like the people at Pebble Beach Concours.

David



Thoughts For The Dog Days of August

Sometimes it is useful to look to fiction to explain happenings in our lives. Recently, while I was reacting to the economic news and feeling a little sorry for myself, I recalled this bit from a novel I had read, *The Saturday Wife*, by Naomi Ragen . It explains our situation in a philosophical way that makes a lot of sense:

“Great unhappiness can only come about when one has known great happiness. This is the irony that people refuse to understand when the wheel of Fate turns and gives them their heart’s desire. ... these people, God bless them, are primed for the worst of disasters, while the rest of us --- who shlep along with average luck and average success and failures --- are immune. That is not to say that one should not rejoice in one’s good fortune. As Henry James taught us in the most frightening of horror stories ever written, ‘The Beast in the Jungle’, the anticipation of disaster can, in itself, become the disaster. To paraphrase King Solomon, in Ecclesiastes, rejoice in your good times, because time and chance happen to all.”

Another explanation, is that the financial crisis is merely a symptom of another, deeper crisis, which is a systemic crisis of capitalism itself. According to one economist, the constant decrease in GDP growth rates in Western countries since the early 1970s created a growing surplus of capital which did not have sufficient profitable investment outlets in the real economy. The alternative was to place this surplus into the financial market, which became more profitable than capital investment, especially after deregulation. This turn led to speculative bubbles that burst and resulted in depression and major political upheavals. He also suggested that "Manager's Capitalism" replaced "Owner's Capitalism," meaning management runs the firm for its benefit rather than for the shareholders. Next came “Management of Earnings”, which is mainly a focus on share price, that displaces the creation of genuine value. Does this mean that our “paper losses” are merely illusions? OK. I’ll stop worrying, if you will!

Yet another economist attributed the current economic downturn to the long term stagnation of the wages of hourly workers who comprise 80% of the workforce and whose spending is 70% of GDP. His claim is that wage stagnation forced the population to borrow in order to meet the cost of living. So much for immunity, yes? (Wikipedia)

My motto for living through today ... “put the lime in the coconut and drink it all down!”

RLB

Daytripper
The Revelation of Charlot Hall's Little- Known Curb-Your-Cowboy Campaign,

Living in Sedona, you have to leave. That usually means going South on I 17, for that is how we get where we must be to buy socks and underwear, visit with Trader Joe, and see to our various needs. Lately I have been on I17 so often I feel like I'm a commuter again. What can we do to survive such ordeals!

I never wanted to take up transcendental meditation, yoga or any exotic mental discipline, but with all this driving, I have acquired a new habit that is about as close to meditation as I will probably ever get. I may be making a big mistake by revealing what my altered mind state is really like. Maybe this is a cry for help? Aw, what the hell! A typical "meditation: might look like this; only a mindreader knows, for sure.

Packing the car and starting off on 179 ... turning around to go back for something(s) I've forgotten ... guess I will get some gas ... stop at Webers for coffee and a fritter? ... moving again...thirty minutes passed already. Almost out of town, now ...Checking ... yes I remembered the wife. Rolling again ! Ahhh

She: Did you forget anything else?

He: Mmmm

Now I can relax, Ommmmmm What day is this? Oh, yeah. Maybe I can catch Prairie Home Companion, later. Garrison Keiler. Funny, that business about little boys, their obsessions. First, boogers, then later, the other obsession. But boogers for life. Oh yeah.

Ommmmmm Boogers! Why is that funny? Maybe it's code for something else.

Ommmmmmmm

She: I can just see a bunch of Indians riding across the ridge over there.

He: Mmmm

Ommm Code for what? Something that must remain unsaid. The other obsession??? No, it must be boogers.

Ommmm Why do women hate to hear "boogers"? No idea. No way to know what boogers means to a woman.

Ommmm Maybe, um, something about code ... what was it?

Ommmmmm There! Bloody Basin Road's coming up. Horsethief Basin? Weird names around here. ...

Ommm Maybe ... the guys just named these roads using code for what their women wouldn't let them say. Boogers! Booger this and booger that. Booger all!

Ommmmmm Horsebooger Basin? Maybe. Horsethief Booger? Larry Parsons, he was a true thief. I never saw him when his face wasn't covered with running boogers. Awful.

Ommmmmm Bloody Booger? Booger Basin? Which one is best?

She: Sunset Point is coming up.

He: Mmmm

Ommmmmm Booger Point or Sunset Booger? Black Canyon City?. Black Booger City! Yeah. Pretty soon ... Carefree Hwy. Boogerfree Hwy? Booger Creek. New Booger. There's the Booger Patrol. Slow down.

Ommmmmm Here comes the Dream Scene. Ready?

My eyes turned to the sky which was suddenly filled with dark roiling clouds. A long rolling thunder began and quickly grew into a deafening roar, followed by a blinding flash of lightning. Then, nothing, until my eyes recovered and I saw that I was no longer on I17 at all, but was standing in the spectators gallery at the Arizona State Legislative Chambers, looking much like today's chamber, but filled with a madding crowd of Cowboys, in full rodeo gear. There was a bunch of ten or so of them, running back and forth across the rear of the Chamber in a madcap game of tag, shouting, "Stampede! Stampede" Stampede!". At the front was the Chairman, a big grin on his face, shouting,"Come to order! Come to order!", and pumping his hand in his left armpit to make loud farting blasts. The delegation from Flag lit a string of fireworks and flung them into the spectators' gallery, causing the crowd to panic and run.

In the midst of all of this sat a woman of great dignity, Charlot Hall, the only woman elected to sit in the Halls of Power. She rose to her full height and looked around with her cold schoolmarm eyes. A pall of silence fell upon the assembly. The Chairman mumbled something about a new member, and a maiden speech. And she began to speak.

“You’re the worst bunch of bad boys I’ve ever seen in my whole life. You embarrass the womenfolk of this great state, and you set a bad example for your own children. You have had your own childish way with everything up to now, but there’s change a’coming in the wind! If we ever want to take our proud place among the rest of the Country, we have some catching up to do, and we are starting, here, today by renaming just about every place in Arizona. In my hand I have a list of place names that are so outrageous and frankly so childish that we are the laughing stock of the nation. No self-respecting tourists will set foot here for fear that they may just lose their dinner over names like Black Booger City, Horsebooger Basin, and Boogerman Road.”

“It’s time to do what we must do, and rename some of these places, using names that are pretty and remind us of nice things. I’m going to call Black Booger City, Leafy Green Bower City, and Boogerman Road will become Carefree Road”.

In short order an act was passed authorizing all of the changes on her list. But then, the Chairman made an appeal, saying, “Arizona is cowboy country. There’s no changing that, and we need to keep some of our boyish exuberance for the tourists, otherwise they will all just pass us by and keep on going to California. Can we just keep some of our “color”, please? Maybe we could change Horsebooger Basin to something like Hosethief Basin? I just know the tourists would appreciate it, and we need their ...”

At that point the scene began to fade. The roiling clouds came back. A deep radio-announcer voice was heard to say, “And so it came to pass, that socio-politoco-culturo correctness began in the most unlikely of places!!”, and then we were back on I17 and the 101 was coming up.

Ommmmmm

She: Where should we eat tonight?

He: Mmmm. Maybe In ‘n Out? Chuckle, chuckle.

She: What’s funny?

He: Oh, nothing much.

Editor’s note: You, too, may be wondering why I wrote this piece. Is this how I really “think” about things? Do I really think this is “good writing”? Well, probably not, on either count.. But I’ll bet you remember it when you drive to Phoenix, next time.

RLB

Remember the Car show.

September 17, 2011

10 to 2 PM

Be there, or be square!, and
Bring your (other) friends!



Labor Day! What does it mean today?

My memories of this unique holiday include scenes from the classic film, "Picnic", Jerry Lewis mugging for the TV camera, lots of cold beer, and tiring speeches from local politicians who expound the virtues of Labor, if only on this one day.

We have many holidays to honor dead Presidents, civic leaders and heroes of all sorts. But on this one day we set out to honor hundreds of millions of working people, past and present, who literally built our country and who, by their continued daily efforts, still keep things running. At this particular time, we should also honor the twenty-five million would-be workers who are either unemployed or under-employed. This Labor Day is no "Picnic" for them!

Robert Reich, former Secretary of Labor, says, "It's been the worst decade for American workers in a century. That hardly calls for a celebration." ... "American companies continue to cut wages and benefits. The median wage is still dropping (adjusted for inflation). According to Commerce Department data, private sector wage gains over the last decade have even lagged behind wage gains during the Great Depression (4% over the last ten years (adjusted for inflation), versus 5% from 1929 to 1939.)"

"The ratio of corporate profits to wages is now higher than at any time since just before the Great Depression. Meanwhile, the American economy has all but stopped growing – in large part because consumers (whose spending is 70% of GDP) are also workers whose jobs and wages are under assault."

Reich concludes, "So let's bag the picnics and parades this Labor Day. American workers should march in protest. They're getting the worst deal they've had since Labor Day was invented – and the economy is suffering as a result." (Yahoo)

Editor's note: we all remember the lesson of industrial pioneer, Henry Ford, who raised wages to the highest level in the auto industry so his workers "would be able to buy his cars". He got it! His wage levels and sales led the industry for decades. RLB



CLUB NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Our congratulations and very best wishes, to all!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Nena Baxter
Sharon Blank
Bill Fobair
Caroline Giberti
Rachel Lombardi
Joan Miller
Jon Orr
Dan Otts

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO ...

Bob and Amy Duncan
John and Judy Gain
Egon and
Deotila Haggemann
Herb and Lynn Kramer
Vince and Betty Monaci
Ed and Alva Pittman

LITTER LIFTERS

Bob Van Steenberg will announce the Fall schedule at the September Club Meeting. Our thanks go to Bob. He is always there, alongside those members who volunteer. If you haven't volunteered yet, this is your call.

CLUB MEETING: SEPTEMBER

The next meeting of the Sedona Car Club will be held on Tuesday, 9/13/11, at 7:00 PM, at the Sedona Library. Al Moss will give a brief talk, with pictures about "the world's most expensive and rare automobile". He will also dig back in his photo archives for highlights of past Club events. Of course, the upcoming Car Show will be mentioned.

BOARD MEETING

The Board will meet Tuesday, October 4, 2011, at 8:30 AM, at the Cousins' clubroom. Planning for the Christmas Party will be on the agenda. All members are invited to attend.

OFFICERS AND BOARD

PRESIDENT

DAVID LOMBARDI

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MARTIN GLINSKY

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

BOB VAN STEENBERG

TREASURER / MEMBERSHIP

SAM PIETROFITTA

SECRETARY

SHARRIE WADSACK

HISTORIAN

JOHN GAIN

TOURS & EVENTS

AL MOSS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

RALPH BLANKENSHIP

Upcoming Events, Tours and Meetings

August Event: Annual Garage Sale Rally.

Originally scheduled for Saturday Aug. 6th. **Cancelled** for lack of enough sales. To be rescheduled. Details to come.

September 17, 2011: Sedona Car Club, Annual Car Show

Setup, 8:00 to 10:00

Public hours: 10:00 to 2:00

Awards Presentation: 2:00

October: Thursday, October 13th, 2011: A Guided Tour of the Page Springs Fish Hatchery.

lunch at the Grasshopper Grill, Cornville, to follow.

(On August 25th, 2000, 25 SCC members enjoyed this tour).

Mark your calendar! The Club Christmas Dinner will be held at the Golden Goose, on the second Tuesday (13th) of December. Cost is \$30, covered by Club funds. Such a deal!

TIRE TRACKS

Sedona Car Club

P.O. Box 748

Sedona, AZ 86339

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