

NEWS FROM THE SWAMP FOX Old Car Club



Swamp Fox Region

CELEBRATING OUR 38th YEAR AS AN ACTIVE CLUB

NEXT MEETING

Golden Corral
2510 David
McLeod Blvd.
Florence, SC
Jun. 10, 2019

6:30 PM for eating/fellowship
7:00 PM for Club Meeting

June 1, 2019



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Dan Wagner	6-1
Donna Smith	6-2
Luther Johnson	6-17
Al Robinson	6-18
Doug Floyd	6-19
Belinda Casey	6-20
Rex Huggins	6-23

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

2019 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Al Robinson	496-7207
Vice Pres.	Tom Spence	773-0189
Secretary/	Susan Pace	230-0212
Treasurer.		

CLUB WEBSITE:

swampfox.aaca.com

Email:swampfoxoldcarclub@gmail.com

2019 Car Show Schedule
Sweet Potato Festival, Darlington, SC
10/12/19
Pecan Festival, Florence, SC 11/2/19



Robinson's Ramblings'

We are almost thru the month of May and we have 3 new members as of our May meeting. Bjorn Sirum, Jim Ramsey and Dan and Tabitha Wagner have all joined our great Swamp Fox Car Club. WE sure welcome each of these folks to our club so be sure to make them feel as welcome as you all were made to feel when you first joined!!!

We are losing two of our super members to the state of Florida in a couple of weeks. Nick and Abby Osorio will be leaving us and we will miss them, the enthusiasm they have brought to the club as well as all the great work they both have done over the past several years.

They have agreed to continue to make our special Trophy's for the Hoffmeyer show and our Dash Plaques for the upcoming shows. The Swamp Fox wishes Nick and Abby the very best and will look forward to seeing them at the Christmas Party!! Hey Abby. How about some more of that "GOOD STUFF"?

Robinson's Ramblings' con't

Curt and Al will be heading to Auburn Indiana for the AACA Grand National Meet in about a week. The REALLY BIG SHOW will be June 1 and will have a 1964 Corvette, a 1955 Chevy and two Whizzer Motor bikes from Swamp Fox in the show. We will represent our club just as good as we can.

A group of Swamp Fox members made it to the Car Show in Marion (Fox Trot Festival) and came back with lots of gold!! Tom Spence got his 1st place trophy with the 37 Caddy, Tom Smith got his 1st place trophy with the Carmen Gia, Kit Fulmer got a trophy with the 38 Plymouth and Al got one with the 53 Olds. We need to do more of this, traveling together as a group is lots of FUN. Also a couple of Swamp Fox friends were with us, Ivan Hucks and a former member, Jerry Fussell.

As Tom Spence keeps saying "LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO DRIVE BORING CARS"

AL



The Editors Turn

Take a photo tour of the 2019 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals, Charlotte, NC.

(Photos by Curt Smith)



The 2019 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals, Charlotte, NC

(Photos by Curt Smith)



The 2019 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals, Charlotte, NC

(Photos by Curt Smith)



The 2019 AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals, Charlotte, NC

(Photos by Curt Smith)



Swamp Fox Rides

The Story of a Classic (or how I turned a Chevy into a Lincoln)

Most of our club members know that one of the cars in my collection is a 1946 Lincoln Continental Convertible and this story is how I came to be the owner of a car I could only dream about a few years back. The story starts with the purchase of a fairly good restored 1957 Chevy 2dr Hardtop about 4 years ago. The Chevy was a car that was restored by a Dr. here in Florence about the same time I was helping George Cruickshank with the restoration of the 55 Chevy he was doing that later became mine shortly before George passed away.

The 57 was up for sale so I bought it with the plan in mind to take care of the mechanical problems it had and resell it (for a profit I hoped) at either Charlotte Auto Fair or Hershey. I got the problems straightened out, took it to Charlotte-it didn't sell. So I took it to Hershey, same scenario. I took it to Charlotte again-still did not sell so, I took it to Hershey (again) with the plan in mind that it was going to be sold or horse traded. It was not going to come back to Florence!!!!

Three days of Hershey went by, lots of tire kickers but no firm offers'. The last night of the Hershey swap meet, still no sale, and nothing too promising on the horizon when a dealer out of Louisville Kentucky that I know came by my space bemoaning the fact that the 1946 Lincoln he brought to sell had not gotten any serious action. He was not much of a Ford man, liked GM stuff better and started looking at the 57 Chevy I had and we got to dickering on a potential trade. I had looked at the Lincoln earlier in the meet and was more than impressed with what it was, but it was way outside my resources.

Long story short, I ponied up some cash and he got the Chevy and I became the Lincoln's new owner. Then I found out more about the 46 Lincoln I had just acquired. Turned out that a Dr. in Louisville put the car thru a 4 year rotisserie restoration about a year earlier and passed away a month after it was done and never had a chance to show the car in AACA competition. The car had some very good documentation on the restoration and some good history.

There were 201 of the Continentals produced after WW2, and this one is No.18. I got a copy of the original build sheet with the car with all the specs and information about when the car was purchased and shipped to the Dealership that sold it. An interesting sidelight is that Edsel Ford had not only a major hand in bringing Lincoln into the Ford fold, but also had a major hand in designing the Continental's after the war.

I did a good bit on detailing on the car and learned that the restoration was superbly done in the process. It was awarded an AACA 1st junior at the Southeastern National Spring Meet in Charlotte in April 2018 and the AACA Senior at the Southeastern National Spring Meet in April 2019. I am sure the Dr. that restored the car would be very proud of what he had preserved. It is one fine automobile and I am very fortunate to be its owner.

Now you know "THE REST OF THE STORY"

Al Robinson



(Photos by Curt Smith)



(Photos by Curt Smith)



Photos by Curt Smith)



Automotive History

Unlike Siegfried Marcus, Karl Benz was fully convinced that the gasoline engine would replace the horse as the basic unit of transportation and spent much of his life bringing his belief to reality. Overcoming poverty and ridicule, Benz built his first car in 1885. It became the prototype for the first line of commercially successful cars in history. The son of a locomotive engineer, Karl Benz was born in Karlsruhe, Germany, on November 25, 1844. He seems to have inherited an interest in mechanics and one of his first jobs was in a machinery factory. Benz became fascinated with gasoline engines and in 1883 started a company to produce small two-stroke stationary engines, using an electric ignition system he had designed, consisting of a storage battery, coil and spark plug, his ignition system was very much like the ones used today.

Rather than motorizing an existing vehicle as Marcus had done, he believed that the chassis and engine must be designed to complement each other and work as a unit. Using this principle, Benz built a lightweight car for the three-quarter horsepower, single-cylinder, four-stroke engine he designed. Admitting that he did not yet know how to design a steering linkage for his two front wheels, he employed a single front wheel to guide the car. Benz also put large drive wheels on the car to give the small engine a better power ratio.

The engine and running gear for the Dreirad [Tri-cycle] though awkward by modern standards, were ingenious for that time. The car incorporated some features which are still used extensively in automobile construction today the water-cooled engine, electric ignition and a differential gear. Because Benz engines operated at a relatively slow speed, 250 rpm, they were designed to run at a single, constant speed. To help maintain constant engine speed, Benz mounted a huge metal flywheel behind the engine. The flywheel also doubled as the starter, and a hard turn by hand brought the engine to life. A combination belt and chain drive was used.

Benz was constantly working on and improving his prototype. Experiments during the day weakened the car's battery, so at night Benz coaxed his wife to pump the treadle of her sewing machine which powered a generator and recharged the battery.

In 1887 Benz made his first sale. The next year he exhibited a two horsepower version of his car at the Munich Exhibition and, in 1889, at the Paris World Fair. By the turn of the century, several hundred Benz cars were being sold annually. Despite the popularity of the Dreirad, Benz soon faced strong competition, particularly from Gottlieb. Daimler's Mercedes, which eventually forced Benz to change his design. For years Benz had adamantly rejected any criticism of his basic concept. Even after he introduced a more popular four-wheeled model, the opinionated inventor never felt that his original had been improved on. For nearly thirty years, Benz and Daimler automobiles competed, but in 1926 the rivalry ended when the companies merged.

David Lahr
Charlotte NC Hornets' Nest AACA

Future Car Shows of Interest

June 8, 2019

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am
1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

June 15, 2019

Crusin' Downtown Florence, 3pm to 8pm
Hosted by Downtown Florence

June 26-29, 2019

AACA Eastern Spring Nationals
Parsippany, NJ – New Jersey Region

June 29, 2019

Cruise in - Hwy 55 & Beef Jerky – Palmetto Cruisers, 5pm to 8pm
Woody Jones Blvd. Florence

July 13, 2019

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am
1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

July 26, 2019

Cruise in - Hwy 55 & Beef Jerky – Palmetto Cruisers, 5pm to 8pm
Woody Jones Blvd. Florence

August 10, 2019

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am
1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

August 31, 2019

Cruise in - Hwy 55 & Beef Jerky – Palmetto Cruisers, 5pm to 8pm
Woody Jones Blvd. Florence

September 14, 2019

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am
1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

September 28, 2019

Cruise in - Hwy 55 & Beef Jerky – Palmetto Cruisers, 5pm to 8pm
Woody Jones Blvd. Florence

October 5, 2019

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am
1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

October 9-12, 2019

AACA Eastern Fall Nationals
Hershey, PA – Hershey Region

October 12, 2019

Sweet Potato Festival - Swamp Fox Old Car Club
Darlington, SC – Swamp Fox Region

November 2, 2019

Pecan Festival - Swamp Fox Old Car Club
Florence, SC - Swamp Fox Region

April 2-5, 2020

AACA Southeastern Spring Nationals and Auto Fair
Charlotte, NC - Hornets' Nest Region