

NEWS FROM THE



Swamp Fox Region

CELEBRATING OUR 39th YEAR AS AN ACTIVE CLUB

NEXT MEETING

CAIN'S Bar-B-Que
1502 Pamplico
Hwy.
Florence, SC
Thursday
AUG 13, 2020
6PM Dinner/Meeting



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Carol Key	8-1
Jim Ramsey	8-3
Scott Truett	8-15

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

2020 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

2020 Car Show Schedule
Sweet Potato Festival, Darlington,
SC 10/10/20 (CANCELLED)
Pecan Festival, Florence, SC 11/7/20
(CANCELLED)

August 1, 2020



Robinson's Ramblings'

We have some good news, finally for this crazy year of cancelled car stuff!! We will meet for the 1st time since March at Cain's BBQ Thurs Aug 13 at 6pm for a regular club meeting. For those of you that are not familiar with Cain's, it is out Pamplico Hwy about 3/4 mile past Carolina's Hospital. The room is very nice, big so we can do the social distancing thing and the food is superb. I met with the owner and manager and have everything set up for Aug 13. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE FROM OUR USUAL 2nd MONDAY MEETING NITE!!!

Cain's is only open Thurs, Fri, and Sat so we had to make the decision to change the meeting night for the foreseeable future. I think you all will like meeting there. It will be good to get back to a regular monthly car club meeting and renew socializing with each other!!!

We will continue getting together at Cars and Coffee, 9am to 11am on the 2nd Sat. of every month. We will go over to Southern Hops after Cars and Coffee for all who want to do so. It has been fun to use this venue to get together-the food is good and the Air Cond. is great in this hot weather.

Robinson's Ramblings' con't

I do not have a reading on Charlotte Auto Fair yet, but I do not hold out much hope for that. My Hornets Nest contact said to get back in touch with them after Aug 1 and see what the NC Governor has decreed!

The Hershey Swap Meet has been officially cancelled, but the AACA national meet is still on. That is always held the last day of the Hershey extravaganza and just puts a cap on the great get together we always have each year. I will personally miss going this year as I have a lot of great friends that I only see at this meet!!!

Since the Pecan Festival has been cancelled, our last car show for 2020 is officially down the tubes. STAY TUNED-WE WILL COME UP WITH SOMETHING FOR NOV.

Also, we have several club shirts that have not been picked up yet. If you put in an order at the Christmas party and have not gotten yours, please contact me. If you have not ordered a shirt (men and ladies) please let me know the size and we will fix you up. A word of advice for you gal's, the women's shirts are fitted and run a little small.

Stay safe, practice all we have been advised to do and I will see you all on Aug 13 at 6pm and Aug 8 at Cars and Coffee!!!!

Al Robinson

Swamp Fox Rides



1984 Cadillac Eldorado

Let me first start out by saying, I always say, never buy a car at the Hershey Fall Meet. They are usually overpriced and the owners think they are selling you the only vehicle that was ever made. But some times that isn't true and for the Eldorado I bought in 2017, it was a great deal!!

I usually work at the CLC (Cadillac LaSalle Club) tent at Hershey Fall meet every year on Thursday and Friday. I get to meet interesting and sometimes international members. After I work my shift I walk the car corral. I usually see some great cars but nothing I would be interested in purchasing or they are so overpriced I usually move on.

In 2017 I was walking the car corral and spotted two coupes from the 80's. They were 1984 Olds Tornado and a 1984 Cadillac Eldorado. Both were low mileage (the Tornado was 39,000 miles and the Eldorado was 15,000 miles) and in great shape. The owner had an interesting pricing schedule. Now pricing schedule sounds rather odd but it was an interesting concept. He had a "schedule" on the windshield of both cars that started on Wednesday at 8AM and ended Saturday at 4PM. The cars started at \$9900 on Wednesday morning at 8AM. Each hour the car would drop \$100. So by Wednesday at 4PM the price was at \$9100.

The process was to put your name and phone number on the time and price you wanted to pay for the car. Somebody had put their name at 3PM Saturday afternoon which would have been \$6500. But the guy didn't put his phone number so that made it hard to contact him if he was the winner. I talked to the owner about both cars. I was more interested in the Eldorado. He started it and showed me the features of the car. It was in fairly good shape and ran smoothly. I said that I was very interested in purchasing the car but wanted to think about it until the next day. He said that was fine, he would be there. I finished the car corral and went home.

The next day I got to the tent to do my shift and talked to the other CLC members. I asked them what they thought of the 1984 Eldorado and what issues the car might have. They said that it had an all-aluminum engine that could have issues and some other issues they knew about. Finally one of them said, "It's not like you are driving the car to work. If you like it, buy it!" I said thanks. My shift ended and I walked the car corral again and got to where the Eldorado and Tornado sat. I told the owner that I would purchase the Eldorado and I could bring the money the next day. He said since I was interested in buying it, I should sign my name and phone number at the last spot on Saturday so no one else would purchase it. I thanked him and left. I went to the bank and withdrew the money and went home.

The next morning I picked up a friend since we were going to walk the car show which is the high light of Hershey Fall meet. We walked for a bit but it started to rain so we walked to where the Eldorado was and I gave the guy the money. We then walked to one of the many tents that had notaries on sight and made the transactions complete. Now I had one problem, my friend that I brought along was partially blind and couldn't drive. I was trying to figure out how I was going to get the Eldorado to my storage unit in Lancaster and also get my SUV home.

The guy that I bought the car from asked me how I was going to get it home. I explained my situation and asked that maybe he could drive the Eldorado to my friend's house and then I could bring him back to Hershey. He asked if that was where I was going to store it and I said not really but I would get it to storage later. He said that he would be happy to drive it to my storage unit in Lancaster if I would bring him back to Hershey. I was elated.

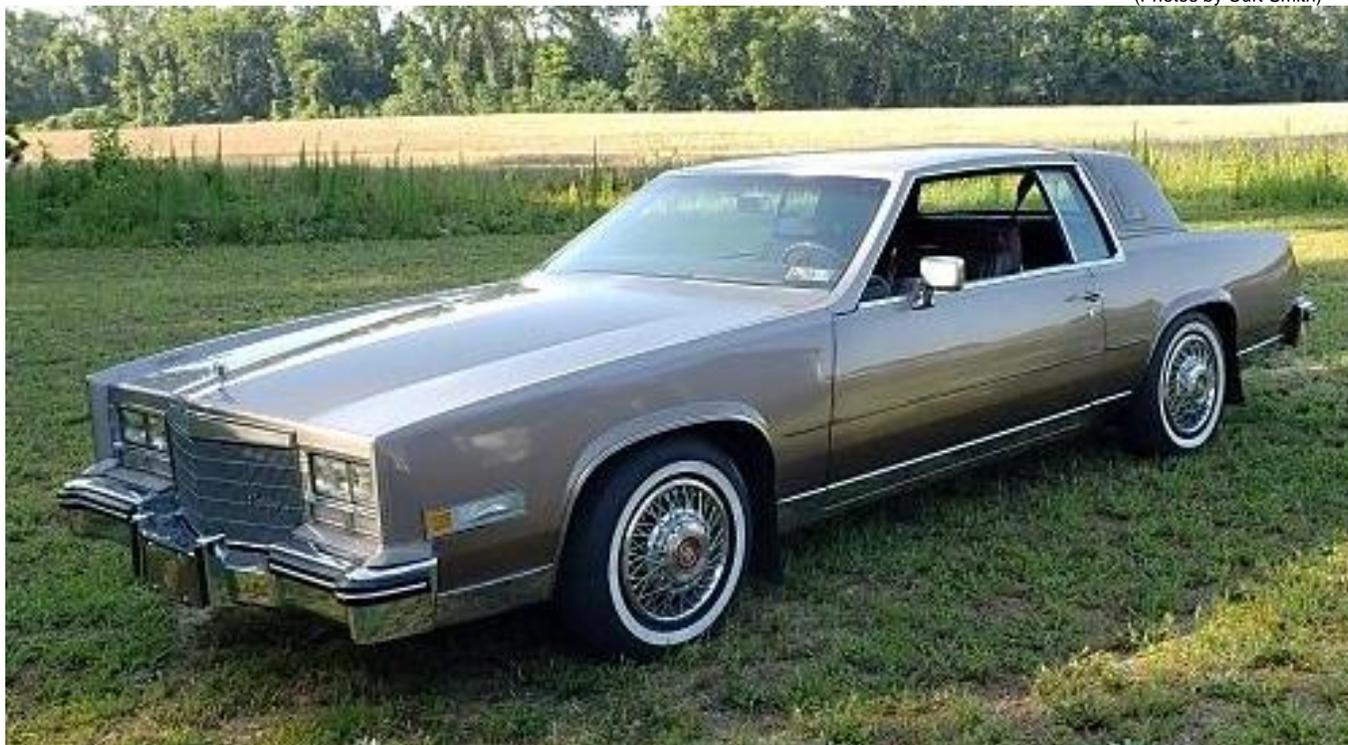
What I didn't know was that my friend that I had brought along was talking to him about being in the service (The owner of the Eldorado was also in the service so my friend and him bonded very quickly) and that he was so grateful that I was willing to bring him to a car show since he really didn't get out to things like that. So the owner of the Eldorado was so touched that I would do that that he was willing to drive the Eldorado to my storage unit. We got it to the storage unit and then drove him back to Hershey.

The Eldorado has been a great car and has taken several awards at shows. It took first place at the CLC Grand National in Tyson's Corner in 2018. I have enjoyed owning the Eldorado and have had many trouble free miles.

So I guess I have to change my mind set on Hershey fall meet. You can find great deals at Hershey fall meet if you know what to look for!!

Freas Hontz

(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

August 8, 2020

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

August 21-22, 2020

AACA Annual Grand National

Gettysburg, PA (Location Change)

September 12, 2020

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

October 10, 2019

AACA Eastern Fall Nationals (Car Show Only)

Hershey, PA – Hershey Region

October 10, 2020

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

October 10, 2020

Sweet Potato Festival (Cancelled) - Swamp Fox Old Car Club

Darlington, SC – Swamp Fox Region

November 7, 2020

Pecan Festival (Cancelled) - Swamp Fox Old Car Club

Florence, SC - Swamp Fox Region

November 14, 2020

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

December 12, 2020

Cars & Coffee Highland Park UMC, 9am to 11am

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC