

# 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  
OCT 8, 2020  
6PM Dinner/Meeting

October 1, 2020



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Michelle Smith 10-11  
Gayle Ennis 10-13



## Robinson's Ramblings'

October has arrived and we are all still pretty healthy, thank the good Lord!!! We have been able to get out to the very few "car functions" and have enjoyed what we can.

Swamp Fox will finally be able to put on a Car Show, so put Oct 10 on your schedule for the show at St. Anthony's!

Tom Spence is the chairman for this show and it is designed to be a fun show, for a good cause and with the Trophy Awards being done by the St. Anthony's young people!!

Tom would like to have Club members at the St. Anthony's church parking lot WITH YOUR ANTIQUE CARS between 9AM and 9:30AM.

The weather got us on the Leatherman Sr. Center car display we were going to do but we may be able to do something in the future for our Sr. citizens.

We will continue to meet at Cain's BBQ on Pamplico Hwy thru Nov. on the 2nd Thursdays. Our Christmas Party will be at Tubb's on Monday Dec.14.

## 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)**

## Robinson's Ramblings' con't

Reach out to potential new members, I have (4) AACA Free New Memberships available thru the national membership program, so reach out to every one you can!!!

Stay safe and keep working on your "projects". Twenty twenty-one will be a great year as we celebrate 40 years as an AACA club. Drive them ol' 'cars, they ain't boring!!!

Al Robinson

# Cars & Coffee at Reichenbach Ford / VW

(Photos by Curt Smith)



# Cruise In at Sundae House

(Photos by Curt Smith)



# Swamp Fox Rides

## The tail of two coupes.

This story starts a long time ago, actually the year after I got out of high school (1958). I had just finished fixing up a 1950 Olds coupe, slightly modified and customized and painted metallic lavender. We called it the "Purple People Eater" as it was pretty good at eating up guys on the drag strip. I sold the car to a "buddy" of mine when I joined the Navy in late 1958 with the understanding that he would sell it back to me after I got out of boot camp. WRONG, my supposed "buddy" did not hold up his end of the deal!!!

Fast forward to 1959, I was stationed in Memphis, Tennessee in aviation electronics tech. school and found a beat up 50 Olds 2dr hardtop for \$75 at a used car lot and rebuilt it at the base hobby shop garage while I was in tech school. I got it running good enough to get me from Tenn.to El Centro California for my next Navy assignment. It was a neat car, but still not the 50 coupe I really wanted.

I pulled into the Navy base in El Centro in late 1959 and the 1st car I laid eyes on was a black 50 Olds coupe belonging to another sailor by the name of Don Baldwin. He had a slightly modified Olds with a hot engine and I had a customized 50 Olds hardtop with a worn out engine. We got to be pretty good friends and I learned a lot about Oldsmobile's from Don.

Don got out of the Navy long before I did and I lost track of him for close to 50 years. Thru the national Olds club that I belong to we reconnected in 2007 and I stopped to see him in Fallbrook, California when I made a trip out there to see my brother. Don had restored seven 50 Olds coupes by that time and was a real "expert" on 50 Oldsmobile's.

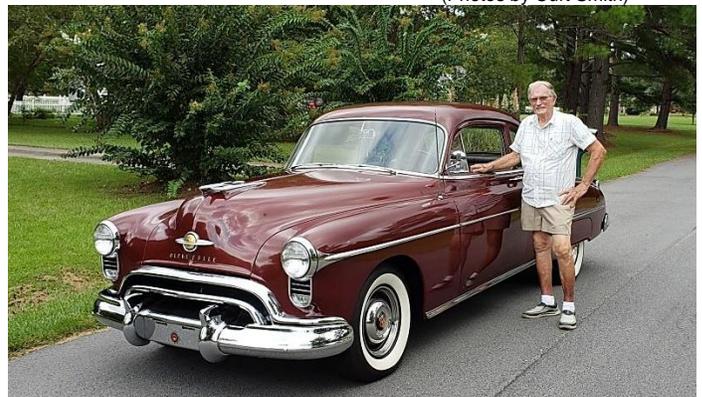
Fast forward again to August of 2020. I learned thru a good friend in the Olds club that Don had passed away about 6 months earlier and that his estate was selling his 50 Olds coupes (he had 3 of them when he died). Two had been sold when I contacted the Olds Club member who was handling the sales of Don's cars and parts and we arrived at a deal on the last coupe.

This month's feature car is this coupe. I saw the coupe in 2007 when I visited Don. It was 90% restored at that time and he had finished it in 2008. It is almost like I was destined to finally get the 50 Olds coupe I had so long wanted (50 years later) from a guy I first met in 1959!!!

Now you know "The rest of the story"

Al Robinson

P.S. Following my now self-imposed rule that I have to sell one before I get another one, I sold the 55 Chevy hardtop!!



(Photos by Curt Smith)

(Photos by Curt Smith)



(Photos by Curt Smith)



## Automotive History

Emile Levassor established the pattern for cars of the future when he placed his engine in front with power transmitted to the rear wheels. His objective was to reduce the effects of road shock and vibration on the drive train, and his cars were so successful that they dominated the early years of European road racing. The 1885 Panhard-Levassor was designed and built by Levassor. Rene Panhard provided the financial backing, but left the construction of the car to his inventive partner.

The two men were classmates in school, but their careers diverged after graduation. Panhard was working for a highly successful manufacturer of woodworking machinery and hired Levassor as a factory manager. When the firm's owner passed away in 1866, the company's name was changed to Panhard-Levassor.

The company acquired French production rights for the Daimler engine. By the early 1890s, Levassor was experimenting with his first car. Corresponding regularly with Gottlieb Daimler, Levassor shared his discoveries and was rewarded in turn when Daimler offered the use of his own inventions. In 1891 Levassor decided to discard Daimler's belt drive in favor of a clutch and gearbox. He used the crude but serviceable sliding shaft gearbox invented by Wilhelm Maybach and explained the reason for his choice by saying, "It's brutal, but it works." By combining a front-mounted engine with a gearbox giving a choice of ratios, Levassor made another important contribution to automotive design.

Although the first Panhard-Levassor's were powered with Daimler engines, in 1894 Levassor began developing the Phoenix, his two-cylinder engine. Along with a new float-chamber carburetor, the engine was installed in the 1895 Panhard-Levassor. The car had a four-speed transmission with a maximum speed of 18 mph in top gear. The rear wheels were driven by chains through sprockets bolted to the spokes. Like modern cars, the 1895 Panhard-Levassor had two brakes, a hand and a foot brake.

The prototype of this car entered the 732 mile-long Bordeaux-Paris race of 1895. Because of a technicality in the rules-only vehicles with four seats were qualified to win-Levassor knew he could not be an official winner. Nevertheless, he was among the starters, and not long after leaving Paris he took the lead. At Ruffec, Levassor had planned to turn the car over to a relief driver, but by the time he reached the village, it had been dark for six hours and his relief driver was asleep. Rather than waiting to awaken him, Levassor drove throughout the night and reached Bordeaux after twenty-two hours of almost uninterrupted driving. On the return trip, he again waved off his relief driver and pulled into Paris after driving for about forty-nine hours without rest.

The second-place car entered Paris six hours after Levassor and only nine of the twenty-two starters were able to finish. The reliable Panhard-Levassor had earned a place in history as the unofficial winner of the world's first cross-country auto race.

David Lahr  
Charlotte NC Hornets' Nest AACA

## **Future Car Shows of Interest**

**October 10, 2019 (Sat.)**

**ACA Eastern Fall Nationals (Car Show Only)**

Hershey, PA – Hershey Region

**October 10, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Sweet Potato Festival (Cancelled) – Swamp Fox Old Car Club**

Darlington, SC – Swamp Fox Region

**October 10, 2020 (Sat.)**

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

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

**October 10, 2020 (Sat.)**

**St. Anthony Cars For A Cause Car Show, 11am to 1pm**

2536 Hoffmeyer Rd. Florence, SC

**October 17, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Cars & Coffee Reichenbach Ford / VW, 9am to 11am – ESC Mustang Club**

600 N. Coit St. Florence, SC

**October 31, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Fright Fest 2020 at Public Square, 2pm to 7:30pm**

Darlington, SC

**November 7, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Pecan Festival (Cancelled) – Swamp Fox Old Car Club**

Florence, SC - Swamp Fox Region

**November 14, 2020 (Sat.)**

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

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

**November 21, 2020, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Cars & Coffee Reichenbach Ford / VW, 9am to 11am – ESC Mustang Club**

600 N. Coit St. Florence, SC

**November 21, 2020 (Sat.)**

**Cruisers for Cops, Palmetto Auto Auction, 9am to 4pm – Palmetto Cruisers**

832 S. Governor Williams Hwy, Darlington, SC

**December 12, 2020 (Sat.)**

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

1300 Second Loop Rd. Florence, SC

# CARS FOR A CAUSE

**Cruise-In with a Purpose**

Benefitting  
St. Anthony School/Church  
Food Pantry



**Saturday,  
Oct. 10, 2020  
11:00-1:00**



**2536  
Hoffmeyer  
Florence, SC**

**Registration for cars: Monetary donation or  
non-perishable items for the food pantry.**

**When you register a vehicle of any kind you will  
receive a FREE LUNCH ticket!**

**Trophies to top 10 vehicles as awarded by  
St. Anthony School students.**

**All Cars/trucks/bikes are welcome (new and old).  
Public is welcome to come to view cars, have  
lunch and enjoy fellowship!**

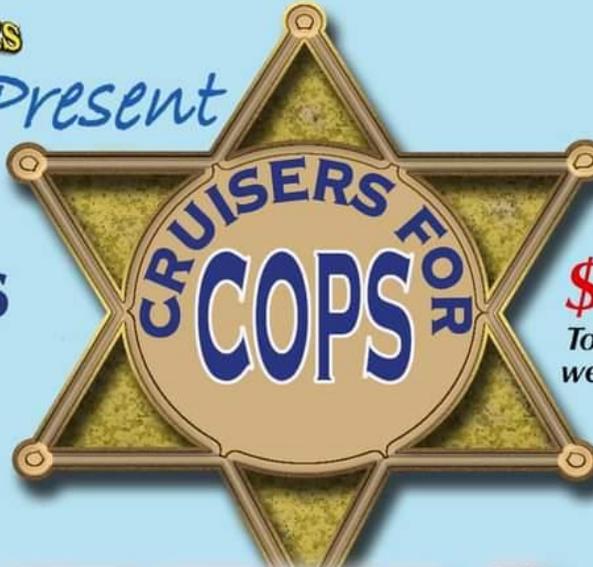
**Questions? Call 843-773-0189**



Present

Trophies Sponsored By  
**PALMETTO**  
**AUTO AUCTION INC.**  
Public Every Tuesday 6:00pm. Public  
Auction OFFICE HOURS Auction  
Monday-Thursday 10:00am - 5:00pm  
843-393-2886 & 843-393-5006  
832 S. Governor Williams Hwy.  
Donnie Weatherford, Owner

**TROPHIES  
TO THE  
TOP 50  
ENTRIES!**



**\$100 PRIZE**  
To one lucky car owner if  
we register over 100 cars!

**DOOR  
PRIZES!**

# **CAR TRUCK & BIKE SHOW**

**Saturday November 21, 2020**

**9am-4pm Registration \$25.00**

**Palmetto Auto Auction  
832 S. Governor Williams Hwy.  
Darlington, SC 29532**

All proceeds go to benefit the Florence Police Dept.,  
Florence Sheriff's Dept., Darlington Police Dept.,  
and Darlington Sheriff's Dept.

**50/50  
DRAWING**



In case of rain, see our website, [www.palmettocruisers.org](http://www.palmettocruisers.org)  
or the Palmetto Cruisers Facebook page

For More Information, as well as  
for upcoming events, please contact:  
DAVY McCLARY (President) 843-621-1946  
MIKE HILL (Vice President) 843-992-3497  
TOM FULLER (Treasurer) 843-356-6767

NEITHER THE PALMETTO CRUISERS, NOR THE VENUE, WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGES/LOSSES INCURRED AT THIS EVENT