

HILLSBOROUGH AACA



TAMPA • FL
Established in 1975

AACA

Antique Automobile Club of America

Hillsborough Region

"The Radiator Newsletter"

www.AACAHillsborough.com

June 2017

President's Letter

As you should already know, Brando & Ron Martin are off on The Great Race, a 2,000 mile race that has been crisscrossing North America for over 34 years. The Great Race is an annual event where approximately 200 vintage cars rally from a different starting point every year, then follow strict route guidelines that are based on accuracy, not speed. Hidden checkpoints are set up to note the time the car passes, and being too early is just as costly as being too late.



Entrants are from all over the world. We met 7 teams from Japan at the starting line banquet. Ordinary car guys are treated as celebrities, signing autographs and answering countless questions from people who admire their efforts in this race. Thousands of people meet and greet them as they progress along the route, with breaks for lunch and dinner planned by the Great Race organizers and local car clubs in every town they stop. It is a journey to remember and should be listed on every car enthusiasts bucket list.



Brando is the "Navigator" with Ron Martin, the "Driver" and owner of the 1962 Ford Galaxie Sunliner that they are racing in. Ron and Brando worked on restoring Ron's 1927 Peerless for 2 years for entry into this competition. But as Rookies, their assigned Mentor strongly recommended they reconsider using a car with wooden wheels, as the grueling route would certainly break down the wooden spokes, as it has done so many times in the past. Ron flew to Canada, bought the Sunliner, and then test drove it more than 1,300 miles home to Tampa. After substantial engine and transmission work, they set off for Jacksonville to start their Great Race journey.

At the writing of this article they are not finished yet. By the time you will be reading this, it will be over and another great adventure will be listed in the memories of Brando and Ron, and all of us blessed to participate in this fantastic experience. Brando and Ron have enjoyed many rewarding experiences individually (Brando having travelled hundreds of thousands of miles across America in the vintage car hobby and Ron having flown across the world as a professional balloonist). They have already described this Great Race experience as one of the highlights of their lives. And as Brando often says "Let's drive those old cars!"

Teri and I were thrilled to see the fellas off. Special thanks to Larry & Mickey for coming to see off the team in Jacksonville! And as we speak I am driving towards Traverse City Michigan to see them at the finish line! In the meantime check out their progress on your club website www.aacahillsborough.com. Cheers from the road!

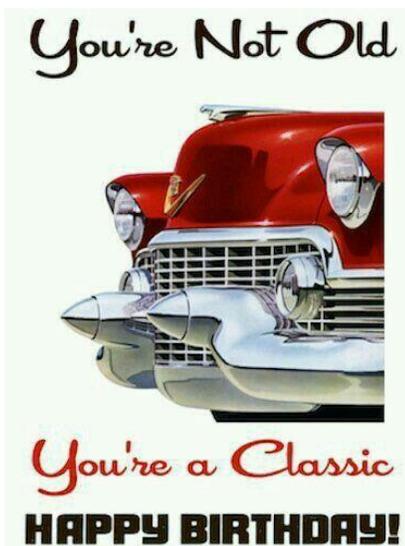


New shirts are here and for sale @\$27; Pins \$5; Windbreakers \$21.
Call Ron Martin (813) 220-5109

Meet-Ups

Our Monthly Meet-ups are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. **Arrive at 6:30pm, the meeting starts at 7pm and lasts for approximately one hour.** Snacks usually provided by the host. When meeting at a restaurant, then please arrive at 6pm to eat.

NEXT MEET-UP: Wednesday, July 12, 2017
to be held at **Tibby's New Orleans Restaurant**
1721 W. Brandon Blvd., Brandon, FL. 33511



July Celebrations

- 4- Jim Briley
- 8- Ron Martin
- 11- Mickey Spoto
- 28- Elton Marcus
- 29- Bob Reynolds
- Bonnie French

Happy Anniversary

- 17- Louis & Lucy Pullara

Member Profile

By Dona Hornung

Bob and Bonnie French



Bonnie and Bob met at the company they worked for in Shawnee Mission, Kansas after college and the military. They married on December 12, 1968. Bonnie was in the accounting department and worked for the corporate treasurer. Bob was in the data processing department writing programs for the telephony industry. We have three daughters Dana, Rhonda and Cayce. Rhonda has two daughters and Cayce has one daughter. In November of 1979 we moved to Tampa into the house where we have been for almost 38 years. Bob worked for GTE which later became Verizon when a merger took place between GTE and AT&T. Following the Y2K conversions, he retired in April of 2001.

Bonnie is still actively work as a property manager in Tampa Palms after years of being a real estate broker and sales person. She keeps those licenses active. Both Bonnie and Bob are big on education and give a scholarship to the university from which they graduated each year.

Bob having enjoyed playing with cars all his life, purchased a 1991 Chrysler TC by Maserati in August of 2012. While trying to locate information on the vehicle stumbled across a club, TC America, Inc. located in Walnut Creek, California. He joined the club and began receiving the quarterly newsletter. He club does an annual national meet in the California area and Bob began going to those events. They also have regional directors who conduct local meets once a year of which a couple of those events have been held in conjunction with the Carlisle Events across the country. When the Florida Regional Director passed away the first year Bob was a member he was asked if he would like to become the Florida Region Director and he responded, Yes. Bob now conducts annual meetings around the state and writes articles for the newsletter on restoration of different areas of the vehicle. Bob now has six of these cars.

It was the joint idea by Lee Iacocca and Alejandro De Tomaso to develop a two seater to compete against the Cadillac Allante in 1984. The car was manufactured in 1989, 1990 and 1991. They came equipped with a removable hardtop with a soft top underneath. It came with power windows, power seats, power antenna, power door locks, remote trunk release, remote gas tank door release. Over the three years they manufactured 7,300 of these cars and making replacement parts very difficult to find.



Besides enjoying our cars Bonnie crochets afghans for friends. When someone is having a baby, getting married or whatever she crochets them an afghan. The hardest part is locating an insider to know what color to make it so that it fits in with room colors. Bob has been a coin collector numismatist) for over 50 years. His favorite series is the Mercury dime set.

Officers & Board of Directors

President:
Brando Pistorius
813-917-9205 brando@oldwheel.com

Vice President:
Ron Martin
Secretary:
Leo Dougherty
Treasurer:
Marlene Hall

Board of Directors:
Willie Fernandez
Bob French
Dave Kurash
Tony Santos

Newsletter Editor:
Joanne Pistorius
Special Events:
Linda Fernandez
Member Profiles:
Dona Hornung
Webmaster:
Joanne Pistorius
Photographer:
Ken Hornung
Tour Coordinator:
Howie Mednick
Membership Chair:
Brando Pistorius

Classifieds:

For Sale

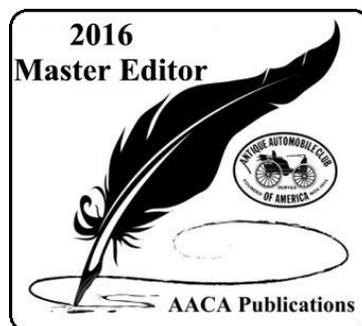
1929
Peerless
\$37,000



1933
Rolls
Royce
\$175,000

Call Brando Pistorius 813-917-9205

For more information, check your club website
www.AACAHillsborough.com



Wanted: Members...if you are looking for parts or a specific car, now is the time to let us know and we will post it in the newsletter and website for free! Email Joanne Pistorius at joanne@oldwheel.com

Sponsors:



MACHINE SHOP & PARTS

13902 N. Florida Ave.
Tampa, Florida 33613

Phone (813) 264-5505
unitedspeedworld.com

Tampa Bay's Oldest Speed Shop - Since 1969

- *Engine Rebuilding* Engine Dyno Service***
- *Cylinder Heads & Cylinder Head Exchange***
- *Shock & Spring Dyno Service***

Balancing *Boring *Cleaning *Honing *Lathe Work *Press Work *Resurfacing *Valve Job *Welding
*Axles *Hubs *Flywheels *Manifolds *Rotors *Drums

AIRAID * ALLSTAR * AMSOIL * ARP * AUTOMETER * B & M * CLEVITE
COMP CAMS * CROWER * DEMON * EAGLE * EDELBROCK * FEL PRO
HEDMAN * HOLLEY * HOOKER * K & N * NGK * SUPERCHIPS * JAZ * LOKAR
LONGACRE * MELLING * MILODON * MOROSO * MSD * NOS * AND MORE...



LEADED * UNLEADED * METHANOL * NITROUS

There is always great information on your AACA National Club Website

www.AACA.org



Sign up for your monthly Speedster e-Magazine

