



# PINMAR NEWS

DELIVERING YOU EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENING AND NOT HAPPENING



## Want to be on the board? It's Nomination Time!

October is the month when we traditionally nominate officers and committee chairs for the following year. We hold elections in November to establish those officers, so October is the period for nominations. This process is similar to any other organization, particularly a non-profit organization. Here is how it works:

Pin-MAR is a nonprofit organization recognized by the State of Florida. As such, we have a license that is renewed annually with the state. It is important to note that we are not a 501c3 organization, a federal program with which we are not registered. The state program requires that we form a corporation, and each year, the four elected officers of the club also make up the four officers of the corporation. That is the reason for holding elections. Elected positions, along with responsible accounting of assets, lend credibility to an auditable corporate setting. That is also the reason for taking and archiving meeting minutes. Technically, we could be audited at any time as a nonprofit organization.

Our elected positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, each with typical duties. The President runs the monthly meetings, writes a monthly column for the newsletter, serves as a liaison to the County, and helps determine the club's direction. The VP plans the programs for the monthly meetings, assists the President in all presidential functions, and runs the club in the absence of the President. The Treasurer pays the bills, manages the club's monetary assets, and prepares any financial reporting. The Secretary takes minutes at each club meeting and helps handle club correspondence. The four positions (plus the past President) collectively act as a board in annual reporting to the County and in emergency decisions such as canceling a club function due to bad weather.

Pin-MAR has a unique contractual relationship with Pinellas County in our sponsorship of the Heritage Village Mercantile Store, sale of drinks, promotion of car shows on county property, and use of a county building for our regular meetings. To that end, we require that a member be in the club for at least two years before running for President so that the office fully understands the unique arrangement with the County. No other offices or positions have that restriction.

In addition to the elected officers, the club has many positions and committees requiring a chairperson filled by appointment. These include the newsletter editor, tours committee chair, car show committee chair, membership, hospitality, HV liaison, PCHS liaison, website administrator, FaceBook administrator, store inventory liaison, and Sunshine Lady. All are important to the club's operation, and any vacancies will be filled along with the officer elections.

Starting in September, the officers will poll the current leadership to see who may want to continue. This way, we can announce vacancies at the October meeting and give members a chance to consider positions they may like to fill or assist.

If you are willing and able, consider a leadership position. Let the current officers know so we can assist in getting you started. We have one of the largest and longest-running car clubs in the Tampa Bay area, and it does not run alone. A dedicated team of like-minded car lovers runs it. See you on the tours, and remember to vote early and often.

**PRESIDENT**

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## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW IS BELOW

# CLUB INFORMATION

**The Pin-MAR Antique Car Club, Inc.** is a not-for-profit corporation founded as a club in Pinellas County, Florida, in 1964. (Pin-MAR is an acronym for the Pinellas Model A Restorers) The club's founders were dedicated to restoring and preserving the Model A Ford. The club now accepts members with all makes, models, and years of vehicles. Meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at Heritage Village in the Pinellas Room or as announced in this newsletter. The club dedicates time and resources to Heritage Village, including volunteers who run the H.C. Smith General Store, care for the period garage display, and maintain the park's antique vehicles. The club also conducts tours, outings, an annual Picnic, an annual Car Show, and sponsorship of the Heritage Village General Mercantile & Garage. It's a fun, all-volunteer club for the entire family, with annual dues (Jan 1-Dec 31) set at just \$20.00.

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> @ 6:30PM

Pinellas Room @ Heritage Village 11909 125th Street, Largo, FL 33774

## WEBSITE / SOCIAL

[WWW.PINMAR.ORG](http://WWW.PINMAR.ORG) or [WWW.PIN-MAR.COM](http://WWW.PIN-MAR.COM)

[JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP CLICK HERE](#)

## NEWSLETTER

Contributions, suggestions and questions should be emailed to:

[PINMARNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PINMARNEWSLETTER@GMAIL.COM)

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## DUES \$20

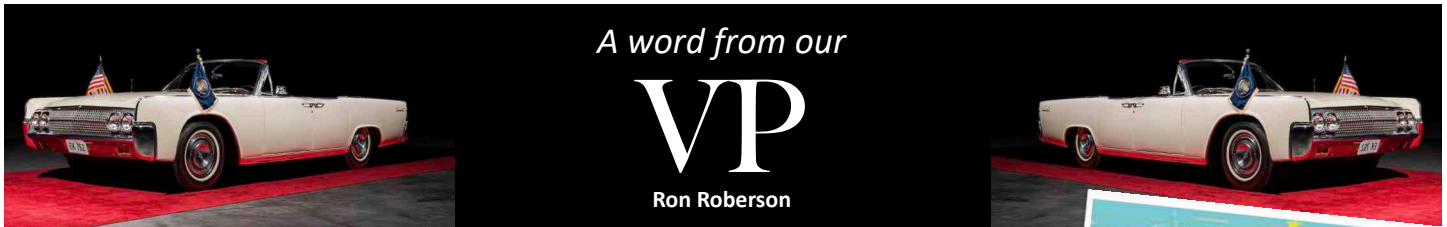
Make your checks payable to Pin-Mar and mail to Wanda Ray, at 13297 Park Boulevard, Seminole, FL, 33776. Please, call at 727-709-6250 if you have any questions.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

11909 125TH STREET, LARGO, FL 33774

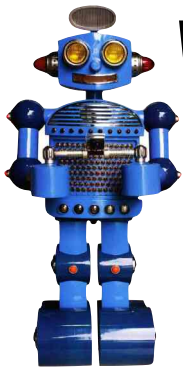
[INFO@PINMAR.ORG](mailto:INFO@PINMAR.ORG)



A word from our

VP

Ron Roberson



# WE DON'T NEED NO STINKING ROBOTS!



Recently, I made a quick trip to our local mega hardware store to get a PVC plumbing connection. When I went to check out, I did what I always do. I passed by the self-checkout lanes and headed over to the checkout section where the lanes had cashiers that were real live human beings. I always do that because I enjoy the interface with another person. With that comes a real conversation.

"Hi, how are you doing?"

"Great. How are you today?"

"Wonderful, even with this plumbing issue, it is a beautiful day."

But on this particular day, my plan was quickly squelched. I noticed that the self-checkout lanes had been expanded. I tried to walk all the way around them, but there was no way out. All the human checkout lanes were replaced by self-checkout. I only had one item, priced at \$3.12. I wanted to pay cash. I noticed that one of the lanes would take cash or credit card. I headed to that lane only to see a cash machine that would give you change. What could possibly go wrong with that? I waited in that line for a few minutes, when a thought struck me. Where was the anticipated conversation? Was I supposed to talk to this machine? (I do have conversations with my home computer, but they are rarely civil). How many good people were laid off in favor of this cold robotic system?

Confused, I started over to the customer service desk to see if they could do the checkout, but they were busy (doing check-outs). Then I noticed a human employee wandering about the self-service lanes to assist the people who were lost for conversation. At that point, I decided to use a credit card. Why? Because for a \$3.00 item the credit card transaction fee would likely offset any profit they might have enjoyed from this small purchase. That will teach them a lesson for laying off all the real humans that used to work in the checkout lanes and hold real conversations.

Feeling really good about myself and the service I about to render to the workers of America, another thought struck me. I walked all the way over to the garden section to see if they still had real human checkout people. They did have one lady at a cash register, who was waiting for a price check. I asked if she could checkout people who purchased from other departments and she replied that she could.

"That's great", I said. Because the whole front of the store has gone robotic, and I would much rather talk to a real human. Laughing, she replied, "Me too."

From that day forward, I have been checking out at the garden department. It's a little extra walking whenever I buy hardware, but there is a real live person at the cash register. See you on the tours. Be sure to wave at any real people that you see along the way. If you see any robots, go ahead and wave at them too. They may be driving classic cars in a few years.



# Upcoming Events

THURSDAY  
OCT 5

**PIN-MAR  
MONTHLY MEETING**



SUNDAY  
OCT 8

**THE COLLECTION ON PALMETTO  
ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL**

FREE FAMILY FUN... MUSIC, ANTIQUE CARS, STEAM ENGINES AND MORE

**Date:** Sunday, October 8, 2023  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Collection on Palmetto  
2116 Palmetto Street  
Clearwater, FL 33765



THURSDAY  
OCT 26

**CLUB MEET-UP**  
DRIVE OLD OR NEW METAL... JUST BE THERE!

**Date:** Thursday, OCTOBER 26, 2023  
**Time:** 6:00 Pm - Until we're done  
**Location:** Quaker Steak & Lube  
10400 49th Street North  
Clearwater, FL 33762



**Notes:** This is a simple meetup to show off our cars and enjoy some good wings and burgers. Officially, we'll gather at 6:00 PM and join the weekly Thursday evening cruise-in, then round up some tables inside for dinner. See you there.

TUESDAY  
OCT 10

*Monthly*  
**BREAKFAST**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 10, 2023  
**Time:** 9:00 AM  
**Location:** Kim's Family Restaurant  
2101 Starkey Road Units L4/L5  
Largo, FL 33778



THURSDAY  
NOV 2

**PIN-MAR  
MONTHLY MEETING**



SATURDAY  
NOV 11

**HERITAGE VILLAGE  
ARTISAN FESTIVAL**

FORMERLY KNOWN AS COUNTRY JUBILEE

**Date:** Saturday, November 11, 2023  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Heritage Village



**Notes:** We will need volunteers to work the H.C. Smith General Store and we'll need some classic rides on display.

THURSDAY  
OCT 19

**CLASSIE LASSIE  
LUNCHEON**

**Date:** Thursday, October 19, 2023  
**Time:** Noon  
**Location:** RUMBA  
6445 4th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702



THURSDAY  
DEC 7  
More Details  
in Newsletter

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS WITH FRIENDS  
AT THE ANNUAL PIN-MAR  
**Christmas  
DINNER PARTY**

SATURDAY  
OCT 21

**TOUR TO SEE  
SUNKEN GARDEN**

**Date:** Saturday, OCTOBER 21, 2023  
**Time:** 9:00 am - Until we're done  
**Location:** Northeast Shopping Center  
294 37th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33704



**Notes:** Departure from the Northeast Shopping Center parking lot at 9:00 AM. The lot is located directly East of the McDonalds at 3800 4th Street North in St. Petersburg. We'll tour to The Hanger for breakfast. Then mosey over to Sunken Gardens.

SUNDAY  
DEC 17

**CLASSIE LASSIE  
COOKIE EXCHANGE**

**Date:** Sunday, DECEMBER 17, 2023  
**Time:** 1:30 pm -4:00 pm  
**Location:** Linda Hatley's Home



**Info:** Come in festive holiday attire and bring: 3 dozen cookies of one kind and a snack, appetizer or finger food to share. Come with one of a kind cookie, go home with a variety of cookies for the holidays. Linda will provide drinks, plates, plasticware, etc. Mark your calendar.

WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THIS CALENDAR... EMAIL MIKE CULOTTA AT [CULOTTA@MAC.COM](mailto:CULOTTA@MAC.COM)

# RUNNING N EMPTY

By Ron Roberson

## RC & MOON PIE

The first time I ever heard the expression, “an RC and a Moon Pie” was from my dad, when I was a little kid in the 1950s. Dad grew up during the Great Depression, turning ten years old at the Depression’s deepest depth in 1933. He referenced the phrase to that mid-1930s time frame, when the people of the Greatest Generation were just kids.

For years I wondered about the pairing of these two items. RC Cola and Moon Pies were not made by the same company nor were they paired together by some clever food distributor selling them in sets. The pairing came from the kids in the 1930s, who were trying to get the “biggest bang for the buck” from their meager spending money. But why these two items?

The Moon Pie was conceived in 1917 by the Chattanooga Baking Company. A salesman visiting rural Kentucky asked a local working man what he would like to see in a new cookie. “I want to see one as big as the moon,” came the answer. So, the company proceeded to design the biggest individually wrapped cookie offered at that time and called it the “Moon Pie” based on the customer’s reference to the moon. So how does that big cookie get paired with a cola drink?

To find the answer to that question, I began an internet search. There are lots of sites about the RC and Moon Pie pairings, including some vague histories and announcements of modern-day RC-Moon Pie festivals, but nothing that could explain the pairing to my inquiring, scientific and logical mind.

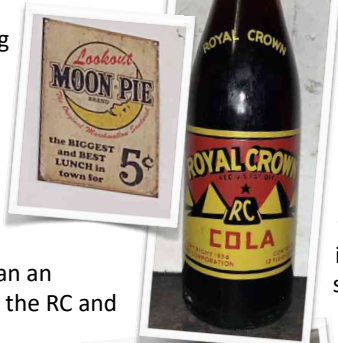
With that I went to E-Bay to see what I could learn from the antique cola bottles. I quickly found an auction for an RC Cola bottle dated 1936, and when I enlarged the photo, I noted that it was a 12-ounce bottle. I know that the Cokes that we sell in the Heritage Village mercantile are bottled in 8-ounce bottles. That may answer the question, since both colas sold for 5 cents in the 1930s. However, when I found photos of a 1930s Coke bottle, I noted that the bottle labeling stated 6 ounces. Now, I’m a bit confused, because I know that

our 8-ounce glass bottles were brought back into production, because they fit the restored Coke machines. Then I noticed another difference. The old bottle was similar in outside dimensions to our new Coke bottles, but the glass was much thicker. The bottle would not hold as much liquid as the new thinner glass version. In those days, the glass Coke bottles had to survive the movement through the machines that were dispensing them, and the bottles were returned and reused, so they had to survive the machines several times. They had to be thicker to be robust enough for the machine dispensing and for that longer life.

Now it’s all clear. The 1930s kid with dime in his pocket can afford a 5-cent Moon Pie and a 5-cent cola. The Moon Pie is the obvious choice among cookies, because it is the biggest one on the shelf. And it does not require high level mathematics to know that 12 ounces of RC Cola is more than 6 ounces of Coca Cola. The pairing was made by those kids who were trying to get the most snack for the money.

That mystery solved, I began to wonder why the Coke bottle was shaped like it was. There is an old story that says that the bottle shape was inspired by a famous and very shapely movie actress of the 1930s named Mae West. Her name is also connected with the Mae West life jacket, and our gas pump at the mercantile is of a style that collectors call a “Mae West” gas pump. This makes a great story, but further detective work proves it to be highly unlikely. The Coca Cola company commissioned a new design to the Root Glass Company in Terra Haute, Indiana in 1915, requesting a totally unique bottle that would set Coca Cola apart from the imitators. They came up with the design that first appeared on store shelves in 1916, two years before Mae West first appeared on Broadway (1918), ten years before her first starring role on Broadway (1926) and 16 years before her first motion picture (1932).

I also found out that Coke kept its price at 5 cents well into the 1950s, no doubt due to the complication of upgrading the Coke machines in the days before computers. I also noted in a study of the Coke bottles on display at the Heritage Village mercantile that Coke revised the bottle capacity from 6 ounces to 6.5 ounces sometime after WWII. We have a 1944 Coke bottle in the store collection that states 6 ounces, and an otherwise identical 1956 bottle that states 6.5 ounces. I also discovered that RC Cola went to a 10-ounce bottle in the 1940s, no doubt for an effective price increase by holding the 5-cent price with the new smaller bottle. See you on the road. Let’s do a picnic with RC Colas and Moon Pies.



# The Classie Lassie Corner



*Ladies, grab your hat and shoes,  
We've got some misbehavin' to do!*



Ten Classie Lassies attended the September Luncheon at Mad Beach Cantina on Thursday, September 21, 2023. Since the luncheon happened to fall right on the day of Barbara Vieno's Birthday, they all helped her celebrate.

*Hopefully, they'll be looking at the camera next time.*



**WHO:** ALL PIN-MAR LADIES AND THEIR LADY GUEST  
**WHAT:** CLASSIE LASSIE 'GET TOGETHER' AND LUNCHEON  
**WHEN:** THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 @ NOON  
**WHERE:** RUMBA ST. PETERSBURG  
 6445 - 4TH STREET NORTH, ST. PETE, FL 33702

*If you're interested in joining their next get-together, see the flyer in the newsletter and RSVP.*

## FAVORITE Family RECIPES RECIPE OF THE MONTH



## Cheesy Noodles

### Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 20g butter
- 1 brown onion, finely chopped
- 4 middle bacon rashers, trimmed, roughly chopped
- 1 tbsp plain flour
- 4 x 72g packets Maggi 2 Minute Noodles Chicken Flavor
- 2 cups milk, 1 cup frozen peas, 1 tsp lemon zest
- 1 cup grated Devondale Colby Cheese Block (500g)
- 1/4 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves, chopped

### Directions:

Heat oil and butter in a large, deep frying pan over medium-high heat. Add onion and bacon. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 5 minutes or until onion softens. Transfer 2 tablespoons onion mixture to a small bowl. Cover to keep warm.

Add flour and 2 of the chicken flavour sachets from noodles to pan (discard remaining flavour sachets). Cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Reduce heat to medium. Gradually stir in milk and 2 cups water. Bring to a simmer. Add noodles. Cook, stirring occasionally to break up noodles, for 2 minutes or until noodles are tender.

Add peas and cheese. Cook for a further 1 to 2 minutes or until peas are bright green and tender. Add parsley and lemon zest to reserved onion mixture. Season with salt and pepper. Toss to combine.

Remove noodles from heat. Sprinkle with onion mixture. Serve.

# NEWS and GOSSIP

By Aunt Blabber & Adeline Moore

**Doc Brown:** Sadly, we lost an original member of Pin-MAR recently. Dr. Warren Brown passed away at 99 years old. Doc Brown hadn't been active in recent years but was a founding member of MARC's New Florida Region back in 1956 which became Pin-MAR in 1964. Doc Brown was the first newsletter editor and made copies using a time consuming process called Hectograph. He continued driving his 1931 Model A roadster until recently. Doc Brown's wife Margaret passed away few years back from COVID19. He is survived by son Eric and daughter Anna Marie.

**R.I.P**  
**DOC BROWN**

**John & Cecelia Smith:** Still in recovery mode from my shoulder surgery. I have PT twice a week for the next 6 weeks. We survived the hurricane with just a power outage for 3 hours. By the time we gassed up the portable generator and hooked it to the sub-panel in my shop, power was back on. It was an eye opener though, the whole ranch is dependent on electricity. Without it we have no water or septic. So the present project is installing a Generac generator to run the whole house - even the a/c.



**Anne Farley** reports **Darrell** recently had Moh's surgery on his forehead. It's healing nicely.

### From Ford, Hollis & Dalpha Rule:

It was great to be talking with my friend as we haven't talked in quite awhile. He seemed good on the phone as he shared that he came down with covid awhile back but about over it now. His poor wife got it from him too and is not over it but getting some better. As most of you know he has been the editor of a major old car club NL for many years now and recently pulled the plug as just to much for him to do each month. He wanted me to share with those that I communicate with that he says hello and often thinks about his days in Florida and the folks in Pin-MAR, Ford


**Gareth & Debra Eich:** are off to a 5 day Model A progressive tour in Augusta, GA down the Woodpecker Trail. It will mean we can't attend the Pot Luck Pin-Mar supper though. Gareth is also pulling the engine from the 34 Cabriolet for a leaking head gasket and hopefully not a cracked



block. Either way there is coolant mixed with the oil and we can't get the head off. So far a crack in the head and not Gareth's, plus fluid mixed with oil in the bell housing and a delaminated pressure plate on the '34 engine. I wonder what more will be revealed? Up until then the clutch was not slipping although maybe we just got lucky.



Hello PINMAR People,

**Jude** and I have moved from Eastern Massachusetts to a condo community in Western Massachusetts. Model A-ing has been limited, however we did come across a pristine 1930 Fire Truck. Everything worked on it, then bell siren , all the fire light, etc.

I couldn't believe no owner was chaperoning the vehicle. Because there were no "Do Not Touch" signs on it near it, the public took full advantage of it. Maybe because it was green. Nonetheless, it belongs in a museum.

**Cheers, Tony Zeoli**

### Hey from Seattle

So, yes... last month Therese and I were, indeed, frolicking in the kiddie pool... WITH our two beautiful toddler granddaughters. This was all occurring in Seattle. We are home again for a breather before we hit the road next week for a trip to a Franklin Club event in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Then, we travel directly to Virginia where Jim will assist his brother with a Chevrolet engine replacement. Then I think our road tripping is done until Thanksgiving. In the brief days we've been home, Jim has been back on the old Jaguar project. Rebuilt the exhaust using the good back half that was on the car and built a new front half. Also, little things like better throttle return springs, hood prop repair, fuel leaks (there's always a fuel leak to fix on an old British car). Therese has been out looking for unusual birds that

*Continued on page 8*

Continued from page 7

the hurricane blew into the area, replacing her garden bushes that were killed by storm surge salt water and has been getting more practice paddling her new stand-up paddle board. Cheers, **Jim & Therese Eby**



**Jason Roberson** has been competing in the Florida Regional SCCA Auto Cross series with his home-built DF Goblin sports car. He finished in the top three positions in class racing in every event but one, and he wound up as class points champ for the season. The amazing part is that he has the only non-turbocharged car in the class. Jason has coined a great name for his racing enterprise - **“Beer Budget Motorsports.”**

**Ron Roberson** attended the NSRA Street Rod Nationals in Louisville Kentucky with his brother, nephew and grand nephew in August. Brother **Marty** owns Smoothie Fabrications that manufactures steel running boards for most American cars or trucks from the late 1920s to the 1940s. Ron had a nice visit with **Cecil Taylor** of Tampa's Hercules Motors, who was displaying a featured street rod from his shop.

**Pistorius World:** *Editorial note: These picnics are fun and the abundance of international dishes is incredible!*

**Joanne and Brando’s “All American Heritage Picnic”** is back. It's always



been well attended, and we only invite a few local car clubs to keep the amount of those participating to a manageable number. The best part is everyone brings a food dish from the heritage of their

families. It makes for a delicious and fun day. So mark your calendar for October 29, 2023 from 11a-3p. RSVP to [joanne@oldwheel.com](mailto:joanne@oldwheel.com) or 813-714-1019 So we'll know how many people are coming and what food dish and from what country you'll be bringing. And we would love for you to drive your classic ride that for all to see that day. The picnic will be at Joanne and Brando's property located at 12820 Gibson Lane, Odessa, FL 33556. RSVP NOW!

**HELP WANTED:  
Old World Restorations**

Brando and Joanne have been crazy busy with the expansion of their business, with an additional 1,330 square feet onto the existing barn to add 3 more bays and an office. Hopefully the new addition will be done in time for the picnic on Sunday Oct. 29, but work continues in the main barn regardless. If you are an experienced mechanic or no one that has five years hands-on knowledge with foreign and domestic restorations that range from 1900 to 1985 then send your information and résumé to [info@oldwheel.com](mailto:info@oldwheel.com).



**NEW MAILING ADDRESS**

In order to save \$240 per year, we've dropped our long time PO Box. Now the advertisements from American Express and Chase will have somewhere else to go. Going forward, we'll use...

- 1** 11909 125th Street North  
Largo, FL 33774  
(For everything except dues)
- 2** Mail Dues to Wanda Ray:  
13297 Park Boulevard  
Seminole, FL, 33776



**No News from the North Carolina branch of Pin-MAR:** Hopefully we'll hear from them next month.

*Realistic*  
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**The Collection on Palmetto**

2116 Palmetto Street  
Clearwater, Florida 33765  
727-403-3086  
[Laura@collectiononpalmetto.com](mailto:Laura@collectiononpalmetto.com)

**CLEAN COUNTY MOBILE DETAILING**

Contact Daryl 727.460.4220  
[CleanCountyDetailing@gmail.com](mailto:CleanCountyDetailing@gmail.com)



# The Classie Lassie Lunch

*Ladies, grab your hat and shoes,  
We've got some misbehavin' to do!*



**RSVP  
NOW!**

*Join us as we get together for a delicious lunch!*

**WHO:** ALL PIN-MAR LADIES (Lady Guests Are Also Welcome)  
**WHAT:** CLASSIE LASSIE 'GET TOGETHER' AND LUNCHEON  
**WHERE:** Rumba Island Bar & Grill  
 6445 - 4th Street North  
 St. Petersburg, Florida 33702  
 Telephone: 727-329-8559  
**WHEN:** THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023 @ NOON

*Hope to see you there!*



**PLEASE RSVP BY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023**  
**TO BARBARA VINEO BY TEXTING or CALLING 727-525-8101**  
**or emailing [Rvieno@Tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Rvieno@Tampabay.rr.com)**

# Rambling Down Life's Road

By Bob "Wrong-way" Croslin



**Everybody Needs A Yugo Sometime was the caption of their magazine advertisement**

## Yugo...or Maybe You Don't Go!

*"How do you double the value of a Yugo? Easy, just fill the gas tank."*

Yugo, the Commie compact introduced in the heyday of the Reagan years, probably served better as the fodder of jokes than actual transportation.

*"The cars did come decently equipped, including a rear-window defroster, designed to keep your hands warm when pushing it."*

Automotive journalists say that there are no truly bad cars produced anymore. They're all reliable, feature laden and powerful. As long as they properly connect to your smartphone, they get a good rating. But where's the fun in writing about cars that all deliver a varied motoring perfection and reliability?

Fortunately, here at Hemmings, we can look back to a simpler time in the late 20th century when there was no shortage of questionable cars, barely acceptable to consumers, kept alive by the storied reputations of their makers. The 1970s and '80s had plenty of options to fit this category. Cars like the Cadillac Cimarron and Dodge Aspen did more favors for the imports than their foreign makers could have ever earned on their own.

But neither of those automotive speed bumps could hold a candle to the worst car of the era sold in the United States: the Yugo GV.

*"What do you call the tow package on a Yugo? Your AAA membership."*

The sketchiest of small, sketchy cars, the Yugo was a little hatchback introduced to our shores by none other than automotive impresario and lawsuit magnet Malcolm Bricklin. Based on the

Fiat 128 and with a list price of \$3,990, it was the cheapest car in America.

Despite that bargain rate and marketing tactics that compared it to the VW Beetle and the Model T, the Yugo was a tough sell. Some enterprising dealers offered "buy one get one free" deals. The purchase of certain slow-selling Cadillacs or Oldsmobiles included an even slower-selling freebie from Eastern Europe thrown in for good measure.

*"What's on the first page of the Yugo owner's manual? The bus schedule."*

When the dust settled, Bricklin's organization managed to move a little over 140,000 in the U.S. from 1984 through 1992, the model surviving the end of communism, but not the breakup of Yugoslavia. The car was a true product of a republic that would soon be shattered, with components sourced from Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia, with additional parts and final assembly in Serbia. The consequences of the devolution of Marshall Tito's grand socialist vision led to the 1999 NATO bombing of Serbia that included the targeting of the Zastava factory in Kragujevac where the Yugo was assembled. Though not imported to the U.S. after 1992, some version of the model remained in production until 2008.

Why kick this dead horse you ask? Or better yet, all 55 horses the Yugo's 1,116-cc inline-four could muster on its best day? It appears the joke might just be on us. Like many originally unloved cars, the Yugo is now collectible. With so many thrown away, the remaining cars are now, how shall I put this?

Valuable. Or at least relatively valuable. As is almost always the case, the low-mile, higher-spec examples tend to perform better at auction. In 2021, at a Barrett-Jackson event in Houston, a 1990 Yugo GVC Convertible sold for \$12,100, or more than three times the original Yugo's introductory MSRP. The car had only 367 miles on the odometer. No word on whether the car broke at that mileage or if it was intentionally stored as a collector car.

Time is truly a miracle worker. Nobody ever lusted after a new Yugo, seductively lured in by the questionable communist quality standards or the already obsolete platform borrowed from Fiat. No, they bought them in the hopes—lots and lots of hope—of getting cheaply from point A to point B. Today, with nearly 40 years of nostalgia to establish forgiveness, the little hatchback does possess a unique charm.

Do I want to have one in my collection? Probably not, but I can almost guarantee you that I will crack a smile the next time I see one at a show and I am glad for the collectors that keep them on the road.

[https://www.hemmings.com/stories/yugo-or-maybe-you-dont-go/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=EDaily&utm\\_campaign=](https://www.hemmings.com/stories/yugo-or-maybe-you-dont-go/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=EDaily&utm_campaign=)

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It Appears The Joke Might Just Be On Us  
[Terry Shea](#)

Hemmings Motor News

08/31/2023

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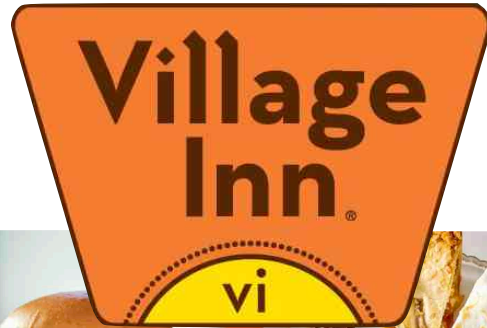


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## PIN - MAR NEWS

AUGUST, 1979



PRES - LES BENNETT 347-0865      VICE PRES - FRANK GREENWALD 360-8518  
 SECRETARY - RICH FRAZE 544-4300      TREASURER - MARY SHAW 522-5982  
 NEWS - BOB CROSLIN 393-6405 & PAUL DOBBIN 527-6074

### NEWS

The August meeting will be on Tuesday, Aug 7th at 7:30 pm at the Florida Federal Bank at 9th ave and 49th st N in St Petersburg. The guest speaker will be from Neuman Oil from Tampa.

#### HERITAGE PARK PROJECT

At the June meeting, a suggestion by Don Lorrier was made to try and set up some sort of display at the Pinellas County Heritage Park depicting the role of the auto in early Pinellas County. Currently, the museum has none. A committee consisting of Bill Jones, Don Lorrier, Paul Dobbin, Bob Croslin, and lead by Rosemary Wood was formed. Several days later, Rosemary, Bob, and Bill visited the park and talked to park director Ken Ford. Several ideas were discussed. Among them were; 1) a permanent display of old car parts in the park's barn; 2) a car on display inside the museum, changing on a monthly basis; and 3) in the long term, assembly and donation of a car, perhaps a roadster pickup for use by the park in parades and around the park.

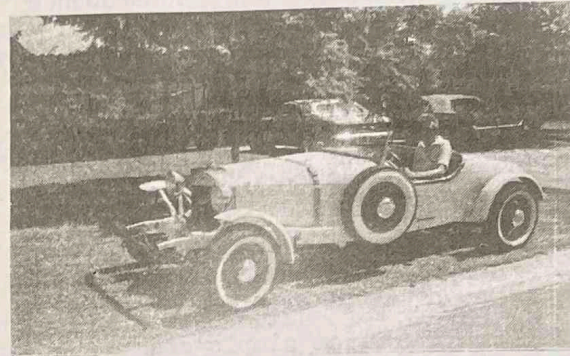
Surely there are other things we could do. If you have a thought call any one of the committee members and let us know.

#### THE SUMMER TOUR

Don't miss the SUMMER TOUR on Sunday, Aug 19. Ed and Millie Schroeder and Jack and Lucy Jones are hosting this one. We'll meet at the Fla Federal Bank At 2:30 in the afternoon. The tour will end at a local restaurant for the meal. This promises to be a good one, so invite a friend and come on out!

#### J.C. WHITNEY GOES UNDER

A note for you serious restorers, J.C. Whitney has gone bankrupt! The Chicago firm took Chapter 11 of the Federal Bankruptcy Act on June 25. Claims may be filed with Norman Nachman, 115 S. LaSalle St. Chicago, Ill 60603



#### THE ULTIMATE DO-IT-YOURSELFER

Did you ever wonder if you could build a one of a kind automobile and have it come out looking like anything special to anyone except you?

Meet Bill Jones, custom car builder and proud owner of the 1946 Ford Homebilt pictured above. Bill had some experience with old cars and Hot Rods as a teenager with a couple of 32 Fords and later flathead V8 Ford products. Building a complete car to his own design was something that sounded interesting and like a challenge.

Starting in late 1973 with a 1946 Ford frame and driveline purchased from Les Bennett Bill began what would take four years to build. He liked the style of the Excalibur and the familiarity of the Ford Flathead V8. The engine was moved 18" back in the frame and was coupled to a 39 Ford floorshift transmission and shortened shaft to the Ford rear end.

The body is riveted aluminum with a long hood complete with a leather strap to give it the extra expensive sporty look. The radiator grill shell in bright brass is a real eye catcher with a v8 cap emblem. Bill fashioned the brass himself and also made a bright brass windshield frame. The headlights are Model A and the wheels 35 Ford. The upholstery is leather taken from old school bus seats.

Bill says its lots of fun to watch people look at the car and wonder what it is. Especially the older men who are sure they know the car but can't quite remember but know they should. They could just look at the brass script name on the radiator and see that it's a "Homebilt".

This months  
 Blast from the  
 Past is from  
 August 1979 or  
 43 years ago

# Happy Birthday

## OCTOBER

**8th**  
FRANK QUILLIN

**2nd**  
JIM CLAUSEN

**3rd**  
BRENDA KNAPP

**9th**  
JASON ROBERSON

**10th**  
JACK ADAIR

**11th**  
DENISE WATERHOUSE

**13th**  
BRYAN WATERHOUSE

**14th**  
BEVERLY MACKEY

**16th**  
PAUL DOBBIN

**22nd**  
FORD EASTON

**24th**  
KEN HARPER

**25th**  
GINNY LYKE

**26th**  
BEN UMBERGER

**30th**  
RON EGGER

# CLASSIFIEDS

## SELL • SWAP • WANTED

Ads are free for two months to PIN-MAR members and friends.  
All ads need to be submitted to the editor no later than the 15th of each month



**For Sale: '62 Ford Thunderbird**  
Turquoise in color, convertible, Roadster. 390 CID, garage kept, new appraisal, good reviews!! Owned by Sherry's late father. We've kept it in stewardship for 25 years. Now it's time to downsize. Asking \$35K for more information  
*Call Randy @ 727-421-4155*

**Wanted:** Vintage Advertising Signs for the Garage. Gas and Oil, Soda, and or Clocks and Thermometers. Big or small. *Call Charles @727-515-9920*

**For Sale: 1958 Chevy 4 door Biscayne**, 283, Power glide, \$9K, *Call Tom @ 815-357-8365*

**For Sale: '60 Studebaker LARK VIII** four door "Susie"... Two owner 88,300 original miles, rebuilt flightomatic trans and brakes with nearly new tires and one repaint (Beige) \$8,900  
*Call John @ 727-522-1522*

**For Sale: '30 Model A** chassis. frame, engine and trans on 1940 steel wheels.  
*Call @ Jack 813-313-8338*



**For Sale: 1977 MGB Brookland Green**, original owner, and its all original with 41k miles drives great and can be yours for \$29,000 make an offer...  
*Call Frank @ 407-405-5241*



**For Sale: 1978 Corvette.**  
*Call @ Paul 610-703-1902*

## WANTED NEEDED

Currently we have an almost complete set of newsletters for the club. But we're missing a few and I need your help.

Below is a list of the missing newsletters. If anyone has a hard or digital copy of any of the missing newsletters, please get in touch with Mike Culotta.

- August 1979
- September 19 80
- November 1980
- September 1981
- December 1981
- January 1982
- February 1982
- April 1982
- May 1982
- September 1982
- October 1982
- November 1982

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**HUMPH**

I HAVE BLISTERS ON MY HANDS FROM THE BROOM.

TAKE THE CAR NEXT TIME!