

THE ROUTE 66 CAR CLUB IS A QUALIFIED 501c (3) CHARITY

## APRIL 2021

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

#### **PRESIDENT**

Julie Metzner 928-699-5804

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Matt Mirabile

#### **TREASURER**

Chuck Davis

#### **SECRETARY**

Alana Velez

**MEMBERSHIP** 

### **OPEN**

#### CRUISE DIRECTOR

John Borhek

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Suzanne Edmonds

#### WEBSITE EDITOR

Doug Bischoff

240-285-7776

#### **HISTORIAN**

Sean Evans

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Maggie Bortree Jerry McGlothin Jim Velez Robert Penhaker 928-527-6844 **MEETINGS** - General Membership meetings are scheduled for the second Wed. of the month. The next meeting is May12th at Quality Automotive. 6:00 pm. Bring your own chairs. We also have the option of attending remotely. Details inside.

MEMBERSHIP – We are still looking for someone to fill the very important (and very fun) Membership position. If you are wondering what's involved, and might be interested, please contact Julie KBM. We have 40 paid members.

**CRUISE DIRECTOR** – Have ideas for a club activity? Contact John at *RT66cruisedir@gmail.com* 

**WEB-SITE** – **Is currently under construction.** Our webmaster is Doug Bischoff at *route66carclubweb@gmail.com* 

**NEWSLETTER** – What have you done with YOUR car lately? Going to an event? Contact Suzanne at <u>edmonds02@msn.com</u>

**PHOTO FILE -** Post your Car and Car Club-related photos to our Route 66 Car Club Pictures Google Photo File. https://photos.app.goo.gl/DaKdg7F17Zsg8fMb6



## **Upcoming Route 66 Club Activities**

For more information or to answer any questions, please contact Julie KBM - 928-699-5804 rt66julie@gmail.com

1. Next membership Meeting - Quality Automotive - May 12th - 6:00 pm.

Remote attendance is now possible! To join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/246306013 You can also dial in using your phone. (For supported devices, tap a one-touch number below to join instantly.) United States: +1 (646) 749-3122- One-touch: tel:+16467493122,,246306013#

Access Code: 246-306-013

## 2. April 24th Club Cruise Event – Save the date and stay tuned for details!

## Other Activities

Fridays at Park Santa Fe Officially starting in May, but the early birds started attending in April – as weather permits.

APR 30 - May 1 - Cruisin Page Arizona - Page.

Cruise 5:30 p.m. Friday. Registration 2-5 p.m. Friday. Saturday Car Show - from 9 am – 4 pm City Park Cruisin Page Arizona - Page, Arizona (lasr.net)

### May 15th

- Flagstaff Cruisers Car Show 2021 Village center 9am 2 pm Flier attached. flagstaffcarcruisersclub.com
- Prescott Valley, AZ. Sally B's Cafe Tenth Spring Classic Car Show http://www.arizonacarshows.com/may/may15sally.pdf

June 11-12th 6th Annual Williams Historic Route 66 Car, Truck & Motorcycle **Show** https://www.williamshistoricroute66carshow.com/

August 7 – 8th Prescott Antique Auto Club 46th Annual Watson Lake Show Fliers attached at end of the newsletter, if they were available at press time.

# Club News

- 1. Our webmaster reports that the website make over is progressing. Thanks, Doug, for overseeing this for us. We know it's going to be grand.
- 2. Thunder over Flagstaff the show is still on. August-September timeframe.



# APRIL

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Kathy Strango

Annette Bular

Mac McCrorey

Candyce Howard

Binnie Zink

Robert Penhaker

Karen Evans

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

Steve & Kathi Westerdahl

Vínce & Ann Piper

Lance & Kathy McKee

Suzanne & Rich Edmonds

Alan & Alice St. Germain

What's under the hood! ...
By Julie KBM, President

## Ro te 66 Car CI b of Flagstaff.

The title is not a typo. What's missing?

It's "U". We're missing YOU! The club is not a club without you. Membership renewals are down and so is the attendance at the meetings both physical and virtual. We need you. We miss you.

Are we not doing what you joined the club for? Have we gone in a direction that is no longer what you wanted? Did we not meet your expectation of what you thought the club is about? Speak Up, I want to know what you want from this club. It's your club. Let's shape it into what you want. Please fill me in on how you see your club going forward. What events would you like to see? What do you want more of, or less of? Are we meeting the 4 pillars of our bylaws?

'Cause... if you leave it up to me, your President, who knows what crazy things I'll come up with. Remember, I drive the quirky little Oldsmobile with a tail, need I say more? I would like to hear from you. Please email, text or phone me, I'm usually available after 5:30 pm or on weekends. Hey, you can also come catch me at the Friday night Cruise-Ins. Bend my ear and let's talk about you and your club. Some of you know me and some I haven't had the pleasure to meet yet. Let's change that.

Well that's my thoughts from under the hood...

Julie

928-699-5804 or rt66julie@gmail.com



## ROUTE 66 EAST CRUISE - APRIL 24.

John has aranged a great cruise for us this month. Awesome locations and a great place to eat. See you there!

## Route 66 East (Saturday 4/24/2021)

- Meet in the Flagstaff Mall parking lot at 10:00 AM, Southeast corner, closest to N. Mall Way & W. Historic Rte. 66
- 2. Proceed East along W. Historic Rte. 66 to Interstate 40
- 3. (19.2 Mi.) Proceed East along Interstate 40 to Twin Arrows Trading Post Ruins
  - a. Photo-op if accessible without violating Private Property or Restricted
- 4. (31 Mi.) Proceed East along Interstate 40 to Two Guns
  - a. Photo-op if accessible without violating Private Property or Restricted
- 5. (71 Mi.) Proceed East along Interstate 40 to Jack Rabbit Trading Post
  - Souvenir stop and photo-op
- 6. (86 Mi.) Proceed West along Interstate 40 to Transcon Ln., exit and turn left on Transcon Ln.
- 7. Proceed South on Transcon Ln. for .75mi. to Old Hwy. 66
  - a. Possible photo-op at 9-11 Memorial
- 8. Proceed West on Old Hwy. 66 (Becomes E. 3rd St.) to N. Kinsley Ave
- 9. . (88 Mi.) Turn left on N. Kinsley Ave to "Standing on the corner" (N. Kinsley Ave & W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.)
  - a. Photo-op with cars and possible group photo
- 10. (89 Mi.) Proceed East on Old Hwy. 66 to La Posada for a no-reservations lunch
- 11. Self-paced return to Flagstaff

## Some of the places on the itinerary.











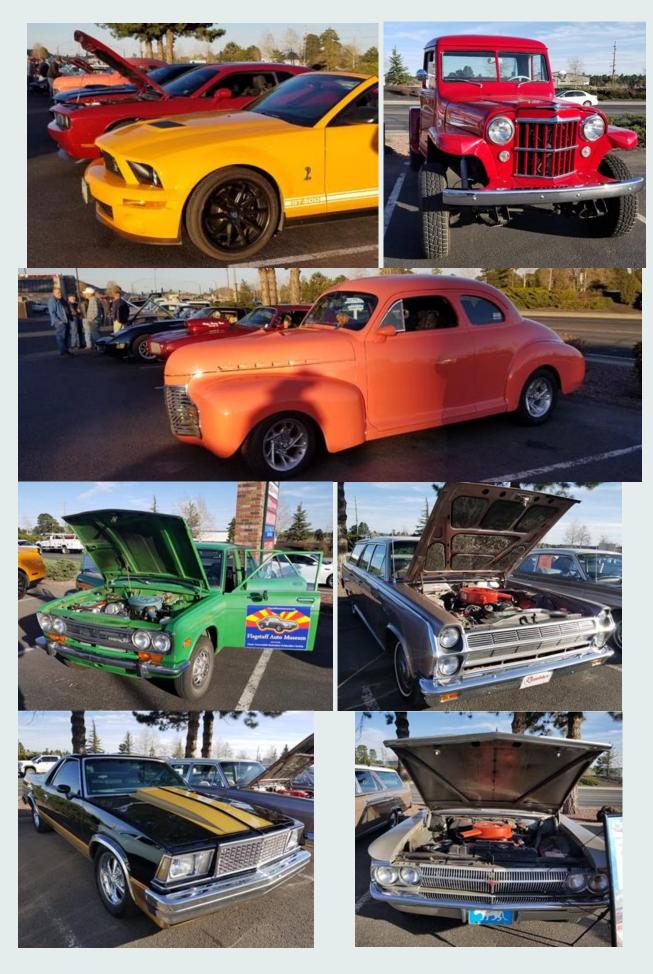
# Friday Night, Cruise Ins at Park Santa Fe.

The weather is getting nicer and the evenings are getting longer. All your rowdy friends are there.









# 40 Roll Rehab and Coffee April 17

GREAT turn out – tons of entuhusiam despite the day being a mite breezy. Talk about something for everyone – really some interesting vehicles.









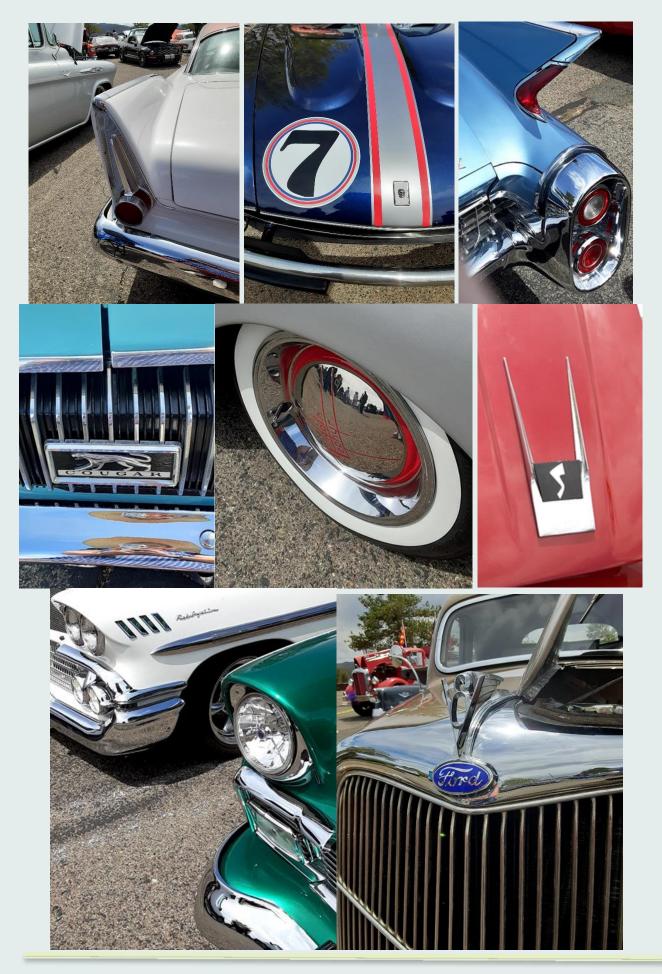
It was Bring a Brown Car to the Show Day. No...not really, but if it had been....we had it covered.

# 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CRUISE-IN FOR VETERANS - PRESCOTT - APRIL 17.

Over 600 cars attended. One of them was driven by our own Julie KBM. She provided the photos, along with this write up. Thanks, Julie!

Well, how do you take pictures of 600 cars? I'm too short to do the scope of the whole event. Wearing a dress, I was not going to climb up on something. So, as weird as I am, I took some different shots of what I found unique or not the usual stuff. There are some fins, fins and more fins, some chrome and more chrome, a shot of how low can you go and much more.





"Tell us about your car", someone asked the other day. OK...here you go.....

## THE STORY OF LOVELY RITA

By Suzanne Edmonds





Lovely Rita is my 1965 Ambassador 990 Cross Country wagon. It was ordered with the 327 engine and automatic transmission (3 speed Borg Warner), a 3:15 rear end, factory air conditioning, a console shifter and slim line front bucket seats. It was rather uniquely equipped, having the two-barrel Holley carburetor, manual brakes and manual steering. Twenty 990 Cross Country wagons were built with the floor shift console option. I am confident in saying only one of these was ordered with manual steering and brakes. Mine.

I have changed it to a 4-barrel car with dual exhaust, and have the factory correct equipment to convert it to power steering and brakes, but I like driving it as it has always been, at least for now.

I have all the original owner's documentation, and, after my father's death, we found he had kept the original window sticker. I was 4 years old when my parents took possession of the car on April 1, 1965 from Perry Motors, Bishop, CA. It was my mother's car. This was the car that took us to Disneyland, and piano lessons and through snowstorms. It was the fancier of our two Ramblers, (dad had a 1965 Classic wagon), and had factory air conditioning, so it was the one that carried us on the annual family summer vacation.

For a short while, in the mid-seventies, one of my sisters had it in Los Angeles, and then, when she got a new car, it came home and became mine in 1976.

It would never again be anyone else's Rambler but mine.





1969. I am the little girl in the white shirt.

1984. My dad at the wheel

The Rambler was my daily driver through high school and college. I logged many hours of mountain driving in it, and discovered it cornered well, although, as my dad pointed out, I was sure wearing out tires fast. He said

so with a smile, though, as he knew engine lurking under that pink paint. When I would come home on a break from college, he would borrow my keys to, "Take the old girl out and see how she drives." An hour later, with half a tank of gas gone, he would return with a comment of, "She still likes to go, doesn't she?"

I joined the AMCRC (American Motors Rambler Club) in 1980, when Renault came into the picture, because I figured parts would become harder to get. The car was still my daily driver, and I was a poor college student living on Top Ramen but I started gathering up parts, including NOS upholstery, carpeting, and a front bumper. I always had "fixing up the Rambler" on my radar.

I had other things on the radar, too, however, including more college and career. These led me to the other side of the country for a few years. The decision was made to leave the Rambler at home. She was still occasionally driven by my dad, but with each year that passed, those became more infrequent, until, finally, in 1988, with a little over 130,000 miles on the odometer, her registration was changed to non-operational, and she was placed in a carport to wait for the "one day" I swore would come – the "one day" when I could get her back on the road.

Twenty years past, and that day hadn't come. In the meantime, I had gotten married, and had a son and the Rambler sat in the carport, covered in spider webs and cottonwood seeds. My mother passed without ever seeing her beautiful car back on the road again, and my hopes of ever seeing it myself were dimming.

Then our son started noticing the old car whenever we visited my dad.

On one of these visits, in 2008, he insisted I sit in it with him. He had washed it off and cleaned the inside. I resisted at first but gave in to his request. I slipped into the driver's seat, over the old, yellow plaid seat covers that hid her elegant brown and pink buckets. I looked around, and, instead of the decay I had expected, felt as if I had slipped back twenty years. Despite the accumulation of debris on the outside, the interior was exactly as it had been when I was driving it every day. The dream was rejuvenated.



2009. Where she sat for 20 years.



Vintage 1976 JC Whitney seat covers.

Another year would pass before my husband and I would look at each other and say, "Let's bring the Rambler here and get it running." It was, as they say, easier said than done.

This was not a matter of putting a little gas in the car, airing up the tires and giving it a jump to drive it down the road. The years of sitting hadn't been kind. The head gasket had leaked coolant into the engine and several cylinders were seized. Rats and mice had done their damage to the wiring, carpeting and insulation. The leaded gas in the tank had turned into something resembling peach-scented turpentine. The interior smelled like mouse urine, particularly on a warm day, and the amount of rodent feces was truly remarkable. We later even found a dead rat in the exhaust manifold.

We started carefully taking the car apart. We should have bought stock in zip lock bags and Sharpie markers. We discovered that the old girl was nearly rust free. Despite the years of sitting in the Sierra Nevada snow and the Central Valley rain and fog, she only had slight surface rust in a few places. As I pulled the rotten carpet

out and scrubbed the decades of rodent urine from her floorboards, I marveled at how it looked like she had just come off the assembly line.

We did as much as we could ourselves. Local shops did the power train, the upholstery, the exhaust system, and the paint. My husband and I did the rest including a complete rewiring of the car and stripping it to the bare metal before painting. We rebuilt the starter, alternator, master cylinder, brakes including replacing all the lines, window regulators, electric tailgate motor, blower motor and most of the gaskets. The chrome was removed and polished. Insignia was removed, striped and repainted. My husband's Air Force training was very helpful particularly for fabricating and wiring. Restored these cars is not a matter of opening a catalog and ordering reproduction parts. Many things just aren't available, and you have to be creative.

Yes, I know how to take a tailgate off an old wagon. Putting it back on is even harder.





She is "mostly" stock. We had to change some things along the way, such as the wiring, which is an aftermarket harness modified to the car's particularities, and it has a modern fuse box. The engine ended up with a .030 overbore, with a 4-barrel Holley carburetor. Electronic ignition has been added, as has been a more reliable windshield washer pump. The clock was converted to quartz. The body and roof were repainted with stock colors, but with modern paint. It also has a dual Flowmaster exhaust system. It sits on radial tires instead of the original bias ply tires

The car was completed in June, 2011, twenty months after we brought her home on a trailer, and just in time for the AMO National Convention in nearby Sedona. We had set this show as a goal to attend as it was so close, and it gave us something to aim for. We had previously entered in the display only division but were encouraged by people at the show to enter the Rambler stock class. I figured, "What the heck?"

The "big pink wagon" was well received by the crowd, and we had a great time. We hadn't made plans to remain for the awards ceremony, and headed back up the hill. I didn't know until later that Rita had been awarded a Gold in the Junior Division with a score high enough to qualify her as a senior car.







A few months later, at the Flagstaff Route 66 Days Car Show, Rita earned another sort of praise. "This is exactly like my mother's car," a gentleman told me, tears welling in his eyes as he inspected every inch of my car. One of the very best parts of taking this car out is seeing smiles on the faces of people who haven't seen one in a while, and who fondly remember their own "family Rambler".

She was restored 10 years ago and started the entire classic car madness that my family has happily let infect us. Somewhere along the way, she's become famous in the Rambler world. She was featured in a restoration story in Hemmings Classic Car and had write up in Haggarty's magazine and the Arizona Republic. We drive it to the shows. The farthest away was Reno, which was a two day trip to the AMCRC National Meet. She was named best in class that day, (the station wagon class which is a BIG DEAL in the AMC world), and my dad was there to see her get the award. Most other events have been local shows, with several in Phoenix. We are proud to represent the brand, and to remind people of the independent company that ran with the big dogs for so long. I do have to explain that the 327 is NOT a Chevy engine fairly frequently, but I don't really mind... much.

She's still just my car. She belongs on the road, and I wear an ear-to-ear grin when I'm behind the wheel.

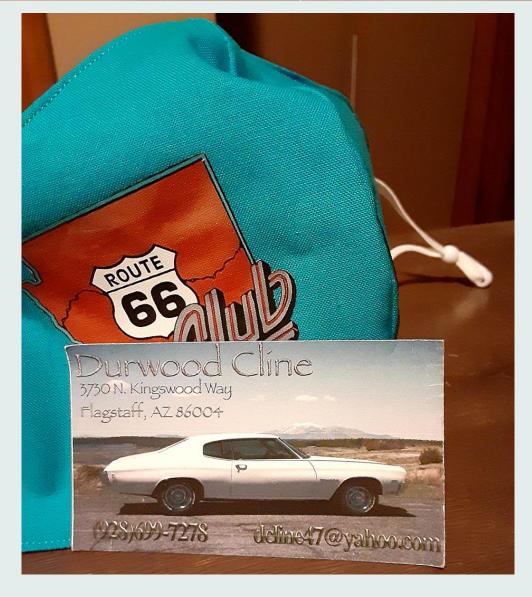


## Who is that Masked Man???

Before last year, who even thought of face masks as fashion statements, or a way to show support for a sports team, or celebrate a car club? Well, now we have the option of wearing our grills on our grills. Durwood Cline is making personalized facemasks for just \$10.00 each. Contact him for details. 928-699-

7278 dcline47@yahoo.com





Oportunities to get those cars out are increasing. I don't want to say it's feeling almost like normal....but it sorta is. Polish the chrone, dost off the cars, andenjoy the spring weather. If people are attending events, it's great to share the photos here, so send them in to your local newsletter editor. If you are driving to an event, check in to se if anyone else os heading that way, Everything's more fun with friends.

If you haven't renewed or are thinking about joining, here's another great, big......





Bring your Classic Cruiser, Hot Rod, Rat Rod or Special Interest Car

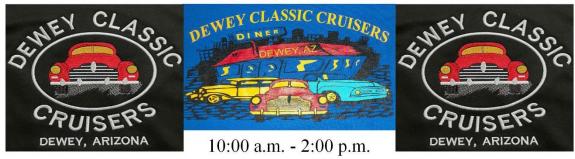
# Sally B's Cafe

7680 East Highway 69 Prescott Valley, Az (928) 772-2053

# Tenth Spring Classic Car Show ALL ARE INVITED

In front of Sally B's Cafe located in the Safeway Shopping Center

Saturday May 15, 2021



## Hosted By Dewey Classic Cruisers

There will be Best In Show, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place, Peoples Choice, Sports Car, Best Truck, Best Rat Rod, Best 1920-1929, Best 1930-1939, Best 1940-1949, Best 1950-1959, Best 1960-1969, Best 1970-1979, Best 1980-1989, Best 1990-2021, Best Low Rider, Custom, Survivor, and Motorcycle, Kids Pick Trophies awarded. All Class winners shall be determined by participants and/or general public. All trophy winners must be present when award is announced or alternate winner will be determined.

# Ten Dollars (\$10:00) Cash and Five Cans Food Entry 50/50 Raffle

Items of inte
All vehicle owners

icket.

ill receive a

\$3.00 COUPON Good at Sally B's Cate!

Show contact Larry (928) 632-4537

Dewey Classic Cruisers is a not-for-profit corporation registered with State of Arizona Corporation Commission. A portion of all proceeds go to help Yavapai County Food Bank and Prescott Valley Bird Busters. Canned goods are always welcome.

http://www.arizonacarshows.com/may/may15sally.pdf







# 46th Annual PRESCOTT ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB

# WATSON LAKE SHOW

CAR SHOW, TROPHIES & RAFFLES
PARTS EXCHANGE & SWAP MEET
OLD ENGINE FIRE-UP AREA
FOR-SALE CAR CORRAL

WATSON LAKE PARK, PRESCOTT, ARIZONA SATURDAY – SUNDAY AUGUST 7 - 8, 2021

### **EVENT TIMES AND GENERAL ADMISSION**

- 7am to 4pm Saturday & Sunday. Car Shows from 8am to 3pm.
  - Parts Exchange/Swap Meet & Raffle prizes both days.
- Wristband event: General admission only \$5 per person for both days!
  - 15 and under w/adult free admission. Free Parking! (see reverse)



WWW.PAACAZ.COM



# ROUTE 66 CAR CLUB OF FLAGSTAFF



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the automobile hobby. Owning an antique/classic/sports car or specialty vehicle is not a requirement for membership.

Date:_		_			Membersh	nip: New		Rene	wal 🗖
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For more information contact Julie KBM - 928-699-5804 <a href="mailto:rt66julie@gmail.com">rt66julie@gmail.com</a>