

# Tire Tracks

## Sedona Car Club

Photo: Jim Thomas

May 2023

Vol. 42

No. 5

## President's Letter

Happy May,

Well, good weather is here and I think that is great. We had a good way to kick off the warmer weather, with our car display. It was a wonderful morning, with a lot of great cars, and even live music. Maybe we'll make it an annual event. Who knows?

Rachel and I had an unfortunate ending to April. Our incoming water line broke and it is taking a long time to get it replaced. In the meantime I have to turn off the water at our main shutoff valve whenever we aren't using water. That is quite a chore. Oh well, we'll get it fixed and then we'll be able to enjoy the summer. That will, of course, include some RV trips, including one half way across the country to visit our daughter in Arkansas.

Roger Naylor, the well known author who writes about Arizona, will be our guest speaker at our General Meeting on May 9th. He has spoken to our club in the past and his presentation was very good.

By the way, Roger Naylor will have his books available for sale by cash or check at the meeting. His books are:

*Awesome Arizona* \$18

*Arizona's Scenic Roads and Hikes* \$23

*Arizona State Parks* \$23

*Arizona Kicks on Route 66* \$18

*The Amazing Kolb Brothers of Grand Canyon* \$16

*Crazy for the Heat: Arizona Tales of Ghosts, Gumshoes, and Bigfoot* \$13

*Death Valley: Hottest Place on Earth* \$18

I hope you will be at our meeting.

Our big deal is, of course, our car show. Plans for the big day are moving right along and we are receiving entries already. It's going to be a great show.

See you on the 9th!



# April Club Calendar



Dave Price	6
Rosie Ridrigues	8
Susie Naumann	13
Cheryl Ossenfort	15
Lynda McEvoy	20
Joannie Natasi	21
Marvin White	23
Amy Duncan	26
Bob Duncan	27
Rick Brothers	29
Steve Van Derveer	31

## *May Anniversaries*

Susan and David Price	1
Mary and Joe Tulley	5
Deena and Elliot Garcia	17
Sandy and Chris Leon	23
Jane and Bob Tusso	23
Rachel and David Lombardi	27

### Editor's Note

**Keep your story suggestions coming.** Your story could be about a special car; a favorite drive or any other car- related tale.. Send stories or ideas to: [raymond.michalowski@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.michalowski@gmail.com)

**Thanks to Jim Thomas** for technical help and banner photo.

## Next Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 9

Refreshments: Angela Thomas  
Susie and Noel Naumann

**May 13 – Mothers Day  
Lunch, Juniper Bar and  
Grill, VOC**

**May 15 – Haven of  
Cottonwood, Display of  
SCC member cars for  
residents**

Want to participate in club  
events? Contact

**Craig Haberler:**

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cell/text (415 ) 385-6937

## SCC Custom Logo Wear

Lands End Has Custom  
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Car Club Logo at:

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store/sedona\\_car\\_club/](https://business.landsend.com/store/sedona_car_club/)

# Upcoming Activities

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 9**

**Guest Speaker:**

**Roger Naylor**

**Wildflowers, Wild Horses, and Waterfalls**

Authors books for sale for cash or check

## SAVE THE DATES

**May 20** – Verde Valley Vettes Car Show, Larry Green Chevrolet

**June 13** – Member Picnic, Dead Horse Ranch State Park. Meet at Navoti Rd., 11:00 AM, Depart at 11:30. Please RSVP if you plan to attend – [craigster62@sbcglobal.net](mailto:craigster62@sbcglobal.net)

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**October 14** - 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Sedona Car Club Car Show  
Sedona Airport Featured Car: Corvette

Find info here:

[www.sedonacarclub.com/2023-carshow.html](http://www.sedonacarclub.com/2023-carshow.html)

## Member Story –Chris Leon

### *Life with a Graduate*

I became an Alfista in 1988. My 1988 Alfa Romeo Graduate was my first “new” car, and dutifully served as my daily driver from 1988 until I purchased my Honda S2000 in 2005. After I retired from practicing law in 2019 my Alfa stepped up and reclaimed its role as my daily driver.

#### **The Purchase.**

Looking back, the decision to purchase my Alfa was simple and fortuitous. During the first five years after graduating law school, I had accomplished a lot---I convinced the love of my life to marry me, managed to pay down a chunk of my student loans and bought a house. From time to time, I dreamed of purchasing many different cars, but I was (and continue to be) a conservative consumer and I could not pull the trigger. Fortunately, one evening after a long day

at work, a senior partner needed a ride home. I offered, he accepted and off we went. The next morning the Senior Partner came into my office and thanked me for the ride home. He then closed my office door and offered some “friendly advice” that would change my garage forever—If I wanted to be promoted to partner, I needed a more suitable vehicle. It was certainly a different time back then. Today, a comment like that would trigger some sort of associate uprising and maybe even criticism on social media. Nevertheless, this was the “nudge” I needed---I purchased my Alfa the following weekend. I suspect my Alfa was not the “more suitable” vehicle the Senior Partner intended that I purchase. The Senior Partner never rode in my Alfa and never asked for a ride home again. However, I was

promoted to partner two years later.

I purchased my Alfa with the expectation that I would own the car until it could roll no more—after all, it cost me a whopping \$15,675.00 (the sticker price was \$17,455, I checked the invoice and sticker). I decided to “invest” in an accessory that I thought was practical and essential for long term ownership. As a result, I did not purchase the alloy wheels, tuned exhaust or wood steering wheel that I yearned for--- I then thought that I would surely purchase these items down the road. Instead, I purchased a hard top (which was last installed on the car in 1990 and has spent the past 33 years in the basement). The alloy wheels, tuned exhaust and wood steering wheel have yet to be purchased, but it has only been 35 years—maybe next year!

## **Memorable Events.**

There are many great and memorable road trips throughout the South and Mid-Atlantic, including the Blue Ridge Parkway and Natchez Trace. I will share with you now the event that tops the list. This event secured my Alfa’s place in the garage and as part of our family. Back in the late 90’s, my wife, children and I planned a beach vacation with my brother and sister and their families. As I often experienced during my career, planning a vacation always resulted in a significant client calling me at the last minute with an urgent matter that wreaked havoc on our vacation plans. My wife and children headed to the beach this time without me. I would join everyone a day later.

After completing my work, I left the office and headed to the beach. I stopped for gas and unfortunately, my Alfa would not start. After an hour

After an hour or so I diagnosed and remedied the problem. Shortly after resuming my journey to the beach, I realized that I was not wearing my wedding ring. I had removed it to fix my car. I decided that I must have lost it in the parking lot of the gas station. I arrived that evening at the beach hoping that my wife would not notice my missing wedding ring and already planning to stop at the gas station on my return trip and conduct a thorough search for my ring. The next morning, we all gathered for breakfast. My brother asked me in front of our families if I by chance was missing anything of value. He then presented me with my wedding ring. After some spirited joking he explained that he was returning from his morning walk on the beach and a spot on the hood of my car sparkled in the morning sun and caught his eye. When he looked closely, he realized the glistening spot was my wedding ring—my wedding ring was resting in the louver between the windshield and hood. While repairing my car I removed my ring and placed it on the hood, thinking I would surely see it there before driving off.

My wedding ring had travelled 200+ miles on the hood of my Alfa. Since then, the Alfa holds a special place in our family.

### **Present Day.**

I do not know the exact mileage on my Alfa. The odometer stopped working on a regular basis in 1992. I conservatively estimate the Alfa's mileage between 150,000 and 175,000 miles. I have driven the Alfa on ice, through snowstorms and during torrential downpours. The car has the original clutch, shocks, rotors and many other components. I have seriously considered restoring the car, perhaps reupholstering the seats, upgrading the top and/or repairing a couple of dents and dings, including my son's first name which he carved, as a young child, on to the lower hood establishing his ownership (or so he thought) to the Alfa. Perhaps it is my frugal spirit or the fact my Alfa offers the simple comforts and familiarity of an old shoe, but I like my Alfa the way it is. Working on and driving my Alfa brings back great memories like a cherished photo album.

# General Information

## Club Meetings

Meetings of the Sedona Car Club are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sedona Library except in June when our meeting is the Annual Picnic and in December when it is the Annual Christmas Party. We do not meet in July.

**Please attend and bring a car-loving friend.**

## Board Meetings

The Board meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Christ Lutheran Church. All members are invited to attend.

## Tire Tracks

Tire Tracks is published eleven times a year for information on events and activities of interest to members. The editor is RAY MICHALOWSKI. Look for it on the club website before the monthly meeting.

Submissions are due by the 1st of each month. Email them to: [Raymond.Michalowski@gmail.com](mailto:Raymond.Michalowski@gmail.com)

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