

Tire Tracks

Sedona Car Club

Photo: Jim Thomas

March 2024

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No. 3

President's Letter

Hello Members

It's the end of an era in the Hallford household. Yes, I've finally, successfully sold the Porsche 928. It is leaving this week to begin its new life on the East Coast. After nearly ten years of ownership, countless hours spent under the car, and way too much money spent, we are parting company. There will be some sad days for one member of the family, the other one is simply overjoyed.

How did I achieve this feat, through a website called *Bring a Trailer*. They have become one of the largest car auctions sites on the Web. They sell close to 100 cars a day. I highly recommend their services if you're considering parting with your beloved treasure sitting in the garage. The process of getting your vehicle listed is straightforward. First, go to their website and apply to sell your vehicle, Yes, they do reject some cars. Once accepted, submit as many pictures as

possible, the more the better. A video is also highly encouraged. They will work with you on the pictures and the write-up. All this isn't free, I think I paid \$90 to list my vehicle. The auction lasts for one week. You should stay involved with your ad, answering questions, and replying to comments daily. The real excitement begins the last five minutes of the auction, where the serious bidders start bidding and bidding and bidding...you get the idea. Afterwards the winner and the seller receive each other's contact information, and work out the payment and shipping. A very straightforward process for each party. One I highly recommend for either buying or selling.

I've been asked (told) to take a break from another hobby car. But there are so many temptations out there! It will not be easy. So if I look a little down in the dumps, this is probably why. Just bear with me, given time I'll bounce back.

Don





March Birthdays

Claudia Converse	1
Terry Guild	1
Bruce Huelat	1
Jan Stalcup	6
James Converse	6
Gail Bangiola	10
Nancy Michels	15
Deena Garcia	18
Jim Warren	21
W.M. Stalcup	26

March Anniversaries

Dannette Smith & Darren	
	Lowes 11
Zelda & Patrick Tucci	23

Editor's Note

Keep your story suggestions coming.

Send stories or ideas to:

raymond.michalowski@gmail.com

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

March Events

Next Regular Meeting:

Tuesday, March 12

Snacks by Terri Huelat & Sherri Wadsack

Coffee: Don Halford

Saturday March 16

Sedona St. Patrick's Day

Parade 10:30 AM

Meet at overflow lot, Sedona Heritage Museum

No-host lunch following at Jose's

For Sale

1999 Porsche Boxster

34,000 pampered miles

\$10,000

Located Phoenix.

Contact:

Raymond.michalowski@nau.edu

for details and photos



Upcoming Activities

Next Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 12
7:00 PM, Sedona Library

Speaker: Bruce Huelat
Touring the Lucid Factory

Save the Dates

Sunday April 7
Copperstate 1000 Sendoff
Tempe Diablo Stadium

Saturday April 20th
Highway Pick Up

Saturday April 27
10am to 12pm: Cars and Coffee Part II
Reprise of last year's successful car display at
St. Vianni Catholic Church, 10 AM-12 PM

Monthly Cars and Coffee in the Verde Valley

1st Saturday - Firecreek Cafe, Mingus Ave, Cottonwood
2nd Saturday - SuzyQ Market, Main St, Cottonwood
3rd Saturday - Annie's Restaurant, Cottonwood
LAST Saturday - The Collective, VOC Sedona

Overnight Adventure to Pima Air Museum and Karchner Caverns

Craig Haberler

Our six-pack of Sedona Car Club members (Craig Haberler and Joe Veliz, Phil and Sharrie Wadsack, Angela and Jim Thomas) had a terrific time visiting the Pima Air Museum and Karchner Caverns in February. The weather turned out even better than expected! We drove separately to Tucson and the Pima Air and Space Museum, where we enjoyed a pleasant lunch together at their Flight Grill. In addition to the food, the Grill provided comfortable viewing of many aircraft displayed outside on the museum's extensive grounds (approximately 400 aircraft across 80 acres).

There are many types of military aircraft on display inside 6 hangars, including 3 hangars dedicated to WWII. If you've never been there, it is definitely worth the drive. Every aircraft had a nearby display marker identifying the plane's build year and manufacturer, as well as the years that particular type of plane was in service. Overall, the museum included everything from a Wright Flyer to the prototype

Boeing 787 Dreamliner with ANA tail-marking. I was especially interested in seeing the 1960's Presidential Jet VC137-B, known as Air Force One when the President was on board. In 1981 this plane was designated Freedom One, when it brought 52 hostages home from Iran. Ten years later it returned American POWs home after Desert Storm.

Of course, the most numerous of all were the military aircraft from WWI, WWII, and subsequent conflicts. It was eye-opening to see the various gunnery location positions – front, back, underneath (belly), even on the sides of some of the aircraft! Most of those positions looked quite uncomfortable, some had just a vinyl "shelf" for a service man to sit on. We didn't see any cup-holders in case anyone got thirsty on the missions! Seating was primitive in most all of the planes. The large holds in the rear usually had shelf-seating made of wooden boards, and many of the older planes had no insulation. Those aircraft weren't built for comfort. We saw uniforms with "Blue Bunny" fuzzy

wool one-piece undergarment, and then the several layers of clothing that would go on top to protect those aboard from freezing in the sometimes -60F below temperatures onboard! One of the indoor hangars had a unique display of portable metal/canvas Nissen sleeping huts that could house up to 6 soldiers in each. At a moments notice, bedding was rolled up, simple frame-beds were quickly dismantled, stowed in cargo holds of the aircraft or trucks, and on to the next location.

We had a great dinner that evening at a tiny, local Mexican restaurant in Benson, *Mi Casa*. It is run by husband (our server) and wife (head chef), and only a few others in 2 small dining rooms which seated maybe 25 people altogether. The food was fantastic, and much attention was given to presentation – all of our plates were different shapes, and each “fried tortilla” was different too – cactus, coyote, road runner, etc. Dessert was a delicious carrot cake with cream cheese sauce, yummmm! Our stay at The Comfort Inn in Benson right off the I-10 was relatively quiet, and we had a hearty breakfast in their lobby/room early

early the next morning.

We departed the hotel, which is only 9 miles from Kartchner Caverns. We spent some time before our Cavern Tour in their wonderful Visitor Center. We saw all types and sizes of stalactites (hanging from the Ceiling), stalagmites (originating from the Ground), Curtains, and Soda Straws – the longest straw was 21 feet!

The most interesting part of Kartchner was hearing about the history – how it was discovered in 1974 by two college buddies Gary Tenen and Randy Tufts, on the property of Mr. and Mrs. James Kartchner (Mr. Kartchner was a retired educator and rancher). The cavern they discovered started literally as a “hole in the ground.” Just imagine their wonderment once they started poking their heads around further inside!

The owners kept the discovery a secret for 11 years, until they found trusted experts, funding, and political support to help turn their discovery into an interesting, well-preserved State Park that is enjoyed by thousands of visitors each year.

Our tour of the Rotunda and Throne Room Tour lasted close to 2 hours, accompanied by our wonderful guide, Melinda. My favorite room of all was the Throne Room, which contained the giant Kubla Khan, tallest and most massive column in Arizona. There was a light show as well, depicting various forms, features and colors contained in the Throne Room. Fascinating and entertaining!

The Caverns are kept pristine, due to strict rules about what

visitors can take inside

The Cavern temperature averages 72 degrees and 99% humidity year round. The staff regularly deep-clean (with tweezers!) any human hair, skin flakes, clothing lint and other debris so that foreign/oils do not permeate the natural and sensitive environment inside.

In sum, it was a fine expedition to the air museum and caverns. One that left me with a lot of great memories.



Pima AM - warplane



Pima AM - warplane

The Friendly Skies



AF-1



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 Wednesday 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.

We encourage member stories. Send your submissions to:
Raymond.Michalowski@gmail.com

Car Sales Advertisements: Only those sponsored by members will be considered for inclusion in **TireTracks**