

"Don't find fault, find a remedy."

(Henry Ford)



THIS DATE IN HISTORY *

Mar 1, 1897

The Winton Motor Carriage Company is organized.

Mar 2, 1966

The 1,000,000th Mustang is produced.

Mar 2, 1990

At the Bonneville Salt Flats, a ZR-1 Corvette breaks the 24-hr average speed record set 50 yrs before by Ab Jenkins in the Mormon Meteor III.

Mar 5, 1927

The LaSalle (companion car to Cadillac) is formally introduced.

Mar 9, 1987

Lee Iacocca announces Chrysler's purchase of American Motors.

Mar 24, 1974

The NCRS is organized in Angola, IN.

* from "Automobile History Day By Day" by Douglas A. Wick

OUR FIRST AMELIA EXPERIENCE

Our first trip to Amelia can only be summed up as "terrific", "fabulous", "wow" and maybe most important "worth the drive".

The trip started with a 15 hr drive, pulling the little trailer with our '54 Corvette, which was invited to be part of the Fiberglass Sports Cars class. Arriving at Amelia Island (just over the GA line, NE of Jacksonville) on Thursday afternoon, we dropped the trailer at the reserved parking area, checked out the car, and then headed over to the Ritz. Although our budget didn't extend to actually staying at the Ritz, we enjoyed the beautiful grounds and got ourselves acquainted with the layout.

The first person we met was an older gentleman named **Jack Griffith** who directed us to the room where we picked up our Registration packet. (Only later did we realize that Jack is one of the founders of the Concours.) The goodie bag for Concours participants was unlike anything we had ever seen. More than 10 lbs of magazines and some liquid refreshment all wrapped in a leather duffel bag with the Concours insignia. Now we get a lot of Car mags, but there were ones I had never seen before.

On Friday, we spent a cool, overcast morning at the Amelia Island Plantation resort, where the CCCA was holding a Grand Classic and where we met up with a number of friends and acquaintances – including **Bill & Chris Snyder, Pat & Bill Meyer, Bill Davis, Chris & Kathleen Koch, Woody Rohrbach** (with my favorite Caddy) and **Dan Hanlon**. The cars were parked as though they had just arrived for a picnic under the trees dripping with Spanish moss.



From there we drove back to the Ritz where the cars for the RM Auction were being previewed on the back lawn, while the new car sponsors were showcasing their new models (and offering test drives) on the front lawn. Dan acted as our "chauffer" in a test drive of the Maybach limo, and then went on to take the Mercedes SLR McLaren out for a spin. Meanwhile Jags, Bentleys, Rolls, and Mercedes of every kind were coming and going, along with older cars arriving for the Concours, and race cars being unloaded – and in some cases, being driven in. Thinly controlled automotive pandemonium of the very best kind.

Saturday was auction day, so we each picked out our favorite car. We all agreed that the '34 LaSalle convertible coupe was a pretty little thing, even if it's not a Full Classic®. There were a number of nice Chrysler's, including a '32 Imperial convertible sedan that almost made its way into Dan's garage. The '54 Corvette in the auction was a surprise and a mystery as it was auctioned with no VIN tag (and sold for an incredible price to boot). Hmmm. Oh, and we also got to see two cars (a Packard & a Duesenberg) auctioned for over \$1.5 million apiece.

Sunday of course was Show Day, and also the time change weekend, so when we lined up at 6am, it was really, really dark with very heavy dew. We and a bunch of other car owners got to check out their lights, defoggers and windshield wipers. Still, the staff did a great job of getting all the cars on the field and we had a great view of the cars rolling in. When we first received our invitation, we wondered how Bill Warner would fill a class with fiberglass sports cars. Sure, along with the Corvette, there's the Kaiser Darrin, but what else? Well, as Amelia is well known for, Bill assembled a class unlike any we have ever seen before. Ever hear of a Victress? An Edwards? A Maverick? A Glasspar? These



were all sports cars custom built out of fiberglass in the 50's, usually in Southern California. Maybe 3, maybe 10 of each were made. The Maverick (shown above), which won Best in Class, is one of five built and the only one known to exist. (It was a strange feeling knowing that our Corvette (shown at left), which is usually considered a "rare" car in any show, was actually the hi-volume entry.) To highlight this special Feature Class, we all were invited to drive by the reviewing stand for pictures and color commentary. Way cool.

BACK AT THE SHOP

The '68 Mustang is blocked and heading for the paint booth.



BACK AT THE SHOP

Chuck assembles the Rally Pack for the '66 Mustang.



AMELIA (continued)

If you take our Class, and multiply it by 32 you get an idea of how many interesting, unique and fabulous cars were at Amelia this year. And unlike most other Concours, Amelia has over 7 Classes just for race cars from all periods. I don't know or follow Vintage racing, but it was sure neat to hear them light those babies up drive up for their awards.

All in all, with the gorgeous grounds, the beautiful weather, the ocean breeze, the great staff and the wonderful field of cars, Amelia is unlike any Concours we have had the pleasure to attend and is most definitely **worth the drive.**

(Editor's note: More Amelia pictures have been posted at: <http://ckautollc.photosite.com/CarCollection/AmeliaIslandConcours/>)



CK Auto, LLC.
9241 Ravenna Rd
Unit C-12
Twinsburg, OH 44087

Phone
330.963.0990

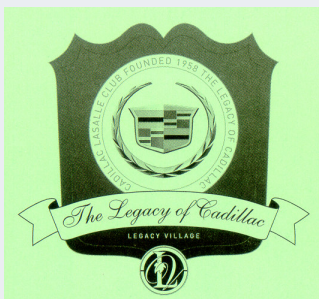
Fax
330.963.0992

E-mail
info@ckautollc.com

We're on the Web!
www.ckautollc.com

Subscribe:
<http://www.ckautollc.com/reg.HTML>

Attention Cadillac Enthusiasts!



The Western Reserve Chapter of the Cadillac LaSalle Club presents THE LEGACY OF CADILLAC Car Show at Legacy Village

Sunday June 3, 2007

Entry forms to register your Cadillac or LaSalle are available from CK Auto or you can download from the web at www.ckautollc.com.



ARE YOU A MEMBER OF YOUR LOCAL AACA CHAPTER?

There are lots of good reasons to join!

Since Chuck and I have taken on Webmaster & Newsletter Editor duties with our local AACA Chapter, we thought we should extend an invitation to join! The Northern Chapter has a great schedule of members-only activities planned for 2007. It's a great time to get involved at the local level for lots of reasons:

- Learn about many different automakers and marques
- Attend car-related events in the Northern Ohio area all year long
- Receive the Northern Exposure Newsletter (The January issue had a 2-page spread on **Don & Judy Brehm's** Route 66 Tour in their Mercedes.)
- Post Want Ads or For Sale ads for free in the Newsletter and website
- Tap the resources of Club members about car Marques that interest you
- Be a resource for other people who have a similar car to yours
- Get in on special members-only events like the "Old Muscle/New Muscle Garage Tour" of private local collections and tours of local automotive sites
- Learn about AACA judging standards and how to become an AACA judge
- Contribute your energy & enthusiasm to Club events like the Annual Car Show at Hale Farm & Village
- And of course – HAVE FUN!

The prerequisites are easy: membership in the National AACA and an interest in old cars. Dues are \$15/yr. For a membership application and to view the Club's Newsletter, visit: www.aacanorthernchapter.com.

