



Cruisin' Couples January 2012 Newsletter

A message from the president

There is TIME FOR EVERYTHING. A TIME TO LIVE AND A TIME TO DIE, A TIME TO SPEAK AND A TIME TO BE QUIET, A TIME TO BE SAD AND A TIME TO BE GLAD. Now Is A TIME FOR US TO MOVE ON! We will leave behind several members who regrettably again have decided to leave the club. That is their option. Continuing the club, and it's traditions is not dependent on those who leave but rather those who are proud to be part of THE CLUBS HISTORY AND TRADITIONS and With your help we will make 2012 the Cruisin' Couples' best year ever.

We will have a 2012 car show and it can be outstanding in every way as it has been for 11 years. Although, we can't insist that anyone work at our annual car show I am hopeful that the tradition that I am so proud to be a part of will inspire each of us to find it worth the effort. It is our only source of charitable giving and more importantly it is at center of our mission to 'Preserve these works of Art and the Hobby of Cruising'. It's my belief that it is only fair that as a club that enjoys 50 shows and cruises that others do for our entertainment that our doing a single show is doing our part.

Fun Is what we do

If the day at St Augustine for "The Platters" concert was any preview of how much fun the Cruisin' Couples can have you gotta believe we know how to have fun. There were 8 couples in costume, smiling, laughing, joking, and even dancing. It was a time to relax and enjoy trusted friends.

We followed up with the Paul Todd concert on the 21st at Mid Florida Christian Church

where 20 of us occupied the entire front 3 rows for a great uplifting show with not only Christmas music but some Rock & Roll as well. The spirit was all around us and we agreed to come back in the spring for another Todd concert playing 7 Keyboards for each song.

But nothing gave us more joy than when on the proceeds of our car show allowed Santa on the night before Christmas, Santa along with his elves to pay a visit to one of the club's adopted families. Santa was greeted by a 67 year old grandma who lost her daughter in May and now she has taken on the task of raising her two grandsons, ages 4 and 7. Santa's entry the home with a sack of toys, greeted by the 4 year old's comment; "you aren't supposed to come until I'm asleep." Santa explained he came early because the home had no fireplace chimney so he had to come when Grandma could open the door.

The toys were opened with delight as only a child knows and when the elves brought two bicycles thru the front door the full impact of the gesture was realized. But the gift for a 67 year old Grandma of a ladies 26 inch 18 speed Schwinn bicycle so she could ride with the kids and keep them safe was simply over the top!

I'm proud of what this club stands for, for what it does, and stubbornly insistent that we do things better than most. I hope that each of you will offer honest positive input about what we do, where we go and do your part to make the experience one you want to be a part of and share with others.

2011 was a good year and in some ways our best. So thank you to those who supported the mission we are proud to be part of.

Submitted by Kent Thall, President & Founder.

When You Reach the End of Your Rope ... Tie a Knot in it and Hang On!



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We have to schedule our 2012 **organizational** meeting ASAP. I can do a cook out and at my house Sunday the 15th at say 2PM if that works for everyone, LET Darlene KNOW, please!

Topics on the Agenda

- ⤴ Election of Officers & Directors
- ⤴ Car Show Trophy Samples & Theme
- ⤴ Associates memberships Idea
- ⤴ 2012 Car Show Budget
- ⤴ Add any matters we need to address.

Cruise-In the 2nd Saturdays

Brand New cruise sets the stage for 2012.



It starts January 14th at the Mexican restaurant where the New York Cafe' used to be

Events Calendar 2012

JANUARY

January 4th: "Associates Presentation" presentation Inverness at the Mopar Dealership at 7PM New Retro Car proposal

January 14th Club Cruise-In at JALISCO's Leesburg 6 to 9 DJ Music, 3 gift cards and 3 trophies awarded at 8:30.

January 15th: Membership Meeting

and cook out at Kent's home 2PM.

January 28th: 24K Gold concert with 125 performers in costume presenting all of your favorites from the 50's and 60's

FEBRUARY

February 11th Club Cruise at JALISCO's 6 to 9 with 3 specialty trophies, a \$50 Gift card and 2 Free Dinners and Music & Videos on our 100" screen.

February 25th: Elvis Concert and Car Show 10 to 3 in Kissimmee, Fl., Only \$10 Registration fee. Trophies and 2 tickets to the Concert included. If you like we can stick around for the Old Town Cruise starting at 5 to 8:30.

MARCH

March 3rd: The Assembly Of God Church Annual show in Apopka with (12) \$100 cash awards, Plus Trophies, Food and Live music.

March 10th & 11 "Cars Of Dreams" in N. Palm Beach. It's a once a year event. \$20 pre-registration includes 2 passes to both Museums and the car show. This is a once a year event with over 1000 cars, Trophies, 50/50, door prizes, and DJ Music. *If you want to come the night before there's a great little Cruise Saturday night. I have stayed at a nice reasonable priced Motel just a few miles from the event.* This is a MUST SEE and a great kick off for our first Overnight Event of the New Year.

March 11th: The club Cruise at JALISCO with feature Fuzzy as DJ! He'll choose the

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music and have trivia prizes including a sponsors \$ cash award and of course the 3 trophies, \$50 Gift Certificate and 2 free dinners and great food at 60's prices...

March 30th: Spring Turkey Rod show at Daytona Speedway. Playground area parking and A Lap around the Speedway track for \$25 pre-registered cars.

Darlene is filling in as events director...

Looking Down the Road

*In the case of the club, **Size** does matter...I know you are still willing & able to perform...so age won't hold you back but Rust might. So let's do it one more time! As the song says: "I ain't as good as I once was but I'm as good once as I ever was. "*

Our membership is aging and was becoming stale in some ways. Starting in January we will be energized and begin welcoming new Members on our way to adding 5 new Members by the end of January. Our first new members will be joining us at the January meeting the 15th; and we welcome Gene & Carol VanOrden who will once again be members of the Cruisin' Couples.

Pulling in the same direction will make it possible to bring new ideas and energy to the club. I'm hopeful that you will join me in welcoming our proposed new Secretary /Treasurer David and Valanna McCurry have

agreed to run for those positions. My hope is to have a complete Slate of Officers for election at the Jan 15th meeting. We still need a volunteer for a Membership/and/or Cruise Director. Obviously double-up as Cruise Director temporarily ...is no big deal. Thanks Darlene You are already weeks ahead!

Ordinary or Extraordinary?

Our By-Laws states the Car Show is not an Option so the question is do we just do an ordinary Show or do another of our Extraordinary Shows? It's going to be up to the members to buy into the mission. I'm confident that majority of the 2012 paid members will decide to go forward and approve a Budget for 2012 accordingly.

Things we might want to consider

Consideration of "Associate Memberships" For those folks who are fun to be with but drive one of the American made retro cars, like the new Camaro, Mustang or Challenger? It could help us with attendance and the Car Show and events. Moreover, it may bring some actual members into the club who have a 25 year old car or want one. This way they would be familiar with what we do and where we go and be excited by the variety of what we do.

If you have an Idea for the 2012 Car Show theme &/or Trophy let us know what you have in mind. A sample trophy would be nice but a sketch might convey your idea.

The theme of Best of Times was born out of the Clock Trophy we did for our tenth anniversary show. The running out of gas inspired the Gas Pumps and ultimately the

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Favorite ride trophy. The Drive -In trophy "A Blast from the Past", and so on... What do you have for a theme?

Give it some thought and likewise I will be thinking and coming up with a sample as well. Maybe it would be good to have three different trophy ideas. One for the 6 Best of Shows, one for the 33 Best in Class, and another for the 40 outstanding vehicles. Lets hear from you...

Please let me know if you will be able to attend the Meeting & Cook Out the 15th at our home.

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