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Ragtops & Rumbleseats

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• **SIRAACA Celebrates the Holidays**



Vintage Advertising

Wow, cars driving through the snow? Hard to believe that considering the way the modern SUV is deemed a necessity in the Northeast. Back in 1959, however, save for a few hardcore 4x4 fans, folks made do with the family sedan or coupe. The funny thing about this ad is the mention of Oldsmobile's new "Glide" ride. Slam on the Air-Scoop Brakes in wintry conditions, and you'll "glide" right into the car in front of you.

Model year production for Oldsmobile was 382,865 units. Three models were offered in multiple body-styles, starting with the Dynamic 88 to the Super 88 and the Ninety-Eight. The most popular was the Dynamic four door sedan. The least popular was the Super 88 convertible.

In This Issue

Celebrating the holidays and donating toys to a good cause.

2019 auction season about to open.

Didn't get a car for Christmas?



Super 88 Holiday Sport Sedan

Come see how new driving can be . . . at the wheel of a '59 Olds! Revel in *spaciousness* . . . these are the roomiest Rockets ever! Try the *quiet power* of a smooth, new Rocket Engine . . . the *extra safety* of Air-Scoop Brakes on all four wheels. Relax in the *comfort* of the new "Glide" Ride . . . rakishly styled in Oldsmobile's exciting "Linear Look." Everything about these '59 Oldsmobiles is an invitation to come in . . . get *That Olds Feeling!* —  **OLDSMOBILE**



Dynamic 88 Holiday Sport Coupe

OLDSMOBILE DIVISION, GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION

Trivia Question: Racing without open factory support, who drove a 1959 Olds to a photo finish victory in the first Daytona 500 held at Daytona Int'l Speedway?

Answer: Lee Petty, who was declared the winner three days after the race ended, overturning the original results that had Johnny Beauchamp finishing first in a T-Bird.

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Minutes of the 523rd Meeting Holiday Party - December 16, 2018

1. The 523rd meeting of the Staten Island Region AACA was called to order at the club holiday party by President Paul Jr..
2. Paul Jr. presented prize money to the top three sellers of trophy donations - Paul Arena, Mike Signorile and Tony DiAngelo.
3. Members voted to extend the current leadership for 2019.
4. Our toy donation was presented to the folks from the Richard M. Gardner Memorial Fund.
5. A good time was had by all!

Respectfully submitted,
Tony DiAngelo, Secretary



SIRAACA Celebrates the Holiday Season

The Staten Island Region returned to the Road-House restaurant where held its annual holiday party on Sunday, December 16. Members enjoyed a hot buffet during one of the few events where the majority of club members are gathered together but not working. In lieu of a regular monthly meeting, President Paul Jr. conducted some end-of-year business. He presented awards to the top three sellers of trophy donations (Tony DiAngelo, Mike Signorile and Paul Arena). He also presented a certificate of appreciation to the owner of the RoadHouse, Mark D'Andrea, for his trophy donation. Lastly, the club voted to extend the tenure of the existing board of officers for 2019. Afterwards, a multiple winner 50/50 raffle was held, and many door prizes were given out, ranging from lottery scratch-offs (any winners?) to bottles of spray wax. Before cake and coffee was served, members of the Richard M. Gardner Jr. Memorial Fund arrived to accept a donation of toys courtesy of both our members and the club. All in all, it was a pleasant gathering in the midst of the hectic holiday season. Oh, and about that cake (photo right), a delicious confection from Mother Mousse. In return for our repeat business each year, and the club members that buy cakes from them as a result, let's add them to our target list of new trophy donors for 2019. Any other targets in mind?



Still Looking For a Gift?

For those of you who still owe someone a gift for the holidays or didn't get what you wanted, perhaps a 1987 Corvette will do? Former member Dan Daly is selling this one pictured at right. It's white with a red interior, 350 cu. in. V-8, automatic, power steering, power brakes, tilt wheel, AM/FM/cassette radio, original window sticker & bill of sale, two-owner car always garaged, 90,000 miles. \$8,500 or best offer. Dan can be reached on 347-407-3247 or by email at ddaly281@yahoo.com.



From the President

Happy New Year! I can't believe that it's 2019, the final year of the teens. It doesn't seem that long ago when a 100 year-old automobile was a rare thing, yet membership in that club grows each year. The AACA recognized that and initiated the Century Club. 100 year-old cars that are shown on the field of any national meet are given a special grille badge honoring their age. Based on Frank Nathanson's recommendation, I want our club to also recognize the local century club with a dedicated award of some kind. Let's keep our "customers" happy and our "product lines" new and updated to ensure we remain the top choice for enjoying what our hobby has to offer.

Once again, thank you to all who give their time and effort to keep this club motoring on. I recognize that many things in our lives compete for our attention, and I'm grateful that my fellow members still include the Staten Island Region in the mix. I wish you all the best for 2019, in all that you do. - Paul Jr.

Local Dues Due

By now, all members should have renewed their national dues with the AACA and can renew their local dues beginning at the January meeting. They remain \$20 for the year, and can be paid in cash or check made out to SIRAACA. See our membership secretary Jon Schulman at the meeting to renew.

- NEXT MEETING - January 8

Our January meeting will be held a week later than usual, on Tuesday, January 8 at 7:00 PM at the Courthouse at Richmond Town. As usual, each member is asked to contribute \$3.00 for coffee & donuts.

Club and Its Members Donate Toys

Carrying on a long-standing holiday tradition, both the club and its members donated new toys to the Richard M. Gardner Jr. Memorial Fund. Toys were collected at the club holiday party and picked up by the founding family, who in turn would pass them along to Santa Claus. Santa was later escorted to the pediatric units of local hospitals, under served daycare centers and other local facilities serving young children, where he gave out the toys. He also made visits to children of active military members. Richard Gardner was a young NYPD officer accidentally killed in 1995. In his memory, his family continued the compassion he showed for the underprivileged, collecting and donating toys for nearly a quarter-century. The club is happy to play a small part in their efforts to ensure children across Staten Island enjoy their holiday too.



Club secretary Tony DiAngelo (right) stands with Steven Bonici after the club presented him with a toy donation at our holiday party at the RoadHouse. (photos by Paul Jr.)

Inside the SIRAACA Garage

What lurks unseen in the far corners of the SIRAACA Garage? Here's a recently unearthed car that we had the pleasure of seeing recently. It's a 1959 Continental Mark IV, owned by Don Bosco.

Don's typically tinkering with cars that are 50 years older than this Lincoln, but for some reason it's found a home with him. What becomes of this car is anyone's guess, Don's included. For now, it's tucked away with its much older siblings.

The Continental Series for 1959 was expanded from four to six models with the addition of an Executive Limo and a Formal Sedan. Neither were built in great numbers. 49 limos were produced with a factory price of \$10,230. Just 78 formal sedans rolled off the line, with price tags of \$9,208. Compare those prices to the \$6,845 carried by both the four-door sedan and hardtop. The four-door hardtop sedan was the series' best seller, with 6,146 units built. 40% of all 1959 Lincolns,, including Capri and Premiere, came with air-conditioning. Not sure if Don's is so equipped.

The SIRAACA Garage is home to all of our members' cars, past and present. Has your car been featured yet? Make sure you get the details to Paul Jr. if you want to share your car with us all.



Perhaps too daunting for a restoration, this behemoth might still clean up nicely enough to enjoy as a cruise ship on wheels. (photo by Paul Jr.)

While We Wait

Soon our calendar of events will return with places to go and cars to see. Until then, please pencil in these tentative dates for our 2019 shows. We have submitted these for approval and await the okay from the folks at The Commons Cafe.

Our 13th Annual Spring Dust-Off is targeting April 28, with a rain date of May 5.

Our 43rd Annual Car Show is targeting September 15 with a rain date of September 22.

In the meantime, the AACA Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 7-9 in Philadelphia, and the first national meet for 2019 is the Winter Meet in Ocala, FL from February 21-23.





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Scottsdale Will Open the 2019 Auction Season

January in Scottsdale. Six auction houses. Eight days. Enough said. What will the theme of this new year be? The big one, Barrett-Jackson, will headline the coverage. In addition, there will be offerings from Gooding & Co., Bonhams, Russo & Steele, RM Sothebys and Worldwide Auctioneers. Mecum doesn't hit the area until March. We perused the cars for sale across all of their catalogs, and tried to make some observations.

First, all houses made sure they have Volkswagens for sale, especially minibuses. B-J has a 1959 23-window Samba. WW has a '66 21-window (\$110k-\$130k). Bonhams has a 1963 21-window (\$150k-\$200k). Gooding has a '59 Swivel Seat Kombi van (1 of 11 known - \$50-\$70k). RM and Russo will serve up Beetles instead - a 1968 (\$35k-\$50k) and a 1954 AACA Grand National winner, respectively.

Next, all but B-J make sure they have something older than 100 years. Gooding will offer a 1902 Yale rear-entrance tonneau (\$90-\$120k), owned at one time by western lawman Pat Garrett, who won the car in a poker game from the owner of the company. WW offers a 1910 Cadillac Model 30 (\$80k-\$120k). Russo will sell a 1914 Dodge, #169 of 300 built. Bonhams counters with a 1914 Stevens Duryea tourer (\$200k-\$300k). RM has a 1916 Pierce-Arrow Model 38-C touring (\$130k-\$160k).

The houses all ensure they have both ordinary and uncommon entries as well. From Bonhams, there's a 1957 T-Bird (\$60k-\$80k) as well as a 1948 Fiat 500B Topolino (\$15k-\$25k). From Gooding, a 1955 Star Chief or a 1963 Amphicar (both at \$60k-\$80k). From RM, a 1961 Olds Dynamic 88 (\$40k-\$50k) or a 1920 Lone Star Beauty touring (only 1 left of 12 built, \$25k-\$30k). Russo pitches both a 1965 Mustang as well as a 1926 Kissel 2 door brougham. WW has the generic 1982 Mercedes 380SL (\$25k-\$35k) or a unique 1954 Packard flower car (\$30k-\$50k).

Lastly, every house needs a headliner or two, something that brings in seven figures or better, or has a prestigious nameplate. Five check of this box quite easily, some more than once. Two have Ferrari 250 GT's. RM's is a 1957 Coupe Speciale, a one-off model expected to fetch between \$11 and \$13 million. Gooding's is a 1963 Berlinetta, pegged at \$6 to \$8 million. Bonhams will offer a 1954 Ferrari 500 Mondial Spider, and you'll have to inquire to find out it's estimate. B-J has their charity cars, like a brand new Ford GT Heritage Edition. Lastly, WW is bringing to market a pair of Duesenbergs, neither of which are pegged to hit \$1 million. The first is a 1931 Model J Custom Berline by Judkins (\$550k-\$650k). The other is a 1936 Model JN long wheelbase tourer (\$750k-\$950k).



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