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Contact information for club Leadership can be found on our Club
Website: www.sharktoothsportscarclub.com

INTRODUCTION

As I write this introduction it dawned on me, that Fall began several days ago, so Happy Fall to all!

When I elected to start a car club back in 2020, my vision was to create a social car club that was not limited to any one brand or model. It was going to be a sports car club. It was going to be limited in terms of the number of memberships to allow for a more personal and intimate experience. We would do everything we could to avoid cliques and to make everyone feel welcome. The goal was to provide all members an opportunity in the running of the club, thereby providing pride of membership in “their” club. I also wanted to be able to give back to the community and to be able to offer a “hand-up” where we could. Along the way we tweaked our policies and processes. Our Leadership Team meets quarterly to discuss ways in which we can enhance the overall club experience.

I ask myself the following questions constantly: Have we made the right decision on club structure? What else can we offer you? How can we improve? What are our weaknesses? How do we attract new members?

I think we have reached a point where we need to survey the membership and get your input. So, I have asked Mary Bimonte to work with the Leadership Team to develop a survey that will be sent to the membership asking for your input. While it is nice to hear from you about what you like about the club and what you consider our strengths, I am more interested in knowing how we can improve and enhance the overall membership experience. So, when you get this survey, please participate and let us know how you think and feel we can improve.

Lastly, let us finish the year with a couple of new members, so get the word out. Prospects are always welcome to join us at a meeting.

YOLO (You Only Live Once)

Ken Maher

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Windshield Replacement: OEM or OEE Glass

You get a stone kicked up from the truck in front of you and suddenly you have a crack in the windshield which now requires your windshield having to be replaced. No big deal, right? You call the insurance agent if you carry Physical Damage coverage under your policy and specifically Comprehensive coverage, no problem. You call *Safelite* and they come out (or you go to one of their installation stores) and you get a new windshield. Not so fast. The conversation now turns to whether you get an *Original Equipment Manufacturer* (“OEM”) or an *Original Equipment Equivalent* (“OEE”) windshield. No big deal. A windshield is a windshield. Read on Sharks! It is not as simple as you may think.

What is OEM Auto Glass?

When manufacturing cars, auto companies’ contract with third party suppliers to produce windshields. The supplier manufactures glass to the exact specifications of the carmaker. This company is called an Original Equipment Manufacturer or OEM, and any windshield it produces is referred to as OEM auto glass.

In terms of thickness, color, shape and fit, an OEM windshield is virtually identical to the original windshield it is replacing. And since OEM auto glass makers are duly licensed by auto manufacturers, the OEM windshield they produce will bear the carmaker’s brand name and logo as well.

What is Aftermarket or OEE Auto Glass?

Aftermarket auto glass, known as Original Equipment Equivalent or OEE glass, is fabricated by auto glass makers without the license of car companies. As such, they cannot stamp their products with the carmaker’s brand. They are also

legally prohibited from making exact replicas of OEM glass. This is the very reason there is a marked difference between OEM and OEE glass in terms of thickness, shape, fit, and tint.

OEM Auto Glass vs. OEE Auto Glass

So, when you are having to decide on what type of glass to install, consider the following criteria:

- *Quality and Safety*

Being licensed by automakers to make windshields should say something about the quality of OEM windshields as they must meet the exact specifications and standards set by the auto maker as the windshield must have the same level of safety, fit and finish as the vehicle's original windshield.

While the OEE windshield must meet minimum safety standards set forth by the Department of Transportation, they may not be up to OEM standards.

- *Price*

One of the biggest drawbacks for price-conscious owners in opting for OEM windshields is the cost. As a product bearing the stamp of approval of the car maker, an OEM windshield is typically more expensive than aftermarket glass.

The lower price of aftermarket glass is what makes them more palatable for car owners looking for a more affordable windshield replacement.

- *Availability*

If you own an older vehicle, you may find it more difficult to get an OEM windshield replacement. This is due to the stock for OEM auto glass for older vehicles or even certain models often being limited.

As there are many more manufacturers of OEE glass than OEM glass, these manufacturers often produce a much wider range of auto glass products to accommodate more vehicle makes, models, including older vehicles.

- *Insurance*

This is the single biggest contributing factor in whether you go with an OEM or OEE windshield replacement. Most standard automobile policies

do not cover the cost of an OEM windshield. If you maintain Comprehensive coverage under the Physical Damage part of your policy, the policy will say that coverage extends to windshield repair or replacement if damaged. But does it say they will pay for OEM or OEE glass? As the insurer certainly understands the cost difference between the two, the policy will generally say:

"...we (the Insurer) have the option to pay for new, used, reconditioned, or remanufactured:

- *Original equipment manufacturer replacement parts or equipment:*
- or*
- *Non-original equipment manufacturer replacement parts or equipment."*

Given the option, is the insurer paying for OEM or OEE glass given the difference in cost? You already concluded it will be the OEE glass.

The question is whether you pay the difference and have the OEM windshield installed. Well, that is a personal decision but let me share a personal experience that might help you with your decision.

I was looking to trade in a Mercedes S Class several years ago for a new one. The Used Car Manager came out and immediately told me that they will need to replace the windshield which in turn immediately lowers the trade-in value of the car. I questioned why as there were no chips, or cracks and having had the windshield replaced months earlier because of a crack, I could not see a reason as to why it had to be replaced. I was told that because of the age and overall condition of my car, they would sell it as Certified Pre-Owned and to do so, it must come with all OEM parts. The windshield I had replaced was an OEE and would have to be replaced. Ouch! If I sold it to a private buyer, it would not have had any impact on the value of the car.

So, if you are replacing your windshield tomorrow, do you opt for OEM or OEE? It will come down to what the insurance company is willing to pay for, and if they pay for OEE, what the difference in cost is to go with OEM.

Did you know that in Florida, insurers are prohibited from applying a deductible to a windshield replacement claim under the Comprehensive coverage part of your policy. Now you know.

Speaking of now you know, do you know why windshields have black dots around the perimeter of the windshield? These black dots are known as "frits" or a "dot matrix." They serve several essential functions such as:

- **Bonding:** The frits create a secure connection between the windshield glass and the vehicle's frame using urethane adhesive.
- **Temperature Control:** They help distribute heat evenly across the glass, preventing warping during temperature changes.
- **UV Protection:** The dots protect the adhesive from UV radiation, which can degrade the bond between the car and the glass.
- **Aesthetic Appeal:** The frits are baked onto the glass in a halftone pattern creating a subtle transition to the rest of the glass.

And now you know!

Ken Maher



VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Celebrities

We all know who the celebrities are in Movies and TV. Some are there because they are immensely talented. Others are celebrities for reasons that are completely unknown. What makes them a celebrity? Usually it comes down to their visual presence. There is another segment of celebrity that is equally enjoyable - Cars! I'm not talking about cars that are driven by human celebrities, I'm referring to cars that are the celebrities themselves. These are cars in TV and Movies that became a significant part of the production, with or without any human involvement. Following are a few that come to mind, in no significant order. Just like the human celebrities, some of these cars were actually quite capable. Others were cobbled together and painted to look good. Closer inspection might reveal otherwise.

In the past 50 or 60 years or so, many cars have become iconic enough to be considered the "Star of the Show". It seems that the golden age for this type of car culture was the 60s, 70s and 80s. You might have to have a few gray hairs to remember some of the most famous "Celebrity Cars".

One of the first to reach this status of "Star of the Show" was undoubtedly the C1 Corvette of "Route 66". From 1960-1964, Martin Milner and George Maharis were a couple of young adventurers crossing America looking for answers to sometimes forgotten questions. They drove a 1960 Corvette. The Corvette to this day is more memorable than either of the human celebrities or even than the premise of the show. In reality, there were numerous Corvettes, as GM provided a new model Corvette each year that the show aired, concluding with a 1964. Who knows how many Corvettes were sold as a result of "Route 66".

In the early 80s, Lee Majors was a "Major" star. Almost as famous was the GMC K2500

driven by "The Fall Guy". Although they all looked the same, the actual trucks, of which there were many, were K2500 models from 1977 to 1986. There were so many because in typical Hollywood fashion, each one was pretty much destroyed in every episode.

Speaking of Hollywood, we have to recognize the King of Hollywood custom cars, none other than George Barris. Barris was a custom car builder in southern California who made a significant name for himself by building outlandish and sometimes truly incredible cars for Hollywood. Here are just a few Barris creations you may remember: The Batmobile, the Munster Coach and Dragula from the "Addams Family", KITT from the "Knight Rider", and how about the unforgettable Wagon Queen Deluxe Family Truckster in Metallic Pea from "National Lampoon's Vacation". "If you are going to take the family cross country, this is your automobile!"

In 1966, George Barris was commissioned to build a car for the Batman television show. After lots of trial and error, he finally built the iconic Batmobile. It was based on a 1955 Lincoln Futura concept car. It was drastically modified into the famous Batmobile driven on TV by Adam West. Later versions of the TV series and movies all had their own Batmobiles but none has been as recognizable as the original. There have been thousands of duplicates made, both for the screen and for the car show circuit. The original was sold in 2013 for \$4.6 million. It was resold for an unknown amount in 2016 and now resides in a private collection in Virginia.

From 1962 to 1971, there was a beloved family from the Ozarks who struck it rich and moved to "Californy". You can still find the Clampetts on "The Beverly Hillbillies" every single day of the week. How did they get to Beverly Hills and how did they get around once they got there? Another Barris creation, the Clampett Truck. This was built on a 1921 Oldsmobile 43A roadster. A truck bed was added, as well as a rocking chair permanently mounted to the top for Granny. The original truck is currently on display in its

original condition at the Ralph Forbes Museum in Branson Missouri.

From 1966 to 1968, there were 4 young men who were trying to make a name for themselves as a Rock n Roll Band. Of course, in the 60s, they had to have a car. Enter The "Monkee Mobile". A custom 1966 Pontiac GTO, built by Dean Jeffries. It is currently in a private collection in SE Michigan, after being sold in 2008 for \$360,000.

From 1979 to 1985, there was a bunch of Good Ole Southern Boys and Girls that spent their time trying to outfox the law in the "Dukes of Hazzard". They did so in the General Lee, a 1969 Dodge Charger. The General was painted a bright orange with a Confederate flag on top and 01 painted on the doors. The horn played the 12 notes of the song "Dixie". There were actually somewhere between 250 and 340 copies of the General Lee. Again, multiple copies were destroyed in every episode. The original three, cleverly referred to as Lee1, Lee2 and Lee3, were a bit more protected. Most of the others were pieces of junk painted to look nice before they drove them off a bridge or jumped them over a ditch. Seventeen are still known to exist. In 2012, Lee1 was sold at Barrett Jackson for \$110,000. The buyer? Golfer Bubba Watson.

How about some more serious examples.

From 1980 - 1988, there was a TV series that may have been a dream for car enthusiasts everywhere. How would you like to have your employer provide you with a crazy expensive exotic car? Thomas Magnum (Tom Selleck) was given a 1978 Ferrari 308 GTS. Later episodes replaced the '78 with a 308 GTSi and then a 308 GTSi Quattrovalvole. All were, of course, Ferrari Red. From 2018 -2024, the show was revived with a new Thomas Magnum, Jay Hernandez. The idea was the same, but new Magnum got a 2018 Ferrari Red 488 Spyder. Again, the Ferraris basically stole the show.

In 1971, a 1970 Dodge Challenger R/T was made famous in the movie "Vanishing Point". This movie has probably sold more

Challengers that any advertising campaign ever could. There were 5 cars used in the movie. All 5 were destroyed by the end of filming.

Also in 1971, Dennis Wilson (Beach Boys) and James Taylor commanded the movie screen in a 1955 Chevrolet 150 2 door. The car was built by Richard Ruth for Universal Studios. The car had a 454 and a 4 speed. (James Taylor didn't know how to drive a manual transmission and had to learn.) But this '55 wasn't done yet, stay tuned.

In 1973, a movie was released which probably defines the 60s car culture more than any other - George Lucas' "American Graffiti". The movie, set in Northern California in 1962, had many 50s & 60's style Hot Rods, all of which are still copied to this day. People may not remember the actors, but they never forget the cars - - -

Steve Bolander's (Ron Howard) 1958 Chevy Impala. The actual car was junk and fraught with problems, but it looked awesome.

The Pharaohs 1951 Mercury, driven by Bo Hopkins. This car was cobbled together in 2 weeks, prior to filming.

Laurie Henderson's (Cindy Williams) 1958 Edsel Corsair

Curt Henderson's (Richard Dreyfus) unlikely 1967 Citroen 2CV (Deux Chevaux)

Who can forget the Mystery Blonde's (Suzanne Somers) 1956 Port Hole T'Bird

And the Stars of the Show - Bob Falfa's (Harrison Ford) '55 Chevy. The same car as in 2 Lane Blacktop, except with a smaller hood scoop and chrome wheels.

-John Milner's (Paul LeMat) Yellow 1932 5 Window Deuce Coupe. The American Graffiti Deuce is still one of the most replicated Hot Rods in existence. An interesting note - the engine in Milner's car (remember, set in 1962) was a 1966 327 Chevy. No one seemed to notice.

Who can forget the 1977 release of "Smokey and the Bandit"? This movie, which dethroned "Star Wars" at the box office, gave us possibly the most recognizable of all of the "Celebrity Cars"- the black "Bandit TransAm". The movie car (again, there were several copies used in filming) was actually a 1976 model, but was modified by Pontiac to more closely resemble the soon to be released '77 model. To this day, it is hard to find a collection or even a car show without at least one Bandit.

Another set of cars that have an almost Cult-Like following - The 007 Bond cars. There have been 27 James Bond Movies. Each movie has had two things in common; the Bond Girls and the Bond Cars. The Bond Cars were mostly built by Q, the secret genius behind all of the Secret Service toys. The very first Bond Car was a Sunbeam Alpine in Dr. No, 1962. Each successive movie had a different amazing car. Probably the most collectible was the Aston Martin DB5, first showing up in Goldfinger, 1964. The DB5 appeared in several other films. The original DB5 sold at auction for \$6.4 Million. Aston Martin is the clear winner in the Bond film franchise. There have been numerous Aston Martins - DB5, DBS, DB10, DB 12, DBV12, Vantage, V8 Vantage, Valhalla. Other Bond cars include Mustang Mach 1, BMW Z8, Toyota 2000 GT, Lotus Esprit, American Motors Hornet, and even a Citroen Deux Chevaux (see American Graffiti).

Possibly the Holy Grail of Movie Cars - Steve McQueen's Bullitt Mustang. In 1968, Steve McQueen (the King of Cool) starred as a police detective in the movie "Bullitt". In one iconic scene, McQueen's character, Frank Bullitt is involved in a car chase with a 1969 Dodge Charger (some say 1968 Charger) through the streets of San Francisco. This chase scene has set the bar for car chase scenes ever since. The chase scene lasted for over 10 minutes on-screen. It was filmed in real time, then edited. McQueen's '68 Mustang was the star of the movie. This chase scene is generally considered to be the greatest chase scene in movie history. McQueen's car was a basic '68 Mustang GT with a 390 and a 4 speed. The original movie car was purchased from the movie franchise

for \$6000 by Robert Kiernan. McQueen tried to buy it back, unrestored. Kiernan wouldn't sell, instead putting it away in storage. Kiernan eventually passed away, leaving the car to his son Sean Kiernan. In 2018, Sean had it restored and in 2020 sold it at the Mecum Auction in Kissimmee FL. It brought \$3.4 million. Had he sold it unrestored, it would have likely been much more. The Bullitt Mustang is one of the most replicated cars in history. To this day, Ford continues to build versions of the Bullitt Mustang.

We could follow this thread for days. We haven't even mentioned The "Back to the Future" DeLorean or the 1970 Dodge Charger R/T driven by Dom Toretto (Vin Diesel) in "Fast & Furious". All of the cars mentioned, as well as lots of others not included here, have been duplicated countless times. Many unscrupulous builders have tried to pawn them off as the original car. Fraud has created an entire industry of authenticity verification, but that's a topic for another day. If you are interested, I have the original Eleanor from "Gone in 60 Seconds".

Dave



Dave Love

What Do You Know? (About The Cars In Our Club)

Each issue, we'll focus on a car, chosen at random, that has a representative in our club. It won't be your specific car, but rather a generic description of the Year, Make and Model.

This month's spotlight - 2020 Lamborghini Huracan EVO

Quick, name an Exotic or Supercar. You probably said Ferrari or Lamborghini. For good reason. Ferrari and Lamborghini have been directly entwined since the early 1960s. They are the pinnacle of the Exotic/Supercar genre. Let's take a look at Lamborghini.

Lamborghini Trattorio was established in 1948 in Italy. They produced primarily tractors for the agriculture industry, but also boilers, air conditioners and at one point, motorcycles.

There is a popular story, probably with some element of truth, that Ferruccio Lamborghini (1916-1993) went to Enzo Ferrari and asked him to build a certain type of car. Enzo declined, which upset Ferruccio. So, Ferruccio decided to build his own car. Already a very successful industrialist, Lamborghini surrounded himself with very capable engineers, designers and technicians. They established Automobili Ferruccio Lamborghini in 1963, headquartered in Sant'Agata, Bolongnese. The objective was to produce an Elegant Touring Car, to compete with Ferrari.

As a car manufacturer, Lamborghini grew very quickly and became quite successful. In the early 1970s, the world experienced a very difficult economic period, including the 1973 Oil Crisis. Lamborghini, along with others, plunged financially. Recovery took a long time. Over the ensuing years, ownership of Lamborghini changed multiple times, including a bankruptcy in 1978. In 1987, the American Chrysler Corporation took control of Lamborghini. Chrysler owned the brand until 1994, at which time they sold to Malaysian Investment group Mycom Setdco and Indonesian group V-Power. This group sold the company in 1998. The new owner, which retains the company to this day, was The Volkswagen Group, under control of the Audi Division. In the Great Recession of 2008-2009, sales dropped by more than 50%. They have since recovered.

Lamborghini now produces high end Sports Cars, including a Plug-in Hybrid, a V12/Electric Hybrid, an SUV and engines for Off-Shore Power Boat Racing. The Lamborghini logo is a Bull. Most all of the various Lamborghini models, such as Gallardo, Murcielago, Aventador and others, were named for famous fighting bulls. The Huracan is no exception. Huracan is the Spanish word for hurricane. It was also the name of a famous Spanish fighting bull.

The Huracan was introduced online in December of 2013, replacing the Gallardo. It was introduced to the public at the Geneva Auto Show in 2014. It was an instant hit. Huracan has been called "Lamborghini's most daily drivable model, except for fuel economy". Huracan has become Lamborghini's most successful car. The final model was produced in 2024.

Specifically, the 2020 Huracan EVO is remarkable. EVO is was added to the name as a shortened version of "Evolution". This signifies "a new, updated version of an existing platform." For Huracan, this means an enhanced version of the Huracan, including new systems such as Predictive Traction Control and AI driven Active Vehicle Dynamics. The Huracan has what is called the LOVI system - Lamborghini Dinamica Veicolo Integrata. Basically, it means driving technology including all wheel steering and enhanced driving controls. It is available with either Rear Wheel Drive or All Wheel Drive.

Everyone knows how gorgeous a Lamborghini is, but can it perform? First off, the materials used to build the car, both mechanically and aesthetically are nothing short of top notch, as you would expect from a Luxury Supercar. The chassis is made of aluminum and carbon fiber, the interior is top grade leather and Alcantara. The 5.2 liter V10, 631 hp engine and 7 speed dual clutch transmission are unbelievable. Entrance and exit are tricky, as with other "Sports Cars". But climb in, choose one of 5 driving modes including Sport and Corsa (Race), listen to the amazing sound of the exhaust and then try to wipe that silly grin off of your face.

Standard colors available in 2020 were many - Orange, 3 versions, White, 4 versions, Blue, 7 versions, Gray, Red, Green and Black. In reality, many Lamborghinis receive custom paint jobs or wraps.

How about some numbers? These are actual numbers recorded in 2020 by Car & Driver magazine:

0-60 2.9 seconds
1/4 mile. 10.4 seconds @ 135 mph
Top Speed 202 mph
Yeah, that'll do.

Famously, Frank Sinatra once said "Drive a Ferrari when you want to be somebody. Drive a Lamborghini when you are somebody". It's hard to argue with that kind of logic.

By: Dave Love

CAR SHOWS



STSCC Area Car Show Schedule 4Q'25

The following listing is accurate as of the date of this publication. Check the club's Monthly Meeting Minutes under "Club Admin" on our [website](#) for updated listings of STSCC suggested area car show events.

ONGOING EVENTS

- Cruisin' on Dearborn 1st Saturday Each Month. Dearborn St in Englewood. 2-8pm
- Wellen Park Cars & Coffee Downtown Wellen Park 1st Saturday each month 8-10am
- Northport Cars & Coffee @ Cocoplum Village \$10 Donation. 1st Sunday Each Month 8-10am
- UTC Mall Cars & Coffee @ SE Pa6king lot. \$10 Donation, 2nd Saturday Each Month, 8-10am
- Stingray's Bar & Grill Cars & Coffee 3rd Saturday Each Month. 8-Noon
- Lynche's Pub St Armands. Cars & Coffee. 3rd Saturday Each Month 8-10am
- AACA Cars & Coffee @ Ideal Classic Cars 4th Saturday Each Month 9-1pm
- SAGE Auto Studios, 4th Saturday Each Month 7:30am-10am

LANCE'S AREA CAR SHOWS

- Every 1st Saturday Hooters, Sarasota - US41 @ Clark Rd 5pm-8pm
- Every 2nd Saturday Ideal Classic Cars, Venice. 9am-1pm

UPCOMING CAR SHOWS SW FLORIDA

October 25, 2025 Saturday. FOXBROOK Car Show, Parrish 9am-2pm

December 1, 2025. Deadline for application to Concourse de Caractère, Peace River Botanical Gardens, Punta Gorda. Show is March, 2026 but application deadline is 12/1/25

SEE TEAM REACH FOR DETAILS

QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER

Our official white club shirt is a Port Authority Dry Zone Micro-Mesh Polo, costing \$40.00 with embroidery of the club logo, your name, and tax included. It is also available in 16 other colors at the same price. To see available colors please go to [sanmar.com](https://www.sanmar.com). Enter LK110 in the search window. Men and women colors are the same. Embroidery on other items (Hats, Visors, etc.) is also available. Please contact me if you want to place an order.

Margaret Borcello



BENEVOLENT FUND NEWS

Since the Shark's last quarterly Newsletter, the Benevolent Committee processed and mailed one additional donation, as follows:

South County Food Pantry - 2025 is the third year the Benevolent Committee, on behalf of the Sharks, donated to the South County Food Pantry. We sent our \$500 check to them early August this year and we are attaching their thank you letter, which, in part, states they are run by one hundred unpaid volunteers and have been in existence for 38 years.

That's tons of much-needed food and assistance provided over that timeframe to help those who are in need in our community and we are grateful for everyone's support to be able to help when and as needed.



South County Food Pantry
121 Warfield Ave., Venice, FL 34285
941-408-2911 sfoodpantry@gmail.com www.southcountyfoodpantry.com

August 16, 2025

Shark Tooth Sports Cars Club
P.O. Box 1230
Venice, FL 34284

Dear Shark Tooth Sports Cars Club Benevolent Committee and Members,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, volunteers, and clients of the South County Food Pantry, I want to thank the Benevolent Committee for selecting the Food Pantry for your August 2025 donation of \$500.00. Your donation will keep the shelves stocked with needed food items for the less fortunate in the communities of Venice, Osprey, Laurel, and Nokomis.

It is due to your generosity and that of many other caring individuals and groups that we were able to assist 12,090 people including 2,905 children in 2024. To accomplish this, the Pantry has over one hundred volunteers, none of whom receives any compensation. We have provided 38 years of service to the community.

We hope that you will continue to support the South County Food Pantry.

Yours truly,

Judy Gerly
Judy Gerly
Assistant Treasurer

THE SOUTH COUNTY FOOD PANTRY IS A 501 (C)(3) TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION. NO GOODS OR SERVICES WERE RECEIVED FOR THIS DONATION. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7382) WITHIN THE STATE OR AT FRACS.GOV. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

Venice Police Department Community Outreach Programs

- The Venice Police Department currently manages six Community Outreach Programs for the benefit of the Venice community, as follows:

- * Classroom and Cops
- * Blue Santa
- * Shop With a Cop
- * Homeless Outreach
- * Venice Shark Tooth Fishing Tournament
- * Employee Wellness

The Benevolent Committee has, since its inception in 2023, donated to VPD's Community Outreach Programs working with Sgt Sean Hammett at VPD. Our donation is lumped together with funds of other donors, and used for whichever of the above programs have the biggest need at the time of donation.

To those Sharks who are in Venice at our November Club meeting each year your toy donation goes to VPD's Blue Santa Program which is one of the six VPD Community Outreach Programs listed above, and the Benevolent Committee thanks you for your generous donations to help put a smile on the faces of many local kids at Christmas.

We are hoping to be able to have VPD's Community Outreach Program be the recipient of the Shark's next donation, most likely in November.

In early September VPD sponsored another Community Outreach Program called the Venice Shark Tooth Fishing Tournament in which they invited residents with disabilities to a fishing tournament at the Crow's Nest Marina. [Click here](#) to read all about the exciting day on the water for those lucky participants!

Reporters: Ron & Linda Wencil



SOCIAL EVENTS

Summer Miles and Memorable Moments

As the summer sun blazed across the Gulf Coast, the Shark Tooth Sports Car Club stayed cool by keeping our calendars full of unique experiences, flavorful dinners, and plenty of laughter shared among friends — just the way we like it.



We kicked off the summer in **June** with a vibrant dinner at **Cuba 1958** in downtown Sarasota. It was a place where every dish was a celebration of culture — and camaraderie. A special thank you to Steve and Michelle Iannone for bringing everyone together and for creating such a memorable evening.



In **July**, our wheels turned north for a culturally rich day trip to **Ybor City**. We stepped into history with a guided tour of the **J.C. Newman Cigar Factory**, witnessing live cigar rolling and learning about Tampa's deep-rooted cigar industry. Afterward, enjoyed a delicious lunch at the iconic **Columbia Restaurant**, where once again Cuban flavors delighted everyone. Thank you to the Bimontes and Mahers for planning and hosting this culturally enriched day.



August brought us a unique adventure at **Loaded Cannon Distillery** in Lakewood Ranch. Members were treated to a private tour into the world of handcrafted spirits. We learned about small-batch distilling and sampled award-winning vodkas, rums, gins, and whiskeys — all “copper kissed” and expertly crafted. The pirate-themed setting added a fun twist to an already spirited afternoon! A huge thank you to Mike and Sandy Ferega for organizing this one-of-a-kind adventure.

That same month, we gathered for a delicious Italian dinner at **Tuscany Nokomis** where an enthusiastic member turnout enjoyed incredible food and laughter making for a truly special night. Thank you to Gary Westfall and Margaret Barcelo for hosting the club’s August dinner.



In **September**, we dove into hands-on history at the **Military Heritage Museum** in Punta Gorda. Veteran volunteer docents not only shared their invaluable insight into the powerful exhibits, but their personal stories and dedication to service added a profound depth to the experience, making it truly unforgettable. Members got a chance to "fly" in a fighter simulator and take a spacewalk in virtual reality — proving once again that the Sharks aren't afraid to get in the action. Thank you to Ed and Joyce Cashman for their tireless effort to organize this incredible event.



We wrapped up the summer with a relaxed dinner at Carmelo's Italian Restaurant, also in Punta Gorda. With welcoming service and a charming harbor front location, it was the perfect way to wind down a busy and rewarding summer. Big thank you to our hosts Ron and Linda Wencil and all who came out to enjoy this warm and welcoming evening.



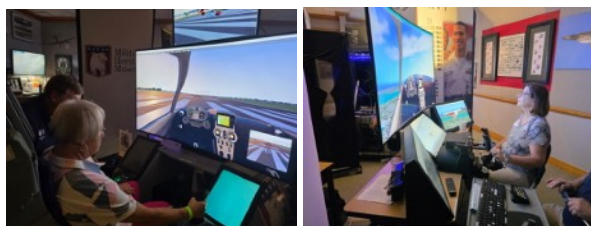
Gearing Up for a Fun-Filled Fall

As the Gulf Coast air cools, the Shark Tooth Sports Car Club keeps rolling with a fantastic lineup of events and dinners to finish out 2025 in style.



October kicks off with a change of pace as we trade our steering wheels for putters at the **Pop Stroke Putting Challenge** in Sarasota. This Tiger Woods-co-designed course offers perfectly manicured greens and challenging hills—no windmills or clowns here—just a relaxed morning of friendly competition and laughs.

Later in the month, we'll savor waterfront views and fresh local flavors at **Tarpon Point Grill & Marina** in Northport. With daily deliveries of fresh ingredients, the menu promises dishes as vibrant as the marina setting, making for a perfect evening of great food and even better company.



November keeps the momentum going with two standout experiences. First, our exclusive **Ideal Classic Cars Showroom Tour** in Venice invites members to explore a world-class collection of rare and beautiful classics. Learn the ins and outs of their innovative business model and snap some

memorable photos—don't forget to bring your sports car and club shirt!

Then, we'll gather at L'Olive Mediterranean Restaurant to celebrate National Baklava Day sampling Mediterranean small plates and unique wine pairings. It's a delicious way to indulge in authentic flavors and share good times with great friends.

With such a rich mix of activities, let's finish 2025 with the same spirit, passion, and fun that define the Shark Tooth Sports Car Club.

Holiday Celebration at Boca Royale Country Club

Following the overwhelmingly positive feedback from last year's festive gathering, the Shark Tooth Sports Car Club is thrilled to return to the elegant **Boca Royale Country Club** for our annual **Christmas Dinner Party**, hosted Ken and Kathy Maher.

Get ready to don your holiday best, share stories of the year's adventures, and toast to the roads ahead—all in a warm, welcoming atmosphere that truly feels like family. It's the perfect way to close out 2025 on a high note!

A Friendly Reminder from Your Social Coordinator

Hosting dinners and events is a shared responsibility that keeps the Shark Tooth Sports Car Club vibrant and fun. As your Social Coordinator, I truly appreciate everyone who volunteers their time and effort to organize our gatherings — your contributions make all the difference.

Remember, the club can only continue to thrive when all members participate in hosting and supporting events. So, whether it's suggesting a great dinner spot, planning a tour, or simply showing up with your enthusiasm, every bit helps keep our community strong and our calendar full.

Thank you for being an essential part of what makes this club so special!

Host Details!

- Monthly Dinners – Date Predetermined – Third Monday of Each Month
- Monthly Events – Host to Select Date and Venue
- Send Dinner and Event information to the Social Coordinator for posting on TeamReach
- Plan your event details and dinner locations three months in advance to give everyone an opportunity to reserve the date on their personal calendars.
- As the host of an event or dinner, please take photos and write a short note about your dinner/ event for our quarterly newsletter and for posting on social media.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

REMINDERS!!

Monthly Dinners – Date Predetermined – Third Monday of Each Month

To review, monthly dinners are always held on the third Monday of each month. As the Social Coordinator, I will work with the hosts to find a month where the third Monday is most convenient for them to host. The host chooses the location for the dinner and provides the details to the Social Events Coordinator for posting on TeamReach. As the hosts, you will coordinate with the restaurant, check TeamReach for RSVPs, maintain the attendee list, and assist the members in seating at the restaurant.

Monthly Events – Host to Select Date and Venue

As the hosts of the monthly event, the venue is your choice, as is the date. Keep in mind that the dinner that month will be held on the third Monday and the membership meeting will be held on the second Wednesday. As with the dinners, you will send the event information via email to the Social Coordinator for posting on TeamReach. We all have busy schedules, so we ask that you have your event details and dinner locations in place

three months in advance. This will give everyone an opportunity to reserve the date on their personal calendars.

Smile, you may be on Candid Camera!

As the host of an event or dinner, we ask that you take photos and write a short note about your dinner/ event for our quarterly newsletter and for posting on the website. Please send a picture and the information to the Social Coordinator, who will forward the info to Steve Bieglecki for our newsletter and to Jen for the Shark Tooth website.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to working with all of you.

Reporter: Mary Bimonte,
Social Coordinator
ronmar90@comcast.net
(203) 886-9718

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday



October

3 Tom Rossi
5 Tom Moore
17 Becky Davis
19 Darlene Bieglecki
23 Doug Chase
26 Dave Lytle

31 Ron Biamonte

November

3 Frank Gambino
24 Pam Chase
25 Margret Barcelo
27 Janice Love

December

2 Cindy Buckheit
6 Rich Gruenberg
14 Joann Royal
24 Al Royal
28 Kathy Maher

Happy Anniversary



October

None

November

17 Love

December

30 StClair

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome new members
Scott & Allison Yancey
2023 Champagne Mazda Miata

Scott and Allison come to us originally from Evansville, Indiana. They are full-time residents living in Port Charlotte. This adds an Asian-make car to our club!

We hope to add a limited number of new members to the Club this year. Please help us by inviting acquaintances (from your golf group, church, club, or other social circles) who own sports cars, to attend one of our monthly meetings. We have excellent informational materials available to assist you in introducing our club.

Membership Facts

23 Full Memberships (+2 Associate & 1 Sponsor)



And now we add 

Alfa Romeo - 4C
Aston Martin - DB11
Audi - S5
BMW - 8, 6, 4 & 3
Chevrolet Corvette - C7, C6, C5, C3
Dodge - Challenger Wide Body
Ferrari - 308 GTBi
Ford - Mustang
Jaguar- F Type
Mazda Miata
Mercedes Benz - C , E & SLS
MG - B

Countries Represented

United States

Germany

United Kingdom

Italy

Japan

Primary Sports Car Colors

6 Red

3 Blue

4 White

2 Green

2 Silver/Grey

4 Black

1 Yellow

1 Champagne

Janice Love

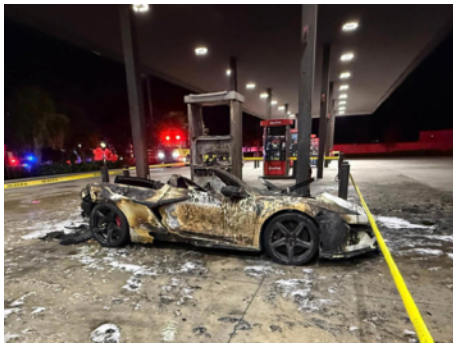


ARTICLES OF INTEREST

A Strange Gas-Pumping Defect Is Making \$100,000 Corvettes Go Up in Flames

by: Ryan Felton, WSJ

Editor: Many thanks to Mike Connors for passing this article along



Shawn Conner was refueling his high-end 2024 Corvette at a gas station in early June when the car spontaneously caught on fire, torching it in a matter of minutes.

Conner turned to a Facebook group of Corvette enthusiasts. A [video](#) he posted showed the supercar exploding out of the blue, sending a person at a nearby gas pump scattering away.

“Anybody have any experience, or ever heard of anything like this before?” Conner asked. “Car exploded while pumping gas. I have an idea, but would love to hear what everyone else thinks.”

Conner declined to comment. GM said it couldn’t comment on the specific situation.

Similar incidents caught the attention of an employee at General Motors, which makes the Chevrolet Corvette. Another social-media post identified multiple cars that had burst into flames while pumping gas during a 30-day period. Later that week, a GM-owned Corvette test vehicle also caught fire, a company report said.

For the next few months, GM dug into the problem to determine whether this pattern of explosions was related to a defect. And then last

month, GM made a determination, recalling the vehicles over an unusual issue: In some Corvettes, a cooling fan that runs even after the car has been shut off could blow spilled gas on the engine and catch fire.

GM said the issue is a rare occurrence, and faulty filling-station pumps that don’t automatically stop appear to be a contributing factor. The recall affects more than 23,000 Corvettes that start at over \$100,000 and are among the fastest cars ever made by GM.

Owners shelling out six-figure sums for a high-end supercar may think they are immune from the sort of dangerous defect affecting these Corvettes. But the issue is a stark example of how even the priciest cars on the market today can be dragged down by a safety recall.

“The safety of our customers is the highest priority for the entire GM team, and we’re working to remedy this matter as quickly as possible,” GM said.

The affected Corvette models—the Z06 and the ZR1 versions from recent model years—are sought after supercars, with the latter being able to reach 233 mph, said Keith Cornett, senior editor of [CorvetteBlogger.com](#)

“They’re obviously a little perplexed,” Cornett said of impacted Corvette owners. “They want a safe car to be in, but many of them—I know several 2023 owners—say ‘I filled up my car 100 times now and have never had any issues.’”

Safety defects tied only to when a driver pumps gas is rare. In 2009, Chrysler issued a recall for 19,000 Dodge Durangos with a faulty valve that could allow some fuel to escape at the end of refueling, potentially leaking onto an ignition source. Nissan recalled 192,000 vehicles in 2005 because of a hose that might crack from exposure to ozone, which could result in fuel leakage while refueling.

Michael Brooks, executive director of the Center for Auto Safety, said one potential issue is that a driver might encounter a faulty gas pump that doesn’t automatically shut off but not realize it.

“How do you know when it’s safe to drive off from a fuel pump if you’ve had one of these overpump incidents?” he said. “There’s not a whole lot of

guidance on how to approach what you should do.”

GM said that signs a pump may be malfunctioning include visible damage, the presence of leaked fuel, or any absorbent material on the ground near the pump from prior spills. The automaker advises owners to follow fueling instructions in their owner’s manual, turn off the vehicle’s engine during refueling, confirm the fuel nozzle is completely inserted into the vehicle while pumping gas and never top off after the fuel pump’s automatic shut-off clicks once.

GM has developed a fix, a shield that would divert spilled fuel, and is working to finalize supplier production and distribution plans. The remedy part is expected to be available in the next several weeks, a person familiar with the matter said.

Before the recall was issued, nearly 1,600 affected Corvettes were on dealer lots, according to ChevyBlogger.com’s Cornett. GM issued a stop-sale notification to dealers as part of the recall, meaning those particular Corvette models can’t be delivered until the fix is made.

“Stop-sales for anything is a problem for us because we have customers that want to take delivery,” said Paul Stanford, president of Les Stanford Chevrolet, a dealer in the Detroit area. “When it’s 80 degrees and sunny, they want it now.”

8 Options and Editions That Make a Massive Difference in Value

By: Andrew Newton for Hagerty Insider



The options a new-car buyer ticks can have a dramatic effect on a car’s value long after those choices are made. Engines, transmissions, colors, radios, hardtops, sunroofs, and spoilers are just some of the things that can differentiate two similar cars from one another. They might be the same year, make, and model, but the right combination of options can make one of them a high-dollar collectible and the other barely shrug-worthy.

We account for things like options, paint shades, and special editions when we assemble the values in the Hagerty Price Guide. Some are small, like a couple grand for a factory hardtop on a convertible or a few percent for a particular set of wheels. Others make a massive difference. We outline some of the biggest below.

Unhip to Have a Turbo Tip(tronic): **2001-05 Porsche 911 Turbo** **-50% for Tiptronic transmission**



Developed by Porsche, ZF and Bosch, the Tiptronic was an advanced (for the time) manual gearbox. It debuted as an option on the new 964-generation 911 in 1989. According to Car and Driver, “Tiptronic was hardly perfect—it automatically upshifted before redline when using the shift gate, it couldn’t blip the throttle on downshifts, and it debuted in the U.S. with a \$2950 price tag ... The shift lever’s push forward for upshifts, pull backwards for downshifts design was another hiccup.” Still, it worked reasonably well, and it greatly broadened the appeal of Porsche’s products. The Tiptronic proved a popular choice on 911s, 968s, Boxsters, and Caymans throughout the 1990s and 2000s. Porsche’s own highly regarded dual-clutch PDK gearbox debuted in 2009.

Given the sporty pretensions of most P-cars, it’s no surprise that Tiptronic-equipped ones generally sell at a discount compared to a stick. In our Price

Guide, many models like the 964 or 968 note a -10% or -15% discount for the Tiptronic. It's -15% for most versions of the 996 (the 1997-2004 911), too, but for the faster and more valuable 996 Turbo, it's a whopping -50%.

**Size (of the gas tank) Matters: [1963 Chevrolet Corvette Z06](#)
\$100,000 difference for “Small Tank” vs. “Big Tank”**

The original Z06 in 1963 was a delightfully racy



option package that bundled a 327cid/360hp fuel-injected engine, Positraction differential, heavy-duty suspension, and heavy-duty brakes for the hefty sum of nearly \$2000. And this was at a time when a base Corvette cost [\\$4252](#). With endurance racing in mind, a 36-gallon fiberglass fuel tank was developed for the Z06, but some delays meant that of the 199 original Z06s built, just 75 got the “big tank.” The rest got the standard 20-gallon one.

Different options, and the combination of those options, can make a world of difference to the Corvette faithful and what they'll pay for a car. Few single pieces of equipment, however, make such a big difference as the size of the gas tank in a 1963 Z06. In our price guide, the “small tank” cars are worth \$477,000 in #2 (excellent) condition, while the “big tank” cars are worth \$575K.

**ZZZAP!: [1977-78 Datsun 280Z](#)
+40% for ZZZAP Edition (1977) or Black Pearl Edition (1978)**



The second half of the '70s was a golden age for stripes, decals, graphics, and goofy color combos. Sure, a lot of these special editions were marketing gimmicks, but they were fun. And while our own Big Three were the masters of Malaise Era marketing, the Japanese were doing it, too. In 1977, for example, Datsun introduced the “ZZZAP Edition” on its 280Z, also known as the “Zap Z.” Years before Gran Turismo games, arcade players could try their hand at “Datsun 280 ZZZAP by Midway Manufacturing.” The game itself was kind of a flash in the pan, but Datsun still capitalized on it with a “special decor package” that used ZZZAP nomenclature with Bright Sunburst Yellow paint, black stripes led by yellow/orange/red chevrons, racing mirrors, and rear window louvers. A Zap Z even served as the pace car at the 1977 Long Beach Grand Prix, and about 1000 were built, according to some sources. Read a full history of the car and the video game [here](#).

Another dressed-up Datsun followed in 1978, with the 280Z “Black Pearl” edition. Like the yellow Z before it, the Black Pearl came with racing mirrors and rear window louvers, but it also received black pearlescent paint as well as thin red and silver stripes. Sources vary on Black Pearl production as well, but it was fewer than 1500 cars. On the rare occasion they come to market, both ZZZAP and Black Pearl cars command a 40% premium over standard 280Zs.

**Keeping Cool: [1966-68 Ferrari 330 GTC and GTS](#)
+\$60,000 for Factory Air Conditioning**



Ferrari introduced the 330 GTC in 1966, offering a two-seater coupe with more space and power than the famed [275 GTB](#), but in a smaller package than the [330 GT 2+2](#). A 330 GTS Spyder followed later that same year to give both closed and open options.

Speaking of options, factory-fitted air conditioning is a big deal to Ferrari collectors. Not that 1960s Italian A/C always works well, or at all, but 330s fitted with it can command \$60K over ones without it (or ones fitted with aftermarket systems).

Right Is Wrong: [1955-65 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud](#)

-40% for Right-Hand Drive (RHD)

A volume seller for Rolls-Royce with over 7000 built, in both coachbuilt and factory-bodied “standard steel” form, the Silver Cloud lasted for 10 years and three basic series of Silver Cloud I, II, and III. Silver Clouds have a charm, luxury, and presence that few classics in their price point can rival, including the [Silver Shadow](#) that followed it. Anyone shopping for a Silver Cloud should know that repair and restoration costs are astronomical, and to factor in the cost to own, not just the cost to buy. They should also know that, while not an option per se, the location of the steering wheel makes a big difference. Left-hand drive examples are highly prized, while right-hand drive ones come at a temptingly steep 40% discount, according to our Price Guide.

Happy Anniversary: 2002 Lotus Esprit 25th Anniversary
\$45,000 difference in standard 2002 Esprit vs. 25th Anniversary



By 2002, the Esprit had been around for a quarter century. It had gone through several major revisions in that time, but it was nevertheless nearing its end in the Lotus lineup and wasn't selling in large numbers. So, to gin up a little excitement, the house of Hethel smashed the “special edition” button and came up with the Esprit 25th Anniversary. Lotus sent 100 examples to the U.S. and sold another 58 elsewhere. Information is scarce on the anniversary Esprits, and the package doesn't appear to have added anything other than badging and serial number plaques, but enough of them have sold at auction in recent years to confirm that they do indeed

carry a big premium in the Lotus market. In our Price Guide, a standard [2002 Esprit](#) in #2 condition is worth \$90,700, while a 25th Anniversary is deep into six figures at \$135K.

Mega-Money Manual: [2007-10 Lamborghini Murciélago](#)

+300% for Manual Transmission



The Murciélago was Lamborghini's first new car after Audi took over the Sant'Agata company, but much of the Murciélago's development and design happened before the Germans waltzed in. That's why some view it as the last “real” or last “old school” Lambo. It was available in multiple special editions, and with an “e-gear” automated manual or a good-old-fashioned six-speed stick shift.

Neither Ferrari nor Lamborghini sell sticks anymore (the last manual Lambo was a Gallardo in 2014), but collectors clamor for late-model manuals from both companies. Cars like the Gallardo, as well as the Ferrari F430, 612 Scaglietti, and [575M](#) command premiums of 100% or more in our price guide. But Murciélagos, specifically the later ones, are in a different league with a premium of 300%. Die-hard car enthusiasts with #savethemanuals stickers aren't buying the bulk of new Lamborghinis, and that was as true 15 years ago as it is today. By the time the Murciélago bowed out in 2010, just 5% of buyers ordered theirs with a stick. Ironically, that rarity is what makes manual Murcis so highly prized as collector cars.

