

KOTR PINS

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King of the road ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

Staff and Management

CEO: Jim Rentz President@KOTRACC.org

President of Vice: Gordon Platt Vicepresident@KOTRACC.org

Bursar: Gordon Platt Treasurer@KTRACC.org

Club Stenographer; Dee O'Donnell Secretary@KOTRACC.org

Certified Web Mechanic; Rich Courmettes Webmaster@KOTRACC.org

Visit our website; KOTRACC.org to see more of what we are all about



Happy Holidays To Everyone

It is the season once again, a time to look back to where we have been in the past year as well as to peer into the year ahead of us. KOTR has been a success because of you, the members who choose to make it so. We are a small, boutique, car club where friendships matter. Everyone knows everyone else, it matters not what you drive but rather how well you about feel about being with your “old car family of friends.”

2025 has been a good year for KOTR, we have made some new friends that long for our type of camaraderie and low key events. In this issue we'll take a look back so that our new members can see just what we have been up to and what to expect in

our re-curing activities throughout the seasons of 2026.

So far I have been asked about a “hot dog run.” How about a drive up 27/441 to Sunset Delights on a Wednesday for their cruise in as well? Does a “Rib Run” sound interesting to you? We could cruise on down to South Leesburg and Oakwood Express there for a great outing. Then again there is always Eaton’s Beach for some lakeside dining. We haven’t been to Catfish Johnny’s in quite some time. They have a nice room for club gatherings there.

Let’s hear it from you folks as to your preferences, together we can do it better!



January, 2025

We kicked off the new year by participating in the Villages Showcase Carshow in Brownwood on the 4th of the month.



Later in the month, the 24th, we traveled to the Saint Paul's Fish Fry, in nearby Belleview. It is held every Friday, a good time with great friends. We can do this again in 2026 if you wish. Just let us know.



As we usually do in KOTR, for February we treat our loved ones to a Valentine Day dinner. Again, we traveled back to Belleview and Riccardo's Restaurante there. Everyone had a great time, with family and friends, that's the KOTR way of doing simple things.



February, 2025





March, 2025

KOTR sure does love to dine and travel. In honor Saint Patrick's Day, the gang motored on over to Tavares and Okeefe's Irish Pub for their evening fare. Okeefe's has been a favorite haunt of ours for many years. The food is great and we can dine al fresco on the front veranda. Always a treat!



It's a great day to get the ol' car out on the road and bring a "best buddy" along as well. We even have a "best pie" baker each year, this year's winner was Diana Bray for her quiche Lorraine.

April, 2025

What can be better than a fresh baked pie or tart? For the past three years now we have held our "Pies In The Park" baking contest at Lake Miona Park. It has been a perennial favorite with more participants every year. You can look forward to this fun day come this April.



JUNE 2025

KOTR, mostly noted for our ice cream runs, found a new “cold spot” to frequent in Bellevue. Old School Ice Cream and The Sandwich Authority filled the bill for our June activity. Everyone bought their own dinners and the club picked up the tab for the ice cream. That’s the way we do it in the “old school.” Are we really the “old school?” I think not!



It would seem that there is always a good reason to celebrate. In May, KOTR chooses to make it “Cinco de Mayo.” We made it “Seis de Mayo,” the sixth, Cinco is way too busy at the local Cantinas. This year we went to Tequila Cantina Mexican Kitchen at Southern Trace for a fine Mexican repass and the club treated for dessert. KOTR is not like any other car club, we are small and close knit, a boutique group if you will and we welcome any and all old car enthusiasts to join with us as we celebrate nearly everything!

May, 2025





July 2025

The best laid plans often are subject to the whims of a higher power than our own. As much as people

think they can manipulate the weather to suit their own fancy, failure on that point is inevitable. What would a KOTR event be without some rain? A rarity! Our activity for August was to be a water front dinner at Ski Beach in Leesburg, followed by a baseball game next door at Pat Thomas Stadium. The rain came and the game was cancelled, but we did have a good dinner by the lake!



August 2025

Again, our August event was altered due to the weather.

Seems as though this past summer was wetter than normal but then, what is normal here in central Florida? We do have a diversity of weather here, by the hour it seems.

The first idea was to make an ice cream run and dinner at Sunset Delights in Summerfield. That was changed at the last moment as the rain blew into town. We shifted our venue to the DQ on route 301 just north of Wildwood. Turnout was light, just nine folks, but we had fun just the same. I mean how can you go wrong with burgers, fries and a DQ sundae or shake?





SEPTEMBER 2025

As September rolled into town, it was obvious that KOTR was not at full strength yet, that would not

happen for several months to come. We have so many “snowbirds” in our ranks that make a full house a rarity. A favorite spot for us is Russell Stover Chocolates in Wildwood. On September 10th, fourteen of us found our way to the ice cream waiting for us there.

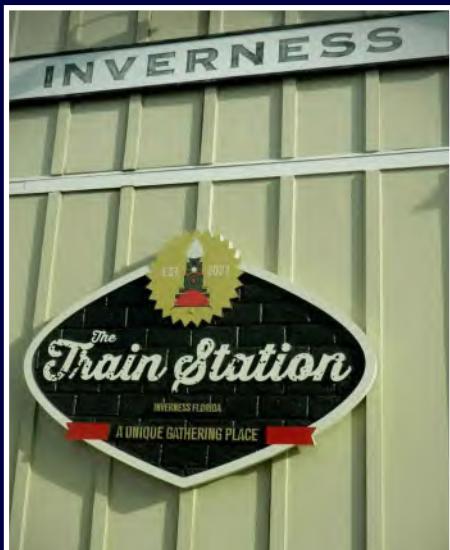


OCTOBER 2025

Oktoberfest

This past October, KOTR revived our Oktoberfest celebration which started back in 2015, our first year as a club. The club supplied the brats and buns, while attendees supplied all of the side dishes, and they were delicious. Everyone seems to like this October activity. I suggest that we keep it in future years.





WHAT A FUN TIME WE HAD

NOVEMBER, 9th

This event was a long time in planning. It was first proposed back in the beginning of the year by Rich Courmettes. The problem was when could we get the best response from all of the membership. Springtime is often difficult with the myriad of holidays, graduations, and cruises already on people's calendars. Then there was summer when we operate on a skeleton membership as it were, no we had to wait until the "snowbirds" started to flock in once more and then co-ordinate with The Train Station. This is a very popular activity in our area, it's a great place for birthday parties for kids of all ages.

The bowling took some getting used to but we got into the groove in very short order. Each team of 6 bowlers had either lane one or lane two for their games. The individual scores were maintained electronically. The best bowler of the day was Nancy Sutter winning the \$100 prize, which she returned to the club coffers.

What is a KOTR event without good food? This facility had some the best pizza we have ever had, delivered right to our tables, lane side. The staff was very pleasant and accommodating, we're already planning for a return in March, so keep your calendars open for this one!



Diana and Bill Bray giving a big thumbs up



Stefanie Nyffeler showing delivery



Gordon Platt trying to pick up a spare



Nancy Sutter receiving her \$100 prize for high score

Portillo's®

Sunday, November, 30th



November's second activity, an ice cream run to the new Abbott's Frozen Custard in Middleton was amended at the last minute to include lunch at the nearby Portillo's. It's nice when we can add to our repertoire of activities on the spur of the moment. We just like gettin' together with some lunch thrown in to the mix.



Abbott's Frozen Custard, newly opened in Middleton, served as our host for a KOTR Ice Cream Run. The original activity was to be at 4:00, so more participants showed up after the luncheon add on at Portillo's. Seating was tight, this is not a big parlor, so we were broken up as a group. Some inside and some outside, we had fun all the same.



Above- Tom and Carol Schweitzer schmooze with Urs and Stefanie Nyffeler over a couple of sundaes.

Left- Bob and Linda Durst enjoy their treats at one of the small tables inside.



Twenty four KOTR members found their way to the Pasta Faire Restaurante in nearby Bellevue. The Faire offered us a fine selection of meals from their general menu of Italian specialties. We had a dedicated staff to wait on us, they made the evening pass without incident. Kudos to them all!

Each attendee was asked to bring a wrapped gift for an exchange program emceed by Rich Courmettes; pass it left, pass it left, pass it right. Each pass was made when a certain word was heard as Rich read to us, "Twas the night before Christmas." Each gift was to be less than \$5.00. There were cookies and candies and calendars among the goodies. As a special treat for everyone, the club offered to pay for dessert for all that chose to avail themselves of the offer.

Another successful soirée for KOTR. Smiles on everyone's faces, that says it all.

