



KOTR PINS



OCTOBER
2025

WELCOME TO KOTR



KING OF THE ROAD ANTIQUE CAR CLUB

Staff and Management

CEO: Jim Rentz President@KOTRACC.org

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Bursar: Gordon Platt Treasurer@KOTRACC.org

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

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BOOOYA

Welcome my friends, to the “Spooky Time” of the year. A time to have a little fun with a twist to it. Our friends are returning to this wonderland of ours and wanting to get the ball rolling again for KOTR. We have some events on the horizon that we hope will be of interest to you.

Coming up in November we will be traveling to nearby Inverness for a RETRO activity at The Train Station. We have a competition in Duck Pin Bowling with a \$100 prize on the line for the best game. That will be a pizza

party too. It promises to be a fun event for all of us. Additionally we have been in contact with our old and dear friend Tommy Small in Dade City. The great news is that he has regained his health once again and has agreed to show us his latest collections, over 1600 signs! There is great food in Dade City as well, that should make for a wonderful day on the road with friends.

We are trying to keep our activities a step above the norm, fitting the KOTR mantra. We are The King Of The Road!



WHAT GRINDS YOUR GEARS ?

AS THE SNOWBIRDS RETURN TO CENTRAL FLORIDA, THE PROBLEM, AS I SEE IT, WORSENS. I LOVE THE SNOWBIRDS, DON'T GET ME WRONG, I JUST WISH THAT THEY WOULD LEARN TO DRIVE WITH A LITTLE MORE CONCERN. THE VILLAGES IS NOTABLE FOR IT'S "ROUND-A-BOUTS." PLEASE, DON'T STOP IN THE CIRCLE TO MAKE UP YOUR MIND WHICH WAY TO GO. ALSO WHEN STOPPED IN LINE AT A TRAFFIC LIGHT, PULL UP CLOSE TO THE CAR IN FRONT OF YOU. THAT LINE GETS MIGHTY LONG WHEN YOU LEAVE, ONE, TWO OR EVEN THREE CAR LENGTHS IN BETWEEN CARS AND REDUCING ACCESS TO THE LEFT TURN LANE. SHEESH!

Russell Stover CANDIES

YIPPEE!

KOTR held yet another, world famous Ice Cream Run on September 10th, to Russell Stover Candy Store in Wildwood. Fourteen members decided to make the very short trip to one of our favorite stops to get the latest “scoop” of gossip as well as their scrumptious ice cream.



Top left - Nancy Sutters and Rich Udell



Top right - Marcie McDowell and Frank Fox

Lower left - Nancy Buehrig and Richard Buehrig

Lower right - Frank O'Donnell, Rich Courmettes,
Ellen Harcourt and Dee O'Donnell





KOTR **RETRO** PARTY

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH
4:00 PM**



THIS IS GOING TO BE A UNIQUE ACTIVITY FOR KOTR IN NOVEMBER. THE TRAIN STATION IN INVERNESS IS PRIMARILY AN OLD TIME BOWLING ALLEY (DUCK PINS) AND A PIZZA PARLOR! BOWLING IS \$10.00 PER PERSON/GAME. IF YOU WANT TO HAVE A FUN EVENING, THIS ACTIVITY IS FOR YOU. WHO KNOWS, YOU MAY EVEN WALK AWAY WITH THE \$100 FIRST PRIZE FOR YOUR BOWLING PROWESS.

THIS ACTIVITY WILL REQUIRE YOUR RESERVATION SO THAT WE CAN LET THEM KNOW HOW MANY LANES WE WILL NEED. ONLY SIX BOWLERS PER LANE.

NOW IS THE TIME TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NOV. 9TH.
REPLY BY E-MAIL OR PHONE 352-638-0502

TRAVELS IN THE INFORMATION AGE

FRANK O★DONNELL



Today, we truly live in “The Information Age.” We first thought it started 30 years ago when we connected to the internet for the first time using a personal computer purchased at a place called Circuit City. But we were wrong. Sure, it was great when you cruised the internet and found that ultra-rare passenger side mirror for your classic. The mirror you had been hunting at swap meets and salvage yards for the last five years. But the *real* information age started much later. It started with the introduction and release of the first smart phone in 1994.

For car guys, OUR real “information age” started the week our original, trusty, small, simple-to-operate **flip phone** quit working; and our wife got tired of not being able to contact us. It was the Saturday she asked you to take her shopping at the mall (remember those?) and somehow you found yourself standing in front of a Radio Shack. An hour later, you were carrying your first “real” modern cell phone. It didn’t flip open and it didn’t fit conveniently in your pocket anymore. Instead, it was big and attached to your hip with a belt clip. Every time you unbuckled your belt you had to worry about it sliding off and hitting the floor, or worse yet, zeroing in on the bottom of a toilet bowl.

It had a button you had to push when you wanted



to use it. It had lots of buttons. You had to read the instruction book just to know how to make and receive a call. Immediately your best friend was not your dog, it was the technician that worked at the store where you bought your phone. It was no coincidence that the first name and

number he programmed into your contacts file was his.

Armed with this new cell phone, not only could you call someone, you could send a text message to someone that you didn’t really want to talk to in the first place. Not too shabby. You could even take one picture of your classic automobile to share with your friends. And your friends we free to send you 26 pictures of theirs. Plus, you no longer needed a land line at the house. You were free to answer your cell phone and no one could tell for sure if you were at home, or not.

In automotive terms, the receipt for your phone became your license, and the cell phone itself became the vehicle that gave you access to the Information Highway. How lucky could anyone be? What you didn’t realize however, was from that moment on you were going to be forever tethered to that highway. A media-enhanced universe where everything happens in the moment. Suddenly, you have to keep up with everything

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that is newsworthy in the world, or your friends and family will label you as 'behind the times', uncaring or much worse, uninformed. You didn't see the Trump bus video? A "hot mike" used to be a good-looking guy named Michael.

When you bought that new smartphone, you unknowingly entered a perpetual competition.

Your spouse comes in from shopping at the local superstore and her first statement isn't about how slow the checkout lines were. Instead, she asks you, "Did you hear about the commuter train wreck? That's two accidents in two weeks. The conductor doesn't remember anything except waking up on the cabin floor after the crash." "Well, he's certainly no Captain Sully," you reply. Of course, you already knew about it. Either you saw it when you checked emails and texts on your phone, or it was the lead story when you opened up your computer that morning. Having a smartphone to look at is the reason why no one complains anymore about slow service at a restaurant.

You read all the time about how Henry Ford connected a nation and put the whole world on wheels. That was nothing compared to your modern Android or Apple. You hold the whole world in your hands. A super computer of knowledge. Up to the minute coverage of every major news-breaking event and an endless stream of totally useless information. Stressed out? Watch a kitten video. With a ticket to the information highway, you are the master of the world. At the beginning of the new Millennium, we thought having a 'Start' button in your automobile's dash was cool. Today, you can use your smartphone to start your car from inside the house, set the thermostat at whatever temperature you want and tune the radio to your favorite station.



My first car was a brand-new 1970 Oldsmobile Cutlass. Being connected at that time meant the car came with a factory AM radio which lost its signal whenever you went under a bridge or drove into a tunnel. Nowadays, you shop for the car that has its own Wi-Fi hot spot onboard. Truth be told, my biggest connectivity concern in those days was whether or not the cord to my FUZZBUSTER would reach the cigarette lighter.



Ed. note: Frank O'Donnell can be reached at foxlovescars@comcast.net

Oktoberfest

A KOTR FEAST

October 26th, found 19 members gathering at Lake Miona Park for one of KOTR's famous food festivals. This was a Pot Luck dinner party with a German twist to the fare. Of course there were Brats for all to share but there was also Sauer Kraut und Schweinwurst, und Spätzle, und Brezeln, und Salats, und Kurbiskchen, und Gebackene Bohnen. und mehr! You should have been there, we had a blast!



For three weeks in a row we have had noting but sunshine, then on our party day we had clouds, and rain, but in KOTR style, we had fun and good food with friends. We even gained a new member, Ed Ingalls, front row-blue shirt and one re-member, Ron and Virginia Storzbach. Ron dropped out while he was restoring his "new" 1957 Chevy. That's it to the right. Pretty neato!





A big thank you to Rich Courmettes for the photos!



We still had a few classics come out in spite of the threat of rain. Urs and Stefanie Nyffeler drove their 1963 Avanti and our newest member, Ed Ingalls brought his Pontiac TRANS AM to the party.

Above Gordon Platt served up the beer brats for nearly everyone. The gals all loved them as well. Frank O'Donnell ate everything but the brats.





HEY THERE!

It's time to start thinking about our annual KOTR Holiday Party. Where would like to go for dinner? Would you like to do a gift exchange? How about a date? Let's have your input before we set things in stone!

Last season we went to Olive Garden for dinner and then to the Live Oak "Come to the Light" outdoor Christmas show. Let's knock it out of the park this year with something very special!

Get back with us A.S.A.P.

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