

Professional Car Society, Inc. Florida Chapter



April 2010-2nd Quarter

Florida Chapter-Man we are Busy!

Let anyone try to tell me the Florida Chapter is not doing anything and was bound to fail and I will take them out back and open up a can of whoopa\$\$.

The Florida Chapter is alive and doing very well indeed. There is hardly a weekend that goes by that the Chapter is not involved with a car or emergency vehicle show, Birthplace of Speed Centennial Celebration (very historic event), or some other occasion. The spring and summer months ahead reflect a ton of

activity as well. As I write, there are members of our brotherly PCS Chapters driving hundreds of miles to attend our Emergency Vehicles Show on March 27th. I am sure they are coming to spend time with us and not just for the sunshine. Just how exciting is that!

I have to give credit where credit is due. If not for the influence of the "Ga-Father" aka Bill Wright I am not too sure the Chapter would have gotten off the ground. Oh sure, we would have started, did a few things,

and then disappeared as one west coast person predicted.

But with Bill pushing, sorry... assisting, he has giving me the enthusiasm we need to keep this Chapter going. When attending the Chapter events, you always see Bill snagging someone and talking their ear off about the PCS. I am sure he is making them an offer they cannot refuse!

So this is to Mr. Bill Wright. I appreciate you and your excitement for the Florida Chapter.



PCS-Florida Chapter has a new Banner!

When I saw a picture of a PCS banner for the Volunteer Chapter in Tennessee, I knew I just had to have one for us. Also, while attending the Turkey Rod Run Car Show in Daytona, I saw several car clubs with banners positioned in

front of their cars. I contacted LeeAnn Boston and next thing I know, we have a banner being made for our Chapter. I chose a smaller version for easy transport and set-up. It is mounted on a PVC frame making it light-

weight too. Thanks to the Settle-Wilder Funeral Home for their donation to pay for it and a special "Thank You" to LeeAnn for her efforts in making it happen.



Professional Car Society, Inc.-Inside News



I received this delightful story from member Danny Ryder. You have heard the story about the man going to see a man about a dog. This is about a hearse.

A few months before the Kingsport Meet, I got a call from a funeral director in South Carolina wanting to sell his 46 Cadillac hearse. His price was fair so I asked for pictures. Just before the meet, I got the Polaroid pictures and began to think I was getting scammed. At the Kingsport Meet I am telling Gene

Williams about this deal. Gene whips out a picture of his dad with the same type of car. He informs me he would be interested in the hearse because his dad used to run one of these. After a few weeks, I decided to hook up the trailer and go off to South Carolina to take a peek. I took the trailer figuring if the hearse is in the condition the seller says it is in, I would bring it home. I get there and turns out the hearse is even in better shape than expected. I quickly get

her loaded on the trailer before he the seller changes his mind. Hearse was original black paint, burgundy velour interior near perfect, and original flat-head V-8 with three on the tree. Runs and drives and needs very little work. I loved the car, but since I was not looking for one thought of Gene. I called Gene and before you know it we have a deal.

Good luck Gene!!

Did you remember to cast your ballot??

Oh what a day it was. It started out cool and sunny and before long, the sun was high in the sky and people were everywhere. Three PCS ambulances attended the "Birthplace of Speed Centennial Celebration" at the Case-ment's on the river in Ormond Beach on March 16th. The event celebrates 100 years of speed in Ormond Beach, where it all began. It was a time when racing and

experimental cars dotted the small city, all vying for a spot in automotive history. Keep in mind, this was 100 years ago. So you can imagine how our ambulances stood out amongst these early 1900 autos. This was an "invitation only" event with live music and people dressed the part.



Website for Updates

If you want to keep up with all the events happening in a pictorial format, then visit these sites today and click on the albums:

http://s946.photobucket.com/home/PCS_photos/allalbums

professionalcarsociety.org

http://s74.photobucket.com/albums/i277/RichardV_2006

You will always find the latest pictures and videos of events the Florida Chapter is/has been involved in. From car shows to BBQ's. See the cars, see the members, see your Chapter President working hard in improving the PCS.

As always, I encourage each and everyone of you to visit the offi-

cial website of the Professional Car Society, Inc. and sign up today. Stop in and say, "Hi" or just cruise the site for the latest stories, information, pictures, et cetera.

Contact me if you have an issue, suggestion, or anyquestions.

Sixth Annual Mid-Michigan Micro Meet

This was the Sixth Annual Mid-Michigan Micro Meet held in Flint, MI. You might ask, “What in the world is a Micro Meet?”

Well folks, it all started six years ago when Brady Smith and Walt McCall, who both have a massive collection of die-cast hearse and ambulances, decided there must be a way to keep

the professional car spirit alive during the dreadful winter months. So the idea of a Micro Meet came to pass.

This was my first time attending and have to tell you; Brady, Kim, and all involved did a BANG up job. There were international travelers and PCS people who traveled well

over 1,000 miles for this event. I, for one, was not disappointed. The event was held at Brady’s Garaj Mahal—which in and of itself is a treat to see. There were well over a hundred models on display, including Brady’s show-cased collections.

If you ever get a chance to attend this event, “Make it so!”



Member of the Month

This month I would like to feature one of our members (actually two members) from Pensacola, FL. I am talking about Charles and Linda Meldrom and their 1978 Buick hearse. This Buick hearse is one of only 63 Buick hearses that were converted by Ambruster Stageway for Superior. It

features a 403 Oldsmobile engine, along with most of the other toys offered that year. The exterior is light grey with black top and the interior is blue. In one of the pictures they sent me, on the inside there is a cot bar on the left side that appears to be in very nice shape. Hopefully, I will be fortunate

enough to see it in person one day.

Keep watching the events Charles, Linda, and the rest of us attend.

Maybe you will have the opportunity to join us. Thanks for sharing.



*Bill and I having some fun!
Emergency Room Re-Activated*

Visiting John Keels’ Grave

While attending the February Micro Meet in Flint several of the “John Keel Award” recipients decided to take a run to visit John’s grave.

We commandeered LeeAnn’s 6-door limo, Elmo, and away we went. Before heading north, we swung by an old, aban-

doned funeral home for a quick tour. Once on the road again, we traveled 58 miles north and had the pleasure of meeting Ann Keel, John’s mother, for a visit. We met at the house and was treated to a tour of John’s cars: a burgundy colored 73 hearse-Ravenna; a 1971 Cadillac Limo, and a 73 Cadillac

hearse. Then off we go across the street to visit his grave.

What a magnificent tombstone displaying his hearse, a set of landau bars, and the PCS logo. Very touching and sad.

May you rest in peace, John Keel.



PROESSIONAL
CAR SOCIETY
FLORIDA CHAPTER



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[The official website of the Professional Car Society Inc. is: www.professionalsocietycar.org](http://www.professionalsocietycar.org)

[Please visit the site and register today! The site is alive with activity and all in a positive manner.](http://www.professionalsocietycar.org)

**2nd Annual Emergency Vehicle
Past & Present Car Show**
March 27 Ocala, FL



Bill Wright—Top 20 Award



Larry Wilson—Top 20 Award
and Long Distance Award



The Williams—Best of Emergency
Show Award



The Gills—Top 20 Award

The Emergency Vehicle Show was a BLAST!! We had trophy winners all around and a great turnout for the PCS-Florida Chapter. Those in attendance were: Larry Wilson and Nick Bliss from Indiana, Danny Ryder from Georgia, Sam and Pam Gill, Bill Wright, Gene and Vonda Williams, and myself.

Congratulations!!!!

