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## Our featured Guest Writers

*Aren't we lucky to have them!*

### Sandy Kane

Sandy puts together one incredible show every year that supports a worthy cause. Read about it in this edition!

### Dennis Quitoni

Being a long-time racer and someone who is still active in the sport - both as a driver and builder, Dennis knows a good racing venue when he encounters one!

## "Time to Decide"

*Keep or sell your classic?.*

**By Peter Giordano**  
Editor

We all have been at that moment - when we think about whether or not to sell our special car. There are so many factors that go into deciding. Most of them are emotional in nature. Some are not.

We tend to get really involved with our cars - time-wise, financially, emotionally, and sometimes sentimentally. Separating the emotional from the material is often hard to do! But that can be the critical factor in making a deal and letting your "baby" go.

I have been there many times. On a few occasions it was relatively easy to do, but other times, it was a very hard decision to make!

For some, it is all about money. They have no ties to a vehicle beyond their investment and what they may or may not get back from it. Those folks tend to see it all in black and white, and if the deal is good - they take it! For the rest of us, it is not so easy!

Sometimes, we are not actively looking to sell, when someone approaches and says "Hey - is this for sale? And - how much do you want for it?" Being taken by surprise like that can sometimes lead to the wrenching decision-making of letting go of a car you have had for a long time and/or care about deeply. Or of passing up a potentially good deal that will free up some cash for another project!

*continued on page 2*

What do you do?

Well, here are some suggestions!

If you have no emotional ties to the vehicle, and the price being offered is one you can live with, maybe you have been considering a new purchase or another project, by all means - do it!

Or let's say you are in over your head on the car - either through work that it still needs to have done, or monetarily... sometimes getting out of it is the best thing to do. Take the deal. You may not get that opportunity again for a while.

Remember - sometimes you have to "cut your losses and move on." That's not to say that you should just "drop your pants" and take the first half-way decent offer, but if it is reasonable - grab it!

Another factor to consider is the "replaceability" of your car. Is it rare, or more of a common car that you can always buy another one like it again in the future should you realize you miss it terribly and regret selling it?

Some cars like Mustangs are so plentiful that you can find ten more for sale like the one you just sold on any given day. Other cars, like a Torino Talledega are very rare indeed and you might never come across another one again!

Same goes for Camaros and Chevelles, extremely plentiful and easy to find. But if yours is an LS6 or Yenko, perhaps you should think twice about letting it go.

I have a '71 'Cuda that people have been trying to buy from me for almost 20 years. '71 'Cudas, as any car aficionado will know, are one of the most sought after and valuable of the Muscle cars. They are also quite rare. Especially when they are a high-impact color like Curious Yellow, with a Shaker Hood, Billboards, Pistol Grip, etc, etc. The car is all stock and came like this from the factory. They are the only year 'Cuda ever to have the Gilled fenders, quad headlights and Billboard graphics. I do not want to sell it!

Now, I have had many folks tell me to take the money offered me a run! But - I love cars. I am not in it for the money, never have been. I buy a car because it does something for me. And when I get one like this that is so special on top of that - I do not want to let it go.

But - in reality, if the money offered to me was of such a nature that I would be foolish to say no, then yes, I would take it. But I would probably start searching for another one almost immediately!

Lastly, if you have strong sentimental attachment to a car (which I do not with my 'Cuda, but do with my Charger R/T), then what should you do? Sell it or not?

That is your wrenching decision to make. I would not sell my '71 Charger R/T for anything. It was my Dad's, and will be my son's one day. That decision is made.



## Long Island Classic Cars'

# AUTOMOTIVE PICTURE CAPTION CONTEST

This contest is open to everyone!

(LI Classic Cars.com paid personnel, regular column writers, and business advertisers are not eligible.)

Winners will be notified by e-mail and/or phone.

Please submit all entries by the 1st of the next month. (Ex: for July's contest the entries are due by Aug 1st)

No substitutions of prizes will be allowed.

In the event of prize choices, winner will be given the opportunity to select the one they want.

All decisions are final and are made by the paid personnel of Long Island Classic Cars.com

Winners must claim their prizes within 30 days of contest end or forfeit the prize to the runner up.

If there are multiple correct entries on puzzle, matching, fill-in, or Q&A contests - winner will be randomly selected from all correct entries.

### **A few simple rules:**

- 1) Be funny and creative!**
- 2) Keep it somewhat clean!**



Here's the winner of the last contest.

**Stan Beisel**

Stan wins a "Metric Socket Set"!  
Congrats Stan!!

**"The shit was about to hit the fan. The radiator, the Jones family, and everything else!"**

**Here is this month's Picture Caption Contest image....**



**Send in your caption by 9/21/13 and be in the running to win the prize!**

# Cruise Night Information!



**“EXTRA EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!!”**

**I would appreciate info, feedback, and comments from you folks that have actually been to these places recently.  
Please let me know what they are like.**

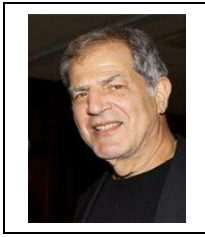
- MONDAYS: ZERO - ZIP - NADA - any info anyone?
- TUESDAYS: Dogwood Avenue. Franklin Square, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- TUESDAYS: Yaphank FD. Yaphank, NY.  
Sponsored by Yaphank Fire Department - FREE
- TUESDAYS: Tri-County Flea Market. Hempstead Turnpike, Levittown, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- WEDNESDAYS: Nathan's. Long Beach Rd, Oceanside, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- WEDNESDAYS: Broadway Mall. Routes 106/107, Hicksville, NY (July & Aug only)  
Sponsored by the Mall and Hicksville Civic Assoc. Donation – 3 cans of food for local charities.
- WEDNESDAYS: Richie Ray's Pizza. 540 Commack Rd. (Corner LI Ave) Deer Park, NY  
Sponsored by the Pizza place – FREE
- THURSDAYS: Wendy's Shopping Center. Montauk Hwy and Locust Ave, Oakdale, NY  
Sponsored by Still Cruisin' Car Club. FREE
- THURSDAYS: Kings Park Plaza-Located on Indian Head Rd & Meadow Rd. Kings Park, NY  
Sponsored by Kings Park Chamber of Commerce and Professor's Diner. FREE
- THURSDAYS: Atlantic Avenue between Merrick Rd and Sunrise Hwy. Lynbrook, NY (June-August)  
Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce for "Community Chest" soup kitchen. \$? to charity.
- THURSDAYS: Main St. Peconic River Front, Riverhead, NY  
Sponsored by The Chamber of Commerce. FREE (June-August)
- FRIDAYS: Bellmore Train Station. Sunrise Highway. Bellmore, NY  
Now run by...?.. some local group now charging \$5 - expensive - any info about this ??
- FRIDAYS: Massapequa Train Station. Sunrise Highway. Massapequa, NY  
Sponsored by Massapequa Chamber of Commerce. Two cans or more of food – to charity. (July - August)
- FRIDAYS: Meschutt Beach @ The Beach Hut. Canal Rd. Hampton Bays, NY.  
Public Gathering. FREE after 5PM
- SATURDAYS: Bob's/McDonalds Shopping Center. Sunrise Highway, West Islip, NY  
Sponsored by the Long Island Road Gents. FREE
- SATURDAYS: Pep Boys Shopping Center. Waverly Ave & Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY  
Sponsored by the Impressive & Aggressive Motor Club. FREE
- SATURDAYS: Cedar Beach @ The Beach Hut. Ocean Parkway, Cedar Beach, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- SATURDAYS: Super Stop & Shop. Rt 25 (1/4 mile east of the Bull), Smithtown, NY  
Permission from Stop & Shop. FREE
- SATURDAYS: Aliano's Shopping Center. Rt 25A. Miller Place, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- SUNDAYS: \*AM Cruise\* Ocean Pkwy, Captree Beach thru May, then at OBI. Babylon, NY  
Public Gathering. FREE
- SUNDAYS: \*AM Cruise\* Bob's/McDonalds Shopping Center. Sunrise Highway, West Islip, NY  
Sponsored by the Long Island Road Gents. FREE

Sundays were holding two other "Breakfast Cruises" at Joe's Muscle Car Garage in Babylon, and at "The Garage Diner" in Islandia. Does anyone know if those are still active or not? Also some restaurants were hosting Monday night venues. - Info?

**What about Brooklyn & Queens? They are part of LI too!  
Anyone have info about Cruise Nights being held there?**

## "LI Cruizin For a Cure"

*Feature-filled fun and life-saving importance!.*



**By Sandy Kane**  
Guest Writer

The night before our 2012 event there was a hurricane watch. Sunday dawned in the low 70's, dry and sunny - the best weather we have ever had! We lucked out again!! We also had our best turnout - 500 Exhibitor cars and 2,400 paid visitors - and most important, we provided 306 free PSA tests with 22 elevated levels returned, the first indication of the possibility of Prostate Cancer!

The free PSA test, available to every male attending our collectible car "event" , uncovered these elevated levels, which can ultimately lead to a diagnosis of Prostate Cancer! Early detection led these men to seek proper medical care, and as a result they can go on to lead long and healthy lives!



We are all volunteer (no one is compensated) and a NYS 501(C)3 Not For Profit. The proceeds provide free PSA testing at the event and for basic Prostate Cancer research - in 2012 we gave Cold Spring Harbor Labs here on Long Island \$20,000.00 !



We are returning to the Sears Auto Center in Hicksville and expect to break attendance records.

The event date is Sunday September 8, 2013 (no rain date) and will include an afternoon doo wop concert.

### **Now on to the good "stuff!"**

Back by popular demand and expanded is our Kids Fun Zone. It will be anchored for the second year in the back corner of the event floor by Island Raceway & Hobby with its large 50' x 100' outdoor model racing car raceway track, complete with exciting turns and moguls (little hills).

Do you like video and arcade games? If so, you will go bonkers over Game Truck Party, a 40-foot-long enclosed trailer loaded with video and arcade games, just waiting to be challenged.





Be sure to stop off at the Long Island Karting Association booth to learn more about go-karting here on Long Island.

On a more serious note, we have a computer scanning Children's Fingerprinting program and B.A.C.A., a group of bikers dedicated to helping battered and abused kids get over the trauma of their experience.

Our "Auto Vendor Alley" will be anchored by Parts Authority, Action Powder Coating, Falcon Clutch, Snap On Tools and more (maybe a surprise or two!), so stop in to find the parts/supplies/tools you need for your current project and get your technical questions answered.



Hungry? Visit our newly revamped Food Court, anchored by Johnny Rockets, Frankie's Famous and Chef Gail, plus other vendors too!

While you are at the food court make sure to walk across the way and give a shout to Fonzie and ChaChi, who will be spinning oldies all morning long and hosting our doo wop concert in the afternoon. We will have Stardust, The Traditions and the Teen-Sations performing on our stage for most of the afternoon.

Lastly, don't forget the hundreds – yes, we said HUNDREDS! – of cars (and maybe a few motorcycles) that will be exhibiting at Long Island Cruizin' 2013.



Walk around and bring back some good memories - and please – if you are over 40, stop and take a PSA test. It is nothing more than a simple blood draw and it could save your life, just as it saved mine nine years ago!

As they say in the classic old song...  
"SEE YOU, IN SEPTEMBER!!"



# "I Racing of Long Island...A Really Cool Day at the Race Track"

*Without really going there*

"Better bring a seatbelt!"



**By Dennis Quitoni**  
Guest Writer

I just went through one of the coolest experiences any car guy could have, I drove an F1 car. That's right.. Formula One!

O.K. your right, no F1 car owner would ever allow me even close to one of those cars. But I did the next best thing; I got as close to driving a real F1 car as any of us ever will. Not only did I have this great experience but I had your editor Mr. Peter "Andretti" Giordano racing there right alongside me!

Allow me to explain, right here on LI - in Hauppauge, just off of Motor Parkway, is the **I Racing Center of Long Island.**



What is **I Racing**? It's a group of four race car simulators. Real race car simulators. It's only been around for two years and started as a teaching school for race drivers to improve their driving skills. Pete and I showed them just how much teaching they needed to do. Ferrari racer, and instructor Artie Weiner runs the simulators and instructs wannabe drivers [like Pete and me] as well as serious competitive racers.



Allow me to let Artie explain, "We started as a teaching school for race drivers but we are now open to the public, to give anyone a chance to learn to race or just spend some time in a car to feel what it's like to drive at competitive speeds. We have four simulators that can also be linked up together so you can race four drivers at the same time! We can display 30 real tracks and 25 different cars.

All the cars can be set up for individual personal racing. You can pick and adjust tire pressure, gear ratios, wing settings, and any and all mechanical changes. This can be done to any one of the cars, including settings for the color of the car and the number on the side."

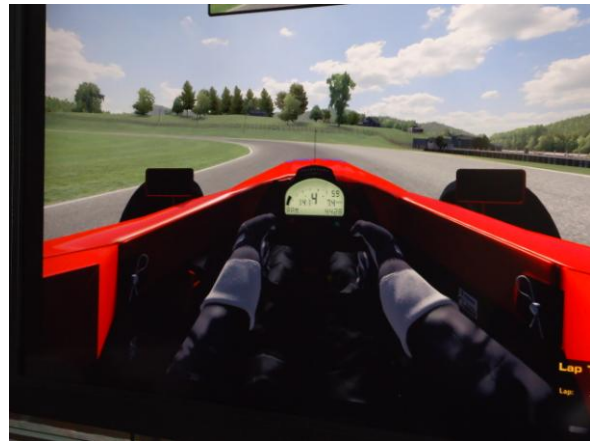


Eventuality “Mario” Giordano and I had to be physically removed from the seats of our race car simulators. This, is **really, really, cool !!** You just don’t want to stop. You can drive a Mazda, or an Indy car, a Ford GT4, Mustang GT500, a C6 Corvette, a Formula Ford, even a Cadillac CTSV.

Artie says “We also provide scheduled and non-scheduled races of up to eighteen cars at a time! We are linked by computer all over the world so you can race other drivers in the United states or Europe. You can learn to drive at Daytona, Road Atlanta, Watkins Glen, Road America, Laguna Seca, and that list continues with twenty four other race tracks.” Have I mentioned that this is **really cool stuff?**



You can have a personal professional instructor or just practice yourself. You sit in a real seat, with a real steering wheel, and there is a paddle shifter just the same as Formula cars have, including clutch, brake, and gas pedals! A lap time clock and a tachometer, as well as a miles per hour indicator all serve to help you improve your racing skills.



**I Racing** is open by appointment any day, and any time that is convenient for you. I would have paid more for the experience if I had to, but **I Racing** only cost \$40.00 for one hour. You can also set up a complete race with three of your friends that includes practicing, qualifying, and a 15 lap race at the track of your choosing. Trophies are awarded for the winners and runner up.

You can also have corporate or birthday parties, club meetings, or any other event you can imagine! Go yourself or take some friends, it's **really really cool.** Call Artie, you will love it...516-984-4868

Tell him Dennis and Long Island Classic Cars.com sent you!





# My Car Story



**By Mark Halvey**

In the spring of 1977, I was looking to purchase an older convertible to use as a commuter car from my apartment in Fresh Meadows, Queens to my work in Astoria, Queens. A short search of the newspaper turned up a 1968 Plymouth Barracuda Formula S Convertible with a 340/automatic combo. Seemed to be the perfect work car. For a mere \$500 (remember this was 1977 ) it was mine!

The car's color combo is Forrest Green Metallic with white stripes and a black top. It has "gills" between the wheel wells which look really cool! It sports a black bucket seat interior with an auto shift in the console and Rally Pack dash. Power top, power steering and power disc brakes round out the car's equipment options.



The Barracuda seemed to have a troubled existence as something was always going wrong with it, and my wife made fun of it because her '69 Charger could easily walk away from it at any stop light drag. However, being able to drop the top when the time seemed right was a wonderful thing. In 1978 we bought a house and as the troubled car it was, it died the day we closed on the house! We had to push it into the garage where it slept peacefully for quite a few years.



I got the 'Cuda up and running in the 80's and ultimately did a resto-mod a little at a time. First off I added Cragar wheels and BF Goodrich T/A's. Then I installed a new 360 cubic inch crate motor in '92, bodywork and paint in '96 and so forth. Pretty much over time, every wire, tube and assembly has been replaced or rebuilt.

Down the road, I was unhappy with the handling and added frame connectors, increased the diameter of the front sway bar and added a rear sway bar. The '68 Barracuda now handles the road considerably better, these were some of the best changes I made to the car!

The Barracuda now handles the road considerably better, one of the best things I did to the car. At this point the Barracuda is reliable and comfortable to drive anywhere. Outside of rebuilding the original 340 engine one day, this car will pretty much stay the way it is now.



While stripping the dash down, I stumbled on the warranty card with the original owners name and this led to speaking with the early owners! Owner #1 received the car as a high school graduation gift. He Rally raced the car from time to time during his tenure. Owner #2 used it as his daily transportation and occasional racer at the drags. #3 was a high school student as was Owner #4. Then it was my turn. I am #5 and (*unless Pete Giordano finally succeeds in buying this car from me,*) it will be passed down in my family!



During the resto, I sent VIN tracings to Galen Govier (1996 ) who told me there were only 14 documented '68 Formula S Automatic Barracuda Convertibles as of that writing. One website sent to me by a friend stated 336 '68 Formula S 340 Auto Convertibles were built.

No matter what the actual production number may be, it seems to be pretty rare!

Who would have thought that what started as a \$500 beater for work would be a rare classic one day! Back then muscle cars we cheap and plentiful.

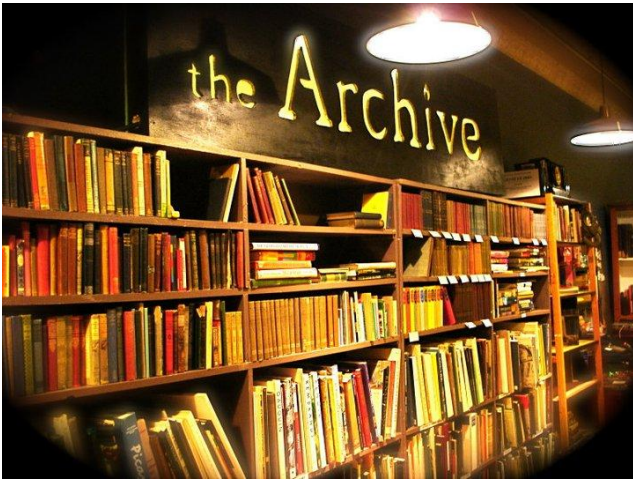


A mere 36 years later and it would take a lot for me to part with the " old car ". It's noisy, smelly, handles and brakes awful and I love it.

Just perfect!!







Here is where we keep the past records of all our old Newsletter editions. You will never find them on your own, as they are kept at a secret and secure location inside an impenetrable vault.

These are the latest pictures of our facility.



Once inside, access is only obtained by permission of our crack staff of security and record-keeping personnel.

**WARNING:** They are highly trained in all forms of martial arts and weapons use. Though they might not look the part, these are serious individuals. Be forewarned!



On occasion we will surreptitiously move the contents to other secure locations we have contracted to use. Our documents are very valuable and their protection is of paramount importance to the Collector Car Hobby.

Here is a picture of "Jim". He is one of our top Archivists. He is experienced, having been involved in the car hobby since 1947. He is also a former Green Beret and was an NSA auditor.



**Here is a link you can use to view these old materials.....enjoy!**

<http://www.liclassiccars.com/Newsletter/>

## "Closing Comments"

*'Bout time!!*

**By Peter Giordano**

Editor

Seems last time out some people couldn't open the Newsletter to read it. Was it because they have older outdated systems that wouldn't open it? Were there any Gremlins (*Not the AMC variety*) preventing it? Did I make an error in "file type"?

I hope many more of you can have the opportunity to delve into this astounding, informative, and entertaining piece of literature this time around!

Enjoy the rest of the "Car Season" - we still have a few good months left in it!

Your comments are welcome folks!

**Let us know what you think about the new format of the Newsletter!**

How about our writer's efforts?

We'd like to hear from you!

Feedback is a good thing!

Send to: [newsletter@liclassiccars.com](mailto:newsletter@liclassiccars.com)

**We are actively seeking submissions for the MY CAR STORY features!**

If you have a classic or specialty car or truck - let us know. We would love to do a feature on it!

**We are also always welcoming to new writers** who have ideas and would like to try their hand at it. You can write just one column if you like, or, a series, or even become a regular on a part-time basis!

**Give us a call or send an e-mail!**

See you out there at the shows and cruise nights, or just driving around!

