

### THE SAAB CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA

#### OCT - DEC 2022 : ISSUE 371





















European Motor Services (Pa) Genuinesaab International Imports Modern Classic Saab Auto Autopsy



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**Cover photo:** Stephen Butler's 1967 Saab 95 3 cylinder 2-stroke with 86,000 miles and still used as a daily driver. Photo by: Martha Boshart

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear SCNA Members,

I keep thinking of a version of that line from the 1989 movie, **Field of Dreams**, where the voice whispers: "If you build it, they will come." In some ways, Tom and Patti Donney were channeling that same spirit when they decided to locate the **Saab Heritage Museum** in Sturgis, SD. With great driving roads, majestic scenery and a dry climate, Sturgis is an ideal site for the museum, although this remote destination is a fair distance from most major metropolitan areas. The Donneys have spent these past four years hard at work transforming their building into an amazing homage to both the Saab brand and the people who continue to drive and enjoy them. Just as the line predicted in the film, our year of planning for **SOC '22** in Sturgis resulted in a turnout that exceeded our expectations and demonstrated that people are willing to travel a great distance to see this impressive collection. More importantly, we all yearn to reconnect with the Saab brand and with Saab enthusiasts across the country and around the world.

While most SOCs begin with an optional activity on Thursday, this year I and other board members arrived a full week before the convention in order to try to make sure everything was in order. Since we knew that many people would be arriving early, and because the Black Hills has so many worthwhile sites to visit, we planned two informal excursions before the kickoff dinner Thursday night at the Sturgis Brewing Company. On Wednesday, there was a group of about 20-25 people who drove out to Devil's Tower via the tiny town of Alladin, Wyoming (population 15) for the day. Then, early on Thursday morning, I led a group of more than 40 cars up to Mt. Rushmore for a photo from the top of their parking deck. In the end, we had so many cars that there was no way to fit them all into the picture, so instead we took a fun shot of all of the people with the monument looking tiny in the background. I should have taken the Thursday turnout as a sign of what we were to expect from SOC.

Throughout the rest of the weekend, we had a steady stream of people arriving at the museum to view the collection as well as to enjoy the variety of cars on the Showfield. I would like to take a moment to thank our Title sponsor, **Scanwest Autosport**, for their support and for bringing their 1995 900 Turbo SCCA pro-rally car which was restored back to driving condition and donated to the museum.

It is always fun to reconnect with old friends, but my favorite part of SOC is meeting the new attendees, both young and old, who share the passion for the brand but

who may not have known about or been able to attend an event in the past. Please enjoy this convention issue of **9s**, and we hope to see you out at an event sometime soon.

Sincerely,

Sanford Bogage



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# WHAT PRICE NOSTALGIA?

KELLY R. CONATY, MD

We've all heard or even used the aphorism which has been around since Publilius Syrus conveyed it in a pithy memorable statement in the 1st century BC :"a thing is worth what its purchaser will pay for it" But is this really true? The recent sale of an ultra-low mileage Saab c900 convertible on **Bringatrailer.com** for the insanely stratospheric price of **\$145,000** seems to bring this into serious question. Is this the new norm for sales of the venerable Saab c900? Or is it purely a nostalgia play for the buyer?

Feelings of nostalgia, or sentimentality for days gone by, lead us to place increased value on things that evoke our emotions, and less value on preserving money. Nostalgia's influence over our

willingness to spend money is referred to as the "nostalgia effect."

The buyer of this car himself commented on BaT: "Was my first car and took my wife on our first date in it" and later on: "Will drive it every anniversary with my wife at least." Obviously, the value this buyer placed on

nostalgia for days gone by far outweighed the

true value of the car. So the true value of such cars?

Time will tell. Look for an analysis of price trends for the Saab c900 in a future issue of 9s.

And a final aphorism from Publilius Syrus:

photo courtesy Bring a Trailer

"It is the soul; not the body, that makes an enduring marriage." 🍈

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CAAB HERITAGE MUSE





\*Display Setup \* Literature Sorting \* Tour Guide \* Car Cleaning

# BEST IN SHOW



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## **PEOPLE'S CHOICE - BEST IN SHOW**



Our **Concours d'Saab** is based on the idea of presenting the "Best of the Best". Our goal is to assemble these Saabs in an arena of competition which highlights their original design and construction specifications. The SCNA Concours d'Saab rules are designed to give equal weight to originality and condition.

Car photos by Daniel Dorman, people by Greg Abbott

# **CONCOURS** d'SAAB

**SOC** 2022





**1**<sup>st</sup> **Jim Beetham** Colorado - R

**2**<sup>nd</sup> **Larry Beetham** Colorado - L





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**1**⁵† **Doug Crane** Colorado - L

2<sup>nd</sup> Cathy Bollschweiler Colorado - R







1<sup>st</sup> Ralph Bockoven Massachusetts - L



2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Adams

Indiana - R







# WHERE THE **SAABs ARE!**

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### SPECIAL AWARDS SOC 2022

#### PAUL PERRY



### Larry "Stroker" Williams Award

Saab enthusiast Larry Williams was fondly known as "Stroker". Larry, his wife Katha, and Sadie (his '63 bullnose Saab 96) were fixtures every year at SOC. Larry's passion for Saab was contagious and he loved sharing it with anyone that would listen. Presented by SCNA



### **Bob Sinclair Award**

"Uncle Bob" Sinclair was the former CEO of Saab-Scania of America who was instrumental in raising the profile of the Saab brand in the United States in the '80s and early '90s by insisting that Saab offer high-end and performance options in the classic 900 as well as developing the first Saab convertible. Presented by SCNA

# **RYAN ENGLER**



## Young Enthusiast Award

Recognizing and encouraging the next generation of Saab enthusiasts, this award is given to a dedicated and passionate Saab enthusiast under 30. Presented by SCNA

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### **AL HUSEMAN**



### **Preservation Award**

Preservation can mean different things. Some strive to preserve their vehicles, while others work to preserve the brand by providing parts, knowledge, and support to other Saab owners. **Presented by SCNA** 





### Walter Kern Award

Walter Kern is best known as the man who created the Saab Quantum. An MIT-trained nuclear physicist, Walter loved amateur racing. This is awarded to the person who best exemplifies the innovation and creativity that Walter Kern exemplified in his endeavors.

Presented by Vintage Saab Club of North America

# SPECIAL AWARDS CONT.



BOB

NICKLAY



**ANDREWS** 



BILL JACOBSON

## **Philanthropic Award**

This award recognizes the individuals who provide generous support, either monetary or non-monetary support, to the **Saab Heritage Car Museum USA** in an effort to ensure the future of the museum for years to come.

Presented by the Saab Heritage Car Museum USA

# SAABS ONLINE



SAAB WIS Online Workshop Information System

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This is an online version of an application used by dealers and independent shops to diagnose issues and make repairs. SCNA makes this free resource available to the entire Saab community. We hope this information will help keep your Saab running for many more years. To use this online workshop information system, visit scabWISonline.com



### Saab Services and Club Discounts

Visit **saabclub.com/service** for information on receiving discounts using our SCNA Service Discounts Program.



Connect with us on Social Media!





A thousand thank you's to all of the extremely hardworking volunteers that helped with this year's unique national convention. We simply could not have pulled it off without your help. The SCNA Board of Directors is well aware of the sacrifice you make when you commit to spending part of your convention working to enhance the experience of other attendees. Whether you spent your time judging Concours entrees, marking the show lot, keeping the grounds free of trash and debris, selling merch, manning the entrance, or assisting with registration, you are all equally vital to the success of SOC. So **tusen tack**, "a thousand thanks," to all our beloved volunteers.



Volunteers Mellisa Welker, Robert and Meredith Zaches, Li Sa Warner





Julie Gardner



Mark and Trudi Hodges



Steve and Martha Boshart



Saunders Lee, Kurt Olson and Brian Stauss

## 9 QUESTIONS BY 95 EDITORIAL TEAM

**9 Questions** introduces two members of our Saab community: one from the "OG" (older crowd) and one from the "NG" (younger crowd) by asking them the same 9 questions about their experience as a Saab enthusiast. We hope you enjoy getting to know them a little bit.



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## **ERIC CREWS**

Eric lives in Southern Indiana with his partner, Chris Hatfield, and two dogs, Roofie and Ranger and also a pet raccoon named Roxy that lives in a tree. While his passion has always been farming, Eric is currently a truck driver crisscrossing the country delivering goods. While traveling about, he occasionally spots Saabs or gets to meet up with some other Saab people.

#### Are you the first person in your family to own a Saab?

On my side, yes. My partner, Chris Hatfield, introduced me to Saab when he took my Cadillac to go look at a Jeep and he showed up with a 9-3 convertible instead.... That was the beginning for me.

#### What is one Saab that you would like to own?

I've always wanted a 9-7x Aero!

#### What cars other than Saabs do you own?

2021 Chevy Duramax..gotta have something to tow with!





#### What NEW car would you choose today and why?

Land Rover Defender. Love the looks and versatility of them!

#### Do your friends make Saab jokes?

They're just used to the craziness of another Saab showing up. One friend says wow that's a nice car, do you need some space in the machine shed to park it in?

#### Has anyone ever mistaken your Saab for another brand?

BMW is the most common brand it's mistaken for, especially when we had our '04 9-5 Aero

#### Have you ever slept in your Saab?

Never have but have thought about it. I sleep in a semi truck 3 weeks out of a month. So on a road trip a hotel is nice!

# What is the most embarrassing thing that's happened in your Saab?

Having to explain to your friend that the smell of gas inside the car is perfectly normal and it won't burn your machine shed down!

#### Who is your Saab idol?

I can't say that it would just be one person but a combination of people that work hard to keep the brand alive... The master techs that keep our cars running. eSAAB for supplying parts and the many other individuals that help others with their wealth of knowledge.



# DAVID C. JOYCE

David just retired after 42 years in higher education (26 of them as a college president). He has a very patient wife who tolerates his Saab passion, especially when he attempted to restore a Sonett from two clunkers. He's owned the '66 96, a '73 96 (V4), a 900, a 9000, a '03 Saab 9-3 purchased at the factory in Trollhättan, a '06 9-3 convertible, and now the '08 convertible. He considers himself to be a "Saab nut." His wife tolerated a slight deviation on their honeymoon in Switzerland in 1985. On the way to Zermatt, they attended the Geneva auto show where David spent the day oogling the Saab line and concept cars. His wife surprised him with a limited edition Saab watch that she purchased at the Saab pavilion. It's still one of his most precious possessions! David and his wife are loving life, living in the mountains of NC where they mountain bike as much as possible, and take long drives in their Saab convertible on the Blue Ridge Parkway. David says: "Life is good."

#### Are you the first person in your family to own a Saab?

Yes. My first Saab was my first car at 16 years of age. It was a 3 cylinder, 3 carburetor, 2-cycle 1966 Saab 96 Monte Carlo. This was in 1969 when everyone else was driving Mustangs and GTOs. I loved my unique front wheel drive beauty!

# What is one Saab that you would like to own?

Whatever Saab I have at the time. Right now I own a 2008 Saab 9-3 convertible (with 50,000 miles on the odometer). My wife found it for me online in the middle of the pandemic. It is in wonderful condition and very special to us. However, if I could find a pristine Sonett 2...



#### What cars other than Saabs do you own?

2021 Jeep Gladiator and my wife drives a 2021 Jeep Renegade.

#### What NEW car would you choose today and why?

A 2022 Jeep Gladiator?

#### Do your friends make Saab jokes?

My friends know better.

#### Has anyone ever mistaken your Saab for another brand?

No, but folks have asked me what happened to the Saab brand and where did I find my convertible.

#### Have you ever slept in your Saab?

Yes. I slept in my '66 96 at a weekend concert in NC. Great car as the seats folded flat. Great concert too - Three Dog Night, Alice Cooper and many other big names.

# What is the most embarrassing thing that's happened in your Saab?

I tried to drive it on the beach in NC and it got stuck. Had to call friends (from a pay phone) to help me out. We literally lifted the car and carried it 20+ feet to the access road.

#### Who is your Saab idol?

My great-grandfather. He introduced me to Saab. He emigrated to the US from Sweden prior to WWII. He lived in East Haven, CT and would travel on the Saab freighter to Sweden to visit family. Interestingly, he never owned a Saab... but he loved the brand!

#### Do you think that you have a good Saab Story for the 9 Questions Column?

Scan the QR code and submit your information to be considered for inclusion in a future edition of **9s** 











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Group photo Devil's Tower entrance



The Klene's 900 at Devil's Tower





Mount Rushmore through the front window

SAAB OWNERS CONVENTION



# TOURING THE BLACK HILLS





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Rock Star Noel Simmons' Geology tour









9s

14 SAAB CLUB OF

NORTH AMERICA Twins Jon Hochstetter and Michael Lamy



Best in Show Concours award

# SOC **2022**



Aidan Patrick polishing his NG 9-3 SS People's Choice winner



Amy Klene's hair is on point!



Welcome to Sturgis



A die-cast Saab smile



David and Miriam Millin



Team SAAB - Gary Fischer bikes



Jordan Pagano NOT talking about T5 conversions





Nik 'Cannonballer' Kreuger



Crystal Red 9-4X in the Badlands







Saunders Lee, LiSa and Nathan Warner



Watch out for snakes!





Claude Hutchings Jr.



Little man Andrew

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Merch anyone?

Future Saab enthusiast Theo (L)





KC Crew, Evann & Steve Greene and Jan Gravley



Austen Fiedler & Lukas Wrobel cars



Getting the Showfield ready





# **PEOPLE'S CHOICE**

**SOC** 2022

Cars entered in the **People's Choice** competition are judged by the votes of the SOC attendees rather than appointed judges. Cars are parked on the Showfield, and SOC attendees vote for their favorite Saab in each of several categories.

Car photos by Daniel Dorman, people by Greg Abbott



1<sup>st</sup> Tim Lepar, CO - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Steve Butler, CO - R



1<sup>st</sup> Ingemar Ekstrom WI - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Barber, CA - R



1<sup>st</sup> Dennis Lin, WA - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Jake Tilton, CT - R



1<sup>st</sup> Greg Russell, CO - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Larry Westergaard, WA - R



1<sup>st</sup> Noel Simmons, VA - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Carl Levine, MA - R



1<sup>st</sup> Randy Kelly, CO - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Robert Kaufman, MA - R

# **PEOPLE'S CHOICE**

**SOC** 2022



1<sup>st</sup> John Neff, MN - R 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Nicklay, MN - L



1<sup>st</sup> Lukas Wrobel, AZ - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Nate Donney, CA - R



1<sup>st</sup> Robert Grexer, PA



С

1<sup>st</sup> Aidan Patrick, WI - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Heath Hixon, OR - R



1<sup>st</sup> Jack Sabba, MN - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Jeremy Vera, CO - R

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1<sup>st</sup> Jonathan Pavtis, AZ



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# **PEOPLE'S CHOICE** CONT.

SOC 2022



1<sup>st</sup> Curt Holmes, ME - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Jameson Neumann, WI - R



1<sup>st</sup> Brennyn Cutler, ID - L 2<sup>nd</sup> Anders Helde, CA - R



1<sup>st</sup> Eric Murray, WI - R 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Reichard, WI - L



1<sup>st</sup> Graham Holstege, MI



tie for 1<sup>st</sup> Andrew Sanford, NM



tie for 1<sup>st</sup> Ivan Shelkovich, CO

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# **ENDLESS** MOUNTAINS

AMY KLENE

When Saabs are gathered, there are on-going conversations to discuss... whether the spouse will allow another project car or two



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**Endless Mountains Vintage SAAB Jamboree** was hosted by Donald and Zakkary Snedekar on Saturday, June 11, 2022 at their Clifford, Pennsylvania property. Folks started arriving with their vintage Saabs from Kansas, Michigan, Maine, New York, Indiana, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia on Friday for the Saturday event. Some vintage Saabs were driven while others were trailered or towed - some by newer Saabs.

Friday night a convoy of attendees made their way to Bingham's restaurant for an evening of good food and Saab talk that continued into the night. Overnight accommodations were available in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Pennsylvania area off I-81 and, with permission, camping on-site on the Snedeker property. A large spectrum of camping methods was represented including truck campers, towed campers, tents, tents supported by cars, garage floor sleeping bags, and unique in-car overnight sleep. Food on Saturday was provided by an on-site vendor.



### From 93s to 99s including 2-stroke beauties and a Jack Lawrence developed Saab 2-stroke fork-lift

Cars on-site that were entered for the Saab Vintage show ranged from 93s to 99s including 2 stroke beauties and a Jack Lawrence developed Saab 2 stroke fork-lift. In addition, there was a rather large number of newer Saabs driven to the show. As usual, when Saabs are gathered, there are on-going conversations to discuss parts, technical issues, general restoration ideas and techniques, whether the spouse will allow another project car or two, and impromptu tech sessions for current problems.

Voting for People's Choice, Best in Show, Diamond in the Rough, Most Unique, and Most Original started in the morning with paper ballots that were collected and counted after lunch. The awards were presented in the afternoon.

#### **MOST ORIGINAL:**

Car #24 a Saab 99 entered by Kurt Krauss.

#### **MOST UNIQUE:**

Car #23 a Saab 96 body on a 1999 OG 9/3 entered by Claude Hutchings, Jr.

#### **DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH:**

Car #19 a right-hand drive Saab 96 entered by Philip Klene and presented to Al Huseman.

#### **BEST IN SHOW:**

**First Place**: Car #15 a Sunroof Saab 96 entered by Bill Trench.

Second Place: Car #2 a Saab Sonett III entered by Larry Jewett.

**Third Place**: Car #16 a Saab 99 entered by Mark Benelto.





#### **PEOPLE'S CHOICE:** First Place: Car #15 a Sunroof Saab 96 entered by Bill Trench.

**Second Place**: Car #2 a Saab 96 entered by Don Snedeker.

#### Third Place:

Car #3 a Saab 96 Monte Carlo entered by John Hauenstein.



Honorable Mention: Zakkary Snedeker for his outstanding event

coordination. 🏈



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On Sunday, July 10th 2022, Ed Lorenz hosted **SAABS-N-FOOD IN ONEONTA, NY**. This is a bi-annual gathering of Saab enthusiasts mainly from the Mid-Atlantic area with a few from farther regions.

### Folks came to participate in a pot-luck lunch, show their Saab treasures, and discuss their Saabs with other enthusiasts.

A wide variety of Saabs, both vintage and modern, were on display including a Saab 96 body with a 9-3 powertrain. The reviews are in, and everyone seemed to have a very good time discussing their Saabs, maintenance, rising values, and restoration questions over food and open hoods. Towards the end of the gathering, Ed Lorenz presented various awards and, as usual, an entertaining commentary along with the awards.

After the awards, Ed held an auction and collected \$250 to benefit the local **Susquehanna SPCA** in Cooperstown, NY. **(** 









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CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA

# SAAB CLUB INFO



### SOC 2022 SWAG

This is some of the special event **Saab Owners Convention** merchandise that you can purchase after the convention, including a special event "Map" T-shirt, SOC 2022 Badges, glassware, and more.

Lear more about the Saab Club of North America at...

SaabClub.com

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SAAB CLUB OF NORTH AMERICA

A limited number of back issues and additional current issues of **9s** and **Nines** magazine are available at **saabclub.com/nines** 

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9s & Nines Back Issues



## New Member Referral Bonus

Do you know someone with a Saab who is not a member of **SCNA**? Please ask them to join. They will get an extra three months of membership (one additional issue of **9s**) for each paid year, and so will you!

Just send them to **saabclub.com/join** and have them fill in your details, including your SCNA member number.

We also have referral postcards available for handing out at club meets, tagging Saabs you spot on the street, or mailing to all your Saabloving friends. Request some by emailing **membership@saabclub.com** 



# THAT'S A WRAP!

CAROLANN ARTHURS



Classic 900 brain trust

When the announcement was made that the Saab Owners Convention would be at the Saab Heritage Museum in 2022 the excitement and anticipation began. Saab owners started to make AB HERITAGE MUSE plans on how to get there, deciding what car to bring and what needed to be done to get their Saab show ready.

The museum also started plans, deciding how to make this owners convention one of the most memorable ever. Since Sturgiss 2017, so many contributions to the museum have been received. The deadline was MUSEUM on to sort through the vast boxes of memorabilia, parts **OWNER** and literature. It not only takes a lot of hard work to keep the museum open, it takes money. I came up with 2 fundraising campaigns that were a big hit: T-shirt donations and banners to be displayed at the museum. Both brought in some extra revenue for the museum over the weekend, but the big hit was the donated Saab items that were up for sale each day and the car auction on Sunday morning. Oh, and Saab beer; the museum had one hundred cases produced and we pretty much sold out!

About a week before the event, Scanwest Autosport rolled in with their bright yellow 900 Rally car which is now a part of the museum collection. Bill Jacobson towed the famous SAABSA motorcycle and the 1980 900 5 door that came from the GM Nick Taliaferro, Phil Klene and John Moss





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OF

### Remember, this is not Tom and Patti Donney's museum, it is Our Museum.

Heritage collection. Both are on permanent loan to the museum for all to enjoy. Many showed up days before SOC to lend a hand wherever they were needed. Banners were hung from the ceilings, and parts, memorabilia, and literature were all sorted and priced for sale. Last minute repairs were made to a few of the cars. It was imperative to get the Saab beer iced down. Finally, the day was here; the convention we all had waited for, the 75th anniversary of Saab held at the museum!

The weekend went by fast! Saab stories were told, those who had never been to the museum were in awe by its size and collection, and many finally met their Saab friends from social media face-to-face. SOC 2022 was a great success for the **Saab Heritage Museum** in many ways. Tom Donney spoke at the banquet dinner Friday night, as he showed us pictures of the museum from the beginning, and how much work had been done to get it to where it is today. A plea was made to get more people involved both as volunteers and as Sustaining Members by donating monetarily.

Thank you to the Saab Club of North America Board of Directors for everything they do year after year to make the conventions happen. Thank you to all of the volunteers that step up and work hard at these events, and thank you to all that attended the convention this year.

We are looking forward to more Saab people getting involved at the museum whether it is volunteering at the museum or becoming a Sustaining Member. 🁹



Team effort window installation



Museum Saab stuff sale



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## CLUB HOUSE saab club of arizona @ 50C 2022

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A high-resolution version is available to download at **saabclub.com**, free of charge to club members.

NORTH AMERICA

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Gerald L Danner Charitable Remainder Trust

Keeping the Spirit of Saab Alive... Ensuring Its Future

Benefitting the Saab Heritage Museum



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### Saab Club of Arizona Meet 2022

November 12, 2022 10 am - 3pm CMT IMM Auto Service 430 S Price Road, Tempe, AZ **AutoAutopsyYT@gmail.com** 



#### **Annual Talimena Scenic Byway Cruise**

December 2 - 4, 2022 Talihina, OK **saabclubok@gmail.com** 



#### **Saab Owners Convention**

Summer of 2023 Greater Chicagoland area Dates and Location TBA **saabclub.com** 







Finding our own road since 1985

Our Group 5 National Championship winning 300hp 1995 SAAB 900 was donated to the Saab Heritage Car Museum USA during SOC 2022.

We are honored to have a piece of our Saab history preserved for everyone to enjoy.

PRESERVATION • PERFORMANCE • RESTORATION



206.789.2819

Located in Seattle, WA

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