

The Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter, Vol. 46 No. 5, May, 2013

It's England for us

On Sunday, May 12th, Tracy Metclaf and I headed off to England for a week. Our trip over was pretty standard and we landed around noon in Heathrow Airport looking like most of the other passengers, bleary-eyed from the red eye. After dragging through customs and reclaiming our baggage, we headed off to get our rental which turned out to be a new Fiat 500 – manual shift, no A/C, 54 mpg, and right hand drive. I was “elected” to drive.



Our first stop was Brighton which is a small town on the southern coast. Figured we'd check out the beach and the Summer Palace of George IV. We huddled in our coats to protect ourselves from the blast of cold air coming into shore. We were later told by a not-overtly friendly bartender, that the high in Brighton last year was around 21 C (about 70 F). After struggling with the wind and not seeing much, we ended up in a pub for dinner. I had excellent fish and chips while Tracy had shoe leather beef.

Tuesday morning had us walking through more poor weather to the Summer Palace, built around 1800 by King George so he could have a “discrete” hideaway for his mistress. (George IV was Queen Victoria's uncle). This is a relatively small palace but, what there is, is beautiful. George was creative. The best items were in the dining room which had a huge chandelier with silver magnificent dragons. Of course, you can't take pictures, but we did get a picture of the outside turrets.



We left Wednesday morning, agreeing that this should have been a half-day visit to see the Palace. It was off to Chartwell, Winston Churchill's home. While the house was full of artifacts, what struck me were the surroundings. The lilacs were in full bloom and were in many colors. Too bad they don't bloom here.

We got the car back and taxied into London where our hotel was in the High Street – Kensington area. Ah, cubicle, sweet cubicle. This

was supposed to be a four-star hotel?

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Message from the DSR President

Greetings to all of you. By now all of you realize our Car Show has been rescheduled for June 8th due to the weather. This date was chosen so Carquest Auto Parts could be involved. I had talked to Joan Fowler, the Regional Manager & this was the first date they had open. Most of you know we will be raising money for one of their Employees with Cancer. Carquest is selling T Shirts for the cause at \$15.00 each. If you would like to purchase a T-Shirt you can call Billy Jones at 251-666-8100 & he will gladly get you one. The proceeds will go to The Peggy Hall Fund. This gives us more time to promote the Car Show also.

On Saturday May 18th the Veteran's held their 9th annual ARM FORCES DAY BLUE STAR SALUTE at the Battleship Park. It was a nice overcast event. The missing man fly over was great as TAPS was being performed by the Marines. Bobby Peterson was on the ground in contact with the pilots in their By Wing Planes of yester year. A good time for all there. DSR was represented by 2 Chaudrons, Lou Lartique, Bobby Peterson, Bob White & Deborah Fos.

June 30th is closing fast on us with THE GREAT RACE coming to town. Several members met with the Mayor Sam Jones, Council Member Reggie Copeland, Jim Butler with the Mobile Police Dept. and Linda Wehrle with the Mobile Bay Convention & Visitors Bureau. We will be talking more about this at our Thursday Club meeting. Hope to see you there.

Zeno



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Treasurer: Bobby Peterson.....251-342-8960
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The Sparkplug is published by the Deep South Region (DSR) chapter of the Antique Automobiles of America organization. The Sparkplug is non-profit and published for the information of club members and friends. DSR meetings are held every fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse located at 951 Forest Hill Drive in Mobile, Alabama. Membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America is required to be a member of this Region. Annual local dues are \$15.00; AACA national dues are \$35.00. Ownership of an antique vehicle is not a requirement for membership.

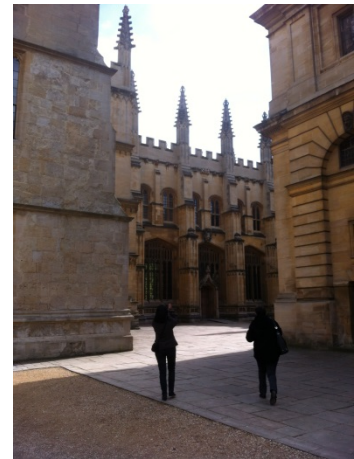
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England (continued from page 1)

Thursday was “tour” day. After a minor screw up we headed out to Windsor Castle with our tour guide hustling us up to the entrance to the castle then disappearing telling us she’d collect us, her darlings, at the end of the tour. Windsor Castle: absolutely amazing. If you go, don’t go as part of a tour unless they allow you to meander through at your own pace. The portraits are incredible. Next stop, Stonehenge. We rode for about an hour and half (have a nap, my darlings!) to walk around a bunch of rocks. It was cold, it was damp, I think we were underwhelmed despite the history and mystery. We took pictures and got back on the bus. The final stop was a brief visit through Oxford. Oxford University is totally embedded in the town so it is rather difficult to determine what is or is not part of the school. The architecture is beautiful. We’d have appreciated it more had it not rained.



Friday was play day. We started off at the Tower of London. If you go, listen to the Beefeaters. These men definitely have the gift of the gab and our crowd was very keen on being the “rabble.” As our guide, dressed in his navy uniform with red trim, told his stories, there were lots of “oohs” and “ahs” and the occasional “yeah” when he announced that another queen had her head chopped off. Cheerfully gruesome and a lot of fun. Tracy can tell you that he thinks one of the queens might have been “having it off” with one of his relatives. The relative was drawn and quartered. Oh, and the crown jewels were astonishing. After a loop around the “Eye”, it was off to Westminster Abbey. This is a terrific place for the history buff as almost everyone who is anyone (English, of course) is buried here.



Saturday was for Harrod’s and for Coventry Garden. We watched a street performer who made insulting the crowd an art form. He was especially good dealing with young kids, getting them involved in his “magic” act.

So, all in all, we had a great trip. We came back feeling rode hard and put away VERY wet, which is the reason for the delay in getting this issue out. For that you have my apologies. However, I would encourage you all to write about your trips.

Paul Dagenais, Editor

Check out the Deep South Region Website at:
<http://local.aaca.org/deepsouth>



**Deep South Region AACA
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2013**

The April 26, 2013, meeting of the Deep South Region of the AACA was called to order by the President who then led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation had been offered at the beginning of the dinner that preceded the meeting.

The Secretary moved that the Minutes for the March 28, 2013 meeting be approved as published in the Sparkplug. Charlie Lyles seconded the motion, and it was approved by the membership present.

There was general discussion of preparations for the upcoming Mother's Day Car Show to be held

Saturday, May 11, 2013. Preparations for the show were reported to be in good order. It was announced that the sponsor, CarQuest, had chosen a cancer victim to benefit from fund raising activities such as the silent auction.

The Treasurer presented the Financial Report covering income and expenditures since the previous meeting, and he requested a motion to approve the report. Patt Paquet moved that the report as presented by the Treasurer be approved. Tracy Metclaf seconded the motion. The motion passed upon vote of the members present.

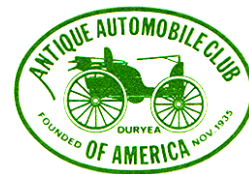
A discussion of preparations for Deep South Region's participation in the Great American Race was held. Deep South Region will be the host car club. Further discussion of the host's duties and details for participation will be presented at the May meeting.

Roberts Sands was the guest of Jim Henderson. He was welcomed by the members and encouraged to join the club.

Bob White won the 50/50 cash which he donated to DSR.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

Tracy Metclaf, Secretary



NEXT DSR MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY May 23rd, 2013 AT 7:00 PM

IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO BRING 2 PACKS OF DRINKS FOR THE CAR SHOW!!!!!!!!!!!!

**THE MOTHER'S DAY CAR SHOW IS RESCHEDULED FOR
SATURDAY JUNE 8TH!!!!**

Time	Location	Cruise-Ins Address	For More Info Contact
1 st Thursday	What-A-Burger	Airport & Snow Road	Bubba Blanton 251-610-4032
1 st Saturday	Edgewater Mall	Hwy 90, Biloxi MS	Jimbo 228-596-0664
2 nd Friday	Down Town Cruise	Ocean Springs, MS	N/A
Every Saturday	Burger King	Pensacola Nine Mile Rd at Chemstrand	N/A
2 nd Thursday	5 Guys	University at Airport	info@mobilebaymustangclub.org
1 st Saturday	Kenducky Fried Chicken	Tillman's Square, Hwy 90	Jo Jo Johnson 251-367-6643
1 st Saturday	5 Guys	Airport At University	Brenda Drinkard 675-9226
4 th Saturday	Mings Café	Highway 43 in Saraland	North Side Cruisers
2 nd Saturday	Sam's Super Burger	Grand Bay	Southern Bay Cruisers 251-442-6877
4 th Saturday	Northrop Complex	Pascagoula, MS	Magnolia Classic Cruisers
Last Saturday	Sonic - Hwy 59 South	Robertsdale, AL	251-747-2022



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