

DSR has been asked to host a National Meet in 2005

by Patt Paquet

Buddy and I have been asked repeatedly by those AACA members who attended the South-eastern Division Tour here a couple of years ago when we were going to do another. We explain to them that we have shown them the best we have. Recently we were approached by some of the National Directors asking if DSR would consider hosting a National Meet. This was brought to the member attending the May meeting. It was the consensus that every member should be made aware of this request via the newsletter. The following will give members an idea of what this type of event entails.

A National Meet, like every other car show, has to have a date and location and it has to have several key people along with various committee chairs. The three main ones are the Meet Chairman, the Registration Chairman and the Chief Judge. The *Meet Chairman* is in charge and is responsible for the meet. He/she appoints or accepts volunteers for various committee chairpersons and is responsible for seeing they are versed in their duties and can be team leaders so to speak. The *Registration Chairman* will receive all entries for the meet. This is done by AACA members obtaining for National Headquarters the necessary applications or via the internet. In this age of modern technology, all registrations are done on a computer with a program supplied by National Headquarters. The *Chief Judge* has one of the most demanding positions there is for a National Meet. He/she must be a Master Judge with a minimum of 25 National Judging Credits.

In addition, a *Chief Marshal* and his committee are necessary to handle the tow vehicle and trailer parking, motor home parking and to lay out the field on Friday before the meet on Saturday. The field is set up by class with a designated parking space for each individual vehicle. This members of this committee will assist the vehicles entering the show field and finding their parking places.

Some meets have flea markets. When a flea market is held in conjunction with a National Meet, it is important that it reflect the family oriented nature of our hobby and are in keeping with its intended purpose, i.e. to provide a source of parts, accessories or memorabilia related to the hobby. There are several other rules and regulations that come under this category. (No alcoholic beverage sale, distribution or public consumption is allowed on the Meet premises.) A *Club Merchandise Chair* and committee are needed to handle the sale of AACA merchandise at the meet. This is usually Thursday afternoon, Friday and Saturday.

When possible, a Hospitality Room, either near the Registration pick-up area or in a separate room is appreciated by those attending a National Meet. It is generally open on Thursday afternoon and most of the day on Friday, closing around 4 p.m. It can be something such as water/soft drinks/punch and cookies or as elaborate as the *Hospitality Chair* wants it to be.

Another position is that of *Trophy Chair* and committee. This group will have their work completed close to a week ahead of the meet. The trophies will be set up on a special table for the Awards Banquet. The people on this committee will work with the person overseeing arrangements for the banquet to get the trophies in place.

It works well and relieves the Meet Chairman of a lot of work to have a *Banquet Chair* and committee. These members will be at the host hotel at whatever time deemed necessary to have table decorations, etc., in place for the Awards Banquet.

National Meets are scheduled so that the show field judging occurs on Saturday. Other events may also be planned for Thursday evening, Friday and Friday evening. These may include some sort of reception (very casual) on Thursday evening, visits to local points of interest and/or seminars on Friday morning and a Friday night hospitality party of some type. A Judging School and Member Round Table discussion are always held on Friday afternoon.

A commemorative Meet plaque (what we refer to as a dash plaque) is produced and given to each participant that registers a vehicle in the meet. The design is to be submitted to the Vice President of National Activities at least six months in advance of the meet.

The proposed date for DSR to host a National Meet is October 29, 2005. This may seem a long time off, but when it comes to planning an event of this nature, just like the tour we hosted, the time goes by in a hurry. Any AACA member can enter a vehicle in the Meet. There is even a class now for what is commonly referred to as "daily drivers". Every DSR member who wishes can enter his/her vehicle. You will also have the opportunity to meet many of your national officers and directors. How many times will that happen?

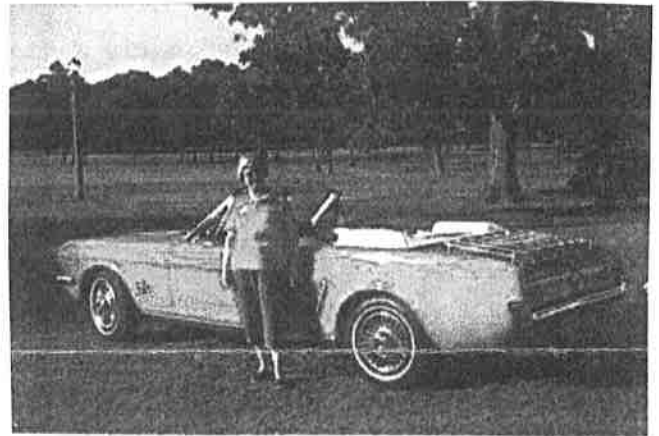
Discussion will be held on this issue again at the June meeting and a decision will have to be made at the July meeting. We have a hotel that is willing to work with us and a tentative location. Please make a special effort to attend these meeting to offer your thoughts.

A PICNIC IN THE PARK with the MOBILE POPS

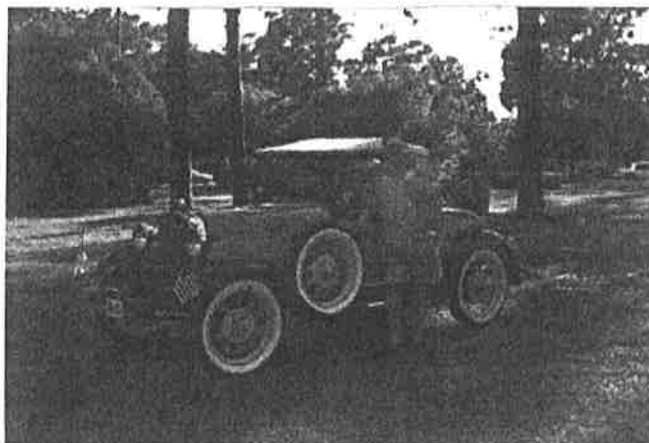
Your Editor presents a compilation of the Reports from
Patt Paquet and Walt Fuller

The StarBright Concert was held at the Jimmie Morris Performing Arts Pavilion in Langan Park. Patt remembers that there was one of Mobile's afternoon thunderstorms about 4 o'clock, but by concert time the only evidence left was a few puddles which didn't create any problems. Walt believes that even threatening weather would not keep members from showing their cars and enjoying an evening with friends. There wasn't even a hint of a breeze but some old fashioned church fans helped out. Even though the weather was hot, so was the music! According to Walt, "*Music is the medicine that cures all,*" even the weather, and there was a large group assembled, with blankets and picnic baskets, to enjoy the Mobile Pops presentation of "*All That Jazz.*"

Patt tells us that the evening's music started with "*The Star Spangled Banner,*" and continued with big band favorites, Sinatra related songs, the wonderful world of Gershwin, "*In the Miller Mood,*" Benny Goodman, Duke Ellington, and closed with "*St. Louis Blues.*" Just think, all this was for free!!!



Enjoying the event, and displaying cars, were the following members of Deep South Region AACA: Lycyle Crowdus with her 1965 Ford Mustang; Walt Fuller with his 1929 Ford Roadster; Percy Lane with his 1955 Thunderbird; Dale McLaney and his grandson, Jacob, with his 1961 Metropolitan; Buddy and Patt Paquet with their 1955 Ford; John and Dolly Pendergrass with their 1937 Packard; and Hershel and Frances Whigham with their 1967 Mercury Cougar. Paul Dagenais was there and enjoyed the evening but was disappointed that he did not have a car on display. The cars brought back many memories for the audience. Walt says he overheard numerous comments such as, "I remember when . . ."



The cars were spread around the band shell but DSR members gathered together to share their food, and according to Patt, there was really a feast. The Paquets were lucky enough to park in the shade so a couple of tables were set up on the other side of the tree.

(Continued on page 6)

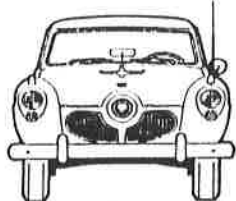


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**The Steering Column
By Lambert Mims**

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
June, 2004**

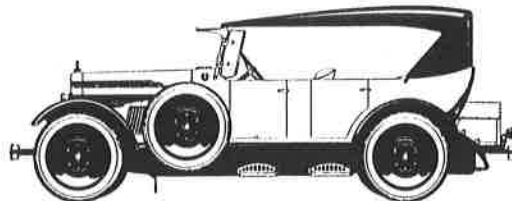
Everyone knows that I like Studebakers. I have two, a 1950 Champion Starlite Coupe and a 1962 Gran Turismo Hawk. I like Studebakers because: 1) I owned a couple of new bullet nosed ones in the early fifties. 2) They are of a unique design. 3) After more than one hundred years the company closed. 4) There are not that many left. 5) Most of the present generation have never seen a Studebaker.

Although I am a proud Studebaker owner, this was not my first automobile. When we came to the city from the country, we had to rely upon bus service for transportation; which was very good and dependable, but good bus service does not take the place of owning your own vehicle. Reecie and I had jobs and were struggling to make it so an automobile had to wait.

I wanted a car so badly I could taste it. Nothing is more frustrating than to be young, have a drivers license, and nothing to drive. We spent almost every Saturday on auto row (St. Louis Street) downtown looking at cars. We saw all makes and models but the one that caught my eye was a used 1940 black Buick Special Coupe. Oh, how I wanted that car! It had lots of chrome, black as a crow and cute as it could be. Finally, I won the battle with Reecie (she said she was tired of spending every weekend traipsing up and down St. Louis St.) and that Buick Coupe became mine. I like Buicks, especially those straight eights; and after all it was a Buick that Reecie was driving when I first met her. Everyone else in our part of the country could not afford anything but Fords, Chevrolets or Plymouths; but her dad had this big beautiful Buick.

(continued on page 3)

Deep South Region



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SECRETARY	Reecie Mims	479-2523
TREASURER	Carl Bailey	947-5262
ACTIVITIES	Lycyle Crowds	661-8486
	Frances Whigham	626-4255
EDITOR	Buddy Givens	777-8410
MEMBER at LARGE	Ed Grimes	452-5355
CHAPLAIN	Hershel Whigham	626-4255

The Sparkplug is non-profit and is published for the information of members and friends. DEEP SOUTH MEETINGS are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the clubhouse located at 951 Forest Hill Drive. Membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America is required to be a member of this region. Annual local dues are \$15; AACA National dues are \$30. Views expressed in *The Sparkplug* are not necessarily those of the Region officers of AACA. Permission to copy is hereby granted provided source is disclosed and credit given to the author. Some material may be copyrighted and permission to use granted to this publication only. Contributions to the *Sparkplug* are welcome, but the Editor reserves the right to edit material that may not be suitable for publication.

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DEADLINE FOR JULY ISSUE - JULY 10



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They are available at Leo's Western Wear on Government Boulevard for \$18.95. Ask for Highland by Redcap. For more information contact Leo's directly, or call your editor, Buddy Givens.

You can have your shirt monogrammed at Azalea Monograms, which is also on Government Boulevard. That will be \$14.00 for name and DSR Logo.



Happy Birthday

Joan Guenther

Robbie Lyles

Dale McClaney

(continued from page 2)

Later on I was able to obtain a 1941 Buick Special like the one she used to drive. The only difference was the color. Her dad's car was black and ours was verdi green. Our car was in good shape except for the upholstery, which I had replaced. It was a beauty with its big chrome radiator grill and fenders that blended into the front doors. Its big eight roared and it drove like a dream.

The time came when I had too many cars, so the Buick was sold. How I wish I had it now!

Although I presently own no Buicks, my love and respect go out to Buicks, especially those of the early forties.

Until next time, Blessings!

Lambert

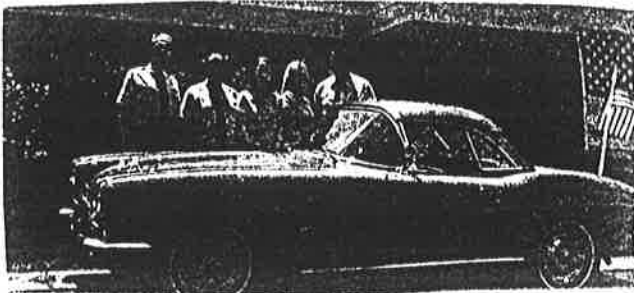
An Humble Prayer

Lord, please make me the kind of person my dog thinks I am.

Warren J. Keating

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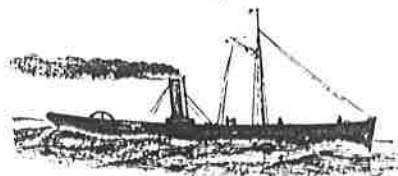
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DSR, AACA, Regular Meeting, held 4th Thursday of each month, except November

MINUTES
May 27, 2004

Lambert Mims, president, called the meeting to order; then led us in the pledge of allegiance. There were 19 members, and 1 visitor present.

In the absence of Hershel Whigham, Chaplain, Michael Campbell led us in our opening prayer, remembering the sick in our midst and those who have lost loved ones.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed, on a motion by Ross Sloan and a second by John Pendergrass.

Treasurer: Carl Bailey's **TREASURER'S REPORT** was approved as printed on a motion by Reecie Mims and a second by Ross Sloan.

Editor: Buddy Givens received compliments from the President and those present for the beautiful job done on the Membership Roster; but had nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Walt Fuller reported that the attendance at the Claude Kelly outing numbered only 20 to 25; and that no one mentioned making reservations for next year. In fact, he was of the opinion that there was no interest in continuing this outing.

Several people who displayed cars at the Hank Aaron stadium event seemed to think it was a success. Jim Martin reported that the Gordon Oaks display was enjoyable. Jerry Finley reported that our annual Mothers' Day show was a success in that it made money; however, he was disappointed at the number of cars registered; especially the number from our own Club. Lambert read a letter from the Studebaker Club expressing their appreciation for including them in our Mothers' Day show.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Ross Sloan with a second by Buddy Paquet to make Jerry Finley and Michael Campbell Chairman and Co-Chairman, respectively, of the 2004 Hooters Show. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Jerry Finley, show Chairman, made a motion, seconded by Patt Paquet to make our Hooters show a club activity. Motion carried. Jerry reported that he has been in contact with the Springdale Manager, Mr. LeBlanc, and his assistant, Mr. Luke. Mr. Luke agreed that Jerry could set the date of the show. **October 2nd** is the date selected. Please, mark your calendar.

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Bill Cox, Vice President, expressed appreciation to Patt Paquet for chairing the cleanup committee prior to the May 8th show.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: Lycyle Crowdus and Frances Whigham
Lycyle reminded us of some up-coming events: **June 5, Westminster Village. Meet at Bruno's (Highway 31 at 9:30 AM. June 7, meet at Club House at 5:15 PM to drive to Pops & Jazz Concert.**

Lycyle made a motion, seconded by Ross Sloan, to make the display at the Azalea Festival sponsored by the Friends of Semmes at Semmes, Al on **April 16, 2005** a club activity.

FROM THE FLOOR: Patt Paquet discussed the possibility of our Club hosting the October 29, 2005 Fall Southeastern Meet. She will write an article explaining it and Buddy Givens will publish it in the Sparkplug. Watch for it and be ready to vote at a later date.

50/50 Pot was won by Jerry Finley.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, *Reecie Mims*

A TRIBUTE TO RONALD REAGAN

The Fortieth President of the United States

Ronald Wilson Reagan was greatly respected, even by people who did not agree with his ideas and philosophy. Why? . . . because . . . he was a man of principle; he was honest and believed in a strong work ethic; he was self-assured because of his deep, abiding faith in God; he was not an assuming fellow but rather was extremely humble - even after his 'bigger than life' achievements; he was not a politician but rather a statesman, and a devoted patriot; he knew right from wrong and stood firmly for the right; he was kind and considerate and always a gentleman; he respected others and (in the words of an aide) "was a sucker for anyone in need;" he was an optimist, always seeing the bright side of any situation; and his sense of humor always came through.

All of these qualities explain why the world mourned at his passing. He was indeed a world leader and death is so final. He is no longer 'of this world.' However, those who knew and loved him have been missing him for ten years. As Mrs. Reagan said, "his good-bye was just so long," and we would add painful for those near by. The fact remains though, that although he is physically gone, his accomplishments that enhanced the lives of millions, his principles that will exist for eternity, his influence that changed lives and nations, remain. We just thank God for the example of Ronald Reagan, for his faith and dependence upon God that made it possible for God to use him in outstanding ways, for his legacy that lingers on. We also thank God that President Reagan has finally reached his "city on a hill." May God see fit to send another such dedicated one our way.

Quotes

from RONALD WILSON REAGAN

I believe with all my heart that standing up for America means standing up for the God who has so blessed our land. We need God's help to guide our nation through stormy seas, but we can't expect Him to protect America in a crisis if we just leave Him over on the shelf in our day-to-day living.

Presidents come and go. History comes and goes, but principles endure.

Loyalty, faithfulness, commitment, courage, patriotism, the ability to distinguish between right and wrong -- I hope that these values are as much a part of your life as any other study.

An America that is militarily and economically strong is not enough. The world must see an America that is morally strong with a creed and a vision.

I have always believed that each of us was put here for a reason, that there is a divine plan. I know that whatever days are left to me belong to Him.

Whatever else history may say about me when I'm gone, I hope it will record that I appealed to your best hopes, not your worst fears; to your confidence rather than your doubts.

A PICNIC IN THE PARK with the MOBILE POPS

(continued from Front Page)

There was everything from fried chicken with all the 'fixings,' to pate, with gourmet cheese and crackers, ham and cheese sandwiches with chips, boiled shrimp, to fresh strawberries. (The only thing that no one thought to bring was a flashlight, which would have come in handy when time came to pack up.)

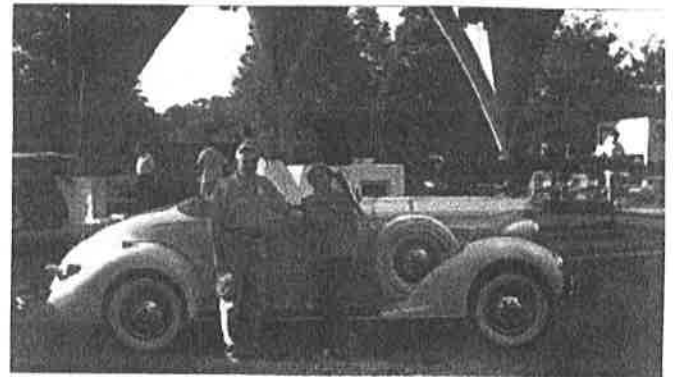


Patt and Walt agree that it was a most enjoyable evening and a wonderful time was had by all. The good news is that there is a rumor that an invitation has been received to come back for the Fall Concert in November, and bring the cars. That is an honor.



Patt reminds members that it was not a requirement that a member have a car displayed, but everyone was encouraged to participate.

Remember that in November.



Why Are Fire Engines Red?

They have four wheels and eight men;
 four plus eight is twelve;
 twelve inches make a ruler;
 a ruler is Queen Elizabeth;
 Queen Elizabeth sails the seven seas;
 the seven seas have fish;
 the fish have fins;
 the Finns hate the Russians;
 the Russians are red;
 fire engines are always rushin';
 so they're red.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S

TRIVIA

THIRTY OF THE ORIGINAL 48 STATES HAD A VEHICLE BY THE SAME NAME. Can you name those that did NOT have a namesake?

- Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming

Check the third edition of the Standard Catalog of American Cars, 1805-1942



Bill and Mickey Cox
Walt and Martha Fuller
Dale and Betty McLaney

Happy Anniversary

2004 DATES TO REMEMBER

September 18th

West Florida AACA 37th Car Show
Pensacola Junior College
Milton, Florida

October 2nd

United Cerebral Palsey Open Car Show, Hooters

November 13th

Cars for a Cause Open Car show, Home Depot

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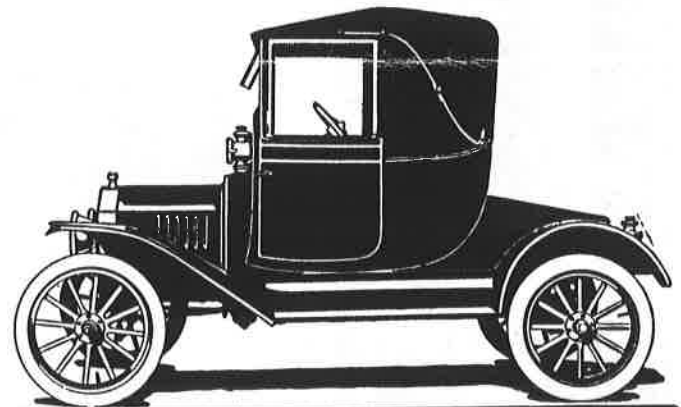
2005 DATE TO REMEMBER

April 16th

Friends of Semmes Azalea Festival
Club Activity - Display of cars

\*\*\*\*\*

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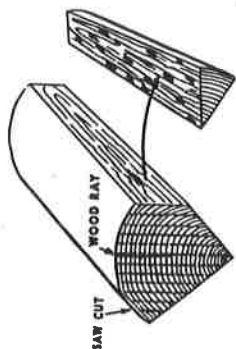
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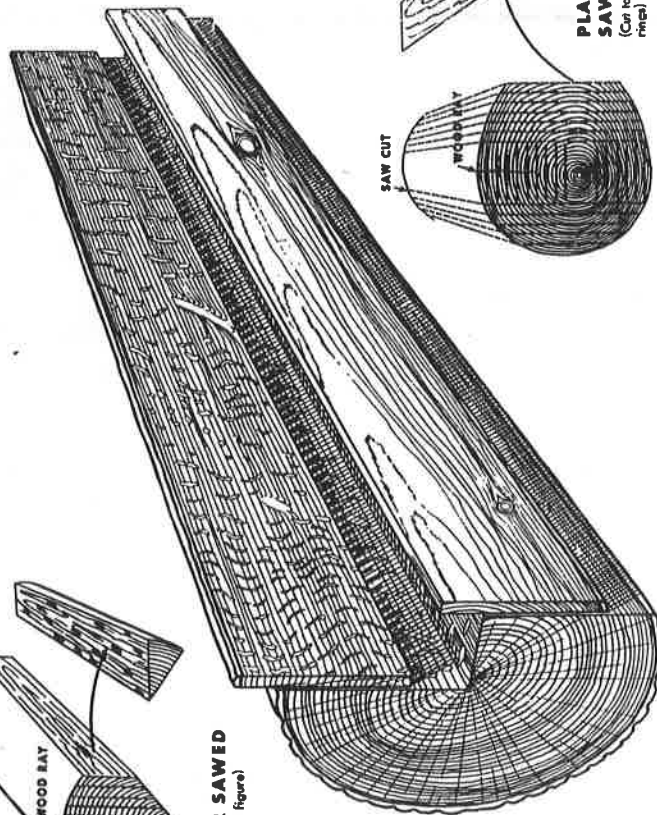
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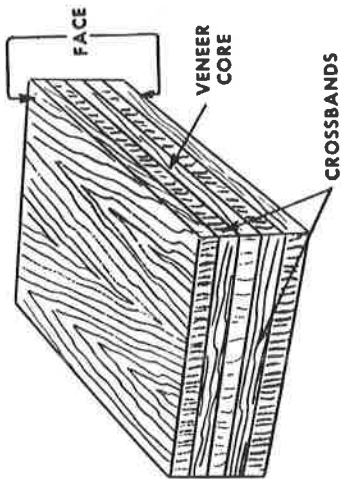


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(Showing figure)



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*Next Meeting  
Nov 9th 2:40*

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