

**Your June 2008 issue of The Sparkplug follows this page
There are 12 pages in the newsletter including this calendar.**

2008 Dates to Remember

June 26 Monthly meeting at the clubhouse 7:00 PM.

- July 3 Semmes, AL Orchard Assembly of God presents their 2nd Annual Car Show at Mary G. Montgomery High School—4275 Snow Road North—FREE SHOW—NO REGISTRATION FEE— Registration 3—5 pm With show starting at 5 pm. Awards approximately 7 pm—For details (251)649-2270 or 610-5146
- July 24 Monthly meeting at clubhouse—any additional details in July newsletter
- July 26 Biloxi, MS Car Show Judging Seminar 11 am—1:30 pm in Edgewater Mall Community Room and West parking lot. Everyone welcome, you can earn a Certificate of Training. Sponsored by Bee Line Auto Appraisals & Gulf Coast Motor Sports. Info—Larry Burdeshaw (228)392-4374
- August 23 Pascagoula, MS 2nd Annual Classic Car Show at Beach Park—Registration 8 am—11:30 pm; judging starts at noon. Top 50 Awards presentation at 3 pm Dash plaques to first 100, food/drink Available. Reg fee \$20 until 8/15/08 and \$25 Day of Show. Info: Betty (228)935-4417
- August 28 Monthly meeting at clubhouse August 28th—any additional details in August newsletter.



The



Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter Vol. 42 No. 6 June 2008

Mobile Celebration Parade huge, hot success!

By Patt Paquet

Friday, June 20th, was the first day of summer; on Thursday we received the news that our City apparently would not be getting the assembly plant for the KC-45 tanker. If those two things don't make for a hot situation, I don't know what does.

However, it didn't stop the planned event celebrating what Mobile has acquired recently in the way of new businesses for our coastal region.

It was a Mardi Gras type parade with floats provided by various mystic societies, bands, the Azalea Trail Maids, horses and riders with flags flying when there was enough moving air to do, numerous walking units and last but not least, lots of antique vehicles to transport City dignitaries and VIPs from the businesses that have or will make an economic impact to Mobile. But it was hot a hot evening.



There were 13 DSR vehicles, along with one from the Past Time Cruisers and two non-club affiliated cars that met at the Jas. Seals Community Center

at 5 o'clock to participate in the controlled chaos of being loaded with Mardi Gras throws, get their assigned rider's identification signs put on the individual cars and proceed to be put into a line-up by the parade's organizers. It was hot.

By 6:15 or so, we had moved onto Canal Street where the cars would be merged in with the other parade units. The police kept the onlookers well back and the "DIGS & VIPS" were giving



each other good natured vocal jibes. Here it was stop-and-go, moving only a few feet, for almost 45 minutes but with the bands warming up, the flag corps and dancers practicing their routines, it was anything but boring. But it was hot.

Finally, the last three vehicles were moved into place. By this time all of the cars had been idling for a good while. Periodically, you would hear the roar of a car engine, knowing the driver was putting the car in neutral and revving up the motor to try to cool the engine. There was a minimum of 40 units moving along the streets to the music of the bands and the enormous noise of the people lining the streets holding hands out hoping to catch a throw. But it was hot.

Being the third-from-last vehicle and with the Mayor's Chief-of-Staff Al Stokes and his wife riding, we were in a quandary. The fumes from all of the idling cars, in addition to the nearly 90 degree temperature, were taking a toll on me. Not to mention the fact that our car was beginning to seriously overheat. I spoke with Mr. Stokes, explained the situation, and was told they had not planned to ride and only did so because the organizers didn't want empty cars. We managed to get off the main parade route at a side street the Stokes indicated was a good bailing out place for them and maneuvered around some back streets to get to I-10 West. Boy, it was hot.

Meanwhile, the parade continued to move slowly along with cars continuing to heat up. Over the next hour, two more bit the dust and were loaded on Mobile Police Dept. rollbacks to be moved back to the Center where they started from. With crowds three-deep lining the sidewalks cutting off any breeze, drivers who had thought to bring along bottles of cold water shared with their riders. Parade goers along the way saw this and rushed the cars asking to buy water. Boy, it was really hot.

By this time the main portion of procession was into the downtown area and surrounded by the buildings. The riders were sitting on the backs of the convertibles throwing trinkets, beads and the can't-have-a-parade-without-them Moon Pies. Then everything came to a complete halt. One of the vehicles towing a float had overheated and died. It took about 20 minutes to get it worked out of the parade and off the street. At last, the motorcade was moving one more. **(Concluded on Page 9)**



From the President's desk...

I am sorry to tell you that our President has been re-hospitalized as of June 13th. He was in ICU until June 19th and as of Saturday, June 21st is was in a private room recuperating slowly. His medical problems have improved some-what and we hope he will be home soon. Please continue to remember both Lambert and Reecie, not only in thoughts and prayers, but with cards and calls as well.

Patt Paquet, Vice President



2008 Officers

- President: Lambert Mims.....(w)(251)433-0141
(H) 479-2523
- Vice President: Patt Paquet.....” 661-4009
- Secretary: Cathy Goren.....” 633-8171
- Treasurer: Tracy Metclaf.....” 433-0270
- Activities: Don Dillehay.....” 602-0998
- Editor: Buddy Paquet.....” 661-4009
- Member-at-Large: Walt Fuller.....” 602-1931

Volunteers/Appointees

- Chaplain: Dale McLaney.....” 479-0823
- Historian: Don Dillehay.....” 602-0998
- Webmaster: Herb Thoms.....” 633-0777
- Telephone Chair: Martha Fuller.....” 602-1931
- Refreshment Coordinators: John & Debbie Bright
“ 344-1952

The *Sparkplug* is non-profit and published for the information of our members and friends. DEEP SOUTH REGION meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM 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 \$15.00; AACA national dues are \$35.00. *Ownership of Antique a vehicle is not a requirement for membership.*

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AACA leaders keep club rolling forward despite rising fuel costs

By Buddy Paquet

Have you ever wonder what our AACA Officers, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and other volunteers get out of what they do? Well, I can tell you from having been one of those volunteers on the lower end of the totem pole that it ain't the money. Most of them would probably tell you it is (1) love of the hobby (2) the people in the hobby (3) working to keep the club the best it can be (4) and satisfaction of a job well done. No doubt there are other reasons but they are aren't as important to the individuals who are committed to making sure AACA is around for more than just the next generation.

Although Patt and I had to bow out of meets and tours after March 2007, I know what it's like to get to the events, whether it's driving or flying. Fuel prices have increased slowly, but steadily, over the past two or three years to the point that it is almost a crisis. With this in mind, I decided I would try to determine how this is effecting AACA key people who are expected to be at as many official AACA events as possible. What are they doing to compensate for the increase cost of travel? Is the hobby more important than money? What is the bottom line?

Our organization is not unique in that it has a President *and* an Executive Director. The President makes every possible attempt to be present at every event throughout the year; i.e. meets and tours, plus first and foremost Board Meetings. There is an **Executive Vice President, Randy Rutherford**, who can step in when necessary. The **Executive Director**, in this case, **Steve Moskowitz**, is required to be at each Board Meeting; makes a concerted effort to attend Regional Meets and generally tries to participate in at least some of the annual various tours.

If you remember, when we held the 2006 Southeastern Divisional Winter Meet, we "comped" the President's rooms and meals. Travel, for the most part, and incidentals are that individual's responsibility. Anything below the Presidential tier, expenses are the responsibility of the individual Officer, Director, etc. unless the hosting Region chooses to underwrite them.

Our **2008 AACA President, Sharon Lee**, is keeping a spread sheet and is proud to report that the percentage of the officers/directors for AACA events as of the Sentimental Tour June 2-6, 2008 has been

exceptionally good; 23 in Philly for the Annual Meeting, 21 in Florida for the Dual Meet, 22 in Charlotte, NC for the Southeastern Spring Meet, 10 in Tucson, AZ for the Western Division Spring Meet, 20 in Cumberland, MD for the Eastern Spring Meet, 11 on the Sentimental Tour and finally 20 at the Spring Board Meeting. That's pretty impressive in itself.

AACA Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member Earl Beauchamp lives in Sebring, FL (kinda like Mobile, AL – it's not close to anything except maybe once very three-five years). He is a very number-oriented person and according to Mr. Beauchamp, you can clean out a travel budget in a hurry whether you drive your antique or put it in a trailer and tow it. From Sebring to the Cumberland, MD Meet round trip, gas was \$987 in mid-May then for the Sentimental Tour/Board Meeting in North Carolina the first week of June, it ran \$917.

Another Board Member, **Terry Bond, Vice President of Finance and Budget**, has the good fortune to live in Virginia, a stone's throw from most of the activities to date. Terry says that he and wife, Susan, have been enjoying this year so far because they are showing a vehicle, his wife's newly restored 1974 MG, which has been driven to the events. They feel driving both of their MGs can be done cheaper than hauling just one of them in the trailer with a tow vehicle. They're not doing anything special at the meets, just hanging out with the general membership. He states that obviously if they were driving a big motor home and trailering the cars, they would be sticking a lot closer to home. Now, he says, they might choose a somewhat less expensive hotel or even share a trip with friends. (I can tell you this is a guy who, in the early years, advocated camping in a tent at Hershey to "teach" his children how much "fun" they could have.)

Joe Gagilano, is VP of Internet Communications and Awards and is Chairman of AACA's 75th Anniversary Celebration. He lives in Ohio which could be considered fairly central, depending on where you're going. He thinks the fuel situation could be a serious problem in the future, particularly when you consider a majority of AACA members are retired and on fixed incomes. Joe is still employed but states what is going on has prompted he and wife, Mary, to plan more carefully and try to economize on **(Cont'd Page 4)**

Fuel Cost

other things to compensate for the cost of fuel. He/they may not stay as long on a Meet trip, leaving a day or half a day later/sooner. They look for friends that are going and try to go together. Board Members as a whole, he says, try to communicate when they fly into a city to share rides to/from the hotel(s). Joe said that for some time now the Board has discussed trying to get the basic costs down for AACA activities. This was originally started to try to attract younger people with families. Now it can apply with higher travel expenses. He feels AACA has a very dedicated membership, particularly the judges. This is a part of the hobby that is a part of their life and their entertainment; they find ways to off-set the higher cost by saving in other areas. "Mr. G." wrote me that "as a Board, we will have to review and evaluate what impacts rising fuel costs has on attendance this year and see what we can do as a club."

Mike Jones, VP of Publications, sent me a note immediately after returning from the Sentimental Tour. He and wife, Marcy, traveled with six other Region couples and everyone felt the bite at the gas pump. Fortunately, gas got close to a quarter cheaper (cheaper is good!) the further south they traveled. None of them got too upset about the situation as gas prices were a known before they set out and something to be coped with. Pulling a trailer takes its toll on MPG so they cut back to 60-62 MPH and found it actually did make at least a small difference. The hosting Region got a great hotel rate that included a buffet breakfast every morning; saving significant out-of-pocket expense. They plan to do the mid-October Reliability Tour around Chattanooga, TN, a considerable distance from Valley Forge, PA.

AACA's Vice President of Data Management, Brenda Shore-Kaiser is in her third consecutive year of making all the meets. Her theory is any Region sponsoring a meet does a lot of hard work and she and husband, Dave, enjoy participating and sharing their love of the hobby. She recognizes getting to a meet comes with some cost and even more so now with the rising cost of gasoline and lodging. For her, it is a matter of deciding what is important and what she can give up. Although she is currently on a sabbatical from her job, the past two years she used every one of her vacation days attending Meets.

Now that she is not working, time is not the factor but cost is. She has an advantage of airline points to use at times when the cost is extremely high and tries to combine business and family visits with her AACA travels.

Can you believe that one of our AACA leaders missed a Meet in 2005? This was the first time in nearly 20 years that **Joe Vicini** who is currently **VP of Class Judging**, and who has held nearly every AACA position didn't make it to a meet. This wasn't due to fuel cost but rather being of Italian descent and when he was told to "be there" he took it seriously and went to Italy. This year, he and wife Fran were in Florida for the winter so they used their motor home for the dual Melbourne, FL Meets; stopped in Charlotte, NC for the S/E Spring Meet then went home to New Jersey. They flew to Tucson but drove the motor home to the Cumberland, MD meet (another stone's throw). One of the ways they economize is by buying air line tickets 60-90 days ahead and looking for the best deal available on rental cars when they fly. They are both devoted judges with numerous credits.

Tom Cox, VP of Membership is one of the Board's younger members and was in grade school when the gas crisis hit in the seventies. He remembers sitting in long lines with his mom waiting for their turn at the pump. She had to gas up both cars since his dad was working and it could take up to two hours or more to get to the pump. (Do you remember days being divided into even and odd license plate numbers so you could only fill up a car with an even-ending plate on even days and so on?) While it hurts the wallet now, he says he's glad he didn't have to go through the 70s gas crisis.

Tom and family have not yet cut back on AACA activities. He feels that before they did that, they would give up something else. Knowing that some folks may be forced to cut back on the National circuit, he hopes they will use the time to invigorate their local clubs. His opinion is as long as we have time for each other and our cars, a hamburger will do in place of a steak. AACA survived the seventies and prospered and he thinks we can all do the same now in comparably better circumstances.

National Activities VP Hulon McCraw thinks it is of the utmost importance members **(Cont. Page 5)**

Fuel Cost

join the “Carpooling Ranks”. He feels it can be a very rewarding experience as well as reduce the cost of hobby participation. If someone is participating with a vehicle at a meet and has a couple of friends in relative close distance or who are going to the meet to judge and can be picked up along the way, why not carpool? If there is a breakdown along the way, it’s always nice to have some help available. His motto is that if we are to continue to enjoy the hobby, we have to become more energy efficient and cost conservative.

Some of you are acquainted with AACA’s secret weapon, **Joanna Cooper**. She is the **VP of Regions – Development & Support – Western Division**. So far she has attended all of the AACA Meets and Tours. She now flies to the events but has a driver to take the car Tom bought only three days prior to his death to the meets. Her theory is that we all choose how we spend our money. She “believes in AACA and wants to be there for our Regions hosting events. We will all survive. I am not only attending National Activities but Regional ones as well. If I get an invitation, I do my best to attend.”

Micky and Don Bohne are both actively involved in AACA but in different areas. She is **Chairman of Judges Records** and Don is **Chairman of Continuing Judges Education** and a **Senior Judging School Instructor**. They feel a responsibility to their positions in our club. Both are employed full time and use their vacation time to attend the National Meets. They drive whenever possible in order to see our country. Mickey says they have been to countless locations that they would never have gone to had it not been for an AACA National event. Prices of hotel rooms and food have escalated right along with the cost of gasoline and diesel. They want to support the hosting Region but have started cutting back on the number of functions they attend while at a meet. She states she has not seen a sharp decline in the number of judges coming to the meets other than Charlotte and feels that was due to the weather. The figure seems to have rallied for the Hastings, NE meet but as she said, both of us have been to meets that had it not been for the National officers and us “groupies”, the meet would have been in trouble. And that was before gas went out of sight.

AACA Immediate Past President and VP Public Relations, Dave Berg tells me that most of the meets he goes to are by plane but it still has the same effect as the fares are going up very fast. He finds he is shopping the various sites and checking the differences carefully between leaving the day before, or the morning of, if possible. Sometimes it makes a staggering difference in costs. As of now, he and his wife, Karen, don’t get to do that much as far as taking cars to a Meet but he hopes that next year will be better. Now, they do take one out on a nice evening for a short ride or to dinner. As to the truck and trailer, they haven’t put mile number one on it yet this year. Again, hopefully, next year diesel won’t be 20 bucks a gallon!

Vice President of Technical Matters, Jim Raines, is a resident of Charlotte, NC. and a building contractor. I don’t want to think about what he bounces off his credit card for a week of going site to site but the good side is, if there is one, it’s a business expense. He uses his old Trailblazer for work.

Jim says that they have parked his Tahoe (their tow vehicle) at the mountain cabin and now have a Honda for Sharon to go to/from work, use for around-town driving and their occasional trip to the mountain retreat where they conserve energy by not having AC but use fans to move the 4000 altitude air.

AACA Library and Research Center Board Member, Fran Shore and her husband, John, have attended every meet so far this year but won’t be at any others until the Fall. They are undecided about San Diego the end of September as airlines prices continue to climb and they wouldn’t be entering a vehicle, only going to judge. They enjoy this aspect of the hobby and will take each meet, one at a time, and decide what to do if gas continues to increase as high as has been predicted. They did do the Sentimental Tour and their gas going to, participating in and the return trip home to Media, PA was almost \$500.

They don’t plan to do any of the Divisional Tours due to the cost of gas getting there and back for only three days. One of their local Regions is doing a two day tour in October which is close by and they hope to do that one. She says that might be the answer; more local activities in near by and interesting places.

(Concluded Page 6)

Fuel Cost

Peter Heizmann, a fellow who has his plate loaded to overflowing (**AACA Board Member, AACA Museum Board Member, Library & Research Committee Member** and last, but not least, **Chair of the Eastern Region – Development & Support**) states that for a 12 month period traveling to meetings, Meets, workdays at the Library and Region/Chapter talks, the cost for gas, lodging, meals and tolls is something over \$4K. Now, why would he do that? According to him the answer is very simple: he loves AACA people and the club as a whole. He considers any monetary expenditure a donation to the club and says that in actuality, one cannot place a monetary figure on the friendships he has made.

Eric (Rick) Marsh was Chairman of the recent Sentimental Tour that took place June 1-6 and had a huge interest in what was happening with the cost of fuel. He is also an AACA judge, a Continuing Judges Education instructor and a strong supporter of Meets. To counter the present gas crunch, he and fellow members **Hulon McCraw** and **Herb Oakes, VP of Judging Administration** are sharing travel to some upcoming AACA activities. Herb, who lives in Jacksonville, NC will drive to Rick's home in China Grove, NC where they will hook up Rick's trailer to Herb's truck and load up the Marsh 1964 Barracuda. The next morning they will stop in Hendersonville, NC to pick up Hulon and two days later arrive in Hasting, NE to support the Central Division Meet. Fritz Lammers from Freeport, FL will meet them there. Immediately following the Meet, the four of them will head north to participate in the Central Division Tour in Minot, ND. Hulon and Fritz will fly out from there while the Oakes/Marsh team will drive back to North Carolina.

John Harvey, last Editor of the Judges Newsletter, whom we met along with his wife Cindy and daughter Melissa, at a Florida meet a few years ago soon after they had joined AACA. He was also the Assistant Chairman of Judges Training up until this past year. John said they have no choice but to cut back on their travels because they won't go to the Meets and leave the "Montes" (Chevy Monte Carlos) at home. They enjoy the hobby and the judging but they want to enter a vehicle if they go to a meet.

Our esteemed *Antique Automobile* magazine Editor, **West Peterson** is very succinct. He feels every-

one's situation is different from a financial point of view. If you can afford to go, you go; if you can't, you don't. If you have budgeted so much per year to attend meets and the price of gas takes you over the top, you have a decision to make. He states that in his opinion, gas is still near the bottom of the "cost list" when it comes to attending meets. Food, hotel and car maintenance/restoration far exceed the couple of hundred bucks for gas. On the other hand, if the tow vehicle gets only four or five miles to the gallon....

Having input from several judges, the consensus is that if it's less expensive to drive, they will. If it is less expensive to fly, considering the distance, so be it. One said he thinks the gas issue will impact the eastern events more than those out in the west. One who just doesn't like to fly will stay home if the distance is too great and the time too much rather than be away from family and business.

One reply I got was one will keep for a long time. It is from **Past President** (1988-89) and friend **Howard Scotland**. He and wife Judy stopped going to meets a few years ago. They do still tour but it has to be somewhere interesting and have more to offer than just the tour. This can be visiting family, old friends or some historic place they've not been before.

He says his personal philosophy is "I am going to be dead a long time, so I am going to do as much as I can while I'm still here." This is based on the thought that at his age, 75, and with each passing year, his money doesn't have to last as long. Howard wrote that 50 years ago, his father gave him some very good advice. "Buy stock in the oil companies. I did and the dividends cover the gas, since dividends go up along with the price of gas. Too late to do that now, you had to get on board in the late 1950s or early 60s."

I want to thank all the AACA Officers, Board Members, judges, volunteers and AACA Forum members who provided input for this article. I hope what I want to get across is our leaders are dedicated members we have elected and understand they have a responsibility to work for us. They do not take their positions lightly. An excerpt from one Board Member's reply goes like this "we bring our unique skills and abilities to work for the members but we also come with our preferences. That is what makes the Board effective; the blending of talents and preferences so we can be everywhere for you, the members".

Heroes and Hot Wheels

By Herb Thoms

Car and motorcycle enthusiasts gathered at the Winn Dixie supermarket parking lot on Snow Road at Airport Blvd. on Saturday, May 24th, for a car show honoring a fallen hero and to raise money for the Homes for Our Troops Program. Cpl. Chris Mason was killed in Iraq on Nov. 28, 2006. His dad, Garland Mason, thought that because of Chris' interest in cars, a show would be a special way to honor his memory and help this worthy cause.

According to a brochure handed out at the show, *"Homes for Our Troops is a non-profit, non-partisan 501 (c) 3 organization helping Service men and women who have selflessly given to their country and have returned home with serious disabilities and injuries. We raise donations of money, land, building materials and professional labor and coordinate the process of building a new home or adapting an existing home for handicapped accessibility. All at no cost to the veteran."* Monies from the entry fees, 50/50 pot and raffles went to support Homes for Our Troops.

There were approximately 70-80 cars and trucks as well as a couple dozen motorcycles at the show. Representing DSR were Walt Fuller, Steve, Cathy & Trevor Goren, Bill & Leah Musgrove (supporting the show in several ways with more than one car) Herb & Nancy Thoms, Buddy & Patt Paquet and there is at least one more member who was there but at this moment is



Iron Mike

nameless to me I am sorry to say. Very thoughtfully, the show provided cold soft drinks and water; a much appreciated gesture. Prominently featured in the middle of the show on the hood of a truck was the statue of a soldier, "Iron Mike". It was announced this would be the Peoples Choice Award next year.

Led by the motorcycles, several of us went to the memorial ceremony for Cpl. Mason at Pine Crest Cemetery. It was very impressive. The bike riders provided an honor guard with American flags on either side of the speaker's platform. They remained steadfast through several speakers in the face of sun, heat and humidity. There were choruses of "hoo-ahs" and "amens" during the moving speeches. The speakers were followed by the placing of a wreath



by an honor guard composed of members of each service at the grave. The firing of a rifle salute and the

playing of Taps followed. This was where I lost it just a little bit. It was obvious throughout the ceremonies there was a great deal of emotion present. The culmination of the event was a fly-over by a Marine Corps Blackhawk helicopter. I can not think of a better way to have started the Memorial Day weekend.

The parents of Cpl. Of Chris Mason (center) accept a check for Homes for Our Troops from DSR presented by the Musaroves.



This was an exceptionally moving day and experience for all of us in attendance. I don't believe there was a dry eye in the group nor anyone there who didn't get a huge lump in their throat when the National Anthem was played or when the 21-gun salute was offered. If we are lucky, next year will be a bigger and better car show. Hopefully, the organizers can find a cooler date and location, but we will support them, no matter what.

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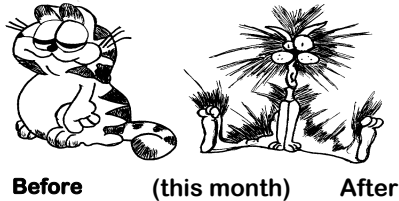
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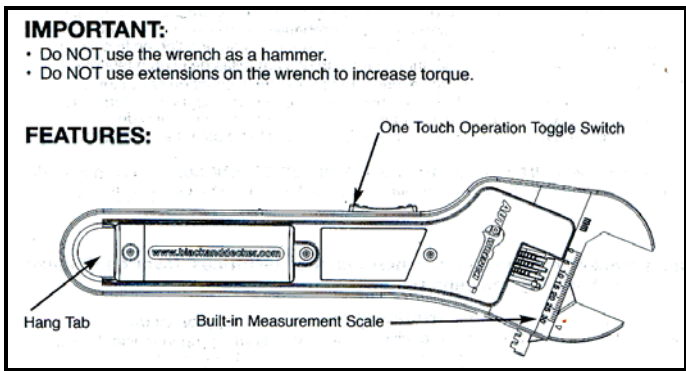
From the Editor



Every now and then I come across an issue I feel important enough to justify putting the entire article, although lengthy, into just one issue of the newsletter. It seemed this would be a slow month so now you get to find out how our National leaders are coping with the spiraling cost of fuel, vehicle or plane. Contacting them was easy enough and I must say their responses were amazingly quick considering their schedules. This is an insight how fast they respond to a member's inquiry.

A form-type request was sent to the 2008 Officers, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and other volunteers who keep our organization going. That was somewhere around 30-35 or so E-mails to which I received over 90% replies. After that, it was a matter of dissecting them and putting them into a "story" format. I understand most of them are still in the workforce and the value of their time. In other words, this was just one more thing to do. And for that, I offer my sincere appreciation to them.

Hopefully, all you fathers out there had a nice day on June 15th dedicated to us menfolk. Mine started off on Saturday with someone asking when I was going to cut the grass but it got better with a neat little gift that has recently seen a lot of TV advertising. It's called the Black & Decker Auto Wrench. Now this is not a bad thing for someone who is an admitted "tool junky". It's an 8" wrench with (**can you believe this??!**) operating instructions and comes with (snicker) two AAA batteries. All in all, it's not so bad; if you get confused with something, you can just keep pressing the toggle switch, letting it run back and forth until you determine the answer to your problem. Or until the batteries run down. I will bring it to the June meeting so all can see if you want to put it on your Christmas wish list.



DSR participates in Church's Community Outreach Program
By Nosey Norma

When the club receives a request to participate in an event that can impact a wide variety of people, it is usually a given that we usually try to help. It was one of those events on Saturday, June 14th when we displayed vehicles for Theodore First Baptist Church's "Backyard Fun" encouraging youngsters to sign up for Vacation Bible School June 16-21.



LouAnn Henderson was the point person for this due to our Activities Coordinator being called out of town for a trip to Ohio.

She did a great job of lining up folks to come out and support a good cause. The **John Brights** had their new-to-them Model T and invited a couple of their Model T-owner friends to come along. Former DSR members Ray Harper and Howard Schafer parked their Ts next to the Bright's making a nice sight.

The weather was in a holding pattern; good enough to bring out eight neat vehicles. The **Houks** brought their 1930 Model A and a newly acquired early 1951 Plymouth Cranbrook Sedan, formerly owned by DSR members Floyd and Betty Jordan, driven by their son Jeremy accompanied by his fiancé, Mallory. The **Paquets** arrived with his 1955 Ford and her 1963 Buick which recently had power steering installed. **Herb and Nancy Thoms** with their '68 Mercury Cougar and the kitty on top rounded out our group.



There was plenty to see and do with numerous vendors along with free-to-DSR-members hot dogs, popcorn, soft drinks and lots of water. Arriving a little before our planned 10 AM appearance time, everyone enjoyed sitting on the church steps visiting. About noon, the Houk family went to find lunch and it was just after that the skies darkened and the wind picked up carrying the smell of rain.

It was a quick decision to load up and head for the barn. Although we left before our scheduled 2 PM departure hour, visitors seemed to really enjoy the cars.

DSR gains fifth new family unit for 2008

Bert Sells first fell in love with antique vehicles when he acquired a 1931 Ford Model A Victoria. Although that was his favorite, it took getting a 1926 Model T Coupe to bring he and wife, Sarah, to our fold. He said he was aware of the club due to his long-time knowledge of the clubhouse but until recently, he had no reason to see what we are about. Having grown up in Mobile, Bert knows one can use an antique vehicle here almost all year. However, Sarah being a native of Minneapolis, MN may have some doubts.

Bert, a Licensed Public Accountant who attended Murphy High School followed by the University of Alabama, is mostly retired but still has one client. He enjoys building, gardening and farming and at this time has 6 chickens and 5 pigs (until the latter moves to the freezer). Sarah, a retired nurse received her degree in California and loves to watch TV and do scrapbooking. Their pets are 2 dogs and 2 cats and both enjoy traveling with their fifth wheel.

They have been married 24 years; have a son and a daughter, both of who are married and have given them five grandchildren. We welcome them to our club and hope they enjoy their membership.

Mobile Celebration Parade

As the rolling display continued to inch it's way around the area and start a return to it starting point, another fatality occurred. One more tow vehicle couldn't stand up to the rigors of the heat and slow movement. It and the float it was pulling had to be wiggled out and moved off the street. It's still hot.

The parade got itself back to Canal Street where the MPD regrouped all of the cars to escort them to the Center so they could disperse. Here there were a couple of minor problems but which were solved in short order. DSR participants were **L. Crowdus, P. Dagenais, M. Glenn, J. Henderson, 2 S. Hendersons, T. Henderson, 2 Houks, T. Metclaf, 1 (C) Musgrove, 2 Paquets, and C. Smith.** Jim Henderson had friends driving two of his cars. Everyone made it home safe and sound and the club received a very generous donation for our participation.

Attack of the shopping cart!!

Guest author, Joe Billitz, Southern Mopar Assoc.

Being a car guy, I try to protect and maintain my rides, because you do know a clean auto runs better than a dirty one. Not to mention you look a whole lot better at the wheel of a clean, well tuned car.

On that note, my daily driver happens to be a 2005 Dodge Neon SRT-4; a limited production automobile with less than 1700 Stone White versions being built in that year. I try to keep it clean and always have it serviced on time. Where ever I go, I try to park in an out-of-the-way place to lower the chance of a door ding.

Imagine my surprise when I exited a local Home Improvement store to find I had apparently not parked far enough out of the way. After very close inspection, my CSI skills kicked in and I located the culprit, or at least one of a couple hundred suspects called SHOPPING CARTS! I went inside; contacted the manager and explained my findings. He said there was no way that one of his PLASTIC shopping carts could do that much damage!

However, after taking measurements of the damage and then measuring the height of the cart, he said it was *possible*.



Needless to say, I am still in the middle of a third-party liability company and the Home Improvement store is trying to determine if I am going to get my car repaired. Maybe next time I should park right up front, as it seems there is less chance for damage to your car if it's in a crowd!

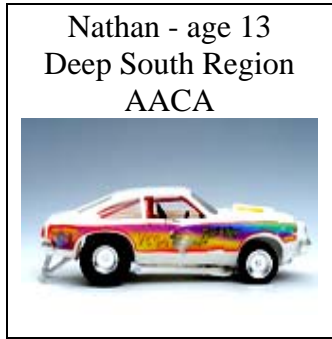
Mobile complimented on friendliness

One of those minor problems mentioned in the left column had to do with a VIP rider not being able to exit the car prior the "round-up" of vehicles to go back to Canal Street to regroup. He needed to be at the Battle House Hotel for a post-parade get-together. And was already late. After a couple of failed attempts to secure transportation, his problem was solved by a Model A Shay whose driver is well acquainted with Mobile streets.

He was delivered to the front of the building within a few minutes of having disclosed to problem to one of our members. He called that member via cell phone to say he had never experienced such friendliness and helpfulness.

Hagerty Model Building Contest
By Herb Thoms

Pictures of the Hagerty model contest are up and you may now vote until June 30th. According to the sponsor, Hagerty Insurance Agency, the contest has been a tremendous success. Twenty-four clubs sponsored nearly 300 kids in 16 states. The Hagerty page states "Based on your votes, the top five builders will be treated to the ultimate car-guy experience, a trip to Monterey, CA during the week of the famed Pebble Beach Concours d' Elegance, where a final



winner will be selected." If you have not yet had the opportunity to vote, to <http://www.hagerty.com/modelbuildingcontest/> click on Vote Now and vote for "Nathan age 13 Deep South Region ACA".

Thank you !!

William C. (Bill) Whiting and family would like to thank the Deep South Region for the contribution to Friends of the Mobile Animal Shelter in memory of his mother, Ozalyn Whiting. Two things she believed in totally was the care of persons without insurance for medical care and humane treatment of animals.

Our family can not count the number of times in which she brought one or the other home; a person in need of medical assistance and without the ability to pay for it or an animal that she felt deserved better care than it was getting.

We appreciate the fact you were concerned enough to ask what she would have wanted and make a donation to a worthy cause of which she would have so entirely approved.

I know we don't get to participate in the club's events but we do so by "remote control" via the newsletter. Thanks again.

Bill and all the Whiting Family



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**Deep South Region AACA
General Membership Meeting May 22, 2008**

The meeting was opened by President Mims at 7:10 PM. There were 20 adults and 2 children present. The President recognized new DSR member Bert Sells who owns a 1926 Ford T Coupe. Also recognized were guests John Siple and Larry Colvin who was accompanied by his grandson.

Old Business: President Mims displayed an antique automobile license plate that had been donated to the club.

Vice President: P. Paquet had no old business but requested approval of the minutes from the April meeting as the **Secretary** was not present. S. Henderson moved to accept, motion seconded and unanimously approved

Treasurer and Editor – no old business. **Activities: Don Dillehay** reported the activity at Cogburn NH and Gordon Oaks Retirement Community were rained out. Three cars were displayed at the Allen Memorial NH, all 1929 Fords.

Car Show Chairman Scott Henderson reported there were 78 cars in the Mother's Day show; an increase of 15 cars over last year. Revenues from the Silent Auction were higher than last year. Net profits from the show are to be split 50/50 with the Friends of the Mobile Animal Shelter after all expenses are covered. He commented there is a need to increase the number of "walk-ins" (non-participants and non-member visitors). While good coverage was given to advertising to other clubs and various businesses in the community, advertising should be increased to raise the public awareness of the show and the club. This could also increase membership. Walt Fuller stated the parking situation needs to be assessed. There were problems with dust that may be keeping car owners and "walk-ins" away. He suggested the membership consider paving the portion of the driveway from the existing pavement to the clubhouse. He and J. Henderson suggested moving the cars to the further (west) end of the lot to provide more on-site parking. S. Henderson stated a preference for visitors to park across the street. T. Metclaf suggested a car show committee be formed earlier next year to get a better start on all aspects of the show.

New Business: President Mims had no new business: **VP Patt Paquet** presented the following business items: (1) There is a need for a motion detector light on the north face of the club house for safety, visibility and to deter vandals/thieves. She quoted a cost of the fixture of about \$49 + tax with member Eddie Grimes, Jr. to install and bill the club. A motion to approve was made by S. Henderson, motion seconded and unanimously accepted by the membership. (2) Subsequent to the car show, the clubhouse needs to be cleaned. A cost was estimated at \$100-125.00 Cost would be charged against shared profits from the car show. A motion to approve was made by W. Fuller, seconded and carried. **Treasurer T. Metclaf** requested approval of the May financial statement. A positive motion was made by L. Musgrove, was seconded and carried. **Activities Chair Don Dillehay** proposed an activity to display cars at the First Baptist Church of Theodore on Saturday, June 14th. Display times were adjusted to 10 am – 2 pm. Motion to approve was made by D. Dillehay, motion seconded and carried. He also proposed a gathering of club members at the Five Rivers Delta Center on the Causeway with a suggested date of June 21st. Further details about time and restaurant are to be announced. A motion to support the activity was made by D. Dillehay, was seconded and unanimously accepted by the membership. **VP P. Paquet** passed out a 26 question automobile trivia quiz to the membership. The Musgroves obtained the most correct answers, winning a travel bag. **L. Musgrove** announced the Homes for Our Troops benefit was to occur on May 24th at the Winn Dixie parking lot on Snow Road at Airport Blvd. Activities will take place 8 am-12:30 pm. She did not know the entry fees for car display. **Patt Paquet** announced the car club with the most membership attendance at the DSR Mother's Day Car Show was the Gulf Coast Ford Model A Club. As such, they won the \$100 club participation award. Walt Fuller will deliver the check. The 50/50 Pot drawing was won by T. Metclaf who is now \$11 richer. A move to end the meeting was made by P Paquet, seconded by P Dagenais and unanimously approved by the membership. The meeting ended at 8:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Dagenais, Secretary Pro Tem