



The Sparkplug



Newsletter of the Deep South Region A. A. C. A. Vol. 31 No. 4 April 1998

And away we go...to Nottoway !!

A collaborative article by Carl Bailey & Ernie Youens

At an early 6:00 AM on Saturday, March 21st, 29 people in six antique and seven modern cars left a shopping center led by the Whighams for an overnight tour to Mississippi and Louisiana. Timing was essential in that all the sightseeing and events had been prearranged.

After a breakfast in Hattisburg and a rest stop near McComb, MS we arrived at the motel, checked in and had lunch at a Shoney's across the street. When we returned to the motel we were picked up by a tour bus and taken on a tour of three antebellum mansions. We first visited *Rosalie*, circa 1820, then *The Briars*, circa 1814 and last was *Richmond* which

was originally constructed in 1784 with additions in 1832 and 1860. We were given more information about these homes, furnishings and residents that some of our brains could retain but it was thoroughly enjoyable.

Dinner that evening was a treat at the Natchez-Under-the-Hill Restaurant. Everyone seemed to enjoy the meal plus we had a birthday person in the group along with the Weavers, our bus driver and

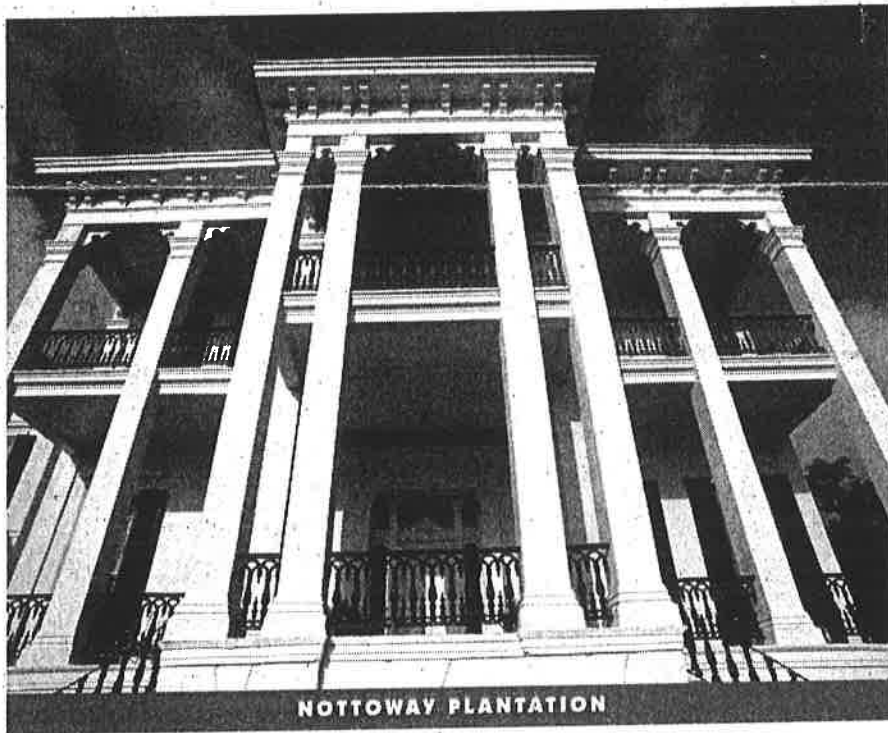
his wife, who were celebrating their wedding anniversary. Can you imagine spending your anniversary with a bunch of old car nuts?

After the meal it was back on the tour bus heading to the City Auditorium for the Confederate Pageant.

This is a drama of the history of Natchez from its origin as an Indian settlement to the more modern days. It's done mostly through beautiful dances. Natchez was an extremely wealthy city before the Civil War. We were told that in the early 1860's, there were 21 millionaires in the entire U.S. and 11 of them lived in Natchez! One of the first dances portrayed the wed-

ding of Jefferson Davis to Varina Howell in 1845 when Davis was the U.S. Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce. Another dance portrayed 1861 Confederate soldiers in their gray uniforms and issuing Rebel yells carrying the C.S.A. flag to the strains of Dixie. If you couldn't stand at attention as the C.S.A. flag went by, you were in the wrong place as the entire audience stood. The Pageant ended with all the

(Please see Nottoway on Page 4)



Minutes

Deep South Region A,A,C.A. Meeting March 26, 1998

The meeting was called to order by President Buddy Paquet at 7:30 PM. The invocation was given by Chaplain Don Dillehay. The meeting was well attended by 49 members and 1 guest.

Old Business: Buddy reminded the membership of the Mobile County/City Day Saturday May 30, 1998. Cars will be parked on the sidewalk in front of the complex. A sign-up sheet was provided. The time will be 12:00 to 4:00. At least 8 or 9 cars are needed. A motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting was made by Anna White and a second by Eddie Anderson. Motion carried. Editor Patt Paquet asked if the newsletters were getting to the members on time and in good condition. No problems were reported. Activities Coordinator Leah Musgrove reported she has a request for a wedding March 27. Bob Gechjian reported on plans for the upcoming April 11 outing to Dauphin Island. We will meet at Theodore Oaks Shopping Center at 9:00 AM. A sign-up sheet was provided. Francis Whigham reported on the March 21 tour to Nottoway. Three homes were toured. A good time was had by all. Eddie Anderson May Car Show Chairman reported that plans are going along smoothly. He still has a few positions open.

New Business: Buddy announced DSR has two new members John & Suder Bogle. The Reinhart Benefit has been tabled until next month as recommended by John Reid. The Hooters Car Show has also been tabled until another meeting for more discussion. Vice President Jim Whelton scheduled May 2 as clean up day the Saturday prior to May 9 show. Be there at 9:00 AM with your indoor and outdoor cleaning equipment. Motion to approve the March Financial Report was made by Hershel Whigham and a second by George Demetropulos. Motion carried. Patt had the 1998 Membership Rosters at the meeting for the members. Leah Musgrove announced that DSR has been asked to participate in a wedding March 28, following the Old South Show.

Announcements: Larry Collins is having is having right hip replacement March 27 at Providence Hospital. Gladys Edwards is not doing well. Member at Large Cecil Pugh thanked the membership for the cards and calls that they sent during his recent illness. John Reid had registration forms for the Camellia Classic Car Show to be held at Bellingrath Gardens April 4. The 50-50 Pot was won by Jim Whelton. Motion to adjourn was made at 8:10 PM by Melvlin Neese and a second by Al White.

Submitted by,

Ann Rowell

Under Restoration

Larry Collins' hip surgery was a success. He has returned to work and we all wish him continued good health.

- **WHEN** ~ May 2, 1998 9:00 AM
 - **WHAT** ~ Clean up day
 - **WHERE** ~ DSR Clubhouse
- Contact Jim Whelton for info at 661-5756

Outstanding vehicles at Old South Antique Auto Club show

Fifty-eight vehicles were registered for this 36th annual show and at least 55 of them were some of the finest in recent years. There were some new cars and new faces this year. This club, along with other antique car clubs in the area have gone to limiting entries to *antiques*, those 25 years and older which accounts for this year's show having a low number of participants. However, that is to be expected when changes are made. Having anticipated this happening, the club also changed its award system to be based on points, not classes.

As always, they put on a superb show with all their members working hard to make sure everyone in attendance had a good time. DSR entrants soaking up the hospitality were C. Bailey, G. Edwards, P. Fontana, 2 Jarvises, 2 Lunsfords, H. McCrory, B. Musgrove, 2 Paquets and J. Whelton. Visitors during the day were J. Annis, 2 Burdeshaws (who had entered a car but had to come in the modern iron due to starter problems with the FairLady) G. Demetropulos, D. Dillehay, 2 Francises, R. Harper and G. McDonnell.

This was the first show for Henry McCrory's newly completed '57 Chevy and it took a first place. Congratulations to Bill Musgrove on winning Post-War Best of Show. (Both Ed Lunsford and Fred Rettig say they saw him bribing the judges which they failed to do but will know better next time!)

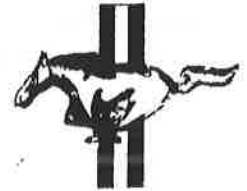
Apparently, word about this show is getting around more and more. This year there were folks there from the Central Alabama Region AACA club in Brewton; the Tallahassee Street Rod Club which won the longest distance award; the friends of Old South from several of the Mississippi clubs and also William Steele from Violet, Louisiana to whom the Editor must apologize for stating last month that his Chevelle is a 1967 when in fact it is a '66. (Sorry!)

DSR won the club participation trophy this year and it will be put on display in the clubhouse at the next meeting. Congratulations to all the winners and congratulations the Old South club for another excellent show.

1998 Gulf Coast Mustang Nationals

By Eddie Anderson

The Gulf Coast Regional Mustang Club hosted their 19th annual show March 26-29, 1998 in Pensacola, Florida. The weather was cooperative and the cars plentiful. The location in the Sears parking lot of University Mall is easy to get to with plenty of motels, eating establishments and shopping all within a convenient distance.



If you wanted to buy or sell Mustangs, parts or just memorabilia, this is definitely the place to do it. Between the vendors of NOS and flea market finds, you could probably build a Mustang on the spot.

DSR members there were 2 Andersons, R. Cochran, 2 Ebls, J. Finley, E. Grimes, 2 Kaesers, 2 Reids, 2 Whites and 2 Youens.

Buying ?? Selling ?? Searching ??

For Sale: 1962 Ford Galaxy XL 500 with 390, auto tranny, console shift - \$2500

For Sale: 1976 MGB convertible with new top, tires, brakes, upholstery and more - \$2500

For Sale: 1979 El Camino with 305 motor - good shape - \$1,000

Contact Buck Long on all of above (334) 649-0849

Definitely NOT for sale

Naomi McCrory has gotten her dream machine ! It is a '79 Mercedes 450 SL convertible and hardtop, silvery blue with dark blue interior. Naomi says she knows it won't be a *real antique* for a while but she is willing to wait. She and Henry picked it up in March and she is driving it as often as possible.

Nottoway from Page 1

dancers and spectators standing and singing the Star Spangled Banner. To some of the patrons, this is a black tie affair but we were comfortable in jeans and casual clothes; as tourists we could do that.

Sunday morning we were all in line by 8:30 AM heading for White Castle, LA looking for Nottoway. Along the way the caravan became somewhat frazzled because of the Baton Rouge traffic. We arrived in separate groups but just in time for lunch. This was served in a very elegant atmosphere with a lady playing a baby Grand piano during our meal. Nottoway, the largest pre-Civil War mansion still standing, has 64 rooms in its 53,000 square feet of floor space. The tour guide was obviously one of the best; she was very knowledgeable about the home, its furnishings and its past residents and injected some humor in the script occasionally which kept everyone's attention. She wound up out in the parking lot with us to check out the cars.

Now, we are homeward bound. If there was a down side to this trip it was the roads in the vicinity of Baton Rouge, LA. I-12 East out of Baton Rouge was being repaired and beyond the construction area it was in bad need of repair. *You may waltz across Texas but if you are in a 1937 Chevy with knee action suspension, you bounce across Louisiana.* The front and rear vehicles had CB radios to keep in touch and help us keep together. The Bailey Chevrolet odometer showed 625 miles traveled from my home in Robertsdale to Natchez, White Castle and back again. The '37 likes gasoline and got only 14.9 mpg on the trip.

DSR members making this excursion were **1 Bailey, 2 Brutons, 1 Crowdus, 2 Francises, 2 Jarvises, 2 Lunsfords, 2 Musgroves, 2 Neeses, 2 Nettles, 2 Whighams, 2 Whites and 2 Youens.** Guests were Jessie Edwards, sister of Ann Jarvis; Kenneth and Joyce Bouldrey who are neighbors of the Whighams; Rodney and Gwen Waltman, friends of both the Whighams and Youens and Orville and Ann Carter, former DSR members. Many thanks and congratulations as well to the Whighams for organizing such a fine tour. We are already looking forward to another one in the future.

A hearty welcome to new DSR members

John Bogle is a native Tennessean and his wife, **Suder** (Isn't that an unusual and pretty name?) says that although she was born in Alabama, most of her growing up was in Mississippi. Between the two of them they have seven children of which three live in Mobile and three live in Georgia.

Both of the Bogles enjoy fishing ~ in their own private pond no less ~ and they both say they would never have thought retired life could be so busy. John enjoys working on their 1937 Ford Tudor Sedan which he has owned since 1941 and restored himself except for upholstery. Suder likes to crochet and quilt and is presently working on one called "Cathedral Windows". Please add them to your roster with an address of 1959 Boykin Blvd., Mobile, AL 36605 and telephone 473-8816.

Lambert and Reecie Mims, formerly of Uriah and Little River, Alabama respectively married Aug. 17, 1946 and soon afterward moved to Mobile. He went to work for Cosby Hodges Milling Company while Reecie started as a secretary for Walsh Stevedoring. They have two sons and two grandchildren. Over the years they both changed careers with each operating their own business in time. In 1964 Lambert was elected as City Commissioner and served in that capacity for nearly 20 years. Reecie opened a restaurant called the Back Porch which was famous for its red beans and rice as well as the Muffuletta. She sold it in 1989, the same year that Lambert qualified to run for and was elected Mayor of Mobile for a four year term.

Lambert and Reecie are members of the Riverside Baptist Church where he is a Deacon. When not involved as a lay speaker for the ministry, he likes to tinker with their 1941 Plymouth Coupe. We can anticipate their joining us in it on our outings soon. According to Reecie, they both enjoy reading when they have time, but as we all know, retired folks find extra time in short supply.

Just for the ladies...

Springtime seems to have arrived, at least here on the Gulf Coast, and we will all be in the cleaning mood. A reader has asked if someone has a tip on how to clean silk flower arrangements short of taking them apart or destroying them with the vacuum cleaner. Share your hint on this and other ways to make a tedious chore go faster and easier. How many of you use yesterday's newspaper to clean your windows? Spray with your favorite cleaner, then wipe with a page of newsprint rather than the old standby paper towel. Saves money plus windows shine even better. A word of caution however, use gloves to save your hands from the printers ink that literally seeps off the page.



MILADY'S BOUDOIR

Even the most liberated woman can enjoy having an attractive bedroom and pretty things to use or wear. Look for the details.



1. BIKINI
2. BOUDOIR
3. CHAISE
LONGUE
4. CHEMISE
5. CHIGNON
6. COLOGNE
7. COMPACT
8. CREAM
9. CURLERS
10. HIGH HEELS
11. HOSIERY
12. JEWELRY
13. LACE
14. LIPSTICK
15. LOTION
16. MAKEUP
17. NEGLIGEE
18. NIGHTGOWN
19. PEIGNOIR
20. PERFUME



- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 21. PURSE | 26. SHAWL |
| 22. ROBE | 27. SILK |
| 23. RUFFLES | 28. SKIRT |
| 24. SACHET | |
| 25. SATIN | |

Chocolate Delight

Submitted by Susie Anderson

Mix 1 1/2 cups self-rising flour, 1/2 cup butter and 1/2 cup chopped pecans for crust. Pat into oblong dish and bake at 350°, let cool.

Combine 1 - 8 oz. package cream cheese with 1 cup powdered sugar and 1 cup Cool Whip. Put on crust.

Prepare 1 large box instant chocolate pudding and 1 large box of instant vanilla pudding with 4 cups milk. As pudding begins to thicken pour over above.

Top with Cool Whip, pecans and chopped red cherries. Refrigerate until firm.

Remember when "going topless" meant riding with the convertible top down?

Gold Cup Antique Car Race

With drivers and navigators at the ready to make the 67.6 mile run from Panama City to Apalachicola, Florida thirty-seven antique vehicles lined up on Saturday morning, April 4th. Of the 37, the largest number entered to date, 21 were Fords and of that number, 11 were Henry's famous Model A. At first it appeared that there was a delay in the cars being sent on their way, but this was actually part of the plan so that the husbands and wives could have 15 minutes of quality time together prior to becoming embroiled in domestic difficulties that seem to be a part of an affair of this nature.

There were lots of cars and faces new to the race this year, but it would be safe to say most of them will be back next year. Three of those cars belong to DSR's sister club, the South Alabama Region AACA headquartered in Brewton, Alabama. The Stanleys, the Thompsons and the Wards were all winners in various categories. Only one "fatality" occurred this year, that being the Grainger's '34 Ford succumbing to ignition failure.

When the competitors arrived at the Gibson Inn at the end of the race, it was as if one had taken a huge step back in time. The Inn, built in 1907, has a porch on three sides that is filled with chairs waiting for someone to relax in. The lobby with its dark wood floor and high ceiling is decorated with antiques. The old-fashioned saloon has a tall wooden bar complete with foot-rail. All of the 20 rooms remain much as they would have been in that era with the only changes being modern plumbing.

A fashion show of men's and women's vintage clothing preceded the awards banquet. After we were seated for the meal we all participated in "Name That Tune" with prizes for folks who knew their music. A visiting "professor" from a prominent English educational institution posed questions to the crowd but concluded that this was just about the dumbest group he had ever encountered, all in fun of course.

The Miracle Strip Region AACA, sponsors of this outstanding event for 13 years, did a grand job and are to be congratulated for their work.

Camellia Classic '97

by "Moon Howler"



The most fun is driving your car to the event and next is meeting a friend for breakfast so you can park next to each other at the show. It was a beautiful day April 4th when the cars parked on the Great Lawn of Bellingrath Gardens. The flowers were gorgeous and the cars so colorful even the butterflies were checking them out along with the flowers.

The Mobile Bay Mustang Club had their registration tent ready when the cars began to arrive. At 10:00 AM the horn blew signaling the River Cruise departure and the start of the Jubilation Band providing music for participants. Mr. Spoons and Weavo, the clown, had already been providing merriment in the courtyard. The rest of the day, the Dancing Fool, the One Step Ahead Cloggers and the Deep South Dulcimer Association entertained both young and old alike. While all of this was fun, spectators really enjoyed looking at the 150 or so cars on display.

DSR was well represented with 2 Annises, J. Bogle, 2 Cammons, 2 Cochrans, L. Crowdus, J. Finley, E. Grimes, 2 Kaesers, 2 Lunsfords, 2 Lyles, H. McCrory, 2 McCuskers, J. Martin, 2 Musgroves, 2 Neeses, 2 Nelsons, 2 Reids, 2 Rowells, R. Vines, 2 Wheltons, 2 Whites, M. Williamson and E. Youens. Lots of DSR people received plaques but someone needs to check out how many cars the Rowells have because they took enough awards to cover a wall.

It was a fun-filled day with one of the most important results being the help given to a Mustang club family whose grandchild has Leukemia. We wish the child well and our prayers are with the family. The best part is everyone getting home from the show without a disaster. If you get to the show with no problems, that's a prize and if you get back home without problems, that's a *grand prize!*

(The author wishes to remain anonymous in case any DSR member attending was left out. If there are no complaints, the identity will be revealed at a later date.)

Getting educated...the DSR way

Mr. Webster defines an "estuary" as a narrow arm of the sea at the mouth of a river. He defines the word "outing" as an excursion, usually with a picnic. OK, no argument on the first but there could be room for debate on the latter. How about "Driving antique cars from one food stop to another"?

The first stop was when members and guests met at the Theodore Oaks Shopping Center on April 11th. That meant coffee and biscuits at Hardee's.

The caravan pulled out just minutes after 9:00 AM with Jim "Hot Rod" Martin leading in his '29 Model A. He proved to be an excellent point man, making sure everyone was in line before he put the pedal to the metal, clocking nearly 40 mph. A pleasant drive found us nearing our destination but at the stop sign at Highways 188 and 193, from out of nowhere, the McCuskers went speeding by in the '31 Chevy! Looking through the rear window as we topped the Daupin-Island bridge was quite a sight; 17 antique and three modern cars cruising along.

We were met by Bob Gechjian who led us to his and Linda's home. Food stop number two provided coffee, sweetrolls, doughnuts and brownies and after some 45 minutes of visiting and hand-to-mouth exercise to re-fortify ourselves, it was off to the Estuarium of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

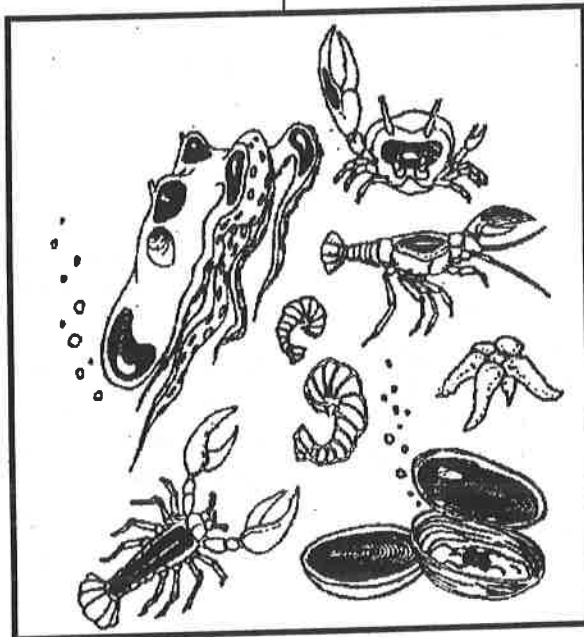
This is a facility highlighting the four key habitats of coastal Alabama; the Delta, Mobile Bay, the Barrier Islands and the Gulf of Mexico. There are two aquariums, one 16,000-gallon tank with exotic sea life from the Gulf and one that is 9,000 gallons which recreates the Mobile Bay environment. The exhibit depicting the Delta is fascinating but the one that really gets your attention is the one which explains the fragile, ever-changing Barrier Islands.

We wandered through at our own pace and were finished in approximately one hour.

Back in the cars, the group moved on to the Isle Dauphine Club for...you guessed it. Food stop number three. During the meal there was much discussion of what a great time we were having but it isn't totally clear if this was relative to the day in general or more specifically, the number of times we were eating.

Unfortunately, some of the gang had to leave immediately after lunch due to other plans but those who remained managed to heave themselves out of the restaurant, into the cars and over to W.G. and Linda Rhinehart's home nearby. The men all headed for W.G.'s garage and the women made a line for Linda's craft room. When everyone finally got back together, it was time for...what else but food stop number four. Well, after all, no one had dessert at the restaurant and it is now mid-afternoon! In addition to the candy and sweet pretzels W. G. and Linda had out, there were two "bunny" cakes, a "Rowell" cake and two pumpkin pies brought by the members. After once again boosting the old blood sugar up, just maybe we could make it home.

Participating in this two-fold educational experience were **2 Andersons, 2 Bogles, L. Collins, 2 Gechijians, 2 Jarvises, 2 Lowes, 2 Lunsfords, 2 McCrorys, 2 McCuskers, 2 McLaneys, 2 Martins, 2 Musgroves, 2 Paquets, 2 Rhineharts, 2 Rowells, 2 Whighams and 2 Youens.** Our guests were Howard and Betty Beach, Ken Cagle, the McCrory's had their grandson along, both the Lowe's and Rhineharts's had friends and A. J. Collins, who is Larry's father. This was a grand total of 33 members and 9 guests.





President: Buddy Paquet 661-4009
 Vice President: Jim Whelton 661-5756
 Secretary: Ann Rowell 661-2700
 Treasurer: Carl Bailey (334) 947-5262
 Activities: Leah Musgrove 633-9305
 Editor: Patt Paquet 661-4009
 Member at Large: Cecil Pugh 342-3404

The Sparkplug is non-profit and published monthly for the information of our members and friends. DEEP SOUTH REGION meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 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 and AACA National dues are \$24 individual and \$26 joint. Views expressed in the Sparkplug are not necessarily those of the Region officers or AACA.

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Contributions to the *Sparkplug* are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit material that may not be suitable for publication.



Please recycle this newsletter to a friend

Old diesel engine restored

Submitted by Elven Few

Two Lamar County, Mississippi men have completed a project to restore an old diesel engine to original running condition. Vernon King retired from the grocery business in 1976 and took up collecting antique clocks as a hobby and later became interested in old engines. Harry Cole was a large-scale soybean farmer and owns a complete machine shop equipped to maintain large equipment.

The diesel engine certainly qualifies as that. The huge Fairbanks-Morse Model 32 YB is a two cycle, two-cylinder stationary diesel engine weighing about six tons. It stands nine feet high and occupies 80 square feet of space. With cylinders of 12" bore and 15" stroke, the 80 horsepower engine drives a flywheel of five and a half feet in diameter at 300 revolutions per minute.

The engine has an interesting history. Originally, it was manufactured in early 1926 at Fairbanks-Morse Engine Works. It was shipped to the Farmer's Gin Co. of Seminary, MS in August, 1926. Later, a Mr. Lawrence Hemeter purchased the engine and, deciding to modernize, traded the big engine to the Hattisburg Compress Company. It was sold at some point to two men in Oakvale, MS who used it to replace an old steam engine in their cotton gin. The Oakvale gin ceased operation in either 1957 or 1958, coinciding with the demise of the cotton business in South Mississippi.

Several years later another Oakvale man purchased the gin property with the intent of salvaging the gin building. The big engine was left sitting in the open until November, 1989 when Mr. King heard about the engine and purchased it. With the help of Harry Cole, in early 1990, he began dismantling the engine in order to move it from its woody location to the Hattisburg area. Over the next two years, the engine was completely disassembled, cleaned, repaired and re-assembled. Due to age and exposure, many parts were unusable. Since no source for replacement parts existed, all of those needed were specially built by Mr. Cole in his machine shop. The engine was assembled, over a 30 month period, from the ground up as the parts were ready. In mid-1992 the 67 year old giant engine came to life again, some 34 years after being shut down "permanently".

Mr. King and Mr. Cole have restored and housed this grand old engine for the sole purpose of preserving, for future generations, this piece of history which is a legacy of our forefathers. It is available for public viewing by appointment. Anyone interested in seeing this unique piece of antiquity can contact Elven Few at (334) 675-0463.

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Reminder # 1: Each family is responsible for two door prizes for the May car show. Please bring them with you to the April meeting and turn in to Ann Rowell.

Reminder # 2: Turn in raffle ticket stubs and money to the Lunsfords at the April meeting. You may pick up raffle tickets to sell if you did not get them at the last meeting or in the mail.



Deep South Region
 Antique Automobile Club of America
 4963 Freeway Lane
 Mobile, AL 36619-1716

Calendar

- Apr. 23 **DSR Meeting at the Clubhouse 7:30 P.M.**
- Apr. 25 **MOPARS at the Battleship**
- Apr. 30 **Pate Swap Meet-Texas Motor Speedway near Ft. Worth, TX**
- May 9 **DSR's 15th Annual Car Show at the Clubhouse**
- May 22-23 **"The May Show" Point Cadet Plaza - Biloxi, MS Contact 228 392-4002**
- May 28 **DSR Meeting at the Clubhouse 7:30 PM**
- May 30 **Mobile County/City Day 12 Noon till 4:00 ~ Car needed ~ Buddy ~ 661-4009**
- June 6 **St Bernard 13th Annual Antique and Classic Car Show**
For Info Clary Higginbotham (504) 279-4536
- June 6-7 **19th Annual Mustang, Shelby & Ford Products Show Mike Ebl (228) 875 - 6221**
- June 11-13 **AACA Central Division National spring Meet Topeka , Kansas**
- June 20 **18th Annual Blueberry Festival Antique and Classic Car Show**
For Info Wayne Thompson (334) 867-3372 Entries must be 25 years old or older