



The Sparkplug



Newsletter of the Deep South Region A. A. C. A. Vol. 31 No. 12 December 1998

Annual Christmas party gets holiday season rolling for members

Although folks arrived in their automobiles and not in a sleigh with bells jingling, the holiday spirit was just as high as if they had. Walking in the door, one was greeted by the aroma of fresh-brewed coffee and the scent of the pine greenery centered on the tables. The traditional red and green colors we associate with the season were everywhere along with lots of gold and silver garland. Christmas was "all through the house" with candles, ornaments and other decorations.

After a brief welcome by the soon-to-be Ex-Prez, Buddy Paquet, and the invocation by Chaplain Don Dillehay, there was a controlled rush to the buffet that had been catered. The food was tasty and, for the most part, abundant. (The caterer just didn't know that being the true Southerners we are, bread and dessert has to be more than plentiful.)

When the meal had been consumed, it was time to move on before members got restless and started filching gifts from the tables before we got around to playing "Dirty Santa". Buddy presented the outgoing officers with plaques recognizing their service to the club and certificates to those who had performed a special service during the year. Receiving plaques were Ann Rowell, Carl Bailey, Leah Musgrove and Eddie Anderson. Those presented with certificates were Don Dillehay, the Whighams, Anna White and Susie Anderson. There were some members who were not at the party who will receive their plaques at a later date.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of DSR Life Membership plaques to two long-time members who worked hard over the years for the club. This honor was bestowed upon Mrs. Jewel Bell and Geary Polk. Jewel, and her husband, Winston, (who died in 1987) joined the club in the

1970's. Geary was the President of the DSR in 1969 and 1970. There were a few misty eyes in the room when these presentations were concluded.

The officers for the coming year were asked to stand, raise their right hand and take the "oath of office" which included their affirming they did so of their own free will and were not railroaded in to serving; they promised to do the best job possible or at least make everyone think they are and not just because they will be paid double what last year's officers were. The new president, Eddie Anderson, gave a short speech then presented Buddy with a plaque in recognition of his being 1998 President.

Then it was time to play our version of "Dirty Santa". The rules were explained and the person who had drawn the number "1" started the ball rolling. Before the evening was over, one guest and one member were thoroughly confused by what was taking place. All the gifts were really nice this year and some were "stolen" the maximum number of times. Fortunately, there were no blows exchanged and everyone went home happy.

Attending were 2 Andersons, C. Bailey, J. Bell, 2 Brutons, 2 Cammons, R. Coker, 2 Couplings, 2 Coxes, L. Crowder, G. Demetropoulos, 2 Dillehays, 2 Ebls, 2 Francisces, J. Howell, 2 Jarvises, 2 Jones, 2 (F) Jordans, 2 Lunsfords, 2 Lyles, G. McDonnell, 2 McFerrins, 2 McLaneys, 2 Mims, 2 Musgroves, 2 Neeses, 2 Nelsons, 2 Paquets, G. Polk, 2 Rowells, 2 Whighams, 2 Whites, and 2 Youens. Guests were Mrs. Bell's daughter, Charlotte Vinson; Greg's mother, Mrs. Norma McDonnell; and Geary's nephew, Darren Polk. This all adds up to a grand total of 56 members and three guests enjoying the December 12, 1998 evening.

Minutes

Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Meeting Nov. 19, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM President Buddy Paquet. In the absence of Don Dillehay, invocation was given by Hershel Whigham. The meeting was attended by 68 members.

Old Business: Buddy asked for a chairperson and a committee to shop for the Angel Tree children. Brenda agreed to be Chairperson. Joan Lunsford and Ann Rowell agreed to assist. Motion was made by John Reid to allocate \$200.00 for shopping, a second by Anna White, motion carried. DSR members are asked to donate this money at the Christmas Party. The club is also donating gifts for Disabled Veterans. A large number of items were brought to the meeting. Gifts will also be collected at the Thanksgiving Dinner on November 21. Ed Lunsford reported that the License Plate Project is coming along. He needed some sandblasting that Mike Williamson agreed to do. Ernie Youens reported that an estimate of \$350.00 has been obtained to take the wrought iron frame which holds the sign to a shop for sandblasting and painting. Pat Francis received an estimate of \$250.00 to replace the wood part with aluminum. After some discussion it was decided to take this matter up at a later meeting. Motion was made by Hershel Whigham to approve the October Minutes as printed, a second by Geary Polk, motion carried. Activity Coordinator Leah Musgrove reported she needs 3 cars for Crowne Health Care December 15. Tillmans Corner Christmas Parade December 5, needs convertibles. The motion to make this a club activity was made by Anna White, seconded by Joyce Francis, motion carried. Member at Large Cecil Pugh reported no revisions to the Bylaws had been submitted to his committee. Carl Bailey contacted Nominating Committee Chairman Russell Coker shortly after the October Meeting, asking his name be withdrawn as a candidate for Treasurer. As the ballots were being distributed, Anna White requested her name be removed from the slate, for the position of Secretary. The President asked for nominations from the floor for each office individually. No nominations were offered. Southeastern Divisional Tour 2001 Chairman, Charlie Froehlich reported that a budget needs to be made as a start to preparations. Hooters Show Chairman, Mike Williamson, thanked all workers that helped put a very successful show together. Anna White reported she has 60 people signed for the Thanksgiving Dinner.

New Business: Vice President Jim Whelton reported the wagon wheels at the parking lot entrance are in need of cleaning. This matter will be addressed at a later meeting. Motion to approve the November Financial Report was made by George Demetropulos, seconded by Al White, motion carried. Activity Coordinator, Leah Musgrove has a request for a vehicle for a wedding. Eddie Anderson made a motion that the club participate, a second by Al White, motion carried. Ray Harper agreed to find a suitable car. The ballots were counted, Russell Coker announced the new officers for 1999. President- Eddie Anderson, Vice President- Pat Francis, Secretary - Jane Bruton, Treasurer- Wilma Jones, Editor- Incumbent Patt Paquet, Activity Coordinator-Ed Lunsford, Member at Large -Incumbent, Cecil Pugh.

Announcements: Several members have had illness and accidents, some have recovered, myself included. The 50/50 Pot was won by Pat Francis. Motion to adjourn was made by Melvin Neese at 8:20 PM, a second by Al White, motion carried. Members retreated to the kitchen for refreshments.

Submitted by ,

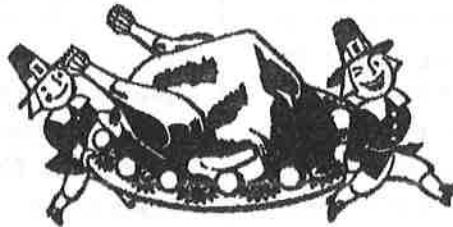
Ann Rowell

Food and fellowship go hand in hand for DSR Thanksgiving Dinner

Call it what you will ~ pot luck or covered - dish ~ our expert eaters declare there is something distinctive about the coming-together-and-eating our DSR family Thanksgiving dinner. It has become a tradition and most members would be disappointed if it didn't happen. And thanks to some loyal DSR folks, happen it did. Chairperson **Anna White** and her helpers, **Joyce Francis**, **Joan Lunsford** and **Ann Rowell** did themselves proud. However, this editor would be remiss if the guys who helped were not also mentioned...**Pat Francis**, **Ed Lunsford** and **Al White**. The clubhouse looked outstanding with fall decorations and Thanksgiving napkins all laid out with the eating utensils on the tables when members arrived on Saturday, Nov. 21st.

Members had been advised to have their food item at the clubhouse by 11:30 AM and lunch would begin promptly at noon. They did...and it did. Following the Blessing given by L. Mims, the members quickly formed a line to the food. The food setup was a bit different this year and seem to work much better for the traffic flow. It appeared there was more food than would ever be eaten, but the members rallied forth and gave their best effort to making sure no one had to eat leftovers the next day. There was baked turkey, Cajun-fried turkey, ham, several varieties of dressing, every kind of vegetable and salad anyone could ask for and desserts that just shouted for someone to take two samples!

Sadly, when the meal was finished, most folks seemed to think it was time to go. Actually, it was a time to trash the paper goods, put the eating utensils in to soak, get a glass of tea or a cup of fresh coffee and sit down to visit. It is more than reasonable to think that we will continue this event next year, so keep that in mind. You don't *have* to eat and run unless it is due to your schedule.



Food alone is not the key to the success of this affair. It is the preparation and sharing of the food that makes it what it is; especially when it is with people you care about. Sharing this year's dinner were 53 members, five guests and one cute little boy including **2 Andersons**, **C. Bailey**, **2 Bogles**, **G. Cammon**, **W. Coale**, **R. Coker**, **L. Crowds**, **G. Demetropulos**, **2 Dillehays**, **2 Ebbs**, **2 Francis**, **J. Howell**, **2 Jarvise**, **2 Jones**, **2 Lowes**, **2 Lunsfords**, **2 McCrorys**, **G. McDonnell**, **2 McLaneys**, **2 mims**, **2 Musgroves**, **2 Neese**, **2 Nettles**, **2 Paquets**, **1 Pugh**, **2 Ratkeys**, **2 Reids**, **2 Rowells**, **2 Whighams**, **2 Whites**, **2 Youens**. Guests were Marien Brent and her sister, Barbara Brent; Bill Coale,

Woody's father; Betty and Dale's son, Jason McLaney, their grandson Jacob and Jason's girlfriend. **Bill Cox** brought their dish and picked up some turkey for sandwiches due to **Mickey** having come down with a cold the day before. The clubhouse was put back in order; folks waddled out to their cars wishing each other a happy Thanksgiving without ever giving a thought to "What's for supper?". Worthy of note is the fact that **Woody Coale** had brought extra potato salad (8#) and bean salad (4#) that was never opened which he refused to take home. It was donated to the Waterfront Rescue Mission.

DSR Member Receives Academic Award

Mike Ebl was selected a 1998-99 College of Science and Technology Scholar by the University of Southern Mississippi. This is a significant honor bestowed upon sophomore and junior majors with outstanding academic records. He was recognized at a special ceremony followed by a reception Dec. 1st in the Shelby Thames Polymer Science Research Center Auditorium. Congratulations, Mike!

Death claims DSR member

We are saddened by the death of our good and faithful friend and member, Mrs. Jewel Bell. She died Monday, December 14, 1998 at her residence in West Mobile. None of us will forget what a grand time she had at our Christmas party on Saturday evening. Jewel was 77 years young and although her health had deteriorated in recent years, she was still an active person. She was an accomplished seamstress who enjoyed making things for others. She also loved the cars she and her husband had which at one time number an even dozen. She is survived by her daughter, Charlotte Vinson, who was a member of our club for many years and a son, Charles, who lives in Kissimmee, FL, along with four brothers and three sisters, nieces, nephews, and grandchildren. A memorial donation was made to Mrs. Bell's church in her memory.

DSR family's son dies

Billy and Flora (Coutie) Reeves son, William L. "Bill" Reeves, Jr. died unexpectedly Monday, Nov. 30, 1998. Bill lived near his parents in Satsuma and owned a landscape service. His wife, Kay, through her job, became acquainted with Ernie and Eugenia Youens who in turn met Billy and Flora when they learned of his interest in antique cars. We extend our sincere sympathy to Billy and Coutie as well as their entire family. A memorial contribution was made by DSR to the Regina Little Scholarship Fund of the First Baptist Church in Satsuma.

Apologies

This Editor wishes to apologize to both Jerry Finley and Al White for failing to recognize they participated in the Alabama Pecan Festival Parade and Display Nov. 7th. The really bad part of the whole thing is that I spoke with both of them about the event and still failed to get it into the November newsletter. Sorry fellows!

Members getting restorations

As the old saying goes, if it weren't bad luck, there wouldn't be any luck at all recently for some of our members. Although he is up and about, and out in the woods hunting, **B.L. Cammon** had knee surgery Nov. 3rd but is still not up to par. On Nov. 20th **Mike Ebl** was rear-ended on Highway 90 in Ocean Springs while on his way to work. The '91 Mustang is totaled but thank goodness Mike wasn't. However, with the continuing problems he's having, he could be out of commission for a bit. **Raymond Cochran** had another heart attack on Nov. 23rd and had to spend some time in Thomas Hospital in Fairhope. **Larry Collins** had more surgery on his right leg Nov. 27th. He thinks this time the doctors may have the problem solved. **Naomi McCrory** came down with pneumonia and spent Dec. 1-10 in the hospital. She's recuperating, but *very* slowly. **Jim Henderson** occupied a bed at Springhill Memorial Hospital Dec. 12-17. He says it is a continuing problem from the wreck in London at the end of September. **Elven Few** was admitted to Providence Hospital Dec. 17th, had a heart cath the same day followed more surgery the next day. He was discharged on the 19th. We wish all these members improved health and speed recoveries.



More "old news"

There were some DSR members who participated in the 16th annual Jackson Fall Festival and Antique Car Show on Nov. 7th in Jackson, AL. On hand there were **E. Grimes, 2 Harpers, 2 Reids, R. Sloan** and **J. Whelton**. There were 80-something cars and the **Harpers 1915 "T"** took **Best of Show, Pre-War**. Congratulations! I hope I didn't miss any other DSR member. This information was obtained from the Old South Antique Auto Club's newsletter. If you go to a show and don't see this Editor there, please send me a write-up or call to give me the who, what, when and where of it.

Just for the ladies....

The Antique Car Wife

The Amiable Wife: One who good naturedly lets her husband use her best bedspread to cover that Tin Lizzy provided he gives up Monday night football for a romantic evening alone with her.

The Bewildered Wife: One whose husband has just returned from Hershey and announces he bought a 1930 Packard Dual Cowl Phaeton.

The Cute Wife: One who smiles sweetly and hums as she helps her husband disassemble the parts car that fell apart in the driveway.

The Darn Mean Wife: One who giggles gleefully when in pouring rain her husband is sloshing through the mud at a swap meet and she is nice and warm in the camper or a cozy motel room.

The Disappointed Wife: One who wishes for a 1998 Buick for her birthday and gets a 1928 Buick instead.

The Foolish Wife: One who made her husband give up golf for antique cars so the could spend more time together.

The Deluded Wife: One who thinks antique cars are only a few weekends in the summer.

The Dishonest Wife: One who makes her husband thinks she know what makes the car work.

The Sensitive Wife: One who cries when it rains on her husband's new convertible top.

The Vain Wife: One who refuses to be seen in her husband's unrestored car.

Retyped from the *Brass Lamp*, newsletter of the Genesee Valley Antique Car Society AACA, Bonnie Franco, Editor

A handy hint

A good trick when you go away for a few days is to place a baggie with a few ice cubes in the freezer. If a power failure occurs while you're gone and the food thaws and refreezes, you'll know about it when you get home.



Custard Pie (Forms its own crust)

Submitted by the Dillehays

4 eggs 1 cup sugar
1/4 cup soft margarine
1 tbsp Vanilla
1/2 cup Bisquick
2 Cups Carnation Evaporated Milk

Place all ingredients in blender; blend on fast for two minutes. Pour into a greased pie pan or plate and let stand for 5 minutes before placing into a 325 degree oven. Bake until the center is firm.

Random thoughts

Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.

Families are like fudge...mostly sweet with a few nuts.

One day I shall burst my buds of calm and blossom into hysteria.

Laughing helps. It's like jogging on the inside.

Parades, parades, parades....everyone love a parade!

Springdale Christmas parade

by Wilma Jones

Christmas was in the air!! The 1998 shopping season was kicked off with the annual Springdale Christmas parade on Saturday, Nov. 14th. Though overcast with a threat of rain, the temperature was ideal and the rain held off until evening when the day's event was behind us. DSR was represented by **D. Breland, L. Crowds, 2 Jones, 2 Musgroves** and **2 Neeses**. Local celebrities riding with members included Mobile County Junior Miss Kathryn Thompson, WALA-TV's Kim Vaughn, WKRG-TV's Andy Gobeil and WKSJ's Wayne and Shelby. Young and old alike took advantage of the mild weather with a huge crowd turning out to welcome the holiday season with much enthusiasm.



Baldwin Countians Love Parades

by Carl Bailey

Almost like the "Great Pumpkin" Robertsdale had its biggest and best Christmas parade yet on Dec. 4th. I didn't see any other antique autos in the parade but I couldn't see it in its entirety. The Bailey '37 Chevy and '46 Dodge truck participated. I drove the Chevy with my youngest grandson as the designated candy thrower and my daughter, Sandy, drove the Dodge with my middle grandson as the chief candy thrower. We always have walking units but we must have had some crawling units this year. It was just too slow and the Chevy came close to overheating due to the slow speed and unusually warm weather.

Summerdale held their Christmas parade on Dec. 5th and since I couldn't go, my daughter and grandson took the Dodge pickup. There were other antique autos in this one and the Dodge brought home \$20 for the best antique vehicle entered!

Tillman's Corner Christmas parade

by Patt Paquet

It's been said that this is the second largest Christmas parade in the state and I believe it. The number of floats and other units continually increases each year. A snappy honor guard with flags flying lead off on Dec. 5th followed by the antique vehicles. Behind the cars was the Theodore High School Band. Then came all the usual array of floats with riders and last but not least, the horse patrol. Assisting by providing cars were **J. Finley, R. Harper, J. Henderson** with three cars, **2 S. Hendersons, 2 Jones, 3 McLaneys** in two cars (Jason brought the Met) **2 Paquets** and **2 Whites**. There were several cars from other clubs around the area which was a nice addition.



Irvington residents enjoy parades, too

by Larry Collins

When I turned on my computer Saturday morning, Dec. 19th, to check my E-mail, little did I realize there would be an invite to participate in a Christmas parade that afternoon. Do I? Don't I? Is the '57 Chevy clean enough to run in this type of thing? Woe is me, I don't have any throws. I've not put the car in a parade in a long time and it's a relatively warm day....will it run hot? Oh, what the heck, let's go for it. I was on hand at the designated time and place and who should appear but a cousin I hadn't seen in several years. She told me where my aunt, uncle and other cousins would be standing on the route and instructed me to honk and wave at them. The antique cars were at the front of the line which was nice but you sure have to watch for the little ones jumping out in front of them to pick up the candy and throws. Along with myself, the other DSR vehicle was the '64 Comet with **2 Paquets**.

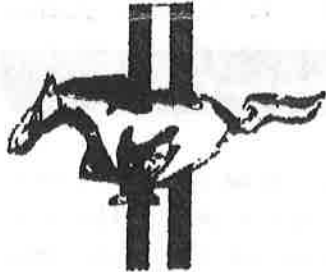
Mobile Bay Mustangers Beat "Georges"

by Cathy Whelton

Saturday, November 14th dawned overcast and muggy. A diehard (no pun intended) group of Mobile Bay Mustang Club members braved the fog and threatening skies to set up for and hold the annual MBMC car show. Hurricane Georges had taken care of the original date which was Sept. 26th. On that day the parking lot at Sam's Club was too full of storm-frenzied shoppers to make room for a car show. As this was the 10th year for the show, it went on as the "show" should.

The event was limited to Mustangs and Ford powered products with approximately 30 vehicles entered. DSR members who entered as well as worked the show were **R. Cochran, L. Crowds, 2 Kaesers, J. Reid** {minus Brenda who was

grandmothering their new granddaughter, **2 Wheltons, 2 Youens**. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and some grilled offerings from members as well as a participation plaque.



After dodging the rain all day, the awards were presented around 3:00 P.M. and the show was put to bed for another year. One of our participants, Joe Ingarra representing the Heart of Dixie Mustang Club in Montgomery, was involved in a one-car accident on I-65 N just north of Saraland. There was some sort of frame separation and the car careened across the median. Skillful handling narrowly averted a head-on collision in the south-bound lanes. After collecting themselves and having no injuries, the "Rescue Ranger" a/k/a John Kaeser was dispatched by John Reid. J. Kaeser brought his trailer and hauled away the Ingarra vehicle and also helped them get to a car rental agency so they could get home. Southern hospitality is alive and well in Saraland!

You've never been to a fire ant festival?

by Charlie Lyles

Well, if you haven't been to one, I'm here to tell you that you don't know what you've missed! There is a Fire Ant Calling Contest, a Fire Ant Race, a Fire Ant Chili Cookoff, and a Fire Ant Seafood Cookoff. You can only imagine what it sounds like when competitors take to the stage offering their version of what a fire ant mating call is. Or standing by while those same competitors cheer on the ant they've paid a whole dollar for to enter in the race.

Those who are of a somewhat stranger persuasion volunteer to be tasters in the cooking contests. If that's not enough, visitors are treated to hearing some good gospel singing, watching square dancers go whirling and twirling and seeing a vehicle rescue demonstration by the Fowl River Volunteer Fire District. Then there are the arts and crafts booths, the garage sale setups and the antique car display. For the third annual Fire Ant Festival Nov. 14th, DSR had **2 Jones, 1 Lyles and 2 Paquets**.



Mid-December busy for DSR

The monthly display at Crowne Health Care was held Dec. 15th. Providing vehicles for the residents to see were **2 Bogles and R. Jones**. C. Bailey had planned to be there but had something come up at the last minute and couldn't attend.

Friday, Dec. 18th found **2 Jarvises, E. Lunsford and 2 Paquets** driving to the Wm. F. Green Veterans Home in Bay Minette to meet **C. Bailey** to display cars for the men and women to see. Those who were able to come out seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves looking at the five cars parked in front of the building. We were treated to cake and punch, then an extensive tour of the facility.



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 Vice President: Pat Francis 342-3398
 Secretary: Jane Bruton 602-8073
 Treasurer: Wilma Jones 645-1499
 Activities: Ed Lunsford 661-8636
 Editor: Patt Paquet 661-4009
 Member at Large: Cecil Pugh 342-3404
 SE Divisional Tour (4/9 - 4/11/2001)
 Chman: Charlie Froehlich (601)749-9935

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 \$15.00 and AACA National dues are \$26.00. Views expressed in the Sparkplug are not necessarily those of the Region officers or AACA.

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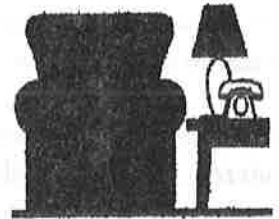
Contributions to the *Sparkplug* are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit material that may not be suitable for publication.



Please recycle this newsletter to a friend

January outing will be something old, something new

When we get together for our monthly outing next month, it will be sorta like a bride and her wedding; something old, something new. The *old* will be the fact that we will be going to eat, the something *new* will be that it is a different place. DSR will motor across the Bay for lunch at the Gift Horse Restaurant. We will meet on January 16, 1999 at the USS Alabama at 10:30 A.M., drive the 36 miles to Foley which will take approximately 45 minutes at 50 mph. It is a lunch buffet, the cost of which is \$10 per person. After lunch, you may wish visit some of the antique shops in the area. The Telephone Committee will be reminding those who signed up at the Christmas party and checking with those who were not there. Please be prepared to give your caller and answer when your phone rings. This will also be a joint outing with the Gulf Coast Model A Club.



A note from the past - prez

It seems that the older you get, the faster time goes by. I must be getting really old because this year has flown past. The new officers have taken over and will be bringing new ideas and new ways of doing things to the club. Change is good and I know they will do a fine job for all of us. I want to thank the DSR members for all of the help you gave to me and the other officers this past year. It is nothing less than a pleasure to serve such a great group of people.

There are still some things we need to do. We need to seek out more younger members. The next time you are at a show and a young person starts looking over your car, take the time to talk to him, or her; be willing to answer questions and don't take an attitude that just because they are younger than you that they aren't really interested. We need more folks who are willing to take on club offices. In some instances this has been a difficult task. We need to become more aware of our National organization and what it offers. Let's not put our heads in the sand or live in our own little world here on the Gulf Coast.

Buddy

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Put on calendar

Calendar

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 16 DSR Outing to Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley
- Jan. 28 DSR Meeting in Clubhouse at 7:30 P.M.
- Feb. 5 Moultrie Winter Swap Meet

You ever referred to a Ford as simply a "V-8"?
You know how many portholes a Roadmaster had.
You know which cars had the following trans-
missions: Powerglide, Cruisomatic, Dynaflo,
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Info contact Geary Polk ~ (334)645-1216.
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