

Sparkplug

NEWSLETTER OF THE
DEEP SOUTH REGION
A.A.C.A.



1985 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: LLOYD CROWDUS 661-8486
 VICE PRESIDENT: GEARY POLK 342-4594
 SECRETARY: JEANIE DOBBS 479-9102
 TREASURER: KATHERINE HARPER 661-5017
 ACTIVITY COORDINATORS: CECIL & LUCILLE NETTLES 661-4202
 MEMBER AT LARGE: "TEX" FAUST 633-5331

EDITOR: ERNIE YOUENS 675-3615

July 1985

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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July 25 - Meeting - In the Club House at 951 Forest Hill at Zeigler at 7:30 PM.

July 20 - Fund Raiser - Old car display at Popeye's Fried Chicken on Gov't Street.

July 27 - Outing - Meet at Tillman's Corner Delchamps at 9:30 A.M. for a run to Bayou La Batre Arts & Crafts and Seafood Festival.

The SPARKPLUG is non-profit and published for the information of our members and friends. Deep South Region meetings are held once each month on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 P.M. at the A.A.C.A. club-house at 951 Forest Hill Drive at Zeigler Blvd. The SPARKPLUG will be mailed the weekend before each meeting. Annual dues are \$10.00. This includes wife membership if she is a National A.A.C.A. (or joint) member. National dues are \$15.00 single and \$19.00 joint (husband & wife). Membership is required in the National A.A.C.A. if you are a regional member.

-OUR JUNE MEETING -

On June 27th our meeting was opened by President Lloyd Crowdus at 7:30 with 47 present. Our Chaplain V. T. Hopkins, gave the invocation. On sickness and accidents of members, Lloyd said Frances Dillehay had expressed appreciation for the cards, flowers, and prayers during her stay in the hospital. It was reported that Dr. Bill Wright's mother recently died. Also Mrs. Faye Polk has been suffering a lot with a broken toe. Her foot was stepped

on by a woman during the Tenn-Tom Parade on June 1st.

Ernie reported that many members have not yet picked up their rosters. As it costs the DSR approximately 60¢ each to mail them, David Hepler made a motion, seconded by Hop, to mail only out of town members and to notify local members to pick their's up at a meeting or outing in the SPARKPLUG. Motion carried.

A call was made for a show of hands of members willing to participate in Fairhope's July 4 celebration resulted in 9 cars from our membership.

This was followed by a most interesting talk of the DSR's 12th Annual Tour into Louisiana given by Barbara Short. Lloyd added that they all wished to thank the Froehlichs and Montgomerys for arranging such a great and interesting tour. There were 26 people in 13 cars. (9 antiques and 4 moderns)

Lloyd read letters from Jimmy Morris and Gary Rehm thanking us for our participation in the Tenn-Tom Parade. Lloyd also told of the very interesting time everyone had at Herb's and Reba's outing in Mississippi.

The Prez then asked for a date to be set by the members for a "Grand Opening" of our club house. The majority requested Sept. 21 with Sept. 28 as an optional date.

It was announced the DSR now has a new place to get club logo on our red shirts. More on this in the newsletter.

Ed and Eddie Grimes announced that they are in the chrome plating business and are soliciting work.

The June mystery photo was identified as Ray Faust.

Volunteers to serve refreshments at our July meeting were Jeanie Dobbs, Katherine Harper, Arline Eschete, and Eugenia.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 with everybody singing "Happy Birthday" to Guy Short. Then our mobilized multitude of magnificent motor mechanics and their merry mates munched on a matchless meal made by a modest minority of our majestic maiden members.

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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27	28	29	30	31		

Aug. 11 - Sunlay outing. Meet at the Club House at 2:00 P.M. for a "Rally" and homemade ice cream & cookies afterward. Hiplers leading.

Aug. 22 - Meeting - In the Club House at 951 Forest Hill at Zeigler at 7:30 PM.

BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING:

President Lloyd Crowdus called a meeting of the building committee members on Wednesday, July 3rd, at 7:30 P.M. Wives of the committee members were requested to attend. The purpose of the meeting was to make first preparations for our Grand Opening of the club house that the DSR membership voted for September 21st. All committee members were present except the Lowes who were unavailable at the time.

Lloyd first told us of the displays he had set up at Popeye's Fried Chicken and Godfather's Pizza for DSR donations.

On the Grand Opening, the Prez said he had talked to Mayor Mims' secretary and the September 21 date has been put on his agenda for 2:00 P.M. at that time. It will be confirmed at a later date.

On invitations to our Grand Opening, it was suggested that we invite all neighboring antique car clubs, all city officials that have assisted the DSR, AACA officials that will come, and other interested persons as well as the news media. Committee members suggested that we announce the Grand Opening in the SPARKPLUG, then make and send out printed invitations to those outside the club before the opening. The wives suggested that the DSR furnish punch and cakes and a request made for volunteers from the membership to prepare and furnish hors d'oeuvres. A guess as to the number of people we must expect is between 100 and 200.

It was decided also that, if possible, we will get Mayor Mims to cut a ribbon for our Grand Opening. The ribbon will be across the front porch so photos can be made with ease.

The necessary people will be contacted to see if it will be possible to get some of the Azalea Trail girls to be on hand at the ribbon cutting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55.

Below are two of the letters that Lloyd received regarding the DSR's participation with 25 cars in the Tennessee-Tombigbee Parade on June 1st. It was our pleasure to support this civic event promoting our area. The Mobile area has certainly been good to the DSR!!



Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce

P. O. Box 2187, Mobile, Alabama 36652, 205/433-6951

June 7, 1985

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I hope you feel as I do that Saturday, June 1, was one of the grander days of Mobile citizen involvement. The Tennessee - Tombigbee celebration was one that seemed to bring many of us closer together, give us a greater sense of pride, and an optimistic feeling for the future.

Such a day could only have happened with the role each of you played. I only wish time would allow an individual communication, so I hope you will accept this letter in the most possible personal manner.

It is addressed to all of you who gave Mobile an exciting Mardi Gras parade with new dimensions, and those of you who brought the day to such an emotional end with a sky filled with fireworks and music.

I have never depended on so many. The success of that day is fully credited to you.

Warmest personal regards,

Jimmie Morris
Parade Chairman and Coordinator
of Music Synchronized Fireworks



MOBILE GAS

SERVICE CORPORATION POST OFFICE BOX 2248 • 2828 DAUPHIN STREET • MOBILE, ALABAMA 36652 • (205) 476-2720

June 3, 1985

Mr. Lloyd Crowdus
4111 Burma Road
Mobile, Alabama 36609

Dear Lloyd:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your and your club's participation in the parade Saturday. It was a great way to start the festivities and I know the thousands of people along the streets were impressed.

Thank you again for helping to make the Tenn-Tom celebration a success.

Sincerely,

Gary G. Rehm

GGR/bc

With regret, we inform you of the death of Dr. Bill Wright's mother, Mrs. Carrie Wright, on June 17th. Mrs. Wright was from Berry, Ala. although she had recently lived in Mobile. Our deepest sympathy is with Dr. Bill, Bivian, and their children.

"Ole Hop" has been outdoing himself with very good Chaplain's Report articles lately. Here is another of his very fine write-ups. Hope you will take time to read it.

FROM OUR ACTING CHAPLAIN - V. T. HOPKINS:

CONSIDER THE SMALL PEANUT.



I am sure there are times in each of our lives when we feel very small and insignificant, don't have much money, our homes are small, we aren't very high in our jobs, our possessions are limited, we will never amount to much, people will always look down on us, we can't do this and we can't do that, others can do what we can't. This all adds up to we "just exist" and do not "live". We ask ourselves, "Why does this happen to me?"

Did you ever consider the small peanut? It must depend upon the earth for food that it may grow to maturity. When it is fully grown it is harvested and separated from the vine. No, the vine is not discarded - it becomes a delicacy in hay to feed livestock. The peanut is then cured and can be made into over 300 different products for human consumption. That very small peanut is very rich in vitamins and minerals. That whole plant, vine, peanut, and all, was useful!

So it is with man when he is placed on this earth. Man was placed here for a purpose, however, sadly, it is that we, not God, fail to find and pursue that purpose. However small and insignificant that purpose may be, if we fail to fulfil it then we become as the peanut vine that was discarded and failed to become food for the livestock. Too, we become as the peanut itself that was roasted too long and is no longer fit for human consumption and is discarded. Yes, God has a purpose for each of our lives. We must find it and fulfil it in order that our lives can be totally complete. Then God will smile on the accomplishments of His handiwork!

Let's all strive to fulfil His purpose for our being.
God is omnipresent. He sees us.

"Ole Hop"

SICKNESS & ACCIDENTS OF MEMBERS:

In a recent physical examination, Cecil Nettles was found to have a dangerously high cholesterol level. His doctor put him on a strict diet and he has shown a remarkable improvement. Cecil is to go back for another check-up on August 8th to determine further treatment.

Mrs. Faye Polk's toe was broken during the Tenn-Tom Parade when a lady in high heels accidentally stepped on her toe. Mrs. Polk did not know at that time that it was broken. She has suffered many days with it but it is at last getting better.

Bill Dobb's brother, Newburn, had a heart attack last week in Florida and Bill has spent some time with him there. Newburn is showing quite a bit of improvement.

Since the tour, Elvin Few has been having back problems in addition to his knee. Both of these problems were caused by an old injury, according to Elvin's doctor. All this has brought about a lot of discomfort for Elvin and we all sure hope he improves soon.

Frances Dillehay is doing much better with the pain in her chest that was mistakenly diagnosed as heart, and she has had chest pains only once since heart medication was stopped. Except for an abscessed tooth, Frances said she is doing fine!

AN ILLNESS IS LIKE A TV COMMERCIAL - EVEN A SHORT ONE IS TOO LONG!!!

FAIRHOPE'S FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION:

On July 4th 16 DSR members in 9 antique cars met at the battleship at 8:30 A.M. and drove to Fairhope for their annual 4th celebration. We had Marien, Lloyd & Lycyle, Tex, Ray Harper, Hop, Dale, Betty & Jason, Cecil & Lucille, Geary, Faye & Darren, and Ernie & Eugenia. It was a very pretty day for their parade with the usual nice and orderly turn-out of spectators. The open cars and those with rumble seats carried the Dogwood Trail girls in their ante-bellum dresses in the parade from the civic center to the Fairhope Pier. There we put our cars on display for a couple of hours while most of us ate dinner at the Yardarm Restaurant. The weather was sunny and a pleasant 80 degrees, and we all enjoyed supporting the Fairhope festival and their patriotic celebration. Geary had flags for all the antique cars and they really made the DSR look good flying the colors!! If you didn't make this one you missed a very congenial and pleasant outing.

OUR PREZ SEZ:

Many thanks to Charlie and Ardie Froehlich, and Ray and Mary Lou Montgomery for an excellently planned tour of Louisiana and Mississippi. It was certainly a treat this year to follow the leader! I think both couples are to be congratulated for a job well done!

Thanks again!

Lloyd

NEW ACQUISITIONS:

David Hepler now has competition with his Montgomery Ward motor scooter! Bill Dobbs has acquired an Allstate motor scooter of late 1940 or early 1950 vintage and is making plans now to restore it.

CARS FOR SALE:

1955 Chevrolet 2-door hardtop. Has 327 Corvette engine with 4 speed, \$7500 invested - asking \$5000. Red and White, will sell or trade. Call O'Gatha Hadden at 456-0507.

1955 Chevrolet 2-door hardtop, red and white. All very good original with a 265 engine with power-glide. See Lloyd or call him at 661-8486.

"OLD TIMER'S DAY"

Last month a group from the DSR met with their antique cars, and went to Bexley, Mississippi for a benefit outing. It was called "Old Timer's Day" and was for the support of the Bexley Volunteer Fire Department. There was a lot of activity there including a gospel singing group, barbeque and drinks (furnished free to DSR members that participated), and a mule pulling contest that was particularly enjoyed by Katherine. Ask her about those "poor little mules". (She really said it was CRUEL!) From the DSR we had Herb, Lloyd & Lycyle, Gavin, Elvin & Nell, Ray Harper, Hop, Bob, Lisa, and Robert, Jr. Hover, Dale, Betty, and Jason McLaney, and Jerry, Linda, and Jolene Page. They all reported having a great time!

JUNE MYSTERY PHOTO

This young man (and his wife) are very popular in antique car circles and very active in club events. This school photo was taken when he was 10 years old. He hasn't changed much so come to the meeting this coming Thursday night at 7:30 and tell us who you think he is. Look close, we all know him well!

HUNTSVILLE SHOW

Marien reported over 200 cars at the National AACA Show at Huntsville on June 14 & 15. She said it was an excellent show and an outstanding banquet. It was held at the Huntsville Space Center.

DRIVE WITH CARE, LIFE HAS NO SPARE!!!!!!

PLEASE NOTE -- On page 1 of this SPARKPLUG, we have Popeye's Fried Chicken Grand Opening and antique car display listed as July 20th. This date has been changed by their management, due to the Fishing Rodeo, to July 27th. We also have the Bayou La Batre Seafood Festival on that same day. The DSR needs enough cars to support both of these, so be at the meeting and help the DSR by letting Cecil know which of these you can attend.

We have a new place for getting silk screening of our club logo done on our red shirts and blouses. It is at a most reasonable cost and will hold up better than at the old place. See Lloyd to get yours done.

Marien said she has information and a brochure on the coming Glidden Tour into the Smokey Mountains on September 15-20. If you plan on going on this very fine Tour, see Marien for details.

Ed and Eddie Grimes are in the chrome plating business. If you need any plating done, see one of them for their rates.

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EDWARD GRIMES
Representative

Qual Kroom
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(305) 465-7900

Geary Polk has requested cars in a Labor Day Parade in the downtown area of Mobile on Labor Day, Sept. 2nd. The Mobile Chamber of Commerce and the Labor Council are sponsoring the parade at 10 A.M. It will be a pretty large parade with the Gold Wing Riders, our antiques, and several floats, and possibly the Shriners. We will have more on this at the meeting this coming Thursday night.

Frank and Jean Waites are buying up the whole west side of Chickasaw! They recently bought property surrounding their home and place of business including the music store next door. They have already moved the upholstery business into it. Go by and see Frank for your upholstery needs. He specializes in antique car upholstery and tops.

It was voted by the membership in the June meeting to mail rosters to out of town members that haven't picked theirs up yet, and to notify local members in the SPARKPLUG that they can pick theirs up at a meeting or outing. So if you haven't got yours and are local, come to the meeting or our next outing and get your roster.

When we have our meetings, please don't forget the "kitty". It sure will help the DSR if each person will just put one dollar in the box. You sure couldn't get the refreshments anywhere else at even near that price!

David and Jeannie Hepler are leading an outing on Sunday, August 11th. It will be a rally run and we'll have homemade ice cream afterward. We will meet at the club house at 2:00 P.M. on August 11th. Please bring either a freezer of ice cream or cookies. This will certainly be an interesting day - DON'T MISS IT! And don't miss all the homemade ice cream!!!!

Don't forget the meeting Thursday night, July 25th, at 7:30 P.M. Several people have stated that they would like to see our 13th Annual DSR Tour held in the fall in cooler weather. There are pros and cons to this so come to the meeting and voice your opinion. The tour date must be set at our August or September meeting. Come let us know which outing you can attend Saturday 27th, Popeye's Grand Opening or the Seafood Festival, we need to know! This is very important to the DSR. Come hear the great outing the Heplers have planned. Our club house "Grand Opening" is growing close, and some suggest we call it "Open House". Please come let the DSR know your wishes. It concerns YOU!!!
SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!!

The DSR's 12th Annual Tour into Louisiana and Mississippi was planned and organized by Charlie and Ardie Froehlich, and led by the Froehlichs and Ray and Mary Lou Montgomery. We all owe our thanks to these dedicated members for one of the DSR's most outstanding tours. There have been many comments made by tour participants about the great organized planning and leading. We have not heard one word of complaint by anyone!

And now to cap it all off, the Froehlichs have graciously given the SPARKPLUG an excellent detailed write-up of the tour ---

DEEP SOUTH TOUR

The twelfth annual Deep South Region AACA (Mobile) Tour was held in Louisiana and Mississippi June 15 thru June 21, 1985. A total of 26 people in nine antique autos and four modern vehicles participated. The starting point for the tour was Baton Rouge. Here we were taken on a trip around the city by the Acadiana Thunderbird Club. We visited the Capitol, Old Governor's Mansion, Catfish Town and LSU campus. We ended up at Crumps' Museum where the Crumps and the Baton Rouge Chapter AACA served an excellent jambalaya meal. We followed this with a visit to the museum and then a trip to The Crump home for more cars and coffee.

On Sunday, we took off for Opelousas with Ray and Mary Lou Montgomery leading us over scenic back roads. At New Roads, the mayor presented us with a key to the city and discussed the history of the area. A police escort helped us in our tour of the False River vicinity. We then drove on, crossing the Atchafalaya River on a ferry and had lunch in Melville. We were apparently the biggest thing to hit Melville in some time judging by the crowds our vehicles drew. After arriving in Opelousas, the Evangeline Chapter AACA treated us to a great bar-b-que. Everyone enjoyed both the food and the visit.

Monday we headed for Alexandria, with the Montgomerys showing us the sights enroute. First off, we visited the second largest catholic church in the south located at Opelousas. The next stop was in Washington at Paradis, the restored antebellum home of Kermit and Sherry Doucet. Besides an interesting tour of the house, we were treated to coffee and donuts. Our next destination was Marksville, where we visited the auto collections of Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Baldrige. Lunch was served by the Baldrige's at the museum. The last leg of the day's tour took us to our motel in Alexandria.

Tuesday morning dawned nice and cool (and a little wet). No reason to stop touring because of a little rain. Our friend David Coco had arranged for a visit to the England Air Force Base. David led the tour to the base where we were able to view in detail the planes they fly. We even had a pilot in the cockpit explaining the functions and controls. We followed the Air Base with a trip to the Alexandria Zoo. This is a nice zoo, definitely worth a visit. Everyone was free to pursue afternoon activities of their own choosing. The stay in Alexandria was completed Tuesday evening with a pot luck supper at Coco's hosted by David, his father and members of the Cenla Old Car Club.

Wednesday we left Alexandria and drove to Natchez. After checking in to the Prentiss Inn, we toured Longwood Antebellum Mansion and the Old South Winery. We concluded the day with an excellent catfish dinner at Cock of the Walk and then watched the sun set over Louisiana from the top of the Eola Hotel.

On Thursday, the group went to Dunlieth, one of the many antebellum mansions and homes in the area. Thereafter, we toured Natchez individually or as small groups. Some of the places visited included additional mansions, the Natchez Trace and antique shops. In the evening we visited with Natchez car club members and they joined us for dinner.

Friday was the "Heading Home" portion of the tour. All good things must end, but they might as well go out in style. To do this, we left Natchez by way of back roads with little traffic. All of the cars were running fine and we made good time over the hills and through the woods. Our primary stop of the day was at Clinton's East Feliciana Parish Courthouse, an interesting National Landmark Building constructed in 1840. After lunch at Clinton, we continued on to Baton Rouge where everyone loaded up and headed for home.

Participants on the tour were the following:

Junie and Ann Jarvis, 1927 Chevrolet
 Ray and Katherine Harper, 1929 Ford
 Dave and Jeannie Hepler, 1929 Ford
 Buddy Walton, 1929 Cadillac
 Lloyd and Lycle Crowds, 1931 Ford
 Elvin and Nell Few, 1931 DeSoto
 Ray and Mary Lou Montgomery, 1932 Cadillac
 Charlie and Ardie Froehlich, 1935 Ford
 Cecil and Lucille Nettles, 1936 Chevrolet
 Herb and Reba Counselman, Modern
 Drew and Alice Navarre, Modern
 Jerry, Linda and Jolene Page, Modern
 Guy and Barbara Short, Modern

CHARLIE & ARDIE

COMING SHOWS IN OUR AREA:

- Aug. 18-24 17th Annual Edgewater Mall Show at Biloxi. Reg. fee \$10.00.
 All classes trophies awarded. Call John Roberts for info 601-896-7284.
- Sept. 7 Old South Show at Fort Conde. Reg fee \$7.00 first car, others
 \$3,00. For info call Jimmy Neese at 675-4508.
- Sept. 14 West Florida Region AACA Show at Seville Square in Pensacola.
 For info call J. P. Warren at 904-968-2707.
- Oct. 10-11-12 Hershey!!!
- Oct. 19 Tentative date for the New Orleans Show. Call Charlie Froehlich
 at 504-392-6067 for information.



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