



The Sparkplug



Newsletter of the Deep South Region A. A. C. A. Vol. 33 No. 7 July 2000

June ending, July beginning sad for DSR

In memory of Joan Greer Lunsford

by Ann Rowell

DSR has lost yet another active member and wonderful friend. Joan Lunsford left us June 29, 2000. She is survived by her husband, Ed; her son,



Mike, and her daughter Linda (Greg) Weaver and five grandchildren all of whom she was very close to.

Joan and I met at my first DSR meeting in the mid 1990s. She came to me after the meeting and intro-

duced herself. We were friends from that day forward. She had a way of making anyone she met feel comfortable. We worked on several club projects together plus the Angel Tree for four consecutive years. This was always an enjoyable time, shopping for small children. There were numerous car shows where we handled the door prizes together. One of the things we had the most fun with was working on the annual Thanksgiving Dinner with Anna.

Whether it was serving as a member of the Calling Committee or anything else that needed doing, Joan was always there. She participated in club meetings and outings. Last year when Ed was our Activities Coordinator, she was there, helping him all the way. She was referred to as "Granny", "Mama Jo", "Joan" or just plain "Jo", depending on

who was doing the talking. We had similar interests; antiques, shopping and Chinese food. She was an avid gardener which is reflected by her yard, a real show place. Fishing was another of her favorite things to do. She truly loved to spend time at their camp on the Pascagoula River with her friend, Berta, or the grandsons, just fishing up a storm. Joan was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She will be missed by everyone whose lives she touched.

Paul Bowden's brother suffers heart attack

William O. Bowden passed away at his residence on June 20, 2000. He and Paul had worked together from the time Bowden Electric opened. Mr. Bowden was a lover of vintage automobiles and was actually the one who got Paul interested. The club extends its sincere sympathy the entire Bowden family.

Larry Nelson's mother dies in Biloxi, MS

Mrs. Annie L. Nelson passed away June 27 at Keesler AFB hospital following a short illness. She is survived by her husband, Bill, and two sons, Larry and Gerald. Mrs. Nelson was a homemaker who traveled with her USAF husband during his career. She was active in her community which also mourns her death.

Judy Martin's father buried in Florence, AL

Judy had gone to "Camp Oleo" for the family's Fourth of July reunion a few days ahead of time to help Jim get everything ready. They were notified on the evening of July 1 that Judy's father had died. Mr. William H. Watson was 87 years of age.



Officers

- President: Buddy Paquet 661-4009
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- Secretary: Reecie Mims 479-2523
- Treasurer: Wilma Jones 645-1499
- Activities: Susie Anderson 649-3231
- Joyce Francis 342-3398
- Editor: Patt Paquet 661-4009
- Proofreader: Tracy Henderson 661-8315
- Member at Large: Cecil Pugh 342-3404
- SE Divisional Tour (Nov. 1-3, 2001)
- Chman: Charlie Froehlich (601)749-9935

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 7:30 P.M. in the clubhouse located at 951 Forest Hill Drive. Membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America is required to be a member of this region. Annual local dues are \$15.00 and AACA national dues are \$26.00. Views expressed in the Sparkplug are not necessarily those of the Region officers or AACA. Permission to copy material is hereby granted provided source is disclosed and credit given to author. Some material maybe copyrighted and permission to use granted to this publication only. 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



Out of the President's tool box

by Buddy Paquet

These past few weeks have been a trying time for so many of our club members. The Bowdens, the Lunsfords, the Martins and the Nelsons have all had their share of grief to deal with. But in reality, this goes past the immediate family and is shared by many more who are a part of the extended family.

It is true that we don't all see each other every weekend or even every month. But we are there when a need arises. It can be something so trivial as needing to borrow a shop manual or as important as unashamedly holding another person while they shed their tears of sorrow. The point is we are a family and we help each other. I have to say how proud I am to be a part of a group that will come together to share the distress of those who are having to deal with heartache.

I must make a correction to something I wrote last month. In the June issue I made reference to not wanting to be a test case for the inoperable vehicle law. Thankfully, we won't have to worry about that for the time being. Although it did pass the House, it was derailed in the Senate and died when the Legislature ended its session. However, we need to keep aware of what is going on and not let something like this sneak up on us again.

We seem to have a windfall of products to test. This time of year we are not overrun with business to deal with. Therefore, we can have a little fun as well as learn something at our meetings. This month we will be testing *Kroil*, a penetrating oil. Next month, DSR member Paul Dagenais will be conducting a demonstration for removing rust through electrolysis. This is something you can do yourself after you learn how. September we will be trying some polishing compounds designed for specific tasks.

A friend sent the following to me and I thought you might get a laugh from it. It is an ad which appeared four days in a row in a real-life newspaper - the last three hopelessly trying to correct the first day's mistake.

MONDAY: For sale: R. D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Call 948-0707 after 7 P.M. and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him cheap.

TUESDAY: Notice: We regret having erred in R.D. Jones' ad yesterday. It should have read "One sewing machine for sale cheap. Phone 948-0708 and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him after 7 P.M."

WEDNESDAY: Notice: R.D. Jones has informed us that he has received several annoying telephone calls because of the error we made in the classified ad yesterday. The ad stands correct as follows: "For sale -- R.D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Cheap. Phone 948-0707 after 7 P.M. and ask for Mrs. Kelly who loves with him."

THURSDAY: Notice: I, R.D. Jones, have no sewing machine for sale. I intentionally broke it. Don't call 948-0707 as I have had the phone disconnected. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Kelly. Until yesterday, she was my housekeeper, but she has now quit.



What's going on here??

Minutes

Deep South Region, A.A.C.A. Meeting, June 22, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Buddy Paquet, Pres., at 7:30 PM, with 33 members present and one visitor, Mr. John Pendergrass. Mr. Pendergrass, who owns a 1929 Model A town sedan and a 1937 Packard convertible, was welcomed by all. Buddy informed us that both Ed Lunsford and Dale McLaney are continuing to improve; and that Ed Lunsford is ready for visitors. He announced the time of the funeral arrangements for Paul Bowden's brother, and a sympathy card was passed around for signatures.

Chaplain Lambert Mims gave the invocation.

OLD BUSINESS

Neither the **President**, nor the **Vice President** had any old business. **Secretary** Reecie Mims asked for a motion to approve minutes of May meeting. Motion was made by David Couling and seconded by Eddie Anderson, and approved by club. **Editor** Pat Paquet discussed with David Couling passing out information to the students at University of Mobile. He thought that was a good idea. He also gave us information on acres of treasures he found off Tanner Williams Road - old farm equipment, including log tractors. It sounded like a place for the guys to visit. **Activities co-chairman** Susie Anderson deferred to Joyce Francis, who asked for input on whether or not we wanted to continue the Crown Nursing Home display each month. There was some discussion, but no vote was taken. She announced the Watermelon Cutting Saturday, July 1, 2000 at 2 PM in the Clubhouse. The club voted to make the July 22nd trip to a restoration shop in Montgomery a club activity, on a motion by Hershel Whigham and a second by Eddie Anderson.

The Hooters Car Show is on schedule according to Eddie Anderson, who is helping to head that committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Neither the **President**, **Vice President** nor the **Secretary** had any old business. **Treasurer** Wilma Jones asked for a motion to approve the June Financial Report. A motion to approve was made by Ann Rowell and seconded by Betty Neece. It carried. **Editor** Pat Paquet had no new business. **Activities:** Susie Anderson announced that the Mobile Museum of Art needs one car at the Carlin House Museum on July 26th., and that arrangements had already been made for it. Leah Musgrove made the motion, and Hershel Whigham made the second, and the club passed the motion to make it a club activity. Susie also announced that an ice cream social will be held at the Neese's home on Aug. 19th. Joyce Francis said the participants had so much fun at the Shoney breakfast that they decided to make a trip to the Rocky Creek catfish restaurant Saturday 7/24/00. Member at Large Cecil Pugh had no new business.

50/50 pot was won by Bill Musgrove. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Reecie Mims

Mustangs stampede Mississippi coast

by Mike Ebl

It has been 13 years since the Mississippi Coast Mustang Club hosted a Mustang Club of America show. That was a Grand National Show in 1987. Planning for the Y2K event began over three years ago and as the date approached, club members really pitched in, working out details in special meetings.

A total of 160 cars pre-registered encouraging us to think somewhere in the high two-hundreds for a total. The weekend of June 16-18 brought rain, which although much needed, put a damper on the number of car owners willing to brave the wet stuff. The final count of 188 vehicles wasn't bad considering the weather conditions.

Due to ominous looking clouds, the drive-thru door at the back of the Gulf Coast Coliseum rolled up earlier than scheduled on Friday. The heavy rain come there until the afternoon so cars arriving in the early evening hours came in a torrential downpour. MCMC members were standing by, towels in hand.

Saturday night's hospitality party at the President Casino's Broadwater Resort was a big hit. There were a number of MCA officials in attendance including the National President, the National Head Judge and several Directors. Mr. John LeFebvre, Specialty Car Brand Development Manager for Ford Motor Company was one of three Ford dignitaries present. He provided some very interesting demographics on the "typical Mustang buyer" and a peek into the future of a new Ford prototype Fastback.

MCMC President, Mickey Penton, took the podium to thank all the club members for their hard work but his speech was rudely interrupted by some old geezer pushing a broom. When questioned by Mickey as to what he was doing, he replied that he was just cleaning up. After more inquiries, it was determined he was Homer T. Greaseitall, a native of Mississippi. He told us his life story and how he had



worked at Ford for over 35 years and how through his eyes, those of a janitor, the Mustang was born.

The awards were handed out on Sunday afternoon (in air-conditioned comfort, I might add) to not only Mustang competitors but owners of other Ford cars and trucks as well. In addition to Mustangs, the show was open to all Ford products. We had Falcons, Torinos, Thunderbirds, Ford trucks, a Sunbeam Tiger and even a 1965 Griffith. The trophies, which were plaques with a 1965 steel model Mustang convertible mounted on them, were assembled by MCMC members. There were a lot of nice comments on the awards. One of the highlights of the weekend was the drawing for a Mustang quilt made by one of our members. It now has new home ~ are you ready for this? ~ in Canada! Can you think of a better place for a cozy quilt?

DSR entrants were the **Anderson, Ebl, Finley, Paquet, and Whigham** all of whom got awards.

Who got the last laugh?

A couple was driving along on the highway when the wife looked at her husband and said, "I want a divorce." The man said nothing but gripped the steering wheel harder. She then said, "I want the house and all the furnishings." Again, the fellow said nothing, gripped the steering wheel harder and accelerated from 65 up to 75 mph. Not one to let anything get away, the woman said, "I also want all of my jewelry, furs, a new car and everything in our bank accounts." Once more, her husband said nothing but increased his speed from 75 to 85. Not giving up, the wife said, "I want you to sell the business and give me my half. What do you have to say to that?" As he sped up to 100 mph he said, "This car has an air bag on the driver's side only.", as he headed for a roadside tree.

Motoring into The Millennium -- Continuity with Change

by John P. Myer, President

It is a high honor and rare privilege for me to be selected as your President of the Antique Automobile Club of America as we motor into the new millennium. Whether you consider the past New Year's Day as the start of the millennium, or if you consider the next New Year's Day as the start, we definitely are entering a new time period!

It is traditional with any new year to look back and also forward. The first month of our calendar, January, refers to the mythological Janus with two faces, one that looks forward and one looking back.

In this piece, I am primarily looking forward as it relates to our hobby and our Club. As the oldest and largest of the antique car clubs in this country, we can be proud of our heritage. Our Founders and those who have led us in the past have set high standards for us to follow.

But where does the future take us? What changes can we expect? Where does our club go in the next five to ten years? Your AACA Board has been searching for answers to this and other questions as we move into the new millennium. The Board has adopted a five year strategic plan that will guide us toward our goals during this period.

One of our immediate goals for this year is to promote the use of the Internet as a public relations tool. Many of our AACA Regions and Chapters have established their own website, linked to the AACA website. About 40 Clubs have established a presence on the Internet, and they are gaining memberships in both the National and local clubs through this medium. Our AACA website contains a wealth of information on it already, with more in the formative stage.

We are studying ways to attract and keep younger members in the Club. Our Junior AACA membership is growing slowly, and we are studying the possibility of instituting a Driver or Touring

Class to be included at National Meets to help attract the 25-40 year olds.

We are implementing a plan to integrate and expedite the flow of all data in a more efficient manner within our Club. As we grow and expand, the need for information will be required to be available to many of us on a more timely basis. And we want to use the technology that exists to that.

Our AACA Museum will need our support if this venture is to be successful. Our AACA Library and Research Center is expanding and growing and will need our continued moral and financial support as it grows.

The threat of legislative programs that impact our hobby require constant watching. We have a program operation that stays abreast of pending legislation in the nation's capital as well as each state legislative house. Each AACA Region/Chapter should have a person who can be part of our National Legislative network so that

information can flow up and down the network. Whether you have enjoyed the hobby as long as our first AACA President in 1935, Frank Abramson, who is a Founding Member of this great club, or if you are a newly recruited member just starting in the hobby, we need to keep moving ahead to satisfy all our members as we enjoy this past-time that we call antique automobiling!

The preceding is from the Spring 2000 issue of *The Rummage Box*, a publication of the AACA Regions Committee.



***“A well-informed member is
the best salesperson AACA
can have !”***

Southern hospitality a Senior winner at Southeastern Spring Meet

The only thing different was that you got out of a four-wheeler and walked into a hotel lobby rather than disembarking from either a carriage or maybe a paddle wheeler and strolling up a tree-shaded drive to the mansion. And there really was a mansion, but more about that later.

Perhaps it comes from experience or maybe it could be called just good luck. Whatever you call it, the members of the Middle Tennessee Region know how to make you feel welcome from beginning to end. They were there to hand out registration packs, give information, help get trailers parked and almost anything else they could to make sure you had the best time possible. I even saw one of the MTR guys carrying luggage for a solo female AACAr! Now that's what I call *real* Southern hospitality.

Before becoming known as Music City, Nashville was called the "Athens of the South" because of the many colleges and universities in the area. Between 1904 and 1914, the Marathon Motor Works built approximately 10,000 vehicles of which only seven are known to exist today. On one side of the river is The Hard Rock Cafe, Planet Hollywood and the NASCAR Cafe. The opposite side

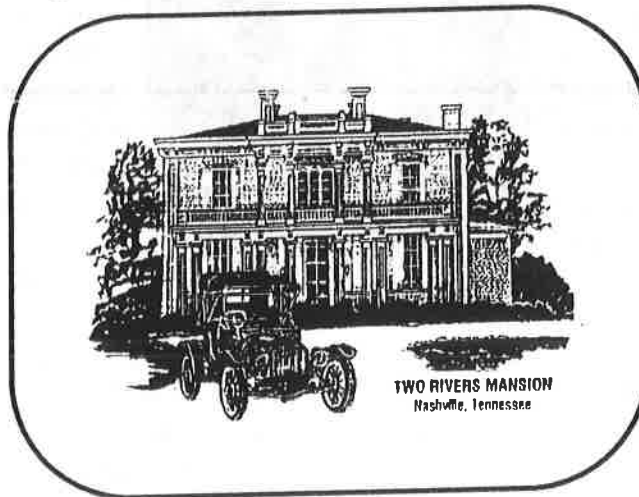
offers Southern charm in the way of President Andrew Jackson's home, The Hermitage, along with Belle Meade Mansion and Two Rivers Mansion where the show was held.

Those who arrived early were invited to a "Get Acquainted" gathering held at the Mansion Thursday evening. Friday provided the opportunity to attend numerous seminars on everything from paint to publications and the customary Judging School. That evening dinner and the Nashville Nightlife Theater with transportation included was available if country music was to your liking.

Saturday's Judges Breakfast revealed there were judges from 23 states and Canada to handle the nearly 300 vehicles registered. The oldest was a 1904 rear entrance touring T. The new High Performance Class 36 had a respectable five entries. No doubt the number of entries in this class will increase as time goes by.

Arriving at Two Rivers Mansion, it was nice to see lots of trees to provide shade from the hot sun. (Seems as if we are never really happy in that only a month before we were complaining about the cold and dampness in Winchester!) The judging was completed and the cars released from the field by 3 P.M.

The Awards Banquet that night brought lots of applause, high-fiving and air punching. After all, who wants to just sit quietly when a friend has received a trophy he has worked long and hard for? There were some goodbyes that night and others the next morning. But in general, parting shots consisted mostly of "See you in a few weeks" or "Meet you in the hotel lobby" or "Call us when you get in". And that's what this is all about, having fun with a hobby you enjoy while sharing the good times with friends.



Coming next month

Ride along with DSR members Charlie and Ardie Froehlich as they participated in the Central Division Tour in Minot, ND then on to Williamsburg, VA to for the Founders Tour. Two tours in two weeks, 1750 miles apart! There should be some really interesting stories to come out of this trip.



...Editorially speaking

In today's fast-paced world, communication is the name of the game. However, I can only share with you what is given to me by others. Sometimes, those "others" assume that I already know whatever it is and therefore don't tell me. *Please*, tell me what you think I may already know. I had rather be told the same thing several times rather than not to get the information at all.

This is said in the way of an apology for both the President and Editor not knowing that Jeff Mims, brother of our member and Chaplain Lambert Mims, suffered a severe stroke the first of May. We went right through the May and June meetings with our Chaplain doing his usual outstanding job without any of us ever offering our wishes for his brother's complete and speedy recovery.

There are a number of DSR members who are acquainted with Jeff. As a matter of fact, he is the one who installed the flooring in addition of the clubhouse. Belatedly, we do send a truckload of get-well wishes to Jeff for a swift and total recovery.

Can you relate to this ?

by Chuck Schneider
Horseless Carriage Club of New Orleans

When I was still in school, I rebuilt a Model A. I took it to a body and paint shop where the man said he would take care of it right away. I graduated from high school then college, then got married, raised four children, put them through school and I now have a beautiful grandchild.

Then one day I was sitting with a blanket on my lap, rocking back and forth on the porch of an old folk's home. A nurse came out and said, "Excuse me, sir, some man called. He kept me on the phone for sometime, but I didn't have the faintest idea what he was talking about. The only thing I really understood was that your car would be ready in two to three months."

August meeting will be a humdinger

DSR member Paul Dagenais will conduct a demonstration on rust removal through electrolysis. He will teach members how this can be done in your own garage. Paul holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry from Ottawa University along with other degrees from other Universities. The week prior to the meeting he will be presenting a paper to an International Conference at Queen Margaret University Collage in Edinburgh, Scotland. He will be driving from London to Edinburgh. Perhaps he will share his GB driving experiences with us.

While the experiment is cooking away, DSR folks can put some cooking away. We will have a covered dish supper beginning at 6:00 P.M. If for any reason you can't make it in time for the meal, the meeting will begin at the usual time and the demo will conclude as soon as the meeting is over.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the July meeting and if you are unable to make the meeting and put your name on the list, you will be called. Don't miss this opportunity get in on something fun as well as educational. Why not bring a guest?

Hooters Car Show update



The three musketeers, a/k/a Eddie, Bob & Pat, who are tri-chairing this event say things are just hunkey dory. They are working on a budget as well as the design for the award/dash plaques. They plan to provide entrants with goodie bags and need your help in acquiring items for the bags. They would like members to ask places where they do business on a regular basis for contributions. It can be any type of give-away the owner would like to donate. Bring anything you obtain to the July, August or September meetings. Don't be shy about asking; most businesses like being able to get their names out.

Pate 2000

by Shirley Rodriguez ~ Slidell Antique Car Club

Pate 2000 was just another trip to a flea market, or so I thought, with the usual trinkets to sell to others who are in this hobby. Well, I should have known that things weren't quite right. On Tuesday morning, we were supposed to see several Thunderbirds in Baton Rouge enroute to Pate. The night before, the owner called and said he could not show us the cars the next morning. So it was an early departure from Lacombe. It was a routine trip to Allen, Texas, where my daughter, Dana, lives. This was to be my final destination. Playing Grandma was just up my alley.

On Wednesday, Larry wanted to investigate the availability of more Thunderbirds, so we went to visit the facilities of Amos Minters in Dallas. You would have thought he had all the T-birds that came off the assembly line. Not really, but he had a lot of them; all '55, '56 and '57s. They were from very bad to pretty good. Some of what others call completely restored is not what I consider restored. Larry has trained me pretty well so I am critical when a car is represented as "restored". But it was an experience and very informative. We did not buy one.

Thursday Larry went off to the swap meet to browse, visit with his friends and to see what he could find to buy. I did not see him again until Saturday evening when he came back to Dana's house for our return trip home. When he walked in the door with a sheepish grin on his face, I knew I was in trouble.

"Well," I said, "what did you buy?" "Do you really want to know?" he asked. And I thought - oh NO! But it wasn't too bad when he said he bought a 1966 Mustang Fastback. It has a few problems he told me so we couldn't drive it back. Because we had not seriously thought he would buy a car, we had not come financially prepared with funding. We thought we could have it shipped to Lacombe. Then came the ifs, ands and buts so finally we decided to see if we could locate an East Texas branch of our bank. We found one in McKinney, only a few miles from where we were. Then came the indecision

again and we thought it better to have it shipped. On Monday morning we started home. About 150 miles from Dallas and after much deliberation about leaving the car in Waco, which was the Mustang's home, until we could make all the final arrangements, Larry just could not bear to leave it there. We located a bank in Longview and acquired a check so we could pick up the car. My patience was more than a little stretched when I realized we would be going back in the same direction from which we had just come for another 150 miles just to get to where the car was. But Larry persuaded me it would be the best solution if we picked up the Mustang. We finally arrived in Waco around mid-afternoon. Paperwork completed, U-Haul truck and trailer rented and with me driving our pickup, we left Waco about 5:30 P.M.

Traveling the back roads of Texas, which are much better than any in Louisiana, we finally merged with I-45 heading to Houston. We arrived in the Houston area about 9:30 that night. Needless to say, traffic in Houston is never NOT busy. I was trying to navigate leading the way through Houston onto I-10 when I saw Larry being pulled over by a Houston police officer. I thought this just had to be the icing on the cake. I waited in the pickup and finally Larry flashed his lights at me to get going. We drove several more miles before we stopped to eat. I couldn't wait to ask Larry what kind of ticket he had gotten. Larry told me the policeman said he was weaving from lane to lane a little but we had been driving through a heavy construction area which made towing a vehicle even more hazardous. He said the policeman was more interested in looking at the Mustang than he was in giving him a ticket so he sent us on our way with a warning.

We arrived home about 9:30 A.M. the next morning, exhausted, with an unrestored, needing paint and no title burgundy '66 Mustang. Oh, by the way, Larry did buy me something also -- the ugliest pink flamingo bird shovel you ever saw for my garden. Wouldn't you just know it??!!

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**Penetrating oil test
to be conducted at July 27 meeting**

Look around your garage for a bolt with a

**All polishes are the same,
fact or fiction ?**

The following statements can give car

Ernie & Eugenia Youens
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In this issue

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July 2000

July 2000



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

Important Dates

- July 27 DSR Meeting in Clubhouse at 7:30 PM ~ Penetrating oil test to be conducted
- Aug. 4-6 Central LA Region's Annual Tour ~ Robert Peters (318) 487-1692
- Aug. 13-19 AAECM's Annual Edgewater Mall Show ~ Larry Burdeshaw (228) 392-4374
- Aug. 17-19 AACA Central Fall Meet ~ Waukesha, WI
- Aug. 24 DSR Meeting with covered dish supper beginning at 6:00 P.M. in Clubhouse (Rust removal demo)
- Sept. 4 55th Annual Labor Day Show ~ Mobile Fairgrounds ~ Info: Bryan Daniels (334) 661-1071
- Sept. 16 Cars for ARF ~ Sam's Club
- Sept. 16 Navy Seabee Veterans Car Show ~ Picayune, MS ~ Info: Warren (601)798-3048
- Sept. 15-17 Baton Rouge Chapter AACA's Fall Tour ~ Baton Rouge, LA ~ Wade Giles (225) 261-7034
- Sept. 23-24 Gadsden Antique Auto Club Show ~ Nocalula Falls ~ Joan Clements (256) 547-7143
- Sept. 28 DSR Meeting in Clubhouse at 7:30 PM ~ Various polishes will be tested
- Sept. 30 11th Annual Mobile Bay Mustang Club Show ~ Sam's Club ~ Info: (334) 457-5627
- Sept. 30 West Florida Region AACA Show ~ Pensacola, FL ~ John or Marilyn Webster (850) 455-7184
- Oct. 4-7 Hershey !! 'Nuff said !!
- Oct. 5-8 Cruisin' the Coast ~ Call 1-888-808-1188
- Oct. 7 South Alabama British Car Club Show in Fairhope ~ Contact Mike Thomason (334) 343-0726
- Oct. 21 (Ten.) New Orleans Antique Auto Show ~ More information when it becomes available