

Sparkplug

NEWSLETTER OF THE
DEEP SOUTH REGION

A.A.C.A.



Vol. 29

No. 10

EDITOR: Patt Paquet

1996 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	John Reid	666-3761
VICE PRESIDENT:	Al White	344-2643
SECRETARY:	Greg McDonnell	476-7178
TREASURER:	Lucille Nettles	661-4202
ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR:	Buddy Paquet	661-4009
MEMBER AT LARGE	Jim Martin	661-6133
		661-4009

AACA...How and Where Did it all Begin ?

This is the fourth in a series of articles on the AACA. We now know how the organization was formed; its growth through the years and how the *Antique Automobile* magazine came into being. It is time to discover some other benefits you receive by being a member.

When you were first introduced to the antique automotive hobby and bought a vintage vehicle, you probably had a lot of questions. The newly acquired treasure most likely needed maintenance or restoration and your first question was, "Now that I have an old car, what do I do next?" The response, assuming that you found an experienced hobbyist for guidance, was most likely, "Get all the appropriate documentation." If you were lucky enough to find a car with the owner's manual still in the glove box, you at least had a start. Then all you had to do was find a shop manual, parts books, advertisements, color charts and restoration guides. Then came the grim reality that this literature is sometimes very difficult to find and probably very expensive.



Fortunately, as an AACA member, there is an alternative--use the Library and Research Center ! All members of AACA are automatically members of

the L&RC. It has tons of books, manuals, sales literature, periodicals, color charts, factory photos and a friendly auto-literate staff ready to help you find just what you need.

In 1972 the Hershey Region gave a generous contribution to develop a library at club headquarters. The second floor of the building contained ten rooms and when the dividing wall

between two of the rooms was removed, it created the beginning of the AACA Library. Shelving was installed; the room was beautifully furnished and the Club encouraged members to donate literature. The growth of the Library was slow in the next few years. However, in 1977 AACA made its biggest acquisition when the Alfred S. Lewerenz Library of Transportation was purchased. Dr. Lewerenz was an educator in the Los Angeles school system, past editor of the *Horseless Carriage Gazette* and very active in the hobby. When he passed away in 1977 his widow decided to sell his very large collection of reference material. A full-time librarian was hired to set up the new research facility and shortly thereafter, it began to flourish. Many individual members made contributions along with Regions and Chapters. The entire second floor of the club headquarters was devoted to the Library. It soon became apparent that the heavy books and literature could not continue to be placed on the second floor without endangering the building structure. It was at this point the Board of Directors decided to embark on a fund-raising drive to build an addition for the AACA Library and Research Center which is non-profit and contributions are tax deductible to the donor. Ground was broken in 1985 and today there is the AACA Library and Research Center which is attached to the National Headquarters Building.

It's really very easy to use your L&RC. Just drive over to Hershey, walk into the library and tell the librarian what you need. They're open Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 12:00 noon and from 1:00 PM to 3:45 PM. (Please see **BEGIN** on Page 3)

Minutes

Deep South Region A.A.C.A. September 26, 1996 Meeting

Forty-five members and five guests attended the September 26, 1996 meeting of DSR. John Reid, President, called the 7:30 PM meeting to order and Don Dillehay offered the invocation.

Old Business

John Reid expressed the club's appreciation to Larry Nelson for his efforts in getting the display case for the clubhouse. John discussed details of the Hooter's Car Show scheduled for October 26, 1996.

Buddy Paquet, Activities Chairman, mentioned the Vintage Car Tags will not be available until later in October rather than Oct. 1 as had been previously mentioned at the last meeting. He also thanked members who participated in the wedding procession and the display of cars at Jordan Pile Driving's 50th anniversary.

A.A.C.A. sent a letter thanking DSR for the contribution to the museum.

Minutes from the August 22nd meeting were approved on a motion from Anna White with a second from Melvin Neese.

Lucille Nettles, Treasurer, gave an overview of the September Financial Report.

New Business

The election of officers for 1996-1997 was discussed and members of the nominating committee were named. E. Lunsford is chairman and the other members are J. Bruton, B. Neese, A. White and J. Finley.

The September Financial Report was approved on a motion from Melvin Neese with a second from Charlie Lyles.

Buddy Paquet discussed upcoming activities in October and November.

Announcements

Frances Whigham won the 50-50 Pot.

A motion to adjourn came at 8:00 PM from Jerry Finley with Larry Nelson providing the second.

Respectfully submitted,

Aleg Mc Donnell

Begin

You can look through the available literature and select the items you want copied. You will need to have copies made since none of the material can be circulated. Except for copy charges, the service is free and your documentation problems may be solved.

What's that you say? You live in Lick Skillet, Alabama or Buzzard's Breath, Wyoming, and you can't just drive over to Hershey. That's no problem. Just complete the simple "Research Request" form and mail it to the L&RC. The form has spaces for your name, address and AACA membership number as well as space for identifying your vehicle and the specific type of information desired. Are you looking for color schemes that were available from the factory? Production quantities for a particular make, year and body style? Approved factory accessories? The type of carburetor your car should have? Wiring diagrams? Please be as specific as possible with your request. You can imagine the dilemma your librarian has when she receives a request for all available documentation on Fords!

After completing the form, simply put it in an envelope, apply postage and let the U.S. Postal Service do their job. You don't even have to send any money with the initial request.

A few days later you will receive a form from the librarian that outlines materials available and the cost for reproducing this material, at \$.30 per page. The form will also include a charge for the completed research at a rate of \$1.00 for the first hour and \$2.50 for each additional hour up to 10 hours. Slightly higher rates will be charged for additional hours. Fortunately, most requests can be satisfied in less than an hour, so this really is a bargain.

All you need to do then is identify the items you want and enclose a check to cover the stated copying service and the research fee. Your signature on the form authorizes the librarian to proceed with the request. The documents should be in your hands in a few days. That's all you need to do to fill in those critical gaps in properly documenting your restoration.

Use the L&RC to solve your documentation or research needs. You are sure to find out what thousand of other AACA members have known for years--the L&RC is truly one of the best research bargains of AACA membership.

The L&RC is supported in part through monetary contributions to the Memorial Fund and the Endowment Fund. In September 1982, they received notice that the L&RC was now exempt from federal income tax. This means that all gifts, whether money or other items, are eligible to be included as charitable contributions on the donor's federal income tax. The money in the Memorial Fund goes into the general fund but donations to the Endowment Fund are left in it with only the interest earned going toward expenses. A small portion of your membership dues (\$1.25 of individual and \$2.00 of joint) goes to the L&RC. Periodically, they hold an auction to reduce the number of duplicate materials which also generates revenue.

Now, you have a form and it is time to take advantage of this resource and get all of that information you've been needing or wanting!

Reprinted courtesy of *Antique Automobile*, official publication of the Antique Automobile Club of America, Inc.

Editors Note: Next month will be the final installment in this series of articles. We will learn all about the AACA Museum and where we are with its progress.

DSR Officer Nominations

The Nominating Committee will present the slate of officers for 1997 at the Oct. 24 meeting. The entire slate may or may not be filled but think about this. Is it your turn to serve the Club? **(Of course it is!)** Do you have ideas on how to improve the Club and its operations? **(Certainly you do!)**

Don't be shy or bashful....stand up and volunteer for an office or at least to chair a committee. If you plan to nominate a member for office, make sure you have their permission and that they are willing to accept.

DSR Welcomes Our Youngest Member

Stephen Dossett, Jr. is our newest and youngest member, age 16. He joined the club in July and is the proud owner of a 1972 Nova. Cars have always been a part of Stephen's life; his father is the owner of the Wilmer Garage and his grandfather owned it before his dad took over. His mother, Angela, who is a computer aide at Wilmer Elementary School says the best day of Stephen's life was the day he brought the car home. It only required some minor body work and was then painted.

Working after school and weekends at Jiffy Lube keeps Stephen busy but he finds time for the meetings. He is taking advanced classes at Mary G. Montgomery High School where he is working on his Honors Diploma. He is hoping for a scholarship and plans to go into some phase of engineering.

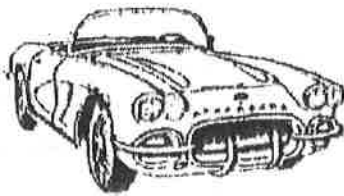
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Bob Gechjian

Congratulations to DSR member **Woody Coale** who was one of the 30 applicants accepted for training and employment at Mobile Aerospace Engineering out of the over 450 who applied. He has sold his concrete business and will soon be in a completely new field of work. He is currently going to school three nights per week at MAE to complete the 14 week course while working during the day. This will curtail his participation in DSR activities for awhile but he came straight from work to the September meeting in order to keep up with what is going on.



Rainy Weather Didn't Stop DSR

"If it thunders before 7, it will be clear by 11" according to Ernie Youens. To keep everyone's spirits up, he repeated it several times. It was what those members helping **McDonald's**

on Dauphin Island Parkway open its new indoor playland were hoping for most of the day on Saturday, Sept. 28. When the sun finally came out about 2 in the afternoon, John pointed to it and asked Ernie "What is that?" Ernie promptly replied "Eleven o'clock!"

There were **B. Cammon, Lycle Crowds, J. Finley, 2 Lunsfords, 2 Nettles, 2 Paquets, B. Reeves** and his friend, John Criswell, **J. Reid, 2 Rowells, 2 Whites, 2 Williamsons** and son Steven, **2 Youens** plus Mustang Club member Eddie Anderson. This made a total of 19 members and 3 guests in 14 cars. This was definitely a case of "above and beyond" and the Activities Director is grateful to everyone who participated.

Two Car Clubs are Better Than One

On Saturday, October 5, DSR got together with the Old South Antique Auto Club to let visitors at the Chickasaw Chamber of Commerce's 50th Anniversary Celebration have a look at the cars of days gone by. Participating members were **Kathy Bowden** with daughter, Jessica (Paul was bitten by the flu bug and had to stay home), **B. Cammon, G. Edwards, F. Jordan, E. McCusker, 2 Nettles, 2 Paquets** and **B. Reeves**. This was a total of 10 members in seven cars. We were served cake and coffee "on the house" and had the opportunity to visit with our Old South friends. One of the nicest things about this kind of outing is our own members getting to know each other. Before the day was over, Floyd Jordan and Billy Reeves discovered they have many mutual friends, that they both had places at the same fishing camp and if there had been more time, they might have found they were "kinfolk"!

Sixth Annual British Car Festival

Pierre Fontana

Beautiful weather, nearly 100 cars and fantastic sponsors made it possible for a first class show on Oct. 5. The South Alabama British Car Club provided children's entertainment, music and many other varied activities such as a group of young people, both male and female, dressed in Medieval costumes who kept battling each other with swords.

The Holiday Inn I-10 was the place to be Friday evening for the registration party with good food and to swap stories. On Saturday the place to be was the Great Lawn facing the Bellingrath Home.

The Louisiana group came in convoys outnumbering the others from Mississippi and Florida thus receiving the participation award. Two types of judging took place; by points, as usual, and by majority vote for the driver cars. The Best of Show went to an immaculate 1955 MG-TF that has had 13 years of TLC. The "Diamond in the Rough" Award went to a Louisiana entry. New Jaguars were displayed and they looked so good, but under the hood I was lost, very unfamiliar territory.

There was a gigantic British flag constructed of balloons that was the backdrop for picture taking and the Azalea Trail Maids added their beauty to the scene. Each owner received a picture along with any trophies before they left. The "Bud" was a special draught to the liking of the crowd; they emptied the barrels. It seems the Bellingrath people went out of their way to help make the show a success. William Colburn, show chairman, should be very proud and the many members helping deserve a vote of thanks, this was the most elegant show ever!

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Cammon's Host Second Gumbo Outing

Lots of people went to Gulf Shores for the annual Shrimp Festival but DSR members headed for the Cammon's home in Saraland for "Geneva's Gumbo". When we hear those two words in late summer, all of us know our taste buds are in for a treat. This lady makes some of the best gumbo you will find anywhere. The tables were loaded with salads and desserts brought by members to complete the meal. We all ate more than we should have but that seemed to encourage everyone to linger and enjoy the better than average fellowship sitting in the beautiful back yard enjoying the perfect autumn weather. Having one helping or more were **B.L. & Geneva** with their children and grandchildren, **C. Bailey, R. Coker, Lycle Crowdus, J. Finley, 2 Lundsford's, G. McDonnell, 2 Neeses** with Betty's cousin and his wife, **Richard & Wilma Jones, 2 Paquets, 2 Reids, 2 Whites** with daughter **Joanna, M. Williamson** and **2 Youens**.

Members Under Restoration

George Demetropulos had an accident in his '68 Chevy pickup near Georgetown, AL Oct. 10. He sustained a laceration of the forehead which required several stitches.

Gladys Edwards was transferred from the nursing home to the hospital in Lucedale, MS on Oct. 10. She has developed pneumonia. Gavin is with her during the day but has someone staying with her at night.

Remember When?

Ernie Youens

Ten years ago, October 1986, the Recipe of the Month was Eugenia's funnel cakes. DSR members were recuperating from Sept. 20 which had folks scattering all over. The "Sardis Baptist Church Old Fashioned Days" in Wawbeek, AL had 15 members in nine cars attending along with members for the Biloxi, MS and the Brewton, AL clubs; the Jazz Festival at the fairgrounds in Mobile found five DSR cars on hand to hear singer Ray Charles and up in Silverhill, AL was their Heritage Day and Arts & Crafts Festival to which four members in two antique cars went.

Many members had attended the Sept. 26 wedding of Annette Gieson and Billy Spicer on Sept. 26...the rummage sale held Sept. 27 had netted well over \$500...we were planning for the Nov. 2 Bel Air Mall display which would also help boost the treasury by \$1500 for 40 cars...*The Met Gazette* featured "Hop's" '61 Metropolitan convertible on the cover...we were saddened to learn of the Oct. 2 death of Brooks Clark, a friend of the Jarvises and many DSR members also...the date of the annual DSR Tour was set for Oct. 25-Nov. 2 to Helen, Georgia.

1996, A Bad Year for Past DSR Presidents

Jan. 24 we lost Lloyd Crowdus who was our president in 1983, 1984 and 1985. On Sept. 18, our 1968 president, W. B. "Bill" Westbrook, died. Bill was president the second year of DSR's existence. He owned a very old "buggy-looking" high wheel International automobile. Then on Oct. 1, Kenner Rogers, who was our 1977 president, died. He and his wife, Stella, owned a beautiful 1931 Model A Cabriolet convertible. We extend sincere sympathy and condolences to the families of both Mr. Rogers and Mr. Westbrook.

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"Lonesome George" Car Display

Carl Bailey

Saturday, October 5, was a busy day for car people and others with the many events on the calendar from St. Ann's Roundup in Pensacola to the Chickasaw Chamber of Commerce car display and the Mobile Bay Mustang Club's car show. Among other things, Baldwin County had the Honey Bee Festival at Robertsedale.

A parade left the designated starting point within ten minutes of the scheduled time, which wasn't bad. Along with the **Bailey** Model A and the '46 Dodge truck, driven by my daughter, Sandy, were a stretch limo, a very nice '56 Thunderbird and a little one-man parade car on a go-cart chassis. It was supposed to resemble a Model T. Of course there were other units in the parade but we are talking cars here.

A school bus seat was installed in the bed of the '46 Dodge truck. The Bailey granddaughters rode back there; threw their candy and waved to the crowd.

The area provided for auto display after the parade was occupied by only the Model A and the Dodge truck. Many people came by to look and asked questions, which pleased me very much, but it sure got lonesome out there all day by myself.

The weather was very cooperative and the Honey Bee Festival was a big, sweet success. I was told the honey vendors sold out.





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"Polo at the Point"

Many of us had never seen a polo match, sometimes called "the sport of kings". Most of us left not knowing much more about it than we did when we arrived. But one thing we did know was that our cars created almost as much excitement as the match which followed our display and parade. **Scott Henderson** coordinated DSR's participation in the event and we were pleased to help Point Clear Charities raise money for USA's Cancer Research. It was a day that picture postcards could use and we were invited to wander through all of the tents for food and drinks. However, we had brought lunch and when the work, if you can call it that, was over we set up the tent and our chairs, put out the food and watched the men with their mallets on horseback move the ball around the field. If we are invited again perhaps we will be a little more savvy. Attending were **1 Coker, Lycyle Crowdus, J. Finley, E. Grimes** with son, **Eddy, G. McDonnell, 2 Neeses** with **Richard & Wilma Jones, 2 Paquets,** and **2 Rowells** along with **Scott & Tracy Henderson**, two of their friends and **Barbara Johnson** with the Gallery Antique Mall.

Charlie & Robbie Lyles took a third place trophy in the street rod class with their "T-Bucket" at the Evergreen Fly-In/Car Show on Oct. 12. There were 55 cars registered which was a good showing with this being the first year of combining a car show with the fly-in. It is sponsored by three separate clubs in three different cities and just proves how well everyone can work together.

The '96 MBMC Show

Ernie Youens

The Mobile Bay Mustang Club held their eighth annual show on Oct. 5 and again this year they were on the Sam's Club parking lot. Rain was forecast and early Saturday morning looked threatening but it turned out to be a beautiful day. There were 34 cars registered, a bit fewer than usual at this popular show. DSR was well represented with seven cars and ten members. They were **R. Cochran** doing DJ duty, **Lycyle Crowdus, J. Finley, E. Grimes, J. Henderson, 2 Reids, 2 Whites** and **E. Youens**. The trophies were handsome plaques with a picture of the owner's car under Lucite on the award which made it outstanding and very personal.



October Editor's Note

Remember you read it here first! Or at least I hope you did. People, we are on the World Wide Web. **AACA** has a Home Page on the Internet. You can select information on publications, regions and graphics. This has taken a lot of hard work from some dedicated members and I would like to name them but I fear leaving someone out. They all deserve a round of applause. The address is <http://www.aaca.org> for all you computer buffs. Hopefully, this is just the beginning of more to come.



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Things You "Auto" Know

In **March 1901** a fire destroyed the Detroit factory of the Olds Motor Works. The only thing saved was an experimental curved-dash roadster. In order to get back in business after the disaster, the firm had no choice but to use that one car as a model and to sub-contract orders for parts and sub assemblies to small shops in the Detroit area. Most of the operators of these shops thus became automobile manufacturers, and in consequence, Detroit became the "Motor City".

The first transcontinental automobile trip was completed by Dr. H. Nelson Jackson and his chauffeur in a two-cylinder Winton from San Francisco to New York city in **63 days in 1903**.

It was in **1905** that cars were first sold on the installment plan.

By **1906** automobile plants in Detroit were producing 550-600 cars per week. Packard alone built an average of 6 cars per day.

Humps were purposely built into streets in Glencoe, Illinois in **1907** to discourage speeding.

In **1909** Mrs. John R. Ramsey was the first woman to drive across the US. She left New York in a Maxwell car with three other women and arrived in San Francisco 53 days later. By the end of this same year, there were 290 different makes of automobiles being produced in 145 cities in 24 states.

Chicago adopted an ordinance in **1912** limiting horn use.

Gulf Oil Company, in **1913**, was the first US petroleum firm to distribute free road maps.

The first stop sign to control traffic was installed in Detroit in **1914** and electric traffic lights were installed in Cleveland, Ohio.

There were 450 automotive and automotive parts manufacturers in the US by **1915**.

The first three-color traffic light was installed in Detroit in **1919**.

On **March 4, 1921**, Warren G. Harding became the first U. S. President to ride in an automobile to his inauguration. The car was a Packard Twin-Six.

Buying??? Selling??? Searching???

For Sale: 1938 Dodge 4-door sedan \$4,000 -
Contact J. B. Martin (334)661-7939

For Sale: 1950 Plymouth Business Coupe with rebuilt motor, **1950 Plymouth Sedan** with frame re-painted, **1950 Plymouth** body for parts plus a **1977 Chrysler New Yorker HT** with electric ignition changed to points/condenser. This is a package sale for all of the above, will not sell separately - \$1200 firm. Contact Curtis McFarland (334)675-2835

"Crusin' the Coast"

This extravaganza held on the Mississippi Gulf Coast had 379 cars registered plus many more driving along. There were no major mishaps and from all reports everyone had a great time. Too bad there were so many things going on closer to home which prevented many of us from participating.

Looking for the Perfect Christmas Gift?

There are probably lots of members who wonder what to get one another for Christmas each this year. Do I have a solution for you! If you don't have the magnetic DSR signs for your car yet, they can be purchased from Smitty's Sign Shop at 4314 Halls Mill Road. The telephone number is 661-1389. The cost is \$20.00 plus tax.

Do you and your spouse have red club shirts? If not they can be purchased from Leo's Uniform & Supply at 3756 Government Blvd. (This is at the Lakeside Dr. intersection.) They are a poly/cotton blend and come in both short sleeve (\$17.95) and long sleeve (\$19.95) styles.

The logo on the front and the lettering on the back is done by Azalea Monogramming located at 4122-D Government Blvd. It is the last shop in the group near Skyline Bowling Lanes. Call before you go (661-9361).

It's Party Time!

Christmas will be here before we know it and it's time to make your reservation for our annual party. It will be held in the clubhouse on December 7 beginning at 6:30 PM for socializing and dinner will be at 7:00 PM followed by the installation of the 1997 officers.

The cost is \$7.50 per person or \$15.00 per couple. Reservations must be made and paid for by Nov. 21 which is the date of the November meeting. Refunds will be made for cancellations received by Nov. 30.

Menu

Chicken Casserole	Baked Sliced Ham
Tossed Salad	Carrot & Raisin Salad
Baby Green Limas	English Peas
Mississippi Mud Cake	
Rolls Coffee/Tea	

(There will be Fat-free And Sugar-free ice cream, too)



Drawing by Guy Short

Reservation Form For Deep South Region's Christmas Banquet

Deep South Region's Clubhouse December 7, 1996 6:30 PM

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ reservations.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Note: Children under 12 years \$ 3.75

Make check payable to Deep South Region and Mail to:

Buddy Paquet 4963 Freeway Lane Mobile, AL 36619-1716 (334) 661-4009

Deadline for reservations is Nov. 21, 1996

Deadline for cancellations Nov. 30, 1996

IMPORTANT DATES

October:

- Oct. 24: DSR Meeting in clubhouse at 7:30 PM
Oct. 25: Theodore High School Homecoming Parade - Need at least 6 convertibles (Help! Help!)
Oct. 26: 3rd Annual Hooters Open Car Show - Workers still needed for various tasks

November:

- Nov. 2: Theodore Pecan Festival at Theodore Middle School (Probably will include a parade.)
Nov. 2: Southwest Alabama Forestry Festival & Car Show - Jackson, AL - Contact Kenny Smith (334)246-3251 (Days) (334)246-4182 (Nights)
Nov. 9: Tillman's Corner Veteran's Day Parade - As many as possible but at least 5 convertibles
Nov. 16: Springdale Christmas Parade - (Check In 8:00 AM Parade 9:00 AM) More info at meeting
Nov. 21: DSR Meeting in clubhouse at 7:30 PM one week early due to Thanksgiving holiday
REMEMBER! No guests at this meeting, it is election of officers.

December:

- Dec. 7: DSR Christmas Party - Reservation form in newsletter
Dec. 7: Tillman's Corner Christmas Parade (Will be an AM parade.)

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OCT. 1996