

The Sparkplug

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January 2026

Deep South Region of AACA Newsletter

Contact

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Activities - Position Available

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Refreshments: Rhea Chaudron
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Meetings are held at the Clubhouse on the 4th Thursday of each month.

Refreshments begin at 6:00 pm, and the meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

DSR Dues are \$20, and AACA dues are \$45.

Newsletter Deadline on 25th day of each month.

DSR Events

January

Pop-up event to be announced at our club meeting!

22 - Monthly Meeting

6:00 pm
DSR Club House
951 Forrest Hill Dr., Mobile, AL

February

26 - Monthly Meeting

March
TBD - Train Trip to the WWII Museum in New Orleans.

See page 3 for more details.
Visit www.deepsouth.aaca.com for info on these and more events happening in our area.



AACA Events

2026

February 5-7 - Annual Convention/
National Awards
Chantilly, Virginia

March 19 - Special Nationals
Guaynabo, Puerto Rico

March 26 - Winter Nationals
Cartersville, Georgia

April 9 - Southeastern Spring Nationals
Charlotte, North Carolina

April 23 - Annual Grand Nationals/
Western Spring Nationals
Las Vegas, Nevada

May 28 - Eastern Spring Nationals
Indiana, Pennsylvania

Visit www.aaca.org for more info

Doug Dabney's 1926 Model T Ford would have been right at home in front of Mobile's brand new Saenger Theater. Submit a good, distant photo of your car to be featured.

Zeno's Corner

As we start this new year, I have been reflecting on the events of 2025. We have all faced health problems within our families, but here we are welcoming this new year. We have all faced struggles, but we have found the strength to face them and move forward. I realize how fortunate we are to live in a country which allows us freedoms some can only dream of and opportunities others can only envy. How lucky we truly are! I hope that 2026 brings you health and happiness and plenty of chances to enjoy this great hobby we all love. Happy New Year!

Regards, Zeno

December 7 - Christmas Party



This year's festive Christmas party theme was "Your Favorite Christmas Movie Character!" I spotted Santa and his elves and reindeer, Charlie Brown and Lucy, and even John McClain from Die Hard, which of course sparked the old "it's not a Christmas movie" debate. Phyllis Seymour and Marie Ferguson did a fabulous job decorating our clubhouse, and this year, the club provided turkey, ham and beef tenderloin while the members brought sides and desserts. As always, we ate well and plenty! Our annual drive for Ronald McDonald House Mobile raised over \$800 for this wonderful charity, in addition to the millions of aluminum tabs the club has donated over the years. Jerry Money started an arrangement with the recycling center on Hitt Road to save the can tabs for us, and Dan Jacobs has taken over delivering these valuable recycling items to Ronald McDonald House for us—usually in several 5 gallon buckets, if you can imagine that! Each one of those buckets is worth about 8-10 dollars each for RMHM, and the DSR donates several times per year! Thanks Jerry and Dan for your hard work!



Out & About



Doug Dabney dressing his T up for a Christmas run to Bob's Downtown Diner. Several DSR members took a little trip downtown on Christmas Eve and enjoyed breakfast at this great spot!



Dan Jacobs at the Pharaoh's last cruise-in of the year - December 27th at Whataburger.



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Upcoming Events



January 22 - DSR Monthly Meeting - The January meeting will be held at the DSR Club House, 951 Forrest Hill Dr., Mobile AL. 6pm for dinner followed by the meeting at 7.

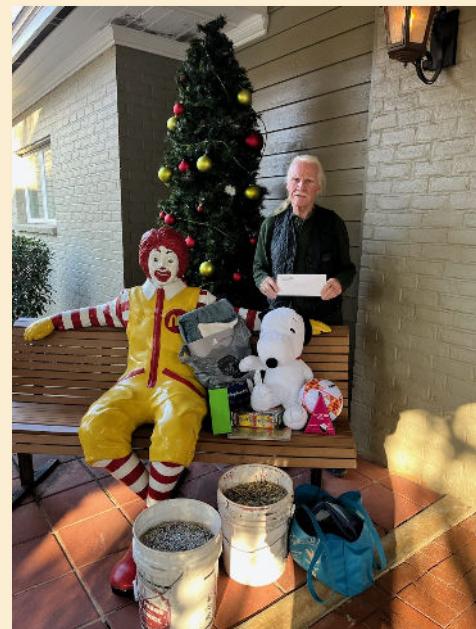
March - TBD - Train Trip to the World War II Museum, New Orleans, LA. Bill has moved this event to late March to avoid Mardi Gras in New Orleans! He will have details at the January meeting.

2026 Dues are Due!

See the enclosed renewal form. National dues are \$45 and can be paid online at www.aaca.org or by including them on a check written to Deep South Region AACA for your local dues of \$20. Checks can be mailed to Deep South Region AACA, Attn: Debbie Bright, P. O. Box 91581, Mobile, AL 36691. You can also bring your check to the meeting. **UPDATE! Our 2026 Roster must be submitted to AACA by January 31st**, so if you have not paid your dues, see Debbie at this month's meeting. **Falling off the roster means you will no longer receive your newsletter, emails, or AACA magazine each month!**

2026 Activities

Maybe you don't have time to commit to serving on a board position, but you can take some of the pressure off of our board by planning an event during the year! It does NOT have to be big or fancy or even original! It can be something as simple as an ice cream run or simply gathering as a club to attend a car show, cruise-in, or cars and coffee. Pick a month, and the board will help with anything you need to plan and promote your event!



Dan Jacobsen
delivering our
Christmas
donations and 10
gallons of
aluminum can
tabs to Ronald
McDonald House
Mobile! Thank
you, Dan!

Fire Protection in Automobiles

By Mac McNamara

Let me preface this article with a bit of information to consider. You should have an ABC dry-powder automobile-rated extinguisher in each car you drive. The best extinguisher to have will be at least 2.5 pounds, securely mounted in the cab of the vehicle in an easy-to-get-to location, and will be refillable. You must check it monthly to ensure its gauge indicator is in "the green" section and strictly follow factory recommended internal maintenance and recharging schedules.

Why the information?

I have been in a car that caught fire. I was stuck on the interstate in traffic when a car near me caught fire. At a recent car gathering, a car near me caught fire upon starting. Yes, there is morbid humor in that maybe, just maybe, you don't want me around a car. Except in each instance, I was able to obtain a fire extinguisher and put the fire out.

The first was at a gas station. The car backfired and I was able to see, in the gap between hood and body, that a fire had started at the carburetor. The gas station fire extinguisher was utilized (despite the attendant vehemently decrying I could not use it). The second one happened in a car behind me. The bus we were next to had an extinguisher I used to put out the fire.

The third happened most recently at the cars and coffee. I was in a new-to-me car and had not put an extinguisher in it, but its younger sibling (another London Taxi) had just shown me the location for the fire extinguisher. When I saw the fire in another vehicle, I ran to the taxi and was given the extinguisher without hesitation. There were other participants that brought much smaller extinguishers, but none were used as the 2.5 lb. extinguishers was able to get the fire out. The smaller ones others had would not have had enough powder to extinguish the fire and one of the containers did not discharge at all (fell apart in the users' hands, as I recall).

If you have an extinguisher, review its manufacture date and adhere to factory-recommended policies for care, maintenance and, if necessary, disposal. Not only will I be adding a fire extinguisher in my daily drivers and my classics but, as a safety precaution, I will also be adding a fire blanket. This would have been handy in the latest event to prevent body injury when opening the hot hood of the car.



Fire News photos by Joseph C. Sperber

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Dues

Debbie will begin accepting payment for 2025 Dues in October. National dues are \$45, and local dues are \$20.

National dues can be paid online at aaca.org or by check mailed to ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA
800 W. Hersheypark Dr., Hershey, PA 17033.

You can also pay both local and national dues on the same check made out to Deep South Region AACA. You can submit your check at our regular monthly meeting or at any of our club events.

Dues should be submitted by December 31st. To help keep our records accurate, please submit the form below with your dues. This really helps keep our roster up-to-date.

Name: _____	Birthday M/D: _____
Spouse: _____	Birthday M/D: _____
Street: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone 1: _____	Cell Phone 2: _____
Email 1: _____	Email 2: _____
Total Enclosed: _____	
Applicant's Signature: _____	
Anniversary Date M/D: _____	



Bikes, Trikes, Trailers and Accessories

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tootrobertson@centurytel.net



Through our newsletter, your ad will reach up to 15,000 people per month through our active Facebook page and the Deep South Region AACA website.

To become an advertiser, submit your digital file as a pdf, jpg, or png file. Checks should be made out to Deep South Region AACA and earmarked for newsletter advertising. If you have any questions, contact editor Deana Landry at deepsouthregion.aaca@gmail.com.

New Stores in Gulfport and Gulf Shores!

COAST DESIGN KITCHEN & BATH
5253 Hwy 90 West
Mobile, AL
251-666-7920

FULL SERVICE YARD
5229 Hwy 90 West
Mobile, AL
251-661-8000

FULL SERVICE YARD
10194 Lorraine Rd
Gulfport, MS
228-897-1282

FULL SERVICE YARD
12250 Hwy 90 West
Grand Bay, AL
251-865-6185

TRUSS PLANT
2423 Hwy 31 South
Bay Minette, AL
251-937-8842

MILLWORK PLANT
2423 Hwy 31 South
Bay Minette, AL
251-937-7400

CONTRACTOR YARD
25847 Friendship Rd
Daphne, AL
251-626-6993

CONTRACTOR YARD
8960 Warning Rd
Pensacola, FL
850-494-2534

Residential • Multi-Family • Industrial • Commercial

GBL
Grand Bay Lumber

ML
Mobile Lumber & Millwork
www.mobilelumber.com

COAST DESIGN KITCHEN & BATH

Advertising Cost Per Year

Business Card: \$50.00

3.5" w x 2" h

Business Card: \$75.00

Front & Back

3.5" w x 4" h

Quarter Page: \$100.00

4" w x 5" h

Half Page: \$150.00

8" w x 5" h

Full Page: \$250.00

8" w x 10.5" h