

# Sparkplug

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
DEEP SOUTH REGION

A.A.C.A.



Vol. 28 No. 3

EDITOR: Patt Paquet

## 1995 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Frank DeCrease	666-9393
VICE PRESIDENT:	Brenda Reid	666-3761
SECRETARY:	Jane Burton	666-4150
TREASURER:	Frances Whigham	626-4255
ACTIVITY COORDINATORS:	Melvin & Betty Neese	649-3038
MEMBER AT LARGE	Raymond Cochran	626-5744
		661-4009

## Judging Seminar Scores Top Points

The judging seminar hosted by DSR on Sunday, March 5, 1995 was only the beginning if you heard what people were saying when it was over. Those in attendance were asking for another one and for it to be soon!

The idea for the seminar was originated by our MOPAR friends Reese Walker and Larry Jordan who approached John Reid and Jerry Finley with it. After some discussion on the subject it was under way. Its purpose was to have consistency in judging and fairness to competitors since our shows are getting larger and more judges needed.

Moderators were John Reid who addressed the 100 point system, Jerry Finley on the Mustang Club of America regulations and Buddy Paquet on the AACA judging process.

Participants at the seminar spent about one and one-half hours discussing categories, methods and the thought process related to automobiles being judged along with judge sheets currently in use. Also talked about was the possibility of instituting a minimum point scoring for winning of trophies. Emphasis was placed on the importance of the writers as a part of the judging team. The last portion of the seminar was devoted to several people actually judging an automobile then discussing how they arrived at the score they had given. There was plenty of opportunity for questions and answers which everyone took advantage of. There were a number of female attendees and I heard one fellow remark as we were leaving "Why do you think it was that all of the really good questions were asked by the women?" There were 21 DSR members and 26 guests attending the seminar.

## Mardi Gras "Brewer Center Style"

Friday morning, February 24th, 15 DSR members in 10 antique cars met at the Brewer Center for our annual Mardi Gras parade through the grounds of the Center for the benefit of the clients there. We were allowed to throw only "Moon Pies" and plastic beads/trinkets since some of the clients tend to get over excited and could possibly ingest small pieces of candy creating problems. Our members furnished our own throws but this is one event that causes no complaints about that. You can't help but feel deeply for them, while feeling good to see them so happy and excited calling "Moon Pie! Moon Pie!" Anyone who hasn't participated in this event has missed the good feeling it gives you knowing you have made the day a little better for someone to whom life has not been kind.

Those DSR members attending were 2 (T) Browns, 1 (F) Jordan, 1 Lyles, 2 Neeses, 2 Paquets, 2 Reids, 1 Sloan (with 2 friends) 1 Vines, 1 White and 2 Youens.

By Ernie Youens

## Tillman's Corner Mardi Gras Parade

Mardi Gras 1995 is now history but DSR did its part in helping the "Tricksters" with their annual parade in Tillman's Corner. This year the festivities were bigger than ever with more floats and units participating. The crowd was 3-deep over the greater part of the approximately 2 mile route but generally well behaved. Helping were 1 Finley, 2(F) Jordans, 1 Lyles, 1 (D) McLaney, 2 Neeses and 2 Paquets.

## MINUTES

### DEEP SOUTH REGION AACA GENERAL MEETING

The February 23, 1995, meeting of the DSR was called to order by Frank DeCrease, president, at 7:40. The meeting was held at the City of Mobile Police Headquarters on Government St. The clubhouse was not available due to construction. The invocation was given by Don Dillehay. There were 40 members present and two guests.

#### OLD BUSINESS

New members unanimously voted into the club were John Howell and Larry and Linda Nelson.

The Building committee report was given by Frank DeCrease who reported that building has been delayed because the City of Mobile lost the building permit during their recent move.

Brenda Reid, Vice President, reminded the group that there were two door prizes in addition to the 50/50 Pot. A Mardi Gras wreath and a signed poster of the City of Mobile.

The January minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter on a motion from John Reid and second by Anna White.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The DSR Car Show update was given by Patt Paquet. Tickets to sell for the raffle have been distributed, the Show Flyers are ready for distribution and all members are encouraged to sell and/or buy advertisements in the Show Program.

The treasurer's report was presented by Francis Whigham. The report was accepted on a motion from Buddy Paquet with a second from Melvin Neese. Melvin Neese, reported on several Mardi Gras parades. The Car Judging Seminar is to be the March activity for the club. The seminar will be held at the clubhouse on March 5, 1995. Patt Paquet reported that the National AACA Show will be in November, 1995, in Panama City, FL. A motion was made by Tom McLaney and seconded by Bob Hedberg that the DSR place a \$100 ad in the National Show Program. After a brief discussion, the motion carried. Patt will put the ad together for the group to see at the next meeting. Activities Coordinator, Betty Neese, asked the group to think about a tour to Hot Springs, AR in the Fall. Also to be considered at the next meeting is a tour to Burnt Corn, AL.

John Reid gave an update on the Camellia Classic Car Show to be held April 8 at Bellingrath Gardens.

The 50/50 pot (\$21.00) was won by Patt Paquet. The Mardi Gras wreath was won by Anna White and the City of Mobile poster was won by Frances Whigham.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 on a motion by John Reid and second by Melvin Neese.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jan Bunto*

## DSR Helps "Keep Mobile Beautiful"

Participating in Mardi Gras parades is always fun but this time DSR really got in the community spirit when they furnished a vehicle for the Pharoah's parade on February 19. This was an afternoon parade with a large number of floats and bands along with lots of motorcycle police officers which made for a loud group even without spectators contributing to the general noise level. There were two of the motorcycle officers with their sirens going near our vehicle almost all of the time. As a matter of fact, the "Hack" quit on us one time but we didn't know it because the noise was so great we couldn't hear it when it was running! But it started up again with no problems and we continued on our merry way. We were the "official" vehicle for **Keep Mobile Beautiful** and therefore did not have to be concerned with our passengers throwing trinkets. We had a great time providing the ride for mascots; "Fill More Trash", the symbolic trashcan, and "Sparky", the raccoon.

By Betty & Melvin Neese

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## COCKRELL'S GRAND OPENING

On Saturday, March 11, Cockrell's Body Shop had their grand opening at their new location in the old Springhill Toyota Building. Their new facility has the most advanced equipment in the Southeast area. We were told they have a back log of 100 cars to repair.

There was plenty of good food; hotdogs with all the trimmings, pizza, Bar-B-Q sandwiches and birthday cake. It was Frank Cockrell's father's 80th birthday! He was the one who started the business in Prichard many years ago.

DSR members participating in the grand opening were 1 Bowden (no vehicle) 2 Cordells, 2 Crowdus, 2 DeCreases, 2 Neeses, 1 Paquet and 1 Youens.

By Lloyd & Lycyle Crowdus

## BUYING??? SELLING??? SEARCHING???

**1956 T-Bird** - Restored California car, white with black & white interior, hard top only, real nice runner \$25,000.

**1957 T-Bird** - Engine & body restored, red body with white interior and white soft top \$22,500.

**1962 T-Bird** - Sport Roadster- A true 76B, red with black interior and top, excellent car & 390 engine. \$20,000

If interested in above contact Lester J. Yoder, 2416 Aleda Street S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507 (616)245-3258

**1968 Olds Cutlass** 2-door hardtop, runs good but needs some body repair. R. D. Smith 479-6483.

**1916 Brass T Roadster** - Restored body (engine not restored) \$14,000 OBO. B. Or Lois Boyette (904) 682-9417 or Mac McKinney (904) 682-6391

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**FLASHLIGHT:** A handy container for storing dead batteries.

## Caring For Your Soul

### This Thing Called Prayer

Did you ever shutter in tight driving conditions? A prayer each time you drive to work or on a trip can enlist the Lord's help - He will help you make the correct quick decision that would just make the difference in life or death. Jesus made prayer an important subject of His teaching. He taught that it should be sincere and simple in form; be addressed to God as a loving Father; be offered in the spirit of brotherly unity and should include a petition for the welfare of enemies. (Found in Guide to Biblical Knowledge)

Don Dillehay, Chaplain

# THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STAGES OF RESTORATION

Frank Roberts, Virginia Beach, VA

If you have already completed the restoration of a car, they you are well aware of what this article discusses. If you're in the middle of a restoration, then you are somewhere in this staging process. If you haven't yet embarked on a restoration project, hopefully you'll find this story informative.

## Stage 1 - Excitement

This stage sets the tone for the stages to follow. It begins with finding the car that you've decided to restore. You discover the imperfect jewel that you're going to rebuild into a custom or an original restoration is still, for the most part, unknown. The more intense this stage is, the more likely the stages to follow will also be intense.

## Stage 2 - Anticipation

This stage is characterized by hours pouring over your vehicle identifying everything that needs to be fixed, replaced, etc. You begin researching needed parts and prices in catalogs, and envisioning what your finished project will look like. Most likely you decide whether your car will be restored to a custom classic or original.

## Stage 3 - Realization

This is the stage where dreams and reality suddenly come together. It is where the magnitude of your restoration project finally sets in. The questions about how much time, effort, skill and

money are going to be required starts to come into focus. Many restorations die a fairly rapid death at this stage in their owner's life.

## Stage 4 - Frustration

There may be some out there who are able to escape this stage, but it's not probable. This stage is characterized by things not going according to your plan; parts do not arrive on time, one thing after another goes wrong, etc.

## Stage 5 - Anxiety

If you can make it through stage 4, then stage 5 becomes a positive experience rather than a negative one: however, too much anxiety is not a good thing. This stage occurs when your car is now in driveable, presentable condition - not finished yet, but good enough to get out on the road and drive it a bit and maybe take to a few shows. At this stage, things normally can't occur fast enough to move on to stage 6.

## Stage 6 - Enjoyment

This is the last step, and hopefully, the one that lasts a long, long time. It is this stage that the restoration is "complete" and you finally start experiencing the satisfaction of driving and showing your car and accepting the thumbs up and favorable comments. It is obviously the best stage of any restoration, and is well worth surviving the other 5 stages to get to.

So for those of you who have made the trek already to stage 6, congratulations and continue to enjoy! For those of you who are still on the journey, don't give up; the end is worth it all. And finally, to those of you haven't started yet, take a deep breath, tighten your belt one notch, and jump in! It's an experience you won't forget.

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

The 1995 Membership Rosters are completed and will be available at the March and April meetings.

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 pm in the clubhouse 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 \$20.00 single and \$24.00 joint. Views expressed in the Sparkplug are not necessarily those of the Region officers or AACA.

If you subscribe to *Old Cars Weekly News* you probably saw the letter from DSR member, **Carl Bailey**. If you don't receive it (and you certainly should), it is reprinted below.

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OLD CARS WEEKLY NEWS & MARKETPLACE

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March 16, 1995

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**Q & A**

Tom Brownell

**Q** I am responding to Jim Rouse's letter in the Dec. 8, 1994, issue concerning American light-duty trucks. I, too, have a 1946 Dodge half-ton WC express pickup truck, engine no. T112\*79671, body number S1124065. My truck was purchased new by Lewis P. Kelker (now deceased) of Pensacola, Fla., on December 1, 1945. I have most of the tag/tax receipts. I purchased this WC on Nov. 1, 1972, and have restored, repaired, and/or rebuilt it and have enjoyed driving it ever since. This WC is a unique civilian unit in that there was no shiny metal on the entire truck except the outside door lock key receiver on the right door. The dash gauges and speedometer light bulbs had blue plastic diffusers over them making the interior lights very dim. I have never seen another 1946 or '47 Dodge pickup without shiny metal on the exterior. I am sure that if there was one, there are more seen another. Chrysler Corp. furnished me with copies of file photos of the 1946 WC half-ton express that show shiny metal on the cowl light rims, headlight rims, hood ornament, hood name plates, nose moulding, outside door handles, and hub caps. The unit in the file photo has one windshield wiper, but my truck has two. I believe, but have no evidence to support it, that my WC was manufactured for military use and then sold on the civilian market at the end of World War II. If my unit was not built for the military and diverted to the civilian market, could it be the unit that Dodge truck authority Don Bunn stated was built in Nov. 1945? What about the units produced between April and Nov. 1945 — are production numbers available? Not to dispute Bunn concerning the likeness of 1945, '46, and '47 Dodge truck models, but the '47s I have seen had wing windows in the door glass. **Carl Bailey, Robertsdale, Ala.**

**A** If you look on page 59 of the book *Dodge Pickups: History and Restoration Guide 1918-1971*, co-authored by Don Bunn and available from Classic Motorbooks, ☎ (800)826-6600, you will see a photo of a 1945 Dodge half-ton express with painted trim, matching the description of your truck. The caption states, "On April 11, 1945, the first half-ton pickup built since February 1942 moved down the line along with ¾-ton 4x4 military trucks. Most civilian trucks built in 1945 were 1½-ton chassis cabs. These trucks were sold to buyers who could prove they contributed in an important way to the war effort. The grille, hubcaps, hood ornament and other trim items are painted to conserve chrome."

If you are a part of the new generation of AACA (30 years old or younger) please send an article to me to get this exciting new project started. You may include a photograph of yourself or your vehicle (if you have one) to add some interest to your article. The article may include your experiences growing up in the hobby; a restoration project; participation in a region or chapter; tours or meets; your judging experience; a special vehicle you drive; etc.

It is in your hands to assist me in getting this new column off the ground. I think this is a wonderful opportunity to recognize the new generation of AACA. Please send your articles ASAP to me - my address can be found in the front of the *Antique Automobile*. I look forward to hearing from you.

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## The New Generation

Janet M. Ricketts  
V. P. Publications

As V. P. Of Publications for the past year, I have noticed some interesting articles in region and chapter newsletters about younger members of AACA. I think we would all agree the younger members in our hobby are the life-line to its future growth. I know we would enjoy hearing from the new generation to find out where their interests lie and what their involvement is in the hobby.

With the support of national headquarters, I would like to see a regular column in the *Antique Automobile* highlighting the younger members of AACA. In order to get this project off the ground our editor, William H. Smith, has requested a minimum of six articles in hand to warrant starting a column.

(Continued in next column)

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## More Recycled Antiques: This Time The Jokes

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Always the same finish....  
"Yes", said the prospective buyer, "I always judge a motor car by its engine."  
"But don't you pay any attention to its finish?" asked the salesman, who had been making selling points of his car's upholstery and trimmings.  
"Never! My cars always have the same finish -- a brick wall or a ditch.

**New DSR Members**

**W**elcome to **Larry & Linda Nelson**, our newest DSR members. They joined in February at our monthly meeting after having read about DSR in the newspaper. They have a 1931 Model A pickup which has been restored but is still getting a few new parts now and then.

**Larry** works for Millbrook Distribution Services (formerly McKesson) and **Linda** is employed with Gayfer's. Besides working on the pickup, **Larry** enjoys woodworking while **Linda** likes to work in the yard and with her houseplants.

**Larry** came to Mobile from Gulfport, MS but **Linda** is a native Mobilian. **Larry** is a member of the Shriner's Clown Unit here having transferred his membership from Gulfport.

**Requiring Maintenance**

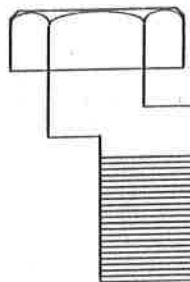
Seems as if everyone has been plagued with whatever it is that's going around causing aches, pains, sneezing, coughing, watery eyes, etc., including your truly.

**Tom Brown** is in Providence Hospital (Room 1214), having been admitted Saturday, March 11 for what was originally thought to be some kind of heart problem. However, he had exploratory surgery on March 14 which revealed a malignancy that hopefully will respond to treatment. **Martha** said they hope to get the treatment underway soon.

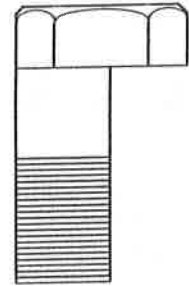
**March 31 Deadline for Ads**

Don't forget to bring your ads for the Car Show Program to the March 23 meeting. They must be in the hands of the printer by Monday, April 3. If you need more information or need some help with an ad, please let me know.

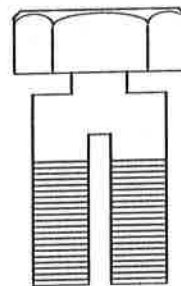
**Bolts we wish we hadn't needed**  
(From the Illinois Region's *Sidelights*)



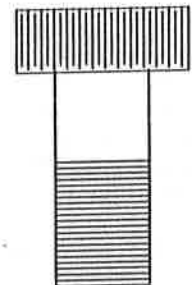
For Mismatched Holes



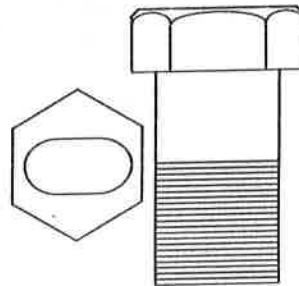
For holes too near the edge



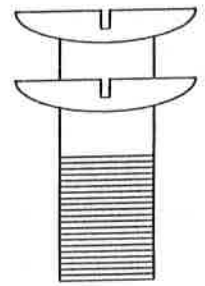
For redrilled holes that still don't match



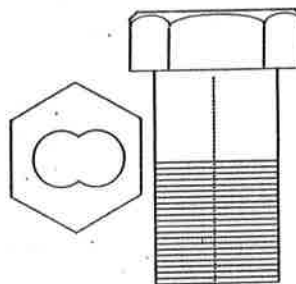
Serrated head for vise grip torquing



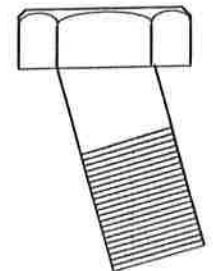
For out of round holes



For double counter sunk holes



Binocular bolt - for double drilled holes



For holes not drilled straight

**Ad to appear in the Southeastern Division Special Fall Meet Souvenir Program  
Hosted by the Miracle Strip Region , AACA  
Panama City, Florida Nov. 9-11, 1995**

If ad is acceptable to the membership, Melvin Neese will cut an ad slick which is camera-ready and we will forward it to them along with our check for \$100.00 for the half-page size ad. This page is being included in copies of the newsletter mailed to DSR members only, not to other clubs.



On January 19, 1967, 29 Mobile area antique car buffs organized and applied for a charter in the national Antique Automobile Club of America.. The petition was approved in February 1967 and a charter was issued on March 7, 1967. The Deep South Region was born By 1982 the DSR had grown to the point it was difficult to find meeting rooms large enough to accommodate the 50-65 members attending the monthly meetings. Increasing liability insurance was causing many companies with meeting rooms large enough for our use to restrict the rooms for company use only. We had to make a move to get room and in 1984 we found a 2.2 acre tract of land near Municipal Park then an old kindergarten schoolhouse was found that had to be moved. It was acquired and moved onto our new property; renovated by the membership without going into debt and we have a beautiful clubhouse in an outstanding location.

Today we are an extremely active club with 100-plus members and are currently in the process of expanding the clubhouse to provide more room for meetings and other events. An annual car is held the Saturday before Mother's Day each year on the grounds. Our meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in the clubhouse and we generally have some type of outing each month also. We welcome visitors anytime and if you are in our area, please stop by to visit and allow us to treat you to some "Deep South Region-style" hospitality.





## IMPORTANT DATES

### March:

- March 23rd: DSR Meeting in the Clubhouse at 7:30 PM  
March 25th: 33rd Annual Old South Antique & Classic Car Show-Ft Conde in Mobile, AL.  
For more info call (334) 457-2339

### April:

- April 1st: 1st Annual Panama City JC Penney Invitational Classic Car Show-Panama City, FL  
For more info contact David Olsson or Lori Willie (904)769-7991  
April 8th: 2nd Annual Camellia Classic Car Show hosted by Mobile Bay Mustang Club and  
Bellingrath Gardens. Call John Reid for more information at (334)666-3761  
April 8-10th: 10th Annual Gold Cup Antique Car Race-Registrations will be limited so make your  
reservations early. Call (904)871-4077  
April 16th: EASTER  
April 22nd: 2nd Annual Edgewater Mall-Coast Mustang Show-MUSTANGS ONLY  
Call John at (601)388-5256  
April 22-23rd: ATLANTA 95 Swap Meet/Cruise In/Invitational Meet at Gwinnette County Fairgrounds  
For more info call (404) 297-9474 after 7:30 PM (Eastern Time)  
April 27th: DSR Meeting in the clubhouse at 7:30 PM  
April 27-30th: 23rd Annual Pate Swap Meet-Hiway 337 Fort Worth Texas-Call (713)649-0922  
April 29th: 3rd Annual Panhandle British Beach Bash and Car Show, Pensacola, FL. Info  
Panhandle British Car Assoc. 2323 Copter Road , Pemsacola, Fl 32514

### MAY:

- May 5-7 Louisiana Tour, Houma, LA Sponsored by Slidell and Crescent City Chapters  
A.A.C.A Info; Penny Jones, P.O. Box 73870, Metairie, LA 70033, PH (504) 833-6172  
May 13th: 12th Annual Deep South Region Car Show at DSR clubhouse & grounds  
Call Jerry Finley at (334)479-1358 or Al White at (334)344-2643  
May 25th: DSR Meeting in the clubhouse at 7:30 PM  
May 26-28th: 17th Annual Gulf Coast Antique Auto Show Info Larry Burdeshaw (601) 392-4374  
Peter Harris (601) 832-7710 Lisa Sanders (601) 872-2577

### JUNE:

- June 14-18th: Petit Jean Show & Swap Meet (No contact number available at this time)  
June 17th: 15th Annual Alabama Blueberry Festival Antique & Classic Car Show on the campus of  
Jeff. Davis Community College in Brewton, AL. For more info call (334) 575-2247  
June 17-18th: Mississippi Coast Mustang & Ford Products Show-Coast Coliseum-Biloxi, MS  
For more info call (601)388-5256  
June 22nd: DSR Meeting in the Clubhouse at 7:30 PM

### JULY:

- July 4th: Independence Day  
July 14-16th: 8th Annual Gulf Coast Autorama-Coast Coliseum-Biloxi, MS (This year there will be only  
175 indoor spaces) For more info contact (601) 831-2650 or (601)388-5256  
July 20-22nd: 16th Annual National Falcon Club of America Convention-Plano, TX  
For more info contact (214) 494-5039



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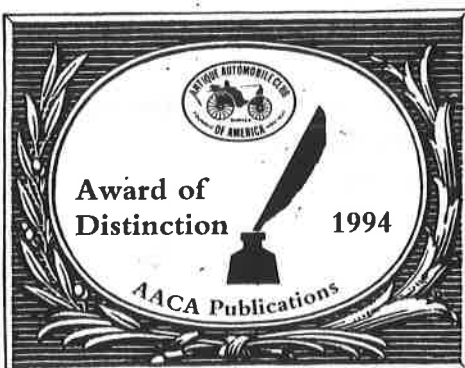
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