



The Sparkplug



Newsletter of the Deep South Region A. A. C. A. Vol. 33 No. 9 September 2000

Ice cream is one way to beat the heat

by Ima Hogg

If you can believe at least some of what you hear, the old thermometer hit 100^o as vehicles pulled into the driveway at the Neese Ranch. The modern iron won out over the antiques in most cases due to the unusually hot weather on Saturday, Aug. 19th.

However, weather is rarely a factor when it comes to DSR members and food. This afternoon was no exception with 25 members, two "grands" and two guests on hand to partake of homemade ice cream (in most cases) and cookies, cakes and pies galore. Another item that seemed to disappear as fast as the aforementioned was ice water. It was hard to tell if folks needed it to clear their palates or they thought drinking something cold would help to keep them cool.

Melvin and Betty Neese have recently completed a beautiful addition to their already-beautiful yard with the installation of two ponds complete with waterwheel, plants and goldfish all underneath a lovely vine-covered arbor. They did all the work themselves and it is truly a lovely place to sit or see.

Those DSR members enjoying the afternoon with outstanding desserts, ice cream and fellowship were **2 Andersons, D. Breland, L. Crowdus, G. Edwards, 2 Francises, J. Jarvis, 2 Jones, 2 Martins, 2 Mims, 2 Neeses** which were our hosts, **2 Paquets, 2 Vaughans** with their two grandsons, **2 Whighams, A. White** with daughter Joanna and Joanna's husband, Terry, and last but never least, **2 Youens**.

This was the umpteenth year the Neeses have invited us to their home for our annual ice cream social. We appreciate their hospitality and wish to give them a **BIG** Deep South Region **THANK YOU** for their kindness. If you weren't there, you missed a grand time and we missed you as well!

DSR members & cars are TV stars

by Carl Bailey

Did you see the red-shirted group of DSR members and their cars on the 10:00 PM TV-15 News breakaway Saturday, October 9th? But hold it, let me regress for a moment. This story began a little before noon at Airport Boulevard Applebee's Restaurant when members met for a light lunch and some choice fellowship. The main attraction were the eight beautiful cars in the parking lot waiting for their people to finish eating so they could get back out on the street and show their stuff.

We were met at the WPMI-TV studios by Ms. Jean Stanley, the Promotional Director, who had agreed to come in on her day off just to show us around. She is very knowledgeable about the entire operation of running a TV station. She explained how the minute-by-minute programming is planned, scheduled, modified and implemented. We saw the news and weather studio sets and were shown how some of the operations took place. Ms. Stanley explained the different costs for commercial spots depending on the time of broadcast. Some of the prime time spots were up to \$2,500 each. Of course we have read in the newspapers where a 30 second spot during the Super Bowl may cost as much as a million dollars. NBC 15 has to pay \$8,000 per week to air the *Judge Judy* show so they have to sell many advertising spots to air 18-24 hours per day seven days per week and still have some money left over to pay the staff.

NBC 15 is associated, along with twelve other stations across the country, with "jobopps.net" which is an Internet employment agency. While I'm sure there aren't many of us who are in search of employment, you can check it out if you are curious. While you're on the net, also take a look at www.jstanley@wpmi.com to get up to the minute news and weather. (Please see TV on Page 4)



Officers

- President: Buddy Paquet 661-4009
- Vice President: Pat Francis 342-3398
- 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.



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Out of the President's tool box
by Buddy Paquet



Where's that hat, Sailor ???!

The past few weeks have been better than usual for both Patt and myself. We were pleased to have been invited, as Region President and spouse, to a reception honoring our National AACA President John Myer and First Lady, Nancy. It was given by their good friends and Dixie Region AACA members, Ron and Liz Moore at their beautiful home in Birmingham on August 26, 2000. We saw many of our AACA friends, some from as far away as Pennsylvania and others as close as Huntsville. Many of the more than 200 guests drove their antique cars which were parked on the front lawn of the Moore home. We will bring pictures to the September meeting in order to share the afternoon with you.

Another pleasant event which we participated in, along with several other DSR members, was the annual Baton Rouge AACA Chapter Tour Sept. 15-16. Each time we are there, it seems that they have surpassed the year before and the Y2K tour was no exception. You can read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

The last of the good things that have come our way is I have finally gotten the last of the BIG dental surgeries behind me. (Now you know why I say *our* way. As a general rule, the male sex does not handle pain well and never, ever will we suffer in silence....moan...groan.) It has been nine months since it began and I still have some minor things to be done but the greater part of it is finished.

We are in the home stretch of the Hooters Car Show. Our tri-chairs, and their wives, too, have been working almost daily to make sure everything that needs to be done gets done. If you haven't yet volunteered to assist, even if only for a few hours on the day of the show, there is still time. See either Eddie, Bob or Pat Francis at the September 28 meeting or better still, pick up the phone right now and give them a call. They will welcome all help.

Counting from the September meeting date, there are 72 days, 2 hours, 11 minutes and 16 seconds until the 2001 Officers take over. It is my most sincere hope that when you are contacted, you will say "Yes!". Those of us who have had to accept the positions repeatedly because others wouldn't are out of ideas and out of steam so to speak. The bottom line is that the club is in need of new leadership with a fresh perspective.

It's always fun to close out on a positive note. There is one more good thing coming our way. DSR will have two very special guests here for Jim Henderson's picnic at the farm Nov. 4th. John and Nancy Myer will be attending this year so he, as our Liason Officer for the AACA 2001 SE Divisional Tour, will have an idea of how things go down at this event. It will be the Grand Finale of the three and one-half days for our guests and all of us want to make sure it is one they will long remember.

Minutes

Deep South Region, AACA Meeting, (Fourth Thursday) August 24, 2000

The meeting was called to order by Buddy Paquet, Pres., at 7:30 P.M., with 48 members and two visitors present. Buddy welcomed the guests, Richard and Sylvia White, owners of two cars, a '69 Corvette and a '73 Cadillac Coupe de Ville. He then reported that Ed Lunsford had had his second chemo treatment and is doing better. Lucille Nettles is improved and her EKG was fine. He also welcomed Wilma Jones back from her recent surgery.

Chaplain Lambert Mims gave the invocation at the beginning of the delicious covered dish meal at 6 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS

President: Buddy again asked for a volunteer to chair the 2001 Nominating Committee. Leah Musgrove agreed to take the job on the condition that others volunteer to help her. Theresa Vaughan, Ernie Youens and Eddie Anderson cheerfully accepted the challenge. **Vice President,** Pat Francis, had no new business. The **Secretary** asked for a motion to approve the minutes of last meeting as printed. A motion was made by Eddie Anderson, seconded by Hershel Whigham, and approved by the members. **Editor** Patt Paquet had no new business. **Activities Directors:** Susie Anderson and Joyce Francis. Joyce stated that Mr. Hansen, who has suspended the Crowne Health Care car display will let her know when the weather will permit his patients to again enjoy the display.

Hooters Car Show (Oct. 28, 2000) Eddie Anderson, Chairman, asked for volunteers to sign up to park cars, register, sell raffle tickets, get items for goodie bags, sell sponsorships and anything else that needs to be done. He reported that Bob Vaughan and Pat Francis will make the trophy plaques.

SE Divisional Tour Chairman, Charlie Froehlich, spoke to the needs of this tour which is to be held Nov. 1-3, 2001. He suggested that a fund be set up in the amount of \$500.00 to cover some of the initial expenses. His suggestion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS: The President asked the members to decide whether the **December 9th** Christmas Party would be catered, covered dish or going out somewhere. The members decided, on a motion from Lambert Mims and a second by Bill Cox to have the party at the clubhouse. Mickey Cox then made a motion, which was seconded by Melvin Neese, to have the party catered. Motion carried. Joyce Francis then brought up our annual Thanksgiving meal. It was decided that it would be a **covered dish meal** to be held at the clubhouse at **Noon on November 18th.**

The **Vice President** had no new business. **Treasurer,** Wilma Jones, asked for a motion to approve last month's Financial Report. A motion to approve was made by Don Dillehay and the second was by Eddie Anderson. Motion carried. **Editor,** Patt Paquet, had no new business. **Activities:** Susie Anderson announced a tour of WPMI-TV studios on Azalea Road on **Sept. 9th** at 1:30 P.M. and asked that it be approved as a club activity. Leah Musgrove made the motion, Bill Musgrove seconded and the club approved it. The group will meet for lunch at 11:45 A.M. Susie also announced that the club had received an invitation from the Chickasaw Chamber of Commerce to participate in the Founders Day activities on **October 14th (10:00 A.M. 'til 4:00 P.M.).** Leah and Bill Musgrove made the motion and the second to make this a club activity, motion carried.

Member at Large Cecil Pugh announced that the following members will serve with him on the Bylaws Committee: Joyce Francis, Susie Anderson and Don Dillehay.

Other Business: Mike Ebl made a motion that was seconded by Bill Musgrove to proceed with the incorporation papers. The motion carried; Leah will proceed.

Henry McCrory introduced his new wife, Maudie. The club congratulates Henry and welcomes Maudie. The 50/50 pot was won by Buddy Paquet and the meeting promptly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Reecie Mims

TV continued from Page 1

After the tour of the TV facility, we were back in the parking lot so the camera man could get some video of the cars. We practiced the breakaway 'WE ARE THE DEEP SOUTH REGION OF THE ANTIQUE AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF AMERICA AND YOU ARE WATCHING NBC 15 NEWS, COVERING THE COAST!', several times but in my opinion, we never did get it down pat. The guy with the camera shot about twenty minutes of tape of us and the cars but all I saw on the air was about 30 seconds of the group and a good shot of the Anderson Mustang and the Martin Model A.

When the taping of the cars was finished, Ms Stanley gave each of us an umbrella in a neat little carrying case with "NBC 15 News" emblazoned on both. By the way, can you get yours back in that little case? She did a fine job with the tour. We enjoyed it while learning something as well.

About this time everyone went their own way home except for the Bailey Model A. It found its way to the Lunsford home where I had a nice long visit with Ed. It was about 7 PM when the "A" got back in the shed after a good washing to get rid of all the lovebugs.



Congratulations, Carl!

DSR member, Carl Bailey, was honored at the 79th Annual Disabled American Veterans National Convention as the winner of the Division III award for recruiting. The award is presented to the state commander whose department is the leader of their division in membership recruiting.

There were approximately 3,000 members, delegates, guests and friends of the DAV in attendance at the national convention which was held in Reno, Nevada. The schedule was busy with seminars, business sessions, memorial services and the awards ceremonies where Carl was presented World War II Army Air Corps aviator's leather jacket for his hard work.



The By-Laws Review

Chairman says....

Any member may submit in writing any suggestions for additions or changes to the By-Laws Review Committee by Oct. 9, 2000. The Review Committee will present any proposed additions or revisions for approval by a vote of the Regional members at the November meeting.

It is necessary to adhere to the October 9 deadline so that all members will be notified of any proposed changes in the October newsletter.

Committee members are Susie Anderson, Don Dillehay, Joyce Francis and Chairman Cecil Pugh.

Super Sonic Meltdown Car Show

August 2000 will be remembered quite a while along the Gulf Coast. It was the month when we had five consecutive days of triple digit temperatures, topping out at 105^o. However, car show folks are an optimistic lot and left home on the morning of Sept. 4th with comfortable weather in mind. So much for optimism; it felt like a sauna at the Greater Gulf Coast Fairgrounds.

This was the 55th Labor Day Celebration staged by the Southwest Alabama Labor Council. Sonic Drive-Ins now sponsor the car show held in conjunction with the other activities. The frozen drink machines Sonic had on site were cranking out various flavors of "slushes" all day.

The mercury had scrolled all the way through the eighties by the time the judges finished their task. When the awards were handed out, entrants were glad to be on their way just to stir up some breeze or if they were lucky, ride in air-conditioned comfort.

DSR members entering the competition were **J. Finley, J. Martin, L. Nelson and B. Paquet**. Two **Andersons** came after lunch to cheer the winners.



Letters...we get letters

Hello there,

Things have been a little quiet here. Our son, Rusty, and I took a trip earlier this summer to Pennsylvania. We had gone to look at a '70-71 Cuda which he is hot for but it turned out to be a piece of junk. A month later, we went to Buffalo, NY and lo and behold, he found a '71 Cuda with a 440, all in good condition. A few weeks ago we took another trip to Pennsylvania to see my old home town. We stopped at Gettysburg to see the battlefield and found the monument that FDR dedicated to the soldiers who gave their lives in battle on that field. An interesting sidenote is that the stone used in the monument is from both Michigan and Alabama.

The garden has given us an abundance of squash, beets, lettuce, cukes, broccoli, cauliflower, onions, garlic, tomatoes and various herbs. Instead of a victory garden, I guess we can call it a patriotic garden since we have now dug the potatoes which are red, white, blue and gold. While digging the potatoes with a pitchfork, I thrust the fork in and up popped a baby rabbit. Another thrust, another rabbit. Dug a little further and still another. Finally, a fourth popped its head up. We transferred all out of the garden but sacrificed the corn to the other critters that roam our property.

Rusty had been studying hard for the Lieutenant's exam and when the promotions were made in July, he was hanging in number two spot on the old list. Two days before he was scheduled to take the new exam, he called to tell us he had received his promotion and to ask if we could be there. I had the pleasure of presenting his new badge to him in the ceremony. The following week, he was sent to NY to teach a class in Crime Analysis. What timing!

We know we have been remiss about keeping in touch and will try to do better but remember, "youse guys" can take pen and paper in hand, too!

Frank & Marge DeCrease

DSR, JAH & THS

by Cheri Griffin

You're asking, "What in the world is all that mumbo-jumbo? Some sort of new computerese?" Actually, it really means that DSR member, James A. Henderson (a/k/a "Jim") helped the club look good by furnishing vehicles for the Theodore High School homecoming parade. It was a short notice situation but was accomplished with the help of "Mr. H", his friend and former DSR member Clyde Smith plus Clyde recruiting additional help. Here's how it played out. Eddie Anderson drove the dark blue '51 Ford Coupe, Jerry Finley in the 64^{1/2} aqua Mustang, Clyde Smith driving his black T-bird, Clyde's secretary steering the Henderson red T-bird and her husband kept the '57 Chevy on the road. It must have been a sight to see with those five cars cruising out Highway 90 and into the THS driveway. Thanks to everyone for helping out.



See and be seen, for safety's sake

"When you're driving, what you can't see ~ or can't see you ~ can be deadly," says Chris Horn, vice president of Consumer Affairs for the Specialty Equipment Market Assoc. (SEMA). SEMA represents the auto accessories industry, the companies that created the seat belt, intermittent windshield wipers and outside mirrors. Below are some of the latest innovations on the market:

- Self-dimming rear-view mirrors that prevent temporary blindness caused by reflected headlight glare.
- Replacement outside mirrors that incorporate flashing turn signals and brake indicator light.
- Wide-angle outside mirrors that clip onto your existing mirrors to get rid of blind spots.
- A backup light that beeps continuously while the vehicle is in reverse.
- A camera that mounts on the back of your vehicle to see more area behind you.

BRAACA Fall Tour 2000 ~ a fun-filled, educational weekend !

You knew when you left last year, the Baton Rouge AAACA members would have something better for this year. No question about it, it was better than ever.

After checking in at the motel, there was time for lunch before taking off on a afternoon of tour. We lined up, some forty-odd vehicles, and away we went to the Louisiana Governor's Mansion. What a sight it was having these cars parked along the circular drive of a building erected in 1963. Governor Jimmy Davis, of *You Are My Sunshine* fame was the first Louisiana governor to live there and he occupied it for only four months. Mr. Davis is now 101 years of age, in very ill health and lives in a house on the grounds behind the mansion. The home has 25,000 square feet, 90 tons of AC and cost \$1 million to build. We saw the rotunda which has an unusually beautiful three-story staircase and the foyer with a mural depicting the four corners of the state. The other two rooms we were allowed in were the formal living room and the state dining room. The table in the latter has 18 chairs but can seat 23 with small chairs. One particularly interesting note is that the old bomb shelter beneath the building is now the laundry.

Leaving the Mansion with a '58 Caddy leading followed by a 1914 Model T and the rest of us, we wound our way to the LSU campus and the LSU Museum of Natural Science. It is one of the nation's largest natural history museums with over 2.5 million specimens. It was absolutely astounding.

Then it was back to the motel to see who had arrived after we had departed on the afternoon tour plus some socializing and serious tire kicking. At any Louisiana tour, the words "Friday Night Hospitality" are synonymous with "Let the good times roll." It's sort of unexplainable, just one of those things that you have to be there and experience it to know what it's all about.

Saturday morning couldn't have been better for the older vehicles; clear and cool. The first place on the day's itinerary were Independence Botanical Gardens. There was a rose garden, an iris garden, a crepe myrtle garden and an herb garden. Just to make sure we paid attention to what we saw, we were given a test to complete! It was an hour and a half well spent.

Yesterday, it was the Governor's Mansion, today it's the State Capital. We learned the Louisiana State Capital building is one of the most visited in the nation. Once you go in, you can see why. It is gorgeous!

After seeing inside the House of Representatives and Senate chambers we took the elevator to the 27th floor and an observation deck. The cars below looked like ants! After a group photo on the steps of the building we adjourned to a nearby park for a picnic lunch. This was a relaxing hour or so with huge trays piled high with sub sandwiches, chips, fruit and plenty of cold drinks.


Now it was time to walk off all that good food exploring the Louisiana Arts and Science Center. The LASC sits on the bank of the Mississippi River in downtown Baton Rouge. On the first floor was a large hands-on science exhibit for children which all the adults related to. There was a real totem pole along with a number of carvings from different types of stone. At the back of the building was an extraordinary model train exhibit which, unfortunately, had only one train running. The second floor housed an Egyptian exhibit, complete with artifacts and a real mummy.

Departing from this stop, we had a scenic drive through the LSU campus around University Lake to reach the Enchanted Doll Museum. Surprisingly enough, nearly half the fellows opted to go through here. Upon entering, one was greeted by Gabriella, a whimsical animated fairy before walking through a life-size Victorian Doll House. The collection spans over twenty years, encompasses hundreds of dolls and mega bucks. In the gift shop, the baby dolls are so life-like it is eerie.

The final location of the day was the Bluebonnet Swamp and Nature Center with winding boardwalks through a cypress-tupelo swamp that is home to native birds, reptiles and other animals. The recent drought has had a big impact here; the swamp has dried up in places.

The Saturday night meal, which was very good, put an "official" end to our tour. A dynamic speaker, Mike Bailey, the Assistant Baseball Coach and recruiter for LSU, got a standing ovation. We were fortunate to have heard him. Then it was time for handshakes and hugs just in case you should miss your friends on Sunday morning. DSR members having a usual good time were **C. Froehlich, 2 Musgroves and 2 Paquets**. We missed Ardie F. who was in North Dakota helping her mother to relocate. Also AWOL were Mel and Joan Guenther who left Tennessee on Wednesday morning only to get waylaid by their Rambler throwing a rod in Birmingham. They made the return trip to Nashville on a roll-back. They should have gotten the hard luck award!!!!!!!!!!

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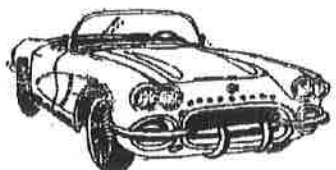
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We Want You ! We Need You !

I know that many of you are still working, either by necessity or choice. I am one of those for which it is a necessity. Therefore, no one is more aware than myself of how valuable *time* is. I also know that you enjoy our hobby as much as I do. I know one more thing, too. That is doing things with our cars is a lot more fun as a club than it is by yourself. If we are going to be a club, we must have members willing to keep it running. That's where **YOU** and me come in. I took my first step toward that goal in 1998 by finding *time* to be the Activities Coordinator. Now it's *time* for some of you to step forward and say you will accept

What is it ?

It is all-natural, organic, naturally sweet and 100% wholesome. It contains no pesticides, no preservatives, and no artificial ingredients. There are no movable parts, no batteries to wear out and it doesn't require periodic checkups.

There are no monthly payments, no insurance requirements, it is inflation-proof, theft-proof, non-fattening, non-taxable, non-polluting and, of course, fully returnable.

It's healthy, helps the body's immune system, it cures depression, reduces stress, induces sleep, it's invigorating, rejuvenating and has no unpleasant side effects.

Junie Jarvis in M.I.
 Open heart surg 9-22
 No other info as of v

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

Important Dates

- Sept. 28 DSR Meeting in Clubhouse at 7:30 PM ~ Various polishes will be tested~ Door prizes to be awarded
- 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. 7 Peanut Festival Car Show ~ Gabbert Farm/ Jay FL ~ Info: 867-4888 or 4480 ~ Brewton AACA
- 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



Bring it to the Sept. 28th meeting. It will be put in the pot with all the others. When all the incorrect answers have been pulled out, one of those remaining will be drawn to receive a nice gift.

Take time to read the front of your current Roster. Decide which job you would prefer to do for 12 months then give me a call at home (633-9305) or at work (639-9305). Together we can do nearly anything; alone we can only do less.

