

# MISSISSIPPI STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1998

No. 136

---

Editor: Jack Brown PO Box 799 Terry MS 39170-0799  
MSRA web site address. <http://www2.netdoor.com/~samhowel>

---

### **BITS & PIECES**

Check out this month's *Street Scene* for the article on last year's NSRA Appreciation Day and also the photo of CW and Roundman in Jerry Johnson's column. Now the whole world knows what these two look like. Jerry, we may have created a monster by showcasing this pair. I took some copies of the magazine to Mayor Kimble in Hazlehurst and they were impressed and appreciative of the publicity for the little town of Hazlehurst. So much so that they've invited us back again July 4.....Joe and Lois Thomas just got back from a 4800 mile trip to the left coast to attend the NSRA event in Bakersfield. They had a blast, touring the Grand Canyon and other places in route. When they got to the host motel, they got to meet the "other Joe and Lois" that's Joe and Lois Mayall, publisher of *Street Scene*. They also met *Street Scene's* managing editor Jerry Johnson and checked out his topless '48 Chevy pickup. Joe says there were a lot of trailered cars there, and he had trouble making some folks there believe that he actually drove his '34 from Mississippi. There was another '34 Ford there that drove all the way from New York. Joe's fender began to crack in Oklahoma, and by the time they hit Bakersfield it was breaking across the top. The NSRA folks jumped in to direct him to a local body shop where the guy stop drilled the crack and bolted on a support bracket he fabricated on the spot just to get Joe back home. Nice bunch of guys out there. But then most street rodders are.....All kinds of things going on in June. This first weekend you have a choice of going over to Forest to the Broiler Festival car show or driving down to Tylertown to the Walthall County Dairy Festival car show. Randy Wilson is putting on the show at the Dairy Festival, so he naturally named it the "Udder Nationals". Next weekend up in Memphis they're having one of those super truck shows open to any kind of truck you might have. They have drag racing, monster trucks, Joie Chitwoods thrill circus, mud bogs, and a show & shine competition for your truck. Locally that weekend on Saturday night, David Underwood's outfit is putting on a Super Cruise Night at the new Bumper's Drive-In on Pearson Road in Pearl. Our own Dixie Run on the next weekend should be a busy one as usual.....Bobby Spann from The Ramblin Oldies writes that a new overflow motel is available across the interstate from their host motel in Baton Rouge and will handle your needs for a place to stay while attending their 20th Labor Day rod run September 4-6. Call the Amerisuites at (504) 761-0917

### **MISSISSIPPI NSRA APPRECIATION DAY SET FOR JULY 4**

Looking ahead to next month, the 11th annual NSRA Appreciation Day will be held on Saturday, July 4 this year at Lake Hazle in Hazlehurst Mississippi. The fun kicks off at 10 a.m. ending about 4 or so with a parade through downtown Hazlehurst. This year some new things are being added by the Hazlehurst Chamber of Commerce. First, the location is being moved across to the other side of the lake by the larger pavillion and restrooms. This will also allow parking on the grass right down by the water's edge with more shade trees. Live entertainment all day, door prizes, dash plaques, trophies, arts and crafts booths, food, ALL FREE, make this a really nice way to spend your July 4 holiday. Chicken tells me he expects a whole bunch of cars this year, probably many more than last year. He also asks each club to put on a game during the day along with providing an award for the winner. NSRA pins will be given to all participants and Sammie's team will be on hand to do NSRA inspections. It is rumored that the entire

Southern Papparazzi will attend and might even hold its convention there if an agenda can be put together. So make plans to come on down and join us. Lake Hazle is located behind Wal-Mart on highway 28 just east of I 55 via exit 61. If you need more info call C.W. at 601/833-4606.....Attention MSRA club members. Wanna cruise down there together like we did last year? If so, meet at the Byram McDonald's that Saturday morning. We'll pull out about 9 a.m., so come early if you want to eat breakfast before leaving. Anyone coming from other parts of the state is more than welcome to join us there at McDonald's located just west of the I 55 Byram exit. Vicksburg, Meridian How bout it? It's always a lot more fun when a whole string of rods cruise together somewhere. Hazlehurst is about a 25 minute drive from Byram and is not much more out of your way from Meridian or Vicksburg. Come join us.

### **GARAGE SCENE**

Steve and Joe Thomas are busy repairing the front fender on Joe's 34 Ford. They were able to save it and even find a place locally which computer matched the paint.....Steve has his Ford back running again. He describes his new engine as "strong".....I looked down the street the other day and actually saw James Pittman with the hood up on his '48 Chevy. He needs to get something that will run. After last month's club meeting, we all decided to go get some ice cream at the Sonic. He backed his Nomad out and started up the street in front of his house. The U joints broke and the driveshaft fell out. It took seven of us to push it back up the driveway and back into his garage. Never seen so many out-of-shape street rodders. We all had to sit down and rest for a while before we could go get ice cream.....The Round one has Half-round's '32 back together again. Replacing the steering sector helped straighten out the problem.....John Trammell's '32 is still at the upholstery shop but should be ready soon.....Paul Acey has been working on his '40 Ford convertible again. He has done some nice work on hooking up the steering.....Sammie Howell's new blue '34 Chevy twice door C-dan is a real beauty.....Stopped by Lee Nottingham's last week to pick up some stuff. His new project rod had the body sitting on it already. Lee has channeled a glass 32 Ford 3 window several inches to give it a wicked stance. Maybe he'll bring it to Dixie Run for us to look at.

### **LIVING IN A STREET ROD NEIGHBORHOOD**

You all know that on our street, living side-by-side in a row, are three diehard car nuts. Among the three of us there are three running street rods, one street rod that runs occasionally, two more street rods under construction and one classic Chevy Nomad. At times when we've had club meetings and stuff here, we've had 30 or 40 hot rods on this hill. It's great. And the stuff going on here in the 'hood is always good for a page or two in this newsletter. For example, Joe has a new restroom in his shop. He is so proud of getting all the water and sewer lines finally hooked up and functioning he even invited me over to use it. Lois said the first night it was operating he woke up in the middle of the night needing to use the rest room. Instead of going in the house, he slid out the back door and up the hill to his shop to use his new restroom. This midnight venture set off the security lights at both my and James's house spotlighting Joe's nocturnal potty trip. He mooned a possum, two armadillos, a tree frog and everything else on this side of the street. This woke Critter up and he started barking which woke up James's two dogs who joined in the racket. Can't even get a decent night's sleep. Then there was the great fence moving episode. While measuring his lot for all this sewer excavation, Joe discovered that James' fence had been installed two feet over on Joe's property. James said no problem, he'd make the fence company move it, since they were the ones who installed it wrong. But a call to them indicated that the fence company had gone out of business several years ago. Wonder why? Still no problem, says James, "We'll move it." We? Critter and I sneaked off back over to the relative safety of my shop and hid. Next evening just before dark the phone rang. It was Joe. "WE are moving the fence and we need you to bring your chain binder over here a minute to help us. And bring a shovel, and don't bring Critter." Upon arriving on the scene, (sure was getting dark) I stepped in one of the empty post holes and almost broke my leg. Why would anybody start a project like this just ten minutes before dark I asked. "No problem" said James. He says that a lot you'll notice. He brought out his portable floodlights and extension cords and soon the whole

place was lit up like Memorial Stadium. It was so bright, a Delta jet mistook my driveway for Thompson field and made a landing approach. Three hours and two broken shovels later we had the fence moved over and held in place by two chain binders, a coat hanger, Joe's Chevy blazer and a couple of rolls of duct tape. James poured concrete the next day and finished the project--no problem. Joe and I were unable to help finish the job. My leg was too sore and both of Joe's shovels were broken. Critter was still so upset he had not been invited, he went down and wet on the fresh concrete of each and every fence post.. Over the Memorial Day weekend I sat under my pine tree with my sore leg propped up and watched James assemble his new 863 piece storage building. But that's a whole other story I'll save for later. No problem.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1998

- JUNE 6 Broiler Festival Car Show, Forest, Mississippi  
 JUNE 6 Walthall County Dairy Festival car show, Tylertown, Ms.  
 JUNE 5-7 Muscle Shoals 27th Annual Run Tuscumbia, Alabama  
 JUNE 13 Saturday night Super Cruise at Bumper's Drive-In on Pearson Road in Pearl  
 JUNE 13 Hickory Day car show in downtown Hickory Mississippi  
 JUNE 12-14 Southern Street Cruizin' Nationals, Boomtown Casino, Harvey, Louisiana  
 JUNE 13-14 Truck Fest '98 at Memphis Motorsports Park in Millington, Tennessee  
 JUNE 19-21 20th Annual Dixie Run, Holiday Inn Southwest in Jackson pre '49
- JULY 4 Mississippi NSRA Appreciation Day. Lake Hazle Hazlehurst, Mississippi  
 JULY 10-12 Fun Run '98 Klassy Kruzers Crossett, Arkansas pre '60  
 JULY 24-26 Catfish Run Ms Delta rods Sardis Lake, Mississippi pre '49
- AUG 6-9 NSRA Street Rod Nationals Louisville, Kentucky pre '49
- SEPT 4-6 Ramblin' Oldies Labor Day Rod Run, Baton Rouge Louisiana pre '49  
 SEPT 18-20 Singing River Rod Run Biloxi, Mississippi pre '69  
 SEPT 25-27 Queen City Rock & Roll Rod run Meridian, Mississippi
- OCT 9-11 6th Annual Northeast La. Street Rod Assn. Run. Monroe, Louisiana  
 OCT 8-11 3rd Annual Cruisin' the Coast. Mississippi Gulf Coast Beaches  
 OCT 16-18 NSRA Southeast NATS Tampa, Florida  
 OCT 23-25 Halloween Fun Run Tupelo, Mississippi pre '49
- NOV 8 Vicksburg Cruisers Fall Fling. Grand Gulf Park in Port Gibson  
 NOV 13-15 Ole Brook Cruisers 10th rod run Brookhaven, Mississippi pre '73
- JAN 22-24 (1999) 7th Annual Winter Rod Run, Diamondhead, Ms.

### DIXIE RUN UPDATE

Well gang, Dixie Run is right around the corner. With over a hundred cars already pre-registered you'd better be getting ready. Wheels of Time called last night to confirm they were bringing their parts trailer. So you can plan on buying that goodie you've been looking for. I had to take a day or so off to work on my trophies. Time just seems to get away from me nowadays. Entries from all over Mississippi, plus some from Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Illinois, Arkansas, and Texas have been received. To all you out of town folks who read this letter, you'd better get pre registered to be eligible for that fine Chevy engine we're giving away. And to all you fellow club members, get ready. Get busy with your trophies (Jimmy has the list if you don't remember which one you're supposed to do) and door prizes(everyone needs to bring

at least five). If you have any sponsor trophy money or info, get it to Jimmy immediately. This has to be turned in soon as possible to give them time to make the sponsor plaques. And don't forget to plan your menu for the Friday night supper. We'll be getting together to pack goodie bags at 4 p.m. Sunday afternoon, June 7 at Joe Thomas' shop. After the bags are packed, we'll have a club meeting and then cruise to Sonic for some ice cream or something. Be there.

### **TUESDAY EATIN' MEETIN' DATES**

Last month we had eleven cars show up at the Tuesday night cruise to Xan's new nostalgia 50's style eatery in Clinton. They took pictures of the rods, which may wind up on the walls of the restaurant alongside all the James Dean and Elvis stuff. Next time you're there, try the sliders and chocolate shake. Calorie City.

June 9 Scottie's Restaurant on Terry Road

June 16 Punchy's on Raymond Road

June 23 Xan's Diner in Clinton

June 30 Sonny's BBQ on highway 80

July 7 Jerry's Catfish House in Florence

### **NEXT CLUB MEETING**

In case you weren't paying attention earlier, I'll repeat. The next club meeting is at 4 p.m. Sunday June 7 to pack goodie bags at Joe Thomas' shop. Be there to help and come in your street rod so we can cruise afterwards.

### **LATE BREAKING NEWS**

Chicken Willie decided he'd go horseback riding last week. The horse started off slow but soon picked up speed-too much for the inexperienced horseman CW. He bounced out of the saddle and slid off the back of the horse. Poor CW unfortunately caught his foot in the stirrup as the horse continued on at full gallop. Fortunately he was not hurt too bad; the Wal Mart manager, who saw what was happening, ran out and unplugged the horse before too much damage was done.

Til Next Time  
Drive Carefully

