

MISSISSIPPI STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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BITS & PIECES

Critter's Cruise has been canceled for March 22.....Randy Wilson called to advise that he is helping with a car show in Tylertown next June 6. It is in conjunction with the Walthall County Dairy festival. Call Randy at 684-2609 for details.....Paul Zabaldano tells us that his son, Joe, has been notified that he has been nominated for an appointment to the Air Force Academy upon graduation. They should hear something definite on it in the next few weeks. Nomination is quite an honor in itself. Joe, we're all proud for you, and hope you get the appointment.....We got a nice letter from Skeet Creekmore over in Monroe. Skeet is back feeling great and his cancer is nowhere to be found. That's certainly wonderful news. Skeet writes that the Northeast Louisiana Street Rodders rod run will be on October 9-11 at the Holiday Inn Express in West Monroe again with all proceeds going to the Autism Society. Skeet ended his letter with the statement "Enjoy life my friend." That is surely some advice we could all take seriously! Critter said he plans to do that every day.....I got some second or third hand information from some of the folks attending the Calcasieu rod run in Lake Charles. Seems a dozen of them were sitting around talking when a flock of birds flew over. One of the birds pooped on Randy Wilson's overalls. Larry Crain says it must have been some sort of social statement.....Talked with Bobby Derrick up at Lake Slip Away and he tells me he has been busy working on some deals for their August 29-30 street rod show. We'll be passing these details along as they are nailed down.....Word from NSRA's Mike Mayfield (postmarked Honolulu) is that Chevrolet will give away a Chevy pickup at each of the Nats again this year. By the end of this year, a total of 86 new Chevy pickups will have been given away at NSRA events. The NSRA giveaway car for 1999 will be a '29 woodie from Hercules Motor Car Co. in Florida..... Lee Nottingham at Frames N Thangs will be building the frames for some dynamite project cars you'll be seeing in all the magazines soon. Watch for them. His new 33-34 Ford grille making machinery will be in operation soon, and we may all get to see it when we have the NSRA day in Hazlehurst July 4.

GARAGE SCENE

We're still working on a console for our coupe. I started out with a 4X8 sheet of plywood which I kept cutting and trimming so much I wound up with just enough wood left over to make a couple of toothpicks...but not enough for the console. Be patient, Rocky.....The Round one is still tearing up stuff on his Chrysler. Went by there the other day and he had cut the whole firewall out of it. Is there such a thing as reverse progress? But he did have the top just about finished. A new firewall is supposed to be in the works, too.....Half Round's coupe keeps kicking rocker arms off the pushrod for some reason or another. Anybody have any ideas?.....Gene Purser has his new engine in and running. It now has a serpentine belt system and looks great. All except the piggy-back air conditioning compressors. I guess Rita wasn't staying cool enough with one compressor.....Haven't heard much out of David and his new '40 coupe lately. How's it coming David?.....John has added new glass and power windows to his '32 sedan.....Larry Crain went up to some mudhole in Arkansas and dug out a '38 Dodge Brothers pickup. He and Henry have great plans for its future. I need to get my '46 Dodge ready. Randy also has a Dodge truck under construction. When all three of us get Dodge trucks it means the entire Southern Papparazzi will be Ram Tough! I can see it now; **The Dodge Boys-Me and Randy and Larry** roll in to a rod run with three truckloads of journalistic talent;

unload Henry, Critter and Dixie from our **Dodge trucks**, and then some flock of birds fly over and poop on all three of us while trying to hit Randy again.....Paul Acey has a new '36 Ford pickup. I think he plans to put that antique wrecker boom on the back of it. That should make a really unique ride.

DIXIE NATIONAL RODEO PARADE AND TOUR DE SMITH

What a great day it was!!! If you missed this one, you just flat missed a wonderful time. The weather could not have been better for a February day. Sunny skies, sixty degree weather, and a **BIG** bunch of street rods gave the perfect combination for a day of street rod fun. I had begged everyone I talked to that week to help us set a new parade record for the number of cars participating. And by golly y'all did just that, as a new record **32 street rods** showed up for the annual Dixie National Rodeo parade. MSRA rods were joined by rods from the Delta Street Rodders, Dixie Street Rods, Ole Brook Cruisers, Mid-Miss. Cruisers, and Vicksburg Cruisers. The long line of cars and trucks of every imaginable color stretched almost the length of Capitol Street. The crowd really seemed to appreciate the cars, with a "thumbs up" sign given by people all along the route. After the parade, most everyone continued on to Brookhaven for lunch and a visit to the "open house" of T-Tommy's brand new T-shirt, trophy dash plaque store. Other rods joined us as 22 cars made the trip south to Brookhaven. Rods were stretched out down the interstate for a mile or so. Half-Round's new '32 dropped a wire off the coil and Jimmy Creel's Plymouth threw a belt, making them the candidates for a "hard luck" award given later by T-Tommy and Cynthia. After getting my CB installed finally, they told me to monitor channel 17, then everyone else switched to 13. I don't get no respect. Arriving in Brookhaven, we all enjoyed lunch at the steak house. I couldn't enjoy mine cause I had to sit next to Ricky McGuffie's obnoxious son who is a registered Jeff Gordon fan and wants everyone to know it. With Les Rude coming from Gulfport at the extreme south end of the state and Charlie Manning from Nesbit on the Tennessee line we had representation from literally one end of the state to the other. After lunch we all toured over to T-Tommy Smith's new store and shirt screen printing operation. T-Tommy put on a show running a set of dash plaques made specially for this occasion and attracted quite an audience of us who had never seen the complete procedure before. After watching this a while and getting my dash plaque hot from the oven, I went outside only to find that Ricky McGuffie's obnoxious son had placed a life size cardboard cutout of Jeff Gordon in my street rod. Ricky, that boy ain't right. But all in all it was a fun day and the trip was a fine way to spend the day playing with our street rods. Don't know exactly what we'll do after the parade next year, but it will be hard to top this one with a record 32 cars and a fun road trip. But I'll think of something by then.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1998

- MAR 13-15 Parade of Rods 98, Mardi Gras Street Rods, Houma, Louisiana. Quality Inn
- MAR 14 Rock & Roar Fest car show at SLU Campus in Hammond, La.
- MAR 28 Reservoir Rally Car Show by Camaro Club Old Trace Park
- MAR 28 Dogwood Run to Coles Creek Park in Natchez via Natchez Trace. VCCC

- APRIL 4 Strawberry Classic Car Show #15 Wal-Mart parking lot. Hammond, Louisiana
- APRIL 10-12 Rollin' Rods of East Texas Rod Run Kilgore, Texas
- APRIL 17-19 Super Chevy Sunday. Memphis Motorsports Park in Memphis, Tennessee
- APRIL 17-19 River City Rods/St. Jude Benefit Rod run Greenville, Mississippi
- APRIL 17-19 25th Sunny Beaches Rod Run Pensacola, Florida pre '49
- APRIL 24-26 Dixie Street Rods Rod Run Best Western Motel McComb, Miss. pre '49

- MAY 1-3 NSRA South Nats Knoxville, Tennessee
- MAY 2 Super Sonic Cruise-In by Camaro Club of Jackson

- MAY 15-17 Covington Street Rods Spring Fling Covington, Louisiana
MAY 22-24 Moonlighters Rod Run Minden, Louisiana
- 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 19-21 20th Annual Dixie Run, Holiday Inn Southwest in Jackson pre '49
- JULY 4 Mississippi NSRA Appreciation Day. Lake Hazle Hazlehurst, Mississippi
JULY 4-5 Pro Mod Southern Nationals Lake Slip-Away drag strip Lena, 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
AUG 29-30 Nostalgia Drags & Rod & Custom Show. Lake Slip Away Drag strip. Lena, MS pre-'73
- SEPT 4-6 Ramblin' Oldies Labor Day Rod Run, Baton Rouge Louisiana pre '49
SEPT 18-20 Singing River Rod Run Biloxi, Miss 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 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

NAPA has given us most of the parts to build one fine 350 Chevy engine as our Dixie Run giveaway prize. You must be pre-registered to be eligible to win this engine, so send in your registration now! Sammy has been busy with the machine work and assembly of the short block is already complete. He hopes to have it ready to display at some of the upcoming rod runs. Roundman tells me he has a Gary Williams /Air Tech carburetor promised for the engine, so some lucky rodder will win a really nice prize on June 21. Entries from Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Arkansas, and Texas have already been received.

TUESDAY EATIN' MEETIN' DATES

March 17 Punchy's on Raymond Road
March 24 Dark Horse in Brandon
March 31 Scottie's on Terry Road
April 7 Jerry's Fish House in Florence

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Next club meeting will be held on the weekend of March 21-22. Jimmy is working out the details and will notify us all by phone when and where it will be.

Til Next Time
Drive Carefully

Jack