

MISSISSIPPI STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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BITS & PIECES

The folks down in Hazlehurst are getting ready for the annual Mississippi NSRA Appreciation day July 4. I talked to the mayor last week and he has formed a committee who are already hard at work on the project. They are adding arts & crafts booths this year to have some additional stuff to look at. They are also working on some additional entertainment to enjoy during the day. It looks like another fun day is in store for us all, so make your plans now to be there at Lake Hazel starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday July 4.....On Saturday, June 6, in Forest, Mississippi, the annual Broiler Festival car show is being held at a new location on the grounds of Clark Park off highway 35 behind Wendy's. Registration begins at 8 a.m. In addition to the car show, there is entertainment with activities for the kids, food, arts & crafts, talent show and all that stuff during the day. That night if you want to stay, there will be a concert by the "Killer" himself, Jerry Lee Lewis. Ol' Killer may be getting old, but he can still tear up a piano. I'm gonna go, just to see ol' Jerry Lee one more time. Come go with us. I have some entry blanks if you want to pre-enter.....Got some fliers from Vic Boggs advertising the Florence Day car show to be held Saturday, May 16 at Hemphill Park in Florence featuring live entertainment, carnival rides, and food. If you don't go to the Covington rod run, you might like to try this show. We went last year and had a good time.....Southern Who Street Rods and Bay St. Louis police explorers are putting on a car show Saturday May 30 in conjunction with Country Fest 98. It is being held at the Harrison County fairgrounds six miles north of I 10 off exit 28 at Long Beach. There will be carnival rides, petting zoo, live bands, food and all sorts of other stuff.....June 26-28 in Greenville there will be a huge hot air balloon and air show. The River City Rodders are having a rod and custom car display at the event. If you come, you get free admission to the air show. One act at the show is a 300 mph jet truck.....Looking ahead to July, the 17th annual Catfish Run will be held the weekend of July 24-26. Grand prize is \$500 cash. The mainstay Saturday night fish fry will also be featured.....So don't say you can't find anything to do with your street rod.....I received a letter from NSRA Regional Director Mike Mayfield setting me straight on something I had written in this newsletter a couple of months ago. I was mentioning the fact that ten S-10 Chevy pickups would be given away at NSRA divisional events. I mistakenly said that Chevrolet was giving them away. Mike tells me that NSRA buys the trucks from Chevrolet. so it is actually NSRA who is giving the trucks away. So give the credit to NSRA and I stand corrected.....Well, Steve and Gloria Loudermilk were married last month. Congratulations and best wishes, you two!.....

GARAGE SCENE

Dropped by Frames & Thangs last week and saw the start of Lee Nottingham's new ride. The pinched-nose set of '32 rails carried a Corvette rear end and will eventually have a '32 3 window body on it.....Went over to Joe Thomas shop yesterday. He had the '34's hood sitting on the model A and said something about trying to swap complete front caps. He ain't been right since he retired again.....Trying to get insulation and sound deadener in my coupe before the trip to Covington next weekend.....Sammie has a possible buyer for his '34 coupe, but at press time the deal was not finalized. To replace the coupe, he had found a '34 Chevy sedan he liked over in Tuscaloosa.....Freddie Waters changed his '40 Ford sedan to the nostalgia look with addition of solid wheels and wide whitewalls. Freddie you'd better check it out, I heard

Roundman and Sifford were seen working on it up at Knoxville.

WHO'S BEEN WHERE

Several of us were planning to go to Greenville, but the day long rain put a damper on things. They still had the run, but the car count was down. The Round ones went to Pensacola that weekend and had a big time. The following weekend we went to the annual run at McComb and the weather was perfect. MSRA won the club participation trophy again with 11 rods on hand. The McComb bunch had been trying for a while to get over 100 entries, and this year they not only topped 100 but set a new record with 142 entries. I don't know when I had such a grand time. The trip to Pike County Speedway on Saturday night was fun as usual. We made a parade lap while the announcer described each car. On the second lap I thought Lonnie Cox dropped the green flag. I had some sort of flashback to 25 years ago, floored the coupe and started toward the front of the pack. Passed two on the inside and saw a hole going into the first turn. Dove through the hole and was about to pass a couple of more when I was snapped out of it by Charlotte screaming and hitting me over the head. "You idiot-you're going to hit somebody!" I can't explain it but it sure was fun for half a lap. MSRA took home their share of the loot, too. The grand prize \$\$ drawing was lost by Sifford, who did not have his car there, and then by Gene Purser, who had left early. But the ladies prize \$\$ was won by Sara Laird, and the wipeout money was split by Sammie Howell and Shirley Tramel. Gene and Wayne won sweet 16 trophies. I won Randy Wilson's old hat. It will go on display in my museum along with the Bubba award. The Smithsonian is in a bidding war for this classic piece of art, but I'll probably keep it here. But every time I put it on, strange things happen. Last week I tried it on and had this uncontrollable urge to go to Wal-Mart and buy some overalls. A whole train of cars headed out the next weekend for the NSRA Southern Nats in Knoxville, Tennessee. Tire problems caused some near catastrophies for the Round ones on the way up. Half Round blew two front tires on his '32, sending it on a wild ride off the interstate and through the median, finally burying the front axle in the mud to stop it. He was not hurt and the car was not too badly damaged. Roundman said the second catastrophe was when he had to pay for two new tires at the nearest service station off the interstate. But they made it on in and enjoyed themselves between rain showers. While everyone else was at Knoxville, Steve Loudermilk and I took in the Camaro Club's cruise-in at the Sonic Saturday night. They had over 50 nice cars, most I had not seen before. I guess some people never get their cars out and drive them like we do. Grandson Josh and I got soaking wet playing the water sponge fill game. We came nowhere close to winning but had a bunch of fun doing it.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1998

- MAY 9 Durham Autoplex Auto show. Hammond, Louisiana
- MAY 9 MSRA club meeting 4 p.m. Joe Thomas' shop
- MAY 16 Florence Day Car Show Hemphill Park, Florence, Mississippi
- MAY 15-17 Covington Street Rods Spring Fling Covington, Louisiana
- MAY 22-24 Moonlighters Rod Run Minden, Louisiana
- MAY 29-31 Corvettes on the Delta. Lady Luck Casino, Lula, MS
- MAY 30 Country Rod Run. Harrison Co. Fairgrounds, Gulfport

- 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 12-14 Southern Street Cruzin' Nationals, Boomtown Casino, Harvey, Louisiana
- 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

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, 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 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

Entries continue to come in every day. If you haven't registered yet, you'd better do so; if for no other reason than to be eligible for the fine 350 Chevy engine we're giving away. Everyone who registers will get a special prize commemorating the 20th anniversary of Dixie Run. I'm not going to tell you what the prize is, but you'll get a kick out of it.. At a recent club gathering, we all got one of them and it was fun watching everyone play with it . Some of us were even pretty good at it. Looking down the list of early entries, six states are represented so far. 50% are Fords, and 25% are Chevys. But we also have Plymouths, Pontiacs, and one each of the following: Lincoln, Nash, Cadillac, Packard, Olds, Chrysler, Dodge and Studebaker entries.

TUESDAY EATIN' MEETIN' DATES

May 5 Jerry's Fish House in Florence

May 12 Sonny's BBQ on highway 80 in Jackson

May 19 Xan's Diner in Clinton

May 26 Dark Horse in Brandon

June 4 Jerry's Catfish House in Florence

June 9 Scottie's Restaurant on Terry Road

June 16 Punchy's on Raymond Road

Note the addition of the new Xan's Diner in Clinton to the schedule May 12. The manager there wants to make some photos of the cars for display in the place, so be sure to come in your street rod that night.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Next club meeting will be at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 9, at Joe Thomas' shop. After the meeting, we'll probably cruise somewhere to eat, so come in your street rod. This will be one of the last meetings before Dixie run #20, so plan to be there to help finalize plans. Bring any sponsor trophy money you have. Also we will need to finalize exactly which games each of us will be in charge of.

Til Next Time
Drive Carefully

