

MISSISSIPPI STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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BITS & PIECES

We received some fliers from the local Antique Vehicle Club telling of their Cruise-In scheduled for this Saturday night at the new Sonic on Ratliff's Ferry Road near Lakeland Drive. It starts at 6 p.m. There will be top ten trophies and a Manager's choice award, games, door prizes, **plus a cash award to the club with the most participation.** It's all free, so you might want to try it out Saturday night.....The next weekend, the Dixie Rodders in McComb have their annual open show at Edgewood Mall in McComb on Saturday, August 21. Registration starts at 8. There will be games starting at 10, a poker walk in the mall at 1, a cash grand prize, and a 50/50 pot. Top five trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m.. Entry fee is \$15.....Those MSRA rodders who went to the Sardis Run reported a good time was had by all, but it was quite warm. It was certainly great to hear that Royce Wiley was feeling well enough to visit the run.....Several MSRA rods made it up to Louisville for the NSRA Nationals. From what they told me, the latest fad this year was air suspension rods. They'd drive 'em in and let 'em down on the ground. I hear that John Tramell missed winning the giveaway car by **three** numbers. Sammie did an NSRA inspection on none other than Sam Memola's (Co-host of TNN's Shadetree Mechanic) Chevy pickup. He got us an autographed photo. Wayne Thomas ordered a new set of wheels for his coupe. The Fisackerly's bought a new street rod, a yellow '34 Chevy sedan. The Round one sold all his rides, I hear.....If you want to stay in the host hotel in Tupelo for the Street Rods Limited run October 15-17, you'd better call 842-5555 right now. Trace Motel had only a few rooms left last weekend.Went over to Vicksburg last weekend to catch the 50's show at the Ameristar. Noticed that the Outlet Mall where the Vicksburg Cruisers will have their event October 30-31 is at exit 4B. It is on the south side of I 20. A Cracker Barrell restaurant is at the mall, as well as a motel for those of you who might need to spend the night. I think it was the Jameson Inn or something like that. You might check with one of the Vicksburg Cruisers for details there..... And if you want to stay at the Ramada Limited in Gulfport with the rest of us during Cruisin-the-Coast, you might want to call them at (228) 896-5555. It is a small motel, and with MSRA and some of the Crossett rodders planning to stay there, it might fill up quickly.And we send out thoughts and prayers out to T-Tommy and Cynthia Smith at the recent loss of her Dad.....I read where Larry Crain's *Cruisin News* newsletter will cease publication in August, 2000 Instead he will put it on the internet each month. I'm not hooked up the we right now, so I guess that means I won't have to read his drivel any more. So now he can trash me every month and I won't even know about it. Larry, tell Henry that I've trained Critter to bring me my socks every morning. He loves doing it.....I see thast Larry Teal and Kenny Angelo are having the Louisiana NSRA Appreciation Day on Saturday, October 2 at City Park in New Orleans. That's a nice place to have an event like that. Years ago we went to a rod run in City Park put on by the old New Orleans Street Rod Association.

CRUISIN THE COAST UPDATE

Let me bring you up to date on Cruisin' the Coast, scheduled October 7-10 on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. In a phone conversation with CTC Executive Director Gene Oswalt last week, he said over 1550 vehicles, representing 26 states had pre-registered so far. Then later that week, Becky was kind enough to send me some of the tentative schedules for the entertainment acts

already booked. Man, what a show this is shaping up to be! I sat here for over an hour studying the schedule, trying to figure out how I was going to be able to see all the music acts I wanted to see, much less see 2000 cars. All the acts are doing free shows at the five locations all along the coast during the day. The casinos have still not announced all of their entertainment at night. I think you will be guaranteed all the hot rods and rock-n-roll you can possibly stand for four solid days. I can't wait. Here is a brief summary of the preliminary list of free entertainment going on each day from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.:

BAY ST. LOUIS OLD TOWN

FRIDAY: Starz/Prime Tyme/Na Na Sha

SATURDAY: Figure Eight/Pat Murphy/Vince Vance & the Valiants/Pure Gold

BILOXI POINT CADET

FRIDAY: Perfect Mix/Domino/Vince Vance & the Valiants

SATURDAY Prime Tyme/Grand's Rock & Roll Revue/Dual Exhaust/Bill Haley's Comets

D'IBERVILLE AUTO MALL PARKWAY

FRIDAY: Platinum Cafe/Frankie & the Cruisers/Bill Haley's Comets

SATURDAY Starz/Flashback/Perfect Image/Na Na Sha

LONG BEACH YACHT CLUB

THURSDAY NIGHT: Kickoff cruise & parade with Fox channel TV taping. Isis performs

SUNDAY MORNING : Dixieland Jazz (Buffet breakfast every morning)

GULFPORT RICE PAVILION

FRIDAY: Figure Eight/Platters/History of Rock & Roll

SATURDAY Domino/Knight Riders/The Drifters/Frankie & the Cruiser

SUNDAY Isis

Some of the acts appearing at the local casinos at night will be the Top Cats, History of Rock & Roll, Vince Vance & the Valiants, Little Anthony and the Imperials, the Dixie Cups, Bowser's Rock & Roll Revue, Johnny Rivers, Sam Moore of Sam & Dave, Gary Puckett plus others to be announced later. All these shows are either free or with discounted admission prices to all CTC entrants. Add to this the huge kickoff block party Thursday morning at the Hancock Bank Plaza in downtown Gulfport, the all day drag races at Gulfport Dragway on Friday, the big \$\$ poker run going on all weekend, and the chance at winning one of **thirty** \$500 cash prizes plus more fine cars than you can ever see, and you will have certainly gotten the most of your \$30 entry fee.

There will be a media briefing at Casino Magic on Wednesday August 25 where the complete finalized schedule will be announced. So as your newsletter editor, I guess I could pass as "media", so I'm planning to go down and get right in the middle of it and pick up as much info as I can get for you . I'll report on all this in next month's newsletter.

GARAGE SCENE

Several new rides made the scene since last month's newsletter. John Tramell brought home a '32 Ford roadster. The "rod of the month-or maybe the week" is a roadster convertible with fenders and is one fine vehicle. I think he plans to sell it, so by the time you read this, he may have something else.....Don Wade has driven his '41 Chevy delivery in and out of the shop several times now.....Benny Boggs drove his '34 Ford for the **first time** last week. He started out the driveway-no window glass, no mufflers, sitting on a milk carton; but by gosh under its own power. Mary heard him leave the shop and ran out to the drive way. "You ain't going nowhere without me", she hollered over the sound of the open exhaust. She piled in and sat on the floor while they ran up and down the road a couple of times. Man Oh Man there's absolutely **nothing** like that first ride in a street rod you've been working on for a long time.....Finally Chuck and Dot found their dream car, a fine red chopped top '39 Buick coupe purchased from Melton Spell. So now they're riding in style, too.....Vic Boggs has brought home a couple of '48 Chevy pickups to start his new street rod project.....My new fender came in and I started doing the necessary body work to fix the other messed up places before installing it. Should be ready before too long.....So it looks like MSRA will be looking good with some new rods on

the road for the heavy schedule of events this fall.

NSRA APPRECIATION DAY

Way back on July 3 about a dozen of us motored down the interstate in a caravan of rods to the NSRA Appreciation Day event in Brookhaven. We're the only club that travels with it's own support vehicle full of fans, generators to run the fans, drinking water, and Willys cars. If they could just remember to bring the gasoline for the generators. Between 50 and 60 fine rods showed up for a day of cars, games, and food. The Ole Brook Cruisers hosted this year's event, cooking hamburgers and several other clubs brought desserts and side dishes, giving us quite a fine lunch. Back to the caravan; since I was the only one in the group who had ever been to the park where it was to be held, I was elected to lead everyone in. But it had been three years since I had been there, so I was not absolutely sure of the street location for entering the park. Leading the string of a dozen cars plus the MSRA support vehicle trailer, I missed the street by a few feet, too late to turn in. It must have created some sort of chaos behind me when I braked. I received the following anonymous letter. For those of you in the caravan, it will have meaning, the rest of you will just have to use your imagination.

"As we approached the Brookhaven Exit, I was near the rear of a mile long caravan of street rods on the way to the NSRA Appreciation Day.

My wife asked, "Who is our leader?" I said I couldn't really tell, but it looks like Mrs. Creel's baby boys or the Ace.

All of a sudden she said, "Why is that masked man in the red '38 Chevy coupe with the bent right back fender passing everybody?" I said "Don't worry, that's Kemo-Sabe our new leader. He knows where he's going! Everyone was so proud of him except "the blonde" in the blue '34 Chevy who said "I wonder if it's **just across the street.**"

As we traveled on, everyone grew more impressed with our new leader - except "the blonde".

All of a sudden the masked man stopped! Brake lights went on, tires began to squall, the Ace got sideways in the road, the Creel gang ran up on the curb, the Mayor of D'LO put flat spots on all his tires, and Uncle Don's grandkids said "I hope papaw doesn't find out about this." The Texaco man's suicide doors opened from the rear, Sammo's radiator dug the ground and his new coilovers stretched out 4 feet. Half Round was so scared his hair turned white and 3/4 Round's "Clinton Arrows" sign on the back of his SUV moved to the front. Willie G pulled his son's face out of the dash board, Big John was 3 feet into Vic's flamethrowers, cousin Gene's paint on his '40 coupe rolled like a Charpei dog. Chuckie Boy slid around backwards and Brother Ben made a lasting impression on Big John's support vehicle.

As the smoke cleared, I heard the Masked Man's faithful companion say "What happened Kemo-Sabe?" and the blonde jumped out of the Chevy, pointed at him and said "We're Lost" The Texaco man said Amen.

The Mystery Writer

Ed. note-I don't know who wrote it-I didn't even try to find out. You're right, I should have thrown it in the trash. See if I lead y'all anywhere again.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1999

AUGUST 14 Cruise-in at Sonic on Grants Ferry Rd at Lakeland by Antique Auto Club

AUGUST 21 Edgewood Mall open car show by Dixie Street Rods McComb, MS

AUGUST 28 Hybrid Classics Cystic Fibrosis Rod & Harley Show. Civic Center, Sorrento La.

SEPT 3-5 Ramblin Oldies Labor Day rod run Baton Rouge, La.

SEPT 17-19 Shelby County Street Rods rod run Memphis, Tennessee

SEPT 17-19 Hot Rod Power Tour Memphis Motorsports Park Memphis, Tennessee

SEPT 25 Rock-N-Roll Revival Queen City Rods & Classics, Highland Park, Meridian, MS

- OCT 2 Louisiana NSRA Appreciation Day at City Park in New Orleans
 OCT 1-3 Arkansas SRA rod run Lake DeGray, Arkansas
 OCT 2-3 Goodguys Lone Star Nationals, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas
 OCT 7-10 Cruisin' the Coast '99 Mississippi Gulf Coast
 OCT 15-17 12th NSRA Southeast Nats Fairgrounds Tampa, Florida
 OCT 15-17 Halloween Fun Run Street Rods LTD Tupelo, Mississippi
 OCT 23 Calico Mall Car Show Hattiesburg, Mississippi
 OCT 29-31 Vicksburg Cruisers Bare Bones car show at Outlet Mall in Vicksburg on Saturday followed by Fat Boys Fall Fling cookout at Grand Gulf Park in Port Gibson Sunday
- NOV 5-7 Klassy Kruzers Fun Run 99, Crossett, Arkansas
 NOV 6 Memphis Street Rods Shrimp Boil and Rod Rally, Beltz Outlet Mall in Memphis
 NOV 6 Whistle Stop Car & Bike Extravaganza Bay St. Louis, Mississippi
 NOV 12-14 Ole Brook Cruisers Rod Run. Best Western Motel. Brookhaven, Mississippi
 NOV 20 5th Annual Santa Cruise Singing River Street Rods Biloxi, Ms.
 NOV 26-28 Turkey Run West Fla. Street Rods. Pensacola, Florida
- DEC 12 Sherrif-U-Care Toy Run Gulf Coast

TUESDAY EATIN' MEETIN' DATES

- August 10 Elite Restaurant downtown Jackson
 August 17 Xan's Diner in Clinton
 August 24 Penn's Restaurant on Lakeland Drive
 August 31 Sonny's BBQ on 80 East in Brandon
 Sept 7 Berry's Seafood Restaurant on 49 South

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Next club function will be the July-August meeting on Sunday afternoon, August 22 at the pavilion in Pearl Park on highway 80 in Pearl. It will be a bring-your-own picnic lunch affair and you should plan to come in your street rod so we can cruise somewhere later that afternoon after lunch. John will bring his rod of the month, Chuck will have his new Buick there, Bennie will get Mary her own milk carton to sit on and mine may not have any fenders on it, but I'll try to have it there. We'll eat about 1, but come whenever you want to.

Then next month, on Sunday, September 26, we'll have our annual club cookout. Instead of going to Pelahatchie Lake, this year it will be held at the Tramell-plex (John & Shirley's place) south of Raymond. The club will provide the burgers and sausage and fixins. More details on this later, but mark your calendars now.

Til Next Time
 Drive Carefully

Jack