

MISSISSIPPI STREET ROD ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

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It's time once again for me to point your attention to the upper right corner of the dateline. This is issue number **150** of this little ol' newsletter. It makes about 12+ years of fun (and some times hard work) for me and mine having put out this letter for your enjoyment and information. It's probably one of, if not **THE** longest running monthly newsletters around our area. I thank the club for giving me some stamp money, print cartridges, and paper along with comments of encouragement over the past years. This letter is now read by rodders in 10 states, plus whoever sees it on the internet. Thanks to my wife and Critter for proofreading it each month, thanks to Kim for putting it on the net, and thanks to John and Shirley for helping with the extra copies. And thanks to YOU for reading it. Lets go for another 12 years.

CRUISIN' THE COAST

I've been to heaven and I didn't even have to die to get there. We spent five days on the Gulf Coast at the finest hot rod show on this planet. Charlotte & I in our '38 Chevy were joined by Sammie and Kim in their '35 Chevy, Bennie & Mary in their '34 Ford, Vic in his '50 Mercury, John & Shirley with their '41 Willys, Joe & Lois in their '34 Ford, Mike Acey in Paul's '36 Ford, plus Wayne & Miriam, Bobby & Shannon, and Jimmy & Susan Estep without their street rods.

What can one say to adequately describe this year's Cruisin' the Coast? Awesome? Spectacular? Wet? Yes, all of those. But in my mind, it only takes one little three letter word: **FUN**. Absolute wall to wall, non-stop **FUN**. I had looked forward to it for a whole year and my expectations were completely satisfied from the time we left home til the time we got back. It did rain. Most every day it rained. Friday night we renamed the event "Wading the Coast". Got so wet, we had to go back to the motel and change **all** our clothes. Normally I don't even think about driving my car in that much rain. But this time we just kept on riding. I found some new leaks every time we went out. But the rain didn't seem to dampen spirits anywhere that I could see. In fact, it gave us a break every now and then to settle down and rest. If it had been pretty weather the whole time, I probably would have been totally exhausted. The show continues to grow, with over 3000 cars registered and no telling how many others that did not register. Man, you couldn't swing a dead cat without hitting a hot rod or custom. One beauty of the whole CTC concept is if you saw everything at one location, you could just jump in your ride and go to one of the other locations. And while en route to that new location you'd see 1000 more rods doing the same thing. The 30 mile long beach-side highway 90 was the ultimate in cruise routes. You could see a neat model A Ford antique coupe putt-putting along with a blown Anglia right behind him followed by some flamed 50 Mercs. One time we passed thirteen '55 T-Birds in a row. Saw a pro-street Nash Metropolitan, a Chevy V-6 powered Volkswagen bug, a real Ford AC Cobra, Cords, Allards, Super Birds, Hemi-Cudas, street rods, street rods, and more street rods and the list goes on and on. Saw every color of paint in the entire world. Got four sets of fuzzy dice. Saw Elvis-TWICE. Shook hands with Dennis Gage, Carl Perkins, and Conway Twitty, kissed Patsy Cline, watched Charlotte get kissed by Elvis **and** Tom Jones in the same night, ate some of the best broiled flounder ever, laughed so much at our group til I hurt, saw a bunch of old friends, met some new friends, bought some new parts for the '38, waved at so many folks along the roadside, saw so many hilarious situations develop with this bunch we traveled with, and did and saw so many more things that we will keep in our memories-until

next year when we get to do it all over again. More stuff: Sammie slipping down in the motel parking lot, Mary and Bennie dancing so good that they were congratulated by one of the brothers when they finished, ("Man you got some real good moves for an ol' white dude"), the bulldog wearing a T-shirt with a pack of Marlboro cigarettes rolled up in the sleeve, The night Mary, Kim, and Charlotte got the spicy gumbo and started turning red, sweating, and coming out of their jackets. Had to buy a round of ice cream to keep them from getting indecent. The "floor show" at the Copa, Sherry Fisackerly's impromptu birthday party, Jimmy Fisackerly's plumbing skills, Having such a good time at Landry's we looked up and noticed everyone else had left the dining room except us and the comedian waiter, Brownie, Brownie, Brownie, (inside joke-you'd just have to have been there) all just a few of the crazy things that went on. I'll get even with whoever put the "will trade for old Volkswagen" sign on my car in Bay St. Louis.

Word is that the number of entries might be limited next year, so I beg you to pre-register now. If you didn't go this year, please make plans right now to go next year. It is the ultimate hot rod show and one of the most fun-filled hot rod experiences you could ever have and it's right here in our own state!!!. I talked to a guy from Kansas staying at our motel. He had been to all the big shows from coast to coast; Vegas, Reno, Havasu, Frog Follies, Shades, Branson, etc., and he said Cruisin' the Coast was the best he'd ever seen. Those of us who went will agree with that. So don't miss it next year.

MYSTERY WRITER STRIKES AGAIN

Well, you might know with all the CTC goings on, that doggone mystery writer would slip an editorial under my door. He/she claims not to have been there, but that sure sounds suspicious to me, with all the details mentioned in the following note. Here's what the note said:

"The following events at Cruisin' the Coast were told to me to be the truth, but I don't know for sure 'cause I wasn't there. Someone put a sign on Jack's '38 Chevy in Bay St. Louis reading "Will trade for Old Volkswagen". When Jack returned to his car and saw the sign, he jerked it off just as a man approached him and said "I've got an old Volkswagen I'll trade you. Jack walked away and the man followed him for two hours trying to trade with him. Jack blamed this on Bennie, but Bennie said "Jack, you know I wouldn't do anything like that." So they blamed it on Sammie and Kim. (sounds like something "the Blonde" would do.)

I also heard that Jack, Charlotte, Benny, Mary, and Vic went to the Grand casino at Gulfport. As they got out of their rods, they noticed a scantily clad local sunbathing. While Bennie and Jack were discussing this, Jack walked off a 4 foot curb and Bennie ran into a barricade. Vic rushed both of them to the emergency room where they were treated for severe eyestrain.

I understand that Jack was voted unanimously to be Social Director for the group & kept borrowing Bennie's calendar of events brochure until it finally got so ragged he couldn't read it. As a result, Sammie suggested he resign Friday night and turn his duties over to "the Man from Texaco who said "Amen". **Editor's note:** There was more to the Mystery Writer's letter concerning some of the crew borrowing items from the maid's cart at a certain hotel, but since this letter is on the internet, and no telling who might read about it, I thought best that this not be discussed too much. If you want to read it to see if you were incriminated, I'll let you look at it.

BITS & PIECES

We got a letter from Bo Laird announcing the annual Laird scholarship fund for college students from street rod families in Mississippi. This year, thanks to a gift from the Dixie Street Rods, the scholarship is \$1000. Depending on the number of applicants and qualifications, the money may be split between two or more qualified students. Applications must be received by December 15 and the winner will be announced in January. I have rules and applications if you need them.....If you like oldies music like I do, try 105.9 on the FM dial. This station now plays 50's and 60's stuff all day and night. Great stuff.....After several days of rock & roll on the coast, many of the same crew turned out last Thursday night at the state fair to watch and listen to the Coasters, the Platters, and the Drifters do their oldie hits at a big show. We had almost a full row of hot rodders who had a big time enjoying the music.....We got our annual invitation

to ride in the Clinton Christmas parade set for 10 a.m. Saturday, December 4.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

MSRA is helping the Jackson USDA Federal Credit Union with a car show they are having to raise money for the University Medical Hospital's Children's Miracle Network. The show will be next Saturday, October 23, at the Crossgates Village Shopping Center on highway 80 east in Brandon. This is right across the highway from Rogers-Usry Chevy dealership. It starts at 9 and will wind up about 3. MSRA is doing four games to help out with the activities. Ricky McGuffie is handling the music and MC duties. USDA staff will be running the concession stand. There will be door prizes, top ten awards, goodie bags and a 50/50 raffle. Entry fee is \$10 with all proceeds going to the UMC kids charities. This is a very worthwhile cause, and we urge you to come and bring someone with you. Help spread the word around to anyone you know with a pre' 80 vehicle. I have plenty of entry blanks if you'd like to pre-enter.

The next weekend the Cruisers have their Bare Bones show over in Vicksburg. It starts Friday night with a cruise to Goldies BBQ on Washington street. Then, on Saturday, action moves to the Factory Outlet Mall off I 20 at exit 4A or 5B depending on which way you come from. Open to pre '73 rods and classics, the event will feature goody bags, door prizes, dash plaques to first 100, vendors, food and music. Over 30 stores are at this mall for you to visit when you've seen all the cars. The next day they pull out for Grand Gulf park in Port Gibson for the annual Fat Boys Fall Fling hamburger cookout. Then the first weekend in November, we head up to Crossett, Arkansas for their annual pre '49 rod run-always a super event. The following weekend, we'll be at the Ole Brook Cruisers event down in Brookhaven as the rod run season begins to wind down in Mississippi.

GARAGE SCENE

John's transmission in the Willys went into the pan in Biloxi. Fortunately he had the support vehicle along to haul it homeI spent the whole week before the show rubbing and shining the '38. It looked really good until we got in all that rain and wet sand. Oh well.....I hear the Round one is busy on his Chrysler.....Bennie says Vic plans to stretch the cab of his '48 Chevy pickup project by using the back half of a '50 Ford sedan.....Jimmy Estep has the '32 all apart doing some body work in preparation for a new paint job.....Wayne debuted his new wheels last week. They really changed the looks of his '34.....Don is painting door jams, window trim and inside moldings on his sedan delivery project. The color is Peach, he tells me.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1999

- OCT 15-17 12th NSRA Southeast Nats Fairgrounds Tampa, Florida
- OCT 15-17 Halloween Fun Run Street Rods LTD Tupelo, Mississippi
- OCT 23 Cruise for Kids benefit car show. Hwy 80 in Brandon
- 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 4 Christmas Parade 10 a.m. Clinton Mississippi
- DEC 11 Sherrif-U-Care Toy Run Gulf Coast
- DEC 12 MSRA Christmas Party-Raymond clubhouse

2000

- JAN. 21-23 8th Winter Run Days Inn Diamondhead, Ms. pre-'69 Bill @ 228/452-3584
- MAR 17-19 Parade of Rods Houma, Louisiana. Ted @ 504/532-2777
- MAR 17-19 Singing River Rod Run, Biloxi Beach Inn, Biloxi, Mississippi. Don 228/392-7577
- MAR 24-26 Southern Nats, Boomtown Casino, Harvey, Louisiana. Tank @ 504/347-3092
- APR 7-9 Sunny Beaches Rod Run, Pensacola, Florida. Alice @ 850/478-0066
- APR 14-16 27th Super Rod Run Shreveport, Louisiana. John @ 318/949-9117
- MAY 19-21 Spring Fling, Holiday Inn, Covington, Louisiana. Al @ 504/624-9832
- JUN 16-18 Dixie Run 22, Holiday Inn, Jackson Mississippi. Jack @ 601/372-8050

TUESDAY EATIN' MEETIN' DATES

- Oct. 19 Penn's on Lakeland Drive **Club meeting**
- Oct. 26 Sonny's BBQ East in Brandon
- Nov. 2 Xan's Diner in Clinton
- Nov. 9 Western Sizzler Steak House I 55 North
- Nov. 16 Jerry's Fish House in Florence
- Nov. 23 Fernando's Mexican Restaurant in Byram
- Nov. 30 Elite Restaurant downtown
- Dec. 7 Scottie's on Terry Road
- Dec. 14 Berry's Seafood in Florence
- Dec. 21 Sonny's BBQ west
- Dec. 28 Penn's on Lakeland Drive

NEXT CLUB MEETING

October club meeting will be at Penn's after the Tuesday Cruise night on October 19. That's this coming Tuesday, so make plans to be there.

Yesterday is History
Tomorrow is a Mystery
So seize TODAY

Til Next Time
Drive Carefully

