

Doin' What We do Best: Eatin' Laughin' and Playin' Cars

Mississippi Street Rod Association

P.O Box 1823 Brandon, Ms 39043

NEWSLETTER

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BITS AND PIECES

The folks with the Clinton Mechants Assn. tell me they are planning the annual Cruisin' the Boulevard car show in Clinton with a tentative date of September 22. They are changing the whole show format this year and it sounds interesting. Among other changes, the show times will be from 4 p.m. until 8 starting with the car show, live entertainment and an outdoor drive-in movie. Sounds like fun to me. Will keep you posted as they give us more details.

The annual car show at the Jerry Clower Festival in Yazoo City will be held Saturday, May 5. In addition to the car show there will be live entertainment all day.

Our friends in the Northeast Louisiana Street Rod club are planning an event in Monroe, La in late September. As soon as I get all the details I'll let you know. Sounds like a good road trip to Monroe. They support Dixie Run well every year.

Looking at the calendar, April and May will be very active months as usual, sometimes with multiple events on the same weekend. So support your favorite and have fun DRIVING your hot rod.

WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON

We had a big time at the 9th annual Troop 98 Boy Scout car show at Springridge UMC in Byram. Once again we had just over 100 cars of all kinds. The scouts were working hard all day cooking those hamburgers for the hungry crowd. MSRA had about a dozen rods on hand to join the rest of the crowd. Wayne power parked as usual, almost completely blocking the ladies bake sale. Vic brought out the Pinto powered V W and it really got lots of attention.

All three of the Creel brothers and Mike Chambless went to the Catfish Run up at Sardis this past weekend. Eric, Wayne, Mike & Barbara, Gary, Fred and Cooney went to the show at Pisgah school. Mike and Eric won awards.

I guess the following fits under the "what's been going on" category. It's what's been going on at my house. I finally felt good enough to try to get brakes on my street rods yesterday. About 5 o'clock suddenly three cars dove up in my driveway and four people got out, armed with tools. I recognized four members of MSRA who announced they were there to get my street rods running...and more importantly...stopping. It looked like one of those TV shows where a bunch of guys were thrashing on some cars trying to meet a deadline. For over three hours these four "angels" went over my two cars, bleeding and adjusting brakes, replacing some shoes, and some other stuff. As a result, I'm now driving...and stopping...both cars again. This is what REAL car clubs are all about. It's not numbers, or publicity or any of that. It's about caring friends who share a

hobby, trying to help someone out when they most needed it. I'm not going to name these guys here. But I'm so grateful to them for taking their time, after working all day, to help out a fellow street rodder. I love you guys and am so proud to be part of MSRA. Thank you so very much.

2012 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	
MAR 31	Pisgah Elem. School car show
MAR 30- APR 1	Cattfish Run, Sardis, MS Ms Delta Street Rods pre '49 street rods only info: 662-429-7265
MAR 30- APR 1	Mardi Gras Street Rods, pre -49 Houma,LA
MAR 31	Bug Jam Gulfport Dragway info: 228 596-0664
MAR 31	Gnat Nationals,OLG Community Center Bay St. Louis, MS info:228-216-1259
APR 1-3	Redneck Cruise Meridian to Alabama info:Fuzzee
APR 7	Sardis Spring fest info 662-429-7265
APR 7	Mississippi Stampede Car & Truck show at Gray-Daniels Auto complex in Brandon, MS info:livinglegendsmustangclub@gmail.com
APR 13-15	Super Chevy Series Memphis Intl. Raceway, Memphis,TN www.superchevyshow.com
APR 14	Youth Benefit car show Bethesda Baptist Church Terry, MS
APR 14	Show at the O. by Big River Classics at O'Reilly's store in Clinton
APR 20-22	40 th Sunny Beaches Rod Run, Pensacola, Florida info: 850-939-3131
APR 21	Rumblin' In Ridgeland car show by MCC at Holmes Community college campus in Ridgeland info: 601-919-0291
APR 21	Camelia City Rod Run Slidell, La
APR 21	Old Time Festival car show Dixie UMC in Hattiesburg, MS
APR 26-29	100 th annual Coonass-Redneck Nats Hammond La. Randy @601 684-2609
APR 28	Red Carpet Classic car show. Blackburn Motor Co. Vicksburg, MS
APR 28	Founder's Day car show Wesson, MS info:601 981-2915
APR 28	Gasoline Alley car show by Kosciusko Veteran's Home info: 601 289-2981
MAY 3-6	Blue Suede Cruise Tupelo, MS info Bluesc.com
MAY 5	Swinging Bridge Festival car show Byram, MS
MAY 5	Lake Fest car & truck show Lake, MS by Kountry Cruisers 601 562 3930
MAY 12	Crooked Creek Car Fest at Muscadine Park in Pelahatchie, MS
MAY 12	Hot rod Saturday Biloxi VA hospital grounds
MAY 18-20	Dixie Rodders Run Meridian, MS info: 601 917 7272
MAY 19	9th annual car, truck & motorcycle show Boyle,MS 662-719-0067
MAY 19	Club 66 car show Carthage, MS UMC info: 601 416-6784
MAY 26	Red Hills Festival Car show, Louisville, Ms info: 62-773-3921
JUN 2	Walthall Co. Dairy Festival car show info: Randy @ 601 684-2609
Jun 1 & 2	Muscle Shoals 41 st annual run at Spring Park, Tuscumbia, AL info 256-762-4953 open to pre-'72 vehicles.
JUN 9	Blueberry Festival car show Poplarville, MS info:601 799-1932
JUN 16	Annual Harvest car show 4619 Hanging Moss, Jackson 601-720-0136
JUN 23	2 nd Annual VA cruise Jackson VA to Kosciusko VA info: 601-829-2589

JUL 14	Old Rice Rd Baptist church car show, Madison, MS info: @ 601 856-6607
JUL 21	Watermelon Festival Car show, Mize, MS info Max: 601 405 7685
AUG 9-11	Hiawassee. GA Moonshine Run
AUG 25	Cruisin' the River Columbus ,MS Lock & Dam
SEP 15	8 th annual Hot Rod Weekend show & drags Gulfport Dragway 228-596-0664
SEP 21-23	Sam's Town car show Tunica, MS by Memphis Street Rods
SEP 22	Cruisin the Boulevard car show Clinton, MS details tba
SEP 29	Heritage festival car show. downtown Raleigh, MS info: Max @ 601 405 7685
SEP 29	Rockin' Railroad Festival car show Hazlehurst, MS info: 601 894-3988
OCT 6	Euro Fest at Renaissance Center, Madison info:euro-fest.net
OCT 6	Batesville on the Square nfo: 662-429-7265
OCT 7-14	Cruisin the Coast MS Gulf Coast info: cruisinthecoast.com
OCT 20	Annual Rock & Roll Revival car show and Nostalgia Drags at Battlefield Raceway Collinsville, MS (north of Meridian) info www.battlefieldraceway.net
OCT 19-20	Scarecrow cruise & car show Madison, MS by MCC info: 601 259-5248
NOV 2-4	Klassy Kruzers Fun Run Crossett AR info:870-305-5701
NOV 5-9	Emerald Coast Cruise In Panama City Beach FL

NEXT MSRA CLUB MEETING:

Thursday, April 12, at Holiday Inn in Pearl. Eat at 6 with meeting to follow.

WHAT'S NEXT

April is, as usual, the most busy month for car shows. I think I've covered everything in our area in the event listing above. Find you an event or two or three and drive your hot rod.

MSRA has been invited to the season opening baseball game for the Mississippi Braves on Thursday, April 5. they've asked us to meet at the south side of Trustmark Park at around 4:30 if possible. Plans are to take the street rods to the bullpen area and from there we will drive each of the players to home plate for introductions. Each street rod gets two tickets to the game and after we've done our part with the player intros, we'll drive the cars around front, park, and get in to watch the game. This should be some good publicity for MSRA and show off our street rods to folks who may not have seen them before. Be there!!

Looking ahead to April 14, John & Julie's son will be having the first car show at the Bethesda Baptist church on Midway Road in Terry. Let's turn out to support the youth of this church as they try to raise a little money and make it a nice day-trip for another club activity. I rode out to the church grounds and found it to be a very good place for a car show with shade trees everywhere with the historic old church as the center piece. We'll talk more about it in detail at the club meeting Thursday.

PERSONAL NOTE

What I'm going to write next is mostly closed circuit to **MSRA club members**. I love them all. The rest of you can read it if you wish, it's a tribute to the greatest little hot rod club in the universe.

DIXIE RUN RECAP

Now I get to the part where I can brag, yes, unapologetically brag, about our 34th annual Dixie Run. It was FUNTASTIC !!! One hundred sixty registered entries, yes, all beautiful pre-'49 Street Rods from 9 states, tried out our new venue at the Trustmark Park / Holiday Inn complex in Pearl. It was magic. Starting with the most beautiful weekend of spring weather, to a smooth running organized show carried off by the most dedicated group of hot rodders I've ever worked with, Dixie Run ran like clockwork for all three days. Hundreds of old friendships were renewed and a number of new ones made as the "family" of street rodders came together again for fun, food, and fine rides. Handling registration duties, I got to meet and greet all of them as they arrived, from as far away as Illinois and Pennsylvania. That gave me a lot of satisfaction, getting to see friends who had not been to Dixie Run in years. Friday activities kicked off with Vic's barbeque supper. We fed BBQ, beans, and all the trimmings to between 275 and 300 folks in a record 45 minutes: another tribute to the MSRA members who lined up to help serve. Get them full and happy first and they'll usually enjoy the rest of the weekend. Saturday morning entries continued to arrive. We ran out of everything, dash plaques, goodie bags, even registration forms. On the grounds of the stadium, it was busy. A surprisingly large swap meet was drawing a crowd on the north end of the lot, games were going on inside the stadium, vendors around the patio were doing a brisk business and everyone was looking over the outstanding collection of street rods. After a break for lunch, all the ladies made their way to the Holiday Inn ballroom for a "just for girls" tea, hosted by the MSRA ladies. I don't know what they do there, but they all seemed to enjoy the food and games. Mid afternoon we were joined by the mayor of Pearl, Brad Rogers, and Pearl Police Chief, Ben Schuler, who welcomed everyone to Pearl. Then a blue Chevy Nomad drove in and out stepped our governor Phil Bryant, who hung out with us for almost three hours. He told us about the fun he'd had that morning flying in a restored P-51. He even called the owner and had him do a flyover for us there at the stadium. All of them seemed to be enjoying themselves, taking a break from official duties. The over 50 sponsor trophies were given out, along with numerous hand made trophies for various car categories, and the game winners awards also picked up their trophies. The governor, mayor, police chief, and chamber of commerce all picked their favorite cars and gave them awards. We took a break to eat and the area restaurants were quite busy. At seven everyone came back to the hotel ballroom for the door prize auction. The key was to play all the games during the day, where you received play money bills. This play money could then be used to bid on the hundreds of door prizes. The bidding was hot and heavy, especially when a battery came up for bids. With this finished, many of the street rodders retired to the parking lot to visit some more. Sunday morning, we gathered again in the

patio of the stadium to a brief devotional time from Larry and Louise Teal, street rodders from Louisiana. Then it was time for the final awards, the 50/50 game winner, and the cash from the wipe out board. With the wipe out board numbers drawn down to 5 people, they decided to split the money among themselves. One of the five had already left, so the four got to share his winnings too. The ladies grand prize went to a newlywed, and the pre registration prize money went to one of the last people who had pre-registered. So next time.... pre-register. The top ten rods were presented next, and with the extra space at the stadium, the cars were able to drive through the patio and pick up their trophy. Ade Fleming's beautiful 46 Ford convertible picked up the rodder's choice award. Then what everyone had been waiting for, the drawing for the new 350 crate engine presented by NAPA. Roger White from Pontotoc was the first name pulled and his wife came running up to claim it. She said they were almost finished with a new '32 but had no engine for it.....so problem solved, thanks to MSRA and NAPA.

If you missed this event, make plans to come next year, **everybody else is**. On Thursday after the rod run. we signed the contract with Holiday Inn for March 22-24, 2013. As soon as word got out that the hotel was taking reservations for next year, the hotel was swamped with requests. Trustmark Park and the city of Pearl are also on board with us again for next year. After doubling our number of entries from 2011 to 2012, it would not surprise me to see the number double again. I said at the start I was bragging, but the e-mails and calls we've received since the rod run made us believe we have not reached a peak yet. A number of them not only said they'd be back, but they'd be bringing three, four, and one even said sixteen friends with them. Think we can double attendance again next year? So you think street rodding is going away, you think the only events that draw a crowd nowadays must be open to anything with wheels. The street rod family,..yes, the street rod nation (to use a term so commonly thrown around today) proved that wrong last weekend and had a blast doing it. I'm so proud of this little group called the Mississippi Street Rod Association I could bust. And I'm incredibly proud of Dixie Rod Run !!!! I'm still bragging. We have the best club right now I've ever been involved with. Our rod run chairman, Eric Knight led us through the change to the new venue with ease. Lots of hooks and crooks in the road y'all didn't even know about, but big E smoothed them all out. My vice president and right hand man, Jimmy Creel, took up all the slack from the planning stages when I was just not feeling well enough to handle something. To the ladies who put on the tea and the BBQ supper, and Vic who did the cooking. Well done. Ware's great job with the swap meet was evident in its size and business. That big ol' bus...office....command post....registration desk....VIP lounge. It was Perfect! Thanks Nathan. And to all the rest of the club members who were there EVERY TIME to step up and do whatever was asked of them goes a great big THANK YOU. The success of Dixie Run 34 was a credit to each and every one of you.

Till next time, drive carefully

Jack

