

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

# **Mississippi Street Rod Association**

**P.O Box 1823 Brandon, Ms 39043**

## **NEWSLETTER**

MSRA WEBSITE: <http://www.ms-sra.org>

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MAY / JUNE 2012

No. 39

### **BITS AND PIECES**

Sorry for the delay in getting this newsletter done. Had some problems dealing with chemo that dumped me, but mainly my faithful old Hewlett Packard was consumed by four viruses at once which virtually destroyed everything. Had to buy a new one and work with my computer expert to get all the lost files back up and operational.

Be sure to take some time and sit down to look at all the new things on the MSRA website, [www.ms-sra.org](http://www.ms-sra.org). Eric has added all sorts of photo galleries and videos of club activities since the start of the year. This should make the website a valuable source of information on our club. Thanks to Eric, Susan, and Al for taking pictures and videos to cover almost everything the club has been doing this year.

Last month I rambled on about the bus we used for registration center at Dixie Run. As best as I can remember from what they told me it is an '86 Ford diesel, a retired school bus, [Nathan](#) picked up cheap from the old bus home down in Laurel. They brought it to Eric's shop with the idea of making a party barge out of it to drive in the Mardi Gras and St. Patrick's Day parades in Jackson. For more space they took out all the seats, then for even more space they cut off the top. With some 3 X 3 tubing they built a framework about 3 feet taller on which they reinstalled the top. That allowed adults to stand up and walk (stagger) around freely with plenty of window space to hang out of during that insane parade. Hooks were installed all down the inside of the critter to hold the thousands of beads that are thrown out during the parades. We found that these hooks also made an ideal place to hang goodie bags on when we used the bus for Dixie Run. Enough wiring was run to let their stereo blast tunes during the parade and worked out as well to handle our PA amps at Dixie Run. The bus housed our rod run staff for announcements, staff meetings, butt kickins, registration and served as the supreme command post for keeping everyone located and "taking care of business." I saw video of dancing going on on the hood of the Ford during the parade, but nothing quite wild took place during the rod run. They did put a couple of seats back in and ran a couple of table/workshelf units down one side, which allowed us to register up to six folks at a time with comfort. They gave me a chair with wheels, which turned out to be square wheels. That, plus the fact that they did not remove the rubber floor mat down the center, created several large crash and burn flips by Al and I that really should have been on one of those blooper TV shows. I'd like seat belts installed in the chair for next year...or a set of

round wheels, whichever is the cheapest. Then the mayor of Pearl and his chief of police came aboard to visit, followed by the Governor himself, Phil Bryant. I offered him my square wheel chair which he declined, opting for a folding chair. They hung around in the bus and visited for a couple of hours. So the bus immediately became our VIP lounge....ARE THE USES FOR THIS VEHICLE ENDLESS! Party barge, command post, PA center, registration headquarters, VIP Lounge.....all in Ford school bus. We even had two folks come aboard just to look. One as with the Braves organization and they were looking at it as a player transportation vehicle to special events, the other guy wanted to cook catfish out the back and use it for mega fish fries. Nathan might be able to take orders to mass produce them. I can see it now, the "Nathan Knight Full Function Fantastic Ford Full Of Fun", available in flat black or color of your choice if you buy the spray paint. Some assembly required, tarp cover optional at slight extra cost.

### **WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON**

I haven't been much of anywhere lately, but that did not stop the rest of the MSRA rods from going to all sorts of events. We'll back up all the way to April, when we were invited to the opening game of the Mississippi Braves baseball season. You can check out the video on our website. About thirty street rods drove on to the track around the field and stretched from the third base line all around to the outfield past first base. MSRA made a presentation check to the Pearl high school baseball program, then we drove off the field and parked in front of the stadium, where most of us went inside to watch the ball game as guests of Braves management. It was a unique opportunity to show off the street rods to a different crowd.

The next weekend, we met at the Burger King in Byram to drive out to Wynndale to the Bethesda church car show. About 18 cars, including fifteen MSRA rods and a couple of guests in some other classic cars lined up behind Burger King for the eight mile ride to Wynndale. One of Byram's police officers stopped by to check us out and then gave us a short escort, stopping traffic for us to all get out of the parking lot to Terry Road in one continuous line. First time that has ever happened. This first-time show was a laid back one, we got to do a lot of sitting and visiting under the shade trees in front of the old church. Vic and Eric won top 5 trophies. John & Julie decide to trailer their car, rather than ride with the group. Turned out to be an expensive decision, as the 23 T rubbed against a sharp corner in the trailer and when they arrived and started to unload, there was a very flat tire. Yes, the big wide, rear, expensive ones. But he unloaded, flat tire and all and was part of the show. There was some discussion of awarding a trophy for flattest tire. Nice show.

After attending these two mentioned events, I dropped off the wagon of going anywhere too far from home. (chemo treatments were kicking me big time) But Eric, Vic, Nathan and Butch went to Randy's show in Hammond, La. Wayne, Fred, Mike went to Wesson. Eric and Vic went to Blue Suede Cruise in Tupelo, which drew a record crowd of over 800 cars this year. Jack Cox and I went to the Byram show. Jack's mini-generator and two electric fans we literally sat on top of got us through that hot Saturday. A good crowd of MSRA rods went to the rain shortened Crooked Creek Car Fest in Pelahatchie. Ricky and his group rushed to get awards out just before a big rainstorm arrived. George, the Creel brothers, Mike Summerlin, Mike Chambless and Joe Byrd took their cars down to the Sunnybrook home for old folks in Florence for an activities

day there. They were a hit with all the residents of the home, who loved seeing the “old cars”. Clayton took his T bucket to the Bay Fest show in Bay Springs this past weekend. That give you a brief summary of who’s been where and I hope I didn’t leave too many people out.

Eric has sold his blue ’37 and it has been delivered to a new home in Indiana. The ’32 Vickie is on e-bay but it looks like a deal has been made to that will keep the car here in town. Seems that a local buyer, and former club president from way back, is about to get back into street rodding. But after these two cars left Eric’s shop, they have been replaced with an SSR pickup and a roadster bodied golf kart. I was out there Saturday, and he had to show me how the golf kart could lay rubber inside the shop. He was running out of parking spaces in his shop, which by the way, was a shop tour stop on the recent Miss. Classic Cruisers shop tour. The tour also went to Ware Hodo’s rod shop in Pearl.

<b>2012 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS</b>	
<b>JUN 2</b>	Walshall Co. Dairy Festival car show info: Randy @ 601 684-2609
<b>JUN 2</b>	Bay Fest fun run Bay Springs, MS City Park 601-425-4865
<b>JUN 1 &amp; 2</b>	Muscle Shoals 41 <sup>st</sup> annual run at Spring Park, Tuscumbia, AL info 256-762-4953 open to pre-’72 vehicles.
<b>JUNE 9</b>	Football booster club Benefit car & bike show at McLauren High School, Star, MS 8 til 3 registration or information call 601 941-2386
<b>JUNE 9</b>	Blueberry Festival car show Poplarville, MS info:601 799-1932
<b>JUNE 16</b>	Annual Harvest car show 4619 Hanging Moss, Jackson 601-720-0136
<b>JUNE 23</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual VA cruise Jackson VA to Kosciusko VA info: 601-829-2589
<b>JUNE 30</b>	Car & Bike show Jasper Co. Masonic Lodge, downtown Bay Springs, MS Info: 601 466 1204
<b>JUL 14</b>	Old Rice Rd Baptist church car show, Madison, MS info: @ 601 856-6607
<b>JUL 21</b>	Watermelon Festival Car show, Mize, MS info Max: 601 405 7685
<b>AUG 9-11</b>	Hiawassee. GA Moonshine Run 662-587-9572
<b>AUG 25</b>	Cruisin’ the River Columbus ,MS Lock & Dam
<b>SEP 15</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> annual Hot Rod Weekend show & drags Gulfport Dragway 228-596-0664
<b>SEP 15</b>	Rollin Thru the Park car show, Pearl, MS City park on 80 C.A.R.A Benefit
<b>SEP 21-23</b>	Sam’s Town car show Tunica, MS by Memphis Street Rods
<b>SEP 21-23</b>	Taboo Tiki the old new Diamondhead Rod Run @ Diamondhead Resort by Rat Pack info:228 596-0664
<b>SEP 22</b>	Cruisin the Boulevard car show Clinton, MS details tba
<b>SEP 29</b>	Heritage festival car show. downtown Raleigh, MS info: Max @ 601 405 7685
<b>SEP 29</b>	Rockin’ Railroad Festival car show Hazlehurst, MS info: 601 894-3988
<b>SEP 29</b>	Cruisin theTwin Cities car & bike show by NE La street rods West Monroe, La info: 318 789-1192
<b>SEP 29</b>	September Show-off car show Laurel, MS info: 601 4250042
<b>OCT 6</b>	Euro Fest at Renaissance Center, Madison info:euro-fest.net
<b>OCT 6</b>	Batesville on the Square nfo: 662-429-7265

<b>OCT 7-14</b>	Cruisin the Coast MS Gulf Coast info: cruisinthecoast.com
<b>OCT 10-13</b>	Swap Meet, car shows, & drag racing at Gulfport Dragway info 228-596-0664
<b>OCT 20</b>	Annual Rock & Roll Revival car show and Nostalgia Drags at Battlefield Raceway Collinsville, MS (north of Meridian) info www.battlefieldraceway.net
<b>OCT 19-20</b>	Scarecrow cruise & car show Madison, MS by MCC info: 601 259-5248
<b>NOV 2-4</b>	Klassy Kruzers Fun Run Crossett AR info:870-305-5701
<b>NOV 5-10</b>	Emerald Coast Cruise In Panama City Beach FL info: 662-587-9572

### **NEXT MSRA CLUB MEETING:**

Thursday, June 14, at Holiday Inn in Pearl. Eat at 6 with meeting to follow at 7 . I should have the club shirts from the previous order, so come prepared to pick yours up. Need input on things to do this summer. Election of officers for 2012-23 will be held at the July meeting. Give some thought to who will best run the show thru Dixie Run 13 next year.

### **WHAT'S NEXT**

Several local shows remain even though the heat is on for the summer. The annual show put on by Ade Fleming and his group is next on Saturday, June 16. at his son's church on 4619 Hanging Moss. It was moved to June in an attempt to find a cooler date. Plenty of good food and home made ice cream are always highlight of this show. Ade always supports our events so go if you can. On the next weekend, the Yates and Patterson duo will be having their VA Salute cruise. It starts at the VA home on Lindberg drive from 9 til 11, then goes to The VA home in Kosciusko with a stop for lunch at Smokehouse BBQ on hwy 471 on the way to Kosciusko.

### **DIXIE RUN RECAP**

In the afterglow of a successful Dixie Run 34, we hit the ground running with preparations for next year. Contracts are already signed with host hotel, Holiday Inn, and arrangements already are in place for overflow at the Hilton just down the street. Reservations came pouring in to the Holiday Inn and last time I checked there were less than 40 rooms left there. Trustmark Park will again be on board as the primary parking and activity site. And the Pearl Mayor, Chamber of Commerce and Police Department say "bring em back, we loved it". So the basics are in place for another great show. We're negotiating for another giveaway crate engine plus some other surprises. We already have eight rods entered from six states, one who has not been to Dixie Run in over 20 years.

Till next time, drive carefully

*Jack*