



It'll Be A Classic!

That's what Tom said as he gave me this 1988 Mercedes 560 SL for Christmas a few years ago. I think I drove it to our Monument Inn lunch that year. It was red, real Christmasy, but would not be an antique for a couple more years. I asked him to tell the story of its acquisition.

A couple of years ago a friend and client of many years asked to use my trailer to take a car to South Carolina to be restored. I suggested he use a local restorer so he could keep track of the progress and payments, but after reviewing his project we both concluded that you don't send a 1958 Mercedes 190 just to any restoration shop, especially when you get much of it in boxes.

He did not really have a good truck to pull the trailer or a brake controller so I suggested a boys' weekend out and

we would just take my truck and trailer. Well, the weekend became close to a week that we had fun looking around and seeing old friends.

We spent a long time with the restorer and I got a real education on Mercedes Benz and the cost to restore one. Mercedes-Benz has learned that supplying parts to their old models for restoration can be very lucrative and has established a specialized company in California to supply parts for classic Mercedes.

The conversation with the restorer turned to anticipating their collector cars of the future, at least Mercedes-Benz. He built a good case for the Mercedes 560 SL. The truth is I did

(Continued on page 2)



Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Amelia Island, 2015 | 3 |
| Secretary's Column | 4 |
| Stress-free Touring | 9 |

(Continued from page 1)

not really know the difference between the 380, the 450 or the 560. I didn't know about the 300 series and knew it would not be a good car for a Sunday drive to the Dairy Queen.

In our little "too old for the middle-aged crazies," I'm not sure what the next step is, but I somehow convinced myself that we could use a 560 as a second car, an eventual antique that Ev could drive. I spent a lot of time looking at craigslist and eBay for a used 560 and there were lots of them. The prices ran from \$5000 to \$15,000 with mileage anyplace from 30,000 to 150,000 miles. I was pretty sure that I did not want a car that came anyplace from the rust belt; having spent almost 20 years there, I know what the salt in the winter does to a frame and undercarriage. Most of us would not have thought about buying the 560 when it was new and carried a price tag of about \$65,000, but 25 years later an Arizona car with 70,000 miles look pretty good.

I'm mostly into slow cars, but it is fun to trump the accelerator in this car and let your head snap back a little bit. It is hard to be really cool when you are in your 70s, but riding in the car with the top down gives me that illusion. (Besides, people on the road did not see how hard it was for me to put my legs in!) It's also nice to have a car that I don't have to crank by hand, turn the gas on, turn on the battery disconnect, or wonder if it's going to start.

The car has wonderful handling characteristics: it corners flat, accelerates well, and the steering is great, although the steering

wheel seems a little big by today's standards. The only problem I have discovered is entering or exiting the vehicle; it requires some effort. I guess I'm not the only person who has had the problem, because the only worn spot on the car is the edge of the seat where you have to twist a little bit to get in. It also has both the hard and soft tops. Needless to say we're enjoying it.

And by the way, the car we took to South Carolina to be restored went through two restoration shops before it was finished, and I was concerned that my friend may have overspent. My fears were erased at the Bonham's auction at Amelia Island. A 1958 MB 190, which wasn't as nice as my friend's, no-saled at \$215,000.

Tom Timmins

New Members

Thanks to Robert Wheelless:

Dennis Barbeau
10367 Schmidt Rd.
Waller, TX 77484
832-878-4187
dbeau03@gmail.com

K Fournier
700 8th St.
Houma, LA 70364
985-226-2208
blondek700@gmail.com



Don't forget to pay your national dues!

ANNIVERSARIES

- P** Harry & Gloria Arp 4/3
- R** Gordon & Patsy Bennett 4/8
- I** Leon & Pam Ahlers 4/20 (41!!!)
- L** Carl & Julia Sharon 4/28 (37!!)
- Sean & Tonya Ornduff 4/29



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Carol Baccaro | 4/1 |
| Evelyn Timmins | 4/1 |
| Nancy Womack | 4/8 |
| Glenn Haddox | 4/9 |
| Charles Logan | 4/14 |
| Julia Sharon | 4/15 |
| Michael Calistrat | 4/20 |
| Junko Keifer | 4/26 |
| Betty Gorrell | 4/27 |

THANKS!!

To all of you who remembered Julia Sharon in your thoughts and prayers. She is improving daily. If you want to cheer her up, her birthday is April 15th. Send her a card.

From The President

Leon Ahlers

Deadlines, deadlines. It seems more now than ever, since the machines have taken over our lives, that things have become increasingly time-sensitive. There is an electronic record of everything, whether its your taxes, your doctor appointment, or your kid's baseball game, it is there for all to see. No more "the dog ate my homework" or "I forgot" excuses. Speaking of deadlines, have you signed up for the Texas Tour yet? There is little time left, as we need to know the numbers for planning purposes; it's our turn at bat, so let's knock it out of the park and set the standard for future Texas tours.

Next on the list is Pate. Sam and Robert will have the job lists at the next meeting, so sign-up and work as you are able. We have sold approximately 900 more spaces than last year, so the more help we have, the easier it should go. This is a quick message this month as the newsletter deadline is looming. Ev has been doing a masterful job as editor and everything else during Julia's absence and deserves a sincere thanks for her efforts. We wish Julia a speedy recovery. The next upcoming deadline is, of course Easter: so little time, so many eggs. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Amelia Island 2015

The Amelia Island Concours attracts really fantastic cars, not to mention a huge crowd, mostly coming from Florida and East Coast. We are spoiled in Houston with the Keels & Wheels only costing \$25, because the tickets at Amelia cost from \$100-\$120. If you want to look for seven hours and not six you pay the extra \$20. I recently had the opportunity to attend with Keels & Wheels head, Bob Fuller, and fellow club member, Richard Mitchell.

The car show is only a part of the Amelia Island weekend. Three major auction companies, Gooding, Bonhams and RM all hold auctions, each selling about 125 cars. Most of the auction cars are every bit as nice as those on the show field. The prices brought by many of the cars in the auctions were astronomical. The Italian sports cars like Maserati, Lamborghini and Ferrari sold for unbelievably high prices compared to what they were only a few years ago. The auction companies all have websites with the auction results if you have some time to kill. I should also mention that a 1911 EMF racecar (a true factory racecar) which was anticipated to bring between \$75,000 and \$100,000, actually brought \$240,000. With this much money in his pocket, Gordon Matson may stop rebuilding magnetos.

Many of the sponsors are automobile companies, like Mercedes-Benz, Lexis, Infinity, Lamborghini Maserati, Cadillac and even Buick. The facility at the Ritz Carlton is immense and there is plenty of room for displays of new cars and prototypes. They will even take you on a ride in one of the sports cars if you show them your American Express card (joke). The prototype automobiles, which may be 2016 or 2017 models, or may never be produced, are pretty incredible. In the affordable category, the 2016 Buick looks fantastic, but they did admit all the kinks had not been worked out. There is almost nothing in these new cars that is not controlled by a computer, even the steering.

Amelia is an island, but the town is Fernandina Beach. If you happen to be in the area, you owe it to yourself to spend a little time in the town. It is very quaint, with neat little stores and best of all a great ice cream shop. The town is filled with bed and breakfast facilities, which I'm told are reasonable. By the way, if you do go to the show, don't plan on staying at the Ritz Carlton at \$750 a night, minimum four nights. The Days Inn, about 4 miles away, is really very nice and affordable.

Tom Timmins

Secretary's Column A.A.C.A. Gulf Coast Region

Secretary's Report
AACA Gulf Coast Region
General Meeting
09 March, 2015

Here is what your secretary recalls from our meeting.

Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

Bill Wahlberg usually gets the ball rolling at our meetings with an invocation, but he and Barbara were absent this evening. In Bill's stead, Mary Lou Boggus did the honors. In case you missed it, one of the things Mary Lou was thankful for was the rain. Before I wrote these minutes, I called Barbara to ask why she and Bill skipped the meeting. Barbara told me that she and Bill did not want to risk Bill slipping in the rain. In view of this, does it strike anyone as odd that Mary Lou was thankful for the rain? I'm just asking! After the invocation, Club President Leon Ahlers led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

GCR Reports

Treasury Report: Our fair Club always strives to maintain a positive attitude, and we like our bank balance to be positive as well. Treasurer Tom Timmins reassured us that we do indeed remain in positive financial territory. We'll be interested to hear how our balance fares after the results are in for the 62nd annual Texas Tour, which our Club is hosting April 16 - 19, 2015.

Meeting Minutes: Someone who shall remain anonymous - but only because I didn't note his or her name - made a motion to approve the minutes from our January meeting, and members did so. Thank you. I really appreciate your approval!

Sunshine Report: There were no : Since Barbara was not at tonight's meeting, Ev Timmins gave us the low-down on those who are low and down or who just need our attention. I won't mention any last names, but Julia is doing well and is beginning rehabilitation/physical therapy. We certainly do wish her well. Also, Tom Timmins reminded us that long-time member Frank would appreciate it if some of us would keep up with him. Ferrell Moore also noted that Warner would appreciate a note or a call. Many of the members who need our kind words, cards, prayers, and visits have been our friends and fellow Club members for many, many years; so please make those calls, write those letters, and get in your car to visit them TODAY.

Announcements

New Member: Guests: We had no guests tonight, but we did have a special announcement: young Ashley Griffin had a birthday on the day of our meeting. Ashley practically begged us to sing him "Happy Birthday", but the consensus was that that our singing would have been like a combination lock: no apparent key. Therefore, we politely demurred. Nevertheless, we did honor him with a few backslaps and handshakes later on. Furthermore, I noticed that long-term member and former Club Secretary Lee Brown was at tonight's meeting. We've not seen enough of Lee lately nor of our friend, John Alkire; but we hope to see both of them on the upcoming Texas Tour.

Refreshments: José Gonzalez Jáuregui and Tahl Rozycki were in charge of refreshments tonight. They favored us with a slight

variation on the usual chips, pretzels, fruits, chips, and drinks by bringing fancy-flavored chips and fancy-flavored waters. Tahl wanted to bring in a karaoke machine as well, but Jose put his foot down and said, "No!" By the bye, this is the first time we've had two people in charge of refreshments whose names "consume" 17 of the 26 letters of the alphabet - 18 if you count Tahl's middle name.

Where We've Been

We've not been on any tours recently, so the focus of tonight's meeting was....

Where We're Going

Mar. 18 - 20, 2015: Ev Timmins said that she and Tom are going to Chickasha, OK for the Chickasha Swap Meet. They're going to pick up some tires from Wallace Wade while there; so if you need tires, order them and Tom and Ev might be able to bring them back for you.

April 16 - 19, 2015: Eileen Bartlett - with not-insubstantial help and encouragement from James - is organizing our Club's hosting of the 62nd annual Texas Tour. Eileen is doing a great job, but she needs our help. Specifically, Eileen needs volunteers to work at the all the thankless (but important) jobs that need to be done. Eileen hosted a meeting at the Tracy Gee Center on Wednesday, 11 March 2015 to organize the volunteers. If you were clever enough to attend, you got a lovely lunch and a chance to win a door prize. Eileen also recommended that the profit we make on the Texas Tour be given to the Wounded Warriors program.

April 24 - 26, 2015: Ron Stein reminded us that the third annual

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Concours d'Elegance of Texas will once again be held at La Torretta Lake Resort & Spa in Montgomery, Texas. This year, the Concours is honoring Auburn, Cord, and Duesenberg automobiles in partnership with the ACD Club.

April 30 - May 3, 2015: Sam Romeo spoke briefly about the Pate Swap Meet. Pate is getting big - they've already sold 900 more spaces than last year - and Sam needs our help. Be sure to contact him to volunteer for lots of four-letter fun (that's "w-o-r-k" to those of you who might have been thinking of another four-letter word).

May 2-3, 2015: Tom Timmins reminded us of the 20th Annual Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance at Seabrook in the Lakewood Yacht Club. Special events will take place as this is the 20th year.

Sometime this late Spring to early Summer: James Bartlett mentioned that Club member and benefactors Bill Thomas is hosting a 20th anniversary event at his ranch/collection and that he has invited our Club to participate. James also plans to talk with Charlie Thomas about our Club visiting his collection this year and with a member in College Station whose collection we'd like to visit.

4th of July, 2015: Ron Stein is trying to arrange for us to have our 4th of July event at the Hemi Hideout. The Hemi Hideout is a fantastic venue. Let's hope this one comes to fruition!

August 30 - September 4, 2015: Chuck Crane addressed the assembled about the 70th Revival AAA Glidden Tour, which this year will be hosted by the Okie Region of the AACA. Chuck gave us a bit of interesting history about the tour. The first Tour occurred in 1904 and was

sponsored by the American Automobile Association. In 1905, automobile enthusiast, financier, and Bell Telephone Co. Executive, Charles J. Glidden sponsored a trophy, and the Tour then was named after him until 1913. The tours stopped after that and were restarted in 1946 and were named the Revival AAA Glidden Tours.

Fall 2015: Jim Johnston reported that the Louisiana Region - Lagniappe Chapter of the AACA will host the 2015 AACA Central Division Fall Meet in Houma, Louisiana. The Lagniappe Chapter is renowned for their love of food and fun, so plan to attend this "local" national meet! Our man in national (AACA, that is), Chuck Crane, addressed the advantages of attending this nearby national meet. Chuck also spoke about judging standards.

Other News To Amuse

Since tonight's meeting was big on information, there's no real news to amuse; however, I'm using this space to thank Eileen and James Bartlett, Ev and Tom Timmins, and everyone else who is doing such fine work to make our Club look good hosting the 62nd Annual Texas Tour. I hope all y'all can make it, even if you need to take a taxi to get there. If you do need a taxi, call **Stan and Ellen**. They're still fareless!

Luck of the Draw

The March meeting was drawn to a close with our usual two drawings for a cash prize. Every member who attends the meeting is eligible for the first drawing, which is for a crisp \$10 bill pried from the pocket of our treasurer, Tom Timmins, on behalf of our treasury. Tom asked Eileen Bartlett to select the winner tonight, so she did. And the winner was... **Eileen Bartlett!** Congratulations, Eileen! You deserve it and much more! Last month, **Theresa Bartlett** won the prize. Will James or Wayne win next month? Our second drawing was for the cumulative cash prize that grows by \$10 every month until someone wins it. The trick to this prize is that any member's name can be chosen, but the member has to attend the meeting to claim the prize. The prize had

(Continued on page 6)

Officers

President—Leon Ahlers

144 Deer Lake Rd.
Huffman, TX 77336
281-324-9393

lahlers@redstonegroup.com

Vice-President...Javis Boudreaux

11015 Overbrook Ln.
Houston, TX 77042
713-953-1620

javis@sbcglobal.net

Secretary ... Albert Ramos

2330 Robinhood
Houston, TX 77005
713-248-7687

albert.redbrick@gmail.com

Treasurer ... Tom Timmins

2120 Lundy Lane
Friendswood, TX 77546
281-388-1967

ttimmins@aol.com

Directors

James Bartlett - 281-255-6770
Wayne Bartlett - 281-351-2167
José Gonzalez-Jaureguí - 281-556-0042
Ron Stein - 713-521-3450
Evelyn Timmins - 281-388-1967
Tonya Ornduff— 832-492-5553

Pate Swap Meet Representatives

Sam Romeo 713-862-4026
Robert Wheelless 281-380-4969

Sunshine Representative

Barbara Wahlberg 713-465-3539

Refreshments

Sandra Johnston 713-340-0709

Newsletter Co-Editors

Julia Sharon 281-934-1455
Evelyn Timmins 281-388-1967
newsletter@texasits.com



Secretary's Minutes

(Continued from page 5)

grown to \$30, and the next time we have a drawing it will be for \$40 - all because **Donna Sanford** was not there and did NOT capitalize on her luck! We hope to see her at a future meeting.

Adjourn - The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM and continued "after hours" many of us telling lies in the parking lot.



April Refreshments

Barbara Wahlberg

Sandra Johnston

Do these names ring a bell?

WIN THIS CAR

**ONLY 2,000 TOTAL TICKETS
WILL BE SOLD!!**

For only \$50, you can purchase a raffle ticket to win this dream car or the cash equivalent. The drawing will be held October 10th at the AACA Eastern Division Fall Meet in Hershey, PA. (Winner need not be present.) Proceeds from the raffle benefit the AACA, AACA Library & Research Center and AACA Museum.

HURRY!! These tickets will not last long! Contact Chuck Crane if you are interested.



From the AACA Speedster, March

It's Texas Tour Time!

April has finally arrived, and after a year of planning, scouting, phone calls and meetings, the 62nd Texas Tour in Tomball is just days away – it runs from mid-Thursday April 16 to Sunday morning, April 19. As of late March, approximately 75 registrations had been received and 83 known hotel rooms had been reserved by those planning on attending. There are typically some walk-in registrations when the tour actually begins, and on the other hand there could be a few last-minute cancellations.

"It's not going to be a gigantic tour, but we do believe that those present will enjoy what we are offering – drives down scenic roads that are really remote in places, visits to car collections, ranches and local points of interest," said James Bartlett, tour co-chair along with Eileen Bartlett. "And it's not too late to register. So if you haven't done so already, come join in the fun."

The Tomball area as well as the tour routes have benefitted from a wet spring, and have turned a vibrant green just in time. Meanwhile the tight hotel situation seems to have yielded just enough rooms, as there have been no calls seeking help in finding rooms.

Approximately two-dozen Gulf Coast Region members have signed up to help with the tour. "We're really grateful for the support received thus far," said James Bartlett. "We couldn't do this without a lot of volunteer efforts, and fortunately we've had that."

If you would like to help out with the tour please contact James or Eileen 281-255-6770 or email: jamesandeileen@comcast.net Or just let us [know at the registration desk on Thursday](#). Registration forms are available at www.texastour.org or by calling or emailing. Consider joining in even if you cannot attend the tour, but are available to donate a few hours of time to help out. We'll see you there.

James Bartlett

Concours d' Elegance of Texas Weekend

April 24th to April 26th 2015

includes:

Classic Car Driving Tour

Car Club Display Area

Silent and Live Auctions

Concours on the 9th Hole golf course

Hotel, Restaurants and Spa

Water Park , Pools, Golf, Tennis

For all information please go to ConcourseofTexas.org

or call Ron Stein 713 299 2349

Well everyone it's that time of the year again, yep, it's Pate Time!!

April 30- May 3 2015

Thursday - Sunday

Gates Open at 7 am

Texas Motor Speedway Fort Worth Texas USA

Texas Motor Speedway is 20 miles north of downtown Fort Worth at the corner of Interstate 35 West and State Highway 114

Hello Everyone,

We are a Very Lucky Car Club indeed!

We have the Texas Tour that is being handled by the Bartletts in the Tomball area, which we know will be a wonderful event, with great people!

The Keels and Wheels event is coming up in Seabrook.

The 4th of July event is closing in!

You will see events all over including information about a National meet in Houma, Louisiana!

Wow! We are so lucky!

But we cannot forget about the Pate swap meet this year.

Sam has informed us that this year Ford is bringing their (Ford Racing) 18 wheel truck and trailer to the Pate event to display it, for the first time!!!

Let us not forget this year at Pate looks to be the largest ever, with the addition of the 300 plus spaces for the motorcycles that have already been sold.

That brings us to the other part... the volunteer side.

With all of the other activities going on, it's easy to forget that Pate is the event that helps keep the Gulf Coast Club going! Pate is our money maker of the year, Pate allows us the ability to do all the other fun venues.

This year more than ever we need You, volunteers, due to the added number of spaces that have been sold. With this many new spaces, it will bring in more people and a larger need for people, to work at their respective assignments and help sort out the issues that are sure to arise.

So please take a close look at your schedule and see what day or days you can give us a hand with manning the gates.

We really do need YOUR participation this year more than ever before!!!!

We will have the signup sheet back at the April meeting.

Touring in the Rain

Tom & I recently attended a national tour/convention of the HCCA in Kerrville. Having seen everything on the tour agenda, but wanting to support the national group, we signed up, in spite of the fact it would be the first week in March and could be cold. Did I say "cold?" (Maybe not everyone knew it could get cold here, but when a lady from Connecticut asked me where the bluebonnets were, I had to laugh.)

On the Monday tour, we did about 90 miles in rainy weather with the temp hovering in the 30's. Tuesday was Boerne Day and we did about 90 miles again. Keep in mind that all cars had to be pre-16 and that most of us did not have windows. Also, a lot of the cars were kept snug in their trailers while the owners used their modern cars. Some of us are just purists, or plain stupid, and kept on driving in the cold and drizzle. Wednesday was the same: cold and raining, with more coming near the end of the 75 mile trek to Bandera.

In summary, the people were great, the food was good, the tours were well planned, but by the end of Weds., I had had enough and we went home! (See photos on back page.)

Evelyn Timmins

Down the Road

Underlined items are club (AACA) sponsored activities.

April 10-12 38th Annual Texas Packard Meet. Stagecoach Inn, Salado

April 13 GCR AACA meeting in the Tracy Gee Center. 7:30 P.M.

April 16-19 We host the 62nd Texas Tour in Tomball. Contact Eileen Bartlett: 281-255-6770 or go to texasour.org

April 17-19 27th Annual Texas Regional Meet-Lincoln/Continental Owners Club, Salado; contact Gary Birk 713-419-0212

April 24-26 Concours d'Elegance of Texas, Lake Conroe, La Torretta Resort. Contact: Ron Stein at Ronstein56@aol.com.

April 27 Deadline for Antique Expression articles for May, 2015, issue.

April 30-May 3 PATE Swap Meet. Call Robert Wheelless or Sam Romeo.

May 2-3 **20th Anniversary** of Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance, Seabrook. Contact: Tom Timmins- 281-388-1967 or ttimmins@aol.com

May 11 GCR AACA meeting in the Tracy Gee Center. 7:30 P.M.

May 25 Deadline for Antique Expression articles for June issue.

PLAN AHEAD!!

Nov. 5-7 AACA 2015 Central Division Fall Meet, Houma, LA

Friday evenings Pearland Antique & Classic Auto Show Cruise Night at Lowe's parking lot at FM 518 & Pearland Parkway, beginning at 6 PM

Saturday evenings cruise in at Chick-Fil-A in Home Depot's parking lot, 5 PM, Hwy 146 and FM 2094 in Kemah

Last Sat. morning of the month: Coffee, Cars, and Books from 8 - 10 AM in Barnes & Noble parking lot on Bay Area Blvd.

The Antique Automobile Club of America

Is a non-profit Organization dedicated to the preservation, restoration and maintenance of automobiles and automotive history. It is the country's oldest and largest automotive historical society.

**Meetings at
Tracy Gee Center
3599 West Center Dr.,
Houston, TX 77042**

**Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.
2nd Monday of each month,
Except for February, July
and December, when
special activities are scheduled.**

The Antique Expression

Is the official monthly Publication of Gulf Coast Region, A.A.C.A., Inc., Houston Area, Texas, And is distributed to all members in good standing.

Co Editor:

Julia Sharon

PO Box 280
Brookshire, Texas
77423-0280

Phone: 281-934-1455

E-mail:

newsletter@texasaits.com
(put AACA on subject lines for email)

Co Editor:

Evelyn Timmins

281-388-1967

REPRINT!

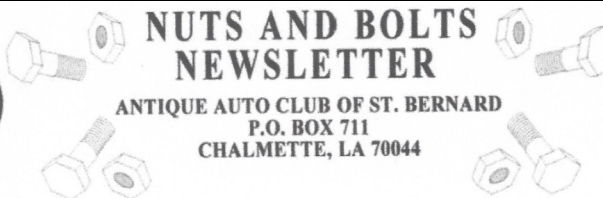
WE DO IT FASTER, BETTER & EASIER FOR YOU!

High Speed Copies - Color Copies - 24-Hour Full Color Business Cards
Flyers - Brochures - Postcards - Full Color Printing - Thermography
Letterheads - Envelopes - Invitations - GBC & Coil Binding
Laminating & Mounting - Scoring & Perforation - Posters - Banners

**www.reprintinc.com • 713-522-9299 • Fax: 713-524-6525
2035 SW Freeway @ Shepherd • Houston, TX 77098**



Fun read. Think about it while on the Texas Tour! It is reprinted with permission from the AACA Club of St. Bernard LA Newsletter, Oct/Nov 2014



NUTS AND BOLTS NEWSLETTER

ANTIQUE AUTO CLUB OF ST. BERNARD
P.O. BOX 711
CHALMETTE, LA 70044



“Touring” From Stress Free to Gumball

Becky and I have been touring since the early 80's.

In the beginning, we would always have a drivers meeting before we leave to go over the driving route directions. We would pace the speed of the tour by the oldest car and the modern cars were always last. At that time, most of us had CB radios. The first car was the leader and the last car was the caboose. The other CB radios were placed in the middle of the group.

Courtesy was that you would always keep the car behind you in the view of your rearview mirror in case of a break down. The front and rear CB radio's would keep in touch with each other to see if the cars were getting scattered apart. In that instance, the lead car would either slow down or when it was safe, pull over and wait until everyone came together again. By doing this, no one got lost and everyone got home safe.

Now for the new modern way of touring, everyone is given driving directions. Whoever can get to the front of the line with their car is first. Most of the time, the older cars are last. Most copilots do not want to read the driving directions. After pulling out of the hotel and getting to the second red light, then the race begins. The second car is trying to keep up with the first car, the fourth car is trying to keep up with the third car and the second half of the group is gone.

After getting going on the highway, you look over and see the other group of cars going the opposite way. Then panic sets in, you're running yellow lights, pink lights, sometimes red lights, and making illegal turns to catch up with the group whom you hope made the right turns!

How many times have you heard this, “I was going 80 m.p.h. and still couldn't catch up with you!”?

Happy Motoring,
Curtis Ducote

What was the first official White House car?

A 1909 White Steamer, ordered by President Taft.



Trivia Question?

When was the first auto insurance policy taken out and what were the rates?

(answer on page 11)

Taken from the AACA Speedster , Mar. 2015

Chickasha Chick

I should have known that when Tom says he is “cleaning out some stuff” he doesn’t need, and buys a booth at Chickasha, I’ll be the one sitting there and selling while he shops. I would have tried to talk Nancy into the selling part, but she was busy with the bomber.

There were several from our club there: Lee Brown, Sam Romeo, June and Chuck Crane, Pete Reinthaler, Sean Ornduff, Ashley Griffin, and Tom and I.

Actually, for 2 days, I did rather well. Weather was not a problem as I was indoors, same building where June was selling her beautiful vintage clothes. The worst part of it was the booth next door to me. Tom had been looking at a car on a website for about a month and lo and behold if that guy from Indiana did not bring it to Chickasha to the booth right next to me!

Well, Tom looked a lot for 2 days and talked to lots of car gurus, and yes, you know the rest of the story. That 1907 CarterCar is now in our barn!! Come to Keels & Wheels to see it.

Evelyn Timmins

WAIT, THERE’S MORE!

I want to be fair. Tom infected 2 other club members who rapidly came to OK. Check out the picture of what else I saw at Chickasha on the back page. Ask about it at the meeting.

TEE TIME

TEXAS TOUR TEE SHIRTS, that is!



*The Tradition Continues
April 16 - 19, 2015*

Gulf Coast Region AACA

If you were not coming to the Tour, or if you did not order a shirt, thinking you would wait until you could see what the shirt looks like, please see the photo above. If you have already registered for the tour, but did not order a shirt and would now like to order one, please contact Evelyn Timmins as soon as possible. (Call 281-388-1967 and leave a message.)

The shirts can be ordered in sizes Small, Medium, Large, Ex Large, 2XL, or 3XL. The cost of the shirts will be the same price specified on the registration form (\$15). However, the 2XL and 3XL will cost an additional \$1.00. We need this information to be able to print the correct number of shirts. We want to make sure everyone gets a shirt who wants one.

GULF COAST REGION NEEDS YOU!!!

We still need one member to volunteer for refreshments in June and one in October.

Please contact Sandra Johnston ASAP.
713-340-0709 or sandra-jim@att.net.

Pate Meeting Report Items

Notes from Sam Romeo about the recent Pate Meeting held in Decatur.

We have sold over 900 more spaces as of last Tuesday than we did at the corresponding time last year. Last year we filled up the original swap meet area and opened up 1350 more spaces in Zone O. We then sold 350 of those new spaces, leaving 1000 spaces from last year. If we sell the same amount from here to the meet, theoretically we will have only 100 spaces left. Last year's total was 8150 spaces.

Ford Motor Company (Ford Racing Parts Division) is sending an 18 wheeler to display their performance cars and parts. We will place them on the back side of the car corral this year.

I have to travel back to TMS within the next few weeks to meet two gentlemen who are very interested in promoting a custom car show at Pate for 2016 on. Their names are Charlie Cobble and Robert Parrish. They currently produce the following shows; F100 Supernationals.com, Slammin' and Jammin' Car and Truck Show, All Chevy

Supernationals.com along with several other shows. These shows reportedly bring in 1000 to 1400 cars per event.

The North Texas HCCA and Lone Star Model T's are considering having several of their members bring Antique cars for display in the area just to the right of the car corral this year. Pate will supply the canopy, tables and chairs for their use. All are invited to bring their antiques for display.

Pate is growing at an outrageous pace and will need more workers and a better allocation of the current personnel.

The West AACA group has disbanded; therefore, we are down from our original 17 to 16 member clubs. That club was responsible for manning the headquarters trailer and dispensing the radios and golf carts.

BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT THE MEETING ON April 13th!

SAVE MONEY

Go to keels-wheels.com and purchase tickets at \$10 off if purchased in advance of the show.

TRIVIA ANSWER

In 1897, mechanic Gilbert Loomis took out the first automobile insurance policy. The premium was \$7.50 for \$1,000 of insurance coverage.

Source: *Automotive Milestones: Trivia of a Most Unique Machine*

KEELS & WHEELS COMING YOUR WAY

May 2 and 3 (always the first weekend in May) marks the **20th Anniversary** of the local **Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance** in Seabrook, TX at the Lakewood Yacht Club. **Dennis Gage** will serve as Grand Marshal. He will be filming one of his "My Classic Cars" episodes there as well. **Ward Bond** will be filming there also for his TV show. Some of you may remember **Margaret Dunning** who started attending in 2012 when she was a youngster of 102. This year she will again join us, and yes, she will be 105, and still enjoys driving her 1930 Packard! Go online for discount tickets prior to the show.

We Have A Website
WWW.GCRAACA.ORG

Reminder

GCR AACA Meeting, April 13
Texas Tour, April 16-19
Pate Swap Meet, April 30- May 3

Pictures from Kerrville trip



Sometimes in the rain, your direction books get wet.



Ev Timmins and her buddy during a lull in the Kerrville rain.



CHICKASHA FIND

You figure it out. Which club member brought this one home from Chickasha.?

YO RANCH HOTEL-Kerrville



Some Amelia Island Winners



**Best in Show
Concours d'Sport
1932 Alfa Romeo 8C 2300**

**Best in Show
Concours d'Elegance
1930 Cord L29 Brooks
Stevens Speedster**