



The Antique Expression—MAR. UPDATE

Gulf Coast Region, Houston, Texas

Are you ready to “come out?”



Well, let me show you some good events coming up.

APRIL 12 We plan on having our **FIRST meeting in a LONG time** at Tracy Gee! We had to wait until the county released the building for use. Plan on coming. The Board will meet at 5:45 to 6:30 and the meeting will start at 6:45. It will be good to see those of you who choose to come. It will be especially great to see some new members for the first time since they joined! We are required to wear a mask.

APRIL 22-24!! This is our **PATE weekend at Texas Motor Speedway**. It is the only fundraising event we have and it is just around the corner. Please think about coming. We need our workers. Wayne and Robert will share more news about the actual event. What we need is for those of you coming to please let Wayne know so he can count on you. He will be in charge of getting you your pass, etc. Call him at 281-447-1476, or email at waynebartlett1@live.com.



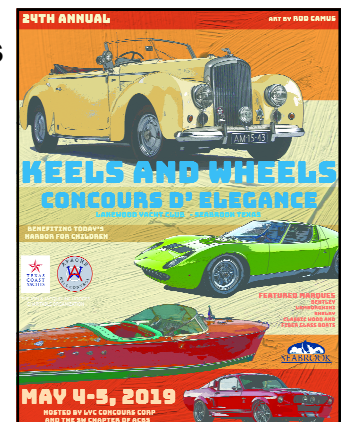
If you are not able to come, but would like to contribute to the event, we can always use snacks and drinks, or whatever you want to bring to the club meeting on the 12th. That way we will know what we have and what needs to be purchased for the workers.



Be aware that we would like your help, whether for 1 day or more. You can commit for the day, or come for an evening shift and spend the night and come again the next day. We want you to help in the way that is most comfortable for you. Also, unlike the past, there are many hotels in the area. Let me know if you need help with that.

A board member may be calling you about this event soon.

MAY 1 – 2 Marks the 25th anniversary of the **Keels & Wheels Concours d’Elegance**. Held annually (except last year!) at Lakewood Yacht Club in Seabrook, it will feature over 150 cars, new, antique, concept, specialty, etc., as well as about 75 boats in the water . With and as Grand Marshals, it will prove to be an exciting time for all. Tickets bought online will be discounted and kids under 12 are free. Ask me if you have any questions.



MAY 13 -16 Is in the planning stage for our next **Texas Tour**. The Gambulos, who had the tour most recently in Nacogdoches, are working on having it in Paris, Texas this year. If you have never been to Paris, this is your chance! We will give you more information as we get it.

Evelyn Timmins, Editor



Looking Towards the Future with the “New Normal”

Here we are, in March of 2021 moving forward towards what we now know as the “new normal.” Even though we are finding ourselves with a “pandemic” that we may be all wondering is ever going to go away, many of us have either gotten our first vaccine shot, or both. Sandra and I got our Moderna vaccine shots in February, but we still do not consider ourselves bullet proof for the COVID-19 virus. We just feel we have done all that we can do except continuing to MASK-Up and follow good common sense to ensure our health, including washing, our hands, and using hand sanitizer. Basically, we have accepted the “new norm.”

So, as a car club here we are again in March with many of you wondering when we will ever be able to meet as a club again. Well, the time has finally come, again with a COVID-19 new normal, we are finally going to be able to meet at the Tracy Gee Center on April 12th for a regular meeting of the Gulf Coast Region AACA.

But you might ask, what is going to be the new normal for our meeting. As we all know, Governor Abbott stated that on Wednesday March 10th, he was lifting all COVID-19 mandates and declared that Texas would be open 100%. However, he left it to business and property owners to require and issue their rules as they see fit. The Tracy Gee Center is controlled by the following Harris County rules:

We will be limited to no more than 50 people at the meeting, all must wear a mask and we will not be allowed to have access to the ice machine or coffee maker. But at least we can have a meeting. Don't Forget Your Mask.

First up after the club meeting is the Pate Swap meet, April 22-24th where the Pate Swap Meet Association has been given the green light for the 2021 Swap Meet. But here again there is that new normal, at the Texas Motor Speedway with Pate finding that the swap meet is having to move from the West to the East side of the racetrack. The West side is going to continue as one of the main COVID-19 immunization locations in the Ft. Worth area. But the point is, Pate is still going to happen, and Pate is our club's main source of income. We still have to supply a work group of GCRAACA members to work at Pate. Right now, it is unknown what our job will be at Pate, but we will just assume that we will be working the gates as we normally did, knowing that the with “new normal”, that could change. We will be following up with a phone call to rally our troops to work Pate, but more information will be given at our April 12th meeting. Again, it is imperative that we have a group of AACA members to work Pate!!

Another item on the horizon is the 2021 67th Texas Tour. As you all know, our club found it all but impossible to move forward with re-scheduling a Texas Tour in Brenham for 2021. We sent a letter to the other 5 rotational clubs to see if any of those clubs could keep the tour going for 2021. The Texas Region AACA has stepped up to put on a Texas Tour in Paris, Texas, May 13-16th. Their club is moving at warp speed to keep the Texas Tour Tradition going and our club is helping in any way we can. More on that in the April 12th meeting.

Another item on the horizon is the Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance at the Lakewood Yacht Club May 1st and 2nd, 2021. As you all might know, Ev Timmins, our Club Treasurer, is on the Board of Keels & Wheels and is currently working on inventory for merchandise sales. There is also a need for volunteers to work shifts as spotters to keep people from climbing onto the cars on display. We will also have more on the Keels & Wheels event at the April meeting. Check the website for discount tickets.

Look forward to seeing you all at the April 12th meeting of the Gulf Coast Region AACA. Till then.

Jim Johnston – President GCRAACA