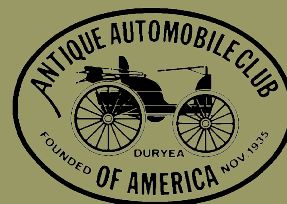


RESTORER REPORTER



October, 2009

Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 27, 2009
6:30 P.M.
Sherrod Avenue Church of Christ
Florence, Alabama

2009 Officers

President:
Bill Davis
767-2825
wldavis3@comcast.net

Secretary/Editor:
James McCollum
314-5769
jmccollum@una.edu

Treasurer:
Charlie Cooper
charlescooper@bellsouth.net

2009 Calendar of Events

October 31
Car Show
Hamilton, Alabama

October 31
Alpha Tau Omega's
1st Annual People Choice
Car Show
UNA Campus
Florence, Alabama

November 1
Alcazar Car Show
Lineville, Alabama

December
Muscle Shoals Region, AACA
Christmas Dinner
TBA

Members Traveled to Cherokee

September 23, 2009

Members of the Muscle Shoals Region, AACA met September 22, 2009, at Charlie Cooper's house in Tuscumbia.

Present were Mike Blackburn, Charlie Cooper, Bill Davis, Charlie Grimmitt, Richard Hunnicutt and James McCollum. Two visitors were also present.

President Bill Davis pointed out that four of the fifteen raffle tickets were sold. Two others have agreed to purchase tickets leaving nine. It was agreed that the club will purchase the remaining tickets and will split the winning prize between club members who have paid their 2009 membership dues.

Later, everyone got in Charlie Cooper's van and headed to Cherokee to see Jim Bockus' Chevelle and 1956 Ford restoration.

The Magic of Old Car Magazines

By James Bartlett
Gulf Coast Region AACA

I found something the other day that had been long forgotten and overlooked. It was a stash of Antique Automobile magazines; the official publication of the national AACA club. They were in a closet at my mother's house. I had known about them for a while, but the ones on top were only a few years old, and duplicated my own cache of magazines. But I didn't expect what was on the bottom, at least a dozen from the late '70s and early '80s, back when my father was still living. He had apparently put a few magazines aside on a shelf. Later, my mother had simply added the newer ones on top.

After pulling out a particularly yellowed edition, the oldest, and looking it over, I couldn't stop finding the other early ones. It was like a treasure hunt. And what fun they were. They took me back a quarter-century to a time when the cars on tour were the ones that we now only see in museums. And the car ads were sensational; not just for the pocket-change prices by today's standards, but for the pure availability of cars you can only find now at high stakes auctions.

There were also technical articles of great interest. My favorites were one on tightening up loose wood-spoke wheels, and another on the old varnish based paints used on cars during the teens. For those who don't know, these paints were thin as water, and were applied by splash or even a water hose-type nozzle. The excess paint would run



Charlie Cooper's recently purchased 1956 Ford Crown Victory

Continue on next page

Continued from previous page

Old Magazines

down the metalwork, drip onto a flattened funnel type table and drain back into five gallon buckets for reuse the next day. After many coats and hand-rubbing, the cars left the factory looking like glass. But that paint oxidized and turned dull in a matter of months. The advent of lacquer paint in the 1920s revolutionized the process, and led to an explosion of colors that had never been available before. See what you can learn from old magazines?

My brother Wayne has gathered his own magazine stack dating from the '60s. After I bought the 1919 Locomobile, he searched them and found several pictures of sister cars, plus a photo of my car's previous owner. And then he scored the biggest find; a photo of my car on the cover of Old Cars Weekly back in the early '70s after it had won an award. The Veteran Car Club had honored it as the best restored Locomobile on the Glidden Tour. Today, it's probably been 10 years since one of these cars was on this tour. Most of them are sitting in museums and private collections, or they're considered too valuable to drive, or there's a more basic problem. None of the old-time mechanics are still around to keep them running.

Through the years, my own magazine collection had multiplied like roaches. I discretely hid several hundred in stacks that would reach about two feet high before they fell over. Occasionally I'd reorganize and sort them by title, and everything would stay neat until I would inevitably be tempted to pull a half-dozen or so from the bottom. After a few of these instances, the stacks would be back to chaos. Inevitably, one day I realized that I was running out of room. And unlike books, magazines don't look good stacked in shelves. So I boxed them up in four or five heavy boxes and tried to give them away.

No takers, until I finally found a fellow enthusiast that I knew would read them – Robby Markman. After the magazines departed, for a while I felt almost like I'd pushed my children out the door. But I still had the hundred or so from my mother's house to go through. And I also noticed that, as a half-dozen or more new magazines kept arriving each month, that these things really are like roaches. You really can't kill them. They just keep multiplying.

UNA Car Show

On behalf of The Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity at the University of North Alabama, I would like to invite you and your car club to participate in our 1st Annual "People's Choice Car Show", Saturday, October 31, 2009. The show will be located at the University of North Alabama in Parking Lot B (Lot closest to the big fountain - corner of Irvine Ave. & Seminary St.) from 9:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M. There is a registration fee of \$10 per car, and a portion of the registration fee will be donated to Big Brothers & Big Sisters of the Shoals. Judging for the show will be done by the people in attendance (everyone will receive a ballot). A trophy will be awarded to the 1st place car in each class, as well as a Best In Show Trophy. Admission to the event is free, and we will be giving out door prizes at the gate. For more information about the show or to register your car, please visit our website:

www.atocarshow.com or contact Chase Hoagland @ 205-792-2564. We hope to make this an annual event that brings together the Shoals Community and The University of North Alabama. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,
Chase Hoagland
Event Coordinator
(205)792-2564
cdhoagland@una.edu

Muscle Shoals Region

The Muscle Shoals Region, AACA meets each month at 6:30 PM at Sherrod Avenue Church of Christ, 1207 Sherrod Avenue, Florence, Alabama. Correspondence should be mailed to Muscle Shoals Region, AACA c/o James McCollum, 104 Lindsey Court, Tusculmbia, Alabama, 35674.

Membership Dues

Membership dues are \$10 payable at the beginning of each year.

National AACA

The Muscle Shoals Region, AACA is sanctioned by the national Antique Automobile Club of America. AACA membership is require of all its regions / chapters members.