

May  
2009

# Tallahassee Chassee

GULF



Traveling in  
the Past  
and Present



Next Meeting  
May 12th, 2009

Old Auto Museum  
Dinner 6:00 pm  
General Meeting 6:45 pm

## Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

### Club Officers

#### President

Richard Duley  
5432 Pinderton Way  
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850-878-7007

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850-284-0635

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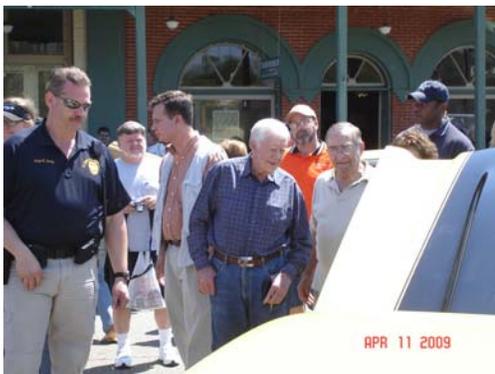
#### Treasurer

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Tallahassee, FL 32308  
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### Tornadoes and Jimmy Carter Greet SAM Riders



– By Larry Benson

It was a weekend to remember: Tornadoes storming through central Georgia and shaking hands with former President Jimmy Carter.

Thirty-nine members of Tallahassee Region of the **American Automobile Club of America** (TR-AACA) journeyed to Cordele to spend the night on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> so we could catch the early departure on SAM Shortline the next morning to Plains for a car show.

Of course, Bill and Peggy O'Rourke, who are members of the Tallahassee car club and the model railroad club, had expertly planned our journey and train ride ahead of time. What they hadn't planned for, nor could anyone expect, was severe weather including tornadoes that threatened the area surrounding Cordele. Emergency sirens warning people to take shelter kept a lot of us awake. We wondered if the motel where we were staying could "weather" the 135 plus mph winds that accompany tornadoes. We thought SAM Shortline was departing during the night because a tornado passed over Cordele roaring like the proverbial freight train. As it turned out, one tornado did touch down about 10 miles west of Cordele uprooting hundreds of huge pecan trees and dropping three giant pines atop a farm house.

The car show in Plains, where some really nice

autos were displayed, was one attraction. The other was presentation of trophies to car show winners by the 19<sup>th</sup> U. S. President, Jimmy Carter. He strolled down Main Street working the crowd as politicians are known to do shaking hands and greeting people. Police and Secret Service officers were escorting him through the throng. When President Carter walked up to me, I asked if I could shake his hand and he said "yes, certainly". So, we shook hands. His grip was surprisingly strong for a man in his late 80s. He was most gracious to everyone, smiling and welcoming visitors to his home town.

The ride on SAM Shortline was enjoyable, as always although the train was forced to stop three times while road crews cleared power lines and trees that had fallen across the tracks. Wearing fresh blue and yellow paint, a Heart of Georgia (HOG) diesel was on the head end going to Plains and a Canadian National (CN) diesel in red and gray livery provided power back to the depot in Cordele.

Four member couples of TR-AACA who are also members of Big Bend Model Railroad Association (BBMRA) were among the 39 who rode the train. They were: Bill and Peggy O'Rourke, Bill and Nancy Thompson, Ed and E'Lane Shuler, and the Bensons.

It was either my fourth or fifth time on SAM Shortline – I've lost "track" (pun intended). But I'll be ready to ride again at the next opportunity.

This article was originally prepared for The Lantern published by Big Bend Model Railroad Assoc.



Riders gather at depot in Cordele for Plains, Ga.

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ray Bartell
- 3 Cheryl Bartell
- 5 Gene Densmore
- 6 Sue Aigotti
- 6 Fred White
- 9 Carol Love
- 9 Sue McLendon
- 10 Kedra Baumgardner
- 14 Marilyn Hamrick
- 14 Norm Madsen
- 15 Bob Brown
- 19 Bill O'Rourke
- 27 Jack Herzog
- 28 Kathy Mottice

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**



## TALLAHASSEE REGION, AACA

## MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2009

Tallahassee Antique Car Museum (Old Location)

There were approximately 48 members in attendance.

**Opening Prayer** – Richard Duley

**Welcome:** Richard Duley greeted everyone and thanked them for their attendance. There were no guests at the meeting.

**50/50 Drawing:** \$25 was won by Sharon Palmer

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer- Carol Love** - Details are available from Carol.

**Sunshine**

Shirley Moore sent a card to Bill O'Rourke in memory of his mother. Richard Duley contacted Gene Densmore. He is feeling OK, but his wife has another meeting on Tuesdays and he doesn't feel comfortable driving at night. When her meetings are over, he hopes to return to club meetings. Jay Mottice has moved back to his apartment.

**Tours- Bill O'Rourke/Bobby Hollingsworth** Cordele Train Ride and overnight tour – SAMS Short line—37 rode the train and 4 additional members drove up for the event. A T-shirt and train pin were presented to Bill as a thank you for organizing the event.

**Coming Events:**

April 17 & 18 Second Annual Autism Fund Raiser at Freedom First Assembly of God Church

April 18 J Lee Vause Park Capital City Classic Chevy Club

April 25 Milltown Murals at Lake Park, GA

May 2 Tentative Auto Museum First Anniversary Celebration and Quincy Blues & Barbeque

May 8 & 9 Cairo Great Southern Antique Car Rally at Davis Park

May 15 Claire Bridge Altera Care Center

May 23 Havana R&R for Servicemen 12-2 on the Square

May 30 Gulf Station

June 13 Soap Box Derby Summitt East— looking for boys & girls 8-17 years old to participate

June 20 Second Annual Monticello Watermelon Festival Open Car Show in memory of Wally Bentley

See club calendar for other events

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

New committee members are needed. Norm Madsen passed out flyers about the Watermelon Festival Open Car Show and stated that help will be needed from club members to park cars, sell raffle tickets and sell water.

**Program:**

Fred Heery from FL Dept. of Transportation – Safe Mobility for Life Program. Information is available at [www.SafeandMobileSeniors.org](http://www.SafeandMobileSeniors.org)

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 beginning at 6:00 pm at the old car museum.

A Board Meeting was held after the meeting to discuss Club Shirts. Carol Love will research obtaining silk screen shirts in a cotton polyester blend. Polo type blue shirts with pockets and white lettering were discussed. Carol will inquire about a round logo above the pocket and on the back. The shirts should cost about \$25 each. She will bring samples to the next meeting. She may bring a hat and jacket sample also.

The Board approved the pursuit of club shirts. Board Members present were Richard Duley, Bob and Carol Love, Bill Thompson and Norm Madsen.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lois Duley for John Schanbacher



### 2009 All American Soap Box Derby

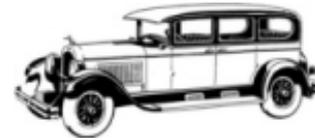
This year marks the 72nd running of the Greatest Amateur Racing event in the world...The All American Soap Box Derby (AASBD). Division Champions from race cities all across the country, representing 43 states and the District of Columbia, compete each year in Akron, Ohio in July.



The goals of the Soap Box Derby program are to promote families working together and to teach children some of the basic skills of workmanship along with the spirit of competition and the perseverance to continue a project to completion. Children learn how to cope with disappointment and also how focus brings about a champion. They develop lifelong bonds as the "derby experience" is shared and gain cherished memories that will last a lifetime. Also known as gravity racing, the All-American Soap Box Derby is the fastest growing family sport in the country. Boys and girls ages 8-17 can compete in one of three divisions: Stock, Super Stock or Masters. If you find that you can enjoy the thrill of racing and competing, you may also choose to participate in Rally Racing events around the country. **This year's local All American race is scheduled for June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009.** Last years race was a great success and a lot of fun. Don't miss out on all of the fun and excitement to take place this year. Lets GO Racing!



## Yesteryears Remember When?



From the archives of the Tallahassee Chassee -

Official Publication of The Tallahassee Region Antique Automobile Club of America

### 30 Years Ago:

Rain or Shine (of which we had some of both) found everything under control for a FINE FISH FRY, May 5, 1979, accompanied by delicious cole slaw, grits, and hush puppies, and topped off with some mighty fine Brownies. Coffee and Iced Tea were also available at the home of Arnold & Agnes Ellis. Co-hosts were Randolph & Janie Brock and Jack & Laurianne Graham. It was announced that on May 19th a joint meeting with the Pensacola and Dothan clubs would be at Marianna Caverns. The Tallahassee Region AACA members are meeting at 8 am at the University Shopping Center, then touring to Quincy for breakfast at Kittrell's Restaurant, then on to a picnic at the Marianna Park and tour of the Caverns. Some of the members are staying overnight at the Holiday Inn and having dinner together in the evening at the Inn. Sounds like a FULL DAY, eh?

Respectfully submitted,  
Gladys Bauer, Secretary

### 20 Years Ago:

May 1989 was another busy month for our club. In addition to the Great Southern Antique Car Rally, the Barkers and Allens hosted a tour to Bainbridge and Brinson, Georgia. We gathered early Saturday morning, the 20th, at the Barkers' and had breakfast also provided by the Barkers. Then after we "kicked some tires" and thoroughly looked over Milford's prized possessions, 14 antique cars departed for Bainbridge. We stopped at the Charter House Motel and Restaurant where we were met by the mayor of Bainbridge and several residents who also drove their antique cars. From the Charter House, the police escorted us, not to jail, but on a tour of historic downtown Bainbridge. There are lots of beautiful old homes there. From Bainbridge we proceeded to the quaint and old village of Brinson some 10 miles north. We then went to the Mayhaw Festival in Colquitt where we saw 38 Fords displayed and owned by one man. Bye for now, Sharon Heber

### 10 Years Ago:

*The club's printed newsletters as of May 1999 seems to have disappeared. If anyone has copies of the Chassee from 1999 please contact Bill at 385-6581. I need these to complete our Yesteryears series.*

*On another note, our club history starting with 1990 is in need of a historian/keeper who would have the interest and time to organize and assemble the paper records. The club has large scrap books from the previous three decades up to 1990 and it would be great for a committee to form and take on this task. We also need to establish a permanent storage place to keep our valuable club history. If you have some suggestions, please contact me and let me know your thoughts. We need to know when the club switched to electronic newsletters, and now begin transferring them to CDs. Your help is appreciated! Editor*



From your Reporters in the field:

### Ramblings and Rovings of Junkyard Dog & Fluffy

Well, here we go. Junk Yard Dog has been wanting to get into this yard for 19 years. Fluffy and Wallace went along too. We saw Corvette and vintage Chevy cars and trucks all over the place. Fluffy got hung in a vine and ate a little dirt, but I told them I was checking the under side of a Studebaker truck. We saw Model T and Model A's along side some street rod stuff. Edsel and Corvair were well represented too. There was a VW Thing and other stuff too numerous to name. I think Junk Yard got a few pictures. This was only about a third of the yard, so we will have to go back again later. This is short and not so sweet. I will try to do better next time. Ever on the trail, Fluffy



Some nice CHEVEES Man!



A Model A fixer-upper



Looks like a 1959 or 1960 Vette that just needs washing right?



### Things of Interest to the Hobby

#### News from National AACA

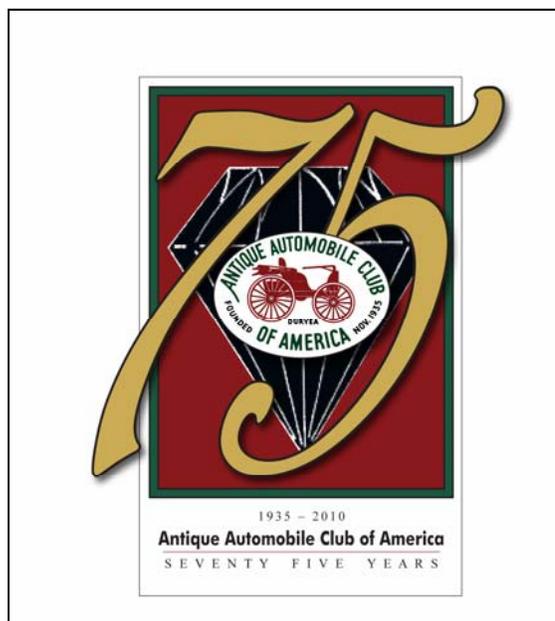
Dear Region President:

Next year is a historical year for AACA as we will be celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! The history of our club along with our region and chapters should make an interesting story to tell and we want to do just that! However, we want to make our past come alive in a unique way. As such, the contemplated book we will be doing will have a twist in the story telling. Here is where you come in. We want a story about your region or chapter. However, you have the freedom to tell us the most interesting things about your group whether it is a special event you did, a regular event you hold, a special character in your club, the unique history or anything else that you think might be of interest to our readers. Put yourself in their place and think about what YOU would enjoy reading. Give us some great pictures to go along with the story. Be creative! Tell us your story in your way. Please send your information to

[75thRegionInfo@aaca.org](mailto:75thRegionInfo@aaca.org) **WE NEED THIS INFORMATION BY JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup>...IMPORTANT DEADLINE.**

Contact Steve Moskowitz at [aaca1@aaca.org](mailto:aaca1@aaca.org) if you have any questions or call 717-534-1910

Thanks,





## Easter Weekend Tour to Plains by Ed Shuler

We were in HOG heaven on Friday and Saturday of Easter weekend. Forty-one of us TRAACCA members took a ride on the Heart of Georgia railroad, affectionately known as "The Hog", which is a state-owned train also known as the SAM Shortline Excursion Train. But I'm getting ahead of myself. The plan for this tour event was for all of us to meet at the Comfort Inn in Cordele, Georgia, Friday evening, April 10<sup>th</sup>, and have dinner together at the Golden Corral. That was an enjoyable venture and E'lane documented it well by taking lots of pictures. However, E'lane and I got a jump on things by going up a day early on back roads and touring the general area. We found some junk stores in the process, several in Vienna, Georgia, about nine miles north of Cordele. We loaded up on stuff we couldn't live without and we had to measure the backseat of the car to be sure one of them would fit.

Some unexpected excitement came that night when a front swept through the area after we went to bed and the city's tornado-warning sirens started sounding off. They went off twice before it was all clear. Many of us took shelter in the lobby to watch the Weather Channel and to prepare for the worst. It had the atmosphere of a hurricane party down there. Those that didn't sleep through the whole thing were a little groggy the next morning from losing so much sleep. We were all thankful that it was all for nothing; although, many other areas were hit by tornados and straight-line winds that night.

Around 9 o'clock Saturday morning, we all proceeded to drive the few blocks over to the SAM station. "The HOG" departed Cordele at 10 and scheduled stops were Americus, Plains and the Jimmy Carter farm. However, there were two or three unscheduled stops along the way as crews had to clear the tracks of storm debris - it was a pretty rough night in the area weather wise. Our train passed by a house that had four trees down on it and a nursery that was completely destroyed; not to mention dozens of downed pecan trees in an orchard we traveled through.

We only had about an hour to spend in Americus - shortened due to the unscheduled stops along the way. In Americus, we visited the nearby Habitat For Humanity display that included examples of the various types of homes they build in many foreign lands. It was quite interesting.

But the real treat awaited us in Plains. There, the "Plains Classic Car Show" was on-going with over 90 cars participating and who was walking amongst the cars himself - none other than Jimmy Carter! He was picking out his favorite for the "President's Award". Many people got him to pose for a picture with them and he was very accommodating about it. The fun I had with him though was talking cars. He told me that his favorite car of all time was a '48 Studebaker and he never owned a Ford! Some of us would praise him for that, but personally, I like Fords - and I like Studebakers too. I told him the details about several of the cars he was looking at as to year, make, originality, etc. and when he was admiring a beautiful 1960 Chevy, I told him so much about the car he asked me if I were the owner! I told him no, but that I know all about these old cars. It was surreal to walk and talk with a President of the United States - what an honor - and to talk to him about old cars was really a thrill. We made the return train ride to Cordele, arriving around 5 o'clock. Then we checked out the SAM gift shop and afterward many of us met at the local Cracker Barrel restaurant for dinner before returning to Tallahassee. It was a fun-filled tour and I'm sorry for anyone that missed it.



**Want to see some of the most beautiful antique cars ever?** Just copy this web site into your browser and enjoy! Thanks to John Schanbacher for alerting us to this gem.

[www.billsretroworld.com/cars.htm](http://www.billsretroworld.com/cars.htm)

### **Great 1965 Chevrolet TV Commercial**

To view just type or copy this into Google and watch the video—fun!

### **YOUTUBE—1965 Chevrolet TV Commercial**

Thanks to Jack Hanbury

## **AACA Calendar of Events for 2009**

**May 4-9 AACA**  
Founders Tour- Midland, Texas, West Texas Region

**May 28-30 AACA**  
Eastern Spring Meet - Gettysburg, Pennsylvania  
Gettysburg Region

**June 4-6 AACA**  
Central Spring Meet - Prior Lake, Minnesota  
Minnesota Region

**June 11-13 AACA**  
Southeastern Special Spring Meet - Lebanon, Tenn., Middle Tennessee Region

**August 23-28 AAA**  
Glidden Tour- Golden, Colorado  
Rocky Mountain Region

**September 18**  
AACA Grand National Meet- Topeka, Kansas  
Topeka Region

**September 17-19**  
AACA Central Fall Meet- Topeka, Kansas,  
Topeka Region

**October 7-10**  
AACA Eastern Fall Meet - Hershey, Pennsylvania  
Hershey Region

**November 5-7**  
AACA Western Fall Meet- LaQuinta, California  
Sun 'n Sand Region



## My First 100 Days as President

I know the President of the United States has many more global situations and issues than I do, but I can relate to him in some ways. After all we are both first term Presidents!

When I was just a “member” my time in the club was much more relaxing and less time consuming. Now that I am president, my attention is focused on many more issues and opportunities concerning the club. I am now thinking and planning many months in advance for all the meetings, tours and business items that come before the club.

So far this year we have addressed our meeting meal cost, charitable donations, national meeting attendance, guest speakers, new member directory, and several successful club outings. There is a lot of planning that goes on behind the scenes. I am extremely thankful for all the input and support I receive from the Executive Board and members. We are members of a big family and I think we do a pretty good job of meeting most of everyone’s needs and wishes.

I also wanted to give a lot of credit to the ladies in the club. I think we would have a different club personality without them and their presence. Just a bunch of guys talking car stuff would not fulfill the needs of our club. Thank you ladies!

There is one item that I will be asking for comments on and help, and that is how to juggle all the different events that are available to the members of the club. My goal this year was to have at least one club outing for the club each month. This would be the outing that we wanted the most overall club participation. We would promote this event and have it on the club calendar. It would be planned well enough in advance so we could all reserve the date and not plan things in its place.

However, I am learning that there is an almost overwhelming amount of events that keep popping up. Some of them provide enough time for advance planning and others with no time or sketchy information for the club to properly participate. It would be nice if we could accommodate everyone and have unlimited time. Usually the club president has to respond quickly to requests and without time to consult with club members on how many can participate or who may even be available.

I would like to create an area for these events called “Optional Events”. The club would post them on the website as such. Every member would have an opportunity to add items to the list. We could place flyers and notices with the event so everyone would have access to the information on a real time basis. Sometimes it is too late to announce it at a meeting.

Our next club sponsored event is on June 20, 2009 at the Monticello Watermelon Festival. I hope everyone will plan on participating and help out.

Thanks for a great First 100 Days

Richard Duley

*Editor's Note: Thanks to the following members for contributing to the **Chassee** this month: Larry Benson, Richard Duley, Lois Duley, Craig McCollum, John Schanbacher, Jack Hanbury, Bobby Hollingsworth, Ed Shuler & Bob Love.*



At the next TRAACA club meeting, we will be presenting a proposal to the general membership to obtain new shirts for club members. A meeting of the board after the April meeting decided to go with new shirts of a different color (than the white with red lettering) and to find a new vendor. We have found both. We have a vendor for polo shirts in both men's and women's styled polo shirts with collars, three buttons and pockets on the men's shirt. The color decided upon was royal blue with white lettering/logos. The shirts will cost members \$18 each which will net the club treasury a few dollars on each purchase. Please come prepared to discuss our color choice and the proposal for the shirts and if the proposal goes forward, we will be taking orders for shirts at that time. Payments may be made at the time of order or upon receipt of the shirts if you prefer. The same vendor can do magnetic signs for vehicles, ball caps and banners if the club wishes to pursue obtaining them. We won't have sample shirts but will have a picture to give everyone an idea of how good you will look in the new TRAACA motif! Be there and be prepared to be amazed. - Bob Love



## Notes from the Editor's Desk

OK, so we're in a recession. This makes me start thinking more about how to save money so I'm thinking once again about why our club still does printed monthly newsletters instead of all electronic ones. Of our 70 names on the club roster, 63 have email addresses! Yet, we continue to print and mail out paper newsletters to 42 households. This does not make sense when electronic newsletters sent via e-mail are instantaneous allowing news to reach you the day before an important club event instead of waiting on "snail mail". You can magnify the pages as large as you want to read and see the pictures better, brighter and sharper! Most members also have the option of printing out the newsletter at home if they want. The costs for printed newsletters by our club continues to rise. We pay for paper, ink and stamps each month that averages \$ 40 per month. This is not necessary. While we still are required to mail 5 copies to national AACA headquarters and directors, only 7 members without computers should qualify for a mailed newsletter. Think about this.

*Bill Thompson*

## Our 1935 Plymouth at the Milltown Murals Motorcade 2009 by Craig McCollum

Our 1935 Plymouth loves to drive up to Lakeland, Georgia the last Saturday in April every year. In 2005 Nell Roquemore invited antique car owners in surrounding states to participate in the celebration of the Milltown murals. There are now over 30 murals painted on Lakeland's downtown buildings depicting the history of the town as it was in 1925. The event starts with the old cars, trucks and tractors parked downtown. Club members we saw were the Brock's with their 1936 Dodge, Bill Brundage with copilot Jack Hanbury in a 1955 Mercury and Peter Zulinke with his 1931 Chevrolet. Around 1 PM the cars formed a motorcade and drove to Roquemore Park for lemonade, popcorn, ice cream and entertainment. Our Plymouth doesn't like the slow pace of the motorcade because it is geared for the open road. Plymouth advertising touted a floating engine mounted on 3 rubber mounts with the front of the engine hanging so that it could rock. For 1935 the cars weight was re-distributed like the famous "Airflow" cars to give a floating ride. The all steel body and hydraulic brakes made this a new "High-Speed Safety Car". The engine was all new for 1935 and was so good it could be a direct swap for any Plymouth engine right up to the last year's production in 1959. Introduced this year was a vacuum advance that automatically retards or advances the spark to match engine load. This keeps the engine running smoothly throughout the range of speeds as well as increasing gas mileage. These features along with other features make the 1935 Plymouth a pleasure to drive on the back roads to and from Lakeland.





**Tallahassee Region  
Antique Automobile Club of America**

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411 Timber Run, Havana, FL 32333-5564

**Next Meeting**

at  
The Former Antique Auto Museum  
May 12, 2009  
6:00 p.m. for Dinner

**Menu:**

Spaghetti with tossed salad, bread, cookies and tea

**Program:**

Speaker will be Phillip Jackson from University Chevrolet. He will be presenting a short talk on "Fixing the newer Cars".

**Monthly Cruise-Ins**

**Sonic/Hardees on North Monroe**  
1st Saturday each Month (just north of Capital Circle)

**What-A-Burger Drive-In on Thomasville Road**  
2nd Sat—Ford & Chevy Clubs  
Last Sat—Street Rod Club

**Helen's Silver Bullet Diner on Apalachee Parkway**  
3rd Sat each month

**Regional Events**

**May 2009**

**15th**— 3 pm, Cruise In & Visitation at 1980 Centre Pointe Blvd. Talla. Contact Penny Weimer @ 309-7500 for info.

**23rd** – Noon, Memorial Day Cruise In for The Troops, Havana, Florida: R&R, bring your car, park and talk.

**30th**— Gulf Station in Quincy open for AACA—3rd year

**June 2009**

**20th**— Monticello Watermelon Festival Open Car Show 10am—2pm

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