

Driver's Seat



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About SGCCC

The **South Georgia Classic Car Club** was founded in April, 1984 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration, preservation, and enjoyment of special interest automobiles.

The Driver's Seat is the official publication of the **SGCCC**. It is printed, published, and distributed during the last week of each month to all club members. All information contained herein is not necessarily the opinion or the position of club members, its officers, and/or advertisers.

To submit content for inclusion in the newsletter, please e-mail the editor, editor@sgccc.org or mail to **SGCCC Newsletter**, 4017 N Oak St Ext, Valdosta, GA 31605. All other correspondence should be sent to, **SGCCC**, P.O. Box 403, Valdosta, GA 31603, or e-mail to: president@sgccc.org

Your Officers

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Rick Hastings

1st Vice President:

David Boyd

2nd Vice President:

Walt Prettyman

Secretary:

Bob Raffaele

Treasurer:

Donna Roberson

Chaplain:

Paul Worth

Driver's Seat Editor:

David Boyd

Web Master:

Madonna Terry

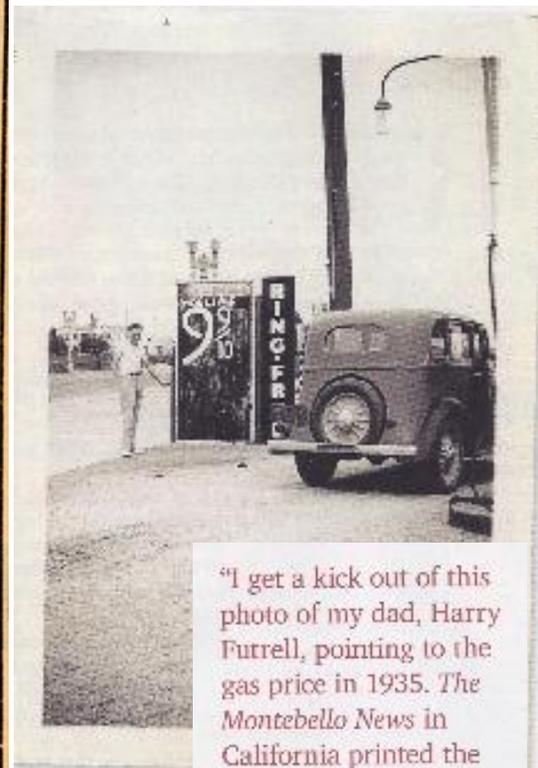
A Little Nostalgia

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1949 Ford Tudor	1095.00
1947 Chevrolet Fordor	695.00
1947 Ford Tudor	795.00
1946 Chevrolet Fordor	695.00
1946 Packard Fordor	695.00
1947 Nash Brougham Tudor	695.00
1939 Ford Tudor	175.00
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1942 Nash Fordor	395.00
1950 Ford 1/2 ton panel	995
1949 Ford 3/4 ton express	995
1948 Ford stake pickup	895
1948 Dodge pickup	795

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"I get a kick out of this photo of my dad, Harry Futrell, pointing to the gas price in 1935. *The Montebello News* in California printed the picture in 1974, when gas had just topped 50 cents a gallon."

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How about that 3-digit telephone number!



Dayton Beach in the mid 1950s

Minutes

January 6, 2015

Meeting:

- The meeting was convened at 6:55 pm by Club President, Rick Hastings, at Austin's Cattle Company.
- The Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Paul Worth and Rick Hastings respectively.
- There were 22 members in attendance.
- President Rick Hastings laid out his focus for the upcoming year. He would like to increase club membership by attracting new members, but more importantly keep the current ones. Having fun events/trips as well as monthly meetings and cruise-ins should help with our growth.

Minutes:

The December minutes were read by Secretary Bob Raffaele and approved as read.

Treasurer's Report:

- Donna Roberson gave the December Treasurer's Report.
- She also presented a detailed breakdown of the income/expenses relating to the Sheriff's Youth Home Christmas Party. After all expenses for food, gifts and gift cards were tallied a balance of \$835 was left in the Youth Home fund.

Old Business:

Rick mentioned the club participation in the Valdosta Christmas parade was well received and appreciated by the organizers. VSU President McKinney sent a handwritten thank you note of appreciation.

New Business:

A motion was made and approved by those present to donate the \$835 remaining in the Sheriff's Youth Home Christmas to their Scholarship Fund. Walt Prettyman, club member and Sheriff's Youth Home Board member, will present our check at their next board meeting.

Future Events:

- The Dasher Historical Society would like club members and their cars at the Saturday March 14th Open House.
- Also on March 14th, the AACA is having a show in Palatka, FL.
- On Sunday, March 15th members are encouraged to participate in the Valdosta Azalea Festival show. Details on the above can be found on the club website.

Walt Prettyman won the 50/50 drawing.

Meeting: Adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by Bob Raffaele, Club Secretary.

President's Report

C. Rick Hastings

Happy February Everyone. Typically, the coldest month for those of us in the South as well as the shortest month of the year. And, of course, Happy Valentine's Day everyone. It is jokingly said that Valentine's Day was created by the candy companies, florists and Hall Mark. Not true, of course, but it is a reminder for us to tell and show those whom we love how special and important they are to us. And don't forget to take your number one out for a good dinner and maybe even a movie.

Let me thank everyone for attending our two cruise-ins for the month of January. Our second Saturday cruise-in was well attended with many walk-up and drive-by spectators. The Winn-Dixie in Lake Park cruise-in was successful as well. Despite the cold weather and wind, over twelve brave souls attended and were paid off nicely by all the on-lookers and spectators with their words of approval and questions. Unfortunately, the third Thursday cruise-in had to be cancelled due to the weather.

Up-coming activities for club members and guests include our monthly meeting scheduled on Tuesday, February 3rd at Austin's Steak House from 6-8pm. The second Saturday cruise-in will be February 14th at Steak N' Shake from 3-6 pm. And the third Thursday cruise-in on the 19th will be from 4-6pm at Steak N' Shake as well. And don't forget about the winter swap meet at Spence Field in Moultrie on February 6-8.

Keep your copy of the *Driver's Seat* handy to keep track of everything going on. And, of course, consult our Facebook page and our website, <http://SGCCC.org>, for on-going updates of club activities, car shows, etc.

Let's have a great month.... .Rick

The Story of Leaded Gasoline

Richard Lasseter

In 1921, a young engineer at General Motors named Thomas Midgeley Jr. discovered that when he added a compound called tetraethyl lead (TEL) to gasoline, he could eliminate the unpleasant clatter known as "knock" or "pinging" that internal-combustion engines make when they run. Midgeley could scarcely have imagined the consequences of his discovery. For more than five decades, oil companies would add TEL to the gasoline they sold. Of course, we now know that "lead" is a deadly poison. It's a viscous liquid that is easily absorbed through the skin. But let's go back a few years.

In 1911, a scientist named Charles Kettering, Midgeley's boss at GM, invented an electric ignition system for internal-combustion cars that made their old-fashioned hand-cranked starters obsolete. That made driving a gas-fueled auto much less troublesome, but unfortunately, as more and more people bought GM cars, more and more people began to notice a problem. As the engines began to heat up, they made a strange yet muffled racket ... like marbles rattling and clattering around inside

the engine.

Kettering and Midgeley eventually discovered that ordinary gasoline, ignited under compression, was much too explosive for spark-ignited car engines. The fuel would explode rather than burn at a controlled rate. In other words, what we now call the fuel's octane (a measure of its resistance to explosive detonation), was too low. To raise the fuel's octane level with branched-chain hydrocarbons (like "iso-octane") made the gasoline less prone to detonation and "knocking". Midgeley wrote later that he initially tried mixing gasoline with almost anything he could think of, from "melted butter and camphor to ethyl acetate and aluminum chloride...[but] most of these had no more effect than spitting into the Great Lakes."

He found a couple of additives that did work, however, and the viscous liquid lead compound TEL was just one of them. Iodine also worked, but producing it in large quantities was much too complicated. Ethyl alcohol also worked, and it was cheap, however, anyone with an ordinary still could make it, which meant that GM could not patent it or profit from it. Thus, from a corporate

point of view, lead was the cheapest and best anti-knock additive there was.

In February 1923, a Dayton filling station sold the first tankful of leaded gasoline. A few GM engineers witnessed this big moment, but Midgeley did not because he was in bed with severe lead poisoning. He did recover in April 1924, although lead poisoning killed two of his less lucky fellow colleagues, and in October, five workers at a Standard Oil lead plant died too after what one reporter called "wrenching fits of violent insanity." Almost 40 of the plant's workers suffered severe neurological symptoms like hallucinations and seizures.

Even with the deadly attributes found in TEL exposure, auto and oil companies denied that TEL posed any health risks, but finally, in the early 1970's, the Environmental Protection Agency required that car makers phase out engines that required leaded gasoline in automobiles sold here in the United States. Leaded gasoline is still in use in some off-road racing sports and in some parts of Eastern Europe, South America and the Middle East.



Yes, E10 did make it to market in the early to mid 1900's, although we are not exactly sure why it was needed. After all, this was a half-century before the EPA days and the banning of leaded gasoline!

February 2015

- 7 - Bainbridge Cruisers Cruise Dairy Queen, Bainbridge, GA Info: Lee West 229-246-4694
- 7 - Tallahassee Cruise-In Sonic, 5814 North Monroe Street 5:30pm until
- 7 - Albany Cruise-In Location: San Joe's in Leesburg 5pm start time
- 1 - Tallahassee Street Rodders Museum Cruise Antique Car Museum, 6800 Mahan Dr 1-5pm <http://www.tally-streetrodders.com>
- 1 - Webster Swap Meet Sumter County Fairgrounds, Bushnell, FL 8am-2pm info: 800-438-8559 www.floridaswapmeets.com
- 3 - SGCCC Monthly Business Meeting Austin's Cattle Company 2101 West Hill Avenue Valdosta, GA eat at 6:00, meet at 7:00
- 5 - Live Oak Cruise, Huddle House (Hwy 129 & I-10), Live Oak, FL 6-9pm info: Ralph Towner 386-752-4725
- 6-8—Moultrie Swap Meet—Spence Field 8:00am-6:00pm on Friday & Saturday, 9:00am-4:00pm on Sunday.
- 14 - Valdosta Cruise-In at Steak N' Shake parking lot, Valdosta, GA, St Augustine Rd (I-75 exit 18) 3-6pm
- 19 - Valdosta Cruise-In at Steak N' Shake parking lot, Valdosta, GA, St Augustine Rd (I-75 exit 18) 3-6pm
- 11 - Tallahassee What-A-Burger Cruise Ford & Chevy Clubs 1101 Thomasville Road, 5:30-8:30pm info: Reuben Plachy 850-894-5815
- 11 - Tallahassee What-A-Burger Cruise 1101 Thomasville Road, info: Joe Clark 850-385-3959 or Steve Curvey 750-383-0651
- 21 - Thomasville Pecan Region Car Club Cruise Dairy Queen, 14375 Hwy 19S, 6:30pm until info: Steve Gordon 229-226-2266
- 21 - Monticello Cruise-In at Rare Door Restaurant North Cherry St, Monticello, FL 5pm until info: 850-997-0607
- 21 - Albany Artesian City Car Club Cruise-In Mellow Mushroom, 2825 Nottingham Way 5pm until info: Wendell Hill 229-435-2560
- 21 - Perry Cruise-In 221 N. Jefferson St. Perry, GA 6-9 p.m. Call Bob Taylor, 672-0848
- 25 - Lake City Hardee's West Cruise info: Ralph Towner 386-752-4725
- 28 - Tallahassee What-A-Burger Cruise 1101 Thomasville Rd, info: <http://www.tally-streetrodders.com>

Call the contact person before leaving for an out of town cruise to be sure it has not been moved or cancelled.
See the SGCCC web site (www.sgccc.org) for more info and flyers on these events.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 Sue Worth	6	7
8	9	10	11 Harry Farmer	12	13	
15	16	17 Andrea LaValley	18 Chris Bremer	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Buddy Walker Terry Burton	28 Dane Trantham

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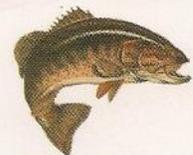
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South Georgia Classic Car Club

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Next Meeting:

Tuesday, **February 3, 2015**

Eat @ 6:00

Meet @ 6:45

Austin's Cattle Company

2101 West Hill Avenue

Cruise: February 14, 2015

Steak 'n Shake parking lot

3:00pm until 6:00pm

Thurs Cruise: February 19, 2015

Steak 'n Shake parking lot

4:00—6:00pm



Graphics Arts Department at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Cover Photo

The **124 Sport Spider** is a 2+2 convertible sports car marketed by Fiat from 1966 to 1980. What a great little car to cruise in on Valentine's Day !

Editor's Comments

February—the shortest month of the year. In South Georgia, it is usually the turning point of winter. Some of the coldest days of the year typically occur in February, but we also witness the first bursting into bloom of the Azaleas. When this happens, we know Spring cannot be far behind.

Valentine's Day occurs near the middle of the month. I trust many of you will be able to spend some quality time with that one who is special to you. You can even cruise with your special someone on Valentine's Day to our monthly cruise-in at Steak N' Shake. Perhaps this will bring back some neat memories of cruises in your younger days. These cruise-ins are always a lot of fun, but let's try to make the Valentine's Day Cruise-in extra special!

Thanks to Richard Lasseter for the article about leaded gasoline. Thanks also to Larry Kolb for some nostalgic clip-pings that appear on page 2.

The Annual Automotive Swap Meet in Moultrie is on first

weekend in February (6th -8th). This should be a great show with many opportunities to spend some of your extra cash, and see some neat rides. Visit their website at this url for more information:

<http://www.moultrieswapmeet.com/>

Be sure to visit the club website <http://sgccc.org/> for the calendar of events.

Hope to see many of you at the club meeting or one of the cruise-ins this month. Bring a young friend. Let's try to recruit some younger folks into our club by sharing our passion for classic automobiles with them.

Happy Cruising!

David Boyd, editor

