

Chapter News

Cape Fear Chapter

By Bob Plassman

Dateline Wilmington, October 24th:

Dispatch received notice early in the morning of a strange noise coming from the river front across from Downtown Wilmington. Investigation revealed that the noise was in fact a group of blue shirted car club members performing an Anti Rain Meditation, in preparation for the NC Regional Show to be held at Battleship Park.

Full details are contained in a separate report on that show.

Yes, we received a lot of attention to the recently held NC Regional Car Show, and our club members worked hard to polish our chrome!

We all enjoyed the event, and hope that our visitors did as well. The club members all agreed that we don't need to wait another 20 years to host another Region Show.

We made a special trip on November 14th to Mike's Farm, in nearby Beaulaville, and invited other clubs in the area to join us on this fun trip. The British Motor Car Club of Wilmington took us up on the offer, and joined a caravan that totaled 20 vehicles tooling up the coastal plain that Saturday afternoon. Mike's Farm serves good old country cooking family style; for the folks in the western part of the state, the Daniel Boone Inn in Boone, and the Shatley Springs Manor in Shatley Springs also serve family style...plenty of meat, potatoes, bread, vegetables, and deserts. All you can eat for one standard price. We didn't have to wait long on the wrap around porch before our hunger was satisfied by the delicious and bountiful spread laid out for us. It is a good thing our classic rides are able to handle the occasional "heavy" loads! We look forward to a return visit soon.

Holiday celebrations include parades, and we have a bunch of them in our area. The season kick off is the NC Flotilla Car Show, held in Wrightsville Beach on November 28th. Then comes the breathtaking Festival of Lights Parade in Carolina Beach, where each vehicle is brightly lit for the celebration, and each proud owner tries to make his/her vehicle even more festive than the next one. This is a small parade in a small town, but the glow and the festive atmosphere has no comparison anywhere.

The City of Wilmington Holiday Parade always features our club members' classic cars, especially the convertibles that provide transportation to VIPs. This parade is telecast by the local NBC affiliate, so we can record ourselves to enjoy the event over and over.

Neighboring towns of Leland and Burgaw have their Christmas Parades on December 12th, and Bolivia's Christmas parade wraps up the season with their parade on December 19th. This parade is the only one in the area that still allows the parade participants to reward the parade viewers with gifts of candy, so we will be "sweet" to our admirers.

Our club celebrates by giving ourselves a Christmas Party, held this year on December 10th at the Bluewater Grill in Wrightsville Beach. At this party we fete the outgoing officers with awards for their services, and officially recognize the incoming officers for 2010. Gary Henderson will be serving as president, Bob Lancaster will serve as the vice president, Brian Nunn will continue for another year as treasurer, as will Bob Plassman as secretary. Jim McKernan will step in as Member at Large for 2010.

As the new year begins, our club's goal is to maintain our hobby and enhance our presence in our community by sharing our treasured vehicles through car shows, tours, parades, workshops, and special visits to schools and retirement facilities. The enthusiasm of the public is contagious, and pushes our members to "keep on shinin".

Happy New Year, everyone!