



Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club, Inc Newsletter

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July 2019 Hoover, Alabama



Birmingham Area Cruise-in Schedule for 2019

Visit www.DVAAC.com for details

You may mail your dues check to our treasurer, Jim Likis, 4572 Eagle Point Drive, Birmingham, Al 35242. Checks should be made payable to Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club. Thank you!"

Dixie Vintage Events

Saturday, July 6, 2019
Hoover Tactical
1651 Montgomery Hwy, Hoover, Alabama 7 am to 11 am
The Radio Station 106.9, The Eagle, will be with us from 8 am until 10 am with music and giveaways.
Also, O'Reilly Auto Parts will provide a a cookout.

Our next business meeting will be held Monday evening at 6:00 pm, September 8, 2019. It will tentatively be held in the cafe area of Hoover Tactical.

The winners of our raffle drawings were: Ronnie Yancey Rod Brittain Larry Huff Bob Feld

Non-Dixie Vintage Events

Shine' EM, Show Them, Car Truck & Motorcycle show, Saturday, July 27th, 9:AM - 1:PM Pell City Lakeside Park 2801 Stemley Bridge Road, Pell City Johnny Capp, 205-531-5480

See Dixie Vintage web-site for regular monthly events.

Dues are \$20.00 per year and include a Dixie Vintage decal for your show vehicle (below right). You may pay your dues at the Dixie Vintage Tent on Cruise-In days or mail a check made payable

to Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club, Inc. to Jim Likis, 4572 Eagle Point Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35242.

"Dixie Vintage Cruise-in at Hoover Tactical"

The Cruise-in will be from 7:00AM until 11:00AM, the first Saturday of each month.

Upon arrival at the cruise-in please park in spaces closest to Hwy 31 between Hoover Tactical and O'Reilly Auto parts. The other side of the parking lot is reserved for Hoover Tactical customers.

O'Reilly Auto parts. The other side of the parking lot is reserved for Hoover Tactical customers.

The club will provide one Krispy Kreme doughnut and a cup of coffee for members and visitors who bring their old car. Doughnuts will be served from 7:30 until 9:30AM. The serving time is limited because Hoover tactical has a restaurant that opens later and we do not want to compete with them. Please patronize our new partner, Hoover Tactical! We may adjust the doughnut & coffee times for future cruise-ins.



New Process for Ordering Name Tags

Dixie Vintage has streamlined the process for ordering name tags. This new process will expedite the delivery of your nametag to your home. The member needing a name tag will complete an order form and mail it with payment to Crown Trophy. The finished name tag will be mailed to you.

We encourage each of our members to own and wear a Dixie Vintage Car Club name tag. We really do want to get to know you. The cost of the name tag is \$10.00.



Newsletter Editor

Do you have a classic car story?

Are you working on a restoration project?

Please let us know. Pat or John Krauser Cell: 205-276-4423 or Email: jekbest@aol.com

New Car Members

New members are:

Tom and Darlene Krippene 1961 and 1973 Corvettes

Tim and Joyce Godwin 1957 Chevy Bel Air

Dan and Laorel Yanarella 1994 Mustang GT 5.0

Wayne Moore 1955 Chevy Bel Air and 1955 Chevy Nomad

Pictured are cars similar to those owned by our new members.









Dixie Vintage Antique

Automobile Club

The Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club Newsletter is published monthly by Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club, Inc., a non-profit Alabama Corporation. The purpose of this Club is to promote interest in restoring and preserving antique, classic, and special interest old cars; and to provide a social club for members and their families of mutual interest to all. Monthly meetings and activities are conducted in a variety of locations. We encourage membership from other automobile clubs and orphan marquees.

The only requirement to become a member of Dixie Vintage Antique Automobile Club, Inc. is an interest in the history and preservation of automobiles.

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Gary Adams, Webmaster

The State of Charge

by

John E. Krauser

While trying to organize the office area of my car garage I found a book "Automotive Electrical Systems". It was first published in 1952 by the American Technical Society of Chicago, U.S.A. 1952 was a long time ago -- wait a minute, that's the year I was born! There were interesting facts in the book that I will mention. I'll also add some notes about the modifications done to the 6.3v system of yesteryear. The advantages of 12.6-volt systems, alternator charging units, a voltmeter instead of a current meter and good grounds are widely known and therefore will not be discussed in any detail here.

In 1952 about 20 million car batteries were sold in the USA. During that time service stations charged about 60 million batteries at gross profit of \$55 million. That action was considered big business and very profitable. Wally's Service Station attendant Gomer Pyle had to delay his singing audition in the Mayberry Town Hall so he could charge a battery for Miss Crump.

This book also talks about cutting the battery apart, repairing bad cells, and resealing the case. Glad those days are behind us. Remember the hydrometer? You know, that device that measured specific gravity to indicate how well the battery was charged. In a tropical climate a full charge was 1.225 while a temperate climate had a reading of 1.275 to 1.300. The higher reading makes the battery less likely to freeze.

The 6.3-volt systems needed larger gauge wire and very good electrical connections to function at all. DC generators started charging when a driving speed of about 20 miles an hour was reached. A good battery was necessary. There are 6.3-volt alternators available now that provide better charging capacity for those who still have the 6.3-volt system in their ride.

Most 6.3-volt generators provide 30-35 amps of current. The alternators mentioned usually provide 50 amps of current. Current meters were used to indicate charge/discharge conditions of the system. The meter's current capability was matched to the generator's maximum current output. If you upgrade to a 50-amp charging device the meter should be rebuilt and labeled to handle the larger current provided. And a gauge or two larger wire should be installed between the charging unit, current meter and battery. Running too much current for too long through the meter may burn the meter's shunt resistor and coils causing them to open. There will no longer be a charging circuit at this point.

In some cases, the 6.3-volt battery was replaced with an 8.4-volt battery. Sounds like a good idea. But the battery voltage is the heart of the electrical system. All electrical devices depend on this voltage to be correct as designed by the manufacturer. Sure, the starter will turnover quicker and possibly get the engine running in short order. The voltage regulator will need to be adjusted out of specifications to provide a higher voltage for the 8.4-volt battery charging requirements.

Gauges must be accurate to provide the driver with proper information about the car's operating systems. Think about the fuel gauge. Battery voltage is supplied to one side of the gauge while a sending unit is attached to the other side. In the case of Studebaker, the fuel sending unit varies the resistance in the ground or return circuit. When the tank is full of fuel the sender has little or no resistance. Thus, the gauge has full voltage across its terminals indicating a full tank. As the fuel level drops, resistance is added to the ground side and the gauge no longer deflects as far indicating a drop in the fuel level. A higher voltage on the gauge may cause it to deflect farther towards full than designed. The reading on the gauge is no longer accurate.

The temperature gauge on a Studebaker is another example. The ground or return side of the gauge is connected to a heat sensor mounted in the engine head. The sensor's resistance is high when cold thus the voltage across the gauge is near zero. There is no deflection of the gauge until the sensor heats up. As it heats the resistance drops and the gauge starts to deflect indicating heating of the engine. With a higher voltage across the gauge's terminals the deflection of the pointer will most likely be greater. The heat gauge will not give a proper indication of the engine's temperature.

12.6 v systems were becoming common in the 1950s. Generators, still common provided 35 amps of current at 12.6 volts and could handle about twice power demand as 6.3-volt systems with the same current output. More and brighter lights were becoming the norm, radios, heater and defrost fans were installed. Cigar lighters were installed in many of the ash trays. By the early 60's alternators were starting to make an appearance. The electrical demands required a more efficient way to provide current for all devices including charging the battery. Air conditioning systems were starting to become available in vehicles as well.

Continued on page 8.



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Frank Rush provided these pictures from the April "Dixie Vintage Cruise-In at Hoover Tactical". There were many good pics in the folder so I have used some more of them. June's "Dixie Vintage at "Hoover Tac" event was full of good looking cars as well.











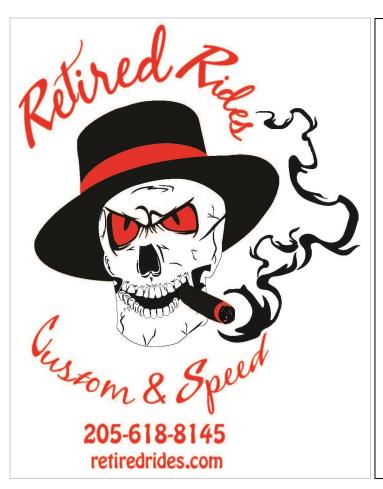












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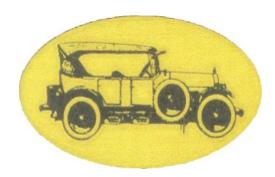
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For Sale: DVAAC member Larry Riggs is selling four wheel covers from 1968-82 GM Corvette/Camaro. The price is \$100.00 for all four. Larry's number is 205-937-1005.

Continued from page 3.

I added AC to an existing vehicle with a 12.6v-35-amp generator and external voltage regular. The regular's current circuit connections melted after a year's use. I replaced it once. The generator failed about a year later. The current draw was around 30 amps with headlights and AC on, thus pushing the system's ability to keep up on a continuous basis. That left little current to charge the battery. I replaced the charging system with a 50-amp alternator and eliminated charging issues. I added a large gauge wire for the charging circuit. The current meter still needs an upgrade to 50 amps. AC systems power source should be directly from the battery with an inline fuse. I saw an AC installation where the voltage supply was routed through the ignition switch. Ignition switches are not designed to handle that much current.

Manufacturers design automotive electrical systems to meet current demands with a little room for expansion. Cost is always a factor. There are so many options on the market for additional electrical devices to install in our rides. Who would have thought a cigar lighter could be used to charge a cell phone. In this case a reduction in current is realized. Directly or indirectly all electrical devices interact with each other. One change or addition can make a huge difference in the way the current flows. Avoiding heating issues with the electrical system is a must. Making sure the battery is charged is not an option when it is time to "Light it up Lester". See you at the next show.

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