



# The Red Clay Rambler



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## Jeff's Ramblings... ... by Jeff Barfield

Our last meeting at the Roadhouse Grill was very productive. We assigned jobs for the regional and had plenty of volunteers. The list is as follows:

Ordering of t-shirts, dash plaques and awards	Jeff Reeves
50/50 raffle	Jerry & Julie Belk
Door Prizes	Ron Waters
Goodie bag stuff	George Doughtie
Registration table	Jim & Chris Graubard
Parking	Steve O'Neal
Hospitality room	Karen O'Neal
Spark plug changing contest	Jeff Puras
Dash cards	Jeff Barfield
Name tags	Theresa Barfield
Pre-registration	Jeff & Theresa Barfield
Signs	Jeff Puras
Artwork for t-shirts and dash plaques	Dave Glenn
Contacting vendors	Ron Waters
Judging	Will ask Carolina AMC

Although the jobs are assigned to individuals, most of these functions will require a host of people to perform. The above mentioned people are only in charge of being sure that a job gets done, they are not expected to perform it alone.

You can start helping now by contacting businesses about stuff for the goodie bags or for door prizes. While automotive stuff is great for door prizes it doesn't have to be automotive related. However door prizes do need to be something that can be used anywhere, for instance a gift certificate to a local shop that doesn't ship their product would be useless to someone from south Florida. On the other hand a gift certificate to Kroger, while not auto related, is still useful most places.

When show time gets here, Jim and Chris will need people to help run the registration table Friday and Saturday. Also on those two days Steve will need people to help park cars. I'm sure that Karen would appreciate help setting up and cleaning up the hospitality room. Plan to be here as much as you can on both days and offer to help wherever and whenever you can.

## Bud's Road Rules...

It's okay to park in handicap spaces as long as you park in such a way to make people think you might be handicapped.

## Members Paid 2007...

... by Ron Waters – Membership Chairman

Records currently show the following members have paid their 2007 dues as of 04/10/2007:

Mac Kemp, Rita Allen, Steve & Karen Oneal, Jeff Barfield, Jeff Puras, James Graubard, Julie & Jerry Belk, John Garza, Robert & Bonnie Reed, Jeffery Youngkin, George & Libby Doughtie, Bill Ward, Ron & Pam Waters, and Kevin Smith.

## Club Membership Renewal...

... by Ron Waters – Membership Chairman

Club dues were due by March 31, 2007. If you have not already mailed your dues, please do so as soon as possible to continue your membership without interruption. You will find a renewal membership form enclosed with this newsletter. Please take time to update your vehicle information. Any space that you do not have an answer for (such as email address) and you do not have one please write "none". Membership Forms and renewal forms are also on our web site for download. [www.peachstateamo.com](http://www.peachstateamo.com)

Thanks... Ron Waters

## PEACH STATE AMO MINUTES FEBRUARY 2007...

...by Karen O'Neal

- Attended: Steve & Karen O'Neal, Ron Waters, Jim & Chris Graubard, George Doughtie, Jerry & Julie Belk, Jeff Barfield, Rita Allen and our newest member, Mac Kemp.
- Darryl Partain, with the North Georgia Mopar Club, spoke to us about the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Landmark Mopar Southern Classic to be held Saturday, April 28, 2007, inviting our club to attend and participate. Club members present discussed it and are interesting in attending this event. Ron and George will follow up regarding set up of our trailer and tent.
- Jeff Barfield discussed the upcoming Regional event and is looking for volunteers. George and Ron have volunteered to help with door prizes and goody bags. They ask that everyone, when visiting your local Pep Boys, Advance Auto, Auto Zone, etc. talk to the manager, tell them about our event and ask if they have any freebies we can use for our goody bags. We expect 60-80 cars. Ron will be contacting vendors. Karen will handle food for the hospitality room. Steve will help with parking cars. We need volunteers for the registration table, parking, judging, road signs, etc. Please contact Jeff Barfield and let him know what you can do to help.

### *Peach State Officers*

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- The next meeting will be held June 10 at 2:00pm at Steve & Karen O'Neal's.
- Jim & Chris Graubard have volunteered to host the August meeting at their lovely mountain home, details to follow.
- Jeff Barfield will be attending the National show in July. Jim & Chris Graubard and Karen & Steve O'Neal will be attending the Kenosha event in July. If you plan to be at either of these events, let us know and we'll plan to meet you there.

## Upcoming Meetings

### April

Our April meeting will be Sunday April 15, 2007 at 2:00pm at the home of Jeff and Theresa Barfield. There will be light snacks and soft drinks and we will discuss club business including the regional.

Directions to Jeff's house at 394 Creek Crossing Ct. Grayson, GA

From I-285 take Hwy 78 east through Snellville. There will be a Pike Nurseries on your left, just past that will be Hwy 84, turn left. Follow Hwy 84 to the traffic light in beautiful downtown Grayson. Go straight through the light and the road name will change to Grayson-New Hope Rd. Go about one mile to the 4 way stop and turn right on Chandler Rd. Go about one more mile and turn right on Tribble Creek Dr. (Tribble Mill Creek Subdivision). Go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> street on the right and turn, then almost immediately take the first left on Creek Crossing Ct. Follow this road all the way back, the house is the last house on the left before entering the cul de sac.

From Lawrenceville, take Ga Hwy 20 into beautiful downtown Grayson. Turn left at the traffic light onto Grayson-New Hope Rd. Go about one mile to the 4 way stop and turn right on Chandler Rd. Go about one more mile and turn right on Tribble Creek Dr. (Tribble Mill Creek Subdivision). Go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> street on the right and turn, then almost immediately take the first left on Creek Crossing Ct. Follow this road all the way back, the house is the last house on the left before entering the cul de sac.

### June

Our June meeting will be Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 2PM at the home of Steve and Karen O'Neal. This meeting is a week earlier than normal to avoid meeting on Father's day.

Directions, from the SOUTH:

85 North, exit STEVE REYNOLDS and take a RIGHT, go to the 2nd light, which is CLUB and take a LEFT, stay on Club until it ends at CRUSE (approximately 2-3 miles) \*\*\*and take a LEFT on CRUSE, go to the next light at BETHESDA SCHOOL and take a RIGHT, go to the third street on the left and take a LEFT into SYCAMORE CROSSING subdivision (Wyndham Place Circle is the street name) (Before Believer's Baptist Church), then take your FIRST LEFT, which is SUMMERFIELD WAY - straight ahead to 2629 - additional parking down driveway to the right.

From the NORTH:

85 South, exit PLEASANT HILL and take a LEFT, go to CLUB (approximately the 5th light) and take a LEFT, stay on Club until it ends at CRUSE (approximately 1-2 miles) - follow directions above starting at asterisks.

2629 Summerfield Way  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
(770) 638-9674

## Upcoming AMC Events...

### **Landmark MOPAR Southern Classic – April 28, 2007**

The North Georgia MOPAR Club will be hosting this show at the Atlanta Motor Speedway starting at 8:00am. All AMCs are invited to attend. Cost to enter your car is \$25.00 for preregistered cars and \$30.00 day of show. For more information contact Chris Street at 770 401-6542 or email 2007moparshow@mindspring.com.

*There is a copy of the flyer attached to this newsletter.*

### **15th Annual Orphan Vehicle Celebration At The Snellville Days Festival - May 5, 2007**

Contact Rick Kamen - 404-288-8222

*Flyer Attached*

### **2007 AMO International Convention –Aurora CO July 5-7 2007**

The 2007 AMO International Convention will be held in Aurora Co, a suburb of Denver. The entire show will be on the hotel grounds. The host hotel is the Radisson Hotel – Denver Southeast, reservations can be made by calling 800 333-3333 or call the hotel directly at 303 695-1700. Tell them that you are with the AMO convention to receive the special rate of \$79.00 per night. Thursday will feature a trip to Terry Gale's Rambler Ranch for a tour of over 400 Nash, Rambler and AMC products and much memorabilia as well. Friday is, of course, the swap meet and official club meetings and Saturday is the actual show. If you have never been, Denver is a beautiful city and well worth the trip. For further information contact Bob Kenworthy at 303 680-0139.

### **A Kenosha Homecoming - Kenosha, WI July 28<sup>th</sup> 2007**

Sponsored by - The Kenosha History Center.

Events Include:

1. Tuesday, July 24, 07 - Cruise-in at Wendy's 39th Ave. at 75th St.
2. Wednesday, July 25, 07 - Cruse-In at Andy's on Roosevelt Rd.
3. Thursday, July 26, 07 -Cruise-In at The Spot on Washington Rd.
4. Friday, July 26, 07 The Swap Meet begins!
5. NEW EVENT\*\*\* Friday, July 27, Parade of Nash/Rambler/AMC/Jeep/Hudson vehicles (Anyone with an AMC/Rambler/Nash/Jeffery/Jeep/Hudson/Renault may be in this large parade.) to Kennedy Park.
6. Saturday, July 28, 07 Car Show/Swap Meet at Kennedy Park
7. Tour the former AMC Test Track (MGA Research Proving Grounds) on Sunday July 29

We expect about 500 AMC vehicles and 100+ Nash/Rambler/AMC related vendors!

For more info contact: Kenosha History Center \* 220 51<sup>st</sup> Place \* Kenosha, WI 53140 Call 262-654-5770 ext 102 or Mike Spangler at mspangler@jefnet.com

### **2007 AMC Southeast Regional – Atlanta GA October 5-6**

The Southeast Regional Homecoming will be held at the Hilton NE on Peachtree Industrial Blvd (the same hotel where we held the national in 2005). We will be keeping this event simple so that everyone can have a good time. We will not have a banquet or cruise-in, but we will be judging cars and have our Friday night hospitality room at the hotel. Everything will be held on hotel grounds.

## **New Products...**

**...by Jeff Barfield**

Jim Graubard brought this to my attention and I have read a little more about it. If you have a 68 – 70 AMX you can now purchase brand new door glass for it. Through a joint effort of Kennedy American, American Parts Depot, and Galvin's Rambler the door glass is now being reproduced. The door glass is not, however, an exact reproduction, it is the new improved door glass. What makes it better you may ask? This door glass is still glued in like the old stuff, but it also bolts in. It has holes drilled in the bottom and comes with instructions and templates for drilling the channel that holds the glass. This should solve the age old problem of the glass slipping out of the channel. It is available in both clear and tinted and sells for under \$200 each. Currently it is only available for the AMX and these windows will not fit a Javelin, maybe that will be next if enough of you AMX owners buy these.

Also now available are armrests for the 68 – 70 Javelin and AMX, 68 – 70 Rebel, 68 –71 Ambassador and 71 Matador. It looks like the original but is one piece molded around a steel structure. It does not have the vent in the bottom, but is molded to look like a closed vent. They are available only in black, but can be dyed to match your interior. They sell for \$99.00 each.

## **AMC's on the block...**

**...by Jim Graubard**

One cold boring night at the end of January I was searching the web and decided to look at the various car auctions such as Barrett Jackson and so forth. I came upon RM auctions, one of the several big boys in the business. In clicking on their web site I was delighted to find they had an auction coming up in two weeks in Ft. Lauderdale, my old home town! Further research into that auction revealed five (yes, 5!) AMC's going on the auction block, and four of them were without reserve! The first to pop up in front of my eyes was a 1969 Big Bad Green California Special AMX, and like all pictures, it looked pristine. Next came a '69 SC/Rambler and again it looked too good to be true. Continuing my search my eyes then fell upon a 1970 Javelin SST wearing Mark Donahue spoilers and packing a 390/4 speed combo—hummmmm I thought. The last two AMC's were '69 AMX's, looking good but the first three were what really peaked my interest. Over the next several days I did more research on auction results and found that at most RM auctions AMC's, (mostly AMX's) sold for under 18K—HUMMMMMMMM. There were some that did have a reserve and did not sell even though they had been bid up in the mid 20's. I then researched all of the different auctions that I could and came up with the same results, many, many AMC's were sold for under 20k.

I made the big decision, I was going to go down to the auction and with a little luck one of these no reserve cars would be coming home with me to keep my '68 AMX company. Off I sent my \$50 registration fee and I was set. The auction companies require a bank letter guaranteeing your check if you write one for the purchase of the car. No problem I thought as I planned on spending no more then \$25,000 and I had a account I could write checks on that took care of that. Well I found out regardless of how well my finances were and my credit rating was the bank would not sign that letter. Plan B: The auction houses also accept either cash or the only credit they accept is Bank of American auction card. Well, I did not feel like carrying \$25,000 in cash around so I contacted BOA and fifteen minutes later I was all set with them. Next step, book a hotel which should not be a problem as there are about 2 million hotels in the Ft. Lauderdale area—WRONG. Just happens there was a little football game going on in Miami called Super Bowl. Even though the game was to be played on the Sunday a full 5 days before the auction, the room prices were very very high. After hours of searching I finally came up with one that was only 15 minutes from the auction and a bargain at \$130 a night (well, compared to all of the other prices I saw). One click and that was taken care of as well. Ok now I have all of that done what happens if I do luck out and purchase a new toy, how will I get it home? Why not just rent a u-haul trailer and tow it home I thought. Click, click on their web site

to find out how much that would be. No matter how I tried to ask for a car trailer, all the web site would come back with is a car dolly, the type that you put the front wheels on and the rear wheels stay on the pavement and they wanted \$250 for the one way rental (was this a rental or a purchase I thought!). Well, I was not going to drag my new baby home I decided so I would hook up my trailer and bring her along.

The auction was to begin on Friday with Thursday being the day to review all of the cars. I decided to drive down on Wednesday and see some friends (party time!). I had to meet up with a friend around 5pm in Ft. Myers, so I could leave my house at 8am if I did not have to deal with ATL traffic. This meant I had to leave at 5am, this way I could take my sweet time and would avoid all of the mad rush hour crowd that I thought would make my trailer a target.

After an all day drive of 10+ hours I arrived, got a hotel room (same hotel problem on the west coast of Florida due to that darn game) and met up with my friends. Frankly I don't remember much after that until I awoke on Thursday morning. After a 2 ½ hour drive over to Ft. Lauderdale I dropped off my trailer at the marshaling yard for the event (a not so nice area I was familiar with and I wondered if I would have a trailer when I came home). Off to the venue to review, inspect and drool over the offerings. The BBG AMX was all it said it was and more, this thing looked better than showroom new. No way I would be in on this one I thought, after all a BBG AMX sold at BJ last year for 50K. Next up was the SC/Rambler—same deal as this one looked really really nice as well. Nope, I won't get this either as one just went at BJ two weeks ago for 45K. I was ok with that as I had decided the Javelin was my main focus anyway. I had an AMX and if I had the Javelin I would have four seats.. Off I went to find the Javelin, it took a while but I finally located it outside waiting for it's turn to be brought inside the show hall. As this car had been listed as having been restored to showroom condition, I could not wait to see it as I knew from what I had researched that I could pick this up for my very own.

I did not realize that showroom condition meant that AMC painted over rust in the lower quarters up in Kenosha, nor did I realize that when they built them and shipped them off to the dealer that both the driver and passenger windows were so out alignment that you could put two fingers in the gap from the top of the window to the stainless trim on the car. HUMMMMMM. Opening the hood I was pleased to see the 390 with all of it's original smog equipment still hooked up—WOW—as that is normally torn off the first day it comes home when new. Further inspection revealed the paint job (slime green) was a quickie and it left me to wonder what else was it was hiding besides the rust which has started to crack the paint in both lower quarters. Does it run? Does it shift? No way to know, there was no owner around and none of the hundreds of cars there offered the opportunity to find out how they ran, crap shoot I guess. None of the three were being offered on Friday (darn, as that is the day to hook one at a good price). All three were slated to go on Saturday, with the BBG up first around 10am. When the gavel fell it went home for 45K (plus 8% commission to RM). Ok, that is exactly what I thought would happen, so far all is going as I thought. Next up was the SC/Rambler at around 4pm and off she went at 50K plus commish. Hey my research was paying off, all was going as it should. Next up was my Javelin which, I had decided I would go after but only in the mid teens as I knew it needed some work. Eight o'clock at night is when it finally hit the main stage. Ok Jim, settle down, let's see if anyone else is interested. Bidding starts—7k, 10K—hold for a moment—ok, get ready to bid—wait, there it goes, 12K, 15K, 17K, 20K, what is going on, it should not get so high. Two minutes later the gavel fell to the tune of \$26,000 dead presidents—WOW, never thought that would happen, oh well.

Was I disappointed, yes a bit, but I was glad I did not get caught up in the auction excitement and get in over my head. Off to the marshaling yard I drove keeping my fingers crossed my trailer was still there and not at some pawn shop down the road. Pulled in, hooked up and off to my hotel for a good nights sleep as I had decided in the morning I was going to head on home, forgoing the remainder of the auction with it's two AMX's still up for sale. I had seen only one, it was a bittersweet '69 with a 390, 4 speed and it also needed some work. In prepping it for the auction the owner painted the dash and he liked it so much he painted the steering wheel (metal trim and all) the

same color! The cracked leather seats could be recovered and I guess the rust bubbling up here and there could be fixed also, but what else? I later learned this one went for around 25K. Off I went and thirteen hours later I slipped into my own bed and slept for twelve hours straight.

What did I learn from all of this? The auctions we see on TV are great for the eye, but being there in person I realized that many of the sellers and buyers were dealers, not just the average Joe looking for a nice ride. Many of the cars were cleaned up just for the event, new coat of cheap paint, detail the inside and off it goes to the block. I saw a 1970 Challenger go for 20k, a '66 fastback Mustang go for 22K, and they both looked great from my seat 10 feet away from the stage. I did not inspect these cars but from what I have learned since being in the hobby these past 2 years is that these would be high dollar cars unless they were dogs with shiny coats. They say pictures don't lie, well they do. The pictures of that Javelin I saw before the auction were great, too bad the actual car wasn't. Would I do it again, probably not, unless there was a car I had to have and knew I could pull it off. More importantly I learned that the value of AMC cars is on the rise. So what did I do with some of the money I saved by not buying another car?? I called my insurance company and up the coverage on my AMX of course!!

## **TECH CORNER / TRIBULATIONS...**

**... by Steve O'Neal**

### **Swap Meet...**

**Send Your Swap Meet Listings (For Sale or Wanted) to Ron Waters**

**By email: peachstate@classicone.com**

**By Mail: 4857 Pine Hill Court West - Stone Mountain, GA 30088**

### **For Sale...**

- One pair of leftover, used tail light assemblies—housing and lenses for a '64 Rambler Classic. And 2 hub caps. Also the steering linkage as it came off the car, center link, tie rods, adjustable links, idler arm, rusty, was fairly new but the rubber boots need replacing. \$40 Thanks, Warren  
Email: warrenworks@yahoo.com
- 1976 Hornet Sportabout A6A087A722981 258, Auto, AC, needs timing chain
- 1979 Concord Sedan Delivery A91087H182833 304 was rebuilt, hasn't run in 5 years, dogs chewed the wiring.
- 1979 Concord 4 door sedan A9A057H147860 complete V8 car, 304 Dana 20 rear axel, runs  
For information on any of the above cars, please call Rita Allen 706 598-0304 or email at autumn2@bellsouth.net

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