



Kar Kapers



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June 2025

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Meetings start at 7 P.M. on the Last Thursday of the month except Nov., Dec., and January

**June 26 6:00 pm General Membership Meeting
Bistro Orleans, 3216 W. Esplanade Ave, Metairie**

From the President's shop...

Summer Sparks, Crawfish, and the Road Ahead

This past month's Crawfish Boil was one for the books! A big thank you goes out to Bruce and Suzie Lambert for opening their home (and garage!) to host the event, and to Mike Price, who brought the heat—not just under the pot, but over the burners—cooking up an incredible spread that had everyone going back for seconds... and maybe thirds. The weather was perfect (at least until the pop-up storm), the company was even better, and the garage talk was always the real highlight (including the Spark on the lift).

It also served as a perfect reminder of why our **Spark Program** is valuable. For those who are new or unfamiliar, Spark is our member-to-member help initiative, where those with experience lend a hand—or tools—to those who need help getting their classic back on the road. This spirit of community wrenching is one of the best parts of our club, and it was alive and well during the boil.

Speaking of getting cars on the road, that was a hot topic at the members' meeting held during dessert. Several folks admitted that, while they've been "meaning to get around to it," their cars have sat idle for far too long. With summer here, now's the time to shake off the dust, finish that carb rebuild, or finally replace those brakes. The driving



season is upon us, and we all know there’s nothing better than enjoying the open road in a car you’ve poured your heart into. Let’s make it a goal to have our rides road-ready before fall hits.



During the meeting, **restoration awards** came up again—and for good reason. Several members expressed how much recognition can motivate people to finish long-stalled projects. Restoration is more than paint and polish; it’s effort, vision, and dedication. We’ll share more details soon but start thinking about what you want to have ready for voting later this year.

We also want to thank everyone who helped plan the spring **club tour**. The turnout was fantastic, and the route gave us beautiful scenery and great stops. But we’re not done yet! The board is still looking for **local tour and event ideas** for the remainder of the year. Drop us a line if you’ve got a favorite diner, a twisty back road, or a local show we haven’t hit yet. The more ideas, the better.

Thanks again to everyone who came out, helped, and made this event what it was. The boil was spicy, the stories were better, and the camaraderie was unbeatable. Here's to more miles, memories, and sparks—both literal and figurative—along the way.

Keep Wrenching

Jack

<i>Kar Kalendar</i>		
June 26	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting Bistro Orleans, 3216 W. Esplanade Ave, Metairie
July 31	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting The Red Maple, 1036 Lafayette St., Gretna
August 28	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting Bistro Orleans, 3216 W. Esplanade Ave, Metairie
September 25	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting Pedro’s Taco & Tequila Bar, 69368 LA-21, Covington (TBD)
October 30	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting Bistro Orleans, 3216 W. Esplanade Ave, Metairie
November 20	6:00 PM	General Membership Meeting The Red Maple, 1036 Lafayette St., Gretna
December 13	TBD	Christmas Party <i>Probably</i> All Saints Episcopal Church, 100 Rex Drive, River Ridge, LA

Horseless Carriage Club Meeting

Saturday, 24 May 2025

At 1:35 pm, Gil called the meeting to order.

Larry led the membership with the Pledge of Allegiance, and Bruce followed with a prayer.

Jack thanked the members in attendance for today's meeting. He said our last meeting was held at the Red Maple, and we didn't have enough members in attendance to vote on the minutes or the treasurer's report. Today's headcount is one guest (Judy Larmeu) and 19 members. The minutes of the March and April meetings were printed in the Kar Kapers, and Jack asked if there were any changes to the minutes as printed. Hearing none, Camille motioned to accept the March and April 2025 minutes, as printed, and Cristy seconded the motion.

Charles gave the treasurer a report, explaining the credits and debits, including expenses and credits from the 2025 Louisiana tour. He also announced that we incurred no debts due to the tour. One registrant will be refunded due to a family emergency.

Jack thanked the membership who put in the time and effort to make the Horseless Carriage Club-hosted Tour a success once again. Special thanks to Gil for his outstanding efforts selling 50/50 and raffle tickets! He received positive feedback from around the state; only two problems were noted. 1) The printed directions confused some, and 2) Jack didn't speak loudly enough.

Charlie Froehlich commented: "He and Ardie have been members since 1969, and this is the first time he didn't work on the tour. He wanted to thank his team and Ardie for the club members' efforts to make this tour successful. He stated that the Louisiana AACA president spoke to him with positive feedback and said all she heard from AACA members was that they had a great time.

Jack drove several cars on the tour with his kids. He was very proud to have the kids participate along with the grandchildren. We did miss Sue, who couldn't join in the fun. He thanked Bruce for the coverage in the Kar Kapers.

Fun Fact: In November 1967, a contest was held to give the newsletter an official name. Grady Parker came up with "Kar Kapers," and the rest is history. Membership dues in 1967 were only \$12.00, and here we are in 2025 at only \$20.00!

Jack extended his thanks and appreciation to Whitney for all the great photos he took and posted. May birthdays include Sue Wade on the 11th and Larry on the 19th.

Charles said work is progressing on the Lincoln and is close to putting the body back on the frame.

Thomas reports work continues to progress on the "Sacks on 5th Ave" building and hopes to hold a barbecue when the weather cools.

Leigh reports that he is working on his Toyota truck.

Thomas continues to support the club and chase down possible new members. He recently saw a guy in a '55 Vette and gave him an HCC business card.

Charles thanked Bruce and Suzie for hosting today's event.

We didn't have a 50/50 raffle today.

With no further business to discuss, Charles made a motion to adjourn, which Brandon seconded. The meeting officially closed at 1:59 p.m.

Submitted by Larry Larmeu, Secretary

Additional note... We conducted a Spark today. Thomas led a handful of the members to get Bruce's drive-on car lift operational. Bruce needs to get the T-Bird in the air and then back on the road.

A few pictures from the Crawfish Boil!



Summer Family Trips

There's something unique about summer driving, whether it is a family trip, a vacation (which is not always the same), or just driving for the love of driving. We all laugh at the chaos of Clark Griswold's determination to get his family to Walley World, which begins with getting a new car only to fly back home. I know we have all been there with car troubles, lost directions, or running out of gas. There always seems to be a method to the madness that we will get "there," but we must undertake a few steps along the way.

As with any trip, the absolute "joy" begins with the packing, as you have to overthink what you need to pack, and then you have to play Tetris to get everything to the car. It seemed like my mother's Impala could hold 20 suitcases, while I had to pack everything into my Jeep when we visited relatives in California. And as always, something was in the suitcase at the bottom of the stack, which occasionally needed, after a few choice words, some repacking.



So, as soon as you get on the road, the chorus begins their endless chant of "how much longer", "I have to go", "I am ____ (Fill in the blank)". In many ways, those sounds are just as much of the trip's soundtrack as the radio itself or the tires rolling over bridges and different road

surfaces, as one's music choices were limited to a few channels, and in remote places, maybe no music at all. The lack of music would lead to the "Singalong" or "Caraoke" game, as with Wayne's World, where Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" transformed the whole car into a stage. It's not about hitting the right notes but sharing the moment. Other times, the lack of music led to storytelling, or retelling events or things. Many of Father's lessons were passed on simply by sitting alongside him, talking about things.

Of course, road trips also bring out the little things that only happen in a car packed with family and friends (or, momentarily ex-family and friends). After endless rounds of "I Spy" or license plate games, shared or spilled snacks and drinks, there are periods where everyone is silent, each person lost in their thoughts as the scenery blurs past the window.

The best part of the journey could be the unexpected, where an unplanned stop could be that hidden gem, the rainstorm brings the rainbow, or that one story everyone laughs and enjoys. In many ways, summer driving should be a reminder to savor the ride in a world that moves increasingly fast, as the joy of summer driving lies not in the arrival but in the journey itself. And while Clark Griswold ultimately gets to Wally World, we must remember there is no perfect vacation, but in many ways, that makes them special.





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Thanks to our Sponsors!

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