

South Texas HET News

A BIG COUNTRY REGIONAL CHAPTER OF THE HUDSON ESSEX TERRAPLANE CLUB

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VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2013



GOD BLESS AMERICA

PAY YOUR DUES TODAY

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This month I am relinquishing my bully pulpit to our Big Country Senior Director Don Mozynski. As the president of the North Texas Chapter and Director of the Big Country region he has addressed two topics on the minds of all HET members, meetings and membership. See you in Cameron on 9 February..

Regards,

Rick

Originally published January-February 2013 issue of the NORTH TEXAS HUDSON DEALERS

NORTH TEXAS HUDSON DEALERS FEBRUARY, 2013 PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I usually have a lot of fun writing this column, but an impassioned tirade by one of our most esteemed members at the last monthly meeting has prodded me to address some issues in which I have been involved in the last few years. So this column is going to be a bit more serious and hopefully, somewhat informative and thought provoking. I would like to write about the direction in which the HET Club is moving and what the future holds for our club, its' members and future members. While I have never been a national officer, I have served as chapter president for several years and as a regional director for over five years, which may have given me a perspective of our club on both a national and a local level. For those of you who were not able to attend the last chapter gathering, a member brought up concerns about the trend of national meet venues becoming so expensive that they had become exclusionary to many of our members on fixed incomes or limited means. Via email, I have been able to get input from our club president as well as several board members, and have arrived at some conclusions as well as "pondering points". There is some truth to the "exclusionary" **perception**, but it is both a combination of national trends and unhappy circumstance. First, let me give a little background. When I first joined the HET Club about 7 years ago, we boasted a membership of over 3,500 souls who enjoyed their Hudson autos, the camaraderie of other club members and the national meets we held each year. During my stewardship as Big Country director, the club membership has declined significantly each year and I have listened to the concerns of past president Mike Cherry and sitting president Aaron Cooper as well as my fellow board members trying to think of strategies to arrest the decline. (Continued on Page 7)

President Rick's Notes



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South Texas Chapter Officers

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
News and Meet Information

12 January 2013 Meeting Notes

**IF you live in the Austin Texas area and need a ride to a meeting, contact RODNEY LEMMON. He has volunteered to assure you have a ride to the meeting.
Cell: 512 964-0361**

South Texas Chapter – Hudson Essex Terraplane Club, meeting minutes, 12 January 2013

On 12 January 2013 the South Texas Chapter of the HET club held our meeting at the Seafood and Steak Restaurant in Brenham Texas, six members and one Hudson car in attendance. Although Ken and Yolanda Cates planned out the trip their iPhone failed to bring them to the proper destination in Brenham. After a call to the restaurant, directions were given we joined the four other members who had spent time garage talking and sipping coffee. After our arrival we all ordered our lunches. All agreed that the food was great.

In the absence of our Chapter president Rick Heeke and VP Russell Chilton, Ken Cates called the meeting of the few to order at 1PM. A motion to approve the previous meetings minutes (Oct 2012) as published in the newsletter was asked for by Ken and seconded by Steve Brookins. Steve Brookins gave a treasurers report noting there was \$2009.16 in the chapter treasury. He also provided a current membership roster showing twenty-five members (25). As of 12 January 2013 eight (8) of those members have paid their 2013 dues.

Old business - NONE

New Business - The following new business was discussed

- 2013 Meet schedule
- 2013 Chapter business meeting and election of officers
- Membership
- Meeting attendance

Items 1 and 4

Ken Cates asked those present for ideas on what our 2013 Meet schedule should include. Those present were uniformly concerned that during the past year our chapter had purposely held meetings located in all areas of the chapter with minimal attendance by chapter members. Also noted was the absence of Hudson cars at most meets. All were in favor of any action to improve attendance and get members to drive their Hudsons to the meetings.

Rodney Lemon noted his membership was because of a invitation to join the South Texas chapter letter he received from Ken Cates in 2012 That letter was the reason he found out about the local chapter. He also noted membership in the South Texas chapter

has allowed him to connect with sources of information and parts vital in his Hornet restoration.

When asked for meet recommendations the members present decided those who come to the meetings will set a



Yolanda Cates Picture , 01-12-13

**12 Jan 2013
Chapter
Meeting
Brenham, TX**

future meet schedule until more members are present and vote for alternatives. The following meetings for 2013 will be hosted by and held as shown below.

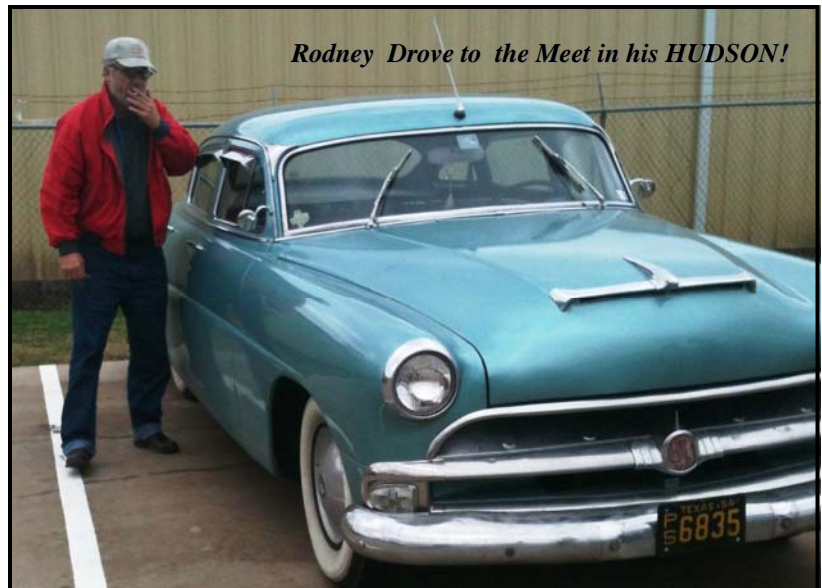
February 9, 2013	Joe Clark, Cameron, Texas
March 9, 2013	Dave Nault, Buda, Texas
April 13,2013	Business Meeting - Location and Host to be decided
May 11, 2013	Ken Cates, Waco, Texas (<i>Joint North and South Texas Chapter meeting</i>)

Item 2

The 2012 Business meeting and election of officers was held in ELGIN TEXAS in April. Our bylaws state we will have an annual business meeting and election of officers. The date stipulated in our charter is November for these activities. Not having a meeting during that month pushed this requirement to 2013, the next logical timing for this would be APRIL, unless membership would like to have these activities in February or March. Members should contact Rick or Russell to express desires for when these events should occur.

Item 3

The members present discussed this topic and a consensus of those present was too few members attend the meetings. We discussed why this might be and concluded that having meeting across our membership area has not assured member attendance. We noted that the Kerrville TX meeting attracted three Hudson cars, and the most people to a meeting during the year. Having the opportunity to do car type activities during the meetings or in the area was strongly supported. (I.e. Cruises, car shows and multi-make shows). Other possibilities are member hosted meeting where the attendees are able to learn to maintain their Hudson product. Finally we discussed how to reach out and remind members of the meetings. Ken Cates attended a North Texas meeting where the Big Country Director stated that he and all directors are calling national members who have not renewed their membership asking them to consider renewal. We discussed calling and sending out invitation letters to all current STC members as well as non affiliated national HET members in Texas. Ken Cates volunteered to draft a letter and send it to a current list of members.



Announcements - President Heeke and Barbara have contracted Influenza and are being treated for same. VP Russell Chilton had a conflicting commitment and could not attend this meeting. Dr. Jim Peterson is on travel and sends his regrets for not attending this meeting. Rodney Lemmon was praised for driving his newly restored 54 Hornet to the meet in spite of the rainy weather. Rodney commented... these cars are meant to be driven. Dave Nault copiloted the trip with Rodney.

Next Chapter meeting: Joe Clark will host the February at a location to be determined in Cameron Texas.

Ken Cates moved to adjourn the meeting at 2 pm 12 January 2013, Joe Clark seconded the motion. Ken and Yolanda Cates meet the owner of the restaurant and thanked him for hosting our meeting. All retired to the parking lot to admire Rodney's Hornet and do a bit of Hudson jawboning and tire kicking.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Cates, Secretary

Approved by Rick Heeke, President South Texas Chapter HET CLUB

WANTED AND FOR SALE

Seals– Hard to find OEM seals call Ed: 207 669 5669 Only deals in Seals

HUDSON MACHINE WORK - Rodney Lemmon and Ken Cates have used the services of Ledford Performance Machine located at 1810 Austin Ave, Waco, Texas 76701. 254-756-3982 ask for Gary

HARD TO FIND STEPDOWN PARTS: Connect with Lance Walker who specializes in quality used parts for Stepdown Hudsons. Lance has recently recreated Hudson Stepdown Rocker panels for the 1948-53 Hudsons. These replacement items are made from Fiberglass. Address: 999 Stafford Farm Road, Concord, NC 28025, Phone: 704-792-9110, email: hornetlw@yahoo.com



Rodney and his Co-Pilot, Dave Nault
Brehnam Texas Hudson Meet



2013 CHAPTER DUES DUE—Please Renew Now

SOUTH TEXAS HET CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street Address _____ Phone _____

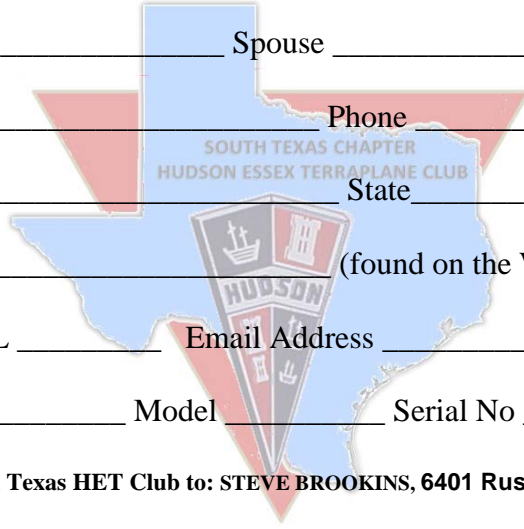
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

HET Membership No. _____ (found on the White Triangle News Label)

NEW _____ RENEWAL _____ Email Address _____

Hudson Cars Owned: Year _____ Model _____ Serial No _____ Engine No. _____

Mail check for \$15 Payable to South Texas HET Club to: STEVE BROOKINS, 6401 Rusty Ridge Drive, Austin, Texas 78731-3927



Calendar of Upcoming Events

NEXT MEETING

February 09, 2013



Taqueria Los Comales (254) 697-8897
2106 N Travis Ave, Cameron, TX 76520

Cross Streets:

Between W 22nd St & W 19th St



ALL FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE SOUTH - TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE HET CLUB WILL BE HELD ON THE 2ND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH, UNLESS NOTED IN THE NEWSLETTER!

CHAPTER , REGIONAL and NATIONAL MEET INFORMATION

NEXT MEETING—February 9, 2013 Meeting will be hosted by Joe Clark- 12:00 at the Taqueria Los Comales, 2106 N Travis Ave, Cameron, TX 76520 (254) 697-8897

Sweethearts and Orphans XIV February 22-24, 2013 in Denton, Texas *see attached flyer*

March 9, 2013 Meeting - Buda, Texas 12:00 @ the Cracker Barrel Restaurant, Dave Nault is our host

April, 2013 Location and dates to Be Determined

MAY 11, 2013 - North & South Texas Hudson Joint Chapter Meet in WACO, TEXAS - Details forthcoming, Ken Cates, Hothudsons@gmail.com (two_five_four) 744-0985 Please mark your calendars and plan to drive a Hudson to this meeting. More information to follow

June 13-15 2013 Big Country Regional Meeting, Wichita, KS - Host Hotel, LaQuinta Inns and Suites, 5500 W. Kellogg Dr (US54) Wichita, Ks. Reservations 316-943-2181, Host Hudsonite Family Chapter, Kevin Moler @ 316-706-6521

July 23-27 2013 HET National Meeting San Mateo, California Contact Richard Griffin rag356s@yahoo.com

NOTICE

Chapter Chatter: Joe Clark has been doing some reliability maintenance on his sweet 54 Jet 2 door. While inspecting the car he determined a rear wheel bearing seal was leaking. Being the good mechanic he is, he opted to pull and check the inner and outer seals on both sides. After inspection, he was off to the local parts store to find all four seals. Happily his counter man does not get the "deer in the headlights look" when Joe asks for Hudson parts. And the chap looked up those seals (albeit on eBay as his books did not cover Hudsons). Finding a number for the seals he crossed them to a current seal number and Joe gladly ordered same. The seals arrived and as hard as Joe tried those darned seals did not fit the Jet rear end. They were just too small. Back at square one, Joe related this tale at our Brenham meeting. We all tried to assist Joe with our individual favorite parts sources. but all suggestions had already been visited by Joe. Ken Cates offered to check out the problem and see if any one might give a stash of seals squirreled away. After checking several sources, Ken found the name of a seal vendor, (irony is this was the same eBay vendor the parts chap checked out to get the seal numbers that did not work). But there is a rub to this story ... unbeknown to Joe and the counter chap, Hudson had different seal sets for the 1953 and 1954 model cars. Of course they are not interchangeable. All this information came from the seal dealer. After passing on to Joe the dealers name and contact information, Joe called to say that all four of the CORRECT seals were enroute to Cameron Texas! So Folks NOTE 1953 and 1954 Rear axle inner and outer seals DO NOT interchange! **The source is Ed at Parts and Oil (eBay seller name) inner seals—National #40244 and shaft size 1.250" O.D. 2.066"--outer seals National #40351 shaft 1.750" O.D. 2.441" any questions call Ed: 207 669 5669** Joe has also set up and is sponsoring our February 09 2013 meeting in Cameron! Thanks Joe!!!

Rodney Lemon drove his 54 Hornet sedan to the meet in Brenham. He has done a super job on getting this field find Hudson back in order for safe motoring. He has been busy tracking down and correcting some gremlins as well as continuing the process of restoring and installing various pieces and parts of the car. One project was to correct a high speed miss which apparently was attributed to using a standard coil with a Pertronix electronic ignition. He also restored the oil bath air cleaners for his twin H. Opting to replace the oiled metal cloth with a dry filter. He is also looking for rubber seals to replace missing rubber door seals. As if this was not enough he ordered (from Dale Cooper) and installed all four tie rod ends and now his car tracks like he expected it should.



At the Brenham meeting Dave Nault stepped up and said he wanted to sponsor a meeting that would attract members from the Austin San Antonio corridor. After several days and a couple of trips to have face time with the **One who is in charge**. Dave has set our March 2013 meet at the Buda Texas Cracker Barrel. Thanks Dave, all you members in that area gas up your Hudson Dave and the rest of us are expecting to see you in Buda.



Dr Jim Petersen was unable to attend our last meeting due to school scheduling but he shared a great picture of his 54 Hudson Hornet Hollywood. See our website for a full sized version.

CHAPTER NAME TAGS

Get your name tag from Steve Brookins at the next meeting

South Texas Chapter
Hudson Essex Terraplane Club



RICK HEEKE
President

(Continued from Page 1) As of the end of last year, the club had only 2,650 registered members. The decline has been for several reasons; age of club members and hard financial times being the chief culprits. This is too good a club to allow it to vanish into nothingness, although the pressure to do so grows each year. While each chapter is a car club onto itself, the national club is the glue, which binds the far-flung entities together; the White Triangle News is the banner of our collectiveness.

The board has worked hard to implement strategies to stop the decline; a program of phoning delinquent members has already borne fruit, resulting in a recent *increase of membership*. A lot of discussion at Board Meetings has been about how to make the national meeting more attractive to younger members and their families, **for therein lies the future of the club**. A move has been under way to try and get more chapters to “step up” and host national meets as well as provide a venue that is a “destination attraction” that would appeal to not just Hudson auto owners but also the families and kids who will inherit those autos. The reality is that not many chapters are willing to take on a national meet like the North Texas Hudson Dealers; few are inclined to host even a regional meet (believe me, I know; lining those up is my job as senior director!). It’s not like the board has multiple proposals for each year’s venue and can choose the best value; more likely, the directors and the officers have to court a chapter and then give all the support we can muster once that chapter has “stepped up”. By no means are we trying to exclude members on fixed or limited incomes; the reality is that in order to attract younger members (with families), we need to provide a location with better entertainment venues. Let’s be honest; the new generation expects to be entertained and what worked 15 years ago is not going to be sufficient today. We need locations that families can see as a place where they want to spend their annual vacation. Ideally, what we need to do is find lower cost options that are satisfactory for lower income members, but this is a difficult task and the BOD and officers cannot execute this type of control when we can’t get chapters who are even willing to host.

Now for recent events. The North Texas chapter did a bang-up job picking a cost effective, centrally located venue for 2011. This was a true “members meet”. In keeping with the “destination venue” concept, the Pennsylvania Dutch chapter negotiated a great hotel rate at a stellar hotel for 2012. The result was one of the best attended and memorable meets ever. Unfortunately, the dynamic in the hotel industry has changed dramatically. With the current financial situation in the country we are seeing costs rising faster, hotels acting in a more risk adverse fashion (higher room rates, contracting less rooms upfront, being less flexible, seeking out “full room price” business customers) than we have seen in the past. Hotels are looking to drive needed profit through other means. The tremendous initial room rate negotiated by the Northern Cal chapter for the early registrants at San Mateo (2013) was a victim of the new dynamic; the response of HET members to a San Francisco \$105/night rate was so positive that the host hotel has real concern about actually turning a profit, were the entire hotel room census let out at that bargain basement rate. French Lick (2014) may be a child of the new dynamic in the hotel industry and our failure to more closely interact with the potential hosting chapters. The BOD was behind the eight ball as the selection process for a Central Region venue drug on long past an acceptable lead time. The Southern Indiana chapter has come to the rescue, identifying an awesome venue on very short notice and putting the wheels in motion. It is hard to compare the room rates at French Lick with other venues; the value of the associated amenities contributing to an awe inspiring meet is hard to quantify. However, rooms are only about \$20 more per night than at Gettysburg and the banquet \$10 more. For 2 people, that’s an extra \$120 for a five night stay and a year and a half to save up in. Now, I personally am tighter than the bark on a tree, but even I can see saving an extra \$7.00 a month to attend a resort like French Lick. **Remember, a chapter has “stepped up”**. Now we need to lend our support. This is not a trend of “one-upmanship” by successive hosting chapters, merely unfortunate circumstance. Remember, we are still feeling our way. 2015 is back in Big County’s court. As senior Big County director, I have worked diligently with Aaron and members of the Rocky Mountain chapter to strike a balance between a great “destination venue” and value. With active involvement by the other regional directors, *this trend* will continue. More importantly, attendance by more Hudson families in venues calculated to give added exposure to the HET Club will insure that folks will be celebrating the genius of Hudson automobiles for generations to come. The Hudson Automobile Company was extremely innovative; The HET Club needs to become just as innovative.

Don C. Mozynski
(Whew, I’m glad that’s over!)



Sweethearts and Orphans XIV

February 22-24, 2013 in Denton, Texas

The North Texas Chapter of the Hudson-Essex-Terraplane Club invites you to
Sweethearts and Orphans XIV

This year we will be returning to **Denton, Texas**. Once again, we will meet on the same weekend as the Decatur Swap Meet. You can combine these two great events into one terrific, fun-filled, "old car" weekend!! The goal of this meet is to bring "orphan car" owners together and to establish and renew their friendships. Additionally, we want to set aside a weekend during the Valentine season to celebrate and honor our spouses and significant others for their support (and tolerance) of our "old car" habit. On this note, because February is National Heart Month, the proceeds of our meet will benefit the American Heart Association.

For those who don't know, "orphan cars" are historic automobiles whose parent companies have disappeared from the American scene. Great cars like Hudson, Studebaker, Kaiser, Frazer, Packard, Nash, Willys, Graham, Essex, Auburn, Cord, Terraplane, Triumph, DeSoto, and many others fall into this category. The more recent "orphans" include AMC, Mercury, Oldsmobile and Plymouth. These marques and all other orphans are welcome. To keep our "vintage flavor," we ask that participation be limited to pre-1989 vehicles only.

Sweethearts and Orphans has never been a judged meet. It is not about competition. We want to admire our unique vehicles, establish friendships, and enjoy ourselves in a relaxed and friendly setting. There are Peoples' Choice Awards by decade, and a Sweetheart's Choice Award. The lasting friendships and great memories are the true prizes you will bring home from this meet.

Registration will open Thursday, February 21st at the host hotel in the Hospitality Room between the hours of 4 and 8pm. Registration will re-open the morning of the 22nd, from 8:00am-8:30am, as well as in the evening, from 5:00pm-8:00pm. Friday evening we will meet in the Hospitality Room. It will be a time to visit, swap car stories, and play games. Feel free to bring along snacks and drinks to share, adult beverages, and games or cards to play. Friday the 22nd is also the date of the Decatur Swap Meet, just 29 miles west of Denton via US 380. For those not going to Decatur, there is an event planned for Friday. We plan to leave the host hotel at 9:00am for a tour of some of the horse ranches in the area. We will have lunch at Mom's on Main in Aubrey. After lunch, we will visit the UNT campus to sit in at the rehearsal of the world famous, Grammy-award-winning, One O'clock Lab Jazz Band. Transportation will be provided for tour participants.

Saturday the 23rd, the car meet will take place at the parking lot of Wells Fargo Bank. The bank address is 101 South Locust St. The parking lot is on E. Hickory St. behind the bank, and less than a block east of the courthouse square. There will be on site registration from 9am until noon. **We ask that all orphan vehicles be on display from 9:30am until 3:00pm.** An area of the lot will be reserved for non-orphan vintage cars. We ask that participants not "hold" parking spots for friends not yet registered. If a group or club would like to be together, please note this on your registration form so we can reserve the necessary spaces. We will make our best efforts in accommodating these requests.

There are a number of interesting shops, boutiques, antique stores, and restaurants around the courthouse square and on Hickory and Industrial Streets.

On Saturday evening, we will have a special sweetheart's outing to Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant. We will leave the hotel at 6:00pm to enjoy dinner in this lovely renovated Victorian-era home, where we will be entertained by musicians Link and Dave.

The meal is a fixed price of \$25 per person (including gratuity) with your choice of salad, entrée, dessert and beverage. Beer and wine are available for an additional charge.

The award presentations and 50/50 drawing will take place in the Hospitality Room at 9:00am on Sunday morning. We will be able to say our good-byes and be on our way home by mid-morning.

Our host hotel is the **Homewood Suites by Hilton, 2907 Shoreline Drive, Denton, Texas 76210**. There is a special room rate for the meet, set at \$89.00 per night plus tax. This great rate includes a hot breakfast buffet each morning (two per room). Reservations are made to the hotel directly. You can find the hotel online at

http://homewoodsuites.hilton.com/en/hw/groups/personalized/F/FTWDEHW-SOC-20130221/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

or call hotel directly at 940-382-0420.

We will have a 50/50 Raffle again this year with 50% of the money collected in ticket sales going to the winner and the remaining 50% to the American Heart Association, so we can show the organization how much we support the great work they do. See you at the meet!

For more information, please call Anne Marie Mozynski at **214-213-2261** or e-mail ammozynski@yahoo.com

Sweethearts and Orphans XIV Registration

Name _____ **Club Affiliation** _____

Name (second nametag)

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-Mail _____

Car: Year, Make & Model _____

Do you need trailer Parking? Yes() No ()

Family Registration (\$20 prior to the meet, \$30 at the meet) \$ _____

Friday Tour and Luncheon (\$20 per person) \$ _____

Saturday Dinner (\$25 per person includes gratuity) \$ _____

50/50 Raffle Tickets (\$5 each, 6 for \$20, or 15 for \$40) \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Note to host:

Make Checks payable to "Sweethearts and Orphans Meet" Mail Check and this form to:
Anne Marie Mozynski, 309 N. Hertz Rd., Coppell, TX 75019
Phone (214) 213-2261 E-mail ammozynski@yahoo.com