

President's Report

Cole's Chronicles September 2023

Another Bugtussle is in the books, thanks to the many that helped with all the tasks needed to be completed. Volunteers are so important; we cease to operate as a club without you.

I feel a need to state the obvious. The Bugtussle Trek is owned by *our* club collectively. It is for the benefit and enjoyment of our members. While some may claim towns, cities, businesses, and non-members benefit from our Bugtussle trek, and they do, it remains an activity whose purpose is for the benefit of *our* members. Bugtussle is not a commercial activity subject to the whims of sponsors, or any individual club member, not even the club president. Bugtussle began as a recruitment tool.

I have asked a significant number of club members and those attending the trek, for input regarding the Trek. I am convinced with the 106F temperatures, as a club we could do better for our members by moving the date of the Trek to the first or second week of October. Currently the trek is scheduled on the hottest day of the year. Paris, Texas has an average high temperature of only 78F in October. (the purposed new date)

I was surprised at the feedback I received from many Bugtussle participants. Many explained they couldn't bring the open and older cars they had wanted to drive due to the extreme temperatures. They describe years where model T's and A's were once common. The trek is now dominated by more modern cars with air-conditioning. Others pointed out how the club's population was older now than in the past years, making it especially difficult for the seniors. Many others, old and young chose not to attend due to the 106F temperatures. The temperature prevented many from participating at all.

I was blessed this year that I had the opportunity to drive my 94 y/o dad, Phil Clayton and stepmom Sandy on the Trek in a modern air-conditioned truck. They spoke fondly of driving their 1920 Buick on previous Bugtussle's many years before. I had to wonder why the date of this event has not been adjusted to include more of our senior club members, and older cars we all love to see. At the next meeting, **I will call for a vote to move the Bugtussle trek to the first or second week of October in 2024.** The club members are the masters of the Bugtussle, the club can and will decide what date it occurs on. Please show up in large numbers at the next meeting and participate in the **"October Bugtussle"** vote. Whether you want to try to improve the event date or keep sweating on the hottest day of the year, please vote. You matter. This club serves you! It's up to you. *Go Bug Tussle!*

Cole Clayton

August Meeting

By Jerry Smith

Our club meeting was held on August 20 at Charlie and Nichole's house. We gathered early so that we could work on information packets and bags for Bug Tussle Trek prior to our meeting. There were about 30-35 fun loving helpers at the meeting. That made the work go much faster. It was decided not to have a board meeting due to all the goings on/chatter/and general activity around getting ready all the requirements for Bug Tussle. It's interesting how such a small spot on the map can cause such a big ruckus.

Please see the meeting minutes by Kathy Clayton in this Spotlight for more precise details.

Denise Velde brought the chart of "Participation Points" to the meeting. Did you check your points?

As we get further past the covid interference of the last 2 years, "Participation Points" will be more and more important so get familiar with them and PARTICIPATE!! (see August Spotlight for details)



August Meeting cont'd

By Jerry Smith

We had chicken fingers (didn't know chickens had fingers but that's another story) from the local chicken finger place as well as all the fixins. And our ladies provided the best desserts that were so good my doctor wouldn't approve (if I told him).

Somebody made great cookies and a wonderful pie along with brownies (no special ingredients like we used to get in them back in the day). Our ladies are the best in the desert department!!



Cole filled us in on progress that's been made with AACA National and their website. More details on this fantastic new utility that should help our club in multiple ways! And Chris Stathopulo has agreed to be our web master for a while as we all get acclimated to having a working webpage again. More on this development as progress is made.

It was a good meeting and we all pitched in and got a lot done!!



August Meeting Minutes

By Kathy Clayton

DATE: Sunday, August 20, 2023

TIME: 2:00 P.M. (Bug Tussle prep 12:00-2:00)

PLACE: The Gambulos home, Rowlett, TX

The meeting was called to order by the president, Cole Clayton. Cole opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming to help with Bug Tussle preparations.

Budget: budget for Bug Tussle looks good at this time. Depositing more checks and will have updated treasurers report at next meeting.

Sunshine Report: Nuris Hester provided Sunshine report, Jeff Podmers was present at meeting in spite of a recent fall resulting in what Jeff thinks may be a broken shoulder. It was great to see Dot at the meeting and doing well.

Membership: Kathy Clayton, provided update on membership. Two members renewed in August. Both were prior members who saw our club having so much fun they decided to re-join.

Fall Tour: Denise Velde provided summary of Fall Tour, Oct 7th -Oct. 8th, The fall tour will include drives from the McKinney area to Hugo, OK. We plan to visit a train museum, lunch at Circus Cafe and visit an Elephant Sanctuary. Then on to the Holiday Day Inn in Paris(same hotel as Bug Tussle) for a Pizza Party! We will tour scenic roads on our way back home Sunday through Bonham and on to McKinney. Please make your reservations by Sept. 7th for the special rate of \$98 plus tax. If you need to cancel, you must do so by Oct. 4th or your room will be charged to your credit card. More info will be included in the Sept. Spotlight.

Website: Chris Stathopulo volunteered to work on an updated TX Region website. AACA Nationals will host a chapter website for no charge. Kim Keith is researching how to add a descriptor to the Texas Region name to help identify our geographic region/ This will help those looking for the DFW chapter to find our site.

Bug Tussle: Nichole Gambulos thanked everyone for helping to prepare for Bug Tussle and provided an update, Bonham looking forward to our stop for 175th anniversary and that we are staying longer. Ladonia happy that we are stopping by on Sat. vs. Sun. We will have a tour of courthouse, and special dessert at Visitors Center on Saturday when in Bonham.

After Bonham we will go to Paris, for a great banquet/dinner and stories/fellowship in the hospitality room.

Pate: Charlie Gambulos provided an update, We will do an agreement to co-exist at Pate with Good Guys Car Club. TMS to use AI to help count attendance that will be helpful bring in large vendors.

Motion to adjourn , the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Katherine Clayton, AACA Texas Region Membership

Bug Tussle Trek #55

By John Richardson



Once again, we had a hot and successful Bug Tussle, designed and lead by the Charlie and Nichole Team. Starting in Farmersville with the early morning line-up we were welcomed by each of the towns we stopped in with over-the-top support – early openings, special treatments and local volunteers. Due to the heat forecasted, we had a larger number of ‘moderns’ than normal, but hey, they are on the tour and having fun. We had police helping at each step of the way making sure that we got in and out as a group, and protecting our special parking in Bonham courthouse. With over 50 cars we had quite a lineup.

There were a couple of incidents of missed turns but due to the excellent instructions, recovery was quick. One point of tour etiquette to remember: when you make a turn, make sure than the car behind you is in sight and sees you turn – even if you have to slow down, or even stop at the turn, and play catch-up afterwards.

The drives included great backroads and meandering tree lined lanes well planned and laid out in the instructions.

Ladonia this year definitely went over the top with hand cut and individually packaged watermelon, ice cold water and drinks and a special bag of goodies including moon pie. Locals came out to socialize and see the cars. It was a real TEAMWORK event planned and presented by the town.

The stop at Bug Tussle is famous with the usual enthusiastic cheer team and a great place to get a pic with the sign/store. Mercifully short in the already hot morning.

Unfortunately, the tour arrived in Bonham later than planned and the 11:30 courthouse tour went on without us. But we still had our special parking at the courthouse, local lookie-loos, and time for lunch. The local restaurants rolled out a welcome as best they can (not used to that many people at one time) and the visitor center offered AC space for eating, welcome bags and special treats.

But unfortunately, the author and his wife Lynda spent their time at O'Reilly's Auto Store on the edge of town with a dead battery and alternator. Fortunately, Club TEAMWORK kicked in and after finally deciding to send Stella ('59 Ford) home on a tow truck, we had a ride on to Paris with Jerry and Linda Smith and Nuris and Ira Hester.

Bug Tussle Trek #55 cont'd

By John Richardson

We arrived at the same time as the rest of the Tour, checked in and headed to the Hospitality Room. The Pina Colada machine was just getting warmed up (and the Colada's cooled down) and the room was full until we all headed to the banquet at Heritage Hall. Again, TEAMWORK kicked in and all the great decorations that Nichole had selected to support the Hot Wheels theme of BT 55 got set up quickly. The place looked outstanding – with racing themes, Hot Wheels photo wall, “looking cool” sunglasses and bags of goodies for kids. Hats off to the Gambulos’ for a well designed décor.

As usual the catering team put together a great buffet and then the fun festivities started with prizes and awards. Yours Truly “won” the hard luck story (we didn’t have Carey’s story at the time, otherwise he would have certainly been in the running) along with Stan Martin. Prizes for youngest/oldest drivers, furthest driven to join the tour, and a special BT award to the Senior Claytons for the longest participation in BT tours!



The hospitality room was in full swing Saturday night and there were many left enjoying the comradery and social interaction after the ‘official’ close time. Gotta love that. So, perhaps it was the late hour to bed or the Colada effect, but there were only 6 vehicles that left the hotel to return to Farmersville at the official time of 9 the next morning. But, as far as we know, everyone managed to get home safely.

In addition to the Gambulos family and a host of volunteers that helped along the way, a special thanks to Ira and Nuris Hester for being the Trailer Truck and dragging their trailer the entire trip.



Many thanks to The City of Farmersville— Marissa Tucker, Chamber of Commerce



It all started in Farmersville with about 70 cars and lots of smiles.



Our first stop was in Ladonia and the wonderful people went all out to make us welcome! Then on to Bug Tussle. The cheerleaders were at their best and worked up the crowd to go to Bonham.



In Bonham, we parked around the courthouse downtown and then spread out for lunch.



Once we finished eating, we headed to Paris and the hospitality room!! After a pina colata and a short rest, we headed to the banquet hall just a short drive away.



Lots of fun and meeting new people. We had a great time and the heat did NOT win the day. See you next year!!



Bug Tussle—Early Morning Breakdown — by Carey Frisby

Rather than answer the questions about us and the non-Bugtussle Trek, I will give everyone a brief recap. Sue had volunteered us for early morning trek packet distribution on Saturday. We left early, about 6:00 AM for the 45 minute drive to Farmersville.

On Friday, when I went to the storage to get the Pontiac, it ran just long enough to get me out of the gate and short of a busy street. Dead battery! Sue came and I took out the battery, had it checked and the garage said, battery was bad. So, they gave me a new battery. Once installed the car ran fine, but the alternator voltage was a little low. I assumed it was because the new battery was charged. Bad assumption! The battery carried us to Farmersville and I managed to coast into the Chevrolet Dealership threading our way between commuter cars bound for their destination.

The dealership opened at 8:30 so we waited for awhile. The owner came and said their service department was not open on Saturdays. But, he had some workers coming in for lube service and his parts manager was due in around 9:00. So, we waited some more. One of the mechanics came out to help and we determined the alternator was bad, at least, it was not charging. The parts guy called the automotive places. No alternator in stock, would have to order and it would be the next week for delivery. These Chevrolet folks were really nice and helped all the could to get us to the trek.

Tow truck should be the answer. We had been paying for AAA for several years and yet to need them. So, I called AAA and their computer robot helped me place an order for a tow. No problem. The tow service was in the next town, Princeton, maybe 30 minutes away. ETA was 9:35AM. At 9:45 no tow truck, and no message from the tow company. I called AAA and could not get a live person. The robot was going to help me replace the order although "it" did not know "it" had already placed the same order.

Gave up, called the tow service direct. Never received out request from AAA. They could not call, we had to reorder the tow. My head was about to explode, but I tried AAA again. New robot, new name, "*How can we help you today?*" I hung up, called the tow service and said come get us and I will deal with AAA later.

Finally, tow truck arrives about 12:30.. Easy load, the Pontiac had enough juice to get up the truck ramp. Finally got home, unloaded the Pontiac and we both collapsed!

Monday morning I removed the alternator and took it down to Advanced Starter Service in Dallas. Because I had driven far, they repaired it while I waited. Cost was \$31 and change. These people, small operation, have done a lot of older car work. I wanted to keep the car original, but could have ordered a replacement easily from many outlets.

Next project before the Fall Tour, rebuild the headlight motor gears. Let' see now, where does that last screw go???? This wonderful Firebird has low mileage, but lotta years on the components!! However, it looks good, even sitting in the garage with the hood up!

REMEMBER : check your tires

And verify your fire extinguisher

And Don't miss the fun



September Meeting Info

Again this year, we are enjoying Hosts Brady and Vicki Richard's workshop and car barn for our September 17th meeting. If you haven't been there, you want to plan to attend. It's a destination. Look in the new AACATR Directory for the list of award winning cars the Richards own and you will see what we mean.

Brady indicates that brisket is on the menu and water along with tea will be provided. Those with last names beginning with A-M please bring a small side; those with names beginning with N-Z please bring more great desserts.

Location: 10931 Indian Trail, Dallas, Tx., 75229 Roughly in the southeast corner of 635 and 35, just north of Royal.

Time: 1PM for the Board Meeting and 2PM for the rest of the club.

See yall there!!

More Car Shows Coming up

This notice is about a car show at **Sam Pack's Museum** at 2070 Diplomat in Farmers Branch on **September 9**. Everyone is invited and will have free admission into his museum. The organizer would like our members to bring their cars and park together and have a personal session with Sam. They are expecting 200-250 cars like the old cars and coffee event. If members would like their car judged there would be a \$25.00 registration fee, but it is not mandatory. Awards would be presented between **1:00 and 2:00 pm**. Live music and food trucks will be there.

JEFF

BOPC Car Show: Saturday Oct 28, 2023 9am-3pm

The Buick, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, Cadillac Car show will be hosted by the Lone Star Chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club. For more info contact 972-762-8391.

The Show will be held at Gateway Classic Cars, 1250 Mustang Drive, Grapevine, Tx.

Fall Tour October 7, 8

Editor's Comments

By John Richardson

This month I wanted to highlight one of our Club's best characteristics – TEAMWORK. It often seems like it's ingrained in our genes, or just what we do. But I've seen it through so many incidents this past year. Need a helping hand? You get multiple volunteers.... Car broke? People jump right in and do what ever they can to help – your problem is their problem.... Need a lift? You get a choice of options.... Meeting set up/break down? Magically happens.... Event preparation? Just name the date and time...

As one recently mentioned, it's a "family of car and truck members". Nothing's perfect in a family, but a family still sticks together and supports the unit, even though we don't always agree. So, be a part of the TEAM!



About our AACATR Website

By John Richardson

As Cole recently announced at the last meeting, we have officially gotten support from National for a club website provided FREE from AACA. Chris Stathopulo 'volunteered' to be the website manager and get it set up through AACA, and the Spotlight Editor team will help with content. Our hope is by the end of the year we'll be migrated to the website for publishing and storing previous Spotlights, calendars, upcoming events, and a special visitor's section for information about the club, invitation to meetings, and how to join. We think that we can use it for Classified, car show information and other things as a one-stop-shop for our members and visitors. We look forward to this exciting source for our club.

[Many thanks](#) to [JEFF PODMERS](#) for passing along info about several car shows in the area. If you're looking for an old car show, try [old-ride.com](#) and/or [carcruisefinder.com](#).

Also, Jeff let us know about Wheels for Wellness in Downtown Ft. Worth, Sept 16, 10-3. More details can be found at [www.wheelsforwellness.ORG](#). This is always a fun event in Ft. Worth and of course, it's for a great cause.

70th Texas Tour May 16-19 2024

Granbury, TX. *Mark your calenders.*

<https://thetexastour.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheTexasTour>

Sunshine Report

By Nuris Hester

Happy Hot August...plenty of Sunshinehot , hot, hot....but that didn't hold anyone back from attendance at Bug Tussle! Below is the coolest cooler with our Lady Bug theme , full of drinks which a number of trekkers enjoyed during the 107 degree Bug Tussle Trek day. Veteran Trekkers Charlie Gambulous Sr and Ann Reznicek drove to Farmsville to see us off and wish us well as Sandy Clayton started the Trek with a traditional cheer!



I sent a number of "how are you?" e-Cards to members we have missed seeing and got response from two: Royce and Clydette saying they appreciate prayers and well wishes; Royce is doing his best to complete therapies. They don't loose hope they might join us.

George and Martha were hoping to help Charlie and Nichole at our last meeting and then enjoy Bug Tussle but once again they were hit with Covid.

Although Bev couldn't attend our last meeting Jeff did but with a broken shoulder ; he still managed to provide some help with a cheerful attitude. Many hands made light work in the end. This Texas Region AACA is the best club!

Doug and Susie's truck decided to quit on them after the meeting but several members tried to troubleshoot the issue...finally got home had to put truck in shop for more "advanced care". While many were wondering were Carey and Sue were at Bug Tussle , they too had car troubles and unfortunately didn't make it to Farmsville. That may have been the "Fall tune-up tour" which made sure their antique auto will be completely road-worthy for the upcoming Fall Tour which they will be leading. Thank you Carey for being our tour director this year. We are looking forward to the Fall Tour in the much cooler October where we get to revisit Paris and beyond .

That cooler pictured above came in handy as our two spotlight directors and wives, plus the trouble-truck aka Straggle Master , waited at O-Reillys in Bonham for a part to arrive to repair the Richardsons gorgeous Ford Skyline hardtop convertible...they were unable to deliver but John and Lynda did not allow that to put a damper on the fun evening Charlie and Nichole had planned in Paris.The Bug Tussle dinner was super fun and the following day it was our pleasure to continue the fellowship with the Richardsons while we dropped them off in Plano, happy to hear their 1959 Ford made it safely home as well.

AACA TEXAS REGION FALL TOUR

October 7th—Sunday October 8th

The AACA Texas Region Fall Tour will be a leisurely drive from North Texas to Hugo, Oklahoma via back roads departing from Buc-ee's on US 75, Exit 45, north of McKinney, Texas. Be ready to leave promptly at 9:30 AM. We will drive at 45 MPH, but as you know the cars at the end will be driving faster, so plan accordingly for which vehicle you will drive. The plan is to have two stops, the first at Bonham, at an Exxon station, about one hour after leaving Buc-ee's. The next stop will be about 75 miles to Boswell, Oklahoma at a nice Choctaw station. From there it is a short drive to Hugo and lunch at Angie's Circus City Diner. Total miles to Hugo from Buc-ee's is about 120 miles.

After lunch we will drive a short distance back through town to the Frisco Depot Museum which is a fascinating array of period items on the history of Hugo and the influence of the circus business and the railroad. Your tour package will include some information on the "Harvey Girls" which will also be well represented in the museum collection.

From the museum we will drive to Paris, Tx and the Holiday Inn for our overnight. At the Inn we will have Happy Hour at 5-6 PM, depending on our arrival time and check in. H Later, we will order in pizza and salads for a "stay in" dinner in the hospitality room. Water will be provided, so BYOB, be it soft or hard!

Note: Hotel Reservations need to be made by September 7 to get the good rate of \$98 (\$113.68 with tax).

Rate goes to \$129++ after that. Reservations **MUST** be cancelled by OCT 4 (72 hrs) or room will be charged to your credit card.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

903-785-0088 will be the best number to call. Please ask for reservations to be created in the AACA Fall Tour group block.

Booking link: [AACAFallTour-BookingLink-HolidayInnExpressParisTX](#)

Comfort Inn & Suites (overflow)

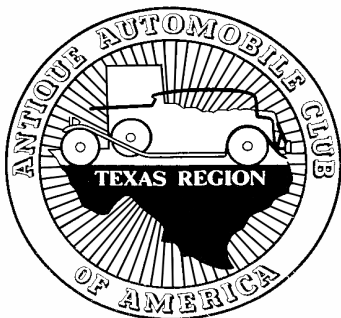
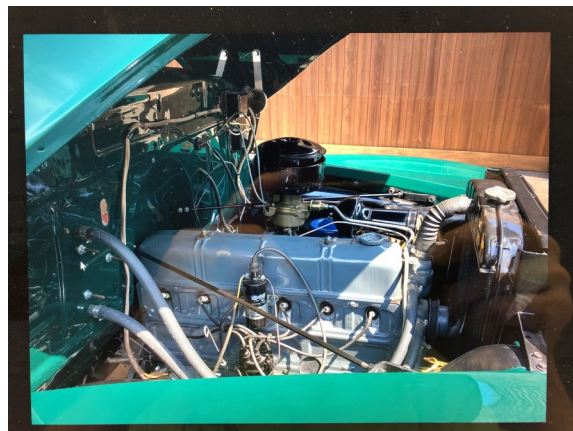
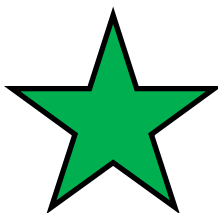
903-785-0089 will be the best number to call! Please ask for reservations to be created in the AACA Fall Tour group block.

Booking Link: <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/PD77M2>

Spotlight Classifieds

FOR SALE

1. a 1952 Cheverolet pickup, appears to be all original but in great shape, purchased from Barrett-Jackson in 2012. \$42,500 Contact MichaelSmithGreene@gmail.com.



God Bless America



Random Stuff whether parts and/or information, share here.

AACATRSpotlight@gmail.com

Spotlight Classifieds

2. For Sale 1951 Studebaker Champion 2-door



Please contact: Chuck Geserick 817.401.2844

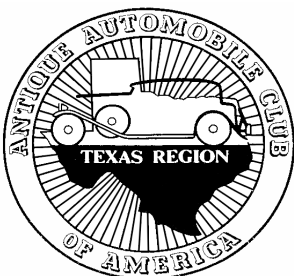
8400 Brookhaven Drive North Richland Hills, Texas 76182 Chuck.geserick@gmail.com \$7500 obo

70th Texas Tour May 16-19 2024

Granbury, TX. *Mark your calenders.*

<https://thetexastour.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheTexasTour>



God Bless America



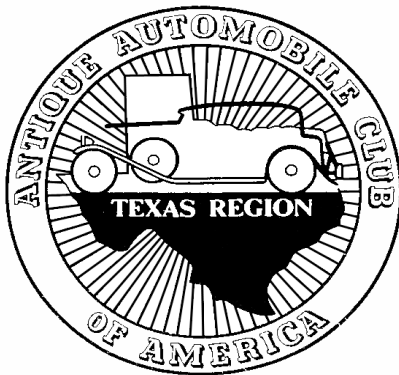
Spotlight Classifieds

3. FOR SALE: 1955 Chrysler C 300

Award winning beauty, needs a new home. Someone that cares about the classic car life. Drive away for \$80,000. Anyone knows **Royce Kidd**, understands how he took care of his cars. He is no longer able to keep all, and I only have a little time for starts and driving.

Contact Clydette or Royce at 682-472-5812

Contact Clydette or Royce at



God Bless America



Random Stuff whether parts and/or information, share here.

AACATRSpotlight@gmail.com

Spotlight Classifieds

4. For Sale: 1936 Packard looks and runs great: asking \$25,000

Contact David Burleson via contact info below:

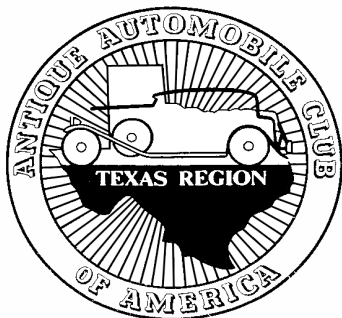


David Burleson

936 377 4879

936 581 9816

dburleson@gmail.com



God Bless America



DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS FOR 2023

PRESIDENT	Cole Clayton	kc5swi@verizon.net	817-313-6661
1ST V. P.	Kim Keith	keithtammy@sbcglobal.net	214-803-0352
2ND V. P.	Charlie Gambulos II	cgambulos@yahoo.com	214-924-3086
SECRETARY	Judy Kerr-Guysinger	jkerr@palmer-isd.org	214-327-5642
TREASURER	Kaiden Lenner	2klenner@gmail.com	402-770-2634
DIRECTORS	Nichole Gambulos	nmwaggoner@gmail.com	713-402-8418
	Al Mahanna	home@mailroom.ws	314-614-2884
	Jeff Podmers	Jeff.bev50@gmail.com	817-625-2061
	Joel Roper	coach.ropers@verizon.net	903-357-1872
	Chris Stathopulo	ccstathos@juno.com	972-931-3767
TOUR DIR(s)	Carey Frisby	cwfrisby@gmail.com	214-697-9666
BUG TUSSLE DIRECTOR	Charlie Gambulos II	cgambulos@yahoo.com	214-924-3086

COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS FOR 2023

CLUB GREETERS	Claire Clayton Charlie Gambulos	
HISTORIAN	Nichole Gambulos	713-402-8418
PARTICIPATION	John and Denise Velde	214-384-7616
MEMBERSHIP	Kathy Clayton	817-933-0898
PATE SWAP	Charlie Gambulos II	214-924-3086
SPOTLIGHT EDITORS	Jerry Smith John Richardson	972-567-2403 214-914-6742
SUNSHINE	Nuris Hester	817-846-8995

2023 CALENDAR

3rd Sunday at 2pm Monthly

Sept 17: Meeting
The Richard's business
(Vicki and Brady)
10931 Indian Trail,
Dallas, Tx. 75229

Oct 7, 8: Fall Tour
More details in this issue

Oct 15: Meeting
John & Lynda's: address and
directions in Oct issue

Nov 19: Meeting
Dec Christmas Party: 12-3-23
Brookhaven CC, Hosted by
Kip and Debra Lankenau