



SOUTHERN FOURS AND EIGHTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN MORGAN GROUP MOGSOUTH VOL.2/01

MOGSouth 2001 Spring Meet

May 4, 5 and 6, 2001

Someplace Else

Oak Island, North Carolina

Mae and John Councill are organizing the Spring Meet for 2001 and details are outlined below. Thank you to Mae and John for volunteering to host this meet, it sounds great!

As John and I began to plan for the spring meet to be headquartered at our beach house, *Someplace Else*, on Oak Island, we realized that those of you who have been trying to find Oak Island on your South Carolina maps have probably given up. Maybe we can clear up the confusion. It is actually in North Carolina. To make things even more difficult, the town of Oak Island was, until July of 1999, called Long Beach and Yaupon Beach. At that time, the two municipalities joined to become the town of Oak Island, which is on the long-named Oak Island. Many Baptists in the Carolinas know the island as the place where they went to camp at the Baptist Assembly Grounds. This facility is on the opposite end of the island from our house.

We will offer accommodations in a duplex next door and at a small motel about one mile away. Each side of the duplex has 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. If you have very close friends you would like to share a bath with, that is great. However we feel that only 2 families will want to occupy each side of the duplex. The rental rate will be approximately \$85 per night per family. You will have a full kitchen, etc. The motel

is small, clean, and at the nearest marina and restaurant. Each room has 2 double beds, and a small refrigerator. The manager says they are not the Hilton and that is correct. But it appears to be clean and neat. The room rate will be \$59 plus tax per night. Call the Blue Water Point Marina Motel at 910-278-1230 to make reservations. They are holding 10 rooms until April 1, 2001

Oak Island is not very far from Myrtle Beach in miles, but is very different in atmosphere. We have no high rises, not many gaudy junk shops, and lots less traffic. We do have a nice wide beach (on our end of the island at least), one golf course, and a miniature golf course. If the weather cooperates, you may just want to sit on the deck and enjoy the sun and surf. We have a new horseshoe pitching set (correct name?), 2 bicycles (no gears-beach cruisers), lots of fishing equipment, and lots of area for beach walking. There are piers nearby for fishing and bait. Many people surf fish also.

The town of Southport is about 30 minutes from *Someplace Else*. It is an old town, was once the deepest harbor other than St. Augustine on the East Coast. There is a walking tour of the town. Many movies

and TV shows are at least partially filmed here. One of the most recognized houses is the "Crimes of the Heart" house. Unfortunately, it isn't open to the public. There are many homes dating from the mid-to-late 1800s, as well as Victorian homes. The town has a nice Visitors Center with lots of information. There is a ferry from Southport to Fort Fisher, across the Cape Fear River. The ride takes about 30 minutes each way and costs about \$3. You can take your car over or just ride over and back. Orton Gardens is a lovely private estate you can visit. It is about 15 minutes from Southport. They have wonderful azaleas and camellias if they are still in bloom in early May. I will have that information for you upon arrival.

We plan to have the usual Friday PM get together at *Someplace Else* with Lexington, NC barbeque and the usual side dishes for dinner. The marina restaurant has good food, but is rather small and doesn't take reservations. That is an alternative for ~~anyone who doesn't want barbeque~~. John's favorite breakfast place is just up the beach. Actually, it's about seven miles-a straight shot, and worth the drive for breakfast lovers. I will have bagels, coffee cake, fruit, juice and coffee at the house for those who prefer a lighter breakfast. On Saturday night we'll go into Southport for dinner at the only place that will take reservations. It is quite good with a variety of dishes, seafood (both fried and the more gourmet types), steak, pasta.

Directions: Oak Island is between Wilmington, NC and Myrtle Beach, SC. It is a relatively long drive from Atlanta. From Georgia and SC, you will head toward Florence, SC, then toward the SC/NC state line near Little River (north of No. Myrtle Beach). From this point, take US hwy 17N toward Wilmington. About 20 miles after you cross into NC, take a right on hwy 211 toward Southport. (Most anyone attending the meet will eventually arrive at this intersection. I'll get specific directions to anyone who is attending. These directions

will give most all of you an idea of distances.) Travel 14 miles to hwy 133. Turn right on 133. There is a grocery, McDonalds, etc. at the intersection. Travel about 5 miles, go over the bridge, then turn right at the light. Proceed several miles until you reach the next light. Turn left--this will be E. 58th St. After about 1/4 mile, the street makes a sharp right. You are now on Beach Dr. Keep going for about 7 miles. The motel is on W.57th St. to the right. *Someplace Else* and *At Last* (the duplex) are the last two houses on the beachfront. If you wish to stay in the duplex, please make your reservations with John and me. We have reserved it and paid the rental. When you call, I'll have exact rental amounts. If you wish to make motel reservations, call the Blue Water Point Marina Motel at 910-278-1230. They are holding 10 rooms until April 1. The rate is \$59 plus tax per night. The duplex rate will be about \$85 per family per night.

We hope to see you May 4, 2001 at the beach! More information will be sent to those who make reservations. Thanks to all of you who are coming.

Mae and John Councill
(828) 264-8655
PO Box 449
Boone, NC 28607

MCCDC-MOG 31 Update

MOG South member Joe Topinka writes:

"Sharon and I have a farm, our retirement retreat, about 18 miles from The Ingelside Resort, site of MOG 31. Also, my 60th birthday happens to be June 30, 2001 and as such I want you all to share it with us.

I have contracted with a great five piece country music band and a guy to barbeque a whole pig and have suggested to the MCCDC that we start the party with a wine tasting, the Stonebridge winery is about three miles from the farm, and nibbles at the winery, then progress to our farm for barbeque, beer, wine and country music.

I have agreed to underwrite 1/2 of the party if you all sing happy birthday and show a bit of humility to my advanced age.

Please, talk up MOG 31 to MOGSouth club members. The resort is beautiful and it is in the middle of the Shenandoah Valley with an incredible amount of history and fantastic winding country roads. Hope you all can make it."

JOE TOPINKA

(Thank you Joe for your generous gesture and for the invitation to celebrate your 60th!)

As mentioned in previous newsletters, MCCDC, has selected The Ingelside Resort in Staunton, VA as the site of MOG 31, their annual Morgan Owners Gathering. The dates are June 29-July 2, 2001 and the resort is now taking reservations at (540) 248-1201. Rooms are \$60 to \$65 per night. The Flat Rad is the featured car this year and MCCDC is offering a discounted registration fee for the event to owners of Flat Rads.

This location is approximately 500 miles from Atlanta but is certainly closer than recent MOGs. The site can be reached by traveling the Blue Ridge Parkway almost the entire distance. Several members are discussing the possibility of a caravan to MOG 31 via the Parkway, taking several days each way for the trip.

So far I have heard from the Cummins and the McOmbers about the Parkway trip and Rick "keep all three wheels on the ground" and Sam Frazee say they are planning to meet Pinehurst, North Carolina residents, Jack and Pat Zimmerman on their way to MOG 31.

At this time, I would suggest that anyone from Atlanta leave on the evening of Tuesday, June 26 or early morning, Wednesday, June 27 with plans to arrive in Staunton on the afternoon of Friday, June 29. This would mean several nights on the road and close to 200 miles per day via the Parkway, where the speed limit is 45MPH. Members from further north can meet us along the way. We could pick up the Parkway near Sylva, NC, as we did at the

Spring Meet held in Little Switzerland and then travel the entire Parkway to its end near Staunton, VA. We could come off the Parkway at night to stay in nearby motels and then re-join the Parkway the next morning.

The return trip south could begin the afternoon of Monday, July 2 with arrival in Atlanta on Wednesday, July 4.

Personally, this schedule would require that I take five days vacation but should make for a leisurely and pleasant trip. I would be glad to discuss this itinerary or schedule or any alternative ideas. If you have interest in participating, please let me know at (404) 634-9674 or at my Email address: rjohnson@monoexpress.com.

The Last Word On Dues

To date approximately 75% of our 90 dues paying members have paid their dues for 2001. Thank you! Dues for the calendar year 2001 were due and payable January 1, 2001. Dues remain \$25.00. Dues are for the calendar year and are not pro-rated unless you are a new member and paid your initial dues in November or December 2000. To remain a member in good standing and to continue to receive the newsletter, please mail your check for \$25.00 payable to **MOGSouth** to:

Randy Johnson
1794 Fair Oaks Place
Decatur, Georgia 30033-1449

After this newsletter I will purge the mailing list and club roster of those members who have not paid their dues and will assume you are no longer interested in membership in MOGSouth.



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 DECATUR, GEORGIA 30033-1449



Mark and Andrea Braunstein
 205 Northbrook Way
 Greenville, SC 29615

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