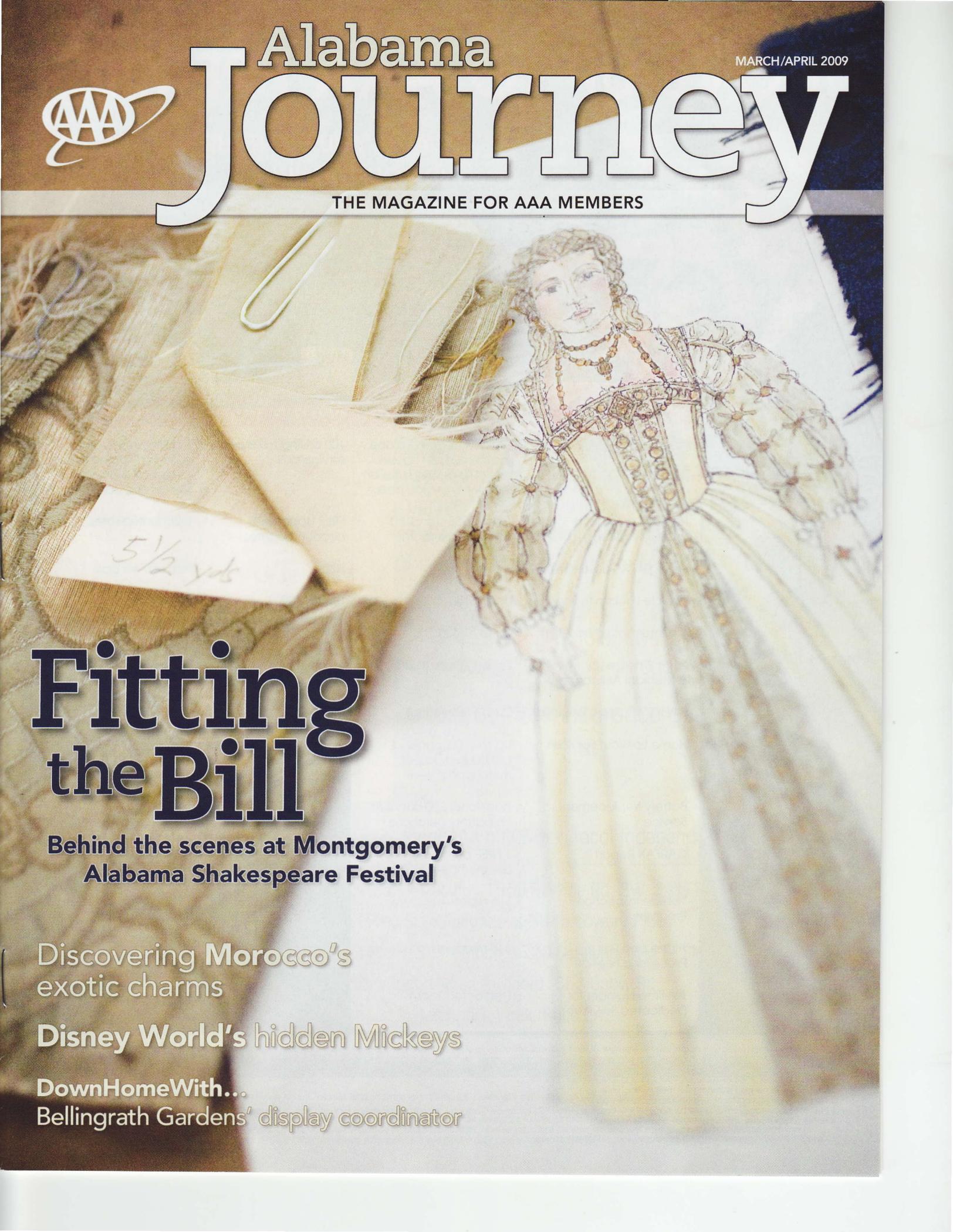




Alabama Journey

MARCH/APRIL 2009

THE MAGAZINE FOR AAA MEMBERS



Fitting the Bill

Behind the scenes at Montgomery's
Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Discovering Morocco's
exotic charms

Disney World's hidden Mickeys

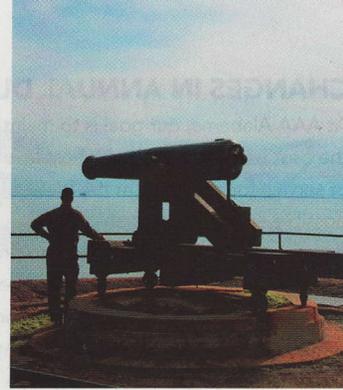
DownHomeWith...
Bellingrath Gardens' display coordinator

MUSTANG'S 45TH BIRTHDAY RIDE



Mustang lovers know that 2009 is the muscle car's 45th anniversary, and in celebration, **Mustangs Across America** has organized a convoy tour of six cities April 11–16. Mustang owners and enthusiasts from across the country and around the world will converge in Las Vegas, Nevada, on April 11 to begin a five-day drive that ends in Birmingham, where Mustangs of America will host a show at Barber Motorsports Park April 17–19. The convoy will travel about 400 miles per day, with an assortment of stops and fun activities planned. The cars will rumble past Route 66's many ghost towns in the West before staying overnight in Mustang, Oklahoma; stopping in Dallas, Texas; then heading through Louisiana and Mississippi. Registration for the event costs \$45, and more than 500 cars both new and old are expected to participate. mustangsacrossamerica.com.

—Jenny Bengen



Park It

Volunteers across the country will paint, clean, and restore more than 100 historic battlefields, cemeteries, and monuments on April 4, **Park Day**, sponsored by the Civil War Preservation Trust. Last year, volunteers built replica bunks for the living-history program at Fort Gaines Historic Site on Dauphin Island. Site manager Melinda Oalman explains that Park Day allows her "to get big projects done, and it also makes people aware of saving our historic sites." Five Alabama locations are expected to participate this year: Fort Gaines Historic Site, Fort Morgan Historic Site, Historic Blakeley State Park, Old Cahawba Archaeological Park, and Pond Spring. (202) 367-1861; civilwar.org/parkday.

—Amy Williams Bernstein

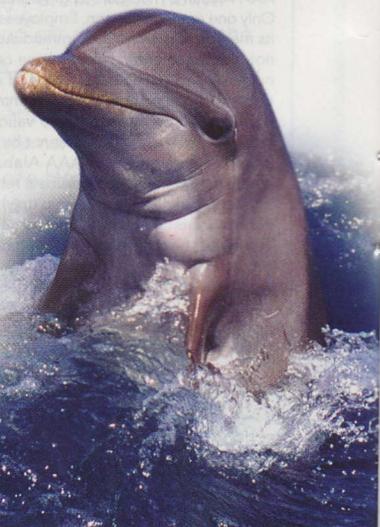
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: FORD MOTOR CO.; MILTON FULLMAN; ©2009 JUPITERIMAGES CORPORATION

Fun With Flipper

Watching wild dolphins frolic in their natural habitat can be thrilling. But it can also put the friendly mammals at risk: Too much exposure to humans can disturb their natural behaviors, including migration, breeding, feeding, and sheltering. A new voluntary program called Dolphin SMART (sanctuaries.noaa.gov/dolphinSMART) aims to protect the wild creatures. To earn recognition as a Dolphin SMART participant, tour boat operators take a four-hour training course, go on a ride-along with a program representative, and have their marketing materials reviewed. Upon successful completion, boat operators receive a decal and a flag. —Sarah Pirch

Everyone can be Dolphin SMART by following the program's guidelines:

- S**tay at least 50 yards from dolphins
- M**ove away cautiously if dolphins show signs of disturbance
- A**lways put your engine in neutral when dolphins are near
- R**efrain from swimming with, touching, or feeding wild dolphins
- T**each others to be Dolphin SMART



TOP: SAVANAHVISIT.COM; BOTTOM: ANNE EVANS