



The Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter, Vol. 45, No. 11, November 2012

An interview with Bobby Peterson

Bobby Peterson lives in a very nice neighborhood in West Mobile. His house sits on a large lot and as we drove up the driveway I noted that everything seemed really neat and tidy. Bobby greeted us and we entered his kitchen. Again, very neat, clean and tidy. I thought either this guy is a clean freak or he's been blessed with the best housekeeper around. Bobby urged us to go into his living room and there it was, dead center on his hardwood floor, surrounded by Victorian style furniture and draperies: his 1912 Metz; new wood, bright red paint, stripped metal. Okay, maybe he's not a clean freak, but definitely a car freak, and definitely one who lives alone!



Bobby was born in San Antonio, TX, where his father was stationed. He was very young when his father became ill and, as both of his parents were from Mobile, his father was reassigned back here. Bobby graduated from Vigor High School, attended Faulkner in Bay Minette, then the University of South Alabama. During this time he was notified that he was to be drafted. However, he never entered the draft as he was sent home with sole survivor status as he was an only child who had to attend to his widowed mother. He subsequently attended Bishop State where he obtained a certificate in electronics. He subsequently obtained employment in Destin. While in Destin he took up surfing (why do I hear Beach Boy music?). After two years he returned to Mobile to get married. Bobby has two children, a boy and girl, and two grandsons whom he enjoys immensely.



While Bobby was in High School, he worked at the State Docks. He stated that he pretty much grew up there with his co-workers preparing him for life (you'll have to ask him for details). When he returned to Mobile from Destin, he briefly returned to the Docks as a bookkeeper. Subsequently he worked for Blue Print Equipment in sales and servicing, running along the Northern Gulf coast. Next he worked for Northern Telecomm providing sales and services for their data terminals. He started working for Southern Blue Print in 1986 and in 2007 started his own business. He started with three employees and now employs seven.

Continued on Page 3

Message from the DSR President

Greetings to all the DSR members & Friends! I'm looking forward to Nov 17th at the Club House & if you don't know about this we are having our 2nd Road Rally of the year. So if you have not signed up, you need to contact Tim & Stacey for information. We will also have our Thanksgiving Lunch following the Rally at the Club House.

Most of us know Walt Fuller had surgery on Nov 7th & lets keep him & Ms Martha in our thoughts & prayers. It was so good to see Herb & Nancy Thoms at our monthly meeting. Ms Nancy has really had a time over the last few months but is on the mend. I knew it when the 50/50 was won by her winning ticket. (WAY TO GO)

My friend David Leff had a good report after his 3rd Chemo treatment on the 6th of Nov. but still got a long way to go. We were involved in a fund raiser on Saturday Nov.10th at McDonald Muffler for David. It never ceases to amaze me the number of local people that turned out for the event. We had plenty of our own members from the Club participating. I personally want to thank all of you that helped & supported the event. Hoping not to leave anyone out, but just a few of our own I talked with were Trey & Evelyn Chaudron, Rick Chisolm, Brian Daily, Brian & Brian Jr Elliott, Buddy Givens, Tracy Metclaf, Buddy & Pat Paquet, John Pendergrass, Bobby Peterson & new members to our club Charlie Leaver with his wife & 2 children. There may have been others & apologize if I didn't have the opportunity to talk or see you. We were trying to take a vehicle count & it was hard to do this with so many cruising in & out, but at one time we nailed down between 85 & 90 vehicles. Carquest Auto Parts own Joan Fowler & Billy Jones put this all together for an outstanding time. David was just over whelmed with all the people that came out for the event. No greater medicine I think could have been administered for David on this day. David's son Harrison kept everybody in line for the

Day with live music, Barbeque, Burgers, Hot Dog's & of course Don with DJ Express. In closing, remember your membership dues for 2013 can be paid now to Bobby Peterson. Have a great & blessed Thanksgiving. Zeno

Zeno

The Sparkplug is published by the Deep South Region (DSR) chapter of the Antique Automobiles of America organization. The non-profit and the information of club members and friends. DSR meetings are held every fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the clubhouse located at 951 Forest Hill Drive in Mobile, Alabama. Membership in the Antique Automobile Club of America is required to be a member of this Region. Annual local dues are \$15.00; AACA national dues are \$35.00. Ownership of an antique vehicle is not a requirement for membership.



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**2013 DSR/AACA Dues
Payable by December 31st**

An Interview with Bobby Peterson (continued)

Bobby started flying in 1978 and is currently licensed for both land and sea landings. He's a member of the Bates Field Aero Club which owns three planes. He flies about once a month. He can regale you about his attempt to land near the Dolly Parton Bridge with his kids in the plane and a deer on the landing strip.

Bobby has 13 motorcycles, mostly vintage Hondas and Triumphs. He has a very tall Kawasaki. With regard to his interest in cars, his first car was his Mother's 1952 Chevrolet. She allowed him to order her a new car in 1966 and he ordered her a high performance Chevelle. Apparently it took her a while to realize it was a high performance car and that not all "new" cars ran like hers. When Bobby was 19 he bought his first new car, a 1967 Chevelle which he still owns. It's still his favorite. He says he really wanted a Corvette but realized that not only could he not afford the car, he couldn't afford the insurance. He said that he was not impressed with the cigar-smoking salesman who was skeptical about his ability to pay for the Chevelle. As he was 19, his mother had to sign for the car. When he took ownership, Bobby was late for work and irritated at the salesman. So, he burned out of the parking lot, directly in front of his mother. When he got home, she confiscated his keys. He had his keys confiscated on other occasions, but you can ask him about that.

In 1973, Bobby started a complete restoration of his Ford Model A. The previous owner had used it to get boats in and out of Fowl River, so the back end was mostly gone. It's a beautiful navy blue now and was recently used to deliver a bride to the church. He restored and still owns a 1961 MGA and is working on a 1957 Corvette that belonged to a close friend who died. Other cars include the Metz, a 1975 Corvette convertible, 1984 Prelude, and a 1975 Jeep Wagoneer. He has a 21 foot Scarab boat that he also restored. It has a Corvette engine in it. His last acquisition was a 1968 Triumph TR250.



All of these cars are very well placed in his garages. Parts of the 1957 Corvette and the Metz are in different places, but even his most disorganized area (about one car bay in size) looks relatively organized. This does, however, leave us with a Metz in the living room. Bobby says he can disassemble it and get it all out the front door. Like most of you, I want to see how this happens.

Submitted by Paul Dagenais



**Check out the Deep South Region Website at:
<http://local.aaca.org/deepsouth/>**



Sixth DSR First Saturday Breakfast Nov. 3, 2012
By Patt Paquet

Saturday, Nov. 3rd, turned out to be a near record-setting high temperature in our little corner of the world. However, that came about after seven DSR members met at the BurgerMaster Restaurant in Eight Mile for a good breakfast and even better fellowship.

It had been many, many years since either Buddy or myself had patronized this somewhat of a landmark in that area and so much had changed. When I became an unhappy Texan-in-exile who moved with my then Air Force husband to Mobile, Eight Mile was a different world. We were transferred here for his discharge and I admit it took some time for me to acclimate – in a lot of ways. My then never-met mother-in-law owned and ran a fruit stand about a quarter of a mile south of the BurgerMaster. To make a long story short, I had my trial by fire working there the first winter we were here. The thing I remember most is that I could never figure out why she and her significant other made trips to New Orleans about every 10 days to bring back a truckload of 50 pound bags of sugar. (I did finally figure it out – this was in the very early 1960's and lots of moonshine was still being made in north Mobile County.)

Back to today's outing – chowing down was: 1 (F) Bobo, 2 Chaudrons, 2 Crowells and 2 Paquets. Seems as if our "breakfast bunch" is dwindling. We enjoyed sharing some early morning time discussing everything from what we were seeing on TV about people in the northeast trying to recover from Super Storm Sandy to getting ready for the Nov. 10th benefit for David Leff, a well known member of the automobile – old and new – community.

The BurgerMaster has been around for so long, probably the owner is the only one who knows exactly when it opened. But nearly everyone in the Eight Mile neighborhood, as well as lots of other folks, thought the end had come on Sept. 22, 2008 when it was gutted by fire. Employees scrambled for safety and customers left behind half-eaten meals when the flames broke out. Fortunately, the original grill was spared and went back into the new building. All of us having breakfast there were thankful that we had a well-seasoned one for our food.

Hopefully all the regulars will be back for our December get-together and the "breakfast bunch" will grow.



Foy was the last to arrive which made him the photographer

Annual Dues

Annual dues for 2013 are due to be paid by the end of the year. DSR dues are \$15.00. AACA dues are \$35.00. AACA dues may be paid directly to AACA or you may provide a check payable to DSR for \$50.00. DSR will forward your AACA dues for you. Please note your AACA membership number on your check.

Please send your dues payment by December 31st to:

Bobby Peterson
DSR Treasurer
924 Butler Drive
Mobile, AL 36693

Note: You must be an AACA member to have a membership in the DSR. Membership renewal is due December 31st.

Shirley Looney Memorial Car Show By Herb Thoms

If you are going to have a car show, I can't think of a better venue than at Dauphin Way Baptist Church. Plenty of paved parking, all kinds of activities, plenty of vendors, great music, indoor plumbing, and the finest hosts anywhere. The weather however was another thing. It was cold and windy and as the day wore on, it got colder and windier. Nancy shared a blanket she had in the "B" and made a friend of a stranger.

This show has all the amenities: Top 30 Awards; Sponsor Awards; door prizes (everyone got at least one); and food and drinks for sale. All of the DSR members there got a Top 30 or sponsor award, or both. Members present were: the Chadrons, Bob Gechijian, the Elliots, Steve Goren, Ed Grimes, Ross Sloan (who sponsored many awards), and Herb and Nancy Thoms. It was cold, but we all had a good time. It was a day well spent.

Note from Herb: Saturday Nancy and I had the chance to see and hold out first great grand son. His name is Chase Ethan Thoms and lives in Diamond Head MS.

Each to his own



It is always interesting to see what shows up at the USA Speech and Hearing Center. Usually it's the patients, not their vehicles. This car showed up in October. Some of it was plywood and some of it was what looked to be 1 x 6 boards – and as is obvious, different stains were used. I hunted around to see if we could determine who the owner was, but no one fessed up. Unfortunately, it disappeared while I was in my office and the ladies in the front office didn't notice who was leaving in it. Any guesses as to what it is?

Submitted by Paul Dagenais

THE NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING OF THE DSR WILL BE NOVEMBER 17TH

Saturday November 17th is the date for the Fall Car Rally, the Thanksgiving Luncheon and the Monthly Meeting at the Club House

Those wishing to participate in the rally must have a driver, a navigator and road worthy car. THIS IS NOT A RACE. Those who wish to participate should be at the clubhouse by 8:30.

The route starts and ends at the clubhouse. The course goes through Springhill and Midtown with questions being asked items along the way. Cars will be released to the roadway starting at 9:00 a.m., with a three minute interval between cars. Please arrive early enough to receive instructions and get your handout for the course. Winners will be announced at the December meeting. For more information, contact Tim or Stacy Lawrence (251-401-3019) or Paul Dagenais (251-610-4533).



The luncheon will follow the rally, approximately at noon. YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE IN THE RALLY TO ATTEND THE LUNCHEON – EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Martha Fuller, our refreshment coordinator is organizing the meal with assistance from Patt Paquet, our secretary. Martha can be reached at 251-602-1931 and Patt at 251-661-4009.

The November Monthly DSR meeting will be held after the meal.

LET'S HAVE A GOOD TURNOUT!!!



DSR Officers for 2012

President Zeno Chaudron 251-423-0946
Vice President Walt Fuller 215-602-1931
Secretary Patt Paquet 251-661-4009
Treasurer Bobby Peterson 251-342-8960
Editor Paul Dagenais 251-610-4533
Activities Tim and Stacy Lawrence
..... 251-401-3019
Member-at-Large Peter Pearce
..... 251-422-7318

Appointees and/or Volunteers

Chaplain Kevin Crowell... 251-802-4640
Historian Patt Paquet 251-661-4009
Program Chairman Ernie Rogers
..... 251-604-5368
Refreshments Martha Fuller
..... 251-602-1931
Webmaster Herb Thoms.. 251-654-2933

Deep South Region AACA General Membership Meeting Oct. 25, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by the President with 20 members, four of which were officers, and five adult guests plus two children in attendance. The invocation was given by B. Peterson in the absence of Chaplain K. Crowell who was absent due to recently having had surgery. The President led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OLD BUSINESS: The President introduced our guest speaker, Ms. Kim Hastie, Mobile County License Commissioner. Ms. Hastie was accompanied by Ramona Yeager, her assistant, who has been with the License Commissioner's office for 38 years. Kim provided especially useful handouts covering licensing of vintage vehicles and gave a very informative talk on what future

changes could be expected and answered questions from members. President Chaudron thanked the Bobos for their hospitality in hosting the Oct. 13th outing at their vacation river home in Mississippi. The treasurer and editor had no old business. The VP, Activities Coordinators and the Member-at-Large were absent. The Secretary asked for a motion to approved the minutes of the September meeting if there were no corrections, deletions or additions to be made. A motion by C. Lyles was seconded by J. Henderson and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: The President asked for a report from the Nominating Committee for 2013 officers. In the absence of Chairman K. Crowell, members J. Pendergrass and B. Peterson offered the following: President: Zeno Chaudron; VP: Foy Bobo; Secretary: Tracy Metclaf; Treasurer: Bobby Peterson; Editor: Paul Dagenais. Herb Thoms agreed to continue as Webmaster. The Committee will continue to work to fill the other vacancies. Secretary P. Paquet suggested that all the left over merchandise from the DSR 2012 Car Show taking up space in the clubhouse be donated to the benefit auction to be held on Nov. 10 for David Leff, a member of the Mobile automobile community. A motion to do this was made by P. Paquet, seconded by C. Lyles and approved by the membership. P. Paquet also requested permission on behalf of herself, and other DSR members Buddy Paquet and Steve Goren to use the clubhouse on Friday, Dec. 7th from 10am-2pm for their Cardio-Pulmonary group's Christmas Lunch. A motion to permit was made by N. Thoms, seconded by J. Henderson and approved. Treasurer B. Peterson reviewed the October Financial Statement. Being no questions, a motion to approved was made by B. Paquet, seconded by T. Miller and carried. He also noted he would be accepting 2013 dues after the meeting. In the absence of T. & S. Lawrence, Secretary P. Paquet reviewed the immediate upcoming activities: (1) A request for vehicles for a new Christmas Parade in the Dawes Community and (2) members choice for a Christmas get-together. After some discussion, it was agreed to postpone a decision on the Dawes Christmas Parade until A/C Lawrence had an opportunity to talk with the Parade Chairman. With regard to a Christmas event, after a brief discussion a motion by H. Thoms that we have a Year-End party as we have done once before was seconded by T. Metclaf. It was agreed to hold it on Saturday, Dec. 29th at the clubhouse. Details will be worked out and available at the November 17th meeting. The President had previously introduced Charlie Leaver, a representative of Advance Auto Parts. At this time Mr. Leaver gave an outline of how the company planned to work with DSR on the 2013 Mother's Day Car Show which received a round of applause. The President noted that now is the time for members to be thinking about a Car Show Chair and Committee members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jim Henderson noted that the Great American Race which has been through Mobile once in the past will end in our city in 2013.

The 50/50 pot drawing provided \$20 each for winner N. Thoms and the club.

A motion to adjourn was made by B. Paquet at 8:10 pm, seconded by H. Thoms and carried. Members made a headlong rush for the kitchen where refreshments awaited.

Respectfully submitted
Patt Paquet

	Cruise-Ins			
Time	Location	Address	For More Info Contact	
1st Thursday	What-A-Burger	Airport & Snow Road	Bubba Blanton 251-610-4032	
1st Saturday	Edgewater Mall	Hwy 90, Biloxi MS	Jimbo 228-596-0664	
2nd Friday	Down Town Cruise	Ocean Springs, MS	N/A	
Every Saturday	Burger King	Pensacola Nine Mile Rd at Chemstrand	N/A	
1st Monday	Lighthouse Restaurant	Bayou La Batre	info@mobilebaymustangclub.org	
2nd Thursday	Five Guys Burgers	University at Airport	info@mobilebaymustangclub.org	
1st Saturday	Krystals: Po-Boy	Hwy 90 beside Skyline Bowling	Jo Jo Johnson 251-367-6643	
1st Saturday	5 Guys	Airport At University	Brenda Drinkard 675-9226	
4th Saturday	Mings Cafe	Highway 43 in Saraland	North Side Cruisers	
2nd Saturday	Sam's Super Burger	Grand Bay	Southern Bay Cruisers 251-442-6877	
2nd Saturday	Dillards	Eastern Shore Mall	Eastern Shore Cruisers Fred Minke 709-5900	
3rd Saturday	Steak and Shake	Schillinger Road	Past Time Cruisers Tom Ebel 379-0211	
4th Saturday	Northrop Complex	Pascagoula, MS	Magnolia Classic Cruisers	
Last Saturday	Sonic - Hwy 59 South	Robertsdale, AL	251-747-2022	


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