



The Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter, Volume. 45 No. 3, March 2012

Notice to All Club Members:

The March 2012 meeting of the Deep South Region car club will be **THURSDAY MARCH 22 at 7:00 p.m.** This is a change from the scheduled meeting set for Saturday March 24th.

A conversation with Patt and Buddy Paquet

Patt and Buddy Paquet are well known to DSR members. They joined the club in 1988 and since then both have been President of the club, Buddy four times and Patt twice. Buddy was the Editor of the Sparkplug for 15 years. Between the two of them they have held all offices except Treasurer. They both have been the Mother's Day Car Show Chairperson. Currently, Patt is our Secretary. Starting in 2003, they ran the remote registration for the AACA national car meets. They did this for four years.

Buddy was born and raised in Mobile. He was in the US Navy for 46 months, being discharged in 1959. He was stationed in California and, for the majority of time, in Hawaii. He was an aircraft mechanic and a flight mechanic. Upon his discharge, Buddy returned to Mobile and worked for the Gypsum Company for three years before joining the Mobile County Sheriff's Department. Buddy was with the Sheriff's department for 30 years, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant. Buddy was in charge of communications and is responsible for bringing the department's radio communication systems into the digital age. He retired in 1993.



Patt with her 1963 Buick and Buddy with his 1955 Ford

(Conversation continued on Page 3)

Message from the DSR President

We are all getting fired up for Spring Time. By all accounts we didn't have much of a winter at all. I think all of us know we will more than likely be in for a hot summer. One thing for sure the Car Shows & springtime events will be in full swing. Springtime gets the new year in HIGH GEAR! for the rest of the 2012 season. There are so many car shows & Cruise In's at the local level, it's hard to decide which one to attend. With the economy down what better way to enjoy a day or afternoon at your favorite venue. Doesn't cost much for the entertainment you will get at one of the many car outings. So let's get out & support these organizations & in turn hopefully they will support our Mother's Day Show. If any of y'all are going to a Car Show we would like for you to hand out some of our flyer's. Just contact Walt Fuller (CAR SHOW CHAIRMAN) for Flyer's.

I would like to brag on all who attended and contributed to our Annual Chili and Soup night. Y'all just really out done yourselves with all the food and fellowship which made for a great evening.

I had talked to Ernie Rogers at the February meeting & discussed about having a guest speaker at our March meeting. This gentleman has many roles with the local Boys & Girls club so come & support this event. He is also a Car guy. (Imagine That!)

Zeno



Note from Walt Fuller, our Mother's Day Car Show President:

Please bring your drinks for the car show to the March club meeting.

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 251-433-0270
Activities.....Tim and Stacy Lawrence
251-433-8988
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

The Sparkplug is published by the Deep South Region (DSR) chapter of the Antique Automobiles of America organization. The Sparkplug is non-profit and published for 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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2012 Membership Rosters

This year's rosters will be available to all members starting with the March meeting. The copies must be picked up rather than being mailed.

Bobby Peterson was very gracious to allow me to run the copies on one of his office machines. When you see him, give him a big "High Five" or at least a handshake and a thank you.

Buddy Paquet

Patt and Buddy Paquet (Continued from Page 1)

Patt is from Rockport, Texas, where she completed her education. She came to Mobile in 1961 when she was first married. She worked in clinical administrative positions at the old Mobile General Hospital (now the location of the Mobile County Board of Health) until 1967. She then worked at Doctor's Hospital for five years then for a local surgeon for 22 years. She noted that while she worked for the surgeon she was keeping the books for his medical office as well as his fried chicken franchises which were located in Birmingham. She retired around 1995.

Patt and Buddy were married in 1969. During the 1980's they were foster parents for foreign exchange students. They had four students live with them. They were from Norway, the Netherlands, Denmark and Austria. They are still in contact with three of them. Patt reported that one is an internationally known photographer while the other two are lawyers. She smiled as she said she now has five foster grandchildren.

When asked about interests in a car club, Patt stated that until she met Buddy, her car interests were based around getting the key into the ignition switch and gas in the tank. Her favorite car was her first, a 1956 light blue Chevrolet station wagon. She and her German shepherd would ride in it. Buddy lamented that it would be so nice to still have this car. Buddy's first car was a 1941 Ford which had hand-painted patches of blue paint.

Over the past 20 years, the Paquet's have owned several vintage cars. In 1992 they bought Patt's 1963 Falcon convertible. They kept this car until 1995. They bought the 1964 Comet convertible in 1993 and sold it to DSR club members Tracy Metclaf and Paul Dagenais in 2005, just prior to Hurricane Ivan. They bought their 1963 Buick convertible in 2004 because it had factory air conditioning (which promptly died).

Buddy bought his pride and joy 1955 Ford Club Sedan in 1988. He'd known of the car and its previous owner for years. The Ford had been put through hard service that included pulling a horse trailer with two horses and with four adults in the car to Montgomery for the inauguration of George Wallace. Buddy had told the owner that when she tired of the car he'd like to buy it. By the time it arrived, behind a wrecker, it was a mess with a seized engine and the interior having been inhabited by rats. He said that he was fortunate that the undercarriage had been coated in red clay as this acted as a sealant against rust. Buddy restored the car himself over a two year period. Only the paint job and the interior were farmed out. Recently, he added power steering and air conditioning keeping this car not only a beauty but much more easy and comfortable to drive.

Paul Dagenais

Editor's Note: I do hope that I've reproduced the conversation with Buddy and Patt somewhat accurately. I'm sure they'd love to provide more information to any club members who are interested.

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



DSR Road Rally, April 22, 2012
Hosted by DSR Members Sheila and Tommy Miller

We would like to invite everyone to gather at our home around two p.m. on Sunday afternoon, April 22nd. We will have the questions for the rally printed and ready for cars to roll out as soon as some basic instructions can be given out. All you have to do is follow the driving directions and answer questions along the way. It will take about one to one and a half hours to drive the route. Hopefully we can drive our antique cars when possible and, most important, there must be at least two people in each car.

We will have a meal on return to our home, details of which can be discussed at the March meeting. It was also mentioned at the February meeting that we might invite antique car owners who are our friends and could be "possible new members." This event could be an opportunity to introduce them to our club and have a chance to talk up our Mother's Day Car Show. This may need to be brought up in a vote at the March 22nd meeting.

DSR Member Steve Goren Honored

BIRMINGHAM – Steve Goren, RN, BSN, director cardiac rehab/pulmonary therapy/mitral valve prolapse at Springhill Medical Center, was recently honored as a statewide “Hospital Hero” at a luncheon in Birmingham hosted by the Alabama Hospital Association (AlaHA). The association’s ninth annual contest is an effort to honor the dedication of hospital employees and to highlight health careers. Up to 10 local Hospital Heroes were chosen in each of seven regional areas of the state, and from that pool, 10 men and women were selected as statewide heroes. There was also one physician selected as the state’s Hospital Physician Hero, John M. Kerr, II, M.D., of Marion Regional Medical Center in Hamilton.



“The men and women we have honored truly represent the best in health care,” said J. Michael Horsley, FACHE, president of the Alabama Hospital Association. “Each of these dedicated individuals views their profession as more than a job; they consider it a calling.”

Steve Goren, RN, BSN, has been with Springhill Medical Center since 2003 when he took over a new program – cardiac rehab/pulmonary therapy/mitral valve prolapse – in its early stages of operation. He is attributed with growing the program from 2,000 patient visits per year in 2003 to the current level of 10,000 patient visits per year. With 29 years of health care experience, Mr. Goren has been a key member on several important hospital committees as part of

the hospital's ongoing efforts to improve patient care. These include the team that reviews cardiac cases to ensure all of the proper clinical steps are being taken to ensure a successful outcome, the team that works to improve the hospital's diabetes program and expand offerings for patients with diabetes, and the team that strives to reduce readmissions for patients with heart failure.

A colleague said, "What's most impressive about Steve is his willingness to take on additional responsibilities, such as participating in community lectures and various health fairs, to educate the public about health risks related to pulmonary and cardiac health." He is also very active with the American Lung Association's camp for children with pulmonary issues, volunteering since 1992 and donating at least a week of his time every year in addition to other time spent in preparation for the camp.

Springhill President/CEO Mr. Jeff St. Clair said, "Steve is so deserving of this award because he truly cares about his patients and has raised the bar on our program here. He is constantly making improvements that benefit his programs, our patients, the hospital, and the community. He takes on a multitude of additional responsibilities with a smile and is always looking for more ways to help patients."

Information provided by the Alabama Hospital Association which is based in Montgomery.

Remembering DSR member Jerry Finley

Jerry was a faithful member of not only DSR but the Mobile Bay Mustang Club as well. He joined DSR in late 1997 and immediately became part of the DSR family. Jerry was Chief Judge of our annual Mother's Day Car Show more times than I'd care to count. He also served the Mustang Club in that same capacity. He chaired the Hog Wild Car Show several times. Unfortunately, they had to drop the car show after about five or so years due to space limitations. That was the same thing that put an end to the yearly Hooter's Car Show that DSR held in October each year. Jerry was Chief Judge for that one, too.

I had to completely agree with something his son, Danny, said at the Feb. 7th funeral. His dad was not just funny, he was fun! I will admit one had to get used to his humor and he was never above playing a prank on an unsuspecting person; never anything outrageous, just something funny.

Some of the best times Buddy and I ever had with him were when he came for lunch. He was a good cook on his own but he enjoyed someone else putting the "victuals", as he called them, on the table. The highest compliment he ever paid me, and continued to do so as long as he was able to drive to our house to eat, was saying, "Don't throw out the leftovers unless you throw them my way."

He, Jim Henderson, Clyde Smith and Buddy made a number of out of town trips to pick up cars. There were a few times when Buddy Givens replaced Buddy Paquet but things always went the same way. When they stopped for a meal, Jerry began flirting with the waitress and asking if she wanted to just chuck it all and go with them. On one particular occasion, he must have appeared a little too sincere because when they were ready to leave, they checked to see if her truck was next to their tow vehicle and trailer.

Jerry was a boat builder, a marine surveyor and a friend to all. His son and daughter were brought up in a loving home which they provided for their own children.

Jerry's love and appreciation of antique vehicles was a lesson to so many. He was of the opinion that just because what you owned was not necessarily what he would want, you were entitled to your likes and his respect for that.

He used his 1966 Pony to teach his grandchildren to drive. Can you imagine how much sweat soaked into the seats of that car while that was going on?

To say Jerry will be missed is a true understatement. He was one our closest and dearest friends.

Patt Paquet

Future DSR Meeting Dates

The Deep South Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America meets every fourth Thursday of the month.

DSR March Meeting: March 22, 2012

DSR April Meeting: April 26, 2012

DSR Mother's Day Car Show: May 12, 2012

DSR May Meeting::May 24, 2012

DSR June Meeting: June 28, 2012



Deep South Region AACA General Membership Meeting Feb. 23, 2012 Minutes

President Zeno Chaudron called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The invocation had been given prior to the start of the Soup and Chili Supper. The President led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 38 members of which were six officers and one guest. He thanked the members for bringing an abundance of very tasty soups, chili and desserts. He stated that this has become an annual tradition for the February meeting and was pleased with the attendance.

Old Business: The President recognized two of the 2011 officers, Secretary Betty Wilson and Activities Coordinator Foy Bobo, who stepped down at the end of the year. He presented each of them a very nice plaque. VP W. Fuller noted that the roof leak had been repaired. However, after a thorough inspection, it was determined the old section of the clubhouse needs a new roof within the year. He had an estimate of \$10 per square of shingles which members felt was somewhat high. It was suggested that he get more quotes and also to check on the cost of a metal roof which he agreed to do. Secretary P. Paquet asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting

as published in the February newsletter. Motion was made by J. Henderson, seconded by R. Sloan and approved by members. Treasurer B. Peterson noted he would be accepting 2012 dues at the end of the meeting. Editor P. Dagenais asked if everyone had received the January newsletter. No one complained of not having gotten it. Activities Coordinator Tim Lawrence was pleased to state there were 11 cars for the Westminster Retirement Community's Mardi Gras Parade and that participants met at Ed's Seafood Restaurant for lunch afterward. Neither Member-at-Large P. Pearce nor Webmaster H. Thoms had any old business. B. Paquet announced finalization of the 2012 Roster would be done over the weekend and that it would be handed out at the March meeting.

New Business: President Z. Chaudron told members that March will be DSR's 45th birthday and ask how we, as a club, would like to celebrate the milestone. There appeared to be very little interest but after a brief discussion, Activities Coordinator S. Lawrence suggested that the meeting be moved to Saturday, March 24th at 1:00 p.m. and that all former members as well as members of other clubs be invited to attend and to drive their antique vehicles. T. Metclaf put that into a motion, it was seconded by R. Sloan and approved by the membership. Several club members volunteered to help with the event. VP W. Fuller announced that this year's grass cutting will begin on the fourth Thursday in March and continue for approximately eight months. The Treasurer asked if there were any questions about the February financial statement that had been distributed earlier. Being none, a motion to approve it was made by K. Crowell, seconded by P. Dagenais and approved. The Treasurer also thanked T. Metclaf for his help in getting all the 2012 dues in order. Activities Coordinator T. Lawrence reviewed events taking place during the coming two months and asked T. Miller for an update on the proposed rally. T. Miller stated he and wife Sheila had put together what they think will be a good route and would like to host it from their home. A date of Sunday afternoon, April 22nd was agreed upon with a rain date of April 29th. There will be more details at the March meeting. R. Sloan offered his Dauphin Island home for a pot-luck lunch during the spring or summer. Members were happy to accept his hospitality. A date will be determined at a future meeting. The Secretary, Editor and Member-at-Large had no new business. The 2012 Car Show Chairman W. Fuller gave an update on where things stood as far as sponsorship, possible trophy selections and food availability. March will be the first month for each member unit to bring water and soft drinks to be sold at the show.

Announcements: C. Lyles has recently acquired a 1972 Cougar XR7. M. Fuller has posted the Refreshments Calendar in the kitchen for everyone's information. Being no further business to come before the membership, the 50/50 Pot drawing was held with the lucky winner being C.Lyles. A motion to adjourn was made by B. Givens, seconded by H. Thoms and approved by the members.

Respectfully submitted
Patt Paquet


Local Spring Shows

When?	What?	Where?	More Information?
March 31 st	Gnat Nationals Open Car Show	Bay St. Louis, MS	Terry: 228-216-1259
April 14 th	Camelia Classic Open Car Show	Bellingrath Gardens Mobile, AL	http://www.mobilebaymustangclub.org
April 21- 22 nd	Southern Hospitality Open Car Show	Isle Casino, Biloxi, MS	www.mscoastmustangclub.com
April 28 th	Mopar at the Battleship	Battleship Park Mobile, AL	http://www.southernmopar.com
May 5 th	Wind Creek Car Show	Atmore, AL	www.windcreekcasino.com
May 12 th	Deep South Region Mother's Day Car Show	DSR Club House 951 Forest Hill Dr. Mobile, AL	http://local.aaca.org/deepsouth/
May 19 th	Show by the Shore Magnolia Classic Cruisers	Pascagoula, MS	www.magnoliaclassiccruiser.com
May 25 th	May Show Antique Automobile & Engine Club of MS	D'Iberville, MS	Peter: 228-832-7710 Bill: 228-596-3730
May 26 th	Oscar Johnson Memorial Library Antique & Classic Show	Silverhill, AL	Frank: 251-945-5506, 215-9630 Mitch: 251-609-3323



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