



The Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter, Vol. 47, No. 11, November, 2014

DSR in the Movies?

At the October meeting of the DSR, Member Jim Henderson announced he was meeting with a movie producer at his car museum the next day. He requested that there be representation by the club at the meeting as the producer was looking for vintage cars. Never one to let a moment of interest go by I attached myself to Zeno's wagon and said I'd pick him up and take him to meet Jim and the others.

When Zeno and I arrived, we went to the back roll-up door of the museum where Charlie Lyles and Mark Glenn, Jim automotive major domo, had their heads under Charlie's red pickup. After chatting with Charlie, we headed with Mark to the front of the museum. Jim was pulling up in his black Shelby convertible accompanied by Judge Holmes Whiddon. A white econ-box pulled up with Eva Golson and Diane Hall of the Mobile Film Office. With them was Richard Rionda Del Castro of Hannibal Pictures. I don't know what I thought he would be like, but he was, well, normal looking. To be sure, he was dressed all in black and he is a Frenchman who has lived in Los Angeles for many years. For someone who grew up listening to the more guttural French Canadian accents, his accent was a pleasure to listen to.

Richard is one of the producers who are behind the movie that is finishing here in Mobile and is starring Robert DeNiro. He also produced the movie made here a bit ago with Nicolas Cage. He was very complimentary about Mobile, saying he had always gotten strong support from whatever offices he has contacted (mayor's, police chief, city maintenance, etc.). The movie he



is going to start in the Spring is set in 1945. If I understood correctly, it's about a battleship crew on leave in San Francisco. Mobile is to be San Francisco (?) and Richard would like the cars for beginning shots. They have it cast, but would not divulge.

With Jim was in his showman mode and accompanied by the Judge, Richard took shots of possible cars. We progressed through the main showroom to the back rooms where Richard appeared quite taken by the Larry Hagman truck and trailer. We ended up at the back of the building. The roll-up door was open and the acres of Mobile Lumber were on display. At this point, Richard stated that he was considering opening up a studio in Mobile. He said he would need a very large building. The showman's glint in Jim's eyes changed, in a flash, to the businessman/pedlar's glint. To Richard he said something similar to "Well, as you may know, I

Continued on Page 3

Message from the DSR President

In case you all didn't know, Summer Time has departed. Hope all of you are doing well. We've had a lot going on the past few weeks. Paul was saying we went from not a whole lot to talk & report about the last few months in the newsletter to overflowing this month. I would like to say we participated with others at the Fall Festival at Somersby Place. What a neat place for a festival. The seniors are always so friendly & full of stories about days gone by. This year had a lot of children which always adds a lot to the venue. Hopefully we will have other reports & photos of all that has been going on in & around our town.

Need I say more than "Vinegar Bend, Alabama"? Many thanks to Buddy & Anne Givens for inviting us to see his Old Town. What a great place and what a great time!

Veteran's Day was celebrated with a lot of you, honoring the Men & Women who served this great country. Talking to Lou Lartique this year's parade had over a hundred entries. One of the most patriotic vehicles had to be Jim Henderson's Trolley. It was a hit with everyone.

Let's remember our monthly meeting has been moved up to the third Thursday this month, Nov. 20th. Also this will be our Thanksgiving Dinner starting at 6:00pm with our meeting following immediately.

I want to say Happy Thanksgiving! to y'all, Zeno

NOTE: The November DSR meeting is a week earlier: November 20th. The Thanksgiving dinner will start at 6:00. Everyone come with an appetite.

DSR Officers for 2013

President: Zeno Chaudron251-423-0946
Vice President: Foy Bobo251-661-6133
Secretary: Tracy Metclaf251-689-2926
Treasurer: Bobby Peterson251-342-8960
Editor: Paul Dagenais251-610-4533
Activities: John Pendergrass ..251-607-0028
Member-at-Large: Charlie Lyles
.....251-973-2078

Appointees and/or Volunteers

Chaplain: Kevin Crowell..... 251-802-4640
Historian: Paul Dagenais.....251-610-4533
Program Chairman: Patt Paquet
.....251-661-4009
Refreshments: Pat Paquet.....251-661-4009
Webmaster: Herb Thoms251-654-2933

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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The Movies (continued from Page 1)

do build buildings.“ You have to understand, this would have been difficult to miss with the vista before us (forklifts running here and there, 18 wheelers pulling in, etc.) “Just how big a building do you want?”

As the conversation continued, and continued, Zeno was starting to look antsy. I think his face read “I have a business to run...” Jim talked to Richard, the movie office ladies talked to the judge. Mark sighed, and headed to the refrigerator for water. The talking heads switched about and continued. Zeno looked like “I own a business that is going to go broke”. We were waiting as we needed business cards from Richard. Even Richard started to look antsy while the judge and ladies were switching gears. Zeno now looked like “If I lose my business, Rheba will kill me... slowly”. Finally, Richard made moves to the front and we gratefully followed. Zeno and I received business cards and headed off. I think Jim was still selling properties and buildings. By the way, we did learn that our own Jim Henderson has been in a movie as an extra. He was a FBI agent who get killed in a raid. He couldn't remember the name of the movie, but maybe if you prod him, he might remember. Hmmm, Jim Henderson getting gunned down. I'll bet some of his business rivals might buy popcorn to watch that.

Finally, if you have a vintage pre-WWII car, please let me know and I'll start a list.

Paul Dagenais

Check out the Deep South Region Website at:

<http://local.aaca.org/deepsouth>

Somerby Retirement Community's Fall Festival

There was 'nary a “Trailer Queen” among the six vehicles on display, but that made not one little bit of difference to the residents who came out to view the cars. It was a perfect Indian Summer



day on October 26th when Trey Chaudron, his dad, Zeno, plus Paul Dagenais, 2 Fullers, Tracy Metclaf, 2 Paquets and Somerby resident John Pendergrass parked the antiques in front of the main building entrance.

The Somerby staff had the usual array of “fair food” for those who cared to indulge but they went a step beyond with coffee and brownies.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was having one of the residents, Sandy, come out to see the cars then sit and regale us with memories of having been transferred to Mobile's Brookley Field from San Antonio, Texas. From here he was sent overseas. When he returned on leave, he



and some buddies attended one of the downtown theatres to catch a new movie. Afterward, the “buds” wanted to go bar hopping, but “our” GI decided to go to the Woolworth’s lunch counter for something other than army chow.

Good thing he did for it was there he met the love of his life.

She was the faithful Army wife, following him from post to post until they ended back in Mobile just in time for his retirement. He was a man of many talents and told us about some of his assignments that were not as easy as others.

All in all, the DSR members had an opportunity to catch up with each other’s news and the two hours literally flew by. Nice way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

Patt Paquet

GREAT SHOW AND GREAT GRAND SON

Herb and Nancy Thoms

October 25th was a busy day for us. We began at Dauphin Way Baptist Church for the 5th Annual Shirley Looney Memorial Car Show. This show is special for us because Shirley Looney was the mother of Karen Dollar. We met Karen, Ron, and Ronny Dollar at the first car show we took the Cougar here in Mobile. They were a great help in getting us into the swing of things at the



show, and have been friends ever since. Dauphin Way Baptist Church is a great venue for a show, with plenty of room, indoor restrooms, food, arts and crafts, and great awards. Every one entering a car receives a Sponsors Award. Thanks to Dick Cashdollar for picking up ours. I was fortunate to receive the Heroes Award (for veterans) last year.

Nancy, great grandson Chase, me, son Steve, CayCay.

We had to leave the show around noon to take off for Diamondhead MS. for great grandson Chase's second birthday. They had one of those blow up slides in the yard and the little ones really gave it and themselves a work out. There was plenty of food. Pizza, bar-b-que beef and pork on a stick prepared by son Steve and ice cream and cake. The cake was decorated with a Thomas the Tank Engine theme and was really well done. Each gift he opened, became little Chases' favorite until he opened the next one. He really was worn out by the time this picture was taken and soon was taking a nap.



Son Steve, daughter-in-law Clarise, Nancy, Herb, daughter Cathy, Cortney (engaged to Chase), grandson Chase, little girl is CayCay, Cortney's daughter.

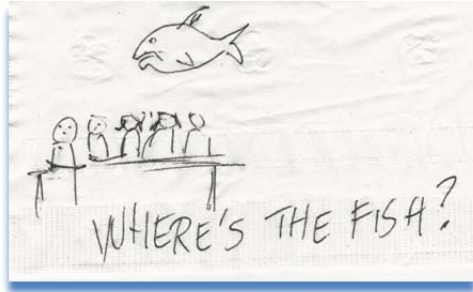
Bobby Peterson wishes to remind all that this is the time to elect a New Board. If you are interested in becoming a DSR Officer, please contact him at [251 370.5571](tel:2513705571), or metz1912@att.net

The Vinegar Bend Road Trip



On Saturday November 8th, 24 members of the DSR gathered at the clubhouse and headed to see Buddy Givens' Old Town in Vinegar Bend. I was taking the Comet which I discovered still had the top down from the Somerby show. I thought, it shouldn't be too bad, but realized as I headed up Old Shell Road to pick up my friend Melissa, that the chill on my neck was a bit much. Melissa agreed and we put the top up at the clubhouse.

The Trip up Hwy 45 was uneventful until we passed through Citronelle. At that point there was some construction and a dip in the road. The dip was enough to rupture the transmission like on a pretty little Model A pickup. I looked in the mirror of my car to see smoke billowing out the back of the pickup. I felt sorry for Foy and Judy Bobo who were following the pickup in their red



roadster. Lots of transmission fluid to clean up. Of course we all pulled over and of course all the guys and some of the girls piled out to investigate. With heads under the hood and other milling around, it reminded me of a t-shirt my sister gave me that has a bunch of grey-haired guys under a hood. It says "Still Plays with Old Cars".

Fortunately, Jim and Nancy Henderson were with the group and Jim called his shop to get Mark Glenn to get a trailer and come get the car. We abandoned the car and driver and headed to Jordan's Catfish House across the Mississippi line. After doing what we do in restaurants (it's often not pretty), we headed out to Vinegar Bend. DSR member Buddy Givens was quite receptive and gave us a



full tour. I was most interested in the process of distilling turpentine which was stopped sometime in the 1960's or 1970's as it was cheaper to make turpentine in a lab.

We headed out a bit early as we both had dogs waiting to be walked. As far as I know, the return trip was uneventful compared to the way up.

Paul Dagenais



Vinegar Bend note by Buddy Givens

A recent call from Patt for some information about Old Town sent me on a trip down Memory Lane - for my memory, a short trip - that yielded some surprising results. While I was going through the visitors' log from the past years, the reminder that life is fleeting was very apparent. According to the log, no less than six of our friends have died since they visited Old Town; fourteen states and three foreign countries are represented in the book, while two people listed their address as homeless. Many church groups, schools, Boy Scouts, Red Hatters, historical societies, and most of the regional car clubs have toured, as well, including the Gulf Coast Studebaker Drivers for three visits. Which reminds me - DSR last visited on October 17, 2009, and you are invited back any time you would like to visit.

**AACA Deep South Region
Minutes
October 23, 2014**

The October 23, 2014 DSR meeting was called to order by President Zeno Chaudron. The invocation was given by Walt Fuller. Visitors and prospective new members, Darrin and Charlotte Dahlenburg were introduced and welcomed.

Tracy Metclaf, Secretary, moved that the minutes of the September meeting as recorded in the SparkPlug be approved. Herb Thoms seconded the motion, and it was approved by a vote of the membership present.

No Treasurer's report was made for the month of September, due to the absence of the Treasurer.

Plans for DSR car show participation at the Somerby Fall Festival, Dawes Christmas Parade and the Veteran's Day parade were approved.

The invitation by Buddy Givens for the Club to visit his place near Vinegar Bend was set for Saturday, November 8, 2014. It was decided to go as a group to Jordan's Catfish House for lunch in connection with the trip to Vinegar Bend.

A Thanksgiving Dinner will be held in connection with the November 20, 2014 DSR meeting.

Bob White won the 50/50 drawing.

Motion to adjourn was made by Herb Thoms and seconded by Bob White.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Metclaf, Secretary



Cruise-Ins

Time	Location	Address	For More Info Contact
1 st Saturday	Edgewater Mall	Hwy 90, Biloxi MS	Jimbo 228-596-0664
1 st Saturday	Kentucky Fried Chicken	Tillman's Square, Hwy 90	Jo Jo Johnson 251-367-6643
1 st Saturday	5 Guys	Airport At University	Brenda Drinkard 675-9226
2 nd Saturday	What-A-Burger	Airport & Snow Road	Bubba Blanton 251-610-4032
2 nd Saturday	Sam's Super Burger	Grand Bay	Southern Bay Cruisers 251-442-6877
2 nd Saturday	Dillard's	Eastern Shore Mall	Eastern Shore Cruisers
3 rd Saturday	Steak 'n Shake	Schillinger Road	Donnie Tanner 649-5397
3 rd Thursday	RPG Paint	I-65 Service Rd & Moffat Rd	Mobile Bay Mustang Club
4 th Saturday	Burger King	Highway 43 in Saraland	North Side Cruisers
4 th Saturday	Northrop Complex	Pascagoula, MS	Magnolia Classic Cruisers
4 th Saturday	Hooter's Restaurant	Airport Blvd.	Don Benson 251-680-9533
5 th Saturday	American Legion Post 1992 3824 Old Spanish Trail	Gautier, MS	Sons of the American Legion
Last Saturday	Sonic - Hwy 59 South	Robertsdale, AL	251-747-2022



Bobby Peterson
924 Butler Dr.
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