

**Your January 2009 issue of The Sparkplug follows this page
There are 13 pages in the newsletter including this calendar
and three tour registration/information forms.**

2009 Dates to Remember

- Jan. 22** DSR Meeting in clubhouse at 7:00 PM
- Jan. 23-24** 17th Annual Winter Rod Run at Diamondhead Resort. Pre-'69 vehicles only
- Jan. 24** Senior Bowl in Mobile
- Feb. 12-14** AACA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- Feb. 24** Mardi Gras Day
- Feb. 26** DSR Meeting
- Feb. 26-28** AACA Southeastern Winter Meet—Lakeland, FL
- Mar. 20-22** **Pascagoula, MS** - Singing River Street Rod Association presents the 30th Annual Gulf Coast Rod Run at the LaFont Inn, Pascagoula. Pre-1980 Only -- Rain or Shine. Registration is Friday from noon to 5 pm; Saturday from 8 am to noon. Information: 228-209-7101, 228-424-7567 or 228-596-5158. See website, www.srsra.com for flyer
- April 2-5** AACA Southeaster Spring Meet—Charlotte, NC
- April 15-19** AACA Southeastern Divisional Tour (1984 and earlier vehicles)
Birmingham, AL - LET'S SUPPORT OUR SISTER DIXIE REGION!
- May 4-9** AACA Founder's Tour (1936-1984 vehicles)
Odessa & Midland, TX
- May 9** 26th Annual DSR Mother's Day Car Show

Check out the Deep South Region AACA Website at <http://local.aaca.org/deepsouth/>
There are pictures of the Year End Holiday party now posted.



The Sparkplug



Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Newsletter Vol. 43 No. 1 January 2009

DSR tries something new for Christmas holiday party

By Patt Paquet

It is probably safe to say that from about a week before Thanksgiving until the end of the week after Christmas is the busiest time of the year for nearly everyone. Add to all the personal and family things going on those taking place with church and school makes for very hectic days and nights. Oh, and put into the mix car club functions. For those of our members belong to more than one club, life gets really chaotic.

In an attempt to ease the stress level a bit for our members and take advantage of an invitation from one of those long-time members, a proposal was presented at the November meeting; to hold our DSR party on Saturday of the weekend after Christmas which met with a majority approval. Thus, we had what was referred to as a “Year End Holiday Party” the last weekend of December.

The setting was in the new, almost-complete Henderson Antique Car Museum (What better place for a bunch of old car lovers to get together?) with the food brought in. This meant little work for anyone so everyone could just have a good time. The doors were open at 12 noon with the meal ready at 1:00 PM. This allowed time for everyone to get their bearings and take a quick look at the vehicles.

Shortly after the lunch was concluded, a 10 minute business meeting took place in order to determine the charity of choice for the club’s donation this year. A short discussion of various organizations took place and the end result was the Mercy Home Health Pediatric Care Program. (Read more about this on Page 7.)

The Installation of Officers, 2009 took place along side the street where Kimberly’s Café, Mobile Bank, Henderson Mercantile and Pete Delung, DDM were located. Passing behind the incoming officers on the street were a 1949 Chevrolet Bookmobile and a recently restored 1952 Ford pickup. These, along with the gas and oil pumps made a terrific backdrop for the installation ceremony.

Jim and Nancy Henderson were perfect hosts, as always, greeting everyone and talking about how nice it was to have this event in a relaxed atmosphere and an unhurried manner. It was one of the best attended Christmas-time parties we’ve had in a long time with 34 members, 11 of their children or grandchildren and 2 adult guests of members. The Hendersons also had some guests on hand.

Everyone was encouraged to stay as long as we wanted, enjoy visiting among ourselves and take time to look at all of the cars. Although some had to leave soon after the party ended, others stayed to get close looks at all of the vehicles.

The Hendersons wish to thank those members who also remained to help with the clean-up. It was appreciated to have the place looking spic and span when the doors were closed and locked.



2008 V/P Patt Paquet



2009 Prez Steve Goren

Responses to a query of members about the change resulted in consensus of holding the party after Christmas was especially high. The location was also enjoyed by nearly everyone although some felt the seating arrangements might be better served if everyone were closer together.

There are numerous pictures of the party on the AACA/DSR website. As soon as I can finish the 2007 history book, I will start on the 2008 and you can see them there in the near future.



From the driver’s seat

Whew! Another year has come and gone! A year of many changes, one of which saw the value of our cars increase more than our investments to quote another AACA Region president.

2008 also saw the passing of several DSR members, one of which was our President, Lambert Mims. Lambert was a great friend of our club and its members. He will be greatly missed.

I would like to thank you for your confidence in electing me as your 2009 President. I hope I can continue to move the club in the right direction. With the help of our excellent Board of officers as well as all of the volunteers and members, this will be a reachable goal.

A big thanks to Patt for stepping up to fill in for Lambert. She took on both the role of Vice President and President, and in addition stepped into the Activity Coordinator’s shoes when Don Dillehay was undergoing restoration throughout a good portion of the year. She has earned our gratitude and a much needed rest.

As we move through this year, let’s remember to have fun with our hobby. I think back to all the memories I have as a member of DSR. They are ones of meeting wonderful people who share a common interest of antique and classic cars. And sharing information that helps myself and others in the club care for these fine automobiles.

Cathy and I have plans, as I write this, to be in Chicago for a hockey tournament our son, Trevor, will be playing in the weekend of our first 2009 outing. I’m sorry we will miss the trip to David’s for the Catfish Run. I will be at the January 22nd meeting and will be looking forward to seeing as many of you as can be there.

Thank you again for your faith in me to lead our club this year. Let’s all have a great time in 2009!

Steve Goren, President

Quote of the Month:

If your wife wants to drive, don’t stand in her way!



2009 Officers

- President: Steve Goren.....(251)633-8171
- Vice President: Walt Fuller.....” 602-1931
- Secretary: Cathy Goren.....” 633-8171
- Treasurer: Tracy Metclaf.....” 433-0270
- Activities: Lycyle Crowdu.....” 661-8486
- Frieda Dylewski.....” 476-1870
- Editor: Buddy Paquet.....” 661-4009
- Member-at-Large: Paul Dagenais.....” 433-0270

Volunteers/Appointees

- Chaplain: Kevin Crowell.....” 660-1888
- Historian: Patt Paquet.....” 661-4009
- Webmaster: Herb Thoms.....” 654-2933
- Telephone Chair: Martha Fuller.....” 602-1931
- Refreshment Coordinators: Clyde & Janet Smith
“ 473-7834

The *Sparkplug* is non-profit and published for the information of our members and friends. DEEP SOUTH REGION meetings are held the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse located at 951 Forest Hill Drive. 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 Antique a vehicle is not a requirement for membership.*

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share this
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a friend.**



Speaking out against scrappage

From January 2009 *Driving Force*

SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Assoc.) and the SEMA Action Network (SAN) are opposing efforts to revive consideration of federal funding for vehicle scrappage programs. These programs accelerate the normal retirement of vehicles through the purchase of older cars, which are then typically crushed into blocks of scrap metal.

In response to testimony delivered on Capitonal Hill, SEMA sent letters to members of Congress to counter requests that tax dollars be used to entice motorists to trade in their older cars and trucks for new models. SEMA emphasized that hobbyists would suffer with the indiscriminate destruction of older cars, trucks and parts they need if scrappage programs were expanded with federal funds. "America safeguards its artistic and architectural heritage against indiscriminate destruction," said SEMA Vice President of Government Affairs Steve McDonald. "Our automotive and industrial heritage deserve the same protection."

SEMA has also learned legislators may also be considering scrappage as a clean-measure and are now in contact with these offices to explain scrappage's shortcomings as an environmental measure. Traditionally, scrappage efforts focus purely on vehicle age rather than actual emissions produced.

Enthusiasts played a vital role in defeating federal scrappage legislation in 2002 and should be prepared to counter this renewed threat to the hobby. SAN members should keep tuned for updates and alerts should a bill be introduced. **(Reprinted with permission)**



From the Editor...

Hey there folks, it's another new year and we have so many opportunities ahead of us. The first is the weekend you receive the initial newsletter of 2009 and we will have completed our ump-teenth traditional Catfish Run to David's Catfish Cabin over on the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay. The trip to the Simms Hardware Store afterward was an adventure in itself. If you couldn't make it, I am sorry you missed such a real fun afternoon.

Now that we are starting a brand new year, I want to try to acquaint you with another of the "hobby within the hobby" aspects of AACA. We all hear about members attending the National Meets, which are grandiose versions of local shows. DSR was fortunate to have hosted the National Southeastern Winter Meet in 2006 and what an adventure that was! We put on the 2001 Southeastern Divisional Tour and that was, as the saying goes, "a whole 'nother story".

If you haven't picked up on what I'm trying to say by now, it is that life is adventure and therefore so is what we do with our club. Sometimes an adventure can be found right in our very own area, i.e., our garage tours of club members facilities or even a trip to some of the local junkyards. I realize this would not be one the ladies would relish but we can reciprocate by taking them to a place of their choosing next time or beforehand.

Adventures are where you look for and find them. Tours is the key word this month and I hope that after you read this issue, you'll decide to try one.

From Tom Cox, AACA V/P Membership & Past President Virginia Car Council

Some of you are no doubt aware that the Senate and Congress are considering funding another ill-advised "Cash for Clunkers" program. Many of you may wonder how all of the above will affect the old car hobby. It will effect us immediately in some ways and eventually in others. There will be an immediate reduction in older parts available for restoration and project cars. Older cars will be looked upon as detrimental to the environment and will be labeled as such. Trust that once old cars are labeled as grossed polluters due to this legislation, we will be forced into emissions testing or even paying carbon taxes on our cars. In addition to the motorists, auto parts companies and body shops plus many others will be negatively affected through the scrap

page of these 13-year and older cars. These vehicles are a minimal part of the pollution problem due to their small numbers and minimal annual mileage driven. If politicians really want to help in these times of crisis by selling cars while cleaning the air, they should support so many of the other issues that will help keep pollution down.

It has come to my attention that Congressman Rich Boucher (D) of Virginia, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality is a major driving force behind the previously mentioned legislation. Please write him via the E-mail link on his website below or better yet contact his Washington office: Congressman Rick Boucher (202)225-3862 or fax (202)-225-0442. Website email contact is:

http://www.boucher.house.gov/index.php?option+com_content&task+view&id+645&Itemid

Want to see the USA? Go with AACA!

By Buddy Paquet

How many times have you picked up a book or a magazine, seen a beautiful picture of some part of this great country of ours and said to yourself, "Gee, I wish I (or we) could see this in person."? Well, I have news for you. *YOU CAN*. And for a lot less expense than you would do otherwise plus enjoying it with friends who are also fellow hobbyists.

This article, dealing with AACA tours, will start at the top and use the "trickle-down theory". In other words, starting with the more prominent and longer tours and ending with what we know as local or regional tours. There is a reason for this: if you start small and like what you are doing, you can work your way up to the cream of the crop at your own pace, picking and choosing what you want.

The granddaddy of all AACA tours is the Glidden Tour^R, or actually as it is now known, the Revival Glidden Tour^R. It began in 1946, and is hosted alternately by the AACA and the Veteran Motor Car Club of America. Previously, when hosted by AACA, during odd-numbered years, vehicles are limited to 1935 and earlier; if it is sponsored by the VMCCA, in even-numbered years, it is open to vehicles 1942 and earlier. In 2006 AACA and VMCCA jointly agreed to permit vehicles built in 1942 or earlier to participate. The tour lasts four to five days and comes with many rules and traditions built up over the last 50-plus years. It is the most prestigious, and largest, of all antique automobile tours nationwide.

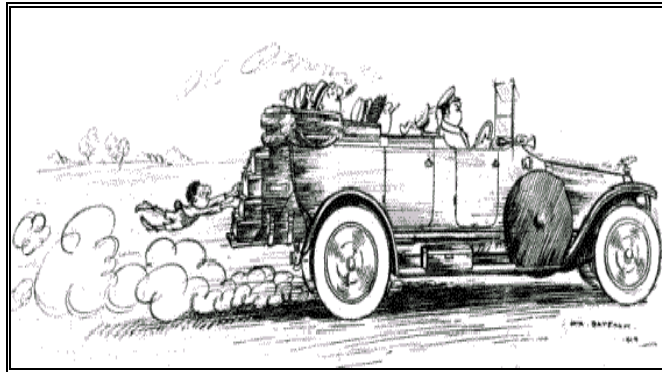
This year, being hosted by the Rocky Mountain Region AACA, could be one of the best ever when you consider the vehicles are 1935 and prior, it will be held in Golden, CO August 23-28 where participants will spend five days touring the high country seeing unusual collections of antiques and antique autos plus much more.

The Reliability Tour is held in even-numbered years and is for what is referred to as "brass era"

vehicles manufactured in 1915 or earlier. As far as I can determine, it began in 1967 and is open to all AACA recognized vehicles of that vintage. It was designed to test the reliability of earlier vehicles over a five-day period, hence the name.

The Vintage Tour came on the AACA scene in the 1998 for the same reason but for different vehicles. It takes place during odd-numbered years for those automobiles built in 1931 or before. It is another event for earlier vehicle touring.

Another fun tour is the Founders Tour open to vehicles manufactured in 1932 through a production year 25 years prior to the year of the tour. It was established to honor the founders of our organization and designed to permit the use of newer vehicles on an AACA tour.



The last tour added to the AACA register is the Sentimental Tour. The first one held as a National Tour was in 2004, making it an even-numbered year tour. It is open to vehicles 1928 through 1958 production years, except race cars and cars with rules-defined modifications. It was designed to provide a touring opportunity for mid-twentieth century vehicles.

The AACA Touring Committee, in their wisdom, saw the need some ten years or so back for shorter and less expensive tours. Thus, Divisional Tours were born. These take place within the geographical divisions of AACA which are the Eastern, Southeastern, Central, and Western. This latter includes Alaska and Hawaii, by the way. Not to take anything away from the other major and longer tours, the Divisional Tours can be a truckload of fun and not cost an arm and leg. These are generally open to any vehicle 25 years and older, are usually very flexible and can be two to three days, depending on the host region. Two National Divisional Tours may be held annually, one in the Central and one in the Eastern Division (Cont'd on Pg 6)

Touring

in even-numbered years and one each in the Southeastern and Western Divisions in odd-numbered years.

Divisional Tours are less structured, less expensive and can be closer to home for members in the general geographical areas. These are perfect for younger members or families who might not have the time or resources to participate in the longer types as well as those whose automobile may be better suited to a shorter than a longer, more demanding tour.

If the western part of the U.S. fits into your travel plans this year, think about the Sonora area of CA. The Mother Lode Region AACA is hosting the Western Divisional Tour March 15-18. The name of the region is appropriate with Sonora being in what is known as “gold country”. There is something new and exciting to see and do on each of the four days.

Closer to home, our sister Dixie Region AACA is hosting the Southeastern Divisional Tour April 15-19 in Birmingham, AL. This tour is limited to 100 vehicles but is unlimited with activities. On the schedule are visiting the Barber Motor Sports Museum with a large number of fantastic cars, the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, The Tannehill Park and Museum along with Vulcan Park which chronicles the steel industry of this area plus two other local auto collections that are exceptionally good and last, but not least, the Civil Rights Institute. The first and third days mileage is around 45 each and the second day puts about 75 on the odometer. Three easy days on cars and riders.

Now, as we have trickled down through the National Tours, lets get to what you can find on a local or regional plane. A few DSR members have participated in some of the previously mentioned National tours and others have enjoyed being a part of those a stone’s throw from home.

Back in the early 1980s, DSR put on an annual week-long tour to someplace in the southeast. This lasted for a number of years but petered out due to the lack of planners. There have been one or two weekend tours back in the mid-nineties but sadly, they bit the dust due to lack of participation. It would be fun if they could be revived, especially for those who’ve never toured.

There are those members who enjoyed the thrill of showing their cars and thrive on competition. Then there are those who had rather tour than to put their vehicles in a National show. This is a perfect example of AACA having something for everyone.

However, when you get down to the grass roots of being a member of the club, you can have the best of both worlds. Local shows are great fun as well as rewarding – you can compete for the metal and also know that, as a general rule, you helped a local charity or group who benefits from the proceeds.

Those who enjoy seeing something new and meeting others with similar interests can sign up for tours put on by nearby Regions and Chapters. The South Alabama Region just up the road around Brewton, AL sponsors several tours each year that are open to any AACA member. On the west side of us, the Chapters of the Louisiana Region put on tours throughout the spring and summer. You would be amazed what these folks can find for you to see out in their great state.

Starting in early March you can take I-10 West over to Lake Charles the north to Leesville, LA for a long weekend of fun seeing antique and muscle cars, a doll museum a Gothic Jail, plus a trip to “Sugartown” when the CENLA Chapter hosts the Winter/Spring Tour.

The first week of April it’s back to Lake Charles for the Contraband Chapter’s “In the Mood Tour” , another long weekend having fun starting with what is said to be the reputed site of the first trading post in the area, a castle that is a family home before having lunch at Niblett’s Bluff and a visit the Veteran’s Home prior to calling it a day with a stop at the Delta Downs Horse Race Track and Casino. The tour title of “In the Mood” refers to being entertained by Big Band sounds and having the closing banquet at the Majestic Café that is reminiscent of the USO Canteens of yesteryear.

Now we are up to the latter part of May and the 42nd Annual Louisiana Region tour in Henderson, LA just east of Lafayette, LA. You will have a guided tour of the Acadian Memorial, St. Martinsville Cultural Heritage Center, a trip to Vermilionville to visit the Jean Lafitte Culture Center.

See registration forms at the end of the newsletter.

Louisiana AACA Region's 2008 Thanksgiving Tour

By Sandra Juneau, member Louisiana Region AACA

Another good tour has come and gone. Twelve couples met in Little Rock, Arkansas for a week of touring in good weather under the direction of Charlie and Ardie Froehlich and Roy and Peggy Strom. With the exception of one, they hosted a hospitality night every evening where we all told stories and talked about the day. Tuesday night we went to a dinner playhouse for a meal and the play, "There Goes the Bride".

Charlie called to ask me to write this just as I was taking a stress test so I couldn't refuse. The tour officially started Sunday afternoon, Nov. 23rd. A few of us started the morning off with a trip to the Peabody Hotel to see the "march of the ducks". After many U-turns (a Grand Marquis can make a u-turn as easy as a 442) and going the wrong way into the hotel driveway, we finally parked and made our way into the lobby just in time to see the elevator doors open for the ducks to march down the red carpet and into the fountain.

That afternoon we toured the MacArthur Museum. It is housed in the Arsenal Building which was built in 1840. It was the birthplace of General Douglas MacArthur. Later we toured the Razorback Submarine. This is the longest active WWII sub that served the U.S. and Turkish government. It was retired in 2002.

Monday, we went to the Clinton Museum, the old State House and the State Capitol. The Clinton Museum, like all museums, houses an abundance of history. There is also an "ART of the Chopper" Exhibit with many unique motorcycles. We even found one for Robert with many beer cans on it. The Capitol is a massive building that was completed in 1915. Just to give you an idea of its size, there are six front doors, all made of bronze. A chandelier hanging over the rotunda is 12 feet in diameter.

The next day we drove to Petit Jean where we had lunch at the Lodge. Before the meal, some of us walked down the mountain to see a waterfall and then back up again. It was one mile down and that same mile back. (I don't think I needed a stress test,

I had one there.) After lunch some went to the car museum while others went antique shopping.

Wednesday will be a day talked about for a long time. We toured the Union Pacific yard where train engines are repaired. They gave us hard hats, protective glasses and earplugs before we could start the expedition. Leaving there, we drove to Marls-gate Plantation for a tour and incredible lunch. Our host is the owner of the home and if you should ever have the opportunity to visit, you will not say this is just another old house or boring tour guide. Mr. David Garner made our day; we are still laughing and talking about it.

The big day is here, Thursday. To begin, we took a drive to the Big Dam Bridge. This is a pedestrian and bicycle bridge that spans 4,226 feet over the Murray Lock and Dam. We walked about half way, then turned back in order to take a nice drive through a lovely neighborhood.

We all had our Thanksgiving feast, some said their goodbyes and the rest of us lazed around all afternoon. The week was easy paced and well put together by our hosts. I know I speak for all when it say "Thank You" for a great week and trip.

Editor's Note: Those who were members in 2007 will remember that DSR hosted members of the Louisiana Region's 2007 Thanksgiving Tour to dinner at our clubhouse. We combined it with our own traditional club Thanksgiving dinner holding it on Tuesday evening, Nov. 20th. This 2007 trip to Mobile was the 23rd annual Thanksgiving Tour for them to be in our area. It was the second time DSR spent time with fellow hobbyists; the first being in 1993 when they spent their first night on the road at the Holiday Inn-Tillman's Corner where many of our local region members met them for dinner followed by a lot of tall-tale-telling and making of new friends.

Thanks to Charlie Froehlich who is a member of both the Louisiana Region and DSR for helping jog my memory. He and Ardie went on their first Louisiana Region AACA Thanksgiving Tour in 1987 (it was the third) and haven't missed one since. And yes, there was one in 2005 (in central Florida!) following Katrina.

DSR cars wowed GMAC Bowl Parade goes

By Clyde Smith

Monday, January 5th, around mid-afternoon, Janet and I went to the Henderson car warehouse to pull out five GM convertibles for the widely publicized GMAC Bowl Parade. There we were met by Scott Henderson and his son, Travis; Mark Glenn and his son, Brad; and Randy Walker and his daughter, Randi. When everyone was in their assigned cars, we headed for the downtown Civic Center to meet the check-in deadline.



Drivers getting their car assignments prior to leaving for parade

Once we arrived and regrouped, we were advised of what riders would be in each of the cars and stood by as workers loaded the vehicles down with beads, Moonpies, cups, caps and trinkets of every kind. By the time they were finished, there was hardly room for the riders to climb into the back seats.

It was a privilege for Janet and I to carry the Grand Marshall, Alabama Army National Guard Col. Danny Speigner and his wife, Becky, in the 1963 Cadillac. They were thrilled to be part of the parade.

Driving the 1976 Cadillac, Scott Henderson had Mobile City Council President Reggie Copeland and Utah's Junior Miss, Lindsey Brinton along with Jean Chapman, a member of the Junior Miss Program. Mr. Copeland is an old hand at parades and coached Miss Brinton on how to handle all of the "throws".

There were several out-of-town General Motors dealers who had been selected to take part in what was a Mardi Gras-type parade. Mark Glenn and his son carried the Orlando, FL representative George Nahas and his wife who reportedly had a great time.

Chauffeuring the 1975 Oldsmobile, Randy Walker with his daughter beside him had another of the dealers, Mr. Bill Gatton, who had no help with tossing goodies to the crowd, had a worn out arm by the end of the parade.

Probably the most popular driver was Travis Henderson who had GM dealer Paul Thompson and his wife along with two attractive young ladies who are fellow students of Travis at USA in the 1957 Chevrolet. I'm sure the young ladies won't forget this event for a while.

The parade was, in my opinion, a huge success. There were 20 Mardi Gras and other theme floats, several local high school

bands along with those from both Tulsa and Ball State University bands. One of the biggest attention-getters was the largest grocery cart I have ever seen; two stories tall, powered by its own V-8 engine!

The crowd was big and noisy and although the weather, while threatening, held off until we finished the parade and got the cars back in the barn safe and dry. Over all, I think we all enjoyed ourselves.



Looking back at another parade

Santa Claus chose to leave the reindeer at the North Pole and arrive in a 1929 Model A Ford for the Citronelle, AL Christmas Parade in mid-December. It was driven by DSR member Buddy Givens with his daughter and DSR member, Stella Suttle, riding shotgun.



Photo courtesy of Mark Kent, Press Register

Our members reported it seems there are few places where a Christmas parade is loved, participated in by business and community members or better attended than this northwest Mobile County town. Bet Santa did a lot of "Ho-ho-hoing" that day.

DSR chooses lesser-known program for 2008 charitable contribution

By Patt Paquet

Since 1998, Mercy Medical's pediatric home care program has served more than 1,000 families in Mobile and Baldwin County. It was the first and one of the only programs in the area that focuses on providing home healthcare, palliative care and hospice care to children.

It allows children under 18 years of age who are recovering from injuries or surgeries, dealing with chronic or terminal diagnoses or other serious health problems to do so in their own home with family members rather than being in a hospital.

In addition to the psychological and emotional advantages of recuperating at home, Mercy Medical Pediatric Home Care provides cost-effective and compassionate care to these homebound children. It reduces the likelihood of complications such as infections and provides high-tech medical care by a team of specially-trained healthcare professionals. The team works with the physician(s) and the family to design a plan of care that meets the needs of both. Combining patient and family education with comprehensive treatment planning, the program focuses on quality care and family support.

Some of the Mercy Pediatric Home Care diagnoses are chronic or complicated illnesses, premature infants or those who fail to thrive, Cancers and Leukemias, burns, cast care and physical therapy, transplant recovery and wound care among others.

The program can provide skilled nursing care on call 24/7, physical exams and assessments, IV therapy, lab tests, physical, respiratory and speech therapies, nutritional, emotional and spiritual counseling and other services. This is the only provider of the full range of pediatric home care services in either of the two counties.

Medicaid or private insurance doesn't always cover many of the pediatric home care services. In many cases, the cost is paid from what is known as Guardian Angel, a fundraising program just for this purpose. DSR members can be

extremely happy they chose this entity to be the recipient of our 2008 charitable contribution. Let me tell you a short story about the program.

Sometime back, a couple learned they were expecting. Following a 20-week ultrasound they were told the baby had a heart defect that is usually fatal with the first hours or days of life if not treated.

This would mean multiple surgeries, trauma and incredible pain with a very slim outcome. Terminating the pregnancy was not an option in their minds and hearts. Therefore, they decided to let nature take its course, which was one of the hardest decisions they had ever had to make.

When the baby was born, they knew it would die; they just didn't know when. Enter Mercy's Pediatric Care personnel. Upon Baby Doe's birth, it was entered into the pediatric hospice program but remained hospitalized for a short period of time. The family bravely brought the new addition to their family home.

They didn't know what to expect or what might happen but felt they would always regret not having had Baby Doe in the place they had so lovingly prepared for the arrival of this child.

One of the program's pediatric nurses visited daily, assessing and sharing any changes in the baby's condition. There would be times when Baby Doe's coloring was bluish but fighting valiantly, would make it through another day. Being at home together allowed them to bond as a family.

Baby Doe lived at home for several weeks and when the end came, Mom picked up the phone and had Mercy Pediatric Care staff with them in no more than five minutes.

Although this family was fortunate in having the financial resources to cover the costs, they are avid supporters of the Guardian Angel program. It gladdens my heart Buddy and I discovered this worthy cause. Thank you so much for your allowing them be our gift recipient this year and especially for it being done in honor of Lambert Mims, our beloved past-president.



**Deep South Region AACA
Holiday Party Meeting Minutes Dec. 29, 2008**

The meeting began after lunch at approximately 2:10 pm. Patt thanked everyone for coming and expressed how much she appreciated the hard work of all the members over the past year.

She brought up the fact she had failed to include on the November agenda selecting a charity to benefit at Christmas. Patt gave an overview of Mercy Medical's Pediatric Homecare Program. She asked if there were any others those in attendance would like to consider. Being no suggestions, Tracy Metclaf suggested we make a donation to them in honor of Lambert Mims. C. Lyles made the motion, W. Fuller seconded, it was carried. B. Paquet moved the amount be \$500, this was seconded by T. Metclaf and approved by the membership.

A motion was tabled until January to discuss some type memorial for Lambert. T. Metclaf made the motion, a second came from W. Fuller, motion carried.

The 2009 slate of officers were then installed by outgoing Vice President Patt Paquet. She then turned the meeting over to new President, Steve Goren who said a few words of welcome and gave his vision of the club for the upcoming year. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm with a motion from B. Paquet, a second from W. Fuller and was approved by the membership.

*Cathy Goren,
Secretary*

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Contraband Chapter AACA

34th Annual Spring Tour

April 3, 4, 5, 2009



Let's get "In The Mood"

(REVISED SATURDAY TOUR -- 12/30/08)

Location, Location, Location! Join us on the beautiful lake front, at the *America's Best Inn & Suites*, 401 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA. You will be treated to a complimentary full, hot breakfast each morning and a *VERY* happy manager's special in the afternoons. The rate for each suite is \$89.10 per night, including all taxes. Call **337-439-2444** for reservations and indicate you are with the *Contraband AACA Tour*. Cut off date is March 20, 2009 for this rate. Registration and refreshments in the Hospitality Room beginning at 10 AM Friday.

Friday's Early Bird Tour: Departing at 1 PM, a leisurely afternoon drive is planned to allow you to see some of the attractions that are close by the hotel. We will drive around the lake where several points of interests will be highlighted. The first stop will be the *Calcasieu Imperial Museum* that is on the reputed site of Charles Sallier's trading post (the founder of Lake Charles). Don't miss the 300 year old oak tree out back.

Next we will drive through the older part of Lake Charles to the *Central School Museum* where you will see the world's largest *Mardi Gra Museum*. Return to the hotel at your leisure for refreshments and happy hour. The *Hospitality Dinner* will be at the hotel (Shrimp Fettuccini, salad, garlic bread, desserts and drinks).

Saturday's Tour: We will leave the hotel and head for the Sulphur area in West Calcasieu Parish. There we will visit the Chateau de Bon reve, a castle and home of Dwayne Ellender. Mr. Ellender has graciously agreed to allow us to visit his castle north of Sulphur. From the castle we will drive through the middle of the industrial row to the Southland Field Airport. Here many corporate jests bring CEOs into the industrial area of West Calcasieu. The airport was completely rebuilt after Hurricane Rita. Now we will head west towards Vinton to *Niblett's Bluff Park* located on the Sabine River. A *Bar-B-Q lunch* will be waiting for us to enjoy. From Niblett's Bluff we will visit the *Vinton home for homeless veterans*. You will have plenty of leisure time to visit other area sites of interest such as the *Delta Downs Race Track and Casino*, or some of the sights located around the hotel. The Hospitality Room will be open and don't forget Happy Hour.

Saturday night's banquet will be held in historic downtown Lake Charles at the old *Majestic Cafe*, a few blocks from the hotel. **The street in front of the cafe will be blocked off for us to park our cars.** This will provide the public with an opportunity to view all our cars. **City police will be on foot patrol for security.** The Downtown Merchants Organizers are looking forward to our visit and plan some other surprises. Inside the Majestic you will go back into time to the USO Canteens of yesterday. **The theme of our Tour is "In The Mood"**, and you will be entertained with the sounds of the big bands. **Dress accordingly, either in the period of your car, your branch of service uniform, or just red, white and blue to show support for the USO and all the support it brings to our troops.**

Send your favorite USO moment to Marcella and she will add it to our Program Book.

Mail Registration and check to Marcella Rose, 508 Fontenot Road, Westlake, LA 70669 (337) 433-6061.

Make check payable to: Contraband Chapter AACA.

Name of Driver: _____ @ \$ 50.00

Name of Passenger (s): _____ @ \$45.00 each X _____ = \$ _____

Children under 12: _____ @ \$30.00 each X _____ = \$ _____

Address: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

AACA Chapter or Club: _____ Year of Car: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

(Banquet is a fish and 2-meat buffet, with all the trimmings)

CENLA Chapter AACA Winter/Spring Tour
March 6,7&8, 2009
Leesville, LA.

Headquarters:
 Landmark Hotel of Leesville
 3080 Colony Blvd
 Leesville, LA. 71446
 Phone: 337-239-7571

Room Rates: \$60.00, plus tax, each night for King or Double rooms.
 You must make your reservation no later than February 20, 2009, to receive this rate. For reservations,
 Please call 1-800-246-6926 or 337-239-7571 and mention the AACA Auto Club group for the special rate.

Friday: March 6: Registration 10:30 AM – 2:00PM Hospitality Room – Snacks will be provided.

Friday Tour: 1:30 PM – Motorcade to Simpson, LA. and tour Mr. Charles Stuckey's Antiques, Antique and Muscle automobiles. After viewing his fine collection, we will return to the Landmark Hotel.

Friday Night Hospitality: The cash Bar at the Landmark Hotel is open from 4:00PM – 10:00 PM. We will gather in the Destrehan Room at 6:30 PM for Dinner (Buffet Style) at 7:00PM. Door Prizes will be presented after Dinner.

Saturday March 7: Hot Breakfast Buffet for Hotel Guest, 7:00AM – 10:AM.

Saturday Tour: Depart the Hotel at 9:30 AM and drive to DeRidder, LA. to tour the Lois Loftin Doll Museum, housed in the old Kansas City Southern Depot. The Lois Loftin Doll Museum houses more than 3000 doll from around the world. We will see the Beauregard Parish Gothic jail and other DeRidder Highlights. Our tour guides will escort us to Merryville, LA. and Sugartown, LA for some historic sightseeing. Lunch will be between 12:30-1:00PM. After touring Merryville and Sugartown, we will return to the Landmark Hotel for some leisure time.

Saturday Banquet: We will gather in the Destrehan Room at 6:30PM with Dinner (Buffet style) at 7:00 PM. The cash bar will open from 4:00PM until. The Awards ceremony, raffle and 50/50 Pot will be after dinner.

Sunday: March 8: 7AM-10:00 AM Continental Breakfast for hotel guests. Depart at your leisure.

CENLA Old Car Winter /Spring Tour Registration Form

Name _____ Guest _____
 Children _____ Phone _____ Chapter/Club _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 AACA# _____ Auto insurance Carrier _____ Make, Model, Year of car _____
 Fees: Car & Driver _____ \$65.00 X _____ = _____
 Guest and Children over 12 _____ \$60.00 X _____ = _____
 Children under 12 _____ \$30.00 X _____ = _____
Registration Deadline: February 20, 2009 Total amt. included _____

Make check payable to the **CENLA Old Car Club** (Mail to)

Judy McClaran
 141 Wildwood Dr.
 Pineville, LA. 71360-4567

Call Mitch Mitchell (337-239-4931) if you have any questions.



42nd Annual AACA Louisiana Region Tour

May 22nd, 23rd and 24, 2009

Henderson, Louisiana

This year's theme is Acadian Heritage & Culture



Headquarters: Holiday Inn Express – Henderson Exit 115. If traveling from the East, exit 115, then turn right onto Grand Point Hwy, then turn into hotel parking lot. If traveling from the West, exit 115 then turn left onto Grand Point Hwy, go under overpass and hotel parking lot will be on the left. For reservations call 337 667-8913 (not the toll free number), be sure to ask for Brenda Derouen's Group. The rate will be \$80.95 +tax for king or 2 double bed room and \$119 +tax for a suite. Check in time is 3pm and rooms may or may not be ready before the early bird tour. Cut off date for block at the motel is 5-7-09. Cancellation policy is 6pm on day of arrival. Those with trailers can park across street at the Little Capitol Truck Stop. There is a deluxe continental breakfast for all paying guest.

Registration: You must pre-register using the form below. A registration table and a light lunch will be set up in the hotel breakfast room off the lobby.

Friday Early Bird Tour: Come enjoy a few snacks with us from 11am to 12:30pm. We will depart the motel at 1pm for a Swamp Tour and if time permits the Atchafalaya Welcome Center.

Friday Night Hospitality: Hospitality will be at Crawfish Town USA at 6pm. There will be a cash bar and our meal will begin at 7pm. Directions will be in your packet. Your food choice will be either Grilled Chicken or Brisket. Our entertainment will be a Cajun Comedian.

Saturday Morning Tour: We will depart the motel by 8:15am for our tour. Our first stop will be St. Martinville. We have planned a guided tour of Acadian Memorial, St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center and St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church. Then we will travel to Lafayette for lunch at Vermilionville. Your lunch choice will be Roast Beef or Ham Po'Boy. We will also tour Vermilionville and the Jean Lafitte Cultural Center. Everyone will tour and return to the motel on their own.

Regional Board Meeting: Saturday May 23, 2008 – Motel Breakfast area – 5PM

Saturday Awards Banquet: We will be at Crawfish Tour USA again. The open bar starts at 6pm and our meal will be at 7pm. Your food choice will be Pasta Alfredo topped with chicken or Shrimp Stew.

Detach and mail to: Brenda Derouen – 1404 Center Street – New Iberia, LA 70560-6113 (337 365-2841)
Make check payable to **Evangeline Chapter AACA**

Driver _____	@\$70.00	= \$ <u>70.00</u>
Passenger (s) _____	@\$65.00 X	= \$ _____
Children under 12 _____	@\$30.00 X	= \$ _____
Address _____	TOTAL	= \$ _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
Car Year _____ Make _____ Model _____		
Club Affiliation _____ Insurance Co. _____		
Attending Early Bird Tour - YES _____ NO _____		
Friday Night Meal Choice:	Driver _____	Passenger _____
Saturday Lunch Choice:	Driver _____	Passenger _____
Saturday Night Banquet Choice:	Driver _____	Passenger _____