

**Your October issue of The Sparkplug follows this page  
There are 10 pages in the newsletter including this calendar**

**2009 Dates to Remember**

- Oct. 22**                    **Monthly meeting In the clubhouse**
- Oct. 24**                    **Baldwin County** “Fun in the Sun 2009” Car, Truck & Bike Show sponsored by Faith Fellowship Church (Intersection of Co. Rd. 83 South and Co. Rd. 48. Info: dlkelso@gulftel.com or (251)947-2833
- Oct. 25**                    **Springhill Baptist Church’s Pumpkin Fest 2:30-5:30 - Come join the fun!**
- Oct. 31**                    **Display 20 cars for the last day of the Greater Gulf States Fair at the Fairgrounds Noon-4:00 p.m. (Club fundraiser)**
- Nov. 7**                    **Sonrise ‘Cruise in’ Baker High School Stadium Parking Lot—Pre-Reg \$15/DoS \$20**
- Nov. 11**                    **Veteran’s Day Parade downtown Mobile (NO THROWS!) Don’t miss out on this one!!**
- Nov. 14**                    **Magnolia State Model T Garage tour (in Mobile—DSR members welcome) More info-available at DSR October meeting or call Ray Harper 402-1427**
- Nov. 21**                    **DSR monthly meeting (one week early) combined with DSR Family Thanksgiving Dinner 12:00 noon in clubhouse - DSR cooks bring side dishes to accompany entrees.**
- Dec. 5**                    **Tillman’s Corner Christmas Parade (To be approved) Lineup 9-9:30/Parade rolls 10:00 AM**
- Dec. 19**                    **Mobile Holiday Parade downtown Mobile followed immediately by DSR Christmas Party (Catered Dinner—more info on meal at Nov. meeting)**

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



## Springhill Manor Red Hat Society enjoys reminiscing By Patt Paquet

When a business has been in continuous operation for 70 years, you can be assured they know what they are doing. And it is being done right. The words “Springhill Manor” conjure up a picture of something out of times gone by. It wouldn’t be completely wrong but when you tack the words “Nursing Home” on, the picture could change. But in today’s buzz words of “virtual reality”, there is no change.

Springhill Manor Nursing Home sits upon a small hill slightly behind a huge antebellum home from which it got its name out in the section of Mobile known as Springhill. Capacity is 34 residents and on the day we visited, there were 32; the majority (29) were women and the men came in second at three.

Alice Young, the Director of Activities, had her ladies all decked out in their red hats and purple shirts waiting for us along with one of the gentlemen who had drawn the line on everyone dressing alike. We had some doubts whether we would get the display in because at our appointed arrival time of 1:30 p.m., it was 88 degrees and inching toward 89. But thank goodness for that big old oak tree! It covered the entire parking lot and being up on the little hill allowed any passing breeze to help all of us be reasonably comfortable.

Outdoor space in front of the facility is at a premium due to the giant oak tree in the middle of the front parking lot. Three cars was pushing the limit making of a display but it worked. DSR members who regularly participate in displays for

our senior citizens residing in assisted living residences love those massive shade trees as much as the folks who live there. For some reason, gathering under a tree that is many years older than those sitting beneath it seems to make everyone feel better and tends to be a good conversation starter.

Car owners passed the time in the always-present lawn chairs sipping ice water thoughtfully provided by Ms. Young while the staff moved the residents back and forth between the cars and the front porch.

We were told that the house sitting street-side belonged to the founders of the facility and remains a part of the properties. Activities include not only displays such as we provided but also bingo, card and board games, movie matinees, bible study and every other Friday some type of party. Those who can be transported via wheel chairs and mini-bus are taken out to various restaurants on a regular basis to break up the daily routine.

Those providing cars for the day were L. Crowdus, W. Fuller and 2 Paquets. Eugene Cox had planned to bring one of his vehicles but seems the car gremlins had other plans. He had gotten one ready for he and Doris to come in and when it went down, he took the other to fill the gas tank. I am not to exactly what happened but just as we were

leaving he arrived in their modern car. Mr. Cox was a Mobile pharmacist for a very long time and his drug store provided the medications for the home’s residents. I understand that he still maintains contact with them. **More pix on DSR website**





### From the driver's seat

We are well into October and two of the meccas for old car lovers have come and gone. Although I didn't get to attend the Hershey meet, I read on the AACA website that "as big as it is and the logistics involved running it, it was flawless".

Some said the "number of vendors are less and less each year" but for first timers, they were thrilled to find what they were looking for. Although I don't know what it means, according to one poster "Hershey wouldn't be Hershey without the Derry Township Fire Police.

Except for a very windy Wednesday, it apparently was a very nice long weekend weather wise. One of these days, I hope to be a part of what is call "the Hershey Experience".

The other event, Crusin' the Coast had over 4,000 registered vehicles and there must have been another couple of thousand unregistered older and new ones. In fact, there were so many, it took hours to move up and down the beach front road. The weather was hot and humid but this changes from year to year – it's a lot like a pull on one of the slot machines – you never know what you will get.

Despite the weather, crowds and traffic, CtC is a fun event to attend. Everywhere you look there is a car that either you have never seen before or one that brings back memories. If it's been several years since you've been or if you've never been, it's definitely worth going, even if for only a day. Each city puts on a great venue with music from the 1950-60s not to mention blocks and blocks of antique vehicles. The people are wonderful to talk with and each car has a story behind it. Hopefully, anyone who enjoys the hobby will be able to attend at least once since it is so close to home for our DSR members.

Hope to see everyone who can be at our October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting for it is a very important one.

*Steve Goren, President*



### 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 Crowdus....." 661-8486
- Frieda Dylewski....." 476-1870
- Editor: Buddy Paquet....." 661-4009
- E-mail: DSR951@bellsouth.net**
- 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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### Quote of the Month

No one has more driving ambition than a teenage boy who wants to buy his first car.

## DSR's 1995 President passed away

Francis (Frank) J. DeCrease, age 73, died Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009 in St. Clair, MI. Frank and his wife, Marjorie (Marge) were married 51 years and had two children – Denise (Daniel) Green and Russ (Barbara). They were blessed with seven grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

They moved to Mobile when Frank accepted the position of Assistant Chief of the Mobile Police Department under Harold Johnson. He retired after 32 years with the Detroit Police Department to take the job of Assistant Chief for Highland Park, MI. This was followed by a stint as Chief of Police for Ecorse, MI. All total, he had nearly 50 years of law enforcement service as his career.

The old car hobby was dear to Frank's heart and he and Marge became members of AACA/DSR soon after moving to Mobile. He acquired a 1960 red Thunderbird Convertible and not long after Marge found a 1962 silver Corvette. Both were active in DSR before Frank became president in 1995.

Under his leadership, Phase II of the expansion of the clubhouse was completed. Although the inside was still rough without sheetrock on the walls or tile on the floor or ceiling we held our first DSR family Thanksgiving Dinner there that year.

He and Marge moved back to Michigan late in 1996 after they decided they wanted to retire and "go home". Marge went on a house-hunting trip in early summer, finding exactly what she thought they both wanted; a small farm on the outskirts of St. Clair Shores, MI. That first winter back was a shock to them, having become accustomed to the mild southern winters.

The next spring they became "gentleman and lady farmers", planted a big garden, mostly to feed the deer and other animals that stayed around all year, built a pole barn and relaxed in a slower life-style. Fortunately, they enjoyed a number of years before Frank was diagnosed with a form of cancer but with treatment, they had another few years to be together and enjoy their family.

Along with antique automobiles, Frank's hobbies included computers, cooking (grilled ribs marinated in ginger ale was a specialty), and coin collecting. Even if not the most valuable in his collection one of his favorite pieces was a \$20 gold piece and a 1899 paper dollar.

The picture above right was taken on August 22, 1996 when club members surprised them with a good-bye party. Frank was a faithful member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Clair. Be at peace, our friend.



## 2009 Proposed DSR Bylaws changes

**Article III – Officers** *New Section 2:* There shall be any number of volunteer or appointed positions as determined by the Executive Committee to facilitate running of the club. These may include, but not limited to Chaplain, Telephone Chair, Webmaster, Historian, Refreshment Coordinator(s) and Program Chairman.

Current Section 2 will become Section 3.

**Article IV – Members** *Include in Section 3:* Dues for DSR members who are Student (Ages 16-25) or Junior (Age up to 16) AACA members will be the same as those of the National organization. DSR dues will change according to changes made by AACA for student/junior members.

**New Section 4:** Dues for DSR new members joining after June 30 will be one-half of annual dues

(Cont' on Page 6)



## The "Dillehay A"

By Don Dillehay and Bert & Sarah Sells

**Don Dillehay:** It all started in 1929, the year I was born. My Grandpa, Bennie Slater Dillehay, bought a new 1929 Model A Ford, for the princely sum of \$675 from the Ford dealer in McConnelsville, Ohio. This was about 25 miles from where he lived in the small sleepy town of Waterford.

My first memories of Grandpa Dillehay, a very stately gentleman, are of how well he kept the old Ford looking. He would always rattle the change in his pocket and give each grandchild (there were seven) a coin.

Grandpa was in the produce business and would buy produce for retail sale from the river boats that traveled the Muskingum River. Later he went into the hardware business and had a very nice store with his home on the same property.

I lived in Zanesville, Ohio and during the summers of 1946 and 1947, I visited with Grandpa and tried to help him around his store. Also, "according to his strict instructions", drive him wherever he needed to go. This was because he had had cataract surgery (and yes, they did that back then) but afterward had no peripheral vision.

The years passed and I grew up, finished school and enlisted in the Air Force for four years. Sometime during the early 1950s, Grandpa sold the Model A to my brother, Bill. Brother Bill moved around a lot and finally in 1977 he sold the car to me. Oh happy day!! By then I had managed to replace the top, re-ring the engine and replace the clutch disk by the time Hurricane Frederick blew through the coast in 1979. A good friend allowed me to park the A in his building during the storm. Summing it up, it is so good to have friends who care about each other and our vehicles.

Having move to the Gulf Coast in the late 1960s when Frances and I married, I had to borrow a trailer to get the car home. I had it running in no time and found the source of more good times than I would have ever imagined.

The Dillehays joined the DSR, as well as the Old South Antique Automobile Club, and for many years had

plenty of fun with the "Dillehay A" and our old car friends. Unfortunately, time was not kind to Frances and she became ill and unable to go on the trips we enjoyed in the early years. I took the car to a parade now and then or an occasional display but that was the extent of the A's driving. Frances passed away in September of 2007 and

later on I, too, begin to have health problems. In 2008, I underwent major surgery from which it took me over six months to recover. Both the A and myself were laid up for quite a while.

By mid 2009 I managed to get the car running again but had a very hard time getting into and out of the drivers seat. This being the case, I had to consider selling it rather than let it deteriorate in my garage. I am happy to say that it has found what I believe will be a

very good home with fellow DSR club members, Bert and Sarah Sells. It will be around so I can see it from time to time and I hope they will enjoy it as much as I did.

**Bert & Sarah Sells:** We've had the "Dillehay A" for only a short period of time so there isn't much we can say about it except how happy we are to be its new owners.

We are honored Don has entrusted it to our care and keeping. One of the things we are most pleased about is that it will stay within what is known as the DSR family, so to speak.

Our intended use of the Model A is occasionally drive short distances ; i.e. the stores in Bayou La Batre and to church in Coden.

We don't expect to make any major changes other than to add a luggage carrier with trunk on the rear. Hopefully, we won't have to replace the headliner,

only mend a small tear in it.

Any other work will be ordinary maintenance as required. One of our desires in acquiring the "Dillehay A" was that it would be more faithful than my Model T for casual driving, taking to shows and displays, etc.

Now a big problem has cropped up. I have to find a way to get both cars to events where they are to be shown. Hmm, maybe I can convince Sarah to drive the A while I trailer the T. What do you think?



Don with his beloved 1929 Model A Murray Body Town Sedan



Bert Sells with his and Sarah's "new" Model A

## We thought the cars were antiques!

By John Pendergrass

After having postponed the Open House from September 12 for two weeks due to a total wash-out, the display for the residents and visitors to Somerby's Senior Community came off with only a few sprinkles as the event was coming to a close for our part in it. The weather that moved in later in the day was west of Mobile but a red and green ribbon on the radar that morning. However, we all wanted to mark it off our DSR calendar.

Buddy and Patt were first to arrive and were sent to a very nice parking spot. Space in the parking lot had been set aside for the cars and someone had very thoughtfully placed two chairs with each space.

The fellow directing traffic turned his job over to DSR and as the cars came in we tried to make it a varied and colorful display scattered around the front of the property.

The cook-out for the residents and visitors – as well as those of us who wished to splurge – was being set up. Barrels of cold bottled water and soft drinks were placed strategically among the tables for everyone to take.

Ms. Deborah as she is fondly referred to by the residents had coffee waiting for club members who needed their morning coffee break. She also very kindly had worked out for any DSR members who preferred not to put their cardiologist into apoplexy to order from the dining room menu. This was very much appreciated.

By the witching hour of 11:00 a.m., a three-piece band was set up under the portico to the delight of those early attendees. The trio was

quite good with the “oldies”. One couple took a few turns around the “floor”, getting everyone in a good mood and to a round of applause.

Members choosing the cook-out were free to make their lunch when they chose while listening to the old-time favorites from the 1930s through the 1970s.

I want to take a line or two here to thank all of you who came out making me look good to the Ms. Krulewitz, the Activities Director, who had requested our club do this. On a personal note, frequently at old car events special notice is given to whomever travels the greatest distance. For this event, there was no need to discuss distance traveled. However, I think Dolly and I have the record for the least distance traveled in bringing cars to the event, less than 0.2 miles.

DSR members bringing cars and coming to visit us were **John & Suder Bogle (1937 Ford Tudor Sedan)** **L. Crowdus (1965 Mustang Convertible)** **Kevin & Mary Ella Crowell (1972 Chevelle)**, **Steve & Cathy Goren (1958 Chevy Biscayne)**, **Ed Grimes (1956 T-Bird)**, **Ed & Barbara McCusker (modern - trouble with the A) Tracy Metclaf (1964 Comet Convertible)**, **Buddy & Patt Paquet (1955 Ford Fairlane)**, **Ross Sloan (1957 Chevy)**, and **Clyde & Janet Smith (1957 T-Bird)**. It was our pleasure to join everyone with our **1937 Packard convertible**. One of the best things of the day was having Pierre Fontana, who was the very first DSR President 42 years ago (1967) on hand and still looking very hale and hearty. He is acquainted with a number of Somerby residents. His visits are always looked forward to.

The reason for the play on words about our cars being the antiques, we have a resident at the center who is just on the sunny side of 100 years old but I certainly did not say anything to him about being an antique. It was a most enjoyable day. Thanks DSR!



Pierre Fontana strolls among the residents to visit.



## A senior moment ...at age 48

By Mercy 66

\$5.37. That's what the kid behind the counter at Taco Bueno said to me. I dug into my pocket and pulled out some lint, two dimes and something that used to be a Jolly Rancher. Having already handed the kid a five-spot, I started to head back to the truck to grab some change when the kid with the Emo hairdo said the harshest thing anyone has ever said to me. He said, "It's OK. I'll just give you the senior citizen discount."

I turned to see who he was talking to then heard the sound of change hitting the counter in front of me. "Only \$4.68.", he said cheerfully. I stood there stupefied. I am 48 – *not even 50 yet* – a mere child! Senior citizen?!

I took my burrito and walked out to the truck wondering what was wrong with Emo. Was he blind? As I sat in the truck, my blood began to boil. Old? Me?! I'll show him, I thought. I opened the door and headed back inside. I strode to the counter and there he was waiting with a big smile. Before I could say a word, he held up something and jingled it in front of me; like I could be that easily distracted. What am I now? A toddler?? "Dude! Can't get too far without your car keys, huh?" I stared with utter disdain at the keys. I began to rationalize in my mind. "Leaving keys behind hardly makes a man elderly! It could happen to anyone!"

I turned and headed back to the truck. I slipped the key into the ignition, but it wouldn't turn. What now?? I checked my keys and tried another. Still nothing. That's when I noticed the purple beads hanging from my rear view mirror. I had no purple beads hanging from my rear view mirror. Then, a few other objects came into focus. The car seat in the back...Happy Meals toys spread all over the floorboard...a half-eaten doughnut on the dashboard.

Faster than you can say ginkgo biloba, I flew out of the alien vehicle. Moments later, I was speeding out of the parking lot, relieved to finally be leaving this nightmarish stop in my life. That is when I felt it; deep in my belly: HUNGER! My stomach growled and churned and I reached to grab my burrito but it was nowhere to be found.

I swung the truck around, gathered my courage and strode back into the restaurant one final time. There Emo stood, draped in youth and black nail-polish. All I could think was "What is the world coming to?" All I

could say was "Did I leave my food and drink in here?" At this point I was ready to ask a Boy Scout to help me back to my vehicle and go straight home to apply for Social Security benefits. Emo had no clue. I walked back out to the truck and suddenly a young lad came up and tugged on my jeans to get my attention. He was holding up a drink and a bag. His mother explained, "I think you left this in my truck by mistake." I took the food and drink from the little boy and sheepishly apologized. She offered these kind words: "It's OK. My grandfather does stuff like this all the time."

All this is to explain how I got a ticket doing 85 in a 40 mph zone. Yes, I was racing some punk kid in a Toyota Prius. And no, I told the officer, I am not too old to be driving that fast. As I walked in the front door, my wife met me halfway down the hall. I handed her a bag of cold food and a \$300 speeding ticket. I promptly sat in my rocking chair and covered my legs with a blanky.

The good news is that I had successfully found my way home!

## Bylaws changes continued

New Section 4: At its discretion, the Deep South Region may choose to issue Life Membership status to a member(s) for outstanding service to the club and to AACA provided the member has been a member for 10 years or more. The person making the proposal shall state the reasons he/she feels the nominee(s) worthy of this honor. Any proposal for Life Membership can and shall be proposed at any general membership meeting of the DSR, discussed, voted on and approved by the majority of the members attending.

Section 4 will become Section 5

Section 5 will become Section 6

## **Note from Member-at-Large – Bylaws Review Chairman – Paul Dagenais**

These are the only proposals that have been turned in to me for consideration by the general membership. According to our current Bylaws, the changes must be published at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting at which changes will be voted on (Nov. 21, 2009). Therefore, any other changes will have to be considered next year.



## *Sally's Grand Adventure*

*By Sally Barnett*

**Editor's Note: We have traveled across the US with Sally and her companions on an adventure most of us could only dream about. I hope you have enjoyed her story as much as I did and wish to thank Mrs. Barnett for her work in posting her thoughts almost nightly so that others could share her journey.**

**The caravan arrived in Reno just before the Fourth of July and spent several days resting and enjoying the sights. Now it's back on the road and coming to the end of the trip. By this time, Sally is looking forward to being at home in her own bed.**

We left Reno on Tuesday morning. I was riding in the Ritchey Maxwell. We were accompanied by a 1915 Model T with driver and three passengers.

Also along for the part of the journey was a 1914 Oakland and a 1910 Model T Touring. We went through Carson City past the capitol on Highway 395 to get on Highway 50 for our destination of the great city of San Francisco.

The drive from Reno to Lake Tahoe is probably on of the most beautiful in the world. There were a number of steep grades and switchbacks. After several of these, Don decided the drive might harm his new engine so he put the car in the trailer and I got in the motor home. Emily and the Anderson Maxwell had to be towed up the last stretch of Carson's Pass. It was really cool, literally, going through a rock-walled tunnel and heading for the first stop of the day for coffee, pictures and a quick look at the beach around Lake Tahoe

We got through Tahoe Village and Stateline. It is hard to put into words just how beautiful it was. Having gotten a late start today, it was getting near lunchtime when we got to South Lake Tahoe where Reno cars left us. The Ritchey Maxwell came out of the trailer and I had the backseat again. That afternoon we criss-crossed the canals on drawbridge and ferry. On one ferry Tim asked the driver of a 1915 Studebaker if I could ride with him. He agreed and I added one more vehicle to my "rider list".

There was quite a discussion when we stopped

for gas about 20 or so miles from our hotel in Rancho Cordova, CA. It turned out to be a total no brainer. The afternoon had been incredibly peaceful and so full of eye-candy, why would we even think about getting on a highway? So we kept to our "back roads" enjoyment. That evening I told Hans and Wilhelm to clean out their backseat because I wanted to ride with them on what would be the last full day. Wilhelm replied they were ready to "drive Miss Daisy". The next morning there was a space carved out in the "stuff" in the backseat.

Wednesday, July 8, was a great day. Wilhelm started telling inquirers "This is our mother. She is afraid to fly so we are driving her from Peking to Paris." Part of the fun was that many had no idea what Peking or Paris he was talking about.

We had been watching the right rear tire which had gotten low earlier and sure enough, we had a flat. The motor home was just a short way behind us. Tim got out the floor jack and I got in the motor home. Tire fixed, back in the Spyjker and we drove on to the motel in San Rafael.

There was a welcoming committee with a sign saying "Welcome to Em and C". We had a farewell seafood feast that evening and planned to depart around 10:00 a.m. the next

morning.

The time to pull out came and we were joining by a 1906 Franklin with four passengers dressed in full 1906 style. After a last "team meeting", we loaded the cars. Cecily, Bengt's girl friend, and I were in the backseat of Babs (the Anderson Maxwell). Wilhelm, Hans and to young women from the Dutch embassy in New York were in the Sypker. Then there was the Franklin and a 1930s something LaSalle that had joined us. We were all off to the Golden Gate!



**Sally in her full regalia which she wore when telling Alice's story**



**Sally's Adventure**

and 1930s-something LaSalle that had joined us. We were all off to the Golden Gate!

There were some climbs that Rich was worried about so Christie, Cecily and I got out of the of the Anderson Maxwell in Sausalito, caught other rides and met up with Emily just before the bridge. It was a beautiful day with plenty of sunshine to end the trip. We were all pumped. When we pulled up to the tollbooth, the toll collector had her phone out and was taking our picture. Saying goodbye to her, we were off across the bridge, around the former Presidio to Chrissy Field where we were met by a group of HCCA friends with cheers, champagne and lunch. (To see a video of last two days, go to "Alice's (Emily's) Drive on U-tube.") The mechanical problems that had plagued the Maxwell in the beginning seemed to have disappeared by the time we got into Nebraska which was a huge relief to everyone. When it came to the overall weather conditions that the team endured, whether in open or closed vehicles, i.e. rain, hail, wind; in retrospect only added to our journey.

And a journey it was. The word "journey" is defined by Webster as *travel or passage from one place to another*. But for this group it was so much more than that. For me, it was thirty-one days that I will always cherish. I know for sure that I love this hobby myself; not as a shadow to Ron. I know that the people who love to drive their antique cars are some of the most fun and caring people I've ever known. I know that our country has beauty and grandeur to match any in the world. If you ever have the opportunity to "embrace the pace" and see it at 30 miles an hour in an open car, you will be changed forever. I was.

**From the Editor...**

I hope all of you are ready to buckle your seat belts for the ride from now until the end of the year. It appears it's going to be non-stop and fast.

The weekend this newsletter comes out we will have enjoyed a trip to Old Town at Buddy's (Givens) Corner. Then comes the Great Pumpkin Festival coming up at Springhill Baptist Church, a 20-car display for the Greater Gulf Coast Fair, the Veteran's Day Parade, the Election of Officers, the DSR Family Thanksgiving Dinner, the Tillman's Corner Christmas Parade, the Mobile Holiday Parade and our club Christmas Dinner. Who knows what will be added before the last day of 2009?

This is what being members of AACA and DSR are all about – doing things for the community with friends who enjoy the hobby.

That last statement having been said, there are two very important issues in front of each member. First is renewing your dues before the last minute which makes it hard on our treasurer and on the Editor who is responsible for preparing the 2010 Membership Roster. Dues payment is so easy – just write a check for \$50 payable to DSR, put your AACA number on the memo line and give or mail it to Tracy Metclaf (54 S. Julia St. Mobile, AL 36604). This will take care of you and your spouse until December of 2010.

Second is filling out your ballot for the election of officers. This is not only a right but a responsibility. I know there are many of you who will say "But I don't know any of them!" That is true. However, I do know them and have worked with them over the years. There will be a short discussion at the October meeting so please bring your last issue of the *Antique Automobile* magazine and we will go over the candidates at that time.

We will also be reviewing the potential changes to our current Bylaws at that meeting which are in this issue of the newsletter. It would be good if you make sure to read those through before the meeting and bring the newsletter with you. If you have questions or suggestions, that will be the time to let them be heard so you can be prepared to vote on the changes at the Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

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### DSR member chosen Alabama Disabled American Veterans 2009 Veteran of the Year



After 43 years in the DAV, Carl has been a lot of places and met many fellow DAVers around the country. He has some very special friends from NYC to Apopka, FL to Rossmoor, CA and many places in between.

The friend in New York is an 84-year-old WWII veteran who is still working very hard for disabled veterans. The one from Apopka, Jim, is a triple amputee, a victim of a landmine in Viet Nam. He is a Past National Commander. Carl says he is truly his hero. Ken, his friend from Rossmoor, lost his life to cancer this past June. He was a double amputee as a result of a Viet Nam landmine. He also was a Past National Commander.

Our man, Carl, has served in many positions at the local Chapter level and up to and including Commander. Also he has served the Department of Alabama (State) in many offices including Department Commander. He was the Department Adjutant for six years. He stepped down from that position in June of this year.

Carl's final comment was that "I love working in the DAV and I will serve my fellow veterans for as long as I am capable of doing so."

Our friend and fellow hobbyist had his own medical battle to fight most of this year with cancer of the prostate followed by colon cancer. He is now on the mend and DSR is proud to have him as one of our own.





**Bobby Peterson**

924 Butler Dr.  
Mobile, AL 36693





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