



THE SPARKPLUG



Newsletter of Deep South Region A.A.C.A. Vol. 40 No. 12 December, 2006

DSR is alive and well with 2007 officers!

By Patt Paquet

Ho! Ho! Ho! It was a merry group of over 20 DSR members who gathered at the Paquet home for the annual Christmas party. Early arrivals found the host had skipped out on them and were relieved when I explained he had gone to pick up the food. By the time the clock struck 12 noon, almost everyone was in attendance and ready for lunch. Don Dillehay offered the blessing followed by folks forming a line at the buffet table.



then time to call to order a short business meeting. Between the November 18th meeting and the Christmas party, the slate for 2007 officers was filled. It was presented and accepted by acclamation. It was at this point I turned the program over to the new President...a drum roll, please...**Dick Cashdollar!** I have accepted the office of Vice President; John Pendergrass will continue as Secretary and Judy Martin as Treasurer. Buddy Paquet will serve as Editor for the coming year and Lycyle will hang in with us for another year as AC. Member at Large will be Steve Goren.

Dick will be talking with members about filling those volunteer spots so listen for your phone to ring. His first official act, according to him, as the 2007 President was to present me with an unusually beautiful plaque for my service as 2005-06 Prez along with some very kind words, some of which I'm not sure I deserved but accepted anyway.

His acceptance speech was short but not the list of good ideas he threw out for consideration. He has been thinking long and hard in the past few weeks and has come up with **A PLAN!** There was some discussion of the annual Mother's Day show (which will undergo some major changes), plus other thoughts he shared. If you want to know more of what he has in mind for the coming year, be at the Jan. 25, 2007 meeting. Look for a surprise in conjunction with it, too. There maybe be some food involved.

After the meal, it was game time. Each person was provided a copy of December's calendar with a picture on the first 25 days. The challenge was to match the picture with a Christmas song. Some did very well, others no so well and still others, as one guy put it, completely out of the running. The allotted time was five minutes to identify as many as possible. The overall winner was Herb Thoms with Judy Martin coming in second. There was a tie for third place between Judy's guest and DSR member Walt Fuller. Walt bowed out to the guest; what a gentleman, that Fuller fellow!

Following this bit of fun, it was my time to recognize the people who worked so hard over, not only the past year, but past several years. Plaques and certificates were presented to officers, chairs and volunteers for their work during the past year. I sincerely appreciate their efforts.

It was my pleasure to present a plaque to Lycyle Crowdus recognizing completion of her fifth year as Activities Coordinator. It was



Those making merry at this event were 2 Cashdollars, 2 Cox, 1 Crowdus 2 Dillehays, 1 Ebl, 2 Fullers, 2 J. Hendersons, 1 Martin with guest, 1 Metclaf, 2 Paquets, 2 Thoms, and 2 R. Whites. And as always, it was a pleasure to have former DSR member Marien Brent attends to add to the fun and festivities.

From The Drivers Seat

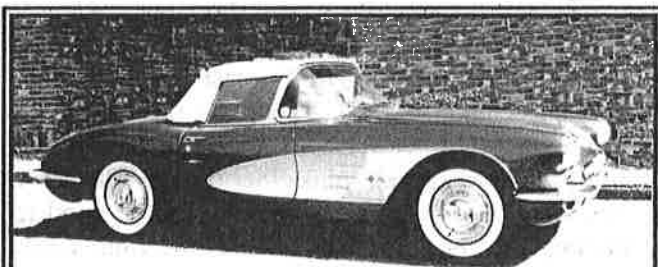
I want to take this opportunity and space to tell each of you how much I have enjoyed serving DSR as President for the past two years. It was an honor and a privilege. It is hard for me to keep in mind that AACA and DSR is not everyone's passion as much as it is mine. Therefore, I sometimes try to twist arms, albeit gently, chide or just downright put a guilt trip on you occasionally. If at some time over the past couple of years, I have nudged too hard or maybe let my feet get on top of yours, I do apologize. But I will never apologize for trying to give you the chance to enjoy your hobby.

This is my last column as President and I relinquish that effort to our new leader, Dick Cashdollar. I pledge my support to help him initiate his *PLAN* for the coming year.

I wish for each and every one of you the nicest of holiday seasons and a wonderful new year.



And a-waaaay she goes!
Patt Paquet, President



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Vice President:	Steve Goren	633-8171
Secretary:	John Pendergrass	607-0028
Treasurer:	Judy Martin	661-6133
Activities:	Lycyle Crowdus	661-8486
Editor:	Buddy Paquet	661-4009
Member at Large:	Walt Fuller	602-1931
Chaplain:	Hershel Whigham	626-4255
Historian:	Don Dillehay	602-0998

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 and AACA national dues are \$30.00 Views expressed in the *Sparkplug* are not necessarily those of the Region officers or AACA. Permission to copy material is hereby granted provided source is disclosed and credit given to author. Some material maybe copyrighted and permission to use granted to this publication only. Contributions to the *Sparkplug* are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit material that may not be suitable for publication.



Please recycle this newsletter to a friend.

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner was big hit

By Buddy Paquet

It's true we enjoy our antique vehicles. Many of our members enjoy antiques in other ways, i.e. furniture, glassware, art, the list goes on and on. However, I am not sure that any of us would enjoy preparing a meal in an antique fashion. You know, no electricity or running water, only a campfire for cooking, not to mention no refrigeration.

None the less, as members stopped to reflect for a moment before the meal when Don Dillehay gave the blessing, we all knew that the reason we celebrate the holiday is to give thanks for everything we have and enjoy.

It was a real treat to see several antique vehicles parked near the clubhouse and members out kicking tires and telling tall tales when we arrived. The preparation of the entrees somehow ended up in the Paquet kitchen. We skidded into the parking area with only minutes to spare before noon dinner bell rang.

The clubhouse annex had been beautifully decorated in an autumn harvest theme. Activities Coordinator Lycyle Crowdus does us proud when it comes to eye candy.

DSR pilgrims enjoyed turkey two ways; smoked and baked, along with a succulent ham, potato salad, several types of other salads, a nice variety of vegetables and a array of desserts, courtesy of members attending, that would shame nearly any bakery. That's the best thing about the "covered dish" meal, trying everyone else's specialties.

It had been voted on at the October meeting to hold the regular monthly meeting in conjunction with the dinner on Nov. 18th. When everyone had eaten their fill, plus a little bit more, we got down to business of which there was little to cover. When the work was finished, it was time for a second cup of coffee to go with the second helping of dessert.

Cleanup was an easy task with members pitching in. Leftovers were plentiful so that anyone who wanted to not cook the following day could have a gourmet Sunday lunch or dinner. There was still an abundance of

food remaining that was taken to Mulherin Custodial Home for the residents to enjoy. We have been told that they made quick work of it for their dinner that night.

Members sharing their food and time together were **John & Suder Bogle, Dick & Brenda Cashdollar, Bill & Mickey Cox, Lycyle Crowdus, Paul Dagenais, Don & Frances Dillehay, Keith & Yvonne Houk, Judy Martin, Tracy Metclaf, Buddy & Patt Paquet, John & Dolly Pendergrass, Ross Sloan with guest Dianne Browne, Herb & Nancy Thoms, and Frances Whigham.**



Minutes

Deep South Region AACA Nov. 18, 2006

Following the Invocation and lunch, President Paquet called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President gave a report on the health of member Lambert Mims. The only **Old Business** was the slate of officers for the coming year. When originally presented at the October meeting, the Nominating Committee had been unsuccessful in obtaining a full slate. There were some positions that remained unfilled at this time as well. It would be brought up again at the December Christmas party. None of the other officers or members had any of business for the rest of the year.

Under **New Business** was a letter received from Langan Park Alliance regarding an effort of a group to increase the interest in Langan Park. The Secretary will contact the group for more details. The November Financial Report was received and approved. The membership voted to contribute \$100 to Dreams, Inc., d/b/a Rainbow Stables to help in restoring the facilities after its devastation following Katrina.

The meeting adjourned at 1:18 PM.

John A. Pendergrass, Secretary

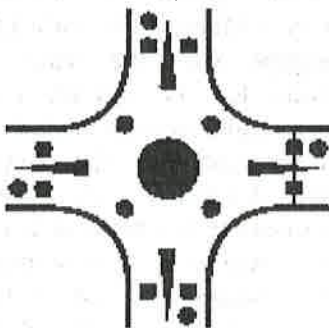
Father of Traffic Safety

By Bruce Wheeler

Traffic circles, or roundabouts as they are often called, have been widely used in the northeastern states and have begun to be used more and more throughout the rest of the country. The idea of a one way roundabout, in addition to many other traffic ideas we take for granted today, were the work of William Eno, known as the "Father of Traffic Safety".

William Phelps Eno was born in New York in 1858. At the age of nine while on a trip to New York City with his mother, their carriage became involved in a traffic jam that took over an hour to resolve. This incident made an impact on Eno and he spent his life working to improve the traffic flow. Eno wrote a treatise titled *Reform of Our Street Traffic Urgently Needed* in 1900 and became known as a world-renowned expert on vehicular traffic. In 1903, he published the first primer for driving titled "The Rules for Driving" and

2-way roundabout



developed the world's first traffic regulations in New York City. In 1904, Eno designed the country's first real roundabout that became known as New York City's Columbus Circle. His reasoning behind the round-

about was that traffic would flow easier if everyone were moving in the same direction. Eno frequently traveled abroad in his work and developed the first traffic plans for several foreign cities including London and Paris.

Other traffic ideas developed by Eno include the stop sign, one-way streets, pedestrian safety island, crosswalks, bus stops, taxi stands and traffic signal towers. He is also credited for developing the ideas of "slow traffic keep right", "passing on left only", pavement markings, the drivers license, vehicle registration, traffic cops and issuing citations for traffic violations.

Eno's developments extended to include maritime and railroad operations, and eventually, aviation. In 1921, Eno established the Eno Foundation, a private, non-profit organization dedicated to improving all modes of transportation on ground, air and water. The Eno Foundation still exists today and publishes books and reports on various transportation topics, including the foundation's journal "*Transportation Quarterly*". William Eno was one of the founders of the Institute of Transportation Engineers in 1930.

John Eno died in 1945 at the age of 86. His inventions have undoubtedly prevented many accidents and saved many lives over the years. Ironically, the father of traffic safety cared very little for the automobile and he never learned to drive. He had a chauffeur drive him wherever he wanted to go.

The preceding article is copied from the AACA Winter 2005 *Rummage Box*. It is published quarterly by the AACA Regions Committee for Region/Chapter Presidents and Editors. Bruce Wheeler is now the current Editor.

Thank You

Dear Friends at DSR,

Thank you so much for the fruit basket sent to Lambert. He didn't have much of an appetite at the time; but he surely enjoyed the fruit.

He would be writing this note himself but he hasn't regained all of his writing skills yet.

Thanks so much for remembering him with your prayers and the fruit basket.

We are looking forward to being back with you soon.

Love,

Reecie

Ed. Note: Lambert is now home after 43 days in the hospital. He walks with a walker and is continuing therapy at home. Their phone number is (251) 479-2523. Please call before 9 PM.

First Christmas Parade of the season for DSR

By Nosey Norma

The day started going downhill as I turned onto Three Notch Road in the Tillman's Corner area early on Saturday morning, Dec. 2nd. The traffic was terrible and the closer I got to Griggs school, it got worse by the minute.



Approaching the parking lot, I saw what had happened. The parade officials had put DSR member Jim Henderson in charge of organizing the invited local dignitaries and the cars in which they would be riding. He had more cars

than riders due to some VIPs not showing up so he was trying to fill the empty slots with either "has beens" or "wanna bes" for appearance's sake. He has a natural talent for making silk purses from sow's ears on a daily basis so he was the man of the hour for this event.

Starting out, the weather was just right for the "old cars" to run well but not uncomfortable the with rag tops down. I watched as the parade



moved out of the school parking lot and down the street toward the big intersection of Three Notch Road, Old Pascagoula Road and Hiway 90. Lead by a notable color guard and the local firetruck, it made for an impressive sight. Behind these two units, were the antique vehicles carrying the Grand Marshall, members of the Mobile County Commission and elected state and city officials.



I eased my roller blades back onto the asphalt and went gliding toward

"The Corner" at a nice clip most of the time. Over all, I did better than the rest of the parade because it got into a start-and-stop mode after the first few minutes. All the DSR drivers kept asking me what was holding up progress but I had no answer. Finally, as the units that had started first were nearing the return route, it was plain as to what had happened. There were so many floats and bands and walkers that the end of the procession was blocking the front of the line going back. What a mess! Oh well, it was fun anyway.

Having overheard Activity Coordinator, L. Crowdus, asking early on how many wanted to go for lunch when the parade was over and if it would suit



every-one to meet at Ruby Tuesday's, I swapped my roller blades for my fliver and headed to the restaurant to stake out a good spy spot.

The first DSR folks to arrived spoke kindly to the female maitre' de about setting up a table to accommodate the large number of people coming for lunch. There were at least, by my count, 15 who put their feet under the table. DSR was pleased to have Commissioner Mike Dean and his wife, Gina,



as well as newly elected State Senator Ben Brooks and his wife, Kathy, joining the group for lunch. Due to other commitments, not everyone who had a car in the parade was able to stay for lunch. Still, what I overheard when the event was disbanding, everyone had a good time. DSR members furnishing cars were Bogles, Crowdus, Dillehay, J. Henderson, Paquets, Pendergrass, and Sloan. We missed a lot of you this year, but maybe next time.



From the Editor...

Boy howdy! 2007 is going to be a good year for DSR. I sat in on a two hour meeting recently with the incoming President, Dick Cashdollar. He has got some ideas that will make you want to get actively -involved with our organization if you are not already or get "re-involved" if you have been a little out of touch. I will not steal his thunder by revealing any of them but I will suggest the minute you read this you go put a big red "X" on January 25th so you don't miss the regular monthly meeting. If you do miss it, you're going find yourself behind from the "git-go". Trust me on this.

This has been a fun year from the Editor's point of view. I have had the opportunity to attend several of the AACA national meets where I met other hobbyists about whom you will read this next year. Participating in DSR activities throughout the year has allowed me to have drive our car more than I normally would. And last, but never least, I have gotten to meet and get to know our newer members by attending these activities.

We may be into the new year by the time you read this. Naturally the post office is experiencing an abnormally heavy load through the end of December but there really isn't anything critical in this issue as far as time is concerned. Hopefully, you will be able to join in on the annual catfish run to David's Catfish Cabin the middle of January. This will be our 15th year so let' keep up the tradition and let's have a really big turnout. See you there!

Member News

It's good to know that **Lambert Mims** is now home from the hospital after an extended stay. As noted elsewhere, he welcomes phone calls and of course cards will brighten a gloomy day.

Another "hospital hostage", having spent almost three weeks of confinement, is the daughter of **Walt & Martha Fuller**, Paige. Our best wishes to both patients for a quick and complete recovery.

Ready for some good news? **Bob and Linda Gechjian** are first time grandparents. Son Bobby and his wife, Maria, are proud parents of three month old Luke "G".

Ms. Activities Coordinator, **Lycyle Crowdus**, spent the week of Dec. 17-23 on a cruise in the warm climate of the Caribbean.

DSR should let member **Steve Goren** and his group from Springhill Cardiac Rehab use the building more often. They left it better than they got it. (When their lunch was over, they stacked the chairs, swept and mopped the entire clubhouse.)

BIG NEWS!! *There will be a shrimp, sausage and chicken gumbo supper at the clubhouse for the Jan. 25th meeting at a cost of \$2.50 per person payable at the meeting. No prior reservations or headcount necessary. You can probably expect at least one side dish and dessert as well. Food will be ready at 6 PM and remain available until after the meeting. Good possibility of more fun things that night too, but you'll have to come to see for yourself.*

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Mobile Christmas & Holiday Parade

By Paul Dagenais



2006 – was absolutely beautiful. The DSR was strongly represented with a total of 14 cars. Those with convertibles happily put tops down and most of the cars were decorated in the holiday spirit.



1937 Cadillac convertible with the Grand Marshall, Mobile Mayor Sam Jones, on board. Five of the other six Mobile Council members rode in DSR convertibles.



What a difference a year makes! Last year DSR participated in this parade during which it was bitterly cold and rainy. This year, the day for it, Saturday – Dec. 16, 2006 – was absolutely beautiful. The DSR was strongly represented with a total of 14 cars. Those with convertibles happily put tops down and most of the cars were decorated in the holiday spirit. There was even a Santa hanging off of a rumble seat!

DSR member Jim Henderson led the cars, driving his 1937 Cadillac convertible with the Grand Marshall, Mobile Mayor Sam Jones, on board. Five of the other six Mobile Council members rode in DSR convertibles. Notably, Council Member Connie Hudson reclaimed her seat in John Pendergrass' 1937 yellow Packard convertible for the third year.

The turnout for the parade was very large. There are no throws used for this parade as there are for Mardi Gras and many disappointed children went home with empty plastic bags. They did, however, get to see a very animated Santa Claus at the end of the parade.

There were five giant balloons that depicted the Dr. Seuss poem "One Fish (yellow), Two Fish (lime green), Red Fish, (red, of course) Blue Fish" (naturally) that made their way along the route, much to the excitement of both old and young

The route is much shorter than those used during Mardi Gras. This caused some problems when the beginning of the parade ran into the end of the parade.

The entire proceedings came to a halt several times. A couple of members had to restrain themselves from temporarily abandoning their cars when the procession was stopped for a time in front of the peanut shop on Dauphin Street and again in front of the Spot of Tea restaurant where patrons were lounging at curbside tables enjoying their favorite libations. The parade's stop-and-go nature was also responsible for several members immediately heading home with overheated cars.

Those who did stay in to the disbanding point, the parking lot of the Civic Center, most of whom had not had lunch, adjourned to the Whataburger just past the Loop for burgers, fries and drinks. As usual, the caravan of cars out Government Blvd. was good for many honks and waves from on-lookers. There weren't too many customers in the restaurant when we arrived but somehow we managed to create total chaos for the employees. Perhaps this came from "Big Jim" being at the front of the line saying "Start with this person here and don't stop taking orders 'til you get to that person there.", indicating the last one of the group.

Not only were there DSR members in line but guys who helped Jim as drivers. Those who furnished cars for the event were D. Cashdollar, P. Dagenais (& Tracy Metclaf), W. & M. Fuller, T. & J. Godfrey, J. Henderson, K. & Y. Houk, B. & P. Paquet, J. Pendergrass, R. Sloan, and H. & N. Thoms.



Jim & Nancy Henderson
 P. O. Box 190610
 Mobile, AL 36619-0610

There will be a Gumbo Supper prior
 to the Jan. 25th meeting—no sign-up
 required—See Page 6 for more details
 Cost: \$2.50 per person



Deep South Region
 Antique Automobile Club of America
 4963 Freeway Lane
 Mobile, AL 36619-1716

Dates to Remember

2007

- Jan. 6 GMAC Bowl Parade—Got a GM product convertible? Call Julie @ Mobile Lbr 661-8315
- Jan. 13 Tentative date for David's Catfish Run—more info will be E-mailed or called
- Jan. 25 DSR Monthly meeting at clubhouse—Gumbo Supper \$2.50 pp + other fun things
- Feb. 22 DSR monthly meeting at clubhouse—? Annual Soup & Chili Supper?
- Feb. 22-24 AACA Southeastern Division Winter Meet—Punta Gorda, FL
- Mar. 3 Christ United Methodist Church Open Car Show...more info soon
- Mar. 1-3 AACA Special Meet—San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Mar. 10 Hog Wild BBQ Cookoff @ Fairgrounds—more info to follow
- Apr. 14 Mobile Bay Mustang Club's annual Camellia Classic @ Bellingrath Gardens
- Apr. 28 MOPARS at the Battleship