

## The President's Message

By Jon Stevens

Hi Everyone! If you were not at our September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting at the W.O.W. Lodge, you missed a good one! We had a good turn out for our "Mystery Tool" contest. Club members brought over twenty of the most unusual tools that I have ever seen! Euna Murray did a great job as our master of ceremony as we tried to guess what these crazy tools were used for. We had a lot of fun viewing and discussing the tools before we had to guess what they were. After all the smoke cleared, Joe Ellis won the contest of most tools guessed right and Gary Wallace was the runner up. They both received a gift certificate as a prize.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> we had another outing to visit Lendell Martin's private car collection near Broaddus, Texas. What a turn out! We had between 45 to 50 members and guests show up to view all of the rare and unusual cars and tractors in Mr. Martin's incredible collection. Mr. Martin also allowed us to see his latest acquisitions that had not yet been put into their permanent spots in the museum.

As usual, Mr. Martin was on hand to give us the background and history of many of the fine cars. After we tore ourselves away from the museum, we converged on the Powell Park marina to have lunch together. We definitely filled the restaurant. In fact, we had to add additional tables and chairs to seat everyone. The owners of the restaurant, Stan and Linda Lindsey, really took care of us during the lunch. My drink never got below half full before they refilled it! My sincere thanks again goes out to Lendell and Roger Martin for allowing our club to view their fine collection. Even though several of us saw the collection for the second time, it was still a one of a kind experience!

As a reminder, our club membership dues for 2009 are due in by December 31<sup>st</sup>. The combined local and national dues are \$55.00. Please make your checks payable to D.E.T.R and mail them to D.E.T.R. P.O. Box 635291 Nacogdoches, Texas 75963. Thank you in advance!

Our next club activity will be the Sassafras Festival on October 25<sup>th</sup> in San Augustine. Plan to meet at Thrall's Grocery at 8:00am on the 25<sup>th</sup> and caravan to

San Augustine. Dennis Wankan has agreed to be the "Wagon Master" for the trip. The Car Show runs from 9:00am to 2:00pm and the Chamber of Commerce will have streets blocked off to park our cars on.

As added attractions this year, there will be the local "Sew What's Quilt Show" and a reenactment of a "Bonnie & Clyde" robbery at 10:00am & 2:00pm on the square. Club member Buck Faussett will provide his 1931 Model A town car for the reenactment and club director Gary Wallace will be driving it for the getaway! I can't wait to see that!

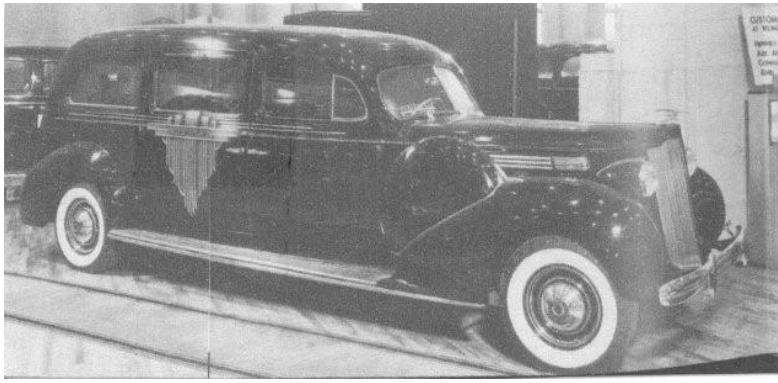
Arrangements have been made for us to eat lunch together and a headcount for lunch and payment for lunch will be done after we get there. (Last year our lunch cost was approximately \$5:00 per person). As usual, the Lakes Area Cruisers car club thinks they will have more cars in attendance than we will. Again, I don't think so! Let's see how many of our fine cars we can get to the Sassafras Festival on Saturday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.

See you there!

—Jon



*Mr. Lendell Martin gestures as he relates the history behind some of his fine antique automobiles and trucks. The many DETR club members who attended this event enjoyed his personable tour of his vast collection.*



## 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 25th** Mini-Tour to the Sassafras Festival in St. Augustine, TX
- Nov. 8th** Mini-Tour to the annual Syrup Festival in Henderson, TX
- Dec. 13th** Christmas Party at *Ralph & Kackoo's* restaurant, Lufkin, TX

### Ideas for Productive and Fun Club Activities and Providing a Useful Service to Our Community

by Wendall Spreadbury

During our last DETR Board Meeting, a heartfelt thank you note to our president, Jon Stevens, precipitated a good discussion. The note was from Earline Shipley and family thanking us for bringing our antique cars to Billy Joe's cemetery service. We also recently brought our antique cars to Tom McGrath's funeral service. Furthermore, Roger Baker has formally requested that our club members attend his funeral when it occurs (fortunately for Roger there is no set date looming in the foreseeable future! He was just planning ahead—something that we all should think about).

I recently joined the Professional Car Society (PCS), which is composed of owners and enthusiasts interested in hearses, ambulances, and big formal limousines. There seems to be a club for every kind of vehicle! After perusing several issues of the PCS newsletters it became evident that these vehicles were used quite regularly at their members' funerals and at the funerals of non members also. There appears to be a trend where both young and mature people alike are seeking to have antique cars at their weddings or funerals, rather than hiring newer, more formal limousines.

Some years ago, the Nacogdoches Antique Automobile Club, which was the direct ancestor of the DETR club, held meetings in which our members helped other to assemble and repair their cars. Up to as recently as a year ago, a number of us have, on occasion, met at the garages of Robert Stanaland, Jim Thrall, or Wendall Spreadbury for the same purpose. Over the years, a number of our members have come to my house and helped me put my LN 33 Duesenbury together. We also went to Stanely Jones' garage and worked on several different cars and trucks. I know that at those events I always learned something new about the cars and I know that we always had a good time!

Perhaps we could start that fun activity again and have even more satisfaction in that not only would we have fun being together and learning more about our

antique cars, we could also provide a meaningful service to our members and the community.

Something that would address all of the above is that I happen to have a formal, really-big, 160 inch wheel-base, special non-assembly-line bodied 1939 Packard Henny Hearse that is in unrestored condition but untouched/modified condition and very complete. There were very few of these vehicles ever built and they are most impressive. I expect it would be dramatic and very appropriate to use when our time comes. I can supply the vehicle, all of the parts, materials, tools, and a place to work on it.

The hearse is unique in itself and does NOT have to be restored to Concours condition to be of great use and value to the club. The Packard Hearse would be available at no charge to all members and families of the DETR. It is also possible that the hearse could be used in a similar manner that we occasionally use antique cars in local weddings. Perhaps during the Saturday October 25, 2008 DETR meeting/event that is scheduled in San Augustine, we could have some discussion about this activity.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

### Reminder!!

**Our annual dues for the National AACA club (\$35) and the local DETR club (\$20) will be due soon.**

**You can pay both dues with one check for \$55 that is made out to DETR-AACA and mailed to Bill Ferguson at 3603 Raguet Nacogdoches, TX 75965.**



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**Sunshine Lady**  
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**Telephone Chairman**  
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## 2008 SWAP MEETS AND CAR SHOWS

What:	Where:	When:
<b>6th Annual Cruisin' Autumn Car Show &amp; Northeast Texas Mini-Nationals</b> <i>www.cruisinautumncarshow.com</i>	Wolfe City, TX	Oct. 25th
<b>27th Annual Charity Car Show</b> <i>www.samustang.com/pdf/2008-flyer.pdf</i>	San Antonio, TX	Oct. 26th
<b>Bastrop Veterans' Weekend Car Show</b> <i>www.bastropareacruisers.com</i>	Bastrop, TX	Nov. 7th through Nov. 9th

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#### DETR Board Meeting Minutes Sept. 29, 2008

*Attending the meeting were Jon Stevens, Mike Tollett, Gary Wallace, Wendell Spreadbury, Robert Grogan, Dennis Wankan and Martha Wankan.*

President Jon Stevens called the meeting to order. Secretary Martha Wankan read the last month's minutes. Treasurer Bill Ferguson was absent.

#### Old Business:

- The Publicity Chairman position remains unfilled. The Board is working on filling this position at present time.
- New meeting places need to be found for the monthly board meetings to be held. The board will meet at Jon Stevens' home in October.
- Upcoming club events were reviewed. Martha Wankan has made reservations at the Fillin' Station in Henderson for 11:00am on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Further information will be coming soon. She will call and confirm as time gets closer to the event.

#### New Business:

- A thank you note from Earline Shipley to President John Stevens was read to the Board. She thanked the club for the flowers that were sent to her husband's funeral and for the club members' bringing their antique cars to be in the funeral possession.
- The AACA has again sent our club four coupons to cover any new members fees that join our club for the first time. The Board discussed on how to use these.
- Jon Stevens will get with Wendell Spreadbury to discuss how we can get the club involved in projects.

The meeting was adjourned.

*— Respectfully submitted by  
 Martha Wankan*







**DETR Member Birthdays in October:**

**Rick Hillin,  
Karla Randel,  
Mark Randel,  
Michelle Rusk,  
Earline Shipley,  
Cleta Sitton,  
James Standley,  
Ken Thompson,  
Merry Thompson,  
Billie Tollett,  
Michael Tollett  
Happy Birthday!**



*From right to left: Club members Gary Wallace, Hugh Murray, and Joe Ellis discuss the finer points of Chevrolet model history while touring Mr. Lendell Martin's fine collection of antique cars and trucks. Mike Tollett captures the moment on camera for posterity.*

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