

The End-Loader

... featuring those tidbits that really need to be shown but just don't fit elsewhere ...



Volunteer Chapter Vice-President, Kent Martinson taking delivery of his 1974 Cotner/Bevington Oldsmobile Cotington Limousine style combination coach from Ron Devies of Alliance, Ohio.

(continued from page 7) car show at the Town Square Mall for the evening.

Thanks to all who attended. Owensboro is becoming a popular meet site for the Volunteer Chapter.

Here's a roll call of the cars and members present:

Meet host, Stephen Mayfield, Owensboro, Kentucky.

Mike Stevens, 1961 Miller-Meteor Cadillac Panoramic Limousine Duplex.

Rick & Ryan Cox, 1991 Collins/Miller-Meteor Cadillac Funeral Coach. Irvine, Kentucky.

Jeremy D. Ledford, 1977 M-M Cadillac Landau Traditional. Lebanon, Tennessee.

Kent Martinson, 1993 Collins/Miller-Meteor Lincoln Six Door Limousine. Hermitage, Tennessee.

Nick Bliss, 1996 Collins/Miller-Meteor Cadillac Six Door Limousine, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Larry Sanders, Harrodsburg, KY.

Larry Wilson, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Tom Peebles, Somerville Tennessee.

The

Dixie-Lifeline



The line-up at the Volunteer Chapter meet in Owensboro, Kentucky



This Superior Pontiac ambulance once belonged to Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport, TN. Later it went to the company's plant in Batesville, AR. In this photo it is registered in ND. Some of these pro cars really get around!

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Joint Meet with Southeastern Chapter

On March 31, 2007 the Volunteer Chapter held a joint meet with the Southeastern Chapter at the Washburn and Dorsey Funeral Home in Bostic, NC. With a turnout of 13 cars and 18 members, we had great time. We were able to see several of Kent Dorsey's vehicles as well as Ted Duncan's beautiful, white M-M low-



top ambulance, Danny Ryder's newly purchased hearse, and John Burchfield's less-than-as-promised new hearse.

We were pleased to have national PCS Vice President, Wayne Collins, join us for the day, and Ralph Burns, who recently moved to

Maryville, TN, on his retirement attended his first Southeastern Chapter meet.

Kent had notified several people in the area about our meet, and we had visits from local dignitaries in a Model A Ford, in an S&S Cadillac hearse (from a competing funeral home) and police sporting a new Dodge Charger cruiser.



After lunch at a nearby restaurant, full of "local flavor," we drove into nearby Forest City to visit the fire station and see their 1929 GMC-based fire truck. The good firemen drove the truck



outside for us, where we could see it an photograph it all the better.

At a brief business meeting, we finalized the 2006 International Meet and began talking about hosting yet another meet.

Report from the Owensboro, KY Meet

May 4th -6th, 2007

By Jeremy D. Ledford.

A great time was had by all who attended our chapter meet in Owensboro Kentucky, May 4th - 6th. The meet was hosted by Stephen Mayfield. We met at Owensboro's Resurrection Cemetery on Friday about noon. From there it was off to Calhoun, Kentucky, for a tour of Muster Coach Company and the Muster Funeral Home, with tours led by owner John Muster. After a couple hours touring the funeral home and looking over the hundreds of coaches at the lots of Musters, we checked into the Hampton Inn and proceeded to a "sacred" place for Indiana Chapter President, Larry Wilson: The Moonlite BBQ Restaurant and Buffet. I think



"buffet" says it all!

A visit to the Windy Hollow Raceway and drag strip was fruitless, as the night's races had been canceled. So we went back to the hotel to hang out, smoke cigars, look over photos and swap stories the rest of the night in the parking lot and hotel lobby

between the monsoons that came through the area that night!

Saturday morning Larry Sanders treated the group to breakfast

at the Denny's next door to the hotel. Our first stop of the

day was a tour of the Haley-McGinnis & Owensboro Funeral Home. Next we toured

some of Owensboro's historic cemeteries. From there it was

back to the hotel, where a few of us said our goodbyes.

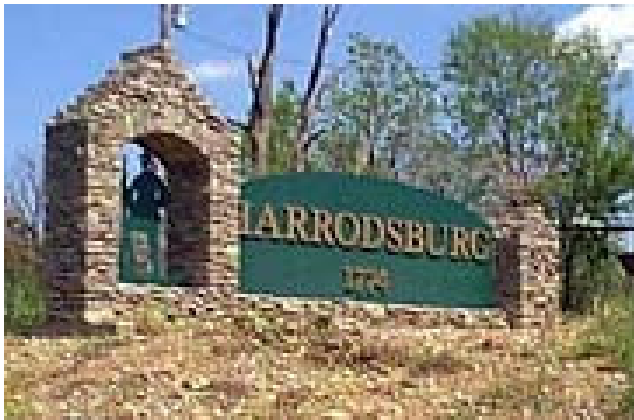
For those of us left, we ate dinner at Cracker Barrel

and then visited a the (cont'd)



Ice Cream Social, Open House, and Car Show—June 1 and 2 in Harrodsburg KY

Chapter members Larry and Jo Sanders invite us to participate in their funeral home's annual ice cream social and open house this weekend. This is the 80th anniversary of the Alexander and Royalty Funeral Home, so along with the ice cream social, we have been invited to bring our professional cars for display during the event. The celebration coincides with the Fort Harrod Beef Festival (www.fortharrodbeeffestival.org), so there will be lots to do and see. Lodging for the weekend has been arranged at the Country Hearth Inn, 105 Commercial Drive, (857) 734-2400, www.countryhearth.com/hotels/ky-harrodsburg.asp. Be sure to mention Alexander and Royalty Funeral Home to get the special rate. Single: \$53.95 + tax; Double: \$62.95 + tax. A tour of Central Kentucky Funeral Livery Association is planned, as well as a tour of a new funeral home in the area. You can contact www.alexanderandroyalty.com or www.harrodsburgky.com, or Tonya S. Schroeder or Larry Sanders (859) 734-3361 for more information. We'll look forward to seeing you there!



The Prez Sez ...

So far we have been off to a fantastic start for the 2007 PCS season this year! We kicked off our year by attending the meet hosted by Kent Dorsey at Washburn & Dorsey Funeral Home in Bostic, North Carolina, held jointly with the Southeastern Chapter on March 31st. We had a total of 12 coaches present! A great time was had by all who attended such a fantastic event put on by Kent! As I type this I'm in preparation to head to our 2nd meet of the year in Owensboro, Kentucky, hosted by Stephen Mayfield. A full report on this event is in this edition of the *Dixie-Lifeline*. We also have everything nailed down for the event to be held in Harrodsburg, Kentucky, hosted by PCS and Volunteer Chapter member Larry Sanders. That meet will be held June 1st and 2nd at Alexander & Royalty Funeral Home. Complete details of this event are in this issue of the *D/L* also. From there we're heading to the 2007 Miller-Meteor Reunion in Piqua, Ohio, June 21st- 24. Finally, we'll fly west to the 2007 Professional Car Society 31st International Meet in Los Angeles, California, July 10th – 14th. The next three months are going to be very exciting and busy months for us. In closing, remember to support your local chapter. Whether if it's our chapter, or a chapter in your local region, go out attend an event they're having. You may really like what's going on. And also support the Professional Car Society. But most importantly, be safe and we'll see ya'll at the meets!

Best Wishes to all,

Jeremy D. Ledford

What Have You Found In Your Hearse Lately?

Having owned several hearses over the years (10 since 2004), with the exception of only a couple, I have found some interesting “tag-a-longs” when conducting either detailing or restoration. I have compiled some of the more common and interesting items for your reading pleasure:

- Original 1960's purple FUNERAL windshield paper notice found in area between vent and back of glove box (came out of the '64 Superior)
- EPA Fuel Economy Rating Label (a whopping 11 MPG!!!!)
- Casket keys of all shapes and designs
- Casket Veil/Shroud in spare tire area
- Funeral Cards and Catholic Mass Cards (complete unused box)
- Hospital marked sheet and blankets (some with questionable bloody looking stains)
- Complete Superior Factory paperwork folders including Commercial Chassis Jack Instructions, Wiring Circuits & Routing, Wiring Schematic, Damage to Self-Rectifying AC Generators/Alternators Notice to Owner, Cadillac Protect-o-Plate, Superior Coach Manual Table Engineering Specs & Process papers, Superior Warranty and envelopes from factory)
- Magnetic FUNERAL plaques (8) and a few magnetic fender mount flags
- Funeral Home “Certificate of Attendance at Funeral Service”
- Metal name plates for back side windows

But the most unusual item has to be a small, Plush Doll with Ribbon tied around its neck printed with a

Female Child's name and Date of Death and other Spanish writings that was found tucked between the gas tank and the chassis on the '81 Superior 3-Way that came from Minnesota. What a story it could probably tell on how it ended up at that location since 1982 (found in 2006).

Now get out there and look in those nooks and crannies for that hidden treasure!! If anyone is interested in a copy of the Superior paperwork mentioned, contact me.

Happy Searching!

Rick Cox
Irvine, KY

Upcoming Events ...

June 1-2: Volunteer Chapter meet, Harrodsburg, KY. (Details inside)

June 21-24: Miller-Meteor meet, Piqua, Ohio. (Details inside)

July 10-14: 31st International Meet, Burbank, California.

Miller-Meteor Reunion Set

The Miller-Meteor Reunion is headed back to Piqua, OH, June 21-24. The reunion coincides with Piqua's bicentennial celebration. Tom Caserta is chairing the M-M Reunion. Here is the schedule:

Thursday, June 21: 1:00 PM. Tour of Accubuilt plant at Lima, OH, followed by a tour to the old Superior plant.

Friday: Bus trip to Cincinnati, stopping at Eagle Coach and CWCoach. Evening: festivities in Piqua town square.

Saturday: Pilgrimage to M-M plant in the morning. Bicentennial parade begins at 2:00 PM. M-M retirees will ride in our cars in the parade. All makes of vehicles may attend the meet, but only Miller, Meteor, Miller-Meteor and Cotner-Bevington vehicles will participate in the parade.

The host hotel is the Piqua Comfort Inn. Phone: 937-778-8100. Mention PCS for special rate of \$67.96 per night.