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## Thousands Enjoy Baltimore Mayor's Christmas Parade 2010

By Jerry Gordon

A Baltimore holiday tradition for the past 39 years, the Mayor's Christmas Parade along the main streets in the Hampden and Medfield neighborhoods proceeded on Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> accompanied by clear, but brisk weather. It was much colder than usual for early December in the city, but that didn't deter thousands of spectators lined up along Falls Road and 36<sup>th</sup> Street from enjoying the spectacle of more than 160 parade units decked out in holiday colors.

In this year's parade they had a great mixture of marching bands, community holiday floats, several Shrine Boumi Temple motorized units, equestrian units, commercial floats; military marching units; and even a few holiday balloons, which were restricted due to the gusting wind conditions. There were a few groups from outside the area including several bands and a Mummers group from Philadelphia. And then there were some really unusual groups like The Night of 100 Elvises, the Lone Ranger and Silver, and Toilet Racers Unlimited (draw your own conclusion on this last one).

The parade had a variety of vehicles including: Baltimore fire and police, dignitaries in modern convertibles – and more than fifty antique and collectible vehicles from Chesapeake Region, AACA, Antique Motor Club of Greater Baltimore, a couple of motorcycle clubs, a large contingent from the Vintage Volkswagen Club, a group of rat rods, and several independently entered collectibles.

Representing the Chesapeake Region were: Franklin Gage, 1966 Chevrolet; Buzz Diehl, 1966 Pontiac; Jerry Ross, 1954 Kaiser; John Boks, 1965 Rambler; Jerry Gordon, 1984 Lincoln; Jack Kremen, 1985 Buick; Jim Turner, 1953 DeSoto; Pat Wenderoth, 1928 Studebaker; and Les Horn, 1964 Corvair.

*More Christmas Parade photos on page 2 >>*



*Shown clockwise from the top: Franklin Gage's 1966 Chevrolet with a decorative wreath on the grill; The oldest car in the parade was Pat Wenderoth's 1928 Studebaker President, a crowd favorite; John Boks dressed for the occasion in his 1965 Rambler convertible; The Mummers string band from Philadelphia; and the tuba section of the Dulaney High School Lions marching band.*



### 2010 Baltimore Mayor's Christmas Parade Photo Collection



From the left: Candy cane balloon being walked in wind gusts; Ronald McDonald in the parade; Jim Turner with his 1953 DeSoto



From the left: 1956 Buick Estate Wagon rat rod; One of the carriages; 1973 Volkswagen Thing among the VW Club vehicles



From the left: Indy car promoting Baltimore Grand Prix 9/2 to 9/4, 2011; Lone Ranger and Silver; Fire Museum's 1949 Mack Pumper



From the left: One of several color guards; This extra-long limo was a great parade ride; One of the Boumi Shrine motorcycles