



Cadillac & LaSalle Club

Potomac Region

Caddie Chronicle

March 2007



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY VINCE TALIANO

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CAR SHOW COORDINATORS
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STEVEN SISSON

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RITA BIAL-BOXLEY

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CHRIS CUMMINGS

CAR SHOW DISPLAYING/PARKING
DERRICK FISHER

CAR SHOW DISPLAYING/PARKING
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
JIM GOVONI

CAR SHOW SPONSOR AND HOST
DANIEL JOBE & CAPITOL CADILLAC

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
DON MICHAELS

HONORARY MEMBER
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
VERN PARKER

HONORARY MEMBER
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
BOB RUCKMAN

CAR SHOW MASTER OF CEREMONY
NATIONAL CLC ADVISOR
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
RICHARD SILLS

The number of spectacular events planned for the Mid-Atlantic this year is unbelievable. A few of them are highlighted below.

On the weekends of March 17-18 and 24-25, Toll Brothers, America's Luxury Home Builders, will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary with events in many of their communities in several different counties in the Baltimore / Washington Metropolitan areas. The theme of the events will be the 1960's and they would like to showcase Cadillacs from the 1960's, especially 1967. For more information, contact Wes Hummer at 301-306-2000 or whummer@tollbrothersinc.com.

On April 14-15, the Valley Forge Region has scheduled a Spring Run to the Strasburg Railroad in Lancaster County, PA. The Saturday events will include taking a ride on the train, touring the area on your own and/or visiting the nearby shopping outlets. Dinner will be on the Dinner Train and Sunday brunch will at the Willow Valley Motel followed by a visit to The National Toy Train Museum. For more info, contact Don Miller at bluefludon@aol.com.

On June 9-10, the Burn Foundation Concours d'Elegance in Bethlehem, PA will be held. It is one of the great concours events on the East Coast. Long-time CLC member Bob Dare is in charge of the Car Selection Committee. There are two ways to participate: one is to join in the CLC group that will have special preferential parking on the show grounds; the other is to request that your car be nominated for participation in the Concours event. If you wish to have your car nominated, contact Bob at bdarecars@aol.com or Richard Sills at richard.sills@hklaw.com.

On July 7-8, the Central Pennsylvania Region is planning an inter-regional CLC meet at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA. For those who can make a weekend of it, a dinner is being planned for the Saturday evening and an AACA Library tour on Sunday July 8. For more information, contact Art Archambeault at 717-671-8768 or jandainpa2002@yahoo.com.

On October 7, the **50th Annual** Antique Auto Assembly will take place at the "Old Soldiers' Home" in Washington, DC.

Vince Taliano

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR



My name is Sandy Kemper and I live in Silver Spring, Maryland. My idea is simple: Copy-cat the efforts of some guy in Texas who's asking people to give him \$1,000,000 to restore his father's 1959 Eldorado Biarritz [featured in February 2007 issue of the **Caddie Chronicle**].



So here's the deal. Why send money to someone in Texas when you can give your money away to a local charity? A mere thirty thousand will go a long way to bringing my 1959 Coupe deVille close to its original factory condition (see enclosed picture). You don't even have to try to figure out a webpage or what a pixel is. Just send me money or give it to me at the next Potomac Region meeting. I'll take cash, checks, promissory notes and parts or services.

Now I understand that the guy in Texas has a noble idea. How can any of us not shed a tear just thinking about how his father is going to look when his son shows him his car fully restored. Just imagine. The project car in your yard or garage for over thirty years is suddenly restored and presented to you on your birthday. There's not a car guy in the world who wouldn't wish for that!! When I bought my car from the original owner's family in 2000, the seller's said that they regretted having to part with "Daddy's car." But, unfortunately, Daddy had passed away and none of his heirs was able to keep the car. They were pleased when I told them that I expected to fix what needed fixing and drive the car. And I have done that. They expressed a hope that someday they would see the car again. Well. I will make a pledge to all of you right now. If I get thirty thousand dollars donated to me for the restoration of my 1959 Cadillac, I will make a special trip to Virginia Beach to show the heirs what I have done to their Daddy's car.

We understand that the Texas car is an Eldorado Biarritz. That's certainly worth a restoration effort. But when are any of us going to see it? On the other hand, you can see my car anytime. It's in my driveway. That's less than an hour's drive for most Potomac Region members. And with the restoration effort that I will employ after receiving your thirty thousand dollars, I am sure that Derrick Fisher and Henry Ruby will let me park in the showroom at Capitol Cadillac in one of our upcoming shows. Isn't that worth a donation?

Yes, my fellow Potomac Region members, spend your money at home. So, let's make my 1959 Coupe deVille a Region project. Let's do this together. For us. For the Region. For the CLC.



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2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| DATE | TIME | EVENT | LOCATION | CONTACT INFORMATION |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---|---|--|
| Mar 17-18 and 24-25 | | Toll Brothers 40th Anniversary Events "'60's Cadillacs Wanted" | Toll Brothers Communities throughout Maryland | Wes Hummer at 301-306-2000 or whummer@tollbrothersinc.com |
| Mar 19 | 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm | Potomac Region Monthly Meeting | Silver Diner Merrifield VA | Vince Taliano at 301-258-8321 or eddieamendo@comcast.net |
| Mar 23-24 | | 37th Annual AACA Sugarloaf Mountain Region Parts Meet and Auction | Frederick Fairgrounds Frederick MD | Robert Clubb at 301-831-0300 or www.smrantiqueautoclub.com |
| Apr 14-15 | | CLC Valley Forge Region's Spring Run | Strasburg Railroad Lancaster County PA | Don Miller at bluefludon@aol.com |
| Apr 18-22 | Gates open at 7:00 am | Spring Carlisle | Carlisle PA | 717-243-7855 or www.carsatcarlisle.com/ |
| Apr 28 | | Potomac Region Spring Driving Tour | Charles Town and Harper's Ferry WV | Steven Sisson at 301-299-9665 or sissonse01@cs.com |
| May 6 | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | 16th Annual Capitol Cadillac/Potomac Region Spring Car Show & Automobilia Auction | Capitol Cadillac Greenbelt MD | Car Show: Diane & Henry Ruby at 301-894-8026, Automobilia Auction: George Boxley at 301-261-5634 |
| May 12 | 8:00 am – 4:00 pm | 49th Annual AACA Apple Blossom Meet | Jim Barnett Park Winchester VA | Jim Stup at 540-465-5066 or www.huskyclub.com/abmeet.htm |
| May 19 | | CLC Central PA Region's Run to the Swigart Antique Auto Museum | Huntingdon PA | Art Archambeault at 717-671-8768 or jandainpa2002@yahoo.com |
| May 19 | | Kent Island Relay for Life All Proceeds go to the American Cancer Society | Stevensville Park to Q.A.C. 4-H Park Kent Island MD | Kelly Trippe at 410-827-7219, 443-496-1710 or kkmh81@aol.com |
| Jun 2 | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | Central PA Region's 18th Annual Spring-Summer Show | Brenner Cadillac Harrisburg PA | Richard Sills at 301-467-1212 or richard.sills@hklaw.com |
| Jun 9-10 | | 18th Annual Burn Foundation Concours d'Elegance | Bethlehem PA | Bob Dare at bdarecars@aol.com or www.concourseast.org |
| Jun 10 | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm | 33rd Annual VCCA All-GM Show (1915-1980) | Catonsville Community College Catonsville MD | Bill Scott at wilomae@comcast.net or www.freestaterregion.com |
| Jun 17 | 10:00 am – 3:30 pm | 34th Annual Sully Plantation Father's Day Antique and Classic Car Show | Sully Plantation Chantilly VA | Bill Benedict at 703-430-2441 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully/ |
| Jun 20-24 | | CLC National Driving Tour Lower Hudson Valley Region | Hudson Valley NY | Dave Rubin at 845-225-5990 or sizr5@optonline.net |
| Jul 7-8 | | CLC Inter-Regional Meet | AACA Museum Hershey PA | Art Archambeault at 717-671-8768 or jandainpa2002@yahoo.com |
| Jul 20-22 | | Hemmings Motor News presents "The New England Concours d'Elegance" | Stratton Mountain Resort Stratton VT | www.hemmings.com/events/concours.html |
| Jul 22 | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm | VCCA All Makes & Customs Car Show (1915-1980) | Meadowbrook Regional Park Baltimore MD | Bill Scott at wilomae@comcast.net |
| Aug 1-4 | | CLC Grand National Meet Peach State Region | Savannah GA | Michael Posey at 770-487-5512 |
| Aug 11 | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm | 33rd Annual Metro Chapter Buick Club All-GM Show "GM Class of 1957" | Montgomery College Rockville MD | Cory Correll at 240-686-0229 or corydraw@starpower.net |
| Oct 7 | 8:00 am – 1:00 pm | 50th Annual Antique Auto Assembly | Armed Forces Retirement Home Washington DC | Clint Brown at 301-593-0789 |
| Oct 10-13 | Gates open at 7:00 am | AACA National Eastern Fall Meet | Giant Center Hershey PA | http://local.aaca.org/hershey/ |



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FEBRUARY 18, 2007 MEETING MINUTES ***BY SANDY KEMPER***

MINUTES: Regular Region Meeting

PLACE: White Flint Mall, Rockville, Maryland

TIME: 7:30 PM

PRESIDING: Assistant Regional Director Dan Ruby

ATTENDANCE: Chris Cummings, Randy Denchfield, Jim George, Jim Govoni, Sandy Kemper, Henry, Diane & Karen Ruby, Harry Scott, Richard Sisson and Steven Sisson, as well as Max Dement from Johns Hopkins University and his colleagues Kirsten, Preeti and Cedric.

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS: Dan thanked everyone for attending. He welcomed a group of students from Johns Hopkins University [see "New Business," below]

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Minutes from the January meeting were not read since they had been published and distributed to all members in the February 2007 newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report covered the time period from the January, 2007 meeting to date. Harry reported that the Region's income was \$576.04 which was from membership renewals mostly. The total expenses were \$333.85. The checking account balance as of the meeting date was \$4,553.84 and the CD principal was \$5,280.58. Also, Harry mentioned that the grille badge supplier has increased his price and has requested payment in full upon order. Since these new terms are unsatisfactory, he is checking on a new source for grille badges. In addition, there was a general discussion about the purchase of t-shirts. There was no favorable interest expressed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Richard Sisson reported that the membership is at 184. This number is greater than last year at this time. Thanks to everyone who renewed. Membership efforts will begin in earnest at local car shows in the spring.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: Steven Sisson and others discussed the following activities:

- **Valley Forge Region's "Spring 2007 Run" April 14-15, 2007, Strasburg Railroad and Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania:** Sandy distributed information about this event and Steven encouraged everyone to consider participating.
- **Potomac Region Spring Driving Tour, Saturday, April 28, 2007:** Steven reported that this tour will include visits to historic Harper's Ferry and the Vintage Motor Car Co, near Charles Town, WV. A flyer with details will be distributed soon.
- **Spring Car Show & Automobilia Auction, Sunday, May 6, 2007:** We have booked DJ Mike and are working on the dash plaque design. Flyers announcing the show and requesting auction items will be distributed in March. Henry mentioned that a 1988 Fleetwood Brougham will be auctioned. Also, Henry proposed increasing the fees for all participants by \$5.00. This proposal provoked a lengthy discussion. It was agreed that Harry Scott would prepare a financial analysis after this year's spring show, excluding the auction, to determine the show's income and expense. Discussion tabled for now.
- **Central Penn Region's Tour to the Swigart Museum, Huntingdon, PA, Saturday May 19, 2007:** Steven gave some details of this event: The Swigart Museum is the oldest antique car museum in the country. This tour will include a trip to the Museum's storage facilities that are not open to the public.



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- **Germantown Middle School, Old Rock Show w/Classic Cars, May 20, 2007 and Tarara Wine Festivals, Summer / Fall 2007:** Steven said that these are examples of organizations that have contacted us in recent months about club members providing cars for their events. As a Region, we are not involved in these particular activities, but members may certainly participate.
- **Inter-regional CLC Meet, AACA Museum, Hershey, PA, Saturday July 7, 2007:** Steven mentioned this event and there was brief, non-committal discussion.
- **2007 CLC-Grand National, Savannah, GA Aug 1-4, 2007:** Sandy read particulars about the GN as provided by Jack McClow, GN registrar. Notably, information will be published in the March and May issues of *The Self Starter*. Nearly 70% of the CLC's block of rooms at the host hotel, the Savannah Marriott, has been booked already. PR members are encouraged to book now. There is another hotel, one block away from the host hotel that will be used for overflow. This GN will be unique in that the host hotel is within easy walking distance of the host city's major attractions.
- **"Legacy of LaSalle" Fall Show:** Steven read the updates provided by Director Vince: We are still awaiting the publication of the NFL schedule to pick the date for the show. We are continuing to feature an article about LaSalle's each month in our newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Constitution & By-Laws:** Per the notice given at last month's meeting and on a motion by Henry Ruby, seconded by Diane Ruby, the membership approved the proposed revisions of the By-Laws.
2. **2009 National Driving Tour:** Steven reported that he has been in touch with the new Event Coordinator at the Bolger Center. Also, we plan to hold a regular Region Meeting there in June or August so that all members can see the proposed host facility.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **CLC Winter Board Meeting:** Sandy stated that National Director Bill Sessler attended the meeting and that his report will be published in the March newsletter.
2. **2008 Grand National Planning Meeting:** Henry & Sandy reported that they attended the Valley Forge Region's Grand National planning meeting on February 6th to offer PR's help, but also to learn about their national event planning process.
3. **Johns Hopkins University students:** An undergraduate team is doing a research study on the Cadillac brand. This study includes profiles of Cadillac owners and enthusiasts. Four students came to the meeting and asked questions to "understand what makes Cadillac drivers tick, why they love their cars so much, and what they think about the Cadillac cars of today versus the past."
4. **Event at Walter Reed Army Medical Center:** Karen Ruby asked the club if they were interested in holding a car show, possibly in September, at this facility to entertain some of the wounded war veterans. There was enthusiastic response. Karen works at WRAMC and will discuss this further with her management. Some members suggested that we could hold our 3rd Annual Picnic with Lincoln Mercury friends there to share with the veterans or that we could arrange a "cruise-in" to WRAMC.

"GOOD OF THE CLUB" ITEMS: Steven raised a few items of interest, including a product (SEM Classic Coat Leather Dye) and the recent Barrett-Jackson auction.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, March, 19, 2007 at the Silver Diner, Merrifield, Virginia.

MEETING DATE CHANGE: Note that the April meeting date has been changed to Thursday, April 12, 2007 at Capitol Cadillac.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.



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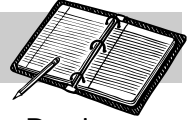
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REGION NOTES BY RICHARD SILLS



The Central Pennsylvania Region CLC has several events on its calendar, and Potomac Region members are cordially invited as well.

On Saturday May 19, the Central Penn Region is hosting a run to the Swigart Museum in Huntingdon, PA. The Swigart Museum is the oldest antique car museum in the country, founded in 1920. A few weeks ago I attended the AACA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, and I happened to see Pat Swigart, the owner of the Museum. I mentioned the scheduled CLC tour, and then I asked her whether our group could also see the cars that the Museum has in storage. The Museum's storage facilities are not open to the public, but I have heard they include many very rare and interesting antique cars. She very kindly agreed to do this for us. She said she had another engagement on her schedule for that day (a meet sponsored by her local AACA region), but since the CLC group is coming, she will make arrangements to be there personally, and will take us to the storage building after our Museum tour. It is only 3 miles away so it would be a short drive. She recommended we try to get to the Museum by late morning in order to make sure all this can be accomplished.



Source: www.swigartmuseum.com

I strongly encourage Potomac Region members to join the visit to the Swigart Museum, since it is an unusual opportunity to see the whole collection. Huntingdon, PA is only about a 3 hour drive from DC or Baltimore, 3 ½ hours from Philadelphia or 1 hour and 45 minutes from Harrisburg, PA. For those who wish to make a weekend of it, stay overnight in the Hershey area and visit the AACA Museum on Sunday May 20 when the Chesapeake Region AACA group will also be visiting. In addition to seeing the Museum's great new exhibits (including a fascinating Brass Era display that includes a 1903 Cadillac delivery truck), it will be an opportunity to network with prospective Potomac Region members from the Baltimore area.

For more information on the Swigart Museum Tour, please contact Art Archambeault at 717-671-8768 or jandainpa2002@yahoo.com.

Other Central Penn Region events planned for this year include:

- Saturday June 2 - 18th Annual Spring-Summer Show at Brenner Cadillac in Harrisburg, PA
- Saturday-Sunday July 7-8 - Inter-regional CLC meet at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA

Check out Potomac Region's J. Roger Bentley and his 1964 Plymouth Sport Fury in Vern Parker's February 23rd *Washington Times* "Out of the Past" column. Click the link below for the story: <http://www.print2webcorp.com/news/washingtontimes/AutoWeekend/20070223/p01.asp>



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2007 CLC WINTER BOARD MEETINGS STORY AND PHOTOS BY BILL SESSLER

As the designated representative of the Potomac Region on the national Board of Directors of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club, I attended the Board meetings of the CLC and the CLC Museum in the Detroit area on Friday February 2 and Saturday February 3, 2007.

On Thursday, I arrived at the selected hotel, a Best Western in Romulus, Michigan, close to the Detroit airport. Each Board member found an envelope waiting from Paul Ayres, who arranged the activities. This included greetings from the local Region (Motor City), and contained an agenda for the weekend's activities. On Thursday evening we were invited to attend the Motor City Region's regular meeting in a nearby historical museum. The Region's guest speaker was the Executive VP for the Cadillac Motor Division (I'm old time GM) who was responsible for the 2008 Cadillac CTS. She gave a very nice presentation and many of us went out into the cold to look at the car. The rest of the evening included a discussion of the host region's business.

On Friday morning, at close to zero degrees but thankfully no snow, we loaded up in a bus and went to look at a 1960-vintage former dealership building that is one of the proposed sites for the CLC Museum. The dealership building has been used for storage since 1984, and among the cars stored there are four of the eight cars owned by the CLC Museum.



Walter P. Chrysler Museum

Our tour bus next took us to the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in nearby Auburn Hills, Michigan. What a great place -- well lighted, beautiful displays, and an excellent store full of stuff to buy, along with several movies on Mr. Chrysler and his company. It shows you what a wonderful museum you can have when the resources of the car manufacturer -- in this case, Daimler-Chrysler -- are behind it. This is a must-see for any car person who visits the Detroit area!



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Next stop was the GM Heritage Center in Sterling Heights, Michigan. Unlike the Chrysler Museum, which is open to the public, GM Heritage is a corporate facility that is not open to the public. Groups that wish to use this facility for a function generally have to pay a sizable fee to GM (\$2,500, I think) to use it. This collection is in a very large and fairly new warehouse, with a great display in the foyer. You then go from the foyer into the archive offices which are full of artifacts and many of the original files that belong to GM. From there you enter the largest section of the building, which houses significant cars from all of the GM divisions. This room includes a dais for group presentations. It is fantastic, and it was a great privilege for us to see it. Unfortunately the lighting was so low that most of my photos did not come out well (see pictures to the right). Our bus next took us back to the hotel, where the CLC Museum Board was holding its meeting.

I attended some of the CLC Museum's board meeting. No decision was made about a permanent location. The Museum is going to publicize to members the availability of research services, including copies of the many shop manuals, owner's manuals, and other Cadillac and LaSalle sales literature held in the Museum's archives.

On Friday evening, the Board members and other attendees had dinner together at the hotel.

On Saturday morning, the CLC Board Meeting started bright and early at 8:00 a.m., with President Glenn Brown presiding. A great deal of time is now saved at these meetings because officers' reports are posted on the Directors' Website well in advance. This avoids having each person read his or her report at the meeting. The Club is in sound financial shape.





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One issue discussed was the possibility of extending the length of the Grand National Meet by one day, to allow more time for seminars and chapter meetings. Another discussion related to members who join Regions, but not the National CLC, which is a prohibited practice. Our Region is doing well on this issue, but some other Regions are not.

The Board discussed the challenges relating to foreign mail delivery, since the Club has a number of members in Australia and other countries where delivery of ***The Self- Starter*** is often less than timely. Reports were presented on all the CLC's Regions, Chapters, and International Affiliates. The Club is considering sponsoring a Cadillac or LaSalle entry in the "Great Race", to help publicize our Club by applying club decals. The Club will use a special logo to commemorate its 50th anniversary year in 2008. After the current inventory of grille badges and other Club decals is used up, the Club's logo will be revised to add the ampersand in the Club's name and to add "V-6" to the line-up of powerplants whose symbols appear on the Club's logo.

Past President Ron Van Gelderen has put together a 32 page full color Cadillac Design booklet, featuring suggested future Cadillac styles drawn by a group of highly acclaimed designers. This booklet brought the Club favorable attention in Automotive News, an industry trade publication, and elsewhere. CLC is going to sponsor a printing of these booklets to circulate them to the Club members.

Host Regions of future Grand National Meets and National Driving Tours presented their reports. I made our 2009 National Driving Tour report during this part of the meeting.

The activities culminated with the annual holiday party of the Motor City Region on Saturday night. This was held in Dearborn at the Automotive Hall Of Fame, which honors individuals who have made notable contributions to either the development of the automobile or the motor vehicle industry. This became an extra special night for me because in going through all the exhibits, I came across the one honoring Mr. John W. Koons Sr., who was my father's partner in restarting the Pontiac dealership in Manassas, Virginia in 1960. I remember Mr. Koons very well. One of his favorite remarks was "If you don't love me, don't take my money." In other words, if you are going to work here, you had better have a good opinion of the dealership and its management. At one time, Mr. Koons was the largest volume (retail) Ford dealer in the world, and was known as "King Koons", using a crown as the logo on the back of the Fords he sold.

Attending these meetings gave me an opportunity to meet many of the Club's leaders from all over the country. The next Board meetings will be held at the Grand National Meet in Savannah, Georgia, which I have already made plans to attend.

To see over 35 pictures from the tour of the Chrysler Museum and the GM Heritage Center, visit <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/2007pictures.htm>.



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***OUR 1940 LASALLE
BY AARON "BUD" AND BARBARA COLEMAN***



***"Bud" & Barbara Coleman with their 1940 LaSalle
Photo by Don Miller***

Around 1990, Barbara made a reference about me finding a hobby. She gave me a lesson in golf and even went so far as to buy me a set of golf clubs for my next birthday. Well, it is almost 17 years later and I have no idea where those clubs are. They are not in the house or in either of the garages. Chasing that little white ball around for hours was not my idea of a fun day. I guess I was more suited for collector cars.

At some point, we had looked at a 1940 Ford that was for sale but we could not agree on a price with the owner. Then, a co-worker showed me an ad in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* selling a 1940 LaSalle and he asked, **"What's a LaSalle?"** I called and found out the asking price and where it was located.

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That following weekend there was a street rod show in Macungie, PA. There was supposed to be a '38 LaSalle there so I figured it would be a good time for Barbara to see what LaSallees were all about. We went to the show and saw the car – what a beauty! That following Sunday, we went to Trenton, NJ to check out the '40 LaSalle for sale and ended up buying it. Barbara asked if it was possible to restore the car to a condition comparable to the one that we had just seen in Macungie and, of course, I said yes. Little did we realize it would take the best part of 10 years for it to become the LaSalle that we now love to drive and show!

At different times as I was growing up, we had a '37 and a '38 LaSalle. My father liked to say that my mother drove the '37 till the wheels fell off. He drove the '38 for 6 months and was offered twice what he paid for it so he took the money. In those days, a LaSalle was just another old car.

We went back to Trenton on Labor Day weekend and brought the car home on a landscapers' trailer that we had at that time. Naturally, while taking the car off the trailer I did some damage to the fender, but that was OK because the car needed some body work anyway. Soon afterwards we went to our first local car show and bumped into Don Miller, who was a childhood friend. At that time, he was also the President of the Valley Forge Region and as they say, the rest is history!

We were actively involved in the first CLC Grand National that we attended, the one held in Lancaster, PA in 1993. What fun we had that year and all of the following years that we have been involved with the CLC. I think that we have only missed 2 or 3 Grand Nationals in the past 14 years. In 2001, Jack & Nancy Hotz and Barbara and I formed the LaSalle Appreciation Society, a CLC chapter. Today, we have over 166 members who currently own or at one time owned a LaSalle. Last year, Jack and I won the CLC LaSalle Discovery Award that was given at the Grand National in Anaheim, CA. Over the past 14 years, we have met so many people from different regions and clubs that have developed into some wonderful friendships.

See these old LaSallees *continue* to run great!!



Past Recipients of the CLC LaSalle Discovery Award

| | | |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 2005 | Toni Rothman | Boothwyn, PA |
| 2006 | Jack Hotz | Haddonfield, NJ |
| 2006 | Aaron "Bud" Coleman | Malvern, PA |

Source: CLC Website



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TOURING WITH A '67 CALAIS BY RICHARD SILLS

In October 2006, Shelley and I went on a very enjoyable "**Fall Foliage Run**" with the Pennsylvania Dutch Region of AACA. The run took us through beautiful rural areas of Lebanon and Schuylkill Counties, with many scenes that were so breathtaking that they could have appeared on "picture postcards." This tour covered over 100 miles, and gave me ample opportunity to reflect on the car I was driving as I watched its odometer turn over to 16,000 miles.

The car is a 1967 Cadillac Calais pillared sedan, the final production year of that model (the Calais line continued through 1976, but without the pillared sedan). One of the pleasures of driving a low mileage original car is that it feels just like a new car – in this case, a new 1967 Cadillac. It is quiet and tight, smooth and responsive to drive. The bias-ply tires with original style whitewalls complement the 1967 aura of the car. The signal-seeking AM radio seems ready to bring in the latest news of what LBJ has to say about the recent developments in Vietnam.



**Richard Sills' 1967 Calais at the 2006 CLC Central PA Region's
Brenner Cadillac Spring-Summer Show
Photo by Vince Taliano**



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How does a car cover four decades on the road with an average of 400 miles a year? There has to be an unusual story, and there is. On September 15, 1967, the Calais was purchased new from Suburban Cadillac-Oldsmobile in Bethesda, Maryland. It was driven home to share a heated two-car garage with its owner's other car, a 1951 Cadillac. The original owner was a prominent scientist whose employer provided him with a car and driver for all work-related travel. The '51 Cadillac was used for most of the other driving, and the new Calais was used only sparingly.

A car that is rarely driven and stored in a private garage is generally unknown to people outside the owner's family. But Keith Peirce found out about this car because of his job – he was a technician for the gas company, and in that capacity he had access to places that were usually off-limits, including the garage of a certain house in Bethesda, Maryland. He spotted the Calais when he made a service call in 1978, and it piqued his interest for a couple of reasons. First, it had only about 7,500 miles, and was in near-new condition. Second, it was a pillared sedan, with a more formal roofline than the hardtop sedan which had become more popular by 1967.

Only 2,865 Calais pillared sedans were built in the 1967 model year, making this a low production car. Although the Calais was the lowest-price Cadillac series, this one was equipped like a top-of-the-line Cadillac of that era – with climate control, power windows, six-way power seat, tilt and telescopic steering wheel, signal-seeking radio with power antenna, and rear window defogger. It was painted in the newest and latest color for 1967 – Doeskin (a rich chocolate brown), with a Sandalwood (light beige, almost white) interior.

Keith was a long-time antique car buff, and a member of the CLC and the National Capital Region of AACA (Keith also served as the Director of the Potomac Region CLC from 1992-96). On several occasions he asked the owners if they wanted to sell their Calais, and the answer was always "No!" But by 1984, the original owner had died, his widow had already sold the 1951 Cadillac, and she was ready to replace the 1967 Calais with a new smaller car. As a result of his persistence, Keith bought the car, which then had about 10,000 miles on it. Keith used the car just for shows, but because it drove so well, he took it to several out-of-town shows, including the Cadillac LaSalle Club Grand National Meet in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1993. Time passed, and Keith's life circumstances changed as well. By 2002, Keith was ready to sell the Calais, and as luck would have it, I was able to buy it.

The first owner of the 1967 Calais owned it for seventeen years, and the second owner for eighteen years. If I follow this tradition, and keep up the average mileage of 400 per year, I should keep the car until 2020 and increase the mileage to about 21,000 by then. I can't predict whether that will happen – but if it does, I have no doubt that I will enjoy every mile.



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***PRESIDENTIAL LIMOS
STORY BY VINCE TALIANO
PHOTOS BY DANIEL JOBE AND VINCE TALIANO***



Vince Taliano and Daniel Jobe with the Presidential Limo

Living in proximity to the nation's capital has its privileges. It is not all traffic jams and high cost of living in the Washington, DC area. This is the world's most powerful city and there are reminders of that everywhere, even more so since 9/11. For me, the most recent reminder occurred a few weeks ago when Daniel Jobe invited me to accompany him and his friend Mark on a tour of the United States Secret Service facilities, which included viewing one of the Presidential Limousines. I was thrilled to attend because I know it is not an opportunity afforded to many.

As impressive as the Presidential Limousine looks in pictures, pictures do not do this car justice. There is nothing that compares to standing next to the car itself. I think it is safe to say that Daniel, Mark and I were in awe of the car.



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Out-of-service Cadillac Limos used for training



The tour began with a morning visit to the Secret Service's Training Academy in Suburban Maryland where cars taken out of service are housed and used for training. Only Daniel was able to participate in the first half of the tour, which included viewing the "older" limos and firearms training range.

There is no easy retirement for these Cadillacs as they are continuously put to the test in training exercises. And we are happy to report that they still pass with flying colors after years of dedicated service.

After completing the morning portion of the tour, Daniel met Mark and me for the afternoon tour of the Secret Service headquarters in Washington, DC. It began with viewing the Presidential Limousine and the other limousines that are currently in service. The new Presidential Limo was first unveiled at the 2005 Inauguration Parade.

It is based on the Cadillac DTS; although little of the original car remains. According to General Motors, it is handcrafted and dressed in a jet-black clearcoat finish. The vehicle is a considerably longer, wider and taller version of the production model. To maintain national security, the limousine is equipped with state-of-the-art protection and communication systems.



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The limo majestically displays its flags

The vehicle interior boasts seating with comfort and visibility for all occupants. A rear seat executive package features a concealed, foldaway desktop that can be deployed when conducting affairs of state. The rear seats have an adjustable reclining feature along with the adaptive seat system, which senses the position of the occupant in the seat and automatically adjusts the cushion for added comfort. Wood accents, rich blue leather and cloth complete the executive interior.

An embroidered presidential seal is positioned in the center of the rear seat back panel, as well as on each rear door trim panel. Presidential seals are also affixed to the exterior rear doors. The U.S. flag is placed on the right front fender, and the presidential standard is located on the left front fender when the president travels in the vehicle. Flush-mounted High Intensity Discharged (HID) spotlights illuminate the flags at night.

After viewing the limousines, we were escorted to various departments within the Secret Service headquarters to tour the state-of-the-art equipment and techniques that they use to fulfill the two major components of their mission: **protection** and **criminal investigations**. The Agents were patient with us as we asked a multitude of questions, like students on a field trip.

For me, the tour was déjà vu because I completed a summer internship with the Baltimore office of the Secret Service in 1989. The internship was a great experience and included a tour of their previous headquarters and the White House. But the highlight of my internship was attending a Baltimore Orioles baseball game with the Secret Service and George H.W. Bush. I had the privilege of being at the Landing Zone in Baltimore with the Secret Service and watched President Bush and his detail land in Marine One and proceed to Memorial Stadium in his Presidential Limo, which was based on a 1983 Fleetwood Limousine. That particular limo was replaced by a 1993 version and is now on display at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California.

After working in DC for awhile, you get accustomed to seeing and hearing motorcades from time to time, but nothing compares to seeing a Presidential Limo up close.



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**President George H.W. Bush landing and proceeding to Baltimore's Memorial Stadium
Summer 1989**



Cadillac & LaSalle Club

Potomac Region

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COMMENTARY
STORY & PHOTO BY BOB RUCKMAN



The February issue of the newsletter of the Chesapeake Region AACA bears an announcement of their intention to tour to the AACA Museum in Hershey on Sunday May 20th. Accordingly, today I phoned the museum's curator, Jeff Bliemeister, and requested that he assure me that my world-record plaque collection will be on display for that occasion, and he told me that it will be. In turn, I promised to tell my readers that, as I am now doing.

Several car clubs have told me that someday they would cruise, as a club, to the museum to see their club's plaques on my plaque boards. This will be your opportunity to do so.

We all know that owning, driving and showing our old cars is a lot of fun, both for us and for the spectators who come to car shows and for the drivers of modern vehicles who see us on the road and give us smiles and thumbs up, but it is important to note that some clubs also dedicate themselves to raising money for charity and to visiting retirement homes, where the old folks get a real kick out of reminiscing over the cars they remember from the Good Old Days.

I have always been especially fond of being in the annual show at the **Old Soldiers' Home** in Washington, DC, which I attended from 1960 through 2005. Our old vets really appreciate our appearance there. Al Linton does a great job in organizing that meet, which has grown tremendously over the years. This year's show marks the 50th Anniversary of the event.



L to R: Bob "Iron Man" Ruckman receiving his 1,385th plaque from Al Linton on September 18, 2005.

After penning this **COMMENTARY**, I was notified of Al's passing. Al was a special friend who wrote personal letters and Christmas cards to me, and who invited me to participate in the Home's Fire Apparatus Show, which he organized in addition to the annual antique car show in October. Only a handful of cars were asked to be exhibited amongst the many fire engines, so being asked was a real privilege. Al confided that he'd like to step down from those responsibilities, but the Old Soldiers' Home kept asking him to run the two shows, and he always accepted, despite his declining health. Clint and Dave Brown will be continuing the wonderful fall show at the Old Soldiers' Home and an award will be created in the name of Al Linton.

He will long be remembered for his dedication.



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CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

Cars For Sale

1959 Fleetwood – Same owner last 30 years – Garaged and covered – New tires, radiator and battery – Modern stereo system – Two-tone green w/green interior – Solid driver – www.clcpotomacregion.org/59cadillacforsale.htm for pictures - **Asking \$25,000 obo** – For more info, contact Michael Winston at 972-661-0040 or rollinswinston@aol.com – Car is located in Washington DC

1960s-80s Cadillac Parts Cars – www.clcpotomacregion.org/charlesharbaugh.htm for pictures - For more info, contact Charles Harbaugh at 540-877-9423 – Cars are located in Virginia

1972 Limousine – Seamist green with black interior - 44K miles – Exterior relatively good shape – Interior perfect – Runs well – www.clcpotomacregion.org/72cadillacforsale.htm for pictures - **Asking \$4,850** – For more info, contact Jay Burger, Capitol Cadillac, at 301-441-9600 – Car is located in Maryland

Parts For Sale

1959 Engine and Transmission – Removed from low mileage car – Clean and complete – Pickup only – **Asking \$1,800** – For more info, contact Henry Ruby at 301-297-4459 – Located in Maryland

Merchandise For Sale

Cadillac Clock & Cadillac Thermometer



- Both are 12.5 inches in Diameter
- Offered for sale by the **CLC Rocky Mountain Region**

Clock is \$20 + Shipping and Thermometer is \$17.50 + Shipping

To order, contact John H. Cullinan at 800-580-6747 or juancull@aol.com – <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/merchandiseforsale.htm> for larger pictures

NEW ITEM: CLC Potomac Region Logo Watch

- 18k Gold-Plated (2 micron) with Solid Brass Case
- Quality Quartz Movement (from the factories of Seiko Instruments)
- Top-Quality Padded & Stitched Genuine Leather Strap
- Gold w/ Brown Band or Silver w/ Black Band
- Gift Box Included

\$35 + \$5 Shipping

To order while supplies last, send \$40 to Harry Scott – 14421 Aden Rd – Nokesville VA - 20181-3122

Other

Cadillac Literature – Various items from 1954-71 – Very Good to Excellent condition – For more info, contact Rick Parker at rick@nerds.net or 301-279-7145 – Located in Maryland



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