



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle September 2008



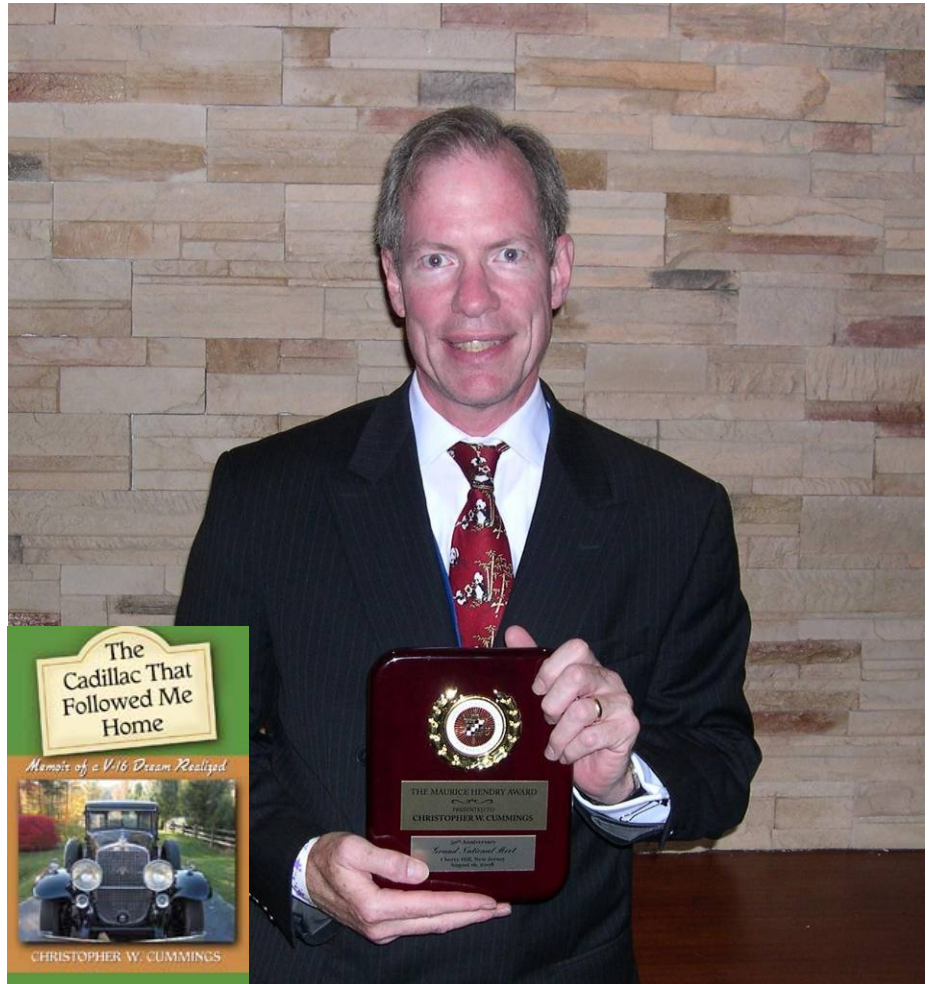
## CHRIS CUMMINGS WINS MAURICE HENDRY AWARD STORY AND PHOTO BY VINCE TALIANO

Congratulations to Chris Cummings of Manassas VA, the 2008 recipient of the CLC's Maurice Hendry Award. The Hendry Award was established by Maurice D. Hendry, author of *Cadillac, the Complete History* as well as numerous other literary contributions to the hobby. This trophy is awarded to CLC members who excel in journalistic contributions in furtherance of the purposes of the CLC. Criteria for the award include excellence in writing skills, style, originality, content, research, and illustrations.

In 2006, Chris Cummings' book titled "*The Cadillac That Followed Me Home*" was released by McFarland & Company. The book is a compilation of various articles, emails and notes collected over a 40-year period describing Chris' fascination with Cadillacs that

began in the mid-1960s at the age of 12 after reading an article in *The Reader's Digest* about a teenager's purchase and restoration of a 1941 Cadillac.

A couple of years after reading the article, Chris purchased a 1941 Cadillac Series 75 Sedan, and approximately a year after that he purchased a 1941 Cadillac Series 61 Fastback Coupe. He kept both cars until 2005, when the culmination of his dream occurred: the purchase of a 1930 Cadillac V-16 Series 4330 5-passenger Imperial Sedan. Chris' book traces his journey with Cadillacs from a teenager to the present.



**Chris Cummings**  
2008 CLC Maurice Hendry Award Winner



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In April 1968, Chris wrote to the CLC asking where he may be able to locate parts, reading material, etc. related to his two '41 Cadillacs. Norm Uhlir, CLC co-founder and President at the time, personally replied to the teenage collector stating that **The Self-Starter** would be the place to obtain any help needed (see right). Soon after, Chris became a member of the CLC.

While working on the book, Chris provided the Potomac Region members with snippets of his experience via its **Caddie Chronicle** newsletter. His contributions were a major factor in the Potomac Region winning two different national awards for its newsletter.

The book has been extremely well-received in the hobby and received tremendous reviews from **Old Cars Weekly** and **Hemmings Classic Car**. As Chris states in the July 2007 issue of **The Self-Starter**, "...there was the letter I got from a total stranger in Arizona, who wrote to tell me about his Cadillac experiences and how much he'd enjoyed the book."

4200 Madison Court NE  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
20 April 1968

Cadillac-LaSalle Club, Inc.  
2278 Lost Tree Way  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Dear Sirs:

I own two old Cadillacs, and have been told that through you I may be able to obtain parts for these cars. What are your membership requirements? Also, could you recommend any reading material and the places where I may obtain such? I am interested in obtaining service and/or owners manuals for 1941 Cadillacs. Thank you, gentlemen, for your time.

Very Truly Yours  
*Christopher W. Cummings*  
Christopher W. Cummings

CWC/kr

WE HAVE MANY MEMBERS WITH 1941  
CADILLACS AND THROUGH "THE SELF STARTER"  
I'M CONFIDENT YOU CAN GET ANY HELP  
YOU NEED.

*Norm Uhlir*

CADILLAC-LA SALLE CLUB, INC.  
2278 LOST TREE WAY  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICH., 48013

Letter courtesy of Chris Cummings