



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

## **Potomac Region**

### **Caddie Chronicle**

### **December 2011**



#### **DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY VINCE TALIANO**

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Hope everyone is having a wonderful holiday season. As you can see, this issue is a few weeks late. The holiday season, in addition to my travel, work and family schedule, made this issue difficult to complete on-time. In fact, the last three issues have been difficult to complete on-time, but one of my new year's resolutions is to get back to a more punctual completion and delivery schedule.

With that being said, please continue to send me your stories and photos for inclusion in the ***Chronicle***. During the car show season, articles and photos related to events that are time-sensitive typically take precedent. Eventually all the material will be published such as two of the feature articles that appear in this issue. The stories were submitted by John Guazzo and Robert Meekins, respectively, and have been in the queue for a few months. Thanks guys for your patience as we waited for the influx of car show stories to slow down.

2012 is shaping up to be another stellar year for the Potomac Region. In May, we will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary Spring Car Show at Capitol Cadillac. We plan to reprint the story about that inaugural event along with an image or two of the dash plaque and perhaps one of the trophies. Unfortunately, we do not have any pictures from that historic show. If anyone has pictures from the 1992 show, please let me know. We would love to include them in the article.

At this time, there are still quite a few 2011 Potomac Region members who have not renewed for 2012. Starting in early January, phone calls will be made to those members. To ensure receipt of the ***Caddie Chronicle*** without interruption, 2012 dues payments will need to be received by the time the January issue is ready to be distributed. If you have questions regarding your membership status, please send me an email at [vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org](mailto:vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org). Thanks for your continued support!

*Vince Taliano*



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011



## 2011/ 12 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| DATE                 | TIME               | EVENT   | LOCATION  | CONTACT INFORMATION   |
|----------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|
| Dec 4-5<br>Sat-Sun   |                    | 22nd Annual East Coast Indoor Nationals                               | Maryland State Fairgrounds<br>Cow Palace<br>Timonium MD | <a href="http://www.eastcoastindoornats.com">www.eastcoastindoornats.com</a>  |
| Jan 13-14<br>Fri-Sat |                    | CLC National Midwinter Board Meeting                                  | Galveston TX  | Jack McCloy at 301-330-5417 or<br><a href="mailto:jackmccloy@clcpotomacregion.org">jackmccloy@clcpotomacregion.org</a>  |
| Jan 15-22<br>Sun-Sun |                    | Barrett-Jackson Auction   | Scottsdale AZ   | <a href="http://www.barrett-jackson.com/events/scottsdale/">www.barrett-jackson.com/events/scottsdale/</a>  |
| Jan 22<br>Sun        | 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Potomac Region Holiday Party  | Springfield Country Club<br>Springfield VA              | R. Scot Minesinger at <a href="mailto:rscotm@cox.net">rscotm@cox.net</a> or 703-283-2021  |
| Jan 28<br>Sat        | 7:00 am – 1:00 pm  | 24th Annual AACA Bay Country Region's Winter Parts Meet               | Cambridge MD  | Ed Nabb at 410-228-5252 or <a href="mailto:hnnabb@bcctv.net">hnnabb@bcctv.net</a>   |
| Feb 9-11<br>Thu-Sat  |                    | AACA Annual Meeting   | Philadelphia PA   | <a href="http://www.aaca.org/">http://www.aaca.org/</a>   |
| Feb 19<br>Sun        | 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm | 39th Annual Old Car and Train Day                                     | The Clement Home<br>Fairfax VA                          | Clem Clement at 703-830-5597 (home), 571-239-1701 (cell) or <a href="mailto:clem.clement@cox.net">clem.clement@cox.net</a>  |
| Feb 24-26<br>Fri-Sun |                    | Atlantic City Classic Car Show & Auction                              | Atlantic City Convention Center<br>Atlantic City NJ     | G. Potter King, Inc. at 800-227-3868 or <a href="http://www.acclassiccars.com">www.acclassiccars.com</a>  |
| Mar 23-24<br>Fri-Sat |                    | 42nd Annual AACA Sugarloaf Mountain Region Parts Meet                 | Frederick Fairgrounds<br>Frederick MD                   | Robert Clubb at 301-831-0300 or <a href="mailto:smraaca@aol.com">smraaca@aol.com</a>  |
| Apr 18<br>Wed        | 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm  | Potomac Region Monthly Meeting  | Capitol Cadillac<br>Greenbelt MD                        | Vince Taliano at 301-258-8321 or <a href="mailto:vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org">vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org</a>   |
| Apr 19-22<br>Thu-Sun |                    | AACA Southeastern Spring Meet   | Charlotte NC  | <a href="http://www.aaca.org">www.aaca.org</a>  |
| Apr 22<br>Sun        | 10:00 am – 5:00 pm | 3rd Annual Spring Car/ Truck/Bike Show                                | Adventure Park<br>New Market MD                         | Erik Stottlemeyer at 240-357-6752 or <a href="http://www.adventureparkusa.com">www.adventureparkusa.com</a>   |
| May 17-19<br>Thu-Sun |                    | AACA Eastern Spring Meet  | Wyomissing PA   | <a href="http://www.aaca.org">www.aaca.org</a>  |
| Jun 2<br>Sat         | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  | CLC Central PA Region's 23rd Annual Spring Show                       | Kelly Cadillac<br>Lancaster PA                          | Art Archambeault at 717-557-6974 or <a href="mailto:jandainpa2002@yahoo.com">jandainpa2002@yahoo.com</a>  |
| Jun 13-16<br>Wed-Sat |                    | CLC Grand National Meet hosted by the Florida Suncoast Region         | St. Augustine FL  | <a href="https://www.cadillacallasalleclub.org/2012-grand-national?layout=blog">https://www.cadillacallasalleclub.org/2012-grand-national?layout=blog</a>                           |
| Jun 16<br>Sat        | 8:30 am – 3:00 pm  | 4th Annual Car Show featuring Buick, Cadillac, GMC, Olds, and Pontiac | Freysinger Buick<br>Mechanicsburg PA                    | Tim Spigelmyer at 717-938-9368 or <a href="mailto:TLSPSU@aol.com">TLSPSU@aol.com</a> or<br>Dick Beckley at 717-395-7128 or <a href="mailto:dbeckley@epix.net">dbeckley@epix.net</a> |
| Jul 7<br>Sat         | 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  | 6th Annual CLC Inter-Regional Meet                                    | AACA Museum<br>Hershey PA                               | Art Archambeault at 717-557-6974 or <a href="mailto:jandainpa2002@yahoo.com">jandainpa2002@yahoo.com</a>  |

## 2012 Cadillac-LaSalle Club Museum Calendar Order Form

Please send check or money order (sorry, we're unable to accept credit cards) made out to the CLC Museum & Research Center, Inc. (U.S. funds only), indicating quantity desired to:

CLC Museum Calendar Sales  
PO Box 6447  
Plymouth MI 48170 USA

Copies of the order form are accepted

Only **\$15** each

SHIPPING FEES  
United States \$2 each calendar  
Canada & Mexico \$2.25 each calendar  
All other countries \$3.50 each calendar

\_\_\_\_\_ Calendars x \$15 each =

\_\_\_\_\_ Shipping & handling = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_

Proceeds benefit the Cadillac-LaSalle Club Museum & Research Center

Visit us on the web!  
[www.clcpotomacregion.org](http://www.clcpotomacregion.org)



***Cadillac & LaSalle Club  
Potomac Region  
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**Announcing the Potomac Region's  
Annual Holiday Party**

**Join your fellow Potomac Region Members  
for good food, beverages and holiday cheer!**

**Sunday January 22, 2012**

**12:00 – 4:00 PM**

**Springfield Golf and Country Club**

**8301 Old Keene Mill Road**

**Springfield, Virginia 22152**

**703-451-8600**

**Price: \$25/per Person**

**Spouses/Significant Others and**

**Children Are Welcome!**

**For information, contact**

**R. Scot Minesinger**

**at 703-283-2021 or**

**[rscotm@cox.net](mailto:rscotm@cox.net)**

**DIRECTIONS FROM**

**I-495 BELTWAY:**

- Take I-495 to Braddock Road West (Exit #54A)
- Turn left on Rolling Road (VA 638S)
- Turn left on Old Keene Mill Road (VA 644W)
- Club is on your right immediately past the Shell station

**Plenty of parking for your  
classic Cadillac and/or LaSalle**

**Enjoy a Specially Prepared Buffet**

- **Pasta Buffet**
  - **Traditional Caesar Salad**
  - **Chef Francesco's Beef Lasagna**
  - **Penne Pasta Primavera**
  - **Mélange of Seasonal Vegetables**
- **Springfield Buffet**
  - **Spinach Salad with Almonds and Dried Cranberries**
  - **Chicken Florentine with Brandy Cream Sauce**
  - **Beef Tenderloin Tips with Mushroom Cream Sauce**
  - **Wild Rice Blend**
  - **Oven Roasted Herb Potatoes**
  - **Mélange of Seasonal Vegetables**
- **Assorted Rolls and Butter**
- **Assorted Cakes and Pies**
- **Cash Bar: Wine, Beer, Cocktails**

**RSVP (Accepts Only by January 15, 2012)**

**Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_**

**Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_**

**Make check payable to  
CLC Potomac Region and mail to:**

**Harry Scott, Treasurer  
14421 Aden Road  
Nokesville VA 20181-3122**

**Dress code: Jacket for men and proper attire for ladies**



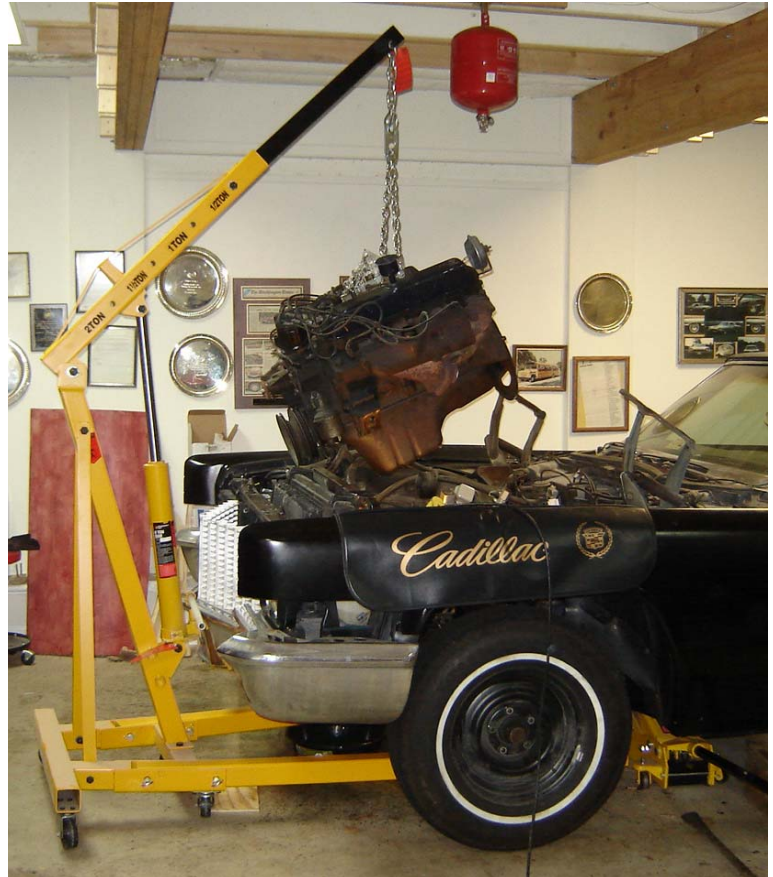
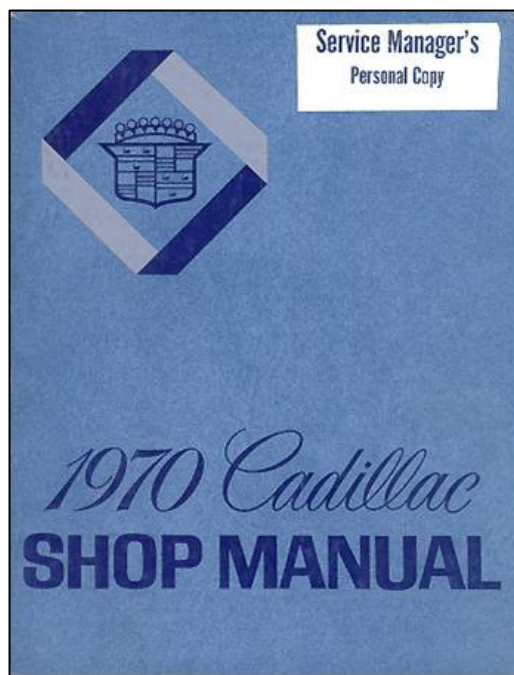


# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## **MY FIRST ENGINE REMOVAL STORY & PHOTOS BY R. SCOT MINESINGER**

My first engine removal was difficult but I didn't have any problems. The shop manual provided all the information that I needed. Since then, I restored the engine bay and, of course, the engine.



Now, the engine looks almost like it did when it was just manufactured. There are only a couple of hours of work left to finish it so it can be installed in the car.

Hope to be able to keep it looking good.





# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## **AN ELDORADO ON EBAY STORY & IMAGES BY JOHN GUAZZO**

These days it has become my preference to locate, buy, and have shipped to my home items I found on the Internet. Fifteen years ago I would have had to go through mail order catalogs, drive to numerous stores or worse, search the classifieds. It has become very easy to buy pretty much anything you want on the Internet, including cars. Especially cars, in my opinion! How great is it to search for exactly what you want?

Finding and buying a car has become exceedingly easy. So easy that you can buy, register, title, insure and have shipped to your front door a car you have never seen in person, never driven, never heard and never had inspected. You could even do it without ever talking to the owner. It can all be done 100% through your keyboard. And that is exactly how my 1974 Eldorado convertible ended up in the driveway of my home; signed, sealed, and delivered.

Okay, I understand many of you are aghast at such foolishness. And I don't disagree with you really. The whole process was one big, big, leap of faith. Many of you are asking if I had ever done such a thing before. Answer is no! Had I ever owned a Cadillac before? No. Had I ever bought an antique car? No. Had I even owned a convertible? Shoot, I had never even *driven* a convertible! I have bought daily drivers through Internet searches, but I drove those cars and negotiated face to face with the dealers and private owners. With the Eldorado though, it was pretty pictures and fancy prose that lured me to buy the car.

How could I do such a thing? Well, a few things were in my favor. For one, I had been searching for a convertible for a while, and I had a pretty good idea what a good deal was. When my Eldorado came up for sale on eBay, it was listed at \$6,500. I did not bid on the car, but I noticed that when the auction ended the reserve price had not been met so the car did not sell. A few weeks later the seller listed the car again, but he reduced the price to \$5,500. Then I started to take notice. I sent a few e-mails to the seller who quickly answered my questions and I began thinking I might bid on the car. Since I sounded like a serious buyer the seller responded to one of my e-mails indicating he would sell the vehicle to me for \$4,500. Well what do you know, that was my price! The second thing in my favor was that I discovered the seller and I were in the same line of work; air medical transport. So we were able to connect on another level besides the car, which made me more comfortable with the transaction. The seller contacted me by phone at an agreed upon time so we could seal our deal. While on the phone and staring while logged into my eBay account, he changed the listing from an auction sale to a 'buy-it-now' sale for \$4,500. A few mouse clicks later I was the proud owner of an Eldorado. The car was delivered just in time for me to drive it to the fall 2010 show at Capitol Cadillac.





# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



I am very happy with my purchase. My daughters (pictured right) love to go for rides with the top down, enjoying the many honks and waves we get whenever we are driving about town. Hence their nickname for the Eldorado is "***The Famous Car***" because of all the attention it receives. They especially like it when I pick them up from school.

So far I have had no major problems with the vehicle. The engine and transmission work well. There is no body damage or cracked glass, and not even any fluid leaks. The mileage on the car is unknown as the speedometer cable is broken which stopped the odometer at 39,000 miles. I have had the car inspected and up on a lift, and because of the almost total lack of corrosion under the car, the mechanic, who specializes in old cars, doubts the car has reached 100,000 miles. The speedometer is on my list of things to replace, among other things.



I had the professional mechanic replace the front bearings, a right front axle and c/v joint, shocks, tires and four rims. All of that was done within a month of receiving the vehicle. As for work I've done to the car over the past year I have replaced the thermostat and upper and lower radiator hoses, the ported vacuum switch (with the help of Scot Minesinger) a missing plastic body panel beneath the fuel cap, the fan belt, both valve cover gaskets and the left front turn signal lens. All of those projects went well except that after I replaced the valve cover gaskets I left a tool inside the engine compartment, which put a nice hole in the back of the radiator after it ricocheted off one of the fan blades. A week later I replaced the radiator and all was well. My pride is still awaiting repair though.

My advice for the online pursuer of any vehicle is to know exactly what you want and set limits for your purchase price, if it is an auction sale. Try and talk to the seller and get answers to your questions. You can ask the seller to take additional pictures for you. There are even third-party inspectors who will conduct a mechanical inspection and send you a report.

Buying a car sight unseen is a risky proposition, and buyers looking for original, show-quality type classics will find many online. However, paying premium prices for high quality classics requires a lot more due diligence than pretty pictures and forming a loose bond with the seller. My goal was to find an original condition convertible Cadillac. Minor blemishes and missing or incorrect parts were acceptable as long as the car was drivable. I enjoy tinkering on cars so minor problems were not a concern. If you have found the car you want but it is five states and fifteen hundred miles away, don't be depressed! With just a bit of due diligence and an Internet connection it's just around the corner.



# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## **1956 ELDORADO BIARRITZ SURVIVOR ROSTER COURTESY OF LOU COMMISSO**



Did you know that Cadillac only built 2,150 Eldorado Biarritz convertibles for the 1956 model year? The goal of the online survivor roster is to document all of the 1956 Biarritz convertibles that survived. Vehicles are compiled by exterior color and descriptions accompany each picture to help differentiate each car. Body numbers, option codes and vehicle history are included when available.

Check out all the fun facts and roster updates at <http://1956eldorado.blogspot.com>.





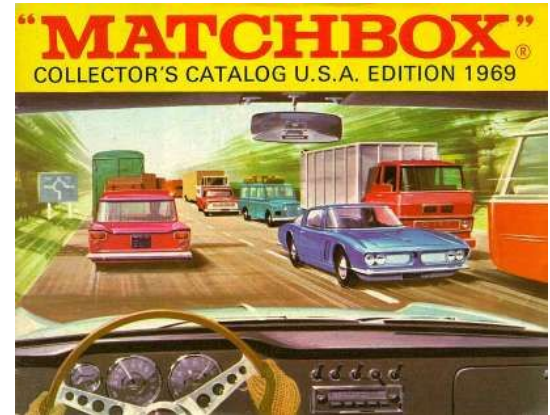
# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## ***THE TOYS OF MEN AND BOYS STORY & IMAGES BY ROBERT L. MEEKINS***

### **Hooked at a Young Age**

You could say I've been a car enthusiast for 50 years. My infatuation with 4-wheeled objects probably began when I was a toddler and increasingly grew during my youngest years. I always played with cars and trucks; they were my favorite toys. The bright shiny plastic cars catch every kid's eye and I had my share of them. But, the event that really got my attention in the 1960s was the British invasion. No, not the Beatles, I'm talking about the import of those great realistic mini metal replica cars known as Matchbox!



I remember making my parents take me shopping whenever a new catalog came out advertising the latest models. Yeah, I was hooked on cars at an early age. My collection grew so large that I had to get the "official" Matchbox carrying case to hold all of them. They were great fun to play with, trade and customize—a story for another time.

As I grew a few years older, my interest in those "little" cars waned. My fascination turned to bigger cars that were even more realistic. I guess you can see where this is going. Companies called AMT, Revell and Monogram benefited from my newfound car enthusiasm. My piggybank was less happy. You see, these companies made model kits, in fact, some still do, fashioning with exact precision, smaller scale versions of those Detroit beauties that I so loved.



I did begin to realize, however, that the make and model of the cars I preferred was a bit different from most of my friends. They went for the muscle cars and drag racers. I went for the luxury sedans. Even my matchbox case was heavier! Believe it or not, a model car company specialized in just those makes and models; Jo-Han based right out of Detroit, Michigan. The company, founded by John Hanley, made plastic scale promotional models for the major automakers and kits for hobbyists.

I remember assembling a couple of those kits. My all time favorite was the 1970 Cadillac Coupe DeVille. My love affair was born! In my eyes, nothing could top the elegant styling of this classic. Well, maybe as an adolescent kid those weren't my exact thoughts but I did think the car was really cool. From my little Testors paint bottles, I gave that baby a coat of bright blue and left the top white. I still remember how aggravated I used to get when you could see the tiny brush strokes in the paint. Putting those chrome bumper parts on was usually one of the last steps and I couldn't wait to do it because they always finished the car, just like today!





# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



Unfortunately, that model along with the rest of my collection is long gone. When I see the prices these plastic replicas bring at car shows now, it makes me cry.

## **Dreaming of that DeVille**

I never forgot that '70 DeVille. One of my neighbors had a real one, fire engine red. I rode in it a few times and felt like a king when I did. After I began working in the mid 1970s, I encountered a co-worker who owned a 1969 DeVille. The '69 and '70 DeVilles had the same basic body style with only a few subtle differences in trim. In my view, that car was too cool for words. Maybe I'm weird but I loved the purple "Wysteria" paint job. Where have all of those great colors gone? I resolved at a very early age that if I ever had the chance to own one of those beauties, I would. In 2009 my dream came true.

Driving on Maryland Route 140 on a late winter day of that same year, I passed a vintage 1970s Lincoln Mark for sale. Now I must confess, I've driven Lincolns since 1985 when I bought my first of four Town Cars. But, squeezed in between, I owned a 1998 Cadillac Sedan DeVille.

When I saw that old Lincoln with all the great trim including the Continental tire hump, box grill, oval opera window and gleaming chrome, it triggered fond memories of all those great cars from the 1960s and 1970s. I didn't stop that day to look at the Lincoln and when I returned a few days later it was gone. However, it did kindle a strong desire in me to find that dream car I'd always wanted—the '70 DeVille!

I immediately began scouring websites and soon found that there were only a few for sale and most of them required a lot of work or were very far away. When you're not mechanically inclined, "me", you don't want a rat-ride or risk buying something sight unseen. I did locate a red convertible for sale in Maryland, not far from where I live. On a cold Saturday morning, I went to see and test drive this vehicle. It didn't take me long to realize it was not the car for me. I found out how deceiving photographs can be. A little disheartened, I considered forgetting the whole idea.

## **Green with Envy No More**

A month or so later I saw a car on eBay that caught my eye. This 1970 DeVille convertible was sprayed in my favorite color, emerald green. The white interior and top really set it off. The online photos made the car look pretty good so I was excited again. Only a few hours away in Malvern, Pennsylvania, I knew I could see the car before making a purchase.

After a pleasant drive up I-95 to Wilmington, Delaware, then West to Malvern, I arrived at the small dealership. The car was parked in a garage. I liked it immediately. I liked it even more when the owner pulled it out into the bright sunlight. The car shimmered beautifully and the Nottingham Firemist Green paint looked spectacular. I later discovered that Cadillac's 1970 promotional brochure shows the DeVille convertible in Nottingham Green with white upholstery and top.



# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



Notwithstanding a few nicks and dents in the chrome bumpers, the car was in good condition. The original upholstery had been covered with vinyl seat covers and the headrests on the front seats were gone. The door panels had a few surface cracks and the woodgrain dash panel had been replaced with a plain black one. The steering wheel was also fairly rough, missing the classic wood insert spanning the circumference.

We took the car for a short drive and garnered looks and comments from folks all along the way. I'll never know if the seller knew and paid those people or not but it didn't matter. My mind was made up. I bought the car that day and it was delivered to me a few weeks later after the seller installed the custom wire wheels and new vogue tires that were part of the deal.



I needed a name for my new family member and I knew the name had to include a connection to the beautiful shade of green that glistened from bumper to bumper. After several ideas tossed around in my head, I settled on "**Greenfinz**", a little nostalgic with a nod to the great Caddy designs of the past, but yet hip with a "Z" for modern day!

My next ordeal was determining where I would store the car. My double garage houses my daily drivers and I didn't think the Caddy would fit in there anyway. They just don't make garages like they used to. Fortunately, there is one of those Store-N-Lock businesses within two minutes of my home. I leased a 10' by 20' storage locker for my new baby but I was still a bit concerned if I would be able to navigate the vehicle into the locker given the limited space between each row of buildings. I held my breath on the first attempt but I was able to back her right in!

## **The Nitty Gritty**

I quickly learned that if you're not mechanically inclined and you own a classic car, you better know a good honest mechanic. For the first few months, I experienced some mechanical problems with the car. Working with several mechanics, I had the battery and voltage regulator replaced. After settling on one mechanic, he tuned the engine and replaced the power steering pump and fluid lines. Working with a junk dealer in Seattle, Washington, I purchased two replacement door panels, a pair of headrests and the wood grain dash insert. Over the winter of 2010, an upholstery shop in Westminster, Maryland painted and installed the door panels and headrests, installed the dash insert, installed new green carpet and re-upholstered the seats taking them back to the original white leather. I was ready to roll in the New Year!



# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



As every classic car enthusiast knows, ownership is costly but the fun can be priceless! I've thoroughly enjoyed my Cadillac since purchasing the car in May 2009. It's great fun for a drive to the ice cream shop on a Saturday night. Shows and cruise-ins provide countless opportunities to meet fellow collectors and swap stories. I've also learned that owning a vintage convertible Cadillac can make you a desirable parade participant.



In 2010, I had the honor of driving Maryland's Governor Martin O'Malley and his family in July 4th parades across the State (above left). Specifically, on July 3, 2010, I drove them in the Dundalk, Towson and Catonsville, Maryland parades. The next day, I drove them again in the Takoma Park parade. Later that summer, I drove Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown in the African-American Heritage parade in Baltimore City. Parade duties rounded out 2010 with a ride for Baltimore's Fox affiliate newscasters in the Mayor's Christmas parade through Hampden in December. In 2011, *Greenfinz* and I had the honor of driving Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake in the Baltimore St. Patrick's Day parade (above right).

## **Family Fun**

Another benefit of owning this car is meeting so many other great people who share the same interest and love of these vehicles. I joined the National Cadillac & LaSalle Club along with the Potomac Region this year. The folks who operate the club are fantastic. I had the pleasure of meeting many of the club members at some of the shows at Capitol Cadillac and more recently at the summer picnic. Earlier this year, *Greenfinz* tied for third place in her class at the Club's Spring show. Too cool! I also want to give a shout out to Scot Minesinger. Scot owns the same year and model Cadillac and is an expert on all matters relating to this vehicle. When my convertible top switch malfunctioned a few months back, he suggested an inexpensive fix and even offered to do the job himself. The club is extremely fortunate to have a guy like Scot in its membership.





# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



**Greenfinz** has a new home as my project to add a third bay to my existing garage was finished in June. Even though the offsite storage location was only minutes away, having the car right at the house affords even greater flexibility to just jump in and go.

It's always fun to know a little history about your car. I tried to trace **Greenfinz'** ownership trail but didn't have much luck. I know the person who sold her to me acquired the car from a collector who lived in Sparta, Michigan. Apparently he had many cars and the green Caddy was his favorite. After falling into poor health, he sold his collection. After writing to his wife, I received a very generous letter in which she expressed well wishes to me as the new owner and satisfaction knowing the car was in good hands. I wrote to GM for assistance in tracking down the original sale but had no luck. I also wrote to Michigan's governor and Department of Motor Vehicles but ran into roadblocks there as well.

My car, like most, will be an ongoing project. Given the cost of repairs, I'll need to throttle those expenditures over time. My priorities are to maintain the mechanical well-being of the car and take care of the cosmetic things incrementally. I do have some much better bumper parts to install that I acquired from Scot. I'm looking for a right-side rearview mirror, an option in 1970. It's amazing how much you miss that mirror when it's not there. I'd like to have the steering wheel restored and eventually I'll need a new paint job. Wow, I retired on September 30th but after listing these little "projects" on paper, I may need to rethink my decision!

Those days of Matchbox cars and model kits are but a faint, albeit fond memory. The toys have gotten a lot bigger but so has the fun.

Happy motoring!



***A newcomer to the classic car hobby, Robert L. Meekins (pictured above right accepting a car show award from Daniel Jobe) owns one classic automobile, a 1970 Cadillac DeVille convertible. He recently retired after a 34-year career with the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. Robert lives with his partner of 31 years, Jerry, in Eldersburg, Maryland.***



# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## ***2011 FALL DRIVING TOUR STORY BY R. SCOT MINESINGER PHOTOS BY R. SCOT MINESINGER AND CHUCK PIEL***

We had a good time on the tour. There were nine cars that transported 16 people. Attendees included:

Chris Overcash  
1956 Series 62 Sedan

Jack McClow and Bob Norrid  
1957 Series 62 Convertible

Susan Diamond & Burt Zwibel  
1960 Series 62 Convertible

Chuck & Debbie Piel  
1967 DeVille Convertible

Scot Minesinger  
1970 DeVille Convertible

Dan Mullane, Gage Mullane and  
Darren Wilson  
1983 Fleetwood Brougham Coupe

Roger Bentley  
1985 Eldorado Biarritz

Harry & Julia Scott  
2000 Seville SLS

Woody Woodruff and  
Sonya Sobrian  
2008 CTS

The weather was great, and the  
Barrel Oak Winery was a big hit.



Everyone talked about doing it again next year, so we will.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011



## CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

### Cars For Sale

**1968 Fleetwood Brougham** – Three-owner car with 76k original miles – Garage-kept – Car was built in Baltimore, MD – Build sheet still attached to seat – Nice road-worthy condition with current tags – Four vent windows – New windshield, water pump and heater core – Fully loaded including cruise control, auto dim headlights, climate control, power windows, lights, seats (all work) – Interior is an 8 out of 10 condition – Other features include front disk brakes and rear window defroster – Great restoration candidate – Minimal rust – Needs trans reseal, rear main reseal and exhaust – Come take for a test drive – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/68cadillacforsale.htm> – **Asking \$5,000 obo** – For more info, contact Scott Davis at [m44ruskie@yahoo.com](mailto:m44ruskie@yahoo.com) – Car is located in Mechanicsville, MD

**NEW ARRIVAL 1974 Fleetwood Talisman** – Rare car – Less than 2,000 built in 1974 – Yellow with a saddle top – 54,000 miles – Factory installed sunroof, which operates smoothly – Functioning radio 8-track – Front and rear center console with bucket seats – One of two that were ordered from David Cadillac in Lockport, NY for key employees by Emil VanDungan Co. and then gifted to the retiring CEO, Chester Baron, in Dec. 1974 – Regularly driven from 1974-1978 when it was then barn stored on the family farm – Current owner bought the car at the original owner's family auction where it was being stored with the understanding that it had a new battery, new tires, new OEM factory exhaust and radiator – Talisman is roadworthy as it was driven 40 miles from the auction site to current owner's home (cruise control was not engaging but it is believed to be a cable) – Was then driven 228 miles on the NY State Thruway & Rte. I-81 N to Iroquois Island – Has some surface rust on the right passenger door skin (see picture) but no rust on chassis – Original keys, owner's manual, and two service manuals are also available – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/74cadillacforsale.htm> – **Asking \$13,500** – For more info, contact Kelly at [pkellygriffin@comcast.net](mailto:pkellygriffin@comcast.net), 202-683-0272 (cell) or Dennis at 716-861-0196 (cell) – Car is located in upstate New York

**1976 Eldorado Convertible** – One owner car with **65 original miles** – Firethorn with white top – 50-50 soft white leather 6 way electric seats with passenger recliner – Fully powered and equipped including, AM/FM 8 track radio, cruise control, twilight sentinel, illuminated entry system, automatic climate control, t & t wheel, parade boot, remote control rear view mirrors, automatic level control, high altitude performance package, delayed wiper, remote control trunk, dual 4-wheel disc power brakes and a host of other standard equipment – New battery, antenna mast & headlight adjusters – Flawless show car condition, meticulously maintained, no snow or smoke – Window stickers on car – Original keys, title and owners manual go with the car – Rides impeccably – #1 vehicle condition – One of the finest in the country, a real time capsule – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/76cadillac2forsale.htm> – **\$58,000** – For more info, contact Bob Williams at [r fw122927@aol.com](mailto:r fw122927@aol.com) or 864-246-0318 – Car is located in South Carolina

### Tires For Sale

**Four (like new-25 miles) P215-70 R14 B.F. Goodrich Radial T/A Tires** - Raised white letter tires - **\$275**  
For more info, contact Mike at 410-456-7170 – Tires located in the Baltimore area



My name is Tim Gregorio from Cooper Classic Cars based in NYC. We have a film car division where we have provided automobiles and other props to the entertainment industry for over 30 years. We have a client in Chestertown, Maryland looking to rent (2) late '20s to early '30s Gatsby-era vehicles for a grand gala event on Feb 25th. If any of your members are interested, I would love to talk to them. There would be appropriate compensation, of course. Please check us out on the web @ [www.cooperclassiccars.com/filmcars](http://www.cooperclassiccars.com/filmcars). Thank you.

Tim Gregorio  
Cooper Classics  
Cooper Film Cars  
212-929-3909  
[www.cooperclassiccars.com](http://www.cooperclassiccars.com)

Visit us on the web!  
[www.clcpotomacregion.org](http://www.clcpotomacregion.org)





# ***Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle December 2011***



## **2011 OFFICERS**

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