



Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle September/October 2012



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY VINCE TALIANO

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HONORARY MEMBER

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST

VERN PARKER

CENTRAL VA REGION LIAISON

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST

CHUCK PIEL

CAR SHOW MASTER OF CEREMONIES

NATIONAL CLC ADVISOR

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST

RICHARD SILLS

It's not too late to sign-up for the **Professional Pride** weekend events. On Saturday October 27th, we will be co-hosting a visit to the Baltimore Streetcar Museum (BSM) with the CLC Valley Forge Region and the Professional Car Society (PCS) Mid-Atlantic Chapter. John Barry, CLC Valley Forge Region, and Bee & George Hamlin, PCS Mid-Atlantic Chapter, have been doing a great job of promoting our event to their members. Members planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Chuck Piel at charles.piel@pb.com or 240-888-5115.

The BSM visit will be followed by the traditional Saturday night dinner hosted by Richard Sills and Shelley Chadick at the Holiday Inn Greenbelt. If you plan to attend the dinner, please RSVP to Shelley at shelleychadick@yahoo.com or 717-368-4422.

The **Professional Pride** car show registration form is included in this issue. Noted Professional Car historian Gregg D. Merksamer, Warwick, New York, will be our guest speaker at the show's awards ceremony. Gregg will have a few dozen copies of **THE PROFESSIONAL CAR's** 2011 International Meet issue to distribute at our show. For more information, contact Vince Taliano at 410-598-0488 or vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org.

Congratulations to CLC Potomac Region member Jeff Montgomery, who is the new CLC Raritan River Region Director. Jeff, along with Bob Crimmins, travels from New Jersey to attend our car shows on a regular basis.

Our condolences go out to the CLC Valley Forge Region and to the family of Paul Perreca on his recent passing. Paul, pictured right, was a long-time CLC member who has attended our car shows in the past, including the 2006 Spring Car Show where his car won the Dealer's Choice Award.



Vince Taliano



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Hi Vince,

In reply to Sandy Kemper on his recent tour in Europe, I just want to say that I worked in Paris for three years (1961-1963) and was a regular patron of Jean-Charles Automobiles, even though I could not afford even the cheapest of the pre-owned Cadillacs on the lot. Another favorite haunt of mine, at the time, was the Place Vendôme where all the chauffeur-driven Cadillac (and other) limousines used to await their wealthy clients. When I moved later to Switzerland, I finally bought my first (pre-owned) Cadillac in 1966, a 1956 Sedan de Ville. I quickly found out how BIG Cadillacs are easy to drive anywhere, thanks to all their power accessories. I drove a number of old Cadillacs all over Switzerland, France and Italy from 1966 to 1995 without ever encountering any major driving hazard. I guess people tended to get out of my way when they saw the size of the vehicle I was driving! Thanks for another great issue of the Newsletter!

Yann Saunders
Columbia, South Carolina

Hello Mr. Taliano,

My name is Chris Summers. David Traver Adolphus of Hemmings referred you to me as someone who may be able to help with the history of Cadillacs delivered new in the D.C. area. I am a writer and researcher for RM Auctions, currently working on an auction catalog description for a 1932 Cadillac 452B Fisher All-Weather Phaeton, serial #1400208. The delivery sheet shows the car was delivered by Kempton Cadillac of Washington, D.C. to one Mr. Schoellkopf. There is a story that during its

"fall from grace" years (1950s-60s) it was employed as a push car for drag-racers. It was purchased as an older restoration, appearing essentially as it does today (in the photo above), by Robert Pass in 2005. He kept it a few years, sold it to John O'Quinn, bought it back from the O'Quinn estate, and sold it a year later to the current owner in California, who prefers to remain anonymous and has consigned the car to an RM auction early next year. I have spoken to Mr. Pass and the current owner, and neither knows anything other than the above. O'Quinn's people never researched the car; their file on it consisted of previous auction catalog entries. Anything any of your members could share regarding this car's history between 1932-2004 would be graciously received and very valuable as I try to get the history right for the auction catalog. The car has been sold at auction several times before and none of those writers could turn up anything. I'd like to fix this broken record!

Chris Summers
Barboursville, West Virginia





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2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Sep 2 Sun	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	Vern Parker's Street Dreams Car Show	Spring Hill Recreation Center McLean VA	www.vernparker.com
Sep 8 Sat	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	2nd Annual Classic and Antique Car Show	Fairhaven Retirement Community Sykesville MD	Tammy Fleming at 410-876-6509 or Tammyraejoe@aol.com
Sep 8 Sat	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	16th Annual CLC Hampton Roads Region Car Show	Suttle Motors Newport News VA	Bob Geiger at 757-253-6501 or bobnlettygeiger@aol.com
Sep 8 Sat	2:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Mid Atlantic Antique & Collector Car Center (MAACCC) Grand Opening	MAACCC Kennett Square PA	RSVP to: 610-268-5748 or sales@maaccc.com
Sep 9 Sun	7:00 am – 3:00 pm	11th Annual AARP-Wiygul Automotive Herndon Classic Car Show	Lynn & Station Sts Herndon VA	brent@aarpdulles.org
Sep 9 Sun		Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance featuring Cadillac	Malvern PA	www.radnorconcours.com
Sep 9 Sun	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	43rd Annual AACA Sugarloaf Region's Activities Meet and Antique Car Show	Urbana Volunteer Fireman Department Grounds Urbana MD	Rob Burchill at 301-371-0654 or robburchill@comcast.net
Sep 14- 16 Fri-Sun		46th Annual Bennington Car Show	Bennington VT	www.benningtoncarshow.com
Sep 15 Sat	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	37th Annual Edgar Rohr Memorial Antique Car Meet	Manassas Museum Manassas VA	Joann Richardson at 703-768-1569 or www.bullrunaaca.org
Sep 16 Sun	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	3rd Annual CLC Raritan River Region Car Show	Gold Coast Cadillac Oakhurst NJ	www.rrrcclc.org/goldcoast2012
Sep 17 Mon	7:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Potomac Region Monthly Meeting	Capitol Cadillac Greenbelt MD	Vince Taliano at 301-258-8321 or vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org
Sep 22 Sat	7:00 am – 1:00 pm	Antique Car Show	Dennis Point Marina & Campground Drayden MD	302-994-2288 or www.dennispointmarina.net
Sep 22- 23 Sat-Sun		3rd Annual CLCMRC Meet and Tour	Gilmore Car Museum Hickory Corners MI	Art Riley at art.riley@gmail.com
Sep 30 Sun	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Potomac Region Fall Driving Tour	Begins at Paradise Spring Winery Clifton VA	R. Scot Minesinger at rscoitm@cox.net or 703-283-2021
Sep 30 Sun		CLC Valley Forge Region Annual Fall Car Show	Peddler's Village Lahaska PA	www.vfrcclc.org/upcoming_events.htm
Oct 3-7 Wed-Sun	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	Fall Carlisle & Auction	Carlisle PA	717-243-7855 or www.carsatcarlisle.com
Oct 7 Sun	8:00 am – 1:00 pm	55th Annual Antique Auto Assembly	Armed Forces Retirement Home Washington DC	nicole.chappell@afrrh.gov or mary.catherine.murano@afrrh.gov
Oct 10-13 Wed-Sat	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	AACA National Eastern Fall Meet	Giant Center and Show Grounds Hershey PA	www.hersheyaaca.org



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DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT INFORMATION
Oct 10-13 Wed-Sun		CLC National Driving Tour Hosted by the Las Vegas Region	Las Vegas NV	https://www.cadillaclasalleclub.org/meets-and-tours/2012-national-driving-tour
Oct 13 Sat	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	3rd Annual Natty Boh Car Show	1st Mariner Bldg Baltimore MD	Mark Fuhr at mfuhr@metlife.com
Oct 14 Sun	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	First Annual Fall Spectacular Car and Truck Show	Fauquier High School Warrenton VA	Chris at 571-437-3752
Oct 20 Sat	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show	Rockville Civic Center Rockville MD	240-314-5022 or www.rockvillemd.gov/events/carshow.htm
Oct 27 Sat	12:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Professional Pride: Baltimore Streetcar Museum Visit	Baltimore MD	Chuck Piel at 240-888-5115 (cell) or charles.piel@pb.com
Oct 27 Sat	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Professional Pride: Pre-Show Dinner	Holiday Inn Greenbelt MD	Shelley Chadick at 717-368-4422 or shelleychadick@yahoo.com
Oct 28 Sun	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Professional Pride: Capitol Cadillac Fall Car Show	Capitol Cadillac Greenbelt MD	Vince Taliano at 301-258-8321 or vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org
Nov 3 Sat	10:00 am – 4:00 pm	CLC Central Virginia Region Car Show	Moore Cadillac Richmond VA	804-363-4055 or 804-814-2812

Visit www.clcpotomacregion.org/eventslisting.htm where show flyers can be downloaded

2013 Cadillac-LaSalle Club Museum Calendar Order Form			
<p>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:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLC Calendar Sales PO Box 6447 Plymouth, MI 48170-8447 USA</p> <p>Copies of the order form are accepted</p> <p>Coming soon—order via PayPal at CadillacLaSalleMuseum.org Proceeds benefit the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Museum & Research Center</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Still only \$15 each</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SHIPPING FEES</p> <p>United States \$2 each calendar Canada/Mexico \$2.25 U.S. each calendar All other countries \$3.50 U.S. each calendar</p> <p>_____ Calendars x \$15 each \$ _____</p> <p>Shipping fees _____</p> <p>Total \$ _____</p>	<p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY _____</p> <p>STATE _____ ZIP/POSTAL _____</p> <p>COUNTRY _____</p>	



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Annual Fall Car Show: Professional Pride

Sunday October 28, 2012

Car Registration: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

- Please read the Car Show Rules

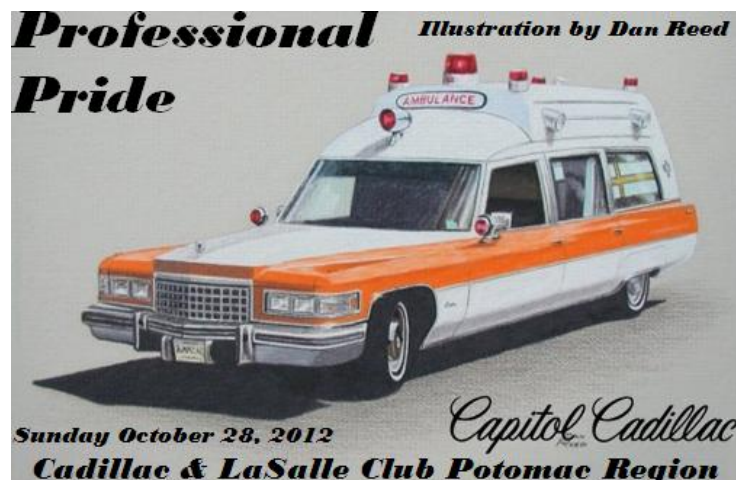
Show Hours: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

6500 Capitol Drive

Greenbelt, MD 20770

Phone: 301-441-9600

www.ecapitol.com



The theme for this year's Annual Fall Car Show at Capitol Cadillac will be ***Professional Pride***, celebrating the long and storied history of Cadillac and LaSalle professional cars. Specifically, Cadillac and LaSalle ambulances, combinations, flower cars, hearses and limousines from all model years will be the honored cars at the show to be held on Sunday October 28th at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD.

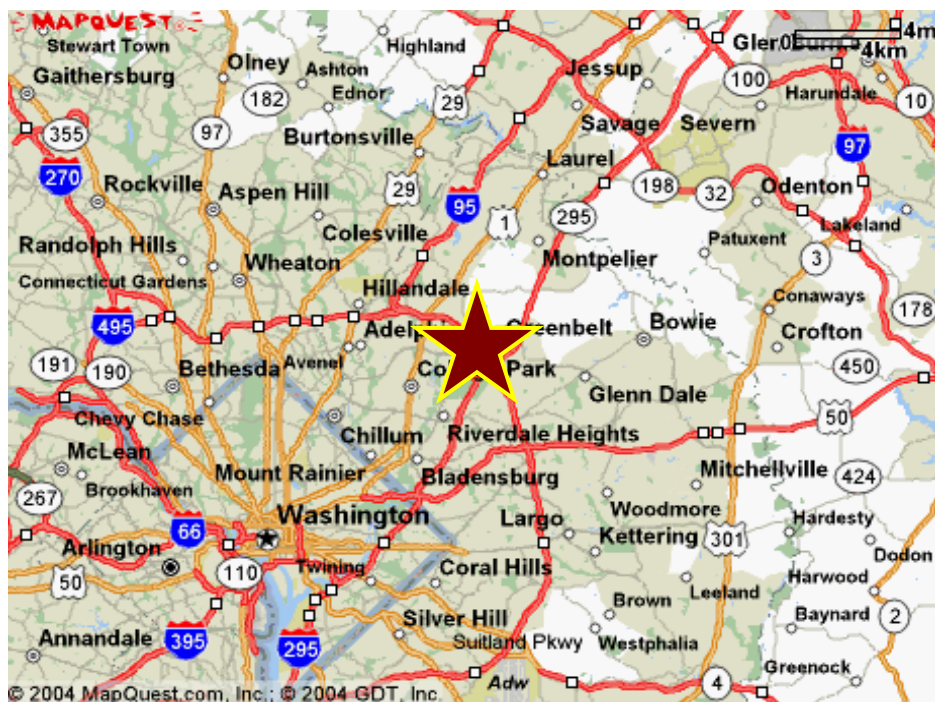
Every Cadillac and LaSalle Professional Car owner is encouraged to attend this very special show. To celebrate the event, each registered owner will receive a commemorative dash plaque illustration (pictured above) by renowned artist Dan Reed. Also, each registered owner will be given a commemorative show program highlighting the history of Cadillac and LaSalle Professional Cars and featuring a description of each Professional Car pre-registered for the show. In addition, the Professional Car owners will receive a framed certificate of appreciation for participating. It is time for the Professional Cars to take their place alongside the V-12 / V-16 Cadillacs, Eldorados, LaSalles, Fleetwoods, Capitol Cadillac Alumni Cars, and DeVilles that have been featured at the Potomac Region's past six theme-related fall car shows.

The judging will be done by the owners of the vehicles registered. The registered owners will be able to judge cars in all classes, including their own, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be given to winning vehicles in each class, **including three special classes for the Professional Cars.**

Capitol Cadillac is an easy five minute drive from the Holiday Inn Greenbelt where rooms will be reserved for Friday thru Sunday at the special rate of **\$94/night** (301-982-7000 – mention "Cadillac & LaSalle Club" when making reservation). The Holiday Inn Greenbelt will also be the site for a dinner the night before the show hosted by past CLC President Richard Sills & Shelley Chadick. If you plan to attend the dinner, please RSVP to Shelley at shelleychadick@yahoo.com or 717-368-4422.



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LOCAL DIRECTIONS:

From Capital Beltway (I-495/95)

- Use Exit 23 - Kenilworth Avenue Rte 201, proceed South on Kenilworth Avenue to first exit - Greenbelt Road, Route 193
- At light, proceed East on Greenbelt Road - Rte 193 (left)
- At traffic light make left onto Walker Drive (***TGI Friday's*** Restaurant on corner)
- Make an immediate right onto Capitol Drive (Dealership is on the left)



From Baltimore- Washington Parkway (Rte 295)

- Use Exit for Rte 193 (Greenbelt Road)
- Proceed West on Rte 193 - Greenbelt Road
- Make first right after underpass onto Capitol Drive (Dealership is on your right)

For more information, contact Vince Taliano at 410-598-0488 or vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org.



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Car Show Rules

- **Rain or Shine:** The car show will take place rain or shine. No refunds.
- **Safety:** If a vehicle has fluid drips or leaks, the owner must bring absorbent material or drip pans to avoid slippery conditions and to protect the showroom floor or show field parking lot. **The Potomac Region reserves the right to prevent any cars with excessive fluid leaks from entering the show field.** It is recommended that a working fire extinguisher be in every vehicle.
- **Judging / Parking Rules:** The Potomac Region reserves the right (1) to determine each vehicle's judging class and (2) each vehicle's placement in the show field. **There will be no parking on the grassy areas whatsoever, due to sprinkler heads and possible rut damage.** Vehicles will be peer judged by the individual owners of the registered cars. Registrants will be able to judge vehicles in all classes, including their own. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be given to winning vehicles in each class.

Judging Classes

Class A: 1902 – 1942 Professional Cars
Class B: 1946 – 1970 Professional Cars
Class C: 1971 – Current Professional Cars
Class D: 1902 – 1942 Cadillac
Class E: 1927 – 1940 LaSalle
Class F: 1946 – 1958 Cadillac
Class G: 1959 – 1968 Cadillac
Class H: 1969 – 1976 Cadillac
Class I: 1977 – 1986 Cadillac
Class J: 1987 – 1996 Cadillac
Class K: 1997 – Current Cadillac
Class L: Modified Vehicles

Other Awards

- Dealer's Choice
- Best Pre-War
- Best Post-War
- Best of Show
- Ladies Choice
- Long Distance (Driven Cars Only)

A vehicle receiving "Best of Show" may also receive an award in its class, but will not be eligible to receive "Best Pre War" or "Best Post War" at the same show.

Registration Form

Make checks payable to **CLC Potomac Region** and mail registration form to:
Harry Scott, Treasurer
14421 Aden Road
Nokesville VA 20181-3122

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Vehicle Registration Fee: (Up to Oct 14: \$15/per car - After Oct 14: \$20/per car)

Circle Make: CAD LAS Year: _____ Model: _____ Class: _____

Circle Make: CAD LAS Year: _____ Model: _____ Class: _____

The Potomac Region recommends that owners keep a fire extinguisher in their collector cars.

☐

Check the box if you do not want your vehicle(s) judged



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***Professional Pride
COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM WRITE-UP***

Please include a brief description on each ***Professional Car*** registered for the show for inclusion in the Commemorative Program.

Examples: history of the car, unique features, favorite memory, etc.

***(Please return along with car show registration by October 14, 2012
in order to be included in the commemorative program)***

Year: _____ **Model:** _____ **Owner:** _____ **City & State:** _____

Year: _____ **Model:** _____ **Owner:** _____ **City & State:** _____



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SEPTEMBER 17, 2012 MEETING MINUTES BY SANDY KEMPER

PLACE: Capitol Cadillac, Greenbelt, MD

TIME: 7:45 PM

PRESIDING: Secretary Sandy Kemper

ATTENDANCE: Chris Cummings; Randy Denchfield; Jeff Gurski; Daniel Jobe; Jack McClow; Dan Ruby; Harry Scott and Richard Sisson

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS: Sandy thanked everyone for attending. Sandy said that Region Director Vince Taliano has proposed the idea of moving the 2013 monthly meetings to Sunday afternoons to reduce work conflicts and rush hour commutes. This idea started much discussion. Generally most were opposed to Sunday meetings because of conflicts with family activities and sporting events. Alternatively, there were suggestions of reducing the overall number of meetings, holding meetings in conjunction with other events, conducting the region's business at officer meetings and having speakers or presentations at meetings.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes from the August meeting were not read since they had been published and distributed to all members in the September, 2012 newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report covered the time period from the August meeting to date. The Region's income was \$115.43. The total expenses for the same time period were \$234.04.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Our current 2012 membership total is 210 members. Our newest member is Terry Prevost of Leesburg, VA. Terry is the owner of a 1970 Deville Convertible. Welcome! As required annually, our 2012 roster was submitted to the CLC Office where region members' national membership status was checked to determine if they are currently active members nationally (CLC policy states that region members must be active national members in order to maintain their local membership). It was determined that 12 Potomac Region members are currently inactive nationally. Membership Director Debbie Taylor will be contacting those members to inform them that if they do not renew nationally 1) they will be removed from our official 2012 roster due in December and 2) they will not be eligible to renew with the Potomac Region for 2013 until they renew nationally. In addition, the 2013 Potomac Region membership renewal forms will be mailed in October to members who are active nationally.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The following activities were discussed:

1. Recent Events:

- **Vern Parker's Street Dreams Car Show, McLean VA, Sep 2.** Quite a few members attended before the rains shortened the show. Lynn Gardner has submitted an article and photographs for our newsletter.
- **Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance (featuring Cadillac), Malvern, PA, Sep 9.** Randy & Susan Denchfield and their 1935 LaSalle were among the select number of invitation only participants. Randy said that there were quite a few extraordinary Cadillacs and LaSalles present.



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- **43rd Annual AACA Sugarloaf Region's Activities Meet & Antique Car Show, Urbana, MD, Sep 9.** Bob Norrid, Jim Govoni and Glenn Wienhoff displayed their Cadillacs at this popular show. In addition, Jack McClow, Mike Fahey and Ron & Julie Siegrist were in attendance.
- **3rd Annual CLC Raritan River Region Car Show, Gold Cadillac, Oakhurst, NJ, Sep 16.** Jack McClow and Bob Norrid attended. Interestingly, the dealership is just a half mile or so south of where Jack worked at a small motel 42 years ago during his senior year of high school. CLC Raritan River Region Director (and Potomac Region member) Jeff Montgomery took Jack and Bob past Jack's old high school and the neat old home where he lived back in 1970/1971. As a tribute to Pat Caruso, who recently passed away, his 1975 Sedan Deville was on display (pictured above), and was featured on the show's dash plaque.



L to R: Bob Norrid's 1962 Series 62 Convertible, Glenn Wienhoff's 1966 Deville Convertible and Jim Govoni's 1969 Deville Convertible in Urbana, MD



2. Upcoming PR Events:

- **Fall Winery Driving Tour, Sunday, Sep 30th.** The tour will start by everyone meeting at Paradise Spring Winery in Clifton, VA at 12 noon. After visiting that winery, everyone will drive to the Barrel Oak Winery, the favorite of last year's tour. The tour will conclude around 5pm. This event is dependent upon the weather. It is important to RSVP at rscotm@cox.net or 703-283-2021 so we can contact attendees in the event that there is inclement weather.
- **Baltimore Streetcar Museum (BSM) Visit, Saturday, Oct 27.** Thanks to Chuck Piel for coordinating the event with the BSM folks, CLC Valley Forge Region and PCS Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Members planning to attend are asked to RSVP to Chuck at charles.piel@pb.com or 240-888-5115.



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- **Fall Car Show, *Professional Pride*, Sunday, Oct 28.** The show's publicity material has been distributed. 19 registrations, including one professional car have been received to date. The next important task is getting volunteers to help with the day of show activities. An email will be sent to the volunteers from the last show to determine their availability. If members who haven't volunteered in the past are interested in helping with this show, please contact Vince Taliano at vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org or 410-598-0488.

3. Other upcoming events:

- **AACA Eastern Division Fall Meet at Hershey, PA, Wed-Sat, Oct 10-13.** The CLC tent will be located in the same spaces, C4S 9-10 in the Chocolate field of the Flea Market as in the past years. Rob Robison is looking for volunteers to assist in the tent. The work is fun and rewarding, not to mention an excuse to rest those tired feet. There will be three 2½ hour shifts each day, from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM on Wednesday through Saturday morning. In addition, Rob could use help on set-up day, Tuesday, Oct 9th. Usually each shift is staffed with three volunteers as the tent can get busy at times. The work comprises being a "greeter," replenishing refreshments and collecting payments for membership applications, renewals and sales of merchandise.
- **City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, Rockville, MD, Sat, Oct 20.** Our Region is one of the sponsoring car clubs and we would like to get a lot of Cadillacs and LaSalles on the show field. Jack McClow is our club's representative on the Rockville Car Show Committee. Derrick Fisher will be manning a vendor space that will be promoting the club and offering items for sale. Vince Taliano and Dan Ruby will help with the set-up.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **PR Officer Elections for the term 2013-2014:** Sandy reminded everyone about the PR officer elections and noted that the nomination form was contained in the September issue of the ***Caddie Chronicle***. Everyone should consider nominating themselves or other members to serve as a region officer. He announced that the nominations will be closed at the October meeting, the election ballot will be published in the November newsletter and that a vote for the election of officers will take place in November, most likely at the November Region meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: Dan Ruby shared some heartwarming reminiscences of his dad in Henry's final days. Daniel Jobe talked at length about Cadillac's forthcoming cars and other interesting insights.

NEXT MEETING: Monday October 15th at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.



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VERN PARKER'S STREET OF DREAMS CAR SHOW STORY & PHOTOS BY LYNN GARDNER

Vern Parker's Street of Dreams Car Show was held on September 2nd at the Springhill Recreation Center in McLean, VA. As with past shows, it drew an assortment of years, makes and models that have been featured in Vern's newspaper and website articles over the years. In attendance were Potomac Region's Tom McQueen's 1974 Sedan DeVille and Lynn Gardner's 1975 Sedan DeVille. In addition, Capitol Cadillac sent one of their Fisker electric automobiles. Other vehicles on hand included a 1959 Ford Skyliner, a 1966 Dodge 383 Charger and a 1966 Corvair, among others. Andy Budd's Country Chevrolet sent five new vehicles for display; however Andy did not bring his grandmother's 1959 Mercury Monterey convertible. The chance of thunderstorms kept attendance down and early afternoon showers dispersed the collection of cars early.



**Vern Parker's 1939 LaSalle
sporting its CLC grille badges**



**A 2012 Fisker from Capitol Cadillac,
who also sell Fiskers**



Tom McQueen's 1974 Sedan DeVille



Lynn Gardner's 1975 Sedan DeVille



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The Self-Starter

June 1995



Read about the 1976 Miller-Meteor Lifeline Cadillac Ambulance on pages 4 & 5.

Showing Your Car at the Grand National - pages 6 & 9.

Members Ask - pages 10 & 11.



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1976 MILLER-METEOR LIFELINER CADILLAC AMBULANCE BY CRAIG STEWART THE SELF-STARTER JUNE 1995

The year was 1976. America was celebrating its Bicentennial. It was late summer when chassis 6Z90S6Q315100 rolled from Cadillac's Clark Avenue assembly line. This particular model was one of 309, 139 Cadillacs made that model year, and was one of 1,509 special commercial chassis. It shared the same 500 cubic-inch, 472 horsepower V-8 engine that the Cadillac passenger cars featured. These bare-boned front cowl/drivetrain units had an extended wheelbase of 157.5 inches, and were used for funeral and ambulance work. The Division annually built approximately 2,000 per year and would ship them to one of three custom body makers: Hess & Eisenhardt in Cincinnati; Superior Coaches in Lima, and Miller-Meteor in Piqua, all of which were western Ohio (the Eureka Company had ceased production in June, 1964, and also utilized Cadillac's commercial chassis).

This chassis was delivered to Miller-Meteor, where a 54-inch Lifeliner ambulance body would be mounted. Each unit is completely made to customer specs, with no two alike (unless a fleet order was taken). Workers would begin to reinforce the floor and strengthen the door frames. Then, an 18-gauge steel roof was fielded onto the frame. Rear doors and fenders were added, along with a huge windshield and door glass. This ambulance was to feature a walk-thru door, permitting access from either side of the car. Then, a large medicine cabinet with plexiglass doors was mounted against the bulkhead, separating the front and back compartments. A sliding partition glass and overhead linen cabinet was also installed.

A fold-up attendant seat was placed at the cot head, mounted on the partition. Since there were numerous electrical accessories, a dual Delco battery set-up was added. Air conditioning was installed in front and rear as was heat. A piped oxygen unit and a squad bench were also added. Interior finish was Chestnut and black was supplied to the front. Black carpeting was also featured.

A raised roof was installed and on its exterior, (resembling a top hat) was furnished a fiberglass backboard storage compartment. This enabled these immobilization devices to be moved from taking up precious space in the patient area, to a storage spot of its own. At the front edge of the roof was installed an illuminated sign, complete with a 20-watt fluorescent bulb!

AMBULANCE is spelled in brilliant red and is quite effective during night hours.



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Into the paint booth, the car was masked for a two-tone lacquer scheme. Omaha Orange and Cotillion White were applied (picture right is Dan Reed's illustration of the ambulance). Like all coach manufacturers, Miller-Meteor would paint to customer desires, even if a certain color was not a "standard" Cadillac or GM color. In this case, Omaha Orange is a 1972 Chevrolet truck finish, and the Cotillion White is a standard 1976 Cadillac paint.



No expense was spared with warning devices! This car features two different sirens. One is a Federal Interceptor electronic siren/public address unit, while the other is a Federal #76 Dual-Tone mechanical coaster siren. The latter features two sets of rotors which produce simultaneously a high pitch for penetration and a low pitch for power and range. Motorists were often able to identify this particular ambulance just by the sound of this siren, which seemed to take forever to wind down! On each corner of the high roof was the Miller-Meteor ambulance trademark: neat little red beacons called Ful-Vu lites. They were extremely bright, a high-intensity, 360° aircraft type that could be seen for miles. They made their debut on the 1963 M-M models. A Federal #184 Beacon ray was also added, as were side flood lights and rear loading lights. Three Mars 888 lights were added, one in the center of the low roof, and one on each side of the hood. These lights project a stab of brilliant light in a figure 8 pattern, absolutely guaranteed to alert even the most distracted motorists!

After various inspections and further equipment installations, the M-M data plate is attached to the inner front wheel well, just under the hood. This car was built on September 24, 1976, and bears body 76637. This indicates body 637 in the 1976 model run. Miller-Meteor started their body number at 100 and continued in sequence. For 1976, M-M built a total of 645 professional cars. This one is number 637, only eight units from the very end. Only 100 of these 645 ambulances, and in fact, this was the very last Miller-Meteor ambulance delivered in New Jersey.

The final product is 255 inches in length, weighs 8,200 pounds, holds 27 gallons of fuel, of which one gallon is consumed every 10 miles. The usual Cadillac amenities are also included: power steering/brakes/windows, Hydramatic transmission, AM/FM stereo radio. The car was warranted by both Cadillac and Miller-Meteor. Total price: \$26,258.62.

This vehicle was placed into service on October 16, 1976 with the Martinsville, NJ, rescue Squad and worked with distinction until June 12, 1989, when it was removed from front-line service. After it was in the hands of a couple of collectors, I acquired it in 1993. It has undergone frame-on restoration work and is now used for parades, cruise nights and auto shows. The car has also been the recipient of various awards at the Professional Car Society meets.



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Miller-Meteor, you ask? In 1912, Maurice Wolf founded Meteor Motor Car Co. in Piqua, Ohio. The firm custom built funeral coaches and ambulances on most chassis. By 1954, the Wayne Works on Richmond, Indiana purchased the firm. By March 19, 1956, Wayne also bought another professional car firm, the A.J. Miller Co. in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Under this new conglomerate, the company would be known as Miller-Meteor. Built exclusively on the Cadillac commercial chassis, the first Miller-Meteors appeared in 1957. Success prospered and by 1961 operations had moved from Bellefontaine to a new, updated Piqua facility. The firm ran head-to-head with arch-rival Superior with M-M capturing 52% of the annual professional car market.

By 1977, federal government mandates heavily regulated the ambulance industry. This eventually eliminated the passenger-car ambulance, Miller-Meteor managed to produce a mere 21 ambulances that year. The following year, only four were built. By 1979, the company was reduced to building a sole product line: hearses (their limited production flower cars were last made in 1970). Then, on November 1, 1979, the announcement was made that there would be no 1980 Miller-Meteor products. The firm ceased operations, dismissing some 252 loyal employees and 34 distributor franchises in North America. Today, another firm, located in Norwalk, Ohio is producing Miller-Meteor coaches, having purchased the rights to the name.

The likes of these custom-built ambulances will never again be seen on Main Street, USA.

[Editor's Note: As noted, the ambulance was delivered to New Jersey, serving the Martinsville and Passaic Township rescue squads. Then, it was owned by the Long Hill First Aid Squad of Stirling, New Jersey. CLC Potomac Region member Mike Barruzza purchased it from them and restored it in 1991-1993. Craig & Roseanne Stewart purchased the ambulance from Mike, and eventually sold it to David Hall. Since then, David sold it to Jamie Boles, Jr. of Southern Pines, North Carolina. It is still in Jamie's collection.]



Mike Barruzza preparing his similarly-painted 1977 Ambulance at the 2007 Hershey Fall Meet. He did a great job as the car won a Third Junior.

Photo by Lou Commisso



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**2012 FALL DRIVING TOUR
STORY BY R. SCOT MINESINGER
PHOTOS BY REUBEN CLEETUS, JOHN GUAZZO AND R. SCOT MINESINGER**



We had a great time on the Fall Driving Tour. The weather was perfect throughout the day. After I pulled into my garage, raised the top on my 1970 DeVille Convertible and unloaded my car, it started to rain a bit (usually it starts to rain ten minutes before I get home). The Barrel Oak Winery had a special parking lot reserved for us. They took pictures and posted them onto their Facebook account. Our cars were very much appreciated by the people at the wineries. Below is a list of members who attended.

Chris Overcash	1956 Series 62 Sedan
Jack McCLOW and Bob Norrid	1962 Series 62 Convertible
Randy Edison	1964 Eldorado
Chuck & Debbie Piel	1967 DeVille Convertible
Scot & Carolyn Minesinger	1970 DeVille Convertible
John Guazzo	1974 Eldorado Convertible
Harry & Julia Scott	2000 Seville
Jim & Brenda George	2009 CTS-V



To see more pictures, visit <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/2012pictures.htm>.

Visit us on the web!
www.clcpotomacregion.org



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CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

Cars For Sale

NEW ARRIVAL 1921 Cadillac Suburban – 7 seater * 4 door * Type 59 – V-8, Engine Number 59V487 – 31.25 Brake Horsepower/79 Horsepower – Primer fuel caps – Air Compressor in lieu of fuel pump attached to gear box could be used to inflate tires – 132" wheelbase * 25" wheels with 12 spokes * 2 spare tires – 4,350 lbs * CID 314.5 cubic inch – Set of tools including air pipe, pressure gauge and more – Factory installed metal roof – Original "tilt" steering wheel – Automatic Spark Control – 2 jump seats – 2 interior lights – Nickel plated accessories – 5 pull down window shades – Front bumper (an accessory for those days) – Motometer radiator cap – Mounted flower vase – Parking lights with magnifying glass for brighter side vision – Cadillac Manuals and Build Sheet – Complete Ownership History – 1st Place Award 2012 Grand National – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/21cadillacforsale.htm> – **Asking \$45,000 obo** – For more info, contact Brando at 813-917-9205 – Car is located in the Tampa, FL area

1968 DeVille Convertible - 100% complete – Not running – **Asking \$2,000 obo**

1976 Eldorado Convertible - 100% complete – Not running – **Asking \$2,000 obo**

1978 Sedan Deville – Triple Yellow – Fully Loaded – AM/FM CB radio and tape deck – A/C, heater & defroster, tilt wheel, cruise control and deluxe wheel covers – Excellent condition. **Asking \$2,400 obo** – For more info, contact Randy at 301-270-7663 (w), 301-657-4544 (h) or denchroof@aol.com – Cars are located in Takoma Park, MD

1978 Eldorado Biarritz – Approximately 66k documented original miles – Garage-kept – One repaint in its original color – Collector car driven to car show events at highway speeds – Everything works including all gauges and components – New Firestone tires and new exhaust – Drive and show anywhere with pride and confidence – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/78cadillacforsale.htm> – **Asking \$9,500 obo** – For more info, contact George Boxley at 301-699-2033, 301-261-5634 or georgeboxley@verizon.net – Car is located near Annapolis, MD

1995 Fleetwood Brougham – One owner car, recently acquired from the widow of the original owner – Car has all original paint, and has been garage kept and pampered all its life – Triple black – 69,653 miles, mostly highway – Equipped with the powerful 5.7 LT-1 V8 engine, traction control and anti-lock braking system, automatic leveling system, polished aluminum wheels with new correct whitewall radial tires, dual 6-way power heated front seats with power lumbar, power recliners, and driver's side memory, electronic climate control air conditioning, illuminated front and rear visor vanity mirrors, automatic power door locks, illuminated keyless remote control entry system, twilight sentinel, digital instrumentation, dual heated electric power outside mirrors, AM/FM graphic equalizer stereo with cassette and CD, power antenna and automatic power trunk closer – Has never been smoked in and the original spare tire has never been out of the trunk – Both sets of original keys and remotes go with the car, as does the owner's manual, and the factory-installed front and rear floor mats – First prize winner at CLC show at the AACA Museum in July 2012 – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/95cadillacforsale.htm> – **\$14,950** – For more info, contact Paul Sevag at 610-496-4246 or paulsevag@clcpotomacregion.org – Car is located in West Chester, PA

1997 Eldorado Biarritz Coupe – 85k original miles – Inherited in 2006 from current owner's father who was the second owner – Documentation available from 2006-present including receipts on work completed – Overall good condition – Aftermarket wheels – See pictures at <http://www.clcpotomacregion.org/97cadillacforsale.htm> – **Asking \$5,000 obo** – For more info, contact John Ballos at 301-834-5420 or jballos@comcast.net – Car is located in Frederick, MD

Holiday Gift



The Cadillac That Followed Me Home By CLC Potomac Region Member Chris Cummings

**"the most inspirational book on
classic car restoration ever published"**

**Richard Lentinello
Hemmings Classic Car**

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