



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

### 2021 OFFICERS:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
AUTOMOBILIA AUCTIONEER  
SUMMER PICNIC HOST  
DAN RUBY

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
CENTRAL VIRGINIA REGION  
LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
CHUCK PIEL

TREASURER  
BILL HILLIARD

SECRETARY  
DIANNA MOY

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR  
CHRISTOPHER WINTER

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR  
FRANKLIN GAGE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
WEBSITE MANAGER  
VINCE TALIANO

NATIONAL DIRECTOR  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
JACK MCCLOW

### OTHER KEY POSITIONS:

ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
SANDY KEMPER

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
RITA BIAL-BOXLEY

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
CHRIS CUMMINGS

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
SUSAN DENCHFIELD

VALLEY FORGE REGION LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
LYNN GARDNER

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
TOM MCQUEEN

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA REGION  
LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
RICHARD SILLS

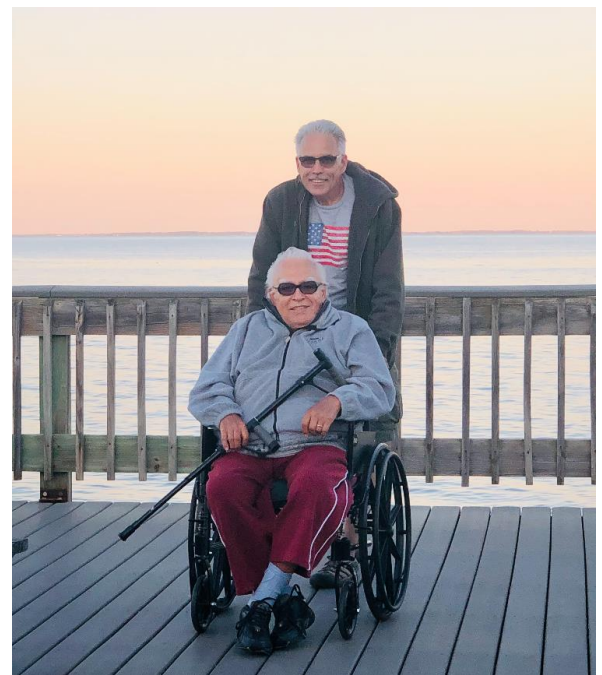
In less than 90 days, three very active club members have passed away: Charles Gillet, Mike Barruzza and most recently Bob Crimmins (see pages 4-5). These individuals were instrumental to our Region's success over the years. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers!

Chuck Piel and I met with Gibbs Fogarty, Owner/General Manager, of Sport Cadillac in Silver Spring, MD. We had a positive discussion about the future of our annual fall show. The tentative plan is to select an early November date to not interfere with all the events planned for October. Stay tuned for more details.

If you are planning to attend our annual picnic on Saturday, September 11th at my place, please see RSVP information on page 13. Also now is the time to send in your registration for the First Annual CLC Inter-Regional Meet at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA. It will help the show organizers plan the food and activities. Things are beginning to return to normal, so please check the calendar listings on pages 9-10.

I hope to see many of you at events in the coming months. Remember, if you are turning a corner in a Cadillac, go slow. It makes your car look longer!

Happy Father's Day to all you fathers out there! Here is a picture of Luis Aranda and his father, charter member Juan Aranda, on the boardwalk recently in North Beach, MD.



*Dan Ruby*



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021**



**IN MEMORIAM: AKIN T. DAVIS  
BY CHRIS DAVIS AND VINCE TALIANO  
PHOTOS BY BILL THOMAS, RM AUCTIONS AND VINCE TALIANO**



**L to R Standing - George G. Teebay, Sue Teebay, Mike Smith, Sandy Smith, Cari Davis, Akin T. Davis, Glen Cole, Pat Cole, Bryce Frey and Nancy Frey  
L to R Kneeling - Ron Van Gelderen and Sherie Van Gelderen**



**L to R: In 2017, the Region reconnected with Akin (pictured right) through his son Chris (pictured left), who while visiting from Pittsburgh brought his dad to Richard Sisson's moving away party.**

CLC Potomac Region charter member Akin T. Davis of Washington, D.C. passed away on February 10, 2021 at the age of 95. He and his late wife, Cari, were in attendance at the Region's first meeting held in January 1969 at Ron & Sherie VanGelderens house (pictured top left). He owned many unusual and unique classic cars over his life including two V-16 Cadillacs, including the 1934 Cadillac V-16 Convertible Sedan by Fleetwood pictured below, a 1941 Cadillac Series 60 Special Sedan with Sunshine Turret Top, a 1941 Cadillac Series 62, a 1936 Bentley 4-1/4 litre, a one-off 1946 Bentley drophead, a 1958 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud and numerous other unique non-classics.





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club

## Potomac Region

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### June 2021

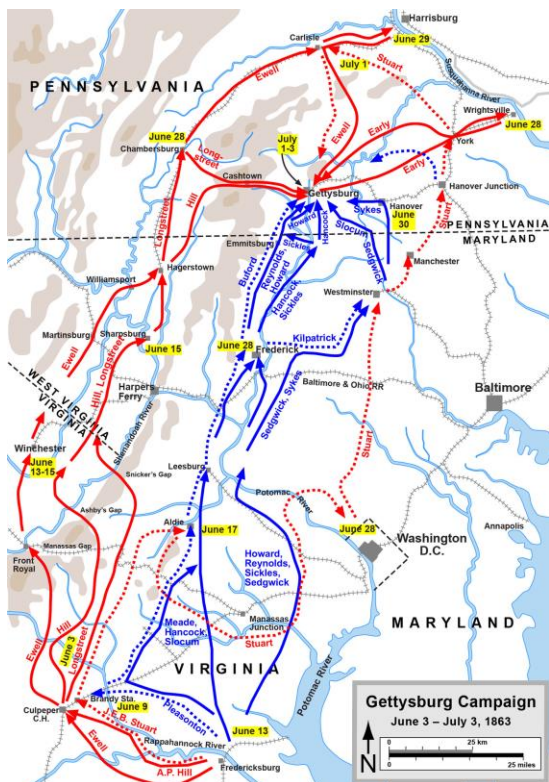


According to RM Auctions, Akin purchased this 1934 V-16 Convertible Sedan from Fred F. Betz III (the car's original owner was Edith du Pont Riegel). In 1952, he sold the car to Roy Licari of Alexandria, VA. In 2013, the car sold for \$825,000 at the RM Auction in Phoenix, AZ. [View](#) more pictures and history of the car.

Akin served in the US Army late in WWII in Okinawa and subsequently in Japan in the early months of the occupation. He again served in the Army during the Korean War and was stationed in Japan. It is planned that Akin will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery later this year (thanks for your service!).

Following his military service, he obtained a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Delaware and worked for E.I. du Pont Company at the Savannah River Plant in Aiken, SC, an atomic energy installation concerned with the production of plutonium and tritium. He later returned to Washington, D.C. and attended George Washington Law School while employed as a U.S. Patent Examiner. He joined the intellectual property law firm of Cushman, Darby & Cushman and retired as a partner after 28 years.

As an avid member of the Classic Car Club of America, the Rolls-Royce Owners Club, the Bentley Drivers Club, the Antique Automobile Club of America and former member of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club, he could always be found at club gatherings, and on driving tours and caravans. His travel planning always centered around taking the roads less traveled as it was the journey that provided the experience.



Two of his great loves in life were antique cars and road trips around the country, which he documented extensively with photographs and handwritten notes. In addition, he was well versed in the Civil War history of Washington D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Always passionate about nature and old growth forests, his road trips included visiting the majority of the U.S. National Parks across the country and he was planning another road trip in 2021 to visit the remaining National Parks on his bucket list.

Akin was preceded in death his wife, Cari, parents and three brothers. He is survived by his sons Christopher (Deborah) of Pittsburgh, PA, Garrett of Silver Spring, MD and Graham (Kathleen) of Keswick, VA; eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren, whom he adored. RIP, Mr. Davis.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## IN MEMORIAM: ROBERT J. CRIMMINS

BY JACK MCCLOW, JEFF MONTGOMERY AND VINCE TALIANO

PHOTOS BY BOB CRIMMINS, LYNN GARDNER, BOB NORRID AND JEFF MONTGOMERY



Long-standing Potomac Region member Robert J. Crimmins of Manalapan, NJ passed away on Sunday, May 23, 2021 at the age of 84. Bob and Jeff Montgomery, both members of the Region, would routinely travel to our shows at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD as well as other local events from time to time. They would also attend our post car show dinners before catching their northbound train home.

Bob was the CLC VP of Chapters and the Chair of the Publications Committee, where he managed the publication of **The Self-Starter**. He was also the author of the annual 25th and 50th Cadillac model year anniversary articles. He faithfully attended Grand Nationals and Winter Board Meetings for more years than anyone can remember. He is pictured below with Jeff beside him and other CLC dignitaries at the 2013 Grand National in Quincy, MA.

Bob worked for the Herbert L. Farkas Company in Newark, NJ from 1963 to 2005, rising to VP of Sales, and then worked in sales at Hertz Furniture in Ramsey, NJ for a number of years before retiring.

He was very active and loved to travel and cruise, visiting almost 100 different countries, as well as 49 of the 50 states. He was a Titanic enthusiast and prolific model builder (his garage had many shelves of expertly assembled car models), but his true passion was classic Cadillacs.



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At one time, he was the proud owner of three 1955 Cadillacs (still owned two at the time of his death plus a 1993 Fleetwood Brougham). Bob wrote a story about his 1955 Fleetwood 60 Special in the April 2005 **Caddie Chronicle** to celebrate the car's 50th anniversary (see page 6). In 2006, he attended the **Eldorado Extravaganza** car show at Capitol Cadillac with his stunning, red 1955 Eldorado (pictured right), where he won the Dealer's Choice award. In the July 2006 **Caddie Chronicle**, Bob wrote an article about the Eldorado being used for wedding photos with CLC members Lillian & Bill Nemcik's daughter's bridesmaids (photo by Chris Bossio). In addition, the car was used in the film **Cadillac Records** as Chuck Berry's car.



Despite the restrictions in place due to the pandemic, he continued to attend CLC events whenever possible. Pictured below right are Earl Rutter and Bob at the CLC Central Pennsylvania Region Car Show at the AACA Museum in August 2020 in Hershey, PA. Earlier this year Bob traveled to North Carolina to visit with Jason Edge, Tim Coy, Cynthia Rutledge and others for the remote CLC Winter Board Meeting, where they participated from Jason's Cadillac man cave.



"Cadillac Bob," as he was known by his legion of devoted friends, viewed life in the most positive and optimistic manner. His humor and jokes brought smiles to everyone he met. He was a superb conversationalist and close friends could always rely on him for encouraging words. Month after month he was one of the first to reply after receiving the **Caddie Chronicle**, offering thanks and positive remarks on the respective issues. A number of tributes have been posted on the internet. They may be viewed on the [CLC Forum](#), [CLC Facebook Group](#) and [Day Funeral Home](#) websites.



Bob is survived by his wife of 62 years, Clara (nee Martin), three loving nieces and many great nieces and nephews. He was loved by all that knew him and was everyone's friend. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the [CLC Museum and Research Center](#) in his name. Thanks for everything, Bob. RIP!



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

## **Potomac Region**

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**A FLEET OF '55 CADILLACS  
BY BOB CRIMMINS  
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN APRIL 2005**

***[Editorial Note - Celebrating the 50th birthday of 1955 Cadillacs would not be complete without showcasing Bob Crimmins and his collection of 50-year-old beauties. He owns not one, not two, but three '55 Cadillacs. "Rosalind" is an Eldorado Convertible named after Rosalind Russell, "Ava" is a Coupe Deville named after Ava Gardner and "The Duchess" is a Fleetwood 60 Special].***

I've owned "The Duchess" since July 1989 and a brief history is as follows:

She was built on Thursday, July 14, 1955 and shipped to Scott Smith Cadillac in Philadelphia, PA. Her first owner, Emma Smith, purchased her on August 29, 1955. I am the third owner since Mrs. Smith.

The car was furnished with most of the options available in 1955 and it was estimated it have sold for about \$6,000.

The odometer just turned 81,000 miles. It remains pretty much an original car, as the car has only been repainted and re-chromed.

"The Duchess" has been in several weddings, one movie (***Liberty Heights – set in Baltimore***) and was used by both The Franklin Mint and Mattel for models commemorating the 25th anniversary of Elvis' death.

With a 133-inch wheelbase and a length of 227.3 inches, she rides like a dream - her almost 5,000 pounds ensures that "boulevard" ride.

Although there were 18,300 Fleetwoods produced in 1955, only 29 are registered with the Cadillac & LaSalle Club, making her a fairly rare car. Needless to say, she is a wonderful car and will always be one of my prized possessions.

***Bob Crimmins is a Potomac Region member and Secretary of the CLC Raritan River Region***



**Bob Crimmins with "The Duchess"  
Photograph by the CLC Raritan River Region**



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

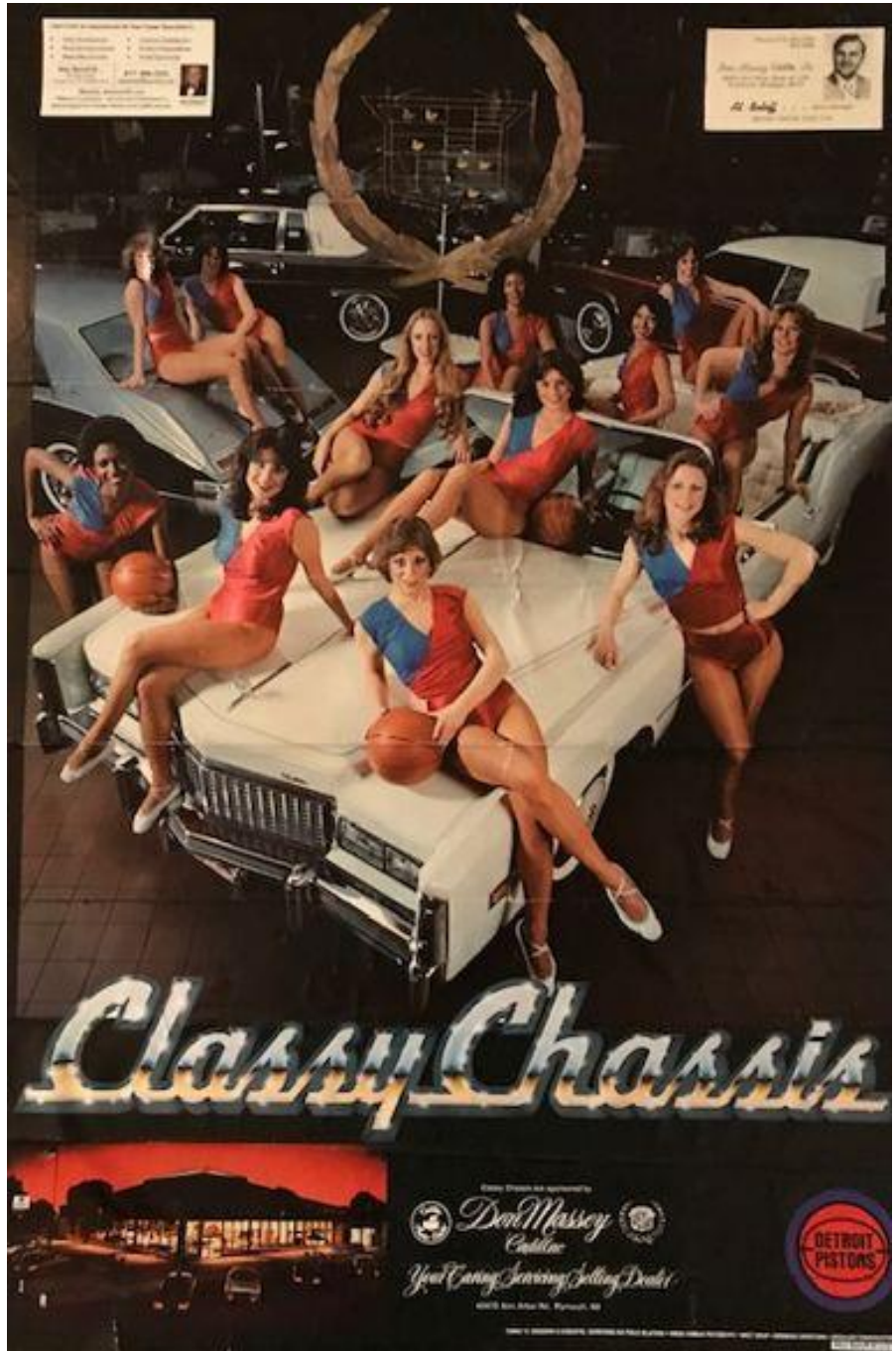


May 8, 2021

Thought you might like to see this photo of the poster taken in 1981 at Don Massey Cadillac in Plymouth, Michigan. I was the New Car Sales Manager when it was taken with the Detroit Pistons cheerleaders. The showroom housed the largest brass 20' high wreath and crest emblem. The 1976 Bicentennial Cadillac had 12 miles on it when the photo was taken.

According to Wikipedia, the last Cadillac Eldorado rolled off the assembly line at the Lansing Craft Center assembly plant in Lansing, Michigan on April 22, 2002. The car was donated to the Cadillac Museum in honor of Don Massey.

Alex Beloff III  
Grapevine, Texas





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## IN THE NEWS BY VINCE TALIANO

Congratulations to Randy & Susan Denchfield! Their 1935 LaSalle Series 50 convertible coupe was selected recently as an **Old Cars** Car of the Week. [Read](#) the story online by Brian Earnest and see more pictures. If you've got an old car you love, **Old Cars** wants to hear about it. Email them at [oldcars@aimmedia.com](mailto:oldcars@aimmedia.com).







# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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#### **MAY 17, 2021 MEETING MINUTES** **BY DIANNA MOY**

**PLACE:** Virtual Meeting via Zoom

**TIME:** Open discussion started at 7:00 PM, meeting started at 7:32 PM and concluded at approximately 8:25 PM

**PRESIDING:** Dan Ruby, Regional Director

**ATTENDEES:** 17 attendees (which included nine officers): **Dianna Moy (Secretary), Dan Ruby (Regional Director), Bill Hilliard (Treasurer), Chuck Piel (Assistant Regional Director), Vince Taliano (Newsletter Editor and Website Manager), Christopher Winter (Activities Director), Dale Graves, Larry Good, Richard Sills, Oscar Jobe, Grady McMahan, Harry Scott, Sandy Kemper, Ivars Jaunrubenis, Marvin Talley, Earl Rutter and Sid Hussain**

**DIRECTOR'S REMARKS:** Dan Ruby thanked everyone for attending. He announced that he and Chuck Piel will be meeting with Gibbs Fogarty, Sport Cadillac, on Thu, May 20 to discuss a possible car show and automobilia auction this fall.

**SECRETARY'S REMARKS:** Dianna Moy did not read the minutes from the April meeting since they were published and distributed to all members in the May newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Hilliard reported the financials for the time period from the February meeting to date. Total Revenue: \$12.72, Total Expense: \$111.27 and Net Income: **\$(98.55)**.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Vince Taliano reported that the current membership is still at 170. No new members joined since the last meeting.

**ACTIVITIES REPORT:** The following activities were discussed:

• **Upcoming PR Events:**

- **Tech Day, Scot Minesinger's home, Fairfax Station, VA, Sat, Jun 5.** Christopher Winter reported that owners of nine vehicles have RSVPed. Everyone's looking forward to a great event.
- **Inter-Regional CLC Meet, AACA Museum, Hershey, PA, Sat-Sun, Aug 21-22.** Approximately 10 registrations have been received to date, although a few meeting attendees indicated they plan to attend by haven't registered yet. See the flyer in the June newsletter for more information, including registration.
- **Summer Picnic, Dan & Jo Jo Ruby's home, Owings, MD, Sat, Sep 11.** Enough members responded to Dan's inquiry to warrant holding the event. See the flyer in the June newsletter for more information, including registration.
- **Annual Car Show & Automobilia Auction.** Discussions with Sport Cadillac will be held on Thu, May 20. Stay tuned for more information.



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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#### • **Upcoming Non-PR Events:**

- **29th Orphan Car Tour, Burkittsville, MD to Bluemont, VA, Sat, Jun 5.** Limited to "orphan" (discontinued-make) vehicles at least 25 years old. Visit [website](#) for more info or contact Jon Battle at [tourdirector@orphancartour.org](mailto:tourdirector@orphancartour.org) or 540-364-1770.
- **The Greenberg Cadillac Museum Open House, Brookville, PA, Thu-Sun, Jun 17-21, 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM.** [See flyer](#) for more info.
- **17th Annual VCCA Free State Region All Vehicle Show, Reisterstown Regional Park, Reisterstown, MD, Sun, Jul 25, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM.** Visit [website](#) for more info or contact Mike Natale at [mrnatale@verizon.net](mailto:mrnatale@verizon.net) or 410-583-9171.
- **57th Annual Das Awkscht Fest (featured marques: Cadillac/LaSalle), Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA, Fri-Sun, Aug 6-8.** Visit [website](#) for more info.
- **29th Annual Poolesville Day Festival and Classic Car Show, Poolesville, MD, Sat, Sep 18.** Visit [website](#) for more info.
- **45th Annual Edgar Rohr Memorial Car Meet, Manassas Museum, Manassas, VA, Sat, Sep 18, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM.** Hosted by the AACA Bull Run Region. Open to antique cars/trucks and street rods 1996 and earlier and rare/exotic/limited production cars post-1996. Visit [website](#) for more info or contact Pete Pandolfi at 703-919-8343.
- **Fall Carlisle, Fairgrounds, Carlisle, PA, Wed-Sun, Sep 29-Oct 3.** Visit [website](#) for more info.
- **AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Giant Center, Hershey, PA, Wed-Sat, Oct 6-9.** Visit [website](#) for more info.
- **City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, Rockville (MD) Civic Center, Sat, Oct 16, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM.** Visit [website](#) for more info.
- **CLC Reunion 2021: Back Together Again, Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee, FL, Wed-Sun, Nov 10-14.** Tours to the Don Garlits Museum of Drag Racing, National Parts Depot Private Car Collection and American Muscle Car Museum, as well as a matinee production at Capone's Dinner Theater and attendance at the Old Town Kissimmee Classic Car Show. More information will be in the June issue of **The Self-Starters**. In the meantime, visit [website](#) for further details and [book](#) your hotel room online or call 407-597-4000 (mention rate code "CLC" for the \$129/night plus taxes and fees room rate).

**VIDEOS:** Dianna played two short videos: [History of Cadillac](#) and [The Rise and Fall of Cadillac](#).

**NEXT MEETING:** Our next meeting is scheduled for Mon, June 21st at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA. Members will be able to participate remotely via Zoom as well. The official meeting will start at 7:30 PM. An email with the meeting access information will be sent in early June.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 PM.



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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**The Valley Forge, Central PA and Potomac Regions of**

*The Cadillac & LaSalle Club*

**Cordially invite you, your family, and friends to the First (hopefully) Annual  
Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show at the AACA Museum, Hershey, PA  
Saturday and Sunday, August 21-22, 2021**

The pandemic has wreaked havoc on car events for over a year! The Valley Forge, Central PA and Potomac Regions decided to organize a small, regional gathering where nearby regions could reconnect with friends and enjoy one another's cars. With the postponement of the 2021 Grand National, this event is rapidly expanding in size and scope. As state and local COVID-19 restrictions loosen, and as vaccinations continue, we are sure we can make this happen!



We will gather at the AACA Museum, Hershey PA on Saturday, August 21st. A concession will be available from 11:30AM until 2PM to buy lunch. Unique depictions of scenes representing New York, Route 66, San Francisco, and other famous American settings provide the background for 71,000 square feet of exhibit space, featuring classic and vintage cars, buses, trucks, motorcycles and model trains. You can tour the museum virtually by visiting <https://www.aacamuseum.org/> and clicking on "Virtual Visits."

The museum will host guided tours of its exhibits, detail/maintenance shop, and storage building (Jim's Place) starting at 1:30 PM. We will split into groups to conform to the museum's indoor capacity limits. Visitors are welcome to stroll the grounds and admire fellow CLC members' cars. After the tours, we will gather in the museum for a cocktail reception and hors d' oeuvres, followed by a buffet dinner. Out-of-towners may reserve a hotel room for the night at one of several hotels close to the museum.

**Please note:** there are **no host hotels, room blocks or group rates** for this event. AAA, AARP or Military/Government discounts may be available. **Reserve your room(s) as soon as possible**, as August is peak of tourist season at Hershey. Three hotels closest to the Museum:

- **SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hershey:** 115 Museum Dr., Hershey, PA, 717-583-2222, [Marriott.com](http://Marriott.com)
- **Quality Inn & Suites:** 181 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-583-5151, [choicehotels.com](http://choicehotels.com);
- **Hampton Inn & Suites Hershey:** 195 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-566-3369, [Hilton.com](http://Hilton.com)

Most hotels have flexible cancellation policies (e.g., up to one day before scheduled check-in). Get a good night's rest so you're ready to display your Cadillac, LaSalle or other make at our peer-judged car show on Sunday, August 22nd on the Museum's grounds. Open to all makes & models of road-worthy cars, trucks, commercial and military vehicles, pre-war through modern. No heavily modified, customs, rods, or racers; lightly modified vehicles that preserve factory-built appearance and features are welcome. Registration/check-in will start at 9 AM; peer judging will commence at 11 AM. Presentation of awards will start at 2:30 PM. Lunch will be available for purchase.

Register for the event by completing the form below and returning it with your check made payable to **VFR-CLC**. Join us for the tour, dinner, judged show or all three! Hurry! *Pre-registration is required for all activities and closes on July 30th*. For more info, contact Michael Stinson, Director, VFR-CLC, at [Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com) or Registrar: John Wood, [renopa@verizon.net](mailto:renopa@verizon.net). Visit <http://vfrclc.org/2021interregionalmeet.html> for more info.

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[www.clcpotomacregion.org](http://www.clcpotomacregion.org)



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show Registration Form Saturday and Sunday, August 21-22, 2021

Pre-registration is required for all activities; must be received by July 30th. No day-of-event registrations.  
Questions: Michael Stinson, 267-251-8588, [Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com)

Car Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children Name(s) and Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name(s), City/State of Each: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLC Member #: \_\_\_\_\_ AACA Member # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Member of AACA Museum (circle)? Y / N

**Car Information:**

Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Style (circle): Sedan, Coupe, Convertible, Other  
 Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Style (circle): Sedan, Coupe, Convertible, Other

Bringing a Trailer (circle)? Y / N

Car show open to all make and model cars, trucks, and commercial/military vehicles, pre-war to present. No heavily modified customs, rods, or racers. Lightly modified vehicles retaining features and appearance as delivered from the factory are accepted.

**Registration and Fees:**

Activity	Cost/ Person	No. Guests	Total
<b>AACA Museum Tour:</b> guided tour of exhibits, detail shop, storage building (Jim's Place). One Discount Ticket included with registration. AACA member is free. Cost for each <i>additional</i> Guest:	\$16.00		\$
<b>Buffet Dinner @ Museum:</b> (includes Hors d' Oeuvres, buffet dinner with salad, choice of entrée, two sides, dessert, beverage, coffee)	\$58.00		\$
<b>Car Show – Early Registration:</b> (per car; must be received on/before June 30):	\$20.00		\$
<b>Car Show – Late Registration:</b> (per car; Registration Deadline is July 30th):	\$30.00		\$
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED make check Payable to <u>VFR-CLC</u>:</b>			\$

Will you buy lunch at the Museum (circle)? Saturday: Y / N Sunday: Y / N How many persons? \_\_\_\_ (count for caterer)

**Nearby Hotels:** there are *no host hotels, room blocks or group rates* for this event. AAA, AARP or Military/Government discounts may be available. **Reserve your room(s) as soon as possible**, as August is peak of tourist season at Hershey.  
**SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hershey:** 115 Museum Dr., Hershey, PA, 717-583-2222, [Marriott.com](http://Marriott.com); **Quality Inn & Suites:** 181 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-583-5151, [choicehotels.com](http://choicehotels.com); **Hampton Inn & Suites Hershey:** 195 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-566-3369, [Hilton.com](http://Hilton.com). Check with hotels regarding their cancellation policy.

I hereby release the CLC, CLC Regions, the AACA Museum, their officers and representatives from any liability, damage or loss arriving from my own, my guests' and family's participation in the 2021 CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Show, including, but not limited to, the risk of contracting COVID-19 virus. I agree to adhere to all pandemic mitigation practices in effect at the AACA Museum during this event, including wearing a mask, social distancing, and temperature / wellness checks. AACA Museum reserves the right to deny attendees exhibiting COVID symptoms entry into the Museum. I certify that I have public liability insurance for my vehicle.

**Member Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail a copy of this form along with check made payable to VFR-CLC and a SASE to receive confirmation to:**

CLC Inter-Regional Meet  
C/O: John Wood  
327 Bellevue Ave.  
Pennel, PA 19047-5310

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[www.clcpotomacregion.org](http://www.clcpotomacregion.org)



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



**Potomac Region Summer Picnic  
in Scenic Southern Maryland  
Dan & JoJo Ruby's Home  
7018 Wilderness Ct  
Owings, MD 20736**



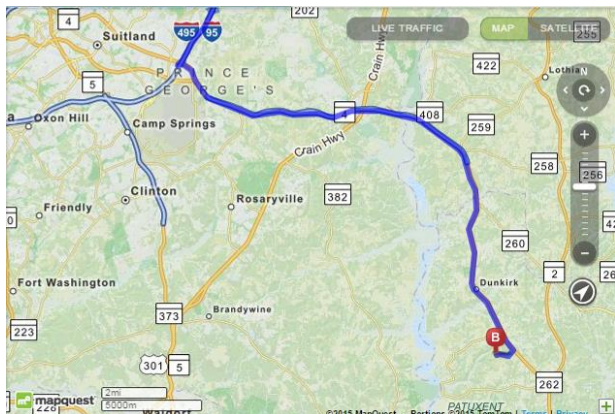
**Saturday, September 11, 2021  
1:00–6:00 pm  
301-343-1463  
[danruby@clcpotomacregion.org](mailto:danruby@clcpotomacregion.org)**

Please drive your Cadillac or LaSalle to the Summer Picnic at the Ruby home. The event will be catered with the Region providing soft drinks, water, ice, serving tables, plates, cutlery, etc. If you have a favorite dessert or beverage you want to share with others, please feel free to bring it.

Also please bring your folding chair(s). There is plenty of room to park your classic Cadillac or LaSalle in the yard.



**DIRECTIONS:** from Capitol Beltway, I-495/I-95, take exit 11A onto MD-4 E toward Upper Marlboro. Continue 19 miles and turn right onto Briscoes Turn Rd. Make first right onto Timberneck Dr. then left on Wilderness Ct.



**Please RSVP (Accepts only by September 1st)**

**No. Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_ x **\$10 per person** = \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

**Send RSVP with payment to:**  
**Bill Hilliard, Treasurer**  
**12602 Eldrid Ct.**  
**Silver Spring, MD 20904-3505**

[See pictures](#) from the last picnic in 2019.



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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### **MISHAPS AND MIRACLES: PART I**

#### **BY CHUCK PIEL**

As we and our beloved old cars age, things don't always work as they were originally designed! While I firmly believe our classics behave better when they are frequently driven, that also opens opportunities for things to go wrong.

Given the isolation demanded by COVID-19, we were blessed to have our old cars to go on "therapeutic" drives. Whenever I suffered from cabin fever, if the weather was good and there was no salt on the road, I'd jump in one of our oldies for a cleansing ride to nowhere. While these were relatively short trips, they did bring back memories of some of the mishaps we encountered over the years. Here's a few of them that we've experienced.

In the 10+ years my wife, Debbie, and I have owned our Marina Blue **1967 DeVille Convertible (aka "Big Blue")**, we've put over 30,000 miles on the car, including participation in four CLC Grand Nationals, one CLC National Driving Tour, six Miss America parades, and the Baltimore-based NFL Hall-of Fame Parade for Ray Lewis. We've gone as far north as Boston and Lake George NY, and as far west as Louisville. Big Blue also takes us out to coffee, dinner, and for ice cream. But we've had our share of "adventures" while on the road, most of them self-inflicted and not the fault of the car.

#### **MISHAP #1**

In 2011, Big Blue's chassis was completely restored, including all new suspension components. By 2014, we had driven to two CLC Grand Nationals and countless other regional events in the surrounding states, having put about 15K miles on the car. One afternoon in December 2014, we took the car out to lunch. As we were returning home, while driving at 50 MPH on Route 40 within about a half mile of our house, the entire left front of the car collapsed, making a horrendous noise with a lot of smoke and the odor of burning rubber. I was able to get the car safely off the road on the left shoulder, and got out to find our left front ball joint had collapsed, with the left front wheel protruding out from the fender at a 90-degree angle. OUCH!!



**Big Blue's collapsed ball joint – our worst nightmare!**



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

## **Potomac Region**

### **Caddie Chronicle**

#### **June 2021**



The car was towed to our local shop – not an easy feat to get it winched up on a roll-back! Further inspection showed the left front ball joint had come loose because the cotter pin was missing from the securing crown nut. When we looked at the other ball joint, it too was missing the cotter pin and was dangerously close to letting go itself. Damage to the car was surprisingly light – the lower control arm was bent, the near-new Diamond Back radial was fried because it had taken all the drag force of the car, and the fender was bent out because of the tire. The bumper brackets were slightly bent because they hit the ground (fortunately grass, and not the road.) It turns out that when the new ball joints were installed, we neglected to secure them with the cotter pins. I could get angry about this, except at least two other shops and I had done suspension inspections before long trips and completely whiffed on the fact the cotter pins were missing!

#### **MIRACLE**

When I think about the approximately 15K miles we put on Big Blue without cotter pin-secured ball joints, and the fact it waited to let go until I was within a half mile of our house, that was a MIRACLE! In 2013, we had followed Scot Minesinger in his '70 DeVille Convertible 400 miles to the CLC Grand National in Quincy, MA – trying to keep up with Scot at 75+MPH in a driving rain storm (and hitting submerged pot holes on the George Washington Bridge!). Also we were doing 70-80 MPH on the New York State Thruway on the way to the CLC Grand National in Lake George, NY in 2014. What a disaster this could have been – we were so, so lucky!!

#### **MISHAP #2**

In 2015, while returning from the shop, I was driving Big Blue in the slow lane on the outer loop of the Capital Beltway, Interstate 495, behind a huge dually pick-up truck. The driver appeared to be on the phone and occasionally drifted toward the right-side shoulder. All of a sudden, he went completely onto the shoulder and his big dual rear tires ran over a hub cap sending it spinning like a Frisbee right into the front of Big Blue. It then cascaded clear over my car and hit a Honda that was behind me. The Honda and I pulled off. His windshield was broken. I had a huge 3" gash in the front nose of the hood on the '67.

#### **MIRACLE**

This could have been much worse, especially if it had hit my windshield. As it was, Hagerty Insurance paid to have my hood repaired and clear-coated.

#### **MISHAP #3**

A week after the car was repaired, Debbie and I took Big Blue to our favorite local winery, Elk Run, in Eldersburg. On the 20-mile outbound ride, a car pulled out and hit some loose gravel and a stone hit the freshly painted nose of the hood, resulting in a big ugly chip. Debbie suggested I leave it alone, because as soon as I had it fixed again, it would get another stone chip.

#### **MIRACLE**

Not this time. As I write this, the chip is still there, along with two others I've picked up over the years.



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021**



## **MISHAP #4**

While leaving the show field at the 2019 City of Rockville show with Christopher Winter in the car, a sudden puff of smoke came out from under the front of the hood of Big Blue. Instantly, my generator dash light (for the alternator) came on. We popped the hood to discover that the supply wire from the alternator to the battery was not only completely fried, but burnt off! If I had driven further onto the road, it may have resulted in a fire. Fortunately, there was still enough day light to drive home on the battery (with alternator disconnected), after which I could get the battery recharged and drive Big Blue to the shop for repair.



**Big Blue at the 2019 Rockville Show,  
an electrical short was lurking!**

## **MIRACLE**

If this had happened at night, at best case I would have been stuck, and worst case I would have had a fire in the dark. Also, this occurred the week before the 2019 CLC National Driving Tour in Gettysburg, PA, where a 900+ mile tour was planned. I was able to get a new supply wire and get an insulated grommet where we believe the short originated. We ended up having a very successful and enjoyable tour.

The moral to these stories is there is always a happy ending. I highly recommend my fellow car nuts to get out there and drive your cars as much as you can. I can't keep the smile off my face every time I get behind those big old steering wheels.

Here's hoping we can enjoy many miles and smiles in 2021!!

P.S. Make sure your ball joints have the cotter pins installed!





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# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## WEST COAST '53 ELDORADO ADVENTURES BY LARRY GOOD

After becoming fully vaccinated, my wife, Maia, and I recently took a trip to the West Coast to be with family. It gave me another opportunity to meet with fellow 1953 Eldorado owners. First on April 15 was Dave Ventresca in Los Angeles, owner of #337. Dave, who just retired from a career as a high school math teacher, spent 18 years restoring this Eldorado himself.

The paint and bodywork are perfect, better than factory. They meet and exceed my standards, and I used to do this work for concours restorations! The car has the tinted glass factory option but not the Autronic Eye, reputed to be a lemon. Dave also has a right-hand mirror, a dealer option.

Dave took us for a spin on the freeway. Just the week before he found out that the dice hanging from his mirror are now illegal in California (pictured right). What next?!

The car's interior is red and white (trim code #38) per the build sheet. When restoring the upholstery, he even made sure the thread colors were correct (pictured below right).

Dave's attention to detail is so deep that he has the A.O. Smith Corp. (AOS) branding stenciled on the chassis they built (pictured below). He also has an extra pair or two of NOS exhaust tips. I told him if they were mine, I'd never put them on a car. I'd keep them on a museum shelf. On a car they'd just burn up and rust – labels, paint and all.





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Here is a picture of the NOS wiper motor on #337 with its unique Eldorado part number, CPH 10-21, rubber stamped by the TRICO factory, and is usually hard to see. Correctly stamped wiper motors are nearly impossible to find these days. Next to the motor is a functioning Electro-Vac booster pump, usually missing or disconnected on Eldorados now.

After visiting with Dave, we took the train up the California coast to see more family and more Eldorados in Silicon Valley. The good news was that we "discovered" a new '53 Eldorado in the San Francisco Bay area, body #35. Actually, the car was in plain view for many years, but the CLC never

knew its number. No. 35 appears nowhere in [The \(New\) Cadillac Database](#). Pictured below left is its owner, Jim Zanardi (center), along with me and Maia.

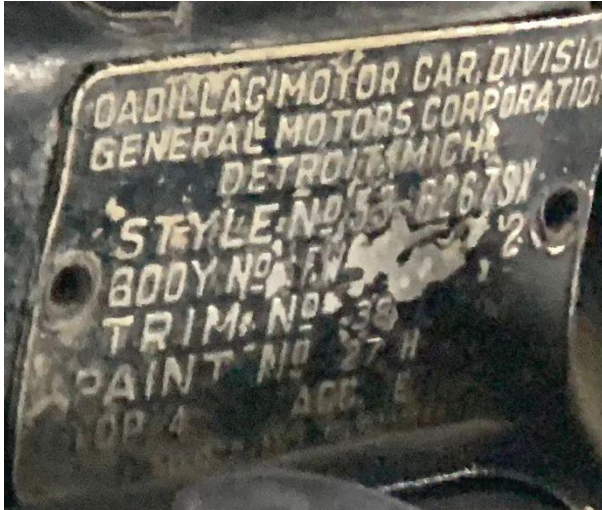


Then we were able to see three more cars in three days: Thursday #203, Friday #2 and Saturday #263. Pictured above is the owner of #203, Larry Camuso (left), and me with his Eldorado. Pictured left is Dan McNamara (right) and me with his Eldorado, #263.

1953 Eldorado #2 is the one that transported President Eisenhower during his inauguration parade. It is currently at the Lee collection near Reno, NV. The owner, Anne Brockinton Lee, invited me to visit, so I rented a car and drove there.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



I confirmed it was indeed #2 by its body tag on the firewall and serial number on the engine (pictured above). Ms. Lee was out of town during my visit, but I will try to contact her later and do a phone interview.



The first build sheet for this car says it was shipped to Capitol Cadillac Olds Co. in Washington, D.C. on January 16, 1953, in "condition for inaugural parade," which occurred four days later. This build sheet also says "cars in co. use," which tells me it was not for sale. The next document I found is called Return for Credit Notice, dated August 11, 1953. The notice says "Returned from...Factory." I don't understand this point since the car was in Washington. Then it lists "Reason for return...Show Car." With "show car" status, it would not be sold. That changed with the next build sheet, which dispatched #2 to New York on August 26 for sale.

These California Eldorados will get more exposure in future articles and in the 1953 Eldorado Survivors Roster in [The \(New\) Cadillac Database](#). I am working on a full article about Eldorado #2 to submit to **The Self-Starters**. The research continues.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



## CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

### Cars For Sale



**1939 LaSalle Model 39-5067** – #144 of 1,020 Convertible Coupes manufactured (24 of them were shipped to Antwerp) – 64k miles – Powered by its original V8 engine with Edmonds high-compression aluminum heads and column three-speed manual transmission – Body by Fisher painted black with buttery-soft, custom tan leather interior – Optional fog lights – Meticulously loved and well maintained – Original documents – Formerly owned by the late Potomac Region member Rear Admiral David Frost – Featured in Vern Parker’s Out of the Past column in The Washington Times – True Driving Miss Daisy luxurious car that turns heads everywhere it goes – [See pictures](#) – **\$65,000** – For more info, contact Les at 703-609-9058 or [13rmcrelic@comcast.net](mailto:13rmcrelic@comcast.net) – Car is located in Gainesville, VA



**1948 Fleetwood 60 Special** – 36k original miles according to the information obtained by the previous owner – Cosmetic restoration completed a number of years when car was bead blasted to bare metal and painted in its original Amherst Blue – Chrome was all removed and redone plus new weather stripping added – Seats were redone using original pattern wool Bedford cloth and broadcloth – New carpet installed in front – Headliner, door panels and rear carpet are original – Original pattern material was used in the trunk – Engine compartment has not been painted/detailed – Car is completely rust-free – Recent additions include tires, radiator, gas filter, hand brake, starter, one window cylinder and transmission work – Drive and enjoy as is or take it to the next level – [See pictures](#) – **Asking \$20,000** – For more info, contact Rick Mahan at 202-368-0452 or [remahan05@comcast.net](mailto:remahan05@comcast.net) – Car is located in Lanham, MD



**1952 Fleetwood Series 60 Special** – 75,800 miles – Second owner for the last 41 years – Mechanical records and full shop manual included – Car runs well, but needs full cosmetic restoration – Hagerty condition “Fair” state – Price range \$5-7K – [See pictures](#) – **Asking \$5,500** – For more info, contact Adam Garlick at 301-704-2462 or [adam.g1951@gmail.com](mailto:adam.g1951@gmail.com) – Car is located in Potomac, MD

**SOLD**



**1956 Sedan DeVille** – 58,389 miles – Stunning paint with mint interior and nice dash – Needs valve gaskets and carb work, but otherwise excellent driver – Some chrome work done and fresh rear bumper – Whitewall radial tires – Perfect glass – Complete – [See pictures](#) – **\$18,000 invested, asking \$15,000** – For more info, contact Howard Johnson at 301-627-2114 or [oldtimeworld@aol.com](mailto:oldtimeworld@aol.com) – Car is located in Upper Marlboro, MD

Other cars for sale including **seven Buicks** from 1931-1955, **three Packards** from 1951-1955 and many more – Visit [Old Time World website](http://OldTimeWorld.com)



**1968 Sedan deVille Pillared** – 41k miles – Sudan Beige (code 40) with medium covert cloth and leather interior – Ran and drove when purchased from son of original owner, but had been sitting in garage for more than 20 years following original owner’s sudden death – Current owner drove the car for a couple months until the trans started slipping, probably due to disuse – Since the car was straight and un-molested, it was decided to do a full resto-mod – Car was completely disassembled, and firewall started to be smoothed as Vintage Air A/C was planned – Everything is included – Rolls fine, doors were re-hung, and boxes of parts stored inside, while more delicate trim pieces are stored in trunk – Car will never be finished by current owner, who can’t bear to watch it just sit – Buyer could build, part out or whatever they choose – Lots of hard-to-find parts as the ‘68 has some odd pieces not found elsewhere – [See pictures and details of work completed](#) – **Asking \$1,500** – For more info, contact Joe at [sinfulsaint99@yahoo.com](mailto:sinfulsaint99@yahoo.com) – Car is located in Nokesville, VA



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle June 2021



**1970 Sedan Deville** - 41k original miles - Purchased in 2012 by the current owner from the original owner's grandson in Baltimore as a father/son project - Reliable Cadillac that runs and drives as new on four Diamondback tires with the correct white wall pattern (spare too) installed in 2020 - [See pictures and email work completed](#) - **Asking \$19,000** - For more info, contact Scot Minesinger at 703-722-2021 or [rscotm@cox.net](mailto:rscotm@cox.net) - Car is located in Fairfax Station, VA

**SOLD**



**1994 Fleetwood Brougham** - One owner, 51,300 original miles - Like all '94 Fleetwoods, equipped with the 350 C.I. (5.7L) LT1 Corvette engine and smooth four-speed 4160E automatic transmission - One of the classic Cadillac cruisers - Built for comfort and luxury with soft leather seats, padded vinyl roof, dual power seats and automatic climate control - Car has all its original equipment and sports the very popular Teal exterior - Purchased new from Rooster Bush Cadillac in Lenoir, NC and always garaged and maintained by its original owner - Runs well and has won local car shows for best interior - Eligible for AACA and CLC awards, including historical preservation - [See pictures](#) - **\$11,800 Firm** - For more info, contact Jack or Dale Williams at 828-396-7931, 828-896-6375 or [williamshosiery@aol.com](mailto:williamshosiery@aol.com) - Car is located in Granite Falls, NC



**1996 Sedan Deville** - Fine driver with approximately 76,000 miles - Good tires, brakes and recent transmission service - Not garaged in past several years - Usual very minor body dings and a scratch or two - ABS brake and traction/ride control systems need service but neither affects normal driving - As usual, there's a very minor gasket drip from a Northstar engine from this period - [See pictures](#) - **Asking \$2,500** - For more info, contact Adam Garfinkle at 301-704-2462 or [adam.g1951@gmail.com](mailto:adam.g1951@gmail.com) - Car is located in Wheaton, MD

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