



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

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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

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FRANKLIN GAGE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
WEBSITE MANAGER  
VINCE TALIANO

NATIONAL DIRECTOR  
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JACK MCCLOW

### OTHER KEY POSITIONS:

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NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
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NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
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VALLEY FORGE REGION LIAISON  
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NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
TOM MCQUEEN

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA REGION  
LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
RICHARD SILLS

Final plans are in place for our first dealer show at Sport Cadillac in Silver, Spring, MD. Please join us on Sunday, November 7. If you have anything you'd like to donate for our Automobilia Auction, it would be greatly appreciated. Contact me in advance or bring your item(s) to the dealership on the day of the show. Currently the weather forecast is showing partly cloudy with a high of 54 degrees. It will be chilly, so dress warmly. Also, November 7 is when we return to Eastern Standard Time (at 2:00 AM), so set your clocks back one hour at bedtime the night before.

I've been in talks with Richard Sills and Michael Stinson about the 2022 Inter-Regional Meet at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA. Stay tuned for more information.

JoJo & I attended the Valley Forge Region's Annual Banquet recently. They've been great supporters of our Region for many years, and it was great to participate in one of their events.

The Region is looking forward to the Annual Washington Auto Show in January 2022 that will feature a few of our members' vehicles on display. Volunteers will be needed, so stay tuned for details.

Also, plans are underway for our next region-sponsored event, the Annual Holiday Party at the Springfield (VA) Country Club. Stay tuned for details of that event as well.

Special thanks to Joe Palmore and Christopher Winter for organizing our recent Cars-n-Coffee at Bretton Woods. What a great location and turnout!

Hope to see everyone at Sport Cadillac.

*Dan Ruby*



L to R: Dan Ruby, Vince Taliano and Marc Tuwiner at Bretton Woods  
Photo by Sandy Kemper



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



## **IN MEMORIAM: MARTHAJANE KENNEDY BY THE COASTAL STAR AND VINCE TALIANO**



CLC Potomac Region charter member Marthajane Kennedy died on September 9, 2020, at her home in Gulf Stream, FL at the age of 98. She was born on December 17, 1921, in Washington, D.C., to John Thomas & Clephane Arnot Kennedy and lived at 3820 Reno Rd., N.W. (phone: WO6-1713). Ms. Kennedy fondly remembered childhood trips abroad with her parents by ocean liner and continued her travels well into her later years. After attending the Maret School, Marthajane graduated from Goucher College and Washington College of Music, magna cum laude.

According to [The George Washington University Library](#) archives, her father, John Thomas Kennedy, founded the Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, D.C. in 1925, the first American school dedicated solely to the instruction of accounting, and served as its president. The university was organized and incorporated to succeed Pace Institute, as a continuation of the Pace courses to provide the part-time student with a professional education in Accountancy, Financial Administration and General Business. Mr. Kennedy, a fourth-generation Philadelphian and lawyer who headed the first training programs for the Internal Revenue Service, was a staunch admirer of the principles of thrift and self-reliance advocated by Benjamin Franklin and thus named the University after the fellow-Philadelphian. He served as president until he died in 1958. His widow, Clephane, who lived in Bethesda, MD, took over the post until she retired at the age of 84 in 1981. She was succeeded by her daughter, Marthajane, who served as president from 1981 to 1986.



**L to R Standing - Marthajane Kennedy, Fred Westenberger, Earl Broyles, Juan Aranda, C. P. Johnson, Robert F. Schilling and Ralph Pekins**

**L to R Kneeling - Zane Griner, Elwood Brown, Steven Sisson and Richard Sisson**

In January 1969, Marthajane attended the Region's first meeting held at Ron & Sherie VanGelderens house (pictured left). She was listed in the early Region membership roster as an owner of a 1941 Series 60 Special. In a 1970 edition of *Potomac Region News*, the first publication of the club, Editor Steven Sisson reported that "Martha Jane Kennedy seemed pleased to learn that the hard steering problem in her purchased new '41 Cad. 60 Special could probably be solved by a drag link adjustment." In September 1972, Steven announced the following: "Hear that Martha Jane Kennedy is getting her '41 60S back on the road. Glad to hear that, as I have missed seeing it." By 1977, it appears that her membership had ended as her name didn't appear on the Potomac Region roster any longer.

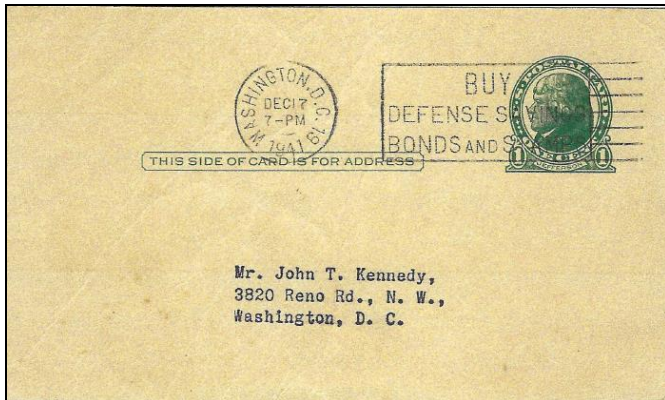
Marthajane was a lifelong patron of the arts and loved dogs. As a child, she had a bulldog named Happy, a name that aptly described Ms. Kennedy herself, even throughout her last days. She never married or had any children but enjoyed many friends throughout her life.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## MARTHAJANE KENNEDY – ANOTHER CHAPTER BY CHUCK PIEL



**NOTICE TO OUR OWNERS**

We wish to bring to your attention our *New Shop Hours* — effective immediately:

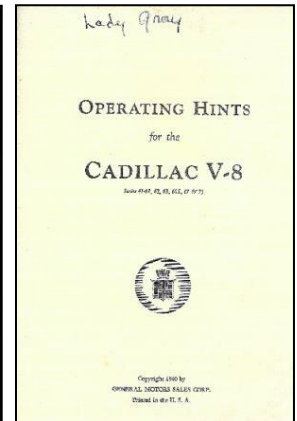
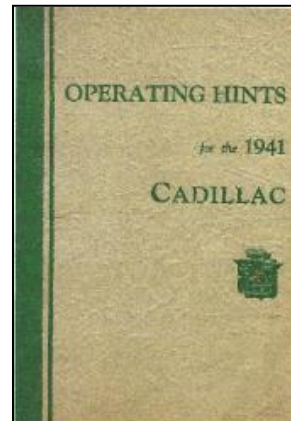
**Week days 8:00 A.M. to 8:30 P.M.**  
**Except Saturday 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. -- Sunday — Closed**

Have you taken advantage of our winter special? Prepare your car for winter driving now and be sure your car is protected by anti-freeze and the proper winter lubricants are installed!

Blue Coral treatment protects the finish of your car from winter weather. It would pay you to ask our Service Man about Blue Coral.

**CAPITOL CADILLAC COMPANY**  
1222 22nd STREET, N. W.  
*NAional 3300*

I recently bought a very nice original "Operating Hints" (owner's manual) booklet for my 1941 Cadillac on eBay (pictured right). When I received it, I found a post card stuck in the front of it, postmarked December 17, 1941, from the Capitol Cadillac Company addressed to Mr. John T. Kennedy, 3820 Reno Rd., N.W., Washington, D.C., advising that Capitol's service hours would be changing (pictured above). Since this card was mailed 10 days after the Pearl Harbor attack, we don't know if this was normal winter practice, or something brought on by the beginning of the War. I looked up Mr. Kennedy's address and it is a very nice brick colonial home with a carriage house on the outskirts of Rock Creek Park.



The card also promotes the "Winter [service] Special," as well as the importance of Blue Coral treatment for winter protection – a very interesting piece. I also noticed that on the inside page of the booklet, the words "Lady Gray" were hand-written in ink.

While sharing this "find" with Daniel Jobe, last principle at Capitol Cadillac, as well as a few others, Vince Taliano wondered if Mr. John T. Kennedy was related to our Potomac Region charter member, Marthajane Kennedy. Vince did a Google search and sadly discovered that Marthajane has passed away in 2020. Her obituary stated that her father was John Thomas Kennedy. Searching through the club archives provided by Bryce Frey, he confirmed that Marthajane's address matched that of Mr. Kennedy's listed on the postcard. WHAT A SMALL WORLD! Also, the postcard above was postmarked on her 20th birthday!

The 1941 Cadillac in which this Operating Hints booklet was first found may very well have been the "purchased new car" owned by Marthajane when she joined the Potomac Region in 1969 (see In Memoriam on the previous page). The car she owned during her tenure in the Potomac Region was a 1941 Series 60 Special, which was perhaps nicknamed "Lady Gray." It would be interesting to find out what ever happened to "Lady Gray," a charter vehicle in our club.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## OCTOBER 18, 2021, MEETING MINUTES BY DIANNA MOY

**PLACE:** IHOP Restaurant, Rockville, MD and Zoom online

**TIME:** Open discussion started at 7:15 PM, meeting started at 7:33 PM and concluded at approximately 9:35 PM

**PRESIDING:** Dan Ruby, Regional Director

**ATTENDEES:** 13 attendees (which included **six officers**): **Dan Ruby, Dianna Moy, Chuck Piel, Franklin Gage, Christopher Winter, Vince Taliano**, Jeff Gurski, Rick Menz, Larry Good, Sandy Kemper, Dale Graves and Randy & Susan Denchfield

**DIRECTOR'S REMARKS:** Dan Ruby thanked everyone for attending. Please keep long-time members Lou Harrington and Cathy Schairer in your prayers and thoughts. Lou's son, Linton (pictured right), recently passed away at the age of 49.



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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The financials reported since the last meeting were Total Revenue: \$228.36, Total Expense: \$487.13 and Net Loss: **\$(258.77)**.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Franklin Gage informed everyone that the 2022 Membership Drive has officially begun. Specifically, 111 envelopes containing pre-printed renewal forms were U.S. mailed recently to members who didn't pre-pay for 2022. Those members are asked to submit their dues by December 15, 2021, to ensure they continue to receive the **Caddie Chronicle** without interruption.

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

- **Past Events:**
  - **CLC Gran National Virtual Car Show, Sep 1-15.** Congrats to Larry Good whose 1947 Series 61 Sedan (pictured right) won first place in the 1940-49 class. The prize was a \$50 gift certificate to [GM Club Apparel](#).
  - **AACA Eastern Fall Meet, Giant Center, Hershey, PA, Wed-Sat, Oct 6-9.** Many members attended over the course of the event. Read about the car show winners in the November newsletter issue.



Visit us on the web!

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



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



## • **Upcoming PR Events:**

- **Annual Car Show & Automobilia Auction, Sport Cadillac, Silver Spring, MD, Sun, Nov 7.** Chuck Piel and Dan reported that everything is still a “go” for the show. We will NOT be able to use the showroom due to COVID restrictions in Montgomery County. Therefore, a portable bathroom will be on-site for the show, as was the case for the recently held Corvette Club show. We will be using the same food vendor they used for lunch, with the club providing donuts and coffee in the morning. Automobilia auction items are still needed as well as day-of-show volunteers.

## • **Upcoming Non-PR Events:**

- **CLC Reunion 2021: Back Together Again, Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee, FL, Wed-Sun, Nov 10-14.** Visit [website](#) for details.
- **CLC Valley Forge Region 2021 Holiday Brunch, Desmond Hotel, Malvern, PA, Sun, Dec 12, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.** See [flyer](#) for more info.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Christopher Winter and GoldLeaf Groups are discussing the possibility of holding an event at their Silo Falls venue in Brookeville, MD, perhaps the Saturday before Thanksgiving.
- Chuck, Franklin and Christopher will be planning the club’s participation in the Washington Auto Show scheduled for January 21-30, 2022, at the D.C. Convention Center. This year’s space will be on the first floor as close to the Cadillac space as possible and will likely be bigger than the space used at the top of the escalator during the three previous shows
- Scot Minesinger and Christopher will work on selecting a date for the Annual Holiday Party at the Springfield Country Club that doesn’t conflict with the Auto Show weekends in January. Details including a date are being finalized.

**NEXT MEETING:** Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 15 at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA, but stay tuned for a possible change in date and venue (see NEW BUSINESS above). An email confirming the meeting will be sent prior to the meeting date.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:35 PM.

<b>Holiday Gifts</b>	
	<p><b>CLC POTOMAC REGION CLUB STORE</b></p> <p><i>Show Your Club Pride!</i></p> <p>Order gear at <a href="#">Visit Website</a></p> <p><b>Members receive a discount.</b></p>



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



## **29th Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction Sunday, November 7, 2021**

### **Car Registration:**

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Please read the [Car Show Rules](#) on the following page

### **Car Show Hours:**

**9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

**Awards presented at 3:00 pm**

### **Sport Cadillac**

**3101 Automobile Blvd.**

**Silver Spring, MD**

**301-800-7827**



### **LOCAL DIRECTIONS:**

#### **From Northern Virginia (I-495/I-270)**

- Take I-495 N / Capital Beltway N
- Keep left to get onto I-270 N / Dwight D Eisenhower Hwy N
- At Exit 9A-B, head right on the ramp for I-370 toward Metro Sta
- Keep straight to get onto MD-200 E / Intercounty Connector E
- At Exit 17, head right on the ramp toward Briggs Chaney Road
- Turn right onto Briggs Chaney Rd, then immediately turn right onto Automobile Blvd



#### **From Baltimore (I-95)**

- Take I-95 S
- At Exit 31B, head on the ramp right and follow signs for MD-200 W
- At Exit 17, take ramp right and follow signs for Briggs Chaney Road
- Bear right onto Briggs Chaney Rd
- Turn left onto Automobile Blvd

#### **From Greenbelt (I-495/I-95)**

- Take I-495 N / I-95 N
- Keep right to stay on I-95 N
- At Exit 31-32-33, head right on the ramp for MD-200 W / Intercounty Connector W toward Konterra Dr
- At Exit 17, head on the ramp right and follow signs for Briggs Chaney Rd
- Bear right onto Briggs Chaney Rd
- Turn left onto Automobile Blvd

**Visit us on the web!**  
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# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## 29th Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction Sunday, November 7, 2021

### Car Show Rules

- **Rain Date:** There is no rain date for this show. If inclement weather causes a cancellation, an email will be sent to all pre-registered attendees (email address required on registration form) and region members. In addition, an announcement will be posted on the club's website. Rules of participation will be subject to any COVID-related restrictions by the county or dealership, if any, in effect on show date.
- **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 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. 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 and 2nd awards will be given to winning vehicles in each class depending upon the number of vehicles registered in each class.
- **Food and Drink:** A food vendor will be on-site. All participants and guests are responsible for their own food and beverages.
- **Chairs:** All participants and guests are responsible for bringing their own chairs.

### Car Show Registration Form

<p><b>Judging Classes</b></p> <p>Class A: 1903-1942 Cadillac/LaSalle          Class B: 1946-1964 Cadillac          Class C: 1965-1976 Cadillac          Class D: 1977-1985 Cadillac          Class E: 1985-1999 Cadillac          Class F: 2000-Present Cadillac          Class G: Display Only</p>	<p><b>Other Awards</b></p> <p><b>Best Postwar (1946-Present)</b>  <b>Best of Show</b>  <b>Long Distance (Driven Cars Only)</b>  <b>Ladies' Choice</b>  <b>Henry Ruby Memorial</b>  <b>Dealer's Choice</b></p> <p>A vehicle receiving "Best Postwar (1946-Present)", or "Best of Show" will not be eligible to receive an award in its respective judging class.</p>
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### Registration Form

Make checks payable to **CLC Potomac Region** and U.S. mail with completed registration form to:  
 Bill Hilliard, Treasurer  
 12602 Eldrid Ct.  
 Silver Spring, MD 20904-3505

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vehicle Registration Fee: (up until October 31: \$20/per car, after November 1 including day of show: \$25/per car)**

Circle Make: CAD LAS	Model: _____	Year: _____	Class: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	Check box if you want your vehicle to be Display Only
Circle Make: CAD LAS	Model: _____	Year: _____	Class: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Circle Make: CAD LAS	Model: _____	Year: _____	Class: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**NOTE: By attending this car show, you and your guests voluntarily assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree to hold neither Sport Cadillac nor the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region liable for any illness.**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**  
**Chuck Piel, Assistant Regional Director**  
 240-888-5115  
[chuckpiel@clcpotomacregion.org](mailto:chuckpiel@clcpotomacregion.org)  
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# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## HELP DOC & CHOU CHOU SCANTLIN RISE FROM THE ASHES BY BETH KLINGBIEL AND MAD DOG

In the middle of the night on September 6, 2021, CLC members Doc & Chou Chou Scantlin, leaders of the beloved [Imperial Palms Orchestra](#), awoke in their Calvert County, MD to a room filling with smoke. They managed to get out of the house unharmed, but their house, clothes, personal belongings, and cars were a total loss. Also lost were band equipment, costumes, instruments, sheet music, even Doc's luthier tools. This happened a mere week before Chou Chou was going to give her first public performance since the pandemic closed everything down.

Though they're insured, the process of settling, demolishing, planning, and rebuilding the house and their lives will take time. Not to mention insurance won't cover replacing everything. Join us in helping them get through this difficult time by donating to a [GO FUND ME](#) page that was created. It will ensure that the exciting big band sound and show of the [Imperial Palms Orchestra](#), one of the last big bands performing today, can return, thrive, and bring joy again.



L to R: Chou Chou & Doc Scantlin with Sue Kilroy and Bob Norrid  
2016 Capitol Cadillac Fall Car Show

*Doc & Chou Chou Scantlin and their [Imperial Palms Orchestra](#) is an authentic big band orchestra that recreates the glamour and excitement of the golden age of the American night club experience, circa 1920s-40s, bringing it to life through every detail, from the original musical arrangements, costumed singers and dancers, vintage microphones, and the consummate showman, Doc Scantlin. Forbes magazine calls it "The Best Band in America." From royalty to rock and rollers, the band has internationally wowed them all!*





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



**GENE THE PUMPKIN MAN  
BY WILL HAENNI  
WWMT-TV, NEWS CHANNEL 3, KALAMAZOO, MI  
OCTOBER 1, 2021**

KALAMAZOO, Mich. — It just wouldn't be fall without Kalamazoo's favorite orange-clad farmer. Gene Rhodes, known as Gene the Pumpkin Man, was busy directing his staff on Friday ahead of what will surely be a busy weekend. Over 20 crates of pumpkins were delivered and laid out throughout the day.

Rhodes represents the third generation to farm his property along Michigan Route 43 west of Kalamazoo. A marker designating the Michigan Centennial farm is proudly displayed. After selling sweet corn with his father, Rhodes first had the idea to sell pumpkins in 1957. After several years, people began referring to him as the pumpkin man.

Now, 64 years later, Gene wears only orange clothing, drives an orange Cadillac DTS around town and can't go anywhere in the Kalamazoo area without getting recognized. He laughed as he explained what it's like going to the grocery store.

"Hey Pumpkin Man! How are you?' And they're all over the place and I don't have the faintest idea who they are," Rhodes said laughing. "That's exactly what I hear."

Rhodes doesn't grow as many of his own pumpkin and squash as he used to. This year he planted seven acres of specialty pumpkins but said a nasty year of weeds and unfavorable weather severely hurt his crop.



**Gene Rhodes, known as Gene the Pumpkin Man, has been farming for over 70 years on his family farm west of Kalamazoo**



**Gene drives around West Michigan in his iconic orange Cadillac DTS**



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



May other items are sold in addition to pumpkins



Gene's iconic barn can be seen while driving along M-43 west of Kalamazoo

"I should have had 15 ton, I doubt if I'll get one," Rhodes said. "I've got two or three friends far enough away where the weather was different. So, we work it that way."

In a typical season, Rhodes said he sells about 25 tons of squash and more than 200 tons of pumpkins. A little over 100 tons of pumpkins have already been delivered to his farm with more scheduled to arrive each day this week.

His attributes his years of success as a farmer to the golden rule - treating others like you'd want to be treated. When asked what legacy he'd like to one day leave behind, Rhodes shared a Sam Foss poem as his voice cracked.

"Let me live with my house by the side of the road, and be a friend to man," Rhodes said. It was only seconds later that Gene was laughing and cracking jokes. His booming laugh echoing across the rows of pumpkins.

"If there isn't any laughter in heaven, I'm not terribly sure I want to go. And if there aren't any pumpkins, I'm not terribly sure I want to go," Rhodes said.

Gene the Pumpkin Man is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Gene only takes cash or check for all sales, and pets are not allowed on the farm.

[View the story and interview](#) on the News Channel 3 website.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## THE PEOPLE YOU MEET AT HERSHEY BY VINCE TALIANO

Thanks to Jack McClow donating some of his vendor spaces at Fall Hershey, Dan Ruby and I attended on Wednesday, October 6. Over the course of the day, many Cadillac enthusiasts stopped by including two that I would like to acknowledge. The first was a gentleman wearing a [Fred Caldwell Chevrolet](#) hat. Recognizing the name of the dealership in Clovis, SC from the **Carolina Chronicles August 2021** newsletter describing a recent local car show, I asked the man his name. He replied, "I'm Fred Caldwell." After thanking him for hosting an event at his dealership, he informed me that he is the current owner of a beautiful 1965 Eldorado convertible (pictured below from the CLC Carolina Region's August newsletter) and the previous owner of Carolina Region Director Travis Dowell's 1968 Series 75 Sedan. It was great to meet you, Fred.



The next person I would like to mention is a CLC member from Fort Wayne, IN named Tom Hoczky. Although he attended the 2017 Grand National in McLean, VA with his 1962 Miller Meteor Combination (Tom is pictured below center with Josh Noiles and Emma Paul from Canada – photo by David Smith), we didn't have an opportunity to meet. At Hershey, we shared stories about our mutual friend, the late Mike Barruzza. Other cars in his collection include a beautiful and rare 1939 LaSalle Carved Panel Hearse, one of two that exist (photo below right from [Rolling into Roanoke](#)). It was great to meet you too, Tom.





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



**1934 CADILLAC IN NEWPORT'S 2021 CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE  
BY RORY SCHULER  
WARWICK BEACON  
SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**



**THE MAN AND HIS MACHINE: John Ricci poses for a photo with his fully restored 1934 Cadillac.**

John Ricci unveiled his 1934 Cadillac slowly. He peeled off sheets and blankets like small strips of wrapping paper. The bright red hood and its chrome accents flashed in the afternoon sun streaming through the garage door windows.

"I like cars," he said, pulling off the final bedspread. "Right now, this car's a showstopper."

Two years ago, Ricci traveled to Newport, RI to witness an arrangement of the world's best automobiles assembled for the Concours d'Elegance. This year, his Caddy will be part of the show in Newport.

"I can't imagine myself in it, with the car I drive," Ricci said as he pulled a pair of photo albums – photographic restoration journals – from the passenger side seat. "To me ... it's above me. I've owned this car for 55 years. But it sat in the corner as a shelf for 40 years."

Ricci is a self-confessed "car guy."

"I loved watching the cars come over the bridge and line up at Fort Adams," he recalled from his time as a spectator at Newport's last Concours d'Elegance. "There was so much to see."



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

## **Potomac Region**

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Since his teens, he's been finding old cars and restoring and customizing the rusted-out machines; turning scrap metal into art. A toolmaker by trade, and frugal by nature, Ricci has combed the East Coast looking for parts. And when a part was unreachable, he made it himself.



**BARN FIND: John Ricci's 1934 Cadillac was discovered in a barn and had been modified by its previous owner. The car had several paintjobs layered over the original coat, and a spare tacked onto the rear.**

"My 1934 Cadillac was purchased in 1966, at age 28 ... and amidst restoring a 1930 Willys," Ricci and his daughter Jennifer wrote in their application to the organizers of the Concours d'Elegance. "This very dilapidated convertible coupe was found in an opened garage about a quarter of a mile from my house by a friend who traveled by horse and buggy."

It's been 51 years since Ricci asked "Mac," a character in the neighborhood, whose buggy lantern could be seen swinging back and forth as he roamed Johnston's roads at night, to watch out for interesting old cars. Mac scored for Ricci, discovering the '34 Caddy in a garage on Waveland Street in Johnston, RI. The future "showstopper" was just a dusty and dinged-up green monster, with dark blue and maroon undercoats, creased bumpers and a decimated interior.



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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"I never saw one before," he said, thinking back to 1966. "I knocked on the door and asked, 'What is it?' I asked the owner if I could go look." He pointed out the details that distinguish the 1934 Cadillac from the far more common 1935 model.

"I saw the bi-plane bumpers and the way the fenders are cut away; a little like an Auburn but with that bubble in front. I was overwhelmed," Ricci recalled. "The rest was good. It wasn't all rotted. I just had to make it up and make it work."

The previous owner stored the Cadillac in an unfinished dirt-floor garage with no door. "Not aware of what it was, its intriguing body and unusual fenders sparked my interest," Ricci wrote. "I approached the owner to see if he would sell it, providing I could get it to start."

He left and returned with a can of gas and an electric pump. He took all the spark plugs out and squirted oil in every cylinder. "But it just went 'Eh!'" Ricci said.

The car's original home was atop a hill. "With no shift or operating brakes, I was able to jump start it going downhill, then proceeded to drag it home," Ricci wrote in his Concours d'Elegance application.

"That year, I built a large enough garage to occupy it, while completing my Willys restoration," Ricci wrote. "It remained there under clutter for over 40 years before starting the restoration in 2007 and completing it in 2017."

He approached the car's front-end carefully, bending forward at the waist. His eyes met the chrome "Goddess" hood ornament. "First I saw her in Hershey, but the guy wanted \$400," he recalled. "The next year, I went to Carlisle, and saw the same guy. Now he wanted \$500 for the hood ornament. Then I found out I could buy a reproduction, but it would cost me \$400, and it would be smaller; it wouldn't be the same. So, I bought the original."

Under the "Goddess" shines the brass wings of the Cadillac emblem. Ricci considered gold-plating the wings until he discovered they were factory brass. When brass is original, it's better than gold.

Ricci used old Cadillac brochures as restoration reference guides. "The 1935 is almost identical to the 1934," Ricci said. "The only thing different that's noticeable are the bi-plane bumpers, with bullets in the middle and a bar on the top and the bottom. The bullets are spring loaded, so if you hit somebody, it's not supposed to spoil the bumper."



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



**PAST & PRESENT: John Ricci's daughter Jennifer stands with his beloved 1934 Cadillac as a child during the 1970s (left) and as an adult, after it was restored in 2017 (right).**

His daughter Jennifer added to the conversation. "It has more sex appeal than the '35," she said. "Whatever he couldn't find, he built."

Eventually Ricci bought a junker '35 for donor parts. He cannibalized it, painstakingly crafted replacement parts by hand, and combed flea markets and car shows for the rest. Half of the stripped '35 sits in the yard behind his Tara Street home. Ricci's wife Donna and children – John Michael, Jennifer and Jaclyn – gave money every holiday, deposits toward the Cadillac fund, in an effort to motivate their dad to restore his ornate garage shelf into a show-worthy ride.

In 2014, his daughter Jaclyn (Ricci) Snow, a retired star with the Festival Ballet Providence, passed away after a long illness. As a tribute to her sister, Jennifer gave her father an ornament of Jaclyn with angel wings. John Ricci proudly placed the memorial to his late daughter on the passenger's side dashboard, the same place of honor where many classic car owners prominently display car show badges.

Eventually, after four decades as a shelf, and another decade of restoration, the cherry red Cadillac, with its slightly darker red fenders, was ready to road test and show off a little. Ricci opened the Cadillac's suicide doors. He adjusted the spotlight and his reflection smiled back from the glowing chrome.

On Saturday, October 2, John Ricci's 1934 Cadillac will be on display with some of the world's most amazing automobiles. Car show judge Jay Leno will assess his work. Trophy or no trophy, Ricci is honored to compete.

"I can only enter it one time," he said. "That's enough."



**BULLETS AND BI-PLANES: The distinctive bi-plane bumpers make the 1934 Cadillac stand out in a crowd. Two spring-loaded bullets join strips of metal in both the front and back of this classic coupe.**



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## **WINNING AT HERSHEY BY MICHAEL KERWIN**

At Fall Hershey 2019, I spotted a '76 Sedan DeVille in the car corral. It was the car I had been searching for because my mom had a brand new one in 1976 (she would buy Cadillacs every two years when I was growing up). When I saw it, it had a wow factor! Many Potomac Region members happened to be there, so I asked if they could inspect the car. Randy Edison, Bill Harrison and several other members went over the car with a fine-tooth comb. The conclusion was "Buy it Now," so I did.



After last year's postponement, this year's Fall Hershey car show was on. Bill Harrison said I would win in the Historical Preservation of Original Features (HPOF) class. Although I was hesitant, I took his advice and registered. Rain was predicted, so I kept wanting to cancel, but again Bill said I would win.

We drove the car to Hershey in two hours of heavy nerve-wracking traffic with some small rain showers. On Saturday morning, we drove it the show field and parked. Almost immediately the judges arrived. I had no idea what I was doing or what to expect. They told me what they wanted me to do; they judged the car and then they left. We drove home that afternoon with no idea if I had won. I called the AACA office and then went to their website to check the results. I was ecstatic to see my name listed as an award winner! What an honor it was to see my '76 and my name listed as an award winner!

Congrats to the other Potomac Region members listed below who also won.

### **Class HPOF – Historic Preservation**

1966 Cadillac DeVille -- Donald J. Miller, Malvern, PA  
1978 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme -- Robert R. Mantz, Reva, VA

### **Class DPC – Driver Participation**

1967 Cadillac DeVille -- Charles R. Piel, Ellicott City, MD  
1969 Chevrolet Impala -- Franklin L. Gage, Greenbelt, MD

### **Class 19E – First Junior**

1941 Cadillac Series 63 -- James K. Govoni, Bowie, MD  
1941 Cadillac 6267D -- Charles R. Piel, Ellicott City, MD

### **Class 22C – Repeat Preservation**

1958 Willys C150 -- Earl Zastrow, Middletown, MD

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**CARS-N-COFFEE II  
BY CHRISTOPHER WINTER  
PHOTOS BY SANDY KEMPER**



Despite a change of date, from Saturday, October 16 to Sunday, October 17, due to the weather forecast, the second Potomac Region Cars-n-Coffee of the year was attended by members from as far away as Hagerstown, MD! Moving the date to Sunday proved to be a good call weather-wise, as Sunday dawned clear and bright, with just the right amount of Autumnal crispness to make driving your vintage Cadillac worthwhile.

Thanks to Joe Palmore, the Region secured the use of the Pool Area parking lot at the Bretton Woods Recreation Center, at the end of River Rd., in Montgomery County, MD. There was an ample parking lot set amongst trees amid the rolling terrain of Bretton Woods.



A variety of cars were present – the oldest being a '41 Series 62 convertible owned by "friend of the region" Steve Newbie. The Forties were also represented by Larry & Maia Good's '47 Series 61 Sedan. The Fifties were showcased by Constantin Jiga's '59 Coupe Deville and the Sixties featured Vince Taliano's '65 Deville Convertible and Scott Patton's '69 Oldsmobile (we still let him have a donut).

**L to R: Larry Good, Marc Tuwiner, Maia Good, Sylvia Tuwiner, Joe Palmore and Bernie Donida**



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A '76 Eldorado Convertible, owned by "friend" Rick Hunt, stood in for the Seventies, while the decades were rounded out by Dan Mullane's '83 Fleetwood Coupe, Oscar Jobe's '90 Brougham and Joe Palmore's '08 XLR, as well as "friend" Chuck McDonald's late model DTS and his friend Lee's (apologies for not getting his last name) late model Deville.

Other club members and "friends" brought their daily drivers including Dan Ruby, Sandy Kemper, Christopher Winter, Marc & Sylvia Tuwiner and Bernardo Donida. A special "shout out" to Potomac Region member Michael Christie who came all the way from Hagerstown, MD just to say hello to his Potomac Region colleagues (we let him have two donuts).



**L to R: Michael Christie and Vince Taliano meet in person for the first time!**

Stay tuned, as we are working on one more Cars-n-Coffee this year, weather permitting. That is tentatively scheduled for the Saturday before Thanksgiving (November 20) at a restaurant location in Montgomery County. I guess we will have to call it Cars-n-Lunch, Cars-n-Food or maybe just stick with Cars-n-Coffee, but probably we will have a later start time. Please call me at 410-869-8619 if you have any questions or thoughts.

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Greetings,

If you are not aware, Capitol Cadillac has been purchased by Sport Automotive. [Sport Cadillac](#) is now your manufacturers designated dealership for Cadillac Sales and Certified Service. Much like Capitol Cadillac, Sport Automotive has been a family owned and operated dealership, recently celebrating fifty years in business. Our award-winning sales and service team is dedicated to "Above And Beyond" customer service much like you have received for so many years with Capitol Cadillac.



As we look forward to meeting you in person, as we do with all of our "Fans", we wanted to reach out with updated information as quickly as possible regarding your new sales and service location. Below you will find contact information for Cadillac Sales and Certified Service. Please look for more thorough communications in the near future.

Regards,  
Gibbs Fogarty  
Owner / General Manager  
Phone: 240-560-5383  
Email: [gforarty@sportautomotive.com](mailto:gforarty@sportautomotive.com)

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# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle November 2021



## CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

### Cars For Sale



**1939 Series 60 Four-Door Sedan, asking \$28k; 1939 Series 75 Four-Door Sedan, asking \$43k; 1940 Series 72 Four-Door Sedan, asking \$42k and 1940 Series 62 Convertible Sedan, asking \$45k** – All are in excellent condition – Listing price for each totals **\$158k**, but would prefer to sell them as a **"package" for \$149k** – [See pictures](#) – For more info, contact Steve Maloney at 609-707-7258 or [stephenmaloney@verizon.net](mailto:stephenmaloney@verizon.net) – Cars are located in Haddon Heights, NJ



**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](#) – **Reduced to \$45,000** – For more info, contact Les at 703-609-9058 or [13rmcrelic@comcast.net](mailto:13rmcrelic@comcast.net) – Car is located in Gainesville, VA



**NEW ARRIVAL 1953 Coupe Deville Parts Car** – Good parts still available like some of its glass, chassis, and rear axle with the 3.07 differential – **Best offer** – For more info, contact Larry Good at [lgood@goodllc.com](mailto:lgood@goodllc.com) or 301-538-1544 – Car is located in Swartwood, NJ



**1993 Sedan Deville Spring Edition** – From the estate of long-time CLC member Mary Moscati – Car was gifted to Mary's late significant other, Buddy Abell, by Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD when he retired in 1993 as Shop Foreman after approximately 50 years of employment – CLC Senior Badge #975 awarded at 2017 Grand National in McLean, VA – 27,999 miles – Excellent overall pampered condition – Original documentation available including window sticker – [See pictures](#) – **\$16,000** – For more info, contact Michael Moscati at 301-606-1422 or Janet Moscati at 410-570-6838 or [janetmoscati@outlook.com](mailto:janetmoscati@outlook.com) – Car is located in Pasadena, MD



**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 parts – Very popular Teal exterior – Purchased new from Rooster Bush Cadillac in Haddon Heights and always garaged and maintained by its original owner – Runs well and the original 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](#) – **Reduced to \$1,800** – 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

### Literature For Sale

**Two Major Collections Donated to AACA Library** – Cadillac Literature 1916, '33, '35-'49 through 2015; LaSalle literature 1937, '39, '40 – LaSalle Operating Manual 1932 and 40 – Postcards 1972-82, '84-'90 – Cadillac-LaSalle Crestline Hardcover Book, scarce – Quantities limited – Condition Used to Mint – For more info and detailed list of items, contact Matt Hocker, AACA Library, at 717-534-2082 or [mhocker@aaca.org](mailto:mhocker@aaca.org) – Located in Hershey, PA

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## **2021 OFFICERS**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION(S)</b>	<b>PHONE NUMBER</b>	<b>EMAIL ADDRESS</b>
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