



Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle February 2023



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

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LIAISON
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
RICHARD SILLS

Instead of holding a monthly meeting in January, we encouraged members to attend the [Washington Auto Show](#), where the three cars owned by Region members listed below were on display from Friday, January 20 to Sunday, January 29.

- 1) Harry Scott's 1941 Cadillac Series 67 Imperial Sedan
- 2) Mike Kerwin's 1976 Cadillac Sedan Deville
- 3) Josh Pinho's 1993 Cadillac Allanté

Special thanks to the car owners and Chuck Piel and Christopher Winter, who managed the space, along with all the region volunteers who assisted. Also, thanks to Cory Correll and the Metro Chapter, Buick Club of America for loaning us stanchions to protect the cars.

A special shout out to Don Pace, whose 1992 Brougham was scheduled to be on display as well. The Auto Show has strict requirements that vehicles at the event must have a ¼-tank of gas or less. Even after driving the car throughout the DC area on set-up day, resulting in less than a ¼-tank of gas, his gauge still showed between a quarter and half full. As a result, they wouldn't let his car in the show. Not being discouraged, Don still staffed the space for his designated shifts on Thursday evening and Sunday evening, respectively, and is determined to get it repaired. Thanks, Don!



There are still spots available for the Annual Holiday Party on Sunday, February 5 at The Manor at Silo Falls in Olney, MD. See the registration flyer with required RSVP information in this issue.

Stay tuned for upcoming information on the Annual Car Show and Automobilia Auction at Sport Cadillac in Silver Spring, MD. We are looking at Sunday, May 7.

Happy Motoring!

Dan Ruby



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IN MEMORIAM: PAUL HABICHT BY VINCE TALIANO CONTRIBUTIONS BY BILL WURZELL



Paul Habicht, former CLC Potomac Region member, passed away on December 30, 2022, at age 91. He and his wife of 69 years, Ginny, were frequent attendees of the picnics held at the late Roger Bentley's and George & Rita Boxley's homes, respectively. Paul owned a 1959 Cadillac Sedan Deville Flattop (pictured below) that won many awards over the years, including Best Post War (1946 to Present) at the 2011 Capitol Cadillac / CLC Potomac Region Fall Car Show.

Paul, a retired electrician in Perry Hall and Glen Arm, MD, served with the 29th Division M.P. Company of the Maryland National Guard. In addition to his membership with the CLC, he was a member of the Antique Automobile Club of America (AACA) for 60 years.

His hobby was collecting and restoring classic cars. AACA Chesapeake Region Editor Bill Wurzell asked Paul in August 2016 how many cars he had owned. He replied, "56! My first car was a 1932 Chevrolet six-wheel coupe bought from a junk yard in 1947 for the whopping sum of \$35.00! New cars were hard to get after WWII. I drove the Chevy home and checked the main and rod bearings, adjusted as needed, ground the valves, redid the ignition system, and replaced two front tires and tubes. The interior was in horrible shape, so I used one of my mother's old bedspreads. With scissors, a hammer and tacks, the upholstery was replaced on the inside door panels, headliner and seats. A new muffler, exhaust and tailpipe were installed. After driving it awhile, I had it painted black with red spoke wheels and 'painted' white sidewall tires. The car looked very sharp with the \$35.00 paint job. I drove the car to Hagerstown, MD every other weekend, so my brother could visit his girlfriend (later to be his wife). There were very few problems in the three years I drove it: two broken rear axles which Chevy was noted for and a rebuilt water pump. It was traded for a 1936 Chrysler Imperial Airflow, but that's another story."



Paul is survived by Ginny, daughter Nancy (Michael) and two grandsons.

Rest in Peace!

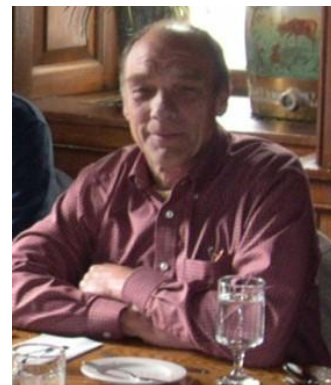


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IN MEMORIAM: PETE SANDERS BY VINCE TALIANO

It is with great sadness we inform everyone that 20-year+ Potomac Region member Pete Sanders of Bluefield, VA, passed away at the age of 78 in December 2022. For most of his time as a member, Pete lived in McLean, VA and was active with the club with his national-award winning 1930 Cadillac V-16 Madam X (pictured middle right). His car won Best of Show (Overall) three times at Capitol Cadillac / CLC Potomac Region car shows (2007 Fall, 2011 Spring and 2015 Spring) and Best Pre-War at the 2007 CLC Grand National in Savannah, GA.



Pete's involvement with the hobby was much more than as a V-16 owner. For example, he did restoration work for other members' cars like the late Byron Alsop's 1936 V-12 Convertible Sedan, and he purchased the entire 1928-1933 Cadillac parts collection of the late Charles H. Selick in 2007. He continued Mr. Selick's business but added to it by using his machine shop skills to make reproductions of obsolete Cadillac parts from a bygone era. Through his business and participation at national events, he had colleagues and friends from across the world.



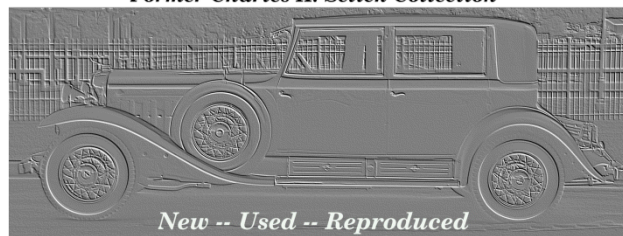
When Pete first started his parts business, I was honored to have an opportunity to assist by creating his first company logo (pictured bottom right). It was based on an embossed version of a [photo](#) taken by Dan Reed at the Grand National in Savannah. Since then, it was renamed Classic Auto and Machine. [Visit its website](#), where his children (Chris and Kelly) are continuing with the business.

Pete was predeceased by his wife, Sharon Rupp Sanders, and is survived by his two children and six grandchildren.

He always had a kind word to share with a smile on his face. Rest in Peace, Pete!

Peter K. Sanders

Specializing in 1928-33 Cadillac and LaSalle Parts
Former Charles H. Selick Collection



New -- Used -- Reproduced



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**1930 'MADAME X' CADILLAC V-16 EXQUISITELY RESTORED
BY VERN PARKER
THE WASHINGTON TIMES
© NOVEMBER 23, 2001**

Beneath the engine hoods of most luxury cars of the late 1920s were inline eight-cylinder engines, V-8 engines or the occasional V-12-cylinder engines. Under a shroud of secrecy begun in 1926, Cadillac decided to leapfrog its competitors and create a V-16 engine. With the rest of the car designed to match the ultra-exclusive engine, Cadillac intended to unseat Packard's domination of the luxury car market.

For eleven years, more years than any other automaker, Cadillac produced the exquisite V-16 engines beginning with the 1930 model year. Unfortunately, the V-16 Cadillacs appeared only months after the stock market crash of 1929 plunged the nation into the Great Depression. Still, there were those who could afford luxury transportation. The V-16 was essentially a pair of straight eight engines sharing a common crankshaft. Each side of the engine had its separate fuel distribution and exhaust system.



**Pete Sanders' 1930 Cadillac V-16 Madame X
2015 Potomac Region Spring Car Show
at Capitol Cadillac
Photograph by Michael Veilleux**

The magnificent 452-cubic-inch overhead valve engine developed at least 165 horsepower. The V-16 didn't even resemble other engines. It was the first engine that had its appearance enhanced by an artistic stylist. Unsightly wires and hoses were concealed by handsome covers while the bulk of the V-16 was a masterpiece of porcelain, polished aluminum, stainless steel, chrome plating and gleaming enamel.

The V-16 Cadillacs were intended to be the epitome of the best offerings of the automobile world. But wait! There's more! Inspired by 'Madame X', a popular stage production of the era directed stage production by Lionel Barrymore and starring the lovely Ruth Chatterton, an exclusive 'Madame X' V-16 model was created.

The limited production of either 312 or 324 (records vary) 'Madame X' Cadillacs were all either Series 452 and 452-A four-door sedan models. 'Madame X' Cadillacs were limited to top-of-the-line Fleetwood premium 4100 body series.



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'Madame X' V-16 Cadillacs were usually identified by a flat, one-piece windshield supported by very thin, slightly raked windshield pillars with lines flowing smoothly into the beltline molding at the cowl. The four side windows were trimmed on all four sides with a thin line of chrome. The unique 'Madame X' Cadillacs for years had intrigued Pete Sanders. In 1999, the McLean, VA resident decided to find a 'Madame X' car. Most of the few survivors had been restored and were priced out of sight.

Mr. Sanders did locate a raw 1930 "Madame X" Cadillac in Kansas City, Kan., and bought it in June 1999. It was an abused, yet elegantly proportioned close-coupled style 4161-S Club Sedan. Most importantly, the wood skeleton, upon which the body is formed, had been recently replaced. "The five-passenger aluminum body was okay," Mr. Sanders says. The remainder of the car was steel and, as Mr. Sanders exclaims, "The rust was amazing."

"The car was stripped before I got it," Mr. Sanders says. "It was a junkyard car." Records indicate the car originally was blue with black fenders and crème pinstriping and left the factory August 14, 1930. It was shipped directly to Greenlease Cadillac in Kansas City.

Once the trucking company had delivered the car to its home, Mr. Sanders fired up the mighty 16-cylinder engine. "I ran the car 30 seconds at most," he says. That was long enough to envelope the neighborhood in smoke. "That was depressing," Mr. Sanders recalls. However, he still wanted to get the restoration project going and set about rebuilding the V-16. "If it came apart," he says of the thousands of pieces comprising the car, "it came apart."

The bulk of the restoration was accomplished at the hands of Mr. Sanders. The entire project was completed in a remarkably brief 27 months. The engine consumed 18 months. He says the V-16 had never been bored and had the original pistons. The left front corner of the frame was severely damaged, leading him to believe the wreck had occurred early on and then the Cadillac had sat for years, rusting away in a junkyard.

Mr. Sanders carefully straightened the frame and cut out cancerous metal, replacing it with healthy steel. "I primed and sanded it about 100 times," a patient Mr. Sanders says. The principal part of the body is dark green while the top and fenders are silver. All four doors open on three hinges at the rear of each door.

With the rebuilt V-16 engine healthier and producing 165-horsepower, Mr. Sanders gently lowered the massive engine until it was nestled in place behind the 17 thermostatically operated shutters on the large radiator. Flanking the radiator are a pair of enormous headlight buckets, each one housing a lens 11 ½ inches in diameter. Atop each front fender is a smaller parking light version of the headlights, each with a 3 ½-inch diameter lens. Looking at the details of the front of the car Mr. Sanders comments, "This car was built when they still put some effort into them."



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Attention to detail sets this car apart. Details such as running board courtesy lights, chrome-plated klaxon horns with eleven-inch trumpets, six ventilator doors on each side – five on the engine hood and one on the cowl, and of course, two adjustments for the rear seat. Mr. Sanders points out a unique ventilation feature on his 'Madame X' Cadillac, explaining that 70 or so years ago virtually everyone smoked tobacco products of some kind. Around the perimeter of the dome light above the rear seat is a slotted vent. By raising the windshield an inch or two with a hand crank the breeze wafting in the car would carry any smoke through the ceiling vent and on out the rooftop vent atop the six-foot, one-inch-tall car.



**Pete Sanders' 1930 Cadillac V-16 Madame X
2011 Potomac Region Spring Car Show
at Capitol Cadillac
Photograph by Michael Veilleux**

The tombstone-shaped rear window has a shade for privacy. On the valance above the wood grained running boards is what appears to be a pair of compartments on each side. The front compartment on the left side holds the tire changing tools while the corresponding compartment on the right side houses the battery. The two rear compartment doors are false. Above the 18-degree angled windshield on the handsome dashboard is a pair of Carpathian wooden trim pieces. All of the dashboard is visible through the four-spoke steering wheel.

The front seat cushion is notched in the middle to accommodate the gear shift lever mounted on the floor. Mr. Sanders is amazed that the mechanical brakes and 7.50x19-inch tires on the 56-spoke wheels can halt the three-ton Cadillac. The Bedford Famous Coach tires have white sidewalls on both sides. Below the diminutive trunk is a 25-gallon gasoline tank. He estimates his fuel economy at about four or five miles per gallon.

The restoration of the 18-foot, 2-inch-long 'Madame X' V-16 Cadillac was completed Oct. 8, 2001. Sitting in the driver's seat, gazing at the 120-mph speedometer, Mr. Sanders admits, "I haven't had it over 45 miles per hour, but it's smooth." When driving the Cadillac he observes, "I feel confident and satisfied. It's dead steady."

Now that his 'Madame X' dream is fulfilled, Mr. Sanders advises anyone else with an impossible dream, "You can't be concerned about dollars." He adds that if a certain car is what will make you happy, "Money can never stand in the way."

'Madame X' makes him happy.



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DONATIONS REQUESTED FOR THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY BY MICHAEL TALIANO

Hello! My name is Michael Taliano. I am representing Quince Orchard High School in Gaithersburg, MD as a team member in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) 2023 Student Visionaries of the Year (SVOY) Campaign. From January 21 through March 11, students across the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area will be competing to see who can raise the most funds and awareness for LLS's mission to cure blood cancers.

As a global leader in the fight against blood cancer, LLS:



- Funds cutting-edge research leading to breakthroughs in immunotherapy, genomics and personalized medicine that are improving and saving the lives of patients.
- Provides free education and support for blood cancer patients and families, including personalized, one-on-one support, assistance with identifying and enrolling in clinical trials, and more.
- Mobilizes thousands of advocates to drive policy changes that accelerate the development of new cancer treatments and break down barriers to care.



SUPPORT OUR EFFORT

\$100 \$250 \$500

\$1000 \$2500 \$5000

Other Amount

\$ 0.00

DONATE TODAY

SHOP OUR STORE

I decided to dedicate my time to LLS and SVOY because I have been personally affected by the devastating effects of cancer. My grandfather passed away from melanoma, and a couple of my close friends' parents have been fighting cancer. While those examples weren't blood cancer, I have seen firsthand the stress, panic, and heartache a cancer diagnosis can cause. Participating in LLS allows me to help family, friends and individuals themselves who have been diagnosed with blood cancer.

My goal is to raise \$10,000 for the cause. As I can't do it alone, I immediately thought of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club. This should be of no surprise, since the CLC has been a part of my dad's life for longer than I have been alive, and cars are a major topic of conversation for him. There are many levels of support available for members to partner with this worthy cause. Please visit my [fundraising webpage](#) to donate and view additional information.

Thanks for your consideration!



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Announcing the Potomac Region's

Annual Holiday Party

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

Sunday, February 5, 2023

12:00 – 3:00 PM

The Manor at Silo Falls

19501 Georgia Ave

Brookeville, MD 20833

301-924-6500

**Price: \$40/per person w/club
subsidizing the rest**

**Spouses/Significant Others Welcome
Limited to 36 attendees!**

**RSVP required to Christopher Winter
at 410-869-8619 or**

cchwinter@cavtel.net

by Sunday, January 29

Extended – contact for availability

DIRECTIONS FROM MD-200 (ICC):

- Take MD-200 (ICC) to Exit 8A-B toward Georgia Ave/Olney North onto MD-97 N (Georgia Ave)
- Go approximately four miles
- The Manor at Silo Falls will be on the right (19501 Georgia Ave)

**Plenty of parking for all vehicles,
especially your Cadillac or LaSalle!**

Enjoy the Buffet

- **Chicken Piccata with Lemon Caper Butter**
- **Beef Stir-fry with Fresh Vegetables**
- **House Made Mac and Cheese**
- **Seasonal Vegetables**
- **Cookies and Brownies**
- **Coffee and Tea Station**
- **Assorted Soft Drinks**

- **Cash Bar: Wine, Beer, Cocktails**

Dress Code: *Holiday Casual*

**RSVP (Accepts Only by Sunday, January 29
Extended – contact for availability)**

Number Attending: _____ x \$40 = _____

Name(s): _____

Name(s): _____

Name(s): _____

Name(s): _____

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

**Bill Hilliard, Treasurer
12602 Eldrid Ct
Silver Spring, MD 20904-3505**

Visit us on the web!

www.clcpotomacregion.org



**Cadillac & LaSalle Club
Potomac Region
Caddie Chronicle
February 2023**



HOW CADILLAC BECAME CADILLAC:

*Marketing and the Coming
of Cadillac (1909-1956)*

**WITH
EDWIN BENSON**



**Saturday
March 11, 2023
10:00 to 11:00 am
Free seminar**

AACA Library
800 W. Hersheypark Dr.
Hershey, PA 17033
www.aacalibrary.org

To register contact:
717-534-2082 or
agoldman@aaca.org

The Chris & Kathleen Koch
**AACA LIBRARY
& RESEARCH CENTER**



Visit us on the web!

www.clcpotomacregion.org



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2023 WASHINGTON AUTO SHOW BY CHUCK PIEL AND VINCE TALIANO PHOTOS BY CHUCK PIEL AND JOSH PINHO

The [2023 Washington Auto Show](#) is in the books, all 9 days/87 hours of it, and the Potomac Region was once again the sole exhibitor of our beloved Cadillac brand. This year's space was on the lower level, near last year's space. Cadillacs on display included Harry Scott's 1941 Series 67 Imperial Sedan, Mike Kerwin's 1976 Sedan Deville and Josh Pinho's 1993 Allanté (pictured below). People responded extremely positively to all the cars. While we didn't sign-up any new members at the show, we had many local people express interest and take applications to join the national CLC, as well as the Potomac Region. Comments we often heard were: "I inherited my grandpa's or uncle's '70s or '90s Cadillac. Where do I get it fixed or find parts?"



Thanks to the owners of the cars listed above, Chuck Piel and Christopher Winter, who managed the space, plus the following volunteers: Larry Good, Lou Harrington & Cathy Shairer, Bill Harrison, Bill & Anne Hilliard, Greg Huver, Constantine Jiga, Sandy Kemper, Kyle & Abby Lampela, Dan Mullane, Dan Murray, Don Pace, Scott Patton, Dan & JoJo Ruby and Vince Taliano. Also, thanks to Cory Correll and the Metro Chapter, Buick Club of America for loaning us stanchions to protect the cars. [View more pictures](#) from the Auto Show!



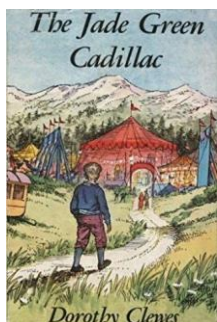
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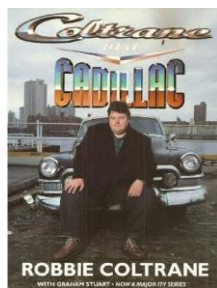
CADILLAC NOVELS AND FILMS BY STEPHEN CLARK

In a little over one year, I have amassed over 140 books about Cadillacs, VWs and 1950-70 automobiles. Here is another review of the better books I have read and films I have seen.

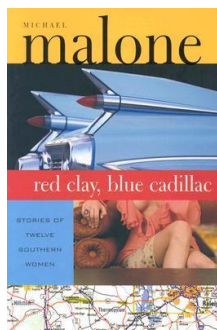
NOVELS



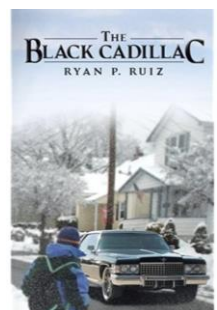
The Mystery of the Jade Green Cadillac by Dorothy Clewes. 252-page book from 1958 that is for adults and kids, too. About two young boys who are lucky to take a European vacation without their parents. They spot and admire a beautiful green Cadillac which is rare in Europe. Adventures abound while trying to tour as much as possible and reach Vienna. The Cadillac follows them during their travels. There is a mistaken identity, and they end up in Hungary during a political uprising. Gypsies and a local circus setup are the scenes for the exciting conclusion. *****



Coltrane in a Cadillac by Robbie Coltrane and Graham Stuart. First published in 1993 in Great Britain, the 189-page book has many black and white photos of a 1951 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible described as "in glorious black with drop dead gorgeous chrome-work and an ivory white top over a burgundy Fleetwood interior; they did not get any sweeter than this." Story of Robbie and his 1951 Cadillac in the 1990s, as he travels from Los Angeles to New York by way of Las Vegas, Dodge City and Detroit. He gets to New York, but not without adventures and breakdowns and repairs along the way. (Side note: Robbie Coltrane passed away on October 14, 2022, at age 72.) *****



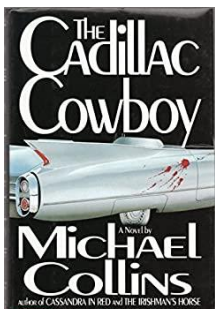
Red Clay, Blue Cadillac by Michael Malone. 294-page book published in 2002 with stories about 12 twelve southern women. One of the stories, "Blue Cadillac," is about Marie, a beautiful young blonde driving to Memphis in a convertible that Elvis Presley gave her teenaged mother – southern storytelling at its best. Picture of the 1959 Cadillac tail fins on the cover is so impressive. Great short stories. *****



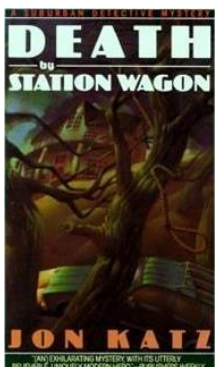
The Black Cadillac by Ryan P. Ruiz. Published in 2013, a 216-page book about two young boys, Cody and Zach, who become heroes all over Ohio, after their nosy curiosity led them to follow a mysterious black Cadillac that is seen around a school. Adventurous, realistic, and lifelike. Together they help authorities develop a tip hotline, specifically designed for children to report things that seem out of the ordinary. *****



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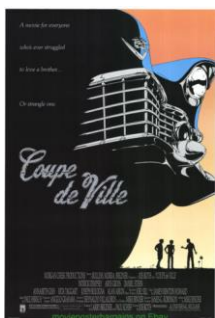


The Cadillac Cowboy by Michael Collins. 247-page novel published in 1995. Adventurous story about "Ford" Morgan, an ex-soldier / ex-CIA operative, who emerges from exile in Costa Rica to rescue his former wife and a son, who has made a career of making tons of enemies. Fast paced action that takes place in Northern California. ****

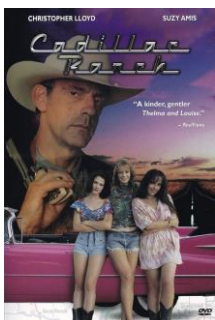


Death by Station Wagon by Jon Katz. 303-page suburban detective mystery published in 1993. Two popular high school students turn up dead on a local deserted estate. Private Detective Kit Deleew is determined to solve the case. Police believe it to be murder-suicide, but friends think otherwise and hire Kit to prove the cops wrong. He drives an old Volvo station wagon and runs down leads after picking up his kids from music lessons. Lifelike adventures and takes place in New Jersey. ****

FILMS



Coupe de Ville, a 1990 release starring Patrick Dempsey, Arye Gross and Daniel Stern as three bickering brothers who are tasked by their father (Alan Arkin) in the summer of 1963 to drive a 1954 powder blue Cadillac Series 62 Convertible ("Coupe de Ville" is a better movie title) from Detroit to Miami in time for their mother's 50th birthday. Adventurous comedic story. Lots of driving scenes with the beautiful Cadillac. Lively soundtrack. Very popular movie poster. ****



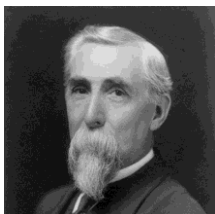
Cadillac Ranch, a 1996 release starring Christopher Lloyd and Suzy Amis. Fast paced action adventure about three sisters who turn Texas upside down trying to locate money that was left for them by their convict dad in his old Cadillac. Takes place in Amarillo, around the famous Cadillac Ranch. ***



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Dolan's Cadillac, a 2010 release starring Christian Slater and Wes Bentley. Based on the story by Stephen King. Twisted tale of murder and revenge. A schoolteacher is obsessed on killing the man who murdered his wife, a ruthless Las Vegas mob boss. First, he must infiltrate the underworld. Involves a beautiful black Cadillac Escalade, and the ending is suspenseful. I can't spoil it by telling you more! *****



The History of Cadillac, The Definitive Story. Rare 25-minute DVD of Cadillac's history with Henry Leland, who started precision manufacturing techniques. Soon after, quality soared and his Cadillacs earned the title "Standard of the World." *****

[Editor's Note: Read Steve's previous Cadillac book and movie reviews in the June 2022, August 2022, October 2022 and November 2022 issues of the Caddie Chronicle.]

Club Merchandise



CLC Potomac Region Cloisonné Grille Badge

Made of the finest quality, the 3 1/4-inch grille badge features an Azure Blue 1953 Eldorado in front of the U.S. Capitol. Each grille badge comes with a mounting stud and a black gift box.

Send \$62.00 (includes \$12.00 for domestic shipping & handling) to:

**Vince Taliano
14 Triple Crown Court
North Potomac MD 20878**



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CASPER, THE FRIENDLY CADILLAC BY JASON OUD LAMBTON SHORES, ONTARIO, CANADA

Tail fins, hood ornaments, true spoke wheels and white wall tires are what dreams are made of. It's a dialect and language from the styling of years past. As a grown adult, I often wonder if I was born a generation too late. As a kid, I remember admiring the beauty of the cars that paraded down the main street of our beach side community in the summer. Cars meant more to people in the past. The cars of yesteryear were iconic and more than just transportation, more like rolling art. The ones that we wanted to drive would be that of movie stars and celebrities.

Dad grew up in The Netherlands during World War II. He worked on the farm with horses which were eventually replaced by tractors. He embraced the car culture of the day. Dad immigrated to Canada, where he was a very successful farmer and entrepreneur.

When I was young, I remember piling into Dad's Cadillac at the time with my siblings. Over the years, I remember our Cadillacs, including Coupe Devilles, Eldorados, Fleetwoods, and my favorite, our 1976 Eldorado Convertible. Back then if you arrived in a Cadillac, it was a status symbol that made an impression. You were instantly recognized.

During the 1990s, our family suffered through a financial setback that humbled us. It was a difficult time to say the least. My first car was a Volkswagen, a far cry from what I was chauffeured around in as a kid; however, it did the same job. As the years went by, Dad reestablished himself. It wasn't until he passed that I started collecting cars. It connected the memory of nicer times with the memory of him.

My first was a Cadillac Allanté, then a second Allanté, Coupe Deville, Fleetwood and finally a third Allanté. The cars brought back happiness and reminded me of my youth. I enjoyed participating in car cruises, shows and talking about cars with complete strangers. It gave me a hobby and pastime. I enjoy buying cars and polishing them and making them look better than when purchased. While collecting cars, I have made countless friendships and have enjoyed the car community.





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When I was in my mid-twenties, I felt like buying a pickup. Dad negotiated a good price and helped me get the truck restored. Over the years, I kept it out of sentimentality, but it was being driven less and less and was deteriorating. I met a young man who was restoring a truck and he inquired about buying mine. I struggled with selling it but thought there are other ways to pay homage to Dad's memory.

With the money from the recent truck sale and still enough winter car storage, I decided the next car on my Cadillac bucket list was a 1976 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible like the one Dad owned. There was one for sale close by. We went for a test drive. Memories came back of how it felt for me to drive a car of that size when I was a kid. The Eldorado was purchased. Upon further investigation, we determined that it was the same one that Dad owned! The old car world is a funny thing. In this case, I had to let go of my memory of fixing my first truck with Dad to find and buy his Eldorado Convertible. It was truly heaven sent.



This past summer, I got married. At the wedding, I naturally drove the 1976 Cadillac Eldorado Convertible. Each of my siblings drove one of my other cherished Cadillacs in their respective pecking order. We drove from the church to the local cemetery, where both of my parents were buried and toasted them with champagne (pictured below). The white car has been named after "Casper, the Friendly Ghost," as I feel it was a sign from above. It was more than a coincidence to have found this car without even knowing it was Dad's. Cars are more than a means of transportation. "Casper, the Friendly Cadillac" left and came back, and like all blessings, they come to you when you're ready to receive them.





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TALES FROM THE GARAGE BY RICHARD SISSON FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE POTOMAC REGION

Recently, I finished what surely must be the most daunting task I've ever performed on an antique car, cleaning and painting the undercarriage of my 1970 Pontiac Grand Prix. After 53 years of an accumulation of dirt, grime, and surface rust, it was time to address this issue. As I considered the task ahead, I knew it would be difficult



without the use of a lift. My only option was to raise the car onto jack stands and crawl under. Fully realizing the proper way to approach this project would be while doing a body off frame or, at the minimum, a rotisserie restoration, my goal was to improve the appearance and protect the car for the future.

I started gathering the materials necessary to proceed, while considering how an old guy like me would attack such a project. I started by laying on the garage floor tarps that would protect the floor and would help gather the debris to be swept up at the end of each day after the scraping and wire brushing. The car was jacked up as high as possible, and then jack stands were put in place, so the four wheels could be removed. It was time to get under the car, starting at the rear and working forward. With putty knives, wire brushes and plenty of rags, the work began.

There are various must haves when undertaking a job like this. To protect yourself, you must wear protective clothing, neoprene gloves, goggles, and a cap for your head. In retrospect, I believe one of those pull over your head painters' covers might be a good idea. Good, portable lighting is necessary as well as a flashlight. It's important to have everything you need before you crawl under the car, as it gets tiresome to get out from under to retrieve items you forgot to bring with you.



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I decided to use [POR-15](#) rust preventative paint as it's designed for this purpose, and I like the semi-gloss appearance. Others on the market are probably just as good but check the gloss level. I would recommend buying a 1-gallon can and a couple quart cans for a full-size car (about six quarts were used on my car). [POR-15](#) is an excellent product; however, there are precautions you need to be aware of. When using this product, you can't allow any of it to dry on your skin. Any drops or smears need to be removed with acetone or lacquer thinner within an hour or they are to stay for quite a while.



Laying on your back with arms extended will take a toll on you, especially when trying to reach all the nooks and crannies. After a couple of hours of scraping, wire brushing and wiping down with a good cleaner, you'll be ready to give it a rest. When you're finished for the day, throw away the brush and thoroughly clean the part of the paint can where the lid goes on. If you don't and leave paint in the groove in the lid, it will be there to stay after drying.

For my gas tank and straps, I painted them with an argent-colored aluminum spray paint. The exhaust system was painted with spray cans of high-temperature aluminum paint. Do this after painting the undercarriage. The pipes and mufflers were sprayed while holding a piece of cardboard on the opposite side to keep from having over spray. As needed, I would spray the paint into a container to use with a brush to get to the hard to spray part of the exhaust system. After squirming around under the car for a couple of hours, I would give it up and do it again in a day or two.

The total time it took to do my car was about 30 hours. It was a dirty, long, tedious task but worth it. The result, while not 100 points, provides a feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment.

Here is a suggested list of all the needed items to do a good job:

1. Different sized putty knives
2. Small and large stainless steel bristle brushes
3. Plenty of rags and towels
4. Portable lighting and a flashlight
5. Sandpaper and steel wool
6. Masking tape
7. Gunk® engine cleaner
8. Good quality neoprene gloves
9. Goggles or a compact face mask
10. Quart cans of your choice of gloss level rust preventive black paint
11. Can of your choice of gloss level black spray paint
12. Can[s] high temp aluminum spray paint
13. Bag of throw away two-inch, one-time-use paint brushes: one long-handled and one small-handled
14. Quart acetone
15. Garage, with heater if winter, and radio tuned to an oldie's channel



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CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

Cars For Sale



1928 LaSalle Model 303 Cabriolet – CLC Senior Car #1 awarded in 1985 at Grand National in Valley Forge, PA – 27,480 original miles, mostly accumulated during The Great Depression when the running-gear was employed to run a sawmill for earning money by cutting cord-wood – As a result, brake linkages, gear shift mechanism, clutch and transmission show no wear – Only two owners in its 90+ year history, with restoration completed by current owners – Engine was rebuilt with black-iron compression rings and new valves and springs – Babbitt rod and main bearings were measured to within specifications – Carburetor was rebuilt with a new float and leather accelerator pump piston – Rebuilt water pump and vacuum tank rebuilt with new toggle valves, springs and gaskets – Rebuilt distributor with new points and condenser, the advance counter-weight was installed – Oil filter canister has Purolator filter hidden inside and new Robertshaw bellows, thermostat installed in the radiator – No more than 1,600 miles have accumulated in the past 35 years since its restoration, including for Harrah's sponsored run from Philadelphia to Atlantic City and back, with the LaSalle performing flawlessly – Seats are finished in burnt orange Bridge of Weir leather and top is Haartz cloth – All castings (side-mirror stanchions, parking light brackets, windshield shade brackets, bumper guards, sector gear, carburetor and mount, headlight stanchions and oval head screws and dashboard and headlight control handles were machined by owner) are cast of red-bronze and all chrome plating was done by Harry Martin Inc. of Philadelphia – Finish on the panel below the back window is crazed, including the rear sides (back of fender wells) and the back of the panel below the rumble-seat door – According to DuPont Paint Systems, the painter used an inferior thinner instead of the more costly and compatible DuPont 3602S product which we had provided – Painter confessed that rather than opening the five-gallon 3602S that we had provided for him to finish the painting, he decided to use leftover thinner (Brand-X) from a production job – Those areas need to be repainted and the price has been reduced accordingly – 35 years since its restoration and the LaSalle continues to be heralded as 'the favorite car' at many events – In addition to the CLC Senior Award, it has won an AACA National First Award, CCCA National 2nd Place and numerous first place awards in the Mid-Atlantic states – Recognized in the Radnor Hunt Concours d' Elegance Invitational and featured in the CCCA's book titled "Classic Car--The Ultimate Book About the World's Grandest Automobiles," pages 298 and 299, edited by Beverly Rae Kimes – [See pictures](#) – **\$64,700 obo** – Payment must be made in CASH, Cashier's Check or Bank Transfer – Buyer MUST make all transport arrangements – Sellers will meet the transporters for pickup, but cannot physically assist with the move – For more information, contact Wes Waters at 610-449-0781 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Havertown, PA



1940 Cadillac Fleetwood Series 75 Seven-Passenger Sedan – Only 1940 model to have suicide doors – Dark blue – Body has no rust – Right rear fender has a long scratch and would need to be repaired and refinished – Appears to be pretty much all original and in very good condition although it may have been repainted many years ago – Front seat is leather and the rear seat and two jump seats are broadcloth – Interior door panels are in need of some repair as well as the front seat, but overall looks quite good – V-8 engine has recently been completely rebuilt – Starts easily and runs well with no overheating – Some front end parts and exhaust have been replaced – New Firestone whitewall tires w/tubes – Bumpers, hubcaps and all other chrome are in excellent condition – Rubber on the running boards is worn and should be replaced – Garage kept – Mileage unknown – Same owner since 2016 – Clear Maryland title – Full car cover – [See pictures](#) – **\$32,000** – For more info, contact Jerry Smith at 301-706-5418 – Car is located in Urbana, MD



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1954 Cadillac Coupe Deville – 77k miles – Authentic restoration completed – Numbers matching to frame – Body stripped down to bare metal and painted the original colors of 16 Apollo Gold with black top – Painted base coat / clear coat in 2012 and still looks great – All exterior stainless was buffed and the rear bumper and hood goddess ornament were re-chromed – Engine was rebuilt and detailed in 2017 as well as the Hydramatic transmission – Runs great – NOS fuel pump and rebuilt water pump installed – Radiator was pressure tested and painted – New front end wiring harness was installed in 2020 – Starter and generator rebuilt – Recently installed new period correct battery – Interior was redone in vinyl and original cloth material purchased at SMS interiors – Reupholstered in trim code 67, light green Crest cloth with dark green vinyl not leather – Looks great and incredibly durable – New headliner from SMS installed and looks great, as well as the sun visors – Door panels were restored to original condition – New interior carpet was installed – Original Wonderbar radio was converted to AM/FM (would never know it was FM) – Original factory vacuum antenna rebuilt and works off engine vacuum – Autronic Eye was rebuilt a while ago does not work but looks great on dash – Power windows, power seat, power steering, power brakes and fog lights – All dash gauges and lights work – Even the clock works and keeps perfect time – Trunk was detailed with the correct material as well as the body bolts and correct spring that holds down the factory correct jack – Nice spare tire in trunk, along with decal for changing the tires – Light in trunk works – Tires are new period correct 8:00 x 15 Coker Classics with '54 Cadillac wire hubcaps in beautiful shape – New period correct shocks just installed in 2021 – Four new wheel cylinders, treadle vacuum brake booster and brake shoes installed – Many awards won including Third Place in Primary Class at 2013 CLC Grand National in Massachusetts and First Place at Lime Rock Concours – Not a perfect car but a very nice presentable classic – Recently used in the movie Pep about Willie Pep the prizefighter – Selling with a heavy heart, as I am restoring another car and need the space – Not many 1954 Cadillacs restored to this level of originality, per the 1954 Cadillac Authenticity Manual – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$45,000 obo** – For more info, contact Gary DellaVecchio at 203-870-5248 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Oxford, CT



NEW ARRIVAL 1956 Cadillac Eldorado Seville – 68,020 actual miles – Factory original colors of Mountain Laurel with black Vicodec top – Black and white full leather interior – Original black carpeting with chrome inserts unique to the Eldorado – 305 horsepower 365 C.I. V8 with dual four-barrel carburetors, correct gold-colored "batwing" air cleaner, and dual exhausts – Equipment includes chrome Sabre Spoke wheels, power windows, six-way power seat, push-button signal-seeking radio with power antenna, E-Z-eye glass, heater, power trunk release and Autronic Eye headlight dimmer – Tires are correct 8.20-15 B.F. Goodrich Silvertown bias-play whitewall tires with a full-size spare mounted in the trunk – Car still has T-3 headlights – Outstanding condition in every respect -- paint, top, chrome, interior, undercarriage, engine compartment and trunk compartment – No rust or rust repairs – Runs and drives as great as it looks – Car is said to have been owned previously by actress Merrie Lynn Ross, although not documented – The Eldorado Seville was offered for five model years, 1956 through 1960, at the same price as the Biarritz convertible – Owned by a long-time Cadillac & LaSalle Club member, this is an exceptionally beautiful and authentic example of the first year of this iconic body style – The cowl tag decodes as follows:

- * Style No. 56-6237SDX – Eldorado Seville Coupe
- * Body No. F W 3605 – Body sequence number
- * Trim No. 10 – Black and white leather
- * Paint No. 46 – Mountain Laurel
- * Top 2 – Black roof
- * ACC E – E-Z Eye glass
- * H – Heater
- * S – Remote control trunk lock

\$55,900 – [See pictures and contact info](#) – Car is located in West Springfield, MA



1990 Cadillac Sedan Deville – 24k miles – Pristine original condition – Garage kept in Texas until 2016, where it was only driven to church three times a week, 30 miles a day – New tires and battery – Recently replaced spark plugs, oil pan gasket, transmission fluid and transmission pan gasket – Flushed radiator and fluid lines – Windows were tinted when purchased from original owner – Clean Carfax (available upon request) – VIN: 1G6CD5336L4361589 – [See pictures](#) – **\$9,999** – For more info, contact Barbaros at 937-304-1084 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Massanutten, VA



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1999 Cadillac Sedan Deville D'Elegance – 77,000 miles – Two owners – Purchased in 2001 from Miller Chevrolet in Ellicott City, MD – Since then garage kept and regularly driven and maintained – Quite clean with little to no rust anywhere, including the undercarriage – No rips or tears in the leather seats – 225/60R16 tires have a DOT date code of 4911 (49th week in the year 2011) – [See pictures](#) – **\$5,200 obo** – For more info, contact Guy Allen at 301-404-8222 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Ellicott City, MD



NEW ARRIVAL 2011 Cadillac DTS Platinum Edition – Approximately 82k miles – In addition to the Platinum package, the car has adaptive cruise control, White Diamond tri-color paint, power sunroof, etc. – Originally purchased from a Cadillac dealership in Charlotte, NC – Current owner purchased it in March 2021 from the original owner in Shallotte, NC – Engine runs smoothly and has no leaks – All of the accessories/options work – Tires are less than one year old and have approximately 3,000 miles of wear – Bumper rash on the front passenger is shown in the pictures – DTS is driven two-times a week to run errands and occasionally driven 50-70 miles to Williamsburg, Hampton and Fredericksburg, VA – Being sold because owner recently purchased a Cadillac XLR – [See pictures](#) – **\$9,999** – For more info, contact Jerry Hicks at [send email](#) – Phone number will be provided to interested parties – Car is located in Richmond, VA



2017 Cadillac XT5 Premium Luxury AWD – 48,899 miles – Cadillac Certified until 100k miles or 2/20/2023 – 3.6L V-6 cylinder engine w/8-speed auto trans – Radiant Silver Metallic exterior w/Jet Black leather interior – Highlighted features include navigation system, blind spot sensor, lane departure, automatic temperature control, emergency communication system, power moon roof, wireless phone connectivity and much more – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$30,995** – For more info, contact Paul Sevag at 610-836-8200 or [make inquiry](#) – Car is located in West Chester, PA



2019 Cadillac Escalade Luxury 4WD Sport Edition – 36,487 miles – Cadillac Certified until 100k miles or 5/30/2025 – 6.2L V-8 cylinder engine w/10-speed auto trans – Black Raven exterior with Jet Black leather interior – Highlighted features include navigation system, lane departure, automatic temperature control, emergency communication system, power moon roof, wireless phone connectivity and parking sensors and much more – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$66,500** – For more info, contact Paul Sevag at 610-836-8200 or [make inquiry](#) – Car is located in West Chester, PA

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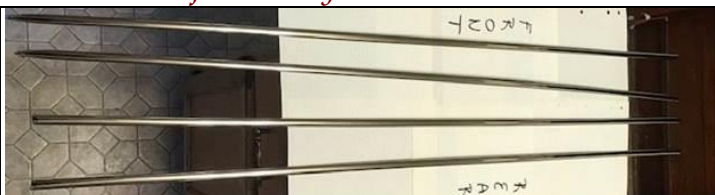
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2023 OFFICERS

NAME	POSITION(S)	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Dan Ruby	Regional Director Automobilia Auctioneer Summer Picnic Host	301-343-1463	danruby@clcpotomacregion.org
Chuck Piel	Assistant Regional Director Central Virginia Region Liaison Newsletter Columnist	240-888-5115	chuckpiel@clcpotomacregion.org
Bill Hilliard	Treasurer	301-622-3651	billhilliard@clcpotomacregion.org
Christopher Winter	Activities Director	410-869-8619	christopherwinter@clcpotomacregion.org
Franklin Gage	Membership Director	703-869-8434	franklingage@clcpotomacregion.org
Vince Taliano	Newsletter Editor Secretary Website Manager	410-598-0488	vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org
Jack McClow	National Director Newsletter Columnist	301-330-5417	jackmcclow@clcpotomacregion.org