



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

### 2023 OFFICERS:

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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

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR  
CHRISTOPHER WINTER

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR  
FRANKLIN GAGE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
SECRETARY  
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  
LARRY GOOD

NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
TOM MCQUEEN

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA REGION  
LIAISON  
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST  
RICHARD SILLS

August includes some of our favorite events. First is the All-GM Show in Ashburn, VA on Saturday, August 5. The Potomac Region has always been a big supporter of this show that is co-hosted by the Metro Chapter Buick Club and the Capitol City Rockets Oldsmobile Club. Access the [registration flyer](#) on our website. Then, the following Saturday, August 12 is our Annual Picnic at my home. Members have until Saturday, August 5 to RSVP if they plan to attend (see the flyer on page 4). The events for the month end the following weekend with the Third Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet in Hershey, PA. That flyer is in this issue too. Hope everyone can attend at least one of these three events.

As mentioned last month, we are encouraging everyone who plans to attend the 2024 Grand National in Gettysburg, PA to book their hotel rooms as soon as possible. Rooms are now available at the host hotel and show site, Wyndham Gettysburg (pictured right), at the CLC rate of \$149/night. That rate is good from Sunday, June 9 through Monday, June 17.

[Reserve your room online](#) or call 717-339-0020.

The adjacent Courtyard by Marriott (pictured right) also has rooms available now at the CLC rate of \$149/night for the same days. [Reserve your room online](#) or call 717-334-5600. Maximum of two rooms per member at either hotel. In addition, Grand National volunteers are needed. If anyone is interested, please contact Dave Rubin, VP National Activities, at 914-980-6776 or [david@davidbrubin.com](mailto:david@davidbrubin.com).

Please keep the Taliano Family in your prayers over the passing of Vince's mother, Maria Taliano, last month at the age of 94.

*Dan Ruby*





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## JULY 16, 2023 MEETING MINUTES BY VINCE TALIANO

**PLACE:** 198 Restaurant, Burtonsville, MD

**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.

**PRESIDING:** Dan Ruby, Region Director

**ATTENDEES:** Twelve attendees, including five officers: Franklin Gage (Membership Director), Bill Hilliard (Treasurer), Chuck Piel (Assistant Region Director), Dan Ruby (Region Director), Vince Taliano (Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Website Manager), Gary Cameron, Lynn Gardner, Bill Gibson, Constantin Jiga, Don Pace, Richard Sisson and guest Ken Visser

**DIRECTOR'S REMARKS:** Dan thanked everyone for attending. He thanked Nikki Thompson, the daughter of the late Vicky & Mike Barruzza, who donated items to the Region for distribution at the Washington Auto Show and for sale at the Sport Cadillac Automobilia Auction. Dan and Vince Taliano recently travelled to Bristol, PA to help the family dispose of items in their warehouse.

Thanks to Jack Gallagher, Randy Denchfield and Richard Sisson for helping Vern Parker, former *The Washington Times* columnist, and his son Scott by transporting 54 boxes of Vern's literature to the AACA Library in Hershey, PA, where it was donated.



L to R: Back row: Jen Wolfe, AACA Librarian, Richard Sisson, Randy Denchfield, Jack Gallagher (seated) and Spencer Paterick, AACA Library Assistant. Front row: Matt Hocker (kneeling), AACA Library Assistant. Not pictured but assisting in the intake was Amoi Gold.

**SECRETARY'S REMARKS:** The minutes from the previous meeting were not reviewed since they were published and distributed to all members in the July 2023 newsletter.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Hilliard reported on the financials since the last meeting. Total revenue was \$304.42 and total expense of \$120.73 for the period, resulting in a net profit of \$183.69.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Franklin Gage announced that our 2023 membership is still at 170.

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

- **Past Event: CLC Grand National, Jun 20-24, Albuquerque, NM.** Lynn Gardner, Constantin Jiga, Chuck Piel and Bill Hillard shared stories from the event recently held in New Mexico. Also, they encouraged attendees to book their hotels for next year's event in Gettysburg, PA. A very large turnout is expected. See the July newsletter for hotel contact info.



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• **Upcoming Events:**

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Aug 5 Sat	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	48th Annual Metro Chapter Buick Club/Capitol City Rockets Oldsmobile Club All-GM Show <a href="#">See flyer</a>	Eagle Ridge Middle School Ashburn, VA	Joe Padavano at 703-927-9196 or <a href="#">send email</a>
Aug 12 Sat	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Potomac Region Summer Picnic	Dan & JoJo Ruby's Owings, MD	Dan Ruby at 301-343-1463 or <a href="#">send email</a>
Aug 19-20 Sat-Sun	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Third Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show <a href="#">See flyer</a>	AACA Museum Hershey, PA	Michael Stinson at 267-251-8588 or <a href="#">send email</a>
Sep 16 Sat	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	47th Edgar Rohr Memorial Car Meet hosted by the AACA Bull Run Region <a href="#">See flyer</a>	<b>NEW LOCATION</b> Manassah Lodge Manassas, VA	Gene Gilkey at 703-830-5313 or Randy Higgins at 703-853-2235
Sep 22-24 Fri-Sun		CLC Museum & Research Center Cadillac Fall Festival All-GM Motorama Theme	Gilmore Museum Hickory Corners, MI	<a href="#">Visit website</a>
Sep 22-24 Fri-Sun		St. Michaels Concours d' Elegance on Chesapeake Bay	Kent Island Yacht Club Chester, MD	<a href="#">Visit website</a>
Sep 27- Oct 1 Wed-Sun	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	Fall Carlisle	Carlisle, PA	717-243-7855 or <a href="#">Visit website</a>
Oct 3-6 Tue-Fri	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	AACA National Eastern Fall Meet	Giant Center and Show Grounds Hershey, PA	<a href="#">Visit website</a>
Oct 14 Sat	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show	Rockville Civic Center Rockville, MD	240-314-5022 or <a href="#">Visit website</a>
Oct 21 Sat	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	16th Annual Potomac Day Classic Car Show <a href="#">See flyer</a>	Falls Rd. and River Rd. Potomac, MD	Jennifer Matheson at 301-299-2170 or <a href="#">send email</a>

- See August newsletter or [visit website](#) for a full list of events.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Guest Ken Visser discussed the upcoming St. Michael's Concours d'Elegance in Chester, MD and encouraged members to participate. [Visit website](#) for more information.



**NEXT MEETING:** Our next meeting will be on Monday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

 <b>Cadillac</b>	 <b>SPORT CADILLAC</b>	<b>CERTIFIED SERVICE FOR ALL GM MAKES AND MODELS</b>		
	3101 AUTOMOBILE BOULEVARD / SILVER SPRING, MD / 20904 301-890-6000 / SPORTCADILLAC.COM	<b>CADILLAC SALES &amp; LEASING</b>	<b>CADILLAC CERTIFIED SERVICE</b>	
		PHONE: <b>301-890-6000</b>	PHONE: <b>240-802-7405</b>	





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023



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

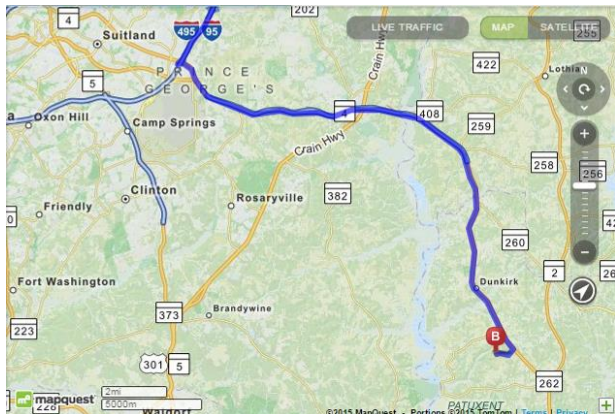


**Saturday, August 12, 2023  
1:00–6:00 p.m.  
301-343-1463  
[danruby@clcpotomacregion.org](mailto:danruby@clcpotomacregion.org)**

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  
Saturday, August 5**

**No. Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$20 per person =** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

**Send RSVP along with check made out to  
CLC Potomac Region to:**

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

[See pictures](#) from the 2022 picnic.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023



The Valley Forge, Potomac and Central Pennsylvania Regions of

*The Cadillac & LaSalle Club*

Cordially invite you, your family, and friends to the Third Annual  
Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show at the ACA Museum, Hershey, PA  
Saturday and Sunday, August 19-20, 2023

The Valley Forge, Potomac and Central Pennsylvania Regions of the CLC are pleased to announce the third annual Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show where CLC members and friends can reconnect and enjoy one another's cars. We will gather at the ACA Museum, Hershey PA on Saturday, August 19th at 1:30PM. Bring lunch or eat on the way. The museum's Model T Driving Experience is being held on Saturday. Separate registration and payment to the museum in advance are required to participate. Details and registration information for the Model T Driving Experience can be found on the [ACA Museum's website](#).



This year's special exhibit "Going Back in Time" features museum-owned cars, including Cadillacs, on display in the Clyne Gallery. You can also enjoy the Tucker, Bus, and motorcycle exhibits, displayed with unique depictions of scenes representing New York, Route 66, San Francisco, and other famous American settings serving as background for 71,000 square feet of exhibit space. You can tour the museum virtually by visiting the [ACA Museum's website](#) and clicking on "Virtual Visits."

The museum is open for self-guided tours on Saturday and Sunday. CLC's own Richard Sills will serve as our "private" Docent on Saturday. We will also take the "behind the scenes" tour of the storage and maintenance shops (Jim's Place) on Saturday. Stroll the grounds and admire fellow CLC members' cars. After the tours, we will travel as a group to Giotti's Restaurant for dinner. Separate checks for each party in our group. Out-of-towners may reserve a hotel room for the night at one of several hotels nearby.

**Please note** there are no **host hotels, room blocks or group rates** for this event. Reserve your room(s) as soon as possible, as August is the peak tourist season at Hershey. There are several hotels near Harrisburg (20-minute drive) that will have lower rates. Hotels close to the Museum:

- **SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hershey:** 115 Museum Dr., Hershey, PA, 717-583-2222, [Visit website](#)
- **Quality Inn & Suites:** 181 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-583-5151, [Visit website](#)
- **Hampton Inn & Suites Hershey:** 195 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-566-3369, [Visit website](#)

Display your Cadillac, LaSalle, or other make at our peer-judged car show on Sunday, August 20th on the museum's grounds. Open to all makes & models, pre-war through modern. Registration/check-in starts at 9:00 AM; peer judging starts at 11:00 AM. Presentation of awards will start at 2:30 PM. Lunch will be available; advance purchase strongly recommended (see registration form).

Complete the registration form and return with your check made payable to **VFR-CLC**. Join us at the Museum or for dinner on Saturday, judged show on Sunday or all three! Hurry! **Pre-registration is required** for the Museum tour & dinner and highly recommended for the car show. Early Registration **is due by August 5th**. For more information, contact Michael Stinson, Director, VFR-CLC at [Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com). Visit the [Valley Forge Region website](#) for more information. A portion of the costs of this event is subsidized by the VFR-CLC.



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## CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show Registration Form Saturday and Sunday, August 19-20, 2023

Pre-registration required for museum tour, dinner and requested for car show. Must be received by Aug. 5th. Day-of-Show Car registrations accepted. Questions: Michael Stinson, 267-251-8588, [Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com)

Car Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLC Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_ AACA Club Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of AACA Museum? (Y/N): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Children Name(s) and Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest name(s), city/state of each: \_\_\_\_\_

**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 is open to all make and model cars, trucks, and commercial/military vehicles, pre-war to present.

**Activity Registration and Fees:**

Activity	Cost/ Person	No. Guests	Total
<b>Saturday AACA Museum Group Tour: w/ Richard Sills. AACA Club member admission is Free. Cost per non-AACA member and each additional Guest:</b>	\$11.00		\$
<b>Saturday AACA Museum "Behind the Scenes" Group Tour (storage buildings, detail shop; price per person including AACA Club Members):</b>	\$10.00		\$
<b>Saturday Dinner @ Giotti's - # of guests (separate checks for each party)</b>			
<b>Sunday Car Show - Early Registration (per car; rec'd on/before Aug. 5th):</b>	\$20.00		\$
<b>Sunday Car Show - Late/Day of Show Registration (per car; rec'd after Aug. 5th):</b>	\$20.00		\$
<b>Sunday Lunch - Hoagie/sub slices, chips, drink</b>	\$9.00		\$
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED - Make check Payable to VFR-CLC:</b>			\$

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 the peak tourist season at Hershey. **SpringHill Suites by Marriott Hershey:** 115 Museum Dr., Hershey, PA, 717-583-2222, [Visit website](#); **Quality Inn & Suites:** 181 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-583-5151, [Visit website](#) and **Hampton Inn & Suites Hershey:** 195 Hershey Rd., Hershey, PA, 717-566-3369, [Visit website](#). Check with hotels regarding their cancellation policy.

I release the CLC, CLC Regions, the AACA Museum, their officers and representatives from any liability, damage or loss arising from my own, my guests' and family's participation in the 2023 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. 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 the check made payable to VFR-CLC. Include a SASE to receive confirmation.  
**Mail to: CLC Inter-Regional Meet, C/O: Michael Stinson, 21 Windermere Drive, Blue Bell, PA 19422**





# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023**



## **DRAGNET ELDORADO UPDATES BY LARRY GOOD**

**Dragnet** was the first TV show I ever saw. I'd go uptown to the barber shop for a 50-cent haircut, then stay and watch **Dragnet** on the barber's TV because we didn't have one. The show was fascinating. The good guys always won. This was 1952-53.

Were there Cadillacs in **Dragnet**? I had no idea then because I'd never seen a Cadillac yet, but now two Eldorados have been sighted in **Dragnet** examinations by Cadillac lovers. This article updates both cases.

### **1953: Ep. 3.17 – The Big Little Jesus**

In 2009, a Cadillac fan searched the [Internet Movie Car Database \(IMCDB\)](#) and discovered an Eldorado parked on the street next to the Los Angeles City Hall in a 1953 episode.



[Visit YouTube](#) to see the whole show. The Alpine White Eldorado with its white Orlon top pictured above is visible in the clip from 3:40 to 3:56 as Sgt. Friday and his sidekick leave the police station in a Ford for the crime scene, a church. This episode was a Christmas Eve show. The scriptwriter portrayed the clergy in a very favorable light, unlike today's press.



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This Eldorado was an "extra" in the show. It populated the background but did not figure into the plot. It was a very new car then, maybe owned by a show producer who could afford it. We'll probably never learn this car's body number. Later when the detectives returned to the station, the Eldorado was gone. Maybe the producer went home early on Christmas Eve!

#### **1967: Ep. 1.05 – The Masked Bandits**

Last year CLC Potomac Region members Richard Sills and Vince Taliano found a '53 Eldorado in a 1967 episode and gave us a great write-up in the [May issue](#) of the **Caddie Chronicle** – pages 13-14. Again, [visit YouTube](#) to watch the whole episode.



In this plot the Eldorado (pictured above) was neither the hero car nor an extra. It was the villain car, but we never got to see it in motion. The detectives didn't have the legal right to inspect it, so we never saw the interior up close. I searched the whole episode for the build sheet, but alas!

And now for the good part: We never dreamt we'd learn the body number, but this car is Eldorado #55! A few days ago, I was talking to a long time '53 Eldorado owner who lives in the California desert. We were going through the list of California Eldorados we knew and their owners when he brought up #55. "Bob Ballas bought that car," he said, "but I can't remember from whom. It was in **Dragnet** in the '60s. The previous owner repainted it the original red, but now it is white." That description nailed it. The color codes on the #55 build sheet, as seen in the CLCMRC archives, show paint 29 (Aztec Red), top 4 (black) and trim 38 (red & white).

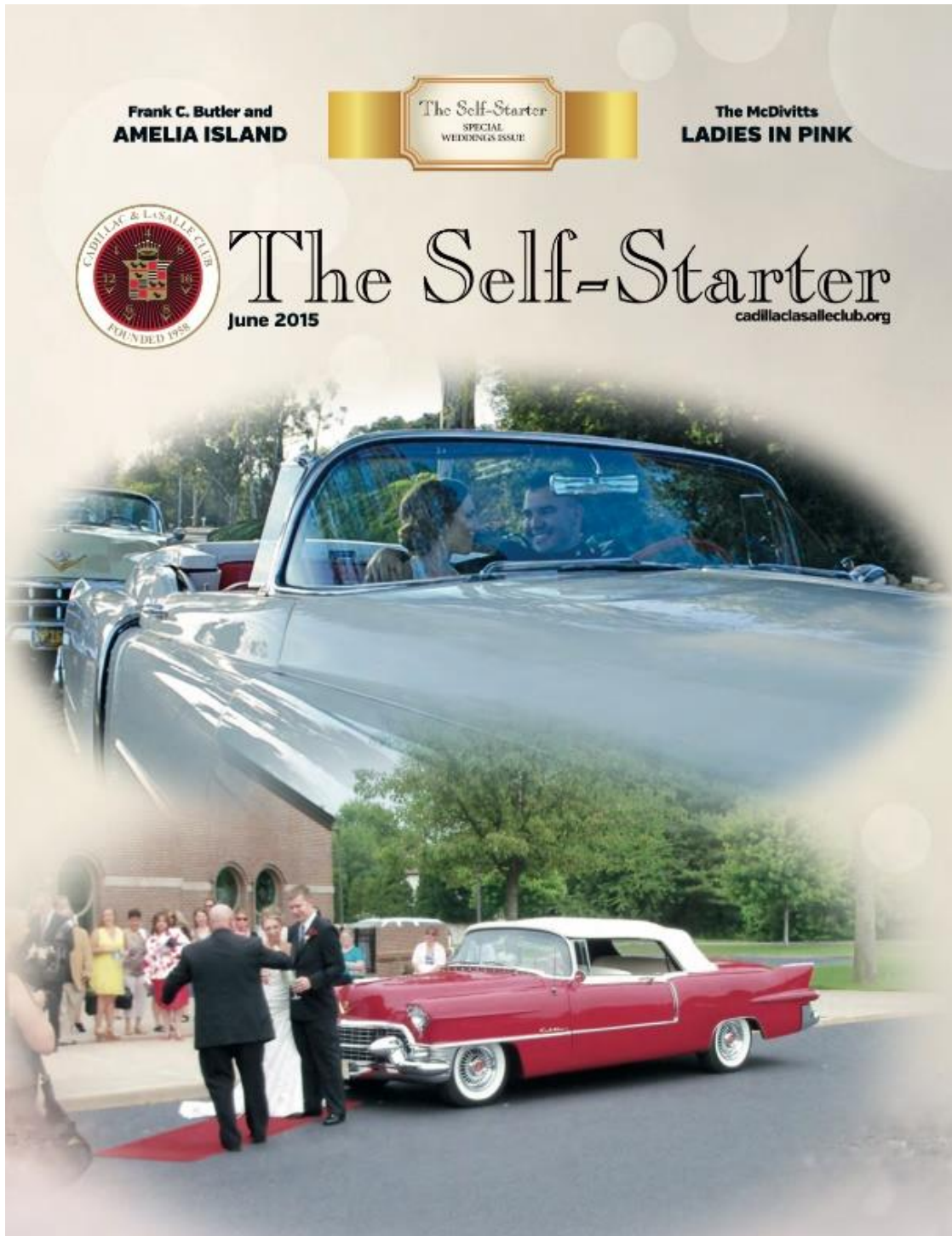




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Almost a half century later Eldorado #55 turned up, painted white, on the cover of the June 2015, wedding issue of **The Self-Starter** (pictured below).





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It was an over-the-top, three-1953 Eldorado dream wedding (pictured below) which made the newlyweds very happy. CLC members Randy & Melanie Hane (Eldorado #66) arranged this for their nephew and his bride.



**1953 Eldorados (l. to r.) #66, #55 and #337 at a Hane Family Wedding on May 27, 2014**

Dave Ventresca's Artesan Ochre #337 rounded out the trio of '53s. Interesting, but Bob's white Eldorado used to be red, and the Hanes' red Eldorado used to be white.

In conclusion, you may say that Eldorado #55 is a celebrity car because stars Jack Webb and Harry Morgan looked at it on a TV show. **Dragnet** Eldorados are boss!

**Editor's note: After submitting this article, Larry visited the current owner of Eldorado #55, Bob Ballas, who verified that this car was indeed the one in the 1967 Dragnet episode. It seems all Eldorado owners in Southern California knew this. The news just hadn't reached the East Coast. Bob reported that Jack Webb was a car nut and personally chose this car for the show.**





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## **LEARNING TO RELAX IN A CADILLAC BY MORGAN YEH**



From the moment I won a Bring a Trailer auction to this day, I still think of the purchase of my 19k-mile 1992 Brougham d'Elegance as an unbelievable experience. So many thanks to Anthony Gozzo's Specialty Motor Cars, his Papa Bear and Bring a Trailer. After much longing and persistent searching, our family now has an heirloom—a real keeper—in the form of this Brougham! Thus far, it's been doing double duty as a fun vehicle for our family of five and as a car to take on dates with my wife, Chia-Hua. She comments on how my driving switches into chauffeur mode the moment I get behind the wheel of our big Caddy.

As soon as we could, we started taking it to car shows like the annual event held by our local auto shop, Casey's. It even helped raise money for a good cause: [Ellie's Hat](#), an organization that helps children with cancer.

Since we got the car, Chia-Hua and I have started finding more excuses to go on dates and explore. The car has started to become our mobile living room. There was one time we arrived home and parked, and I realized that my wife was still in the passenger seat, just fiddling around on her phone. "You're not coming out?" I asked. She replied, "These seats are so comfortable! I do not feel like moving!"

And of course, the outings with the kids have experienced an uptick as well; the random trips for milkshakes, the "let's just go cruise around," and the sunny drives down the backroads just to see something new have become a near-weekly occurrence. We are having a blast and will definitely continue to fill our treasure chest of family memories with this Cadillac!





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# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023**



**MY CLASSIC CAR: 1968 ELDORADO  
BY MAXIMILIAN ELSINGER  
MOTOR AUTHORITY  
JULY 23, 2023**

Some might say owning a big, thirsty land yacht in Austria, where streets are narrow and fuel prices are high (\$7.30 / gallon), is a bit insane. And they would be correct! Had I known what I was getting myself into, I possibly may have never bought this Cadillac but, truth be told, I am happy I was so naive.



My dad owned plenty of cool cars when I was young, but the one I loved the most was his 1968 Corvette convertible with a 427 big block. He owned it when I had just received my driver's license, and today I continue to be amazed he let me drive it. Alas, that was 17 years ago and since then I always had the urge to drive an American classic again. Two years ago, I found myself in the position to buy one myself.







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Naturally, my first choice was a chrome bumper C3 Corvette (1968-72). However, the ones I could afford were all in questionable condition: cracked paint on the fiberglass and engines that had been messed with, probably swapped from Chevy Blazers. During my endless sessions of browsing car ads, I happened to stumble upon the razor-like taillight of the first-generation FWD Eldorado. That design, combined with its 7.7-liter V8, completely hooked me. I had to have one even though I had never even sat in a Cadillac.

Not a lot is known about my Eldorado's history other than it was built in 1968. From 1979-97, it spent its life with one owner in Florida. It then was bought by a Virginia member of the Antique Automobile Club of America, who had it repainted the following year. After 20 years of being in good hands, the Eldorado's journey crossing the Atlantic began with a Hungarian auto dealer at a Florida auction. After clearing customs through the Netherlands, the Eldorado spent two years sitting at the dealer's lot in Hungary, not even being registered.







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Buying a good, almost original classic is easy when money is no object. I don't fit that description, so my search took months until, by chance, I found two equally fine 1968 Eldorados for sale: a black one in Finland and a red one in Hungary. The black one was cheaper, but the red one was only a three-hour drive from my place, so my dad and I drove over the border to Budapest. This was somewhat daunting because it was during the pandemic and we could be stopped at the border, even with valid COVID documentation.

Upon arriving at a huge lot in the not-so-pretty outskirts of Budapest, we found a hut with an American flag and two old Cadillacs inside. We both were blown away by the condition of the car, with practically no rust in the more troublesome areas like behind the wheel housing trim and underside the doors. The interior only had a minor issue with the driver's seat. Perhaps I should have spent more time learning about the car than searching for it, as there were some issues we didn't pay as much attention to as we should have — for example, the heater didn't work. We figured it was just a stuck heating valve, but it ended up being way more complicated than that.

The ride was somewhat bumpy, which ended up being due to the leaf springs being tired and the air suspension not working. In fact, almost every part of the suspension that was made of rubber needed replacing. But we needed to have this Caddy up and running, plus we're optimists and, maybe, a bit stupid too. Ever been there?

The dealer was a nice guy, but he didn't speak English. However, as he was raised behind the Iron Curtain, he spoke Russian, so another Russian-speaking dealer in the same lot was kind enough to be our translator. We got everything sorted out, agreed on a price, made sure the import duties were paid, and left a deposit (half of the value) on the Caddy, with the rest to be paid upon delivery.

Since December 2021, I have fixed the suspension and changed the lights to conform to European laws, such as amber blinkers and headlights that are not sealed beam. However, a major issue that wasn't present when I bought the car reared its ugly head last summer. I had tried to get the timing right, so I bought an electronic ignition conversion, stiffer mechanical advance springs, and a new vacuum advance canister. When I removed the carburetor, I also discovered the base gasket was leaking exhaust gases into the intake. However, in the fall, I lost compression in one cylinder.



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We pulled the engine and found a broken piston, so we began a complete engine rebuild including honing the cylinder walls, a new set of pistons, new camshaft and bearings, rebuilding the carburetor, and a few other items. As you can imagine, the first start-up was nerve-racking. Unfortunately, we found a knock but, luckily, the issue turned out to be the dipstick, which we had bent in the wrong direction. Overall, for our first engine rebuild, it went surprisingly well. Now the engine is running fine with good power, and I have already put on 1,500 miles since the rebuild.

**RUBBER**  
*the Right Way*

**Rubber the Right Way**

**World Famous Rubber Parts & More**

**[Visit website](#) or [send email](#)  
for more info**

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





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023



## CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

### Cars For Sale



**NEW ARRIVAL 1931 Ford Model A** – Garage-kept North Carolina car now located in Northern Virginia – Starts and drives beautifully – Original condition – Interior very nice – No rust but paint peeling in some areas – Underneath clean – [See pictures](#) – **\$23,500** – For more info, contact Jim McKay at 240-708-3408 (call or text) or [send email](#) – Serious inquiries only



**NEW ARRIVAL 1955 Cadillac Series 62 Sedan** – 16,085 miles indicated, TMU – Beautiful, well optioned, three-owner dry Texas car (original 1955 license plate included with the car) that has been cosmetically restored inside and out – Said to be owned by the original family from 1955-2010 – Previous owner (a CLC member) had it from 2010-2022 and did the restoration – Current owner bought the car in 2022 and has barely driven it – Factory rear A/C with front A/C added with modern compressor – Power steering, power windows, aftermarket power brakes with dual circuit master, power seat and Autronic Eye – Interior and engine bay restored, stainless and chrome done, paint done (including sills and engine bay), detailed and finished trunk – Previous owner said the generator has been internally converted to alternator and a hidden bluetooth stereo was added behind dash (not verified) – Battery replaced and set of flat door glass purchased – Fresh engine oil and filter – Comes with cover, factory service manual and some extra bits – Stored inside on battery tender with sta-bil by current owner – Things that will need attention: 1) current whitewall tires look great but are 10+ years old, 2) power steering leak at rack, 3) several flat glass door windows are cracked (full set of four new door windows are included) , 4) could use some tuning for easier starting and more power (takes a while to start and warm up after sitting for months -- family obligations limited owner's ability to drive it only three times since it was purchased with one oil and filter change per year) – [See pictures](#) – **\$29,995** – For more info, contact Edward Stewart at 267-972-8934 or [send email](#) – Car is located in San Francisco, CA



**1963 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible** – Same owner for the past 30+ years – 85,000 miles – Palomino Iridescent exterior (code 47) with black leather interior and tan top – Runs pretty good but needs some TLC – Original condition with no known major issues – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$14,000** – For more info, contact Randy Hart at 443-205-0296 or [send email](#) – Located in Baltimore County, MD



**1979 Cadillac Coupe Deville** – As seen in the June 2023 issue of *The Self-Starter* magazine – 90,200 original miles – Always meticulously maintained in like-new condition and always garage-kept – Boston Post Road Brown exterior with original brown leather interior in excellent condition – New headliner – Current owners are non-smokers – [See pictures](#) – **\$25,000 obo** – For more info, contact Susan & Frank Parish at 410-703-8955 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Lusby, MD



**1997 Cadillac Seville STS** – 26,583 miles – Only two owners – Pristine original condition – Original window sticker, owner's manuals and key tags – 4.6 Liter V8 engine – AM/FM stereo radio with cassette player and 12 compact disc player in trunk – Four Bose amplified speakers – Wheels chrome over cast aluminum – Heated front seats – Recently replaced serpentine belt, belt tensioner assembly, alternator and seat back link – [See pictures](#) – **\$16,500 obo** – For more info, contact Mary Cicciu at 508-250-3781 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Cotuit, MA





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023



**2006 Cadillac DTS** – 82k miles – Really nice overall condition – Current owner changed the coolant, oil and trans fluid when he first acquired the car and then repeated the process four months later – Amsoil 5w/30 oil used – White Diamond exterior with Shale interior – Sunroof and chrome wheels – Radio will sometimes not shut off, so have to turn it off – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$5,500** – For more info, contact Jim Canada at 804-545-1803 or [send email](#) – Car is located in Midlothian, VA

### Parts For Sale



**1930s Classic Car Trunk** – Black leather – Belonged to the seller's grandfather who owned a 1930s Cadillac and said the trunk sat outside on the back of the car – No mold or mildew inside and out and no rust on any of the metal latches – Been kept in a bedroom not in an attic or a basement – Key available for the lock in the front – [See pictures](#) – **\$350** – For more info, contact Lea Callahan at 301-717-8898 (mobile) or [send email](#) – Trunk is located in College Park, MD

### Commercial Ads



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# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle August 2023**



## **2023 OFFICERS**

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