



#### DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

Fellow members,

I'd like to start off by thanking those who attended our 55th Anniversary celebration last month and special thanks to Mark Brodsky (pictured right) for his generosity as the host and sponsor of the wellattended event (over 50 members and guests attended). Thanks to Christopher Winter and Vince Taliano for running the show program that included recognition of the Charter members with a special framed



certificate. The Columbia Country Club's food was superb, as was the fellowship. The next special event for our region is the warehouse sale of merchandise by Daniel Jobe, owner of Capitol Cadillac (see in the events listing on page 7).

Don't forget to get your registrations in for the 2024 CLC Grand National in Gettysburg, PA in June. Spots are filling up quickly. If you are interested and available to volunteer, please contact Lynn Gardner at <u>lynnwgardnerusa@aol.com</u>.

Spring is only weeks away, so it's time to wake up your Cadillac and LaSalle and let it know that show time is around the corner.

Hope to see everyone soon!

Dan Ruby



#### 2024 OFFICERS:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR 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





### IN MEMORIAM: JUAN ARANDA BY THE ARANDA FAMILY AND VINCE TALIANO



CLC Potomac Region Charter Member Juan Aranda of Huntingtown, MD was called home on January 30, 2024, at the age of 87. He was born on August 12, 1936, in Washington, D.C. to Antonio & Isabel Aranda and was the beloved husband for 57 years to the late Betty (Biggs) Aranda. Juan worked 40 years and retired from Northwest Orient Airlines at Washington National Airport, where he was favorably known as "Chico." He met a lot of people from around the world and had a million stories about the airport and growing up on "Embassy Row" in Washington, D.C. that were interesting, funny, and fun to listen to, including one about the Japanese Ambassador just prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

His well-known hobby was his "ole '47 Cadillac" that he was so proud of. He was one of the founding members of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club's Potomac Region who attended the Region's first meeting in January 1969 and most events since then. He loved all the classic cars and going to antique car shows in Maryland and Virginia, and was always one of the first to pre-register for Potomac Region car shows at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD.

All who knew Juan knew that he loved to converse with anyone, anytime, and wherever he went. Since he spoke fluent Spanish and English, he talked to everyone he encountered. He was known for his quick wit and sense of humor.

Juan is survived by his daughter Maria Klein (Herb), sons Juan Aranda (Janet) and Luis Aranda (Marsha), along grandchildren Jennifer (Aaron), Natalie (Dan), Jessica (Danny), Allie (Andrew), Jillian (Ricky), Meghan (Thomas), Tony (Samantha) and Johnny (Taylor), and great-grandchildren Bella, Olivia, Kevin, Michelle, Genevieve, Liliana, Amelia and Riley.

He will be dearly missed by many, but the legacy and life he created and lived will continue forever. Please consider donations in memory of Juan Aranda to the Hospice of the Chesapeake (visit <u>https://www.hospicechesapeake.org</u> for more information).

Thanks for 55 years of dedicated membership, Juan. Rest in Peace!





### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

October 4, 2005



In reference to our Potomac Region newsletter, October 2005 issue, I would like to share a memorable experience with the 1953 Cadillac LeMans convertible (article on page 6).



On May 15, 2005 at the Spring Car Show, I approached Daniel Jobe to inquire if they [Capitol Cadillac] had any old files on sales and servicing cars in D.C. The car that I was interested in was a 1953 Series 75 Limo, Emerald Green with a continental kit. My father chauffeured this car for the Embassy of Peru. In our conversation, I mentioned that I knew Daniel's grandfather, Floyd Akers (pictured left). We met when I was a ticket agent for National Airlines (Mr. Akers flew to Florida on National). Over a short period of time, we became acquainted.

Then one morning, I brought my '57 Oldsmobile Holiday Coupe to Capitol

Cadillac for servicing. I was milling about and Mr. Akers saw me and we started a conversation. He said, "Come with me, I want to show you my car." To my amazement there was the two-seater '53 Cadillac LeMans convertible. I was awestruck. Then he said, "Come on, we'll take her for a ride." We drove around town (of course, there was very little traffic back in "those days").



1953 Cadillac LeMans #3 Capitol Cadillac <u>Cadillac Dream Cars Weekend</u> October 25-26, 2008 Photo by Dan Reed

I wanted to share this memorable experience with the CLC members, as it was great for me. I was honored to have known Floyd Akers and to ride with him in the 1953 Cadillac LeMans convertible!

Sincerely,

Juan Aranda CLC Potomac Region Sunderland, MD





#### HOW I FOUND MY PRIDE & JOY: A 1947 FLEETWOOD 60 SPECIAL BY JUAN ARANDA ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MARCH 2009

My 1947 Fleetwood 60 Special was originally sold by Capitol Cadillac in Washington, DC. We still drive and enjoy it as much today as the first day we bought it. Here's the story...

In May 1966, a friend of mine and I we were talking about "old cars". Several days later he called to tell me he had parked next to an old car located in the basement garage of the Cathedral Apartments on Connecticut Avenue in Washington, DC across from the National Zoo. After work that day I went to see the car, but the caretaker would not let me in. After I explained to him how I arew up in that NW area of Washington, he decided to let me in to view the car. WOW! There sat this '47 Cadillac,



Juan Aranda with his 1947 Fleetwood 60 Special Potomac Region Spring Get-Together April 1972 Photo courtesy of Bryce Frey

covered with incinerator dust. (I mean it was covered. I could not tell the condition of the paint.) The caretaker gave me the name and number of the owner. When I called him, he told me the car was not for sale and it belonged to his elderly mother. He was kind enough to take my name and number in the event the car came up for sale.

Approximately two weeks later, he called me to see if I was still interested in buying the Cadillac and I said YES!! The following day I went to meet him at the garage and he gave me the price he wanted for the car. It was more than I offered. Another week passed and he called me once again to see if we could sit down and discuss the price. I told him that the following Saturday, my wife, children and I would meet him at the apartment. He had come to the realization that it was time to sell the car, as he lived on his boat in the wintertime. He wanted me to make another offer, which I did, and we finally came to an agreement on the price of the car. I bought it! I could not believe it was mine! This was May 1966 and the odometer read only 8,000 miles. It had been sitting in storage for 14 years; next to the incinerator keeping nice and warm with that blanket of soot actually preserving the original paint.







Betty Aranda with her 1947 Fleetwood 60 Special 2006 Potomac Region Spring Car Show Photo by Ezekiel Armstrong

In 1969, I drove the car to the first-ever Potomac Region meeting held at Ron Van Gelderen's house (the car appeared in the picture published in the January 2009 issue of the *Caddie Chronicle* regarding the first meeting). From that point forward, we were regular participants at Region events throughout the 1970s.

In the fall of 2005, the car won Dealer's Choice at the **Celebrating V-12 & V-16 Cadillacs Show** at Capitol Cadillac, and the car was at the latest theme-based show, **Cadillac Dream Cars**, in October 2008.

We look forward to bringing this 33,000 mile all-original car home to Capitol Cadillac this fall to help celebrate Capitol Cadillac's 75th Anniversary.





### FEBRUARY 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES BY VINCE TALIANO

**PLACE:** Silver Diner, Merrifield, VA **TIME:** 7:30 pm **PRESIDING:** Dan Ruby, Region Director

**ATTENDEES:** Fourteen attendees, including five officers: Franklin Gage (Membership Director), Bill Hilliard (Treasurer), Chuck Piel (Assistant Region Director), Dan Ruby (Region Director), Vince Taliano (Secretary and Website Manager), Joe Cerroni, Jack & Cher Gallagher, Jeff Gurski, Sandy Kemper, Dan Mullane, Scott Patton, Gabe Simerson and Morgan Yeh

**DIRECTOR'S REMARKS:** Dan Ruby thanked everyone for attending. He offered condolences to the family of Past Director Nick Wilson and Charter Member Juan Aranda, respectively. They died weeks apart in January. A memorial service will be held for Nick later this year, while Juan's services were last week. Quite a few members attended. Congratulations to Gibbs Fogarty, owner of Sport Cadillac, and his wife on the recent birth of a baby girl.

**SECRETARY'S REMARKS:** The minutes from the previous meeting were not reviewed since they were published and distributed to all members in the February 2024 newsletter.

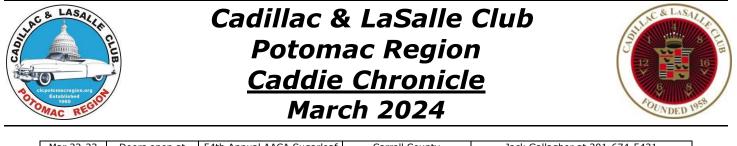
**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Hilliard reported on the financials since the last meeting. Total revenue was \$339.51 and total expense of \$1,132.82 for the period, resulting in a net loss of \$793.31. Most of the expenses were from the Washington Auto Show, specifically the rental fee for poles to hang the custom Motorama banner.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Franklin Gage announced that we currently have 159 dues-paying family memberships for 2024. The annual membership drive continues as the region is following up about 12 members from 2023 who haven't renewed yet. Franklin welcomed new member Gabe Simerson to his first region meeting.

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

- Past Events:
  - 2024 Washington, DC Auto Show, Friday, January 19 Sunday, January 28 Washington (DC) Convention Center. Chuck Piel thanked the owners of 1953 Motorama re-creation vehicles (Richard Sisson - 1953 Buick Skylark; Mark Brodsky and Larry Good - 1953 Cadillac Eldorados and Dan Lewandowski - 1954 Chevrolet Corvette) and all the volunteers who staffed the display area over the course of the 10 days. The event was a huge success.
- Upcoming Events:

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Feb 25	12:00 pm -	Annual Potomac Region	Columbia Country Club	Christopher Winter at 410-869-8619
Sun	4:00 pm	Holiday Party / 55th	Chevy Chase, MD	or <u>send email</u>
		Anniversary Party	-	
Mar 9	7:00 am -	49th Annual AACA	Howard County	Tom Young at 443-744-6338
Sat	3:00 pm	Chesapeake Region	Fairgrounds	or send email
		Collector Car Swap Meet	West Friendship, MD	
		View flyer		



Mar 22-23 Fri-Sat	Doors open at 8:00 am	54th Annual AACA Sugarloaf Mountain Region Parts and Swap Meet	Carroll County Agriculture Center Westminster, MD	Jack Gallagher at 301-674-5431 or <u>send email</u>
Mar 23-24 Sat-Sun	TBD	Daniel Jobe Warehouse Sale <u>Visit website</u>	Beltsville, MD	Daniel Jobe at <u>send email</u>
May 5 Sun Rain Date May 19 Sun	9:00 am - 3:00 pm	32nd Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction featuring a 1953 General Motors Motorama Reunion	Sport Cadillac Silver Spring, MD	Chuck Piel at 240-888-5115 or <u>send email</u>
Jun 10-15 Mon-Sat		CLC Grand National <u>Visit website</u>	Wyndham Hotel Gettysburg, PA	Cynthia Rutledge at 727-742-9649 or <u>send email</u>

• <u>Visit website</u> for a full list of events.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The 2024 Grand National registration form was published in January issue of *The Self-Starter* magazine. Tours are filling up fast, so submit your registration as soon as possible. If you are interested and available to volunteer, please contact Lynn Gardner at <u>lynnwgardnerusa@aol.com</u>.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Joe Cerroni gave a short talk on how to safely sell a car. A summary will be published in an upcoming issue of the *Caddie Chronicle*. Specifically, he discussed tips on how to market cars and necessary documents for the sale, plus the pros and cons of accepting different payment methods.
- Jack Gallagher announced that Franklin Gage recently received the AACA Fiala Old Faithful Award (Ted Fiala was one of AACA's founders back in 1935). This is a major national service award presented at the AACA Annual Meeting to a member, not elected or appointed to a National office, who best exemplifies the true spirit of our Founders for service and accomplishment to the Antique Automobile Club of America, by his or her deeds and display of enthusiasm through the years. This award was established in 1995 by the children of Theodore & Suzanne Fiala in their parents' memory. Congratulations, Franklin!

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Sunday, March 17 at 11:00 am at the 198 Restaurant in Burtonsville, MD. Members are encouraged to attend the adjacent Cars & Coffee in the Burtonsville Town Square before the meeting. It starts at 7:30 am.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.





### 32nd Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction Sunday, May 5, 2024 Rain Date: Sunday, May 19, 2024

### Car Registration: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

### 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 Tysons Corner (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 Station
- Keep straight to get onto MD-200 E/Intercounty Connector E
- At Exit 17, head right on the ramp toward Briggs Chaney Rd.
- 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 Rd.
- 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. •

Sterling

(28)

Reston

(267)

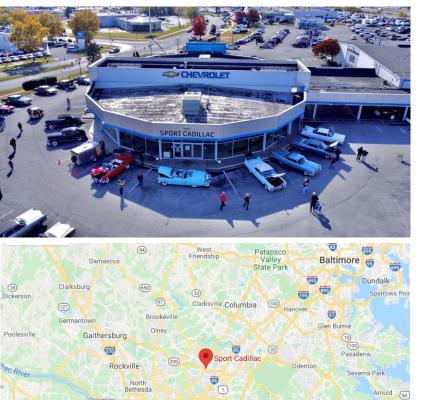
495 Tysons

-

- 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.

### **STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!**





College Park

Hyattsville

(295) Heights

Bethesda

Arlington

Washington

Bowie

Annapolis

+

[50]





### HAPPY 55TH ANNIVERSARY, POTOMAC REGION! BY VINCE TALIANO PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRYCE FREY

In January 1969, Ron Van Gelderen, along with his wife Sherie, hosted the new region's first meeting. On that cold but sunny day, Ron's neighborhood was transformed into an Apalachin, NY scene circa 1957 when Mafia bosses from all over arrived in their Cadillacs for a historic sit down. Unlike the Apalachin get-together, the vintage cars did not cause suspicion in McLean, VA resulting in the arrival of the State Police at the residence. Below are the attendees, the Potomac Region's founding members, and the classic vehicles they drove to the historic meeting. Two of the cars in the picture are still owned by Region members: the late Juan Aranda's 1947 Fleetwood 60 Special (now owned by his son Luis) and Richard Sisson's 1953 Skylark.



L to R Standing - Martha Jane Kennedy, Fred Westenberger, Earl Broyles, Juan Aranda, C. P. Johnson, Robert Schilling and Ralph Peckins L to R Standing - George Teebay, Sue Teebay, Mike Smith, Sandy Smith, Cari Davis, Akin Davis, Glen Cole, Pat Cole, Bryce Frey and Nancy Frey

L to R Kneeling - Zane Griner, Ellwood Brown, Steven Sisson and Richard Sisson L to R Kneeling - Ron Van Gelderen and Sherie Van Gelderen



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#### ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION BY VINCE TALIANO PHOTOS BY JACK MCCLOW, JOJO RUBY AND VINCE TALIANO

On Sunday, February 25, approximately 50 people attended a 55th Anniversary celebration at the Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, MD, sponsored by Mark Brodsky.



The rainbow on the photo above was caused by the glare of the sun. However, some attendees felt it was the late Juan Aranda's spirit presiding over the gathering. The charter member passed away shortly after the 55th Anniversary of the Region's first meeting but before the anniversary celebration.





Christopher Winter was the emcee for the anniversary program that featured announcements / remembrances from quite a few members, including Charter Member Richard Sisson. Below is an excerpt from Richard's speech.

"One of the reasons I've been a member all these years is because of the camaraderie I've experienced with my fellow members. In the summer of 1968, the family of a recently deceased gentleman ran an ad in The Washington Post for a '48 Cadillac 75 series limousine in Silver Spring, MD. My brother, Steven, and I went to check it out. We had already been involved in the antique car hobby for years. It was a different world back then and it was considered odd for young men to be involved with antique cars. In Silver Spring, we met Ron Van Gelderen, who later became the president of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club. We formed a friendship that would last throughout the years.

Steven and Ron decided to seek a charter from the national and form the Potomac Region. The first meeting was held in January 1969 at the Van Gelderens' home in McLean, VA. I was 26 years old and had a '53 Buick Skylark, which most of you know I reacquired recently after 52 years. Steven was 32 and had a '46 Cadillac convertible.

Some of those attending the first meeting included a lady named Martha Jane Kennedy, who had a '41 60



Steven and Richard Sisson with the awards they won, respectively, at the 2004 Spring Car Show at Capitol Cadillac

*Special, Ellwood Brown, Bill Thomas, Juan Aranda, Bryce Frey, Glen Cole and others. Steven served as its first director and did a mailing to all the Cadillac enthusiasts he knew. A little later on Joe Thacker, Dave Crawford, Bob Webster, Glen Murphy and others joined us and we became a formidable region, remaining so to this day 55 years later.* 

*Our first show was held at the Turkey Run Park off The George Washington Memorial Parkway in Virginia. We had at least one more show there before moving it to a park in downtown Vienna, VA. Our first tour was to an antique air show in Bealeton, VA and later on to White's Ferry on the Maryland side of the Potomac River.* 

Steven remained the director for years and then turned the reigns over to Charlie Lightbown, Bill Thomas and others. A lot has changed since my '53 Skylark wasn't allowed to be shown at many shows because it was built after 1948. The hobby has grown to include millions. I'm proud to have been part of the Region for 55 years. Long live the Potomac Region!"













During the program, Region Director Dan Ruby handed out raffle tickets to attendees for a chance to win one year of free membership. Congratulations to Terry Prevost for having the winning ticket. Pictured left is Terry (standing) being congratulated by Bill Hilliard and Sandy Kemper.

The event was attended by a nice mix of long-standing members and newer members, including Patrick Monahan, of Washington, D.C, who drove his beautiful 1961 Coupe deVille (pictured below).

Special thanks to Mark Brodsky and the Columbia Country Club for making the anniversary celebration a memorable event enjoyed by all who attended.







#### SELLING YOUR CAR SAFELY BY JOSEPH A. CERRONI

Due to the internet, it is easier than ever to sell a car. In the past the seller had to rely on classified ads in a local newspaper. Today you can market your car to the world, but with the access to an international market of buyers comes with certain risks. The purpose of this article is to provide some basic advice on how to avoid risk in a sales transaction.

**Marketing Your Car:** There is less risk in marketing your car in the area where you live. Selling to a club member, neighbor or local resident can reduce potential problems, while marketing a car on a national level (e.g., *Hemmings*, Bring-a-Trailer, etc.) can be more challenging. You should make this decision based upon how difficult you believe it will be to sell your car. If you have a very expensive and/or unique car, you may have to market it nationally to find a buyer.

**Don't Exaggerate:** When advertising a vehicle restrain yourself: State the basic facts about the vehicle; refrain from phrases like "completely restored", "like new", etc. There are very few completely restored cars, as even the most complete "nut and bolt" restorations may not include restoration or replacement of every item on the vehicle. Don't set yourself up for a lawsuit for misrepresentation.

**Necessary Documents of Sale:** Once you find a buyer you will need to prepare some basic documents. The necessary documents are: the contract, the bill of sale and the title of the vehicle.

The contract should: 1) identify the seller and buyer (name and street address- no PO Box) and other contact information; 2) describe the vehicle by year, make, model, color and VIN/ID number; 3) set out the price and payment terms ; 4) set out when and where the transaction occurs; 5) have a disclaimer of any warranties, express or implied, except warranty of title; 6) other provisions such as risk of loss, events of default, which state's law applies to the transaction, and for recovery of attorney fees in the case of a default.

The bill of sale will describe the seller, describe the vehicle (as in the contract), set forth the price, and disclaim all warranties, express or implied. The seller should only warrant title, which means the seller owns the vehicle and will defend claims from a third party regarding ownership.

The title is the state issued document of registration and ownership. It is usually signed over to the buyer. Most states require the seller to make some certification regarding mileage. For most sales of old cars the seller usually checks the block that says "cannot be determined". Some states do not provide titles for vehicles over 25 years old. In those states the bill of sale functions as the title.





**Payment:** There are several ways you can accept payment for your vehicle, and there are considerations for each payment method.

**Cash:** Is an option for a purchase price under \$10k. For purchase prices higher than \$10k, there are obvious security considerations. There are also reporting requirements imposed on banks to report cash deposits of over \$9,999.00 per day.

**Check:** If the sale is local, a check drawn on a local bank could be accepted with the expressed condition in the contract that the buyer will not receive the title until the check clears.

**Cashier's Check:** A cashier's check is drawn on a bank and purchased by the buyer. A cashier's check drawn on a local bank or national bank is also an option. You should verify whether the check is legitimate by contacting the issuing bank. A seller could arrange to meet the buyer at the bank, at which time the bank would verify the check is good and the seller could turn over the title and the vehicle to the buyer. It is not recommended to accept a cashier's check from any unknown out-of-state bank or any bank from Canada.

**Wire:** Buyer wires funds to seller's account. It usually takes one business day for the bank to credit the account. Be aware that a wire can be withdrawn, if cancelled promptly. A buyer may want to receive title immediately after wiring the money. However, a smart seller cannot agree to this because the funds are not in the buyer's account until the bank verifies the transfer.

For each of these payment methods (other than cash), the contract should provide a buyer does NOT receive title until the seller has received good funds.

**Escrow Agent:** In international transactions or very high sales price transactions an escrow agent may be used. The escrow agent receives the title (and sometimes the vehicle) from the seller and cash from the buyer. The escrow agent verifies the car is the car in the contract and that it matches the information on the title. It also verifies that the funds from buyer are good. Once this is done, the escrow agent transmits the funds to the seller and arranges delivery of the vehicle and title to buyer. This is not an inexpensive option. Sometimes auction houses will offer escrow agent services.

Selling a vehicle can be a relief, if one no longer has use for it and wants it to be in good hands. However, it can also be a stressful experience without proper documentation and planning. Hopefully this article has provided some guidance which will make a seller's job less stressful and will reduce the risk of a bad transaction.

Joe Cerroni is an attorney in Annandale, VA and a member of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region. He owns a 1980 Eldorado and can be reached at <u>joe@natsett.com</u>.





#### ECLECTIC MIX OF CADILLACS IN FLORIDA BY JOSH PINHO

For the past three years, my dad and I have made a February road trip to Florida for the Daytona 500 a new tradition. Our road trip consists of museum tours and tours of the NASCAR teams' headquarters and engineering operations in the Charlotte, NC area on the way down, and we make a stop at the NASCAR Hall of Fame on our way back up after enjoying the festivities in Daytona.

These trips are always jam packed with cars and racing, but they're usually pretty light on Cadillacs. While Cadillac has had a successful history with their V-series cars and prototypes in the Pirelli World Challenge and in International Motor Sports Association (IMSA), the brand was not one of GM's chosen brands for NASCAR racing. Throughout NASCAR's history dating back to its first official season in 1948, I found just one example of a Cadillac entered in an officially sanctioned NASCAR event. On June 19th, 1949 at Charlotte Speedway, Frank Mundy drove a '49 Cadillac to a 30th place finish due to a broken right front spindle.

Because of the postponement of on-track activities in Daytona due to heavy rain throughout the weekend, we had some extra time to expand our horizons beyond NASCAR and managed to find some interesting Cadillacs around the Daytona/Orlando area. The first new stop was to a museum/restaurant/go-kart track/mall called Dezerland. The owner







of Dezerland, Michael Dezer, touts his 2,000+ car collection which he values at over \$200 million as "one of the world's most captivating collections." Having seen the collection in person, I can attest that it's pretty impressive to take in and it's very, very eclectic.



Shortly after paying the admission fee, you're face to face with the "American Dream," a 1976 Eldorado that was lengthened substantially to win the Guinness World Record for longest limousine. The car had since fallen into disrepair and it's claimed that Dezer spent north of \$250k to restore the limo to its former glory – complete with a helicopter landing pad on the rear deck.

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Throughout the various themed rooms and collections at Dezerland Cadillac fans will spot a wide range of Caddies – at least 12 by my count – from the 1930s, including a V12 convertible and a LaSalle, up to the 1980s, including an Allanté and one of the prototype "Trump Golden Series" limousines. There's also a gold 1956 Cadillac inexplicably adorned with a statue of Marilyn Monroe.

Other highlights of the museum included a multitude of original cars used in the **Batman** series, **Mad Max**, **RoboCop**, **The A-Team**, etc. This also included a 1980s Cadillac hearse that was used in a

chase/shootout in the 2003 film **Terminator 3**. Dezer's collection of vehicles and memorabilia from the James Bond franchise is so large and comprehensive that it warranted its own separate museum space within the massive complex.





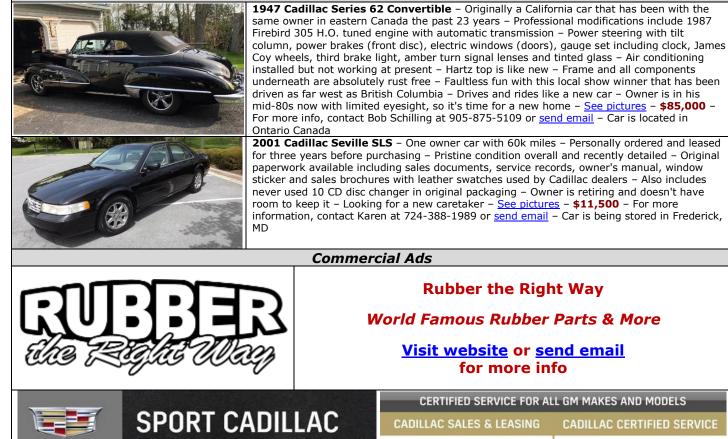
Luckily the weather finally let up on Monday morning and we were able to catch an action packed race, even if we weren't totally thrilled with the result. The clear skies also allowed the Universal Studios theme park to get their 1956 Cadillac out onto their themed sidewalk section. I initially assumed it was a static display outside of the facade of the "Hotel Beverly Wilshire" but when we passed by that area later in the day, the Cadillac had moved on. At least it's good to know it wasn't sitting out in the rain.





### CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

#### Cars For Sale



3101 AUTOMOBILE BOULEVARD / SILVER SPRING, MD / 20904 301-890-6000 / SPORTCADILLAC.COM

OMAC REGIO

PHONE: 301-890-6000

PHONE: 240-802-7405

Region 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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Call our knowledgeable staff, Mon-Fri 9:00 am to 6:00 pm EST, and they'll find exactly what you're looking for!

304-724-6600, <u>contact online</u> <u>www.usacaddyparts.com</u>





### 2024 OFFICERS

NAME	POSITION(S)	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS
Dan Ruby	Regional Director Automobilia Auctioneer Summer Picnic Host	301-343-1463	<u>danruby@clcpotomacregion.org</u>
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