



Cadillac & LaSalle Club

Potomac Region

Caddie Chronicle

August 2025



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE **BY LARRY GOOD**

2025 OFFICERS:

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NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
LARRY GOOD

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR
CENTRAL VIRGINIA REGION LIAISON
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
CHUCK PIEL

TREASURER
BILL HILLIARD

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR
CHRISTOPHER WINTER

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
FRANKLIN GAGE

CAR SHOW COORDINATOR
SUMMER PICNIC HOST
DAN RUBY

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
SECRETARY
WEBSITE MANAGER
VINCE TALIANO

NATIONAL DIRECTOR
NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST
JACK MCCLOW

2025 COMMITTEE CHAIRS
AWARDS – PETER CHEN
SOCIAL MEDIA – SCOTT WARDINSKI

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Greetings! Remember last month I listed some issues that the Potomac Region (PR) board is working on? One was the Dealer Show & Automobilia Auction at Sport Cadillac. Although it was really quite successful this year despite setbacks, which volunteers overcame, we want to make the show less adrenalin based going forward. Here is a summary of some main resolutions that came out of a recent officers' meeting.

- Non-members participating in the show: If a non-member comes to a Cadillac show, it's because he/she likes Cadillacs. We want to bring them into the fold. Recruitment to join CLC and PR was hampered this year by lack of contact information to reach out to potential members. We even missed a former NFL player. Future registration forms will show complete information, so the Region's Membership Director and Director will be able to meet and greet every new person on the field and follow up afterward.
- One of the problems seems trivial unless you were the victim, and the solution is paperweights. The registration desk is always under the portico, which acts like a wind tunnel. At this year's windy show a supergust blew away the whole station. People scrambled everywhere to pick up the papers all over the lot. Heavy paperweights and strategic relocation in response to weather conditions will set this straight.
- This year a modified Cadillac and a stretch limo appeared at the show. We had no judging classes for them, so they couldn't really compete. Solution: Re-establish a modified class and a professional car class like the CLC has in order to include everybody.
- Checklists and duty rosters: Checklists will prevent forgetting things we need to have or need to do. Duty rosters will organize volunteers and commit them to staying at their stations for two-hour shifts, not leaving us shorthanded during unscheduled breaks. These tools have worked well for PR at the Washington Auto Show.
- Who's who? Volunteers, especially the parkers, will wear bright vests for easy recognition.



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- We want to increase the recognition of Sport Cadillac in return for its fantastic donation of space, time, labor and money. There are ways we can do this, such as stage time at our ceremony, complimentary CLC membership and more **Caddie Chronicle** advertising.

There were more points, but this gives you the flavor.

Congratulations to PR member Dave Durkin (right) on his CLC V-12 **The Self-Starter** Author of the Year Award at the Grand National! This award was selected by **The Self-Starter** editor. (Last month we announced two other CLC individual awards selected by the Awards Committee.) Look back in the August 2024 issue. You can read Dave's award winning article on how he undermined his own house to make room for a non-Cadillac (of all things!).



Please keep PR member Peter Chen in your thoughts and prayers as he attends to the serious illness of his father, Joseph Chen, in Texas.

Events! We have events! You'll certainly want to consider being part of the CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show at the AACA Museum in Hershey, PA, during the weekend of August 16-17. The Museum will be open for self-guided tours each day. On Saturday we get a "behind the scenes" tour of the storage and maintenance shops (Jim's Place). After that the group will travel to Giotti's Restaurant for dinner. The car show is on Sunday.

A month later on September 13 (a Saturday) is the Region's Annual Picnic at Dan & JoJo Ruby's home in Owings, MD. Read down in this issue for the registration flyer. This laid-back event is a club favorite...always fun in scenic Southern Maryland. Bring your Cadillac or LaSalle. Their big yard makes a nice "showfield."

The calendar in the meeting minutes below shows more car events.

Finally, who cares about LaSalles? Answer: The Potomac Region does! 😊 Next month we'll address that a little, maybe 19 times. Stay tuned.

Larry Good



The [Cadillac Dream Cars](#) event in 2008 at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD, was featured in two different magazines: [Cars & Parts](#) and [The Self-Starter](#).





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JULY 20, 2025, MEETING MINUTES BY VINCE TALIANO

PLACE: The Green Turtle, Burtonsville, MD

TIME: 11:00 am

PRESIDING: Assistant Regional Director Chuck Piel

ATTENDEES: Nineteen including five officers: Franklin Gage (Membership Director), Bill Hilliard (Treasurer), Chuck Piel (Assistant Regional Director), Dan Ruby (Car Show Coordinator), Vince Taliano (Newsletter Editor, Secretary and Webmaster), Gary Cameron, Randy & Susan Denchfield, Nancy Correll, Jack & Cher Gallagher, Bill Harrison, Constantin Jiga, Sandy Kemper, Barry Leese, Mike Kerwin, Les Mardiks, Harry Scott and Richard Sisson

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS: Chuck Piel welcomed everyone to the meeting. On July 16, CLC Potomac Region advertiser Dick Shappy (Dick Shappy Classic Cars) was featured on the History Channel's **American Pickers** (pictured right). If you didn't see the episode, it can be watched on demand. On August 9, Lloyd Ralston Gallery in Connecticut will being an online auction of toy vehicles owned by the late CLC Potomac Region member Jeff Gurski. This wonderful and eclectic collection of 500 lots contains Retro 123 vehicles, Marty Martino custom cars, Japanese tin cars, promo cars, plastic & metal vehicles, die cast including Dinky, Corgi, Tekno, Tootsietoy and more. Modern die cast includes Brooklin, MiniChamps, Buby, etc. [View the auction online](#) where you can register to bid.



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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Hilliard reported the financials from the last meeting. The Region had total revenue of \$52.05 and total expenses of \$94.34, resulting in a net loss of \$42.29.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Franklin Gage announced we have 171 dues-paying family memberships for 2025. Recruitment efforts are underway with new CLC members in our area.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: The following activities were discussed:

• Upcoming Events:

| Date | Time | Event | Location | Contact |
|----------------------|----------------------|---|---|--|
| Aug 9 Sat | 9:00 am – 2:00 pm | 51st Annual Metro Chapter Buick Club/Capitol City Rockets Oldsmobile Club All-GM Show Visit website | Eagle Ridge Middle School Ashburn, VA | Joe Padavano at 703-927-9196 or send email |
| Aug 16-17 Sat-Sun | | Fourth Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show See flyer | AACA Museum Hershey, PA | Michael Stinson at 267-251-8588 or send email |
| Sep 13 Sat | 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Potomac Region Summer Picnic | Dan & JoJo Ruby's Owings, MD | Dan Ruby at 301-343-1463 or send email |



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| | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Sep 20 Sat | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm | 49th Edgar Rohr Memorial Antique Car Meet | Manassas Museum Manassas, VA | Bill Sessler at 703-368-2367 or visit website |
| Sep 27-28 Sat-Sun | | Cadillac Fall Festival | Gilmore Museum Hickory Corners, MI | Visit website |
| Sep 28 Sun | 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm | Classic Car Show See flyer | Laurel Park Laurel, MD | Send email |
| Oct 1-5 Wed-Sun | Gates open daily at 7:00 am | Fall Carlisle Visit website | Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA | 717-243-7855 |
| Oct 7-10 Tue-Fri | Gates open daily at 7:00 am | AACA National Eastern Fall Meet Visit website | Giant Center and Show Grounds Hershey, PA | Kurt Froebel at send email |
| Oct 13-18 Mon-Sat | | CLC National Driving Tour "Cruising the Capital" See flyer | New York Capital Area | Visit website |
| Oct 18 Sat | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm | City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show Visit website | Rockville Civic Center Rockville, MD | 240-314-5022 |

Gray Shaded Events = Potomac Region Co-Sponsored Events

Visit the [Potomac Region website](#) for a more complete list.

NEW BUSINESS:

- In Maryland, the eligibility criteria for historic vehicle (Class L) license plates has been updated. Vehicles with model years 2000-2005 will no longer qualify for historic tags, effective July 1, 2025. The updated law, passed as part of the Budget and Reconciliation Act (BRFA), restricts historic plates to vehicles with a model year of 1999 or earlier.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

- New Rule: Maryland's MVA is enforcing a new rule that limits historic vehicle registration to vehicles with a model year of 1999 or earlier.
 - Previous Rule: Previously, vehicles 20 years old or older qualified for historic tags.
 - Effective Date: This change takes effect for registrations renewed after July 1, 2025.
 - Impact: Vehicles with model years 2000-2005 currently registered with historic plates will need to transition to standard registration upon renewal. This means they will be subject to standard registration fees, vehicle inspections, and emissions testing.
 - Grandfathering: There is no provision to grandfather vehicles with existing historic plates, so even those with current historic tags will need to comply with the new rule.
 - Impact on Sales: It's anticipated that this change will lead to a potential influx of 2000-2005 model year vehicles being sold as owners seek to avoid the costs associated with standard registration.
- New Event: Chuck Piel introduced plans for an event called LaSalles & Lattes. More details to follow.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Monday, August 18 at 7:30 pm at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.



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The Valley Forge, Central Pennsylvania and Potomac Regions of
The Cadillac & LaSalle Club
Cordially invite you, your family, and friends to the
Fourth Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show
AACA Museum, Hershey, PA
Saturday-Sunday, August 16-17, 2025



The Valley Forge, Central Pennsylvania and Potomac Regions are pleased to announce the Fourth Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show where members and friends can reconnect and enjoy one another's cars. Gather at the AACA Museum, Hershey PA on Saturday, August 16th at 1:30 pm. Bring lunch or eat on the way. Enjoy special Museum exhibits including "Don Allen Chevrolet Dealership Perspective," featuring items from the collection of Willett G. Seltene of Skillman, NJ. In the 1950s, Don Allen was the largest Chevrolet dealership in the world, with locations in New York City, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Miami and other American cities. In addition, "Tailgate Travelers – American Station Wagons," spotlighting American station wagons and their impact on decades of family road trips and daily motoring will be on display. Attendees can also enjoy the Tuckers, bus and motorcycle exhibits displayed with unique depictions of scenes representing New York, Route 66, San Francisco and other famous American settings. They serve as background for the 71,000 square feet of exhibit space. Members can tour the museum virtually by [visiting their website](#) and clicking on "Virtual Visits." Also, the Museum is open for self-guided tours on Saturday and Sunday. A "Behind the Scenes" tour of the storage and maintenance shops (Jim's Place) will also be available on Saturday. Before gathering for dinner, stroll the grounds and admire fellow CLC members' cars. Afterwards, the group will travel to Giotti's Restaurant for dinner. Separate checks will be provided to each party.

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 peak of 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 Drive, Hershey, PA 17033, 717-583-2222, [Marriott.com](#)
- **Quality Inn & Suites:** 181 Hershey Rd, Hershey, PA 17033, 717-583-5151, [Choicehotels.com](#)
- **Hampton Inn & Suites Hershey:** 195 Hershey Rd, Hershey, PA 17033, 717-566-3369, [Hilton.com](#)

Display your Cadillac, LaSalle, or other make at our peer-judged car show on Sunday, August 17th on the Museum's grounds. Open to all makes & models, pre-war through modern. No heavily modified, customs, rods or racers. Lightly modified vehicles that preserve factory-built appearance and features are welcome. Registration/check-in starts at 9:00 am, peer judging starts at 11:00 am and presentation of awards will start at 2:30 pm. Lunch will be available; advance purchase strongly recommended.

Complete the attached form and return with your check made payable to **VFR-CLC**. Hurry! **Pre-registration extended to August 4th** for Museum tour & dinner, and is highly recommended for the car show. For more info, contact Michael Stinson, Director VFR-CLC, at Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com or visit the [VFR website](#). A portion of the costs of this event will be subsidized by the VFR-CLC.



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Fourth Annual CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet and Car Show AACA Museum, Hershey, PA Saturday-Sunday, August 16-17, 2025

Registration Form: Pre-registration extended to August 4th for Museum tour, dinner and car show. Day-of-Show car registrations accepted. Questions: Michael Stinson, 267-251-8588, Michael.c.stinson46@gmail.com

Car Owner Name: _____ **Spouse/Partner Name:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Cell Phone: _____ **Other Phone:** _____ **Email Address:** _____

CLC #: _____ **AACA #:** _____ **Member of AACA Museum? (Y/N):** _____

Children Name(s) and Age(s): _____

Guest Name(s), City/State: _____

Car Information:

Year: _____ **Make:** _____ **Model:** _____ **(Circle):** Sdn, Cpe, Conv, Other

Year: _____ **Make:** _____ **Model:** _____ **(Circle):** Sdn, Cpe, Conv, Other

Bringing a Trailer? (Y/N): _____

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

Activity Registration and Fees:

| Activity | Cost/ Person | No. Guests | Total |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Saturday AACA Museum Group Tour: w/ Richard Sills. AACA Club member admission is Free. Cost per non-AACA member and each additional Guest: | \$11.00 | | |
| Saturday AACA Museum "Behind the Scenes" Group Tour (storage buildings, detail shop; price per person including AACA Club Members): | \$10.00 | | |
| Saturday Dinner @ Giotti's - # of guests (separate checks for each party) | | | |
| Sun Car Show - Early Registration (per car; received on/before July 28th): | \$20.00 | | |
| Car Show - Late/ D.o.S Registration (per car; Registration rec'd after July 28th): | \$30.00 | | |
| Sunday Lunch (hoagie/sub slices, chips, drink) | \$10.00 | | |
| TOTAL ENCLOSED make check Payable to VFR-CLC: | | | \$ |

Mail a copy of this form along with the check made payable to **VFR-CLC** to
CLC Northeast Inter-Regional Meet, C/O: John Wood
327 Bellevue Ave., Pennel, PA 19047-5310.

Include a SASE to receive confirmation.

Visit us on the web!

www.clcpotomacregion.org



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OPEN HOUSE
AUGUST 24-26 & OCTOBER 5
HAWORTH, NJ

Loading & Transport Assistance Available

V-16 & V-8 CARS & PARTS

[Read about the collection](#) in **Drivin' News**



1938

CONTACT: MARC TUWINER 301-672-1000
Annapolisclassiccars.com

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

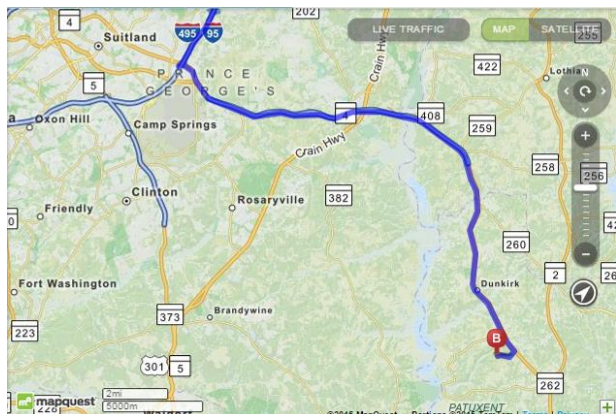
**Saturday, September 13, 2025
1:00–6:00 p.m.
301-343-1463
danruby@clcpotomacregion.org**



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, September 6**

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 2023 picnic.

**Visit us on the web!
www.clcpotomacregion.org**



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LIBERACE'S ELDORADO BY KUSTORAMA

Most of the restyling featured on Liberace's 1954 Eldorado was found in the piano-keyboard interior upholstery designed by Sam Barris of Barris Kustoms. The interior was assembled by Bob Hauser of Carson Top Shop. The black and white Naugahyde keys were individually sewn as were the initial "L" and Liberace's famous candelabra sewn in the back arm panels. Bottom parts of the front and rear seat were covered with parts of the score from his theme song "I'll be seeing you." Liberace's car won the interior design award from **Motor Trend** magazine in 1954.



Above and Right:
Liberace's 1954
Cadillac at
the 1955 Los
Angeles Motorama.
Photo from his
GT350LADY
Collection.

Far Right: Liberace
receiving an award
from **Motor Trend**
magazine for his
Cadillac in 1955.
The model in the
photo is Nancy
Russell.





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The Day Sammy Met Helen: *Destiny On Route 66*

By The Desert Way with Jaylyn and John Earl
thedesertway.com



IT'S A COOL DESERT EVENING ON NOVEMBER 18, 1954, and the day's show is over at the New Frontier Hotel and Casino on the emerging Las Vegas Strip. Still, the show must always go on.

The young entertainer, along with his valet, Charles Head, are getting ready for an all-night drive to Studio City, near Los Angeles. The other members of the Will Mastin Trio approve of the trip and will wait for their youngest member to come back in a few days. The up and coming star of stage, film and television is up to the task. A Vaudeville performer since he was three years old, he is the consummate professional. So when friend and fellow entertainer, Tony Curtis, asks you for a favor, well, you don't say no.

The Will Mastin Trio is the headliner on the new Frontier Casino's stage, with a contract going into 1955, but the show can't go on without the youngest member. So, with due influence by a close friend, the Frontier will have other acts fill in until his return. Show business is like that. A few months earlier, when the young man wanted to stay at the hotel, he was turned away. The New Frontier allowed the trio to play, of course, but they drew the line at having "Negro guests."

Naturally, Las Vegas is all about



The New Frontier Hotel and Casino, 1954-55



The movie was released in 1955, minus the song.



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money, and when the young man's friend said he wouldn't play the strip anymore, executives listened. When the young man said he wouldn't play if he couldn't stay, the New Frontier took a gamble and opened its doors to all. When Francis Albert, "Frank," Sinatra talks, everybody listens. The gaming commission and the City of Las Vegas quickly followed suit and abolished overt discrimination, due in no small part to the stand made by Sammy Davis Jr. Jim Crow in the desert met its match. By 1960 it was outlawed throughout the land.

The Road to Hollywood



From Las Vegas to Los Angeles. A long lonesome highway.

From Las Vegas to Los Angeles. A long lonesome highway.

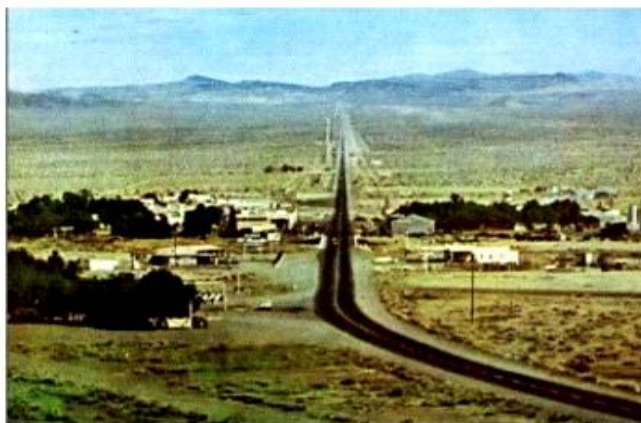
Sammy and Charles Head left the Strip late on the evening on the 18th. With freeways in the vast Mojave Desert still years away, the trip will be more than 290 miles across a landscape of mostly Joshua Trees and sand, the way illuminated by less than half of a full moon. Sammy hasn't had a license for very long, but Charles Head is a good driver, so he will take the monotonous desert driving in Sammy's new 1954 Cadillac El Dorado. It's a fancy car, with all kinds of chrome and bullet-shaped decorations, including a large one in the center of the steering wheel's horn ring.



Same model, different color. Sammy's was lime green.

After driving long hours along the desolate Highway 91, out of Las Vegas, the road merges with Route 66 in Barstow. Sammy rests while his friend and valet motors into the town of Victorville.

We can imagine that the conversation in Victorville went like this: "You look tired, Charlie. I'll drive the rest of the way." With that, Sammy took the wheel of his Caddy, and Charles Head went to sleep in the large back seat.



Route 91 through Baker.



Route 66 in Victorville. Driver change.

Nowadays we would say it was a game changer. Sammy Davis Jr. was on his way to an unscheduled meeting with a 72-year-old widow by the name of Helen Boss, in the small San Bernardino community of Verdmont, along the Mother Road. FYI, (unless you already know), before the advent of Interstate-15, to drive Los Angeles, you had to drive east to San Bernardino, go south, then go west again. We know, it almost sounds like the scarecrow's dialogue from the famous, "The Wizard of Oz."

Destiny on Route 66

A few days before Sammy left for Studio City, as Akron, Ohio, started to get into its serious winter mode, Helen Boss prepared for her yearly trip to the West Coast. Yes, Helen was an early model of a Snowbird. Ever since Helen's husband, a former Akron Chief of Police, died in 1940, she shared her time between Ohio and California, with a few pleasure cruises thrown in for good measure.

Not wanting to make the trip to see her family in Van Nuys, California, on her own, Helen put an ad in the local Akron



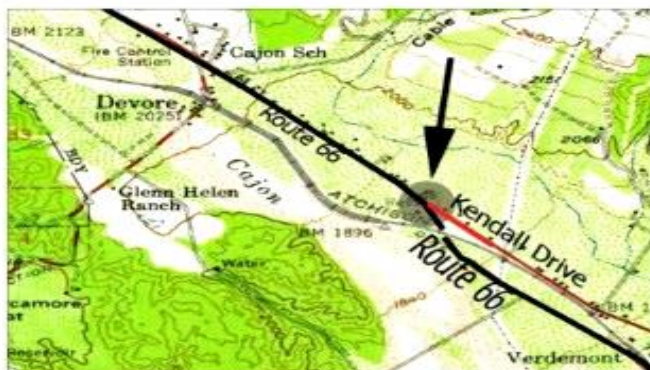
Helen Boss



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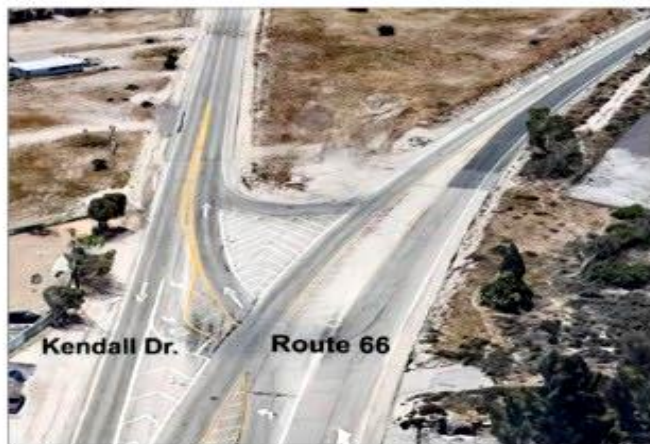


newspaper, seeking a companion or two for the trip west. Twenty-two-year-old Thomas McDonald replied. He wanted to get to Edwards Air Force Base to see his brother. Ms. Bessie Roth also wanted to go west. She didn't like the cold. Tom McDonald agreed to drive Helen's car, at least as far as possible. On or about November 18, 1954, Thomas paid for his share of the trip, thanked the ladies, and departed. Headed for the already famous Edwards Air Force Base. Helen and Bessie were on their own.



A most confusing stretch of highway.

Helen took over driving, and the two women continued down Route 66, clearing the last of the open desert and the bottom of the Cajon Pass. They passed by Devore Heights, approaching the community of Verdmont, as they headed to San Bernardino and then Van Nuys. It was just before 7:00 a.m. as Helen drove east. The sun, just breaking over the mountains, was in her eyes as she drove. As Helen approached the infamous fork in the road (which is still there, and still confusing drivers), she drove straight onto Kendall Drive past her turn.



1954. The Kendall-Rte 66 fork was only one lane in each direction, with houses on both sides.

As Helen went onto Kendall Drive, Sammy and Charles weren't too far behind. He was tired, but alert. Like Helen, he had the sun in his eyes as he drove. Realizing her mistake, Helen put her car in reverse, and drove backwards, off Kendall Drive, and onto Route 66. Charles Head was asleep in the back seat of the



The Caddy horn from hell. An insurance company's nightmare.

Caddy, and Sammy Davis Jr. headed east. Right into the back of Helen's car. The force of the impact pushed Helen's car into a field, and crushed the front of the Cadillac, pushing the big V-8 engine backward towards the dashboard. Sammy Davis Jr. head met the steering wheel with a force violent enough that it fractured his face and dislocated his left eye on that fancy horn. Note: After the accident, Cadillac removed the bullet-horn feature from all future models.

Charles Head fared only slightly better, being propelled from



TRIO MEMBER MISSING—Two members of the famed Will Mastin trio, Sammy Davis Sr. (left) and Will Mastin, sit forlornly outside Community Hospital in San Bernardino, waiting word on the outcome of surgery performed on the third member of the trio, popular singer and dancer, Sammy Davis Jr. The 28-year-old entertainer is Mastin's nephew and Davis Sr.'s son. He suffered a severe injury to his left eye Friday in a two-car accident near San Bernardino. (Sun-Telegram Photo)

Will Mastin, with Sammy's father, Sammy Davis Sr.



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the back seat to the front, where he broke his jaw. Before losing consciousness, Sammy asked about the other car. He was holding his eye in his hand. After being rushed to San Bernardino Community Hospital, Sammy was attended to by Doctor Fredrick Hull, the best eye specialist in town.

Nine days later, Sammy was released from the hospital and, at the urging of Frank Sinatra, recuperated at the singer's Palm Springs home for a few weeks. They were friends till the end, and both were members of the famous "Rat Pack."



Rat Pack members: Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Frank Sinatra.

Frank Sinatra's Palm Springs home is still as it was when "The Chairman of the Board" lived there, and it's even available for rent. Just \$2500.00 per night! Come on, you know you'd spend that at Starbucks for a thousand cups of coffee.



Sammy slept here, as did an assortment of other Hollywood stars. You can too. <https://www.sinatrahouse.com/>

Smitten by the Palm Springs desert lifestyle after spending time at Frank's place, and after fortune followed fame, Sammy had a home right in the heart of Palm Springs too (near Jack Benny's house). He was heavily involved in charitable work throughout the area.

Before the year was out, and just weeks after the accident, Sammy Davis Jr. went back to work at the New Frontier, destined for greatness. Before the end of his life, he became a household name throughout the world. He died in 1990. The lights of the Las Vegas Strip were dimmed for 10 minutes in his honor.

So, there you have it. The real facts about the famous accident. Some still believe that Sammy crashed into a train bridge, which



Dean Martin's former home in Palm Springs.

he didn't. His car hit a brick gate entry on Route 66, several hundred feet away, and close to the impact. Dr. Hill continued to practice well into his 80s, and regularly received gifts from the very grateful singer, dancer, Hollywood actor and Las Vegas celebrity. To show his thanks for the attention given at San Bernardino Community Hospital, Sammy Davis Jr. contributed enough money to build a new medical wing, and also put on a free show that included all of the big names of the day.

Bonus Fact

Sammy Davis Jr. was probably most famously known for the popular 1970s children's song, "The Candy Man." He never liked singing it.





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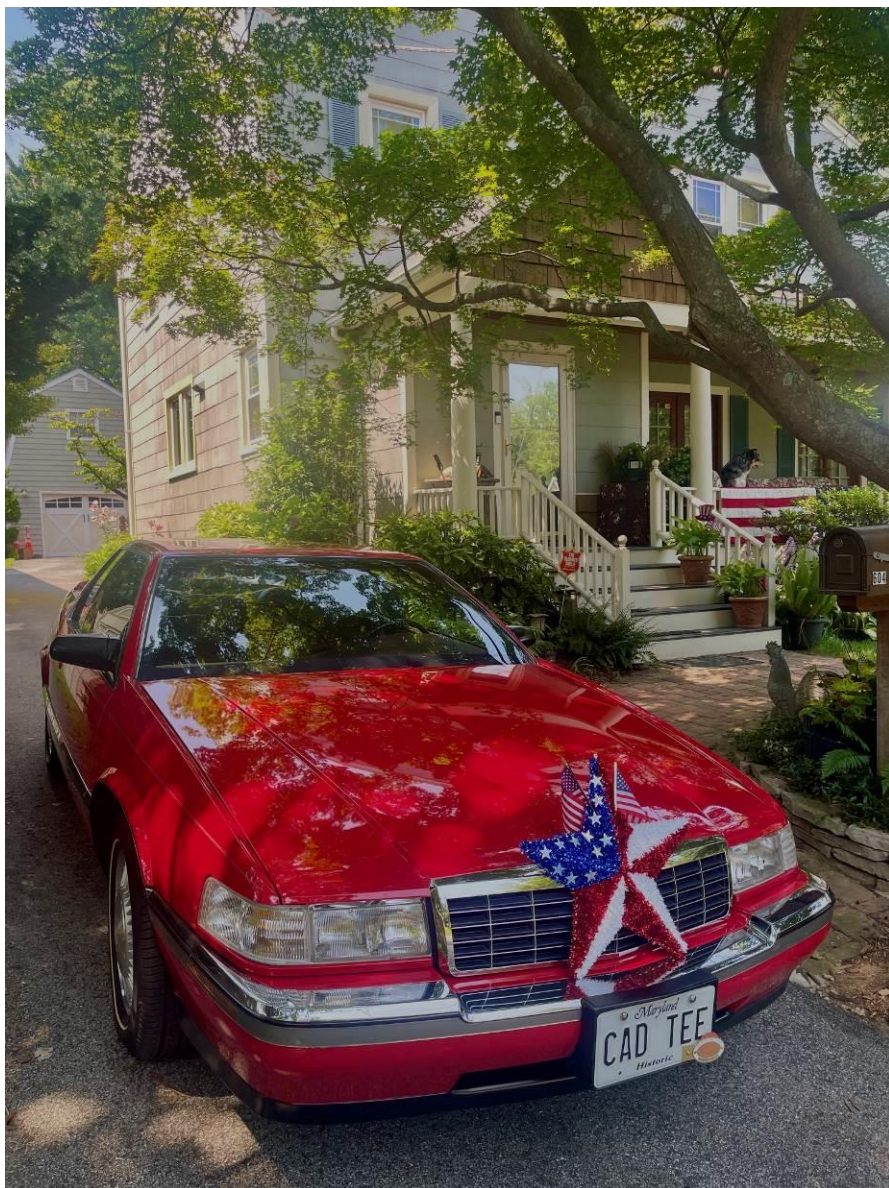


I LOVE A PARADE BY GARY A. CAMERON

I think all of us got into the antique car hobby for similar reasons: the comradery with other owners and the satisfaction of either restoring a vehicle to its best condition or just keeping something dripping with patina and 10-30w oil on the road.

I'm still in the house my wife and I bought in January 1984 in Silver Spring, MD. One town over is the quirky and lovely city of Takoma Park. It was incorporated in 1888 and still has many of the beautiful Victorian bungalows 137 years later residing on its hilly, tree-lined streets. There is a small downtown area with numerous restaurants, small businesses and a Red Line Metro stop. They also have a 4th of July parade that is 136 years old and a Washington-area tradition.

Since my one-car stable of antique cars is so close by, I try to volunteer every year. As a result, I've been serving as a "driver for dignitaries" in this parade since the early 1980s. It started with my restored 1957 Oldsmobile Fiesta station wagon that was a two-tone Sunset Glow/Alcan White. Then it was a nice original Champagne-colored 1967 Oldsmobile 98 convertible, followed by a Metallic Blue 1975 Olds Cutlass Salon with a half-roof white vinyl top, plus some daily drivers. All cars are welcomed at the parade that lasts about 20 minutes from start to finish. Without any marching bands, Boy Scouts, bagpipers, politicians running for office, etc., the cars crawl along at a glacial pace. That's good because the parade route is lined with some very nice folks with their kids, grandkids, dogs, neighbors, all of whom mesh together for a very nice community feeling. Drivers, dignitaries and spectators all wave to each other. Occasionally I hear, "Nice Car!" We all have a good time.



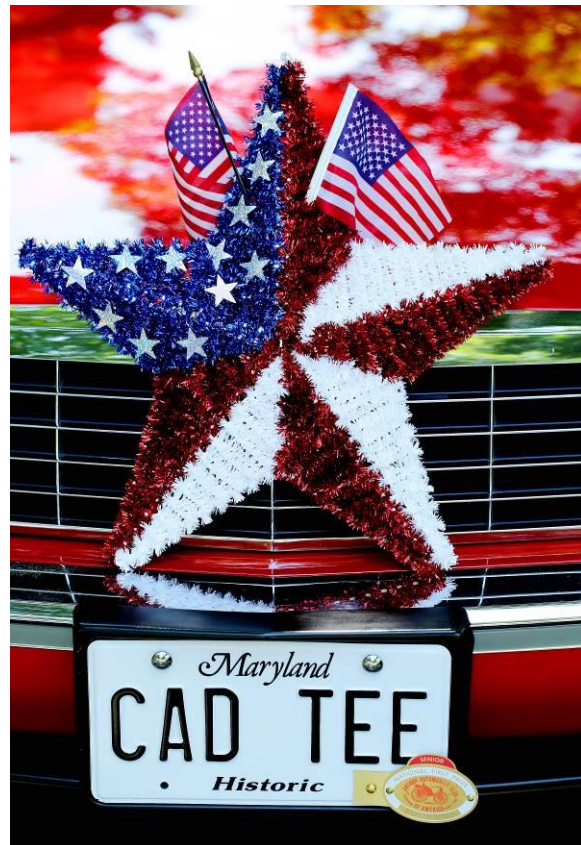


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While driving, I am constantly glancing over to the engine temperature gauge. Overheating on a hot summer day is a real concern. With that said, there is one rule of thumb for parade cars: have a great radiator and cap. Recently flushed with new fluid and the installation of a new thermostat, hoses and clamps, my 1992 Eldorado was ready to go, but there is still the possibility of flirting with 220+ degrees, higher than the normal 185-degree comfort zone. Keeping the A/C off and the windows down helps, but I always keep a small cooler bag of water bottles in the back seat, just in case.

Almost every person I've driven has been appreciative of the effort it takes to decorate the car for the parade and accommodate the guest. However, there was one local politician who was running for re-election that was disappointed to see my car was NOT a convertible. The elected official did not hide their disappointment with the vehicle they were going to be riding in that day. Hey, if a beautiful, decorated red Cadillac isn't good enough, the politician can always participate in a parade walking with Boy Scouts and bagpipers.





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**THE DUCHESS! ONE OF ONE 1941 CADILLAC CUSTOM LIMOUSINE
BY VINCE TALIANO
PHOTOS COURTESY OF [MY CAR STORY](#) WITH LOU COSTABILE**



In August 2024, CLC Potomac Region member Steve Plunkett of Ontario, Canada (pictured above left) was interviewed by Lou Costabile for a 17-minute [My Car Story](#) video. The featured car was Steve's 1941 Cadillac custom limousine known as **The Duchess**.

The video begins with Steve telling Lou he has owned the car for about eight years. The previous owner was in the US and spent \$400,000 restoring the Cadillac, but he never showed it. Steve describes his enjoyment is showing / debuting cars at certain events and this video does a great job of doing that.

The Duchess is a custom-built one-off car designed by Harley Earl and Bill Mitchell. It shares no body panel with any other Cadillac of that year. The long diagonal body line was "stolen" by Buick the following year, remaining a styling queue with their models for years.



The background on this car is very interesting. King Edward VIII of the United Kingdom abdicated his throne in 1936 to marry the twice-divorced American Wallis Simpson. Although they were ostracized at home, they were treated like celebrities outside the UK. They had a residence at the Waldorf Astoria in New York for years and commissioned the build of this car by General Motors for their personal use. The car's build, overseen by Alfred Sloan, GM CEO, cost \$14,000. Crowds of people would gather to get a glimpse of the couple wherever they went (pictured left). Watch the [My Car Story](#) video to learn more about the fascinating history of this one-off car.



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CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

Cars For Sale



1941 Cadillac Series 75 Limousine – 60K miles – Original unmolested rust-free car w/o a divider window – Third owner purchased the car about a year ago – Previous owner's estate had the car since the 1960s – Purchased by the second owner from the locally-known first owner from the Short Hills/Millburn, NJ area – Current owner has not driven it much and had plans of keeping it in his collection, but is now downsizing – Sadly, the car will be sold – Smooth-running 3 speed w/ three-speed manual transmission that shifts well – Decent restoration – Original brown seats are extremely presentable – Black body has nice road trip, thinning paint in areas and some checking and cracking in the lacquer as expected on an original car – Chrome is presentable as a driver – Encourage anyone interested to see the car in person before purchasing – More pictures and videos available upon request – [See pictures](#) – **\$25,000** – For more info, contact Chris Pozarycki at 908-930-8105 or [send email](#) – Located in Oxford, NJ



1948 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible – Approximately 49K original miles – Same owner since 1989 – Horizon Blue with maroon interior – Fairly original condition including engine – New spark plugs, spark plug wires, distributor cap and ignition coil were installed at the time of purchase, with the original 1948 items stored in the trunk – Fan blade assembly was replaced with a modern one that moves more air to keep the engine cooler, but can easily be replaced back to the original blades – Wheels have re-chromed sombrero hubcaps – Comes with great provenance, photos and documents back to the time of the original owner, including a file of the most recent work completed by CLC member Ron Threadgill – Featured in the [September 2024 Caddie Chronicle](#) – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$60,000 obo** – For more info, contact Alastair Brooke Colquhoun at 804-356-7250 or [send email](#) – Located in Henrico, VA



NEW ARRIVAL 1954 Cadillac Eldorado – Same family owned since 1965 – Seen in the movie *Silver Linings Playbook* in 2012 – Also appeared in the Mike Martino Accordion Spectacular Vegas Style Show in 1989 (watch [YouTube video](#) around the 20-minute mark) – Runs and drives well – [See pictures](#) – **Asking \$100K obo** – For more info, contact Mike Martino at 215-809-0492 – Located in the Philadelphia suburbs



1956 Cadillac Eldorado Seville – 36K original miles – Third and current owner purchased the car 22 years ago with 26K miles – One of 3,900 Eldorado Seviles built in 1956 – Numbers matching 365/305hp V8 engine with original two four-barrel carb setup, generator, radiator and power brake booster – Transmission rebuilt – Impeccable survivor that resides in a climate-control garage during the winter months, in a regular garage the rest of the year – Meticulously maintained and pampered with premium fuel, zinc-additive oil and regular treatment of Marvel Mystery Oil – Refurbished braking system – Runs, drives and stops well – Participated in the *Eldorado Extravaganza* in 2006 – Featured on the front cover of *Hemmings Classic Car* magazine in February 2007 – Showcased in a [YouTube video](#) taken at the 2024 Syracuse Nationals (starts at 2:06 mark) – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$60,000** – For more info, contact Sal Buffa at 315-457-5294 (preferred) or [send email](#) – Located in Syracuse, NY



1970 Cadillac Deville Convertible – Purchased in 2005 partially restored with 90K miles – Final restoration finished shortly thereafter and included paint, engine, transmission, brakes, suspension, electrical and upholstery – Twenty years later, it is now showing 141K miles – Everything works such as the climate control, clock, automatic light-turn on, radio, etc. – Options include tilt/telescoping steering wheel, climate control, power locks, electric trunk release, six-way power seats and twilight sentinel – Modified with the eight-piece Fleetwood rocker molding stainless steel trim – Featured in 2009 "Rock the Red" promotional video for the Washington Capitals (view [YouTube video](#)) – **\$41,000** – For more info, contact Scot Minesinger at 703-283-2021 (leave text message, not voice mail) or [send email](#) – Located in Fairfax Station, VA



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1989 Cadillac Fleetwood Sedan – Two owners – 33,820 miles – Always garaged and loved – Mint condition – White with blue leather – V8 engine – Ashtrays never used – No issues – Runs and drives perfect – Old Car Sale Guide says \$12,500 for a Class 2 car; this one is better than that – **Reduced to \$5,000** – For more info, contact Richard Sisson at 301-846-8287 or [send email](mailto:rsisson@clcpotomacregion.org) – Located in Walkersville, MD

SOLD



NEW ARRIVAL 1995 Cadillac Seville SLS – 33,820 miles – Two owners (current owner purchased 5/05 from selling dealer with 16,878 miles) – Original owner turned car in to acquire newer model with push button option – Polo Green / Neutral interior – Oil changed once per year (Mobil 1 Full Synthetic) – Transmission fluid and coolant serviced at 20,000 miles – AC compressor replaced approx. 5/18 – Power control module replaced approx. 12/19 – Continental tires installed in 2017 (approx. 1,500 miles on them) – Single disc dual AM/FM/CD/DVD w/painless wiring AMP bypass harness (original radio in trunk) – Driver's seat bottom foam GM part #16749667 replaced approx. 5/05 (OE foam and replacement foam for driver's seat in trunk) – [See pictures](#) – **\$5,000** – For more info, contact Greg Culp at [send email](mailto:gculp@clcpotomacregion.org) – Car is located in Rockville, MD



1996 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham – 130K miles, with 83K miles driven by current (second) owner since purchasing in 2011 – Marblehead Gray Metallic with a gray vinyl top and light gray leather seats – Strong-running 5.7-liter LT1 V8, factory rated at 260 horsepower – One-year-old battery and alternator, one-year-old front-end rebuild, four-year-old A/C compressor and blower and a six-year-old water pump and distributor – Hankook narrow-whitewall tires installed in 2022 (only 8,000 miles of wear) – Featured in the [May 2025 Caddie Chronicle](#) – **Reduced to \$8,500** – For more info, contact Doug Bailey at 404-786-6077 or [send email](mailto:dougb@clcpotomacregion.org) – Located in Roswell, GA

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