



Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle March 2026



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY LARRY GOOD

2026 OFFICERS:

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2026 COMMITTEE CHAIRS
SOCIAL MEDIA – SCOTT WARDINSKI

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Endless opportunities evolve into an endless stream of activities for the Potomac Region (PR). In addition to our upcoming dealer show/auction and monthly meetings (already announced), there appears to be a big car party forming this summer. The National Park Service is putting together an event with pre-1950 cars to celebrate a) the 250th anniversary of the USA, and b) renovation of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, named to honor the first US president. CLC PR has been asked to join in the celebration with our cars, and we want to take a leadership role in this show. Activity Director Christopher Winter will keep us up to the minute with developments.

On a related topic, CLC PR is on a mission to educate the world about LaSalle. Most people alive today never even heard of this car. The Washington Auto Show just introduced Barry Leese's '37 LaSalle convertible coupe to a population of about 100,000. Spectators loved it with many asking to experience the feel of the rumble seat (pictured right). That leaves just over eight billion to go in the world. (Sounds like endless opportunity.) The National Park Service's celebration can take the exposure of LaSalle's one step further.



Did you know that the 2025 and 2026 calendars are the same as 1952 and 1953? That streamlines Cadillac research. I mention this because it will be easier to read about these years below in this issue. The matching calendars are a benefit of membership intended for the convenience of Potomac Region readers. (Believe that, and I'll tell you another one! 😊)



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Note: The March meeting at The Green Turtle in Burtonsville, MD, has been changed to Monday evening, the 16th, with a starting time of 7:30 pm. See calendar listing on page 4 below. Don't miss it!

We just learned of the passing of another long-standing CLC PR member, Ron Renoff. He made people happy. An In Memoriam appears on page 3. Please keep Chuck Piel and Roberto Barreiro in your prayers and thoughts as they recover from respective health issues.

Finally, let's welcome new member Larry Savino of Sloatsburg, NY, a town just north of NYC. Right from the beginning Larry has already contributed positive ideas to PR about management of CLC regions.



Signing off now from Georgia (the "other" Georgia), I finally found a Cadillac parked on a street in Tbilisi yesterday (pictured left). This country is definitely short on Cadillacs and even shorter on garages. I'm working on it.

Larry Good

PS: Have you booked your Grand National hotel room yet?

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

Visit [Sport Cadillac's website](https://www.sportcadillac.com)



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IN MEMORIAM: RON RENOFF BY THE RENOFF FAMILY AND VINCE TALIANO



Long-standing CLC Potomac Region member Ronald "Ron" Hamilton Renoff, 86, of Severna Park, MD, died peacefully under hospice care on February 4, 2026. Ron was born on September 13, 1939, in Baltimore, MD, to Paul V. Renoff and Margaret Hamilton (Houghton) Renoff. He graduated from Friends School in 1957 and then the University of Maryland College Park with a BS in Business Marketing. After receiving his degree, he joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 1964.

Ron was the president of Chesapeake Limousine Service, a company he owned. He was also the first president of the Association of Limousine Owners in Maryland. Ron enjoyed boating and water skiing on his beloved Magothy River, his classic Cadillacs, and attending the theatre.

He was a longtime member of Chartwell Country Club, where he treasured summers at the Whitehurst pool. He always had a joke or a story to share, and a laugh was always had by all.

Ron joined the CLC Potomac Region in 2011 and was a regular participant at the car shows at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD, with his one-owner blue 1968 Deville Convertible (pictured right) purchased new at Chesapeake Cadillac in Baltimore. When Vince Taliano won an online auction of Cadillac dealership literature from Chesapeake Cadillac, Ron was the first person he called to share his good fortune. It was always a pleasure for Club members to hear his countless stories and jokes, as the family stated.

He is survived by sisters: Lois R. Brockett and Cynthia Houghton Renoff, both of Severna Park, several nephews and a host of close friends. Rest in peace, Ron!





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EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Mar 14 Sat	7:00 am – 3:00 pm	51st Annual AACA Chesapeake Region Collector Car Swap Meet See flyer	Howard County Fairgrounds West Friendship, MD	Tom Young at 443-744-6338 or send email
Mar 16 Mon	7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Potomac Region Monthly Meeting	The Green Turtle Burtonsville, MD	Larry Good at 301-538-1544 or send email
Mar 27-28 Fri-Sat	Doors open at 8:00 am	56th Annual AACA Sugarloaf Mountain Region Annual Antique Auto Parts Meet Visit website	Carroll County Agriculture Center Westminster, MD	Babs Leese at 240-328-3823 or send email
Apr 18 Sat	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	CLC Judges' Workshop	Resorts World Catskills Monticello, NY	Larry Savino at 845-721-6768 or send email
Apr 20 Mon	7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Potomac Region Monthly Meeting	Silver Diner Merrifield, VA	Larry Good at 301-538-1544 or send email
Apr 22-26 Wed-Sun	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	Spring Carlisle Visit website	Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	717-243-7855
May 3 Sun	9:00 am – 3:00 pm	34th Annual Dealer Car Show and Automobilia Auction	Sport Cadillac Silver Spring, MD	Dan Ruby at 301-343-1463 or send email
May 16 Sat	10:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Potomac Region Tech Day	Scot Minesinger's Home Fairfax Station, VA	Christopher Winter at 410-869-8619 or send email

Gray Shaded Events = Potomac Region Co-Sponsored Events

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

General Motors Marvelous Motorama Exhibit Opening at Gilmore Museum

On April 11, 2026, the General Motors (GM) Marvelous Motorama exhibit with eight Motorama cars (see list below) from the Joe Bortz Auto Collection will open at the Gilmore Museum in Hickory Corners, MI. Richard Earl, the grandson of legendary GM Styling Chief Harley Earl, will serve as the guest host speaker for the opening. The exhibit is scheduled to be on display for a full year and possibly a second one.

GM was the largest corporation in the world in the 1950s and the Motorama show was taken to the general public to tantalize audiences on how the cars might look in the future. The GM Motorama traveled each year from 1953 until 1962 to all the major cities and even some smaller ones in the United States.

The cars on display will include the following:

- 1953 Buick Wildcat I ([see video](#))
- 1953 Pontiac Parisienne ([see video](#))
- 1954 Pontiac Bonneville Special ([see video](#))
- **1955 Chevrolet Biscayne** ([see video](#)) >>>>>>>>
- 1955 LaSalle Roadster ([see video](#))
- 1955 LaSalle Sedan ([see video](#))
- 1960 Pontiac X-400 ([see video](#))
- 1964 Pontiac XP833 aka Banshee Roadster ([see video](#))



For further info, contact Joe Bortz at 847-668-2004 (mobile) or the Gilmore Museum's Curator Nick Casse at 763-300-8030 (mobile) or PR Agent Brian Hunt at 616-498-5351.



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34th Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction Sunday, May 3, 2026 *No Rain Date!*

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 20904
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 the 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.
- 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.



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34th Annual Dealer Show and Automobilia Auction Sunday, May 3, 2026 **No Rain Date!**

Car Show Rules

- **Safety:** If a vehicle has fluid drips or leaks, the owner must bring absorbent material or drip pans to avoid slippery conditions and to protect the show field parking lot. **The Potomac Region reserves the right to prevent any cars with excessive fluid leaks from entering the show field.** It is recommended that a working fire extinguisher be in every vehicle.
- **Judging / Parking Rules:** The Potomac Region reserves the right 1) to determine each vehicle's judging class and 2) placement in the show field. Vehicles will be peer judged by the individual owners of the registered cars, including their own. Awards will be given to winning vehicles in each class. Trailer parking is available.
- **Food and Drink:** A food vendor will be on-site. All participants and guests are responsible for their own food and beverages.
- **Chairs:** All participants and guests are responsible for bringing their own chairs.

Car Show Registration Form

Judging Classes

Class A: 1903-1942 Cadillacs/LaSalles
Class B: 1946-1964 Cadillacs
Class C: 1965-1976 Cadillacs
Class D: 1977-1985 Cadillacs
Class E: 1986-1999 Cadillacs
Class F: 2000-Present Cadillacs
Class G: Modified Cadillacs/LaSalles
Class H: Professional Cadillacs/LaSalles
Class Z: Display Only

Other Awards

Best of Show – Early (1970 or earlier)
Best of Show – Late (1971 or later)
Long Distance (Driven Cars Only)
Ladies' Choice
Dealer's Choice

A vehicle receiving any "Best of" award will not be eligible to receive an award in its respective judging class.

Registration Form

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

Name(s): _____ Total Number Attending: _____

Address: _____ Email Address (required): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Vehicle Registration Fee: (up until April 25: \$20/per car, after April 25 including day of show: \$25/per car)

Circle Make: CAD LAS Year: _____ Class: _____ Model: _____

Circle Make: CAD LAS Year: _____ Class: _____ Model: _____

Circle Make: CAD LAS Year: _____ Class: _____ Model: _____

☐☐☐

Check box if you do not want your vehicle judged for awards (e.g., display only).

For further information, contact Dan Ruby at 301-343-1463 or drubyflyaa@aol.com.



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Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region 2026 Tech Session

Saturday, May 16, 2026

(Rain Date TBD)

10:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Scot Minesinger's Home

8600 Running Fox Ct.

Fairfax Station, VA 22039



**Limited to the first eight Potomac Region members' cars to RSVP
(please provide year and model -- Cadillacs/LaSalle's only).**

You may attend without a car that needs repair for some Cadillac camaraderie.

If your car has a problem, we will attempt a diagnosis.

If you know what the problem is and you have the needed parts,
we will attempt a repair.

No tire repair or mounting due to lack of equipment.

We will examine as many cars as time and complexity allow.

Please bring your car's shop manual.

We can also discuss general repair issues, as needed.

(Bring your favorite side dish, dessert and/or beverage!)

Your coordinator and instructor – Christopher Winter

Your host and instructor – Scot Minesinger

For more info or to RSVP, contact Christopher Winter
at cchwinter@cavtel.net or 410-869-8619.

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**WINTER PARTY
BY CHRISTOPHER WINTER
PHOTOS BY GARY CAMERON AND PETER CHEN**



Despite the catastrophe the weather forecasters predicted for Sunday, February 22, 37 people attended the Potomac Region's winter party. The format consisted of a sign-in and meet and greet, followed by food and drinks subsidized by the Region and a short program of announcements led by Christopher Winter (pictured above standing at rear of photo). Outside, the snow started falling between 1:30-2:00 PM, with most attendees enjoying the camaraderie until about 3:00 PM.

Two door prizes were raffled: a 1:18 scale, metal diecast, new-in-the-box 1961 Coupe DeVille in Fontana Rose Metallic, donated by Constantin Jiga, and won by Brad Pearson, and a "Cadillacs of the Seventies" book, donated anonymously, and won by Luis Aranda. Barry Leese was presented a framed copy of the "**Boomtown**" movie newspaper promo, featuring his 1937 LaSalle. Bill Harrison made a pitch for CLC Museum & Research Center auction donations, with this auction taking place at the 2026 Grand National. The last announcement was made by 92-year-old Jim Dillard (pictured above, standing far right), who found a shop in Woodbridge, VA, to work on his original-owner 1989 Eldorado, after a multi-year search.



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1953 ELDORADO FW 3, PART I BY LARRY GOOD

1953 PHOTOS FROM DRENNAN ARCHIVES; OTHERS BY LARRY & MAIA GOOD



1953 (above): Don Enburg (l) accepts keys to Eldorado #3 from West Drennan (r)

2026 (right): Doug Drennan (r) and Larry Good (l) contemplate the Darrin dip, a favorite styling feature of Harley Earl, on Eldorado #3



This is the story of 1953 Eldorado #3, the third Eldorado ever made and one of six show cars of this model. The Drennan brothers of Winfield, KS, have opened the barn doors and let the light shine on this rare specimen. Doug Drennan promptly joined CLC and its Potomac Region.

Winfield is the same town where #3 was originally sold in October of 1953 after GM pulled it from show duty, and the brothers' grandfather, E. West Drennan, was the dealer who sold it. The first six Eldorados were designated show cars. That puts #3 in a class with the #2 Eisenhower Inauguration car (see four-part article in ***The Self-Starter***: Aug., Oct. and Nov. 2022, Jan. 2023) and the #6 double Motorama car (see two-part article in the ***Caddie Chronicle***: [Apr. 2025](#), [May 2025](#)). Upon learning about #3, yours truly jumped on the next train to Kansas and interviewed the car.



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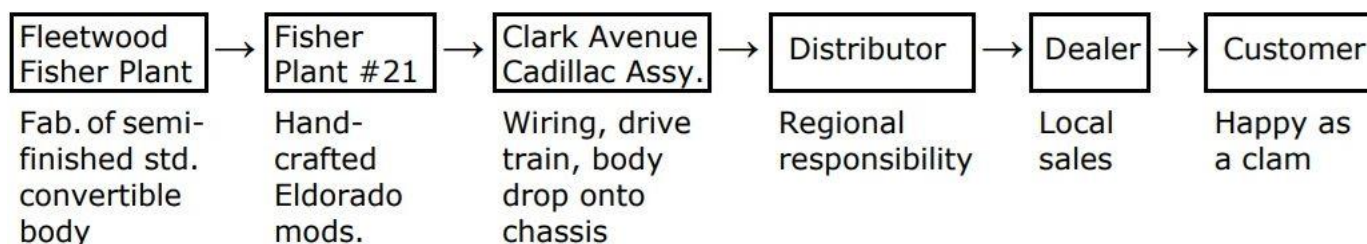
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Fisher Body

Let's start from the beginning. Cadillac manufacture begins at Fisher Body. Here is the sequence for 1953 Eldorados from conception to delivery as we best understand it today.



Several early features were built into the very first Eldorados by Fisher, and Eldorado #3 has most of them:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ No interior paint code or date code on body tag | until December 10, 1952 |
| ✓ Two-piece windshield frame, not three-piece | until February 5, 1953 |
| X Brass rear interior quarter bolsters | phased out by 1st week of February 1953 |
| ✓ Extra white leather in rear of interior | until February 11, 1953 |
| ✓ Wiper escutcheons with concealed screws | until mid-February 1953 |
| ✓ Weak parade boot hinges | until last week of March 1953 |



The foremost expert on 1953 Eldorado construction, Quentin Hall of Australia, has found that some of the earliest Eldorados had brass panels by the back seat. Called interior rear quarter bolsters, (pictured left) they were sometimes brass, sometimes steel sheet metal. A simple test with a refrigerator magnet tells us if the panels are ferrous (steel) or not. On #3, the magnet stuck, so these bolsters are steel.

The first detail in the list above is most unusual. Ordinarily, the bottom right corner of a '53 Cadillac body tag shows two codes: the interior paint code and the date code.



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- Interior paint code: Indicates the color of painted metal items (armrest cups, Autronic Eye) and plastic items (steering wheel, hand grips).
- Date code: Indicates when a body was scheduled to leave the Fleetwood Fisher Plant.

The earliest 1953 Fisher body tag known to have these codes shows the date "10," meaning December 10, 1952. Eldorado #6 shows "11" for a date and "T" for interior paint. The three earlier Eldorados that still exist today have neither code. (Body tags on Eldorados #1 and #5 are unseen and unknown.)

If these codes had existed on Eldorado #3, then

- Interior paint code: Would have been "U" for red because trim number 38 indicates red leather and carpet.
- Date code: Based on its engine serial number and what we know about Eldorado #6, #3's date code would likely have been "8" (leaving Fleetwood Fisher December 8, 1952).

These pictures compare body tags on car bodies departing Fleetwood Fisher before and after December 10, 1952.



Body tag comparison: Eldorado FW 3, before 10 Dec 52
(no interior paint code)
(no date code)



Eldorado FW 337, after 10 Dec 52
U = interior paint code for red
21 = date code for day of month

Once the basic convertible bodies were formed at the Fleetwood Fisher Plant, they were sent somewhere else for transformation into an Eldorado, most likely to Fisher Body Plant #21. Bodies spent two to seven weeks there from the date on the body tag to arrival at Clark Avenue for assembly.

What follows is a body tag decoder I've developed for 1953 Cadillacs. This one describes Eldorado FW 3.



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Body Tag Decoder

1953 Cadillac #53 62 10917

Model 6267S, FW 3

by Larry Good, 8 Feb 2026

LINE ITEM LABEL	DESIGNATION	EXPLANATION
STYLE N ^o	53-6267SX	Model Year (MY) 1953, Series 62, Model 67 (convertible), S = Special Sport (Eldorado), X = hydraulic power windows, seat, top
BODY N ^o	FW 3	Fleetwood (name of Fisher Body Plant on Fort St., Detroit MI), 3 rd of 532 model 6267SX bodies made in MY53
TRIM N ^o	38	Upholstery: Red & white leather, red carpet
PAINT N ^o	27	Exterior finish: Alpine White
	H	(unknown, appears on paint line of almost every 1953 Cadillac body tag)
	(notshown)	Interior finish: metal: Aztec Red plastic: Aztec Red inserts: chrome plating (above), solid stainless steel (below) "waffle panel"
TOP	4	Black Orlon
ACC.	E	Accessory: E-Z-Eye glass (tinted)
	(not shown)	Date code: Body scheduled to leave Fleetwood Fisher Body Plant
BODY BY FISHER		Branded as a Fisher body, not "Body by Fleetwood" like Series 60, 75

Fisher Body Notes:

1. The same GM Fleetwood Fisher Body Plant produced both Fleetwood and Fisher branded bodies for the GM Cadillac Division.
2. A body tag serves as a Fisher Body Plant document.
3. A body tag describes
 - all Fleetwood and Fisher body features (e.g., style, exterior & interior finish, top, trim, E-Z-Eye Glass, A/C, power windows, seat & top);
 - no Cadillac Assembly features (e.g., fog lights, tires, wire wheels, Autronic Eye, L.H.R.V. mirror);
 - no dealer accessories (e.g., spotlight, exterior sun visor, R.H.R.V. mirror).

The body tag describes the work done at two Fisher Body plants, Fleetwood and #21. The next document is the build sheet (factory invoice), which describes the work done at Cadillac Assembly.



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Cadillac Assembly

The build sheet (factory invoice) states:

- "Cars in Co. Use"
- "Factory"
- "Buffalo, N. Y."
- "Show Car"
- "WHITE LEATHER ON BACK OF FRONT SEAT AND REAR QUARTERS"

and finally:

- "Paint in Truck"

Very few cars had these extra notes on the invoice. Nine early 1953 Eldorados, including the Eisenhower Inauguration parade car, had the extra white leather. For some reason, the white leather feature was indicated on the build sheet (by Cadillac) but not on the body tag (by Fisher) even though special order upholstery was done by Fisher -- see upholstery comparison below.



Extra white leather in FW 3



Standard leather pattern in FW 337

On January 27, 1953, nine months before any private owners took possession of Eldorado #3, Cadillac shipped it from the Clark Avenue Assembly Plant to the Cadillac Distributor in Buffalo, NY, for display purposes, not for sale. Show cars like Eldorado #3 stayed in company service for many months until released for sale late in the model year. The October 14 "Return for Credit Notice" for this car states the reason for return simply as "Show car – returned for reassignment" without naming any shows. So, where did Eldorado #3 find its moment in the spotlight?



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The case for Chicago

The Chicago Auto Show was not a GM show, but it drew bigger crowds than the Motoramas. In 1953, it ran from March 14-22, and GM had a prominent place on the floor. There is one picture (right) floating around the internet of the Cadillac line-up in Chicago with the Eldorado right up front. The car is white, showing red leather, E-Z-Eye glass and no Autronic Eye, exactly like Eldorados #2, #3 and #4.



1953 Chicago Auto Show, International Amphitheater

So, which of the 1953 Eldorado show cars could have gone to the Chicago Auto Show in time for March 14? Here is a table that shows the timing and the distance to Chicago from each show car's original shipping destination.

FW	Color	First shipped	First destination and major event	Major event dates	Distance to Chicago	Next show or Motorama, date	Destination after release
1	Ochre	Jan. 1	NYC Motorama	Jan. 17-23	800 mi.	(unk.)	(unk.)
2	White	Jan. 16	DC inauguration	Jan. 20	700 mi.	(unk.)	New York NY
3	White	Jan. 27	Buffalo (event unk.)	(open)	550 mi.	(unk.)	Wichita KS
4	White	Jan. 20	LA Motorama	Apr. 11-19	2000 mi.	San Francisco, May 1	(unk.)
5	Blue	Jan. 30	Miami Motorama	Feb. 11-17	1400 mi.	(unk.)	(unk.)
6	Blue	Jan. 22	St. Louis (event unk.)	(open)	300 mi.	Dallas, May 16 Kansas City, Jun. 6	Staten Island NY

Start by ruling out #1, #5 and #6 because they are the wrong color.

Let's rule out #4 because it was a west coast car, too far from Chicago.

Eldorado #3, first delivered to the Tinney distributorship in Buffalo, NY, was the closest white Eldorado to Chicago. It did not appear in any Motorama or inauguration, so it needed a major event. Like all six show cars, it toured dealer showrooms and minor shows, waiting for the next big one. I'm willing to speculate that FW 3 toured the Great Lakes region and found its way from Buffalo to Chicago between January 27 and March 14. FW 3 seems most likely to be the Chicago show car. That makes the picture above the only known surviving photo of Eldorado #3 as a GM show car.



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From "Co. Use" to dealership

Cadillac retired Eldorado #3 from show business on October 14, 1953, and shipped it to Butts Cadillac-Olds, the distributor in Wichita, KS, two days later. From there it went to the Drennan Motor Company, a new Cadillac dealer in Winfield, KS, just south of Wichita, to be sold.

E. West Drennan was a businessman who succeeded first with a service station in Winfield, KS. Then he established a Pontiac dealership and finally a Cadillac dealership.

Announcing the Appointment of
Drennan Motor Company
600-606 MAIN

NOW DISPLAYING THE NEW 1953
Cadillac

This is a two-fold invitation to fine car motorists of Winfield and vicinity. First of all, it is your invitation to come in and visit Drennan Motor Company—your newly appointed Cadillac dealer. We are sure you will find his personnel courteous and competent in fulfilling your new car needs . . . and quick and efficient in servicing your present motor car. Secondly, it is your invitation to see and inspect the new 1953 Cadillac now on display in their showroom. It is, in every way, the greatest Cadillac ever built. Its many styling changes and refinements have made it more beautiful and distinctive than ever—and its new interiors are the most comfortable and luxurious in all Cadillac history. And don't forget to ask for a demonstration of this superlative new motor car. Its great new 210 h.p. engine, its vastly improved Hydra-Matic Drive, and its advanced Cadillac Power Steering* will provide you with a wholly new experience in motoring pleasure. Stop in at your first opportunity to see both this new Cadillac dealer and this new Cadillac car. Mr. E. West Drennan, General Manager, will welcome you personally at any time. *Optional at extra cost.

Distributor
BUTTS CADILLAC-OLDS, INC., WICHITA, KANSAS

We have oral history passed down by the Drennan brothers. Their grandfather West was a persistent person, to be sure. He wanted to expand his Pontiac dealership to include Cadillacs, but with a population of only 11,000 people, Winfield hardly qualified for the brand. So, West went to the Cadillac offices in Detroit to find the person in charge of granting new dealerships and sat outside the man's office until they had to cross paths. It worked. West came away with a dealership. On January 26, 1953, the Wichita distributor, Butts Cadillac-Olds, announced the new appointment in the local paper.

Announcement of appointment to be a Cadillac dealer, January 26, 1953, Winfield Daily Courier

When Eldorado #3 arrived at the Butts distributorship the following October, West Drennan went to Wichita and personally drove the car back to Winfield.

- - -

In this issue, Part I traced the history of Cadillac Eldorado #3 from the beginning of manufacture at Fisher Body late in 1952 to its delivery to the new Drennan Cadillac dealership in Kansas late in 1953. In the next issue, Part II follows the car's private ownership to New York and back, the Drennan dealership with original factory documents, and the family's care of the former show car to this day.



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NEW ARRIVALS

BY JACK & CHER GALLAGHER, LYNN GARDNER AND RICHARD SISSON

1976 Cadillac Mirage Lynn Gardner, Deltona, FL



My 1976 Cadillac Mirage was ordered and sold new though Brooks Cadillac in Scottsdale, AZ, for \$20,878 (\$118,745 in 2026 US Dollars). The dealership, according to the historical record, was a seller of many high-end cars during the 1960s through the 1980s. Located on Scottsdale's Motor Mile, Brooks Cadillac sold a number of Mirage pickups built by Traditional Coachworks as well as Castilian Station Wagons (also built by the same company), based on Fleetwood Broughams. Brooks Cadillac was sold by the family in 1988 to a large dealer network, resulting in relocation to the suburbs of Scottsdale.



This Mirage was delivered on August 16, 1976, to the original owner. This one may be among the last built based on the late-year delivery date. The original owner kept it until 2005 when it was sold to a second owner who then sold it at the Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale auction in January 2026. The car was purchased by a collector in Florida, who I knew. After contacting him, he agreed to sell me the car. On February 13, 2026, I became the third owner of this 50-year-old Arizona car, a time capsule from a different time and place.



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1985 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz Convertible Richard Sisson, Walkersville, MD



After owning two 1985 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz Convertible, known as "boulevard cruisers" back in the '90s, a blue one and a white one, I always thought they were handsome and ever so luxurious. The Cadillac-sponsored conversions were done by the American Sunroof Corporation (ASC) and appear in the 1984 sales brochure. Their appearance is quite different than other aftermarket conversions done on '81 through '83 Eldorados, as the sides of the convertible top cuts down into the quarter panels. They also have custom chrome moldings as well as a headliner.

While their 4100 engines might not be much, they will perform adequately when maintained properly. The cars are about 20 inches shorter than the '70's Eldorados and therefore more agile. All '84s and '85s were red, white or blue except 200 black ones in '85. When an opportunity presented itself to acquire a rare black one in excellent condition, I didn't hesitate. I am looking forward to some top-down driving!



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1985 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz Convertible Jack & Cher Gallagher, Bethesda, MD



The 1985 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz Convertible is the last of the final ten-year generation of full-sized personal luxury coupes before cars were downsized in 1986. There were approximately 2,300 made. The long hood and short rear deck was a design that defined American luxury. The Biarritz trim is a top-tier package, featuring plush "pillow-top" leather and stainless-steel accents. The technology package was very advanced including electronic climate control, digital instrument cluster that could display speed in both miles per hour or kilometers per hour, and trip computer. Power is provided by the 4.1L (249 C.I.) HT-4100 V8 engine rated at 135hp and 200 lb-ft of torque. The convertible tops were installed by American Sunroof Corporation (ASC), with 3,200 built in 1984 and 2,300 in 1985. These are the only two years for this model Biarritz Convertible. When new, the MSRP was roughly \$31,286 (about \$94,152 in 2026). We purchased the car from Brian Rachlin of Huntingdon Valley, PA, a long-standing CLC member. Brian had the car for about ten months, after purchasing it from the original owner. The car shows 58,751 miles on the odometer.

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LET'S GET IT TOGETHER... BUCKLE UP. 

There's luxury in the air.

The wide-open fun of a convertible and the sporty elegance of an Eldorado come together in the 1985 Eldorado Biarritz Convertible. So if you're looking for open-air driving pleasure, get the Cadillac that truly brings luxury out in the open.

1985 Eldorado Biarritz Convertible.

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CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

Cars For Sale



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



1949 Cadillac Series 61 Sedan – Delivered new to Mr. & Mrs. Charles Trueman on July 28, 1949, by Miller Motor Sales in Fremont, OH, who only used the car on weekends for enjoyment and seldom went out of town – Upon Mr. Trueman's death, Mrs. Trueman drove it occasionally – After she passed away, it was sold in 1973 with 17,800 miles to Rod Link of Fremont, OH, who drove the car just 210 miles over the next nine years – In 1984, Whitey Best, also of Fremont, bought the car – During the next seven years, he drove it to numerous car shows, adding approximately 3,500 to the odometer – Former CLC Potomac Region member George Rubenson, Salisbury, MD, bought the car in August 1991, with 21,758 miles, and drove it approximately 600 miles home – In June 2021, the Cadillac was purchased by the current owner while on consignment at Connors Motorcar Company in West Chester, PA – 35,692 miles at present – Sierra Ivory with gray cloth interior – Highly original except for a repaint, including the hood after a minor engine fire in August 2024 that was insurance-corrected to "better than new" – Engine bay was stripped and repaired with NOS parts, including new wiring and rebuilt carburetor – Cadillac has no indications of prior body damage – Chrome trim complete and in very good shape – Cloth interior was previously protected by seat covers and is in near perfect condition – Door panels and armrests show minor wear and the dashboard presents strongly with full factory trim – Carpeting is in good overall condition – Glass shows no cracks, but minor discoloration at the top of the windows – Factory clock and vacuum radio antenna are inoperative, resulting in the AM radio not receiving any signals – Trunk compartment in nice condition with original spare tire and jack – Variety of manuals and the original 1949 Ohio license plate included with sale – [See pictures](#) – **Reduced to \$19,000** – For more info, contact George Horton at 352-203-0390 (mobile) or [send email](#) – Located in Wellsboro, PA



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



1957 Cadillac Series 62 Convertible – Dry storage for over 50 years – Complete but needs restoration – Rare factory A/C and parade wheels – Many valuable mechanical and trim parts included such as doors, fenders, neck and Dakota Red steering wheel – **\$8,500** – For more info, contact Bill F. at 855-2405 or [send email](#) – Located in Shelburne, VT

SOLD



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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



1988 Cadillac Seville – 62K miles – Arizona rust-free car – Light yellow with cream color leather interior that is like new – Strong 4.5 engine that runs and drives great – Four new Vogue tires with less than 100 miles on them – Equipped with the optional touring suspension – Stainless body side molding trim and gold trim emblems – Cigarette lighters have never been used – All the regular Cadillac accessories, too many to list – Owner downsizing collection as he will soon be 90, time to let go! – [See pictures](#) – **\$6,800 obo** – For more info, contact Robert Lewis at 301-246-4278 or [send email](#) – Located in Nanjemoy, MD



1991 Cadillac Fleetwood – One owner car purchased new at Coleman Cadillac in Bethesda, MD – 121K miles, mostly highway – Passed Maryland State Inspection in August 2023, driven sparingly since – Garage kept, well maintained and in good working condition – Highly reliable 4.9 liter V8 SPF1 engine – Royal Maroon with Garnet leather interior – Aftermarket Kenwood stereo (original radio included) – Vogue tires – [See pictures](#) – **\$6,950** – For more info, contact Kenneth Parker at 301-363-5958 or [send email](#) – Located in Adamstown, MD



1996 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham Hearse Ecto-1 – 100k miles – New items include fuel pump, sending unit, shocks, springs, battery, tires, transmission and starter – [See pictures](#) – **NOW \$7,500** – For more info, contact Cory Kulibert at 920-210-2225 or [send email](#) – Located in Mayville, WI



NEW ARRIVAL 2001 Cadillac Seville SLS – One owner car with 60k miles – Personally ordered and leased for three years before purchasing – Pristine condition overall and recently detailed – Original paperwork available including sales documents, service records, owner's manual, window sticker and sales brochures with leather swatches used by Cadillac dealers – Also includes never used 10 CD disc changer in original packaging – Owner is retiring and doesn't have room to keep it – Looking for a new caretaker – [See pictures](#) – **\$8,700** – For more info, contact Karen at 724-388-1989 or [send email](#) – Car is being stored in Frederick, MD



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