



September 2007

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
CENTRAL VIRGINIA CADILLAC AND
LASALLE CLUB

Me and My Beloved Automobile

While our club website has many pictures of members' autos, the bond between car and owner often remains elusive. To get beyond the surface, I ask members to please complete the following questionnaire and provide the responses to me, your newsletter editor. Subsequent issues of *The Sabre* will feature some of our owners and their beloved beauties (or beasts, depending upon the personality of the vehicle)

Owner's Name: _____

Vehicle Year, Make & Model: _____

Vehicle's Body Color(s) {Factory Color Name}: _____

Vehicle's Interior Color(s): _____

Place You First Saw Vehicle: _____

Date You Purchased Vehicle: _____

Vehicle VIN: _____

Number of Owners (if known): _____

Dealer Who Originally Sold Vehicle (if known): _____

Original Dealer Location (if known): _____

Vehicle Standard Equipment: _____

Vehicle Optional Equipment: _____

Original Vehicle Price (if known): _____

Vehicle Engine Size & Horsepower: _____

Vehicle Dimensions – Length _____

Width _____

Wheelbase _____

Height _____

Track (Front & Rear) _____

What was the condition of your car when you bought it? _____

What work did you have to do to make it roadworthy? _____

What improvements, if any, have you made? _____

Is this the car that you've always wanted? _____

If so, Why? If not, Why? _____

When did you first become interested in Cadillacs/LaSalle?

What caused your interest? _____

Other than this car, what other Cadillac/LaSalle would you like to own?

Why? _____

Please return your responses to the Newsletter Editor, Rick Wilkinson, either by email (vargw@netscape.net) or snail mail (2902 Ellwood Avenue, Richmond, 23221) by October 15, 2007.

National Meet Has Great Cars

Bill Gilfoyle attended the National Cadillac and LaSalle Club meeting in Savannah, Georgia. He reported that it rained heavily Friday night, so the judging on Saturday was held in the parking deck of the host hotel, the Marriott Riverfront. He took a number of pictures and was kind enough to share them. This issue will show several of the cars and provide some vehicle history. Other pictures that Bill took will appear in subsequent newsletters.

The sun did not appear until Saturday afternoon, but that didn't stop Bill. Our first vehicle is a 1941 Sixty Special, all the way from Wisconsin.

The Sixty Special was first introduced in 1938, to much acclaim. It was mounted on a double-drop frame so that it sat three inches lower than the other Series 60 bodies. It did not have running boards, and had large windows, framed in chrome, which were flush with the sides of the body.

By 1941, Cadillac designers had created front-end styling that was to be repeated for years. There was a wide, rectangular grill that bulged forward in the middle; vertical chrome pieces between the horizontal bars formed the famous "egg crate" pattern. In 1941, air conditioning and Hydra-Matic Drive were available for the first time on a Cadillac. The Special Sedan was also available with a metal sunroof, the "Sunshine Turret Top." Factory price, without options, was \$2,195.00. Sales for all Cadillacs in 1941 were nearly 60,000, the best in the company's history.



The next vehicle captured by Bill's camera is a 1960 Series 62 Convertible in an unusual mauve color (called "Heather" by the stylists). This car came from North Carolina. The 1960 Cadillacs were a toned-down, less flamboyant rendition of the cars introduced just one year earlier. Fins were slightly lower and tail-lights moved from the fins to the outsides of the rear bumper. The Series 62 convertibles, unlike the other series models, came standard with power windows and a two-way power seat. At a list price of \$5,455.00, 14,000 of these convertibles were made in 1960.



The next car from the Savanna Show is a 1930 Series 452 Fleetwood V-16. Unlike today, more than 50 different body styles were offered by the factory as "catalog customs" by Fleetwood; a few cars had Fisher bodies. And full custom bodies were available from Murphy, Pinin Farina, Saoutchik, Vanden Plas, Waterhouse, and others.



As an example of the variety available, windshields could be ordered varying from a vertical vee-shape to a 22 degree sloped shape in eight different treatments. The all-new engine was basically two straight eights sharing a common crankshaft. A separate fuel distribution system and exhaust system was provided to each bank of cylinders. Speeds could range from 80 to 100 mph, and the only faster American car was the Duesenberg.

The last car from the Savanna Show in this month's newsletter is a 1969 Cadillac 4-door hardtop station wagon. Cadillac did not produce a station wagon, but occasionally, an owner would purchase a Sedan de Ville and have it converted by a custom body shop. Since full-size Buick and Oldsmobile station wagons were available from GM in many years throughout the 50's, 60' and 70's, custom body shops could frequently make use of some of their parts, such as tailgates and rear glass. Your editor would dearly love to have a Cadillac wagon, but, due to their rarity and original cost, when they come on the market, they are out of his price range.



Autumn Car Shows

September brings the promise of cooler weather and lower humidity in central Virginia. With that in mind, there's no excuse for not taking your beautiful Cadillac or LaSalle to a car show for other car fans to admire and envy.

The Northern Neck Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America will host its 14th annual show on **September 8th** at the Richmond County Fairgrounds

in Warsaw, Virginia. The show runs from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with judging at noon. Late registration is \$15.00. For information, contact K. Harrison at 2174 Johnville Road, Dunnsville, Virginia 22454.

The Crater Antique Car Club and Dominion Southpark will have their 3rd annual "Paw Paw Classic Car Show" on **September 8th** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Dominion Southpark Automobile in Colonial Heights (next to Southpark Mall). Day of show registration is \$20.00. The rain date is **September 15th**. For information, contact Jeff Malo at (804) 272-0579.

The 11th Annual Hampton Roads Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club Car Show will be held on **September 8th** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Suttle Motors, 12525 Jefferson Avenue in Newport News. It is open to all Cadillacs, LaSalles, Buicks, Pontiacs, and Oldsmobiles 1997 or older. Registration is \$25.00. Make checks payable to CLC-HRR and send them with your name, address, phone number and vehicle information to Bob Geiger, 3856 Phillip Ludwell, Williamsburg VA 23188-1329. For questions, contact Bob Geiger at (757) 253-6501 or bohnlettygeiger@aol.com, or Tom Bottoni at (757) 538-1518 or bigred59@charter.net.

The 6th Annual Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance and Motoring Festival will be held from **November 1st** to the **4th** at Hilton Head, South Carolina. The honored marque for 2007 is Cadillac and LaSalle. You can register and find other information online at www.hhiconcours.com.

Our Club's own Fall Car Show will be held at Moore Cadillac on Broad Street in Henrico County on Saturday, **November 3rd**. The rain date is Sunday, **November 4th**. Details will appear in future newsletters.

August Meeting Minutes

The August meeting was held on August 9th at Famous Dave's BBQ on West Broad Street in Henrico. Your newsletter editor was unable to attend, so I can't report on who was there or what items of interest were on the agenda. The October newsletter, however, will have the details.

July Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the club has a balance of \$1,451.76. The money is in a new Wachovia account opened by the Club President, Mike Daly.

Our Newest Member (Honorary)

Congratulations are in order for Club Vice-President Max Koehler and his wife, Helene, on the birth of their first child, a son, Max III. Somehow, we know he will be a Fleetwood man, if his dad has anything to do with it.

Future Meetings

September 13th a new Mexican restaurant at the intersection of Chippenham Parkway and Midlothian Turnpike in Chesterfield County, near Red Lobster and K-Mart (the location used to be Top's China Buffet) – 6:30 p.m.

October 11th River City Diner North, 803 East Parham Road, just off the Parham Road exit from I-95 (between I-95 and Route 1) – 6:30 p.m.

Member Challenge Extended

Members agree that the club needs to grow to be stronger and more vital. However, no one won the member challenge that ran from January to May. SO, again, each member is challenged to bring a potential new member or members to the September 13th meeting.

Potential members do not need to own a Cadillac or LaSalle. They may simply have an interest or fondness for Cadillacs and LaSalles, aspire to own one in the future, or simply have an interest in classic cars.

A prize will be awarded to the member who brings the most guests to any meetings (June thru December) who become members before January 1. The gauntlet is thrown down once more. The prize will be awarded at the January meeting.

To date, Ron Threadgill is winning.

Cadillac Continues to Reign Supreme

President Mike Daly picked up some good news on CNN. In the latest J.D. Power annual Vehicle Dependability Study, Cadillac placed second. This should come as no surprise to those of us who are driving Cadillacs 30, 40, and 50 or more years old.

Some Items From Local Shows

Ron Threadgill attended a recent local cruise-in at Brunetti's restaurant in Hanover County. Of course, Miss Scarlett, Ron's beautiful red 1959 coupe would up being featured, in living color, in the article from the Hanover *Herald-Progress* newspaper. According to Ron, there's no better place to be on a Saturday night.



A 1959 Cadillac demonstrates the zenith of opulent American car design. (Staff photos by Greg Glassner)

Pastor Michael Howard with his grandson and custom car.

Cruisin' on a summer Saturday night

Car nuts of all kinds congregate at Atlee Square Shopping Center

Bo Tindall, another member, was spotted (and photographed by your editor) with his beautiful 1950 Series 62 Cadillac sedan at the 8th Annual Muscular Dystrophy Car Show held on the grounds of Richard Bland College on August 11th.



The show was sponsored by Southern Knights Cruisers, a nonprofit group of car aficionados dedicated to helping children. The show featured stock cars, custom cars, hot rods, motorcycles, and even vintage military and fire/rescue equipment. The location was great, with lots of grass and shade (perhaps the Richmond ACCA should consider moving their Spring show from the Richmond Raceway, where there is nary a bit of shade to be found).

Also at the show was a rare 1970 Cadillac ambulance from the imaginary "St. Hedwig Hospital," complete with stretcher and patient. It just goes to show, even if you're sick, you can still be stylish and comfortable, if you travel in a Cadillac.



Contact Information

PRESIDENT/SECRETARY

Michael Daly

Phone(804) 218-0422

Email Cadillac.man@comcast.net.

VICE PRESIDENT

Max Koehler

Phone(804) 651-5034

Email fleetwdmax@yahoo.com.

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Ron Threadgill

Phone(804) 363-4055

Email RedCad59@pipeline.com.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Rick Wilkinson

Phone(804) 358-0618

Email vargw@netscape.net.

Central VA Cadillac-LaSalle Club
Michael Daly, President
600 Fords Road
Manakin Sabot VA 23103-2142

POSTAGE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED