



*February 2009*

**THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CENTRAL VIRGINIA CADILLAC AND  
LASALLE CLUB**

*Guests Invited to February Meeting*

**Members** of the Central Virginia Cadillac and LaSalle Club have invited owners of Buicks and Oldsmobiles in the central Virginia area to attend the Club's February meeting. The owners of these associated GM models do not currently have active clubs in central Virginia.

The February meeting will be held on Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at Dance Masters Studio at 5008 Lakeside Avenue in Richmond. The meeting is one week later than normal due to the prior Saturday being "Valentine's Day." It is at Dance Masters, graciously offered by Alistair Colquhoun, due to the anticipated number of people attending. This will not be a dinner meeting.

A principal topic of the February meeting will be whether Buick and Oldsmobile members would be interested in attending Club meetings and sharing in some Club activities. While we are happy to open our meetings, Club members determined at the January meeting that, in order to discuss and vote on Club specific issues, Buick and Oldsmobile owners will have to join the

Cadillac and LaSalle Club and pay dues. Those who don't chose to do this are still welcome to come to Club meetings and events and share in our general conversations about cars.

## *Cadillac Still Presidential*

**If** you watched the inauguration of President Obama, you may have seen the parade of Cadillacs that ferried participants to the Capitol and then on the parade route. What you may not have noticed is that the President got a new Cadillac limousine.



President Obama's new limousine is based on the 2009 Cadillac DTS, but is obviously heavily modified. Details of the conversion have not been released, due to reasons of security. However, it seems apparent that the car is heavily armored. In this photo, the 'b' pillar appears to be about three times thicker than a stock pillar. And, if you saw the doors opened when the President was getting into the limousine they look like bank vault doors. One might guess that the glass is bullet-proof and the tires are 'run-flat.' While this may not be the most attractive Presidential limousine, it is certainly imposing – one might even say a Hummer with a Cadillac grill.

## *New Cadillac in the Pipeline*

**Detroit's** 2009 auto show previewed the new Cadillac STX, a small crossover vehicle to be introduced as a 2010 model. This segment is expanding,

with new models from Volkswagen, Nissan, Toyota and others. In the GM family, the Chevrolet Equinox and Pontiac Torrent platform is used for the STX. The design shows an obvious family resemblance to the CTS sedan, and continues the 'art and science' design philosophy begun by Cadillac in 2000.



## *Electrifying Cadillac*

**Also** at the Detroit auto show, Cadillac showed the 2009 Cadillac Converj concept car. The Converj is a full hybrid electric-gas coupe, using the Chevrolet Volt platform.

There is no official word about production, but in recent years, concept cars have frequently made it to production with few changes. And GM is committed to producing the Volt, so it would be logical to spread the technology across the company product line. The Converj carries the 'art and science' design theme to its third iteration; while still carrying angular lines, the overall body is curvaceous.

The interior of the Converj looks like the cockpit of a spaceship, with swooping curves, satin chrome and blue lighting. The burl wood trim and French seams connote Cadillac luxury and tie tradition to the future.



## *January Meeting Minutes*

**The** Club's January meeting was held on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at Shoney's Restaurant at 10001 Hull Street Road in Chesterfield County. Ten members, including two new members attended. Discussion about inviting Buick and Oldsmobile owners to attend Club meetings was the main topic.

Also, as always in January, officers were elected. Roger York was re-elected as President. Ron Threadgill was elected as Vice-President and also re-elected as Treasurer. Rick Wilkinson was re-elected as Newsletter Editor. Max Koehler, last year's Vice-President was unable to stand for re-election due to other commitments. Members thank him for all his hard work as Vice-President in 2007 and 2008.

## *January's Treasurer's Report*

**The** Treasurer reported that the Club's account had a balance of \$1,293.55. Remember, 2009 Club dues should be paid now; they are an economical \$15.00 per year. Also, remember that you must be a national Club member as well; those dues are \$50.00 annually for first class mail delivery of the monthly magazine or \$35.00 annually for second class delivery.

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