



September 2009

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA CADILLAC AND LASALLE CLUB

CTS Sport Wagon is Coming

Soon, perhaps by the time the October newsletter comes out, the Cadillac CTS Sport Wagon will be in dealer showrooms. The automotive press has already been given the opportunity to test drive this addition to the Cadillac lineup.



In terms of performance, there is little difference from the sedan. Both offer two engine choices – a 3.0 liter V-6 with 270 horsepower or a 3.6 liter V-6 with 304 horsepower. The wagon, however, is not available with a manual transmission. With the rear seats folded down, the wagon provides 53.4 cubic feet of cargo room. The wagon also is more comfortable for back seat passengers, mainly due to more

roof height and wider rear doors.

If you need cargo room, but don't need or want an SUV, the Cadillac Sports Wagon may fit your bill. Wagons, or "Estates" as they're frequently known, have never lost their popularity in Europe the way that they did in this country. To truly compete with Mercedes, BMW, Audi and Jaguar, Cadillac needs this wagon. That explains why it hits dealer showrooms before the CTS Coupe, which is due as a 2011 model.

And Speaking of Cadillac Wagons

Just as a dinghy would to a yacht, the new Cadillac CTS Sports Wagon pales beside the Sbarro TAG Function Car, below. This is a Swiss-Italian creation manufactured in 1978.



The Sbarro was built as a mobile office. Behind the front seat, it contained four cushy chairs, a television, two wood and leather secretaries (desk/cabinet), and two telephones. The six-wheeled vehicle is powered by the stock 8.2 liter V-8 Cadillac engine used in the El Dorado (hence the front clip and front doors). The Sbarro is 23 ½ feet long.

There were plans to build 25 of these "wagons," but only this one was produced. It is owned by its designer, Franco Sbarro. Rumor has it that a musician wanted one built with a piano in the back, but, alas, the dream died.

Already in dealer Showrooms

Continuing the topic of Cadillac "wagons," the new Cadillac crossover, the 2010 SRX, is currently on sale. Cadillac created this vehicle to compete against other mid-sized crossovers offered by Lexus, Infinity, Mercedes and BMW. Now in its

second generation, the SRX carries a lower price, beginning in the low \$30s, and loses its third row seat and V-8 engine.



The 2010 SRX is also front wheel drive, with all-wheel drive available; the first generation models were rear wheel drive. The same direct injection 3.0 liter V-6 that is used in the CTS provides the power of 265 horses. Later in the model year, a turbo V-6, producing 300 horsepower, will be available. The 3.0 liter has EPA estimates of 18 mpg city and 25 mpg highway; improved fuel economy was a goal with the new model.

The rear of the new Cadillac CTS is especially interesting with its tall, narrow, and dramatic tail lights. With their prominent height and angularity, they recall the iconic tail lights and fins of classic Cadillacs of previous decades.

With a base price that is lower than Lexus, and the Cadillac “Art and Science” creases and sharp edges, this new model will hopefully be as successful as the CTS sedan has been.



Road Trip

Because only one member responded to the President’s request for votes on a road trip destination, no trip occurred. Instead, there was a monthly meeting in August.

August Meeting Minutes

Meeting at Panera Bread Restaurant at 1601 Willow Lawn Drive in Henrico County on August 18th, seven club members enjoyed sandwiches and talk of Cadillacs and other cars.

The **September meeting** will be held on Tuesday, September 15th at Bailey's Pub & Grill. The address is 11581 Robious Road in Richmond. Discussion topics will include the 2nd annual Fall Foliage Drive, to be held in October.

August Treasurers Report

Our Treasurer, Ron Threadgill, reports that the Club has a balance of \$1,383.55. If you have still not paid your dues for 2009, please do so promptly.

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