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Central Virginia Region

The Sabre

Cadillac-LaSalle Club

<http://www.wmsbrg.com/cadillac/>

Region Director Speaks!

Yr hmbl srvnt Chip Lamb

The biggest news for us this year has come – we have been invited to organize our first show on October 1st at Dominion Southpark in Colonial Heights. Consider this the Call to Arms to all our club members to stay in touch over these next two months. So far, we have placed notices in Hemmings Motor News, the Car Club Council of Central VA, the Richmond Times-Dispatch and our two closest sister regions in Potomac and Hampton Roads.

What Can You Do?

Since Dominion Southpark are doing much of the rest of the promotional work for us, we're in pretty good shape. An added bonus for us: since Dominion Southpark is also a Buick and Chevrolet reseller, the show is also open to Cadillacs and LaSalles as well as Buicks and Chevrolets through 1984 in stock original or restored condition. Despite the potential for a little more traffic, we're hoping to keep the rat rod and mini-truck crowds away and keep it a classic and collector car show.

On the day of the event, we will need a few folks to work the field – setting up signage, working the ballot boxes, helping with parking and so forth. It would be great if we could get a good number of club members out on the

field by 7:30AM (the show runs from 9-3PM) on Saturday morning. More details to come in this newsletter and at our next membership meeting. Make sure you contact Jeff Malo or me with your intentions and ideas to help.

We're still looking for that Newsletter Editor...

Since I've got enough on my plate with the Region Director post and our Vice President Mike Daly is trying to stay abreast of the Webmaster position, I have opened up the position of Newsletter Editor up to the membership. You will notice that this format created with Microsoft Word is fairly simple to create; I will give it to you, or we can fulminate some ideas at our next meeting at the beginning of September. Folks – I've got regular column commitments to two national publications as well as freelance work keeping this part of my life awfully busy. Please – your club needs you.

Where are the other shows for the rest of the year?

Other than our gathering in October, there are a host of great events in the area, a few of them Cadillac-only. Our sister region in Hampton Roads' 9th Annual show at Suttle Motors in Newport News is coming up, as well as the Fall Potomac Region event at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD. For more local show information, visit <http://www.carclubcouncil.com/>.

More Heavy Work

Me Again

If you read the newsletter last month, you'll see that I sold my 1970 DeVille Convertible during the pre-summer spike in value. Don't worry, because you might well see me in something else with a crest, if not a wreath too, before too long. As I write this, I'm on the Amtrak back from a wound-licking adventure on a car which was poorly described; better luck next time. In any event, as most of you know now, I also own a 1940 LaSalle 5019, which, as I began to revive it, started producing expensive noises from under the hood.

Sally the Bread Loaf

For whatever reason, I've been on the hunt for another 1940s or 1950s car, after having maintained a few for friends and occasional customers up north and having had a 1948 Packard a few years back.

About that time, a friend and fellow CLC member in North Carolina was asked to sell a LaSalle for some old friends of his, one of whom was in poor health. We ran the car on eBay without a satisfactory result. Time passed, and I hadn't had sufficient interest in the LaSalle to pursue it at that time. I asked Richard about the car from time to time, but his interest was about as slack as mine had been, and I forgot about it.

Wouldn't you know that Richard and I swap opinions about 1970s and earlier Cadillacs on eBay on almost a daily basis. This April, the LaSalle hit eBay courtesy of the folks who bought Richard's friend's business. It failed to achieve half the result we had gotten. They tried again, and again, I was the high bidder on the car. I arranged to go down for a visit, made an offer, had it rebuffed, and assumed that this was not to be. So...

What to do...

I decided to make nice with the new folks in North Carolina responsible for the sale of the LaSalle, and I shot down there at the beginning of May to take an assessment of the car without letting anyone know I was coming. Even without being primed for sale, the car was very respectable, and I negotiated just a little bit further to secure the car and still cover myself for any chance of something major letting go. A friend of Richard's brought me the car a few days later, and for a while I was enjoying sorting out the old Flathead and putting nearly 300 miles on it.

Unfortunately...

As I mentioned last month, the engine let go the day after the car started to drive really well – thanks to some high quality radial 215/85/R16 highway tread van tires and a fresh alignment – I was on the way to pick the buyer of my old 70 DVC up at Richmond Airport. Luckily, when the expensive noises started, I was ¼ mile from my storage garage, and swapped the LaSalle for the DeVille. After taking the buyer back to the airport after he made his inspection of the car, I assessed the carnage and assumed the worst, leaving Sally to sit for a few months while I made arrangements to sort her out.

I had hoped to do much of this project myself, and still will do some, but without my shop (in progress) to have it torn down in stages, I have hired a new friend to do most of this. We finally got Sally in the garage last Wednesday morning, and she's nearly halfway dismantled up front and probably ready to pull this afternoon. The synchronizer in the transmission is also bad, so another gearbox as well as a new synchro unit were obtained so that we have at least enough parts to make one good 'box, if not two, in the end!

Stay tuned to this column for what may be the end result of this major drivetrain overhaul – if we're lucky, Sally will make it to our 3rd Anniversary Membership meeting on Thursday, the 1st of September.

Speaking of Thursdays...

We've gone from "Law & Order" night to "CSI" night – program those VCRs!

Because we haven't seen our Vice President since January, the members present at the August meeting voted unanimously to move the monthly gathering to Thursday. We'll hope to see more of you at Spinnaker's!

Newsletter Editor Position STILL OPEN to Members

OK, so you think Chip's doing a good job...

Thanks to Scott Bard's tip, I'm using the Newsletter Wizard in Word '97. So if you have a moderately new version of Word, you can do at least this well.

Does it eat into my free time?

Sure it does – like any good thing, it takes time.

OK! I'm up to the task!

Contact Region Director Chip Lamb on 804-357-4926 or e-mail chip@wmsbrg.com if you think you're up to the task. Printing services have been donated generously by member Ed Dixon, and all you have to do is finish your monthly masterpiece and e-mail it on down to Ed.

Events!

Saturday, August 21st, 12-?PM
Parts Cleaning Party and Lunch
Jeff & Monica Malo's
Corner Reams and Heppel Rds.
Richmond's Southside
(Chesterfield)
804-272-0579 for info.

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Thursday, September 1
Monthly Membership Meeting
Spinnaker's Restaurant
Chesterfield Town Center
Dinner 6:30 – Meeting 7:45PM

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Saturday, September 10th
Suttle Motors Show - HRRCLC
12525 Jefferson Ave
(¼ mile west of I-64, Exit 255) –
Register NOW!

See attached flyer for sign-up information

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Sunday, October 16th
Fall Potomac Region Show
Capitol Cadillac
Greenbelt, MD

For information on other area events, visit

<http://www.carclubcouncil.com/>

Don't forget to check our website as it comes up to date again and does so regularly:
<http://www.wmsbrg.com/cadillac/Richmond/>

Let's Finish What We Started

Region Director Chip...

As the adrenaline was pumping up at this month's meeting, a few folks suggested that we have another stab at a Parts Cleaning Party, since Jeff has been working to get stuff on eBay and sold, benefitting us as a Club greatly. But it's coming up on two years since we acquired this stash o'stuff, and while the investors are paid off and the Club has made a good profit, we need to focus on getting the rest of this stuff gone.

Jeff's shed has been the primary stowage point for the bulk of the small parts, and V.P. Mike Daly has squeezed in some of the larger items. Since Jeff has also been taking care of most of the eBay sales, we're going to meet at his place, eat courtesy of the stash's profits, but also get to work to tidy up decades of shelf grime off some really choice items. Maybe you'll even see something out of this great cache of 1960s and early 1970s which could help you – and our Club – out!

This could be a record setting year for us between our parts sales and the revenue we hope to generate at the October show at Dominion. Please help to do your part to make it a success! Also - if you are one of the folks holding parts from the stash, I urge you to bring them to this party so we can put a little bit larger dent in our inventory and get items ready for sale.

Remember, folks, without the participation of our membership this Club cannot stand on its own. Get your glass cleaner, Nevr-Dull, and other detailing supplies together along with some elbow grease and a good appetite. What we do now will ensure the potential for future events to keep this club fun for everyone and growing into the coming years.

You Want to Make Something of It?

From our Technical Desk...

If you've ever been to our website (gosh, I hope so), you'll notice my 4 year old piece on adding headlight options to a 1976 Eldorado Convertible using both N.O.S. and used items to do the swap.

I did this piece when I did the original Hampton Roads Region Website, and it migrated over to us when we started this group.

In the last couple months, V.P. Mike Daly has sent me a few interesting pieces via e-mail from other folks, but honestly, I'd like to see some stuff you guys are doing. I know one of our members is sort of a convertible top hydraulics guy, another carries around colored schematics of the Rev. 3 Hydramatic transmission in his briefcase wherever he goes, and so on.

So take a look at the Technical section of our club's website and see if you can find a project which fits your style, ability and most importantly, pride of workmanship. On submission, they may find their way here into larger versions of The Sabre as well as preserved for posterity by our V.P. and Webmaster Mike Daly.

Officers of the Region:

President/Region Director – Chip Lamb – 804-357-4926

Vice President/Webmaster – Mike Daly – 804-218-0422

Secretary – Monica Malo – 804-272-0579

Treasurer – Jeffrey Malo – 804-272-0579

Membership Sec’y – Ron Threadgill – 804-363-0455

Newsletter Editor – YOU? Come on now!

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

