

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

FLEETWOOD FLYER



LaSalle
CLUB
St. Louis Region

DECEMBER 2018

CLUB CONTACTS

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REGION WEBSITE: <cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>

NOTE: TO SUBMIT INFORMATION TO WEBSITE SEND TO <contact@cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>

REGION SPONSOR: ELCO CHEVROLET AND CADILLAC, 15110 MANCHESTER ROAD, BALLWIN, MO
CADILLAC SALES MANAGER: BILL PASTOR

There will be no St. Louis Region CLC Meeting in December. The next event will be the holiday party. The party will once again be at Favazza's Restaurant, 5201 Southwest Ave., St. Louis, MO on Saturday, January 19 at 1:00 PM. Everyone will order off the menu. If you are going to attend please notify our director, Kevin Williams by January 12 to enable the restaurant to plan space and arrangements. Kevin can be notified by phone at 314-481-9111 or by email at stlwc1@yahoo.com

This is the last newsletter until February, 2019.

Secretary/Editor's Report:

Another Club Year In the Books:

This past year was a successful one, with some new and interesting venues, some old standby meeting locations, a new club show in the spring, our annual show in the fall, and a tour. Attendance was very good for most of the meetings with an average of 20 members, spouses, and guests attending. Unfortunately, we also had some bad news as several long time or former members passed away including Jack Folluo, Jack Mulligan, Ed Hill and Fred Summers. I hope I haven't overlooked anyone. The good news is we also added several new members.

Our year began with our annual holiday party

luncheon at Favazza's restaurant on January 13, 2018. It was very popular with 35 members, spouses and guests in attendance.

Our February meeting was held at Moto Exotica, a new venue for our club. It was a popular choice judging from the large turnout. I had heard of Moto Exotica but never been there so was surprised by the number and variety of vehicles on site-ranging in condition from original to restored, and some needing considerable work.

Our March meeting was held at Hyman LTD where we have met numerous times. We once again had a good turnout, and Mark always has a large inventory to examine and discuss. Afterward a number of attendees gathered for lunch.

A brief digression: Often if there is a Mecum auction on I will keep the TV on with the sound muted while reading. If an interesting car is about to cross the block I will pay attention. Many times when a car is sold it will go to a couple who have just managed to buy their dream car. In that case there is much excitement with big smiles, congratulations and high-fives from the Mecum floor man. A few weeks ago my attention was drawn to a large '59 Mercedes on the block that was attracting a lot of bidding interest. It was finally hammered sold at, if I remember accurately, \$222,500. The Mecum rep took the paperwork over to the successful bid-

der and it was Mark Hyman, sitting all by himself in the front row. The paperwork was signed without any emotion, ceremony or celebration. Just another day at the office, I guess.

Now back to last years highlights. In April we held our first ever spring car show at ELCO. It was a success beyond anybody's expectations with 25 Cadillacs in attendance. The fact that the day was about the first decent weather day we had had all spring helped.

The only May club event was our annual picnic at Quail Ridge Park. The turnout was disappointing compared with past years with only 15 in attendance.

The June meeting was held at the beautiful home of Craig Seecamp and David Baker on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River. Twenty six people took advantage of the opportunity to see this home and Craig's and David's collection of cars including a Rolls Royce, a Chrysler Imperial, several Cadillacs, Buicks, and an Oldsmobile Toronado.

The July meeting was held at Manns Restoration, another new venue for our club. Seventeen members attended and were guided through three buildings housing an eclectic group of automobiles in various stages of restoration.

The August meeting was held at St. Louis Car Museum where we have met quite a few times in the past. The meeting was again well attended, and as usual there were many interesting cars to look at and reminisce about.

The September meeting was a rare treat, a Saturday tour of Mason's garage, a joint meeting with AACA. Mason's garage displays the fabulous collection amassed by architect Fred Guyton which includes many classic automobiles from the '30s and earlier as well as rooms full of memorabilia. The meeting was attended by about 60 with 30 enjoying lunch at Chuck-A-Burger afterward. We learned that Fred Guyton passed away after a long illness about one week after our tour, so who knows if and when this opportunity will arise again.

Two club events took place in October, our annual car show at Faust Park which was held on the rain date of October 14, and a tour of attractions in Springfield, IL on the weekend of October 20 arranged and led by Todd Tobiasz. The fact that the show had to be postponed due to bad weather held down the attendance from our customary number of cars. The caravan to Springfield was participated in by 19, and was a joint tour with the Classic Car Club.

That summarizes our year of meetings up to the present.

November Meeting:

The November meeting was held a ELCO Chevrolet and Cadillac, our region sponsor. After enjoying pizza, 20 club members listened while Jiff Bequette, pinch hitting for Bill Pastor, talked about Cadillac plans for new models and features.

I took notes while Jeff described the various models but had a hard time keeping up especially since I have never gotten used to the Cadillac models being designated only by three letter/number combinations. Sometimes the models are all letters, sometimes a combination of letters and a numeral. I'm afraid have never been able to fully understand the code. So, a few highlights from my notes.

Jeff devoted quite a bit of time describing the features of the CT6 which he had an opportunity to drive for an extended period of time. Unique to this model is the self driving feature on interstate highways. Members were quite interested and asked numerous questions about this model.

Jeff said ELCO sales were very good at about 50 vehicles per month with the XT5 being the biggest seller. Cadillac planned to introduce a new model every six months for the next three years. He talked of the newest crossover, the XT4, that he said was designed by a team of young engineers who I presume Cadillac thought would make it appeal to younger potential buyers. He also said both the ATS and the CTS would soon be replaced with new models and, if I understand my notes correctly, a new V-8 engine would be coming in 2019.

About two weeks after the meeting came the GM announcement that they were ceasing production on nearly all sedans. Included on the hit list were the Cadillac CT6 and XTS. So, it remains to be seen what will remain of the three year new model plan. Presumably the crossover vehicles which are hot now will be unaffected, but we will have to see what becomes of the plan to replace the ATS and CTS with newer sedan models.

After Jeff had answered all member's questions the meeting continued. Ted Fivian gave his treasurer's report and brought up planning for our next fall show. Ted suggested October 6 at Faust Park as a possible date. Some discussion ensued about a different location, possibly the Museum of Transportation. Enough interest was expressed by members so Ted will explore that possibility and report back at the next meeting. On a related subject, the car show at ELCO last April being so successful, it was

resolved that the club try to arrange another in the spring of 2019.

News of members automobiles-Clayton Patterson reported that he had sold his '93 Fleetwood. Ted Fivian and Steve Unland had recently acquired a '99 Eldorado ETC convertible. See the photo from the annual show in the November newsletter. Steve Colesworthy reported that restoration of his '76 Eldorado convertible is, at long last, nearing completion lacking only a new top and some work on the reclining seat. Steve shared photos of the progress and we all look forward to seeing the completed machine at our spring show.

It was announced that dues were now due for 2019. They remain at \$15 per year for receipt of the newsletter by email, and \$30 per year to receive a newsletter by US mail. A number of people paid at the meeting. My current count shows 21 paid which includes several who paid for two years last year. **If you have not paid please mail a check to me at 1037 Wood Ave., Kirkwood, MO 63122. Make the check out to St. Louis Region CLC. Advise me of any changes to autos owned, personal information, etc., so I can try to keep the roster up to date.**

Newsletter Articles:

With the new year coming up I will be begging for articles I can publish in the newsletter. Over the holidays please give some thought to preparation of Cadillac or LaSalle themed story. I can really use them.

Car TV:

Like I imagine many of you do, I periodically check the Velocity Channel for any interesting programs and record several of my favorites. Recently when I checked there had been announcements that the channel was going to become Motor Trend channel, and since December that has happened. Lately when I have checked nearly all programs being shown were old reruns of the same shows so I don't know if this change will result in anything new and exciting or just the same shows with a different channel name.

2019 Plans:

Following is a letter from Director Kevin Williams and the schedule of events he has put together for the upcoming year.

George Bergen

Fellow CLC Members,

I want to thank all of you for your support in 2018. We had a busy year full of activities and plan

to continue into 2019. As promised we will have a number of new venues for the membership as well as our annual events

The membership has spoken and asked that we find some new locations for a couple of annual events. We are moving the picnic to a more central location for the entire membership, Blackburn Park in Webster Groves. At our last meeting it was also suggested that we try to move the annual show to the Museum of Transportation in October. Show chairman Ted Fivian is working on that and will have details for the club soon.

As I stated earlier we will have a number of new venues, one being a day trip to Bob's Gasoline Alley in Cuba, MO. There is a very modest fee of \$15 which includes the tour and a home cooked buffet style meal. Our Associate Director Todd Tobiasz is working on another overnight caravan of 2019, and I'm sure it will be just as good as this years event.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Kevin

2019 Schedule of Events:

January: Annual Holiday Party, Saturday, January 19, 1:00 PM, Favazza's Restaurant.

February: Gateway Classic Cars, Saturday, February 23, 11 AM followed by lunch.

March: Fast Lane Classic Cars, Saturday, March 23, 11 AM followed by lunch.

April: ELCO Cadillac, spring car show, Saturday, April 27.

May: Picnic, Blackburn Park, Webster Groves, MO, Sunday, May 19.

June: Danial Schmitt Classic Cars, Saturday, June 29, 11 AM followed by lunch.

July: Country Classics, Saturday July 27, 10 AM followed by lunch.

August: Bob's Gasoline Alley, tour and lunch, \$15 buffet, Saturday, August 24.

September: Hyman LTD, Saturday, September 21, 11 AM followed by lunch.

October: Annual Show, venue and date to be announced.

November: ELCO Cadillac, Wednesday, November 20, 6 PM.

Note: Unless other wise indicated when a meeting is indicated as being followed by lunch it will be separate from the meeting at a to be determined location for those who choose to participate.