

FLEETWOOD FLYER



LaSalle

CLUB
St. Louis Region

FEBRUARY 2020

Director & Webmaster:

Kevin Williams: 314-481-9111 <stlwc1@yahoo.com>

Associate Director:

Todd Tobiasz: 314-540-2431 <ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer & Annual Show Chairman:

Ted Fivian: 314-752-5763 <swunland@sbcglobal.net>

Secretary & Newsletter Editor:

Craig Masterson: 636-891-8010 <bigv8@swbell.net>

Sponsorship Chairman: Noel Wilson: 636-447-5319

National Website: <cadillaclasaleclub.org>

Region Website: <cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>

Note: To submit information to website send to
<contact@cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>

Region Sponsor: ELCO Chevrolet Cadillac,
15110 Manchester Road, Ballwin, Mo

Cadillac Sales Manager: Bill Pastor

FEBRUARY MEETING

Date: Wednesday, February 26

Time: 6:30 PM

Where: Pietro's Restaurant

Address: 3801 Watson Road

RSVP: **REQUIRED** by Sunday, Feb.23 to
Kevin Williams (stlwc1@yahoo.com)

Please see the attached 2020 Club Event Calendar. I will update with each month's newsletter as additional details become available.

SECRETARY/EDITOR'S REPORT

2020 Officers:

As noted in the December newsletter, your 2020 Club Officers carry over unchanged from 2019 with the exception of the Secretary/Newsletter Editor position. George Bergen had filled that role admirably for the past 12 years. Yes, 12 years! I wish to add my thanks to that of many others and say, George, THANK YOU for your service to the club and a job WELL DONE! Your newsletters were informative and entertaining. I'm sure there were many months when you scrambled to produce content when article submissions were slim, but you always produced an enjoyable newsletter we all looked forward to.

As your new Secretary/Editor, I'll admit I've never served in such a role before. I definitely have a learning curve to climb. I hope to live up to George's standards and produce a newsletter you'll all enjoy. Which leads me to....

Newsletter Material Needed:

Articles are always needed and appreciated for the *Fleetwood Flyer*. Please consider writing about your pride and joy that can be featured in an upcoming newsletter. If you've made a recent repair or upgrade to your vehicle, something that we can all learn from, please let us know. Have you visited any automotive or transportation related attractions or events such as museums, shows, meets, races, etc. that you would like to share? Once you put pen to paper, or fingertips to keyboard, you may find you have lurking within you the spirit of another Ernest Hemingway... or Dr. Seuss. Give it a try; you'll find that it creates much self-satisfaction.

Dues are Due!

We have received dues payments from 30 of our 49 current members. The Club requests you pay your 2020 dues by March 1st. Dues are still \$15 per year to receive your newsletter by email or \$30 to receive a copy via US mail. **Make your check payable to St. Louis Region CLC and mail it to me (Craig Masterson) at 842 Courtwood Ln, Ballwin, MO 63011.** E-mail or call me, if you are unsure if you have paid or not.

Holiday Party & 2020 Overview:

Our annual holiday party was held at Favazza's Restaurant on Saturday, January 18 with 25 attending. Director Kevin Williams talked about planned 2020 Club events. Kevin noted that several members expressed a desire to have some meetings on our past, traditional meeting

day, the fourth Wednesday evening of each month. Recently we've had meetings at various collector car dealer venues in the area, generally on a Saturday. But Saturday meetings don't work for everyone.



The dealership meetings were due to difficulty getting members to volunteer to host a meeting at their home. When a meeting is held at a special venue, the venue usually prefers that we meet on a Saturday, so employees do not have to stay overtime on a weeknight.

For 2020, the attached calendar currently reflects six potential Wednesday meetings, although some may be in the afternoon to facilitate private auto collection tours. To help facilitate Wednesday evening meetings, the site of our Wednesday Feb. 26th meeting, Pietro's Restaurant, will become our default location for any Wednesday meetings, if not held at a members home or other venue.

I think Kevin has arranged an outstanding lineup of 2020 activities. As stated, our February meeting will be at Pietro's. Next, our March meeting will be at Craig Seekamp and David Baker's recently completed Auto Club House in Imperial, MO. We will have our Annual Spring Show in April at ELCO Cadillac. This show is enjoyable because vehicles driving along Manchester Rd. see our display and pull in for a look. And, we get to see the beautiful new ELCO Cadillacs on display, with ELCO graciously providing us lunch. The Annual May Spring Picnic will again be at Blackburn Park in Webster Groves. The June

meeting will be hosted by Noel Wilson at his home in St. Charles.

The July-September events include tentatively scheduled tours of three outstanding private auto collections. I have previously viewed the Hunter Collection, and it is not to be missed. We round out the year with our Annual Fall Show at the Museum of Transportation in October and the final meeting of 2020 at ELCO Cadillac in November. See the attached calendar (suitable for framing) for the complete schedule of 2020 events.

Kevin proposed that we also consider attending two of the area's large auto shows as a club. Those members who attend could choose to display their cars as part of a Regional Cadillac & LaSalle Club group display. These displays would further promote our Club to local enthusiasts and generate interest in Club membership. The two shows for these displays would be the **Horseless Carriage Club's Annual Easter Auto Show** at Forest Park on Sunday, April 12, and the **Wheels In Motion Show (WIM)** held at Westport Plaza on Sunday, September 13. The WIM show is a charity event raising donations for The National Children's Cancer Society in support of kids with cancer. Kevin proposes that we participate as a club and make a donation in the name of the Club from our Club's cash reserves. I think that sounds like a fine idea, and the Club can discuss the proposal nearer to the show date.

Hagerty Insurance Presentation:

Richard Hentschel, St. Louis Territory Manager for Hagerty Insurance, attended our Holiday Party and made a presentation on insuring your collectible car and passed out some Hagerty swag. Hagerty is a respected vendor in this field, and I know several members have their cars insured with Hagerty Insurance. If you are seeking collector car insurance and would like a local contact, Richard can be reached at 314-502-2373 or at <rhentschel@hagerty.com>.

New Members:

I am pleased to announce that during the last several months our Club has added five new members. Joining are Jack Bertelsmeyer, Allen Hall, Dennis Leiendecker, John Lowell and David Stephens. On behalf of the Club I would like to extend to all of them a hearty Welcome! We look forward to your participation in the Club.

Craig Masterson

CADILLAC IN THE NEWS

Cadillac Model Names:

I recently saw several news articles with a big Cadillac announcement I know many of you have desired...**Future Cadillac models will have names, not letters and numbers!**

Cadillac has confirmed it will be giving its future vehicles proper names rather than the alphanumeric model designations it has been using in recent years, such as CT5 and XT6.

"The rollout of the electric vehicles is the time we'll start to move back toward naming," Cadillac President Steve Carlisle said, as reported by *Automotive News*.

The shift will coincide with a plan to have Cadillac help lead GM's transition to electric vehicles. Crosstown-rival Lincoln recently began a similar switch with the reintroduction of the Continental nameplate, followed by Nautilus, Corsair and Aviator.

"We're entering the decade as an internal-combustion-engine brand," Carlisle said. "We'll exit the decade as a battery-electric brand. It's the end of the ICE age for Cadillac", *Automotive News* reported.

Cadillac's first electric SUV could arrive by 2022. Cadillac will soon debut an electric crossover utility vehicle that will be the first built on a GM platform that can be adapted to different sizes and equipped with front, rear or all-wheel-drive. So far, it has only been shown in design sketches and remains unnamed, but it is possible that a production version could arrive by 2022.

Aside from the Escalade, the last Cadillac to use a name was the DeVille sedan of 2005. Carlisle didn't indicate if the plan is to resurrect classic Cadillac names or create new ones.

Cadillac Reveals Industry-First Curved OLED Display:

Cadillac has announced that the 2021 Escalade available this summer will showcase the first curved OLED (Organic Light Emitting Diode) dash display in the industry with over 38 diagonal inches of total display. Featuring twice the pixel density of a 4K television, this technology enables bold imagery, perfect blacks and the largest color range available in the automotive industry.

Also available will be augmented reality-enabled navigation with a live forward camera, multiple

exterior cameras, available infrared "night vision" and dual 12.6-inch, rear-seat entertainment screens.

The 2021 Escalade will come with a standard 420 horsepower, 6.2L, V-8 engine. A 3.0L turbo-diesel engine will also be available for the first time. The 2021 Escalade was introduced at the Los Angeles Auto Show on February 4th.



2021 Escalade Interior

Stolen 1956 Cadillac Returned To 106-Year-Old WWII Vet:

(By Stephen Sorace | Fox News)



1956 Cadillac Returned To 106-Year-Old WWII Vet

Very few stories of stolen classic cars have a happy ending, but fortunately, that is not the case with Curly Bunfill and his 1956 Cadillac Eldorado. After being reported stolen on January 17, 2020, the Sacramento Police Department announced that the Cadillac was returned anonymously to the police station and later returned to its owner. What makes this

story even more special is the owner of the car and where the car came from.

The owner, Mr. Curly Bunfill, is 106 years old, and he is a three-time Purple Heart recipient and World War II veteran. After the war, Bunfill became a Hollywood stuntman, which is how he came to eventually meet actress Rita Hayworth, and the two became friends. Bunfill recalled the true Hollywood story of how he came to be in possession of the classic--a story that begins at a party.

"Our eyes met and we danced," Bunfill told of his first meeting with Hayworth. "And she had all these cars in her garage, beautiful, beautiful cars. We danced around the cars."

The veteran said the actress, described by the press in the 1940s as "The Love Goddess" for her glamorous screen appearances, left him the Cadillac in her will when she died in 1987.

Aside from its past ownership, this car was unique since it had Rita Hayworth's name engraved on the doors, trunk and engine compartment.

The Cadillac was stolen after Bunfill's Sacramento home had been broken into, and a reward of \$7,000 was offered for information to locate the car. Thankfully, just days later, the Eldorado was spotted at the police headquarters where someone dropped the car off with apparently no damage. No arrests have been made in connection with the car's theft, but we are sure Bunfill is just happy to have his car back.

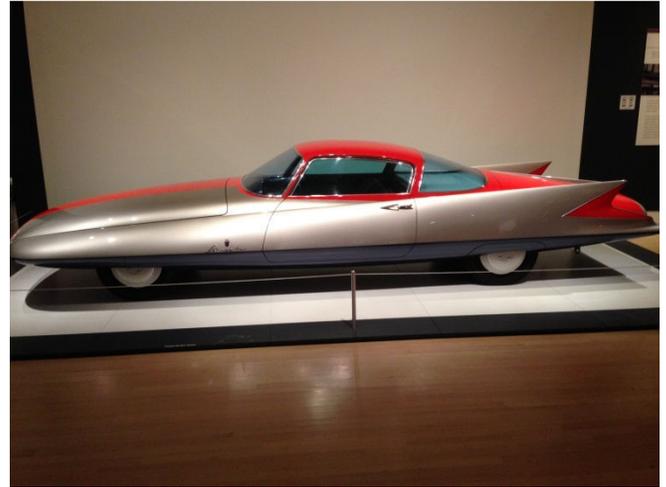
Car enthusiasts may recognize that this is not the only Cadillac connected to the Hollywood actress. Hayworth had also owned a rare - only two were ever built - 1953 Cadillac Ghia, and this gorgeous specimen of a car is part of the Petersen Automotive Museum's permanent collection in Los Angeles.

~~~~~

Rita Hayworth not only liked beautiful cars, but her persona inspired the naming of a prototype "dream" car after one of her movie role characters. In 2015, I attended an Exhibition of vintage prototype "dream" cars at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. One of those cars displayed, designed in 1955 by Giovanni Savonuzzi for Ghia, was named "Gilda".

As *Car & Driver* magazine reports, "...the auto was a wind-cheating tour de force, and was named Gilda for the famous 1946 film noir starring Hollywood's hottest commodity, Rita

Hayworth, in the title role. 'When the movie came out, an ad said she was a super-sexy bomb,' Savonuzzi's daughter recalls. 'My father had a real sense of humor, and because of that description, the name Gilda stuck with him. He couldn't resist calling the car that.'"



1955 Ghia Gilda at Indianapolis Museum of Art

### CADS-IN-MAGS

**Hemmings:** I subscribe to *Hemmings Classic Car* magazine and recently received the March edition. They have a very nice fourteen-page Special Section on '60s Cadillacs. The multiple short articles discuss '60s Cadillac style and luxury, along with examples of the evolution of Cadillac advertising during the decade. A short story on a 1967 DeVille convertible and its restoration by the owner is also presented.

**Collectible Automobile:** A member who subscribes to *Collectible Automobile* magazine tipped me off that the current April edition has an article devoted to the 1971-1978 Cadillac Eldorado. (Thanks Steve!) I have just acquired this issue from my local book store. The Eldorado article is sixteen pages long and is excellent. As a bonus, there is also a great article on "The Convertibles of 1959". This issue's cover sports a beautiful 1959 Seminole red Series 62 convertible, top down, with solid red interior. Gotta love those red interiors!

