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Open

**National Website:** <cadillaclasalleclub.org>

**Region Website:** <cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>

(submit info to <contact@cadillaclasalleclubstl.org>)

**Region Sponsor: ELCO Cadillac**

15110 Manchester Road, Ballwin, Mo

Cadillac Sales Manger - *Bill Pastor*: 877-590-6609



### APRIL MEETING & SPRING CAR SHOW

**Date:** Saturday, April 15th

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Where:** ELCO Cadillac

**Address:** 15110 Manchester Road, Ballwin

**Notes:** Food and beverage will be graciously provided by ELCO Cadillac!

### MAY LAMBDA/CLC DRIVING EVENT

**Date:** Sunday, May 7th

**Time:** Meet 10:00 AM-10:30 AM, depart 10:45 AM

**Where:** Woodland Park (Lions Pavilion)

**Address:** 354 Pine Lake Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234

**RSVP: Please RSVP as soon as possible** to confirm your attendance to Clayton Patterson at <clpatterson71@aol.com>.

**Notes:** "Meet, Drive, Dine, and Wine!!!" Mike Wallerstein and Clayton Patterson are co-hosting a joint event with Show Me LCCI and the CLC-StL.

This event entails a backroads scenic drive to the historic Diamond Mineral Springs Restaurant in Highland, Illinois for an awesome family-style lunch and then finishes with a short drive to a nearby winery for wine tasting fun and frivolity.

See the event flyer distributed with this newsletter for all the details you need to know to participate in this fun event. If you missed this event last year, here is your second chance!

#### Diamond Mineral Springs Est. 1892

Our family-style restaurant is the longest "continuously" serving restaurant in the state of Illinois.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

**March Meeting:** Our March meeting was held in Thomas Quick's garage. Our last Club meeting at the Quicks was pre-pandemic; my, how time flies.

We had an excellent turnout with 33 members and guests in attendance. Hats off to Director Todd and Amber for preparing a mountain of dollar-roll sandwiches that all enjoyed. And in particular, a BIG THANK YOU goes out to the Quicks for hosting our meeting, providing chips, cookies, and beverages, and setting up tables and chairs to accommodate us all in such an amazing setting.

We all were excited to have another opportunity to view the Quicks' collection and the various projects in progress. One such project was a beautiful 1929 L-29 Cord receiving mechanical work, as the body and paint are completed and gorgeous. Another was a 1937 Cord 812 Sedan owned by the son of a friend of Thomas.

I have always admired Cords for their elegant and sleek styling that was ahead of their time and their historical significance as the first American front-wheel drive cars with independent front suspension to be offered to the public.

Other than a "downsized" replica Cord, (cleverly named the 8/10 Cord to reflect its "scale"), built in 1963-64, the model 810/812 Cords were the last American front-wheel-drive cars for almost thirty years until GM unveiled the Oldsmobile Toronado (1966) and the all new Cadillac Eldorado (1967). Both of these GM personal luxury cars paid homage to the Cord's hidden headlamps.



But, in my opinion, I see a Cord styling cue that no one mentions in the redesigned 1971-1976 Eldorados. While the restyled Eldorado incorporated styling cues from earlier 1950s era Cadillacs, i.e. the model year 1971-72 side-louver body moldings behind each door on the rear quarter panel, I see some Cord styling in the hood sheet metal stamping.

I refer to the styling of the raised center portion of the hood running from the base of the windshield to the front of the hood. This raised portion of the hood is reminiscent of the hood shape of the "coffin-nose" 810/812 Cords. So, I like to think my '71 Eldorado has a little bit of Cord styling thrown in! OK, enough on Cord and Cadillac musings.

Getting back to our Club meeting, Treasurer Ted reported that we continue to have a sufficient sum in the Club's treasury. Ted reports that he has submitted the \$500 Club donation to the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Museum that was proposed, voted on, and approved at our January luncheon meeting. The Museum is located at the Gilmore Auto Museum in Hickory Corners, MI. All certified auto-enthusiasts should get there at least once to view the extensive collection and the various Club Museums on site, including the CLC Museum.

Moving on to the next meeting topic, annual St. Louis Region membership renewals, the Club had about a 92% renewal rate. A few newer members joining over the last couple of years who did not regularly attend meetings have not renewed. There is a member that has moved to Florida. Also, there

is a longtime member who is no longer active in the Club, but we are retaining him on our newsletter distribution list.

Many of you have chosen to renew your membership for multiple years, as was available on the "dues invoice". THANK YOU! This vastly simplifies and streamlines the annual dues collection process going forward. And, not to beat a dead horse, PLEASE make sure you keep your National CLC dues up to date, which is a prerequisite to belong to a regional club.

While I am beating dead horses, I still have a need for article submissions for the *Fleetwood Flyer*.

**Calendar Event/Show Updates:** The following events were discussed at our March meeting:

- ♦ **HCCMo Easter Auto Show:** Sunday April 9th. Director Todd has been in contact with instructions for those members who will participate in the Club display.
- ♦ **CLC-StL ELCO Cadillac Spring Car Show:** Saturday April 15th. See page 1.
- ♦ **Magic Motors Tour-Urbana & Paxton, IL:** Saturday-Sunday April 22nd-23rd. A joint tour with the CCA to visit the Strong and then the Baier auto collections. Please see the flyer distributed with the newsletter for more information. These visits will likely be a highlight of this year's Club activities.
- ♦ **St. Louis Community College-Great Race:** Sunday April 30th. The Automotive Tech



Program students at St. Louis Community College plan to enter a car in this year's *Hemmings Great Race*. The event is more akin to a timed rally event. To prepare and practice for the event, the College is running a "practice race" and is inviting other collector cars to participate. If interested please contact Director Todd who can provide additional details.

- ♦ **Frisco Hill Auto Spring Car Cruise-In:** Saturday May 6th. 10 AM-2 PM, 4615 Baumgartner Rd, St. Louis 63129. Enjoy food, music, drink and classic cars. No registration fee. Frisco Hill has helped to restore several members' cars.
- ♦ **Lambda/CLC Dine & Wine:** Sunday May 7th. This event entails a backroads scenic drive to the historic Diamond Mineral Springs Restaurant, originating in Collinsville, IL. Please RSVP if you intend to participate (see page 1). Distributed with this newsletter is a flyer with all of the pertinent details on the event's start time and meeting point.
- ♦ **Kirkwood Route 66 Cars & Guitars:** Saturday June 10th. 4:30 PM-9 PM for vehicle display. The Oldsmobile Club has participated in this event and highly recommends it. A caveat, advance application AND approval to display a vehicle is required. \$25 advance entry fee. Please see the show application distributed with this newsletter for all the details and due dates for application if you wish to display.
- ♦ **July Mtg-Caffeine & Chrome Car Show:** Saturday July 29th. We will return to Gateway Classic Cars as a featured car club for their monthly Caffeine & Chrome Car Show.
- ♦ **CLC-StL Fall Car Show:** Saturday October 7th. Our October Club Fall Car Show will be held on the grass lawn (à la Pebble Beach!) at the Creve Coeur Elks Lodge in conjunction with the St. Louis Jaguar Club Show.
- ♦ **Rolls Royce/CLC-StL Joint Club Tour:** Friday-Sunday October 13-15th. Director Todd is working with the Rolls Royce Club on another fall driving event, building upon the great event we had last October—driving to Hannibal, MO with an overnight stay. This year's event will entail a drive to Kansas City (KC), with driving tours, visits to public and private automobile collections, and other museums of interest. Initial plans are to drive to KC on Friday, October 13th, spend two nights, and return Sunday, October 15th. There may be an option to stay a third night and return Monday. The

plan is to stay at a hotel on the KC Plaza that would have secure underground-garage parking.

**Cars & Parts for Sale:** 1951 Cadillac 6137 Coupe and 1948 Oldsmobile Sedanette. Bob Schuman has decided to sell his two exquisitely finished cars. Details and pictures of the 1951 Cadillac are as follows:



- ♦ Showing 90,000 miles believed to be original
- ♦ Power steering added in 1953...rare option!
- ♦ One re-paint several years ago
- ♦ New carpet several years ago
- ♦ Otherwise, car is original, and everything works perfectly except windshield washer
- ♦ New Diamond Back tires and Optima Battery
- ♦ \$30,000

Please contact Bob if interested.

**1942-1947 Cadillac Sheet Metal:** Thomas Quick has available a hood, rear fenders and front and rear doors that should fit 1942-1947 Cadillacs. Please contact Thomas Quick if interested.

Bob's and Thomas's contact information can be found in the Club roster distributed last month, or please contact the Club Secretary/Editor.

In this month's edition Phyllis Steckel contributes an update on her and Rich's around-the-world cruise. Doug Birk, one of the Clubs avid model car collectors, provides an article on recent Cadillac model car releases by *MATCHBOX*. Thank You, Phyllis and Doug, for your contributions toward helping make an entertaining *Fleetwood Flyer*!

Also included is an article originally published in the February 1991 *Car and Driver* Magazine. I collected this article as a subscriber and saved it

these many years. I really enjoyed the article because I lived the storyline, as you will soon understand upon reading it. I contacted the Publisher of *Car and Driver* magazine, Hearst Autos Inc. (HAI) and was graciously granted permission to reprint the article in our newsletter. Thank You HAI!

*Craig Masterson*



## HELLO FROM THE VIKING NEPTUNE



(By: Phyllis Steckel)



(March 11, 2023) From Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam)—hot and humid! Cars in Indonesia are mostly motor scooters—not even motorcycles. Maybe 30% cars, and those were just about all very modest Asian models that I didn't even recognize the manufacturer. I saw one scooter carrying two men and two 4x8 plywood sheets. Several others carried a family of four. Traffic lanes are simply suggestions. Very interesting and quite humbling to see how much of the world lives.

Rich gave some great talks on the history of QANTAS and the Royal Flying Doctors' Service (Australian outback medical flight mission). His next one is on "Flying the Hump"—flying over the Himalayas (20,000 to 29,000 feet) in unpresurized DC-3's to serve US Flying Tigers in WWII. (Rich's dad was a Flying Tiger mechanic). I gave six talks so far, all on geoscience topics—earthquakes, tsunamis, etc. Great audiences—150 to 250 each.

Hope all is well in St. Louis. I think we are missing a fairly pleasant winter!

Cheers, and calm seas and following winds....

Phyllis Steckel, Aboard the Viking Neptune



(March 27, 2023) Leaving Colombo, Sri Lanka, in a few hours. A pleasant visit—nicer city than I expected. I was hoping to buy a raw sapphire in matrix (sapphire crystal in the rock surrounding it when it cooled and precipitated), but no luck. Lots of vendors set up right alongside the ship, but the quality of their gems was not very good. I may be on the hunt for a 'holy grail' of mineral samples.

Overall, the vehicles here are fairly new, and a mix of European and Asian makes: BMW, Volvo, Audi, Toyota, Honda, and Kia. Not many US. And tuk tuks—lots of tuk tuks!



Photo above added by Editor to show tuk tuks; photo from <https://thehoneycombers.com>

The visit to the Illinois collections sounds wonderful—sorry to miss it. Hope you all have a great time and no car-trouble along the way!

Cheers,

Phyllis Steckel, Aboard Viking Neptune

## MATCHBOX CADILLACS (update)

(By: Doug Birk)

Mattel, manufacturer of MATCHBOX 1/64 scale diecast model cars, continues to impress and please us with their selection of collectable Cadillacs.

Released for 2022 was the 2021 Cadillac CT5-V Blackwing, finished in bright "velocity" red, a real factory color. This red hot Cadillac was accented by authentic badging and chrome multi-spoke wheels.



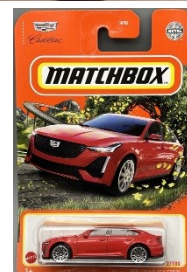
Having a great model to work with, Matchbox continued to reissue this CT5-V for 2023. This model is finished in a gloss raven black, with detailed badging and special gold-plated 5 spoke wheels.



Hopefully, these two new Cadillac models are a sample of what Matchbox may be releasing in the future.

Happy motoring!

(Model car photos by Doug Birk, Matchbox package photo from ebay.com)



## **I BOUGHT A CAR**

(By: Rich Ceppos)

(*Car and Driver Magazine* - February 1991)

I'm going out for a ride in my car. My own personal car. You probably want to know what I drive. Everybody does, once they find out what I do for a living. When folks corner me at a party or barbecue for a quick interrogation, I discern the twinkle of anticipation in their eyes; they're going to get the inside dope. "*Now we'll find out what the best car really is,*" they're thinking. Must be like finding out what Julia Child cooks herself for Saturday lunch.

For years I bombed when the big moment arrived. "Nothing," I would say with a weak smile. "I'm up to my eyeballs in magazine test cars. Haven't owned a car since 1979." They'd arch their eyebrows and shuffle their feet, and the conversation would sputter. Sorry.

But now I'm back from the dead. Eleven months ago I went out and bought a car. In fact, I'm backing it out of the garage right now. Easy there, big girl. I'll bet you can't guess what it is. Not in a million-bizillion years. I'll give you a few hints: it's red and has a white folding top. It's got four-wheel disc brakes. It's got an engine big enough for an aircraft carrier. Go ahead, guess.

Wrong. You'd never figure a guy like me for a car like this. Okay, okay. I've stalled long enough. I'll tell you. It's a . . . it's a . . . it's a 1976 Cadillac Eldorado convertible. Whew, it's finally out. I've even got a name for it: Big Bertha.

Too bad you can't see it—they don't make cars like this anymore. The nose is as bluff as the White Cliffs of Dover. The interior looks wide enough to sit four across. And talk about *big*. It weighs about 5000 pounds, and when I park it in a lot, the whole back end sticks out of the space. Hondas are mere ants next to the mighty Bertha.

If you could see Bertha, you'd probably laugh. Everyone else does. My wife's best buddy Juli came over when I first got it. "Is that the best we could do back then?" she asked, laughing. Our fifteen-year-old baby sitter, Danielle, who normally exudes more cool than a Frigidaire, lost it completely. Just doubled over, speechless. Our next door neighbor said, "Oh, it's *yours*? I thought your parents had come to visit." Ha-ha-ha.

You're wondering what a convicted car-head like me is doing with a boat like this. I still wonder that from time to time, too. Back when my Eldo rolled off the assembly line, I thought cars like it were dumber than Dick Nixon. It represented

everything that was wrong with scummy, bourgeois, capitalist, military-industrial-complexed Amerika.

More on that in a minute. I'm out on the road now. Man, look at that hood. My wife and I sleep in a bed that's smaller than that hood. It takes two hands to open it. And, golly, the lump of iron that's underneath it: eight-point-two liters—500 cubic inches—of Cadillac V-8. The biggest V-8 ever installed in a passenger car. No fancy overhead cams or lightweight aluminum parts here, friends. Just brute force gentrified for duty in GM's finest.

In here, in the cabin, the front seat is the place to be. It's covered in pleated red leather. The floor is perfectly flat from one side of the cockpit to the other, so the middle passenger sits as comfortably as the outboard riders. The clever front-drive system that allows the floor to be flat was originally designed for the 1966 Olds Toronado back when GM could do no wrong. And you'd be surprised at the options they had back then, everything from automatic climate control to an alarm system.

I've got the original sticker. Bertha has just about every option but fuel injection and—get ready for this—listed for \$12,382. We thought that was a bundle fifteen years ago. I've also got the EPA-mileage sticker: 12 mpg city, 16 mpg highway. Holy hydrocarbons! I could cause a gas shortage all by myself. Good thing I only drive Bertha for recreation.

That's what I'm up to right now. I've got the top down; it's one of those days that shouldn't be possible this time of year. I'm easing down a country two-lane, past the leafless trees, just cruising. There's no point in hustling. The steering is so slack it merely suggests changes of direction to the front tires. The ride is flat and level on these smooth roads, but there's no hope in the turns. At the merest hint of cornering, Bertha lolls drunkenly and her tires howl like coyotes baying at the moon. When my wife, Suzanne, drives, she makes the tires sing every chance she gets. She thinks it's a hoot. Actually, so do I.

Hey, what's that? It's a flock of geese on final approach to that lake over there. I'm gonna pull off and watch. Wow, they're coming in five separate flights of about 50, like bombers returning from a mission. They're honking like crazy. Hey guys, welcome home.

I think maybe part of the reason I wanted to buy an Eldo is that it represents the last gasp for America the way it used to be. "Cadillac" still



meant something back in 1976, but a new reality was closing in: tougher safety regs meant this was probably the last American-made convertible. Emissions standards were sapping horsepower. (Bertha's monstrous V-8 makes only 190 hp.) And OPEC was giving everyone butterflies. The next year, 1977, GM introduced the first downsized cars. The party was over.

Time to get rolling. Starts every time on the first try. Good car, good car. I first got the idea for buying a mid-seventies Eldorado when I saw one on the big screen in *Electric Cowboy*. There were Willie Nelson and Robert Redford, riding the range in a big old Eldo (white with red leather). Willie sang songs about lonesome cowboys as the two of them crossed prairie after prairie. Man, it looked like freedom. Made you want to ride the range, too, even though it was too late for cowboys and Cadillacs.

Now I'm heading straight into the sunset, like something from a movie. The sun is going down bright orange in a hazy sky. Great colors. Golden light playing off the hood. Gathering shadows. Must turn up my collar and flip on the heat.

Time to head for home. Ah, home. This will probably be the last ride of the season. It's been a good year. A thousand miles of cruising and no breakdowns. Even Suzanne fell victim to Bertha's oddball charm. Here's the garage. Take it easy squeezing past the trash cans.

Bertha, I hope you like the accommodations. You're going to be staying a while.

*(This article reprinted from the February 1991 Car and Driver Magazine with explicit permission granted by Hearst Autos, Inc.)*



The photo above is of the now closed Lindburg Cadillac Showroom in St. Louis, circa 1969. The building still stands at 9833 Watson Road (at one time Route 66) and now houses the Grabber School of Hair Design. In the center of the showroom is a beautiful blue 1969 Cadillac Eldorado. At the far end of the showroom you can see our own Pat Howk's 1910 Cadillac Five Passenger Touring car, previously owned and displayed by Lindburg Cadillac.

(Photo from the collection of the Missouri Historical Society; <https://mohistory.org>)



*LaSalle*  
CLUB  
St. Louis Region

April Edition

**2023**

# CLC - St. Louis Region Calendar of Events



Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Notes
1/7	Sat	1:00 PM	Monthly Mtg & Holiday Party	Favazza's Restaurant, 5201 Southwest Ave.	
2/22	Wed	6:30 PM	Monthly Mtg	The Sports Café, 3579 Pennridge Dr., Bridgeton	Come Hungry!
3/11	Sat	11:00 AM	Monthly Mtg	Thomas Quick's Garage	Food & Beverage provided/\$5
4/15	Sat	10 AM-2 PM	Monthly Mtg & Spring Car Show	ELCO Cadillac, 15110 Manchester Rd, Ballwin	Food & Beverage provided
4/22-23	Sat/Sun		CCCA/ CLC-StL Magic Motors Tour	Urbana and Paxton, IL	See Event Flyer Provided
5/7	Sun	10 AM~3 PM	Lamda Club/CLC - IL Lunch/Wine Drive	Collinsville, Highland, Pocahontas, IL	See Event Flyer Provided
5/??	TBD	TBD	Monthly Mtg	Details Forthcoming	
6/??	TBD	TBD	Monthly Mtg	Details Forthcoming	
6/20-24			CLC 2023 Grand National	Albuquerque, New Mexico	
7/29	Sat	8 AM-12 PM	Mo. Mtg - Caffeine & Chrome Show	1237 Central Park Dr. , O'Fallon, IL 62269	Gateway Classic Car-CLC Featured
8/??	TBD	TBD	Monthly Mtg	Details Forthcoming	
9/??	TBD	TBD	Monthly Mtg	Details Forthcoming	
9/22-23	Fri/Sat		CLC 2023 Fall Festival	Hickory Corners, MI - Gilmore Car Museum	
10/7	Sat	10 AM-3 PM	Annual CLC Car Show & Monthly Mtg	12481 Ladue Rd, Creve Coeur, MO 63141	Elks Lodge #9, w/Jaguar Club
10/13-15	Fri-Sun		Rolls Royce / CLC-StL Joint Club Tour	Kansas City area	Details to follow
11/15	Wed	6:00 PM	Monthly Mtg	ELCO Cadillac, 15110 Manchester Rd, Ballwin	Final Meeting of 2023
<b>Other Local Car Related Events</b>					
4/9	Sun	8:00 AM	HCCMO-Annual Easter Car Show	Forest Park-Muny Opera Upper Parking Lot	Club Display
6/18	Sun	10 AM-3 PM	HCCMO-Father's Day Car Show	Museum of Transport., 2967 Barrett Station Rd	
9/16	Sat	11 AM-2 PM	Kicks On 66/R.Gori Memorial Car Show	Edwardsville, IL	
9/17	Sun	8:00 AM	HCCMO Show & Swap Meet	Chesterfield Mall - former Sears parking lot	
10/21	Sat	5 PM-11 PM	Archway Oldsmobile Charity Trivia Night	2500 Raymond Dr., St. Charles, MO	Amer.Legion #312, \$20/person