



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FLEETWOOD FLYER



Cadillac

LaSalle

CLUB
St. Louis Region

NOVEMBER 2023

Director:

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

Associate Director & Annual Show Chairman:

David Baker: 636-575-9554 <dkb9323@gmail.com>

Treasurer:

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

Secretary & Newsletter Editor:

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

Webmaster & Nat'l Director-St. Louis Region:

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

Sponsorship Chairman:

Pat Howk: 636-282-1184 <phowk@earthlink.net>

National Website: <cadillacclasalleclub.org>

Region Website: <cadillacclasalleclubstl.org>

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

Region Sponsor: ELCO Cadillac

15110 Manchester Road, Ballwin, Mo

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



JANUARY HOLIDAY MEETING

Date: Saturday, January 6th

Time: 1 pm

Where: Favazza's on The Hill

Address: 5201 Southwest Ave, St. Louis, 63139

RSVP: Please RSVP to Craig at <bigv8@swbell.net> or Todd at <ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net> by Friday, Dec. 29th.

Note: We will order individually from the menu and receive separate checks.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Our November 15th meeting, the last of the year, continued with tradition and was held at Club Sponsor ELCO Cadillac. As always, ELCO provided us with plenty of delicious pizza. Thank You, Bill Pastor and ELCO Cadillac!

We had an exceptional turnout with 42 members and guests in attendance. Mild and dry weather for mid-November may have helped to increase the attendance, but I think it was the allure of the pizza buffet!

And, to top things off, Associate Director David Baker brought two delectable, home-made bundt cakes (one infused with rum!) to celebrate November birthdays. Knowing David for many years, I now see a trend, and it revolves around sweets—donuts, cookies, cakes....Thank You, David, and keep up the good work!

Regarding November birthdays, Happy Birthday, Michael Neuf! I was very surprised when no one

else admitted to a November birthday. Being a recovering accountant, I like to play with numbers.

In probability theory, the "birthday problem" asks for the probability that, in a set of "n" randomly chosen people, at least two will share a birthday. The "birthday paradox" refers to the counterintuitive fact that only 23 people are needed for that probability to exceed 50%. With a group of 42, the probability of two individuals sharing the same birthday (but not year) computes to 90.7%.

The probability for two individuals to share the same birth-month in a group of 42 is 100%! It only takes a group of 11 to reach a 99.9% probability that two individuals share the same birth month. So...did we experience a major statistical anomaly, or did someone just not fess up? Who knows! Who cares!

Allen Hall surprised members with early Christmas presents. Allen came into possession of a large collection of Hallmark Kiddie Car Classics miniature toy pedal cars. Members were able to chose one from the collection to take home. This was quite the surprise and a very nice one at that. Thank You, Allen!!!

Bill Pastor provided members with updates on Cadillac. It was noted that ELCO has now been a CLC-StL Club sponsor for 10+ years. Thank you ELCO!

Bill stated that vehicles are still somewhat in short supply, but if you need to buy a vehicle

today, they do have some in the showroom and on the lot. The Escalade continues to be a great seller. ELCO currently has one available in stock. All of the 2024-model-year Escalades currently on order have been pre-sold. There will be a refresh of the Escalade in 2025, along with introduction of an all-electric-version, the Escalade IQ.

Bill stated they have two of the new all-electric Lyric SUVs in stock. They are both RWD models; Bill stated the AWD models are more in demand in our area. Bill offered members the ability to take one home overnight to test drive if you would like.

ELCO had made investments in technician training, battery storage, battery lifts, and charging stations, that will be needed as new vehicles transition to all-electric.

As Cadillac continues to introduce more all-electric vehicles (Lyric, Celestiq, Escalade IQ), Bill believes that Cadillac will still be producing some ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) vehicles through the end of the decade.

Next up, Ted Fivian gave the Treasurer's report. Recent expenses were the \$200 donation to the National Children's Cancer Society at the Wheels in Motion Car Show and \$122 for Newsletter expenses. Our current balance, using a St. Louis-twang, is just under "farty-far" hundred.

Kevin Williams reported that the national CLC Board of Directors meeting will be held January 24th in Dallas, TX.

And, if anyone would like to order a CLC-StL name badge, please contact Kevin Williams ASAP. There are now enough members who desire badges to now submit an order. The cost is likely in the \$8-\$10 range, depending on what inflation has done since the last order. Kevin's contact data is shown on the top of page one.

If you would like to order a laminated car show windshield placard, Jim Gormley will make those in the near future, so please submit your order ASAP. I will attached the order form for placards in a separate email.

Director Todd Tobiasz recapped our recent tour to Kansas City in conjunction with the CLC-Kansas City Region, the Classic Car Club, and two Rolls Royce regional clubs.

As we start to develop plans for 2024 meetings and activities, ALL suggestions are very much appreciated, even more so if you are willing to help coordinate a meeting or event.

In addition to our January 6th post-holiday lunch event at Favazza's, 2024 meetings and events known at this time are:

- ♦ April 13th; Evergreen Collection: Saturday, Lebanon, MO. The HCCMo is arranging for a tour of this large and impressive private automobile collection (500+ cars). There will be a fee to attend (\$40?) that will include a box lunch. Lebanon, MO is about a 2.5 hour drive southwest on Hwy 44 (past Fort Leonard Wood) from downtown St. Louis. More details to follow as they become known. This is a tour not to be missed! [Evergreen Historic Automobiles and Classic Cars Lebanon MO.](#)
- ♦ April 28th; CLC-StL Meeting: Sunday, 11:30 am to 3:30 pm, St Martin's Episcopal Church, 15764 Clayton Rd, Ellisville, MO 63011. The CLC-StL has been invited to participate with several other car clubs in the church's annual Festival. The Festival is a fund raiser for the church's food pantry, Circle of Concern. Vehicles will be vying for prizes to be awarded based on "votes" received from Festival attendees. Everyone receives one vote, but additional votes can be purchased, which is the fund raising component of the Festival.

2024 CLC-StL Dues—Still \$15!: Our November meeting kicked off annual CLC-StL Region membership renewal. Region dues are paid on a calendar-year basis. This differs from National CLC membership renewal that is based on a fiscal year basis, starting with the month you joined the National CLC. *Reminder:* Membership in the National CLC is a mandatory prerequisite to belong to the St. Louis Region.

An email was sent prior to the November meeting which lists each member's CLC-StL "Membership Paid-Up Year" and indicates whether 2024 dues are owed. **Please contact the Secretary if you are unsure whether you owe 2024 dues.**

With dues collected at and after our November meeting, along with those who had prepaid for multiple years, we currently stand at an 82% renewal rate for 2024.

Member News: As previously reported, **Doug Birk's** brother, Roger, recently passed away after a sudden and brief illness. Doug has asked that I share his thanks with the Club:

My family and I thank everyone for their thoughts of kindness, cards and prayers of support in the passing of my brother Roger Birk.

He had a love for people, charitable organizations, and a passion for trains and vintage automobiles.

Roger will never be forgotten.

DOUG

Former Club member **Allan Franz** passed away at the age of 90. [Allan Arthur Franz Obituary 2023 - Baue Funeral Homes](#). Allan was the prior owner of John Meyerhoff's impressive 1976 Eldorado convertible.

Bill Tabor is collecting automotive magazines to donate to several Veterans Homes. They have limited resources to subscribe to entertaining reading material for the Veterans. If you have old automotive magazines or others of interest that you no longer need, please save them, and provide them to Bill. Bill will distribute them to bring some joy to our honored Veterans.

Kevin Williams reported that his 1950 Series 62 convertible was selected to be part of the CLC Museum and Research Center 2024 Calendar. Calendar pre-orders are now available for shipping beginning in December 2024. The cost is a very reasonable \$15 plus \$3 shipping. You can order your calendar at [2024 Cadillac Calendar - Cadillac LaSalle Club Museum & Research Center \(cadillaclasallemuseum.org\)](#).

Chris Doria has joined the CLC and is our newest CLC-StL member. On behalf of all the members, Welcome, Chris! Chris attended our October Fall Car Show, displaying his rare 2019 Cadillac CT6-V. The CT6-V is powered by a twin-turbo 4.2-liter V-8 engine paired with a 10-speed automatic transmission. Wow!

Chris is the owner of Frisco Hill Auto in south St. Louis County. Frisco Hill performed the major mechanical restoration work on our 1959 Cadillac. [Frisco Hill Auto | St. Louis, Missouri | Classic Car Restoration Shop](#).

Several members have reported the acquisition of "new" Cadillacs. **Kevin Williams** replaced his 2012 Cadillac CTS4 Premium with a 2019 Cadillac CT6 3.0TT Platinum, sporting a twin-turbo 3.0-liter V-6. Car & Driver's magazine road test in 2019 reported a 0-60 mph time of 5 seconds! OK, Kevin, no speeding tickets...!

Doug Birk has added a 1993 Sedan deVille to his fleet. Somehow, Doug claims, the Cadillac followed him home after a visit to County Brake Services Inc. in Kirkwood.

Director **Todd Tobiasz** added another '30s era Cadillac to his collection. Todd found a 1930 V-8 Fleetwood Series 353 Roadster with rumble seat at a classic car dealer in Minneapolis. Todd said that the prior owner's father bought the car in 1963. The car needs some sorting out as it has not been driven for about 10 years.

The transport company delivered the car to Todd late-morning on October 22nd, the day of the Hoffmeister Mortuary Car Show. Todd was able to

drive the car to the show and display it. The CLC-StL members in attendance were in awe. Actually, all show attendees were hovering around the Cadillac. As Steve Colesworthy relates, a woman admiring the car asked Todd how long he has owned it, and Todd looked at her and said "What time is it?"



Congratulations to all members on your new acquisitions! May they provide you much enjoyment and motoring pleasure. I know members cannot wait to see them at future Club events.

This month's newsletter highlight is Part 2 of Doug Birk's informative and entertaining series of articles on the 2023 CLC Grand National. Doug puts much effort into obtaining displayed-vehicle-owner "tidbits" and home states—not to mention the vast amount of research he does in order to include interesting information on the highlighted cars—such as production numbers, original MSRP, special attributes, options, etc. Doug, what more can I say than THANK YOU!!!

Happy Thanksgiving!



I wish you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving. I personally have much to be thankful for this year after a bad start to the year with my New Year's day diagnosis of Guillain-Barré syndrome, necessitating a month in the hospital and a week in the ICU. After what felt like a fairly static summer of recovery progress, I can now report I am continuing to slowly improve. Live each day to the fullest!



Craig Masterson



1947 Cadillac 6269 Sedan

Elliot Enger has decided to sell his beautiful 1947 Cadillac Sedan. The car has 78,xxx miles, Hydra-Matic transmission, and new tires, gas tank, and battery. An excellent running car. Make offer. You can contact Elliot at 314-614-7750.



Cadillac Chrome Wheels

Ron Funk has a set of beautiful 1997 Cadillac chrome wheels for sale. They are 16" x 7" and are in mint condition. The wheels have never had any wheel weights mounted to the outside rims. Ron is asking \$160 for the set of four. Folks, that is just \$40/wheel. What a bargain! Ron can be reached at 314-604-5320.



1959 CADILLAC SEVILLE

(By: Craig Masterson / Noel Wilson)

As many of you know, Noel Wilson is an avid builder and collector of model cars. In the December 2021 newsletter Noel wowed us with an article on some of his recent model builds and pictures of his collection exquisitely displayed in his "man-cave".

With the reappearance of our 1959 Cadillac at the CLC-StL Fall Car Show, Noel brought his latest model to the November meeting to show me, a 1959 Cadillac Eldorado Seville.

This is a Monogram model in 1:25 scale. What is interesting is that the model is not painted. It is molded in a metallic blue plastic and Noel has buffed it to a brilliant shine.

Noel chose to make his own Eldorado side-trim, and both it and the interior chrome trim parts are covered with a reflective silver foil. Although the kit did not include it, Noel even added spark plug wires under the hood!



Very, very nice, Noel! You certainly are a master at your hobby craft. I bet you wish you had the full-size version in your garage!

CADILLAC CONFIRMS 2025 OPTIQ

(By: Cadillac Pressroom)

Cadillac has confirmed the fourth vehicle to join its expanding global electric vehicle portfolio—OPTIQ.

OPTIQ will act as the entry point for Cadillac's EV lineup in North America, slotting in below LYRIQ, a luxury compact SUV. OPTIQ's spirited driving dynamics are designed to appeal to global luxury customers. Additional details, as well as available features and pricing, will be unveiled next year.



Photos: GM/Cadillac

2023 CLC GRAND NATIONAL (Part 2)

(By: Doug Birk)

In Part 1, vehicles at the Grand National from the '20s through the '50s were covered. Part 2 will cover vehicles from the '60s through '70s.

Continuing traditional Cadillac styling into the '60s, Cadillac for 1960 exhibited a new, restrained fin, less chrome, and more comfort and safety features. Owners of these cars are as varied in appearance and personality as their cars.

The 1960 Persian Sand SDV, 6-window hardtop sedan, was owned by a guy nicknamed "MUG" from NM. Not visualizing MUG as a "typical" Cadillac owner may be an understatement. Physically, he is about 60 years old, wearing well-worn clothes, long graying hair, and matching scraggly beard, but a personality that would not quit! His car on the other hand showed well—nice

finish and chrome—but according to MUG, plagued with problems of wipers and windows that do not work, leaking fluids from all possible orifices, lack of detailing (bandages on hoses and pipes do not count) on the whole car. But, having a soft spot for '60s, I still liked it—guess one would call it personality.



Moving on to the other side of the spectrum was a pristine-to-a-fault, rare 1960 Eldorado Biarritz Convertible Series 6464E, adorned in metallic Heather (purple/gray) finish and contrasting white ostrich-grain leather bucket seats. One of only 1285 units with a base price of \$7401, it is now unaffordable for most of us on a budget. The proud owner is Ken Karrer of Austin, TX. Ken is no stranger to collecting Eldorados, having both a '55 and '56 in his stable.



Redesigned for 1961/62, with heavily sculpted sides, lower skog (fin), overall length shortened by three inches, and boasting chair-high seating, all models sold well. The 1961 Granada Green CDV Series 6337 from KS was detailed to the max. When owner Doug Meloan got his beautiful re-anodized grill back from the plater, the employee emphatically stated he would NEVER do another one! Enough said.



A sister car, Series 6237 Olympic White coupe, owned by Paul Whitlock of Golden, CO, took home a trophy. At the awards ceremony, an emotional

Paul gave his adult son, Greg, a great big "bear hug" in winning 3rd place primary—not bad for a first-time GN attendee with a car that had been semi-dormant for over 25 years. Congrats!



The flagship 1961 Fleetwood 60 Special, also owned by Rick Peyton of WI, made its second GN appearance. One cannot miss this Fontana Rose-metallic showpiece. Rick headed back to Eau Claire with a 2nd place, primary award.



For 1962, a semi-modified convertible coupe in Ebony Black with air suspension and wire wheels came all the way from UT. Basically, a 20-footer paint job did not do this car justice, but it still won an award.



A GN first-timer, new member Alex Yermolenko drove his 1962 Fleetwood 60 Special from AZ. Only a re-spray in original York Blue classified this fine machine as restored. The original biscuit-tufted, gray cloth and leather interior were as it was when new—the rear seat still had the factory plastic cover. Yes, the factory A/C worked like a charm, making his trip all the more pleasurable.

Top of the line 1962 Ebony Black Series 6733 nine-passenger limo, also owned by Tom Rigirosso, made its grand entrance equipped with front fender flag stanchions. A rare and expensive car when new, at a base price of \$9937, with only 904 units produced, it is a true survivor/keeper.



What is your flavor for 1963? A Basque Blue Series 6226 Convertible Coupe from CO, an Aspen White Sixty Special with red leather from NM or a Palomino Gold 6-window SDV driven from CO? The white Fleetwood was an original, unrestored model showing some patina of chipped paint, minor rust, and dented chrome but almost perfect red leather upholstery and matching red headliner. I overheard the owner of the gold SDV saying "he is in a different, more-serene surrounding while driving his '63." Yes, times have changed, and so did we.



A flame-red Series 6267 1964 Convertible coupe was the sole '64 model for this show. Coming from across the border (no not Mexico), this Canadian had to re-acclimate to the warm, arid climate and desert heat of NM. Riding on gangster, wide white sidewalls, with a license plate reading "BIG KHNA" says it all.



Mid-60s Cadillacs saw a dramatic change, especially with the elimination of tailfins, a styling trademark Cadillac embraced for seventeen years.

A blemish-free 1966 Starlight Silver-metallic Fleetwood Brougham with a rare dark red brocade cloth upholstery led the way. Owner, Nick Manole, kept the authenticity, down to the variable width, three-stripe white walls. (see top of next page).

Joining the parade was another Series 68169 Fleetwood Brougham. This unrestored, rust-free



1967 was finished in Grecian White, matching white padded top, and white leather interior only showing minimal wear—another award-winner.

1968 models increased the engine displacement from 429 cubic inches to 472, adding more sculptured sides and additional mandated safety equipment. Two Series 68367, deVille convertible coupes were present—an all-white with black interior from VA and an Emperor Blue with blue leather from CO.



A favorite of many was the eye-pleasing 1969 Persian Aqua Fleetwood Eldorado Series 69347 from southern CA. This car incorporated the new FWD concept with the personal touch in design, power, comfort, and elegance. The owner is Alan Clark of Newport Beach. They can never design a more-unique taillight than the Eldorado.



Finishing the '60s was the '69 CDV from KS. Beautiful original paint in Shalimar Gold and contrasting padded top was absolutely pristine. Owner, Rich Gibbs, proudly drove to the GN in style and comfort.

The 1970s again saw a dramatic change in style, but not before mentioning the 1970 convertible coupe from CO. This embarrassment of a Cadillac once wore a special Firemist-Wisteria (purple) acrylic lacquer paint. Unfortunately, the fire went

out, as well as its beauty. A well-worn white top, mismatched tires—one black wall and three white walls, tarnished chrome, scratched stainless, and license plate reading "CRUELLA". Need I say more?

The deVilles of the early and mid-1970s were nicely represented, starting with a 1971 CDV from TX. Finished in Adriatic Turquoise, white vinyl top and aqua brocade interior, the dual-striped, white walls set this car in motion.

Representing GM's styling of the last of the four-door, hardtop sedans (pillarless B column) was a 1976, finished in Georgian Silver and matching vinyl top and upholstery. Owner Tom Orlando of IL, rescued this original, unrestored, dust-covered gem from a barn in a cornfield. Who would have ever guessed what one can still find hiding in the shadows?

Graduating from large to extra-large was a 1976 Limousine, also in silver. This behemoth three-ton showpiece listed for a hefty base price of \$15,239 and was one of only 834 made. What is it with owners not washing their tires—seemed like a trend at this event.



Supposedly the last of the American-made production convertibles was to be the 1976 Fleetwood Eldorado. Even though they sold well, I wonder how many buyers overpaid, anticipating instant profits when sold. Fooled again! Cadillac made factory-authorized convertibles available for both 1984 and 1985.

Three nice 1976 Eldorado convertibles were on exhibit at this year's show. A factory original Cotillion-white from NM, another white model wearing modified cast wheels and "gangster" wide white walls, and a 2nd place touring class winner—a light-blue model owned by an Albuquerque member, a real driver.





The token Eldorado hardtop model from 1978 in Demitasse Brown with brown padded top was only diminished by the raised-white-letter tires on an otherwise-fine car.



Sevilles at this year's show ranged from the 1978 model through the 1980s. Seville debuted in 1976 as a fully-loaded, small "international-size" Cadillac. Attending was a newly-resprayed 1978 Elegante model in Western Saddle Firemist over Ruidoso Brown, wearing standard (for this model) factory wire wheels. It was yet another favorite attributed to Tom Rigiroszi.



(All photo's by Doug Birk unless noted)

(2023 CLC GRAND NATIONAL-Part 3 in December!)

BLAST FROM THE PAST

(St. Louis Post Dispatch, November 19, 1973)

THANKSGIVING BUFFET

SERVED FROM 12 TO 8 P.M.

AT

Jacques' Old World Restaurant

IN THE SHERATON AIRPORT INN

A Bountiful Buffet that includes:

Fruit Salad, Homemade Chopped Chicken Liver, Green Salad, Cold Stew, Three Bean Salad, Art. Jelly Mold, Cottage Cheese, Relish Tray, Baked Sweet Potatoes with Marshmallow Topping, Whipped Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Pigs & Mushrooms, String Beans.

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