



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE BY DAN RUBY

### 2024 OFFICERS:

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR**  
**AUTOMOBILIA AUCTIONEER**  
**SUMMER PICNIC HOST**  
**DAN RUBY**

**ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR**  
**CENTRAL VIRGINIA REGION**  
**LIAISON**  
**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**CHUCK PIEL**

**TREASURER**  
**BILL HILLIARD**

**ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR**  
**CHRISTOPHER WINTER**

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**  
**FRANKLIN GAGE**

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
**SECRETARY**  
**WEBSITE MANAGER**  
**VINCE TALIANO**

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR**  
**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**JACK MCCLOW**

### OTHER KEY POSITIONS:

**ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
**SANDY KEMPER**

**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**RITA BIAL-BOXLEY**

**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**CHRIS CUMMINGS**

**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**SUSAN DENCHFIELD**

**VALLEY FORGE REGION LIAISON**  
**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**LYNN GARDNER**

**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**LARRY GOOD**

**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**TOM MCQUEEN**

**CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA REGION**  
**LIAISON**  
**NEWSLETTER COLUMNIST**  
**RICHARD SILLS**

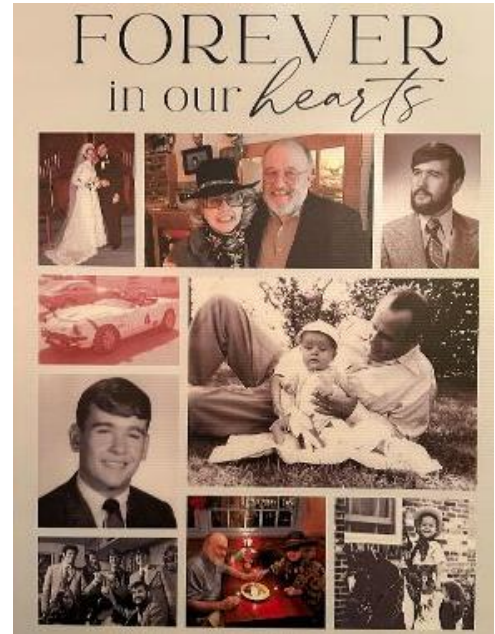
Fellow members,

Early in September, we lost a long-standing member, Jeff Gurski of Potomac Falls, VA. He attended most of the car shows at Capitol Cadillac with his 1996 Fleetwood he bought there, plus shows at Sport Cadillac. In addition, Jeff was a regular at our monthly meetings in Merrifield, VA and attended the ones in Maryland when he could. On a personal note, he spoke at my father's funeral service years ago for which I will always be grateful to him. The Region sends heartfelt condolences to his widow, Nola. Jeff will be truly missed. Read more about his life on page 2.

It is hard to believe it is October, arguably the busiest month of the car show season. There are six events on the page 4 calendar, including a special one on Sunday, October 27. Daniel Jobe has invited region members to participate in a fun car show at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, MD called "Trunk or Treat." Attendees decorate their rides with Halloween gear to impress the judges. If you would like to participate, please call Shelby at 301-469-2002.

Happy motoring!

*Dan Ruby*



**Jeffrey C. "Jeff" Gurski**  
December 2, 1949 – September 9, 2024

SEND TO YOUR FRIENDS!

Congressional's  
Annual  
**TRUNK OR TREAT**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH**  
12 PM - 3 PM  
Arrival no later than 11 AM

**COSTUME YOUR RIDE!**

This year, we've got some killer competitions:  
People's Choice Award 🏆 – Who will be the fan-favorite?  
Kid's Favorite Award 🧒 – Which car will capture the hearts of our tiniest trick-or-treaters?

Friends and family who want to join in the fun, have them call Shelby in the Banquet Office at 301-469-2002 to secure their spot.

Each car entered receives a free entry for themselves and up to one guest.



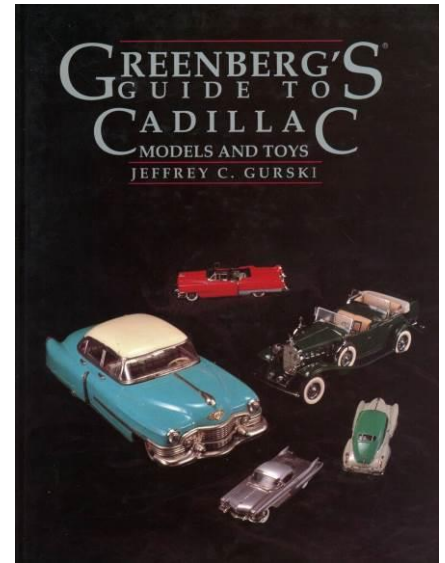
# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



**IN MEMORIAM: JEFFREY C. "JEFF" GURSKI  
BY VINCE TALIANO  
PHOTOS BY JOE ADAMO, JEFF GURSKI AND VINCE TALIANO**



It is with great sadness to announce that long-standing CLC Potomac Region Member Jeff Gurski, Potomac Falls, VA, passed away on September 9 at age 74, as a result of injuries suffered from a fall a few months ago. He was born in 1949 and raised in Alexandria, VA. A 1968 graduate of Fort Hunt High School, he attended and graduated from the University of Virginia (his email handle included 'Wahoowa Jeff'). In the summer 2020 issue of the *UVA Magazine's* "Where Were You When?" article, Jeff is quoted below in the piece describing his time on campus during the Watergate



hearings in the 1970s. *'Later that month, televisions in Newcomb Hall constantly played the U.S. Senate hearings to a packed audience. "You wouldn't hear a sound, everybody would be listening so intently," says Jeffrey Gurski (Col '72, Educ '73).'*



Jeff's biggest passion was building and collecting model planes, trains and automobiles, but mostly automobiles. One of those cars was the LeMans 1950 Cadillac Series 61 "LeMonstre" model he built (pictured left) with his late car buddy John Neyhard. They jointly researched and built from scratch a scale model as a respectful salute to Briggs Cunningham.

His life-long hobby led to his 1992 book titled **Greenberg's Guide to Cadillac: Models and Toys** (pictured above right). It is estimated he had accumulated over 10,000 items, many of which were old and rare. In addition to writing a book, he submitted many articles to the Capitol Miniature Auto Collectors Club's monthly publication. Some of them were re-published in the **Caddie Chronicle**.

Jeff's pride and joy was his 1996 Cadillac Fleetwood, named "Cadisaurus" (pictured right). He bought it at Capitol Cadillac in Greenbelt, MD, and won many awards with it over the years.

Jeff is survived by his wife, Nola, whom he met in high school. Rest in Peace, Jeff!







# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024**



## **SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 MEETING MINUTES BY VINCE TALIANO**

**PLACE:** 198 Restaurant, Burtonsville. MD

**TIME:** 11:00 am

**PRESIDING:** Secretary Vince Taliano

**ATTENDEES:** Twelve including two officers: Bill Hilliard (Treasurer), Vince Taliano (Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Website Manager), Gary Cameron, Steve Clay, Jack & Cher Gallagher, Lynn Gardner, Larry & Maia Good, Bill Harrison, Constantin Jiga and Mike Kerwin

### **DIRECTOR'S REMARKS:**

Vince Taliano, sitting in for Dan Ruby, thanked everyone for attending. Sadly, he announced that long-time CLC Potomac Region member Jeff Gurski recently passed away as a result of injuries sustained in a fall. The Region sends its condolences to his widow, Nola. An In Memoriam will be in the October newsletter. Vince asked the members to keep Steve Clark and Rick Menz in their thoughts and prayers as they battle their respective health challenges.



**SECRETARY'S REMARKS:** The minutes from the previous meeting were not reviewed since they were published and distributed to all members in the September 2024 newsletter. The Region is exploring a new meeting location for Montgomery County – West: Best Western Premier on Rt. 28 at I-270. This site is being considered for an occasional Sunday morning meeting. Stay tuned for more details!

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Bill Hilliard reported on the financials since the last meeting. The Region had total revenue of \$60.63 and total expenses of \$25.44 for the period.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Vince Taliano reported we now have 170 dues-paying family memberships for 2024. Welcome to Tom & Susanne Lokey, Woodbine, MD with a 2006 XLR Convertible and Peter & Diana Aviles, Lewes, DE with a 1967 Deville Convertible! The 2025 Membership Drive will begin in October with Region members who haven't pre-paid for 2025 receiving a renewal notice in the US mail.



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



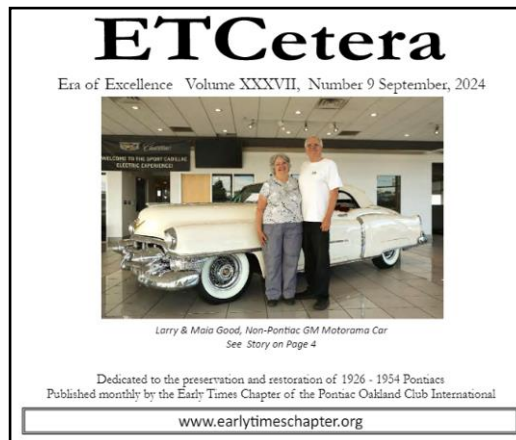
**ACTIVITIES REPORT:** The following activities were discussed:

• **Upcoming Events:**

Date	Time	Event	Location	Contact
Oct 2-6 Wed-Sun	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	Fall Carlisle <a href="#">Visit website</a>	Fairgrounds Carlisle, PA	717-243-7855
Oct 8-11 Tue-Fri	Gates open daily at 7:00 am	AACA National Eastern Fall Meet <a href="#">Visit website</a>	Giant Center and Show Grounds Hershey, PA	Kurt Froebel at <a href="#">send email</a>
Oct 8 Tue	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Yard Sale (Four Tents of Literature, Manuals, Books, etc.)	AACA Library & Research Center Hershey, PA	717-534-2082 or <a href="#">send email</a>
Oct 19 Sat	8:30 am – 3:30 pm	City of Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show <a href="#">Visit website</a> (Pre-registrations Only)	Rockville Civic Center Rockville, MD	240-314-5022
Oct 19 Sat	8:00 am – 3:15 pm	17th Annual Potomac Day Classic Car Show <a href="#">Visit website</a>	Falls Rd. and River Rd. Potomac, MD	Jennifer Matheson at 301-299-2170 or <a href="#">send email</a>
Oct 27 Sun	11:00 am – 3:00 pm	Annual Trunk or Treat Car Show (RSVP Required by Oct 21)	Congressional Country Club Bethesda, MD	Shelby at 301-469-2002
Nov 17 Sun	10:00 am – 3:00 pm	CLC PR Meeting followed by Lunch and Collection Tour (RSVP Required by Nov 11)	John Warner's Home Front Royal, VA	Christopher Winter at 410-869-8619 or <a href="#">send email</a>

**NEW BUSINESS:** The October newsletter will include the 2025-26 Potomac Region Officers nomination form. The deadline for submission will be Monday, October 25. If there is only one nominee for each position, the election by acclamation will take place at the November meeting.

Larry Good reported that his story about the Potomac Region's Motorama-themed Spring Car Show at Sport Cadillac was published in the Pontiac Oakland Club International / Early Times Chapter's *ETCetera* publication, September issue. Moreover, a picture of Larry & Maia with their 1953 Eldorado appeared on the front cover of the Pontiac periodical!



**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 21 at 7:30 pm at the Silver Diner in Merrifield, VA.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

The Chris & Kathleen Koch  
**AACA LIBRARY  
& RESEARCH CENTER**

**YARD SALE**

**OCT 8**  
4-7 PM

**4 TENTS  
OF LITERATURE  
MANUALS  
NEW BOOKS  
& MORE!**

**NEW!!!**  
**TICKETS REQUIRED -**  
**VISIT REGISTRATION**  
**TABLE UPON**  
**ARRIVAL!**

LIBRARY DUPLICATES | BUICK FANS TENT  
NEW BOOKS & AUTHORS

Show Field Area - Behind HQ  
800 W Hercheypark Drive, Hershey, PA 17033  
Questions? 717-534-2082 or agoldman@aaca.org



# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## Potomac Region Meeting / Facility Tour in Scenic Front Royal, VA

John W. Warner IV's Home

959 Milldale Farm Rd.

Front Royal, VA 22630

Sunday, November 17, 2024

Arrive at 10:00 am, Meeting at 11:00 am,

Lunch at 12:00 noon and Tour 1:00–3:00 pm

November's meeting will be combined with a trip to the collection of CLC member John W. Warner IV. The club will provide lunch and John will provide refreshments. John has an interesting indoor collection that includes Cadillac station wagons, Eldorados and a Buick "woodie", among other vehicles. John is looking forward to the club having our gathering at his place. Please note that an RSVP is required (see below). Although there is plenty of room to park your classic Cadillac, LaSalle or daily driver, members are encouraged to carpool. Also, please bring a folding chair(s).



### DIRECTIONS:

- Take Exit 49 on Capitol Beltway onto I-66 W (Custis Memorial Pkwy) and go 51.7 miles.
- Take Exit 13 toward VA-79/Linden/VA-55/Front Royal and go 0.3 miles.
- Turn left onto Apple Mountain Rd (VA-79) toward Linden/Front Royal/VA-55 and go 0.2 miles.
- Turn right onto John Marshall Hwy (VA-55) and go 0.1 miles.
- Turn right onto Dismal Hollow Rd and go 3.1 miles.
- Turn right onto Happy Creek Rd (VA-624) and go 0.3 miles.
- Continue on Morgan Ford Rd (VA-624) for 3.0 miles.
- Continue on Milldale Rd (VA-624) for 2.2 miles.
- Turn right onto Milldale Hollow Rd and go 0.2 miles.
- Turn slightly left onto Milldale Farm Rd and go 0.7 miles.
- Turn slightly left onto Milldale Farm Rd and go 0.3 miles.

**Please RSVP (accepts only) by  
Monday, November 11**

**No. Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

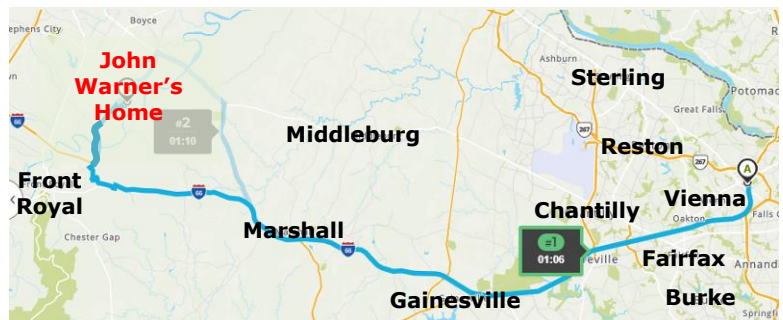
**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send RSVP to Christopher Winter at  
[cchwinter@cavtel.net](mailto:cchwinter@cavtel.net) or 410-869-8619**







# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2025-26 NOMINATION FORM

The election of 2025-26 Potomac Region Officers shall take place on November 17, 2024. Any member in good standing shall be eligible to be nominated. Every nominee shall be contacted and must agree to be a nominee prior to the distribution of the election ballot.

Listed below are the officer positions and their respective responsibilities as written in the Region’s By-Laws. If you would like to nominate a member or yourself for any officer position, please write the name on this form in the space provided. Please make sure that your nominee is interested in the officer position. The members whose names have been inserted on this form have been nominated already and have agreed to be nominees before the preparation of this form. **This does not preclude the nomination by you of yourself or any other Region members for any of these positions.**

To be valid, all nomination forms must be received **no later than Monday, October 21, 2024**, by US mail or email to:

**Vince Taliano**  
**14 Triple Crown Court**  
**North Potomac, MD 20878**  
[vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org](mailto:vincetaliano@clcpotomacregion.org)

**1. REGIONAL DIRECTOR:** The Regional Director shall 1) be the Chief Executive Officer of the Region, 2) preside at all meetings; he/she shall appoint all committees, 3) oversee the annual membership drive, 4) decide all questions of equal division and 5) have all powers, authority and duties usually accorded a Regional Director.

Nominee:	<i>Larry Good</i>
Nominee:	

**2. ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR:** The Assistant Regional Director shall 1) be responsible for such duties that may be assigned by the Director and 2) perform the duties of the Regional Director when the Regional Director is absent.

Nominee:	<i>Chuck Piel</i>
Nominee:	

**3. TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall 1) collect and disburse the funds of the Region related to annual membership dues, events/tours, car shows, etc., 2) render a financial report monthly at Region meetings and/or whenever the Region Officers direct and 3) prepare an annual financial report summarizing all of the monthly reports of the preceding year and submit it to the membership at the first Region meeting the subsequent year.

Nominee:	<i>Bill Hilliard</i>
Nominee:	



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**4. SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall 1) record all minutes of meetings of the Region, 2) provide minutes to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the **Caddie Chronicle**, 3) prepare election nomination forms and ballots and 4) distribute, collect and tally nominations and ballots.

Nominee:	<i>Vince Taliano</i>
Nominee:	

**5. ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR:** The Activities Director shall 1) be responsible for scheduling social activities for the Region and 2) plan, schedule and coordinate activities in the area served by the Region that are consistent with the purposes, aims and best interest of the Region.

Nominee:	<i>Christopher Winter</i>
Nominee:	

**6. NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** The Newsletter Editor shall 1) be responsible for development and distribution of the monthly **Caddie Chronicle** newsletter and 2) research and publish interesting stories consistent with the purposes, aims and best interest of the Region.

Nominee:	<i>Vince Taliano</i>
Nominee:	

**7. CAR SHOW COORDINATOR:** The Car Show Coordinator shall 1) be the liaison between the Region and the Sponsoring Organization and 2) help organize and facilitate the car shows, including the set-up, parking/registration, judging, awards ceremony, etc.

Nominee:	
Nominee:	

**8. WEBSITE MANAGER:** The Website Manager shall 1) maintain the Region website and 2) be responsible for posting information on the website as well as ensuring that information posted by website members is consistent with the purposes, aims and best interest of the Region.

Nominee:	<i>Vince Taliano</i>
Nominee:	

**9. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR:** The Membership Director shall 1) actively participate in the annual membership drive, including mailing applications and making phone calls to existing and prospective members, 2) recruit prospective members at local car shows, car events, etc, as appropriate and 3) be responsible to receive, review and take action accordingly to membership related requests from the CLC, including, but not limited to, the submission of annual membership reports.

Nominee:	<i>Franklin Gage</i>
Nominee:	



# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club**

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#### **CALIFORNIA CLUB COUPE**

#### **BY ROBERT ROBIN**

*[Editor's Note: Soon after reprinting Californian Tom Musson's 1949 Cadillac Club Coupe story from the January 2010 issue of **Motor Trend** magazine in the September 2024 **Caddie Chronicle**, I discovered another blue California Club Coupe in a **Motor Trend** article (pictured below). This one was featured in the July 18, 2024 article titled "[1949 Cadillac Meets 2024 Cadillac Lyriq: Chrome to Cobalt](#)."*

*According to the article, CLC member Robert Robin of San Marino, CA is the proud owner of the actual 1949 Cadillac Series 62 Club Coupe featured. The article compares the 1949 Cadillac, **Motor Trend's** First Car of the Year, with the 2024 Cadillac Lyriq.*

*"I'm quite pleased with the '49," Robin said. "It's much easier to drive (his car collection also includes six other Cadillacs and LaSalles, including a 1941 Cadillac convertible coupe with the old flathead V-8); it has more power and great acceleration. Gets better (gas) mileage, too."*

*After reading the article, I thought, "What a coincidence!" I reached out to Robert, who is a recipient of the newsletter. He graciously submitted the story and pictures below.]*



It was circa late 1999 and I was enjoying a Saturday lunch at the Green Street Restaurant in Pasadena, CA with one of my closest friends, Lawrence Weitzer. We are both skilled attorneys and the closest of friends who live within a mile of each other and Lawrence's 1926 four-unit Mediterranean revival apartment building (pictured above), located approximately one block west of Cal Tech University in Pasadena. Lawrence owned that building since the early 1960s. He told me that among his tenants upstairs was an elderly lady who had resided there for decades, and never drove. In fact, she rented her garage space to an unknown man who parked a very distressed old car in her garage space since around 1987. By 1999, the tenant had not heard from the purported owner of the car for nearly half a decade. She was also now too infirmed to negotiate stairs, so she moved. A new tenant moved in and requested that Lawrence remove the derelict car, so he could park his own car in that space.





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Lawrence bemoaned to me that the car had no license plates, registration or any form of identification. It was in poor condition with no paint, pitted chrome, a deceased engine and transmission and no functioning brakes. The interior was also in bad shape. To appease the new tenant, he had it towed to the rear of his residence where it sat for the next six months, all but abandoned.

When I heard this story at our Saturday lunch, I inquired as to what kind of car it was. "It's some old Cadillac," Lawrence said. This piqued my interest very much. At my suggestion, we skipped dessert and went to his home to view the car. Despite all the issues Lawrence described to me plus several dents in the body, it did have the benefit of being complete. As soon as I saw its graceful sloping roofline between elegant fins, I told Lawrence, "That car is for me. I love it." He replied, "Well I'd like to be able to give it to you, but I don't own it."

My response was that we are both capable lawyers and that I would undertake the removal at my expense consistent with the California Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) Code Section. Specifically, my plan was to have it towed to an official police department impound yard, bid on it at auction and purchase it, enabling me to obtain a new ownership title, aka a pink slip. Lawrence said that was fine, but on the condition that if there was any challenge to ownership, I would hold him harmless as to all claims. I agreed.

Upon winning the auction and receiving ownership title from the DMV, work began on the car. All the brakes and components were replaced, beginning with the master cylinder and then all new brake lines, shoes, springs and drums, if necessary. The engine was pulled and overhauled. All the chrome was removed and re-chromed without any lost pieces. The body was repaired and prepared for paint. I went to the California Lacquer Company in downtown Los Angeles and viewed their 1949 Cadillac DuPont paint color charts and chose the Triumph Blue color which not only did I enjoy, but apparently Tom Musson enjoyed as much, as he painted his car the same color. The paint company told me if they had to make the paint from the Du Pont formula, it would cost me over \$100.00 a gallon. However, I found a similar color on one of their in-house color charts that saved me more than 50%. Once the body work and paint were completed and the chrome re-installed, the overhauled engine was reinstalled, and the interior was redone to its original style. Then, the transmission was rebuilt. I remember the transmission mechanic called me the next day indicating he had good news and bad news. He said it was not a 1949 transmission but a 1953 transmission. Repairing it would be \$100.00 more. I said, "Do it!"





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The Cadillac drove very much like the elegant land yacht it was, shifting smoothly through the three forward gears. There is no "park" gear; the Cadillac in reverse is locked when the ignition is turned off. Driving the car throughout Southern California frequently, it turned many heads. I have never purchased gasoline without at least one person coming up to me inquiring about this most beautiful form of transportation. It is exhibited annually at several car shows, the most notable being the San Marino Motor Classic held in August annually on the green at Lacy Park, a wonderful charitable fundraiser for which I serve on a committee and participate as a judge.

Two years after the completion of the restoration, which I estimate to be approximately 2001, my friend Lawrence called me and said someone inquired as to the whereabouts of "his" Cadillac, reminding me of my promise to hold Lawrence harmless from any claim. I suggested that this unknown person contact me at my law firm's office. The next day I received a telephone call from someone purporting to own my 1949 Cadillac. I explained the circumstances of my acquisition and advised him that I had expended substantial sums in its restoration and assured him if he could produce a vintage ownership title in his name I would not stand in his way of the car. However, I did indicate to him I would expect full reimbursement for all my costs to which he replied he was going to take the car as is, where is and not pay me anything. My response was that I understood what he was saying and told him to pay careful attention as to what I would next tell him because I did not wish to repeat. "It is my car forever. You are never getting the car and that's final." His response was, "I'll get a lawyer and sue you." I replied, "Not only am I the owner of a law firm, but I employ nine other attorneys." I assured him of his legal demise and bankruptcy were I to see any claim come forward." That was the last I heard from him.

Since that time, I have driven my 1949 Cadillac with great pleasure to many distant locations. It is a joy to drive, show and share it. Three years ago, while attending the Amelia Concours d`Elegance, I met Richard Earl, grandson of my car's designer, Harley Earl. When I showed him photographs of my car, he had a smile from ear to ear.

My wife, our three children and five grandchildren thoroughly enjoy riding in the 1949 Cadillac as well as my other vintage and classic cars. When we attend weddings or special occasions, I always offer a chauffeured ride (by me) in one of our Cadillacs as part of our gift. By coincidence, my 1949 Cadillac and I are the same age. The photo above was chosen several years ago for the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Museum and Research Center's calendar. Just like Adolph Menjou, Robert Mitchum and Lou Costello, I agree that Cadillac is "**The Standard of the World.**"





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## **CADILLAC ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE BY JEFF BAEHLER DIRECTOR, ST. LOUIS REGION, VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA**



The Cadillac Roadside Assistance program started nationwide in 1987 and reached St. Louis, MO the following year. It is commonplace now, but at that time guaranteed emergency service included with the purchase of a car was a new idea. To this day it is one of the few roadside assistance programs run directly by a brand name manufacturer/dealer and not an independent contractor.

Pat Howk (pictured above) was a shop mechanic at Lindburg Cadillac in St. Louis when he started his career in 1977. He was selected to operate a service vehicle for the new Cadillac Roadside Assistance program in June 1988. A new blue GMC Suburban was purchased by the dealer for the program. In 1988, the GMC Suburbans were still the old 'square bodies' prior to the full model changeover in 1992. The light duty pickup trucks were all new starting in 1988.

The setup of the vehicle was also Pat's responsibility. Two rows of passenger seats were removed and the rear was filled with tool boxes, parts, batteries, tires and test equipment. He drove the vehicle every day and answered service calls 24/7 using a pager and a very expensive cell phone. In 1988, few people had personal cell phones.

He continued as the roadside assistance mechanic through the 1990s with Plaza Cadillac in St. Louis. Up until 1998 the program used GMC Suburban/Yukon XLs. Pat used four different GMC vehicles from the beginning of the program. All started the program as new vehicles and were retired after about four-five years of service. Typical mileage at retirement was 150,000. After their life as a service vehicle, the passenger seats were replaced and the graphics identifying it as a Cadillac Roadside Assistance vehicle were removed. Then they were sent to the auction. It's unlikely any subsequent owners would be aware of any history as a service vehicle.





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One feature of the roadside assistance program is supplying full size wheel and tire replacements for many of the Cadillac models. This started a few years ago when many new luxury cars did not include a spare tire. Many used 'run-flat' tires on all four wheels. This reduced the total weight of the car for better fuel efficiency. Most Cadillac owners would not be changing their own flat tires anyway. Also, most did not want to drive on a spare "donut" due to looks along with speed and distance limits. Pat would put a full size spare wheel on and take the customers flat tire back to dealer for repair. He would then take the repaired wheel and tire directly back to the customer, so they never even had to go to the dealer.

Pat recalls his first call was a tourist at the Gateway Arch in St. Louis whose electric window would not go up. One of his most memorable calls was a cold Christmas morning when he replaced a water pump at a customer's home. This was a later model Cadillac, so replacement was complex, requiring many of the components on the top and front of the engine compartment be removed and the cooling system refilled and tested. The customer assumed it was a temporary fix and asked Pat when they would have to take it back to the dealer for the repair to be completed. He told them that it was a permanent repair and fully guaranteed so they would not have to return with their vehicle.

Pat's favorite comment from a customer was when he was changing a flat tire on the "suicide side" on the highway with cars and trucks whizzing by. He did it so quickly and efficiently the customer told him he should work on a NASCAR team!

One of the current challenges is unlocking Cadillacs that have dark window tint that is so popular now. It is very difficult to see what you're doing. Lockouts are actually more common now with keyless ignitions.

In 1999, the service vehicle was changed to the Cadillac Escalade (pictured right). That was the first Cadillac SUV which debuted in the Cadillac lineup that year based on the GMC Yukon Denali.





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From 2011 to today, Pat continues to serve as the Roadside Assistance mechanic with Elco Chevrolet / Cadillac in St. Louis. The latest vehicle is a white 2023 Escalade XL (pictured above), put into service in June 2023. That marked 35 years since the program started in St Louis in 1988. For most of those years, Pat was the only full-time Cadillac Roadside Assistance operator in St. Louis.





# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024**



## **MY 1950 CADILLAC BY GREG STUART ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE [WEEKLY CRUISER](#)**

My Cadillac is a 1950 Series 62 sedan with 43k original miles. The color is Lynton Green. I am the fifth owner.

I first learned of the car when it was advertised in **Hemmings** back in 2002. It was located at an auto repair shop in South Orange, NJ. Since I had family in Maplewood at the time, which is almost next door, an inspection of the car was in order. The seller was the second owner, having purchased the car from the original



**Greg Stuart with his 1950 Cadillac  
Westfield Montgomery Mall Cars and Coffee  
Photo by Chuck McDonald**

family in the early '80s. I always regretted that I didn't buy the car at the time, but storage space was a problem. As luck would have it, the car appeared on eBay in 2016. I recognized the old, weathered Princeton University sticker in the rear window and made the successful winning bid. The car had only been driven about 1,500 miles from when I first saw it 2002 to 2016, so it needed a major tune-up in addition to water pump and fuel pump rebuilds.

It's a great driver with a 331 OHV engine and four-speed Hydramatic transmission. The paint is also somewhat weathered but about 80% original.





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## NEW WEBSITE FOR COLLECTOR CARS BY RICHARD LENTINELLO

After several months of non-stop work, we are proud to announce our new website: [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com).

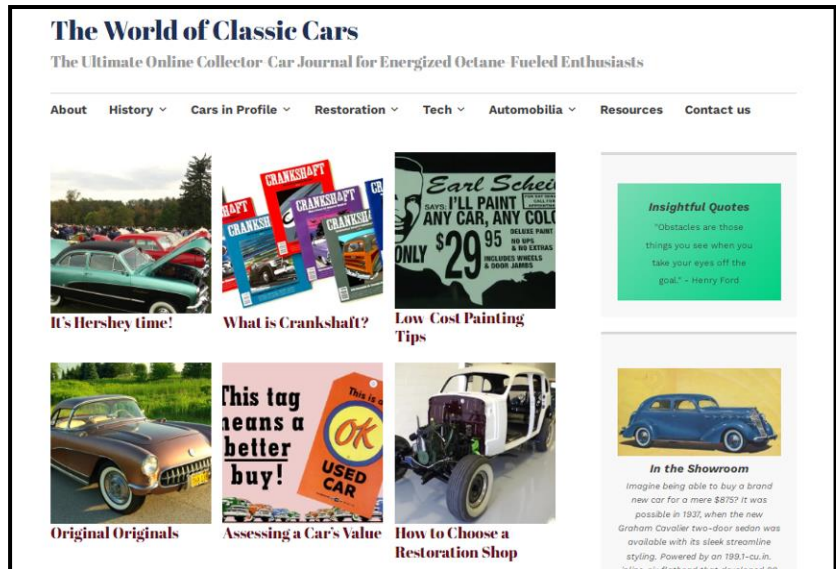
Our primary goal is for [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com) to be the collector-car hobby's go-to resource for everything relating to the cars we admire most. This website will be updated every week with new content, with the type of engaging stories and information you won't find anywhere else.

[The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com) will not feature news reports, current events or new-car road tests simply because that kind of subject matter is readily available on many other websites. Instead, [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com) will focus on the history of the automobile, profiles of interesting cars regardless of their value, how-to tech stories and informative tips on restoration, plus lots, lots more.

Unusual content that sometimes borders on the bizarre will also be a key ingredient in [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com) uncommon approach to what an automotive website should be. We like being different. So, expect to read stories on oddball automotive collectibles and automobilia, car-related stamps, automotive-themed glassware, car-specific toy trains, and other strange and uncommon car-related stuff we know you'll find interesting. Us automotive junkies adore stuff that others think is worthless, but we know better.

If you have something of interest that you feel other gearheads would enjoy knowing about, please contact us. More importantly, please help us spread the word about [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com). Feel free to write a post about it to your Facebook groups and any other social media site that will help let the world know about [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com). Thank you!

Visit [The World of Classic Cars](http://www.theworldofclassiccars.com) today!





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## CLASSIC CAR LOVING TEEN AWAITS ADOPTION BY AUDREY BIESK [WXII 12](#) SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

A 14-year-old boy describes himself as smart and kind, and he hopes to get adopted soon. "I've been through a lot of tough times, and it's taught me to be a better person," said Chris.

Chris explained how he has a protective nature because of his past, and he likes to look out for others.



When asked what he likes to do for fun he said, "I like to build stuff, electronics and I like coding, mainly tech and mechanical stuff." Chris has a knack for taking things apart and putting them back together. He said his dream job is software development or aviation and working on cars.

"Old cars are really my passion. Each car has its own history," Chris added. Because of his love for cars, he got to have a special day planned with WXII 12's Audrey Biesk at the [Kernersville Auto Museum](#). President and CEO, Jim Taylor gave them an exclusive tour while teaching them about all the classic cars.

"Where Memories & History Come Alive" is the motto at the Museum and Chris felt like he was stepping back into the 'good ole days.' He even got to get behind the wheel of vintage cars.

To help make a difference in Chris' life and learn about adoption, connect with the Children's Home Society (CHS) of North Carolina at 336-271-7989, or [visit their website](#).

CHS said Chris is looking for a family that shares similar interests, and maintaining contact with his siblings is important to him.





# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



**PICTURES FROM THE EDGAR ROHR MEMORIAL CAR SHOW  
BY JACK MCCLOW AND MORGAN YEH  
MANASSAS, VA  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2024**



**Chuck Piel with the Edgar and Walser Rohr Memorial Award for his 1941 Series 62 Convertible Coupe**



**Morgan and Samuel Yeh with the Best 1990-99 Award for their 1992 Brougham d'Elegance**



**Group of Region members and friends enjoying the show**

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# Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024



## CADDIE CLASSIFIEDS

### Cars For Sale



**NEW ARRIVAL 1961 Cadillac Sedan Deville** – 48,334 original miles – Purchased from Daniel Schmitt & Company in St. Louis in 2011 with 32,000 miles – VIN 61L069064 – Bristol Blue exterior with blue cloth and vinyl interior – Work performed during ownership includes routine tunes ups and oil changes – Replaced A/C system to include condenser, compressor and hoses plus fuel tank, front and rear brakes, bias ply tires with radial whitewall tires, windshield wiper motor, suspension and shock absorbers, rear bushings, exhaust manifold, power window switch, power seat switch and exhaust system – Installed vintage look stereo system – Original condition with no known major issues – Passenger side bumper end rusty, otherwise very little rust – Great car frequently driven – [See pictures](#) – **\$13,500** – For more info, contact Brad Pearson at 703-728-4981 or [send message](#) – Car is located in Leesburg, VA



**NEW ARRIVAL 1974 Cadillac Calais Coupe** – 10,859 original miles – One registered owner – Been in seller's personal collection since 2017 – Original Dynasty Red paint with the exception of the rear bumper fillers – Originally purchased as a gift from a son to his father, the car was kept in a garage under a cover after the father's passing in 1984 until purchased in 2017 – Recently won two awards at the CLC Grand National in Gettysburg, PA – Driven back and forth from Massachusetts to Pennsylvania with no issues – Copy of the original title and bill of sale from Keyser Brothers Cadillac in Williamsville, NY – [See pictures](#) – **\$34,995** – For more info, call Pat's Auto Sales at 413-734-1928 or [send message](#) – Car is located in West Springfield, MA



**NEW ARRIVAL 1986 Cadillac Seville** – 25,111 original miles – Collector's condition – Original paint and like new everywhere – Sold on 10/24/1986 at Keyser Brothers Cadillac in Williamsville, NY – Includes original build sheet and sales brochures – Gold key delivery car – Runs and drives absolutely perfect with ice cold air conditioning – [See pictures](#) – **\$12,995** – For more info, call Pat's Auto Sales at 413-734-1928 or [send message](#) – Car is located in West Springfield, MA



**NEW ARRIVAL 1993 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham** – 59,942 original miles – Pristine condition inside and out – One of the finest examples ever seen – Paint is 100% original, car has always been garage kept – Comes with two sets of keys and the original window sticker, original sales brochure and original books – [See pictures](#) – **\$14,995** – For more info, call Pat's Auto Sales at 413-734-1928 or [send message](#) – Car is located in West Springfield, MA


### Commercial Ads



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# **Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle October 2024**



## **2024 OFFICERS**

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