

# STANDARD OF THE WORLD



## Cadillac LaSalle Club North Texas Region

July 2020



*Awarded Best CLC Regional Newsletter 2007-2008, 2020*

## Happy Independence Day 2020



web site: [www.clcntx.com](http://www.clcntx.com)



**Winner CLC Web  
Site Merit Award  
2013, 2014, 2015  
2016, 2017, 2018**



**Winner Old Cars Weekly  
Golden Quill  
Award  
2012, 2013, 2014, 2015,  
2016, 2017, 2018, 2019**

## *This is my first love; a 1941, series 61 Cadillac fastback sedan.*

Story, photo by Lifer

When I was sixteen, I was car- crazy, hanging out with guys who had model A Fords, '34 Plymouths, '49 Fords, and other "old" cars. We used to travel all over Ohio and learn where the WWII survivors were, and who had them. And there were lots of them.

I discovered this beauty, a complete car, in a garage on the south side of Springfield, owned by an elderly lady who wanted it gone. For \$100 it could be mine. I checked it out – it smelled old, and was dirty, but not rat-eaten, and it needed a battery. I squeezed \$10 from my savings, bought a used six-volt battery, and put in the Caddy. Wow, that hood was heavy to lift up. This car was made out of heavy-gauge steel.

I fired it up and the 346 cubic inch flathead engine choked and coughed and then it idled, smooth as glass. I put it first gear and eased out of the old, one-car garage into the apron and after setting the parking brake, got out and looked it over. The wheelbase was 126" long. It was a big car. SOLD!! I gave the lady \$100 dollars, got her to sign the title, and away I drove.

Lets, see, 1/8<sup>th</sup> tank of who-knows-how-old gasoline, 16" Goodyear Double Eagle Maypop tires, and a kid with a fairly new license. HooHaa. Here we go.

My mother had a fit that I bought this 4,500 pound monster that was old enough to had had it's own Bar Mitzva, and "where you gonna park it?" My Explorer Scout leader gave me hell for having it, and my friends only laughed – it was not a Ford or Chevy. It wasn't a street racer, and was not a kid's car for sure.

I let it all roll off. I worked on cleaning, tuning, discovering its ins and outs for the next six months, and marveling at the engineering that this car represented. The engine had porcelainized overhead exhaust manifolds in excellent shape, 10mm spark plugs, an oil bath air cleaner, a two-barrel downdraft carb with an automatic choke, and thermostatic-controlled vanes on the front of the radiator. Its hard to image how an V8 engine with three main bearings can be so rugged and smooth. Only 150 horsepower and it easily pulled this heavy car on the road.

Inside I found two under-seat heaters, turn signals, an AM radio with tubes – never worked – a clock that had the right time twice in a 24-hour period, a 100 MPH speedometer with 34,000 miles on the odometer (third time around...), and a LaSalle three-speed, Selective Synchronesh, three-on-the-tree transmission. The dash and garnish molding had a faux woodgrain birds-eye maple finish in good condition. The back seat was very roomy, not like the cars of today. The seats had old woven seat covers on them, probably dealer- installed, and still in good condition after 21 years. I tore these off and found the original wool broadcloth upholstery in excellent condition.

I cleaned the car, waxed it and shined it all over, and drove it every day. It drank gas like it was a major owner of an oil well, but did not burn oil. It drove straight and smooth, slow to get to speed, about 14-16 seconds to 60 mph floored, and long on stopping, but what a ride. I was sold on Cadillacs for life.

I met someone by chance in Columbus, Ohio who claimed he owned the car before the person I bought it from. He claimed the first owner was one of the four Fisher brothers of the Cadillac division. I had no paperwork to prove this.

I finally had an accident with the car and destroyed the right rear fender. It was my fault, so no insurance payment to fixit was coming my way. So, I called the biggest junk yard in town (we had four in those days) to come and get my baby. They gave me \$25, towed it to their yard, rolled it over on its side, pulled the LaSalle box for a future sale to some hot-rodder, and crushed the rest.

I miss this beast of a car, but I have had many Cadillacs since. I had seen the evolution and changes and enjoyed the experience. I still own a Cadillac and it is still what Leland foresaw, the Standard of The World.



## Cadillac & LaSalle Club Board Meeting June 13, 2020

The following excerpted minutes on the July 13, 2020 CLC Board Meeting that was presented remotely on ZOOM by CLC President Glenn Brown, with 54 participants, was sent in by Southwestern Regions VP Tim Coy:

- A chair of the Membership Promotion and Public Relations Committee is still being sought. A person with a sales and marketing background would be ideal for this position, so please mention this to those in your Regions possessing these qualifications.
- There was discussion of a proposed Chapter called the Cadillac Club of America, which would cover 2000 to current model year Cadillacs. This Chapter would be crucial in attracting younger people into the CLC. It was discussed that purists (those who prefer stock Cadillacs and LaSalle's from the factory) constantly knock even slightly-modified cars that appear in *The Self-Starter*, on the Discussion Forum and CLC Facebook pages, discouraging young people who like to customize their Cadillacs from joining the CLC. The board voted to table the Chapter formation to a future date.
- A proposal to raise the cost of Life memberships from \$750 to \$1,000 (\$1,000 to \$1,250 outside the U.S.) and have no waiting period was not well received by the board. A "Platinum Level" membership was proposed, which would cost \$1,000 plus the amount of dues for 10 years, but no action was taken. These issues did not receive a vote. Let me know your thoughts on this issue for future board discussion.
- A welcome packet to be mailed/e-mailed to new members showing benefits of CLC membership and contact information for Club officers and movers/shakers was approved.
- The 2021 CLC Winter Board Meeting, scheduled for Feb. 25–27 in Concord, N.C., will be marketed to all CLC members in future issues of *The Self-Starter*, to allow those who missed getting together with their CLC friends in 2020 an additional opportunity. All members are invited to attend CLC board meetings anyway.
- Next year's Grand National is set for July 13–17 in Albuquerque, N.M., at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid North hotel along I-25. Details to appear in the August 2020 and January 2021 issues of *The Self-Starter*. Because the 2020 Grand National was canceled, attendance is expected to be higher than usual. The CLC is negotiating with the Marriott Kansas City Overland Park hotel in Overland Park, KS, to host the 2023 Grand National, to replace the 2020 GN, which would have taken place last week.
- Gary Fisher also announced that a new chair of the Awards Committee and someone to maintain the inventory of Grand National trophies are being sought. Please contact Gary if you or anyone in your Region is interested.
- Awards Committee chair Gary Fisher announced the winners of the individual awards during the meeting, as there was no Grand National Awards Banquet in which to present these awards. **Bill Levy** of the **North Texas Region** won the Newsletter Excellence Award; **Lorne Scott** of the Cadillac LaSalle Club of Canada won the International Newsletter Excellence Award; **Jason Edge** of the 1963/64 Chapter won the Website Excellence Award; and the **Valley Forge Region**, Michael Stinson, director, won the Norm Uhlir Regional Activity Award. **Mitch Carr** won *The Self-Starter* V-16 Author of the Year Award, **Richard Sills** and **Vince Taliano** won *The Self-Starter* V-12 Author of the Year award, and **Marsha Redman** of the **Missouri Valley Region** won the Henry M. Leland Award. It is planned to present these awards at next year's Grand National Awards Banquet in Albuquerque, N.M.

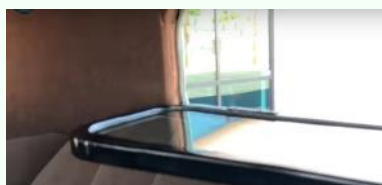
## *Al Capone's Bulletproof 1928 Cadillac*

By permission from By Chris Teague, The Drive

If you're obsessed with old-school gangsters and have some serious cash to burn, this could be the holy grail of automobilia. One of Al Capone's storied Cadillacs is up for sale, but there's no shot of walking away with it for less than a cool \$1,000,000.



The 1928 Cadillac Town Sedan has only 1,111 miles on the odometer and a host of mob-approved hardware. It features one-inch-thick bulletproof glass windows all around, and the side windows can even be cranked up to allow a two-inch gap at the bottom for gunmen to laterally shoot a Thompson submachine gun.



The back window opens as well to allow rear-firing--which we get the feeling wasn't a standard option for every Cadillac customer back in the 20s.

All doors are plated with steel armor and the car was outfitted with a police siren, flashing police lights, and a police radio hidden in the glove box. Making things more annoying for the coppers was the fact that the sedan had been repainted in an identical color to the vehicles driven by local law enforcement, which made it extremely difficult to tell the difference between a car full of gangsters and a car full of people actually coming to help. Capone also had the Caddy's V-8 modified to boost its top speed to 110 miles per hour, which is quite the achievement for a 3.5-ton luxu-berge.



The Cadillac is one of the first armored cars known to have been made, but its ownership history is the most interesting tidbit of all. Capone got the attention of the feds for selling a home and yachts in Florida, but while law enforcement was aware of Capone's other cars, they missed this Cadillac that was hidden away in a Chicago garage. According to the listing, it was purchased from a sales agent in Chicago who was believed to have been selling the Cadillac for Al Capone. The family that purchased the car intended to use it as a rolling exhibition to make money during the winter, but the plan fell through. After all that, the infamous Caddy lived a quiet life, occupying the Niagara Falls Antique Auto Museum through the 1960s and other museums later on.

So you wanna be a gangster, eh? Here's your time to shine.

# WOULD YOU BELIEVE??



**Cadillac - Coupe Deville - white**  
Diecast Car - 1/43  
Limited Edition 99 pieces, 1968

**\$99.95**

**ADD TO CART**

LOGIN TO MANAGE WISHLIST

This beautiful model 1968 Cadillac Coupe Deville, offered currently by American Excellence Trading Corporation of Charlotte, NC, at the amazing price of \$99.95.



And this is my very own 1968 Cadillac Coupe Deville, I bought in 1975 for the negotiated price of \$100.00. This one is real, and one of two 1968s I have owned. My, how the times have changed.

Lifer

**Remember CLC GN Kansas City 2010**

The City Missouri Valley Region outdid themselves hosting & entertaining 600 attendees and displaying 150 cars for judging at the Cadillac LaSalle Club Grand National 2010!



Twenty-One NTXCLX members, cars, and merchandise arrived in KC to make TEXAS' imprint at Grand National. We also enjoyed outstanding tours, entertainment, and all the goody bags.



The Doubletree Hotel Overland Park-Corporate Woods, Overland Park, Kansas  
2010 CLC Grand National Host Hotel



Bill Shipp, 60 Eldorado—1st Place!



Ford McWilliams, Rubye Musser, and Bill Shipp

A special honor of the Youth Judges Choice sponsored by Haggerty Award;



Ron Blissit, 1914 Touring –1st place primary

Joeellen Bissit receiving Youth Award from Glenn Brown



Klaus Deisinger's, 67 Sedan DeVille- 2nd place, primary #9!



George Smith receiving award from Glenn Brown

George's '84 Eldorado –3rd place Primary 27 Class

**NTXCLC is so very proud of our four winners with five awards. Congratulations!!**

## First Saturday Breakfast Social

One of the important missions and features of a car club is the social interaction with other people with similar interests. In our case it begins with the Cadillac and LaSalle automobiles, and through that ownership and desire to meet other owners with the same interests, the club thrives and grows.

Our regional club here in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area has done very well and has had some great events and activities. One of our pride and joy events is the long-term participation with the Pate Swap Meet, which has grown over the years to the largest automobile-oriented meet west of the Mississippi, and may be in second or close first in the country. Other superb activities we enjoy include the Inter-regionals, the Regional, and best of all is the Grand Nationals.

A number of us from the club enjoyed a First Saturday Cars & Coffee car show, in which after we saw all the cars and schmoozed with our friends, would drive out to a restaurant for a nice quiet social breakfast. After the C&C shut down we decided to continue the breakfast gathering and it has been a great success. But, since we are required to shelter-in-place in our homes, we had to find another way to say Hi, and get together.

The way we did this month worked exceptionally well, and I hope we attract more participants. We used ZOOM, a conferencing software application that is free and easy to use. During the meeting we discussed what each of us were doing to handle cabin fever, car trips we have taken, other news, and something special from Jeff Pendleton and Mark Waterman regarding discounts for car members from local chain auto parts stores.

It is hoped that more members, spouses, and friends join us both in using ZOOM, and when can really get out to a restaurant and break bread together.



This month's ZOOMers included Alex Beloff III, host Bill and Harriett Levy, Marvin Block, Frank and Helen Remes, Mark Waterman, Doug and Kathleen Ashby, Judy and Jim Hanson, Debra and Steve Overby, and Jeff Pendleton.

# Classifieds

Classified Ads – for 3 months Members: free, Non-members -\$35 for three lines for three months. \$50 for ad with photo. No credit for early cancellation. For additional rates contact Bill Levy @ (214) 563-1033

*Under The Editor's Bonnet*



By Lifer

Would you like to see your Cadillac on the pages of the NTXCLC newsletter? This small, but deluxe publication gets circulation, not only in our region, but is sent to many of the CLC clubs across the nation and world. By appearing here your story can become part of Cadillac history. **I need your story and your pictures.** It could be a story about the vehicle as it is now, or it can be a restoration article, or a funny, interesting, or even a sad story. But it's about your car, and this means it is about you, too. If you feel you can't write well enough, send me the basics and I will help you write the story. I have many pages to present monthly, and I have room for you in them. So, don't feel embarrassed—email me, or call me, or see me at the NTXCLC outings and let's make history.

[lifer@writeme.com](mailto:lifer@writeme.com)

To all my Cadillac friends, family, and associates. A face mask is not a political or personal statement. It means a protection for your health and others. Always wear your mask and wear it correctly in public places. And keep your distances. Thank you.





## Activities Calendar

Here are the up and coming activities that members and family and guests can plan for and participate in.

### 2020

Due to the current Coronavirus situation, activities are on hold. Please bear with us and be safe.

**JULY 4th** First Saturday Breakfast Social (Zoom)

**August (TBA)** Perhaps a tour.

**September 20th** Regional Meet Cavanaugh Flight Museum in Addison.

**October or November** Depending on nature— a driving tour to see the autumn leaves.

**December 12th** Either the Ronald McDonald house or a children's organization. Our Charity Toy event.

**January 3, 2021** Christmas Party.

### NATIONAL:

**2021 National Driving Tour TBA**

**2021 CLC Winter Board Meeting Feb 25-27 Concord, N.C. See <https://www.cadillaclasalleclub.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1389643&group=>**

**2021 CLC Grand National July 13-17 Marriott Pyramid Hotel- Albuquerque, NM. See the August issue Self Starter for registration information.**

**2022 CLC Grand National, Chicago, IL.**

**2022 National Driving Tour- a tour to cover several southeast states.**

*Ruby* 817 996-8066

### PATE

**September 12<sup>th</sup>** with a rain date of **Sept 19<sup>th</sup>** Vendor Space Marker Tile Refurbish Party at Zone Zero, Texas Motor Speedway 10:00 a.m. Please bring a chair as we have tables and supplies.

**September 26<sup>th</sup>** PSM Set up day. Meet at Gate 4, Texas Motor Speedway at 9:00 a.m.

**October 1<sup>st</sup> – October 3<sup>rd</sup>** Hospitality Tent Workers.

**October 4<sup>th</sup>** PSM Tear Down. Meet at Hospitality Tent 9:00 a.m.

Please adjust your planning and join us for these important events.

The Pate Swap Meet web site is [PateSwapMeet.com](http://PateSwapMeet.com).

If you are currently receiving your newsletter, The Standard Of The World, by mail, and would like faster service by email, please let the editor know ([lifer@writeme.com](mailto:lifer@writeme.com)). Email newsletters are emailed on the first day of every month, where snail mail takes sometimes a few days longer. Thank you.

# Sunshine Report

Sending lots of sunshine to All our Members. We know all are getting tired of being cooped up in the house. But we Thank God and Pray Each day for the continued health of all.

Martha Smith  
George Smith both had knee surgery and doing well at home  
Pauline Johnston  
Bob Musser——mini stroke and amputation  
Tony Yates  
Mary Lou Ruhling  
Dave Eckburg  
Terry Graham——doing very well in Pt  
Malia Garrett—— recuperating from a partial mastectomy  
Doug Ashby——foot surgery

And we wish MARK MCKAY best wishes in his move back to his hometown to be near his sister since his retirement. on the east coast and the Boardwalk.

Hope all staying well from the virus and hunkered at home and wearing a mask

Stay well.

Let me know if anyone is needing our **prayers**.

Love,

*Ruby* 817 996-8066

# Membership Report

**Welcome New Members:**  
Marilyn Boring, Denton, TX

There are 16 car clubs that manage the Pate Swap Meet each year. If every member of the North Texas Region Cadillac & LaSalle club recruited just one new member each, we would be the biggest club in the swap meet. Remember, the member count, besides meaning a more fun and interesting club, gets the club a bigger share of the Pate income.

*If a member obtains 5 or more new members to the NTXCLC they will receive a free Club Shirt at the annual Christmas dinner.*

## COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING PRICES FOR NTXCLC NEWSLETTER "The Standard Of The World"

Your business will be advertising to car lovers and enthusiasts across the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

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12 issues — \$50.00 – Business card size,  
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\$250.00 – Half page, \$500.00 – Full page.

If you have a special request contact us for rates. Contact Bill Levy (lifer@writeme.com) for an application or special request.

For membership information—  
Contact Bill Haesslein at  
billhsln@airmail.net

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**North Texas Region**

Jacket	<b>\$75</b> + \$10.95 S&H U.S.
Goddess Shirt	<b>\$25</b> + \$6.95 S&H U.S.
Hatband	<b>\$10</b> + \$4.95 S&H U.S.



Jacket available in adult sizes (S, M, L, XL). These can be special ordered in sizes 2X, 3X, or 4X at an additional cost.

Goddess shirt available in sizes M, L, XL, and XXL, in white, black, red, and aqua.



If outside the United States, please email Rubye at [rubyemusser@gmail.com](mailto:rubyemusser@gmail.com) for information on shipping charges.

Make checks payable to NTXCLC  
(North Texas Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club)  
Send your orders to:  
**Rubye Hubbard**  
3148 Waterside Dr. • Arlington, TX 76012

## Officers

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**Pate Director Assistant:**

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**Directors:** **Jeff Podmers, Richard Cross**

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**NTXCLC Board Meetings usually 3rd Saturday at 11:30 a.m. of even months**

**Next Board Meeting TBA**

July 2020



**STANDARD OF THE WORLD**

**Bill Levy (lifer@writeme.com)**  
**Editor, North Texas Region CLC**  
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**Dallas, TX 75248**

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**First Class Mail**

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**web site: [www.clcntx.com](http://www.clcntx.com)**