



THE HERALD



Volume 6, Issue 2

February 2004

Grayle Leech's 1940 LaSalle Coupe in the State of Engine Overhaul



See the story and more pictures on page 4 of this issue.

**Cadillac LaSalle Club, Inc. Web Site: www.cadillaclasalleclub.org
NorthStar Region Web Site: northstarcadillac.org**



Club Events Calendar

- February 19, 2004 (Thu) **Burger Run. Tavern On Grand**, 656 Grand Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105. Phone # 651-228-9030. Time: 6:30PM. This restaurant is known for their famous Walleye Fish and Black Angus Beef. Please notify Duane and Linda Warren if you are going to attend, Ph. # 763-420-7980.
- March 11, 2004 (Thu) **Board Meeting.** Location Richfield Bloomington Credit Union, 345 77th Street, Richfield, MN 55432, phone number 612-869-1037. Time: 7:00PM. All members are welcome.
- March 18, 2004 (Thu) **Burger Run. Sunsets Restaurant**, 700 E. Lake Street, Wayzata, MN 55391-1713. Phone # 952-473-5353. Time: 6:30PM. Upscale casual dining. Please notify Duane and Linda Warren if you are going to attend, Ph. # 763-420-7980. www.sunsetrestaurant.com
- April 12, 2004 (Mon) **Burger Run. Mancinis Char House Restaurant**, 531 W. 7th Street, St. Paul, MN 55102-3091. Phone # 651-224-7345. Time: 6:30PM. You will be able to order steak, fish or chicken. The cost will be \$10.00 per person (**2 Club Members per Club family only**), includes tax, gratuity and coffee or milk. Please fill out the bottom portion of the flyer, located in this newsletter, and send it along with your check to Duane and Linda Warren by April 1, 2004. They need this information for making the final reservations. We would like to see 100 or more Club Members at this great event. We always have a great time at this establishment and the food and service is top notch. Make sure to look at the Mancinis flyer for more information and reservation slip.
- May 13, 2004 (Thu) **Board Meeting.** Location Richfield Bloomington Credit Union, 345 77th Street, Richfield, MN 55432, phone number 612-869-1037. Time: 7:00PM. All members are welcome.
- May 20, 2004 (Thu) **Burger Run. Doolittles Air Café**, 550 Winnetka Avenue N., Golden Valley 55427. (near Hwy. 55 and Winnetka) Time: 6:30PM. Phone # 763-542-1931. Please notify Duane and Linda Warren if you are going to attend, Ph. # 763-420-7980. Casual dining. www.doolittlesaircafe.com
- May 22, 2004 (Sat) **Spring Driving Tour.** This tour will be in Western Wisconsin. More information to follow.
- June 6, 2004 (Sun) **All GM Car and Truck Show.** This event is held at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds. Gates open at 8:00AM. We will need volunteers to help at this event. You only have to work a short time and then you have the rest of the day to walk around and enjoy the great cars and trucks. If you want to volunteer, contact Duane Warren, ph. # 763-420-7980. More information to follow.
- June 18 - 20, 2004 (Fri. - Sun.) **Back to the '50's.** This is one of the largest Car Shows in the country. Location Minnesota State Fair Grounds. For more information go to their Web Page MSRA.
- June 23 - 26, 2004 (Wed. - Sat.) **Cadillac LaSalle Club Grand Nationals.** Location is South Bend, IN. Host hotel Marriott in Downtown South Bend, IN. Cost is \$104.00 per night (4 nights). Hotel phone number is 1-574-234-2000. When making reservations make sure to tell them you are a member of the Cadillac LaSalle Club, so you get the discount rate. (\$104.00) To get more information check elsewhere in this newsletter under info. 2004 G.N.'s or go to the National Web Site: www.cadillaclasseclub.org
- July , 2004 **Driving Tour.** More information to follow.
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- August 19, 2004 (Thu) **Board Meeting.** Location Richfield Bloomington Credit Union, 345 77th Street, Richfield, MN 55432, phone number 612-869-1037. Time: 7:00PM. All members are welcome.
- September 12 - 18, 2004 (Sun. - Sat) **National Driving Tour.** Rocky Mountain Region (Colorado) is hosting the National Driving Tour. Check their Web Site: www.rmrlc.com for more information.

(Calendar of Events continued on page 3)



Club Events Calendar continued from page 2

- September 24 - 26, 2004 **Fall Tour.** Paul and Millie Johnson will be leading us on another excellent tour. The tour will be in the Minnesota River By-Ways. Make sure to mark this one on your calendar. More information to follow.
- October 21, 2004 (Thu) **Board Meeting.** Location Richfield Bloomington Credit Union, 345 E. 77th Street, Richfield, MN 55432, phone number 612-869-1037. Time: 7:00PM. All members are welcome.
- October , 2004 (Sun) **Annual Sunday Brunch.** More information to follow.
- November 18, 2004 (Thu) **Board Meeting.** Location Richfield Bloomington Credit Union, 345 E. 77th Street, Richfield, MN 55432, phone number 612-869-1037. Time: 7:00PM. All members are welcome.

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Cadillac Standard Of The World



President's Letter



By this time, I hope you have sent in your membership application form for 2004. Last year there were 29 new mem-

bers who joined the NSR, but we also lost 27 from the year before, for a net gain of only two members. Most clubs like ours have a 10-15% non-renewal rate for any given year, so attracting new members is always an important task.

Why our club lost over 20% last year is somewhat of a mystery to me. I did take time to call seven who didn't renew their membership for 2003 and all but one had sold their cars. I am sure down-sizing has some part in this.

One thing for sure is that some people bought the cars that were sold! This is why recruiting members is so important. I was so glad to see Mr. Edmunds column in the January Self Starter about recruiting new members for the National CLC. Every member needs to help.

I believe we have a lot to offer as a club. Last year attendance at our events was over 500 members, so obviously someone besides me thinks we have a good thing happening within the NSR. This should make it easier to recruit new members. When you are having fun, people like to join you.

I really do feel strongly about keeping the NSR and the National CLC healthy and vibrant. Let's all help Jan, our membership secretary, by each of us getting one person to join our great group.

Jerry Steelman, President



Editorial

Well I thought we were in for another mild winter, boy was I wrong. This snow and extremely cold temperatures have made one of those old fashion

winters. Maybe we can hope for an early spring and summer.

I want to tell the members that didn't make the Holiday Party, they missed a great party. Duane and Linda Warren did a great job in choosing a great location for the party. The food and service was great. We had 55 members show up for the party. I'm sure everyone there enjoyed themselves, I know I did. I took a total of 32 pictures at this event. All 32 pictures can be viewed on our Web Site: www.northstar.org. For those of you who don't have internet service or a computer, I put a few of the pictures in the newsletter on pg. 7, 8, 14.

Again I want to mention to you to keep checking the Calendar of Events every month. Sometimes there is a change in date or update on events.

One major change is the Burger Run Party at Mancinis. The date has been changed from April 22, 2004 to Monday, April 12, 2004. Please mark that date on your calendar. This is one event you don't want to miss. Where can you go and get food like that served at Mancinis for \$10.00 per person. So remember to get your reservation slip and check into Duane and Linda Warren by April 1, 2004. We are hoping to have 100 members or more at this event, so don't disappoint us. Only restriction is only two members per family membership. Check the Mancinis Flyer in this newsletter for more information and your reservation slip.

One final reminder if you haven't gotten your 2004 Membership renewal in yet please do so as soon as possible.

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(Editorial continued from page 3)

Another reminder is for this years Cadillac LaSalle Grand Nationals. Dates are June 23 - 26, 2004. The Grand Nationals are being held this year in South Bend, IN. Reservations usually fill up fast, so if you are planning on going you should get your reservations in soon. I know I'm looking forward to this years Grand Nationals and also next years Grand Nationals in Des Moines, IA. The Grand Nationals in Iowa, our Region along with the Iowa and Wichita Regions will be coordinating together to put this event on. More information to follow in a month or two on this.

A big reminder for all you male members, don't forget February 14, 2004 is Valentines Day. You don't want to forget that day, if you do you will be in the dog house for the rest of the year, I know from prior experiences.

I want to pass onto you some information I just read and saw on the internet. It's about a new car washing system. The name is Mr. Clean AutoDry Car Wash. It comes with a special nozzle that fits onto your garden hose, AutoDry Soap and Dry Rinse Polymer. They guarantee when you are through washing the car, that you don't have to wipe the water off the car. They claim the water runs off the car without leaving any water spots. That would be amazing if it works. I read about this in the Motor Trend magazine and on the web site for Mr. Clean AutoDry. The Web Site is: www.autodry.com. I wasn't able to find a price for this item, but they said it should be available soon in stores like Wal - Mart, K - Mart and Auto stores.

I also found an ad in the Motor Trend magazine for a fund raiser for the Band Of Angels Foundation. They are raffling off a 2004 Cadillac CTS-V, this is the hot rod Cadillac (zero to sixty in 4.6 seconds). Tickets cost \$100.00 each, only 2,000 to be sold. Drawing is March 19, 2004. To purchase call 1-877-2956.

Well I think that's about all for this month. I'll be talking to you next month.

Richard Moeschter, Editor



Grayle Leech's Engine Story

When the end of the season for using our car came this past fall, I began making plans to complete some necessary work on the 1940 LaSalle and it is my first attempt to work on a flathead V-8. This will include overhauling the engine and clutch and fixing a few other mechanical problems. I consulted with Jerry Steelman and Duane Warren about some of the tricky steps and where to locate the parts that will be needed. Then I started taking photos of the car during the disassembly, hoping that they will be useful when the reassembly starts. As of the second week in January, I have the engine out of the car and on the stand. From now on I expect this project to be a fulfilling challenge for me and it will probably be filled with many surprises! I am realistically not planning completion until mid summer?

Grayle Leech, Club Member



Ramblin Roy's Ramblings

Ramblin Roy's Ramblings come to you from California. Yes, last months article came from Danville, Virginia and this ones from Danville, CA. We have been fortunate enough to Ramble from Fairbanks, Alaska to El Paso, Texas, from the Atlantic to the Pacific in the last six months. This, besides redecorating our residence and entertaining for the Holidays, are among the reasons we don't get our Cadillacs in concourse condition.

Last month we reviewed the highlights of the 40's at Cadillac. This month we are to take on the 50's. Unfortunately, or fortunately, depending on your point of view, that will have to wait a minute as it has been upstaged by the following. A late 70's DeVille passed me on a Cali-

ifornia freeway the other day. It drew my eye because it ran my favorite Vogue white-walled and gold-lined tires on real wire wheels. As it pulled away, I noticed there was no driver. Well, at least not in the left front seat. Sure enough, it was a right hand drive, I kid you not. It was too fast for me to catch in the Motor Home plus the car in tow to get a picture so you'll have to take my word for it.

The next strange sighting was a in a store entrance. What looked extremely authentic from the front turned out to be fake and have no back. This time pictures were taken to confirm the sighting. (See pictures)

The 55th Annual National Roadster Show was held at the Pomona Fairplex. While there was a disappointing quantity of entrants, just 300, the quality was superb. Among the "Roadsters" were a

(Ramblin Roy continued on page 5)

Ramblin Roy continued from page 4) number of Customized Cadillac's. (See pictures)

Now, the Cadillacs of the Fabulous '50's, a decade of high style and good times, as told by James M. Flammang and the editors of consumer guide.

1950, the grille incorporated parking lights, Cadillac handily beat Lincoln, Packard and Imperial in the luxury car race, and Cadillac was again enlisted to build for the war effort -this time Korea.

1951, Small grilles were added under the headlights, a 62 series convertible cost nearly \$4,000, GM Engineers explored "cars of the future" with the XP-300 with adjustable-height steering column and built in jacks and the Le Sabre who's roof closed automatically when it began to rain.

1952, Cadillacs 331 cid V8 leaped by 30 HP to 190, Dual-Range Hydra-Matic (its "Performance" range skipped one gear) was now standard on all models except the 75, the tip-up taillight revealed the fuel filler, whitewalls were scarce for a time due to the Korean War effort.

1953, the Eldorado model was introduced at \$7750 while the 62 series convertible was up to \$4144, the runaway best seller was the 62 sedan at \$3666, the protruding bumpers were dubbed "Dagmars," a fire at the Hydra-Matic plant meant some Oldsmobile's and Cadillacs saw Buick Twin-Turbine Dynaflo's in them.

1954, less distinctive -but \$2012 less expensive -Eldorado's sold four times better than in '53, Sixty specials included automatic headlight dimmers and AC, Harley Earl directed the restyling of the '54's, panoramic windshields introduced in the '53 Eldo spread across the line.

1955, even bolder front bumper guards and outboard parking lights, 62 converts were available in 19 colors to 8150 customers at \$4448, the overhead valve V8 was up to 8.5:1 compression and 250 HP with the 270 HP Eldo option available for \$161. Sedans added a "Florentine curve" in the rear roof line.

1956, the Eldorado Convertible was renamed the Biarritz to differentiate it from the coupe, the front bumper protrusions sat higher and dual fin hood ornaments appeared. The V8 grew to 365 cid -the first enlargement since 1949, HP was up to 305 for the dual 4bbl Eldo option, the new pillar less four door hardtop was named the Sedan de Ville.

1957, Eldorado's were completely restyled, only 400 hand made Eldorado Broughams with a stainless steel roof and rear suicide doors were offered at a whopping \$13,074, all 62 series sedans were pillar less with anew "X"-member in the frame to improve rigidity.

1958, The most "flamboyant Cadillac yet, it was the Golden Anniversary, Paul

Newman drove his '58 Cadillac convertible hard in the '62 movie, HUD. AC was rare in convertibles but the Walrus-Hide interior was even rarer. Three-duces were introduced to the Eldorado engine option bring HP to 335.

1959, what else can be said? The pinnacle of the fin craze. Critics found fault but the public embraced them. Engines went up to 390 cid at 345 HP (an all time peak for rear wheel drive Eldo's), Broughams first ousted the panoramic windshield and showed the smaller fins that went across the product line in '60.

Next month, the '60's.

Roy Boone, Club Columnist

Roy's Pictures