



THE HEADLINER

Cadillac-LaSalle Club

www.clcnorcal.com
Northern California Region Newsletter

July 2008

700 Albatross Drive
Novato, CA 94945

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Coming Events

Sunday, July 27th
Don Frolich Memorial Car
Show and BBQ Picnic at
Portal Park

August 12th – 16th
Grand National-The Golden
Jubilee of the CLC 1958 – 2008
Valley Forge Region,
Cherry Hill, NJ

Art Astor Collection Tops \$15m in Anaheim Auction

With 200 cars and 786 lots of memorabilia, the three-day sale was the largest auction of its kind ever to be held in Southern California (See story inside)





THE HEADLINER

Cadillac-LaSalle Club

Northern California Region Newsletter
Volume 109 Number 07 July 2008

Message From The President

I went to look at a 1938 Cadillac Fleetwood 7 passenger Formal Sedan, very original, very low mileage (29,000 miles). I was very tempted, but no place to keep it due to the construction going on at my house. Hopefully I can get the OK from the owner to list it in the newsletter. So if you know of any old Cadillacs or LaSalle's for sale and you're not interested, let our Newsletter Editor know so he can put it in the next newsletter. You may make a fellow club member very happy.

Due to non renewal of memberships our numbers are down. We need to build it up again and you can help. Go to the web site and download membership applications for Cadillac LaSalle Club and our Nor-Cal region, and keep them in your old Cadillac and LaSalle. When you are out driving around you may run into someone who has an old Cadillac and you can hand them an application.

Don't forget sign up for the Portal Park BBQ Picnic.

Don Barnes

A Word From The Tour Director

Now that we've returned from the National Driving Tour, most people seem to have quietly faded into their lowest profiles. I understand the swap meet at Times Passed (Dave Ricci) last weekend in Concord had a small turnout of only 6 members. Since June and July are typically prime vacation months and *some people* are able to spend their summer taking endless trips to wonderful places, they may miss some of the local events. Or, could it be that gas prices have reached the point where members must decide which event fits into their entertainment budget?

Considering that we are a car club of, among other things, gas guzzlers, in the coming months fuel prices could have a dramatic impact on some of our tours. I received a note from Duke Gercke of Berlin Heights, Ohio who drove his 1959 Eldo convertible on the NDT. "Our trip, including the time spent with CLC, covered 8,808 miles, requiring 646 gallons of gas, costing \$2,813.00 ... worth every penny!" Thanks, Duke, for coming with us and I hope you don't mind my sharing your comments. Sooner or later, many of us may have to choose whether it will be the Grand National, an Alaskan cruise or even a trip to Europe. The 2009 GN will be in Las Vegas and I'm already planning to drive. Wonder what gas prices will be by then.... ?

While we might ponder the "cons" of vintage car ownership there is a much brighter "pro" side that, despite gas prices and other pitfalls, still makes it all such a pleasure. Nothing compares to the fellowship and camaraderie of touring together and kicking tires and helping each other out. What friends we've made and what fun we've shared! Yes, indeed, it is worth every penny.

Next is Portal Park, which is rapidly approaching and promises to be a good family event worth attending. The multi-marque invitational format seems to be just what was needed to create new interest in an old tradition. On July 26th, the day before Portal Park, we are invited to join CHVA for their Cable Car Tour and Fisherman's Wharf lunch (see announcement elsewhere). And if you happen to belong to the Freewheelers (as I do), they're taking a cruise on the USS Potomac, also on Saturday. Tsk, tsk! Not enough time to do it all!

See you on tour,

Sandy Carrion



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www.clnorcal.com

Webmasters:

Patti Blodgett, Chip Benson and Carolyn Dippel

CLC 2008 Calendar of Events

If you have an event or article you would like to submit, please contact the newsletter editor. The **deadline** for all submissions is the 25th of the month prior to the publication date.

July	Sat 26 th	CHVA Cable Car and Tall Ships Tour See details and RSVP inside.
	Sun 27 th	Portal Park - Don Frolich Memorial Car Show & BBQ Picnic Cupertino, CA Details and Registration Form Inside.
August	Sat 9 th	*South County Garden Railroaders, Garden Layout Tour See details inside
	Tue 12 th - Sat 16 th	2008 Grand National-The Golden Jubilee of the CLC 1958 - 2008 Hosted by the Valley Forge Region, Cherry Hill, NJ Visit www.cadillaclasalleclub.org for more details.
	Sat 16 th	* Novato Nostalgia Days Car Show. Contact Marv Giambastiani at 415/897-0583 and email registration@NostalgiaDaysOnline.com
	Thu 14 th - Sun 17 th	* 2008 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance Visit www.pebblebeachconcours.net for details.
	Sun 17 th	* San Anselmo Downtown Merchants 2008 Car Show 11:00 AM For entry of cars between 1900 – 1972. Call Bob Capurro at 415/453-0464 or just come on down to San Anselmo and enjoy the cars and the food!
	Sun 24 th	Joint tour with the Packard Club. See Tour Director article.
September	Sat 6 th or Sun 7 th	Napa Mystery Tour with Oldsmobile Club (Details TBD)
	Sat 20 th	50th Annual San Diego Regional National Show at Ventura Cove in Mission Bay Park! 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Sat 27 th - Sun 28 th	* Ironstone Concours d'Elegance and Saturday PM CLC BBQ hosted by Jeff and Jeanene Nielsen
October	Fri 3 rd - Sun 5 th	2008 North-South Meet See details inside. Please make your reservations and RSVP.
	Sat 11 th	Alameda Car Show (Details TBD)
November	Sun 9 th	CLC NorCal Planning Meeting (Details TBD)
	Sat 22 nd	* The Annual San Jose Classic Chevy Club Toy / Food Drive Car Show. The entrance fee for each vehicle is a new toy and non-perishable food item. Cathedral of Faith Church in San Jose; 2375 Canoas Garden Ave, San Jose, CA 95125. 10:00 AM—3:00 PM -- Rain or Shine. Arriving at the Church, follow the signs around to the back of the Church to the Car Show entrance.
December	Sat 13 th	CLC NorCal Holiday Party & Brunch (Details TBD)

(*) Indicates an event of interest, but not an official club event. (TBD) Indicates dates or details are To Be Determined



Member Ads

For Sale 1949 Cadillac Coupe Sedanet. Complete car except for interior and drive train. New glass still in boxes, new gas tank, some new chrome and all stainless in good shape. One complete extra trunk and trunk lid. Will sell as parts but prefer to sell all as a package. Best offer. Tom Musson, 714-777-5959

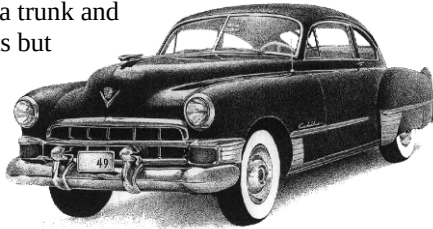


Photo is file copy for illustration purposes only.

Lead: 1928 LaSalle in Martinez, CA. Price \$23,400. Body is medium blue, top is black, moulding is light blue. Good condition, Mechanically Excellent condition, Tripple lights, all original, wood spokes, spokes remanufactured in 80s to original specs, rear mounted spare. Contact Stuart Ryce, Martinez CA 94553. Phone 925-228-5614. Let the Photos be your Guide, Check website: <http://www.chooseyouritem.com/classics/files/288000/288474.html>.



For Sale: 1939 La Salle Sedan. 34,000 original miles. Totally original car with nice original upholstery, fair paint & perfect engine. Runs excellently. No rust. I am second owner. Beautiful example of original car. \$25,000. Art Robbins 2722 Preston Dr., Mountain View, CA 94040. 650/380-3586. *Photo is file copy for illustration purposes only.*



For Sale: 1938 Cadillac 7523 touring limousine. All original, excellent body -- no dents,dings,or rust; good paint. 25,021 original miles (for real) on 346 V-8 engine, 6 volt. Original broadcloth interior in front, back and on jump seats. Dual side mounts with mirrors, wide white wall tires. 1938 Calif. license plate. Price \$39,000. Contact Frank Saude, (408) 621-3783 Santa Clara,Calif.-- Melgar Photographers 3335 Edward Ave, Santa Clara, Ca 95054 PH 408-980-8600 FX 408-980-0600 Melgarphoto.com Sales @ melgarphoto.com



For Sale: 1984 Cadillac El Dorado Biarritz Convertible Limited Edition. This Cruise Night ride is in excellent condition, and runs like new. Second owner, 102,000 miles (28,000 on remanufactured factory engine), always garaged, oil change every 3,000 miles. New front tires and striping Sept 2007. Custom tonneau cover, original boot cover, new top and motor. Original factory service manual, original leather-bound owner's manual. Although this car is well above average, today's selling price is only \$9,000. Reply by phone to Ron in Auburn, CA at 530-823-5653. *Photo is file copy for illustration purposes only.*



"Barn Find!": 1929 Cadillac Convertible Coupe in storage since 1958. Owner is Virgil Baker, phone 707/425-2558. E-mail: bakersuphostery@sbcglobal.net. Virgil's son, Brad Baker, provided information from two plates found on the drivers side firewall: Fisher Body Corporation Detroit Mich. Job number 7890, Body number 469, Engine number 309851. The heads are off of the engine apparently for a valve job. The block is in the chassis. There are boxes in the trunk and on the seat. Dad said to the best of his knowledge that the only thing he knows is missing is the hood ornament. The radiator cap is there. There are extra engine parts...what they are I can't say. There are extra wire wheels, and the side mount covers for wheels are there. I did not think to look at the mileage,

More information and photos of this "barn find" 1929 Cadillac will be provided as research into this rare car continues. [Editor]



CLC Members: Place your ad in The Headliner for 3 months at no cost. Contact Charles Thompson, Editor, to advertise cars or parts for sale or wanted. Look for contact information on page 3 at the left side.

Now the rich and famous can get their ride in high style and be green.
An excerpt from the Star-Telegram in Arlington, Texas

General Motors showed off its newest hybrid vehicle Thursday, a mid \$70,000-plus Cadillac Escalade sport utility vehicle with power, luxury and 20 mpg fuel mileage. Like its hybrid siblings -- the Chevy Tahoe and GMC Yukon -- that went on sale in January, the Escalade is a full-size, full-powered truck that operates at times solely or partly on GM's dual-mode hybrid electrical drive system.

And it's got all the luxuries and gadgets that have helped make the Escalade the ride of choice of many a movie star, pop musician or sports star. In addition to the hybrid version, this fall GM will also introduce an even more luxurious model, the Platinum edition Escalade and Escalade ESV, priced at \$79,500 and \$82,500 respectively.

They will come with velvety soft leather seats, brushed aluminum interior trim and separate DVD-video game players in both of the front bucket seat head rests.

All 2009 model Escalades will be capable of burning either unleaded gasoline or E85 ethanol fuel.

CADILLAC ESCALADE HYBRID

- ❑ GM patented two-mode hybrid system consists of an advanced electrically variable transmission (EVT) and 300-volt nickel-metal hydride Energy Storage System (ESS).
- ❑ Two electric motors are powered by battery under second seat
- ❑ Vehicle operates at low speed on just electrical power or battery-augmented hybrid power.
- ❑ Conventional power is supplied by 6.0L V-8 gasoline engine. Active Fuel Management system and late-intake valve closing technology turns off half of its cylinders when less power is needed.
- ❑ An electrically-driven, 300-volt air conditioning compressor reduces vibration and cools the passenger compartment when gasoline engine is shut off.
- ❑ 42-volt variable-assist power steering reduces vibration and provides up to a 0.5-mpg fuel economy improvement.





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Sands
by the sea
MOTEL

October 3rd - 5th, 2008
San Simeon, California
2008 North-South Meet

Back by popular demand...

This year's North-South Meet scheduled for Friday, October 3 through Sunday, October 5, will be returning to San Simeon (last visited in September 2001). We have blocked the entire Sands by the Sea Motel (total of 33 rooms – many with ocean view). It's located right off Highway One (on the beach side of the highway). There are several restaurants within walking distance.

Sands by the Sea Motel is family owned and operated, and is just 3 miles from the Hearst Castle easy express. It has the only heated indoor pool in the area (the pool area is being reserved for our hospitality suite), and is within walking distance to the beach. All rooms have refrigerators, coffee makers and microwave ovens. Rates (until August 30, 2008) are \$79.00/night for a King room, \$89.00/night for 2 Queens.

Be sure to make your reservations early – our block on the hotel ends on August 30th.



Hearst Castle Brochure

Almost all the information you need for your visit to Hearst Castle can be found in our brochure. You can download the brochure and even print it out as a reference for your visit.

<http://www.hearstcastle.org/>

Contact Information

Sands by the Sea Motel

9355 Hearst Drive, San Simeon, CA 93452

Phone: 800-444-0779

Fax: 805-927-2919



Dinner on Saturday evening will be at the "Hamlet at Moonstone Gardens", located approximately 2 miles south of the hotel - the food is fabulous, and the location can't be beat. We have the entire lower level (bar included) for the evening as well as the use of the beautiful gardens for our cocktail hour. The menu and pricing will be published in The Headliner in the coming months.

For attendee count, please RSVP to Patti Ricci,
2008 North-South Planning Coordinator -- 925-686-4531

THE 2008 DON FROLICH MEMORIAL NATIONAL MEET
AT PORTAL PARK IN CUPERTINO
Hosted by the
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION,
Cadillac-La Salle Club, Inc.
SUNDAY JULY 27th, 2008

NOW IS THE TIME TO SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK FOR THIS YEARS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA-CLC NATIONAL MEET! This is always the most popular event of the NORCAL CLC touring season. There is an entry blank/reservation form elsewhere in this newsletter. You will find driving directions below.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK TO FRED BAUSCH BEFORE JULY 19th. *Earlier would be most helpful. After that deadline, you are still welcome to attend, but bring your own food and drink and plan to park in the parking lot.*

BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS-**EVERYTHING ELSE WILL BE FURNISHED;**
CHOICE OF CHICKEN, ITALIAN SAUSAGE, OR BBQ'D TRI-TIPS OF BEEF, CHILI, CHOICE OF GREEN OR POTATO SALAD, GARLIC BREAD, WATERMELON, AND HOT DOGS FOR THE KIDS

SEE THE REGISTRATION FORM TO REGISTER YOUR CAR AND ORDER THE BBQ LUNCH
PLAN TO ARRIVE AT PORTAL PARK BETWEEN 10:00 AND 11:30am.
THE BARBQUE LUNCH IS SERVED PROMPTLY AT NOON!

PLEASE NOTE (ESPECIALLY NEW MEMBERS) it is not necessary that you bring a Cadillac or LaSalle in order to participate in this event, nor need your Cad or LaSalle be in top show condition to be "entered" in this Meet. This is a very low key, social, fun event. There's a great play area for small children, and there is lots of grass and shade in this safe **RESIDENTIAL PARK AREA.**

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS? Please call FRED BAUSCH @ (650) 592-9159. PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATION AND CHECK TO FRED BEFORE JULY 17th. **THANK YO**

SEATING FOR EATING

Since we are experiencing a larger group at this event every year, and seating in the BBQ area is minimal, I would like to encourage anyone who has a folding picnic table and benches, to bring them along. There are lots of places under the trees where you can set up for your BBQ lunch in shady comfort.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO PORTAL PARK IN CUPERTINO

From anywhere in the Bay Area - - - Drive to 280 (between 85 and 880) in Cupertino.
Turn west on WOLFE ROAD (toward the hills). Go past the Vallco Shopping Center, to STEVENS CREEK BLVD. Turn right on Stevens Creek and go 1 long block to PORTAL AVE. Turn right on Portal Ave, go past the round-a-bout and you will soon see PORTAL PARK on the left. There is an island at the first parking lot entrance, so go to the 2nd entrance where you will see the "CLC BBQ" sign. Turn left into the lot, left again, and follow the signs and arrows thru the parking lot and they will guide you into the park and bar-b-que area. (Turn right up a slight incline next to the enclosed debris bins.)

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

THE NOR-CAL C&LC REGION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CHVA, THE FREEWHEELERS, AND
THE HUDSON, IMPERIAL, AND LINCOLN CLUBS, PRESENT

THE DON FROLICH MEMORIAL NATIONAL MEET

AT PORTAL PARK IN CUPERTINO, SUNDAY JULY 27TH, 2008

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS ENTIRE FORM AND SEND IT WITH YOUR CHECK MADE OUT TO NORCAL C&LC TO---FRED BAUSCH, 806 EL CAMINO REAL, SAN CARLOS 94070-4093.

CHECKS AND REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE JULY 19th.

CLASSES (Cad and LaSalle only)....Please indicate yours on the entry form below

(A) 02-24 CAD	(F) 48-49 CAD	(L) 61-64 CAD	(Q) 1981 TO CURRENT CAD
(B) 25-33 CAD	(G) 50-53 CAD**	(M) 65-70 CAD	(R) V12 & V16, ALL YEARS
(C) 34-40 CAD	(H) 54-56 CAD**	(N) 71-80 CAD	(S) LA SALLE 27-33
(D) 1941 CAD	(J) 57-58 CAD**	(O) ELDO 53-66	(T) LA SALLE 34-40
(E) 42-47 CAD	(K) 59-60 CAD**	(P) ELDO 67-80	**EXCEPT ELDORADO

PLEASE LIST YOUR ENTRY(s) ("MAKE" means Cadillac, LaSalle, or other Marque)

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>SERIES</u>	<u>BODY STYLE</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>OTHER MARQUES</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MODEL</u>		<u>BODY STYLE</u>
_____	_____	_____		_____
_____	_____	_____		_____

THE FOLLOWING RELEASE MUST BE SIGNED!

Whereas the undersigned, desiring to enter and participate in the 2008 NorCal Region, C&LC Inc. National meet does hereby tender his/her application to participate. Now therefore, in consideration of acceptance by the Club of the undersigned's application to participate in said event, the undersigned does hereby:

RELEASE THE CITY OF CUPERTINO, ITS OFFICERS AND AGENTS, THE CADILLAC AND LA SALLE CLUB, INC. AND ITS OFFICERS AND AGENTS, AND THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION OF THE C&LC AND ITS OFFICERS AND AGENTS, FROM ANY LIABILITY ARISING FROM SAID EVENT; AND 2, RELEASE ALL OTHER MEMBERS, PARTICIPANTS, AND OFFICIALS FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY ARISING FROM SAID EVENT.

THIS APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS

SIGNATURE(S) _____ OR _____
OWNER/MEMBER DATE EXHIBITOR DATE

BAR B QUE AND REGISTRATION RESERVATION

ADULTS---CHICKEN x # _____ ITALIAN SAUSAGE x # _____ @\$16.00 EA= _____
BARBEQUED TRI TIPS 12 OZ ----- x # _____ @ \$18.00 EA= _____

CHILDREN (under 10 years) HOT DOG & trimmings x# _____ @\$8.00 EA= _____

REGISTRATION FEE, including any number of cars will entitle the registrant to one dash plaque per vehicle. THIS REGISTRATION FEE MUST BE PAID BY EVERY REGISTRANT!!! \$10.00

MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO NORCAL C&LC FOR THE AMOUNT SHOWN- total- \$ _____

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME _____ Phone (____) _____
CITY - _____

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR CLUB AFFILIATION- -C&LC, _____ CHVA, _____ FREEWHEELERS, _____
HUDSON CLUB, _____ IMPERIAL CLUB, _____ LINCOLN CLUB _____

Come join the CHVA Cable Car Tour

Saturday, July 26th

“Don’t Miss The Boat” (or Ferry). We will be leaving at 10:25 a.m. SHARP from the Alameda Ferry Terminal, 2900 Main St., Alameda, for SF. Parking is free at the Terminal.

We’ll arrive at the San Francisco Ferry Building at 11:10, take a short walk to California St. and ride a Cable Car to the Cable Car Barn where we will arrive at approximately 11:50 for a guided tour of the lower level of the Barn. Address of the Barn is 1201 Mason St.

Then back on a Cable Car down to Fisherman’s Wharf to visit the Maritime Museum, Hyde St. Pier and the Festival of Tall Ships, which are located at different piers along the Embarcadero.

We will have lunch at Cioppino’s (Fisherman’s Wharf) 400 Jefferson St. at approximately 2 p.m.

For your return to Alameda you can leave from Pier 41 (same Terminal for the Ferry to Alcatraz) at 4:55 p.m. This will be the same Ferry that leaves the SF Ferry Building at 5:10. Other options are: taking a long walk, taxi or an old streetcar to the Ferry Building for the Farmer’s Market. The Ferry leaves from there at 5:10, arriving in Alameda at 5:30.

Please R.S.V.P. as we need a head count for the restaurant. For questions or directions please contact:

Larry Jett . . . JettRanch@aol.com (510) 794-7911

Chuck Harrison . . . chucko33@comcast.net (510) 792-0329



South County Garden Railroaders

Invite you to the 14th annual

Garden Layout Tour

to benefit the

“St Josephs Center & Community Pantry”

SATURDAY, August 9, 2008
from 9AM to 4PM

Visit 11 model railroads running through some of the most unusual backyard gardens in Morgan Hill, San Martin, Gilroy and Hollister.

Please bring non perishable food [canned goods, pasta, cereal, etc] to donate [cash or check to St Josephs or the Community Pantry also gratefully accepted] and pickup a guide book at the All Aboard Junction train store at 8355 Monterey Street, Gilroy [behind Cottage Floors] Call Pat [846-8841] or Dale [848-1440] or Dave [842-1843] for more information.





Alameda Naval Air Museum

BOXED LUNCH TOUR

AUGUST 24, 2008 10:30 AM

CADILLAC-LASALLE & PACKARD CLUBS JOINT TOUR

Located at the former Naval Air Station in Alameda, the museum has a unique collection of artifacts and exhibits which emphasize the US Navy's role in the defense of our nation. Rich in military and aviation history, a visit to the museum is like going back in time to WWII, right down to the gray metal chairs in the "canteen". See panoramic views of the Bay Area, model ships and airplanes of the Maritime Force, and other vintage memorabilia. The museum will appeal to nearly all adults, particularly those who have served in the military. Check out the website at ww.alamedanavalairmuseum.org.

If you want to make a day of it, the USS Hornet is right down the street. You can browse at your leisure before and/or after lunch ... it is easy to lose track of time while perusing the exhibits. Around noon we will enjoy a boxed lunch in the authentic period lounge.

Old cars will be permitted to park behind the security fence in front of the museum. The museum is located in Building 77, 2151 Ferry Point Road, Alameda, CA 94501 at the former NAS, now Alameda Point. Lunch/admission tickets will be distributed at the door. Any questions please call Sandy Carrion (510) 522-0536 or email cadwomn1@hotmail.com.



(Mail this portion with your check)

Event cost is \$20.00 per person which includes admission to the museum, a deli box lunch of fresh turkey or roast beef sandwich, potato salad, cookie, and beverage and event fee.

Please make check payable to **NORCAL CLC** and mail to: Sandy Carrion, 1311 Webster Street, #E108, Alameda, CA 94501. **DEADLINE IS AUGUST 18, 2008!**

Roast beef on sourdough roll X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Roast turkey on wheat bread X \$20.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Includes Admission

PLEASE NOTE: In the event of late cancellations, a refund will be issued only if tickets can be resold prior to the event. Thank you for your understanding.

A Pan-American
China Clipper
departs a foggy
San Francisco.
That's Coit Tower
in the background.
Also notice the
large water tower
at lower right.



RECORD SETTING AUTOMOTIVE AUCTION ACHIEVES MILESTONE PRICES AT ASTOR MUSEUM, ANAHEIM, CA

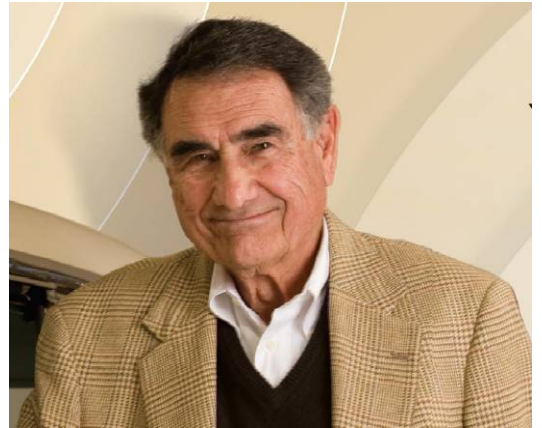
BY TOM MUSSON -- Photos reprinted with permission from RM Auctions

Southern California broadcasting veteran Art Astor (shown at right) bid farewell to over 200 classic cars and hundreds of personal treasures as his esteemed collection of vintage automobiles and memorabilia crossed the RM auction block in Anaheim, CA. The tears he shed during a live interview on ABC TV were probably of the “crocodile” variety as he walked away with the lion’s share of \$15.4 million.

London auctioneer Peter Bainbridge, a dead ringer for Robin Leach of the “Rich and Famous” fame, brought down the gavel on some record setting prices, some claim far too high, as he was able time after time to rekindle what appeared to be ending bids into the stratosphere as on line bidders tried to outbid people in the audience. “Come on now people, are we really all through?” he would ask. “You sir, in the green shirt, (pointing to me), are you going to let a nameless faceless person on the internet take that prize Cadillac away from you. After all, sir, he isn’t even here to see it in person.”

RM Auction Company of Ontario, Canada really knows how to do a first class marketing and sales job. Comprising their “schtick” included a hard bound full color catalogue of cars and memorabilia items, a lavish opening night gala with live music, scores of lightly clad cocktail waitresses, videos on the spot to rekindle interest in lost enthusiasm for one car or another, and a grand master of an auctioneer combined to create “Buzz” with a capital “B” which carried the weekend into record high prices.

The top seller of the three day event was a stunning 1938 Cadillac V-16 convertible, purportedly owned by Gary Cooper (Shown on Page 1). When the bidding reached \$420,000 (already a high number for a car with small hub caps and black tires), Peter took a break while a black and white video went up on the big screens depicting Gary Cooper and Myrna Loy in a scene from a pre-war movie, followed by a newly done color video of the car being driven and later its features being pointed out by a comely young lady. The bidding then resumed, topping out at \$616,000, a record price. A beautiful 1933 Chrysler CL Imperial Sport Phaeton by LeBaron was listed in the auction book for a top estimated price of \$300,000, but sold for \$462,000. An all-time record price was established with the sale of a 1948 Ford “Woodie” convertible for \$236,500. And believe it or not, the car needed work to bring it to perfection. As its flaws were pointed out, the bidding just kept going higher. A 1941 Lincoln Continental Coupe sold for \$209,000, probably because Rita Hayworth’s photo was pasted to the windshield. A 1949 Mercury “Woodie” wagon brought \$198,000. Obviously, the state of the economy or even the falling stock market had no effect on the audience or the folks lying in ambush over the internet.



On a personal note, I was declared the winning bidder for a ‘56 Studebaker Power Hawk, but was later informed that three seconds prior to the gavel coming down a higher bid was received over the internet. Result – I lost the car to someone who wasn’t even there and probably wouldn’t appreciate the car as I would have. But I got my revenge. Later that same day, I was bidding for CLC’s Ed Cholakian in Las Vegas for the Howard Hughes 1940 Limousine (with double side mounts – shown above). The internet bidding lines went temporarily

down enabling me to win the car with a bid that was one of the only bargains of the day. The car was valued in the auction catalogue at an estimated \$300,000, but the price paid was “south” of that number -- thanks in this case to technology glitches.

Other Cadillacs brought very high prices. A 1955 Coupe de Ville (shown below) was purchased for \$66,000, by former CLC member Borje Forslund of Yorba Linda, CA, and while being driven out of the Museum, one of the losing bidders still tried to buy it from Borje. A deal was stuck the next day for \$76,000. A profit on top of an already outrageous price! A ‘49 60 Special was acquired by the Astor Museum in 2006 from CLC member Ed Suddarth for \$25,000 and sold at the auction for \$88,000. Another Suddarth sale to the museum was Admiral Nimitz’s 1941 Cadillac sedan convertible – black with tan interior and tan top but no fender skirts. A \$65,000 sale in 2005 turned into a winning bid of \$145,000 at the auction.

I always thought that “no reserve” auctions were very chancy, but now I have once again learned a valuable lesson, an age old truism in fact. When I was a kid, I worked at a Carvel shop, an ice cream take out store in Danbury, CT, and used to work at warp speed to get all the people served in a hurry. The owner of the store later chastised me, saying “when the line is long, take your time – **hold the tip**. The more people that are out there, the more will come. People are like that – they’re vertical sheep at heart”. Great advice!



Tom Musson lives in Yorba Linda, CA and is the past President of the CLC Southern California Region and was the Chairman of the Grand National 2006.

2008 California Mille Miglia (April 2008)

There's been so much excitement and terrific publishable material involving the 2008 National Driving Tour in June, that there simply wasn't room in the newsletter to tell you about the ceremonies honoring the start of the 2008 California Mille Miglia. Until now! Hosted by Martin Swig at the Fairmont Hotel on Nob Hill, the Mille is an amazing annual event held right here in Northern California. Members of the NorCal Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club attended with their cars to participate in a grand "send-off" for the rally.



In the photos shown here, you can see a vintage race car about at the starting line. Below that is a full nose-on view of Jim Hearn's '55 Coupe de Ville. Below that, you'll see Larry Drees' '41 Sixty Special, Eric Clausen's '37 Cad convertible, Charles Thompson's '49 Cad convertible, and a '40 LaSalle now owned by Carole Hosking of Pinole and formerly owned by our own Ray Menefee. The lovely lady with the umbrella is Alexia Gentry who attended with her husband in their Pierce Arrow.

The following is reprinted courtesy of **Infibeam - Automobile & Mobile Industry News.**

The California Mille Miglia begins with a car show open to the public at the top of Nob Hill in San Francisco. More than 10,000 people flocked to ogle the likes of a pair of late 1920's Bentleys from Lucerne, Switzerland; a classic Delahaye; a bevy of

vintage Jags including ultra rare type C and type D race cars, XK 120s and XK140s; a BMW 328, seldom seen AC Bristols; Gullwings; and of course Ferraris.



This year's rally, as is traditional, spanned four days of driving for the 1000 mile route. After crossing the Golden Gate Bridge, the course followed back roads through the Sacramento Delta, across the Central Valley, climbed over Kit Carson pass in the Sierra Nevada and thence along Lake Tahoe to Incline Village. The second day's route, crossed Donner Summit and from there, offered a descent through the old mining town of



Nevada City, a traverse through the Sutter Buttes and then a narrow twisty route over the coastal hills to Mendocino. The third day followed California's hidden coast, including a pass through the Avenue of the Giants redwoods, to Ferndale, followed by a loop back down the coast to Mendocino. The last day sprinted along the coast, up to the summit of Mount Tamalpais to a finish at Fort Baker in Sausalito.

Sponsor: Blancpain SA, Switzerland



