



THE HEADLINER

Cadillac & LaSalle Club

Northern California Region Newsletter
www.clcnorcal.com

OCTOBER

2019

North South Meet - Salinas



Photos: Charles Thompson &
Arnie Schweer. More on pg 7.



SCHWEER



Top Left to Right - Bird Rock on the
17-mile drive.

Shari Ten Eyck's Allante.

The Lone Cypress Tree & Don Barnes - one of
the most photographed trees in the world.



George Black is pictured leaving the Sticks
restaurant at the Spanish Bay Inn on Monterey's
17-mile drive where the group had lunch before



Board of Directors Contact Information

Director

Jeff Nielsen ('20)
650-740-5204
jnielsen2219@gmail.com

Tour Director

Don Barnes ('21)
415-387-8965
donald_barnes@msn.com

Treasurer

Charles Thompson ('20)
415-519-7468
cadillac1949@aol.com

Recording Secretary & Club Historian

Jim Serwer ('20)
408-985-6615
jim4cad@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Jeanene Denegri ('21)
650-740-5692
jeanened09@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator

Carolyn Dippel (21)
650-823-5584
cadillacrazy@yahoo.com

Members-at-Large

David Barnhardt ('20)
707-745-1853
dbarnhardt@sbcglobal.net

Joe McDonald ('20)
Deputy Tour Director
650-961-1261
joemarymcdonald@hotmail.com
Ed Buliavac ('20)
408-296-2255
ebuliavac@gmail.com

Western Regional Vice President

Phil Terry
602-840-4308 or 602-903-3762
westvp@cadillaclasalleclub.org

Club Website:

www.clcnorcal.com

Webmaster: Laurel Feddock

Check out our
"new and improved"
site. We would like to
update the photos
please send them to:
jeanened09@gmail.com

2019 CLC Calendar

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. **Bold = CLC Events.**

November 10 Planning Meeting (See page 3)

December 8 Grand Island Holiday Party - 1:30 pm 13415 Grand Island Rd Walnut Grove, CA



It's an early afternoon buffet....A Feast at the prestigious Grand Island Mansion on the outskirts of the town of Walnut Grove. Located North of Rio Vista in the Heart of California's Picturesque Delta on Steamboat Slough.

The venue is unique. Pear orchards that surround the Mansion preserve the area's traditional ambiance. The Mansion is the largest private estate in Northern California, and displays the finest features of classical architecture and expert craftsmanship.

It is a uniquely spectacular Italian Renaissance styled villa. A four-story, 24,000 square foot, 58 room villa and the centerpiece of Louis W. Meyers' personal empire, completed in 1920. It will be Extravagantly decorated for the Holiday Season. A favorite haunt for celebrities of 1920s and 30s. Notable guests include: Presidents Roosevelt and Reagan.

Enhance the enjoyment of the season by adopting period attire. The twenties come to mind. Flappers, feathered boas, narrow ties, double breasted suits, highly polished black shoes...

Gift Exchange will be about noon, prior to dining, when we assemble in the lower bar area. This is close to the private movie theater and the ladies' lounge area. Champagne and other beverages are scheduled to be served in this bar area, included with your reservation.

If you would like to participate in the gift swap, please bring a suitable gift, or gifts. What's suitable? Maybe a gift card, car related, or a hub cap?

Participation is limited in order to reserve the resplendent main dining area. Too many attending would force us to use a side room. Not as nice. "Get your reservations in early".

The Plan: Get together at Lira's Supermarket, Rio Vista meet at parking lot on 609 Hwy 12, around 10:30 in time to convoy together to the Mansion - leave parking lot at 11:00. That should get us at the Mansion by 11:30 and it will take a while to assemble for the gift swap.

Directions: Cross Rio Vista Bridge going East. At end of Bridge turn left onto Route 160. Follow 160 to end of Grand Island. Just before the island's end there is Grand Island road on the left. Take it and go to the Mansion. 24 miles.

Entrance to Parking Lot behind Mansion. also parking available on the levee. Don't follow GPS directions to the Mansion from Lira's, they will only lead you across Grand Island on narrow bumpy roads. If driving directly to Mansion, follow directions above for route 160.

"Life is too short for traffic."

Dan Bellack



CLC NorCal Director's Message

Hello CLC Club Members,

Our Club has enjoyed some wonderful events these past few months. The Don Frolich (Portal Park) annual picnic, The Petaluma Tour, The North South Meet, and a favorite Board Meeting location (The Spinnaker in Sausalito). Please remember all club members are welcome at any board meetings (just let us know you are coming). I hope you were able to participate in some or all events. Thanks to all the planners and participants who support our club.

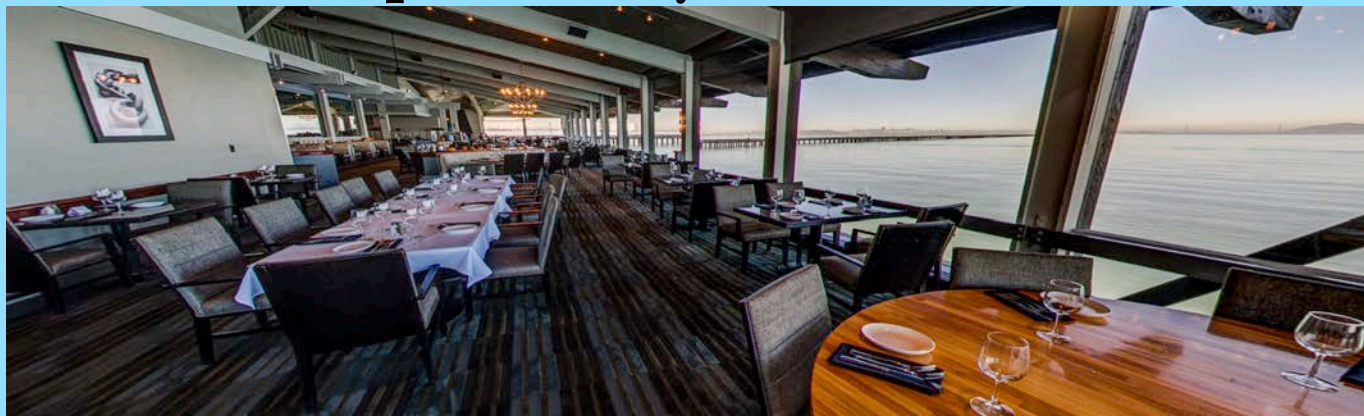
I encourage you to please come to our annual Planning Meeting November 10th. New ideas for events are most welcome. Notify Carolyn today to sign up for the meeting. (See page 3). Don't miss out on the over the top Grand Island Holiday Party on December 8th. Sign up now! See flyer on page 6.

Happy Motoring with no Backfiring,
Jeff Nielsen

Welcome New Members

Jeremy (Don Frolich's Grandson) & Allana

Annual Planning Meeting **2:00 pm Sunday, November 10**



Skates on the Bay
100 Seawall Dr., Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 549-1900 <https://skatesonthebay.com>

Lunch will be on your own, no pre-selection needed, enjoy the beautiful view of the bay from the semi-private area of Skates dining room while we plan.

Do you have somewhere you'd like our group to go...a fun drive we can do together, or a private collection we can tour? Or do you belong to another club and would like to partner on a tour together? Please bring your ideas and some ideas on the time of year you'd like to do the event, and we'll add it to our calendar.

If you've never hosted before - it's not hard, we have experts who are here to help!

The parking lot allows five hours free parking, so if the weather is nice bring your beauties out!

Please let Carolyn Dippel know if you will be joining by **Wednesday Nov 6**
650-823-5584 or cadillacrazy@yahoo.com

Novato to SoMar Farms & Washoe House was a big Success!

Charles' '49 Cad lead the tour.

The turnout totaled 38 individuals. The tour started on the morning of Sunday, September 8, a stunningly beautiful day in Marin County, at Dr. Insomniac's Coffee Shop in Old town Novato. After mixing and mingling at the coffee shop, a long line of fine old (and newer) automobiles rolled down Grant Ave. headed northwest toward SoMar Farms owned by Sam and Katy Cohen — parents to twin daughters, entrepreneurs, ranchers, and owners of an eclectic vintage car collection. The caravan enjoyed miles of open farm, dairy and cattle ranch country. We stayed together for the most part even though the inevitable gaps in traffic allowed a few to stray from the planned route. Fortunately, the experienced travelers were resourceful and found their way to the ranch. After Sam opened the doors to the restoration shop and warehouse, our group squeezed through the aisles of cars with Sam acting as a guide as the crowd walked among the many examples of American and European vehicles, most restored to perfection and some waiting for their turn in the restoration shop. In some of the very old barns or outbuildings on the ranch, we let our eyes adjust to the darkened interiors to see aging “barn finds” and rusted implements where a group of goats were escaping the afternoon heat. The goats were friendly and enjoyed being petted.

After “absorbing” the amazing auto collection, we turned our caravan eastward toward the Washoe House at the junction of Roblar and Stony Point Roads. There we found our spacious private dining room upstairs in the century and a half old former stagecoach stopover and restaurant had been prepared in anticipation of our arrival. A large U-shaped table provided comfortable seating and everyone was served the lunches they had selected in advance. The Washoe House staff worked very hard and very happily in trucking the many plates up the stairs to our hungry group. After lunch, the group applauded the overall tour and the accommodations, and applauded Sam and Katy Cohen, who had joined us as guests of our Club. I asked each person to take an opportunity to say who they were and a bit about themselves. This was a very enjoyable part of the event and acted as a reminder that while our common interest as automobile enthusiasts brings us together, it really is the people you meet who make the day memorable. After ice cream and cobbler, everyone departed toward homes hither and yon.

I hope many other CLC members who couldn't attend will read this and think “Doggone it, we could have gone along on this tour! Maybe next time.”

1. This is a '39 Series 62 convertible sedan owned by Marcie MacMillan and expertly driven by her “beau,” Duke.
2. Bill Alvarado and Wendie Worthen chat in front of Dennis May's '61 Cad convertible which is adjacent to Don Barnes' 1958 Eldorado Biarritz.
3. Right side of large U-shaped table, are Tony & Diane Sotille across from Charles and Rhoda Wolfskehl, Marilyn & Joe Benz across from Kim & Ed Grabowy, Joe McDonald and three family members. The end of the table are Marcie MacMillan & friend Duke (waving) seated next to Karen Barnhardt. Left side of the table are Don Barnes and his three guests across from Wendie Worthen and Mike Hoge. Warren Edgar is across from Jim Serwer and my empty chair (someone had to be behind the camera). Further down the table is Patrick O'Connor & Joyce DiBari across from Cliff & Bev Thompson. At the end, we see Sam & Katy Cohen and David Barnhardt. Somewhere in this crowd are Larry & Leona Seidel, Scott Tozzi and three guests, and Tom & Diana Souza.
4. Joe McDonald's '47 Cad Conv.



What is Provenance? A record of ownership of a work of art or an antique. As applied to an automobile, provenance is a chronological history of the car and its past owners

especially if they have an element of celebrity. Here is a case of provenance that proved to have layers of eye-opening information that caused eyes to pop at every turn.

Pictured here is a bright pink 1968 American Motors AMX. It was featured along with five other AMX's as a special class featured at this year's Ironstone Concours in Murphy's, CA. A group of us were inspecting the lineup of AMX's and snapping our smart phone cameras when we realized the owners were lounging on the lawn behind the car. We approached them to ask about the car and thus, the first layer of eye-opening provenance began.

The owner and restorer of the car, Mark Melvin, filled us in on the car and the condition of the car over the years, and described how he brought it back to its current state of perfection. Mark's companion was a lively blonde who joined in the conversation and began showing us pages from a picture book about herself

Provenance



and the car. This was just the beginning of several more layers of eye-opening information. The companion gave her name as Victoria Vetri and told us that she had been presented with the car in honor of being named Playboy Playmate of the month in September 1967 and Playmate of the Year in 1968. Whaaat? Eyes opened wider as the group moved in closer to hear the explanation. One person in the group asked Victoria why she had sold the car. The response came in a staccato explanation about needing the money... because she had been incarcerated... because she shot her husband.... What! Incarcerated? Shot whom? For you readers, don't worry, he lived. Needless to say the group was now zeroed in on the provenance of this car and its celebrity owner. Questions flew and answers were revealing. The group finished looking at the picture book and began moving off to other sights. Heads were scratched. Comparisons were made as to what had been heard. Some smart phones were now turned to Google in search of details. You may want to do the same... That is, if you want further eye-opening information.

A few facts:

Victoria Vetri was also known by stage name Angela Dorian. She starred in a list of movies including Rosemary's baby (1968) and When Dinosaurs Ruled The Earth (1970). She appeared in an even larger list of TV shows including Hawaiian Eye (1962), Wagon Train

(1964), Perry Mason (1965), Hogan's Heroes (1967), and Mission Impossible (1970). A good source for further information about the car is can be found at this address: https://drivetribes.com/p/victoria-vetri-and-the-story-of-LZpaVyaYT2-wsMP1qJj_mQ?iid=bDDh803_QPG1caVslq5kTg

Learning about the provenance of the pink AMX was certainly interesting and listening to Victoria was the equivalent of an excursion on Mr. Toad's Wild Ride at Disneyland.

Charles Thompson



CLC NORCAL CLUB PRESENTS...

Grand Island Mansion

Holiday Late Lunch

Sunday, December 8, 2019

1:30 pm* Seating

Grand Island Mansion

13415 Grand Island Road, Walnut Grove

The deltas historic Grand Island Mansion is a uniquely spectacular Italian Renaissance style villa.

It is the largest private estate in northern California, and embodies the finest features of classical architecture and European craftsman-ship. Located in the lush Delta Region of Northern California.

Feel free to dress in period style clothing (20's - 30's)

Make Your Reservation Today!

***"Gift Swap" to participate bring a gift!
Meet at Noon in the lower bar area.***

***Meet at 10:30 am**

Lira's Supermarket

609 State Highway 12, Rio Vista

(at the West entrance)

The caravan will leave promptly at 11:00 am.

If anyone needs directions please call

David Barnhardt (707) 745-1853.

For more information and driving directions:

GrandIslandMansion.com

Grand Island Holiday Reservation Form

Deadline November 29

Brunch Cost: \$65.00 per person (Limited Seating, Don't wait to mail this in!)

Please Note: Refunds for last minute cancellations are subject to resale and can be made **only** if the food reservation is assumed by someone else. Reservations are contracted in advance and guaranteed by the club. Thank you for your understanding.

Please make check payable to: **CLC NorCal**

Mail to: Charles Thompson, 700 Albatross Drive, Novato, CA 94945-1506

Name(s): _____ # ____ X \$65.00 = _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

The Cadillac & LaSalle Club North South Event - October 11-13, 2019

My first experience to a Cadillac was at the tender age of 9 when my parents had taken me to a Country Music show featuring movie star and singer Rex Allen. After signing autographs, he came out of the theatre and jumped in the back seat of a light blue '47 Cadillac fastback. I was impressed when the Chauffer floorboarded the gas pedal and that big blue Cadillac zipped away. The next Cadillac experience was when a neighbor's brother drove down in a new '48 or '49 Cadillac to our town to visit. I was standing there when the driver got out of the Cadillac and the neighbor lady said, "My, you got here fast, it's only an hour since we talked on the phone and already, you're here. How fast did you drive? 100 all the way was his answer. Was that possible? I suppose it was, even with no freeways, rural Illinois police cars had a top speed of about 80-85 and I don't think they were radio equipped yet. I figured one day I would have to have a Cadillac.

Many other cars were to come and go out of my life, and in 1966 I left Illinois and moved to Fresno, where I soon learned the meaning of "summer heat". My 64 GTO had no A/C and black upholstery, so I toughed it out while I was building my business until 1971. On a hot summer afternoon, I saw this newspaper ad - "Gorgeous '66 triple white Cadillac Convertible Deville, \$1,300". I didn't have \$1,300, but I knew the bank did and the car had the coldest A/C I had ever felt. I kept it for 5 years before trading it for a '76 Coupe Deville. More time passes and about 10 years ago I found a Cape Ivory '66 Convertible, but not triple white so I only kept it a couple of years and sold it to a lady in Salinas. Then 3 years ago I found another triple white '66 Convertible Deville, 40 miles from my home, a west coast car with less than 40,000 miles. Figuring I was going to keep this car long term I got on my computer and started looking for "The Cadillac Club" figuring I would need access to part supplies. All I could find was strip clubs and girlie joints until I tried "Cadillac LaSalle Club". Bingo there really is a real Cadillac Car Club!

So, I joined the Club and shortly thereafter the Northern California Chapter and this year was our first meet. We had bought a '41 Convertible Coupe and wanted to drive it on 17-mile drive. I hemmed and hawed whether we should drive a 78-year-old car 175 miles from home and at the last minute decided to trailer it over to Salinas. It was a good move because the transmission linkage failed and there was no way to drive anywhere. Just when you think you got all the bugs worked out. So, a tow truck brought us back to the host hotel. As I was wallowing in self-pity, I found out that another bearing go bad, then another car had failure.

But the high point of the entire meeting so many friendly, delightful that were helpful, friendly and willing Sharon and I just marveled at the many good friends we made on our first Cadillac outing.

A special thank you to all of you who made us feel so at home. And a very special thank you to Betsy Davenport for putting it all together! We can't wait until the next event, it is, after all the people who drive these cars who really make the difference. A big thank you to the Cadillac LaSalle Club and the Chapters that made this weekend so great.



**Arnie & Sharon
Schweer**



*trip was
people, folks
to help. My wife*



Jeanene Denegri
CLC NorCal Newsletter Editor
949 Cherry Street
San Carlos, CA 94070

Great turnout for Novato's version of Cars 'n Coffee.

Photos &
Captions:
Charles
Thompson

Line at Starbucks sometimes goes out the door. Trash cans overflow. Charles Thompson's '49 Cad (Lower Left) basks in the early morning sun. Kremas Carrigle's 1954 Coupe De Ville (Lower Right) this veteran is a battleworn battlewagon! It has endured well over 60 years of life on the road and still purrs along smoothly. A mid-70's Eldorado (Upper Right) looking for a new home.

