



The *Dagmar*

www.rmrlc.com

April 2008

St. Patrick's Day Parade By John Cullinan

On a very clear, and sunny Saturday, the 15th of March, over 200,000 Denverites were treated to the sight of many beautiful cars driven by the proud owners and members of the Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac & La Salle Club. Thanks to all those who helped us escort the Iwo Jima Veteran heroes. See John Evans' comments on page 4 for more about them.

The RMRLC was in two different sections of the event. John Cullinan's '38 La Salle Convertible and Peter Luce's '38 Convertible Limousine with divider window were in the honorary section that lead the parade. John drove for the parade committee president and his wife, who rode in the rumble seat. In the passenger seat was the Chaplin of the Knights of Columbus, Father Ryan. Peter Luce was to have the famous Irish musician, Phil Coulter in his car, but Phil's private jet arrived late. Instead, two potential new members of the club rode in the car and made believe they were Phil Coulter and his wife. When Phil finally arrived he ended up riding in a '80s Chrysler converti-

ble What a comedown!

The other cars escorted the Iwo Jima Vets, just behind the honorary section. We had Dave Kerr's '59 Broadmoor Vista Vue tour car, which used to take guests to the top of Pike's Peak. Leonard Johnson contributed one of his stunning '50s convertibles. John Evans had his shining '59 Sedan. Dirk Biermann drove his '96 custom convertible. Jim Wright's '61 coupe, Larry Diltz's 1990 Brougham, and Tom Ortons '80 Eldorado added color and dimension to our entry. Don Braden drove his stately '41 60 Special.

(continued page 3)



Give Me A Brake

The Director's Column By John Serfling



Spring is finally here, so it's time to get your cars washed, serviced and ready to go. Our first April event isn't exactly automobile related, but why not show up at the Denver Art Museum in the old girl anyway? Drive her to the Washing Machine Museum in May, which will be a little north of Denver. Please read the notices written by John Cullinan and Gerry Pache on these two functions.

We aren't far from the reservation deadline for the Great Circle Tour to Steamboat Springs. You've had plenty of time to think about it, so call the Nordic Lodge right away to arrange for your room. Don't forget to fill out the registration form and send it in too.

Those of you who attended the March meeting were treated to Gerry Pache's tale of his '63 Avanti. Gerry didn't seem to think we would be very interested in hearing

about it, but we kept asking questions and he kept talking to us. Thanks, Gerry, for a very entertaining evening. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, you are missing great stories by your fellow addicts. The April meeting will feature Rod Brewer. Perhaps he will take us back into his collection and talk about some of the cars in it. I can hardly wait.

I ended my column last month by saying that with a little luck I wouldn't have any more problems with the Eldorado until the weather warmed up a bit. Luck was not with me. The brake valve I was able to remove was actually the master valve. The proportioning valve just wouldn't come out and it was the one that was leaking. Once again I had to just let the car sit for a few weeks. We did get one warm day in early March. I was able to stare at the valve and contemplate how to get it out of the car without freezing my butt off. It is amazing how much better a warm brain works, or how much better a brain works with a warm butt. Whichever! Amazingly enough I had the proper tools to hold the valve and loosen the brake line nuts. The bracket to which it was attached is just flimsy enough to absorb most of the torque I was applying to the nuts. By holding the valve casing with the largest open end wrench I have, both brake line nuts broke free. Unfortunately, by the time I got them off, I had pretty well ruined one of them. By complaining about this to friends, I discovered what most of you know already: you can cut off the old nut, put on a new one and

flare the end of the line again, losing only about ¼ inch of line. That worked well for me. I must thank the kind folks at Hotchkiss Auto Repair on Colfax and Oneida for doing this for me as soon as I walked in the door and not charging me for it, in spite of the fact that I had never been into their shop before. Consider visiting them the next time you need work done on your car. Several members recommended them to me and now I can recommend them to the rest of you.

Once again the folks at Power Brake Exchange did a one day turnaround on the valve, and reinstalling it was a breeze. Tom Orton of our club made the mistake of calling me the morning I installed it, but before I started the job of bleeding the brakes. I had never done this before and had visions of gallons of brake fluid all over me and the garage floor. When he kindly offered his assistance, I told him to come over NOW, which he did. He was a big help, both in telling me what to do and pushing on the brake pedal. The brakes now work better than I ever remember them working. The price was right too. He wouldn't even let me buy him lunch. I think I still owe him for this one. Thanks again, Tom.

What is your next project? I have a long list for my two cars and I'm anxious to get started now that the weather is warming up nicely. I hope to see you at the functions that our VP of Fun has arranged for us and at the next monthly meeting.

(continued from page 1)

The crowd was in a festive mood as the parade moved down Blake from 33rd Street to 17th where it turned toward the Depot. A lively Celtic Band, as well as bagpipers, set the tone with their spirited music. But I wonder how many of the viewers and participants knew the history of St. Patrick and the parade.

St. Patrick was born in Roman England, the son of a Roman-British officer. As a child he was captured by pagan Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. He escaped after a number of years and ended up studying in France for 12 years with St. Germaine. Feeling he was called by God to convert the pagans in Ireland, he returned there and spent the rest of his life winning converts. Some could say he was the first Irish politician. Diplomatically, he gave gifts to kings and lawmakers but accepted nothing in return except the right to continue his proselytizing efforts. The Druid priests had him imprisoned many times but he always escaped, with the help of allies. He established churches, monasteries, and ordained a native Irish clergy. A woman, St. Bridget,

became the leader of the new Irish church.

The first parade in the New World was in Boston in 1737. The first St. Pat's Parade in New York was in 1766. From the behavior of some of spectators during the Denver parade, it appears St. Patrick did not convert all of the pagans.

Thanks to all of those who participated this year. We hope to see more of you at next year's parade and also in the other parades we are part of each year.



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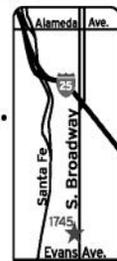
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Iwo Jima Veterans
By John Evans

St. Patrick's day dawned crisp and bright with a clear blue sky and a lively crowd of spectators jamming the parade route. A beautiful string of gleaming RMRCLC Cadillac's proudly chauffeured an excited group of WWII Iwo Jima veterans and their wives through the serpentine green and gold festooned downtown boulevards, to the roaring cheers, waving flags, and uplifting applause of the many patriotic parade goers. Cries of "Thank you for your service!", and "Hoorah!", brought smiles, and a bitter-sweet reflection of friends and comrades lost in the sands of Iwo Jima so many years ago .

Representing both the RMRCLC and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I found myself moved, proud, and privileged

to share this truly American celebration with these living U.S. Marine Corps legends of WWII.



THE SCENIC CIRCLE TOUR TO STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

JOIN US FOR THIS DRIVE ALONG LESSER TRAVELED ROADS THROUGH COLORADO OF A BYGONE ERA, JUNE 19-22, 2008

DEPARTURE: THURSDAY MORNING THE 19TH. TAKING I-70 TO WOLCOTT WHERE WE DRIVE UP THE YAMPA RIVER VALLEY ARRIVING IN STEAMBOAT IN TIME FOR LUNCH.

RETURN TO DENVER: SUNDAY, THE 22ND, VIA WALDEN, GOULD, RUSTIC AND FORT COLLINS, OVER CAMERON PASS THROUGH THE SCENIC POUDBRE RIVER CANYON. NO I-70 SUNDAY TRAFFIC!

ACTIVITIES:

OLD CAR CRUISE: THURSDAY: THE NIGHT OF OUR ARRIVAL, WE WILL PARTICIPATE WITH THE LOCALS IN THE ANNUAL STEAMBOAT OLD CAR CRUISE THROUGH TOWN AND OUT TO THE SKI RESORT AND BACK.

FRIDAY MORNING TOUR: TO CLARK AND STEAMBOAT LAKE THROUGH THE ELK RIVER VALLEY AND LUNCH.

SHOPPING: ON MAIN STREET AND AT THE SKI AREA ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

PRO-RODEO FRIDAY NIGHT: THERE WILL BE A BBQ AND WESTERN MUSIC AT THE RODEO GROUNDS BEFORE THE RODEO, FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO ATTEND.

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET: SATURDAY MORNING

GROUP DINNER: SATURDAY NIGHT. GOOD FOOD, STRONG LIBATIONS AND GOOD CLC COMPANY.

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- SOAKING IN THE STRAWBERRY PARK HOT SPRINGS
- HIKING, FISHING
- GOLF, TENNIS
- WILD FLOWER VIEWING
- GONDOLA RIDES
- REPAIRING ANY THING THAT IS MALFUNCTIONING ON YOUR CAR
- HOT TUBBING AND SWMMING AT OUR HOTEL POOL.
- ENJOYING A REFRESHING BEVERAGE ON A CREEKSIDE PATIO DOWNTOWN STEAMBOAT
- HOSPITALITY SUITE REVELRY

LODGING: BOOKING DEADLINE APRIL 14TH. NORDIC INN, DOWNTOWN. 800-364-0331. Ask for the special CLC reduced rates. Cancellation Deadline May 22nd.

Please send in a registration slip (page 10) if you are joining us!

1965 and 1966 Cadillac Tow Trucks By Bill Bowser

When I was a teenager I always dreamed of having a Cadillac. As I got older, I had several used ones until I could afford a new one.

In 1964 I had a near new 1963 Coupe. At that time I had started my own repossession business and had three tow trucks. One day I made a comment to my mechanic and body man, Keith, how I liked Cadillacs and wished a Cadillac and a tow truck could be the same thing. He replied "We could do that". Together we designed and built a towing apparatus that would collapse and fit into the trunk of my 1963 Cadillac.

I used this until 1966 when we built two Cadillac tow trucks, a 1965 and a 1966, designed like El Caminos, with towing units. The electric motors that ran the winches were made from Massey Harris combines that ran the cutter bars up and down to cut wheat.

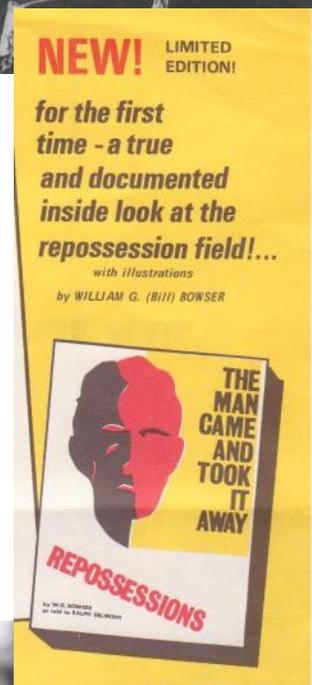
The 66 was used daily until 1972 and the 65 was used until 1974. The 1966 was sold but I still have the 1965.

Both of these vehicles got a lot of attention. In 1968, Carl Akers, Channel 7 News, did a story on me and my Cadillac tow trucks. The same year the Denver Post did a full page story about my company and the special trucks. In 1986 Paula Woodward, Channel 9 News, did a story about the repossession industry. I was



interviewed for that story and the 1965 was featured. Again that same year the Denver Post did another story about repossession and the 65 was on the front page of the Sunday paper.

Although the 65 has been retired for a long time now, it still brings back many memories of some wild and exciting times in the repo business. Thank God the 65 can't talk!



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THE MAN CAME AND TOOK IT AWAY BY WILLIAM G. (Bill) BOWSER

IT'S EDUCATIONAL TOO - A GREAT HELP TO ALL NEW EMPLOYEEES

260 STARTLING AND HUMOROUS PAGES

A collage of black and white photographs showing various cars and scenes. The photos are arranged in a grid-like pattern with red borders. The text is overlaid on the collage in a bold, yellow font.

The Dagmar monthly newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Region **Cadillac and LaSalle Club**



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Monthly Meeting:

Regular business meetings of the Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club are held the second Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:30 pm. We meet at the TDS/J.W. Brewer Tire Co. 11900 W. 44th Ave., Wheat Ridge, CO. This is near the Ward Road and I-70 exit.

The Dagmar:

The Dagmar is published monthly (except December) and is mailed First-Class to all RMRCLC members on the current roster. The Dagmar is copyright©2008 Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club.

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Deadline:

Is the 25th of each month.

Advertising:

Display ads: \$15.00 per issue, \$125.00 per year prepaid for a business-card-size ad. Larger sizes available at a discount. Contact the Editor for more information.

Classified Ads:

First three months free for Club Members (RMRCLC), after that normal rates apply. \$20.00 for three consecutive issues prepaid for nonmembers. Cadillac and LaSalle related ads only; there is a 50-word limit on each ad. Classified ads also appear on our web site at:

Check out the RMRCLC Website at:

www.rmrclc.com

and the national site at
<http://www.cadillaclasalleclub.org>

**TEBO CAR COLLECTION
TOUR**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH, 10
TO 2

SEE STEVE TEBO'S COLLEC-
TION OF HUNDREDS OF CARS
FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AT THE
VISTA RIDGE GOLF CLUB

WE DEPART AT 9:00AM FROM
THE SAFEWAY PARKING LOT,
NEAR THE MCDONALDS JUST
NORTH OF 38TH AND
WADSWORTH

Confirm your attendance by
calling or emailing:

John Cullinan
303-738-3981
303-475-0806 CELL
juancull@aol.com

**WASHING MACHINE
MUSEUM TOUR**

SATURDAY, MAY 10TH

LUNCH AT THE EATON COUN-
TRY CLUB AFTER THE TOUR

Lee Maxwell, the proprietor is
in the Guinness Book of Re-
cords for his collection

MEET AT RAMADA INN AT I-25
AND 120th AT 8:30 AM

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Denver Art Museum tour of the Conservation and Restoration Department

April 4th, 6:30 P.M.

Confirm attendance
by calling 303-738-3981

or email: juancull@aol.com



Please note the museum will be open late, for those who wish to browse
after the tour—normal admission fees may apply

Steamboat Driving Tour Registration Form: \$20 Fee Per Car

Steamboat Springs Tour, June 19-22, 2008

\$20 per Car Participation Fee

Name of Member: _____

Name of Guests: _____

Address: _____

Home and Cell Phone numbers: _____ home _____ cell

Year and Model of Car Being Driven: _____

Group Dinner on Saturday: I will attend ___ I will not attend ___ Total Number Attending ___

Please clip, fill out, and return with check to RMRCLC for \$20 to:

Brent Hladky, 958 St. Paul St., Denver, CO 80206

Cars & Parts or Sale

Your ad could appear here!

Official List Of RMRCLC Sponsored Functions

April 4th, Friday evening tour of Denver Art Museum Restoration and Conservation department.

April 26th, Saturday, Tebo exhibit from 10-2 in Longmont; lunch at Vista Ridge Golf Club

May 10th, Saturday Tour of Washing Machine Museum & lunch at Eaton Country Club

May 17th, Saturday, Abbey car show, Canon City

May 17. Saturday Shepler's car show, sponsored by Pontiac and Oldsmobile clubs.

May 24th, Saturday, Memorial Day parade, Denver, with the lady Marines

June 19th—22nd. The Great Circle Tour to White Sulfur Hot Springs, North Park, Cameron Pass, Poudre River Valley, Red Feather Lakes and back to Denver. See registration form p. 10

July 4th, Friday, Scenic tour to Pine and Buffalo Creek to attend the ole time ice cream social at the Little Chapel in the Hills. A historic tour and patriotic event.

August 12—16, 2008 Cadillac & LaSalle Club Grand National, Cherry Hill New Jersey.

Join everyone for the 50th anniversary of the Cadillac & LaSalle Club—see <http://www.vfrclc.org/GN08.htm>

Fall, Annual regional show, possibly at McCaddon's Cadillac in Boulder. In planning stage, date to be announced.

September 20, Saturday, Colfax Cruise

September 27th, Saturday: Arboreal Autumnal Splendor (aspen) Tour. Route to be determined.

November 8th, Saturday, Veteran's Day Parade with the lady Marines.

Other: Burger and taco runs will be organized on some weekends in May, June, July, August and September. More information to follow in subsequent issues of The Dagmar. We will hit some new places of interest this year on our burger and taco runs and include a visit to a historic or educational site as part of the runs.

Other Events

Saturday, April 12—Car Show to benefit the Ms. Wheelchair Colorado program, 10 AM, Westminster Senior Center at 72nd and Hooker. \$20 per car, For information call 303-393-8014 or 303-388-2187.

May 8,9,10 Hearse Con 2008 in Denver—see www.hearseclub.com

June 21, Saturday, Havana Cruise 303-399-4256 for details

September 20, Saturday, Annual Colfax Cruise

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