



The *Dagmar*

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July 2009

The Road To Vegas By Paul & Janice Olson

On Saturday, June 13th 11 cars containing 18 people met at a mall on the west side of Denver to start a great adventure. Nine of the cars were from the Denver area, one was from Detroit and one was from Ohio. The intrepid group started up the mountain, but didn't make it very far before it had to pull off to

the side of the road for a sacrificial tire shredding. We were using FRS radios and received a frantic call from Janice who was in the next to the last car. One of their rear tires had decided to shred itself. The rest of the group drove on to Georgetown to wait at a visitor welcome center while Paul and Don very quickly changed the tire. Soon we were on the road again. The next stop was a

rest area at the top of Vail pass at a little above 10,000 feet. The Denver people are used to the altitude, but the "easterners" did a little puffing coming back up the stairs from the rest rooms. Photos of beautiful cars, people and mountains were taken, then off we went.

(continued page 3)





Director's Column
By John Serfling

I'm tired today, but I'm not getting any sympathy for some reason. When I tell friends that I just got back from a nearly two week road trip to Las Vegas, they just don't feel sorry for me. The trip to the 2009 CLC Grand National was a great trip from start to finish. Nancy Tucker and Paul Olson did the majority of the trip planning, with a little help from yours truly. All parties involved were thrilled with the way it turned out. You can read all about the trip to Vegas in the article by Paul and Janice Olson. There will be more about the trip in the Dagmar next month, including photos of the cars at the Grand National.

The Rocky Mountain Region contingent was the third largest at the GN. One would expect the host region to have a lot of cars, which they did, and a lot of California cars were also there. Fifteen people were registered from our region. Three of our cars won trophies too! Rod Brewer won a first place trophy for his Al-lante' and George Dameron and James Sears both won sec-

ond place in their respective categories for their cars. George drove a '76 Eldorado convertible to Las Vegas and James drove a '65 de Ville convertible. All three of the trophies were well deserved. Duke Gercke from Ohio, who drove along with us, also received an award for his '59 convertible.

I have been told that one of the joys of attending Grand Nationals is the friends that one sees again. It is true! Those of us who attended the GN last year ran into lots of people who not only recognized us, but were really glad to see us again. We were glad to see them too. Some people were even able to call us by our first names. One of the couples that all of us on the trip look forward to seeing again are Janet and Jerry Steinard from Detroit. They drove a '76 formal limousine via Denver, so they were part of our caravan. What a fun couple! Janet and I started a "thing" of each accusing the other of being followed. Another new acquaintance is a member of the Las Vegas Region. He really wants me to call him prior to my next trip to Vegas, because he knows the manager at the new

Trump hotel and wants me to have a good deal on a room. Lyle was most insistent about it.

This was also the first indoor Grand National. After looking at about 500 cars parked in the hot, New Jersey sun last summer it sure was a relief to walk around in air conditioned comfort to view the beautiful cars in Las Vegas. The one draw back is that artificial light just can't match sunlight to make the paint look good. With outside temperatures hovering right around 100, I'll take the artificial light, thank you.

I would like to thank Brad Bauer for running the June meeting on my behalf. I'm told it was a good meeting, but what else could I possibly expect from such a good Executive VP. Thanks also to Tim Coy for his story about his '63 Sedan de Ville. Hopefully, the car will be ready to drive soon. Tim and family rented a new DTS for the trip to Las Vegas. I'm sure they would have enjoyed the drive more in the '63. I would have enjoyed seeing it in front of my '63 or in my rear view mirror.

(continued from page 1)

The cars included a '56 Eldorado, a '59 Series 62 convertible, a '63 Series 62 convertible, a '65 de Ville convertible, a '66 Sedan de Ville, a '76 Eldorado, a '76 formal limousine, an '89 Allante, 2 new CTS's and a new DTS. We had a delightful lunch at a park in Grand Junction, Colorado which had an absolutely huge parking lot. Two of us got lost in it. At the end of lunch John pulled out a home grown, home made blackberry pie to share with the group. All parties concerned were excited and grateful, even if the pieces were quite small. One pie doesn't go very far with 18 people. After the pie we were off to Moab, Utah. We checked in to the hotel, then headed into Arches National Park. The "easterners" were amazed by the red sandstone formations that the "westerners" pretty much take for granted. A couple of hours of looking at stone arches and other amazing features whetted our appetites and it was off to dinner.



Two more cars joined us in Moab. Now our group included a '76 Fleetwood Talisman and a new Chrysler Sebring convertible (rental car of course). We can forgive the driver of the Sebring, since he is from Australia and wanted to see the American west in a convertible. He was joined by another gentleman from Australia and one from New Zealand.

Sunday morning in the desert of Utah was beautiful. The

sky started out deep blue, but before the day was over it changed to light gray, dark gray with curtains of rain off in the distance and just a little rain on the caravan. It is a long way between towns in central Utah and more than one driver worried about gas. Paul and Nancy had done such a good job of laying out the trip, that we rarely got below 1/2 tank before stopping for fuel. I'm sure the gas station owners appreciated 10 old Cadillacs pulling in to fill up.





The first stop Sunday morning was at Goblin Valley State Park. John had discovered this park after watching the Tim Taylor movie "Galaxy Quest". The goblins are soft sandstone formations that resemble round mushroom caps on stems. Cindy was really excited. She thought that Arches was nice, but Goblin Valley was really cool. Joey and Amy descended into the valley and walked around the goblins while the older people just looked down from above.

Lunch was eaten sitting under cottonwood trees which had been planted by Mormon pioneers 100 years ago in what is now Capitol Reef National Park. One drives up the valley of the Fremont river while looking up hundreds of feet at sheer, red sandstone cliffs. Again, we were amazed at what God has created in this part of the world. Only a couple of us had ever been there. The others had no idea such a place even existed. The best was yet to come.

Sunday night was spent at Ruby's Inn at the edge of Bryce Canyon National Park. To get there from Capitol Reef National Park, one must drive through the new Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Part of that route includes driving along the very top of a ridge that drops off hundreds of feet on both sides. There isn't even a shoulder to the road. Janet was more than just a little bit nervous. That section is followed by a downgrade of 14%! A little farther on there is a 12% downgrade. Of course before going down one must go up, so guess what the uphill grades were like. All of the cars performed admirably and only a few of the drivers and passengers were out of breath.

Along the way the parade of cars drew lots of attention. Many along the way stopped to take photos. At Mt. Carmel Junction a tour bus stopped for the local sights and the

local gift shop, but instead they began to photograph the cars. Some were taking close up photos of our license plates. While we waited to enter Zion National Park one tourist must have taken a hundred or more photos.

For one-third of the group the ride into Bryce Canyon National Park was a hoot. Six of us piled into Jerry and Janet's '76 Formal Limousine for the short drive from the hotel to the park. The "girls" took the back seat and the "boys" took the front. The front seat of a limousine doesn't have all that much leg room and Paul and John are well over 6' tall. The boys had to roll up the window separating the rear compartment from the front because the girls were having way too much fun. The poor park ranger didn't now what to think, but decided he liked Nancy, Janice and Janet better than Paul, John and Jerry.

Bryce Canyon cannot be adequately described. Visit NPS.gov and search for pictures. It is worth your time. The "Hoodoos" range in color from almost white to salmon, coral, orange and pink. One walks along the rim and looks out and down on this fairyland. Those who hadn't seen it before were speechless. The rim of Bryce Canyon is at 8000 feet above sea level.

After dinner and a good night's rest we were off to Las Vegas with a stop for lunch in Zion National Park. Thousand foot vertical cliffs of red and white sandstone never get boring, no matter how many times you see them. It is easy to see why the Mormon pioneers saw God at work in this

stone and named the area Zion.

West of Zion we picked up I-15 for the final 100 miles into Las Vegas. Shortly after leaving St. George, UT one goes through a corner of Arizona. That corner contains the Virgin River Canyon. The river actually starts in Zion National Park. The canyon is spectacular. The highway department has done an amazing job of squeezing a four lane freeway into a very narrow space. Once out of the canyon, the trip to Vegas is kind of boring. We hit Las Vegas at the start of rush hour. Between the traffic and the construction delays it was an extremely hot final 15 miles to the South Point Hotel for those of us

who don't have air conditioning. John had his top down, so he was suffering in the sun as well.

Everyone arrived safely, checked in and started a great week at the 2009 Grand National. We were grateful to Paul for his sacrifice at the start of the trip, which kept the rest of the group safe for the rest of the trip.



Form Follows Function *by David Leger*

Form follows function was the mantra of design for mid-century modern architecture. Design should follow the use for the building, and it should integrate with the land and environment. These homes from the late 40's through the early 60's are just becoming eligible for historic status. In recognition, Historic Denver decided their home tour this year would focus on this era, and they chose the Hilltop neighborhood in Denver as a prime showcase for such homes. The tour also included the Epiphany Episcopal church from 1941 at 100 Colorado Boulevard. They invited the club to provide period appropriate cars to be stationed at these homes. Three of us provided cars, Don Braden with his beautiful 1941 6019S sedan, John Cullinan with his spectacular 1938 LaSalle 5067 convertible and my 1947 6207 coupe. I was only able to provide my car on Saturday, while Don and John provided their cars both Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday Don was stationed at the church, John was stationed at the Stephen H. Hart House at 4100 E. Ellsworth from 1938, and I was stationed at the Kohn/Neustetter House at 1 Eudora Street from 1947. In thanks for our participation, Historic Denver provided us tickets for the tour, so we and a guest could experience these fantastic homes.

When I went to drop my car off at the Neustetter home, the owner had not left yet for the day (a bevy of volunteers

monitored the homes throughout the 2 day tour). When I told him I had a 1947 Cadillac to drop off, he suggested he open one of the three garage doors and I drive right on in. I reminded him this was a loan, not a gift! The cars looked great at their sites and garnered a lot of attention. After stationing my car, I walked down to the church, and proceeded to walk the tour. After the tour, I walked back down to Colorado Boulevard and took two buses to get home. By the time I was home I had walked 4 miles, so I took a cab back when it was time to retrieve the car.

The homes were incredible. One was owned by the daughter of the original owners, and had everything original, from the 1950's kitchen to the yellow bathroom to the original furniture. Another had a stunning entry across a small bridge over the indoor koi pond. This home had a stunning portico over the curved drive. It really needed a Cadillac there instead of the owner's BMW. One 50's home was sheathed in orange textured tiles and stainless steel slats. This home made use of enormous amounts of glass, and featured such period icons as a floating marble staircase. With all the period single pane windows, the owner had mentioned to someone his heating ran \$800 a month. While purists would cringe, that's why yours truly now has modern vinyl double pane windows in his mid-century modern.

The home my car was stationed at had been built for

the Neustetters. You may recall Neustetters department store, which used to be downtown off of Stout street. When I started my 1st job downtown, I used to park in the Neustetters garage, and I had met Sissy Neustetter several times. The Neustetter home is a huge Usonian design home with sprawling open spaces and huge sliding glass doors which allow you to open rooms up to the yard, and the courtyard with a stunning pool. The home featured all kinds of cunning built-ins and hidden compartments. I immediately noticed the built in console radio which was playing in the living room, and the custom built spinet piano integrated into the design.

The newest home on the tour was the Francis House, built in 1966 at 35 Eudora. This was the height of the psychedelic period, and you had a good idea about the home from the outside with the bright orange and purple trim. Inside you find a lime green spiral staircase and a lot of wild popping artwork.

All of the homes, and the church, incorporate clever and fashionable accents. In one of the pictures, note the light fixture from the church. It appears to be a rocket ship descending, but when you look closely, the fins are made up of wooden crosses. Such unique finds were to be found everywhere.

We'll have to see what Historic Denver does for their tour next year, but hopefully we'll be able to participate and get even more cars into the act.



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Monthly Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of each month at Elks Lodge at 2475 W. 26th Ave. in Denver at 7:30 PM. Dinner at 6 PM prior to the meeting for those who wish to join us.

The Dagmar:

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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>



Summer Golf Anyone? By Nancy Tucker

Miniature golf is a blast! The great thing about it is that anyone can do it.....and you sure don't need golfing skills. Play just for fun or make it a competition with some friends – any way you want to play! Come and join in for some fun and lots of laughter.

Date: Saturday, July 11
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Colorado Journey at Cornerstone Park, located on the SE corner of Belleview & Windermere (enter from Windermere). 303-734-1083

Colorado Journey has two 18-hole adventure miniature golf courses that take you on a geological tour through some of Colorado's most distinctive features. Play through the St. Elmo Ghost Town and Eisenhower Tunnel, into the Royal Gorge, past the Garden of the Gods and through the Cripple Creek Gold Mine.

There are shade trees and a picnic area where we can lunch afterwards. We'll provide the fried chicken.....just bring a side dish and your beverage. Also, bring a lawn chair just in case the picnic area is taken – we can always lunch nearby in the park.

Cost: Regular price for 18 holes is:
Youth (5-13) and Seniors (65+) \$5.50*
Adult (14-64) \$6.25*
*If we have 10-25 people, the cost goes to \$5.00 and \$5.50 respectively.

Also, if you are a resident of South Suburban or Englewood and have a valid ID card, the rate is even lower.

Please let Nancy know (nantuck1@msn.com or 303-394-2557) if you are planning to come – guests, of course, are also welcome.



Georgetown's 4th of July Celebration

For those wishing to drive in the parade again this year, we will meet at 10:00 at 11th & Griffith heading north and bring lots of candy!

After the parade members may meet Skipper at his shop in Idaho Springs for goodies.

For information please call Skipper Gorman at 303-981-7547.

Editor's Note: The Dagmar for August

Stay tuned for more on nationals, but the issue may be a few days late due to the editor's vacation plans. A friend is visiting from Spain and I'll be showing them around Colorado.



Kansas City Grand National By Paul Olson

Next year the Grand National will be in Kansas City July 14 thru 17. It is only a 10 hour or so drive from Denver a straight shot down I 70. Also most of the clubs to our west will come right thru or very close to Denver. We would like to gauge the interest to doing something about this. Potential activities would be to host a BBQ for Cadillac and LaSalle folks on their way and/or seeing how many cars we could group together for this last part of the trip to Kansas City. Some club members may have additional ideas. Hosting some form of activity as a pre-event to the Grand National may help us win the Norm Uhlir award again. We have plenty of time to discuss this, all ideas and opinions welcome.



Cars & Parts or Sale

Used Cadillac parts available. 1940's through 1980's. Heavy in the 70's. Lots of Sevilles, 1976-1979. Also project cars available, 1960 to 1979. 472 and 500 V-8 engines. Please call Duane Hayes, 719-749-2852. Peyton, Colo. (Near Colorado Springs) May

1997 DeVille with 72,000 miles. Emerald green body, tan top, and gold trim. Great condition and a real buy at \$5,000 (firm). Call Kathy at 303-638-3474. June



1990 Cadillac 2 Dr. Coupe DeVille. Maroon exterior color with maroon leather interior. Custom wheels with new tires. 35882 original miles. Car in like-new condition. \$5,500 asking price. Call 303-278-0576. July

Official List Of RMRLC Sponsored Functions

Saturday	July 11th	Miniature golf outing
Thursday	Aug. 13-16	Gunnison/Crested Butte Driving Tour
Saturday	Sept. 12	Regional Meet/McCaddon
Saturday	Sept. 19	Colfax Cruise/picnic @ East High school
Saturday	Sept. 26 (or Oct 3 if bad weather)	Fall colors drive
??	?? Oct.	Pig roast at Caddy Shack
??	?? Oct.	Re-schedule of wildlife sanctuary visit
??	??	Grand Lake pontoon boat ride/lunch
??	""	Intrigue Detail/car detailing workshop

Other Events

Sunday, July 19th—Annual Pikes Peak Hill Climb

August 22, 41st Mountain States swap meet at Adams County Fairgrounds 9755 Henderson Rd. Brighton, CO

August 22-28, AACA/VMCCA Glidden Tour for pre-war vehicles (1942 and earlier)

Saturday, September 19th - The 2009 Colfax Avenue Cruise

Rocky Mountain Region

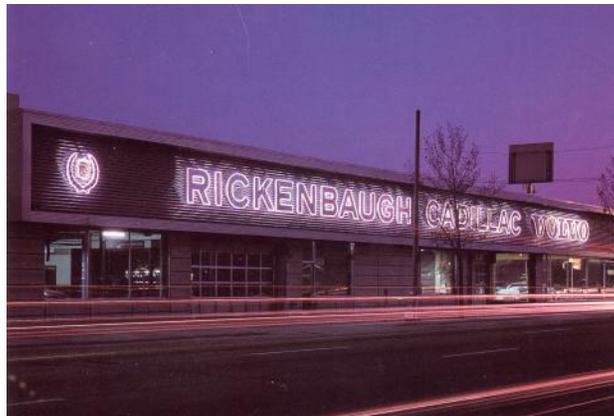
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