

The monthly newsletter of the  
Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club

# The *Dagmar*



[www.rmrlc.com](http://www.rmrlc.com)

*June 2009*



## **VFW Show a Success** *By John Evans*

A cold and soggy start to the day soon proved to be a picture perfect mild and sunny setting for our second annual VFW burger run and car show in Lafayette. The cars began to roll in at 10:30, and so did the people.

The Big Top tent on the green was packed with RMRCLC members, VFW members, and car enthusiasts from around the area, enjoying the outdoor grill and great music, while strolling the endless line of sparkling Cadillac and LaSalle automobiles. I can tell you that everyone at Post 1771 is still abuzz about all the many varied cars they enjoyed this time, and what great fun it was!. Our outdoor grill and bar served several hundred people during the course of

the day, and the proceeds will go to our many Veterans programs. Many thanks to all those who attended this time, and maybe we'll get to see one of Tim Coy's, Brent Hladky's, John Washburn's, George Malesich's, Dave Leger's, and John Serfling's cars next time.





***Director's Column  
By John Serfling***

What could be worse than a funeral director trying to drum up business? It looked to me like that was what George Malesich was up to at the open house for his new funeral home, but he had an unusual target. After an interesting tour of the facility, which really is a very nice place, I sat down in my Eldorado, turned the key and found the car quite dead. It was dead in front of a funeral home!

I immediately assumed George had something to do with it. He of course denied any involvement, but wouldn't you expect that? Naturally, there were several other club members there to enjoy my embarrassment. Fortunately, James Sears was able to resuscitate the car. James crawled under it with a hammer and started banging on the starter while I turned the key. Lo and behold, after just a few whacks the car started, thus foiling George's plan. It appears that I found the fabled "dead spot" on the starter that we have all

heard about. I just wonder what I would have had to pay to have George bury the car, if it had truly been dead.

The May meeting was the second one in which more than 40 people showed up. Thanks to all of you for joining us. Harry Tiffany, who can always be counted on to provide interesting stories, was our featured speaker. This time he regaled us with stories from the Great Depression. He had documents that listed wages, income and expenses for himself and his father from the early 1930's. Life was certainly different then, not only considering how much more a dollar would buy (and how much longer one had to work to earn that dollar), but also what conditions were like for workers. The "good old days" may not have been all that good, but they will always be remembered fondly by those who lived through them.

The Denver Memorial Day parade was disappointing. Only three cars from the club showed up, which was OK, because we only had to transport three Women Marines. The fourth Woman Marine was the parade Grand Marshall, so we followed her at the very front of the parade. There couldn't have been more than 100 along the parade route until we got to the reviewing stand. There were probably 200 people around the reviewing stand. Where was everyone? Granted, the weather was threatening at 7:00 that morning, but it was lovely by 10:00 when the parade started. I suspect there is a general apathy about Memorial Day, which is a shame.

Hopefully, there will be more participants and watchers next year.

The big trip to Las Vegas is only a few weeks away. Nancy and Paul have been working hard to make sure it is a great trip. I don't see how it can miss. I have been tweaking the convertible to make sure she is ready for the long, hot trip. I intend to come back brown and beautiful (well, at least one out of two) after 1500 miles with the top down. You'll be able to read all about the trip in the next Dagmar.

Last month I reported on sticking brakes on my '63 convertible. I'm happy to report that the car is still running well. I need to clean off the drum and shoes one more time to get the last little bit of crud off of them, at which point they should be in good shape.

Finally, I learned how to replace wheel studs this month. Two of the studs on the rear of the Eldorado were stripped. I was able to get the nuts off with great effort. There was so much friction that the head of my tire iron was too hot to touch by the time I had them off. A quick bang with the big hammer knocked them out and new ones pulled in easily. Once again, it is nice when something works out well. Thanks to Paul, John, Tom and Blaise for advice on the matter.

Take a look at the upcoming events near the back of The Dagmar and join us for all that you can. We really do have a good time together.

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**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©2009 Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and

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Is the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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**Check out the RMRCLC Website at:**

[www.rmrclc.com](http://www.rmrclc.com)

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

**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.

## Remembering to Remember By Jim Salmi

Despite some early morning cloud cover, the Memorial Day parade in downtown Denver on Saturday, May 23 went off on schedule and without a hitch. Our club was once again asked to drive the lady Marines, as has been our custom. The traditional meeting place has been the Albertson's parking lot at East Alameda and South Broadway, from which we left as a mini-caravan to Bannock and Colfax where the parade commenced.

Four lady Marines and four RMRCLC members constituted our human contingent, as well as three of our members' cars. Our fearless leader, John Serfling, brought his blue '63 Cadillac convertible, top dropped and looking long, wide and handsome as ever. The car, I mean. John Cullinan's canary yellow '38 LaSalle, which we all know and drool over, made the trip as well, and I continue to marvel at his admirable willingness to drive such a car in city and highway traffic to these events. Rounding out the RMRCLC trifecta was Larry Dilts and his spotless blue '90 Fleetwood Brougham, which Larry reports got an impressive 24 MPG on a recent trip to the Midwest. What's all this talk about C.A.F.E. standards for new cars? Why can't they just bring back some of the Golden Oldies? Oh well, another subject for another time. Yours truly rode shotgun with Larry.

Riding with John Cullinan was lady Marine Marge Muzzillo, who joined in November of 1943 and served until December of 1945, mostly at Camp LeJeune. Marge told of time spent in Alaska, Spain and Morocco, and of one Cold War drill that turned out to have been staged for the benefit of a visiting congressman, who wanted to see what one looked like. Some things never change.

Also riding along was Paula Sarlls, a Sergeant, who served from 1967 to 1971, working as an air controller. Quantico, Virginia was her venue. While in the Marines, she met her future husband in Memphis, Tennessee. Two weeks later, he was sent to Vietnam, and Paula returned to school. They were married twenty four hours after he returned on leave, and stayed married for over forty years until he passed away earlier this year.

In John Serfling's car was Loretta Krook, the youngest of the contingent. Her time with

the Marines went from 1982 to 1986 and was spent at the Washington Navy Shipyard, in Washington, D.C.

Finally, riding with Larry and me was Jo Slater. She served in the Reserves in Boston, her home town, from 1952 to 1960. At that time, it was the biggest reserve unit in the country. She was at Camp LeJeune and Parris Island. Her job was to interview new recruits and assign them their M.O.S. (Military Occupational Specialty).

It's always an honor for our club to escort members and former members of the U.S. military (is there such a thing as an ex-Marine?) in these national holiday parades. They are always appreciative of our club and the fine automobiles we bring. And we are appreciative of their service to our country.





## **Crested Butte Tour Approaching: Sign Up Now.**

***By John Cullinan***

Take a quick look at your calendar for the dates August 13 through August 16. If you have nothing planned, you can still find lodging at the Old Town Inn. Call them at 888-349-6184 and book a room. Then let me know you will be joining the long list of tour attendees.

The majority of us will leave early from Conifer on the 13th and drive up 285 to Salida. Others will come from Colorado Springs and Pueblo to join us in Salida where we will do a little sightseeing, have lunch and then head on to Crested Butte, heading over Monarch Pass before dropping into the beautiful Gunnison Valley.

To date we have the following on the tour list: David Leger, The Millers from Kansas, Jim Sears, Larry Dilts, The Logsdons from Durango, Whit Otis, Bill Woodman, Leonard Johnson and T.J., Art Cutler, The Washburns, The Muellers, Rod Brewer and his daughter, Don Braden, The Olsons, Dirk Bierman, Nancy Tucker, Bill Carter of Alexandria Virginia, The Seggersons of Atlanta, the Chernicks, Roseann Kaffer and me, the V.P. of Activities.

After a pleasant first night in Crested Butte, where I plan to have a few draught beers at the El Dorado Bar, we will all drive down to Gunnison to see the 60 Car Collection at the Historical Museum and have lunch together at Sugah's Cajun Cafe. There will be something for everyone, so don't let Cajun scare you away. I am still looking at having an

afternoon cruise on Curecanti Reservoir. If I can arrange that, those on the list will be contacted so they can sign up.

Saturday will be a free day, but I will have a list of possible activities for you to enjoy. On Saturday Evening we will have a group dinner at Garlic Mike's in Gunnison, outdoors by the river. It will be buffet style, but the offerings will be diverse. I have the guarantee of the Chamber of Commerce that the drive back after dinner should afford us a spectacular golden sunset display.

If you haven't signed up for the tour, do so by emailing me at [juancull@aol.com](mailto:juancull@aol.com) or call me at 303-475-0806.

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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



## **Official List Of RMRCLC Sponsored Functions**

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Saturday	June 13th	Drive to Grand National
Saturday	June 20th	Havana Cruise/picnic
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**

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Saturday, June 20th - The 2009 Havana Cruise 3-9PM

Saturday, June 27th, Faith Community Church Faith on Wheels neighborhood car show, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., 6228 South Carr Court, Littleton, Colorado— For more information: Contact Joe Unrein, Sr. 303-918-3800

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

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