

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



# The *Dagmar*

www.rmrlc.com

May 2007



## **Vintage Aero Flying Museum** *By John Serfling*

For two years, members of our club have been requesting a trip to the Vintage Aero Flying Museum located near Fort Lupton, CO. An opportunity now presents itself. The Vintage Aero Flying Museum is having its grand re-opening on Saturday, May 19, 2007. The day starts with a "dawn" patrol and pancake breakfast at 8:00. Lunch will be served at 11:00. There will be an af-

ternoon patrol flight at 1:30 and festivities wrap up at 3:00. The foundation would really appreciate our participation. They have already arranged for the Model T club to attend, so this would be a great opportunity for those of you who enjoy very old machines to get an eyeful of both airplanes and cars.

The museum contains the largest collection of World War I aviation memorabilia in the world. The memorabilia on display could not be dupli-

cated and the historical value of the planes, uniforms, etc. is priceless. The museum is owned by the LaFayette Foundation in honor of the Americans who served in France prior to America's involvement in World War I. Those men were referred to as "The LaFayette Escadrille & Flying Corps." The foundation preserves their history for future generations. Visit [www.lafayettefoundation.org](http://www.lafayettefoundation.org) to see the collection in detail.

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## Get Involved

### The Director's Column By John Evans



Before I get too far ahead of myself, let me correct a mistake from my March column. I meant to say breakfast at the Coy's and Labor Day Parade in Louisville, (not Memorial Day!). Sorry folks!. We do hope to see a good showing of our members and their cars at the Memorial Day Parade however. The Women Marines Association is very excited about the prospect of riding along with us this year. Please plan on attending this worthwhile and patriotic event. The media exposure would mean a lot to them and their efforts in establishing the local Women Marines Association Museum. Please contact John Serfling for all the particulars.

Now, while I have your attention, let me say a few words about our membership involvement at our regularly scheduled meetings, or should

I say the lack thereof. With our membership base numbering nearly 150 people, I would like to see a much better attendance. I cannot over-emphasize the importance of active club participation, particularly when it affects the general direction we go in terms of not only our planned events and activities but in the way we conduct our business, plan our fund raising strategies, and meet the needs of our organization. Of course I understand that we all have busy schedules, and often the RMRCLC meetings must take a back seat to our work-a-day obligations. But in case many of you have found our gatherings lacking that certain sparkle or redeeming value, I'm pleased to announce that our Vice President, Dirk Biermann and Brent Hladky are working on ways of "spicing up" our meetings with a special plan for a CLC BBQ/Meeting and special showing of the fabulous Rod Brewer collection.

We also have a number of interesting auction items accumulating in the meeting room, plans for guest speakers, car talk, clinics, tip sheets, presentations and other activities to spark our membership's interest. Take a few minutes to peruse the Dagmar lineup of planned fun activities we have scheduled for this spring/summer, and try to work one or more into your calendar this year. Our club officers have worked hard to see that we have something of interest for everyone. So if you

haven't attended a meeting for a while, I encourage you to swing on by, bring a guest and share your time, friendship, and valued opinions with your fellow CLC members. Come and show your support, and remember our club is only as strong as its membership.

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(continued from page 1)

For those of you who are "nuts" about seeing old planes fly, be at the museum prior to 8:00. The rest of you may show up when you are able. We will be directed to a parking area, which will be reserved for our club.

To get there, take I-76 north to Hudson (exit 31). Turn north (briefly) and follow Highway 52 as it curves to the west. Drive a total distance of about 1.9 miles to County Road 41. Turn right, north, on County Road 41 and go 2.5 miles to County Road 18. Turn west on County Road 18, which is a dirt road, unfortunately, and go 1 mile to County Road 39. Turn south on County Road 39 and go about ½ mile at which point you will see the airport on your right. The directions sound a bit convoluted, but they make sense when you see them on a map, which can be found at the above mentioned web site.

(continued on page 5)



## Don't Miss Our July Monthly Meeting!!!

Put July 10<sup>th</sup> on your calendar now! At the suggestion of some out of town members, we are will be changing things up a lot for our July meeting. Rather than our normal monthly business activities from 7:30 – 8:30, we will shift the focus to a club sponsored cook out and a special showing by Rod Brewer of his impressive collection of automobiles. If you haven't seen Rod's collection it's darn well time you did, and if you have seen it, it's likely time you saw it again! "Hot Rod" Brewer will, of course, be there to share interesting tales about his Cadillacs and LaSalles.

6:00 – 7:00: Dinner (brats, burgers, beans, potato salad, soft drinks) on the club.

7:00 – 7:30: Abbreviated monthly club meeting

7:30 – 8:30: Rod's show & tell

Any and all club members are welcome. We are especially hopeful that this event will draw some of you out-of-towners we rarely have the pleasure of getting together with. If any of you know prospective members for our Club, please feel free to bring them along. What better way for them to see some great iron, discuss their passion with others afflicted by the same incurable "disease" (Cadillacs and LaSalles), and socialize with a wonderful group of folks?

Weather permitting, remember to bring a Cadillac or LaSalle to the meeting! If you've got a new addition, and/or a treasure you haven't shared with us, what better opportunity to show it off to people who will undoubtedly appreciate it?!

Rod, thanks again for your wonderful hospitality.

R.S.V.P. by July 6<sup>th</sup> to Dirk Biermann at [DTB@Benningtonjohnson.com](mailto:DTB@Benningtonjohnson.com) or 303-629-5200

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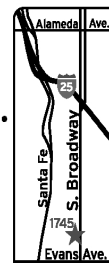
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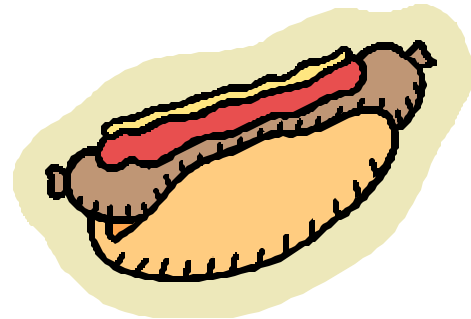
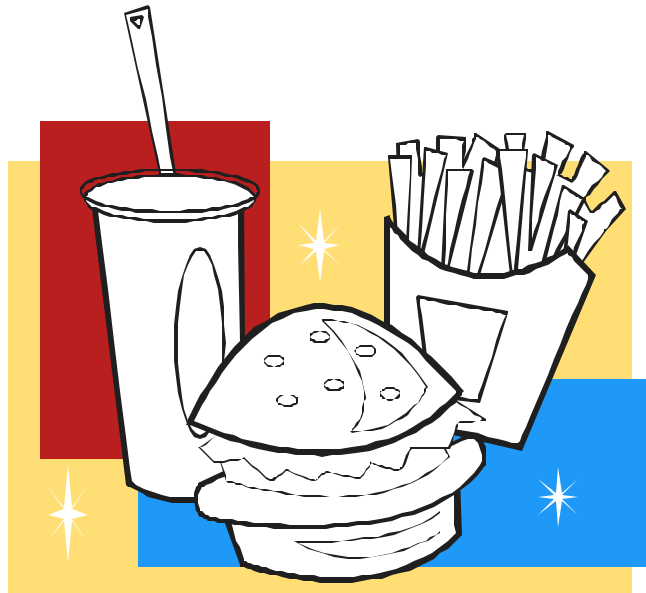


**It's Burger Run  
Season Again**  
*By John Serfling*

Summer is almost here, so it's time to start planning for those thick, juicy hamburgers, hot french fries and thick, chocolate malts. Three burger runs are planned for this season. The first will be at Gunther Toody's in Arvada on Wednesday, June 20th at 6:00. Park on the north side of the building near Wadsworth in the lot of the office building next door to the restaurant. No one else parks in that lot, so we will look like we are having a car show. Last year this brought several visitors our way, some of whom even joined the club.

Gunther Toody's diner is located at 7355 Ralston Road, which is essentially 58th Ave. and Wadsworth Blvd. If you aren't familiar with the location, you really need to get out more, so meet the rest of

your Cadillac and LaSalle buddies at Gunther Toody's for a real good time.



An advertisement for Cadillac Drive LLC. The background is teal with a white grid pattern and several red starburst graphics. At the top, the text "Cadillac Drive" is written in a white cursive font, with "LLC" in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it. A large yellow chevron shape is positioned below the text. Underneath the chevron, it says "Cadillacs &amp; Parts from the '50s" in a white cursive font. Below that is the phone number "303-449-3830" in a white sans-serif font, followed by the email address "LJOHNSON@JKG-CPA.COM" in a smaller white sans-serif font. At the bottom, the slogan "Chrome is our favorite color!" is written in a white cursive font. The bottom half of the advertisement shows the rear three-quarter view of a green classic Cadillac with chrome trim.

**Durango**

If you are signed up for the Durango tour or plan to sign up, please contact John Cullinan at 303-738-3981 or email: [juancull@aol.com](mailto:juancull@aol.com).



## Gateway Tour June 9-11 By Dirk Biermann

Anyone who has not made their reservations for our Gateway Tour should do so as soon as possible by contacting the Resort on-line at <http://www.gatewaycanyons.com/> or by calling 866-671-4733. Once you have your reservations, let Dirk know. So far it looks like we will be joined by Nancy Tucker and a guest; James & Joyce Wright; Rod Brewer; Dave Leger; Dirk Biermann and his son Jon; Liz and Tim Coy; Art Cutler; Greg Kemp; John Cullinan; and President John Evans. If I have missed anyone, please contact Dirk at 303-629-5200 as soon as possible.

We will be asking for donations of \$10 per participant to fund some of the extras such as the Friday donuts and the picnic lunch on Saturday.

Here is a quick review of our planned tour:

### Friday June 8:

- Coffee and donuts and head out at about 9:00 a.m. on from Colorado Mills
- Pit stop in Vail
- Leisurely tour through Glenwood Canyon
- Lunch in Glenwood Springs at the historic Hotel Colorado
- View stops before arriving in Gateway late afternoon
- Dinner on your own

### Saturday June 9:

- Breakfast
- Museum tour
- Lunch – we will "pack lunch" for a picnic for anyone who would like one
- Afternoon trip to the

hanging flume  
· Group dinner at the Paradox Grille – meals from \$10 to \$30

### Sunday June 10:

- Breakfast
- Stops along the way home? Open to suggestions.

Those who are going, please send Dirk the following information by May 21:

- Year, model and color of car being driven;
- Year, model and color of back-up car in case first car decides she doesn't want to make the trip.
- Cell phone numbers
- Participation in events (particularly for reservation purposes): Saturday lunch, trip to the hanging flume; Saturday dinner
- Any ideas for the return trip

If you need any information on the Tour, contact Dirk at the phone number above or at [dtb@benningtonjohnson.com](mailto:dtb@benningtonjohnson.com)

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Your Vice President of Fun is aware that this activity is coincidental with the Tune Up Clinic being held at the Washburn Estate and he apologizes to anyone signed up for the Tune Up Clinic who would also like to see the Vintage Aero Flying Museum. He has committed to be at the Clinic, too, but secretly would prefer to see the old airplanes. Unfortunately, the grand re-opening is a better opportunity for you, the members, to see the museum and be fed, maybe even two meals. The cost of the meals can't be confirmed at this time, but the information at the web site implies that they will be free. What could be better. Let's turn out in force! For more details, please call Walt Brewer at (303) 935-9805.



## Memorial Day Parade

The Colorado Chapter of the Women's Marines Association has asked to ride along with us in our fine classic Cadillacs and LaSalles in the upcoming Memorial Day Parade on May 28. The local chapter has the National President, National Historian, and two women who were in the first class of women Marines in 1943. The primary plan is preserving the history of the women's Marines. The local chapter owns the most definitive collection of memorabilia in the country, and is looking for a permanent home for the exhibits. The publicity from the Memorial Day parade would go a long way in helping them in their efforts in establishing the local Women's Marines Museum. Please contact John Serfling for information on times and staging.

John Serfling  
303+722-5098

[johnserfling@comcast.net](mailto:johnserfling@comcast.net)



## Show Off Your Cadillacs and LaSalles!

*By Brent Hladky*

Within the next few months we will be rolling out new club website content. As part of this we want to showcase the many wonderful cars that our members have. Share your pride and joy with one and all; friends, family, and the world! What a great way to show off your treasures and hopefully attract the attention of others to our club and what it has to offer.

We will not identify any automobiles by their owner, so your car will be safe wherever it is. Cars will be identified only by year and model.

So, this spring or summer, whenever you've got your car or cars looking their very best, and the weather and location are just right, get out that camera of yours and take a few snaps. We will put up to 10 photos per car on the website.

Digital photos at high resolution are best, but we can scan in prints as well. Some simple guidelines on car photos:

- Low angle lighting at morning or dusk is best
- Find a good angle. Low shots or high, 3/4 angle— not face on or broadside.
- Find a background that compliments your car. A gray car on concrete disappears. Don't have too

busy a background. A carnival in the background draws the eye away from your car.

For the "headline" picture of your car we are looking for a photograph showing both the side (either one) and front of your car, like this photo.



Other than that, show off whatever parts of your car you think deserve attention, whether it's that wonderful engine bay, a beautiful old art deco dashboard, shining chrome, or whatever your fancy!

Please submit your photographs to Brent Hladky. As digital photos may be quite large, Brent prefers you copy them onto a CD and send it to him. You can also send him prints to be scanned.

Brent Hladky  
958 St. Paul Street  
Denver, CO. 80206  
303+393-9072  
[brent@hladky.com](mailto:brent@hladky.com)

## Those Cadillac People Think of Everything By Dirk Biermann

We have all seen that poor schmuck driving down the road oblivious to the fact that his turn signal is flashing away incessantly even though his car is giving no other indication of a lane change or turn. We all feel a little sorry for such drivers. It really is embarrassing.

Not to worry if you drive a Cadillac.

Jesse, our 1996 Eldorado hasn't seen much action this winter. Even with front wheel drive, she doesn't take well to the snow packed driveway with a 23 percent grade. John Serfling swears that he read somewhere that Cadillac boasts that its cars are built to handle an 18 percent grade.

Early March did bring some fine weather and Jesse's tires were starting to look a little flat on their bottoms, so I drove her to work. She came equipped with a "Mission Control Center" a computer that provides more information than you thought you would ever need to know about your vehicle. I particularly appreciate this feature when driving down the canyon at 45 miles per hour and Mission Control tells me that I am getting 70 miles to the gallon. Of course, I never glance at the darn thing coming up the canyon when I am likely to be getting closer to 7 miles to the gallon.

On this particular morning Mission Control dutifully told

me that I was dangerously low on fuel and I quenched Jesse's thirst with \$40 worth of Conoco's highest octane.

Not being particularly anxious to get in to work that beautiful morning, I decided to turn left onto Colfax from Sixth Avenue. I get a kick out of driving West Colfax with all of its car lots. I especially enjoy seeing the late 1940's, light green Buick Sedanette that has been parked for at least five years in front of a shop on the south side of Colfax close to Wadsworth.

The left turn from Sixth onto Colfax is not much of a turn. But, I am a lawyer and I always try to follow the rules, so I dutifully signaled despite the fact that I was in a "left turn only" lane and I had to wait for a green arrow.

Of course, with such a slight turn, my steering wheel did not make a sufficient "return" to turn off my signal. I proceeded east on Colfax for over a mile, radio blaring, without

realizing that I had become that old guy I would have snickered at in my younger years.

But, Cadillac, at least prior to the current version of its youth movement, always sold a lot of cars to old guys like me. After less than a mile on Colfax, my Mission Control Center pipes in with a chime and flashing message and wakes me from my blissful cruise, telling me, "you numbskull, your turn signal is still on." I quickly turn off the signal, glimpse in my rear view and glance from side to side. Despite huge blind spots, I feel confident that I have not been caught, secure that those guys at Cadillac have saved me from extreme embarrassment.



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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. 44<sup>th</sup> 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©2007 Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club.

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**Deadline:**

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

**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.**

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**Advertising:**

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



## Thread Chasers By John Washburn

Taps cut threads. Thread chaser taps clean threads. Do not use them interchangeably...

You may have never heard about thread chasing taps and wonder what they are. Well the folks who race dragsters and rebuild them after each run came up with a novel way to clean threads without damaging their integrity. For engines which put out astronomical amounts of horse power this is critically important. So we may want to learn from those who race cars for a living.

I'm sure most of us have used a tap to clean out a bolt hole (the female surface) or on occasion a nut if the bolt is extremely hard to tighten down. Have you ever wondered why the tap ends up cutting metal when used? That is its job to cut threads; so generally, it

will cut new threads each time used. If, for instance you used a tap to clean the threads for the head bolts on your classic car, you would be removing more of the existing threads. This will reduce the overlap of the female threads in the block to the male threads on the bolt. This can result in stripped threads on these larger higher torque bolts.

Prior to thread chaser taps/thread cleaning taps, the knowledgeable old mechanics used old worn taps which mostly cleaned threads without too much thread cutting. Thread chasing taps are designed to clean the threads not cut threads, so there is no degradation in the threads integrity.

Today both Automotive Racing Products (ARP) [www.arp-bolts.com](http://www.arp-bolts.com) or Tavia Performance Specialty Tools and Accessories (Tavia) <http://www.tavia.com/> supply thread cleaning tap sets (1/4", 5/16",

3/8", 7/16", 1/2" and 9/16"). Tavia has a coarse set #01450 and a fine set #01451 at about \$14.00 each. ARP has a coarse set #911-0006, or you can buy them individually.



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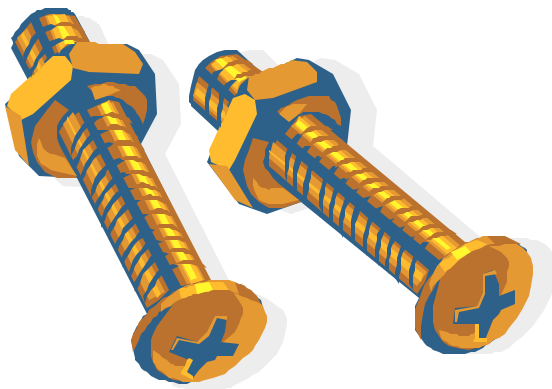
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(continued from previous page)

When I purchased my set 4 or so years ago it came with both coarse and fine tap cleaners plus the die sets to match. They no longer, near as I can figure, make the thread cleaning die sets. Makes sense since you can clean the bolts on a wire wheel or purchase new bolts.

My point is that thread chasing taps are a wonderful innovation. When you need to clean the threads on the nuts that hold your fenders to the body, this is the tool. It will clean but not cut new threads. On engine parts, I think it is imperative to use thread chasers. Using taps may not impact your engine restoration but it may cause grief to the next person who has to work on it. So use thread chasers to clean threads.



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### ***Cars & Parts or Sale***

1985 ELDORADO - White with red leather, 106K miles, one owner, always garaged, very good condition. \$3000 obo. John Francis, 303-681-2432 or e-mail: FangSz@comcast.net (March)

For Sale: 1975 Eldorado, 500CI engine, Colo Car 2nd owner, 52,000 actual miles, Sold new at Jack Kent Denver, No rust, dings, dents, never wrecked. Garaged, well maintained, runs and looks good, chrome is excellent. Bronze/copper Color \$6,500 Longmont,Co. Daryl 303-776-4132 call for pics (May)

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

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Vintage Aero Flying Museum—Saturday, May 19  
Washburn auto clinic—Saturday May 19  
Abbey Car Show-May 19 in Canyon City. Ralph or Kathy Kunselman 719-275-3561  
Denver Memorial Day Parade— Monday, May 28  
Gateway Museum trip-June 8 through 10  
Georgetown 4th of July Parade  
Cook Out, club meeting and viewing of Rod Brewer's collection—Tuesday, July 10  
Biermann Hill Climb  
Summer splendor drive-July  
Keenesburg Parade  
Luau—July 21st  
Burger Runs-June, July and August  
Anasazi Adventure Durango Trip-August 23 through 26  
Louisville Labor Day Parade  
Regional Meet-September  
September 15, 2007 Lowry Retirement Community Car Show & BBQ  
10 to 2:30 PM, contact Blaise Flaherty at 303 302 5768 for information  
Leaf Peeping drive-late September  
Denver Veteran's Day Parade  
OCC Colfax Cruise

## **Other Events**

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May 19, The Rocky Mtn Olds Club and the Pontiac Club are hosting a show and shine open to all Buicks - Cadillac - Sheplers at I-25 and Orchard. See <http://www.rockymtnoldsclub.org/>

May 20 Rossi Run from City Park to Brighton, \$10/vehicle Ted Rossi 303-618-3435

June 1-3, Good Guys Car Show & Swap Meet 10th Colorado Nationals, Loveland, Colorado, Larimer County Fairgrounds [www.goodguys.com](http://www.goodguys.com) or 970-619-4000

August 5, All GM Fun Day and Car Show at Heritage Square. \$10/vehicle. Ms. Kay Yates 303-378-5461

Rocky Mountain Region  
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