



*The* **Dagmar**



*The monthly newsletter for the Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club*

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2014**



**YOU PICKED A FINE TIME TO LEAVE ME LUSEAL!**



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# The Dagmar

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

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## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Regular business meetings of the Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club are held on the second Tuesday of each month. We meet at the Elks Lodge at 2475 W. 26th. Ave. in Denver. The meetings begin at 7:00 PM with a dinner served beginning at 6:00 PM for those interested. The meetings are open to the entire membership.

## THE DAGMAR

The Dagmar is published monthly except December and mailed First Class to all RMRCLC members on the current roster. The Dagmar is copyright ©2013 Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club. Other CLC Regions may reprint articles without permission as long as attribution is given. The deadline for submission is the 25th day of the month prior to issue date. ALL RMRCLC members are encouraged to submit articles, letters and photos to the Editor for publication.

## ADVERTISING

Display ads are \$15 per issue or \$125 per year prepaid for a business card size ad. Larger ads are available (contact the Editor for more information).

## CLASSIFIED ADS

ALL CLC members are welcome to submit Cadillac and LaSalle related ads. The ads are FREE for Rocky Mountain Region members for three months and are \$20 prepaid for non-members for three consecutive months.

## WEB SITE

Be sure to visit our web site at [www.rmrclc.com](http://www.rmrclc.com) and the national site at [www.cadillaclasalleclub.org](http://www.cadillaclasalleclub.org).

## FROM THE EDITOR:

### ELECTIONS ELECTIONS ELECTIONS

Haven't we all had our fill of mid-term election commercials on the media for what seems to be at least a year? Well, we are not done yet! We also have our annual election of the board of directors for the Rocky Mountain Region Chapter. ALL positions are open for nominations. Its up to you to volunteer for any of the board positions unless you're waiting for another member to nominate you. So far, Brad Bauer (Director), Lisa White (Secretary) and Linda Clubine (Membership Chair) have elected NOT to continue. These positions must be filled.

The nominations meeting will be at our November meeting on the 18th. Neither Brad nor Bob are able to attend the normally scheduled meeting on the 11th. Arrangements have been made with the Elks to have our meeting one week later...same place...same time.

Also, at this time we will be entertaining your thoughts on how we will disperse our monthly meeting collections for 2015. Commonly called our "Christmas Fund".

The election of board members and the dispersal of the Christmas Fund will be at our December meeting. 



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**DIRECTOR'S COLUMN  
FROM BRAD BAUER**

As summer winds down for the Rocky Mountain Region of the Cadillac & La Salle Club members, I reflect back on what a great summer it was. As a group we have enjoyed many events that brought laughter and the continual bonding of friendships within the club. The memories of this past summer will forever go down in our memory books within our minds of the fun times that we all spent together. Unfortunately, with this fun, we experienced the sad loss of one of our club members, Mr. Bill Bowser. Also the tragic fire that our good

friend Leonard Johnson experienced in which he lost many priceless cars. But even with those losses, when you close your eyes and reflect, you still see the laughter, the smiles the beautiful cars and you realize how lucky we are to get to spend time together as a group.

I want to take just a moment to thank everyone for all the things that they have done and have contributed to make our group successful, like coordinating an event so that those memories can happen. Also, to the people who came to those events and came to the monthly meetings sharing their smiles, hugs and handshakes along with their stories.

That being said, as we put our cars back in the storage garage and close the door until spring, I ask that everybody just take a second to reflect back and enjoy who and what we all are within our club. I know that for me many of you have taken a place in my life that I will never forget. As for last month's meeting we had a full house of 37 people and once again we enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Sue Bowser. The meeting was packed with information and moved briskly, for the nearly hour and a half session, but I think everybody truly enjoyed the evening.

You will be receiving an email from Jim Salmni letting everybody know that we have to bump November meeting to the third Tuesday instead of the second Tuesday as both Bob and I will be unavailable. Lisa has taken care of reserving the Elks Lodge for us on that Tuesday evening at the normal time. I hope to see many people there as we will be doing nominations for the election of officers for 2015.

Until then the old saying of "Keep it between the lines" comes to mind to end this news article. I am looking forward to seeing everyone next month. Thank you so much! 



**UNION STATION TOUR  
FROM NANCY TUCKER**

At 10:30 on a Saturday morning our group of 17 joined Julia Marvin, our RTD guide, for a tour of their new transportation hub at Union Station. It was a very interesting and enjoyable hour.

We met at 17th and Chestnut, a few blocks behind the historic Union Station building which is the ending point of the current light rail lines from Littleton, LoneTree, SE Aurora and Golden, as well as the western stopping point of the free 16th Street Mall ride buses. After an overview of the complex we rode an escalator to the underground bus concourse. Elevators and stairs are also available. That area is purposely designed to resemble a DIA concourse, as most tourists and locals are familiar with that layout. The waiting area has 22 gates which serve 16 different bus routes. It is a pleasant area, bright in color and even has a couple of skylights along the way. It is heavy on security



**Continued on page 5**

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**SECRETARY'S MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
FROM LISA WHITE**



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION CADILLAC & LA SALLE CLUB  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m.

**DIRECTOR'S WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Director, Brad Bauer presented a check to Sue Bowser in memory of Bill Bowser for a charity he was involved in. A moment of silence to the memory of Bill Bowser was given. Brad introduced new member Frank Swanson, He is the proud owner of a '36 LaSalle. Frank's contact info is on page 10. Introductions were then made around the room.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Leonard Johnson gave the Treasurer's report stating the balance in the checking account. There have been \$2729.00 collected in dues, and there is \$917.00 in the Christmas fund.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes of the last meeting were posted on RMCLC Website and in *The Dagmar*. There were two name spelling errors in the minutes from last meeting, the spelling for Carl Steig instead of *Stieg* and Tim Coy instead of *McCoy*.

**CCCC REPORT:** There was no report.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Linda Clubine stated there was one new member. Also, please call or email her if you have changes to your membership information.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The South Dakota trip successful, Jim Salmi gave update. The weather and cars did well. There were 13 cars that went.

Nancy Tucker gave an update on the Union Station tour. She said that 17 people went, and that it was real interesting. She added that it is becoming an up and coming social area.

Tim Coy spoke of the new museum in Michigan near Kalamazoo. Bob and Marty Lyons went as well to represent the Rocky Mountain Region. Tim described many of the cars that were there.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Leonard filled us in on the unfortunate fire where many of his cars were stored. He said that it was caused by a gas leak in a vacant mobile home near his storage barn and that he lost about 20 cars. He said that he is staying positive and thinks of this as a new beginning.

Some information was given about new name tags.

Brad Bauer spoke of the re-election of officers and that nominations will be at the November meeting.

**MILE MARKERS:** Brad Bauer talked about a Series 60 prewar car he is now a care giver for.

**CHRISTMAS CHARITY DONATIONS:** \$99.00 was collected.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa White, Secretary



cameras, has a security office, and teams protect the area 24/7. The above-ground area is a relaxing promenade with foliage and nice benches.

RTD recently added free metro buses, in addition to the 16th Street mall buses, to travel 17th Ave. and 18th Ave. during peak rush hour. It is expected that they will expand the hours of service as needed in the future. In 2016 they project the completion of three additional light rail lines servicing Arvada/Wheatridge, Westminster, and at long last DIA.

After progressing through the tunnel we went above ground and ended our tour at the old restored Union Station building, a landmark built in the late 1800's. It is beautifully done and includes as many of the old fixtures and features as possible. In addition to housing the Amtrak ticket office on the main floor, the upper two floors are the Crawford Hotel, which was named after Dana Crawford....an icon in the city largely responsible for the preservation of this beautiful old building as well as Larimer Square, the Oxford Hotel and other parts of historic downtown Denver. The hotel has 112 nicely decorated rooms and costs about \$300/night.



The great hall of the Union Station historic building is huge with 22,000 sq. ft. of space, housing 4 restaurants, an ice cream shop, gift shop, small Tattered Cover bookstore, a cute bar where the ticket windows previously were and a lot of comfortable seating. It's an impressive and fun place to enjoy and to bring your visitors when giving them a tour of Denver.



The old station has 40,000 sq. ft. of plaza on the Wynkoop side. Many of the restaurants have outside seating on that plaza and it is designed for a future of outdoor concerts, festivals and holiday gatherings. In the summer families hang out there and watch kids and pets play in the large water feature.

We ended our event with a relaxing and tasty lunch at the next-door Thirsty Lion restaurant. They have a large menu, nice patio and attentive service. 

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## A NEAR MISS • FROM RAY GUERRIE

We just got our '52 Caddie out of storage to take it home to give her a bath and dust her off for the remainder of the summer season.

I opened the door to the storage, turned on the battery disconnect, turned the key and she came to life as if it had been driven daily. After a warm up we were soon on our way home.

We had no idea what was in store for us as we innocently made our way up North Federal to 120th Ave. As we turned east on 120th we were soon challenged by the ever present "Big 4Wheeler" pickup with the Aggressive Driver at the controls. He was on the rear bumper of my lovely Caddie in the blink of an eye.

I turned on the right turn signal and applied the brakes (pumping them 2 or 3 times) to get his attention of my intended turn. I have known for sometime that the ole 6 volt lamps are very dim and only easily seen after dark. As I started the turn there was a screaming of tires and a cloud of blue smoke coming from the aggressor as he narrowly missed the rear of my Caddie.

Enough was enough !!! I parked at the house and immediately went to the Internet in search of some retrofit LED Super Bright replacements for the Tail Lights.

I soon found a supplier that had a 6 Volt Super Bright LED Light in White-Red-Yellow and Blue that plugs into the existing socket. Best of all the cost was less than \$7 each.

I sent in an order for the Tail Light Replacement Bulbs, however they made a mistake and sent me 2 Single Circuit Bulbs that fit the Backup and Parking lights.

I contacted them by phone and they agreed that the bulbs were miss-labeled

I discussed the information with John Washburn and he is consolidating an order to save us the high UPS shipping costs. Members can call him if they would like to order some of these.

LEDLight.com has replacements for Parking/Turn Signal bulbs in Yellow or White, Fog Lights in Yellow, and License Plate in white all in Dual or Single Circuit bulbs in 6-12-24 Volts. They carry Red, Yellow, Blue, Green, and White. 



## MY STORY

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY BY LUSEAL PHOTOS PROVIDED • LEONARD JOHNSON



**J**ust imagine my surprise when Leonard told me I was going to be a Dagmar Cover Girl! All that flattery went straight to my hood!

I was conceived by Harley Earl in 1959 and was immediately put up for adoption at McCaddon Cadillac in Boulder, Colorado. A very nice family from Lafayette, Colorado bought me. Fast forward 30 years and I was again adopted by Leonard Johnson. I was his first vintage Cadillac. Of all his Cadillac's, I remain his favorite!

Leonard took good care of me. He re-painted my exterior its original color (Vegas Turquoise Metallic); re-upholstered and re-carpeted my interior; and had me looking as good as when I was first adopted in 1959.

Back then, Leonard was a carefree, single guy (with more hair). Between you and me, it seemed like he was dating as many women as humanly possible.

On September 14, 1990, he told me we were driving to Littleton, Colorado for yet another date! He promised me it was just a one-night stand because this woman lived too far from Boulder.

She seemed like a pretty nice gal (with a pretty nice set of "Dagmars" too!). We drove to East Colfax to join the RMRCLC for a night at the drive-in movies. She brought homemade sandwiches. He brought some cheesy champagne!

I knew right away that she was "the one". Before the first movie even started, Leonard's contact popped out and I hid it deep within my interior. (Where it was hidden remains a mystery – even today!). Long story short – he couldn't drive back to Boulder that night! Wahaha

They were married seven months later!

Nancy's son, Spencer, was only 5 years old when they married. He and I bonded immediately. Whenever we were together I always got a sweet kiss from him – right on my fins! Leonard, Spencer and I took many Sunday trips to the local hardware store. Spencer always had his Fischer Price toolbox with him (isn't that adorable?).



Spencer was approaching his 21st birthday (they grow up so fast), and Leonard and I had a long talk. Leonard wasn't getting any younger (but don't tell him that!) so I suggested it was time he passed my keys to Spencer. We had an Assignment of Interest drawn up that states (and I quote) "Leonard affectionately transfers and assigns me to Spencer to have and to hold with the most sincere intention that Spencer will lovingly wash, polish, wax, buff, detail, and generally maintain me should Leonard (1) become unable to conduct his own affairs as defined in his estate plan, or (2) become a really bad driver".

On the day of Spencer's 21st birthday, we gave him the Assignment of Interest and there wasn't a dry eye in the house. Leonard's still a pretty decent driver, so it might be awhile before Spencer takes legal possession of me. But when that happens, I know that Spencer will take extra good care of me.

Over the years, we've all been together for parades, car shows, trips to Telluride, and I've certainly seen more than my share of Cadillac functions with the RMRCLC.



**The End**





Or is it?!?!?!?

**Wednesday, October 8, 2014:**

Oh my goodness! My Pistons are on **FIRE!!!!** What the heck?!?!?

There I was – on the morning of October 8th – minding my own business just napping at Leonard’s Cadillac Ranch (hoping I might get outside for a lazy, fall drive) when I heard the most awful sound of an explosion. There were about 32 of us at Cadillac Ranch (not counting that obnoxious French car – or the cars made in South Bend, Indiana – South Bend! Really? And don’t even get me started on the Dodge, the Chevy Impala, the [gasp] Lincoln, or the Buick Wildcat that was screaming like a baby!).

Anyway – there was a lot of smoke coming out of the building next door. And then – my headlights went black. **Literally – they went black!** Fire was engulfing Cadillac Ranch. Steering wheels were melting, windshields were cracking, and tires were blowing out everywhere. Cars were burning all around me. This was it! I was headed to the big Cadillac Ranch in the sky. Um – do you think they have fuel additive up there?

And then the most miraculous thing happened. A huge piece of steel from the roof came crashing down on top of me. It came down so hard – it was like a bad vapor-lock rush. But it protected me (somewhat) from the flames. It was at this point that I passed out!

When I awoke, I was being sprayed with water, and there must have been 20 firemen dousing the flames in our building. Cute firemen! Like calendar-pinup firemen. It’s true – you always look your worst when you meet the men of your dreams!

By the time Leonard arrived, the fire was out, Cadillac Ranch was in ashes, and all his cars (except that obnoxious French car) had headed up to the big ranch in the sky. Nancy and Spencer asked about me, but Leonard was sure I was a goner.

Leonard found me under the steel roof and called Nancy and Spencer to say that I was not in good shape (I’ve looked better!), but that I am going to be restored. He told them that (and I quote), “No matter what it takes, I’m going to bring her back and she’ll be better and sexier than ever”. I was so happy – I think I leaked a little oil on the French car!

I’m looking forward to my restoration, and lazy fall drives with my favorite family!

Like Spencer said, “**Hang in there Luseal. Help is on the way! We love you!**”





## A DEDICATION LONG AWAITED FROM BOB LYONS



PHOTO BY TIM COY

The 2014 Cadillac Fall Festival, held at the Gilmore Museum, was the setting for the long awaited dedication of the newly built “Cadillac & LaSalle Museum and Research Center”. Hundreds of CLC members and guests were in attendance for the cutting of the ribbon and dedication ceremony. There were about 250 Cadillac cars driven to the event and were parked for display on the Gilmore grounds. The dedication event included talks given by the retired president of the CLC, Ron VanGelderen, a Cadillac dealership owner from 1948 era, Donald Hoeft and by the present Cadillac Corporation Chief Engineer, David Leone. These talks and talks by many others gave a wonderful history and interesting background that lead up to the development of our new Cadillac museum. Tim Coy, Whit Otis and my wife Marty and I, were honored to be in attendance to represent our Rocky Mountain Region.

The 10,000 square foot Cadillac museum building is modeled after a 1948 style dealership and blends in well with the other surrounding buildings of the Gilmore Museum. For instance, there is a late 1940’s restored working diner on site, a 1930’s Shell filling station that houses lots of gas station memorabilia of that era. There are several huge restored barns on the grounds, each dedicated to housing a brand of automobile. Our museum proudly fits in to this setting very well. The research department of the museum utilizes a working garage facility, a theater featuring a movie about the history of the Cadillac Car and the Cadillac Corporation. And most importantly, there is a research library on site (still undergoing development).

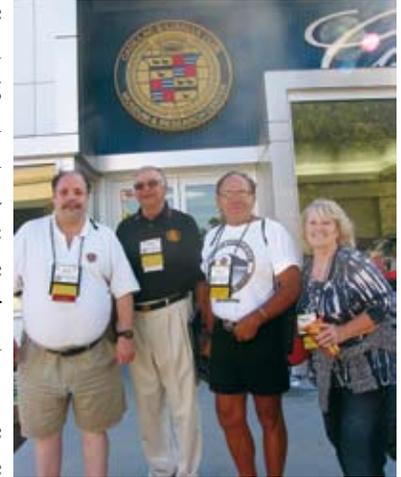


PHOTO BY BOB CARLSON

Featured in the Cadillac museum is a 1903 runabout, several 1948 and various years of Cadillac cars, and the only original survivor of 2000 produced, sent to France during World War I, is a 1917 Cadillac touring sedan used in the war effort to chauffeur important military people and dignitaries. One of those dignitaries was Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt on some of her visits to sites such as the Y.M.C.A. military camps. The car remains totally intact, painted Army OD (Olive Drab) from its original blue color and designated as ordnance #U.S. 1257X, still clearly marked on her hood and rear passenger doors. A German machine gun bullet penetrated two layers of steel and is clearly visible.



PHOTOS BY BOB LYONS

On the other side of the spectrum, and crowning achievement of the Cadillac Corporation, also on display, is the Cadillac engineer’s development of a working V-16 cylinder hard top sedan, ultra modern in appearance that generates an unheard of 1,000 horse power. And still looks very “Cadillac”.



The Rocky Mountain Region had an influence on the museum artistically. The



PHOTOS BY TIM COY



sign above the main entrance was

colorized and lettered by Tim Coy several years ago when the CLCMRC asked him to create its logo. Our own John Evans worked from photos and created the LaSalle and Cadillac script that appear in the windows. A very nice contribution by two talented artists and very much appreciated by the the museum.

Old Cars Weekly has a nice write-up of the Grand Opening and the history of the Gilmore Museum on their web-site. 





## MOUNT RUSHMORE TOUR A SUCCESS FROM JOHN WASHBURN AND JIM SALMI

PART 2...and now, the rest of the story.



Ed's grandfather had been the head ranger at Rushmore and was in charge of the crew removing scaffolding when the sculpture was completed, so Ed knows it very well. The Mount Rushmore sculpture was begun in 1927 by Gutzon Borglum, and finally completed in 1941. I left a few minutes early with John Washburn to find a spot to take pictures of our entourage as they came down Hwy 16A heading for our lunch at the State Game Lodge, a historic hotel which had hosted both Calvin Coolidge and Dwight Eisenhower. We had an excellent meal. Afterward, Art, Don and I decided to drive into Rapid City and walk around downtown. We explored a clock shop, pawn shop and hobby store, and then returned to Custer. Some of our folks had set up a wine tasting session at a picnic area next to the motel. Dinner was on our own, and several went to the Purple Pie Place to sample its wares. Mr. Washburn reported that the pie was excellent.

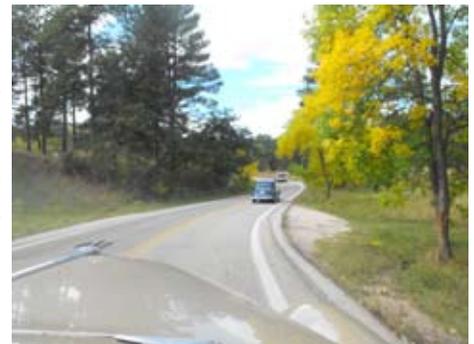


Saturday was set up as an open day for folks to take in some of the other attractions of the area, and there are many. The only scheduled event was dinner and check-in back at the Hampton Inn in Scottsbluff that evening. The Clubine party and Leonard went to Deadwood to do a little gambling. Others did whatever they did. Don, Art and I went into the local history museum in Custer. Afterwards, we warmed up Don's car and drove down to



Hot Springs, where we walked around the town and visited an excellent museum in the old school building at the top of the hill. We had lunch, and then headed south. When we got to Ardmore just north of the Nebraska/South Dakota state line, we stopped and snooped around. Ardmore is a ghost town and there didn't seem to be anyone living there. Don and Art found the old bank, which still even had the old safe deposit boxes. There were a few once-impressive houses and some commercial buildings. A yard full of old Hudsons and other cars is also there. The Brittans came through and stopped briefly. That's when we found out that their car had been dented when they

had stopped in Hot Springs. An elderly man in a big Ford pickup was parked beside them in a diagonal parking strip and somehow managed to crunch the driver's side rear quarter panel. It was a significant dent, but fortunately the Brittans were there when it happened and a police report was taken. The man was apparently very apologetic and admitted fault. Their Seville was all original and pristine up to this moment, so Mike was philosophical but understandably frustrated. This ties him with the battered leg for the hard luck award. Back in Scottsbluff, we had our last dinner at the Steel Grill.



Sunday, our final day, was relatively uneventful as the group made their separate ways back home. Dents and skinned legs notwithstanding, our hearty band of travelers had a good time. The weather was perfect, the length of the tour was just about right, and amazingly nobody had vapor lock. Let's do something this good again next year, and maybe this time without anyone qualifying for a hard luck award. 



## *Cadillac & LaSalle Classifieds*

**For Sale:** 1992 Cadillac Eldorado. 4.9 liter with only 23,000 miles. One owner, garaged, dealer maintained with all service records. Navy blue exterior with beige pinstripe and custom hood ornament. Tan interior with carpets and floor mats in excellent condition. Remote locking system and original gold Cadillac keys. \$7,500. Contact Bettina at (970) 390-5244 or Bbig@me.com.



**For Sale:** 1967 Cadillac Fleetwood 4 dr. Brougham. 23,647 original miles. Fully loaded, all original equipment, exterior and interior. Vehicle has always been in heated garage in Colorado. White with black leather top cover and black interior. Located in Morrison, CO. Contact Jim Wildman at 303-697-0623 or e-mail at colady47@yahoo.com. \$20,500 asking price (willing to negotiate).



**Wanted:** Spares for a 1978/79 Cadillac Seville Elegante. Trim that runs along the fender tops and door beltlines, along with sundry other items common to the standard Seville sedan. Mike Brittan, britpsyc@gmail.com"

**For Sale:** 1988 Eldorado in excellent original condition. Under 55,000 miles but it is driven weekly. It was sold new at McCaddon's in Boulder. It is in Rosewood with matching leather. Asking \$7000. For any questions or to make an appointment to see the car please email me with your contact information. Tom Rudd tomdudd@gmail.com



## *Rocky Mountain Region New Member*

**Frank Swanson**  
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