

the definitive
F I N Z

MAGAZINE

Official magazine of The Cadillac LaSalle Club of New Zealand (Inc)



Eat my dust!

JUNE

16



cadillacclubofnz.org

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The Maurice Hendry Award for Excellence in Journalistic Contributions - 2015
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Contributions: Send to: finzmagazine@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any contributions.

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Zane GOODE, CLCNZ drew this cool sketch!

Ron-dezvous



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Well we (CLC NZ Pres. Steve Gill, my middle son, Ridge and me) are back from our big 30 day USA adventure.

For those of you that had forgotten, our main objective was the 2016 CLC Grand Nationals held in Las Vegas in mid April. Whilst others may have just flown there direct we chose to take a longer route.

With much material gathered from our trip, I will be sharing with you our adventures, the places we went, the things (and amazing cars) we saw, the people we met, the hospitality we enjoyed and the food we ate and we didn't! The US isn't as scary place as many of us think. We got into and out of LA Airport easily. We walked the streets, day and night without any issues. We saw the occasional strange person but never encountered a problem. Only a weather event delayed one flight, all arrangements went as planned. We discovered the wonderful world of 'Uber'!

At the Grand Nationals we were surprised to learn that your beloved FINZ Magazine received the CLC International Affiliates (that's all countries outside of the USA) 'Magazine of the Year Award 2015' and we were there to receive the plaque. How cool is that? We were cheered by fellow CLC'ers and we thank our cobblers across the ditch in Australia who came and shook our hands - fintastic!

Yours truly met with CLC Pres, Dave Ritchie, *The Self Starter* Editor, Steve Stewart and 'Mr. Cadillac' - Yann Saunders and former Presidents, Lars Kneller and Glenn Brown.



Cartersville, Georgia



STOP PRESS!

FINZ wins International Newsletter Award at 2016 Las Vegas Grand Nationals - How 'grand' is that? Ed.

NOTE YOUR DIARIES CADILLAC NATIONALS " THE SWEET MEET "

This will be held on the weekend of 14, 15 and 16 October 2016 at Whangarei

You know we enjoyed immense hospitality and great times with fellow CLC members in Atlanta, Chattanooga, Las Vegas, Wyoming, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Great guys and gals! With so much that went on I must make mention that all remarks and comments are recollections and no responsibility taken for errors, omissions, wrong labels/ place names etc.!

Yep, this issue is a biggie - making up for our absence. Carried over to next issue will be other articles that were planned months ago, but space just doesn't allow inclusion in this issue.

A great line up of contributions this month from NZ, Australia, USA, Ireland, UK, Germany, France - pretty global, huh?

Cover pic and 'Tail-Lights' were a real toughie this month. Thanks to Ron Zahn for submitting his Wangaratta pic featured on the cover. Whilst John Byren (Editor, 'Sallee Speaks') sent me an awesome 'fish-bowl' pic of their LaSalle get together in Australia that appears on our 'Tail Lights' page - so Aussie pics secure front and back covers!

Lastly don't forget to book your room for the upcoming NZ 2016 Cadillac Nationals in Whangarei in October (see page inside for details) and check out the new NZ 2017 calendar. A great NZ club fund raiser initiated by Noeleen Souber.

Until next month, keep warm. June is our first official month of our NZ winter, but still crusing weather for some. Regards, Ron - Ed.



CADDY KIWIS ACROSS AMERICA

PART ONE: AUCKLAND TO ATLANTA & AUGUSTA:

Friday 1st April 2016. The three of us land in LA on our 6am Qantas flight - pretty smooth it was too.

Talk about long, we were tired of sleeping! But we found our luggage ok at LAX and with just one request

for help, found our connecting flight to Atlanta on SouthWest. They are a no-frills airline with good (mainly 737-type) planes, professional staff and peanuts, nibbles and a soft drink ('soda'). We had the option of boarding passes from 'touch screens' or via our cell phone! You get given an allocated queue number and then we all stand in a line and board according to number. First on gets to pick anywhere to sit. No allocated seats. First checked bag free - all other airlines charge \$25 upwards per bag! A long 6 to 7 hour Atlanta flight. Atlanta airport was huge - the taxi-ing took us ages and gave us the impression that all of Papamoa could have fitted! Our hotel is not far from the airport, there is a big Porsche dealership over the road and McDs next door! Our stay is for two nights. By arrangement we met up with local Peach Region Pres. Doug Bailey. He lives some 40 mins from where we are staying so Doug supplies us with details of how we get there via the local MARTA (Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) train. All we need do is catch it, make a train change and get to the end of the line! We catch the hotel shuttle back to the airport (where the train station is also) work out how to buy a platform ticket and catch the train to the station where we need to change lines. The weather is fine but not warm. Thank goodness I have my NZ Caddy club jacket to wear! No probs on the train, but we did look conspicuously like tourists - all wearing shorts whilst the locals were obviously heading to their Saturday jobs! Forty minutes is all we take to reach Doug and as planned, he is sitting in his lovely metallic green '66 Eldorado Convertible - a nice looking ride. So where to? There's a huge car show an hour and a half away in Chattanooga. The trip is great. We observe the 'lay of the land', the scenery, the freeways. We love Dougs southern accent. He tells us about the area and region and we bore him with all sorts of questions only non-Americans would ask from petrol octanes to the Trump campaign! We meet up with fellow club members enroute (Cartersville) outside a big Harley Davidson dealership called 'Southern Devils' - named after the local 'Devil scorpion' - they had a live one in a glass container at reception! Local members (Mark Anthony owns a sharp gold '69, Dick Peden - pink T-bird, Lewis and Vicky - red Allante, Tom - Series 62 convertible and Eric who drove up in his cool Ford F150 pick up truck this day - see some pics) and we 'meet and greet!' We also go check out the bike dealership and meet a very friendly lady by name of Tina Phillips. She loves our accents, we love hers! It seems everywhere we go people love our accents even though most think we are Australian! Some think we are from England. When we tell them we are from NZ it seems everyone knows where it is (that's a worry!) and they want to come here. We promote the new Air NZ airfares of US\$899 return from San Fran or LA to Auckland return. We should have sorted a commission from our national carrier! Soon, we are on our way again and soon arrive in Chattanooga. It's an old stately built town with lots of old red-brick buildings peppered amongst some new structures. There are old cars, bikes and people everywhere. This must be the place! Coker Tyres (spelt Tires) has a big building here together with an even bigger collection of old cars and bikes. They are open to the public and we simply walk in. We are surprised there's no entry fee, they could have collected a dollar or thousand this day. It's nearly lunch time and we hunt for a place to have a bite to eat and maybe a drink. The first (a boutique brewery) has run out of food! The next bar (Southside Social Club) is more promising, it even has a 'smoking room' for Steve. Actually its a vintage Airstream caravan (the iconic polished stainless steel type) and mostly men are in their consuming their cigars. Steve is in heaven. Ridge and I are outside having a game of 'Corn Bag throwing' a local sport. It's like throwing horse-shoes and we could have played this too. We meet more Caddy people and they love our accents.

cadillacclubofnz.org June 2016

3



Coker Tyres opened their massive collection to the public free of entry fee. Amazing cars and

even more amazing vintage bikes. The bike collection was simply the best and all looked just like new!



CADDY KIWIS ACROSS AMERICA

PART ONE: AUCKLAND TO ATLANTA & AUGUSTA:

From page 3: The best so far is Michelle ("Hi, I'm 'Me-Shell" and I'm from Ally-BAMA!") She sounds amazing! (you really had to be there). Her husband Richard is also a nice guy and Caddy member too.

After a nice lunch, a few beers (since we are not driving) and lots of chatter and laughs (this is a reasonably big 'club' with 10 bowling lanes and a nice "feel". Member Dick Peden suggests Doug and anyone else follow him to his car collection 'DP Classic cars' which is located in 'Johns Creek', a swanky part of Atlanta. He has a discrete big shed alongside the main house on a hill overlooking his neighbours Colonial-built homes and their big 'lifestyle-sized' sections and ponds! John has got lots of pristine cars, all high calibre examples that could have been on the showroom floor (he and his wife - She out of town in Florida when we were there are also into horse breeding and they are very successful at this too) . Many (of the cars and horses)are prize winners from the trophies and award certificates decorating the walls. The set-up is great - black and white chequered flooring, mirrored back wall (giving depth), . At one end is a small American Diner, something Dick wants to expand and make more formal. There is memorabilia everywhere. His collection is the cream of the crop' - red 30s Buick, red 50s Olds convertible, turquoise 50s Chrysler New Yorker convertible, soft yellow 50s Mercury Sun Valley (model with plexi-glass roof), two early 60s Corvettes - one blue, one red. Blue 50s Buick convertible, an amazing late 50s Pontiac Bonneville done in black/ red interior said to be the only one with manual trans, a special order by a GM Exec and manufactured in Canada. Then a white Pontiac 50s convertible with 'continental kit' and what collection wouldn't be complete without a Cadillac? In this case, a white '57 Biarritz with red interior, wire wheels, gold plated badging - like it was brand new! There were two parking spaces left. One is for the pink T-bird parked outside and the other for a '60 Buick 'bat-wing model' that is on its way! A couple of hours pass quickly when you're having fun and we head away into the night to Dougs place in Roswell, a suburb of Atlanat. He prefers to drive his other Caddy at night, a more modern '96 Brougham. It is like riding in a cloud on those leather seats in the back! We meet his lovely wife Barbara. Doug tells us this Brougham was a previous Grand Nats winner in Boston a few years back. The large sedan has an LT Corvette motor and it IS grunty! He takes us right to our hotel door and on the way we have to cruise down the highway and observe the night lights of Atlanta - very spectacular indeed. A terrific end to a terrific day and its only our 2nd day in the US of A! Before I move onto day three, the background flag is a decal from the 2012 'Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation', protecting his legacy since 1989. Next - 'Driving Miss Daisy!"

cadillacclubofnz.org June 2016

4





CADDY KIWIS ACROSS AMERICA

PART ONE: AUCKLAND TO ATLANTA & AUGUSTA:

From page 4: Let me 'set the scene': Before leaving NZ, Doug enquires whether I had heard or seen the 'Driving Miss Daisy movie'. To mimic, Morgan Freeman (in his role from the movie) 'Mmmhmmmm,

show-a-do!' That's a 'yes' and Doug mentions asks whether I knew that the movie was shot in and around Atlanta - no I didn't. In fact, some of the Peach Region's members actually featured in the movie. "Would you guys be interested in being shown around the movie locations?"- fast-forward, it is now Sunday morning (one of the many 'perfect blue-sky days' we encountered often (saw little smog anywhere) it's crisp 47f (about 8c) and Doug picks us up in his green Caddy as arranged. We are heading to one of the Peach Region members, Terry Bird's home where we will have morning tea before our tour. We meet Mark Anthony on the way in his gol;d '69. Terry lives in the leafy suburb of 'Droid Hills' in a period early 1950s red brick home with his partner Clark. We are told this suburb was created by the Coca Cola makers (Atlanta is the Head Office of Coke) and quite a few places around the city financially benefited significantly from the fizzy drink we all know! Terry and Clarke's home is like stepping back in time with period furniture, furnishings, even the fine china cups and saucers and silverware is actually from the 1950s! The home is solidly built with concrete interior plastered walls and concrete ceilings. It is set on a tree-planted half acre which makes for a 'forest-like' backyard. At this time of the year the many trees are in young green leaf and the neighbourhood pretty with colourful azaleas everywhere amongst the very noticeable 'white dogwood tree flowers'. They are a picture. We enjoy a lovely morning tea before heading downstairs to their basement where Terry and Clarke explain their parts as 'extras' in the movie. They point out houses, locations, the 'Piggly-Wiggly supermarket store' - anyone that has seen the movie (or has the DVD) will know what and where I mean. Some of Terry and Clark's furniture was even used in the movie. I am honoured to sit on the 1950s orange sofa that appears in Dan Ackroyd's (movie) home . We recap parts of the movie and Terry points out their furniture (!) and themselves walking down the street near the supermarket. After the viewing we hop into Dougs convertible, Terry drives and commentates as we cruise the neighbourhood parking outside at stately homes used in the movie. We even take in driving routes used in the movie and go to the location of the supermarket (which is not today and the place where the period - painted Coke wall ad appeared, since painted over. A shame, the movie 'ad' looked so much cooler!) Terry is into architecture in a big way and is a fantastic tour guide pointing out some of really ' nice' great buildings in the area. Again, because we are having so much fun, time flies and Doug drops us back at our hotel so we can pick up our rental Kia Sportage so we can head to Augusta. This is our one and only rental car/ freeway experience in the States. We have a GPS, a tank of gas and unlimited miles! The speed limit is 70 MPH. We set our 'cruise control' to 75 MPH and sit in the right hand lane with the trucks. Everyone passes us like we are standing still. Some must be doing well over 100 MPH! Our 2 Litre Kia performs effortlessly. They are US\$22,990 new! So why are we heading to Augusta? My 21-year old son is into golf in a big way and he bought on-line, a ticket to the first practice day at the US (Golf) Masters in Augusta. He also works at the golf shop at Omanu Golf club in The Mount - so he works and lives golf! Many people told him it'd be near impossible to secure a ticket but we did! And we got accomodation for two nights too!

cadillacclubofnz.org June 2016

5



Above Terry and Clarke's 1950s beauty on a lovely Atlanta spring day!



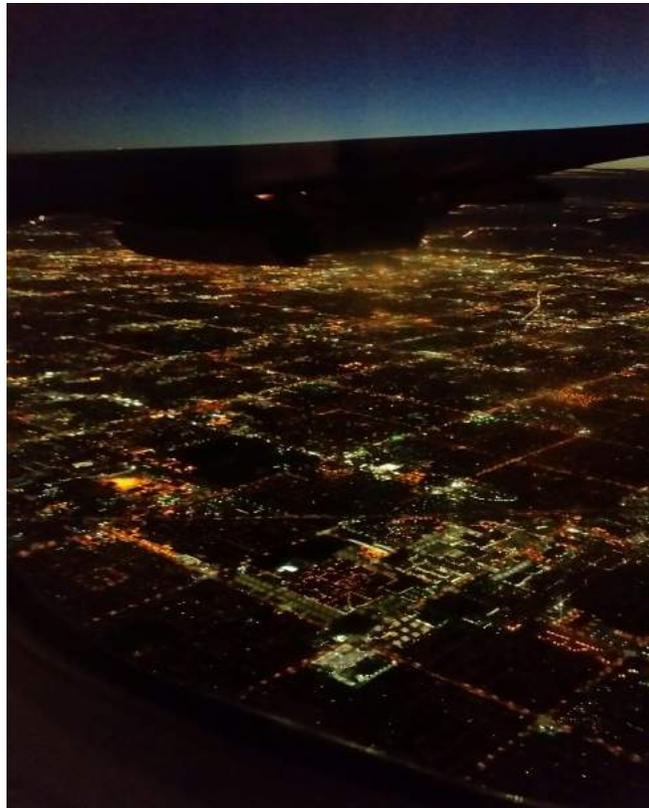
Above Terry our Tour Guide and at left one of the local homes used in the movie





CADDY KIWIS ACROSS AMERICA

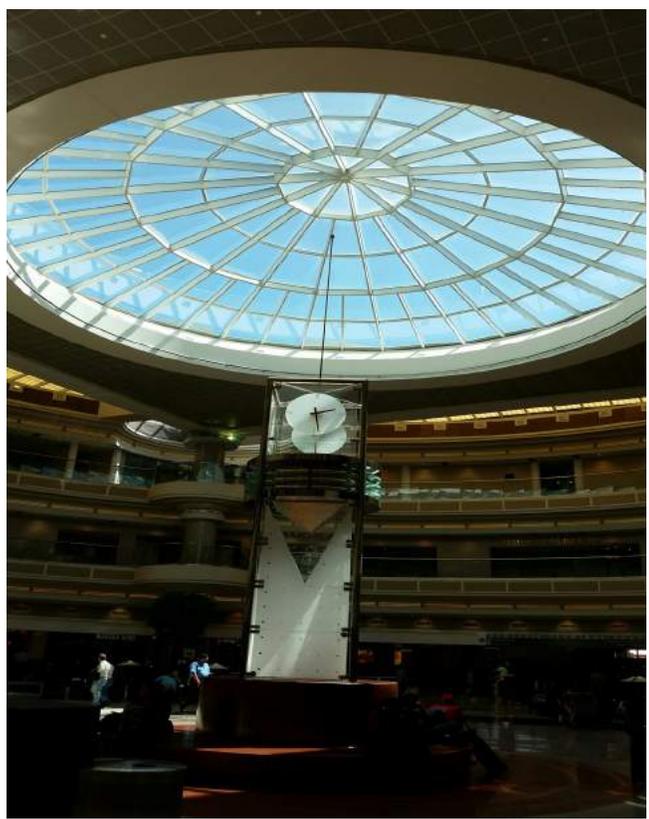
Photo spread



From Left:
6am arrival in LA
At Right
Ridge & Doug
Lower right
Mark's Gold '69



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From Left
Atlanta airport
At Right
Atlanta at night
Lower right
US Masters just
one of many
stunning shots in
Augusta



AUSTRALIA - A great day was held recently in Victoria when the CLC Victoria held a club event with a focus on LaSalles. We have 12 members in Victoria owning LaSalles and yesterday 7 attended with 5 LaSalles. A special thanks to Steen Edmonds who trailered a 37 from Kilmore and to all who attended.

Remember "Cadillac Engineering makes LaSalle Supreme"

John Byrden

Editor Sallee Speaks

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Australia

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Sent in by Paul Dixon

Subject: Fw: Fwd: FW: Mad Max Fury Road

Mad Max Fury road Cars, Trucks and the Valiant Charger Tank, no wonder it cost 150 million to make, over 140 cars custom made.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9L67BiENZys>

and the builder

<http://www.streetmachine.com.au/features/1604/mark-natoli-metal-maestro-on-mad-max-fury-road/>

and Paul also sent in this YouTube link of the CLC 5 Day Rally in Wangaratta. It is a highly polished video and one of the best I have seen -Ed. Scott Emersson needs saluting!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOHRcbAGocY>

IRELAND - Hi Ron! Good read as always. Nick Stratta

UK - Ron once again, great issue, I read the original spoof on those Wartime Cadillacs. By the way my cars are on my Facebook site. Just managed to find correct Lenses (rear, Amber and Red) for EU type lights for my flower car, Regards Peter Griffiths

EUROPE - Evening Ron

Wow, this is the issue with the strongest story i ever read , the lost 41's

Lars Kneller never told me about Dirk van Dorst

USA - Ron, I was so pleased to see you ran Tom Taylor's great April Fool's article! It has to be one of the best April Fool's pieces I have ever read. Would you believe I actually received calls from several people wanting to be the next three members to join the Indiana Region? If it had only been true...

Lars Kneller [Good one Lars! - Ed]

From Kiwi Lou in USA

Subject: WHITE SPORT COATS & PINK CARNATIONS

After you watch the first video, you have the opportunity to view two additional ones. It is a good way to waste about half an hour. Worth watching again. Talk about going down memory lane! This is such a great video.... So, enjoy it. For those of you who experienced the iconic 1950's, a decade that will never be repeated....

The cars are fantastic. The music was so wonderful, romantic, nostalgic, magical.... We were rich and did not know it! We were innocent and thought we were experienced. We were very fortunate to have lived in such an era. Enjoy the past as revealed here. Who knows what the future will bring?

P.S. The secrets out! They actually show where the gas filler is on a 56 Chevy!

<http://biggeekdad.com/2013/01/the-best-of-times/>

Ron, good evening? Just got back from our regional membership meeting, I wore my NZ shirt. They were so jealous, thanks again. All the best. DAVE1 [I presented Dave Ritchie (Pres. CLC) with one of our CLC NZ shirts on behalf of the NZ club, before the Awards no less! - Ed]



USA - Hey, Ron! Well that is wonderful news (re the Award). Glad we could play a small role in making your visit memorable. We had every bit as much fun as you did! (Except perhaps the visit to the Masters! I trust that went well...)

We look forward to seeing the write-ups in FINZ... please tell your boys that we all said "Hey!"

Doug Bailey, Director Peach Region, Atlanta

Dear Ron, It was delightful to be able to show you, Steve, and Ridge a small bit of the Los Angeles area. I'm only sorry we didn't have more time. I'm very glad you enjoyed your visit, and that you all made it home safely. Please let me know if you're ever in town again.

Sincerely,

Craig Chally - Director, Los Angeles Region



At Chattanooga car show we saw cool Packard with Cadillac engine!



International Newsletter Awards 2015



IT WAS a real honour to receive the 'International Newsletter Excellence Award' 2015 on behalf of our New Zealand club. Even better, I was at the 2016 Las Vegas Grand Nationals to be presented with the Award by Pres. Dave Ritchie.

The Award applies to CLC Affiliates and is separate from the CLC Newsletter Award that has been in existence for many years awarded annually to one of the US Regions. The New Zealand club has over the past several years (under my 'watch as Editor') been very lucky to receive (at top) *The Maurice Hendry Award*, (left) *The Yann Saunders International Activity Award*, (middle) *Bussleton International Guest Ward* (and at right), *The International Newsletter Award*. That's not bad from a little country, 'way down under' with approx. 100 members but known world-wide amongst our global CLC family - Ed.

AWARD -

Dear Ron, Great reward for a great work, you deserve it!

SIGRID HOFMANN - Cadillac LaSalle Club Inc. Assistant Director of Western European Affiliates
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64521 Gross-Gerau
GERMANY

Good morning Europe - The best international magazine award 2016 went to NZ, FINZ, from Ron Melville. It was the first time Ron visited a Grand National. Winning a personal award in Las Vegas is a lifetime remembrance, and it is a well deserved recognition for Ron's work.

Kind regards, Dirk - France

Greetings Ron,

Congratulations on your latest award for FINZ Magazine. It was great to see you in Las Vegas. I hope you, your son and Steve thoroughly enjoyed the whole trip.

I had a lot of fun going to Wangaratta this year and I thought you might like to see my story on it [Read Ron's great article elsewhere with a selection of pics].

Happy Cadillac'ing!

RON ZAHN

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USA - For many issues I have enjoyed the writings of CLC Texas Region member, Richard Dormois' stories that appeared in the NTXCLC newsletters, "The Standard Of The World" under the title ' That's my story and I am stickin to it!'

Richard writes a fascinating account of his younger years which invariably stars Cadillacs in his past! Here is the first read. Thanks also to Bill Levy, Editor (whom I met in Las Vegas (Hi Bill) who has made Richard's writings possible for global sharing - Ed.

That's My Story And I'm Stickin' To It

PART 1

Story and photo by Richard Dormois

My grandfather, John Tabler Dormois, lived in Kansas for a hundred years and never owned or drove a motor vehicle. He regarded his Belgian draft horse more dependable on his United States Postal Service rural mail route. My dad, Richard Clinton Dormois, never owned or drove a motor vehicle until he was thirty-five years old when he got tired of hitchhiking to work during an extended Saint Louis bus strike. One morning, he just got up early, upsetting the household, and announced he was going downtown to buy a "machine". Mother emotionally reminded him he didn't know how to drive a machine. He said "They have them now you don't have to shift and I can learn to drive one." Daddy drove home that night in the most beautiful slate gray 1947 Cadillac sixty two series Club Coupe I have ever seen to this day. It really didn't need it, but the factory dual spot lamps really set it off. He had purchased it from a Pierce Arrow collector in Saint Louis and his hired man taught daddy how to drive it.

My father was somewhat reluctant to teach my mother to drive and she became impatient and chose to teach herself to drive when daddy was asleep....After all...She had driven the tractor down on the farm in the Ozarks when she was ten! Mother backed the Cadillac out of the driveway with a little more acceleration than intended and into the fire plug on the corner of Cutter and Plateau and sent "Old Faithful" higher than the Mueller's three story Victorian across the street, which summoned emergency vehicles from far and wide. I don't know if mother was more embarrassed at hitting the fire plug or daddy running out of the house clad only in his white boxers. Over the years daddy got many compliments on such a beautiful car and he would always answer. "Yea.....But it costs five dollars to fill the blame thing up." From there on, it was a succession of low mileage Cadillac motorcars and to my knowledge, my father has never been behind the wheel of another marque! With such exposure in my formative years, it is no surprise that I should seek a "machine" such as "The Standard of the American Road" as I approached an age when I might convince my parents I needed a driver's license. As I hitch-hiked to work each day at the Saint Louis Municipal Airport, I passed Woodson Motors in Overland, Missouri, a thriving Saint Louis suburb. A two tone green 1941 Cadillac, Sixty Two series, four door sedan, languished on the back lot behind the clapboard office, almost in the trees. It was actually out of site of those passing on Saint Charles Rock Road, the main road connecting that end of the county with Saint Louis proper. I became enamored at first site and seized the first opportunity to visit the office and inquire about the Cadillac though I was just fifteen. The salesman said it ran well, the glass and body were good, it had a clear title and they would take a hundred and fifty dollars for it. It had been there for awhile, but several had looked at it. I decided that green Cadillac would be my first car and, like daddy, I would find someone to teach me to drive it. It was a V8 car with a three speed stick on the column and the salesman let me sit in it and go through the gears making revving RPM sounds with my throat. I never started it. I worked full time and went to school full time when I was fifteen and pretty much sustained life at ninety five cents an hour as a flight caterer, so I had a decent savings account. Without mentioning anything to my parents, I drew out a hundred and fifty dollars and carried that hundred and that fifty around with me in case I had to do something drastic to prevent "my" Cadillac from being sold to someone else.... You see....My father had never said anything about my getting a driver's license, let alone buy a car. I could be seen frequently going through the gears revving that V8 that wasn't running. The salesman told me once. "You can wash it up if you want to." I declined and he laughed. I didn't want "my" Cadillac looking too spiffy to any-one else. By that time daddy had taught mother to drive and she had a 1949 dove gray sixty two series Cadillac four door sedan with a Hydra-matic Transmission. I took my driver's test in that Cadillac the morning of June 21, 1954, my sixteenth natal day with my mother in the car. I passed with a ninety percent as I got up to twenty-six in a twenty-five going down a steep hill in a residential district. The examiner told my mother I was a good driver but I had a heavy foot. I don't know how I did it, but I talked mother into going over to Woodson Motors to look at that 1941 Cadillac sixty two four door sedan. My salesman came through like a champ, but did not sell my mother on that car. He sold her on what a fine job she had done raising me. He said her son made good grades in school, went to church, hitchhiked to work every day and really needed a car so he could get home earlier and get more sleep. Mother asked him how much he wanted for the car and he said it had been more, but he wanted me to have it for a hundred and fifty dollars.... (continued next page)

This article is a series of stories penned by Richard Dormois and appeared monthly in the North Texas Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club's award-winning newsletter, "The Standard Of The World." Permission is granted for reprinting and should include the attribute above.

Thanks to Editor, Bill Levy for sharing this great series and to author Richard Dormois for penning them! Ed

That's My Story And I'm Stickin' To It

Story and photo by Richard Dormois

She grinned and said "I don't think Dick has that kind of money." I clearly recall the look on her face when I took my hundred and fifty out of my pocket and handed it to her. She looked at it and handed it to the salesman. At no time did we ever give any thought to how much trouble we would be in with daddy. We got in the car with the salesman and took a short drive down Saint Charles Rock Road. I shifted into second just like I had practiced and turned around at the first median opening and went back to the lot. We went to A & W and celebrated with a root beer float. I bought...Mother had only limited knowledge of rolling stock but she thought the white cord showing through on all four tires might not be a good thing. She bought me four used sixteen inch Goodyear Double Eagles and tubes for my birthday, I think from Al's Garage. I went straightway to the Hudson Oil Company Station on Saint Charles Rock Road and filled up with regular at 10.9¢. I know some of you have trouble with that, BUT if you know anyone who was around Saint Louis, Missouri in June of 1954, they will remember that crazy gas war that lasted over a month. On payday, I would fill up with Super Shell ethyl at 19.9¢. Sure ran better on the Super Shell. Only one legal driving day under my belt, I got stopped for speeding on Charlack by "Red" the sergeant on the Overland Police Department. "I'm not going to give you a ticket but you have to hold it down. Brownie told us to watch out for you in that old Cadillac" ...I caddied for our Overland Chief of Police, Browne Hargrove, on the weekends. I was more concerned about my father finding out than anything. Official discipline paled into insignificance compared to what my father might do...Red never told my dad who he had coffee with about every night around midnight. Growing up we were not an affluent family by any means, but we were a three Cadillac family. Daddy worked swing shift in the composing room at the Saint Louis Globe Democrat and got off at 11:00 PM and then put in eight hours at his machine shop, Acme Machined Products in Overland, Missouri. Mother worked in the cafeteria at my school. I worked for Schneithorst Catering service full time as a flight caterer at Saint Louis Municipal Airport and caddied on weekends.

That Cadillac could get off the line smartly and carry on with the best of them winding out in second which I just left it in....Then came 1955 and I was seeing a lot of Chevy tail lights and my reaction time wasn't as good as it was on the back lot at Woodson Motors.

I think we all had an event or circumstance with our first car the memory of which will simply never go away. One night as we finished our swing shift at the airport servicing such carriers like TWA, Eastern, Braniff, American and Ozark Airlines, my buddy Gale Wilfong, suggested we head out to Flat River, MO where there were some girls who might like to meet us. I had the biggest car, so six of us took the '41 Cadillac and headed south. Just north of Flat River she gave up her head gasket. Everybody in the car knew what it was right off. Made it to Flat River where Gale Wilfong's uncle had an auto repair shop. It is midnight and we are pretty far from where we needed to be at three p.m. the next day. We took the car to the shop and got a ride over to the "Country Kitchen" open all night. Sure enough, there were several nice ladies there, I remember being a little older than we sixteen and seventeen year old high testosterone youth....This was in 1954 mind you, and we had not heard of this boy on the juke box, but the first six songs on that Se-aburg selector in each booth, were by the same singer and they played six for a quarter. Mystery Train....Milk Cow Blues Boogie....Laudy Laudy Laudy Miss Claudy....Good Rockin' Tonight....Blue Moon of Kentucky.....That's All-right (Mama)....I don't think any of us could tell you what else was on that juke box that night, but six of us with a lotta quarters probably will never forget every word of every one of those ELVIS PRESLEY songs.....All night long....I have enjoyed seeing that



boy in Las Vegas, Nevada and South Lake Tahoe, Nevada in the flesh, but nothing will replace that night in Flat River, Missouri when my 1941 Cadillac took us there....Barely....Gale's uncle's shop pushed a 1940 Brown Nash aside and jumped on my Cadillac and with not much sleep, we all made it back to the airport to service our flights with no delays. That was just sixty one years ago and I wonder what ever happened to my first car.

Stay tuned. This is the first of a six part series on how these wonderful Cadillac motorcars have taken our family on some great trips all over North America...."THAT'S MY STORY AND I'M STICKIN' TO IT" Be safe.

This article is a series of stories penned by Richard Dormois and appeared monthly in the North Texas Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club's award-winning newsletter, "The Standard Of The World." Permission is granted for reprinting and should include the attribute above.

Thanks to Editor, Bill Levy for sharing this great series and to author Richard Dormois for penning them! Ed

MAURICE HENDRY INSPIRED HIM!

Hi Ron ,

What a pleasure meeting you at the Grand Nationals in Las Vegas.

Let Maurice know I am very grateful to him for his account of the 1924 Cadillac service across the Middle East.

It inspired me to buy a beautiful V63 7 passenger touring. That led me to search for, and finally come across and purchase this closed garage mate to the '24. The very model Maurice Hendry gives proper praise to in their Middle Eastern service.

Hmmmm, let me see if I have any pics of it. - Carl Fielding [Thanks Carl. It was great meeting and speaking with you about your amazing Cadillac. Thank goodness for those of us amongst us that are inspirational! - Ed]



cadillacclubofnz.org June 2016

11

Carl drove his '24 across the country. What a view from the drivers wheel! Not a 'trailer queen' it WAS driven! Photos taken could have easily been 'period shots' - look at that scenery! Note the luggage on the back and the 'tow-ropes/ gas can' on the side boards! Ed



Carls other 'stable-mate' this sharp looking 1927



What a beauty Carl. You lucky man! Ed



Travels to Wangaratta 2016 by Ron Zahn, International Affiliates VP

Prior to the start of our Australian adventure, my friend Stephen Page, from Minnesota, arrived in Eugene on Saturday, February 20th. Arriving a week early allowed us to take a whirlwind tour of Oregon including visits to a dozen covered bridges, a trip to the coast, and an exploration of Mary's Peak near Corvallis. I had to work Tuesday through Friday before our departure, but Stephen continued with a self-guided tour of the local area.

After a pleasant overnight stay, on Saturday morning we took the hotel's shuttle to the Portland airport, and flew to Honolulu, arriving at about 2:30pm. We walked on Waikiki beach, window shopped, and then had a cocktail with appetizer before we went to dinner at Wolfgang Puck's. Sunday morning we departed Honolulu, arriving in Melbourne, Australia Monday evening the 29th, losing a day after crossing the international date line.

Tuesday we were up and packed before noon, and went to pick up our rental car, a Toyota Atara S Hybrid, which was a large sedan built in Australia. Driving on the left side of the road with the steering wheel on the right took a lot of focus at first, but got easier as the miles went by. Pushing the car's start button, and waiting for it's computer to boot up was a very odd sensation, as there was no sound while doing so.

We headed out to explore the Southern Ocean coastline of Victoria, stopped for a nice lunch in Geelong, and purchased some needed supplies like an ice chest, beverages and sunscreen. As we continued south on the Great Ocean Road, we saw lots of scorched and blackened vegetation from the tremendous forest fires from several months before. We learned that 70 homes were lost to the fire, yet the continual effort by the fire-fighting helicopters kept several small towns safe. Our last stop of the day was at a wonderful Greek restaurant called 'Chris's,' high above the coastline near Apollo Bay. A very full day ended over a fine meal of fresh fish and duck confit, with a stunning view of the coast below.

The next morning we headed out for our first stop at the Maits' Rainforest Trail. We took an hour-long hike through a forest of eucalyptus and giant tree ferns, and were amazed by the initial quiet, followed by the sounds of the birds and other wildlife.

As we proceeded along the coast, we stopped numerous times for photo opportunities. It was nearly 2pm by the time we arrived at the Timboon Railway Shed Distillery. While there, we had a light snack and tasted their limoncello and whisky made from barley. After buying bottles of both, we had a great time touring the Apostle Whey Cheese Factory and Gorge Chocolate Co. sampling their products. I wish I could have brought home some of the delicious cheeses, but they were all of a soft variety requiring refrigeration. After we checked into our hotel, we set out to see the Twelve Apostles (although there are only 8 left) rock formations in the late afternoon sun.

We were both up the next day relatively early for our third day of exploring the Great Ocean Road. It's a very spectacular coast line, with wild rock formations, beautiful lighthouses, and unusual plant and animal life. We stopped at a native wildlife haven at Tower Hill, which is actually inside an old volcano. We saw many Emu, a huge koala bear, and many cool birds. Apparently, the kangaroos were all in the brush, sleeping. We ended our touring activities Thursday in the city of Portland! While in Portland, we toured the Powerhouse Motor & Car Museum, which was very interesting. The museum is owned and operated by the Portland Vintage Car Club, Inc. It's a unique collection of veteran, vintage and classic cars, motorbikes, stationary motors, tractors, tools and other automobilia. There was also a stunning, fully-restored Melbourne Cable Tram on display. Of course I liked the 1927 Cadillac best... it was the only Cadillac there.

On Friday, we drove back to the city of Melbourne. By this time, I was really starting to enjoy driving down under. It was challenging at times, but it became quite natural. The one exception was that it seemed like fifty percent of the time, when activating the turn signal, I would turn the wipers on instead due to a weird placement of the control stalk. The end result was a very clean windshield for the entire trip! It was very strange to have the gearshift and cup holder on the left, and the turn signal on the right.

The next morning we visited with my friend Irwin Sinclair for a tour of his shed (garage), and a ride in his 1939 Cadillac Sixty Special. He has made terrific progress on the restoration of his 1938 Cadillac V-16 convertible since I saw it last two years ago, as he plans to have it finished within the next two years. We then traveled to Philip Island, where we took a tour of a Koala Conservation Centre. That evening, we went to see the amazing Penguin Parade, as they emerged from the Southern Ocean to return to their nests for the night.





Travels to Wangaratta 2016 by Ron Zahn, International Affiliates VP

Sunday we left the island, and drove to Charlie's Auto Museum at Arthurs Seat for a look at a most unusual auto collection. Charlie is a delightful 86 year old collector who has many oddities, including; 3 wheeled vehicles, Russian and other Eastern European cars, numerous motorcycles, 2 Bricklins from Canada, a first generation Subaru, several Studebakers, and some older Holdens.

We arrived at the Downtowner Hotel on Lygon Street in Melbourne around 4pm, and checked in for 3 nights. Hooray, we don't have to pack and move everyday for a change! Lygon Street is the center of the local Italian neighborhood. After unpacking and some relaxation, we walked in search of a good place for dinner. We found the Lygon Charcoal Grill and Steakhouse restaurant which had kangaroo on the menu, and Maker's Mark bourbon on the shelf....both of which were excellent! This was a very nice way to end a week of constant traveling.

On Monday we purchased (2) two-day passes for the double decker Hop-on/Hop-off city tour bus, and rode the entire Melbourne/St Kilda beach area loops. This was an ideal way to see the many striking architectural wonders of this beautiful city. It's amazing how this city is such an intriguing blend of formal older historical structures, mixed with the creative and modern avant guard buildings.

Wednesday morning we left Melbourne early, arriving in Wangaratta just after noon. We registered for the CLC Kelly Country Cruise 2016, and checked in to our hotel for 5 nights. The Aussie National Meet kicked-off that evening with a Welcome BBQ at the Wangaratta Turf Club. Courtesy buses took us to the horse raceway just outside of town, and it was very enjoyable to see old friends while meeting some new ones as our Cadillac family gathered together.

At 8:45am on Thursday morning, we attended a brief driver's meeting, and began the day's touring just after 9am. Stephen rode in the Emmerson twins' 1912 Cadillac model 30 Torpedo, while I followed the group with our rental car. We went to the town of Benalla, where we were met with a police escort that blocked all of the roundabouts and intersections in town for an estimated 70 Cadillacs and LaSalles that paraded through. We proceeded to the Benalla Gardens, where we had morning tea, sandwiches, and desserts, provided by the local Lions Club. Our next stop was at the Benalla Aviation Museum and airport. After seeing their hanger and indoor collections, we went outside where the attendants started two stationary aircraft engines. One of the featured engines was a 27-litre V-12 Rolls Royce Merlin, that guzzles one liter of aviation fuel every 20 seconds while producing 450 horsepower and a deafening roar from its straight exhaust pipes.

Next on Thursday's tour, was an 84km/52mi drive to the Brown Brothers Winery near Milawa, where boxed lunches were served from a vintage 1850's wine-makers shed. That evening we had a buffet dinner at the Town and Country Tavern in Wangaratta, concluding a very fun day with lots of laughter. Scott Emmerson joined us at our table after dinner, and told stories about his grandfather and Ken Moss's adventures in the early days. I encouraged him to write or record these stories, so that they wouldn't be forgotten with the passage of time.

On Friday we cruised to the historic town of Beechworth, 38km/24mi from Wangaratta. Stephen followed with our rental car, while I rode along with Andrew Rees in his 1930 Cadillac series 353 convertible coupe. This town is known for it's Gaol (jail) and courthouse, where the infamous outlaw Ned Kelly was held and then tried for his crimes. That evening we went back to the Wangaratta Turf Club for dinner, featuring a very loud and colorful Caribbean Party.

On Saturday morning I rode along with Craig Emmerson in the 1912 Cadillac for the 50km/31mi ride to 'Hinchy's The Stockyard' to view a horse show near Yarrawonga. The event started with Aussie singer Maidie Dawson singing the Australian National Anthem, followed by other local country songs. The show featured many activities, including; horse riding maneuvers, sheep herding with horses and dogs, techniques for training sheep herding dogs, lessons on the use of cracking whips, and an appearance by Perkins, the kissing horse. After the show, I rode with Scott Emmerson in his grandfather's freshly restored 1923 Cadillac V-63 Tourer for a 50km ride to Springhurst for our lunch stop. We then proceeded another 9km to the Baker Seed Company for a tour of their seed processing plant and storage facilities.

Sunday morning was a relief, as we got some much needed rest and relaxation, having slept in until 7am. But soon it was time to head off to Apex Park for the Cadillac LaSalle Club's Show. Joining the CLC on the show field was the Early Holden Car Club, hosting a GM Day. The CLC had 207 participants bringing 79 Cadillacs and 7 LaSalles, while the Holden group had twice that number of cars. I was very impressed with the CLCs pre-war entries, which included; Cadillacs from 1908, 1912, 1923, 1927, 1930, 1936, 1938, and 1939, with LaSalles from 1929, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, and 1940 on the show field.





Travels to Wangaratta 2016 by Ron Zahn, International Affiliates VP



The Wangaratta emergency SES services set up a “jaws of life” demonstration, but no worries mate, they cut the doors and roof off of a Ford, so no Cadillacs were hurt in the process. The weather in Victoria was extremely hot and humid all week. According to the locals, it was very unusual to have such high temperatures for that time of the year. Stephen and I left the show field around 12:30pm, eager to find a place of air-conditioned comfort to rest and prepare for the evening’s ‘Gala, Glitz and Glamour Presentation Dinner’ event set for 6pm.

The awards presentation banquet was a very nice affair that started with an open bar, followed by an official welcome address, some brief entertainment, and the dinner entrée. Next was another segment of entertainment, followed by the awarding of nearly half of the trophies, and then the main course of the dinner. After our meal, there was some additional entertainment, and a final presentation of the remaining trophies. For all of the awards presented, there were photos of the winning cars projected around the banquet room, so that everyone knew exactly which car was being recognized. Desserts were served, a raffled quilt was presented, and South Australia made a presentation about the 2018 Nationals to be held in Renmark, SA. After some closing remarks were made, the entertainment started again and we left before Elvis finished his set.

On Monday morning, we went to the CLC Farewell BBQ Brekkie at around 7:30 am. This particular Aussie event is always hard to leave, since no one wants to say good bye. This was a fun time to recap the week’s events, yet all too soon it was time to load the car and leave the hotel. After breakfast, Bob Hoffman from California joined Stephen and I for a tour of Stephen’s Motor Museum in nearby Chiltern. This was an amazing collection of all kinds of machinery, including; stationary engines, antique signs, hand-operated petrol pumps, pre-1920 garage memorabilia, a large old tow truck, and a 1946 Packard that was in beautiful condition. We then drove approximately 200km/124mi to visit the Holden Museum in the historic town of Echuca, before heading back to the Melbourne airport.

Tuesday, March 15th would prove to be very, very long day. Stephen and I returned the rental car, and flew to Sydney where we stored our bags and took a train into downtown. At Sydney’s Circular Quay, we bought tickets for a two-hour sightseeing tour of the harbour. It had been raining before we got there, but stopped and cleared during our cruise. We enjoyed a Shepard’s Pie for lunch, and enjoyed the view and walk along the waterfront. After a busy day of sightseeing, we went back to the airport for a 9:20pm flight to Hawaii, arriving there the same day but at 10am.... strange! At 2pm we left Hawaii, and arrived back in Portland, Oregon at 10:20pm. I lost count of how many hours I was awake, but I saw two sunrises and sunsets, and it was still the same day as when we left Melbourne! - End -

[Thanks Ron, you always pen a great read. Ed]





Grab your diaries!

>>>ADVANCE NOTICE - CADILLAC NATIONALS 2016 - " THE SWEET MEET "

**This will be held on the weekend of 14, 15 and 16 October 2016 at Whangarei
Great venue, great sights and great tours. We will keep you informed as more
details are available. SEE YOU THERE - N N (Northland Nutters!)**

P S: Pencil it in your diary now!

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SPECIAL ANOUCEMENT

**Confirmed, we will be visiting the Packard Museum, holding 52 Packards, reputedly
the world's largest private collection of these cars, where you will also see 63 vintage
motorcycles, steam engines, stationary engines, earthmovers, military equipment and
heaps of domestic items. We are working on more visits and exciting things to do, so we
will keep you informed as we finalise things. SEE YOU THERE - NN**



TARANAKI - Saturday morning 30th May, 7 Cadillacs and 16 people met on the outskirts of New Plymouth for an overnight cruise to Horopito to visit the car wreckers Smash Palace. The weather was fine and first stop was Piopio for morning tea. Some pulled out their picnic baskets, others went to the Fat Pidgeon Café. A leisure cruise for a lunch stop at Taumarunui was enjoyed by all with nice country side and beautiful autumn colours everywhere, a nice day for convertibles.

Arrived Smash Palace about 1.30pm. This place is full of treasures, a great place for the woman to do their knitting while the men browse, explore and dream.

On to Ohakune for the night staying at an excellent hotel with a communal lounge and kitchen. An excellent meal was had at the Powderhorn Pub that evening and then a short walk home to our accommodation. After some going for a walk then a group breakfast; with men doing the dishes, we headed off down the Paraparas to Wanganui with scenic stops along the way. Lunch was had at a lovely garden centre which was an enjoyable experience, and for some of us who will shortly be needing plants, found interesting.

The Bason Botanical gardens just north of Wanganui were the best we have seen. Better still no walking if you don't want – you can drive all around the 25 hectares of landscaped country side on pleasant roads. A big lawn area was where we parked up for a while for a chat. My sort of garden.

Visited Kai iwi beach for the first time for some of us, then some back roads, the real men took the dusty road, then an ice cream stop at Hawera then home. A very enjoyable drive and weekend, thanks to Brian and Marie and all others for their company.

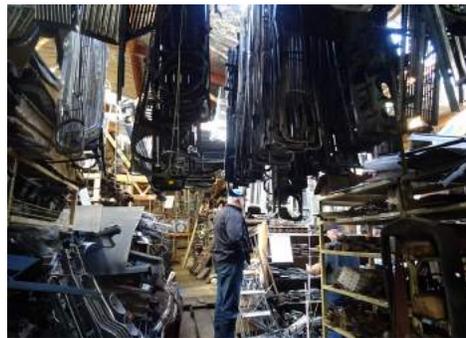
Wayne McCurdy.

MORE TARANAKI

Taranaki 29th May outing - We will be heading south to bushy park with nice leisurely drive. Meet at 10am from the yard. We will drive to Stratford and meet with up Neville & Linda by Rural Fuel so some of us can fuel up as well. Then onto Hawera and carry on down to bushy park. Bring a picnic lunch to have in the garden and some good shoes to go on one of the tracks around the property. We will also call into a walnut farm and to look at a small shed of models and stuff on the way home. Yes we will have time for a coffee or an ice-cream stop as well.

Thanks Brian.

POSTPONED
Speak with Brian

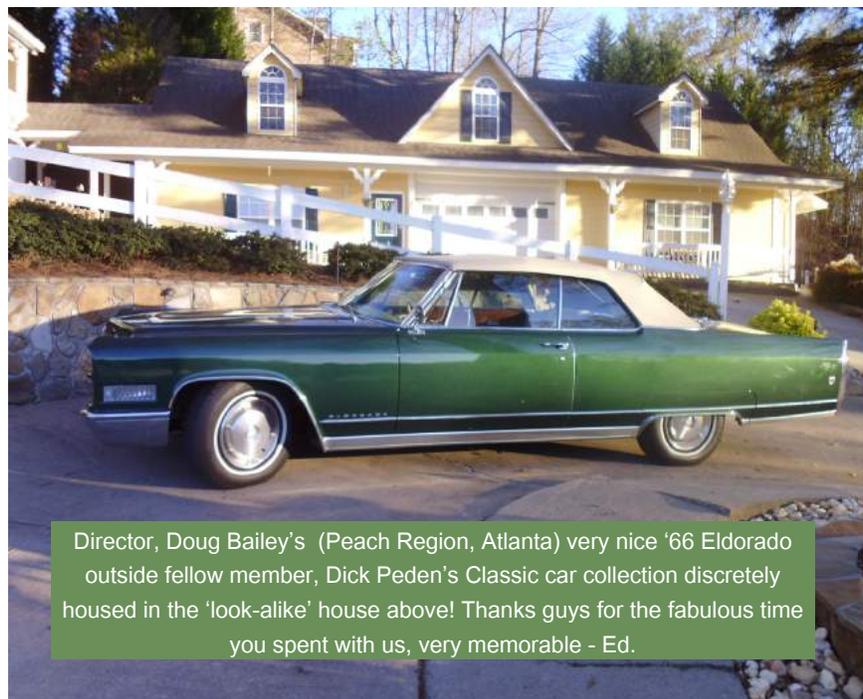


GREAT turn-out for Taranaki's 'Horopito Weekend Adventure!'

Home & abroad



LEFT - The LaSalle get together in Victoria, Australia. Thanks to Paul Dixon, Pres. CLC Victoria for helping make the meeting possible.
RIGHT and below LEFT & RIGHT: Just a few more of Ron Zahn's Aussie trip. Look at that Petrolina collection!



Director, Doug Bailey's (Peach Region, Atlanta) very nice '66 Eldorado outside fellow member, Dick Peden's Classic car collection discretely housed in the 'look-alike' house above! Thanks guys for the fabulous time you spent with us, very memorable - Ed.

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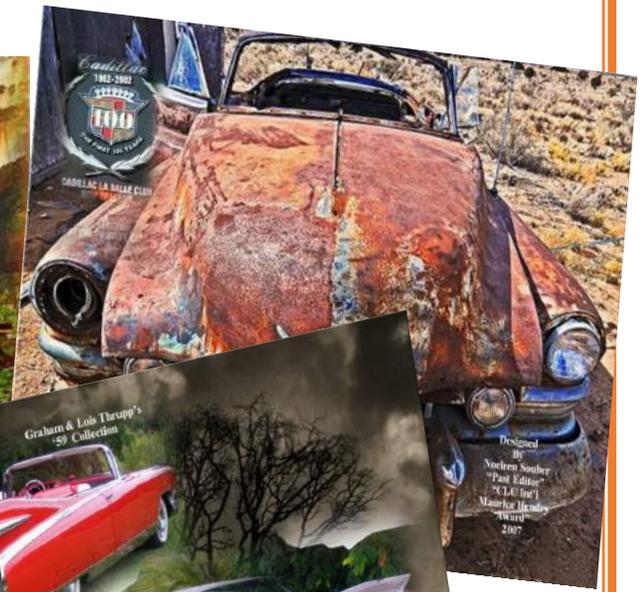
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I would like advertise my Caddy for sale. Unfortunately I'm having to finance a Kitchen Makeover at home – so sadly it's gotta go.
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Home & abroad



BAY of PLENTY - Special report in the form of a poem from 'Caddie Anne!'

It was off to Waihi and on to Whangamata
To gather with more than one variety of classic car

In our trio of red and white Cadillacs
The rain wasn't holding this staunch bunch back

Eight Bay of Plenty members, plus four eager extras

We who count ourselves as part of the regulars

Waihi on day one, the Coromandel day two
Graham had the duct tape out to stop a raindrop or two

Friday we enjoyed the slow cruise to Onamana

To park by the sea with a few hundred others

Saturdays Parade, a highlight of the Beach Hop

Saw the finest of cars from downtown to top

Down to Williamson Park for the early evening

The highlight was 'Eugene' – Pop Idol 2016
Then dinner and dancing and a walk up town

To watch all the cars cruising up and down

On Sunday the café's filled for one last time

The swap meet and stalls were out as the sun shined

At Williamson Park for one last round
Then twelve happy people were homeward bound

Caddie Anne – A poet, don't we know it!

Thanks Anne for the great poem and pics.
Your work gets better and better! - Ed

Another fine edition Ron. I like the April fools take. Have a great trip. Cheers Shane Iremonger, Whakatane



USA - Steve, Ron and Ridge,

Well, I hope you survived the Masters and maybe even lucked into some tickets for the final round. It was our pleasure to have you here for the Driving Miss Daisy recap; hope I didn't go on too long and bore you with all the details.

I suspect you're now in Las Vegas where there is a great car collection or two even if I can't remember the name of the hotel what has it. I keep returning to the photos of your Cadillacs and admiring them all, especially Black Betty and the Good Ole Dayz Calais Coupe. I'll attach a picture of the 1962 Fleetwood I never should've sold. Again, just wanted to say it was a pleasure to meet all of you and if any of your other members come up this way tell them to give us a ring.

Terry Bird

(other picture is me with Jay Friedman's 1949 Cadillac used as Boolie's car in Driving Miss Daisy)

TERRY and CLARKE - We were indeed very spoiled by all the tremendous hospitality we encountered wherever we went. Cadillac members are fantastic ambassadors! Ron, Ed.



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the fridge!



UPCOMING Events:

2016 -

May - 29th: Bushy Park run - Taranaki Region
POSTPONEDSpeak to Brian

October - 14th, 15th and 16th - NZ Cadillac Nats
Whangarei - "The Sweet Meet!"

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1st September

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Tail Lights



A great day was held in Victoria when the CLC Victoria held a club event with a focus on LaSalles. John Byrden ~ Editor 'Sallee Speaks'