



The Dagmar

www.rmrlc.com

April 2007

Gateway Tour Sure to be a Memorable Event! By Dirk Biermann

Final plans are shaping up for the Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club's trek to the western borders of the great state of Colorado over the June 8-10, 2007 weekend. To date over a dozen club members have expressed their interest in joining the caravan from Denver or meeting us in Gateway on Friday June 8. If you have not made your reservation, do so 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. Our itinerary from Denver starts out Friday morning June 8, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. when we will assemble on the north side of the Colorado Mills parking lot across from the Peabody's coffee shop and Chipotle Mexican restaurant for donuts and coffee. We will depart promptly at 9:00 a.m. and plan to stop in Glenwood Springs at the historic Hotel Colorado for lunch at about 11:30

Leaving Glenwood, we will head toward Grand Junction, and upon approaching Grand Mesa and entering Whitewater,

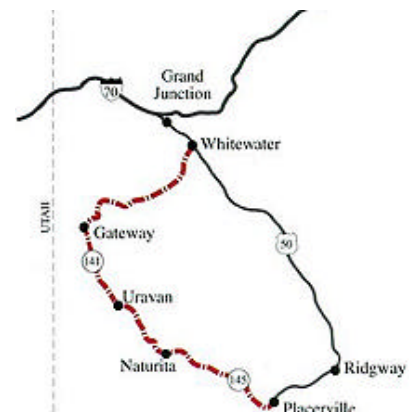
we will take the two-lane CO-141 towards Gateway. Here, the scenery changes as the road twists and turns through a small mountain range and then into a wide area that seems not quite a valley or a canyon. We'll stop at a roadside historical marker, which tells of the Grand Overlook and the Grand Mesa.

Highway 141 was originally a wagon road, and got a lot of use in World War II when uranium mining in the area experienced a boom. At that time, prospectors and miners and various government employees used the road as transportation to the uranium and vanadium mines in the Uravan (URanium/VANadium) area.

Shortly after the scenic pull-out, we'll enter Unaweep canyon. Unaweep's claim to fame is that the river that formed the canyon exits the canyon at both ends - there are two mouths to the canyon and the river flows out both ends. On our way to Gateway we will pass the Driggs mansion, a structure which was built by a wealthy New Yorker between 1914 and 1918. Local stone masons cut sandstone from nearby Mayflower canyon for the building's walls. Thimble

Rock rises to the south behind the Driggs mansion. We will arrive in Gateway late afternoon, check into our rooms and relax before dinner. On Saturday morning we will tour the Gateway auto museum and will plan a scenic tour of state highway 141 after lunch starting at about 2:00 p.m. The scenery south of Gateway slowly morphs from red buttes into brown sandstone hills and is absolutely beautiful with its red buttes, red and brown dirt, green tufts of vegetation, and the Dolores river at the bottom. Mine shafts and piles of tailings appear here and there in the hills as well. Our destination is the historic Hanging Flume, built during the 1880's to carry water used in mining operations.

(Continued on page 2)



Spring Has Sprung

The Director's Column By John Evans

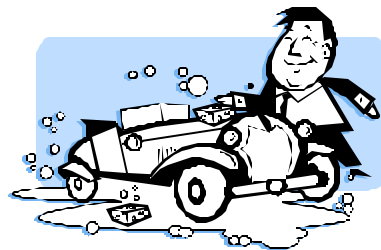


Fellow members, spring has sprung!, the St. Patrick's parade was spectacular, and the WWII Iwo Jima veterans have asked me to extend their deepest thanks to all our CLC folks that helped make this event a very memorable tribute. Iwo Jima veterans, Jack and Carole Thurman rode along with me in the blue 59 Sedan de Ville, to the many cheers and thanks from the huge crowds of parade goers. I found out later that Jack was in a photograph featuring a U.S. Marine platoon, snapped shortly after the taking of Mt. Suribachi, and shown in the closing credits of the movie *Flags of our Fathers*. If you have not seen this movie, I encourage you to do so.

As our beautiful Colorado days begin to warm, the time is right to blow the cobwebs out of those beautiful Cadillac

and La Salles and be thinking about finalizing the dates for Vintage Aero Flying museum trip, planning to attend the Abbey car show, and thinking about the Memorial Day parade and breakfast at Tim and Liz Coy's. Before you know it, the June Gateway tour will be on us as well. I hope to see a good showing at the April 10th meeting, as we've got a very big year ahead, and value your ideas and suggestions as we plan our course.

Special thanks to all our Club officers and coordinators for keeping our ship sailing in the right direction and to Leonard Johnson for once again donating his valuable time and effort during the dreaded tax season.



Reminder—if you'd like to see these pictures in color, contact your editor for an email copy of the Dagmar.

(Continued from page 1)

The hanging flume was a project built around the end of the 19th century to bring water from the upper Dolores to a mine downstream. A flume was pinned to the sheer cliffs above the Dolores River, at times several hundred feet above the water. The flume was approximately 5' x 5', and could transport about 2.5 million gallons of water in 24 hours. It was considered an engineering marvel at the time it was built, and it's still pretty impressive today.



It didn't work out as planned. The mine wasn't rich enough to support the investment, and the entire venture went broke after just 2-3 years. Parts of the flume are still there, though time and the elements and local ranchers have taken out various sections of the flume. Enough remains to really impress onlookers, and is easily visible from the pull-out. Simply walk to the edge and look down.

(Continued from previous page)

If we are inclined we can continue on to Uravan, another scenic / historic point along the way. Uravan is a ghost town, but there's nothing really there now except an historic marker.

Uravan was once a thriving mining town, boasting of tennis courts and a swimming pool and a population of about 800 people. Publicly, they mined and milled vanadium during World War II, used in hardening steel. Secretly, uranium was also mined and processed here. The materials for the bombs exploded at Alamogordo, as well as the atomic bombs



dropped on Japan, came from Uravan. The entire site was contaminated with radiation. The buildings and facilities have been razed, the remains trucked away somewhere.

Saturday evening we will gather for cocktails and dinner at the Paradox Grille at the Gateway resort where entrees range from \$10.00 to \$30.00. Sunday morning plans are still up in the air -- if you have any thoughts or ideas, please give Dirk a call at 303-589-2175.

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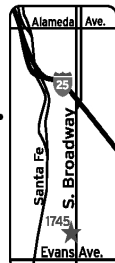
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**Parading on
St. Patrick's Day
By Paul Olson**

This year St. Patrick's Day came on Saturday and what a day it was. The weather couldn't have been better—lots of sun and high 70s. Weather ensured lots of people lining the route. The club was host to veterans of the battle at Iwo Jima during WWII. Five fine veterans were there to be chauffeured through the streets of Denver.

The RMRCLC turned out 6 beautiful Cadillacs and a very stunning La Salle for the event. John Evans with his big blue 59; Tom Orton with his very red 85 Eldorado, Paul & Janice Olson in their solid gold 66 Sedan DeVille hardtop; and John Cullinan with his fantastic yellow 38 La Salle complete with rumble seat. Janice and I have never seen this car before and it is a real knockout. Don Braden brought his very



nice grey 41 Sedan. Boy does it purr nicely. Harvey DeLockroy drove his very maroon 47 convertible. Last but not least was James Sears with a very nice 65 DeVille convertible. This is James' first club event. His car is a real charmer. Jim Salmi also came sans Cadillac. Will someone please help him find the car of his dreams? He rode along

with Janice and I, so we got to learn a bit more about him. He is really a nice guy so please, please someone help him fulfill his Cadillac Dream.

(More pictures on next page)





Tune Up Clinic *By John Washburn*

Saturday, May 19th
Elizabeth, Colorado

Folks, we have 5 RMRCLC members who would like some assistance in learning how to tune up their cars and doing some general repairs.

We had a practice run, using a 1940 Cadillac and a 1975 Cadillac, which went very well. So now the following folks will bring their cars on May 19th.

Don Braden will bring his 1941 Cadillac, 6019S Sedan. We will work with Don to adjust his shift linkage and show him how to tune up the car. 12:00 appointment.

Pat (The Sheriff) Perlinger will bring his 1949 Cadillac, 6269 Sedan. We will work with Pat to adjust the carburetor choke, check out the rear suspension, try to find the short in the dome light, and tune up the engine. 10:00 am appointment.

Paul Olson will bring his 1966 Cadillac, Sedan DeVille 68339. We will try to determine the problem with his carburetor and then tune up the engine. 12:00 noon appointment.

Dirk Bierman will bring his 1972 Cadillac, 68247 CAC. We will try to determine why it is hard to start, then tune up the engine, and adjust the headlights. 10:00 am appointment.

Leonard Johnson has not decided which car he will bring, but he has great expectations of testing our expertise.

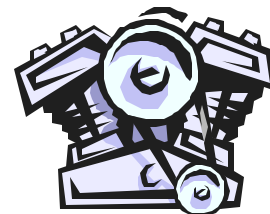
All members are welcome to join us to see how we perform the work, or to just enjoy the day and tell a few lies. Walt Brewer is planning to attend to keep us youngsters honest. The volunteers for this event, our experts, are Bill Woodman, Whit Otis, Blaise Flaherty, Brent Hladky, and this fat boy.

To get to the Washburn compound in Elizabeth, take I25 to Castle Rock. Take the Founders Parkway exit, state highway 86 (this is the exit to the discount stores). Go left at the light at the bottom of the exit ramp. Founders Parkway/ 86 will wind its way thru Castle Rock, thru a bunch of new home developments. When you reach another stop light watch for the sign to 86, you will have to turn left. There is a new King Soopers across the light on the left. Take 86 east to Elizabeth. At the Safeway/ Sonic store, turn right/south on Elizabeth St. Continue on Elizabeth St. past the Safeway

thru the first 4 way stop sign. Go past the big R store to the next set of stop signs. You can only go left, so do so. At the next 4 way stop sign, Pine Ridge, go right/south. This will put you on a dirt road. At the first dirt road Gold Creek, turn right. The next right is Meadow Lane, go right. First house on the left, 33347 Meadow Lane, is your destination.

If you want to take Parker road instead of I25, head south out on Parker road till you get to Franktown, go left on 86 and following the instructions as listed above.

If you get lost, call 303+646-6105....





**What To Do In
Durango:
August 23-August 26
By John Cullinan**

The Road to Ruins tour to Durango is only 5 months away. So now is the time to start getting your cars tour-ready. We have 16 rooms booked and only three still open. Call the Ramada Limited at 800-272-6232 and book one of the remaining rooms. These three rooms are smoking rooms. Since the hotel is a new one, the rooms may not have too much of a smoke smell. If you don't want a smoking room, you can also try booking at the Comfort Inn (800-532-7112) or the Best Western Mountain Shadows (800-521-5218). Both are close to the Ramada Lim-

ited. Another possibility is the Hampton Inn (800-247-6885). It is 7 blocks north of the Ramada.

We will be meeting near Conifer on the morning of the 23rd at a meeting place to be determined by Paul and Janice Olson. We will take 285 into South Park and on to Buena Vista, Salida and then the San Luis Valley. The Colorado Springs and Pueblo participants might meet us in Buena Vista or Salida. In subsequent editions of the Dagmar, I will go into the distinct history of each of the mountain regions we will travel through: South Park, Salida and Buena Vista, San Luis Valley, Wolf Creek Pass-Pagosa Springs, and Durango-Cortez area.

On Friday, the 24th, you will

have all day to partake of any of the activities listed below. Many of the participants will take the train (<http://www.durangotrain.com/>). I recommend taking the train up to Silverton and the bus back to Durango. An outside, covered gondola car near the rear of the train with a seat on the right side of car is the best for viewing the scenery and taking photos.

Later in the afternoon of the 24th some of us will go on a tour up the Animas Valley to a spot featured in the movie "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid", then on to the garage of a friend of Allen Logsdon.

(continued on page 10)

The Dagmar monthly news-
letter of the Rocky Mountain
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LaSalle Club**



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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. 44th 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 25th 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.

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

**Memoirs of A Denver
Automotive Character
Part 4 by David Leger**

I thought a quote from Ben Jordan's autobiography really gives you a feel for the character he was:

"Convinced that the World's Woes can be minimized by technical ethics and literacy and that they are spawned and aggravated by technical illiteracy throughout society. My adult life spare time has been spent, avocationally, pursuing a vendetta against the charlatans and crooks who take advantage of our illiterate society by advertising and selling Barnumesque gimmicks for automobiles that make preposterous claims of increased performance, efficiency, and economy. Though those who scam the public violate Federal statutes, our government agencies who are mandated and funded to enforce these laws and to punish violators



are totally ineffective — at times even aiding the criminals who literally steal millions of dollars every year from the motoring public. Our "watch dogs" are paper tigers with loud barks but no bite."

Ben was not someone you'd easily forget. All these years later I still recall the small time I got to spend with this man.

"Benjamin Smith Jordan
Born in Wadley, Georgia on
Jan. 3, 1916 Died on
Mar. 15, 2006

Ben died on the Ides of March, 2006, and will be remembered as a brilliant eccentric, and man of numerous accomplishments. "

As one land speed racer put it
"Godspeed Ben"

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"What To Do In Durango: August 23-August 26"
By John Cullinan

This man was the service manager for all the cars in the Nethercutt collection (www.nethercuttcollection.org) in Slymar, California. He has kindly offered not only a tour of his car collection but the use of his lifts during the tour, if any of us have to make any repairs or adjustments on our cars. From his garage we will go on to our group dinner and show at the Bar D Ranch.

On Saturday, we will drive out to Mesa Verde to view the Anasazi Ruins and have lunch at the Far View Lodge. Greg Kemp, has arranged a special tour for us, which I am sure we all will enjoy.

We will return to Durango with plenty of time for you to enjoy the 8th Annual RailFest. The Durango Railfest is an annual event that celebrates all that goes by rail. Durango is the ideal location to remember the heady days of railroading. After all, the Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad has been in continuous operation for over a century. What better place to remember railroading than a place that has never forgotten it? Rare and unique railroad equipment and cars are the stars at the Durango Railfest. The Denver and Rio Grande's Galloping Goose is one rail star not to be missed. An 1875 wood fired locomotive is another example of the equipment that appears at the Railfest. (see photo page 7) This locomotive makes special excursions on the D&SNGR. This an event for all to enjoy, especially rail fans.

Here is a short list of all there is to do in Durango. With so much to choose from, I wish our tour was a 7 day tour and not a 4 day tour.

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Things to Do during the Summer in Durango:

Go to this website to learn more about the activities. <http://www.durango.org/Activities/index.asp>

- Arts & Culture
- Bar D Chuckwagon
- Biking
- Custom Tours
- Diamond Circle Melodrama
- Durango & Silverton Narrow-Gauge Railroad
- Fishing
- Gaming Casinos
- Glider & Balloon Rides
- Golfing
- Guided Tours

- Hiking
- Historic Downtown Durango
- Hot Springs & Spas
- Horseback Riding
- Jeep Tours & Rentals
- Mesa Verde National Park & Archeological Attractions
- Museums
- Purgatory at Durango Mountain Resort Summer Activities
- Rock Climbing
- Rodeo
- San Juan National Forest
- Soaring
- Stagecoach Rides
- Tennis
- Vallecito Lake

We already have 16 rooms booked for our tour. I hope more of you join us. Those of you who have already booked a room, please contact me at juancull@aol.com or 303-738-3981. I want to have a complete list of participants as soon as possible.

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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)

Official List Of RMRCLC Sponsored Functions

Items discussed at the last club meeting listed below. Please see future issues for exact dates:

Vintage Aero Flying Museum-April or May
Denver Memorial Day Parade—May
Abbey Car Show-May
Gateway Museum trip-June 8 through 10
Georgetown 4th of July Parade
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

April 19, The Rocky Mtn Olds Club and the Pontiac Club are hosting a show and shine open to all Buicks - Cadillac - Olds and Pontiac on Sat May 19 at Sheplers at I-25 and Orchard. hours will be 10-2 www.rockymtnoldsclub.org

June 1-3, Good Guys 10th Colorado Nationals, Loveland, Colorado, Larimer County Fairgrounds
www.goodguys.com

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