

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



# The *Dagmar*

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

*April 2011*



## **DUST 'N' SHINE AT FORNEY MUSEUM ON SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

**Here's our next club activity:**

**PLACE:** Forney Museum of Transportation  
4303 Brighton Boulevard  
Denver, CO

**DATE:** April 9 (Saturday)

**TIME:** 9:30 AM until Noon (more or less)

We will help dust off cars, and will get to see some areas of the museum not open to the public. Forney will serve a small continental breakfast of rolls and coffee. Tom Orton is coordinating this event. Please let him know at [torton@mho.net](mailto:torton@mho.net) if you think you will attend, or if you have any questions



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

This is still a slow time for club events. We do have one event scheduled for April. On the 9th we will be meeting at the Forney Museum to dust its cars and carriages. If you have never been to the Forney Museum or if you have not been to Forney for a while, you need to participate in this event. I attended a dust and shine about a year ago. We started with coffee and donuts, then we were given instructions and handed dusters. When we had finished our "work" we were escorted through a part of the collection that the general public does not get to see. Please read Tom Orton's article for details and join us!

Now that we are officially into spring, have you started preparations to awaken your old Cadillac or LaSalle from its winter hibernation? We didn't have much snow this winter, so I hope Mother Nature doesn't decide to dump it all on us in April. This time last year in this column I complained about what seemed like a never ending winter. I'm not complaining about a lack of snow this winter, but more moisture would be nice here in town. I would prefer April showers to an April blizzard. Fortunately for me, it was a good snow year in the mountains. Skiing was very good and our reser-

voirs should fill up nicely for the summer.

Once it started to warm up, I started working on my Eldorado. I have successfully replaced the left front hub and bearing and the right upper ball joint. The former didn't happen easily. I thought that only the bearing need to be replaced, but as I was removing the hub from the steering knuckle the bearing and hub came out very easily and the spacers just fell out of the knuckle. There is a reason that these parts must be pressed in to perform correctly. This was a good clue that the hub was worn excessively. G & S Automotive, just north of Bowles on Lowell is where I took the knuckle and new bearing for pressing. They are the ones that gave me the bad news. Where does one find a hub for a '70 Eldorado? On the way home I had to drive past Arapahoe Salvage, so I went in to see if they had what I needed. They had one steering knuckle assembly from a '70 Eldorado, but it was for the right side. I needed the hub for the left side. I quickly realized that the hub itself is the same for both sides (duh!), so I purchase the assembly and headed back to G & S. They sand blasted the "new" hub to clean the rust off of it and proceeded to install the new bearing. Success at this point would have been too much to ask, however. The inner seal

was a few 1000th too small, so they ordered a different one, which was also too small. The 3rd time was the charm. When reassembling the front end of the car, I could not get the ball joint nut to tighten and I couldn't get the tie rod nut to even start threading on. Both sets of threads had been mashed by the tools I used to separate them. Back to G & S after removing the tie rod end, which I hadn't had to do to replace the hub. The man in the shop at G & S worked miracles and I was able to complete the installation. Carl and his team were extremely helpful and understanding of my amateur mechanic abilities. I recommend them for any machine shop work you need to have done. They'll even rebuild your motor, if you take it to them.

Replacing the upper ball joint worked the way these types of projects are supposed to, but rarely do. It went smoothly. The left upper ball joint had been replaced prior to me purchasing the car, but the one on the right was the original part. I borrowed a grinder from a neighbor and removed the rivets, starting out with great fear and trepidation, since I've never used a grinder. As the rivet heads started glowing red I could just imagine that I was welding the rivets into the control arm instead of releasing them. They didn't exactly fall right out, but it only took a couple of whacks with my big hammer and a punch to get the rivets to fall out. I completed the job in only a few hours, which is record time for me. Now that both sides have been worked on it is time to get the car aligned and hit the road. Pity gas is pushing \$4/gallon.

# SUMMER DRIVING TOUR: RAILROADS AND RANCLANDS

August 18-21, 2011

**Only 9 Rooms Left. Ask for the Special Cadillac Club Rate.**

**Book Today:** Comfort Inn, Laramie, night of August 18th. 307-721-8856

Saratoga Resort and Spa August 19-21. 800-594-0178

## Planned Stops In Cheyenne

Clydesdale Barn at Budweiser Brewery  
Union Pacific Steam Engine Shop and Turn Table  
Union Pacific Depot Museum

## Other Sites You can Visit in Cheyenne:

Nelson Museum of the West  
Wyoming State Museum  
Cowgirls of the West Museum  
Cheyenne Botanic Gardens  
Tom Horn Exhibits  
Old Town Square  
Warren Air Force Base Museum  
Governor's Museum



## Planned Stops in Laramie:

Wyoming Territorial Prison and Old West Museum  
Railroad Heritage Park  
Laramie Plains Museum in Iverson Mansion

## Other Sites You can Visit:

University of Wyoming Geological Museum  
University of Wyoming American Heritage Center  
Historic Buck Horn Saloon



## Sites to Visit in Saratoga and Rawlins:

Hot Springs  
Fish Hatchery  
Annual Brew Fest, Saturday  
Carbon County Museum  
Historic Wolf Hotel and Bar  
Wyoming Frontier Museum  
Carbon County Museum



ENJOY THE DRIVE, ENJOY OF SCENERY, ENJOY THE HOT SPRINGS, ENJOY THE TOUR!

## Was It Something We Said? By Jim Salmi

When planning the events calendar, we usually kick off the season with our February get-together at Mount Vernon, followed closely by the St. Patrick's Day parade in downtown Denver in March. For the last few years, we have driven the Iwo Jima Veterans and the First Marines Association, and it has been an honor to do so. I naturally assumed that this year would be no different, but in early February when I emailed Larry Lawler, our contact, I was told by him that the Iwo vets and First Marines had decided not to participate this year. Needless to say, I was a little surprised, but I assumed they had their reasons. I had just found this out when we had our February meeting, and I an-

nounced it then. There didn't seem to be enough time or interest in trying to put our own group together, and so St. Pat's just kind of withered on the vine.

On the morning of the parade, the weather was good and I decided to go down and experience it as a spectator, and maybe take a few pictures for The Dagmar. Imagine my surprise when I saw a good-sized contingent of both organizations marching along bigger than life! The First Marines marched behind their banner, followed by six or so riders (Iwo veterans, I assume) in a black Suburban. Bringing up the rear was the Iwo Jima float that they always bring. In short, everything was the same as last year, except no Cadillacs!

Last year, we brought a dozen cars, and not all cars ended up

with riders. I heard that the City had admonished some groups to keep their size down so that the parade wouldn't get too long. The P.T. Cruisers were told to drive two abreast since they had over thirty cars participating, for example. What is wrong with a big, long, successful parade I don't know. It may be that the parade organizers pressured everyone to hold down their numbers, or it may be that our hosts wanted to reduce their entry fee by the ten dollars per car they would have been charged (see below). A truthful answer would have been appreciated. I emailed Larry Lawler again after the parade, letting him know that I saw them and also asking him if they still want us to drive them in the July Fourth parade in Georgetown. So far, no response.



I have since heard from a few of our club members saying that they really missed doing St. Pat's, which brings up the question of next year. If we don't drive the two vets and First Marines next year, should we try to participate as our own individual group? It could be fun and it would give a little publicity for the club, but would be a little expensive. Also, we might drive some other group. John Evans knows some injured veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan who might be interested. Or, there's always the possibility of just driving ourselves. There is a website for this year's parade that gives a flavor of what we might expect next year. This year's application form appears at <http://www.denverstpatricksdayparade.org/docs/ParadeEntryForm2011.pdf>. It

looks to me like the charge would be in the neighborhood of \$300.00 plus \$10.00 for each car over five, which would be significant for our club.

We have almost a year to think about it, so please speak up if you have any thoughts.

*(pictures continued on the next page)*





# *Remember When?*



*From our web master, John Henry "This is Paul Momenteller's first Cadillac. A 1947 I think. Paul is on the left then Grandma Elizabeth, Aunt Pam, and Mom and some other relatives. Grandpa bought a new Cadillac every two years or so. I remember the 1965 having that cool Wonderbar radio. Many of you know I have Grandpa's last Cadillac, the '67 Coupe."*

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## **A Note From Your Editor**

*Don't forget, if you would like to become the next editor of The Dagmar, contact John Serfling.*

**Dave**

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The Dagmar each month  
in *full color* at our site  
<http://www.rmrlc.com/>  
Just click on the  
Dagmar button.



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## Is The Dagmar Shrinking? By David Leger

You may have noticed the small size of the last issue, and how many photos are in this issue. Well, I haven't decided to cut the size of our issues. It all depends on you, as club members. Remember, if you don't write an article, we end up with short issues. I haven't been receiving anything from most of you for quite some time. Take some time, sit down and start typing!



3/16/2011

Rocky Mtn-CLC  
C/O Leonard Johnson  
2300 Broadway.  
Bolder, CO  
80304



Dear Cadillac Enthusiasts,

Thank you for the contribution of **\$2,500** from your Region to the **Celebrating the Standard** capital campaign. This contribution will bring us one step closer to constructing our own facility to preserve the legacy of America's most successful luxury automobile. We will receive a matching amount from the National for the Regions' contribution.

CELEBRATING  
THE STANDARD

Funds generated through the **Celebrating the Standard** capital campaign are designated for the purpose of building a permanent facility and an operational reserve for the Cadillac LaSalle Club Museum and Research Center at the Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, Michigan. Locating our museum and research center at the Gilmore Car Museum is an opportunity for us to partner with one of the most respected car museum in the world.

We very anxiously anticipate the completion of our wonderful new facility in this picturesque setting where car lovers from all over the world will come to view and learn about Cadillacs and LaSalles. It will provide an appropriate setting to display our vehicles and artifacts to educate new people about Cadillacs and LaSalles.

Please note that the Cadillac LaSalle Club Museum and Research Center is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization under ISR guidelines in the USA. As such, donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law in the USA. No goods or services were received for this donation. **This is a receipt for the contribution of \$2,500 during 2011.**

We appreciate your generous support and look forward to sharing and enjoying our new museum facility with you.

Tim Pawl and Al Haas are Co-Chairs of the program and personally thank you.

Sincerely,

Henry V. Knight P.E. #105  
Treasurer, **Celebrating the Standard**  
420 S. Grey Rd.  
Auburn Hills, MI 48326-3810  
248-852-3486 hknight@bignet.net

Cadillac-LaSalle Club  
Museum and Research Center  
CELEBRATING THE STANDARD  
Capital Campaign  
P.O. Box 252796  
West Bloomfield, MI 48325

**The Dagmar** monthly newsletter  
of the Rocky Mountain Region  
**Cadillac and LaSalle Club**

**Director:**

John Serfling  
126 Pennsylvania St.  
Denver, CO. 80203  
303+887-4632

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

**Executive Vice President:**

Brad Bauer  
9652 Sterling Drive  
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126  
720-261-4018

[BRADLEEB@msn.com](mailto:BRADLEEB@msn.com)

**Vice President of Activities:**

Jim Salmi  
2856 S. Steele St  
Denver, CO 80210  
303-758-8930

[icsalmi@gmail.com](mailto:icsalmi@gmail.com)

**Secretary:**

Nancy Tucker  
441 Garfield St.  
Denver, CO. 80206  
303+394-2557

[Nantuck1@msn.com](mailto:Nantuck1@msn.com)

**Treasurer:**

Leonard R. Johnson CPA  
Johnson Kightlinger & Company  
CPA's  
2300 Broadway  
Boulder, CO 80304  
303-449-3830  
303-449-3889 (fax)  
[ljohnson@jk-cpas.com](mailto:ljohnson@jk-cpas.com)



**Membership Czar:**

Paul Olson  
6642 S. Valley Drive  
Morrison, CO. 80465  
303+697-8460

[66cadillac@wispertel.net](mailto:66cadillac@wispertel.net)

**Old Car Council Rep:**

Orton, Tom  
3385 West 29th Avenue  
Denver, CO 80211-3609  
HM: 303-964-8634

**CLC National Representative**

Tim Coy  
203 Short Pl.  
Louisville, CO 80027  
(303) 673-0011

**Editor:**

David Leger  
1742 Olive St.  
Denver, CO 80220  
Home: 303+377-0844  
Cell: 303+886-0390  
[dleger@ix.netcom.com](mailto:dleger@ix.netcom.com)

**Internet Webmaster:**

John Henry  
2653 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Broomfield, CO. 80020  
303+469-6929  
[henryspl@comcast.net](mailto:henryspl@comcast.net)

**Monthly Meeting:**

**2nd Tuesday of each month at Elks Lodge at 2475 W. 26th Ave. in Denver at 7:30 PM. Dinner at 6 PM prior to the meeting for those who wish to join us.**

**The Dagmar:**

The Dagmar is published monthly (except December) and is mailed First-Class to all RMRCLC members on the current roster. The Dagmar is copyright©2009 Rocky Mountain Region Cadillac and

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**Deadline:**

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

**Advertising:**

**Classified Ads:**

Display ads: \$15.00 per issue, \$125.00 per year pre-paid for a business-card-size ad. Larger sizes available at a discount. Contact the Editor for more informa-

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

and the national site at

<http://www.cadillaclasalleclub.org>

For Sale: 2007 Cadillac DTS. All the bells and whistles. "Like new" condition and low mileage (40,500). Super clean. Must see to appreciate! \$21,500 OBO. Please call 303/887-6874 for additional information and to see photos.



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[ljohnson@jk-cpas.com](mailto:ljohnson@jk-cpas.com)

## Official List Of RMRCLC Sponsored Functions

### Rocky Mountain Region CLC 2011 Proposed Activities

(as of March 24, 2011)

Proposed Activities:	Leader:	Date:
Dust & Shine at Forney	Tom Orton	Apr 9
Shepler's BPOC Show	N/A	May 21
Memorial Day Parade	J. Salmi	May 28
Shelby/Dougherty Tour	Nancy Tucker	June 4
National Driving Tour	N/A	June 7-12
Havana Cruise	Open	June 18
Father's Day Car Show	Blaise Flaherty	June 19
VFW Cookout (Arvada)	John Evans	June 25
Fourth of July parade (Georgetown)	Open	July 4
Golden Cruise	Brad Bauer	Aug 6
Grand National	N/A	Aug 10-13
Wyoming Railroads & Ranches Tour	John Cullinan	Aug 18-21
Labor Day Parade (Louisville)	T. Coy/J. Evans	Sep 5
Regional Meet/McCaddon Cadillac	Open	Open
Colfax Cruise/picnic @ East High School	Open	Sep 17
Veterans Day Parade	J. Salmi	Nov 7
Tune-up Clinic	John Washburn	TBD
Denver Dealership Walking Tour	Washburn/Salmi	TBD
Under Consideration:		
Stanley Museum-Estes Park	Jerry Pache	TBD
Celestial Seasonings/ Leaning Tree Museum & Hammond Candy Factory Tour	Open	TBD
	Open	TBD

## Other Events

### OTHER CAR RELATED ACTIVITIES (Not RMRCLC Events)

Other car related activities, as published in Old Cars Weekly, Hemmings, OCCC, Denver Post or from other sources. Please verify accuracy before attending.

- Apr 16 Westminster, CO Miss Wheelchair Colorado Car Show, Westminster Senior Center, 72<sup>nd</sup> & Hooker St., 10:00am (set up starts around 8:00am)
- Apr 23 Brighton, CO Specialty Auto Auction, Adams County Fairgrounds, [www.saaasinc.com](http://www.saaasinc.com)
- May 1 Arvada, CO Great Machines Car Show, 44<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Indiana, Rocky Mountain Nova Club, [www.rockymountainnovaclub.com](http://www.rockymountainnovaclub.com)
- May 22 Elizabeth, CO Rambler Ranch Tour & Benefit, 303-243-1496, [carshow@rockymountainmodelaclub.org](mailto:carshow@rockymountainmodelaclub.org).
- June 11 Golden, CO Wild West Auto Roundup, Washington Ave., Golden, 9am to 4pm
- June 18-19 Colorado Springs, CO Colorado Custom Motorsports Show, Memorial Park 719-473-1466
- Jul ?? Denver, CO Specialty Auto Auction, Time and Place TBD
- Jul 26-30 Englewood, CO Corvair Society of America Int'l Convention, Denver Tech Center Doubletree Inn, Orchard Ave., [www.corvair.org](http://www.corvair.org)
- Oct 15 Loveland, CO Specialty Auto Auction, Larimer County Fairgrounds The Ranch, [www.saaasinc.com](http://www.saaasinc.com)

Rocky Mountain Region

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