



# THE TALEFIN



The Newsletter of the Western New York Region of the Cadillac-LaSalle Club, Inc.

Spring 2012

## ROAD TRIP TO TACOMA... America's Car Museum to open in June

Publications, ranging from *The New York Times*, *Wikipedia*, *KOMO News* (and countless other automobile publications) are abuzz with the planned official opening of America's Car Museum in Tacoma, Washington.

It's billed as a "one-of-a-kind museum to show off the one-of-a-kind collection from a one-of-a-kind man," the late Harold LeMay.

The facility will feature a nine-acre campus with a four-story, 165,000 square foot museum in the shadow of Mt. Rainier and will be one of the world's largest auto museums and attractions when it opens this June. It also has 3.5-acre show field, several galleries, a banquet hall, a café/restaurant, car storage facilities and it's just off Interstate 5...only 30 minutes south of Seattle.

LeMay made his fortune in his very successful garbage collection business and he was "head over heels in love with the automobile" and started collecting them. "I'm like an alcoholic, I can have one more," he said back in 1998. The collection grew and grew until he had approximately 3,500 cars, a Guinness Book record in the mid-90s.

"He would buy a barn or even a field containing old automobiles just to prevent their contents from landing in a junkyard," according to David Madeira, president and CEO of the Museum "It's all there at the museum – fuzzy dice, tailfins, hood ornaments, hot wheels, deuce coupes, Duisenberg's, Cadillac's, Corvettes – all kinds of cool," the KOMO News wrote. "It will be about cars that made this country great."

The facility will house some 500 cars, trucks, and motorcycles from private owners, corporations and the LeMay collection. LeMay's collection will rotate in and out of exhibition spaces along with vehicles from private collections. Nicola Bulgari, a major collector of midcentury American autos, serves on the museum's board and is expected to exhibit some of his cars there.

If you are planning a summer road trip, head to Tacoma and America's Car Museum. Check it out at: [www.lemaymuseum.org](http://www.lemaymuseum.org)

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## ONLINE RESOURCE: The (New) Cadillac Database...

An article in a recent Hemmings Motor News highlighted the (new) online **Cadillac Database** now owned by the Museum & Research Center of the Cadillac & La Salle Club.

The creation of the database is the work of Yann Saunders who purchased his first Cadillac in 1966 in Switzerland and started collecting at the same time.

"As my interest in the Marquee grew, so did the errors I began to notice in books and magazine articles...that gave me the incentive to start compiling the (new) Database."

The website came about after a 1993 book project fell through and Mr. Saunders said it became a "virtual book." He donated the website to the C&CLC's Research Center and continued to run and update it until recently, the article said. He is on to a new project. It grew from 500 pages and 2000 images to over 8500 pages and more than 40,000 images. It is the place to go for all kinds of information including artwork, songs, specs, sales literature and just about everything else you may need.

Jean-Claude Franchitti will now take care of the site. Check it out at [www.cadillacdatabase.org](http://www.cadillacdatabase.org).



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**THE TALEFIN** is the official publication of the Western New York Region of the Cadillac-LaSalle Club, Inc. Opinions and editorials in *THE TALEFIN* are not necessarily the policy of the club.

Mailing labels are updated to reflect region membership at the time of each issue. They are provided by Roger Libby, with assistance from our membership director, Dick Walther.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## GREETINGS,

## Fellow Cadillac-LaSalle Aficionados

We have almost made it through another Buffalo winter (one of the mildest in my memory!) and it will soon be time to uncover those sleeping beauties and get them primped and "prettified" for the coming driving and cruising season.

Please note that our April meeting has been changed from the **April 7 at Sunny's Restaurant to April 14**, in order to allow for a tech session at Doug Seibert's garage in Rochester. Please see the notice in this issue.

Our **Seventh Annual Icebreaker Brunch** will be held on **May 20, 2012**. We are returning to the **Grand Island Holiday Inn**. Hopefully, the weather will allow us to bring some of our cars out for an "airing." Please see the enclosed insert for particulars.

We have **Sunday, June 3, 2012** reserved as the date for our Keyser Cadillac show. Please see the insert in this issue of the *TALEFIN*. As always, we need help in parking cars, judging, signing-in cars and owners, running the split club, etc. Please offer to step in and lend a hand. As always, we can use your help.

Please check our new website: [www.wnycadillaclasalleclub.com](http://www.wnycadillaclasalleclub.com) The site is up and running. There is room for you to advertise your Cadillac or LaSalle for sale, you can read past issues of *THE TALEFIN*, and in future we can expand to feature news and upcoming events. Check it out and give us your opinion.

Hope to see you at our forthcoming events. Until then, drive safely.

*Peter Arnoldo, President*

## LICENSE PLATE RESTORATION SERVICE RECOMMENDATION

I want to recommend a license plate restoration service that does exceptional work. It's called "Rods-N-Rims" and is a one-man shop run by Tony Tornabe in Huntington, New York. I recently sent him my 1939 New York World's Fair license plates for restoration and he quoted a fair price and an approximate date when they would be finished. The plates came back on time and they were an amazing work of art; restored to better than new. I am more than satisfied with his work.

Tony, a retired aerospace engineer with experience in materials and finishes, not only restores plates but also vintage bikes, toys, steering wheels, gas station items, oilcans, gas pumps and plate toppers.

If you are in the market for some plate restoration or any of the other items, I recommend you check out Tony's website for all the information: [www.tagrestorer.com](http://www.tagrestorer.com) <<http://www.tagrestorer.com>> or give him a call at 631.655.6863.

His email is [tonyimpala@aol.com](mailto:tonyimpala@aol.com)

*John Bray, Editor*

**Before**



**After**



# PROGRESS CONTINUES AT THE PIERCE ARROW MUSEUM

## *Hemmings Motor News*

### "Great Race" contestants will stop by...

Progress continues at the **Pierce Arrow / Buffalo Transportation Museum** in downtown Buffalo, as exterior work is 95 percent complete on the 45,000 square-foot addition that will house a gas station built from drawings by noted architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, in 1926.

*"We are working on the inside now and I hope it will be finished by this fall or next summer at the latest,"* says Jim Sandoro, creator of the museum and a nationally-known automobile appraiser, collector and antique auto buff.

It will be connected to the current museum structure and the project is expected to cost somewhere between \$10 million and \$13 million.

There will be a full-size replica of the gas station, designed by Wright, that was never built up to this point. He did design one in 1958 in Cloquet, Minnesota and it is open today.

Jim and his wife Mary Ann have been dedicated and working to creating a unique automobile museum that will become a showcase for the public to enjoy. All of the Sandoro collection and museum-building will be willed to New York State, thus, making it a permanent museum.

The Pierce Arrow / Buffalo Transportation Museum is located on the corner of Seneca Street and Michigan Avenue.

Jim reminds our club members that autos entered in the 2300 mile "Hemmings Motor News Great Race" will be coming through Buffalo on Thursday, June 28. This year's cross-country race starts in Traverse City, Michigan on June 23 and finishes in Dearborn on July 1. It pits driver / navigator teams against the clock and against each other, according to race officials.

The 2012 race will be around the Great Lakes, covering 19 cities, including Buffalo, two countries and four states. There will be timed, controlled-speed, endurance competition on scenic public highways and roads. Four to seven timed checkpoints will daily keep score and the one with the lowest overall score wins.

Jim expects the contestants and their cars to arrive at the Museum, a designated stop, around 4:00 p.m. and he invites all to drop by and meet the teams and, of course, ...to see the cars!

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## ZEN ...AND THE ART OF CADILLAC AND LASALLE MAINTENANCE

### Our April meeting will be changed from the 7th to the 14th.

**The reason:** We will be holding a tech session at Doug Seibert's garage, located at 1291 Clifford Avenue • Rochester NY 14261. There will be light refreshments served. The session will start at 11:00 AM. Doug will be on site earlier. Bring your car, weather permitting, and/or your questions concerning maintenance and repair.

### Directions:

**From Rochester:** Take Rte. 104 to the Goodman Exit. Go south to Clifford. Make a right on Clifford... approximately ½ mile on the left.

**From Buffalo:** Take the 490 to 590N. Then take Exit 8 and make a left on Empire Blvd, which becomes Clifford. The garage area is fenced-in..the gate will be open. Look for the Monroe heating sign. Doug is front door left.

If you have trouble with directions (which is always possible) call Doug @ 1-585-325-7393.

Hope to see you there!

# Oldies, But Goodies

"NOW  
I'LL SHOW YOU  
HOW TO FLY  
ON LAND!"

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**M**OST PEOPLE WHO purchase the Cadillac Sixty Special are attracted, first of all, by its striking appearance. Without doubt, it is the most distinctive car in America. But when they take the wheel, they find yet *another* reason for choosing the Sixty Special . . . and a big one, too. We refer to its unduplicated performance. It is not merely that the Sixty Special is dynamic in acceleration and unbelievably smooth in operation—the *whole conception* of its performance is different. The way it rides . . . the way it hugs the road . . . the way it handles in traffic . . . *everything* is delightfully different. Only a ride can fully reveal what this difference means in terms of additional satisfaction. It actually makes all other performance seem commonplace by comparison. May we prove this—by an extended road demonstration? Your Cadillac dealer has the car. Just tell him the time—and place. He will do the rest.

**THE NEW**  
**CADILLAC**  
*Sixty*  
**SPECIAL**

*Also, see the new Cadillac Sixty-One—the lowest-priced Cadillac for 1939—available in four body types. Its remarkable performance and luxurious riding comfort make it a worthy companion car to the famous Sixty Special. Your Cadillac dealer will be happy to demonstrate both cars at your convenience.*

Jean Harlow  
with Cadillac



Joan Crawford  
with  
1932  
Cadillac Fleetwood



# Western New York Region Cadillac-LaSalle Club



## 23rd Annual International Car Show Sunday, June 3rd 11 A.M. - 3 P.M.



Sponsored by, and hosted at:

**Keyser Cadillac**  
4130 Sheridan Drive  
Williamsville, NY



*Cadillac*

### Three Awards in Each Class One Best of Show

Class 1: 1903-1955

Class 2: 1956-1962

Class 3: 1963-1970

Class 4: 1971-1976

Class 5: 1977-1987

Class 6: 1988-2002

**Dash plaques to the first 75 cars**  
**Door prizes for participants**  
**Food and refreshments available**

Pre-Registration - \$8.00, Day of Show - \$10.00  
All Pre-Registrations must be received by June 1st.

Rain or Shine

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make: (Cadillac or LaSalle) Circle One

Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to: WNY-CLC  
Mail to: Peter Arnoldo  
32 Belmont Ave., Tonawanda, NY 14223



# Spring at Last!

## Seventh Annual ICE-BREAKER BRUNCH

**Date: May 20, 2012 • Time: 11 a.m.**



### **Location: Holiday Inn**

100 Whitehaven Road  
Grand Island, NY 14072  
Telephone: 716.773.111

Time to wake those old Cadillacs and LaSalles from that long winter nap!  
Our brunch buffet will include all the usual breakfast items.

### **Guests are welcome!**

The cost will be \$10 per person which includes tax and gratuity.

Please complete the form below and enclose your checkmade payable to: **WNY Region CLC**

Mail to: **Peter Arnoldo • 685 Paradise Road, East Amherst, NY 14051**

You may also pay at the door but be sure to RSVP Peter at **716.688.7637 no later than May 1, 2012.**  
This way he can notify the Holiday Inn of the expected number of attendees.

**Directions:** NY Thruway I-190, Exit 19, 4 miles east, on Whitehaven Road.

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## **Mail-in Registration Form**

**Please make reservations by May 1, 2012**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:       Check enclosed      Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_       Will pay at door



## We'd love to hear from you!

As a club, it is important for members to share their experiences that would be interesting to those who love old automobiles especially Cadillacs and LaSalle. Here are some ideas to get you thinking about your article for our newsletter:

1. How did you find your car? Is there a story that we all can relate to?
2. Interesting experiences with your antique car.
3. Restoration: what to do and what NOT to do.
4. Trip suggestions.
5. Experiences at car shows.
6. Your views on the hobby, cars, judging, club, etc.
7. Garages...yours and a garage you saw that we would all love to have.
8. Why I like (love) my model Cadillac or LaSalle

Send your article to the editor who will be most appreciative as will the readership.

Mail: John Bray  
631 Niagara Street  
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## CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads will run for two issues and are free for paid up region members. All ads must include price of item(s) being advertised and MUST be Cadillac/LaSalle related. Business card size ads are \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members for one year (about five (5) issues).



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human beings, regardless of  
age, gender, religion or ethnic  
background, is that we all  
believe we are above-average  
drivers. - Dave Barry*

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