

THE SPARK PLUG

News to spark your interest

March April 2019

Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America



Our youngest SSR Member Stephen Noll shows off the 1919 Pierce-Arrow Phaeton. Stephen Noll Photo

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SPARK PLUG NEWSLETTER

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Director's Message

Ah, the thought of spring consumes me! As I write this column, I'm watching yet another round of snowflakes blanket my yard, and for the moment at least Old Man Winter continues to retain a mighty grip and refuses to let go. Can't help but think of milder temperatures, the lovely smell of flowers, plants and trees in bloom, longer and longer days, and.....*activities that await in and out of the Classic Car Club!* It's not so far off you know, as the month of March is fast approaching ushering in the return of Spirit Nights, a great time to kick back, relax and enjoy the company of fellow members over a nice dinner out on the town. Check out our destination for March inside this issue.

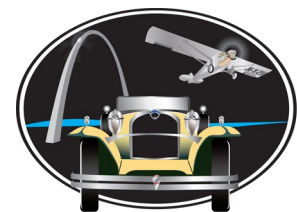
The Annual Kick-off Meeting at Hyman Ltd. Classic Cars in January got our Region off and running toward another fun year of activities, and this event always provides the tonic we need to cure the winter doldrums and get us thinking about dusting off our Classics to get them ready for Spring motoring. Mark, Shawn and Teresa once again welcomed us to their facility with their great hospitality to view their ever changing and interesting inventory of Pre and Post-War Classic and Special Interest automobiles. Jim Schild captured one of my favorite cars in the Hyman collection with a great cover photo of the behemoth 1919 Pierce-Arrow owned by silent film star Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle, along with our youngest Club member, Stephen Noll. It's encouraging to see some younger people coming into the hobby and joining in the fun!

As we get further into March, a major National car show you may wish to consider is the legendary Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance on March 10th, one of the top five concours events in the country, which some of our members attend each year. And back regionally, the Jaguar Club has once again invited the Spirit Region to join them on their Driving Tour on Saturday, March 16th, to some interesting destinations in Southeast Missouri, hosted by Region member

Phil Taxman (more information inside). Joining other Car Clubs for events outside of our Club gives everyone the opportunity to appreciate the interests and passions of others in the car hobby at large. After all, we love them all, don't we!

April brings another Spirit Night on the second of the month, and then almost every weekend thereafter is jam packed with things to do outside of our Regional activities, including the Early Ford Show at the Museum of Transportation on Sunday, April 7th, the Annual Easter Car Show in Forest Park on April 21st, and finally the 2nd Annual Elco Cadillac Show on Saturday, April 27th. I'll leave it at that, but suffice it to say, there's more to come in the months ahead. Get ready!

John



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Classic Car Club of America

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Across the Editor's Desk

The club year is well underway already and it is not even spring yet. It is clear that the Spirit of St. Louis region is in for a great year of interesting and fun activities. National CCCA President Carrol Jensen mentioned our group in the President's Message in the latest Classic Car Club of America Bulletin. She recognized the recent event we shared with the local Rolls-Royce Owner's Club and BMW Club. This was not the first, nor will it be the last event that we will have with other clubs and organizations. We are all in this together and sharing activities is a great way to meet other people and learn about their cars and related interests and tell them about ours. Be sure to check out the upcoming events in the calendar on the back page of this issue of the Spark Plug and the flyer about the Jaguar Club hosted tour inside.

Everyone who missed the lunch and tour last Saturday missed a great time, good food and a very interesting exhibition at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park. We joined the local Rolls-Royce Owner's Club Mid-America Chapter and the BMW Club Chapter, meeting at the Pastaria Restaurant in Clayton for lunch at 1145. Although the rain was pouring down when we arrived it did not seem to dampen the spirits of anyone in attendance. There were a number of SSR members at the lunch and a few more joining at the Museum so there was a nice crowd.

The weather has been awful most of this year so far but hopefully it will improve in time to get your Classic car ready for the annual Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri Easter Concours d'Elegance in Forest Park. Most of you have attended or shown one of your cars at one time or another and will agree that this is the premier event of the year for St. Louis Collector Car enthusiasts. Every year I hope to have one of our cars ready but between too much business work to do, bad weather until the day before and no heated work space that has not happened in a long time. I hope this year it will work out better and I actually get a chance to sit by one of our Classic Cars at a show. That would be a treat. The 1947 Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith Sedan deVille needs two pistons and rod bearings installed,

the 1929 Cadillac has not run since 1998 and needs a going over in addition to being trapped in the back corner of the garage and the 1936 Cord Convertible Phaeton is still at the beginning stages of its long term restoration. I will keep trying. **Remember the 20 April, 2019 deadline for Spark Plug submissions.**

Don't miss the auction of the Fred Guyton Collection that will take place on May 4-5, 2019 at Mason's Garage. The collection will be offered without reserve and includes 60 antique and Full Classic cars, 3,000 model and toy cars, 500 pieces of automobilia in addition to furniture and equipment. For more information contact RM Sotheby's at +1 519-352-4575 or www.rmsothebys.com.

Please let me know if you want your Spark Plug in Hard Copy if you are not already receiving it that way.



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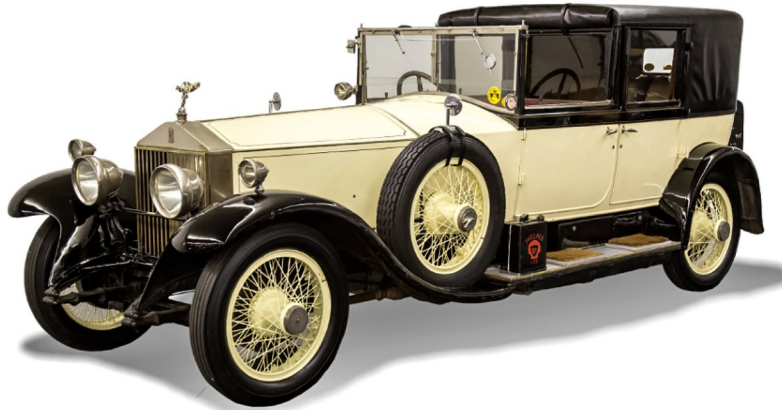
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Membership Musings



It can't warm up fast enough. I should be careful about what I wish for. Seems that last year we skipped right from chilly to sunny, hot, and humid without Spring in between. So much maintenance to be done before we get into prime driving weather. First on the list should be to make sure you renew your membership. I have had five renewals since the kickoff at Hyman Ltd. We've also had three new members. But I am still looking for renewals from 15 who were members in 2018.

Speaking of the membership kickoff at Hyman – thanks again to Shaun, Mark, and the staff at Hyman for hosting our annual membership kickoff. It is a great venue to start thinking about the new year, see one another after the holidays, and entice new members to look at the club. We had 31 attendees sign the attendance sheets, but I believe we had at least twice as many there. We had a chance to touch on the many activities in planning for the year as a way to add a few more miles to your odometers. John Gibson has bravely offered to help me

organize and publicize the many activities that SSR will be sponsoring this year and ones where we will be partnering with other clubs.

Here are some of the calendar highlights. We are planning two SSR sponsored driving tours. First one in the Spring (May) arranged by Larry Hassel which will cover far west St. Louis county and includes a meal at Cabin in the Woods, Labadie. Then in the Fall (October) a 100 mile, two ferry run from Alton to Kampville, Illinois, that John Gibson has planned that starts at Bob Abbott's facility in Alton. We may find time for another event during the summer.

Partnering with other clubs, SSR has been invited to the History Museum on Feb 23 with the Rolls Royce Owner's Club, the Jaguar driving tour on Mar 16, and there may be time for a Fall drive with the Cadillac and LaSalle Club. Plenty of reasons to have cars or friends – or friends' cars – ready for driving. Come one, come all, in whatever moves you!

I've had several good meals at the Boathouse in Forest Park. A great venue for our first Spirit Night.

Todd Tobiasz Membership Chairman

Welcome to the following new members to the Spirit of St. Louis Region:

Maxwell Bruins of Hunter Classics,
Bridgeton, Missouri

Carl Jensen of Vernon, Wisconsin
(Spring comes sooner in St. Louis.
Feel free to join us!)

Kemal Williamson of O'Fallon, Illinois

Spirit Nights are Back!!

Dine on the banks of Post-Dispatch Lake in Forest Park



**Where: The Boathouse at Forest Park
6101 Government Drive
St. Louis, MO 63110**

When: Tuesday, March 5, 2019, 6:00 PM

Who's Invited: You are of course!

Hosted by: John Lowell

**RSVP Please: ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net
jlowell@lowellmfg.com**

JAGUAR CLUB DRIVING TOUR TO ELEPHANT ROCK STATE PARK & HIGH VALLEY ANGUS RANCH

8:30 a.m. Saturday March 16th

Get registered have coffee and some pastry, first car off at 9 a.m.

Meet at St. Louis Bread Company

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Our driving tour will take us to southeast Missouri. Wonderful driving blue-line roads, perfect for the Jaguars, Classic Cars, British Marques, Miatas or any other cars that like open curvy scenic routes. Our primary destination is Elephant Rock State Park in Belleview, Missouri. Elephant Rocks State Park is a geologic reserve encompassing an outcropping of Precambrian granite. The state park is named for a string of large granite boulders which resemble a train of pink circus elephants. We'll spend about 45 minutes at the park, giving you plenty of time to visit this very interesting sight.

We will then have a short dash over to Ironton, Mo, where we will enjoy a private buffet lunch at Baylee Jo's BBQ. After lunch, we are offering a bonus optional rallye down to Arcadia, Mo and High Valley Angus Ranch, where Ranch Owners Colleen and Dan Jarvis will give us a grand tour of their magnificent 9000 sq. ft. log home, and weather permitting, a hayride tour of their 500+ acre ranch.

There will be a \$5/car entry fee and \$15/person for lunch, which includes your soft drinks and dessert. All fees will be collected at Bread Co. at registration, PLEASE BRING CASH. We last rallied to Elephant Rock State Park in 2012 and it was a great success ... enjoyed by all. Total travel is <100 miles each direction. We will provide instructions coming and going, with a quick highway return to St. Louis. We estimate 2 hours of drive time going and 1-1/4 hours returning.

The 2019 National CCCA Annual Meeting

The National CCCA Annual Meeting was held in beautiful Scottsdale, AZ, from January 13-19, 2019, the same week as the Scottsdale Auctions. It was a privilege to attend the meeting on behalf of our Region, and joining me were fellow members Shawn Dougan, John Groll, Rob Hosenfelt, Mark Hyman and Bob Radel. Given the snowstorm in St. Louis the weekend before the meeting, traveling the next week proved to be a challenge.....just ask Thomas Quick. Expectations of warmer weather in the Scottsdale area were quickly dashed as the weather was uncharacteristically chilly through the middle of the week, but thankfully warmed up nicely as the week progressed.

Each day started with a continental breakfast which gives attendees an opportunity to meet other members from around the country, learn about what each Region is doing to promote activities and increase membership, and of course, to hear about everyone's Classic Car(s). There are some interesting anecdotal stories too that really livens the conversation.

The first full day of events began with the General Membership Meeting which welcomes all attendees, and the room was at full capacity. After the introduction of the National Board Members seated on the dais, among the opening comments was the announcement of a new website, and just recently the homepage went live. This will be a work in progress, as you will find that certain links still default to the old site, however the homepage is impressive. There will be many new features incorporated into the site, including classified advertising. Be sure to check it out.....what I've seen is a vast improvement!

Additionally, CCCA President Carrol Jensen, announced that Mark Hyman, the owner of Hyman Ltd. Classic Cars and an SSR member, is sponsoring an initiative within CCCA to attract new members. Attracting and maintaining a viable level of membership is something CCCA, as well as many other Clubs are experiencing, so this was great news! CCCA is being proactive in this endeavor by reaching out to various print and news media outlets, among them *Reminisce* magazine, to advertise the Club. It was also great to learn that another fellow SSR member, Thomas Quick, who also sits on the National Board, will be the new Chair of the Classification Committee.

Vicki Zeiger, the Chair of the Regional Relations Committee, gave some interesting statistics on the reach the Club is having through the website and on social media. She noted that in 2018 there were over 8,000 visits to the website by current CCCA members, and 400,000 people worldwide are following the Club on Facebook. She went on to say that interestingly, a significant amount of those people are under the age of 54 years old.

The meeting was well orchestrated with a balance of meetings in the morning, and interesting tours in the afternoon after lunch. The meetings are informative and give a perspective about where the Club is headed, but I think the attraction for most people to

attend is to renew old friendships and make new ones, as well as for the tours.....they were all terrific and very well planned.

I was skeptical at first, but the Musical Instrument Museum tour provided an incredible experience, and not only is it rated the top attraction in Phoenix, but it's also ranked among the top 15 museums in the United States! The museum's stated mission "to foster an appreciation of the world's diverse cultures by showing how we innovate, adapt, and learn from each other to create music—the language of the soul", certainly rings true as you stroll among the various exhibits curated from all over the world.

On Wednesday of that week, we were driven by bus to the Wrigley Mansion, which sits atop a hill overlooking Phoenix with panoramic views of the city. Originally built by William Wrigley, Jr. in 1932 as a 50th Anniversary gift to his wife, Ada, the mansion was sold by the Wrigley family in 1973, changing ownership several times until 1992 when Geordie Hormel (Hormel as in the makers of Spam) and his wife purchased the home. After lunch on the premises, we were separated into groups for a tour conducted by a knowledgeable docent. Today the mansion is used mainly for private events, weddings and fine dining. It was truly amazing to think that the two families who owned the mansion, the Wrigley and Hormel families, made their fortunes selling chewing gum and canned meat!

Throughout the week, there were tours of several car collections in the area, most notably the fabulous collection of adventure novelist, Clive Cussler, an avid collector of Classic Cars. Mr. Cussler divides his time between Arizona and Colorado, and he was in town during our visit. Mr. Cussler and his wife, Janet, greeted our group as we entered the museum, and they were very gracious hosts answering questions and allowing photos of their collection. As a fan of his writing, it was a thrill for me to have a picture taken with Mr. Cussler.

The Regional Awards Banquet and Cocktail Party on Wednesday evening was a "Classics and Cowboys" theme and many people came dressed for the occasion, *urban cowboys* all. After a wonderful Southwestern style barbecue dinner, CCCA President Jensen, and Regional Relations Chair, Vicki Zeiger, presented the Regional Awards in various categories. I was pleased to accept two first place awards on behalf of our Region, the Chuck Conrad Website Award and the Dietrich Annual Meeting Award. Our Region also scored in the top tier in four other categories.....congratulations all for making our Region among the very best in the country!

John Lowell Region Director

Pictures from the 2019 CCCA Annual meeting in Scottsdale, AZ by John Lowell.



CCCA National Membership Meeting.



Ancient musical instrument museum at Scottsdale.



*Left: 1928 Stutz at Worldwide Auctioneers Auction.
Above: 1936 Packard at the CCCA Car Show.*

Below: Pictures from the 2019 Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA Membership Kick-off Meeting at Hyman's Ltd.



Region Director John Lowell addressing the club members at the Membership Kick-Off meeting at Hyman's.



Photographer Robert Bullivant discusses one of his photographic works done at a recent event in Illinois.



Shawn Dugan explains all of the latest news from Arizona



Geoff Isabell of Hyman's explains the details of the 1919 Pierce-Arrow once owned by Fatty Arbuckle.



Spirit of St. Louis Region Treasurer Kevin Williams keeps the members up to date on our finances.



This beautiful blue 1930 Cord L-29 is one of the great cars available at Hyman's, Ltd.

Spirit of St. Louis Region members joined the Mid-America Chapter of the Rolls-Royce Owner's Club and the local BMW CCA St. Louis Chapter on Saturday February 23 for a wonderful lunch at Pastaria Restaurant in Clayton. This was followed by a short trip to Missouri Historical Society Museum on Lindell for a special docented presentation at a unique exhibit of **Panoramas of the City**. The exhibition included large format panoramic photos from the early 20th Century. Much of the work for this fabulous exhibition was performed by local RROC and BMW Club member and photographer Robert Bullivant's **Cultural Heritage Preservation**.

Below Photos by Larry Hassel



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2019

>>Spirit Night, The Boathouse, Forest Park, Host, John Lowell	March 5, 2019
Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance, Amelia Island, Florida	March 10, 2019
Jaguar Club Driving Tour, Elephant Rock State Park, Phil Taxman	March 16, 2019

April 2019

>>Spirit Night, Location and Host TBD	2 April, 2019
HCCM Easter Concours d'Elegance, Forest Park upper Muny Lot	21 April, 2019
>>Spark Plug Submission Deadline	20 April, 2019
Elco Cadillac Show, Cadillac & La Salle Club, St. Louis Region	27 April, 2019

May 2019

>>Spirit Night, Jim Gormley, Location TBD	May 2, 2019
Fred Guyton collection no-reserve auction by RM Sotheby's	May 4-5, 2019
AACA Chickasha Swap Meet, Chickasha, Oklahoma	May 9-11
>>Spring Drive & Cabin in the Woods. Labadie, MO, Larry Hassel	May 18, 2019
>>CCCA Museum Experience, Hickory Corners, Michigan	May 31, 2019