

# THE SPARK PLUG

News to spark your interest

March/April 2021

Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America



Jim & Myrna Schild's 1929 Cadillac Fleetwood 3512 Transformable Town Cabriolet going to the M.O.T.

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# Director's Message

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## SPARK PLUG NEWSLETTER

### EDITOR

Jim Schild  
jschild@htc.net

I've been passing some time during the Pandemic reading, and just finished a great book called *The Vagabonds*, by Jeff Guinn. It's a story about the ten-year Summer road trips that Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, Harvey Firestone and naturalist John Burroughs embarked on between 1915 and 1925. These four larger than life figures of the late nineteenth, and early twentieth century toured the idyllic backroads of America visiting small out of the way towns. The local, and in fact, national newspapers across the country carried their stories, and townsfolk turned out in number to get a glimpse of and welcome them. Surely brothers Jim and Jack in Jim Schild's new book, *Journey to the West*, must have encountered them on the road.

Because of Covid of course, it's been a while since we've toured, and I got to thinking back to better days when we we've been out CARAvanning the backroads in vintage cars, and found many parallels to the book. In a sense, aren't we vicariously experiencing the adventures and fun the Four Vagabonds must have had on their many trips when we're out touring? Like the four great men in the book who were the center of attention in the towns they visited, aren't our cars the center of attraction when we make a stop on our journey? Much like Edison, who on these trips would regale the townspeople he encountered about his inventions, aren't we educating the public on our cars and their storied histories when we're on a tour, or displaying our cars at a show? Maybe we're even sowing a seed or two for potential new memberships in the same vein as the Vagabonds, whose trips helped promote the burgeoning love affair with the automobile. Yes, one

might say we're vagabonds in the same spirit as Ford, Edison, Firestone and Burroughs.

Perhaps SSR members Phil Taxman and Jim Hendrix also read the book, feeling the same sense of euphoria as the book's subjects to get out and tour, for they recently hosted the Jag Rallye, an annual event of the Jaguar Club. If Phil and Jim would permit some poetic license, it's a one-day version of a "Vagabonds" trip. And, as in years past, they extended a warm welcome to SSR to join in for a tour through the back roads of Southeastern Missouri, with destinations including the Chaumette Vineyards and Cave Vineyards. The Rallye provided a wonderful diversion and escape from these many months of inactivity due to Covid, with an emphasis on safety for everyone. It's a trip the original Vagabonds would have enjoyed!

Vagabonds.....I like it.....the connotation evokes a sense of adventure in my view, and we certainly fit the mold.

John



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# Across the Editor's Desk

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Now that we are past day 380 of the 14-day lockdown that would slow down the spread of COVID 19 I am sure we are all getting very tired and depressed over what life has become. I can't offer a solution but I can tell you it looks like there seems to be a little light toward the end of our tunnel. We finally have some activity noted in this issue of the SSR Spark Plug and I hope that brings some real hope to all of you. You will see a report in this issue by our Membership Chairman Todd Tobiasz on the recent tour with the local Jaguar Club. That event always seems to be a successful and enjoyable one for those who attend so I hope it will encourage everyone to find ways to dive in and enjoy our Classic Cars and our fellowship.

There are also some very important automobile auctions coming up, especially by Mecum at Indianapolis. I write for Mecum and I can tell you there are very significant Classic Cars showing up that will stir your souls even if you can't purchase one of them. Even if you can't attend, sell or buy, there is still some entertainment in watching what is available on television.

We are sorry to note in this issue the recent passing of Wayne McKinley at age 99. Many of our older members knew Wayne and those who were fortunate enough to visit his collection saw a great example of a man who enjoyed automobiles of all types. If you have back issues of *Special Interest Autos* please find the one in which my feature article on Wayne was published. It will help you know more about him. Wayne's son is still working on some of the restoration projects such as Wayne's 1936 Cord 812 Supercharged Phaeton at his shop in Waterloo, Illinois so we may see those someday at local events and shows.

A new and interesting exhibit is coming to the National Museum of Transportation in St. Louis County. As you will see in the article in this issue, Myrna and I are sending our 1929 Cadillac Fleetwood 3512 Transformable Town Cabriolet to the museum next week. It will be a rare occasion where both of the Cadillacs Myrna and I acquired and restored over 35 years ago will be together again as Todd and Amber Tobiasz are putting their beautiful black 1931 Cadillac 355A Seven-Passenger Sedan in the exhibit. Don't miss this Cadillac exhibit which will be there until October of this year. Our Project Fleetwood and Classic Car books will also be available at the museum gift shop.

Please check out the article in this issue on the upcoming CARavan by the Hoosier Region. It looks like a great one for those who enjoy CARavans and driving their Classics.

Make sure your CCA dues are paid for 2021. **This will be your last Issue** if your dues are not received. **Remember that 10 April is the deadline for submissions and ads.** Please do business with our advertisers whenever possible and tell everyone you know about them. They help support our organization.

**Jim**



Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday Closed

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## ADVERTISEMENTS

You can now place an ad in the Spark Plug! Buy the full year.

### **Full Page Ad 7x10"**

**\$40.00 per issue or  
\$210 for a full year**

### **Half Page Ad 7x5"**

**\$30.00 per issue or  
\$150 for a full year**

### **Business Card Ad 3.5x2"**

**\$20.00 per issue or  
\$90.00 for a full year**

We ask that advertisers submit ads reflecting services or businesses consistent with our members' interests. Digital graphics are not required but will result in a higher quality advertisement. If submitting a hard copy of graphics please make sure there are no fold lines, tears in the paper or information that is not accurate.

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Payment in full must be received before ads are published. Ads must be received prior to each deadline. If purchasing full year package the same graphics and or wording will be used each time unless otherwise notified before the next deadline. Deadlines are the 20<sup>th</sup> of every other month. Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA reserves the right to refuse advertisement space. The Spirit of St. Louis region CCCA does not assume liability, either implied or expressed as to accuracy of any ad. The Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA does not insure or endorse any product or services advertised.

## Membership Musings



### **Welcome new member:**

Steven Lange, La Selva Beach, California

Welcome to Steven Lange. Steven may have a California mailing address, but his email address([felix\\_mo@sbcglobal](mailto:felix_mo@sbcglobal.net)) is all St. Louis.

We've had our two weeks of winter. Cold enough to bring out the insulating flaws in the new construction at my house. Good to know, but I'm ready for another five years to pass before it gets that cold again. Members Phil Taxman and Jim Hendrix are providing this year's first official event for the club.

This year their annual Jaguar Rallye/Tour will be our first event. With the

risk of COVID infection still hanging around it is much safer to plan a mostly driving and outside event than our usual membership kickoff at Hyman Ltd. Mark and Shawn are anxious to have us back as soon as it is safe to gather the large number of members and guests that event draws to their buildings. Two weeks ago no one would have wanted to be driving and outside. But it appears that this weekend is shaping up with some beautiful driving weather.

The National Museum of Transportation is planning a Cadillac exhibit for the visitor center (not the automobile building). As I understand it the curator, Coby Ellison, is trying to have a car represent as many of the Cadillac decades as he can fit in the space he has. I think there is a very good chance that two of Myrna and Jim Schild's cars will be reunited again. The exhibit opens mid-March and runs through October.

Membership status: We still have 17 members that I have not heard from for 2021 membership renewal. By now you should have received the paper renewal in the mail. Or go paperless and find the renew on-line button in the Classic Car Club of America website ([www.classicclub.org](http://www.classicclub.org)).

**Todd**



**Editor's note:** Todd and Amber's black 1931 Cadillac 355A 7-passenger sedan is scheduled to be included in the upcoming special exhibit at the National Museum of Transportation along with our 1929 Cadillac Fleetwood Town Cabriolet through October 2021.

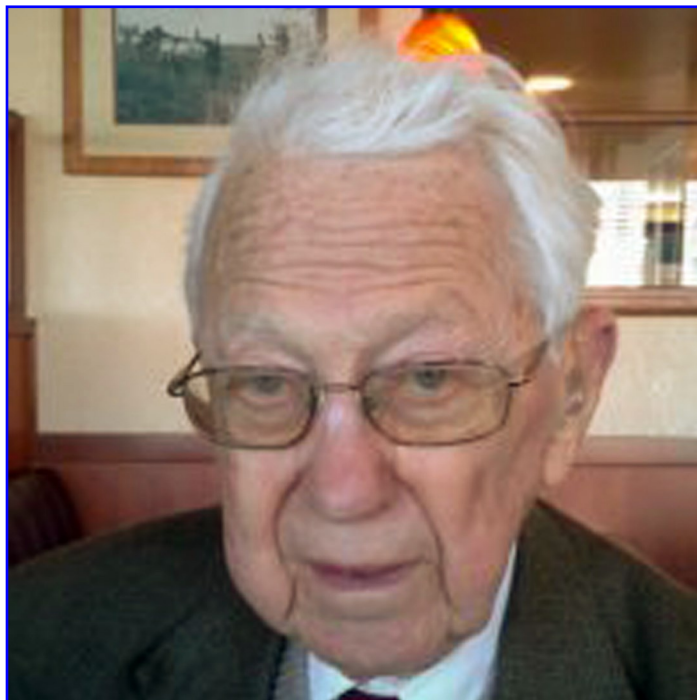
**Editor's Note:** Although Wayne McKinley was not a current member of the Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA, he was known and loved in our area for many years. His collection of more than 45 Antique and Full Classic automobiles included a 1933 Auburn V12 Speedster and a 1937 Cord 812 Supercharged Convertible Phaeton. Wayne was also known for his collaboration with Glenn Pray in Oklahoma to produce specially designed 8/10 Cord replicas in the 1960s. He will be missed by many in our area.

**William "Wayne" McKinley**, 99, lifelong resident of Belleville, passed away peacefully Wednesday evening the 24th of February at the Cedarhurst Nursing Home in Waterloo.

Wayne was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Gloria Colis who passed away in Belleville in 2009, two brothers, Dean McKinley of Belleville, William "Bill" McKinley of Florida and a sister, Catherine Hinerman.

Born May 20, 1921 in Freeburg he was the fourth of five children of the late, Lemuel Ransom "L. R." McKinley and Catherine Stevenson McKinley. Shortly after Wayne was born L. R. established one of the first Chevrolet automobile dealerships in Southern Illinois, operated as L.R. McKinley and Sons Incorporated on West Main Street in Belleville from 1921 until 1975. In 1949, Wayne established the satellite dealership known as O'Fallon Motor Co. Inc. in O'Fallon, Illinois selling new and used Chevrolet cars for nearly 55 years from the same location on South Lincoln Avenue.

He was the last surviving, original founder of the Bank of O'Fallon, in O'Fallon, Illinois which he helped to establish in 1959 and was an honorable member of Kiwanis International for 65 years. Wayne was a businessman, a philanthropist, and well-respected member of the communities of Belleville and O'Fallon and was known for his trademark smile and ever-present suit and tie, even underneath his coveralls when working on his antique car collection. He was widely known throughout the United States and worldwide for his love and adventures with antique automobiles. He was a collector's collector who loved to show his collection and share his vast knowledge about early automotive history. He was a friend to all who knew him; kind and generous of his time, his wit, his wisdom, and his possessions and never spoke ill of anyone.



# A Classic Lincoln on Route



An Indiana Region Classic Car Club CARavan: July 12 - 17

Join us for this scenic and historical fun-filled motoring experience in two states! Visit some outstanding automobile collections, learn more about our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln, and drive along a portion of Route 66 with surprises thrown in!

## Monday, July 12

3:00pm Check in Hampton Inn, Zionsville  
6:00pm Reception and Dinner in downtown Zionsville included



## Tuesday, July 13

6:00 am Breakfast at hotel included  
8:00 am Rural Scenic Drive to Hooperston, IL  
10:00 am Coffee stop  
10:30 am Drive to Lexington, IL  
12 pm Tour and Lunch of Castle Gardens included  
1:45 pm Drive to Pontiac IL on Route 66  
3:00 pm Tour Pontiac and Route 66 Museum included  
5:00 pm Hampton Inn, Pontiac IL check-in  
6:00 pm Dinner at Bernardi's Restaurant included

## Wednesday, July 14

6:00 am Breakfast at hotel included  
8:00 am Drive South on Route 66  
9:00 am Coffee Break in Atlanta, IL  
10am Continue along Route 66 to Springfield, IL  
12:15pm Lunch/Entrance to Lincoln Museum included  
1:30pm Explore other Lincoln sites on your own  
5:00pm Spring Hill Suites, Springfield, IL Hotel check-in and dinner on your own





**Thursday, July 15**

- 6:00 am Breakfast at the hotel included
- 8:00 am Drive to Lincoln's Tomb and War Memorial
- 9:15 am Drive to Monticello, IL
- 10:30 am Monticello Museum & Prairie Fire Glass Studio
- 12pm Lunch on your own in Monticello
- 1:00 pm Drive to Seymour, IL Zumdahl Auto Collection
- 3:00 pm Drive to and check in at Allerton Park Retreat Center
- 3:15 pm Free time to explore the grounds
- 6:00 pm Dinner at Retreat Center included

**Friday July 16**

- 6:30 am Breakfast at Retreat Center included
- 8:00 am Drive to Urbana, IL
- 8:30 am Visit the Strong Automobile Collection
- 10:00 am Drive to Newport, IN
- 11:15 am Lunch and background on historic Newport Hill Climb included
- 1:30 pm Drive to Carmel, IN and check in at Marriott Renaissance Indpls North
- 4:00pm Picnic Dinner and Polo Match ticket and parking included

**Saturday July 17**

- 9:00 am Drive to Lafayette, IN
- 10:30 am Visit Gams automobile collection and lunch included
- 1:15pm Drive to Frankfort, IN
- 2:00pm Miller Automobile Collection and ice cream break included
- 3:15pm Return to Hotel
- 6:15pm To Indianapolis for dinner at the Wolf Automobile Collection included



Coordinator Stephen Tarr, Cell: 610-742-7878, Email: [sdtarr@aol.com](mailto:sdtarr@aol.com)

STEP 1: Mail completed form and non-refundable CARAvan fee of \$300 payable to Classic Car Club of America, 3501 Algonquin Rd, Suite 300, Rolling Meadows, Il 60008. Phone: 847-390-0043.

STEP 2: Mail completed form and event registration fee of \$555 to cover car and driver. Payable to Indiana Region CCCA, 6925 Knollcreek Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46256 or register online at [www.inrcca.org](http://www.inrcca.org). Registration includes goody bag, tour book, 1 breakfast outside of hotel reservations, 4 lunches, 5 dinners, 3 coffee breaks, 3 museum entrances, 1 Route 66 T-shirt, 1 polo match ticket and special parking, speakers on President Lincoln, and use of trouble truck. Additional adult passengers are \$555 each. Limit of 30 cars before waiting list established. Event fee 100% refundable if cancelled before 4/30. Refunds pro-rated until 5/31 when event fee becomes non-refundable.

## Die Cast Classic Cars in 1/18th Scale — Words and Photos By Jim Schild

The recent and seemingly ongoing COVID 19 pandemic has made finding other ways to enjoy and appreciate Full-Classical Cars even more important. Model cars of all types is a way to enjoy cars I might or might not ever have since I was nine or ten years old and Classics are no different. Choices are broad and you might find interest in models from 1/64th to 1/18th to large 1/6th scale. We are going to look at some 1/18th scale models here although some are actually a little larger. The difference is not readily noticeable unless they are displayed side by side so I am categorizing them as being the same. These are a few of favorite and more rare models that I hope you enjoy. I have no idea if all of these are still available but they are interesting to study and enjoy in any case.



Above is a 1932 Maybach DS 6 Zeppelin convertible.



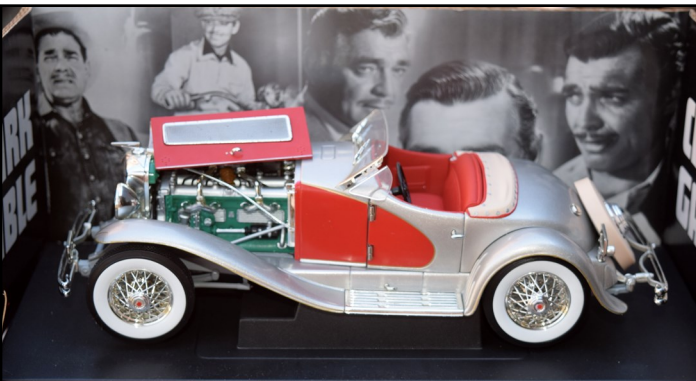
Above is a 1938 Horch 855. Below is a 1931 Peerless.



A 1935 Auburn 851 Speedster.



This is a wonderful model of Gary Coopers SSJ Duesenberg displayed in an open sided box with pictures of Cooper inside. Look closely and you will see that this car is accurately different than the SSJ below that is associated with Clark Gable. Notice the rear fenders, taillights and other details that vary between the cars.



This is a 1/18th scale model of the Duesenberg SSJ that has been associated with Clark Gable. It was owned for years by CCCA member Al Ferrara in Indiana.



*1929 Cord L-29 Hayes/deSakhnoffsky coupe*



*My newest Classic is this 1929 Cadillac 341B Fisher CC.*



*1938 Cadillac V-16 Fleetwood Town Cabriolet.*



*A detail view of the interior of the 1938 Cadillac V-16.*



*1947 Cadillac series 62 Convertible Coupe.*

*Right: Clark Gable driving his SSJ Duesenberg.*



# Annual Jaguar Club Rallye/Tour

Text and Photos By Todd Tobiasz

Seventeen cars and numerous participants gathered on the nicest Saturday weather-wise in St Louis in 2021. Who would have thought a week ago that we'd have sun and 55 degrees and all the snow would be gone? Phil Taxman and Jim Hendrix organized the annual Jaguar Rallye/Tour. Being also Spirit Region members they invited members of CCCA to join in the fun. Participating from the club were Sonia and Bob Abbott, Rose and John Gibson, John Hartmann and Janie Ziegler, Sylvia Keller and Larry Hassel, Lisa and Jim Hendrix, John Lowell, Lupe and Phil Taxman and Amber and Todd Tobiasz. The drive took us through lesser traveled roads from South County to Ste. Genevieve. I lost count of the number of creek crossings that were announced with a "Impassable during high water" sign. The dining room at Chaumette Winery was reserved for us so there was no problem distancing during lunch. Then for many of us it was a short trip down the road to the Cave Winery for a wine tasting and a view of the local natural wonder. Thanks to Jim and Phil for organizing the trip and inviting SSR.



# Awakening a Sleeping Beauty

By Jim Schild.

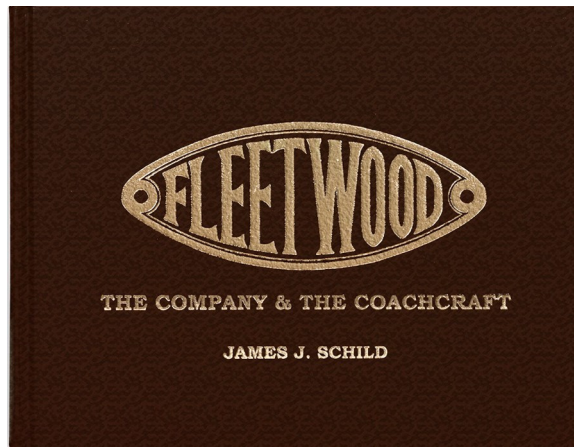
Outside pictures by Larry Hassel

It turned out to be a very good thing when National Museum of Transportation Curator Coby Ellison asked us to bring our 1929 Cadillac to the Museum for an upcoming exhibit on Cadillacs. The car has been sleeping quietly in the back corner of our garage since November 1998 and I needed this goal of getting it out to force me to do what I

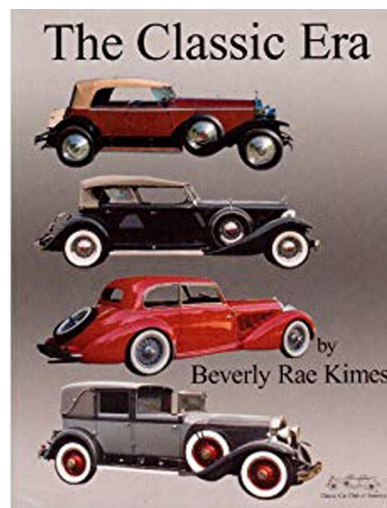
should have done years ago. When any automobile has been stored for this long there are a number of things that need to be done. A thorough cleaning was a big part of that chore but there can also be surprises, There is no hydraulic system on most cars this old so seized brake cylinders are not a problem but the fuel system will need service, along with tires. Fortunately the clutch was not stuck, as could happen sometimes. I could have never accomplished this job without the generous help of friends Larry Hassel and Stephen Noll whose substantial muscle made pushing vehicles possible. In addition to moving the 5,420 pound Cadillac, we had to push a 4,770 pound Rolls-Royce and a 2,000 pound 1909 Auburn by hand. My 1931 Ford AA truck runs and drives so it moved under its own power. Stephen Noll worked very hard on all of the vehicles and especially hard cleaning the Cadillac. It took everyone, including Myrna to get the car into the trailer in the rain but we made it.



## THE CLASSIC BOOKSHELF



The SSR Region proudly announces a re-issue of the book *Fleetwood, The Company and The Coachcraft*, by Region member James J. Schild. Long out of print, and a must for all Classic Car enthusiasts, the book is printed on high quality paper, and is the authoritative work on Fleetwood coachwork supplied to the finest American and European car manufacturers. Awarded the prestigious **Maurice Hendry Award** for excellence in journalistic contributions by the Cadillac & La Salle Club in 2012, and the **Thomas McKean Memorial Cup** by the Antique Automobile Club of America in 2013. Brown leatherette cover with gold foil stamping, 464 pages, 1100 b/w illustrations. \$99.50 postpaid. International buyers, please contact us for a shipping quote. Order your copy today from the SSR Region via email at [ssr.ccca@yahoo.com](mailto:ssr.ccca@yahoo.com), or via our webstore at [www.spiritccca.com](http://www.spiritccca.com).



The SSR has a limited supply of the award winning book, *The Classic Era*, by the late Beverly Rae Kimes, available for sale. Hardcover, 8-1/2 x 11, 720 Pages. The top and bottom cover Classics are owned by SSR members. These books are brand new and a must for the Classic Car enthusiast. \$50.00. To reserve a copy, contact Bob Radel at 314-991-3590.



**For Sale:** Going through a cedar chest I discovered a hand woven lap robe in absolutely mint condition-----NEW ! Size 40 x 140 inches. Beautiful colors, needs nothing but a Classic Car. Perfect condition. Call **Bob Radel: 314-991-3590**

**For Sale.** Collection of various car books that I have collected over the years. Would like to sell all as a lot. Art of the auto, Adler, 232 pages; Encyclopedia of the American Automobile, Ludvigsen, Wise, 224 pages; Great Cars from Ford, Langworth, 96 pages; American Motors Album, American Motors, 146 pages; Cars of the Stars, Clymer, 152 pages; Cabriolets, Thevenet, Vann, 208 pages; Early American Clymer, 213 pages; Roadside Relics, Shiers 205 pages; Sports Cars of the World, Halmi, 120 pages; Sports Cars 1928 to 1939, Nicholson, 125 pages; Chevrolet Story, Published in 1963, General Motors, 80 pages. All books in excellent to very good condition with dust covers and no pages missing. Sell all! \$100 bucks! Call **Bob Radel: 314-991-3590**.

Jim Schild  
5 Rowan Oak Lane  
Columbia, IL 62236



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 2021

TBD

April 2021

>> March April 2021 Spark Plug Submission Deadline

20 April 2021

TBD

May 2021

TBD