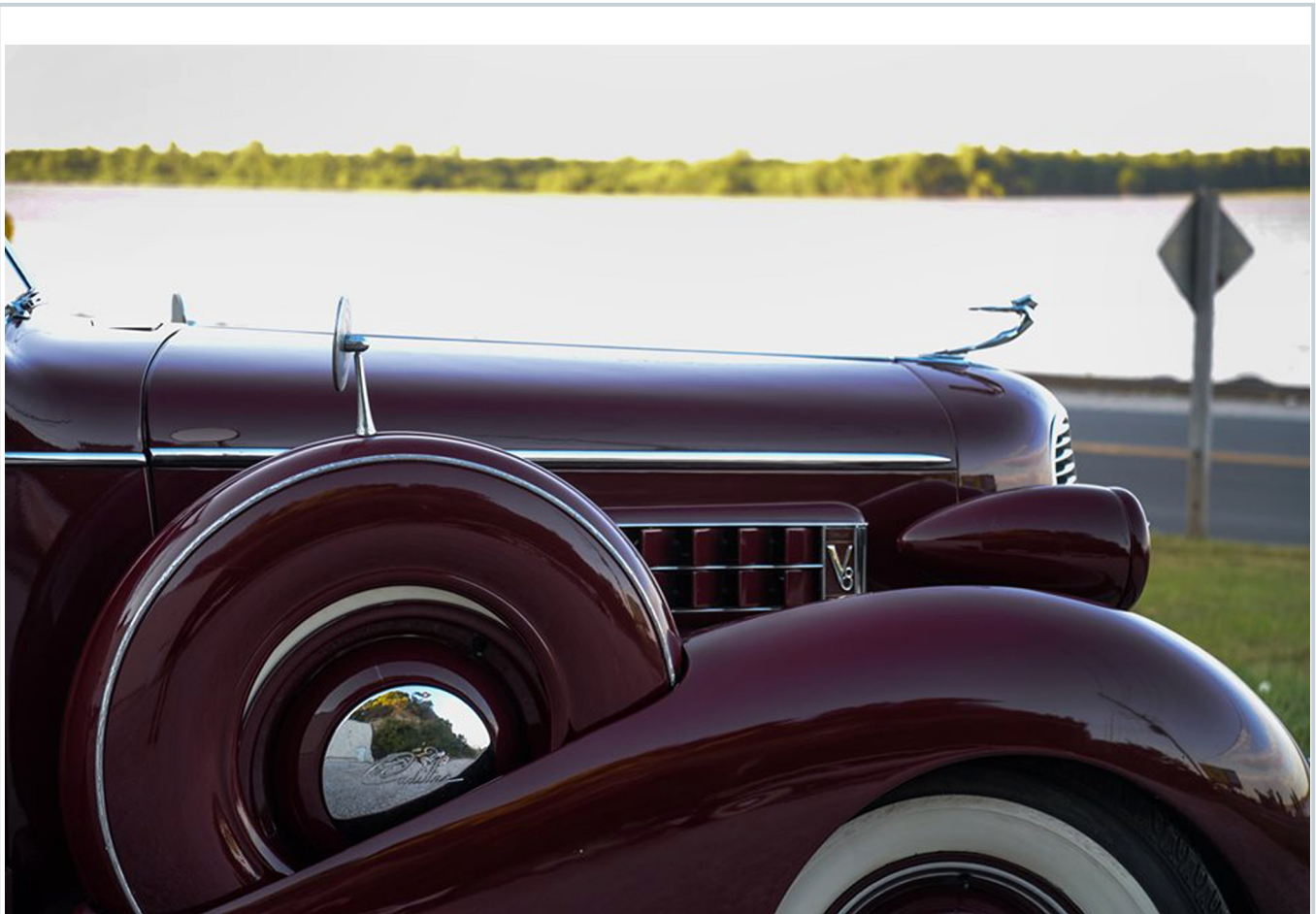


# THE SPARK PLUG

News to spark your interest

November/December 2019

Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America



Todd and Amber Tobiasz' 1936 Cadillac V-8 Convertible Sedan. Photo by Larry Hassel

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Larry Hassel (2020)

Robert Bruce (2020)

Dave Groerich (2020)

Jim Gormley (2021)

Rob Hosenfelt (2021)

Duane Wesche (2021)

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## SPARK PLUG NEWSLETTER

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Jim Schild  
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# Director's Message

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This has been an exciting year of activities in the Spirit of St. Louis Region; one filled with lots of good fellowship at Spirit Nights and well planned tours to interesting places. If you haven't been able to participate as much as you would have liked to, why not consider our last scheduled activity of the year. Of course, I'm talking about the upcoming Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 3, 2019, at the National Museum of Transportation, where we will celebrate and remember the fun times we had during the past year. I hope you can make it!

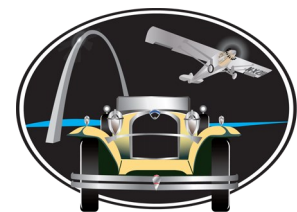
A word of thanks to those who planned, or assisted in the planning of one or more of the events this past year. A lot of time and effort goes into each and every activity, and I'm grateful to those individuals who got involved and took the ball and ran with it. I'm also thankful for the dedicated group of members who form our leadership team, including both officers and Board of Managers, who with their time and talent help me with the direction of the Club throughout the year.

Let's do more of the same next year.....suggest a favorite place to meet for a Spirit Night, plan a tour or submit an article for the *Spark Plug* newsletter or *The Spirit* magazine.....these things continue to help make our Region one of the best in country!

Hey, what's *The Spirit* magazine, you ask? It's a new digital version of the Club's former award winning printed magazine, filled with interesting articles *and* even some video, designed by member Jim Gormley,

and written by a team of contributors from the Club. The inaugural issue will be out soon! It's the future of Club publications.....and SSR has set the standard!

John



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Classic Car Club of America

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# Across the Editor's Desk

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It is amazing how fast a year goes by but this one was a great one filled with lots of interesting tours and events for the Spirit of St. Louis Region members. The year was filled with a number of tours and events shared with other clubs and that made them more exciting than ever. We enjoy our Classics but to join with the members of the Jaguar Club, the Rolls-Royce Owner's Club and others broadens the automotive interests of everyone involved.

Our members also find a lot of ways to participate in other local and national events, shows and tours beginning with the ever popular Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri Easter Concours d'Elegance in the spring. Spirit Region Classics are always a hit at that event and bring along another opportunity to show the rest of the world what real Classic Cars are about. Later tours with the Rolls-Royce Owner's Club showed some of us what

British class is about with participants from the 1920s to the 1960s.

The year 2019 is not over yet and one of our most popular events is coming up very shortly. The Spirit of St. Louis Classic Car Club of America Annual Meeting will be held on November 3 at the National Museum of Transport in South West St. Louis County. If you have not yet sent in your reservations be sure to get them to John Lowell as quickly as possible as the deadline is Monday October 28. A flyer was sent by mail recently but if you missed that a form is included in this issue of the Spark Plug. This year's venue will provide a nice collection of automobiles and other historic vehicles to enjoy along with a great dinner and meeting with the members and friends. I hope to see all of you there. **Jim Schild**



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## In Memoriam Carl Moritz - 1928-2019

Carl Moritz, who passed on Sept. 16 (one day short of his 91st birthday), was born in St. Louis, where he lived most of his life and called home. He is survived by Betty, his wife of 42 years, and four children: Beth (Brock) Fitzgerald, Susan (Michael) Auinbauh, Carl Jr. (Susan) Moritz, and Christopher (Christine) Moritz, along with two stepchildren, Caren Libby and Barbara Killoren. He was a beloved grandfather to 16 grandchildren (Brooke Schaub, Lauren Wright, Bradley Fitzgerald, Kimberly Auinbauh, Pamela Rauh, Melanie Anderson, Eric Moritz, Paul Moritz, Andrew Moritz, Katie Moritz, William Moritz, Timothy Moritz, Kelly Chandler, Brian Lunt, Kyle Killoren and Gena Nolan) and 10 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his younger sister, Marie Stoltze.

For 30 years, Carl was a store manager and sales manager for Brod-Dugan Paint Co. before becoming an owner of two successful Maaco franchises. He was a passionate collector of antique cars and a member of the Model A Restorers Club and Classic Car Club. One of the highlights of his life occurred in 1999, when his 1934 Lincoln came in second place in the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.

A proud and dedicated member of Kiwanis Club, Carl was former president of the Crestwood Kiwanis Club and received special recognition for 50 years of service in 2015. He had a lifelong passion for sports and was a diehard fan of the Cardinals, Blues and Missouri Tigers. As a young man, he played semipro ball for the Missouri Pacific baseball team. He was a proud graduate of Beaumont High School who loved attending his class reunions, including the recent 70-year reunion. He lived by the motto, "Attitude is everything."

## A letter from a CCCA Member

Last Labor Day my wife Carol and I were on our way from Southeastern Indiana to Denver to participate in the Colorado CCCA Region Mini CARavan. We were pulling a trailer loaded with our 1937 Packard. Our tow vehicle was a Ford Excursion Diesel. Just west of St. Louis as we were straining to ascend a long incline there was an enormous bang that came from the engine compartment. I immediately knew what it was as this had happened before. The short silicone rubber hose connecting the turbocharger to an aluminum pipe which ran to the air-to-air intercooler had ruptured.

This being Labor Day I assumed we were in for an overnight stay until a repair shop could be located the next day. With no boost from the turbocharger the Excursion was capable of only 20 mph uphill and as much as 50 mph downhill. To make a long story shorter let me tell you that we spent five hours trying to find a fix before we ended up at an O'Reilly Auto Parts in Belleville, IL. The store had the correct silicone hose in a kit with two

clamps.

When Carol and I go on long driving trips we always take along our CCCA Roster in case we happen to be close to a car collection. We call ahead and the owner always graciously allows us to see his cars. We had our roster this trip and while I was in the parts store Carol found the name of a member in Bellville. His name was Rick Quirin and I gave him a call and asked if he could help me install the hose. I had tools but I was not able to climb up on the tall engine to do the job myself. To my disbelief Richard said he was just a block and a half from the parts store. I couldn't believe I could be so lucky! Richard told me to head his way and he would be in the street waving his arms. I found that not only was Richard a CCCA member, he was a restorer. Richard was so very gracious and would not allow me to get dirty as he installed the hose with no help from me. Afterwards, I opened the trailer door and proudly showed Richard my Packard. He called for his wife Jackie to come out and see the car as well.

I was surprised to find a fellow CCCA member so close when I needed help, but not surprised at all that he was willing to help someone he had never met. He even refused any compensation, but that I could not allow. So, don't forget to take your roster when you are traveling away from home. Richard "paid it forward" And if you are never near Greensburg, Indiana I would like to do the same.

## Larry Pumphrey



*Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA members enjoying themselves and their company at the September 2019 Spirit Night at the Brasserie by Niche on Laclede Avenue in the Central West End. Larry Hassel was the host.*



*The group was split into two tables at the Brasserie by Niche at our September Spirit Night but all seemed to have a great time and the food was very nice. Be sure to make plans to attend these monthly meetings next spring.*

## ADVERTISEMENTS

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

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

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### **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.

**Make checks payable to:  
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**Send payment and  
graphics to:  
Jim Schild,  
5 Rowan Oak Lane  
Columbia, IL 62236-4148**

**[jschild@htc.net](mailto:jschild@htc.net)**

**For more information con-  
tact: 618-281-3311**

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



I got a big thrill recently. I rode in the rumble seat of a 30's Packard straight 8 convertible. Pretty exciting at 40 mph on fairly empty suburban streets. Really crazy cool at 60 on the highway. My hair had a look that usually requires lots of gel.

Have you had a car thrill lately? Was it driving – were you hosting friends? Or were you riding along? The Classic Car Club facilitates experiences like these. Regional CCCA members provided Spring and Fall driving events.

Members hosted Spirit Nights to catch up with friends and hobbyists and plan the next event.

And that's just on the local level. National events take members all over the country or farther. It's fun to share time with others who enjoy the open road in a Classic car. I had two passengers for the Fall tour – Ed Hinrichs, a friend for 30 years and my former supervisor at McDonnell Douglas and Steve Colesworthy, a friend and fellow member of the Cadillac LaSalle Club. Our hosts, the Abbotts and Gibsons, were great. The route was well-prepared and enjoyable. Lunch was over-filling (the desserts were brought out first). I had a ball and by all accounts Ed and Steve did as well.

It's time to renew your membership for 2020. I've gotten confirmation of the first batch of renewals from the national office. Please try to renew while it is on your mind – either on-line or with the mailed reminder, while you can still find it. I'm looking forward to the annual dinner at the National Museum of Transportation. And I can't wait to see what the new year has in store.



*Jim Hendrix at Carl's Drive-in 60th Anniversary.*

# 2019 Pierce-Arrow Gathering at Gilmore

By Duane Wesche

The annual Pierce-Arrow Gathering at Gilmore, hosted by the Great Lakes Region, was held August 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>. Close to 80 people registered with 24 cars from as far away as Arizona, for the multi-day event.

The weather was absolutely gorgeous with low's in the 50's and high's in the 80's. The Gathering started with an early bird tour to Dick and Audrey Deming's car collection, near the Holiday Inn of Hastings, the tour base. No Pierces but some nicely restored cars, dozens of racing photographs that Dick had taken during his career and other auto and racing memorabilia.

After dinner back at the hotel, was the first of many ice cream events. The one constant, besides the cars, with this group is ice cream.

Friday morning dawned bright and sunny and the tour set out for Grand Rapids and the Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park. The place is beautiful and undergoing an extensive addition. Anyone who likes beautiful gardens and sculpture art should visit this place. It has one of the largest private sculpture collections and the gardens are such that one needs to take a tram ride just to see an overview of the place. After a nice luncheon, we drove to Bill Papke's and Kent and Susan Riddle's car collections. Bill has a small but unique collection with many one off and unusual cars including Evil Knievel's Lagonda.

The Riddle's collection is housed in a building connected to their home that they call the "Hobbit Hole". This collection includes some of the oldest and rarest cars I've seen, most unrestored, many just in pieces but several Classic Cars. They also happened to have purchased several pieces of Fred Guyton's collection including the Pierce Arrow trailer. I never expected to see it again! They are building a huge additional building to house vehicles currently stored elsewhere. Dinner and ice cream were served back at the hotel.



*This is George Quay's 1930 sedan that we got to drive around in on the first tour. This is my friend Barbara Smith.*

Saturday was a 100 mile tour that had as the first stop the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum in Lansing. This museum is a total immersion in everything Oldsmobile, from R.E. Olds life before automobiles all the way through to the end of GM Olds era. Some of the most interesting vehicles were what REO made after GM took over control of Oldsmobile.

After leaving the museum, it was a short drive to lunch, then a trip to the MOOville Creamery, a large commercial dairy farm that also has an ice cream shop. The tour continued to the Historic Charlton Park where the cars were parked along the street of restored historic buildings. This is called the Jewel of Barry County Michigan. After getting back to the hotel, there was just enough time to change and head to the Algonquin Lake Lodge for social time and the banquet.

Sunday was show day at the field in front of the Pierce-Arrow Museum at Gilmore. Cars were in place by 9am and judging ballots were turned in by 11:30am. The award ceremony and buffet luncheon began at 12:30. Unfortunately the ceremony started with the announcement that Loki, the unofficial mascot of the Great Lake's Region and owned by Greg Long, had passed that morning. Loki had gone on the tours on Thursday and Friday. It was a shock to the group. The day was very pretty, the BBQ was good but the drive home was long and the 5AM Monday morning alarm came way too early for work.



## **Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost Tour**

John Gibson, and Wendell Smith sent along these great pictures of their participation of the 2019 Silver Ghost Tour with the Rolls-Royce Owner's Club. Wendell took his beautiful Silver Ghost Limousine.



*This beautiful Fleetwood bodied Rolls-Royce phaeton is one of the few Rolls-Royce chassis bodied by the great Pennsylvania coachbuilder before they were taken over by Fisher Body and General Motors. John Gibson Photo*

*The Silver Ghost Tour ended up at the fabulous estate of Bill Kennedy near Morrisonville, Illinois. The group took the time to pose for this great shot of old car, many of them driving Full Classics, thoroughly enjoying the day.*



*Above and right: SSR members enjoying the October 1 Spirit Night at the interesting **Pan D'Olive** restaurant on McCausland Avenue in St. Louis. We had a great turnout with 22 in attendance and the food was very good.*



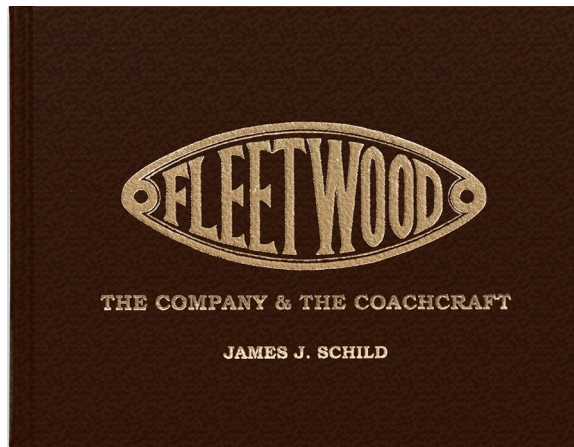


**Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America Mini-CARavan Tour  
October 5, 2019  
John Gibson—Host, Photos by Larry Hassel**

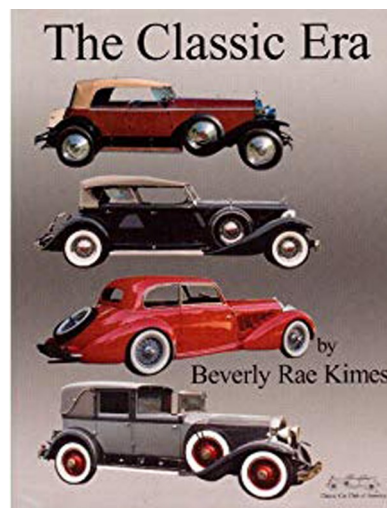
This tour was based on a similar event held by the Stanley Steamer Club called the “Great River Road Steam Car Tour.” The tour began at Bob Abbott’s Abbott Machine Company in Alton along the Great River Road. The tour ended later in the day in Hardin Illinois but the route took the group across two Ferries crossing the Illinois River twice. The entire tour took the group about 120 miles total. The following pictures by SSR member Larry Hassel present the highlights of the trip.



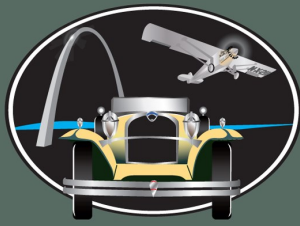
## THE CLASSIC BOOKSHELF



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.



Spirit of St. Louis Region  
Classic Car Club of America



# Annual Meeting

**Sunday, November 3, 2019 • 12:00pm**

The National Museum of Transportation  
2933 Barrett Station Rd, St. Louis, MO 63122

Founded in 1944, the National Museum of Transportation is one of the largest and most diverse collections of transportation vehicles in the world, and as all St. Louisans know, remains one of the many gems of our city. Our Annual Meeting will take place among the diverse collection of antique vehicles and historical artifacts housed in the Earl C. Lindburg Automotive Center on the grounds of the museum.



Our featured guest speaker will be Andrew Weil, the Executive Director of Landmarks Association of St. Louis, whose mission is to “preserve, enhance and promote St. Louis’ architectural heritage and to encourage sound planning and good contemporary design.” His presentation is entitled, “Using Historical Imagery as a Tool For Studying Land Use in St. Louis.”



LUNCH BUFFET

**RSVP by**  
October 28, 2019



Questions? Call John Lowell at 314.724.1493 or email [jlowell@lowellmfg.com](mailto:jlowell@lowellmfg.com)

Mail in the section below, with payment, to: SSR CCCA 6257 Rhodes Ave., St. Louis, MO 63109. Make checks payable to *Spirit of St. Louis CCCA*

..... Cut here .....

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **No. of Guests** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**No. in Party:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Any food allergies or special dietary requests? (Be specific please):

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 2019

>>SSR CCCA Annual Meeting, Museum of Transport

3 November, 2019

### December 2019
