

# THE SPARK PLUG

News to spark your interest

September/October 2019

Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America



Bob and Sonia Abbott's beautiful 1936 Lincoln 12 K, Touring was a winner.

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John Groll (2019)

Barb Knudsen (2019)

Todd Tobiasz (2019)

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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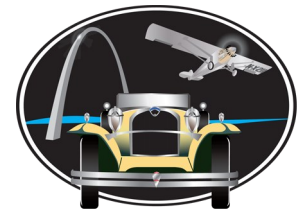
# Director's Message

At a recent stop at my local grocery store, I couldn't help but notice that pumpkins and jack-o-lantern items are already making their appearance inside and outside the store.....sure signs that the Summer is slowly giving way to the Fall. The Fall season also brings with it many bright, cool and colorful days to get your Classic out, either for an impromptu drive around the block to keep it in tip-top shape, or for an organized color tour, like the mini-CARavan from Alton, Illinois to Kampsville, Illinois and back that Bob Abbott and John Gibson have in store for us on Saturday, October 5, 2019. There is more detailed information about the tour inside this issue of *Spark Plug*.

Also on the Fall calendar are the two remaining Spirit Nights of the year, scheduled for Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> (note the new date) and Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Annual Picnic in late October. Finally, we conclude our year of activities with the Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. What better ways to share our passion for the Classics than to get together with like-minded enthusiasts at one or more of these events.

The weeks leading up to the Annual Meeting is also a time to call for candidates to fill the various leadership positions on the Board of Managers. Each Fall three members of the current Board step down after fulfilling their three-year commitment, and this year both the Director and Assistant Director roles will need new occupants. If you have an interest in getting more involved and have a desire to help chart the course of the Club in the years to come, then please let me know! The time commitment is not overwhelming, and watching our Region flourish is very rewarding.

John



Spirit of St. Louis Region  
Classic Car Club of America



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# Across the Editor's Desk

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This issue contains two great articles and pictures by Wendell Smith, John and Rose Gibson and Bob and Sonia Abbott about the wonderful out of town shows and Concours d'Elegance events they attended this season. These are some of our most active members and they take the opportunity to participate in every tour, show and concours possible throughout the year. This is what the Classic Car Club should be about and every member should look for their own opportunities to show, drive and enjoy their Classic Cars. These events are a great opportunity to inform the general public about our Classics and their history and art. Even if you don't yet have a running or finished Classic, you can still attend these events and enjoy the people and the cars.

Be sure to take advantage of our local club's **Spirit Nights** each month during the season. These Spirit Nights are our monthly meetings and are one of the best opportunities to meet and talk with other members. These meetings are held at various enjoyable and interesting restaurant locations around the greater St. Louis area and are on the first Tuesday of the month unless there are conflicts such as holidays when they may be on the second Tuesday evening. Usually 20 to 30 members attend and sometimes there are speakers or presentations to add to the value of the meeting.

A good example was our July Spirit Night held at Bartolino's Osteria Italian Restaurant in South St. Louis in the Drury Inn. Our Spirit Night for August was held at Crusoe's Italian Restaurant on Telegraph Road in South County. For some reason the attendance was very light for August but those who attended still enjoyed the food and the company. Member David Stephens hosted both events with great success. Be sure to attend these Spirit Night meetings and get the most of your Spirit of St. Louis Region CCA membership. Please take the opportunity to volunteer to host one yourself. The following pictures are from the July Spirit Night including Todd Tobiasz' 1931 LaSalle Coupe.



*Twenty two Spirit of St. Louis Region members enjoyed a great dinner and Fellowship at the July 2019 Spirit Night meeting at Bartolino's Osteria in South St. Louis County.*



Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
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## ADVERTISEMENTS

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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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**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

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8/20/2019

Our club roster will be coming out again soon. For those who study our demographics when the roster is issued, I don't think you'll see any really big change from how our club has looked the last few years. One interesting point is that about 25% of our members come from outside the geographical boundaries of the Spirit region. I should not be surprised. Several of our regional members belong to multiple regions. We have friends in neighboring regions. We've made friends during caravans or at an annual meeting and we want to keep up with them and the exciting events their clubs are involved in. I think the Spirit

region would be interested in going on the road and meeting up with one of the neighboring regions, maybe at some interesting byway half-way between us. Des Moines is about 340 miles, Nashville 320 miles, Kansas City 240 miles, all with lots of interesting spots to meet in between. Feel free to drop me a note at [ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net) if you have any ideas.

In the meantime be sure to check out the one-day mini caravan that John Gibson, Bob Abbott, Robert Schuman have worked out for Saturday, October 5. I've never made a river crossing by ferry before. There's also Carl's Drive In 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Sunday, Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, on Manchester (old route 66, first alignment 1926-1932) in Rock Hill. See the calendar for details.

Todd



# September Spirit Night

## *Brasserie by Niche*



**When:** Tuesday, September 10, 2019, 6:30 PM

**Where:** Brasserie by Niche  
4580 Laclede Ave, St. Louis, MO 63108

**Who's Invited:** You are, please come!

**Phone:** 314-454-0600

*Brasserie by Niche is a French Restaurant in the Central West End,  
known for delicious cuisine and cocktails.*

*Organized by Larry Hassel*

# Concours D'Elegance 2019 Report

By Wendell Smith

Over the past few years I have been reporting on shows I have attended that are outside the St. Louis region. On the east coast the Amelia Island show is held in the spring and on the west coast Pebble Beach is held annually during late summer. My participation in Amelia Island and Pebble Beach has been as an attendee without a car. I consider these the best two shows in the nation. With these two prestigious events you either have to have a perfect restoration or an extremely rare car to be extended an invitation to show. Both of these events also have several major auctions prior to the show (Bonham's, RM, Meacham, etc.) You have probably seen some of the car auctions at these shows on TV.

I typically try to show a car at two concours events in the central United States each year. Bob and Sonia Abbott, John and Rose Gibson, and Jan and I typically travel together to these events. This year we went to the Concours d'Elegance at Copshaholm in South Bend, Indiana, and the Milwaukee Concours d'Elegance in Wisconsin.

## Copshaholm Concours pictures by Wendell Smith

Unlike the free shows in St. Louis, the shows we attend in other communities are juried. The application consists of photographs and a write-up on the car we want to enter along with an application fee. The public attending the show pay around twenty dollars to attend. A nice colored booklet featuring the cars is provided and the show proceeds are designated for local charities.

I really enjoy attending the out-of-town concours events. Typically there is a fun optional driving tour during the day prior of the show. The shows feature variety extremely high quality vehicles, and the public attendees, perhaps because they pay admission, are extremely interested in the cars.

The photos accompanying this article serve to illustrate the fun experience represented in regional out-of-town shows. Others in the club interested in experiencing an out-of-town regional show would be welcome to tag along with us next year.



*Bob and Sonia accepting their First in Class Award for their 1936 Lincoln at Copshaholm, Indiana.*



## Milwaukee Concours at Veteran's Park along Lake Michigan. Pictures by Wendell Smith.



*Our group at dinner. John, Rose, Jan, Wendell, Bob, Sonia.*



### Interested in Serving on the Board of Managers?

If you have an interest in getting more involved in the Club, why not consider running for one of three upcoming vacancies on the Board of Managers. How about Director or Assistant Director? You will be helping chart the course of the Club in the years to come. The time commitment is not overwhelming, and watching the Club flourish is very rewarding.



*Bob's car -the red ribbon was awarded to cars that successfully completed the 100 mile tour the day before the show.*

## Spirit of St. Louis Region Mini-CARavan 2019

Bob Abbott and John Gibson had the opportunity in 2014 and again in 2018 to tour with the National Stanley Steamers Club for their "Great River Road Steam Car Tour". We are going to motor on a similar route for our SSR-CCCA Mini-CARavan. We traveled in Bob's 1917 Packard Twin Six both years and the car performed well, and without incident. This is a great opportunity for you to dust off your Classic or modern iron and enjoy the scenic views of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, which include several small towns along the route. We will be traveling through the areas which were impacted by the record-breaking flooding earlier this year. You will see, firsthand, the resilience of the individuals who live in the Calhoun County area. With any luck, we should experience the peak time of the fall colors, which are always exceptional on the River Roads. As always, modern iron is certainly okay if you are concerned about the dependability of your Classic. The route from Abbott's is approximately 120 miles with lunch at the half way point.

We will start at Abbott Machine Company, located at 700 West Broadway, Alton Illinois. We will be departing from the manufacturing shop, which is just past the smoke stack on the Great River Road. It is an extension of Broadway in Alton. There is a parking lot right past the company's office that will be available for staging. Bob has done some extensive reorganization of his manufacturing facility and graciously agreed to provide a short tour prior to our departure. Light morning refreshments will be available if time permits.

### Timing:

Abbott Machine Company Tour time will be from 8:15 – 8:45 A.M.

Departure time will be 9:00 A.M.

Lunch will be at the RiverDock around 11:30 A.M. in Hardin, Illinois, which is the midpoint of the tour. (Lunch is on your own)

Return will be back to Abbott's or other routes of your own determination.

### Travel:

We will be traveling the four lane River Road, 2 lane county roads and 2 lane highways. We will also be crossing the Illinois River twice on ferries. Bob Schuman and John Gibson reran the route in July and will be providing detail route guide information for your trip.

### Please Note:

Cell Phone Service is limited.

Emergency Road Service is limited.

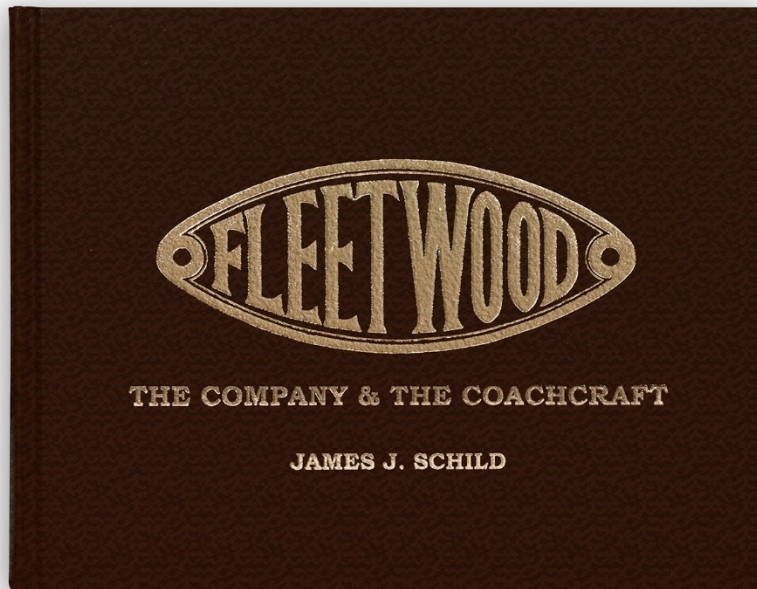
Gas Stations are limited to Grafton and Hardin.

Rest Rooms are limited but we will be traveling through three small towns before lunch.

Questions: Call John Gibson at 618-975-3722



New Spirit Region Project.....coming soon!



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).

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## In Memoriam

Many of you who are long time members of the SSR-CCCA knew and remember former member Ken Hundelt and his wife Martha. I am saddened to inform you that Martha Hundelt passed away recently after a long illness. Visitation was Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Shepard Funeral Chapel, 9255 Natural Bridge Road. Funeral Mass was Monday, August 19 at St. Ann Catholic Church. Martha's family suggests that donations in her memory be made to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of St. Louis, 3450 Park Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63104.

Jim Schild  
5 Rowan Oak Lane  
Columbia, IL 62236



## Car Storage Space Available

SSR member Robert Pass has five spaces available in his private, climate controlled and sprinklered building near the intersection of I-170/Page at 8436 St. John Industrial Drive, Saint Louis, Missouri 63114. The cost is \$200.00/month per car and \$100.00/month per trailer.

If you need car storage, please contact Robert at:

cell: 314-330-0877  
website: [Robertpass.com](http://Robertpass.com)  
email: [Robert@robertpass.com](mailto:Robert@robertpass.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### September 2019

Illinois Secretary of State Car Show, Springfield, Illinois	7 September, 2019
19th Annual Wheels in Motion Charity Car Show, Westport, St. Louis County	8 September, 2019
>>Spirit Night, Larry Hassel, Host, Host	10 September, 2019
HHCM Car Show and Swap Meet, Chesterfield Mall, Elliot Cytron	15 October, 2019
British Car Show, Creve Coeur Park, St. Louis County	21 September, 2019
Brass & Nickle Car Show. Museum of Transportation	2019
St. Charles Oktoberfest Car Show, First Capital Auto, St. Charles, Missouri	29 September, 2019

### October 2019

>>Spirit Night, Host and Location TBD	1 October, 2019
>>SSR CCCA Mini-CARavan, Alton Kampsville, IL	5 October, 2019
Cadillac & La Salle Club Show, Museum of Transportation	6 October, 2019
AACA Eastern Division Meet, Hershey, PA.	9-12 October, 2019
Carls' Drive-In 60th Anniversary, Rock Hill, MO.	13 October, 2019
HCCM Fall Driving Tour	20 October, 2019
>>SSR Spark Plug Submission Deadline	20 October 2019
>>SSR CCCA Annual Picnic, location and date TDD	TBD

### November 2019

>>SSR CCCA Annual Meeting, Location TBD	3 November, 2019
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