

Cadillac LaSalle Club Grand National 2011

Peach State shows up in force August 9-14!

This year's Cadillac & LaSalle Grand National meet was held in Columbus OH. What a wonderful showing of classic iron! CLC reported that there were 272 cars registered for judging, and my guess is that there were another 50 or so there for display. There were over 800 participants registered for the show...



Ms Peach State, Martina Butler, welcomes us to the Grand National in Columbus Ohio! MAH-velous!!!



much shorter distances to travel. Wait til next year when the GN is in nearby St. Augustine, FL!

Peach State region was very well represented by Bob and Judy Winchell, national board member Martina Butler and husband Frank, Bob Hendershott, Rob Compton, Jack McClow, Bob Norrid, Sandy Partridge, Art Gardner, Jay Friedman, Bill Greene, Michael Linthicum, Josie Starnes, Bill Tilden, and yours truly. The 16 of us surely intimidated those large midwestern groups, who had so





Congratulations are in order for Bill Greene, whose '28 LaSalle won first place in its Senior division. It is a thing of beauty, Bill, and the trophy was well deserved. Glad you brought it, and happy you were there to earn the honors!



Besides the swap meet and workshops on gauges, clocks and AC, there was a tour of the S & S limousine body works, a tour of the Wright-Patterson Air Base in Dayton, a visit to

the Franklin Park Conservatory (home of some of the most beautiful Dale Chihuly glassware), and a visit to the Ohio Theater – an even more ornate though smaller theater in a class with our own Fox Theater. We dined out at some fine steak houses and made a bus trip to Der Dutchman, a HUGE family-themed Amish restaurant in Plain City (below).



Bob Norrid, Jack McClow, Martina and Frank Butler & Michael Linthicum with CLC president Lars Kneller & wife.

Did I mention there were 300 Cadillacs and LaSalles on display? I have said it many times, but it's true. The mind can only grasp so much automotive beauty in one sweep of the eyes. I found myself

walking right past a line of '57 and '58 Eldorado Broughams – fewer than a 1,000 of these were ever minted – and I simply could not stop to pore over them because my brainpan was maxed out! You think I'm kidding? Take a look at the red one here.



I knew it was there, but I never even got a chance to look inside... and you know that I am a total FREAK about the '57s and '58s... This car had the entire vanity set, perfume bottle and pen and all, and the magnetic setup of shot glasses for the glove box. Perfection!



Past president Glenn Brown (center rear) with some Peach State CLC friends at the S & S limo works!

I drove the '66 Sedan de Ville, and she made it a great trip. My, there were some nice pieces among those '65s and '66s!

One of the best things about a GN is the connections one makes with folks who love Cadillacs as much as we do. I became reacquainted with several of my Cadillac friends from Oregon, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Michigan, Tennessee, Missouri and other locations. We swapped stories about tires and repairs, we shared tips on where to find cornering lamps, we even dreamt of the days when we can afford the Cadillacs of our dreams.



I was fortunate enough to get to test drive my friend Ron Zahn's 2011 Cadillac CTS-V coupe, and that's a story for another day. But the best part of it all, and I say this without a shred of irony or ornery-ness, was getting to spend



some quality time with my very good friends from Peach State. You guys ROCK!

-- Doug Bailey