# PEACH STATE CADILLAC & LASALLE CLUB: 2018 ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

... winners of the 2016 Norm Uhlir Award!

#### 1. SPECIAL MEMBER SERVICES:

- National Service: Martina Butler continues to represent Peach State on the CLC BOD. Her twice-annual reports are posted immediately to our web site under "Organization." Martina co-chairs the CLC awards committee. Doug Bailey serves as a member of the CLC's National Meets and Tours Committee (NMTC) and coordinates on the touring program with Stephen Page
  - Tours Committee (NMTC), and coordinates on the touring program with Stephen Page. Peach State donated a display to the museum and sent a check with Ms. Butler to the January 2019 Board meeting in Murfreesboro for the CLC Museum and Research Center.
- Peach State CLC Web site The TAILFIN: <a href="www.PeachStateCLC.org">www.PeachStateCLC.org</a> Our webmaster, Sandy Barth, was presented the CLC award for Webmaster of the Year for 2017 at the GN in San Marcos. We are sporting the CLC's Web Site Merit Award on our home page. We update information almost DAILY, integrating Facebook and Twitter, as well as Google Calendar. This site is now our automated newsletter, a daily news source!
- Weekly Communication: Our Communications Directors, Lee and Mary Jean Dunn have taken over from president Doug Bailey for routine and spontaneous email "blasts" to all our members. We share links to the TAILFIN for answers to our members' questions. We are adding to our Members' pages and Buy-Sell page regularly.
- *Member of the Year Awards:* Each year we seek nominations for "Member of the Year." Board members are not eligible, allowing us to recognize those members who are active. We want to draw these outstanding members deeper into leadership of the club. We named Judy Winchell our 2018 member of the year, based on her annual hosting of our Christmas banquet. Check awards: http://www.peachstateclc.org/honors--awards.html
- *Most Active Member Awards:* Activities Director Tom Di Nucci tracks member participation in club events with a spreadsheet. Over half our members participated in at least one of our 25 major activities in 2018. At the banquet in December the most active member receives the *Richard Dunford* Most Active Member Award, named for our most active member in 2016, who passed away before he could claim the prize. Members Donald and Dollie Smalley won in 2018, having participated in a dozen major events.
- *Birthday and Sympathy support:* Membership Director Lucille O'Neill tracks members' birthdays and anniversaries, sends out cards, and posts news to our Facebook page. She gets the word out about illnesses and losing family members. We contribute to these folks' causes, or flowers to the family, and try our best to send our leaders to funerals. Our *In Memoriam* page on the web site celebrates our many recent losses.
- **Board activity:** Sandy Barth has started her fifth year as Secretary. Michelle Anderson will serve her fifth year in the Treasurer's position. Lucille O'Neill moved into her first year as the Membership Director. Mark Nichols is in his second year as Vice President, and the Dunns are serving in their first year as Co-Communications Directors. Doug Bailey (President) and Tom Di Nucci (Activities) are serving for another year.
- *Finances:* The club's accounts are in good shape. We take great pride in supporting the CLC Museum. Our campaign to raise money by selling Challenge Coins continues. You



- can see them promoted in the Directory and on our web site under "Buy-Sell" go out and buy one!
- REGIONAL MEETS AND ACTIVITIES: For the seventh year in a row, our Cadillacs and LaSalles averaged a significant event on the road every other week in 2018. That requires sustained attention to details. We explore Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, and show off our classic Caddies while reinforcing lifelong friendships. We believe our membership grows, and hangs in with us a lot longer, because every member can find a lot of attractive things to do each month, ranging from daily "drives and dines" to two full, three-day driving tours, as well as the Grand National meet and the National Driving Tours. The 2018 calendar was packed with 25 major events (not including cruise-ins) led by Tom and Linda Di Nucci. See photos here: <a href="http://www.peachstateclc.org/past-events-2016-2018.html">http://www.peachstateclc.org/past-events-2016-2018.html</a>
- *January:* Road Rally at Blue Moon Motorcycles. We toured Member John Landstrom's museum and had a catered BBQ lunch. We attended a regular winter cruise-in at Piedmont Church with another car club, the Retired Old Men Eating Out (ROMEOs). We also had our first Cadillac Clinic of the Year at Cadillac of Lake Lanier in Gainesville, hosted by Member Marty Pecora, our Cadillac dealership partner.
- *February:* Our Chili Cook-off at Dick Peden's was on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, honoring past president Dave Comstock, and kicking off the year's events planning. We had over 80 members and guests sample chili while sitting among Peden's classics. On the 11<sup>th</sup> we hosted a Valentine's Day Brunch at Garland Mountain Sporting Clays and Grill, where 30 of us enjoyed brunch, a one-day driving tour to the north Georgia mountains, and shooting clay pigeons.
- *March:* On two successive weekends we displayed our cars at the Marietta opening of Canton's theater for "Driving Miss Daisy." It was a huge success, and theater goers loved the period-correct Cadillacs parked out front! A few of us participated in Atlanta's St. Patrick's Day parade, carrying the featured Make-A-Wish guests. After, we met the Packard and Hudson Clubs for a tour of the Atlanta History Center and the Swan House. There were excellent photo ops for the cars out front of this historic mansion.
- *April:* On the 1<sup>st</sup> we had a great turnout for the annual Avondale Easter Parade in Decatur. After, we hosted a picnic where other clubs (Early Ford V-8s) joined us. From the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> we conducted our annual PSCLC Spring Driving Tour. Sixteen of us drove seven Cadillacs to Chattanooga for a three-day tour of the aquarium, the riverboat, Rock City, and surrounding countryside. Many of these cars earned CLC tour badges with over 500 miles for the CLC Touring Program. PSCLC continues to lead all CLC regions with the single most touring badges of any region. We attended the Riverstone Cruise-in on the 21<sup>st</sup>.
- *May:* On the 5<sup>th</sup> we participated in the ROMEO cruise-in at Piedmont Church. On the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> we hosted the 37<sup>th</sup> annual BOPC Show, a circus-like atmosphere event in Marietta. We had a great turnout for our pre-show Ruth's Chris-catered banquet on Friday evening. On the day of the show with wonderful spring weather we had about 125 Buicks, Olds, Pontiacs and Cadillacs on the field. Food trucks, raffles, awards in 26 classes as well as Best Buick, Olds, Pontiac and Cadillac, Best of Show, Peoples' Choice it was a huge success. The Cadillac club has a reputation for throwing a great event!
- *June:* Peach State had 35 members in San Marcos for the Grand National meet. Seventeen of us drove 1,000 miles or more to the meet, and 15 were in vintage Cadillacs.

Most of us set aside two weeks for this trip. Among our trophy winners were Best of Show post-war, Ansel Sackett, Webmaster of the Year, DeCou Long Distance Award, Hard Luck Award, 1<sup>st</sup> in Modified, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Primary. On June 16<sup>th</sup> we had a great turnout of ten Cadillacs for the Father's Day cookout at Sandy Springs Place, an assisted living center where the residents love the old Cadillacs.

- *July:* On July 4<sup>th</sup> we had several Cadillacs in the Dunwoody Independence Day parade and this year none overheated! On the 14<sup>th</sup> we toured the Cofer Collection of Thoroughbreds: A remarkable local collection of Packards, Duesenbergs, Auburns, Cords, Pierce-Arrows, Marmons and Cadillacs. Later, our Cadillacs were featured by the Downtown Tucker merchants committee. We parked 20 down the center of Main Street! On the 21<sup>st</sup> we gathered as a club at member Steve Sauer's museum for a video shoot and lunch, and 22 members and guests toured Steve's collection of models and memorabilia.
- *August:* Summer months typically find 7-8 Cadillacs at cruise-ins in Canton, Tucker, the Galaxy Diner, and in Jasper, Acworth, and other cities. On the 18<sup>th</sup> we had a dozen cars and 25 people on another road rally, this time to Ball Ground, GA, where we visited a private car collection and hit the "Burger Bus" for lunch.
- September: On the 1<sup>st</sup> we went back to Marietta's ROMEO cruise-in. On the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Labor Day, our Fifties Cadillacs helped raise money in Marietta to support a food pantry and youth sports. On the 7<sup>th</sup> we departed for Lake Eufaula Alabama to begin our three-day Fall Driving Tour. We began at a MOPAR museum, then took in the Tuskegee Airmen's museum (Red Tails), before settling in to the lodge at Lake Eufaula. We toured the town's historic homes and feted CLC and PSCLC Life Member George Celani (former Cadillac Motors trucker). It was a 450-mile round trip, and again many of our drivers scored CLC touring miles toward their grille badges. On the 15<sup>th</sup> we held our Members Appreciation "Picnic" at Serenity Cellars Vineyards in the north Georgia mountains. There were 34 members in attendance and nearly two dozen Cadillacs. The club supplies everything but the wine to show our appreciation. On the 29<sup>th</sup> six of our Cadillacs were featured on the Saturday field for the Atlanta concours, and on Sunday's field several other Cadillacs made the grade. Paul Phillips took a major award.
- *October:* A few Cadillac folks joined the Atlanta Allante Club for its Fall Tour to New Switzerland NC on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. But the rest of us took a much-needed break.
- *November:* On the 3<sup>rd</sup> the club took a ride in the country and gathered at the Woodbridge Inn in Jasper for lunch. Nearly 20 members and at least ten Cadillacs then drove a short way through the north Georgia mountains to Fainting Goat Vineyards for an afternoon of wine tasting and camaraderie.
- *December:* Three of us participated in the annual Children's Christmas Parade on the 1<sup>st</sup>, hosted by Children's HealthCare of Atlanta. Later that day half a dozen Cadillacs joined ten Hudsons, an Essex and a few Packards at the Atlanta History Center. On the 15<sup>th</sup> we held our annual Awards Banquet and Christmas Party at Atlanta Country Club, hosted by member Judy Winchell. A packed house of 95 PSCLC members and guests celebrated our best year ever. We raised over \$1000 by auctioning memorabilia to offset the cost of the event. We determined that we would send a check of support for the CLCMRC.

#### 2. PARTICIPATION IN GRAND NATIONALS:

Peach State CLC is always well represented at GNs. We had 35 people in attendance for the 2018 meet in San Marcos. Fifteen drove their old Cadillacs, and most were displayed on the field, taking awards as follows:

- Don Ghareeb. Best of Show, Post-War.
- Paul and Janice Phillips, Ansel Sackett Award.
- Sandy Barth, Webmaster of the Year Award.
- Frank Butler III, The Self-Starter Author of the Year Award.
- Jill and Ron Pair. First Place, Modified
- Eddie and Suzanne Bibb. Second Place, Primary
- Mary Jean & Lee Dunn. DeCou Long Distance and Hard Luck Awards.
- Other PSCLC members present: Jack D'Laigle and daughter, '95 Brougham; Lewis Kelly and Alex McGilvray, '68 CDV; Jeff and Debi Butler, '96 Brougham; Vince and Karen Haaland, 2016 Cadillac CTS; Doug Bailey, '66 Eldorado; Stan and Debbie Tucker; Jack McClow and Bob Norrid; Martina and Frank Butler; Jeff and Gina Barnes; Vivian Connell; Barbara and Logan Williams; Buster Miller; Dave Coakley; Jay Friedman.

### 3. MEMBERSHIP STABILITY:

We are a leading region for membership growth.

- Activities and Membership: Peach State has added 178 new members in the years going back to 2008, for an average of 18 per year (we've added 18 in 2018). We are a "home away from home," where everyone loves at least one thing you love: ALL THINGS CADILLAC. People join because of the cars. But those who become active in club activities hang on making the club better because they love being with each other.
- We have just finished another growth year. We receive invitations to gatherings of old car aficionados weekly because those promoters have learned *Peach State CLC is a club that shows up in numbers*. In 1988 Peach State consisted of six FOUNDING members. Between '88 and 2000 the club added an average of 1.5 members per year. In 2001 we added 10 new members, and from '02 through 2007 Peach State averaged 3 new members a year. Here's what the growth rate has looked like from 2008 through 2018:
  - 2008: 13 new members
  - 2009: 10 new members
  - 2010: 16 new members
  - 2011: 20 new members
  - 2012: 22 new members
  - 2013: 16 new members

- 2014: 19 new members
- 2015: 15 new members
- 2016: 19 new members
- 2017: 20 new members
- 2018: 18 new members

As regards membership statistics, Peach State was judged to be 100% "compliant" in 2013, above 95% in 2014 and 2015. For 2016 and 2017 we were at 100% compliance. We received word last week that we had achieved the 100% goal again in 2018.

## 4. QUALITY REPORTS AND ARTICLES:

Peach State member Frank Butler III was awarded *The Self Starter* Author of the Year Award. Our members were published four times in 2018: February: Lee Dunn. The George Celini Story (Cadillac Trucker). April: Frank C Butler. Hilton Head concours (cover photo). June: Frank C Butler. Amelia Island concours. October: Ron Pair. 1941 Resurrected.

- **5. PEACH STATE CLC'S 2018 SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:** We have a number of members who go out of their way to host important gatherings. We also support special causes, such as wounded warriors projects, Toys for Tots, special needs fund raisers, and scholarship endeavors. We hope to keep all these activities going, because it keeps our folks involved.
  - Doug Bailey, president on behalf of Peach State Region January 2019