

THE SPARK PLUG

News to spark your interest

September October 2018

Spirit of St. Louis Region Classic Car Club of America



Six members of the Spirit of St. Louis Region CCCA at the 2018 St. John's Concours in Michigan.

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SPARK PLUG NEWSLETTER

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Director's Message

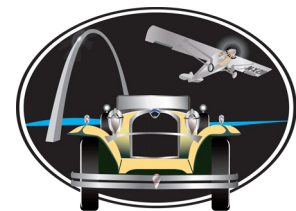
Hello all,

I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer in the company of family and friends! With the long, warm days of the summer slowly giving way to the cooler and colorful days of Fall, the opportunities to do things with our cars is ever present. In Todd's Membership Column you'll get a taste of a Fall Color Tour he's putting together in the latter part of October in partnership with the Cadillac-LaSalle Club. You will have the option of making it a one day outing, or staying overnight.

We still have two Spirit Night dinners remaining on this year's Calendar, and these are great opportunities to get together in the spirit of fellowship to share our common passion of vintage Classic Cars. At last month's event we had a great speaker which always adds another element to the evening.

The Annual Meeting in November is in the planning stages and I promise a fun and eventful afternoon to culminate our year of activities. I'll leave the venue a surprise for now, but suffice it to say, it's an historic property with a storied past.

If you haven't done so in a while, be sure to visit the SSR website, www.spiritccca.com. The homepage features a dramatic new design, and many pages which lends a whole new dimension to the site. As you browse, there's a good chance you'll see yourself or your Classic somewhere along the way.



Spirit of St. Louis Region
Classic Car Club of America

UPDATE ON THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSED 25% TARIFF ON ALL IMPORTED VEHICLES AND PARTS:



On Thursday, June 19, 2018 Mark Hyman testified before a panel comprised of U.S. Department of Commerce members who were accepting testimony related to the Trump Administration's proposed 25% tariff on all imported automobiles and automobile parts, as a matter of national security. Speaking alongside Mark were several representatives of the automobile industry, representatives of major parts suppliers, and those from other industries that support the supply chain, all of which were speaking out in vehement opposition to this proposal.

Acting as a representative of the classic, collector and special-interest vehicle business, Mark's testimony focused on the impacts such tariffs would have on our segment of the industry. Not surprisingly, it seemed that those in charge of drafting this legislation had little to no idea that vintage automobiles in America comprise a nearly \$180 billion industry, which would be negatively and severely impacted should such proposed tariffs become law.

Mark believes that the Commerce Department representatives were interested and receptive to his testimony and that of others. Our hope is that his efforts and the efforts of all of those enthusiasts, collectors, and business owners who took the time to submit public comments will be heard, and that an exception will be granted to allow vintage vehicles to continue to be imported at the current import duty of 2.5%, and avoid the proposed tenfold increase.

A number of major news outlets and industry publications were on hand to report on this matter, and Mark was quoted in several articles including Bloomberg, CNN Money, and Forbes, among others. It is our profound desire that this proposed legislation be heavily revised or scrapped altogether. The potential for damage to virtually every segment of the automobile industry as a whole, including new, used, and vintage vehicles is massive. We hope that the administration listens to the voice of reason in this matter.

Mark and the whole team at Hyman Ltd. will continue to fight for our rights as members of this industry and as vintage automobile lovers ourselves. It has been an honor to represent you, our clients, friends and fellow enthusiasts and we will continue to stay abreast of the situation as it evolves.

Across the Editor's Desk

It seems that another two months have gone by so fast it seems like days. There has been a lot of news and activity in the Spirit of St. Louis Region since we last met. Some of our members, spouses and their cars have been across many miles and attended shows around the country. A number of SSR members had another great time of food and fellowship at a couple of Spirit Night meetings, and our own Mark Hyman has been working hard to preserve our lifestyle and our cars for us and our posterity.

If you have not attended one of our popular Spirit Night meetings, be sure to check out the next one listed on the calendar on September 4th. Find more information in the article in this issue of the Spark Plug. It is a great opportunity to meet new and old members and find out what is going on in our world of Classic Cars and people.

If you have never been on a tour with Classic Cars, especially a very interesting overnight tour, be sure to check out the details of the fun trip to Springfield, Illinois organized by SSR members Todd Tobiasz and Kevin Williams. The tour is in conjunction with the **St. Louis Region of the Cadillac & La Salle Club** so this is a chance to see some different cars and meet new people. See the page with details in this issue of the spark Plug.

Be sure to seek out other local events which welcome your Classics Cars including the **HCCM** Brass and Nickle Show at the M.O.T. and the British Car Show at Creve Coeur Park, both, unfortunately on the same day, September 22. Don't forget the Wheels In Motion Charity show for children's cancer at Westport September 9th and the CCCA Grand Classic held at Indianapolis, Indiana on September 15-16. See details in the CCCA Bulletin.

Please welcome our newest full page advertiser, **St. Louis Car Museum and Sales**. When you visit or do business with them or any of our supporting advertisers, be sure to thank them for their interest and support of our club and our members locally and across the country as this publication reaches every regional and national officer and editor in the Classic Car Club of America in addition to national CCCA Publication Judges.

Jim Schild, Editor



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Membership Musings



Looking for an excuse to get together with friends for a couple of days? The Spirit Region CCCA is partnering with the St. Louis Region of the Cadillac LaSalle Club to host a trip to Springfield, Illinois. Main attractions are visits to Lincoln sites and a Frank Lloyd Wright-designed house.

I've spent the last forty years driving between St. Louis and the Chicago suburb where I was raised. Just like many people in St. Louis who have spent scant little time at our local attractions, I have rarely taken the time to stop in Springfield. The McDonald's, years ago, and now the Panera at the I-55 Stevenson exit have always been my favorite

Springfield stops.

This time we get to make Springfield the destination for a weekend. Enjoy a leisurely drive through southern Illinois. We'll avoid the interstate on the way up. Take in some history and some architecture. And I've heard of a few interesting places to eat as well. Springfield is close enough that it can be either the two day-trip that is planned or, if you are short on time, make it a one-day trip. The Holiday Inn Express shares a large parking lot with the Crowne Plaza. I've been there when most of the lot was devoted to a Pontiac show. So there's lots of room. Bring an interesting car and some vintage friends.

Todd Tobiasz,
Membership Chairman

**St. Louis Cadillac LaSalle Club
&
Spirit Region – Classic Car Club
Sponsor a Caravan
to
Springfield, Illinois**

Saturday, October 20 – Sunday, October 21, 2018

Come for one or both days.

Saturday:

- Drive sections of U.S. Route 66 through southern Illinois
- Lunch in Springfield
- Tour of Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Dana-Thomas house
- Visit the Lincoln Tomb
- Group dinner
- Overnight at Holiday Inn Express

Sunday

- Tour the Lincoln Presidential Museum & Library
- Lunch before departure

Reserve a spot with Todd Tobiasz

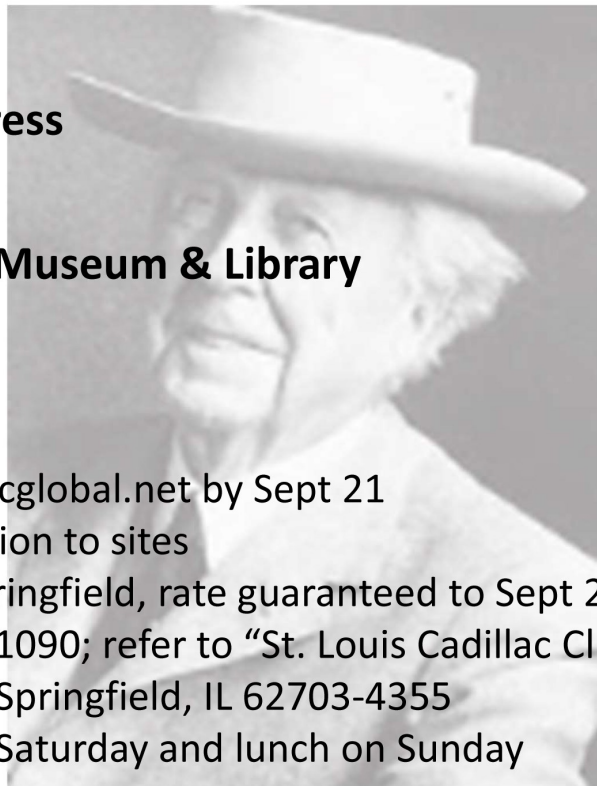
- 314-540-2431 or ttobiasz@sbcglobal.net by Sept 21
- \$20 per person covers admission to sites

Lodging at the Holiday Inn Express Springfield, rate guaranteed to Sept 22

- \$99/night + tax; call 855-516-1090; refer to “St. Louis Cadillac Club”
- 3050 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL 62703-4355

Group meals for lunch and dinner on Saturday and lunch on Sunday

Breakfast included at the Hotel



The Concours de'Elegance of America

By Wendell Smith

Photos by Wendell Smith, Bob Abbott and John Gibson



Spirit of St. Louis Region members Wendell Smith, Robbie Keene, Rose and John Gibson and Bob and Sonia Abbott pose in front of the Abbott's 1928 Cunningham V5 Phaeton.

For the past few years several Spirit members take in a Grand Classics and Concours d'Elegance event in the Midwest. It is fun getting to see the wide variety of quality automobiles these shows attract and it is always interesting to visit with fellow enthusiasts. Also, the shows typically serve as fundraisers for worthy nonprofit associations.

Prior to its closing The Art of the Car Concours in Kansas City, a fundraiser for the Kansas City Art Institute, was an event many frequently attended. Many have also taken cars to various CCCA Grand Classics, attended Concours shows in Milwaukee, Des Moines, Geneva, Illinois, Chicago and most recently Plymouth, Michigan.

This year represented the 40th year for the show in Plymouth. Up until three years ago the show was called Meadowbrook and was held on the campus of Oakland University. The show moved nearby to the Inn at St Johns and is now called Concours d'Elegance of America.

True Concours shows have a juried selection process. An application, fee, and several specific photographs are typically submitted several months prior to the show. There are generally various categories within a given show. In the case of this year's show at St Johns the categories were Classics, race cars, modern sports cars, and other special features which served to bring cars from all over the country.

Most Concours shows are multiple day. Typically there is a day of country driving with visits to a couple of private collections.

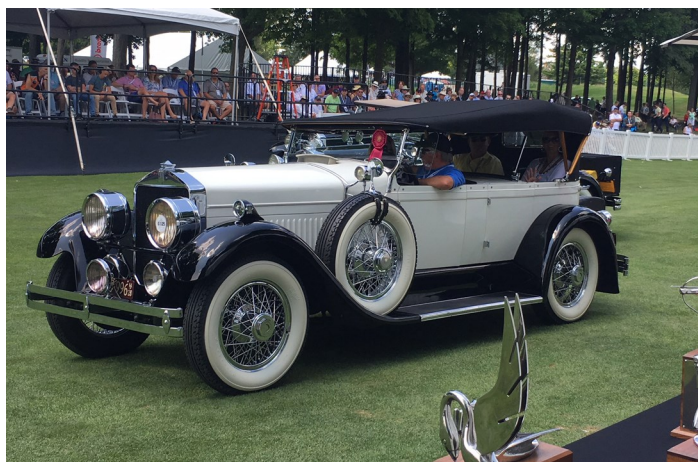
The second day usually features seminars presented by known experts. For example, one the seminars we attended at St Johns this year was entitled "The One That Got Away".

Wayne Carina, who has the Chasing Classic Cars TV program, was one of the speakers that compared historical car prices to today's car values. There were also interesting stories about collectors reuniting with their first car after several years of illusive searching. For the true financial test speakers weighed actual car sales records against inflation. Over the years financial investment in desirable cars has far outperformed fixed interest as well as most stock and real estate investments.

A Concours typically culminates on the third day with general public admission for which there is usually a significant charge.

As is typical at other out of town Concours events in the Midwest there were several Spirit members in attendance. In the photos accompanying this article an effort was made to capture photos of all members present or at least of the cars Spirit our colleagues brought to the event (see photo captions for more details).

If you haven't already done so you should consider taking in an out of town Concours. Either enter a car or attend to see unique cars and take in the event. For a more complete and enjoyable experience consider tagging along with some of your fellow members that are attending. We have a fun time by taking in various attractions in route.

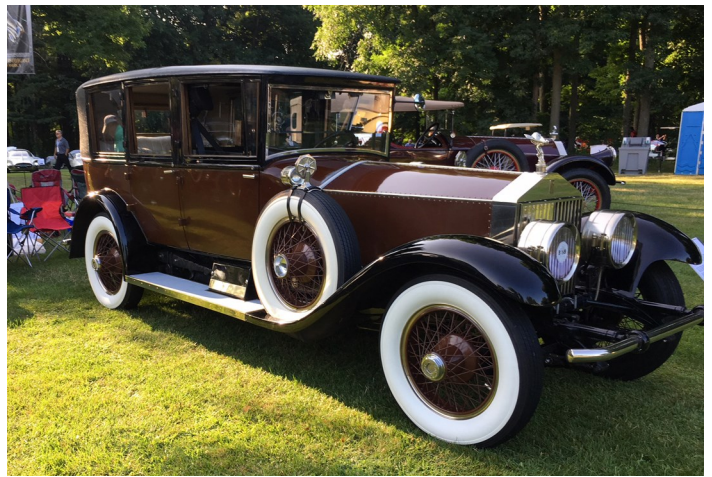


The Abbott's 1928 Cunningham Phaeton rolls in front of the judge's podium to receive its award for the St. John's show.

In addition to the aforementioned SSR members, Alan and Nancy Strong were also attending with their award-winning 1936 Packard 1405 Super Eight Stationary Victoria by Rollston. We don't see enough of the Strong's at local events so it was very nice to see them here. They own a number of very interesting and unusual Classics that include Cadillac, Packard, Cord and Duesenberg.



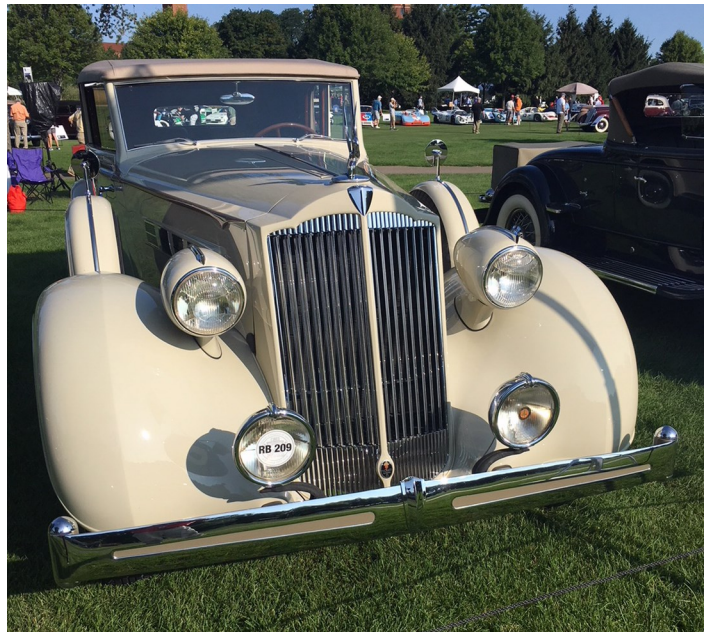
SSR members Alan and Nancy Strong and their 1936 Packard Limousine is always an exciting addition to any Classic Car Rollston Stationary Victoria at the 2018 St. John's Concours of America



Wendell Smith's 1925 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost Buckingham



Mark Hyman (right) was also at the Concours of America and presented the "Spirit of The Hobby" Award which he sponsored. Mark also brought his 1911 Pope Hartford Speedster. Mark was accompanied by Hyman, Ltd. colleague Phillip Metcalf.



Alan and Nancy Strong's beautiful 1936 Packard Rollston Victoria.



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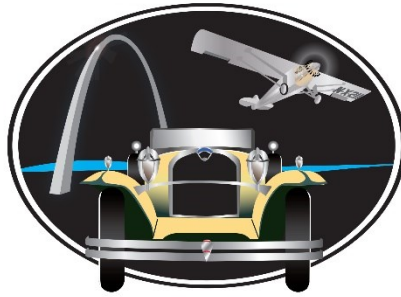


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Spirit of St. Louis Region
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September Spirit Night

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

C. J. MUGGS

200 S. Central Ave. - Clayton, MO 63105 - 314.727.1908

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm



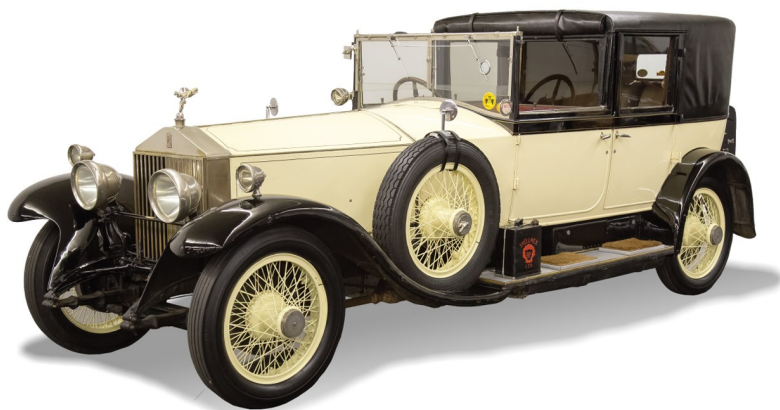
Organized by Host Rob Hosenfelt

Established in 1982, C.J. Mugg's Bar and Grill has been in business for over twenty-five years. The menu features appetizers, salads, homemade soups, chili and gumbo, distinctive pastas and risottos, fresh fish and beef, gourmet pizzas, quesadillas, sandwiches, burgers, a children's menu and family recipe specialties.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 2018

>>Spirit Night, C.J. Muggs, Clayton, MO, 6:00 p.m.	September 4, 2018
Des Moines Concours de Elegance, Art & Design of the Automobile	September 8-9 2018
Wheels In Motion Day, Benefit Car Show, Westport Plaza	September 9, 2018
>>Indiana Region Grand Classic, Connor Prairie Festival of Machines	September 13-16, 2018
British Car Show, Creve Coeur Park	September 22, 2018
HCCM Brass & Nickel Car Show, Pre-1932, Museum of Transportation	September 22, 2018

October 2018

>>Springfield, Ill Tour with Cadillac & La Salle Club	October 20-21, 2018
Spark Plug Submission Deadline	October 20, 2018

November 2018

Spirit of St. Louis Region Annual Meeting. Place and Date TBD