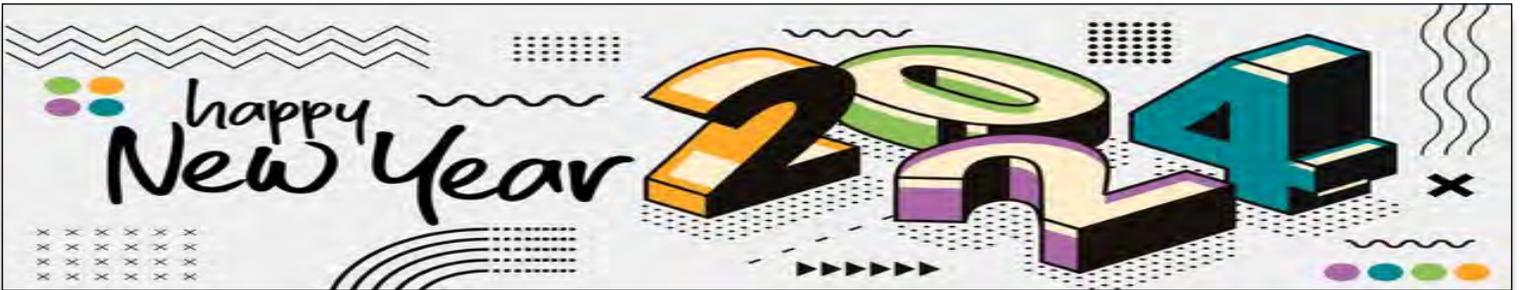




Newsletter Of The Badger Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club - Wisconsin



**Changes to “The Enlightener” starting with this month’s issue**

Due to reduced content, the publication schedule will change to a bi-monthly format. Publications will be January, March, May, July, September, and November. Our monthly meeting minutes and occasional field trips were sometimes the only content we received to create a monthly newsletter. In addition, the Editor is traveling more due to a fully retired household. Sometimes it is difficult to get an edition out in a timely manner.

During the “non-published” months we will still be able to communicate or send blast emails to alert everyone of events or changes, so continue to let the Director and Editor know of any important news to communicate.

Director Ron Wichinski has also been utilizing a text group for this quick communication process and has received favorable feedback from you as to its use. It is important we keep informed of Badger Region events but as times change and technology progresses, the written word is sometimes not efficient.

Please continue to share any newsworthy, informational, or personal encounters via the newsletter when possible. We all want to learn or commiserate with you about your experiences. Thank You!

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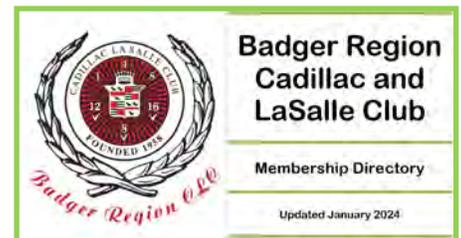
A story by Jake Jakus

**Goodbye Good Old Days—Page 6**

A story by Jake Jakus

The new and updated Badger Region CLC Membership

Directory is out and is attached to the same email as this Newsletter.



We have lost a few members but we have gained a few. If you have someone interested in joining, let our membership officer know or direct them to the club’s website to download an application. [www.badgerclc.com](http://www.badgerclc.com)

**Director's  
Corner**



**THE NEW YEAR IS HERE!!!**

Welcome to the new year. I'm hoping last year's car club event has you thinking about upcoming events and things you would like to accomplish with your car(s) in this new year.

I'm looking forward to the Grand National in Gettysburg on June 10<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> as I will be taking my 1997 Eldorado. I need to get several things cleaned up or fixed if I hope to bring home the "GOLD".

I am thinking about our Crest Car Show scheduled for June 22, 2024. I'm including an agenda below for the membership meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup> which will cover some of the items.

Now is a good time to start planning for this year's club possibilities. If you have any ideas or activities you would like to do or help plan, please contact me.

Our next membership meeting is January 20, 2024, at 10:00 am at Waukesha State Bank, 18300 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield.

HAPPY TRAILS

Ron Wichinski      414-899-3929      ronwichinski@yahoo.com

*These January agenda items are some things we should consider and discuss. Last year it was brought to my attention that we should start sooner. I have grouped common items together, and others are random events. Please bring your input to the meeting.*

**Crest Car Show:**

- Car show date (June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Registration 8am-10am)
- Car show flyer, advertising
- Judging (11am-1pm)
- Use of banners
- Advertising our show on websites
- Door prizes
- Car classes (2000-2010 XLR's, CTS/DTS)
- Day of show registration card
- Awards (2 each and types)
- Food and barbecuing
- Cadillac clothing for sale at show

**Others:**

- February 18<sup>th</sup> Cadillac, Buick, Pontiac swap meet/show, St. Charles, IL
- Membership roster
- Checking account audit

*Some of the items have had previous discussion/resolutions, but this will be a good time for a review and a memory refresher.*

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In order to be in compliance with the National Cadillac and LaSalle Club bylaws and requirements, it is a prerequisite members be a member of good standing to the National CLC prior to and during your membership to The Badger Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club. If you are not a member, please contact the National office today.

The Enlightener will be published bi-monthly, January, March, May, July, September, and November. distributed via email when possible to current Badger Region Cadillac and LaSalle Club members. CLC Regions may reprint articles without permission if a proper acknowledgement is given. Badger members may submit articles, letters, and photos to the Editor for publication. Members may submit Cadillac and LaSalle cars or items for sale free, commercial entities will be charged a small fee and must have completed graphic artwork. Please include a description, contact name, phone number, email address, picture if available, and **always** include a selling price or your ad will not be published. Contact The Enlightener Editor with your submissions.

## **BADGER REGION CLC MEETING**

**November 18, 2023**

ATTENDEES: Ron Wichinski, Larry Hansen, Ron Zeise, Dan Cress, Thomas Sanders

Meeting was called to order by Director Ron Wichinski at 10:00 am in the Community Room of the Waukesha State Bank.

Larry Hansen and Thomas Sanders reported on the feedback from last month's meeting as to the suggestion of a Drive and Dine to the Fox and Hounds at the regularly scheduled May 18<sup>th</sup> meeting time.

It was felt the restaurant would not be favorable for a meeting due to their limited space. Since this would be the month prior to the car show we need to make sure all our arrangements are finalized and ready to go.

It was suggested we have our regular meeting at the Waukesha State Bank and then proceed to the Fox and Hounds taking advantage of the drive to the restaurant. Individuals could choose to go on to Holy Hill after lunch, it would be an additional way to enjoy the afternoon. When we have the details, we will get everyone informed.

Ron Wichinski has been in communication with Bill and Nancy Klemp about holding the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in Oconomowoc at their place of residence, Shore Haven Retirement Community. The meeting would be held at Café LaBelle in a private meeting room and after the meeting we could order lunch from their menu. Ron stated he had been there before, and the meal was good and the price reasonable.

For those who would like to caravan to Oconomowoc, we would meet at the Waukesha State Bank prior to 10:00 am and proceed as a group. Details will be communicated once the final details are completed.

Dan Cress gave the treasurer's report and reported about dues renewals he had not received and some members who have let their National CLC memberships lapse. This means they are no longer eligible to be a member of Badger Region CLC per national guidelines and rules. Four members have been nonresponsive to renewal follow-ups, and five members were dropped from the roster due to either voluntary non-renewal or letting their National CLC membership lapse.

Dan as "The Enlightener" newsletter editor reported he will be reducing the number of newsletters to Bi-Monthly. This would mean Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, and Nov would be the only months a newsletter would be published.

One issue is finding content or articles without infringing on copyright rules. Local member articles or submissions do not fall under that restriction. Another issue is time, Dan is involved with the committee to plan the Grand Nationals each year, so time does play a factor. Dan and Joan have been doing more traveling since retirement, so time management is very important. Member stories, repair hints, member human interest stories, trips and excursions, or personal accomplishments are always welcome.

There was discussion about our other means of communication, within the club and its members, would this reduction have an impact? We have blast emails to the members, text messages, and sometimes still just make an old-fashioned phone call. We will see if this has an impact to our member communication.

A new Badger Region CLC Directory will be created and ready for distribution once we have the details worked out with members not renewing their dues. Once those members choose to remain or drop, a current listing can be created and made available.

There was miscellaneous discussion about getting the car show information out to websites before the end of the year. Many websites will start taking information and details in the fall for next year. It was stated we always seem to be behind in getting our information out to the public in a timely manner. This is something we will need to research.

Ron Zeise moved we adjourn the meeting; Thomas Sanders seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.

Submitted by Dan Cress

## MARCH MEETING NOTICE

On March 16, 2024, plan to meet at the Waukesha State Bank in Brookfield by 10:00 am and drive to Oconomowoc for a meeting and meal at the Café Labelle. Bill and Nancy Klemp have arranged this outing, located on the Shorehaven Campus, where they currently reside.

We will depart the bank no later than 10:10 am. Driving directions will be available before departure. Travel time will be approximately 30 minutes.



If it is more advantageous for you to drive directly, the address is 1306 W Wisconsin Avenue, Oconomowoc, WI 53066. It is located just west of the sky walk on the north side of the road. Please Park west of the entrance.

The Café LaBelle's menu includes all day breakfasts and lunch items. If you have questions, contact Ron Wichinski, 414-899-3929.

***Café Labelle does not accept cash.  
Credit card or check only...or maybe you can wash dishes.***

# 2024 Cadillac Celestiq

Starting at \$340,000 est

The Celestiq is heading for production as an all-new model for Cadillac's 2024 lineup but don't expect to see this showstopper sitting on your local dealer's showroom floor. Celestiqs will be special-ordered, tailored to each customer's specifications, and likely will be delivered as discreetly as they are purchased.



## UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Saturday, January 20, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
<b>Wednesday, January 24, 2024</b>	<b>CLC Winter Board Meeting</b>	<b>Dallas, TX</b>
Saturday, February 17, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
Saturday, March 16, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Oconomowoc, WI
Saturday, April 20, 2024	Badger Region CLC Annual Banquet	Delafield Brewhaus
Saturday, May 18, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
<b>Sunday, June 9, 2024</b>	<b>CLC Grand National</b>	<b>Gettysburg, PA</b>
Saturday, June 15, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
<b>Saturday, June 22, 2024</b>	<b>Crest Car Show</b>	<b>Brookfield, WI</b>
Saturday, July 20, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
Saturday, August 17, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
<b>Tuesday, August 27, 2024</b>	<b>National Driving Tour</b>	<b>Wichita, KS</b>
Tuesday, September 24, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
Saturday, October 19, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
Saturday, November 16, 2024	Badger Region CLC Meeting	Brookfield, WI
<b>Wednesday, January 29, 2025</b>	<b>CLC Winter Board Meeting</b>	<b>Chattanooga, TN</b>
<b>Monday, June 2, 2025</b>	<b>CLC Grand National</b>	<b>Murfreesboro, TN</b>
<b>Monday, June 1, 2026</b>	<b>CLC Grand National</b>	<b>Concord, NC</b>

## Peek-A-Boo Cadillac

By Jake Jakus

Old cars are where you find them, but you must keep a sharp eye out if you want a rare Cadillac!

While searching the internet for car parts I saw an ad for car dollies that you put under the car tires to make it easier to move it around. They were half the price of new dollies, so I thought it would be worth the drive to Milwaukee to check them out.

The concrete block garage behind the house was full of Pontiacs, but in the back was a car with a cover on it. However, there was a Dagmar bumper bullet peeking out from one corner of the cover and what Cadillac lover wouldn't recognize what that was? Yes, a 1950s Cadillac for sure!

I asked, "What is that Cadillac doing here with all your Pontiacs?" He told me he bought it from his neighbor's estate after the man died. The neighbor had restored it and only drove it a couple of times and once in a Milwaukee parade. He also said a man came and brought his sewing machine and did the whole interior, the inside of the flower bed and covered the rear bumper with black Naugahyde.

I was instantly intrigued by the car as soon as he pulled the cover off because it was a 1955 Cadillac Flower Car! Growing up in Milwaukee, I had never seen a flower car and this one was really unusual because it was based on a 2-door coupe and not the typical 4-door model. How often do you find a Cadillac Flower Car that looks like an El Camino?

I certainly didn't need another car and especially this one because I already owned a red-on-red 1959 Chevy El Camino with a 348 and 3-speed transmission. El Caminos are quite rare, but there are always a couple for sale on the internet and you hardly ever see a Cadillac Flower car for sale.

Typical of what you always hear, it is NFS – Not For Sale. I told him if he ever wanted to sell it, he should give me a call. I threw an offer at him and left it hanging in the air. He never called, but I kept in touch with him and three years later he said he would sell it, but for more money.

The Caddy was not running, and I told him to not even try to get it running. I would take it as-is. I arranged for the car to be picked up and got the cash from the bank. I paid more than I wanted to, and he sold it for a lot less than he thought it was worth.

I got the car running and took it to the Milwaukee Masterpiece where a guy ran after me on the way into the show. He said he has an identical car. His dad had bought it from a guy in Milwaukee, but he is now living in Arkansas and has the car there. While examining the car, he said his car has a half-trunk lid on the back with a Naugahyde center section, where mine is all Naugahyde. My car did come with a full 'double trunk' lid which is two lids welded together. He also said his car has a tag under the hood with the original funeral home's (long gone) name on it. My car has no tag, but now we know there were at least two made in 1955. His dad thought it was custom converted in the Chicago area.



Because of the Cadillac's rarity, I decided to keep it and I sold the El Camino. No need for an El Camino when you can have an El Caddy!

## Goodbye Good Old Days

By Jake Jakus

We all reminisce about the good old days, but in many respects, they are thankfully gone.

Today, you can search the internet for cars, parts, or how-to articles on most anything that needs fixing. If you find a car, you can send money with a few clicks via Venmo, PayPal, Zelle or a wire transfer. A search and a few more clicks and you can find a shipper and have the car picked up and delivered to your doorstep.

What does that have to do with the good old days? Well, since driving my 1955 Cadillac Flower Car I have been saying someone tried to steal my shift knob. Only half is left on the lever and the missing piece was nowhere to be found on the inside of the car. Someone must have tried to pull it off and broke it.

Years later, I finally decided to check my photos that I took when I picked up the car. I soon found out it only had a half shift knob when I bought it. Good thing I used my "smart phone" with digital photos and no developing charges. It is easy and free to take hundreds of photos if you want.



Another twenty-first century craze is my nephew's 3D Printer. I told him about my broken shift knob, and he said he could print one for me. He came over and took a few measurements of the partial knob and the lever. He asked what color I wanted and if I wanted a rounded end? Black would go best with my black interior and a rounded end sounded user-friendly.

He went home and designed it on his computer and printed it in his basement. He brought it over and his dad installed it for me. It fit perfectly on the first try! It beats buying a replacement for \$89 and I got free installation included.

***These are the new good old days.***

## Real or Make Believe?

This picture is showing up on Facebook as a 2024 Fleetwood Brougham d Elegance.

I have not found any information on Google or any search website.

Is it real? Is it photoshop? OR is it *BATMAN*?

No, It is Alfred driving Bruce Wayne around town.

