

# 2023 CCCA ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 29 – APRIL 2, 2023 ★ PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

PHOTOS BY GRACE GLUCK, DAVE KANE & VICKI ZEIGER

Philadelphia was the planned location for the 2020 CCCA Annual Meeting but COVID-19 caused the cancellation of that in-person event. Three years later, the Philadelphia Annual Meeting finally came to pass and it was well worth the wait.

Considered to be the Birthplace of America, Philadelphia is also known as the City of First, recognized for America's first art museum, university, hospital, lending library and zoo. The Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia served as the host hotel, housed in what was one a bank. Centrally located in downtown Philadelphia, it is within walking distance of a number of historical points of interest including the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and the Museum of the American Revolution.



Attendees from California arrived Wednesday (or earlier), in time for the opening night reception. Among them were the Eric and Linda Voigt, Steve and Michelle Snyder, Fred and Barbara Lax, John Milliken, Will and Cary Singleton, Carl and Vicki Zeiger, Chris Bock and Garth Hammers.

Thursday's meetings covered the business aspects of our Club, followed by the installation of the officers for the year. Vicki Zeiger was elected to the office of President with Fred Lax serving as First Vice President and Treasurer, Steve Babinsky as VP of Regions, Lonnie Fallin as VP of Publications and Tlanda McDonald as Secretary. New board members include Natalie Charlton from Maine and John Farrall from South Carolina.

Following the meetings, the group ventured out to explore two automobile collections. First was the NB Center for American



*Photos this page left to right: Philadelphia's landmark historic City Hall with the Ritz Carlton in the foreground; The Liberty Bell on display in front of Independence Hall.*

Automotive Heritage in Allentown, the collection curated by Nicola Bulgari. Buick is Mr. Bulgari's favored marque and the collection is often described as honoring "the cars of everyman." Still, there are many rare Classics among the 150-plus examples displayed here, including a Marmon Sixteen Victoria, a Stutz Monte Carlo and several V-16 Cadillacs. The 21-acre site, formerly a drive-in theater, houses display areas, restoration shops, a driving course, and yes, the drive-in is still used for car events. The next stop was the "3 Dog Garage" also known as the >



*Photos this top to bottom: Warshawsky Best of Show, 1935 Cadillac 452-D Series 60 Coupe by Fleetwood, owned by Don Ghareeb; Annual Meeting Classics.*

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Ross Myers collection. This collection spans automobiles from the early 1900s to present day race cars, with excellent examples of Duesenberg, Lincoln and Pierce-Arrow among the 70 cars displayed.

Additional Club business meetings took place Friday morning with John Milliken leading the Classification meeting. The balance of the daylight hours were left open to explore Philadelphia or stop by the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum to watch the arrival of some of the Classics for Saturday's show. Friday's dinner was staged at the exclusive Union League of Philadelphia located next door to the hotel. This members-only club was established in 1862 and has served as a meeting place for business and community leaders for 160 years. Appropriate for this location, Friday evening's guest speaker was none other than Ben Franklin.

Shuttle buses were in operation most of the day Saturday, transporting Club members from the hotel to the Simeone ➤



*Photos this page clockwise from top left: Guest speaker Ben Franklin; The Ross Myers Collection; Buick is the favored marque in the collection, this is a rare 1935 96S Sport Coupe; A small sampling of the cars at the NB Center.*



*Photos this page from top: 1937 Packard 1508 Convertible Victoria by Rollston, CCCA Museum; First-place in the Premier division, the Singleton's 1930 Cadillac 452 Roadster by Fleetwood.*



Museum the Annual Meeting display and judging of Classic Cars. Thirty-eight Classics were registered with 11 of those judged. Eric Voigt served as Head Judge with Linda Voigt overseeing tabulating responsibilities. The Singleton's 1930 Cadillac 452 V-16 Roadster by Fleetwood traveled across the country to participate and garnered a first-place Premier win. It's nice to have this car back in Southern California and some of you may recall it was a fixture in our area when owned by Briggs Cunningham.

Beyond the Club Classics on display, the cars of the Simeone Museum fascinated everyone. The Museum's theme is "The Spirit of Competition" and some of the most significant race-winning automobiles from every decade of the 20th century make up the collection. All the great names are present including Alfa Romeo, Aston Martin, Auburn, Bentley, BMW, Bugatti, Cord, Delahaye, Duesenberg, Lancia, Mercedes-Benz, Mercer, Peugeot, Stutz, Talbot-Lago and Vauxhall.

Saturday's awards banquet recognized Regional excellence and special Club awards with Vicki Zeiger presented with our most prestigious award, the Katie Robbins



*Photos from top left: Amazing Alfa Romeos at the Simeone Museum; Original cars in the Babinsky collection.*

Distinguished Service Award. Top car honors in the form of the Warshawsky Award went to Don Ghareeb's 1935 Cadillac 452-D Series 60 Stationary Coupe by Fleetwood following its perfect 100-point judging score.

The final event of the Annual Meeting took place Sunday as buses transported members to New Jersey to visit the collection of Steve and Susan Babinsky. Steve favors original cars and supplementing well-known Classic names such as Auburn, Cadillac, Chrysler, Duesenberg, LaSalle, Lincoln, Packard, Pierce-Arrow and Stutz and examples from Marmon, Nash and Wills Sainte Claire. The five-day event concluded with lunch provided by Steve and Susan.

Plans are already underway for the 2024 Annual Meeting with Huntington Beach, California selected as the location. Check Club publications and email blasts for updates about what promises to be a spectacular event right in our own backyard. ●