

**BEST OF SHOW,  
MERCEDES-BENZ STAR OF EXCELLENCE  
AWARD and FIRST IN CLASS: European  
Classic Touring: Jim Patterson's 1937  
Mercedes-Benz 540K Special Roadster**



# THE 72<sup>ND</sup> Pebble Beach CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE®

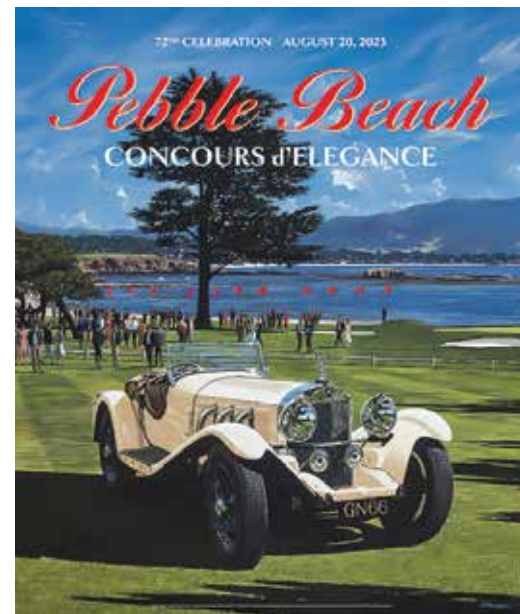
BY RON VERSCHOOR

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE PEBBLE BEACH CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE®  
WITH ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY GARY CARR

Sunday, August 20, 2023 marked the 72nd gathering of extraordinary automobiles on California's central coast, assembled there for the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. While this year's field spanned automotive finery from 1906 to 1998, CCCA Classics remained an important part of the event, borne out by the numbers. Of the 27 classes, 13 were dedicated to or dominated by Full Classics® and nearly half (106) of the 220 entries were Full Classics®.

European Classics enjoyed a strong presentation this year with eight classes showcasing the best from France, Germany, Italy and England. This year's featured Classic classes celebrated Figoni coachwork and the sporting side of Mercedes-Benz—the fabled supercharged S, SS and SSK models of the late 1920s and early '30s. Even some of the non-classic featured classes have strong connections to CCCA Classics. The Spanish Pegaso was produced in the former Hispano-Suiza factory in Barcelona and Porsche's 75-year history began with Ferdinand Porsche who worked at both Austro-Daimler and Mercedes-Benz before creating his own automobile in 1948.

Southern California Region members showing cars included Joseph and Jaclyn Cantore, Joe and Janice Conzonire, the Du Coing Family, David and Dawn Gooding, Bob and Jeannie Hilarides, Mark Hyman, the Lehrman >



**BEST OF SHOW NOMINEE and FIRST IN CLASS: Figoni 1938-1948: 1939 Delahaye 165 Figoni et Falaschi Cabriolet, Peter Mullin Automotive Museum Foundation**



**CLASSIC CAR CLUB OF AMERICA TROPHY: 1930 Cadillac 452 Fleetwood All-Weather Phaeton, Hans Emeren**





**FIVA PREWAR TROPHY:** 1933 Duesenberg SJ Weymann Speedster, Anne Brockinton Lee/Robert M. Lee Collection

**LUCIUS BEEBE TROPHY:** 1933 Rolls-Royce Phantom II Brewster Special Permanent Newmarket, The Lehrman Collection



**LINCOLN TROPHY:** 1932 Lincoln KB LeBaron Convertible Roadster, Larry Carter



**GRAN TURISMO TROPHY AND 2ND IN CLASS:** 1933 Alfa Romeo 6C 1750 Gran Sport Figoni Coupe, David & Adele Cohen



**THE ANSEL ADAMS AWARD and SECOND IN CLASS:** Rolls-Royce Prewar: 1923 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost PALL Mall, Laura & Jack Boyd Smith Jr.

Collection, Stan Lucas, the William Lyon Family, Bruce Meyer, Peter and Merle Mullin/the Mullin Automotive Museum Foundation, the Nethercutt Collection, the Petersen Automotive Museum, Allen Shay, the Singleton Collection, Chuck Spielman, Allen Strong, and Aaron and Valerie Weiss. The judging teams also had strong Southern California representation with Chris Bock serving as Head Judge, Steve Morton as Chief Class Judge of American Classic and Packard classes, Steve Snyder as Chief Class Judge for Duesenberg, Peter Hageman as Chief Class Judge for Preservation classes and Ken Gross as Chief Class Judge for American Dream Cars of the 1950s class. Team judges included Carl Bomstead, Bob Joynt, Allan McCrary, Larry Seidell and Eric Voigt.

All four of the Best of Show nominees were Full Classics® and top honors went to CCCA member Jim Patterson's 1937 Mercedes-Benz 540K Special Roadster, his third Best of Show win, following previous victories in 2010 with a 1933 Delage D8 S Roadster by de Villars and in 2015 with a 1924 Isotta Fraschini Tipo 8A Cabriolet by F. Ramseier & Cie Worblaufen.

This marks the tenth time a Mercedes-Benz received the Best of Show award, having now surpassed Bugatti with its nine Best of Show wins. Duesenberg is next with seven wins, followed by Rolls-Royce with five and Packard with four. Further rankings list Alfa Romeo, Daimler, Delage and Isotta Fraschini (three wins each), Bentley, Chrysler, Hispano-Suiza, Horch, Pierce-Arrow and Voisin (two wins each), and Cunningham, Delahaye, duPont, Lancia, Minerva and Talbot-Lago with one win each. Sixty-five of the 72 Best of Show winners have been Full Classics® (18 owned by Southern California Region members), evidence of the significance of the cars recognized by the Classic Car Club of America.

Next year's show is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, 2024. ➤



**J.B. AND DOROTHY NETHERCUTT MOST ELEGANT CLOSED CAR and THIRD IN CLASS:** Bugatti Type 57: 1937 Bugatti Type 57 Atalante, William E. Connor





Mark Hyman's 1937 Delahaye 135M Figoni & Falaschi Cabriolet, Best of Show in 2000



Mercedes-Benz S, SS and SSK models



Steve and Michelle Snyder's 1933 Duesenberg J Weymann Sedan



Aaron and Valerie Weiss's Rolls-Royce Phantom III Thrupp & Maberly Drophead Coupe



Bruce Meyer's 1929 Duesenberg J Murphy Disappearing Top Convertible Coupe



SECOND IN CLASS, POSTWAR LUXURY: 1953 Mercedes-Benz 300 S Cabriolet (non-classic), McPherson College



A tribute to Don Williams: his 1933 Packard 1001 Coupe Roadster



Thursday's Tour d'Elegance, the Hilarides' Murphy Duesenberg J crossing Bixby Bridge

**FURTHER READING ABOUT THIS YEAR'S FEATURED MARQUES**

- "Figoni on Delahaye" by Richard Adatto (2023)
- "Joseph Figoni Le Grand Couturier de la Carrosserie Francaise- Volume One: Alfa Romeo" by Peter Larsen and Ben Erickson (2021)
- "Mercedes-Benz: The Supercharged 8-Cylinder Cars of the 1930s, Volume 1" by Jan Melin (1985)
- "Mercedes-Benz: The Supercharged 8-Cylinder Cars of the 1930s, Volume 2" by Jan Melin (2003) >





**FIRST IN CLASS:**  
American Classic Open: 1929 Cord L-29 Cabriolet, Greg Ornazian



**SECOND IN CLASS:**  
American Classic Open: 1937 Cord 812 S/C Convertible Coupe, Dr. Scott & Susy Spiro



**THIRD IN CLASS**  
American Classic Open: 1931 Cadillac 452 Fleetwood Convertible Coupe, Bill & Patti Spurling



**FIRST IN CLASS**  
American Classic Closed: 1932 Pierce-Arrow 51 LeBaron Sport Coupe, Ross & Beth Myers



**SECOND IN CLASS:**  
American Classic Closed: 1934 Cadillac 452-D Fleetwood Coupe, Don Ghareeb



**THIRD IN CLASS:** American Classic Closed:  
1931 Packard 840 Custom Eight All-Weather Town Landulet, Mark & Vicki Smucker



**FIRST IN CLASS:**  
Packard:1930 Packard 734 Speedster Phaeton, John D. Groendyke



**SECOND IN CLASS:** Figoni 1923-1937:  
1938 Talbot-Lago T150 C Figoni et Falaschi Coupe, Academy of Art University



**THIRD IN CLASS:** Figoni 1923-1937:  
1937 Delahaye 135MS Figoni et Falaschi Special Roadster, Miles Collier Collection



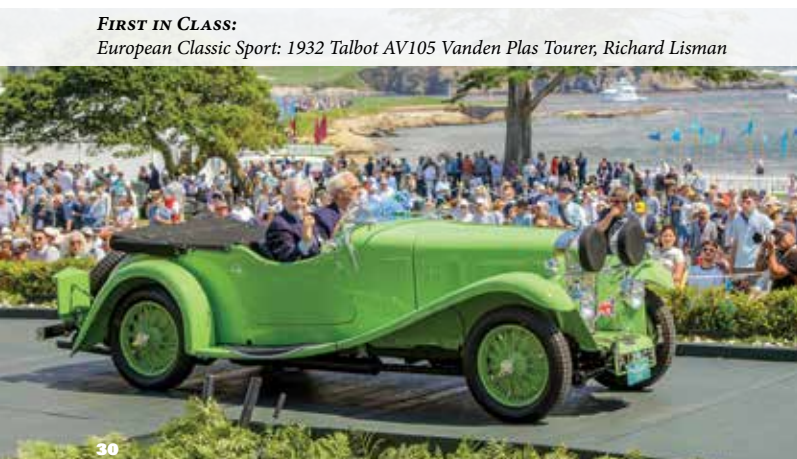
**THIRD IN CLASS:** Rolls-Royce Prewar:  
1930 Rolls-Royce Phantom II Continental Vanden Plas Torpedo, John & Mary Campbell



**SECOND IN CLASS:**  
Mercedes-Benz S: 1928 Mercedes-Benz 680 S Murphy Speedster, John Rich



**SECOND IN CLASS:** Mercedes-Benz SS & SSK:  
1929 Mercedes-Benz 710 SSK Barker Roadster, Miles Collier Collection at the Revs Institute



**FIRST IN CLASS:**  
European Classic Sport: 1932 Talbot AV105 Vanden Plas Tourer, Richard Lisman



**SECOND IN CLASS:**  
European Classic Sport: 1937 BMW 326 Erdmann & Rossi Cabriolet, Karra L Canum



**SECOND IN CLASS**  
Prewar Preservation: 1924 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost Barker Tourer, Theodore Reimel



**THIRD IN CLASS PREWAR PRESERVATION:**  
1914 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost Brewster Tourer, David Gooding and Dawn Ahrens



Side Mount



Mirror

6201 Ocean Breeze Drive  
Malibu, CA 90265

## CLASS WINNERS FROM THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGION

**FIRST IN CLASS**

*Duesenberg: 1929 Duesenberg  
J Murphy Dual-Cowl Phaeton,  
Rob & Jeannie Hilarides*



**SECOND IN CLASS**

*Duesenberg: 1936 Duesenberg SJN Rollston  
Convertible Coupe, The Nethercutt  
Collection/Helen & Jack Nethercutt*



**SECOND IN CLASS**

*Packard: 1934 Packard 1106  
Twelve LeBaron Runabout  
Speedster, William Lyon Family*



**THIRD IN CLASS**

*Packard: 1933 Packard 1005  
Twelve Convertible Victoria,  
Chuck Spielman*

