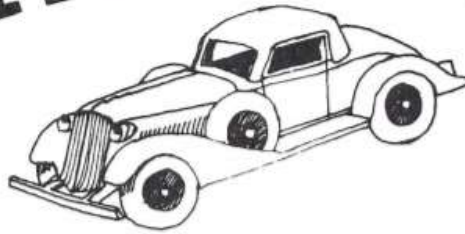


CAPITOL MINIATURE AUTO COLLECTORS CLUB



AUGUST 2026: NEXT MEETING-TBD

EVENTS: Let me know if you know:

**TJ's Diecast Toys, (Jack's show) 1/64 Show, Sunday July 14
Outdoor at Jack's shop. Schedule for the rest of 2026: Northern
Virginia Diecast Collectors monthly meets:**

Outdoor/TJ's Diecast Toys

- August 9th, September 13th.

Indoor/Vienna Firehouse

- October 11th, November 8th, December 13th.

**Lloyd Ralston Toys, Summer Die-cast Vehicles and Collectables
Auction, Saturday, August 8, 2026 at 10:00 AM EDT**

<https://lloydralstontoy.com/auction/248-summer-die-cast/>

Editor's Corner

More variety this month, from models made in prison workshops to cardboard folding models to airbridges in the production line! Thanks to all who contributed. Josh Pinho is apparently unpacked, as he was able to share his new find in Cadillac Allante memorabilia—and the whole story of this fascinating production process combining plants on both sides of the Atlantic. Dick Williams continues with Part 3 of the Route 66 travel adventure—the best article on Route 66 you will find.

I had hoped to host in August, but events are starting to overtake my plans, and I will send out a separate meeting notice if things open up. My question from last month about weekday vs. Saturday meetings still holds, I got only a couple of comments, so let me know. Harold is speculating about hosting in September, he also wants to know weekday- or Saturday, which would work better.

Not sure whether to put it in here or in events, but open now and live next Saturday, August 8 is an auction at Lloyd Ralston—a massive collection of 1/43 diecast, mostly Dinky, mint, boxed, a lot of military. Scan it, register now and find your missing treasures.

Fred

OAST-Once Around Show and Tell

OAST – Doug Campbell

I just returned from my annual 10 days of vacation in MAINE , of course lonely without Joan, and as I arrived into Maine the first day it was pouring rain , so before checking in at my hotel on the ocean in Ogunquit, ME, I stopped at this huge "Hidden Treasures " Antique Mall in York, ME, and of course immediately spotted two "treasures"!....this neat little tin truck bank from some years ago, from Fannie Farmer Candies(which probably came filled with lollipops years ago when it was released, as were all the many Fannie Farmer toy trucks I collected years back in their shops...), and a MINT, boxed 1960's rather rare -to -find today, made in France French RAMI vintage taxi...I NEVER left any of the many antique shops I visited while in Maine, EMPTY-handed! ...once a collector .. ALWAYS a collector!



Throughout New England, GULF OIL operates convenience stores/gas stations as "Cumberland Farms", and in their stores this year I discovered a number of these very colorful Chinese "pull-backs" die-casts..trucks and buses shown here...all painted up for America's 250th birthday!



At another Maine "Cumberland Farms" store, I discovered these two colorful sports cars again all painted up for our 250th birthday!



At the HUGE Wiscasset("prettiest village in Maine") Antique Mall, which I frequent each summer....I found this old 1960's BUDDY L Coke truck..the first version before the GMC, some paint chips, but first one I've seen with completely intact COKE/Buddy L decals and came with 4 not original yellow larger COKE cases with magnets on the back, a not original hand truck, and the 8 original red cases that came with this truck. ..I just think this is a charming old steel Coke truck, so along back to Baltimore it came!



Each summer I visit the most unique store maybe I visit each year....the MAINE STATE PRISON SHOWROOM, in Thomaston, ME where the 900 men and women housed at the current Maine State Prison in Warren, do very skilled woodworking crafts, and their products are sold at a vast showroom of wooden prisoner-made goods such as furniture, household goods, finely detailed ship models, , including some toys, and this year they had just one of these 16' long LOG TRUCKS, filled with heavy wood logs, and mounted on it is a highly detailed working wood crane ,our home is filled with many Maine prisoner-made goods from this store, including many toy trucks from past visits! This one seemed so unique! Prisoners usually wrap & bag purchases, and a prison guard usually is cashier...Inmates have been crafting wonderful wooden goods in their state prisons since 1825 ! The actual current prison is about 20 miles from this truly UNIQUE American woodcrafts showroom!



All products sold at this most distinctive store , are labeled as “Handcrafted at the Maine State Prison”, such as shown on base of this log truck...the current look of the showroom is in the bottom photo on brochures at left...hundreds of items are on display there! Many years ago when we were there, they had a one-of-a-kind beautiful Kenworth semi-truck all in wood by a prisoner, and it was \$1000, so of course Joan wouldn't let me buy it!! It was soooo detailed it almost looked like a diecast First Gear model!



At another Maine antique shop, I found another 1950's "Conway Co.-made in Skokie, IL" one of these little CMC -like plastic rolling trucks, which I have about 8 now...never seen this Co-Op one, and at \$5.00, its not mint but its quite a rare model, so it's too came home here to Baltimore, as did this neat little metal bottom locking plastic savings BANK House , at the same store...I just love collecting little buildings too!



While I was in Maine I was bidding in an online Randy's Toy Auction in Leola, Pa., and won amongst many other models, this extremely rare Winross issue, from 1970's...seemingly just a SAMPLE issue for the Museum of Transportation in Boston. It is packed in a very short-lived plastic "clamshell" clear package that Winross used, with little success as the boxes were so fragile..many were shipped to Howard Johnsons on some of their many , many truck runs from Winross. (Howard Johnsons alone purchased over 700,000 Winross models over the years !!)



Way back in 1957, Lesney MATCHBOX TOYS of England produced this charming little #2 Major Pack model- the Bedford WALL'S ICE CREAM truck..I found this just recently at a bargain EBay price! Joan and I used to eat a LOT of Wall's delicious ice cream during our numerous visits to Great Britain! Way back in 1957, Lesney MATCHBOX TOYS of England produced this charming little #2 Major Pack model- the Bedford WALL'S ICE CREAM truck..I found this just recently at a bargain EBay price! Joan and I used to eat a LOT of delicious Wall's ice cream during our numerous visits to Great Britain!



Back in 2000, this very heavy and truly VERY detailed "100% HOT WHEELS" Corvette in 1/18 scale was released in this "Pep Boys" livery, and as it only hit a bid of \$14, mint-boxed in a recent online Randy's Toy Auction, I couldn't resist bidding for it, as I have a Pep Boys collecting model theme too!



At the HUGE ANTIQUES USA Antique Mall- largest in Maine ! - in Arundel, ME, - there were two large showcases filled with these truly impressively restored/redone TONKA trucks, made by a Tonka craftsman named Domenic DiSciullo, whose business card is called "MAINELY TONKA TRUCKS"... they were quite pricy, but as I really never know if I'm coming or going..had to first pick out this unique one-of-a-kind "custom built 1970's Dodge cabs Witchway" model !... His models are VERY professionally built and painted to perfection...



At \$475 this was the most expensive of the "MAINELY Tonka Trucks" in those showcases, but it was so filled with details and custom touches, and was a 1962 Tonka Pick-up truck custom built for a Monster Energy display in Boston, one-of-a-kind model- and the truck was returned after the display to Mr. DiSciullo, who now has sold it to me from his Antiques USA display cases in Maine!...he did described it on his tag, as a "heavy duty DUALY with lots of details and custom touches..it came with an empty sealed display can of Monster Energy drink sitting in the truck bed. The more I look over this truly incredible model truck, the more quality and details I can pick out...all his trucks come with a new TONKA emblem on bottom of vehicles...the paint quality is just OUTSTANDING ! That's a lot of hours on there of hand craftsmanship!



At the large well-stocked "Kennybunk Toy Company" toy store in Kennebunk, ME, on a warm Sunday morning, I came out with a bag full of new models of course...including this Chinese (no pullback motor!) diecast 1/32 1961 VW TV repair van with interesting Spanish lettering on the right side...by Jada/Hasbro toys.



Interesting on left side of the TV van is ENGLISH lettering! ..I just found it a very attractive looking model VW van. (Lettering on REAR door is all English)



OAST-Josh Pinho

In addition to the Allante globe (SEE ARTICLE ALL THINGS ALLANTE), I also recently picked up a 1/24 scale 1975 Dodge Coronet Hazzard County Sheriff car. I really enjoyed watching old reruns of the Dukes of Hazzard growing up, and since my grandfather was a Jersey State Trooper, I especially liked all the old cop cars they used on the show. I had an old Ertl model of Rosco's patrol car that I got at the swap meet at the Atlantic City auto auction when I was young, but as cool as it was to have a Hazzard county squad car in my collection, even at that age I knew that Rosco never drove a 1980 Bonneville.

Within the past few years, they've started to make more accurate Hazzard county squad cars but I picked up the 1/18 and 1/64 scales and skipped the 1/24 cars until I saw this one pop up on eBay. The seller had gone to the trouble of wiring the car with LEDs, so that the headlights, taillights, and light bar flash. They drilled out the base, so that a 9 volt battery can sit up inside the trunk area out of sight. Also included in the auction were hand painted figures of Boss Hogg and Sheriff Rosco, so I felt that I'd be losing money if I didn't buy it.

Anticipating my upcoming move, I had it shipped up to my mom's house so it wouldn't get lost in the shuffle, and was just able to unpack it this week.





OAST- Bob Short

New arrivals from Ixo:

- 1) 1/64 1973 GMC Sierra Crewcab dually



- 2) 1/64 1957 Chevrolet 150 sedan, Kentucky State Police



- 2) 1/64 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air 2 door sedan



- 3) 1/64 1973 Chevrolet K-30 Crewcab lifted



5) 1/64 1979 Chevrolet K-20 Crewcab



6) 1/43 1970 Dodge Super Bee "Top Banana" in color.



1/24 West Coast Precision Diecast 1964 Chevy Impala SS convertible.

Highly detailed model. I have wanted one of these for quite some time but they were always a bit pricey, damaged or missing accessories. This was reasonable and Mint in Box.



Bob has ordered the 1956 Chevrolet in Turquoise and White, if you are interested go to the TRAX website:

tg@topgear.com.au

Macungie Trip Report:

Friday was a light day with few vendors in the toy portion of the flea market, itself much smaller than I recall in the past .

Saturday many more cars and more vendors especially toy sellers .

We made the rounds and I had a successful buying spree. After a storm on Thursday evening the weather on Friday and Saturday was pleasant sunny and mid 80s temperatures.

The finds:

1962 Buick built kit:



1953 Ford built kit which the builder changed it to a 1952 Ford by changing the grille and wheel covers:



Very nice 1964 Ford Fairlane promo that a previous owner added a red trim stripe to which I do not find a offensive at all even though a nice promo was modified:



Roadchamps Divco with custom graphics of Cloverland Dairy out of Baltimore:



1/43 Ford E350 van most likely made by Tins Toys aka Crown Premiums. No manufacturer markings but very similar to a U-Haul version I have:



All Things Allante

By Josh Pinho



Here's a photo of me with my first Allante, my '92, at the Cadillac Lasalle Club Grand National in 2017. The local Potomac Region was the host for the event, and it was held in Tyson's Corner.

I was recently very happy to acquire a globe made back in 1985 or 1986 to promote the "Allante Airbridge." I've known of their existence since I lost an ebay auction at the last moment due to poor internet service in 2016. Almost exactly 10 years to the day, another example showed up on ebay and I was able to make a deal. While not a model car, it will be the centerpiece of my Allante model display (once I get everything unpacked), which also includes a model of an Alitalia 747 cargo jet.



The "Allante Airbridge" was the name given to the unorthodox manner in which the car was built. The bodies for each Allante were handbuilt in Torino Italy, loaded into one of three 747 cargo jets, one flown by Alitalia and two by Lufthansa, and flown to Detroit to be mated with a drivetrain for final assembly. Parts from Detroit were packed in the jets for their return trips. In order to accommodate the massive jets and cargo infrastructure at the Torino airport, GM foot the bill for installing a new very low-visibility Instrument Landing System (ILS) to allow for near-zero visibility flights and take-offs to allow the Allante flight schedule to go uninterrupted by weather concerns. The system was the first of its type in Italy. The 3300 mile journey was dubbed the "world's longest assembly line." It was also needlessly expensive and complicated. Flights were initially made three times a week in 1987, twice a week by the end of 1988, and just once a week by 1989. Lufthansa had backed out of the deal by 1988, as the demand for Allantes in the US did not meet expectations.





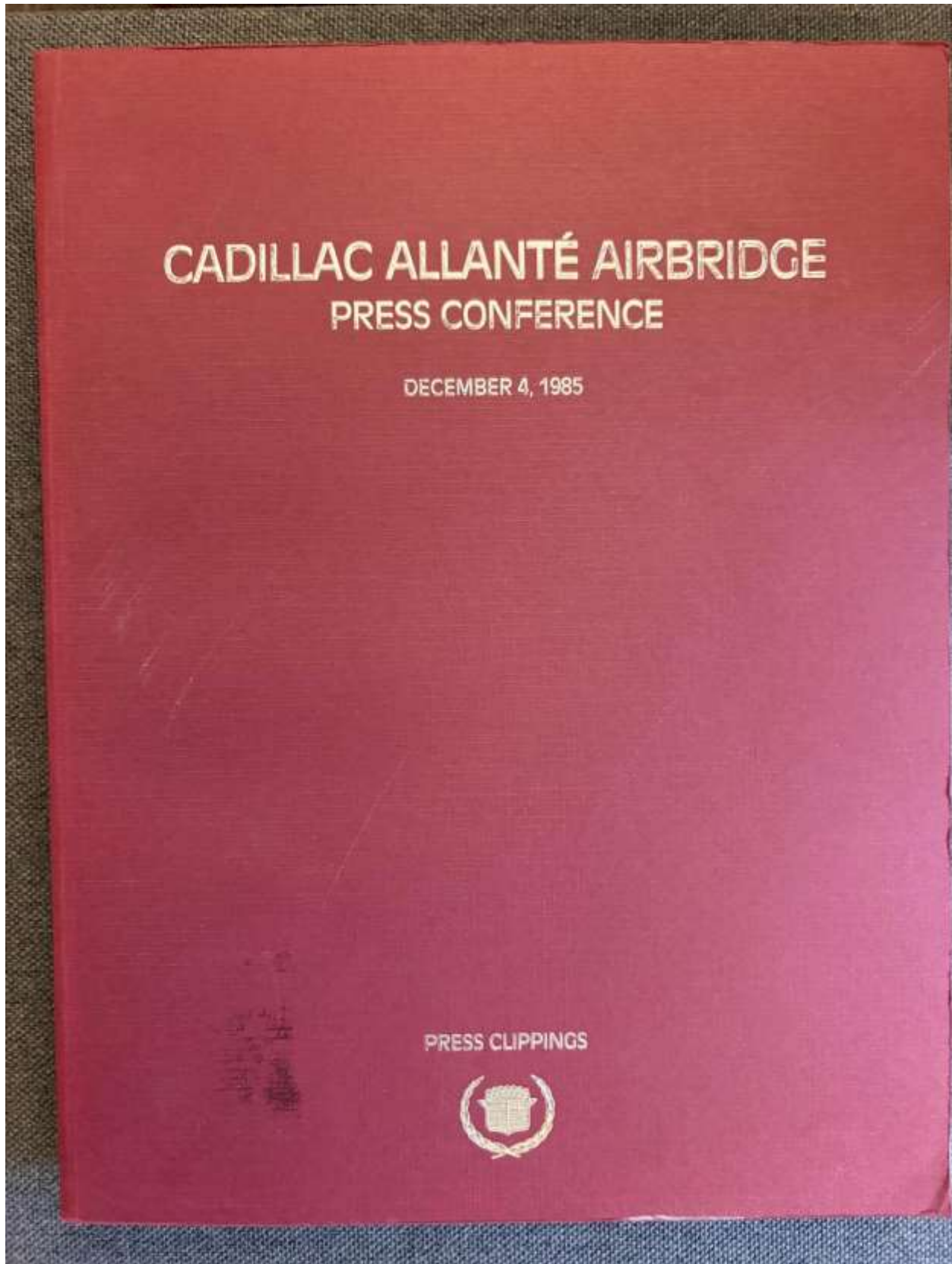
Cadillac Allanté

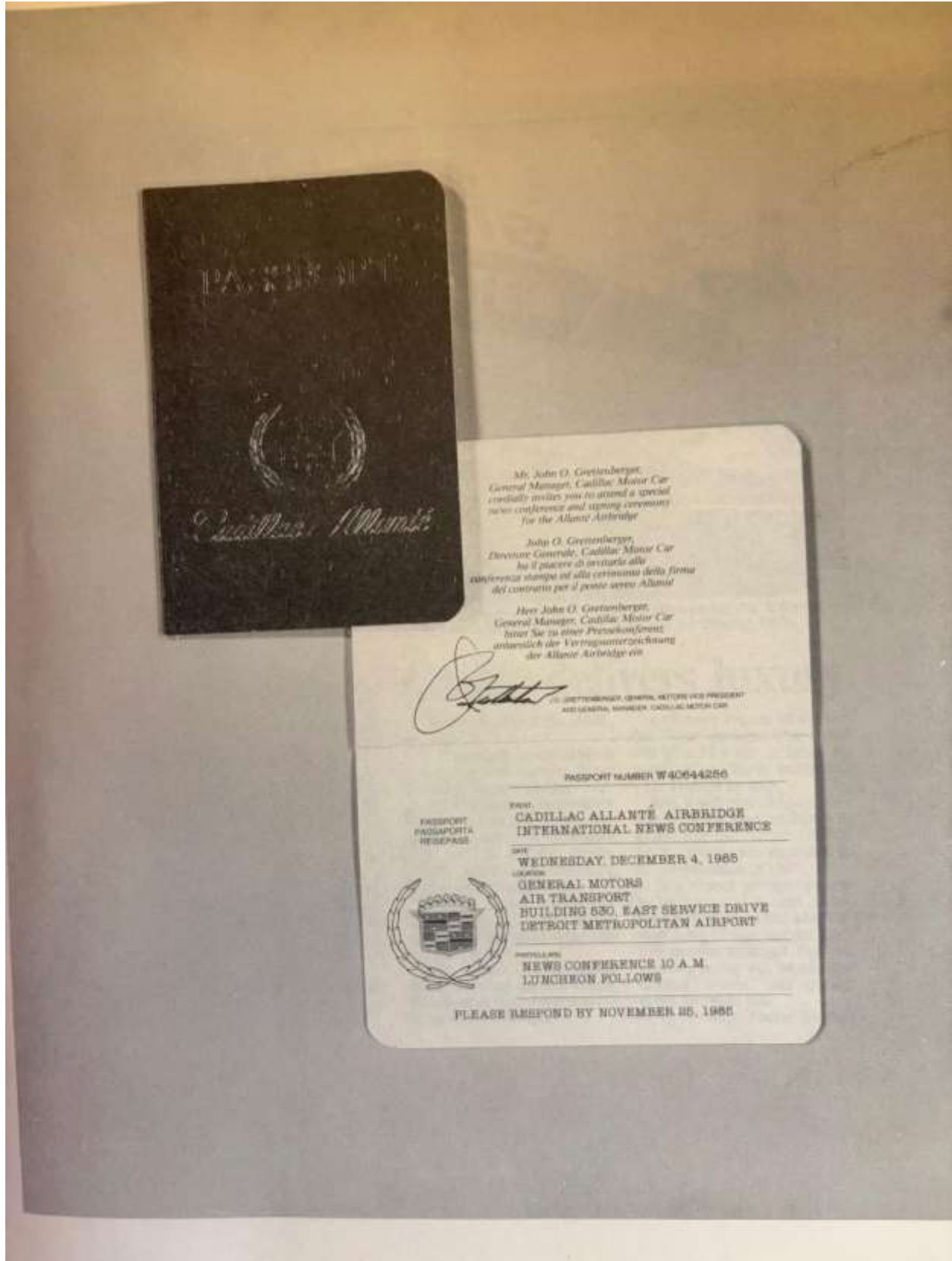
ALLANTÉ AIRBRIDGE FACT SHEET

Definition:	3,300 mile trans-Atlantic transport system via 747 for bodies of 1987 Cadillac Allanté built in Turin, Italy with final assembly in Detroit, Michigan
Significance:	- o a first-ever 747 production vehicle transport program - o links two continents, two major motor cities and two of the world's leading luxury automobile manufacturers - o constitutes world's longest assembly line - o biggest exclusive air cargo contract in history - o first 747 Alitalia and Lufthansa service into Detroit and Turin
Cargo:	westbound - bodies for 1987 Cadillac Allanté (56 per flight) eastbound - US and European sourced components for Turin-based Allanté assembly
Schedule	- o three times weekly beginning October, 1986 - o plant to plant delivery, including ground transportation, accomplished in 12 hours
Air Carriers:	Alitalia and Lufthansa Airlines
Ground Handling Agents:	Turin -- Zust Ambrosetti; Detroit -- Trans-Overseas
Special Equipment:	- o exclusive high strength aluminum alloy transport cradles designed to maximize cargo capacity and ensure damage free transport - o motorized roller system installed in ground transport vehicles to enable smooth, damage free cargo transfer between plane and vehicles

Cadillac Motor Car Division Detroit, Michigan 48232 Telephone (313) 554-5067

Allanté Airbridge





USA Today

Feb. 3, 1986



CADILLAC ALLANTÉ: Cadillac — which is keeping the look of its new ultra-luxury car a secret — will build the auto bodies in Italy and transport them to the USA in converted Boeing 747s.

‘Airmailed’ Caddy delivers luxury

Cadillac's drive to capture a more-youthful image is taking it into the two-seater market.

It's doing it with panache.

Starting in October, the General Motors Corp. division will use gutted Boeing 747s to air-freight the bodies of its luxury two-seater convertible, Allanté, from Turin, Italy — where it was designed by Pininfarina Industries S.p.A. — to Detroit.

They'll be trucked to GM's assembly plant in Hamtramck, Mich., where engines and transmissions will be added.

Says Cadillac spokeswoman Sheri Perrelli: "Our top competitor will be Mercedes 380SL."

The new model of the 380SL is the 560SL.

The Allanté (pronounced Ah-lahn-tay and derived from a French word meaning "motion") will have a removable hardtop and be priced at about \$40,000 — the most expensive USA car. It will be almost \$13,500 more than Cadillac's Seville, priced at \$26,756.

Cadillac, which sold about 327,000 cars last year, claims one-third of the sales in the luxury car market.

With Allanté, Cadillac enters the ultra-luxury market where, Perrelli says, "all of our competition will be foreign."

A primary reason for the airlift: Time savings. The airlift will take 12 hours to bring Allantés from Turin compared with 24 days by ship.

Still, it will cost GM plenty — \$20 million a year, or \$2,500 to \$2,800 per car. About 7,000 to 8,000 Allantés are expected to be air-freighted in 1987.

"We expect younger people to be attracted to our showrooms because of the Allanté," says John Grettenberger, Cadillac general manager. But "the primary buyer will be our traditional owner," the person about 58 years old.

— Faye Foster Hughes

One Of The Few Places 56 Cadillacs Can Park At Once.



**Alitalia's 747 All-Cargo Aircraft Can Carry
An Incredible 56 Cadillac Allantés. And Do.**

It's not easy finding room anywhere for 56 Cadillacs. Especially if you're trying to get them to Italy. So when GM needs transportation, they call a cargo system they know can handle it. Alitalia. Our all-cargo aircraft carry specially engineered cradles, so we're able to load a large amount of car bodies with a little amount of handling. What's more, Alitalia can get the cars plant-to-plant in just 12 hours. It used to take 24 days by sea.

But we can handle more than just Cadillacs. Alitalia has experience shipping all sorts of products. From helicopters and computers to produce and other perishable goods.

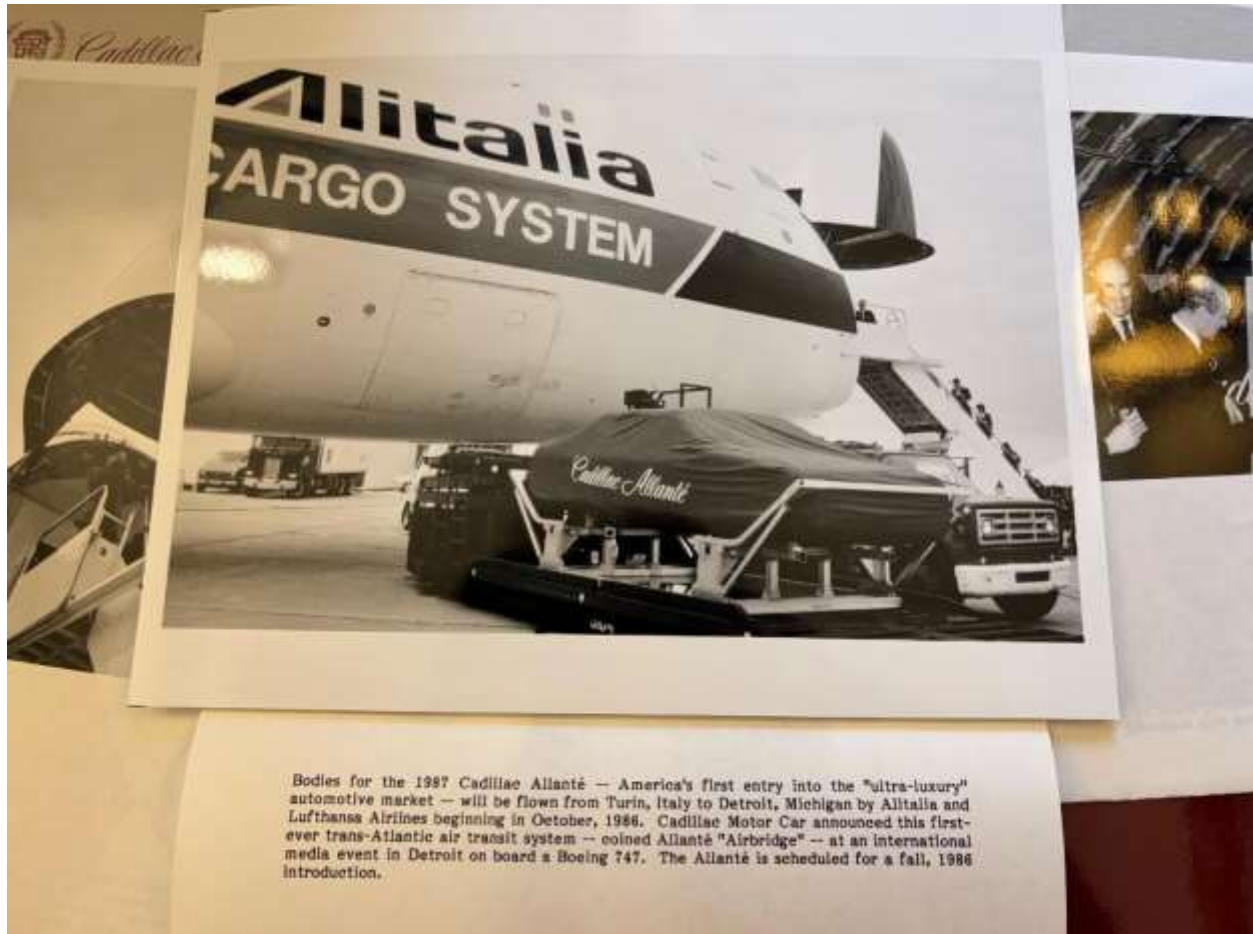
Alitalia flies from Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Montreal and Toronto to over 90 destinations worldwide. So if you want fast, safe handling of cars, calculators or any kind of cargo to Italy and beyond, Alitalia has the capacity.

Shipping Cargo Worldwide Isn't Foreign To Us.

Alitalia

CARGO SYSTEM

The globe was the missing piece of my airbridge display, as even the 747 model I sourced is a model of the exact jet, tail number I-DEMR, that was pressed into service by GM to carry the Allanté bodies. The jet, now registered as ER-BAR and no longer with Alitalia, still flies to this day. Until GM opens up their archives to sell me the cutaway 747 model exhibited at the Allanté Airbridge Press conference by then-Cadillac General Manager John Grettenberger (if it still exists), I'll just have to live with my more modest model.



Bodies for the 1987 Cadillac Allanté -- America's first entry into the "ultra-luxury" automotive market -- will be flown from Turin, Italy to Detroit, Michigan by Alitalia and Lufthansa Airlines beginning in October, 1986. Cadillac Motor Car announced this first-ever trans-Atlantic air transit system -- coined Allanté "Airbridge" -- at an international media event in Detroit on board a Boeing 747. The Allanté is scheduled for a fall, 1986 introduction.

Troy-Somerset Gazette Dec. 9, 1985
Page 2 of 2



CADILLAC GENERAL MANAGER John O. Grettenberger demonstrates how 56 1987 "ultra-luxury" Cadillac Allante bodies will fit into a Boeing 747 when they are transported from Turin, Italy to Detroit beginning next October. The 1987 Allante is the first American entry into the ultra-luxury automotive market.

Allante Will Be Built on Two Continents

CADILLAC, from page 1
convertible coupe to establish a new standard for American automobiles when it debuts in late 1986 as the domestic auto industry's most exclusive passenger car. "No automaker in America has ever produced an automobile of this calibre," he said.

According to Grettenberger, the 1987 Allante — American's first entry in the "ultra-luxury" automotive

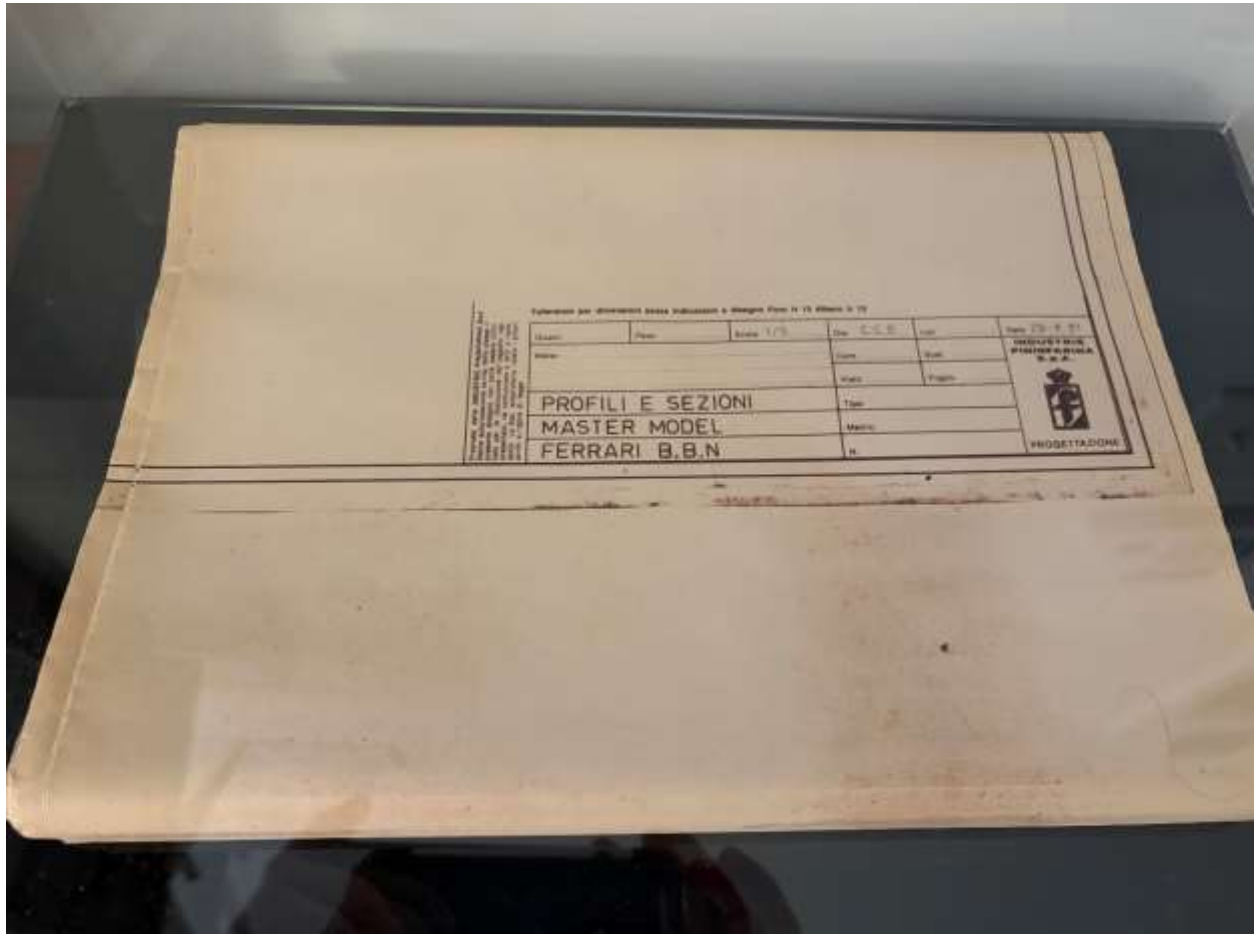
market — will combine the best of European design and specialty car craftsmanship with state-of-the-art American production and engineering technology. "Until now," he acknowledged, "that niche in the market has been exclusively dominated by European nameplates."

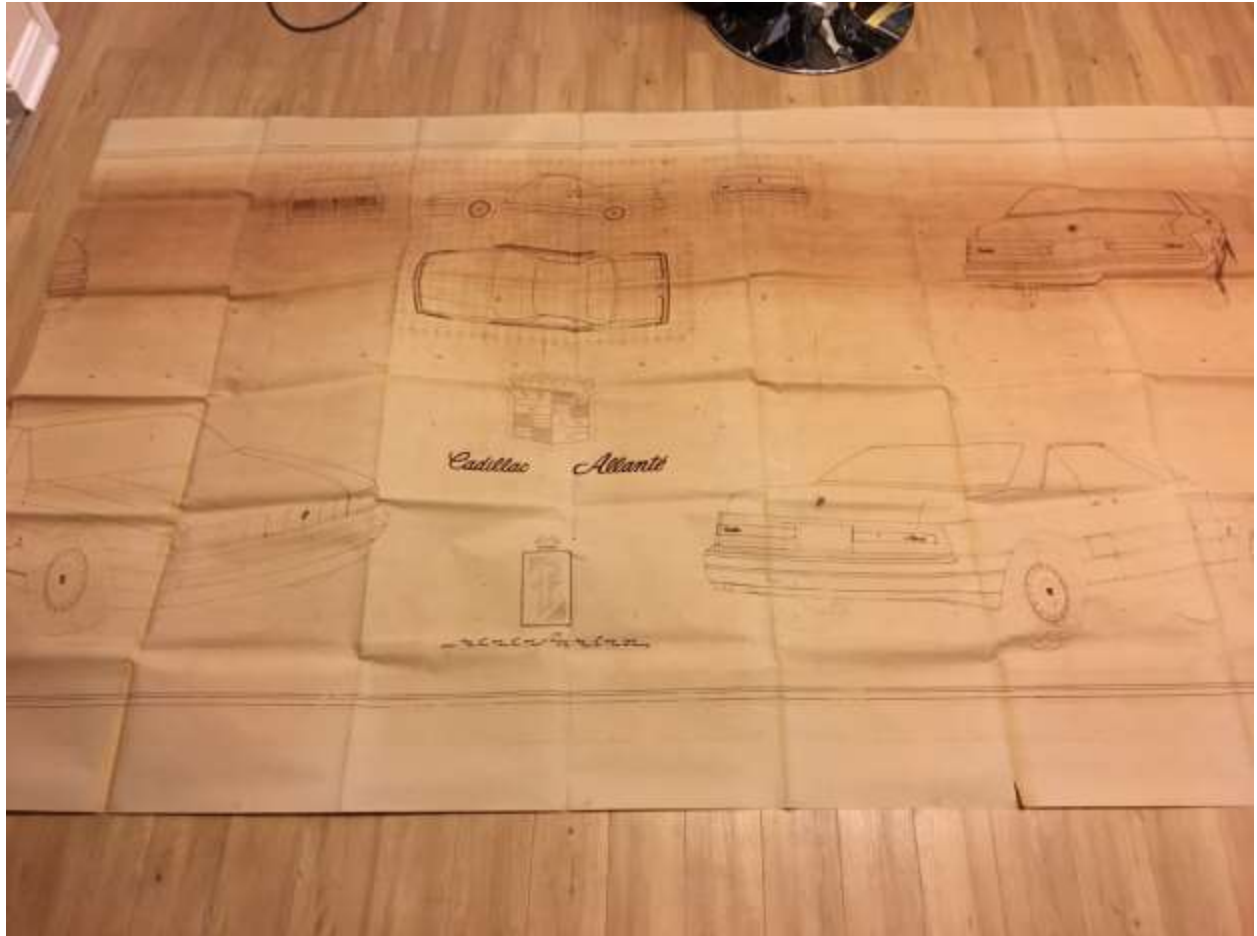
Allante, soon to become the passenger car flagship of General Motors, will provide Cadillac Motor

Car with representation in all segments of the rapidly growing luxury car market, Grettenberger said. "The special character of that market and the nature of Allante's competitors dictate that every aspect of this distinctive new car's development be truly innovative."

Cimarron, the Cadillac of sports sedans, is positioned at the other end of America's upscale auto market, he said, one we call the "near-luxury" segment. And in the "traditional" luxury car market — accounting for about half of all U.S. luxury car sales — Cadillac is the unchallenged leader with its De Ville, Fleetwood, Fleetwood Brougham and all new 1986 Eldorado and Seville models.

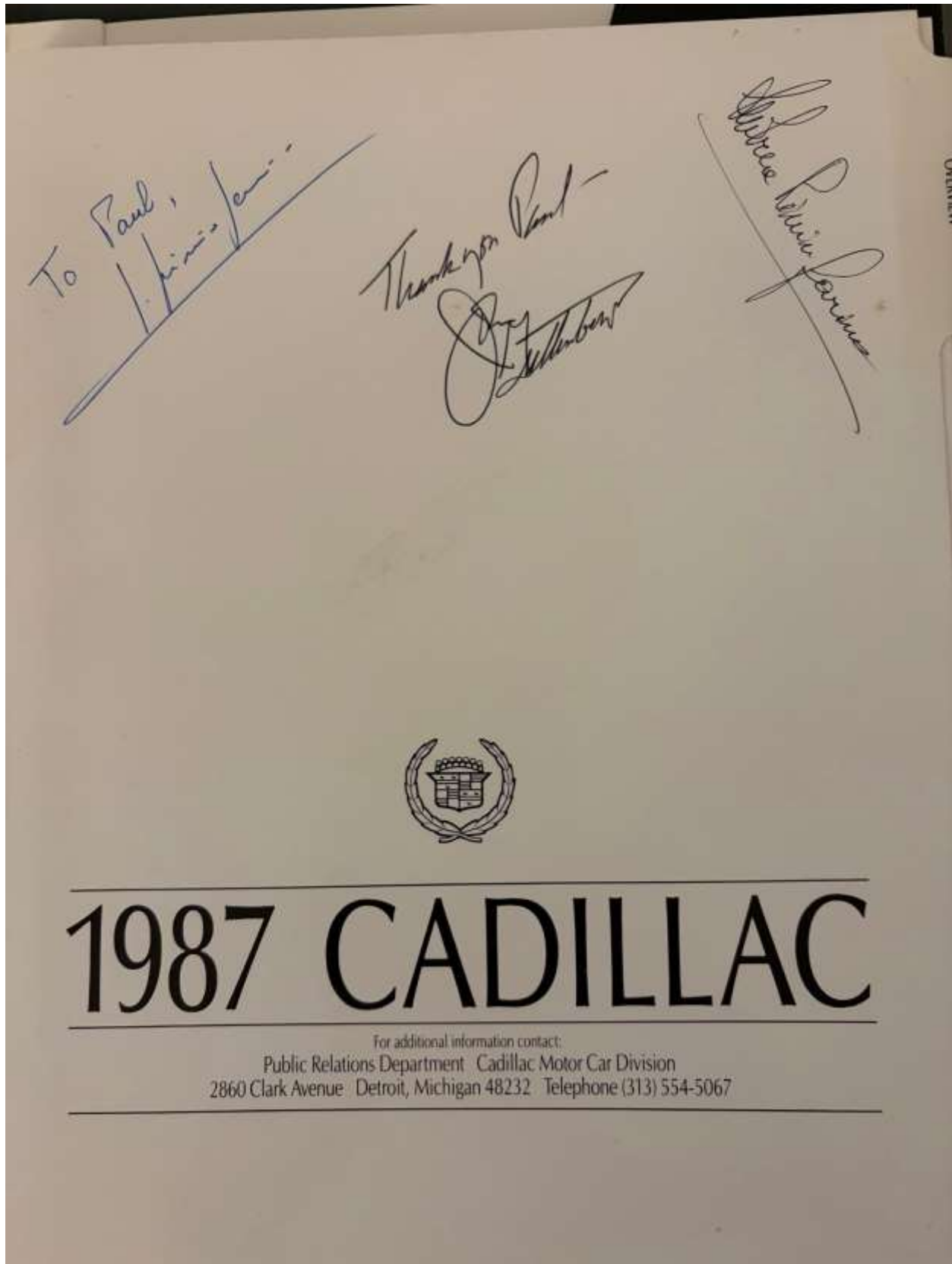
Pininfarina has put out some books and brochures with the Allante. I think they're in English and Italian. I have a couple of those. But I also have some other cool stuff from the Italian side. I have a press kit signed by Sergio and Andrea Pininfarina, and a press photo of the Allante signed just by Sergio. Those are prized possessions. I also have a very, very large copy of some of the original sketches they did for the design of the car. I was able to find a photo of some of the original documents hanging behind Sergio in an old Allante promo book.











About this archive, I don't have any way to display it other than folded up in a UV protected box, but I believe the other half of the paper it's printed on is a design drawing for a "Ferrari B.B.N." which I haven't really researched. I reached out to the Italians to inquire about what I had and never heard back from them.

As to where I find this stuff, it's almost always eBay. The "blueprints" were in a garage in Annandale. There's a long story there too. The guy's father was involved in drag racing and raced some very, very odd Cadillacs. He had a GM connection and got his hands on some interesting Allante stuff as part of a plan he pitched Cadillac on to attempt to break the land speed record in a modified Allante at the Bonneville salt flats. I ended up with some interesting stuff from that collection.

Cut it, punch it out, fold it, paste it, glue it, tape it,...whatever.... ...voila!It's a cardboard model vehicle!

By Doug Campbell

Our collecting hobby comes in all forms, topics, mediums, sizes, etc., and our own collections are as varied as are our interests! ...but a form of collecting that I have always enjoyed is that of CARDBOARD(paper) model vehicles...and there is certainly well over 100 such models displayed about my collecting shelves...and i find cardboard to be colorful, fun to assemble (sometimes!), often unusual in topics, and rather fascinating to display once assembled! They come from mostly advertising sources, and have been used for generations as inexpensive but effective advertising mediums which generally remain on an executive's desk or office shelf always carrying the ad message intended! Many are distributed to the public as nice souvenir items, and it seems MANY bus companies have used cardboard replicas of their motor coaches as inexpensive but fun and lasting give-aways to consumers!

Some cardboard models require actual cut out procedures with scissors, whereas others are more of a simple "punch-out" style, and often easier to assemble....over the years I've had models that require many 'parts" to be assembled and then carefully fit together into the completed model...it seems the Europeans love to work with highly detailed cardboard models...maybe more than my own patience and time could permit me to assemble, but when completed, cardboard replicas can actually be miniature works of art. Many of the little step vans in my own collection came pre assembled and contained a set of matchbooks inside, also containing the firms advertising, used during the 50's era when smoking was still so popular . Many dairies & bread bakeries used little cardboard step vans containing punch-out or cut-out replicas of both eye products..i.e. milk cartons or bottles or little bread loaves all in cardboard! Maybe we all have some cardboard models...in our collections...but for now I'll offer some photos from my own collection I hope you can enjoy...Happy (cardboard!) collecting!

What a fun use of cardboard for a model truck...WRIGLEY GUM some years back gave these heavy cardboard 15" trucks to retailers to place on their sales counter filled with Wrigley's chewing gum (25 cents a pack!) as point-of-purchase merchandising....of course many years ago i got friendly with a store to get their empty display!



Back in 1984 , Coca-Cola used this handsome "Ford" bottle truck as some sort of promotion to attendees at a sales meeting in Atlanta. What a realistic model of their bottle trucks back then!



Probably back in the 1950's ...many kids picked up these neat little cardboard Kilpatrick's Bread truck models, (originally flat and just needed to be folded in place) when their parents bought a loaf of that bread at a local grocery store.... Even the driver is shown at front window...



Cardboard easily fold together bus models are abundant in the advertising speciality world...here's 2 different models from PETER PAN LINES of Mass., and a nice model from WINN coach Lines...they look so real!!....probably a nice gift to a young lad who rode their buses!



I have many toy cardboard BREAD trucks as they truly fascinate my collecting interests...the "Rainbo" one is filled with matchbooks.



Cardboard model buses are just so varied and colorful as they are such realistic replicas of the actual coaches they represent...much advertising can be added to the roof areas! Here's just 5 fun model buses...all made of cardboard, and easily just folded together!



All kinds and sizes of toy cardboard vehicles! The heavy LoJack car opens up maybe to hold something...the tram is all ready to pick up its electric current by that realistic pop up roof unit!



Some cardboard models are long and easily folded together...some have little slots in roof to hold a child's coins! ..there is sooooo much variety in these colorful gems of the advertising world!



Metrobus in Washington, gave these neat little cardboard buses away at some event I attended a few months back..and the little "Happy Birthday" truck is a Hallmark pop-up card, Joan sent me a few years ago.... What fun to see all the figures in the MetroBus windows! !



The yellow Hauswald's Bread van was a popular Baltimore bread brand in the 50's.. showing their "twins" as they introduced their "twin" split loaf of bread package, Back then. the Eastern Overall was a local uniform cleaning service...back in the 1950's my Dad brought both of these home to me from his insurance route, and they too are filled with matchbooks...



The grill of this colorful MIDDLETOWN DAIRY van is marked "Divco"...somewhere I have a realistic snub nose Divco in cardboard but can't locate it to photograph tonight...this charming little van came with the little punch-out milk bottle and cartons to display with the truck.



Maybe my favorite cardboard model is this colorful early 1950's MAYFLOWER moving van..a piece I found years ago at the Allentown toy show, and took about an hour to carefully punch-out and assemble as it has many "curved" surfaces and really a very realistic looking model truck!



Most of you don't remember when Ferd Zegel, Roger Bartelt (Two of our departed STELLAR CMACC members !) and I published the world's first Journal just about toy TRUCKS..Miniature Truck News...for a few years , (over 500 subscribers on every world continent except Antartica!)and in EVERY issue, we included a "gift" of a trucking theme, which we got donated from various trucking industry sources who were generous at the time...Neptune Moving of New Rochelle , NY (now long out of business!) sent us over 500 of these wonderful cardboard fold together flat models of their moving vans, so each subscriber that issue received one stuffed inside their magazine issue....in another issue American Red Ball Moving Company of then Indianapolis sent us 500 little "pop-up" cardboard models of their moving vans, held together inside with a rubber band so when our subscribers pulled it out of its envelope it just "sprung-up" into a model truck..no assembly!!!..what fun we had with that publishing project, and I guess now part of our CMACC history too!



Even The Winross Company used many of these little cut-out cardboard folded outlines of their model trucks to use in many promotional projects..including here to us collectors to announce their upcoming "collector weekend"...and WHAT FUN weekend events of collectors they were back then!!!



Our Route 66 Centennial Trip, Part 3

By Dick Williams

Parts 1 and 2 of this account of our road trip along Route 66 covered the way out and the return trip. In this and any subsequent articles, I'll highlight some more of the automobile-related sights along the way: vintage gas stations, motels, signs, murals and – of course – actual vehicles. I try to stop at any car museums along the way, but one of the most enjoyable parts of any long road trip for me is discovering old cars in various conditions in random or unexpected spots. The many individual cars we found fell into three categories: vehicles used by businesses as advertising or attention-getters (or for sale), cars used by travelers along Route 66, and personal or abandoned vehicles. We also saw several historic bridges, some now closed and some still functioning.

Without further ado, on to the photos!

- 1) I already had photos of state police or highway patrol vehicles in the current graphics of all the states we passed through, with one exception – Arizona. That state changed their vehicle color and graphic design dramatically a few years ago. I'd tried to get a photo on our trip to California in January, but, like our trip west this time, couldn't find a car sitting still unless the trooper was giving a ticket. That made getting an Arizona Highway Patrol car on the return trip a very high priority! We saw several on the road but no photo ops. Tried at the District HQ in Flagstaff but it was Sunday and no one answered the door. We stayed in Holbrook that Sunday night, only about a quarter mile from the last AHP station before leaving the state. On Monday I drove there and asked the captain in charge if I could get a photo. He had a civilian employee pose several vehicles for me inside their fenced parking area, including this Camaro (hadn't seen one on the road and didn't know Arizona had them). Most of the AHP patrol vehicles are pickup trucks.



- 2) Here are a few more photos from the grandiosely-named National Museum of Transportation in St. Louis. This one is a 1923 Moon 6-58 Sport Touring Car. The Moon Motor Car Company produced cars and trucks in St. Louis from 1905 to 1930. "Dutch" Darrin designed a Moon car in 1928, and Walt Disney owned a 1924 Moon roadster (which he sold to finance the first Mickey Mouse movie, *Steamboat Willie*). The NMoT also has a Moon delivery truck on display.



- 3) This 1937 Chevy produce peddler's truck has a 1920s-period custom-built wooden body. It was owned and operated by a St. Louis small businessman. NMoT received it in 1960, and completed a meticulous full restoration in 2018.



- 4) The extensive railroad collection at NMoT includes a couple of rail buses. This 1939 White, originally a school bus, is the older and more intriguing one. It was one of three rail motorbuses nicknamed "Dinky" by riders from Principia College, who used them to travel from the campus to nearby towns from 1939 to 1953. The rail buses operated in Illinois on the east side of the Mississippi River before completion of the Great River Road in the 1960s. Capacity was 26 passengers.



- 5) Here's part of the Pink Elephant Antique Mall and Diner in Livingston, IL. This is the place where I photographed the Blues Brothers Monaco replica pictured in the previous article. There are all sorts of oddball items around the place, the diner's food is excellent, and the antique mall is interesting.



- 6) Speaking of antiques, I thought some of you might like this tin U.S. Mail truck seen at an antique mall in Tulsa, OK, called The Hive.



- 7) This Hudson is advertising a restaurant in Pryor, OK. In checking the Internet, the closest I could narrow it down is either 1940 or 1941.



- 8) Here's a couple of photos from small but very nicely done Route 66 museums. This diorama of a 1920s gas station is in a wing of the LaClede County Library in Lebanon, MO.



- 9) The Oklahoma Route 66 Museum has several displays of actual vehicles representing different periods in the Mother Road's history. This International truck wears the colors of Lee Way Motor Freight, a family-owned trucking company founded in 1934 in Oklahoma City. By the 1970s it had over 2000 employees and \$115 million in annual revenue. It was taken over by PepsiCo in 1976, then sold to another truck line, ceasing operations in 1984 following deregulation of the trucking industry. The museum also had a First Gear diecast 1951 Ford F6 dry goods van painted the very attractive black and yellow Lee Way colors.



- 10) Another day, another Route 66 museum. This one, on the second floor of an old power plant in Kingman, AZ, included this 1950 Studebaker Champion. The ground floor had, surprisingly, an electric vehicle museum, a large room filled with around 20 electric-powered cars.



- 11) We saw some unusual modern vehicles, too. This massive concrete pump truck was parked down the road from our motel in Flagstaff, AZ.



- 12) Another unusual vehicle (at least for me; probably not uncommon in Oklahoma) was this Franks Explorer III oil well “service and workover” rig that appeared to be ready to explore for oil right in the middle of the small town of Drumright, OK. From what I could find on the Internet, these Explorer vehicles were built from the 1960s through the early 1980s. The rig was set up amid the town’s small historical museum, so perhaps it was a display, but there was no sign, it seemed to be ready to operate, and there was a strong smell of raw oil around it. It was a weekend so no one was around, but a vintage oil derrick from bygone years sat about 100 yards away.



- 13) Here are some of cars we encountered at random driven by residents or travelers along the way. On our way west in May, just down the road from the famous Blue Whale of Catoosa, OK, we encountered this 1936 Hudson Terraplane parked in front of a small store, with the owner sitting on the porch, chilling out and inviting people like us to stop and admire his pristine vintage car.



- 14) When we emerged from the aforementioned LaCleda County Library in Missouri heading back east, this 1956 Chevy was parked near our car.



- 15) As I said in the previous article, we spent a night in the vintage Sunset Motel in Seligman, AZ on our way home. The next morning, this 1966 Chevy Impala was parked a few doors down from us. The owner said he was taking this car, which he'd restored himself, on a Route 66 trip with his daughter from his home in Tennessee to Arizona. So far the car had performed fine, the only drawback being the absence of air conditioning.



- 16) Our overnight stay in Seligman was so we'd have two days to see the big Route 66 car show in nearby Williams, AZ. I had a photo from that show in the last article. Here's one of the most unusual cars in that show, a 1939 "sharknose" Graham converted to a pickup. Out of curiosity, since returning home I tried to find that car on the Internet, and found half a dozen photos and a description of the conversion on the Graham Owners Club International website (<https://www.grahamownersclub.com/gallery.html>). The body originally was a four-door sedan "in terrible shape" from Canada. The chassis is custom built with modern components including a/c. The "suicide" doors were part of the conversion.



- 17) Now for another diamond in the rough, this 1958 Chevy Bel Air was sitting in front of a small garage with several other unrestored old cars (including an Edsel), probably for sale, though there was no sign on any of them. I hoped when I stopped that it was a Delray, the lowest trim level of the '58 (often used as a police car), but the script said Bel Air.



- 18) This truck falls into the “abandoned” category, along with the café it was sitting in front of, but it made for a picturesque photo with the old sign. This was in Tucumcari, NM, a cornucopia of old vehicles, murals, and old motels, and a famous overnight stop for Route 66 travelers in the old days.



- 19) Another old vehicle advertising a business, this old Plymouth was parked behind the business in Sapulpa, OK, which leads me to believe it's probably used by the painter not only as an ad but as a work vehicle.



- 20) Another display from the Route 66 Museum in Kingman, AZ, this Chevy truck and the previous Studebaker were the only motor vehicles in this small but very interesting museum (it also had a Conestoga wagon and the EV museum was downstairs). This display highlighted the migration to California from the dust bowl states during the 1930s, made famous by the book "Grapes of Wrath." The museum also had a collection of photos of some of the families who made the trek in search of a better life. The truck was loaded with the types of belongings typical of these families who brought along whatever they could fit into their vehicles.



21) I had a photo in the previous article of an Edsel Bermuda station wagon at the Route 66 Museum in Barstow, CA. This 1920s Oakland was one of the other three vehicles in this small museum.



- 22) Barstow today remains a major rail hub with a huge switching yard for the long trains heading east. Inside and outside the building housing the Route 66 museum (a "Harvey House" hotel built in 1911 to serve Santa Fe RR travelers) is the Western America Railroad Museum, including a small outdoor display of vintage locomotives and rolling stock. Among the artifacts was this very interesting 1968 Cline wheel truck, a heavy wrecker-type truck used to transport and replace sets of wheels on railcars and to perform repairs to trains along the railroad.



- 23) Last time I had a photo of a Plymouth taxi displayed outside the Crosstar Flag and Tag in the small town of Afton, OK. Here's another of his many vehicles, an International truck with a gaudy paint job.



- 24) This rat rod, looking like something out of a Mad Max movie, is also part of the Crosstar owner's eclectic (or eccentric?) collection.



- 25) West Contracting, a paving company in Brentwood, MO, proudly displays this International asphalt truck outside their parking area.



- 26) I'll close out this account of our trip with a reminder of what folks in California have to pay for gas. This photo was taken in Ludlow, CA, a tiny town (a small motel, a restaurant, a gift shop and this gas station) in the middle of nowhere, almost a ghost town today. This was at the peak of the spring's high gas prices in late May. Coming west, we filled up in Arizona so were able to get through the worst of the prices in CA. On our way back, we were on empty coming into Needles, CA, right on the state line with Arizona, which had similar (slightly lower) prices. There was a bridge from Needles, where we planned to stay that night, crossing the Colorado River to Arizona. We crossed into Arizona and came to a gas station a mile or so down the road where prices were at least \$3 per gallon less. The next day I bought a bag of ice in Needles and asked how they managed to sell any gasoline with the huge disparity in prices. The employee said almost all their sales were to tourists and truckers, with all the residents just driving into Arizona for gas. California is like another country...

