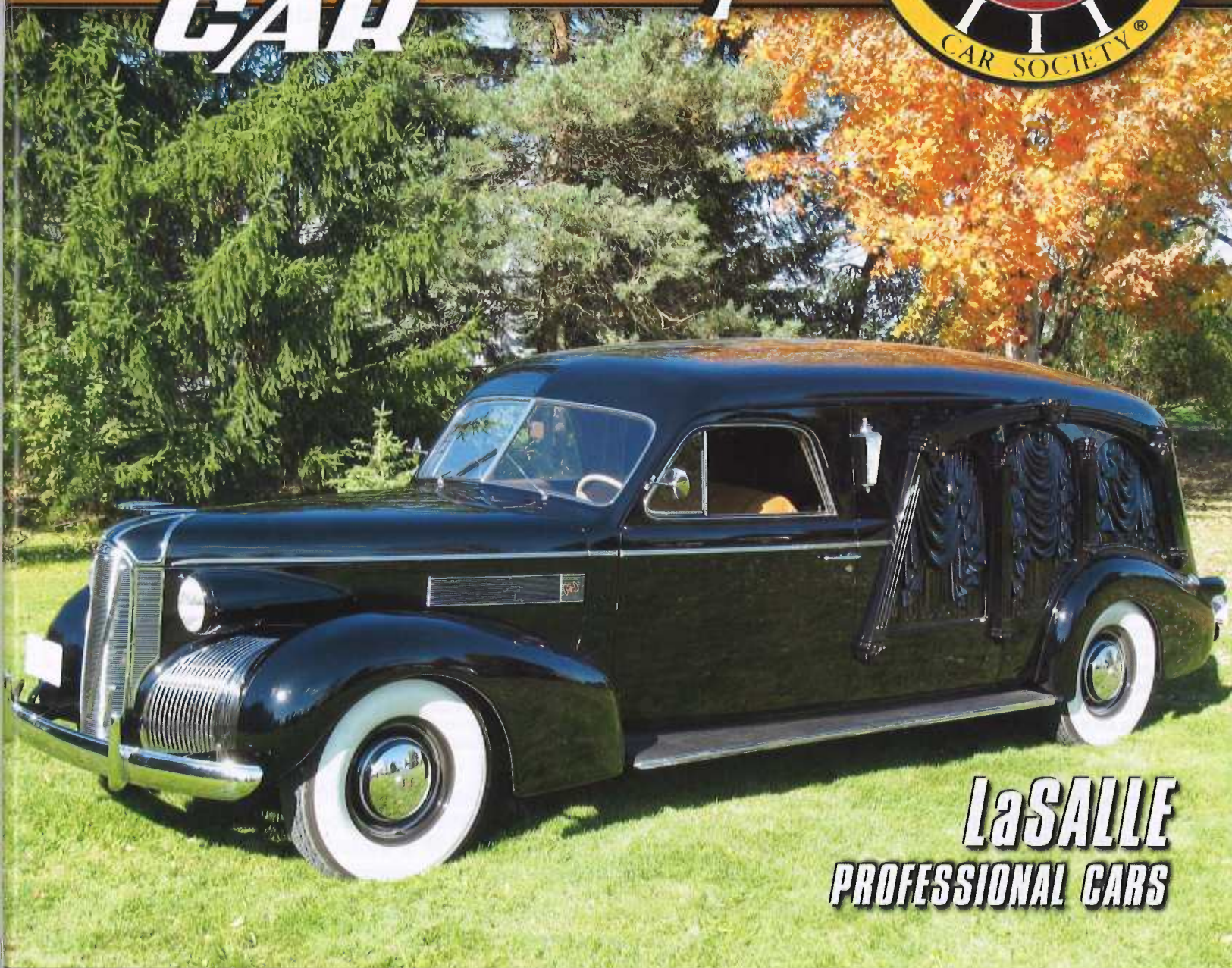


The **PROFESSIONAL CAR**



LaSALLE
PROFESSIONAL CARS

NUMBER 165

March-April 2016

The Professional Car

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COVER, CENTERSTRETCH, AND BACK COVER PHOTOS – Our salon subject for this issue is the 1939 Sayers & Scovill LaSalle *Masterpiece* carved-panel hearse owned by John and Patricia McCulloch of Durham, Ont. Originally built for the Trull Burial Company in Toronto, this car was in very poor condition when it was deposited in the McCulloch’s driveway a few years ago. Undaunted by its rough, incomplete condition, John and Patti nonetheless undertook a long, difficult restoration which was completed only hours before it made its debut at the 2009 PCS International Meet in Flint Michigan. No trailer queen, the McCullochs have *driven* this classic beauty to several PCS meets and many other car shows. Our stunning cover and centerspread photos were taken by Tom McPherson at a Trillium Chapter meet Darren Bedford and Jen Baker hosted on a lovely fall afternoon near Toronto a few years ago. Tom is clearly just as fine a photographer as he is an historian.

FROM THE EDITOR – One of the overlooked chapters in professional-car history is the significant role once played by Cadillac’s “companion car,” the LaSalle, between 1934 and 1940. While the prestigious Packard and Cadillac led the industry, less expensive marques like Buick, Oldsmobile, and LaSalle made up the second tier. The LaSalle peaked in popularity in 1939-40 before it was discontinued by GM at the end of the ’40 model year. Although the LaSalle commercial chassis was offered for just seven model years, LaSalle hearses, ambulances, combinations, service cars, and flower cars are still fondly remembered by many today.

Coming Up: Our next issue will be devoted to the 1993-1996 Superior and S&S funeral cars. Tom McPherson has compiled a massive, incredibly complete, lavishly illustrated history of this popular, relatively recent era in the industry. *We can’t wait to get this one out to you!*

– *Walt McCall*