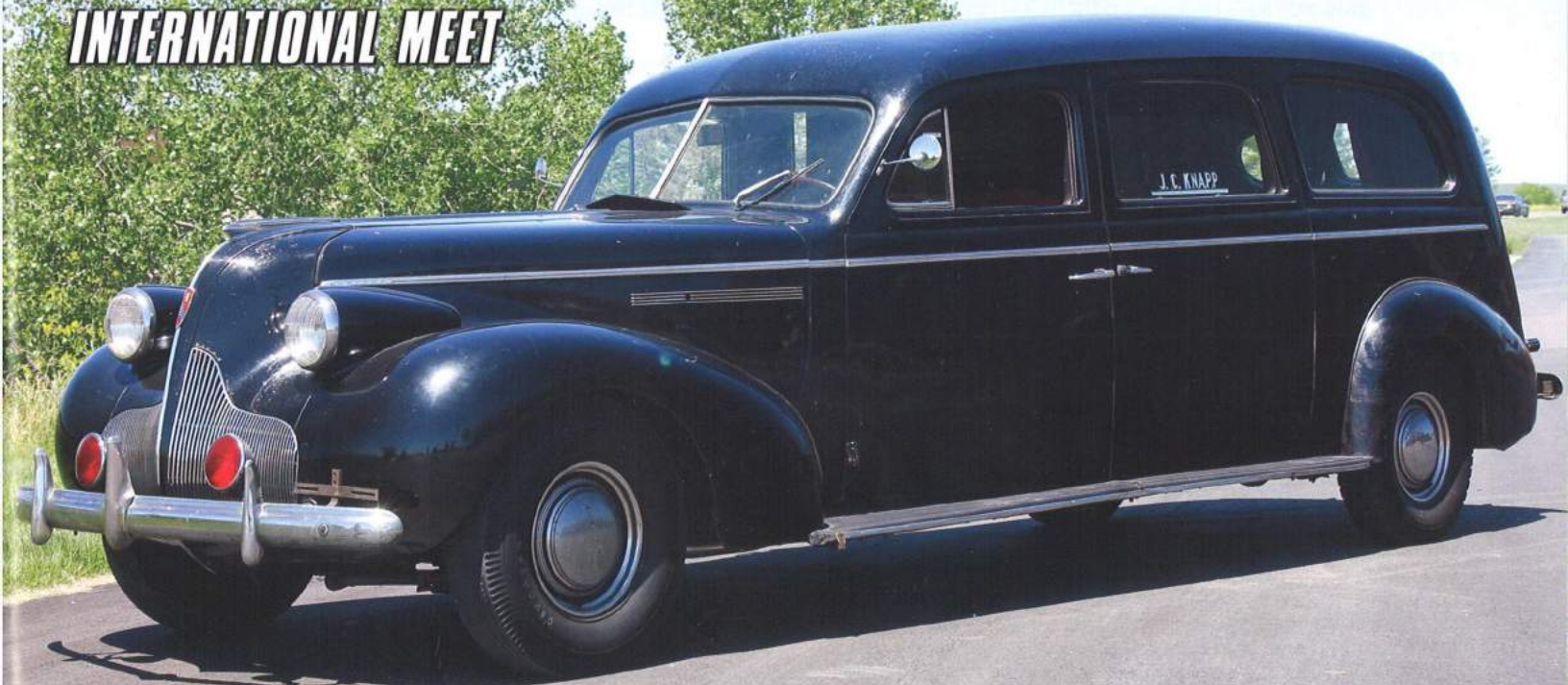


The
PROFESSIONAL
CAR



THE 2019 PCS
INTERNATIONAL MEET



NUMBER 184

1st Quarter 2020

The Professional Car

Issue Number 184

First Quarter 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 2	PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – TONY KARSNIA
PAGE 5	2019 PCS INTERNATIONAL MEET REPORT – BY GREGG MERKSAMER
PAGE 31	S&S MOMENT IN TIME: ROOSEVELT FUNERAL – BY TOM McPHERSON
PAGE 38	A GERMAN HEARSE CLUB RALLY
PAGE 39	PCIN: REVIEW OF 2019 PCS CHAPTER ACTIVITIES – BY BEE HAMLIN
PAGE 42	CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS – GEORGE HAMLIN

COVER PHOTO – The oldest of the 24 professional cars at the 2019 PCS International Meet held in Rapid City, South Dakota in late June was Jeff Knapp's 1939 A.J. Miller-built Buick Series 60 limousine hearse. With just 18,682 miles on its odometer, the 80-year-old end-loading funeral coach is remarkably original except for its exhaust system and rear-window drapes. This 2011 eBay find came out of Cleveland, Ohio bearing oil-change stickers from a service station in Nanty-Glo, Pennsylvania. Our cover shot was taken by Gregg Merksamer, who managed to photograph all of the cars at the meet.

BACK COVER – Flower-bedecked lamp posts turned a downtown Rapid City parking garage into a pleasing backdrop for our car show on Sixth St. The car in the foreground is meet host Ed Renstrom's 1972 Cotner/Bevington Oldsmobile Seville combination funeral car/ambulance.

CENTERSTRETCH – The highlight of the South Dakota meet was our car show held in Main Street Square in downtown Rapid City on Thursday, June 27. Gregg took this panoramic view of the show from the roof of the Prairie Edge Trading Co. & Galleries on the square.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE – The comprehensive report on our 42nd International Meet (and most of the photos) in this issue were provided by PCS Publicity Chair Gregg Merksamer. We decided to try a slightly different format for this year's Meet Issue. Instead of many pages of text interspersed with photos with short captions, Gregg provided longer, more detailed captions for his day-by-day coverage of the meet, which allowed us to use more photos. We're grateful, too, to Mary Catherine Langlois who also sent in photos for this important annual issue. Thanks, too, to Contributing Editor Tom McPherson for his fascinating behind-the-scenes story of the 1941 funeral of U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Tom's impressive historical piece is supported by an array of great photos from his personal collection.

COMING UP – In our next issue: major feature on "The Undertaker and Henry Ford's Model T." You won't want to miss this one!

– *Walt McCall, Editor*