

The
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THE 1959-60
FLXIBLE BUICKS



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COVER PHOTO – This 1940 Superior LaSalle *Wilmington* gothic-panel carved funeral coach is owned and regularly used for services by the Swanson Funeral Home in Detroit. This stunning white hearse was used for the funeral of civil rights icon Rosa Parks in Detroit a few years ago. Fire apparatus buff John Denney of Troy, Ohio thoughtfully snapped this photo for us while passing through the Motor City one Saturday last fall, for which we're most grateful.

CENTERSTRETCH & BACK COVER – Steve Lichtman's 1960 Flxible *Premier* ambulance. See Steve's *Owner's Pride* story in this issue. Even though we've seen and photographed this classic lowtop ambulance at several Professional Car Society International Meets, we never tire of looking at it.

FROM THE EDITOR – You'll notice a new position on the PCS staff masthead in this issue. We're pleased to announce the appointment of Thomas A. McPherson to the newly created position of *Contributing Editor*. Over the past few years, Tom's massive features on various aspects of professional car industry history have become an eagerly anticipated staple of this publication. The unerring regularity, depth and sheer excellence of Tom's lavishly documented and illustrated contributions have propelled him into a class of his own among our regular contributors. It's time to show our gratitude by giving Tom an official position on our editorial staff. Tom's credentials are well known. He's the author of *American Funeral Cars & Ambulances Since 1900* – the first book ever written on the subject and a still a cornerstone of the hobby 40 years after it was published -- as well as seminal books on nearly all of the U.S. industry's major players – *Henney*, *Miller-Meteor*, *Superior*, *Flxible* and *Eureka*. In addition to chronicling industry history, Tom McPherson actually *made* some of that history as President of the Eureka Coach Co. of Toronto, Ontario in the 1980s. Welcome aboard, buddy. We're delighted to have you on our team!

Coming up in our next issue: a major feature on the 1971-72 Superiors by Contributing Editor Tom McPherson. If you enjoyed his piece on the '61s, you're going to love this one.

Walt McCall – Editor