

1956 METEOR CADILLAC

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DIXIE COACH COMPANY HISTORY

THE PROFESSIONAL CAR

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IN THIS ISSUE: DIXIE COACH COMPANY HISTORY- By Jeremy D. Ledford FUNERAL CARS IN CUBA - By David Petke 1960 FLXIBLE-BUICK AMBULANCE - By Lee Andersen

COVER PHOTO — California Chapter member Mike McDonald bought this 1956 Meteor-Cadillac Limousine Ambulance from a Boulder, Colorado rancher in July, 2000. The rancher had purchased the car at a county auction in 1980 and drove it home where it sat out under the trees for 20 years. Other than four flat tires and a faded pink-and-white paint job the car was amazingly straight, and complete: it still had hospital run cards in its glove box when Mike bought it. The '56 Meteor originally served Moffat County's 26-bed Memorial Hospital in Craig, Colorado. Mike hauled the ambulance back to his heavy equipment yard in Valley Center, Calif. where he had it fully restored. The eye-catching white and red 1956 Meteor-Cadillac starred at the California Chapter's big Go West II meet in Burbank last July. This classic ambulance has since been sold to California Chapter members Hewy and Ruth Wick of Hemet, California.

INSIDE BACK COVER - Twenty-two years ago, Superior/S&S Coaches of Lima, O. and the brash young Eureka Coach Co. of Toronto, Ontario were duking it out for industry supremacy. Eureka ran this trade publication ad which compared the 1982 Eureka Cadillac Concours d'Elegance with Superior's top-line Cadillac Crown Sovereign Landaulet. The bottom line: a \$2,492 price advantage for the Eureka. Company President Thomas A. McPherson posed the Eureka Cadillac in front of the Eaton Mausoleum in Toronto's Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

BACK COVER – The deck-type flower car, a Henney Motor Co. innovation, was an important part of the company's model mix even though relatively few were made. A production-plate analysis by Dale Cole reveals that the 22nd and 23rd series Henney Packard flower cars were run off in a batch and used throughout the 1948-1950 model years. Dale's analysis suggests that around 100 of these portable gardens were built. Additional Henney body numbers come in from time to time and will eventually narrow the speculative range. The fine example on our back cover is a 23rd Series 1950 Model 15096 on a Packard 2313-5 chassis.