



1939 METEOR LaSALLE CARVED HEARSE

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# THE PROFESSIONAL CAR

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**ON OUR COVER** - Hope you enjoy our Centennial Issue! This is the 100<sup>th</sup> issue of *The Professional Car* published since the Professional Car Society was founded away back in 1976. We wanted this milestone issue to be something special. Several years ago, Dayton, Ohio PCS member Bernie DeWinter sent us some of his excellent renderings of classic professional cars. Right away we set them aside as future cover material -- but not for just *any* old issue. We decided to hold them for a special issue sometime down the road. What better occasion than TPC #100? This is also the first time we've been privileged to feature art on both our front and rear covers.

The car Bernie sketched for our cover is a 1939 Meteor-LaSalle Gothic Panel Carved Funeral Coach owned by Indiana member Jeff Glancy. Jeff, who also owns a 1972 Miller-Meteor Cadillac ambulance, brought this classic carved hearse to the 1995 PCS International Meet in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Carved hearses are difficult to draw (and equally hard to photograph) because their black paint often obscures the detail in their carved panels. We think Bernie captured the essence of this car very well.

**INSIDE BACK COVER** - We don't usually run photocopies, but *this* photo taken at the funeral of a former Premier of Quebec was so interesting we decided to run it anyway. The photo was sent in by Canadian PCS member Francois Gamache who operates a funeral home in Thetford Mines, Quebec. We count no fewer than 16 Cadillac flower cars in this cortege ranging in age from 1956 to 1960. These aren't long-wheelbase flower cars. They appear to be standard Cadillac convertibles fitted with cabs and flower decks. The last time we saw *this* many flower cars at a service was at one of the big Chicago gangster funerals in the 1930s.

**BACK COVER** - Bernie DeWinter also penned this attractive three-quarter rear view of a 1955 Miller Cadillac Flower Car. Note the graceful curve of the cab roof and the extruded aluminum trim on the lower rear quarters. The A.J. Miller Company was located in Bellefontaine, Ohio.