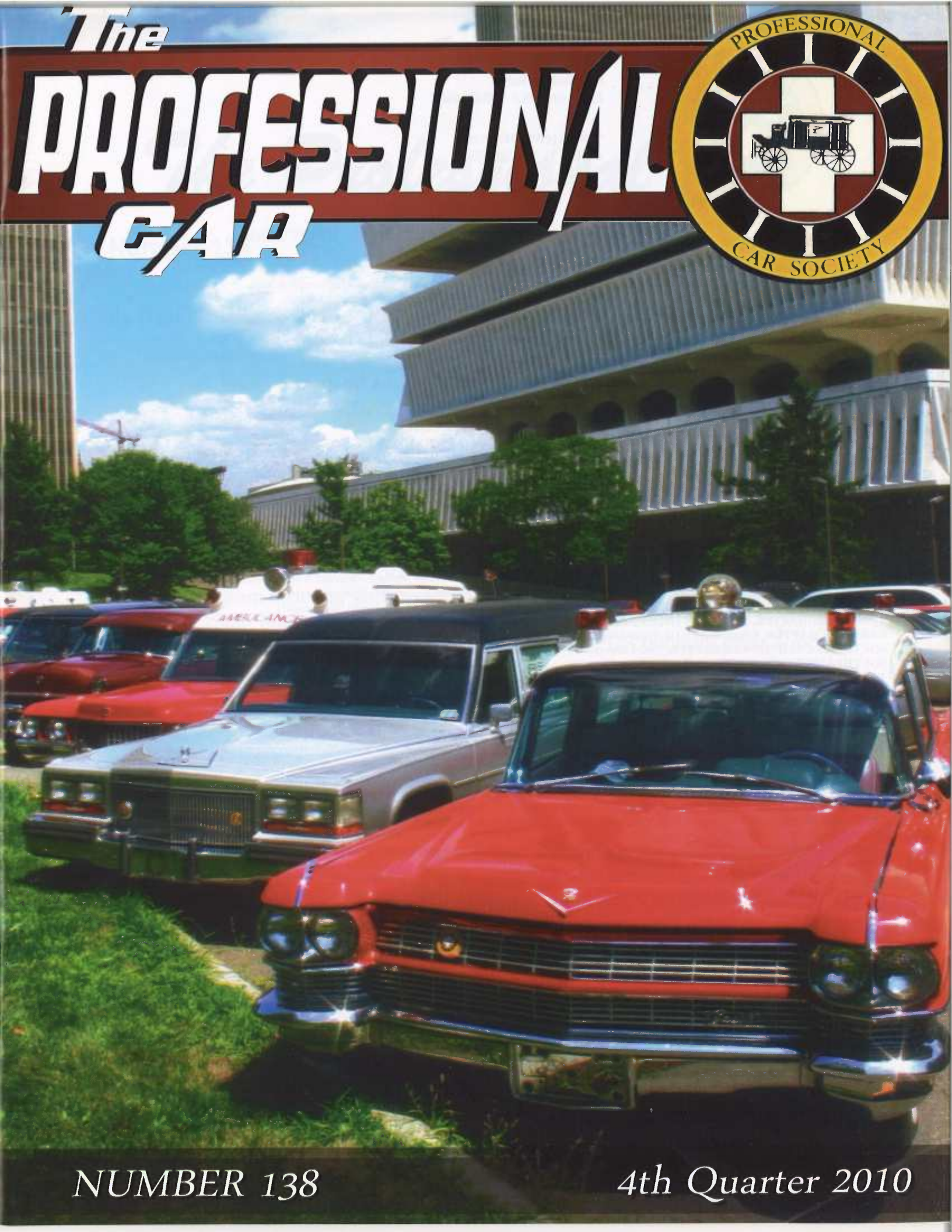


# *The* **PROFESSIONAL** *CAR*



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# The Professional Car

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**FRONT COVER** – Much of this issue is devoted to coverage, in words and photos, of The Professional Car Society's 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Meet which was jointly hosted by the *Upstate New York* and *New England* Chapters in Albany, N.Y. during the last week of July. More than 50 antique and vintage hearses, ambulances, combination coaches, flower cars, service cars and livery-type limousines converged on New York State's capital for the 5-day event. The excellent tour program included visits to storied Lake George, Saratoga Raceway, the New York State Museum in Albany and the American Museum Of Fire Fighting in Hudson, N.Y. Once again we're deeply grateful to PCS publicity chair *Gregg Merksamer*, who provided his voluminous (43 pages of small-type, single-spaced) notes from which we were able to compile the meet story. In addition to the words, Gregg also provided virtually all of the photos of the meet activities. Our other official photographer was *Steve Lichtman*, who once again coordinated the Saturday photo shoot and provided the car photos. Gregg (he's everywhere!) took our cover photo as the cars lined up in the parking lot at the New York State Museum in downtown Albany.

**CENTERSTRETCH** – A professional car buff's *Field Of Dreams*! Gene Smith shot this cornucopia of professional cars as they lined up in an open field on the Columbia County line to begin the 19-mile sirens-and-lights run (escorted by an obliging county sheriff) to the FASNY Museum of Firefighting in Hudson Friday morning. It was the *longest* Code 3 run in PCS history.

**BACK COVER** – Another International Meet tradition is the raucous Sound and Light Show that officially brings the meet to a close following the Saturday night Awards Banquet – an irresistible opportunity for ambulance and combo owners to fire up their lights and sirens – as well as a few purple funeral car strobe lights, too. Joe Torregrossa's 1975 Miller-Meteor Lifeline lights up the night!