

The
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CAR



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COVER PHOTO – The oldest motorized vehicle at the 2014 PCS International Meet hosted by the Northland Chapter in Rochester, Minn. in August was George Quast's 1915 Studebaker hearse with carved-panel body by the Northwestern Casket Co. A venerable 99 years old at the time of the meet, Mr. Quast's Studebaker is quite possibly the oldest fully operative motorized professional car in North America. Gregg Merksamer took our cover photo as Mr. Quast drove his tall, coal-black Studebaker on to the show field.

CENTERSTRETCH – Steve Loftin posed these two rare beauties on the show field. They show how much industry history can evolve in just one year. In the foreground is Terry Lange's 1959 Comet Oldsmobile landau. Parked next to it is Royce Baier's 1960 Cotner/Bevington Buick combination. In 1959 the Comet Coach Company sold its name to the Ford Motor Company for use on a new Mercury compact car, and for 1960 got a new name – Cotner/Bevington Corp., incorporating the names of Comet founders Waldo Cotner and Robert F. Bevington. Two descendents of the C/B family attended the Rochester meet.

BACK COVER – Rochester's Gold Cross Ambulance Service exhibited two dazzling cars at the meet – founder John Perkins' 1949 Siebert Ford panel delivery ambulance and Matt Wills' 1976 Miller-Meteor Cadillac Lifeliner. Publicity Chair Gregg Merksamer got them together for this attractive photo.

EDITOR'S NOTE - Well, we did it! Even if the final issue of 2014 didn't get to our members until early in 2015, your editorial team managed to publish six (fat) issues of *The Professional Car* in a single year. The leap from four to six issues a year placed a huge additional work burden on our publications staff, which finally caught up to us at the end of the year. Kudos to production chief Brady Smith who leaped from one issue to the next with virtually no relief between them. Yes, we plan to publish six issues in 2015. Next up: a great feature on Pierce-Arrow professional cars by Contributing Editor Tom McPherson.

– Walt McCall