

# The Professional Car

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**COVER PHOTO** – The Fire Bell Club of Milwaukee, a local fire-buff group, bought this 1947 S&S Cadillac ambulance for the Milwaukee Fire Department. The invoice price was \$6,613.00. The MFD ambulance responded to all greater alarms in the city until the 1970s, when it was retired and sold to a local car collector. The S&S Kensington had several other owners before it was acquired by the Milwaukee Fire Museum, which restored it. Many of us saw this gorgeous car at the 2013 PCS meet in Milwaukee. Photo courtesy of the Milwaukee Fire Museum.

**CENTERSTRETCH** – With World War II finally over, in the latter half of 1945, funeral directors and ambulance operators could order new hearses and ambulances for the first time in four years. This unidentified funeral firm apparently replaced all of its vehicles in one fell swoop with 1946 S&S Cadillacs built by the Hess & Eisenhardt Co. Photo courtesy of the Tom McPherson Collection.

**BACK COVER** – The A.J. Miller Company of Bellefontaine, Ohio introduced its first all-new postwar models for 1948. Miller’s bold, new styling featured a pleasingly streamlined rear end and similarly curvaceous “C” pillars. Your Editor photographed this beauty -- owned at the time by Ken Howe -- at the 1992 PCS meet Ken hosted in Lebanon, Missouri.

**EDITOR’S NOTE** – You will note that the byline for the main feature in this issue bears two names – mine and that of the late Tom McPherson. That’s because this is the story Tom and I were working on for *TPC* when he so suddenly left us on February 25, 2021. We had already selected the photos and Tom had just started writing the story. In the wake of his passing I was determined that this story would get published just as planned. So, a year later, here it is. As I promised his wife, Cindi, it is my duty to keep Tom’s memory alive – and his name in print. I think he’d approve of how our story turned out. RIP good friend.

– Walt McCall