

## Car of the Month

### 1936 Cadillac V-12 Convertible Sedan

*By Bill Holmes*

Byron and Alida Alsop's 1936 Cadillac V12, series 85 on a 138 inch wheelbase, convertible sedan is our Car of the Month for February. Widely accepted as the automotive embodiment of the mid to late 1930's "Streamlined Moderne" design movement, this Fleetwood bodied example was one of only 16 built and is now one of only 6 known remaining examples.

Byron and his son Tom restored a 1930 Model A when Tom was a youngster and did much touring in it. Like many local residents they were regulars at the Fathers' Day Sully show and visitors to the Rohr Museum in Manassas. Many years after the Model A was sold, Tom convinced Byron to get back in the hobby, so in 2003 they found the Cadillac in a museum estate sale in Ventura CA.

The car was a restored Barn Find that had come to the collection from Saskatoon, Canada. Records before those days in its life are a mystery. Even the original GM records have been lost so one has to wonder what this rare car was doing in its early life and how it got to Canada and the barn! After attending a couple local shows they realized the engine needed some serious work. Byron started a new frame-off restoration of the car which is the beauty you see now. But his classic beauty is no "trailer queen".

Byron and Alida regularly tour the country and attending classic car events of all kinds. They are active in the Cadillac and LaSalle club, CCCA and AACA and have also attended many Concours, winning many awards. In 2013 they successfully drove cross country, 4300 miles, from Times Square to the Golden Gate Bridge in the CCCA "Rediscover America Tour". Bryon says the car performed beautifully and crossed the 9300 foot mountain passes with ease. Tom and Alida rode style in the rear compartment but said it got a little cold without a heater! It was one of 20 cars to complete the entire trip. Look for more information soon in the "Car of the Month" page in the "Reference Library" on the club website [www.bullrunaaca.org](http://www.bullrunaaca.org).

