

NEWS FROM THE GENEVA CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE

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This past weekend nearly 200 premier antique, classic, and special interest cars from around the world lined the streets of historic downtown Geneva, Illinois, for the sixth annual Geneva Concours d'Elegance. The purpose of the event, conducted **August 22, 2010**, was to showcase the heritage, artistic significance, and engineering innovations of the automobile and benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF).

Preliminary to the show on Sunday, participants spent Saturday on a tour of the fabulous automobile collection at Rich Harvest Farm in nearby Sugar Grove, Illinois, guided by owner and car enthusiast Jerry Rich. Then, in anticipation of a busy day, participants enjoyed a dinner at Fiora's Restaurant in Geneva.

Free to the public, the Geneva Concours d'Elegance made the town come alive as many thousands of people walked the streets to view the unique automobiles on display.

The event was made possible by dozens of volunteers and major supporters like J.P Morgan, Cadillac, the Shodeen Family Foundation, Curtis., and Doc Morgan Inc., as well as over sixty individuals and smaller organizations.

Although automobiles of virtually every kind were on display, this year the Featured Marque was Cadillac and there were perhaps more examples of this General Motors brand than any other. Dennis Sobieski's meticulously restored 1930 V-16 Cadillac Sport Phaeton, Jeffrey Ozan's unique 1933 V-16 Cadillac Convertible Victoria, and Karl Otzen's 1962 Cadillac Formal Limousine, originally built for Nelson Rockefeller, were examples of the Featured Marque. The show was extremely diverse with many other interesting automobiles including Carl Manofsky's 1929 Super Eight Packard, custom built for a member of the Portuguese royalty and returned to the United States only recently for restoration, and Tom Coady's "one-off" 1956 Kurtis MKK Roadster. Also, Jim Causey, son of the original owner of this fabulous car, was there with his 1953 Aston Martin DB2 Drop Head Coupe and Jeff Minogue brought his 1937 Rolls Royce Phantom III Limousine, originally built for the Vanderbilt family.

Additionally, there were dozens of beautifully restored British Lotus, MG, and Jaguar sports automobiles, Italian Ferraris and Alfa Romeos, a rare French Delahaye, and famous race cars built by McLaren, Elva, and Watson. American marques like Corvette, Shelby Cobra, Lincoln, Buick, Ford, Chevrolet, and Chrysler were also well represented!

Automobile clubs from around northern Illinois took the opportunity to visit Geneva and park in nearby lots, accounting for nearly one hundred additional interesting automobiles.

Everyone enjoys seeing Classic automobiles and those who attended the Geneva Concours d'Elegance this past weekend are already looking forward to next year.

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