

Concours d'Elegance Slated for July 28

Aficionados of the classic and beautiful cars of yesteryear can experience some prime examples of elegant automotive design at this year's Concourse d'Elegance.

The 2013 show will be held at The Inn at St. John's on Sunday, July 28, in Plymouth.

Sunday's happenings will be preceded by a series of events, beginning on Thursday, July 25.

The annual Automotive Hall of Fame Induction and Award Dinner will be held in St. John's atrium on the evening of July 25. The RM auction preview takes place in St. John's Grande Ballroom and parking lot on Friday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A motoring tour of the Lingenfelter Collection will proceed from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 26. The cost is \$90 per vehicle and driver, \$35 for each additional passenger. There is limited availability. The caravan tour departs from The Inn at St. John's and travels along a scenic route to the Lingenfelter Collection. The

tour will return to Northville to enjoy lunch at Millrace Village.

The VIP tour of the Adderley Collection begins at 9:30 a.m. on July 26, and ends at 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$100 per person, and availability is limited. It departs from St. John's by charter motor coach. Lunch will be served amid the rarely seen automobiles assembled by renowned collector Terry Adderley.

On Saturday, July 27, the special seminar moderated by Adam Martin will "Look Under the Hood of the Class of '63" as experts discuss what the market looks like for the 50th anniversary cars like the Corvette Stingray, the Buick Rivera, the Studebaker Avanti and the Porsche 911. Panelists include Dave Kinney and Bob Sass. It takes place at 9 a.m. in St. John's Judea Room.

At 11 a.m., a panel will discuss Mercedes' Pagoda styling used on such vehicles as the 230 SL, the 250 SL and the 280 SL. Then at noon, the RM Auctions sale begins, featuring an array of high-caliber classic and other collectible automobiles for sale. Admission to the preview is free of charge, while admission to the auction is restricted to qualified media, consignors and registered bidders. Bidder registration is \$200 and can be completed in advance of the sale at rmauctions.com or on site at the event.

On Sunday, July 28, the 35th annual Concourse d'Elegance begins. It starts at 10 a.m. and goes until 4 p.m. General admission tickets are \$25, and include free parking, shuttle service and a program book. Children under the age of 12 get in free. For info, visit www.concoursusa.org.

'Mind-Blowing' Car Technologies Now Available

The future has arrived early for car buyers, now that vehicles with such features as automated parking and Wi-Fi hotspots are already a reality.

And, according to Edmunds.com, these new car technologies are available – and affordable – to most mainstream drivers a lot sooner than they might have expected. "We're just now seeing the first generation of some mind-blowing car technology that will simplify all of our lives," says Edmunds.com Consumer Advice Editor Ronald Montoya. "But what's even more remarkable is that automakers are quickly pushing these technologies into high-volume production vehicles, so you don't have to pay an extreme price tag to get a taste of the latest and greatest innovations."

Some of the technologies available now or in the very near future include:

- Piloted parking – Ford and Toyota sell vehicles that can steer themselves into a parking space with the driver manipulating the gas and brake pedals.

- Easy-fill tire alert – Properly inflating your tires is the easiest way to save gas and minimize vehicle wear and tear. The 2013 Nissan Altima makes it easier to maintain air pressure in your tires. Just connect the air tube to the tire, and the Easy-Fill Tire Alert will chirp the horn once the tire pressure reaches the recommended setting. The alert also works when a driver lets the air out of an overfilled tire.

- Wi-Fi Hotspots – Chrysler currently offers a \$505 Uconnect Access upgrade to the 2013 Ram 1500's infotainment system. The package adds a Sprint 3G cellular modem, which provides a Wi-Fi hotspot for multiple devices up to 150 feet away.

Uconnect Access will also be available on the 2013 SRT Viper and the more affordable 2014 Jeep Cherokee. And by 2015, General Motors plans to equip most of its models with a 4G LTE modem that will also provide even faster Wi-Fi hotspots.

- Hydrophobic Windows – A steady downpour can make it difficult to see out of your car. But what if the drops just beaded up and slid right off the car's windows?

This technology is already available on the specially-treated side windows of the 2014 Kia Cadenza. The technology improves visibility in rainy weather and makes for easier drying after the car is washed.

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