



We're digging into our world-class vehicle collection and archives to bring you behind the scenes insight on a wide variety of motoring topics. This week: Our "Parakeet" Cadillac that turns heads and attracts attention at the Museum and on the road. Also, see what's new on our [virtual bookshelf](#), and join us on our [virtual Museum tours](#).



## 1977 Cadillac Seville 'Parakeet'

*The actress Betty White once owned this 1977 Cadillac Seville, which is on display at the AACA Museum in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Photo: New York Times, April 15, 2010*

Cadillac is an American classic. The luxury brand traces its roots back to 1902 and has served as a division of General Motors since 1909. Cadillac earned the moniker "Standard of the World" due to a focus on quality and precision.

With a career in television and entertainment spanning decades, Betty White is also an American icon. It is no surprise that the two have a history together.

Cadillac debuted the Seville in mid-1975 as a 1976 model. The name Seville was previously used by Cadillac to denote an Eldorado hardtop from 1956 through 1960. In an era of big boulevard cruisers, it was a radical departure for the luxury manufacturer. Designed to compete with contemporary European luxury sedans, the Seville was noticeably smaller. The smaller profile delivered sportier handling and better fuel economy than its predecessors and many contemporaries.



Cadillac marked its 75th Anniversary in 1977 by establishing a new record, selling 358,487 cars. Betty White's husband, TV game show host, Allen Ludden, contributed to that number when he ordered this Seville in a beautiful pastel color, Seamist Green, as a gift for his wife. Sevilles came standard with fuel injection and four-wheel disc brakes. This example still retains its aftermarket floor-mounted AT&T mobile phone.

White affectionately named her beloved Seville "Parakeet." In 2002, she donated the car to the Humane Society for a charity auction. It spent several years as a collector car before its donation to the AACA Museum by Nicholas Ferrantino of Houston, Texas. The vehicle is currently "adopted" by the Potomac Region, Cadillac & LaSalle Club.

The Museum has nearly 200 vehicles in its world-class collection, and all acquired as donations. Adopting a car helps us preserve and maintain our collection. Clubs or individuals passionate or dedicated to a particular marque of an automobile can show support by adopting a car. More information is just a click away.

Adopt-A-Car Information



## What's on

During our temporary closure, we have lots of ways to satisfy motoring interests. Visit the Museum virtually with our [virtual tour series](#), catch up on good reads with our [Museum bookshelf](#), check out our [educational resources](#), or shop at our [online store](#).



### [Virtual Tour Series: Battery Park, NYC](#)

The Museum tours take you on a trip across America beginning in the early 1900s. See a wide selection of vehicles from early motoring history including a 1896 Chicago Motors Benton Harbor and the oldest racecar in America.



### [Museum 'Best Reads' Bookshelf](#)

Get your fill of stories to spark your memory or fuel your imagination. You'll find stories from the Museum Archives, Tucker, The Museum of Bus Transportation and more.

## Join and Support

As we work to preserve motoring history during this challenging time, we invite you to join us in our mission. Please consider a [Museum membership \(or renewal\)](#) or a [Museum donation](#).

Ways to Donate

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