

The Santa Clarita Valley Contemporary Car Club Newsletter



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Words from the President

By Dick LaGrasta, President

Hello there fellow car club members....

Where oh where did the month of May go, and so quickly! It seems May was a very busy month for the car club. We went on our monthly club trip, this time, to The Descanso Gardens located in La Canada/Flintridge. You really have to go there to believe how beautiful a place the gardens really are.

I know I had some reservations about visiting a place that did not have a bunch of cars or car parts scattered all over God's creation [but, we will visit a place like that very soon, so don't despair all you gear-heads out there...we need our yearly fix, you know]. Visiting a different place that is so serene, yet interesting is something that I do now have a lot of respect for. Now, don't get me wrong, there is no way that place will ever replace, say, the NHRA Museum in Pomona. No sir, not for me, because I have come to the conclusion that I have 100+ octane running through my body instead of blood [leaded too!]. My heart will always skip a beat to the sound of a really hot, high lift, long duration camshaft in a modern V-8 engine pumping lots of RPM's and torque all to a sound of a good dual exhaust system. Yep folks, that's truly music to my ears and obviously to many of you car club members too! So hang in there y'all, our day is coming.

Just to touch on the last Route 66 Car Show briefly, we had a rather great day/evening, if I say so myself. There were lots of cars and happy people getting together to mingle, listening to oldies music by the live band. The people were walking up and down the lines of beautiful vehicles and seeing all of the talent that is out there, just waiting to show off their latest car, truck, motorcycle or just about anything with an engine and some wheels. There is a lot of pride shown on those Saturday evenings, with car owners hoping to win one of our car club's highly sought after and respected trophies. The car club volunteers, who helped that day, were truly in tune with the evening's happenings, jumping right in there and helping at the registration desk; at the gate; judging the cars; or just plain helping park cars [just showing the way to an empty spot, no red vest were handed out that night, so of course no one was "tipped." But, if we ever did "valet parking," we might consider taking tips from car owners. If they would just let us drive their "hot rods," we would be "real careful" not to put a scratch on a fresh paint job. But, I could not be responsible for rubber left on the parking lot. It comes with the territory, ahem.]. All in all, it was a very good and profitable night for the "Safe Rides Program." Some lucky 50/50 ticket owner took home



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May 2002

Cruise Nights:

- **Auto Spa**—
First Saturday
- **Route 66**—
Second Saturday
- **Burger King**—
Fourth Saturday
- **Fuddruckers**—
Every Saturday

Inside this issue:

<i>Words From the President</i>	1
<i>The Descanso Gardens Trip</i>	2
<i>Car of The Month - Kraig's 1919 C-Cab</i>	4
<i>Board Member Contact List</i>	4
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	5
<i>May Meeting Minutes</i>	5

(Continued on page 2)

Words from the President (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

almost \$275.00. The "Best of Show" trophy that night went to a very happy car owner that almost had tears in her eyes and just jumped for joy until the bandstand shook like crazy! Yeah, it was so cool!



**May's "Best of Show" Trophy Winner,
Tracy Coffin**

I want everyone to remember that the car club's annual picnic at Bouquet Canyon Park is coming up real soon on June 15. So, put that date on your calendar and keep reading your e-mail for another notice before the actual date. Also, read the club's May meeting minutes as to what to bring (depending on your last name). Of course, as usual the club will supply drinks;

the main course; plates; utensils; cups; ice; and other "stuff" to help make this "family participation picnic" a real success. If you have any questions, please contact Dave or Veronica Zelman (Special Events Coordinators) by e-mail or phone so that you don't get left out of a really great time doing what this club does best, EAT! Oh yeah, we are gonna eat and eat good! By the way, don't forget we are also having our monthly club meeting (for June) there at the picnic. So, I am hoping to see as many of you as possible. If you possibly can make it, by all means, do!

I know that this might be a little early, but remember to keep the "4th of July" open. This is one of the club's biggest cruises (to Fillmore, off highway 126). This year should be a little different in that it is being run by a different group of people that promises to "do it right." Hopefully, everyone will have a good time there. We have our usual great location in front of the gazebo facing the action (cool spot I must say!).

In closing, I am somewhat concerned that our club meetings are not being attended by as many of our club members as we used to have. I realize that we have times when it is impossible to attend and that it may not be the best time of the month, or an evening that maybe is just forgotten because of other commitments. But, please try to make perhaps one or two meetings a year, besides the picnic or Christmas party. You'll be glad you did and most of all; you will be supporting a really great car club and a lot of very nice people. Thank you all for your support in this matter, I really appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely, *Dick*

The Descanso Gardens/Nethercutt Museum Trip

By Eileen Keating

On May 18th, we met at McDonald's at 9 am and the Arnolds, the Emersons, the Zelmans, the LaGrastas, the Keatings, and "Papa" Moore loaded into their cars for a drive down the 210 Freeway to the Descanso Gardens in La Canada. "Papa" Moore was reliving his youth as an 18 year old. In 1928, he used to run the hills of the Descanso Gardens.

The eleven of us toured the Gardens, seeing the different parts of it, such as the Fern Grotto area; the Rose Gardens; the Japanese Tea House; the Bird Sanctuary; and the beautiful Boddy House on the grounds. The mansion has an incredible six car garage and was full of beautiful art work especially from one artist. That artist was showing her work of wolves, Indians, and animals with drawings in drawings. The drawings are hard to explain, but something you just had to see to believe. The highlight was seeing grown men riding around the gardens on a miniature train. Just "kids at heart," Phil, Dick, Dave and Dwight loved their railroad ride. After our tour of the gardens, we

(Continued on page 3)

The Descanso Gardens/Nethercutt Museum Trip (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

went on to Robins Restaurant in Pasadena. As usual with our club, we ate “to our hearts content.” We then decided to go to the San Sylmar Nethercutt Museum in Sylmar to see the Annex. We were able to check out all the cars (some of them new to the museum). Those cars were not there last year. We watch a film showing the moving of the Pullman Train car they have on display outside the museum. The museum now has the Pullman train open for tours at specified times. What a wonderful thing to see. The Pullman was made especially for the daughter of “Lucky” Baldwin, who is the

man who owned the Queen Anne Cottage at the Arboridum in Arcadia (maybe a future car cruise destination). The Pullman car had a very elaborate sitting room with stained glass lighting overhead; a master suite; extra bedroom; maid’s quarters; kitchen; and some very “hidden” toilets. It is gorgeous and worth the trip down to the Nethercutt Annex. Just be sure to check the times of the Pullman Tours, as they were only scheduled two times the day we were there. As usual, everyone had a good time.

Eileen



Car of the Month - Kraig's 1919 Ford C-Cab Stake-Bed



By Ken Kraig

Our C-Cab is our wedding day bliss. Donna and I were married, standing on the wooden oak-bed with the priest, at the Tree Chop Car Show with over 300 classic cars in attendance. We walked down the aisle lined with poinsettias and classic cars on both sides. So, you know this truck has a lot of meaning for us!

The C-Cab is a red 1919 Ford Model "T" Stake-Bed, with an all steel body. It has the original kerosene cowl lamps that still work. The engine is a 153 cubic inch, 4-cylinder Chevy. The tranny is a two-speed Powerglide, coupled to a 1957 Pontiac rear end. The front I-Beam suspension is from a 1934 Ford with sealed-beam lights sitting in the original gas lighting buckets. The front tires are 185-95 R15's with 275-60 R15's on the rear, all mounted on aluminum wheels with spinners. I added shocks to help the rear leaf springs and they were one of the better additions I have made. I had the 8 gallon steel gas tank removed from under the seat and added a sixteen gallon Jazz fuel-cell under the bed. Also, lowering the seat about three inches gave me extra headroom, as the top had been chopped previously.

The kids have enjoyed numerous parades riding in the back and waving to people and the AH-OOH-GAH horn is always a crowd pleaser. It's a blast to drive and Donna has driven it to a few events. It's just her size. It's still an eye-catcher, even in its constant state of "under-construction."

Cruise On, Ken & Donna Kraig

Board Member Contact List

Name	Position	Home Phone	E-Mail Address
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Upcoming Events

- June 15th - Annual SCVCCC Picnic at Bouquet Canyon Park & June Club Meeting - 11 am to 3 pm
- July 4th - The Sespe Creek Car Show - Fillmore
- July 13th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - Music by The Legends - 5 pm to 9 pm
- August 3rd - 11th - Hot August Nights - Reno/Sparks Nevada, register now!
- August 17th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - Music by The Legends - 5 pm to 9 pm
- September 14th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - Music by The Legends - 5 pm to 9 pm

May Meeting Minutes

Coco's Restaurant
May 22, 2002
By Eileen Keating

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm and started with Old Business: (1) The Financial Report was given and we are again, solvent for another month. (2) President Dick gave us a rundown of our May cruise to Descanso Gardens and stated everyone enjoyed the visit, especially the men who rode around on the "miniature" train. There were beautiful flowers to see. After enjoying the Gardens, we went to Pasadena to Robins Restaurant, where we did our usual and ate "heartily." We then traveled to the Nethercutt Museum, where we checked out the cars and the Pullman train. On this visit, we were able to see the inside of the Pullman train that was built in 1936 for the eldest daughter of Lucky Baldwin. It has been completely restored and is a perfect example of how the rich traveled years ago. Dave Zelman gave a rundown of the Route 66 Car Show. \$274 was half of the 50/50 drawing that was raffled that evening. So far, it was the highest amount of money we've given away. The car show went off great. There were 103 registered cars for the evening with a few more that hadn't registered and were there for "show."

New Business: (1) Dick and Cheryl LaGrasta were invited to dinner by the "Safe Rides Program," our car club's charity organization, who we donate to monthly at our Route 66 Car Show. We were told that we were one of three top organizations who have contributed more than \$1000 to the "Program." "Safe Rides," that night, gave our club a plaque that read, "Presented to Santa Clarita Valley Contemporary Car Club, Thank You for All of Your Support, Santa Clarita Valley Safe Rides, April 28, 2002." They said our car club has contributed the most to their group. (2) The car club settled on the 3rd Saturday, June 15th, for our annual picnic. We also discussed who would bring what and agreed the club will furnish the cold cuts and drinks; names "A thru H" bringing dessert; "K through R" will bring salad or beans or coleslaw; and "S thru Z" will bring appetizers. We were asked, what would be the drinks of choice. We were asked what games we wanted to play, but nothing was suggested at meeting time. The hours will start at 11 am and run until about 3 pm. (3) Suggestions for "short cruises" were asked for; lots of suggestions were mentioned; but nothing settled on. A trip on the Metrolink on a Saturday to downtown L.A; Fuddrucker's was another suggestion. Then, after so many suggestions, Dick decided to have suggestions sent to him via email. (4) Everyone in the club, who would like to enjoy a "Surprise" cruise, should leave the first Saturday of June open. It will be a cruise we will be hearing about through email and we will be notified of the meeting place, when, where and what time.

The Roaders Car Club is having an "outing" on June 22 to Irwindale Raceway. They said they have eight spaces, and there is a chance of taking your car for a two lap ride around the Raceway. If anyone is interested in checking this out, contact Jim Thomas who is the president of the Roaders Car Club.

Phil Arnold was the lucky winner of the Chrome 50/50 pot for the evening. The meeting then came to a close.

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www.ContemporaryCarClub.org

