

# 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...

You know, this car club and its membership really are "on the ball" sometimes. There are always some interesting questions that are asked at the monthly club meeting, and sometimes I do not have the answer to them. One such occurrence happened at the August meeting when a club member brought up an interesting point about our club's "By-Laws" and did we know that we were not following these "laws" properly.

A quick answer was "yes we know, but we are allowed to tailor some of the laws to fit our needs." Further, we will be discussing these "tailoring of the laws" and other such items pertaining to the "By-Laws" at the Christmas Dinner (along with voting on these tailored By-Laws).

When I got home from the meeting that night, I managed to pull up the Contemporary Historical Vehicle Association (CHVA) history and read it through. I just wanted to see what "I have been missing" these last couple of years. If memory serves me right, I think that it was about three years ago, or so, that we last voted on our "By-Laws." How or what the final outcome was is still a "blank in my mind." So, I am looking forward to possibly discussing just what it is that we have or have not been doing properly these last three years. I do know that the "tailoring job" that we have done, will most certainly fit within the guidelines that have been set up. This is so we can have the types of cars in our club that we now drive. We do take certain liberties within the guidelines that allow us to survive as a club, but not exactly according to the "strict letter of the By-Laws." These are "legal modifications" and pose no threat to the CHVA.

I would like to take this time to give everyone just a quick CHVA history lesson (as written in the By-Laws Handbook). Maybe this will suffice until our Christmas meeting. There will be a question and answer period to [hopefully] clear up any questions that our club members may have at that time. So, sit back for a spell, and take a history lesson.

### CHVA HISTORY

The Contemporary Historical Vehicle Association was first presented as an idea in December 1966. By March 1967, through small advertising, enough nationwide interest had dictated that a substantial number of old car fans wanted



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### Cruise Nights:

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

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### Inside this issue:

<i>Words From the President</i>	1
<i>Orange County Fairgrounds Tour</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	3
<i>August Meeting Minutes</i>	3
<i>Santa Paula Cruise</i>	4
<i>Board Member List Contact List</i>	4

(Continued on page 2)

## Words from the President

*(Continued from page 1)*

such a club. The Association was born at this time, and will endeavor to give you all the benefits of a large, all-encompassing club dedicated to the preservation of the Depression/World War Two era vehicles and their literature. The CHVA has "By-Laws" which insures democratic operation, both now and in the future, and is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Virginia. At the time of its founding, the CHVA considered 1928 as its earliest historical boundary, and included all vehicles manufactured through 1948. These passenger and service motor vehicles are known as "Action-Era-Vehicles." The year 1928 was selected, because it marked the end of the famous Model "T" era. Chrome plating was beginning; and the first Plymouth, DeSoto, and Chrysler-built Dodge Vehicles were introduced to the car buying public, among other events at this time in history. The year 1948 seemed to be a logical stopping place at the time, because almost all vehicles through that year were carry-overs in design from the pre-war era. As of 1994, the CHVA recognizes all vehicles 20 years of age back to 1928.

So fellow club members, there you have it (not a long, but significant history of our "Parent Organization"). Of course we pay our yearly dues of \$25.00 to help support this fine organization; receive a magazine (Action Era Vehicles); support (when and where needed) a form of insurance for our club (when in a "cruising mode" together to and from a designated location as a club) should the need arise [hopefully, NEVER]; and some other "perks" that we can discuss at the Christmas party in December.

One more thing, I want to thank everyone who

came to the club meeting held at "COCO'S" Restaurant. We had a good time discussing very important club matters. I am proud that when discussing certain items (such as club finances), we all acted very properly. Although we may not all agree on many items (no big secret here), we carried on in an intelligent and adult way; asked the right questions; voted in a democratic fashion. We will continue to do so, because we all have an active interest in seeing this club stay active and healthy in this community. Next month I will delve a little deeper into some of the club's "By-Laws," by going into "Areas of Competition." I will concentrate on Section 4, which does pertain to all of our present vehicles, registered in our club.

In the meantime, support your club whenever you can; attend the meetings; and do not be afraid to "speak your mind" (in an adult fashion, and with regard to your fellow car club member). We need this input from all of you. Everyone is an important member of this club and will be able to express their points of view on subjects brought forward by fellow club members. Thank you all for your support and input at the club meetings.

I'll be seeing a lot of you at our next Route 66 Car Show, coming up on Saturday the 8th of September. Let's hope for a good old-fashioned Santa Clarita Valley showing of cars. Don't forget we will be competing with The Saugus Car Show that same Day/Night. We are hoping that a lot of the regulars that attend our show and support the SCV Safe Rides Program will "c'mon down to Wide Tract Town," on Saturday evening. They will be entertained by The SCV's "classiest car show host," The Contemporary Car Club.

*Sincerely, Dick*

## The Orange County Fair Grounds Tour

By Les Williams, Cruise Director

What a great day Saturday was to escape the heat of Santa Clarita and feel a cool ocean breeze in Costa Mesa. As we pulled into Orange County Fair Grounds at 10:00 a.m. (this is on the border of Costa Mesa and Newport Beach) the morning clouds over the ocean was just burning off. The sky was clear and boy did that breeze feel good. We got parking that was right in the "front row" as they say and walked into a huge Swap Meet. The ladies were ready to shop until you drop. Eileen (Swap Meet) Keating was ready right out of the van. She looked like a shopping commando with her backpack and matching fanny pack. Poor Rich had to get out the portable radios to stay in touch. She found some great buys. The most interesting was the zipper pants for

Rich. We all thought that these were the pull-apart pants like in the movie, "The Full Monte". We were relieved to find out that the zippers are at the knee and turn the pants into shorts. Fhew!! Cheryl La-Grasta found a framed picture of three NASCAR multi-year champions - Jeff Gordon, Richard Petty and Dale Earnhart. Linda Williams bought a Tweety Bird watch right off (not more than 5 feet from the front gate). She said this was a gift for her six year old niece. She also found some nice plants to plant in the back yard. Dick and I ended up with some nice shirts with cars (naturally) on them. This was done within the first hour. That place really put the Saugus Swap Meet to shame.

We then took tour through Orange County and

*(Continued on page 3)*

## The Orange County Fair Grounds Tour

(Continued from page 2)

had lunch at Knotts' Berry Farm. As they say timing is everything. We got there at about 12:30 and got right into the Chicken Restaurant. We were 10 of 5500 people to enjoy a Knotts' Chicken Dinner that day. The food was great (the hot biscuits and butter were wonderful), the service excellent and it turns out our waiter Ricardo owns a '67 Mustang Coupe. Go figure. Everyone enjoyed Knotts' world famous Boysenberry Pie. No one left there hungry. Even though we did not go on any of the rides Janet Arnold had a thrill ride going down the steep ramp that goes under Beach Blvd. She is going to have to get 5 point harness and a Hans devise for her chair to do that again. We then hit the freeways again and took a leisurely drive home.

You might ask "What happened to the Car Mu-

seum?" Good question. It turns out that they were closed this one Saturday only, so they could get ready for the Giant Car and Motorcycle Show (with Elvis) that we were originally planned to see on Sunday. We switched to Saturday to accommodate a member who said they couldn't make it Sunday but could come if we went Saturday. We switched and then they had other plans; so much for accommodations. Some of us may go back later this year to do Christmas shopping; we'll catch the museum then.

A Reminder - Put on your calendar now the trip to Chandler Vintage Car Museum in Oxnard on the fifth Saturday in September. This is the 29th. I was thinking we might have lunch at the Big Yellow House, thirty minutes north of where we will be. We are open for any suggestions. Let me know.

Happy Cruising, *Les Williams*

## Upcoming Events

- September 8th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - 5 pm to 9 pm
- September 9th - Family Car Show XIX in Oxnard
- September 23rd - JB Arrowhead Club 14th Annual Car Show at Johnny Carson Park in Burbank - 10 am to 3 pm
- September 29th - Otis Chandler Museum in Oxnard
- October 7th - The Annual Verdugo Vintage Vehicles at La Crescenta Park

## August Meeting Minutes

Coco's Restaurant  
August 22, 2001  
By Eileen Keating

The meeting place was changed from the Coal Miners Restaurant, which went out of business, to the backroom at Coco's Restaurant. It worked very well, as they served good FOOD, which is one of the most important parts of the meeting. President Dick LaGrasta called the meeting to order by our at 7pm.

Old Business:

(1) Dwight Emerson gave the Club's financial report was given by. He stated we are still solvent. A question and answer period was called, as we needed to decide how much money to carryover from this year to the next and how much we needed to start up in January 2002. Discussed were: club expenses such as hats, shirts, club functions and how much we needed to start the Route 66 Car Show in 2002. We have taken in money from dues and also from the Route 66 Car Show and distributed out the money for the charity, trophies and such for the Route 66 show. We discussed whether we needed to do anymore to make money before the end of the year to cover expenses for the Christmas Party. The Christmas Party had decisions that needed to be discussed: whether to have full catering, entree catered and the rest pot luck, or all pot luck. We settled on an amount to set aside for the cost of the Christmas Party. The date for the Christmas Party will be Saturday, December 15. It was decided

(Continued on page 5)

## Downtown Santa Paula Cruise



## Board Member Contact List

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## August Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

that the club would furnish the main entree with the appetizers and desserts being brought by club members. It was suggested that a certain amount of money be carried over to 2002, so that the club will have a balance to work with until the membership dues come in and the Route 66 Shows begins again in April.

(2) We reviewed the car club's monthly cruise for August 18th to the Orange County Fairgrounds, where the Museum of Dreams and swap meet were held or at least supposed to be held. Due to a car show that was going to be held on Sunday, the Museum of Dreams was closed for the day of Saturday. But the swap meet was great nevertheless. We caravanned to Knotts' Berry Farm for a delicious meal, after time spent at the swap meet. It was a fun cruise. The night of August 18th was a cruise at Bob's Big Boy in Glendale and our President won a trophy with his GTO. Congratulations, "Prez."

(3) Next was Dave Zelman's review of the August Route 66 Car Show and he stated it was a really good show. We had only one complaint from an entrant, who felt he should have won a trophy. He stated he has won at other shows, but never won a trophy at the Route 66 Car Show. Our club has been complimented on the beauty of our trophies many times. The club discussed as to whether to change to a newer good-looking trophy for the last two months of the Route 66 Car Show or wait till next year to decide. We voted to decide to finish out the year with the present trophies and decide next year whether we want to make a change next year.

### New Business:

(1) This Saturday, August 25th will be a cruise to Burger King in Palmdale. The following weekend will be the Fat Burger cruise on the first Saturday in September. Both meeting times for those shows are 3pm at the Mobil Station on Sierra Highway. Sunday, October 7th is the Verdugo Vintage Vehicles Car Show. Some Car Shows coming up were discussed. The October weekend overnigher was brought up again, with a new suggestion of maybe staying overnight at the Queen Mary if we can get a group rate with lots of things to do and see in Long Beach. That will be looked into to see what will be possible, and a date will be set if it is settled on. The club members will be contacted when a price is set and a date can be set at a later date probably by e-mail.

(2) Rich Soto discussed the Website, which all the members agreed was a great website, that we can be very proud of. He stated he has gotten lots of calls as to when the latest Route 66 photos were to be posted on the website.

(3) New style lettermen jackets were presented at the meeting to the club members who ordered them and they are very attractive.

(4) A new member was introduced, Brian White who has a 1957 Chevy 210 and he has a brand new trophy that he won at the Route 66 Car Show.

(5). Please notify Dwight at his e-mail address (DwightEmerson@earthlink.net) for any changes of address, phone numbers or e-mail addresses.

(6) Jane Bettencourt-Soto stated we should take a look at the club's By-Laws for updating. It was decided the by-laws will be discussed and any changes that needed to be made will be decided at the Christmas Party in December.

Jay Triche won the Chrome Pot (\$10.50) for first time in 12 years and the meeting was closed at 8:15pm.



Now on the Web @  
[www.contemporarycarclub.org](http://www.contemporarycarclub.org)