

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....

My message this month has to do with something very near and dear to my heart. That something is usually said by me at the end of the Route 66 Car Show venue in October and it consist of thanking everyone involved in the yearly show schedule. However, I must state right here and now how much I appreciate the hard work that everyone has put into the 2002 car show schedule to date.

I really do not keep count of how many times club members attend our show. I am not going to name "names" here (you know who you are) and I am not going to rant and rave about this person or that person; doing this or doing that while at the show. I think that would just cheapen things a little.

I am just going to let everyone know that when you commit some time to helping the car show, you are not only helping the club out or "just" helping The Safe Rides Program; you are doing much more than that. You are taking an active interest in the community of Santa Clarita and more direct, Canyon Country. I know sometimes we ask ourselves "why" do we put this show on? "Why" do we have to get involved at all? Those are the very questions that I have often asked myself... "why," indeed? There are many answers to this question, and I think it all boils down to the fact that we are "civic minded people" with an interest in helping establish a place that people can go on a Saturday night and enjoy themselves. That includes bringing the whole family along, if you so desire.

Now, to be really honest with you all, this has not been the easiest show to put on. In fact, it seems that every month we (the club) end up facing a "multitude of problems" that tend to crop up at the most inopportune times. This is something we just have to work with, because we are using a parking lot that belong to various businesses, like Edward's Theaters, Valencia Bank, Quizno's, and many others. They deserve some room for their customers to park anytime they are open for business. So, by being aware of these concerns every month and acting accordingly, we are able to block off the spots that need to run the show. Of course, we usually have a different configuration every month, but that just adds to the excitement of planning a successful car show that night!

I won't go on and on about the show. I do realize there are club members who cannot make the shows, and then of course there are club members who are not in agreement with what we do every month and feel perhaps that the show is really "not for them." There is no problem here. I am just content that they perhaps get involved in other activities within the club and do support the club



"...I would like you all to consider what this club means to you."

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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>Board Member Contact List</i>	2
<i>Cruze News</i>	3
<i>Safe Driving Aid - Side Mirrors Adjustment</i>	3
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4
<i>Auto Detailing Tips</i>	4
<i>August Meeting Minutes</i>	4

(Continued on page 2)

Words from the President (Continued)

(Continued from page 1)

whenever possible. We all lead very busy lives. Some club members I only see once or twice a year. But, it is still good to see their smiling faces, if only at the club's Christmas Party; or in passing at the mall; or at a local restaurant; or even a friendly phone call to say "howdy" to let me know that they are "still alive and kicking!" This perhaps is the beauty of this club. It does not make too many (if any!) demands on its club members. The club still manages to stay busy and do the things required; like doing a breakfast or lunch cruise; visiting various places of interest throughout the year; having a club picnic; and don't forget the club's annual Christmas Party and Tour of Lights through the Santa Clarita Valley.

Perhaps next year, we may be able to make changes that allow us to visit more places; do more cruises; and maybe even still have some sort of a car show schedule. I'm not too sure how this is going to happen yet, but there are plans in the works that might allow us to do all of the just described functions. This can only happen if we all get involve by attending some monthly club meetings (fourth Wednesday of the month at Coco's in Valencia) and expressing our views and making suggestions for everyone to consider. If you do not attend any meetings or do not keep in touch with what is going on through out the year; you'll more than likely be confused or perhaps not happy with the club's decision to do certain things at certain times. So, please try to keep in touch with what is going on with the Con-

temporary Car Club throughout the year. You can do this by reading your email (if you have a computer); checking out the club's meeting minutes after a meeting; reading your copy of the monthly newsletter; or calling someone up that knows what is happening (phone numbers are listed in the newsletter). If you can think of another way to stay in touch, by all means...DO IT!!!

Before I sign off, I would like you all to consider what this club means to you. If you are not real happy about how some things get done, let me know (my number is on the newsletter). Maybe we can make some changes for the better. All it takes is for you to show up at a meeting and express yourself and your views. Some really great ideas have come about from club members who have had an idea and expressed themselves at the meetings; at a local cruise night, or anytime they get a chance to. Don't hold back, because the only poor suggestion is the one that never is talked about, and that my friends is a shame.

Thank you for allowing me to "express myself." As summer ends and fall begins, I hope we are lead down some interesting roads for our club and its members to enjoy. I also hope, you can be there to share in the fun and the excitement along with the rest of us. Take care and stay well.

Sincerely, *Dick*

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Cruze News

By Dave Zelman, Events Co-Chairperson

Well, in the last two weeks, you missed a couple of good cruises if you didn't go. The first was a cruise up to the Oxnard Harbor for lunch; sight seeing; followed by a trip into Ventura for window-shopping in the stores on Main St. Afterwards, we made a trip for ice cream and other goodies at Cold Stone Ice Cream in Canyon Country. The members on this cruise were Dave and Veronica in her '56 Chevy; Darrell and Carol in their Mustang; Howard and Cathy in the Rivie; Dwight and Jodi in the Mach 1; The La Grastas and Arnolds in the SUV; and the Keatings and Ernie in the van.

Sunday, the 8th was the Ventura Chevy Clubs Car Show in Oxnard. Those going were, Dave in the '56; Rich Soto in his '55; Phil in his '57; Brian White in his '57; Dickie was in the 409; Clint Hoffman in his 442; and Larry Boord in his Chevelle. The wives, Veronica, Cheryl, Janet and Ruby carpoled in Janet's SUV and then went shopping at the Oxnard Outlet Center. The weather was cool, with a slight breeze. It made for a perfect day, but it did get chilly at trophy time. Congratulations to Clint. His 442 Olds won in his class. The rest of the judging was a little weird to say the least. The judges seemed to skip every other car. In this reporter's opinion, two of our members were robbed of trophies as the cars that won were no ways as nice or even correct in appearance. But that's Show Biz, I

guess. After the show, all but Rich and Clint once again headed to Cold Stone for ice cream. The Parsons came and joined us.

Well that's it for now. Hope to see a lot more of ya at the Ventura Vintage Rod Show in two weeks.

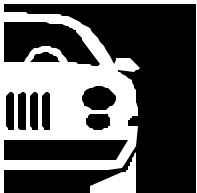
Your Cruze Dude, *Dave*



Having Fun at The Ventura Chevy Club Car Show in Oxnard

Safe Driving Aid - Side Mirrors Adjustment

Excerpts from National Safety Council on Safe Driving:



Some of the most serious preventable accidents occur because of blind spots while driving! Now there is a remarkable simple solution discovered by an engineer named George Platter. He presented his method at the prestigious Society of Automotive Engineers.

The National Safety Council tested his theory and discovered, to their amazement, that it works! The method has been fully endorsed by the National Safety Council as described in their September/October issue of Traffic Safety. Here's how it works.

First, forget how we learned to adjust our outside mirrors by plopping behind the steering wheel and turning the mirrors so that we just saw the side of our car looking back at us in the mirrors.

Instead, adjust the driver's side mirror by resting

your head against the driver's side window and then turning the mirror so that you just see the side of your car.

Once this is set, move to the center of the vehicle and turn the passenger side mirror so that you can just see the side of your car from the center of the vehicle.

That's it. You won't see your own car in either mirror, yet what you will see is far better. Cars behind you show up as usual in the inside rear-view mirror above the dash, but the instant the car leaves your field of vision from the rear-view mirror the outside mirror picks it up. No blind spot; no delays; no wondering where that car about to pass you has disappeared to, and no waiting a few seconds for the car that you just saw in your rear-view mirror to show up in your outside mirrors.

All three mirrors work in harmony with one another, and the blind spot has been eliminated!

Upcoming Events

- 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
- September 22nd - Ventura Vintage Rods Car Show - At Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard
- October 12th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - Music by The Legends - 5 pm to 9 pm

Auto Detailing Tips

PLASTIC LENS POLISHING: Headlamps that are weather-beaten or sun damaged, often look yellow or faded. 1985-1993 Volvo 240 headlamps are well known for this. Using an aluminum polish will greatly help reduce lost shine and clarity. Try Mother's Aluminum & Mag Polish (\$8.99). Apply polish using a towel and rub entire surface using medium pressure. Wipe off using a clean towel. Repeat as necessary. Polish will become trapped in DOT markings and identification lettering. Brush letters with a tooth or detail brush.

DEODORIZING: A clean smell interprets a clean and fresh interior. The smell of a new car has a special attraction to people. Deodorizing is available in several methods. The first is air fresheners. This method masks odors, but provides a pleasant atmosphere. The next method is called an ozone bomb. Try Big D Odor Control Fogger (\$6.99). It works like a bug bomb for odors by killing the bacteria that causes the odors. To use an ozone bomb, set the bomb and close the doors. Allow remaining in the interior for one hour without disturbing. After 60 minutes has passed, open doors and air out for an additional hour. The ozone bomb also leaves a pleasant smell. Small spritzes also have a great effectiveness for mild odors. Another type of deodorizing is achieved with an ozone generator. Ozone is created when O₂ is changed to O₃. Ozone is a molecule comprised of 3 oxygen atoms. These unstable atoms quickly oxidize compounds, thus killing bacteria causing odors. This is the most effective method for permanent odor removal. Most auto manufacturers require this process as part of their certified used car program.

TREE SAP: To remove tree sap, use a spray bottle with rubbing alcohol. Spray onto affected areas. Allow to dwell on surface. When it has softened up, wipe away with a soft cloth. Be prepared to re-seal any affected area, as the alcohol will remove any coatings.

August Meeting Minutes

Coco's Restaurant
August 28, 2002
By Eileen Keating

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm and started with Old Business: (1) The Financial Report was given and we are again, solvent for another month. (2) The club members, who went to the Reno's Hot August Nights, gave a review of their trip. They had a great time and towed their cars rather than drive them through the "hot desert." Dave passed five kidney stones, so it was a "productive" time. Some spent time in the Casinos and the others chased each other through the traffic. The car auction was a highlight. A picnic out by the pool and the trip to Lake Tahoe were also super highlights for the Tuesday through Sunday trip. (3) A review was given on the trip to Ventura Beach for the Annual Southern California Chevy Owners Picnic/meeting. A beautiful day at the beach and a fun time was had for all the Chevy Owners..... Ford owners were not interested (4) The Route 66 Car Show went well, with 85 registered cars for the day. The public and show participants gave great compliments to our club for the way we put the show on and how well it is run. We will be deciding before the end of the year, whether to continue the Route 66 Show next year.

(Continued on page 5)

August Meeting Minutes (Continued)

(Continued from page 4)

New Business: (1) We reviewed possible car shows our car club could attend with specific dates and times for the months of September, October and November. Dick passed out the flyers showing the ones that are coming up. The Ventura Vintage Rods are having a car show on September 22. There is a website to check it out at <http://members.aol.com/vvrweb/> \$20.00 is the car entry fee. Dick will e-mail information before the 22nd of September. (2) Next was the discussion on Saturday's car club cruise to Ventura Harbor, when and where to meet. We will meet at 9am at the Shell station on the Old Road, then go to Ventura Harbor tour around the harbor shops, then over to Ventura and/or go up to Ojai. (3) Last on the agenda was a review of new business not on the agenda. We will be having business cards made up for the car club.

Dave Zelman 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

