

The Santa Clarita Valley Contemporary Car Club Newsletter



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Words from the President

By Dick LaGrasta, President

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!!

Well, I don't know about you, but Cheryl and I had "one heck of a year" with this club! Let me start off this year by telling you about last year's Club Christmas Party.

The Annual Christmas Party was, by all means, "a great success" and I can tell you that if you did not get full (of food and merriment) it was your own fault! I can't remember when this car club has had such a good time being together eating, conversing, eating, laughing, eating, exchanging stories, eating -- well you get the idea. At the party, the club members in attendance elected the board members for 2001. Mr. Dick LaGrasta was re-elected Club President and Mr. Phil Arnold was re-elected Vice President. The newly elected club board members are as follows: Newsletter Editor will be Mr. Rich Soto (replacing Mr. Darrell Parsons); Club Treasurer will be Mr. Dwight Emerson (replacing Mr. Jay Triche); Club Cruise Director will be Mr. Lester Williams (replacing Mr. Dave Zelman). A "Club Special Events Coordinator" will be a new addition to the Board and the person appointed was Mr. Dave Zelman. Dave will help out the



"New Club Board members
have been appointed!"

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Christmas Lights Tour

By Les Williams, Cruise Director

We had a wonderful cruise to see the Christmas Lights of the Santa Clarita Valley. It was one of our largest turnouts (18 cars) and this two days before Christmas was amazing. It was hard to believe that there is a power shortage.

I would like to thank the Gilley's (Tom & Donna) for the great send off. For those who missed the feast, they had a marvelous six-foot sub sandwich [the sandwich was taller than little Dick], great salads and drinks [Next year Cindy is not allowed to drink before we drive].



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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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Words from the President

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club with activities that require special attention. One such activity is the "Route 66 Car Show/Cruise I want to thank all of the previous board club members who have given up their time helping to make this club "the Cadillac of SCV car clubs." Without their help we just could not have achieved what we have --thanks to all of you wonderful club members. In this issue of the club newsletter, is a list of the newly appointed board members and their respective phone numbers and email addresses -- look for it.

So, by now you are saying to yourself, hey...what gives here? I am reading this newsletter via my email!!! Cool, huh? Yep, for all club members that have a computer and have email capabilities, we are going to be shipping your monthly newsletter to you electronically!!! Wow, what a great world we live in folks [well, to some of us anyway] that we have the ability to do this, and that we have a person who...newly elected to the board...has set a "plan in motion" so that we may better communicate with all of our club members that have computers. The monthly newsletters will be sent via "snail mail" to all of our club members that do not have computers [simple, huh?]

This change will allow the club to save some money by not having to mail out a monthly, "stack of papers" by U.S. Mail that require stamps (and time) to make it to your door step in a timely manner. Mr. Rich Soto has taken over the duties here for the club and I want to thank him for also considering putting together a "Club Website" in the not too distant future. This will be a great help for all potential new members that may ask: what our car club is all about; where and when we meet; how many members do we have; and many more things that today, we do not have the ability to answer except by actually having to meet with the individual who may be interested in joining the SCVCCC.

As you can see, there are some great things going on in the future for this club, and like all great things, will require patience and of course the help of all in attaining these new club's goals. So, please bear with us folks, while we "move our club into the new millennium." There may be a few "teething pains" along the way, but I am sure that this club will be ready for 2001.

Sincerely, Dick

Christmas Lights Tour

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The lights were many and the drive pretty smooth and the company was delightful. We ended the night with a surprising welcome at home of Dwight and Jody Emerson. Their daughter Tracie arranged for a Brass Band to play Christmas Carols and then we went inside and had a dessert extravaganza (including Krumkakes [this is not a dirty word]).

Thanks to all for making our annual trek a fun one, Les

Ryan's Story

By Charles Griffin

Hi, my name is Charles Griffin. I joined the Contemporary Car Club 6 months ago and I am having a blast! The people in this car club are the most fun group of people I have ever known. Shortly before joining the car club, I bought a 1967 Pontiac Firebird and a 1969 Pontiac Firebird...BOTH birds were RED.

Let me tell you a little story about the 1969 Firebird that has come to be known as "Ryan." I bought "Ryan" from a 17-year-old boy (named RYAN) in the parking lot of Mimi's Café. Rikki noticed it while waiting to meet me for lunch. "Ryan's" family had passed him on down 3 generations of high school aged sons. They did not take good care of

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Ryan's Story

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"Ryan"...So, in a sense, I feel as if I "saved" Ryan from certain extinction.

Shortly before I bought "Ryan," several teenagers had replaced the original 350 engine, with a 400. They had no idea what they were doing, so all of the brackets, hoses, and cables were incorrect. I have replaced the air shocks with KYB's, and extended shackles with factory. I have also rebuilt the carburetor, replaced the coil springs, all hoses, belts, ball joints, control arm bushings, brakes, all gaskets, speedometer gear and cable, the oil pan, wheels and tires, and of course installed Flowmasters. "Ryan" is home again in my garage and I am in the process of replacing the carpet, all weather seals, all emblems, and upholstery in my garage.

I hope to paint "Ryan" as soon as I get my 1967 Firebird "Vivian," back from the body shop in February. I plan on going to the next Pomona Auto Parts swap meet to pick up a few more parts to make the Palm-dale show in March.

As you know, I have recently gone through a divorce, and had given up building muscle cars 25 years ago. Rikki came into my life in July and had encouraged me to take up the hobby again. I went with it and having these 2 fine cars brought back the fun I had as a teenager! My Father and oldest Brother have been body men and mechanics for as long as I can remember. This is great fun!

Rikki and I are planning a long life together with our family of fine muscle cars!

Proud owner of two Firebirds, Charles



Board Member Contact List

Name	Position	Home Phone	E-Mail Address
Rich LaGrasta	President	(661)263-9848	ibiltem@aol.com
Phil Arnold	Vice President	(661)269-8115	
Les Williams	Cruise Director	(661)297-2293	tapedoctor@earthlink.net
Dave Zelman	Special Events Coordinator	(661)263-6219	dzelman@socalgas.com
Dwight Emerson	Treasurer	(661)296-6541	dwightemerson@earthlink.net
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Newsworthy

Here's an article which appeared in the "Tell It to The Signal" section of the Santa Clarita Signal newspaper on December 31, 2000. The internet reply was written by Rikki Kirchner in response to the posted topic, *What is Your Favorite Oldie's Car?*

Older but faster

"Re: Favorite Oldie's Car. Old Chevys NEVER die ... they just GO FASTER! I have a 1971 Chevrolet Chevelle Malibu that is the hobby of a lifetime! I belong to a wonderful car club here in the Santa Clarita Valley ... OK, now let me 'plug' it ...SCVCCC = Santa Clarita Valley Contemporary Car Club. A great bunch of car lovers like myself that love cars too and don't make me think I am weird for loving mine as much as I do! America was built on the older cars and they are part of our heritage. I love having a piece of that history and being amongst others that feel the same way. C'mon out to Route 66 (Canyon Country) next spring and show off your automotive passion! Cya there!"

— Via the internet (www.the-signal.com)



January's Meeting Minutes

Please Note: Our Club Meetings are always the fourth Tuesday of every month, at 6:30 pm, at the Bouquet Café in Saugus. If you plan on eating before the meeting begins, try arriving and ordering your meal by 6:00 pm.

Cafe Bouquet
January 23, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm after everyone had ordered & mostly eaten their dinners. Our Car club definitely runs on it's stomach. Our President Dick LaGrasta started the meeting with Old Business: which was the club's financial report. A lot of new things & a lot of new suggestions of places to go & things to see. The financial report shows that "we have Money".... The end of the year financial report says still that "we have Money". The next thing on the agenda is the Collection of Car Club dues, which include our local dues & the collection of the C.H.V.A. dues, for those who have not already mailed it in the C.H.V.A. dues on their own. The New Business was next on the list & Rich Soto explained how he is going to set up the newsletter. Those of our members who have Email will receive the newsletter through their Email. Those who do not have Email, will receive their newsletters through "snail-mail" or if they are present at the monthly meeting, they can receive it at the meeting. A Club website is coming in the future. We will have pictures of the cars of our car club members on the website. We will be doing a lot of things through the Internet. The Route 66 car show, showing the winning cars & mentioning the sponsors of the evening of show is one example. Les Williams our new cruise director brought up the October yearly trip. We are planning on going to Palm Springs again & we only have a tentative date of October 19 to the 21st. It will probably be the weekend of the Biker weekend, which would be a real "sight to behold" "eye-popper". We will be going to the Ronald Reagan Library on February 17, which is a Saturday. On March 17, we are considering going to the Peterson Car Museum (wear your green....for St. Patricks Day). Les brought Admissions Free, to the Los Angeles Craft & Folk Art Museum. On April 21, plan on going to the San Sylmar, a wonderful car museum. May 19, we are planning on going to the Hot Rod Museum in Pomona. Of course all these trips will include local "eateries" to fill our "hungry bellies".... The 6th Annual Muscle & Hot Rod show in Pacific Palisades is also under consideration for May 20. The club members were all pleased

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January's Meeting Minutes

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with the list of places to go & things to see that Les read off. Next on the agenda, Dave Zelman spoke about Special Events. The schedule for the Route 66 car show was discussed & April 14 was decided to be the first car show of the new year. The time for the car show was set for 1pm, with it closing about 5pm, due to the cool time of year. It was suggested that each month's Best of Show car winner would be invited back for the last show of the year & then it would be a voting for the Best of the Best. We are now looking for trophy sponsors, so if anyone knows someone who would like to sponsor a trophy, should contact Dave Zelman. The summer picnic was discussed & the date of June 16 was brought up as a tentative date. Also the Christmas dinner & light tour was brought up & the weekend of the 15 for the dinner. It was also suggested that we have a pot luck type of dinner for variety, with the club furnishing the meat & drinks. Dick LaGrasta will check to see if he will be able to get the club house for the dinner. Next on the list was to open the meeting for a Question & Answer Period. No questions or answers were brought up. Dick said they went to Bob's Big Boy & people were asking when we were going to start the Route 66 car show up again. Bob's Big Boy is a nice car show to go to. They have their show the 3rd Saturday of the month-- year round. The chrome pot was won by....Ryan Gilley. It came to \$10.50 & also a calculator gift donated by Mike Novins at Cal West Radiator. The meeting was closed at 7:40pm



*Santa Clarita Valley's Finest
Car Club*

*Soon to be on
the Web @
www.scvccc.org*