

The Santa Clarita Valley Contemporary Car Club Newsletter



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Words from the President

By Dick LaGrasta, President

Dear car club members,

Can you believe it is Spring time already! You know what that means, right? Of course you do. It's time for all of us, who have been putting things aside during the winter, to get ready for spring cleaning. Only not so much "house cleaning," but "car cleaning" [work with me here people]. That means getting the "old girl" out for a test run; polishing the chrome up; adding new and better stuff to your car (like a new set of wheels, or new carb, or new paint jobs); and getting ready to "get out on the highway, looking for adventure, and whatever comes our way." My apologies to Steppenwolf. I know that "they" would not mind if I borrow a line from "Easy Rider." Anyway, my point is that we should be getting ready to do some "club cruising" in the not too distant future. Mr. Les Williams has so far done a wonderful job setting up the club tours to The Reagan Museum (in Simi Valley); and just last week the club went to The Petersen Museum (in L.A.); and then onto Farmers Market (an optional trip). What a fun day!

I know that some of you are asking, "when are we going to be cruising some-



"We are out to have a good time this year!"

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Petersen Automotive Museum Trip

By Les Williams, Cruise Director

The weather seems to cooperate when SCVCCC decides to take a cruise. What a nice day to take a ride. The trip into the Hollywood area was most adventurous. This particular Saturday they decided to dig up all the streets in the area. As we got off the Hollywood Freeway at Highland [I always wondered if the street was named for the hippy-dippys who smoked a little



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Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2001

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

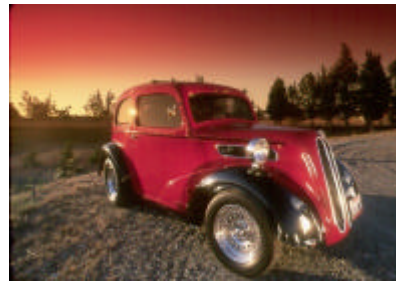
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where with our classic cars?" Hopefully the weather will stay "in our favor" for the next six months or so. I think we are going to line up some classic car cruises for those of us who wouldn't mind showing off our fine collection of "Detroit Iron" to the people of Southern California. Stay tune, while we set up some dates and places for those interested in having a little fun this Spring and Summer.

On a personal note [if I may take the liberty], my 1964 Pontiac GTO has finally made it "into the big time." It's featured on the cover, with a story and fold out inside, in the May/June issue of High Performance Pontiac magazine. Because this magazine only comes out six times a year (every two months), it came out a little ahead of schedule. Although not on the newsstands yet, it was in good supply at The Petersen Museum. What a surprise! Of course all "six issues" sold out very quickly. And yes, I did enjoy autographing those copies for our club members [ahem] who so asked me to do so for them. Thanks people for making my day that Saturday afternoon. What a trip!

Let's see now. Is there any news on our "club members new toys" (or restored toys). Why yes there is! I got a chance to see Mr. Charles Griffin's restored 1967 Pontiac Firebird 400 Sport Coupe. What a beautiful resto job performed on this car (by Same Day Auto Body in Newhall). If you had happened to see this car before the resto and then after, you would not believe it was the same car! I will let Charles tell his own story on this beauty. So look for it in a future copy of the monthly newsletter. I also got a chance to talk to Mr. Dwight Emerson about his "very, very green" Plymouth Barracuda (1964 vintage I think). Hopefully sometime this summer [?], he will start "that beast" up and, to use his words, "set off a few car alarms just by driving it past some parked cars." I wonder what he has in mind here, and will it still be street able!!! Only time will tell, but I would never bet against Dwight when he says that he is going set off alarms. HE MOST LIKELY WILL DO THAT. Now don't think that for one minute that "our Miss Rikki" has been "sittin still" through the winter with her Chevy Malibu. Nope...she is getting "her" ready for some paint and body work that should be performed this year (Summer, I hope). We know that this car will also be a "head turner" when she is through with her restoration. Just keep the faith, Rikki. Oh yeah, Mr. Tom Gilley has added more "power" to his '62 Chevy II Nova, (as if he really needed it) in the form of a Holley blower and Holley carb on top of a potent "327 Mouse Motor." Add that to a fairly new paint job (very, very sharp midnight blue) and you got "one quick, kick butt, take no prisoners, land bound rocket ship." The fact that he drives all

over town is an added plus. Think that we can get Mr. Gilley and Mr. Emerson to "get together" for a friendly game out at L.A.C.R. some morning? Maybe we can interest another fellow car club member to join them, after all it is only a 1948 Anglia coupe....WITH A SMALL



BLOCK CHEVY NUCLEAR REACTOR UNDER IT'S BONNET.

Yeah, right on there Mr. Reece. I can just see it now, the SCVCCC attacks L.A.C.R. and makes shambles out of all comers

who are stupid enough to mess with "the big boys" and their toys. Don't laugh, it could happen maybe this year. Maybe we can all show up to cheer them on! Hey, we can make a day of it just by cruising out to Palmdale Raceway sometime before the hot days of summer get here....any takers? Any wagers on who is "top dog?" Oh, and one more thing people. You do not have to have a "ground pounder" to partake in the fun. Anybody can "run what you brung" and have a great time there. Just ask, Mr. Darrin Simonds (1966 Ford) or Mr. Darrell Parsons (1966 Mustang) or Mr. Howard Stanke (1965 Mustang) and don't forget Mr. Richard Southern (1968 Road Runner) and others if they always have a good time when they go to L.A.C.R. They will tell you that "it's a blast" to drive that track....one quarter mile at a time.

OK, I have spent enough of your time here. You get the picture. We are out to have a good time this year. Hopefully we can, if we get enough people to get involved with club activities. Then we can set up places to go that promises to be great fun, sometimes very educational and most of all, "very fulfilling." Don't forget that this club knows not only how to eat, but where to eat! Have a great Spring time everyone and don't forget that our car show/cruise night will start up on the April 14 (Saturday afternoon this one time only). It should be a lots of fun too, helping the SCV youth charities (such as Safe Rides Programs) get off to a good start this year.

One more quick thought [yeah right, Dick]. Don't forget that our club meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Although our favorite restaurant meeting place has "gone Cuban" on us, we are still scheduled for the "back room." I think that it should be a very interesting menu. And once you get past those "colorful painted walls," I think we are still going to have a very good meeting place once a month. Maybe some new faces will show up, you never can tell. Bye for now.

Sincerely, Dick

Car of the Month (Zelman's '56 210 Del-Ray Sport Club Coupe)

By Dave and Veronica Zelman

Have you ever been driving down the freeway at about 70 mph or so and your loved one leans over to whisper in your ear? Nothing as mundane as she loves you or that you are going to be a daddy again. No, something so profound that it causes you to swerve over 4 lanes of traffic. After regaining your composure you ask her to repeat what she had just said, but this time slower and with more passion. "Honey, I think we should really get another classic Chevy, this time a 56 2 door post."

With love in your eyes, you start making all kinds of plans to start the hunt for that perfect car that you can mold into the perfect everyday driver. We started searching the papers, classic mags and car shows. It wasn't until we had to take our dog to the vet that the search had come to an end. Leaving the office we noticed a red and white 2 door in the auto repair shop next door. I told Veronica that it did not have a for sale sign. But, she convinced me to drive over and inquire about it anyway. We located the owner and he said for the right price it could be ours. After lowering



the price a few thousand dollars with a cash sale, we drove off with our new car.

The car is a 56 210 Del-Ray Sport Club Coupe. It has the extra chrome trim and the full hubcaps. The drive train was the basic 235 six cylinders, two-speed turbo glide tranny, muscle man brakes and steering. The body was in near perfect condition with no exterior rust except the floor pans. I replaced and covered the floor pans with fiberglass to prevent them from rusting again in the future. The car had been used to store parts in the interior thus having lots of dirt and grease on the seats. After two days of cleaning and polishing, the car shined and looked like new once again. I replaced all the electrical because after 40 years it was falling apart. This

was going to be the only upgrade for at least two years, but a blown head gasket ended that idea. After making the repair, I could not get the car to start. It had something to-do with the valve train. After moving to Saugus, I started the restification.

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Upcoming Events

- April 14th - Route 66 Classic Car Show - 1 to 5 pm-- Live rock & roll by the Legends
- April 21st - The Hot Rod Museum Cruise - Pomona
- May 12th - Route 66 Classic Car Show
- May 20th - The Pacific Palisades Car Show

Board Member Contact List

Name	Position	Home Phone	E-Mail Address
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Petersen Automotive Museum Trip

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weed, NAH!!!!]. Immediately we lost two of the four lanes. With a lot of help from the Keatings who ran interference, we were able to get into the same lane and proceed down to Santa Monica Blvd. Santa Monica was torn up and down to one lane. We figure no problem, we need to only get to Fairfax and hang a left. Wrong!!! We get to Fairfax and a big No Left Turn Sign is waiting for us. AAAAAH.

We finally made it to Canters Deli with just a few more little detours. They set up a long table to handle our mob and gave us two waiters. Some of us decided to celebrate St. Pattys Day by having the corned beef. Nobody left the place hungry.

The Petersen Museum was just five minutes down the street and as always we enjoyed the tour. They was a great collection of Caddys, cars from the movies, famous award winning hot rods and a concours competition on the top deck of the parking lot with about sixty Corvettes. Niiice. Fins and Grins everywhere.

And, of course, on the way home some of us did stop at Farmers Market to check out the ambiance and maybe a dessert or two. Our Pres. had a Napoleon, which seemed apropos.

A Fun Day for All, Les



From The Movies, The James Bond Cars

Car of the Month (Zelman's '56 210 Del-Ray Sport Club Coupe)

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I purchased a 350 crate motor from GM, had H/P Transmission build a mild street tranny to handle the 300 + hp. The car now stops on a dime with power disc brakes and turns with ease with power steering and a tilt wheel. The fuel system was replaced with stainless tubing along with the brake lines. The suspension is all new with new leaf springs in the back. The future upgrades include a new cloth interior with buckets and air conditioning to further enjoy the summer drives.

I want to thank the club members, Dwight, Larry, Darrell, Howard, Dickie and Phil who help install the motor and trans. Without their help, the motor would still be in the garage waiting to come alive.

We really enjoy driving the 56, as we don't have to worry about a custom paint job getting dinged or worse. So guys if you're driving down the street and that special someone leans over to whisper in your ear, she might just be begging you to buy that new classic ride that you really want.

Proud owners of a '56 Chevy 210 Del-Ray Sport Club Coupe,
Dave & Veronica Zelman,

March Meeting Minutes

by Eileen Keating

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

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March's Meeting Minutes

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La Rumba Café (formerly Cafe Bouquet)
March 27 , 2001
By Eileen Keating

The meeting was called to order by our President Dick LaGrasta at the newly named La Rumba Cafe, formerly called Cafe Bouquet. La Rumba serves Cuban Cuisine, which was partaken by our club members.

The meeting started off with Old Business: 1) Dwight Emerson gave a financial report and stated the club has sufficient funds for running all the club functions. 2) Next on the agenda was the review of the Club trip to the Petersen Auto Museum. We had 18 people on the trip. We need more members to bring the CB radios. The trip was fine until we arrived in Hollywood. Santa Monica Blvd. was torn up, which made it slow moving. The food at Canters Deli was delicious. Les did a great planning job. He reserved tables ahead of time and we were seated right away. Then onto the Petersen Automotive Museum where there were lots of very special cars. After the museum, some of us went to the Farmers Market for dessert. A great trip was had by all. 3) Next on the list was the final review by Dave Zelman for the Route 66 Car Show/Cruise, that is set up for Saturday, April 14 at 1 p.m. Cars will probably be showing up earlier then the scheduled time of 1 p.m. Those who would like to volunteer to help, are being asked to show up around noon time. They will help set things up and direct the cars to their spots and get them registered.

Next, New Business was discussed and the upcoming Club Events: 1) The Hot Rod Museum in Pomona, scheduled for April 21, leaving from Sears at 11 a.m. We will stop at Robins for eating in Pasadena. 2) The Pacific Pali-sades Car show was discussed and is scheduled for May 20. 3) The Edelbrock tour is scheduled for June 16. 4) More information will be available in the upcoming months as to the details for the May and June Club tours. 5) July 21 is the scheduled date for the Nethercutt Museum. The tour starts at 1:30 p.m. The Nethercutt Collection is held in the San Sylmar building of Merle Norman in Sylmar. 6) Possible Future Club Tours will be the Otis Chandler Museum probably for August.

Next on the agenda was to think about the date and time for the Clubs summer time Annual SCV picnic, with a possibility of June 23. That is a tentative date at the present.

The meeting ended with a question, answer, discussion, and announcement period. The \$11.00 winner of the chrome pot 50-50 was Janet Arnold.



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Car Club*

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the Web @
www.scvccc.org*