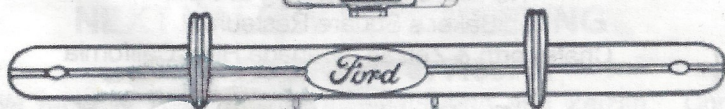
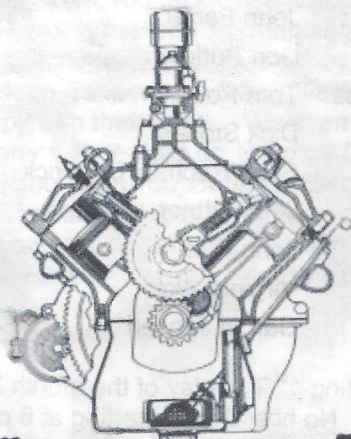




January 2003

"Our 33rd Year"



Drive Lines

are very welcome and much of the time will be devoted to them, so  
people, please feel free to ask. This presentation is to what our appetite for  
the visit to JPL on January 25<sup>th</sup>. [See January Tour, Page 11]

# The Valley V's

## 2003 Officers

President	Joe DiFatta	(818) 700-1939
Vice President	Wendi Potter	(818) 884-8019
Secretary	Scott/Rachael Doudrick	(818) 957-5708
Treasurer	Ingvar Carlson	(818) 535-4046
Tours	Steve Boskovich	(818) 341-6876
	John Farrar	(661) 269-4032
Programs	Don Durkee	(805) 495-5298
Editor, Drive Lines	Tom Potter	(818) 884-8019
Membership	Dick Stones	(805) 230-0070
Publisher	Scott/Rachael Doudrick	(818) 957-5708
Raffles	Jerry Littner	(818) 597-9016
Tech Advisor	John Wolf	(818) 789-6201
Social Secretary	Virginia Wolf	(818) 789-6201
Ladies Raffle	Carole Jensen	(805) 491-3355

Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month 7:30 p.m.  
No host dinner starting at 6 p.m.  
Baker's Square Restaurant  
Chatsworth & Zelzah, Granada Hills, California

The Drive Lines is publish by:  
The San Fernando Valley, Regional Group 40  
of the EARLY FORD V-8 CLUB OF AMERICA

Mailing Address: Valley V-8's  
9755 Farralone Avenue  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

## PRESIDENT JOE'S MESSAGE

In December, the TV always shows the old Jimmy Stewart movie, "It's a Wonderful Life." I have seen it at least a dozen times, and marvel at the greatness in that movie. One line says, "No person is a failure who has friends!!" Do you feel the way I do? It seems to have worn off on our membership.

When we go to the meetings there is fellowship and warmth. It's a matter of being and sticking together on tours, making sure we arrive at our destination safely. We will be doing tours this year, so check your Ford for safety and dependability.

The Holiday party at the Sportsmen's Lodge had 70 members in attendance. Starting with the Invocation by Ralph Hubbard, the entertainment from the "Iowa Kid", Don Durkee, the Installation of Officers, the super awards presented by outgoing President, Steve Boskovich, the raffle and raffle prizes handled by Jerry and Lesley Littner, Virginia Wolf, Joan Sapper and Gerry Blackwell. A few lucky members left very happy with their prizes. We even had dancing!

Next Year, the party will be held on Sunday, December 7th and at a new location "Encino Glen" on Burbank Blvd., East of Balboa Blvd. We will have the facilities all to ourselves, and if you want, bring your Ford. There will be lots of parking. So don't let the little stuff bother you, bring your Ford to the January 7th meeting . . . Happy New Year!

Joe

## NEXT VALLEY V-8's MEETING

**JANUARY 7, 2003 at 7:30PM**

We meet at Baker's Square, Chatsworth and Zelzah. Come early and have dinner with friends. Buy those raffle tickets. Jerry's got a big job this year!

**Meeting Program -- JPL Video and Talk. Preparation for the Jan 25<sup>th</sup> tour.** Our January meeting will be an exciting talk by club member Scott Doudrick who is Cruise Phase Technical Lead on the Mars Exploration Rover (MER) Project at NASA/JPL. His presentation is on the MER project, which is due to launch two rovers to Mars, one in May and one in June. The presentation will include a short video, which depicts the mission time line and pictures of the people, places, and things that make up a mission to Mars. Questions are very welcome and much of the time will be devoted to them, so please feel free to ask! This presentation is to whet our appetite for the tour to JPL on January 25<sup>th</sup>. [See January Tour, Page 11]

## EDITOR'S NOTES

This is an unusual Drive Lines in several ways.

There is no Car of the Month. So instead, we have a retrospective of the year, 2002. [See *Retrospective, Page 6*]

The December meeting was a party at Steve's house. We were having too much fun to judge cars. Besides, no judging committee wanted to leave the warm party to walk around the cold streets. There were, however, many really great flatheads on those streets. Thanks for bringing these beauties. The neighborhood, filled with our cars, is a sight out of the past that attracts much notice and interest. Wendi and I even got out the Blitz Wax and did some hard rubbin' on the '46 for the occasion. We notice that when we are in front of the garage working on our early Ford, the neighbors and even the mail carrier stop by to talk about it. That's half the fun right there. Oh yeah, one of our neighbors is a Corvette guy who slows it way down and waves when he sees us out there cleaning up the Blue Bomber. Is that what we call it now? I just made that up!

There is no From the Right Seat since we didn't have any thing from which to take minutes. Actually, there were a lot of things said that were very funny at the time, but probably should not be printed for "aesthetic" reasons.

After two years there is no Cruisin' with Steve. Again, we want to say a big "thank you" to Steve for the leadership he has offered us as president during this period of growth and progress. He moves to "Tours" this year and we look ahead to many exciting ones.

President Joe's Message starts us off in fine style for the New Year. Joe's depth of experience, his understanding of the Club and his leadership ability speak well for the exciting year we have ahead. Welcome Joe!

*Welcome to all in the New Year. It has been challenging and a lot of fun putting the Drive Lines together this year and we look forward to continuing this work next year. We want to ask you to help us with suggestions articles and pictures that you think would be of interest to the members. Your ideas have been an inspiration in the past and we look forward to many more. Thank you!*

TP

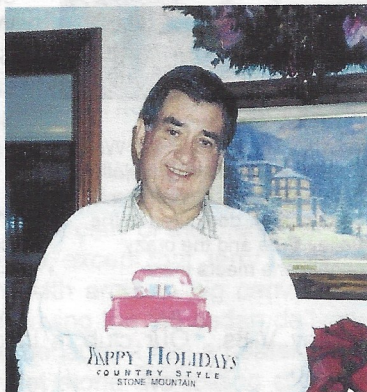
## THE DECEMBER MEETING

Our December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was no ordinary monthly event. When President Steve said that he had 105 boxes of Christmas decorations and "still shopping," he wasn't kidding. Sue and Steve's home was the venue for the first of two parties, and it was exquisite! It seemed as though every room was a magical, fanciful toy land. We hate to think of how many hours must have gone into preparing these decorations.

About 65 club members, many of whom drove over in their flatheads, enjoyed an evening of socializing and storytelling, not to mention all of the great food. The dessert table was especially challenging. Since just looking at this array has calories in it, we decided we would begin our diet the next day. We had difficulty deciding which was best so we took a bite of every item on the table. Before dessert, for some, came beautifully presented sandwiches, soups, and hors d'oeuvres.

Ingvar wins the prize for wearing the "tie of the evening." We are not sure who ate the most dessert, but Dick Stones gets honorable mention in that department. Mike Ewing was "best of show" in the category called blocking the door to the bathroom. But he also gets the award for "Most Helpful in Assisting All Comers to Make a Basket into the Trash Can." Yeah, this club knows how to have fun.

*Thank you, Steve and Sue, for opening your beautiful home to the club once again.....TP*



## THE VALLEY V-8'S CHRISTMAS PARTY -- PART II

The club Christmas Party at the Sportsmen's Lodge was a complete success. Over seventy members attended dressed in our best smiles. (Oh, and fancy clothes too!)



Outgoing Secretary and incoming Vice President, Wendi Potter, receives congratulations from President Steve. She is a hard worker, dedicated to the Valley V-8s and the crazy people she meets there.

Along with the music of David Yakerson, the program started with President Steve acknowledging the contributions of the outgoing board. When it came time for President Steve to step down after two successful years, the club members gave him a standing ovation. What can you add to that?

Steve said that though he had been President of all the organizations in which he has been involved, he has never had as much fun as he did being the President of

the Valley V-8s. Our club is in great shape and that takes sound leadership.

The incoming board was introduced and "sworn in" by Don Durkee, our "Iowa Dude." The new officers are President: Joe

DiFatta, Vice President: Wendi Potter, Secretary: Scott Doudrick, Treasurer: Ingvar Carlson, Tours: Steve Boskovich and John Farrar, Programs: Don Durkee, Editor, Drive Lines: Tom Potter

Membership: Dick Stones, Publisher, Drive Lines: Scott

and Rachael Doudrick, Raffles: Jerry Littner, Tech Advisor: John Wolf, Social Secretary: Virginia Wolf, Ladies Gifts: Carole Jensen.



At the Sportsmen's Lodge, Don Durkee leads the incoming board in a very serious moment in the swearing-in ceremony, which ends with the solemn declaration, "...so help me Henry!"

## V-8 CHRISTMAS PARTY (continued)



And speaking of the "dude," Don gave us a great rendition of "I Want to Talk about Me," by Toby Keith. Toby is an up-and-coming country-western singer. We noticed that this guy from farm country can grow a mustache in less than five minutes and that's faster than you can tell a Durkee joke. There was more than a Santa Sack full of goodies for our Christmas Toy Drive. The table was overflowing thanks to the generosity of the members.

The raffle was a huge success too, except that Jerry Case ended up winning two large folding chairs with arms in big canvass bags. Then we discovered that instead of driving the '46 sedan delivery, he and Deanna came in a Mazda Miata because it has a heater. There's no room for your shoes in that car, let alone two folding chairs. We heard that Deanna drove the chairs home and then came back for Jerry. That'll teach ya! Bring a Ford next time! Thank you to the Iowa Farm Boy and thank you to MCs, Steve and Joe, for helping to make the evening a success.

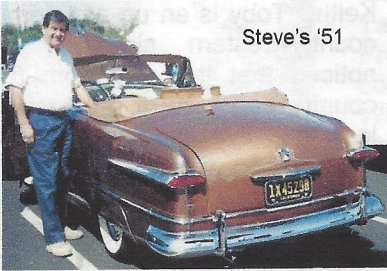
In addition, we want to thank Joe for all the arrangements and Virginia, Carole, and Joan for creating the decorations and the atmosphere that increased the festive mood of the occasion. We've all got the holiday spirit now!.....TP

## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

It is that time of year again. Our friendly membership committee (that means Dick Stones) will be around to collect. January is the meeting when Dick asks all the members to pony up for another year's membership dues. Perhaps you want to come to the meeting with your checkbook and make out a check for \$25. You will save Dick some extra work if you do. If not, he will be happy to mail you a reminder to join for the New Year and then you can mail him a check. Fill out the form on *Page 15* and you'll be way ahead.

## RETROSPECTIVE, A SPECIAL THANK YOU

*Thank you to all who contributed significantly in a specific and unique way to the club this year.....TP*



Steve's '51

President Steve is concluding two highly successful years "in the driver's seat" of the Valley V-8's. The club has run smoothly, membership has grown, but most notably on his watch, attendance and participation have risen rapidly. The parties at

Steve's home have been a highlight of the Christmas season for several years. His service to the club continues as tour coordinator. Thanks Steve for a great two years.

Joe DiFatta is moving from Vice President to President. His contributions to the club are many. One of our most successful events this year was the BBQ at Joe's house which was, by many accounts, the best attended event of this type in club history. Joe has also established the tradition of the Paradise



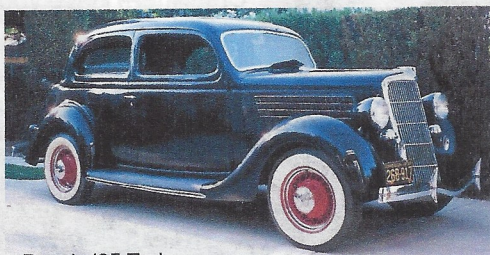
Joe's '46

Cove Sunday Brunch tour, and this year he was the main man behind the Solvang Tour as well. Have you noticed how this guy controls the weather? He made the sun come out at Paradise and stopped the rain in Solvang.

That's almost scary! Joe's humor and leadership is appreciated and we look forward to a creative and exciting year.



Dave Sanborn and Christine Varney have been "publishing" the Drive Lines. The quality of the Drive Lines, particularly adding the hundreds of photos, has taken time beyond measure. These full color photos have added a professional appearance to our publication. Thank you, Dave and Christine.

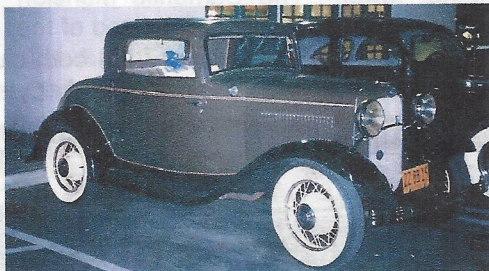


Dave's '35 Tudor



John Farrar has gone beyond the call of duty in arranging tours in the past year. The prize goes to the "Back to Basics Tour" (De force), our May extravaganza. The complex arrangements included official recognition from the city of Lancaster and a chance for the Valley and Ventura Clubs to drive two laps at Willow Springs. Retracing the route

of the 30,000 mile test run of the first low priced flathead V-8 and countless other attractions made this day one we will all long remember.



John's '32 Coupe



Don Durkee has a sense of humor. Have you noticed? But he is also a first class showman. As Program Chair he has brought us a wide variety of really entertaining evenings, none of which were short on laughter. Don's trip to Park City netted him a Dearborn for his '50 Crestliner. Have you seen that new paint job?

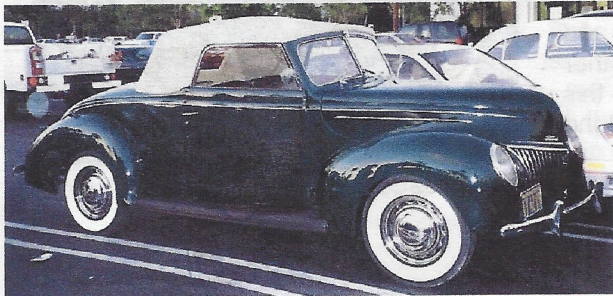


Don's '50 Crestliner

Jerry Jensen has done the Dearborn very well indeed. The way Jerry puts a '39 together could provide lessons to old Henry Ford himself. The fourth '39 in his current series of restorations (another Convertible Sedan) is promising to be another jewel. The Camarillo Mansion tour was among the best organized of the year and drew a large crowd from both clubs.



Carole Jensen has a way with raffles and has made the Lady's drawing a club event we can all be proud of. Thanks Carole and Jerry for your many contributions.



Jerry's '39  
Convertible Coupe

One of the characters of our group is a guy whose outstanding collection of flatheads and era memorabilia has been a desirable stop for many members for years. Blacky hosted our repair shop on brakes and coils at, you guessed it, Blacky's Garage. Larry Caplan's depth of knowledge made the tech shop talk a focus of great interest all who attended. The food wasn't bad either. If you can enjoy a good steak, you had to enjoy this tour.



Blacky's '40 Wagon



Ed's '32 Roadster Pickup



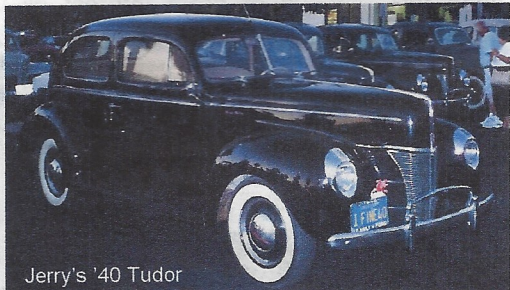
Ed Warnock's '32 was the winner of the Deuce Days "Best of Show" at the Peterson Automotive Museum on March second (3/2/02. Clever huh?) Since the '32 is what started the whole incredible story, [See *Flatheads Forever*, Page 14] and at last count Ed owned four of them, he is a member of the "best restorations club". Congratulations again, Ed.

[See JPL Tour, Page 12]



Mr. Littner has been a most able money raiser for the club through the raffles he runs each month. But, Jerry has done more than that to make our club look good. He has contributed

more quality photos to Drive Lines than any other club member. We're not talking snap shots here. These are carefully composed, well-lighted, balanced photographs. More than that, Jerry is Mr. Generous when it comes to taking the time to make the picture just right. Don't be in a hurry. It is worth the patience to get that good one. His photos of our cars are the best. Who knows, your car may be in Drive Lines with the notation, "Photo by Littner!"



Jerry's '40 Tudor



L to R: Jerry Littner Dave Sanborn, Jerry Jensen, President Steve Boskovich, and Joe DiFatta.

This group of great looking (?) guys has made a most significant contribution to the Valley V-8s during 2002. This shot was taken at Jerry Jensen's place before we left on our Camarillo tour in August. What would Joe look like without a donut in his hand?

## JANUARY TOUR

### JPL Tour, January 25, 2003

*If you are not excited about our next tour, your clutch is slipping. This is one of the best opportunities to see a significant part of our space program on the ground where it is happening arranged by club member Scott Doudrick, who is one of the key players in the program. Come early to the meeting on Jan. 7. Let's fill that parking lot with Flathead Fords! Of course, if it is pouring, come in a modern car.....TP*

**From Woodley Park:** We will leave the Woodley Park on Woodley Ave. south of Victory at 8:15AM sharp on Sat., Jan 25. We need to be at the gate at JPL by 9AM, thus the early start. This is a family affair, and kids are most welcome. We plan to have lunch at a restaurant in Montrose, if you wish, and we are invited to an optional visit to Scott and Rachael's place in nearby La Crescenta after lunch.

**If this is too early for you, drive directly to JPL arriving at 9AM sharp. See directions below.)**

8:30-9:00 Meet at JPL and check in

9:00-12:00 Tour of JPL

12:00-1:30 Lunch in Montrose (Details during tour)

1:30-3:00 (optional) Marvel at Scott's '39 pickup (which is in pieces) at Scott and Rachael's house.

#### **Directions to JPL from the San Fernando Valley:**

1. From the San Fernando Valley, take the 210 Fwy east. Continue toward Pasadena. Get off at the Berkshire Ave. exit, which is about 2.5 miles past the 2 Fwy interchange.
2. Turn east (left).
3. Go east about 1/4 mile. Then turn left at first the stop light.
4. Continue straight through second stoplight, to the guard station at JPL. Tell them that you are there for a tour and you will be waived through.
5. Continue straight, veering left into the VISITOR PARKING, which is the lot before you come to a second guard station.
6. Park in the VISITOR lot and walk to VISITOR CONTROL across the street to check in and receive further instructions. **ALL PERSONS WISHING TO ENTER JPL PROPERTY MUST BE PREREGISTERED. This is a secure facility.**

*[See JPL Tour, Page 12]*

## January JPL Tour *(continued)*

There will be a sign-up sheet for this tour at the January 7th meeting. Family/children are welcome and encouraged. Children's activities will be provided during the tour, but they do need to stay with the group. Call Scott Doudrick at (818) 957-5708 if you want to go with us and you have not signed up at the January meeting. Then, if your plans change, please let Scott know so that he has an accurate list of those attending PRIOR TO January 24.

**About JPL --** JPL (formerly the Jet Propulsion Laboratory) is currently assembling two vehicles bound for Mars. This tour will be an opportunity to see different aspects of an interplanetary mission and real flight hardware! We will visit four places at JPL - mostly focused on the Mars Exploration Rover Project (MER):

1. The Von Karman Museum: has replicas of past and present JPL missions as well as interactive displays
2. MER testbeds: where most of the detailed testing of rover models occurs.
3. MER Assembly, Test and Launch Operations (ATLO) where the flight vehicles are being assembled and tested.
4. The Space Flight Operations Center (SFOC): The location where MER will be controlled and where missions like Voyager were controlled. NOTE: Because JPL is such a hilly campus, plan to drive from place to place.

After the JPL tour, we will have lunch in Montrose (details on the tour), a small city (with great restaurants!) about 10 minutes from JPL. For those interested in seeing Scott's '39 pickup in pieces, there will be an open house at Scott and Rachael's after lunch.

JPL is located at 4800 Oak Grove Dr., Pasadena, CA 91109.  
Scott and Rachel's address is:  
4536 Dryer St.  
La Crescenta, CA 91214

## ABOUT SCOTT AND RACHAEL

Scott is the new publisher of Drive Lines who is ably assisted by his wife Rachael. They start with the February Issue. Scott and Rachael are also the new club secretaries. That's called 'jumping in' and we certainly appreciate their enthusiasm for the Valley V-8s. Scott and Rachael have been members for about a year and, as you already know, we have been invited to visit their home after lunch on the 25<sup>th</sup>. This is an optional part of the tour.

Their garage and driveway contain most of the pieces of the '39 Ford pickup he is restoring. The best part of this story is that every time I talk to him, he tells me about all the club members who are helping him to bring the '39 together.

Professionally, Scott Doudrick is the Mars Exploration Rover System Engineer - Cruise Phase Technical Lead (that's quite a title!) at JPL. He and Rachael bring with them much enthusiasm and, I've noticed, they are fast learners. Great combination! We are glad that they are such an active part of our club.

Scott's phone at work is (818) 354-3942.

e-mail: [scott.r.doudrick@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:scott.r.doudrick@jpl.nasa.gov).

## WANTED, FOR SALE OR TRADE

**4 SALE:** Various parts for '36 - '48 Ford. Generators, distributors, voltage regulators, and too many other parts to mention. Call Richard at (760) 249-4126 after 6 pm.

**4 SALE:** Five '41 Ford hubcaps for 15" wheels. \$70 for all five. Two 6-volt halogen sealed beam headlights. \$60 for the pair. Call Joe DiFatta at (818) 700-1939.

## WE HAVE AN ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTOR!

"Anonymous" sent Drive Lines the following:

### MEN...THE FAR SIDE:

I recently found out that quite a few of the women who are members of the club, do not really care for the old cars their husbands like to play with. I mentioned that to my wife and her reply was, "Is that all guys ever think of - cars and more cars? My reply was, "No honey, we also think about s--!"

## FLATHEADS FOREVER

*This article contains statements and ideas borrowed from of a piece appearing in the December 5th issue of Old Cars Weekly. For those of you who don't usually read this paper, it is definitely worth a look. Thanks to Darryl Thomas for the suggestion to include this interesting material in our newsletter. Read and enjoy.....TP*

### WHAT IS THE MOST FAMOUS AUTOMOBILE ENGINE EVER BUILT?

In response to this question, many car enthusiasts will say that Ford's flathead V-8, introduced in 1932, is the best answer. The faithful flathead powered millions of cars, trucks and busses in addition to armored vehicles during WWII. Ford V-8 school bus chassis were popular because of their price and durability in the '30s, '40s and '50s. Of particular interest was the F-7 and F-8 truck and bus chassis introduced in 1948, which had power and size far beyond the low priced competition of the day. You guessed it, there's a flathead V-8 under the hood. You might say it's our 239 "incher "on steroids

Speed enthusiasts recognized the potential of the engine, which elevated the V-8 to new levels of performance and popularity. While many factory changes were made through the years, most notably in the 1949 Fords and Mercurys, the basis of this popularity was the ubiquitous presence of the inexpensive engine and its reputation for rugged design. It is rumored that junkyard "testers" would start a stove bolt Chevy and a Ford V-8 from a junk car and run them wide open until one threw something, usually a con rod, through the block. What engine was still running? The Ford V-8, of course.

We don't need to remind you that our own Valley V-8s member, Ron Main, took his "Flatfire" to the "speed of light" (for a flathead) on the salt flats by exceeding 300 mph, in August of this year. This is the ultimate for an engine designed for 1932 cars. His was a '46 model by the way.

Through the years, hot rods and hot rodding evolved. Other cars, not just Fords came on the scene displacing the Ford power plant. To this day, however, there is a large and growing fraternity of flathead fans who appreciate the history, tradition and virtue of Henry's V-8, thus perpetuating the passion of three generations who owned and worked on that most famous flathead. More importantly, these hobbyists are introducing a new generation to collector cars be they hot rods or, as in our cars, stock vehicles with a personality all their own.



## The Valley 's

### Regional Group Membership Information

Please send your \$25 check for 2003 dues, payable to the Valley V-8's.  
We would like payment by February 15, please.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Your spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone \_\_\_\_\_ Night phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Year joined \_\_\_\_\_

Month and day of your birth \_\_\_\_\_

Month and day of your spouse's birth \_\_\_\_\_

#### Early Ford Vehicle(s) Owned

(If same as prior year write "NO CHANGE")

Year	Make	Model	Body Style

#### Example

1936	Ford	Deluxe	Tudor Touring Sedan
------	------	--------	---------------------

Note: For us to meet insurance requirements, a Regional Group Member MUST also be a member of the Early Ford V-8 Club of America, P.O. Box 2122, San Leandro, CA 91362. Minimum Membership is \$30 per year.

#### MAIL TO:

**Dick Stones, Membership Chairperson**  
1405 Valley High Avenue  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1<sup>st</sup> Barbara Williams

25<sup>th</sup> John Wolf

3<sup>rd</sup> Jean Welch

25<sup>th</sup> LuAnne Rohrer

4<sup>th</sup> Barbara Wright

26<sup>th</sup> Barbara MacMillin

11<sup>th</sup> Leo Nitz

27<sup>th</sup> Don Zable

14<sup>th</sup> Ken Smith

27<sup>th</sup> Rachel Doudrick

19<sup>th</sup> Jack Miles



Dick Colarossi

**C Q AUTO PARTS INC.**  
We Specialize in Service

21116 Devonshire St  
Chatsworth, CA 91311

Telephone  
818 341-3121

## THANK YOU, DICK COLAROSS!

One of the members, who has been a great contributor to the financial betterment of our club, is the long time Ford guy, Dick Colarossi. He has been there for us every month by contributing many of the items in our club-supporting raffle. CQ Auto Parts, Dick's store, has been a source of parts and information for many of us for years. Friendly free advice is always available from he and his staff. Thank you Dick for your contributions!

## WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S MYSTERY QUESTION?

Those fourteen guys were all presidents of the Valley V-8s at one time or another. So, what do they have in common? (Here's the answer) All their names appear on the inside back cover of DriveLines, of course. There you have it! Kind of corny huh?

# The Valley 's

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Jim Rowe	1971
Doug Peterson	1972
Don Durkee	1973 - 1974
Ed Warnock	1975
John Busk	1976
Chip Werstein	1977
Stan Marsraje	1978
Bill Culp	1979
Al Spencer	1980
Larry Caplan	1981
Bob Rose	1982
Don Durkee	1983
Paul Kirk	1984
Kent Lowry	1985
Dave Sanborn	1986
John Kemmerer	1987
Dudley Ochsner	1988
Jerry Jensen	1989 - 1990
Joe DiFatta	1991
Chuck Shubb	1992 - 1993
George Richards	1994
Jerry Littner	1995
Dick Smith	1996
Chuck Mair	1997
Dennis Keene	1998
Rose Gott	1999
Don Stout	2000
Steve Boskovich	2001 -2002

# The Valley 's

9755 Farralone Avenue • Chatsworth, CA 91311



Steve Boskovitch , 2002 President  
and Joe DiFatta. 2003 President

