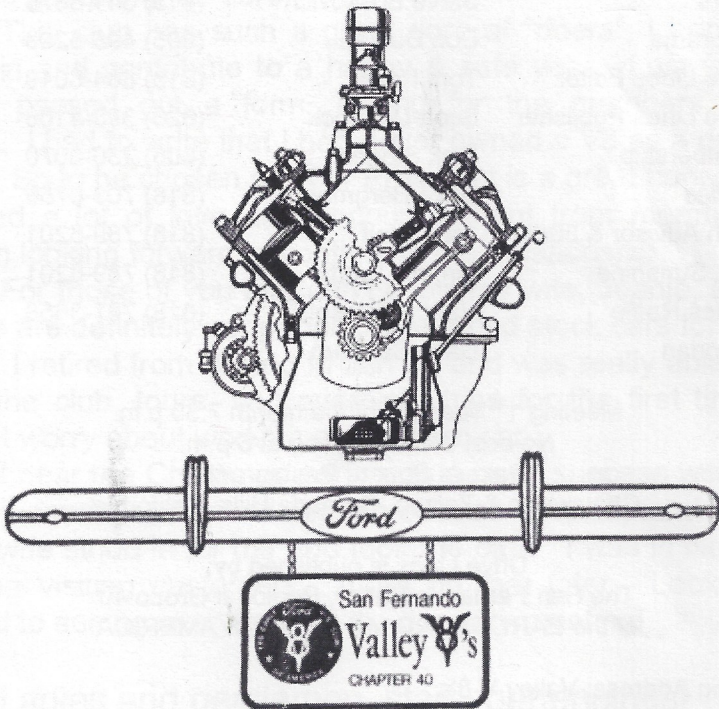




January 2005

"Our 35th Year"



Drive Lines

The Valley 's

2005 Officers

President	Ken Sapper	(818) 249-5686
Vice President	Dennis Keene	(323) 665-1363
Secretary	Rachael Doudrick	(626) 398-4106
Treasurer	Ingvar Carlson	(818) 943-2860
Tours	Steve Boskovich	(818) 341-6876
Programs	Don Durkee	(805) 495-5298
Drive Lines Editor	Tom Potter	(818) 884-8019
Drive Lines Publisher	Scott Doudrick	(626) 398-4106
Membership	Dick Stones	(805) 230-0070
Raffles	Dave Bergman	(818) 703-0756
Tech Advisor & 50/50	John Wolf	(818) 789-6201
Mrs. Sunshine	Virginia Wolf	(818) 789-6201
Ladies Raffle	Nancy Batesole	(818) 787-3658
Historian	Dave Sanborn	

Meeting 1st 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

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Mailing Address: Valley V-8's
2948 Mary Street
La Crescenta, CA 91214

President's Letter

— January 2005 —

Greetings Fellow V-8'ers,

Happy New Year to all! I trust that everyone had great holidays and is ready to motor into the New Year. As your new president, so help me Henry, I hope we will have our best year ever. I look forward to getting to know each of you better. This club is based on friendship and the love of our beloved flathead. With that in mind, we can go far...to the next gas pump for sure.

This club has such a great core of "doers", I hope I will fit in and contribute to a happy & safe year. Last year Wendi passed out a form, asking for the members V8 history. I had to write that I had never owned a V8 as a daily driver. So to be chosen as your President is a great honor. I received a lot of love and encouragement from members and am looking forward to continuing that relationship.

For those of you that don't know my wife, Joanie, and me, we are definitely car people. We raced stock cars for 32 years. I retired from driving in Jan 04 and was really able to enjoy the club, tours, and overnight trips for the first time, and not worry about working on the race car.

I hear the Christmas party was a huge success with a lot of warmth and friendship spread all around, and my sweet wife stood in for me and took the oath. I was in North Carolina visiting customers....more on that later. Looking forward to seeing everybody at the January meeting!

Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines!

Sincerely,
Ken

The Next Meeting

**Tuesday, January 4 at 7:30 Baker's Square in Granada Hills
First Meeting of the New Year.**

As usual, this will be held at Baker's Square, Chatsworth and Zelzah. No-host dinner starting at 6 p.m. Have dinner with your V-8 friends and bring a guest or two! Especially if they just happen to own a Ford V-8, they are most welcome. So is everyone else! It's a fun place on the first Tuesday of the month.

Our Program for the evening is will be a dynamic presentation by Jim Weaver, Executive Director of Angel Flight - West. As you know, our club has contributed to Angel Flight for the past four years. Introduction will be by Wendi Potter whose angel wings will not be in sight for the occasion. You will enjoy this colorful video and presentation. BE THERE!

Calendar

We don't have a lot on the 2005 calendar yet, but as the new board gets going, you can be sure there will be plenty!

January 7th – 16th: LA Auto Show.

January 10th: Valley V-8s trip to LA Auto Show. Departs Topanga and Oxnard at 3 pm. Call Tom for info (818) 884-8019

January 21st – 23: Roadster Show at Fairplex, Pomona.

April 8th – 10th: Colorado Belle Tour

Day 1 Friday, April 8

10:00 am depart

12:30 pm arrive Barstow for rest stop

1:00 pm depart Barstow

4:00 pm arrive Laughlin, Colorado Belle & Casino

Day 2 Saturday, April 9

Enjoy a full day of Laughlin fun on your own

Day 3 Sunday, April 10

12:00 noon Depart Laughlin

3:00 pm arrive Barstow rest stop

3:30 pm depart Barstow

6:00 pm return home

\$90.00 / person Includes: Transportation with morning doughnuts and juice on board. 2 nights lodging, 1 choice buffet, 1 breakfast buffet and baggage handling. Call Steve at (818) 341-6876.

The V-8 Holiday Party Rocks



It rained, again. It has rained for the last three years on our big day. Of course, it didn't even slow things down. The decorations were great as was the music from D.J. Kevin Campbell. The food was super as presented by Encino Glen. Master of Ceremonies, Steve

Batesole was at his best. Prez Wendi was presented (OK, made to wear) a cute looking pair of blue angel wings to wear all evening long. She's put a great deal into being President this past year and has been a creative and energetic leader, but angel?? The tribute to Wendi was a set of five songs beautifully presented by Al Mooney. He has an amazing voice and members and guests received each uniquely presented number with great applause. We must mention Rachael Doudrick, whose work on the centerpieces and place settings was creative and took countless hours to make. Thank you! Christine Varney did an able job assisting by making the colorful and clever signs for the parking lot.



2004 Outgoing Board Members

Virginia Wolf, as chair of the raffle, presented the incredible gifts with her usual grace and ease. She's quite a lady! She is a creative and thoughtful person who delights the club year after year with her ingenuity. She finds gifts for all comers. The bar stools, the huge teddy bear and everything in between seemed "just right" for the person who received it. What a terrific group of hard workers and what a wonderful evening!

The best part, of course, is that all in the sizeable crowd were happy to be there and having a great time. The old board handed the club responsibility to the new board who swore that they would never, ever own a Chevy Bel Aire, "so help me Henry." According to those nearby, Joe DiFatta mumbled something incoherent. It was a wonderful way to kick off our Holiday celebrations. Special Thanks to Steve and Nancy Batesole for the hours and hours of planning and preparation. Best wishes to the incoming board in the New Year ahead.



2005's New Board

Steve and Sue Boskovich's Holiday Party



It was December 9 and the decorations were in place. All 112 boxes had been unpacked and the house was a-buzz with holiday cheer in each and every room. The guests started arriving and before very long, every room was filled to the brim with V-8 members. The kids of course, made as much noise

as the adults. I think they are supposed to. It is written somewhere. It didn't take long until everyone was having a wonderful time. The entire club seems to need a setting rich in the Holiday Spirit and members just seem to take off and enjoy.



The evening was marked by the emergence of our first 2005 Mustang GT, in Redfire. What better color for Christmas? I don't think I saw a bow on its proud hood, but it could have been there. It would easily pass for a Christmas present for any of us. See

article in this issue on page 10.

The casseroles were delicious as were the salads and breads. There were drinks both soft and hard and all added to the cheer of the occasion. Then, there were any number of great desserts. My favorite was the cherry cobbler, which, of course I didn't need. I didn't need the second piece I had either, but, I argued, it was only once a year. And so it was, another year of incredible V-8 activity came to a close. We saw the club in the final month of 2004, as a strong and joyous group of friends. It is safe to say that all of us found ourselves in a good place. Here's a great big V-8 THANKS to Steve and Sue for another great party in their beautiful home, one just made for such occasions. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the San Fernando Valley V-8ers.

VENTURA V-8s DO THE HOLIDAYS



The Ventura V-8s had an enthusiastic Christmas party on December 11. I'm not sure that Marie Calendar's has seen this much hilarity since the party last year, put on by the same zany pair. What can one say? When Gerry

Blackwell and Lesley Littner get together, there is no stopping them. What a wonderful evening. Dinner was good and the service was great. I know. I ate too much.

This was a "multicultural Holiday presentation". Oh yeah! How about a fairly serious rendition of the Hanukkah story, told a little tongue in cheek with a straight California Newscaster accent.



This was followed by a "slightly (very) modified" version of "The Night Before Christmas" with a totally believable New Yawk Jewwishh drawl complete with hand flaps and lots of "Ya know wat I mean?"

There were some scratchy songs sung by all and some great keyboard playing by Mr. Blackwell. Mr. Durkee ably read the swearing in of the new officers. The evening ended with a vicious raffle in which everyone wins. You can either choose a present from the table, or (this is the vicious part) when your number is called, you can steal someone else's present. We all left friends anyway. It was just a game, wasn't it Joe, Don, Jerry?

Ventura Party continued on page 12

LA Auto Show. Let's GO!

As usual, this year's LA auto show promises to be about the most exciting BIG AUTO event in Southern California. It is always scheduled in January. This year it is from the 7th through the 16th. Wendi and I are going at an unusual time. Treasurer, Ingvar Carlson is coming along too. We are planning to NOT go on a weekend, as the crowds are often pretty heavy. Getting a good look at the newest and latest from Ford, Mercury and Lincoln is just about impossible.

So, here's the plan: We are going to meet at the northeast corner of **Oxnard at Topanga Canyon Blvd. in Woodland Hills at 3 p.m. on MONDAY, JANUARY 10.** We'll get rolling down the 101 Fwy. before the worst of the afternoon traffic starts. We will stay at the LA Convention Center until about 8:30. We are inviting anyone in the club who would like to ride along in our (Ford Explorer) car, to call us so we can reserve a space for you. We'll take more cars if the need arises. Could be a lot of fun. You can be sure there will be a report and photos in the February issue of DL

Lets give this a try. You can pick up discount coupons which save you \$2 per admission at most car dealers. We got ours from Vista Ford / Lincoln / Mercury in Woodland Hills, our "home store" for Ford stuff. Give us a call if you'd like to come along 818-884-8019.



Swede's Corner

Swede's Calendar Says:

Go to the **Grand National Roadster Show** Jan 21 - 23. So says the treasurer! This year it will be held at the Fairplex in Pomona. Friday it starts at noon, Saturday and Sunday, it starts at 8 a.m. This is the place where those beautiful Ford Roadsters (and a few others) show up. Can you tell which deuces are plastic and which ones are steel? Are any of the steel bodies originals? Does anyone put a flathead V-8 in them these days like we did back in the '30s - 50's? Get the answers to these and other questions about roadsters. There is a \$2 off rebate coupon in the "Recycler." For information call (877) 236-0632. *Thanks Ingvar!*
TP

Swede's Sweet Deals

Speaking of Ingvar "Swede" Carlson, our trusty treasurer, he has had a little time on his hands in recent weeks and has been out looking around for some Flathead Beauties that are for sale. One of the cars that caught his eye first, is rare and one of the most beautiful Edsel inspired flatheads out there. It is a 1938 Lincoln Zephyr 3 WINDOW COUPE. It's a V-12, but picky, picky! In our humble opinion, these body lines are the best that the Edsel Ford / E.T. Gregorie team, ever sketched out. This bright red gem, which is claimed to be a "spectacular restoration", is for sale for **\$46,995**. (886) 653-8900.

At the other end of the same design family, someone is selling a **1937 Ford Tudor** with "20k orig. miles". The mechanics have been "gone through," what ever that means. They are very clear that there are "no mods" on this car, which is available for **\$25,900** at (800) 290-0679.

Don Durkee took the time recently, to clarify that Edsel had a lot to do with the Fords of the '30's, all of them after 1932, not just from '37 on as I implied in a recent article in DL. He is right, of course. The first time Fords had grace and beauty was 1933, when Edsel put flowing lines and curves on Henry's "boxes on four wheels". It's hard to believe that similar mechanicals are under the 1932 and the 1933-34 Fords. Though they have a lengthened and strengthened frame (wb=112") and the 221 CID V-8 now put out 75 hp (85 in 1934), they are very similar under their dramatically different bodies. A similar frame was used in the 1935-36 body style. Some, Mary Durkee among them, say that the 1936 roadster is the best looking Ford ever. She's got somethin' there!

As you've heard me say, my dad always maintained that the 1937 was the first "modern Ford" and in some ways, he was right. By then we had the first "Alligator hood" in the low priced field, much improved steering and brakes (cables not rods) and also, for the first time in the low price field, headlights mounted in, not on, the front fenders. He told me that the only improvement worth mentioning, after 1937 was hydraulic brakes. But, he thought the large bolt pattern was the strongest wheel / brake set-up made. That went away in 1940. He claimed it was "just for styling reasons." Maybe so...

Swede's Engineering??

Well, I keep getting these articles from the treasurer. Sure, he's totally on the ball with the club's financial matters. But engineering? Well, he reads Engine Masters and that publication is the source of the following, which, in Swede's opinion is "awesome". In the Winter 2004 edition, they report an interesting engine build, which, it turns out, is very much like the engine Blacky Blackwell put together back in 1984. Blacky's '40 coupe was our "Car of the Month" last month (December, 2004).

Here's how Engine Masters reports it: Start with a '48 Merc block. Port and relieve it. Bore it to 3 and 5/16". Put in a 4" Merc stroker crank. That gives you 276 cu. in displacement. *That number jumps out at me because the new Mustang GT displaces a very similar 280 Cu. In.* Add an Isky Max I cam and dual carbs. They don't say what kind. Balance everything to a gnat's eyelash.

Nothing exotic here, just good solid basic parts and workmanship, much of it from Speedway Motors but many are originals from Ford's parts bin. How about 182.8 horsepower on the dyno? OK, close to "awesome." Our own Ron Main, the builder and driver of FlatFire (a '46 Ford block), would argue, I'm sure. He has gone 300mph in a flathead (that's official) at Bonneville and lived to tell about it. But then, Ron redefined "exotic" for that build. What fuel? How blown? Where exactly does the exhaust go? (Straight out the top). Etc.

Well there you have it. What can you do with a Ford Flathead V-8? It turns out, to no one's surprise, PLENTY! And it will definitely go! Thank you Ingvar and thank you Ron for pushing the envelope. TP



Dick Colarossi

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John and Virginia's Mustang GT!



When our Tech Advisor makes a move, the club watches. When he makes a big move, we watch closely and take notes. That is what happened when we noticed a 2005 Mustang GT in Redfire Metallic in the driveway at Steve and Sue Boskovich's Christmas Party. That's also what happened when the same car showed up a few days later when the Ventura V-8s were having their

Christmas Bash. John and Virginia Wolf came to dinner. That's nice. They brought "The Car." That's News! The Wolfs are the first in the club to own one of the most incredible cars to ever come off the Ford



Assembly line and does it get attention! What options? How about the Premium Package (leather, hot sound system, 6 CD changer), Interior Up-grade, traction control, side impact air bags, 5 speed automatic, not to mention machined aluminum wheels. Wow! Seems that John took it to cruise night at Bob's Drive-in on Riverside Drive. The story goes that who ever brought any other car that night was ignored. The Mustang GT got all the attention and deservedly so. The following week, he just parked it

on the street to give everyone else a chance to be noticed. Nice guy!

Now for the best part. While we were at Steve's, John said, "Let's go for a drive" and handed me the keys! It was incredible. Push on the gas and what ever speed you want, it's there, NOW! I had driven a Black GT with a 5-speed stick at Vista Ford, but it seems to me that the 5-speed automatic, the first in a stock Mustang ever, is even more responsive. It gets 22 mpg on the road. That's amazing for a 300 hp V-8!



to visit Dick Smith in the Mustang last week. Dick is doing well and sends greetings to the club. So, the bottom-line? *If you love driving, this is the car and John and Virginia are the lucky ones. Congratulations to both of you! TP*

January Birthdays

1st Barbara Williams
3rd Jean Welch
4th Barbara Wright
10th Leon Nitz
14th Ken Smith
19th Jack Miles
21st Caroline Stokes



22nd Eileen Kaplan
25th John Wolf
25th Lu Anne Rohrer
26th Barbara MacMillin
27th Don Zable
27th Rachael Doudrick
28th Jerry Littner

Joe DiFatta's New Place!

Once upon a time Joe lived in a beautiful Victorian style house in Chatsworth. It was the perfect party house, especially for V-8 functions. We had a BBQ in the back yard each year. Every one was happy. There were many other parties too. All of them were fun. We even saw Elvis there!

One day, Joe decided to sell his place but keep the lot next door and the little teeny tiny house that was on it. He and Marsha and a little bit of their stuff went into the tiny house to live. The rest of the stuff went into a huge metal container that had just come off a ship from Hong Kong. Joe rented his big box for all Marsha's stuff and kept it on his lot.

Then "The Project" started! Joe has been building a garage and as you might expect, it is not a double garage. Oh no! Joe has a GARAGE under construction. He doesn't agree, but I think it is going to hold ten cars. Above this GARAGE, he is going to build an 1100 sq. ft. "guest house." Joe and Marsha will be their own guests. If all goes well, our story will start again in about six months when we might find Joe and Marsha happily living together over the garage in the guesthouse.

Maybe, there will be many other plans to talk about. Maybe, more cars too. Remember, this is our only Joe and he couldn't be happier as long as things are moving along! Keep reading! This is going to be fun!

Ventura V-8s Christmas Party Continued from page 6

Gerry Blackwell in particular, was a gracious hostess with the mostest. She did the planning and preparing with Lesley and put a huge amount of work into painting the ceramic figurines we got as raffle presents. Wendi's was especially well done. I can't imagine the hours.... Thank you to all who brought this event to a great conclusion.

Did I mention that the parking lot was glowing a beautiful warm Christmas red? It seems that a certain family drove over in a '05 Mustang GT. Would that have been John & Virginia Wolf?

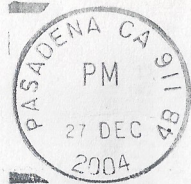
The Valley 's

PAST PRESIDENTS

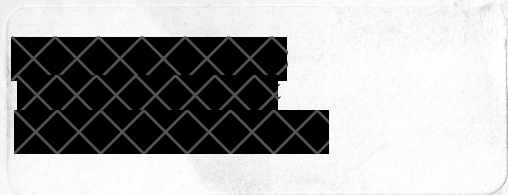
Jim Rowe	1971
Doug Peterson	1972
Don Durkee	1973 - 1974
Ed Warnock	1975
John Busk	1976
Chip Werstein	1977
Stan Misraje	1978
Bill Culp	1979
Al Spencer	1980
Larry Caplan	1981
Bob Rose	1982
Don Durkee	1983
Paul Kirk	1984
Kent Lowry	1985
Dave Sanborn	1986
John Kemmerer	1987
Dudley Ochsner	1988
Jerry Jensen	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
Joe DiFatta	2003
Wendi Potter	2004

The Valley V's

2948 Mary Street, La Crescenta, CA 91214



**Valley V-8s Past Presidents
Attending the Annual Holiday Party**



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