



November 2024

DRIVE LINES



CAR OF THE MONTH

1953 Ford Country Squire Station Wagon

Owner Scotty Cramolini

The Valley V's

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Due to the rising cost of, well, everything, those receiving the monthly Drive Lines newsletter by mail will now receive a black and white copy. We will still publish the monthly newsletter in full color on our website, ValleyV8s.org. If you need any assistance accessing the website, please feel free to reach out to any board member who will be happy to help.

Thank you for understanding.

Val Ellerbrock, Editor

October 27, 2024

Message from the Prez

Thanks to all who attended last month's Saturday morning auction meeting. We managed to sell about half of the items. We will continue the auction at the next meeting. Thank you to those who purchased items in support of the club. Hope to see you bidding again at the next meeting.

If interested in our club polo shirt, contact Scott to get your order in. Also, see the Driveline article for details.

The Celebrations of Life for Ann Caplan and Larry Ofria were well attended by current members as well as older members who do not attend our regular meetings or live out of the area. Larry's service was held at the Valley Relics Museum. Speakers included 103 year old Ed Iskenderian who talked about Larry's early days in the business.

Please keep remembering our other ailing members: Sandy Norris and Monty Goff.

Again, if anyone is interested in any board position, now is the time to let one of us know. Anyone is welcome to attend a board meeting to see what goes on. Rex Jaramillo will be taking over as president in January.

Howard Brown has a tour planned to the SEABEES Museum in Port Hueneme on November 16th. See the article in this Drivelines for Details.

Car of the month. The car this month is Scotty Cramolini's 1953 Country Squire Station Wagon. His attached article is very entertaining as well as informative.

Our next meeting is at **10 AM on Saturday the 9th of November.** (Breakfast will be available at 8:30)

The November meeting will be a continuation of last month's auction. Please bring any items that you feel that may be of interest to someone else. Invite your friends and relatives to attend and spend some cash.

See you at the next meeting,

Jim Ellerbrock



Thank you to everyone who brought and bought at our October auction. It was so successful, we are doing it again at our next meeting, November 9, at Lulu's. If you had items that didn't sell in October, or you found something new to sell, please bring to the November meeting.

We also need LOTS of buyers - bring your friends!

And lots of \$

UPCOMING JOINT CAR CLUB TOUR

We have a combined event for November 2024. We are going to get together in Simi Valley and take a nice pleasant drive on non-freeway roads to tour the SEABEE Museum in Port Hueneme, CA.

Below is information on where, when and how we're gonna do this. Sounds like something interesting and different for both clubs.

PLEASE respond to me via return email so we know who and how many are coming and we don't leave the starting point without you.

Thanks, Howard

EMAIL: brngarage@gmail.com

Valley V8 Club/Studebaker Club Tour

Join us on a driving tour to the SEABEES Museum in Port Hueneme Ca.

Followed by lunch after.

Date: Nov. 16th, Saturday

Meet at the Park & Ride at the Stearns off ramp 118 Fwy

Depart at 9:30 AM



DIRECTIONS TO THE SEABEE MUSEUM

Turn right out of the Park & Ride

Head south to Los Angeles Ave.

Turn right on Los Angeles Ave.

Continue on Los Angeles Ave to Tierra Rejada Rd.

Continue on Tierra Rejada Rd past the 118 fwy to Moorpark Rd

Turn right on to Moorpark Rd. and continue to Santa Rosa Rd.

Turn right on to Santa Rosa Rd.

Continue to Pleasant Valley Rd.

Turn left onto CA-34W

Go approx. 4mi to E. Pleasant Valley Rd.

Go about 3.1 miles then turn right onto S. Oxnard Blvd.

Go to Statham Blvd and turn left.

Go a short distance and turn right onto E Channel Islands Blvd.

Go approx. 1.7 miles and turn left on N. Ventura Rd.

Destination will be on the left.

3201 N. Ventura Rd. Port Hueneme, Ca 93041

We will leave for lunch after Museum tour.

Lunch Location: Mrs Olsons Coffee Hut
 2800 Harbor Blvd.
 Oxnard, Ca 93035-3976
 1-805-985-9151



Annual Valley V8 Club Brunch

December 15, 2024


The Woodland Hills Country Club

21150 Dumetz Rd, Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Ticket price TBD

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Once proceeds from both auctions have been tallied a decision will be made on the ticket pricing. The hope is that enough auction income can offset the member ticket price. Look for a message from Howard soon after the November meeting with that information. Once the price is set you should RSVP as soon as possible to Bill Greene 818-606-2874 forty4dad@earthlink.net. He will let you know where to send your check to reserve your spot at the brunch.



CAR OF THE MONTH

Scotty Cramolini's 1953 Ford Country Squire Station Wagon

All of us have fascinating stories of how we have each discovered and acquired our wagons. Mine involves quite a bit of serendipity and incredible timing. My tale begins in the spring of 2015.... My goal was to locate a 1942-1948 Ford Station Wagon. However, I knew that the prices of those vehicles were (and still are) exorbitant for a decent driver. So I began looking at the rarely seen, but less expensive 1952-1953 Ford Country Squires. The Country Squires of this vintage I consider somewhat a "transitional woodie" as they only possess exterior real maple or birch trim. There is no wood paneling on the exterior or interior. Never-less, come to find out, they are somewhat rare and most were driven to their demise. As a special note...over the last 40 years, at various times, I had owned a 1946 Ford Station Wagon, 1942 Ford Station Wagon and a 1954 Ford Country Sedan Station Wagon. So to say the least, I'm definitely a die hard wagon guy! As it turns out, the Western National Meet of the Early Ford V8 Club of America for 2016 was occurring in October in Bakersfield, CA - only 2 hours away from my home in Ventura, CA. It was a 5 day event with several tours, a concourse meet day, good food and fellowship with about 350 V8'ers attending. On the second day of the meet at the "mixer dinner" my buddy Elwood was sitting next to a nice gentleman by the name of Al. While chatting with Al, Elwood shared that I was looking for a 1952-1953 Country Squire. Unbelievably, Al indicated that he had previously owned and partially restored a "very clean original" 1953 Ford Country Squire Station Wagon. However, several years prior he had sold it to a gentleman in Colorado by the name of Steve. Al frequently stayed in touch with Steve and said that Steve might possibly be interested in selling the Country Squire. Al wrote down my number and said that he'd give it to Steve. Well, the western national meet ended and I assumed I might not ever hear back from Al or Steve. However, after about four weeks the phone rang...it was none other than Steve! He shared that he was possibly interested in selling the '53 Country Squire. I asked if he could send me photos via email. That night numerous photos popped up on my computer.....WOW! THIS WAS THE WAGON I had been waiting for! I immediately called Steve and made arrangements to fly to Colorado to inspect the wagon and possibly work out a deal if the car was everything it looked to be. The next week I was at Steve's house in Colorado. I spent two hours going over the car. It had been nicely restored where needed: new

CAR OF THE MONTH cont'd

original paint, panels professionally wood-grained to simulate the grain and color of the original faux Di-Noc decal mahogany paneling and the original maple trim revarnished. The interior was immaculately original and virtually untouched except for the headliner that had been replaced with a 1957 Ford type material (however you'd never know if you weren't an expert on '53 Ford wagons). The 239 ci flathead had been rebuilt at some point and was very clean. There were some minor engine issues that needed to be worked out but nothing that couldn't be resolved. This car was everything I was looking for. Steve and I quickly came to an agreement on the price and the car was now mine! After arranging transportation for the wagon it was in my driveway at Ventura, CA on December 15, 2016....Santa came early! After a much needed valve job and a bit of top-end engine work - with great assistance and the help of my good V8 buddy Elwood; a deep detail on the exterior, interior and engine compartment by Jeremy with Shine Supply in Ventura the wagon was ready to show and go! My sweetheart Jean and I take the wagon out almost every weekend for various cars and coffees, Friday night get-togethers, Sunday drives with lunch stops in addition to attending numerous tours/shows with our Early Ford V8 Club of America and National Woodie Club friends. The '53 Country Squire gets quite a bit of attention and folks seem to really enjoy it as the car has been kept original with a nice early 1950s theme of vintage picnic gear and old style Pepsi cooler in the back (where the third seat can be reinstalled at any time). When parked at car gatherings or shows I have early to late 50s music wafting from the car to give it that special vintage feel. I also have attached a few descriptive displays regarding the special nuances of the wagon and to give perspective as to the time period and its context to the American public at the time (see the additional information acted to this article). With normal periodic maintenance issues addressed by my expert and wonderful mechanics: Elwood Williams, Ed "Cookie" Cook and Nathan Pereira, our '53 Ford Country Squire runs like a fine tuned sewing machine and provides us countless days and hours of fun and fellowship!

Scotty Cramolini



See more pics of our member's cars on our website ValleyV8s.org

VALLEY V8 SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

Our first shirt is done! See the attached picture. I will wear it to the meeting Saturday. I went with the polo instead of the denim because I thought it would be easier and knew it would be cheaper. I requested that future versions be a darker navy blue (I get a unique one). I would like to pass out a signup sheet if people are amenable to that. Below are suggested prices which will cover the cost of the shirts plus a little to defray the cost of the setup.

Polo shirts - \$40. Add \$10 for name

Men's long sleeve denim shirts - \$55. Add \$10 for name

Women's long sleeve denim shirts - \$48. Add \$10 for name

If people are happy with company and want them, I can get tshirts made with the engine logo on them. \$80 setup fee, 15 item minimum, but the shirts themselves would be only \$14. We could charge \$20 per shirt and recoup all of the setup in one run.

Scott Doudrick



Valley V8's regular meeting, October 12, 2024

-Convened 10:03 am

-Pledge

-Will do auction again next month as there are a lot of people missing

-Scott D announced shirts are now available and sent around a sign up sheet. They will be available for request at the next few meetings

-He also said that there were old scanned Drive Lines available

-Rex encouraged folks to buy things in the auction that they could give to up-and-comers in the hobby

-Ann Caplan's service was yesterday. Lots of older club members that don't make it to meetings any more were in attendance.

Tours

Sea Bees museum tour. See email

Solvang tour. November 3rd

More to come...

Auction... to be continued next meeting.

Jim asked if anyone new wanted to be an officer next year? He announced that Rex has agreed to be president.

Submitted by Scott Doudrick

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Valley V8 Birthdays

November	9	Joan Sapper
November	14	Evelyn Hagopian
November	18	Spencer Jones
November	19	Marie Miller
November	21	Jim Ellerbrock
November	25	Ernie Baily
November	26	Bill Greene
November	29	Joyce Mooney



Our next meeting will be on Saturday
November 9th at Lulu's in Van Nuys
Meeting starts at 10:00 AM
Come early and enjoy breakfast before