

THE FOOT WARMER

Official Publication of the San Diego Region



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SEE THE STORY ABOUT NICK FINTZELBERG AND THIS MUSTANG ON PAGE 6

October 2019
Volume 57 Issue 10

OLD HWY 80 TOUR TO DESERT VIEW TOWER *by Diane Richards*

Photos: Bob Gunthorp, Brad Zemcik, Tom McIlravy

On Saturday September 28th, Mark and I hosted a tour on Old Hwy 80 to the Desert View Tower. Despite the rainy start in the morning, we had 30 attendees and 14 vehicles. Welcome to **Rachel Evans**, our newest member. Kudos to **Nick Fintzelberg** for driving his 1965 Ford Mustang and **Larry and Paula Okey** for driving their 1955 Buick Century.



Nothing like a cold shower to get things going in the morning

We left from Alpine at 9am and headed east on Willows Road past Viejas Casino. After a brief drive on Interstate 8, we exited back onto Old Hwy 80 at the Descanso exit. A left turn took us over the Los Terrintos Bridge built in 1917. Special thanks to Alex Watt for bringing up the rear and keeping us all together as we made another left turn back on the highway. His walkie-talkies worked out very well. We then enjoyed a leisurely drive through Guatay, Pine Valley and Buckman Springs.

After driving over Tecate Divide (El. 3890), we headed into Boulevard and stopped at the Wisteria Candy Cottage. The store, which was once Boulevard's one room schoolhouse, has been hand-dipping chocolates since 1921. This proved to be a popular stop and nearly everyone picked up a little snack for the road.



New member **Rachel Evans** picking out goodies at the Candy Cottage

Back on Hwy 80 and on into Bankhead Springs where we were able to drive on a short section of the old original concrete road dating to the brass era. Fun to imagine the old cars on this very narrow road.



John & Barbara Boyd

We continued through Jacumba driving past the Hotel Vaughn ruins. Nothing remains of Bert Vaughn's famous old hotel except the lobby fireplace chimney. In its heyday, it was a place that Hollywood greats like Marlene Dietrich and Clark Gable came to visit.



Where would we be without this Flying Saucer repair facility?

Onward to the tower, a right turn onto In-Ko-Pah road and a drive by Coyotes Flying Saucer Repair brought us to our tour destination. The Desert View Tower has long been a landmark for travelers on Interstate 8. The 4-story tower was built in 1922 to honor the pioneers that crossed the desert.

continued on back page



Great to have **Betty Holmes** back on tours

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For me, September has always been one of the busiest months in the year, and this year was no different. Two days after the last monthly meeting I was on my way to Britain for a week of parts shopping to keep the restorations on track. I did spend a day at the London Warner Brothers Studios where they have preserved two sound stages with the original props from the Harry Potter films. I had tried to get a ticket the last time I was in Britain but they were all sold out, so this time I made a reservation before I flew over. Next it was off to Beaulieu and the International Autojumble, and 2 days of searching the 2,000 stalls to see if there were any parts I needed. Yes I was successful and got most things on my shopping list. There is a company, Autospark, which I have dealt with in the past for wiring harnesses, so I had to head north to their plant as they weren't at Beaulieu. Once I got there I was informed that they don't make a harness for my 1933 Riley. Then on to Coverdale Carpets who specialize in car carpets. They weave their own wool carpet and then make the sets for vintage cars. Once again a problem – They had a fire a couple of years ago and all the original patterns burned.

I did drive past Blenheim Palace a couple of times on my trip, but no sign of Brad and Michele.

After I got home it was time to get all the Halloween decorations out of storage and help Sandy get them set up for coming holiday. This was successful and the T-Rex is hungrily waiting in the front yard for another meal.

September is also when the Awards committee gets together to make the selection of awardees prior to the trophies going to the engraver to be ready for the Banquet.

The last event for the month was a wonderful tour put on by Diane and Mark Richards to the Desert Tower; Great road, great direction package, great weather, and an overall fun day.

Got to get back to work on the cars, and straightening out the garage for the Halloween party.

Alex

Since its inception there has been something about the sight, sound, and feel of the automobile that stirs the imagination and the desire to experience the freedom of the open road. Whether it's the clatter of the single cylinder brass era car or the heavy thumping of big block Detroit musclecars that fuels the addiction, we are all kindred spirits. Vintage cars, trucks, buses, and motorcycles are our bond.

Since 1935, AACA has had one goal: The preservation and enjoyment of automotive history of all types. From National Meets and Tours to Regional events, AACA is here to bring enthusiasts together through exciting National activities, friendship, and Antique Automobile... an award winning 100-page full color magazine.

You don't have to own a vehicle or know how to turn a wrench. You can be involved at any level you wish, the possibilities are endless.

So, spend time with us and others sharing your passion. Join up. It's less than the price of a tank of gas and lasts all year.

2019 Region Calendar

Dates subject to changes

OCT	7	General Membership Meeting
OCT	19	Watt's Halloween Party Alex & Sandy Watt 619.223.6519
OCT	25	Edgemore Hospital Car Show Doug Clements 858.487.8617
OCT	26	Silent Movie - Al Smithson 619.992.8729
NOV	4	General Membership Meeting
NOV	10	Annual Banquet Bob Gunthorp 619.993.0184
NOV	23	Silent Movie - Al Smithson 619.992.8729
NOV	TBD	Region Tour Event
DEC	2	General Membership Meeting
DEC	1	Bells of Freedom Bob Gunthorp 619.993.0184

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Suzanne Fort	1
Tom McIlravy	8
Francy Priser	8
Christopher Di Patre	12
Bob La Prade	16
Colin Fort	18
Fred Puhn	18
Vel Landi	24
Verna Zopfi	25
Barbara Boyd	26
Royce Dunn	29
Robin Judd	31
Jack Simmons	31

ANNIVERSARIES

Carol and Steve Ross	4
Charles and Peggy Spitz	31

President
Alex Watt 2019 & 20
714.273.9705

Vice President
Beth Kind 2019
619.985.6718

Secretary
Susan Woods 2019 & 20

Treasurer
Norma Almanza 2018 &19
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Mark Richards 2019
541.517.1393
Tom McIlravy 2019 & 20
760.429.6565
Bob Gunthorp 2018 & 19
619.993.0184
Betty Holmes 2018 & 19
619.465.0797
Brad Zemcik 2019 & 20
619.255.0059

Programs/Speakers
Beth Kind 619.985.6718

Membership
Daryl Holmes 619.840.0797

Tours
Tom McIlravy 760.429.6565

Refreshments
Christopher Di Patre
619.651.0744

Annual Banquet
Bob Gunthorp 619.993.0184

Annual Awards
Alex Watt 714.273.9705
Art Cottee 619.885.0704
Royce Dunn 619.781.8339
Daryl Holmes 619.840.0797

Coronado Parade
Al Smithson 619.992.8729

Car Club Council of SD
Richard Reinstein
802.363.0605

ACCA Rep/Legislation
Sheldon Jurist 858.279.8285

Club Photographers
Bob Gunthorp 619.993.0184
Betty Holmes 619.465.0797
Tom McIlravy 760.429.6565

Editor
Brad Zemcik 619.255.0059



ATTENTION ALL WIZARDS, WITCHES, GHOSTS, GHOULS AND MUGGLES



THE HALLOWEEN EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH AT THE WATT'S RESIDENCE. DECORATIONS WILL BE OUT IN PREPARATION FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT PUMPKIN, AND THE SORTING HAT FROM HOGWARTS WILL BE PRESENT TO ASSIGN PEOPLE TO THEIR CORRECT HOUSE - HUFFLEPUFF, GRYFFINDOR, RAVERCLAW, OR SLYTHERIN.

FESTIVITIES WILL START AROUND 11AM, WITH THE BRATS, DOGS AND BURGERS BEING SERVED FROM NOON ON. WE WILL SUPPLY THE MEAT ITEMS, DRINKS AND CHIPS, BUT POT-LUCK SIDE DISHES AND DESSERTS ARE MOST WELCOME. PLEASE PLAN ON BRINGING A SIDE DISH OR A DESSERT TO SUPPLEMENT.

THERE IS NO FORMAL TOUR, JUST EATING, VISITING AND GARAGE WANDERING (YOU CAN SEE HOW ALEX IS PROGRESSING WITH THE RESTORATIONS).

**PLEASE RSVP SO THAT WE CAN GUESTIMATE FOOD NEEDS. ALEX & SANDY WATT, 3610 DUPONT STREET, SAN DIEGO. 619 223 6519
EMAIL - WWWTRAILERS@ATT.NET**

SILENT MOVIES

October 26th at 6:00 p.m., the silent movie "The Penalty" starring Lon Chaney will be accompanied by the wonderful Greg Breed at the organ. This dark film will prove to be the perfect set-up for Halloween which follows a few days later.

Our final Silent Movie will take place on **November 23rd** at 6:00 p.m., our car show at 5:00. This silent movie accompaniment will be played by Rosemary Bailey. It will be the great Wallace Beery's performance in "Beggars of Life".....a dramatic film featuring exciting footage done on the S.D. to Campo railway which will then be celebrating the 100th anniversary of its completion. There'll be amazing shots of actors duking-it-out while standing on fast-moving freight cars, etc. It's really an interesting, historic piece of our heritage



These restoration projects, and others, were found on the Richard's Old Highway 80 tour. If interested they are easy to find...located next to the Flying Saucer Repair Shop.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Edgemoor Car Show will be **Friday, October 25th** - coordinated by **Doug Clements**

The schedule is: 9:00: Car owners sign in, coffee & donuts

10:00-Noon: Residents, staff and patients walk around and look at the cars, talk to owners

Noon: Lunch for car owners & a guest (if they have one)

Most of the car owners arrive earlier than 9:00, but that's up to the individual. We have space for over 60 cars.

Entry is free, but we do ask for an RSVP so we know how many to expect.

Anne Monaco, CTRS Recreation Therapy Supervisor

655 Park Center Drive Santee, CA 92071

Anne.Monaco@sdcounty.ca.gov Desk (619)596-5581 Cell (619)454-9594

Please let Doug know also if you will be attending - 858.487.8617

AACA Western Fall National - Fallbrook, CA November 6-9, 2019

Here is your opportunity to participate in an AACA National event right in our backyard. Let's support our neighbor region to make this a success for them and AACA as well. The National will be held on the grass at the beautiful Pala Mesa Resort. You do have to register to show a car but not to just see the cars on the judging field on Saturday. If you want to enter to just display a car but not be judged you might consider entering in the "Driver Participation" class.

Details at: FallbrookVintageCarClub.org/aaca



Chairman: Ron Mintle, 909-224-3045 email: AACA@FallbrookVintageCarClub.org

Annual Banquet - November 10th *By Bob Gunthorp*

See the reservation form in this issue and send it in immediately with your check.

DUES ARE DUE

Local dues are due for 2020. Make checks payable to AACA San Diego Region for \$25.00.

Send your check to:

Mark Richards

1474 Merritt Drive

El Cajon, CA 92020

A reminder notice will be in the next months issue

You will be contacted by National regarding their renewal. Renew before the Holiday rush!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mark Richards	7
Cindy Williams	8
Glory Reinstein	12
Larry Larkin	16
Bob Wagner	17
Andy Hunt	19
Betty Locke	21
Tim Alexander	25
William Peterson	27

ANNIVERSARIES

Susanne and Colin Fort	15
Yolanda and Charles Hylton	16
Glory and Richard Reinstein	16

320,000 Miles and never out of California. The 1964 Mustang

--- Nick Fintzelberg

The first generation red Mustang coupe has been on several AACA events and lives at the same house as it went to from the Ford dealer in October 1964. My mother bought the car new, my father never drove it or even rode in it. A loving couple that had a great 72 year marriage, except for Ford motor cars.

My parents were married in 1933, at the low point of the Depression. Although both of comfortable San Diego families, the decade of the '30s never left memories of people who survived it. My mother graduated from high school in 1930 and received a new Model A Ford convertible to attend San Diego State. It was not so much a present but a car that would be also for her two younger brothers to use. I remember that car, still like new, in 1940 when my youngest uncle graduated and I expected to get the car to start first grade school. I got used to the one mile walk...it didn't happen.

My father's love of Dodges was less emotional. His father, who came to San Diego in 1881 as German counsel, opened an insurance company and since the many German companies in town stuck together his insurance business got that business. At that time C.A. Gray Dodge was the largest Dodge Center in southern California (except Los Angeles County) from 1917 to the late 1940s and still for San Diego and Imperial Counties until the agency was sold in mid-1960s. Hence everyone in the family office bought Dodges (and after 1928 Plymouths).

To my father, other makes were O.K. and several quite good. But Fords? Henry should have been sent to jail and never let out. His cars killed people every day. Or at least, one of them tried to kill him. A few years out of school, making good money in the mid-1920's he bought a new Model 'T' deluxe coupe. Alcohol was illegal but readily available even if it did taste like bathtubs, but the real stuff was in Tijuana (then, "tia juana"). Returning from the foreign country the new Ford suddenly turned off the road and fell on it's side. Reason: the car was top heavy and the steering went bad (Police had another story). Thus all Fords, then and forever, "are and will be ill-balanced, cheaply made death traps" according to my father.

I was away at graduate school but called my mom in February to tell her I had seen the new FORD(!) Mustang that would be shown soon and what a sharp design it was. I got back to San Diego in early summer and mentioned it at dinner. The silence was not fun so I let it go. Later in the summer my mom's '60 Dodge station wagon was getting its fourth transmission repair, so she quietly went to the Ford dealer where she got her Model 'A' 34 years earlier to look and drive a Mustang. She picked out the model, color and interior, paid for it and nothing was ever mentioned about it.

In late September she called me at UC Davis to say that rage car had not yet arrived, so I came down for the weekend to learn what was wrong. When I drove up to the dealership a load of new Mustangs arrived at the same time; a light green very plain 6-cylinder, tan interior coupe was among them so I rushed into the sales room and luckily I recognized the salesman. He, of course said, "... oh I was just going to call your mother." I replied, "Don't bother, you clean the car up and I'll bring her in late this afternoon." As I learned later, these cars were being sold immediately to anyone who walked in with cash. Had I arrived a few hours later the car would have been sold to someone else.

The good news was the smaller engine for both 6's and 8's built before mid-September were replaced with a new bigger engine and ours was (serial number 1,000 and something of the new models with the bigger engine.

I returned from my dissertation research after a year in coastal Ecuador, got a great job as curator of the Museum of Man but dreaded leaving my 1940 Plymouth woodie wagon in Balboa Park all day. My dad came the rescue and got rid of the disliked Ford and bought a new Chrysler for my mother and the Mustang came to me. From 1970 until I bought a Jeep wagon in 1995 the Mustang was my car, taxi, truck and many trips for the Museum throughout the state. At 150,000 miles, faculty friends at Southwest College made it a teaching project in summer school and today at 320,000 miles I would take it anywhere and know I'd get back. The green color was very tired by 1996 so I repainted it the Ford Red that I would have picked out in 1964. The rest of the car is original. My father disliked the car when it was mine as it had been for my mom's. The Chrysler New Yorker lasted until her death.

Happy Birthday Bentley - 100 Years

---Brad Zemcik

Being what some would call an avid Rolls-Royce and Bentley enthusiast; I would be remiss if I did not mention in The Foot Warmer at least a small mention of the Bentley marque 100th anniversary.

Starting out as a luxury manufactured automobile in 1919 the Bentley name was soon thrust into a competition status enhancing the versatility of the marque. Like many British cars the original Bentley's were chassis only productions. Many various coachbuilders then provided an array of bodies thus appealing to many more purchasers.

The history of Bentley is tumultuous at times yet it has always had its own devotees.

In 2004 Michele and I travelled attending the 100th year celebration of Rolls-Royce and this year it was for Bentley who at one time was part of Rolls-Royce. I could write pages but I just want to give a small nod to Bentley's birthday. Two of the biggest gatherings were Pebble Beach where there were 60 Bentley's including 40 Vintage - 1919-1931, and the meet in the UK where there 1,321 of all years and models assembled from the very first Bentley to the latest concept of an autonomous model. For the first time in my 50+ years of attending car shows around the world I was overwhelmed.



The Vintage Bentley line up at Pebble Beach



This is the VERY first Bentley

Right:
The new
autonomous
Bentley



Below right: Me and
Michele at the Black
Tie dinner in Blenheim
Palace.



As far as you could see in front, behind, and beside you there were Bentley's. Too many to photograph all of them.



OLD HWY 80 TOUR TO DESERT VIEW TOWER *continued*

We arrived to find high gusty winds (apparently common for the area) but persevered and found shelter in the tower. Daryl Holmes entertained us all with some ragtime tunes on the piano, and we hiked the 4-story stairs to glimpse a view of the Salton Sea. And took time to enjoy the kitschy collection of items while visiting with owner Ben Schultz.



“Ragtime Daryl!” tickling the ivories

Just after noon, we departed and headed west back to Jacumba where we had lunch to order at the Jacumba Hot Springs Resort. While we were waiting for lunch, Bob Gunthorp and Brad Zemcik held a contest to see who had spent the most/least at the Candy Cottage. Winners: Janette Hays-most/Sue Christian-least.

We’d like to thank everyone for coming on our tour. You all made our first outing so much fun, we’ll have to plan another one!



Norma’s hair will attest to the velocity of the wind! She was then devoured by a Caveman.



Tour Leaders Diane and Mark Richards

Attendees: **Mark and Diane Richards, Sheldon and Sheila Jurist, Bob Gunthorp, Janette Hay, Larry and Paula Okey, John and Barbara Boyd, Phil and Jan Boyd, Nick Fintzelberg,**



Candy Cottage biggest spender **Janette Hay** and least spender **Sue Christian**, showing with fingers how much they spent.

Norma Almanza, Brad and Michele Zemcik, Gary Jarvis, Daryl and Betty Holmes, Tom McIlravy, David Melendrez, Darrell and Sue Christian, Art and Phyllis Cottee, Rachel Evans(our newest member), Doc McAllister, Robert and Grace Schlesier, and Alex Watt.