



VENTURA VINTAGE RODS

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October 2009

The Prez Notes will pick up next month or maybe NOT. HE'S THE PREZ

NOTICE!! The September meeting was cancelled.

OCTOBER EVENT: Saturday, October 10, we enjoyed a poker run cruise which included a tour of Ojai Olive Oil Company & its oil pressing operations. We enjoyed a terrific lunch @ Bocalli's in Ojai. To say the least the weather was perfect, and all those rods shined in the fall sunshine. Ron did apologize for the dusty conditions but the gang sure seemed to enjoy the tour and lunch. The poker deal worked pretty well for the winner Charlie Gartman. More pictures, etc are on the web page.

Beauties shine at Harbor Run 19

Ventura Vintage Rods' annual car show awards trophies in 21 categories.

By Wendy Dager
Special to The Star



Photos by Wendy Dager / Special to The Star

This 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air 210 Post, owned by Jim Hix of Palmdale, won the Best of Show trophy at Harbor Run 19 held Sunday at Channel Island Harbor. Hix said he has spent approximately \$85,000 customizing the car.



Ventura resident Mike Jordan's 1962 Chevy Nova won the trophy for Best Engine, which is an aluminum small block Bill Bradley-built engine that emerges through the cutout in the Nova's hood.



Don Lanpher, from left, Dick Duncan and Miran Prudian sit with their 1932 Ford Roadsters at the Harbor Run 19 car show. Four years ago, Lanpher sold his Harley-Davidson and bought a shiny red 1932 Ford Roadster.



Winners in 21 categories were awarded a handcrafted wood trophy, like this one for Best of Show, at the Harbor Run 19.

Four years ago, 79-year-old Don Lanpher of Simi Valley sold his Harley-Davidson and bought a shiny red 1932 Ford Roadster.

"I got the car from an old man in Yucca Valley," said Lanpher. "He also gave me a four-month old Rottie."

The Rottweiler pup, which Lanpher named Roxy Ford in honor of his classic vehicle, wasn't at the Harbor Run 19 car show on Sunday at Channel Islands Harbor, but Lanpher's cruising mates, Miran Prudian and Dick Duncan, both 76, were there, having entered their '32 Roadsters for a chance to win a stunning handcrafted wood trophy.

"He's the epitome of a real hot rodder," Lanpher said of Duncan, citing his friend's years of experience building a rod from the ground up.

The trio of custom cruisers was up against some worthy opponents, what with the variety of vehicles vying for 21 "best of" spots, based on model year or classification. The automobiles created a veritable ocean of color — some of it eye-popping, in hues of green, blue, yellow, orange and red; with custom-painted flames and without — fanned out over the harbor-side parking lot.



The contest, sponsored annually by the Ventura Vintage Rods car club, featured nearly 300 trucks, street rods, rat rods, hot rods, Mercurys, Chevrolets, Fords and more, including the occasional “what-the-heck-is-that?”

Amidst the vendors plying their automotive-related wares; food concessions; a steady stream of ambulating car aficionados; and the sound of revving engines and rollicking car horns, Jerry Hatto of Thousand Oaks sat quietly in a folding chair, next to his bright yellow 1964 Ford Galaxy station wagon. Hatto, 70, is semi-retired and drives the car just about every day.

“I bought it painted and upholstered, but every mechanical piece has been replaced, from the radiator to the rear end,” said Hatto. “If I wanted to drive it, I had to do it.”

Not all the cars at the show were driven there, as some are in mint condition, with owners preferring to trailer them in, including the Best of Show trophy-winner, a 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air 210 Post owned by Jim Hix of Palmdale.

Hix’s wife, Karen, refers to the Bel Air as “the other woman,” as Hix admits putting numerous hours and approximately \$85,000 into customizing the car, which he’s owned for 12 years.

“When I got it, it looked like it was ready for the wrecking yard,” said Hix.

Today, the classic Chevrolet is completely customized inside and out, from engine to interior, but its real showstopper is its \$25,000 paint job, thanks to the artist Hix trusted to turn his “other woman” into a work of art.

“I let my painter, Nick Santana, do whatever he wanted,” said Hix. “He’s the professional.”

Santana, of Palmdale, chose a flamboyant orange background with a foreground candy-colored arches and streaks, along with a darkly whimsical field of skulls, reminiscent of a Dia De Los Muertos motif, sweeping across the sides.

Ventura resident Mike Jordan’s 1962 Chevy Nova also was a stunning sight, not so much for its bright yellow exterior, but the aluminum small block Bill Bradley-built engine that looked menacing as it emerged through the cutout in the Nova’s hood.

“It gets up to 160 miles per hour in the quarter mile,” said Jordan, who took home the Best Engine trophy for his car and plans to run it at an upcoming Super Chevrolet show.

While the winners smiled for photos and attendees chatted with those who share their love of vintage vehicles, the main purpose of Harbor Run 19 was its charitable aspect. According to Ventura Vintage Rods president Charlie Roark, the club nets between \$10,000 and \$12,000 each year with this event, with proceeds going to charities including FOOD Share, Oxnard Sunrise Rotary Club, McAuliffe Space Team, Victory Outreach, Oxnard PAL, Oxnard K-9 Unit, Kiwanis Club of Ventura, Boys & Girls Club, Ventura County Rescue Mission, Camarillo Hospice, Prototype Women’s Center and the Ventura County Fair’s Jessica’s Animal Group.

Also helping out are a number of local businesses that act as sponsors, as well as the sale of T-shirts and raffle tickets purchased by the crowd for donated items. This year, the funds earned were distributed a little differently because the economy has adversely affected many charities and club members wanted to help as many organizations as possible.

Amazingly, there are only 22 couples comprising Ventura Vintage Rods, which is a relatively small number, considering the size of the event.

“This takes six months of getting permits and checking it out,” said Roark. “But the same people do a lot of the same things every year.”

Roark, a Ventura resident who’s been a club member for six years, was very happy with the turnout and enthusiasm of the attendees.



"This is top of the line when it comes to fabulously done cars," he said.

- Future scheduled events (tentative & subject to change):

- November TBD

- A Christmas Holiday progressive dinner is in the planning stages; probably occurring early in December. Several families have volunteered for various parts of the meal

The 2009 General Meeting Schedule Meetings will occur on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Famous Carrows Restaurant, Harbor Blvd/Seaward Ave (UNLESS otherwise decided by the members), Ventura at 6:30 PM ish. You are always welcome to join the earlybirds for food at around 6:00PM. Mark your calendar for, November 24, December TBD.

October

Birthdays

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Heidi Leighty | 4 th |
| Norris Woods | 10 th |
| Paul Schuman | 13 th |
| Judy Woods | 19 th |
| Mary Eubanks | 23 rd |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Gerri and Ron Anderson | 7 th |
|------------------------|-----------------|

"Technical Corner":

Swish a shot of vodka over an aching tooth. Allow your gums to absorb some of the alcohol to numb the pain.

To cure foot odor, wash your feet with vodka.

Pour one-half cup vodka and one-half cup water into a Ziploc freezer bag and freeze for a slushy, refreshing ice pack for aches, pain or black eyes.

To relieve a fever, use a washcloth to rub vodka on your chest and back as a liniment.

If you have any news you'd like to share please pass to Ted, by email: bowtieted@aol.com; or phone 988-0330, or fax: 278 9639 (CALL FIRST please) The goal is to publish the newsletter the week prior to the General Meeting; your inputs are requested by the 15th of the Month to include most anything you'd like to share or for future news.

"BE SAFE OUT THERE!"

Ted H Editor