



*Freewheelers gather under overcast skies at Cordiero's in Napa for tire kicking and camaraderie before starting the tour.*

### ***“Oil’s Well” on the Freewheelers May Tour and Luncheon***

*– by Bill Hall*

The morning dawned a bit overcast but nearly 60 hearty souls met at Cordiero’s Restaurant in Napa for a Sunday morning tire kicking with coffee, doughnuts and various nibbly things (many thanks to Cordiero’s for letting us use their parking lot and opening up their facilities to us). Entrance to the parking lot through a gate and semi-circular drive added a touch of faux elegance and whimsy as each classic made its arrival known as it emerged into the parking lot. Some first on tour cars included Matthew Lundberg’s 1971 Lincoln Continental Mark III, Melinda Lincoln’s 1967 Mercedes-Benz 230SL, and Dave and Marilyn Chiotti’s 1939 Studebaker Commander.

The sun started to break through as we prepared to begin our leisurely and relaxing 45 minute drive through the picturesque countryside. We headed north on Monticello Road as it wound its way up into the Napa County hills providing beautiful vistas of Gordon Valley to the east as we crested the hills and started to wind our way down the other side. A sharp right onto Wooden Valley Road lead us through the eastern edges of Napa County as the road meandered into Wooden Valley and Solano County and eventually into Suisun Valley. A left turn onto Mankas Corner Road took us through the metropolis of Mankas Corner. After another left turn up a hill and one last curve, we arrived at the cypress-lined entrance to our destination. A long line of classic beauties (the cars guys!) snaked its way into the parking lot, each car settling into a comfortable spot.

Arriving at our destination of Il Fiorello Olive Oil Company, we were greeted out front and divided into two groups – swapping off as one group took the manufacturing facility tour while the other group did the olive oil tasting. Our greeter Sunday morning was Mark Sievers, who along with this wife Ann own and operate Il Fiorello and are dedicated to growing and milling the finest quality artisan olive oil. Ann has a contagious passion for quality olive oil and together the two of

*(continued on page 5)*

# President's Message

A year of planning is finally coming to an end. The West Coast Meet weekend will be in the final preparation stages by the time you read this. It's hard to believe we are approaching the thirty-second year of this event and none of it would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of all the board members and volunteers who gave their free time and energy to put on this celebration. From decorations to the award show, from working extensively with the hotel to making trips to central California and overseeing the registration process, the amount of work that goes into this one weekend a year is phenomenal. If this is your first West Coast Meet experience I'm sure it won't be your last. If it's your thirty-second, thank you for supporting this fantastic event year after year.

Don't forget to confirm you have everything in order for the road trip with the handy-dandy West Coast Meet check list in this Flyer. And with that, if you just happen to have a great time in Atascadero please feel free to thank one of the many volunteers who made it happen. It's our support for one another that makes this club so great. Until we see you in Atascadero, happy motoring.

*Peter Escobedo*

President, Freewheelers Car Club



| Board of Directors 2016                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Member Information                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>President/Webmaster</b><br>Peter Escobedo, 408-886-8225<br><a href="mailto:webmaster@thefreewheelers.net">webmaster@thefreewheelers.net</a><br><b>Vice President/Newsletter</b><br>Marty Hanson, 916-202-2011<br><a href="mailto:flyereditor@thefreewheelers.net">flyereditor@thefreewheelers.net</a><br><b>Secretary</b><br>Tom Ortiz, 916-424-1963<br><a href="mailto:tomchrysler@att.net">tomchrysler@att.net</a><br><b>Treasurer</b><br>Jay Remick, 831-601-8080<br><a href="mailto:jayremick@me.com">jayremick@me.com</a><br><b>Membership Director</b><br>Brian McCann, 650-815-8220<br><a href="mailto:brianmccanninteriors@yahoo.com">brianmccanninteriors@yahoo.com</a><br><b>Photographer</b><br>Bill Peachee, 925-525-5863<br><a href="mailto:bpeachee@hotmail.com">bpeachee@hotmail.com</a> |                                 | <b>Promotions Director</b><br>Chris Slater, 408-599-9103<br><a href="mailto:gladstone.cottage@gmail.com">gladstone.cottage@gmail.com</a><br><b>Registration Director</b><br>Gregg Cannella, 925-899-5167<br><a href="mailto:glamgfc@msn.com">glamgfc@msn.com</a><br><b>Members at Large</b><br>Sueko Takahashi, 925-373-1667<br><a href="mailto:sueko.tbart@gmail.com">sueko.tbart@gmail.com</a><br>Geoff Caccamo, 925-580-4444<br><a href="mailto:sacrebleu35@yahoo.com">sacrebleu35@yahoo.com</a><br>Eric Whitney, 415-902-5165<br><a href="mailto:ewhitney@me.com">ewhitney@me.com</a><br>Michael Amodt, 408-202-8041<br><a href="mailto:mickeyamo90@gmail.com">mickeyamo90@gmail.com</a> | <b>Freewheelers Web Site</b><br><a href="http://www.thefreewheelers.net">www.thefreewheelers.net</a><br><b>Advertising</b><br>As a benefit of member-ship, Members may run classified ads (for sale) in the Flyer/on the website at no charge. Send information to the Newsletter Editor.<br>For rates for non-members and business solicitations, contact the Promotions Director.<br>To place an ad, please contact the Promotions Director or Treasurer. | The Freewheelers Flyer is published monthly by the San Francisco Historical Automobile Society, C/O Jay Remick-Treasurer, 1588 Willow Oaks Drive, San Jose, CA 95125<br>Articles and/or photographs related to club events and/or vintage car happenings may be emailed to, and used at the discretion of the Newsletter Editor at <a href="mailto:flyereditor@thefreewheelers.net">flyereditor@thefreewheelers.net</a><br>Submissions should reach the Newsletter Editor or Webmaster by the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publishing.<br>Contributors to this Issue: Bill Hall, Peter Escobedo, Frieda Freewheeler, Dave Chiotti, Luis Sosa and Michael Amodt. Photos by Bill Peachee, Jim Finley, Luis Sosa & Michael Amodt. This hard-copy issue of the Flyer provided courtesy of Mark Tomey. |
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# ARE YOU READY FOR THE SUMMER OF LOVE?

## WEST COAST MEET TRAVEL CHECKLIST

– by Frieda Freewheeler

By the time you read this, you'll be packing your trunks and anticipating a gay weekend away from it all! Over the past few months, we've clued you in on all the fab and fun goings-on over the West Coast Meet Weekend, so what kind of a mother would I be if I didn't remind you to service your car (and anything else you can think of) before making the trek to Atascadero? It's important!

### **Things to do BEFORE you leave:**

- Check your car's fluids (as well as your own); bringing extra oil and coolant is recommended
- Bring chargers for all of your hand held devices (batteries die at the most inconvenient times)
- Wear something cool and comfortable (go ahead... take your shirt off, and don't forget your swimwear!)
- Pack plenty of food, snacks, and drinks (everyone knows the sexiest man is always packing)
- Make sure your tires are pumped up (just like your muscles)
- Bring your tunes (long distances seem short when you're singing along with your favorites)
- Test your brakes (fade to black is only amusing in the movies)
- Make sure all of your lights are well lit (you, however, will have to wait until you get to Atascadero!)
- Make note of all of the rest stops along the way (we don't want you to arrive cranky and soiled)
- ... and most of all, drive friendly and pass with care (*ahhhhhh!*)

### **And don't forget, for Saturday's Car Show:**

- Registration Packet: placard, ballot and meal ticket(s), as lunch is only provided in exchange for ticket(s)
- Camera, batteries and film (and/or memory card), or cell phone
- Hat, Sunscreen, Sunglasses and lip balm
- Collapsible chair
- Umbrella
- Hand-wipes/sanitizer
- Plenty of drinking water/ice cooler (and we'll have water stations around the parking lot too!)
- Snacks, although lunch will be provided (be sure to bring your meal tickets)
- Spray-on wax



- Detailing spray
- Glass cleaner
- Towels and Soft polishing cloths for your car, and a towel for you
- Breath mints (you'll never know who you will meet!)
- Handkerchief/Facial Tissue
- Reading Material
- Notepad and pen



*We look forward to seeing you bright-eyed and bushy-tailed at this year's West Coast Meet!*

# Cool Off from the Summer Heat in San Jose!

— by Clint Moore



Brown may be the new green, but the pool is still bright blue! Mark your calendar for **Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** as the Moore family will once again host the Freewheeler pool party at their Spanish villa in the East San Jose Foothills. Join us for an afternoon of splish-splashing and tasty treats!

There's plenty of room for cars to park pool-side or on the front "lawn," but please no land yachts in the deep end. Don't miss one of the biggest events of the year (or your club president with his shirt off)! More details to come in the August Flyer!

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## ***A CENTURY RIDE THROUGH...***

**Sonoma  
County**



— by Dave Chiotti

On **Saturday, September 17, 2016**, spend the day traveling the back roads and by-ways of Sonoma County. We will meet in the parking lot of the First Missionary Baptist Church at 375 Calistoga Road in Santa Rosa. Coffee and donuts will be served next door at Marilyn & Dave Chiotti's home.

Please arrive at the meeting spot with a full tank of gas! We will depart promptly at 10:30 AM and there are no gas stations along the route. First stop "Jim Town" in Alexander Valley east of Healdsburg. Next, we'll travel through Dry Creek Valley and the Russian River Area with a stop at Goat Rock State Park at about 1PM. Then we'll head south on Highway 1 through Bodega Bay and the town of Bodega where Alfred Hitchcock filmed "THE BIRDS."

Next stop Jim Sinnes's place to see "WHAT'S NEW." Last stop the town of Occidental with a late lunch (early dinner) at the Union Hotel. If you are a camper, camp sites will be available at Jim Sinnes' Saturday night. For those choosing to spend the night in Sonoma County, lodgings are available in Occidental, Sebastopol, Santa Rosa & Rohnert Park. Watch for more details in next month's Flyer!

# Welcome New & Returning Members!

## John Caruso & Eric Knight

57 Sunshine Avenue  
Sausalito, CA 94965  
(415) 350-0790  
jjcaruso@gmail.com  
Car: 2016 Volvo XC60 T6 SUV

## Daniel Gomez

441 Via Hidalgo #24  
Greenbrae, CA 94904  
(707) 321-3908  
[dgomez482@gmail.com](mailto:dgomez482@gmail.com)  
Cars: 2015 BMW M235i Convertible  
2008 BMW 535Xi Sport Wagon

## James Holloway

584 Castro Street, #448  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
(415) 309-8595  
[jch51@me.com](mailto:jch51@me.com)  
Cars : 2001 Toyota Pickup  
2014 Audi A7 5-door Hatchback

## Niko Xanthopoulos

401 Joost Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94127  
(415) 420-5540  
[nikos.xanthopoulos@gmail.com](mailto:nikos.xanthopoulos@gmail.com)  
Cars: 2015 GMC Sierra Truck  
2012 Mercedes-Benz E350  
1995 Mercedes-Benz E320 Coupe Cabriolet  
1966 Ford Thunderbird Convertible  
1966 Ford Thunderbird Convertible



## Olive Oil Tour & Tasting

(continued from page 1)

them and the entire staff made us feel welcome while we were educated about something we all use but never really thought that much about.

Both the Facility Tour and the Tasting were informative and interesting and led to many questions (and answers!) from the group, and everybody seemed to learn something new before the tour was over. For lunch, a 'made-to-order' box lunch for each person was served on the outdoor covered patio area, shielded from the wind and sun with everything grown organically right on the property and served fresh to us. Lemons grown on the property were used to make a special dessert just for Freewheelers consisting of lemon-blended olive oil drizzled over vanilla gelato which got a BIG 'thumbs up' from the group. The gift shop carried various olive oils and balsamic vinegars, including the ones sampled that day, and many a Freewheeler left carrying little red bags full of artisan goodies!

*(Editor's Note: Many thanks go to Bill Hall for organizing the drive tour and working with Il Fiorello to arrange our tours and luncheon!)*



*After a leisurely drive, Freewheeler arrive at Il Fiorello.*



*The sun came out as a bevy of classic beauties filled the parking lot at the Il Fiorello Olive Oil Company. First-on-tour cars included Matthew Lundberg's 1971 Lincoln Continental Mark III, Dave and Marilyn Chiotti's 1939 Studebaker Commander and Melinda Lincoln's 1967 Mercedes-Benz 230SL.*



*TOP: Two groups alternated between Mark Sievers' presentation and a tour of the olive oil making facilities. CENTER: More Freewheelers classic gathered in the back lot. ABOVE: The tour and presentation was followed by a delicious box lunch served on the premises. Bob Krambuhl, Scott Mikkelsen and Sueko Takahashi gather for a group shot.*

# CAR FOR HIRE!

— by Luis Sosa



Last year, a few months after I bought my 1966 Thunderbird convertible, I received a call from a friend at the HRC asking me if I would be willing to drive a guest participant in the 2015 Pride parade in San Francisco. I leapt at the chance. I, of course, knew my car was a star but also wanted everyone else to know. I answered so quickly and was so excited I forgot to ask who I would be driving. A few days later it was confirmed and she told me I would be driving Jim Obergefell, the main plaintiff in the Supreme Court case making same sex marriage legal in all 50 states. I was ecstatic!

When the day of the parade came, I could hardly sleep knowing my car would be a part of (gay) history. This would be the first time Jim Obergefell made a public appearance since the decision and it was in

my car. The day of the parade was great. I could feel the emotion as we drove down Market Street and the crowd realized who he was. People were running up to the car letting him know that they had been with their partners for 10, 20, even 30 years or more and thanking him with tears in their eyes. It was great to be a part of it. I asked Jim to autograph my car just under the hood. It's still there sealed under clear coat for all to see. I couldn't foresee anything like that happening to me again.

Then, in early May 2016, I received an email which was forwarded from our Freewheeler's club from a production studio asking for automobiles from the mid '60s to early '70s period. I contacted the film company and asked me if I would like my car to be in a made for TV movie being filmed in the Castro? Yes, I said again without asking for details. When do you want me there? I had to send in a few pictures to be considered by a board, and sign a lease contract. Compensation was set at \$250) enough to pay for half of the new seat covers I had just ordered).

A day or two after I sent in the pictures, the producer called me and said I had a beautiful car (which wasn't news to me) and asked if I would mind if one of the actors drove it in a scene.

"Of course not," I said "by the way, what's the movie and who'll be in the car?" Misa Malone, of Beach Blanket Babylon, would be driving the car and the character she would be driving was San Francisco icon Sylvester! I was ecstatic again! The movie was based on the life of Cleve Jones, founder of the AIDS project-the quilt my car would once again play a part in gay history.

The day of the shoot was great. I was the official "car handler" and had to drive the car in between shots. The actors only drove it while filming. Famed director Gus Van Sant of "Milk" and most recently "Portlandia" was the director and was on site for the entire shoot. It took six hours to film a scene showing Jones leaving Harvey Milk's camera store and as he was walking out saw Sylvester driving down Castro Street sitting on the back of, you guessed it, a 1966 white convertible Thunderbird with red interior. I learned a lot about protecting my car from others who don't see the need to be extra careful with classic automobiles. Overall, it was another day that will live long in my memory!



# JULY 8, 2016

## COLLECTOR CAR APPRECIATION DAY

The SEMA Action Network (SAN) announced that the next Collector Car Appreciation Day (CCAD) will be celebrated on July 8, 2016. The date will mark the seventh consecutive commemoration in what is now an annual event to raise awareness of the vital role automotive restoration and collection plays in American society. A brief recap of the 2015 festivities is highlighted in the Fall 2015 issue of Driving Force—click here. Also, be sure to check out the full photo gallery at the following link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/semaphotos/sets/72157655281264095>. The images sent in by this year's event hosts are greatly appreciated.

*"With the 2015 celebration now behind us, car enthusiasts and related businesses can begin planning open houses, car cruises, club gatherings and educational events to mark the 2016 commemoration" said SEMA Vice President of Government Affairs Steve McDonald. "The passion for the collector car hobby that continues to be demonstrated by SAN members nationwide is most clearly evident in this special day."*

Intended to celebrate the classics of the past and the future, the U.S. Senate helped launch Collector Car Appreciation Day by passing Resolutions each year at SAN's request. The previous resolutions were sponsored by Senators Richard Burr (R-NC) and Jon Tester (D-MT). The Senators have been strong advocates for the automotive hobby in Washington, D.C., and recognize the integral role collector cars have played in fostering our nation's appreciation for the automobile's unique historical place in our history. The states of Louisiana and West Virginia, along with the Canadian Provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan adopted their own resolution this year commemorating the occasion.

The SAN will again maintain and publicize a list of scheduled events to commemorate America's time-tested love affair with the automobile at [semaSAN.com/CCAD](http://semaSAN.com/CCAD). Individuals, car clubs and business owners interested in publicizing events can submit the details of their celebration using this link. For questions, contact SAN Director Colby Martin at 909-978-6721 or [san@sema.org](mailto:san@sema.org). If you are unable to celebrate on July 8, the SAN encourages events to be scheduled throughout the month of July 2016!



# Reunited...and it Feels So Good!

— by Michael Amodt

When Executive Secretary, Louise Gates, told the Pontiac salesman that she wanted a new convertible his response was: “You can't afford one!” Indignant, she marched out the door straight across the street into the Oldsmobile showroom, sat down and ordered a Cutlass convertible. She took delivery of her “White Whale” on May 18, 1966.



Miss Gates kept the Cutlass seven years, eventually trading it in on an ordered '73 Cutlass Supreme coupe (also blue and white). As a car-crazed teenager, I scoured the Monterey lots daily and spotted the '66 that same Friday evening before its engine had even cooled off. My wonderful, equally car-crazed father bought it first thing Monday morning. The Cutlass would then be with me during my teens, twenties, thirties, forties ... and on. It is my “Picture of Dorian Gray” car – it still looks the same but I know I don't!

Fast-forward to 2016. With the Cutlass' 50th birthday approaching, I contacted Miss Gates, now 77-years-old and suggested we get together to celebrate the occasion. You see, she and I have kept in touch via Christmas cards for forty-three years. She was enthusiastic and a date was arranged in May. My partner, Jay & I drove the Cutlass down from San Jose to Monterey and we so enjoyed watching Louise as she saw her old friend for the first time in several decades. And we couldn't help but notice she had dressed in blue and white to match the car!

It was a spectacular, sunny day and we enjoyed lunch at the golf course over-looking the Monterey Bay. While there, we caught up on a life-time of old cars, our families, life in Monterey, etc. As we began to head back to her house I asked her if she wanted the top up or down to which she quickly replied: “Why, top down, of course!”



# CLASSIFIED

**GARAGE SPACE WANTED:** My New 35 Year Old Fiat Spider Needs a Garage Home - Little Red needs your help! I just bought this great little Italian car, and I want to protect it. Please let me know if you have one garage space available, or if you know of someone who does. Vintage Italian convertibles are fun and exciting cars. As part of my payments to you I will include a top down drive and picnics in the SF Bay Area (San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland) or up in Wine Country. Please respond to 415-483-4900 or [Keith@Keith4RealEstate.com](mailto:Keith@Keith4RealEstate.com). Your assistance is greatly appreciated! Your garage does not have to be pretty; it just needs to be safe & secure. (3)



**FOR SALE:** 1982 Buick Riviera Convertible – White with Red and only 73,800 miles. CA car owned for 25 years. See website [www.collectiblemetal.net](http://www.collectiblemetal.net) or email [brentwalkersf@gmail.com](mailto:brentwalkersf@gmail.com). \$12K OBO. Economical convertible for West Coast Event! (3)



## JULY 2016

Thursday, 07/07 - Sunday, 07/10: – The 32nd Annual West Coast Meet in Atascadero! See page 3 for the latest!



Friday 07/08: Collector Car Appreciation Day - locate a CCAD event near you at [www.semaSAN.com/CCAD](http://www.semaSAN.com/CCAD).

## AUGUST 2016

Sunday, 08/14: Board of Directors Meeting at the Rainbow Community Center in Concord at 11 a.m.

Sunday, 08/28: Annual Pool Party in San Jose. See page 4 for more information

Sunday 08/28: Stockton Pride. For more information, visit [www.stocktonpride.com](http://www.stocktonpride.com).

## SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday, 09/11: Board of Directors Meeting at the Rainbow Community Center in Concord at 11 a.m.

Sunday, 09/11: Oakland Pride. For more information, visit [www.oaklandpride.org](http://www.oaklandpride.org).

Saturday, 09/17: "100 Mile" Drive Tour from the south to the north Bay. See page 4 for more information.

## OCTOBER 2016

Sunday, 09/09: Ramshead Collection Tour and luncheon on the river in Sacramento...details to follow!

NOTE: Calendar listings subject to change without notice.





The Freewheelers Car Club  
San Francisco Historical Automobile Society  
c/o 1588 Willow Oaks Drive  
San Jose, CA 95125-4452



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