



# the Hudson rEflex Tor

Newsletter of the Southern California Chapter of the H-E-T Club

HMCC – 100 Years

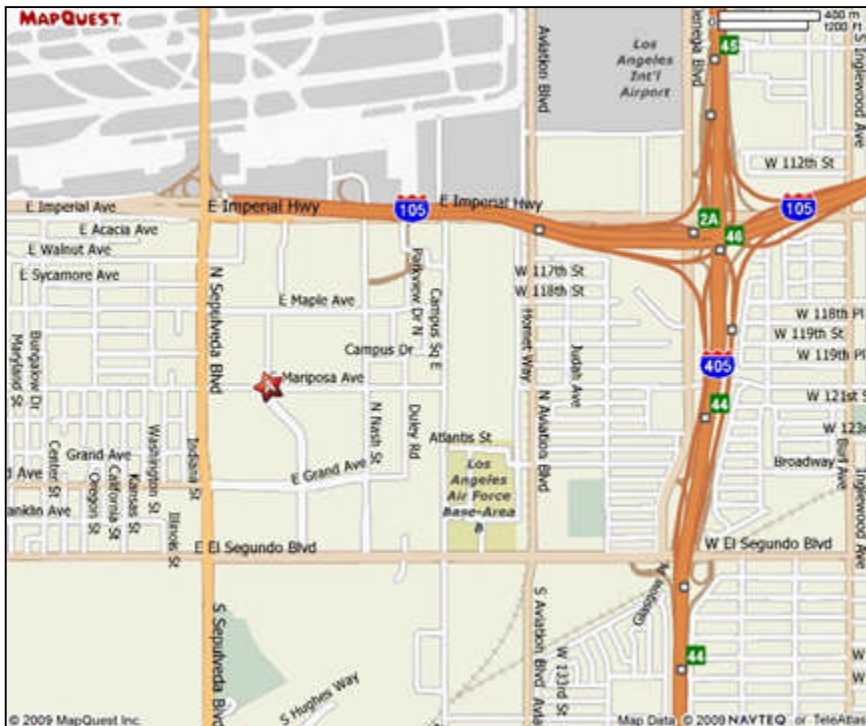
HET Club – 50 Years

SC Chapter - 43 Years

March 2009

## The Automobile Museum that "Takes You For a Ride" Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> 12 Noon to 4 pm

Welcome to the one-of-a-kind **Automobile Driving Museum** located in **El Segundo, CA**. The Automobile Driving Museum is among the most exceptional museums of its kind. Displaying more than **70 cars** of many makes and spanning the years, our collection is one of beauty as well as educational.



While visiting the museum, not only do you have the special opportunity to **view the showcased automobiles**, but you also have the opportunity to **sit in them** to get the feel of what it was like to drive these classics. On **weekend visits**, there are select automobiles that are available for our visitors over the age of 10 to **ride in**. It is with excitement that we offer this opportunity to our guests. It is also what sets us apart from any other automobile museum out there. We have **games and trains** and will soon have an old time soda fountain. There is definitely something for everyone here at the Automobile Driving Museum so be sure to bring the whole family!

The Automobile Driving Museum is committed to the preservation and maintenance of our classic, historic and antique vehicles. Although there are no set admission prices to visit the museum, we do ask visitors for a **donation** to help defray the cost of operating the museum and maintaining the vehicles for future generations to enjoy. <http://www.automobiledrivingmuseum.org/index.html>

SCC will gather at **noon at 610 Lairport Street, El Segundo, 90245 310/909-0950**

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### Upcoming SCC Events

March 15 – **Automobile Driving Museum**

April 16-18 - **Western Region Meet**

April 19 – **CHVA Spring Fun Car Show**

May 16 – **Car Shows at Huntington Beach & Stanton**

June 14 – **Election Picnic - Ernest E. Debs Regional Park**

*See the flyer*

*See the flyer*

<http://socalhet.org>

July 13 – 17, – **HET 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meet**  
[http://socalhet.org/2009\\_natl/09\\_index.htm](http://socalhet.org/2009_natl/09_index.htm)

September – **All California Meet**

Nov – **Laughlin Economy Run**

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Board Meetings are normally scheduled for 2 PM on the third Sunday of each month, and are **open to all members**. Phone 805/987-8187 for directions.

**Want an SCC Meet close to your home?** Just find a park or other attraction with parking and facilities. Then give Noah a call (626/799-6107)

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## Western Region Meet for 2008

*See the flyers*



We just received the **detailed schedule** of events for the **Western Region 2008 Meet**. The tour into the **Yosemite Valley** should be **spectacular** with the **waterfalls** at their height. Be sure to **register**, bring your **camera** and **join us**

for another special event.

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## IF.....

because of other obligations, you cannot join us in the **Oakhurst/Yosemite Meet**, there is another event that should be a lot of fun; the **CHVA Spring Fun Car Show** at Boy's Town in Chatsworth. **SCC will pay the entrance fee**, but you **must call Jon** (805/987-8187) for a **reservation**. *See the flyer*

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## From the President's Garage

Talk about a **LEGACY** – **This year is our brand's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our clubs 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and our chapter's 43<sup>rd</sup>+ birthday**. At the last meet, we brought out some photo albums, seeking suitable cars for t-shirt graphics. Imagine our surprise, when we spotted **Stephen Marshall's car** (with previous owner) at the chapter's 1981 Anniversary Breakfast, an annual outing back then. Just four years ago, that car was up in Washington

State and Stephen (our current VP) wasn't even part of our membership.

The point is, **your participation** in today's HET activities will keep the wheels turning for member-generations to come. If your car is still up on blocks, **put on your club T-shirt** and **join us on the outing**. This banner year is all about visibility – we want to get the name and image out there as we celebrate the **Hudson centennial**. And I haven't been to an event yet where there wasn't some **tip-swapping and resource-trading going on**.

Hope to see you on the **15<sup>th</sup> in El Segundo** when "**we get taken for a ride**"! *Jon Cronk*

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## The Electronic Newsletter

The **SCC Newsletter** is now available by **email** as a pdf file. Just email your request to the editor: [SCC@elkay.org](mailto:SCC@elkay.org).

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## Dix's Declarations

*from the New England Chapter Newsletter*

A Hudson Factory Representative Relates One of his Experiences....

By: Dix Helland, *Reprinted from the March 1988 issue of the Nor' by Nor'east*

"In 1951 I was asked to make an investigation of a single car accident. The owner claimed that he lost control while driving on a winding road through a posh suburb north of Chicago and his Hudson broke in half! He was suing the Hudson Motor Car Company and the selling dealer for damages and a new car. A few days after the accident, I was able to inspect the remains and found the following:

1. The driver was alone and not injured.
2. The 1950 Commodore was indeed in two pieces. The body was intact, all doors opened and closed easily and no glass was broken. The front engine assembly and radiator had been completely severed from the body.

The wrecked Hudson was in a body shop not far from the scene of the accident. My next step was to talk with the local police and obtain

a copy of the police report for our files. The police willingly drove me to the scene of the accident and explain the details:

1. The accident happened at 2:30 AM.
2. The local bar closed at 2:00 AM.
3. The owner of the Hudson had a habit of partaking until closing time. He also had a past record of driving under the influence and in general had a poor reputation.

Conditions surrounding the accident:

1. It was a dark night and raining.
2. The blacktop type road was wet and slippery.
3. The road was winding through an area of large trees.
4. The car was traveling too fast for the conditions and was unable to negotiate a turn.
5. The car slid with the left side going forward and hit an oak tree about 12 inches forward of the left front door.

The car was estimated to be traveling in excess of 60 mph in a 30 mph zone. The results: The body assembly went around one side of the tree and came to rest about 100 feet away. The front suspension and frame assembly went around the other side of the tree and came to rest about 170 feet away. Close inspection indicated that every weld had been torn apart by the high speed impact. The only damage to the body was the imprint of the tree on the left panel ahead of the left front door.

**Resolution:** Our factory and our dealer's lawyers were immediately able to close the case In favor of Hudson Motor Car Company. Pure and simple it was a case of an evil mind trying to get something for nothing.

**In Retrospect:** The driver of the car should have thanked Hudson for an exceptionally strong and durable chassis and body that saved this life!"

## The Road to the 2009 HET National Meet started with Roy Chapin

In 1916, **Roy Chapin** and Howard Coffin observed the use of motorized vehicles with **General Pershing** in the **Mexican Expedition**. Over 400 vehicles were used in very rough terrain. Roy was also very active in the passing of the first **Highway Act** to set standards and build state roads. One of the tests of roads and motor vehicles was the **first Army transcontinental motor convoy**.

"In the summer of 1919, a young Lieutenant Colonel named **Dwight D. Eisenhower** participated in the first Army transcontinental motor convoy. The expedition consisted of eighty-one motorized Army vehicles that



crossed the United States from **Washington, D.C. to San Francisco**, a venture covering a distance of 3,251 miles in 62 days. The expedition was manned by 24 officers and 258 enlisted men. The convoy was to test the mobility of the military during wartime conditions. As an observer for the War Department, **Lt. Col. Eisenhower** learned first-hand of the difficulties faced in traveling great distances on roads that were impassable, and that resulted in frequent breakdowns of the military vehicles. These early experiences influenced his later decisions concerning the building of the **interstate highway system** during his presidential administration."

**During WW2**, Ike also saw the usefulness of the **German Autobahn** in military terms. As

president, he used his experience with road transportation to promote and authorize the **US Interstate Road system**. The road design permits the rapid movement of troops, equipment and even missiles throughout the country.

In 2003, **Dan McNichol** wrote a book (**The Roads that Built America**) about Ike's road system and toured the nation in a **1951 Hudson Pacemaker** with HET member Dr. Per Christiansen to promote the book. As a result of his travels and writings about the trip and the car (WTN M/A, M/J, J/A 2007), Dan was asked to organize the "**Drive to Detroit**" for the **100th Anniversary of the Hudson Motor Car Company and the 50th Anniversary of the Hudson-Essex Terraplane Club** (WTN N/D 2008). So, we will see you in Detroit, thanks to **Roy Chapin, Ike Eisenhower and Dan McNichol**.

## Hudson Related Items for Sale

- <http://socalhet.org/salesroom.htm>

## Restoration Resources & Suppliers

- <http://socalhet.org/suppliers.htm>

## SCC Officers

**President:** Jon Cronk 805/987-8187

**Vice President:** Stephen Marshall 661-946-9027

**Secretary:** Brad Forbush 818/840-8979

**Treasurer:** Gordon Hay 818/247-0753

**Tour Chairman:** Noah Blough 626/799-6107

**Communications:** Bob Ross 626/355-8747

**Membership:** Susan Ross 626/355-8747

**Club Store Manager:** Jon Cronk 805/987-8187

**Local Region Director:** Craig Kistler 714/256-2558

**HET President:** Mike Cherry 435/657-0443



The poster features a circular logo on the left with a red and white design and the word "HUDSON" in the center. To the right is a photograph of a square quilt with a complex geometric pattern in black, white, and brown. Below the logo, the text reads "Hudson Essex Terraplane Historical Society Quilt Raffle". Underneath that, it says "Quilt designed and made by Kaylene Spring". At the bottom left, it lists the proceeds: "1/2 to Hudson Essex Terraplane Historical Society" and "1/2 to Albright Award Fund". At the bottom right, it lists the ticket prices: "Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00".

You can purchase tickets by sending a check to Sue Kennedy at: 9350 Vandergriff Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46239 or Laurie Fromm at: 132 Creighton Lane, Rochester, NY 14612. Make check payable to: HET Historical Society.

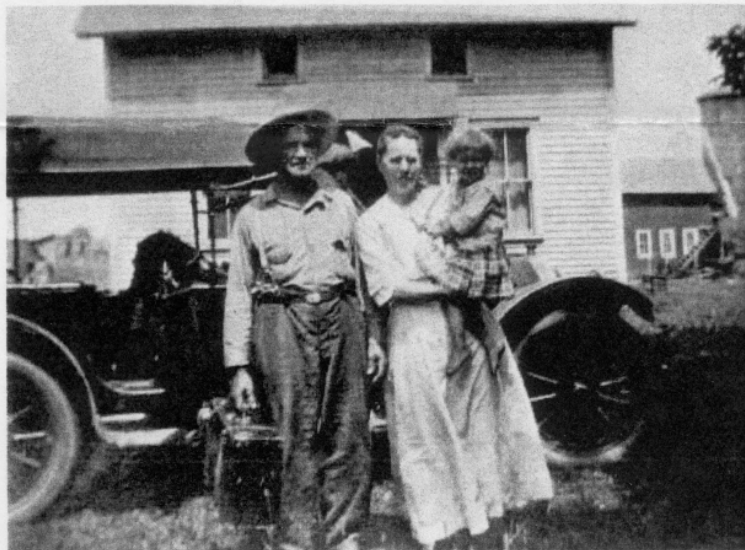
**2009 National Meet:** [http://socalhet.org/2009\\_natl/09\\_index.htm](http://socalhet.org/2009_natl/09_index.htm) & <http://www.hudsonclub.org/hetevent.htm>

**2009 Drive to Detroit:** [http://socalhet.org/2009\\_natl/50th\\_national.htm](http://socalhet.org/2009_natl/50th_national.htm)

The Coastal Valleys Contemporary Historical Vehicles Association car club presents the 20th:

# CHVA Spring Fun Car Show

All profits benefit the Guide Dogs of America  
in their training of the blind and puppy breeding work



## Sunday, April 19, 2009

at a new location

Boys Town/Rancho San Antonio

21000 Plummer Street, Chatsworth CA 91311

8am-2pm

\$15 at the gate, no pre-registration.

Please arrive by 10.

50/50 & prize raffles - goodie bags - park on grass  
food available for purchase on site

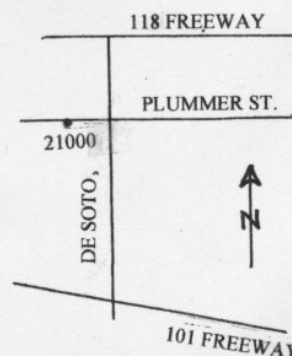
**Contacts for vendors and general information:**

Larry Bauman 818-767-1857 kalab@earthlink.net

Tom Thornton 818-340-0392

Bob Boynton 818-889-1087

map not to scale



## WESTERN REGIONAL MEET EVENTS SCHEDULE

### Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. 2009

Registration open 12 noon until 5 PM. Inside of Lobby.  
Swap Meet, Open 12 noon. Swap Spaces in the Bus Parking spaces at rear of Inn.  
Please, only ONE parking space per person, unless prior arrangements are made with Central Calif. Chapter HET staff. (One bus parking space= 2 parking spaces)  
Parking of HET cars are encourage around the entire Inn. Parking area near the Kettle Restaurant is for their customers. Parking of Pickups and car trailers will be across Highway 41. Please ask for directions at Sign-in.

### April 17<sup>th</sup>. 2009

Registration Open 9-5 in Lobby.  
Swap Meet Open. Sun-up to Sun-set. Or by flashlight, your choice.

### THE BIG TOUR TO YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Estimate Driving Time into the park is 90 minutes. (with stops)  
First Yosemite Sightseeing Tour is at 9AM. Recommend Valley Floor Tour as best choice to see the Valley in comfort.  
Per California Highway Patrol, No more that 5 cars in a group at a time. This is for Safety and congestion. No restriction inside the Park as the speed limit is 35 mph.  
Stay as long as you wish to see all the sites in the Valley. Stop and see Yosemite Lodge, even if you don't eat there. A must see stop on your tour.

Glacier Point will be closed at this time of the year because of snow.

Big Trees Tram might be open depending on snow or you can walk into the trees if you can find parking. This is near the entrance to the Park.

### April 18<sup>th</sup>. 2009

Registration Open 9-2 in the Lobby.  
Swap Meet Open 9-2  
Tech Session, 11 AM, Walt Mordenti, Adjusting duel carbs. Location Rear Parking Lot  
Tech Session, 1 PM, Vic Zamora, Window channeling Kits and installations.  
Program Guide has many venues to see in the area if you want to tour on your own.

### WESTERN REGIONAL BUSINESS MEETING 4 PM

Location will be at the Elks Club, (same place as our BBQ Dinner) Time 4 PM. Just prior to our Dinner.

### WESTERN REGIONAL MEET BBQ DINNER 5:30 – 10 PM

Located at the Elks Club, approximately 2 miles up Highway 41 at the junction to Bass Lake Rd. You will be making a left turn into the Elks Club driveway.  
A BBQ steak or chicken of your choice and a special desert will be served.  
Each Chapter representative will give a short report on their respective chapter.  
A, 50/50 drawing, raffle drawing, and special awards from the CCC HET Chapter.

Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup>. Special Open house at John Cook's residence in Mariposa, Ca. ask for directions.

We hope that you enjoyed this meet and have a great time in Yosemite National Park.

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA  
CHAPTER  
2009 Western Regional Meet  
Hudsons @ Yosemite  
A Centennial Celebration  
April 16-18, 2009 Oakhurst, California**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total number in party \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: Family ..... \$20.00..... \_\_\_\_\_  
                   After March 15, 2009..... \$25.00..... \_\_\_\_\_  
 BBQ Dinner.....@ \$25.00 each ..... \_\_\_\_\_  
     BBQ – Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00..... = \_\_\_\_\_  
     BBQ – Steak.... \_\_\_\_\_ X \$25.00..... = \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL REGISTRATION DUE..... \_\_\_\_\_**  
 (Make checks out to Central California Chapter HET.)

Meet Headquarters: Shilo Inn, Highway 41, Oakhurst, California Ph. 800-222-2244  
 Rooms @ \$75.00+tax per night until March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
 \*\*\*\*Ask for Hudson Discount Rate\*\*\*\*\*

Yosemite Tour (Gate fee and Lunch of your choice at your own expense.) (Several Lunch venues from Hamburgers to a full Buffet at the Lodge.)

**SPECIAL PRE-ORDER TEE-SHIRTS (in limited supply) (circle size ordering)**

Special HET Meet Tee-Shirts: Size S-M-L-XL @ \$18.00 each \_\_\_\_\_  
   Size XXL @ \$20.00 each \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total can be added to your registration order. Sub Total \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grand Total Including Tee-shirts = \_\_\_\_\_

Send Registration to: DAVE DITURI , 5701 HARRIS CUTOFF, MARIPOSA, CA 95338

Contact information: Rich Smithen 805-467-2966, Richard Borough 559-433-3427,  
 Dave Dituri 209-966-2282

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HET CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

HET Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_ (Found on the WTN Label)  
*(National HET membership is required for local chapter membership)*

New  Renewal

## Hudson-built cars owned:

Year	Make	Model	S/N	Engine No.
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Mail \$15 check payable to "So. Cal. HET. Club" to:  
Membership Chairman, 150 South Michillinda Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024



*Hudson-Essex-Terraplane Club  
Southern California Chapter  
150 South Michillinda Avenue  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024*



**First Class**