

the Hudson rEflEctor

The Roar of Engines, The Shine of Chrome and the Conversation with Friends

With the price of gas approaching the cost of my first Hudson, we are lucky to have the **2011 West Region Meet** located just down the road (133 miles). It is a great opportunity to have an enjoyable drive in your favorite car. If you run the numbers, you will find that for about \$23/day for gas, you can enjoy a great **three days with old friends** and a variety of Hudson products.



This will be the **largest gathering of Hudson products** within **1400 miles** of Southern California this year. Rumor has it that there will be some **unusual models** that have not been seen in this area before.

To start the weekend off, we are organizing a **Caravan** to the Meet. Starting from **Arcadia on Thursday, April 14** in the early afternoon, we will arrive at the [Courtyard San Diego Mission Valley](#) mid-afternoon. We will start with lunch and a short drivers meeting at [Coco's](#) restaurant at the **corner of Colorado and Michillinda in Arcadia**. We will get on the road around **1:00 pm** and travel down the I-15 to avoid the I-5 traffic bottlenecks.

If you can not start at the beginning, we can make arrangements to meet you along the way.

Benefits: Attract Attention/Show Off the Cars - Safety in Numbers/Roadside aid - Fellow Hudnuts/Conversation and Tire Kicking - 133 Mile Rolling Hudson Meet - Easy Pace - Multiple Opportunities to Join the Caravan along the Way.

All are welcome: Hudsons, Terraplanes, classics, SOB's (some other brand). If this is the first time you are making the trip, this is the way to do it. If you have been there before, this will be something new. If you cannot meet us at the starting point, we can make arrangements to pick you up along the way.

If you would like to sign up for the **Hudson Caravan to the Bay**, just email us caravan@elkay.org. Details at: http://socalhet.org/west_reg_caravan/wr_caravan.htm Be sure to print out your **Trip Guide Book** found on the website.



Mark Your Calendar

April 14-16 – **Western Region 2011 Meet**
San Diego
May 14 - **Motion Picture & Television Home**
Woodland Hills
June 25 - **Annual Picnic**
July 18-22 – **HET 2011 National Meet**
Oklahoma City, OK (See WTN)
Aug 20 - **Automobile Driving Museum**
El Segundo
Sept 16-18, 2011 – **All-California Meet**
(SCC Host)
Oct 16 - **Apple Run** with AACA
Nov 5-6 – **Laughlin Economy Run** (SCC Host)
Dec 4 - **Christmas Party**

Spring 2012 - **Western Region Meet**
(SCC Host)
July 24-28 – **HET 2012 National Meet**
Gettysburg, PA (See WTN)
<http://www.gatewaygettysburg.com/>

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 Jon a call (805/987-8187).

From the President's Garage

Have you heard the ad for BBQ charcoal, where the local guy is giving his buddy a bad time for moving back East? The punch line is "Just because its grilling time here doesn't mean its grilling time everywhere." Same holds true for our hobby – **we are fortunate** to keep our Hudson cars on the road all year if we choose, more so than our Hudson brothers back East. So now that we've had that last huge rainstorm, get your car out for an afternoon and drive over to visit another member. That way, both of you can attend the **Western Regional Meet** in your Hudsons.

Its caravan time again! Plan to travel with us in caravan to the Western Regional in San Diego. We're meeting at

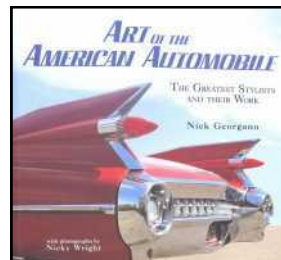
Coco's Restaurant in Arcadia at I-210 and Michillinda Ave about noon on Thursday, **April 14, for a 1 pm** departure. **Hudson's not required!!** http://socalhet.org/west_reg_caravan/wr_caravan.htm And just think of how much gas you'll save by not driving down I-5 at 85 mph! See you there!
Jon Cronk

Show off Your Car

May 14th, members of the SCC will visit the Motion Picture & Television Hospital & Home Facility in Woodland Hills. This is a chance to get the car on the road, show the folks some memories and hear some interesting stories. More details next month.

The Bookshelf

Another book suggestion that might be of interest to Hudnuts.....



"Art of the American Automobile" – This large coffee table book has a nice chapter on Frank Spring. Hard cover, 268 pages



Hudsons By the Bay

2011 Western Regional Meet
April 14th-16th San Diego



Southwestern Borders Chapter
www.hetswb.org



Registration Form

- Registration \$20.00 = _____
After March 31st \$25.00 = _____
- Deer Park Winery \$6 at the door
Automobile collection
- Cruisin' Grand Free
One of SoCal's largest cruise nights
Featured marque: Hudson
- S. D. Auto Museum \$5 at the door
Reserved parking in
Balboa Park
- Banquet _____ x \$30.00 = _____

Buffet with sliced beef tri-tip, chicken piccata with artichoke, seasonable vegetables, garden salad, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, toasted almond rice pilaf, assorted cakes and pies, coffee, tea, iced tea, no-host bar

Tax and gratuity included

Total Enclosed: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email (for confirmation and updates) _____

Make checks payable to HET-SWB.

Mail to:

Pam Stahl
1375 W. 11th Avenue
Escondido, CA 92029

Courtyard San Diego Mission Valley



595 Hotel Circle South



\$89.00 per night plus tax

Call 888-236-2427 for reservations.

Make sure and ask for the Hudson Essex Terraplane rate.

Consider staying an extra day or two. San Diego is a true vacation paradise and in-season rates at a hotel like this are never this low.

Trailer and RV parking is for registered guests only—no sleeping overnight.

Paved swap meet area.

For more information contact Jake Edmondson at
jakespeare@cox.net or (760) 489-4488

Bring the Kids!



**World-famous
San Diego Zoo**



**San Diego
Wild Animal Park**



**San Diego Natural
History Museum**



Birch Aquarium

Sea World

LEGOLAND

USS Midway Museum

CLICK...online

- **SCC Twitter** <http://twitter.com/sccudson>
- **Hudson Related Items for Sale**
<http://socalhet.org/salesroom.htm>
- **Restoration Suppliers**
<http://socalhet.org/suppliers.htm>
- **HET Store** <http://clubstore.biz>
- **HET Club** <http://hetclub.org>

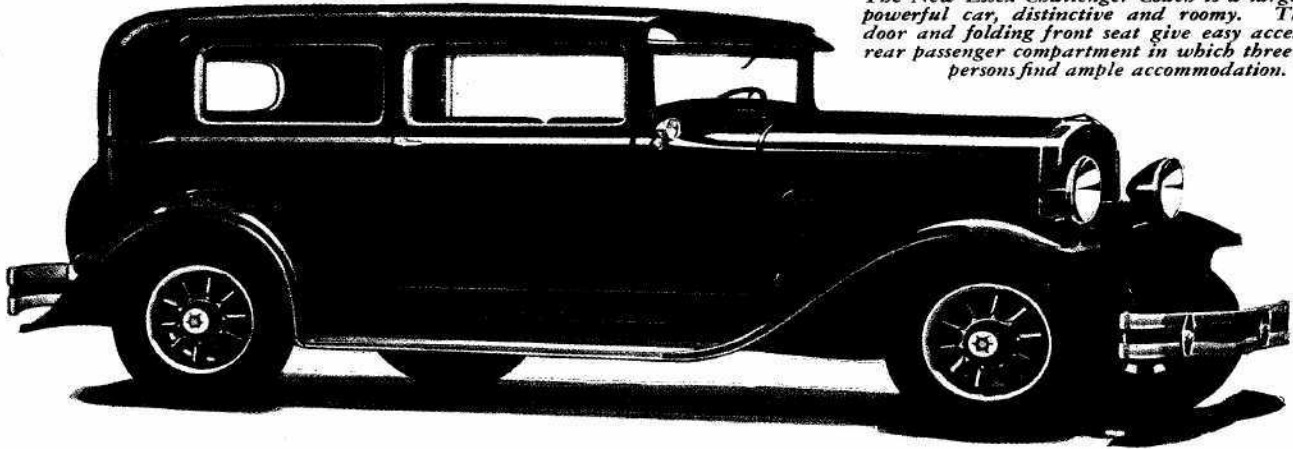
SCC Officers

President: Jon Cronk 805/987-8187
Vice Pres: Stephen Marshall 661/946-9027
Secretary: Susan Ross 626/355-8747
Treasurer: Ruth Hay 818/247-0753
Co-Tour Chair: Noah Blough 626/799-6107
Co-Tour Chair: Jack Scott 323/259-8448
Communications: Bob Ross 626/355-8747
Membership: Susan Ross 626/355-8747
Club Store Manager: Jon Cronk 805/987-8187
Region Director: Matt Royer
HET President: Aaron Cooper 515/278-5235



THE COACH

The New Essex Challenger Coach is a large, smart, powerful car, distinctive and roomy. The large door and folding front seat give easy access to the rear passenger compartment in which three full-size persons find ample accommodation.



New Essex Challenger

Impressive Appearance—Mounted on a new 113-inch chassis, with longer, wider bodies, the *New Essex Challenger* looks and is a large car; it is distinctive in looks, beautiful in every line, attractive and eye-compelling in the variety of color combinations available at no extra cost.

Up-to-Date-ness—It is tomorrow's car, here today! Not only in the general outlines, but in the detailing of fenders, hood, hub caps, body mouldings, interior fittings and decorations, the *New Essex Challenger* expresses the vogue of the hour, the ideal assembly of the mechanical, body and comfort features that owners appreciate most.

Riding Ease—Larger bodies give ample leg and elbow room. Adjustable seats, with wide and deep cushions afford veritable drawing room comfort. Splayed rear springs, oversize tires, two-way hydraulic shock absorbers and numerous other features aid the super-smooth, powerful motor in providing the utmost in easy-riding qualities. A wholly new, stancher, stronger, road-hugging, bridge-type chassis means steadiness and driving safety under all conditions. An improved front axle adds steadiness to steering at all speeds. A new type rear axle gives added strength, rigidity and permanent alignment to the gears of the final drive.

Smooth Power, Fast Speed, Superb Hill Climbing, Quick Getaway—These are among the outstanding qualities of the new, superbly-efficient

Values That Challenge

motor. Improved manifolding and a scientifically evolved cylinder head combined with high compression delivers added speed and increased usable power with astonishing fuel economy. The patented Super-Six principle, aided by an improved Manchester impulse neutralizer, insures quiet, vibrationless operation and easy handling.

Driving Conveniences—Adjustable front seats, an adjustable steering column, dual cowl ventilators, variable radiator shutters, a windshield designed for one-hand control, starter button on the dash, 3-spoke steering wheel permitting full visibility of all instruments, effortless gear shifting, easy pedal controls, together with the flexibility of engine and clutch, explain the term "relaxed driving," as applied to the *New Challenger*.

Completeness—Everything contributing to comfort, safety and economy is provided. A long list of improvements, operating and riding conveniences—more than a dozen features ranging all the way from double-acting hydraulic shock absorbers to a graduated spark guide on the distributor—make the *New Challenger* not only complete but equipped with generous regard to the owner's welfare and satisfaction.

All-Around Value—In providing wanted values as well as in offering the completeness that characterizes each of its eight different models, the *New Challenger* is apart from all competition, as the greatest all-around value offered to the public for 1930.

NOTE: Wood wheels are standard equipment on all Essex models with spare tire carrier at the rear. Wire wheels are furnished optional at extra cost as is a right front fender with tire well

Stepdown Wiper Cable

from the Orange Blossom Chapter

Having a broken or frayed wiper cable on a step down need not be an expensive complete replacement. This procedure can probably be used on any car with cable driven wiper system.

Being "money challenged" after a trip to the nationals, I went to Ace Hardware and bought a length of 1/16" cable and a piece of 1/16" hollow brass tube to use as the crimped or swaged ends. I couldn't find swages that were small enough to match the Hudson originals. The cable was only about 48 cents per foot and the tube was another dollar or so.

Removal of the assembly from the car and replacing it is the most difficult part of the process. After removing the cable ends from the motor bracket, use a 7/16 socket from under the dash to remove the one bolt that holds the wiper tower. Remove the tower from the outside by tipping it forward and pull out. You will find that the cable is actually one piece with a swage in the middle that fits into the pulley in the tower head and at both ends.

The two rivet heads holding the small guide or cover can be drilled out. Removal of the rivet head will allow the rivet to fall out. The remaining holes will accommodate a couple of 4-40 screws to reassemble. A drift or smaller tool will press the shaft out of the housing, put a little grease on the shaft when you put it back together.

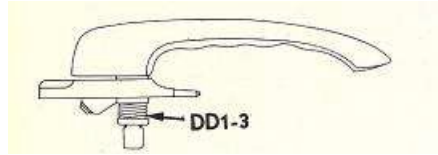
I cut short pieces of the brass tube, placed them in the proper places on the measured cable and melted solder into them, then crimped with wire crimpers. I think the cable is stainless and I doubt that the solder really makes a good bond. The crimping compresses the solder and brass to make a very solid non slip connection. The measurement must be precise, since there is little adjustment built in.

I spent about an hour rebuilding my right hand assembly and perhaps another hour taking it out and reinstalling it. To cut the cable, don't attempt to use diagonal cutters, use a sharp chisel on a hard surface such as an anvil or large vise pad. A hard hit with a heavy hammer makes a clean cut that isn't frayed. Hope this helps. *Dave Waddell*

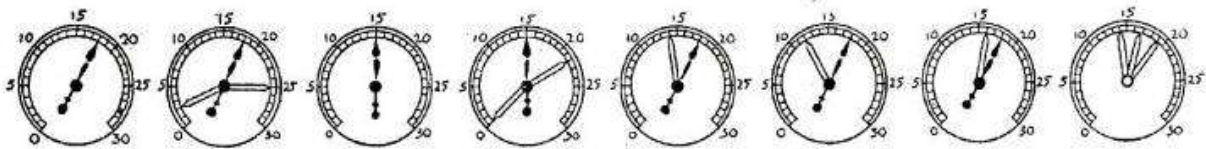


TECH TIPS from the Dixie Chapter

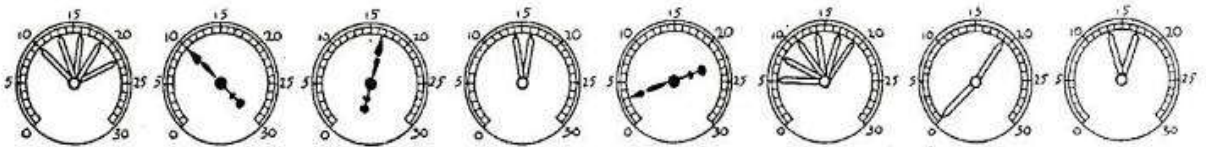
From Bob Hunt: Door handles on "40 thru "47 Hudson Commodores (and maybe earlier models also) often tend to droop. The reason for this is that the spring incorporated in the handle (visible if the handle is removed from the door) has weakened. Bob has found that a brake shoe hold-down spring is exactly the right size to act as a replacement. The ends of the spring have to be bent to engage slots in the spring retainer caps.



Vacuum Gage Readings



- No. 1. An engine in good condition should have a gage reading of 17 to 21 and hand should be steady. Also study illustrations No. 10 and 11.
- No. 2. When opening and closing the throttle quickly the gage reading on an engine in good condition should drop to 2 and come back to 25.
- No. 3. A reading lower than normal and with the hand steady indicates that rings are in poor condition.
- No. 4. To confirm a worn ring condition, open and close throttle, reading should drop to zero and come back to about 22.
- No. 5. When the hand drops occasionally from 3 to 5 points, from the normal reading, it generally indicates a sticking valve.
- No. 6. A burned valve will cause the needle to drop back several divisions each time that particular cylinder operates.
- No. 7. Leaking valves also show up on the gage by the needle dropping back 3 or 4 divisions, whenever that valve operates.
- No. 8. When needle has a fast vibration between approximately 14 and 19 it indicates loose valve guides.



- No. 9. With the engine racing, weak valve springs will cause the gage needle to swing back and forth. The faster the engine speed the greater the swing.
- No. 10. When gage needle is steady at about 8 to 14 it generally indicates incorrect valve timing. See also illustrations 3, 4 and 11.
- No. 11. A reading of 13 to 16 generally indicates incorrect ignition timing. See also illustrations 3, 4 and 10.
- No. 12. When needle drifts slowly between 14 and 18 it generally indicates that plug gaps are too close, or breaker points are not properly synchronized.
- No. 13. A steady reading below 5 indicates a leaky manifold gasket or carburetor gasket. Also check heat riser.
- No. 14. When hand drifts regularly between 5 and 19 it is generally caused by a compression leak between cylinders.
- No. 15. A choked muffler or clogged exhaust system will result in a normal reading when the engine is started, but reading will soon drop to zero.
- No. 16. Poor adjustment of the carburetor will cause the needle to float slowly between 12 and 16. See also illustration 12.



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

Email Issue Only

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