



Crest & Wings

Newsletter of the
Southern California
Region



MARCH 2008

2008 LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CAR SHOW

The well-manicured lawn was sprinkled with fresh morning dew and the sky was as blue as **John Altamura's** 1958 Eldorado convertible. It was a magnificent day at the Country Club—a warm winter Sunday morning in February that felt more like May!



The prestigious grounds were adorned with some of General Motors' finest. With one of the largest attendance records in the history of this event, there were more than 60 cars on display. Collectibles spanning from the 1930s with **Aaron Weiss's** stunning V-16 Cadillac to the 1990s with **Frank Brannen's** 6-door limousine.

Members embraced, sipped coffee, strolled, chatted and generally shared news and gossip of the intervening period prior to this year's first event.





Lunch was served in the club ballroom at noon and, as usual, the buffet was filled with an abundance of fine foods that were obviously enjoyed by all -- as evidenced by the emptied casseroles.



Dave Thomas

Actor/comedienne **Dave Thomas** graciously served as our guest

speaker and entertained the crowd with his hysterically funny story of searching for the original owner of his own gorgeous 1958 Cadillac Series 62 coupe. As I too often wonder who first owned my now prized possessions, I could readily relate to and appreciate his story.



Dave's '58

Tom Musson was presented with a special award for his many tireless years of hard work and dedication serving as the club's director among other positions over the years. The beautiful custom award featured the storied goddess hood ornament found on first place trophies presented at CLC Grand Nationals. There is no more fitting tribute given Tom's execution of the 2006 Grand National. We hope Tom will proudly display this acknowledgement for years to come.

The staff at Lakewood was asked to review our sixty classics in attendance and pick three favorites, spreading the award among the various decades represented. The winners were: **Gary Severns'** 1934 Cadillac 335 four-door convertible; **Michael Porto's** 1956 Series 62 coupe; and, **Garth Higgins'** 1987 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham!



Rob, Tom, and the goddess



Coffee was served and the program came to a reluctant close. Members lingered and mingled a little while longer among the steel beauties that brought us all together.

It's always hard to leave and say goodbye after one of these exhilarating occasions, but as I drove away following Rob and Linda in their 1964 Sedan, I was excited thinking about Lakewood 2009. I hope to see you all next year!

Sheri Roberts



2008 Coming Events!

Sunday, April 13—El Segundo Driving Museum and Pizza Lunch. Bring the family as everyone gets a ride in a vintage automobile. Flyer in this issue!

Sunday, May 4—Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve and Red Rock Canyon Driving Tour and lunch. Test your Cadillac's roadworthiness prior to the National Driving Tour. Flyer in this issue!

Sunday-Friday, June 1-7 California Gold Country National Driving Tour hosted by the Northern California Region. Space is limited so sign-up now! Details and registration materials at www.cadillaclasalleclub.com

Sunday, June 8—All GM Meet at Woodley Park

July—SoCal Regional National in Long Beach by the aquarium and the Pike. Exact date TBD.

August 12-16 Grand National in Cherry Hill, NJ

September 21 San Diego Regional National at Embarcadero Marina Park North on the water and adjacent to downtown San Diego and Seaport Village

October 3-5 or 10-12 North-South Meet, TBD

November 9 Penske Cadillac Show featuring the 1959s

February 8, 2009 Lakewood Country Club Show and Luncheon

June 17-20, 2009 Grand National in Las Vegas NV featuring the first ever all indoor show field!

The Unique Cadillac Club is a socially oriented club that brings together Cadillac enthusiasts to encourage the preservation, restoration, and enjoyment of these beautiful vehicles. The club features Cadillac Automobiles from 1902 through 1979. **They meet the second Wednesday of the month.** The next meetings are on **April 9 & May 14** from 6 to 9 p.m. at Ricky & Ronnie's in Torrance, CA. New enthusiasts are welcome. For additional information contact Kevin at 213-309-9225, Calvin at 310-213-9413, or Tony at 213-703-3291.

Go to www.caditalk.com for up to the minute SoCal Cadillac & LaSalle event info. For all make and model events and other collector car info throughout Southern California see: www.socalcarrculture.com.



Letter to the Editor

On the way home from Lakewood yesterday I had two “V-8 moments”. The first was “Oh, sh*t, I should be on the entrance ramp for I-405 S instead of I-405 N”. The second was that after lunch NOT EVERYONE received recognition for their contributions. One person who didn’t get their props (for old timers that’s “proper recognition/respect/kudos/accolades”) was **Rob Leonard!** Our Director gave props to everyone but did not get his. We fully appreciate what Rob does!

Without strong leadership we know what can happen to a club. Rob’s guidance and forethought are what is keeping the SoCal CLC region so successful. The Board members do their fine work, in part, due to their respect for Rob. I imagine that no one spends more time on behalf of the club than Rob. Obvious evidence was yesterday’s record turnout for the show, nice job all! I have it on good authority that Rob was even responsible for the glorious weather we enjoyed. Rob did a terrific job as emcee yesterday too, and the presentations and the whole show went off without a hitch. Rob’s leadership skills are quite evident.

In addition to being our President he is also the Editor of the Crest & Wings. The club position as Editor is either first or the second most important position in a club since it keeps us all together and informed. So, Rob is doing the two most important jobs in the club – wow! The results of his Editor skills and hard work are clear to anyone who enjoys our fine newsletter. Rob serves (key word “serves”) our club, and all of us, as a volunteer and we are all lucky beneficiaries.

Props to you Rob! Thanks for all your time and great work! You are the “Cadillac of Club Presidents”. Sincerely,

Jim Strickland

Director’s Message—The “Rob Report”

Dear Southern California Cadillac & LaSalle Enthusiasts –

Our Lakewood event in February was a huge success—the best in many years I was told by several attendees. Everything was in our favor—great weather, a great speaker - thank you **Dave Thomas** - and a great turnout of members, their families, and their cars. Thanks to **Gary Falasco** for putting this great event together. If you missed it, you missed one that will long be remembered!

This club, along with everything else, is becoming more and more dependant on email. If you do not have email and are considering getting it, I highly encourage you to do so. If you do not have email but have someone close to you that does, please provide us with that email address. We send out occasional email announcements and reminders—not a lot and no ads or spam. In the past 6 months we added two events on short notice, meaning that the only way the membership could be contacted was via email. Don’t miss out on these opportunities!

We have received renewals from about 3/4 of the club’s membership, which leaves out about 50 members! We don’t want to lose you. If you haven’t gotten around to it yet, please get your renewal to us ASAP so that you will continue to receive your Crest & Wings and attend SoCal events.

See you all at the El Segundo Driving Museum!

Rob Leonard



Member Profile—Frank Brannen

Knowing that I was interested in an unusual Cadillac, my friend Robert Robin found a 1992 custom 6-door Cadillac Fleetwood that needed some restoration. I was very excited to see the car, purchased new by a Tennessee funeral home.



The motor and transmission were sound and only in need of a tune-up, normal service, and brakes. I restored the interior deficiencies and added a new vinyl top and all badges after repainting it the original black. As a 9-passenger car, it has factory oversized wheels and brakes. Everything is operational including cold air conditioning.

At gas stations someone always approaches me about the car, often with requests for chauffeur driven rentals. Easy to drive and smooth on the road, the Cadillac saw its first North-South meet in San Luis Obispo without skipping a beat. The Cadillac and I are looking forward to many more events with the CLC!

Frank Brannen

Looking for a Car Cover?

Car covers come in several quality levels and from many sources. Several car covers purchasing options are below:

- Costco has high quality covers—those with 3 year warranties— for about \$33. This is your best value, but the largest cover they sell, labeled “XL”, only fits cars up to 17’ in length, which leaves out most of the cars we own. Many Cadillacs built after 1984, particularly the Allante, Eldorado, and Seville are small enough for these covers.
- Your local parts store has covers of both low and high quality. The former start at about \$25; the latter about \$80. If your ride has a fine finish, look for the type with the soft inner lining at the top of the price range that are about \$120.
- Groits Garage (www.groitsgarage.com or 800-345-5789) offers covers in the \$180 to \$350 range, with many choices in color and fabric.
- California Cover (www.calcarcover.com or 800-423-5525) offers different fabric combinations and CUSTOM FIT TO YEAR MAKE AND MODEL OF YOUR CAR in the \$135 to \$700 price range.
- Berry Eaton in Georgetown, Texas (512-869-5114) says he has eleven materials that come in several colors. He advertises in the Self Starter.



Alan Orland



Member Profile—Bruce Hyatt

By Dick Schmidt

In the early part of last century, during World War I, one of our most senior members began his eventful life. Bruce Hyatt was born in Camden, New Jersey, one of three children. His father, Thomas, was based on a Navy Destroyer in the Atlantic; his mother, Elizabeth, was from Philadelphia. Bruce tragically lost his mother and his brother early in life, in a bus and train accident.

The Hyatts moved to California in the early 1930's; Bruce and his sister were raised by their father in San Pedro and Long Beach. Upon graduation from high school, Bruce became interested in geology. His father owned a mine in the Trona Panamint area of California. Bruce was hired by Trona Instruments to test measuring equipment, and worked closely with professional engineers.

Bruce recalled a road trip in a hot rodded 1930 Chevy (yes, there were hot rodders then)! The fuel pump, unfamiliar to Bruce at the time, went out in a remote area, of course. He and the driver removed the gas tank and placed it over the winged hood, above the engine. It was hooked up with a feeder line, for gravity gas flow, and they drove home! Alright guys!

Bruce went on to graduate from Long Beach City College, in Civil Engineering. Soon the winds of war moved Bruce to join the Naval Reserve. He completed shipboard training, attended mid-shipman school, working toward a commission. Bruce's path to the Naval Academy in Annapolis was altered to Northwestern University, while he completed another commitment with ship building and ship launching processes for Bethlehem Steel on Treasure Island, in San Francisco.

Bruce's naval training and university education positioned him in the Pacific, in World War II. He served as a Lieutenant aboard a mine sweeper through 1945. He was promoted to lieutenant commander, on his voyage home with the 5th Fleet, which was commanded by Admiral Bull Halsey.

Bruce returned to Naval Service, in Korea, in early 1951. He dutifully commanded three mine sweepers; two were heavily struck and sunk in Korean waters. He was subsequently called upon to train the officers and crew of future mine sweepers at Mare Island.

Bruce first met the girl who would become his wife, Eileen, at a social dance in Belmont Shores, California, prior to World War II. They married on February 5, 1946, after he returned home from that war. They eventually became a family of four with son Michael and daughter Katheryn.



Hank Feldman

performance plus
TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE SUPERSTORE

hfeldman@performanceplustire.com
3910 Cherry Ave • Long Beach • CA 90807

Ph. 562-988-0211
Fax 562-988-0321



COLLECTOR'S AUTO STORAGE

Concours Ambiance
Controlled Environment
Classic Car Services

S-F LLC
Long Beach, CA.

Tel. (562)434-0041
collectorsautostorage.com



Their family later moved to central Texas, where Quarter Horse ownership and horsemanship became a part of their lives. The family returned to the Lynn Ranch area of Thousand Oaks, California, in the Fall of 1965. Bruce pleasantly recalls Eileen's many talents, including her performances as a singer and her accomplishments playing piano. Both Bruce and Eileen were avid art collectors, which is another interest they both thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated.


Perhaps it was only fitting that the horse power and artistic interests would lead to acquiring many "Standard of the World" Cadillacs? When asked about his first interest in Cadillacs, Bruce expressed, "I always was interested in cars". He became a Cadillac LaSalle Club member in 1972! He initially acquired a 1941 Cadillac 60 Special.....with bullet holes in the door. He did not know how they got there, so we are left to creatively imagine that story!

He recalled owning, then selling, three different 1941 60 Specials; then buying all three AGAIN!

Although 1941 may have been Bruce's favorite Cadillac year, he also enjoyed ownership of a 1953 Coupe DeVille and convertible, a 1965 DeVille convertible, and a 1967 DeVille convertible for Eileen. Yes, Eileen enjoyed the Cadillacs also, and participated with Bruce at many of our meets. One of Bruce's recent prides in Cadillac ownership was his black 1941 four door convertible. His convertible won numerous awards as a rare "100 point" automobile!

Bruce's experience and knowledge of automobiles, especially Cadillacs, is truly impressive; he has always shared his knowledge willingly, as well as the many sought after parts in his collection.

We stand and salute you, Bruce, and thank you for your knowledge, participation, and sharing in all aspects of your life, and for all you have given to us and your Cadillac LaSalle Club!



FENDER COVERS

CLC fender covers provide maximum protection for the extra-long fenders on your Pride & Joy. Under the printed vinyl top layer is an integral rubber-type underlayment of extra-thick padding for superior cushioning. A built-in longitudinal tool tray is formed by standing seams. Edges are trimmed with a soft heavy duty black welting and stitched in white. 42 inches long by 26 inches wide.

\$30; two for \$50 postpaid

Please specify red or dark blue and make your check payable to SoCal CLC. Satisfaction 100 percent guaranteed. Please mail your check along with your name, address and phone number to:

Linda Leonard
5016 W 131st St.
Hawthorne CA 90250

OLD CARS, NEW SM MOTOR OIL – What’s the SOLUTION?

There’s been quite a bit of discussion surrounding the reduction of ZDDP (zinc dialkyl dithiophosphate) in new motor oils which are rated SM. The internet is rife with articles on this subject, and our own Carl Steig wrote an article on *The New Oils – A Severe Problem for Older Cars* for the September 2007 edition of *The Self-Starter*. Suffice it to say that use of the newer SM rated oils in pre-1989 cars is potentially harmful, even more so in 1936-48 Cadillac V-8’s.

According to Carl’s article, it is preferable to use older oils with API (American Petroleum Institute) ratings SH, SJ OR SL (in decreasing order of preference). That is... as long as you can find them. Back before 1988, normal amounts of ZDDP could be found in our domestic oils. The API grade “SG” oils contained in excess of 0.12% ZDDP by weight. The API grade of oil prior to this was “SF” and had ZDDP concentrations in excess of 0.15%.

CATEGORY	STATUS	SPECIFICATIONS
SM	Current	For all current vehicle engines
SL	Current	For engines 2004 and older
SJ	Current	For engines 2001 and older
SH	Discontinued	For engines 1996 and older
SG	Discontinued	For engines 1993 and older
SF	Discontinued	For engines 1988 and older
SE	Discontinued	Not for gasoline-powered vehicles engines made after 1979
SD	Discontinued	Not for gasoline-powered vehicles engines made after 1971

In recent years, the EPA required new car manufacturers to guarantee catalytic converters for over 100,000 miles. The use of the additive ZDDP would reduce the effective life of the catalytic converters, and would most likely void new car warranties -- hence the necessary reduction in ZDDP. Further justification for the reduction is that newer cars with roller rocker assemblies do not need ZDDP in the motor oil for protection. As can be seen from the chart, the oils containing higher amounts of ZDDP have been discontinued. The automobile industry and the motor oil manufacturers are now going to the API service category SM which has 600 - 800 PPM (Parts-Per-Million) of ZDDP. Typically this is the only category motor oil that can be found on retail shelves today.

The Crest & Wings Needs You!

This newsletter is still without a permanent editor. There are just six issues a year and the printer/ mailing house does all the grunt work so you only do the creative work. Once the newsletter is designed and laid out on your computer, you simply send it to them and they take care of the printing, assembling, stuffing in envelopes, addressing, stamping, and mailing to our membership. The club will purchase the Microsoft Publisher software for you and I will ease you into the job, providing as much guidance as you desire.

If interested, please call or email **Rob Leonard**, 310-679-2803 or rl@caditalk.com.

For more than 20 years, it was possible to buy an additive called EOS from General Motors in a 16-ounce bottle. Although EOS contained a reasonable amount of the ZDDP molecule, the product was withdrawn from the market in the second quarter of 2007.

For owners of cars with older engines, we are aware of three methods of resolving this problem:

1. The easiest and least expensive approach is to add STP Oil Treatment (in the blue bottle) at every oil change. STP is available at all auto parts stores for about \$2.49 for a 15oz. container. While it contains substantial amounts of ZDDP, it is not clear that the concentration is sufficient for pre-1949 flathead engines. Do not use more than one bottle of STP when changing the oil, and do not add this product between oil changes if it was added at your last oil change. One bottle replaces 1/2 quart of motor oil.

2. Use ZDDPlus, which comes in a four ounce bottle costing about \$9.95. Each bottle contains 2.2 ounces of ZDDP and 1.8 ounces of regular motor oil. This concentration of ZDDPlus in the 4-ounce bottle will properly treat any four or five quart oil capacity providing the engine protection you need. This makes it match what was originally in the motor oil available in 1988 (SF category). For more information, visit www.zddplus.com or email zddplus@kirbanperformance.com.

3. Find a source of oil with the most favorable grade for your engine. One such oil is Classic Car Motor Oil, now available from the Indiana Region of the Classic Car Club of America. It has been designed to meet the unique demands of vintage, restored, and classic automobile engines. It contains preservatives to keep oil on the engine component even when the car is stored and not run frequently. It has high ZDDP levels to protect valve train components – approximately 1600 PPM zinc as ZDDP. The high grade viscosity modifiers do not degrade significantly with time or temperature. Classic Car Motor Oil is a 15 W-40 multi-grade and is sold by the case (12 quarts) at a cost of \$42 + \$7 shipping and handling (there is an additional cost for shipments to states west of Colorado). It can only be ordered through the Indiana Region CCCA from www.classiccarmotoroil.com or by phone: (317) 225-0040.

Editors note: Several CLC members contributed to this article, with the bulk of the information provided by Charles Thompson of the Northern California Region



2002 marked the 100th Anniversary of Cadillac. Commemorative pin sets showing the marquee's progression of Crest and Wings designs over the years were produced. A limited number of these collectible pin sets are still available for \$40 each. To order, send your check—with "Pin Set" written in the lower left corner—to:

SoCal CLC
5016 W 131st St
Hawthorne, CA 90250

KES Mail
It's In The Mail With KES

310.970.8041
Fax: 310.970.8046
Info@KESMail.com
www.KESMail.com

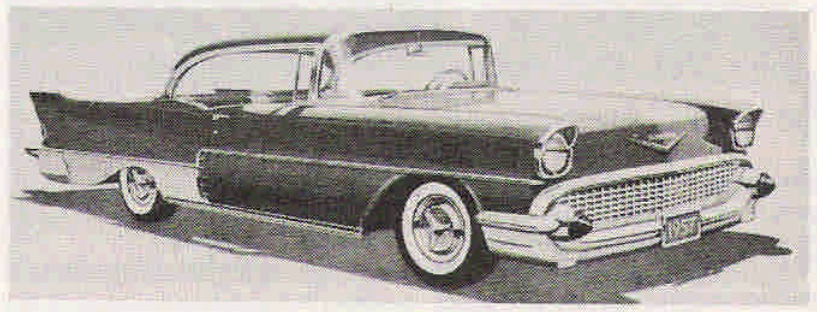
Steven A. Krizek

KES Mail, Inc.
12616 Chadron Avenue
Hawthorne, CA 90250-4810

The obscure car from last time is a...

1957 Chevrolet El Morocco —The first SoCal CLC member to identify the El Morocco was **Woody Lewis**, followed just three hours later by **Gordon Collins**. Woody received a SoCal T-shirt for his prompt answer. Other SoCal CLC members that properly identified the El Morocco were **Arnold Albert** and **Peter Luft**.

The El Morocco was manufactured in 1956 and 1957 only, with 27 built the first year and 10 the second. The El Morocco was offered in a convertible, 2-door hardtop, or 4-door hardtop. It was said to be an affordable Eldorado Brougham look-a-like. Imitation is the most sincere form of flattery!



It is believed that the El Morocco experiment at Chevrolet was the first time the make allowed an outside contractor to make modifications on product that was sold at Chevrolet Dealerships with full factory warranties. Modifications were performed by Ruben Allender in Detroit.

The example from Jay Leno's Garage is shown at the right. The best display in the country is said to be in the Dick Clark Museum in Branson MO, with three examples. Thanks everyone for participating!



Obscure Cars of Yesteryear

So—What is it? The first member that correctly identifies the **year, make and model** of this car wins a free SoCal CLC t-shirt! Submit your guess via phone message or email at 310-679-2803 or rl@caditalk.com.



NEXT EVENT—AUTOMOBILE DRIVING MUSEUM IN EL SEGUNDO

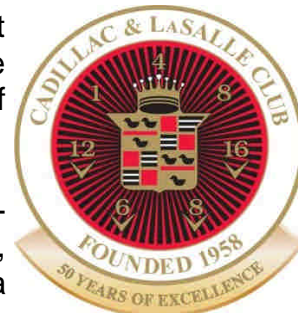


www.automobiledrivingmuseum.org

over the age of ten will have the privilege of being a passenger in one of these docent-driven rides.

The museum features an eclectic gift shop where you can browse and purchase favorite souvenirs. Parking is free to all guests. Mark your calendars, send in your registration form, and join us for an exciting day (including a pizza lunch) admiring these well preserved classic automobiles.

The SoCal CLC is excited to present a new event. On April 13 we will visit and enjoy the Automobile Driving Museum in El Segundo. The sprawling 28,000 square foot facility opened last year has over seventy cars of many makes and models dating back to 1904. What makes this museum unusual is that every day a few featured automobiles are available for visitors to sit in and experience just what it was like to ride in them. Anyone



Sheri Roberts

Board of Directors Contact Information

Rob Leonard (Linda)
Director

5016 W 131st St.
Hawthorne, CA 90250
310-679-2803
leonardfamily@sbcglobal.net

Julian Cangelosi (Mary)
Membership/Finace

14401 Galy St.
Tustin, CA 92780
714-832-9832
marymft@dslextreme.com

Craig Chally
Events Coordinator

1644 Meadowglen Ct.
Newbury Park, CA 91320
805-498-1544
cmchally@prodigy.net

Gary Falasco (Gay)
Treasurer/Field Marshall

135 West Palm Ave.
Monrovia, CA 91016
626-357-3683
gfa-lasco@costellobrothers.com

Dan Fisher (Kitty)
Recording Secretary

1149 Via Antibes
Redlands, CA 92374
909-794-0427
danfisherinc@verizon.net

Gary Friedman (Kelly)
Webmaster

P.O. Box 2398
Covina, CA 91722
webmaster@caditalk.com

Calvin Jones (Beverly)
Deputy Director/Historian

1526 Centinella Ave.
Inglewood, CA 90302
323-293-4939
calvinjones53@hotmail.com

Linda Leonard (Rob)
Merchandise Manager

Bill Montalvo (Martha)
Chief Judge
6046 St. Augustine Dr.
Riverside, CA 92506
951-781-6498
billmontalvo@sbcglobal.net

Sheri Roberts (Glenn)
Associate Editor—C&W

6861 Mammoth Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91405
818-781-7611
shearbear66@aol.com

Fred Bausch (Penny)
Western Regional VP

806 El Camino
San Carlos, CA 94070
650-592-9159
freds29lasalle@covad.net

CLASSIFIEDS Cadillacs For Sale

1940 LaSalle Series 52 Coupe—Nice driver, new correct interior, solid rust free, converted to 12 volts. Must make room for new car project. \$22,500 Penn Lenson (951) 302-2212

1985 Cadillac Seville—Good running condition, clean body, good paint, 126,200 original miles. More info/photos at www.caditalk.com Asking \$6,400 Jack Clinch (949) 458-7347 or jbclinch@fea.net

Wanted: 1970 Cadillac Series 75 Sedan, #2 or #3 condition—Rob Leonard (310) 679-2803

Random Lakewood Statistics

- 3 V16 Cadillacs
- 3 1941 Cadillacs
- 2 1958 Eldorado Biarritz
- 5 1960 Cadillacs
- 3 1961 Cadillacs
- 3 1964 Cadillac Devilles
- 2 Later model Cadillac Limousines
- 1 Allante'; 1 LaSalle.

DMV Offers Automobile Enthusiasts More Time for Their Hobby

New website allows customers to avoid long lines and save time

Just bought the car of your dreams and can't wait to put that clever combination you came up with on some personalized plates? Do you need to renew your vehicle's registration but can't tear yourself away from your garage because you're too busy getting that great "new" oldy ready for the next car show? Or, do you just simply hate the thought of standing in long, slow-moving lines every single time you go to the DMV? Well, you no longer have to worry. The DMV now offers all of these services on the Internet so you can spend more time tinkering instead of toiling. By visiting www.DMV.ca.gov, you can take care of just about any DMV-related business from the convenience of your own home or office, 24 hours a day, seven days a week – for FREE!

Not only is the DMV website safe and secure, it greatly reduces your need to visit the DMV in person. The website enables you to complete many transactions including renewing your registration, submitting your Notice of Transfer of Release of Liability or ordering special interest and personalized license plates. The website also supplies you with the extra tools that can be used to complete simple transactions, like offering a handy car registration fee calculator to help you save for that new addition, or the ability to check to see if your desired personal license plate combination is already owned by someone else. In addition, the website has a wealth of driving-related information like the California Driver Handbook and the Car Buyer's Bill of Rights that you can download in an instant, helping you keep your car, and your family safe while on the roads!

For those things that absolutely require you to make a trip into the DMV, make the process easier by scheduling your appointment online for a time that is convenient for you. You can save even more time by heading to your nearest computer and downloading the necessary forms in advance, all with the click of a mouse.

The possibilities and conveniences that the DMV's new website offers you are endless. Why bother with the hassle of having to schedule your day around the DMV's hours of operation? Take care of your DMV-related business online, on your own time at www.DMV.ca.gov. It's fast, easy, convenient and secure. Save time, go online and spend your free time cruising the open roads in that great car of yours. You'll be glad you did.



Beautiful cars on a beautiful day at the Lakewood Country Club