



Chapter #40

October 2025

DRIVE LINES



CAR OF THE MONTH

1939 Ford Deluxe Convertible Coupe

Owner: John Fredricks



Hello Valley V-8's Club members —

Greetings, and welcome to another Drive Lines Newsletter. Last month, we had our Club annual barbecue at the home of Vic and Andrea Timar. Man, they know how to throw a party for sure! A covered backyard patio with plenty of room, cooling fans, amazing! And the barbecue was fabulous. Thanks to all who brought goodies, and thanks to Vic and Andrea for hosting. You're the best!

Our next Club Meeting -- Saturday October 25: Please note the day change: our monthly Club Meetings are now **the 4th Saturday** of the month vs. the 2nd Saturday: make a note on your calendars.

Fund-raiser Auction: our next Meeting, Saturday October 25, is all-important. It's our annual Club fund-raiser, Auction-style. Some examples of items you can bring in for auction: parts for old Fords and other vintage vehicles, old-car paraphernalia, books, magazines, related crafts and gift-items, etc., just to give some ideas. And all who are handy in the kitchen, sweets, candies, baked goods, etc. are very welcome. Likely we have many sweet-tooth's in our Group, right? This Event is a lot of fun, and we really appreciate your support which is dedicated to keeping our Club financially sound. So, thank you ahead of time for your generosity.

Board Member nominations: It's that time of year: We're seeking people to help guide our Club and keep us successful and doing what we do best: support our Club camaraderie and the early Ford lifestyle. So, if you'd like to participate on our Club Board or if you know someone in the Club that would, please give me a call and let's discuss. My cell number is shown below. Thanks for considering how you or another person can assist in helping us stay successful!

Long live our early Fords and our lifestyle, cheers to that. And see you all at our next Meeting.

-Rex J.

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The Valley V8's

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It's Election Time

Our Board Members play an integral role in keeping our Valley V8's Club alive and well. From leading the meetings, to planning events, to managing the cash and membership, those on the team help give us a place to not just talk cars, but to build long lasting friendships. If you would like to be a part of this team, please contact Rex Jaramillo at (213)706-3854 and he can fill you in and answer any questions you might have.

Car of the Month

1939 Ford Deluxe Convertible Coupe

I've owned this car for about 15 years. I had been wanting one and found one in Hemmings. It was located in Maryland. I really loved that it was a ragtop. But I was especially interested in owning a 1939 for the things that were the last year and the things that were the first time. For example, 1939 was the last year for the rumble seat, the floor shift, the light switch located on the horn, and the separate headlight lenses and reflectors. It was the first year for the hot water heater that tapped into the engine's cooling system to provide cabin heat. It was also the first year for hydraulic brakes. Despite Henry Ford's insistence that mechanical brakes were superior ("safety of steel from pedal to wheel") he eventually agreed to switch in 1939.

*John Fredrick
(transcribed by Val Ellerbrock)*



John Fredrick's 1939 Ford Deluxe Convertible Coupe





Valley VS's Annual Club Auction

Saturday October 25

Saturday November 22

Bring your new and gently used items to sell.

Car parts, books, baked goods, and other items.

Funds received from the auction benefit the club throughout the year, especially the yearly Summer BBQ and December Holiday Brunch.

So please be generous.



Valley V8's Annual Summer BBQ September 20, 2025



Valley V8's Annual Summer BBQ September 20, 2025



Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty

October 2025

Fosters Old Fashioned Freeze



Credits:

'Made in California: The California -Born Burger Joints, Diners Fast Food and Restaurants That Changed America'
Numerous citations of internet research

Valley V8's

Roadside Americana

By Scotty

Since we all drive vintage V8 Fords (and other classic makes) that were once familiar with the Sunday drive, road trips, unique simple eateries, Drive-Ins, Motels and eclectic roadside architecture, I thought I'd highlight some of those memories with a "once a month" bit of nostalgic trivia in our newsletter for 2025.

This is a continuation of that fun and simple era of "Roadside Americana" that we all had the privilege of growing up in; and sadly, which has long passed away

It was after WWII in 1946 when George Foster was looking for the perfect business opportunity to expand Dairy Queen into California as a franchise.

(Interesting side-anecdote: John McCullough and his son had invented soft-serve ice cream in 1938 and partnered with Sherb Noble in June 1940 to open the first Dairy Queen in Joliet, Illinois in June of 1940)

However, the dairy industry had recently passed a ruling that Fosters "Ice cream type product" did not contain enough butterfat to qualify as dairy. So, Geroge skirted this issue by calling his new venture "Fosters old fashioned freeze" (soft serve ice milk).

The first location was opened at 999 So. LaBrea in Inglewood, CA on November 18, 1946. It is still in full operation today!

The architecture has always been of the mid-century style with a slightly slanted roof, blue and white paint scheme and walk-up window. "Lil Frosty" - an ice cream cone caricature has served as the the mascot through the years.

Credits:

'Made in California: The California -Born Burger Joints, Diners Fast Food and Restaurants That Changed America'
Numerous citations of internet research

Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty



By 1949 there were 135 franchised locations which quickly jumped to 360 locations by 1951!

Many of the franchises added hamburgers, fries, and other fast food items alongside the standard soft serve treats of cones, shakes, malts and sundaes.

Most of the locations were strategically located near high schools or college campuses (we had one right across the street from my Ventura High School). In fact there was a Fosters Freeze located mere blocks away from the Beach Boys home in Hawthorne, Ca. Thus, that Fosters was forever memorialized in

Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty

the lyrics of "Fun, Fun, Fun" as... "she cruised through the hamburger stand now".

By 1951 George Foster sold off the business for \$1 million, eventually running the restaurants at Marineland of the Pacific in Palos Verdes.

Fosters Old Fashioned Freeze went through several ownerships and the name changed to just "Fosters" in the mid-80s.

Many of the original "Fosters Old Fashioned Freeze" mid-century buildings have been replaced by condos and strip malls (much like every other historic or classic building). As of 2020, only 67 locations are in operation.

For a real nostalgic treat, either visit the original 1946 Inglewood location or the location in downtown Torrance (it only serves ice cream desserts).

Credits: 'Made in California: The California -Born Burger Joints, Diners Fast Food and Restaurants That Changed America' Numerous citations of internet research

From: Jackson Diana <jacksondiana911@gmail.com>

Date: September 25, 2025 at 7:13:38 AM PDT

Subject: 2026 Eastern National Meet

Hello,

We are pleased to present the Early Ford V8 Club 2026 Eastern National Meet hosted by the Garden State Region #38!

The Meet will take place in Princeton, NJ, September 20 – September 24, 2026! The last New Jersey National Meet was held way back in 1972 in North Brunswick. We are happy to host the first NJ meet this century!

In addition to being the home of Princeton University, Princeton is known for its many historic attractions. Our host hotel is a beautiful venue nestled on 370 acres of property.

Preparations are being made now and with the help and assistance of the Early Ford V8 Club, we feel confident in saying that you can look forward to an exciting and fun filled week.

For planning purposes, we'd like to get an idea on how many cars from your region would be interested in attending. Please mention it at your October meeting and let us know by November 1st.

Mark your calendars for September, 2026 and make plans to attend!

JACK DIANA
PRESIDENT
EARLY FORD V8 CLUB
GARDEN STATE REGION #38

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Valley V8 Birthdays

October	5	Kim Ofria
October	11	Dave Bergman
October	15	Richard Mottern
October	24	Lesley Littner
October	25	Al Mooney
October	29	Ann Marie Batesole



**Our next meeting will be on Saturday
October 25th at Lulu's Restaurant
16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Meeting starts at 10:00 AM
Come early and enjoy breakfast before**