



Chapter #40

December 2025

DRIVE LINES



1934 Standard Fordor Sedan

Happy Holidays!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: from Rex Jaramillo



Hello Valley V-8's Club Members —

Greetings, and welcome to the last Drive Lines Newsletter of 2025. And what a year it was: In addition to all the good things that we were blessed with, there was the 'other' side, including devastating fires which affected a few of our members and friends, some in the worst ways: losing homes and old Fords. However, with the help of positive thoughts, prayer, and assisting each other, we're slowly getting through it.

The Holiday Party last Sunday was a hit! It was a beautiful weather day in So Cal, good food, good hanging out together, what more could we ask! A big thanks to all of you who helped set up: A special thanks to Steve Boskovitch for coordinating our fantastic gift-raffle, including the fabulous gift selections, amazing! And finally, thank you, Bill Greene, for spearheading the whole Event: you did a most excellent job!

Next Club Meeting: Saturday January 24, the 4th Saturday of the month: Same time and place: 9 am, Lulu's Restaurant in Van Nuys. This promises to be an excellent meeting. We'll have a continuation of our 'Tech-Talk' on tires and other interesting topics and discussions: never a dull moment for sure: See you there!

Suggestions? Please email or call me or one of the Board members if you have ideas for making our Club even better: We value your input.

-Rex J.
rexjaramillo@gmail.com
(213)706-3854

The Valley V8's

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It's Valley V8's Membership Renewal Time

In this issue you will find the form for annual membership renewal due by December 31. See the form for details regarding enrollment for our local club and National Club Membership. To be included in the 2026 Roster, your membership renewal fee must be received no later than January 31. See contact info on the form if you have any questions.



The Valley V8's Membership Application & Renewal Form

SAN FERNANDO
VALLEY V8's
CHAPTER 40
www.ValleyV8s.org
Https://www.facebook.com/groups/
579123315803014

To renew your membership or join our club, please fill out this form and follow the instructions for submittal at the bottom.

Name _____ Birthday (Month and day) _____

Name _____ Birthday (Month and day) _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

Email _____ Occupation _____

Year joined Valley V8's _____

Early Ford V8 Vehicles Owned:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Style</u>

To complete your registration please send your membership fee of \$35.00 payable to "Valley V8's" and mail to: Valley V8s C/O Joan Sapper, 2948 Mary St. La Crescenta, CA 91214.

NOTE: To meet our club insurance requirements, all Regional Group members must also be a member of the Early Ford V8 Club of America. Information can be found at www.earlyV8club.org.

If you have any questions, please call Howard Brown (818)606-0267 or email brngarage@gmail.com

SFV V8 Minutes - November 21, 2025

Meeting was opened at 10:00 am by President Rex Jaramillo with the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no guests to introduce, but our newest members, David and Laurel Seaver were introduced. David owns a Model A and is eager to tell our club about it.

A memorial service for member Jerry Jensen was last week. His close friend Larry Caplan gave eulogy in his remembrance. The Jensen family appreciated the sentiment expressed by our club.

Ernie's Tours-He apologized that the Calico Ghost Town was cancelled due to the weather. However, he went on to tell us that next year the National Club will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the famous Route 66! Their major event will be the complete tour of the route. There will be many segments along the way for locals to be a part of. Ernie hopes to plan ways that we can participate. Ernie also took a few minutes to acknowledge members with November birthdays.

Coming up soon is our annual Holiday Party! Date is December 7, 11:00 am, at the Woodland Hills Country Club. Highlights: Brunch will be served. The huge year-end raffle will take place. The new club officers for 2026 will be installed. Tickets: \$35 per person for each member, \$40 per person for guests. Call VP Bill Greene if you have not let him know.

Steve Boskovich reminded us of our upcoming Holiday Party. As in years past, we collect new unwrapped toys and clothes for Haven Hills. They are a shelter for abused women and their children. Please help them out again this year.

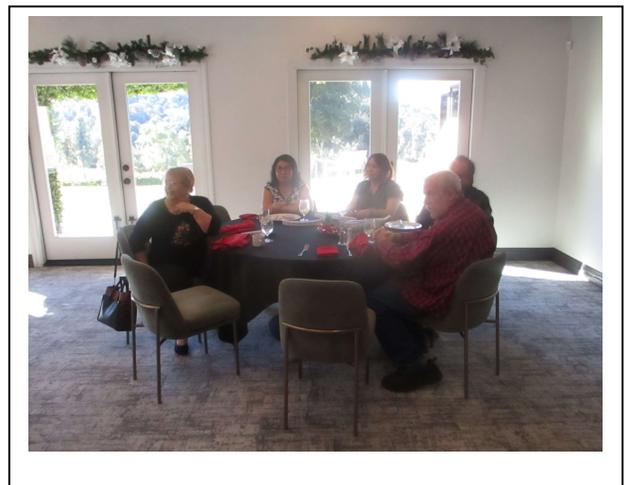
Rex announced his future plan for meetings for 2026 to have Tech Talks covering more technical automotive information. For today he gave us some great information on automotive tires. He demonstrated the two types of rubber (natural and synthetic) our tires are made from. He had samples of the tire chords and the bonded plys, all used in making tires. Also, the sensor that is inside tires to alert drivers of low air pressure.

After all this business was gone over, part 2 of our Fall Auction started. Thanks to each of you for all the donations brought. Rex, Ernie, Jim and even Reen helped sell.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. We hope to see everyone at the Holiday Party!

Submitted by Joanie-Secretary/Treasurer (edited by Val Ellerbrock)

Valley V8's Annual Holiday Party December 7, 2025



Valley V8's Annual Holiday Party December 7, 2025



Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty

December 2025

Santa's Village
Sky Forest, CA



Credits:

"Southern California in the 50's: Sun, Fun, Fantasy" by Charles Phoenix

Numerous citations to internet and Utube documentary "The Abandoned History of Santa's Villages"

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 the final installment 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.

I hope you have enjoyed the last 15 months of "time travel" to our shared memories of the "good old days" in Southern California.



Credits:

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Numerous citations to internet and Utube documentary "The Abandoned History of Santa's Villages"

Valley V8's

Roadside Americana

By Scotty

It was on Memorial Day weekend (May 28th) 1955, *six weeks before* Disneyland opened its Magic Kingdom on July 17, 1955. The anticipated premier of a winter wonderland & giant toyland themed park welcomed “children of all ages” to Santa’s Village.

The park was located less than 2 hours from Los Angeles, snuggled against the “Rim of the World Highway” in the San Bernardino Mountains - next door to (at that time) Bavarian themed Lake Arrowhead. On opening day the line of cars to the park extended from Santa’s Village all the way down the mountain 20 miles below.

The North Pole/Toyland themed park was open year round *except*, ironically, Christmas. The entrance fee was .50 cents for adults and .25 cents for children (\$6 and \$3 respectively in 2025 dollars).

The idea for Santa’s Village was hatched by developer Glen Holland and his “desire to give kids the holiday he never had” - as he was orphaned as a child. It was the first franchised theme park in the U.S. (inspired by Richard McDonald of McDonald’s fame) with its first “village” established at Sky Forest, CA (1955). The second “Santas Village” was opened in Scotts Valley, CA (1957) and a third in Dundee, Illinois (1959).

Credits:

“Southern California in the 50’s: Sun, Fun, Fantasy” by Charles Phoenix

Numerous citations to internet and Utube documentary “ The Abandoned History of Santa’s Villages”

Valley V8's Roadside Americana

By Scotty



15 acre Santa's Village was surrounded by a ponderosa pine forest and featured a log cabin village with fanciful pink and blue "snow covered" roofs. Located throughout the park were giant colorfully stripped or polka-dotted cement mushrooms and toadstools to complete the magical ambiance. Other attractions included: a huge "north pole" perpetually covered in ice; Santa's Coffee Shop with the usual delicious roadside fare of burgers, fries, coffee & hot cocoa; Candy Cane Sleigh pulled by Santa's *real* reindeer; Ferris wheel; Candy Cane roller coaster; petting zoo; Santa's Toy and Doll Shops; Chapel of the Little Shepard; Mrs Claus Kitchen candy shop; Santa's House -

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Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty



where children might peer to see if their name was in the “good” book; The Good Witch Bakery serving hot coffee, fresh baked cookies, turnovers and gingerbread; the Honey Bee monorail ride (added in 1962) that meandered above the park; the Christmas tree ornaments ride; a miniature train ride through “the enchanted forest” amongst other attractions and shops.

Credits:

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Numerous citations to internet and Utube documentary “ The Abandoned History of Santa’s Villages”

Valley V8's Roadside Americana

By Scotty



All of the employees operating the rides or working in the shops were dressed as elves, gnomes and pixies. Of course Mr and Mrs Claus were always present to joyfully greet the visitors. Reindeer were even allowed to roam the grounds freely - until a child was inadvertently bitten (most likely feeding the reindeer).

Credits:

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Valley V8's
Roadside Americana
By Scotty



The park eventually went from being open year-round to seasonal and holiday operations.

After 43 years of many fond memories, dwindling attendance and financial difficulties caused the park to shutter forever on May 1, 1998.

Credits:

"Southern California in the 50's: Sun, Fun, Fantasy" by Charles Phoenix

Numerous citations to internet and Utube documentary "The Abandoned History of Santa's Villages"

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Valley V8 Birthdays



December

8

Ron Batesol

December

15

Kenny Sapper

There will be no meeting at Lulu's in December. Thank you to all who attended our year end Valley V8 luncheon on December 7. Our next meeting will be on Saturday January 24 at Lulu's Restaurant 16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406 Meeting starts at 10:00 AM Come early and enjoy breakfast before. Happy Holidays Everyone!