



February 2026

DRIVE LINES



1936 Ford Pickup

Owner: Steve Batesole

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: from Rex Jaramillo



Hello Valley V-8's Club members —

Greetings, and welcome to the second Drive Lines Newsletter of the new year. We had a good meeting last month January 24, with record attendance. Thank you all who were there: you're the ones who make up our meetings and our Club. Also, thanks for 'keeping up the good work' by inviting your interested friends: all are welcome!

Sad news: Our beloved club member Ed Iskenderian has left us: We received word of his passing on Wednesday Feb. 4. Ed 'Isky', was known as the 'cam-father' of hot rodding, a pioneer in the days of early motorsports. Interestingly, Isky was also a dues-paying member of our V-8 Club, the only car-club he chose to belong to. Rest easy, Ed, but not too easy: Those 'streets of gold' will be thundering with the sound of eight as you roar into the sunset. Godspeed, Ed.

The guest speaker for our January Club meeting was our own Vasken Hagopian. We enjoyed his presentation and also had a swell time poring over that oh so swell Ford 'T coupe of his. He's blessed to have that car, a unique blend of old and new, mostly old-school, and oh so fine! Thank you Vasken for your talk and for showing off that righteous ride!

Next Meeting: Saturday February 28 -- reminisce with Isky: This promises to be a most excellent meeting as we hear and share stories about Ed Iskenderian. Vasken Hagopian was best-friends with Isky: he'll be sharing about some of his good times with the 'Cam-father' over the years. This will also be 'audience-participation': we'll all be encouraged to share about times with Ed. This will be a unique and interesting meeting for sure!

Ever wonder how an engine 'camshaft' works? In honor of Isky, we'll have a 'tech-talk' about how a camshaft works in an engine and how Isky modified camshafts to make more horsepower. Interesting stuff!

Suggestions? Please email or call me or one of the Board members if you have a suggestion for making our Club even better: It's about you, the Club members, cheers!

-Rex J.
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The Valley V's

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The annual National Board of Directors Meeting of the Early Ford V8 Club of America will be held March 6 to March 8, 2026 in San Diego, CA. Our very own Steve Boskovich, who is currently the 2025-2027 National Director for the California Southwest Division, will be in attendance. If anyone has any questions or concerns for him to share at the meeting, you can pass them on to him. Please call or text him at (818)903-6620.

Valley V8's Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2026

President Rex Jaramillo opened our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed guests to our meeting: Jeff Allen, friend of Joe DiFatta, here all the way from Arkansas.

VP Bill Greene reported our December HOLIDAY PARTY was a success and hopes all that attended enjoyed themselves. The plan for 2026's Holiday Party will be Sunday, December 6th! Bill also updated us on his friend, Monty Goff. Monty has been recuperating in a rehab facility getting stronger with his artificial leg. He hopes to be back in his '46 Woody, his '56 Ford Sedan Delivery and Corvette soon! Best wishes to you Monty! Keep up the good fight! We want you back on the road also.

Ernie gave us an update on future TOURS. His first event of the year will be the Lions Automobile Museum in Carson, either February 21 or 22. Ernie is calling this a "Destination Event", meaning we meet at the museum. Lunch will follow the tour.

Other car events mentioned:

- Grand National Roadster Show at Pomona Fairgrounds, Jan. 30-Feb. 1.
- San Fernando Valley Rides & Coffee at the Detail Garage.
- Dr. George Charity Show in Palm Springs.

Val will include these and more events in our Drivelines newsletter. Ernie highly encouraged us to drive these classics we own!

Steve Boskovich, our National EFV8 rep says that there is national meeting planned in March. Steve reminded us that Ernie has been a member since 1976!

Treasurer Joanie Sapper is collecting our 2026 DUES. It needs to be paid by end of January...is other words NOW! If you haven't paid, you will be getting an email reminder soon. Dues are \$35 for the year..have YOU paid?? Dues must be postmarked NLT Saturday Feb 14 to be included in the 2026 Roster.

DRIVELINES NEWSLETTER report by Val Ellerbrock. Our newsletter was recognized as one of the best Chapter Newsletters in the nation! There is a great article in the November/December issue honoring our own Veteran, Joe DiFatta! Thank you Joe!

Name Badge winner was Val Ellerbrock!

Ladies Raffle drawing went to Andrea Timar and Joanie Sapper!

Break was called and all are invited to take close look at Vasken Hagopian's 1926 Ford. He will be giving the program later this morning to tell us all about his classic.

Upon return to meeting, Vasken shared about his "Righteous Ride", the 1926 Tall T Ford. Rex interviewed Vasken on some interesting facts of Vasken's love of cars. He was born in Haifa Palestine and came to the US on an Italian ocean liner at an early age. His favorite car was a '56 Chevy and began driving at 13. He raced cars on the ¼-mile, stock car racing, drag racing, and enjoyed slalom racing as well. His fastest speed was 180 mph on the track! He purchased the '26 from Max Norris, a well-known racer and member of Tromper's Car Club of Eagle Rock. (Max had always told Vasken you're not buying my '26 unless it's over my dead body. Vasken bought the car from Max's daughter after he had passed away)

Thanks, Vasken, for sharing!

Vasken ended his program with boxes of Valentine Chocolates for all the ladies...reminiscent of Vasken's days as our club president. We love you Vasken.

Scott Doudrick mentioned the passing of Jerry Jensen. Scott attended his memorial and brought with him today many of Jerry's car memorabilia to share with us. Please help yourself.

Winner of 50/50 was Dick Colarossi – a big haul for lucky Dick!

After our exciting Raffle Table drawing, thanks to Steve Lehman, our meeting ended. Next meeting date is February 28! Reminder – 4th Saturday morning of every month.

Submitted by – Joanie Sapper

CAR OF THE MONTH FEBRUARY 2026

STEVE BATESOLE'S 1936 PICKUP



My father purchased my 1936 pickup truck back in 1975 as a retirement project after 35 years at Douglas Aircraft. He had driven one (not this one) in his youth as a delivery boy in Minot, North Dakota, and had many fond memories of that truck. When purchased, this one was running and driving, but required a complete cosmetic makeover to return to the condition he wanted it to be in. While he was at it (the most expensive words any car guy can say) he decided to rebuild and refurbish it to top mechanical condition, as well. A full "restoration" was ruled out since the truck already had hydraulic brakes, and a post-war flathead. After a two-year process involving a complete tear-down (I have pictures of the truck in pieces scattered across our patio, frame leaning against the house, cab up on workhorses, everything else neatly arranged in piles), concurrent education (at least two local city college evening classes for body work and paint), and everything else, the job was completed and he had his truck. He drove it proudly and enjoyed it until he got sick with cancer and passed in 1985.

February Car of the Month cont'd....

The truck then came to me and I've taken care of it ever since. My contributions to the truck have been in the area of accessorizing it like no sane person would have done in 1936.

When acquired in 1975, the truck came to us with chrome front and rear bumpers (the rear one being a particularly desirable Sedan Delivery bumper which is still on the truck) a radio (possibly factory/dealer installed, due to the smoothness of the mounting hole and the presence of a correct commercial speaker) and a set of accessory wind wings. Since then, I've added many accessories, always with the thought of originality and period correctness. The truck has been to several West Coast Rallys and Meets and, always a crowd favorite, has done well in the Touring category, since it's not 100% original. It wears two license plates. The California 1936 commercial ones under which it is legally registered, and the 1936 North Dakota Commercial plate placed in homage to my dad.



Valley V8 Club/Studebaker Club/Plymouth Owners Club

Combined Club Tour



Date: Feb 21, 2026

Event: Lions Dragstrip Museum

2790 E. Del Amo Blvd.

Rancho Dominguez, Ca 90221

Admission: General \$24.25, Seniors 62+ \$20.25

Children 12-17 \$17, Children 4-11 \$14

I'm making this a combination destination and/or driving tour. Any of you that would like to drive their Vintage cars can meet me at Coco's Bakery Restaurant at 10837 Sepulveda Blvd just off of the 118 Fwy to drive together. Meet at 8:30am/Depart at 9am

Please RSVP to Ernie if you plan to join the driving tour

(805)433-5540 or ernestbaily@att.net

Or you can drive directly to the Museum and meet us there.

Plan to arrive at the Museum approx. between 11 and 11:30am

A Guided Tour is available

Lunch to follow after the tour at approx. 1:30pm at

Roccas Deli 20411 S. Susana Rd., Long Beach (310)638-6159

Ed Iskenderian

July 10, 1921 – February 4, 2026



Back in 2019, the Valley V8 Club members were invited to a special private tour of Ed Iskenderian's shop, hosted by Ed himself. Club members in attendance also enjoyed lunch with him after and witnessed his hearty appetite for cheeseburgers and all the fixin's that appeared to be his secret for his long and active life of, at that time, 98 years!

Ed Iskenderian was born to first-generation Armenian immigrants, in grapevine country of Tulare County, California. He attended L.A.'s Polytechnic High School.

At the U.S. entry into World War II, he enlisted in the United States Army Air Forces, and flew supply missions in the Pacific Theatre with the USAAF Air Transport Command.

After the war, he established a business in a small shop in Culver City, California. It backed up to Mercury Tool and Die, which was owned by a high school friend of his. In this shop, Iskenderian fabricated parts, including camshafts, for fellow hot rodders. He started with a single cam-grinding machine, which he adapted for the purpose himself.

Iskenderian was also the first to offer a hard facing on camshafts, and the first to apply computers to cam design.

Iskenderian got together with Vic Edelbrock Jr., Roy Richter, Bob Hedman, Robert E. Wyman, John Bartlett, Phil Weiand Jr, Dean Moon, Al Segal, and Willie Garner in 1963, forming the Speed Equipment Manufacturers Association, now known as SEMA, serving as its first president during 1963–1964.

In 1985, Iskenderian was named one of Chevrolet's "Legends of Performance".

The company he founded is now located in Gardena, California.

Iskenderian was inducted into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America in 2025.

Life story courtesy of Wikipedia https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ed_Iskenderian

Grand National Roadster Show

Submitted by Ernie Baily

I would like to share a bit of my brother's and myself trip to the Grand National Roadster Show. We went on February 1st, Sunday. The event itself was January 30th, January 31st, and February 1st. As most of you know, my brother is in a motorized wheel chair and that is why we went on the Sunday because there were less people to deal with. We were told that Saturday was huge with people & cars. Well, the first thing was the surprise that the admission fee was \$45 each. However, once we entered the show area, we had a great time looking at all the cars and exhibits that were in the show buildings and also all the cars that were part of "Drive In" entries that were parked in between the show buildings. My hope is that maybe next year I might be able to participate and enter my '55 Dodge Custom Royal Lancer. Anyway, we had a great time, and I'm attaching some photos of cars and things that caught my eye! There was quite a variety of cars, Hot Rods, Classic cars and other things! It might be fun to attend as a group and spend the day looking at all the cars and exhibits.



"The Grand Daddy of Them All!"

GRAND NATIONAL ROADSTER SHOW

Fairplex • Pomona, CA

JAN 30 - FEB 1, 2026

WWW.RODSHOWS.COM

The poster features a dark blue background with a classic roadster car in the center. The car is a dark color with a white convertible top. Above the car is a red, white, and blue striped banner with the text "GRAND NATIONAL ROADSTER SHOW". Below the car, the text "Fairplex • Pomona, CA" is written in white. The dates "JAN 30 - FEB 1, 2026" are prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow and white letters. At the bottom, the website "WWW.RODSHOWS.COM" is written in white. The background also shows faint silhouettes of people and other cars, suggesting a busy show environment.





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Container



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Valley V8 Birthdays

February	4	Lynn Carter
February	4	Marsha DiFatta
February	5	Miguel Larios
February	8	Nancy Nuccitelli
February	25	Joe DiFatta
February	27	Lynn Kemmerer



**Our next meeting will be on Saturday
February 28th at Lulu's Restaurant
16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Meeting starts at 10:00 AM
Come early and enjoy breakfast before**