



June 2026

DRIVE LINES



1949 Ford Custom Convertible

Owner: Ralph Hubbard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: from Rex Jaramillo



Hello Valley V-8's Club members —

Greetings, and welcome to another Drive Lines Newsletter, the June Edition. June tends to be a very busy season for Car Shows, never any shortage of same. And a great opportunity for us to recruit: A friendly greeting and handing out one of our V-8 club business cards could generate interest in joining our Club. You never know! Think of what we have to offer: a great group of interesting people who own unique cars. Our hobby and keen interest in all things old Fords certainly has a way of spreading to others!

Our May meeting was definitely interesting: We had some new guests: V-8 owners 'Ashley and Eric', who have a '47 Mercury, and 'Bob Kushner', who owns a '36 Ford. Welcome, guests! And, we had a special treat. After leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance, Al Mooney, an Army veteran, sang 'God Bless America' in honor of upcoming Memorial Day. He was followed by Vasken Hagopian, who shared more info about our departed friend Ed Iskenderian. Vasken also extended a tribute to our Veterans and brave servicemen in honor of upcoming Memorial Day. Then Blake Wilcox shared some information about his most interesting work in the Entertainment Industry, including an Emmy he won producing the show 'St. Elsewhere'. We do have some interesting members for sure! Finally, Rex did a Tech-Talk describing the Ford flathead engine design. He had an interesting 'teaching' aid: a Ford Dealer promo 'cutaway' engine created by FoMoCo in '48 to showcase their then-new flathead engine for 1949: the '8BA' (Ford) and '8CM' (Mercury) engines. As always, never a dull moment in our monthly meetings!

Next Meeting is Saturday June 27: 9 am breakfast, 10 am Meeting starts -- Lulu's Restaurant in Van Nuys. We have a guest speaker, Brett Arena, who is the Historian for the A.F. Gilmore Corporation, known in the past for oil drilling and for establishing the original Farmer's Market in Los Angeles. All are welcome, and our meetings won't disappoint, for sure!

Suggestions? Please email or call me or one of our Board members if you have a suggestion for making our Club even better!

-Rex J.

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Meeting was opened with Pledge of Allegiance led by our own club member and veteran, Al Mooney. He then proceeded to sing to us “God Bless America”. A great way to begin on this Memorial Day Holiday weekend.

Guests welcomed: Ashley and Eric, owners of a 1947 4-door Mercury and a 1979 Mercury as well. Also welcomed was Bob Kushner, introduced by Blake Wilcox. Bob owns a 1936 2-door, all original. He also owns 2 Model A's. Both are very interested in joining our club!

Member Randy Beck shared that there is planned a special Memorial Day event in the valley. It will include WW2 planes and a parade on Monday, May 25, 9 am.

Vasken shared with us an article he submitted in our National V8 Times (Mar/April 2026 edition) with information on another past member, Ed Iskenderian. His name is very well known in the automotive industry. For a great background history of Ed and his accomplishments, please read this fascinating article! Thank you Vasken! Vasken also extended THANKS to our Vets (this Memorial Day weekend), and to all the Mothers and Dads as well for their “special days”.

Ernie's Events:

- The Bosse Toy Train Tour flyer was emailed to all. It will be Saturday, May 30. Lunch will be at Harry's Bar & Grill.
- The Great Race finale will be in June in Pasadena. Also, will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Route 66.
- Future event: Wings Over Camarillo will be August 15 & 16. More details to follow.

Blake shared with us about his BFF Sandy's 2 Fords to be a part of the festivities of the Route 66 celebration, traveling from Chicago to Santa Monica. He also brought his Emmy Trophy he was awarded in 1986 for his work in producing the TV show St. Elsewhere along with actor Ed Asner! Very impressive!

Minutes continued....

BREAK TAKEN

Rex's Tech Talk – Rex presented a Ford “cutaway” of a 1949 motor. They were used as a dealership sales tool. Ford produced 2 motor designs in that day. Design #1 was the Flat head, with pistons and valves side-by-side. The intake and exhaust strokes. These were known to run very hot yet did last a long time.

Design #2 was the Overhead Valve, which was more efficient, running cooler. Rex gave us lots of information on this topic. Many members added interesting comments and questions. Rex has an abundance of knowledge on this subject. This was one OUTSTANDING presentation Rex!

Contest Winners:

Name Tag – Steve Lehman

Ladies Raffle – Laurel Seavers & Joyce Mooney

50/50 – Joyce Mooney! (\$45) – Thanks to David Seavers for filling in for Ken

Table Raffle – Another great tableful of prizes by Steve Lehman

Bonus Auction – 2 US Flags, made in USA, went to highest bidders: Maxine and Rex. Thanks to the Mooney's for this donation!

VP Bill Greene announced all the May birthdays.

June meeting will be on June 27th!

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Joanie Sapper

Car of the Month

This month we are featuring Ralph Hubbard's 1949 Ford Custom convertible as the "Car of the Month". It was purchased as a complete basket case, minus the engine and transmission, from the late V8 Club member Dan Krehbiel in Temecula, CA. With the help of many V8 Club members and skilled craftsmen, the car was completed in approximately three years and driven to St. George, Utah for the 2010 Western National Meet where it scored 990 points out a 1000, winning a Dearborn Award. In 2011 the car was driven to Auburn, Indiana for the V8 Club's Central National Meet where it scored in the 990s again. The car is painted in Seamist green with a dark green leather and Bedford cord interior. The late Don Durkee, a Valley V8er, found a '49 transmission with an overdrive unit in Arizona for the grand sum of \$75, which now resides in Ralph's car. Dan Krehbiel had an extra 8BA engine laying around and Ralph had a four inch Merc crank on the floor and the late V8er Merle Fourez had a 53 Merc hi-lift cam for sale. All this stuff was cleaned, block was ready-stripped in acid to ensure clean water passages, and given to the late Bill Robinson in Apple Valley for balancing and assembly. Bill also milled the heads a little. Originally the '49 did not have an overdrive, so the car had a 3.73 rear end ratio rather than the 4.10 ratio found in most 49's equipped with overdrive. With the big engine, the 3.73 ratio was a perfect match which allows Ralph to easily cruise in overdrive all day long between 70 and 75 mph. Tim Krehbiel, then the manager of Nick Alexander Restoration, supervised the paint and body work and body assembly while Leonardo did the top and interior. Rick Williams, in Pomona, took care of some rust issues in the floor and rockers which were discovered after the body was completely submerged in a chemical acid solution for 3 or 4 days.

(Editor's Note): Per the overview above, this car's been driven all over: it's super-dependable! And with those Merc engine parts, including the stroker crankshaft bolted to that venerable 8BA mill, it pulls hard, so it's quick-to-boot: A worthy choice for our Valley V-8's Car-of-the-Month: Thanks, Ralph, for allowing us.

*Submitted by Rex Jaramillo courtesy of Ralph Hubbard
Edited by Val Ellerbrock*

Red Reality: FoMoCo in 1948-
The Story of the Sterling Duesenberg SJ
1955-56 Imperial: First Dynasty



Perfecting a Porsche: The 356 B and C S



Bosse Train Museum Tour Saturday May 30, 2026

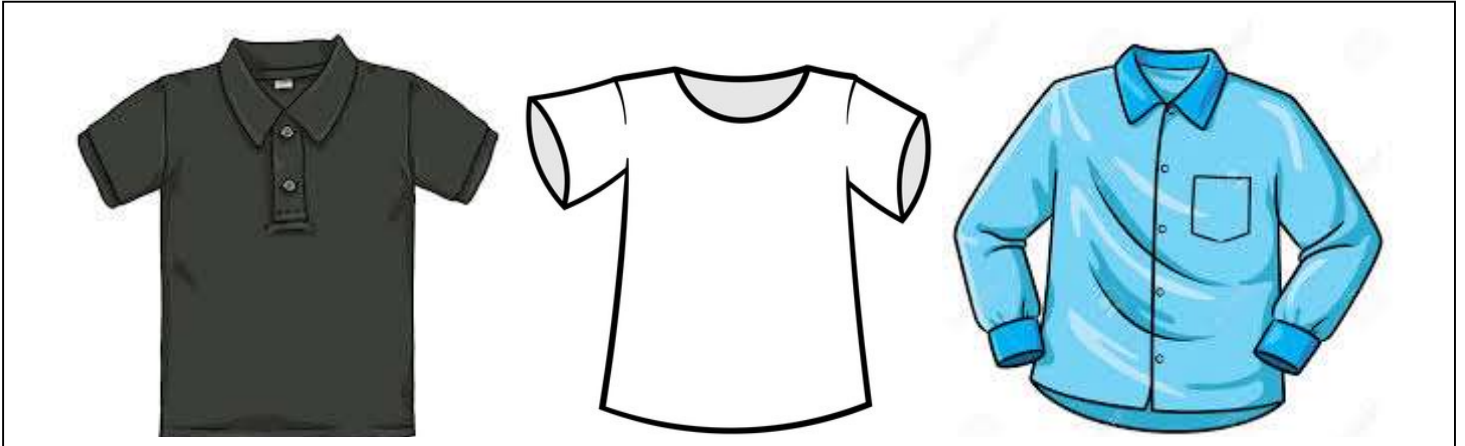
Well, this time I believed we had enough lead time to hopefully have a good turnout, but we had a light turnout! To start off we met at Stearns Park & Ride at 8:30AM. We waited for all the members who had RSVP'd to arrive. We then departed at 9AM. Besides myself in my '48 Plymouth, I had Stan Miller & Howard Brown ride with me. We had Steve Hedke & family show up with their '64 Studebaker. He was using the tour as a test run for the Hemmings Great Race in which he is participating. As some of you know, we will be going to the final stop of the Great Race on June 28 in Pasadena at the City Hall as a club tour/event. More to come on that event later! We had a few vintage cars go on the tour. In addition to my '48 Plymouth and Steve Hedke's '64 Studebaker, Rich Kimmell drove his '54 Studebaker, and our V8 Club President, Rex Jaramillo drove a modern Nissan trying to look like a '57 T-Bird! We met up with Scotty Cramolini driving his beautiful '53 Ford Country Squire wagon in Ventura.

We arrived at the Bosse Toy Train Museum approx. 11:15AM. Unfortunately, the parking was not to our best liking. Scotty pulled up and spoke to the docent at the museum and was allowed to park right in front of the museum. (I should have spoken to them in advance and maybe we might have been able to have better parking for our vintage cars). However, we found some parking fairly close. The museum is not very big and that worked out, with the timing for us just right and since at 11:45AM was the time we were going to head over to "Harrys Bar & Grille" for lunch. They set up a nice table in the back room. We then proceeded to eat lunch and have a lot of conversation. We ended our lunch about 1:30PM and everyone departed and headed home at their leisure. It seemed like everyone had a good time and then everyone headed home!

*Submitted by Ernie Baily
Edited by Val Ellerbrock*



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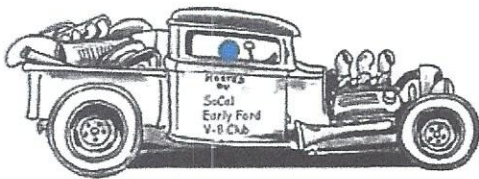
Lots of Ford
Flathead Stuff



Saturday, August 8, 2026

The only place that you're going to find Early Ford stuff is at a swap meet like this - put on by Early Ford V-8 Club folks
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U.S. Route 66 or U.S. Highway 66 (US 66 or Route 66) was one of the original highways in the United States Numbered Highway System. Established on November 11, 1926, with signage erected the following year,^[4] the highway ran from Chicago, Illinois, through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona before terminating in Santa Monica, California, covering 2,448 miles (3,940 km).^[5]

The numerical designation for U.S. Route 66 was assigned in 1926 as part of the initial planning of the United States Numbered Highway System. The route connected Chicago and Los Angeles, linking a series of existing regional roads into a continuous transcontinental highway.

U.S. Route 66 has been widely represented in American popular culture, reflecting its historical role in travel, migration, and the development of automobile culture. The highway was popularized in music by Bobby Troup's 1946 song "(Get Your Kicks on) Route 66", first recorded by Nat King Cole, which became a standard later performed by numerous artists across many genres.^[48]

The route also lent its name to the television series *Route 66* (1960–1964), which followed two young men traveling across the United States.^[49]

In literature, John Steinbeck's novel *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939) portrays westward migration along US 66 during the Dust Bowl, referring to it as the "Mother Road", a phrase that became closely associated with the highway.^[50]

Route 66 has also been depicted in film, including the animated feature *Cars* (2006), which portrays a fictional town bypassed by an Interstate Highway, reflecting the decline experienced by communities along the route.^{[51][52]}

In the 21st century, Route 66 has continued to be recognized in popular media and public commemorations, including its depiction in digital media such as Google Doodle features marking significant anniversaries of the highway.

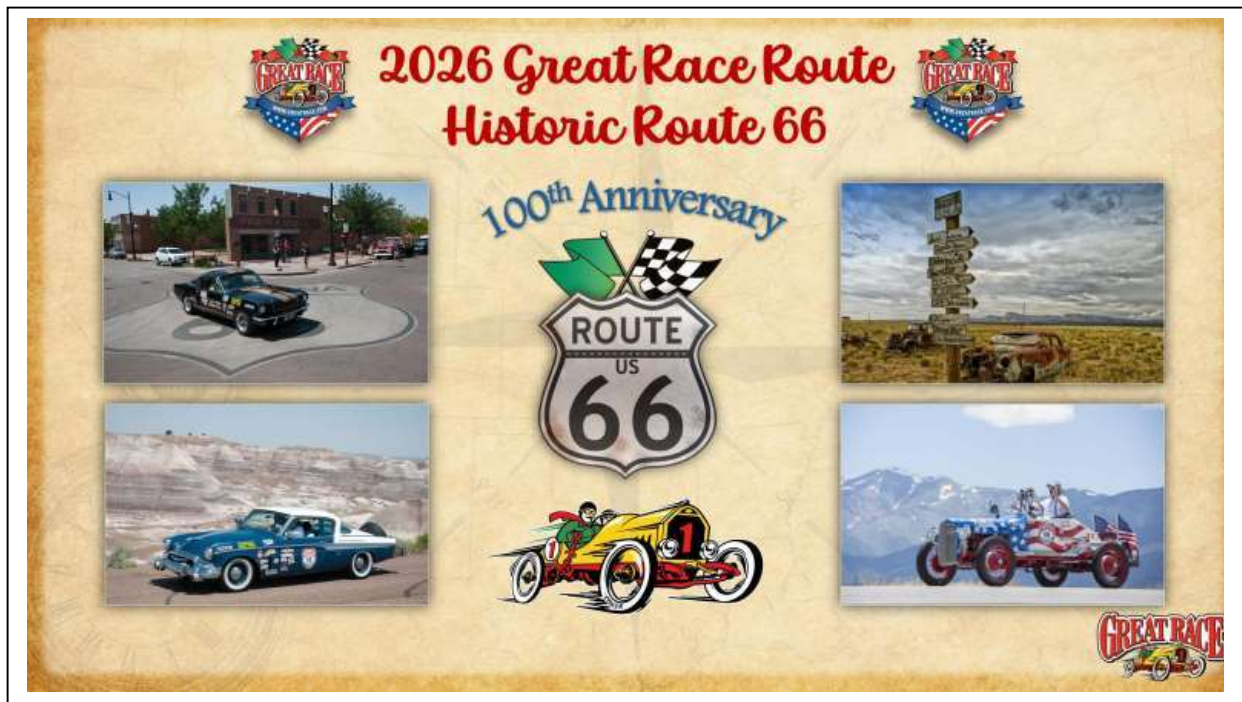
Submitted by Val Ellerbrock from Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/U.S._Route_66



This year marks the Centennial Anniversary of Route 66. There are many events scheduled throughout Southern California this summer, including the conclusion of The Great Race in Pasadena on Sunday June 28th.

Below is a link to many of the upcoming events. Ignore the error message when you click the link and then click on “calendar” tab at top of page for the events.

<https://route66centennial.org/calendar/upcoming-by-state/upcoming-california-events>



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Valley V8 Birthdays

| | | |
|------|----|-----------------|
| June | 3 | Chuck Schneider |
| June | 3 | Dick Colarossi |
| June | 3 | Lina Wilhem |
| June | 3 | Vasken Hagopian |
| June | 6 | Ralph Hubbard |
| June | 7 | Rex Jaramillo |
| June | 9 | John Kemmerer |
| June | 28 | Scott Doudrick |



**Our next meeting will be on Saturday
June 27th at Lulu's Restaurant
16900 Roscoe Blvd, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Meeting starts at 10:00 AM
Come early and enjoy breakfast before**

**Our Guest Speaker will be Brett Arena who will tell us
about the history of AF Gilmore Company and their oil
and gas exploits that turned into big motor sport support.**