



August 2026

DRIVE LINES



1940 Ford Deluxe

Owners: Miguel and Diana Wolf Larios

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: from Rex Jaramillo



Hello Valley V-8's Club members —

Greetings, and welcome to another Drive Lines Newsletter: thank you Val Ellerbrock for handling our amazing Newsletter, well done!

We had a most excellent meeting last month, July. Our guests were husband and wife Marilyn Monrovia and Loren Burch, who own a mighty fine '51 Ford convertible. In fact, most of you know the car, that righteous peach-colored semi-custom formerly owned by Sandy Norris. And they had their convertible at our meeting for us all to view. Marilyn did a fabulous job of recounting details of the trek that she and cousin Mandy Flower made across the U.S. in the Hemming's Great Race in June. Wow, what a story, very gutsy and totally amazing! Thanks Marilyn and Loren for sharing.

Club Cruises and tours: Our Club Tour Coordinator Ernie Baily has been 'burning midnight oil', checking out different potential Cruise and Tour possibilities. He gave us a report on some of his latest findings and dates, including the Wings Over Camarillo Air/Car Show coming up on Saturday August 15th. Details are included in this Newsletter. Thanks for setting this up, Ernie!

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next Club meeting on Saturday August 22, same place and time: Lulu's 'Restaurant & Sports Bar' in Van Nuys. First, tech-talk: Question: what is the most challenging mechanical problem you've ever encountered, and what was the fix? We'll learn from each other. After that, our topic will be music: Do you remember 'tunes' from back in the day when you were younger, maybe while cruising? We all do! Our guest speaker is Charles 'Buck' Weber, an expert in music and how it's shaped our mindset and the effect it's had on our culture over the years. It promises to be a very interesting and insightful meeting.

Club picnic and barbecue/pot-luck: It's coming up on Saturday August 29, the Saturday following our next Club meeting. Hosted by Vic and Andrea Timar, it's always an amazing time. Details in this Newsletter. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

-Rex J.
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Valley V8's Club Minutes 7.25.26

Meeting opened: Rex Jaramillo started the meeting at 10:05am asking Joe DiFatta to lead us all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rex followed by asking all club member veterans to raise their hands and be recognized for their service.

Visitors: We had several visitors today:

Nancy Norris, daughter of Sandy Norris
Midge Swoger, friend of Maxine Ostrian
Ron from La Crescenta, friend of Ron Batesole
Jasmine, Al Mooney Jr.'s daughter

Tours: Ernie Baily announced the next club tour will be to the Camarillo Air Show on Saturday August 15th. Those attending can join the caravan, meeting at the Ride & Drive lot near Stearns exit of the 118 fwy, and enjoy a scenic drive route to the airfield. More details will be emailed soon. Or contact Ernie directly at (805) 433-5540 or ernestbaily@att.com

Summer BBQ: A sign-up sheet was passed around to RSVP for the annual club BBQ to be held 4pm Saturday August 29 at the home of Vic and Andrea Timar in Sylmar. You can also RSVP by contacting Vic directly at (805) 890-2419.

Remembering when: Kenny Sapper, longtime historian for the Valley V8's club, brought in an original copy of the Drive Lines newsletter from 1975. How interesting to see what it looked like long before home computers. Many of us probably remember the challenges of using a typewriter, not just the amount of time, but the difficulty to edit. Thanks for sharing, Kenny!

Cars for Sale: Midge Swoger (friend of Maxine Ostrian) shared that she has several cars belonging to her late husband that are for sale. Ernie & Rex suggested places where she could advertise them. Blake Wilcox also mentioned a vehicle for sale. Rex encouraged Val Ellerbrock to add a "Classified Ads" section to the Drive Lines for this kind of information. (Similar to what used to be included in that historical issue from 1975!)

Break time: 10:25am-10:35am

Minutes cont'd...

Guest Speaker: Shawna Carr aka “Marilyn Monrovia”, a stand-up comedienne from the Pasadena area, was here to share her adventures of the Hemmings Great Race that she participated in this year. Even more interesting is that she did it in a recently purchased car she affectionately calls “Peach Lightening” that used to belong to our club member, Sandy Norris who passed away last year. Marilyn, as she prefers to be called, happened to visit the location of The Great Race several years ago and was hooked. She said, “Oh! I’ve got to do this!” They told her the car she wanted to use would never make it, so she sought out a more suitable one and when she found Sandy’s Peach, she knew she had to have it. And she did. And she completed the race in it. Not an easy task, but worth the effort. The scenery, the towns, and the people she met along the way, are memories that will last a life time. We were fortunate to have her visit us today. And even more fortunate as she and her husband Loren, also a funny guy, have joined our club today! Welcome Shawna (Marilyn) and Loren!

Raffle Winners:

Ladies Raffle: Nancy Norris and Midge Swoger

Name Badge: Joe DiFatta

50/50: Sue Boskovich \$50

Prize Raffle: Al Mooney Jr

Ernie Baily

Howard Brown

Jim Ellerbrock

Joe DiFatta

Marilyn Monrovia

Stan Miller

Steve Boskovich

Reminder next club meeting will be 10am Saturday August 22 at Lulu’s.

Meeting adjourned 11:20am

Submitted by Val Ellerbrock

July 25, 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday August 15

Wings over Camarillo Air Show & Car Show
9am-2:30pm Camarillo Airport
Camarillo
(See flyer in this issue for details)

Saturday August 22

Monthly Club Meeting
10am Lulu's Restaurant
Van Nuys

Saturday August 29

Annual Club BBQ
4pm Vic & Andrea Timar's home
Sylmar
(See flyer in this issue for details)

Saturday September 26

Annual Club Auction (1 of 2)
10am Lulu's Restaurant
Van Nuys

Saturday October 24

Annual Club Auction (2 of 2)
10am Lulu's Restaurant
Van Nuys

November 2026

No Meeting – Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday December 6

Annual Brunch
11am Woodland Hills Country Club
Woodland Hills



ValleyV8s/Studebaker Club Tour

Wings Over Camarillo Air/Car Show

**Saturday August 15th
Camarillo Airport
Camarillo**

DETAILS: Registration \$34 – **MUST** register online prior to event

Meet at Ride & Drive at the Stearns off ramp on the #118 Freeway
in Simi Valley at 7:30AM and depart at 7:45AM

We must arrive at the Air Show prior to 9AM

Travel time approx. 41min

We'll enter together.

Departure rules: two times to leave the show, approx. 2:30PM and
around 5PM at end of show.

R.S.V.P- Ernie Baily 805-433-5540 ernestbaily@att.net

**Please RSVP to Ernie Baily and let him know you are going
and MAKE SURE you register ONLINE.**

ANNUAL CLUB BBQ

*It's time for our Annual Valley
V8's Club Summer BBQ
Saturday August 29th at 4pm
At the home of Vic and
Andrea Timar
13877 Polk St in Sylmar
(805) 890-2419*



*Burgers and water will be provided by the Club.
Please bring your own sodas or beer.
We are asking for side dishes or desserts.
Please RSVP which you can bring
and how many will attend. You can sign up at the
meeting or contact him directly
at the number shown above.
If you are able to assist with set up or clean up,
Please let him know.*

Car of the Month

Miguel and Diana Wolf Larios' 1940 Ford Deluxe

The car chosen to be featured this month originally belonged to Diana's parents who were Valley V8 Club members for many years. Some of you will remember John and Virginia Wolf. They were very active with the club and filled many roles. At various times during the late '80's to the early 2000's, John managed the 50/50 raffle, was Tech Advisor, and was also Club Vice President. Virginia handled a role that was known by many names. She spent many years taking care of "Refreshments", "Fellowship", being "Social Secretary", and most fondly known as "Mrs. Sunshine". The following is Diana's story of inheriting the car and her parent's time with the club.

Val Ellerbrock, Drive Lines Editor

Diana Wolf Larios and her husband, Miguel, inherited this one of a kind 1940 Ford Deluxe from our longtime members John & Virginia Wolf.

John and Virginia enjoyed their four antique cars and attended the Valley V8 club meetings and events for decades. They were long time members of the Valley V8 club and loved the meetings, parties, tours and friendships. In their later years, they would bring the entire family to the annual picnic and the annual Christmas Party to enjoy the Christmas Carols, Swearing in of Officers, and of course, the raffle. Miguel & Diana currently live too far away to attend the meetings and parties but keep in touch with many of the members and cherish their memories of when they were able to attend.

John owned and restored different cars during his lifetime, but this one was John's first and favorite. Diana was just a child when John was going to swap meets every weekend and searching for and acquiring perfect parts to build his dream car - a 1940 Ford Deluxe. He worked tirelessly for many years, enlisting many of his extremely talented friends to help (details in the attached article), and once completed, had his masterpiece featured in the April 1978 Issue of **Popular Hot Rodding Magazine**. John is also remembered as an American Hot Rod Foundation "Hot Rod Pioneer", as can be seen on their website: <https://ahrf.com/pioneer/john-wolf/>

Miguel & Diana feel blessed to have this car, part of John's legacy, to enjoy and share at local car shows. The attached picture shows them at the 2025 Boulder City Jamboree Car Show, where they received an award. If you're ever in Boulder City or Big Bear Lake, they'd love it if you'd reach out.



Miguel and Diana



John and Virginia



turbo deluxe

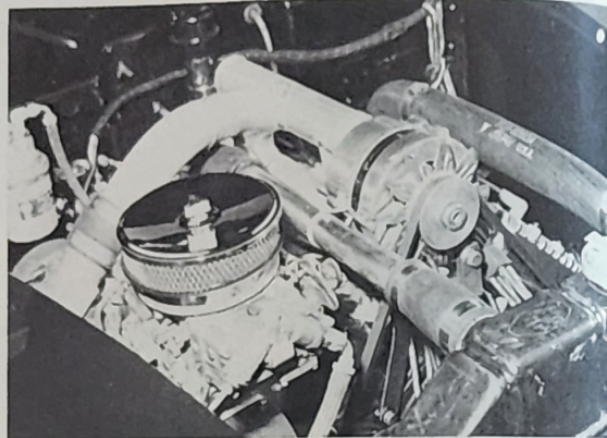
Photos by Steve Reyes

John Wolf traded rocker arms for a "hair dryer"

By Tom Senter

Restored Burgundy '40 Ford coupes are not particularly rare. Restored '40 Ford Deluxes aren't either. And turbocharged overheads resting beneath the hoods of these cars appear frequently. Flathead-powered '40s are common. But all of these elements wrapped into one pristine package result in a machine that is unique.

John Wolf has blended the concept of retaining the superb lines of the stock '40 Ford Deluxe coupe and the charm of the stock driveline and engine type with the irresistible challenge and benefits of additional performance gained through turbocharging. Blown flathead, modern style.



The perfect metalwork was executed by Steve Davis before application of Ditzler enamel—not lacquer—by noted enamel sprayer Dick Hallen of Burbank, California. The exquisite tan genuine leather upholstery was fitted by the master, Tony Nancy of Sherman Oaks, no stranger to *PHR* readers. John handled the update and restoration of the stock front and rear suspension systems and brakes—adding '56 Ford hydraulics to the front—and exchanged the stock 16-inch wheels for Ford truck 15s.

While the exterior gives the impression of a brand new '40—possibly boasting a fresh 85-horsepower, stock flathead engine—once the hood is lifted, surprises are in store.

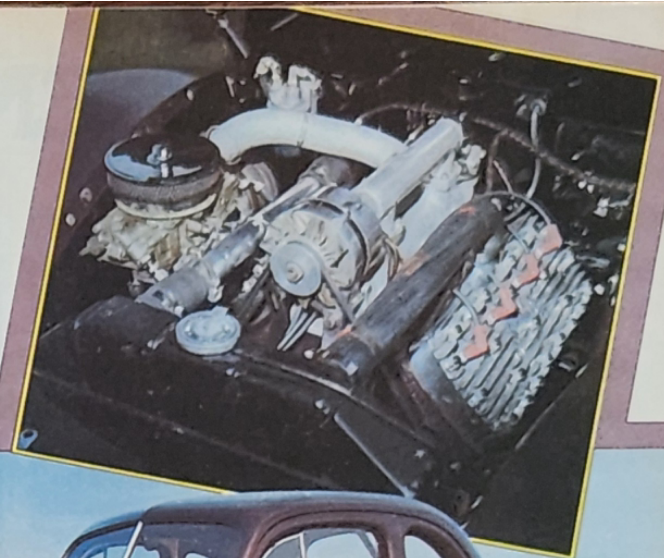
"I had thought about a 351 Cleveland," John remarked, "but the exterior came along so nicely that I wanted to retain the vintage flavor. I wanted extra performance, so I decided to turbocharge the flathead. I'd had a Roots-blown flathead, so this time I wanted to give turbocharging a try."

Fitting the Rajay 301-series hair dryer to the '46 Merc 276-CID valve-in-block was no great chore. A custom exhaust pipe crossing under the motor was mated to stock cast-iron manifolds to drive the turbine wheel. A Holley 650 double-pumper was fitted to the intake side of the blower and aluminum tubing was heliarced to duct mixture to the intake manifold. That enough 1978 dialogue for you? Okay, let's go back to 1948, because from here on, the hot rod parts are labeled with vintage names that stir the hearts of old-timers.

The turbo sends 10 pounds boost into an Ord aluminum intake manifold originally designed to accept a pair of Winfield single-barrel downdraft carbs. The air-fuel mixture continues on its way through ports enlarged, polished, and relieved by Bob Bowen to cylinders bored an eighth-inch and filled with die-cast aluminum pistons of unknown manufacture.

Stock Ford 29A rods swing on a four-inch-stroke steel Mercury crankshaft, completing the reciprocating assembly that was balanced by Jim Khougaz Balancing. (Any names familiar here from the good old days?) Massaged valves are bumped by a Kenny Harmon camshaft under vintage "block letter" Edelbrock finned-aluminum heads, containing compression generated after ignition by a Harmon/Collins magneto.

Nearly 300 horsepower is directed to a



HOT RODDING

stock side-loader three-speed transmission fitted with Zephyr gears (the old one, not the new one) through a 10-inch Ford flywheel and truck clutch.

It's an unusual package, to say the least. An exciting blend of the old and the new. John's an old-time rodder of 46 who couldn't resist the temptation of updating the vintage equipment with modern technology. Early tests indicate that the machine is capable of speeds in excess of 130 mph. And that's enough for him. Any more and he'll have to start getting into the chassis a little heavier . . . and that would take all the fun out of it.

POPULAR HOT RODDING/43



Wider rear tires might be temptation to lift the hood for a look at the engine. You guessed it. Inside is a Rajay turbocharger, assisting aging L-head 24-stud V-8. License plate reads JW's 40. Classic Forty pot-metal grille is a finely detailed work of art, augmented by accessory bumper guard.



Valley V8 Club
Classified Ads
For sale, trade, buy
Cars, parts, memorabilia



Welcome to our new Classified Ads section of the monthly Drive Lines. If you have a car, car parts, or car memorabilia to sell, OR are looking for any of those, send the info to your Drive Lines editor, Val Ellerbrock, via email or text. Maplewood4425@verizon.net or (818) 497-4551.

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Valley V8 Birthdays

August	1	Anie Mansour
August	3	Mike Quiroga
August	9	Diana Larios
August	11	Mary Kirk
August	12	Michael Ewing
August	13	Steve Batesole
August	17	Carlos Wilhem
August	22	Karen Lehman
August	25	Larry Pearson



**Our next meeting will be on Saturday
August 22nd 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 Charles “Buck” Weber who will
present “The Soundtracks of the San Fernando Valley”,
a historical review of the music, personalities, and
venues that brought this music to the Valley.**