

DRIVING FORCE

AUGUST 2008



Building Political Capital

SAN Members Have Opportunity to Play Vital Role in Upcoming Elections

Every time you tune into the nightly news or look at the front page of the newspaper, you know that election day is just around the corner. Whether it's the nation's capitol, your state or provincial government capitals, or just down the road at City Hall, getting involved in the political process is the best way you as a hobbyist can help keep the automotive hobby in the minds of candidates.

Constituents are an elected official's number-one priority. Without you and your vote of support, they would not be in office. SEMA by itself can only do so much. One letter from our office in Washington, D.C., is not nearly as powerful as hundreds of letters from politically active SAN members who live in a representative's district.

Legislators, especially those at the local, state or provincial level, don't have the time nor the resources to become experts on each of bills that they are expected to cast a vote on during the legislative session. SAN members can take advantage of this opportunity by educating lawmakers on the issues that directly impact our hobby. Furthermore, when you respond to a SAN e-mail alert and contact your legislator to support or oppose pending legislation, you are exerting a great impact on this process.

Given that most legislatures are adjourned for the year, it is important to use this time to develop relationships with your elected officials. Provide them an opportunity to see that your club, council or association is a large, influential and important part of their constituency. Developing this positive relationship will play a key role when legislation is introduced that impacts us.

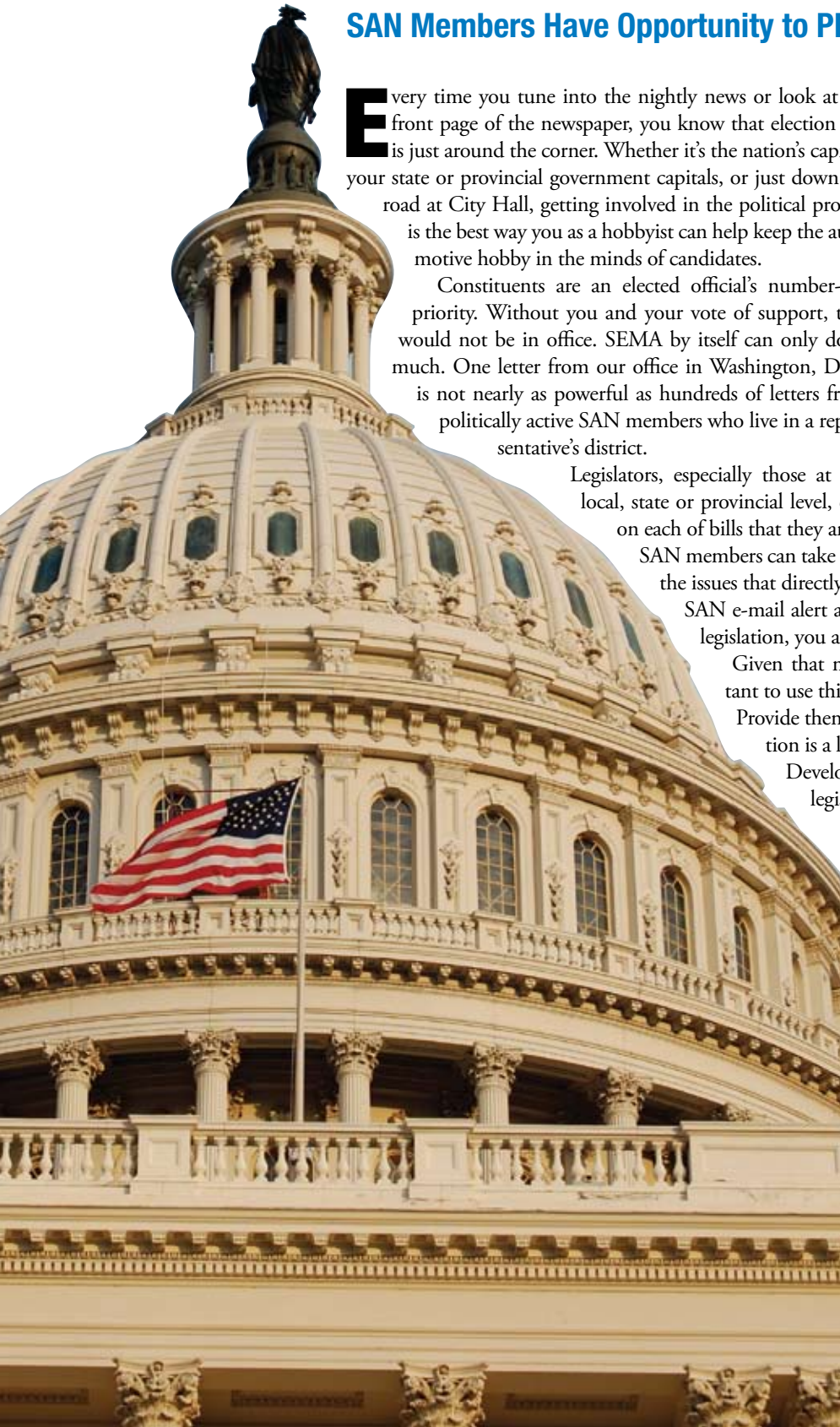
Enthusiasts in California, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio and Pennsylvania have the opportunity to impact their lawmakers because their state legislatures are still in session. Each one of these states is considering multiple bills that have a direct influence on our hobby. SAN members in these states should visit www.semasan.com to view legislative action alerts, which provide the necessary information to convey to their officials. Regardless if you are a street rodder, a classic car restorer or an off-roader, it's vital that we unite together in support of these bills.

Finally, all SAN members need to exercise their right to vote and support pro-hobby candidates. If you haven't done so already, we encourage you to register to vote before it's too late. When election day rolls around, get out there and make a difference for the future of this hobby!

For additional information on ways to become more involved, please contact the SAN at 202/783-6007, ext. 39 or at jasont@sema.org.



To help build positive relationships with lawmakers, the Association of California Car Clubs invited State Senator Dennis Hollingsworth (center) to speak at their annual Legislative Conference.



SAN Director Appointed to Off-Road Business Association Board

Jason Tolleson, director of the SEMA Action Network, has been selected to serve on the board of directors of the Off-Road Business Association (ORBA). The organization is composed of hundreds of businesses nationwide involved in the off-highway vehicle (OHV) industry whose common goal is to work to keep public lands open to responsible recreational access.



“I welcome this opportunity to further advocate on off-road issues,” said Tolleson. “Backed by the support by OHV enthusiasts from across the country, we will continue to engage and educate policymakers on the political strength of the OHV community.”

With over 20 wilderness bills pending before Congress, the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management reviewing their OHV management plans and other pending land access issues on the national and state levels, enthusiasts are faced with a challenging task in trying to keep these areas open for responsible OHV use. In working with ORBA, Tolleson will continue to advocate on behalf of hobbyists in support of land-use decisions that allow increased participation from the OHV community.

Fred Wiley, executive director of ORBA, stated, “We look forward to working with Jason and taking advantage of his vast experience.”

CAUCUS CORNER

Each month *Driving Force* will feature members of the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus. The SEMA-supported caucus is a bipartisan group of state lawmakers whose common thread is a love and appreciation for automobiles.

Here is its newest member:



CALIFORNIA
State Senator Dave Cogdill

* For a complete list of Caucus members, visit www.semasan.com

Attention Car Clubs, Event Organizers and Enthusiasts: Put SAN on Your Mailing List!

We like to know what’s going on with SAN clubs and enthusiasts across the country; what charity events you’re involved in; when and where the rod runs, car shows, trail rides, rallies and tech meetings are held; and what legislative and regulatory issues concern club members and individual enthusiasts.

One of the best ways to keep us abreast of what’s going on and what’s important to the vehicle hobbies nationwide is for us to receive your club newsletters and updates. Please consider placing SEMA on your mailing list.

You can send correspondence to Attn: Jason Tolleson, SEMA, 1317 F St. NW, Ste. 500, Washington, DC 20004-1105 or via e-mail at jasont@sema.org.



Hawaii Exhaust Noise: The SAN defeated a Hawaii bill to ban vehicles equipped with an exhaust system “that has been modified to make more noise or sound than the vehicle made when manufactured.” The measure would have allowed law enforcement officers

to seize and impound a vehicle upon making a subjective determination that the vehicle was in violation. To provide lawmakers with an alternative, SEMA has produced model legislation that provides for the testing of vehicle exhaust noise to a standard adopted by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) with an established noise limit of 95 decibels (SAE J1169). Under this procedure, a calibrated sound meter (meeting industry standards) is placed 20 inches from the exhaust outlet at a 45-degree angle, the vehicle engine is revved to three-quarters of the maximum-rated horsepower, and then the highest decibel reading is recorded.

Hawaii Greenhouse Gas Emissions: SAN members defeated two Hawaii bills that sought to tax vehicle owners in an attempt to reduce motor-vehicle emissions. The first bill would have imposed a new-car surcharge tax, which would have escalated based on carbon emissions. Depending on the vehicle purchased, this surcharge could have required owners to pay up to \$2,500 more for the vehicle. The second bill would have established a progressive fee for state motor vehicles based on engine size. These fees would be collected by the state at the time of initial vehicle registration and at subsequent renewals of registration. These fees would be in addition to fees and taxes normally required for registration or renewal. The SAN supports a national solution to greenhouse gas emissions control. A patchwork of state rules would significantly increase the complexity and cost of compliance for the industry.

Vermont Scrappage Program: Enthusiasts defeated a bill in the Vermont State Senate that would have implemented a vehicle scrappage program and financed it with a progressive purchase and use tax and higher registration fees for some new motor vehicles based on fuel-efficiency ratings. Funds collected under the SAN-opposed proposal would have been used to dismantle vehicles deemed by the state to be “clunkers,” regardless of their historical value or collector interest. If this effort had been successful, purchasing the vehicle of choice could have been significantly more costly.

Further, this proposed scrappage program could have denied hobbyists the availability of vintage cars and parts for restoration projects.



“How Would You Like to Have an Old Car?”

1955 Pontiac 2-Door Hardtop

Owner: Rob Riley
Bloomington, Indiana

Back in 2000, I was working for my father as a semi truck and trailer mechanic. One day a customer asked to have the wood floor of a moving trailer sealed. When I finished the job and handed him the bill, he looked at me and asked, “How would you like to have an old car?”

At the time, my wife and I were expecting our third child, and I didn't have time or money to restore the car. However, he convinced me to take look at it so I could see what I might be passing up. I got to his house and there sat a '55 Pontiac 2-door hardtop under a tree. The engine fired up, but the transmission would not shift out of low gear. The interior was a little rough, but the body and frame were solid. So after a little thinking and figuring that it wouldn't take much to make it a decent drive, I hauled the car home.

Once I got under the hood all I had to do was adjust the throttle pressure linkage to allow it to shift though all four gears (it's a hydromatic four-speed)—a simple fix. I put new brakes on it, flushed the fuel tank and lines and installed a new fuel pump. The tires were pretty much shot, and I didn't want to drive anywhere on them. My dad bought me a set of American Racing chrome smoothie wheels and a new set of radial tires for my birthday. I added the bullet center caps to the wheels.

I buffed out the original paint and although it is worn through to the bare metal in some spots, it still looked pretty good. The worn look gave it a little character.

It made for a great weekend driver, and I drove it occasionally for five or six years. A few years ago, I decided that the car needed something different done to the engine.

I bought and installed a new Rochester two-barrel carburetor and a dual two-barrel adapter from Vintage Speed. The adapter bolts to the stock two-barrel intake, and lets you bolt twin two barrels on top of it.

I really didn't restore the car, I just cleaned up it up a little. I do plan on re-doing the interior one of these days and maybe repainting in. However, I love the car just the way it is right now.



Have your car or truck featured in a future issue of Driving Force. Submit your high resolution photos online at www.semasan.com

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Hot Rods 101

Automotive Students Get Their Hands Dirty to Finish Project Before Car Show



Whether they are working on a project for school or on their own vehicles, members of the RCTC Auto Club prove that the future of the hobby is in good hands.

What happens when you get a bunch of college students, an old pickup and a challenge to have it restored in time for a major event? While it may seem more like a story line for a new reality TV show, that's exactly what the students of the Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) were up against when they heard that the *Hot Rod* Magazine Power Tour was coming to town.

The students, all enrolled in the RCTC Automotive Technician program, are also members of the RCTC Auto Club. Founded in 2004 and under the guidance of RCTC instructor Dave MacLeod, the club focuses on community giving and automotive projects. Past community activities have included “Lights on for Safety,” which checks and replaces light bulbs for community members, food drives for the local food shelves and similar events. Last fall the RCTC Auto Club repaired and donated a van to a large family who had lost all their vehicles in a local flood. Their latest project, a '50 Ford F-1 truck, would put their skills to the test.

The truck was purchased in 1977 by a fellow RCTC instructor Max Gernand who saw it parked near some trees on a farm in South Dakota. Twenty-five years of work on the farm caused rust and rot to destroy the metal and wooden bed, but the body and frame were still intact. After towing the vehicle back to Minnesota, it was returned to running condition. A flatbed box was fabricated, and Max drove it until 1986 when the interest and obligations of raising a young family caused the truck to once again be parked for awhile.

In 2006, Max donated the truck to the Auto Club. The first goal was to return it to running condition, which occurred about a year later.

The following year *Hot Rod* magazine announced that its annual Power Tour was going to stop in Rochester, Minnesota, in June 2008. The news caused a lot of excitement for club members. After a visit to RCTC by the magazine staff, the club was challenged to have the truck ready to take center stage when the Power Tour rolled in town.

After an incredible effort, long hours and donations by local parts businesses and a Rochester antique car club, the Auto Club got the

Continued on page 5 ▶

DRIVING FORCE

AUGUST 2008

SUPPLEMENT

AUGUST 2008 SAN CLUB EVENTS

◀ Continued from page 4

August 10, Salem

Days at the Drags
Sponsor: Cruzin' Few
Information: 724/495-6235
or 724/643-9172

PENNSYLVANIA

August 8-10, Carlisle

All-Truck Nationals
Information: www.carlisleevents.com/ce/events/truck-nationals
or 717/243-7855

August 9, Lancaster

All Pontiac Car Show
Sponsor: Susquehanna Valley GTO Tigers
Information: <http://gtotigers.wordpress.com> or 717/898-8107

August 22-24, Carlisle

Corvettes at Carlisle
Information: www.carlisleevents.com/ce/events/corvettes
or 717/243-7855

TEXAS

August 9-10, Fort Worth

19th Annual Yellow Rose Classic
Sponsor: North Texas Mustang Club
Information: www.ntmnc.org/YellowRose/index.html or 817/595-6900

August 9-10, Beaumont

Texas Style Hot Summer Nites
Information: www.txhotsummernites.com or 409/769-7599

August 30, Big Spring

Texas Oldest Consecutive Rod Run
Sponsor: Early Cars
Information: <http://earlycar.com>
or 432/263-0693

UTAH

August 9, Layton

Stars of the Past
Sponsor: Wasatch Rods & Customs
Information: 801/731-7232
or 801/476-6908

VERMONT

August 8-10, Stowe

51st Annual Antique & Classic Car Meet
Sponsor: Vermont Automobile Enthusiasts
Information: www.vtauto.org/stowe2008.pdf or 802/279-0686d

VIRGINIA

August 9, Manassas

All Corvette Cruise-In
Sponsor: Old Dominion Corvette Club
Information: www.olddominion-corvetteclub.com/allcorvettecruisein.asp
or 866/427-7923

August 9, Covington

30th Street Scene
Sponsor: Kars Unlimited
Information: 540/962-3642
or 540/965-3088

August 21-23, Richmond

40th Richmond Street Rod Nationals
Information: <http://nsra-usa.com/index.php/site/evdet/4>
or 901/452-4030

WASHINGTON

August 1-2, Yakima

Central Washington NSRA Appreciation Day
Information: 509/837-3778

August 15-17, Spokane

7th Great Northwest Nationals
Information: www.good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=08-626 or 925/838-9876

WISCONSIN

August 2-3

Summer Elkhorn Car Show and Swap Meet
Sponsor: Madison Classics
Information: www.madisonclassics.com/car-shows/summer-elkhorn.php or 608/244-8416

August 9, Green Bay

16th Annual Oldsmobile Show
Sponsor: Oldsmobile Club of Wisconsin
Information: 920/465-1502

August 15-17, Elkhart Lake

33rd Northwoods SAAC
Sponsor: Northwoods Region Shelby Club
Information: www.nwshelbyclub.com
or 262/248-9560

August 15-17, Madison

19th Great Lakes Nationals
Information: www.good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=08-603
or 925/838-9876

ALBERTA, CANADA

August 9, Red Deer

August Heat: MOPAR Show & Shine at Westerner
Sponsor: Central Alberta MOPAR Association
Information: www.centralalbertamopar.ca/august_heat%20show%20date.htm or 403/342-1326

August 17, Cold Lake

Cold Lake Show & Shine
Sponsor: Cold Lake Cruisers Car Club
Information: 780/639-3084

SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA

August 1-3, Saskatoon

2008 Super Run Western Canadian Nationals
Information: www.superrun.ca

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

◀ Continued from page 3



Club members worked to complete this '50 Ford F-1 truck before the Hot Rod Magazine Power Tour rolled into town.

restored truck completed just hours before the event. All the bodywork, wiring and mechanical work were done by RCTC auto students. This is extremely impressive considering RCTC does not teach body repair and painting.

Dave and Max are very proud of their students and the Auto Club. In summing up the purpose of the

program, Max commented that "we try to teach the students to be good auto mechanics, but more importantly, great people who will contribute both to their employers and to the community."

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

Continued from page 6 ▶

Sclerosis Society, Big Brothers of America, Naval Military Welfare & Recreation, Chip Miller Charitable Foundation, the National Corvette Museum and many other well-deserving charitable organizations. In all, the organizations have donated more than \$300,000 to several worthy causes.

As the club prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary, it is one of the largest Corvette clubs in the country with over 500 members. The Cavalcade of Corvettes remains one of the largest all-Corvette shows on the East Coast.

For more information on the club, visit www.ccdv.com.



Starting with 25 Corvette enthusiasts in 1958, the club now has over 500 members and growing.



DRIVING FORCE

AUGUST 2008

SUPPLEMENT

AUGUST 2008 SAN CLUB EVENTS

ARIZONA

August 2-3, Prescott
34th Annual Car Exhibit, Parts Exchange and Old Engine Fire-up
Sponsor: Prescott Antique Auto Club
Information: 928/771-0184 or 928/445-9570

CALIFORNIA

August 9, Palo Alto
7th Annual Volvo Car Show
Sponsor: Golden Gate Chapter of the Volvo Club of America
Information: www.vcoa.org/events/2008-08-09

August 16, Atascadero
19th Annual Atascadero Lake Car Show
Sponsor: Mid-State Cruizers
Information: http://midstatecruizers.org/Entry_Form_2008.pdf or 805/440-2141

August 22-24, Pleasanton
22nd West Coast Nationals
Information: www.good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=08-625 or 925/838-9876

August 29-30
7th Annual Car Show
Sponsor: Lompoc Police Department & Special Olympics
Information: www.cityoflompoc.com/departments/police/2008/CarShow1.pdf or 805/875-8108

August 30, Alhambra
Labor of Love Car Show
Sponsor: Undertakers Car Club So. Cal.
Information: 626/483-9522

August 31, Fresno
Fresno Car Corral and Old School Hot Rod Palooza
Information: 209/356-0436

CONNECTICUT

August 24, Vernon
Chrysler Convention
Sponsor: DARTS
Information: www.chryslerconvention.com or 860/416-8434

ILLINOIS

August 23-24, Springfield
30th Annual Mustang & All Ford Show
Sponsor: Central Illinois Mustangers
Information: www.cimclub.com/annualshow.html or 217/525-7420

INDIANA

August 9, Elkhart
Michiana Mustangs 25th Annual Mustang & Ford Car Show
Sponsor: Michiana Mustangs
Information: http://michianamustangs.com/carshow.html or 574/256-2173

August 15-17, Indianapolis
15th Annual Import and Truck Bash
Information: www.importandtruckbash.com/event/21 or 317/236-6515

August 23-26, Auburn
Motorfest IV
Sponsor: Early Ford V8 Foundation
Information: http://fordv8foundation.org/MF4.html or 402/238-2842

KANSAS

August 29-31, Kansas City
7th Mid Western Nationals
Information: www.good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=08-624 or 925/838-9876

KENTUCKY

August 16, Owensboro
2nd Diamond Lakes Show & Cruise
Sponsor: Sunset Crusiers
Information: 270/278-9712

MARYLAND

August 9, Rising Sun
All AMC Day Drag Racing & Car Show
Information: 215/990-4628

August 17, Odenton
Muscle Car Mania
Sponsor: Maryland Camaro Club & Corvette Club of America
Information: 301/854-2014

MASSACHUSETTS

August 3, Hanover
6th Annual All GM Show
Sponsor: Yankee Chapter of the Pontiac-Oakland Club
Information: www.yankeepoci.org/wp-content/uploads/2007/04/allgm08.pdf or 508/533-7660

August 10, Shrewsbury
30th Annual New England Regional All Ford Show & Swap Meet
Sponsor: Mustang Car Club of New England
Information: www.mccne.com/events/2008AllFordSwap.pdf or 508/674-5462

MICHIGAN

August 9, Hickory Corners
Volvos at the Gilmore II
Sponsor: Great Lakes Chapter Volvo Club of America
Information: www.greatlakesvolvoclub.org or 616/240-4440

August 9-10, Livonia
20th Annual Mustang Memories All-Ford Car Show and Pony Cruise
Sponsor: Mustang Owners Club of Southeastern Michigan
Information: www.mocsem.com or 313/304-5244

August 15-16, Royal Oak
Park on Woodward
Information: www.familyevents.com/event/36 or 317/236-6515

August 21-24, Plymouth
Homecoming 2008
Sponsor: Detroit Area Corvair Club
Information: http://dacc.provide.net or 810/621-9866

NEVADA

August 1-10, Reno
Hot August Nights
Information: www.hotaugustnights.net

August 8-9, Ely
15th Annual Car Show
Sponsor: White Pine Rodders
Information: 775/289-3749 or 775/289-8888

NEW JERSEY

August 5-9, Mount Laurel
2008 PCS International Meet
Sponsor: The Professional Car Society
Information: www.professionalcar.org/index.php?page=meet or 732/433-2024

August 15-17, Millville
SAAC-33 at Thunderbolt Raceway
Sponsor: Shelby American Automobile Club
Information: www.saac.com or 860/364-0449

OHIO

August 3, Croton
Hartford Fair Car Show
Information: www.hartfordfair.com or 614/562-3762

➔ Continued on page 5

CHECK OUT THESE EARLY SEPTEMBER 2008 EVENTS

CALIFORNIA

September 7, Long Beach
Belmont Shore Car Show
Sponsor: Bay City Rodders
Information: http://baycityrodders.com or 714/894-8411

ILLINOIS

September 6-7, St. Charles
Fierorama 2008
Sponsor: Northern Illinois Fiero Enthusiasts
Information: http://fierofocus.com or 630/983-6434

NEW HAMPSHIRE

September 7, Nashua
27th Annual All Vehicle Show
Sponsor: East Coast Camaro Club
Information: http://eastcoastcamaroclub.com or 978/858-3988

OHIO

September 1, Mt. Vernon
6th Annual Car Show
Information: 740/392-9921
September 5-7, Norwalk
7th Blue Suede Cruise
Information: www.good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=08-611 or 925/838-9876

PENNSYLVANIA

September 4-7, Lancaster
Eastern National Meet
Sponsor: Road Race Lincoln Register
Information: 732/349-6896 or 732/642-5945

UTAH

September 5-6, Brigham City
30th Annual Peach Days Family Picnic Car Show
Sponsor: Bonneville Rod & Custom Car Club
Information: 435/734-2746 or 435/764-3586

WISCONSIN

September 11-13, Twin Lakes
30th AMC Nationals
Information: 262/843-4326

SEMA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS OFFICE

Vice President of Government Affairs
Steve McDonald

Director of Federal Government Affairs
Stuart Gosswein

Director of Congressional Affairs
Brian Duggan

Government and Public Affairs Manager
Jason Tolleson

Research Coordinator
Mark Hill

Technical Consultant
Jim McFarland

PUBLICATION STAFF

Editorial Director Matthew Pearson

Editor Jason Tolleson

Group Operations Manager Janet Francisco Lee

Managing Editor Carr Winn

Senior Graphic Designer Mariciel Fuller

Production Coordinator Kari Sakata

1317 F St., NW, Ste. 500
Washington, D.C. 20004-1105
202/783-6007

For more legislative and regulatory information,
visit www.semasan.com

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

More Than Just Cool Corvettes



In December 1958, approximately 25 Corvette enthusiasts got together and formed the Corvette Club of Delaware Valley (CCDV). Early club members were heavily into racing and frequently visited tracks, such as Pocono, Langhorne or the Vineland Speedway in New Jersey.

In 1971, the club hosted the first-ever Cavalcade of Corvettes at Bryner Chevrolet in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. By 1980, the show became so popular that a larger facility was needed and the event was moved to the Willow Grove Naval Air Station.

Since then, the club and the show have continued to grow. As the Cavalcade reached its 25th year, the club decided to form the Corvette Enthusiasts Community Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds solely for the good of the community.

The main recipients of the proceeds over the last several years, from both the club and the foundation, have been the Sunshine Foundation, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, National Multiple



In its 50th year, the Corvette Club of Delaware Valley has donated more than \$300,000 to local and national charities.

◀ Continued on page 5

www.semasan.com

Club Spotlight

• August 2008 SAN Club Events

• Youth Spotlight

• Hey, That's My Car!

• Legislative Quick Hits

• Caucus Corner

• Off-Road News

• Building Political Capital

INSIDE



AUGUST 2008

DRIVING FORCE