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EVENTS INTO APRIL 2026

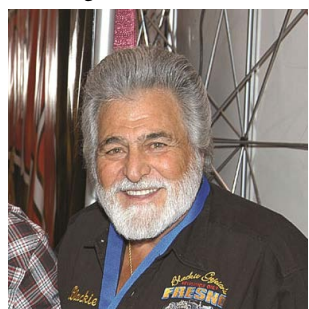
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ISSUE 9.2025

CELEBRITY ROAST OF BLACKIE GEJEIAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO FRESNO PROMOTER!

By hrhwp, www.hotrodhotline.com/

Fresno, CA – Blackie Gejeian, promoter par excellence and Fresno hot rod kingpin is getting roasted. The gala event, billed as The Celebrity Roast of Blackie Gejeian and salute to Fresno Motorsports



Heroes takes place Saturday, November 3rd at THE GRAND – the opulent, newly restored banquet hall in downtown Fresno (www.thegrand1401.com).

An all star lineup of celebrity roasters (expected to include Barris, Foote, Brizio, Vukovich Sr, Scelzi, Winfield, Starbird and many more) will honor and tell war stories of the cantankerous Armenian promoter who founded the Fresno Autorama and packed the stands at Clovis Speedway and Raisin City Drag Strip – where he ran 4 wide top fuelers long before Bruton Smith.



Story continues
on Page 14

CRUIZIN-4-CHARITY - 8th Annual Streets of Bakersfield Car Show

THREE DAYS OF CLASSIC CARS, COMMUNITY FUN, AND GIVING BACK

Bakersfield, CA – Get ready to shine, cruise, and celebrate all things automotive as Cruizin-4-Charity proudly announces the 8th Annual Streets of Bakersfield Cruise'n Shine. This much-anticipated event rolls into the Streets of Bakersfield October 9 - 11, 2025, featuring hundreds of classic cars, hot rods, customs, trucks, and motorcycles from across California and beyond.

The Streets of Bakersfield Car Show isn't just about chrome and horsepower—it's about community. Proceeds from the event support local charities, making every rev of the engine and every mile cruised a way to give back to Kern County.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Meet & Greet Dinner & Concert: Come join us at the World Famous Buck Owens Crystal Palace for an amazing time to relax with your friends and family over dinner and live music.
- Cruise Night: Kick off the fun with a nostalgic cruise through downtown Bakersfield, just like the good old days.
- Car Show: Stroll through rows of beautifully restored classics, powerful muscle cars, and unique custom builds in the downtown Streets of Bakersfield.
- Vendors & Food Trucks: Enjoy downtown delicious eats, antique malls, automotive memorabilia, and local craft vendors.
- Live Entertainment: Music, awards, and activities for the whole family.
- Charity Impact: All proceeds benefit local First Responders and Veterans, helping those in need right here at home.



Story continues
on Page 14

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SEE PG. 13 FOR MORE INFO

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- 9/27 S.P.D.E.S CLUB CAR SHOW
TIPTON 559-978-0688

OCT 2025

- 10/4 PIPELINE CHURCH CAR SHOW
VISALIA 559-804-4045
- 10/9-11 STREETS OF BAKERSFIELD
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OCT 2025

- 10/9-11 THE VALLEY NATIONALS
MADERA 559-825-6808
- 10/11 BACK IN SCHOOL CAR SHOW
AT GOLDEN WEST HS VISALIA
- 10/11 END O' SUMMER FLY-IN & CAR
SHOW FRESNO 559-696-6553
- 10/11 VIKING CLASSIC CAR SHOW
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- 10/11 FRESNO FAIR CAR SHOW
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- 10/18 MARIPOSA CAR SHOW
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- 2/28 HOT RODDERS FOR ROBIN
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- 3/14 SUNDALE CAR SHOW
559-331-1596
- 3/21 SELMA SWAP MEET
559-896-3243
- 3/21 HOT ROD HEAVEN CAR SHOW
METHODIST CHURCH VISALIA
- 3/28 SPRING CLASSIC CAR SHOW
HANFORD CA 559-805-3312
- APRIL 2026**
- 4/3 RODS ON THE BLUFF FRESNO
- 4/11 THE VISALIA CAR SHOW BY
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- 4/25 CARUTHERS LIONS CAR SHOW
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Date changes do happen for many reasons. To confirm the event you are heading for we recommend checking with the event sponsor via email, website, or telephone.

I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CALLED/EMAILED WITH CAR SHOW OR SWAP MEET EVENT DATES. MATT CASE: MATCASE@YAHOO.COM

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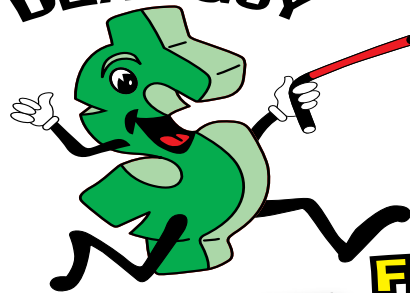
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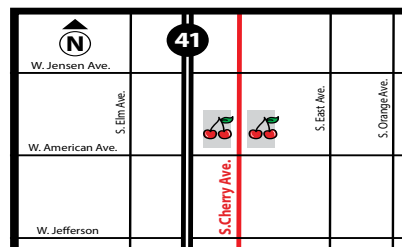
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TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION

By Vic Groah

Recently the Pharaohs car club and the Vapor trailers car club both recognized the Tulare Union High School automotive program for excellence in training high school students in automotive restoration and street rod building. This program, over the years has turned out many talented technicians that have made their mark in the industry. This program builds frame up show quality vehicles in addition teaching the most modern technology. From bare frame to finished paint the cars sparkle. The recognition was well deserved. The students that come out of these kinds of programs are our future.

Yes we do have young people that are interested in what we do. A good example is Emma Silveiria from Hanford. Emma, a frequent participant in our local car events with her baby blue falcon pickup, was active in the auto program in Hanford, worked at O Reilly auto parts, achieved an associate of arts degree at COS and is now beginning a four year degree at the prestigious McPherson collage in Kansas in automotive restoration. This is just one of the many young people that are using our public school system to find careers in our segment of the automotive field.

We also have Nolan Andersen, age 22 of Visalia, Nolan is a frequent participant in the local car scene and as a member of the Pharaohs car club is one of us with his light blue original Ford pickup truck. His recent article in the old cars newsletter piqued my interest. Maybe in addition to being a nice car guy to hang with maybe we have a budding car journalist?

We have a long list of technicians and shop owners that came from our local shop programs. There are several remarkable programs in the area. I have talked with the instructor from El Diamante high school auto shop recently. They are working on a nice four wheel drive Chevrolet. Here is another local program that is working hard to fill the need and desire of young people to build the skills to be successful in the automotive trade. I have not looked into who is who in automotive education in our geographic area recently but I am sure there are several more than the ones I have been exposed to. I know several other high schools in the area have programs as well as COS and Reedley college. Each of these have a theme and are instructing in the latest technology but also training young people to be part of our car culture.

For several years the public education system was pushing for everyone to get a college degree. College is not for everyone. When I was teaching at Tulare Union High School there were several amazingly intelligent students that felt more at home in the shop than the classroom. Many of those now work at or own automotive related businesses and are very happy and successful. College degrees can be good, I have three of them but they are not the total answer. Some very bright young people are the designers, repairers and business people in our future. These people will prosper and live well and enjoy what they are doing for a living.

I want to thank the two local car clubs for recognizing the excellence in our local education system. The Tulare Union shop has two 1965 Mustangs and a 67 VW bug in progress. They just finished a nice CJ Jeep and a 1932 Ford roadster and have a 67 Firebird waiting to get in. There is a long trail of other cars that have come from this and other programs in the area. In addition to building cars students are instructed in the latest technology and cutting edge innovations in the trade.

I am usually the oldest person at a car event but feel honored to visit with some of these young and upcoming members of our hobby. Thank you young folks for taking time to visit with the old guy and helping me keep up with the latest trends. I feel honored to be in your presence.



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Car Show



9AM - 2PM **TULARE, CA**

Saturday, September 20th, 2025

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Have questions? Contact: Heather Silva
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ALPINE VISTA SCHOOL HOSTS 10TH ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL CAR SHOW

Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Alpine Vista School Parking Lot

TULARE, CA – Alpine Vista School is rolling out the red carpet for chrome, horsepower, and community spirit at its 10th Annual Back-to-School Car Show, happening Saturday, September 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the school parking lot.

This annual tradition is more than just a car show, it's a celebration of family, fun, and school pride. Attendees can expect live entertainment from the Alpine Vista Choir and Band, raffles, and kids' activities, plus a wide variety of food and craft vendors.

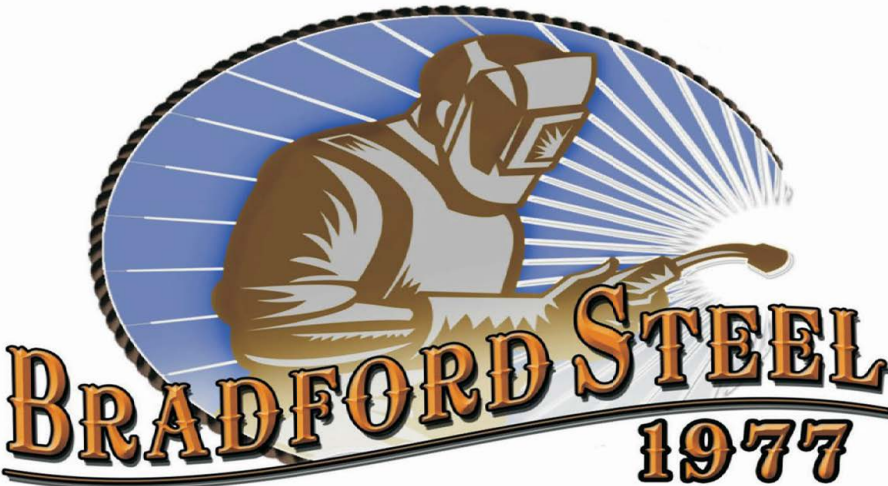
For car lovers, this event is the place to be. The show will feature classics, hot rods, muscle cars, and custom rides of all kinds. Awards will be presented for the Top 30, Best of Show, and the coveted Principal's Choice Award, making it a can't-miss competition for proud vehicle owners.

But beyond the polished chrome and roaring engines, the Car Show plays a big role in supporting Alpine Vista students. Proceeds go directly to the school's leadership class, funding everything from the annual Turkey Trot prizes and Career Day to rallies, service projects, and class celebrations that build school spirit all year long.

"This event is one of the highlights of our school year," said Mr. Grissom, the Alpine Vista Leadership teacher. "It brings our community together in a fun way, while also supporting programs that give our students opportunities to lead, grow, and give back."

The event is free for spectators, and families are encouraged to come enjoy a full day of cars, food, and fun. Car enthusiasts interested in showcasing their vehicles can contact the Alpine Vista School office for entry details.

Mark your calendars and rev your engines, Alpine Vista's Back-to-School Car Show promises to be a day of community, celebration, and memories for all ages.



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STREETS OF BAKERSFIELD

Cruizin' Shine



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OCTOBER
9-11-2025
8TH ANNUAL

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1st Annual CAR SHOW 2025



SATURDAY, OCT 11

ENTER YOUR TRUCK, CAR, MOTORCYCLE OR BIKE!

Participant Arrival: 8:00 AM - 10:45 AM | Car Show: 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Entry Cost:

Cars/Trucks/Motorcycles - \$55 | Bicycles - \$30

Includes: Admission for two (2) to the Fair

(1) Commemorative Car Show T-shirt (Limited quantities, first come, first served)

Awards Categories Include:

- ✓ Best Vintage Original (Pre & Post 1960)
- ✓ Best Low Rider
- ✓ Best Hot Rod (Pre & Post 1960)
- ✓ Best Rat Rod
- ✓ Best Custom Car (Pre 1960, 1960-2000 & Post 2000)



Scan To Enter or Get More Details!

www.FresnoFair.com/CarShow

Stories continued from Front Page



Blackie in 1949

CELEBRITY ROAST OF BLACKIE GEJEIAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO FRESNO PROMOTER!

Goodguys Rod & Custom Association Founder Gary Meadors and NHRA Motorsports Museum Curator Greg Sharp will host the festivities.

Fresno area rodders have joined in to make The Roast an all day affair with John Lawson hosting an open house at his personal museum (featuring a dizzying array of '32 Fords and memorabilia) from 10am-2pm as will collector Charlie Lambecchio. Additional day time activities are in the planning stages.

Pre-Roast partying and bullshitting with a no-host bar starts at THE GRAND on Nov 3rd at 3pm. At 5pm, a full gourmet meal of Tri-Tip and Chicken and all the fixins will be served followed by The Roast. Tickets are just \$40. A reserved table of 10 is available for \$500 which includes 3 bottles of premium wine.

It's time to pay tribute and barbecue one

of history's greatest motorsport promoters and a true central valley icon" said Gary Meadors. "Most people don't realize the reach Blackie had as a promoter. He's done it all – from hot rods & customs to hard tops, sprint cars and dragsters. He's never missed a Grand National Roadster show. Think about that! He personally invited every car to ever exhibit at the Fresno AutoRama. I grew up in the valley and can tell you for a fact, nobody could pack 'em in like Blackie. This will be a special evening."

For those coming in from out of town, the Holiday Inn Fresno Downtown (559-233-6650) will serve as the host hotel. To reserve your seat or table visit www.blackieroast.com or call Mary Ellen Pappas @ (925) 218-9138. You can also send a check to Blackie's Roast, P.O. Box 9132, Pleasanton, CA 94566.

CRUIZIN-4-CHARITY - 8TH ANNUAL STREETS OF BAKERSFIELD CAR SHOW

"This event is more than a car show—it's a celebration of Bakersfield's spirit, history, and generosity," said Tony Castiglione, Founder/President of Cruizin-4-Charity. "Every year, we see more participants, more spectators, and more lives impacted through the funds we raise."

EVENT DETAILS: Dates: October 9 - 11, 2025

Location: Downtown Bakersfield, California

More Info & Registration: www.Cruizin4Charity.com

Cruizin-4-Charity invites car enthusiasts, families, and community members to join in for three days of fun, friendship, and philanthropy. Whether you come to show your ride, relive cruising memories, or just enjoy the atmosphere, you'll be part of something truly special.

About Cruizin-4-Charity - Cruizin-4-Charity is a nonprofit organization dedicated to hosting an annual charity car show that brings the community together while raising funds for local First Responder and Veteran based charities. Since its founding, the group has donated over \$190,000 to Kern County causes, all while keeping the love of classic vehicles alive.

Email: info@Cruizin4Charity.com | Website: www.Cruizin4Charity.com

Ford CEO Jim Farley on His 1937 LeBaron Coupe and the Future of Lincoln

By Tim Stevens, www.hagerty.com

Photo Credit: Tim Stevens



It's hard to interview a man like Jim Farley at a place like the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. When I met up with him, he had just finished his rounds as a judge, and so everyone who'd been giving him room to adjudicate now wanted to pay their respects to the man who's been a fixture at the Concours for over a decade now.

"I put myself through graduate school as a mechanic at a restoration shop, building cars for this place. When I got invited to be a technical judge for Packards, and I was accepted by the Packard community as someone who knows about hose clamps, and how a '37 and a '38 hose clamp are different, I was like 'I've really made it in my life,'" Farley said, getting a little emotional.



"Of all the things I've accomplished in my life, other than being married to my wife and having kids, being a judge at Pebble Beach is the most important thing for me. When that happened, I cried like a baby," he said.

Farley has earned the respect of his peers and his place as a judge, certainly, and these days he's a bit more popular on the lawn. "Ten years ago, no one gave a shit," Farley said. "But Ford's different. You become the head of Ford, and everything changes."

Farley took over as CEO Ford in 2020, filling the role vacated by Jim Hackett and steering the company through one of the most turbulent eras in automotive history. A global supply crisis, a burgeoning international trade war, wildly fluctuating consumer intent ... all things Farley has had to face in his five years leading the company.

Most recently, he announced a \$5 billion investment to rethink manufacturing, creating a next-generation electric truck assembled using new techniques to radically reduce its cost. It'll be an EV for the masses, but Farley, at least when he's on the West Coast, likes to set the tech aside.

"When I come to Carmel, I want to live in the past," he said. "So I only drive old cars."

Among his West Coast rides, the Ford CEO counts a Lancia Aurelia B20 and a 1960s Mini Cooper, his daily driver when out here. There is, of course, a period FoMoCo piece in his collection, too—this 1937 Lincoln K LeBaron Coupe.

The Model K was built between 1931 and 1940 and was a big step forward for Lincoln, which had been selling the Model L since the company's inception in 1920. Ford bought the brand just two years later, with Edsel Ford taking the reins and working to move Lincoln further upscale.

"The K was the first true Edsel Lincoln," Farley said. "Edsel was a very tasteful guy. His favorite dog was the greyhound, and this is the classic car that he always wanted to develop. So this is the first true Lincoln, the first Lincoln where Edsel had a 100% say."

Farley's is a 1937 in Ascot Maroon with a gold stripe and a black vinyl top. He ran me down the original build sheet for the car, or at least a copy thereof; the Henry Ford Museum insisted on keeping the original. ("C'mon, it's my car!" Farley lamented.) The machine's coachwork features plenty of art deco-inspired touches, most notably the headlights.

"Mr. Ford was so in love with art deco that he refused to



make these round. He made them oval-shaped, and you can imagine how complicated it was to make a piece of chrome that was oval-shaped, and the whole interior of the car is art deco," Farley said. "The whole car's idea was art deco."

■■■■➡ Story continues on Page 19

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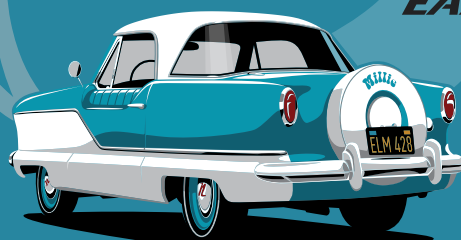
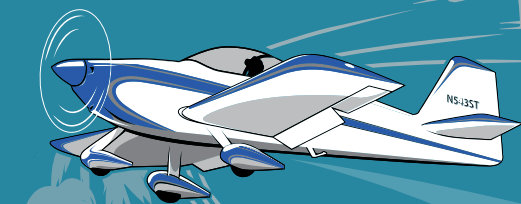
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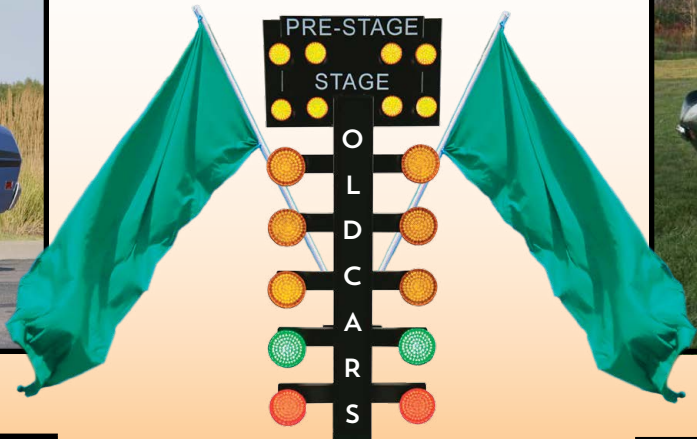
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LET'S RUN THEM



1971 DEMON 340

Factory ADP	Wheelbase	Length	Shipping Weight	Base V-8	Engine Options
\$3,245	97 in.	178 in.	3,097 lbs.	290 cid/225 hp	343 cid/280 hp 390 cid/315 hp



VS



1973 TRANS AM SD 455

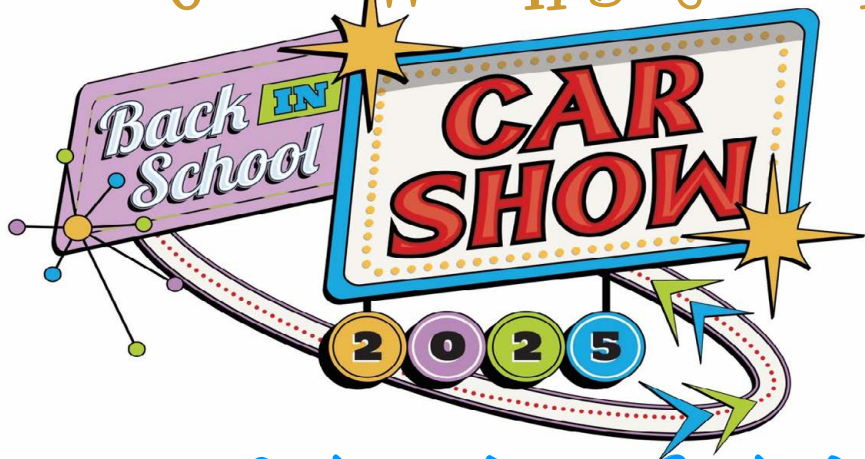
Factory ADP	Wheelbase	Length	Shipping Weight	Base V-8	Engine Options
\$4,879	108 in.	192.1 in.	3,504 lbs.	455 cid/310 hp	None

SEE WHO WINS ON PAGE 22.

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“MOTATE TO MADERA” THIS OCTOBER FOR THE 2025 VALLEY NATIONALS ROD & CUSTOM SHOW

MADERA, CA – One of California's most respected and community-driven car events is returning to the Central Valley this fall. The Valley Nationals Rod & Custom Show, hosted by Hot Rod Coalition and presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts, takes over the Madera Fairgrounds on October 10–11, bringing together enthusiasts from across the state for a weekend that blends classic cars, culture, and community.

With a reputation that stretches the United States, cars from Bakersfield to Oakland flock to this crown jewel. The Valley Nationals has become a tradition—built by people who care about keeping hot rod history alive and making space for the next generation of builders and fans. Will you Join Us?

Event Highlights:

- Over 600 rods, customs, trucks, and lowriders
- Invitation-only indoor showcase
- VW and Cadillac spotlight sections
- The Boulevard: A Lowrider Display
- Classic truck zone (Squarebody + OBS Chevys welcome)
- Big Rigs and custom motorcycles
- Vintage drag racing display
- Pinup contest, RC car drag racing, and arm wrestling tournament
- Live music both days
- Family-friendly environment

There's also a large auto swap meet, organized by @thehotrodmerchant, offering everything from vintage parts to tools and collectibles. To reserve swap space (20x20), contact Austin at 559-260-1199.

For those interested in vendor space, the show features a wide range of classic car life-style booths, including the well-known Women's Alley, highlighting makers, apparel, and automotive-driven small businesses. For vendor inquiries, contact Jovanna at 559-301-0879.

Friday Night Kickoff – October 10 (5–9 PM):

This laid-back cruise-in event includes early access to the swap meet, food trucks, and live music.

Spectator admission is \$5.

Show car entry (Friday only) is \$40 at the gate.

Saturday Main Event – October 11 (Gates open 7:00 AM):

This is the big day—with the full show field, awards, indoor display, and more.

Spectator admission is \$10 (kids 10 & under free).

Military and veterans receive 50% off at the gate.

Car show entry is \$40 at the gate or \$35 if pre-registered before October 5.

For registration and full event details, visit:

www.hotrodcoalition.com/valleynationals

Questions? Text 559-825-6808 or email info@hotrodcoalition.com.

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■■■■➔ *Story continued from Page 15*

FORD CEO JIM FARLEY ON HIS 1937 LEBARON COUPE...

The coupe's odometer currently sits close to 53,000 miles, 3000 of which Farley has put on over the past five years of ownership. Powered by a 6.8-liter V-12, the LeBaron Coupe makes about 150 horsepower, which, Farley said, is plenty to survive in a modern world. "It does 60 mph, no problem," he said.

But he seems far more enchanted by the Lincoln's sound than its speed. Or, rather, its lack of sound. "You can't even hear it run," he said. "You shut the door, you close the glass,

and it's almost impossible to know this car is running. That's what makes it really special. The 12-cylinder was the ultimate in high-end engineering and quietness."

There is, of course, another, more modern class of silent vehicles: EVs. I asked Farley what it would take to get a modern buyer to appreciate that silence and embrace battery-powered cars, rather than staying beholden to internal combustion. He said that modern EVs are definitely best suited for delivering this kind of silent experience today but added



it still isn't necessarily the time to go all-in on electrification. "I think we're starting to discover our brand location for Lincoln that makes sense," he said. "The team really pushed me to have an all-electric lineup, and I refused to do it. And I'm sure glad we didn't. I'm sure glad we didn't."

Instead, Farley sees Lincoln's future as a combination of traditional internal combustion and hybrids, plus newer extended-range EVs with onboard generators, or EREV. "EREV would be a perfect drivetrain for us. All-hybrid and EREV lineup, and maybe a few electric cars, but more on the affordable side," he said. "I don't think we want to make an affordable hybrid as a Lincoln, but an affordable EV Lincoln, with over-the-top color choice and over-the-top interior customization would make sense."

Future Lincoln, Farley said, will focus on redefining luxury. "I think the differentiation is very much the digital experience and the experience itself. Remote service, concierge," he said, concepts that Edsel Ford couldn't have imagined back in the 1930s. Whether those concepts of future luxury will be endearing enough to ensure we're still driving today's Lincolns in 88 years remains to be seen, but this car, Farley said, had something of a head start in that department: "It's an incredible machine. It's just so refined. When you drive down the road, it literally floats. It kind of drives like a '50s car, which in the '30s was really advanced."



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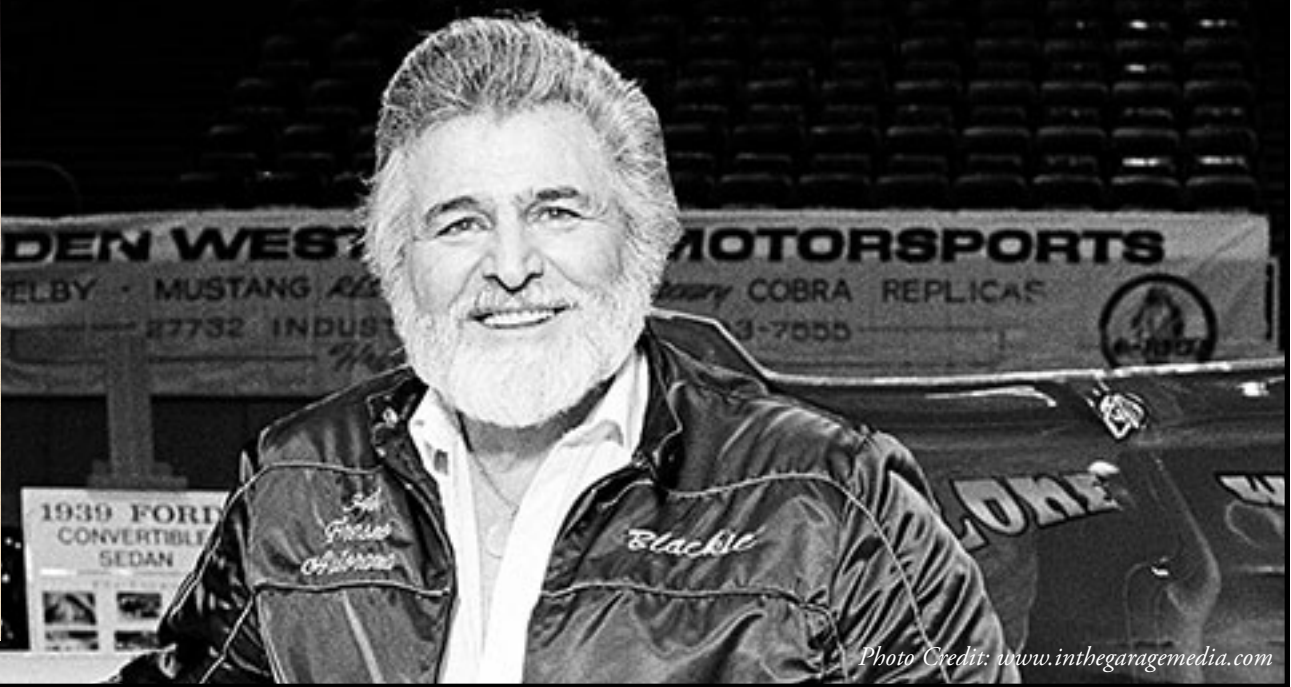


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1971 DEMON 340

After its success as the '70 Plymouth Duster, Dodge couldn't wait to get MoPar's 108-inch wheelbase coupe for its compact Dart line. That chance came in the fall of '70, when the Demon was added to the '71 lineup. It was the first Dart with an under-110-inch wheelbase. Like the Duster, the Demon came in two models. The Demon 340, which cost just \$18 more than the base six, came with a well-balanced small-block V-8, a floor-shifted three-speed, a Rallye instrument cluster, H.D. suspension, E70-14 tires, stripes and dual exhaust. Playing the option list was the name of the game and the 340 had interesting extras including dual-scoop hood with hood pins, a rear spoiler and a "Tuff" steering wheel. The 340 was a card-carrying member of the '71 Dodge "Scat Pack." The Demon was a success, with 69,861 base models and 10,098 Demon 340s built.



0-to-60 MPH	¼-Mile
7.3 seconds	13.54 seconds @ 104.29 mph

1973 TRANS AM SD 455

'73 Firebirds had new colors, redesigned interiors, new hub-caps and more options. The bumpers were redesigned to meet new federal standards. This made the cars slightly longer, which resulted in the new grille being slightly less recessed. The grille had an egg-crate pattern. Like other T/As that came before it, the '73 had special air dams, spoilers, flares and scoops. The scoops were now sealed and non-functional. A new feature was a large hood decal showing the American Indian Firebird that the car was named for. Enthusiasts dubbed this icon the "screaming chicken." On '73 models, the bird was always black, but the background color varied. It was orange on red cars, black on writer cars and light green on Brewster Green cars. The base engine used in the T/A was a 455-cid V-8 with a single four-barrel carb and 8.0:1 compression ratio that produced 250 hp. Pontiac built 4,550 cars with this engine and 1,420 of them had a stick shift. For real muscle, buyers could add a SD 455 V-8 derived from Pontiac's racing experiences.



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THE PHAROAHS CAR CLUB HISTORY

By Laine Hale



Hello, fellow classic car enthusiasts! I would like to introduce you to one of the original car clubs in California that has been around since 1948.

In 1948, the Pharoahs Car Club was started by a group of WWII and Korean War Veterans in Modesto,

California.

In 1957, a group of high school kids in Modesto formed the Faros because they were too young to join the "Pharoahs". The kids who formed the Faros were classmates of director George Lucas, who included the club in the movie American Graffiti.

Under the leadership of President and owner Mike Goodwin in Arizona, the Pharoahs have chapters in nearly every state in the United States. There are several chapters in Canada and throughout the world.

Our local chapter is the Pharoahs Car Club of Visalia. This chapter was started in 2022 and has grown to over 180 members from Visalia and surrounding towns. One of the main goals of The Pharoahs Car Club is to keep the classic and hot rod hobby alive. In order to do this, we need to attract younger car enthusiasts. Our chapter members range in age from their early 20s to their 80s. We are a family-oriented club and encourage our members to bring their children and other family members to our gatherings. Other chapters have been established in Clovis and Bakersfield as a direct result of the success of The Pharoahs Car Club of Visalia.

Each year, the Pharoahs Car Club of Visalia hosts our car show in Visalia in April. In the past, our car show attendance has been approximately 150 - 175 cars. To date, we have been honored to take a large portion of the proceeds from our car show and donate the money to other local non-profit organizations. Some of the organizations we have donated to are Redwood High School Auto Shop, Happy Trails, Read for Life, Honor Flight of Central California, Exeter Ag, The Brave Project, Pro-Youth, Central Valley Rescue Railroad, and Tulare Union High School Auto Shop. Our 2026 car show will be at the Milan Institute on April 11, 2026.

The Pharoahs Car Club of Visalia attends and shows support to other car clubs and shows in the Central Valley. We also participate in several community events throughout the year, including Trunk or Treats, as well as having cars in the Candy Cane Lane Parade in Visalia. We also contribute to local toy drives.

The Pharoahs Car Club of Visalia hosts a Cars and Coffee every Saturday, rain or shine, in the parking lot of Mary's Vineyard on the Southeast corner of Ben Maddox Way and Noble Avenue in Visalia. We would love to see you there!

HOT ROD HEAVEN

Car Show



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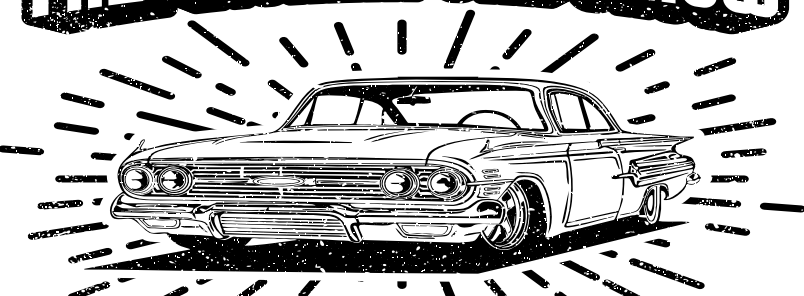
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