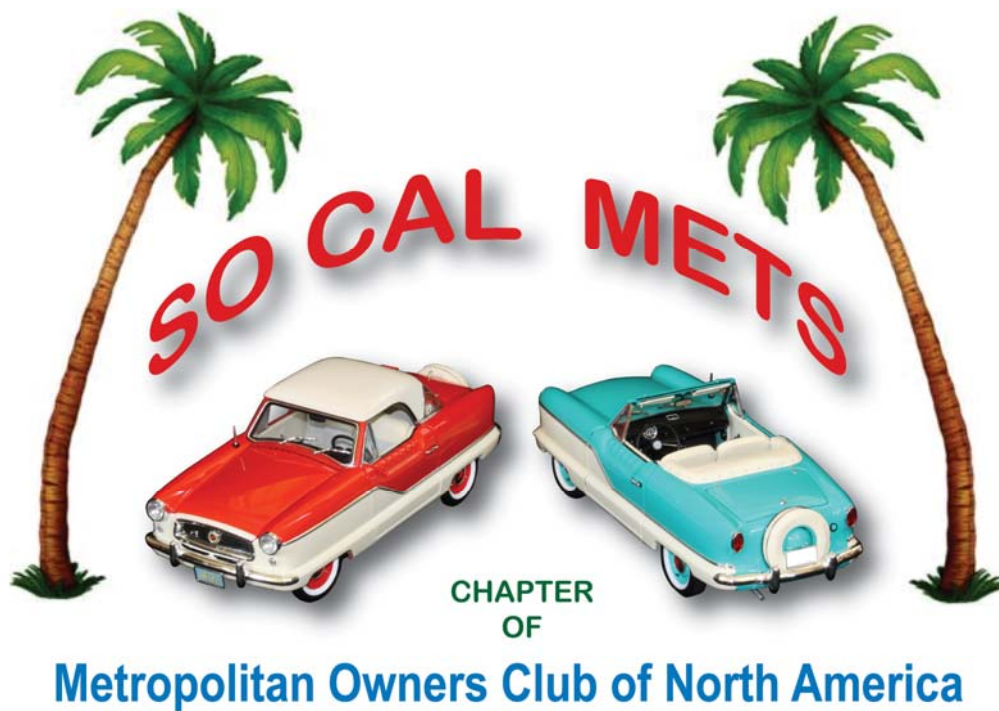


Metropolitan Manifold

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF SO CAL METS

www.socalmets.com

NOV-DEC 2011
No. 7



President:	Ed McCallister	722 N. Archwood	Brea	562-355-3644
Vice President	Ronnie Bauman	1944 Spruce St.	Riverside	951-202-9927
Secretary-Treasurer	Gwen Tolleson	1949 Smokewood Ave.	Fullerton	714-525-8830
Newsletter Editor	Ken Conner	17002 Bolero Lane	Huntington Beach.	714-846-5003



2012

SO CAL METS Calendar

Editor's Email: kconner@socal.rr.com

Club website: www.socalmets.com

Workshops: Every 3 months normally. Meetings: Every 3 months normally. Outings: Every Month

Day & Date	Event	Location & Hosts	Start
Sunday, January 29	Car Show & Lunch	Original Mikes 100 S. Main St., Santa Ana	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday, February 12	Sweetheart Luncheon	Pepper Shaker Restaurant NW Corner, Harbor & Imperial, LaHabra	11:00 AM
Saturday, March 3	Festival of Whales Parade	Dana Point	TBD
Saturday, March 31	Breakfast Cruise	Ruby's Train Station Depot Old Town Orange	9:00 AM
Friday & Saturday April 13 & 14	Unique Little Car Show	Phoenix, Arizona http://www.microcar.org/2012/2012SWULCS.pdf	
Sunday, April 29	Meeting	Start at the Pepper Shaker Restaurant for brunch, meeting at the McCallister's home, Brea.	10:00 AM
Sunday, May 6	USO Car Show	Ontario Airport 1940 E. Moore Way., Ontario	
Saturday, May 19	Poker Run	Fullerton Area	TBD
Saturday, June 23	CLUB PICNIC Pot Luck	Craig Park, 3300 N State College Blvd. Fullerton 50/50 Raffle, White Elephant Sale Bring quality items for the sale	10:30 AM
Sunday, July 15	Meeting	1949 Smokewood Ave., Fullerton Host: Gwen Tolleson 714-525-8830	1:30 PM
August	Cruise & Picnic	Palos Verdes area. Guided by home town girl Martyn Tourdot	TBD
September	Tech Session	On site at Bauman's Towing. Riverside.	TBD
October	Meeting	You?	TBD

Revised 1-10-2012

Dear So Cal Metro Folks:

Betty and I want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year. We hope you have happy times with family and loved ones.

I think we have a pretty good thing going with our new club and I say thanks to each and every one of you for making it happen. Our first year has been all we hoped for, concluding with a terrific Christmas party.

Looking forward to a fun 2012, and until then may you all stay well and continue to polish up your little Mets so they will know they are loved.

God Bless All..... Ed and Betty



Thanks to Gwen Tolleson and Martyn Tourdot, our first annual Christmas party was a fun-filled success! The country French bistro, La Vin Rose was perfect. The story game of left/right got everyone's attention right away. Martyn read a story with an unbelievable amount of left/right words and a decorated package was transferred left or right around each table. A delicious dinner was served next. The dessert came as a bit of a surprise because most people were required to move to another table and enjoy their sweets with a new neighbor. After dessert everyone returned to their original seats and prepared for the crazy gift exchange. Those in attendance were: Ed & Betty McCallister, Ronnie & Barbie Bauman, Gwen Tolleson, Martyn & Chuck Tourdot, Tony & Jackie Bilotti, Ken & Judy Conner, George & Norma Mocabee, Renee & Rick Anderson, Nate & Shirley Hall, John & Anita Fildes, Rolly & Joan Bitterman & Paul & Allison Van Wig,



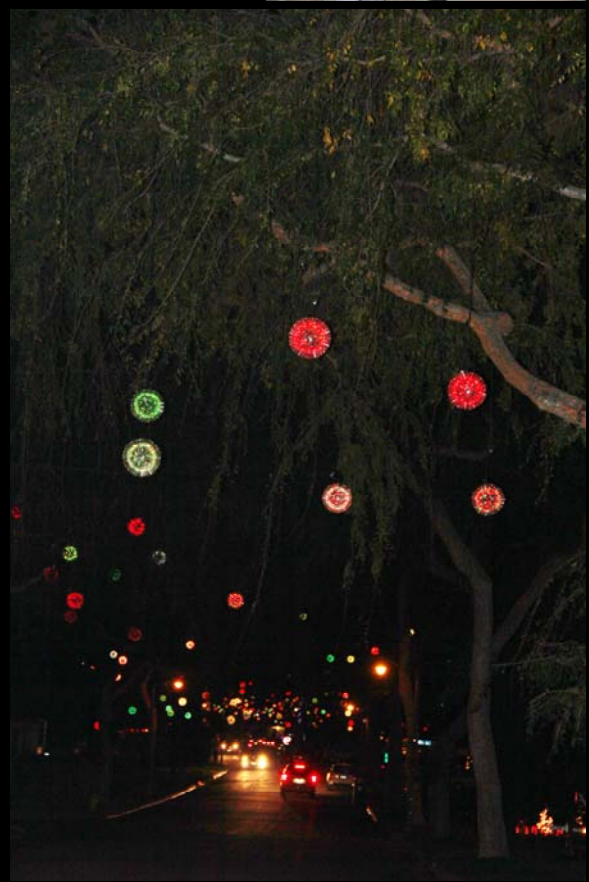




Christmas Lights Cruise

Chuck & Martyn Tourdot hosted our Christmas Potluck and Cruise on December 18th. Chuck's great chili was the staple food. Judy's new cake pops were the dessert.

Martyn led us around Sunny Hills, then Northeast Brea and finally Yale & Nutwood streets in Fullerton. The neighbors on both of the Fullerton streets decorate the trees with handmade "Sparkelballs" made from plastic cups. The effect is enchanting.



Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade

This years Celebrity Grand Marshal was NBA Legend Earvin “Magic” Johnson. Our group of Mets was one of 120 entries. We’d like to think that we were Celebrities too! Our decorations were a hit. More that once we heard a youngster at curbside point to us and say “The Bear is Driving the Car!”





I couldn't resist taking advantage of our recent Christmas tree to create the scene above. I admit that I'm still a kid when it comes to toys. I get melancholy at Christmas and remember those delightful Christmas's and the marvelous miniatures that came my way years ago. Believe it or not I still have some of my (circa 1950) farm toys & trucks. Because of their good condition, someone once accused me of having been a stingy kid who never let anyone else play with and abuse them! There may be some truth to that!

In the last 20 years I purchased several pressed steel "Model" toys by Doepke which I always wanted but were too expensive even for Santa!

What's special about the toy Met pictured above is it's legacy. It's one of four I purchase on ebay in 2010. Because the Highway 61 brand has such realistic detail, I used them to create our So Cal Mets logo. Positioning a toy at the preferred photographic angle is a lot simpler than moving an 1800 lb Met for a photo shoot.

So how did the Highway 61 Toy Met come about? If you were a MOCNA member in 2004 you might recall reading about it in the Met Gazette. For new Metters like me I find it fascinating and would like to share with you the details of the story. We all have John Riley from Dubuque Iowa to thank for this great little replica. John is our MOCNA Secretary although you may know him better as being part of the Met Tech Team & Ask Mr. Met page in the Gazette.

It is with gratitude that I am able to share the following two pages about John's unique Met.

Ken Conner



The Hwy 61 project was started the summer of 2003. The president of the Highway 61 Co. is the grandson of the founder of the Ertl Co. which started in Dubuque in the basement of his house about 4 blocks from where I grew up. They approached me to see if I was interested in using my car for the model, I of course said yes! They sent their photographer to our dealership for a day and he shot over 200 pictures of the car. The white stick is a carpenters rule taped every inch with black

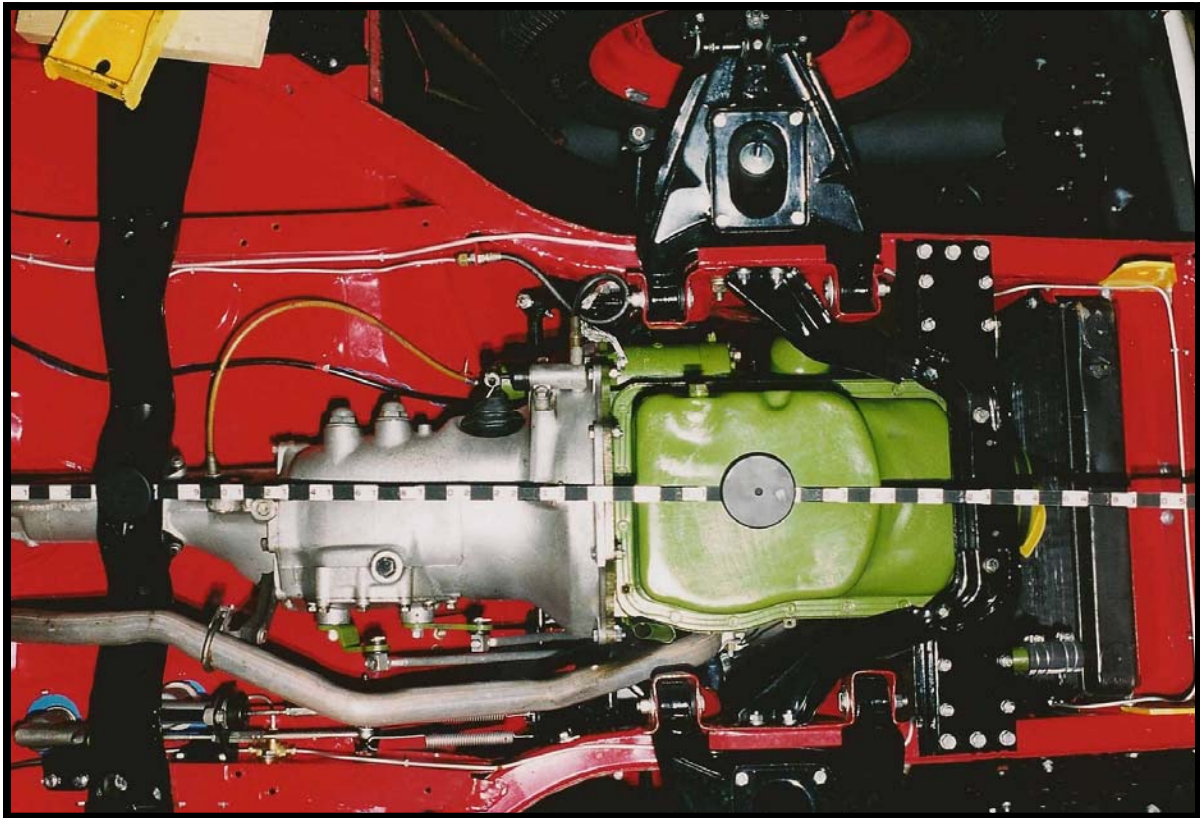


tape.

They sent the photos to China and the engineers built a 1/12 size model off the pictures and returned it to the U.S. for us to make suggestions. The Chinese did an incredible job even on the first model, they even had the add on cruise control box under the dash, we had them remove that. The 1/12th was returned to China for the changes and again returned to the U.S. for evaluation this time in the 1/18 size. It was sent 2 more times for evaluation before production.

The cars were featured on the front cover of Toy & Model cars Magazine with articles in the Dec 2003 & Jan 2004 issues. I was not involved in the hardtop cars, that came later and I don't know if they used another car or just a picture. I am also sending a story that ran in the Gazette about the introduction at the International Toy Show.

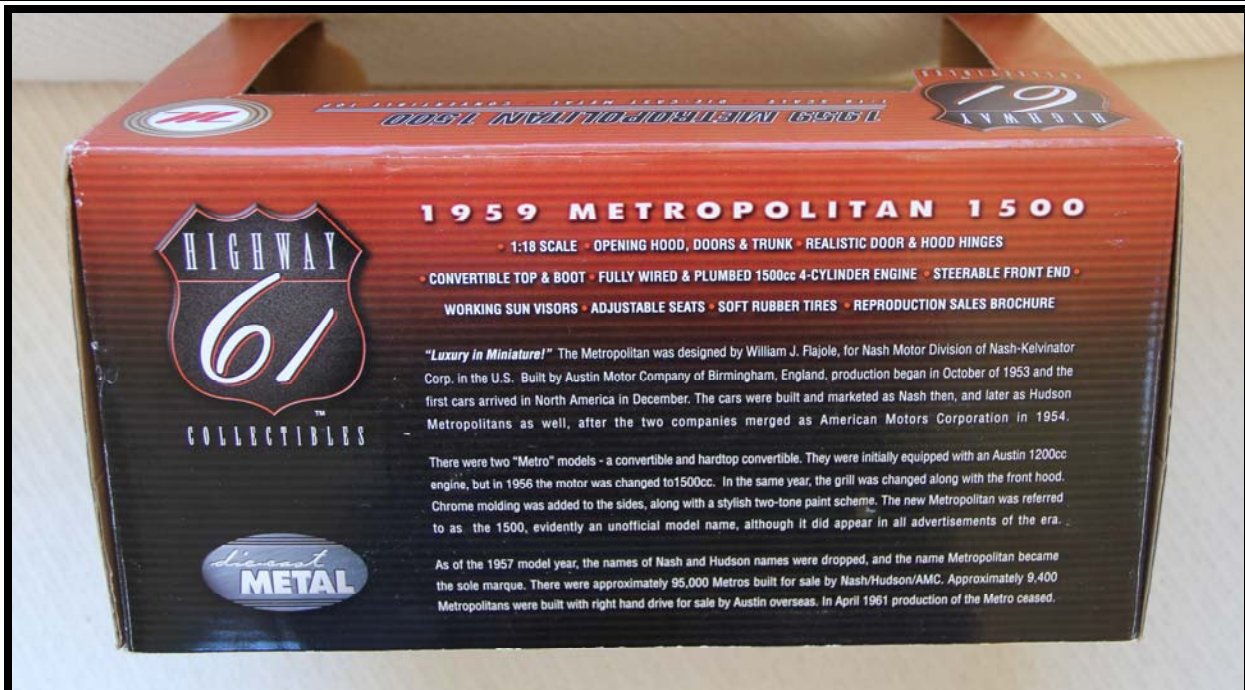
John Riley



INTERNATIONAL TOY SHOW ROSEMONT CONVENTION CENTER CHICAGO

The day for the introduction of the new Metropolitan 1/18 model from Hwy 61 was finally here! I drained the gas tank on our red Met and disconnected the battery, requirements for getting the car into the show arena. On the morning of Wend. Sept. 10, we hooked up the tow bar for the 200-mile trip to Chicago. After getting lost for an hour, they changed the name of the darn convention center; we finally arrived at about 1:30 PM. The car was unloaded and pushed to the Hwy 61 booth; there were a large group of onlookers with plenty of questions from the other people setting up at the show. The Hwy 61 folks started opening the boxes and we got our first look at the new Metropolitan models. They were far beyond our wildest dreams! The detail is incredible and the cost only \$49.95. Available to order at this time are two late model convertibles red and green. The convertible top comes off and there is a boot that comes with each car. The hood opens and is held up with the prop rod, the doors open exposing the interior with the seat that moves back and forth, and the backs fold ahead. The steering operates and the rear seat folds down. The trunk opens and exposes the jack and handle. As the car is pushed the drive shaft turns the trans. and engine, the front engine pulley turns the fan with the fan belt. Get your order in early at 1-877-874-5467 as they expect the Met to be their best selling model ever. Thurs. and Fri. of the show was open only for the hobby shop dealers and Hwy 61 took plenty of orders. The Sat. and Sun. show was open to the public. We returned to the show on Sun. and there were mobs of people. They had race tracks set up to run the remote cars on, a lake to race the remote boats on, and a caged in area to fly remote planes. I think every Model toy in the world was represented there. The Metropolitans were the stars of the show! The show closed at 5:00 PM on Sun. We hooked up the Met for the trip home and left after a wonderful weekend. On the way home it seemed that every time we stopped we were deluged with questions about the Met. We were glad to answer all the questions. It sure looks like this new Met model will create a lot of exposure for the Metropolitan and our hobby.

John Riley #7516





Shown above is John Riley's Met at the 2011 International Metropolitan Meet in Kenosha, Wisconsin last July. The message on the windshield states that the car is for display only. John was gracious enough not to include his perfect specimen in the judging! The 1:18 scale model Mets by Highway 61 are derived from this car. If you have the Highway 61 toy, lift the hood and note that there are two hood prop rods (not standard) just like John's car.

From The Editors Notebook:

1. George Mocabee is leaving his post as our Vice President. George will continue as our Webmaster.
2. Ronnie Bauman has been elected as our new Vice President. Thank you Ronnie for stepping up to the plate.
3. For those members wanting to reread any issue of the newsletters you have received via email, you can also find them on our web site:
www.socalmets.com
4. Several of us are going to attend the USO Charity Car & Motorcycle Show in Ontario on Sunday May 6th. The complete address for mailing your application is: 1940 E. Moore Way, Ontario, CA 91761
The sister of our MOCNA VP, Brian Cotariu is involved in this event.
5. Send me your story about the most notable compliment your Met has ever received.

REPORT ON "RUN TO THE SUN".

Well, Little Miss Met decided to let us know loud and clear she is a California Girl and not an Arizona Cactus! When we arrived in Havasu, she came up with a few mechanical ailments (brakes locked up, electrical short and had to be hot wired to start, intermittently stuck in 2nd gear) which prevented me from driving her around. She was a pistol. Everything worked fine when we loaded her on the trailer at home.



We were able to get her to the car show on the trailer, get her unloaded and to her reserved spot on the golf course where she stayed for the duration. Poor Nick worked harder this weekend than a race weekend. And this was supposed to be his "vacation" weekend. He just shrugged it off and said it's old cars and &*^\$ happens! When we got home, of course her brakes worked fine so we could unload her off the trailer and park her in the garage. In Havasu, the brakes locked up to get her off the trailer and again to load her on the trailer?!

All was not lost. Due to Nick's and my brother-in-laws Bill and Terry's diligence, we got her to the show, she showed well and got lots of attention. I talked to a couple people regarding the club and handed out applications. One gentleman

said he had an opportunity to purchase a 58 Met for \$500. The way he described it's original condition was too good to be true but I gave him my card and told him we would be interested if he decided to pass.

So sorry I was unable to get a picture of Little Miss Met near the London Bridge. It was a little disappointing to not be able to drive her around town. Maybe we'll try again next year IF she decides she wants to get on the trailer for another trip to Arizona. You know how stubborn those Little Ladies are when they don't want to do something!!!!!!

Renee Anderson



2012 Subscriptions

It is now time for you to renew your membership. Subscriptions for 2012 remain unchanged from this year and are as follows -

UK	£18.00
EUROPE	£20.00
NORTH AMERICA	£21.00
REST OF WORLD	£22.00

We can now accept payments from US members in dollars. If you wish to pay in US dollars, please write your check out for \$33.00 and make it payable to John Dowling. Your checks should still be sent to me at the address below and I will then pass them to John who will be able to cash them on behalf of the Club. Unfortunately we are currently unable to accept payments in local currencies from any other country and therefore any such remittance should be a draft made out in British Pounds.

Please make all cheques payable to The Metropolitan Owners Club and send to-

Steve James MOC
4 Henacre Wood Court
Bradford
West Yorkshire
BD13 2LJ
England

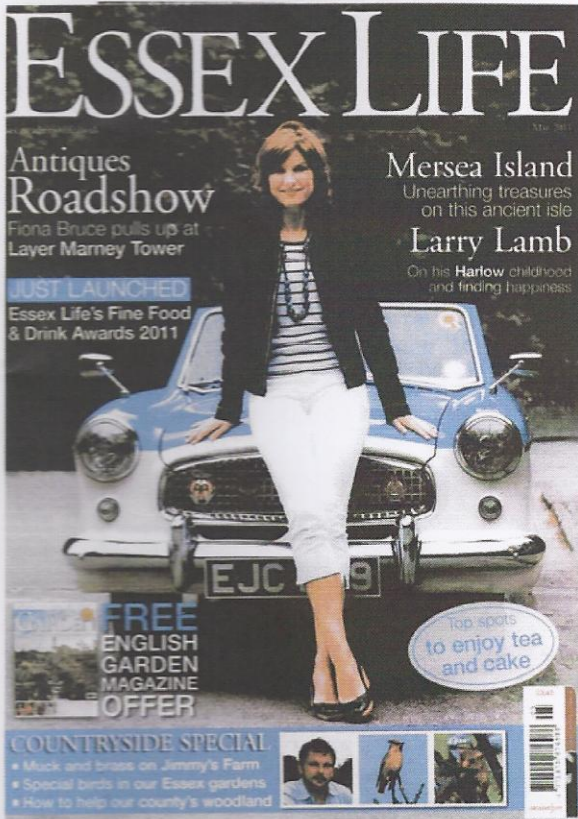
Please ensure that renewal payments are submitted by the end of January 2012. We do hope that everyone will be staying with us, but if you decide for whatever reason that you will not be renewing your membership, could you please let me know so that we do not contact you unnecessarily. You can let us know by writing to the above address or by phone/email using the following - Tel 01274 817756 or Email steve@metclubuk.com



All The Nice Girls Love a Met

by Steve James.

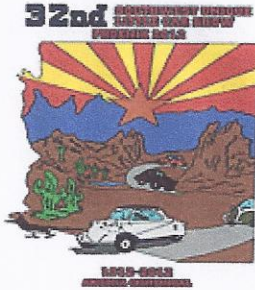
Club member Robin Lintern from Essex kindly sent me a copy of the following front page from the Essex Life magazine. This shows TV presenter Fiona Bruce resting against a Berkshire Green & White convertible Metropolitan, although as often happens in photographs, the colour translation makes it appear to be more on the blue side.



Although it was used as the backdrop for Layer Marney Towers in Essex where the Antiques Road Show was held, the photograph was actually taken on another road show visit to Wales. The car belongs to our own Gareth Jones who had previously informed us that he had been interviewed with his car, and had had the pleasure of Ms Bruce adorning his bonnet! Sadly, despite me watching all the subsequent Antiques Road Shows on the TV, the BBC chose not to use the footage, which I feel was a great shame as regards publicity for our favourite car

As many of you will know, Ms Bruce was voted 'rear of the year' in 2010 so as a bonnet mascot, this has got to beat the standard flying lady (the Met one not the RR one of course!).

If you have any more photos or anecdotes from that day Gareth, if you'd like to share them with us then I'm sure it would make a great follow-up piece for the magazine.



April 13,14, 2012
Phoenix, AZ
**32nd Annual SW Unique Little
Car Show**

Hosted by

John Hill - 602-258-9658 johnhill007@aol.com

Nancy Gnepper - 623-465-8711

Louis Hudgin - 602-509-3751 LandLhudgin@msn.com

April 13,& 14th,2012 marks the 32nd Southwest United States gathering of all makes of small cars and their keepers.

The focus of the show is an annual reunion of small car keepers to build and refresh friendships and enjoy each other's small unique little cars.

A non-common car is defined as having an engine of 1500cc or less and small production numbers.

Awards will be given based on Judging by registered participants.

In an effort to promote the preservation of un-restored original cars, a special class of Survivors will be judged by the Host committee.

We will need at least 5 pre-registered cars for a "type" award.

Pre-Registration is \$20 for 1 car, 2nd and 3rd car \$5 ea. 4 or more are FREE!

Registration Day of Show is \$25 per car.

Download and print out an Event Registration/info packet: [HERE](#)

<http://www.microcar.org/2012/2012SWULCS.pdf>

Schedule of Events:

Friday April 13, 2012

early evening: Cruise to the Martin Car Museum with a BBQ meal at the museum for \$12 each person.

Saturday April 14 2012

9am-4pm Car Show! Cars will be displayed on shaded grass in a Courtyard setting next to a large pool area.

Banquet Dinner-\$30 ea person, please see info packet for more info!

Host Hotel:

[Embassy Suites Phoenix North](#)

2577 W. Greenway Road.

Phoenix, AZ 85023

For reservations call: 602-375-1777 or 800-362-2779

Up to 4 people occupancy:\$109 per night.

please mention you are with The SW Unique Little Car Show



ONTARIO

CHARITY CAR & MOTORCYCLE SHOW

To Help Support Our Troops

Sunday May 6, 2012

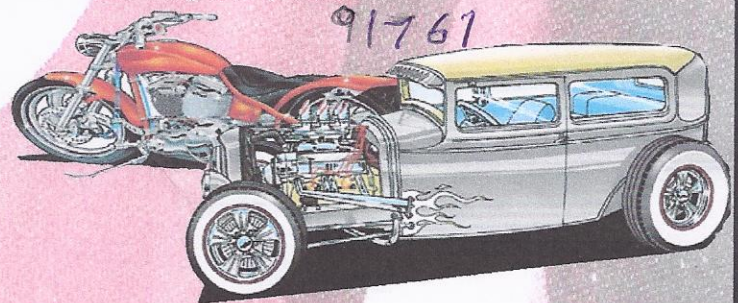
10am to 3pm

USO at Ontario Airport

1940 E. Moore Way

South on Vineyard Ave. from the 10 Fwy.
(cross streets Vineyard and Airport Dr.)

at the old airport terminal



- Vendors
- Awards
- Raffle
- Food
- 50/50
- Music

Vendors Welcome - Call Gail or Mary

Info: Call Gail or Mary @ 909-390-4274 ...

Welcome Patriot Guard & American Legion Riders

Pre-Reg. - Cars \$20 donation / Motorcycles \$10 donation

at the gate - Cars \$25 / Motorcycles \$15

make checks payable to USO Ontario --- Spectators Free

Registration online @ USOONTARIO.ORG

Release of liability as follows: In consideration of the acceptance of the right to participate in this event, the participant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless LA/Ontario International Airport, LAWA/USO Ontario, City of Ontario, event sponsors or vendors, organizers, and volunteers from and against any and all known and unknown damages, injuries and/or losses that the participant and/or their guests may sustain as a result of their attendance or participation in this event.

Signature _____ Date _____ License # _____

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Year _____ Make _____ Model _____ Color _____