

Metropolitan Manifold

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CHAPTER
OF

Metropolitan Owners Club of North America

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2018

SO CAL METS Calendar

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

Club website: www.socalmets.com

ADVENTURES: EVERY MONTH

Day & Date	Event	Location & Hosts	Start
<i>Jan 13 Saturday</i>	<i>Canyon Cruise</i>	<i>Mike & Kim Dahlberg 18142 Theodora Dr. Tustin Lunch at the Cantina</i>	<i>9:00 AM</i>
<i>Feb 17 Saturday</i>	<i>Nixon Library Yorba Linda</i>	<i>Meet at Knowlwood Restaurant 5665 E. La Palma Ave. Anaheim</i>	<i>9:30 AM</i>
<i>Mar 10 Saturday</i>	<i>Bowers Museum JFK Exhibit</i>	<i>2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>April 13 & 14</i>	<i>Unique Little Car Show</i>	<i>Phoenix, AZ</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>April 21 Saturday</i>	<i>Chocxo Chocolate Factory</i>	<i>9461 Irvine Center Dr. Irvine</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>May 12 Saturday</i>	<i>Crystal Cove Newport Coast</i>	<i>35 Crystal Cove, Newport Beach, CA 92657</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>June 24, Sunday</i>	<i>Annual Picnic Pot Luck</i>	<i>Craig Park, 3300 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton</i>	<i>10:30 AM</i>
<i>July 21 Saturday</i>	<i>Custom Auto Svc Tour</i>	<i>302 French St. Santa Ana</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>Aug 5, Sunday</i>	<i>Heritage Museum Santa Ana</i>	<i>3101 W Harvard St, Santa Ana</i>	<i>9:00 AM</i>
<i>Sept 15, Saturday</i>	<i>Stanley Ranch Museum</i>	<i>12174 S Euclid St, Garden Grove, CA 92840</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>October 20 Saturday</i>	<i>Santa Ana Zoo</i>	<i>1801 East Chestnut Avenue Santa Ana</i>	<i>TBA AM</i>
<i>November 3 Saturday</i>	<i>Cruise to Toms Farm</i>	<i>Temescal Canyon Road & I-15 Corona</i>	<i>11:00 AM</i>
<i>December 8 Saturday</i>	<i>Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade</i>	<i>27001 Moulton Parkway (& Oso) Aliso Viejo Parking lot between Pancake House & 7-11</i>	<i>8:15 AM</i>
<i>December 16 Sunday</i>	<i>Annual Xmas Party</i>	<i>Conner residence. Huntington Beach</i>	<i>3:00 PM</i>

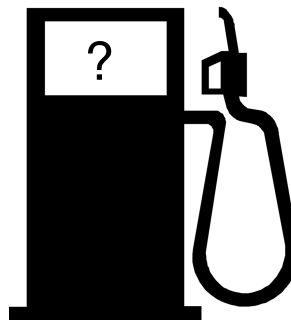
Revised: August 24th, 2018

Mets Pose With The Past



Our July adventure saw us at three different locations. We met in the parking lot of the Barnes & Noble store on Main Street in Orange. We headed North to 305 S. Main. There, still standing, is the ghost of a 1920's Gas Station. It was one of the first in Orange County. Most recently it served as a Flower stand. We did a quick photo shoot with our Mets there. Our group at that point consisted of Ron Bauman, Tony Bilotti, Chris DiTommaso, Kim Domingues & friend Dianna, Ken Conner, Armando Reyes with Maritza & her Mom.

Below is the station when it really pumped gas.



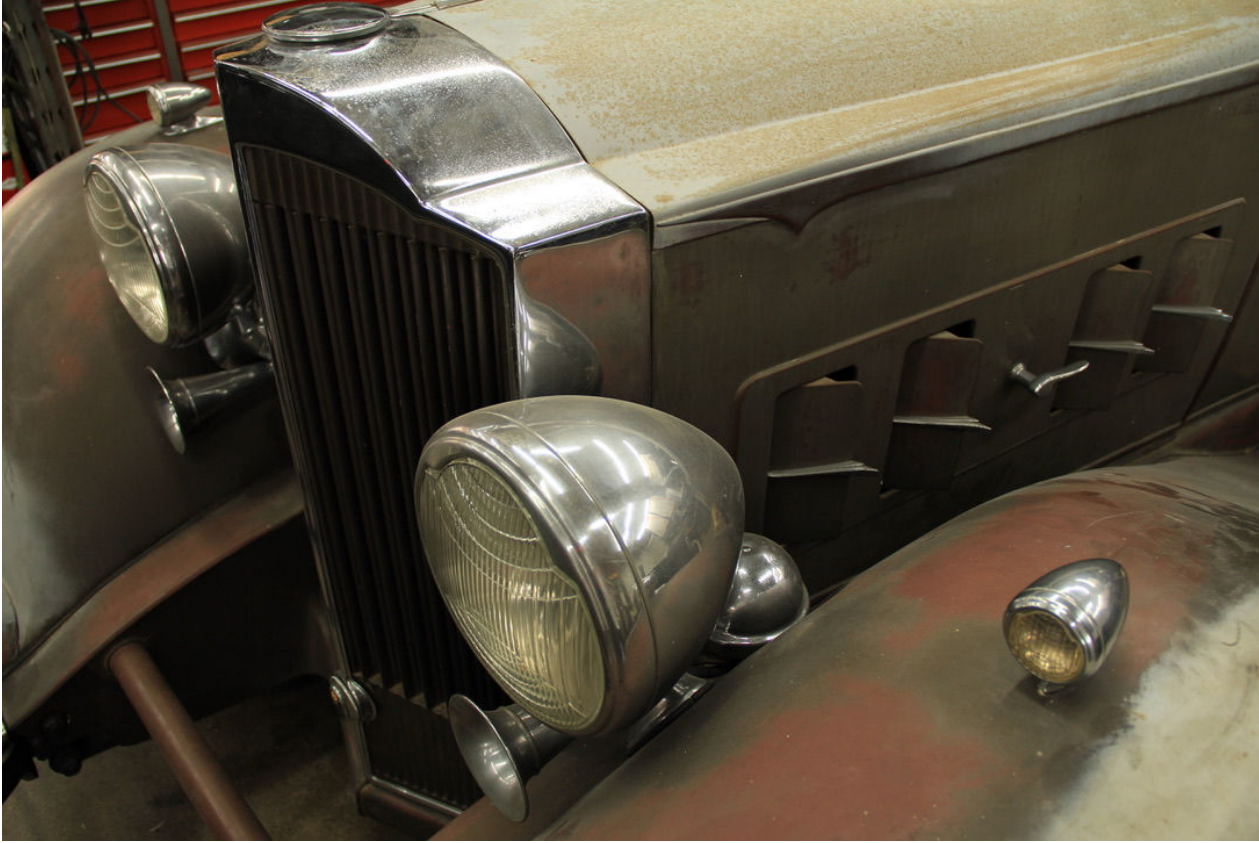
John and Anita Fildes joined us at our next stop, which was Robert Escalante's "Custom Auto Service" at 302 French St., downtown Santa Ana. It's a 50 year old "Packard" restoration & repair shop, loaded with Classy Automotive Antiquity.



A business card for Custom Auto Service. The card is green and white with a decorative border. It features the Packard Motor Car Company logo at the top, which includes the text "ESTABLISHED 1916" and "100 YEARS OF SERVICE". Below the logo, the text reads "Custom Auto Service", "www.CustomAutoService.com", "Robert Escalante", and "reclipper120@sbcglobal.net". The address "302 French Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701" and phone number "Tel: 714/543.2980" are listed on the left. On the right, it says "Nominated Business of the Year 2008" and "Fax: 714/836.4014". There is also a small circular logo for "CUSTOM AUTO SERVICE" at the bottom.



After a great visit to the world of Packards, we all went to lunch at a local Mexican restaurant. Ron Bauman picked up the tab. Thank you Mr. President.





Our last stop was a visit to the private wax figure collection of Dave & Dianne Reidy. They even have a couple of Packards on display. Many of their subjects are from the old Movieland Wax Museum that used to be on Beach Blvd, near Knott's Berry Farm.



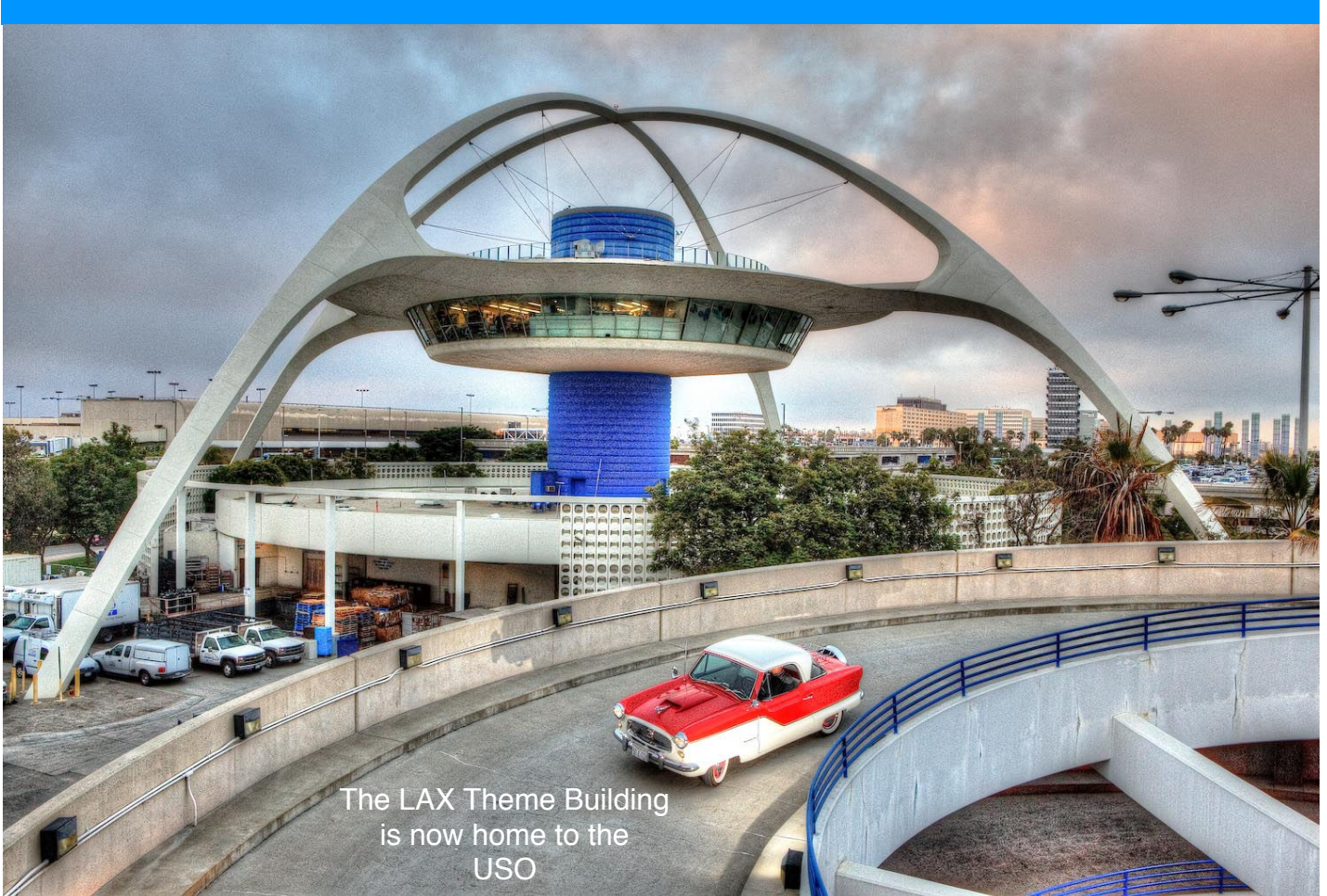


Thank you Dave & Dianne Reidy.



Many of us were away for the August visit to the Santa Ana Heritage Museum. Fortunately Tony Bilotti was there and covered the day which included a unique Civil War Display. To see the write up and the many photos please go to our web site:

www.socalmets.com
and click on "2018 Events"



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The lure of having a minted Metropolitan coin was enough to drive to Palmdale. The seekers were Gwen Tolleson & Tony Bilotti. It was 2010 and Keith Hays had told Gwen that Cliff Kos was selling his unique coinage. Not one to pass up anything Metropolitan (Tony especially), they paid Cliff a visit and did buy some cool coins. During that visit they learned that Cliff had at one time owned some thirty Mets, which were unfortunately destroyed in a fire on his property. For years thereafter he was down in the dumps about Metropolitanans. He did however finally give in to Metropolitanitis & purchased another Met, a 1960 Berkshire Green hardtop from a guy named Jim.

Cliff's account of his buying the Met is taken from his hand written note, which the present owner, Marcia Jones, shares with us here:

"Jim wanted \$10,000 because he and his grandfather had \$14,000 in it. He finally came down to \$8,000. After discussing all with him...he was getting divorced and needed money for a lawyer. His lawyer's fee was \$6,500 and he was fairly amicable. I told him no - that's too little and offered him \$6,543.21 and

he accepted! I had Keith and his brother check it out and Keith said I am very good friends with the company Jim claims did the work at \$14,000. (*We think the "Company" in this case was the Metropolitan Pit Stop*). Keith and Darrell Hays said they would check it out the next day. Keith said at \$8,000 grab it. So I told him, the owner, I would like to have it if he delivered it and produced proof of the \$14,000 work performed! He delivered it in 2 weeks and I checked the pan! Slight surface rust - but NO holes. I did this while Yvonne was showing him our Koi. From that instant that METRO was mine and my ancestors. At this instant the car is so perfect I am tempted to wrap it in plastic and suck the air out and never drive it. This should be a gift for the future. Right now I am looking at autographed pictures of the man who designed this car, William J. Flajole and George Romney, the president of American Motors who sold the car and a candidate for US Vice President. Jim's work was \$15,130 plus the price of the original car... whatever that was. at this moment, if someone offered me \$20,000 I would laugh at them ... 3 1/2 times what I paid for it... 24 hours ago. It appears I'm in Metro traffic again. The goodies I have left from my last excursion before the 1/2 million dollar documented fire loss will be added to the price of the car. There is a God! I hope to offer the 51 Kaiser to poor vagabond Jay Leno".

Cliff Kos, Collector, High Desert Koi fanciers in Palmdale.

It's been said that every car has a story behind it. Much of the rest of the story on this Met was told in the March 2013 Met Gazette. Gwen Tolleson bought the Met from Cliff who sold it to Ron Bauman who sold it to Marcia Jones, the proud & present owner. Because of its blue color, your editor felt that it deserved to be photographed at the antique Gas Station as well.



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