

Metropolitan Manifold

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CHAPTER
OF

Metropolitan Owners Club of North America

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2015

SO CAL METS Calendar

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

Club website: www.socalmets.com

PLANNING MEETINGS: EVERY 3 MONTHS NORMALLY. ADVENTURES: EVERY MONTH

Day & Date	Event	Location & Hosts	Start
Jan 11, Sunday	Cruise & Lunch	Roadside Café - 1822 North Glassell Street, Orange, <i>RAINED OUT</i>	11:30 AM
Feb 15, Sunday	Cruise & Lunch Gypsum Canyon	Knowlwood Burgers, 5665 E. La Palma Anaheim	11:00 AM
Mar 14, Saturday	Lunch Rainforest Cafe	1515 Disneyland Monorail System, Anaheim, CA 92807 (714) 772-0413	11:30 AM
April 10 & 11	Southwest Unique Little Car Show	Tucson, AZ	
April 25, Saturday	Cruise to Tom's Farm - Corona	Temescal Canyon Road & I-15 & Planning Meeting	11:00 AM
May 30, Saturday	Mini - Small Car Cruise	1733 Lake St, Huntington Beach	9:15 AM
June 7, Sunday	HB Concours Car Show	7111 Talbert, Huntington Beach	7:00 AM
June 14, Sunday	Annual Picnic Pot Luck	Craig Park, 3300 N State College Blvd. Fullerton	10:30 AM
July 8-12	MOCNA International Meet	7414 South Hosmer Tacoma, Washington	
August 9, Sunday	Antiq. Music Box Phonograph Show	UFCW Union hall 8530 Stanton Ave, Buena Park, CA 90620	TBA
August 15, Saturday	Johnny Carson Memorabilia	Fullerton Museum Center 301 N. Pomona, Fullerton	TBA
September			
October 10, Saturday	Nash/Hudson/AMC Reunion & Show	Automobile Driving Museum El Segundo	TBA
November ?Sunday	Car Show & Lunch	Original Mikes - Santa Ana 100 S. Main Street	11:00 AM
December 12 Saturday	Laguna Niguel Holiday Parade	27001 Moulton Parkway (& Oso) Aliso Viejo Parking lot between Pancake House & 7-11	8:15 AM
December 13 Sunday	Annual Christmas Party	Mama Cozza's - 2170 W. Ball Road Anaheim 714-635-0063	1:00 PM

Revised: June 16, 2015



We are sorry to report that our first president, Ed McCallister passed away on the 5th of June. Ed played a principal roll in creating our MOCNA Chapter, So Cal Mets in 2010. Ed was also a MOCNA Board Member. He was a long time Met enthusiast in Southern California and his help will be missed. His Met will stay in the family with his daughter Julie in Poway, California. Ed was preceded in death by a son and his amiable wife Betty who we lost last December. Arrangements for a memorial service are pending and will most likely take place after our MOCNA International Meet in Washington.





The May 30th Met and Mini coastal cruise was a fun success. We started at Huntington Beach City Hall and took PCH to the top of Signal Hill in Long Beach. Unfortunately the view from Hilltop Park was barely VFR for both us and the pilots at the airport below. Still our drive back was scenic as we cruised beside Alamitos Bay then later Bolsa Chica State Beach. Our final stop was lunch at Kathy Mays Lakeside Café in Huntington Beach's Central Park. There were 19 vehicles in the caravan.

The idea of our Mets mixing with the smaller Crosley's Subaru's , Isetta's etc was Ronnie Bauman's. Ken Conner & Marcia Jones from our club & Mike Hewitt from the Subaru Club put the event together. See our Web Site for more details.





A 58' for Fifty-Seven Years

It was September 30th 1958 and 20-year-old Leonard Bruch walked into Walker Brothers Nash at 3280 W. Olympic in LA and bought a new Met. It had five miles on the odometer. Today that Met has an additional 168,000 miles on it and Len still owns it!

The current 57year old relationship may be a record so we challenge anyone to better it. The one owner Met is a Red & White hard top. The license plates are ham operator plates showing Len's call letters K6BKK & they to go back to 1958.

Len's family was living in Covina when he turned 18. He got a job as a postal clerk at the Terminal Annex in LA. In need of transportation, his aunt loaned him the money to buy his first car, a new but economical 1956 Nash Metropolitan. That lasted a

few months but Len got the urge to drive a larger car. So he traded the 56 Met for a regular size car for a while but it used too much gas. After all regular gas was up to .30 cents a gallon! Blessed with a good mind for numbers & frugality Len reverted & bought a newer Met, the 58 he has to this day!



With an opportunity to work at the Palm Springs Post Office, Len & his Met moved to the Yucca Valley area in 1962. There he later met his wife Gail and their marriage produced a son & daughter. Len is MOCNA member 2343, which makes him a member since 1981.

He delivered mail in Palm Springs for 12 years delivering to such notables as Kirk Douglas & Dina Shore.

The 60-mile round trip down to work was always in his Met. That accounts for the odometer reading of 168,000 miles. However we calculate that 42,000 of those miles were just "coasting miles"! You know how the Desert floor slopes endlessly. That 1500 Austin engine had it easy part way. Of course it did have to power back up the grade going home.



When I arrived at Len's place I felt like Wayne Carini from the Velocity Channel's "Chasing Classic Cars" program. The Met was in an 8' wide shed and hadn't run for almost two years. There was a sharp downslope from the shed so once the car came out it would need to power itself back in. Hoping for the best we decided to get it out, get it running and then do a photo shoot. At first it wouldn't move. A very flat right front tire was the culprit. Using some wild body positions I was able to reach down and just feel the valve stem. Then with the air compressor connected the tire took back its shape. We carefully rock-n-rolled it out & down from the shed. I put some fresh gas down the carburetor & pumped the fuel pump. Len set the choke, pulled the starter andit fired right up!!!



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The one owner Met has some relic accessories in the engine compartment. The oil filter is a Franz, which uses an actual roll of toilet paper (must be 2 ply)! Mounted above the brake light switch is an additive dispenser, which lubricates the upper cylinders with a product that was called "Rislon". The engine has had a valve job or two, which seems to account for the blue painted valve cover. The car did experience a sand storm once and was repainted and re-chromed in 1984. It looks none the worse today. I like the spare tire cover. It is a unique shaped stainless cover with an unusual convex



metal face plate looking like a white wall. It handily allows access to the valve stem for pressure checks.



After the photo session, I looked under the car. I could see no rust. I asked Len the obvious question: "Would you sell it?" His answer reminded me of the Les Brown/Doris Day hit song "Sentimental Journey". "No" he said. "I'm still too sentimental about the car".



Ken Conner

5th Annual Picnic



Our 5th Annual Picnic was another fabulous event. One couldn't help notice the strength of our female membership. Not only did they prepare the scrumptious food but they also had a great deal to do with the auction as well.

Just after we parked, Marcia Jones rolled up in her blue Met and joked about the compliments she & her Met had gotten a couple of miles back. Seems the guy's truck gave him away as a carpet layer but laying carpet wasn't the only thing he had in mind!



New member Elise Doran arrived & parked her beautiful black & white Met. Elise said that her Met has always been owned by women and that she is the fifth woman to own her Met. Ironically she is the first married woman to own the Met.

Then there was the reliable auction staff of Barbie Bauman, Renee Anderson & Marcia Jones. Thanks to June Valentine for her donation and purchases.

Allison Van Wig however, gets the prize for being an entrepreneur and philanthropist too. You see Martyn Tourdot donated the cool 8 bottle tub of Ale cleverly labeled as "Metropolitan " and "Imported from England". When the auction price stalled at \$65.00, Allison Van Wig bought it. She then walked up to the table and announced that she was breaking up the set, keeping 1 bottle for herself and selling the other 7 for \$10.00 each. Cheapskates like your editor immediately went up and bought a souvenir bottle for \$10.00. They sold out immediately and Allison donated the \$70.00 back to the club! Thank you Allison & thank you Martyn for your bottle artistry with such eloquent verbiage on the labels.

Of course it all started at 6:30 AM when Vice President Gwen Tolleson was first in line at the park entrance to insure that we had that great park site again. Gwen reported that our auction netted \$920.00. Oh yes, remember who won the \$285.00 50/50 raffle? It was Barbie Bauman and she donated it to the chapter. That totals \$1205.00! Thank you Ladies & thank you Gentlemen. Thank you also Ron Bauman for being such a likable auctioneer.

May the auction results be a reminder that our chapter still does not charge dues as does most other clubs.



CHEERS

