



# BOWTIE 101

FEBRUARY 2026 VOLUME 26



**Chevy trivia**  
How many 2nd generation Corvair cars came with factory installed vinyl tops?  
a) 0 b) 3 c) 23  
**Answer on page 6**

## Christmas Dinner – Vix Creek Saloon, Arroyo Grande (Dec 6)

26 of us met at this relatively newly opened restaurant in the village, that our Holiday Director Richard & his wife Patience arranged for us. Also attending were Steve & Holly, Owen & Janice, Vince & Cheryl, Ray & Ida, James & Pat, Jim & Alma, Gene & Sally, Rich & Sharon, Bret & Heidi, Jim & Jane, Jeff, Omar, Jim O. & Steve M. This turned out to be a fun evening, and everyone thought the food, menu selections and service were very good.



[Toys For Tots Collection](#)  
[Page 2](#)



[Which Chevs Got Vinyl Tops?](#)  
[Page 3](#)



[Chevy's First Subcompact](#)  
[Page 11](#)



## Toys for Tots Drive – Golden Donut Parking Lot, Orcutt (Dec 7)

Today was the day all the toy donation were gathered at the local car show. There were two El Caminos filled with toys. One of our members Jim Perry then delivered one El Camino toy load to Fire Station No. 22 around 11am.



# The Ephemeral Rise and Fall of the Vinyl Top

As I've been thinking about some obscure Chevy nuances, thoughts began to percolate about a topic probably many of us haven't spent much time thinking of, except for perhaps Sal and his '31 Chevy restoration. I digress; certainly not the most significant automotive invention, the vinyl top light bulb turned on as a reprise to decades before this post WWII phenomena. This story begins from the viewpoint of citing perhaps one of the earliest vehicle builders who in the beginning built covered horse drawn carriages, this being Studebaker. It can be debated who built the first horseless carriage, but Studebaker's first automobile in 1908 featured 40 years of expertise that every other builder of the first car to market did not possess. Their initial South Bend, Indiana business stemmed from building pioneer wagons which transported families across the Oregon Trail. From their playbook came the inclusion of a canvas or leather top for passenger comfort; in-fact, even survival. They became the only US carriage builder to successfully transition to becoming an automobile manufacturer.



1852 Studebaker  
Conestoga Covered Wagon



1857 Studebaker  
Phaeton

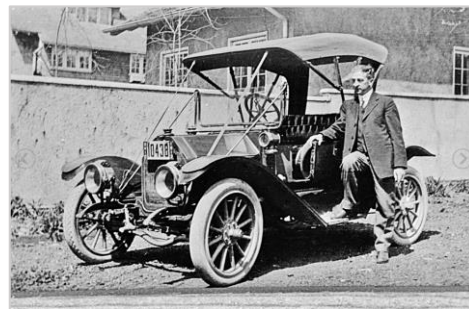


1908 Studebaker  
Automobile

As we know Chevy was not the first car builder out the gate and this initial design did not have a top. The first production car they built with a top was offered in 1912. The approach Chevy took was not unlike what other car manufacturers of that time were doing. Typically wood or a steel frame was used for a structure, with a cover that featured canvas or leather to form essentially an awning or tent like cover over the passenger area.



Louis Chevrolet in 1911 prototype



Chevy's 1912 Little Four Roadster

Eventually new types of fabric became available that had several advantages. These were nearly waterproof compared to canvas, more durable and resistant to sag and mildew. Construction with this material was more economical and provided greater interior comfort, noise insulation and reduced wind flap. General Motors adopted DuPont's *Fabrikoid* which was a coated-cotton artificial leather originally used for luggage and upholstery. By the 1910s DuPont offered varieties embossed in "long-grain" and colonial grain patterns. For car makers, this became a great material to build a banjo top (an insert installed to the roof top) or a touring top.



1930 wood frame



1930 Coupe w/ Banjo Top



1937 Cabriolet w/ Touring Top

There is no denying the fact that these fabric type covered builds from up to late 30's evoked an appreciation of style and craftsmanship, but for the everyday car that was affordable and durable, economics forced shifting from this type of construction. In the mid 1930's Chevy (through Fisher Body) pioneered the turret top which was a one piece stamped steel construction that became a game changer as it increased rigidity and reduced cost and leaks. Chevy was the first division to adopt this across the entire lineup. As this technology progressed with other manufacturers, the steel roof construction became universal. However, emotionally buyers still associated fabric tops with luxury cars, hence there eventually became a growing market for cars that looked like the expensive coachbuilt cars of yesterday. To accomplish this, rather than recreate all the structural layers previously used, they simply covered the sheet metal roof with an inexpensive material.

The earliest modern (post-war) example of this was the 1949 Kaiser Virginian, a fixed-roof version of the Kaiser Manhattan four-door convertible. At first glance, the Virginian really looked like the Manhattan convertible – the one easy way to tell it wasn't a convertible, was the large three-piece glass rear window. Technically, the Virginian's roof was covered not with vinyl, but rather with nylon fabric (the same material as the convertible), but this was close enough that it's generally considered to be the first appearance of the modern vinyl roof.



The actual first manufacturer to employ vinyl was the 1951 Kaiser Dragon which marked a new direction in automotive styling. This featured a lizard skin (nicknamed dinosaur skin) pattern to both the interior and roof. Although the car offered nothing special in terms of technology or performance it found a way to differentiate itself from the pack with the pseudo convertible looking option for the substantial amount in that day of \$125.



Lincoln followed almost immediately with their take on the vinyl top with the 1951 Lido Hardtop that had an elk-grain texture which was comprised of a topcoated PVC facing with a Polyester needlefelt backing.



From the General Motors lineup, first to appear was the 1956 Cadillac Eldorado Seville with a “Vicodec” top which was a diamond point convertible fabric glued over the steel top with some thin padding to give the appearance of a convertible. It was not a big seller but remained in production until 1960. This car had a base price of \$6,551 and was one of the most exclusive, opulent and prestigious cars of that day.



Ford again went to bat in 1962 with a vinyl roof option for the Falcon which was ill received. However, the Thunderbird Landau featured a deeply grained vinyl (for a more leather-like appearance) with felt padding underneath to complete the convertible effect. This option turned out to be quite successful and is probably the impetus for the vinyl top fad that would follow in earnest for the next 10 years. By 1963, production of 25% of fixed roof Thunderbirds featured the vinyl roof option. By 1966 that number rose to more than half of all Thunderbirds. Chrysler got on the bandwagon beginning 1963 with a canopy top New Yorker, but there was little interest. '64 brought Olds, Buick and Pontiac models but also no real sales. The '65 Mustang vinyl top however was a major hit. By the 1970's we saw Mercury Cougar's Houndstooth vinyl top, Chrysler's Challenger Alligator Top and Barracuda Mod Top. This trend continued to even station wagons, pickups and SUV's. Chevy's sales were successful in this market, though not any stronger than the competitors as this trend was universal.



1962 Thunderbird Landau



1965 Mustang



1963 New Yorker



1970 Cougar Houndstooth



1970 Challenger Alligator Top



1970 Barracuda Mod Top

So finally, it's time to discuss specifically, offerings Chevy deemed as worthy of a vinyl top. They did not take a plunge into the deep end with this option; but instead tested the shallow water to determine when and where it would be most successful. Not surprisingly, the first on the scene was the 1963 Impala (a \$75 option). This was chosen because the intent of the roof option was to create a more luxury or formal appearance such as the high-end segment like Cadillac. Chevrolet added vinyl top options first to models where buyers already favored upscale appearance packages—Impala, Caprice, Malibu—before expanding to others. Vinyl tops were a styling tool employed to advance certain Chevrolet models upmarket without overlapping too deeply into Oldsmobile/Buick territory. The photos following show models by year and sequence of vinyl top introduction.



1963 Impala Sport Coupe



1964 Chevelle Sport Coupe



1965 Caprice Sport Sedan



1966 Nova Coupe

Chevrolet avoided offering vinyl tops on some body styles where the look didn't sell or made less sense. Station wagons rarely got them. Base sedans sometimes didn't get them until later. Convertibles obviously did not. Coupes and 2-door hardtops were the most common candidates because the styling effect was strongest.



1967 Camaro SS



1968 El Camino


Vinyl tops were high-margin options—very cheap to install, but lucrative on the window sticker. Any model that sold well and had room for profitable options was a strong candidate. Typically, this option added about \$80-100 to a new vehicle price. Initially the marketing strategy was to offer vinyl tops to the highest-level trim models to entice customers and capture sales, then later spreading this across the mainstream which included even the Vega. The Corvair was never a candidate for this option because it didn't fit the intended image, but the '69 C10 pickup did! In all cases GM made sure not to blur the lines between their brand-ladder strategy.



1969 Sting Ray



1969 K5 Blazer

This brings us to the beginning of the end for this brief trend. Some of the benefits of a vinyl top was the added layer of insulation it provided. The vinyl material helped reduce noise from the road and engine, creating a quieter, more comfortable driving experience. Additionally, this insulation aided in maintaining a stable interior temperature, making the car more pleasant to drive in various weather conditions. Now for the downside; they were notorious for fading, decomposing, delaminating, and leaking; causing water to be trapped at seams or under metal trim leading to rust issues. These nuisances over time alerted buyers and hence a decline in demand. By the mid 1970's, car size had begun downsizing and this feature no longer stirred interest as cars became more streamlined without need for contrasting roof elements. European influences such as smoother body profiles, flush glass, and improved aerodynamic styling had replaced the formula that had worked so successfully for the vinyl roof. Also beginning in 1978 fuel economy requirements made car design deprioritize heavy trim options. By 1987, vinyl roofs were essentially a niche luxury-car-only accessory (mostly dealer -installed). By 1991 Caprice (the last model to still offer one) eliminated this factory option. GM officially ended vinyl-top material supplier contracts by the early 1990's hence 1990 was the last hurrah. 



1970 Monte Carlo



1973 Vega Notchback Sedan



1975 Monza Towne Coupe Notchback



1990 Caprice Classic

### Breakfast – Vix Creek Saloon (Jan 3)

To kickoff the New Year, 3 of our VCCA CCR members met for a great meal before the meeting as AG Chevy. Victor and his staff did a great job serving up a delicious meal, with prompt service and a great atmosphere. Glad to see this establishment doing so well. Give it a try sometime for breakfast, lunch or dinner.



### Monthly Meeting – Arroyo Grande Chevrolet Dealership (Jan 3)

12 of us met to discuss the recent activities since the last meeting on Nov 1st. Although things slow down quite a bit toward the end of the year there were still quite a few things that occurred. Most notably were the day spent at the fun Nojoqui Falls picnic and the Christmas Dinner which was very well attended. New member Richard Rehrig introduced himself and shared his background and history of vintage Chevy ownership. He has been a VCCA member since 2019. Steve Sigman also shared some details about the 20th Annual New Year's Day Garage Tour that unfortunately this year fell on a rainy day; it still sounded like a great time. Sorry I could not locate any photos to share. New business centered mainly around a lively discussion on the new events coming up for 2026. These were listed in the agenda, so many of us took turns giving opinions on the pluses and minuses based on our experiences. Anthony Palazzo gave an overview of the progress made thus far in the feasibility study for a forthcoming 2026 Arroyo Grande High School Car Show. Steve Rosenberg (from SFV Region) shared his insight with Anthony on the logistics of putting together such an event. Working date as of now is Sep 19th. We'll share info as it develops. Lastly Vince Petrie presented an opportunity through his association with Central Coast Corsa, for us to visit the [Nethercutt Museum](#) in Sylmar on Jul 18th via transport on a 56-passenger coach from the Madonna Inn for \$55/person. Info forthcoming. Steve and Eileen Cochran could not be present for this meeting, so I presided.



**Chevy trivia**  
*Did Chevy apply a finished coat of paint to the roof of cars that were built with a factory installed vinyl top?*  
**Answer on page 15**

### **VCCA Breakfast – Village Café, Arroyo Grande (Jan 14)**

6 of us got together; Sal Orlando, Jim Osborne, Steve Cochran, Jim Perry, Rich Pescatore, and Steve MacDonald to go over our calendar of activities list which included an opportunity to visit a Woody fabrication shop operated by Alex Guerrero (Custom Woodies) in New Cuyama near the airport with the Bent Axles later this week. Also shared was a discussion regarding the steering committee being put together on a car show at Arroyo Grande High School tentatively schedule for September 19th. First meeting will be Jan 31 at AG Chevy.



### **VCCA Lunch – Mountain Mike’s Pizza, Pismo Beach (Jan 22)**

6 of met for lunch; Sal Orlando, Jim Osborne, Vince Petrie, Jim & Alma and Steve MacDonald. The food here is more than reasonably priced and both the salad and pizza are great. Some interesting discussions and shared interests between everyone; perhaps because we were all Arroyo Grande residents. Vince voted to add Golden Corral in Santa Maria to the lunch agenda down the road.

### **VCCA Kick-off Planning Session – Arroyo Grande Chevrolet Dealership (Jan 31)**

8 of us met to go over the strategy for coordinating the 1st annual Arroyo Grande High School Car Show. At the helm was Anthony Palazzo, with contributors Jim Pennell, Vince Petrie, Rich Pescatore, Sal Orlando, Gene Kruger, Steve Cochran and myself. The focus of this endeavor is to create an ongoing Scholarship Program for students going into the Auto Tech Industry. Without sharing too much about this yet (since nothing has been vetted) the general scope would be to have this a Chevy & GMC event open to all years of cars. We will be contacting various vendors and companies in the Central Coast that may wish to participate. We anticipate in the neighborhood of 100 vehicles. We hope to team up with some of the other car clubs in our area for participation and support. Currently we are planning for some forms of food services on site. As a target date we are currently thinking September 19. We are hoping some of our club members will pitch in with support when the time comes. More will be shared once there is some concrete information.



**Chevy trivia**  
*Which model did General Motors manufacture in La Grange, Illinois in 1955 & 1956?*  
**Answer on page 18**

New laws in California for 2026

The law does *not* automatically lower all 65 mph highways to 60 mph statewide on January 1, 2026. It gives Caltrans the authority to make those reductions where warranted — i.e., based on engineering studies — not a blanket change everywhere.

Specific roads with changes

As of now there is no official statewide list of specific highways that *will be* lowered from 65 mph to 60 mph. Caltrans and local agencies will determine that on a case-by-case basis through traffic studies and then install new signs where a reduction is approved.

Expanded “Slow Down & Move Over” Rule

Drivers must slow down and, if safe, move over for ANY stationary vehicle displaying hazard lights, not just emergency vehicles.

School Zone Speed & Work Zones

Lawmakers continue to give local authorities flexibility to reduce school zone speeds (e.g., from 25 mph to 20 mph) to improve child safety. Some local work zone speed enforcement programs using cameras are being discussed or piloted.

Used car 3-day return policy

Starting October 1, 2026, dealers must provide a three-day right to cancel certain vehicle purchases under \$50,000 and disclose full pricing upfront.



In 2026, the United States marks a defining milestone: 250 years since the Declaration of Independence. To commemorate that anniversary, the United States Mint has undertaken the most ambitious and philosophically unified redesign of circulating U.S. coinage since the Bicentennial of 1976.

[See details here.](#)



March 8, Sun  
2am

Lunar Calendar

February

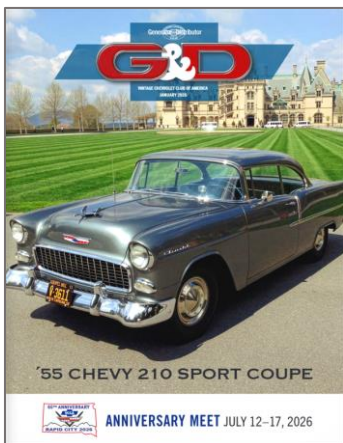


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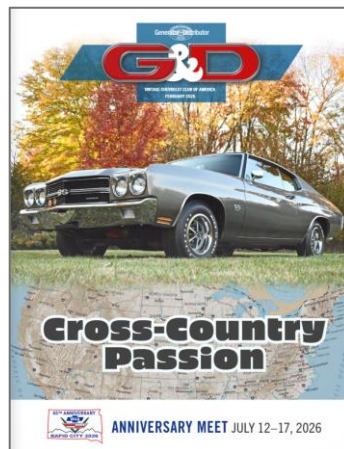
March



3 25 19 11



**G&D**  
**MAGAZINE**  
Jan & Feb  
issues now  
published



**Chevy trivia**  
Which General Motors division was responsible for the most vinyl top cars from 1962-79?  
Answer on page 17



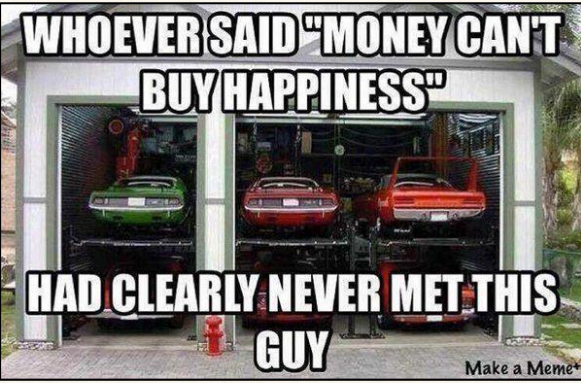
The 1971 Vega was an all-new Chevrolet 4-cylinder powered subcompact available in four 2 door models: sedan, hatchback coupe, Kammback station wagon and panel express truck. This "perky" little car was intended to replace the Corvair. It was the first automobile that GM produced that offered front wheel disc brakes as standard equipment. This particular Vega is VIN number 001.

Introduced in September 1970 as the Vega 2300, the new Vega's standard equipment included a 2.3 L "2300" SOHC 14. This engine used either a single-barrel carburetor which produced about 70 hp, or a 2-barrel option which boosted output up to 85 hp. Available transmissions included, 3 and 4 speed manual, Torque Drive - a one shift, no clutch semi-automatic and the 2-speed automatic Powerglide. A GT package that included a stronger 110HP engine, a gauge dash with woodgrain accents, a four-spoke sport steering wheel and a special ride and handling package was also available. The Vega competed against other domestic and imported economy cars, achieving notability for its innovative aluminum engine, first-rate handling, and progressive manufacture. The car's name derives from the star of Lyra. Motor Trend awarded the Vega 1971 Car of the Year.

Engine: SOHC 140CID 4 cylinder inline; aluminum Block; 110HP@4800 rpm; 138 ft. lbs.; 2 -barrel carb.; single exhaust; Bore/Stroke: 3.501 x 3.625; Compression Ratio 8:1; Tires: Goodyear Polyglas A70-13, Price: \$2,196.



# Lighten Up



## Vendors our members recommend

Alignment/Brakes



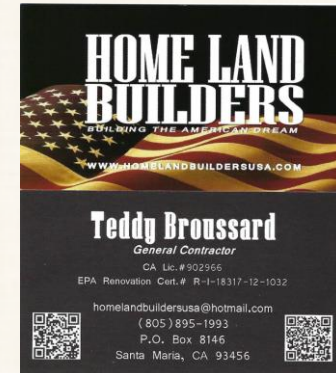
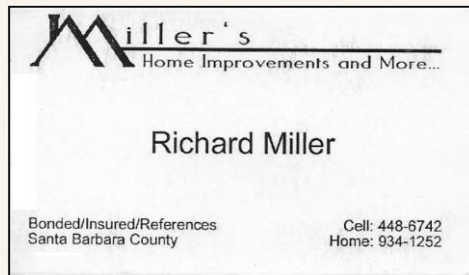
Gary Tyerman is one of the best mechanics for old cars in SLO county.



Chevy Dealerships



Construction



Dining



Fabrication



General Repair



Glass



Shops in Santa Maria & SLO

Health Care & Food  
Distribution



Markets

Mufflers



Parts



Painting



Painting & Chip Repair



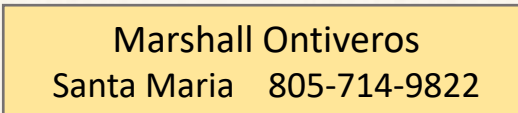
Photography



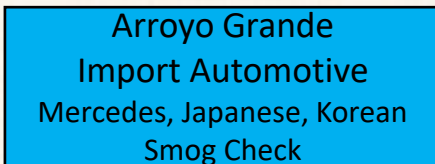
Plating



Polishing Metal Trim & Paint



Smog Certification



Suspension/ Chassis



Tires



Upholstery & Convertible Tops

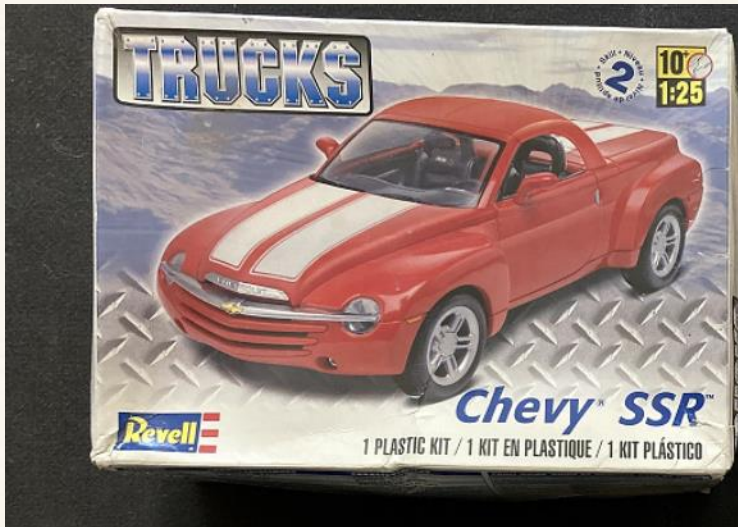


# Classifieds

Gen 1 '56-'62 Red Corvette steering wheel, \$250 GM small block valve covers set in original box, \$200  
 Contact Sal Orlando 408/892-1919; [orlando1760@gmail.com](mailto:orlando1760@gmail.com)



Two automotive 1/24 or 1/25 scale model kits as noted. All kits \$10 each. Call or text Vince at 510-388-0024.



**FOR SALE**  
 '63 Impala  
 Tail-Light Lens  
 w/blue dot, 1 pair  
 Contact Vince Petrie  
[vvince@pacbell.net](mailto:vvince@pacbell.net)

**WANTED**  
 Original '57 3100 6-lug wheel set  
 Contact Steve MacDonald  
[macdonaldsteve55@gmail.com](mailto:macdonaldsteve55@gmail.com)

**WANTED**  
 Original '52 Chevy Convertible  
 Contact Richard Rehrig  
[weldprosales@gmail.com](mailto:weldprosales@gmail.com)

**Chevy Trivia Answer**  
 No. Beneath vinyl tops, original paint is often dull, thin, or partially incomplete. There was no clearcoat or polishing. Some restored cars show only primer under the vinyl which was the only requirement to protect against corrosion.

# Points of Interest

The Volo Auto Museum in Volo, Illinois, is a massive, 35-acre family-owned destination featuring over 300 classic, antique, and movie cars, plus unique attractions like animatronic dinosaurs, Titanic artifacts, a vintage arcade, and an antique mall, offering an interactive, nostalgic experience beyond just cars with its extensive collection of Hollywood vehicles (KITT, Ecto-1, Fast & Furious cars), combat vehicles, trolleys, buses, fire fighting equipment, trains, Jurassic Gardens, reptile park, and themed exhibits appealing to all ages. Affordably priced. 40 miles north of Chicago. See website here; [Volo](http://Volo). Hundreds of classic cars for sale online or at the museum.



# CCR Member Anniversaries

Years since first joining VCCA



## 1 Year

Craig Clifton – Feb 7  
Bret Whitehead – Feb 17

## 2 Years

Jeff Symonds – Feb 20

## 6 Years

Steve MacDonald – Feb 20

## 7 Years

David Richardson – Mar 17

## 8 Years

Richard Miller – Mar 14

## 64 Years

Rod McCarthy – Mar 1



**New Member/s – Richard Rehrig & Jim Osborne**

**# of CCR Members - 47**

## ***Are you the type who has trouble making decisions?***

So, you're wanting to buy a 1963 C2 Split-Window Corvette Sting Ray but can't decide on which color you like the most? Well, the financially irresponsible solution to your dilemma: Buy all of them! Yep, if you have the triple-extra-large piggy bank then you could invoke an executive decision to purchase your own collection of 1963 split-window Corvettes in every color that was offered.

From left to right;

Tuxedo Black, Ermine White, Sebring Silver, Riverside Red, Silver Blue, Saddle Tan, & Daytona Blue.



### ***Chevy Trivia Answer***

Chevrolet had the highest vinyl top production numbers in sheer volume, but the lowest percentage of cars built. In order of percent of cars with this option from highest to lowest was Cadillac, Buick, Oldsmobile, Pontiac, & Chevrolet.

# 2026 Activities

## Valentine's Day Luncheon

February 14

Saturday @ 12pm

RSVP w/Richard Miller

by Wednesday Feb 12

[1950greenbomb@gmail.com](mailto:1950greenbomb@gmail.com) or

phone/text

805-448-6742



VIX CREEK SALOON

133 Bridge Street  
Arroyo Grande

[Menu](#)

## 13th Annual Car Show

March 14, 2026

WELCOME TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 11137 CAR SHOW



CONTACT US

1190 E Clark Ave, Santa Maria (805) 878-1739



### ***Chevy Trivia Answer***

The EMD LWT12 was a diesel-electric locomotive manufactured in 1955-56 at this facility as part of the lightweight "Aerotrain" project. Only 3 were produced.

In 1957, Disneyland operated a scale model of the Aerotrain called the Viewliner in the Tomorrowland section of the Anaheim Park.

# 2026 Activities





**CRUISIN' NATIONALS**

Santa Maria California



MAY  
22-24



Celebrating  
45  
YEARS





SANTA MARIA VALLEY Chamber Presents The **FRIDAY NIGHT**

## SANTA MARIA "CITY CRUISE"

Cruise For Registered Participants

---

Model Car SHOW!

Sponsored by **Hot Rod MODELS**

---

Pin Striping Panel Jam & Party

Sponsored by PPG

---

All Kinds of Vendors

---

Outstanding LIVE MUSIC

---

Automotive Swap Meet

Sunday Only

Event Open to 1965 & Earlier American Made Vehicles Only (No Muscle Cars) Other by invitation only.

PRE-ENTRY DEADLINE: POSTMARKED BY **May 4th, 2026** (No Exceptions)

ENTRY FEE: \$75.00 • After May 4th you must register at the Event for \$85.00

Vintage Trailers: 1965 & earlier are welcomed, entry fee \$50.00

Entry fee includes vehicle entry, 2 weekend event passes, dash plaque and participation in all planned activities.

All Entry Forms Must Include a Photo of the Vehicle Being Entered... No Exceptions!

PLEASE PRINT NO GLASS CONTAINERS! • NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

WCK Members ONLY - membership #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE OF VEHICLE: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

VISA \_\_\_ M/C \_\_\_ NAME ON CARD: \_\_\_\_\_ CARD #: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_ BILLING ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

RESERVATION: the WEST COAST KUSTOMS reserves the right to restrict participants to acceptable behavior during any and all activities. If for any reason participant or his vehicle, their appearance or conduct are deemed objectionable, the participant and vehicle will be subject to removal and registration forfeited.

LIABILITY: In consideration of the acceptance of participant to the "Cruisin' Nationals 2026", by execution of this entry form, I hereby release and discharge the WEST COAST KUSTOMS, Santa Maria Valley Chamber Of Commerce, City Of Santa Maria and anyone else connected with the management of this event, of and from any and all known and unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgments and/or claims from any cause whatsoever that may be suffered by any member to this person or property. Further, each applicant expressly agrees to indemnify all of the foregoing entities, firms, persons and bodies of and from any and all liability occasioned or resulting with the applicant and under the direction or control of the applicant.

- - - - DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE A PHOTO OF YOUR ENTRY - - - -

SEND ENTRY TO: WCK: Attn. Penny Pichette, P.O. Box 8028, Moreno Valley, CA 92552-8028 • 951-488-0413 - PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WEST COAST KUSTOMS

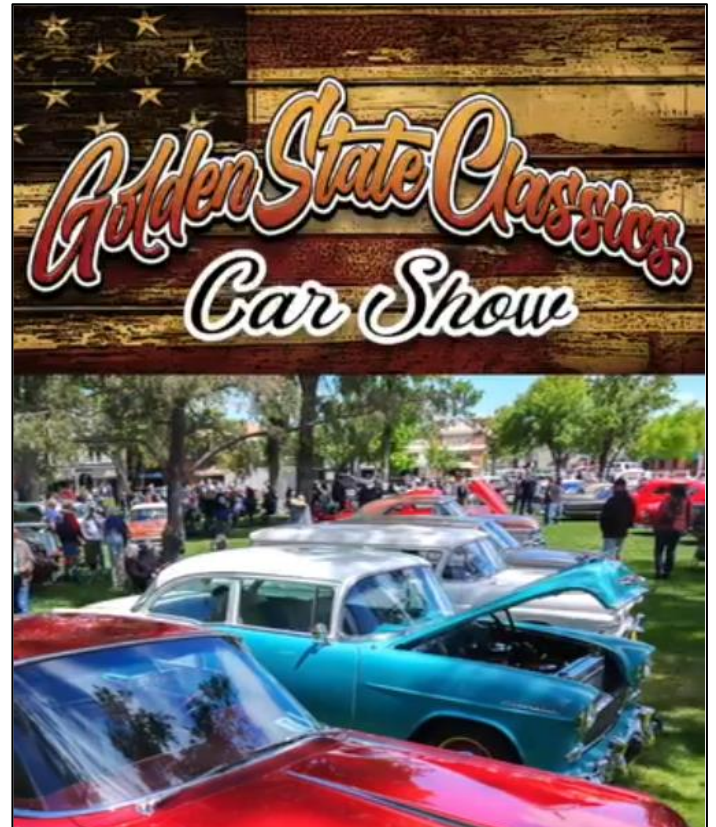
For Event Updates Please Visit [westcoastkustoms.com](http://westcoastkustoms.com) • For Hotel and other Local Information please visit [santamariavalley.com](http://santamariavalley.com)

Info

# 2026 Activities



April 30 – May 2  
[Info](#)



Paso Robles – May 23  
[Info](#)



[Info](#)



Atascadero Crusin' Weekend  
Cruise Night Festivities – Aug 21  
35<sup>th</sup> Annual Lake Car Show – Aug 22

[Info](#)

# 2026 Activities

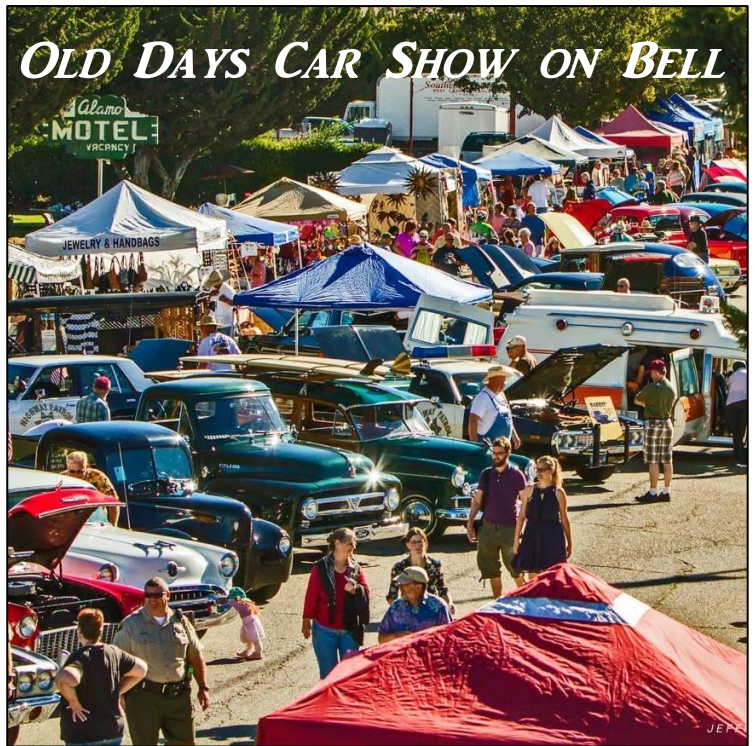
**SAVE THE DATE**

THE FIFTH ANNUAL  
**CARS & COWBOYS**

Rancho San Marcos Golf Course  
September 5, 2026



[Info](#)



*Los Alamos*  
*September 26*

[Info](#)

Central Coast Streetrods  
Presents: *"Free food with entry!"*

Prizes **Nojoqui Falls** BBQ

**54TH**

Fun Run Awards

T-shirts

Pre '72 cars and trucks

At: Nojoqui Falls Solvang, CA

Date: November 1, 2026 **50/50 Raffle**

Directions: Nojoqui Falls is 1 & 1/2 miles east of Highway 101 near Gaviota Pass. From Highway 101, take the Old Coast Road to Alisal Road; from Solvang, follow Alisal Road south to the park.

Contact: Richard Bouman 805-736-0759  
CentralCoastStreetrods.com

[Info](#)

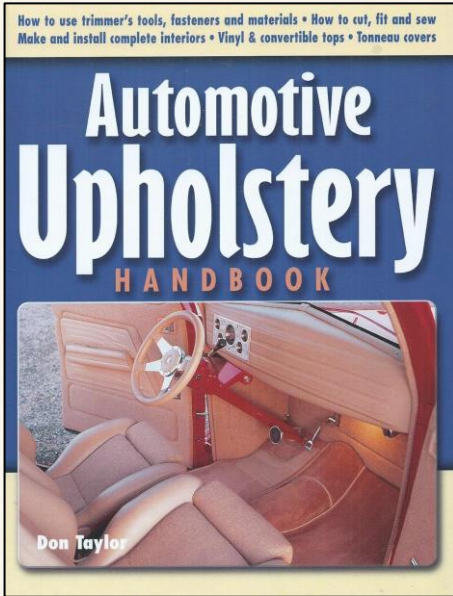
**CAYUCOS**  
**CAR SHOW**

*Saturday November 7, 2026*

[Info](#)



# Current Car Culture Chronicles



## [Automotive Upholstery Handbook](#); by Don Taylor, Jan 10, 2011

This book will show you how to:

- Make and install great interiors for any car, truck, van, RV, boat or airplane.
- Sew like an expert--on vinyl, leather or any fabric.
- Restore, recover and build bench and bucket seats.
- Upholster armrests and door panels.
- Make and install headliners and carpeting.
- Install convertible tops, vinyl roofs, sim-con and landau tops.
- Create street rod interiors.
- Build boat and motorcycle seats.

Complete and detailed step-by-step instructions help you apply the right techniques to your own projects. Indispensable for anyone interested in upholstery.

8-1/2" x 11", paperback, 224 pages

## [How to Install Automotive Interior Kits, carpet, headliner, seats, & vinyl tops book](#); Fred Mattson, April 2021

This first-of-its-kind book walks you through how to properly install kits, including seat upholstery, door panels, carpet, and headliners. Tips are provided on ordering products and how to deal with a product that is defective. Installation tools, supplies and why you need them are all fully illustrated through color photos and easy-to-follow steps that will make your project look professionally done.

8-1/2" x 11", paperback, 192 pages

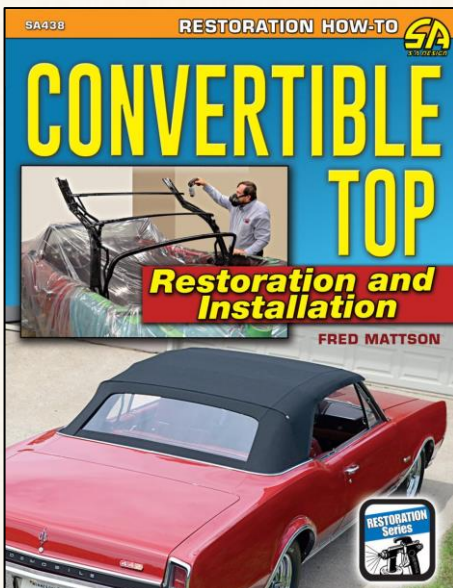


## [Convertible Top Restoration and Installation](#); by Fred Mattson, May 15, 2019

There's an old saying we've all heard before that goes "When the top goes down the price goes up." Of all the projects involved with the restoration of your collector car, few seem as challenging or confusing as addressing the convertible top.

With this book you will be guided through the convertible top repair/restoration process in an easy-to-read how-to format, so there should be no reason to fear taking your drop top out with the threat of rain. Convertible Top Restoration and Installation will be the one tool that will show you how important a well-sorted top restoration is, not only for practical reasons, such as staying dry, but for cosmetic reasons as well.

8-1/2" x 11", paperback, 176 pages



# BACK IN THE DAY



## SLO County Airport 1963

*(Then known as McChesney Field which had no regularly scheduled flights)*

*View looking east with Islay Hill in background; known as the ninth sister. Note railroad track below hill and behind terminal is the two-lane road which was renumbered and signed as State Route 227 in 1964.*

## Events Calendar 2026

Feb 2 Sat	Breakfast	Vix Creek Saloon, 133 Bridge Street, AG
Feb 2 Sat	Monthly Meeting	Arroyo Grande Chevrolet
Feb 14 Sat	Valentine's Day Luncheon	Vix Creek Saloon, 133 Bridge Street, AG
Feb 18 Wed	VCCA Breakfast	Village Café, 112 W. Branch St., AG
Feb 26 Thu	VCCA Lunch	5 Guys, Arroyo Grande
Mar 14 Sat	13th Annual St. Patrick's Day Car Show	Orcutt
Mar 26 Thur	VCCA Lunch	La Simpatia, 827 CA-1, Guadalupe
Mar 26	Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center	1065 Guadalupe Street
Apr 30 – May 2	Crusin' Morro Bay Car Show	Morro Bay
May 23 Sat	18th Annual Golden State Classic Car Show	Paso Robles
Jun 27 Sat	Varifest Car Show	Heritage Park, Arroyo Grande
Jul 18 Sat	Nethercutt Museum	Sylmar
Jul 19 Sun	15th Annual Mad Bomerz Car Show	Santa Maria
Aug 21 & 22 Fri & Sat	Cruise Night & 35th Annual Lake Car Show	Atascadero
Sep 5 Sat	5th Annual Cars & Cowboys	Rancho San Marcos Golf Course
Sep 6 Sun	Pinedorado Car Show	Cambria
Sep 19 Sat	RPM Nationals	Santa Margarita Ranch
Oct 26 Sun	18th Annual Car Show @ 47th Annual Oktoberfest	Downtown Baywood, 2nd Street
Nov 1 Sun	Nojoqui Falls Fun Run	Solvang
Nov 7 Sat	Cayucos Car Show	Cayucos

## Potential Future Outings

National Reso-Phonics Guitars Tour – San Luis Obispo    Ernie Ball Guitars Tour – San Luis Obispo  
 Parkfield Café Lunch – Parkfield    The Buckhorn Lunch - New Cuyama

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