

California Car Clubs Newsletter

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CCC Newsletter # 01-16

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas (and / or) a very Happy Hanukah! Forgive any political incorrectness, but I still like to celebrate the season for what it is! Call me old fashioned I guess.

It is with regret that I start this months edition with the news of the passing of another automotive legend. Mr. Art Fitzpatrick passed away a few weeks ago at the age of 96. Many of you may not know him by name or face, but most of you will recognize his work.



Mr. Fitzpatrick, Fitz as he was called, is regarded as one of the best automotive artists ever. He started his career going into automotive design. According to a biography on his website, Mr. Fitzpatrick took a job as a designer at Briggs Body Co., where he worked on various projects for Chrysler and the Lincoln Zephyr. He is also credited with designing the 1940 Packard 180 sedan. He wound up turning

his attention, and talent, towards the advertising side. From the late 50's into the early 70's he and his business partner Van Kaufman, drew ads for General Motors, most of them for Pontiac. Art drew the cars, while Van drew the backgrounds. These ads appeared in many magazines; Life, Post, Look along with many others. The work was so impressive that Pontiac's general manager at the time, John DeLorean, banned the use of photographs and decreed that only Fitz and Van drawings could be used in Pontiac ads.

Today you will find many of them torn from the pages of those old magazines and framed as art, which they are. Many antique stores have them already removed, and for sale in bins; I've bought my share. You can identify his pictures by his and Vans signature. Look for "AF VK" in one of the lower corners of the picture. In the ad above, they are just under the right hand end of the front bumper, almost blending in with the sidewalk. (Left hand bottom corner of the picture.)

Fitz was almost fanatical in his work. He would take hundreds of pictures of the car, from as many angles as he could, and then cut them up and paste up what he wanted. He then used this mock-up to draw from. He started the idea of making cars look lower and wider than they really were. This played well with Pontiac's "Wide Track" theme. But his work was not limited to GM ads.

More recently, Mr. Fitzpatrick drew two series of commemorative stamps for the U.S. Postal Service. "America on the Move," released in 2005, celebrated 1950s sporty cars, such as the Chevrolet Corvette, Ford Thunderbird and Kaiser Darrin. The second, "Tailfins and Chrome" was released in 2008 and featured such cars as the 1959 Cadillac Eldorado, Chrysler 300C and Lincoln Premiere. Besides this, Fitz was a consultant on the movie "Cars".



He was the guest speaker at several Pontiac Western Regional Conventions that I have been involved with. Through them, I had the great pleasure of meeting him and getting to know both he and his wife Betty. As well as being a great artist, he was a great speaker with good wit. At one of the conventions, he had the audience laughing hysterically, when during his presentation he likened Pontiac's wide track theme to Julia Roberts mouth. Go to www.fitz-art.com if you'd like to know more.



Art Fitzpatrick; 1919-2015, He will be missed.

Now let's move on to the real reason for this wonderful newsletter! The Shows!



December 2015:

12th:

- **Bakersfield, CA:** *Car Show & Drag Racing:* There will a burn out contest too! Info: www.famosoraceway.com
- **Pasadena, CA:** *VW Christmas Jam 2015:* hosted by Stadt Der Rosen, Chico Performance, and Volkswagen of Pasadena. Held at Volkswagen of Pasadena, 130 North Sierra Madre Blvd. Hours: Gates open at 4pm. All VW car show. Proceeds will benefit the Elizabeth House. Info: Contact: Elias 626-497-4209.
- **Irwindale, CA:** *MoonEyes X-Mas Party Show & Drag:* held at Irwindale Speedway, 500 Speedway Drive. Hours: Gates open at 6am. Show cars limited to pre-1965 model years. Drags limited to pre-1969 model years. Hot rods, customs, choppers and more. Vendors, live music, pinup contest, drag race and more. Info: Contact www.mooneyesusa.com.

13th:

- **Sacramento, CA:** *Dreams & Drivers 2nd Annual Karts, Kids & Cars;* Toy Drive at K1 Speed. Coffee provided by Grace Roasters, concessions by Moondoggies. Event runs from 8am till noon. Benefiting Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Sacramento. Rain or Shine event! Always Free event and open to all makes and models of cars, trucks and motorcycles. Info: www.dreamsanddrivers.com
- **Long Beach, CA:** *Hi-Performance Swap Meet;* 6am till 1pm. Info: www.longbeachhiposwapmeet.com
- **Lakewood, CA:** *Spark of Love Toy Drive & Car Show;* hosted by Mercifuls Southern California Car Club. Held at Glory Days Sports Grill, 4132 Woodruff Ave. Hours: 9am - Noon. Car show entry: one unwrapped toy or \$10.00 donation. Trophies and raffle. Info: Contact: www.Mercifuls.com.

27th:

- **Carlsbad, CA:** *Solo Hot Rods Race, Classic & Hot Rod Car Show;* It all happens at 850 Tamarack. Last Sunday of the month from 1pm till 5pm year around! (Unless it's raining.) Giveaways, Music & Beer Tasting! Info: www.solohotrods.com or call 949-235-1001 or email dabbles@sparcustoms.com



January 2016:

10th:

- **Long Beach, CA:** *Hi-Performance Swap Meet;* 6am till 1pm. Info: www.longbeachhiposwapmeet.com

16th:

- **Buena Park, CA:** 7th Annual Jeff's Fun Run; 8:30am. Info: 657-464-3115 or email funrun@pickupslimited.com

17th:

- **Pomona, CA:** *Pomona Swap Meet;* at the Fairplex from 5am till 2pm. Info: www.pomonaswapmeet.com

29th-31st:

- **Pomona, CA:** *67th Annual Grand National Roadster Show;* At the Fairplex, 1101 West McKinley Ave. Info: 877-763-7469 or on the web at www.rodshows.com

If you live in California, you can get instant [Los Angeles Insurance price quotes!](#)

30th:

- **Fullerton, CA:** [16th Annual Show 'n Shine](#); Show is hosted by the Southern California Chapter of POCI and is open to all Pontiac, Oakland, GMC, Buick and Oldsmobiles. The show will run 10am till 3pm at the Fullerton airport, 4011 W. Commonwealth. A portion of proceeds will be donated to local charities. Info: www.sccpoci.com [click here for the flyer](#).
- **Santa Maria, CA:** [Santa Maria High Race Team Car Show](#); 8am till 3pm. Info; 805-934-1717 or csimas@verizon.net

31st:

- **Carlsbad, CA:** [Solo Hot Rods Race, Classic & Hot Rod Car Show](#); It all happens at 850 Tamarack. Last Sunday of the month from 1pm till 5pm year around! (Unless it's raining.) Giveaways, Music & Beer Tasting! Info: www.solohotrods.com or call 949-235-1001 or email dabbles@sparcustoms.com
- **Long Beach, CA:** [Hi-Performance Swap Meet](#); 6am till 1pm. Info: www.longbeachhiposwapmeet.com



[Rallye Productions](#) offers you More for Less!!! Buy Dash Plaques from us and receive a “sponsorship” discount, magnetic goodie bag stuffers, and a \$25 RockAuto auto parts gift certificate for your event.

February 2016:

6th:

- **San Juan Capistrano, CA:** [13th Annual San Juan Capistrano Car Show](#); 9am till 3pm. Info: 949- 547-9081 or <http://sjcrotary.org/Page/carshow>. Vendor info: drcaroldds@cox.net.

11th-14th:

- **Pomona, CA:** [NHRA Winter Nationals](#); At the Fairplex. Info: <http://www.nhra.com/events/event/nhra-winternationals-2016>

12th-14th:

- **Sacramento, CA:** *Sacramento Autorama*; Info: 877-763-7469 or www.rodshows.com

13th:

- **Temecula, CA:** *Sweetheart Car Show*; 10am till 1pm; Info; 961-609-6948 or email chrisjunger25@gmail.com
- **Daytona Beach, FL:** *Daytona Speed Week*.



14th:

- **Long Beach, CA:** *Hi-Performance Swap Meet*; 6am till 1pm. Info: www.longbeachhiposwapmeet.com

20th:

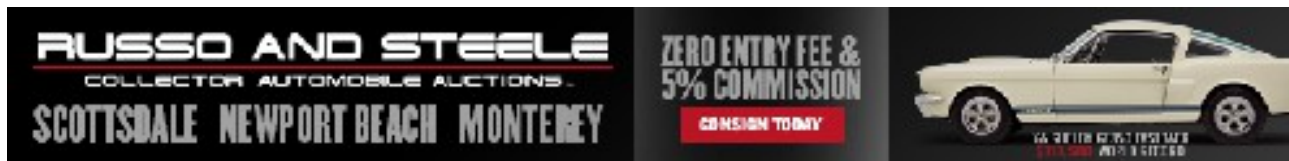
- **Whittier, CA:** *Whittier Area Classic Car Show*; 9am till 4pm. Info; 562-945-4500 or email waccarshow@gmail.com

21st:

- **Daytona Beach, Fl:** *NASCAR Daytona 500*.

28th:

- **Carlsbad, CA:** *Solo Hot Rods Race, Classic & Hot Rod Car Show*; It all happens at 850 Tamarack. Last Sunday of the month from 1pm till 5pm year around! (Unless it's raining.) Giveaways, Music & Beer Tasting! Info: www.solohotrods.com or call 949-235-1001 or email dabbles@sparcustoms.com



March 2016:

3rd-6th:

- **Bakersfield, CA:** *March Meet*; Old time drag racing at its best! Happening at the famous Famoso Raceway! Info: www.famosoraceway.com/march-meet.htm

5th:

- **Fresno, CA:** 16 Annual Chinese New Year parade and festival: On behalf of Fresno Chinatown Revitalization Inc. and the entire Fresno Chinatown community, we'd like to invite you to the celebration of the Year of the Monkey. The parade and festival will take place from 10:00am till 3:00pm. Our celebration will be filled with amazing food, free kids activities, merchants, music, a car show, and of course a parade! Fresno Chinatown was the original home to 11 different communities: African American, Armenian, Basque, Chinese, Japanese, Italian, Portuguese, Mexican-Americans, Germans from Volga Russia, Greek and Filipino communities. Join us as we continue to celebrate the amazing diversity of not only our community, but the entire Central Valley. Info: fresnochinatown@gmail.com

6th:

- **Pomona, CA:** Pomona Swap Meet: at the Fairplex from 5am till 2pm. Info: www.pomonaswapmeet.com

11th-12th:

- **Henderson, NV:** Silver State HET Invitational: It will be held at the Railroad Pass Hotel & Casino, which has been so good to our club the last couple years. We would love for you and all your chapter members to be able to make it to Southern Nevada for this meet. Just to make things interesting, we are inviting AMC, Studebaker, Nash and other Orphan makes to join us this year for the show. It's always interesting to see different cars, and who knows, maybe we'll convert some of those "Brand X" drivers to switch to Hudson! We're working on booking an exciting Friday driving tour, which will be followed up by a Free Hamburger and Hot Dog cook out for registered guests. Saturday morning will be the car show - the location of the Railroad Pass always brings quite a few members of the public to look at our Hudsons. Saturday night will be the banquet at the Railroad Pass - famous for great food and HUGE portions! Info: Please contact me with any questions. 702-375-9022 or HUDSONROYER@gmail.com [Click here for the flyer.](#)

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- **Carlsbad, CA:** Solo Hot Rods Race, Classic & Hot Rod Car Show: It all happens at 850 Tamarack. Last Sunday of the month from 1pm till 5pm year around! (Unless it's raining.) Giveaways, Music & Beer Tasting! Info: www.solohotrods.com or call 949-235-1001 or email dabbles@sparcustoms.com



Thanks again to my cousin Terry for contributions. This time a bit of Chrysler Christmas Cheer!



Don't forget to send in your shows! I don't have a lot of time to go searching the web for shows; I really depend on you folks submitting them.

It's best, and they will get posted faster, if you write them up in the format you see used in this newsletter. If I have to write it myself, it may be a few days before I get the chance, and it may be more brief than you'd like. Oh well. Good news if you write it, you can get a bit more gabby. When posting what others write, I just do a quick check for obvious typos, and to make sure the content is "family friendly".

Now the legal stuff: If you wish to be removed from this distribution list, simply bounce it back with "remove" in the subject line. That easy! I'll send you one email confirming your removal, and that will be the end of it.

If you see this newsletter and would like to be on list, simply email me with "add me" in the subject line. Wow, that's easy.

Till next time . . . Keep the greasy side down!

Brian