



**EARLY FORD V-8 CLUB OF AMERICA  
SACRAMENTO REGIONAL GROUP #4**



**CLUTCH CHATTER**

**February 2013**

**In This Issue**

- Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- A Local Legacy. Roy McBride's 1935 Ford Phaeton
- 2012 Events Schedule
- Golden Jubilee Flyer
- Cars and Parts For Sale

**February Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held on MONDAY, February 4th, in the Conference Room of the Sheriff's Sub-Station at 2500 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA. Tire Kicking at 7:00 PM and Meeting at 7:30 PM Sharp. Kim Nelson, a docent at the Cam Museum, will be a presenter at our February meeting, the subject will be the summer Cam cruise. Parking is available in the front parking lot. We hope that you all can attend; guests are always welcome.

**Minutes of the Early Ford V-8 Club Region 4 Meeting, January 7, 2013**

7:30 p.m. President Dale Simpson called the meeting to order. He established how the general meetings were going to be conducted.

**Visitors & Guest**

No Guest or Visitors

**Communication**

Modesto A's Swap meet January 20

Docent Training at the Cal Museum Tuition is \$95.00 starts January

**Minutes**

Dan Schwartz no minutes just a reference to the clutch chatter as to the December, Christmas party

**Treasure Report**

Alma Thompson treasure reported was that the balance was \$4,000.00.

**Old Business**

Fred Hultin has found a 1932-33 V-8 display cutaway motor for \$1,000.00

Bev Davis made a motion that further discussion as to the club perching the motor be done at the next board meeting.

**New Business**

March meeting John McCormick will be the next presenter

Andy Nance DMV producing vintage license plates that there has to be 75 thousand of each year before DMV will produce these plates.

ACC Conference April 5&6

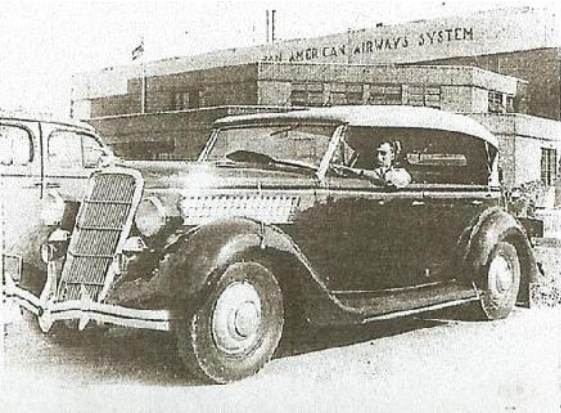
Board Meeting at Dale Simpson House March 11. Time to be determined

**Please visit our website at [clutchchatter.org](http://clutchchatter.org) for pictures, tour plans and much more.**

## A Local Legacy - Roy McBride's 1935 Ford Phaeton

About five years ago Tom Williams was browsing through a then current issue of Cruisin' News when he noticed a 1935 Ford Phaeton for sale. He recalled how at age 14 he tried to convince his parents to let him buy a 1935 Ford Phaeton and they turned him down. This one had better not get away.

A telephone call to the brothers DeGusta and Billotti who listed the car for sale resulted in an appointment to see it, but only after Tom had convinced them that his intention was not to make the Ford into a hot rod. The Ford was stored outside with a tarp over it. When uncovered it obviously needed tender loving care. Tom and his wife negotiated a price and the car was theirs.



During the negotiation of the sale it became evident that this was not an ordinary automobile. It had a history and significance all its own. This 1935 Type 750 Ford phaeton was acquired new by the Packard-Washington Motor Car Co. of Washington, D.C. It was leased to the White House from 1935 until April, 1939. It was at the White House that Sacramento native Roy J. McBride, who began

work as a messenger for the Federal Power Commission in September, 1936, first saw the car. He reported to friends that it was being used by the White House as transportation for staff, Secret Service and occasionally President Roosevelt in his informal travels around the Capital City.

McBride became so enamored of the car that he applied for and obtained a part-time night mechanic ("grease monkey") position with Packard-



Final leave February 1943

Washington Motor Car Co. after learning that they owned the Ford. As a mechanic he serviced the many large Packards leased to the White House for official transportation. He also serviced the Ford periodically, and let all in the company who would listen know that he would like to buy it when the White House lease ended.

In April, 1939, the car was returned by the White House, and McBride was able to purchase it for \$194.72, with a down payment of \$50.00 and monthly payments of \$12.06! He used the car extensively in the Washington, DC area until July, 1940, when he was called to active duty as a Naval reservist and transferred to the Naval receiving station in San Francisco.

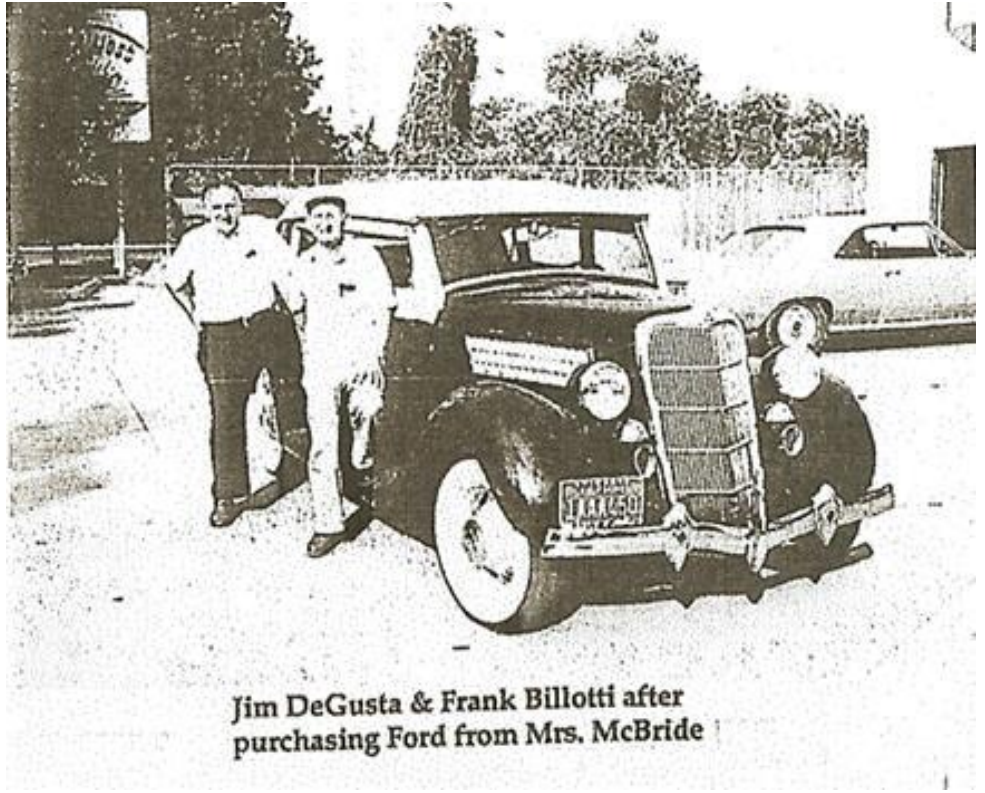


Jim DeGusta and Roy McBride  
Sacramento February 1943



## A Local Legacy - Roy McBride's 1935 Ford Phaeton (continued)

In Sept. 1942, McBride was transferred to the Submarine School in New London, Connecticut, where he underwent training; he was transferred to the submarine force, southwest Pacific. Before leaving the U.S., McBride was given at least one, and possibly two home leaves and it was at this time that the pictures were taken of McBride with the car and his long-time friend, Jim DeGusta, then an Army sergeant.



Jim DeGusta & Frank Billotti after purchasing Ford from Mrs. McBride

In March, 1943 McBride left the country for the last time. After war patrols on several submarines, he was transferred on 21 May 1945 to the U.S.S. Bonefish (SS223) for its eighth war patrol. On 28 May 1945 the Bonefish departed Guam

for duty in the Sea of Japan, and it was on 18 June 1945 that it was lost to a Japanese antisubmarine attack in Toyama Bay on the north of Honshu Island, less than two months from the end of the war.

In 1980 the car was acquired from McBride's mother by his boyhood friends, brothers James DeGusta and Frank Billotti. It was they who saved the car, returning it to driving condition after thirty years' storage as a tribute to their long time friend, Roy J. McBride.

Tom felt a new paint job would bring the car closer to its original appearance. He took it to a Sacramento body shop which agreed to disassemble, restore and paint the body assembly. When it came time to reassemble the beautifully painted components the body shop owner decided it was up to Tom to put the Ford back together himself. It is today a work in progress but when completed and you see it proudly displayed you can say you know....the rest...of the story.



<b>DATE</b>	<b>2013 EVENTS</b>	<b>PLACE</b>
FEBRUARY 4 MONDAY	REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM Tire Kicking 7:30 PM Meeting	SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION
MARCH 4 MONDAY	REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM Tire Kicking 7:30 PM Meeting	SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION
APRIL 1 MONDAY	REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM Tire Kicking 7:30 PM Meeting	SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION
APRIL 13 SATURDAY	SHENANDOAH VALLEY WINE TOUR MEET AT BROOKFIELDS, 10 AM	VOLCANO RANCHO CORDOVA
MAY 6 MONDAY	4:30 PM VINTAGE FORD (Pictures will be taken of members cars' for album)	REGULAR MEETING RANCHO CORDOVA
MAY 18 SATURDAY	FORDS TO THE FOOT HILLS CAR SHOW	REDHAWK CASINO
JUNE 5 WEDNESDAY	5 PM WM POND PARK CASPER HOT DOGS – POTLUCK (Pictures will be taken of members' cars for album)	SACRAMENTO
JUNE 17-21	GRAND NATIONAL GOLDEN JUBILEE	SOUTH LAKE TAHOE
JULY 6 SATURDAY	OLD AIRPLANES & OLD FORDS BBQ & POTLUCK 10 AM (Pictures will be taken of members cars for album)	CLARKSBURG MEET EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
AUGUST 17 SATURDAY	ICE CREAM SOCIAL THE THOMPSON'S ALMA & GARY THOMPSON'S (Pictures will be taken of members' cars for album)	LOOMS 11 AM BROOKFIEDS'S
SEPTEMBER 8	SWAP MEET	CONSUMNES RIVER COLLEGE
SEPTEMBER 19 THURSDAY	REGULAR MEETING 5-8:30 PM PIZZA & SALAD	CAM SACRAMENTO
OCTOBER 5 SATURDAY	POKER RUN 9-930 AM BROOKFIELD'S	BERT'S DINNER, WILTON
NOVEMBER 2 SATURDAY	VINTAGE FORD 11:30 AM HOT DOG MEETING	RANCHO CARDOVA
DECEMBER 1 SUNDAY	CHRISTMAS DINNER 5 PM SOCIAL HOUR, 6PM DINNER	DANTE CLUB

NOTE THE EVENTS LISTED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup> - 21<sup>ST</sup> SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

- **Tours / Swap Meet**
- **Awards Banquet**
- **History and Memorabilia Room**
- **Concourse / Judging**
- **Ladies Luncheon**
- **Tour Lake Tahoe in Your V-8**

Information/ Registration: Mike Sanders (408) 782-8964

Golden Jubilee, 205 De Anza Blvd. #33, San Mateo, CA 94402 email: v8goldenjubilee@gmail.com

## CARS AND PARTS FOR SALE

4" Drop Axel for a 29 model A \$150.00  
Front upper and lower brackets for tub shocks  
for 29 model A \$30.00  
46-48 Front and Rear backing plates \$100.00  
Steve Wahab (916) 988-4249  
Cell: (916) 616-4249

Jahans 3-5/16 new pistons in box \$450.00  
Slightly used 3-5/16 pistons \$150.00  
Russ Broyles (916) 363-3740

1941 complete gage cluster needs front glass  
\$150.00  
Single wire chrome alternator 80 amps \$75.00  
Mercury 4" crankshaft has not been turned stand-  
ard \$350.00  
Ford 3.75 crankshaft \$100.00  
Exhaust manifolds 38-48 Ford or Mercury \$25.00  
Gary Thompson (916) 652-0701