



Watt Garage - Bill Harris Photo



www.ocpanteras.com

April 2009

Alex Watt Garage Saturday April 4th found a small group of us leaving Donut Derelicts for a 100 mile romp down the 405 and 5 to the Sea World area for an Open House at Sandy & Alex Watt's Carriage House in Point Loma. The tour of their garage, vintage toys, antique clothes and library was much more than the normal faire. Here the treat went far beyond a car show to include period correct clothing for both male and female. A walk through closet the full length of the second story above the garage housed all the fittings for an outing from pre-1890s through World War II. Of particular note was the row upon row of old hatboxes each filled and most decorated with hand painted images. Sandy spoke of the never-ending repair of both the clothing and accessories while apologizing for not having the jewelry collection on display. Each item was dutifully tagged identifying its year. She offered the ladies an opportunity to play "dress up". But, no one accepted; although a 1920s flapper dress and an Empire style one tempted Phyllis. Each of them would be acceptable fashion today. Coffee and cookies refreshed the entire crew.



The garage is designed as an old English carriage house to accommodate four carriages --- two single astride a double. Pictured here is an early Aston Martin. The two story unit easily housed four cars and a workshop at ground level with a one post lift and a car elevator to launch vehicles to the second floor where Alex held a model T touring along with three other cars. One of them is a 1901 model with a side tiller steering that appeared similar to the 1886 Benz we would view later that day. Sandy said that the mounted engine is not correct but they do have one in storage. One wall was lined with reference books of all types. Another contained antiques within old glass cased stackable law library shelves. Toys emphasizing the James Bond Astons are clearly of interest.



There were two Argyll cars in pieces on the ground floor. Much of the wood was rotten and so part of the metal frame was set with mockup pieces in preparation for replacement. Here, we saw first hand how the aluminum panels are formed over the wood then nailed in place. I was surprised how the screwed together wood joints and not the metal frame in these early cars carry the load. An old Riley accompanied them. Our thanks go to Bill Harris who arranged the visit and to Alex and Sandy Watt for hosting the event

Cooley Museum was our destination after lunching at Nati's restaurant. There, we found that fore mentioned 1886 Benz to a recent Buick prototype. Several Bush cars graced the 1910 era, a tandem 2 seater reminded me of the Messerschmitt car from the 50s, toys dated to 1870, cameras from 1900, toy trains from the turn of the century, tools of every kind and I think the red sled was used by Santa. A monstrous 1913 Cadillac touring was like that owned by

the Harris'. The white horse looked like the ones at Dave Rudderow's house. But, it didn't go up and down. Never the less, there was a big music thingy from a merry-go-round that played "How much is that doggie in the window?"

Reno Fun Rally is nearing. If you have not done so, please submit your registration now---see POCA.com. We are trying to arrange for a caravan or two from SoCal. Questions that remain are: (1) Which day(s) should we leave? (2) Should we plan an overnight stop? (3) Once into the hills, should we take the twisties or super highway?

Modern Headlights are destined for 7 members. I'll call a meeting for the team upon my return.

Wheel Wanted for Scott Couchman. He seeks an 8 inch 72 Pre L wheel. If you can help, email me and I'll forward the info. This is one way to make room for more stuff in your garage.

TPOC Roster is available at the POCA.com site. Sign up for this valuable feature along with historical articles and technical information.

Events from below need to be logged into your 2009 calendar. Bill Harris has volunteered to be our Events Coordinator and has established a sign in calendar for us. Email him, wlhpantera@aol.com, with your planned event. Also missing are the Tech Session dates that you'd like to see. So, call me at 714-369-2559 to gather the gang for your project to get your ride on the road, your place or mine. Let's fill the calendar with an event each month.

Reminders: from rkunishige@hotmail.com. Everyone with an interest in DeTomaso cars is always welcome.

Apr 11 **Annual Tech Session** for Reno run at Rod's garage 8:30 1107 Main St. HB 714-369-2559.

Apr 16-18 **LB Grand Prix** has free entry on Thursday.

Apr 18 **Wine Tasting Run to Los Alamitos** begins with a breakfast after the Donut Derelicts. Drive on PCH to Laguna Bch then up through the canyon to the winery for lunch. Enjoy food, drink and friends the entire day. Show your Pantera or other car too. Contact Larry Montgomery 562 420-7794 or Bill Harris 714 369-2559. See POCA.com site for contact info.

Apr 19 **Fabulous Fords Forever** is to show our cars to the Ford community 10AM-3PM at Knott's Berry Farm.

Apr 25 **Seal Beach Car Show**. 10-3pm Main St. Free to spectators. www.sealbeachchamber.org.

May 13 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

May 16 **Headlight Tech Session** at Rod's garage.

Jun 6-7 **HB Concours** is for two days, Saturday for Hot rods & Sunday for us. See <http://www.hbconcours.org/>. See a variety of cars and motorcycles in a beautiful setting at the HB Central Library 10am to 4pm 714 375-8414. It's a great way to show your car prior to the run to Reno.

Jun 10 **TPOC Mtg NO MEETING because of Fun Rally. Repeat, NO MEETING.**

Jul 8 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Jun 10-14 **POCA Fun Rally** held in Reno, NV for the first time. Plan to join fellow members on our ride to the rally. Experience the Reno-Fernley Raceway 4.3 mile track and test your skills safely on the longest USA road course. Thursday and Friday are scheduled but be sure to attend the Friday exhibition race. Once again, PCNC will allow \$20 noontime tours as in LV.

Jul 11 **Justice Brothers Racing Museum.** 10am. Bill Harris 714 369-2559.

Aug 12 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Aug 14 **Concorso Italiano** at Monterey bay \$125 before May 31 email ci@concorso.com.

Aug 14-16 **Monterey Historics** Laguana Seca.

Aug 29 **Big Bear Air Fair** is August 29, 2009, 8a to 4p <http://www.bigbearcityairport.com/airfair.html>. Possible optional overnigher. Call Bill Harris 714-369-2559.

Sep 9 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Sep 13 **Belmont Shore Show** see <http://www.baycityrodders.com/belmontshorecarshow.htm>.

Oct 14 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Oct 25 **Wings, Rotors and Wheels** on Sunday Oct. 25th is a \$30 planned event. Check out <http://www.wvexpo.net/>.

Oct 31 & Nov 1 **Willow Springs Open Track** by Jim & Cherie Saxton's West Coast Racing 626 285-2024 jim@westcoastracinginc.com. It is always a pleasure to hear the roar of our cats running at speed down the front straight. The average "Joe" in his street car can skip the race class and choose from the other three classes as well as take advantage of the many instructors who freely donate their time to ride with you or even drive your car to show how they'd approach the racing line. Car control is what you gain. You can even experiment with spring rates or tire pressures to balance the handling characteristics.

Nov 11 **TPOC Mtg** 7pm Mel's Drive-in 12241 Seal Bch Blvd, Seal Beach 563 431-7951.

Dec **Christmas Party**

Dec **Gondola Ride**