



Tot inspecting Toys at C&C



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January 2014

Toys for Tots at Cars & Coffee was a fantastic event to show our cars but this was over shadowed by our response to help kids of Marine families. What's great here is that our gifts go directly to those families who defend us each and every day. The Marines smiles and expressions of gratitude are a most rewarding sight. Scott Couchman generously hosted a brunch at his secret garage for those who attended.

Brunch truly was a manly one. Potatoes fried with red bell peppers and onions accompanied sausages and bacon with scrambled eggs. No continental breakfast for this crew. A second serving was a must and for some even more. Coffee was aplenty with the required orange juice to prep the way. There, too, was a cake of some sort that my "diet" would not allow.

Scott's talent is not limited to the stove. The walls showcased his artistic bent with both acrylics and airbrush paintings. These are of the subjects that capture his interests--- cars and sports.

We settled down with stories of how much effort was required to get approval for the garage design. Designed for 5 cars, 2 double and a single, completion will see two four poster and a two pole lift to house a total of seven cars. It is already occupied by a small collection. But I will not divulge the list here. Instead talk to Scott directly for both the list and the story of his negotiation with the city.

Gondola Boat tour surely brightened up our smiles as the lights began to shine along the canals. Some would say that it was largely brought on by the bottles of wine consumed but for me, since I don't abide in the drink myself, it was from strictly my companion. A figure of that famous Disney pirate greeted us at the entrance frotd of the surprises to come. Can you imagine buying one of these properties for two million and not alight it with Christmas or any other Holiday cheer of your own choosing? Even some of those big boat thingy called yachts were decorated. Our gondoliers described the homes and pointed out various features as well as gave us songs to enjoy. I noted too that many of the homes are or have been updated to carry a more modern thyme. One that I particularly liked was a two story gray with black trimmings and huge custom curved windows reaching floor to ceiling on each floor along the entire width of the structure. Another was a thoroughly updated 40s modern that said, "I ready."

El Torito on PCH was the site of the after tour dinner. It was unusually loud and crowded. And so, we were quite comfortable in making our own contribution to the noise level as the evening progressed. Many of the ladies present wore those bright lights from our Christmas party. You might even say that they added to the festive nature of the affair. Some were a twinkle while other were a steady glow of red.

Ride was required in order for me to prepare my car for C&C. My shake down run was a quick trip along PCH where it occurred to me that I really missed driving with no particular destination in mind. Yes, it was a purposeful trip in that it was to have the fluids flowing throughout the machine and to insure that all is well for an uneventful transport to C&C and the TPOC Brunch. But, my reward was simply pure pleasure listening to the secondaries open wide as the tach needle tilted to the far right.

I know that for even a "trailer queen" you should fire up the car, bring it to full operating temperature and drive it up and down the driveway a few times at least once a month. It is even better if you take it for a spin to exercise the suspension and churn the transaxle fluid to avoid rust in that \$10,000 unit. Think of the shocks, brakes, steering, lights and shifter being used so they may warn you of any coming problems. Don't you hate it

when the headlights fail to rise on command? I hated it when my passenger window failed me even though it warned me through its sluggish operation months earlier.

Ok those are the reasons. Now ask yourself how did it feel to drive your car simply to sense its power and responsiveness. What is stopping you from reliving it again, and again?

General Meeting (Reminder) is at Coco's (12582 Valley View St.) Garden Grove (714) 898-9719 at 7:30PM on the third Wednesday of each month except December.

POCA Fun Rally is scheduled for May 28 through June 1, 2014. Our many thanks goes to those who bring this vital event to our DeTomaso community. The gratitude goes to the Rally Committee, POCA Board and to both past and future host Chapters. San Diego will host 2014 and will direct us to the wonderful features there. This close proximity offers the California chapters a unique opportunity to participate in numbers that underscore our support of the international organization while expressing our appreciation of the effort made by our host brethren. We have plenty of time to block the dates and prep our cars for all to see.

Picture of Your Car is needed for our web site. Email one to Greg Ford at tpocwebmaster@gmail.com.

Badges Available once again. You and your associate may wear either a pin or magnetic style TPOC badge simply by asking any Board member. Their lettering is a very fashionable black to match everything you wear.

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

Jan 15 **TPOC Mtg 7:30pm** Coco's (12582 Valley View St.) Garden Grove (714) 898-9719.

Feb 18 **TPOC Mtg 7:30pm** Coco's (12582 Valley View St.) Garden Grove (714) 898-9719.

May 28-1**POCA Fun Rally**

Aug 18 **Concorso Italiano** featuring Maserati once owned by DeTomaso.

Long Beach Swap Meet @ 6am – 1pm at Veterans' Stadium \$8. Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 6, May 1, Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 3, Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Nov 30, Dec 14

Weekly Events: Friday: Garden Grove Main St, Saturday: HB Donut Derelicts, Irvine Cars n Coffee, Sunday: Woodland Hills Supercars, Topanga Canyon & Erwin St 7-11am.