



# SempreFerrari

Magazine of the Ferrari Club of America Southwest Region



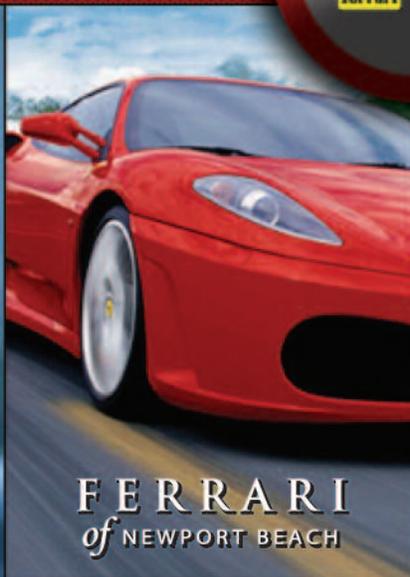
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2009  
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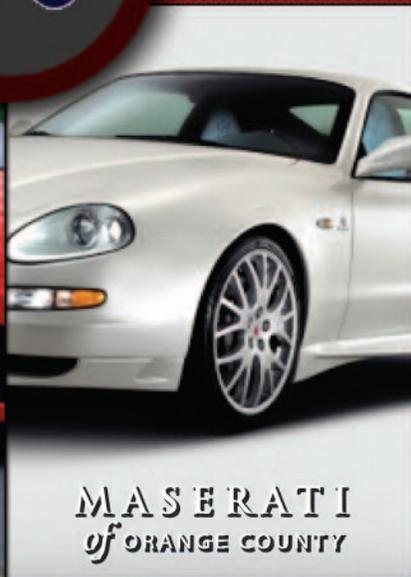
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Dear FCA Members:

Spring opened with a Bang this year with a bigger than ever Ortega Run to Temecula and the largest ever Gourmet Ride & Drive to the Central Coast. These events were followed by a well attended visit to Ben Reiling's car collection and the Justice Brothers museum. These events were followed by the intrigue of this year's Mystery Ride, an informative Tech Session at the new Ferrari of Beverly Hills Collision Center and a broad selection of In Your Area local events. Concurrent with the mailing of this issue of *Sempre Ferrari*, a group of fortunate participants are enjoying the "sold out" 2009 edition of The Sideways Ride to Santa Ynez.

Highlights of the Summer now before us include a greatly expanded presence at this year's Los Angeles Concours at the Rose Bowl and our Annual Election Picnic to be held this year at the Palos Verdes Botanical Gardens. These events will be followed by The Pasadena Art Center Concours and Corral in Pasadena and an Adamson House Tour followed by lunch on the Malibu Pier. For the more ambitious among us, this year's FCA International Meet will be held at Road America in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin for which a special rate for the shipment of your car is in place. A peek into events of special interest later in the Summer suggest that you make note that FCA in cooperation with The Quail Lodge will significantly expand The Quail Motorsports Event in Monterey with a field of 50 special Ferraris.

Now is the time to review the Calendar of Events to save the date for events of special interest to you. Then turn to the Events Registration Booklet at the center of this edition of *Sempre Ferrari* and save a place for yourself at events that typically sell out.

Remember the importance of Registering Early and Registering Often for the many events your Club has to offer. Better yet, join us at 9:00 AM on the second Saturday of each month on the fourth floor of the Petersen Automotive Museum for a meeting of your Board of Directors where you can learn the fun of becoming a truly Engaged Member.

I'll look forward to seeing you there!

Regional Director / President Ferrari Club of America, Southwest Region 2007-2009

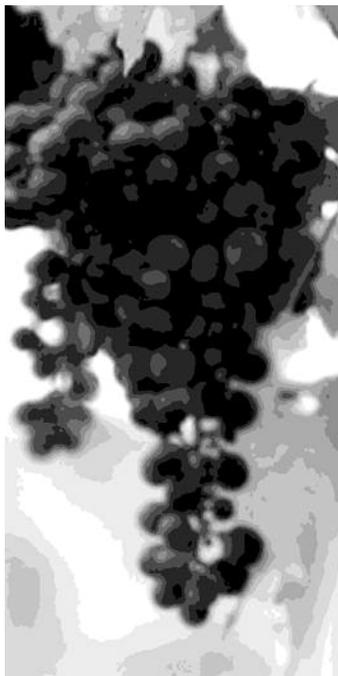
FCA  
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5/6

2009

Volume 16 Issue 3



Gourmet Ride and Drive

Sempre Ferrari

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Craig Wentz - The Ortega Run

# SempreFerrari

Magazine of the Ferrari Club of America Southwest Region

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Our thanks to these dedicated individuals who provide opportunities for our club members to share in the fellowship as Ferrari enthusiasts.



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FCA Southwest Region events in **bold**

We look forward to your participation at our events!

**FCA Southwest Region Board Meetings**

**All Members Welcome!**

Held the second Saturday of each month at 9:00AM at the Petersen Automotive Museum, 6060 Wilshire Blvd. (at Fairfax), Los Angeles, CA, unless otherwise specified.

## May

**9** - Saturday

**Southwest Region Board Meeting** - Petersen Automotive Museum. 9:00 am.

**16** - Saturday

**Open House at Ferrari Beverly Hills Collision Center** - Rescheduled for sunny Saturday, you are invited to visit the state of the art and only Factory Authorized Collision Center on the West Coast. Info or RSVP to: Tex Otto - [tex@synchronis.com](mailto:tex@synchronis.com), ph 213-439-0111. **Event information on page R1.**

**30-31** - Wknd

**Sideways Ride to Santa Ynez** - A new route, a more exclusive lunch venue and a new mix of wineries make this year's experience of wine, food and amazing roads even better. One day with optional second day. Info: Mark Process - [dszner35mm@juno.com](mailto:dszner35mm@juno.com), ph 818-906-2678. **Event information on page R2.**

## June

**7** - Sunday

**4th Annual Los Angeles Concours & Ferrari Corral** - Rose Bowl Stadium/Brookside Golf Course, Pasadena, CA. Judged Ferrari classes plus an adjacent Ferrari Corral. Registration visit [www.laconcours.com](http://www.laconcours.com). Info: Wally Clark - 714-630-9202, [clarkinc@pacbell.net](mailto:clarkinc@pacbell.net). **Event info on page R3.**

**13** - Saturday

**Southwest Region Board Meeting** - Petersen Automotive Museum. 9:00 am.

**14** - Sunday

**Annual Election Picnic** - Palos Verdes South Coast Botanic Gardens. Honoring the 250 GT SWB's 50th anniversary. All Ferraris welcome for display in the beautiful garden setting. Picnic lunch for members. Info: Marv Landon - [marv@fdsi.com](mailto:marv@fdsi.com), 818-971-3300, ext 2311. **Event info on page R4.**

**27** - Saturday

**Kart Racing at MB2 Raceway** - Indoor Kart racing action at one of California's newest kart facilities in Thousand Oaks. Ferrari parking, all gear and lunch included. Race 2 of 2 race FCA SW Kart Championship Series. Trophies for race and overall winners. Info: Marv Landon - [marv@fdsi.com](mailto:marv@fdsi.com), 818-971-3300, ext 2311. **Event info on page R5.**

**27-28** - Wknd

**Ferrari Adventure Weekend** - Join us on a fabulous Saturday drive, outdoor pistol range shooting with instructor, delicious food and an exciting Sunday adventure on the whitewater with dinner at a yummy Italian restaurant. Fabulous roads with incredible scenery, river hotel accommodations with security parking. Relax... fish... swim... Info: Diane Peterson 310-804-6655, Jeffrey Light 310-999-2345. **Event info on page R6.**

## July

**18** - Saturday

**Adamson House Tour and Lunch** - Join us for a fun day with your Ferrari in Malibu. Meet at the Malibu Pier w/reserved parking. Tour of 1929 masterpiece Adamson House. Lunch at the beautiful Beachcomer on Malibu Pier. Info: Diane Peterson - [babymack4@gmail.com](mailto:babymack4@gmail.com), 424-644-0075. **Event info on page R7.**

**19** - Sunday

**Art Center Car Classic '09** - You're invited to our FCA SW Ferrari Corral at the Art Center Classic. Showcasing the historic relationship between aircraft and watercraft design and the automobile industry, behind-the-scene tours of the Art Center's Transportation Design studios. Info: Peter G. Kudrave - [pgkudrave@hede.com](mailto:pgkudrave@hede.com), ph 213-542-4557. **Event info on page R8.**

## August

**13** - Thursday

**Ride & Drive to Monterey** - Join us for an exciting drive to Monterey. Lunch at the Shore Cliff Restaurant in Shell Beach. Contact Jim Bindman - [cool4re@hotmail.com](mailto:cool4re@hotmail.com).

**14** - Friday

**Ferraris at the Quail** - Part of The Quail, A Motorsports Gathering. Sold out.

## September

**13** - Sunday

**Ferrari Harbor Classic at Dana Point** - Beautiful location, lunch and activities. Info: Tom Brockmiller - [ferrariracer@cox.net](mailto:ferrariracer@cox.net), 949-716-2395. **Event info on page R9.**

**27** - Sunday

**Newport Concours at the St. Regis** - Details to be announced.

## October

**3-4** - Wknd

**Hearst Castle Weekend** - Drive amazing Southern California back-roads to Morro Bay for a sunset ship cruise. Saturday morning Hearst Castle guided tour. Evening cocktail reception, dinner. Sunday morning breakfast at the hotel. Limited to 20 rooms. Info: Tony Cole 818-222-7784, Carlos Amato 310-446-1554. **Event info on page R10.**

**22-25** - Wknd

**Avila Beach Concours** - Details to be announced.

**31-Nov 1**

**Willow Springs Driving School** - Details to be announced.

# IN YOUR AREA MONTHLY EVENTS HELD BY REGION AREA COORDINATORS

Meet Ferrari friends at a designated spot each month for an informal gathering. Everyone is welcome.

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY



**MARK PROCESS**  
Area Coordinator Chairperson  
818-906-2678  
dszner35mm@juno.com

### SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH

Join host Mark Process and fellow Ferrari owners on the second Sunday of each month for an informal "Show and Shine" at the Village Coffee Roaster in Woodland Hills. Breakfast is available at Labels Tables as well as a fine selection of coffees and teas at the Roaster. Interesting and rare vehicles are always the attraction as well as the exchange of car stories, racing news and club gossip. Arrive between 8:30 and 9 AM at 23351 Mullholland Drive, Woodland Hills.

## ORANGE/RIVERSIDE COUNTIES



**TOM BROCKMILLER**  
949-716-2395  
ferrariracer@cox.net

**JACK CURTIS** 949-494-2536  
**BILL INGLIS** 949-481-5954

### FIRST SUNDAY EACH MONTH

Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club. 26772 Avery Parkway, Mission Viejo, CA 92692. (Off 5 at Avery Pkwy, East to end of road. Ample designated Ferrari parking.) The New Deal - Arrive at 9 AM for coffee and Ferrari friendship. Stay until 10 AM for a great Champagne buffet brunch. Special FCA club only price \$22 per person, plus gratuity. It's a beautiful location and easy to find.

## WEST LOS ANGELES



**DOUG PRESTINE**  
310-472-1187  
dprestine@msn.com

### FIRST SATURDAY EACH MONTH

Join Doug Prestine on the first Saturday of each month for a scenic drive through the Santa Monica Mountains and the camaraderie of fellow FCA driving enthusiasts. The tour typically ends at a destination restaurant for a no host lunch. Arrive before 9 AM at the Palisades Highlands shopping center located on Palisades Drive 1 block north of Sunset Blvd in West L.A. Coffee, breakfast snacks and rest rooms are available prior to departure.

## SOUTH BAY



**DON WEST**  
310-378-2954

### EVERY SUNDAY EACH MONTH

Join FCA club raconteur Don West any Sunday morning at the St. Honore Café (the umbrellas) for an informal coffee and lunch. Meet and mingle with fellow South Bay members. Arrive at 12 noon at 2201 Palos Verdes Drive West, Lunada Bay, Palos Verdes.

## VENTURA COUNTY



**GUY BROWNING**  
805-654-0693  
805-340-4225 Cell  
browningllc@yahoo.com

### SECOND SUNDAY EACH MONTH

Meet at the Clocktower Inn 11:00 AM. Located in old Ventura below the San Buenaventura Mission. 181 E. Santa Clara St. Ventura.

## OTHER AUTOMOTIVE EVENTS

June 28, Sunday

### Mikee's Summer Run

New starting point, new route through the canyons of Malibu.  
For information call Michael Greenwald 818-368-0096, mikeeg10@earthlink.net.

July 29 - August 2, 2009



### The FCA's 2009 Annual Meet at Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin

Come drive the legendary Road America and enjoy the prettiest countryside anywhere! All FCA members invited to Elkhart Lake, WI and Road America for the FCA International Meet. Internationally recognized Concours d'Elegance, road rally, three days of racetrack activities, a vendor market (Mercato di Ferrari), seminars, receptions, charity auction and banquet with award presentations. Featuring Boxers from 365 thru BBLM and a Special 333 SP Reunion. Mike Epifanio (847) 823-2149, e-mail: epifaniorm@aol.com



FIRST ANNUAL

# GRAN FONDO COLNAGO SAN DIEGO

Article By  
Doug Prestine

Photo By  
Gran Fondo Colnago

## The first annual Gran Fondo

Colnago San Diego was a huge success. The event is a mass bicycle ride for cyclists of all abilities. Gran Fondo means Big Ride in Italian and big it was. Eleven hundred cyclists participated with 45 mile or 100 mile route options. Hosted by Little Italy San Diego and sponsored by Italian specialty bicycle manufacturer Colnago, the event was conducted for the benefit of the American Melonoma Foundation.

The inaugural event took place on Sunday, March 1st with FCA members invited to lead the group for the first 5 miles in their Ferraris. Participating FCA members were invited to an intimate VIP evening with good food and fine wines with Ernesto Colnago at a restaurant in Little Italy where Mr. Colnago presented them with a special gift to commemorate their participation.

The thrill of participating in this event is perhaps best understood by studying what 1,100 bicycles being led by a squadron of Ferraris looks like. A quick glance at the photograph of the start may well have many of you signing up for next year's event. **SF**



Gran Fondos are long distance, mass-participation cycling events – not races – that have become part of Italy's cycling culture. Participation is open to recreational and competitive amateur cyclists. Thousands of riders of all abilities participate.



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CLASSIC CARS, MUSIC INSTRUMENTS AND A TRAIN

# NETHERCUTT COLLECTION TOUR

Article and Photos By  
Marshall Buck Ph.D

Sixty Ferraristi enjoyed the day at the Nethercutt Museum viewing stately, perfectly restored classic automobiles, in a Grand Salon setting that harkens back to the ornate retail showrooms of the thirties.

In addition to the cars, there were displays of accessories such as hood ornaments and horns, as well as engines under glass.

J.B. and Dorothy Nethercutt were not born into riches, but through diligent hard work, building the Merle Norman brand of cosmetics into a hugely successful business, they were able to build one of the finest collections of rolling art in the world, displayed in a sumptuous building.

It certainly helps when you can sell tiny bottles of paint for the equivalent of \$10,000 per gallon!

The cars are more than static display art – although J.B. and Dorothy have passed on, the museum staff still takes the cars out for Sunday drives from time to time. The Nethercutts provided for the secure financial future of their museum, so it will be there for future automotive aficionados.

After the tour of the cars, we were treated to musical selections from some of the few remaining, working Orchestrons, purchased from fine European hotels, which are automated music machines containing scores of instruments, controlled by punched paper tape rolls.

Continued on page 12



Marshall inspects a few of the incredible collection of automotive mascots that are on display.

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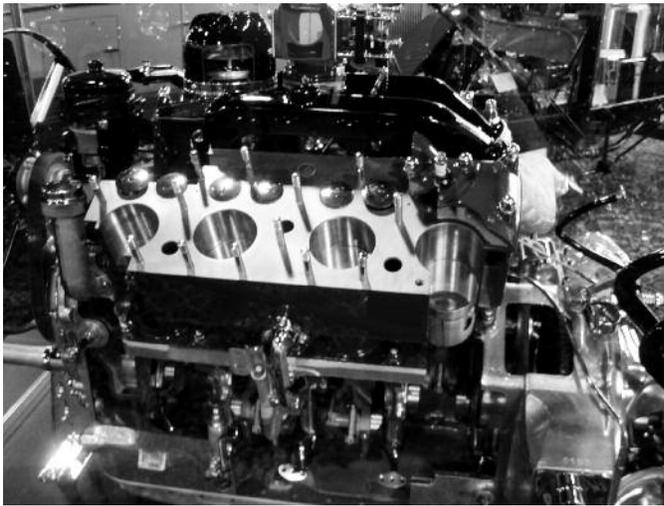
## NETHERCUTT COLLECTION TOUR

The finale was a few pieces played on the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ. This large theater organ sports over 5000 pipes, and is controlled by a computer which has memorized the key and pedal presses as well as the stop settings from live concerts held at the museum.

After the museum tour, we drove to the nearby Odyssey Restaurant for their extensive buffet lunch. There were so many selections that everyone was able to enjoy their favorite foods.

The Ferrari Club had a large private room, with a bar and free flowing champagne, and a fine view of the San Fernando Valley.

Even though it was a rainy day, which kept the Ferrari count low, the crowd enjoyed talking and dining with new and old friends well into the afternoon. SF



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THE ORTEGA RUN

# NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE EXCESS

Article By  
Tom Brockmiller

Photos By  
Craig Wentz and Wally Clark

## Who first said that? Perhaps

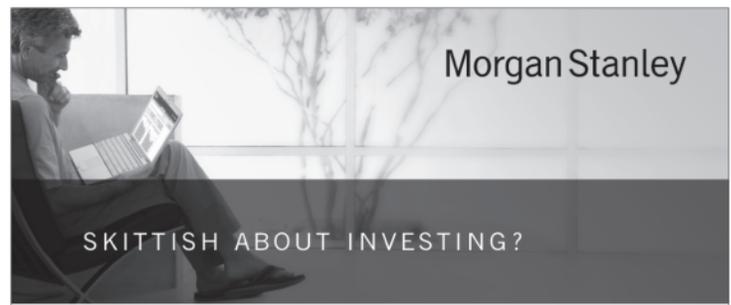
a Ferrari owner? Perhaps those attending Doug Prestine's Gourmet Drive? It might have been a few who went back for buffet seconds at our eighth annual Ortega Run at Thornton Winery. While not excessive, I might say that The Ortega Run was once again a genuine success as reported by those in attendance.

We had a marvelous turn out of sixty plus cars and a dining count of around 100. Beautiful weather, while a bit misty over the newly engineered Ortega Highway. A wonderfully scenic, adventuresome, potential "take no prisoners" type of road. Into the back hills of De Luz, the drive was punctuated by some road construction and some small fjords. All to the challenges of the rally spirit. We like to think of this run as presenting a potential opportunity around the next corner.

There were no mishaps of any account other than Peter Riley and Bob Estrada making an incorrect right turn. I owe them a public apology as it turns out their driver instruction sheet was incorrectly printed. They experienced a part of the road yet unexplored.

The podium cars were once again chosen at random but always with emphasis on the vintage years. We had Rich Darlings' beautiful Lusso that is an attest to a car





that was “meant to be driven”. Malcolm Schmeer’s 365 GTB4 from display at the San Diego Museum and Roger and Rhonda Groves stunning 275 GTS.

Also, as an expression of change, Cary Fisher’s 599 GTB and George and Kathy Paulos’ 360 Challenge Stradale. Greg and Lily Wentz’s 308 represented an original and most perfectly maintained example, with concours wins to match. A diverse mix, to be sure, but one showing the modernization of the Ferrari product.

The Thornton Winery buffet is always above compare with a setting that can only be characterized as perfect. Ferraris and good food. Nice people dining together who shared a bottle of Thornton’s best. This is how we make memories. **SF**

Opposite from top: A few of the podium cars included the Groves’ 275 GTS, the Paulos’ 360 Challenge Stradale and Cary Fisher’s 599 GTB. A Lusso traverses a fjord. Podium Ferraris with Malcom Schmeer’s Daytona and the Wentz’s 308.

This page from top: Line up at the start. Let’s eat, with podium Ferraris in the background. The Ortega Run event chairperson Tom Brockmiller at right is finally able to relax. Rich Darling’s beautiful Lusso. Group awaiting start.

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FCA SOUTHWEST REGION - SPRING, 2009

# GOURMET RIDE AND DRIVE

Article By and Photos By  
Doug Prestine Various participants

## Where the 2008 Gourmet

Ride and Drive was to the historic and funky little Central Coast beach town of Cayucos, this year was accompanied by a return to current and fashionable. In 2009 our destination was Shell Beach, an upscale suburb at the north end of Pismo.

The event began with the tradition of a Thursday evening opening dinner at the home of event organizers Joan and Doug Prestine. The usual core group of established veterans, several with five Gourmet Rides under their belt, soon had the newcomers and the usual guest or two from the Pacific Region into the spirit of things.

It was time for a Coastal Route this year, and Friday morning had us on our way along PCH through Malibu where we picked up locals wishing to avoid the trek down to Pacific Palisades for the official start. Following a rest stop in Ventura, we continued up the coast by way of the back-roads behind Carpinteria and Santa Barbara before turning slightly inland for lunch at the Vineyard Restaurant in Santa Ynez. After enjoying a wonderful selection of luncheon choices on a patio overlooking the rolling landscape, we continued north through Foxen Canyon and a rest stop in Santa Maria on our return to the Coast.

Our destination was The Dolphin Bay Resort & Spa where we were received by a cordial staff and escorted to the privacy of beautifully appointed 1,100 square foot ocean-front one bedroom suites to prepare for the evening's

Continued on page 21



Photo captions from above:  
Some of the group at a rest stop. Luncheon.

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# PLEASE VOTE!

Included with this issue of the *Sempre Ferrari* is this year's Election Ballot. Our new simplified ballot is a self mailer, so vote for up to five candidates, fold, tape closed, stamp and mail.

**FCA SOUTHWEST REGION 2009 ELECTION BALLOT**  
 Each FCA Southwest Region Director candidate has been allowed 100 words to express why they would like to be a Director for the club.  
 Vote for up to 5 candidates by checking the box to the left of your selected candidate(s).  
 Fold over this self-mailer ballot, tape at the top and mail with first class stamp. Thank you.

**Bob Boas** - Fellow 1960's. I have been an active member of the club for 6 years and have attended the board meetings for the last 3 years. I've been involved with the planning and oversight of several Race & Show events including the Club Run. My objective is to continue participating, supporting the club, the directors and members. Sincerely, Bob Boas.

**Marshall Buck** - My first Ferrari, a 1959 250 GT Europa was acquired in 1961. When I later a head gasket, I sold it making an obscene profit of \$1,000. I joined both the Ferrari Club of America and the Ferrari Owners Club in 1969, serving as FCA President in 1980. My current Ferrari is a 1973 Continuo, purchased in 1981. I also have a 2005 GT5 and a 2008 Dino. I've been attending the FCA board meetings and have organized a few events and written some articles for the *Sempre*. I also serve as an instructor at our track events.

**Tony Cole** - Ferrari evokes raw emotion and passion, the epitome of automotive design, the definition of speed and beauty. I have been a member of the FCA for ten years. It has afforded me the opportunity to meet some really unique and interesting people, many of whom are now here in the Ride and Drive Wed. Enjoy meet and has had the pleasure of organizing a few events. It's the Ride and Drive Wed. Enjoy meet and has had the pleasure of organizing a few events. My goal as a board member will be to provide you opportunities to enjoy the cars and unique experiences that allow you to know each other as well. I welcome your vote. Ciao, Tony.

**Kenny Lombino** - I would like to thank the board for considering me for the position. My interests lie in driving events, Day Overnights, or any type of touring. I have organized some tours from 100 miles through 2000 miles and have organized two "Mystery Races" and have had a few "No New Area" rides. I was the starting star for the L.A. Big club for four years. I would be honored to help the club in any way I can and will do my best to continue the tradition of having FCA be the best car club anyone could be a member of. Thank you for your consideration, Kenny.

**Tex Otto** - As your Vice President, I seek your support to enable my continued service on the FCA Southwest Board. I've been a FCA member since 1977 and for 30 years I've designed and produced the *Sempre Ferrari*. I also manage the club's website which now features online news reports. It continues to refine the club's magazine and website to meet the evolving needs of the club and its members with FCA-SW members. My ambitions include encouragement of member participation through fun and unique events that enrich the value of FCA membership.

**Diane Peterson** - I've always had a passion for Ferraris. I am the original owner of 1966 250 GT's. I've also owned and track on car. I have won three Platinum and three Coppa Italia trophies awards at the FCA Sunset Mile. I organized a three day regional FCA event in Dallas last year and raised \$20,000 for a charity. As a board member, I would like to organize fun and exciting events where we can enjoy our beautiful cars and each other. Sign up for my track event, "Tour of the Adrenaline Highway". If you vote for me, it'll be an outstanding job.

**Brian Quadt** - A site studied my background "Diane Peterson" for the Testarossa through city streets and a very "street" surprise—a classic ride. I have related some amazing driving exp. Back in the garage, techniques learned and products purchased in the Maranello's Car Care Clinic. I trained the manager into the Ferrari. Participation of new members has been enhanced through my experience as a marketing manager. My goal is to continue my position as member and join the board to assist with setting policy and planning our future together.



Also register for our  
**ANNUAL ELECTION PICNIC**  
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## LOOKING FOR MEMBERS WHO ARE SHIPPING THEIR FERRARI TO THE FCA ANNUAL MEET IN ELKHART LAKE, WISCONSIN JULY 29 - AUGUST 2, 2009

Diane Peterson is going to the FCA Annual Meet (July 29 - August 2, 2009), and she has looked in depth at the best rates and service for shipping her 355 GTS to Elkhart Lake. There is a potential great savings for a group of cars to that are planning make the round trip from Los Angeles to Wisconsin.

Please contact Diane for more information:  
 Phone: 424-644-0075  
 Email: [babymack4@gmail.com](mailto:babymack4@gmail.com)





## GOURMET RIDE AND DRIVE

Continued from page 18

events. With cars securely tucked into an underground garage, cocktails in the Lido Lounge was followed by an informal dinner in the privacy of the Terrace Room overlooking the Pacific.

Saturday morning led us further north through San Luis Obispo and into the hills for a convoluted trip through the wine district. Our destination was the Windward Vineyard where owner Marc Goldberg provided us with a history of his winery and a barrel tasting followed by lunch under an arbor. The remainder of the afternoon was left open for individual visits to favorite local wineries, visits to historic Paso Robles or a return to the Resort to enjoy its La Bonne Vie Spa.

The Saturday evening five course wine paired dinner took place in a fourth floor suite of the Resort overlooking the ocean below. This was where Chef Evan could display his skills in an open kitchen and where each of the courses he prepared could be enjoyed with carefully selected wine choices at four elegantly set tables for ten.

Sunday presented the choice of returning home or lingering at the Resort for a Harvest Festival where more than twenty local wineries presented their finest for the enjoyment of all. For most who lingered, a welcome excuse was available to extend for an additional night at the Resort and another Gourmet Ride and Drive was brought to an appropriate conclusion. **SF**



Photo captions from top left:  
 Luncheon. Tour of Windward Vineyard.  
 The fun continued during dinner at the  
 Dolphin Bay Resort & Spa. Luncheon.  
 Couple enjoying themselves.



SAFETY AT SPEED

# WILLOW SPRINGS DRIVING SCHOOL

Article and Photos By  
Marshall Buck Ph.D

## Perfect desert weather

greeted the track hounds who made the short trek to Willow Springs International Raceway on the first weekend in March.

The event unfolded in its usual well organized manner, starting with tech inspection for those who hadn't completed this chore in advance, making sure the cars were safe, fire extinguishers were safely mounted, and that helmets were Snell rated 2000 or better. Then a plenary drivers meeting informed about the meaning of flags, the passing rules, track courtesy and the order of events.

Van rides were given to the Green group newbies to show them the racing line, followed by a chalk talk session in the classroom led by David Christian and Bill Nelson to explain high performance driving techniques.

Meanwhile the Red group of racers went out in their roll cage equipped machines for practice and timing to set grid positions for the noon race.

Yellow and Blue groups followed for the quick and quicker drivers.

I stopped to chat with the guys downloading sensor data from a beautiful 275 GTB/4 with an extensive set of instrumentation onboard. There were sensors on the steering, brakes, suspension, lap timing, temperatures, g forces, and more.

Other Ferraris seen on the track included a 575 Maranello, a 355, an F430 and a 430 Scuderia.

Brett Austin drove his 308 in the Red group and took

the prize for the quietest car in the racy set.

In the race itself, Bob Blizzard moved his super fast pickup truck out in front, until the slicks became threadbare and put him off in turn one. On Friday, Bob led an optional all day session on performance cornering, which included car setup advice as well as driving instruction.

Corvettes were the most popular marque, accompanied by Vipers, Porsches, Lotus Elites, Mustangs, Panteras and other sports cars. There was also the occasional sleeper sedan, like Dale Schaub's white bimmer, fully Dinan equipped and quite fast.

Truly an eclectic crowd, and an interesting, polite bunch that are a pleasure to run with.

Saturday night we had a group dinner at the Texas Cattleman, with great steaks, and conversations laced with racing truths and lies.

The second day, Sunday was more of the same, with a slight thinning of the crowd, so there was plenty of running room on the track.

Another successful weekend for FCA/Pantera/West Coast Racing, with a safe, fun track event.

For those who still think driving fast on the street is cool, you should really step up to the controlled venue of the track, where you can hone your skills up by several levels.

The next Willow event is scheduled for October 31/November 1. Sign up early to avoid disappointment.

SF

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INDOOR KART CHALLENGE

# DROMO 1 GRAND PRIX

Article By  
Tex K. Otto

Photos By  
Tambi R. Otto

## The Dromo 1 Grand Prix

offered wheel to wheel racing with the competitiveness of any race formula. Based on the Ferraris which owners drove to the event, you could tell there were some serious drivers entered at this year's FCA SW Dromo 1 Grand Prix. Even more telling were the number of custom painted Snell racing helmets that entrants brought in preparation for competition. This was shaping up to be an competition that pits shifter kart champions against first time kart racers to learn who had the stuff to win the day's main event.

For the sensation of speed, karts offer a fantastic platform to experience the dynamics of vehicle control without the perils of full size cars to achieve the same thrills. The smooth concrete surface at Dromo takes some getting use to, especially the first couple of laps before the tires get warmed up. But the wheel to wheel action leaves nothing to the pro leagues of racing as the straightaways feel like you're going 180 and the competition is fierce when you're trying to pass the kart in front of you, or you try to keep in front of the driver behind.

The principles of good driving skills apply with karts as they are extremely sensitive to the driver's input. As power is limited, you must keep your momentum by being smooth with steering and braking for fast lap times. All of the karts are the same specification, so it comes down to the driver's mastery to beat the other karts.

Participants had a lot of racing to look forward to. Each racer had four heat races to earn points towards their start positions in the semi main events. The top nine racers from the semis competed in the main event to proclaim the winner of the Dromo 1 Kart Challenge. Some of the racers had back to back heat races which kept their slick tires nice and sticky but also gave their forearms a good workout without a break. As each heat race started, the driver lineup for the next race was announced, which made the action off the track nearly as fast as the races themselves. After each heat race, drivers would pick up their time sheets to view their lap times to judge their own and their competition's improvements.

The main event stacked two shifter kart pros, Jeff Littrell and Wayne Mello against the rest of us. From the staggered standing start, the first four karts were closer than a conga line as they wound through the 8 turn course. Fernando Scalini and myself were among the foursome, as each driver jostled for position in the opening laps. Any mistake was an opportunity for a pass. Not making a mistake was an opportunity for the kart behind you to try to move you out of the way. The only way to survive is to be smooth, go like hell and make your kart ten feet wide.

By the main event's halfway point, the lead drivers had made their offensive and defensive moves as Fernando took

## Ferraris For Sale

**1989 Ferrari 328 GTS:** My '89 Ferrari 328 GTS black/tan is for sale. It is in excellent condition with 30k miles. Just inspected at Tech Session in Canoga Park this past weekend. Car is in great shape per technician. \$55k.

www.328gts.net for tour. If you are interested or know anyone interested in this classic, please let me know. A buyer's referral fee will be given. Thanks. Alain Michael, 805-777-3849 x 301 office, 805-732-7848 cell. 03/09

**1999 550 Maranello:** S/N# 115178. US Model, 24,600 miles with Blu Pozzi over Carte de Zucchro (Lt. Blue) power Daytona seats – Blu Pozzi inserts, stitching and piping. 250 GT style back deck and headliner. Red calipers, shields, manuals, tools, keys, cover, bra, battery tender, original MSRP sticker and service records all present. Belt service, clutch and fly wheel done spring of 2007. Fluids changed in September 2008. Beautiful example, you won't be disappointed! CA. \$85,000.00. Jim 858-485-8621. jhyldahl@cox.net. 03/09

## Ferrari Miscellaneous For Sale

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**Miscellaneous For Sale:** Cavallino magazines full set #1 (original) thru to #165 \$3,750. OBO. Prancing Horse magazine #47-54, \$25 ea, #56-103, \$20 ea, #105-158, \$15 ea, all prices OBO. Symbol magazine #1-22, \$22 ea OBO. Pebble Beach Concours programs 1983, '87, '88, '89, 1992, 94, \$25 ea OBO. Monterey Historic Races (Laguna Seca) programs 1977 to 1985, 1988, '89, 1990, \$12 ea OBO. Lever type wheel knock off removal tool \$100. "Sparco" driving suit FIA "Nomex" brand new still in original box package, never worn. Top yellow with dark blue horizontal alternating stripes, bottom dark blue. European size 54 USA size 40 \$595. OBO. FCA Southwest Region 3/4 length jacket with hidden hood in collar, black cotton, with FCA Southwest Region patch on left breast, AGIP patch on right sleeve, FERRARI script on right pocket, FERRARI script in large letters on back, waist drawstring. Brand new, never worn Size L \$295 OBO. Murray Cogan (818) 730-5833, e-mail: MtlMurrayC@aol.com. 05/09

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# DROMO 1 GRAND PRIX Continued from page 24

the checkered flag to win the big trophy followed by Jeff, myself and Wayne in fourth place only 1.4 seconds behind the leader.

After Fernando's victory lap, a podium award ceremony with post race interviews followed. The only thing missing was the spraying of champagne.

Most of the participants adjourned to Chili's for post race bench racing along with celebratory eats and drinks. Everyone said they had a great time and thanks to everyone who was part of the fun. Dromo 1 hosted a well run event and thanks to them as well.

The Dromo 1 Grand Prix was the first race of the FCA Southwest Region's Kart Championship Series. Race two will be held at MB2 Raceway in Thousand Oaks on June 27th. Be sure to sign up in the registration section. **SF**



## FERRARI CLUB OF AMERICA SOUTHWEST REGION

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***Sempre Ferrari* Issue**

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