



## The Last Big 3? Not so fast...



Night Photo: Candaus Greene



After months of discussion and only vague possibilities that the city of San Diego would allow us another year at the Q, and options for an alternate venue seemed exhausted, the BIG 3 Board voted to sell the BIG 3 name and its data base. It seemed that The BIG 3 would be history.

However, only days before our weekend, a surprise buyer made an offer we could not refuse. Todd Harding restores PONTIAC GTOs in the LA area and has a reputation of being 'honest, hard working' and 'money smart'. He spent most of Thursday with Joe and Paula Pifer and was so impressed he asked Paula if she would stay on. Each day he and his wife, Kim, son, John, friends,

Greg and Vickie spent time at the Reservation Booth and the Vender Tent.

When he strolled in to the tent on Saturday, he asked for an Orange Vest. Sandy, being so shy, asked, "So, who are you?" He happily said, "I'm the new owner".

After spending time with Ric Bonnornt, Mike Pearson, the Silvas, Ignacio and others, they all concluded: "Very friendly guy, happy and helpful, and his family is nice, also". He has an idea of possibly having a BIG 3 two times a year—February and August. He's confident he will be able to use the Qualcom site at least one more year. In Phoenix, his swap meets are known as "Todd Harding and Son Swap Meet and Car Corral". Todd describes his management style: "I observe — watch for what's working, because if it's working I won't change it".

During the conversations, he confessed that he didn't really make up his mind to buy the Big 3 until the night before. When he left the Vender Tent he walked into the swap meet like a man on a mission. —TS

**NOTE: This March issue of the FAN is the Last Printed Issue.**  
**(For members w/out a computer, there will be FANs sent by regular mail)**  
**Starting April, the FAN will be posted on our SDEFV8 Web Site.**

You will be notified by eMail when newsletter is posted  
 and there will be a simple link to take you to the web site.

Make sure your email address is on our master list.

Sandy Shortt [shortsandy@mac.com](mailto:shortsandy@mac.com)



## Prez Sez—I just returned home from my volunteer day 2 of the Big 3!

I'll be there tomorrow too. I love my sticker police assignment, you get to meet so many interesting characters first thing in the morning. Many club members were there too, volunteering to

make our last event successful, lots of fun too. I didn't buy anything yet but hoping to score some rare find tomorrow.

I wanted to take a moment to thank our representatives to the Big 3, Rick Bonnoront, Rick Carlton, Dave Huhn and Calvin king. Also wanted to thank perennial contributors Joe and Paula Pifer, Mike Pierson and Barbara Martin without whom the event would not run so smoothly.

If you were not at our February meeting you missed the announcement that Bob Brown has graciously agreed to join our board. All the board is excited about his addition; he has significant prior car club experiences.

I hope to see you all in Alpine on March 17<sup>th</sup> for our Soap Box Derby Race. Our car is fast and has a real opportunity to medal up to the next level race and hopefully on to Akron, Ohio. The tour will leave from Alpine and head down the mountain for a late lunch.

Our April tour is on the 14<sup>th</sup> to the hard to get into Evans Garage, thanks Ray Brook for getting us in. This is a don't miss tour get it on your calendar.

I am making one more pitch to those of you who would love to be a Tour Director for the Day! You can drive as much of the tour as you want, Jim Thomas is there to back stop you, don't worry he won't let you drive off a cliff. Contact Jim for more info or to volunteer.

That's all for now, please keep the shiny side up and the rubber side down —*Prez Mike Petermann*

President: **Mike Petermann** 916-479-3665

V.P. **Bill Dorr** 619-884-4188

Secretary: **Dennis Bailey** - 619-954-8646

Treasurer: **Ken Burke** - 619-469-7350

### Directors:

**Mike Petermann** 916-479-3665

**Bill Dorr - Prez Pro Tem** 619-884-4188

**Dennis Bailey** - 619-954-8646

**Tim Shortt** - 619-851-8927

**Ken Burke** - 619-469-7350

**Walter Andersen** - 858-274-0138 619-224-8271

**Bob Hargrave**—619-283-4111

**Ray Brock** 619-993-9190

**Rick Carlton** - 619-754-6259

**Bob Brown** - 619-890-6988

### Other Chairpersons

50/50: **Carl Atkinson** - 619-593-1514

Membership : **Paula Pifer** - 619-464-5445

Programs: **Jim Thomas** - 619-669-9990

Tour Co-ordinator- **Jim Thomas** 619-669-9990

Car Club Council: **Bill Lewis** - 619-651-3232

Web Master: **Rick Carlton** - 619-754-6259

Lady 8ers: **TBD**

Accessories: **Judy Grobbel** - 619-435-2932

Ford Fan: **Tim Shortt** - 619-435-9013 Cell 619-851-8927

Refreshments: **Liz Winters/Dow**

Sunshine: **Judy Grobbel** - 619-435-2932



### Big 3 Board Members:

**Ric Bonnoront** - 619-669-6391

**Rick Carlton** - 619-754-6259

**Calvin King** - 619-447-1960

**Dave Huhn** - 619-462-4545

V8 eBlasts: **Sandy Shortt** [shortsandy@mac.com](mailto:shortsandy@mac.com)

619-435-9013

The Ford Fan is published by the San Diego Regional Group of the Early Ford V8 Club of America. Materials submitted must be received by the 25th of the month to be considered for the following month's publication. Photo and Article submissions are welcome. Please send materials to **The Ford Fan c/o Tim Shortt, 1211 5th st. Coronado, Ca 92118**. The Ford fan invites other groups of the Early Ford V8 Club to use it's material provided the Ford Fan is credited as the source. Send Change of address to Paula Pifer, Membership Chairperson, 3558 Bentley



### Wear Your Name Tag-- March pot is \$75 Bucks

All current member names are in pot. If your name is drawn and you are at the meeting, wearing your name tag, **YOU WIN!**

**RULES:** Pot starts a \$25.

Increases Ea. Mo. until \$100. At \$100, we Draw 'til we have a a winner.







BIG 3 2018

## Here we go again.

In prep for BIG 3, Ric and Joe organized yet another field marking expedition. Recent rains and heavy Police training activity had erased space markings that were done only one month before.

## Nothing more exciting than a Tent erection.

The usual suspects showed up. Greg Murrel brought donut fuel. Mike Pearson was ready with verbal instructions. Jim Thomas had a written plan as backup. But we jumped in, like we had doing this for 50 years. Jose Serrano, Joe and Lynn Silva, Bob (disguised with new beard) and Susan Symonds, Joe and Paula (of course), Joey and Suzan Valentino, Bill Door, Bill Lewis, Ken Tibbot, Joe and Candy Vidali, Jim Hurlbert, Frank Swedberg Mike Petermann and me, for Press coverage..



**Mar 17 Tour**

**Soap Box derby, Alpine**

For Lunch we take a Country ride  
thru Alpine to a  
Burger joint in Jamul  
[jstomas35@gmail.com](mailto:jstomas35@gmail.com)

**Apr 14 Tour**

**Evans Garage**

Leave Macys Parking lot 1:30  
2 hr tour followed by snack nearby  
Ray Brock 619-993-9190

**May 5- ALL FORD PICNIC**

Info, Dennis Bailey 619-954-8946

**May 26 Tour**

**March Air Force Base, Riverside**

Leave Macys parking lot—  
info-Bob Brown 619-890-6988

**Christmas Party Already?**

Barabara Martin reports The Christmas  
Party is on Dec 9, 2018.  
Mark your calendars!

**March Anniversaries**

3/11 Rick & Sheryl Carlton  
3/17 Jim Ferguson & Barbara Clark

**March Birthdays**

3/04 Diane Thomas  
3/13 Louise Croff  
3/15 Sue Houlihan  
3/19 Jim Miller  
3/23 David Cuzick  
3/25 Bob Hargrave  
3/25 Carl Atkinson  
3/29 Ric Bonnoront

**Paula Welcomes New Members:**

**David & Mary Cuzick, Spring Valley**  
**Mike Shortt- Clairemont**

**Miss Sunshine, Judy reports:**

**Everybody sick of being sick**

## SAN DIEGO EARLY FORD V8 CLUB

General Meeting Minutes—Feb. 21, 2018

**President** Mike Peterman pounded the gavel at 7:00

**Guests:** Don Pette, Vic Tadero, Nick Murrell, and David Kusick.

**Pres. Report:** Mike introduced our new Board member Bob Brown.

**VP Report:** Bill Dorr shared some information on possible tours this year that would be overnight and more driving time. A sign up sheet for volunteers for our refreshments for the general meetings

**Secretary:** Dennis Bailey asked for approval of the minutes from the Jan. General meeting, as published in the fan, and they were accepted and approved.

**Treasurer Report:** Ken Burke read through the monthly financial figures and they were accepted and approved. The 2018 budget were distributed and discussed a motion to approve the budget was MSC.

**Membership Report:** Paula reported 28 Single Members and 46 Joint members.

**Sunshine Report:** Ray Brock is still under the weather.

**Fan Editor:** The March. Fan is coming together,

**Accessories:** Judy reported that she has new hats for sale.

**Car Club Council:** Goodguy's show on April and the Streak in May.

**Programs:** TBD

**Tours:** Soap Box Derby Mar. 17, Evans garage April 14.

**Program:** Ric Bonnoront discussed current information on the BigThree. He also reported that the Big Three has been sold to a firm in Arizona.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Tech Tips:** None

**50/50:** Joe Pifer won the 50/50

**Name tag drawing:** Bob Brown's name was drawn but he only had his wife's tag. And he admitted it, proving he is a stand up guy.

**Misc:** None

**Mtg. Adj.** 8:10

*Respectfully submitted: Dennis Bailey Secy.*



## Say you're

*driving down this alley  
and you come across  
this open garage. Would  
you stop?*



## Imagine

*what you might  
find in this innocent looking tent...*







BIG 3 2018  
**Down in the Swap, up in the Corral.**







BIG 3 2018

## What a run! 52 years for our one and only Fund Raiser.

In 1966 our first event happened in the parking lot at the College Grove lot. 20 cars were there. The next year it grew to about 200 vendors and was held at the Sears lot for two years in Hillcrest. Then it moved to the parking lot behind the old Sands Hotel in Kearny Mesa. San Diego then decided to ban swap meets, so we moved to the Sears lot in El Cajon. As the event continued to grow, the lot could no longer hold us, so the event was moved to the El Cajon Speedway parking lot. This site was big enough, but was all dirt and any rain turned it into a mud bowl, a new site had to be found.

In 1980 S.D. allowed swap meets again, and we moved to Jack Murphy (Qualcomm) Stadium. There the BIG 3 Auto Parts Exchange became an annual fixture for the next 38 years. Again this year we were a sellout. And some surprise Fireworks were included at no charge. Hot coals were accidentally put into a trash can and that can was picked up by the trash Service, where it promptly set the whole truck load on fire. The driver wisely dumped the burnig load on the lot, where it burned until fire fighters doused the flames. What a Finish!—TS





Photo by Mark Hawes



## This Years Finale... Fire in the Trash Truck







BIG 3 2018

## The Chosen Frozen—sights and sounds on the early morning shift.

Ok, it's early. People wake up on the wrong side of the trailer, it's freaking freezing, they're grumpy, hungry and in *No Mood*.

Is that any reason to flip off the friendly Parts Pick Up people? Well, some people say yes.

Take this situation: Sandy has just spent an hour helping a 400 lb Polonesian guy make 5 pick ups around the stadium and two trips to his truck. Together they moved just shy of a ton of dead weight iron hanging all over her cart. She's headed back to the Vender Gate when she comes across a guy DRIVING his truck among the shoppers. She stops in front of him, blocking his way. Now, there's no way he doesn't know he's in the wrong, but his tummy aches, so he's yelling at her, threatening to run over her ass! Well, Sandy has Polish blood in her veins—a country that's been overrun so often they've had it with threats. She tosses him a dirty look of defiance and calls security. He continues yelling, so Sandy finishes her call but keeps holding the phone, pretending to still be talking with the cops. This confuses the apeman, so he doesn't know what to do. She holds him off until security arrives and then goes on her merry way.

On the other hand, my rides were for happy people, so grateful for a ride, they offered money. When I wouldn't take a tip, they over thanked me as if I'd saved their lives. One little guy from Spain, bought himself an old upright Coke cooler/dispenser. It still had the compressor and machinery inside—must have weighed 300 lbs. It took 3 guys to lift it onto my cart back step and tie it up to the roof supports. The Spanish guy only weighed maybe 120lbs and I'm 170, but the machine almost flattened the rear tires and my front tire were off the ground. I spotted Joe Valentino and got him to ride as dead weight over the right front, so I could steer the cart. When we got to the truck in the parking lot, I flagged down a stadium guy passing on his own cart. He was big and really helpful getting the monster machine onto the the PU bed.

Another call for a ride was for two sons, a bunch of heavy iron front end parts that were slipped under the seat shelf on the back and their crippled dad—who couldn't make it back to their car. Only problem again was front wheels off the ground. One son probably tipped the scale at 300. I had the sons swap spots so the heavy one was on the passenger side and then my tires reached the ground, but just barely. The cart handled like finger-tip power steering from the 60s.

Saturday FREE hot dogs drew a crowd. I made two trips to feed the Car Corral and Vender tent bunch. I overheard some good-natured grumbling and hungry threats when I ordered 18 dogs to go.

After lunch Sandy helped a clean-cut, church-going environmentally-friendly guy with 3 new-to-him bikes laid sideways across the cart. Only problem they were snagging surprised shoppers by the elbows until they rearranged things. No law suits that I know of. All good.

—TS





## RE: Before April Fools'

### SO HERE'S WHAT WE'VE PIECED

together on the dirigiblish vehicle from the April 2017 issue, thanks to Geoff Hacker and our Google-Fu.

A guy named Frank Bolger had it built in the spring of 1929. He called it a mono-dirigible. Frank Bolger was the president of the Associated Aviation Clubs Inc. of America. Bolger intended to take it across the country "to stimulate

and advance the ever-growing interest of the American people in aviation and to form local flying clubs and chapters of the Associated Aviation Clubs Inc." A *Popular Science* tidbit about it from 1932 claimed a "secret design," though another contemporary reference points out how a regular ol' car lies underneath all that dress-up, and that the mono-dirigible was never meant to fly.



Thanks Hemmings Classic

## BIG 3 Cars, Cars, Cars



Money, Money, Money

## Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, 1950s





## World's largest electric shovel, Big Brutus, added to National Register of Historic Places.



Big doesn't begin to describe Brutus. Other mechanical shovels scattered around the towering piece of machinery look like toys. On the flats of southeastern Kansas it stands out for miles. So big it can't move, nor has it in decades, which has thus led to its inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Technically a Bucyrus-Erie Model 1850B electric dragline shovel, **Big Brutus** was built in 1962 (at a cost of \$6.5 million, or about \$51.6 million in today's dollars) for the Pittsburg & Midway Coal Mining Company's strip-mining operation in West Mineral, Kansas. What it lacked in speed – it topped out at .22 miles per hour – it made up for in volume: A single scoop from its bucket could fill three railroad cars with 90 cubic yards, or about 150 tons, of material. Three-man crews worked Big Brutus day and night all year round. What Big Brutus did not do was scoop coal. Instead, the shovel cleared the soil atop the coal in long pits and then filled the pits back in after

other equipment removed the coal from the exposed seams. "You just continually worked your way across the property you were stripping," one of its former operators, Dave Kimrey, [told the Lawrence World-Journal](#) in 2007. "It was very similar to plowing a field." Billed as the largest electric shovel in the world today, Big Brutus didn't always carry that title. Its rival, **Big Muskie**, performed a similar job in McConnellsville, Ohio, though with a 220-cubic-yard scoop, until it was scrapped in 1999.

While the paperwork for the [nomination](#) of Big Brutus to the National Register of Historic Places notes that environmental regulations brought the shovel's working career to a halt in April 1974, other factors certainly played a role too, including the depletion of the area's coal, lower coal

prices, and ballooning operating expenses: The [15,000 peak horsepower](#) drivetrain itself sucked down \$27,000 worth of electricity per month.

Rather than try to sell or scrap it, P&M decided to simply park Big Brutus – on what is now called the Mined Land Wildlife Area – and in 1984 donated the machine (along with \$100,000 for restoration) to Big Brutus, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to keeping the shovel open as a museum dedicated to the area's mining history.

Since then, the shovel has been designated a Regional Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and has been added to the [Register of Historic Kansas Places](#). —Daniel Strohl



*Send Rick Carlton your email address-  
if you want to receive EAN by email.*

**Next Meeting : Wed, Mar 21, 2018, 7pm,  
Auto Museum, Balboa Park**

### **FORD V8 SWAP CORNER...**

The Ford Fan will publish ads relating to 1932-1953 Ford

**Sale—Complete front clip for 1954 F100 Pick Up.** Front fenders, Grill, Valence and Hood. Plus a Tailgate and Bed Rails. No Rust, small dings, in Primer, good metal. \$600 for all. 619-851-8927

**FOR SALE:** Pair of '34 Ford Tudor Bucket Seats, complete springs, Need reupholstery. \$450.00 OBO. Todd, Speedo Shop 619-258-8195

**'40 Deluxe Opera Coupe.** Beautiful shape. Drive anywhere. Terry Johnson 303-888-8231 En-



**'56 TBird. V8, auto. Porthole Top.** New Pearl paint. Very clean \$20K? John Hildebrand 619-850-4099

**'59 Edsel Ranger.** All original, green & white, 4 dr, Needs TLC. \$1900-Cheap. Rick 619-512-7058

**Wanted- Two Wheels-16" x 4.5"** Mike Pearson 760-729-4645. [m.pearson@roadrunner.com](mailto:m.pearson@roadrunner.com)

**Jeep CJG Trans, Transfer Case.** Everything from fly-wheel to Drive Shaft. \$500. Carl 619-593-1514

**'37 Fordor.** Good shape. New V8 60 Motor, radiator & everything else under hood. Solid body, good interior, WWW tires. Runs & drives great.-619-829-1678 Dr. Tom



**'32 Phaeton-All Steel.** All Original. Once was Dickey Smothers car, then Harrah's Museum. Good condition. Sidemounts, Luggage Rack. Runs great. \$95k OBO. Dixie, 619-677-8922



**'40 Deluxe Convert.** Solid straight rust free original. Stored for several years. Runs good. Prime spots. New Chrome & interior. \$35k

**'40 Deluxe Coupe.** Excellent rust free. Beautiful inside and out. Stored several years. Paint excellent. Runs good. \$30k.

**'39 Rumble Seat Convert. Project.** (No Photo) Frame done, Body in prime. 5 new WWW. New parts in boxes. All Apart. Needs assembly \$14k

**3 Cars \$75k. 619-851-8927**



**'32 Tudor.** ready to go hot rod. Real Nice Car. \$30,000. Tom Cook 619-200-8114



**'36 Coupe Hot Rod-** Proven Tour Car. Best Offer. Extra set new running Boards \$400. Tom Cook 619-200-8114



**Wanted: '49-'51 Ford Tudor Basket Case.** Carl 619-593-1514

**'35 Ford 1/2 ton PU.** Solid, never hit, never cut up, all steel, still has mechanical brakes, converted to 12 volt, gas tank moved to back of the truck. Motor is frozen, last run 4 years ago. \$14K OBO - Joe (619)



**'48 Ford Deluxe Bus Coupe.** New motor. Everything else NOS. \$16,500 OBO Norm Burke 619-462-8956

**'54 F100 PU.** 302, C4 auto, PS, PB, New Chrome, Nice interior, Clean Dash, Flat black paint. New oak Bed. New 4bbl, tune, brakes, tires, wiring, trans, etc. \$18,500 Very Fast Truck. Tim 619-851-8927

**Sale- NOS & Used Ford Shoebox Parts-** left over inventory from '49-'50-'51 Parts business. Sell all for B.O.—619-466-5475



### **One Sweet 1930 Model A Rumble Seat Sport Coupe.**

Rebuilt engine - warmed up with many improvements: 5.5 compression head, stainless valves with adjustable lifters, fresh Babbitt bearings, 'B' grind camshaft, balanced, Weber down draft carburetor, cast iron exhaust header, lightened flywheel, V-8 pressure plate, Flot-a-motor mounts - both front and back, stock transmission - Borg-Warner overdrive in the torque tube, new design one piece 2 blade fan, 4 core radiator - pressurized, 12 volt system with 1 wire alternator, F-100 steering box with shortened pitman arm, 16 inch radial tires on cut down Model A wires, New brake shoes and cast iron drums, Lebaron Bonnie Interior and top, good paint but does have a few scratches, Xtra parts and A Literature. All work done by Hansen Garage in Ramona. \$17,500 -619-851-8927



**'35 Ford Pumper Fire Truck.** 21 Stud Orig Flathead. Runs, needs TLC. Body, paint, Lyle Fisk gold leaf pin striping all good. \$15k OBO-Rick Carlton 619-512-7058





SDEFV8 Club, C/O Tim Shortt, 1211 5th St, Coronado, Ca 92118



*Susan Valentino:  
Voted Best Smile  
at BIG 3, Top  
Salesperson at  
Swap and the  
only Triathlete in  
sight.  
...Oh, Joey was  
there too...*

**Mar/18**



*Looks like Joe just got busted and everyone else is praying...*