

DEL MARVELOUS

The Goodguys 10th Annual Del Mar Nationals was a huge success

April can be a hit or a miss when it comes to Southern California weather, but this year it was definitely a home run. Del Mar California, located a few miles north of San Diego, was warm and sunny making this the perfect weekend for a successful car event. This Goodguys show was open to a wide variety of specialty vehicles from street rods to Pro Touring cars to classic trucks. The show started on Thursday with a poker run along the Southern California coast. On Friday the fairground was open and featured the normal activities such as finding a piece of real estate to park on, looking at all of the cars on display, shopping for parts, as well as attending the Goodguys Street Challenge Autocross for muscle cars, hot rods, and trucks competing in a timed course. Mother Nature also added some extra excitement with a 4.4 aftershock of the Mexico earthquake late Friday night. Saturday there were special parking areas that consisted of Homebuilt Heaven, Mighty Muscle, Trick Truck, Builder's Choice, Ya Gotta Drive 'Em, and Good Wood. There was also a continuation of the Street Challenge Autocross for the folks who wanted to test their car's agility. Sunday the show was open for all of the participants to attend and park where they want. The show also featured a church service at 10:00 am and the awards presentation took place at 2:22 pm with over 70 awards given out. The host club for this event was the Over The Hill Gang from San Diego and they were busy helping the Goodguys conduct the activities.

Along with all of the cars that were displayed outdoors, this show also features two buildings full of cars, but once the cars were inside they can't leave so the owners needed other transportation for the weekend. There are three large display buildings on this fairground, two of which are filled with cars and some vendor booths. The centrally located building is filled with vendors and that's where you could find the Wilwood display. This display features many of the newest parts that would be of interest to the street rod and street machine enthusiasts. All weekend long Mike Hamrick and Marcos Alvidrez were talking to enthusiasts and spectators about Wilwood brakes and they were also answering brake related questions about Wilwood brakes as well as competitor brands. Walking through the show it was easy to see that a vast majority of the cars at the show were equipped with Wilwood brakes. This show was certainly packed with some very interesting vehicles so we will show you some of the nice ones that captured our attention.



The sun was shining, the palm trees were swaying in the breeze, the ocean was filled with three foot breakers and down below there were some of the finest hot rods, street machines, Pro Touring cars and classic trucks in Southern California. If you were a car enthusiast, Saturday was Nirvana.



The Wilwood display was looking good and features all of the newest and best parts available for street driven hot rods and muscle cars. We captured this photograph before the show got started because after it was underway the booth was filled with enthusiasts looking at the products and asking questions. Here we see Mike Hamrick ready for action, and action he had all weekend long. Marcos Alvidrez was also at the show and he was busy with a customer.



Pro Touring cars have become very popular and there were some really nice examples at the show. John Butler thought the Pro Touring style would look good and make his car more fun to drive so he built this nice maroon '69 Camaro. This car was built to drive so he cruised the car to the show from Corona, California.



This '66 Pontiac GTO is all black and its super slick. Done in the Pro Touring style the GTO features a hot engine, a super low stance and it rides on large diameter wheels wrapped with low profile tires. If you look past the spokes in the wheels you will also see Wilwood high performance brakes in the front and rear.



You are looking at one of the finest '32 three-window coupes we've ever seen. Jorge Zaragoza from El Paso, Texas did everything right on this coupe, and that includes the mild top chop, the nice stance and the American five-spoke wheels.



Terry James' clean orange '49 Chevy Fleetline was done in a mild custom style, but what really caught our attention was the big 425ci Buick dual-quad nailhead engine that was under the hood. The engine sounded great and it featured excellent detailing.



Yellow is a color that demands attention and this ultra-rare '39 Ford deluxe convertible was certainly getting plenty of that. The convertible had a great stance, rolled on Billet Specialties Legacy wheels and it features a nice tan leather interior. Under the hood you will find a beautifully detailed 350ci Chevy small-block engine hooked to a 200R4 automatic overdrive transmission Phil and JoAnn Royster cruised the convertible to the show from Anaheim Hills, California.



We saw a large number of early '60s Chevys that were turned into Pro Touring style cars and Pete Ashlock's '61 Impala hardtop is a good example. The car features a strong running engine, two-tone paint and it rolls on large diameter five-spoke wheels wrapped with low profile tires. Pete cruised to the show from Apple Valley, California.



Larry Johnson's '56 Chevy was definitely one of the nicest Tri-year Chevys at the show. The two-tone color combination was fantastic and the workmanship on the car was excellent. The engine compartment features beautifully sculpted panels and a cover for the Z06 Corvette engine. Larry drove the Chevy to the show from Grand Junction, Colorado.



If one awesome car wasn't enough, Larry Johnson also brought this '61 Chevy to the show and it features Pro Touring styling with a big 572ci engine to back it up. The Chevy features large diameter wheels and low profile tires, and it was stunning with the copper and yellow paint scheme.



This '32 roadster features a very low stance, huge rear tires with small front tires in drag race fashion, and it is powered by a Keith Black all aluminum, dual plug, dual distributor 426ci Hemi engine. Wilwood brakes are used to bring this Hemi powered car down from speed. This wild machine belongs to Dave Kindig from Salt Lake City, Utah.



In recent years the '66-'67 Novas have become extremely popular and looking at this blue hardtop it is easy to see why. Gil Caton built this '67 Chevy in a Pro Touring style and it features large diameter American Torque Thrust II wheels wrapped with low profile tires. Gil drove the nice Chevy to the show from Huntington Beach, California.



We were surprised to see how many nice '36 Ford cabriolets were at this show when you consider how rare they are. It was difficult to miss this bright yellow one that featured a nice low stance, steel wheels with hubcaps and trim rings, and a bright red interior. Tom Gloy's La Quinta based '36 features a 351ci Ford engine hooked to a Tremec five-speed transmission.



Marty Wells brought out his awesome pearl mint green '51 Ford custom to the show from Yorba Linda, California. The car features a chopped top, it was nosed and decked, the door handles were shaved and it has a custom grille featuring a bumper from a '57 Chevy.



Honey, I shrunk the car! It looks like this '34 Ford went through the wash too many times but the truth is it is actually a '33 English Ford and they were smaller to navigate the tight roads that were built hundreds of year ago and are still being used. Power for Bill Czerwinski's Ford comes from a blown Buick V6 engine.



Raul Ortiz cruised his sanitary '60 Impala to the show from Santee, California. The Chevy features a super low stance, a nice custom interior and it is powered by a strong running 396ci Chevy engine hooked to a 700R4 automatic overdrive transmission.



Little GTO you're really looking fine. This one features Tiger Gold paint and it rolls on five-spoke wheels. A hot 421ci Pontiac engine topped with dual-quads is used for power and it is backed by a five-speed transmission. David Whiteman drove the '65 GTO to the show from Spring Valley, California.



It was difficult to miss this awesome bright copper Chevy two-door sedan. The car sits just right and it rolls on large diameter five-spoke wheels wrapped with low profile tires.



You are looking at one of none. Frank Dobbs from Temecula, California thought a '65 Buick Riviera would be cool so he made his own and it looks like the factory did it. The car also sits nice and low, runs large diameter wheels with low profile tires and a dual-quad 401ci engine provides the power.



Copper and black paint certainly looks great on this slick Pro Touring '69 Camaro. The outstanding Camaro belongs to Norm Garcia from Aliso Viejo, California.



In the early '60s you couldn't give a woody away but today everyone would love to own one. The nice '47 belongs to Stan Matesich from San Pedro, California and it features a lowered stance, light blue paint and perfectly finished wood.



There were several really nice GTOs at this show and here's a '66 wearing candy gold paint. The car sits a little lower than stock and it is equipped with polished American five-spoke wheels. Kenneth Yanez owns the nice GTO and he drove it to the show from Tempe, Arizona.



You can't miss this wild '65 Chevelle two-door station wagon because the orange pearl paint glows in the sun. The wagon features large diameter five-spoke wheels, low profile tires and stylized pearl orange Wilwood brakes. Power is provided by a highly detailed, fuel injected Chevy big-block engine.



There were quite a few '32 highboy roadsters at this show and this red and flamed example belongs to L.A. Roadster member Bill Stecker. The car is nicely detailed and a healthy 350ci engine sits under the hood.



It was easy to see that one of the most popular cars at this show was the '61 Impala bubbletop. This one was painted silver and white and it featured large diameter wheels with low profile tires.



This '57 Chevy 210 looks great with the copper metallic paint, large diameter wheels and low profile tires. The clean Chevy belongs to Don and Kathy Schneiderhaw from Anaheim Hills, California. This outstanding Chevy runs a hot 350ci engine backed by a 700R4 transmission.



Here's another wild '61 Chevy Impala that features an orange and white paint scheme with flames. This car runs a hot 383ci Chevy engine and a Turbo 350 automatic.. Rick Abate drove the '62 to the show from Orange, California.



This ice blue '62 Chevy Impala was looking good with the large diameter wheels and low profile tires. A 383ci engine backed by a five-speed transmission powers this nice Super Sport. Vinny Ciccia cruised to the show from Vista, California.



The second generation Camaros were a big improvement over the first generation and one of the premier examples is the Z/28 version. This '72 features beautiful orange paint with black stripes. Jim Boatright cruised this one to the show from Murrieta, California.



When it comes to '55 Chevys the Nomad is certainly one of the nicest. This bright red one features large diameter five-spoke wheels with low profile tires, a super low stance and motorvation comes from a healthy 502ci Chevy big-block engine backed by a Tremec five-speed transmission. Barry Penn drove this car to the show from Carlsbad, California.



Where are all of the '61 Impalas coming from? Here is another really nice example that features bright red paint, large diameter wheels with low profile tires and a beautiful white interior. The Chevy features a 350ci Chevy engine backed by a Turbo 350 transmission. Jiggs Rodriguez drove the car to the show from nearby San Diego, California.



Brian and Kathy Hill from San Ramon, California own this highly stylized '39 Ford woody. The super slick woody features bright orange paint, beautiful woodwork and it rolls on large diameter five-spoke wheels wrapped with low profile tires. If you look behind the spokes you can see the Wilwood brakes.



Here's one of the nicest woodys at the show. The '46 sits super low, it features beautiful maroon paint, and the woodwork is fantastic. The nice Ford belongs to Joe Schenik from Las Vegas, Nevada.



Russ Pride from Spring Valley, California owns a super rare '49 Oldsmobile woody and it was certainly looking good. The restored Olds features the stock wheels and hubcaps wrapped with white wall tires and it is still equipped with the 303 Olds V8 engine backed by the original Hydramatic transmission.



The "Beach Boys" hit "Surf City" made the early station wagons popular with surfers when they heard the lyrics "we have a '34 Wagon and we call it a woody". Here's what they were talking about and you can see why they were popular with surfers, This one was equipped with a pair of surf boards strapped to the roof.