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Orinda Revs Up Again for Classic Car Show

Fun-filled Weekend September 21-23

Cathy Dausman



Cars will once again be displayed on the grass of the Orinda Country Club Photo Ohlen Alexander

The Orinda Classic Car Show may truly be a win-win-win situation, as the Cartini bars and Bond cars event picks up a third venue for its eighth year of operation. From its humble beginnings showing 26 cars and earning just \$1,500 for charity, committee chairman Chip Herman expects to show more than 200 automobiles and raise up to \$50,000 dollars in donations for local charities this year. Cars on display include a 1911 Cadillac and a 2012 Spyker. Herman says the event has "the flavor of Pebble Beach in Orinda," likening it to the famous Concours d'Elegance. "If the car has a [back] story," he says, "then it's in!"

The Friday night tented dinner party along Avenida de Orinda - suggested attire: black tie and shorts - is a James Bond-themed presentation featuring two "shaken not stirred" Cartini bars and a special display of 007 classic cars. Admission is free to Saturday's car show, featuring a performance by Orinda Idol winners, cars on the 16th fairway at Orinda Country Club, and a special exhibit memorializing Carroll Shelby-designed Mustangs and Cobras. Sunday evening Orinda Theatre will show the 1968 classic film "Bullitt" starring Steve McQueen. McQueen plays a rogue cop in San Francisco, and the car chases up and down the city's hills can make a Mustang fan wince when pavement repeatedly meets the suspension.

Herman says this "crazy car show" comes together after eight months of work, the last four full-time. "This is my day job," he says. But he also has plenty of help, noting his six committee members, 75 "pit crew" volunteers, and presenting sponsors Orinda Motors and Mechanics Bank.

Orinda Car Show 2012 Events

Friday, September 21: "Dancing with the Cars"

Pre-Party presented by Mechanics Bank

Cocktails, dinner, music and live auction 7 p.m. Orinda Motors, 63 Orinda Way

Tickets in advance only, \$100 per person

Saturday, September 22: Orinda Annual Classic Car Show

Free to the public

Presented by Orinda Motors

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Parade of Classic Cars at 2 p.m. Orinda Way, Avenida de Orinda and Orinda Country Club, 16th Fairway

Sunday, September 23: Speed on the Screen

Steve McQueen in "Bullitt"

Presented by Flying A Gasoline

5:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. showings Orinda Theatre, 4 Orinda Way, \$10 admission

Proceeds benefit the Educational Foundation of Orinda, Seniors Around Town, Orinda Association, Orinda Rotary, Orinda Arts Council, Orinda Historical Society, and Lamorinda Theatre Foundation.

Orinda Car Show events are part of Celebrate Orinda in September.

For additional details about the weekend, visit www.OrindaCarShow.com.

Reach the reporter at: cathy.d@lamorindaweekly.com

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