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The car show must go on, but it is now a tour

By Sora O'Doherty



Neil Cunningham with his 1968 Ford Mustang
Photo Sora O'Doherty

vehicle was sold at auction last January for \$3.74 million, making it the most expensive car in the world. Cunningham was absolutely amazed when he was able to secure a black California license plate for his car reading JJZ I09. The plate in the movie was JJZ 109, so the substitution of the roman numeral I is as close as Cunningham could possibly get. His car is painted the same Highland Green as in the movie. Cunningham, a retired San Francisco police officer, is a huge fan of all things Steve McQueen, and McQueen's son Chad McQueen has even autographed the dash of Cunningham's car.

Vanek has put a lot of work into the classic car tour. He wanted to maintain continuity and have people show their classic cars. He also wanted to keep the sponsors and the charities, and to generally make people feel better during the pandemic, without having thousands of people showing up in Orinda. The participants will meet at the same place outside Orinda Motors, but they won't congregate. The cars will leave on the tour in groups of about 20.

The tour will also take advantage of technology that is available, including Zoom. Vanek says that there will be a team of photographers, including a drone, throughout the course. Steve Harwood, known locally as "The Voice of Orinda," will serve as the Master of Ceremonies for the event, which will be hosted on Zoom live. The video of the event will continue to be available on the website.

Donations to Seniors Around Town can be made directly to the Orinda Association at www.orindaassociation.org.

The route and other information about the classic car tour is available at www.orindacarshow.com/2020-16th-annual-orinda-classic-car-show-underway/

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