

# REVVING UP with Milton

The Newsletter of the Mopar Club/San Diego

# PentaGram

www.moparclubsandiego.net

MAY 2024

## 'What If No One Shows Up?!'

By: Milton Karahadian  
MCSD President

What if no one shows up?

The fear of any host is no one showing up for your event. An event starts when you take the time to dream up an idea and put together a vision for something that others may be interested in attending. Since a lot goes into creating events, there is much to do: you consider how and why you want to bring people together, start planning, and organize. You need to set a date and time, book the location, decide on the type of food, and confirm the vendors, plan activities, send the invite out, market the event and consider all the connecting details to make it seamless.

Finally, the day of the event comes, and it's time for the whole plan to come together. Then you wait to see who and how many will come.

As you know, a large part of our Mopar Club SD's reason for being is to bring Mopar-minded people together for camaraderie and to share the love of Mopars with next generation. Events are key. So much so that it is written into our bylaws. As the club's president, it is my responsibility to fulfill those bylaws.

The board and a few other members have been trying to organize social events. Without someone to manage

an events calendar for Mopar Club San Diego it has been difficult. Yes, we are a service organization, and last year we raised \$15,000 for our beneficiaries. But we also are a social group, building community through getting together to work on projects, sharing time and having fun.

And now we have a club social director: Sheri Hendrickson is helping us to find and develop more opportunities to get together.

The last weekend of April, the club had a big day of engagement on multiple events in multiple locations. April 27, we held the club's inaugural Cars and Coffee event in Santee. It was open to all brands, 34 cars in all, with 41 people attending. The Mopar club had a great showing, with 25 Mopars, classic and modern.

From that location, 20 club cars left for a cruise through the back country, stopping at a viewpoint overlook, a brewery, doing a little wine tasting, and of course, a stop at Dudley's Bakery. Twenty-nine members finished the day at Casa Signorelli for a barbecue. It was a fantastic day and fun for all.

That same day, on the other side of the county, there were seven faithful members working on the DePauw Dart restoration project, which is coming along nicely and is almost finished. In addition, five members represented the club at the

services for longtime member Ed Kohler, held in Lakeside on April 29.

Not everyone can or will want to participate in every event. That is a given. But your club leadership team is focused on offering a variety of events to appeal to differing interests.

**One of these will take place on Memorial Day Monday, May 27.** For many years, a large auto swap meet was held several times a year in the stadium parking lot in Mission Valley. It was always a good opportunity to sell your auto leftovers and to hang out for the day eating burgers and hotdogs with club members. **This year, the swap meet has a new home, at the North Island Credit Union Amphitheater, at 2050 Entertainment Circle in Chula Vista. We have a big reserved spot so bring what you may and hang out for the day.**

**Then on June 1, we are inviting our members to come to the Barona Speedway to commemorate the long gone but still much-heralded Carlsbad Raceway.** In addition to drag racing, there will be a special program with guest speakers—and a lot of memories and good times to be recalled.

I have already spoken to Jerry Keller and Jim Signorelli, both of whom will be at Barona that day, racing and with their trailers. **We plan to set up a pop up tent**

**between the two trailers and have a barbecue hosted by the club. There will be drag racing and a chance to see some of the nostalgic vehicles that raced at Carlsbad. If you have never been to a drag race, this would be a good opportunity to see what it's all**



Fears for naught: Quite a few showed up for the club's inaugural Cars & Coffee event on April 27 — More photos on pages 2 and 3

Continued on page 2

# MOPAR CLUB OF SAN DIEGO

EST. July 1993

## Officers

**President** — Milton Karahadian  
miltonkarahadian@pointloma.edu

**Vice President** — Jonathan Gbenekama  
gbenekama@gmail.com

**Treasurer** — Debbie Gough  
treasurer@moparclubsandiego.net

**Secretary** — Julie Walker  
secretary@moparclubsandiego.net

## Chairs

**All-American Car Show**  
Jeff Walker: jc.walker16@gmail.com

**Car Club Council Rep**  
Bill Baugh

**Cruisemeister**  
Jim Signorelli

**Social Director**  
Sheri Hendrickson

## Information Services

**Webmaster** — Paul Polentz  
webmaster@moparclubsandiego.net

**Band App** — James Leitner  
jl@steadycruisin@outlook.com

**Newsletter** — Julie Walker  
secretary@moparclubsandiego.net

**Facebook & Instagram**  
Jonathan Gbenekama  
gbenekama@gmail.com

## Revving Up with Milton

*Continued from page onw*

**about. It will be a fun day at the track.**

The bottom line is that through the efforts of many club members stepping up and leading, we are becoming more and more active. We are fulfilling our mission and purpose—and having fun doing it.

People did show up! We had at least 50 club members involved in multiple events all over the county. We showed up and had fun, and in addition, we made a difference in people's lives. It's not all about the cars, but that is what brings this diverse group of people—young and older—together. Thanks to all.

*Mopars Forever*  
Milton

**PS:** Special thanks to Sheri Hendrickson for organizing the MCSD Events Calendar and Cars and Coffee event. And to Jim Signorelli, our Cruisemeister, for planning out the cruise and to Kay and Jim Signorelli for hosting the barbecue. And to Jonathan Gbenekama for leading the Dart restoration and his dedicated core team. We couldn't have done it without you!!

MK



Inaugural Mopar Club SD Cars & Coffee April 27: Milton, center, and Bob Martello, right.



John Halpin and Gavin Metz at left and Tom Ferreira at right, with his '69 Valiant Signet.

More Cars & Coffee-Cruise-BBQ photos on page 3

**Website:** [moparclubsandiego.net](http://moparclubsandiego.net)  
[Facebook.com/MoparClubSanDiego](https://www.facebook.com/MoparClubSanDiego)

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 420076  
San Diego CA 92142-0076

Mopar Club of San Diego is a member  
of the San Diego Association of Car Clubs

# MCSD's Inaugural Cars & Coffee, Plus Cruise and BBQ



Club Social Director Sheri Hendrickson, left in a self photo, organized the day's activities. The Cars & Coffee event was open to all, not just club members.



Above and right: A nice showing for the club's initial Cars & Coffee in Santee, an activity to be repeated the 4th Saturday of each month

Paul Polentz and his '69 Road Runner at the MCSD Cars & Coffee



Left and below, after the first Cars & Coffee, club members cruised the back country, followed by a barbecue at Casa Signorelli



Barbecue at Casa Signorelli

# Mopar Club SD's *Dart Restoration Update*

## April 13 Work Party



1. Shawn installing hydraulic motor and plumbing for the convertible top, before joining the wheels project



2. John DePauw's custom Cop Wheels powder-coated



3. Cory and Tim grinding down center cap studs. After they drilled out all four wheels (5 studs/cap), the assembly line ramped up production



4. Tim had to drill out three additional holes per wheel

The team this day, from left: Brad Heavey, Jonathan Gbenekama, Shawn Rover, Tim Whittier, Matt Domen and Cory Whittier. Most of the time was dedicated to the Dart's wheels, and this portion of the project took three hours, with six guys, primarily because John DePauw's custom Cop Wheels didn't allow for flush fit of the stock rally center caps. A lot of grinding and bolt shortening ensued!



5. Since the center caps were reduced in length, 13 more bolts needed to be shortened and tapered. Jonathan doing the honors, above

6. Tim test-fitting a center cap. Looks good; three more to go



7. Cory with one of the beauty rings ready for install



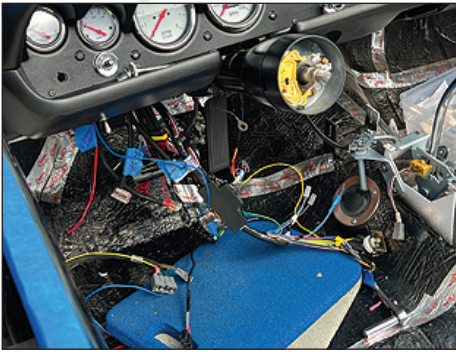
8. Once the fit was good, Matt and Brad began assembly



9. Custom wheels forced the team to customize all aspects of this portion of the project. Above, a wheel complete and on the Dart, and looking good!

# Mopar Club SD's *Dart Restoration Update*

## April 27 Work Party



Dash wiring ready for connections

On this day, the team was working on a variety of aspects of the Dart restoration project. The prior Saturday, April 20, Jeff Walker and Brad Heavey made a special trip to work on the dash wiring, which has proven to need much customizing due to provided parts not all being compatible. Jeff and Brad made headway on April 20, but wiring continued to be large part of Jeff's project work on April 27.



Jonathan drills wheelwell holes, with an assist from Brad and Shawn



Jeff works with the wiring, but this part of the project also has required many adjustments

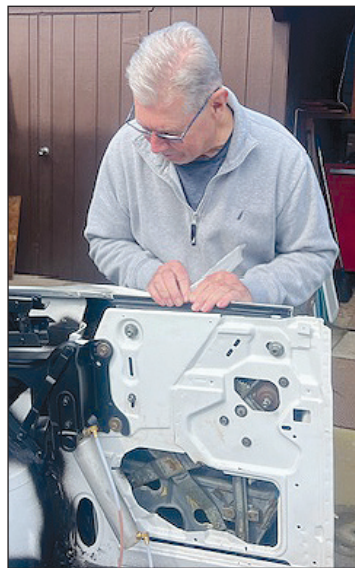
The April 27 team was made up of team leader Jonathan Gbenekama, Brad Heavey, Jeff Walker, Shawn Rover, and Tim, Cory and Cameron Whittier.



Cameron and Tim install the DePauw Dart's windshield



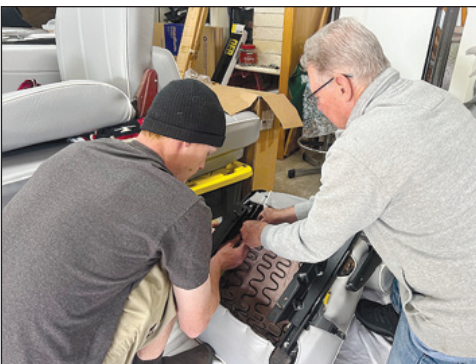
Brad and Shawn shaping, test fitting and marking drill points for mounting fender trim



Brad installing window felt



Cory and Jonathan install the final piece of grill trim



Above, after Brad restored the seat brackets, he and Cory attach them to the Dart's seats

Below: Cory adjusts a piece of the Dart's hood trim



The Dart with its windshield in and its grill and hood trim installed

# SHOWING & sharing

## Good Guys Del Mar Nationals: April 5-7



**WINNER!** Brian Withouski's '70 Cuda was the "Muscle Car Pick" at the Del Mar Nationals, awarded on Sunday, April 7, the final day of the show

Above, Kay Signorelli showed her '65 Plymouth Valiant 200 convertible at the Del Mar Nationals, taking the opportunity to share All-American Car Show flyers



Jeff Walker talks cars with John Joseph, whose '70 Charger was one of the featured gems at the Del Mar Nationals

## Cruise-in for the Vets Show April 27



Lee DeTro and his Ram 1500 Hemi participated in the Cruise-in for the Vets Show in Prescott, AZ, on April 27, a show that drew almost 500 vehicles

# SHOWING & Sharing

## Spring Fling by Chrysler Performance West April 20-21—Van Nuys



Done Bone and his '70 Challenger with its 426 factory Hemi, a car Don has owned since 1977



Above, Paul Wake and his '68 Road Runner at Spring Fling, where he also memorialized a sighting of Jay Leno prepping a hot dog, at right, with a photo



**WINNERS BOTH!** Patti and Franco Fonseca both took home awards from CPW's Spring Fling. Patti garnered 1st place in the C Body category, for her '67 Dodge Polara convertible, with Franco taking 2nd in the same category for his '66 Chrysler Newport convertible!

## Summer Fling-It's A Car Thing: May 4



**WINNER!** Carl Parrick's '68 Road Runner was awarded "Best Muscle Car" at Summer Fling in Lakeside, hosted by East County Cruisers. His was one of three Mopars winning top awards

# Member News Bits



Mopar Rumble: Cam Whittier, and his Dad, Tim, have been building a 340 motor for Cam's A100. Above, Tim with the motor in and the A100 up and running at long last



Club member Lynne Kotas, now a Washington resident, made a surprise visit to the April club meeting, shown here with Jonathan Gbenekama



**It Ain't a Mopar, but It's Pretty Darn Cool . . .**  
 This '67 Chevelle SS 396 was already "on the radar" when Ann and Ben Giangiulio went to the Barrett-Jackson Collector Car Auction in Scottsdale earlier this year. Ben's first car was a similar '67 Chevelle, also in Granada Gold with a black top, "back in the day." This car has a 502/502hp crate engine, factory air, AC and Muncie M22 four-speed trans and a 12-bolt posi-traction rearend after a frame-off restoration. He's stoked to have it parked in his garage—with his Mopar

# MOPAR Nuts & Bolts

Check these out online:

**First Non-Polluting Engine: 440HP of Power and Only Emits Water Vapor**  
<https://www.ecoticas.com/en/non-polluting-engine/1052/> (4.16.2024)

**The following were found at www.TheMoparMan.com:**

1. Decoding Mopar: Unveiling the Diverse Line-Up of Iconic Vehicles (1.13.2024)
2. In Living Color: '66-'67 Charger Paint Codes Unveiled (1.21.2024)
3. Winged Wonders: The Untold Story of the 1969 Charger Daytona (1.24.2024)
4. Viper Unleashed: The Evolution of Dodge's Legendary Muscle Car (1.28.2024)

## Mopar News Connections

- <https://media.StellantisNorthAmerica.com/mediacenter>
- <https://www.stellpower.com>
- <https://MoparInsiders.com>
- <https://www.TheMoparMan.com>
- <https://www.dodgegarage.com/news/tag/mopar>
- <https://www.carscoops.com/tag/mopar>
- <https://blog.mopar.com>
- <https://www.autoblog.com/tag/mopar>



# LET'S GO *& show*

## Check for event updates & additions:

[www.sandiegoassociationofcarclubs.org](http://www.sandiegoassociationofcarclubs.org)

Facebook: @San Diego Association of Car Clubs

[www.socalcarculture.com/events.html](http://www.socalcarculture.com/events.html)

<https://goodoleboysandiego.com/current-event-calendar>

## CAR SHOWS

**Fri-Sat. May 10-11:** Over the Hill Gang Streak, 8am-10pm  
Campland on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive  
Info: [cruznmy56@yahoo.com](mailto:cruznmy56@yahoo.com)

**Sat. May 18:** Desert Cruisers' Run to the Hills 9am-3pm  
Olde Highway 80 / Cindy: 619-504-2682

**Sun. May 19:** Mopars vs the World, 8am-3pm  
Irwindale Drag Strip, sponsored by Full Blown Performance. Racing, swap meet, car show & Ft. Irwin Toy Drive by Inland Mopars; Entry fees from \$10-\$60; Racing at 10; trophies at 2. <https://irwindalespeedway.com/events>

**Sun. May 19:** Pal Joey's Sweetest Show in Town,  
7am-2pm. 5147 Waring Rd / 619-980-6699

### Sun. May 19: Benedict Castle Concours Car Show

Riverside — Benefits Teen Challenge

Grand Marshal Chip Foose. Sat/Sun events

[www.benedictcastleconcours.com/tickets/](http://www.benedictcastleconcours.com/tickets/)

### Sun, May 26: Fusion Auto Show Imports vs Domestic

10:30am-3:30pm, Bates Nut Farm,

15954 Woods Valley Rd., Valley Center

40 categories (1st-3rd place, including Best Domestic Team), limbo contests, raffles. Tickets via EventBrite

**Sun. May 26:** Fallbrook Vintage Car Show, 10am-3pm  
Main Street, downtown; Info: 760-689-2650 or website

### Mon. May 27: SD Auto Swap & Car Show, 6:30am-1pm

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre

2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista 91911

Info: 619-201-8207 **Club will have a location and a BBQ**

### Sat. Jun 1, Barona 1/8 Mile Drags & Vintage Drags

8am-close, 1750 Wildcat Canyon Rd, Lakeside

### Sat. Jun 1, HRE Wheels Open House, 9am-2pm

2611 Commerce Way, Vista. [HREwheels.com](http://HREwheels.com)

**Tue. Jun 4:** SD Assoc. Car Clubs Meet-up, 5-7pm, Classic Malt Shop, 3625 Midway Dr., Suite B. Info: 619-201-8207.

### Sat. Jun 8: Fords & Friends Car Show, 9am-2pm

El Monte Park, 15805 El Monte Rd

Info: 619-454-1321

### Sat. Jun 15: Veterans Assoc. of North Cty Car Show

9am-2pm, 1617 Mission Ave., Oceanside

Info: [info@VANC.me](mailto:info@VANC.me)

### Fri/Sat Jun 15 & 16: Father's Day Show-El Cajon

**Fri: Jun 15: 5-7pm** (load-in from noon-4pm)

**Sat, Jun 16: 9am-1:30pm** (load-in from 7-8:30am)

Shadow Mountain Cmty Church, 2100 Greenfield Dr.

Enter at main gate. All vehicles, including off-road vehicles. Awards, goodie bags with t-shirt, lunch voucher,

Amazon gift voucher for those showing. Shade, bottled

water provided. [steveharr@cox.net](mailto:steveharr@cox.net) or 619-851-6916

### Sun. Jun 16: Father's Day Cruise to Belmont Park

10am-3pm; 3146 Mission Blvd. All vehicles. Music, trophies, food. \$35 before Jun 9 for free event t-shirt.

Online sign-up: [carshowcalifornia.com](http://carshowcalifornia.com)

### Sun. Jun 23: Garden of Innocence Car Show, 8am-2pm

5600 Carroll Canyon Rd. (Scripps Ranch area)

Info: 619-962-7858

### Sun. Jun 29: Spokes on the Bay, 6am-9pm

Seaport Embarcadero North, 400 Kettner Blvd

Info: 619-925-7305

### Wed. Jul 3: El Cajon Cruise Night: American Muscle

5-7:30pm / Main & Magnolia (*Mopar Jungle night is Sep 4*)

### Sat. Jul 13: Serra Mesa Block Party Car Show, 1-7pm

2721 Greyling Dr., San Diego / John: 619-980-2721

### Sat. Aug 3: OUR CAR SHOW: lots of help needed!

**Mopar Club's All-American Car Show, 8am-3pm**

Seaport Village Embarcadero North

benefiting Wounded Warrior Homes, Fleet Week SD

### Tue. Aug 6: SD Association of Car Clubs Meet-up, 5-7pm

600 Palm Avenue, Imperial Beach. Info: 619-201-8207

*Continued on page 10*

**CAR SHOWS** *continued from page 9*

**Sat. Aug. 17: Hot August Nights in SoCal, 3-8pm**  
SoCal Railway Museum in Perris. Pre-reg ends July 31  
www.socalrailway.org

**Sat. Aug 26:** Christian Rods & Customs Show, 9am-2pm  
9400 Campo Rd., Spring Valley / Info: 619-890-4177

**CARS & COFFEE EVENTS**

**WEEKLY:**

**Wednesdays**

*El Cajon:* Cajon Cruise Nights (thru Oct), Main & Magnolia,  
5-7:30pm-Jul 13: American Muscle; Sep 4: Mopar Madness

**Fridays:**

*Escondido:* Cruisin Grand, Grand Avenue, 4-9pm  
(Mopar Club SD Night: July 19)

**Saturdays:**

*Bonita:* 7-9am. 4414 Bonita Rd.  
*Carlsbad:* 7-9am, Poinsettia Village Ctr,  
7130 Avenida Encinas  
*Pt. Loma:* 8-10am, 2250 Shelter Island Drive, SD

**Sundays:**

*Escondido:* 8-11am, Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Pkwy

**BI-MONTHLY & MONTHLY:**

**Second Wednesday:**

*Oceanside:* 6-9pm, South O Cruise Night  
South O Brewing, 1775 S. Pacific Coast Hwy

**First Saturday:**

*Clairemont:* STP Bar & Grill, 10am-1pm,  
5487 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.  
*Poway:* In-n-Out Burger, 11am-2pm, 12890 Gregg Ct.

**Third Saturday:**

*Midway District:* Classic Malt Shop, 3-8pm,  
3625 Midway Dr., Suite B

Thank You to members who provided photos and other information for this issue:

Don Bone, Lee DeTro, Kathleen Domen, Chris Evans, Franco Fonseca, Jonathan Gbenekama, Sheri Hendrickson, Kristy Keller, Carl Parrick, Paul Polentz, Paul Wake, Julie and Jeff Walker and Brian Withouski

**Fourth Saturday:**

*Santee:* Mopar Club SD Cars & Coffee, 7-9am  
9626 Carlton Hills Blvd.

**First Sunday:**

*Carlton Hills:* 7-9am, 8959 Carlton Hills Blvd.  
Info: wfranksmith@gmail.com  
*Perris:* Perris Airport, 4-7pm, 2091 Goetz Road  
*Santee:* 7-9am Mary's Donuts, 8959 Carlton Hills Blvd.

**Second Sunday:**

*Oceanside:* 4-7pm, In-n-Out Burger, 4605 Frazee Rd.

**Second & Fourth Sundays**

*San Diego:* 7:30-9:30am, 200 Marina Park Way

**Third Sunday:**

*Balboa Park:* 7:30-9:30am, SD Automotive Museum,  
2080 Pan American Plaza  
*Carlsbad:* noon-4pm, Spar Customs, 890 Palomar Airport Rd.,  
Dabbles@sparcustoms.com to reserve a spot  
*La Mesa:* 7-9am, La Mesa Blvd, between Spring and 4th streets  
*Mira Mesa:* 7-9:30am, Donut Touch Bakery,  
6755 Mira Mesa Bl.

**Fourth Sunday:**

*SD East Village:* 11:30am-2pm, Black Angus, 707 E St.  
Info: 619-778-1395

**JBA Performance Center**  
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# MARKET *Place*

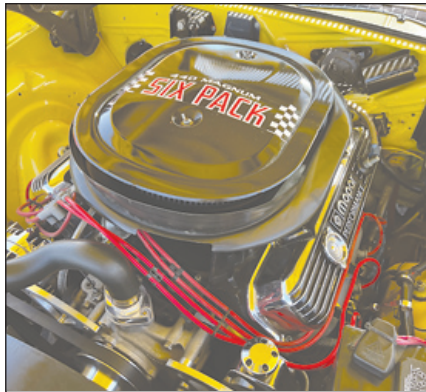
PentaGram Ad Information: Free to club members, \$25 per issue for non-members.  
 Published monthly. Deadline is the 25th of each month.  
 Secretary@moparclubsandiego.net

Members placing ads are also welcome to advertise on the club website at no charge.  
 Contact Paul Polentz:  
 webmaster@moparclubsandiego.net

## FOR SALE



'72 Challenger, RT Tribute, 440 6pk auto. One owner for over 20 years. Original interior, Top Banana Yellow. Keystone wheels on BFGs. Never raced. Always garaged. Larry Johnson: text 760-822-9402 or email 51deblarry@gmail.com. \$45,000



## FOR SALE:

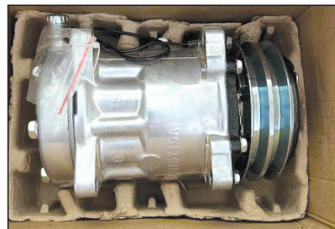
2002 Winnebago Journey DL. Cummins 300 diesel pusher. 32 ft, low mileage, well cared for. Clean rooftop (everything is in the lower basement). Has DirecTV HD for television. Call Jerry for more info: 760-666-0821



## FOR SALE

### New! Never Used

Member Franco Fonseca bought this brand new A/C unit for his '66 Newport, then changed his mind: "I didn't want to cut into the firewall," he said. Paid \$1,200; Offered for \$850



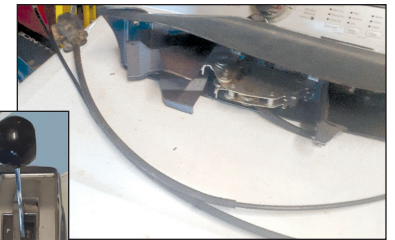
(925) 588-3876 (corrected #)  
 franco@smokehousejerky.com

## FOR SALE

Centerforce 23 spline clutch. 2,500 easy miles. \$200. Paul Wake: 385-282-3083 paulwake23@gmail.com



## FOR SALE ...



65 slip Yoke button tranny console shifter, possible torque converter and brand new reverse manual valve body, b/o will be taken. Text only: 619-750-8377

Ralph Vagnone, Realtor

**Balboa Real Estate**  
 301 W. Broadway, Ste 80, SD

619-823-2431  
 ralphV2431@gmail.com  
 Club Member



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## Mobile Welding

Frame Connectors  
 Spring Relocation  
 Rear End Narrowing



Club Member  
**Steve Williams**  
 619-988-0778