

It's ShowTime !

By Paul Greco

When the long winter hints at even the slightest sign of ending, auto-enthusiasts all around the globe begin to arouse with the thrill of embarking on a new season of *car shows!* It's the same phenomenon whether you're a participant or a spectator, and for me, this anticipation results in the feeling of hope and exhilaration that I need to ease me out of *hibernation*. It's time for me to get off my *butt* and get moving!

I've already made a beginning in the New Year by marking my new calendar with a "wish list" of the events I would love to attend. These are not limited to local venues, but span the whole of the United States. I once had the opportunity to attend the show in Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada, but that was a fluke. I've yet to include any European shows on this list but I'm open to it. Yes, I confess that I schedule my vacations *around* the shows.

Unfortunately, there comes a time one must **prioritize!** Always an emotional process, with so many opportunities available to participate in, decisions simply have to be made as far as which ones to attend. This is not limited to "formal" shows mostly held during the day on weekends, but includes the weeknight "hangouts", club meetings, and other impromptu gatherings happening just about every day. So many cars - so little time.

Then there are the **people** I simply *have* to see. By attending countless shows and getting to meet so many new faces, a self-perpetuating cycle of going to even more events is set up! Well, at least I know what I will do in my retirement years. It's really a tough call as to which is more interesting; the cars or the people attached to them. There is definitely a connection here,

something like the person who begins to look like their pet! I have come to see that the people are inextricably the most significant part of the picture. I may be maturing, but wait...



My primary goal in doing all this is to have fun! Probably my *only* purpose. I need to have fun! More importantly, I need to keep occupied to keep me out of trouble and sometimes I do this by actually **working** on my cars. Although they are not "show quality", I've never let that stop me from "show-ing" them. I do believe that at least they function to make the surrounding cars look better! I also firmly believe that *anything goes* when it comes to automobilia. You know the old saying: There is something for everyone, and everyone loves something.

So, I'll be touching up the primer, repainting the wheels and cleaning off the odd entrails of a long winter and heading on out. Why I do it I do not know, but there must be an inborn drive or maybe that "human spirit" thing that cannot be held back. I'm looking forward to the journey, be it long or short, to where I know I belong. And while I'm on the way, I'll be dreaming about all the people, places and things I have seen and all of those I might see.

Gotta' cruise...

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For me it's not about the trophy, but when it happens, it sure is a boost! Well done, Sue!