

# DRIVING FORCE

OCTOBER 2005



## LEGISLATIVE QUICK HITS

*[Editor's note: The following is an update on legislation that is currently pending before state legislatures across the country. In addition, several states meet in two year legislative cycles and bills that were not passed this year will automatically be "carried over" to 2006.]*

**Massachusetts Street Rods/Custom Vehicles:** Two separate but identical SEMA model bills are pending in Massachusetts. The bills would create a vehicle registration classification for street rods and custom vehicles and provide for special license plates for these vehicles. Both bills would allow kit cars and replica vehicles to be assigned a certificate of title bearing the same model year designation as the production vehicle it most closely resembles. A committee hearing has not yet been scheduled.



**Massachusetts Exhaust Noise:** A SAN-opposed bill to ban the sale or installation of "an exhaust system that has been modified in a manner which will amplify or increase the noise emitted by the exhaust" is again pending in Massachusetts. It has been revised from last year's version to exclude limited-use "antique motor cars." Like previous efforts, the bill does not supply law enforcement with a clear standard to enforce and would make it difficult for hobbyists to replace factory exhaust systems with more durable, better performing options. A committee hearing has not yet been scheduled.

**Michigan Occasional Use:** The SAN continues to work to gather support for legislation that would amend Michigan's current law defining historic vehicles. The bill would allow these vehicles to take advantage of "other occasional use." Under current Michigan law, use of historic vehicles is strictly limited to club activities, exhibitions, tours and parades. Many Michigan vehicle owners whose cars qualify for the historic registration class have chosen to register as "daily drivers" to avoid the limited use restrictions and are, by consequence, paying the higher fees required of cars that are registered under this class.

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## A Little Help From Our Friends...

### State Legislative Caucus Unites Car-Loving Lawmakers

In its continuing efforts to promote and protect the auto hobby, SEMA and the SEMA Action Network (SAN) has partnered with state lawmakers from across the country in establishing the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus. Formed this year, the Caucus is a bi-partisan group of state lawmakers whose common thread is a love and appreciation for automobiles. To date, over 75 state legislators from California to New York and points in between are involved in the Caucus.



**California Assemblyman, Caucus member and avid enthusiast, Doug La Malfa stands next to his first car, a '68 Mustang California Special.**

Montana State Senator John Brueggeman (who is serving as the Caucus chairman) said, "From pre-World War II classics to street rods to 60s-era musclecars to late model imports and everything in between, the automobile stands as a testimony to ingenuity and craftsmanship while serving as a source of recreation for tens of thousands of enthusiasts and collectors throughout the U.S. By joining the Caucus, these legislators have demonstrated their commitment to enabling this enthusiasm for years to come."

Supported by SEMA's Government Affairs office in Washington, D.C., the Caucus is anticipated to help raise the motor vehicle hobby's profile in the state legislatures and in the eyes of the public. Working in state capitals, many of these legislators have sought to preserve and protect the hobby by improving existing motor vehicle statutes and creating new programs to safeguard and expand the hobby.

**For a complete list of Caucus members, see p. 2.**

"Over the past several years, the work of these lawmakers has brought a series of significant legislative accomplishments for the vehicle enthusiast community on issues ranging from equipment standards to registration classifications, and from emissions test exemptions to hobbyist rights," said Steve McDonald, SEMA's Vice President of Government Affairs. "Through the Caucus, automotive enthusiasts will now be able to quickly identify which state legislators have chosen to be recognized for their support of this great American hobby."

For more information about the Caucus, visit the SAN website at [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com).

## State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus

**Chairman:**

Senator John Brueggeman (Montana)

**Arizona**

Senator Ken Bennett

Senator Gabrielle Giffords

Senator Ron Gould

Senator Harry Mitchell

Representative Bill Konopnicki

Representative Russell Jones

**Arkansas**

Representative Johnny Key

**California**

Senator John Campbell

Senator Tom McClintock

Assemblymember Bob Huff

Assemblymember Doug La Malfa

Assemblymember Gloria Negrete-McLeod

**Colorado**

Representative Debbie Benefield

**Connecticut**

Representative Toni Walker

**Florida**

Senator Bill Posey

**Georgia**

Representative Calvin Hill

Representative Alan Powell

**Hawaii**

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland

**Iowa**

Representative Dwayne Alons

**Kansas**

Representative Doug Gatewood

Representative Harold Lane

Representative Melvin Neufeld

Representative Tom Thull

**Louisiana**

Senator Ken Hollis

**Maryland**

Delegate Barbara Frush

Delegate Barry Glassman

Delegate Richard Weldon

**Michigan**

Senator Ron Jelinek

Representative Chris Kolb

Representative John Pastor

Representative Tom Pearce

Representative John Proos

Representative Joel Sheltroun

Representative John Stahl

**Minnesota**

Representative Jim Abeler

Representative Dan Dorman

Representative Pat Garofalo

Representative Melissa Hortman

Representative Mike McGinn

**Mississippi**

Representative Dannie Reed

Representative Clayton Smith

**Missouri**

Representative Bruce Darrough

**Montana**

Senator John Brueggeman

Representative Gordon Hendrick

**Nebraska**

Senator Jeanne Combs

Senator Don Preister

**Nevada**

Senator Bob Beers

Assemblymember Moises (Mo) Denis

Assemblymember Mark Manendo

Assemblymember David Parks

**New Hampshire**

Senator Rob Boyce

Representative Gail Barry

Representative Bernard Buzzell

**New York**

Senator Jeff Klein

Assemblymember Donna Lupardo

Assemblymember Charlie Nesbitt

**North Carolina**

Representative Larry Brown

Representative George Cleveland

Representative Nelson Cole

Representative William Current

Representative Bill Faison

Representative Phillip Frye

**North Dakota**

Senator John Syverson

Representative Margaret Sitte

Representative Robin Weisz

**Ohio**

Senator Lynn Wachtmann

**Oregon**

Senator Gary George

**Rhode Island**

Senator Michael Damiani

**Tennessee**

Senator Tim Burchett

Senator Mike Williams

Representative Joe Towns

**Vermont**

Representative Richard Marron

**Virginia**

Delegate Dave Nutter

**Washington**

Senator Jerome Delvin

Representative Cary Condotta

Representative Deb Wallace

**Wisconsin**

Representative Sheryl Albers

Representative Steve Kestell

**Wyoming**

Representative Pat Childers

### Is Your State Lawmaker on this List?

If so, let them know that you appreciate their support for the automotive hobby by joining the caucus and look forward to working with them. If not, we invite you to contact your state representative and state senator and inform them about the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus. For information on who to contact or for further information on the Caucus, please contact Ben Burdick at 202/783-6007, ext. 38.

By joining the Caucus, your elected official will join with other state legislators from around the country who have a shared passion for the automotive hobby.

## Legislative Quick Hits

Continued from page 1



**New Jersey Exhaust Noise:** The SAN continues to work to amend a bill that would require the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to prescribe a decibel limit to which all aftermarket mufflers sold in the state would be certified to operate. The bill gives no instruction as to what the decibel limit should be. In some states, noise limits for modified exhaust systems are established by a SEMA model bill and applicable to an easy to administer test standard. The SEMA model provides for the

testing of vehicle exhaust noise to a standard adopted by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) with an established noise limit of 95-decibels (SAE J1169).

**New York Historic Fees:** A SAN-supported bill would provide that historical vehicle owners pay only a one-time registration fee of \$23 upon initial registration. The reduced registration fee would be available to owners of historical vehicles owned and operated as an exhibition piece or collector's item and used for club activities, exhibits, tours, parades, occasional transportation and similar uses. The \$23 one-time fee would replace the current annual fee of \$23. The bill is being carried over to 2006.

**New York Spinner Hubcaps:** SAN-opposed legislation that would have prohibited the sale and use of motor vehicles equipped with spinner hubcaps died in New York when the session adjourned for the year. The bill would have subjected vehicle owners to fines of up to \$750 for a third or subsequent violation. Those convicted of selling spinner hubcaps would have been fined \$150 for each violation. The measure ignored the fact that custom wheels are not prohibited by Federal law and that spinner hubcaps have no proven detrimental effect on motor vehicle safety. Earlier this year, the SAN defeated similar legislation in Iowa and Virginia. The bill may be considered again in 2006.

**Pennsylvania Exhaust Systems:** The SAN is again opposing legislation that would prohibit the use of exhaust systems other than a "factory-installed muffler" or a "muffler meeting factory specifications." The SAN beat back identical legislation in the 2004 legislative session. The House Transportation Committee Chairman has indicated to the SAN that the bill will not get committee consideration.

**South Carolina Antique Vehicle Taxes:** SAN-supported legislation to provide an exemption from property taxes for motor vehicles licensed and registered as antiques has been carried over to 2006. South Carolina law defines an "Antique" as every motor vehicle which is "over 25-years old, is owned solely as a collector's item and is used for participation in club activities, exhibits, tours, parades and similar uses, but in no event used for general transportation."

**Vermont Vehicle Taxes:** The SAN is supporting a bill to reduce purchase and use taxes for antique motor vehicles by providing that taxable costs not include the cost of restoration. The measure defines "Restored Antique Motor Vehicle" as an exhibition vehicle of a model year 1940 or earlier, purchased on or after Jan. 1, 1970 and which, at the time of purchase, was not operable and which has been restored to operable condition. Current law stipulates that "Exhibition Vehicles" be maintained solely for use in exhibitions, club activities, parades and other functions of public interest and not used for the transportation of passengers or property except to attend such functions. The bill is being carried over to 2006.

**Vermont Exhaust Noise:** The SAN is working to amend a bill that would require all motor vehicles to be equipped with a muffler which reduces maximum noise to a level that does not exceed 82 decibels on the scale at 50 feet, in a normal operating environment. In some states, noise limits for modified exhaust systems are established by a SEMA-model bill and applicable to an easy to administer test standard. The SEMA model provides for the testing of vehicle exhaust noise to a standard adopted by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) with an established noise limit of 95-decibels (SAE J1169). To date, the model has been enacted in California, Washington State and Maine. The bill is being carried over to 2006.

**West Virginia Antique Vehicles:** The SAN is supporting legislation to exempt owners of antique motor vehicles, antique motorcycles, classic motor vehicles and classic motorcycles from annual registration fees for these vehicles. Current West Virginia law defines



"antique motor vehicles and motorcycles" as more than 25 years old and owned as collector items and "classic motor vehicles and motorcycles" as more than 25 years old and used for general transportation. The bill is being carried over to 2006.

## EAGLE ONE UPDATE



**E**agle One has extended the application period for its annual Golden Rule award to November 30. As reported in the September issue of *Driving Force*, a total of \$7,000 in cash donations and products for fund-raising purposes will be awarded to car clubs in four regions for outstanding community service programs in their region during 2005.

Entry forms are available at [www.eagleone.com](http://www.eagleone.com) or by calling 818/501-1445. Deadline for completed entries will be December 23, 2005.

## Attention Car Clubs, Event Organizers and Enthusiasts!

### Put SAN on Your Mailing List!

We'd like to know what's going on with SEMA Action Network clubs and enthusiasts across the country; what charity events you're involved in; when and where the rod runs, car shows, trail rides, rallies and tech meetings are held; and what legislative and regulatory issues concern club members and individual enthusiasts.

One of the best ways to keep us abreast of what's going on and what's important to the vehicle hobbies nationwide is for us to receive your club newsletters and updates. Please consider placing SEMA on your mailing list. Send correspondence to: Jason Tolleson, SEMA, 1317 F Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20004-1105. Or by e-mail at [jasont@sema.org](mailto:jasont@sema.org).

## OCTOBER 2005 SAN CLUB EVENTS

### ALABAMA

**October 8, Moundville**

10th Annual Car & Tractor Show  
Sponsor: Rollin-Oldies Antique Vehicle Club  
Information: jdozier9080@charter.net or  
205/371-2803

### ARIZONA

**October 8, Sierra Vista**

18th Annual Cars in the Park  
Sponsor: Sierra Vista Car Club  
Information: www.sierravistacarclub.org or  
520/227-8318

**October 29-30, Tucson**

28th Annual CHVA Swap Meet and Car Show  
Sponsor: Southern Arizona CHVA  
Information: 520/293-3178 or 520/887-7767

### ARKANSAS

**October 1, Benton**

27th Annual Car and Truck Show  
Sponsor: Dixie Car Club  
Information: gbeyers@sbcglobal.net or  
501/315-2882

### CALIFORNIA

**October 2, Burbank**

Throttlers 2005 Car Show  
Sponsor: Model T Ford Club of  
San Fernando Valley  
Information: 818/361-0645

**October 9, Chatsworth**

2nd Annual All American Car Show  
Sponsor: All Mustang and Ford Club of  
Southern California  
Information: www.allmustangandfordclub.com or  
818/ 970-2359

**October 9, Huntington Beach**

Das O.C.T.O Fest 2005  
Sponsor: Orange County Transporter  
Organization  
Information: www.octo.org or 714/374-7506

**October 23, Long Beach**

Cadillac Concours D'Elegance  
Sponsor: Cadillac Club International Consortium  
Information: 951/845-5916

**October 28-30, Bakersfield**

7th Fuel & Gas Finals  
Sponsor: Goodguys  
Information: www.good-guys.com or 925/ 838 9876

### CONNECTICUT

**October 1, Somers**

British Autumn, 5th Annual British and  
Foreign Auto Show  
Information: 203/230-9782 or 203/248-9255

### FLORIDA

**October 2, Venice**

18th Annual Collector Car Show  
Sponsor: Venice Chapter-AACA  
Information: 941/493-3780 or 941/496-4888

**October 29, Tampa**

24th Annual Mustang, Shelby & Ford Roundup  
Sponsor: Classic Mustangs of Tampa  
Information: cmtnews@aol.com or 813/961-3223

### ILLINOIS

**October 2, Barrington**

8th Annual Classic and Antique Auto Show  
Sponsor: Buick Club of America,  
Chicagoland Chapter  
Information: 312/316-5435 or 847/381-2100

**October 16, Joliet**

3rd Annual Swap Meet and Car Corral  
Information: rbswap@aol.com or 815/478-3633

### INDIANA

**October 1, Huntington**

Ed Big Daddy Roth Memorial Car Show and  
Swap Meet  
Sponsor: Wells County Kroozers  
Information: kroozincalendar@onlyinternet.net or  
260-622-6820

### IOWA

**October 15-16, Cedar Rapids**

28th Annual Cedar Rapids Region AACA Swap Meet  
Sponsor: Cedar Rapids Region AACA  
Information: 319/846-3499

### KANSAS

**October 1-2, Topeka**

16th Annual Mopar Super Weekend  
Sponsor: HPAC Mopar  
Information: www.hpacmopar.com or 816/260-5305

### KENTUCKY

**October 22, Pleasure Ridge Park**

2nd Mike Linnings Seafood Cruise  
Sponsor: Okolona Street Rods  
Information: www.okolonastreetrods.com

### MAINE

**September 30-October 2, Bethel**

16th Maine Mountains  
Sponsor: Jeep Jamboree USA  
Information: 530/ 333-4777 or  
www.jeepjamboreeusa.com

### MARYLAND

**October 29, Stevensville**

Kent Island Cruisers Halloween Cruise-In &  
Car Show  
Sponsor: Kent Island Cruisers  
Information: 410/643-4582

### MINNESOTA

**October 16, St. Paul**

35th Annual Roadsters Twin Cities Swap Meet  
Information: 612/860-4833 or 612/940-1071

### NEVADA

**October 15, Las Vegas**

Rockabilly Rod Reunion  
Information: 703/632-8231

### NEW JERSEY

**October 2, North Brunswick**

18th Annual Picnic/Meet  
Sponsor: NY/NJ Slant-Six Club of America  
Information: 732/549-0188

**October 9, Great Meadows**

4th Annual Monza Vega Shootout Car Show,  
Race and Swap Meet  
Sponsor: Monza Vega Owners Assn.  
Information: 631/831-9434

### NEW MEXICO

**October 2, Albuquerque**

Annual Balloon Fiesta Classic Car Display  
Sponsor: Rainbow Roadrunners  
Information: madmike@swcp.com or 505/323-6022

### NEW YORK

**October 2, West Lebanon**

Car Show, Swap Meet and Nostalgia Drags  
Sponsor: Capital Area Rods  
Information: 518/872-2344

### NORTH CAROLINA

**October 1, Greensboro**

AMO Southeast Regional 2005  
Sponsor: Carolina AMC  
Information: 336/ 434-4519

**October 28-30, Charlotte**

12th Southeastern Nationals  
Sponsor: Goodguys  
Information: www.good-guys.com or 925/838-9876

### OHIO

**October 7-9, Columbus**

AutoZone Super Chevy Show  
Information: 740/964-2350

➤ *Continued on page 5* ➤

**Check out this early  
November 2005 event**

### MARYLAND

**November 5, Glen Burnie**

2nd Annual Hot Rod Jalopyrama  
Sponsor: The Rusty Nuts H.R.G.  
Information: 440/437-3763



**Hey, That's  
My Car!**

## Blue Ribbon Winner

**Owner:** Don Amador  
Blue Ribbon Coalition, Western States Representative

**A**fter almost two decades of work, the BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) has certainly come a long way. What began in 1987 as an effort amongst Idaho off-highway vehicle (OHV) enthusiasts to prevent the state government from restricting access to the riding spots in their state, BRC has grown into a national effort to prevent the closure of public lands and recreation areas. Today, BRC is a formidable presence in the OHV community, representing the rights and interests of off-roaders nationwide.



In 1990, with a growing concern over the loss of multiple-use lands, Don Amador joined BRC. As the Western States Representative for BRC, Amador travels throughout the West

in his Ford F-250 to off-road events and rallies to spread BRC's message. The truck is often seen towing a specially equipped 26ft. Weekend Warrior Trailer.

Teaming with SEMA member companies, Amador feels he has created the perfect vehicle for the job. "I think our collective goal of building a rig that is functional and has an aggressive/good looking appearance was achieved," said Amador. "The truck sends a message that BRC and its supporters are serious about protecting our off-road access rights and championing responsible recreational use of public lands."

### 2005 Ford F-250 Super Duty Crew-Cab Long Bed

#### Engine

6.0 liter turbo diesel

K&N Fuel Injection Performance Kit FIPK General II air filter system

#### Suspension:

FABTECH 6 inch Radius Arm System

#### Wheels and Tires

18-inch Xtreme Polished Alloy Series 1059 wheels  
PROCOMP 35-inch Xtreme ATs

*Thanks to all who have sent in or e-mailed us photos. Please continue to send us photos of your trail rides, restorations in progress, rod runs, car shows, charity events and drag races. Kindly submit pictures to: The Driving Force, SEMA, 1575 South Valley Vista Dr., Diamond Bar, CA 91765. You also may send high-resolution digital pictures (minimum resolution of 300 pixels per inch; minimum 5 inches wide) by e-mail to [carrw@sema.org](mailto:carrw@sema.org).*

## October 2005 SAN Club Events

*Continued from page 4*

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### October 1, Lahaska

Brits at the Village  
Sponsor: Philadelphia MG Club  
Information: 610/446-2073

#### October 5-8, Hershey

AACA National Fall Meet  
Sponsor: AACA  
Information: [www.aaca.org](http://www.aaca.org) or 717/566-7720

#### October 16, Bensalem

23rd Annual Auto Show  
Sponsor: Lower Bucks Region AACA  
Information: [mainline54@aol.com](mailto:mainline54@aol.com) or  
[www.bucksclub.com](http://www.bucksclub.com)

### RHODE ISLAND

#### October 2, Warwick

25th Annual MCCNE Mustang and Fords Fall Roundup  
Sponsor: Mustang Car Club of New England  
Information: 508/674-5462

### SOUTH CAROLINA

#### October 8, Lancaster

5th Annual Benefit Car and Truck Show  
Sponsor: Christian Cruisers and Restorers  
Information: [pipedream@infoave.net](mailto:pipedream@infoave.net) or  
803/285-3157

#### October 21-23, Murrells Inlet

The Year One Myrtle Beach Fall Cruise  
Sponsor: Right Coast Assn.  
Information: [www.rightcoastcars.com](http://www.rightcoastcars.com)

#### October 21-23, Myrtle Beach

Return to the Beach 6  
Sponsor: Carolina PT Cruisers  
Information: [www.returntothebeach.com](http://www.returntothebeach.com)

### TENNESSEE

#### October 15, South Atoka

West Tennessee Drifters 10th Annual Car and Bike Show  
Sponsor: West Tennessee Drifters  
Information: 901/301-5546 or 901/301-9396

### TEXAS

#### September 30-October 2, Ft. Worth

13th Annual Lone Star Nationals at TX Motor Speedway  
Sponsor: Goodguys  
Information: 925/838-9876 or [www.good-guys.com](http://www.good-guys.com)

### October 1, San Antonio

23rd Annual Car, Truck and Model Show  
Sponsor: Mopar Muscle Club of San Antonio  
Information: [elcajun@satx-rr.com](mailto:elcajun@satx-rr.com) or 210/863-0355

### October 13-16, Odessa

43rd Grand 'Ole Tour  
Sponsor: West Texas Region AACA  
Information: [ldepting@yahoo.com](mailto:ldepting@yahoo.com) or 432/580-8297

### October 15, Rosenberg

6th Annual Car Show  
Information: 281/341-9200

### VIRGINIA

#### October 8, Virginia Beach

Annual Fall Mustang & Ford Powered Car Show  
Sponsor: Southeastern Virginia Mustang Club  
Information: [www.sevmc.org](http://www.sevmc.org) or 757/471-8896

#### October 9, Middleburg

Hunt Country Classic  
Sponsor: MG Car Club, Washington, D.C.  
Information: [www.mgcarclubdc.com](http://www.mgcarclubdc.com) or  
[webmaster@mgcarclubdc.com](mailto:webmaster@mgcarclubdc.com)

#### October 21-23, Newport News

3rd Annual Virginia Fall Classic  
Sponsor: Virginia Peninsula Car Club Council  
Information: [www.vafallclassic.org](http://www.vafallclassic.org) or 757/867-6336

## SEMA Government Relations Office

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For more legislative and regulatory information, check out the SEMA Action Network website:  
[www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com)



## We Get Letters

[Reprinted with permission from the Chicago Gearheads newsletter]

Gearheads,

I believe most of you know about SAN (SEMA Action Network). If you don't, SAN was started by the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA). The main objective of SAN is to make sure legislators or the EPA or any other governmental department, agency, or association doesn't trample the rights of motorsports enthusiasts or ruin our hobby. SAN puts out a newsletter called *Driving Force* that alerts us when legislation concerning our hobby is introduced to our state. For example, a harmful piece of legislation in Illinois was quickly modified in the last few days the state legislature was in session back in June. While the bill moved fast, the SAN e-mailed an action alert to all of its Illinois members and as a result of their efforts, the bill died for the year. You can become a member of the SAN at no cost and receive all the e-mails by contacting [jason@sema.org](mailto:jason@sema.org). If you get the e-mails from SAN please follow through with their requests of suggestions. After all, there is strength in numbers. Let's protect our hobby!



Happy Motoring,

Mike Wagner  
President, Chicago Gearheads

[www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com)

We Get Letters



Club Events

November 2005 SAN



Hey, That's My Car!



October 2005 SAN Club Events



State Automotive Enthusiast  
Leadership Caucus



Legislative Quick Hits



A Little Help From  
Our Friends...

**INSIDE**



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