



## Keep Your Foot On The Gas

With Most Legislatures in Recess, Now is the Time to Voice Your Opinion

“We the people of the United States” are not just words from the first line of an old document. We are the people who love musclecars, hot rods, street rods, tuners, replicas, off-road trucks, and many other varieties of automotive pursuits that are as diverse as the country in which we live. We are also the people who have to work to protect our automotive passions from unnecessary, unfair, or well intentioned but poorly written laws and regulations. Fortunately, we the people live in a country where we can still make a difference in how we are governed.

Our greatest tool in making that difference is our voice. By speaking out on issues that concern the automotive hobby, contacting our representatives, and working constructively with government officials, we have the power to protect our passion and keep it safe for future generations of auto hobbyists and enthusiasts. With most legislatures out of session, representatives are in their home districts and typically have more time to meet casually with their constituents. This is also the time of year when they are planning for the next legislative session and

deciding which bills to introduce. Contacting them now can have a tremendous impact by raising their awareness of issues that could impact our hobby during the next session. That is what makes right now the perfect time to get involved and build relationships with your legislators, so hit the gas and keep your foot down!

The SAN's greatest accomplishments have come about when individual hobbyists and car clubs like you actively participate in the process and make your opinions known to your legislators. The model bill to create pro-hobby registration and titling classifications for street rods, customs and replicas has now been enacted into law in almost 20 states. These efforts have been successful in large part because of the dedication and effort of SAN members around the country who have actively pursued their legislators in support of the bill. What about you and your state? Like these members, you have that same power to positively affect the outcome of legislation to be beneficial to the hobby. To get you started, we have prepared 10 tips you can use when contacting your representatives:

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## CAUCUS CORNER

Each month *Driving Force* will feature members of the State Automotive Enthusiast Leadership Caucus. The SEMA-supported caucus is a bipartisan group of state lawmakers whose common thread is a love and appreciation for automobiles.

Here is its newest member:



**OHIO**  
State Representative  
Mark Schneider

\* Visit [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com) for a complete list of caucus members.

## SPOTLIGHT CANADA

### SAN & The Saskatchewan Raised Vehicle Regulation

The SAN submitted technical comments to a regulatory proposal issued by Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) to regulate raised vehicles in the province. SGI operates the province's driver licensing and vehicle registration system. SGI regulators claim that the number of raised vehicles imported into and operating in Saskatchewan has increased, prompting inquiries from the general public, raised vehicle owners, off-road enthusiasts, vehicle inspection stations and law enforcement with requests to clarify the existing regulations and standards for raised vehicles.

Under the proposal, all aftermarket raised vehicles operated on Saskatchewan highways would be subject to a raised vehicle inspection after Jan. 1, 2011 and would be required to comply with the new policy. The policy would be rolled-out in phases to mitigate the impact on existing raised vehicle owners and provide time to train and inform the public, inspection stations and law enforcement. Prior to Jan. 1, 2011, raised trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles would be permitted a maximum frame height of 31 inches regardless of their gross vehicle weight rating. After Jan. 1, 2011 the province would impose tiered frame height limits based on a vehicle's rated operating weight.

In addition, regulators are considering requiring owners to carry a "Letter of Authorization" issued by the province in order to operate a raised vehicle. The Letter of Authorization would signify that the vehicle has passed inspection and would be shown to law enforcement during roadside stops to demonstrate compliance with the applicable frame height limit. The SGI is also considering restricting the maximum speeds of raised vehicles with tires that have a loaded rolling diameter of greater than 35 inches.

"SEMA and the SAN have a long history of supporting responsible regulations in the matter of raised vehicles and have demonstrated a willingness to work with regional governments to assess and improve regulations with the assistance of comprehensive data and support," said SEMA Vice President of Government Affairs Steve McDonald. "We are appreciative of the SGI's engagement of affected businesses and raised vehicle owners prior to issuance of the proposal and anticipate that these discussions, in the end, will result in a fair and reasonable policy."

## Keep Your Foot On The Gas

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### 10 Tips for Communicating with Elected Officials

#### 1 Develop and Maintain Relationships with Your Legislators and Their Staff

Make contact and develop productive relationships with individual legislators. It is the most effective form of grassroots lobbying. It's also important to develop a relationship with their staff who monitor ongoing legislative and community initiatives.

#### 2 Educate Legislators About Our Hobby and Our Issues

Educate your legislator about the hobby and emphasize the positive impact it has on the community.

#### 3 Maintain a Positive Attitude

Develop a positive relationship with your legislator. The next time an enthusiast-related issue comes up, that same legislator may be needed to support your cause.

#### 4 Stay Informed

Keep up-to-date on SAN Action Alerts, newspaper articles, and hearing notices. Share this information with fellow enthusiasts.

#### 5 Get Involved in the Community

Join with other community groups to build positive exposure. Holding charity runs and fundraisers provides a great opportunity to show local residents and politicians that auto clubs are a positive community force.

#### 6 Build Relationships with the Local Media

Contact local newspapers and radio/TV stations to publicize car shows, charity events, etc.

#### 7 Invite Officials to Participate in Your Events

Give legislators a platform to reach an audience of constituents.

#### 8 Build an Automotive Coalition

Create coalitions to add strength in numbers and ensure that the rights of ALL vehicle enthusiasts are represented. Actively participating in regional and statewide councils will develop a unified message to lawmakers. These types of pro-hobbyist groups can be an influential political force.

#### 9 Spread the Word

Tear off this page of *Driving Force* and take it to your next club meeting, cruise night or post it on your online forums. Share this information with other enthusiasts who are willing to help lobby for the hobby.

#### 10 Register to Vote

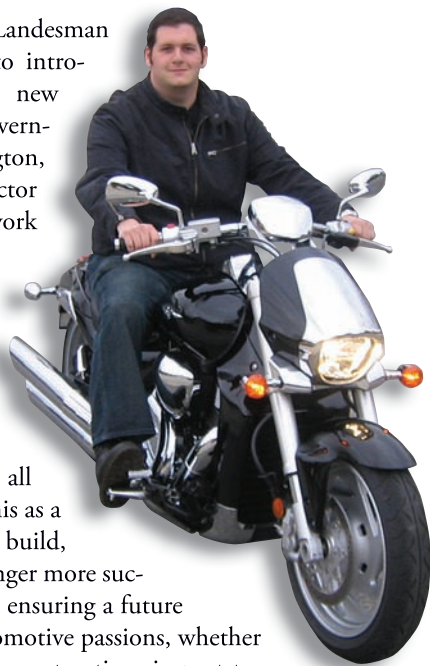
Exercise your right to support pro-hobby candidates. Constituents are an elected official's number-one priority. Without you and your vote of support, they would not be in office, so make sure you're registered and get out and vote.

For more information and for other resources such as guides on phoning, writing letters and meeting with your representatives, visit [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com).

# In The Driver's Seat

## Meeting the new SAN Director

**M**y name is Ethan Landesman and I am excited to introduce myself as a new member of the SEMA government affairs team in Washington, D.C. and as your new Director of the SEMA Action Network (SAN). I am taking over for Jason Tolleson as he will be supporting our cause in another role with SEMA. I am happy to take the torch as director of the premier organization defending the rights of auto hobbyists all over the country. I look at this as a starting point from which to build, with your help, an even stronger more successful network dedicated to ensuring a future that is free for all of our automotive passions, whether they are hot-rodding, vintage restoration, import-tuning or off-roading.



Growing up in Los Angeles, it was natural for me to develop a love of cars from an early age as they represented not only freedom but also an outlet for personal expression. Going to the L.A. Auto Show every year soon turned into tearing apart my first car, a 93 Jeep Cherokee, to install an awesome sound system and cold air induction kit. My next car, a 2005 Pontiac GTO, took me to the car club scene through organizing and participating in car cruises all over Southern California. I also expanded my love of all things with big engines by learning to ride motorcycles, adding a 2007 Suzuki Boulevard M109R to my garage and going on cruises through the mountains and deserts of Southern California.

While automobiles are my first obsession, my second, politics, brought me to Washington, D.C. where I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from American University. Upon graduating with honors in 2004, I returned home to Los Angeles and soon found myself enjoying my love of cars on a professional level as a District Service Manager at the General Motors Regional Consulting Center for the western United States. It was at this time that I began the next stage of my educational development by enrolling in the Master of Business Administration program at California Lutheran University. I graduated from the MBA program 2 years later while at my next job, working in the field of accessories at Vehicle Accessory Center (VAC), a General Motors Accessory Distributor for Southern California and Las Vegas. Working in the field calling on dealerships for VAC I learned the nuts and bolts of the aftermarket accessory business and witnessed the type of regulation that SAN strives to protect us from.

I am now proud to be part of the SEMA team, which has provided me with the incredible opportunity to combine my two passions into one exciting career working for you. To that end, I am looking forward to coming out to your events and getting a chance to meet you and listen to your thoughts on the legislative issues of concern to our hobby. Please feel free to contact me at any time to introduce yourself, ask questions, or voice any concerns you may have. I can be reached by phone at 202/783-6007, ext. 39 and by e-mail at [ethanl@sema.org](mailto:ethanl@sema.org)

## HEY, THAT'S MY CAR!

# Rust Free and Ready for Love

**1968 Camaro SS/RS**

**Owner:** Patrick Shatz

**Tipp City, Ohio**

**I**'ll never forget going to see this car for the first time in 1986. It was a '68 Camaro for \$1,500, and I thought it was too good to pass up. Living in Michigan at the time, I raced down to Ann Arbor to inspect my find. It turned out that this car had been pummeled in a hail storm and the only good panel on the car was the roof, which had been preserved by a piece of plywood. Every other panel had golf ball size divots and the interior was weathered and faded from the sun.



All this was a non-issue though, because this car was rust free, and that's what intrigued me. All the areas that typically rust were free of decay, and for the negotiated price of \$1,300 I drove it home. My vision was to create a Camaro that had the look and stance of a Trans Am road racer.

I performed all the restoration work including upholstery, drivetrain, chassis, electrical, body and paint. As it sits now, the Camaro is equipped with a 383 small block, Tremec six-speed, four-wheel-disc brakes, 18-inch aluminum wheels, and various suspension modifications that make this car flat out handle. Being 6 ft. 4 in., I wanted to be comfortable driving it, so I designed and fabricated mounting brackets for the seat track that moved the seat back another seven inches.

I've had this car on several road courses that include Road America, Mid-Ohio, and Grattan. It's a blast to drive. I recently completed the 2009 *Hot Rod Power Tour* as a Long Hauler in this Camaro.



My current project is a 1968 Pontiac Firebird HO 400 convertible. My next project will be a 1966 Pontiac GTO convertible. The GTO will be taken on a Route 66 trip once complete.



*Have your car or truck featured in a future issue of Driving Force. Submit your high-resolution photos online at [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com)*

# DRIVING FORCE

OCTOBER 2009

SUPPLEMENT

## OCTOBER 2009 SAN CLUB EVENTS

### ARIZONA

#### October 10, Sierra Vista

22nd Annual Cars in the Park  
Sponsor: Sierra Vista Car Club  
Information: <http://www.sierravistacarclub.org/>

#### October 14, Sedona

2009 West Coast Holiday  
Sponsor: Porsche 356 Registry  
Information: <http://www.2009westcoastholiday.com/>

#### October 17, Tucson

Tucson Classic Car Show  
Information: <http://www.tucsonclassicscarshow.com>

#### October 21-25, Lake Havasu

32nd Annual Run to the Sun  
Sponsor: Arizona Relics & Rods  
Information: <http://www.relicsandrods.com/CarShows/RunToTheSun-09/Schedule.htm>

#### October 24-25, Tucson

32nd Annual CHVA Old Cars & Parts Swap Meet & Car Show  
Sponsor: Contemporary Historical Vehicle Association  
Information: 520/293-3178 or 520/887-7767

#### October 31, Tucson

3rd Annual Cops and Rodders Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show  
Information: <http://www.copsandrodders-tucson.org>

### ARKANSAS

#### October 3, Benton

31st Annual Car & Truck Show  
Sponsor: Dixie Car Club  
Information: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/frameset.cfm?club=dixiecarclub>

#### October 10, Mountain Home

October Car Fest  
Sponsor: Classic Chevy Club of North Arkansas  
Information: <http://www.classicchevyclubof-noar.com>

#### October 23-24, Little Rock

Big Cruise Fest in the Rock  
Sponsor: Arkansas Pontiac Association  
Information: <http://www.bigcruisefest.com/bigcruisefest.php>

### CALIFORNIA

#### October 2-4, Sacramento

Golden State Nationals  
Information: <http://nsra-usa.com/index.php/site/evdet/143>

#### October 4, Redwood City

Horses to Horsepower  
Information: <http://www.horsetohorsepower.info>

#### October 4, Anaheim

40th Annual All Ford Picnic & Car Show  
Sponsor: Early Ford V-8 Club of America-Southern California Region  
Information: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/club-sites/socalearlyfordv-8>

#### October 9-11, Rio Vista

18th Annual Rio Vista Bass Festival Car Show  
Information: <http://bassfestival.com/carshow.asp>

#### October 11, Burbank

Throttlers 2009 Car Show  
Sponsor: San Fernando Valley Model T Club  
Information: 818/648-6982

#### October 16-17, Ocotillo Wells SVRA

Operation Desert Fun  
Sponsor: California Association of 4WD Clubs  
Information: [http://www.cal4wheel.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=71&Itemid=101](http://www.cal4wheel.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=71&Itemid=101)

#### October 24, Citrus Heights

OctoberFest Car Show & Toy Run  
Sponsor: Capital City Cruisers  
Information: <http://capitolcitycruisers.org>

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

#### October 10, Washington, DC

Walter Reed Car Show Honoring Our Wounded Warriors  
Information: <http://www.gws-mbca.org/events/WoundedWarriors.html>

### FLORIDA

#### October 9-11, Tampa

Southeast Nationals  
Information: <http://nsra-usa.com/index.php/site/evdet/144>

#### October 11, Flagler Beach

Corvettes at the Beach  
Sponsor: Flagler County Corvette Club  
Information: <http://flaglercountycorvetteclub.com>

#### October 24, Tampa

28th Annual Mustang, Shelby and Ford Roundup  
Sponsor: Mustang Club of Tampa  
Information: [http://mustangcluboftampa.com/web\\_docs/2009\\_mosi.pdf](http://mustangcluboftampa.com/web_docs/2009_mosi.pdf)

#### October 24, Clearwater

The Annual Corvette Show  
Sponsor: Bay Area Corvette Club  
Information: <http://www.baccvette.us/Event%20Info/DIMMITT%20SHOW%20OCT%202009.pdf>

### GEORGIA

#### October 10, Ellijay

21st Annual Apple Classic Autoshow  
Sponsor: Apple Country Auto Club  
Information: 706/273-2582 or 706/635-2221

### ILLINOIS

#### October 4, Elwood

5th Annual Orphan Show  
Sponsor: Illinois Valley Oldsmobile Chapter  
Information: <http://www.ivocolds.com>

### KENTUCKY

#### October 16-18, Bowling Green

2nd Nostalgia Nationals  
Information: <http://good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=09-612>

### MARYLAND

#### October 17, Ocean City

10th Annual Cruise for a Cause  
Sponsor: Wheels That Heal Car Club  
Information: <http://www.wheelsthatheal.com>

#### October 25, Bel Air

32nd Annual Car Show and Flea Market  
Sponsor: Harford Region AACA  
Information: <http://local.aaca.org/harford>

#### October 25, Greenbelt

2009 Fall Car Show  
Sponsor: Cadillac & LaSalle Club-Potomac Region  
Information: <http://clcpotomacregion.org/forms/CLCPR.2009FallCarShowFlyer.pdf>

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### October 4, Maynard

21st Annual Autofest  
Sponsor: Maynard Area Auto Club  
Information: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/maynardaac>

#### October 4, Buzzards Bay

9th Annual British Legends Weekend  
Sponsor: Cape Cod British Car Club  
Information: <http://www.capecodbritishcarclub.org>

#### October 18, North Andover

1st Annual Car Club Invitational  
Sponsor: The Silverstone Club  
Information: 508/384-7578 or 866/426-4480

### MINNESOTA

#### October 4, St. Paul

39th Annual Midwest Fall Swap Meet & Auto Show  
Sponsor: Capitol City Chapter of AACA & Twin Cities Model A Ford Club  
Information: <http://www.midwestswapmeet.com>

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## EARLY NOVEMBER 2009 EVENTS

### CALIFORNIA

#### November 6-8, Borrego Springs

Bronco Daze 2009  
Sponsor: Early Bronco Registry  
Information: <http://www.earlybronco.com>

### FLORIDA

#### November 1, Clearwater

Mason Dixon Best of the Best  
Sponsor: Mustang Club of Tampa  
Information: <http://www.masondixonchrist-maswishfund.com>

#### November 8, Dade City

21th Annual Pasco Bug Jam  
Information: <http://www.pascobugjam.com/>

### NEW MEXICO

#### November 7, Truth or Consequences

13th Annual Veterans' Day Car Show  
Information: <http://www.nmstateveteranshome.org/events.shtml>

## OCTOBER 2009 SAN CLUB EVENTS

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## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**October 18, Canterbury**  
16th Annual Thunderama 2009  
Sponsor: New England's Vintage Thunderbirds  
Information: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/frameset.cfm?club=nevt>

## NEW JERSEY

**October 4, North Brunswick**  
22nd Annual Meet  
Sponsor: NY/NJ Slant-Six Club  
Information: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/frameset.cfm?club=nynjslant6>

**October 4, Kenilworth**  
25th Annual Street Meet  
Sponsor: Garden State Chevelles  
Information: <http://www.gardenstatechevelles.com>

**October 18, Paramus**  
34th Annual Fall Swap Meet and Peoples Choice Car Show  
Sponsor: Class Glass Corvette Association  
Information: <http://www.classglasscorvette.com>

## NEW YORK

**October 2-4, Durham**  
5th Annual Mustang and All Ford Fall Round-Up and Car Show  
Sponsor: Adirondack Shelby-Mustang Club  
Information: <http://www.adirondackshelby-mustangclub.org>

**October 4, Nanuet**  
30th Annual All Pontiac & Oakland Fall Car Show  
Sponsor: Garden State Pontiac Oakland Club Int'l  
Information: <http://gardenstatepoci.org>

## NORTH CAROLINA

**October 18, Denver**  
5th Annual Benefit Car & Truck Show  
Sponsor: Hillbilly Hotrodders  
Information: <http://hillbillyhotrodders.ipower.com/page5.html>

**October 30-November 1, Charlotte**  
16th Southeastern Nationals  
Information: <http://good-guys.com/events/eventDetails.aspx?eventid=09-604>

**October 31, Wilmington**  
11th Annual Brits at the Battleship Car Show  
Sponsor: British Motor Club of Cape Fear  
Information: <http://www.bmccf.org/carshow-brochure09.pdf>

## OHIO

**October 2-4, Owensville**  
33rd Annual Pumpkin Run Nationals  
Sponsor: Fastiques Rod & Custom of Southern Ohio  
Information: <http://www.pumpkinrunnationals.com>

## PENNSYLVANIA

**October 7-10, Hershey**  
2009 AACA Eastern Regional Fall Meet  
Sponsor: Hershey Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America  
Information: <http://www.hersheyaaca.org>

**October 11, Houston**  
14th All Pontiac Car Show  
Sponsor: Western PA Chapter of Pontiac-Oakland Club  
Information: 412/922-0616 or 412/833-1441

**October 25, Philadelphia**  
17th Annual Ghosts, Goblins & Chariots Classic Car Show  
Sponsor: Far Northeast Cruisers  
Information: <http://www.farnortheastcruisers.org>

## RHODE ISLAND

**October 4, Warwick**  
29th Annual Mustang & Ford Fall Round-Up & Swap  
Sponsor: Mustang Car Club of New England  
Information: <http://www.mccne.com/events.php>

## SOUTH CAROLINA

**October 9-10, Myrtle Beach**  
15th Annual Pow-Wow at the Beach  
Sponsor: Palmetto Chapter of the Pontiac Oakland Club International  
Information: <http://www.palmettopontiacs.org>

**October 10, Ladson**  
22nd Annual Show & Shine  
Sponsor: Lowcountry Mopars  
Information: <http://www.geocities.com/scmopar/#show>

**October 15-17, Myrtle Beach**  
Myrtle Beach Fall Cruise  
Sponsor: Right Coast Association  
Information: <http://www.rightcoastcars.com/shows/mbfc>

## TENNESSEE

**October 18, Franklin**  
19th Annual Antique & Classic Car Show  
Sponsor: The Battlefield Region of Antique Automobile Club of America  
Information: <http://battlefieldregionaaca.googlepages.com/ouroctobercarshowinformationpage>

## TEXAS

**October 2-3, El Paso**  
Run To Ruidoso Downs  
Sponsor: Early Times Street Rod Association  
Information: <http://www.zianet.com/rtrd>

**October 2-4, Ft. Worth**  
17th Lone Star Nationals  
Information: <http://www.lonestarnats.com/>

**October 17, San Antonio**  
27th Annual San Antonio Mopar Muscle & Classic Car Show  
Sponsor: Mopar Muscle San Antonio  
Information: <http://www.moparmuscleclub-sa.org/index.html>

## VIRGINIA

**October 23-25, Newport News**  
7th Annual Virginia Fall Classic  
Sponsor: Virginia Peninsula Car Club Council  
Information: <http://vafallclassic.org/index.php>

## WISCONSIN

**October 3, Lake Geneva**  
Geneva Lake Classic Car Rally  
Information: <http://www.genevalakeclassiccar.com>

## Club Spotlight

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is the "Cruise for a Cause," in which they raise money to help a person or family overcome a medical hardship by easing their financial burden. This year, the 10th annual Cruise for a Cause is being held on Saturday October 17th, to benefit David Griswald, a U.S. Air Force veteran who suffers from cancer.

In the words of one of their members: "We don't have a clubhouse, fancy dinners, cocktail parties or even money left over at year's end. What we do have is the warmth in our hearts that we did what we could."



Steve Mixter of the Wheels that Heal Car Club making a presentation to a family helped by the Cruise for a Cause.

The Wheels That Heal Car Club has also been awarded the Eagle One Golden Rule Award for outstanding achievement in community service for the East Region in both 2004 and 2007.

For additional information on The Wheels That Heal Car Club and their events, please visit their website at <http://www.wheelsthatheal.com>

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*For more legislative and regulatory information,  
visit [www.semasan.com](http://www.semasan.com)*

**CLUB SPOTLIGHT**

**Cruisin' For a Cause**

The "Wheels That Heal" Car Club, of Salisbury Maryland, has a proud tradition of utilizing automobiles not just for fun, but to help others. Formed by Steve and Barbara Mixer, the club's sole mission is to host car shows and events for the benefit of local charities and families-in-need. Wheels That Heal has raised and donated more than \$300,000 to needy causes in their community.

The only requirement for membership in Wheels that Heal is a dedication to work for the benefit of the community. They hold monthly cruises as well as several other events each year, including the Wheels on the Waterfront and Food Bank car shows, with all the proceeds going to their charity efforts. Their charity committee spends countless hours searching for and interviewing potential recipients, looking for the person or family that is most needy at the time.

The Wheels that Heal signature event

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*Steve and Barbara Mixer (left), with the Melissa Hart Family. Melissa was a cancer patient and the beneficiary of a previous Cruise for a Cause.*



*Classic cars on display at Harley-Davidson of Ocean City, MD during a previous Cruise for a Cause.*

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

Cruisin' For a Cause

October 2009 SAN Club Events

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Spotlight Canada

Caucus Corner

Keep Your Foot On The Gas

**INSIDE**

**1317 F St., NW, Ste. 500  
Washington, D.C. 20004-1105**



**OCTOBER 2009**

**DRIVING FORCE**