

September 2026



Hello Cruisers...

I want to personally thank everyone who participated and supported our local community at the Firemen's 🧯 Fourth Of July 🇺🇸 Breakfast

Club Hosted Events Coming Up Let's Give Our Support"

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**We are in the planning stages for:**

- **Newark Days Car Show and Classic Cruisers Annual Club Picnic Sept 19<sup>th</sup>**
- **San Mateo, FezOrama, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **Pleasanton, Stop-Drop & Roll Car Show, Alameda County Fire, Oct 24<sup>th</sup>**
- ❖ **Our Annual Classic Cruisers Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 12<sup>th</sup> more details to follow. (Club Members Only)**

If anybody is interested in being a **"Members Spotlight"** in one of our newsletters contact myself or Donny Toft.

## SICK CALL:

Continue to keep our Classic Cruisers family and friends in our prayers and well wishes. Even those who choose to stay silent are still part of the circle and we want to lift them up with the same love, strength, and respect.

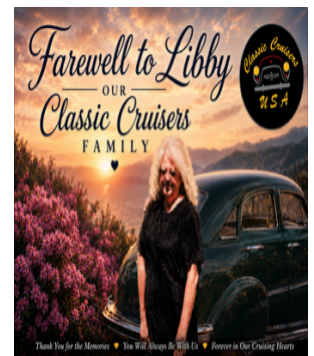
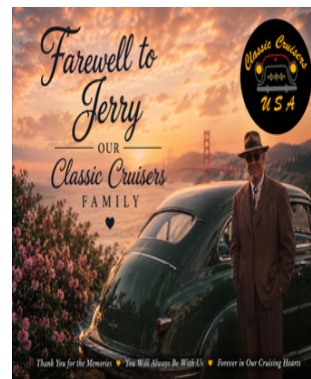


**See you at our next meeting August 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Location Dino's**

**SARGE**

Check out our website [classiccruisersusa.org](http://classiccruisersusa.org) for our monthly newsletter, gallery, and more.



# Upcoming Events

- Fremont, Roses 🍷 Cars & Coffee, Lloyds Donut Kitchen, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Every Month 08:00-11:00
  - Sep 5<sup>th</sup> / Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
- Niles Flying A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Every Month 07:00-11:00
  - Sep 13<sup>th</sup> / Oct 11<sup>th</sup>
- San Leandro, Elios 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 3:30 until dusk
  - Sep 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> / Oct 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

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- **Aug 15th Snakes Birthday 🎂 Party, Hayward Veterans Memorial Building on Main St.**
- Aug 30th Danville, Hot Summer Sunday Car Show
- Sep 5th Alviso, Santos Family (Last) Car Show
- Sep 12th Chevelle/Camino Poker Run
- Sep 12th San Jose History Park, Antique Cars in The Park
- Sep 12th Fremont, Billy Roys, Wheels Car Club Car Show (Snakes Car Club)
- Sep 13th Willow Glen, Goombas Car Show
- Sep 19th Newark Days and Club Picnic & BBQ
- Sep 20th Turlock Swap-meet
- Sep 27th Livermoore, Nostalgia Day 37th Annual Car Show



SEPTEMBER 2026

NO. 6



1965 Suburban



- GM 350
- Turbo 350
- Chevy 12 bolt
- 1/2 ton
- PPG Turquoise/
White
- Vintage Air

BY: DONNY TOFFT

America's longest running production vehicle the Chevy Suburban

Carryall first produced in 1935 is still a staple on the road today. When Rita and Jimmy Rodriguez were shopping for a new vehicle for their growing family they wanted something that they could all enjoy at sporting events, camping trips and any other family fun that required a full

size vehicle. The decision was made to purchase a clean classic that they could fix up and restore the way they wanted. After a couple years of searching Jimmy found a candidate in Concord and in 1996 the Suburban had found a new home. In 2001 that 1965 Suburban would under go a complete transformation that would take 4 years. Starting in the engine compartment Jimmy fitted all the components to the stock 283ci before buying the current

crate GM 350ci from a friend and backed

that up with a turbo 350 with shift kit. "I was going for a clean and simple engine compartment" he says and did this by smoothing the firewall, hiding wires, hoses and brake lines. Hedman headers were modified to tuck nicely into the frame rails and with the use of a friends pipe bender finished off the exhaust with 2.5" pipe, Flow Master mufflers and stainless steel Meg tips. Jimmy also

custom fabricated column and battery box covers, power steering and brake booster



As it looked in 1996 before the restoration



94 Silverado seats and Cadillac tilt column



GM Crate 350 with one off battery, steering column and air filter covers

brackets. An Edelbrock 600cfm carburetor, Accel HEI, Billet Specialties valve covers and a 56 Chevy oil bath top air cleaner half over a K&N air filter complete the "clean and simple" engine compartment Jimmy was looking for.

The stock frame was C notched in the rear with reinforced trailing arms that supports the Chevy 12 bolt posi rear end running 3.08:1 gears and



11" drum brakes. Up front Jimmy used Early Classics drop spindles, with disc brakes, master cylinder and steering box off a 1972 Chevy 1/2 ton and added air bags and relocated Nitro shocks all around. The air bag mounts, brackets and shock relocates were designed and fabricated by Jimmy. The Suburban rides on Chevy truck rally wheels 15 x 7 front and 15 x 8 rear with beauty rings, caps and knock-offs wrapped in BF Goodrich T/A's 215/60/r15 in the front and 275/60/r15 in the rear. Jimmy used a 65 Cadillac steering column rescued from a local junkyard and mounted a Billet Specialties steering wheel.

The original rust free body was in very good shape, but many hours were spent cleaning and 'scrapping' in preparation for primer he admits. In keeping with the original theme the only body mods were shaving the door handles. He was able to barter body and paint work with John Huber in exchange for fab and welding work on John's 56 Ford panel. The stunning PPG color is as close to the original color but without the metallic and was applied in the Rodriguez' garage. The final exterior touch was added by Wild Women Graphics in Hayward which airbrushed a rendition of the original side trim from the same year C10 truck. You have to take a good close look to tell if it's OEM trim or paint. The wing windows were removed along with the original

sliding side windows in the back and one piece glass, cut by Tim at Road Runner Glass in Fremont was used to replace them. Bumper bolts were shaved and the OEM side mirrors were shortened 2" and all were rechromed. "We were

trying to go with a newer look inside" Jimmy admits and bought bucket seats and a console out of a 94 Silverado at a swap meet and eventually found the removable 2nd and 3rd row bench seat all in grey fabric. The dash was smoothed and the switches were hidden, the custom cluster was designed so the gauges sat behind the billet dash. As a Millwright Jimmy had access to a full machine shop and was able to mill all the dash panels, AC vents, shifter base, door pulls, pedals and many other parts in aluminum.

The Rodriguez' have been Classic Cruiser members since 2011 and enjoy camping and family activities. Jimmy says that he enjoys the design and fabrication of the build the most. The 65 has been featured on many show flyers, t-shirts and magazine articles and has brought home many awards. This Suburban is a genuine custom classic in every way and a true show stopper. There is a custom fabricated part around every corner of the truck. Outstanding job! Jimmy and the Rodriguez family enjoy your hand-built custom cruiser for many years. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to feature this beautiful classic it was a true pleasure.







"Just Stuff" "



Mission Statement

Since 1997:

Our club promotes camaraderie and enthusiasm for the classics, custom automobiles, trucks to bring back the memories of the past. The pride we have for our vehicles is shared with the community, by participating in car shows for local charities and civic organizations. The Classic Cruisers help spread goodwill and friendship through the pride and passion of the classic and custom cars we own. We hold weekly car gatherings during the summer months on Fridays 3:30 – 6:30 at the corner of Newark Blvd. and Jarvis Blvd. Safeway shopping center Newark. We hold an annual car show in May of each year. We enjoy sharing interests in all types of cars. We welcome all car owners and invite anyone interested in becoming a member to ask any member for more information.

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