

Lots of vroom



Bill Lovejoy/Sentinel file

Classic cars and trucks will be on display at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds during Beach Street Revival.

Beach Street Revival returns to Watsonville

By DOUGLAS A. FINE
Sentinel correspondent

BEACH STREET Revival, the outdoor car show and festival, motors in this weekend for its third appearance in Watsonville after 12 years in Santa Cruz.

With classic cars cruisin' main street, live '50s music and even pancake breakfasts, organizers promise the three-day event, running Friday through Sunday, will be a memorable one for antique car lovers.

"This is the event that got me into cars again" Scotts Valley's Vern Hart said. Hart will drive his '27 Track T Roadster down for the 10th time this weekend.

"I go to other shows, but this is the one where we hook up the motor home and head down for the weekend; make it an event."

The bulk of the festival will be at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds near Watsonville, where for a \$7 admission fee (\$3 for se-

niors, \$1 for children), you can admire vintage autos inside and out. Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories, including Outstanding Fat Fender, Best Corvette, and Longest Distance Traveled. Part of the proceeds benefit local charities, according to organizer Rick Peterson.

"That's the nice thing about the event: we've been able to give thousands of dollars to charities over the years, and keep ourselves going," he said.

This year's Beach Street Honored Couple will be Davenport's Junior and Bonnie Olympio, who Peterson said have been involved in the event since the early days.

Despite a calm festival last year and a feeling that the Watsonville location of the event is synonymous with calm, police have vivid memories of past reveling and parade crashing, including the arrest of 233 people during Beach Street in 1989 (the last year it was actually on the beach in Santa Cruz).

Lt. Michael Aluffi of the Watsonville Police Department says 13 extra policeman — plus some reserves — will be on hand for the legendary parade segment of the event, in order to prevent *too* much partying.

For more information, call 438-1957. To register a vehicle, call 475-4566.

Some highlights of the extravaganza include:

FRIDAY

- Noon: Registration for interested car owners at the main gate of the Fairgrounds.

- Noon-5 p.m.: Special car display and festival. Ogle someone's candy-apple '55 Chevy while the owner gloats about engines "not made like this baby anymore." At the Fairgrounds.

- 6-10 p.m.: Car races, including a nostalgia race exhibition, at the Fairgrounds.

- 8 p.m.-midnight: Good O'Spoli Party. Drink away! Nostalgic mu-

Please see BEACH — A8

Beach Street

Continued from Page A7

sic by, appropriately, Memories. At Crosetti Hall.

- 11 p.m.: An essential component of any automobile festival — lip sync contest during the Spoli Party at Crosetti Hall.

SATURDAY

- 8-11 a.m.: Boy Scouts pancake breakfast at the Fairgrounds. Gates also open for the car show at 8 a.m., and car judging will be going on throughout the day.

- 10 a.m.-noon: '50s-'60s trivia contest. At the amphitheater

- Noon: 7th annual charity & nostalgia car auction, by Images. Here's your chance to pick up that Edsel you've always wanted. Brink checkbook and mechanic. At the amphitheater.

- 4-7 p.m.: Watsonville firefighters tri-tip barbecue. Good eatin' at the Fairgrounds.

- 6:30-8 p.m.: "Twilight Time Cruise." This is the big one, on Main Street. Line the sidewalks and turn back the clock as vintage cars cruise by, as they would have during the days when men pur-

posely made their hair greasy and women were chicks.

- 9 p.m.-1 a.m. '50s and '60s costume ball. Music by Sha-Boom should take the older kids back and make the younger kids laugh. At Crosetti Hall. A costume and dance contest will take place.

SUNDAY

- 8-11 a.m.: Another Boy Scout pancake breakfast! Meanwhile, fi-

nal car judging will be ongoing throughout the day. At the Fairgrounds.

- Noon: Second round of the charity & nostalgia car auction, at the amphitheater.

- 2-3 p.m. Miss Beach Street Revival and Mr. Hot Rod-Hot Bod Contest. This should be well attended, so get to the amphitheater early.

- 4 p.m. Awards presentations.