



CHAPTER "99" NEWSLETTER
ASC-CA-NORTH



Membership Meeting

- When:** Wednesday, May 25, 2011
- Time:** Dinner — 6:00 PM
- Where:** Lulu's Banquet Room
2230 Pine Street (Pine St. & Cypress Ave.)
Redding CA 96001
- Program:** ARMSTRONG & ASSOCIATES
ASCCA endorsed Insurance Service
- Speaker:** Glen Dailey

Calendar

June—No speakers scheduled at present...To be announced later.

CEO Akerson buys \$939,900 in GM stock

Joseph Lichterman

DETROIT -- General Motors CEO Dan Akerson bought more than \$900,000 worth of GM stock on Wednesday, according to a regulatory filing made with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Akerson bought 30,000 shares of common stock at \$31.33 per share, for a total of \$939,900, according to the SEC filing.

The purchase brings Akerson's GM stock holdings to 50,000 shares.

Akerson bought the stock as a "personal investment," GM spokesman Jim Cain confirmed today.

GM stock closed today at \$31.42 a share, up 12 cents or 0.4 percent on the New York Stock Exchange. The auto-maker made its initial public offering last November at \$33 per share.

Ford Tests Hotrod Focus on Autobahn and Interstate



Carspotters be aware: If you see a souped-up compact car on the road with big wheels, a low-riding suspension and what looks like a camouflage paint job, you may have spotted one of Ford's Focus ST prototypes.

The car maker says it is putting about 60 pre-production versions of its high-performance compact through a series of tests on public roads including North American freeways and German Autobahnen. The tests are aimed at fine-tuning the cars' performance, ride and handling. The fleet includes the recently redesigned Focus and a few previous-generation Focus ST models.

The ST, which Ford plans to launch next year, will get its power from a special version of Ford's new 2-liter EcoBoost engine, with planned output of 246 horsepower. The new car is also expected to log better fuel economy than the previous ST, which was sold in Europe but not in the U.S.

Ford sold a 170-horsepower performance model of the Focus called the SVT in the U.S. from 2002 through 2004.

The new model's roll-out marks a big change for Ford, which has offered a number of performance cars around the world that never made their way to dealerships here. It is also promising to compact-car fans in the U.S. who often can't buy the same fast, stylish and fun-to-drive cars that are available in Europe and Asia.

Fans of the new Focus ST can keep up to date with progress on the official Ford Focus Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/fordfocus>.

Repair Shop Employee Fires Shots at Suspected Car Thief

BROOMFIELD -- Police on Friday night confirmed they have two men in custody in connection with an incident that involved an auto theft, a car chase and gunshots near the intersection of West 112th Avenue and Main Street in Broomfield.

No one was injured in the incident, according to police.

At 5:09 p.m. Friday, police received a call that a Jeep Grand Cherokee was stolen from the lot of an auto-repair shop on the 7100 block of West 117th Avenue, according to Broomfield Police Sgt. Scott Swenson. Before officers could respond, an employee at the repair shop got into another vehicle and chased the stolen car.

The two vehicles collided several times as they traveled south down Main Street, eventually jumping the curb and traveling through a field before coming to a stop near the intersection of West 112th Avenue and Main Street, Swenson said.

At that point, the two men got out of the vehicles, and the employee of the auto-repair shop drew a gun and fired two shots, neither one hitting the other man, Swenson said. The two men then got into a physical altercation before police arrived and took them both into custody, Swenson said.

The suspected car thief is described as a 19-year-old man, and the auto-shop employee is described as a 32-year-old man. No other details were available Friday night, and police are not looking for any other suspects, Swenson said.

Mark Gurnsey, owner of Accountable Auto Care, 7110 W. 117th Ave., confirmed Friday that a 1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee was stolen from his lot around 5 p.m. Friday and that he called police about the incident.

"We called Broomfield police immediately and they had cars in the area and they caught them," Gurnsey said.

He declined to comment on whether one of his employees was involved in the car chase because of the ongoing police investigation.

First Drive: Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG E-Cell Prototype So Much Performance, So Little Guilt

July 13, 2010

By Jason Barlow

Mercedes Benz SLS AMG E Cell Prototype Front Three Quarters Driver

The rituals associated with the internal combustion engine are so ingrained that it's only when they've been removed that you remember how emotive they are.

Could the Beach Boys or Bruce Springsteen have hymned the all-electric car? There's little in the way of traditional mechanical musicality in such a thing, but they might have to try. After all, in the AMG Mercedes SLS E-Cell, we're talking 526 horsepower and a 0-60 mph time of 4 seconds flat. Now that sounds like something that's born to run.

Our first primer drive in this remarkable car takes place on the runway of the airport in Kristiansund, a bustling little port on the north-western corner of Norway. (Why Norway? Because 99 percent of the country's electricity is generated hydro-electrically, making it eminently sustainable.) There it sits, painted in a deliberately lysergic yellow, a color scheme AMG calls "lumi-electric magno." It calls to mind something straight out of X-Men -- after all, there is a mutant hybrid angle to this thing.

Mercedes Benz SLS AMG E Cell Prototype Rear Three Quarters Driver

Especially when you get up close. Though a battery of aerodynamic changes have been wrought on the E-Cell version of the SLS -- an extendable front splitter, revised rear diffuser, and 'moon disc' wheels help it slip through the air 10-percent more efficiently than the existing car -- it looks much the same. Which is to say it's aggressively retro-modern, has a long nose/stubby tail profile, and of course boasts a pair of flamboyant gullwing doors. These trigger memories of a cherished '50s Merc or a classic '80s Hollywood blockbuster, depending on your age or inclination. Perhaps both.

But it's the noise that makes the most immediate impression, or the lack of it, to be more precise. AMG might be Europe's king of internal combustion, but it has had a change of heart. Literally. So as you circle the E-Cell for the first time, more than a little warily, the only sound you're aware of is a low hum, the sort of vague sonic emission you'd associate with a domestic appliance. If you've ever heard the regular SLS's 6.3-liter V-8 at idle you'll appreciate how disorienting this really is.



Think About It!

The reason congressmen try so hard to get re-elected is that they would hate to have to make a living under the laws they've passed. ~anonymous

By all means marry. If you get a good wife, you'll become happy; if you get a bad one, you'll become a philosopher. ~Socrates

CODE of ETHICS

1. To promote good will between the motorist and the industry.
2. To have a sense of personal obligation to each individual customer.
3. To perform high quality repair service at a fair and just price.
4. To employ the best skilled personnel obtainable.
5. To use only proven merchandise of high quality distributed by reputable firms.
6. To itemize all parts and adjustments in the price charged for service rendered.
7. To retain all parts replaced for customer inspection, if so requested.
8. To uphold the high standards of our profession and always seek to correct any and all abuses within the automotive industry.
9. To uphold the integrity of all members.
10. To refrain from advertisement which is false or misleading or likely to confuse or deceive the customer.

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