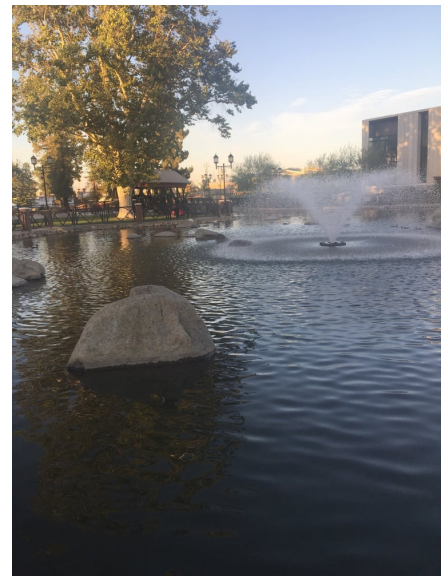


*Welcome to the Golden Empire!*  
Invitation to the DeSoto State Meet  
October 2-6, 2019; Bakersfield, California

**You** are invited to join friends in the California Chapter of the National DeSoto Club at our second annual **DeSoto State Meet** to be held on October 2-6, 2019. Again this year we are inviting our acquaintances and friends from sister Mopar clubs to join us for the event. Our meet hotel will be the just-renovated **Surestay Plus by Best Western** on Buck Owens Blvd in Bakersfield, the heart of the Golden Empire! The meet promises to be even bigger, better, and more fun than our first statewide meet last fall. Bakersfield is cooling off by October; the summer heat is moderated, days are shorter, harvest is well along – it's a great time to visit.

The meet program comprises driving tours on Thursday and Friday, followed by a Peoples' Choice car show and awards banquet on Saturday. Planned tours include a back-roads tour to Tehachapi and the famous Tehachapi Loop, a train museum, the World War II pilot training base at Minter Field, and the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History. Social events include a low-key, drop-in social hour on arrival day, October 2, a DeSoto Chapter members meeting Friday evening, and the awards banquet at the famous Hodel's Country Dining. In addition, the Saturday car show venue, Central Park at Mill Creek, provides a shady, peaceful location to relax, picnic, and enjoy the machines. And three evenings are free to enjoy with friends or on your own! Experience the famous Bakersfield Basque cuisine or other nearby restaurants, or dance the night away to live country music at the Buck Owens Crystal Palace, right next door to the hotel. The pig wings are great!



*Central Park at Mill Creek*

Check out the more detailed schedule on the back, and when you decide to come, fill out both sides of the registration form PLUS the lunch menu choices sheet and send them with your payment. All need to be postmarked by September 11, 2019 (after Sept. 11 the rate increases). Mail forms and payments to Steve Jensen, 11101 Cave Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93312 (sjensen@bak.rr.com). Make checks payable to **NDC California Chapter**, and write "*DeSoto State Meet*" on your checks. Then reserve your room at the conference hotel, Surestay Plus by Best Western, 2620 Buck Owens Blvd, Bakersfield, CA 93308. Register at 661 800-0009 or use their convenient web site:

[https://www.bestwestern.com/en\\_US/book/hotel-rooms.52033.html?groupId=Z70MS5Z3](https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.52033.html?groupId=Z70MS5Z3)

Special Rates: \$69 king, \$74 two queens. Mention "DeSoto Club meet"

We hope to see you there! *With* your DeSoto, Imperial, Chrysler, Airflow, or other Chrysler product.

## 2019 NDC California Chapter Statewide Meet

# Detailed Program Schedule

Next door to the hotel is the **Buck Owens Crystal Palace**, 2800 Buck Owens Blvd. The restaurant and facility doors open at 5 pm; live music and dancing starts at 7 pm. For ticket info and reservations call 661 328-7560 or check the Crystal Palace website at [buckowens.com](http://buckowens.com). You might like to try dinner there one evening if you enjoy country music. Or dancing.

**Wednesday, October 2:** Arrive, settle in. Informal drop-in social at the hotel from 5 pm-7 pm. Stop by, greet your friends and enjoy some light snacks, water, and soft drinks. The rest of the evening is free.

**Thursday, October 3:** All-day driving tour to Tehachapi, CA, via the old back roads. We'll stop at the **Cesar Chaves Memorial** in Keene, CA (31 miles), and then drive on to the famous **Tehachapi Loop**, constructed to allow trains to go over the steep Tehachapi Pass. Maybe we will get lucky and see a train go through. That's a real treat! We will have lunch in Tehachapi at **Kohnen's German Bakery** (about 14 miles), which has AWESOME sandwiches. Following lunch, we will go next door to the **Tehachapi Depot Train Museum**, then head back to Bakersfield (43 miles). Some might wish to stop at **Murray Family Farms** on the way back to shop, pick up fresh fruit, eat dinner, or visit the petting zoo. The evening is free.

**Friday, October 4:** Today's visits include two driving tours. In the morning we will see the **Minter Field Air Museum** in nearby Shafter (12 miles). This airfield is an old WWII pilot training field that now houses several war planes and vehicles plus military displays. We will then go to a shopping center near the Jensens' home that has several restaurants for a quick lunch. After lunch we will caravan to the **Buena Vista Museum of Natural History** (about two miles from our hotel). This museum deals with fossils from the world famous Sharktooth Hill deposits outside Bakersfield. There is a working fossil lab on the premises, and they have the only known full fossil skeleton of a sea lion known to exist. In addition, there is a nice collection of stuffed exotic animals, lapidary specimens, an Indian village, plus geological and archaeological displays. After visiting here, we will walk back to the old Woolworth's building, where we will visit the only working Woolworth's lunch counter in the USA. This is a good time to have a milkshake or root beer float before heading back to the hotel. This counter is inside an antique store that now occupies the old Woolworth's store. The evening is free to rest or

explore, or spend at the Buck Owens Crystal Palace. There will be a meeting for members of the **NDC California Chapter** Friday evening.

**Saturday morning, October 5:** Car show day! The show will be held in downtown Bakersfield at the Central Park at Mill Creek. There are lots of shade trees, and the Bakersfield Art Museum is right next door. (Tickets for the museum are \$10 for adults and \$5 for seniors.) Mill Creek follows an irrigation canal that has been updated with sidewalks on both sides, extending 8 to 10 blocks. There is a large pond with a bridge, ducks, fishing, a walkway, and the Sister City Gardens that commemorate Bakersfield's sister cities around the world (Japan, South Korea, China, Mexico, India, and Belarus.) It is a great place to take a walk. It will be a beautiful setting for our car show. The fund-raising raffle will be conducted here beginning at 10 am and finishing by noon. For lunch, you can fill out the catered lunch request form in your registration packet for the very popular Sequoia Sandwich Shop (send your selections with your registration, see menu selections) OR you may walk to one of the nearby restaurants for lunch. There will be a map at the meet.

**Saturday evening, October 5** is our Awards Banquet. Our 2018 awards banquet at **Hodel's Country Dining**, about 2 miles from the hotel, was so successful we are going back this year. The restaurant is famous throughout Kern County for delicious country food. We will serve ourselves from the full-course buffet. Select whatever you like – it's all included. Seconds (and even thirds) are encouraged. The buffet will satisfy the appetites of the pickiest eaters, and you are guaranteed to enjoy the wide variety of dishes. Car show awards as determined by the earlier balloting will be presented after the meal.

**Sunday, October 6:** If you stay Saturday night at the hotel, you will enjoy one more included breakfast. In any case, stop by the breakfast area for farewell wishes and greetings. Expect the meet committee to be soliciting your comments for improving the event.