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outside of this one.

The Mecum Auctions event Aug. 14-16 is also good and costs nothing to look at. It's scheduled to be at the Hyatt Regency, 1 Old Golf Course Road, in Monterey.

The Little Car Show

Come to Lighthouse Avenue in Pacific Grove from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Aug. 13 for a cute little showing of 100 tiny French cars. C'est bon! C'est cadeau!

Hagerty's Concours d'Lemons

It's free because no one would pay good money to see the assemblage of eyesores and wheeled poor taste that makes

up the annual celebration of auto detritus that is the Concours d'Lemons. Come to Laguna Grande Park at 1249 Canyon Del Rey Blvd. in Seaside from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Aug. 16. Bring a car sickness bag.

Pacific Grove

Concours Auto Rally

The cars line up in downtown Pacific Grove from 1-5 p.m. Aug. 15. The one-hour rally takes off at 6. Yep, free.

Cars and Coffee hosted by Barrett-Jackson

Aug. 17 from 8-10 a.m. in the Del Monte Shopping Center, 1410 Del Monte Center, in Monterey.

And wouldn't you know it? Free! Another way to get in: Volunteer! All the volunteer posts are filled for 2014, but try signing up for 2015 by contacting whichever event you want to see.

Lodging

It is illegal to sleep in your car anywhere on the Monterey Peninsula; but as with all things illegal, that's only if you, well, get caught.

Camping at Laguna Seca usually sells out early, but there are 10 campgrounds within an hour's drive of all the car events. See parks.ca.gov. Campsites often fill up seven months in advance, so book now.

Food

There is a perfectly wonderful Taco Bell at 321 Alvarado St. in downtown Monterey. There is no free food there, but a chalupa costs only \$1.89.

Oh, by the way, our friend from 20 years ago? He now stays at the finest hotels and eats in the swankiest restaurants. Someday, you will, too, and you will tell stories of how you first discovered the Monterey Car Week and how you got busted for sleeping in your Fiat and tried to take a free shower at the health club at the Inn at Spanish Bay and got kicked out by a vicious towel girl. No one will believe you. Good luck. ☘