



# NCKCC News

## Handcrafted Automobiles

April 2013

Volume 31 No. 4



If someone offered a 'kit' version of this 1937 Delahaye 145 Chapron Coupe, would you build it?

### UPCOMING NCKCC EVENTS

- April 6, 2013 - NCKCC Spring Party at East Contra Costa County Historical Museum. Car Show & BBQ 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Museum Opening Day Car Show 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. RSVP to Dave DeCato at (925) 679-1024 - email [decato@juno.com](mailto:decato@juno.com) or Vern at (925) 938-1442 - email [nckcc@astound.net](mailto:nckcc@astound.net)
- April 13, 2013 - AHA "Fun Under the Sun" show in Pomona, CA  
Registration forms at: [replicarclub.com](http://replicarclub.com)
- April 28, 2013 - Benicia Classic Car Show 7am - 3 pm.
- May 11, 2013 - Niles "Spring Fever" Car Show.

## **FROM THE PREZ**

The first official Club activity for this spring is the appropriately named "NCKCC Spring Party" at the East Contra Costa County Museum on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. Club members, the Bellos and the DeCatos, have kindly invited our Club to their local history museum, actually a historical farm, to help "kickoff" the museum's opening day. Full info on the East Contra Costa outing will be elsewhere in this month's newsletter.

It's hard to believe that March 20<sup>th</sup> really was the first day of spring! Hopefully the weather gods will bring some warmer temps and sunny skies even though we are quite short on the rain fall numbers for this past "winter" season. However the weather, we have some other great activities that are fast approaching on the calendar: The AHA "Fun under the Sun" Show in Pomona on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Benicia Classic Car Show on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, and the "Spring Fever Niles" Car Show on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning the long trek to the AHA Show, or attending the Spring Party, the Benicia or Niles shows, please let Vern know by phone or e-mail. He can then help you coordinate via e-mail with other members who might be planning the same. Also, for those of you who are anticipating attending the Spring Fever Niles Show, pre-registrations for this show are due by May 1st. Plan to arrive early as adjacent parking slots go quickly. Full info on the "AHA" Show in Pomona, the Benicia Classic Car Show, and the "Spring Fever Niles" Show will be elsewhere in this month's newsletter.

Take care, Hope to see y'all soon, Jim W

## **APRIL 6, 2013 NCKCC SPRING PARTY**

This event will be held at the East Contra Costa County Historical Museum, 3890 Sellers Avenue, Brentwood, CA 94513. The NCKCC Car Show will start at 10 a.m. and run to 2 p.m. and will include hot dogs and sodas for lunch, courtesy of Al Bello. If you can bring another dish, such as baked beans, salads, deserts or any picnic-like goodies it will help round out the menu and will be appreciated. (But it's not mandatory)

If you haven't checked-in yet, please RSVP to Dave DeCato at (925) 679-1024 - email [decato@juno.com](mailto:decato@juno.com) or Vern at (925) 938-1442 - email [nckcc@astound.net](mailto:nckcc@astound.net)

## **DUES ARE DUE AGAIN**

2013 is here and many of you have paid their \$24 dues for the New Year. I will use my usual procedure of listing the last names of those whose dues have been paid. Since 38 have already paid for 2013 their names are listed below. But we are still waiting on 20 or so to renew. The Feb Roster listed all 2012 members.

Amsberry	Bales
Barrilleaux	Bello
Bohr	Clavelli
Craycroft	Cooley
De Lany	DeCato
Dunn	Ellis
Elster	Hance
Hunsberger	Honodel
Jacobs	Jermanis
Ketchel	King
Kinzy	Kipp
Kluber	Kunedt
Koch	
Landers	Latty
Leavitt	Maddux
Rhodes	Rubenstein
Somerhalder	Smith
Thomson	Ullman
J.Wagner	R.Wagner
Wallters	

So please check this section each month to see that I have received your dues payment. That way we can cross check on you, me and the USPS.

Also, for those who would prefer to pay by PayPal, we have an account to handle that option. We ask those using PayPal to add \$1 to cover the PayPal fee. (\$25 total, but if you have a PayPal account I think the fee is waived, so \$24 will do)

To make a payment to NCKCC just send it to [nckcc@astound.net](mailto:nckcc@astound.net)

That way I will receive an email advising me of your payment.

## **PLAYLAND-NOT-AT-THE-BEACH: MAY 25th EVENT**

I didn't get much feedback on this planned event, but NCKCC member, Jerry Barrilleaux, has contacted the owner and negotiated a discount for our club's admission. Adults are \$13 and Seniors

are \$8. This is a \$2 discount from the regular admission.

We are planning a repeat visit to "Playland-Not-At-The-Beach" 11979 San Pablo Ave, El Cerrito on Saturday, May 25th starting at 10:30 am. Here is Paul King's reaction from our 2011 visit: "The place was clean, well taken care of by the wonderful and knowledgeable volunteers, and loaded with really interesting artifacts from the Playland of years past. We started by seeing an enjoyable 15-minute movie on the history of Playland at the Beach". We will take a lunch break at *Wienerschnitzel*, 11101 San Pablo Ave, then return for more exploration.

Please consider attending this event and let us know your interest by email to [nckcc@astound.net](mailto:nckcc@astound.net) or leave a message at (925) 938-1442.

## **NILES SPRING FEVER SHOW - MAY 11**

This is one of our selected club events to attend and we nominated Dave DeCato as Champion. He recommends getting there early for a choice spot. Call or email him for further advice on how to park all our club cars together. (925)679--1024 or [decato@juno.com](mailto:decato@juno.com)

The \$25 pre-registration fee deadline is May 1, 2013. After May 1<sup>st</sup>, the registration fee is \$30. A registration form is on our website Hotline, [www.nckcc.com/nckcc-hotline.html](http://www.nckcc.com/nckcc-hotline.html)

## **FUN UNDER THE SUN POMONA, CA - April 13**

Are you planning to attend the AHA Annual Show this year?

The show is held at the NHRA Museum at the Fairplex, 1101 W, McKinley Ave. in Pomona (Enter at Gate 1) Show goes from 9 am to 4 pm with awards at 3 pm. Cost is \$35 in advance. Registration form and hotel info available at [www.replicarclub.com](http://www.replicarclub.com)

Admission to NHRA Museum is free all day and if you stay over you can attend the World Famous Pomona Auto Swapmeet. Please let Vern know at [nckcc@astound.net](mailto:nckcc@astound.net) if you plan to go; to coordinate NCKCC representation.

## **THE BENICIA CLASSIC CAR SHOW**

Sunday April 28, 2013

On the First Street Green at the beautiful Benicia waterfront (See photo below)



Bring your pre-1976 American made car or truck with the whole family to picnic on The Green while listening to our professional DJ and our own High School Jazz Band. Registration includes free breakfast for two people until 10 am, and a goodie bag and dash plaques for the first 300 entrants.

Show trophies for numerous categories voted on by other entrants and our High School Band students. Vender booths will sell food, crafts and car related merchandise. Please also visit our wonderful downtown shops along 1st Street. Vehicle check-in starts at 7:00 a.m. Show starts at 9 a.m. going until 3 p.m.

Advanced registration is required. Cost is \$30 and registration forms are available on our HOTLINE at [nckcc.com](http://nckcc.com)

All proceeds go to support the award winning Benicia High School Band Program and they thank you for your support.



## **OAKDALE CAR SHOW** **APRIL 26 – 28**

This is a Multi-day event that has a Car Hop, Car Show and a fabulous Country Cruise. The Oakdale Car Show is a free event for anyone wanting to come hang out on pit row and experience something a bit different. The car entry and vendor costs are very economical for this event and the Car Hop, as well as the Cruise do have a small cost to participate. We are underway planning the 2013 show, watch for future details.

- Friday April 26 – 5-8pm Car Hop – \$10  
Located around town
- Saturday April 27 – 10am – 4pm Car Show – \$20 participate/Free to attend Located at Wood park – The corner of Yosemite F – 120 South Sierra Area
- Sunday April 28 – 9am – 3pm Country Cruise – \$5

## **PACIFIC COAST DREAM** **MACHINES APRIL 27-28, 2013 -** **HALF MOON BAY, CALIFORNIA**

### **The World's Coolest Cars, Fantastic Flying Machines, Custom Motorcycles, Quirky Contraptions Headline**

HALF MOON BAY, CALIFORNIA — For a remarkable and singular experience, there's nothing that matches up to the **Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show**— Half Moon Bay's massive celebration of mechanical ingenuity, power and style known as the "Coolest Show on Earth". It's a whimsical, fascinating, amusing, curious and absolutely unique show and tell spectacle featuring 2,000 magnificent driving, flying and working machines from the 20th and 21st centuries. The world's coolest cars of every era and style, model-T fire engines, vintage busses, custom motorcycles, tricked out trucks, sleek streamliners, one-of-a-kind antique engines and tractors and historic military aircraft will be among the mesmerizing displays.

The spectacular 23rd annual show will be held **April 27-28, 2013**, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at **Half Moon Bay Airport**, located in the picturesque seaside town of Half Moon Bay, CA about 20 miles south of San Francisco.

It's one of the west coast's biggest, baddest gatherings of the world's coolest cars. Every

automotive style and era will be represented among the mesmerizing displays — tricked-out hot rods, customs, muscle cars, street machines, lowriders, modified imports, sporty compacts, kit cars, touring, luxury and sports cars — complete with rumbling engines, impeccable detail work, and sparkling chrome.

Motorcycles will include everything from antique turn-of-the-century models, high-performance sport, racing and off-road bikes to the hottest custom bikes of the modern era.

Additional displays include exceptional vintage warbirds, classics from the 40's and 50's and homebuilt aircraft, Model T fire engines, vintage busses, antique engines and tractors, helicopter and bi-plane rides, kinetic art, rolling sculptures and a Demolition Derby.

To show a car or motorcycle, the registration fee is \$30 good for both days (\$40 for entries postmarked after April 15) and includes a dash plaque and admission for two people.

Spectator admission is \$20 (\$30 for 2-day pass) for adults, \$10 (\$15 for 2-day pass) for ages 11-17 and 65+, and free for kids age 10 and under. Tickets are available at the gate only.

Half Moon Bay Airport, at 9850 N. Cabrillo Highway, is located on Highway 1, about 20 miles south of San Francisco and 5 miles north of Highway 92.

Register on-line at <http://miramarevents.com/dreammachines/register/> Info: call 650-726-2328.

**The show is an annual benefit event for the Coastside Adult Day Health Center.**

## **MAY MADNESS ROCK & ROLLIN'** **CAR SHOW AND PARADE**

Here is a new show that I just learned about. (Photo below)



They are now accepting applications for the 26th annual event held Saturday, May 11 on Fourth Street in downtown San Rafael. The pre-registration deadline is May 6.

Registration forms are available for download at our website [www.nckcc.com](http://www.nckcc.com) HOTLINE or by calling Team Pro Event at (415) 383-3470. Space is limited, so sign up right away.

For the first time in May Madness history, car clubs will be offered reserved club parking when three or more cars sign up together. Also new this year: the parade is open to all cool cars of any year. The basic entry fee is \$40.00 and includes a souvenir plaque. Applicants can choose to participate in the parade or the "Show and Shine". The event is from noon until 6:00 p.m. with the parade starting at 5:00 p.m. Trophies will be awarded in several categories.

May Madness, the longest running car show and parade in Northern California, is presented by the [San Rafael Business Improvement District](#) and produced by [Team Pro Event](#). This is a fun family event. Enjoy live music, great food and beverage, children's activities and more on May 11, 2013 at the 26th anniversary May Madness in San Rafael.

## **APRIL IS DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**

Behind the wheel, distractions are more common than you'd think. Whether it's a cheeseburger you're trying to eat while on the go, the kids arguing in the backseat en route to soccer practice, or the most dangerous – talking or texting on your cell phone. In an effort to bring awareness to the dangers of distracted driving, the California Office of Traffic Safety recently launched its annual campaign in April in conjunction with National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The campaign's goal is to stress the importance of staying focused while driving and minimizing all behind the wheel distractions.

According to studies done by Virginia Tech and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the number one source of driver inattention is the use of a wireless device. According to a Carnegie Mellon study, driving while using a cell phone, whether hand-held or hands-free, reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37 percent. That's more than one-third of a person's cognitive driving ability.

Eating or drinking, applying makeup, and adjusting MP3 players are just a few other common behaviors that cause drivers to be inattentive and more vulnerable to car crashes. While these habits may be considered routine and convenient while driving, the outcome of these actions can cause injury or death and are not worth the risk.

To help put an end to these behaviors in your own vehicle, take the following tips into consideration the next time you get behind the wheel:

- Never: talk, text, email or use apps on a cell phone while driving. Remember: It's Not Worth It
- If talking or texting is that important, pull off into a safe parking spot and take the time to get it right ... and safe
- Turn off your phone and put it out of reach as soon as you get in the car
- Record a new outgoing message on your cell phone that says you can't come to the phone or you may be driving. This gives you great excuse and sends a point to your caller
- Never call or text anyone else when you think they may be driving, especially parents calling kids
- Never reach for anything dropped on the floorboard
- Conduct grooming activities at home
- Eat before you leave the house, or stop along the way to grab a bite
- Adjust all of your radio controls and set your song playlist before you hit the road
- Listen to – don't watch – GPS devices and make sure to plug in your destination before leaving or stop to change your route if necessary
- Never take notes, look at a map or dig around in a purse, glove box or in the backseat while driving. If necessary, find a safe spot to pull over and stop the vehicle before looking for something

High visibility 'zero tolerance' enforcement operations will be conducted by the CHP and hundreds of law enforcement agencies across the state for the entire month of April. Those caught driving distracted will be ticketed. A first offense ticket costs a minimum of \$159, and subsequent offenses can cost at least \$279.

To avoid the traffic fines, car crashes and life altering consequences that are associated with driving while distracted, set aside your distractions when behind the wheel. For more information regarding distracted driving facts, please visit [www.ots.ca.gov](http://www.ots.ca.gov).

## **ACCC News – March ‘13**

AB 2289 -  
New Smog Check Law effective 1/1/13

Set to begin January 01, 2013; Model year 2000 and newer vehicles will no longer require the tailpipe emissions test portion of the smog check process. AB 2289 will require late model vehicles be administered the smog check's visual and functional tests only. The implementation of AB 2289 is expected to reduce the time and cost of the smog check. The program will now take better advantage of a vehicle's OBD II technology by eliminating tailpipe testing and instead using the vehicle's own OBD II emissions monitoring system.

This new smog test system is already in place in 22 other states. Currently California's smog check procedure requires all vehicles undergo a tailpipe emissions inspection to measure Harmful pollutant output from the tailpipe, a visual inspection for present and properly installed emissions components, a functional test to insure proper operation of emission components; and as part of the functional test, an OBD II computer diagnostic check.

Under AB 2289, the tailpipe emissions portion of the smog inspection will be eliminated for 2000 model and newer cars, trucks, vans, and SUVs.

Background on the OBD II system - All vehicles imported into the United States as of 1996 have had to be equipped with an On Board Diagnostics system referred to as OBD II. The OBD II diagnostic system is designed to monitor all aspects of your engine's emission conditions and report this information to a central database within its computer. This information is processed and checked against the computers pre-determined values for various input levels and performance patterns. If any problems are found, the computer will determine whether to alert the driver or not. If a decision has been made to alert the driver of an emissions problem, the "Check Engine" or "Engine Malfunction" light will illuminate on the vehicle's dashboard. In more serious emission conditions the computer may even begin to rapidly flash the "Check Engine/Malfunction" light indicating to the driver, that the vehicle needs immediate diagnosis/repair attention.

AB 2289 now requires the smog test inspection to rely on data from a vehicle's own on board emissions computer to determine the vehicles harmful emissions production as opposed to using a smog machine to sample the vehicle's emissions output from the tailpipe. This design is expected to reduce the cost of equipment at the smog station, reduce the amount of time it takes to smog check a vehicle, and reduce the cost of the smog inspection to the consumer.

## **STEVE MOAL, COACHBUILDER**

By Vern Hance

I attended the 3/23 lecture at Blackhawk Museum featuring Steve Moal of the Oakland coachbuilder family that started with his Grandfather back in the '20s.

It was a fascinating presentation where Steve described the considerations and steps in creating a car while Alberto sketched out a design on large paper sheets on a display board.

The concept has to be initiated by the client and is typically based on the clients 'fantasy' person he now is, or the one he wants to be, when driving his fantasy car. Once the concept is established, then the design and scaling begins. Typically a scale model is built from plywood to establish dimensions that accommodate the client. Then factors like the wheelbase, track, weight, stiffness, weight distribution have to be matched to the concept. Fuel tank and battery locations affect weight distribution and are typically keep low to achieve a low center of gravity. Stiffness is critical to handling and quality feel.

Body engineering requires attention to proper design of door posts, hinges, rain gutters, sound/heat insulation and interior ventilation as well as body panels. The three main tools for shaping metal body parts are the English wheel, power hammers and hand tools. Their shop uses epoxy based filler at welded joints to avoid grinding that reduces the thickness of the body metal.

Engine, transmission and other drive train choices are based on client wishes but need to be congruent with the car concept.

Two cars were on display, a '32 Ford style street rod and the Ferrari V-12 powered coupe that was pictured in the March newsletter. I was able to speak with Steve Moal and found that a tour of their shop may be possible. Anyone interested?



## **FOR SALE**

CORVETTE - 1982 T-Top Lt green, leather interior, 350 eng w/ 3-speed auto tranny. Only 40,900 miles, always garaged. Never seen rain. Has spoke wheels but orig mags available. Asking \$18K. Call John (916) 363-4633 (3-13)



Mary Ellen Bales '82 Corvette

FINO – Built on 1987 Fiero with Cadillac Northstar V-8 & auto trans. Regular trophy winner. Custom suspension, brakes and interior. Special Purple BASF Extreme paint. **Reduced to \$19,900.** Call Al Bohr (503-632-8372) or e-mail: [albohr@bctonline.com](mailto:albohr@bctonline.com). (10/09)



Al Bohr's Fino with Cadillac Northstar power

1954 MG-TF (SB100 smog free)  
Purchased in 1985 from Action Motorcar in San Leandro, who built the car using a 1979 Chevette frame, suspension and 1.6 liter engine. The car was called the Avalon MG-TF, manufactured in Brazil and sold by Kit Classics for \$14,000.

Asking \$6,500. Low miles. Contact Terry at 707-548-2434 or email [terrillevitt@aol.com](mailto:terrillevitt@aol.com)

### 1929 MERCEDES SSK REPLICA

This car was built by a former club member who passed away before he was able to enjoy the car. It has been stored indoors for several years so the tires may need replacing due to age. It is powered by a 2.0 l 4-cylinder Ford engine and has a 4-speed manual transmission. Please contact Jim Bennett (925) 286-1825 or [nckcc@astound](mailto:nckcc@astound) to make an offer. [CLICK HERE](#) for more photos.



Terry Leavitt's MG - TF

