



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

April 2021

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UPCOMING EVENTS

April 17, 2021 - The "Mad Man Muntz" movie will be presented at 1:30 p.m. in a Zoom meeting. I plan to open the meeting 20 minutes early to allow some visiting between members before starting the 1-hour-45-minute movie at 1:30. So get ready to join a zoom meeting on the 17th. The zoom invitation with password will be provided by email a couple day before the meeting. Call Vern if you don't have an email and we can figure a way for you to participate.

NOTE: Your editor has moved has a new address and two new phone numbers. The email is still nckccwebguy@gmail.com (See contact box on page7 inside)

FROM THE PREZ

Since the Club has been on forced “covid” hiatus for over a year, I’m really looking forward to finally getting together with other Club members. I know many my friends are still a little wary of interfacing with the general public just yet, but as more vaccinations occur, I think getting together with appropriate covid protocols in place is long overdue.

Vern has carefully taken our responses to his query on “suggested” events and come up with a pretty viable list of activities for 2021. In order to let everyone have a little more time to get comfortable in this new era, Vern has thoughtfully suggested our first activity in April, “Madman Muntz”, to be online via “Zoom” and our first “physical” get together in June at the “Cobra Experience” in Martinez.

The Club has no suggested event yet for the month of May. Please notify Vern if you are planning on attending any of these suggested events. If you have any additional activity suggestions, please pass them on to Vern so he can relay to our members in the next newsletter.

As always, **Thank You!** Vern for your great work!!!

Take Care & Stay Safe, Hope to see y’all soon,

FROM THE EDITOR

By Vern Hance

It’s hard to know what to say about 2021 for the NCKCC, except to hope that it will allow us to get together at some of our events and get reacquainted.

I am proposing some of last year’s events that you voted to include in 2021. Watch the Hot Line section of the website to keep updated on which ones will actually happen.

DON’T FORGET: My new phone numbers are:
(925) 954-2866 Land line
(925) 378-8180 Cell OR email
nckccwebguy@gmail.com

HERE ARE THE 2021 EVENT PLANS

The whole list presented in the February Newsletter drew mostly positive interest for 2021, even though we couldn’t do most of them in 2020. I will list them as planned events and I’ll report month by month if we are allowed to carry them out . (See web “Hot Line” for updates)

April 17, 2021 - Movie on the life of Madman Muntz provided by Wayne Wenger. will start at 1:30 p.m. I will set up to broadcast it as a zoom meeting and will provide you with the meeting I.D. and a password, so only invited NCKCC members can see it. You will need to download the Zoom software to your computer from www.zoom.us before you can log in. Probably most of you have done that already.

June 5, 2021 - The Cobra Experience, at 777 Arnold Dr. in Martinez, has their big Annual Cobra Show scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and it’s free to spectators. (It appears that reservations are required only if you display a car)

July 24, 2021 - Visit to Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond. This is a National Park site and is pretty interesting. Subject to when it re-opens.

August 21, 2021 - Visit to Walt Disney Museum at the Presidio in San Francisco. Subject to when it re-opens.

September 12, 2021 - Annual NCKCC Show at Blackhawk Museum, Danville. This is tentative and subject to available dates at Blackhawk that have not yet be reserved. Let us know if you prefer a different date.

October ??, 2021 - Need a volunteer to plan a wine tour in the fall -sometime in October.

Sunday, November 7, 2021 – This sounds like a good day to have our Annual Brunch at Incontro in Danville. We could do a small ‘NCKCC Car’ display like we did in 2019. Let us know if you prefer a different date.

WHAT GOT US THROUGH THE YEAR

Last week the Wall Street Journal featured the topic in the headline. They gave several examples of activities that helped people focus on something other than ‘Sheltering In Place’. They included a

school teacher that found fulfillment by buying a 2-place airplane kit; a partially built Zenith STOL CH750 airplane. It turned out to be a ambitious project, but he found new airplane enthusiastic friends that have helped him make progress. He expects to finish it by summer and enroll in flight school.



Others have found satisfaction by building Lego models of famous buildings and exotic sports cars. (See photo above)

Some have taken up to run long distance marathons where distance between runners is greater than shorter runs.

Still others found getting dressed to go out - with no place to go - provided fun for others by posting photos of their elegant clothing on Facebook.

NCKCC 's own Gary O'Connor is our notable example in this vein. Many of you know about Gary's Corvair powered Woodster, that has graced our shows and has a history of extensive travel around the USA.

Well, Gary has a new project taking shape and he shared some pictures of it in the early stages.



Gary says, "I'm happiest when I'm working on something, especially something creative, and this COVID shut down allows me to be creative to my heart's delight.. I have started another Woodie Roadster, this one based on a '32 Ford frame I bought several years ago for another project."

"I have been using CAD (cardboard assisted design) to visualize the shape, emulating a mid 30's, boat tail race car I cut out the shape for an American six cylinder engine, T-5 transmission and 19" wire wheels and tires. The body will be redwood strips again, but this time, rather than be thin strips glued onto flat sheet, the strips will be thicker, forming compound curves like a cedar canoe.



"I'm at the beginning of this project, hoping to have it done in a year or so. I've learned a lot about wood, fabrication and design over the last 50 years and I want to make this one the best of my builds.

I made a base for the body using layers of 1/8" plywood bent and glued to copy the shape of the frame. It ended up being 1-1/4" thick and held it's shape nicely. All of the body ribs will be mounted to this piece and it will be integrated into the finished body.

I recently spent some time giving my new car a 3D reality to see what it would look like and try it on for size. (See photo p. 4.) The biggest thing about a project is the time spent thinking about suspension, fuel tanks, engine placement, what will fit where, etc. Much of the chassis will just be a replay of what is under my truck (disc brakes, R&P steering, power dual master cylinder, coil over shocks) since it has all worked so well. I'm trying to find 18-19" wire wheels that will fit disc brakes.... been quite a challenge.

I have a friend in Brazil who will take my rough dimensions and smooth them into a 3D form and



then 'slice' it to give me the shape for all of the ribs to cut from 1/2" marine plywood. Then I'll cut and machine the cedar strips and glue them together 'canoe' style.

Some of the more recent pics don't look much different but I locked the frame into position and fabricated the body mounts. Most of those cross tubes were just for shaping the base. The body mounts are the 1" square tubing and will be welded to the frame. There are about 20 Nutserts holding everything together. I'm still looking for an engine and transmission but may have found an engine in Orinda. Chasing parts is half the fun though, isn't it?"

SAVE OUR RACE CARS – EPA FACES COURT ACTION FROM SEMA

Following years of frustration felt throughout the automotive community, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to deny the very foundation of motorsports. According to the EPA, current law (Clean Air Act – aka CAA) does not allow street vehicles—cars, trucks, and motorcycles—to be converted into race cars.

A recent lawsuit between the EPA and an aftermarket manufacturer is the agency's latest action against racing. In the lawsuit, the EPA again maintains that once a vehicle has been certified as a street vehicle, it cannot be converted into a racing vehicle **even if that vehicle is trailered to the track and is never driven on public roads.**

The EPA's position left the SEMA Action Network (SAN) with no choice but to strike back. [The SAN filed a brief in court](#) arguing that the Clean Air Act does not apply to certified vehicles used exclusively on the track.

As racers and fans know well, members of Congress introduced SAN-sponsored legislation to confirm what had already been understood for the previous 45 years: that the CAA did not apply to vehicles modified for racing use only. Hundreds of thousands of enthusiasts have since contacted Congress urging passage of the ["Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports Act" \(RPM Act\)](#). Enactment of this important critical bill into law would remove any doubt that it is legal to modify a motor vehicle for exclusive use on the track. It also would confirm that it is legal to produce, market and install racing equipment. The SAN continues to work tirelessly to pass this important legislation to counter EPA overreach.

If you would like to add your voice to tell our legislators what you think log in to this link: <https://www.votervoice.net/SEMA/campaigns/45394/respond>

At that site you will be provided with some help in creating a letter to a legislator that is polite, credible and will be noted.

Or you can go to our web version of the newsletter at the link below which will take you to the same place and should work without the extra effort of typing all the long string of the website URL.

[Ask Congress to pass the RPM Act.](#)

SOME BACKGROUND ON THE MUNTZ MOVIE

Last year Wayne Wenger offered us the chance to view this movie and provided a DVD that I planned to show at my home in 2020. Then COVID-19 came! Wayne owns the Muntz Jet shown below and is credited as the movie's Associate Producer by reason of his help and support.

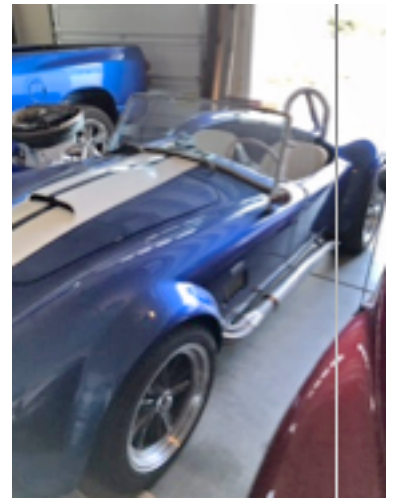


CARS FOR SALE

COBRA (Contemporary) 427 BBC, Super T10, Scatter Shield, Fuel Cell, Holley, Leather, Smith gauges, Kock-Offs, New tires, 24,000 miles. Built by owner of Maeco Motorsports for himself. Titled in CA as a 1965! Asking \$41,000. Contact: Mark at koasalo@hotmail.com or (925) 260-4716



1965 AC COBRA Replica
Like New. Less than 1000 miles.
Always garaged, Professionally built.
New 351 Cu. In. Windsor Engine and Tremec Tranny. Asking \$32,000.
Contact Mike at: 1 408 847-4139



1934 Mercedes-Benz 500K replica, 350 Chevy engine, Edelbrock computerized EFI, R700 4-speed auto tranny, running gear from '75 Camaro, Vintage Air heat/air, power steering brakes, new wide whitewall tires in 2015. All black areas repainted in 2015. All Maintenance performed by AAA Certified repair shop in Benicia. Asking \$27,000. Contact Chuck Maddux at (707) 745-4361: email camnsam@att.net

