



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

August 2009

Volume 27 Number 8



Bill Landers attracted the most 'Thumbs Up' and applause during the July 3rd Benicia Parade.

ACTIVITY NOTICES

August 15, 2009 - Hot August Niles Show in Fremont (See Page 3)
Registration form at www.nckcc.com/hotline.html

September 12-13, 2009 - Annual Handcrafted & Special Interest Car Show at the Hilton in Concord, CA. Download registration form at www.nckcc.com

FROM THE PREZ

As I write this column, July is almost past and August is headed our way. That can mean only one thing, the September show is just around the corner. Why do those summer months fly by so quickly? While most of the show details have been finalized by the show planning committee, there always a few last minute items to cover. The first of which would be show registration. It's something we always hold off to the last minute. I finally sent my registration in last week. If you haven't sent in your registration, please do so soon! Second, we are need of volunteers to help set up, man the spectator gate, and help at the main show table. Please give Vern, Carolina or myself a call if you would like to volunteer. Third, we are also in need of raffle prizes for the "spectator" raffle that the CYC (Concord Youth Center) will handle and also prizes for the "banquet" raffle. "The More, the Merrier" applies here. Any new item that you do not need would be great to donate for a raffle prize as long as it is "unopened". Don't worry about items with company or commercial logos; they make for great raffle prizes too.

All the details of the September Show will appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Two events are on the calendar for August: 1) The "CAM" Cruise in Sacramento on August 1st. This one is limited to 250 cars. I understand Vern Hance and Bill Landers will be attending this one and representing the club. Way to go Vern & Bill. 2) The "Hot August Niles" Car Show on August 15th. Up to half a dozen of our members have attended this one in the past. Lots of great hot rods to see, all the while listening to 50's rock & roll music. This might be the last opportunity prior to our September show to hand out some mini-flyers and do a little show promoting of our own.

Check Vern's Event Calendar for the date, time and directions. Don't forget to mark your calendars with the dates of our remaining club activities.

Take care and hope see you at "Hot August Niles" Car Show on August 15th.

Jim Wagner, NCKCC Prez

BENICIA TORCHLIGHT PARADE

By Chuck Maddux

It was another home town delight of a parade. Lots of automobiles, bands, horses, and hundreds of children of all sizes singing, dancing and marching up 1st street to the delighted applause of thousands of spectators from grand parents to grand children. Our group of patriotically decorated cars were enthusiastically received by all. Bill Landers and his Cobra were a big hit when he revved it up & laid some rubber. The rest of us were more subdued included; Paul & Ruth King in their '29 SSK Mercedes, Jerry & Carol Barrilleaux in their red '52 MGTD, Vern & Carol Hance in their white '35 500K Mercedes & I and my Grandson, Sean, in my '34 500K Mercedes (unfortunately my car snapped a fan belt, overheating), so we retired early in the parade (no permanent damage). I checked to see if we

won a prize and found we came in 4th, but it was fun for all anyway. As is our custom, after the parade our group dined at the Union Hotel Restaurant a half a block



Above: Our 5 parade cars in formation.

Below: Jerry & Carol Barrilleaux found a friend, Violet the clown.

from our house. All indicated it was a fun outing and look forward to next year. We hope more of our members will put the 3rd of July on their calendar for an enjoyable evening in our great little city.

Below: Here are the diners anticipating the food's arrival.



HOT AUGUST NILES

In past years this show has been one of our regulars, where we are able to promote our September Car Show. Well, that is still true even though Concord is not as close as San Leandro. So put this one on your calendar and plan to enter.

The registration form is available in our website HOTLINE <www.nckcc.com/hotline.html>

If you don't have an internet connection call the Editor at (925) 938-1442 and he will mail you a form.

Please advise President James Wagner or Vern Hance if you plan to attend. We need to organize so that someone arrives early to save a few spots so our group can be together. (Dave Jones has been our 'Place-Holder' in past years, but I haven't been able to contact him prior to print time.)

Mail Registration form to:
Niles Merchants Association
P.O. Box 2672
Fremont, CA 94536

For Additional Information call: (510)792-8023

TRY IT - YOU'LL LIKE IT

by Chuck Maddux

Try It You'll Like It. I'm saying, go to www.nckcc.com, click on "Annual Show", scroll down to "Show Promotion Helps" and select 'Show Prize Request Letter', click and print up 7 copies, then go to 'Car Show Poster', click and print up 7 copies (if your feeling brave print more and visit more). Now comes the easy part, visit 7 auto parts stores in your area and show them both pieces of paper and ask if they would like to donate a tax deductible gift for the show and put up the poster. I have gone to 4 in my area and 2 immediately gave me prizes and the other 2 would require a check with a higher authority (I'll follow up and I'm sure I'll get cooperation). It was not a hard thing to do, when they see it is tax deductible they have been OK with giving. So, let's all get out there and spend a little time soliciting prizes for our show. You don't have to be a good salesman, just believe in the show. I'm going to take my car to some stores to show the quality of cars that will be in the show. TRY IT YOU'LL LIKE IT!!!

FROM THE ACCC JUNE deFENDER

The ACCC publishes a periodic newsletter covering legislative developments in Sacramento. Here are some bills that we should be aware of.

AB 859 (Jones) Smog check: annual inspection: repair assistance program.

Summary: Existing law establishes a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance (smog check) program, developed, implemented, and administered by the Department of Consumer Affairs. The smog check program provides for the inspection of a motor vehicle, among other circumstances, upon its registration, upon transfer of ownership, and for vehicles registered in certain areas of the state, biennially. Some motor vehicles, including any motor vehicle manufactured prior to the 1976 model year, are exempt from biennial inspection. The department is required to charge a fee to a smog check station for each motor vehicle inspection, as provided. Violations of the smog check requirements constitute a crime. This bill would require the department to incorporate the annual inspection of motor vehicles that are models that are 15 years old or greater into the motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program by January 1, 2011, and would require funds generated through additional inspection fees to be deposited into the High Polluter Repair or

Removal Account. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

ACCC Position: Oppose
Editors position: Who wants yearly smog tests?

SB 232 (Benoit) Vehicles: specially constructed vehicles. (1-02/23/2009)

Summary: Existing law establishes a registration amnesty program for specially constructed vehicles, as defined, that have been previously registered or classified incorrectly and requires that a specially constructed vehicle, upon registration with the Department of Motor Vehicles, be inspected by stations authorized to perform referee functions, for the purposes of determining the engine model-year used in the vehicle or the vehicle model-year, and the emission control system application. This bill would delete the first 500 vehicle limitation and instead require the department to provide registration to any specially constructed vehicle that meets the specified criteria. The bill would provide that the registered owner of a specially constructed vehicle that is currently registered or incorrectly registered may change the vehicle's registration by complying with those specified criteria. This bill contains other existing laws.

ACCC Position: Support
Editor's Position; Worth a try, but challenging

AB 1085 (Mendoza) State Air Resources Board: regulations. (A-05/06/2009)

Summary: Existing law creates the State Air Resources Board and gives to the state board various duties relating to reducing emissions of air pollutants, including emissions of greenhouse gases. This bill would require the state board to make available to the public all technical data used in the development of a proposed regulation, or that is the rationale behind any proposed regulation, before the comment period for any regulation proposed for adoption by the state board.

ACCC Position: Watch
Editor's position: Let's see the data before establishing the regulation.

For more info on these and other California legislative bills, go to <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

A BEAUTIFUL HYBRID COMING

By Bill Landers

This is not about kit cars exactly although there is a tie in. I will cover that near the end of this article.

I don't know how many of you have heard of Henrik Fisker but I believe most of you will know about the Tesla. Henrik Fisker designed the Tesla and then, after he left to start his own car company, was sued by Tesla for patent infringement. The court decided the suit was without merit and now Mr. Fisker is free to pursue his dream of bringing out his new car. He has over 18 years in Auto Design and worked on the Aston Martin DB9, V8 Vantage and designed the BMW Z8.

He is working with Quantum Technologies (primarily new battery design) in Southern California. One of his quotes is "We want people to drive beautiful fast cars that make environmental sense-cars that are eco-chic and will have less of an impact on global warming."

In order to keep cost down, he didn't design and build a factory to manufacture all parts of his car. Instead, he is having all sub assemblies made by other people who already have the ability and equipment. These sub assemblies are then sent to Fisker and are assembled in his plant, much like kit cars, although they will not be sold as kits but only as turn key units.

I have gotten involved with a group of automotive writers and have attended many of their functions as a guest. I don't believe I qualify as an automotive writer so I suppose I will continue to be a guest. The name of the group is WAJ which stands for Western Automotive Journalist. I don't know how many of you remember Bill Moore who was the editor of Kit Car Illustrated magazine for quite a while. He is Media Day Co-Chair in the WAJ.

A couple of days ago Mr. Fisker spoke to the organization about his car and he seems to be well informed and qualified on the subject. He says they have already sold 9,000 cars. He has signed up 32 dealers in 17 states in launching a new brand in the worst automotive market in the last fifty years.

The car is a hybrid with a small four-cylinder engine to supplement the batteries. The engine is only used to recharge the batteries and never directly drive the wheels. They have an electric motor on the front wheels and on the rear so they have full time four-wheel drive. The car is electronically limited to 95 MPH although, if the driver puts it in

sport mode, the car will do over 125. He claims the car has better acceleration and top speed than the Tesla and can travel further on the battery alone. In normal driving, the car gets the equivalent of 150 MPG. The Prius will only go a few miles on it's battery alone and then must run the engine to help the car maintain speed.

At the present time, they have a coupe, a convertible and a four-door sedan (photo below) and they are beautiful cars.

I realize I haven't covered much but in a short time we should be hearing more from this car and owner.



SHOW PLANNING COMMITTEE MEET 7/11/09

By Vern Hance

The show planning meeting had to be moved to Saturday July 11, 2009 at the Hance residence to meet the schedules of most people. After some pizza and salads we got to work. Here is a summary of what was decided

1. The Classes agreed to are Sports A, Sports B, Classic C, Classic D, Cobra, Special Interest (each with 1st & 2nd place awards) and one Spectator's Choice Award. The awards will be engraved plaques in two sizes.
2. 80 dash plaques with this design will be purchased.
3. Ballot setup: Exhibitor ballot; Spectator Choice ballot (Spectator ballot will be used to measure spectator attendance and provide info on how they learned of the show as well as invite people to give us an e-mail address to notify them of the 2010 Show)
4. Car I.D. cards, "Don't Touch" signs, Name Tags, instruction sheets and checkin envelopes will be done by Vern.
5. Goodie bags will not be used.
6. Spectator prizes during show? All members are requested to solicit new prizes. CYC youths will be allowed to sell prize raffle tickets as their Fund Raising effort.
7. Prizes for the Saturday night dinner? These can be the same type of prizes as the show-time raffle prizes. Again we need member solicitations or contributions.
8. Traffic delineators or pylons. Hotel will provide some. Members will be asked to loan those in their personal collection.
9. Work schedule for members to set up, staff the entrance gate, staff a show headquarters, receive ballots, pass out dash plaques, count ballots, M.C. for Awards presentation and a tear-down/clean-up team. Work schedule to be posted on a bulletin board by Show HQ.
10. Ice water, colas and morning coffee & donuts will be provided. CYC donation will be encouraged as the price of drinks.
11. Sound system. Paul has amplifier & mikes. Must rent speaker horns. Chuck has CD player.
12. Headquarters will be King's 5th-wheel RV parked at Wine Bar entrance.
(continued on page 7)
13. Chuck & Paul have extension cord to hotel power. No generator needed.
14. Overnight security to be supplied by hotel. 5-8 p.m. security not resolved.
15. Tables at the Show Headquarters will be from Hotel (Paul responsible.) . Vern will bring 2 card tables
16. Champagne at 5 p.m. courtesy of Chuck & Sue Maddux will be in the show parking lot. I am not clear who provides cheese, crackers, non-alcoholic beverages, plates knives, forks, etc.

MORE SHOW INFO

It is time to get YOUR car registered for our September Concord Hilton Show. Included in the July newsletter was a registration form to be filled out and returned to the Treasurer. More forms are available on www.nckcc.com

Of course, we are looking for volunteers to help run the show, so let Jim Wagner, Carolina Williams or Vern Hance know if you want to bid on a particular task.

All members can also help by soliciting prizes or discount card from auto related businesses for use in our 'Show' raffle and the 'Dinner' raffle.

We have tried to help you with this task, so go to our website, click on ANNUAL SHOW, then click on 'Show Promotional Helps' at the bottom.

- 1) Print some copies of our "Prize Request letter" that says we are a California Non-Profit Corporation and it has our State and Federal identification numbers. This should add to your credibility in asking for a gift.
- 2) The 'Show Promotional Helps' page also has a link to a color poster that you can print (B & W is OK too) and take to auto related businesses, asking their permission to post it in their window. Also post it on your company or community bulletin board.
- 3) A post card size (5.5" x 4.125") invitation to our show is also available. Printing this produces an 8.5" x 11" page that can be cut into four postcards. You could leave a stack of these at those auto stores where you put up the poster. Also print a few to hand out at auto shows you attend.
- 4) You can also print 10 'business card' size cards with all the show info on it. Keep a few of these in your wallet or purse and hand them out like business cards. (It is designed for Avery 8876 business card sheets that snap apart without cutting.)

This week we will be mailing 600 postcards to former members, previous exhibitors and other interested parties that we have added to our data base over the years.

If you have some fresh ideas on how to promote our show, let us know and we will give it a try.

Thank you for your help.

FOR SALE

COBRA Ford power, Jag rear-end. Silver w/ black interior. \$21,500 Call Bob Elster 707-938-3254 (1/02)

FERRARI - TESTAROSSA Spyder. Based on 1989 Corvette with 350 V-8 engine and automatic tranny. Reduced to \$12,000. Contact Anthony Ramsinh (408) 268-6554 or e-mail aramsinh@aol.com (11/05)

MANX SR-2 - 1678 cc VW engine with 4-speed stick. New interior in 2002. Built in 1977 by present owner who has all receipts, etc. Includes a spare 1600 VW engine and extra parts. \$5,500. Call Don Wicks (707) 998-9383 or e-mail at dkwicks@mchsi.com (11/05)

MERCEDES SSK (Gazelle) Parts: 4 fenders (brown), windshield, radiator shell, bumpers, interior leather and top (tan), tail lights, supercharger pipes, doors (yellow), latches, hinges, etc. Tim 510-278-3085 (04/05)

PANTERA Factory built, only one known to exist. Red w/ beige interior, Chev engine \$35,000 Call Bob Elster 707-938-3254.

(1/02)

"Cars for Sale" ads in the NCKCC News are for members only. Rate is \$10 for 12 issues.

The kit car industry on the Internet:

kitcar.com
and
cobracountry.com

- kit cars For Sale by Owner...
In 22 kit categories plus Cobras!
- Consumer Alerts, show coverage
- over 1200 web pages
- Pro tips on motorcar photography

Art Scott
661-251-2223

ON THE GO ?

DMV - Tips for a Safe and Fun Summer

Summer is here, which means it's time for some fun in the sun! Summer is the perfect time of the year to take a long trip, hop on your bike, or give teens a little extra freedom with the family car. However, summer doesn't mean a vacation from safe driving practices. The California Department of Motor Vehicles has developed the following tips to assist drivers in having a fun, yet safe summer.

- Bike Riders and Pedestrians- With the weather warming up, more people will be lacing up their “tennies” and gearing up their bikes. As a driver, it's important for you to be cautious of bikers and pedestrians and to recognize their right to share the road with you.
 - * Bicyclists- On public streets, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers. Drivers must allow bicyclists to merge first when making a right hand turn; you need to be extra-cautious when merging toward a curb, and you need to watch closely for bicyclists when opening a door next to traffic. Drivers must remember that bicyclists have rights too, so please be sure you “share the road.”
 - * Pedestrians- Pedestrians have their own set of responsibilities to keep themselves safe, but drivers must take caution as well. Though pedestrians are required to yield the right-of-way to drivers at any intersection that does not have a clearly marked crosswalk, do not assume that they will. As a driver, you need to remember to drive cautiously when pedestrians are near because they may cross your path. For more information on bicycle and pedestrian safety, check out the California Driver Handbook online at www.DMV.ca.gov.
- Teen Drivers- With school out for the summer, teen drivers will likely be racking up more miles and gaining more experience on the road. While it's great that driving the family wagon will help them become more skilled behind the wheel, it's also very important for teens to remember essential safety tips, as well as the restrictions that apply specifically to them. One such restriction is that during the first 12 months of license issuance, teen drivers are not allowed to drive between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. without the accompaniment of an adult 25 years or older. For complete information about teen driving restrictions, visit www.dmv.ca.gov/teenweb .
- Road Trips- Long distance drives can be strenuous on you and your car, so it's important that you are fully alert at all times, and that your car is in safe operating condition.
 - * Pre-trip Check- Before you begin your adventure, check the running condition of your car by checking the car's oil level, hoses, coolant level, power steering fluid, and windshield washer fluid level. Also be sure that your windows are clean on the inside and out.
 - * Tailgating- On long trips, many people often get antsy and want to drive faster. It's important that you don't tailgate the person in front of you as tailgating is the leading cause of rear-end collisions. To avoid tailgating, use the “three-second rule” - always make sure that you pass a certain point at least three seconds after the car in front of you passes that same point.
 - * Driving in the Dark- On road trips, people often drive through the night to get to their destinations sooner. When driving at night, make sure you drive slower because the darkness can make it harder for you to see what is in front of you, giving you less time to stop if there is a hazard ahead. Also, most highway construction takes place at night so be cautious of road workers and pay attention to any signs that may tell of what is ahead. Always remember to Slow for the Cone Zone.
- Reporting a DUI – There are several holidays during the summer when people enjoy having, or going to parties and barbeques. Unfortunately, this can lead to people drinking more than the legal limit, but still deeming themselves fit to drive. If you suspect someone on the road is driving under the influence please call 911 and provide the law enforcement with the exact location, the vehicle make & model, and the license plate number. And always remember, don't drink and drive.

By following these few safety tips you will be on your way to a safe and enjoyable summer! For more information on how to be a safe driver, or other DMV related services, visit www.dmv.ca.gov. Save time. Go online!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009

- August 1, 2009 - California Auto Museum Cruise from Mid-town Sacramento to Cal State Campus with a car show, music and food. Limited to 250 cars.
- August 15, 2009 - Hot August Niles Car Show, Fremont 9am to 3 pm. Download registration form at <www.nckcc.com/hotline.html>
- September 12-13, 2009 - NCKCC Annual Car Show. Concord Hilton Hotel, 1970 Diamond Boulevard, Concord, CA
- September 26, 2009 - Knightsen Car Show. Free and open to all types of cars. Champion, Al & Pat Bello.
- October 17, 2009 - Proposed Wine Tour. Chuck Maddux, Champion
- November, 2009 - Christmas Parade, Knightsen, CA
- December 6, 2009 - Annual Brunch

2009 OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES:

James Wagner, President	650-341-0211
jamesuu@comcast.net	
Chuck Maddux, Vice President	707-745-4361
camnsam@att.net	
Vern Hance, Treasurer, Editor	925-938-1442
3317 Ellesmere Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598	
nckcc@astound.net	
Tom Wallters, Secretary	650-961-8256
twallters@gmail.com	
Pat Cooley, Membership Chair	925-447-7239
myoozik@comcast.net	
Unfilled position, Activities Chairman	
Carolina Williams, Show Chair	510-355-9914

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