



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

July 2007

Volume 25 Number 7



Here is a view of the Sunday display of the Walnut Creek Art & Wine car show by NCKCC.

ACTIVITY NOTICES

August 18, 2007 - Hot August Niles car show in Fremont, CA (Regist. form on club website HOTLINE) or call Niles Merchants at 510-792-8023.

September 8 & 9, 2007 - 25th Annual NCKCC show at San Leandro, CA benefiting the Whechair Foundation. (REGISTRATION FORM ENCLOSED)

FROM THE PREZ

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health. This has been another busy month around the Jones household. The count down for Sarah and Wil's wedding is under 50 days as of the writing of this article!

Our club show is also coming up quickly. I have been told that all of our permits are in place. We are also set with the Wheelchair Foundation for them to provide a information booth at the show both days and a short presentation at the banquet about what they do. Should be good.

Other preparations are quickly coming into place as we move forward toward Sept. Rooms have been reserved at the Marina Inn so please put your reservations in early to get the best prices. This is a great place to spend the night after our banquet especially if you have had any amount of alcohol. You don't need that type of trouble in your life. Plus you will be fresh for Sunday Morning breakfast at the Inn and ready to go for the day.

We are asking all who can to PLEASE donate something for the raffle during the day or something for the raffle at the banquet. Corporate donations are REALLY down this year and we NEED YOUR HELP!!! Anything would be appreciated.

Hand made goods go over very well. So if you are talented in that way, please feel free to make something that one of your fellow members would enjoy.

The events for this month included the Walnut Creek Art and Wine Festival, and the June Adventure North. Thanks to all who could participate in one or both of these events.

I attended the Art and Wine festival both days and can say with confidence that we had a great showing of club cars! A special thanks to our new members from the Knightsen and Oakley areas for coming out for this event. The cars they brought were beautiful. We even had an original Model A Ford on display with us along side a Shay replica Model A. That was cool!

Bill Landers brought out his new Cobra. A Superformance which was started many times for the enjoyment of the crowd. It shakes the ground real good!

Many of the crowd were surprised that the cars on display were replicas. One man was overheard saying, " I know that the Cobra is a replica but that 550 Porsche Spyder is the real thing! " When he was informed that it too was a replica he could only stand and shake his head in disbelief.

GREAT SHOW folks!
Up coming events include the Bethel

Island Bash on Sat. July 21st if anyone is interested, contact the Bethel Island Chamber of Commerce for information.

In August we have the Hot August Niles car show on Aug. 18th. For information contact myself at 510-471-6411 or the Niles Merchant Assoc. at 510-792-8023. We use this show as an opportunity to promote our Sept. show. Our club cars have been well received here and we have been able to hand out many fliers and invitation cards to those who attend. We handed out almost all of our informational materials when we attended the Spring Fling at Niles in May of this year. So if you can please come out and support this event.

We are also invited to the Knightsen Historical Society event on Oct. 6th. I still need to get more info so we can promote this event. If anyone has this information please forward it to Vern so that he can put it in the newsletter column of upcoming events.

Well, for this month that's it. Hope to see you all at any of the events but especially in Sept. Remember, this is our 25th anniversary show. Please support it if you can. It is for a very good cause, The Wheelchair Foundation. Let's show them what we can do!

My thanks to all of you in advance for your efforts.

ART & WINE 2007

The Walnut Creek Art & Wine Fest was again a success, in spite of a cool Saturday. Sunday was a lot warmer and brought out more people and club cars. The front cover shows a sampling of the 13 cars on display Sunday. The Saturday group totaled 10 cars, 9 of which are shown - Dave Jones got there late.

There was a lot of socializing going on both days as you can see on page 4.



(Continued from page 3)

The attendees and their cars included Al & Pat Bello (Model A), Harry Craycroft (Porsche 550), Dave & Joyce DeCato (Model A), Vern Hance (Mercedes 500K), Paul Harford (Porsche Speedster), Dave Jones (Ponarri Fugatso), Paul & Ruth King (Mercedes SSK), Bill Landers (Cobra), Jon Magnussen (Model A), Alex & Amelia Penalosa (Mercedes SSK), Mark Rubenstein (Mercedes Baron), Gil Somerhalder (1950 Ford-Easy Rod), Dick & Annette Thomson (MG-TD) and Tom & Irene Wallters (Mercedes 500K). Visitor Peggy Morrissey also came by on Sunday afternoon to renew acquaintances.



The car display was visited by many of the Art & Wine partons and a few were amazed that these were all hand built cars. One exception on Saturday was a pedigreed Model A owned by Jon Magnussen.

All who participated considered it a pleasurable event.



DMMV WEBSITE OFFERS MORE TIME FOR AUTO ENTHUSIASTS HOBBY

New Web site allows customers to avoid long lines and save time

Just bought the car of your dreams and can't wait to put that clever combination you came up with on some personalized plates? Do you need to renew your vehicle's registration but can't tear yourself away from your garage because you're too busy getting that great "new" oldy ready for the next car show? Or, do you just simply hate the thought of standing in long, slow-moving lines every single time you go to the DMV? Well, you no longer have to worry! The DMV now offers all of these services on the Internet so you can spend more time tinkering instead of toiling! By visiting DMV.ca.gov, you can take care of just about any DMV related business from the convenience of your own home or office, 24 hours a day, seven days a week – for FREE!

Not only is the DMV Web site safe and secure, it greatly reduces your need to visit the DMV in person. The Web site enables you to complete many transactions including renewing your registration, submitting your Notice of Transfer and Release of Liability or ordering special interest and personalized license plates. The site also supplies you with the extra tools that can be used to complete simple transactions, like offering a handy car registration fee calculator to help you save for that new addition, or the ability to check to see if your desired personal license plate combination is already owned by someone else. In addition, the Web site has

a wealth of driving-related information like the California Driver Handbook and the Car Buyer's Bill of Rights that you can download in an instant, helping you keep your car, and your family safe while on the roads!

For those things that absolutely require you to make a trip into the DMV, make the process easier by scheduling your appointment online for a time that is convenient for you! You can save even more time by heading to your nearest computer and downloading the necessary forms in advance, all with the click of a mouse!

The possibilities and conveniences that the DMV's new Web site offers you are endless! Why bother with the hassle of having to schedule your day around the DMV's hours of operation? Take care of your DMV-related business online, on your own time at DMV.ca.gov. It's fast, easy, convenient and secure. Save time, go online and spend your free time cruising on the open roads in that great car of yours. You'll be glad you did.

"Save Time. Go Online." with the DMV at www.dmv.ca.gov. The DMV is a department under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner. The DMV licenses drivers, maintains driving records, registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels, investigates auto and identity-related fraud, and licenses car dealers, driving schools, and traffic violator schools. For more information about the DMV, visit www.dmv.ca.gov.

JUNE ADVENTURE II or “What the hell happened to my tranny??”

By Chuck Maddux with Photos by Vern Hance

More about the tranny later. On Thursday June 21st the weather was perfect. The Hances (500K Mercedes), Bill Landers, grandson Matt (427 Cobra) and the Maddux's (500K Mercedes), started from their respective homes, for Johnson's Winery in Alexander Valley for a late morning arrival. Vern & Carol stopped at the Old Grist Mill on Hwy. 29 where Vern helped fire up the wheel and they received some on hands experience with the running of the mill. Chuck, Suzanne, Bill & Matt headed straight for Johnson's. We all arrived by 11:30 and enjoyed some wine tasting and unfortunately only one tune on the organ (it sprang an air leak and just wouldn't play any more), it was fun to hear & see all the parts working even though it was a short program. We went east on Hwy. 128 with a stop in Geyserville where Vern & Carol found some BBQ sandwiches, then it was on to Booneville for a lunch stop.

Heading out to the coast, which was fog free and beautiful we cruised up Hwy. 1 thru Mendocino and made our final stop at the Skunk Train Depot in the center of Fort Bragg, where we met Ted & Billie Lichti in their good looking newly built

white /blue trim 500K Mercedes. The ride up to the meadow for the BBQ was great fun, our engineer was very knowledgeable about the history and ecology of the area, so we were very entertained for the 1-1/2 hour trip. We dined on tri-tip, chicken, corn, beans, salad, ice cream & wild blackberries with plenty for seconds. *(Photo below)*



We were also entertained on the trip up and at dinner by a self proclaimed “Best Train Singer on Earth”, he knew a lot of train songs and told interesting stories as well. It is definitely a “to do” event. We overnited, woke up to another beautiful day and had a great breakfast at a local diner called Eggheads.

We headed up Hwy. 1 thru Westport and wound our way into Leggett and Garberville. Vern & Carol decided to go to Ferndale via Petrolia (Vern will tell you of their adventure) while the rest of us headed up parts of the Avenue of the Giants and a back road to Ferndale thru the dairy counry.



(Gas stop in Garberville - above)

Ted & Billie had company coming so they headed home to Carlotta. Bill, Matt, Chuck & Sue parked in downtown Ferndale, had lunch at a local pizza/deli and walked the three blocks of old town with visits to a Kinetic Museum. It relates to a very strange race from Arcata to Ferndale each spring (you have to go there to see them, I could not do the objects justice), and the old general store with it's historic museum upstairs. We just missed Vern & Carol but got together at the motel in Eureka. We headed out to the Samoa Cookhouse Restaurant for a family style dinner of homemade soup, salad, potatoes, vegi's, ham & chicken and dessert.

Breakfast, on Saturday, for some was at Denny's down the street then we all headed north for our Klamath River Jetboat adventure. The roadtrip was fabulous with great weather and spectacular scenery. We stopped on the way for a photo-op of a small herd of Elk and, of course, a three car show. Some of us lunched at a local diner up the road and returned for our 1 PM departure. The boat trip was both breathtaking for sights, a Golden Eagle, many Osprey with nests and babies, devastating damage still visible from the 1964 flood and just lots of beautiful scenery

(Continued on page 8)



(Continued from page 7)

too awesome to do justice (you just had to be there and experience the moments) and breathtaking boat maneuvers (360 degree spins and full reverse thrust stop - all splashing much water over and in the boat - but refreshing). The trip back to Eureka begins the saga of my transmission problems. Basically the trip back was great except for my detection of a strange odor and having trouble shifting into overdrive. We arrived back in Eureka and I figured the tranny would cool off and all would be OK. We drove out to the Woodley Island Marina Restaurant for dinner, we figured since we were near the ocean we should eat seafood at least once. Dinner was great and on the drive back to the motel I noticed there was no overdrive and the odor was back.

Sunday morning was again beautiful. Bill & Matt had to head back,



Gingerbread Mansion in Ferndale -above

because Matt had to catch a plane back home to Nevada at 5 PM. so the two Mercedes started across Hwy. 299 to Weaverville & Redding. I didn't smell any odor as we started out, but still had no overdrive (I figured no big deal since we were in the mountains and I wouldn't need it). At about the 26 mile marker I realized things were not going well for the tranny, we lost third gear and it was obvious it was not a happy camper. The tranny pretty much shut down and I was able to limp to the side of the road spewing hot tranny fluid and smoke for about 50 feet. Vern was behind us so he stopped to confirm that my tranny was indeed dead. I, of course thanked him for his expert opinion while standing in haze of smoke (fortunately no fire). We were near the top of a hill and I found that we had signal for the cell (thanks Verizon), so I contacted AAA and arranged for a flatbed tow. Coincidentally, while I was on the phone with AAA a Deputy Sheriff stopped and gave accurate directions and left. A few minutes later a CHP Officer stopped and said he would check back to see that we were helped. In about a half an hour a AAA truck from Willow Creek arrived, it was a nice new flatbed with all the latest equipment and a very knowledgeable driver named Roger. With a little re positioning of the car and great maneuvering by Roger we were on the flatbed and on the road to Redding. Vern and Carol stuck with us until we were safely on the truck (thanks a bunch, the moral support was needed and much appreciated), they continued on to Redding and visited for a while with Larry & Ginny McRae (Vern checked out Larry's

under construction MG-TD). Vern had a Monday appointment in Fresno, so he & Carol headed down Hwy. 5 & home. Sue & I had a very comfortable ride in the new truck with Roger, who it turns out is a local historian, inflatable rafter on the Klamath River and great story teller. We lunched at a very nice restaurant called the Straw Bale, overlooking the river. We continued on to Redding where he dropped us and car at our motel. I called Larry and explained our situation (Vern had filled him in some), He most graciously came and picked us up and took us to the Sundial Bridge at Turtle Bay where Suzanne & I walked the bridge and took photos. We then proceeded on to the McRae home for their promised BBQ burgers & condiments. Larry took us on a mini tour of parts of Redding, including the transmission company recommended by AAA. We really want to thank the McRaes for their wonderful hospitality and help during our time of need.

Monday came and with it some hard decisions and 90 degree weather. At first we thought AAA was going to tow us all the way home to our AAA Mechanic, but alas the operator didn't know the rules and it would cost an additional \$400. That being said I decided to take the car to Hartnell Transmission Co, in Redding. The owner stated he had a replacement tranny in stock and would have the car done in 2 or 3 days. That done we rented a car and returned home for a day or so of rest and waited for the "call". It came on Tuesday

afternoon (he said the torque coverter malfunctioned and caused the overheating) and I drove back up Wednesday AM, returned the car (the rental people at Budget were very helpful and took me out to the shop). My baby was ready, but dirty from her ordeal, so I paid the bill, hopped in and we came home. I had just had an after market air conditioner installed before the trip and it turned out the only time I needed it was for the trip down Hwy. 5. The engine, tranny and air conditioner all worked great and I was home in a little over three hours.

Even though we had the mishap, the June Adventure II was a complete success and we will cherish the fun time we had with our friends and fellow travelers. I want to thank Vern & Carol Hance, Bill Landers & grandson Matt (great kid), Ted & Billie Lichti and our hosts for one evening Larry & Ginny McRae for making the trip worthwhile and enjoyable. Happy trails to us.

ADVENTURE ACCORDING TO VERN

Chuck did a great job planning this adventure and we appreciated it greatly. Since I took a lot of pictures and some video, I decided to tell my story as a video documentary. It is posted in "Small-screen web size" at <<http://web.mac.com/vmh/iWeb/Site/NCKCC%20Adventure.html>> It is a large 53 MB Quicktime movie and takes about 5 minutes to load from a fast cable internet connection. For a modem connection it could take hours.

FOR SALE

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

COBRA - VW KIT - 427 Snake body fits on your 3" shortened VW chassis. Two available; **reduced to \$2,200 from \$3,200** Call Wayne McAllaster (510) 656-5844 or E-mail 427medusa@sbcglobal.net (2/06)

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)

JAGUAR SS-100 on a '69 VW Chassis, 1600 cc dual-port engine with 4-speed tranny. \$4,000 o.b.o. Call Tom at 707-874-2587 or e-mail tjranch@att.net (Picture in Oct. issue) (10/06)

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 540K - Thoroughbred factory built. Datsun 240Z engine + 5-spd tranny. Mustang suspension. New paint, carpet, leather interior, tires & canvas cover. Only \$18,500. Vicki Cavaz (510) 769-1123 or Vicki1757@aol.com (9/05)

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)

PORSCHE SPEEDSTER - Professionally built in 1998 Vintage Speedster. Fun, Fast, Reliable. Custom paint, Carrera gauges, upgraded wiring throughout. Like new top & side curtains, two tonneaus, two sets of bumpers w/ driving lights. Many real P-car features. Massive Type 4 engine built by Jake Raby 230 HP (car weighs 1600+/- lbs) 48 weber IDAs, pre-oiler, aux cooler, DTM cooling shroud, serpentine pulley & idler arm, Tangerine Racing headers & Quiet Can. Over \$60K invested, \$37,500.00.

NEW LISTING (4/07)

"Cars for Sale" ads in the *Kit Car Sun* 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

Carl Sait

661-251-2223

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2007

- July 21, 2007 - Bethel Island Car Show. Info: 825/684-3220 or bicc@cctrp.com
- August 18, 2007 - Hot August Niles Car Show - Fremont. 510/792-8023. See nckcc.com/hotline for registration form.
- September 8 & 9, 2007 - NCKCC 25th Annual Show, San Leandro Marina
- Saturday, Sept. 15, 2007 - King's Anniversary Potluck/ post show meeting. Paul King Champion
- October (no date), 2007 - Annual Wine Tour - Leanne Jones
- December 2, 2007 - Annual Sunday Banquet in Pleasanton



Here are some other views of our adventure trip to Northern California.

East Contra Costa Historical Society
& Museum
3890 Sellers Avenue
Knightsen, CA.

CARS at the MUSEUM DAYS

1st SATURDAY
each MONTH
2PM. to 4 PM.
come with your car
no fees - no prizes - "just fun"
MUSEUM HOURS:
APRIL - OCTOBER
Saturdays & 3rd Sunday each month
2 to 4 PM
info. 925-679-1025

2007 OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES:

Dave Jones, President	510-471-6411
vnimus1@yahoo.com	
James Wagner, Vice President	650-341-0211
jamesuu@comcast.net	
Vern Hance, Treasurer, Editor	925-938-1442
3317 Ellesmere Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598	
nckcc@astound.net	
Sarah Jones, Secretary	510-909-1822
one_wild_princess@yahoo.com	
Pat Cooley, Membership Chair	925-447-7239
myoozik@comcast.net	
Unfilled position, Activities Chairman	
Leanne Jones, Show Co-Chair	510-471-6411
Sarah Jones, Show Co-Chair	510-090-1822

The Kit Car Sun is published monthly by the Northern California Kit Car Club. Opinions expressed by authors should not be considered the position of the club. We are a non-profit educational organization and do not intend to influence legislation.