



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

March 2008

Volume 26 Number 3



How would you like a kitcar like this? I got a call recently from a kit promoter in Atlanta, GA saying that this kit would be introduced later in 2008. It uses a 4-cyl Ford DOHC engine and sounds quite interesting. Stay tuned.

ACTIVITY NOTICES

March 2008 - Go-Kart Racing event cancelled due to no interest.

April 5, 2008 - Coming Out Party & car show for new cars and new members during the past year at East Contra Costa History Museum - 10:30 a.m. (See page 3)

FEBRUARY 16th MEETING

By Vern Hance

We had 17 people at our 2008 Show planning meeting held at the Wallters' residence in Mt. view

Dave lead the discussion which compared several possible new show scenarios. The general consensus was that a 1-day show followed by a 2nd-day driving event was desirable.

One proposal suggested a Saturday show at the Blackhawk Plaza parking lot (ajacent to the Blackhawk Museum) followed by a Gimmick Rally to the Towe Auto Museum in Sacramento on Sunday. Disadvantages included no Motels closer than 4 miles away and a more expensive restaurant banquet for Saturday night.

Another proposal was to locate the 1-day show at a large shopping mall at the intersection of I-580 & I-680 with a banquet at a lower cost restaurant. Larger foot traffic was cited as the plus factor. Motels are closer but not within walking distance like San Leandro. After the meeting a \$2,000 fee for use of the shopping center caused us to reconsider another shopping center essentially "across the street" in the same area. The cost of that shopping center has not yet been determined.

The third proposal was to continue the

San Leandro location, but make it a 1-day show with a Saturday evening banquet at the Marina Inn and some type of driving event on Sunday.

Also discussed was a plan to include a wider cross-section of cars being invited to the show. This concept was not defined specifically. It could range from an expanded definition of "handcrafted" that would include street rods and customs to "handcrafted & sports cars" or to the ultimate "all cars welcome" concept.

Members attending the planning meeting included, Al & Pat Bello, Dave & Joyce DeCato, Vern & Carol Hance, Dave & Leanne Jones, Bill Navratil, Will & Sarah Smith, James & Wendy Wagner, Tom & Irene Wallters and Shane & Carolina Williams.

The background that has led us to consider major changes to our annual show are the reduction in the number of spectators during the past several years and the difficulty of attracting more than about 60 cars for our show. This article is intended to report to our members the current status of our car show planning and encourage those of you who did not attend the January or February meeting to provide feedback and suggestions. Your club leaders are striving to improve our annual show and would appreciate your affirmation that we are headed in the right direction, or if you don't agree, then tell us what to do !

ANNUAL COMING OUT PARTY APRIL 5, 2008

This year we will celebrate our Spring "Coming Out" Party at the East Contra Costa County Historical Museum in Knightsen, CA

This will be a car show and a picnic all rolled together. The club will provide for Hot Dogs and the fixings and through the courtesy of the Museum the cooking and preparation will be provided. All you need to do is bring a side dish, salad or dessert to help support the Hot Dogs. Soft drinks can be purchased at the Museum or you can bring your own beverage if you wish. If you don't like hot dogs, bring your own charcoal BBQ and do your own thing. There is plenty of room for all.

The event will start at 10:30 a.m. and continue to 4:00 p.m. so bring your cars at the starting time because the car show will be opened to other cars beginning at 1 p.m. This way we can get our cars displayed in a special area and have a chance to swap stories with other car enthusiasts during the afternoon.

You will find an interesting display of local history in the many displays in several Museum buildings, so plan to check these out.

One of the highlights of our "coming out"

is to recognize owners of cars that have been finished or acquired during 2007 (and 2008) and ask them to tell of that achievement.

Another important program item is to warmly welcome new members that have joined us during the past year. These 14 special families are: Dennis & Suzy Anderson (Sacramento), David & Shirley Fernandez (Los Molinas), Richard & Bette Mastro (Fair Oaks), Ted & Billie Lichti (Carlotta), Dan & Sally Swann (Glen Ellen), Norman & Diane La Mothe (Sebastopol), John Ebersole (Benicia), Al & Rhoda Bohr (Oregon City), Russ Hunsberger (Concord), David Kinzy (Madera), Dick Norway (Antioch), Will & Sarah Smith (Hayward), Allen & Maryann Koch (Citrus Heights), and Larry Fewell (San Jose). We especially invite these people to attend.

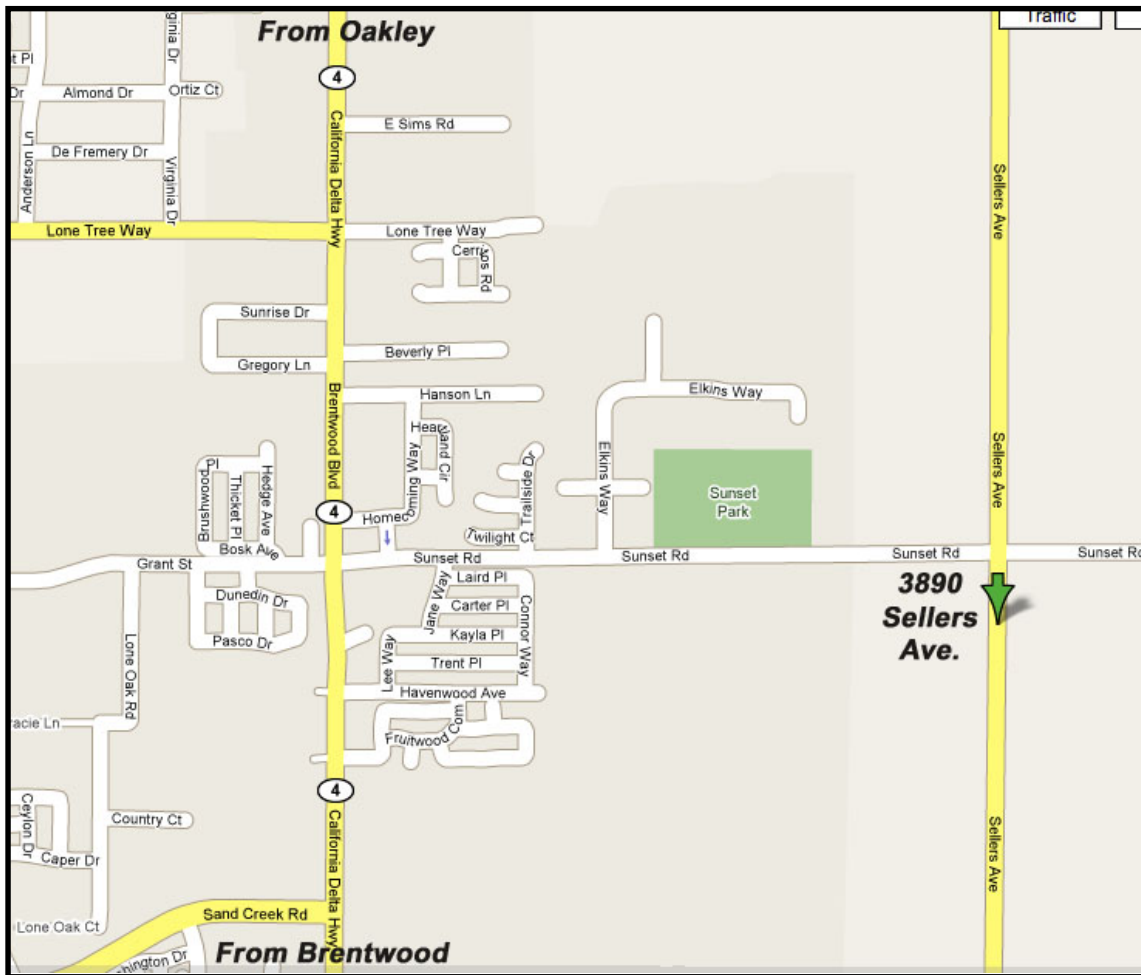
Other specially invited people that own recently finished/acquired cars are: David Kinzy (M-B 500K), John Merritt (Phillips Berlina) and Dave DeCato (MG-TD & others) and Al Bello (Several choices). There are probably others that we don't know about, so bring them out to show off.

We plan to show some movies of past car shows and club events. We might even show the movie "Cars" or a "Herbie" movie. We have a projector and movies, you chose what you want.

See page 5 for a map and instructions.

Knightsen is located east of State Highway 4 (aka Brentwood Boulevard and California Delta Highway) between Brentwood and Oakley. To get there take Highway 4 to Sunset Road and turn right (south) onto Sellers Ave. Go to 3890 Sellers, then left to the Museum.

If you plan to attend we would like to know (so we get enough hot dogs) so, let the Editor know by e-mail <nckcc@astound.net> or leave a message at 925-938-1442. If you forget to RSVP, just show up !!



DUES ARE DUE FOR 2008

\$24 per year will keep you a member in good standing and keep you on the newsletter mailing list. Those who have paid their dues each month will be congratulated here, so watch for your last name to appear in this space. Those that don't respond will be dropped from the club roster.

Below are 4 more people that have paid their 2008 dues.

Cooley	Koch (new)
Rosenthal	Somerhalder

As the months go by this system requires you to check back to the January and February newsletters to see if you have paid. Anyway you can always e-mail nckcc@astound.com to see if you are paid up - or call Vern at (925) 938-1442.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome two new member families this month.

Larry & Evelyn Fewell live in San Jose, 408-263-3028, and are in the process of acquiring a 1936 Mercedes 500K. We are anxious to hear more on this project, so send pictures and info.

They are interested in construction & technology. E-mail: geheinbear@comcast.net (I hope that is correct)

Allen & Maryann Koch live in Citrus Heights, 916-723-0234, and are looking for a Bugatti, Blakley Bearcat or MG-TD. Please let them know if you know of a worthy car for sale. E-mail: a_j_koch@yahoo.com

We welcome these new members aboard and look forward to getting acquainted at our coming events.

The April 5th Coming Out party in Knightsen would be a good opportunity and encourage them to attend.

NCKCC IS A MEMBER CLUB AT THE TOWE AUTO MUSEUM

We are a member club of the Towe Auto Museum which gives you the benefit of free admission by showing the Complimentary Pass attached to your March newsletter. It is good until 12/31/08. The Museum has a list of NCKCC members so please don't loan the card to a friend. It could create an embarrassing situation.

This article was published 2/28/08 in the Wall Street Journal and illustrates the European enforcement mentality. It was not clear what the crime was, since they were being sold as replicas. With our freedoms taking hits every day it makes you wonder when U.S. Law Makers will pass similar laws that will threaten our hobby. I thought you need to know about these issues.

ITALIAN POLICE BREAK UP FAKE FERRARI RING

Auto-Body Shops
Built Counterfeits
Using Pontiac Fieros

By ROSAMARIA MANCINI
February 28, 2008; Page D5

It was the ultimate face-lift: a sporty red Ferrari F355 on the outside, a used Pontiac Fiero on the inside.

That was enough, apparently, to entice wannabe Ferrari owners to plunk down €20,000, or about \$30,000, for the chance to own an approximation of the real thing.

Yesterday, Italian tax police, the Guardia di Finanza, busted up a ring of auto-body shops across the country that were trafficking in one of the most high-end and high-priced counterfeit cars of all time.

The ring operated in a dozen cities from near the Alps in the north to Sicily in the south. Tax police rounded up seven completed fake Ferraris, as well as another seven that were still being decked out. Some of the counterfeit cars had already been sold. They also seized numerous spare parts, some of which were genuine Ferrari. Eight people were placed under investigation, but no arrests were made.

The head of the Palermo unit of the tax police, Guido Mario Geremia, who spearheaded the investigation, said it involved "a sophisticated operation that was running throughout Italy."

The global counterfeit industry has been one of the world's most inventive, churning out knockoff copies not just of Channel handbags and Gucci sunglasses, but also of products ranging from high-end wines to pharmaceuticals, telecommunications equipment and videogames.

Even by those standards, copying a Ferrari seems particularly brazen. The company makes about 6,000 cars a year, and waiting lists for new models can run years. Most cost more than \$200,000, but prices can soar far beyond that depending on the level of customization. The company boasts that its engineering — much of which it also uses on its championship Formula One racing team — is second to

none.

So who would dare buy a fake? "There are people who buy fake Louis Vuitton and Gucci bags, so it's not so strange that someone would buy a fake Ferrari," said Mr. Geremia.

Mr. Geremia said he began working on the case six months ago based on a tip. He was able to trace the different cars and fake parts to cities throughout Italy, where specialized auto-body shops would strip down the body of the old Fiero, including its bumpers, hood and rear, and then mount parts to build the fake Ferrari.

Once assembled, the fake Ferraris looked pretty close to the real things. At least when standing still. The Pontiac Fiero, whose production cycle spanned the second half of the 1980s, was considered a peppy, if not so dependable, two-seater. Still, its V4 engine is no match for the V8 under the hood of the F355, which boasts a top speed of 183 miles per hour.

In a few cases, Mercedes and Porsches were used as the underlying cars instead of Pontiacs.

Ferrari SpA, a unit of Fiat SpA, had no comment on the investigation. Spokeswoman Mariella Mengozzi said the company works side by side with

authorities in Italy and abroad on these types of investigations.

Last year, fake Ferraris were nabbed by the tax police in Sardinia and Rome. In 2006, the European Commissioner for Justice, Franco Frattini, protested publicly that fake Ferraris were popping up in China.

The ring uncovered yesterday included salesmen who promoted what they said were "replica" Ferraris over several Internet sites. They also operated showrooms where the cars were displayed. Others provided parts, from headlights to steering wheels.

The latest figures from the World Customs Organization show that all types of counterfeits result in about \$500 billion to \$600 billion in lost sales annually, which is about 5% of global trade.

Harley Lewin, a partner with New York law firm Greenberg Traurig LLP, who specializes in counterfeit issues and isn't involved in the Ferrari case, said that even a few fake Ferraris on the road could harm the company's image. "It starts to taint the brand," he said. "It becomes a big deal; all of the sudden legitimate products start to lose their color, their appeal. The fake cheapen and diminish the real thing."

FROM THE PREZ

I wanted to let you know of a SB-100 (Certificate of Sequence) hazard that I just discovered.

This was related to me by my friend Craig Enos who has been building his Cobra for sometime now.

He got his SB 100 year before last, (2006) and had not as yet been able to complete some of the necessary requirements before the end of the year. So he went down during 2007 to complete his SB 100 and came to find out that his certificate had EXPIRED!! To get his SB 100 certificate reinstated he had to pay some stiff penalties that amounted to about \$300.00 which fortunately the clerk behind the counter waived about half of since Craig explained his situation and the fact that he was unaware that the SB 100 certificates had an expiration date.

The clerk referred him to the fine print at the bottom of the certificate, which in so many words informs you that you have one year to complete the requirements. It does not mention the amount of the penalties for non-completion.

So the bottom line on this one is to be sure that you complete your registration

process for you SB 100 BEFORE the calendar year of 2008 runs out. Or you may find yourself in Craig's boat.

Another item is the following e-mail to Leanne. It sounds like a club to invite to our car show.

Leanne: Just read about your group, and am thinking about becoming a member.

I live in the south central Cal. area of Atascadero. A couple of us are trying to start a very non formal Cobra group in our area. Seems that there are plenty of Cobra clubs in the Bay area and From Ventura down. But nothing in our area.

On Saturday, March 22, we are having a BBQ at Lake San Antonio and would like to invite anyone from your group to attend. This isn't more than a couple hour drive for most of you.

If you feel that some of you can make it down here, please contact me at the following numbers.

*Thanks, Hope to see you here.
howard_93422@yahoo.com
805 391-4579
805 466-4483*

NEW "CAR" EVENTS OF INTREST TO NCKCC

GREEK CULTURE DAY

We have been invited to participate in the Greek Cultural Day Parade on Saturday, March 29th in San Francisco at Noon. Staging of the parade will begin at 10 AM on 2nd Street between Market and Harrison Streets with cross traffic allowed until 11:30 AM. Starting at Noon, the parade will move west on Market Street to west on Grove Street onto Dr. Carleton B. Goodlett Place (Polk Street) between Grove and McAllister Streets. *Please contact Vern Hance 925-938-1442 immediately if interested.*

PACIFIC GROVE CONCOURS AUTO RALLY

This is limited to 200 cars so if you are interested in attending you must act fast even though the date is August 15, 2008. Registraton is \$75 and the form is posted on our website www.nckcc.com (click on HOTLINE) I received this from Chuck & Ronnie Latty, who will be participating.

RIDIN' FOR HOSPICE POKER RUN

Bob Bohaboy has invited NCKCC members to participate in this benefit poker run on Saturday June 28, 2008.

Cost is \$25 if you pre-register by June 1st (\$30 later). Starts at Placerville at 9:00 a.m. and cruises through Gold Country and Crystal Basin. Finishes at Camino, CA with a BBQ from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. A form is posted on our website www.nckcc.com (click on HOTLINE).

MAXWELL CLASSIC CAR SHOW

This is a car show in Maxwell, CA on Saturday May 17, 2008 at the High School. It is free and still offers some nice raffle prizes. (I got a 12-volt air compressor last year) Car show starts at 11:00 a.m. and you can participate in the parade at 9:30 if desired. Maxwell is about 120 miles north of Oakland on I-5 and takes about 2 hours to get there. A registration form is posted on our website www.nckcc.com (click on HOTLINE)

NILES SPRING FEVER SHOW

The date for the Niles District car show is May 10th and if you want to attend, a registration form is posted on our website www.nckcc.com (click on HOTLINE)

For anyone without internet access, you can get a registration form by calling Vern at 925-938-1442.

FOR SALE

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

COBRA-NAF. Ford 289power, 4-speed, Jag posi rear-end. Blue w/ black interior. 5,000 mi. \$23,900 Call Trifam (925) 820-1847 SB-100 smog-exempt (9/07)

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)

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)

PORSCHE 550 Spyder. A Beck turnkey built in 2003. 5,000 orig miles, never tracked, 2156 cc custom 182HP dynoed engine w/ 44mm Webers. Everthing polished or powder coated, ceramic mufflers, 4-wheel discs, custom roll bars, silver-blue, tan interior plus all Beck options. SPCNS smog exempt. Asking \$30,000. Dan Rowland 916-989-4330 or cell 916-367-8502 **NEW LISTING** 02/08

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 Scott
661-251-2223

"Cars for Sale" ads in the *Kit Car Sun* are for members only. Rate is \$10 for 12 issues.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

March, 2008 - Go-Kart racing has been cancelled due to no expressed interest.

April 5, 2008 - Coming Out party potluck for new members and cars, at East Contra Costa County Historical Museum, Knightsen, CA (see page 3)

April 26-27, 2008 - AHA Knott's Berry Show in Buena Park, CA Go to www.replicarclub.com for registration forms.

May 10, 2008 - Spring Fever Car Show, Niles District, Fremont. Regist form on nckcc.com; click on "Hotline"

May 31 - June 1, 2008 - Walnut Creek Art & Wine Mini-CarShow. Heather Farms Park.

July 3, 2008 - Benicia Fourth of July Parade, dinner following.

July 19, 2008 - Tour of Hays Antique Truck Museum, Woodland, CA (Vern Hance, Champion)

July (late) - Car show in San Jose (Will Smith Champion)

August 16, 2008 - Hot August Niles Car Show. Niles District of Fremont.

September 6-7, 2008 - NCKCC Annual Show. (Tentative date-subject to change)

October 11. 2008 - Wine tour by Wagner & Maddux.

October 25-26 -, 2008 - Club Sandwich, Laughlin, NV

December 7, 2008 - Annual Brunch, Pleasanton Hotel.

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