



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

March 2022

Volume 40 No. 2



When I donated my Chrysler TC by Maserati to the California Auto Museum, I told them I would like to see them display it as part of their collection. While checking their website to look for future attractions, I was surprised to see it is on display. I hope this will please John Knebel by my efforts to provide his former vehicle a place of honor.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16 (?), 2022 - Tour USS Hornet, Alameda, CA Open 10 - 5pm \$20 Adults, \$15 Seniors. Weather should be warmer by mid-April. More info: <https://uss-hornet.org/visit-hornet>

The 16th is the day before Easter, so let us know if you would prefer a different date; like April 9 or 10, Saturday/Sunday.

FROM THE PREZ

In the previous Newsletter, Vern suggested several possible outings for our Club members. The first suggestion, the Tech Museum in San Jose, has now passed. There were only two members that were interested, so the Tech Museum visit will possibly be rescheduled.

I think many of our members remain unsure of being in settings with large numbers of unfamiliar people. I can certainly understand that feeling. I too have remained cloistered at home for much of the last two years. With the Covid numbers declining and mask mandates being lifted, I think it's finally time to step out outside and reclaim our social lives. To be sure I will continue to have a mask available when I think it is appropriate. I look forward to seeing many my friends that I have missed these past months. Please try to attend a future Club activity. If you have additional suggestions for activities to add to Vern's list, please pass on your suggestions to Vern or me via e-mail or phone. Vern or I will firm-up the date and time for each event in subsequent monthly newsletters. Please let Vern know if you plan to attend any of the activities so he can sync up arrival times. I plan on attending the Club outing to the USS Hornet located on the old NAS Alameda in April. Hope to see you there.

Take care & Stay Safe,

Jim Wagner, NCKCC President

DUES TIME CONTINUES

Thank you! To members who have supported the club with their 2022 dues. Here is the list of members that are paid-up for 2022.

Bello	Barrilleaux
Carroll	DeCato
Ellis	Elster
Foote	Frederick
Hance	Kealey
Kunedt	Maddux
Pathak	Rhodes
Somerhalder	Tattersall

Thomson Wagner

Wallters Wenger

For those NOT named above, we are encouraging you to send \$24 (unchanged since 1982) payable to NCKCC to cover your 2022 dues. Please remember the Treasurer has a new address; 2801 Shadelands Dr. Apt. 231, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-2553.

As the Omicron contagion appears to easing it will allow us to do more activities as a group. More about that elsewhere in this newsletter.

PLAN FOR 2022 EVENTS

(Revision 1)

We didn't get much interest in our planned outing to "The Tech Museum of Innovation" in San Jose in February. Probably this was due to my short notice via the newsletter and/or the mid February loosening of Covid-19 restrictions. At any rate we had only 2 participants and concluded we should reconsider our whole list of 2022 activities. Some people responded that a Sunday event would better fit their schedules. **WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK**, so check the **bold** comments after each planned event and send an email, letter or phone call to Jim Wagner or Vern Hance to express your thoughts. (see contact info page 7)

THE EVENT LIST:

April 16 (?), 2022 - Tour USS Hornet, Alameda, CA Open 10 - 5pm \$20 Adults, \$15 Seniors. Weather should be warmer by mid-April. More info: <https://uss-hornet.org/visit-hornet>

April 16th is the day before Easter, so let us know if you would prefer April 9 or 10, Saturday or Sunday.

May 14 or 15, 2022 - Tech Museum of Innovation, San Jose (Open Sat 10-5; Sun 11-5) [\$25 admission, Combo admission + IMAX movie \$31] More info: www.thetech.org **We need your feedback on your interest in this visit. Our new date is the 14 or 15th – Sat or Sun. Let us know your interest!**

Late May (?) 2022 visit to California Auto Museum, Sacramento. Special Japanese Car Exhibit planned - maybe late May. A Low-Rider display goes until mid May. <https://www.calautomuseum.org/press-room> **The dates of the Japanese car display haven't been announced yet, so this event is**

date is iffy – but your interest level would help us make plans you will like.

Jun 4, 2022 - Annual Cobra Day, Cobra Experience, Martinez. Free spectator admission. Ford powered cars accepted. More info:

www.cobraexperience.org

This event will happen with or without NCKCC – hope we see you at the show.

July 16, '22 - Shop Tour of Canepa Auto Sport Museum This is iffy!

More Info: <https://canepa.com/category/news/canepa-cars-and-coffee/> **Turns out they had some "Shop Walks" in Feb and March, but nothing scheduled forward. Looks like they schedule these with a short fuse. Look at the shop-walk videos on their website and let us know if you want to try to attend one of these on short notice.**

August 17, 2022 - Little Car Show. Downtown Pacific Grove on Lighthouse Ave. 12 noon - 5 pm.

Spectators free. More info: <https://whatsupmonterey.com/events/monterey-car-week/the-little-car-show/433> **This event will happen with or without NCKCC – Let us know if you will attend and we will try to make it an organized club event.**

September 18, 2022 (Sunday) - NCKCC Annual Show, Blackhawk Museum. 10 -3 pm. **I have requested this date from Blackhawk but haven't received confirmation yet.**

November 6, 2022 (Sunday) - Annual Brunch, Incontro Ristorante, Danville, CA **Haven't made reservation yet but don't expect any problem. If this date is a problem let us know and we will consider a move.**

CLUB HAPPENINGS

Good Bye to Dave & Joyce DeCato:

We are sorry to report that Dave & Joyce DeCato will not be regularly attending our events because they are moving to North Carolina in early March, to be closer to children.



At left is an image showing their new home. The address & phones are Shown above.

4622 Salem Prince Dr., Hope Mills, NC 28348.

Cell phones:
Dave 925 206 9654
Joyce 925 809 5910.

We will keep them up-to-date on club activities via the emailed version of the newsletter and hope to hear of their car-related events in NC.

Joe Tattersall Reports on F-1 Replica

Joe recently reports he decided to start a complete flight check on his F-1 race car replica (aka: Furor).

Pulled all the body parts off to check that all nuts, bolts & screws were tight. Next the wings were removed for some repairs, then reinstalled. The air horn was repaired, hopefully for the last time.

Some of you may recall that Joe originally had a red car but repainted it with Navy Blue. (depends on what you think Navy blue is !)

Now, after some road testing, it's ready for the show circuit.



Shown above: Joe's Furor at its most recent show appearance.

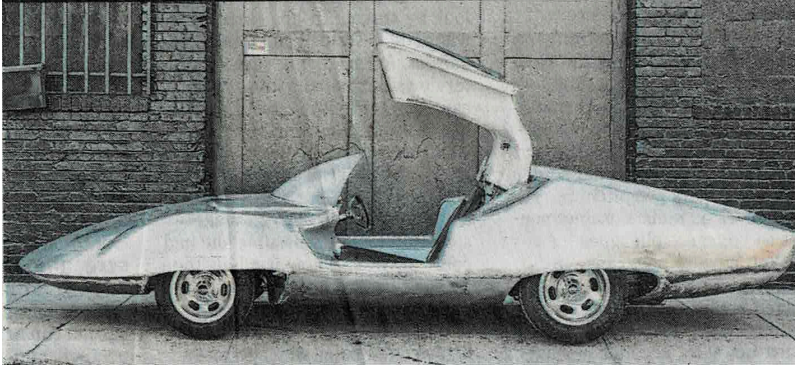
A SPACE-SHIP CAR CREATION

In my quest for news of interest I keep my eyes open for candidates. Here's one I thought qualified.

A. J. Baime is a automotive writer that provides the Wall Street Journal a look at special cars in the "My Ride" column each week. You might even find him interested in your project. Here's a summary of last week's column. (Email him at wsj.com)

Bill Cushenbery was an active car customizer back in the mid-1960s, whose creations graced the pages of car magazines.

Cushenbery started the Space Coupe in early 1960s, based on a Chevy Corvair chassis but abandoned it, uncompleted. It disappeared after his death in 1998.

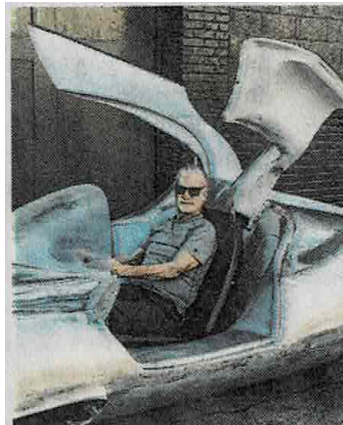


Current owner, Barry Gremillion had a friend, Carl Green, that had also known Cushenbery. Green somehow discovered and acquired what he recognized as the Space Coupe, in a field, in terrible condition. He trailed it to a museum in Oklahoma, where it stayed for another seven years, as he looked for financing to finish it as Cushenbery might have done.

The financing came from Barry Gremillion in 2008, but Carl Green passed away soon thereafter. The car made its way through several L.A. shops before it landed in the hands of John Esposito, a Porsche specialist with assistance from Jim Roten who worked on the car's design in 1963 to 1966 and photos from that era.

The car is almost finished now for final painting. Barry Gremillion also plans to do a documentary on Bill Cushenbery and the car's history. He says the Corvair engine has been rebuilt and sounds impressive.

The most unusual part of the design is the door treatment, as shown at left.



A SAD TALE OF CARS LOST AT SEA

On February 23rd news reports told of a ship, the Felicity Ace, that was afire and adrift near Portugal's Azores Islands in the Atlantic after the 22-member ships crew had been rescued.

The ship sailed from Germany heading for Rhode Island with about 4,000 luxury cars, including Porsche, Bentley, Audi, Lamborghini and other VW brands aboard.

The fire had been burning for several days, but on Wednesday February 23rd the visible fire and smoke had subsided, allowing salvage crews and firefighters to return to the ship to prepare for sea-going tugs to tow the ship to a location where the cause of the fire could be investigated and salvage operations started.



With the two tugs arrival on March 1st it was noted that the Felicity Ace was taking on water and listing. The next day the 60,000-ton merchant ship sank with all of the 4,000-plus cars aboard.

The fire was one of the first on a major vehicle carrier and since there were substantial number of battery powered electric vehicles aboard, it has raised questions among insurers and regulators about how to safely transport such vehicles.

Although the cause of the Felicity Ace might never be known because the ship is at the bottom of the Atlantic, experts say there is a danger that batteries in electric vehicles can short circuit and catch fire.

Volkswagen said that even before the ship sank, the damage to the vehicles was probably such that there was little chance that any could be delivered. They also declined to comment on the value of the lost vehicles, but earlier insurance sources estimated the vehicles value at \$401 million, which works out to be a little more than \$100,000 per vehicle.

CARS FOR SALE

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: (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.

