



NCKCC NEWS

Handcrafted Automobiles

May 2009

Volume 27 Number 5



Most of our Tour Group is shown here in the Filoli Mansion Ballroom in front of the ornate fireplace. The Maddux and Hance families got lost to another group and are not shown.

Photo by Larry Fewell

ACTIVITY NOTICES

May 9, 2009 - Coming Out Party, E. Contra Costa County Historical Museum, Knightsen/Brentwood (See page 4)

June 6 & 7, 2009 - Art & Wine Festival, Walnut Creek featuring a small car show of NCKCC member cars.

July 3, 2009 - 4th of July Parade in Benicia & Dinner at a local restaurant.

FROM THE PREZ

I have just returned from our latest Club outing: the Filoli Mansion and Gardens in Woodside, CA. With 19 members and guests, the turnout for this tour was the best for a Club outing in many years. Those attending had the pleasure of meeting new member, Larry Fewell, his wife Evelyn, and their guests. Only three members drove their club cars, Chuck & Sue Maddux with their M-B 500K, from Benicia, Paul and Ruth King with their "Lance" Mercedes from Concord and Tom and Irene Walters, from Mountain View in their M-B 500K.

They say that April is a great time to visit the Mansion and Gardens and whoever "they" are were definitely right. Thousands and thousands of spring flowers were in full bloom. The traditionally designed formal gardens were just amazing and seemed to go on forever. The Mansion tour was amazing in its own right. It's hard for us "normal" people to even imagine the opulent lifestyle that its former residents, the Bourns and the Roths, enjoyed. If there was a down to the day, it was the weather. It was a little "too" nice. The temps were in the upper seventies and the bright sun made it feel even warmer. Many of our group were sagging a bit (See photo at R) having only seen about half the garden. We opted to return to the Filoli Garden Café for lunch. The Café, however, was really busy. We waited through the line to pick up a cold drinks, salads, and sandwiches. The food was passable but overpriced. All in all, however, I think everyone really enjoyed the outing. I suggest we plan on returning in a couple of years. In April, of course! Next time we'll opt for a different lunch venue.

Our next scheduled Club activity will be our "Coming Out" Party on May 9th. I'd like to thank our fellow members, the DeCatos, the Bellos, and Gil Somerhalder for opening their East Contra Costa History Museum & Grounds for our "Coming Out" Party. This outing is the chance for all of our members to show everyone why they have been cooped up in the garage for the winter months. So let's get that project car out in the sunlight, finished or not, and show the world your handiwork. Check elsewhere in this issue 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 our next outing, the "Coming Out" Party at the East Contra Costa History Museum, Saturday, May 9th.

Jim Wagner, NCKCC Prez

APRIL FILOLI MANSION & GARDENS TOUR

Our April NCKCC was covered pretty well by James Wagner in the "From The Prez" section on page 2, so this will be mostly a photo report. But first, we want to thank James for setting up the interesting and well attended tour.

Those attending included: Larry & Evelyn Fewell with guests Joanna & John Ikner, Vern & Carol Hance, Paul & Ruth King, John Knebel, Allen Koch, Chuck & Sue Maddux, Marty & Bette Rosenthal, James & Wendy Wagner, Robert Wagner and Tom & Irene Walters.

Below: Lunch time in the Cafe



Above: Our group in the Drawing Room.



Above: Evelyn Fewell poses by the flowers.
Below: The Group by the Sundial.



COMING OUT PARTY - **MAY 9th 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**

Our annual "Coming Out" party is intended to honor those with newly built or acquired cars during the past year and new members that have joined in that period.

The party will be at the East Contra Costa County Historical Museum, 3890 Sellers Avenue, Brentwood, CA 94513. The Museum will provide Hot Dogs and soft drinks, but suggest that members bring a side dish or salad to broaden the selections on our food table. If you wish to bring beer or wine, feel free to do so, because the museum is not licensed to serve such beverages, but they can be consumed legally.

If you haven't been to the Museum before, there is a lot to see and learn about the early history of this area. If you have visited before, there are new displays and an opportunity to refresh your knowledge.

We are fortunate to receive this invitation to have our party at the Museum, through Dave & Joyce DeCato and Al & Pat Bello. Both families are active members of our club, avid car collectors and key staff members of the Museum.

The review of the membership records for 2008 through April 2009 indicates we have the following new members and cars that we wish to recognize and honor:

Dick Norway of Antioch joined in February '08. He drives a MG-TD and just barely got included in our party last year, but lets celebrate again. Larry & Evelyn Fewell, of San Jose, joined us in March '08 and recently purchased a Marlene M-B replica. Lots to celebrate here.

Allen & Maryann Koch, of Citrus Heights, also joined in March '08 and have acquired a yellow Bugatti that you have seen a several events.

Ross Wentworth, of Dublin, joined in April and brought his newly acquired M-B SSK to last years party. Lets celebrate again.

Don & Jacquie Raye, of Petaluma, joined us in November but showed their Street Beast Cobra at San Leandro, taking home a trophy.

Miles Chappell, of Felton, drives a Porsche 550 Spyder and joined us in February. We want to see this car.

Dave & Yvonne Little, of Martinez, joined in March '09 and drive a Superformance Cobra. We want to see this car, too.

Steve & Rosalie Rhodes, of Martinez, drive a Bricklin. Although it is not a kit car, it is certainly a rare special interest car that we welcome to our club.

James & Joyce Smith, of Oakdale, CA, drive a Factory Five Cobra that should have been in our San Leandro show, but missed out due to a shop delay on the finishing touches.

James Henson, of Clovis, CA, lives a way down the road but has plans to build an electric powered car. We would be delighted if he could attend and tell us more about this interesting project.

So to these special guests we extend our warmest welcome and hope that you can attend or Party on May 9th.

The word instructions are: Take Highway 4 (alias 'Brentwood Blvd. or California Delta Highway) to Sunset Road, then east about 1-mile and turn right (south) on Sellers Rd. Go a short distance and then left into the Museum. Go to Google "3890 Sellers Avenue, Brentwood, CA" for maps.

Please tell us if you plan to attend (so we get enough hot dogs) by calling Vern at (925) 938-1442 or email to [<nckcc@astound.net>](mailto:nckcc@astound.net)

ART & WINE FESTIVAL - WALNUT CREEK

By Vern Hance

We have again been invited to display our cars at the Art & Wine Festival on June 6 & 7th, 2009. Our reward will be a wine or beer glass that you will be able to fill by purchasing tickets at the show.

Potentially 40,000 people may come to look at your car and ask questions about it. A car show fanatic's Nirvana!

The location is at Heather Farms Park in Walnut Creek at the intersection of Ygnacio Valley Blvd. and San Carlos.

Festival hours are 11 am to 7 pm on Saturday and 11 am to 6 pm on Sunday. You should plan to show up by about 9:30 or earlier to avoid traffic and to speed your getting to the display location. Plan to enter at Marchbanks Drive from westbound Ygnacio Valley Road. After entering Marchbanks Dr. take a right and tell the security/parking staff people that you are part of the car display. Go left at San Carlos and another left, across the sidewalk, to the display area on the grass behind the vendor tents.

We would like to know if you're coming in advance so we can negotiate the right number of wine glasses. Please call Vern Hance at (925) 938-1442 or email [<nckcc@astound.net>](mailto:nckcc@astound.net) and tell us which days you will attend. You are welcome to attend both days.

We will have available some reminder cards, about our September Car show at the Concord Hilton, that you can give to people that seem

interested in our cars. This is a way you can help make our new show location a success.

BENICIA TORCHLIGHT PARADE

By Chuck Maddux

You'll all come to the Benicia Torchlight Parade Friday evening, July 3rd. Be sure and bring decorations for you car and yourself. We will congregate at my home on East D St. starting at 5PM, then at 6 we will proceed to the parade lineup area. The parade starts at 6:30 PM. As has been done in the past we will be have dinner at a nearby restaurant. So, shine up your cars, bring along your flags and other decorations and enjoy a good meal. Directions will be forth coming in the June "News".

ANNUAL BRUNCH FOR 2009

I only got a few replies on the annual brunch location. The few responders indicated that Humphrey's was OK and preferred a Brunch with a wide variety of foods rather than a narrower type of menu. I will wait another month before I reserve a room at Humphrey's. If you object let me know. (925) 938-1442 or email [<nckcc@astound.net>](mailto:nckcc@astound.net)

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

The proposal of a digital newsletter by e-mail to those members with e-mail service yielded exactly two people who would be happy to receive the electronic newsletter. So you will all continue to receive the paper version. If you want the online version (in color) go to the website.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have four new member families to welcome into our club this month.

Yvonne & Dave Little live in Martinez, (925) 691-5101, and have purchased a Superformance Cobra powered by a Roush 427 driving through a Tremec TKO 5-speed. It was built by Full Throttle Performance.

They are interested in cruises and show-n-shine events.

Steve & Rosalie Rhodes live in Martinez, (925) 228-8145, and drive a 1976 Bricklin. Although technically not a kit car, the small number built should qualify it as a handcrafted vehicle and certainly a Special Interest car. Steve works for the Bureau of Automotive Repair and is a retired Nissan Master Technician. Paul and Ruth King encouraged them to join us.

James & Joyce Smith live in Oakdale, CA, (209) 847-5237, and drive a Factory Five Cobra that they purchased partly finished. It is powered by a supercharged 5.0 liter V-8 driving through a 5-speed tranny. I think this car almost made it to our San Leandro show last year but got delayed by a shop that couldn't do the finishing touches in time. Smiths are interested in shows, runs and other get-togethers.

James & Carol Henson live in Clovis, CA, (559) 355-3254, and are planning to build a tube frame car from scratch and power it with an electric motor. They found our club through the internet and are interested in exchanging some information about car building. Hey, Joel Heinke, how about making a courtesy call to share some of your tube frame expertise. I am hoping James will share details of his plans, so we newsletter readers can continue our education.

We say, WELCOME ABOARD, to these new members and look forward to meeting you, seeing your cars and getting better acquainted.

AHA 'FUN UNDER THE SUN' SHOW AT KNOTT'S

I got a brief update from Steve Bales on the Knott's Berry Farm Show last weekend along with some pictures.

The show was about the same size as last year, but the Factory Five Cobra display was missing.

The weather was cooperative with temperatures in the 70s but some wind.

NCKCC members with cars included Claude Calderon with his Ferrari F-40 and Steve Bales with his Mercedes 500K. Steve brought home 1st Place in the Neo-Classic category.



Greg Hampton was there with a car but Steve was not sure of the model.

Next years show will not be at Knott's. Steve said he thought it would be in Pomona.

ACCC CONFERENCE MAY 5 - 8, 2009

The Assoc of Calif. Car Clubs has 2 conferences per year, the conference in May is in Sacramento California and all members of The ACCC are invited to attend, this is your chance to talk to Reps of the DMV, Highway patrol, BAR, various Senators and Assembly persons and some times we even have reps from CARB.

The Sacramento 23rd Annual Legislative Conference will be May 5th-8th, 2009 at California Automobile Museum 2200 Front Street, Sacramento, California (916) 442-6802

For a 2009 Registration Form go to <www.acccdefender.org/ACCC_2009_registration.doc>

FROM ACCC's WEBSITE

CARB agrees that the number of original pre-1976 vehicles is dwindling, but the number of modified vehicles is increasing each year with the current 500 allowed under the (SPCNS) program. In their opinion, the current 500 sequence numbers are adequate and will not support an increase. When asked if they would oppose it, the response was that the Air Boards mission is to clean the air and that more vehicles exempted from smog check would not accomplish their mission. They agreed that improvements in the program are needed and can be initiated through the legislative process or a resolution. However this doesn't mean ACCC can't promote legislation to increase the number with a new bill, but we would need to make a case to support the need and make a convincing case that it wouldn't contribute to higher emissions in the state.

Editor's Note:

The below article looks like a good opportunity to promote our September show if we could get a few of our club members to attend. It's a bit expensive but an opportunity that might be a lot of fun.

CALIFORNIA AUTO MUSEUM EVENT - AUGUST

Dear Car Enthusiast:

On August 1, 2009, the California Auto Museum, formerly the Towe Auto Museum, will host its first annual Big Event on the Road, or CAMBER, a family-friendly car cruise in accordance with the Museum's mission to be the center of entertainment for all things car-related in and around Sacramento. The event will begin in Midtown Sacramento, where cars will cruise in and park, and participants can enjoy all that Midtown Sacramento has to offer, from trendy boutiques to restaurants, bars, and coffee houses. The general public is invited to attend this event and check out all the unique and cool cars as well as enjoy local hotspots in Midtown Sacramento. The cars will then cruise from Midtown Sacramento to California State University, Sacramento (CSUS) for a final car show, including awards, vendors, entertainment and

food! There is a \$49 entry for all cars participating in the cruise. There is no charge for the general public to enjoy the car cruise or car show and activities at CSUS. For more information or to register your vehicle, call (916) 442-6802 or visit www.calautomuseum.org. There is also a Participant Registration Form attached. This event is sponsored by the Midtown Business Association and Entercom Communications Corporation.

Please share this information with your fellow car club members. Thank you!

Kaela Nelson, Marketing and Education
Coordinator
California Automobile Museum
2200 Front Street
Sacramento, CA 95818
P (916) 442-6802
F (916) 442-2646
www.calautomuseum.org

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

On March 31, 2009 the Towe Auto Museum officially changed its name to the California Automobile Museum. Our new name represents the culmination of many years of hard work by our board, staff and volunteers. Our mission remains the same. We invite you to visit our new website: www.CalAutoMuseum.org

Below: Claude Calderon's Ferrari F-40 at the 2009 AHA show.



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



661-251-2223

Below: A view of the gardens and reflecting pool.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2009

- May, 9, 2009 - Coming Out Party. East Contra Costa Historical Museum, Brentwood
- June, 6 & 7, 2009 - Walnut Creek Art & Wine with NCKCC Mini Show, Paul King, Champion
- July 3, 2009 - Benicia Independence Day Parade & Dinner. C. Maddux Champion.
- August 8, 2009 - "Proposed" Riverboat Tour/ dinner and/or Towe Museum ,Sacramento
- August 15, 2009 - Hot August Niles Car Show, Fremont 9am to 3 pm
- September 12-13, 2009 - NCKCC Annual Car Show.
- September 26, 2009 - Knightsen Car Show. Free and open to all types of cars. Champion, All & Pat Bello.
- October 17, 2009 - Proposed Wine Tour. Chuck Maddux, Champion
- November, 2009 - Christmas Parade, Knightsen, CA
- December 6, 2009 - Annual Brunch