



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

May 2010

Volume 28 Number 5



This is our group at the April 17th Coming Out Party at Robert Wagner's home. Clockwise from left; Carol Hance, Rosalie & Steve Rhodes, Robert Wagner, Chuck Maddux, Jim Wagner, Ruth & Paul King and Pat & Al Bello.

ACTIVITY NOTICES

May 8, 2010 - Spring Fever car show in Nilas District of Fremont. RSVP to Jim Wagner to reserve a spot for you.

May 22, 2010 - Wine Tasting and Castle Tour at Castello di Amorosa in Calistoga.

June 5 & 6, 2010 - Walnut Creek Art & Wine Festival with NCKCC unofficial car show on the side.

FROM THE PREZ

By James Wagner

The month of May will be a busy one for the Club. We have two activities on the agenda. The first, on Saturday, May 8th, is the Niles Spring Fever Car Show in Niles/Fremont. This one always has lots of great cars on display and plenty of restaurants and antique shops to visit. Also, for those of you who are anticipating attending the Niles Show, please let me know by phone or e-mail. I will be there early and try to reserve a few "shady" parking spots. Check out the show on the Niles Merchant's web site listed in our Club Calendar.

Our other Club activity for May sounds like a great adventure: Touring a real medieval castle. Well, maybe not quite "real" but very realistic. "Castello di Amorosa" was obviously built by someone who had plenty of "spare change". The fact that the "Castello" is also an outstanding winery makes the adventure even better. Details on our medieval adventure are elsewhere in this newsletter. Hope to see you there. By the way, I'm leaving my "Suit of Armor" at home. I wouldn't be able to bend enough to get into my ZR2/Fiero. Checkout the "Castello" web site: <http://www.castellodiamorosa.com>

Take care, Hope to see y'all soon,

APRIL 17, 2010 – COMING OUT PARTY

This year the Coming Out Party was in Foster City at the home of member, Bob Wagner.

The Menu included delicious Pork Loin Roast, Seasoned Chicken Breasts, baked beans, potato salad plus appetizers, salads and desserts brought by the attendees. A nice selection of wine, beer, sodas and water were also available. We also enjoyed the impressive collection of cactus of every known type that densely populated the patio and gardens of Robert's home.

As you can see on the cover picture we had eleven people attend (Vern was behind the camera). We had a lot of conversations going on and caught up with some member news - - like Landers travels to Egypt, Wallters to South America, etc. We also kindly honored those recent members that could not attend including Larry & Evelyn Fewell, Merlin Cofano, James & Carol Henson, Doug & Tomi Izuno, Allen & Maryann Koch, Dave & Yvonne Little.

Tom & Maureen Mills and Jim & Joyce Smith.

The new car honor roll was uncertain but we tried to recap the changes and additions. (Corrections are welcome) Some of the known cars got new owners: Larry Fewell purchased Bohaboy's Marlene; Al Bello purchased Rhodes Bricklin and Al Clavelli purchased Ramsinh's Testarossa (I think). We also honored Steve Bales newly completed '39 Ford Coupe, hoped for Peter Kunedt's Bernardi to be running soon, wondered if the Izuno's Ferrari/Fiero has found a new owner, wondered what's happening to Harlie Koontz' Kelmark and commented on how beautiful Shane Williams Ferrari/Fiero looked at our Annual Show. We also hoped to see more of the "new to us" cars of our newest members like Tom Mills Cobra, Rick Delany's Gatsby and Dave Little's Cobra. Though we missed Allen Koch at this event, we praised his attendance at most other events in spite of his distant location. We also missed Jim & Joyce Smith and their Burple Cobra but hailed their plan to attend the AHA show and the June Art & Wine event.

The attendees really enjoyed a great party and enthusiastically say THANK YOU to Robert Wagner and Jim Wagner for putting on a great event.

MAY 22 EVENT TO CASTELLO DI AMOROSA WINERY & CASTLE

By Larry Fewell



We have booked a reservation for a Castle Tour and Wine Tasting on May 22nd. Meeting time is 9:40 a.m. at the Castello di Amorosa, 4045 Saint Helena Highway, Calistoga, CA 94515, phone (707) 967-6272.

We plan to have lunch after the tasting at Boskos Trattoria, 1364 Lincoln Ave., Calistoga. It is a moderately priced Italian restaurant with excellent food and service based on reviews and Napa Tours.

Here are the directions to get there:

- Find your way to CA 29 (out of Vallejo) going north toward Napa.
- Continue to follow CA-29 N for about 35 miles (measured from the north side of Vallejo) to 4045 Saint Helena Highway in Calistoga.

Our tour officially starts at 10 a.m. but we need to check-in about 20-minutes earlier. For emergency phone contact on the tour day try Vern's cell phone (925) 876-7057.

Here's a little history about the Castello di Amorosa. It first opened its doors to the public in April 2007, It is the pet project of 4th generation vintner, Daryl Sattui who also owns and operates the [V. Sattui Winery](#) named after his great-grandfather who originally established a winery in San Francisco in 1885.

Sattui claims to have spent nearly all his resources (about 30 million dollars) and the last 14 years building the medieval replica castle on the vineyard grounds.

Tours of the beautiful 13th century, 107 room, Tuscan style Castle and Winery are led by a Castle guide. All tours feature a barrel tasting, and include a complimentary tasting of our current releases. Tours are approximately 1-1/2 hours in length. The walking portion of your tour is approximately 60 minutes followed by a 30-45 minute private tasting of our handcrafted Italian styles wines.

We currently have 14 people signed up, but if you would like to attend please contact Treasurer, Vern Hance at (925) 938-1442 or nckcc@astound.net. Cost is \$31 per person.

31st ANNUAL AHA FUN UNDER THE SUN CAR SHOW

By Vern Hance

April 24th was the date for the AHA Show at the NHRA Motorsports Museum in Pomoma, CA. The weather was pleasant with high overcast in the morning and sunny with temperatures in the mid 70s the rest of the day.

We can count 6 NCKCC representatives at the show and 3 NCKCC cars. Carol & I drove my M-B 500K in a symbolic return to the car's birthplace in

1985 at the Classic Factory on 9th street in Pomona.

Jim Smith drove his Burple colored Cobra from Oakdale and met with Claude Calderon, driving his Ferrari F-40, and passenger Joe Macias of Manteca. They took a less travelled route going east from Bakersfield on CA 58, then south across the mountains to Pomona. They said traffic was light.



Jim, Joe, Claude, Carol and I met for a nice prime rib dinner at the Sheraton Suites Hotel Friday night. I cleaned all the bugs off my car, but unfortunately parked under trees, where the birds voted against me during the night.

On show day Steve Rhodes was there early and stayed most all day, soaking up information about the variety of cars.



I couldn't avoid taking the first Place Trophy for Neo-Classic/Mercedes, since there were no others in the class. The next surprise was getting the "Longest Distance Driven" award for my under 500 mile trip. The big shock was to be included in the 4-way tie for "Best of Show". The tie was settled by awarding the trophy to the earliest registrant. Procrastination doesn't always provide an immediate reward !

The Saturday night dinner was catered in the NHRA museum, where we sat among the Museum cars. About 50 people turned in their dinner tickets for a host of prizes, that probably outnumbered the guests. The gourmet meatloaf was tasty, but could have been warmer.

We headed home via Burbank, where we had lunch with the Best Man from our wedding some many decades ago. The trip home was not so smooth because of a lumpy tire that just kept growing an ever bigger lump. I gave up and left I-5 at Valencia, where I was fortunate to find a Big O Tire store with a 235R15 tire that provided a more relaxed trip home.

Another adventure, another survival story, but I'm glad I did it.

I'm including some pics of our club participants in the "Fun In The Sun" show. If you want to look at my photos and video of the show, it is available on our website under the "Photo/Video" section. (Along with earlier posted stuff)

NEW VENUE FOR AHA SHOW

By Carol Hance

After many years at Knotts Berry Farm, in Buena Park, the AHA show moved to the FairPlex (Home of the LA County Fair) in Pomona. To me, this was a step up. The people who came were "car people" not just families on their way to ride the roller coasters. There were trees and flowers in the area, The NHRA "hot rod" museum was open, free and available for show participants to visit. Dragsters took up the center of several display rooms or hung from the ceiling. Related historical items were displayed in glass fronted cases. The restrooms were attractive and clean. The gift shop attendants seemed to know who their customers are, offering Tee shirts with cars and a logo "Old Guys Toys".

The Sheraton Hotel was the only close hotel and definitely more expensive than Motel 8 but within easy walking distance with no busy streets to cross to get to the show. It was very quiet and relaxing. There were no shops to visit so when I was not

looking at cars, I just sat next to our car and observed people looking at the cars (like Jim Standiford used to enjoy doing). I couldn't answer most technical questions but didn't get too many. Some questions were strange: "Can you drive this on the freeway?" or "How did you get the car here?". I never have understood why people stand looking into the car for five or more minutes studying the interiors, but did see a lot of that. Most of the people were respectful of the cars and did not try to stand on the running board or touch the car. There was only one bicycle that I saw, Vern took a picture of it because it was so classy and the rider was pushing, not riding it.

There were over 150 cars there and a large variety, but Cobras outnumbered all other types. The Meyers Manx owners had cars on display near Bruce Meyers, the historical developer of the dune buggy. Meyers had his own display and seemed to be enjoying the activities. Vern had a nice discussion with Bruce, Curt Scott, and other "old timers". Vern won the award for car driven the longest distance to the show (less than 500 miles) This may point to a trend for 1-day shows. We can remember talking to people who drove from Kansas and from Minnesota to the AHA show in the past. Dan Barbee towed his car from Colorado (where he now lives) and won the award for traveling the farthest. He said that he remembers people bringing cars from the East Coast.

We had planned to attend the big swap meet on Sunday but we ran short of time and had to skip it.

NILES "SPRING FEVER" CAR SHOW

The date of the show is May 8, 2010 and it runs from 9 am to 3 pm, with all kinds of wacky awards that carry little or no bragging rights. But its a fun low-key show with lots of beautiful cars and provides an opportunity to help publicize our September Concord Show.

Jim Wagner is the Champion and has offered to get there early to reserve some spots so we can have our club cars together.

The cost is \$18 for registration before May 1st and \$25 after that. I tried the website listed elsewhere in this newsletter and found the site seems to have been attacked, so PC users especially stay away. Call (510) 792-792-8023 and beg for the \$18 rate if you want to save \$7. Claim their website prevented your timely registration. I found a 2009 registration form, which I plan to use trying to meet the deadline.

Also important is to call Jim Wagner (650) 341-0211 or email jamesuu@comcast.net so he can reserve you a spot.

ART & WINE FESTIVAL JUNE 5 & 6

We have again been invited to display our cars at the Art & Wine Festival on June 5 & 6th, 2010. Our reward may or may not 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 try to 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 our 2010 Concord show be a success.

OTHER AUTO EVENTS OF INTEREST

By Vern Hance

I get lots of invitations to attend car shows that come in after we set up our "official" club activities. We encourage members to consider participating in these shows. They are fun and can provide an opportunity to educate the showgoers about our

particular branch of the car hobby. They also provide an opportunity to publicize our September Show in Concord.

So, here is the list of events you might consider participating in.

May 15, 2010 - Maxwell Classic Car Show, Maxwell High School, 515 Oak St. Maxwell, CA 95955. No Fee. Prize drawing at 1:15. See www.nckcc.com (HOTLINE) for registration form.

May 15 & 16, 2010 - Mountain View "A La Carte & Art" 10 am to 6 pm on Castro Street. \$35 both days, \$25 one day. Registration form: www.letstalkevents.com or (650) 368-8212.

May 29, 2010 - "Cruisin' Along" car show at the Vallejo Marina, Mare Island Way, Vallejo, CA. Check-in 7:30 am. Show 8:30am - 4:30 pm. Benefiting the Jesse Bethel High School Music Program. Preregister for \$30 to May 19; \$40 after 5/19. Registration form www.nckcc.com (HOTLINE)

July 31, 2010 - The 2nd Annual CAM Car Cruise, hosted by the California Automobile Museum (CAM), will be a fun-filled day for the whole family and will begin with a car show at the California Automobile Museum. Cars will then proceed on a car cruise through the streets of Sacramento, ending in Midtown Sacramento for a final car show, where attendees are encouraged to enjoy the local fares of Midtown vendors.

Price for car cruise is \$39 early registration, \$49 after June 30 with an extra \$5 off for CAM Gearhead members. General admission is free for spectators. Participants can pay online by clicking here, but still need to submit the registration form available at <http://www.toweautomuseum.org/html/cruise.html>

FROM THE EMAIL BAG

I get a lot of emails and phone calls seeking help or advice about handcrafted cars. Here are some that may be of interest to you.

Miles Chappell has been a member this past year and owns a Beck Porsche 550 Spyder. He wants to sell it and retire from the club, so I offered to do a one-time commentary about his car. Engine was rebuilt by Elgin's in Redwood City. smog exempt with BAR sticker. 1910cc high perf. only 30,000 kilometers (aprox 18000 miles since new) 4 speed trans, everything works. He says the paint needs

some help, but is asking \$16,000. Contact [<600miles@ev1.net>](mailto:600miles@ev1.net)

Chuck Latty reported his nephew in Culver City, CA has a 1988 Fiero GT in original condition with a newer front clip and working pop-up headlights. It currently has some electrical issues that cause intermittent no-starts. Vital specs include: V-6 Engine, 5-Speed Manual Transaxle, T-Top Roof, Black interior and exterior. Asking price is \$2,000/obo. If interested call Jim at 818-991-7967 or jalengineer@sbcglobal.net

Dale Fieber is a former member that moved to Gig Harbor, WA. He had a beautiful silver Porsche Speedster that he wishes to sell due to the often rainy weather in Washington. His car was used as the background for our 2007 Show Dash Plaque. If anyone is interested call him at 253 851 3271 or email at dfieber@baybrokerage.com

APPLICATION FOR IPHONE IPOD TOUCH USERS

The California Department of Motor Vehicles recently announced "DMV Now," an iPhone application that is now available to all customers who have an Apple iPhone or an iPod touch. The free application will allow users to instantly find the nearest field office based on the GPS feature, information about the wait time at the field office, take sample written driving tests, access DMV instructional videos and receive important DMV alerts.

Since millions of California residents have an iPhone or an iPod touch, the DMV recognized that it would be beneficial to work with Apple to create an application that would make conducting DMV business much more convenient and readily accessible to customers. DMV customers can download the application for their iPhone or iPod touch via the online Apple application store.

Looking for a way to better prepare for your written exam? With just a simple tap of the finger, "DMV Now" allow customers to take sample driver license tests and receive the results instantly. There are sample tests available for all license categories.

The "DMV Now" application has instructional videos available to view. The videos are divided into the following categories:

California Driver License; Motorcycle Skills Test; Rules of the Road; Sharing the Road;

Driving Test failure reasons.

Whether it's new laws or new services, the DMV Web site is constantly changing and upgrading. With the "DMV Now" application you can find out more about these updates instantly. The DMV alerts option provides information about new hours of operation, Web site updates, new services and much more.

For more information about the new application, "DMV Now" please visit the DMV Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov. You can also learn more about the new application by viewing the instructional video at <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/mobiledevices/iphone/dmwnow/default.htm>. For those iPhone or iPod touch users who want to "Save Time. Go Online." from anywhere, remember "there's an app for that."

Below: NHRA Museum, overlooking the AHA Show



FOR SALE

BUGATTI 1927 Bugatti, good cond. Never wrecked. Yellow paint, brown upholstery that needs rework. Less than 50 miles on 1600cc recond. engine. Consider delivery.
\$3000.00. (See photo) Dave Fernandez
530-384-2778 email daf360hd@att.net
(3-10)

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

FERRARI - F-40 One owner since built in 1997. Red with tan interior. V-6 with 4-speed. Excellet condition. \$15,500 o.b.o. (559) 346-1693
e-mail claud45@sbcglobal.net (04/10)

FERRARI-Look-alike - From Fiero Factory in the U.K. 1988 Fiero based car with 3.8 liter Bonneville engine transplant and upgrade wheels. \$12,000 o.b.o. Call Doug Izuno (925) 254-1789. Or e-mail: tizuno@comcast.net See Photo at right. (10/09)

FINO – Built on 1987 Fiero with Cadillac Northstar V-8 & auto trans. Regular trophy winner. Custom suspension, brakes and interior. Special Purple BASF Extreme paint. \$25,000. Call Al Bohr (503-632-8372) or e-mail: albohr@bctonline.com.
(10/09)

MERCEDES 500K 350 Chev. w/Edelbrock, Pro Flo Fuel injection.
350 Turbo Tran., Vintage Air, Heat and Defrost. Smog exempt. Steve Bales, 925 820-7420 Email: mbales5140@aol.com
See photo and magazine story at:
<http://kitcar.automotive.com/26615/0601kc-mercedes-benz-500k/index.html>
or type Bales Benz in Google. (04/10)

'52 MG-TD Replica Project Car. '72 VW engine & tranny which runs and drives. Car needs more time than I have available to restore. Will deliver free within 100 miles of Sacramento. \$500 Allen Koch (916) 723-0234 or E-mail: A_J_Koch@yahoo.com
(04/10)

PANTERA Factory built, only one known to exist. Red w/ beige interior, Chev engine \$35,000 Call Bob Elster
707-938-3254. (1/02)

NEED YOUR KIT CAR PUT TOGETHER, customized or finished?
Have a car that needs body work?
We can help!
Contact: Car Concepts by Merlin Cofano
415-320-0678 (10/09)

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

PICTURES OF CARS FOR SALE

David Fernandez Bugatti Type 35 (Below)



Claude Calderon Ferrari F-40 (Below)



Steve Bales Mercedes 500K (Below)



Doug Izuno's Ferrari/Fiero



Below: AHA Show, courtesy Curt Scott



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010

- April 17, 2010 – Annual Coming Out Party to celebrate new members and new cars. James & Robert Wagner, Champions
- April 24, 2010 – AHA Handcrafted Auto Show, NHRA Museum, Pomona, CA
- May 8, 2010 – Niles Spring Fever Car Show, 9am – 3pm. (See www.nilesmerchants.com)
- May 22, 2010 – Wine Country Castle & Winery Tour, Napa area. Larry Fewell, Champion.
- June 5 & 6, 2010 – Art & Wine Festival with NCKCC Handcrafted Car Display. Paul King, Champion
- July 3, 2010 – Benicia Torchlight Parade & Dinner. Chuck Maddux, Champion.
- July 10, 2010 – Party at King residence. Paul king, Champion
- August 21, 2010 – Hot August Niles Car Show, 9am – 3pm. (Jim Wagner, Champion)

- September 11-12, 2010 - NCKCC Annual Car Show. Concord Hilton Hotel, Concord, CA
- October 16, 2010 – S. F. Bay Cruise. Tom Wallters, Champion
- October 23, 2010 - Vintage Fair & Car Show, East C.C. Museum, Knightsen. (NCKCC is invited to attend)
- November 20, 2010 - Christmas Parade, Brentwood, CA. (NCKCC is invited to attend)
- December 5, 2009 - Annual Brunch, The Farmer Restaurant, Pleasanton Hotel. Vern Hance, Champion

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