



# NCKCC News

## Handcrafted Automobiles

May 2022

Volume 40 No. 4



Here are the two NCKCC groups that visited the USS Hornet on April 23rd. Unfortunately, we arrived at slightly different times and never found each other aboard the large ship. (More below)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Saturday Jun 4, 2022 - Annual Cobra Day**, Cobra Experience, 777 Arnold Drive Martinez. Free spectator admission. Ford powered cars accepted. More info at: [www.cobraexperience.org](http://www.cobraexperience.org) Show hours 10am - 2pm

**Sunday June 5, 2022 - Shadelands Ranch Classic Car Show.**

Sponsored by the W.C. Historical Society at 2660 Ygnacio Vally Road. Show runs from 10 am to 3 pm. Show your car for \$25 if registered by May 24th – \$30 later. Spectators are free and tours of the Museum are available during show. Registration form available on NCKCC website "Hotline" or go to: <http://walnutcreek.chambermaster.com/events/details/shadelands-ranch-classic-car-show-36139>

## **FROM THE PREZ**

I attended the Club outing to the USS Hornet on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and was amazed at how much I missed doing activities with the Club. The weather was nearly perfect. We spent quite a bit of time on the “flight deck” and didn’t get blown away. We opted for having a sandwich at the Hornet’s “pop-up” snack bar on the hangar deck...not bad. (They literally set up the entire snack bar while we watched.) With all the new and changing exhibits, the Club could make this an annual visit just to see what’s new.

Hard working Vern has come up with two possible activities for June: The Annual Cobra Day at the Cobra Experience in Martinez on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Shadelands Ranch Classic Car Show in Walnut Creek on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.

I’ve attended the “Cobra Day” in past years and enjoyed learning all the Cobra history in their museum-like showroom. There is also a “Ford-based” car show in their parking lot.

Vern has information on both the “Cobra Day” and “Shadelands” events in both the previous newsletter and this one. Please let Vern or me know if you plan to attend either of these events.

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.

Of note for your future calendars, Vern has firmed up dates for the Annual Club Car Show on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> 10am to 3pm at the Blackhawk Museum and the Annual Club Brunch on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 10am at the Incontro Restaurant in Danville. After two years of covid standdown, I’m really looking forward to both of these get-togethers.

For June, I plan on attending the Shadelands event. Hope to see you there.

Take care & Stay Safe,

Jim Wagner, NCKCC President

## **DUES CLOSE TO FINISHED**

**Thank you!** To the 24 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	Cooley
DeCato	Ellis
Elster	Foote
Friderick	Hance
Kealey	Kluber
Kunedt	Maddux
Pathak	Rhodes
Rubenstein	Somerhalder
Simons	Tattersall
Thomson	Wagner
Wallters	Wenger

For those NOT named above, we are encouraging you to send \$24, 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.

PayPal is also a way to send your dues. Just send it to [nckccwebguy@gmail.com](mailto:nckccwebguy@gmail.com)

## **USS HORNET CV-12 VISIT**

A group of seven NCKCC members and guests toured the USS Hornet Air & Space Museum in Alameda on April 23, 2022. It was a pleasure to be able to get out as a group after an extended delay due to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Our groups got separated early on, due to a difference in arrival times, and were not able to connect during our exploration of the large ship. We connected later by phone and exchanged some photos to prove we were all there at the same time.

Participants included Jim Wagner & friend Enrique, Chuck Maddux, Vern Hance, Tom Wallters & daughter, Amanda & her fiancé.

We spent some time on the flight deck where the weather was perfect and with hardly a breeze. After an unsuccessful search for a nearby restaurant, we

chose to get a nice hamburger at the 'Fantail Restaurant' which was actually on the main deck.

*Shown below: Our lunch group and a photo opportunity with a clear view of the S. F. skyline.*



## HORNET HISTORY

The USS Hornet CV-12 is actually the eighth Navy ship with the same name and covered history from 1775 to 1970. In WW-II the seventh USS Hornet CV-8 was commissioned in 1941 just weeks before Pearl Harbor and was sunk during the Battle of the Santa Cruz Islands in late October 1942. The CV-8 is remembered for launching the large Doolittle B-25 bombers that raided Tokyo on April 18 1942.

The eighth *Hornet* was an Essex-class aircraft carrier. USS *Hornet* (CV-12) was commissioned in November 1943.

She entered the Pacific War in March 1944 and was part of the famous US Navy Fast Carrier Task Forces that pounded enemy installations in the western Pacific and supported numerous island

invasions. She was awarded 11 battle stars for her exemplary WW-II service. She also served three tours of duty in the Vietnam War and recovered the Apollo 11 and Apollo 12 lunar landing spaceflights in 1969.

The heart of a carrier's combat strength is its aircraft. *Hornet's* success was dependent on the capabilities of highly trained pilots and aircrews and the specialized aircraft that operated from her flight deck.

In World War II, her air groups consisted of a fighter (VF) squadron, a bombing (VB) squadron and a torpedo (VT) squadron.

During the 1950s as naval warfare technology evolved, so too did the complexity and specialty of carrier-based aircraft. Joining the classic fighter and attack aircraft were electronic/early warning, photo-reconnaissance, and anti-submarine warfare aircraft. Dual-role aircraft also provided aerial tanking and limited cargo capabilities. Also, helicopters proved essential to carrier operations which included search and rescue missions.

*Shown below: Amanda Walters returns from a space walk, while Tom checks displays.*





## **EVENTS UPDATE**

### **(May Updates)**

**Jun 4, 2022 - Annual Cobra Day**, Cobra Experience, Martinez. Free spectator admission. Ford powered cars accepted. More info at: [www.cobraexperience.org](http://www.cobraexperience.org)

**Steve Rhodes has entered this show to represent NCKCC – hope we see more NCKCC members at the show.**

### **June 5, 2022 - Shadelands Ranch Classic Car Show.**

Sponsored by the W.C. Historical Society at 2660 Ygnacio Vally Road. Show runs from 10 am to 3 pm. Show your car for \$25 if registered by May 24th – \$30 later.

Spectators are free and tours of the Museum are available during the show. Registration form available on NCKCC website "Hotline" or go to:

<http://walnutcreek.chambermaster.com/events/details/shadelands-ranch-classic-car-show-36139>

### **July 15, '22 (Friday) - Shop Tour of Canepa Auto Sport Museum**

This date is still iffy!

I have set up an account requesting a shop walk in July, so maybe I'll get an advanced notice if they schedule one.

More Info: <https://canepa.com/category/news/canepa-cars-and-coffee/>

**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. This date has been approved by Blackhawk, so we can start planning on that firm show date. **Please mark your calendars to keep the date open.**

Registration forms are available on the NCKCC website at the 'Annual Show' tab.

**November 6, 2022 (Sunday) - Annual Brunch.** **Incontro Ristorante**, Danville

**The Sunday Brunch is back !!** Reservations have been made for 10 people, but more are welcome. Let Jim or Vern know if you want to be included. The basic cost is about \$30 plus 9% tax & a gratuity.

## **FACTORY FIVE 818 PROJECT**

This is a summary of a story published by automotive writer Mike Jordan in the WSJ.

Michael Lanfreschi started auto-crossing his Corvette in 2009, but soon wanted to get into competitive racing, but found it hard to fit into his budget. After some research he discovered the FFR 818 kit that was designed to use a Subaru WRX as a donor car. The kit cost about \$11,000 in 2017 and he was able to find an older Subaru for about \$3,500. He estimated he could finish it for a total cost of \$22,000 and be able to maintain it for a lot less dollars than a more exotic race car.



Above: Michel Lanfreschi's finished FFR 818

He found the assembly and mechanical challenges more difficult than he expected but was fortunate to have a brother who was a master mechanic for Audi, VW and Porsche and gave him credit for his critical consulting work. He also gave credit to the Factory Five Forum, where there is a wealth of knowledge and a willingness to share it.

From the story, it appears that it took more than a year to complete the car. It will be registered as a street vehicle, but he expects to drive it to the race track and back home after racing. That sounds like an ideal objective, but needs to be backed up by a "Plan-B" in case the unexpected occurs.

*Below: Michel Lanfreschi at the wheel*



## **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 computerizes 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.

