



# NCKCC News

## Handcrafted Automobiles

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A shot of our small car show on November 6th at Incontro Ristorante. Gil drove his white Camaro convertible (top down, yet), but arrived after this picture and he got away un-photographed after the Brunch.

## *HOLIDAY GREETINGS*

Embrace an Attitude of Gratitude

Enjoy Holidays with Friends & Family

Welcome Hope for The New Year

## **FROM THE PREZ**

This is probably going to be a bit longer than usual "From the Prez" column.

We had our Annual Brunch on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Incontro Ristorante in Danville. The buffet food was excellent in quality and plentiful in variety. The mimosas, coffee and desserts rounded out a great lunch and we enjoyed sharing our car stories and other interesting happenings in our lives. Our Brunch was attended by nine people that represented six of the twenty-eight memberships that make up our club. Vern will certainly have pictures from the brunch in this newsletter.

Before we adjourned, I opened the meeting to discuss and get feedback on what our attendees saw as the future of our Club. Vern gave an update on the financial fitness of the Club as well as any expected future financial obligations (ex: website fees, potential banks fees should the Club account fall below minimums.)

For this newsletter, Vern provided a quick review of our 2022 performance. We were able to get 4 member families to attend our March USS Hornet visit and we got one member car entered in the June 4<sup>th</sup> Cobra Day Show plus two club members as spectators. At an added show on Jun 5<sup>th</sup> in Walnut Creek, we also got two members to attend. We were unable to get enough people to organize a February trip to the Tech Museum in San Jose and failed to draw interest when rescheduled in May. We tried to generate interest in the "Little Car Show" in Pacific Grove on August 17<sup>th</sup> but no one responded. The next "misfire" was our Annual Show September 18<sup>th</sup> at Blackhawk but got rained out. The hastily rescheduled October 8<sup>th</sup> Show brought out 17 cars, 5 of which were kit cars, with the others coming from other clubs around the Bay Area.

A frank discussion of the future of the club followed. A proposal was made suggesting we dissolve the NCKCC Corporation, cease dues collection, keep the website open for another year or two, reduce the frequency of Newsletters, plan at least one activity for the 2023 spring/summer timeframe (a tour, a non-club car show, even a pot-luck picnic.) Most brunch attendees thought the Club should try for another 2023 Annual Show at Blackhawk, and finish 2023 with another Annual Brunch in Danville.

A suggestion was made that if the Club members actually do decide to "Close the books" on the Club, that we consider donating the remaining club funds to the Blackhawk Museum and the California Auto Museum in Sacramento. The discussion favored

that the donation should be split 1/3 – 2/3 in favor of the Sacramento Museum.

During the discussion there seemed to be a general feeling that kit cars are slowly decreasing in popularity, and the cultural emphasis to eliminate internal combustion engines will continue this trend. Our efforts to populate our Annual Car Show seemed to say we need to become "Just Another Car Club" that will need to focus more on the many beautiful vintage cars that helped fill the Blackhawk Plaza this year.

I'm not sure that all of our NCKCC members are ready to "Ride off into the Sunset" just yet. For those members who unable to attend our annual brunch, we need your feedback and thoughts about the future of the Club, ie: How can the Club encourage more member participation and what kind of events/activities might draw more member interest in the new year. We need your input now so the Club officers can determine the proper future the for the Club. Please reply to Vern or me via phone or e-mail.

Hope you can all enjoy your Holidays with family and friends and look forward to a better 2023.

Take Care,

Jim W

Please tell us your response to this melancholy outlook with any suggestions to reinvigorate our organization. Call Jim at (650) 341-0211 or email [jamesuu@comcast.net](mailto:jamesuu@comcast.net) or call Vern at (925) 954-2866 (it has an answering machine) or [nckccwebguy@gmail.com](mailto:nckccwebguy@gmail.com) any of the officers listed on page 7, if this is more comfortable for you.

## **ANNUAL SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Our Brunch weather was perfect; cool, sunny and no wind. However it was cool enough that we decided to dine inside. Shown below are the diners as we gathered in the parking area. Attendees included Al Bello, Carol Francisco, Chuck & Sue Maddux, Vern Hance, Steve & Rosie Rhodes, Gil Somerhalder and Jim Wagner. Bob Kluber intended to join us but got grounded due to a positive Covid test.





The Incontro Ristorante food was plentiful and fit for a connoisseur. We made our way back to the buffet line to enjoy a variety of breakfast and lunch entrees as well as fresh fruits and tempting desserts. Rosie caught Al, Steve and Sue returning from their second helping! (below)



*Photo by Rosie*

We also caught other diners relaxing after finishing the last desserts and coffee.

*Gil & Jim appear satisfied (above right)*

*And Sue & Chuck look pretty contented too.*

*Rosie & Steve seem to reflect the same state of mind*





*Al & Carol (below) look satisfied and content*



*Even Vern is trying to smile!*



*Rosie insisted on a photo of Sue's hat with all the pins from her travels (below)*



### **WHAT TO DO WITH NCKCC ?**

By Vern Hance

As you noted in Jim's "From the Prez" we had some serious discussion of our club's future. We have come a long way since the club was founded in 1982 or '83 by Paul King. I raised my hand to be Treasurer in 1984, and as the saying goes "the rest is history".

We have had an Annual Show every year since 1983, except Covid 2020, first in Walnut Creek, then to the Pleasanton Fairgrounds and for a decade or more it was at the Marina in San Leandro, until 2008. From 2009 to 2012 we were at the Concord Hilton Hotel. We went to Knightsen in 2013 combining our 24 NCKCC cars with many more that made up the Knightsen Days Celebration.

As the size of our show got smaller we went once to the Knightsen Days Show and in 2014 to the Oakland Aviation Museum. From 2015 to the present, we relied on the hospitality of the Blackhawk Museum. The chart (on page 5) shows our car show



