



NCKCC News

Handcrafted Automobiles

September 2022

Volume 40



Hot August Niles, August 14, 2022
Photo by Pat Cooley

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 18, 2022 (Sunday) - NCKCC Annual Show, Blackhawk Museum. 10 -3 pm. - Please register your car ASAP. Registration Forms are on www.nckcc.com under the 'Annual Show' tab.

November 6, 2022 (Sunday) - Annual Brunch, Incontro Ristorante, Danville - **Sunday Brunch is back !!** Reservations have been made for 10 at 12 Noon. Email the Prez or Editor if you will attend. The basic cost is about \$30 plus 9% tax & a gratuity. We still have some spots to fill!

FROM THE PREZ

The Annual NCKCC Blackhawk Show date is just two weeks away. In my overzealous effort to round up as many display cars as possible, I encouraged one and all to bring their favorite antique, classic, hot rod, or supercar to the show. It took Vern's editorial from our last newsletter to give me that proverbial "forehead slap". Dah! It's all there in our club's logo, NCKCC: Northern California Kit Car Club: Handcrafted Automobiles.

Vern, the heart and soul of our club for almost four decades, was absolutely correct to point out that as times changed the club attempted to broaden its focus to include more types of cars. So much so that the club has now lost its proverbial "soul". In our efforts to be all inclusive, we have lost our uniqueness. We've become just another car club in a sea of car clubs.

I suggest that as the trials and tribulations of 2022 fade from memory, we the members of the NCKCC start anew in 2023 to push our logo inspired goal: "Handcrafted Automobiles" back to front and center for the NCKCC.

Hope to see you all at Blackhawk.

Take Care & Stay Safe,

Jim W

BLACKHAWK SHOW IS OUR PRIME EVENT FOR AUGUST

Time is racing toward Sunday September 18th when we gather our cars on the Plaza at Blackhawk Museum.

We seem to be having some trouble filling the show with Kit Cars, but this wonderful show location is generating interest in other areas of the Car Hobby World.

Eddie Togonon has been a great help in rounding up some beautiful American Classics. Some of you will recall that in our 2011 Show, at the Hilton, he brought a prize-winning '51 Ford Victoria that took first place, beating Steve Bales '39 Ford Coupe. This year he will enter his '56 Ford Fairlane Victoria (above right) and has rounded up a half dozen other '40s to '70s Ford and Chevrolet classics to fill out our show.



Some of the other cars include an original '31 Model A Ford, a '54 Chevy Wagon, a '51 Ford (Martinez) Police Car and many of our club cars. Gil's AMX Javelin, Jim's Fiero ZR-1, Steves's Bricklin SV-1, Chuck's M-B 500K, Pat's Bugatti Type 35, Koken's Ferrari 250 GTO, and Mah's Cobra.

NCKCC ATTENDS HOT AUGUST NILES

We did make a showing at the Hot August Niles Show, on August 14th, with Pat & Nita entering their Bugatti Type 35B and Tom Wallters attended with daughter, Amanda and her fiancé.

Pat Cooley reported his observation that the entire length of the downtown area of Niles Boulevard was packed with show cars on both sides, along with both side parking lots, and all of the side streets for a block in either direction!

As usual for Niles, it was a very broad variety of vehicles, including everything from the early "horseless carriage" era, to hot rods from the '30s and '40s, '50s classics, and '60s and '70s muscle cars, and included several one-off full customs.

Interestingly enough, I couldn't help but notice that even though we walked the entire show, Nita and I only spotted about two other kit cars (besides a couple fiberglass-bodied T-buckets). The weather was very "warm," of course, but not unbearable, and it was a very enjoyable opportunity to "talk cars" with a lot of friendly people!

One of my pictures (shown below) has a small-scale blue Bugatti toy on the shelf of my collection case! Here is the story of how it got added to my collection.

One older gentleman started conversing with us about his interest for cars in general, and was telling us how the sight of our Bugatti replica brought back



his childhood memories of a well-loved and often-played-with blue Bugatti toy. As he reminisced, he recalled that he thought he knew it was in some box in his house, but he hadn't seen it for years! He asked for my address just in case he found it, as he would like to send it to me, as someone who he thought would appreciate it.

About three days later, the toy Bugatti arrived in the mail. I sent him a copy of this picture and told him how appreciative I was to receive it, and to hear the story of his childhood toy, which now has a new home!

The cover picture is one of Pat's photos from Hot August Niles and the red Bugatti (right) was his entry car for the show.

Amanda sent some pictures of Tom's favorite cars.

The 1947 Ford Woodie Wagon (Upper right) has a pedigreed history and represents the



end of an Era with Henry Ford's death on April 7, 1947. It had all of its original wood and panels when it underwent a frame-off restoration but came out with a Chevy 350 V-8 under the hood and a Ford C4 auto tranny.



The '32 Ford Roadster (Above) was another of Tom's favorites.

McLaren Speedtail

I'm out of news so I must draw on my auto readings for a story.

This is about the McLaren Speedtail. It's a very "Sporty" looking Sports Car and it only costs around \$3 million.

It's also a hybrid with a DOHC 4.0 liter V-8 with twin turbochargers good for 747 HP,

and it has a 308 HP electric traction motor that adds up to 1,055 HP, in a 3,521 pound car.

The Speedtail name probably comes from the upsweep of the rear body, shown below. But instead of using the usual rear wing, the necessary downforce is generated by the underbody features and the flexible sections of the trailing edge body.



So if you want one of these, place your order soon and hope they don't sell out before the planed 106 vehicles are completed.

The front view is pretty dramatic too, but my reading has not allowed me to understand why the front wheel appears to have an external device that covers the wheel spokes that I would expect to look somewhat like the rear wheels.



WHO'S COMING TO THE ANNUAL SHOW ?

Revised 9/1/22

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| '56 Ford Fairlane Victoria | Eddie Togonon |
| '31 Ford Model A | Bob Slaney |
| AMX Javelin | Gil Somerhalder |
| Fiero ZR-1 | Jim Wagner |
| Bricklin SV-1 | Steve & Rosie Rhodes |
| '51 Ford Police Car | Don Slaney |
| '34 Mercedes 500K | Chuck Maddux |
| Bugatti Type 35-B | Pat & Nita Cooley |
| Ferrari 250 GTO | Mike & Melinda Koken |
| Cobra (FFR) | Sherman Mah |
| '41 Chevrolet Coupe | Tim Torres |

The most unusual feature is the driver sits in the very center with two smaller seats, setback, one on each side. The driver's experience was likened to driving a jet fighter.

As always, the performance specs are beyond imagination. 0 to 60 mph takes 2.9 seconds and 0 to 186 mph takes 13 seconds! Top speed is 250 mph.

The driver's center position provides outstanding forward visibility, but rear vision is dependent on camera based mirrors at the corners of the windshield.

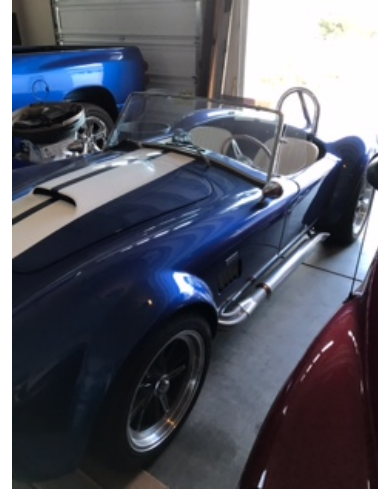
STILL TIME TO ENTER YOUR CAR IN OUR SEPTEMBER 19th SHOW AT BLACKHAWK MUSEUM ??

Yes, you can still enter your car for our Sunday 9/18 Handcrafted and Special Interest Car Show. Go to www.nckcc.com then click on the 'Annual Show' tab and download the registration, print it and send to the address shown in the form. Include names of your display team and we will prepare name tags that will qualify your team to explore the Museum for a \$9 special price – below the regular admission of \$15.

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.



The VW powered Lance (M-B SSK replica) is still available, but is being considered as a donation to "Cars 2nd Chance", so if you know of someone interested - act fast!

Call Vern at (925) 954-2866 or text (925) 378-8180



Lance with VW engine