



# The Fuel Line

David P. Hartman, Editor

[www.replicarclub.com](http://www.replicarclub.com)

March 2005

## From the Head Lug Nut

Dave Martin

Hi All,

Hope you're still sticking to your New Year's resolution whatever it may have been. Mine was to get my Coupe and stay dry. Well, one out of two isn't too bad.

February's meeting was at Chuck Beck Motorsports and included the mandatory Krispy Kreme Donuts and coffee along with a great shop tour. I now feel comfortable describing the differences between Porsche Spyderys and Speedsters in polite company. The Speedster is best known as the car James Dean decided to kiss a tree with long ago and end a promising film career. The shop was very clean, and at the time of our visit, had just gotten a shipment of Spyderys in from their manufacturing facility in Brazil. They get a very nice, already painted body/frame kit along with all the pieces to put it together. The car is pretty well complete, less the motor which the customer supplies or they can put the customer in contact with a nearby shop to complete the car. Anyone looking for a simple way to get into replica's couldn't do any better than to give this manufacturer a look. Check out: [www.chuckbeckmotorsports.com](http://www.chuckbeckmotorsports.com)

April 9<sup>th</sup> will be the annual "Goody Bag Stuffing" at Ron and Luann Biggerstaff's home out in Loma Linda.

It's really the March meeting but we push it as far as we can to make sure we get everything from our generous contributors.

Knott's is in full swing for the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of April, 2005. Registrations are coming in about two per day and I expect we'll meet last year's numbers and then some. We're expecting a number of "debut's" so I'm really excited for our 26<sup>th</sup> annual show being the best ever. We're also looking for volunteers to help us out at registration and parking in the morning, selling Knott's tickets during the day, and manning the AHA tent anytime. Let any of the Board Members know who you are and what you can help on... we'd really appreciate it.

We doing some work on our website at [www.replicarclub.com](http://www.replicarclub.com) so please excuse the mess while we get it sorted out. After that we'll have the ability to start posting member rides and their stories so start thinking about having your car on the club site!

Well, enough for me...

Dave Martin - Happy Cruizing

Deadline for the April issue is March 25.

## Rumblings from the Editor's Desk

David P. Hartman

I think I may have confused some people last month when I mentioned "ascii text" and "generic" word processor. I do have both MS Word and Word Perfect. In fact, I do most of the newsletter in Word Perfect so I can convert almost anything into that format. So feel free to send me anything from an ad for a car or car parts to a full article. The only reason I mentioned the ascii and/or generic method of saving the file was for some of you that don't have a main stream brand word processor. Some of the "All In One" office package software suites use quirky codes in their formatting. I can convert using Word Perfect, but may lose some or all of the formatting. No problem, since I'm the Editor, I can reformat anyway I want.

I'm sorry that this newsletter is a bit later than usual. What with the February meeting being so late in the month (the last weekend!), I didn't get anything from my contributors until March 5<sup>th</sup>. Now, the March meeting is actually on April 9<sup>th</sup>, so while that may make my next newsletter a bit sparse for content, you will get something, I'm sure. Even if it's only a map and direction to the Biggerstuffs for the Goodie Bag Stuffing. The regular April meeting will be the show at Knott's and, since I'm scheduled to be there as part of my vacation, I'll be getting home sometime around the fifth of May. As a result, the May newsletter will be a bit late. Hopefully all the tabulation for the Knott's show will be done and I'll have a copy to include in that month's newsletter.

My GT 40 repair work is coming along quite nicely. Even though I had hoped to have it completed by now, something is always coming up to prolong the work. I'm working on the car at a place called Lakemoor Body Works in Lakemoor, Illinois. The owner, Steve Karadi, is both very helpful in areas I'm a bit of a novice, and very patient in getting the car worked on. Since I wanted to repaint the car and eliminate the sunroof as well as put in a new dash and gauges and redo the interior, Steve has allowed me to work around his normal work schedule. This means that some weeks I don't go up to the shop at all because he has a lot of other repair work to do. This past week I've done the final sanding on my doors and rocker panels and Steve put a first coat of primer on the rear body clip. You may remember the rear clip that was ripped from my GT 40 during the trip to Knott's last year (see article in October issue of *Kit Car Builder*). That part of the work and some of the door repair is covered by insurance. The rest of the work has been done by either myself, or in some cases, Steve,

when he feels that something is a bit more "intense" than my experience calls for. I must say, I did the entire interior myself, with only a few suggestions from Steve and those mostly on how to do something in an easier method and he actually saved me some excess work. All I can say is thank goodness for power tools! When I built the GT 40 the first time, I didn't have much in the way of powered sanders and such and really wasn't aware of all the finer points of automotive painting. While wet sanding may keep the dust down, with the newer primers one can dry sand with a power sander and have an excellent finish.

## ACTIVITIES

Steve Rounds

March meeting is actually April 9 at Ron and Louanne Biggerstuffs in Loma Linda. Map and directions in the next newsletter.

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## Movie Car Stuff

by Kevin R. Salger

It's a cliché, a joke, a stereotype, but let's face it, car chases often make a movie worth watching. Now, not everyone shares that opinion, as my wife will attest. Part of the cliché goes that guys like 'em, but gals don't. Still, I wonder how many more people would have seen *The Horse Whisperer* if there had been a good car chase in it.

Sure, most of the time you'll see articles here that discuss automobiles directly, but what about after you've spent a day in the garage -- what could be better than sitting down and watching a good flick with your significant other? As I was thinking of movies with good chases in them, I also remembered movies (and television shows) either about cars or with memorable cars. I'm sure I've left out lots of good stuff, but what follows will keep you busy for quite a while.

Car chases. There are some that are legendary, like *Bullitt*, or *The Blues Brothers*, but there are others that perhaps were just as well known at one time. My wife tells me what people remember most about *The French Connection* is the car chase. And I'm told the Mini Coopers through the sewers in the original *Italian Job* is a great scene. Sadly, I haven't seen either film.

While we're in the seventies, let's not forget Steven Spielberg's first commercial film, *THX-1138*, a cult classic with a great chase at the end. And Mr. Spielberg's friend Mr. Lucas also made a couple of pics with cars: *Duel* (which was 98% chase), and a bit later, *American Graffiti* (which had that race at the end in addition to the chasing of a different sort throughout the film).

Another cult classic, now available on DVD, is the original *Gone In 60 Seconds*, with H. B. Halicki's Ford Mustang Mach 1 which can still be seen occasionally at various car shows. The remake had its moments, too. What it lacked in plot, it made up in volume of classic, luxury, and exotic vehicles.

Any list such as this cannot be complete without mentioning the James Bond series of films; very good if you want to see Aston Martins, or later BMWs. Arguably the best transformation was from a road-hugging Lotus Esprit to a submarine in *The Spy Who Loved Me*.

Many would argue that Sean Connery is the only James Bond, and he had a part in another worthwhile chase in *The Rock*, where Nicolas Cage destroys a reported Ferrari kit (Ed. Note: They made five kits for

that film). Here's five honorable mention chase films (okay, two from TV): *Speed Racer*, *The Dukes of Hazzard*, Tim Burton's *Batman* (including the subsequent three films), Steve McQueen in *The Great Escape* (even though he used a motorcycle), and *The Matrix Reloaded*. My wife told me not to mention the golf cart chase scene in *Weekend at Bernie's* (one of the cart's was made out to look like a Porsche 911, clearly a use of fiberglass and therefore relevant.)

There's not enough space to discuss *Mad Max* properly.

You're probably thinking, "What about \_\_\_\_?" Well, let's go to the races and see if I name your favorite. The earliest race film I could think of was (drumroll, please) *Ben Hur*. Huh? That's right, *Ben Hur*. Remember the chariot race? I'm sure there are others from this era, but I couldn't think of any. Please share your selections in future newsletters.

My wife and my daughter would be upset if I didn't mention both *The Great Race* and *Grease*, two of their favorites. Two of their least favorites, however, would have to be the *Cannonball* movies. The first of those had an early appearance of Jackie Chan in an American film, which brings me to a sad scene in *Rumble in the Bronx* in which Jackie drives a metallic gold Lamborghini, doors up, backwards under the trailer of a semi. I presume the vehicle was a kit, but I'm not sure.

If you're lucky enough to find a copy of *The Gumball Rally*, watch it. It's a better film than *Cannonball* though it tackles roughly the same subject. Last I knew it was only available on VHS and LaserDisc, not DVD.

Sylvester Stallone starred in *DeathRace 2000* a film of dubious quality, but it features several uniquely shaped autos which makes it worth at least one watch.

Probably the best use of an exotic's engine in a race film didn't actually use cars but powered sailboats. Rent *One Crazy Summer* to see a creative use of a Ferrari. It sounds cruel, but the owner deserves it.

I suppose I can't let a list like this go by without mentioning *Days of Thunder* with Tom Cruise, but I haven't seen the picture, so I can't really comment. The most common description is 'Top Gun on a race track.'

How did I get this far into it without mentioning *Smokey & the Bandit* and its sequels? Oh, and I think there's a love story in there, too, but I usually go make a sandwich during those scenes so I'm not really sure. Actually, these probably belong in the chase list but who really cares?

For the kids, the adults who used to be kids, and the adults who are still kids, I just saw the DVD boxed set of the

four *Herbie the Love Bug* movies in Best Buy for around \$60.

Please tell me if you think *TRON* should be on this list. I liked the light cycles scenes, but are they chasing or racing? I also wasn't quite sure where to put *The Fast & The Furious* and its sequel *2 Fast 2 Furious* since I haven't seen either. *Christine* and *The Car* were both considered horror films, so perhaps they belong with chases.

There were a few pictures that didn't fit either category, but were memorable for one reason or another. National Lampoon's *Vacation* (not the sequels), *Harold & Maude* (ever seen a Jaguar XKE hearse?), and the *Back to the Future* trilogy. There was also *Tucker: The Man and His Dream*, *Ferris Beuller's Day Off*, and *Batman: The Movie* (Adam West and Burt Ward). The last two used kit cars for sure, with the Batmobile coming from Barris' shop.

If you can find it, all 18 *Prisoner* episodes are in one boxed set. I have a picture of the Lotus 7 used in that series though I couldn't tell you which episodes.

From TV, don't forget *Knight Rider*, *Magnum PI*, *Hardcastle & McCormick*, and to a lesser degree, Hanna-Barbera's *Speed Buggy*.

I came up with this list from memory; I know I've missed several good films. In the end, it really doesn't matter which movie is your favorite or most memorable, but now you have lots of suggestions for your post-garage entertainment. (Ed. Note: We must not forget *Grand Prix* or *LeMans*. Two great auto racing movies)

There are a fair number of good car pictures at <http://www.javelinamx.com/CarStars/index.htm>. They're separated into Film and Television categories