



# The Fuel Line

GOING PLACES



David P. Hartman, Editor [www.replicarclub.com](http://www.replicarclub.com) November 2005

## From the Head Lug Nut by Dave Martin

Hi All,

Club Sandwich is now a thing of the past and, thanks to Mike's hard work, it came off flawlessly. Thanks also to the Arizona Kit Car Club and great as always participation from the posse called Arizona Cobra's. But on to the show...the sky was clear, blue and warm. We met in Barstow and caravanned across the desert with no automobile fatalities. Parking was right in front of the south entrance which gave us a lot of traffic to view the cars. Attendance was about the same as last year with only 21 cars on Saturday – only five of which came from the club, six if you count my Durango. Congratulations to Dean Hornbacher who pulled off First in Class, Best Engine, AND Best of Show!

We'll be having our next meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup> in Diamond Bar to get some Knott's planning done and, as of this article, setting up a December Holiday car cruise and lunch at the Queen Mary in Long Beach – more on this later.

While in Laughlin we held a club meeting and, after counting up the ballots some of you did send in, we have declared the winners. So it's with great pleasure I present your **2006 Board of**

### Directors:

1. **President** – Dean Hornbacher – Dean has spent the last two years as secretary.
2. **Vice President** – Mike Dresbach – This will be Mikes second year as VP after time in a number of other Board positions over the years.
3. **Secretary** – Norman Phair – Norman has been our Membership Chair for the last two years.
4. **Activities** – Ron Biggerstaff – After recovering from President and Knott's

burnout, Ron is back in and into a position he hasn't had yet. Look for some new activities in 2006.

5. **Membership** – Darren Friedman – this is Darren's first Board posting and he's already bending our ears on ideas for the club and Knott's. I expect a lot from him in the future and if you've seen his silver Cobra at Knott's, you know he thinks wayyyyy out of the box.
6. **Newsletter** – David Hartman – David's been helping on this from afar and actively contributes to helping guide the club through email and occasional phone calls when available.
7. **Treasurer** – Dave Martin – yes, it's me again... I'll also be doing Knott's in my spare time.

I'd like to also thank all the current Board members for their effort and dedication to the club over the last two years. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you and with the other members of the club who have helped with events like Knott's and Laughlin along with the continuous stream of ideas and feedback from all you.

Still waiting for some more cars and articles from the club to put up on the website. Come on gang, I know you're out there somewhere.

Enough for me...

Happy Cruizing

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**The deadline for the December newsletter is November 26<sup>th</sup>. Please have submissions to the Editor by that date.**  
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**Rumblings from the Editor's Desk** by David Hartman

Ugh! The gas prices are just terrible. Better now, of course, than a few weeks ago. This brings to mind an article I was reading in Consumer Reports. I'm not sure how many of you might subscribe to that magazine, but for those that don't, you might want to pick up the October 2005 issue at your local book store. The article on fuel economy was an eye opener. They took several types of vehicles, from a small Ford Focus to a large Chrysler 300C, and also included a Honda Civic Hybrid. They carefully measured the city MPG and compared it to the "EPA" MPG claimed by the various automakers. The Hybrid was 46% below the EPA stated claim. ALL of the vehicles were off by anywhere from 35% to 50%. Anyone thinking of getting something with better fuel economy for that daily drive to and from work, should read this article to have a better idea of just how the automakers are trying to screw with us again. Heck, MY GT 40 replica gets 20 MPG at freeway speeds as long as I use cruise control and keep it below 80. In the city, it's not so good, with all the stop and go driving so I use it as little as possible right now.

Here in the Chicago area, we've had our last car show of the season and most everyone has put their cars away for the winter. I'm going to be covering mine up soon as well. I need to do some minor prep work to get it ready and then put it to bed until March. Oh, how I wish I was in a warmer climate where I could drive my car year round. The last car show we went to was around the first weekend in October. It's one of the biggest. There were about 965 cars there, total. I may be off by a few, but that's a close number. Yeah, it had all kinds of cars and motorcycles. They did have a Kit/Replica car class and we had between 10 and 15 cars entered. I never did get a final count. We were in the same display row as the Import class, so there were several Austin Healey and other types that might have been a kit car unless one went to check them out.

The show is sponsored by the local Lions Club every year. They have about 40 different classes or so for the judging and have a different car club group do the judging every year. I'm not saying that the different car club people aren't good judges, but two years ago I took second place in class with a broken parking light cover and I hadn't cleaned out from underneath my headlight covers. This year I did all that and had the car all polished up nice. While the cars that took trophies were impressive, I thought they weren't as nice as mine. Then again, maybe I'm a bit biased.

Anyway, I watched the guy doing the judging and he was looking in the wheel wells and underneath the car. I doubt he allowed for the fact that my car is a daily driver, whereas some of the other cars are trailered to the shows. That, I think, is the one drawback of having an outside group do the judging. We get complaints from people about the judging at Knott's and how we should do this or that to make it more fair. More fair for whom? Can we help it if the participants in the show don't fill out their judging sheet completely? Or maybe one group of people get together and all vote for one car in one class and so give that car an advantage? Well, I say to those complainers, get out and VOTE. If everyone filled out their judging sheet at Knott's fully, we'd have a much better spread of votes. Of course, we'd still have someone not happy because they didn't

win. Well, I'm just happy to be at the show and visit with all those folks I know and make new friends and chat about my car. If I don't win, oh well, no skin off my nose. (Margaret, though, wants a trophy every time!)

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**Activities** - From the Backseater

Hi All,

I'm still doubling for our "departed to greener pastures" activities director Steve Rounds for the next two months and then Ron Biggerstaff steps in so what have we got left this year?

November's meeting will be on **November 19<sup>th</sup>** at **11am** at our normal meeting spot in **Diamond Bar**. The **Sizzlers** is located **on Palomino Drive** and is just off the Sunset crossing of the 57. This meeting will be the official kickoff for Knott's 2006 so we'll be looking at budget, assignments, judging classes and how to make 2006 bigger and better than last year so don't miss it.

December marks our Holiday Party and this year we've laid on a great one! The party will be **December 10<sup>th</sup>** and will be at the **Queen Mary in Long Beach Harbor!** We have the **Promenade Café at 1:30pm** with a view of the harbor and afterwards have the run of the ship. Details about the luncheon are attached and we'll need to have people **confirm attendance before December 2<sup>nd</sup>** so we can let them know how many will there. To find out a little more about the Queen Mary, check out their website at [www.queenmary.com](http://www.queenmary.com). Usually a day pass to the ship is \$22.95 each, plus parking. Both of these are included in the event cost by the Queen Mary staff and by the graciousness of the Board, the club will pick up a large chunk of the total bill so entry to the event will only cost you \$15 each or \$30 a couple! Also available are private tours, Haunted Encounters tours, or a tour of a genuine cold war era Russian Foxtrot Submarine – yeah, I'm in for that. They also have a Marilyn Monroe exhibit on board so there's a wealth of things to do after lunch. The tours are all additional cost but if we book them in advance we get a discount as part of the event so if your interested, let me know and I can check it out some more.

We'd like to make this a "cruise to" event so bring your cars and we'll set a place around Diamond Bar (mid-point of our demographics by the way...) to meet around noon and caravan down together. If not, meet us at the "Hotel Entrance" of the Queen Mary and refer to the "A.H.A. Holiday Luncheon Event" to get in.

We're also going to do a volunteer gift exchange so if your interested in participating, please bring a pre-wrapped, same gender gift not to exceed \$20 to the meet and we'll draw for them after lunch.

Activities Director

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