



The Fuel Line



David P. Hartman, Editor

www.replicarclub.com

March 2006

The deadline for the March newsletter is March 25th.
Please have submissions to the Editor by that date.

From the Desk of "El Presidente"

With the Knott's show fast approaching I have begun to give some thought as to what makes "Fun under the Sun" special from other car club shows?

Is it the location? Yes and No.

Is it the weather? Remember last year?

Is it the popularity of the AHA? I would like to think so, ya right!

What it is, is unique! By that I mean were else can one go and see such a variety of personal interpretations of the automobile. As one walks through the rows of cars and looks at the varying interpretations and perspectives on such a wide variety of makes and models a person can only marvel. Take a Cobra or a Speedster; even though they are meant to be a "replica" of the original, they all are different in their own personalized way. A true statement of the American individuality of spirit and thought! America, what a country! To the rest of the world eat your hearts out!

The Knott's show is a real "melting pot" in our society's love affair with the automobile.

Bob Kallio from Midstates told me years ago "It's a replica, not the original; build it the way you want it!"

"Fun under the Sun" is not a Cobra show, not a Speedster show, nor a Diablo show or any other special model show. It is a celebration of them all!

With such a variety of cars and people it is hard to please all in how a show is run. The Knott's show was never meant to please any one group but to celebrate all groups as a gathering of all into one group and that group being the replica car industry. Manufactures and proud owners gathered together to speak the replica talk.

March 11th at 11AM at Sizzler at Diamond Bar, be there. Your voice is needed to help finalize the show.

One last thing: How can you tell an extravert engineer from an introvert engineer?

The extravert engineer looks at your shoes while talking to you!

Hasta! "El Presidente"

Dean Hornbacher

Rumblings from the Editor's Desk by David Hartman

As you read this, I am still in southern California looking for a job. I've had several interviews but nothing concrete has developed. If anyone has any contacts with a company looking for either an electronics technician or a technical writer, keep me in mine and I can email a resume. Here's hoping that I'll be able to stay in southern California. My email has changed, so take note of that. The return address on the newsletter is Dave Martins for now, until I get a place to live and can get regular mail delivered. I don't have a lot to say for now. Things have been in a big turmoil for me lately. Just keep me in your thoughts and wish me well.

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Activities - Ron Biggerstaff

March Event – Business Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 11th at 11 am at the Sizzler Restaurant in Diamond Bar. Knott’s planning is well under way. However, detailed planning such as finalizing job responsibilities, etc, will be primary on the agenda. All members are welcome. We especially invite those who may have suggestions on how to make the Knott’s Car Show even better or just want to listen in on the inner workings of car show planning. Lunch from the menu (pay-your-own-way) will be at approximately 12:30.

Here are the directions to Sizzlers. If southbound on 57 into Diamond Bar, exit at Sunset Crossing left, then turn right onto Diamond Bar Blvd, then left onto Palomino Dr. If northbound on 57, merge onto 60 East, exit at Diamond Bar Blvd right, then turn left onto Palomino Dr. If westbound on 60 into Diamond Bar, exit at Diamond Bar Blvd left, then turn left onto Palomino Dr. Sizzlers is on the left at 23525 Palomino Dr. See you there!

SUGGESTIONS FOR MONTHLY MEETING ACTIVITIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. GIVE ANY ONE OF YOUR BOARD MEMBERS A CALL WITH YOUR SUGGESTION.

Knott’s Notes Dave Martin

Fifty-three days and counting (at least at the time I wrote this). In a little under two months we’ll all be enjoying the hot sun across from screaming roller coasters, telling everyone within earshot how over the winter you were able to squeeze out another gazillion horsepower from your power plant.

Registration packages are out to all members, if you don’t have one please drop me a note and I’ll get one to you. You can also get all the same information on the club website at www.replicarclub.com/Future/Knotts2006 . Last month I talked about the new award - “A.H.A. Extreme Handcrafted Award” - that the club is beginning this year. This month I’d want to talk about the ‘70’s corral.

What were you driving in the 60’s-70’s? Were you into the kit cars back then? Maybe they were called “dune buggies” or “specialty racers” or “conversions.” In the mid 70’s I was into dune buggies. I first had a red “I don’t know what type” of a bug that I built up from an old 1964 VW with a 1200cc motor. I learned all about shortening pans, rebuilding brakes, wiring up lights and instruments – twice – and generally having a blast. It was terribly underpowered for Pismo Beach but was just as great driving around the beach area and up to the boardwalk. Chicks really dug it and at that point in my life that was all that counted. A couple of years later I bought a green “glitterbug” off my father-in-law that was completely decked out with a 1735cc Type 3 pancake, steering brakes, canvas top and an extra set of modified tractor tires for the sand. Now I had the ability to venture into the dunes of Pismo proper and girls could come along or not. Bruce Meyer had born the Dune Buggy and all of us that had a Meyer’s, or a clone of one, were touched in ways

we had never expected. That buggy became the seed money for my first Cobra. It’s been an expensive passion ever since.

Even earlier than this, racers were building race cars based on body designs by Devin, Kellison and others. These were not yet the street bred performers that you see now but were built around one thing and one thing only... beat the other guys’ at the track and live to tell of it. This was going on as early as the 1950’s and continues to this day, although they command a far higher price if you want one.

Our own club was created around 1979 with a love for the early Bugatti’s and Sterling’s. The hobby/industry has come a long way but it still revolves around the dream of owning and driving a car that is different than the one you buy off the dealer lot.

With that in mind we’re proud to present a tribute to the history of handcrafted automobiles - the cars, people and companies that have helped create the world around us in the kit car industry. We’re setting up a space within the show area and dedicating it to those cars and groups that represent the world of handcrafted automobiles during the 1950’s, 60’s and 70’s. We encouraging displays of the “early days” – photo’s, manufacturing documents, histories. We’ll also be displaying the beginnings of the A.H.A. and could use some help by members to man the booth and answer questions. Let us know if and how you can assist.

We’re starting to get participants into the corral including Bruce and Winnie Meyers who are bringing one of their first dune buggies out – “old # 4” along with several owners to liven it up. We’re also getting a big interest from the Kellison owners, of which we have a couple right in our own club along with a Devin or two. There’s allot of fantastic cars out there but history is what makes it all come alive. Come on out and see how it began.

If you are interested in displaying within the corral, or helping in the setup, contact our Corral Wrangler – Darren Friedman at (805) 375-0033 or Darren@replicarclub.com

Last thing... we’re still working on the short list of nominees for our Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) trophy and want to get input from the membership. We like to base the award on personal experiences from members in the purchase and build of their rides along with adding the opinions of the industry through other sources. This is an important award so please, get us your inputs good or bad.

Enough for now...
Dave

Latest update on my BBB complaint on V-8 Archie. The board of AHA originally agreed to let me post my correspondence with the Chicago Better Business Bureau concerning my conversations with V-8 Archie. A comment by one of the board members in an email sparked a discussion as the propriety of using the AHA newsletter for individual consumer complaints. I called Dean Hornbacher, the President and we discussed the situation in depth. I decided that after getting his feedback and other comments by the board members that it would be better if I did not post the two remaining letters. If anyone wants a copy of them please email me at e_2001@adelphia.net. I may do a story in the future discussing the problems I have had in getting my car up and running.

Norman E. Phair .

2006 Calendar of Events

March **Saturday the 11th**

Business Meeting (all members welcome)
Sizzlers, 23525 Palomino Drive, Diamond Bar
11 AM

April **Saturday the 8th**

Goody Bag Stuffing & Business Meeting (all members welcome)
At the Hornbacher's House (see directions)
10 AM, Lunch at 12 (Club buys the lunch)

April **Saturday & Sunday, April 22nd & 23rd** 27th Annual Fun Under The Sun Knott's Berry Farm Car Show

May Car Show Worker Recognition Luncheon Date, Time & Place TBD

July **Saturday the 15th** Braille Sports Car Rally 741 North Vermont Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90029

August TBD

September **24th Annual Handcrafted Automobile Concourse** **Saturday & Sunday, September 9th & 10th** Northern California Kit Car Club Show at San Leandro Marina www.nckcc.com

7th Annual Cruisin' For A Cure **Saturday the 23rd** Orange County Fair & Expo Center, Costa Mesa

October **Starts Friday the 13th** Club Sandwich at Laughlin, Nevada

November TBD

December Annual Christmas Party (date to be provided)