



GOING PLACES

# The Fuel Line



David P. Hartman, Editor

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

January 2007

## From the Desk of "El Presidente"

Happy New Year to all! Wow, 2006 is now history and we have a new year full of challenges and some uncertainties for our club. Our major challenge is our usual one, Knott's – Fun Under The Sun. Our 28<sup>th</sup> consecutive show. The operative word here is "consecutive".

A bit of a side note here. Have those of you that receive "Kit Car Builder" seen the latest issue? In the FYI section there is a nice little article about our up coming show. Thank Jim Youngs for this.

But looking at the article right below ours is a short one about the Oregon Handcrafted Automobile Association disbanding after 15 years! Sad to see this. As I said earlier "consecutive" is an important statement. In our modern, instant, "I've gotta have it now", short attention span society, something that can last more than a few years is a miracle, be it a marriage or a club continuing event. A key point in Jim's article is this statement: "It's typical that 10% of the people do 90% of the work and the lack of support can be draining." Any type of organization or business that suffers from this problem is doomed in the long run. I am not saying the AHA is folding but at the present time this appears to be what is happening to us, the 10/90 situation. We need some kind of involvement from all our membership. If this trend does not show a better ratio than 10/90, the AHA could end up in the same boat as the Oregon club, maybe not today but do not fool yourself into thinking we can be immune from the clubs folding! I do not think any of us want to see this. I know all of us on the board are concerned for the long term health of the AHA.

Another challenge that our club and the replica industry faces is not so much our challenge as it is the "Hot Rod" industry. The "Hot Rod" industry needs to face the fact that they are building "kit cars" now days more and more. If you subscribe to Kit Car or not get your hands on the January 07 issue and read Kit Car's editor's (Brian Smith) editorial on this very subject. Brian gets right to the point on how the "Hot Rod" culture needs to rethink and redefine themselves. In a way they need to come out of the closet and admit that they do build and own kit cars! Another operative word here is "handcrafted". Hats off to you Brian Smith for telling it like it is.

Speaking of challenges the board recently was informed by the Arizona Kit Car Club that they were discontinuing their co-sponsorship of Club Sandwich. The board is sad to see this after 20+ years of affiliation with the AKCC in the event. We will not be deterred because of this little set back. This will be one of our topics that we will be discussing at the January board meeting. At the moment I can

tell you we WILL continue with a Laughlin event! More to come on this.

January 20<sup>th</sup> is the "Chile Cook Off/ Board meeting at Dave Martin's house in Westlake Village. Let us see if we can start at this event working on improving the 10/90 ratio. I want to challenge every member to try and make one club event this year and make at least one board meeting. We need your support and ideas to keep the clubs health vibrant and growing.

One last subject an upcoming event, not a true club event, and that is the 58th Grand National Roadster Show at the Pomona Fairplex January 26-28th, 2007. The reason I bring this up is that to show your car at this show is by invitation. Our membership chairman, Darren Freidman, has been invited to show his award winning silver Cobra. So if you can make it out there do, I don't think you will be disappointed.

Hasta  
"El Presidente"  
Dean Hornbacher

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**The deadline for the February newsletter is January 27<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

What's that song from "Fiddler On The Roof"? **"Tradition!"** Well, that's what we have. Lot's of tradition. The Knott's Show this year is our 28<sup>th</sup>. The Club Sandwich we just completed in October was our 20<sup>th</sup> trip to Laughlin. Now we get word that the Arizona Kit Car Club wishes to sever it's ties with the show in Laughlin. Can we still call it Club Sandwich? Should we change it to The River Run? I don't know. Now I see from Dave's Treasurer report and also in the new Kit Car Builder magazine, that the Oregon Kit Car Club has dissolved. Is that what is going to happen to us? Is our annual show at Knott's due to disappear and our A.H.A. club to dissolve? I can't say for sure, by the signs don't look good. We have a lack of paying members and many of those we have only show up for Knott's and maybe Laughlin. I know some of you are further out in distance and find it difficult, in these days of high gas prices, to make it to any meetings. I've been told by some former members who have quit the Club that they left because the Club doesn't do enough activities every month, like parades, or weekend one day show and shine type shows. Believe me, we have tried to schedule such things, but find it difficult because people don't get the flyers to me about such shows in time for the newsletter deadline. Plus, in the past, when we have scheduled such things, very few of you showed up. Maybe we need to open the Club up a bit, reach out to the "Hot Rod" crowd. After all, we have a Hot Rod class for the Knott's Show. I watched a program on one of the cable channels recently that detailed the build of a Chevy II, from scratch, almost all replica, after market parts, including a 'glas body. You can now build a 55 Chevy with a 'glas body and they have steel kit bodies for a '57 Chevy and a '69 Camaro. We need to do something about our shrinking numbers so that we don't fade away and the biggest kit car show west of the Mississippi doesn't fade away either. How can we do this? I don't know. But I do drive my car every day back and forth to work and errands. It is a daily driver and before I put the new dash and gauges in, the old odometer had slightly over 250,000 miles indicated. When I finished the kit in 1994 and started driving it, there was only about 55,000 miles on that odometer. I enjoy driving and use any excuse to drive my car and SHOW OFF. Yeah, I said it. I like to show off my car. I go to a cruise night about twice a week in the evenings. During this fall and winter, because of some health concerns, I haven't been going out as much to a cruise night, but I hopefully plan to change that this coming Spring. I'm going to try to talk up our club and the Knott's Show even more this year and hopefully, maybe, I'll get a person or two interested enough to either attend, or even join.

What can YOU do?

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## Activities - Ron Biggerstaff

### January Event - Chili Cook Off

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at Dave Martin's house. This will be our umpteenth annual Chili Cook Off. Please bring a pot of your favorite chili to share and to be judged. We will have trophies for the top three winners. If you aren't into chili cooking, bring a salad or desert (or call Dave for suggestions).

This will be the first meeting for 2007. Knott's planning is well under way and further planning will be primary on the agenda.

Also, we'll get to see the progress that Dave has accomplished in the past twelve months on his Daytona Coupe. (Ed. Note: We've been hearing the stories all year!)

Here are the directions to Dave's house. Get on the 101 West heading toward Ventura. At about 15 miles past Woodland Hills, exit on Lindero Canyon Rd and turn left. Turn right onto Triunfo Canyon Rd. Travel to the first stoplight and turn left onto Three Springs Dr. After seven speed bumps and one s-turn, turn right onto Kirsten Lee Dr. Turn right onto Yellowwood Dr. Stop at 2636 Yellowwood Dr, Westlake Village, 91361. If you get lost, call Dave at 818.597.8797.

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## Treasurer's Report

Dave Martin

Hi All,

It's the end of another year and the beginning of new opportunities. It's now going onto 2 years without a car to enjoy – read that as drive – and although I love working on the Daytona Coupe I miss the drives a lot more. Well, just so you know I wasn't pulling your leg all year, if you make the chili cook-off January 20<sup>th</sup> you'll get a chance to view the Coupe in progress. It's due to get headers and side pipes the week before the meeting so should look a lot more like a car than a kit.

First I'll do my duty as the Treasurer and give you that report. We started 2006 with a balance of \$22,706.19 and ended with a balance of \$18,247.56 or in simple terms -we lost \$4,458.63 last year. We had forecasted about a \$2,000 loss on Knott's due to a really low turnout at the Saturday Dinner and us not getting ahead of that curve soon enough. We also made a conscience decision to still donate \$2,000 to the Braille Institute in July at the annual Braille Ralley we participate in. The balance is due to a number of small outlays including low membership and higher than expected costs to publish our newsletter the way we always have in the past. We'll be reviewing all of this in greater detail at the

