



# The Fuel Line

GOING PLACES



Dave Martin, Editor

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

September, 2011

## From the Desk of “El Presidente”

Our little outing last month to the Petersen Museum was very enjoyable and interesting. One of the newer exhibits, since I was last there, is a whole wing devoted to true supper cars and I liked their title on the exhibit: “Supercars - When too much is almost enough”. I know I have never seen so many million dollar (original new price) cars in one spot. All the cars in that wing would probably bring 30-50 million at auction today! Bugatti, Ferrari, Jag, Mercedes, Porsche and some in between. If the car could not reach 180MPH it was not in that wing. Unbelievable engineering, design and innovation. If only they would have let me taken one for a spin? One of information signs a statement was made about a gentleman in the oil rich area of the Middle East who has a collection of these kinds of supercars that numbers in the hundreds. I guess he would be in the running for “Who ever dies with the most toys wins”.

In another wing there is an exhibit for Scooters, talk about a marked contrast. From hard core speed and elegance to going putt-putt down the road. I never realized there were so many different Scooters made over the years. If you are into Scooters you need to see this exhibit. The title on this exhibit says it all: “Scooters-Size doesn’t always matter”.

Just to keep everyone informed on next year’s show I have some positive news to report on the possibility of a track day or days in conjunction with our event. I have been in contact with the Run N’ Gun group from the Midwest and they are interested in bringing an annual track event out west. It is looking promising. I hope to have a lot more definite information and formal announcement by our next news letter. Keep your fingers crossed!

Our annual event “Kit Cars on the Colorado” is all set up. Information is available on the web site and in this month’s news letter. The Arizona Cobras are a group of free spirits and lot of fun to be around. Nice cars, good people, a little gambling and best of all Karaoke! Hope you can make it.

Our next meeting will be at the San Dimas Sizzler on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11AM. We will also have a discussion about board member elections at this time. If you are interested in being board member please attend and let us know of your interest or input on anything with the club. We will be sending out ballots with October’s news letter. Hope to see you there.

Until next month,

Hasta!

“El Presidente” Dean Hornbacher

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## The Editors Rack—Dave Martin

### You get what you pay for!

I've been dealing with a coolant leak from my thermostat housing for about the last couple of years. It leaks a little, I check the bolts and sure enough they are loose so I tighten them and the leak stops. It finally goes to the point that tightening them didn't help any longer so I assumed the gasket had finally become corrupt and went about the process to change it out. I usually clean the mating surface of small parts by laying a piece of 200 grit sand paper on a flat surface and running the part over top of it to get the old stuff off and get the part cleaned up. But when I placed the thermostat housing on the sandpaper, it wobbled. Not a little but a whole lot. The area between the two bolts had become a curve instead of a flat line. No wonder I couldn't hold coolant!

I remember when I built the motor I replaced the rusted out steel outlet with a pretty polished aluminum piece with an O-ring gasket integrated into it. I think I bought it at the swap meet for something like \$15 or \$20. Nice thick aluminum. What I had bought was a "cast" aluminum part, probably made in China, and over time, heat and pressure, it just changed shape on me. No cracks, no damage, just shape change.

I remember looking for one on line at Summit Racing and seeing that there were some in the \$50 to \$80 range so that's why I went looking at the swap meet. What I replaced it with was a \$60 Canton Billet water outlet that I found on EBay for \$49. The new part looks very similar to the old one but it's much heavier in weight. With the bolts torque down to the prescribed value and the coolant back in I'm ready to go again.

Simple tradeoff for cost sometimes do come back to haunt you. NEVER make these tradeoffs around you steering, brakes or safety equipment. But we do try to save money in a lot of other areas and the old saying is true. You get what you pay for!

**Cast vrs Billet.** Cast parts are more porous as they use a material that is less strong. The emphasis is on the material being "castable" as its going into a mold in order to make a complex shape easily so they trade off strength - and in most application for cast parts, that is fine. Engine blocks are cast but extra

care is taken in the design of the mold so that features make up for the material where extra strength is needed - hence the ribs you can see internal and on the ends of the block. Billet is also cast, but into a very simple "block" shape so the "castability" requirement of the material can be traded off for a material with more strength.

Both parts are machined for the final form, but needless to say, a billet part takes a lot more machining as you're starting with a block shape.

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## From the Bean Counter — Dave Martin

We've decided to sell off the sound equipment we had purchased a couple of years ago when we thought we could save money by being our own DJ's at our Fun Under the Sun Show. Fortunately we have a great Audio team at Pomona, in the guise of Brad Uhl at Pro Audio & Video, and simpler is better so if anyone is interested in purchasing this off the club prior to us putting it on the market, let me know.

1- Mackie 808S FR Series Mixer/Amp 600W x 2 (\$400)

5 - JBL MR 905 Series Studio Speakers (\$200 each)

2 - Pro 91 Dynamic Microphones (\$50 each)

5 - Speaker wire - 100ft length each (\$20 each)

**It's also time for Board of Director Elections. We seriously need some new minds on the Board so that we can continue to expand and enhance the activities of the Club in the coming year. If you're interested please talk to any of the current Board members.**

**Ballots will be going out in next months news letter.**

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## Activities -

### Car Cruise To Laughlin

The Association of Handcrafted Automobiles and the

Arizona Cobra Club will be hosting the annual meeting of the California and Arizona car clubs at the luxurious Don Laughlin Riverside Resort in the town of Laughlin, Nevada on the weekend of October 22nd - 23rd, 2011. Registration forms are included in this newsletter or are available on [www.replicarclub.com](http://www.replicarclub.com).

Caravan in on Friday afternoon, October 21<sup>st</sup> and make it a weekend of fun by the river. We'll meet at Peggy Sues just north of Barstow on Interstate 15 at 10am Friday morning. For reservations at Don Laughlin's Riverside Hotel call 1-800-227-3849 Option 1 and mention Car Cruise to Laughlin, Group Code **C/CRUIS**. A block of rooms at a group rate of \$56 per night will be available until September 21<sup>st</sup> so, reserve early. A standard 48 hour cancellation rule applies. Questions may be directed to Ron Biggerstaff at (909) 796-9946.

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## Membership – Ron Biggerstaff

The Membership renewal campaign for 2011 ended in May. We had a few (not many) members from 2010 that did not renew. They received their last newsletter in May. If you know one of these past members who maybe just forgot to renew, let me know, and I'll send another reminder.

We continue to get membership inquiries from our website. Info paks go out, and we hope to hear from them.

Welcome back renewal: Cecil Huston

Welcome new member: David Yun

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## 2011 Calendar of Events

**September 17th** - Club Meeting @ 11am - Sizzlers, San Dimas - Arrow Highway

**October 22nd-23rd** - Kit Cars on the Colorado - Riverside Resort/Casino, Laughlin, Nv.  
[www.riversideresort.com](http://www.riversideresort.com)

**November 19th** - Club Meeting @ 11am - Sizzlers, San Dimas - Arrow Highway

**December 10th** - Club Holiday Brunch - TBD

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## Items for Sale

(items for sale is a free service to club members)

### For Sale

**Magnum Replica of a Dino GT246** - This bright yellow baby was built in 1989 and currently has 29k miles on it. The car has won over 31 awards and was featured in *Kit Car Illustrated* magazine in October 2001 along with being featured on Speed Vision in January of 2002 on their "Car Crazy" segment.

The Engine is a 1984 Mazda Rotary with a 1971 Porsche 911 5 speed transaxle. Compomotive wheels. The interior is all custom with VDO black faced analog gauges, wood trimmed dash and tilt wheel. Clarion S600 AM/FM stereo. Black leather seats. A great road car at a great price. \$18,000

Contact Mike Dresbach (909) 657-0422 or email [mike@rkitkar.com](mailto:mike@rkitkar.com)

### For Sale

**1952 MGTD FIBERFAB Kit Car**. This show car has 21,000 miles and is powered by the 2.3 Ford Pinto engine with auto transmission and running gear. Great running car with top, side curtains, and zippered tonneau cover as well. The car has won numerous car show awards and has been shown at our AHA Knott's Berry Farm shows and other South Bay area car shows and it's always an attention getter. Asking \$7500 for this turn key car show beauty.

Contact James Gonzalez (562) 595-0992 or email: [GONZNMO@AOL.COM](mailto:GONZNMO@AOL.COM)

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