

ACTIVITIES IN 2011 - SONORA CHRISTMAS PARADE.

On the Friday following Thanksgiving the NCDBS Region participated in the Annual Sonora Christmas Parade. The NCDBS was represented by Amil Gerke driving his 1927 Touring Car, Donn Marinovich driving the award winning 1923 Screenside and Jim Kirk driving the 1964 Power Wagon. These gentlemen joined the Columbia Park Docents float unit during the parade. The Christmas parade has grown larger and larger as each year goes by. There were at least 5,000 people in attendance and the parade should begin to challenge the Round Up/Mothers day parade held each spring. Things are certainly changing!

On the Saturday after the parade, a group of about 8 members from the Sonora Antique Automobile club, joined the NCDBS to tour the Race Car Shop near the airport in Sorora. There were numerous cars in the shop, and the common theme was 4 wheels, an engine and a steering wheel. However, the Davis (Chevy) racing cars brought First Place standings for the 2011 Season. The shop is a good indication of why they did so well.

ACTIVITIES IN 2011 - SILENT STARTERS TO SUTTER CREEK TOUR.

On the weekend of October 8 and 9 the NCDBS Region held its Fall Tour. The weather was perfect and hovered around 78 degree throughout the weekend. On Day1, we began in Farmington and took back roads to Sutter Creek - stopping at New Hogan Reservoir and Mokelumne Hill for lunch. We were met in Mokelumne Hill by Donn Marinovich and Sherrin Grout who drove down from Columbia in their award winning 1962 Dodge Power Wagon, equipped with special water pumping capability. After lunch we pushed on for 8 miles to Sutter Creek. Moving up from Farmington to Sutter creek was only 50 miles but it was the altitude change that make it difficult on the 4 cylinder cars both going up steep grades and the two band "manual" braking systems going down sweeping downhill lengths. No problem if you love continually down shifting without synchromesh going uphill and downhill and crawling uphill at about 18 mph. On Day 2, we motored down Hwy. 49 going down 4 miles and then back up 4 miles and onto Poor Guys Brass works and then to the Kennedy Gold Mine for a tour. Most of the grades were at the 8% rate for half a mile runs which meant that the Dependable Dodges could climb right up - just not in 3rd gear. After the Gold Mine tour we headed down and around the hills to San Andreas. Then it was on to Copperopolis for an ice cream break and then 25 miles back to Farmington for departure. It was a great experience and stressed the extent of the 4 cylinder cars and their ability to hold up under trying conditions. But this is the NCDBS and no challenge goes unmet! For detailed information regarding this tour, please click on NCDBS Meets, select the 2011 column and scroll down and click on Fall.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - THE GALT OLD CAR FESTIVAL.

The Galt Historical Society sponsored the 22nd annual Galt Old Car Festival on September 25. There were many NCDBS members in attendance - many with cars and a few without their DB's. Those with cars were Jim and Francine Reid (and grand kids) showing their award winning 1923 touring car; Barbara and Herman Boone displaying their 1933 award winning cabriolet; Amil Gehrke with son Arne Gehrke in their almost competed 1930 Straight 8 coupe, Donn Marinovich and Sherrin Grout in their 1923 Screenside and Roger Gong with brother Howard in their 1925 Screenside. Many more NCDBS members arrived in Modern Iron or did not show their cars on the field. A great time was held by all and the mini-meeting went well.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - THE GATSBY SUMMER AFTERNOON.

The Art Deco Society of California sponsored Gatsby Summer Afternoon was held on Sunday September 11. There was a bit of rain shower activity just before the official opening of the area - but otherwise everything was just great! This event officially begins at 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon and lasts until 6:00 p.m. when it closes. In between there are many events that harken back to the roaring 20's and the Gatsby era. One of the requirements "etched in stone" is the requirement that all attendees must dress in era appropriate clothing. There are no exceptions (including children) and the ADSC is willing to escort all rules breakers from the grounds. It is quite a site to see upwards of 1,000 people dressed in period clothing, dancing to a live Jazz band and being entertained by the bathing beauties the Decobelles. Of course, this is the atmosphere that the ADSC is trying to recreate for this event. While the event is particular on who it invites, the NCDBS essentially greets all comers to the grounds. We are parked in a strategic location each year and upon arrival, our vehicles and personnel are always seen by everyone who enters the ground. You

can't miss us! A great time was had by all. For further information please go to the ncdbs Meets and click on Dunsmuir.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - GREAT GATSBY FESTIVAL AT THE TALLAC HISTORICAL SITE, SOUTH LAKE TAHOE.

The Great Gatsby Festival was held the weekend of August 13 and 14. A contingent of the Northern California Dodge Brothers and Sisters were in attendance providing ambiance and support to the volunteers from the U.S. Forestry Department. The affair was a 2 day event, with festivities opening each day at 10:00 a.m and lasting until 5:00 p.m on Saturday and repeating the next day Sunday, although closing at 4:00 p.m. However on Sunday, the Grand Tea and Fashion show began at 2:00 p.m. The attendance for patrons was free and participants like the NCDBS was by invitation. This year was the "year of the Commercial/Business Car" since there were 3 Screenside trucks and one Roadster on the grounds of the Pope Estate sitting among the tall pines and only a stones throw away from Lake Tahoe itself. Details of the event is described in the Events section of this website under Tallac.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - PENNGROVE STEAM UP.

The Penngrove Museum conducted its Steam-Up on July 9 this year. All of the stationery engines were in operation along with one of the engines from the Spruce Goose. The gigantic 6 cylinder Fairbanks Morse engine was fired up several times during the day along with the engine of the Spruce Goose. This is very much a display of antique and older equipment in operation. The Museum is privately funded and is somewhat small and compact although there are many exhibits to see. The NCDBS Region has been part of this Steam Up for a number of years as a static display for patrons to observe these Dodge Brothers vehicles.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - DANVILLE 4TH OF JULY PARADE.

Once again representatives of the Northern California Dodge Brothers and Sisters Region gathered to participate in the Danville 4th of July Parade. There were 10 vehicles in the NCBDS contingent ranging from a 1918 Touring Car to a 1936 KC Pickup truck. Going down the parade route we had every car packed full of people - meaning that there were about 40 people representing the NCDBS. We all arrived before 7:30 in the morning in Alamo where we parked trailers and "roaded" cars. By 8:00 a.m. the Drivers and navigators meeting was completed. We climbed into our cars and headed down Danville Blvd. to the staging area off of El Cerro Blvd. Once there, everyone piled out of the cars and began the tedious but necessary job of decorating the cars. Within an hour all of the decorating was completed with streamers, bunting, flags and sparklers hanging from every conceivable point of every car. Then we waited patiently in the very, very hot sun. There wasn't much shade around the staging area! By 10:30 a.m. we turned onto the parade route led by the 1918 Touring car as Unit 181 proceeded down the parade route! The 1922 Roadster made it about 3/4 down the route before it stalled out due to intermittent electrical problems. The rest of the cars went beyond the fallen warrior and finished the parade. After letting the roadster cool down a bit, Gene Stadelhofer was able to coax the car back to the start of their street. It was towed back to the Stadelhofer residence. We all partook of the BBQ and then conducted a NCDBS mini-meet. Finally we were on our ways home to enjoy the rest of our day near our own homes. For more information please click on ncdbs meets for details and pictures of the event.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - LAZY RIVER TOUR QUATTRO.

The FOURTH INSTALLMENT OF THE LAZY RIVER TOUR was held in West Sacramento at Gene's Garage on April 30 and May 1..

There were about 60 people attending the tour and we 17 cars partaking of the Lazy River. As usual, the early bird arrivals began appearing at about 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoon as the first of many trailered cars arrived. Shortly thereafter, the garage grounds was covered with trailers and Dodge Brothers vehicles ranging from a 1915 through a 1935 coupe. A lot of volunteer help was given to later arrivals to unload trailers and getting the numerous DB's aligned. There were few duplicate cars during this tour - just individual and unique cars. At about 7:00 p.m. after most of the cars were unloaded and prepped for a tour

around the River, there was a group spaghetti dinner as old and new friends made and remade acquaintances. For all involved, there was a lot of kicking tires and just talking Dodge and looking at cars and comparing notes. The early bird festivities was wrapped up at about 9:30 p.m. and the Hosts prepared for the first day of real touring on Saturday. You can go to NCDBS Meets to read more about the tour and the trials and tribulations that occurred during the approximately 70 mile down and around the Sacramento River with three ferry crossings! Just click on "Spring Meet" and you'll see a synopsis of the tour.

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - ANNUAL KICK-OFF PICNIC EVENT.

The Annual Kick-off Picnic event was held at the Amador Community Center on Sunday March 27. Once again there was no rain and the sun actually shined through during our time there. We had our usual crowd of about 40 people on hand for the potluck picnic and a great time was had by all. There were a couple of brave souls who drove their cars to the event. Lou McMillian drove his '37 Chevy Van which had a repaired rear end put in it after last years 4th of July Parade in Danville. Gene and Vicki Stadelhofer drove down from Alamo in their 1928 Victory 6, while Herman and Barbara Boone displayed their 1933 Cabriolet along with a fully operational "kiddie" car which Herman built some 20 plus years ago. However, many of the Northern California Dodge Brothers and Sisters were a bit afraid of the impending possibility of rain and did not drive their cars to the picnic this year. But let me repeat, that everyone had a great time!

ACTIVITIES in 2011 - TURLOCK SWAP MEET

The Turlock Swap Meet was held on the last full weekend of January 2011. It was a cold and foggy, clammy climate. The ugly weather did not hold down the crowds even though it must have been very close to 60 degrees with a slight breeze on Saturday. The fog contributed to the misery of all of the vendors. However, there was not a drop of rain on Saturday, although Sunday was another story. As is our usual modus operandi, the Northern California Dodge Brothers and Sisters Groups had reserved two spaces in the center of Row J. A tent was in place with the DB banner flying proudly. On the table was a plethora of information regarding the National Club and the NCDBS Region. Flyers were handed out for both organizations and information was free distributed to all questions from the patrons of the event. Donn Marinovich was once again the key figure for manning the booth while many who were on hand contributed to the effort. As a short list of personnel on hand at any one time the booth saw Donn, Amil Gehrke, Tom Gong, Dave Johnson, Jim Reid, Jack and Linda Dewey, Travis and Julia Barham, Gene Stadelhofer, Herman Boone and his grandsons, Bob Scafani, Roger Gong, Mike French and many more which this author cannot remember. Overall, it was a nice outing and a great way to begin the NCDBS Regions 2011 official year. We would like to thank each and every patron who stopped by the NCDBSG Booth and all of those who drove many miles to support the Group.