



VOLUME 69 ISSUE 1

A vintage 1926 Ford truck, painted red, is parked on a paved surface. The side of the cab features the text "TOWE FORD" in white. The truck has a dark metal bed and large spoked wheels. In the background, there are green trees and a portion of a house with a brown roof. Overlaid on the right side of the image is a graphic with a black background. It contains several clusters of red and white spherical particles, resembling viruses, and the year "2020" in large, bold, black font.

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The Brass Nuts is published by the 5th of each month by the **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL GROUP OF THE HCCA**. Permission to reproduce articles appearing in this publication is granted provided credit is given to the original source. *Brass Nuts* subscriptions are available to non-members for \$15.00 per year.

The mission and purpose of the **Northern California Regional Group of the Horseless Carriage Club of America** is to bring together people interested in the preservation of antique and vintage vehicles and their accessories, to preserve and maintain antique and vintage vehicles, and to serve as an accurate and technical source of information concerning the vehicles for the benefit of the members and the general public. We value and enjoy sharing our cars and their history through public educational events.

THE HORSELESS CARRIAGE CLUB OF AMERICA

The Horseless Carriage Club of America is a nonprofit international association of people dedicated to the enjoyment, study and preservation of early automobiles manufactured prior to 1916.

The club was organized in 1937 by a group of horseless carriage enthusiasts who foresaw the need for an organization dedicated to the preservation of automotive history. From this beginning the Horseless Carriage Club of America has grown to include members from all parts of the United States, Canada, Europe and other parts of the world. www.hcca.org

NCRG General Meetings will be held the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in December) at the Sacramento Sewer District Office Board Room, 5026 Don Julio Boulevard, Sacramento, California.

NCRG 2021—2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jan Charpier, Mike Huff, Sandy Maye, Stephanie Mozell, and Diana Squire.

NCRG 2020—2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Bill Charpier, Raul Cornejo, Bob Hopkins, Jr., Gordon McGregor, and Roger Mitchell.

2020

NCRG-HCCA

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

Web site address: www.ncrghcca.com

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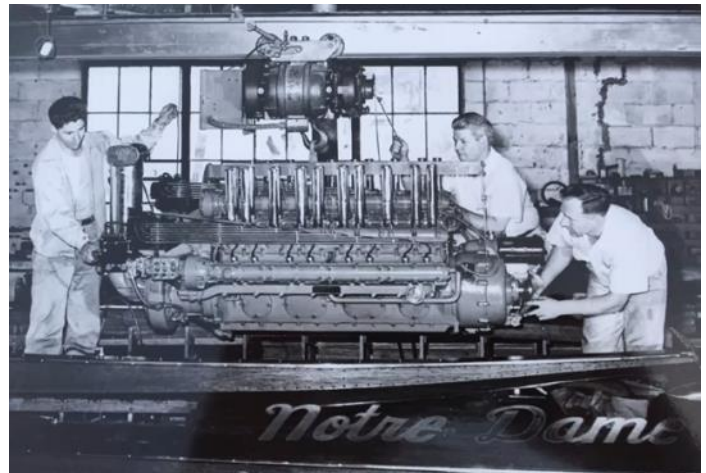
President's Message:

Thirteen members joined together on December 20th for our Christmas Get-Together using Zoom. It was a fun two hours of visiting, sharing stories, talking about old tours and

looking forward to new tours. Lew Dobbins talked a little about his work on the engine for the recreated wood boat, *Miss Notre Dame*, originally built in the 1930s. The marine engine used in these boats was developed for Horace Dodge, Jr., by Duesenberg and delivered in 1927. After being used in several boats, the engine was purchased and used in the *Miss Notre Dame*. This marine engine is a 917 horsepower W-24 with 3 banks of eight cylinders and six cams! Lew also shared photos of the boat and the engine including himself piloting the new *Miss Notre Dame* on Lake Chelan in Washington. Lew offered that his experience has shown that new Autolite and Champion spark plugs which are made in China have been less reliable than the NGK which are made in Japan. Also, he is on the lookout for old Champion R11 spark plugs for the Duesenberg W-24. Bob Hopkins mentioned the Virginia & Truckee Railroad's Candy Cane Express, a festively decorated train that runs before Christmas. Other members provided information on other railroads that offer similar rides. Kathy Ryan gave us a brief summary of the sites to be seen in the next Ryan Ramble which, fingers crossed, will take place next August.

As 2020 comes to an end, I would like to offer the "state of the club" as I see it. This has been a tough year for everyone! Because of it, most of our meetings, tours and other get-togethers were postponed or cancelled. Fortunately, "The Brass Nuts" continued on its regular schedule and it was the glue that helped hold us together. We even had a fund-raising activity. Thanks go to Elaine Rose and her basket sale which raised over \$1,000 for the NCRG. We continue to be in a very sound financial position. This enviable position has also been helped by member donations, some substantial. Looking forward, I hope that vaccines will be available, the pandemic will come to an end, and we can get back to enjoying in-person meetings and tours as we have done in the past.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Diana Squire, Jim and Kathy Ryan and Kim Malone for their dedication and work to produce and distribute "The Brass Nuts" on schedule.



In addition, thank you to the members who submitted articles and photographs to be included in the newsletter.

The January 7th Board of Directors Meeting and Installation of Officers will be a Zoom meeting. Since the pandemic doesn't seem to be abating, we anticipate having the January 21st General Meeting on Zoom as well. I encourage those of you who have not tried it to join us.

May this New Year be healthy and happy for you and your families

Bill



NEXT GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, 7:00 P.M.
January 21, 2021

Zoom Meeting
Watch for information via email.



NCRG HCCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(NOTE: NCRG sponsored events are in bold print)

2021

- January 7** Board Meeting via Zoom 7pm
- January 21** General Meeting 7pm via Zoom
- February 18** General Meeting 7pm
- March 18** General Meeting 7pm
- April 15** General Meeting 7pm



Plan a tour

Let's set a future date!!!!

Contact Gordon McGregor, Tour and Safety Chairman, with your tour dates and information.

SWAP MEETS, OTHER REGIONAL CLUB : HAPPENINGS AND NATIONAL EVENTS

2021

March 19-20 31st Annual Chickasha Pre-War Swap Meet, Chickasha, OK.

April 11-14 HCCA National Convention, San Diego, CA.

May 14-15, 2021 Gilmore Car Museum Tour & Show, Hickory Corners, MI.

June 20-25, 2021 New England Brass & Gas Tour, New England.

July 16-20, 2021 1st Annual "Celebration of the Brass Car" - Tour, Show, and Swap Meet, Hickory Corners, MI

Please see your latest Horseless Carriage Gazette "Calendar Section" for any events or cancellations planned for 2021.

JANUARY

Suffering from
The COVID19 diet???



It's that
time of year
for a

NEW YEAR'S
RESOLUTION

What else is on your
List????????????



The Overland is SAD

The update on the 1916 Overland: We pulled the engine while Kevin Pharis had the starter ring gear and he was doing his magic. I helped Jack pull the engine and we used Purple Grease cleaner and scrubbed years and years of grease away. While the engine was out we said "let's get some new paint on it and clean it up some." It's looking good.



But we have come to a stop in the road and **Need Your Help or Advice.** Now that the engine is all back in with starter gear and pretty new paint, the **Car will not Start!!!!** We think its trouble with the Magneto Fairbanks Morris FM XYE.

Any of our Car Folks have any advice?



Editor's Message

I'd like to thank Elaine Rose for making all those baskets, for opening her home, and for donating the money she collected (\$1050) to our NorCal group. And thank you to all the NCRG members, their family and/or friends who supported the sale. I purchased several baskets. The tennis basket we gave to our grandchildren was a hit!



Additionally, my friend ,who came along to the sale, had this to say:

"The kids opened the baskets today [Christmas] and they loved them. My granddaughter really enjoyed the cutting boards, hand towels and the knives. The Polar Express basket was a favorite with the grandson. The Peanuts basket was a big hit with the dog and it had a Lucy statue that said 'The doctor's in.' My daughter loves Peanuts and works at a hospital. She loved it. Thanks for the invitation to the basket party. I would love to go next year. It meant a lot to my family."

I hope more of you will join our Zoom General Meeting on January 21st. It really is nice to connect with each other. It's been too long. And, the meeting will give everyone an opportunity to share their ideas for activities for 2021.

My wish for ALL is to have a safe, healthy, and prosperous New Year. I hope that we will be able to tour safely in 2021.

Wishing You Good Health and Safe Travels

Diana



A Blast from the Past

The Brass Nuts, June 2007

Fashion Page
By: Sue Hill

This month's fashion page deals with clothing from the mid-century 1900s as opposed to early 1900s. I hope you find it as interesting as I did when going through the club scrapbooks and watching the Antiques Roadshow...is there a connection? You bet!

Some time ago when looking for photos from the early years of the NCRG, I came across a photo of my mother, the late Anne Hopkins, who attended a costume party to welcome the new year, 1968. Mom wore an Andy Warhol inspired paper Campbell's Soup Dress that she had gotten with a few soup can labels and a dollar. In the photo she accessorized the dress with a soup spoon necklace. How clever!

About the same time I ran across the photo, I watched an episode of the Antiques Roadshow and lo and behold, they were appraising the exact same dress my mom had gotten in 1967. Apparently, these paper dresses didn't last...they were good for one or two wearings and then you threw them away. Mom wore hers once and folded it up and put it away. The Roadshow dress, which was framed, was appraised between \$2,000 and \$3,000. I immediately called mom and asked her if she still had the dress. She didn't remember.

When helping my dad clean out closets and drawers earlier this year, we came across the dress all folded neatly in a drawer. I told him we can sell it on eBay and see what happens. He said "Go ahead."

Daughter Sandy photographed the dress, noted the small imperfections so that the bidders would know the exact condition of the dress; placed a reserve of \$500 on it and the auction ran over the course of seven days.



In the early hours, the dress was at \$99.00 and dad was excited as heck. He thought that was a generous offer for the paper dress.

A couple of days later the dress got to the reserve of \$500 and stayed that way until the last day of the auction. By the end of the auction, the dress reached the sum of \$1,425!!!! A man from the principality of Monaco purchased the dress for his fashion house in New York City.

Whoever imagined that a paper dress purchased in the 1960's could obtain such a value? The value, of course, was the Warhol connection. And, now the dress will continue to live on in a New York City fashion house. Awesome!

Anne Hopkins in the Andy Warhol inspired Campbell's Soup paper dress; New Year's Eve 1967.

Note: *A little history...the NCRG held New Year's Eve costume parties in the 1950s and 60s. Anne wore this at the NCRG party in 1967.*

TSRA Fun Run

The Trans Sierra Racing Association (TSRA) hosted a run from Grass Valley to Downieville in November. Jim, Matt, Clay and Michaelynn Ryan joined the tour in the Ryan's Model T speedsters. It was a motley assortment of vintage vehicles and crazy, adventurous souls participating. Weather promised and delivered cold and occasionally spitting snow conditions. Jim and Michaelynn drove to Grass Valley in the Subaru, Matt and Clay left the speedsters at a friend's house in Grass Valley, and they went to Matt's cabin Friday night in the Subaru.



Michaelynn, Clay, Jim & Matt Ryan



They were back in Grass Valley early Saturday morning lining up for the tour start. Participants were given a shot of hot buttered rum at the starting line, and they were off! The first two turn directions were incorrect and the directions went downhill from there – according to our navigators, worst tour directions ever.

The two Ryan speedsters forged their own trail never seeing another participant until arriving in Downieville. They found some interesting logging roads and even invaded a deserted logging camp!

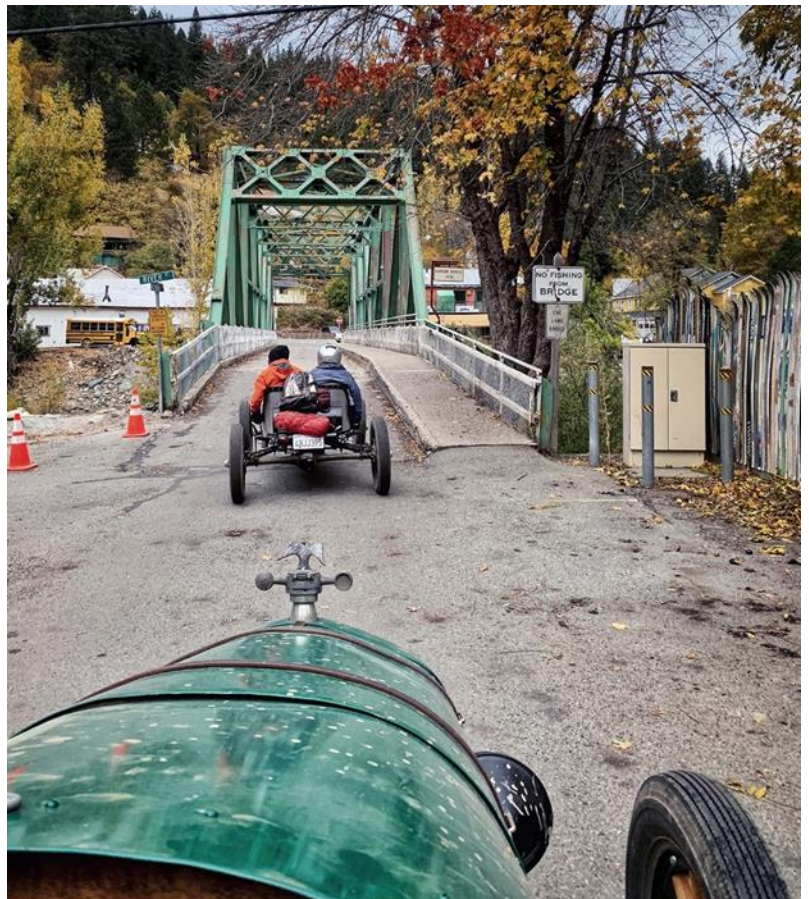




Finally they resorted to cell phone GPS when it was available and plotted a route. Of course, GPS does not account for elevations, and they ended up on one of the steepest descents they had ever encountered. Thank goodness Model T's have great first gears!

The host hotel in Downieville had been booked long before Matt signed up for the run, so the Ryan's stayed in a rustic cabin at a resort – at least they were given an upgrade to a cabin that had a bathroom and hot shower! Being lost they missed lunch, but ate a hearty 4:00 pm meal. They ate very little at the hosted dinner, because it was too crowded with few people wearing masks.

The run back to Grass Valley on paved, well-traveled roads was uneventful. They picked up the Subaru, and Jim and Michaelynn followed the two speedsters home to Orangevale Sunday evening. Commemorative T-shirts are a prized reminder of this adventure.



Entering Downieville, tired and mud-splattered. Note the fence on the right made out of old skis.



**Northern California Regional Group of the
Horseless Carriage Club of America
General Meeting Minutes
Stephanie Mozell, Secretary**

- ♦ No General Meeting was held during December.
- ♦ There will be a Board Meeting on January 7th at 7 pm via Zoom. Any member is welcome to join this meeting. Information with the link to the meeting will be sent out prior to the meeting.
- ♦ The next General Meeting will be January 21st via Zoom. Information will be emailed to members prior to the meeting.

Treasurer's Update: We received dues, fundraiser monies from the basket sale and had expenditures for *The Brass Nuts* printing, a donation and miscellaneous expenses including our subscription to Zoom. The NCRG remains solvent.

I am anticipating that the Audit and Budget Committee's meeting normally held in February will also be held on Zoom. If so, I will send out reference packets to participants in advance of the meeting date to provide the opportunity to become familiar with them and to formulate questions. I expect the regulars, Gordon McGregor, Bob Hopkins and Bill will join next year's committee. If anyone else is interested, please contact me. I am sorry, but we will not be having dessert this time.

Jan Charpier, Treasurer

The NCRG's Christmas Get-Together (on Zoom)

December 20, 2020

Chatting—sharing boat engine repair stories and a search for special spark plugs—seasonal train rides—holiday get-togethers (or lack thereof) and plans for the 2021 Ryan Ramble. Wishing All a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Jan and Bill Charpier



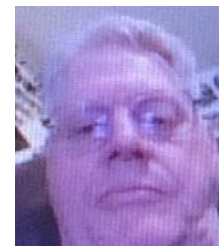
Lew Dobbins



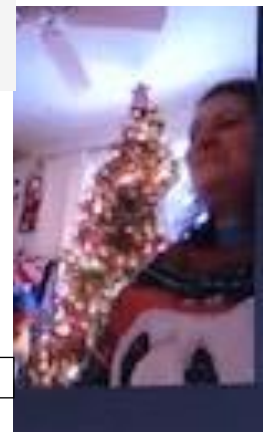
Frank and Diana Squire



Sue Hill



Jack and Sandy Maye



Bob Hopkins, Jr.



Mike Huff and Stephanie Mozell



Jim and Kathy Ryan



HCCA NATIONAL NEWS

Re: **BBC 2021 Cancelled; Les Holden's Ride; What's on the Horizon; HCCA New Website!**
 Issue: 2020-12-15 #14

Wishing you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

- **BBC 2021 Cancelled** – In an email from Patrick Gamble dated December 04, 2020: “Sadly, I must inform you that BBC 2021 has been cancelled. BBC was always more than an old car tour. BBC is also one of HCCA’s premier social events. In light of the COVID-19 Virus and various State and local Government orders on gatherings and closures, it is impossible for us to plan an event like the one BBC is known for.

This decision was not easy, after many emails and conversations with committee members and past tourists, we came to the conclusion it would not be prudent and more than likely not possible to plan a large social gathering such as ours. The Holiday Inn currently can only operate at 10% capacity due to State orders and that limits the property to 40 people.

While we are hopeful for a vaccine and eradication of this virus the prospects look slim for that to occur in time for us to gather in only 5 months. Plans are moving forward for BBC 2022 and we promise to make up for the lost years and offer a tremendous tour in 22 at a location never visited before by BBC. With warmest regards, Patrick Gamble.”

- **Les Holden's Ride** – From the November 28, 2020 online Wall Street Journal: “**This 1904 Model B Helped Launch Cadillac and Detroit**” *“Les Holden, 68, a retired mortgage banker living in Southern Pines, N.C., on his 1904 Cadillac Model B Rear-Entrance Tonneau, as told to A.J. Baime.”* “In 1996, I was driving in the “London to Brighton” rally in England, the world’s longest-running motoring event, in my 1902 Rambler when I noticed single-cylinder Cadillacs passing me. At that time, I had already been restoring brass-era cars for a decade. [Brass-era cars are brass-adorned vehicles built from the late 19th century up to about 1915.] I thought to myself: I am going to look into buying a Cadillac. So I

put the word out.”.... “That is when I first heard about this 1904 Cadillac that was for sale in Texas. The seller faxed me a photo and I bought it right then, over the phone. For the next eight years, I had things made and collected parts while I worked on other cars. Then I began the restoration in late 2005, finishing it four years later.” This also appeared in the Wall Street Journal print edition, the week of December 1st.

- **What's on the Horizon** – From the HCCA Website Calendar of Events:

...
Model T Winter Clinic, McPherson, KS – January 23, 2021

31st Annual Chickasha Swap Meet, Chickasha, OK – March 19-20, 2021

HCCA National Convention, San Diego, CA - April 11-14, 2021

Gilmore Car Museum Tour & Show, Hickory Corners, MI - May 14-15, 2021

New England Brass & Gas Tour, New England - June 20-25, 2021

1st Annual “Celebration of the Brass Car”, Tour, Show, and Swap Meet, Hickory Corners, MI - July 16-20, 2021

- **HCCA New Website!** – The HCCA Website Committee has been meeting weekly since early March on the improvements to our website. These efforts are about to pay off with the introduction of the New HCCA Website, ready for general use. The current HCCA Website will be down for maintenance the week after Christmas. Please be patient, we trust that you will like what you see once the new Website comes online. Stay tuned.

Doug Tomb

Douglas.tomb@verizon.net

Board Member – HCCA NN Editor ...

FOR SALE

Bob Schneider has two vehicles for sale.
If you are interested in either please contact him via our Web Master



1948 Cushman Scooter
with
Package Delivery Sidecar
Fully restored. **\$5,000**



1922 Willys Knight Touring Car
Nicely Restored Well-Maintained — **\$22,500**

Three Scooters

I am 86 now and all the ailments that attend my age are here! Therefore, the three cycles that have dominated my existence in the shop are for sale. All have been rebuilt with genuine parts and have been in running condition. All are registered with the DMV.

Scooter No. 1: Simplex Automatic. A competitive little scooter from Bendix. It has a 3 horsepower engine and was made in the 1940s.



Scooter No. 2: The Simplex Servi-Cycle was built around 1950 in Los Angeles. When running it is very comfortable. It has new rings and had a piston job. Needs attention but all the parts are there including a new carburetor (and the old one).

Scooter No. 3: The Powell P-81 Custom C was built in Compton, Los Angeles during the 1950s. It has a 10 horsepower engine and is considered very fast. The passenger seat has been moved backward to give you more room. Jack Hurt of Santa Rosa, CA rebuilt the magneto. A new set of rings was also installed. Two new tires and tubes have been purchased and are included to replace the currently installed ones.

If you are interested, please contact Pete Kneedler via our Web Master.

They are located in Sacramento, CA. **Asking \$7,500 for the three.**

Good Thoughts for 2021 and Beyond

- Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them.
- Drive carefully. It's not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.
- Never buy a car you can't push.
- When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- A truly happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery on a detour.
- The early bird gets eaten by the worm, so sleep longer.
- Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.
- Never put both feet in your mouth at the same time, because then you don't have a leg to stand on.
- Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.

Thanks to Joan Catchot



Happy Birthday



Traveling down the road
for another year...

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Julie Instness
- 11 Janice Hill
- 16 Elaine Rose
- 20 Dave Hill



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 01 Kevin Pharis
- 04 Warren Berg
- 08 Diane Sherman
- 13 Cindy Pharis
- 23 David Pava
- 24 Ilia Potanin
- 29 Steve Gordon



JANUARY ANNIVERSERIES

- 03 Mark and Barbara O'Connor
- 19 David and Patricia Pava



Just Married

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSERIES

- 14 Dave and Janice Hill

CONGRATULATIONS AND
BEST WISHES
FROM ALL OF US IN THE
NCRG-HCCA

REMINDERS...

January 7, 2021 **Thursday 7:00 pm**
Next **BOARD MEETING**
Zoom Meeting

January 21, 2021 **Thursday 7:00 pm**
Next **GENERAL MEETING**
Zoom Meeting

January 25th - Last Day to Submit
Information for the February 2021 issue of
The Brass Nuts

I Think I Need Help With This Engine? Part 5 By Wel Snibbod

Wel is taking a break (actually he's working long hours) and will be sending us Part 5 at a later date.

Look for the final chapter in a 2021 issue of *The Brass Nuts*.

From the Toolbox

By Bill Charpier

...will return in February. If you have a special tool you'd like to share information about with our members please let Bill know. He is offering his assistance in writing up an article.

Reminder—Dues are Due

Please return your notice with \$\$\$ to

NCRG Treasurer



9-30-2021

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ask for **JIM MATSON**, GUITAR BROKER

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12-31-2020



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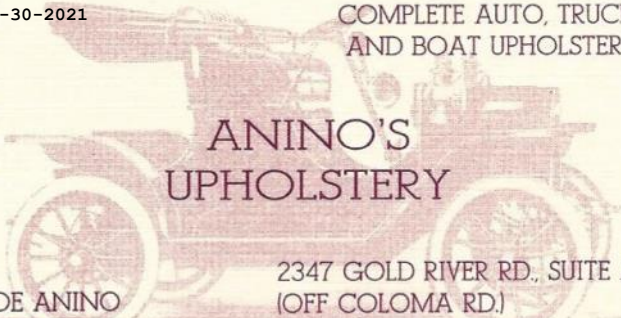
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4-30-2021



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Admission to the California Automobile Museum
(CAM)

NCRG's Treasurer has a group of
free admission tickets for the CAM.

**Check CAM's Website before you
go to see if they are open again.**



Buy - Sell Donate - Consign



VehicleSales@CalAutoMuseum.org
2200 Front St, Sacramento

916-442-6802
www.CalAutoMuseum.org

Business card size advertisements accepted for this newsletter...
\$25.00 per year. Send business card information to
the Editor of the **Brass Nuts**.
Club members can advertise for sale and wanted items for free.
Send your information to the Editor of the **Brass Nuts**.



Past entry in the Rose Parade
From the Automobile Club of Southern California



THE BRASS NUTS

Diana Squire
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Sacramento, CA 95821

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