

How the Very First



came to be...

This is the very first CycleKart ever built, made in 1995 in Del Mar, California. It grew out of an experiment to see if coasting down hills in ratty, minimal machines was as much fun as we'd remembered from our childhoods. We built a coaster with this set of wheels (which had been scrounged out of the trash by a friend who *knew* we would find a good use for a set of four spoked wheels!)

After discovering that we really *did* have great fun coasting downhill, we also realised that we really *didn't* like pushing it back up the hill every time. We took what we knew from the Mini-indy racers we'd developed for Popular-Mechanics in the '70's and created a vintage-inspired version.

We had *NO* idea how much fun CycleKarting would be, and we promptly set about to make a companion to the Delage, also based on a favorite car from the Cunningham Museum: The MG K3 Magnette! Now we were having great fun!

A couple of years later we moved up to the Jack's Peak area of Monterey and had some space to set up a proper track...Of course this led to making a Type 59 Bugatti, and then to some friends beginning to be inspired to create their own machines (an Alfa P3 and a Ford Model T racer).

What with one thing and another, we found ourselves hosting an assorted rabble of Road & Track staff at a party during the 2001 August Race Week. They'd just done an article on another car we had built back in the '70's as a kind of dare by the director of Mr.C's museum, and when they came to the party and discovered how fun tearing around the track at Falling Pines was in these zany little machines, a plan was set in place for the 2002 R&T April Fool's article!

As they are wont to say, The Rest Is History! We did the article, and posted a website at the R&T Art Director's request ("You can't leave it to *us* to have to answer questions about these crazy little machines! You have to post something on the web...") Almost twenty years down some twisty tracks, there are now CycleKart builders all over the world, having fun making some silly fun for themselves!

We like to think Peter Stevenson and Archie Frazer-Nash would be proud! That's our story, and we're sticking to it!