



Gas Gauge



March 2009

Monthly newsletter of Ye Olde Car Club



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Upcoming Events

March the 6th Three Rivers convention Ctr is hosting an auction to support the Neurological research Library. They would like to have 5 or 6 cars of the 30's and 40's vintage to display, one inside the building and the rest outside. Please bring drip pan for under your car and please no tire dressing on the tires.

March 14 Saint Patty's Day Celebration in Heppner, Ore. Heppner's 21st annual St. Patrick's Celebration, "A Wee Bit O' Ireland" invites you to come and be a part of the fun at Paddy's Cruz In. Assembly of vehicles will begin at 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at the Northwest entrance to Heppner on Hwy 74. The Cruz-In parade will begin at noon with entries Cruzin through downtown Heppner and into the parking/show area on Willow Street. Plaque awards will be given for: Leprechaun's Choice — Mustang Award — Judges Choice



Registration is \$10.00 (non-refundable to help pay for advertising) by March 11; \$15.00 on site. Early entries are appreciated. All entries will receive dash plaques. Fax to 541-676-9650 or mail to St. Paddy's Cruz-In, P.O. Box 1232, Heppner, OR 97836. If you don't want to enter a car in the event, come along and join in the festivities. We will gather at 8am in the Home Depot Parking lot in Kennewick on SR 395 and travel on the back roads together.

April ??? Fred Fraser is looking in to a garage tour in Walla Walla for sometime in April.

May 2nd swap meet. We need help with Setup and any other help you can offer. Please contact Phil Prather @ 347-4100



Thoughts to Ponder

People prefer to follow those who help them,
not those who intimidate them.

Gene Wilkes

Tact is the ability to stay in the middle without getting caught there

Franklin Jones

Politicians are like ships, noisiest when lost in a fog

Bennett Surf

Chocolate Extravaganza

Friday the 13th is reported to be a bad day, But not this last Friday the 13th.

Jim and Ginger Vetrano sponsored a Valentines Day Chocolate Extravaganza at their home. Not just because of Valentines day, but it was Jim's B-day and their Anniversary. Every one brought their favorite chocolate treat.

Along with the chocolate Jim and Ginger served several different wines, coffee, tea, and soft drinks. Ginger had us play a game where she would pin a note on our backs with a persons name on it. They would be names of politician, movie star or other news worthy person. We were to guess who we were through a process of twenty questions.

But the highlight of the evening was when four members of the Columbia River Chordsmen (a barbershop group) serenaded Ginger and presented her with a rose. I will post a short video on the Blog so you can here them sing. We all had a great time. OH, almost forgot, One chocolate treat that doesn't sound very good but was very good was Chocolate Chili. Just like when we were back in school at a school dance, the girls in one area and the boys in another.



Prez sez

Hopefully the rain and overcast days are gone and that spring is on it's way. Let's look forward and plan for those warm days we know are coming.

We had two people from the 3 Rivers Transportation Museum attend Wednesday's breakfast and give a report on their progress.

Matt LaFortune has been checking out where we can get name tags and what they would cost. We will continue to work on this. We will need to have a firm count with names, more information on this later.

We have received some more information from the LeMay America's Car Museum that was sent to Cindy Underwood. This info is elsewhere in the news letter for those interested.

Roy Holmes is planning a day trip to Heppner Ore for the St Paddy's Day celebration on the 6th of March and needs to know how many are interested in going.

Fred Fraser is still working on a trip to Walla Walla. More on this when the details are worked out.

Thanks to all of you who are trying to make this a good year.

Invite your friends to breakfast on Wednesday for breakfast, we need new members.

Special Note

Ray Benson brought a book on the history of Oregon to breakfast one Wednesday, and can't remember who he loaned it to. Would anyone knowing the where-abouts of that book please call Ray @ 734-2191

LeMay Museum

Hello

My name is Amber Barnett with the LeMay America's car Museum The following is some information for your news letter and web site

LeMay America's Car Museum

Celebrating Americas love affair with cars.

See over 300 classic, modern and specialty autos, plus trucks and motorcycles. Almost every year and brand sold in America during the 20th century is represented. Don't miss seeing this incredible collection.

Guided tours are offered every Tuesday - Saturday from 10am to 5pm (closed for major American holidays) and Sundays 12 to 5pm during the summer. To make a tour reservation please call 253-779-8179.

Get connected with America's Car Club! become a member and join our dynamic network of car enthusiasts from around the world. A portion of membership is tax deductible. Members receive museum benefits according to giving level. visit www.lemaymuseum.org or call 253-779-8490 for info.

March Birthdays

2nd	Bud Williams	21st	Martha Shreve
11th	Charlette Gilbert	25th	Lenora Jackson
12th	Richard Kuch	31st	Dave Underwood
12th	John Kutrowski		

Anniversaries

4th	Denny & Janice Wellington
14th	Mike & Cindy Underwood
26th	Dave & Jan Underwood
29th	Wayne & Lorraine Williams
31st	Chuck & Kay Sundgren

Whoop - n - Holler

WHOOOP-N-HOLLER

PRIVATE MUSEUM RANCH

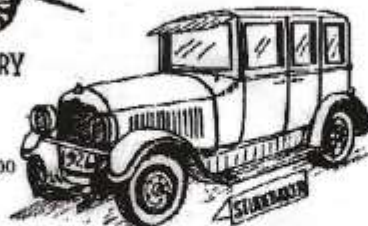
OPEN DAILY 10 AM - 4 PM
April, May, June & September
or by appointment July - August

ENJOY THE YESTERDAY YEARS



LOCAL HISTORY
OLD CARS

ADMISSION \$3.00



THE WHITMORES
East Road
(509)896-2344

Picnic Tables Available

BICKLETON, WASHINGTON 99322



ANTIQUES



I have more on the history and origin of this museum, but no room in the news letter, I will put it in next month. Sounds like a nice trip to take when the weather is warmer.

March 2009



1935 Willys

Back in 1933, Willys-Overland went into receivership. The struggling company avoided imminent bankruptcy by canceling all its larger cars and concentrating on its new model: a cramped, homely, but very economical little "77" series. This car had a four-cylinder engine similar to the type used previously in Willys' budget-priced Whippet car ('27 to '31).

The "77" was America's lowest-priced family-sized car, and many families during the Depression could afford nothing more.

By license agreement with Chrysler Corp., the Willys "77" used the flexible "Floating Power" engine mounting system that had first been introduced on the new "PA" series Plymouth in mid-1931. This device virtually banished vibration!

The four-cylinder Willys car would be enlarged and totally restyled for

1937, thus doubling the sales from 30,826 to 63,467 in just one year! As for the illustrated 1935 model, it was the lowest-selling "77": only 10,715 Willys sales in '35.

When World War II and gas rationing came along in the 1940s, four-cylinder Willys models were in demand at the car lots. Also, the 1940s was a good decade for Willys-Overland because Willys was the greatest producer of military Jeeps.

At one time, used Willys "77" coupes were popular at the stock car tracks. Even with an original engine, the "77" was a good runner for its small size and would do 70-75 m.p.h.

On the sides of the '35 Willys hood, the new bubble-shaped vent ports were probably inspired by those on the beautiful 1934 La Salles.

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