



# Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club May 2016 Newsletter

## The President's Message

Hard to believe we're almost halfway through this year and done with our big event for the year. Thank you to everyone who put the effort to make this years Swap Meet happen. John and Tom were a good pair to draw to and hope they will stay on and continue as Chairpersons for 2017. Ye Olde Car Club is a group of people bound by a few common interests and loves. I met some of our members at the swap meet that I won't see again until the Christmas Party and that's OK. I enjoyed getting to know you a bit better and would hope to have you swing by a breakfast or two.

There are times when we will disagree on things and get on each others nerves. I hope it can be settled between us as a group and not out in public. I know that the swap meet three days I saw you more than I saw my wife. (that's OK too) I know we will move forward from this and be an even stronger group and put our best foot forward in the public eye.

On a different note, I received a call from Brandy Hickey. She is the Operations Manager for Cork's Place at the Chaplaincy and she was overjoyed with the work that was done on the truck and the stories told about Cork and the Club. She told me that they have decided to no longer charge for their services but to do that they would be looking to do a fundraiser to help support their continued work. Brandy made a suggestion that a Corkmobile Car Show would be a fun option and they have the grounds to hold one and make it a fundraiser. I am willing to spearhead that and I think the 1st week in October or the last in September would work and there is nothing going on. I will bring it up at our weekly meeting and see what support is there for it.

Thank You for Making it FUN!

Rick Ball, Car Guy

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## BITS & PIECES

**\*\*\*DID YOU KNOW:** The dot over an ' i ' is called a tittle. It's a combination of tiny and little.

**\*\*\*** If one attempted suicide (by hanging, for instance) in 19th century Britain and failed to die, he/she would be charged with attempted murder...which could be punishable with death by hanging.  
from lesaviezvous.net

\*\*\* Flatulence (n.), emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.

\*\*\* Horn Broken ... Watch For Finger.

\*\*\* Why does a **slight tax increase** cost you two hundred dollars and a **substantial tax cut** saves you thirty cents?

\*\*\***Where is the world's coldest place? East Antarctic Plateau...**On the high ridge of the East Antarctic Plateau, the temperature can drop to as low as **-135.8** degrees Fahrenheit, which was recorded in August, 2010.

\*\*\*It takes real skill to choke on air, fall up stairs and trip over absolutely nothing...I have that skill!

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**WELCOME!** New members, Jess and Debra Allison from Benton City and Donald Provencher from Burbank.

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YOCC member, Clint Johanson is selling his 1966 Chevrolet Impala. The Chevrolet has a 327 V8 engine, 350<sup>TH</sup> automatic transmission, new interior by Shelby Super Cars and is asking \$10,000. Those interested, please call Clint at (509) 947-1064.

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**The Remarkable Body:** Your brain doesn't stop working. It's estimated that about 50,000 thoughts pass through it each day on average, although some scientists put the figure closer to 60,000. That's a whopping 35-48 thoughts every minute.

## EVENTS

**Thursday, May 12** - The Ladies Luncheon had 9 in attendance. Thank you Barbara.

**Saturday, May 21** - Harrington car show

**Saturday, May 28** - KI-BE Reunion Car Show – Benton City

**Saturday & Sunday, May 28 & 29** - PNW Mustang show, Richland

**Saturday, June 4** - Corvette Car Show

**Thursday, June 9** - Ladies Luncheon to be hosted by Ginger Vetrano. Venue TBD.

**Saturday, June 11** - Yakima Valley Swap Meet 8:00 – 4:00, 1301 S. Fair Ave, Yakima

**Saturday, June 18** - Dayton All Wheels Weekend – Dayton WA

**Thursday June 23 thru Sunday June 26** - Richland Cool Desert Nights

### Retirement visits:

**Friday, May 20** - Brookdale Torbett, 221 Torbett St, Richland. 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Tuesday, May 24** - Regency Sun Terrace, 1550 NW 11th Street, Hermiston, OR, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, May 27** - Guardian Angels, 245 Van Giesen St, Kennewick, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, June 3** - Charbonneau Retirement, 8264 W. Grandridge Blvd., Richland, 11:00 - 1:00 (lunch)

**Thursday, June 9** - Affinity at Southridge, 5207 W. Hildebrand Blvd., Kennewick, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, June 10** - Royal Columbian Retirement, 5615 W. Umatilla Ave., Kennewick, 2:00 - 4:00 (social)

**Wednesday, June 15** - Life Care Center, 44 Goethals Drive, Richland, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Ladies Luncheons:**

**June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10**

**Rosie's Sock Hops, Saturday evenings, 6:00 - 9:00:**

**June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10**

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**Mother Superior**

In a convent in Ireland, the 99-year-old Mother Superior lay quietly. She was dying. The Nuns had gathered around her bed, laying garlands around her and trying to make her last journey comfortable. They wanted to give her warm milk to drink but she declined. One of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen. Then, remembering a bottle of Irish Whiskey that had been received as a gift the previous Christmas, she opened it and poured a generous amount into the warm milk.

Back at Mother Superior's bed, they lifted her head gently and held the glass to her lips. The very frail Nun drank a little, then a little more and before they knew it, she had finished the whole glass down to the last drop. As her eyes brightened, the nuns thought it would be a good opportunity to have one last talk with their spiritual leader..

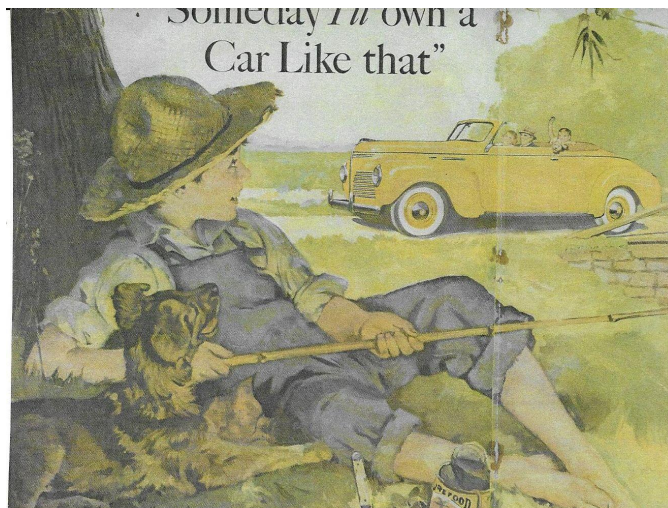
"Mother," the nuns asked earnestly, "Please give us some of your wisdom before you leave us" She raised herself up very slowly in the bed on one elbow, looked at them and said:" Whatever you do, DON'T SELL THAT COW."

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**"Back to the Future"**

by Dwight Underwood

"Someday I'll Own A Car Like That"



A boy's dream from my home in the Willowa Valley of Oregon would be: It's summer, school's out and I'm heading up Spring Creek with my fishing pole, extra hooks and worms. There my dream continues as I am fishing near the bridge on Spring Creek. Wow, am I seeing things? A beautiful yellow convertible is crossing the bridge. I drop my fishing pole and run after it. The people wave and drive on down the road. Oh, well. I picked up my pole and rebaited my hook. I was also looking and listening for the yellow dream car to come back. I was hooked on a yellow dream car!

I bought a multi-package restoration project, a "Do-it-yourself job" of a 1940 Plymouth convertible "Hulk body and frame" (body was 'Briggs'-built) plus two parts cars (coupes) from my brother, Dave Underwood in 1987/1988.

Brother Dave and I took the best of these 3 cars to assemble and transport "a rolling chassis" from Kennewick to Olympia, WA where I restored it. This picture was taken in Packwood, WA near the Blue Spruce Tavern. Yep, a guy's got to get gas, water and lunch! Of course, I was delighted to hear good comments of hope from the public.



"Best of Show" at Clarus Eye Annual Car Show "Cruisin For A Cure" (cancer) in Olympia, WA in 2009. Note: the next year at the Clarus Eye Car Show, the previous winner, Dwight's 1940 Plymouth convertible was on center stage. The same procedure is used each year at this car show.



The most recent display of my car was at Liberty Christian Car Show, April 16, 2016.



I love vintage cars and vintage car people.

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**Horace Elgin & John Francis Dodge** were American automobile manufacturing pioneers and co-founders of Dodge Brothers Company. He & his brother John were born in Niles, Michigan, on May 17, 1868 and October 25, 1864 respectively. Their father owned a foundry and machine shop. Horace and his elder brother John were inseparable as children and as adults. In 1886, the Dodge brothers moved to Detroit, Michigan, where they took jobs at a boilermaker plant. In 1894, they went to work as machinists at the Canadian Typograph Company across the Detroit River in Windsor, Ontario. Founded as the Dodge Brothers Company in 1900, Dodge was originally a supplier of parts and assemblies for Detroit-based automakers and began building complete automobiles in 1915, predating the founding of Chrysler Corporation. The Dodge brothers died suddenly in 1920 and the company was sold to Dillon, Read & Co. in 1925 before being sold to Chrysler in 1928. Dodge vehicles mainly consisted of trucks and full-sized passenger cars through the 1970s, though it did make some inroads into the compact car market during this time.

Wikipedia

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## Railroad Tracks

The U.S. Standard railroad gauge (distance between the rails) is 4 feet, 8.5 inches. That's an exceedingly odd number, why was that gauge used? Because that's the way they built them in England, and English expatriates designed the U.S. Railroads.

Why did the English build them like that? Because the first rail lines were built by the same people who built the pre-railroad tramways, and that's the gauge they used.

Why did 'they' use that gauge then? Because the people who built the tramways used the same jigs and tools that they had used for building wagons, which used that wheel spacing.

Why did the wagons have that particular odd wheel spacing? If they tried to use any other spacing, the wagon wheels would break on some of the old, long distance roads in England, because that's the spacing of the wheel ruts.

So, who built those old rutted roads? Imperial Rome built the first long distance roads in Europe (including England) for their legions. Those roads have been used ever since.

And the ruts in the roads? Roman war chariots formed the initial ruts, which everyone else had to match for fear of destroying their wagon wheels. Since the chariots were made for Imperial Rome, they were all alike in the matter of wheel spacing. Therefore, the United States standard railroad gauge of 4 feet, 8.5 inches is derived from the original specifications for an Imperial Roman war chariot. In other words, bureaucracies live forever.

So the next time you are handed a specification, procedure, or process, and wonder, 'What horse's ass came up with this?' you may be exactly right. Imperial Roman army chariots were made just wide enough to accommodate the rear ends of two war horses.

Now, the twist to the story: When you see a Space Shuttle sitting on its launch pad, you will notice that there are two big booster rockets attached to the sides of the main fuel tank. These are solid rocket boosters, or SRBs, made by Thiokol at their factory in Utah. The engineers who designed the SRBs would have preferred to make them a bit larger, but they had to be shipped by train from the factory to the launch site. The railroad line from the factory happens to run through a tunnel in the mountains and the SRBs had to fit through that tunnel. The tunnel is slightly wider than the railroad track, and the railroad track, as you now know, is about as wide as two horses' behinds.

So, a major Space Shuttle design feature, of what is arguably the world's most advanced transportation system, was determined over two thousand years ago by the width of a horse's ass. And you thought being a horse's ass wasn't important!

Now you know, Horses' Asses control almost everything. That explains a lot of stuff, doesn't it?

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## "We Had One Like That"

Written by Myrtle Nesbitt in 1976

Nostalgia is a word in great favor today. It does not mean "homesick" as the dictionary says it does...it means "yesterday". It is rather a longing for what was good, the pleasures and joy of what was with us "yesterday". It means a yesterday of your youth, or parents, even grandparents and tales of experience in the "early Days" or as we often refer to them, "Good Old Days".

Now if you see an antique car drive by, they have to be 30 years old or more to be considered antique, what does it do to you? Immediately you relate to your youth, pleasant memories come to mind, a smile crosses your face and you wave.

Old cars of any make have an almost universal appeal. Just watch the faces of people along the street as one drives by, or listen to the voices saying, "We had one like that." Ask anyone over sixty or even fifty if they remember their first ride in a car or their first car and they always do...in infinite detail.

I'll never forget an incident on one of our trips. We had been to Victoria, B.C. in our '28 Plymouth. After we drove off the ferry at Port Angeles, a car followed us through town until we stopped. He stopped, got out, quickly came over to us and wanted to know where we got the car. He was sure it had been his mother's Plymouth. She had one just like it. Ours belonged to one family in Spokane. My husband saw it traveling down the street with a **for sale** on it. The original owner's grandson was driving it. It had 28,000 miles on it with original paint and upholstery. It is one of the first Plymouths made and is a model Q. They didn't make many of them which makes it desirable to an antique car collector. It is very plain, as you can see from the picture below, and never draws much attention or wins any trophies. If we want our picture taken, we ease up close to an old 1914 Cadillac or a sporty Model A Roadster. But our car is a good old car.

My husband, Ken, has a '31 Model A Sedan almost finished and ready to sell. Then he will get to work on a '28 Model A Sport Coupe and a '30 A Roadster which we want to keep for fun cars.

You all know, or have heard about, pressed glass clubs, bottle clubs, antique china clubs and old box clubs where members look for these goodies, show them to each other and once in awhile put them on display for the public. But the Antique Car Club is another matter. It is a challenge to a variety of interests and gives you the opportunity to develop any talent one might have. We have one of our members write and edit our monthly paper. We always make good use of our artist member. He makes the attractive signs you see on the old cars or anything else we might need. Some of the members love to take pictures and we all love to relive our tours and experiences with a picture show on a meeting night.

Members with interest in mechanics, body and fender building, car painting, upholstery, well...they've always got something to do. As for the women, we are kept busy planning picnics, tours, meetings, entertainment, making or finding clothes to go with the cars. It is desirable to have a dress the same model as your car. As for the children, they love it all.

We have **43** members in **Ye Olde Car Club** of the Tri-Cities. Most members have more than one car. The oldest restored car in our club is a 1909 Marion Touring, the next is a 1911 Maxwell Touring. We have two 1914 Cadillacs that went on the 1000-mile tour last summer with no problems. The 1914 Overland Speedster made the trip to New York and back several years ago and a 1922 Franklin Touring is a beautiful restored car. That is just naming a few; we also have some classics.

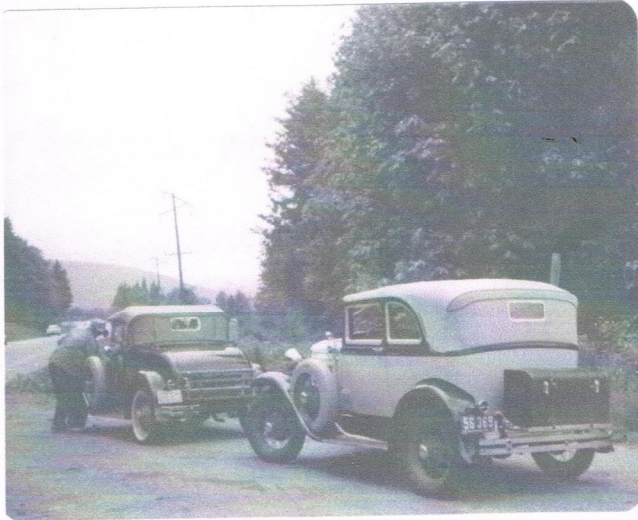
Two weeks from now we will have most of them on display at Columbia Center. Come out and look them over. In July, some of the members will get in their old cars and take a ten day trip to Calgary, Canada for an international meet. We'll take a scenic route up through Glacier Park and come back home through Banff and Radium Hot Springs. We'll stop and take a dip in the hot springs.

Can't you just see this string of old cars traveling through the beautiful countryside at 35 miles per hour? Occasionally someone has trouble with their radiator getting hot going up the steep grades. We just stop and put some water in to cool it off. Sometimes a universal wears out, but everyone takes spare parts and we have lots of good shade-tree mechanics.

In June we will have a car meet in the Tri-Cities, so don't be surprised if you see an old car drive by. Just smile and wave. They might even honk their 'aoooga' horn; or better yet, get an old car and join this fun loving bunch of old car nuts.

Many thanks to Myrtle Nesbitt for contributing this piece of nostalgia for our newsletter. All of the pictures below were taken on a trip to Canada by Ye Olde Car Club. The first one is Ken Nesbitt's antique showing signs of trouble. The second is Ken's car being pushed onto the ferry by other club members.

The third one is Ken fixing the car on the ferry. He did get it running and they ended up enjoying the trip. The fourth picture is one that is taken from a mountain looking down at the cars that were on the trip.



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## *Women's Corner*

When I bought my smart phone, I thought about the 30-year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a cell phone that plays music, takes videos, pictures and communicates with Facebook and Twitter. I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, my 13 grandkids and 2 great-grandkids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

My phone was beeping every three minutes with details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday in case I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth (it's red) phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife and everyone in the nearest 50 yards was glaring at me. I had to take my hearing aid out to use it, and I got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside that gadget was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-u-lating." You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then if I made a right turn instead. Well, it was not a good relationship...When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I lose three phones all at once and have to run around digging under chair cushions, checking bathrooms, and the dirty laundry basket when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused, but I never remember to take them with me. Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or Plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am Bi-Sacksual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look. I was recently asked if I tweet. I answered, "No, but I do fart a lot."

P.S. I know some of you are not over 60. I figured your sense of humor could handle it. We senior citizens don't need any more gadgets. The TV remote and the garage door remote are about all we can handle.

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries in May



### Birthdays

Russ Armstrong	May 27	Beth Carothers	May 21
Nick Castorina	May 29	Rick Cooper	May 12
Dave Donaldson	May 25	Helen Duffield	May 17
Betty Emieth	May 2	Jim Foreman	May 11
David Gerkenmeyer	May 14	Susan Gerkenmeyer	May 16
Margaret Hue	May 21	Loretta Jackson	May 2
Deliska James	May 5	Bob McClary, Jr.	May 29
Debbie McClary	May 30	Don Meyers	May 6
Mary Ellen Nelson	May 14	Scot Noga	May 19
Paul Paulsen	May 25	Barb Paulsen	May 17
Cindy Protsman	May 5	Aline Sanders	May 20
Audrey Simmelink	May 23		



### Anniversaries

Dave & Judy Bergman	May 4
Randy & Nancy Rutherford	May 23
Oden & Aline Sanders	May 29
Doug & Earlene Stone	May 6
Frances & BJ Wyland	May 7

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