



# Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club March 2023 Newsletter

## March 2023 Prez says ramblings

I would like to welcome new members Craig Klages and Dan & Pam Richey to the club, as well as welcome back Jerry & Rena Allen. Craig has a 1950 Dodge Power Wagon, 1958 Dodge PW Town Wagon, 1970 Dodge Super Bee, 1971 Dodge Super Bee, 1971 Plymouth Road Runner and a 1973 Dodge Charger. Dan & Pam Richey have a 1939 Ford Tudor Deluxe and a 1939 Ford ½ Ton Pickup. Jerry & Rena Allen have a 1949 Ford Four Door, 1950 Ford Coupe, 1950 Ford Club Coupe, 1950 Ford Four Door, 1950 Ford F1 Pickup, 1956 Chevrolet Four Door and a 2013 Ford Mustang GT. We hope they enjoy getting to know us and become active members.

The club has been very busy preparing for the St Patrick's Show n Shine fundraiser for the Friends of Disabled Veterans on March 18, 2023. There are fifteen pre-registered vehicles, 20 sponsors for \$100 gift cards, 18 raffle items and \$450 in donations. Due to the cost of the gift card fees, the club voted to award \$100 cash instead.

As always, remember to contact Bonnie Suminski (our sunshine person) to provide congratulations, get well, and sympathy cards to club members. Her telephone number is 509-579-0030.

Dave Hannah

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## Swap Meet Pot Luck

YOCC annual Sprig Swap meet is coning up May 6. As in years past there will be a pot luck dinner Friday afternoon May 5 around 3 pm after site setup. The club will provide drinking water and CHICKEN!!!

We are asking you to bring your lawn chairs and a favorite salad or dessert to share. Just decide what you will bring and let Bonnie 509-579-0030 or Debbi 509-627-4589 know what you are bringing.

More details on the Swap meet will be coming as we get closer to the date!

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## Bits and Pieces

May the wind at your back not be the result of the corned beef and cabbage you had for lunch.

I actually saw a leprechaun once. After enough green beer you see all kinds of stuff.

Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: Alcohol, Caffeine, Sugar, & Fat.

So, this Irishman walks out of a bar...no, really, it can happen.

On St. Patrick's Day I pretend to be Irish, just like on Christmas I pretend to be good.

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**The Remarkable Body**

There is anywhere between 60,000-100,000 miles of blood vessels in the human body. If they were taken out and laid end-to-end, they would be long enough to travel around the world more than three times.

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**Where in the world.**

Yellowstone National Park is home to more than 10,000 hydrothermal features, including more than 500 geysers. That's about half of the world's geysers and the largest concentration of active geysers in the world.

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**Fun Food Facts**

The majority of the dairy companies in the United States use a simple color-coded system for the caps on milk jugs:

- red (whole milk),
- blue (2% milk),
- green (1% milk), and
- purple (skim or no-fat milk).

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**Ladies Lunch in March** had 13 ladies attending. Thanks Norma.  
April Ladies Lunch will be hosted by Dolores McClary, 509-783-3622

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**True Cost of a Classic Car Restoration**

**Balance Sheet**

Hours on the toilet searching the internet	\$0.00
Purchase of a ton of rust on four wheels	\$5,000.00
Flowers for wife to break the news	\$50.00
Dinner at restaurant after argument with wife	\$120.00
Restoration cost – engine and transmission rebuild	\$8,000.00
Restoration cost – chassis rebuild	\$5,000.00
Parts and endless trips to swap meets	\$1,600.00
New lounge suite to balance ledger and keep wife happy	\$3,500.00
Restoration cost – bodywork and paint	\$7,000.00
Dinner at restaurant after argument with wife	\$120.00
New outfit for wife to save another argument	\$450.00
Inspection, registration and other on-road costs	\$1,200.00
Family trip to a tropical island to offset his 1000 hours in workshop	\$4,000.00
Restoration cost – new upholstery and soft top	\$6,300.00
Dinner at restaurant to celebrate completion	\$120.00
Hair dressing cost after wife's first ride in open top touring car	\$60.00
BBQ to have neighbors over to see the finished project	\$90.00
Paint touch up after neighbor's son drew on the car	\$150.00
Settled out-of-court cost for clobbering neighbor's son	\$600.00
New outfit for wife to go out rallying	\$450.00
New shoes to go with the new outfit to go out rallying	\$150.00
New handbag to go with new outfit that goes with new shoes to go out rallying	\$100.00
Dinner at restaurant after asking wife to economize	\$120.00
New clutch after teaching wife to drive a classic car	\$400.00
Dinner at restaurant after shouting at wife while teaching wife to drive a classic car	\$120.00
Repairs to front grill after wife's second lesson	\$600.00

Candlelight dinner at home (can no longer afford restaurant) after shouting at wife to watch where she is going	\$20.00
Advertisement on-line for Classic Car for Sale	\$20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$45,390.00</b>
Proceeds from sale of Classic Car	\$29,500.00
Balance added to mortgage	\$15,890.00

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## RETIRED GUYS

Four retired guys are walking down a street in Milwaukee. Then they turn a corner and see a sign that says:  
 "Old Timer's Bar"  
 "ALL DRINKS 10 CENTS!"

They look at each other, and then go in. The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room, "Come on in and let me pour one for you. What'll it be, Gentlemen?" There seems to be a fully stocked bar, so the men all ask for a martini. In short order, the bartender serves up 4 iced martinis and says, "That'll be 10 cents each, please." They can't believe their good luck. They pay the 40 cents, finish their martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent martinis are produced with the bartender again saying, "That's 40 more cents, please." They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand.

They've each had two martinis and so far they've spent less than a dollar. Finally one of the men couldn't stand it any longer and asks the bartender, "How can you afford to serve martinis as good as these for a dime apiece?" "Here's my story. I'm a retired tailor from Brooklyn, and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs a dime - wine, liquor, beer, all the same." "Wow!! That's quite a story," says one of the men.

The four of them sipped at their martinis and couldn't help but notice three other guys at the end of the bar who didn't have a drink in front of them, and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there. One man gestures at the three at the end of the bar without drinks and asks the bartender, "What's with them?"

The bartender says, "They're seniors from Florida. They're waiting for happy hour."

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## Ford Model T



The Ford Model T is an automobile that was produced by the Ford Motor Company from October 1, 1908, to May 26, 1927. It is generally regarded as the first affordable automobile, which made car travel available to middle-class Americans. The relatively low price was partly the result of Ford's efficient fabrication, including assembly line production instead of individual handcrafting. It was mainly designed by an American (Childe Harold Wills) and two Hungarian engineers (Joseph A. Galamb, Eugene Farkas). The Model T was colloquially known as the "Tin Lizzie", "Leaping Lena" or "flivver".

Although automobiles had been produced from the 1880s, until the Model T was introduced in 1908, they were mostly scarce, expensive, and often unreliable. Positioned as reliable, easily maintained, mass-

market transportation, the Model T was a great success. In a matter of days after the release, 15,000 orders had been placed. The first production Model T was built on August 12, 1908 and left the factory on September 27, 1908, at the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant in Detroit, Michigan. On May 26, 1927, Henry Ford watched the 15 millionth Model T Ford roll off the assembly line at his factory in Highland Park, Michigan.

The Ford Model T was named the most influential car of the 20th century in the 1999 Car of the Century competition, ahead of the BMC Mini, Citroën DS, and Volkswagen Beetle. Ford's Model T was successful not only because it provided inexpensive transportation on a massive scale, but also because the car signified innovation for the rising middle class and became a powerful symbol of the United States' age of modernization. With 15 million sold, it was the most sold car in history before being surpassed by the Volkswagen Beetle in 1972, and still stood eighth on the top-ten list, as of 2012.

Wikipedia

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## FOR SALE

Gary Olson has a 2007 Mercedes Benz CLK 350 for sale. It is white with a grey interior. In beautiful condition. Runs great with 60,000 miles on the odometer. He is asking \$15,000 OBO. Contact Gary – 509-531-3597.

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Charles M. Shulz, best known as the cartoonist behind the Peanuts comic strip, penned the comic right up until the advanced stages of cancer made it impossible to do so. He passed away the night before the final Peanuts strip was published on January 3, 2000.



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## Did You Know...

Popeye and Olive Oyl both originated in the comic strip *Thimble Theatre* - but Olive Oyl was a main character for 10 years before the 1929 introduction of *Popeye* and the subsequent renaming of the strip to *Popeye* to reflect the popularity of the new main character.

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## Arizona Mechanic Builds Own Fleet of Dwarf Cars Out of Old Fridges, Junkyard Scraps

Master tinkerer Ernie Adams had always wanted a race car. But who has money for a race car? Moreover, living in a little trailer park in Harvard, Nebraska, at the time he had no room to park one. So, Adams, who has worked in a garage since age 16, satisfied his longing by building his very own antique dwarf car.

Over the years, his hobby would snowball massively. Now 82 and retired, Adams has an entire fleet comprised of some 15 antique dwarf cars—including several race cars—all made by his hand. No stranger to

tinkering in the shop, growing up, Adams lived just a quarter mile from the city dump, which fed his hobby. “That city dump was like a free department store for me,” he told The Epoch Times. “At that time, they were taking gas washing machine motors off and putting electric on, and they’d throw the old motors in the dump.”

There were old bicycle and wagon parts, too, and he started deconstructing and reconstructing them and then selling his fully-functioning contraptions. “I didn’t realize I was learning my trade back then,” he said, adding that his learning to build his own vehicles in those days came easy, because “time meant nothing, and there was no money involved.”

His motivation for building dwarf cars was fueled from watching old side hack races, which dissatisfied him because the drivers had to slow down around corners. He would think to himself, “Put four wheels on it and a small car body and slide them corners!” Thus, young Adams started formulating an idea.

He recalled an old refrigerator laying in the weeds by the train tracks near his childhood house, and a miniature car popped into his mind. “I wanted an antique car and couldn’t afford one, didn’t have room for one. I picked up some refrigerators and built one,” he said. “I saw it in my mind, you know?” It was to be Adam’s very first dwarf car—though it wouldn’t be the last.

He didn’t follow any design specifications or particular model for the first one, but said it looks “more like a ’28 Chevy than anything else,” also that it “looked pretty decent.” He’s still got that old ’28 Chevy dwarf car today. But Adams wasn’t satisfied with just one car; from the get-go he had had a race car in mind.

So it was that throughout the 1980s he pretty much sparked the whole “dwarf race car craze,” which spread nationwide, and he started making others’ miniature race car dreams come true, too. “People started wanting them,” he said. “People started seeing them, and they were cheap. And I was helping people build them for nothing for my labor. “It was just a fun hobby for me.”

Adams became handy at making scaled down versions of larger cars, imitating them to a tee. He learned to bend metal and weld; he crafted interior items, such as steering wheels and knobs on the dashboard; he even built his own tools, including his own bead roller and English wheel. “I couldn’t afford to buy [those tools], and I just sat down and made them,” he said. “I made a better bead roller than I could have bought.”

Besides cars for the racetrack, the mechanical maverick created dwarf models that are street-legal. Those include a ’39 Chevy 2-door, a ’29 Ford Hillbilly 2-door sedan, a ’40 Mercury coupe chopped top, a ’54 Chevy 2-door Bel Air, and a ’32 Ford 3-window coupe. But perhaps the most impressive of Adams’s fleet is his prized ’49 Mercury. “It was a well-sought-after car,” he said. “Even now people pay big money for a ’49 Mercury.” He added that he wouldn’t sell it for any amount of money. “No, it’s not for sale,” he said.

“That car is just exactly like the real car, inside and out—the bumpers, everything. It’s like the original: the steering wheel, the emblem on the horn button, the window cranks. All the gauges look exactly like the original—the glove box, radio, heater.” All of these he crafted with his own two hands and homemade tools.

The mechanic’s dwarf cars can easily handle the highway, zooming at speeds up to 100 miles per hour, while traveling as far as 200 or 300 miles on a tank of gas. They run on Honda motors installed by Adams. Sure, it’s cozy but not uncomfortable, as Adams drops the floors down low to provide legroom aplenty. Plus, they’re street legal; Adams, now living in Maricopa, contacted Arizona authorities and had them registered as “homemade” vehicles—as one would register a homemade trailer.

Having participated in dozens upon dozens of antique car competitions across the state and beyond, Adams boasts a wall full of trophies.

Thanks to Jim Newell for this contribution.





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## WOMEN'S CORNER

1. Two elderly women were eating breakfast in a restaurant one morning. Ethel noticed something funny about Mabel's ear and she said, "Mabel, did you know you've got a suppository in your left ear?" Mabel answered, "I have? A suppository?" She pulled it out & stared at it. Then she said, "Ethel, I'm glad you saw this thing. Now I think I know where my hearing aid is."

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2. When the husband finally died his wife put the usual death notice in the paper, but added that he died of gonorrhea. No sooner were the papers delivered when a good friend of the family phoned and complained bitterly, "You know very well that he died of diarrhea, not gonorrhea. Replied the widow, "I nursed him night and day so of course I know he died of diarrhea, but I thought it would be better for posterity to remember him as a great lover rather than the big shit he always was."

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3. An elderly couple was on a cruise and it was really stormy. They were standing on the back of the boat watching the moon, when a wave came up and washed the old woman overboard. They searched for days and couldn't find her, so the captain sent the old man back to shore with the promise that he would notify him as soon as they found something. Three weeks went by and finally the old man got a fax from the boat. It read: "Sir, sorry to inform you, we found your wife dead at the bottom of the ocean. We hauled her up to the deck and attached to her butt was an oyster and in it was a pearl worth \$50,000 . . .please advise". The old man faxed back: "Send me the pearl and re-bait the trap"

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4. A funeral service is being held for a woman who has just passed away. At the end of the service, the pall bearers are carrying the casket out when they accidentally bump into a wall, jarring the casket. They hear a faint moan! They open the casket and find that the woman is actually alive! She lives for ten more years, and then dies. Once again, a ceremony is held, and at the end of it, the pall bearers are again carrying out the casket. As they carry the casket towards the door, the husband cries out: "Watch that wall!"

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5. When I went to lunch today, I noticed an old lady sitting on a park bench sobbing her eyes out. I stopped and asked her what was wrong. She said, "I have a 22 year old husband at home. He makes love to me every morning and then gets up and makes me pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit and freshly ground coffee." I said, "Well, then why are you crying?" She said, "He makes me homemade soup for lunch and my favorite brownies and then makes love to me for half the afternoon." I said, "Well, why are you crying?" She said, "For dinner he makes me a gourmet meal with wine and my favorite dessert and then makes love to me until 2:00 a.m. I said, "Well, why in the world would you be crying?" She said, "I can't remember where I live!"

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6. Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades. Over the years they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards. One day they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me.....I know we've been friends for a long time.....but I just can't think of your name! I've thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is. Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

**LIFE:**

To grow up  
To fill out  
To slim down  
To hold it in  
To hell with it.



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**Birthdays and Anniversaries in March**



**Birthdays**

Dick Ellis	March 12	Anita Gough	March 1
Sam Hanson	March 24	Jack Herrick	March 27
Karl Kiichle	March 5	Jackie Knipp	March 7
Richard Kuch	March 12	Mike Marmon	March 3
Dennis McGillis	March 26	Victor Meyers	March 28
Nadine Meyers	March 6	George Peck	March 4
Judy Rascon	March 23	Mary Rickard	March 17
Jack Stone	March 6	Barbara Thomas	March 16
Jerry Wells	March 14		



**Anniversaries**

Jim & Sue Jewett	March 1
Mike & Cyndy Underwood	March 14
Denny & Janice Wellington	March 4

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