

THE GAS GAUGE

Official newsletter of Ye Old Car Club



This month's featured car is a 1948 Cadillac owned by Jim & Ginger Vetrano of Kennewick, Wa. Jim is also our featured member this month.



May 2001

Volume 1, Issue 2

WE HAVE ANOTHER CELEBRITY

Exhibit looks back at barns By the Herald staff

This is one Barn Again story you don't want to miss.

The East Benton County Museum will soon feature the Smithsonian Institute's popular travelling exhibit celebrating the history of barns, which are as much a staple in America as baseball and mom's apple pie.

Vintage barns, however, are gradually disappearing from the American landscape because the nature of farming has changed dramatically, said Vickie Bergum, curator of the East Benton County Museum.

The exhibit is in its fourth year of travelling the country in an attempt to give Americans a sense of barn history and the formidable role that barns played in American life.

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Vernal Shreve, 66, of Finley sets up a section of the display Tuesday for the Barn Again exhibit at the East Benton County Historical Society Museum in Kennewick. A travelling Smithsonian exhibit will be at the museum from Saturday to May 20. Many of the local items on display belong to Shreve, who has been collecting for more than 20 years.

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Points to Ponder

Truth in 13 words

Inside every older person
Is a younger person wondering
What the Hell happened?

What is Life

Life is what happens to you
when you are busy making
other plans.

John Lennon



MISC CLUB INFORMATION

- The May Meeting will be held at the regular time (6:30). May 31st. But, we have a new meeting place. The new place is downstairs of Nine to Nine Auto parts store on Court St. in Pasco. It is Handicaped friendly.
- Vern Shreve had his knee operation on Tue April the 10th. From what we hear from Martha, he had a rather rough time of it. He will be in Kadlec Hosp rm 212 for at least 4 days. The club is sending him a plant.
- We had a small retirement party for Denny Kehl on Wen morn the 4th of April (see picture and story on pg 3.
- We have been invited to show our cars at West Richland's Seth Ryan Winery's wine tasting gala . It will be a two day affair on the 30th of June and 1st of July. Here is your opportunity to show off your classic car in a relaxing setting surrounded by vineyards and wine aficionados. You can bring your old car for one day or the other or for both days. They will supply sandwiches and bar-b-que. We need a big turnout for this gala event, so put on your finest, polish your

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MONTHLY ACTIVITY

We seem to be having trouble getting people to sign up to sponsor monthly activities. The activities don't have to be grandiose, Simple is fun. Call Gayle Noga @ 943-0836, she has some suggestion on short trips and advice to help you plan it. The club also helps with the cost that you might incur. The months that are still open are July, Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec. Dave Underwood has April for the swap meet. Cindy Underwood has something planed for May. Dennis & Karla Jackson have a winery tour planned for June. And Jack Yale has the annual picnic in August.

AUTOMOBILE TRIVIA

We have a problem! One of the trivia questions in March's issue was ; When was the day night mirror introduced and by whom? The answer of 1958 by Chrysler was contested. The reader claims that Packard had that mirror in 1948. Can we get a little help to determine who is correct?



ANSWERS TO APRIL'S TRIVIA QUESTIONS

- 1984 Chrysler introduces the Dodge Caravan and Plymouth voyager minivans.
- 1972 Cars traveled along LA freeways at an average speed of 60 mph. In 1982 the *average* was only 17 mph!
- 1974 The average American family spent 33 percent of their yearly income for a new car. In 1995 the average was 50 percent.
- 1992 The average household spent \$8,900 on auto insurance, but files only \$600 worth of claims.
- 1995 the Big Three sold a whopping 97,000 cars in Japan.

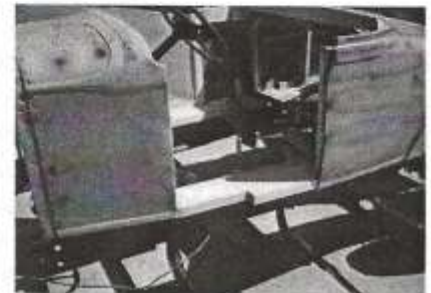


MEMBER OF THE MONTH

- 1st Wayne Shreve
- 2nd Loretta Jackson
- 3rd Susie Stinsman
- 7th Herb Mettler
- 10th Betty Hinkle
- 12th Loretta Underwood
- 13th Ron Sponsetter
- 14th Vernal Shreve
- 14th Mary Ellen Nelson
- 17th Ken Nesbitt
- 19th Scott Noga
- 23rd Audry Simmelink
- 25th Jeff Todd
- 27th Russ Armstrong



Jim Vetrano is a long time member of our club, and he has a special talent. He is a wood worker with a vision. Show him an old car and he can figure out and build the replacement wood for that car. I don't know how busy he wants to be, but I'm sure he would help you with your project. Shown below are some examples of his work. I think this is a Chrysler roadster that he did for Larry Andrews.



- 4th Dave & Judy Bergum
- 11th Bud & Theora Williams
- 26th Bill & Lorry Boyce

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST!



Denny seems pretty anxious to tear into the cake his wife had made for him.

Denny Kehl has decided to retire finally. We had a small get together for him on Wen April 4th. After the party, several of the people took an impromptu tour to Hermiton to visit some antique stores. Well you know, now that Denny has all this spare time on his hands, you could ask him to help you with your projects.



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Grand opening festivities are planned for Saturday starting at noon at the Kennewick museum.

The exhibit will have all the accoutrements one might expect to see and smell when visiting a farm - the scent of alfalfa hay, cheeping baby chicks, a blacksmith labouring over a fire.

A replica of a small barn also was constructed inside the museum, which will be stocked with authentic farm implements from years past provided by the Smithsonian. . And you won't want to miss the photo essay of Century Farms, the oldest continuously owned farm in Benton County, Bergum said. It's owned by the Smith family, who homesteaded in the Horse Heaven Hills in 1885. Wayne Smith still runs the farm.

A series of free lectures also is planned during the exhibit's run through May. The first is Thursday at the main branch of the Mid-Columbia Library on Union Street in Kennewick.

The next will be April 26 at the Richland Library, with the final lecture scheduled May 10 in the performing arts theatre at Columbia Basin College in Pasco. All lectures start at 7:30 p.m.

The museum's regular hours are from noon

to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

FASTFACTS

What: Barn Again exhibit grand opening.

When: Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

April 7th to Sun May 20th

Where: East Benton County Museum,
205 Keewaydin Drive,
Kennewick, Wa.

Cost: \$2 adults,
50 cents Students.

Tickets: At the door.

Minutes of March's Meeting

We had a very small turn out and the meeting was very informal.

- The April meeting was moved to the 19th to accommodate the swap meet the next week. Unfortunately this conflicts with the meeting of the "T" club.
- Jack Yale again noted that the times and location of our meetings should be in the newsletter.
- Bob McClary brought the banner he had made up for the club. It is a freestanding banner on stands he made.
- We approved the budget to have the new member brochure printed. Please contact Dennis @ 547-0916 to pick up a couple copies to pass out to prospective new members.
- Our Web master has passed the duties for the web site to the news letter editor .
- While discussing this, we had a volunteer offer to take over the web site. Please contact Scott Noga @ 943-0836 with your ideas. Lets have the best web site out there.

OFFICERS

PRES.	BOB McCLARY	783-3622
VICE PRES	GAYLE NOGA	943-0836
TREAS	WAYNE WILLIAMS	735-7457
SEC	DENNIS JACKSON	547-0916
EDITOR	DENNIS JACKSON	547-0916

BOARD MEMBERS

JACK YALE	586-4933
BOB RUPP	586-9731
GARY STREDWICK	586-9676
JIM MOKLER	735-2942

Readers Corner

These articles are submitted by readers

Ninety three years ago ...

On February 12th, 1908, a small crowd gathered in New York City to watch the start of an event never before considered possible, an *Around the World Automobile Race*. It was sponsored by the *New York Times*, and was open to anyone willing, or crazy enough, to attempt to drive an automobile westward across three continents from New York City to Paris. They would drive thousands of miles across nearly roadless terrain and meet challenges they could not yet have conceived.

The competition began with six entries from four countries: France, Italy, Germany, and the United States. These six finely tuned automobiles left New York City at 11:00 am, traveling north to Albany before heading westward across the great plains, over the Rocky Mountains, and... They followed barge canal tow paths, railroad tracks, cow and wagon trails, and any other westward route they could find. Upon reaching Seattle, they shipped their machines to Russia, to continue westward across an even more primitive landscape, northern Asia and Europe. Days turned onto weeks, and weeks into months. They faced obstacles and driving conditions that would give us pause today: muddy roads, snow and ice (consider spring in the Rockies), limited gasoline supplies, bears, and timber wolves. Repairs were made with whatever could be found along the way; spare parts were used up; machine shops were few and far between. About the only thing that had actually been anticipated was flat tires, and they had plenty of spares.

The two lead cars were the huge *German Protos* and the *Thomas Flier*, driven by

George Schuster. The German team arrived in Paris on July 26th. On July 30th, after 169 grueling days on the road, the Americans arrived. Two weeks later, the Italians appeared, but the French team never made it back to their own Paris. The Germans came into Paris four days before the American team, but when it was learned they had shipped their automobiles by rail to Seattle, they were penalized 30 days and forfeited the chance to win. George and his crew headed home to America almost immediately to be received at the White House by President Roosevelt on August 20th.



While these hardy adventurers struggled against the elements across three continents, another speed record was being set. In the summer of 1908, the *Lusitania* steamed into New York harbor just four days and fifteen hours after leaving Queens-town, Ireland. She had traveled 2780 miles in just 111 hours, the fastest crossing of the Atlantic ever recorded. To those who lacked vision, this record appeared much more significant at the time.



* Another submission by JOHN NELSON

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN



Sometime things aren't what they appear. This appears to be an accident involving a sweet little old lady. However, after a detailed investigation by your astute Editor, something seemed amiss. It appears as though we have a case of **INSURANCE FRAUD**. Yes I said fraud. Right here in little old TriCities. There are several suspects, however it is the policy of this newsletter not to divulge the names, but I can tell you there initials are Jack Yale and Bob McClary. The first thing that made me suspicious was that we all know that a Model 'T' would not have the power to climb that curb. Secondly, check out the driver. She is a dummy. No, seriously she is a real dummy made out of fabric and stuffing and wearing a wig. And last but not least is Jack's and Bob's fingerprints all over the back of the car.



The owner of the car, Russ Armstrong has been informed of the hoax and encouraged to hang out with a better class of people.

RUSS DEAN SHOW & SHINE

We had a pretty good turn out. Could have been better!! They were very pleased with the week end. The Jay Cees were there to serve hamburgers and hot dogs and pop. We had about 20 cars show up.



Some of the cars that showed up



Dick Chastain's 1939 Lincoln Zepher



Brunke-Westermeyer's 1930 Chrysler



Bob McClary's 1955 Oldsmobile



Bob Rupp's 1935 Plymouth

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pride and joy and lets have some fun. Please let me know if you are interested in participating. Call Dennis @ 547-0916

- I think we should give a big hand to Delores McClary for all of her help with the monthly meetings. She has had home cooked goodies for us and hot Coffee. For the meeting in April she made a "Dirt Cake" which would have been the envy of any garden party. It was the darndest thing. She served a devils food cake with white icing mixed into it in a

flower pot. She even had gummy worms hidden inside and a fake flower stuck in the "dirt".

- Cindy Underwood is having a Club bar-b-que on Sat May 19th at Leslie Grove Park in Richland. The club is supplying the meat, bring your own drinks and salad or desert. The fun will start at 12 noon.

VERN SAYS !

Women who want to be equal to men, are not very ambitious!



Dedicated to
Having fun with the past



Official newsletter of Ye Old Car Club

Ye Olde Car Club of Tri-Cities, Inc.

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Dues paid thru Dec-01

We are on the Web
[Http://members.tripod.com/tcyocc](http://members.tripod.com/tcyocc)

Calendar of Events

MAY 4-6 PORTLAND, OR; 37th PORTLAND SWAP MEET; Portland Expo Center; Adm charge Park chrg; hours, Fri & Sat 1am-7pm, Sun 3am-1pm; by Six area car clubs; Portland Swap Meet Comm, P.O. Box 1395, Wilsonville, OR 97070-1395, Phone 503-6782100 or pdxswap@aol.com

MAY 5 ARLINGTON, WA; THE MAY HUNT SWAPMEET; N Olympic Ave; hours 9-5; by Arlington Downtown Merchants; Ken Country man, 313 N Olympic Ave, Arlington, WA 98223; 360-435-3611 or Mary 360-435-3466

MAY 11-13 MT. VERNON, WA; VALLEY RALLY; Skagit Co. Fairgrounds; public Sat 9-5; Reg fee, Adm fee; by Sho-N-Go Promotions, 12935 Simlok Bay RD, Anacortes, WA 98221; 360-299-2250 days or cell 360-421-3676

MAY 12 PUYALLUP, WA; 8th HARVEST OF TOYS SHOW; Puyallup Fairgrounds; Adm \$4, early \$10(8am); Hours 10am-4pm; Charlie Ostlund, P.O. Box 1068, Summer, WA 98390; 253-863-6211; charlieo@foxinternet.net or Dan 253-537-3172

MAY 12 PORTLAND, OR; 19TH SPRING CLASSIC AUTO EXHIBIT & GATHERING; SE 11TH & Clay; hours 3am-noon; by Portland Transmission Warehouse; 1016 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97214; 503-233-4966 or 800-444-4556

MAY 12 LYDEN, WA; 7th ANTIQUE SWAP MEET & TRACTOR PULL; Berthusen Homestead Park; opens @ gam; engines, tractors, tools, automotive, more; by Puget Sound Antique Tractor & Machinery Assoc; Chuck 360-354-4625 eve

MAY 12 EUGENE, OR; MOTHERS DAY SWAP MEET; Autzen Stadium; hours 7-3; Adm fee; by Emerald Empire Late Great Chevy; Steve Daly 1820 Hafez LN NE, Albany, OR 97321, 541-926-1641 or Jerry 541-746-4364

MAY 12 EUGENE, OR; SPRINGFEST 2001 ALL MOPAR SHOW & SHINE; Wistec pkg lot by Autzen Stadium; hours gam-4pm; car reg fee; by Mopars Unlimited Eugene-Springfield, P.O. Box 7211, Eugene, OR 97401; Rick 541-688-6809 or Don 541-747-6979

MAY 12-13 OKANOGAN, WA; 8TH ANNUAL SWAP MEET & CAR SHOW; Okanogan Co. Fairgrounds; Hours gam-5pm; No Adm fee, show reg fee; by Friendly OK Car Club; Hal Schukar, 48 Wagon Trail Rd., Tonasket, WA 98855; 509-826-4631 or cschukar@gosi.net

MAY 19 PORTLAND, OR; JIM DANDY CRUISE IN; Jim Dandy Drive In; Hours 10-4; reg fee; by Road Knights; Bob Miller; P.O. Box 251, Boring, OR 97009; 503-663-5213 or Larry 503-254-9296

MAY 19 LACEY, WA; ROCK TO WALK CAR SHOW; Thurston County Fairgrounds; Reg \$15, public \$3; Hours gam-3pm; by Spinal Cord Society, S Sound Chap; Kevin Grummick, 4540-78th Ave SW, Olympia, WA 98512; 360-357-6484

May 19th Ye Olde Car Club bar-b-que Time 12 noon till ? Bring your own drinks and a salad or desert. Location; Leslie Groves in Richland Questions call Cindy 946-4144

MAY 19-20 MONROE, WA; 28th ANNUAL SEATTLE SWAP MEET; Evergreen Fairgrounds; Adm free; parking FEE; Hours Sat 8am-5pm, Sun gam-2pm; by Puget Sound Region Early Ford V-8 Club, Seattle Swap Meet, P.O. Box 1836, Edmonds, WA 98020-1836; 1-800-645-4997;

PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY-NO STALL SALES AT THE GATE

MAY 20 AUBURN, WA; TERRY HOME SHOW & SHINE; Auburn Eagle Lodge; hours 3am-4pm; reg fee; by Terry Home. Mary Norman, 1713E Main, Auburn, WA 98002; 253-833-5554

MAY 25-26 CLOVERDALE, BC, CANADA; COASTAL SWAP MEET; Cloverdale Fairgrounds, 6 miles N of US border I-5 exit 275; Adm & Parking Fee; Show Fri 4-10pm, Sat 3am-4pm; by PISRA, Totem A & T Ford Club, & VCCC; Coastal Swap Meet, P.P. Box 619, 10688 King George Hwy, Surrey, BC V3T 2V0; 604-581-2115 OR Ray 604-433-1071

MAY 25-27 BEND, OR; 11th TIGER RUN 2001 (GTO & GTO JR' S); Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds; Reg fee, Sat show 10-3, adm for pub lic; by Goat Herd GTO Club of Oregon; Tom Foster, Box 1071, Clackamas, OR 97015

MAY 26 MOSES LAKE, WA; 21th ANNUAL MOSES LAKE SPRING FESTIVAL CAR SHOW; Civic Center Park; 3am to 4pm; reg fee \$10; by Basin Horseless Carriage Club; Clay Crook, 431 North shore Dr, Moses Lake, WA 98837; 509-765-6392

MAY 27 BELLINGHAM, WA; MARITIME ANTIQUE CAR SHOW; Boulevard Park; 10am-4pm; public Adm free; Tour plaques & trophies; 25 yrs & older by AARC & Bellingham/Whatcom C of C; info, Darryl 360-966-4490 or Bob Auld 360-734-7853

MAY 27 YAKIMA, WA; 20th OLD CAR SHOW & PICNIC; Ahtanum Youth Park; Hours 11-3; car reg fee; by Yakima Valley Early Ford V-8 Club, Kent Jaquith, P.O. Box 5, Buena, WA 98921, 509-8652481 or Gary 509-452-4486

MAY 28 EVERETT, WA; CRUZIN' TO COLBY; by Seattle Rod-Tiques; info Doug 425-337-2246 or Wayne 425-337-9335