

GAS GAUGE

July 2012

Monthly Newsletter of Ye Olde Car Club



Ye Olde Independence

Between Richland's Cool Desert Nights and the Pasco Old Fourth Independence Day Celebration, the Ye Olde Car Club gang had a memorable June and first week of July. There were plenty of parade entries, which led to the well-deserved first-place trophy in the antique car class. Congrats to all of you who showed up. The two gentlemen shown above, apparently caught in some nefarious act involving Jim Vetrano's Studebaker, were unable to conceal their true identities by wearing hats. We know them as Bob Ilten, right, and Guy Welker, who with his wife Evelyn enjoyed the day from the exquisite confines of the Studebaker's luxurious back seat. Ilten and his wife Ruth rode the roads in their 1941 Chevrolet pick-em-up. President Jim Ayers says YOCCers may have set an all-time record by having the most old cars ever at the annual event..

Good looking guys and better looking cars at the Independence Day Parade



Can the car behind the fog lights be Ron Smith's 1936 Dodge? Yep, it is.



Richard Kuch's '55 BelAir seeks a parking place, above, while his '37 Packard convertible has a secured spot.



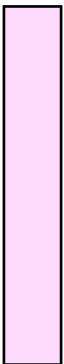
Cool, and rainy, Desert Nights



Any of these cherished irons look familiar? The lineup of YOCC cars glistened at Richland's Cool Desert Nights, but only when it wasn't a downpour. The big-finned DeSoto hardtop below was an eye-catcher, as



well as the sleek lavender Corvair posed so nicely at the bottom. Sunshine was a valued commodity at the event, where a Saturday afternoon deluge drove most of the cars into hiding. Jack Yale showed up later to become the last car at the show.





YOCCers savored food, fun and friendship at the home of Bob & Delores McClary after the Parade.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

5th John Trumbo
23rd Judith Todd

22nd Dick Johanson

& & & & & & &

5th Lee & Loretta Jackson

29th Kent & Cheryl Turner

Way Back When

(Taken from the Feb. 19, 1950 edition of the Tri-City Herald. Courtesy of Martha Shreve.

By Mrs. R.E. Reed

1909: Telephones and Model Ts

A. F. Brown bought the telephone system from Twin City Telephone Company.

The Kennewick Packing Co. was organized.

The Kennewick Improvement Co. was formed and started work on the docks.

J. W. Brown started work on the Commercial Hotel.

The Presbyterian church was started and finished that year.

An Equal Suffrage club was organized with Mrs. L. E. Johnson as first president.

A cigar factory was opened for a short time by Z. U. Dell. The Twin City Laundry was started and erected a building now occupied by the Smith Motor Co.

E. R. Carnahan built a concrete blacksmith shop on Front Street.

The National Bank Building was completed and occupied.

For the first time orchard heaters and fire pots were used to try and raise temperatures enough to save fruit.

A representative from each club in town came and brought a book, thus starting town library. Edna Dimmick was the first librarian.

In 1910, The Emigh and Howe buildings were built.

The farmers in Horse Heaven had a grand wheat crop.

School children were given free medical inspection for the first time. We enjoyed our first movie show in November but we only had a show twice a week.

In October 1911, the city council approve plans and specifications for a sewage system for Kennewick. A few months later bonds were voted and work began.

We celebrated our first Strawberry Festival.

(To be continued)



Fender chatter

By John Trumbo, editor

It's been an awfully quick June/July, which is halfway gone already. I spent most of it on the road, with nearly 5,000 miles logged on pavement throughout Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and South Dakota since early June.

Not only is the newsletter arriving later than usual, but all my travels (travails) had me miss Cool Desert Nights and the Fourth of July Independence Day festivities and parade.

Much appreciation to president Jim Ayers for snagging some photos to help illustrate this month's *Gas Gauge*.

One stop on the road was Bannack, the first territorial capital of Montana, which is a ghost town populated by park rangers and the 1931 Model AA Ford stakebed truck shown above. With me is Pasco man, Roy Barnes, who made the 2,850-mile sojourn on a BMW motorcycle.

A reminder: Contact me at 582-4297 or at yocc@owt.com if you want to receive the *Gas Gauge* by email instead of snail mail. Every newsletter sent email saves 66 cents per month.

Prez sez

By Jim Ayers, president

July is upon us and fading fast.

There were 32 cars and many more people for the Fourth of July Parade and Picnic. What a turnout! Ye Olde Car Club surpassed last year by seven vehicles and walked, I should say drove, away with first place for car club entries. Good show!

The picnic after the parade also was well attended, with much thanks to Bob and Delores McClary for opening their home for the event.

Looks like slim pickings in the weeks ahead for club events. Anyone interested in putting together an around town drive or short tour with a stop to fuel and food up? Wouldn't take much and we could show off our cars along the way. What say ye, Ye Olde Car Club members?

July-August Activities

Great Oregon Steam-Up, Brooks, Ore., July 28-29. Antique Powerland Museum, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$10 admission, seniors \$8. RV parking, tour possible.

Car Show & BBQ, Guardian Angel Assisted Living, 245 Van Giesen St., Richland. 10:30 a.m. July 30.

Kennewick 5th Annual Show & Shine for Hunger, Aug. 5, 10 a.m to 4 p.m. in Columbia Park. \$15 to show.

Ye Old Car Club Brass

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In the rearview mirror...

Our **Guess Who???** for July is a dog lover and charter member of Ye Olde Car Club, dating back 50 years. She taught school for 40 years and has criss-crossed the country many times in pre-1914 vehicles. Still an avid tennis player, even at her many well-kept years, our **Guess Who???** most recently led a three-week-long old car tour across several western states and British Columbia in her current classic, a 1938 Packard convertible. She and her late husband, a pharmacist, toured the 1914 Cadillac shown below all over the U.S. Once they took their beloved Annabell from Pebble Beach, CA, to Jekyll Island, GA. Their favorites included a 1920 Dodge screenside and a 1909 Reo two-seater now



Owned by Martha Shreve. Our **Guess Who ???** is Audrey Simmelink, who with husband Cork created many pleasurable memories for Ye Old Car Club members with their well-planned tours. As a final note, Audrey's love for old cars is matched only by her love for Scottish terriers. At last count, she has been a loving owner to 15 of the adorable dogs.

Suggestion for Rearview mirror? Call editor at 582-4297 ASAP.