



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CLASSIC NEWS - JANUARY 2024

President: Carolyn Hartzell
Show Chair: Kathy Simmons

Vice President: Larry Weiner
Secretary: Paul Pauliot

Treasurer: Glenn Dean
Newsletter Editor: Glenn Dean

CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I write this month's column, I find it hard to believe that another year is quickly drawing to a close. If the old saying "time flies when you're having fun" is true, then the fun quotient this year ranks right at the top of the proverbial heap. Not only did the year literally unwind before my eyes like a movie that's been sped up to the point where the exciter bulb in the projector is having a hard time keeping up, in reality, it has been exciting to watch everything play out in real time at RVCC this year. As I'm sure you noticed, there has been a reinvigorated pace, and energy level in the club that now borders at an all-time high.

Some may say that being the president has its perks, much like rank has its privilege, but candidly, quite the opposite is true. This is less about me, and more about the members and the individuals that selflessly carry the torch when it comes to getting the job done. While I am involved in much of what goes on in the club, the fact is that like any leader, I could not do what I am tasked with accomplishing without the support of a loyal and dedicated team of club members who volunteer their time and energy in countless ways. They may not always receive recognition for their hard work, but trust me when I tell you that the myriad of activities, including cruises, events and certainly the Fabulous 50's Charity Car Show would not be possible without their tireless efforts.

Planning for the next year started several months ago and is proceeding at a rapid pace. Building on the success we have achieved this year, I can tell you that there are several exciting new events in store, each of which requires a significant amount of advance preparation, but it's worth it, because each of them will result in even more fun for everyone. The plain fact is that we all want to have as much fun as we can, and the goal of RVCC is just that; more reasons to drive our favorite vehicles and do it along with our friends.

In closing, reflecting on the RVCC Christmas party this month, the greatest thrill for me was to watch the interaction between the members and the festive atmosphere that permeated the room. Our vehicles may be what first brought us all together, but more than anything it is the warmth and camaraderie among the members that makes it all worthwhile. I look forward to continuing this incredible journey with you as we embark upon the new year.

CAROLYN

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



The Group "Timeless" performed at our Annual Christmas Dinner



RVCC 2023 CHRISTMAS PARTY



VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

REFLECTIONS

Like many of you, I have been a member of several car clubs throughout the years. The first club I was a member of dates back to 1967 when I was in high school in Chicago. We named the club The Racemasters, after M&H Racemaster drag slicks. The club consisted of about 10 of us who were into performance, drag racing and customizing our vehicles, at least as much as our limited budgets allowed. The first thing we did after forming the club was to have blue nylon racing jackets made with the name of the club on the back. Our activities consisted of getting together at the local drive-in on Friday nights, cruising the "hot spots" on Saturday nights and going to US30 drag strip near Gary, Indiana on Sundays during the summer. Mainly we watched the races, although several of us did make some passes down the track in our cars, to experience what it was like to line up at the tree and race down the strip. After we graduated from high school in 1968, we drifted apart as everyone went their separate ways. Some went on to college, others went to work at full time jobs, and some quickly got married. That spelled the end of The Racemasters. My sole memento of the club is that after all these years, I still have my jacket.

In the later part of the 1980's I became involved with The National Muscle Car Association, along with several friends. Each of us had 1960's muscle cars that we had built. Ours was a loosely organized group and although we did not have regularly scheduled meetings, we did participate in local car shows and events along with cruising together on Saturday nights. Several of us even drove to a couple of NMCA national events that were held out of state, both racing and showing our vehicles. This lasted for a couple of years until work and family responsibilities put club membership and activities in the rearview mirror.

When Debbie and I moved to Grants Pass, we really didn't know anyone here. It seemed like the best way to meet people and make friends would be to join a local car club. Once we found out that there was a cruise night every Friday evening at Udders, we started going and not long after, joined RVCC. Originally, we were little more than members, but liked the idea of a structured club with monthly meetings and organized scheduled events. Displaying our car at the Fabulous 50's Charity Car Show, participating in events like the RVCC Fall Color Rod Run and Boatnik Parade displays heightened our enthusiasm for the club, and we became more involved. When Charlie Price announced that he would like to retire from being Vice President, I decided to volunteer to take his place and the rest, as they say, is history.

Larry Weiner



JOIN THE RVCC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE SIGN UP THREE GET YOURS FREE!

IT'S FUN AND EASY. JUST SIGN UP THREE NEW MEMBERS FOR RVCC AT THE REGULAR \$24.00 YEARLY RATE AND YOUR DUES FOR 2025 ARE FREE

***MAKE THIS YEAR RVCC BEST YET!
IT'S PEDAL TO THE METAL FOR 2024***



CALL LARRY WEINER AT 760-612-6365 GET STARTED TODAY

GET 3 GET YOURS FREE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

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AMBASSADOR

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LARRY HOUSER

NEW MEMBERS

Michael Dollarhide

Tom Garland

Linda Kindt

Abner Lovato

John Swartsfager

John Weinrich

Larry Houser

Doug Kiepert

Dently Wagner

Andy Lovato

Tony Reed

Jim Reyes

Jon Jordan

Mitch Ford

JOINED

Date: 8/26/2023

Date: 8/26/2023

Date: 9/5/2023

Date: 8/26/2023

Date: 8/26/2023

Date: 9/10/2023

Date: 8/26/2023S

Date: 10/7/2023

Date: 10/9/2023

Date: 10/21/2023

Date: 11/4/2023

Date: 11/10/2023

Date: 11/12/2023

Date: 11/12/2023

Member, Lynda Milder

We mourn the passing of our longtime Member, Lynda A. Milder. She was born July 13, 1946 and passed peacefully in her sleep on November 8, 2023, at her home in Grants Pass, Oregon, with her family by her side. Her celebration of life will be at a later date in the springtime. She is survived by her husband Joe, daughter Roberta, son Todd, and four grandchildren. She loved participating in the early years of the Fabulous 50s car show. Lynda and her husband Joe co-chaired for seven years, and also volunteered with the HASL in Grants Pass, Oregon. Lynda was a polio survivor and experimental patient in the '50s for different treatments and surgeries that took place at Sister Kenny & Children's Hospital L.A. She was also a poster child for March of Dimes. Husband, Joe stated that he is truly missing the love of his life after 54+ years together. Peace in Heaven, say hi to all up there, until we meet again.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS & THEIR CARS

Lynette Rothwell & Larry Bayless

1942 Willys & 1998 Corvette

Shawn Seefeld

1957 Chevrolet Bel Air

Chris & Cindy Swanson

1938 Plymouth P4 2Dr. & 1962 Chevy C10 P/U

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

FOR JANUARY

Birthdays

1st Bonnie Reeg

2nd Laura Dyer

2nd Rex Chapman

3rd David Dyer

9th Mitch Ford

9th Linda Kindt

10th Dottie Bishop

11th Karen Kidd

11th Holly Garland

12th Bonnie Horton

15th Jack Bishop

15th Frank Steele

20th Fleeta Lackey

22nd Paul Pouliot

Anniversaries

1st Brent & Tracy Shannon

6th Jim & Kristi Struffert

16th Louis & Sharon Dilda

20th Chris & Cindy Swanson

CLUB MEETING ATTENDANCE REWARD FOR DECEMBER

There was no December drawing for the attendance reward at our annual Christmas dinner. We will be at \$75 for the January meeting.

We now have 102 Members in the Club!

50/50 WINNER FOR DECEMBER

The 50/50 Pot was for \$81 and the winner was Nancy Cook. Congratulations Nancy and thanks for donating all your winnings back to the Club.

INTERESTING WEBSITES ON CARS

You might find the following websites of interest about found old cars and cars for sale: barnfinds.com and bringatrailer.com

Mark your calendars for Car Club Events

Udders Ice Cream every Friday night – 1893 NE 7th St, G.P. in Diamond Home Improvement parking lot. Meet us there around 6 pm. Other Car Clubs also participate. Weather permitting!



Medford Cars and Coffee . . . every Saturday morning – 2676 E Barnett Rd. Info: medfordcarsncoffee.com Join us to socialize and enjoy the cars at Southern Oregon Orthopedics, behind the Starbucks 8-9:30 AM. Weather permitting!

Cave Junction Senior Center on the first Saturday of every month Meet at Albertson's Allen Creek Road location at 8:45 AM and cruise down together. All-you-can-eat breakfast (only \$9) includes eggs, hash browns, pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, coffee, and juice.

Cars & Coffee at Jimmy's Drive-In on the third Saturday of every month from May thru October - 9-10:30 AM. 515 NE E Street - Grants Pass Weather permitting!



ROGUE VALLEY CLASSIC CRUISERS EVENTS FOR 2024

JANUARY

6	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
14	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange - Speaker: Bob Simmons Trivia Challenge
27	Grants Pass	Lunch Social at Si Casa Flores

FEBRUARY

3	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
4	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange/Note:One Week Early-Speaker: Tips on Arranging Old CarTransport
24	Grants Pass	Breakfast Social at Black Forest

MARCH

2	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
10	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange / New Officers Election
23	Grants Pass	Social at Black Bear Diner Dinner

APRIL

6	Cave Junction	Cruise to Taylors's Sausage Brunch
14	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
27-28	Medford	Medford Rod and Custom Show / Medford Event Center

MAY

4	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
5	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange / Note: One Week Early
18	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive In 9:00AM to 10:30AM
25	Grants Pass	Vehicle Cruise in Boatnik Parade / Lunch at Jimmy's Classic Drive In

JUNE

1	Shady Cove	Cruise to Mac's Diner Lunch
8	Merlin	Merlin Baptist Church Annual Car Show
9	Grants Pass	Meeting and 2 nd Annual Veterans Celebration Program
15	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 10:30AM
29	Grants Pass	Summer Rod and Custom Country Cruise

JULY

6	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
14	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
20	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 10:30AM
26	Grants Pass	Fabulous 50's Downtown Pre-Show 8:00AM – 2:00PM
27	Grants Pass	Fabulous 50's Charity Car Show at the Josephine County Fairgrounds

AUGUST

3	Azalea	Cruise to Heaven on Earth Breakfast
11	Grants Pass	BBQ Picnic and Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
17	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 10:30AM
31	Grants Pass	Road Rally

SEPTEMBER

7	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
8	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
21	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 10:30AM

OCTOBER

5	Cave Junction	Fall Color Rod Run
13	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange
19	Grants Pass	Cars and Coffee at Jimmy's Classic Drive-In 9:00AM to 10:30AM

NOVEMBER

2	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
10	Grants Pass	Meeting at the Fruitdale Grange

DECEMBER

7	Cave Junction	Cruise to Breakfast
TBD	Grants Pass	Christmas Party

MEMBER PROSPECTIVE

Larry and Debbie Weiner's 1965 Pontiac GTO

We purchased our 1965 Pontiac GTO nearly 40 years ago from the original owner who had advertised it for sale in Hemmings Motor News. The car was located in Los Angeles and was an original, unmolested, numbers matching survivor. While it was tired looking, it was rust free, had never been in an accident and ran fine, making it the perfect candidate for a complete restoration. After giving it a tune up, changing the oil, fresh fan belts and replacing what was left of the original exhaust system, we drove it cross country to our home in Illinois.



As time permitted, I took the GTO apart, cleaned it from top to bottom, replaced any worn out mechanical parts, upgraded the suspension and then put it back together. A couple of years later, I disassembled it again and had it painted bright red. The car was always a work in progress, and we made many changes to it over the years. I was never happy with the way the red paint job turned out, so in 2002 I took the car completely apart again, had the body block sanded and repainted in House of Kolor three stage Goldmine Pearl by Mike Face Custom Paint. While it was being prepped and painted, I located a 421 / 376 horsepower WS code short block from a 1966 Pontiac 2 + 2 and had it built by Van Gordon Racing in Upland, California. Backing up the 421 HO is the original Muncie M20 4-speed transmission. To make the GTO more highway friendly, we added a Gear Vendors Under/Overdrive and replaced the 10 bolt Safety Track rear end with a more durable Chevrolet 12 bolt Positraction differential from a 1966 Chevelle SS396. A complete suspension kit from Hotchkis Performance, along with front spindles from a 1976 Pontiac Trans Am gives the big GTO handling capability light years better than when it was stock. The additional power and handling upgrades made replacing the stock manual drum brakes to four-wheel power disc brakes a necessity. Working with Stainless Steel Brakes Corp, an easy to install kit was the perfect complement to the enhanced power and handling. The car is well sorted out and gets very respectable mileage thanks to the overdrive. We enjoy driving and showing the GTO regularly and look forward to many more years of fun with it.



Your story can be next – In one of the next Newsletters. Just write the story and attach a picture(s) and send it to the Newsletter Editor – Glenn Dean GlennLDean@verizon.net

BELOW WERE THE SPONSORS FOR THE 2023 CAR SHOW

TITLE SPONSOR

- Evergreen Federal Bank

LEVEL 1 SPONSOR

- Bob Drake Reproductions

LEVEL III SPONSORS

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Let them know how much we appreciate their support

RVCC TOYS FOR TOTS CRUISE AND LUNCH SOCIAL AT JIMMY'S CLASSIC DRIVE-IN

