

March 2004

Official Newsletter of Ye Olde Car Club



This is a
guess Who car

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February Monthly Meeting

Sorry no pictures, my camera was on the Fritz. The meeting was held as sort of a Valentine dinner meeting. It was held on Fri the 13th of Feb at the Spaghetti



Establishment in Kennewick. The function was to be put on by Vern and Martha Shreve, but Vern had a bit of a problem with his heart that required having a pace maker implanted in his chest. I told Martha that one good thing came out of it, at least we now know that he has a heart. He did steal some of my thunder though, but that is another whole story. But we have some members in our club that we can always count on in a pinch, and this time it was Bob and Delores

that came to the rescue. Doesn't Bob look like a person full of love and compassion. Don't let his looks fool you they both are very caring people and a real asset to the club. On very short notice, they (meaning Delores)

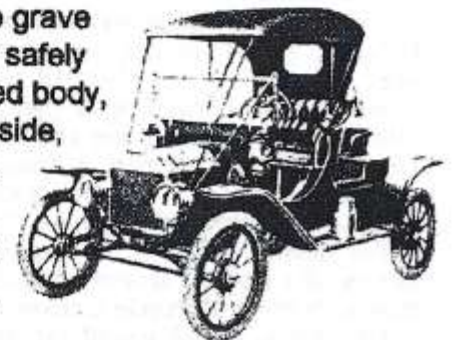


came up with games and table favors. One of the table favors was a bottle of jelly beans and the one who guessed, the closest without going over, how many there were won the jelly beans.

One of the games was a version of the Newly Wed Game of years gone by. Five men were to guess how their wives would answer the question put to them by Delores.

Points to Ponder

"Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming WOW-- What a Ride!!!"





THE PROUD OWNER.

"Here I am showing off my deluxe 1957 BMW Isetta, fully equipped with sunroof, luggage rack, two tone paint and 13 horsepower! Some people thought it had one wheel in back, but there were two they were just close together

By Bruce Keith, Winsor California

The only BMW I Could Afford

IN 1957, I became the proud owner of a new Deluxe BMW Isetta 300. It was "deluxe" because it had all three available accessories: twotone paint, aluminum wheel covers and a chrome luggage rack! Nothing else was offered not even a radio. I seem to remember it cost \$1,600 "out the door".

I got this little eggshaped roller skate to commute from San Jose to San Francisco 3 days a week and save a little money. My other car then was a huge '48 Packard "woody" station wagon, and I doubt you could've found two more opposite vehicles.

The Packard weighed about 21/2 tons, the Isetta about 700 pounds. The Packard had five doors, and the Isetta had only one. The Packard had a 3speed transmission with a column gearshift, while the Isetta had a 4speed with the shift lever coming out of the left wall. And I'd be lucky to coax 8 miles per gallon out of the Packard, but the Isetta could get 57 without even trying.

When I climbed into the 17footlong Packard after a couple days of whipping that 7foot Isetta around, I felt like a navigator on the bridge of the *Queen Mary*.

I also had to adjust my driving attitude. When I drove the Packard, *everybody* got out of my way. When I drove the Isetta, no one even *saw* me!

We had three small kids then, so taking the Isetta shopping or to the inlaws was a kick. I drove and my wife sat as far to the right as possible. One son sat in between, a daughter sat on Mommy's lap, our other son curled up on the parcel shelf and our dachshund lay on the floor. When I opened the door and everyone piled out, we looked like a circus act.

For having only a 13horsepower engine, the Isetta was actually quite peppy. If I floored it and speedshifted through the gears (you could do that with the motorcycle transmission), I was able to keep up with traffic.

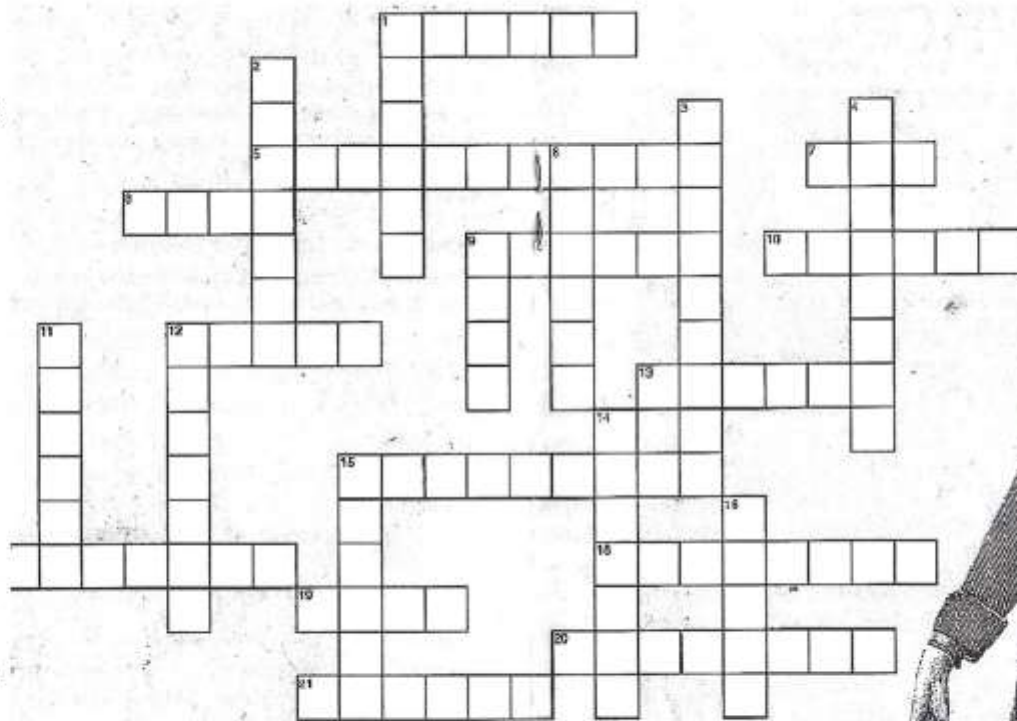
Of course, it did sound rather *frantic* while doing this. There was no tachometer, so I guess "wide open" was about 7,000 rpm. If I held it open

Year at a Glance

- MARCH** "Freeze your fanny tour" Wayne Williams and Fred Frasier
- APRIL** Garage Tour Bob & Delores McClary.
- MAY** Swap meet and Kennewick Centennial Celebration
- JUNE** Joseph Oregon Day Tour: Bob & Alice Rupp
- JULY** 4th of July Parade and feed at the "Barn" Bud Williams and Joe Kuhns
- AUG** Benton Franklin Parade and Picnic at Jack Yale's Place. Jack and John Nelson.
- SEPT** Prosser States Day Parade Terry Shegrud
- OCT** Lemahot Hot Springs and Bar-b-que Bob & Delores McClary
- NOV** Apple Squeezin at Shreves and Vets Parade Ed Edwards
- DEC** Christmas Party John Nelson and Fred Frasier

ACROSS

1. Cloth hat, tied under the chin, worn by woman and small children
5. Support, like hoops, worn in the 16th century under a skirt to expand the hipline
7. The part of overalls that extends above the waist
8. Warm tubular covering for the hands
9. Woman's boned, closefitting, supporting undergarment, often hooked and laced
10. Band or scarf formerly worn around the neck by men
12. Man's stiff felt hat with a dome shaped crown and narrow brim
13. One-piece children's garment, with lower part shaped like bloomers
15. Ornamental garment worn under a doublet
17. Underwear for the lower body
18. Long loose trousers, gathered at the ankle, worn as underpants by young girls
19. Cloth or leather gaiter covering the instep and ankle
20. Short trousers covering the hips and thighs, that fit snugly at the lower edges at or just below the knee
21. Closefitting, hiplength, usually sleeveless jacket



DOWN

1. Pad or framework expanding the fullness of the back of a woman's skirt
2. Winter scarf
3. Underskirt with ruffled, pleated or lace edge
4. Sleeveless garment, fastened in the back and worn as an apron or dress
6. Strap hanging from a girdle or corset to support a stocking
9. Sleeveless outer garment, fitting closely at neck, hanging loosely over back and shoulders, with a circular hem
11. Piece of lace or cloth in the neckline of a dress
12. Close fitting jacket worn in Europe during the Renaissance
14. Man's felt hat with stiff curled brim and high crown creased lengthwise
15. Cloth covering worn over the head and around neck and chin, especially by woman in late medieval period and by some nuns
16. Small drawstring bag carried on the person



Wearing Our best Bib an Tucker

YEARS AGO when folks got all dressed up, they said they were wearing their "best bib and tucker". This puzzle contains the names of some garments that would have been in high fashion many years back. Try these clues on for size and see if you find the answers that fit. *By Donna Crow, Depoe Bay, Oregon*

GUESS WHO



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who guessed Harlan Dortmunder, Theater Critic / Fertilizer salesman, were lucky enough to have seen yours truly's last play (Barbecueing Hamlet). The rest of you have again missed another one of The Richland Players masterpiece presentations. And by the way, your unattendance will not be tolerated much longer.



long enough, I could reach 65 miles per hour (a bit dicey, however, since you were hurtling down the road on 10inch wheels). The speedometer went to 80, but it wouldn't have done 80, even if you dropped it out of an airplane!

The car cornered great, with no lean or tire squeal, so navigating through commuter traffic was actually fun.

If the Packard was ailing, I had to use the Isetta to haul my signpainting equipment. With a ladder tied to the luggage rack on the back, the car looked like some weird insect with wings

Go Fly a Kite?

Once, when I was rowing through the gears, some guy yelled, "That'll never fly!" Another time, I'd tied a long strip of bed sheet to the ladder and it was flapping around as I hurtled down the road, when someone helpfully shouted, "You need more tail!"

I drove that Isetta for about 2 years and racked up almost 30,000 miles. Then one day, as I zoomed down the highway, there was a sudden clatter and a "WHUMP!" behind me.

Looking back, I saw a large bulge in the middle of the parcel shelf. The bolts holding the top and bottom halves of the engine together had snapped, and the head had flown straight up and dented the shelf behind me.

I walked back down the highway, putting broken engine pieces in a paper bag. Eventually, I ended up selling the whole thing to a mechanic for \$150. Too bad, because I recently saw an ad offering \$10,000 for a '57 Isetta.

Ali, yes. It was clever fun and a cheap car wish I had one now. But, of course, I say that about all my old cars.



CUTE CONTRAPTION.

"As the front (and only) door opens up, the controls swing up and out with it," says Brue. The small gear shift lever can be seen just above my left knee.

There was also a reason the Isetta came with a sun roof, if the door ever jammed you could escape through the roof.

UP COMMING EVENTS

APRIL ?? Bob and Delores are planning a Garage tour.

APRIL 19 Your editor is celebrating his birthday in case anyone want's to put on a spectacular party for him and lavish him with expensive gifts.

MAY 1 YOCC Swap meet at the fair grounds.

MAY 13th and 20th Kennewick's Centennial celebration at the Coliseum. This is going to be one big celebration you need to make time to see it. We will have some of our cars on display.

FOR SALE

1931 Plymouth drive train, complete running 4 cyl engine, tranny, rear end axels and wheels. Call

Robert Ramsey 946-5236

616 Cottonwood

Richland, Wa. 993523

DUES ARE DUE \$10.00



March Birthdays

- 2nd Bud Williams
- 3rd Eldon Reiman
- 5th Bob Graves
- 7th Paul Kramer
- 8th Doris Johnson
- 11th Charlette Gilbert
- 12th Patti Ybarra
- 12th John Kutrowski
- 12th Richard Kuch
- 12th Eric Tchemitcheff
- 15th Pete Reiland
- 21st Martha Shreve
- 25th Lenore Jackson
- 25th Jeff Solbrach
- 26th Floy Durham
- 31st Dave Underwood

March Anniversaries

- 4th Denny & Janice Wellington
- 14th Mike & Cindy Underwood
- 26th Dave & Jan Underwood
- 29th Wayne & Lorraine Williams
- 31st Chuck & Kay Sundgren



We are on the web
WWW.YOCC.COM

GAS GAUGE

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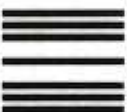
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MARCH



1946 Nash Suburban

In the 1940s, there were two basic Nash series: the Ambassador with overhead valves, and the lower-priced 600 with a smaller, L-head engine.

As World War II ended, there was a severe shortage of steel. This hampered auto manufacturers, but one partial solution was to include wood in portions of some car bodies, thus stretching the steel supply a bit. Wood looked "sporty" if waxed and varnished often.

Many manufacturers had already been building "woody" station wagons, and shortly before the war had begun, Chrysler had introduced a most-attractive wood-paneled Town & Country sedan.

When it was time to begin the post-war 1946 models, more woody cars were available than ever before! Chrysler had joined its Town & Coun-

try sedan with a glamorous new Town & Country wood-bodied convertible. And, Ford Motor Co. not only offered its usual line of Ford and Mercury woody wagons, but also the new wood-paneled Ford and Mercury Sportsman's convertibles. (All-steel convertibles were also available from Chrysler, Ford, and Mercury.)

Studebaker planned a luxury wood-paneled station wagon for their all-new 47 series launched in May of 1946, but only a pilot model of the wagon was completed.

Of all the early postwar woody cars actually in production, the '46 Nash Suburban is one of the most rare. The only scarcer postwar woody is the steel-roofed, hardtop convertible version of Chrysler's Town & Country, of which less than eight were built and sold!