



YE OLDE CAR CLUB, INC OF TRI-CITIES
 P.O. BOX 6873
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Jim & Ginger Vetrano
 4512 W. Yellowstone Ave
 Kennewick, WA 99336

GAS GAUGE

Fraser
 JANUARY

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A publication of
 Ye Olde Car Club

CLUB OFFICERS

Pres.	Fred Fraser	946-9850
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Sec.	Jim Vetrano	735-4248
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eldon Reiman	585-8276
Bob Rupp	586-9731
Martha Shreve	582-7530
Bob McClary	783-3622

Ye Olde Care Club Minutes of Board Meeting January 11, 2006

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Fred at 9 a.m. in the Hut Resturant in Pasco. In attendance were Martha Shreve, Roy Holmes, Bob McClary, Fred Fraser, Bob Rupp, Ed Edwards, and Jim Vetrano.

President Fred reported that he wanted to encourage more meetings and events for the evening hours so more of the younger folk could attend. To this end he wants to institute a social event for the 3rd Thursday of each month if a tour is not planned for that month. The first such event will be on January 26th at a pizza parlor (see Gas Gauge for Details).

The newsletter and roster were discussed. The printer used for the Gas Gauge has broken down again and at least for the present we will use a commercial print shop for the letter. There was general agreement that the roster needs updating and this will be done after the cut off date for paying dues for 2006 (February).

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There was considerable discussion regarding tour etiquette. Some concerns have been expressed about 1) drivers of older cars being left to fend for themselves on the homeward bound leg of a tour, 2) adequate space between cars going down the highway, and 3) needing to follow a system of placing cars at critical turns so drivers do not get lost. It was decided to hold a drivers meeting at the beginning of each tour where these items will be discussed.

The composition of the Board of Directors was discussed since no election for these members has been held for 2006. There was uncertainty as to which offices were automatic carry over and which needed a new election.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Feb. 1st. After breakfast at the Hut.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Vetrano, Secretary

PIZZA PARTY HIGHLIGHTS

The pizza party held at the new Round Table on Leslie Rd. was a huge success. For the eating and visiting portion of the night some had to eat and visit in the main dining area and for the short meeting it was standing room only. Approximately 50 members were in attendance. There were several door prizes given out prior to the start of the short meeting. The overall meeting consisted of 2 hand outs, 1 that consisted of suggestions for outing/activities and the other was in form in which you filled out about the activity/outing that you would like to be host of. Once they are filled out they need to be turned into Fred Fraser. Fred also talked about having at least one monthly meeting. It would fall on the third Thursday each month if there were not an activity already scheduled.

Everyone who attended had a good time. For those who missed it, you missed a lot of fun and fellowship.

A young man learns what's most important in life from the guy next door.

It had been some time since Jack had seen the old man. College, girls, career, and life itself got in the way. In fact, Jack moved clear across the country in pursuit of his dreams. There in the rush of his busy life, Jack had little time to think about the past and often no time to spend with his wife and son. He was working on his future, and nothing could stop him.

Over the phone, his mother told him, "Mr. Belser died last night. The funeral is Wednesday." Memories flashed through his mind like an old newsreel as he sat quietly remembering his childhood days.

"Jack, did you hear me?"

"Oh, sorry Mom. Yes, I heard you. It's been so long since I thought of him. I'm sorry, but I honestly thought he died years ago," Jack said.

"Well, he didn't forget you. Every time I say him he'd ask how you were doing. He'd reminisce about the many days you spent over 'his side of the fence' as he put it," Mom told him.

"I loved that old house he lived in," Jack said.

"You know, Jack, after your father died, Mr. Belser stepped in to make sure you had a man's influence in your life," she said. "He's the one who taught me carpentry," he said. "I wouldn't be in this business if it weren't for him. He spent a lot of time teaching me things he thought were important... Mom, I'll be there for the funeral," Jack said. As busy as he was, he kept his word. Jack caught the next flight to his hometown. Mr. Belser's funeral was small and uneventful. He had no children of his own, and most of his relatives had passed away.

The night before he had to return home, Jack and his mom stopped by to see the old house next door one more time. Standing in the doorway, Jack paused for a moment. It was like crossing over into another dimension, a leap through space and time. The house was exactly as he remembered. Every step held memories. Every picture, every piece of furniture... Jack stopped suddenly.

"What's wrong, Jack?" his mom asked (continued on page 4)

"The box is gone," he said.

"What box?" mom asked.

"There was a small gold box that he kept locked on top of his desk. I must have asked him a thousand times what was inside. All he'd ever tell me was the thing I value most," Jack said. It was gone. Everything about the house was exactly how Jack remembered it, except for the box. He figured someone from the Belser family had taken it.

"Now I'll never know what was so valuable to him," Jack said. "I better get some sleep. I have an early flight home, mom." It had been about two weeks since Mr. Belser died. Returning home from work one day, Jack discovered a note in his mailbox.

"Signature required on a package. No one home. Please stop by the main post office within the next three days," the note read. Early the next day Jack retrieved the package. The small box was old and looked like it had been mailed a hundred years ago. The handwriting was difficult to read, but the return address caught his attention. "Mr. Harold Belser" it read. Jack took the box to his car and ripped open the package. There inside was the gold box and an envelope. Jack's hands shook as he read the note inside.

"Upon my death, please forward this box and its contents to Jack Bennett. It's the thing I valued most in my life." A small key was taped to the letter. His heart racing, as tears filled his eyes, Jack carefully unlocked the box. There inside he found a beautiful gold pocket watch.

Running his fingers slowly over the finely etched casing, he unlatched the cover. Inside he found these words engraved:

"Jack, Thanks for your time! - Harold Belser."

"The thing he valued most... was...my time." Jack held the watch for a few minutes, then called his office and cleared his appointments for the next two days. "Why?" Janet, his assistant asked.

"I need some time to spend with my son," he said.

"Oh, by the way, Janet...thanks for your time!"

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away."

Submitted by Dwight Underwood

DUES ARE DUE

Dues are due now. The dues for the year 2006 is \$15.00. If you get your dues paid by the end of January you will be assured of getting your name in the Roster that much sooner and it will also ensure that you keep getting the newsletter.

Membership Form

Enclosed you will find a membership form. If you haven't done so yet please take the time to fill it out completely. This will be used to update the roster and mailing list for the newsletter. Once it is filled out please give/ send it:

Ed Edwards

715 S. 54th Ave.

West Richland, WA 99353

We would like to get them back as soon as possible so that we can get the roster for 2006 done in February.

Chocolate Party



There will be a Chocolate Tasting and Exchange on February 10th at 4512 W. Yellowstone, Kennewick at 7 pm. This event is being hosted by Jim and Ginger Vetrano. Those

attending will need to bring something made of chocolate. The Vetrano's will be supplying everything else need for this event. At the end of the evening you will be taking home a sampling of the different items brought. If you have the recipe for the item that you brought please bring some copies to share with others. This sounds like a lot of fun so please mark the date on your calendar and plan on attending.

