

Oct 2010



1922 Essex Coach

Dealers of rival makes of cars in the 1920s scoffed that the Essex had "the styling of a packing crate."

But, many of these dealers envied Essex's increasing popularity during the early 1920s.

In 1922, Essex's new two-door coach (illustrated) sold in large numbers because it offered closed car comfort and convenience at little more than open car prices; and Essex prices were reduced at regular intervals to make the Essex more affordable.

"Why face winter in a cold and draughty touring car?" demanded one '22 Essex ad. "The comforts of a Coach cost but a trifle more. It means warm, snug travel in all weather." Another '22 Essex ad assured, "Controls are easy and natural ... Gears shift as easily as lifting a fork at [a] table. ...

"And so reliable that thousands go out from the salesrooms and drive for thousands of miles without returning for even a minor adjustment."

Like its parent car, the Hudson, the Essex had a unique oil-bathed clutch with cork inserts in the face disc, which lent added smoothness.

In June 1922, when the coach was priced at \$1,345, the touring car was \$1,095 and the cabriolet was \$1,295. The "cabriolet" (not a convertible) was actually a two-passenger business coupe. Late in 1922, Essex reported that a fleet of sixty of these Essex "cabriolet" coupes had been sold to the sales department of the Sun-Maid Raisin Growers of Fresno, Calif. This fleet was to be used by Sun-Maid traveling salesmen in various regions of U.S.A. and Canada.

GAS GAUGE OCTOBER 2010

Monthly Newsletter of Ye Olde Car Club

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Nelson BC Trip

2010 Circle Tour 720 Miles of Fun!!

Around 7 AM cars with their companions started arriving at Starbuck's on Clearwater Ave. and Hwy 395 in Kennewick. A light mist was coming down. Jim Vetrano was the originator of the trip. He and his wife Ginger were not able to go with us due to health but they were there to send us off, by golly. The tour started on time at 8 AM. When we crossed Washington street on First Ave. at 8:10 I started looking for Terry Shegrud. He was not there so we traveled on. By 8:30 we were at the American Salvage junk yard just outside of Pasco. The first missed turn was over. Kahlotus was the next "where is it". The public restroom, a one-holer, was finally located and well attended. Lunch was in Ritzville with a large variety to choose from. We all met around noon and resumed the trip. A detour outside Ritzville taking us to "Tokio" on the freeway was provided by a road construction crew. Roy Holmes was in the lead at that time and easily guided us back on track toward Harrington.

On the way through the wheat lands an old red barn with a white roof off to the left caught the eye of many of us. These barns can be seen up and down the road of this area. What stood out about this one was the lighting. With mostly overcast skies

and the freshly harvested wheat field of gold surrounding the barn, it was spotlighted brightly from an opening in the clouds. This made the pastoral scene nearly jump off the map. A perfect example of the hidden beauty of the miles of rolling country side in central Washington.

We somehow lost John Nelson way back in Kennewick. As we entered the Kettle Falls Inn parking lot their car was spotted. That's another story. Phil Prather's 42 Ford coupe had lost it's brake lights and Richard Kuch's 56 Bel Air had a blown fuse on the cigarette lighter. Richard's problem was repaired but Phil's faulty signal switch needed more time than was available. Everyone had settled by 6 PM so we all went to C.K.'s Steak house next to the motel. This

venue provided good meals for everyone and a place to pass out door prizes. I call it the raffle ticket scuffle. Seventeen of twenty-two people got lucky that night.

Before breakfast at Kettle Falls We said goodbye to Roy Holmes and his wife. There maroon '96 Cadillac was throwing error codes about the torque converter and Roy thought it better to turn back for home. We were sad to see him go. We went to a little restaurant that was recommended by locals with an unusual feature. The star of the Little Galley was the waitress! This lady never wrote down an order or a table number for your location. She did it all by memory. Walk up to pay the bill and she's got it down. This gal needs to learn card counting and go to a casino.

The 95 miles to Nelson went by so quickly. We followed the Columbia river until well into Canada. Different things come to mind about this part of the trip. Once we left the secondary road 25 at the town of Northport and turned up 251 everything went back in time. The road narrowed and the pavement looked like



something from the 40's. Wild apple trees sprouted up along side the road with no remnant of an orchard. Probably harvested by local deer. As we approached China Bend we briefly stop at a local train crossing. Just around the bend the river opened up. The early morning light reflected the mountain scenery off the water as if it were a mirror.



We turned onto the Weneta road with an old time general store on the right. It looked as if it should have a bunch of old timers setting in rocking chairs telling each other lies. We went through the Weneta border crossing without incident.

Upon arriving in Nelson we played "where is Fred Frazer" after not being able to find the North Shore Inn ourselves. The local KFC attendant helped us with directions. Both Fred Frazer and John Nelson found their way to the Inn long before the directionally challenged Jim Ayers got the group to the Inn. All these little events just added flavor to the trip and confirm that all humans are flawed.

Friday night five of us went to the Bogustown Pub across the Orange Bridge where you registered your car for the show. During that process Phil Prather tried to buy a hat at a reduced price. I thought the list price was \$20.00. The lady dealing with Phil said she could give us a deal if we wanted to share the hat between all 5 people. She offered to sell (one hat) for \$5.00 from each of us.



Silence was heard for a moment and then outbursts of laughter filled the air. Many retorts were exchanged finally culminating in "NO SALE".

With overcast skies again we gathered our accessories and drove to the car show about 8 am on Saturday. We found that our arrival had almost been too late. The streets were already full except for a few positions at the end of the mile long Baker St. Nearly 400 cars were in attendance before the day was over. Most of them were modified in some way. During the day the numbers of the registered cars were called over the PA system and the owners received prizes. Remember the hat purchase that didn't happen at the Friday night registration booth. Phil Prather, Dick Johanson, and Richard Kuch all won prizes. Phil won a hat and it was handed to him by the lady he was bartering with the night before. That's Phil, Mister LUCKY. The most popular stock vehicle

was a 1949 vegetable delivery truck that had curtains on both side and across the half door on the back. Slanted shelves were installed to display produce. This truck was not alone. A second red beauty of the same vintage was setup



with a 270 cu. in. 6 cylinder sporting 3 deuces and a split set of headers. Chrome was everywhere. The owner had told the builder "The truck needs to be able to travel at normal highway speeds." It is!!!

As the time rolled around to 3 PM announcements of the class winners were being put through the PA system. The second one was Phil Prather for best Stock vehicle older than 1949. After



several more announcements Richard Kuch's name was announced for best engine out of 400 cars. Two trophies with only 4 cars entered. Good job guys!!

Martha invited everyone over to the girls' room 107 to play games that Saturday

night. Some light tubes were passed out and everyone found dif-

ferent was of being goofy. Then she presented an English Grammar game, asking for Nouns, Adjectives, and Adverb's. With the answers provided by the 19 eager participants she proceeded to tell a story using the responses. It all



sounded pretty weird the way it came out. Then each of us picked a person we new little about and interviewed them. After a noisy 15 minutes each of us took a turn introducing the person we had talked to and telling what we had learned about that person. It was quite enlightening. It was 8 PM and the party broke up so plenty of sleep could be had for the next days journey. Earlier Saturday evening the entire group decided to break ground on Sunday morning for the Tri-Cities and drive straight through. All the cars on the trip were capable of doing 60 MPH. The last of us arrived in town about 4:30PM. Everyone reported to having a good time and we all arrived safe and sound. More pictures on next page.

Article written photographed and submitted by Jim Ayers



1934 Buick



B&B in Davenport



1920 Buick



1930 Dodge



Old west town in Davenport



Phil's 42 Ford



Boat house in Nelson



Richard's 55 Chevy

Sept Prez Sez

Another month has passed and many activities are over. We had a good turn out for the Prosser parade. Our club also won a trophy for Best Old Antique Cars.

We had a nice trip to Bickleton, the weather was beautiful and was nice traveling to and from the show.

We had a enjoyable day at Richland Gardens it was really nice getting together. The senior citizens sure enjoy looking at the old cars. It brings back a lot of good memories for them.

The highlight of the month was the tour to Nelson, B.C. The two day trip to Nelson was a lot of fun. The scenery was very beautiful and the weather was gorgeous.

Over 400 cars were there and it was one of the biggest car shows I have ever participated in. Our club had four entrees and we brought home two trophies What a deal .

We entered eight cars and one motorcycle and ended up with six trophies during the V.F.W. car show in Kennewick.

We had a good turnout at the Pasco Senior Citizen s picnic and also had a great meal.

Agenda- Upcoming Events for October 2010

- October 4, 2010 - Pasco Senior Citizen s Luncheon, Pasco
- October 16, 2010 - City Church/10th and Union, Kennewick
- Every Wednesday - Sterlings on Clearwater for morning breakfast

Parade in Prosser

We drove to Prosser for the States Day Parade on Labor day. When I say we I mean My self , Jack Yale , Terry Shegrud, Jim Vetrano, Ed Edwards, Phil Prather, Jim Ayers.

We won a first place trophy, But couldn't decide who won it so we all posed with it.



Jack's Cord



Jim's Vette



Terry's Packard



Ed's Mustang



Phil's 42 Ford

Jim's Studebaker



My Cruiser



Oct Birthdays

1st	Ward Moberg	19th	Red Rutherford
2nd	Myrtle Nesbit	20th	Jan Underwood
4th	Rachel Gould	24th	Sandy Klipper
7th	Lee Jackson	26th	Hoid Pankey
14th	John Nelson		

Anniversaries

14th	Mert And Marilyn La Fortune
16th	Terry and Edris Shegrud
24th	Mike and Sherri Boob
25th	Ken and Carolyn Shreve

Thoughts to ponder

I grew up in a very large family with a very small house
I didn't sleep alone until I got married.

Friends are God's apology for relatives.

"Nostalgia"

A device that removes the potholes from memory lane.

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Guess Who ?



This picture was taken in 1947 next to this 1939 Chevy. The fellow standing next to it is obviously of driving age so it might help you to guess his approximate age then by Process of elimination guess who it is

?

VFW Car show

We entered 8 cars in the VFW car show at the fair grounds. Out of 85 or 90 cars in attendance and 15 trophies awarded, we went home with 6 of the trophies. Probably easier to name the ones that didn't win a trophy, alas that was me. Phil Prather had his 42 Ford there, so even though my car was sitting right next to it, nobody even looked at it. In addition to Phil winning trophy, Jim Ayers won, and so did New comer Clarence Kummer with his cherry 55 Chevy, Jack won in his own category with his 37 Cord, also Bob Gough took home a trophy for his Chevy truck, oh and last but not least, Dave Stands got a trophy for his restored motor cycle. There is one thing I would like to discuss about disallowing members from showing their cars. This is not sour grapes you understand but Phil Prather has showed his #@&*% 42 Ford three times and won three times. How do you expect me to win any trophies with his #S^%& Ford there I ask you?

Aug Prez Sez

Well, another month is behind us. How did that happen so fast? August was a great month for Ye Olde Car Club.

On August 8th we had a good showing at the Annual Show and Shine for Hunger in Columbia Park. No trophies but what do they know. Ha We had a good time.

On August 13th GESA Federal Credit Union members, enjoyed a great variety of old cars. We enjoyed a great lunch also.

None of the club made it to Grandview this year but that's OK. as we took most of the trophies last year. Hopefully, we can participate next year.

On August 21st we had a great turnout for the Benton Franklin County Fair parade. The weather was Great and we served lunch at our home as Bob Mc Clary was ill. (Thankfully he is doing much better) Thanks to all that showed up as we had plenty of food and we sure enjoyed the fellowship.

On August 27th we had a good showing at Richland Gardens. Had a great time

August 28th we drove to Bickleton, For their annual car show. There were a lot of beautiful cars entered. For such a small town that seemed to be at the end of the earth, It was a wonderful show.

We are all looking forward to our trip to Canada on September 9th. Get your papers