



Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club January 2017 Newsletter

The President's Message

Sorry, been a couple of weeks I would rather not do over

I hope this finds you happy and healthy for the start of 2017. Sitting down and racking my brain on what to write about for this month's newsletter has been taxing. The obvious choice is the weather, it's the one thing that almost everyone can agree on and it has been a white January.

Getting around in this weather can be tricky and quite an ordeal just to get the car out of the driveway. We live in a part of Washington that for the most part is mild, steady and you can count on one hand the really cold days we get. I'm ready for spring and the sun to come back. So far 2017 is starting off cold but I'm sure it will be heating up soon.

Sharon says our assisted living days are filling up fast and they are excited to see us, too. We just have to hold out for just a bit longer and spend our time wisely inside warming up. If you have to brave this winter be safe. Hopefully, you have a good book or a wrench to use to make the time pass.

Until next we meet.

Rick Ball, Frozen Car Guy

BITS & PIECES

*** **DID YOU KNOW:** There are more bacteria cells in your body than actual body cells. (Anywhere from 2 to 9 pounds of them. We're more bacteria than we are human!)

*** **If you lend** someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.

*** **Real newspaper headlines:** City unsure why sewer smells.

*** **"Football is NOT** a contact sport, it is a collision sport. Dancing **IS** a contact sport." - Duffy Daugherty / Michigan State

*** **Gold** is the only metal that doesn't rust, even if it's buried in the ground for thousands of years.

*** **My doctor said,** "You've got gall stones, kidney stones and bladder stones. Welcome to the Stone Age." Thanks to Dick Johanson for this cutie.

*** **Vegetables** are a must on a diet. I suggest carrot cake, zucchini bread and pumpkin pie. Jim Davis

*** I called an old school friend and asked what was he doing? He replied that he is working on "Aqua-thermal treatment of ceramics, aluminum and steel under a constrained environment". I was impressed.

On further inquiring, I learned that he was washing dishes with hot water...under his wife's supervision.
Larry Fookes

The Remarkable Body: Your liver is so busy over the course of a day, it is almost impossible to summarize its activities. It manufactures cholesterol, vitamin D and blood plasma; it identifies the nutrients your body needs and stores some away for future use; it filters 1.53 quarts (1.43 liters) of blood every minute and produces a quart (0.94 liter) of bile every day to help you break down your food. Basically, you have a factory plant running inside of you every day, which is pretty amazing!

EVENTS

February 16 - A Chocolate Extravaganza at the Kiona Winery is scheduled. 44612 N. Sunset Road, Benton City 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Get out your favorite chocolate recipe and prepare for a sweet evening.

May 13 – Saturday - Pet Over Population – Tri-Cities Convention Center, Kennewick. More information to come.

Ladies Luncheons:

January 12 - 11 Ladies braved the weather to attend the Ladies Luncheon at Canyon Lake Manor hosted by Myrtle Nesbitt. Thank you, Myrtle

February 9 – Ladies Luncheon to be held at the Crow's Nest on the fourth floor of the Clover Island Inn, 435 Clover Island Drive, north off Washington at Columbia Drive. Hosted by Laura Osterwyk. 509-783-7161

Tom & Ingrid Smith's 1955 ½ ton Studebaker Truck



Pictured is our '55 1/2 ton taken on our 50th anniversary with our daughters, Shelley & Sherrey on Whidbey Island. The truck was restored by Wayne Williams of Kennewick & purchased from his son in 2015. A 259 cubic inch engine mated to a T-85 & R-11 overdrive makes it a nice tight driver. The hillholder clutch works well & we've enjoyed driving it to various car shows and parades from Harrington to Bickleton & the Tri-cities. I could call it a "10" just because it is the tenth Studebaker I've had the pleasure to own. Keep them rolling!

Tom & Ingrid Smith

Where is the world's oldest city?

Damascus...There's quite a bit of controversy over which city gets to officially claim the title of "oldest continuously inhabited city. However, Damascus is the safest bet, with evidence of civilization that extends back over **11,000 years**.

Which is the youngest country in the world?

South Sudan...The people of South Sudan were formally recognized as an independent country in **2011**, making it the youngest country in the world, to date.

Ransom Eli Olds was born in Geneva, Ohio on June 3, 1864 and was a pioneer of the American automotive industry, for whom both the Oldsmobile and REO brands were named. He was the youngest son of blacksmith and pattern-maker Pliny Fiske Olds and his wife, Sarah Whipple Olds. His parents moved the family to Cleveland, Ohio, when Olds was still a boy. He eventually settled in Lansing, Michigan. He claimed to have built his first steam car as early as 1894 and his first gasoline-powered car in 1896. The modern assembly line and its basic concept is credited to Olds, who used it to build the first mass-produced automobile, the Oldsmobile Curved Dash, beginning in 1901. He founded the Olds Motor Vehicle Company in Lansing, Michigan, on August 21, 1897. The company was bought by a copper and lumber magnate named Samuel L. Smith in 1899 and renamed Olds Motor Works. The new company was relocated from Lansing to Detroit. Smith became President while Olds became vice president and general manager. By 1901 Olds had built 11 prototype vehicles, including at least one of each power mode: steam, electricity and gasoline. He was the only American automotive pioneer to produce and sell at least one of each mode of automobile. On March 9, 1901, the Olds Motor Works factory burned to the ground. Only one model, the little Curved Dash runabout, was saved from the flames. Ransom Olds claimed it was the fire that made him select the runabout, from among his many other models, to put into production. In its 107-year history, it produced 35.2 million cars, including at least 14 million built at its Lansing, Michigan factory. When it was phased out in 2004, Oldsmobile was the oldest surviving American automobile marque.

Wikipedia

Weird feature of old cars.



In the days before DUI/DWI laws were the norm, the 1957 Cadillac Eldorado Brougham came equipped with a luxurious magnetized minibar in the glovebox that would make Don Draper proud. Other features included a complete woman's grooming compact and matching leather notebook, a cigarette case, a comb and an atomizer filled with "Arpege Extrait de Lanvin" perfume.

Thanks to Dave Hannah for this contribution.

Buying a watch in the 1880s.

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right? Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit odd? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found. Why were the best watches found at the train station?

The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was usually the shortest distance and the right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about 9 years. This was all arranged by "Richard", who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.

Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watchmaker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is, as they say, history. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods. Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -and it's still there. **YES, IT'S A LITTLE KNOWN FACT** that for a while in the 1880s, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: **Richard Sears** and his partner **Alvah Roebuck!** Bet You Didn't Know That! Neither did I!

Author unknown

1954 Dodge Power Wagon

By Stephen Benson, Antique Automobile Magazine, Sept/Oct 12016



The Dodge Power Wagon, once common on our streets, is seldom seen today. These formidable pickups were standard equipment in the roster of vehicles for every municipality, telephone and power company. It is no wonder, since these unbelievably tough trucks could cope with rugged terrain like no other.

Rugged, yes, but comfortable, no. With their stiff deep-channel frames and heavy-duty springs comfort was sacrificed. They could go anywhere, but any journey took a toll on the driver. All Power Wagons came with four-wheel drive and a transfer case that provided a high or low range. Many were equipped with a shaft-driven front winch with a 7,500-pound pull. The grunt came from a 230cid straight six-cylinder engine that developed 94 horsepower.

Few trucks of this era had such a prestigious pedigree. Originally Dodge produced a nearly identical chassis for the U.S. military. Thousands were built in a utility pickup version and others as command cars, which looked like a stretched jeep. In lesser numbers a dual tandem-drive version was also supplied to the army. Power Wagons were an omnipresent workhorse for the armed services in WWII. After the war ended, it was natural for Dodge to introduce this familiar truck to the commercial market...and it was a success!

From Wikipedia

****Henry Ford** was of the opinion that the horse was an inefficient, thousand-pound hay-burning motor...with only one horsepower.

WOMEN'S CORNER

The Speeding Ticket

A police officer pulls over a speeding car. The officer says, ' I clocked you at 80 miles per hour, sir.'

The driver says, 'Gee, officer I had it on cruise control at 60, perhaps your radar gun needs calibrating. '

Not looking up from her knitting the wife says: 'Now don't be silly dear, you know that this car doesn't have cruise control.'

As the officer writes out the ticket, the driver looks over at his wife and growls, 'Can't you please keep your mouth shut for once?'

The wife smiles demurely and says, 'You should be thankful your radar detector went off when it did.'

As the officer makes out the second ticket for the illegal radar detector unit, the man glowers at his wife and says through clenched teeth, 'Damn it, woman, can't you keep your mouth shut?'

The officer frowns and says, 'And I notice that you're not wearing your seat belt, sir. That's an automatic \$75 fine.'

The driver says, 'Yeah, well, you see officer, I had it on, but took it off when you pulled me over so that I could get my license out of my back pocket.'

The wife says, 'Now, dear, you know very well that you didn't have your seat belt on. You never wear your seat belt when you're driving.'

And as the police officer is writing out the third ticket the driver turns to his wife and barks, 'WHY DON'T YOU PLEASE SHUT UP??'

The officer looks over at the woman and asks, 'Does your husband always talk to you this way, Ma'am??'

I love this part.....'Only when he's been drinking.'

Author unknown

AND...

An old lady was standing at the rail of the cruise ship holding her hat so that the wind wouldn't blow it away. A gentleman approached her & said, 'Pardon me, madam, I do not intend to be forward but did you know that your dress is blowing up in this wind?' 'Yes, I know,' said the lady. 'But I need my hands to hold onto my hat.' 'But madam, he said, 'you must know that you're derriere is exposed!' The woman looked down, then back up at the man and said, 'Sir, anything you see down there is 85 years old, but I just bought this hat!'

Birthdays and Anniversaries in January



Birthdays

Bev Boothe	January 13	Judy Bughi	January 25
David Calhoon	January 24	Jim Davis	January 31
Jerry Fairchild	January 22	Mary Fraser	January 22
Marlene Kuch	January 9	Marilyn LaFortune	January 17
Krista Lawty	January 31	Barb Meyer	January 22
Carol Nelson	January 2	Patty Orsborn	January 26
Gary Osborn	January 6	Judy Ostler	January 9
Debbie Pruett	January 27	Terry Shegrud	January 14
Ron Smith	January 6	Sherrie Tamburello	January 10
Jack Vornado	January 6	Martha Vornado	January 2
Bill White	January 4		



Anniversaries

Rick & Tonya Callies	January 1	Dave & Barb Donaldson	January 6
Bob & Ruth Ilten	January 28	Bob & Dolores McClary	January 23

2017 YOCC Officers

Rick Ball, President
371-9382
rick@bushcarwash.com

Sharon Wells, Vice President
783-3113
jerrysharonwells@gmail.com

Denny Wellington, Treasurer
946-5916
dpwelling@aol.com

Dolores McClary, Sunshine
783-3622
bobanddodo@gmail.com

Frances McGillis, Editor
545-4077
sixkidsplusthree@gmail.com

John Trumbo, Swap Meet Chairman
582-4297
johnnews@gmail.com

Frances Wyland, Secretary
542-0106
yocclub@gmail.com

Scott Noga, Webmaster
545-5903
rebus@bridgestonemotorcycle.com

Directors

Dave Donaldson
509-582-6906
donalbd@gmail.com

Don Buckles
509-627-0535
dbuckles0535@charter.net

Bill White, Swap Meet Chairman
946-7633
williamblwh@yahoo.com

Sharon Wells, Activities Director
783-3113
jerrysharonwells@gmail.com

Jerry Wells
509-783-3113
jerrysharonwells@gmail.com

Robbin Johanson
509-628-2547
robbinjohanson@frontier.com