



# Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club July 2020 Newsletter

## The President's Message

With our YOCC meetings prohibited due to the pandemic, club VP John Hopkins and I have taken to occasionally getting together for morning coffee in Kennewick's Lawrence Scott Park. We invite others to join us. Everyone wears masks and practices social distancing. This morning a dozen of us watched a KPD unit do a slow drive-by and look us over. He must have thought we seemed okay.

In spite of how sitting in a big circle six feet from others tends to make for a lot of individual conversations, I heard discussion of these topics and more: old car vendors, how old cars deteriorate when not used, repair garages, sway bars on old Chevy trucks, dog grooming, removing stuck fasteners, engine swaps, disposing of a junk car, progress on our project cars, the making of Covid masks, which antifreeze to use in old cars, plus traveling before and during the shutdown.

We don't have these coffee gatherings every week but we let everyone know when we do. Join us next time.

Dennis McGillis, YOCC President

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## Bits and Pieces

\*\*\*I told my wife I wanted to be cremated. She made me an appointment for Tuesday.

\*\*\*Most people don't think I'm as old as I am until they hear me stand up.

\*\*\*For those who don't want Alexa listening in on your conversations, they're making a male version...it doesn't listen to anything.

\*\*\*I asked my wife if I was the only one she'd been with. She said yes, all the others had been 9s and 10s.

\*\*\*I don't mind getting older but my body is taking it badly.

\*\*\*What do we learn from cows, buffalos and elephants? It's impossible to reduce weight by eating green grass and salads and walking.

\*\*\*It's been a bit of a strange day! First I found a hat full of money. Then I was chased by an angry man with a guitar.

\*\*\*He who drinks a fifth on the fourth, may not be able to go forth on the fifth. (Thanks Ginger)

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## The Remarkable Body

Loneliness is physically painful. Just as you have a drive to avoid physical pain, you have a similarly powerful drive to connect with others and seek companionship - in order to avoid the pain of loneliness.

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## Where in the world.

15% of the air you breathe in a metro station is human skin.

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## Actual Label Instructions

On shin pads for cyclists:  
Shin guards cannot protect any part of the body they do not cover.

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## Fun Food Facts

Piggly Wiggly opened the first self-service grocery store in 1916.

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## EVENTS

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## 1924 Star Touring

The **Star** was an automobile marquee that was assembled by the Durant Motors Company between 1922 and 1928. Also known as the **Star Car**, Star was envisioned as a competitor against the Ford Model T. (In the United Kingdom, it was sold as the **Rugby**, to avoid confusion with the British marquee.)

Like other products of the Durant Motors Company, the **Star** was an "assembled" car, built from parts supplied by various outside companies. Originally, Stars were powered by a four-cylinder engine; in 1926 the line introduced a six-cylinder engine. All factory-installed engines were built by Continental.

In 1923, Star became the first car company to offer a production station wagon. Instead of shipping a chassis out to a custom builder who added a wooden wagon body, the wagon body was delivered to the Star factory and fitted to the chassis there.

For the early part of the 1928 model year, the Star was known as the **Durant Star** and was only available with a four-cylinder engine. The car was replaced in the latter half of the 1928 model year by the Durant 4.

From Wikipedia

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## Independence Day

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army, another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated. But they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year, he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. A few weeks later, he died from exhaustion and a broken heart.

Norris and Livingston suffered similar fates.

Such were the stories and sacrifices of the American Revolution. These were not wild-eyed, rabble-rousing ruffians. They were soft-spoken men of means and education. They had security, but they valued liberty more.

Standing tall straight, and unwavering, they pledged: "For the support of this declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of the divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other, our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

They gave you and me a free and independent America. The history books never told you a lot about what happened in the Revolutionary War.

We didn't fight just the British. We were British subjects at that time and we fought our own government!

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't.

So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July Holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember: Freedom is never free!

It's time we get the word out that patriotism is NOT a sin, and the Fourth of July has more to it than beer, picnics, and baseball games.

Thanks to my daughter, Frances, for this timely bit of news.

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## WHO SAYS 13 IS UNLUCKY?

Take out a one dollar bill and look at it. The one dollar bill you're looking at first came off the presses in 1957 in its present design. This so-called paper money is in fact a cotton and linen blend, with red and blue minute silk fibers running through it. It is actually material. We've all washed it without it falling apart. A special blend of ink is used, the contents we will never know. It is overprinted with symbols and then it is starched to make it water resistant and pressed to give it that nice crisp look.

If you look on the front of the bill, you will see the United States Treasury Seal. On the top you will see the scales for the balance-a-balanced budget. In the center you have a carpenter's T-square, a tool used for an even cut. Underneath is the Key to the United States Treasury. That's all pretty easy to figure out, but what is on the back of that dollar bill is something we should all know.

If you turn the bill over, you will see two circles. Both circles, together, comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved. If you look at the left hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the West or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is un-capped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished.

Inside the capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. "IN GOD WE TRUST" is on this currency. The Latin above the Pyramid, ANNETT COEPTIS, means "God has favored our undertaking." The Latin below the Pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means "a new order has begun." At the base of the Pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776.

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States. It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery and is the centerpiece of most hero's monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet no one knows what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: first, he is not afraid of a storm, he is strong and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, "E PLURIBUS UNUM," meaning "one nation from many people."

Above the Eagle you have thirteen stars representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one. Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13<sup>th</sup> floor. But, think about this: 13 original colonies, 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 13 stripes on our flag, 13 steps on the Pyramid, 13 letters in the Latin above, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum", 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 plumes of feathers on each span of the Eagle's wing, 13 bars on that shield, 13 leaves on the olive branch, 13 fruits, and if you look closely, 13 arrows. And for minorities: the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

Who says 13 is unlucky?

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The happy couple at Moore Mansion in front of David Randall's 1940 Packard 120 Club Sedan.

## Did you know?

**Between 1949 and early 1952**, the White House was completely renovated from the inside out; the entire internal structure was removed and for a period of time, the building was simply a shell supported by steel beams.

From How to Geek

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**With all the turmoil** in the market today this might be some good advice. For all of you with any money left, be aware of the next expected mergers so that you can get in on the ground floor and make some BIG bucks. Watch for these consolidations later on this year:

- 1.) Hale Business Systems, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Fuller Brush, and W R Grace will merge and become: Hale, Mary, Fuller, Grace.
- 2.) Polygram Records, Warner Bros., and Zesta Crackers join forces and become: Poly, Warner Cracker.
- 3.) 3M will merge with Goodyear and become: MMMGood.
- 4.) Zippo Manufacturing, Audi Motors, Dofasco, and Dakota Mining will merge and become: ZipAudiDoDa.
- 5.) FedEx is expected to join its competitor, UPS, and become: FedUP.
- 6.) Fairchild Electronics and Honeywell Computers will become: Fairwell Honeychild.
- 7.) Grey Poupon and Docker Pants are expected to become: PouponPants.
- 8.) Knotts Berry Farm and the National Organization of Women will be: Knott NOW

Thanks to Ginger Vetrano for this contribution

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## Auto facts from 1923

- \*\*Fixed-top phaetons and closed five-seat cars are popular at the 23rd National Automobile Show.
- \*\*Dodge is first make to offer an all-steel closed body, developed by Edward G. Budd.
- \*\*The first factory produced station wagon is introduced by Star, Durant's lowest priced line.
- \*\* Four-wheel brakes, power wipers, and foot controlled dimmer switches are standard on several makes.
- \*\*The first car radios available for factory installation are built by the Springfield Body Corporation.
- \*\*Ethyl gas, developed by General Motors Research Corporation, goes on sale; Standard Oil distributes the fuel.
- \*\*Floor-type heaters slowly lose favor due to safety concerns; makers worry about exhaust gas in the cabin.

- \*\*Buick produces its one-millionth car while Ford closes in on its nine-millionth car.
- \*\*Nash introduces a vacuum-powered windshield wiper motor; Buick and Cadillac soon follow suit.
- \*\*The Model T Ford is restyled with front-hinged doors; "Fordor" and "Tudor" sedans debut.

### **Auto facts from 1924**

- \*\*For the first time, all cars at the National Automobile Show are powered by gasoline; steam is a no show.
- \*\*The six-cylinder Chrysler 70 draws crowds at the show; features instruments grouped behind an oval glass panel.
- \*\*Dodge ousts Buick from third place in output; Chevrolet volume drops sharply, but still retains second spot.
- \*\*Packard offers the first mass-produced straight eight, a 358-cid engine producing a claimed 160 bhp.
- \*\*Twin filament headlight bulbs and baked enamel paint become common on lower priced cars.
- \*\*Ford builds its 10 millionth automobile and enters the aftermarket with factory-built accessories.

### **Auto facts from 1925**

- \*\*The industry reaches a milestone in 1925: the 25-millionth American motor vehicle is produced.
- \*\*Continuing a trend, closed automobiles outsell open-air alternatives for the first time this year.
- \*\*Safety and comfort draw customers: most automobiles now boast four-wheel brakes and standard bumpers.
- \*\*Straight-eight engines are among the hot new trends at the 25th National Automobile Show, again in New York City.
- \*\*Other notable trends include rumble seats, one-piece windshields, mohair upholstery, and crank-type window lifts.
- \*\*The last Stanley Steamers are smaller and cheaper with hydraulic brakes but the well-known make fades away after 1925.
- \*\*Quick drying synthetic pyroxylin paints permit wide color choices and can be sprayed and baked.
- \*\*The nation's first chain of car-rental agencies features Hertz "Drivurself" automobiles.
- \*\*Available aftermarket accessories include stop signals, mirrors, ashtrays, cigar lighters, locking radiator caps and trunk racks.
- \*\*Motor buses are now in use by over 150 electric railway systems across the country.
- \*\*The Lincoln Highway is completed - it's the world's first transcontinental highway.
- \*\*Uniform markings for federally funded highways are adopted - even numbers for east/west roads. Odd for north/south.

### **Auto facts from 1926**

- \*\*Narrower windshield pillars improve visibility of several models displayed at the 26th auto show.
- \*\*The new Pontiac is a low-priced companion make to the Oakland.
- \*\*Chrysler's new distinctively styled, higher priced Imperial carries a more powerful six-cylinder motor and bullet-shaped headlamps.
- \*\*Cadillac introduces shatter-resistant safety glass; Stutz and Rickenbacker offer "shock-proof" windshield glass.
- \*\*Packard develops quiet running hypoid gears for the rear axle, first produced for the 1927 model years.
- \*\*Glass "eyes" at the rear of many headlight housings allow the driver to confirm the lights are on.
- \*\*Chandler offers a one-shot lubrication system, a setup that soon will appear on many higher priced cars.
- \*\*More rubber for Chrysler: engine mounts, spring shackles, and seat parts now made of the shock-absorbing material.
- \*\*An electric starter finally becomes standard on open Model T Fords.
- \*\*Model T Fords come in a choice of colors for the first time since 1913, though fenders stubbornly remain black.

Taken from 100 Years, The American Auto

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# WOMEN'S CORNER

On hearing that her elderly grandfather had just passed away, Katie went straight to her grandparent's house to visit her 95 year old grandmother and comfort her. When she asked how her grandfather had died, her grandmother replied, "He had a heart attack while we were making love on Sunday morning."

Horrified, Katie told her grandmother that 2 people nearly 100 years old having sex would surely be asking for trouble. Oh no, my dear," replied Granny. "Many years ago, realizing our advanced age, we figured out the best time to do it was when the church bells would start to ring. It was just the right rhythm. Nice and slow and even. Nothing too strenuous, simply in on the Ding and out on he Dong." She paused, wiped away a tear and then continued, "and if that damned ice cream truck hadn't come along, he'd still be alive today!"



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## Birthdays and Anniversaries in July



### Birthdays

Mary Dennis	July 13	Shari Ginther	July 25
Thomas Hoertkorn	July 27	Dick Johanson	July 22
Victor Lauhala	July 7	Don Mannion	July 6
Jimmy McQuown	July 30	Beth Saenz	July 2
Tom Smith	July 21	John Trumbo	July 5



## Anniversaries

Don & Debby Buckles July 1  
LeRoy & Loretta Jackson July 5  
Sal & Beth Saenz July 7

Roger & Sharon Gress July 6  
Robb & Molly King July 10

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