



Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club January 2024 Newsletter

January 2024 Prez says ramblings

It seems like only yesterday when I became President of the Ye Olde Car Club in 2015. I had only been in the club for three years and served as Vice President the year prior to being elected president and was a little nervous about doing the position justice. Fortunately, the YOCC President I followed nine years ago was clearly a pro at the job. Succeeding that same president again in 2024 is a 'double fortune'! Dave Hannah, and a long line of leadership of our terrific car club keep setting the bar of excellence higher and higher. We are blessed to have hard-working elected and un-elected officers and term-of-office board members who continually step to perform critical roles these past years. John, Randy, Don, Frances, Bill, Bonnie, Scott, Dave, Barb, Kevin, and Larry, we members express our sincere appreciation for your contribution of time, experience, and dedication.

2024 rings in the sixty-first year of the Ye Olde Car Club. In those many years, the club as expanded its activities as well as membership with new members each year. Sadly, we lose members, loved ones, and long-time friends passing on to eternal life. We also lose a few members each year whose interests or situations change. Our club remains vibrant and continues to provide an enjoyable experience for great people who share a common interest – the love of automobiles - old and newer, and "investing" (ha!) ridiculous amounts of money in them.

We have many fun activities on the agenda this year beginning in February with the Willy Gould Memorial Chocolate Extravaganza and ending in December with our YOCC Christmas Party at a new (and old) location, and all kinds of great events in between, where can enjoy camaraderie and meet new friends.

Have a great new year...have fun...and cruise safe!

Robbin

P.S. My sincere thanks for your confidence allowing me to participate in a truly fine group of friends. I look forward to being busy working for you...

**DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR 2024 DUES BEFORE MARCH 1. DUES ARE NOW \$20.
AFTER MARCH 1, DUES ARE \$25. PAY EARLY.**

Bits and Pieces

My friend recently went on the Dolly Parton diet. It really made Joe lean, Joe lean, Joe lean, Joe lean.

So Daffy Duck and Elmer Fudd break into a distillery. Daffy turns to Elmer and says, "Is this whiskey?" Elmer says, "Yeth, but not as whiskey as wobbing a bank."

A man asked his wife, "What would you do if I won the lottery?" She replied, "I'd take half and leave you." "Great," he said. "I won \$12. Here's \$6. Stay in touch."

If you're happy and you know it, it's your meds.

To me, "Drink responsibly" means don't spill it.
Scientists have yet to explain how 300 people can be working at Wal-Mart but only 4 registers will be open.

I see people around my age mountain climbing. I feel good getting my leg through my underwear without losing my balance.

The Remarkable Body

The stethoscope was invented in 1816 by French physician René-Théophile-Hyacinthe Laennec and motivated by a desire to accurately (and modestly) diagnose heart problems in women. The stethoscope transmitted sound to the doctor's ear more effectively than by putting an ear against the chest and allowed the doctor to listen without touching his ear to the woman's body.

Where in the world.

Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, carries the designation M-1, so named because it was the first paved road anywhere.

Fun Food Facts

Honey never goes bad. As long as you properly store it sealed and in a dry place.

Ladies Lunch in January had 13 Ladies. Thanks Myrtle & Ginger.

February 8 Ladies Lunch will be hosted by Frances McGillis. 509-545-4077. Place TBD.

January Trivia

500 copies of the novel Frankenstein by Mary Shelley and The Modern Prometheus were published anonymously in London on January 1, 1818.

Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.

The first New Year's ball drop in New York City started in 1908.

In 1946, the first United States Computer was built in Pennsylvania at the Moore School of Engineering.

The History Channel was launched on January 1, 1995.

The plum blossom is the Chinese floral emblem of January

The month of January is named after Janus, the Roman god that has two heads, one to look backward and one to look forward towards the New Year.

In 1890, the Rose Parade started in Pasadena, California. Today the parade is broadcast in more than 100 countries.

January was excluded from the Roman calendar which only had 10 months.

The 31st day of January was added to the month by Julius Caesar.

Alaska became the 49th state of the United States on January 3, 1959

Ellis Island opened on January 1st, 1892 allowing more than 20 million immigrants to enter the United States.

50 WAYS THE WORLD IS GETTING BETTER

by Ben Carlson

1. Over the last 20 years, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty has almost been cut in half.
2. Just 200 years ago, 85% of the world's population lived in extreme poverty. 20 years ago it was 29%. Today only 9% live in extreme poverty while the majority of people (75%) around the globe live in middle-income countries.
3. In 1997, 42% of the population of both India and China were living in extreme poverty. By 2017 that share had dropped to 12% in India and less than 1% for China. That means almost three-quarters of a billion fewer people are living in extreme poverty in these two countries than there were just 20 years earlier.
4. In 1800, among all babies who were ever born, roughly half died during their childhood. Life expectancy was just 30 years and no country had a life expectancy above 40. Life expectancy at birth was only 45 years in 1870. The average life expectancy around the world today is 72.
5. The violent crime rate has been on a downward trend since 1990 in the U.S. Just under 14.5 million crimes were reported in 1990. By 2016 that figure was well under 9.5 million.
6. The number of deaths from natural disasters is 25% of what it was 100 years ago.
7. Flying has gotten 2,100 times safer over the past 70 years. 2016 was the second safest year in aviation history. The odds of being fatally injured in a plane crash are just 0.000025%.
8. The real price of plane travel in the U.S. has fallen by more than half since the late 1970s.
9. Between the late Middle Ages and the 20th century, European countries saw a 10-fold-to-50-fold decline in their rates of homicide.
10. The share of homes that had electricity in 1870 was exactly zero. Today the proportion of people with electricity is 85%.
11. In 1905, a Vermont doctor and his chauffeur were the first to successfully drive a car across country from San Francisco to New York. It took them 63 days. Today you can fly cross country in a matter of hours while using wireless Internet.
12. There was no entertainment available to the average family in 1870, except for a few traveling musicians or circus performers or in-home board or card games. Today our entertainment options are almost unlimited.
13. Close to 20% of males born in the U.S. died before their first birthday in the year 1900. Today the mortality rate doesn't reach that high until you get to age 62.
14. More than 37% of deaths in 1900 were caused by infectious diseases. That number dropped to less than 5% by 1955 and just 2% by 2009.
15. Retirement is still a relatively new concept. In the past most people simply worked until they died. In the year 1870, for those who lived past age 65, the labor force participation ratio for males was close to 90%. Today it's less than 20%.

16. The average American now retires at age 62. One hundred years ago, the average American died at age 51.
17. The percentage of the population living past their 65th birthday was only 34% in 1870 but jumped to 56% by 1940 and 77% by 2000.
18. Up until the 1870s, people typically worked 11-12 hour days. By 1900, the typical worker put in 10 hours a day, 6 days a week. It wasn't until 1940 that it came down to the standard 40-hour, 5-day workweek. And these weren't office jobs sitting behind a desk. The conditions for most workers were terrible and hazardous to their health.
19. Time spent on laundry fell from 11.5 hours a week in 1920 to 1.5 hours in 2014 (although I have twins so my family brings up the average on this one).
20. By the late-1600s, one-third of the children born in the richest parts of the world died before their 5th birthday. Today, this sad fate befalls just 6% of the children in the poorest parts of the world.
21. The proportion of people killed annually in wars is less than a quarter of what it was in the 1980s, one-seventh of what it was in the early 1970s, one-eighteenth of what it was in the early 1950s, and a 0.5% of what it was during World War II.
22. Early in the 19th century, 12% of the world could read and write. Today it's 83%.
23. Americans are half as likely to be murdered as they were two dozen years ago.
24. The world's nuclear stockpiles have been reduced by 85% since the Cold War.
25. Over the course of the 20th century, Americans became 96% less likely to be killed in a car accident and 95% less likely to be killed on the job.
26. The world has gotten richer (as measured by Gross World Product) in 51 of the last 55 years.
27. In 1929 Americans spent more than 60% of their disposable income on necessities, by 2016 that had fallen to a third.
28. Since 1960, the fraction of a person's life taken up by work has fallen by 25% through a combination of shorter workweeks, more paid time off, and longer retirements.
29. The high school graduation rate was just 9% in 1910. It jumped to 52% by 1940 and 83% today.
30. Every single country in the world today has a lower infant or child mortality rate than it had in 1950.
31. A British baby who had survived their first year of life would have lived to 47 in 1845, 57 in 1905, 72 in 1955, and 81 in 2011. A 30-year-old could look forward to another 33 years of life in 1845, another 36 in 1905, another 43 in 1955, and another 52 in 2011.
32. Between 2000 and 2015, the number of deaths from malaria (which in the past killed half the people who had ever lived) fell by 60%.
33. The control of infectious disease since 1990 has saved the lives of more than a 100 million children.
34. Between 1961 and 2009 the amount of land used to grow food increased by 12%, but the amount of food that was grown increased by 300%.
35. 1,000 years after Jesus walked the earth the world was barely any richer. It took 500 years for income to double from there. Then between 1820 and 1900, the world's income tripled. It tripled again in a little more than 50 years. It took only 25 years for it to triple again, and another 33 years to triple yet again.
36. Since 1995, 30 of the world's 109 developing countries have seen economic growth rates that amount to a doubling of income every 18 years. Another 40 countries have had rates that would double income every 35 years, which is comparable to the historical growth rate of the U.S.
37. The number of people in extreme poverty has fallen by an average of 137k people every day for the past 25 years.

38. Two centuries ago the life expectancy in The Netherlands, the richest country in the world at the time, was just 40, and in no country was it above 45. Today, life expectancy in the poorest country in the world is 54. There are no countries where life expectancy is below 45.

39. When poverty is defined in terms of what people consume rather than what they earn, the American poverty rate has declined by 90% since 1960, from 30% of the population to just 3%.

40. There are 180,000 people walking around today who would have been murdered just in the last year if the global homicide rate had remained at the same level from a dozen years ago.

41. Between 1950 and 2009, the rate of death in traffic accidents fell six-fold.

42. In 1970 the chance that an airline passenger would die in a plane crash was less than 5 in a million; by 2015 that small risk had fallen a hundredfold.

43. In the 1990s, the U.S. saw its homicide rate plunge by half in just 9 years. In New York City, it dropped 75% in the same time.

44. There has been a 37-fold decline since the turn of the 20th century in the chance that an American will be killed by a bolt of lightning.

45. Roughly half of the adults in the world own a smartphone.

46. Just 7% of the world's population lived in a free or relatively free society in 1850. Today that number is closer to two-thirds.

47. The literacy rate from the 17th to 19th century was just one-eighth of the global population. From that point on the world's literacy rate doubled in the next century and quadrupled in the century after that, so now 83% of the world is literate.

48. In 1820, more than 80% of the world was unschooled. It's estimated that by the end of the century this number will be close to zero.

49. In 1920, just 28% of American teenagers ages 14-17 were in high school. The latest stats show over 80% graduated high school, of whom 70% went on to college.

50. In 1940, less than 5% of Americans held a bachelor's degree. By 2015, it was up to one-third.

This December two Kennewick, WA residents, Cal and Maryanne Method, were inducted together into the National Hot Rod Association Division 6 Hall of Fame.

Cal and his wife Mary Ann are likely the most successful husband and wife team in all of sportsman drag racing. Collectively Mary Ann and Cal have raced in 72 NHRA National and Division final rounds. They have 4 NHRA National Event wins, 10 National Event runner ups, 32 Divisional Event wind, 26 Division runner ups and more than 200 national records.

Cal moved to Pasco in 1961 after graduating from high school in Sandpoint, Idaho. While waiting to get in the sheet metal union as an apprentice, he worked at a Shell gas station in Pasco. While working at the station, he bought a '57 Chevy 4-door wagon from the used car lot at Schumate Chevrolet. While street racing (and probably a lot of racing on Glade Road north of Pasco) he realized that wagons had better traction than the hardtops and sedans and he could beat them off the line.

In 1963 he started working as a sheet metal apprentice and was able to buy a '61 Impala with a 348. He blew up the 348 and swapped it out for a 283 with 2-barrel carb and started running K Stock at Deer Park north of Spokane. Cal's NHRA racing career really took hold in 1964 at the Deer Park Raceway, and he's been racing in the stock eliminator class ever since. He notched his first win in 1965 in a 1961 Impala. In 1966 he bought his second '57 four-door wagon from two brothers out of Yakima. This car was an F Stock record holder (283 with fuel injection). At that time there were 23 classes and 8 of the national record holders were from Yakima. While taking possession of the car, Cal found out that these two brothers' father had gone to high school with the Crower Brothers. Apparently NHRA at that time was only checking "lift" but not "overlap" or "duration". Crower was furnishing them with "cheater" cams. He attended the Winternationals in Pomona that year and took runner up. In 1967, he set his first world record with a speed of 104.65 miles per hour. In 1983 he won the Worlds at Orange County, California - one of the biggest of many wins and records over the years.

Mary Ann won the All-Star Race in 1995 in Columbus, Ohio with an engine built by her husband.

There are two podcasts on the internet where Cal was interviewed in 2020 where he recollects on his over 35 years of racing and his early years in and around the Tri-Cities.

Cal Method, West Coast Legend Part #1 (podomatic.com) and Legend Part #2 (podomatic.com)

Thanks to Don Buckles for this contribution.

Leaders in Washington state are hoping for approval of legislation that would grant Smokey Bear a license plate in the state. While known and used in prevention efforts across the country, Smokey Bear is rooted in the Pacific coast. A bill has been pre-filed proposing a new license plate featuring Smokey Bear, which would be the first option for state license plates through DNR, supporting wildfire prevention and wildland firefighter programs. "A Smokey Bear license plate would let people show their support for the firefighters who put their lives on the line every season to keep us, our property and our lands safe from fire," stated Commissioner Franz in a press release.

Tri-City Herald, 1-10-24



1939 Lincoln Zephyr

The Lincoln-Zephyr is a line of luxury cars that was produced by the Lincoln division of Ford from 1936 until 1942. Bridging the gap between the Ford V8 DeLuxe and the Lincoln Model K (in both size and price), it expanded Lincoln to a second model line, competing against the Chrysler Airflow, LaSalle, and the Packard One-Twenty.

Following the discontinuation of the Model K after 1940, Lincoln shifted its production exclusively to the Lincoln-Zephyr design. After World War II, the Zephyr name was dropped, lasting through 1948. It was the basis of the first Lincoln Continental, Lincoln's longest-running nameplate. The model line was powered by a V12 engine, in contrast to its competitors' V8 and inline-8 engines.

Introduced on November 2, 1935, as a 1936 model, the Lincoln-Zephyr was extremely modern with a low raked windscreen, integrated fenders, and streamlined aerodynamic design, which influenced the name "zephyr", derived from the Greek word Zephyrus, or the god of the west wind. It was one of the first successful streamlined cars after the Chrysler Airflow's market resistance, and the concept car Pierce Silver Arrow, which never went into production. In fact, the Lincoln-Zephyr actually had a lower coefficient of drag than the Airflow, due in part to the prow-like front grille on the Zephyr, reflecting the popularity of leisure speedboats like Chris-Craft. The Lincoln-Zephyr succeeded in reigniting sales at Lincoln dealerships in the late 1930s, and from 1941 model year, all Lincolns were Zephyr-based and the Lincoln-Zephyr marque was phased out. Annual production for any year model was not large, but accounted for a large portion of the Lincoln brand's sales. In its first year, 15,000 were sold, accounting for 80% of Lincoln's total sales. The Zephyr was offered as a sedan with either two or four doors, and was manufactured in right hand drive for export, and the only options listed were an electric clock, leather upholstery and a matched luggage set from Louis Vuitton. The two-door sedan was listed at US \$1,275 and the four-door sedan was listed at US \$1,320.

Production of all American cars was halted by the Government in 1942 as the country entered World War II, with Lincoln producing the last Lincoln Zephyr on February 10. After the war, most makers restarted production of their prewar lines, and Lincoln was no exception. The Zephyr name, however, was no longer used after 1942, with the cars simply called Lincolns.

From Wikipedia

WOMEN'S CORNER

MEDICAL EXAMS ... actual physician experiences.

1. A man comes into the ER and yells . . . 'My wife's going to have her baby in the cab.'
I grabbed my stuff, rushed out to the cab, lifted the lady's dress and began to take off her underwear. Suddenly I noticed that there were several cabs - - - and I was in the wrong one.

Submitted by Dr. Mark Mac Donald, San Francisco

2. At the beginning of my shift I placed a stethoscope on an elderly and slightly deaf female patient's anterior chest wall. 'Big breaths,' I instructed. 'Yes, they used to be,' replied the patient.

Submitted by Dr. Richard Byrnes, Seattle , WA

3. One day I had to be the bearer of bad news when I told a wife that her husband had died of a massive myocardial infarct. Not more than five minutes later, I heard her reporting to the rest of the family that he had died of a 'massive internal fart.'

Submitted by Dr Susan Steinberg

4. During a patient's two week follow-up appointment with his cardiologist, he informed me, his doctor, that he was having trouble with one of his medications. 'Which one?' I asked. 'The patch...The nurse told me to put on a new one every six hours and now I'm running out of places to put it!' I had him quickly undress and discovered what I hoped I wouldn't see. Yes, the man had over fifty patches on his body!
Now, the instructions include: "Please remove the old patch before applying a new one."

Submitted by Dr. Rebecca St. Clair, Norfolk , VA

5. While acquainting myself with a new elderly patient, I asked, 'How long have you been bedridden?' After a look of complete confusion she answered. 'Why, not for about twenty years - when my husband was alive.'

Submitted by Dr. Steven Swanson, Corvallis, OR

6. I was performing rounds at the hospital one morning and while checking up on a man I asked . . . 'So how's your breakfast this morning?' 'It's very good except for the Kentucky Jelly. I can't seem to get used to the taste,' Bob replied. I then asked to see the jelly and Bob produced a foil packet labeled 'KY Jelly.'

Submitted by Dr. Leonard Kransdorf, Detroit, MI

7. A nurse was on duty in the Emergency Room when a young woman with purple hair styled into a punk rocker Mohawk, sporting a variety of tattoos, and wearing strange clothing, entered. It was quickly determined that the patient had acute appendicitis, so she was scheduled for immediate surgery. When she was completely disrobed on the operating table, the staff noticed that her pubic hair had been dyed green and above it there was a tattoo that read . . . 'Keep off the grass.' Once the surgery was completed, the surgeon wrote a short note on the patient's dressing, which said 'Sorry . . . had to mow the lawn.'

Submitted by RN no name

8. As a new, young MD doing his residency in OB. I was quite embarrassed when performing female pelvic exams... To cover my embarrassment I had unconsciously formed a habit of whistling softly. The middle-aged lady upon whom I was performing this exam suddenly burst out laughing and further embarrassing me. I looked up from my work and sheepishly said . . . 'I'm sorry. Was I tickling you?' She replied with tears running down her cheeks from laughing so hard. 'No doctor but the song you were whistling was.' 'I wish I was an Oscar Meyer Wiener.'

Dr. wouldn't submit his name...



Birthdays and Anniversaries in January



Birthdays

Manuel Chavello	January 5	Dodd Coutts	January 10
Brian Cox	January 12	Jim Davis	January 31
Daniel Farrell	January 4	Sandy Hecht	January 8
Curtis Kooiker	January 5	Marlene Kuch	January 9
Aaron Madden	January 14	Melody Maynard	January 31
Allie Melvin	January 7	Judy Ostler	January 9
Lindy Patterson	January 28	Stephen Scott	January 18
Sarah Scott	January 26	Bonnie Suminski	January 16
Jack Varnado	January 6	Martha Varnado	January 2
Gene Wattenberger	January 27	Bill White	January 4



Anniversaries

Dave & Barb Donaldson	January 6	Steve & Melody Foy	January 1
Bob & Dolores McClary	January 23	Larry & Diana Stephenson	January 15

2024 YOCC Officers

Robbin Johanson, President
509-948-9666
robbinjohanson@frontier.com

John Hopkins, V.P., Activities Director
987-4504
jhn_Hopkins@hotmail.com

Randy Bunch, Secretary
543-6554
jrbunch@charter.net

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

Bonnie Suminski, Sunshine
509-579-0030
moleski@seanet.com

Don Buckles, Treasurer
627-0535
dbuckles0535@charter.net

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

Jimmy McQuown, Facebook
Ye Olde Car Club-Tri Cities
430-6556
jamesfrompasco@hotmail.com

Directors

Kevin Davis
509-521-3693
wildrose4whippet@netzone.com

Larry Stephenson
253-376-0256
stephensonld1@gmail.com

Barb Fecht
509-521-5074
efecht@frontier.com

Dave Hannah
509-948-0601
dwhannah1@gmail.com

Tour Committee

John Hopkins, Committee Chairman
509-987-4504
jhn_Hopkins@hotmail.com