



Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club May 2024 Newsletter

May 2024 Prez says ramblings

It is the middle of May and after the lengthy cool spring temperatures and perhaps the finale of these nuisance winds, hot weather arrives at a seemingly “flip of a switch”! I am writing this message this afternoon from arriving home from today’s YOCC visit to Regency Canyon Lakes where we had a modest turn out of nine cars where we coveted the shade trees. Seems only a few weeks ago, the dress of the day was long pants and sweaters.

The first weekend in May was the 48th year of the YOCC Swap Meet (might be a year or two off as we shuttered the swap meet business during those awful Covid years). This year’s event was great beginning with a large and terrific turnout of members who made quick work of setting up the large facilities for the arrival of swap meet participants with their tons of highly prized car parts and other “can’t-live-without” goodies. The teamwork and precise organization of YOCC members executing each and every swap meet setup task reminded me of the old television bowl game half-time marching bands with hundreds of marchers in unison. Well! Maybe not that precise! But very good!

We were done with the hard work...then came the mouth-watering potluck skillfully organized by Deb Hannah. A goodly group of members certainly had a feast with plenty left over to sustain us over the next couple of days. Is there anything better than cold fried chicken...I think not...
The swap meet operation over Friday and Saturday went smoothly due to the work of many dedicated YOCC members. The weather mostly cooperated on Saturday with a few attempts at rain. The early gloomy forecast for the week warning downpours on Saturday likely had a dampening effect on vendor attendance. However, another very successful Swap Meet is in the books. Thanks to you and our team of members that stepped up in leading the varied tasks. You all make our Ye Olde Car Club a wonderful and enjoyable organization of car buffs we like being around.

We have a busy and fun summer planned. Let’s enjoy it together!

Thanks so much...
Robbin

Bits and Pieces

Of all my parents, You are in my top two. Happy Mother's Day.

Mom - If you ever worry about your parenting skills, remember that at least I didn't turn out like Dad.

If I won the lottery, I would pick out the best nursing home just for you. No matter how far away it is for me.

Dear Mom, I was going to give you an all expenses paid first-class trip to Hawaii for Mother's Day. But I knew how much you'd miss me and I just couldn't put you through that kind of agony.

All I want for Mother's Day is for my kids to remember they have a father that can get them a glass of juice.

The Remarkable Body

Your brain can recognize a sound 10 times faster than the blink of an eye, in as little as 0.05 seconds.

Where in the world.

The term 'The Big Apple' was coined by touring jazz musicians of the 1930s who used the slang expression 'apple' for any town or city. Therefore, to play New York City is to play the big time - The Big Apple.

Fun Food Facts

Studies have shown that eating peanut butter can help lower cholesterol, aid in weight loss, add protein to your diet and prevent type 2 diabetes. It's also low in carbs.

Ladies Lunch in May had 11 Ladies. Thanks Michelle.

The June Ladies Lunch will be hosted by Enid Reck at The Emerald of Siam Restaurant in Richland. Please call Enid if you plan to attend – 509-946-3264

Here are some interesting tid bits about May

May is National Mental Health month.

Cinco de Mayo is celebrated on May 5 in the U.S.

Memorial Day is May 27.

National Cherry Cobbler day is May 17.

Lucky Penny day is May 23.

Mother's Day is May 12.

There are 3 billionaires who were born in May.

May 28 is Armed Forces Day.

Bickleton

Eastern Washington's winter weather has gone into hibernation, sending families back outside, flowers back into bloom and the bluebirds back to Bickleton. The small town south of Yakima not far from the Oregon border and is considered the bluebird capital of the world. This designation isn't accidental. While bluebirds naturally migrate to the area, it was the efforts of Bickleton residents and a dedicated couple from Richland that ensures the birds return by the thousands every year. While it is believed that Bickleton appointed itself as the bluebird capital of the world, the noteworthy title has been formally recognized by the North American Bluebird Society.

Tri-City Herald, 4-28-24

Remember when you were a kid out driving through the country side?

Twinkle, twinkle
One-eyed car
We all wonder
Where you are.
Burma Shave

The place to pass
On curves you know
Is only at
A beauty show.
Burma Shave

Proper distance
To him was bunk
They pulled him
Out of some guys trunk
Burma Shave

Violets are blue
Roses are pink
On graves of those
Who drive and drink
Burma Shave

On curves ahead
Remember Sonny
That rabbit's foot
Didn't save the bunny
Burma Shave

Is he lonesome
Or just blind -
This guy who drives
So close behind
Burma Shave

A guy who drives
A car wide open
Is not thinkin'
He's just hopin'
Burma Shave

Spring has sprung
The grass has riz
Where last year's
Careless driver is
Burma Shave

Why is it when you
Try to pass
The guy in front
Goes twice as fast?
Burma Shave

Around the curve
Lickety-split
A beautiful car
Wasn't it?
Burma Shave

Better try
Less speed per mile
That car may have to
Last a while
Burma Shave

No matter the price
No matter how new
The best safety device
In your car is you
Burma Shave

Drinking drivers -
Nothing worse
The put the quart
Before the hearse
Burma Shave

He lit a match
To check gas tank
That's why they call him
Skinless Frank
Burma Shave

Front License Plates: Are They Necessary?

By Doug Dahl

Q: Has the Washington State law changed about vehicles displaying front license plates? In our area I have noticed a substantial number of vehicles without front plates. Some will have the plate lying on the dashboard and many seem to be newer, expensive models. Has the law changed or is it simply not being enforced?

A: Have you ever committed a minor traffic violation, like maybe you forgot to signal when you made a right turn, and then realized that there was a police officer right behind you? And maybe, if you're lucky, you experienced this: the red and blue lights come on behind you, but when you pull over the patrol car zooms past. If so, you just got a glimpse of one enforcement demand taking priority over another.

Officers have to prioritize their response all the time, so just because something is a violation of the law doesn't mean it'll get addressed every time it's observed. Case in point: front license plates. Yes, in nearly every situation Washington law requires a vehicle to have a front license plate. But unlike many traffic laws, lack of a front license plate doesn't increase your risk of a crash. Compared with impairment, speeding and distraction (the top three factors in fatal crashes in Washington) enforcement of front plates is pretty low. The number one goal of traffic enforcement is to reduce traffic crashes, so officers focus on the behaviors that contribute to crashes. Enforcement of front plates still happens; just at a lower frequency.

That doesn't mean a front plate isn't important. It's just important for different reasons. A front plate makes it easier for law enforcement to spot stolen vehicles, or a suspect vehicle fleeing from a crash or the scene of a crime, and it helps witnesses and victims report such a vehicle.

So why doesn't everyone just put a front plate on their car? Your observation that many of the vehicles without front license plates include newer, expensive models likely has something to do with it. If you have a shiny, new and expensive car you might not like what a license plate does to the look of your vehicle. Even more, you

probably can't stomach the thought of drilling holes through that pristine bumper to mount your license plate. But regardless of how you feel about that plate on your bumper, the law is clear: you have to have it. Except . . .

There are actually a few exceptions to the front license plate requirement in Washington. Of course, it makes sense that campers and trailers only have a rear plate, as a front one would be pointless. Other vehicles that don't need a front plate include mopeds, motorcycles and collector vehicles. Outside of Washington, 19 states don't require front license plates.

And for the outlier vehicles, the law has a provision that allows a driver to appeal the requirement for a front license plate. The Washington State Patrol may grant exceptions "if the body construction of the vehicle makes compliance . . . impossible." Using the word "impossible" sounds like a nearly insurmountable barrier. However, the law defines "impossible" in this context as "there was nothing made by the manufacturer . . . which would allow the license plate to be affixed to the vehicle . . ." Nearly every car on the lot has a bracket available to mount a license plate, but if you have some exotic exception you can get a pass on the front plate. It's not automatic though; you'll have to send an exemption request to the Washington State Patrol.

From thewisedrive.com

Did You Know

WD-40 - 80 percent of households have at least one can on hand, The New York Times reported.

Some old wisdom...

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London, which used to have a gallows adjacent to it. Prisoners were taken to the gallows (after a fair trial of course!) to be hanged. The horse-drawn dray, carting the prisoner, was accompanied by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like "ONE LAST DRINK". If he said YES, it was referred to as ONE FOR THE ROAD. If he declined, that Prisoner was ON THE WAGON.

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot and then once a day it was taken and sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were "piss poor". But worse than that were the really poor folk, who couldn't even afford to buy a pot, they "Didn't have a pot to piss in" and were the lowest of the low.

Here are some facts about England in the 1500s:

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Most people got married in June, because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June!! However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it! Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!"

Houses had thatched roofs, thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof. Hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs."

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom, where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "dirt poor." The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help

keep their footing. As the winter wore on they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entrance. Hence: a thresh hold. (Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over they would hang up their bacon, to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, "Bring home the bacon." They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around talking and "chew the fat".

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes. So for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "The Upper Crust".

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of "Holding a Wake".

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people, so they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house and reuse the grave! When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, thread it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift) to listen for the bell; thus someone could be, "Saved by the Bell "or was considered a "Dead Ringer"

And that's the truth!! Now, whoever said English history was boring! ! !
Thanks to Dennis McGillis for this contribution



1928 REO Speedwagon Pickup

The REO Motor Car Company was a company based in Lansing, Michigan, which produced automobiles and trucks from 1905 to 1975. At one point, the company also manufactured buses on its truck platforms.

Ransom E. Olds was an entrepreneur who founded multiple companies in the automobile industry. In 1897 Olds founded Oldsmobile. In 1905 Olds left Oldsmobile and established a new company, REO Motor Car Company, in Lansing, Michigan. Olds had 52% of the stock and the titles of president and general manager. To ensure a reliable supply of parts, he organized a number of subsidiary firms, like the National Coil Company, the Michigan Screw Company, and the Atlas Drop Forge Company.

Originally the company was to be called "R. E. Olds Motor Car Company", but the owner of Olds' previous company, then called Olds Motor Works, objected and threatened legal action on the grounds of likely confusion of names by consumers. Olds then changed the name to his initials. Olds Motor Works soon adopted the popular name of its vehicles, Oldsmobile (which, along with Buick and Cadillac, became a founding division of General Motors Corporation).

The company's name was spelled alternately in all capitals REO or with only an initial capital as Reo, and the company's own literature was inconsistent in this regard, with early advertising using all capitals, and later advertising using the "Reo" capitalization. The pronunciation, however, was as a single word. Lansing is home to the R. E. Olds Transportation Museum.

By 1907, REO had gross sales of \$4.5 million, and the company was one of the four wealthiest automobile manufacturers in the U.S. After 1908, however, despite the introduction of improved cars designed by Olds, REO's share of the automobile market decreased due in part to competition from emerging companies like Ford and General Motors.

REO added a truck-manufacturing division and a Canadian plant in St Catharines, Ontario, in 1910. Two years later, Olds claimed that he had built the best car he could, a tourer able to seat two, four, or five, with a 30–35 hp engine, 112 inches wheelbase, and 32 inches wheels, for \$1,055 (not including top, windshield, or gas tank, which were \$100 extra); self-starter was \$25 on top of that.

In 1915, Olds relinquished the title of general manager to his protégé Richard H. Scott, and eight years later he ended his tenure as the company's presidency as well, retaining the position of chairman of the board.

From Wikipedia

Fun Facts for the Classic Car Enthusiast

The Ford Mustang was first introduced in 1964.

The first Chevy Camaro was black in color.

The origin of the word automobile is based on a blend of the words *auto* and *mobile*, indicative of the driver's ability to set a car in motion.

The grand total of Plymouth Hemi Barracuda convertibles manufactured: 7!

The Chrysler Company limited its auto production of its 1940 Newport Dual-Cowl Phaeton to six cars.

'Horseless Carriages' are those antique cars that were presented by the factory to the public from the years 1896 through 1915. 'Vintage Cars' are those automobiles that were manufactured from 1916 to 1925.

If you thought NJ cheap auto insurance was the forerunner of indemnity for cars, think again. In 1897, Westfield, Massachusetts set the record as the first location that auto insurance was purchased.

Mass production began in 1913 with the manufacturing of the affordable Ford Model T car.

Chevrolet produces its Corvettes solely within in its Bowling Green, Kentucky factory.

Pictures of Cuban life depict a plethora of classic cars on the streets. This is because of the 1960 US trade embargo that led to cessation of new car purchases on the island.

From Prime Insurance Agency

WOMEN'S CORNER

YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!

I'm the life of the party...even if it lasts until 8 p.m.

I'm very good at opening childproof caps...with a hammer.

I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I am going.

I'm awake many hours before my body allows me to get up.

I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a thing you're saying.
 I'm very good at telling stories; over and over and over and over...
 I'm aware that other people's grandchildren are not nearly as cute as mine.
 I'm so cared for --- long term care, eye care, private care, dental care.
 I'm not really grouchy,



I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, lawyers, loud music, unruly kids, Jenny Craig and Toyota commercials, barking dogs, politicians and a few other things I can't seem to remember right now.

I'm sure everything I can't find is in a safe secure place, somewhere.
 I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy, and that's just my left leg.
 I'm having trouble remembering simple words like...
 I'm beginning to realize that aging is not for wimps.
 I'm sure they are making adults much younger these days,
 and when did they let kids become policemen?
 I'm wondering, if you're only as old as you feel, how could I be alive at 150?
 And, how can my kids be older than I feel sometimes?

I'm a walking storeroom of facts...I've just lost the key to the storeroom door.

Yes, I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I **think** I am having the time of my life!

Birthdays and Anniversaries in May



Birthdays

Shahna Airoidi	May 2	Russ Armstrong	May 27
John Carter	May 18	Hilda Chavallo	May 1
Dave Donaldson	May 25	David Gerkenmeyer	May 14
Susan Gerkenmeyer	May 11	Robert Hartwig	May 23

Mary Hoertkorn
Gil Linden
Robert McClary, Jr.
Bill Melvin
Scott Noga
Barb Paulsen

May 8
May 23
May 29
May 30
May 19
May 17

Loretta Jackson
Tina Madden
Debbie McClary
Mary Ellen Nelson
Lindy Patterson

May 2
May 17
May 30
May 14
May 7



Anniversaries

Donald & Melissa Freeman May 15
George & Rochelle Peck May 4
Bill & Julie Schwartz May 23
BJ & Frances Wyland May 7

Jim & Jeri Newell May 26
Randy & Nancy Rutherford May 23
Terry & Nancy Whitcomb May 13

2024 YOCC Officers

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

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

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

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

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

Frances McGillis, Editor
545-4077
sixkidsplusthree@gmail.com
Jimmy McQuown, Facebook
Ye Olde Car Club-Tri Cities
430-6556
jamesfrompasco@hotmail.com

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

Directors

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

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

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

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

Tour Committee

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