



The Gas Gauge

PUBLISHED BY YE OLDE CAR CLUB OF THE TRI-CITIES, WASHINGTON
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DECEMBER 1983

DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER: JANUARY 1, 1984

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Pat and Dave Ashby will be hosting a Christmas party for club members on Saturday, December 17th. The festivities will start at 8:00 pm. BYOB and a plate of hors d'oeuvres. The Ashbys' address is 517 West 36th, Kennewick.

**THE CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL REPLACE
THE DECEMBER BUSINESS MEETING**



INSTALLATION BANQUET

The 1984 Officers' Installation Banquet was held at the Saddle Mountain Steak House on November 5th. After a delicious meal, Carron Sundgren, who was filling in for Chuck, thanked the 1983 officers for their services and presented incoming president, Don Simmonson, with the President's gavel. Officers for 1984 are: President, Don Simmonson; Vice President, Jack Yale; Secretary Peggy Yale; Treasurer, Cork Simmelink; and Board Member, Houston Jackson.

Jerry Durham thanked the club for the case of oil which was given to him after his recent surgery. And Houston Jackson announced his upcoming retirement.

Attending the banquet were Cork and Audrey Simmelink, Floy and Jerry Durham, Houston and Lenora Jackson, Paul and Sharon Lawson, Susy and Bruce Stinsman, Marge and Dave Johnson, Gayle Ernsness, Jeff Middleton, Carron Sundgren, Lee and Betty Noga, Robbie and Don Simmonson, Mike and Carolyn Martin, Kent and Shirley Curl, Jim and Dixie Gilbert, Pat and Dave Ashby, Lois and Herb Mettler, and Ken and Myrtle Nesbitt.



DUES ARE DUE. Pay at the next club meeting or mail your \$10.00 check to Ye Olde Car Club; Cork Simmelink, Treasurer; P.O. Box 462; Richland, WA 99352. Please return your roster information sheet with your dues.

A COMPLETE 1984 CALENDAR OF EVENTS will accompany the January newsletter. The calendar has been compiled by John Shelly, Coordinator NW Car Clubs Events. Changes in the listings will be published if and when we are notified.

Dues are due. Please pay promptly. Complete and return your roster information with your check. The rosters are scheduled for completion in February and unless your information sheet has been returned only your name, address and telephone number will be included.

In the January Gas Gauge be sure to read Craig Kelsey's interesting and informative article about automobile classifications.

A limited number of select auto related businesses have been invited to advertise in the Gas Gauge to help underwrite the cost of the newsletter. We appreciate the support of Motoring Services, James N. French Insurance, Marv's Sales, and Dean's Upholstery & Glass. Please patronize these businesses.

We wish you a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

-Ye Olde Car Club Officers



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BETTER READ THAN DEAD

How many of you grab a can of paint thinner, paint remover or assorted other bottled chemicals scattered around your garage, unscrew the cap and use the product for whatever project is at hand? DID YOU EVER READ THE ENTIRE LABEL? By law, the manufacturer must list on the container potential hazards and safety precautions. It is up to you to read and follow those directions.

Absorbing chemicals through the skin and breathing toxic vapors are two common problems. Wear protective clothing and provide adequate ventilation when necessary. Some general rules are: (1) Read the entire label and follow the suggested safety measures (2) Use the product ONLY for the purpose the manufacturer intended (3) When in doubt NEVER combine products (4) Paint removers are acidic—wear rubber gloves (5) Wear a respirator when painting (6) Consult an expert if you have any questions (7) NEVER attempt to dilute an acid by adding water (in most cases, the acid is very slowly ADDED TO THE WATER). Follow the manufacturer's directions for dilutions (8) Many products should not be stored or used above listed temperatures or near an open flame (9) NEVER transfer products to unmarked containers (10) Keep the number of the Poison Control Center by your telephone 1-800-572-5842

This cautionary tale is condensed from the March/April issue of *Antique Car Times*.

Last summer, AVCM member John Hodum decided it was time to remove the old paint from some mirror brackets for the Mack truck he is restoring. He had some "octane booster" (gasoline additive), and had noticed that where it had dripped onto the can when he had poured some previously, the paint was cleanly removed. Taking that as a cue he now mixed some with his lacquer thinner, and dropped the brackets in the mixture to soak. Then, over a period of two or three hours, he would now and again interrupt whatever else he was doing, to scrape and scrub the brackets with a metal sponge.

The paint came off nicely. The brackets were nice and clean, and he had poured the stuff out when his wife came out to the barn, for whatever reason they do that, and when she saw him she asked if he felt alright. When he answered yes, she asked "then why are you so blue?"

He looked in the mirror, became concerned, and had Ellen drive him to the hospital. When he went in the nurse commented that she had seen blue people before, but none that blue and still walking and talking. His condition was so severe that after the indicated treatment, he was kept immobile and on supplemental oxygen for two days.

There are several brands of "octane booster" on the market. They are primarily mixtures of methanol (wood alcohol) and "petroleum distillates." The brand John was using (Morosso) contained aniline dye which is used commercially to color such things as cloth and crayons. Whether it was in this product purposely we don't know, but in liquid form it is readily absorbed through the skin and locks into the hemoglobin molecule to block oxygen exchange. When John got to the hospital, his arterial met-hemoglobin was at 54%, versus a normal content of about one or two percent.

The doctor who treated John tells us that he has seen patients still alive with slightly higher met-hemoglobin content than John's was, but none have responded to treatment. He attributes John's response to two factors: First, John had the presence of mind to carry the octane booster can with him to the hospital so the doctor knew immediately what the probable antidotal treatment should be (in this case, intravenous injection of methylene blue, another form of aniline used as a dye, and also as an antidote for various kinds of poison, including cyanide), and second, John is abnormally healthy, a non-smoker, and he had not taken any alcohol while he was working.

The moral of this story is, read your labels and heed them!

MARKETPLACE

TO PLACE A WANT AD IN THE GAS GAUGE, telephone (946-4771) or mail (1909 Poplar, Richland, WA 99352) details to Dixie Gilbert. Marketplace ads are run as a free service for members. PLACE ADS BEFORE THE DEADLINE LISTED ON THE FRONT PAGE.

1965 CORVETTE, \$8900. Jeff Middleton (509)375-1745

1951 CHRYSLER IMPERIAL 4DR. Restorable. \$450. (509)627-3803

1953 CHEVROLET 5 WINDOW PICKUP. Deluxe cab. Very straight. \$700. Dave Mitchell (509)627-1497

THREE PRE-WORLD WAR II CADILLAC RADIOS. Ed Allen (509)946-4007

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The Pacific NW Mustang Club is again sponsoring their Annual Food Drive. It will be held on Saturday, December 17th from 2:00 - 5:00 pm at the Tri-City Mall. For more information contact Dan or Sharon Felton, 735-3632.

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED to Don and Robbie Simmonson; Robbie's mother recently passed away. SYMPATHY IS ALSO EXTENDED to Linda and Randy Blumer; Randy's mother passed away last month.

PAINT SEMINAR

Marv, from Marv's Sales in Pasco, is willing to conduct a painting seminar for car club members provided enough interest can be generated. The session would be held sometime in January or February. To insure that your areas of interest are covered, write down a couple of questions or problems you would like to have addressed and mail them to 1909 Poplar, Richland; they will be passed on to Marv. If you would like to take advantage of the seminar call Dixie Gilbert, 946-4771.

RADIATOR BADGES

Cork Simmelink is investigating the possibility of acquiring radiator badges similar to the Circle Tour badges. He is requesting information for a heavier (than the Circle Tour badges) bronze with an apple green background and natural bronze logo. The workmanship on the Circle Tour badges was nice--and they were reasonably priced.

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