



# Gas Gauge

## Ye Olde Car Club

### February 2016 Newsletter

#### The President's Message

Will this weather ever make up it's mind on what it's going to do this winter? I am used to a couple of weeks with clear blue skies strung together, allowing me to drive some of my toys for more than a few hours. I know, and you do too, that the nicer weather and times are just around the corner.

I would say I kinda fell into this group and felt welcome right away. Car Shows is where I met most of you. Our relationships grew at the Assisted Living and Retirement Center events. This will be my 1st year for the Swap Meet and I see that this is a very important event for the club and it's members. There is a lot of pride and joy taken in the fact that it is one of the longest running Swap Meets in Eastern Washington and the Tri-Cities. It is our chief income for the club and for the gifts we give throughout the area. I am told that I will only see some of the members of this club that weekend. At the swap meet, I will no doubt see the group I see each Wednesday morning for breakfast.

I guess my message for this month is: Bear with me. I might step on some toes and forget names and places at times. I mean well and wish nothing but the best for the club and it's members. Help me get it right and I promise you a great year. Let's put some of our differences aside and work together to make the swap meet the biggest and Baddest yet. (we might even have some fun while we are at it!)

On a lighter note, "Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was a kid I had to walk nine feet through shag carpet to change the channel on the TV." That thought was from Dennis Mc Gillis. I'll add one note to ponder on. How many of you, when asked to change that channel, hoped you didn't build up too much static electricity that when you got near the TV screen the "lighting bolt" didn't knock you to the ground! I did it at my shop last week with a micro fiber towel and glass cleaner after buffing on a car. OUCH, blue light special...

Rick Ball, Car Guy

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#### BITS & PIECES

**\*\*\*NOTE: Ye Olde Car Club has a new mailing address.**

Ye Olde Car Club  
PO Box 2023  
Richland, WA 99352

\*\*\*Dues are due no later than March 1, 2016. Still a bargain at \$15. Avoid the rush, pay early, and receive a nice YOCC embroidered patch. Dues may be mailed to: YOCC, PO Box 6873, Kennewick, WA 99336-0601.

\*\*\***DID YOU KNOW:** a Blue Whales heart is so big, a small child can swim through the veins.

\*\*\***You can become a tree when you die.** There is a biodegradable urn that contains a tree seed and absorbs the nutrients in your ashes.

from Urnabios.com

*I think this is a great idea! Your family could plant you in their yard and watch you grow. FM*

\*\*\*Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

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## EVENTS

**Thursday, March 10** - Ladies Luncheon, Olive Garden, 1:00 pm, 1420 N. Louisiana Ave, Kennewick (behind Columbia Center Mall) Hostess: Frances McGillis. 545-4077

**Saturday, March 19** - Sunnyside High School 12th Annual Show-N-Shine. Gates open at 9am. This is a new location.

**Saturday, March 19** - Heppner St. Paddy's Day Cruise, Heppner, Oregon

**Saturday, March 19** - Heppner St. Paddy's Cruzin'

**Saturday, April 16** - Car Show at Liberty Christian School, 9:00 - 3:00. 2200 Williams Blvd., Richland

**Saturday, April 30** - Benton City Spring Opener

**Saturday, May 7** - **Ye Olde Car Club Swap Meet** at the Benton Franklin Fair Grounds.

**Friday & Saturday, May 13-14** - Classy Chassis Show & Shine.

### Retirement visits:

**Thursday, March 17** - Life Care Center, Kennewick Time TBD

**Saturday, April 23** - Chenoweth House, 1108 W. 5th Ave, Kennewick, 4:00 - 6:30 (social)

**Wednesday, May 11** - Park View Estates, 7820 W. Sixth Avenue, Kennewick, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Tuesday, May 17** - Fleur de'Lis, 3203 S. Fisher Ct., Kennewick, 2:00 - 4:00 (social)

**Thursday, May 19** - Canyon Lakes Manor, 2802 W. 35th Ave, Kennewick, 4:00 - 6:00 (dinner)

**Friday, May 20** - Brookdale Torbett, 221 Torbett St, Richland. 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Tuesday, May 24** - Regency Sun Terrace, 1550 NW 11th Street, Hermiston, OR, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, May 27** - Guardian Angels, 245 Van Giesen St, Kennewick, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, June 3** - Charbonneau Retirement, 8264 W. Grandridge Blvd., Richland, 11:00 - 1:00 (lunch)

**Thursday, June 9** - Affinity at Southridge, 5207 W. Hildebrand Blvd., Kennewick, 11:00 - 2:00 (lunch)

**Friday, June 10** - Royal Columbian Retirement, 5615 W. Umatilla Ave., Kennewick, 2:00 - 4:00 (social)

**Ladies Luncheons:**

**March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10**

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**Louis-Joseph "Louis" Chevrolet** was born on December 25, 1878 in LaChaux-de-Fonds, Canton of Neuchatel, a center of watchmaking in northwestern Switzerland and was a race car driver. He was a co-founder of the Chevrolet Motor Car Company in 1911, and a founder in 1916 of the Frontenac Motor Corporation, which made racing parts for Ford's Model T. In 1886, Chevrolet's family left Switzerland to live in Beaune, in the Côte-d'Or *département* of France. There, as a young man, Louis developed his mechanical skills and interest in bicycle racing. Chevrolet worked for the Roblin mechanics shop from 1895 to 1899. He then went to Paris, where he worked for a short time before emigrating to Montreal, Quebec, Canada in 1900 to work as a mechanic. The following year, he moved to New York City, where he worked briefly for a fellow Swiss immigrant's engineering company, then moved to the Brooklyn operations of the French car manufacturer de Dion-Bouton. In 1905 he was hired by FIAT as a racing car driver and a year later became employed by a Philadelphia company developing a revolutionary front-wheel-drive racing car. His racing career continued as he drove for Buick, becoming a friend and associate of Buick owner William C. Durant, founder of General Motors. On November 3, 1911, Chevrolet co-founded the Chevrolet Motor Car Company with Durant and investment partners William Little (maker of the Little automobile) and Dr. Edwin R. Campbell, son-in-law of Durant and friend of Samuel McLaughlin of the McLaughlin Car Company of Canada Ltd. The company was established in Detroit. One story tells the choosing of the company's logo as a modified Swiss cross, to honor Chevrolet's homeland. Another story tells of the Chevrolet logo as a design taken from the wallpaper of a Paris hotel room that Louis once stayed in.

Wikipedia

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**Top 10 Reasons to Wear Your Name Tag**

With apologies to David Letterman, here are the top 10 reasons you should wear your 2016 nametag.

- 10. You might be forgetful...and forget your own name.
- 9. You might run into someone from your hometown.
- 8. You might make friends with someone who shares your name!
- 7. The hotel security won't kick you out of the hotel.
- 6. The vendors will be happy to see you at the swap meet.
- 5. You can get into all the seminars.
- 4. It will be easier to locate the Studebaker owner you've always wanted to meet!
- 3. When you run into that great guy you met last year, you won't have to embarrass yourself by asking his name again.
- 2. Your name tag pouch will double as a handy event ticket-holder.
- 1. No one will suspect your secret identity as a CIA operative.

By Jane Ash and Erin Ash Sullivan, Turning Wheels Magazine, January 2016

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**A Beautiful 1938 Chevrolet 2-Door Sedan**

About eight years ago, my wife and I were looking to get a classic car of some sort. We were going through a classic car listing on vehicles in the northwest and happened to see a 1938 Chevy 2-Door Sedan that looked neat. The car was in Eugene, OR and by luck we were going to a seminar there shortly. Made contact with the owner and he said he would expect us after we were done with the seminar. We saw the car and fell in love with it. He couldn't get it started but said he would get it to a shop. We told him to keep us informed. It turned out to be no big fix and we told him we'd buy it.

We told him we were going to be in Portland to see our son and he said he would meet us there. We were on our way down and the cell phone rang. Barb said to pull over. It seems that as they were leaving town, stopped at a light and the car behind failed to stop on time and hit the back of the '38. The owner said we could back out of the deal but we said go ahead and get it fixed. He wasn't going to use plastic or bondo or fill with metal, but wound up getting a good trunk lid from back east. When it was done he told me he would pay to ship it to us along with a new CD player for our trouble.

When we received it, we put in a new alternator, new regulator, rubber on the running boards, new carburetor, and touched up paint in the engine compartment. It is sea foam green. The car is pretty stock on the outside with a modern drive train, 1967 Corvette 427 with automatic, heat & air, disc brakes on the front and Mustang 11 front end.

The car was built in 1995. We have toured with the car to Oregon, BC, Idaho, Montana and, of course, Washington.



Dave Donaldson

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## Dillerisms

Phyllis Diller - One of our departed and dearly missed fonts of wisdom:

Whatever you may look like, marry a man your own age. As your beauty fades, so will his eyesight.

Housework can't kill you, but why take a chance?

Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing up is like shoveling the sidewalk before it stops snowing.

The reason women don't play football is because 11 of them would never wear the same outfit in public.

Best way to get rid of kitchen odors: Eat out.

A bachelor is a guy who never made the same mistake once.

The only time I ever enjoyed ironing was the day I accidentally got gin in the steam iron. (Why didn't I think of this yesterday!)

His finest hour lasted a minute and a half.

Old age is when the liver spots show through your gloves.

You know you're old if they have discontinued your blood type.

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## **How older drivers and their families decide it is time to stop driving.**

According to AARP, here are 10 signs it's time to limit or stop driving:

- Almost crashing, with frequent close calls.
- Finding dents or scrapes on the car, or fences, mailboxes and garage doors at home.
- Getting lost, especially in familiar locations.
- Having trouble with traffic signals, road signs and pavement markings.
- Responding slowly to situations, having trouble moving foot from gas to brake pedals, confusing the two.
- Misjudging gaps in traffic at intersections and on highway entrance and exit ramps.
- Experiencing road rage or causing other drivers to honk or complain.
- Easily becoming distracted or having difficulty concentrating while driving.
- Having a hard time turning around to check the rear view while backing up or changing lanes.
- Receiving multiple traffic tickets or warnings from law enforcement officers.

[www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/01/20/when-should-elderly-people-stop-driving/4659103/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/01/20/when-should-elderly-people-stop-driving/4659103/)

Signs It is Time to Give Up the Car Keys:

Doctors can help older drivers decide to hand over the keys. I called my mom's doctor and asked him to write something that looked like a medical order taking my mom's driver's license away. The doctor was happy to do it. He receives requests like this quite a bit, especially from that older age group that will never question a doctor's order.

[www.sunlightcare.com/signs-it-is-time-to-take-away-the-car-keys.html](http://www.sunlightcare.com/signs-it-is-time-to-take-away-the-car-keys.html)

When to Stop Driving:

It's important not to urge a family member to stop driving until you're convinced he's dangerous behind the wheel. Experts agree that age alone is not a predictor for poor driving skills.

[www.caring.com/articles/when-to-stop-driving](http://www.caring.com/articles/when-to-stop-driving)

Should You Be Worried About Your Parent Driving? What seniors can do.

[www.agingcare.com/Articles/worried-about-elderly-parent-driving-133862.htm](http://www.agingcare.com/Articles/worried-about-elderly-parent-driving-133862.htm)

The Car Key Conversation about the elderly and driving, compliments of my mother:

At retirement communities — and she lived in several — men are in a tiny minority, as we all know, and thus in great demand. Still, there is a hierarchy. The equivalent of the most popular boys in high school, my mother said, are the men who can still drive. But the Prom King is the one who can still drive at night.

Jane Cross

[http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/07/03/the-car-key-conversation/?\\_r=0](http://newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/07/03/the-car-key-conversation/?_r=0)

How To Know When Your Parents Should Stop Driving.

- Frequent "close" calls
- Getting lost - especially in familiar locations
- Confusing gas and brake pedals - slow responses from one to the other
- Finding dents, scratches on car, posts mail boxes, garage door, etc.

- Having trouble seeing road signs, traffic signals, pavement markings
  - Getting angry, experiencing road rage, cursing, getting honked at often
  - Misjudging highway exit/entrance ramps
  - Receiving tickets or warnings
  - Difficulty in concentration/confusion
  - Having a difficult time changing lanes, backing up, checking rear view mirror
- [www.kcet.org/shows/yourturntocare/talk/is-it-time-to-take-the-car-keys-away.html](http://www.kcet.org/shows/yourturntocare/talk/is-it-time-to-take-the-car-keys-away.html)

**Dr. Oz: How to take the car keys from an elderly parent:**

Most seniors know when it's time to stop driving.

<http://health.heraldtribune.com/2012/05/15/dr-oz-how-to-take-the-car-keys-away-from-an-elderly-parent>

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**Great 8 Elegance**

Hudson, it seemed, was destined for success right from its 1909 inception. With ample backing by department store magnate Joseph Hudson, the creative minds behind the initial 1910 Model 20's visual design, mechanical engineering and advertising prowess were Roy Chapin, Howard Coffin, George Dunham, and Roscoe Jackson, all of whom were former employees of widely heralded Oldsmobile.

Based in Detroit, Hudson offered two Roadsters and a single Touring body style, each on a 100-inch wheelbase chassis motivated by a spritely 20hp, 198.8-cu.in. four-cylinder engine. Bolstered by headlines hyping a fastest-lap record at the 10-lap Massapequa Cup race (the October 1909 preliminary to the Vanderbilt Cup), and a victory in a 24-hour contest held in Seattle, WA - bolstering performance and durability assets - first year production surpassed 8,000 units.

It was quite an auspicious start for the fledgling automaker, which continued to improve its car line in the years that followed. By 1929, Hudson, as a company, supported by the broadly triumphant Essex companion make, was a force to be reckoned with, sitting third in the industry with a combined output of nearly 299,000 vehicles. Specific to Hudson, both the entry-level Model R and the upscale Model L were referred to as the "Greater Hudsons" in sales literature, each powered by a venerable 92hp F-head straight-six engine, complimented by outstanding styling and cabin appointments.

Changes were already in place for the new series of Hudsons when the stock market suffered its spic collapse, beginning with a new advertising slogan: "There is a new type in motordom! Hudson's Great 8." It was a direct reference to the unveiling of an in-house designed 213.8-Cu.in. L-head straight-eight engine. Rated for 80hp at 3,600 RPM, it was the corporation's first venture into the eight-cylinder market, and it was available in both the Model T and Model U (which replaced the previous Model R and L, respectively). To be fair, the engine was a "stretched" version of the 1929 Essex Super Six. Obviously more powerful than the Hudson Super Six of 1929, it was also lighter.

Fitted to the new chassis were revised bodies that, at first blush, were similar in appearance to those from the previous year. Look close and it's easy to spot the altered beltline molding, hood-featuring five doors rather than louvers-and radiator shell. Likewise, the fenders were widened to match the exterior proportions. Even with its optional dual side-mounted spare wheels and trunk. The Model T Coupe tipped the scales at 3,060 pounds, making the two/four-passenger car one of the sportier models of Hudson's 1030 model-year lineup. In spite of the improvements, the Depression depleted sales throughout Detroit; Hudson managed to build just 36,674 cars collectively.

From Hemmings Classic Car Magazine, January 2016 by Matthew Litwin



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## 8 Industrial Uses for Coke

(Several of these are useful for old cars.)

### 8. Removes Rust

Wow, it's great to think that a nice glass of cold coke can also remove the rust on your bumper. Thanks to having a pH level of 07, Coke has a high acidity rating that can strip rust off of practically anything and can even make chrome look good as new. Drink up!

### 7. Cleans Up Oil Spills

There's nothing worse than having an oil stain on your drive way, but have no fear! Now you can clean it up easily by pouring some coke on it. Yes, you read that right, you can actually dilute and clean up oil with this classic soda. That might make you think twice of taking a swig of this sugary arsenic.

### 6. Cleans Oven

Why waste money on expensive oven cleaners? All you need is a bottle of coke and a spray bottle and you're good to go. The pH levels in coke makes the liquid and amazing substance for cutting grease and the carbonation helps remove tough build-up through the process of oxidation.

### 5. Removes Tarnish

If you've got some old silverware or candlesticks that have become tarnished over the years, all you need to do is soak them in a bucket of coke. Yep, you read that right! Coke has the ability to remove that nasty tarnish that makes your valuables look like they've come from a sunken ship. And you drink this stuff, yummo!

### 4. Cleanses Toilet Bowl

We're not sure you would drink toilet bowl cleaner, so we have to ask you to think twice about coke. Instead of that blue block you throw in your toilet bowl, letting a can of coke soak in your toilet overnight is an easy way to clear it of those unsightly stains that make your guests uncomfortable.

### 3. Strips Paint Off Metal

If you have metal lawn furniture or an older gate that needs repainting, you can easily strip the old paint off by soaking it in coke. Thanks to the acidity levels and the carbonation, the coke will separate the paint from the metal, making it easier to remove and repaint.

### 2. Removes Debris from Car Engines

This trick is used by many experts in the automotive industry and we have to admit we shuddered at the thought of drinking a liquid that can strip oil and engine build-up out of a motor. Many professionals use this technique because it's cheap and the acidity of the coke works better than most professional cleaners.

### 1. Dissolves Nails and Pennies

So here is an interesting fact—if you leave pennies or nails in a jar of coke for more than three days they will dissolve. Yup, completely disintegrate. So, that poses the question if it can dissolve metal, what is it exactly doing to our insides? Hmm?

From <http://goo.gl/2ZdDY8>  
(discoveredly.com)

Thanks to Dennis McGillis for this contribution.

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### Watch out for Scammers

There are many "scammers" lurking on the internet, ready to try to take your money. A classified ad had been placed in a magazine and also appeared on the magazine's website. That is where the scammers obtain an advertiser's email address. The scammer sent an email that was obviously no legitimate as it contained very poor grammar, and explained that he was ready to send a cashier's check for more than the asking price, so that the advertiser can deposit it, and then send a check to the "shipper" for shipping charges. Of course, the original cashier's check will be counterfeit, and any money the advertiser sends will be gone. This particular scam has been around for a while and is easy to spot, mostly because of the poor use of English. However, there are others who can sound much more "believable", so it is good to be very cautious when receiving emails from strangers interested in buying your item for sale. Anyone who is legitimate will not be offended by being asked questions as to where they saw the ad, and their interest in your item, etc. And a legitimate buyer will no ask the seller to send cash anywhere.

Turning Wheels, January 2016

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## *Women's Corner*

Weren't they great words and times?

The other day a not so elderly (65) lady said something to her son about driving a Jalopy and he looked at her quizzically and asked, "What the heck is a Jalopy?" OMG (new phrase!) he never heard the word jalopy! So they went to the computer and pulled up a picture from the movie "The Grapes of Wrath." Now that was a Jalopy! She knew she was old but not that old.

I hope you are Hunky dory after you read this and chuckle...About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included "Don't touch that dial," "Carbon copy," "You sound like a broken record" and "Hung out to dry." A bevy of readers have asked me to shine light on more faded words and expressions, and I am happy to oblige: Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba! We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking and petting and smooching and spooning and billing and cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and jalopies in some passion pit or lovers lane. Heavens to Betsy! Gee whillikers! Jumping Jehoshaphat! Holy moley! We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China! Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers. Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore.

Like Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and Kurt Vonnegut's Billy Pilgrim, we have become unstuck in time. We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say, I'll be a monkey's uncle! or This is a fine kettle of fish! we discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens

and our keyboards. Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone, evanesced from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinders monkey.

Where have all those phrases gone? Long time passing. Where have all those phrases gone? Long time ago: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Think about the starving Armenians. Bigger than a bread box. Banned in Boston. The very idea! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Turn-of-the-century. Iron curtain. Domino theory. Fail safe. Civil defense. Fiddlesticks! You look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Cooties. Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd! And awa-a-ay we go! Oh, my stars and garters!

It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river. We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age. We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory. It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. We can have archaic and eat it, too. A history lesson that some grandchildren might enjoy. See ya later, alligator!

Author unknown, but thanks to Dennis McGillis for this contribution.

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries in February



### Birthdays

Dave Bergum  
Grace Jackson  
Mary Sams  
Sharon Scioli  
Steven Wood

February 15  
February 19  
February 6  
February 29  
February 3

Mike Gress  
Judy Oeder  
Roy Scioli  
Jim Vetrano  
Robin Woodford

February 9  
February 1  
February 27  
February 14  
February 15



## Anniversaries

David & Judith Becker February 13  
David & Susan Gerkenmeyer February 13  
Jim & Ginger Vetrano February 14

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