



# Gas Gauge Ye Olde Car Club July 2019 Newsletter

## The President's Message

Summer is officially here and with it hotter temperatures and more sunny days. It got me thinking of when I was younger and how much time I spent outdoors swimming, fishing, water skiing, etc. and working on the great looking tan to impress the young ladies.

These days I reflect on all that as I sit in the doctors office to have something else removed and sent off to see if I have anything to worry about due to sun exposure. Back in the day there was not as much evidence as to the damage of long term UV exposure. These days however we should be more aware of protection when we are outdoors. Wear hats, long sleeves when possible, stay in the shade, use a good UV protective sunscreen and don't lie naked on the beach!

Knowing what I do now I try to avoid the mid day sun when I can and do outside chores in the mornings and late afternoons. So far I have had good luck with nothing serious to worry about. I have tried to advise my grandkids to avoid a lot of sun exposure but as they live in the Seattle area they're naturally protected a good deal of the time. These days at my age I am not concerned with impressing anyone especially with a great tan but back in the day I looked pretty darn good!

John Hopkins, president YOCC

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## Bits and Pieces

\*\*\*My mind works like lightning. One brilliant flash and it's gone.

\*\*\*I'm only responsible for what I say, not for what you understand.

\*\*\*I don't have gray hair; I have "wisdom highlights"! I'm just very wise.

\*\*\*Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?

\*\*\*Turning vegan would be a big missed steak.

\*\*\*A smile is a curve that sets everything straight. From Mort Walker's Beetle Bailey

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## The Remarkable Body

Your nose can remember 50,000 different scents.

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### Where in the world.

The Country with the Largest Proven Oil Reserves is Venezuela. The South American country has a proven oil reserve of 298,350 millions of barrels (or, to change that from an industry term to a more common measurement, 298.35 billion barrels) Venezuela makes up approximately 25 percent of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) total oil reserve and approximately 18 percent of the world's total oil reserves.

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### Actual Label Instructions

"Remove plastic before eating." On the wrapper of a Fruit Roll-Up snack.

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### Fun Food Facts

Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a light taste of garlic and at the end of the recipe if you want a stronger taste of garlic.

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## EVENTS

### Ladies Luncheons:

July Ladies Lunch: 8 Ladies attended lunch. Great conversations.

**August Ladies Lunch** will be at Round Table Pizza, 3300 W. Clearwater Ave., Kennewick. Just west of Hwy 395. This is a no host luncheon.

### Car shows:

Wheelin' Walla Walla Weekend. September 6 & 7. Celebrity guest Dennis Gage of 'My Classic Car'  
<https://www.downtownwallawalla.com/wheelin-walla-walla>

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Corvair Story

First a compact history: Chief engineer Ed Cole aimed the Corvair (combining Corvette and Bel Air) at the Beetle in 1956. During development, the sedan was camouflaged as a 15-foot, six-passenger Australian Holden, with a rear-mounted, 140-cubic-inch, air-cooled flat-six-cylinder engine, and GM's first fully independent suspension.

Corvair production began on July 7, 1959 and it was *Motor Trend's* 1960 Car Of The Year. Initial models were 500 and 700 4-door sedans, followed by a Monza coupe in April 1960, a four-speed option for 1961, and turbocharging in 1962. Target price was \$2,000, but heater, radio and a Powerglide transmission

added up to \$2258 plus shipping—only \$341 less than a full-size Impala coupe. Claimed mileage was 26 mph highway, but a gas-powered heater reduced that, and a forced air heater was offered in 1961.

A Corvan, Greenbrier passenger van, Lakewood station wagon and Rampside pickup arrived in 1961; convertible and Spyder packages in April 1962. Turbocharging bumped horsepower to 150 and opened up a sporty market in 1962, but the April 1964 Mustang launch rendered that short-lived. Even a 1965 Corvette-influenced redesign with improved rear suspension couldn't halt the pony cars, and sales dwindled until the final year of 1969.

From [www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com)

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### A visit to see the Great Race at the WAAAM Museum, June 28



**Beth & Sal Saenz, Jim Anderson, Frances McGillis, Jimmy McQuown, Dennis McGillis**



**Mary Fraser with Fred's "Grapes of Wrath Truck"**



**Jay Thomas, Sue & Larry Campbell**

The weather couldn't have been nicer for the cruise to Hood River to see entrants of the Great Race complete their sixth stop. There were 9 YOCC members and one guest: Larry & Sue Campbell, Mary Fraser, Dennis & Frances McGillis, Jimmy McQuown, Sal & Beth Saenz and their friend Jim Anderson and Jay Thomas. The WAAAM Museum was terrific. Great displays of aircraft and cars. The all volunteer staff was knowledgeable, helpful and courteous. This place is worth a visit for any fan of old cars and airplanes.

The 120 Great Race entrants came from Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont and Washington, plus from other countries including Australia, Alberta Canada, Ontario Canada and Japan.

A beautiful 1909 Buick was the oldest entry. One entrant began the race as a 1920s Cadillac but when the old Cad shed a connecting rod on Thursday, the crew bought a 1970s Mercedes diesel 4-door, surgically removed the top, and carried on.

Dennis and I had dinner at 3 Rivers Café which is much more than a café. The food was delicious, the wait staff very pleasant and the view of sailboards on the river was wonderful. We would definitely go again to a Great Race and to 3 Rivers Café.

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### **More about the Great Race in a 1936 Ford**



Jim and Louise Feeney and their 1936 Ford Police Car. This car is a driver! How did Jim and Louise get from their home in Endicott New York to the start of the 2019 Great Race in Riverside California? They drove this car! And how did they get home after the race is over in Tacoma Washington? Same way they got to Riverside for the start of this race, they will drive this car. And...that is how they got to and from all of the previous Great Races.

I first met Jim and Louise about twenty years ago as they were driving back to New York from a car race in Texas. Their generator quit charging someplace in Oklahoma. They called my store and wanted to know...."you are that guy who builds those alternators for the Great Race, do you have the parts on hand to convert our 36 Ford from generator to alternator?"

Yes indeed! "Well we are someplace down here in Oklahoma and our generator quit so we will buy another battery and head your direction and see you later this afternoon. About 2:00pm they showed up tired and thirsty. I said I would work on their car and gave them my truck to go eat lunch and cool off. By the time they got back I had the alternator on and wired and was just about to test things out. I told Jim to get into his car and hit the starter the amp needle immediately went to charge and stayed there. There was a big smile on Jim's face.

All of this was more fun because I live in a small town of 4500 people. I installed the alternator in front of the store which drew a crowd of the locals who wanted to know what an old Ford police car was doing in town... and more important what was I doing to it, and finally where were the people at that drove it here?

The local newspaper even wandered down the street to take a picture of the action and get the straight scoop. The rumors were flying by the time the next edition hit the street..."they are filming a movie here, Fifth Avenue bought the car for advertising, its being used to film a commercial locally", to it belonged to the Kansas Highway Patrol and they were giving a talk to the local grade school class. The local paper set the record straight and even interviewed Jim and Louise. The rumor mill was much more exciting. Jim and Louise have been a customer every since and I see them often at old car rally events and we still have a laugh over the excitement they caused when they rolled into town that hot summer day.

Jim and Louise finished 3rd in their class and 6th place overall which is a good showing anybody would be proud of. The old Ford proved to be as reliable as ever and will no doubt be back for next year's race. Many people are afraid to drive an old car any distance for fear it might break down but you have to remember when these cars were new people often drove them cross country. With the modern technology we have available today, modern engine oil being a good example (it does a much better job of lubricating than the oil available in the 1930's) cars can be made just as reliable as a modern vehicle as Jim and Louise have clearly proved!

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Watch for these consolidations coming soon:

1. Hale Business Systems, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Fuller Brush, and W. R. Grace Co. will merge and become: Hale, Mary, Fuller, Grace.
2. PolygramRecords, Warner Bros., and ZestaCrackers join forces and become: Poly, Warner Cracker.
3. 3M will merge with Goodyear and become: MMMGood.
4. ZippoManufacturing, AudiMotors, 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 become: Knott NOW!

And finally....

9. Victoria 's Secret and Smith & Wesson will merge under the new name: TittyTittyBangBang

Thanks to my good friend Pat Sawyer.

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## **WOMEN'S CORNER**

### **Ye Gads...The Dreaded Women's Public Restroom**

For you men, you may want to think twice about asking a woman what took them so long in the restroom.

When you have to visit a public bathroom, you usually find a line of women, so you smile politely and take your place. Once it's your turn, you check for feet under the stall doors. Every stall is occupied. Finally, a door opens and you dash in, nearly knocking down the woman leaving the stall. You get in to find the door won't latch. It doesn't matter. The dispenser for the modern "seat covers" (invented by someone's mom, no doubt) is handy, but empty.

You would hang your purse on the door hook, if there were one, but there isn't - - so you carefully, but quickly, drape it around your neck, (Mom would turn over in her grave if you put it on the FLOOR!), yank down your pants, and assume "The Stance." In this position your aging, toneless thigh muscles begin to shake. You'd love to sit down, but you certainly hadn't taken time to wipe the seat or lay toilet paper on it, so you hold "The Stance."

To take your mind off your trembling thighs, you reach for what you discover to be the EMPTY toilet paper dispenser. In your mind, you can hear your mom's voice saying, "Honey, if you had tried to clean the seat, you would have KNOWN there was no toilet paper!" Your thighs shake more. You remember the tiny tissue that you blew your nose on yesterday-the one that's still in your purse. That would have to do. You crumple it in the puffiest way possible. It is still smaller than your thumbnail.

Someone pushes open y our stall door because the latch doesn't work. The door hits your purse, which is hanging around your neck in front of your chest, and you and your purse topple backward against the tank of the toilet. "OCCUPIED!" you scream, as you reach for the door dropping your precious, tiny, crumpled tissue in a puddle on the floor, lose your footing altogether, and slide down directly on the TOILET SEAT. It is wet of course.

You bolt up, knowing all too well that it's too late. Your bare bottom has made contact with every imaginable germ and life form on the uncovered seat because YOU never laid down toilet paper - not that there was any, even if you had taken time to try. You know your mother would be utterly appalled if she knew, because, you're certain, her bare bottom never touched a public toilet seat because, frankly, dear, "You just don't KNOW what kind of diseases you could get."

By this time, the automatic sensor on the back of the toilet is so confused that it flushes, propelling a stream of water like a fire hose that somehow sucks everything down with such force that you grab onto the toilet paper dispenser for fear of being dragged in too. At that point, you give up. You are soaked by the spewing water and the wet toilet seat. You're exhausted. You try to wipe with a gum wrapper you found in your pocket and then slink out inconspicuously to the sinks.

Now, you can't figure out how to operate the faucets with the automatic sensors, so you wipe your hands with spit and a dry paper towel and walk past the line of women still waiting. You are no longer able to smile politely to them. A kind soul at the very end of the line points out a piece of toilet paper trailing from your shoe. (Where was that when you NEEDED it???) You yank the paper from your shoe, plunk it into the woman's hand and tell her warmly, "Here, you just might need this."

As you exit, you spot your hubby, who has long since entered, used and left the men's restroom. Annoyed, he asks, "What took you so long, and why is your purse hanging around your neck?"

This is dedicated to women everywhere who deal with a public restroom (REST??? - You've got to be kidding!!). It finally explains to the men what really does take us so long. It also answers their other commonly asked question about why women go to the restroom in pairs. It's so the other gal can hold the door, hang onto your purse and hand you Kleenex under the door.

Thanks to my friend Patty Neal for this hilarious look at a woman's public restroom experience.

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**"Have I Told You Lately That I Love You"** is most likely remembered as a song that Elvis Presley made famous. However, the first released version of this song was by Gene Autry in 1945. Just a bit of trivia!

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## Birthdays and Anniversaries in July



### Birthdays

Grace Andringa	July 24	Shari Ginther	July 25
Dick Johanson	July 22	Don Mannion	July 6
Jimmy McQuown	July 30	Beth Saenz	July 2
Tom Smith	July 21	John Trumbo	July 5



## Anniversaries

Don & Debby Buckles  
Roger & Sharon Gress  
Sal & Beth Saenz

July 1  
July 6  
July 7

Randy & Linda Garner  
Robb & Molly King

July 7  
July 10

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