

# THE TAPPET CLATTER

THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

April 2020

Volume 53, Number 4

## Pandemic 2020

By Dave Haddock

We will all remember this year, 2020. This is/was the year that the World was turned upside down by the Coronaviris/COVID 19 Pandemic that visited from Wuhan, China. We are all quarantined at home worried about catching this insidious virus that is easily transmissible, may show no symptoms in some people who can continue to infect anyone around them, and has a very high mortality rate for the Old Car Club crowd. Schools are cancelled for the rest of the school year; churches are holding online services; public gatherings are prohibited, and many non-essential businesses have been closed. As of this writing, the State of Washington has lost nearly 500 souls to this virus; the United States has lost about 18,000, and the World has lost over 100,000. Predictions of the ultimate number of deaths in the US range from 40,000 to something over 100,000. The World may lose half a million. This seems so surreal.

There are many questions. When will this end? Can we develop an effective vaccine or treatment before too many lives are lost? Will we ever get back to our “normal” routine? There are few answers.

What do we do?? Well, we stay at home as much as we can and we ride this thing out. We “social distance” when we are away from home to avoid contact with someone who may be a carrier. We wash our hands frequently and do not touch our faces. We disinfect our homes and everything that comes into our homes that could be carrying “live” virus cells in miniscule droplets. Yes, studies show these cells can survive hours on paper and cardboard and days on plastic and metal surfaces. So that means you leave packages, including groceries, outside for several hours if paper, or several days if plastic, or disinfect them before bringing them inside. We should wash our hands and surfaces after handling.

We wear facemasks when we leave our homes. We watch Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Hulu for our entertainment. We watch the news with hopes that we will see the end of the pandemic is near.

We don't do what we have grown accustomed to as “normal” We don't eat out at restaurants. We don't go to the movies. We don't have coffee or drinks with friends. We don't go to Easter Services at our church. We don't have Sunday dinner or even Easter dinner with our extended family and friends. We don't go to the hospital to visit ailing family or friends.

We don't have Car Club meetings and tours for the foreseeable future!

However, this too will end. Things will eventually get back to normal. Most all of us will live through it. But it won't end soon enough for me.

But for now my friends, stay at home, stay safe, and stay well!!!



## 1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2020



*The Puget Sound Region of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (PS-VCCA) is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, fun and enjoyment of vintage Chevrolet cars and trucks. Members are not required to own a Chevrolet. Regional membership is open to all Chevrolet enthusiasts who are members of the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America (VCCA). All Chevrolets from 1912 through 1993 may be registered with the Region.*

*General meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the month, except the 3rd Monday in May. No meetings are held in January and December. Meetings are currently lunch meetings held at 11:45 am at the XXX Drive-In, 98 NE Gilman Blvd, Issaquah, WA. You can learn more about the club by visiting the website where you can see color photos of previous tours, parts for sale, wanted, etc., and there is a link to view our monthly newsletter, "The Tappet Clatter."*

You can find the PS-VCCA website here on the *World Wide Web*

**Press this button**

### 2020 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

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### Publication Information

The deadline for receiving articles for the Tappet Clatter is normally by the **5th** of the month. The Editor reserves the right to edit material in any way as appropriate for wording, clarity, grammar, punctuation and available space. We can accept most electronic formats and hardcopy.

Email copy to [tappetclatter@outlook.com](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com)

**RIOT AT**



# Director's Message

## "Jim's Junk Yard"



### Director's Message April 2020

When I was a young driver, I became suddenly popular. I had a car, a very reliable 1947 Chevrolet sedan AKA my '47 Corvette. It was the vehicle that got me and some of my classmates from Raymond to Aberdeen where Grays Harbor College was located every weekday. The trip was about 20 miles one way. We frequently had to stay later than other Raymondites, being we were "starring" in evening play performances. The road we traveled, known as the Aberdeen Highway, was not heavily traveled after dark. The road had its daytime hazards and risks, logging trucks, slides, and deer on the road. There were a few curves that required slowing to navigate. At night this drive could be considered treacherous. There were also a few straight stretches. The '47 was no candidate for setting a speed limit record; however, I was able to manage an economy run, using less than a gallon of gas, by shutting off the engine and coasting the downhill stretches.

Recent health news related to the Covid-19 virus reminds me of one stunt (a stupid stunt I've been told) I pulled occasionally. I was inspired to turn off the headlights on a full moonlit night. It was amazing how well I could see to drive with minimal illumination. I could only drive a short distance before the panicked screams of the passengers in the back seat were too much, though. I was confident I could turn the lights on as we approached the winding portions of the road. I could see a safe route ahead, at least for a short distance. If the moon was covered with a cloud or trees shaded the roadway, admittedly, I lost my feeling of control once I could no longer see what was ahead. I pulled the light switch and 6.5 volts powered a vision clarity on low beam of the road ahead. All was normal; everyone could see clearly. Quiet serenity was restored.

I think our road ahead for Club activities is like driving in the dark. We have no full moon to show the way through the virus. When can we turn on the lights and see how far is it to the next turn? While our trip is important, we have to ask the hard question, is it "absolutely necessary"? While our investment in our cars and our tours is important to us, the world will go on without our cars on tour. People go to tours for the same reason they go to family reunions. It's the people and cherished relationships we want to maintain. Our cars will survive this Covid-19 virus outbreak. The way to ensure our members will be able to attend future tours is to shelter in place now. It is time to listen to those passengers screaming from the back seat, turn on the lights, and let us see where we are going. I am sure we will ride together again into the light.



Jim Seiber, Director

### Web Links Of Interest

Colombia River Region, VCCA: <http://www.vccacolumbiariverregion.org/>  
Mt. Rainier Region, VCCA: None  
North Cascade Region, VCCA: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/northcascadevcca>  
Puget Sound Region, VCCA: <https://psrvcca.weebly.com/>  
Willamette Valley Region, VCCA: <http://www.wvrcca.org/>



**DRUG STORE**



## Chevys in Central America and Mexico

By Dave Haddock

As many of you know, Diane and I went on a cruise in late January and early February through the Panama Canal. On Holland America's MS Rotterdam we departed Florida on January 21st and arrived in San Diego on February 8th. Yes, this is the same ship that a couple of weeks later had to sail to the aid of another Holland America ship, MS Zaandam, with many Coronavirus cases and four fatalities aboard. Good thing we sailed when we did.

I had a little fun while at our Ports of Call photographing Chevrolets and was surprised at how prevalent they are in Central American and Mexican cities and towns. I am including some of the pictures from my collection. Sorry, this is not Cuba, no classics!! Just good, reliable transportation for good people! Enjoy!!

(Continued on p. 5)



### April Meeting??

**Late Breaking News**– CANCELLED This has been a year of uncertainties; I would like to think we could meet April 27th at XXX in Issaquah. Many decisions beyond our control will determine, are restaurants permitted to open? Are we going to be safe to gather in a group? Can we meet for a short tour? Best I can say at this time; stay tuned as the date approaches. Each member will need to decide their own their personal risk factors, given the situation at that time. This might be a good time to keep the car road worthy. Share your restoration activity with others. Write up a description of what you are doing and send your story to the Tappet Clatter. Jim Seiber

**CALLING ALL CARS**

**Chevys in Central America and Mexico (Continued from p. 4)**



(Continued on p. 8)

**100 CUSTOMERS**



## Bill Damm's SAFETY DITTY

In spite of the virus  
We still can have some fun.  
Taking the old classic  
Out for a run.

We can't make any stops  
From where we departed.  
We have to return back  
To where we had started.

It's like doing exercise  
With an old car,  
We have to get out  
That's just how we are.

Staying safe from corona  
While driving down the lane.  
We'll be right back;  
No one should complain.

Honk at other classics  
Driving their cart!  
Just try not to tail-gate;  
Stay six feet apart

Well, that's how I see it.  
I hope it's OK.  
Got to do something  
To enjoy a nice day.

Let's get out our ride.  
Make sure it's dusted  
And if we pass a cop  
We shouldn't get busted!

## Returning Member

*A welcome message from Membership Chair Donna Onat.*

Join me in welcoming returning/new members Duane and Edith Rice who live in Renton with their spiffy '64 Corvette Roadster and '37 Town Sedan. Duane was at our last meeting and enjoyed seeing many old friends again as he was a long-time Puget Sound member and is a continuing National member. He attends lots of swap meets. He and Edith just returned from an event in Salem. You can reach them at emrice64@hotmail.com

We are happy to have Duane and Edith back as members of our Region.

**AND JUST LIKE THAT:  
HAVING A MASK,  
RUBBER GLOVES,  
DUCT TAPE,  
PLASTIC SHEETING  
AND ROPE IN YOUR  
TRUNK IS OKAY.**

### NEW LOW COST VCCA MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

At reduced dues for 'electronic memberships,' our Canadian and other International Members have had the option of exclusively accessing their G&D electronically as a flipbook in the 'Members Only' section of our website (vcca.org), instead of receiving the paper version of the G&D. We are pleased to announce that now any VCCA member may choose this membership option upon joining or renewal, at an annual dues rate of only \$25. E-members enjoy all the privileges of VCCA membership, and receive email notification when the G&D flipbook is posted each month. If e-members read an issue online and want a hard copy, individual paper issues of the G&D may still be ordered for up to one year after publication for \$5 postpaid from Member Services. Members may change their membership category upon renewal.

## May Celebrations

### ANNIVERSARIES

Sheri and Dan Johnson 16

### BIRTHDAYS

Jim Farris 2  
Resa Gabelein 5  
Bob Helgeson 23  
Dot Ziegler 24  
Mary Brownell 29

## From the Glove Box



**From the Glove Box** is devoted to sharing technical information, technical problems and solutions to problems related to the restoration and preservation of vintage Chevrolets. Please share your knowledge, experiences and recommendations with your fellow members.

All of us are the Glove Box Coordinators this year. Share your information, experience, and tips with others by emailing the editor at [tappetclatter@outlook.com](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com).

### GET A HOLD OF YOUR GREASE FITTINGS

Here is a great idea for a Father's Day gift. If you have ever greased a bunch of zerk fittings, you know that there are always a few of them that are in hard-to-reach places. And it's difficult to hold the grease cable onto the zerk fitting AND pump the grease gun at the same time. Well, our buddy, Bob Helgeson has a solution. He recently purchased a neat coupler that solves that problem. It allows you to lock your grease gun onto the fitting and then let go of it. Now you can use both hands to pump the gun. It's a tad expensive, but it'll save you from wiping up grease off the floor when you try to do a task that requires three hands!! Now available at Harbor Freight for \$29. "Locknlube Grease Gun Coupler" Sign up for the newsletter and get free shipping on your next order.

Bill B



PS. Buy this fitting at Harbor Freight for 25% off on Easter.

Coupon at:

[https://images.harborfreight.com/cpi/emails/text\\_blasts/Apr17\\_Easter/Apr17\\_Easter.html](https://images.harborfreight.com/cpi/emails/text_blasts/Apr17_Easter/Apr17_Easter.html)

**ONLY 99 JARS!**

**Chevys in Central America and Mexico** (Continued from p. 5)



**Burma Shave**



## **Puget Sound Region VCCA Secretary Report – March 2020**

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the March Meeting was cancelled. Director Jim Seiber called to order a virtual board meeting to discuss both the Dave Gowan Memorial Tour that had been planned for May and the 2020 Northwest Meet that was planned for July 2020. The decision was made to cancel the May tour.

It was decided that Don Comstock would look into the timeline for possible cancellation of the NW Meet and the costs of cancelling. Postponement to September was also discussed. Most members of the board felt that September would not work because of traditional activities in Ellensburg that month and concern that attendance would be low. After Don Comstock reported the costs of cancelling the meet, it was determined that it would be best to make a decision soon, to minimize our costs. Jim Seiber sent an email to Puget Sound Region Members. His email included a report from Don Comstock, Meet Chair, which included a detailed discussion of the points that should be considered when making a decision whether to cancel the meet. Don also provided information about the costs of cancellation at various points of the timeline. Members were asked to vote to cancel/not cancel.

Director Jim Seiber summarized:

*Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Board has voted to cancel the NW Meet in Ellensburg July 2020. Twenty members voted to cancel the Meet, largely due to health concerns and the uncertainty created by the Covid-19 virus. We will be exploring options for future tours, after we have a better understanding of the risks involved. Thanks to those of you who participated in this decision-making process. We are appreciative of those who invested hours in planning and preparation. Registration materials and checks will be returned. Remember to cancel your motel reservation.*

While not all members voted, the vote was unanimous to cancel the Meet. As secretary, I recorded votes by household because some households provided two votes and some only one. For consistency, only one vote per household was recorded. Votes to cancel were received from 22 households. Many expressed thanks to those who have spent so much time planning for the meet and hopes that it can be rescheduled for next year in Ellensburg. Comments also included grave concerns for the safety of attendees, sadness that the event cannot be safely held.

Webmaster Ralf Luche has removed the registration form and the prospectus and posted a notice of the cancellation on the website.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Haddock, Secretary



## 2020 ALL Cal Meet - CANCELLED

Due to the current pandemic, the All Cal 2020 Committee voted last night 03/17/2020 to cancel the April 1-5 Meet in Sacramento CA.

We had a large number of cancellations and several of our Tour attractions have shut down. We think it would be wise not to expose our members to any unnecessary health risks.

We are making plans to look into a ALL Cal Meet in the fall with October being the most likely month. Oct is a beautiful time in Northern CA and we have all of the tours already planned and they would be great in the Fall. We would appreciate any feedback you may have and look forward to being able to Host the Meet yet this year.

Anyone who sent in payment for the meet will be receiving a full refund over the next two weeks.

Thank you,

Jim Matus - Area 2 Director  
[nosparts4u@hotmail.com](mailto:nosparts4u@hotmail.com)

### Rolling Tours???

The silent enemy that has us locked in our homes in order to protect ourselves against it has caused most activities to be cancelled. See activities list on the last page. Rod Schein had an idea that may hold some possibilities. We could hold a group mini-tour in your local neighborhood. On this type of tour you don't get out of your car. The tour would be short enough so a restroom stop is not required. The tour would allow us to get out of the house and drive our wonderful old car along with others. Give it some thought.

Al Howe

## TAPPET CLATTER *Classifieds*

Ads will be posted for a minimum of three months (longer on a space-available basis). Please notify the Tappet Clatter Editor at [tappetclatter@outlook.com](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com) when your listing no longer needs to be published.

### FOR SALE

**1930** Parts engine. \$50 takes it away before I take it to the metal recyclers. Contact Bill Damm

**1931** Convertible Cabriolet \$7,000 plus 47 year accumulation of parts and accessories, needs wood kit. Four 1932-33 Chevrolet accessory wire wheels, sandblasted Kelsey Hayes bent spoke \$400, 1925 fenders \$25 to \$75 each. Contact Roger Orness [r.orness@comcast.net](mailto:r.orness@comcast.net).

**1940** Chevrolet Coupe maroon; 1923 CAD Sedan, power steering and overdrive; 1934 PAC Coupe w/ rumble seat; 1936 Ford Business Coupe; 1932 Chevrolet Five Passenger Coupe; 1930 Model A Roadster; 1930 Model A Vicky. All cars restored, repainted, rechromed, and rebuilt engines. Paul Pearman,

**1936** STANDARD five-lug artillery wheels with 17 inch tires. Four for \$100. Dick Olson

**1930** Chev sport roadster. New restoration. **PRICE REDUCED!!** \$18K Dick Olson

**1926** Chevrolet Touring. Excellent condition, new battery, top and side curtains replaced recently. Also a trailer to move the Chevy (Tommy, aluminum, 14' bed dual axle). \$19,000 for the car, \$3,500 for the trailer. Frank Arms, [frank4consult@gmail.com](mailto:frank4consult@gmail.com), Send me an email for pictures.

**1947-55** Chevy Suburban-Pickup-Panel Parts. Assorted parts, large and small. Good variety. Few GMC. Trim- interior/exterior/cab, radios, heaters, lights, stainless, seats, rubber just to name a few examples. Some partials. Email your request to [ednoble@whidbeyisland.com](mailto:ednoble@whidbeyisland.com). Parts are in storage. Ed Nobel.

### WANTED

**February Issue G & D**. Ken Scott would like anyone who is not saving their last issue of the G&D (Feb. issue) to keep it for him. He would like to have some extras. Thanks, Ken

**Rear bumper guards** for a '49 Chevy car, a **front bumper guard cross bar, hood emblem and jet plane** for a '51 Chevy car, all in good driver quality. Don Comstock

**18-inch** wire wheels for a 1932 Chevy. Contact Ken Scott. 2

**One** 4:75 X 19 inch Whitewall tire in good condition. Dick Olson.



## 2020 Activities

April	1-5	All Cal Meet, Sacramento, CA. Wanda Matus, 916-947-6657 <b>CANCELLED</b>
April	4	Sacramento Swap Meet, Sacramento, CA. 916-955-8777 or 916-947-6657 <b>CANCELLED</b>
April	25-26	Overnight Tour & Old Steel Car Show, Union Gap, WA. Ken Scott <b>CANCELLED</b>
April	27	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah <b>CANCELLED</b>
May	3	May Breakfast Tour <b>CANCELLED</b>
May	15-18	Monroe Swap Meet, Monroe, WA. Don Comstock <b>CANCELLED</b>
May	17	Ballard Parade, Seattle, WA. Rod Schein <b>CANCELLED</b>
May	18	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah??
May	30	David Gowan Memorial Tour. Al Howe <b>CANCELLED</b>
June	21-25	4-Cylinder Tour, Minnesota ?????
June	22	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah ??
July	15-18	Northwest Meet, Ellensburg, WA. Don Comstock <b>CANCELLED</b>
July	27	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah??
August	24	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah??
September	13-17	Pacific Early Six Cylinder Tour, Shady Cove (Medford), OR. Gerri Johnson

Note: XXX Drive-In Meetings normally begin at 11:30 AM; social time starts at 11 AM. Food/drink purchase optional. August meeting at 6 pm. Address: 98 Gilman Blvd, Issaquah, Washington.