

THE TAPPET CLATTER

THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

March 2018

Volume 51 Number 3

Member Spotlight

DICK AND FRAN OLSON

I thought I would reflect on forty-three years in the VCCA. With raising three kids and being self-employed in the appliance service business, it kept Fran and me very busy. Trying to find time and money for old cars was always a challenge. In 1973 I bought a 1936 Chevrolet pickup with a cracked block for \$50; I beat the junkman to it by one day. I acquired a '49 dump truck engine in Cle Elum and my son and I got it together so he could drive it up and down the driveway. I put a want-ad in a local hot rod magazine looking for fenders. Jim Seiber called me and talked me into joining the PSVCCA. The club was family oriented so I needed a family car. At one of the club outings we were at Hollywood Schoolhouse in Woodinville and Fran was talking with fellow member Scott Woodley, who said he had a 1950 two-door for sale. I ended up dragging that home. The engine was rebuilt but seized. I got it running in time to load the kids in for the trip to the NW Meet in Port Angeles. I did body work on that car in my woodshed. Fran and I painted it in the carport. There are lots of family memories of VCCA trips in that car, including the National Meet in Santa Rosa, CA.

When my son, Tim, was in high school I purchased a 1957 half-ton pickup with a six-cylinder engine. We installed a V8 with overdrive and started doing body work. Tim drove it to school with primer spots. For his senior year we had it painted bright red with white-spoked wheels. It was a big hit at Issaquah High.

In 1984, I purchased a 1950 convertible from a service customer in North Bend. They had let it sit in their leaky carport. It had a cracked block, torn top and broken glass. I drove it home, which was a step up from my previous purchases. 1985 we were busy with a house remodel and building my dream four car garage. After getting my shop set up I started a five-year, body-off restoration. The first time out was the 1990 NW Meet at Bremerton. We have driven the '50 convertible to National Meets in Rapid City, SD. and Grand Junction, CO. Also, to many NW Meets and one All-Cal Meet.

(continued on page 4)



1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2018



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, at **Ringdall/Tillicum Middle School Library, 11650 SE 60th St., Bellevue, 98006**, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. No meetings are held in January, June, July, August, and December. 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 on the **World Wide Web** at <http://psrvcca.weebly.com/>.

2018 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

<u>Director</u>	Al Howe	chevyal@comcast.net
<u>Asst. Director</u>	Ken Scott	kenwscott62@gmail.com
<u>Treasurer</u>	Sallie Comstock	salliecat@centurylink.net
<u>Secretary</u>	Diane Haddock	dianehaddock@gmail.com
<u>Activities</u>	Dave Haddock	chevydave@gmail.com
	Don Comstock	chevyguy2@centurylink.net
<u>Membership</u>	Donna Onat	donnaonat@juno.com
<u>Historian</u>	Dave Haddock	chevydave@gmail.com
<u>Club Store</u>	Bill Damm	billdamm@msn.com
<u>Webmaster</u>	Ralf Luche	rluche@yahoo.com
<u>Garage Nite</u>	Vacant	

Tappet Clatter Staff

<u>Editor</u>	Mike Currie	tappetclatter@outlook.com
<u>Assistant Editor</u>	Donna Onat	donnaonat@juno.com
<u>Checkers</u>	Dave Haddock	chevydave@gmail.com
	Glenn & Judy Landguth	gklandguth@msn.com
	George Reich	gbreich@gmail.com
	Al Howe	chevyal@comcast.net
<u>Photographers</u>	Jim Seiber	sueandjim4069@comcast.net
	Dave Haddock	chevydave@gmail.com
	Evie Schein	areshine@areshine.com
<u>Glove Box</u>	Bob Stamnes	rstamnes@yahoo.com
<u>Safety Ditty</u>	Bill Damm	billdamm@msn.com

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

GARAGE NITE

No Garage Nites are on the schedule for the coming months so how about you having one? They aren't hard to do and if you follow Bill Barker's lead it is a great way to get rid of stuff! Contact Al to set one up.

Director's Message

Al Howe



I hope everyone is getting their car ready for the touring season. Mine are not completely ready yet. Seems every time I start working on one something comes up to interrupt me like a water leak in the basement, icicles hanging on your nose, doctors thinking I have nothing else to do but go see them or even fun stuff like family birthday dinners. No water damage in the basement; I'm so lucky.

Don Comstock has some tours and activities planned for us this year but he needs some input from the club members. Remember, he is not the only one who can plan tours. We should all ask ourselves how long has it been since I planned a tour? Maybe you can take the time to plan one.

I would like to thank everyone who came to the February meeting. We had a good turnout and we covered some major subjects. We decided that the location of the 2020 Northwest Meet will be in Moses Lake. Jim Darby has accepted the lead position for this event and I will be assisting. The ladies at our Puget Sound Region meeting must like raffle baskets because they already volunteered to make some for the 2018 Meet and the 2020 Meet. Good job ladies.

Jim Seiber and Diane Haddock both did some research on the subject of a new location for our installation banquet. There are other options other than the Golden Steer and Jim is looking into more details. Thank you both for helping with this.

I don't like making plans for the day, because the word "premeditated" gets thrown around in the courtroom.

Al Howe

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: <http://psrvcca.weebly.com/>
Willamette Valley Region, VCCA: <http://www.wvrcca.org/>
Dave Folsom Blog, www.chev235guy.blogspot.com/
Gas stations without ethanol, <http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=WA>



April Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

Evie & Rod Schein 7

BIRTHDAYS

Marti Miller 15

Florence Helgeson 16

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE NW MEET

Rooms are filling up for the NW Meet. It is early so we have located three more hotels for you to pick from. Ken Scott and Mike Rice have gotten this information and I wanted to get it out now so people can reserve. Seems there is a lot of interest. Please send the attached to your mailing lists so the information can get out. Then I'll put something together for the Newsletters later. Reservations for the actual NW Meet, however, are not coming in as fast. Please encourage members to get this done so we have a better idea on how to plan. If my calculations are correct we already have 120 signed up for rooms and the RV spots make more. I'd sure be in a pickle if we have more attendees than we count on. Please help get the word out. Thanks so much; I am getting more excited each day. What a fun project. David

David Gowan, Area #3 Director
Vintage Chevrolet Club of America
Box 16327
Portland, OR 97292

Member Spotlight (continued from page 1)

I retired in 2003 and purchased an all original '31 sport coupe from Bill Barker. I did a body-off restoration and we have trailered that car to five Early Six Meets. It was a kick driving all through Yellowstone Park and other national parks in Utah. In 2011, I sold the '31 and bought my first-ever new vehicle, a 2012 Silverado pickup, which we drove on a 5,000-mile Route 66 club tour. In 2012, I purchased a 1936 coupe pickup that had sat in a Whidbey Island barn for twenty years. Got it on the road and it has been to three Early Six tours and to National at Lake Tahoe.

In 2016, I bought a 1930 sport roadster off Craigslist, that was restored twenty years ago and then got in a wreck. With the help of Jim Seiber and Bill Barker we brought it home in pieces. It is now complete, except for interior and top. Through all this Fran has been the most supportive partner. She even lets me put the top down (on hot days only). We have made a lot of friends, great memories of club trips, swap meets and junkyard adventures. I like to say we have collected rock chips and memories.

(Editors note: A big thanks to Kathy Currie for transcribing Dick's handwritten story.)

THE RED BARN

David Gowan, Director - Area #3

Some of us oldsters have spent many hours in old barns. Climbing the ladder, playing in the haymow, catching pigeons, milking cows, cleaning gutters and swatting flies. Not always pleasant memories, but they get better as time goes by!

Our NW Meet banquet will be held this year in a big old Red Barn.

We hope to get great pictures of the vintage cars parked out front and have a wonderful catered meal in the loft. Any who need assistance climbing the 'ladder' (steps) will be accommodated. You'll not want to miss this fun occasion.

There will be music from the old days, 50/50 and the basket drawings and a time to build wonderful memories.

Remember the date - June 8th, Friday at 4:30 p.m. Location is in the packet. Are you registered?



2019 January Banquet Planning

We are beginning our planning for the January 2019 Banquet. Our initial contacts have narrowed the choice of banquet facilities to a few centrally located options. The top choice now seems to be Renton Technical College, Culinary Arts program. If you have suggestions for a banquet items please let Jim Seiber or Diane Haddock know of your input.

Did you know where this is?



Located on a building in McMinville, Oregon.

Tappet Clatter Editor Wanted

After four years of being the Tappet Clatter Editor I find that it is time to pass the torch on to a new editor. Please contact Al Howe if you are interested in taking on this position.

My last issue will be July 2018. I have enjoyed being at the helm of the Tappet Clatter and want to thank those who have helped me each month put out a great publication.

Mike Currie

Treats for 2018 meetings:

March - Campbell	April - Olson
May - Howe	September - Campbell
October - Stamnes	November - Howe

Bill Damm's SAFETY DITTY

Here it comes again
It's just around the bend-
Spring is almost here
And winter will finally end.

The flowers will start blooming
And the grass will be growing;
Weeds will be sprouting
And lawns will need mowing.

The cars have been sitting
All winter long;
It's time to go see
If anything is wrong.

Check that Chevy
For an early run.
Make sure it's safe
To have some fun.

Then take it on a tour
Or drive it to a Meet.
Now get that Chevy
Out on the street.

Meeting Programs

March - Jim Seiber - details about taking good photos of your car

April - Ken Scott - Important things about detailing your car

May - Bill Barker - Using powder coating

September - guest speaker - Car fire extinguishers

October - open

November - Dave Haddock - Slide show of years activities

Puget Sound Region VCCA Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at Ringdall Middle School at 7:30 by Director Al Howe.

Welcome: 25 members were in attendance. Al read a Thank You letter from Area 3 Director Dave Gow-an for the good time and free meal at our banquet in January.

Secretary: Minutes accepted as printed in Tappet Clatter.

Treasurer: Sallie reported all bills have been paid including our national dues, banquet expenses, and \$500 donated to the Northwest Meet. We sold \$110 in decals leaving our treasury in good order.

Membership: Donna Onat mailed out the 2018 rosters to members unable to claim them in person.

National News: Bill Barker let us know the National is soliciting for members to work on the 2021 National Meet in Bowling Green Kentucky. We are also looking for volunteers to work on the 2020 meet. Also, the VCCA website is having a few problems as predicted.

Glove Box: Bob Stamnes added information on batteries to his article in the TC. Optima batteries solved problems for some because it has higher cranking capacity which prolongs the life of the battery. He also shared his newly spoked wood wheel with us.

Activities: March 17 and 18 is the Almost Spring Swap Meet in Puyallup. Don Comstock suggested we bring a few cars to show as they give us a spot to promote our club. Ken Scott and Don Comstock will bring cars but there wasn't interest in staffing a booth. Don also asked for tour ideas for March; none were forthcoming. May is busy with the HCCA breakfast and tour in Puyallup and ending at the LeMay Museum. (unknown as to which one) on the 6th, the Ballard Parade on the 17th and the Monroe Swap Meet the 18th to 20th. We need worker volunteers for the swap meet. Sign-up next month. June is the Northwest Meet.

Other: A regional theme basket for raffle at the NW Meet was suggested; Marilyn Campbell is handling it. She will let us know what she decides and needs. Stories or articles for the TC highlighting members are covered through June and September. Needed are writers for July, August, and October through December. Awards Banquet problems last month prompted Jim Seiber and Diane Haddock separately to look for a new location. After discussion we agreed to pursue Renton Vo-Tec. .2020 Meet— Members at the meeting settled on Moses Lake as a potential site for our next Northwest Meet and Jim Darby has agreed to chair the event. Don Hatley volunteered to handle parking. Al Howe will work with Jim to secure a hotel and handle contracts.

Refreshments: Break at 8:25

Program: Al Howe shared the importance of heavy duty battery cables and good contacts when using 6 volt batteries. He also made a crimping tool to use with OO wire, the suggested size.

Meeting adjourned around 9:15

Respectfully submitted by Don Comstock for Diane Haddock



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.

Call the Glove Box Coordinator, Bob Stamnes, at 206-365-1482, or email rstamnes@yahoo.com with your information.

Hub (Wheel) Pullers (1920's on)

It is often necessary to pull the hubs off your car. This can be very difficult, if not impossible on your '25-'38 Chevy without a hub puller. I realized this early on and was fortunate to be able to borrow a 1920's hub puller from a VCCA member. Unfortunately, my restoration and need for the puller lasted way too long, which bothered me greatly. But I also felt desperate as I did not know how else to get the hub off. I finally realized that as long as I owned one of these old cars, I would need a puller too. Here are some ways to get your hands on one.

There are several ways to find or make a hub puller. You can find them on eBay but it took me many years to find one, and then only after purchasing the first one that had nothing to tighten it on the hub threads after screwing it on. I recently spent about \$50 for a '25-'28 Chevrolet wheel puller on eBay (shown on next page). Now I need to get the borrowed puller back to its owner, Thanks Jim.

George McMurty, www.customhubpullers.com, 308-586-1930 also manufactures hub pullers for many different years of cars. This is a very fine tool, but the cost is over \$200 each. The instructions for this puller are attached to give you an idea of what you might be purchasing.

Other people have made their own pullers. See photos on next page. These two are similar in that they both attach to the lug bolts and have a larger bolt in the middle that can be tightened and hit with a hammer to put pressure on the hub to come off.

One is described as follows:

Attach modern lug nuts to the studs on the hub (wheel) with half of the thread on the nuts exposed. Using a thick piece of metal, drill holes so each a bolt can be put through the plate to connect to each lug nut. Then drill a hole in the center of the plate and thread it to receive a bolt that once all the lug bolts are tightened, can be tightened against the end of the axle to put pressure on the hub to come off. Hitting the center bolt with a hammer may be necessary to break the hub loose. Remember to loosen the brake bands so the hub can be pulled off. See pictures on next page.

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Then there is a cap that can be screwed onto the end of the axle and that you can pound on with a hammer to remove the hub (see photo below that has two such caps). I would expect this to take a harder hit as you have no tension on the hub to encourage it to come off as you do in the above procedures. Would this method ruin the gears in the rear end? According to Dave Folsom, the concern would be ruining the bearings that hold the axle in. Dave does not think it would hurt the rear end gears, but was hesitant to advise the use of this cap to remove a hub. Please give me some feedback, especially if you have used a cap like this successfully to remove your hubs(rstamnes@yahoo.com).



MORE ON BATTERIES

I received some feedback from last months Glove Box article on Batteries.

One was that an OPTIMA battery has worked for several years where he had gone through a normal lead acid battery every year before that. He also sent me to VCCA Chat, <https://vccachat.org/ubbthreads.php/topics/403865/6v-batteries.html#Post403865>, which discusses the characteristics of several batteries which I found very interesting. This site shows that OPTIMA has a higher Cold Cranking Amps and also higher Cranking Amps, which could be why they work better in some situations.

6v batteries - Vintage Chevrolet Club - Discussion Forum vccachat.org

Purchased a 6 volt battery two years ago and it had a three year warranty. The battery failed two months ago....it had one dead cell. Took the battery back and with ...

Also received a comment on my statement that I was not changing to an OPTIMA Battery myself-- this should not be taken as a recommendation for normal lead acid batteries, but rather a statement of my situation where I have had no problems with the normal lead acid battery in my cars lately.

Really appreciate the feed back from Jim Lewis. Thanks Jim.

Bob Stamnes

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 when your listing no longer needs to be published.

FOR SALE

1931 parts, included are engine, transmission, clutch assembly, bell housing, two axles with bearings, four new tubes and liners 4.75x5.00x19, new firewall pad, '31 light bar with headlight buckets, one car headlight bucket with reflector, two '31 truck headlight buckets, one original 1931 owner's manual in excellent condition, and several used gauges, carb parts and gaskets.

1936 parts include four 17 inch 5-lug wire wheels with a 6-3/4 in. center opening to fit 1935-36 standard, two 17 inch 5-lug wire wheels with a 5 in. center opening and two 1936 sedan rear doors.

Phil Christensen philip082@centurytel.net

1928 Rolling chassis with motor, trans, rear end. \$1500. For more info contact Ken Scott. Email: kenwscott62@Gmail.com

1936—39 Speedometer. Nice face, rim has slight bump. \$25 or best club offer takes it. Money from this will go back to the club. Picture available upon request. Bob Stamnes, rstamnes@yahoo.com,

1957 1/2 ton 3-speed transmission. \$75. 1931 3-speed transmission. \$75. Phone Dick Olson
Email: Rolson82@comcast.net

20" MAGS and Radial Tires. Four each. These are six-lug wheels. \$500. Jerry Yoder
Email: JerryYoder@hotmail.com

WANTED

A friend would like to buy a Chevy of the '50s or '60s. Running reliably would be good. Interior & exterior condition not so important, as she thinks my vehicle is pretty nice. (smile) Call me if you know of something. Donna Onat

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

FREE

235 and 216 engines - as they say, "Ran When Parked". There are no starters, fuel pumps or carburetors. Don Comstock. chevyguy2@centurylink.net

2018Activities

- March 26 PS-VCCA Club Meeting-*Ringdall/Tillicum Middle School Library*
- April 23 PS-VCCA Club Meeting-*Ringdall/Tillicum Middle School Library*
- May—TBD Hunter's Breakfast—Jim Farris is the organizer
17 Ballard Parade—Rod Schein is the organizer
18-20 Monroe Swap Meet—Please contact Don or Sallie Comstock to volunteer
- June 7-9 Northwest Meet—Chehalis, WA
- July 4 Cookout/Potluck at Haddock's, combined with the Strawberry Social

Directions to Ringdall/Tillicum Middle School
11650 SE 60th St, Bellevue

Traveling 405 from either the north or south, take exit 10 and head east to 119th St (should be the first stop light east of 405). From I-90 take the 405 South Exit and immediately stay to the right, getting off at the Coal Creek Parkway exit. (Note: you'll never actually merge onto 405.) Turn left under the freeway and take a right at the light on 119th. Go up the hill, passing through a couple of stop signs and turn right on SE 60th. The shopping center will be on your left. Follow SE 60th and Ringdall will be on your right. The meeting place for monthly PSVCCA meetings will be at Tillicum/Ringdall School Library (not the cafeteria).