

THE TAPPET CLATTER



THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

May 2020

Volume 53, Number 5

Getting from Here to There ... by Speedster

By Dave Penniman

Member-at-Large, VCCA Four-Cylinder Speedster Chapter

(Finished Car Photos by Isabel Fay Foley)

Editor's Note: Bob Stamnes noticed a wonderful article in the April 22, 2020 Wall Street Journal about Dave Penniman's journey to build a Chevy Speedster and passed it on to me for this publication. To avoid copyright issues instead of paraphrasing or copying the article I contacted Dave and he sent me this article he had prepared for the G & D (it hasn't been published yet). Read the WSJ story if you can. If not, enjoy this one!!



How do you get from a bare bones rolling chassis to a finished (and legally titled) boat tailed 1928 Chevy speedster? "With a lot of help from fellow VCCA members – especially those in the Four-Cylinder Speedster Chapter as well as a friendly state trooper and a nice lady at the Ohio BMV" is the answer. But that is the short version of the story. The longer version could be a book, but for this issue of the G&D I will just hit the highlights.

My project began with some parts left over from a depot hack build as well as a rolling 28 chassis purchased from fellow VCCA member, Gary Wallace. I had learned wood working building the depot hack and decided to try my hand at a boat-tailed speedster using cedar strip canoe building techniques. Being an engineer by training, I overdid the planning, doing detailed drawings as well as a scale model built from balsa and cardboard. Then I used larger cardboard and wrapping paper to lay out the ribs and skin full size on the chassis. I had already stripped down the chassis, had it sand blasted and then recoated with epoxy paint. (continued on p. 4)



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

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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

NO LADY LIKES



Director's Message

"Jim's Junk Yard"



The Winning Ticket!

Director's Letter May 2020

Do you remember those happy carefree days when winning raffle tickets were plentiful? We remain on a quest for those days to return in some form. Recently, I was reading a 1983 issue of the Tappet Clatter with news about the Club meeting raffle. One prize was "Mike Currie donated two hours of sandblast time". Wow, we all have some kind of talent we could donate. The highly prized skills we have in our Club are as worthy as physical prizes. (keep in mind the six foot social distancing limits).

Ideally, this is a time to get things done. This is our 'snow day', a stay at home to attack those jobs that have been waiting for

your attention. For me it's time to sort slides. While we can't reliably schedule a May Club meeting or perhaps even a June meeting, creative members Al Howe, Ken Scott, and Rod Schein have scheduled and implemented some mini-tours to get our cars out, inviting members who live in close proximity to go for a ride. We continue to explore activities for later this summer. I read the news about various meets and events, in particular, the "Fenders on Front Street" Issaquah car show held on Fathers' Day in which many Club members regularly participate. It seems to still be on the schedule, at least for now. The Fathers' Day GM Picnic may still be planned. This could be the summer for us to plan our own small events and outings with so many of the big events already canceled. It does seem to be an ironic conflict that with gas prices the lowest they have been in years, roads nearly traffic free, and the possibility to drive your vintage Chevrolet at a safe speed without being run over, that there are few places to go where we can do more than sit in our cars and wave out the window at our fellow Chevy drivers. Share your ideas for Club activity.

Things are getting done by willing Club members: John Strampher, John Ziegler, Dick Jones, Bill Barker, Jim Darby. More on these guys in the next Clatter Chatter. Many thanks to all the members who reached out with messages of support. Watch for next issue coming out soon.

I wanted to take a special note to congratulate Jim Farris on his 90th birthday. Jim is one of the guys who encouraged me to get involved with the VCCA and Puget Sound Region. I was seeking the correct tail light for my '37 truck, not knowing what the "correct" tail light should look like. It was Jim who handed me a NOS '37 truck glass tail light lens saying "you can use this". Jim never would accept payment for what was to me a rare part. I admire Jim's willingness to share parts, knowledge, and enthusiastic assistance with any car project. Go for the 100th!

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.wvrvcca.org/>



TO DANCE

(Here to There by Speedster, cont. from p. 1)

Thanks to Dave Cufir, another Ohio fellow member of the Speedster Chapter, I learned about “wacky wood”, a highly bendable plywood that allowed me to construct a base for my body following the lines of the frame - including the kick over the rear axle. (This flexible wood also was used in constructing the two bucket seats later in the build.)

The ribs were cut from ¾ inch plywood using the cardboard patterns refined in the full-scale cardboard mockup. The cedar strips came from two cedar posts donated by a friend who was replacing them with steel posts supporting his second story deck. I had a lumber yard cut these 8-inch by 8-inch by 8 foot posts into 1-inch thick planks and then I ripped them into thin strips on my table saw and finished them off with dove and cove edges using a table-mounted router. The strips were thin enough that for most of the curvature of the body they flexed just fine. Where the curves became compound, I soaked the strips in boiling water to increase their flexibility. The strips were glued along the edges as well as nailed to the ribs. Finish was with hand-applied spar varnish rubbed into the cedar while wearing thin non-latex gloves – several coats were used.

While building the body, my engine (a 27 block with a 28 head) was being rebuilt by Hart’s Machine Shop of Cecil, Ohio. I did the final engine assembly myself with the invaluable help of Ray Holland’s “Engine Rebuild Discussion” on the VCCA Chat Site.

Although many other details could be described, the lengthiest and most difficult aspect of this build was obtaining a title for “self-assembled” vehicle, something that is not easily achieved in some states.



Thanks to a very helpful State Trooper advising the inspection officials as well as an equally helpful clerk at the Ohio BMV, I was ultimately able to obtain a title (and historic plates) for the pictured 1928 Chevy Speedster. Next steps? By popular demand it will not be a “trailer queen” but will go on the road. Look for it at a show somewhere in Ohio. Or join the VCCA Four-Cylinder Speedster Chapter members who will help you build one of your own!

(more photos on p. 5)

May Meeting??

Late Breaking News– CANCELLED This has been a year of uncertainties; Many decisions beyond our control will determine what we are able to do; 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 each date approaches. Each member will need to decide their own 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

OR DINE

(Here to There by Speedster, cont. from p. 4)



ACCOMPANIED BY

**Bill Damm's
SAFETY DITTY**

It came down upon us;
Worst thing anyone ever seen.
A real bad ass virus
Called COVID-19.

Well it started in China
Where it first made the scene.
They all named it Corona;
Now it's COVID-19.

The whole world has got it.
And everywhere in between
There's no way to escape it,
That COVID-19.

The virus is brutal,
Deadly and mean.
Only the lucky don't get it,
The COVID-19.

The virus doesn't care
If they're fat or lean.
Anyone can get the virus
Called COVID-19.

Now the world is waiting
For the Corona vaccine,
To stop the pandemic
And kill COVID-19.

Then life can get normal.
ASAP would be keen.
Back to fighting each other,
Not COVID-19!



**Happy
Birthday
Jim!!**

The COVID 19 has prevented us from getting together and wishing Jim Farris a Happy 90th Birthday. However, we captured these images from Facebook of his family celebration and have provided more pictures of Jim having fun at car events on page 9. Jim, we hope you had the happiest of Birth-

days and we all hope to get together with you soon at a VCCA event!!



June Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

Bill and Sis Barker 6
Jerry and Mary Brownell 10

BIRTHDAYS

Rod Schein 2
Kent Sullivan 5
Gerri Johnson 20
Glenn Landguth 27
Sheri Johnson 27

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.

Don Comstock's Spray Gun Instructions

Good Morning Rod and Evie,



A is the nozzle

It adjusts if the fan is horizontal or vertical or somewhere in between.

B is the fan adjustment.

It goes from nearly pin point to a fan about a foot wide depending on air flow (pressure) and amount of paint being released.

C is the trigger stop.

It can be adjusted to limit the amount of paint released by limiting how far the trigger can be opened. Thick paints I set it for more open and thinner stuff less open to avoid runs.

D is the air flow.

This regulates the air pressure pushing or actually pulling the paint out of the nozzle. Vaporizing the paint is all important. If it comes out in big droplets it is either not enough air pressure or the paint is too thick. If the paint goes on your work and doesn't flow out to a smooth surface adjust up the pressure and thin the paint more. The paint should be more like water than honey to be sprayed. If you get it too thin you can always add more paint. On that note spray a light coat almost covering the work and let it tack up, not dry then do another coat that covers but doesn't run. Let that coat nearly dry before adding a third coat if needed. If you do the third coat when the second is just tacky you will likely create runs.

Good Luck, Don

This is the summary I wrote from talking to Don on the phone the night before his above email:

A: Nozzle- take apart to clean

B: Adjusts width of spray pattern-see arrow on knob or gun body

C: Adjusts trigger for amount of paint to flow-can be cleaned

D: Adjusts amount of air flow, doesn't need cleaning

A PORCUPINE!

Thunder Dome Mini Tour



Neither rain nor killer virus dare try to make the true vintage car driver stay home forever. On April 27th eight cars arrived in Bonney Lake with brave enthusiasts in them. The virus did not have a chance and the sun shined through scattered clouds so we could enjoy our outing. The tour was short but took us through back roads lined with flowering trees, farmland and mountains, ending at the new Thunder Dome Museum in Enumclaw.

A nice employee came out to talk to us and then turned on the lights so we could see the shiny cars inside through big windows on two sides of the showroom. Those who braved the weather and dodged the virus were Al & Kathy Howe, Ken Scott and Fran Cissell, Mike Scott and Steve Scott (driving their Mustang), Bob & Starrann Reller, Duane & Edith Rice, Jerry Yoder & Karen Purvis, Don & Sallie Comstock and Lyle & Char Jorgensen.

Lyle and Char are neighbors I met while obtaining face masks and discovered they have a '62 Malibu while picking up some masks she made; Char makes the masks. I invited them to join us on the tour and being really nice people, they accepted. You know people are nice when they drive a beautiful vintage Chevrolet and fit right in with the group.



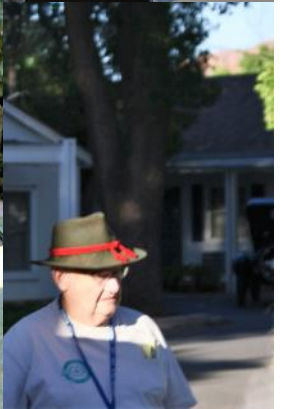
Ground rule for the tour is it has to be short enough so a rest stop is not required from home and back home again. This limits the tour to local drives. It worked out great; we had a short drive and short visit with friends while keeping our distance. You can plan one in your neighborhood. You can even get tour miles in your passport; I will help you if you need it.



Story and photos by Al Howe

Burma Shave

Happy Birthday Jim!!



What did you do during the “Covid 19” isolation?



To all of our friends, family, enemies, and unknowns: Fran and I have been busy in the garage working on my newest project ('32 Chev 4 door). We spend about 2 to 4 hours a day taking apart rusty bolts, breaking things, and occasionally making forward progress. With all car events postponed or canceled, this is the perfect opportunity to try to get this one done in less than five years. I may not have five more years to do these kinds of things.

I said on the last one that it would be the last one but, I discovered, without a project I was kind of lost. So this one came along and it has, like all projects, become more than I originally thought it would be. I have to keep adding more things to restore. I wish I could say we were saving money, by not going anywhere including going out to eat but my project is instead taking my money. Gas price is down but

nowhere to go. We have been talking on the phone to several of our friends but I felt I just had to annoy the rest of you by putting this note together.

With the weather so nice I was hoping to get one of the cars out for a ride. Well, Sunday was the day. We got four of them out. I invited the neighbors over to drive two of them. There were more in the garage but I ran out of drivers. We took a short trip around the neighborhood and put a few smiles on the people out in their yards.

We are looking forward to the time we can get back together with you and have some real tours.

We wish the best to all of you. Stay safe,

Ken and Fran



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



Ballard/Edmonds Scenic Mini Tour Sunday, May 17, 2020

We invite you to a fun, scenic tour through a portion of Ballard, along Puget Sound to Edmonds, and a drive around the Ida Culver Retirement Center on Greenwood Ave.

We will drive by Golden Gardens Beach, through Blue Ridge along the shore, around Ida Culver so the residents can enjoy our cars and then head north on a scenic, curving, very low traffic 25 mph route that Bob & MG Stamnes use to train for their bicycle tours. This route stays as close as you can get to the Sound and ends up on beautiful Woodway Parkway into Edmonds, WA. The total tour will take just under 2 hours. We will meet at 1:30pm at our home in Ballard and leave shortly after. **We can stay in our cars and keep our social distance.**

Please RSVP: 206-783-8956 areshine@areshine

If you live north or east, you can leave the tour as we start back toward Ballard.

This will be a VCCA-sanctioned tour.

We hope you can join us!

Rod & Evie Schein

NW Meet Future Plans

The latest news on the NW Meet plans for the next few years. Sorry for the lack of detail, but I will update as more information becomes available. This summer, we canceled the NW Meet in Ellensburg based on the unknown threats to health, presented by the COVID-19 issues. Next Summer, projected to be a Mini Meet, sponsored by the Willamette Valley Region. They made investments in motel reservations and planning, specific 2021 date to be determined. This will be listed as the 50th NW Meet. The following summer 2022, will be sponsored by the North Cascades Region. They have made reservations and have initial deposits on a site for the NW Meet. Currently no plan is in place where to host a Meet; one suggestion was we take all parts of the planning and activities for this meet. Mt. Rainier would then have responsibility for the 2024 NW Meet. (They would have a chance to co-host with us, taking advantage of our vast experience) The normal rotation would have the 2023 meet sponsored by the Mt. Rainier Region. Keeping our options open. Jim Seiber

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

1930 Parts engine. \$50 takes it away before I take it to the metal recyclers. Contact Bill Damm at (leave a call back message).

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.

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,. 5040 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia

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. 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. 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.

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

2020 Activities

May	15-18	Monroe Swap Meet, Monroe, WA. Don Comstock	CANCELLED
May	17	Ballard Parade, Seattle, WA. Rod Schein	CANCELLED
May	17	Rod Schein Ballard-Edmonds Mini Tour, Ballard, WA (see page 11, call Rod to RSVP)	
May	18	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah	CANCELLED
May	30	David Gowan Memorial Tour. Al Howe	CANCELLED
June	21-25	4-Cylinder Tour, Minnesota	CANCELLED
June	22	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah ??	
July	15-18	Northwest Meet, Ellensburg, WA. Don Comstock	CANCELLED
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	
September	28	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive-In, Issaquah??	

Note: All club general meetings for the foreseeable future are subject to cancellation due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. Please check this publication or call a club officer if you have questions. 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.