

# THE TAPPET CLATTER

THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

November 2021

Volume 54, Number 11

## FLASH TOUR AROUND LAKE WASHINGTON

By Bob Stamnes

After doing yard work Sunday, MG and I thought we better get our '53 Chevrolet out for a drive as it might be the last good day until spring—depressing huh!

We drove through the Arboretum and followed that road down along Lake Washington to Seward Park, then up the hill and down to Rainier Avenue toward the Renton Airport and around the end of the lake to Coulon Park where we had fish and chips at Ivars.

Many of the pictures of trees, MG, and our golden retriever are at the park. This is a great ride this time of year.



Enjoy!

(More photos on page 4)





## 1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2021



*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 11:30 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**

### 2021 Puget Sound Region Officers and Board

<u>Director</u>	Jim Seiber	seiberphoto@comcast.net
<u>Asst. Director</u>	Bill Barker	bill@barkerville.net
<u>Treasurer</u>	Sallie Comstock	salliecat@centurylink.net
<u>Secretary</u>	Diane Haddock	dianehaddock@gmail.com
<u>Activities</u>	Al Howe	chevyal@comcast.net
<u>Membership</u>	Donna Onat	donnaonat@juno.com
<u>Historian</u>	Vacant	
<u>Club Store</u>	Bill Damm	billdamm@msn.com
<u>Webmaster</u>	Ralf Luche	rluche@yahoo.com
<u>Asst. Webmaster</u>	Rod Schein	areshine@areshine.com
<u>Garage Nite</u>	Vacant	

### 2021 Tappet Clatter Staff

<u>Editors</u>	Dave & Diane Haddock	tappetclatter@outlook.com
<u>Assistant Editor</u>	Donna Onat	donnaonat@juno.com
<u>Checkers</u>	Marilyn Campbell	57soup@comcast.net
	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>	Vacant	
<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](mailto:tappetclatter@outlook.com)

**IF YOU WANT**



# Director's Message

## "Jim's Junk Yard"



In spite of threatening weather, we had an active Club meeting in October. Lots of great ideas contributed to the discussion. We were able to fill nominations for all the major offices for the 2022 calendar year. There will still be an election so if anyone would like to be an added nomination to an office, there is still time. We will continue our need for support. The Director needs help in scheduling meetings and calling to schedule meetings. The Assistant Director will need member participation to contribute to interesting programs. The Editor will appreciate your contributions to the Tappet Clatter. The task of the Editor is not to write the news but to print important information sent by YOU! The Secretary position will be double duty combining Club Store and Meeting Recorder. The Treasurer will keep current our expenditures and collect funds as needed. We will have other jobs needing member participation in the coming months.

What does it take to keep the PSR VCCA going? The first person who comes to mind is Jose at XXX. He has made every effort to provide us with a meeting place. There were community members like Craig at Evergreen Chevrolet who offered us the staff lunchroom for our first Board meeting. A bit of internet magic helped us include our long-distance members so they are able to participate via a Zoom connection, although Zoom left some frustrated. We have had a great newsletter. I know people look forward to reading it. We receive compliments on it from people after they've read it. We have members who will do what is needed to get the roster published and distributed.



To everyone who contributes, a great big THANK YOU!!

Jim Seiber

## National VCCA Meet 2022 Bowling Green, KY

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS OPEN SEP 15. HOTEL DISCOUNT CODE - VCCA21**

A maximum of two room reservations are allowed when you call or book online.

The VCCA for hotel reservations is CODE VCCA21. This code is required to reserve any rooms with the special VCCA rate of \$135/night.

- **The Holiday Inn University Plaza** will serve as the host hotel and is attached to the Convention Center, where most of our indoor activities and banquet will occur. **SOLD OUT**
- **Courtyard by Marriott Bowling Green-270-783-8569.** The Courtyard by Marriott is directly across the street from the host hotel, the Holiday Inn University Plaza. The side street can easily be crossed by foot.
- **Hilton Bowling Green-270-781-6778.** The Hilton Bowling Green is directly across the street from the host hotel, the Holiday Inn University Plaza. The side street can easily be crossed by foot.

**TO SERVE**



### Area 3 Director's Message

When I heard about the passing of Colin Powell I recalled that I heard he was the owner of a 2015 C7 Corvette which was given to him by his family. I then looked for pictures of General Powell, and his Corvette and found a 2016 YouTube video with Jay Leno, Vice President Biden and Colin Powell. Powell with his 2015 Corvette and Biden with his 67 Corvette were having a drag race-



check it out! Something on my bucket list is to ride in, or better yet, to drive a Corvette. Well, I may get my chance while at Bowling Green for the Anniversary Meet. If I want to fork over \$299.00 I can drive a C8 Corvette for 4 laps around the 3.2 mile road course at the National Corvette Museum (NCM) Motor Sports Park according to their website. If I can't drive a Corvette around the track, a ride with one of their drivers (if possible) would be my second choice and ok. NCM was started by the Corvette Museum and is very close to the museum. One of the Anniversary Meet activities at Bowling Green will include the Corvette Museum and the NCM track.



Be safe,  
*Gary Rogers*

## OUR CLUB

## CHRISTMAS BRUNCH POTLUCK

### December 4th,

It's a Saturday! Don't be confused.  
The location hasn't changed however.  
A potluck is planned to celebrate the season.  
Bring veggies, a salad, a dessert, or some fruit.  
Arrive around 11, eat around noon, and visit all afternoon.

Santa will be there sharing his favorite ride.  
Decorations will be everywhere and on several trees,  
Cats and Cars are the common themes.  
Come one, Come all, there is room.  
We are Covid free & well vaccinated,  
and feeling well. Masks are optional.  
If it snows plan on staying  
until Spring.

### [Here are the Details and Directions.](#)

Attendees are encouraged to bring a salad, side dish or dessert. The club will be providing a hot meat entrée as well as hot and cold beverages.

Plan on gathering around 11 A.M., eating brunch a bit after 12 and going home when ready, sometime before it gets dark.

We felt a gift exchange was not necessary this year because of unknowns and added exposure shopping. **It will be essential that you R.S.V.P.** if planning to attend so we can prepare appropriate amounts of food as well as arrange enough seating for everyone.

**Our annual Christmas gathering is only a couple of weeks away so you better RSVP now** so we will know how many places to set at the table. It is a brunch so plan on arriving after 11 AM. We will start serving around noon. This year we decided to eliminate the gift exchange in favor of more time to visit and a couple of games. An entrée, beverages as well as tableware will be provided. Bring something to share; a salad, fruit veggie side dish or dessert would be great.

**To RSVP** call or email the Comstocks at [chevyguy2@centurylink.net](mailto:chevyguy2@centurylink.net).

Directions were in last month's Tappet Clatter. If you lost them, I can email a copy on request.



**OUR TC EDITOR**

**Bill Damm's  
SAFETY DITTY**

Our rainy season  
Is with us now.  
The only sun we'll see  
Is what the clouds allow.

Wet and cold  
Is what we feel;  
Have to travel south  
To get a better deal.

That Arizona weather  
Is meant to please;  
How can you beat  
Mid-winter at 70 degrees.

Once you've been there  
You'll want to go back,  
But it's easier to stay here  
And lie comfy in your rack!

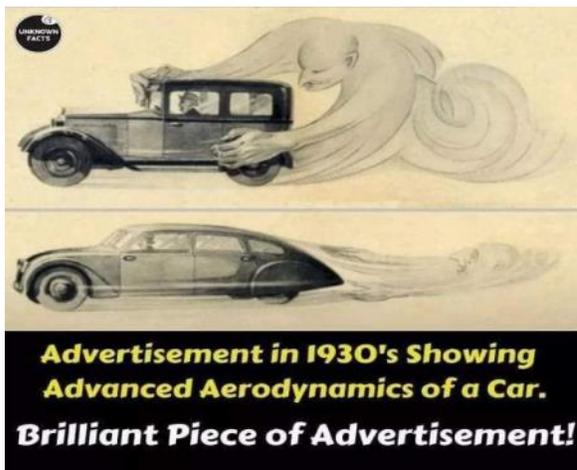
We can't all go south  
Like the rest of the boys,  
Because our shops are here,  
And so are our toys.

It's a long drive to AZ  
With hazards along the way.  
Safety is compromised  
If you drive it all one day.

If your trip goes into the night,  
Turn your dash lights to low.  
You won't get as tired  
And it's safer, I know.

If you head to the south  
Each and every year,  
You'll miss half your friends:  
6 months there, 6 months here.

Most of us will stay right here  
And put up with the cold and wet.  
We'll turn the furnace heat to 70.  
How easy can it get!!



**Just For Fun—Why Did The Chicken  
Cross The Road?**

DONALD TRUMP: I've been told by my many sources, good sources - they're very good sources - that the chicken crossed the road. All the Fake News wants to do is write nasty things about the road, but it's a really good road. It's a beautiful road. Everyone knows how beautiful it is.

JOE BIDEN: Why did the chicken do the...thing in the...you know the rest.

SARAH PALIN: The chicken crossed the road because, gosh-darn it, he's a maverick!

BARACK OBAMA: Let me be perfectly clear, if the chickens like their eggs they can keep their eggs. No chicken will be required to cross the road to surrender her eggs. Period.

AOC: Chickens should not be forced to lay eggs! This is because of corporate greed! Eggs should be able to lay themselves.

HILLARY CLINTON: What difference at this point does it make why the chicken crossed the road.

GEORGE W. BUSH: We don't really care why the chicken crossed the road. We just want to know if the chicken is on our side of the road or not. The chicken is either with us or against us. There is no middle ground here.

DICK CHENEY: Where's my gun?

BILL CLINTON: I did not cross the road with that chicken.

Cont. on p. 9

**December Celebrations**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Philip & Sheila Christiansen	4
Don & Sallie Comstock	23

**BIRTHDAYS**

Dennis Johnson	2
Dave Miller	9
Don Comstock	18
Myron Gabelein	25

## **Puget Sound Region VCCA XXX Drive In Meeting October, 25, 2021**

Attending: Jim and Sue Seiber, Dick Olson, Michael Voris, Evie and Rod Schein, Bill Barker, Al Howe, John and Marilyn Campbell, George Reich, Jerry Yoder, Karen Purvis, Donna Onat, Bob Helgeson, Ron Henry, Sal-lie and Don Comstock, Don Hatley, Tom Tarrico.

Director Jim Seiber opened the meeting at 11:55. The focus for today's meeting is filling the open officer positions of Director and Secretary which are required by National. Discussion for meeting place, time, day of the week and possible ways to update the Club Roster will also occur as time allows.

Jim announced that Fran Cissel has offered to serve one year as the Tappet Clatter editor with the stipulation that she will not write articles but will publish what is submitted. Jim explained the primary duties of the Director position and that he is not eligible to serve another term as Director according to the club By-Laws. Discussion ensued on various ways to increase participation and membership. Rod shared his vision for the Assistant Director position which asks members to share information about their car and provide an opportunity for members to ask questions. He said that would address the item most frequently mentioned in response to the question-"what about the club is most important to you" from the last Zoom meeting. Members mentioned the in-person interaction and relationships with the other people in the club. Rod said he needed someone to step up to be the Director for there to be an Assistant Director. Al Howe offered to be nominated for that Director so that Rod could be nominated for Assistant Director. Don Comstock offered to accept a nomination for the duties of Secretary. Those nominations complete the slate of officers to be voted on at the November meeting.

### **Meetings-time, place, day of week:**

Suggestions discussed included returning to 7:30 PM meetings, moving to Saturday mornings for a breakfast meeting, alternating evening and daytime meetings each month, using a union hall for meetings, using The Golden Steer restaurant in Kent for Saturday breakfast meetings with possibility of short tours to follow meeting, moving to a restaurant with a bigger group meeting room to ease the social distance concerns.

### **Increasing Membership:**

Discussion on a variety of ways to connect with others who love old cars but are not members as a potential way to increase membership. Attending car shows as a club, increasing the club's online presence, attending the Friday night car events in Covington as individuals or as a club activity, continuing Zoom meetings were discussed.

### **Updating Roster Discussion:**

National VCCA indicates 52 members in Puget Sound Region VCCA. The PSR roster has not been updated for a while. Discussion on re-instating dues as a part of the roster updating process. Adding annual dues of \$5.00 which would be due by December 31st was approved with a unanimous vote. Dues would need to be current for inclusion in the roster. Discussion on the value of a printed roster versus an online roster which individuals could print for themselves. Bill demonstrated the club's homepage: [psrvcca.weebly.com](http://psrvcca.weebly.com) and how to get from there to the National VCCA site which maintains the National roster of all VCCA members by Region.

### **Discussion and Announcements:**

Bill said there are currently five presentations from club meeting programs available on our Puget Sound homepage. He and Ralf are working to make additional previous programs available on the homepage. Don said updating the By-Laws is nearing completion. They should be ready for the November meeting. The November meeting is currently scheduled as an in-person meeting at the Triple X but is contingent upon the weather cooperating. Decision to vote on the slate of officers for 2022 as a unit. This would allow for the election vote whether the meeting is in-person or a Zoom meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Seiber, substitute for Secretary Diane Haddock  
Meeting adjourned 1:08 PM PDT

## 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).

This article is on Jerry Bownell's '54 Chevrolet and is continued from the October TC. At that time, we had a spark and determined that the manifolds were not fit properly. Al had committed to Jerry before he passed away that he would get his '54 Chevrolet running again. Al laid out a plan of attack thinking it was just a matter of timing the engine. As we got into it, we discovered additional things that required attention before trying to start the engine. We already discussed the ignition system and making certain we had a spark. We also determined that the manifolds were not properly installed tight against the head. Now what comes next!

Plugs and point gaps were checked and gapped.

Timing was set. After checking the flywheel for timing marks with no success, we solicited the help of Dave Folsom. Dave was kind enough to help. Finding the timing mark was difficult for a couple of reasons. The engine was not running and it was difficult to turn the newly refurbished engine over, it was also dark and we were not certain where to look. Turns out, there is a small opening that you look for on the rear passenger side of the engine with a timing mark near the flywheel. We found it! You see a tiny silver ball when the flywheel is correctly aligned. Timing went well from there. Helps to use a better light and to know what to look for!



Carburation was the next issue. Al took the carburetor home and went through it and acquired new gaskets.

We got all this together and tried starting the engine. Fire shot out between the exhaust manifold and the head!!! Closer inspection found that the manifolds were not tight against the head and it was obvious that there were larger gaps between the head and the exhaust manifold than between the head and intake manifold. Now what to do to correct this? We made another call to Dave Folsom for help.

Dave provided the following suggestions:

- the manifolds are likely warped or the ring between the manifolds and the head are not in proper position.
- if warped, you can remove the alignment pins on each end of the manifolds as they often make it impossible to place a warped manifold. These pins are not necessary, but do help to hold the gaskets in place, so when they are removed, you may need to use some sealer to hold the gaskets in place. Dave also suggested beveling the outer edge of the rings so they slip in easier
- place the rings in the head, then replace the manifold.

Dave also suggested placing the manifolds, without the gaskets but with the rings in place, against the head without the gaskets, to determine if it fits tight against the head. Manifold should clunk against the head. If it does not, the manifold might be warped upward. The alignment studs for the ends of the manifold may have to be removed. They can generally be removed with vise grips to turn them out. Dave has never had a problem getting them out. (cont. on p. 9)

**IS THE HUB!!**

### Chicken & Road, Cont. from p. 6

AL GORE: I invented the chicken.

JOHN KERRY: Although I voted to let the chicken cross the road, I am now against it! It was the wrong road to cross, and I was misled about the chicken's intentions. I am not for it now, and will remain against it.

DR. PHIL: The problem we have here is that this chicken won't realize that he must first deal with the problem on this side of the road before it goes after the problem on the other side of the road. What we need to do is help him realize how stupid he is acting by not taking on his current problems before adding any new problems.

ANDERSON COOPER: We have reason to believe there is a chicken, but we have not yet been allowed to have access to the other side of the road.

PAT BUCHANAN: To steal the job of a decent, hardworking American.

GRANDPA: In my day we didn't ask why the chicken crossed the road. Somebody told us the chicken crossed the road, and that was good enough for us.

### Getting Jerry's Engine going, Cont. from p. 8

-The warped manifold prevents the manifold from aligning with the rings and the studs.

-Loosen the bolts between the intake and exhaust manifolds to allow them to independently fit tight against the head. Now place the manifolds tight against the head and tighten the four bolts between two manifolds.

Dave cautioned not to try pulling the manifolds in tight to the head using the bolts, while the rings are in place and no gasket. If it won't go tight to the head freely, you have a problem. This will destroy the metal rings between the head and manifold. Never draw the manifold against the head using the bolts while checking for warpage, they should readily fit tight against the head. Pulling the manifolds tight against the head using the bolts will crush or deform the rings if they are not in proper position.

-The gasket between the intake and exhaust manifolds should be replaced. This square gasket generally comes with the manifold gaskets.

-Caution should be taken when loosening or removing the four bolts between the intake and exhaust. They will often break, even if you're careful.

Al went back to work. He took the manifolds home. After disassembling the manifold, he was able to bring all the ports in line except one. He machined 0.020 thousandths off this port so it was parallel with the others and installed a double gasket on it. The rings between manifold and head were also replaced which allowed the manifold to fit tight against the head. He pulled it altogether with new gaskets and called it good.

Now the jigsaw puzzle to assemble all the various pipes and tubes that were removed to get the manifolds out. Al did it.

He then determined that the needle valve in the carb was sticking, so he freed that up. Time to start the car. It backfired. Timing was off. Easy fix. Adding an extra battery and using a temporary gas tank from a lawn mower, Scott, Jerry's son, and Al got the engine running.

But they didn't stop there. Scott and his brother removed the old gas tank. Al had purchased a new tank and sending unit. Springs on the foot throttle were too weak, so after many skinned knuckles, Al installed two new springs. One more issue resolved. Now to run it through a break-in period of a few minutes. It started with the extra battery again and ran it through three 30-minute intervals. Then ran it another hour with gas from the new gas tank.

Cont. on p. 10.

**Thanks Fran!**

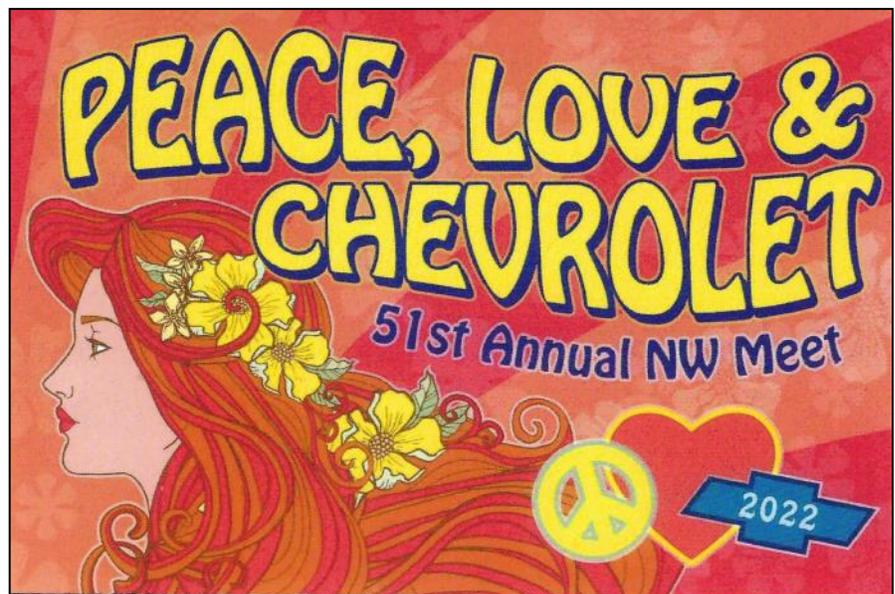
## Getting Jerry's Engine going, Cont. from p. 9

The fuel pump works, just about the only thing that did not require work. The engine now starts without the extra battery and runs freer but still runs a little rough and vacuum advance is not working correctly.

This reminds me a lot of our 53 Chevrolet when MG and I purchased it. I didn't want it home until it was working properly which took Dave Folsom over a hundred hours plus parts to address nearly every item on the car. If it wasn't for Dave our car would not be on the road today.

By Bob Stamnes, photo by Dave Haddock, most of the work by Al Howe!

Start your planning for the 2022 NW Meet- See flyer on the right.



### 2022 Northwest Meet August 25 - 27

North Cascade Region invites all VCCA members to the Shelton, WA area for the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual NW Meet:  
Tours, Judging, Banquet & More

#### **Accommodations: Rooms & RV Park**

Little Creek Casino & Lodge, 91 West State Route 108,  
Shelton, WA 98584  
Ph: (800) 667-7711

Room & RV Reservation Code: "VCCA 2022"

Room Booking Starts **July 1, 2021** .... Cut-off Date: 7/17/2022

#### Registration Info:

Carol Straight  
Cell: 425-315-2512  
E-mail: [carolestraight@gmail.com](mailto:carolestraight@gmail.com)

#### Meet Chair:

Helen Meadows  
Cell: 425-280-8883  
E-mail: [helen.meadows2015@outlook.com](mailto:helen.meadows2015@outlook.com)

Prospectus and Registration forms will be available online April 2022 at:  
<http://clubs.hemmings.com/northcascadeVCCA>

## 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

**1932 Confederate Coach** with dual sidemounts & white wall tires is up for sale by former VCCA members, Larry and Carolyn Campbell. This is a restored, running and driving example with maroon body and black fenders. The interior is restored as well. The asking price is in the low \$20's. Contact Carolyn for more details. The car is located in Spanaway (south of Tacoma).

**1926 Chevrolet 2 dr.**, Bloomfield gray (green)/black with orange pinstripe, all new oak frame, ground up restoration 1970-77 then garaged, hasn't been driven or started since 1977, asking \$18,000, contact Ken at [lakex@yahoo.com](mailto:lakex@yahoo.com).

**1983 Caprice**, four door, 305, two-tone brown, good glass, interior, and paint. Only problem is transmission slips. Located in Redmond. **Free to anyone** who can make use of it. I am posting for a friend who is not a club member and have not seen the car. Bill Damm.

**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.

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

### HELP WANTED

**Mechanic Needed.** The mechanic that I used to restore my '54 Chevy retired and moved away. I need to find someone to work on my car and I am looking for recommendations. I live on the Sammamish plateau, but I'm willing to drive it to a good mechanic anywhere in the Puget Sound region if they are worth it! Immediate work needed is addressing hard starting, howling brakes, and looking at a few leaks. Arnie Mondloch, [arniemondloch@msn.com](mailto:arniemondloch@msn.com).

**Request for referrals** on body restoration work. My 1980 Chevy truck needs to be painted. They can contact my email, [markshaw10.4@live.com](mailto:markshaw10.4@live.com). Thanks. Mark Shaw.

## 2021/2022 Activities

November	29	<b>PS-VCCA Meeting, 11:30 am, at BARKER'S Garage, Issaquah</b>
December	4	<b>Christmas/Holiday Party <b>RSVP requested</b>, see page 5</b>
August	25-27	<b>2022 Northwest Meet, North Cascade Region, see p. 10</b>

Note: All club general meetings at the XXX Drive-In 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.

Address: 98 Gilman Blvd, Issaquah, Washington.

