

THE TAPPET CLATTER



THE PUGET SOUND REGION VINTAGE CHEVROLET CLUB OF AMERICA

September 2019

Volume 52 Number 9

48th Annual NW Meet 2019

Text by Dave Haddock; Photos by Dave Haddock and John Campbell

Whether it was the Wood Tour on rural roads, the Ice Cream Social, the Women's Event on the Suffragettes, the tour of the Linn-Benton County Advanced Transportation Center, or the tour and displays at the Thompson Mills State Heritage Site, there was something for everyone at the 48th Annual NW Meet in Albany, Oregon.

Puget Sound members arrived in beautiful Chevys and joined their fellow VCCA members from throughout the Northwest, California, and even the East Coast for a splendid event hosted by the Columbia River Region. We even had the pleasure of the company of our Club President, Franklin Gage from Maryland. Puget Sound members Jerry Yoder, Ken Scott, Bill Barker, and Don Comstock won awards for their cars. From the Willamette Valley Region, Mike Rice's 1928 Chevrolet 2-door coach, a former national "Best of the Best," took overall honors as Best of Show, but our Don Comstock went on to answer the event's biggest question.

Where will the 49th Annual NW Meet be held?? And, of course, the answer was Ellensburg, Washington where our Puget Sound Region will host the event. The countdown begins with Don

Comstock at the helm, with able assistance from Sallie Comstock and Al Howe. The planning and delivery of this event will take time and effort. Please make sure you do your part to help ease the load!





1967 - Puget Sound Region VCCA - 2019



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, 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 on the **World Wide Web** at <http://psrvcca.weebly.com/>.

2019 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

THE BOY WHO GETS

Director's Message

Al Howe



Director's Letter September 2019

If you missed the Northwest Meet in Albany Oregon you missed a good time with some of the best people ever. That would be Vintage Chevrolet people, of course. The ice-cream maker producing delicious ice-cream with his tractor was a huge hit to say the least. The weather was a little cool with some drizzle one day but it did not dampen our spirits. The tours were interesting on back roads in farm country with a big variety of farm crops. National VCCA Director, Franklin Gage, came all the way across country to attend our Northwest Meet and cast a little cheer our way. He is easy to talk to and interested in any input or concerns we had about the VCCA club. He attended the Directors meeting and we exchanged ideas about membership and tours; more on that at meetings.

Our August meeting was an evening meeting with family and friends; all the rest of the year we meet at 11:45am, still at the XXX Drive-In in Issaquah. Had a good turnout but I don't know the count. Don and Sallie Comstock brought their recently purchased unrestored Woody. It really is in good shape for not having anything done to it. As usual, Jose Enciso provided a table full of prizes for us to give away. He is always so generous.

This is the time of the year when we must think of officers for next year. If you have an idea who would be interested or if you would like to hold a position please step forward. Any help counts a lot.

My super power is holding onto junk for years and throwing it away a week before I need it.

Al Howe, Director

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our program for September will be one of the following: A guest speaker explaining to us how to treat our batteries for the upcoming winter - and whether an Optima battery is worth the extra money. OR we will have a discussion about 1) more tools and tips, and 2) discuss the OEM headlight buzzer that you can add to your late model Chevy (See Page 10). If you have a tool or tip that you can share, please bring it. AND --- once again, we'll have some interesting items to raffle off, including one item valued at **OVER \$100**. Yep. a \$1 dollar ticket will put you in the drawing for all of these items.

See you on the 23rd --- Bill Barker, Asst. Director

Web Links Of Interest

Colombia River Region, VCCA: <http://www.vccacolumbiariverrregion.org/>

Mt. Rainier Region, VCCA: None

North Cascade Region, VCCA: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/northcascadevcca>

Puget Sound Region, VCCA: <http://psrvcca.weebly.com/>

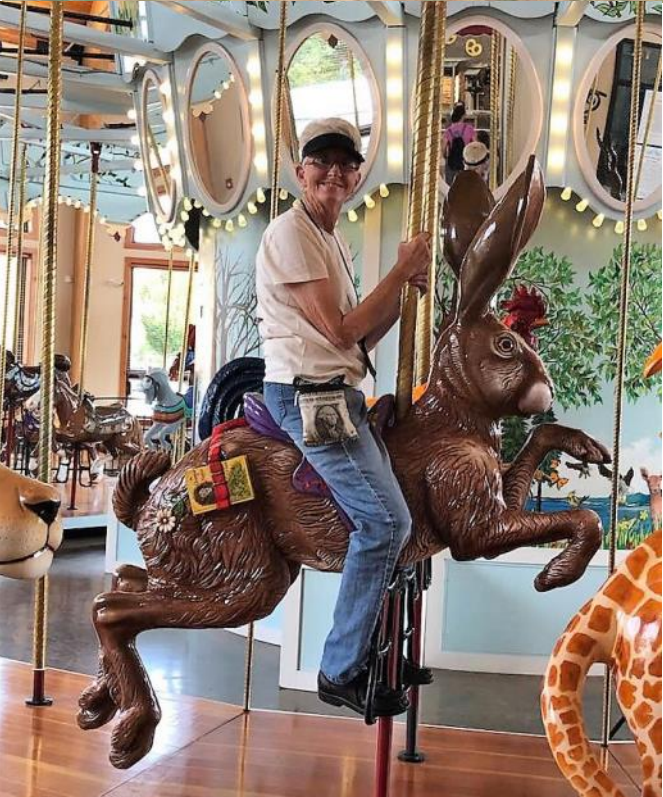
Willamette Valley Region, VCCA: <http://www.wvrvcva.org/>

Dave Folsom Blog, www.chev235guy.blogspot.com/

Gas stations without ethanol, <http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=WA>



HIS GIRL'S APPLAUSE



More pictures from the 48th Annual NW Meet.

MUST ACT

Bill Damm's
SAFETY DITTY

Here it is-
The latest news.
It's time again
To pay our dues!

\$30 bucks
For a year;
Donna is collecting,
Have no fear.

She'll take your cash
Or a check works too.
It goes in the treasury
For what the club can do.

Need to check your picture,
For the roster,
To make sure
It's not an imposter!!

With the roster updated
And in good condition,
We'll nominate candidates
For a board position.

Then in November
We'll make our selection
For new board members
At our yearly election.

We'll say it again
If it hasn't been said lately,
While making the commute
Please drive safely!

Right- More pictures from
the NW Meet.

THAT'S NOT MY JOB!

This is a story about four people
named: **Everybody**, **Somebody**,
Anybody and **Nobody**. There was an
important job to be done and
Everybody was sure that **Somebody**
would do it. **Anybody** could have done
it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got
angry about that, because it was
Everybody's job. **Everybody** thought
Anybody could do it, but **Nobody**
realised that **Everybody** wouldn't do it.
It ended up that **Everybody** blamed
Somebody when **Nobody** did what
Anybody could have done.



October Celebrations

ANNIVERSARIES

Mark and Alice Shaw 4
Gerald and Kennon Greenfield 19

BIRTHDAYS

Philip Christiansen 8
Sheila Christiansen 20
Mike Currie 25
Francie Mullins 26
Sharon Lauderback 30

August Meeting at the XXX Restaurant in Issaquah



Pictures from Jim Seiber.



NOT LOOK



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.

All You Didn't Want To Know About Batteries

I am certain you have heard the debate over use of Lead Acid batteries in your old car vs Gel Type batteries. Well, maybe you will be able to rationalize which is best after this article and next month's article.

Lead acid batteries are made up of lead plates that change form (chemically) as charged and discharged. Pure lead is soft so the older technology was to add 6% antimony to strengthen the plates. This acted like a catalyst and made off-gassing of oxygen and hydrogen worse and required more frequent addition of distilled water.

Later the manufacturers figured out that adding Calcium to the positive and negative plates, reduced off-gassing enough to allow manufacturers to claim they are building a "maintenance free" battery. Recesses in the bottom of the battery were to collect sediment which prevented bridging the plates and causing internal short-circuiting. Don't know if the recess varies with manufacturer but it could make a big difference on longevity of the battery as sediment builds up.

The surface area of the plates in the cells determines the current capacity. The size of the cells determines the discharge capacity (current capacity) of the entire battery. As water is produced from the Oxygen and Hydrogen, this water dilutes the electrolyte in the battery. This dilution process continues as the battery is discharged until the acid is so dilute that the battery can not produce an electric charge. The strength of the electrolyte (dilution factor) is what you measure with a hydrometer.



When charged, the plates are lead peroxide and spongy lead. When discharged, both plates are lead oxide which is bulkier than lead peroxide and spongy lead. If a battery is discharged too quickly the plates can buckle and some paste will fall out, shortening the life of the battery. The electrolyte is 35% sulfuric acid and 65% distilled water. So it makes sense that as water gets low to refill it with distilled water and not just tap water. Lead acid batteries should always be stored with a full charge. Low charge causes sulfation, a condition that steals the performance of the battery.

Recombinant Valve Regulated Lead-Acid (or VRLA) Batteries (Gel Batteries) Recombinant cells have a starved or gelled electrolyte. Oxygen generated from the positive electrode diffuses during charging to the negative electrode combining with hydrogen to produce water. This reaction suppresses hydrogen release at the negative electrode. This allows the cell to be sealed. Since this reaction is not 100%, these batteries are fitted with a pressure relief valve to keep the internal pressure to a minimum. This is how these batteries get the name "Valve-Regulated lead-acid" (or VRLA) cells.

Next Month, a comparison of Flooded vs Sealed (Gel) Batteries.

NOTE: This information and information to be presented next month are from a web training class on ventilation requirements for storage batteries (<https://www.cedengineering.com/userfiles/Battery%20Room%20Ventilation%20and%20Safety.pdf>).

Bob Stamnes

LIKE SANTA CLAUS



More pictures from the NW Meet! Guess who needed the Jack Daniels!!



Hailstone Feed Store – Museum and Meeting Space

Rent a piece of history for your next gathering and enjoy the unique spaces of the historic Shell Gas Station.



Rental Hours and Cost

Rental hours are from 6 am – 12 midnight. Minimum rental is 2 hours (\$50/hour) up to 24 hours (\$950). Maximum room capacity is 30 persons. Multiple day reservations are available.

Rental Rates:

- Not for Profit within Issaquah City Limits ... FREE
- Not for Profit outside Issaquah City Limits ... \$10/hr
- Private Groups/Organizations (hourly rate) .. \$50/hr

For more information, please email

reservations@downtownissaquah.com or call (425)391-1112.

232 Front Street North, Issaquah, WA 98027
(425) 391-1112

Want to get out of the office for the next meeting? Don't want to clear off the dining room table for your next committee meeting? Looking for a unique site for your next company event or party? Look no further than Front Street and our very own Hailstone Feed Store. The gem of the Downtown Issaquah Association's historic renovation efforts could be the place for your next event.

The Old Feed Store in Issaquah—A place to think about for a future meeting or event???? See above.



Puget Sound Region VCCA Meeting Minutes – August 23, 2019

No Meeting Minutes this month. The Secretary was on vacation!! So was the Historian!! Thanks to Jim Seiber for the pictures on page 6.

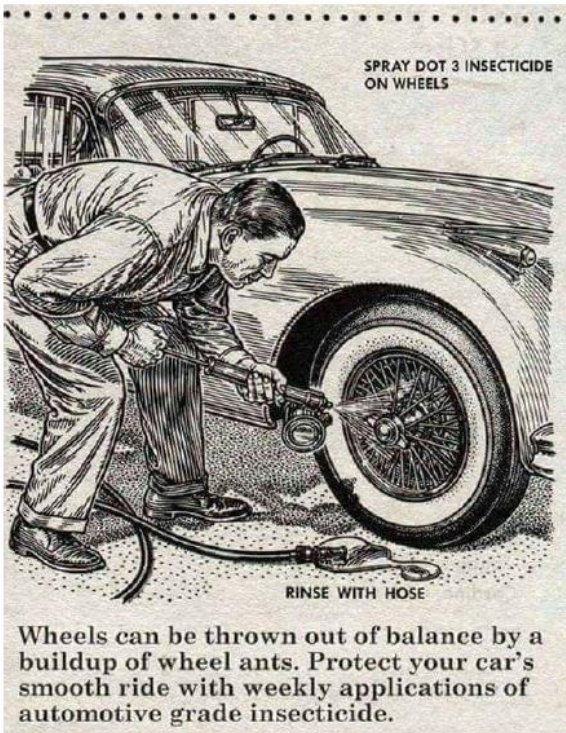
Halloween Party

Date: October 26th, Saturday

Place: Ken and Fran's Place,

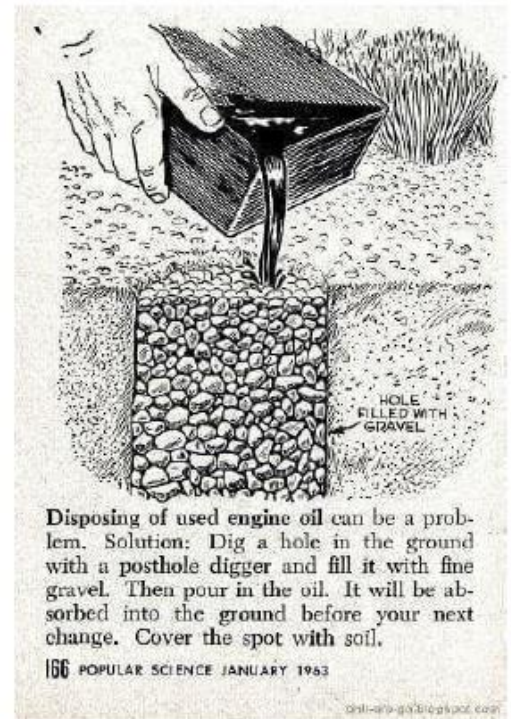
Time: 12:00 Noon until about 4:00

Activities: This will be a baked potato bar (Fran will provide the potatoes) pot luck, with some car games, a 50/50, and if you drive your vintage car passport miles will be given (just let me know how many miles you drove and I will send in a passport request for the event. **Please RSVP** so we can get an idea about food and let you know what you could bring. Call or Fran.



Handy Tips
from a retired
USEPA Em-
ployee!!

Also a member.
Try at your
own risk!!



The Cure for that Dreaded "click..click..click" Sound

By Bill Barker

At a recent breakfast with some fellow car guys, one of the Ford guys (Phil) brought an original GM part for us to see. It was called a HEADLIGHT WARNING PACKAGE, GM Part #999373. When I read the instructions, I knew immediately that this was a "missing" solution that I had wanted for a couple of years. Whenever I drive my 1966 Corvette, I usually turn the parking lights on. This gives the car slightly higher visibility when I'm in traffic or driving a county road with hills and curves. But the downside is that occasionally I have forgotten to turn the lights off after I stop and park the car. It's really embarrassing when a Corvette owner has a dead battery. Ha!



So after Phil showed us the part, I began a search that very day looking for this original item. None of the usual parts sources had it including Rock Auto, The Filling Station and Chev's of the 40's. So I went to the old standby - eBay. Yep, there it was. There were three sellers. One of them had one unit for \$19 and the other two sellers had seven or eight of them for \$39. Immediately I purchased the ONE for \$19.

Before I left breakfast that morning, I'd mentioned that I was going to buy one of these ASAP. Bob Helgeson asked me to pick ONE up for him too. And Phil, the Ford guy asked me to buy him TWO more. Then I remembered that Jim Seiber had had a small problem with a dead battery the week before in his El Camino. So I decided to order ONE for him too. So I needed FIVE all together. But the problem was that I only found ONE for \$19 and all of the others were twice that much at \$39. So I called Phil to see if he still wanted one at the higher price and he said "Pay whatever you have to."

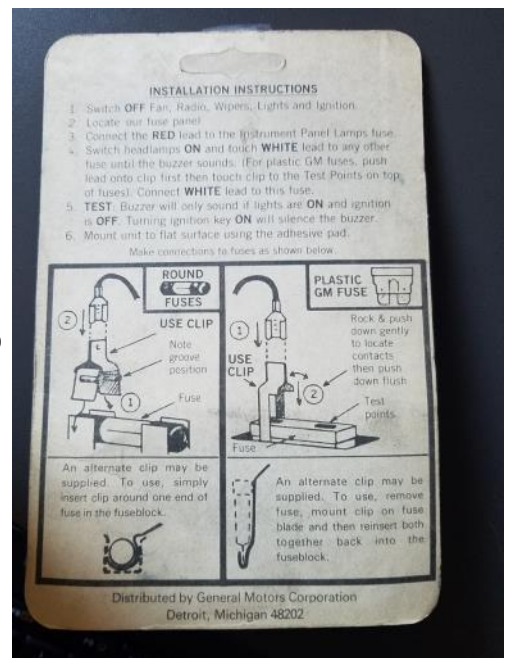
Well, I sent an email to the closest guy selling them for \$39 (in Olympia) and asked if he would reduce the price if I purchased FOUR from him. A few hours later, I got the response. "Nope."

Then, on a lark, I checked eBay again, I saw that someone else had just posted FOUR more of these online (within the past 15 minutes!!) with the price of \$19!!! Whooppee.... I immediately purchased all of them.

So -- do they work? Dang right. They do exactly what I wanted. If I leave my parking lights on, then when I turn the ignition key off, the buzzers sounds. And this does the same if I leave the headlights on too. Perfect.

So how hard is it to hook up? Easy peasy. Just two wires and both hook up to the fuse block. It only works on 12 volts. Hook the red wire to the "Panel Lamps" and then with the key turned off, and the headlights turned on, touch the other wire to the other fuses one-at-a-time until it buzzes. Hook the white wire up to that fuse. The kit comes with a couple of "fuse taps" that you insert the old-fashioned glass fuse into, and then push both back into the fuse spring clips. So I bent one side off and installed it with only one side wrapped around the fuse. Bingo. They snapped in easily.

If you see a yellow '66 Corvette driving around with the the parking lights on, rest assured that it won't end up with a dead battery after it stops in a parking lot. And that is going to save me another embarrassing time. Sometimes, even a Ford guy can have a better idea.



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

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. \$25K 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

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

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

FREE

Mid-thirties Chevy truck chassis: frame, rear end, leaf springs, wheels, tires. Call Dale Sharp



2019/2020 Activities

September	23	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive In, Issaquah
October	26	Halloween Party, Tacoma, see p. 9 for details
October	28	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive In, Issaquah
November	25	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive In, Issaquah
December	tbd	PS-VCCA CHRISTMAS POTLUCK
January	25	PS-VCCA General Meeting, XXX Drive In, Issaquah

Note: XXX Drive In Meetings normally begin at 11:45 AM, social time starts at 11 AM. Food/drink purchase optional.